Abstract

This thesis traces the missionary and cultural enterprises of the first Protestant missionary to China - Rev. Robert Morrison (1782-1834). It examines eight of his main contributions to the East and the West in three aspects: missionary, cultural as in from the West to East, and from the East to West. Attentions are placed on three areas:

1) the ways that these contributions fostered interaction between the East and the West,

2) their influences in nineteenth century China, and

3) their influences in England.

This study is based on publications by Morrison himself and other writers. They spans from the nineteenth to twentieth century, including a balance of Chinese and English works.

The study shows that Morrison has initiated another tide of cultural interaction between the two hemispheres since Matteo Ricci (1552-1610), and continues to the present day. He has also contributed greatly to the modernisation of China and the promotion of Sinology in England. Robert Morrison stands out among his peers in his ability to balance the two-way dissemination of information between the two continents. Future studies that deals with the unique role of missionaries between the East and the West in the nineteenth century will find it helpful to study the groundworks laid down by this great pioneer.