

## Displacement and Belonging: Exilic Perspective on Peach Blossom Spring by Melissa Fu

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### Abstract

*This study examines the issues of displacement and belonging with exilic perspective in Melissa Fu's Peach Blossom Spring. Through a careful analysis of selected Chinese novel set during the WWII and Chinese Civil War, this study seeks to shed light on the multifaceted experiences of characters as they navigate the complex terrain of displacement. It analyzes the ways in which characters in the novel negotiate their sense of belonging in the face of forced migration, political upheaval, and ideological conflict. It also explores different factors behind migration including war and better opportunities. Furthermore, this research delves into the emotional and psychological dimensions of displacement, exploring how characters' personal histories and traumas shape their perceptions of place call to be home. The methodology employed in this research is qualitative and text is analyzed through Safran's concept of diaspora. The findings of this research contribute to our broader understanding of displacement and belonging within the context of historical conflicts and the enduring impact of such experiences on individuals and communities. Moreover, this thesis highlights the significance of literature as a medium for exploring the complexities of displacement and offering valuable insights into the continuous human quest for a place to call home amidst the turbulence of history.*

**Keywords:** Displacement, Belonging, Migration, Diaspora, Home

### Introduction

Displacement and belonging are the concepts of Exile Literature. Displacement is about the ways in which mobile subjects, shifting across borders, experience their dislocation, recreate their homes and adjust and adapt to new places and in process construct new ways of thinking about places that give meaning to individuals and communities. The theme of displacement in English exilic literature is a recurring motif that explores the profound emotional, psychological, and physical dislocation experienced by individuals who are forced to leave their homeland and find themselves in unfamiliar surroundings. Exilic literature delves into the complexities of identity, belonging, nostalgia, and the search for an sense of home in the face of displacement. This theme has seen a significant aspect of literature for centuries and has produced some of the most powerful and poignant works in the English literary canon.

Displacement, the physical and psychological detachment from one's place of origin, serves as a defining characteristic of exilic Chinese literature. It is frequently portrayed as a tragic and sad experience in exilic Chinese literature. In her novel *Peach Blossom Spring* Melissa Fu talked about how immigrants experience homesickness, loss, and separation as they strive to adapt to their new environment. She has also discussed the difficulties they have faced in a new society due to linguistic and cultural hurdles. It is also discussed that how being displaced has changed, how characters feel about themselves and how they relate to their native countries. It is also considered how moving has affected their interpersonal relationships and how they have managed the cultural contrasts between their old country and their new one.

The theme of belonging in English exilic literature is a deeply resonant exploration of the human need for connection, identity, and a place to call home. This theme delves into the emotional, cultural, and personal dimensions of displacement, portraying characters' quests to belong in new

environments while reconciling their past and present identities. Exilic literature serves as a powerful lens through which readers can understand the complexities of the human experience in the face of exile and the search for a sense of belonging.

The theme of a sense of belonging holds great significance within Chinese exilic literature, reflecting the complex emotional and psychological experiences of individuals who have been uprooted from their homeland and forced to navigate the challenges of living in foreign lands. This literary genre, born out of historical upheavals like political turmoil, wars, and diasporic movements, delves into the intricate interplay between identity, culture, and place. Chinese exilic literature often explores the multifaceted aspects of belonging, presenting characters who grapple with feelings of displacement, alienation and a longing for connection to their native land. The concept of belonging in this context transcends physical location; it encompasses a deep-seated desire to connect with one's cultural roots, history, language, and traditions. *Peach Blossom Spring* has a daring and touching look at the history of modern China presented through the experience of one family, spanning continents and generations. It deals with the effects of the past, the desire for a brighter future, and finding a place to call home.

*Peach Blossom Spring* is the story about three generations of a Chinese family trying to decide where to stay, where to belong. The book's title is derived from one of the tales Meilin tells Renshu in the scroll after they depart Chongqing for the next phase of their wartime emigration. Mother and son travel to Meilin's hometown of Yichang in Hubei province, then Shanghai, and finally Taipei. Years later, Renshu as a graduate student in the United States, after adopting the name Henry, realizes that his mother never finished the complete Peach Blossom Spring story when he was younger. She has advised him that it's not wise to look back after leaving a place. Melissa Fu's novel is inspired by her father's real-life experiences and her family's past. It is based on the search of home, belonging and displacement with the exilic perspective. It is a contemporary tale about Chinese immigrants fleeing their homeland because of war and upheaval who are looking for a place to call home and a sense of identity. Sense of displacement can be seen in the character of Meilin, who experienced a young widowhood during the early stages of the war, spent years moving from city to city across China as she and her son, Renshu, escaped the occupiers. Despite briefly settling in Shanghai, they finally leave again during the Chinese Civil War and land in Taiwan, where Renshu completes her high school and college education. After completing the necessary military service, he takes the name Henry, enrolls in graduate school, and completes both his master's and PhD degrees there. So, the feeling of displacement and homesickness can be seen in the characters of the novel. The themes of displacement and belonging in the selected novel will be examined in the light of theory of diaspora. The moving experiences of displaced communities have an impact on diasporic literature. At its simplest, the term diaspora refers to the dispersion of a people from their native homeland. Diasporic literature maintains a connection to a shared cultural past while reflecting changes in social, political, and cultural reality. The people who struggle to integrate into the new country and culture are represented by the characters and events in this literature. Since the last century, there has been major concern regarding the diaspora theory. Several scholars expressed their opinions on diaspora and even classified distinct forms of diaspora according to the causes of the movement.

The research will probe into Mellissa Fu's novel *Peach Blossom Spring* from exilic point of view to examine the concepts of displacement and belonging. The characters of the novel reflect the sense of homelessness, displacement and belonging.

### **Statement of the Purpose:**

Physical separation from homeland opens up liminal space to negotiate the concept of home. Exilic literature has a special interest in dealing with the themes of displacement and belonging. Exilic studies of literature is a multidisciplinary field, which draws on history, political science, literary studies and cultural studies. Melissa Fu's *Peach Blossom Spring* will be analyzed from an exilic perspective in this study. It will explore the aspects of home, displacement and belonging. It will also examine the factors leading towards migration and concept of the place called home. The characters of novel, Meilin and her son Renshu are forced to leave their home and migrate to different regions of China and across the border in order to get peace and comfort.

### **Research Objectives:**

- To highlight the key notions of exilic perspective in Melissa Fu's (2022) *Peach Blossom Spring*.
- To determine what it means to finally be home in *Peach Blossom Spring*.

### **Research Questions:**

How does sense of displacement from homeland shape exilic poetics in *Peach Blossom Spring*?

How does physical separation from homeland open up liminal space to negotiate the concept of home in *Peach Blossom Spring*?

### **Significance of the study:**

The study will be significant as it will provide insight to future researchers who are interested to explore Chinese fiction from the exilic perspective. It will enhance their understanding on dislocation, war, intergenerational trauma loss, home and belonging in the context of war and history.

### **LITERATURE REVIEW:**

Ng (2017) discusses the politics of language, identity, and diasporic Chinese writing in both classic and contemporary Chinese migrant literature in another study. Ha Jin's concept of a "migrant subject" is the one he chooses to highlight a variety of verbal techniques and mobile literary creativity: the migrant writer who starts linguistic and literary perversions to actively intervene in the cultural politics of both the motherland and the host country. As two earlier instances of migrant writers before Ha, the piece goes on to recover the diasporic narratives of Sinophone authors Bai Xianyong and Nie Hualing, which typified the Cold War era of abroad Chinese American writing. While Ha claims that writing in his adopted language of English allows up his creative and critical desires, writing in Chinese in a foreign country like America does the same for Bai and Nie and ushers in the critical distance cherished by the migrant writers to tackle topics like exile and cultural alienation. Their migratory voices add a minor language to major traditions (Chinese literature and American English literature), which were originally written in Chinese or English. Reserher emphasizes the advances in translation and intercultural writing as the migrant subject can stand valid as a position for writers of transnational literary creativity as he traces the historical trajectory of migrant literature, in which Sinophone and Anglophone texts are increasingly translated and circulated between cultures.

According to Qiu (2022), Ha Jin's writing career took a sudden turn with the publication of *A Free Life* in 2007. Since that time, L. Ling-chi Wang has identified the dual domination structure imposed by both Chinese and American nation-states, and Ha Jin's critique of the nation-state is a double edged sword against it. The argument in the chapter is that Ha Jin presents a literary exile perspective that emphasizes neither/nor politics and rejects either/or both/and cultural politics in Asian American studies. A third, liminal but powerful place is made available by

literary exile for the ultimate fulfillment of an artist's sense of freedom and belonging. The research reveals how Ha Jin's position of literary exile allows the novel's three primary themes—homeland, language, and freedom—to be reconfigured, producing a potent critique of both nation-states.

Zhou's (2019) paper explores that how homeland and otherness change in *The Lost Daughter of Happiness* as well as how they relate to one another. By engaging with history and engaging in a conversation between two generations, he investigates how the story portrays the immigration of Chinese to the United States as having an infinite trajectory. He notes that the narrative confounds the concept of diaspora by showing that it can signify both a temporal and a spatial dislocation. He also looks at how cross-border migration promotes a process of foreignization. By investigating the recognition and depiction of cultural characteristics and differences in the story, the researcher hopes to gain a better understanding of how the formation of home identity unfolds in *The Lost Daughter of Happiness*. Additionally, he makes an effort to offer a fresh understanding of Fusang by delving into her identity as a diasporic Chinese as well as a prostitute.

Burge's (2020) article focuses at the advantages of giving literature a bigger role in studies of migration. It starts with a review of the classification and content of the literature and explores what this literature may tell us about migration, focusing on four major aspects: challenging nationalist ideology, countering prevailing narratives, offering historical perspectives, and therapeutic practice. The last section of the study discusses three aspects of migration literature that have received less theoretical attention but are seen to be of particular relevance to social scientists who are drawn to literary methods.

Hsieh (2015) explores how modern Chinese and Sinophone literature and film depict migrant women's perceptions on how the family has changed and how home has been reinvented. People are becoming more mobile within and beyond borders in the age of globalization, changing the structure of families and how we understand homes. He argues in this dissertation that migration and family dynamics are strongly intertwined, and that migration additionally strengthens women's agency by enabling them to change the structure of their families, deal with cultural disparities, and negotiate with local societies and nation-states. The English translation of the Chinese notion of *jia* is family, home, or house. In the context of Chinese migration, "homeness" is particularly linked to a geographic origin, a habitation, a settlement, or familial intimacy. He discovers that stories of women migrants depict their protagonists happily adapting to their host nations and embracing local experiences, in contrast to the male-centered grand narrative including nostalgia for the motherland. His dissertation thus examines four different types of migration: immigration to North America, various transnational movements, cross-Strait migration from Taiwan to China, and new marriage-based immigration in Taiwan. It focuses on how women migrants are portrayed in contemporary Chinese and Sinophone literary works, documentaries, and fictional films.

Beová (2016) investigates how immigration is a centuries-old global process. A major destination for immigration is the United States. The country as a whole is made up of a large number of immigrant population from many countries. Many Chinese immigrants seek better living conditions and financial stability for their families back home in China. The 19th century has seen the beginning of their immigration, and it is still happening now. The thesis discusses Chinese history, the causes of their forced migration, and their life as immigrants in the United States. A major part of the thesis is devoted to literature study, which examines the portrayals of immigrant lives in the works of two Chinese American authors: Brian Leung, author of *Take Me*

Home, and Maxime Hong Kingston, author of *The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts*. However, there are many Chinese American authors that focus on various aspects of Chinese immigration to the United States and American social integration.

Li (2022) investigates how the themes of displacement, placelessness, homesickness, and homelessness have dominated studies regarding the Chinese diaspora. The concepts of location and space for modern Chinese immigrants in the United States after the 1990s are reviewed in this chapter. This chapter investigates how Chinatowns in Manhattan and Flushing are perceived, interpreted, and transformed in Chinese immigrant communities of the new millennium through the study of contemporary Chinese immigrant literature set in New York, such as Eric Liu's *The Accidental Asian* (1998) and Ha Jin's *A Good Fall* (2009). It is possible to rewrite and reinterpret New York, the location of the American Dream, as either heaven or hell or neither heaven nor hell. The two works' rewritings of New York and the American dream further exacerbate the dynamics of Chinese immigration to New York by creating multilayered maps with several overlapped, complex localities that represent the emotions and tensions of Chinese immigrants.

Liu (2018) discusses how first-generation Chinese immigrants' literary contributions to Chinese American literature come from their distinctive depictions of immigrant life in his thesis. Due to language limitations and other historical factors, second-generation writers who are descended from immigrants have primarily written about immigrant life in Chinese American literature. Chinese immigrants are now more prevalent among American writers of immigrant stories. Since they are telling their own tales, immigrant writers' depictions of immigrant life to some extent serve as "self-representations." He makes the argument that Ha Jin and Yiyun Li are examples of immigrants who have made contributions to Chinese American literature in three areas: genre, theme, and language by comparing their works to those of second-generation writers.

According to research by Zhan et Al (2017), finding a feeling of belonging can be difficult for foreign migrants, and it's even truer for senior citizens who go abroad later in life to follow their adult children. This study investigates the sense of belonging and life satisfaction of elderly Chinese immigrants. This research reveals that a comfortable living situation in a natural and built environment contribute to Chinese elders' story of a sense of home. The findings are based on 21 in-depth interviews and 107 surveys with elderly immigrants of Chinese heritage. Elderly Chinese immigrants, however, are quite uneasy due to the language barrier. The decision of senior immigrants to establish a life in a foreign nation is heavily influenced by their closeness to their children as well as by the availability of favorable social benefits. People who report feeling more at home frequently express greater levels of life pleasure. The researchers conclude that older immigrants are increasingly establishing their sense of home and independence from their adult children. The ability to communicate is a barrier to a complete sense of home for transnational migrants in old age, but supportive social policies toward older adults, such as Medicare, Medicaid, low income housing, and social services, are important factors that make older immigrants feel at home in a foreign country.

According to Gardner and Keo (2020), the history of the Chinese diaspora is a complex web of individuals, locations, and events. The result of preservation and adaptation, which uniquely combines the old and new, is the development of a distinctive feeling of Overseas Chinese-ness. Throughout the nineteenth century, Chinese people who had left their homes in search of wealth had distinctively local identities connected to their places of origin and kinship. Despite the ambivalence or hostility of the majority white populations in these places, Chinese pioneers and immigrants also forged belongings while living in the US and Australia. Parochial identities in

Malaya, the East Indies, the United States, and Australia shifted toward a national Chinese one through a combination of acclimatization to their new environments and events in China itself. This change was sparked by political activists and traveling revolutionaries like Liang Qichao and Dr. Sun Yat-sen who wanted to transform China into a modern nation. These case studies show that the journey towards Chineseness is not one of homogenization but rather one of many paths leading to a variety of identities and belongings. Researchers has revealed that identities and uniqueness of local groups, as well as the transnational existence of a worldwide Chinese community, are all topics of discussion related to Chinese diasporas and their formations around the world. Researchers emphasize that both points of view are valid and equally weighted. They hope readers will see that "being Chinese" means different things to different people at different times by using two separate perspectives to examine the history of Chinese diasporas.

### **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK:**

#### **Theoretical Lens:**

William Safran's theory of diaspora is a framework designed to explain and comprehend the experiences and traits of diaspora cultures. This idea was created in the 1990s by political scientist William Safran to examine the bond between diasporas and their native countries.

Safran identified several key elements that contribute to the formation and maintenance of diaspora communities:

- 1. Dispersal:** Diasporas are formed through forced or voluntary migration from the homeland. This dispersal can be the result of various factors such as economic opportunities, political conflicts, or persecution.
- 2. Homeland orientation:** Diaspora communities maintain a strong attachment to their homeland and often see themselves as part of the homeland's history, culture, and identity. This sentiment is rooted in a deep emotional connection and a desire to maintain ties with the homeland and preserve its cultural and social traditions.
- 3. Longing and nostalgia:** Diasporas often experience a sense of longing or nostalgia for their homeland. This sentiment is rooted in a deep emotional connection and a desire to maintain ties with the homeland and preserve its cultural and social traditions.
- 4. Boundary maintenance:** Diasporas engage in practices that help maintain their distinct identity and separate them from the host society. This can include language preservation, religious practices, cultural celebrations, and community organizations.
- 5. Commitment to the homeland:** Diaspora communities maintain an active interest in the political, social, and economic affairs of the homeland. They often engage in transnational activities such as remittances, lobbying for homeland causes, or participating in homeland politics.
- 6. Adaptation and integration:** While diaspora communities maintain a connection to the homeland, they also adapt and integrate into the host society. This process involves navigating between the two cultures and negotiating their dual identities.

#### **Methodology:**

This research will be qualitative and data will be analyzed through textual analysis.

### **TEXTUAL ANALYSIS:**

#### **Exilic Poetics:**

Safran's concept of migration can be applied to the characters of Fu's novel *Peach Blossom Spring*. The female protagonist Meilin and his son Renshu have migrated from their home village to different parts of China in order to get safe place. This is evident from the text of

the novel. This Exilic poetics encompasses the literary expressions and artistic creations that emerge from the experience of exile, migration and sense of belonging. Fu employs exilic poetics to articulate Renshu's experiences of being uprooted from his ancestral homeland and living in a new cultural context. Through her novel, she explores the profound sense of loss, nostalgia, and yearning for the homeland that characterizes the exilic condition.

The Second Sino-Japanese War, which lasted from 1937 to 1945, resulted in a significant wave of migration among the Chinese population. The conflict and the Japanese occupation of various Chinese territories forced many Chinese people to leave their homes and seek refuge elsewhere. This migration had profound social, economic, and cultural implications for both China and the countries that received Chinese immigrants. Fu depicts the state of exile and displacement through lines given below:

Some in carts, some in wagons filled with families, furniture, pots, sacks of grain. Many people are on foot, balancing shoulder poles with hastily packed and overflowing baskets. And there are some who escaped with only their nightclothes and whatever they could grab. (Fu 2022, p.23).

Above paragraph shows the migration of Meilin and his son along with other people. They carry few belonging with themselves and leave their homes in order to get safety from the Japanese attack. As they move against the flow and toward the blazing city, army jeeps weave between the crowds. In the crowded road, a few automobiles honk their horns and rev their engines. Despite the smoke and flames that are still there, the fire alarms sound. Meilin's teeth chatter as the cart jolts across the rough pavement. Renshu gets flung out of Meilin's arms and near the edge of the seats as Han speeds around a corner. Cases tumble from the cart's back, but Han keeps moving. One significant destination for these Chinese migrants is the interior regions of China, particularly the southwestern provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan, and Guizhou. These areas provide relative safety and served as havens for those fleeing the war zone.

The difficulties and hardships of the journey are mentioned through the following lines:

Through the night, they walk and walk. When the children are too tired to go any further, they shelter under a grove of trees for a few hours. Worrying about Hongtse and the rest of the family, uncertain of what lies ahead, Meilin can't sleep. (Fu 2022, p.28).

The quote from the text given above shows migrated state of the characters of the novel. Meilin having sense of uncertainty worries about the lost family. She also has to be alert in this situation because she has a son with her whose protection is also her main responsibility. These lines depict a scene of arduous and uncertain migration, where members of Dao family are on a long journey through the night. The individuals, including children, continue walking relentlessly, suggesting that they are fleeing from their home and seeking a better life elsewhere. The sense of urgency and determination in their journey is evident as they press on despite exhaustion. This sudden displacement strips the characters of their sense of security, stability, and familiarity. Fu invites readers to experience the complexities of exilic condition of the refugees throughout the novel as shown in the given lines:

Refugees have poured into Yichang from across the troubled eastern provinces. They come on the river in boats big and small, in steamers, junks and sampans.

They come by foot, through the mountains, on the roads, looking as weary as Meilin feels. A few arrive in trucks or cars. (Fu 2022, p.49).

The above lines show that there is no migration without challenges. Migrants face numerous obstacles and risks during their journey. Many people travel on boats and streamers. In addition to arriving by water, the refugees also travel by foot, trekking through the mountains and using roads to reach Yichang. This indicates that the situation in their home provinces is so dire that they are willing to undertake long and exhausting journeys on foot to find safety and refuge. Everyone wants to travel to Chongqing, the new capital. Everyone who wants to go there must pass via Yichang, this bottleneck of terror. In another text example, Fu depicts the difficulties of the protagonist faced during migration:

Meilin hands him the documents from Peiwen and watches him copy the information. He briefly raises his eyes to ask for her last place of residence. .... He signs and stamps various papers, gathers them up and hands them all to her. He dismisses them. Renshu picks up her basket and their suitcase and they exit into the bright, cold air. (Fu 2022, p.131).

The text given above shows how Meilin encounters the legal barriers during the phase of migration. She uses someone else's identity to get the place to live. She faces challenges in obtaining refugee status. The passage also portrays a bureaucratic encounter, where Meilin and Renshu are navigating official processes and paperwork, likely related to their migration. The completion of paperwork and their subsequent departure into the "bright, cold air" hints at the resolution of a bureaucratic hurdle and a new chapter in their journey and settlement. Migrants who flee their home countries due to war often face uncertain legal statuses and unpredictable futures. The following text example given below shows the exile of Renshu for higher studies in America:

'This has Renshu's passport, visa, and sponsorship letter and bank information. All the necessary documents are here. Keep it all together, keep it sealed.' He turns to Renshu. 'When you get to immigration, hand all the papers to the officials. Make sure you get them all back. (Fu 2022, p.175).

Above paragraph shows the migration of Renshu from Taiwan to America for getting higher education to enhance his skills, knowledge, and qualifications and to avail better chances of economic opportunities. Therefore America has become his next destination. The lines also illustrates the significance of Renshu's travel documents, which include his passport, visa, sponsorship letter, and bank information. It highlights that these documents facilitate a smooth and trouble-free travel experience.

This exilic poetics within the Chinese diaspora captures the experiences, emotions, and struggles of being uprooted from the ancestral homeland. It encompasses themes of displacement, belonging and quest for a place called home. Through historical events, Fu expresses a sense of displacement and reclaims her narrative, creating a rich and vibrant literary tradition that speaks to the complexities of the diasporic experience.

### **Liminal Space to Negotiate Home:**

Diasporas often experience a sense of longing or nostalgia for their homeland. This sentiment is rooted in a deep emotional connection and a desire to maintain ties with the homeland and preserve its cultural and social traditions. In *Peach Blossom Spring*, this concept of Safran can be applied on the characters of Meilin, the female protagonist and her son Renshu. Fu shows the



feeling of loss of home in the given line: “Maybe the blessing is that she is close to home. (Fu 2022, p.45).”

Above line shows that after going through difficult times and facing challenges, being close to their family and having their support nearby is considered a blessing for the characters i.e. Meilin. Being close to home mean being in a familiar environment, which offer a sense of security and safety. In certain situations, especially in times of turmoil or danger, being near home seems as a blessing. She adds: “Maybe Meilin will take Renshu to her family’s compound in the hills. She will go home. (Fu 2022, p.46)”

The above lines from the novel show the feeling of Meilin about the uncertainty of the place to live. The quest for home makes her to decide to go her parents’ family compound. She not only wants a safe place to live for her son but also she has a desire to have sense of belonging for him. Fu depicts the longing for home in the following text example given below:

It is the very same space where she spent childhood days listening to her grandmother’s stories, where she learned how to differentiate between the fine and the mediocre, and where she met and fell in love with Xiaowen. Though she knows her family left for safety (Fu 2022, p.46).

Above paragraph shows the memories of Meilin about her home, a place where she used to with her grandmother and parents, and a place where she has spent her childhood and where she has met Xiaowen for the first time. After seeing the same place again, she falls into the feeling of homelessness as she is displaced due to Japanese invasion. She is far away from her family and she has a thirst to meet and live together again.

Through the following lines given below, Fu depicts that language is the main factor to get a sense of belonging: “Meilin feels less and less like a newcomer. She now knows the streets and alleyways of the Yuzhong peninsula, and has begun to pick up the Sichuanese dialect. (Fu 2022, p.58).” This text example shows that language plays a vital role in this negotiation of home. It serves as a powerful link to cultural heritage and familial connections. The use of local Chinese dialect helps Meilin to maintain a sense of belonging and facilitates her communication within the local community. Simultaneously, acquiring proficiency in the language of the host place becomes necessary for her for integration and participation in the society.

In another text example given below, Fu shows the pain of homeless migrants and their heart desire to go back to their home: “‘A country is a place to make homes, to grow families and towns and cities,’ she says. ‘It is not some exercise in military prowess.’ (Fu 2022, p.88).” In the given text example, Meilin’s views about country as home is reflected. First part of the line highlights the essential role of a country as a homeland, a place where people can establish their homes, form families, and build communities through the development of towns and cities. It stresses the importance of creating a safe, nurturing environment for citizens to flourish and prosper. Next part of the given text criticizes the idea that a country's primary objective should be focused on displaying and enhancing military strength. Instead of defining a country by its military capabilities, it argues that the true essence of a nation lies in the well-being and prosperity of its citizens. “Henry is sitting at his old desk in his new home, completing his US citizenship application. (Fu 2022, p.236)” Given text example shows Henry’s inner as well as surface condition. As he is applying for US citizenship in his new home but in the phrase old desk indicates that he also wants his old familiar belongings with him. Having old desk in new home explores that Henry more likely to feel a sense of belonging with a new place. Seeking a

peaceful place to live is a reason behind his application for US citizenship. He makes a decision to stay in US and not go back to Taiwan.

### CONCLUSION:

In Peach Blossom Spring, the experience of being displaced at a period of war has been complicated and profound. Its exilic poetics has been molded by the difficulty of adjusting to new situations, the loss of one's home, the separation from loved ones. For both people and communities, displacement can have a severe emotional and psychological toll. In the face of displacement, however, resilience, support, and the painstaking process of rebuilding can offer hope for a sense of belonging and stability. It is also explored in the novel that what it mean to finally be home? It is evident from the text of the novel that characters of the novel are continuously in search of a safe place to be home. Can an individual belong to more than one home? Is another issue raised in the novel? For them, moving to a new country involves more than just a physical transition; it also involves a significant liminal space, a period of transition during which they must negotiate the challenges of finding a new home.

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