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# *Ideology and Theory in the Study of Modern Chinese Literature*

## **Paradigmatic Issues in Chinese Studies, II**

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Colleagues from outside of literary studies will also find this symposium of great interest. The exchange between Liu Kang and Michael S. Duke focuses on the question of the role of ideology and of political sympathies in scholarly studies of literature. The concluding essay by Zhang Longxi goes on to consider the question of how China scholars might mediate between Western-derived theory and China-derived empirical research and experience. Zhang reviews some of the major academic issues in recent literary scholarship, both classical and modern, and defines his own position on the relationship between theory and experience. Perry Link's introduction, finally, reviews the context for the issues discussed.

The symposium is presented here as the second of a series of such discussions, beginning with my own essay "The Paradigmatic Crisis in Chinese Studies: Paradoxes in Social and Economic History," *Modern China*, 17.3 (July 1991). The third, a symposium on "Public Sphere or Civil Society in China? Paradigmatic Issues in Chinese Studies, III," will be featured in the next issue.