



## **The Translation of Similes from English to Chinese: A Case Study on Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner***

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Translation is regarded as an important means for cross-cultural communication. In most cases, translators have their own phrasing styles to translate original languages to target languages with or without considering whether target readers are able to understand authors' intended and designed meanings, especially similes they use in their novels. For the past decades, publishers in Taiwan have been publishing a mammoth of translated novels from English to Chinese; however, we do not know how much translators' work can help readers really understand foreign cultures and specific thoughts and philosophy elucidated through similes. The present study is going to examine how linguists and psychologists, such as Gibbs, Deignan, Goddard, Schaffner, and Semino, seek connections between embodied experiences and similes and linguistic patterns and similes, and then apply their concepts to the translation of similes from English to Chinese. For my analysis, I will continue and extend what Montero had done in her conference paper, "The Translation of Similes," published in International Colloquium of Translation in 2009, Turkey. That is, the similes found in *The Kite Runner* will be divided into two groups: conventional and original ones, and then the translated similes in Chinese will be labeled in terms of equivalence, calque, new similes and paraphrases. With the discussion of the concept of embodied experience and simile translation, the study hopefully may shed some light on how translators can effectively translate similes from original texts to target texts in order to help readers understand more cross-cultural experiences through reading translated texts.