



Tokens of Exchange: The Problem of Translation in Global Circulations

By Lydia H. Liu

Duke University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Tokens of Exchange: The Problem of Translation in Global Circulations, Lydia H. Liu, The problem of translation has become increasingly central to critical reflections on modernity and its universalising processes. Approaching translation as a symbolic or material exchange among peoples and civilisations - and not as a purely linguistic or literary matter, the essays in "Tokens of Exchange" focus on China and its interactions with the West to historicise an economy of translation. Rejecting the familiar regional approach to non-Western societies, contributors contend that 'national histories' and 'world history' must be read with absolute attention to the types of epistemological translatability that have been constructed among the various languages and cultures in modern times. By studying the production and circulation of meaning as value in areas including history, religion, language, law, visual art, music, and pedagogy, essays consider exchanges between Jesuit missionaries and the Chinese from the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries and focus on the interchanges occasioned by the spread of capitalism and imperialism. Concentrating on ideological reciprocity in science, medicine, and cultural pathologies, contributors also posit that such exchanges often lead to racialised and essentialised ideas about culture, sexuality, and...



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