

日治台灣傳統文人運用「華盛頓」譯詞 書寫詩文的語境*

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摘要

本文研究聚焦於日治傳統文人縱觀台灣政治歷史的變動，藉著文化翻譯方式，吸納「華盛頓」譯詞的文化意義，同時也挹注西方的新學知識入詩，透過書寫作品呈現了傳統文人欲尋求台灣未來另一種出路的論述方式。

台灣傳統文人對「華盛頓」譯詞所帶出的詮釋策略，一方面突顯殖民體制下的台灣主體性待建置的需求。另方面選擇較沒有歷史傳統包袱的美國為取法對象，法效華盛頓能夠堅持人格操守，樹立生命典範，領導美國成為民主共和的自由國家。美國總統「華盛頓」所帶來的民主共和典範，為 20 世紀初亞洲國家的政治新典範，台灣古典詩作常將「華盛頓」的民主共和對比「袁世凱」的帝國專制，表達出台灣欲脫離帝制進入自由民主的新視域。美國首任民主總統政治人物的形象，在詩人描摹的過程中，常與中國歷史人物對照比喻，進而形成台灣古典詩文作品的新語言，側顯出詩人以「華盛頓」譯詞為題，法效美國新政治人物典範的企盼。

依承本研究得知，傳統文人將台灣人民原有文化模式之舊習，藉著翻譯吸收新文化元素的啟發融入，以期發展台灣人自己的主權，主張從共和國體的新知識

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與領袖人格風範的養成兩面向，思索面對被殖民統治的政治情境，以取法美國「共和」與「自由」的國家文化精神，開展台灣主體的新視界。

關鍵詞：日治台灣傳統文人、「華盛頓」、文化翻譯、共和民主



The Context of Traditional Literati in Japanese-ruled Taiwan Using the Translation of “Washington” in their Poetic Works

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Abstract

This study focuses on the cultural meaning of the term “Washington” as translated by traditional Taiwanese literati through cultural translation in the light of the changes in Taiwan’s political history, while at the same time incorporating new Western knowledge into poetry, thus presenting the discursive approach of traditional literati who sought an alternative future for Taiwan through their written works.

The interpretation strategy of the traditional Taiwanese literati towards the translation of “Washington” highlights the need for the construction of a Taiwanese subjectivity under the colonial system. On the one hand, they chose the United States, a country with less historical baggage, as a model. The exemplary behavior of George Washington, who maintained personal integrity and used his own life to set an example, led the United States to become a democratic republic and a free country. The democratic republican model brought about by American President “Washington” served as a new political paradigm for Asian countries in the early twentieth century. Traditional Taiwanese poetry often contrasted “Washington’s” democracy and republicanism with Yuan Shikai’s imperial autocracy, expressing Taiwan’s desire to break away from imperialism and enter a new realm of freedom and democracy. Through poets’ portrayals, the image of the first democratic president of the United States was

often compared and contrasted with historical figures from China, forming a new language in Taiwanese classical poetry and prose. Using the translated term “Washington” in the title of their works reveals the poets’ desire to emulate the new political exemplar from the United States.

According to this study, the traditional literati integrated the old habits of the original cultural model of the Taiwanese people with the inspiration of new cultural elements through translation in the hopes of developing Taiwan’s own sovereignty. They advocated the development of both new knowledge in the form of a republic and the cultivation of leadership character. Faced with the political reality of being colonized, they sought to learn from the American cultural spirit of “republic” and “freedom” to open up a new horizon for Taiwanese subjectivity.

Keywords: Traditional Literati in Japanese-ruled Taiwan, “Washington”, Cultural Translation, Republican Democracy

