The Impact of Ideology on Translation of Political Texts: A Critical Discourse Analysis Perspective

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Critical discourse analysis (CDA) has become a very prominent academic research activity in social, political and linguistic sciences. It meticulously analyzes the power relations, ideological manipulations and domination. The present CDA-based study was made to find out whether critical discourse analysis can detect the underlying manipulated ideologies in political text and its renditions in another language and whether political texts shaped in one language and their renditions in another language would be ideologically different. To this end, one English political book (Ervand Abrahamian’s Iran between Two Revolutions) and its two corresponding Persian translations were critically analyzed at micro vocabulary level based on Van Dijk (2004) framework. The results revealed that the macro strategies of positive self-presentation and negative other-presentations were to be the accurate criteria for the evaluation of underlying ideologies both in the source text and target texts. The results of Chi-square test showed that there are not ideological differences between the source text and translations; translators used the similar words to present the ideology of the source text.

In other word, the words, the same events were ideologically presented in similar ways.