# EXPLORATION AND FREE VIEWS

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## 专栏

# ABSTRACT

### Solve the Structural Dilemma of Grass-Roots Governance

Xu Yong & Yan Jirong & Xiao Bin & Zhu Guanglei & Hao Yuqing & Zhou Ping & Cao Zhenghan &
Chen Junya & Lu Fuying

**Abstract:** Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, strengthening grass-roots governance and pushing the focus of governance down to the grass-roots level have become important to promote the modernization of national governance. After years of efforts, the grass-roots governance system has been continuously improved and the effectiveness of grass-roots governance has been increasingly improved. However, problems such as the imbalance of power and responsibility at the grass-roots governace, formalism, bureaucracy, weakening of autonomy, and lack of initiative have also gradually emerged. Especially in the face of the sudden emergency situation, some weaknesses of the grass-roots governance system have been fully exposed.

Professor Xu Yong pointed out that there are two basic problems of grass-roots governance: One is the interaction between the upper and lower levels of the country, the other is the vitality and order of the grass-roots society. Their solutions and results are dominated by the grass-roots governance structure. Professor Yan Jirong stressed that the ideal goal of grass-roots governance is to punish the evil, promote the good and justice, so as to promote and complement each other as much as possible. However, in reality, grass-roots governance still faces various difficulties and needs sustained reform and innovation efforts. Professor Xiao Bin believes that the structural dilemma of grass-roots governance in China today is rooted in the tension of the three-level relationship involved in grass-roots governance, and adjusting the power operation structure of the current national governance system is the only way out of the dilemma. Professor Zhu Guanglei pointed out that the traditional characteristics of grass-roots governance in China are that local governments and grass-roots organizations have extensive functions and are overburdened, which are beyond their actual bearing capacity. Its institutional root lies in the "isomorphism of responsibilities" between the vertical governments, and it is necessary to build a government responsibility system with Chinese characteristics. Professor Hao Yuqing pointed out that the main grass-roots governance faces three difficulties. To solve these difficulties, we can start from three levels: system, cognition and practice. Professor Zhou Ping advocates that different villages need to be configured according to their own conditions, so as to maintain a dynamic balance between the national and social forces in the countryside in the shaping of modern rural civilization. Professor Cao Zhenghan believes that national governance should aim at the social and public interests. It requires both government and township governance, and that government and township governance should be relatively separated, so as to achieve "rule of the world". Professor Chen Junya called for the construction of a structural governance mode that can constantly accommodate and respond to the changing and diverse social needs inherent in the process of modernization. Professor Lu Fuying pointed out that the family in the grass-roots governance system should be properly positioned, and the grass-roots governance system with family as the unit should be actively explored to effectively improve the family governance capacity.

### Reasoning: The Logic and Rationality in Daily Life

Zhao Xiuyi & Li Dianlai & Cheng Lesong & Zhang Liuhua & Ouyang Kang & Deng Anqing &
Wang Jun & Pan Bin & Chen Jiaying

**Abstract:** The epidemic has brought us too many changes in the past three years, but the enduring, solid and simple principles accumulated in our daily life, such as rationality, common sense, conscience and professionalism, protect us at critical moments, thus form a resilient and solid foundation for modern civilization. In 2023, we plan a series of forums on "Back to Daily Life, Back to Common Sense". The first forum was "Reasoning: The Logic and Rationality in Daily Life". How to seek the logic and rationality of daily life, find consensus in differences, and defend common sense in practice has become an important part of our daily communication and cognition.

Professor Zhao Xiuyi analyzed that modern science is inseparable from logic. Without strict training of logical thinking, there is no way to develop science and there can be no real modernization. Professor Li Dianlai pointed out that the finiteness of formal logic determines that it is not enough to grasp the truth. Dialectical logic is of great significance to the expansion of thinking space and the formation of innovative

consciousness. Professor Cheng Lesong pointed out that, in the sense of the richness of experience and the situational sense of action, "reasoning" is an open possibility, which cannot point to a specific result or form an abstract and stable set of rules; In contrast, in the sense of defending prejudice and testing consensus, reasoning requires faith and presupposition, and is a continuous action with this as the boundary. Professor Zhang Liuhua believes that logic is a reflective result of human reasoning practice, and its rules play a second-order role. It is not to teach us how to carry out basic reasoning activities in daily life, but to guide us to try to clearly express why we think a certain set of reasoning is logical or illogical. Professor Ouyang Kang made a multidimensional analysis of the problem of "both sides are reasonable" from the perspective of social complexity. He called for creating a good social environment from five aspects. Professor Deng Anqing analyzed the missionary reasoning and dialogical reasoning. He pointed out that missionary reasoning is only applicable to specific occasions. It should not be used for daily life. Focusing on how to reconstruct reasoning today, Professor Wang Jun pointed out that we should make efforts in three aspects. First, get rid of the mandatory control of digital media and restore the initiative to the maximum extent in the accelerating information flow. Second, participants in the exchange should strive to build a rational exchange framework and background consensus as broad as possible. Third, rebuild the public space of reasoning. Professor Pan Bin believes that the richness of life, the complexity of society and the diversity of practice highlight the limitations of common sense cognition, which requires reasonable consideration and possible risks. Professor Chen Jiaying analyzed and commented on the views of some scholars, pointing out that the "reasoning" in daily life is more embedded in the context, and it is not about the logic of scientific classes. We need to experience and understand in the specific situation.

## The Ethic Revolution to Shape an Aging Civilization
### Fan Hao

**Abstract:** Aging Civilization is a positive discourse and strategy to respond to the challenges of an aging society, which includes three perspectives: value judgement, cultural attitude and strategic idea. Firstly, from the perspective of value judgement, aging is not only the cause of social issues, but also"is"and should"become" the reflection of the progress in human civilization. Secondly, from the perspective of cultural attitude, aging is regarded as a special phenomenon and form of civilization. Thirdly, from the perspective of strategic idea, it is more important to shape an "aging civilization" than to just solve the problems caused by aging. Aging itself is not a negative thing for social development but is a positive factor for a new form of human civilization. Aging Civilization expects a revolution regarding ethic as core value, and the revolution will get started from four dimensions, which are life course-time perspective, acknowledgement of the value of aging, ultimate concern, and rights of older people, respectively. Maybe, only when these revolutions get ended can aging society be shaped into a real aging civilization.
**Keyword:** aging; aging civilization; ethic revolution; ethics of time; ultimate concern.

## Power or Value: Why Bureaucracy Persists
### Zhang Qianyou

**Abstract:** Bureaucracy is a widely criticized organizational phenomenon. It has undergone countless reforms, while still stands erect in contemporary society. This contradiction has not been reasonably explained. Mainstream opinion sees bureaucracy as power, and against bureaucracy because of its detest of power. But in fact, bureaucracy originate from value, more accurately, from the inner motivation of everyone to have their values been recognized. To recognize everyone's value, there must be a criterion for valuation; this criterion is to be binding, it must be made into rules; these rules are to be executed, there must be power. Hence, people with egalitarian belief construct bureaucratic power among themselves to recognize each other's value equally. In this regard, as long as we don't discard our obsession with value, we will live with bureaucracy persistently.
**Keywords:** bureaucracy; value; power; struggle for recognition; bureaucratic politics

## Mechanical Justice and Objective Incrimination: In the Perspective of Illegal Hunting Crime
### Luo Xiang

**Abstract:** In cases involving the protection of animals, such as the crime of illegal hunting, the phenomenon

of mechanical justice and objective culpability is very serious. So the crime must be limited on both subjective and objective levels according to the principle of statutory crime and punishment and the theory of guilt. Objectively, the prerequisite law invoked by the crime of illegal hunting needs to be narrowed down as necessary. The prohibited tools and methods in the criminal law cannot exceed the types listed in the Wildlife Protection Law. In essence, the crime of illegal hunting is a damage offense, not a potential damage crime. Whether it is simply using prohibited tools or methods for hunting, it cannot be directly regarded as a crime. The crime of illegal hunting and the crime of endangering precious and endangered wild animals are mutually exclusive, not co-operating. Subjectively, the theory of guilt must be adhered to. Non-evaluative errors are cognition errors of facts, while evaluative errors are cognitional error in law. The former belongs to the negative reason of the constitutive elements, and the defender only needs to bear the responsibility of raising and persuading with reasonable doubts, while the latter belongs to the negative reason of responsibility, and the defender needs to bear the responsibility. The claim of preponderance of evidence is responsible. Adhering to the theory of moral responsibility is the way to break the situation between mechanical justice and objective incrimination.

**Keywords:** crime of illegal hunting; cognition errors of facts; cognitional error in law; theory of moral responsibility

### Class Preference, Cultural Capital and Emotional Machine: A Digital Ethnographic Study of the Phenomenon of East Buy Live Streaming
### Li Xiaoxiao & Liu Linping

**Abstract:** Live-streaming is an important part of the digital economy in contemporary China. The analysis of the phenomenon of East Buy live streaming by digital ethnography reveals that: firstly, East Buy relies on the algorithmic technology of the live streaming platform to finely manage its users, its audience has a high degree of homogeneity and middle-income group characteristics. Secondly, relying on the display of culture and knowledge, the live streaming caters to the cultural preferences of middle-income groups, which is the pursuit of cultural capital and symbolic meaning, and forming a cultural identity based on the "differentiation" of class tastes. Finally, its cultural identity creates relies on distinctive emotional labor. It integrates audiences and anchors into the contemporary Internet "emotional machine". This type of live streaming shows that the live streaming economy is entering a new phase, a new form of economy has arrived.

**Keywords:** class preference; cultural capital; emotional labor; emotional machine; live streaming; middle-income group

### Mode, Tension and Adaptation: Scenario Governance in Digital Transformation
### Fu Jianjun

**Abstract:** Application scenario is a new element of digital transformation of urban governance, and scenario governance based on scenario elements is a new field of urban governance. User thinking and interactive movement constitute the value core and practice core of scenario governance respectively. Compared with the existing urban governance models, scenario governance has the comparative advantages of agile governance and value co-creation. In reality, department responsibility based on administrative leadership has become the main form of scenario governance. Elements, data and rules constitute the core mechanism for administrative departments to promote scenario governance. While solving the problem of application scenario resource integration, administrative leadership also squeezed the space for user thinking and interactive movement. In the future, it is necessary to debug the internal tension of administrative leadership scenario governance through the participation of market subjects and the public.

**Keywords:** application scenario; scenario governance; digital transformation; government-led model; urban government

### Triplex Language Market and the Transition of Languages in Ethnic Region: A Case of the Habitation of Jing Nationality
### Fu Ping & Guo Jingyu

**Abstract:** In triplex language market, the social mechanism of the withering of language diversity is a

double movement that generated from the expansion of internal and local language market and the erosion òf external language market. The constantly increasing fluidity and openness in modern society have provided opportunities of minor diffusion for both internal and local language market, which meanwhile facilitates the external language market' rapid invasion into the internal and local. Three mechanisms have shaped the process and brought out the results of this double movement, the model of livelihood as an economic mechanism, the linguistic function as a social mechanism, and the language policy as a power mechanism, respectively. The function of language transformed from mainly meeting living demands to satisfying the needs of life, production and individual development equally, along with the livelihood model of people transformed from traditional to modern, policies of the unification of language were devised to lower the transaction cost of the society, which have vested the power of market erosion in external language. The interaction of minor diffusion and strong erosion brought about the progressive dilution of internal and local language market.

**Keywords:** triplex language market; competition of language; language function; language policy; double movements; transition of language

## Let Silence Speak: Silence and Its Representation in Memory Research
### Zhao Jingrong

**Abstract:** Silence is the core element in the study of memory, and its significance lies in presenting the unpresentable, bringing to light what is obscured as silent and speechless. Silence in testimonial literature stems from the absence of sound. Silence in oral history shows the confusion of language and is a new form of discourse. Silence in still life art speaks through the image. Based on the representation of silence and its relationship with language (voice), these three forms of silence become increasingly active and constructive in turn, and their moral orientation and emotional color change accordingly. Silence today is a social construction and a cultural practice. We should study the collectivization of silence and its role in the study of memory in a social context.

**Keywords:** silence; memory; witness literature; oral history; still life art

## Wang Yuanhua and the Reflections of the Nineties: Qing Yu Villa as the Former Site of Ideological History
### Xia Zhongyi

**Abstract:** Reflections of the 1990s involves the ideological living room of Qing Yu Villa, where Yuanhua lived in his later years, and the "interpersonal school case" that revolves around this historical geographic space. Why was Wang Yuanhua able to give a more systematic explanation after 1993 for the "crux" of intellectual history that he was unable to confront in 1988? Here is the connection between Xu Jilin's invitation to Yuanhua to write a preface to *Du Yaquan's Selected Writings* and Wang Yuanhua's reading of Lin Yusheng's *The Creative Transformation of Chinese Tradition* in 1993.

**Keywords:** Wang Yuanhua; nineties reflection; intellectual history scene; century-long cultural lineage; urban spirit

## The Piano Sound of Shanghai in the Late Qing Dynasty: How the Exotic Culture Presents in the East
### Zhu Haobing & Xu Chang

**Abstract:** There were three communication paths and application scenarios of piano in Shanghai in the late Qing Dynasty, namely religion, entertainment and commerce. Although there is no strict time sequence or causal relationship between the three, they all reflect the historical evolution process of imitation, migration and integration of Western culture when it first arrived in China. Some early European immigrants living in the Shanghai concession tried to imitate the life mode they were familiar with before. They carried out religious prayer ceremonies and missionary activities in Shanghai, planned and participated in watching artistic performances similar to those in European theaters, and then found and explored business opportunities, creating and promoting the growing prosperity of Shanghai's music and culture market. Piano, as an important instrument bearing form, witnesses and tells this period of rich historical memory.
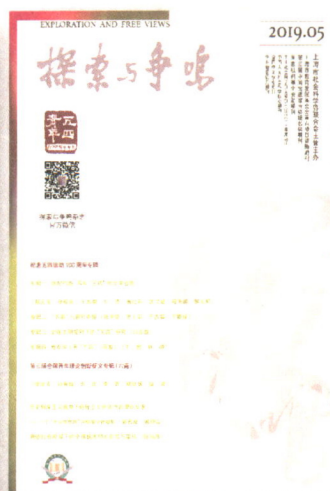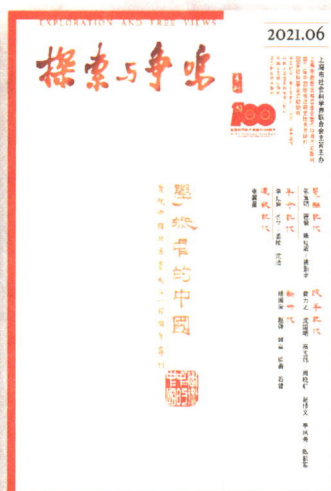
**Keywords:** Piano; Late Qing Dynasty; Shanghai; Intercultural Communication; *North-China Daily News*

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