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*Self-Translation in China: Cross-Cultural Activity and Bilingualism*

**Abstract of the Communication:**

China is a unified, multinational and multilingual country. As for the Chinese translation, it is unique in two ways. Firstly, it has one of the longest histories covering approximately three thousand years, and secondly, China as host culture was heavily reliant on translators of non-Chinese origins, especially in terms of cultural-oriented translation activities.

Throughout this communication, the author refers to the key moments and specificities of translation in China, and especially to the phenomenon of self-translation studied in connection with the cross-cultural activities and bilingualism. Thus, the phenomenon of self-translation in China must be analyzed with reference to the term of cultural borderlands that, according to Anthony Pym, has a certain resemblance to the idea of “interculture”. In such a way we face to an intersection of languages, linguistic communities and cultures.

It has been said that self-translations are exceptions, that they are infrequent in literature. Anyway its study requests a greater attention of scientists. In China self-translators as Lin Yutang, Zhang Ailing, Bai Xianyong, Xiao Qian, Bian Zhiling were not studied until very recently. Lin Yutang was one of the earliest self-translators in modern China. He was also one of the few bilingual writers who excelled in both translation theory and practice and succeeded home and abroad as a writer and translator. His informal but polished style in both Chinese and English made him one of the most influential writers of his generation.