Abstract:

The Ming Dynasty has always been known to be the intersection of pre-modern and post-modern China. This paper seeks to examine the changes in diplomatic stance of the Chongzhen period in Ming dynasty. The following discussion will explore diplomacy-related areas in China from the Han, Tang and Song dynasties, right up to pre-Chongzhen era of the Ming dynasty and finally Chongzhen period per say. Such areas include Maritime trade, political institutionalizations, as well as interactions with other countries of that time. In conclusion, this paper attempts to draw associations between the issues of “Modernization” of the Chinese society and how does the change in diplomatic stance during the Chongzhen period contributes to the process of “modernization”.