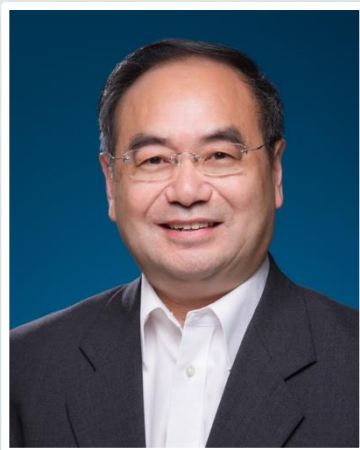


Translating Chinese Literature for Contemporary English Readers: Meaning, Imagology and Context

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Under the country's initiative to make Chinese culture go international, the translation of Chinese texts into English and other foreign languages, including texts in the various fields of literature, culture and academia, has been developing rapidly with government support. Its study has also become a hotspot topic in recent years, which seems a fitting response in TS research in China to the problems and interferences brought about by non-literary factors in the political and economic world at large. This paper offers a discussion of some of the major issues involving how to handle Chinese mother-tongue to English-language translating. These include issues on the linguistic and cultural politics of translingual communication, the intrinsic relations between communication and imagology, and the dynamics of institutional translation in the Chinese context. Hopefully, insights drawn from the study may help promote development of the translation as well as research into the translation by native Chinese scholars of their mother-tongue texts into English and other foreign languages.

About the Speaker :



Tan Zaixi is Emeritus Professor of Hong Kong Baptist University, and was Distinguished Professor of Shenzhen University and Chair Professor of Beijing Foreign Studies University, China (2018-2021). He obtained his doctorate and MA degree from Exeter University (UK), and his undergraduate degree from Hunan Normal University (China). He is author of 20+ books, and 200+ papers (30+ in English) published in major national and international journals, including: *Chinese Translators Journal* (Chi.), *Foreign Language Teaching and Research* (Chi.), *Foreign Languages* (Chi.), *Translation and Interpreting Studies*; *Meta*, *Neohelicon*, *The Translator*, *Perspectives*, *Across Languages and Cultures*, *Babel*, and *Asia Pacific Translation and Intercultural Studies*. Some of his major monographs include: *Researching the Historiography of Translation in the West* (Chi., 2021; prize winner), *A History of Translation in the West: Revised Edition* (Chi., 11th reprint 2022, prize winner), *The*

Science of Translation (Chi., prize winner; new edition forthcoming 2024), and his major translations: Kingsley Amis' *Lucky Jim* (1985; 2008/2013), *The Book of Twin Worlds* (2019, Chinese-English). His recent representative paper publications include: "On the Chinese and the universalness of the Chinese school of translation theory" (2023), "Communication via translation: Disciplinary positioning and features of application, with special reference to the March 2021 translation events at Anchorage" (2023), "A cross-boundary approach to the generative nature of translation" (2021), "The fuzzy interface between censorship and self-censorship in translation" (2019), "The role of national interests in media production and translation" (2019), "Gender and the Chinese tradition of translation" (2019), "Chinese discourse on translation: Views and issues" (2019), "Reflections on Chinese TS research" (Chi., 2019) , "40 years of contemporary translation studies in China: From opening-up to development in future directions" (Chi., 2018), "Translation and national image reconstruction: The case of China narratives and cultural back-translation" (Chi., 2018), etc.

His specialist interests: theories and philosophies of translation; translation and communication, the cultural-politics of translation; historiography of translation; literary and media translation; contrastive English and Chinese language-cultural studies.