

LITERARY TRANSLATION AS A MEANS OF INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN MODERN EUROPE

In the early second half of the 20th century, the study of translation emerged as an independent discipline. Initially, philologists expressed doubts about the possibility of conveying the national specificity of the original in translation – its artistic features and historical, cultural, domestic, and literary associations. The known linguistic uniqueness of each language's grammatical structure and vocabulary led to the belief that complete equivalence between the original and the translated texts was impossible. The practical work carried out over centuries seemed theoretically unfeasible [3, c. 11].

Intercultural communication is a social phenomenon whose essence lies in constructive or destructive interaction between representatives of different cultures (national and ethnic) and subcultures within a clearly defined spatiotemporal continuum. “At the center of intercultural interactions is the individual as a bearer of universal human values and cultural specificities. This individual acts and interacts with others based on these universal and specific traits in various communication contexts” [2, c. 45].

Intercultural communication begins with merely acknowledging cultural differences between representatives of different cultures – one of the leading causes of misunderstanding — and efforts to overcome them. The main subject of communication is the individual, who interacts with others to sustain their life activity. People spend about 70% of their time on communication. The system of human relations is mediated by culture, which determines the nature and effectiveness of communication. As noted, “Intercultural communication is possible when communicants understand each other, and translation in this process serves as a common code to achieve mutual understanding” [6, c. 88].

A vivid example of intercultural communication is translating a literary work into a foreign language, where the source text belongs to one literary language and the target text (translation) belongs to another. Thus, through translation, the work becomes a part of national literature and a masterpiece of world literature. This involves interlingual interaction and full-scale intercultural communication [4, c. 23].

Speaking of the peculiarities of intercultural communication in literary texts, it is appropriate to say that we are dealing with a complex set of communication problems in general and issues of transitioning not only from one linguistic code to another but also from one national-cultural code to another, which is more profound and complex.

The translation of literary works is a complex and creative process. Since the form and content of a literary work are inextricably linked, the primary task of literary translation is to preserve this unity. The translator must not only correctly convey the author's ideas but also reflect the artistic embodiment of those ideas, transferring the imagery of the original with equal intensity. Hence, the translator's close attention to the semantics and stylistics of the work. All significant components of the original, in their interconnections and artistic integrity, must be reproduced in the translation [3, c. 45].

Significant challenges in literary translation arise from the interpreter's effort to fully convey not only the conceptual content of the original but also its connotative nuances and versification structure. This also requires consideration of “phonetic, lexical, phraseological, syntactic correspondences and equilinearity” (i.e., the preservation of meter, rhythm, and the same number of verses and stanzaic structure in the translation) [3, c. 52]. The translator must be thoroughly familiar with and proficient in native and target languages and cultures, be congenial to the original author, and create both rational and emotional with full spiritual commitment [6, c. 95].

Literary translation is a vital means of intercultural communication and is extremely important for maintaining direct links between communicants from

different linguistic and cultural backgrounds [5, с. 30].

Linguocultural realities are difficult to reproduce, but the development of sociocultural competence helps one navigate different cultural types and align forms of communication with communicative norms. Translation is an essential tool of intercultural communication and aids communicants of different nationalities, cultures, and peoples of Europe, even if they belong to different linguistic and cultural regions. This study has shown the significance of intercultural communication, considering interlingual differences achieved through adequate translation.

The translator also plays an invaluable role in the daily maintenance of various global contacts, including at the level of state leaders. They must be familiar with the key cultural features of the target language country – that is, possess specific background knowledge. The main task of the translator in intercultural communication is to establish a cultural link between speakers and overcome the language barrier while conveying the meaning of the translation as accurately as possible.

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