

Translating from No or Few Formal Source Texts – A Discussion of the Translation Processes in the Production of a Book about Shanghai

CHAI Mingjiong Shanghai International Studies University, PRC

When we discuss translation or work on translation studies, there are two terms we bound to take into considerations, that is, the source and the target. The source is either source texts in translation or source speeches in interpreting. But is it possible that in translation processes, there is no such thing as source texts but rather an abundant material in text forms, audio-video forms or even in graphic forms, all of which need to be selected, organized, edited or reedited, or even creatively written before the translators write their target texts?

This talk intends to discuss the production of the English version of the book “*Shanghai: Mosaic of Dreams*”, that witnessed the translation processes in which the target texts were produced without the so-called formal source texts. This, to a large extent, exemplifies the kind of translation being conducted in the source language environment with no or few formal source texts and scheduled to produce the kind of targets text friendly to the target language readers or users.

About the Speaker :



Professor Chai Mingjiong is Professor and Principle Supervisor of PhD students at Shanghai International Studies University. He has held key positions in various organizations and is currently Honorary Dean of Graduate Institute of Interpretation and Translation, Shanghai International Studies University, Member and Director General, Shanghai Committee for Graduate Education of Translation and Interpreting, the Education Commission of Shanghai Municipal Government and Chair, Committee for Professional Translation and Interpreting Title Evaluation of Shanghai.