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清代文獻中的羅馬：試以多元的觀點探論

中國對西方世界有什麼想法呢？這是中西關係史上一個重要的課題，各個時代的學者也紛紛就不同的角度加以討論。清代留下許多關於羅馬的文獻，因此我希望本研究能透過這些史料的整理與解讀，以對目前的研究有更進一步的貢獻。

儘管中國第一篇有關於義大利半島的文獻可追溯到明朝，但直到清朝時期的中文文獻才真正開始大量出現西方各國的描述，包括義大利及其主要城邦。這些文獻大致可分為兩個範疇，分別是：

(一) 由外國人採用中文撰寫：大多數是 17 到 19 世紀，耶穌會士及基督新教的傳教士所撰寫的世界地理方面的書籍。

(二) 中國人為國內讀者所撰寫的文本：這些較晚期的文獻傾向於更新及多樣性，它們被書寫的時期多半是晚清，包括地理知識的收集、遊記，或是那些能夠親眼見識「永恆之城」的外交官及官員們所撰寫的回憶錄。

20 世紀初期，中國人可以取得大多數關於羅馬的資料，那將會形成何種圖像？在歷經超過三百年的歷史騷動的過程中，中國的目光又是以哪個角度探視「永恆之城」？羅馬現代史的起伏是否足以讓中國人將羅馬視為一個曾具影響力的帝國首都呢？各別敘述者的不同描述是否會影響羅馬的形象？這些都是本研究欲透過目前在臺收集的資料所試圖論述的問題。

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Portraits of Rome for the Qing Readers: A Variety of Sources and Perspectives

What idea did the Chinese have of the Western world? This important topic in the history of Sino-Western relations has been addressed by numerous scholars at different times and from various points of view. This research hopes to contribute to existing studies by providing an exhaustive account of the different sources containing information about Rome, thus trying to understand the perception that the Chinese had about it during the Qing dynasty.

Though the first descriptions of the Italian peninsula in Chinese language date back to the Ming, it was only during the Qing dynasty that a plurality of sources concerning the Western countries, including Italy and its major urban centres, became available to the Chinese. Such sources can be roughly divided into two categories, namely: a) texts written by foreigners for the Chinese, the majority of them being books on world geography written by the Jesuit and Protestant missionaries between the 17th and 19th century; b) texts written by the Chinese for their fellow-countrymen. The latter sources tend to be more recent and diverse, as they mainly date from the late Qing and range from collections of geographic works, to travel diaries and to memories left by officials and diplomats who had the chance to see the “eternal city” with their own eyes.

At the beginning of the 20th century, then, a plurality of information on Rome was available to the Chinese. What was the resulting picture? Which aspects of the “eternal city” struck the Chinese attention during more than three centuries of restless historical change? Did the ups and downs of the modern history of Rome influence the perception that the Chinese had of it as a once powerful capital of a great empire? To what extent did different narrators contribute to modify the image of Rome through the centuries? These are some of the questions this research will try to confront with, starting from an analysis of the sources so far collected in Taiwan.