# Equivalent Effect Enalysis and Situational Meaning in English Translations of Nahjul-Balaqa and Hazrat Zahra's Sermon(Fadak)

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Abstract—Translation as both art and science should be redefined intra-inter disciplinary field of human study. Situational meaning which is crucial to the understanding of any text, the message is produced in a given communication situation, and the relationship between the writer or speaker and the addressee will affect the communication, all these observations altogether with connection to the concepts of the field in question can be potential means for translators .Three levels: the source text, the transmitter text, and the target text have been in analysis. When judging the merits of religious translated texts, both TQA and CDA should be taken into account. The situation that the context occurs is of paramount importance, and the shift of focus from language system to text is one that has also occurred in related to situational context, the explicitation strategies may vary to some or more extent upon translator and depending situational contextual clues. It is the idea or the picture that has to be communicated, and not equivalents of actual words; hence, the paramount importance of the situation that the context occurs in is very vital to be observed, and without it creating the translation would be damaged.

Key word: Nahjul-Balaqa; Fadak; Situation; Explicitation; Equivalence; Context.

# 1. Introduction

Nahjul\_Balaqa, the words of Imam Ali (a.s) and Hazrat Fatemeyh Zahra's Sermon (Fadak), in translation not only do need, like any other text, to be rendered at maximum accuracy of faithfulness to the original book and at the same time considering as much as possible all the linguistic features, but the equivalent effect created by the translator is of paramount importance as well. The discussion of meaning postulates, proposition includes sentence and utterance, and sentence includes utterance, i.e. there is a relationship of hyponymy between the superordinate proposition and the subordinate sentence and utterance (Bell.1993,p109-110).The important thing is to set aside all the words of the [original] text and see the picture clearly. Having seen the picture the translator must write down what he

sees in the simplest English. It is the idea or the picture that has to be communicated, and not equivalents of the actual words (Tancock, 1958,p32). What, though, is meant by 'context'? Three levels of abstraction can be suggested: the immediate situation of utterance, the context of utterance and the universe of discourse. The relationship between situation, context and universe are related in exactly the same way as utterance is to sentence and sentence to proposition, i.e. the situation is contained in the context and the context in the universe of discourse (Bell.1993,p110).

# 2. Translation, Explicitation, and Equivalence

The concept of explicitation was first introduced by Vinay and Darbelnet, who defined it as 'a stylistic translation technique which consists of making explicit in the target language what remains implicit in the source language because it is apparent from either the context or the situation' (Vinay ,1958/1995, p342). Implicitation, on the other hand, is defined as 'a stylistic trans.lation technique which consists of making what is explicit in the source language implicit in the target language, relying on the context or the situation for conveying the meaning' (ibid.p344). The results of explicitation and implicitation are often discussed in terms of gains and losses.At various levels, and loosely following Koller (1979: 187-91, 1989: 100-4), equivalence is commonly established on the basis that the ST and TT words supposedly refer to the same thing in the real world, i.e. on the basis of their inferential or denotative equivalence; the ST and TT words triggering the same or similar associations in the minds of native speakers of the two languages, i.e. their connotative equivalence; the ST and TT words being used in the same or similar contexts in their respective languages, Le. what Koller (1989,p102) calls text-normative equivalence; the ST and TT words having the same effect on their respective readers, Le. pragmatic (Koller ,1989,p 102) or dynamic equivalence (Nida 1964); In any discussion of equivalences, whether structural or dynamic, one must always bear in mind three different types of relatedness, as determined by the linguistic and cultural distance between the codes used to convey the messages. In some instances, for example, a translation may involve comparatively

closely related languages and cultures. When the cultures are related but the languages are quite different, the translator is called upon to make a good many formal shifts in the translation. However, the cultural similarities in such instances usually provide a series of parallelisms of content that make the translation proportionately much less difficult than when both languages and cultures are disparate. In fact, differences between cultures cause many more severe complications for the translator than do differences in language structure. (Venuti, 2012,P5).

#### 3. Situation, context and universe of discourse

The 'meaning' ultimately depends on the context of use and consists of reconstructing the context from the words of the text. The important thing is to set aside all the words of the [original] text and see the picture clearly. Having seen the picture the translator must write down what he sees in the simplest English. It is the idea or the picture that has to be communicated, and not equivalents of the actual words (Tancock, 1958, p.32). What, though, is meant by 'context'? Three levels of abstraction can be suggested: the immediate situation of utterance, the context of utterance and the universe of discourse. The relationship between situation, context and universe are related in exactly the same way as utterance is to sentence and sentence to proposition. i.e. the situation is contained in the context and the context in the universe of discourse (Bell, 1993, p.110).

# 4. Typology of Explicitation and Implicitation in transmitter case

In order to apply the concepts of explicature and implicature on explicitation, when a third language engaged, we need to make some adjustment. This is different from those based on the traditional encoded/inferred, in which explicitation covers shifts from the inferred to the encoded (Carston, 2002):

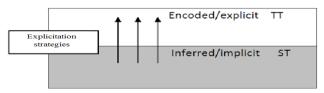
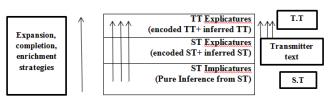


Figure 1: Transmitter text engaged in explication (Carston, 2002)

If we have a close look at the above diagrams, while the traditional concept of explicitation covers all areas of inferential meanings for the shifts to the explicit, there are areas of inference that are not included the transmitter text, therefore:



**Figure 2:** Transmitter text engaged in explication , adapted model (Carston, 2002)

The shifts within the explicature, on the other hand, separately in the concept covered expansion/completion/enrichment of the utterance's logical forms. However, for the purpose investigating explicitation in translation, it would be helpful if we expand the explication framework to include the shifts of expansion/completion within explicatures in transmitter text, on the other hand, the concepts of 'explication' 'expansion/completion/enrichment in target text ( Carston .2002).

According to Klaudy and Karoly (2003) explicitation occurs when:

- a. a source language (SL) unit with a general meaning is replaced by a target language(TL) unit with a more specific meaning
- the meaning of a SL unit is distributed over several units in the TL
- c. new meaningful elements appear in the TL text
- d. one sentence in the ST is divided into two or several sentences in the TT
- e. SL phrases are extended or "raised" to clause level in the TT

The levels of expansion and completion encompass some above mentioned features whereas when all of them included, enrichment occurs.

#### 5. unit of data and translation

As Alves and Gongales put it, a translation unit "is a segment in constant transformation that changes according to the translator's cognitive and processing Alternative, product-oriented needs". definitions simultaneous include: "the consecutive comprehension in the SL and production in the TL of a text segment the size of which is limited by WM [working memory] capacity and the boundaries of which identifiable pauses" are through (Dragsted, 2004, p274), and "TL segments produced between pauses" (Englund-Dimitrova, 2005,p29). As can be seen, there is no one accepted definition of a translation unit in process research and there is not necessarily a correspondence between translation unit and unit of analysis since the interests of process research are not necessarily limited to linguistic segments but also encompass cognitive indicators, such as focus of attention or cognitive effort (Saldanha. O'Brien, 2013, p119-120).

# 6. Translation Quality Assessment and Translation Equivalence

The fundamental characteristic of a translation is that it is a text that is doubly bound: on the one hand to its source text and on the other hand to the recipient's communicative conditions. This double-binding nature is the basis of what has been called in many linguistic-textual approaches the equivalence relation. In other words, the equivalence relation equals the relation between a source text and its

translation text. It is an important aim of linguistictextual approaches to specify, refine, modify and thus to try to operationalize the equivalence relation by differentiating between a number of frameworks of equivalence, e.g., extra-linguistic circumstances, connotative and aesthetic values, audience design and last but not least textual and language norms of that have emerged from empirical investigations of parallel texts, contrastive rhetoric and pragmatic and contrastive dicourse analyses (House, 2009, p24).

#### 7. Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA)

An ideological position can also be hidden (or at least screened) by the use of words. The critical discourse analyst must always be on the lookout for hidden ideological positions since one of the main ways in which CDA achieves its aims is by making explicit those aspects of ideology that underpin social interaction. The process of investigating meaning by breaking it down into its component parts is known as deconstruction. We can engage in this process in various ways, but one way is to analyze the grammar and choice of words in a text to reveal the undercurrents of association and implication (Bloor & Bloor, 2007, p11).

#### 8. Ideology

The terminological confusion associated with 'ideology' is exemplified by the various theoretical frameworks from other disciplines that have informed translation studies. Thus, for example, the term 'worldview' is used by Simpson to frame his definition of an ideology as 'deriving from the taken-for-granted assumptions, beliefs and value-systems which are shared collectively by social groups . [and] mediated [through] powerful political and social institutions like the government. This definition is taken up by Hatim and Mason in their discussion of ideological mediation in translation and, using almost the same phrasing. Other important models used for uncovering implicit ideology in translation are drawn from critical discourse analysis, sociology or the multidisciplinarity, which brings together aspects of cognition, discourse and society. Some translation theorists have posited their own terminology and models: Lefevere, for instance, describes ideology as 'the conceptual grid that consists of opinions and attitudes deemed acceptable in a certain society at a certain time and through which readers and translators approach texts' and argues that translation is governed above all by patronage, which consists of ideological, economic and status components (Baker.Saldanha,2013).

#### 9. Methodology

This research has adopted Farahzad(2011), approaches to translation by the use of componential analysis in translation and Explicitation (and implicitation) strategies are generally discussed together with addition (and omission) strategies (Vinay and Darbelnet 1958/1995) and by using translation quality assessment model by Farahzad. The model is

based on pragmatic theories of language use, and it provides for the analysis of the linguistic-discoursal as well as the situational-cultural particularities of the source and target texts, a comparison of the two texts and the resultant assessment of their relative match (Kashgary,2010,p56). The first step in this study is to extract the thirty participants 'viewpoints in three questionnaires, which are employed for both TQA and CDA analyses. The second phase goes through analyzing the two corpora of translation by using modified model in TQA by Farahzad.

#### 9.1. Participants

In this study, the researcher tried to achieve more information from those who are knowledgeable about Nahjul- Balaqa (peak of Eloquence) and Hazrat Fatemeyh Zahra's Sermon(Fadak) ,the translators and scholars in this respect from several different universities and scholars who are related to this text type ,and the evaluation will certainly be impacted by the mean of this survey .The viewpoints of translators included in this study for comparison about their procedures, styles, and anything concerning to this issue are of high importance.

All participants in this research have PhD degrees and are involved teaching courses on human sciences (theology; religion, linguistics, teaching languages, etc.) at the local universities and the number of them is thirty. It should be mentioned that ten participants yielded their opinions on the quality of translation of the Arabic text into Persian, other ten ones took part in answering to the second questionnaire to find out about approximate equivalent effect in translation of Nahjol-Bal aghah into English, and the last ten were asked for the translation of Hazrat Fatemeyh Zahra's Sermon(Fadak).

# 9.2. Translators

The translators chosen in this study are among those who are very well known for their achievements and all with Ph.D and they are four.

- Nahjol-Bal aghah : Tahereh Saffarzadeh and Syed Ali Reza.
- Sermon of Fadak : Farideh mahdavi Damghani and Ansarin.

# 9.3. The Corpus of the study

The corpora of this research are:

- 1-A trilingual selection from Nahjol-Bal aghah (Arabic, Persian, English) Translated by Tahereh Saffarzadeh., selected parts of the sermons of1,176, and198. (Saffarzadeh,2008,Pp3-16)
- 2- Translation of Nahjol-Bal aghah by Syed Ali Reza, the same selected parts as above. ( Syed Ali Raza, 1971, Pp20-116)
- 3- Translation of Hazrat Fatemeyh Zahra's Sermon (Fadak) by Farideh mahdavi Damghani from her book, (Damghani,2011,Pp145-172)
  - 4- Translation of Hazrat Fatemeyh Zahra's Sermon

(Fadak) by Ansarin (Ansarin, 2008, Pp33-59).

#### 9.4. Questionnaires

Questionnaires have been used to some extent in research on translation, most notably to research topics on the translated texts . The informants are seen as partners in the research and have more active involvement in constructing the knowledge that is to be the outcome of the research process Since. in the third measure, each linguistic category of the TL, which is going to be investigated with Persian and Arabic counterparts has its own features, the investigative procedures for each one are handled and described in a specific and separate table and graph. On the basis of the findings and results of the descriptive translation texts, they are incorporated in to one total graph for identifying relationships among segments of the model and attempting generalization about the underlying concept of translation.

# 10. Data Analysis

The second step in this procedure attempts to arrive at the outcomes of the second survey for the textual equivalents in translated texts into English of Nahjul-Balaqa by the two translators in the table 1 and graph as following:

Table 1: Statistics and Percentages of translation surveys of Nahjul-Balaqa (Arabic - English - Persian)

Translator's name	Very low	Low	Medium	High	Very High	Sum
Syed Ali Raza	15	29	144	240	47	475
Percentage	3%	7%	30%	50%	10%	100%
Saffarzadeh	16	23	144	221	51	455
Percentage	3%	5%	30%	48%	14%	100%

The percentages represented above point out almost very close distances between the same levels (from 2 at least through 4 percent at most). 20 is the distance between the sums of the two versions from the viewpoints of ten scholars who answered to the survey. The same survey has been done for obtaining the results of contextual equivalents of Fadak by two various translators from the second ten scholars as the table 2 below:

Table 2: Statistics of translation surveys of Fadak (Arabic - English - Persian)

Translator's name	Very low	Low	Medium	High	Very High	Sum
Ansariyan	21	67	416	286	111	901
Percentage	3%	8%	46%	31%	12%	100%
Damghani	12	44	446	405	82	989
Percentage	1%	5%	45%	40%	9%	100%

The three procedures of explicitation strategies with their percentages are given in the table 3. It shows that the translated texts have a gap of 88 in total from their viewpoints, all the same, they

represent near tendency.

Table 3:Percentages of the distribution for each translation explicitation in target text

Translator	Expansion	Completion	Enrichment
Syed Ali Raza	95	20	1
percentage of Distribution	82%	17%	1%
Saffarzadeh	95	33	1
percentage of Distribution	74%	25%	1%

The percentage of the distribution for each translation explicitation in target text is given in table 3 , by which it becomes obvious that the explicitation strategies details are different, but the same amount in enrichment is obtained, which regarding the situational context , it can be meaningful

Graph 1 is a combination of the data above. From this graph an overall implication of explicitation strategies can be seen. Damghani in translation enrichment strategy gets ahead of Ansariyan . ). It should be pointed out that in this research in c.c.s and m.c.c.s sections, the details of other parts have not been counted, and only just their numbers of occurrence have been included due to emphasis on enrichment strategy of translators .Ccs here in this research stands for complex compound sentences, and Mccs represents mega complex compound sentences. Up to six sentences unit is for the ccs , and more than this accounts for mccs .

Graph 1: The numbers of translation units in which c.c.s and m.c.c.s occur- Ansariyan-Damghani

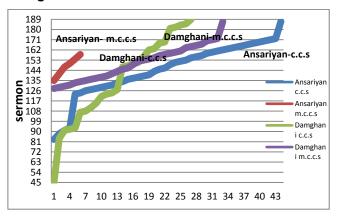
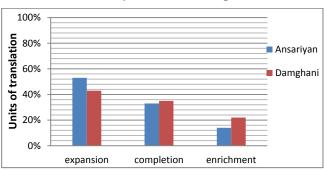


Table (4) offers the percentage of the distribution for each translation explicitation in target text; the explicitation strategies have been placed into the expansion, completion, and enrichment. table (4) indicates the differences of 10, 2, and 9 percent. In the enrichment case, which reflects more explicitation strategy, Damghani has used 9 percent more mccs than Ansariyan .The different usages of explicitation strategies in translating texts could stand for somehow the reflection of the translators ' implicatures of both source and transmitter tests.

Table 4: Percentage of the distribution for each translation explicitation in target text

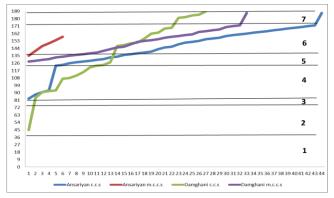
Translator	Expansion	Completion	Enrichment
Ansariyan	185	116	47
percentage of Distribution	53%	33%	14%
Damghani	190	156	101
percentage of Distribution	43%	35%	23%
Sum	375	272	148

Graph 2: Percentage of the distribution for each translation explicitation in target text



This section constitutes a table for CDA analysis with the data gathered from both contexts as the following graph 3 . This table is a modified version of House's model for CDA analysis, which encompasses of three main sections: Situational context, Field, and Mode. Each of which contains subdivisions as shown below. The numbers given are collected from tables above. This tables for each translator of four shows two various degrees of explicitations, by which the reflection of situational utterance in target text may be highlighted and reinforced. The graph 3 has presented seven areas of the context of Fadak for CDA analysis: in these graphs seven different situational contexts of utterance can be identified. This can state the importance of the condition over the event of speech which the translator should take into consideration.

Graph 3: CDA data analysis in target texts



# 11. Conclusions

The findings of this research can be categorized into the followings:

First, when judging the merits of religious and

literary translated text both TQA and CDA should be taken into consideration, if this point comes to the sight and mind, then, however, languages differ in the ways in which they organize the transfer of information, a wider glance will be created for better translation, however, the standards of translation in any detail are undeniable. The important thing is to set aside all the words of the [original] text and see the picture clearly. Having seen the picture the translator must write down what he sees in the simplest form of the target language. It is the idea or the picture that has to be communicated, and not equivalents of the actual words. Some types of text are culture-specific and simply have no exact equivalent in other languages. Translation corpora can be an ideal resource for establishing equivalence between languages since they convey the same semantic content. What matters by 'context' may be divided into three levels of abstraction that can be suggested for the immediate situation of utterance, the context of utterance, and the universe of discourse; the results of this study indicate that each in turn but preface our remarks with the comment that the relationships among situation, context and universe are related in exactly the same way as utterance is to sentence and sentence to proposition, i.e. the situation is contained in the context and the context in the universe of discourse; hence the paramount importance of the situation that the context occurs in is very vital to be observed, and without it creating the translation would be damaged; furthermore, It is worth noting that the shift of focus from language system to text is one that has also occurred in related to situational context, ideological and cultural environment, and along with these into consideration, the explicitation strategies that the translator adapts and adopts may vary to some or more extent depending upon translator and situational contextual clues at the same time, accordingly, on the basis of the language system, explicitation and implications may be inevitable to happen in translation process.

The second finding of this research came through those opinions who are engaged in teaching and practicing religious texts either at universities or related institutions that in this domain and the other fields likewise, the need of negotiation between the translator and those who professionally study or work in the connected domain is of high importance before the translation procedure takes place. Translation as both art and science should be redefined intra-inter disciplinary field of human study. Situational meaning which is crucial to the understanding of any text, the message is produced in a given communication situation, and the relationship between the writer or speaker and the addressee will affect the communication, all these observations altogether with connection to the concepts of the field in question can be potential means for translator.

In any quality assessment, the third point could be inferred through this observation, is to get away and prevent from establishing inflexible norms only just for

accepting or turning down the translation products which apparently violate the standards. Unfortunately, there has sometimes been some tendency towards closing the eyes. Although by committing to the whole translation rules, creating more logical insight into and outlook towards translating and translation in a broad minded viewpoint and sense must be of prime priory. The fourth feature of deduction made through this research that can be both outstanding and important is when the translating, translator, and translation are located in trilingual state, in which one language with all its cultural traits consciously or unconsciously behave as a transmitter and additional information transformer, in this case the explicitation strategies may act much more the borders required due to additional burden of culture and ideology that the translator of transmitter text includes ,but in this situation if the translator does attempt to shorten the main cultural distance between the source text and target text, then the role of transmitter text in translating procedure turns into beneficial factor by which the core message is passed on through target text.

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