

**Translation and University Education:
Building the *Ta-Kung-Pao* Literary Supplements (1933–1937) as a Site
for Knowledge Transfer from Academia to the Society**

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A notable body of research has examined the role of translation in the transfer and transformation of knowledge across languages and cultures. In fact, knowledge transfer also occurs when the original knowledge is adapted by mediators for the understanding of people from different intellectual backgrounds, for example, during the dissemination from academia to the public sphere. In the *Ta-Kung-Pao* literary supplements (1933–1937), literary discourse was shaped by university education on foreign languages and literatures, with the contribution of translators who were students, teachers, or recent graduates of prominent universities such as the National Peking University, National Tsinghua University and Yenching University. Under the influence of educational and academic activities including courses, speeches and academic societies, these university-affiliated translators represented the academic knowledge about foreign literature with their translation of foreign literary works and theories.

By comparing the dominant academic discourse with translators' selection of works to introduce in the literary supplements, it is found that they used and transformed academic knowledge in two different ways. The first involves the application of language, literary, cultural and translation knowledge acquired through university education during translation. In this way did translation reconstruct the knowledge structure in university education, such as the hierarchy of literatures (prioritizing particularly French and English literature) and the neglect of historical and contextual analysis of literary works. Second, there was translation of academic knowledge into a popular language, including accessible introductions of original authors and foreign literary trends in forewords and afterwords of translated texts, and introductory articles.