

生存战略或文化交流:近代中国基督教会 慈善福利事业概览

Survival Strategy or Cultural Exchange: A Survey of Christian
Philanthropy and Welfare Services in Modern China

刘继同 北京大学

Liu Jitong Peking University

[英文提要]

The relationship between Christianity and Chinese society and culture is an important and widely debated subject among social scientists in China today. It is a historical problem with contemporary relevance, thereby capturing the interest of academia around the world. Through literature review, this article attempts to provide a comprehensively historical survey of the relationship between Christianity and Chinese society and culture as it examines the historical background and social context of Christian philanthropy and welfare services in China, the target groups they serviced, their motives and objectives, scope and content, resources, organization and infrastructure. The author champions a contextualized perspective that sees philanthropy and welfare services as the Church's best entry point into Chinese society, by which it could serve society, facilitate cultural exchange and strengthen mutual understanding.