The Price of Serving Meat –
On Confucius’ and Mencius’ Views
of Human and Animal Rights

Prof. Dr. BAI Tongdong,
Fudan University, China

The apparent conflict between some fundamental ideas of Confucianism and of rights seems to render Confucianism incompatible with rights. But I will illustrate the general strategies, based upon an insight of the later Rawls, to solve the incompatibility problem. I will then show how these strategies can help us to develop a Confucian account of animal rights, which, by way of example, demonstrates how Confucianism can endorse and develop unique and constructive accounts of most rights that are commonly recognized today.

Friday, January 22, 2016 6:00 pm
Campus Westend, SH 0.106 (seminar house)

Dr. Bai Tongdong is Dongfang Chair Professor at the School of Philosophy at Fudan University in China. He held a bachelor degree in nuclear physics and a master degree in the philosophy of science from Peking University, and obtained his doctoral degree in philosophy from Boston University. He has published widely in English and Chinese. His interests include Chinese philosophy and political philosophy, especially the comparative and contemporary relevance of traditional Chinese political philosophy.

This lecture is part of our Lecture Series within the IZO’s research project “Protecting the Weak. Entangled Processes of Framing, Institutionalization and Mobilization in East Asia” funded by the Volkswagen Foundation.

Contact person: Prof. Dr. Iwo Amelung, Faculty 09, Sinology,
Email: amelung@em.uni-frankfurt.de

For further information: www.protectingtheweak.uni-frankfurt.de