

Translation and Multilingualism in India*“We are a world evolving in translation”.*

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Abstract

The activity of translation has become indispensable phenomenon from its marginal activity into its independent discipline. It has become a metaphor to understand cultures across nations and societies. Sharing and production of knowledge has become easily accessible in this age of globalization through translation. It has given voice to the unsayable. Undoubtedly, the history of translation is the history of civilizations. Literature from the regional authors is being recognized for the wider audience. Hence, in this age of globalization, translation acts as a bridge between the regional discourses and the issues concerned at the national and international levels. India as a multilingual and multicultural country has rich scope for translation activity. Thus, the paper aims to explore the history and journey of translation in India from pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial times. It aims to highlight the importance of translation as a tool for communication across cultures in India. The paper also discusses how translation of regional languages can be crucial in enriching our literatures. Some of the important writers and works will come under discussion which have been translated into many regional languages in India. The paper also highlights the growing need for translation to reclaim the richness of Indian literature amid ideological discourses across nation and societies.

Key Words: Translation, Multilingualism and Cross-cultural Communication