Abstract

This thesis will examine the image of Yue Fei’s in history, as seen by his contemporaries, and his image as presented in his biography, “Song Shao Bao Yue E Wang’s Chronicle of Events”, compiled by his grandson Yue Ke. Yue Fei’s contemporaries saw him as arrogant and imperious, character flaws of which emperor Song Gao Zong will have little tolerance for, leading to his unjustly death in the hands of Qin Kuai. In Yue Fei’s biography however, the tension between Yue Fei and the emperor is masked, and a harmonious relationship is presented instead. The masking of tension effectively masked Yue Fei’s character flaws, presenting an image different from that in history. Yue Fei’s image in history is further altered – for the better – by Yue Ke, by presenting Yue Fei as a symbol of virtues characteristically of the Chinese tradition.