

**Starting Again After Fifty Years :
Commentaries by Chinese Academics,
on the BCA Addressing the Scientific Community – the Biocosmology Initiative
(Opening Statement)**

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**Начать все сначала через пятьдесят лет : комментарии китайских ученых,
на БКА обращение к научному сообществу – выдвижение
Биокосмологической Инициативы (Вступительное слово)
Сяотин ЛИУ**

Accepted and released by the Biocosmological Association (BCA) at the 22nd International Symposium on Biocosmology held at Moscow State University in Russia from 15-18 June 2021, the *Addressing the Scientific Community – The Biocosmology Initiative* has since received positive response from the international academic community. The year 2022 also marks the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the *Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* and the release of the Club of Rome's report on sustainable development, *The Limits to Growth*.

In this context, the Biocosmological Association organized an onsite-online expert symposium on the three texts on 3 June 2022 at Beijing Normal University, at which more than 20 Chinese scholars engaged in lively discussions from different perspectives. *The Biocosmology Initiative*, in particular, was discussed by a number of experts who compared it with the understanding half a century earlier, in order to identify the progress of thought and the seriousness and urgency of the current reality.

After the symposium, six of those experts have been invited to develop their presentations into articles for publication in this journal. The titles and authors of these six review articles are:

- (1) “*The Methodological Value of the Biocosmology Initiative and Its Contemporary Implications for the Construction of a New Civilization*” by ZHANG Xihua and LIU Jingyuan;
- (2) “*Philosophical Thoughts on Biocosmology*” by CAO Mengqin;
- (3) “*From Modern Science to Contemporary Science: Rejection of Transcendental Cosmology and Exploration of the Biocosmology*” by XIAO Xianjing;
- (4) “*On the Contemporary Value of Biocosmology and Several Issues on the Practical Path*” by CHI Xuefang and YE Ping;

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- (5) “*A New Philosophy Beyond Traditional Mechanical Cosmology*” by ZHOU Guowen et al.;
- (6) “*Biocosmology: A Model of Humanity's World Experience in the 21st Century*” by JIANG Hongyu and GAO Han.

Many of the six commentaries review the *Biocosmology Initiative* and carry out dialogues from the philosophical perspective, discussing its modes of thought based on the philosophical view, reflecting on its metaphysical premise, or exploring its theoretical paths of methodology. Some commentaries also investigate the *Initiative*'s profound ideas from the perspective of civilization, discussing its new contemporary scientific basis in the viewpoint of science, and its results of social actions in the view of practice. Though limited in number, the articles cover many dimensions including sciences and humanities, the East and the West, history and future, and ideals and reality, thus expanding new possibilities and spaces for broader discourse.

The issues discussed by the *Biocosmology Initiative* are indeed serious and grave, and its appeals urgent. The reason is that the situation of environment and ecology on our earth has been increasingly deteriorated, despite the hard, continuous efforts of people of insight over the past half a century. At present, it has reached a most severe point never seen since the end of the last glacial period about ten thousand years ago, so severe that it might lead to the collapse of the Anthropocene in the geological sense and the end of the existing civilization.

The appeal of the *Biocosmology Initiative*, therefore, is not merely an ordinary warning or prohibition, but a cry for the self-redemption of humankind, and the ardent expectation of the cosmic thinking flower for a turn or new, second beginning of civilization. Its voice may not be as loud and strong as an official pronouncement, but it embodies a whole force of an uplifted humanity, a force that may grow through convergence to such a degree that it is capable of cleansing humankind of the old and decayed and motivating a human race in despair to seek survival and rebirth.

Thus, we encourage discussions on the *Biocosmology Initiative* by scholars from other countries and welcome submissions of refined essays with deep thought to the journal. After all, we possess but one common homeland of the Earth.

These articles have been commissioned and reviewed by the current President of the Biocosmological Association, Professor LIU Xiaoting of Beijing Normal University, China. Due to space constraints, the first three articles are published in this issue, and the next three will be published in the next issue.