Assessing Ideology of Translation in Two Persian Translated Versions of "A Street Car Named Desire": The Case of Domestication and Foreignization

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Different cultures influence the way the members of a society view and perceive the world. This principle is important in the translation phenomenon. Relying on the distinction between two main cultural strategies of domestication and foreignization postulated by Lawrence Venuti in 1988, the present study aimed to investigate the ideology of translation in terms of domestication and foreignization strategies applied to culture-specific items in two Persian translations of the play "A Streetcar Named Desire". Accordingly, such ideology can affect the style which is used by the translator and it can have certain effects on the receivers views. For this purpose, Nooranis and Bakhtminoos translations of "A Streetcar Named Desire" were investigated. "A Streetcar Named Desire" by Tennessee Williams along with its two translations were selected as the target corpora. Venutis (1995) theory of domestication and foreignization formed the main theoretical framework for conducting the study. Alternatively, Newmarks (1988) translation strategies were also applied to operationalize Venutis theory. Through a sentence-by-sentence contrastive analysis each, ST-TT pair of the target corpora , instances of culture -specific items(CSI), as the unit of translation, were detected to be analyzed and categorized. The applied translation strategy to each CSI was investigated and grouped into domestication and foreignization categories. Interestingly the frequency of domestication and foreignization
strategies showed that domestication was the most pervasive translation method in Bakhtinoos renderings. However the ideological consequences of these findings showed that Nooranis translation is more ideology oriented because he tried more to keep the source language expressions and words in the translated text. However, the finding also indicated that, there was inclination towards foreignizing in recent persian translations of the source language work. Keywords: Foreignization, Domestication, Ideology, Culture-Specific items (CSIs), Translation strategies, Literary translation