

Anti-localizing in Translation of Shahnameh for Children from Persian into English

Ali Rabi¹, Soulmaz Mellatdoost²

1- Linguistic Professor at Azad university south branch of Tehran

2- graduated of English Translation at Azad university south branch of Tehran

Abstract

Considering the importance of children's literature in translation research, the present study was an attempt to investigate the effect of anti-localizing in the translation of Shahnameh Stories which is intended for children. Being in 11 volumes, this series of stories tries to narrate Shahnameh events in a simple and understanding language, which has been later translated into English. Each of the stories was carefully examined for the renditions in which anti-localizing was implemented by the translator. The results of the study showed that most of the anti-localizing cases (69.10%) had negative effect on the renditions. More specifically, the translations failed to appropriately transfer the cultural sense of the words or terms. It was finally decided that anti-localizing can be implemented only in some and not all literary works. This study was concluded by providing some implications as well as some suggestions for further research.

Key Terms: Evaluation, Children's Literature, Anti-localizing, Translation.

INTRODUCTION

Even since an independence genre named children's literature was introduced into the world literature, it was described and evaluated within the traditional didactic frame of reference, playing a significant role in children's life, influencing their outlook, belief and conduct. Though such viewpoint is still prevalent as the main focus of children's literature, in the light of the attempts made by some scholars such as Klingberg, has been added a new dimension in this newly born genre.

This genre does not have a long history in Iran, as regards children's stories are influenced on their mind and their thinking growing, it is really in need of making more effort.

On the one hand, as a means of educating children and shaping their attitude towards the world and life, children's literature can be considered as the most important literary genre; children who are the architects of future social constructs and developments

in all aspects, know the outside world, first of all, through the books which are read to them or those they read by themselves.

On the other hands children's literature is an integral part of society's cultural life which influences children's outlook, beliefs and their conduct. Result of this research are applicable for who are activated in this filed and for parents, students of translation and English teachers.

Having in mind the purpose of this study the following research questions are proposed:

Q1: Does anti-localizing theory make a positive effect on the quality of translation of Shahnameh for children from Persian into English?

Q2: What are the problems of utilizing anti-localizing in translation of children's literature?