

## **Prof. Dr. Thomas Zimmer 司马涛**

Distinguished Research Professor at the Center for Chinese German Cultural and Social Exchange at Tongji University Shanghai

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### **Academic Career**

Since 2018 Professor at the Center for Chinese German Cultural and Social Exchange at Tongji University Shanghai

- 1999 Habilitation, Sinology, University of Bonn

- 1995-2003 Lecturer, Sinology, University of Bonn

- 1992 PhD Sinology, University of Bonn

- 1989 Diploma/Master degree in translation, Seminar for Oriental Languages at the University of Bonn

### **Research Focus**

Prof. Zimmer has specialized in pre-modern and contemporary Chinese narrative art and linguistic studies of the written colloquial Chinese language (*baihua*).

More recent interests include research on China's ancient geo-philosophical concepts as well as scientific and cultural exchange during Ming and Qing-dynasty until late 18th century.

### **Major Publications**

Zimmer has published *Baihua - on the problem of the writing of spoken language in Chinese. Represented on the basis of morphological characteristics in the bianwen from Dunhuang* (*Baihua - zum Problem der Verschriftung gesprochener Sprache im Chinesischen*. Dargestellt anhand morphologischer Merkmale in den bianwen aus Dunhuang, St. Augustin: Monumenta Serica 1999), *The Chinese Novel of the Late Imperial Period (Der chinesische Roman der ausgehenden Kaiserzeit*, München: K.G. Saur 2002) and *Awakening from a coma? A literary approach towards contemporary China (Erwachen aus dem Koma? Eine literarische Betrachtung des heutigen Chinas*, Baden-Baden: Tectum Verlag 2017) which has received ICAS Book Prize in 2019 for Asian Science Publications written in German.

The most recent publication on "Competence on China and Competence on Germany" is still in print: *China-Kompetenz in Deutschland und Deutschland-Kompetenz in China*. Multi- und transdisziplinäre Perspektiven und Praxis, Hu, Chunchun, Lackner, Hendrik, Zimmer, Thomas (Hrsg.) (see announcement online: <https://www.springer.com/de/book/9783658310516>)

### **Other Activities**

From 2003 to 2009 Zimmer was Vice-Director of the Sino-German School of Post Graduate Studies (CDHK) at Tongji University in Shanghai. Between 2012 and 2018, Zimmer worked as the Vice-Dean of the Sino German College and as Head of the

German Cultural Center at the University of Shanghai for Science and Technology (USST) in Shanghai.