

## Treat with Tricks: Translational Periodicals in the “Isolated Island Period” of Shanghai (1937-1941)

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This article discusses how translation is rendered different roles in the “Isolated Island Period” of Shanghai from 1937 to 1941 when the periphery of the city was taken by Japanese troops during the World War II. The social and cultural turmoil China had experienced lead to a temporary flourish of translational periodicals at that period in Shanghai, which also embodied conflicting inter-nation relations under the dome of international law. By taking translational periodicals such as *Translation*(譯叢週報) as research focus, this article investigates how some periodicals’ multiple readership interacted with Shanghai’s socio-political context at certain historical moments resulting in contrasting textual features and translation strategies. It is found that owing to the threats of censorship and potential war, some translational periodicals had to take submissive, even deceitful, moves to cover their true intention. Nevertheless, the cheering messages translated and delivered timely not only consoled eager readers in hunger, but also helped connecting people in the “isolated Island” with the outside world, and with the “dahoufang (vast rear area areas under KMT rule during China’s War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression)”, reassuring them that they were never alone.

Keywords: translational periodicals, the “Isolated Island Period of Shanghai”, power and translation