LMU LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN

DEPARTMENT OF ASIAN STUDIES

INSITUTE OF SINOLOGY

Professor Jessica Rawson (University of Oxford)

„The search for horses from the north: A key driver in China's early international relations from Shang (c. 1200 BC) to Tang (AD 618-906)"

27.04.2022 at 6 p.m.

Before the twentieth century, horses were essential vehicles and indeed weapons in war. The most skilled and lethal managers of horses were of course the mobile peoples of the steppe, as we know well in Europe. The horse riders were a particular challenge for all rulers of China. Much of China, with its summer monsoon rain and marshy landscape was unsuitable for horse-raising. And even in the dryer areas of the north there were difficulties. The talk will discuss the impact that these constraints produced and how the Chinese circumvented them from the Shang dynasty to the Tang (c. 1200 BC-900 AD)

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