SUMMARY

Chinese literary theories during post-war Singapore and Malaya displayed a marked difference from those of the pre-war period. The objective of this dissertation is to study the relationship between Chinese literary theories and social, economic and political changes during the first five years of the post-war period. It also attempts to establish a framework for Chinese literary theories during this period (1945-1949).

This dissertation comprises five chapters. Chapter One defined the scope and features of this study and explained the research method adopted. An extensive and in-depth examination of original articles published in newspaper supplements during this period formed the basis of this study. The social and political background of this period were examined in this chapter.

The study revealed that the Chinese in both Singapore and Malaya during the post-war period were able to identify with their respective place of residence instead of ancestral origins in China. The Chinese of the pre-war period and those of the post-war period differed greatly in terms of political and national identification.

As a result, it caused a controversy which divided Chinese writers into two camps towards the end of the forties. While one group of writers sought to establish a new identity for Malayan-Chinese literature, the other group, which comprised mainly immigrants from China, attempted to maintain some form of link with the mainland in their so-called “Immigrant Literature”.

Chapter Two described the statistical approach to analyzing all the articles in connection with Chinese literary theories of the chosen period. It also examined the distribution of authors and articles amongst various literary supplements of newspapers. Issues and theories about literature published in such supplements were examined and discussed as well.

Chapter Three developed and expanded on the results of the analysis in Chapter Two. It dealt with various issues that concern the nature and functions of literature. An in-depth study of each issue raised by various authors was carried out in this chapter.

Chapter Four analyzed the major controversies of this period which included the call to establish certain uniqueness in Singapore and Malaya’s Chinese literature. Chapter Five is an evaluation and conclusion of the research findings.

The study shows that there existed a direct relationship between social and political changes and the establishment of Chinese literary theories during the first five years of the post-war period (1945-1949), especially the call for recognition of the uniqueness of Chinese literature in Singapore and Malaya. The study also revealed that influence from China on Chinese literature during the said period was weaker than that of the pre-war period when Chinese literature in Singapore and Malaya was being regarded as a reprint of
Chinese literature in China. The development of a local identity for Chinese literature affected deeply Chinese literary theories of the fifties as the struggle for independence from colonial rule in Singapore and Malaya reached its peak.

战后五年新马华文文学理论研究

(1945-1949)

第一章 导论

新马华文文学的研究工作，日渐受到海内外学者的注。在中国和日本都没有中心专门从事新马文学的研究工作。1) 美国的威斯康辛大学及俄罗斯的莫斯科大学也有以新马文学作为研究题目的高级学位论文。2) 新加坡、马来西亚研究新马华文文学的学者尤多，其中有专书出版或曾发表过论文的有：方修、方北方、苗秀、赵庆、王淑华、马仑、林万吉、林锡、杨松年、周维仁等人。3) 新加坡国立大学(包括南洋大学与南新加坡大学)已有14人以新马华文文学作为研究对象撰写论文而获硕士学位与博士学位。计荣誉学位11人(南洋大学4人，新加坡大学1人，新加坡国立大学6人)；硕士学位3人(南洋大学1人，新加坡国立大学2人)。4) 马来亚大学也有3人以新马华文文学作为研究对象而获硕士学位，1人获高级博士学位。5)

然而，一般研究新马华文文学的学者，多将注意力集中在战前的时期(1919-1942)。例如：所出版的关于战前新马华文文学的专业有方修著的《华新文学史稿》(上、中、下三卷)；方修编《华新文学大系(十集)》；林锦《战前五年新马文学理论研究》；杨松年《新马华文文学论集》；《战前新马报章文艺剖析论(甲集)》等。6) 相形之下，有关战后时期的新马华文文学的研究就显得非常单薄与脆弱。但从另一个角度来看，这正是有待我们去寻找与开拓的园地。因此，我就选择了战后五年(1945-1949)新马华文文学理论，作为这次研究与撰写高级学位论文的课题。