

THE ISSUES AND STRATEGIES OF TRANSLATING PROVERBS FROM SINHALA TO TAMIL VICE VERSA

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The word translation has several meanings such as change, paraphrase, rendering, rewording, transformation, transcription, interpretation, decoding and so on. However, it simply, defines as the process of turning a source language into a target language. The aim of this study is to explore the obstacles that translators encounter when translating proverbs and to explore the strategies that translators apply when translating proverbs from Sinhala to Tamil vice versa. To enhance the goal the researcher selected 20 2nd year translation studies undergraduates in Department of Translation Studies, University of Jaffna. The researcher selected 10 Tamil proverbs and 10 Sinhala proverbs. The students were asked to translate Sinhala ones into Tamil and Tamil ones into Sinhala. The study revealed that the obstacles which undergraduates face when translating proverbs from Sinhala to Tamil and vice versa. The students unable to translate proverbs from source language to target language because of their inability, they mostly provide wrong target language equivalent, irrelevant meaning and wrong paraphrasing, using literal translation and misuse of the appropriate lexical words, committing linguistic, stylistic and grammatical mismatches and unfamiliarity with translation strategies and techniques. Further, this study recommends investigating the structure and style of Sinhala proverbs in comparison with Tamil in the data analysis part.

Keywords: *Obstacles; Proverbs; Strategies; Techniques; Translation*
