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ISSUES OF TRANSLATING NATIONAL COLORING WORDS - REALIAS IN THE NOVEL “NAVOI” BY OYBEK

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ABSTRACT

Translation is considered to be almost on the same level as artistic creation in terms of its complexity and difficulty. This article deals with the issues of translating national coloring words and its classification. The practical importance of this study is giving the analysis of realias through the English translation of Uzbek historical novels. Data of the research is collected through qualitative method. Materials are analyzed analytically and comparatively. The object of the paper is English translation of historical novel of Oybek “Navoi” by I.M.Tukhtasinov and O.M.Muminov. The findings of the research show that translating culture words (realia) is one of the challenging tasks for translators. Furthermore, transcription, transliteration and translating through descriptive way are considered the appropriate solution to solve this issue.

KEYWORDS

Realia, internationalism, nationalism, transcription, transliteration, calque, historical novel.

INTRODUCTION

Linguistic means that reflect things and events specific to a particular people, nation, and ethnic group are considered the main means of the national features of

a literary work. This means that any artistic work is characterized by the fact that it embodies both internationalism and nationality. Internationalism is

reflected in the content and idea of the work, and nationalism is reflected in its form. The lexical structure of the language, which includes not only international but also national characteristics, reflects the material and social life of the language community to which it belongs, including national customs and traditions, geography, spirituality and worldview, religious beliefs, moral norms, material orientation. . The general features of a literary work are reflected in the private and social life of the people, in their living conditions, clothing, customs, streets, cities, monuments of art, names of institutions, surnames of officials, and so on. Relatively, this is considered one of the actual issues in translation.

Restoring the national form of a literary work is one of the important problems of literary translation. Translator must convey adequately the national character connected with the real representation of life. It means that he must know social conditions and nation development whose literature he translates, he must know and understand the specific spiritual way of life, find explanations of problems caused with peculiarities of this nation and originality of his development. That is why the translator has a great responsibility in this regard. This set of national features reflected in literary work is called national color in literature. The translator's approach is especially important when translating national words that belong to a particular nation. Because the reader perceives the work as the translator sees it, and draws conclusions.

Literature review

To enter this field it is necessary to understand what “realia” means in the first place, both within translation studies, and without; in this we will be

helped by two Bulgarian researchers, Sergej Vlahov and Sider Florin, who in 1980 published a whole book covering what is normally called “untranslatable”, realia included.

V. Komissarov (2001, 103 p.) considers that —translation is a complicated and many-sided kind of human activity. Though usually people speak about translation—from one language into another, actually, it is not simply a replacement of one language with another. The different cultures, people, ways of thinking, literatures, epochs, levels of development, traditions and world views clash with each other in translation. According to M. Brandes (2001, 23 p.), —translation is a kind of language mediation where the content of the foreign text (original) is transferred to other languages by way of creating a communicatively equivalent text in this language. In L. Barkhudarov's (1975, p 39) opinion, —translation is a process of transformation of a speech product in one language into a speech product in another language, the invariable meaning being preserved. G. Toury believes that —translation is a kind of activity which inevitably involves at least two languages and two cultural traditions.

As Qudrat Musayev (2005, p 90) states that “While the originality of the source text is largely determined by the national character of the linguistic means within it, the original restoration of the artistic and ideological basis of the originality is associated with the re-creation of the national color of the work. Therefore, the issue of restoring the national character in translation has recently attracted the attention of both translators.”

Method and materials

This research paper is written through qualitative data collection. The scientific works of Q.Musayev, Kommisarov, Barkhudarov and other scholars are analyzed, compared and summarized. Through the translation of the novel Oybek “Navoi” by I.M.Tukhtasinov and O.M.Muminov, examples are explained.

Discussion

It is well known that in literary translation the concept of national color is referred to the customs, way of life, in general, and the national features of the people, which are unfamiliar for us. Therefore, a translator who is able to translate correctly using the most appropriate methods while preserving the national color can undoubtedly be called a master of his profession. For instance, words and concepts encountered in Uzbek may not be present in other languages or may differ in content, form, and size. And this is one of the pressing issues of translators to convey the cultural peculiarities of our culture to the readers.

Literary texts display many linguistic peculiarities, as well as social and cultural aspects of our lives and, thus, we can assert that literary translation is one of the main ways of communication across cultures. One of the problems a translator can face translating literary texts arises from the fact that some words or phrases denoting objects, facts, phenomena, etc... are so deeply rooted in their source culture and so specific (and perhaps exclusive or unique) to the culture that they have no equivalent in the target culture, be it because they are unknown, or because they are not yet codified in the target language. Not only two languages interact in translation process, but also two cultures having both common features and national

specificity. Revealing this specificity is crucial in studying intercultural communication and translation. The aim of the research is to analyze realias in Armenian texts and to display their possible equivalents in the English language. The term realia (Robinson) can be substituted for culture-specific concepts (Baker), cultural words (Newmark), others label as the culture-bound terms or culture-specific items. All these labels cover specific objects which may be defined as words and combinations of words denoting objects and concepts characteristic of the way of life, the culture, and the social and historical development of one nation and alien to another.

There exist some ways of rendering foreign realias:

1. Transliteration (translate on the level of graphemes: Lincoln)
2. Transcription (transference on the level of phonemes: drug –store)
3. Calque (word for word translation)
4. Descriptive or explanatory translation (coroner)
5. Approximate translation (with the help of —analogue: drug –store –apteka)
6. Transformative (contextual) translation.

Transcription (transliteration) is often used in the cases, when the question is about proper names, the names of governmental institutions, educational establishments and so on. The serious drawback of this method leads to the appearance of unusual and loss clear words in translation.

Calquing is literal (word for word) translation of the word or word combinations and it is widely used for

rendering realities into another language. Assimilation of the calques is very complicated phenomenon being subject to consideration within diachronic plan and is stipulated not only with intralinguistic but the whole range of cultural and social factors. Calque can be widely spread in the language, but at the same time it remains as —exotism for the denotant correspond to it is alien to be culture.

Descriptive or explanatory translation has the advantage that it includes incomplete understanding which is characteristic to transliteration or calquing, but the drawback is that realia is translated not with analogous unit by its structure of another language but with diffuse description.

According to these types of translating national coloring words, the English translation of historical novel “Navoi” by Oybek is taken under deep analysis. This novel is translated by I.Tukhtasinov and O.Muminov. In the novel, the writer painted a complex picture of the history of our people in the XV century through the interpretation of the image of the great poet. Oybek perfectly described the great qualities of Navoi. This artistic perfection in the novel is reflected in the scenes in which all the stages of Navoi’s life are depicted. In the given table, national coloring words will be presented with their way of translation (Tukhtasinov, 2016).

N	Uzbek realias	English translation	Ways of translation
1	Xonaqoh	Khanahak	Transcription
2	Hujra	Hujra	Transliteration
3	..dekcha qaynatish g’amida bosh qotirishardi.	...they were discussing what to prepare for dinner	Calque
4	Vazir	Vizir	Transliteration
5	G’ijjak	Gijjak	Transcription
6	Movarounnahr	Maveraunnakhr	Transcription
7	Xuroson	Khorasan	Transcription
8	Hokim	Khakim	Transcription
9	Chuchitilgan moy	Heated oil	Calque

It is visible from the given example that, translator mostly utilize transcription and calque in order to deliver the meaning of national coloring words by footnoting their definitions. These types of translation are also observed during the whole process of

translation. As a result, it may cause misunderstanding to the reader and effect expressiveness of the work.

CONCLUSION

Translating national coloring words is one of the most difficult cases for translators. They should not only do the task of achieving semantic equivalent but also should pay a clear attention to the national coloring of literary text. As translators have to deliver the correct message of the text, embedded with cultural meaning, to the readers. Otherwise, high-quality and authentic translation will not be created.

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