

Survey on the Red Culture Publicity Translation in Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture

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ABSTRACT

In Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, the rich and various red cultural resources are integrated with the local unique geographical environment and national culture to form the unique red tourism resources. The translation of red culture is conducive to improving the image of local tourism and enabling English readers to understand the revolutionary spirit contained in Chinese red culture. Therefore, studying the translation of red culture in Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture has important application value and academic value.

Keywords: *Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Red culture, Luding Bridge, International publicity translation.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture is located in the west of Sichuan Province, the southeastern edge of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, with a total area of 153,000 square kilometers. It has jurisdiction over Kangding, a county-level city, Luding, Danba and 17 other counties. Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture is a hub connecting the Sichuan and Tibet, and a bridge of friendly communication between Tibetan culture and Han culture. Since ancient time, Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture has been an important military fortress.

As the precious wealth of the Communist Party of China in exploring the road of Chinese Revolution and socialist construction, red resources are the resources of thought, politics, culture, spirit and their materialization in the historical process of the localization of Marxism in China since the founding of the Communist Party of China. [1]

2. GANZI TIBETAN AUTONOMOUS PREFECTURE BOASTS RICH RED CULTURAL RESOURCES

Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture boasts red culture resources, which mainly originated from two historical periods: Firstly, during the Red Army Long March time, where the Red Army have

stationed and fought for 15 months, spinning 16 counties, leaving a large amount of relics of red resources; Secondly, during these periods of the 18th Red Army entered Tibet to perform democratic reform in Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture; the communist party of China led the people here to perform the socialist revolution, so, there left some historical sites, such as the airport caves group in Ganzi County. [2]

From October 1934 to October 1936, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army conducted Long March that shocked the world. The Long March is a magnificent revolutionary epic in the history of mankind. It is also an immortal milestone in the history of the Chinese Revolution. It is a great feat that attracts the world's attention. It is a historical miracle created by countless heroic battles, countless heroes, and countless lives. The Red Army soldiers achieved the final victory of the Long March with their strong will and considerable sacrifice.

From late May 1935 to September 1936, during the Long March time, the Red Army passed through 15 counties in Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture for 16 months, where they passed, stopped, fought and carried out various revolutionary activities, a large number of revolutionary cultural relics were left. The spiritual

wealth formed by the Long March has become a valuable resource of the red culture in this area. [3]

Red culture is the excellent culture with Chinese characteristics. Ganzi Tibetan autonomous Prefecture embraces many red cultural resources with various forms and rich connotations.

3. AN OVERVIEW OF ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF RED CULTURE RESOURCES IN GANZI TIBETAN AUTONOMOUS PREFECTURE

The eight-episode the full-length television documentary “Long March” is premiered on October 2016 on China Central Television. The international version of the “Long March” is divided into two episodes, which condenses the essences of the eight-episode domestic version which was released in early 2018. Through the vivid description of the “Human epic-long March”, the documentary shows the extraordinary journey of the Communist Party of China and the Chinese army under its leadership, and demonstrating the great spirit of the Long March, at the same time, which also shows the value and significance of the Long March from the international perspective. There are dozens of English books about “the Long March”, which show the spirit of “the Long March” of the Communist Party of China from different aspects.

Among the many heroic battles, which the Red Army experienced during Long March, “Capturing the Luding Bridge” is well-known at home and abroad. On May 29th, 1935, the Central Red Army valiantly captured Luding Bridge on the process Long March. A chain-link battle was started by an improvised assault detachment of 22 men. Under the cover of their comrades, the iron ropes across the Dadu River were paved with wooden planks and the warriors crawled hard to make a bloody path for the soldiers behind. The victory of capturing the Luding Bridge shattered Chiang Kai-shek's dream of encirclement and annihilation of the Red Army here, and opened the way for the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army to move north to resist Japanese invasion. “Capturing the Luding Bridge” was an important battle with decisive significance in the history of the Long March of the Red Army and an important turning point in the history of the Long March of the Red Army.

The Luding Bridge (Iron Chain Bridge) was the first bridge constructed on the Dadu River in 1705 under the order of Emperor Kangxi of the Qing dynasty in order to promote transport of materials, to mobilize troops and to unify the country as a whole. After a year of construction, the bridge was completed at the 1706 AD. [4] The name, Luding Bridge, was conceived by the Emperor Kangxi Emperor. The Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army Capturing Luding Bridge during Long March made the bridge famous at home and abroad.

It was American journalist Edgar Snow who first introduced “the Red Army Capturing Luding Bridge” abroad.[5] Snow was one of the first foreign journalists to visit Yan'an in northern Shaanxi Province, China. He visited the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border areas in June 1936 and lived there for about a year. Snow wrote a great deal of newsletters about the Chinese revolution. The collection of these newsletters was edited into a book named *RED STAR OVER CHINA*, which was published in October 1937. In the book, Snow faithfully records the history of the Chinese revolution with the professional ethics of a journalist, showing the arduous revolutionary struggle of the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army to the people of the world. *RED STAR OVER CHINA* has been translated into more than 20 languages, and there will be more than 20 versions of the translation.[6] There are several Chinese versions of the book, of which Dong Leshan, Wang Tao and Hu Yuzhi are the most influential. The following excerpt is taken from Snow's *RED STAR OVER CHINA* in chapter Long March “The Heroes of Tatu”.

“No time was to be lost. The bridge must be captured before enemy reinforcements arrived. Once more volunteers were called for. One by one red soldiers stepped forward to risk their lives, and, of those who offered themselves, thirty were chosen. Hand grenades and Mausers were strapped to their backs, and soon they were swinging out above the boiling river, moving hand over hand, clinging to the iron chains. Red machine-guns barked at enemy redoubts and spattered the bridgehead with bullets. The enemy replied with machine-gunning of his own, and snipers shot at Reds tossing high above the water, working slowly toward them. The first warrior was hit, and dropped into the current below; a second fell, and then a third. But as others drew nearer the center, the bridge flooring somewhat protected these dare-to-dies, and most of the enemy bullets glanced off, or ended in the cliffs on the opposite bank.” [7]

The writer got a 28-second video on the Internet to introduce “the Capturing Luding Bridge”. The video is recorded in both Chinese and English subtitles.

English subtitles: In the afternoon, the Red Army sent over 20 elite troops to seize the bridge. They were armed with guns, Sabre and grenades, the best of their weapons. All at once, heavy guns opened fire on the opposite bank. The elite troops grasped the iron chains and pulled themselves forward. Other soldiers followed, replacing the wooden planks for the rest of troops.

In October 1935, Mao Zedong wrote a poem called “Oblique, Long March”, which made the heroic undertaking Capturing Luding Bridge during the Long March a household name.

As a matter of fact, the English translation of the Poetry of Mao Zedong predates its domestic publication. In 1937, during that time Edgar Snow lived in Yan' an, he translated Mao Zedong's poem “The Long March” recorded in his book *RED STAR OVER CHINA*. This is the first time the Poetry of Mao Zedong was introduced to English-speaking readers. Here's an excerpt from Snow's translation:

The Long March

By Mao Zedong

Tr. Edgar Snow

*The Red Army, never fearing the
challenging Long March,*

*Looked lightly on the many peaks and
rivers.*

Wu Liang's Range rose, lowered, rippled,

*And green — tiered were the rounded steps
of Wu Meng.*

*Warm — beating the Gold — Sand River's
waves against the rocks,*

*And cold the iron — chain spans of Tatu's
bridge.*

*A thousand joyous li of freshening snow on
Min Shan,*

*And then, the last pass vanquished, Three
Armies smiled! [8]*

In 2020, the Chinese Translation Press published Xu Yuanchong's English translation of Mao Zedong's poems. This book contains 67 poems, of which the 16th is “Qilu · Long March”. Xu Yuanchong adheres to the translation principle of “Beauty of meaning, beauty of sound and beauty of form”, which embodies the heroic, tenacious and

optimistic revolutionary spirit of the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army in his English translation. Here are excerpts from Xu Yuanchong's translation:

The Long March

By Mao Zedong

Tr. Xu Yuanchong

*Of the trying long march the Red Army
makes light;*

*Thousands of rivers and mountains are
barriers sight.*

*The Five Serpentine Ridges outspread like
rippling rills,*

*The pompous Wumeng peaks tower but like
mole-hills.*

*Against warm cloudy cliffs beat waves of
Golden Sand;*

*With cold Iron-chain Bridge River Dadu is
spanned.*

*Glad to see the Min Range snow-clad for
miles and miles,*

*Our warriors who have crossed it break
into broad smiles.*

*“The Red Army fears not the trials of the
Long March,*

*Holding light ten thousand crags and
torrents.*

The Five Ridges wind like gentle ripples

*And the majestic Wumeng roll by, globules
of clay.*

*Warm the steep cliffs lapped by the waters
of Golden Sand,*

*Cold the iron chains spanning the Dadu
River.*

*Minshan's thousand li of snow joyously
crossed,*

*The three Armies march on, each face
glowing.” [9]*

As time goes by, it is well known at home and abroad of the heroic undertaking of 22 warriors.

In March 1961, the State Council announced the first batch of national key cultural relics protection units, including Luding Bridge. [10]

Chinese textbooks for primary schools, comic books, films and TV dramas, big live-action drama, Chinese paintings, oil paintings, woodcut, wood

carvings, stone carvings and other works of art show the heroic deeds of Capturing Luding Bridge.

Following are the lines of Capturing Luding Bridge from the film "Warriors":

Commander of Kuomintang (Sichuan dialect): I'm so curious, with such little iron chains, what the red army will do to cross the bridge.

Commander of Red Army (Mandarin): Toward the east side of Luding Bridge, we are going to launch a general attack;

Commander of Red Army: Go onto the bridge

Commander of Red Army: Lay the boards,

Commander of Red Army: Hurry

Commander of Red Army: Keep blowing the bugle;

On June 10th the online edition of China Daily 2021 a headline: "Luding Bridge proves a crossing point in history"

The description of "the Red Army seizing Luding Bridge" is:

Mao convened a meeting where it was decided to seize the Kuomintang-controlled Luding Bridge 160 kilometres away.

When the Red Army soldiers reached the west bank of the bridge, they discovered that the planks had been removed and Kuomintang troops were converging on the east bank.

"Victory is life, defeat is certain death," Red Army General Peng Dehuai said.

The Red Army controlled a temple on the west bank, which is much higher than the east bank. Under the cover of fire from cannons and machine guns at the temple, 22 soldiers clung to the iron chains of the bridge, laying planks on it, despite coming under intense machine-gun fire from Kuomintang troops on the other side, said Sun, the historian and a former chairman of the Luding county committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

Though several injured soldiers fell into the fast-flowing river, the others crawled along the planks they had laid, shooting and launching a torrent of grenades until they finally took control of the east bank.

Today, people only know the names of four of the soldiers. Many of the others lost their lives in subsequent battles, Sun said.

Twenty-two pillars stand in the Luding Bridge Memorial Museum in honor of the 22 brave men. Only four of them are engraved with names, while 18 remain blank, their identities unknown forever.

There are several versions of English introduction to Luding Bridge (books and Internet)

On June 10, 2021, the online edition an English introduction to Capturing Luding Bridge under the headline "Luding Bridge proves a crossing point in history" is published on China Daily.

Less than a minute's walk from Luding Bridge Square, the center of the county seat, is the east bank of the bridge, which was built in 1706 during the reign of the Kangxi Emperor (1654-1722). The words "Luding Bridge" can be seen at the entrance in the emperor's calligraphic style.

In olden times, as the only way to cross the Dadu, the bridge was an important link on the ancient Tea Horse Road for porters who carried tea to Tibetan-inhabited areas, and the holes drilled and fitted with poles that they used for support can still be seen on its west bank.

The 81-km-long Luding county section of the river now has 23 footbridges, 19 road bridges and four cable suspension bridges. The convenient transportation infrastructure means it only takes three hours to drive from Luding Bridge to Anshunchang.

Luding Bridge is a bridge over the Dadu River in Luding County, Garzê Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan, China, located about 80 kilometers west of the city of Ya'an. The bridge dates from the Qing Dynasty and is considered a historical landmark. In 1935, during the Long March, soldiers of the Fourth Regiment of the Chinese Workers and Peasants' Army secured the bridge as a river crossing vital to the Red Army.

Luding Bridge a total length of 103.67 meters, 3 meters wide, the bridge is composed of 13 roots iron chain, both sides of the 2 roots, there are 9 roots which covered with woods on the bottom of the bridge. Each chain is created by 862 to 997 rings, the total weight of 21 tons. The bottom chain is covered with woods, between the armrest and the bottom connected with a small iron chain. (Signed producers: Chun Afong, Qi Yupei, Zhang Miao, Wang Yaxin, speakers: Xu Xue, Xu Haixia)

The 1959 National English test for the National College Entrance Examination (24% reading, 36% English-to-Chinese, 40% Chinese-to-English) included the English-to-Chinese portion of the Red Army's Long March: Seizing the Luding Bridge

In October 1934, the Red Army broke through the enemy forces around Juichin and began the Long March. When it came to Tsunyi, an important meeting was held there by the Chinese Communist Party, which then made Comrade Mao Tse-tung the leader. After that, the Red Army went on, fighting its way to the north, until it came to the Tatu River. The enemy thought the Red Army could not cross the river, because it was unusually deep and rough. But the Red Army got the only boat and heroically went over. Another unit went ahead by the mountainside and reached the Luting Bridge. The enemy set fire to the house on the bridge, trying to stop the Red Army. But a number of Red Army fighters broke through the fire and took the bridge. The enemy soldiers ran away, and the Red Army under Comrade Mao Tse-tung crossed the Tatu and continued its march. It went over the Snow Mountain and crossed the Grasslands, and finally in October 1935 reached Yenan. The Long March showed the world that the heroic people's army led by the Communists was ever victorious.

In 1980, to commemorate the great historical practice of Red Army Capturing Luding Bridge, a Red Army Luding Bridge Museum was built in the southwest of Luding County. This is the only national patriotism education demonstration base in Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture. The museum displays hundreds of cultural relics, objects, pictures, models and sculptures, and 52 precious revolutionary relics (some of which are reproductions).

The main exhibition hall is located on the first and second floor. Taking the Long March of the Red Army as the main line and focusing on the Capturing Luding Bridge, it vividly displays the glorious fighting history of the Long March of the Red Army through the comprehensive use of objects, text, pictures, sounding, 3D video, wax figures and sculptures, especially the thrilling battle of the Red Army's capturing the Luding Bridge. The exhibition area is divided into five parts: The first unit is the strategic shift, the dawn of victory on the road of the Long March; The second unit is to make a heroic epic on capturing the Luding Bridge, and the third part is about spreading the spark of revolution; the heroic qualities of the Red Army was displayed in Luding County; the fourth

unit was the Northern Expedition, and vow to be the pioneer of China's Resistance War against Japanese Aggression; the fifth unit is the exhibition Hall of History and culture of Luding County. Each unit has a topic, which is closely related to each other in chronological order and content.

The center of the hall of the memorial is a large relief showing the theme of the Red Army's Capturing the Luding Bridge. The eye-catching position of the hall is pasted on the wall with gold embossed characters to show the theme of the museum. Let history remember this moment: May 29, 1935, four days, 96 hours, 5,760 minutes, 345,600 seconds, the thrilling moment of Capturing the Luding Bridge, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., May 29th, 1935, smoky battlefield...

Red Army Capturing the Luding Bridge

The name of the battle: the Red Army Capturing the Luding Bridge

Combat Time: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on May 29, 1935

Opponents: The 38th Regiment of the 4th Brigade of the 24th Army of the Kuomintang Sichuan Army

Combat Troops: 4th Regiment, 1st Regiment, Central Red Army

Battle Result: Luding Bridge was seized; Luding City was captured; inflicted heavy damage on one regiment of Sichuan Army, more than 100 enemy soldiers were captured, and more than 100 guns were surrendered. From then on, the main force of the Central Red Army passed through the Dadu River.

As the only national demonstration base of patriotism education in Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, there are no English introduction materials for Capturing the Luding Bridge Museum of the Red Army at present.

The author and the project team members also went to other red sites in Luding County for field investigation, such as the former site of mobilization meeting before the war Red Army Capturing the Luding Bridge (Shaba Catholic Church), the former residence of Zhu De, the site of the Moxi Conference (Catholic Church), Former Residence of Mao Zedong, the former site of Lan'an Soviet government, and the former site of the Jintang CPC County Committee and the former site of guerrilla headquarters etc.

4. THE TRANSLATION OF RED CULTURE IN GANZI TIBETAN AUTONOMOUS PREFECTURE STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO

Based on interviews, research and data collection, the author and the project team members found that there are various English versions of the red culture in Ganzi besides the long march culture and the Luding Bridge, however, there are few English versions of other local red culture resources.

Through investigation and data collection, the author and the project team members found that among the numerous red cultures in Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, there are various English translation versions to the Long March culture and its “Capturing the Luding Bridge”, while there are few English translation versions of other local red cultural resources.

5. CONCLUSION

Through the interaction among people, the communication between cultures, the red spiritual beliefs represented by red culture, such as hard work, self-improvement, and unity, are inherited and carried forward with the endless power of red culture and the indomitable spirit.

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