



Tübingen Korean Studies Lecture Series

Winter Semester 2023/24, Wednesdays 18:00 C.T., Wilhelmstraße 133, Room 30

Confucian Ecological Philosophy of Care and Coexistence

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Professor **Sea Jeong Kim** is professor in the Department of Philosophy, Chungnam National University, South Korea. He received his doctorate in Confucian studies at Sungkyunkwan University. He was visiting scholar at the State University of New York, California State University, Beijing University, director of Korean society of Yang-ming Studies, and director of Confucianism Research Institute (Chungnam National University). He is also chair of the Daejeon Federation for Environmental Movements. He has published over sixty articles and book chapters and more than one hundred articles in various journals. He currently conducts research on the study of East Asian philosophy from the perspectives of life philosophy, environmental philosophy, and caring philosophy.



Over the past 2500 years, Confucianism has been changing and reforming according to the changing circumstances and issues emerging in each era. The global ecological crisis is the very issue now facing Confucianism. In this talk, titled ‘Confucian ecological philosophy of Care and Coexistence’, the author would like to share his ideas on the characteristics, meanings and tasks of ecological philosophy in Confucian thoughts in the age of ecological crisis. Firstly, the talk begins with conditions and various causes of the present ecological crisis. The next part focuses on various schools of Western environmental ethics that have been developing to solve that ecological crisis. And in the last part, the author demonstrates the characteristics and meanings of ‘Confucian ecological philosophy’, focusing on Yang-ming studies, by considering ‘innate knowledge as the subject of care and cure’, ‘realization of innate knowledge and the way of care’, ‘healing through the realization of innate knowledge and the world as one body’, and ‘towards the ecological civilization of care, cure and coexistence’.

