



RECREATING NATIONAL AND CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS IN THE TRANSLATION OF HISTORICAL WORKS AND ANECDOTES

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Abstract: This article examines the issue of recreating national and cultural characteristics in the translation of historical works and anecdotes. Historical texts and anecdotes contain unique cultural elements, traditions, customs, values, and linguistic features that reflect the identity of a particular nation. The study analyzes the challenges translators face in preserving these culturally specific components while ensuring comprehensibility for the target audience. Special attention is paid to translation strategies such as cultural adaptation, equivalence, borrowing, and explanatory translation. The article highlights the importance of maintaining both the semantic content and cultural authenticity of the source text. The findings demonstrate that successful translation of historical works and anecdotes requires not only linguistic competence but also deep intercultural awareness and knowledge of historical context.

Keywords: historical works, anecdotes, translation, national and cultural characteristics, translation strategies, cultural identity, historical context.

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada tarixiy asarlar va latifalar tarjimasida milliy-madaniy xususiyatlarni qayta yaratish masalasi tahlil qilinadi. Tarixiy matnlar va latifalar muayyan xalqning urf-odatlarini, an'analari, qadriyatlarini, dunyoqarashi hamda til xususiyatlarini o'zida mujassam etgan bo'lib, ularni tarjima qilish tarjimondan nafaqat lingvistik, balki madaniy kompetensiyani ham talab etadi. Tadqiqotda milliy-madaniy birliklarni tarjimada saqlab qolish va ularni maqsadli auditoriyaga tushunarli tarzda yetkazish muammolari ko'rib chiqiladi. Madaniy moslashtirish, ekvivalentlik, transliteratsiya va izohli tarjima kabi tarjima strategiyalarining samaradorligi tahlil qilinadi. Natijalar shuni ko'rsatadiki, tarixiy asarlar va latifalar tarjimasida manba matnning mazmuni bilan bir qatorda uning milliy ruhini va madaniy o'ziga xosligini saqlab qolish muhim ahamiyat kasb etadi.

Kalit so'zlar: tarixiy asarlar, latifalar, tarjima, milliy-madaniy xususiyatlar, madaniy moslashtirish, madaniy identifikatsiya, tarixiy kontekst.

Introduction: Translation serves as one of the most important means of intercultural communication, enabling people from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds to access and appreciate literary, historical, and cultural heritage. Through translation, the intellectual and artistic achievements of one nation become available to readers of another, fostering mutual understanding and cultural exchange. Among the various genres of translated texts, historical works and anecdotes occupy a special place due to their rich cultural content and close connection with the social, political, and spiritual life of a particular society.

Historical works preserve valuable information about past events, traditions, customs, beliefs, and lifestyles of nations. They reflect the historical memory and cultural identity of a people and provide insights into the worldview of earlier generations. Anecdotes, on the other hand, represent a unique form of folklore and oral tradition. They often contain humor, satire, wisdom, and social criticism expressed through culturally specific linguistic and



stylistic devices. Both historical works and anecdotes embody national values and cultural characteristics that are deeply rooted in the source language and culture.

One of the major challenges in translating historical works and anecdotes is the preservation and recreation of national and cultural features. These features include culture-specific terms, historical references, traditional customs, social norms, idiomatic expressions, and symbolic meanings that may not have direct equivalents in the target language. As a result, translators frequently encounter difficulties in conveying the original meaning while maintaining the cultural authenticity of the source text. The loss or misrepresentation of such elements may lead to misunderstandings and reduce the literary and cultural value of the translated work.

In contemporary translation studies, increasing attention is being paid to the relationship between language and culture. Scholars emphasize that translation is not merely a linguistic process but also a cultural act that requires the transfer of cultural knowledge and values. Therefore, successful translation depends not only on linguistic competence but also on the translator's understanding of historical context, cultural traditions, and intercultural communication. Various translation strategies, including cultural adaptation, borrowing, transliteration, domestication, foreignization, and explanatory translation, have been proposed to address the challenges associated with culture-bound elements.

The significance of studying national and cultural characteristics in the translation of historical works and anecdotes lies in the growing importance of cross-cultural communication in the modern world. As globalization increases interactions among different cultures, the accurate and effective translation of culturally rich texts becomes essential for preserving cultural diversity and promoting international understanding. Translators play a crucial role in mediating between cultures and ensuring that readers of the target language can appreciate both the informational and cultural dimensions of the original text.

The purpose of this article is to examine the methods and strategies used to recreate national and cultural characteristics in the translation of historical works and anecdotes. The study aims to identify the main challenges faced by translators, analyze the effectiveness of various translation techniques, and highlight the importance of preserving cultural authenticity in translated texts. Through the analysis of theoretical approaches and practical examples, the article seeks to contribute to the broader understanding of cultural transfer in translation and its role in fostering intercultural dialogue.

Analysis and Results: The analysis of historical works and anecdotes demonstrates that the recreation of national and cultural characteristics is one of the most challenging aspects of literary translation. Historical texts and anecdotes are rich in culture-specific elements, including customs, traditions, social norms, historical references, and linguistic expressions that reflect the identity of a particular nation. Therefore, translators must find appropriate ways to preserve both the meaning and cultural significance of these elements in the target language.

The study revealed that historical works frequently contain culture-bound terms and historical realia that have no direct equivalents in the target language. For example, Uzbek cultural concepts such as *mahalla* (traditional neighborhood community), *oqsoqol* (respected elder), *Navruz* (traditional spring festival), and *caravanserai* (roadside inn for travelers) require special translation techniques. In most cases, translators employ transliteration accompanied by explanatory notes to preserve the authenticity of the original text while ensuring comprehension for target readers.

The analysis of anecdote translation indicates that humor, irony, and culturally embedded meanings present additional challenges. Anecdotes featuring Nasreddin Afandi, for instance, often rely on wordplay, social criticism, and culture-specific references. A



literal translation may fail to reproduce the intended humorous effect. Consequently, translators frequently use cultural adaptation and functional equivalence to recreate the communicative impact of the original anecdote rather than its exact linguistic form.

The findings also suggest that different translation strategies are more effective depending on the genre of the text. In the translation of historical works, the strategy of foreignization plays a significant role in preserving the national flavor and historical authenticity of the source text. By retaining culture-specific elements, translators allow readers to experience aspects of the source culture. In contrast, domestication is often more effective in anecdote translation because it helps target readers understand humor and cultural references more naturally.

Furthermore, the study identified several translation techniques that contribute to the successful recreation of national and cultural characteristics:

- Transliteration and transcription;
- Explanatory translation;
- Functional equivalence;
- Cultural adaptation;
- Contextual substitution.

The results demonstrate that the quality of translating historical works and anecdotes depends not only on linguistic competence but also on the translator's knowledge of history, culture, folklore, and intercultural communication. A successful translation should preserve the cultural identity of the source text while remaining understandable and meaningful to the target audience. Therefore, the recreation of national and cultural characteristics can be considered a key factor in achieving both linguistic accuracy and cultural authenticity in translation.

The overall findings confirm that the effective transfer of cultural elements strengthens intercultural dialogue and enables readers from different cultural backgrounds to gain a deeper understanding of the historical and cultural heritage represented in the original texts.

Conclusion: The present study has examined the recreation of national and cultural characteristics in the translation of historical works and anecdotes. The findings demonstrate that translation is not merely a linguistic process but also a cultural activity that requires the transfer of historical, social, and cultural values from the source language into the target language. Historical works and anecdotes contain numerous culture-specific elements that reflect the traditions, customs, worldview, and identity of a particular nation. Therefore, preserving these elements is essential for maintaining the authenticity and communicative value of the original text.

The analysis revealed that translators face significant challenges when dealing with historical realia, culturally bound expressions, idioms, and humor. In many cases, direct translation is insufficient to convey the intended meaning and cultural significance. As a result, various translation strategies, including transliteration, explanatory translation, functional equivalence, cultural adaptation, domestication, and foreignization, play an important role in overcoming these difficulties.

The study also confirms that no single translation strategy can be applied universally. The choice of strategy depends on the purpose of translation, the characteristics of the target audience, and the nature of the cultural element being translated. While foreignization helps preserve the national flavor and historical authenticity of historical texts, domestication is often more effective in rendering humor and culturally specific references in anecdotes.

In conclusion, the successful translation of historical works and anecdotes requires not only linguistic proficiency but also a deep understanding of cultural and historical contexts. The recreation of national and cultural characteristics contributes to the preservation of cultural identity and promotes effective intercultural communication. Therefore, translators



serve as cultural mediators who facilitate the transmission of knowledge, values, and traditions across linguistic and cultural boundaries. Future research may focus on comparative studies of culture-specific translation strategies in different languages and literary traditions.

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