ABSTRACT

Incense paper is a special product in Han society. It has a significant role in folk religion. It is commonly used in all major festivals and rituals. This thesis has two main parts. The first part is a chronological depiction of the history of incense paper, including its emergence and development. The front section discusses about the origin of incense paper, while the latter section discusses about how it developed in the Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties, for example the differentiation of gold and silver paper, and the different production methods. The second part of this paper talks about the evolution of incense paper in modern Singapore. It looks at the different types of incense paper used in Singapore, as well as the ways it is used. It also explores the reasons behind the changes of its use.