



# บทความออนไลน์

## The Tao and utensils debate: the core value of a library

Conghui Fang, in Chinese Librarianship in the Digital Era, 2013

### Abstract:

The international library community has always treated information technology as a challenge, and that is one of the main reasons why the library's own core value must be constructed in China. But China is unique, as here the philosophy of Tao and utensils equals the relationship between idea/theory and tools/function, and also can be comparable to humanity and technology. The library's value, to a great degree, touches upon librarianship's legitimacy and rationality, and correspondingly affects the orientation of librarianship's research and education. This chapter summarizes Chinese librarians' thoughts about library core values in the digital era and practice based on this. The present Chinese political environment and the core values of the library in a Chinese context are also introduced.

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