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Linguistics Problems in translating the novel Helicoptergal Keezhe Irangivittana from Tamil into English

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Abstract

Translation is defined as a simple way that is transferring of one language into another language. An exact translation is impossible. This is the essence and main concept of source language that are transferred into target language. In translation target language is being changed by the translator but at the same time the meaning would not be changed. Through the wordings of the source language's content, the essence and its readability will be exposed. Probably it will be outcome by the readers of the target languages. The present study aims at dealing with the problems faced by the translator while translating the Tamil novel 'Helicoptergal Keezhe Irangivittana' by Indira Parthasarathy into English. This study exposes the problems in figures of speech and its different attainments. The researcher has tried to give the level best to grasp the ideas of the readers at their first attempt without having doubtfulness.

Key Words: Translation, Morphology, Morpheme and Syntax

Introduction:

Translation is transference of meaning from the Source Language (SL) to the Target Language (TL). Translation is the act of rendering a text from the Source Language as a text of the Target Language. Good translation is a creative transformation. Translation is a phenomenon that has a huge effect on everyday life. Translation is true that should be as literal as possible. Furthermore, a literary translation, like all acts of writing, can never be a predictable exercise. The art of translation is as creative as any other genre of creative writing.

Some Aspects of Translation:

Translation is an important mode of communication. It is a creative process in itself. Though creativity is an essential criterion of translation, it is necessary to

follow certain general rules for the proper functioning and efficiency. Translation is both linguistic and cultural activity and it is concerned with communication of meaning. It is not merely lexical equivalent of words of one language to that of another, but much more.

In the wide world there are nearly 5000 languages, the world is developing partly in science and technology. Translation has become very important. The primary aim of any translation is to remove the block between a speaker or a author and the reader having another language.

Some Theories of Translation:

Translation is not merely an imitation of text. It is a creative process in itself. Catford's theory of translation is a theory of meaning. He considers meaning as a

property of a language. Catford's theory also points out the difference between translation and transference. In translation, the source language meaning is substituted by Target language meaning but in transference the implementation of source Language meaning into Target language meaning takes place.

Roman Jacobson speaks about three types of translation in his essay 'On linguistic aspect of Translation'

- 1. Intra-lingual translation: It is a kind of rewording i.e., an interpretation of verbal signs by means of other signs in the same language.
- 2. Inter lingual translation or translation proper: i.e., an interpretation of verbal signs by means of some other language.
- 3. Inter semiotic Translation or transmutation i.e. an interpretation of verbal signs by means of signs of nonverbal sign system.

French humanist Etinne Dolet published a short outline of the principles of translation entitled de bieutraduired' une. (How to translate well from one language into another) and established the following principles for a translator.

- (i) The translator must fully understand the sense and meaning of the original author, although he is at liberty to clarify obscurities.
- (ii) The translator should have a perfect knowledge of both SL & TL
- (iii) The translator should avoid word-forword renderings.

- (iv)The translator should use forms of speech in common use.
- (v) The translator should choose and order words appropriately to produce the correct tone.

Problems in Linguistic are greatly enhanced by linguistic indeterminacy, which is the result of perpetual change. Translating the novel, 'Helihoptergal Keezhe Irangivittana' into English is a difficult task because it abounds in figures of speech such as simile, metaphor, imagery, Onomatopoeia. Etc.,

Definitions of Translation:

The Translation should have all the case of the original composition. Translation is a phenomenon that has a huge effect on everyday life. Translation is true that should be as literal as possible. Furthermore, a literary translation, like all acts of writing, can never be a predictable and repeatable exercise. It is as much a 'craft' as it is a creation; as much an 'art' as it is a science, because words are the most difficult things to control; and every writer has the experience of the bewildering willfulness of words which always tend to wander off into obscurity and ambiguity.

The art of translation is as creative as any other genre of creative writing. Translation is a dependable window on the outside realms of literary, cultural, aesthetic effort and achievement on the part of man.

Transliteration:

Transliteration is a method of replacing each source language letters or graphological by a Target language phoneme letters or graphological unit on the basic of a continuing established set of rules.

Translation is used when there is unavailability of Target language equivalent literally. So, in such a situation transliteration is permitted in translation.

The process of transliteration involves three steps:

- 1. SL letters are replaced by TL phonological units: this is two process of converting from the written to the spoken medium.
- 2. SL Phonological units are converted into TL phonological units.
- 3. SL phonological items/units are converted into TL letters or graphological units.

Problems of Translating a Novel:

A translator faces many problems while rendering a text from the Source Language into the Target Language. His task is more difficult than a creative writer for the latter things and writes for one language while the former make a tight-rope walking between two languages.

Language is largely culture oriented and therefore, translators face the problem of translating certain culture based words into another language with different culture. Colloquial expression, Culture-words, Slangs, Proverbs are difficult to translate for there is no one to one correspondence between one language and another. The general difficulties involved in the process of translation — particularly of jokes, humorous statements, poetry, drama and fiction Culture and Culture-words create a good deal of problems in translation.

Some common cultural terms have been listed out. Sometimes the translator may fail to give an exact equivalent term for the same.

For example:

- a. vallalārtaipūsam It is a celebration to 'vallalar'. It is one of the Hindu's festival.
- b. Kumbābisēkam It is a celebration to anoint the 'Kumba' in the Hindu's temple

In English

- a. āpereicn operation
- b. patji batch
- c. rilip relief
- d. tans thanks
- e. sin scene
- f. cinema cinema

In Sanskrit

a. namaskāram - express wishes to anyone

Noun

- a. māmāpilai Uncle's son
- b. kulantai Child
- c. pū Flower
- d. tainintebil dining table

In simple adjectives

- a. vilaku lamp
- b. sōrkam heaven

In compound adjectives

- a. seyarkaiyānapunakai unnatural smile
- b. kāranamānapanpādu reasonable culture
- c. tīviramānakāranam serious reason

In demonstrative adjectives

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a. itupiramātamānapatam - It is an excellent picture

b. anta salukai - that priority

c. anta pen - that girl d. anta nimicam - that second

In innumerable adjective

a. konjanātkal - a few daysb. adikadi - often

c. orucamayam - once upon a time

Negative constructions

Negative constructions in Tamil are formed by the addition of negative word to an affirmative construction.

A. avalpatilkúravilai (SL, 52) She did not reply b. tilakammanikapōvatu ilia (SL,52)

thilagam will get forgive.

Negative construction in Tamil may be classified into two types, Viz., construction with segmental negatives and constructions with super segments negatives.

In Tamil, negative words are formed from the negative roots at, ila and māttu.

a. Unaipatiilai (SL, 32)

it is not about you.

b. valakātuatilpayanilai (SL,78)

There is no use of argument.

c. avanāl maraca mudiyavilai (SL,31)

he could not forget him.

Conclusion

Through this attempt the researcher strived hard to bring out the finer elements of the translations done from Tamil into English. To maintain the proximity between the SL texts to TL text the researcher has minutely rendered and identified the intricacies of issue involved in the translation with optical co-operation of the translator while translating the SL text.

The researcher has meticulously classified the linguistic problem. Under such circumstances the translator feels helpless and tries to be creation far as possible works cited.

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