ISSN:3030-332X
Impact factor: 9,493
International journal of scientific researchers

METHODS OF REPRODUCING NATIONAL AND CULTURAL MEANINGS OF HISTORICISMS AND ARCHAISMS IN LITERARY TRANSLATION

Turobidinova Mohigul Akromjon qizi
USWLU, Faculty of Translation Studies
Teacher at the Department of Practical
Translation of the English Language
E-mail: mohigulturobidinova@gmail.com

Abstract

The translation of literary texts requires not only linguistic competence but also deep cultural awareness. Historicisms and archaisms carry important national and cultural meanings that reflect the historical background and identity of a society. Translators face difficulties in preserving these meanings while ensuring readability for modern readers. This article analyzes the methods used to reproduce national and cultural meanings of historicisms and archaisms in literary translation. Using descriptive and comparative methods, the study discusses translation strategies such as transliteration, descriptive translation, adaptation, and annotation. The findings indicate that successful literary translation depends on balancing semantic accuracy with cultural equivalence. The research contributes to translation studies by highlighting practical approaches for preserving cultural identity in translated literary works.

Keywords: literary translation, historicism, archaism, cultural equivalence, translation strategy, national identity.

Introduction.

Literary translation serves as a bridge between cultures and civilizations. It enables readers to understand foreign traditions, customs, and historical realities through artistic language. Among the most challenging elements in literary translation are historicisms and archaisms. These lexical units often represent obsolete objects, institutions, social titles, or linguistic forms that belong to a specific historical period.

The translation of such words becomes more difficult when they contain national-cultural information unique to one language community. Preserving these meanings while maintaining artistic style remains a significant task for translators.

The purpose of this research is to investigate effective methods for reproducing national-cultural meanings of historicisms and archaisms in literary translation.

Methodology. The study applies qualitative research methods, including comparative linguistic analysis and descriptive analysis of literary translation techniques. Scientific publications, translation theory, and examples from literary works were examined to identify the most common strategies used by translators. The research also applies cultural and semantic analysis to evaluate the effectiveness of different translation methods.

Results and Discussion. Historicisms refer to words describing objects or concepts that no longer exist in modern society, while archaisms are outdated lexical items replaced by newer expressions but still used for stylistic purposes.

Both categories present difficulties because their meanings are closely connected with the culture and history of the source language.

One common strategy is transliteration, which preserves the original form of culturally significant words. For example, terms referring to traditional clothing or official titles may remain unchanged while explanatory notes provide additional information.

Another effective approach is descriptive translation. Instead of translating a historic term literally, the translator explains its function or meaning within the sentence. This method improves comprehension without losing cultural content.

Cultural adaptation may also be used when an equivalent concept exists in the target culture. Although this increases readability, excessive adaptation may reduce historical authenticity.

Annotation and footnotes are particularly useful in academic or classical literary translations. They allow readers to understand unfamiliar historical realities while preserving the original lexical form. Translation scholars emphasize that no single strategy is universally applicable. Instead, translators should combine methods depending on the context, genre, and intended readership.

National-cultural meanings often include traditions, social hierarchy, historical institutions, and religious concepts. Their successful translation requires knowledge beyond grammar and vocabulary. The translator must act as both linguist and cultural mediator.

Modern translation theory stresses the importance of dynamic equivalence and communicative effectiveness. However, preserving historical atmosphere remains essential in literary texts where stylistic effect contributes significantly to artistic value.

Consequently, translators often balance faithfulness to the original text with accessibility for contemporary readers.

Conclusion. The translation of historicisms and archaisms is one of the most complex areas of literary translation because these lexical units carry unique national and cultural meanings. Various translation methods, including transliteration, descriptive translation, adaptation, and annotation, help preserve historical authenticity while ensuring reader comprehension.

The study demonstrates that combining several translation strategies produces the most effective results. Cultural competence and historical knowledge remain essential qualifications for literary translators seeking to preserve the artistic and cultural richness of original texts. Future research may investigate the translation of historicisms in Uzbek and English literary masterpieces using corpus-based analysis.

References

1. Baker, M. (2018). In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation. Routledge.
2. Bassnett, S. (2014). Translation Studies. Routledge.
3. Catford, J. C. (1965). A Linguistic Theory of Translation. Oxford University Press.
4. House, J. (2015). Translation Quality Assessment. Routledge.
5. Jakobson, R. (1959). "On Linguistic Aspects of Translation."
6. Newmark, P. (1988). A Textbook of Translation. Prentice Hall.
7. Nida, E. A. (1964). Toward a Science of Translating. Brill.
8. Venuti, L. (2018). The Translator's Invisibility. Routledge.
9. Munday, J. (2016). Introducing Translation Studies. Routledge.
10. Shuttleworth, M., & Cowie, M. (2014). Dictionary of Translation Studies. Routledge.
11. Hatim, B., & Mason, I. (1997). The Translator as Communicator. Routledge.
12. Toury, G. (2012). Descriptive Translation Studies and Beyond. John Benjamins.