Abstract

*Romance of the Three Kingdoms* (三国演义) is a novel written by *Luo Guanzhong* (罗贯中) in the 14th century. It reflects the situation during the late Eastern Han Dynasty (东汉末年) and the Three Kingdom (三国) period. This reflection is partly presented by the exhibition of battle scenes in the novel. Over the years, many scholars have commended the description of battle scenes for their literary style.

This thesis attempts to trace the evolution of the narrative and descriptive style of battle scenes in the novel. In the study, the author first compares and analyses the novel with a work of the past, i.e. *Tso-chuan* (左传), to find out how the description of battle scenes evolved in the novel. A comparison and analysis with other works, such as *Sanguo Zhi* (三国志) and *Sanguo Zhi Pinhua* (三国志平话) is also made to discuss how the novel, starting from the traditional style, was transformed into a style that is praised by scholars. A further discussion is made on how the novel combines features of *Tso-chuan* (左传), such as description of battle of wits, with features of *Sanguo Zhi Pinhua* (三国志平话), such as description of courage in battle, to create a new style of battle scene description.