

Preface

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/btl.96.01pre>

Page ix of

Interpreters in Early Imperial China

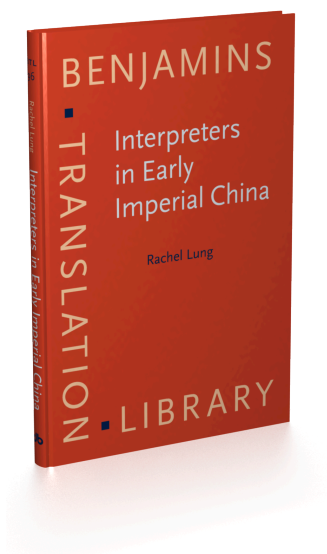
Rachel Lung

[Benjamins Translation Library, 96] 2011. xvii, 181 pp.

© John Benjamins Publishing Company

This electronic file may not be altered in any way. For any reuse of this material written permission should be obtained from the publishers or through the Copyright Clearance Center (for USA: www.copyright.com).

For further information, please contact rights@benjamins.nl or consult our website at benjamins.com/rights



Preface

This monograph presents the results of three projects I conducted between 2005 and 2009, funded by Lingnan University, Hong Kong, concerning interpreters archived in early imperial China and their possible roles in the making and writing of histories about foreign peoples at the time. The ten chapters demonstrate original discussions and analyses on archived interpreters and translators, as well as on translation and historiography as reflected from the Chinese archival records. They were generated based on critical readings of primary and secondary sources, rarely utilized and analyzed in depth even in translation research published in Chinese.

Regarding language usage, I use ‘translators’ or ‘translation’ in a broad sense to make references to either translators or interpreters, and translation or interpreting, for that matter. Also, the words ‘interpreters’ and ‘interpreting’ should be taken to mean intermediaries and acts of language mediation, not translators, or translation.

For the purposes of clearer literary distinction, I use the full name of scholars from mainland China in my documentation, as there is a higher frequency of identical surnames. Chinese names in pinyin format are italicized, except for names of persons and dynasties. The Chinese archival texts cited were all translated into English by me unless otherwise stated.