



Apr 9th, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Mongol Past and Manchu Present: History and Ethnicity in Wei Yuan's Thought

Chao Ren
Illinois Wesleyan University

Thomas Lutze, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc>



Part of the [History Commons](#)

Ren, Chao and Lutze, Faculty Advisor, Thomas, "Mongol Past and Manchu Present: History and Ethnicity in Wei Yuan's Thought" (2011). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. 3.

<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2011/oralpres2/3>

This Event is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

Oral Presentation O2.3

**MONGOL PAST AND MANCHU PRESENT:
HISTORY AND ETHNICITY IN WEI YUAN'S THOUGHT**

Chao Ren and Thomas Lutze*
History Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

As an important early figure in the intellectual history of late Qing China, Wei Yuan has widely been understood as an introducer of Western learning to China. He is also remembered among scholars as a key figure in the late Qing Neo-Text classicist movement, which was closely related with his political ideals. However, a major aspect of Wei Yuan's thought has been neglected in previous scholarly studies: no study of Wei Yuan, either in English or in Chinese, has ever studied his role as a historian. Why did Wei Yuan, himself a Han Chinese, compile two huge series of the histories of the Mongol (Yuan) and Manchu (Qing) dynasties? How did he conceptualize the relationship between history writing and his political ideal? This research project is going to examine Wei Yuan's historiography (with special attention on ethnicity) and his influence on the intellectual history of late Qing China.