

**TRANSLATION STUDIES: AN INDEPENDENT BRANCH OF LINGUISTICS****VIJAYKUMAR ISHWARLAL SONAWANE**Assistant Professor, Dept of English,
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Ozar (MIG), Nashik**DR. PRASAD A. JOSHI**Head, Department of English
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Nanded, Maharashtra**ABSTRACT**

Translation plays a crucial role in our routine life especially since we are living in a multicultural country where many different languages are spoken. Translation is very obscure process and it is remember that it is skill. Translation plays a vital role in the process of spreading knowledge by translating books one language (SL) to another (TL). The present research paper attempts to analyze and examine the term 'translation' and 'translation studies' critically. At the same time, through this research paper, the researcher deeply probes into the process of translation. He attempts to analyze and identify the process and various types of translation. Some critics criticized translator as a traitor or a falsifier of the original as he or she counterfeits the original language. But actually, the translator attempts to undermine the original text by highlighting the reader and emphasizing the polysemi of interpretation. So while translating the text from SL to TL, the translator ensures that the meaning of the two will be approximately similar and the structure of the source language (SL) will be presented as closely as possible but not so closely that the structure of TL will be destroyed. On the basis of discussion and analysis of 'translation' and 'translation studies', the present research paper have been put some observations by the way of conclusion. Since translation is always considered as rewriting of the original text, it becomes a text about text which reproduces not only what the author in the original language says but what he means. Although translation has been variously described as an art, as a craft and as a science, none of these terms is fully adequate. So the translation is purely a mechanical process springs from an obsession with science. It is certainly more that art, craft and science. Hence 'translation studies' becomes an independent branch of linguistics.

**Introduction:**

Translation plays a crucial role in our routine life especially since we are living in a multicultural country where many different languages are spoken. While communicating with the people speaking a language different from ours, we need to choose one language which is common to both. Indeed, translation plays a significant role in communication. Apart from communication, translation plays a vital role in the process of spreading knowledge by translating books one language (SL) to another (TL). Translation is very obscure process and it is remember that it is skill. While doing translation, it should become the counterpart of original object and do not counterfeit it. It is very easy for the writer to write in a language which is his own, as he knows its proper system, laws and life. He possesses the command over the patterns of that language. But it is very difficult for the translator to translate the text from one language to another. The translator performs the role of a writer of both languages (source as well as target language). So, his handling of the languages does not merely become competent but creative. He has to make a balance between maintaining close fidelity to the original and utter freedom from it. So the translation becomes skillfully activity is skillful activity. But to give an adequate meaning of translation is not an easy task.

Aims and Objectives:

'Translation' or 'Translation Studies' is the major aspects of the literature. Therefore, through this research paper, the researcher attempts to analyze 'translation studies' with the following aims and objectives.

- i) To examine the terms translation and translation studies critically.
- ii) To probe into the process of translation.
- iii) To identify the various types of translation.
- iv) To analyze the various problems of translation.
- v) To bring out the study of the limits of translation.
- vi) To identify the role of good translator.

Methodology:

Here, through this research paper, the researcher attempts to analyze and examine the term 'translation' and 'translation studies' critically. Hence, he has collected the related data at two levels: i) primary and ii) secondary. Here, primary data includes some extracts from English into Marathi and vice-versa and some pieces of advertisements also whereas the secondary data comprises with the reference books, critical resources, journals and web references.

The researcher tries to analyze and interpret the term 'translation' and 'translation studies'. Therefore he has used interpretative methodology. Occasionally, he falls back on textual methodology also. Hence, a library becomes to be a storehouse of knowledge. A data is generated from various reference books and journals and analyzed with the help of perception, observation and logic.

What is translation?

As stated earlier, to give an adequate or exact definition of translation is not an easy task. It is rather easy to write a text than to translate it. According to *Cambridge Advance Learner's Dictionary*, the term 'translate' means 'to change words into a different language' or 'to change something into a new form'. 'Translation' like poetry has become elusive. It is both substitution and changing of meaning from one language (i.e., SL, source language) to



another (i.e., TL target language). Some critics criticized translator as a traitor or a falsifier of the original. He counterfeits the original language. "Translation is like a woman, if beautiful, cannot be faithful and if faithful, it cannot be beautiful" – Anon (quoted in Krishnawamy'et al,'). Generally, in translation, the author attempts to undermine the original text by highlighting the reader and emphasizing the polysemy of interpretation. He tries for the indeterminacy of meaning. So the art or the skill of translation becomes increasingly difficult. In translation process, the author has to be able to choose the right word with the appropriate meaning. If the author does a word-to- word translation, it may lose the original sense of the text. So the translation is an art, craft and science also. However, the translation is neither a creative art nor an imitative art. It stands between these two. Translation is a process in which transfer of a text from one language to another language and the object being a perfect equivalence of meaning between the two texts.

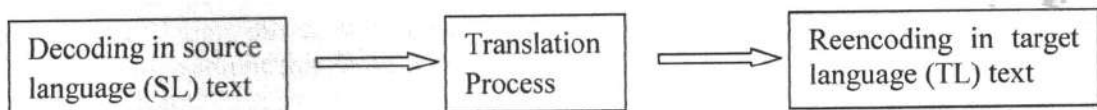
According to Dr. Johnson, "translation involves the process of change into another language retaining the sense." (*A Handbook of Translation Studies*) However, J.C. Catford defines the term 'translation' in linguistics point of view as "translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent material in another language (TL)." (*A Handbook of Translation Studies*) After the careful study of these definitions, it is obvious that the translation is a mechanical process rather than the art. It is a process or an operation performed on languages by substituting the text in one language for a text in another. So while translating the text (i.e., a source language (SL)text into target language (TL) text), a translator ensures that the meaning of the two will be approximately similar and the structure of the source language (SL) will be preserved as closely as possible but not so closely that the structure of TL will be destroyed.

Translation Studies:

Since the translation is an operation performed on two languages: source language (SL) and target language (TL), it becomes the sole part of linguistics. Hence the 'Translation Studies' becomes an independent branch of linguistics which studies various aspects of translation. 'Translation Studies' includes the meaning and the concept of translation, the types of translation, methods of evaluating translation, good and bad translation, the role of translator etc.

The Process of Translation:

Translation process is an obscure process that provokes the problem of ambiguity even when assuming that the 'core' meaning arrived at by the translation which represents the temper and tone of the original faithfully. However, the process of translation is voluntary act as the material has been chosen by the translator himself with the touch of inwardness of both languages: the source language (SL), from which the translation is to be made and the target language (TL) into which the translation is to be done. The translation process takes place in two stages.





- i) Decoding the meaning of the source language text (SL)
- ii) Reencoding the meaning of the target language text (TL)

While decoding the meaning of the source language text, the translator must identify the components unit because a translation unit may be a word, phrases or even more sentence. In the process of decoding and Reencoding, the translator must consciously and methodically interpret and analyze the features. This process requires through knowledge of grammar, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, words phrases and even idioms of both languages as well as target language.

Eugene A Nida speculates that the message of language 'A' is decode into a concept and this concept then provides a base for the generation of an utterance in language 'B'.



In the process of translation, the translation needs a deep knowledge of SL as well as TL. In fact , in general translator's knowledge of the TL is more adequate and important rather than the SL. But at the same time, he does not ignore SL as well.

Types of Translation:

Since the translation studies became an individual branch of linguistics, the traditional theories divided into two types: literary and non-literary. The literary translation associated with the translation of literature in which the translators were concerned with both, sense and style whereas in non- literary translation, the emphasis laid on sense only.

Apart from literary and non-literary translations, there are a number of other types of translation such as Literal Translation, Phonological Translation, Graphological Translation and Grammatical Translation.

On the basis of these varieties of translation, John Dryden divided translation into three major types:

- i) Metaphrase : Word by word and line by line translation from one language into another.
- ii) Paraphrase : A translation with latitude in which a view is focused on sense for sense.
- iii) Imitation : Here the translation can abandon the text of the original as he sees fit.

Apart from this, being a communicative activity, translation must be studied both as a product and a process from the semiotic point of view. So, the language and culture are interlinked phenomenon. So any literary text cannot be treated in isolation from the culture to which it belongs. So on this basis, modern linguists Roman Jakobson and J.C. Catford divide translation in the following categories:

- i) Intralingual translation: which is an interpretation of verbal signs by means of other signs in the same system.
- ii) Interlingual translation: this is interpretation of verbal signs in the same system.
- iii) Intersemiotic translation: this is an interpretation of verbal signs by means of signs of non-verbal sign system.

**Problems and Limitations of Translation:**

Translation is transference of meaning from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL). But in translation process, to find exact equivalence of words of the SL is hard to get in the TL. It is very easy to build a new building rather than to imitate the same structure for engineer. Like that translation is inherently a difficult activity. So the translator should pose inward knowledge of both the languages-the source language (SL), from which the translation is to be made and the target language (TL), into which the translation is to be done. He should have to pay proper attention towards the source text and the target text as they should convey or communicate the same message. Translation is not merely associated with the linguistic aspect but also with the cultured aspect. It is closely concerned with communication of meaning.

Very often language to some context is culture oriented. So the translator can face additional problem of translating such culture based words into another language with a different culture. For instance in Hindu Mythology, Lord Krishna's "Rasa Krida" very difficult to translate into English. Similarly English translation "Love Play" for "Rasa Lila" does not provide the original sense of the later. Something is really missing in such a translation. The culture words, for e.g. Mangalagour, Navratree etc are very difficult to translate into English.

Apart from this, translator can face additional problems which make his task more difficult. There are so many problems with the source text including changes made to the source text during the translation difficulties found while reading the source text, poorly written or incomplete source text etc. There are also linguistic problems for the translator while translating the dialectical terms from foreign language into regional or the particular national language. For instance, the expressions from English language such as Good Morning, Good Night, Good Afternoon etc. have no exact expressions in Hindi language. One can just say 'Namaste' for these expressions. To find out the exact synonyms, antonyms and abbreviations are very difficult in the process of translation. Even the obscure idioms from the regional languages are very difficult to translate into target language (TL).

Conclusion:

On the basis of discussion and analysis of 'translation' and 'translation studies', this research paper have been put here some observations by the way of conclusion.

Although, the translation is a form of communication between two languages – the source language (SL) and the target language (TL), it is always considered as rewriting of the original text. So the translation becomes a text about text which reproduces not only what the author in the original language (i.e.SL) says but what he means.

Though the translation has been variously described as an art, as a craft and as a science, none of these terms is fully adequate. 'Art' is creative and an expression of beauty whereas 'craft' has lower status occupation of amateurish. So the translation is purely a mechanical process springs from an obsession with science. It is certainly more than art, craft and science. It is a process of analysis, interpretation and creation which leads to a replacement of one set of linguistic resources and values for another. Hence, 'Translations Studies' becomes an independent branch of linguistics.



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Keywords (with their meanings) from the Research Paper:

SL	: source language
TL	: target language
Decoding	: to interpret the meaning of SL text
Reencoding	: to interpret the meaning of TL text