

# A Translator as an Umpire Between Cultures

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***“A great age of Literature is perhaps always a great age of Translations.” Ezra Pound (1885-1972)***

Every individual with sound knowledge of any two languages can translate. The only point is how competently can the act of translation be done handling the issues of sameness, equivalence or identity? Reassessing all the factors discussed above, truly competent translation is expertly umpired both TL and SL augmenting a n understanding by intervening ideas diagonally beyond cultural and national boundaries. It is the responsibility of the translators to help, achieve and promote an apropos identity to text in SL to text in TL.

Translation centers essentially on how dissimilar languages, cultures, social, economic, political charters are organized proposing reciprocal exactitude without forfeiting divergence by showing a concern just for a blind assimilation. Translation permits being dissimilar, and yet tolerates to be alike. The Latin origin word Translation means transported or transferred that speaks of the entire intellectual process involving a good translation to be easily identified but difficult to explain why it is good. Translation is an important instrument in making post-colonial literatures accessible to readers worldwide. However, this can be achieved only if the translators resist the temptation to universalize/globalize a text that is firmly rooted in its socio-cultural context. Over the last two or three decades, translation has become a more prolific, more visible and more respectable activity than perhaps ever before.

It is always recommended to protect the original text and mere rephrasing befits like a manipulation and in turn a culture as rightly observed by Lefevere, Andre. There are so many observations on translated texts and there is no dearth for people involved in task of translation. It can be simply stated that translation is a kind of interpretation involving a rewriting skill set maintaining not only the sense of SL book but also cultural, thematic and linguistic elements very closely in TL book. In a multi lingual country like India, most of citizens are honed their skills in more than one language or even two. Proficiency in the two languages, SL and TL, enables the best rendering. There is not much theory built by the translators in India as their grip on both languages similar. Indian literature is rich in classic and folk lore with full of symbolism. The impact of Sanskrit literature and thought can be seen in regional literatures of India and yet these literatures would reflect the essence of Indian thought as focal point. Without the knowledge of technical, cultural, commercial words and various translation approaches, the translator can't bring the writer to the audience. It means even he is lost, his identity is lost.

In our gigantic multicultural global village, people start communicating through their cultures which are transferred in translations and cultural interpretations stand ideal with a mutual give and take initiative. The most widely spoken language that holds a commanding position can be TL to uphold any work as SL in minority language and translations make SL writers widely known among TL audience. There is a long list of translation works that have become instantly the world-splendid best sellers. A work of translation offers a respectful global stance as it does in the case of a local language that forms a comprehensive study. As a work in translation plays diverse roles unifying and constructing new worlds, it can be a source text placing data on foreign/lesser known cultures. The whole process of upholding linguistic and cultural aspects by using equivalents in/of native languages bid formal protection which is granted by respective linguistic frames.

Besides, translation can act as a ‘bridge’ between the east and the west. When two or more cultures come together through a work of translation, it will have a lot of impact on social, religious, political frames resulting a sea change in the thinking process of the people. Both religious and sacred texts, when translated worldwide, spread rapidly across nations. India experienced the same. Research placed in Asian languages and investigations done by translators at national level under various platforms enable Indian literature on global platforms. The spread of oriental concept, yoga, Buddhism have merged into the western world and Christianity, Islam spread in the same way. Through translations undertaken by various language departments in academia, projects by publishing houses and individual efforts, it has shot to the sky opening the doors to an unknown cultural and linguistic literary world, indeed. A rich repository of translation works and the methodology needs to be taken up for discussions. Always known for literary grandness, India has produced perfect masters like Tagore who won Nobel Prize for his magnum opus poetical work *Gitanjali* in translation, with their most significant literary achievements attracting critical acclaim. The most influencing writer Mulk Raj Anand’s *Untouchable* was widely distributed and translated into many languages around the world. He raised his voice against caste as a social evil voicing through the child protagonist Bakha.

The literature penned by writers belonging to various states and languages has been known as Regional literature in India. One regional language cannot communicate the meanings of another due to idiosyncrasy built in, netted and uttered in its structure. In a way, every regional language user reflects in a singular way to diverse aspects of the linguists expressing with similar consideration. The job of translator is therefore a matter of seeking other communal, national frame with similar quality finding appropriate ways of saying things in target language. Cultural and social nuances are woven such that the social role of translator captures and projects primary importance that should be reflected in the translated work.

Any translator is caught up between the verve to clutch local color and need to be understood by target audience of cultural lingual situation as observed by Toury. Culture is an intricate set of experiences which shape day to day living style; it embraces times past, societal

arrangement, convictions, and routine traditional customs which are not easy to figure out fully. The method of passing on cultural elements through literary translation is a complex and critical mission. The readership of any translation, however, will have to be portrayed in quite familiar to the target audience.

If the job of the translator is placed at in the hunt in order to carry language expressions in a text from source language (SL) to target language (TL), it's really a challenging task for the translator as his job is not just looking for corresponding words in TL but to go beyond it to fulfill the task of providing the connotation present in SL. Translating activity, thereby, seizes obsessed by certain local practices susceptible to certain persistent imperatives which can vulnerable to any kind of lock up. The translator's business to carry on the ideas present in SL across cultural and national boundaries positioning thought process to attain a distinctive class in order to comprehend an assortment of advance themes. Accordingly, translating narratives from one Indian language to another/English is a helpful mechanism of comprehension of cultural experiences immeasurably constructive for gaining and for spreading out uniquely. When it comes to social on top of political need, a translation is launched in a mammoth size.

All translation activity may shape for an intricate etymological charge when local tongues co-exist instantaneously based on an identical basis. In end result, English has commonly turned into vehicle of communiqué in everyday political, business activity. The standard ancient languages, notably Sanskrit/Pali, have become neglected in social, cultural and political spheres and witnessed the decline of usage of these languages. The urgent need for the translation of native books and other forms of literature in India has been the central topic of scholarly debate at present. The logical and informative shift to the problems of translation ensures that it will be indispensable for all those who work with languages and areas like sociolinguistics, discourse studies, pragmatics and semiotics 'in contact'. It is to analyze the process and product of translation in their social contexts. Through this analysis, the importance of the translator as a social mediator between cultures is emphasized.

When the relationship between the author and the translator is looked at, it is perceived that the whole translation process is re-performed with a qualitative mechanism. When the translator steps deliberately and voluntarily into the role of a facilitator, each target text would emerge as a classic studied with the greatest avidity. The qualitative new breeds of translators handle so brilliantly, that the writers reappear in the renditions. To sum up, translation should become an activity of rewriting the borders globally.

## REFERENCES

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