

## 功能对等视角下的习语英译策略探析

**摘要:** 汉语习语数量多, 形式繁。在其发展历程中, 对中华文化产生了深远的影响。习语不仅展现了源远流长的历史, 还凝聚了中华儿女的智慧结晶。早在 20 世纪 70 年代, 中国学者们就开始对习语翻译进行探索。张培基、陈文伯等人都对此领域做出巨大贡献。随着世界一体化进程以及改革开放进一步深化, 中国国际地位不断提高。作为带有中国特色的文化载体, 习语的作用也显得越来越重要。然而由于习语的自身特征, 在译语中体现原语的文化意蕴和特征往往难以实现。因此, 在本文中, 作者以奈达的功能对等理论为指导, 结合一定的实例, 对习语的英译策略进行探讨, 旨在帮助读者更好地理解习语含义, 同时运用相关策略更准确的翻译汉语习语。

**关键词:** 功能对等理论; 汉语习语; 英译策略

### **An Analysis of English-translated Version of Chinese Idioms from the Perspective of Functional Equivalence**

**Abstract:** Chinese idioms are abundant in numbers and rich in forms. In its evolution, they have produced a far-reaching effect on the culture of China. Idioms not only unfold a time-honored history, but crystallize the intellect of the Chinese. As far back as the 1970s, Chinese scholars have begun to explore the idiom's translation. Chen Wenbo, Zhang Peiji and other scholars who preoccupied themselves with translation studies have contributed a lot to this field. Against the backdrop of world integration, China has further promoted the reform and opening up policy, and its international status has been enormously elevated. Consequently, idioms, as a cultural carrier with Chinese characteristics, are drawing more and more attention of people. However, owing to the typical features of idioms, it is often a difficulty to represent the cultural connotation and characteristics of the source language in translation. Therefore, in this paper, the author takes Nida's Functional Equivalence Theory as the guide and discusses the English translation strategy of idioms with some examples, aiming at enabling readers better understand and apply the relevant strategies to translate Chinese idioms in a more accurate manner.

**Key Words:** Functional Equivalence; Chinese idioms; English-translated strategies

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## Introduction

Translation, as the medium of humans' language communication, is continuously evolving and updating with its long history, and enjoys the same pace of the human's civilization development. And idioms, the inseparable part of every culture and country, play an extraordinary role in contemporary literary studies and cultural exchanges. As exchange and cooperation around the world continue to increase, the symbol of culture, idioms, gravitate scholars to go further.

In China, some academic achievements have been made in the study of idioms since the 1970s. Many scholars and researchers, such as Zhang Peiji (1978) and Chen Wenbo (1982) have exerted a great contribution to this field. For instance, in order to demonstrate the approaches of idioms translation, Zhang Peij, a Chinese contemporary famous translator, has upheld to write the translation of Chinese idioms into English researches. And Chen Wenbo, an influential scholar in China, also has his work *English Idioms and Chinese Idioms*. Additionally, some scholars or researchers (Wu Tong 1992; Zhang Ning 1999; Zhu Lehong 2000; Chen Kepei 2000; Yan Lifang 2013) have discussed the cultural differences based on contrastive linguistics and offered translation methods, which include basically literal translation and free translation.

At abroad, scholars have been interested in idiom research from the very beginning. It can be traced back to one of the representative of linguists in Britain, Smith, who proposed to classify idioms into different categories, such as emotion, attitude, wish, curse and so on. While in the 1930s to 1950s, in order to elucidate the vocabulary, semantic features and syntactic roles of idioms, models of lexicon, semantics and syntax have been used. In the 1950s, scholars focused more on the deep structure of idioms.

This paper will further delve into the study of Chinese idioms translation. It can enlighten on the practice of idioms translation, give readers more thorough insight of idioms and different translation methods, understand cultural gap and diversity, and to some extent, promote the cultural exchange and mutual understanding.

The thesis mainly contains three parts. In the first part, the author will give an introduction about Nida's Functional Equivalence, clarify four types of equivalence and then state the significance of the theory in idioms translation. The second part will shed light on the Chinese idioms about what Chinese idioms are and what the

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