

Translation in the Postcolonial Times

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Abstract

Postcolonial translation is instrumental in the formulation of culture, identity and the regrowth of regional literature. It plays a significant role in reclaiming the past and resisting the dominant languages and literatures. The cross cultural interaction among the different social groups results in constructing and redefining the marginalized identities. For example, in India the misrepresentation of Indian culture by the British and the lost identity of various religious groups like Hindus and Muslims are being mostly regained through translation. In this context, the understanding of various aspects of the dynamics of translation is essential for the current discourse in postcolonial translation. Moreover, the different dimensions of translation like translation as a creative process, issues related to target audience, readership, application of different strategies, various approaches and theories, issues related to publishing have made the translation process a challenging task in the postcolonial times. This paper aims to highlight the current trends in the postcolonial translations with reference to some short story collections from Urdu and Kashmiri translated into English. It explores some of the prominent features of postcolonial translation. The focus is to explore the various strategies which are in vogue in these translations.

Keywords: *Formulation of culture, Marginalized identities, Regional literature and strategies.*

Introduction

Postcolonialism studies the various practices of colonizers on the colonized. It has exposed the colonial history of colonizers in different parts of the world. The cultural and political hegemony of colonial masters has been exposed rather their civilizing mission in the third world countries. Although, the physical control of postcolonialism had ended long back but its influence on language, culture and knowledge is still there on the third world countries. The dominance of the colonizer's language and culture on the colonized has been interrogated by various critics in Post-colonialism. To understand the basic crux of postcolonialism, let us look into some important definitions on postcolonialism. According to Munday "Postcolonialism is generally used to cover studies of the history of the former colonies, studies of powerful European empires, resistance to the colonialist powers and, more broadly, studies of the effect of the imbalance of power relations between colonized and colonizer" (131). In their groundbreaking book *The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Post-Colonial Literatures* (1989) by Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin

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