Trying History in China

Professor Haiyan LEE (Stanford University)

2pm, 17 February (Thursday), 2022
On-line seminar

Register: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJErcu6oqjguGdGTZe8hxWvCXtk4j9ZT7fO

Abstract

In this talk, I contend that political (show) trials are a basic medium of transitional justice in the People’s Republic of China. I consider two examples that exemplify the two junctures of transitional justice (1950s and 1980s): “The Bloody Shirt” and “The Second Encounter.” My goal is to understand how the political-legal tradition is reshaped through the weaponization of shame and the ritual exercise of denunciation, apology, and forgiveness.

Speaker