



TRANSLATION STRATEGIES IN TRANSLATING THE ACEHNESE PROVERBS INTO BAHASA INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT

The reserach dealt with Acehnese proverbs with the aims of this study were to (1) toinvestigate kinds of translation strategies in translating the Acehnese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia, (2) to investigateAcehnese proverbs realized in its translationinto Bahasa Indonesia, (3) to describe the translation strategies applied in the ways they are. The research was conducted by using qualitative descriptive design. The data of this study were Acehnese proverbs and there were translated into Bahasaindonesia by Hasjim M.K. at all (1977) taken from the book entitle “*Peribahasa Aceh*”. The results of this study showed that (1) There were three kinds of translation strategies in translating the Acehnese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia namely exact equivalent, near equivalent, and literal meaning, (2) In realization of Acehnese proverbs there were three ways in translating proverbs namely the words following the proverb could be introduced as the meaning of the proverb, it can be replaced with an equivalent local proverb, and its non-figurative meaning could be stated straight forwardly, (3) In translating Acehnese proverbs, the translators need to know all aspects of cultural background of both languages.

Key words: Translation, Strategies, Proverbs

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INTRODUCTION

Translation is an essential process that has a key role in exchanging information, news, culture, literature and sciences among people all over the world. It is a process of changing the source text with all of its aspects semantically, syntactically, culturally, and pragmatically into a different language. Properly, most of people in another language do not master the language well. To overcome the problem in understanding other language, it is needed translation field to bridge between one communicator and others, it means translation needed to transfer the message between two different languages, so that the exchange of messages is meant to run well.

Translation is not an easy task because a translator needs to have a bilingual competence in the original language and the target language as well as knowledge of both cultures to remove the ambiguity in some texts that are needed to be translated. Differences among cultures form an obstacle for translators as they translate texts such as idioms, proverbs, and collocations. According to Newmark (1988), there are many linguistic problems that a translator faces while translating like mistakes in usage resulting from the translator's lack of competence in writing properly, wrong use of dictionaries, using literal translation or the lack of translator's common sense.

Many people need translation to do their activities in all aspects. Therefore, highly qualified translators who have good knowledge about the target language (TL) and the languages have to transform as source language (SL) are required. To produce a good translation, a qualified translator has been able to understand ideas and thought including the message expressed in the SL and representing it in the TL. As a good translator should be able to translate any kinds of translation, one of them is literary translation. Literary translation is translation of literary works such as short stories, novels, poems, proverbs, etc. It has special characteristics as literary works different from non-literary works. According to Hodges (2011), it is a translation which not only need changing words from a language to another but also needs particular manners to express the texts in target language as sense which is contained by source language text.

As one of literary translation, proverbs are crucial components of people's speech because they are fixed expressions that have meanings which cover all aspects of life. According to Litovikina (2014), they could carry themes related to women, professions and occupations, money, love, marriage, divorce, friendship, education and learning, alcohol and drugs, children and parents, taxes, God and religion, telephones, cars and computers.

Barajas (2010) states that the shapes of proverbs are important for grasping the social construction of their meaning because they are not made of one word and they have specific forms that distinguish them from any segment of the language. Therefore, translators should be aware of shapes of proverbs when translating proverbs into their closest equivalence in the target language TL

because there are proverbs which contain some cultural aspects in the source language SL that can't be found in the target culture.

Proverbs often referred to as “wise words” or “old sayings”. They are called wise words simply because they carry wisdom and are usually used by wise members of the society in their formal speech. They are called old sayings since they are often heard from the mouths of the elders and because they have usually existed for as long as the people of a society can remember. Unlike books, paintings, poems and many other intellectual and artistic creations, proverbs do not carry any intellectual or artistic property rights. It is difficult to prove who initially created them or when a particular proverb was created. It can be said that proverbs belong to the people who own the language and its culture.

Proverbs are found in every language as a different way of saying something with certain implicit meanings. People use proverbs to express ideas, opinions and emotions that they have toward their culture, their society and their surroundings. In most traditional societies, proverbs are one of the elements that shape the culture and history that have mostly been transferred orally from generation to generation (Omolewa, 2007: 294).

As one of literary translation, Acehnese proverbs was translated into Bahasa Indonesia in order to make the proverbs can be understood and used not only in the Acehnese people who can speak Acehnese language, but also by other communities who cannot speak Acehnese language. The book of Acehnese proverbs written down in Acehnese language and translated into Indonesian by Hasjim M.K. at al (1977) is entitled *Peribahasa Aceh*. It is not easy to translate Acehnese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia, thus, to bridge two languages; the translators should have particular qualities to get good product.

The Acehnese proverbs consist of norms or values in lives to maintain by members as the source of national and regional culture. It is the rule to guide and control its members about what is considered proper or improper which is contain of wisdom, knowledge and truth. Therefore one of the way to maintain and develop Acehnese proverbs are by translating into another languages in order to make it understood by other communities who cannot speak Acehnese language.

Properly, it is not easy to translate Acehnese proverbs into target language. Because translation which not only need changing words from a language to another but also needs particular manners to express the texts in target language as sense which is contained by source language text in order to understood other people who can not speak Acehnese. Because, one of the main problems in the process of translating Acehnese proverbs that include the idiomatic elements related to the culture and individuals' values in the society which is idiomatic expressions are included in this group. Therefore a translator needs strategies in translating Acehnese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia.

According to Newmark (1988: 28) stated that in translating idiomatic into idiomatic language, it is particularly difficult to match equivalence of meaning with equivalence of frequency. He stated that the main problems, a translator faces, are not grammatical but lexical, i.e. words, collocations, and fixed phrases or idioms. In addition, Baker (1992: 65) stated that the main problems that idiomatic and fixed expressions pose in translation relate to two main areas: the ability to recognize and interpret an idiom correctly and the difficulties in rendering various aspects of meaning that an idiom or a fixed expression conveys into the target language.

Therefore, the translators must be familiar with the strategies of translation in general and translating proverbs in particular. According to Lorsch (1996) translation strategy is “a conceivably intentional procedure to solve a problem which a translator faces when translating a text component from one language into another”. It is clear from this definition that every translator should have a prior knowledge of translation strategies theoretically and practically to translate properly. Translating proverbs requires knowledge in both languages, their cultures and knowledge in strategies that are suitable for rendering the intended meaning as well. Strategies are necessary because they usually enable translators to overcome difficulties that they might encounter in the process of translation.

Besides, According to Beekman and Callow (1974: 139) there are three ways to translate the proverbs as follows (1) the words following the proverb could be introduced as the meaning of the proverb, (2) it can be replaced with an equivalent local proverb; and (3) its nonfigurative meaning could be stated straight forward.

Based on prior observation, the researcher found some preliminary data which is the translator translated Acehnese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia as the following

SL: lagèlimpeuen lam sapaibajèe

TL: musuh yang tidakdiketahui yang selaludekatdengankita, padasuatu masadapatdenganmudahmembinasakankita. (unknown enemy that always near with us, one day she or he will kill us).

This proverb means “*a snake in the grass*”, according to Beekman (1974), one of the way in translating proverb it can be replaced with an equivalent local proverb. It can be seen in TL, the translator translate into “*musuh yang tidakdiketahui yang selaludekatdengankita, padasuatumasadapatdenganmudahmembinasakankita*”, the message conveyed inappropriate in the target language and many errors in the selection or use of the term. The researcher assumes that it is appropriate if the translator translated into “*musuhdalamselimut*”.

In addition, Another one can be seen in the following that taken from the book “*Pribahasa Aceh*” written by Hasjim M.K. et al (1977).

SL: Sibakgeutak, siplóhbakreuhah

TL: Mengerjakansesuatupekerjaan, beberapahalsekaligusterselesaikan.

(doing one thing, but already finishing two or three thing)

The translation above is translated by introduce the meaning of proverbs without replaced with an equivalent local proverb. The researcher assumes that it is appropriate if the translator translated into “*Sekalimendayungduatiga pula tercapai*” or “*one short two birds*”

Being a good translators, they have to know strategies in translating proverbs well in order to make the sense to the reader or listener, as Larson (1984:116) stated that translator needs to develop a sensitivity to the use of proverbs in the receptor language and use them naturally to make the translation lively and keep the style of the source language. When the SL and the TL are widely different in structure and cultural background, there cannot be an exactly transferred from the SL into the TL. To overcome the differences in characteristics of these languages, the translator is required to understand the structure and culture of both languages. It can be said that translation is a complicated process encompassing both linguistic and non-linguistic problems.

Therefore, in translating proverb, a good translator should understand not only the language but also the culture of both, the SL and the TL. Because the translator plays an important role to deliver message well based on the consideration about the appropriate lexical without changing the meaning, and knowing well about both of culture.

Based on the description above, then it is considered to analyze translation strategies in translating the Acehnese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia based on the book “*Peribahasa Aceh*” written by Hasjim M.K. et al. There are some strategies in translating SL to TL, but the researcher only focus on translation strategies proposed by Gorjian (1996), and realization of proverbs in its translation by Beekman and Callow (1974).

RESEARCH METHOD

The study conducted by applying qualitative research, according to Bogdan and Biklen (1992) stated that qualitative research is descriptive which means what is going on and what data shows. Qualitative means to find out how a theory works in different phenomena and data collected are in the form of word rather than numbers. Moreover, Baverley (2009:6) stated that qualitative studies behavior in natural setting or uses people’s accounts as data; usually no manipulation of the variables.

The research method in this study used descriptive research, according to Ary (1979:295) descriptive research studies are designed to obtain information concerning the current status of phenomena. They are directed toward determining the nature of a situation as it exists at the time of the study. It means that descriptive qualitative is designed or the natural setting as the direct source of data. In line with this study, it described the translation strategies in translating Acehese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Based on the result of the data analysis, the findings of this study formulated as the following.

- (1) In translating Acehese proverbs, there were three kinds of translation strategies applied by translator based on Gorjian's theory, namely exact equivalent, near equivalent, and literal meaning. Besides, based on three kinds of translation strategies found in this study by refer to Gorjian' theory, there were some translations of proverbs that can not be translated by applying those strategies. In keeping sense of language and the acceptable meaning, the other strategies should be applied in translating the Acehese proverbs, namely description translation which is the translators describe and explain the terms in SL when there is no appropriate words can be found in the TL. In overall, there were four kinds of translation strategies in translating the Acehese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia, namely exact equivalent, near equivalent, literal meaning, and description translation.
- (2) In realization of Acehese proverbs there are three ways that can be applied in translating Acehese proverbs based on Beekman and Callow's theory, namely the words following the proverb could be introduced as the meaning of the proverb; it can be replaced with an equivalent local proverb; and its non-figurative meaning could be stated straight forwardly.
- (3) In translating proverbs, especially Acehese proverbs, the translators should know SL/TL culture and its relations to their religion, customs, ceremonies, languages, geographical places, climate and all aspects of cultural background and literature heritage of both languages in translation.

Dealing with the research findings above, hence it is vitality important to match it with the theories to highlight whether these findings are constrastive or in line. The discussion to the kinds of translation strategies in translating proverbs are forwarded. The resercher investigates the findings of the kinds of translation strategies in translating the Acehese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia and the theories. Furthermore, the investigation of whether the findings are in constrastive to the relevant studies, there was a gap between fact and theory. There are many researchers on translationstrategies in translating proverbs, the

numerous studies have described and raised many issues on the different strategies in their ways in translating proverbs.

Dweik and Talji (2016) conducted the study about strategies for translating proverbs from English into Arabic which is to explore strategies used by Jordanian novice translators when rendering proverbs from English into Arabic. The study revealed that the translation strategies manipulated when rendering proverbs from English into Arabic were cultural equivalent; literal; paraphrasing, and glossing.

Putranti (2015) investigated about synonym translation to overcome problems of SL and TL cultural differences. This concept implies translators' efforts to maintain message equivalence. A common problem found in translation is loss and gain of meaning. To overcome translation problems related to loss and gain of meaning as a result of cultural differences, various translation strategies could be applied. Synonymy is one of many translation strategies commonly used. This strategy is applied when a translator is not the first literal translation of the SL text. This strategy is usually chosen when translators could not find the one-to-one substitute in the TL.

In addition, Aliakbar (2012) in his research described about translation of idioms and proverbs, despite the extensive research on translation and challenges on translation of figurative language, in particular idioms and proverbs. The findings reveal that translation by paraphrasing and replacing proverb with an equivalent local proverb were applied in translation of idioms and proverbs respectively. It also shows that the translator translated the idioms and proverbs in an idiomatic and natural way.

The various application of translation strategies, it is just goes to one goal, namely the accuracy to find a good translation product. The accuracy of translation process needs to avoid a worst translation product distortion. Even though the loss of meaning from source language in translation text, for instance it occurs paraphrasing by addition, deletion, and hide meaning from source language into target language. Besides, to produce a good translation, namely by creating the dynamic equivalence meaning, it will create a similar meaning (Nida, 1982:73) and it is also stressed by Catford (1965:21) explains that the central problem of

translation practice is that of finding the target language translation equivalence (ST and TL) then produce and create a right translation, acceptable and equivalent based on principles of translation.

In this research findings, it is showed that the applying strategies included exact equivalent (strong version), near equivalent (moderate version), and literal meaning (weak version). The analysis determined that the frequently used in translating the Acehese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia is exact equivalent (strong version) because based on observation the meaning in TL is familiar for members in society. So, the reader easier to catch the message that delivered by translator. Besides, in exact equivalent that the translator shared the appropriate lexical, semantics and conceptual properties existed in both SL and TL. Therefore applying this strategy was the frequently used among the three strategies proposed by Gortjan. (see table 4.1).

In this study, the researcher has reported significant differences in translating the Acehese proverbs, which is the researcher found the three strategies above do not enough in translating the Acehese proverbs, the researcher found the new one invention was description translation. It is used when the translator feel difficult in finding the synonym of the SL, which the SL does not know the appropriate lexical or term in TL, therefore, the translator forced to make the description that contains the meaning of the word in a statement. On the other hand, it is applied to describe and explain the terms in SL into the TL For instance:

SL: Aceh Seuramoe Makah, Aceh Darussalam, Aceh Tanah reuncöng

TL: Daerah Aceh terkenal dengan beberapa nama, misalnya Aceh Serambi Mekah. Nama ini menunjukkan bahwa, penduduknya taat kepada agamanya. Aceh Darussalam, bahwa Aceh itu terkenal daerah yang aman dan damai. Aceh Tanah Rencong menunjukkan bahwa suku Aceh terkenal keberaniannya dan senjata rakyat umum adalah rencong

Based on datum above, it is show that the translator add some information to introduce Acehese culture by giving description in a statement form. Besides, it is applying because the translator do not find any appropriate words or terms of SL. Therefore description translation should be applied in translating the Acehese proverbs into Bahasa Indonesia in order to describe and explain the terms in SL. This strategy replace a term or expression with

a description of its form or/and function in the ST message to make it clear in the TL. Thus, the translator forced to make the description that contains the meaning of the word in a statement.

CONCLUSIONS

After analyzed data based on the previous chapter, the study made it possible to arrive at the following conclusions.

- (4) There are four kinds of translation strategies in translating Acehnese proverbs, exact equivalent, near equivalent, literal meaning, and description translation.
- (5) In realization of Acehnese proverbs there are three ways that can be applied in this study, they are the words following the proverb could be introduced as the meaning of the proverb; it can be replaced with an equivalent local proverb; and its non-figurative meaning could be stated straight forwardly.
- (6) In translating proverbs, especially Acehnese proverbs, the translators should know SL/TL culture and its relations to their religion, customs, ceremonies, languages, geographical places, climate and all aspects of cultural background and literature heritage of both languages.

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