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I. Paper title and abstract

The Multiplied Lives of Chunxiang: The Narration and Performance of the *Tale of Ch'unhyang* in China

By examining the trajectory of the transmission and adaptations of the *Tale of Ch'unhyang* in mainland China and Taiwan, this paper offers a critical overview of the popularity of the story among Chinese audiences. Through a discussion of selected textual references to the heroine's name, Ch'unhyang (Chunxiang in Chinese), in traditional Chinese literature, I investigate how the Korean character of Ch'unhyang differs from that of "Chunxiang" evoked in the minds of Chinese audiences. Then, by analyzing Chinese adaptations of the *Tale of Ch'unhyang*, focusing on characterization, themes, and plot arrangement, I demonstrate how Chinese "Chunxiang" gradually merged into the Korean heroine Ch'unhyang, giving rise to discursive voices on the themes of love, loyalty, and social hierarchy. By examining the tale's popularity in China we expand our critical understanding of the original Korean tale from a comparative perspective. Because the tale was, over the years exchanged, developed separately, and then reintroduced, this study also enriches our discussion of the history of the cultural and literary exchange between Korea and China by presenting a model of bilateral influence on the formation and evolution of a popular tale.

II. Short Biography

Dr. Sookja Cho is an Assistant Professor of Korean at Arizona State University. She earned a doctorate in Chinese and Korean Comparative Literature from Washington University in St. Louis. Professor Cho's research fields include: Pre-modern Korean and Chinese literature and culture; Sino-Korean exchange and East Asian comparative literature; performance literature; and oral storytelling and folk literature. She is the author of two books: *Transforming Gender and Emotion: The Butterfly Lovers Story in China and Korea* (University of Michigan Press, 2017) and *The Tale of Cho Ung: A Romance of Vengeance and Loyalty in Choson Korea* (Columbia University Press, 2018).