



XORIJY TILLARNI O'QITISHDA INNOVATSION YONDASHUVLAR NAZARIYANING AMALIYOTGA TATBIQI

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TRANSLATION STUDIES: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

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Abstract. *Translation studies, as an interdisciplinary field, bridges linguistics, cultural studies, and communication. However, the practice of translation is fraught with challenges, including linguistic equivalence, cultural adaptation, and ethical dilemmas. This article explores the key problems in translation studies and proposes solutions based on theoretical frameworks and practical methodologies. By addressing issues such as untranslatability, power dynamics, and technological advancements, this article aims to contribute to the ongoing discourse on improving translation practices.*

Keywords: *translation studies, cultural adaptation, linguistic equivalence, power dynamics, technological advancements, Domestication and foreignization, Narrative theory of translation, collocational restrictions.*

INRODUCTION

Translation is not merely the act of transferring text from one language to another; it is a complex process that involves cultural, social, and ideological dimensions. As Susan Bassnett (2014) aptly states, translation is «a shaping force» that influences how cultures interact and understand one another. Despite its significance, translation faces numerous challenges, ranging from linguistic barriers to ethical concerns. This article examines these problems and offers solutions grounded in contemporary translation theories and practices.

Theoretical Framework

The field of translation studies has evolved significantly since its inception, with scholars like Gideon Toury, Lawrence Venuti, and Mona Baker contributing to its theoretical foundation. Toury's (1995) concept of descriptive translation studies emphasizes the importance of understanding translations within their cultural and historical contexts. Venuti (1995), on the other hand, introduces the concepts of domestication and foreignization, highlighting the ethical implications of translation strategies. Baker (2018) focuses on the narrative theory of translation, which examines how translations shape and are shaped by narratives in society.

These theoretical frameworks provide a foundation for analyzing the problems in translation studies and proposing solutions. For instance, Venuti's critique of domestication underscores the need for translators to preserve the foreignness of the



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source text, while Baker's narrative theory highlights the role of translation in constructing cultural identities.

Linguistic Equivalence and Untranslatability

One of the most persistent challenges in translation is achieving linguistic equivalence. As Mona Baker (2018) notes, languages differ not only in vocabulary and grammar but also in cultural connotations. Words or phrases that carry specific cultural meanings in the source language may lack direct equivalents in the target language, leading to untranslatability. For example, the Russian word “Тоска” (a deep melancholic longing or sadness, often without a clear cause, it can range from mild nostalgia to profound existential despair) has no direct equivalent in English, requiring translators to employ creative strategies to convey its meaning.

Restrictions

Collocation restrictions are semantically arbitrary and do not follow logically from the propositional meaning of a word. These restrictions vary significantly across languages, posing challenges for translators. For instance, in English, teeth are «brushed,». In Uzbek, teeth are «washed» (“yuvish”), and in Russian, they are «cleaned» (“chistit”). Because these collocations are arbitrary, they often require translators to adapt their strategies to fit the target language's conventions, even when the literal meaning might seem illogical.

Cultural Adaptation and Ideological Bias

Translation is not a neutral act; it is influenced by the cultural and ideological contexts of both the source and target languages. Lawrence Venuti (1995) argues that translators often face pressure to domesticate the text, making it more accessible to the target audience but potentially erasing the cultural nuances of the source text. This raises ethical questions about the translator's role in preserving or altering the original message.

Technological Challenges

The rise of machine translation and artificial intelligence has revolutionized the field, but it has also introduced new challenges. While tools like Google Translate and DeepL offer quick solutions, they often fail to capture the subtleties of language and culture. As Jody Byrne (2012) points out, machine translation struggles with context-specific meanings, idiomatic expressions, and cultural references, leading to inaccuracies and misunderstandings.

Emphasizing Functional Equivalence

To address the problem of linguistic equivalence, translators can adopt the concept of functional equivalence, as proposed by Eugene Nida (1964). Instead of



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focusing on word-for-word translation, functional equivalence prioritizes the meaning and function of the text in the target language. For example, when translating idiomatic expressions, translators can use culturally appropriate equivalents that convey the same meaning rather than literal translations.

Promoting Foreignization

Lawrence Venuti (1995) advocates for foreignization as a way to preserve the cultural identity of the source text. By retaining foreign elements, such as cultural references and stylistic features, translators can challenge the dominance of the target culture and promote cross-cultural understanding. For instance, translating Japanese honorifics like «san» or «sama» without substituting them with English equivalents can help readers appreciate the cultural context of the source text.

Integrating Technology with Human Expertise

While machine translation has its limitations, it can be a valuable tool when used in conjunction with human expertise. Translators can leverage technology to handle repetitive tasks, such as terminology management, while focusing on the creative and cultural aspects of translation. As Byrne (2012) suggests, post-editing machine-translated texts can improve efficiency without compromising quality.

Ethical Training for Translators

To address ideological bias, translators should receive training in ethical decision-making. This includes understanding the power dynamics involved in translation and striving for transparency in their work. For example, translators can use footnotes or glossaries to explain cultural references that cannot be directly translated, ensuring that readers are aware of the source text's nuances.

Example from **Translation of Special Texts** by Samigova and Akhmedova

In their book **Translation of Special Texts**, Khushnuda Samigova and Anorkhon Akhmedova emphasize the importance of understanding the specialized terminology and context of technical texts. They provide an example of translating legal documents, where the term **»force majeure»** (a common clause in contracts) must be carefully adapted to the target language's legal system. In some languages, the concept may not exist, requiring the translator to explain the term or find an equivalent legal concept. This highlights the need for subject-matter expertise and cultural awareness in specialized translation.

CONCLUSION

Translation study is a dynamic field that continues to evolve in response to linguistic, cultural, and technological challenges. By adopting theoretical frameworks such as descriptive translation studies and narrative theory, and by implementing



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practical solutions like functional equivalence and foreignization, translators can navigate the complexities of their work more effectively. As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, the role of translation in fostering cross-cultural understanding and communication will only grow in importance. Future research should focus on developing innovative strategies to address emerging challenges, such as the ethical implications of machine translation and the impact of globalization on translation practices.

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