

Women's stories under Japanese Rule —

The Interlocking of Reality and Fabrication

Graduate Institute of Taiwan Literature, National Taiwan University,
Professor Huang Mei-e 2009.6.30 14 : 30-15 : 45

◎Speaker's Profile

Huang Mei-e, professor of the Graduate Institute of Taiwan Literature at National Taiwan University, has been studying and teaching Taiwan literature for two decades. Her publications include *Mirrors of Multiple Modernities : Cultural Visions and Literary Imagination of Traditional Taiwanese Literati in Japanese Colonial Period*, *Classical Taiwan: On Literary History,, Poetry Groups, and Authors*, and other essays. She also works on preserving and researching Taiwan literary materials and texts and edited the following titles: *Zhang Jingsheng's complete works*, *Mei-he Zhai poetry* and *Bibliography of Taipei in Japanese Colonial Period*. She also co-edited anthologies such as *Selection of Taiwan Popular Fiction in Classical Chinese (I) (II)*, *Collection of Taiwan Literature during the Japanese Colonial Period*, *Poetry from Treetop— Collection of Hsieh Jing-yun and Wang Qiu-chan* , *Collection of Hsieh Sen-hong and Hsieh Lin-chi*. Currently she is working on a project on Taiwan historical materials' collection; her efforts result as the anthology entitled *The Collections of Taiwan Official Local History of Qing Dynasty*.

◎Introduction of curriculum content

This program is mainly to place focus on the history of life and livelihood of Taiwanese female during the period of Japanese Occupation, and it is through the dialectic contemplation interlocked between “reality and “fabrication” from the mastery of several actual cases and dissection of description regarding female image often seen in literature works to have concluded the sophisticated façade and rich connotation of existential phenomena of Taiwanese female during Japanese Occupation. Besides, it will further investigate the possible dimension of research for the history of study among Taiwanese female.

As for curriculum content, it will, first of all, point out that Japanese Occupation is the crucial moment precipitates the appearance of novel female of Taiwan and it has led to several novel changes to the body of female, such as emancipation of foot-binding,

change of costume and hair-style, and their changes physically and mentally as confronted with external community and world. Besides, from the perspective of realistic society, we have helped, through Xie Xue Hong, Ye Tao, Cai A Xin, and Yang Qian-he who had successfully conducted their role-play in their process of life, to establish the fact of existence through these new female during the period of Japanese Occupation. In addition, we have also resorted to the personal stories of Wang Xian-chan, Cai Zhi-chan, and Wang Qiu-chan to elaborate the highly received pressure and tension as created upon female during the moment of transition between the old and new eras. Third, we will exploit the styling and description of female image often seen in literature works, especially novels, including swordswoman, child bride, female worker, female artist, female dancer, and female student and so on, and investigate and analyze various facades of these females as found in the works of Lee Yi-shou, Lai He, Lu He-ru, Wu Ma-sha, and Zhang Wen-huan as how female is being expected, described, and suppressed.

At the end, the program will further introduce several important research works of female history of Taiwan during the period of Japanese Occupation, and brief on their relevant research results. Furthermore, it will attempt to link the content essence of this program in the hope that it can, a step more, appreciate the sophisticated and intertwined connotation of female history of Taiwan during the period of Japanese Occupation through the interlocking of authentic life phenomena and fabricated image of literature.

◎Course Outline :

I. Introduction

This course will take 75 minutes, content as follows:

II. The Birth of Taiwan New Woman during the Japanese Regime

Begins with several pictures

- A. From “Footbinding” to “release from footbinding”
- B. The change of clothes and hair-style
- C. The change of female body

III. Taiwan Woman in the real world

- A. New career and new social role
- B. Examples
 - 1. Political Movement : Xie Xue Hong (1901-1970)
 - 2. Social Movements : Ye Tao (1904-1969)

3. Medical science : Cai A-xin (1899-1990)
4. Mass Media : Yang Chian-ho (1921--)
- C. Stories of Taiwan women
 1. Attention and Tension: The molt of woman
 2. From the “Old-Fashion” to the “Fashion”
 - a Wang Hsiang-Chan
 - b Cai Zhi-Chan
 - c The anthology of chong-wen association: an essay, ” the difference of Women’ s cloths”
 - d Wang chio- chan

IV. Woman Images in Literature

- A. Swordsman : Li Yi-Tao, ” the affinity of study abroad” (留學奇緣), “the unfortunate heroine” (不幸的女英雄)
- B. Child Bride : Lai-He, “Her death” (可憐她死了)
- C. Workingwoman : Liuh He-Ro ”The Bull cart” (牛車)、Wu Man-sha “The Song of Dawn ” (黎明之歌)
- D. Yi-dan 、waitress 、coffee girl 、dancing girl : 369 *Tabloid*, “A dream of Butterfly” (蝶夢痕), “gui-zhen” (歸真), Chang Wen-Huan’ s “The House of Yi-dan” (藝姐之家)、Liuh He-Ro’ s “The Fate of Women” (女人的命運)
- E. Girl student : Wu Man-sha’ s “The Spring of Earth” (大地之春)

V. The Interlace of Truth and Fiction : The Introspection of Taiwan

Woman History in Japanese Colonial Period

- A. An introduction to the present conditions:
 1. 游鑑明 (Yu Chien-ming) 《日據時期臺灣的女子教育》臺北市 : 國立師範大學歷史 研究所碩士論文, 1988
 2. 游鑑明 (Yu Chien-ming) 《日據時期臺灣的職業婦女》國立臺灣師範大學歷史研究所博士論文, 1995
 3. 楊翠 (Yang Tsui) 《日據時期台灣婦女解放運動》臺北市 : 時報, 1993
 4. 洪郁如 (Hong Yu Ru) : 《近代台灣女性史—日本の植民統治と「新女性」の誕生》, 東京 : 勁草, 2001
 5. 竹中信子 (Takenaka Nobuko) 《日治台灣生活史 : 日本女人在台灣》(明治、大正、昭和) 台北市 : 時報文化 , 2007-2009
- B. The related Topics:

1. The meaning and changing of woman of a modern angle
 - a Woman' s Subjectivity
 - b Love and Sex
 - c The changing of what is beauty
 - d Modern body and the restriction
2. The relationship of woman' s careier and society
3. Woman' s issue of class, district and nation
4. Woman and family
5. Woman and nation

VI. Conclusion

Goethe once said:” To know women, is to know the truth of history. ”

○ Literature and References

- 李逸濤 (Li Yi-Tao)〈留學奇緣〉、〈不幸之女英雄〉，《漢文臺灣日日新報》，1906.5.13、5.15，1907.5.11。
- 賴和 (Lai-He)〈可憐她死了〉(“Her death”)，林瑞明編《賴和全集・小說卷》，臺北：前衛出版社，2000。
- 呂赫若 (Lu He Ruo)〈牛車〉(“The Bull cart”)、〈女人的命運〉(The Fate of Women)；呂赫若著、林至潔譯《呂赫若小說全集》，臺北：聯合文學出版社，1995。
- 吳漫沙 (Wu Man-sha)《黎明之歌》(“The Song of Dawn”)、《大地之春》(“Spring”)，臺北：前衛出版社，1998。
- 《三六九小報》(369 Tabloid)，臺北：成文出版社復刻本，1930.9-1935.9。
- 張文環 (Chang Wen-hsun)〈藝妲之家〉(“The House of Yi-dan”)，陳萬益主編《張文環全集》，台中縣立文化中心，2002。