



澳門大學
UNIVERSIDADE DE MACAU

Metaphors in Chinese Literary Translation

--A case study of *Fortress Besieged*

A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Arts in Translation Studies

by

Lei Yanbo

Supervisor: Dr. Wang Xian, Vincent

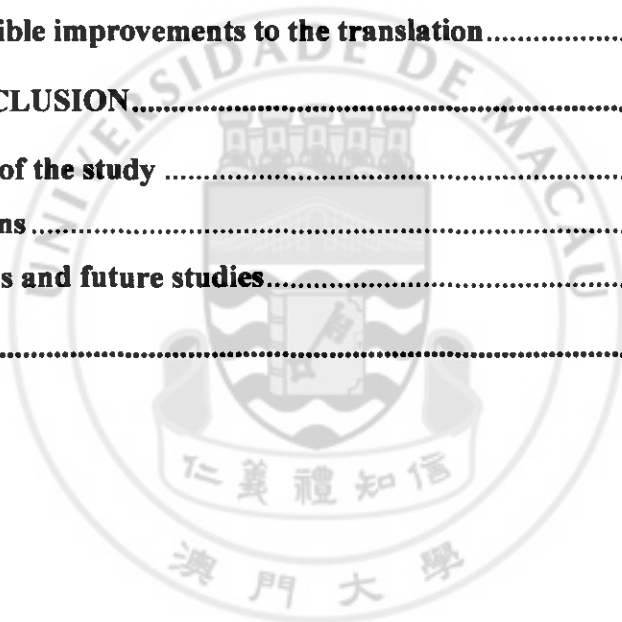
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DECLARATION

The work presented in this thesis is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, original and my own, except as acknowledged in the text, and has not been submitted, either in whole or part, for a degree at this or any other university.

Signed: _____



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ABSTRACT

The present study concentrates on metaphor translation which reflects the close relationship between language and culture. The thesis employs quantitative and qualitative approaches to attempt a comprehensive investigation on the metaphors in Qian Zhongshu's masterpiece *Fortress Besieged* and its English translation. Our sample is restricted to implicit metaphors, which excludes similes. The study uses Peter Newmark's (1988b) translation procedures for metaphor translation and analyzes their occurrence frequency as well as applicable situations in order to reveal how the metaphors are translated. Moreover, Lawrence Venuti's (1995) notions of domestication and foreignization are employed to discuss the translation tendency of the two translators of *Fortress Besieged*—Jeanne Kelly and Nathan K. Mao.

From our sample of 139 metaphors, nearly 40% of the metaphors are translated literally, i.e. the metaphorical images are retained. In about 35% of the metaphors, the images are omitted and the implied meanings are paraphrased. It is found that the translation strategies of domestication and foreignization coexist in our sample. Some main influential factors to the use of translation strategies are discussed. In addition, the author of the present thesis gives some suggestions to improve a number of inadequate translations.

It is hoped that the detailed and comprehensive analysis of the metaphors in *Fortress Besieged* and their English translations will reveal information about the translation procedures and strategies used, and cast some light on the possible ways to render Chinese metaphors.

Keywords: metaphor; *Fortress Besieged*; literary translation.