

Editorial

Who translates what, why, and for whom? These questions may appear trivial; however, they embody the purpose and inevitability of translation throughout human history. The answers to these questions would also reflect upon the way language and meaning-making, and thereby knowledge systems have evolved among humans. It is easy to perceive and agree that humans have accumulated knowledge across various environments and eras. The role of translation in these environments and eras merits serious contemplation. It is also easy to perceive and agree that finding translation equivalents poses a genuine challenge even between languages that have a common ancestry and have existed in identical cultural settings. Such socio-cultural and historical factors necessitate plurality of ideas in the theory of translation and diversity in its practice.

Translation has been transdisciplinary as if by the norm and as if from the beginning itself. However, the inventory of possible avenues for engaging with translation has never been exhaustible. While some scholars venture into less explored topics, others bring out new perspectives on common issues. Such attempts are also evident in the present issue of *Translation Today*, and the editorial team is glad to introduce them to the readers. The first issue of volume thirteen consists of six research papers, two book reviews and two annotated bibliographies focusing on books of Translation Studies published in 2018 and 2019. Let us have a glance.

Min Gao in her paper titled *An Overview: Children's Literature, Its Development and Translation in China* discusses the translation and development of children's literature in China. She observes that the overall attention towards creating and translating the children's literature is very scant compared to the literature in general across the globe.

She has identified the problems and has provided suggestions for altering the scenario positively.

Saswati Saha has seen the translation in the nationalistic framework of 19th-century Bengal combining the traditional and modern approaches to translation versus *anuvad* in historical context. Her paper *Indian Anuvād or English Translation? Combining Tradition and Modernity in the Nationalistic Translations of Nineteenth-Century Bengal* discusses the third space as an outcome of the assimilation of two cultures; Bengali and English. As a result, the modern identity of the Indian self has been created to eliminate the East-West barriers. This third space is the synthesis of these two traditions and the higher form nationalism.

Rindon Kundu's paper *Colonial Politics of Finding Equivalence: Interpreting 'Translation' and anuvad through Nineteenth-Century English to Sanskrit/Bengali Dictionaries* contests the difference between *anuvad* and *translation*. Discussing the etymological and historical reception of both the concepts he describes how the two terms are considered to be the equivalent of each other in recent times when the history of both the practices was different and productively opposed to each other.

Sunil Sagar has described the different aspects of translation of Shakespeare's play into Gujarati since the last 150 years. His paper *Shakespeare in Gujarati: A Translation History* has discussed it in the light of shifting paradigms in the approaches to translation with time. In so doing, he has also described the different methodologies applied in writing the history of translation. He has done a comparative study of different translations of the plays and has shown the strength and shortcomings of those translations too.

Irfan Ahmad Dar has observed some implausible issues in a translation done by by the author him/herself which is called

self-translation. His paper titled *The Self and the Other: Some Reflections on Self-Translation* has analysed that self-translation has failed to do justice to the source text. He reports that divergence from the original is likely to occur when an author himself/herself translates the text.

Priyada Sridhar Padhye's paper *Pañchopākhyāna: Fossilized Marathi Culture and the Translation Lens* considers the phenomenon called 'fossilized culture' to discuss the culture and development of Marathi language situating Pañchopākhyāna, the translation of Pañchatantra into Marathi as a case study with special reference to contemporary translation theories.

The book review section in this issue has three entries. In the first, Ramesh M. Ingale reviews *Working with Different Text Types in English and Arabic: Translation in Practice*, edited by Bahaa-eddin Hassan. In the second, Meenu Sabu reviews *Moving Texts, Migrating People and Minority Languages* edited by Michal Borodo, Juliane House and Wojciech Wachowski. In the final, Girish N. has reviewed the book *Screening the Author: The Literary Biopic* by Hila Shachar.

Continuing the trend, this issue also contains two annotated bibliographies. In the first, Randheer Kour presents an annotated bibliography of select books from 2018 while in the second; Subha Chakraborty offers an annotated bibliography of select books of Translation Studies published in 2019.

Children's literature is an enterprise that has not received enough attention in translation research even though translation remains an inalienable aspect of development and access to children's literature. This issue closes with the translation of two children's stories by Umesh Kumar. The stories Gachak Andharee by Ashok Mankar and Deenu's Bill by Prahlad Keshav Atre were first published in Marathi and then translated into Hindi by Pramod Padwal and Umesh

Kumar. Here, Umesh Kumar has rendered the stories in English. An important aspect of this entry is that the translator has engaged with children's literature. By prefixing the stories with translator's note Umesh Kumar has highlighted the significance of children's literature and opened an avenue for discussion on various aspects of his translations. Like open data badges, Translation Today also intends to make the source text of the published translations available on its website. Like replication of experiments in science disciplines, the availability of source text would create scope for evaluation of the published translations and interactions on the translation strategies adopted.

Even though the trends in translation theory are pointing to rapid diversification and translation practice has been witnessing increasingly diverse participation, the wh- of translation remains relevant as ever; the questions 'who translates what, where, how, why and for whom' continue to guide the theory and practice.

Enjoy reading!

Tariq Khan
