Summary

This study addresses a prevalent phenomenon in Singaporean Chinese writers who have expressed, either consciously or subconsciously, a profound 'attachment to the Chinese culture', and their deep concern over the decline of the Chinese culture in this modern and commercial society. They have tried to find a relationship between the traditional Chinese culture and the future and destiny of the country, in an effort to call the society's attention to this issue.

The thesis is divided into seven chapters.

Chapter One is the introduction, which briefly lays out the objections and describes the methodology of this study. It also states its rationale of this study, which shows concern about the reality, and analyses the works related to the crisis of Chinese culture.

Chapter Two leads the main study. It reviews the works on the closing down of Chinese-medium schools, and the psychological shock that the decline of Chinese education has on the Chinese in community Singapore.

Chapter Three argues that after the Chinese cultural crisis arises, when the written Chinese and spoken Mandarin have been expelled from the social mainstream. The status of Chinese has become that of second language, and is no longer the medium of instruction, and the Chinese language has lost its practical value. The standard of the Chinese language has continuously going down and is at the risk of being downgraded to the spoken language only.
Chapter Four investigates the dilemma that Chinese artists are faced with. Writers fear that traditional arts such as Chinese painting, calligraphy, Chinese literature, Chinese music and so on will have no successors.

Chapter Five addresses the thesis from such phenomena as the disappearance of Chinese-medium schools, the crisis of Chinese education, the degrading of the standard of the Chinese language/Mandarin and the neglect of the Chinese art, and the warning of the Chinese culture, and hence the grave worries that Chinese writers in Singapore have.

Chapter Six claims that the traditional Chinese virtues are becoming thin in the young-generation Singaporeans in the Chinese community. This has resulted from the young-generation Singaporeans’ abdication of the traditional culture.

The Chinese writers seem to prove that once the Chinese abdicate the traditional Chinese culture, they will shun themselves on the responsibility for the family, society and the country. It is evident that maintaining and promoting traditional culture benefits the individual, the family, society and the country. The writers, through their works, appeal for attention to the phenomenon of traditional culture.

Chapter Seven is the conclusion of the study.