

Abstract

The bachelor thesis evaluates the influences that missionaries and activists, mainly from Great Britain, had on the Chinese anti-footbinding movements. Its particular focus is on the works of writer and activist Alicia Little, and missionaries Timothy Richard and John MacGowan, comparing their positions and arguments with the writings of Chinese reformers and activists Liang Qichao and Kang Youwei. The purpose of the thesis is to highlight, based on contemporary sources, that Western criticism was primarily and mostly voiced by women who sought to improve conditions for their Chinese counterparts, while Chinese criticism was formulated by men as part of reforms and efforts to modernize China.