

Initiation to translation (prof : jebbar) lecture 2

On translation : the academic Discipline A reading in James S. Holmes” The name and The Nature of Translation Studies”

A discipline in this sense is any branch of knowledge that is typically studied in higher education. Emphasizing the term discipline, here, is meant to spot the point in time when translation has become a branch of study (a field of study) with its own potentially **controlled / standard / systematic** theories and practices.

To this end, Holmes’ paper on “**The Name and Nature of Translation Studies**” is often cited by scholars/researchers as marking a turning point in the study of translation

Since **1972** (the year when Holmes delivered a paper in the Translation Section of the Third International Congress of Applied Linguistics, held in Copenhagen), translation has been granted a name as an academic discipline known as **Translation Studies**.

❖ **Jeremy Munday (2001) states that:**

Translation studies is a relatively new academic research area that has expanded explosively in recent years. While translation was formerly studied as a language- learning methodology or as part of comparative literature, translation 'workshops' and contrastive linguistics courses, **the new discipline** owes much to the work of James S. Holmes, whose 'The name and nature of translation studies' proposed both a name and a structure for the field. The interrelated branches of theoretical, descriptive and applied translation studies have structured much recent research and have assisted in bridging the gulf that had grown between the theory and practice of translation. (P17)

❖ **And in 2016, Munday refines the definition by stating that:**

Translation studies is the now established academic discipline related to the study of the theory, practice and phenomena of translation.

Based on Munday’s statements , it is very apparent that the field has undergone a huge transformation from being categorized as “relatively new” to ‘the now established academic discipline’ and this transformation could be traced even on a farther level when viewed from a Holmsian based perspective.

Historicizing Translation

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