ABSTRACT

Lu Xun (鲁迅, 1881-1936), a native of Shaoxing, Zhejiang province was the most eminent writer in early 20th century China. He was not only highly successful in his literary works but also in the field of translation being a skilful and prolific translator. In fact, his literary life began with translation as he started translating (in 1903) long before he began to write his first fiction (in 1918). However, after his death, most studies on the life of Lu Xun concentrated on his literary works; his translation as well as his views on the subject which were in abundance and scattering in his numerous essays remain relatively neglected. This academic exercise, therefore intends to rectify this by focusing on his views on translation.

This exercise is divided into 5 chapters. The first chapter, an introductory chapter, provides the rationale for the exercise and also a brief description of the approach to the topic. Chapter 2 examines the translation done by Lu Xun in his life time, mainly between 1902-1936. Chapter 3 discusses Lu Xun’s thoughts on translation. Chapter 4 appraises his thoughts mainly from the views of contemporary scholars and translators. Chapter 5, the concluding chapter, evaluates Lu Xun’s contribution in the field of translation.

To sum up, Lu Xun had not only introduced varieties of Western Literature to China, he had also provided useful suggestions and recommendations to future translators on the techniques and principles of translation.