English Translation of Rekhtyia Rekhtyia Di: A Study on Category Shifts

Maaz Ahmad Khan
Lecturer in English, University of Buner, KP.
maazahmadkhan515@gmail.com

Dr. Tariq Khan
Assistant Professor, Department of English
University of Malakand, Pakistan
tariqkhan1975@gmail.com

Kamran Zeb
Lecturer in English, University of Buner, KP.
kamranzeb1995@gmail.com

Abstract
This study aims at exploring category shifts in English translation Facts are Facts of the Pashto text Rekhtyia Rekhtyia Di by Khan Abdul Wali Khan. It investigates the nature of category shifts, giving an overview of prior theories of translation. It adopts qualitative method, using closing reading technique as a tool for collection as well as interpretation of data under the theoretical framework of Catford’s theory of translation shifts. It analyzes category shifts in English translation Facts are Facts, by studying source text and target text in parallel. It finds out answer to the question: What are category shifts in English translation Facts are Facts of the Pashto text Rekhtyia Rekhtyia Di? Moreover, it gives an avenue to future researchers to apply category shifts to other forms of translated literature.

Keywords: Category shifts, qualitative method, close reading technique, source and target text

I. Introduction
Translation is a creative-cum-mechanical act involving three processes: cognitive, communicative and linguistic process. It is a cognitive process in that it touches upon what is going on in the mind of translator. This means that thought processes of translator are given attention in the process of translation. Translation is a communicative process meaning that there is cross-cultural communication when a person translates a stretch of language, showing cultural conventions, perception of the world, habits, social institutions, etc. Translation is essentially a linguistic process in which a translator pays particular attention to language of the text, including form, functions, effects, etc. Translation plays a significant part in the fields of knowledge. It helps disseminate human intellectual pursuits. Subsequently, it brings about cultural innovation and development. However, translation is subject to shifts, or departure from equivalence or correspondence or both: one of the ends of a translator is to create equivalence between source text (ST) and target text (TT). One of the challenges posed to translation is that it loses effect of the original text, especially in the case of poetry. This is because of shifts. According to Catford (1965), shift is a deviation from formal balance in the process of moving from source text to target text. It is of two types: shift of level and shift of category. Aesthetic pleasure created by prosodic and metrical features is not sometimes relayed to the target culture. On the contrary, prose translation is not comparatively as difficult as poetry; because prose and poetry do not
follow the same way of expression. There are not as many shifts in prose as in poetry. It is needless to say that shifts occurring in prose can also occur in poetry. *Rekhtyia Rekhtyia Di (Facts are Facts)* is one of scholarly books written by Khan Abdul Wali Khan. His other books are *Rekhtya Muqadas Di (Facts are Sacred)* and *Saritoob (Manliness)*. In *Rekhtyia Rekhtyia Di (Facts are Facts)*, Wali Khan tries to rationalize the bent of Abdul Ghaffar Khan popularly known as Bacha Khan and All Indian Congress towards the need of Pakistan by the Muslim League. There are 22 chapters in the book describing machinations and manipulations of the British; also talking about the struggle for power by the Muslim League and the Congress. The writer tries to substantiate his point of view by giving letters and official correspondence between British secretary for India and the viceroy of India, governors of the British Indian provinces and so on. Moreover, many of the supporting proofs are taken from India Office Library London. This book also muckrakes the true colors of religious personalities and feudal lords who worked for the British at the expense of the common people who were struggling for the freedom of the soil. The Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs of Afghanistan in 1987 went through the book for the first time. It was rendered into Urdu in Pakistan in 1988. It was translated into English by Dr. Syeda Saidain Hameed in 1990. This study enables a person to have an understanding of Pashtun culture and psychology. It will contribute to the rounded understanding of the book, especially the linguistic aspect of the book involved.

II. Review of Related Literature

According to Munday (2001), the term translation is used in several senses. First, it refers to a product, signifying a written language translated. It is a finished end product passed through a process. Second, it also refers to a process involving source language and target language. Source language is the one from which something is translated, whereas target language is the one to which something is translated. As a process, translation is categorized into interlingual, intralingual and intersemiotic translation. Third, translation also refers to academic discipline covering history, theories and strategies of translation. Translation is a linguistic, cognitive, cultural and communicative process involving rendition of written language. Newmark (1981), has drawn a dichotomy between semantic and communicative translation using certain parameters. Semantic translation emphasizes thought processes of the translator. Communicative translation emphasizes intention of the translator and culture rather than thought processes as it is more subjective in nature. Venuti (1995) introduced foreignization and domestication as strategies of translation, providing linguistic and cultural guidance. Foreignization refers to influence of cultural deviation on those cultural norms to exhibit linguistic and cultural variations of the foreign text, sending the audience abroad. Venuti (ibid) favors foreignization as a strategy. It is a form of opposition against cultural deviation, racial discrimination, cultural superiority, and subjugation for the benefits of liberal state relations. Domestication refers to a culture-centred reduction of the foreign text to target-language cultural standards, fetching the author back home. According to Nida (1964), there are principles of correspondence in translation, which lie under the process of translation. Languages differ in terms of form and substance.
Total balance of form and substance or precise rendition is not possible. Variations in renditions are normally due to three essential forces in the process of translation: nature of message, writer’s purpose and kind of audience. To Munday (2001), discourse analysis model attributed to Halliday draws on systemic functional grammar, considering language as a form of interaction or communication. It holds that meaning exists in the linguistic choices of a writer and methodically relates these selections to a broad sociocultural fabric. This notion draws on Bühler’s division of language functions. To Munday (ibid), polysystem theory is a theory of translation propounded by a Jewish scholar named Itamar Even-Zohar in the 1970s. A literary work is views in context rather than in isolation, being a part of a system. Polysystem is a heterogeneous and hierarchical system of systems which brings about a continuous changing process of development within the polysystem in aggregate. According to Munday (ibid), Vinay and Darbelnet drew a comparative review of English and French, exploring differences and making distinction between direct and oblique translation. As far as the differences are concerned, they did not describe the differences as shifts, but, of course, they were the first to study translation shifts. According to Ahmad (2020), language is a significant part of human culture. Human culture and language are interconnected with each other. They both have influence over each other in the process of evolution. According to Kantiastuti (2014), meaning transfer is a crucial aspect of translation; it is of different types: complete meaning, increased meaning, decreased meaning, and nonequivalent meaning. According to Jacobson (1959), languages vary basically in what they ought to communicate and not in what they may communicate. These differences are made in terms of gender, aspect and semantic field. Jacobson (ibid) argues that there is not any common total equivalence between language-units. To Fang (2011), the connection between ideology and translation is manifold; translation is a phenomenon rooted in history and society, in which different conflicting ideologies confront each other. According to Haque (2012), translation of prose is essentially the translation of fictional prose or non-fiction prose, including novels, short stories, folk tale, comedy, works of criticism, hagiography and the like.

III. Methodology

This study adopts qualitative method. According to Jamshed (2014), research methodology is a set of techniques acting like a design of architecture by means of which a researcher forms a mental bent to identify a problem and come up with a solution to the problem. It is a detailed procedure representing selection of a person conducting the study, relying on the characteristics and kind of the problem of one’s study. To Creswell (2009), qualitative methodology of research is a blanket term referring to a set of study design based certain theoretical dimensions. Close reading is used as a technique for the collection of data pertaining to the topic; it is an objective way of analysis emphasizing on moves used in developing a depth of understanding related to a text. In other words, it is a device used to understand a demanding text, encompassing the reader forming a in-depth comprehension of literary piece, rather than a prompt and superficial view of the main idea of a stretch of language. The procedure of close reading starts with the comprehension of words and expressions and their different shades of
meaning. According to Greenham (2019), there are six contexts of closing reading. First of all, the semantic context is about the meaning of words, focusing on what individual words can mean. Second, the syntactic context is about the arrangement and distribution of words and how words mean when they are arranged and put together. Third, the thematic context is about how different themes appear and influence meaning as we read a text. Fourth, the iterative context is about the ways that iteration and structuring influence the meaning of text. Fifth, the generic context is about the type of work, which we are reading, influence the approach to its meanings. Sixth, the adversarial context is about how the theoretical, political and historical concerns reshape meanings of a text. Facts are Facts: An Untold Story of India’s Partition, a book by Khan Abdul Wali Khan, is selected as object of the study. It is a prose work originally written in Pashtu, translated into several languages, including English. Pashtu and English versions of the book are investigated in the light of translation shifts attributed to Catford. Shift refers to deviations from structural correspondence when a person translates a literary piece. Formal correspondence as opposed to dynamic correspondence is an orientation of translation. Form and substance of the message are given equal preference. Shifts are categorized into the following kinds: level shifts and category shifts.

IV. Analysis and Interpretation

Category shift is a kind of shift marked by deviation from structural correspondence in terms of grammatical category rather than level of language. It covers the following: unit shift, class shift, structure shift and intra-system shift.

Interpretation of Unit Shift (rank shift)

Unit shift refers to a shift in which a unit of language such as morpheme, lexeme, phrase or sentence, rendered with a separate unit. For instance, a word is rendered with a phrase: a phrase is translated with a word. The following shifts of unit have been explored and analyzed:

Example 1:

ST: دې مليانو دهمني پاره يه اسلام كېي جوړ پېښ کولې شو
PT: de mol٪njo do haxe ٪sre ٪s ٪islam ki ٪gyw٪:z pe٪ ٪k٪waly fů
TT: They rationalized their policies based on a contorted interpretation of Islam.

Example 2:

ST: پيرته څان د نړې چې خو دو یو خدمت د اسلام کې د چې د دغه مليانو نومونه د سره د هغوي
PT: pr٪nggi do ٪ga چو دو چېدما دو اسلام کې د چې د دغه مليانو نومونه د سره د هغوي
TT: The British did Islam a good turn by recording the names and addresses of these Mullahs.

"خدمت" (چډما) is a word acting as a noun in Pashto. It is translated as a good turn, which is a phrase in English, consisting of a head (turn), dependents (article and adjective).
BT: The British served Islam by giving the Mullahs’ names along with full addresses.

Example 3:

ST: دا پیرانګی کوشش دا چې همه کورونوکیني خان له ملګری پیدا کری کومی چی د پیرانګی یې خلاف جنگیده.

PT: دا پیرانګی کوشش دا څه هیا کښنی کی غم اړیکه ملګری پیدا کری کوم چې دا پیرانګی پا څه کړا چې د پیرانګی یې خلاف جنگیده.

TT: The British strategy was to befriend those families whose friends were involved in the freedom struggle.

Example 4:

ST: په پیرانګی د طالبې کښې چې کومې کړي پیدا ملګری له ځان کورونوکښه هغه چې ئدا کوشش پیرانګی دا. جنګيدې خلاف

PT: پیرانګی دا هره څه داسې یې طریقه کول چې د پیرانګی مخالفینه یې هیغه رنګی هم خبر یې شی.

TT: The British tried to make friends with those families involved fighting the British.

Example 5:

ST: او خانانو اعضاي او خانانو علاقه دی یمليان ویړه ویړه داسې ویړه پیرانګان کښي لندن په

PT: پیرانګی دا هره څه یې داسې په ملاګری په پیرانګی مخالفینه له وړای چې د پیرانګی مخالفینه یې هیغه رنګی هم خبر یې شی.

TT: Cunningham made three groups among the Maulanas.

Example 1:

ST: په سیبی جناح د حکومت قامی د جۍ ګاندهۍ د چۍ ویریدل پیرنګيان کښي لندن په

PT: کښې پیرانګان دو ملیانو کېدل تکالی وې دا وړه وړه ملیان دا ولې: چې چې په هره وړه کېدل وې.

TT: Cunningham made three groups among the Maulanas.

Interpretation of Class Shift

Class shift is a form of category shift, referring to the deviation of grammatical class, such as noun, verb, adjective, adverb, etc. The following shifts of class have been explored and analyzed:

Example 1:

ST: په لندن ګنجه پیرنګیاب ویریدل چې د ګنجه چې د قامی حکومت د جناح ضیغب یې
PT: The British were concerned that having refused Ghandhiji’s offer Jinnah was becoming very unpopular.

TT: “دے کړې بدنام کافي سیب” (PT: pɑː lɒnɗɘn kɪ pɪrɘŋjɘn wɘjɘrɛdɘl ʧɪ ɖɘ ɡɑːnɖɪ ʤɪ ɖɘ qɑːmɑɪ hɘkʊmɘt ɖɘ ʤɪnɘ sɑːb pɑː mɘʃɘrɑɪ kɪ kɑːfɪ bɘdnɑːm kɑːræ ɖɛ) is a verb in Pashto. It is translated as ‘concerned’, which is an adjective in English. It functions as adjective in TT. Verb is shift ed to adjective in the process of translation.

Example 2:

ST: دا سردار جنگد دا د خیل لاس لیکن تاری می ی وی pat لړی یولی ، نو جیناه شی

PT: دو seːr dɛɾːd kʌnɪŋ ɡɑːp ɡ userRepository dɛ rʊ jɛ pɜːt ɡɑːn d mɘʃɘrɑɪ kɪ kɑːfɪ bɘdnɑːm kɑːræ ɖɛ TT: George Cunningham’s diaries are a shocking record of men.

Example 3:

ST: مسلمانو د غلامولو د پړه خیل ایمان ، ضمیر او سروتو په سرو سیبتو خرچ کر کړی دی

PT: mʊsɘlmɑːnəʊ d̄ ɣl̄amʊl̄o d̄ pɜːrə h̄eɪm̄ən , pɜːt̄ m̄ɪər əʊ sɜːrəʊ ˈsɪrəʊ ˈsɪbəʊ p̄e s̄ərəʊ ˈsɪbəʊ x̄ɛɾʃ k̄əɾ k̄əɾˈti d̄ TT: For a few pieces of silver, (they) agreed to serve as the custodian of slavery for the Indian people.

Example 4:

ST: هغه او په خاکسار تنظیم سره تعلق لارول.

PT: h̄eɡə d̄ sw̄ːl d̄ ɣəskɑːr tən̄ziː m̄ s̄ørəʊ təlʊq ɪə̰l̄su TT: He was formerly connected with the Khakasar movement.

Example 5:

ST: هغه دی قسمه مليانو سره یې په رابطه کړی

PT: h̄eɡə d̄ q̄eːmə m̄il̄iənəʊ s̄ərəʊ ˈp̄o rə t̄ə t̄ə p̄ət̄ rəb̄ət̄ k̄əɾ k̄əɾ
TT: He was commissioned to work secretly with the tribal Mullahs.

Example 2:

Cunningham wrote that Kuli Khan was being used as the Mullah liaison. He was commissioned to work secretly with the tribal Mullahs.

The sentence in ST consists of three clauses: (1) Cunningham wrote that Kuli Khan was being used as the Mullah liaison, commissioned to work secretly with the tribal Mullahs. (2) He was commissioned to work secretly with the tribal Mullahs. A single sentence in TT in the process of translation.

Example 3:

Cunningham said that Kuli Khan was being used as the Mullah liaison, commissioned to work secretly with the tribal Mullahs. It follows that noun and adjective are shifted to verb and adverb respectively in the process of translation.

Example 1:

The sentence in ST is shifted to two sentences in TT, that is, Cunningham’s next concern was that having spent the money to court the Mullahs, it now be ascertained whether or not they were actively engaged in anti-congress propaganda.

In this case, verb (work) and adverb (secretly) are shifted to noun and adjective respectively in the process of translation.
The British strategy was to befriend those families whose heads were involved in the freedom struggle. The two most important persons fighting the Jihad against the British were Faqir aand Mullah Pawandah; another crucial link was Haji Sahib Turangzai of Mohmand; the British were most interested in ingratiation themselves with these three individuals; and their greatest triumph was to win over the sons of these valiant patriots. Mullahs Pawandah’s son Fazal Din and Haji Turangzai’son Padsha Gul.

The sentence in Pashtu consists of eight clauses, meaning there are eight subjects and predicates in a single sentence. This single sentence is shifted to five sentences in TT in the process of translation.

**Example 1:**

**ST:** دا پیرانگی کښکلا دا چې هغه کورونکي خان له ملګري یبدا کري کومي چې د پیرانگی په خلاف جدگي د ې پیرانگی چې خلاف ېه جهاد کني ې فقیرې ې سره دووه دو هلډن نشي و په چې د مسینډولا په توګه او په مومند کښي جامې د تورمروت، دا د پیرانگی کښکلا زېږه هر خلکه چې په ډلواره مورچې فتح کې او زما په خيال د هغه د تولو نه لهی كامپيي هم دا وې چې د دغه شان غازیونو زامن د خان په خوا او دورو.

**PT:** دا پیرانگی کښکلا دا چې له ملګري یبدا کري کومي چې د پیرانگی چې خلاف ېه جهاد کني ې فقیرې ې مومند کښي جامې د تورمروت، دا د پیرانگی کښکلا زېږه هر خلکه چې په ډلواره مورچې فتح کې او زما په خيال د هغه د تولو نه لهی کامپيي هم دا وې چې د دغه شان غازیونو زامن د خان په خوا او دورو.

**TT:** The British strategy was to befriend those families whose heads were involved in the freedom struggle. The two most important persons fighting the Jihad against the British were Faqir aand Mullah Pawandah; another crucial link was Haji Sahib Turangzai of Mohmand; the British were most interested in ingratiation themselves with these three individuals; and their greatest triumph was to win over the sons of these valiant patriots. Mullahs Pawandah’s son Fazal Din and Haji Turangzai’son Padsha Gul.

**Interpretation of Intra-system Shift**

**Example 1:**

**ST:** چې فاڼې ته ېنګيکې دا

**PT:** ېږي ته هېږي کښکلا

**TT:** This will further inform the people.

“قام” (qa:m) is a noun in Pashto, meaning a group of people having common racial, ethnic, ideological, and historical features in common. It is not preceded by any article in Pashto as in “قام” (qa:m). “قام” (qa:m) is translated as ‘the people’, showing definite article (the) in TT.

**Example 2:**

**ST:** کندېم سره دا شوکرک چې رڼې مومونکو هیڅه هېږي سېمې او غږ خر کړې

**PT:** کندېم سره دا شوکرک چې رڼې مومونکو هیڅه هېږي سېمې او غږ خر کړې

**TT:** Cunningham’s next concern was that having spent the money to court the Mullahs…
“رقم” (raqm) is a noun not preceded by any article in ST. It is translated as the money, which consists of article (the) and noun (money) in TT. There is a deviation in the usage of article system in the process of translation.

**BT:** Cunningham thought that money was spent in all directions.

**Example 3:**

**ST:** 

**PT:** hôte n̮̊̂̂̃̃ j e swaːl ʒwaː b okro

**TT:** He sent a message.

“سوال خواب” (swaːl ʒwaː b) is a phrase used without any article in ST. It is translated as ‘a message’, showing the use of an article in TT. It follows that English language has a system of articles in which every singular countable noun is preceded by indefinite article. For example:

**PT:** hɘɣɘd.filePath(enumerate)

**He is a doctor. (English)**

Doctor is used without any article in Pashto, whereas the word doctor when being used to describe a profession is preceded by indefinite article.

**BT:** He communicated from over there.

**Example 3:**

**ST:** ویردل کښي لندن په پیرنګيان کښي

**PT:** pɪrŋjɘn pə: lɔndən ki wɔjɜːrdbəl ʃi ʤø

**TT:** The British were concerned (in London).

“پیرنګيان” (pirŋjən) is a noun used without any article in ST. It is translated as the British in TT. This shows shift in article system. Similarly, Khaksar, Muslim League and Congress are translated as the Khaksar, the Muslim League, and the Congress respectively in TT.

**V. Conclusion**

This study tried to find out category shifts in Pashto text Rekhtyia Rekhtyia Di. Category shifts refer to a class of translation shifts, signifying deviation from formal correspondence in terms of unit, class, structure and intra-system. This study explored all of the category shifts in the Pashto text. Examples of all forms of category shift are discussed below.

First of all, unit shift is analyzed as follows:

**ST:** 

**PT:** de moljənɔ ðz hɔːɡ pʂʊ pə shəwɔː z pʃɛ kəwələ jʊ

**TT:** They rationalized their policies based on a contorted interpretation of Islam.

“جوئ شو” (dʒəwɔː z pʃɛ kəwələ jʊ) is a phrase in Pashtu, consisting of a group of words, that is, noun, helping and main verb. This phrase is translated in English translation as rationalized, a word in English.

**BT:** These Mullahs could gave justification for their (the British) policies.

Second, class shifts are analyzed as follows:

**ST:** 

**PT:** ðə lɔndən kɪ pɪrŋjən pəɾ水利工程 چی د کاندېج چی د فامې حکومت د جناح صيب په مشرې کني اکارجناج صيب کافي بنډام کړې دې.

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The British were concerned that having refused Ghandhiji’s offer Jinnah was becoming very unpopular.

Third, structure shifts are analyzed as follows:

PT: Cunningham’s next concern was that having spent the money to court the Mullahs, it now be ascertained whether or not they were actively engaged in anti-congress propaganda. It is evident two sentences have been translated with a sentence in TT.

BT: Cunningham thought that the money was distributed among the Mullahs in all directions. Moreover, Rekhtyia Rekhtyia Di can be analyzed through the lens of shifts described by Vinay and Derbelnet and the deforming tendencies described by Antonie Berman. Furthermore, category shifts can also be applied to other genres of Pashto literature, especially poetry.

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