

Joseon Court as a Patron of Korean Translations of Chinese books

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The Joseon court should be marked as the first enduring foreign institute in the history of Chinese translation in the sense that they continued to translate numerous Chinese literary texts until the end of the dynasty since the Korean alphabet *hangeul* was invented by King Sejong in 1446. Their monumental works include the complete translation of Du Fu's poetry (杜詩諺解) in 1491 and the bilingual translation of the *Honglou meng* 紅樓夢 in late 19th century, often called the Nakseonjae 樂善齋 edition. Each of them represents the achievement of the first and second half of the dynasty.

In my presentation, I will first make a historical survey of major translated works with attention to their literary and political backgrounds. Then I will discuss the agency of the Joseon court for the readership and literary taste of Chinese literature, and their influence on Sino-Korean literature. Lastly, I will compare Korean translations (*enhae* 諺解) with the English translations of Chinese literature in order to discern similarities and dissimilarities between Joseon and England in terms of selection standards, translating method, the agency of patrons, and so on. My presentation will contribute to disclosing how the world literature was formulated through the translation of Chinese literature in the East and West in the 18th and 19th centuries.