



UNIVERSITY OF TURKU  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

## Folk Traditions in Modern Society

A conference organized by the Nordic Centre of Fudan University (Shanghai, China) and the Kalevala Institute of the University of Turku (Finland) in Shanghai, China on 25–26 September 2009

**Dedicated to the 160th anniversary of the Finnish epic Kalevala (new edition)**

### Call for papers

The conference is focused upon research into folklore and traditional culture and their preservation and role in modern society. How have various forms of old folklore been preserved and what is their role at present in a modern society based on rational knowledge? What has been the fate of the traditional culture in the process of modernization, why have forms of traditional culture stayed alive in some places and disappeared elsewhere, and what kind of elements of folklore and folk traditions have been particularly lively? What has been the role of traditional culture, such as epic folklore, in the construction of a modern national culture, and how has this kind of role in turn influenced the continuing life of folk traditions?

Besides the questions of existence of traditional folk culture, the seminar will also discuss cultural, political and ideological significances of traditional culture, oral and written literature, the role of folk traditions in the construction of national-states and of ideology, and the importance of folk culture, including epic traditions and epos, to society in the past and present.

The conference is aimed at researchers and post-graduate students of folklore, traditional folk culture and related phenomena, including students of Chinese literature and culture.

The language of the conference is English.

Deadline for registration and abstracts is 30 April 2009.

Please send an abstract of 150 words in English in Word (.doc) or .rtf format to the e-mail address below.

The participation fee is 50 euros and covers conference materials and transportation between hotel and conference place. The fee is to be paid upon arrival at the conference.

A one-day post-conference excursion to the beautiful city of Hangzhou, near Shanghai, will be arranged for extra charge.

**Updated information available on the site [www.kalevalainstituutti.fi](http://www.kalevalainstituutti.fi). See also the site of Fudan Nordic Centre at [www.nordiccentre.org](http://www.nordiccentre.org).**

Contact address:

*Pekka Hakamies*, Professor, Director  
Kalevala Institute  
University of Turku, 20014 Turku, Finland  
Tel. +358 2 333 5247  
E-mail: [pekka.hakamies@utu.fi](mailto:pekka.hakamies@utu.fi)

*Maria Vasenkari*, Editorial Secretary  
Kalevala Institute  
University of Turku, 20014 Turku, Finland  
Tel. +358 2 333 5213  
E-mail: [maria.vasenkari@utu.fi](mailto:maria.vasenkari@utu.fi)