

CHAPTER 5

VARIATIONAL TRANSLATION METHODS IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND RESEARCH TEXTS OF THE CHU CI

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ABSTRACT

Guided by Variational Translation Theory (VTT), this chapter takes the overseas translation and research texts of the Chu ci as the research object, outlining the overall picture of Chu ci dissemination in the West, summarizing the variational translation methods employed in the translation and research texts, analyzing the reasons for using the methods and their intercultural communication functions, and exploring future communication strategies for the canon. The research findings are that the Chu ci dissemination works employ various variational translation methods, such as selective translation, edited translation, condensed translation, translation and comment, translation and writing, adaptation translation, explanatory translation, reference translation, imitation translation, and so on.

Keywords: *Chu Ci, English World, Translation Texts, Research Texts, Variational Translation Methods.*

INTRODUCTION

Qu Yuan (屈原, 340-278 B.C.E.) is one of the few most distinguished cultural celebrities around the world. As an ancient anthology of poems by Qu Yuan and other poets, the *Chu ci* (楚辞) is not only the greatest canon of Chu culture but also a milestone classic of Chinese literature and culture. It is loved by people from other parts of the world, and it is widely disseminated in the East, such as Japan and Korea, and frequently translated and

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