Abstract

Wen Zichuan (温梓川) was one of the Malayan Chinese writers in the twenties who became prominent only after the Second World War. The primary purpose of this thesis is to explore Wen Zichuan’s post-war literary works, focusing on the themes and artistry of his works, namely fiction, poetry and prose.

Sources used for this study include books, bound periodicals and microfilms on the topic which are available in the National University of Singapore library. Analyses made are based on previous studies done and my personal interpretation.

This thesis is divided into six chapters. The introductory chapter covers the reasons for selecting Wen Zichuan’s works for analysis and the scope of study. Chapter Two is an account of his life and literary works. Chapters Three to Five are analyses of his literary works. Chapter Six sums up the entire thesis with an assessment of his writing techniques and contributions towards Malayan Chinese literature.

The study yields three findings. Firstly, Wen Zichuan’s works are relatively easy to read and this would help to stimulate an interest in readers. Secondly, he introduces the lives of all races in Malaysia into his works,
thus providing a more complete picture of Malayan society. Finally, his works depict the reality of life, which makes them more accessible to readers.