

Liu Zhi's "Mecca Square's Nature and Principle"

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Abstract

This paper attempts to examine how Chinese Islamic scholar Liu Zhi fused Chinese philosophy and Arabic theology from the perspective of historical philosophy. In past research, Liu Zhi's *Tianfang Xingli* was analyzed as a book which combined Ibn Arabi's ideas and philosophy stemming from the Song and Ming dynasties. However, this paper argues that in addition to philosophy from the Song and Ming dynasties and Islamic theology, research by Prof. Murata and Prof. Du Weiming and an in-depth analysis of specific parts will yield further insights into the work. Finally, this paper tries to trace the source, from Averroes' criticism to Al-Ghazali, and conduct a dialogue between Liu Zhi, Ibn Arabi, Averroes and Neo-Confucianism across time and space in contemporary thought.