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THE ENRICHMENT OF LANGUAGE THROUGH TRANSLATION: A SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE BENGALI LANGUAGE

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Abstract

Translation helps us to understand the world around us, helps us to understand the life and culture of different countries. It is because of the translation we can learn through our own language the philosophy, history and other knowledge produced in other part of the world. Renowned Tibetan translator Thupten Jinpa in his book "The Art of Translating Tibetan" states that, "Translation bridges the boundaries of language and culture." Translation creates communication between the languages and cultures of different civilizations and helps to build the language of civilizations. For example, ancient Greek literature and Bible translations have produced various European languages. Translation is considered as an innate human activity. We communicate to transfer message from one person to another with different language and culture. When we are in that activity of transferring the translation helps then the people to communicate if they speak different languages. Translation was born because of human needs. One group of people is different from another group of people because of their culture or lifestyle. Culture is the flow of life. Culture is how we live, think and feel. Culture is what holds a group of people together. . Translation is done following several techniques such as 1. Literal translation 2. Borrowing 3. Substitution 4. Paraphrasing/definition 5. Back translation 6. Deletion 7. Elaboration/addition 8. Blending 9. Sense translation 10.Mistranslation.

Keywords: *Language, Culture, Civilizations, Metaphrasis, Madhyakarshan, Gravity*

Introduction: One of the most prosperous languages in the world is English. Translation is the artificer of the prosperity of the English language. In the stream of translation, it can be seen that all the knowledge, wisdom, philosophy and literary texts produced any part of this Earth were first translated into English and from English it is again translated into other languages. Translation was born because of human needs. Translation helps us understand the world around us. We read Homer and Sophocles in translation at school. By reading this Homer and Sophocles we have understood their history, politics, philosophy and much more. Translation in modern times helps us to understand the life and culture of different countries. Renowned Tibetan

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translator Thupten Jinpa in his book "The Art of Translating Tibetan" states that, "Translation bridges the boundaries of language and culture."

Translation creates communication between the languages and cultures of different civilizations and helps to build the language of civilizations. For example, ancient Greek literature and Bible translations have produced various European languages. And later the translation of European literature enriched the languages of different countries of the world. Translation not only builds language, translation has also given rise to some great civilizations, such as the Western Christian civilization and the Tibetan Buddhist civilization. In the past, translation was only part of language learning.

History of translation work:

In searching for the meaning of the translation we can see that the word 'translation' comes from a Latin term which means "to bring or carry across". Another relevant term comes from the Ancient Greek word of 'metaphrasis' which means "to speak across" and from this, the term 'metaphrase' was born, which means a "word-for-word translation". These terms have been at the heart of theories relating to translation throughout history and have given insight into when and where translation have been used throughout the ages. It is known that translation was carried out as early as the Mesopotamian era when the Sumerian poem, Gilgamesh, was translated into Asian languages. This dates back to around the second millennium BC. Other ancient translated works include those carried out by Buddhist monks who translated Indian documents into Chinese. In later periods, Ancient Greek texts were also translated by Roman poets and were adapted to create developed literary works for entertainment. It is known that translation services were utilized in Rome by Cicero and Horace and that these uses were continued through to the 17th century, where newer practices were developed. It is argued that the knowledge and findings of Greek academics was developed and understood so widely thanks to the translation work of Arabic scholars. When the Greeks were conquered, their works were taken in by Arabic scholars who translated them and created their own versions of the scientific, entertainment and philosophical understandings. These Arabic versions were later translated into Latin, during the Middle Ages, mostly throughout Spain and the resulting works provided the foundations of Renaissance academics.

Great Translators in the History :

Translators have often been hidden characters, unnamed people who have paved the way for some of the greatest contributions to the dissemination of ideas, knowledge and theories throughout the ages. In some cases, working as a translator was incredibly dangerous and some even lost their lives because of their work. This included famous translators such as William Tyndale, who was executed in Holland in 1536 because he worked on translating the bible into English. Other famous translators include: Chinese monk Xuanzang who in 645 AD was credited with having translated 74 volumes on Indian Buddhist scripts into Chinese. Constance Garnett was a British translator who translated Russian classics including Tolstoy, Chekhov, Turgenev and Gogol into English towards the end of the 19th Century. Gregory Rabassa was an American

literary translator who translated numerous Latin documents into English throughout the 20th Century

The Necessity of translation:

We communicate to transfer message from one person to another with different language and culture. When we are in that activity of transferring the translation helps then the people to communicate if they speak different languages. Thus, translation is a two-facet phenomenon: on the one hand, it is the process of transferring information; on the other hand, it is the result of this process

Translation is considered as an innate human activity. Translation emerged mainly for the "contact of culture and language". Translation was born because of human needs. One group of people is different from another group of people because of their culture or lifestyle. Culture is the flow of life. Culture is how we live, think and feel. Culture is what holds a group of people together. Every person in a cultural group can understand each other through a certain language, so the famous Russian linguist Vladimir Aleksandrov said that "Language is the greatest achievement of culture". The phenomenon of translation becomes necessary for the "culture and language contact" or exchange of people of one region with the people of another region.

Culture is a very complex concept. Each translator or linguist has their own opinions about culture and how it affects language and interactions between different languages. Nida even claims that "differences between cultures may cause more severe complications for the translator than do differences in language structure" (Nida, 1964). Each culture has words or culture specific items that belong to that one or a few cultures only. A few linguists put those culture specific items into categories. Newmark (1988) views culture specific items as cultural words and divides them into 5 groups by adapting Nida's theory:

(1) Ecology;

(2) Material culture artefacts – food, clothes, houses and towns, transport;

(3) Social culture – work and leisure;

(4) Organisations, customs, activities, procedures, concepts – political and administrative, religious, artistic objects;

(5) Gestures and habits.

The exchange or translation of language and culture between different groups of people started based on the reasons such as

1) Emotional

2) For business reasons

3) To survive and

4) Gaining knowledge.

These factors are considered as catalysts for the emergence of translation .

The reason of Cultural contact :

"Culture and language contact" between the people of one region and the people of another region basically happened through the arrival of people from one region to another region. The reasons for this influx can be divided into the following categories.

People from one region migrate to another region mainly for the following reasons.
1) Colonization.
2) War.
3) Natural phenomenon.
4) Business - Business.
5) Learning.
6) Religion promotion.

When people of one culture converse with people of another culture, they may notice the lack or deficiency of words in their own language. That's when you need to borrow words.

How translation changes language:

Translators have always played a key role in society. The translators of every race contributed to the development of vernacular languages and national identities around these languages. Translators went on playing a major role in the advancement of society for centuries. But many translators become "invisible" with a precarious life and their names often forgotten on articles and book covers. There is much to do to acknowledge (again) the translators' major impact on knowledge, science, education, business and culture.

The translators have substantially helped to shape the languages into which they have translated. When a target language lacks terms that are found in a source language, they borrow those terms, thereby enriching the target language with source-language calques (literally translated words or phrases) and loanwords (words incorporated into another language without translation).

Oxford University defines translation as 'The process of translating words or text from one language into another:'

This can mean the word to word rendering of the text in one language to another or replacing the equivalents of the words or phrases in one text to another. The translated text may have formal equivalence when the source text and the translated text look alike in form. It may have functional equivalence when the source text and the target text or translated text convey the same sense or perform the same function, though they have formal differences. It is often seen that the idioms and usage of the source language creep into the target language through translations which often enrich and shape the target language.

Translation process involves transferring the smallest units of translation from the source text to the target text. Thus, the translator's task is to determine the smallest units to be translated, at different levels at which the equivalence is sought. Meaning can be carried in different levels . The language has different constitutional levels as follow:

- phoneme
- morpheme
- word
- phrase
- clause
- sentence
- text

Among these aspects of language, its vocabulary is considered as the basis of language. The increase in vocabulary takes the language to a higher level. Vocabulary increases as a result of translation.

The Effect of translation on Two Forms of Language :

The effect of translation occurs on basically two forms of a language –

1) Literary language.

2) Non-literary language .

Literary language translation :

A literary translation is the translation of literature such as novels, poems, plays and poems. Literary translation is a type of translation which is distinguished from translation in general. A literary translation must reflect the imaginative, intellectual and intuitive writing of the author. In fact, literature is distinguished by its aesthetics. The translation of literary works is considered by many one of the highest forms of translation as it involves so much more than simply translating text. A literary translator must be capable of also translating feelings, cultural nuances, humour and other subtle elements of a piece of work.

The characteristics of literary translations: - expressive - connotative - symbolic - focusing on both form and content - subjective - allowing multiple interpretation - timeless and universal - using special devices to 'heighten' communicative effect - tendency to deviate from the language norms. Moreover, literary translations must reflect all the literary features of the source text such as sound effects, morphophonemic selection of words, figures of speech. And thus the target language gets influenced by the lexical and semantic features of the source language .

Non literary language translation :

Translation includes not only translation of poems and stories but also social science and science texts and technical terminology of various kinds. In fact, with the amazing all-round progress made in science and technology in an increasingly shrinking world, the need to share technical and scientific knowledge has acquired utmost importance. Every day we are called upon to translate new ideas and new terms. There are also other fields of non-literary translation such as

- Politics
- Culture
- Religion and history
- Science and technology
- Agriculture and business world.

Thus the scope of translation has been increasing in different fields for different purposes.

The language to be translated is called "source language" and the language to be translated is called "target language". Different methods of translation mainly involve the exchanges of words and senses between the target language and source language.

Techniques of Translation :

Translation is one of the best means of communication in which the message of one language is translated into another. It is the general term referring to the thoughts and ideas from one

language to another language whether it is oral form or written form. In translating language, different scholars have suggested various techniques.

Newmark (1988, p. 103) has given twelve translation procedures.

1. Transference
2. Cultural equivalent
3. Neutralization (i.e. functional or descriptive equivalent)
4. Literal translation
5. Label
6. Naturalization
7. Componential analysis
8. Deletion
9. Couplet
10. Accepted standard translation
11. Paraphrase, gloss, notes, etc.
12. Classifier

But no single technique is absolutely helpful to produce perfect translation without any gap. Among them, there are some most used techniques of translation which are listed below:

1. Literal translation
2. Borrowing
3. Substitution
4. Paraphrasing/definition
5. Back translation
6. Deletion
7. Elaboration/addition
8. Blending
9. Sense translation
10. Mistranslation

Enrichment of Bengali language :

The Bengali language has descended from the Sanskrit which, as linguists say, is the Indo-European branch of language and also called by many scholars as the mother of many modern Indian languages . The Sanskrit is conceived as the major influencer of Bengali language .This has been widely asserted that beside Sanskrit ,a large variety of languages has contributed in the enrichment of the Bengali language . The Indian sub-continent was attacked and colonized by the various foreign forces and because of that , the languages of India got influenced by the colonizers' languages in the different period of history . Along with the historical colonizers there came the philosophy, literature and religion of those settlers and occurred an huge translational phenomena as a consequence of it . The spread of modern european education in nineteenth century in India caused the feeling of necessity of translation to understand their literature, science and philosophy in this land. The Bengali vocabulary lacked equivalent terms

while translating the various European texts . This deficiency was compensated through some of the procedures in discussion below-

1) Loan / Transfer: In this method source language words are translated into target language in original form. Untranslatable national words are transferred in this way, especially different ideas, thoughts, imagination, cultural words, science and technology related words are transferred in this way. For example, Bengali words - bulb, x-ray, pizza etc. have come from English or European languages. The Indian word "yoga" was transferred to the English language as "yoga" and is used as the English word today. The words "romantic", "mask" etc. are borrowed from English words in Bengali language.

2) Assimilation or Naturalization: The source language word is transferred to the target language by changing the pronunciation of its original form. For example, the English word Messiah is in Bengali. English word "Messiah" is pronounced "Messia" but in Bengali the pronunciation has changed to "Mesih". . The word "Academy" in Bengali is adopted from the English word Academy. The Sanskrit word "Pandit" has become "Pundit" in English.

3) Explanation/descriptive words: translation or target language explains the meaning of a word in the source language and gives a simplified form by grouping the words accordingly. For example, the Sanskrit word "Tarpan" has no equivalent in English. Based on the description of the occurrence of the word tarpan in this case, it is translated into English as “taking water”.

4) Creation of new words: New words are created in the target language to translate the source language words. For the English word Gravitation, the word "Madhyakarshan" is used in Bengali. The word "Gravity" has two Bengali words like 'Madhya' and 'Akarshan'. By combining these two words, the new word “Gravity” was born. Thus many new words such as rangalaya, ganbhavana, ecosystem, etc. have been coined to translate the source language English words. At present, the word "Muthofon" or "Vhramyabhash" has been created in Bengali language to translate the English word Mobile phone.

5) Blending: A blend word is born with some parts of the source language and some parts of the target language. Such as half-sleeves. Here a new word was created by taking the English syllable “Haf” and the Bengali syllable “Hata” as “Hafhata”. Thus the words “sub-inspector” factory, headmaster, amjanat, full shirt, etc.

Areas in a language where the most exchange of words or enrichment results from translation are –

1) Emotional words
2) Thoughtful words
3) Religion and philosophical words
4) Science and technology related words
5) Cultural words
6) Natural environment words.

To overcome these translation barriers a translator uses the above-mentioned method and enriches the target language by gathering new words.

Conclusion : It can be said for sure that the translation of the best literary works written in different languages of the world or any other book of knowledge results in the excellence of the

translated language. By translating a foreign language, one can gain knowledge about the expressive power of the translated language. Increases the flexibility of the translated language. The translated language itself is enriched by bringing out all the novel expressions of the source language in a beautiful way. So translation has a deep and inseparable relationship with language enrichment.

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