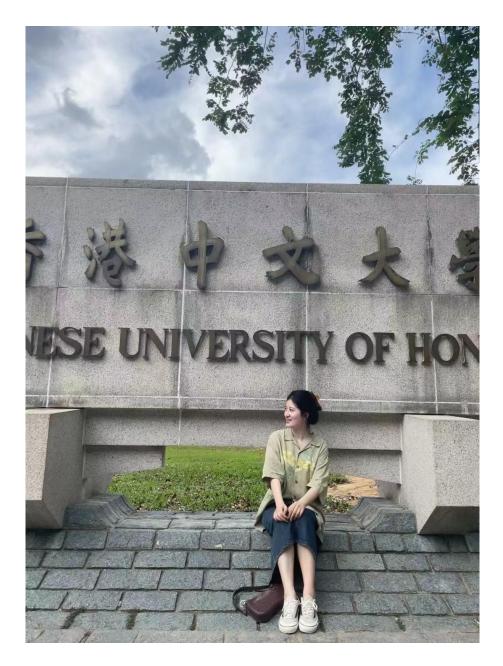# Official Media and Unofficial Memories:

Two Approaches of Dealing with the Dead in Covid-19

死魂靈的兩個世界：疫情期間關於死者的官方報道

和民間記憶

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In the pandemic reality, are the deceased regarded as the subaltern? Under this specific circumstance, the deceased could not be registered, buried and mourned as usual. On the contrary, as a passive object, the deceased are even purposefully deleted, altered and evaluated. In this sense, the dead in the epidemic are unable to "speak" for themselves. However, like the subaltern, they can be represented from the perspective of the other.

Taking the National Day of Mourning in 2020 as a case, this paper uses a multimodal critical discourse analysis method to compare the contradictions between official media and individual memories. In this way, individual memories play an important role in deconstructing the mourning rituals, martyrs' symbols and community of imagination constructed by official reports. We can see how the discourse about death is politicized on the day of mourning. In the post-epidemic era, unfortunate dead souls move between the world of official media and personal memory, without knowing that the closer they are to power, the less likely they are to die.

疫情之下，死者是否也算「弱勢群體」呢?面對突如其來的非常時刻，死者無法像往常一樣，按照流程，被登記死亡、下葬和被親友哀悼。反而作為喪失了客觀主動權的待處理的存在，死者甚至被別有目的地挪用、更改和變幻。那麼在這個意義上，在疫情中的死者是否和底層一樣，決然無法為自己「言說」呢?同時，也正如底層一樣，死者可以在微觀的第三方中被再次呈現、代表和敘說。

本文通過多模式批判性話語分析的方法，以 2020 年全國哀悼日為案例，通過對比正式報導和私人記憶的矛盾和出入，用后者去解構前者所構建的哀悼儀式、烈士符號和想像共同體，由此窺見關於死亡的話語是如何在哀悼日被政治化的。后疫情時代，死于非命的魂灵在兩个話语世界裡游窜着，浑然不知其距離权力越近，就越不可能死亡。