



POLITICS OF LOVE: RELIGION, SECULARISM, AND LOVE AS A POLITICAL DISCOURSE IN MODERN CHINA

Event Details



**12 November 2025,
2.00–4.00pm**



**NUS FASS Research Division
Seminar Room, AS7 06-42**



Register here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/MCAnvXhSLt>

ABOUT THE BOOK

In the era of intensifying nationalisms, it is high time to discuss the roots of modern nationalism and the political meaning of love. As the first systematic study to trace the evolution of *ai* 愛 (love) as a political discourse for modern Chinese nationalism, this book investigates the ways in which *ai* became a political discourse and reveal the religious influence on this discourse that has been hitherto overlooked including Christianity, Confucianism, and popular religion, even though modern China has been an atheist state since its founding and throughout the change of regimes. This book challenges secular narratives of (socialist) modernity, demonstrates the linguistic role in the religious affects of modern politics, and contributes to both scholarly and popular discussions of how language, religion, and political affects interrelate around the world today.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Dr. Ting GUO specialises in religion, politics, and gender in transnational Asia. She is incoming Assistant Professor of Language Studies, University of Toronto, Book Review Editor for the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, and Honorary Researcher at the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library at the University of Toronto. She is the author of *Religion, Secularism, and Love as a Political Discourse in Modern China* (2025) and co-editor of special forum “Religion and Social Movements in Hong Kong” in the *Journal of Asian Studies*. She co-hosts a podcast called 時差 in-betweenness (@shichapodcast).