The Procedures in English-Indonesian Translation of Islamic Terms

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Abstract

When translating a message, a translator needs to identify the most equivalent natural expression in Target Language (TL). Nevertheless, it is not always feasible to discover the corresponding translation for culturally specific text. The translators frequently need various procedures to accomplish the translation tasks. This study examines the procedures used in translating Islamic terms and the most common procedures used by translators in the book "Reclaim Your Heart and its translation. The researcher employed a qualitative method for collecting descriptive data by explaining the translation procedures provided by Newmark. The data was gathered by analyzing Islamic terms in the source language (SL) and target language (TL) texts, categorizing terms according to the translation procedures used. After analyzing the data, four types of translation procedures were found in thirty-four pieces of data. They are transference, couplet, naturalization, and cultural equivalent. The most common translation procedure used in translating Islamic terms by the translator is transference. The translator maintained the English Islamic terms (SL) in Indonesian text (TL) without some linguistic changes (phonological or morphological). This approach was used for translating proper names, places, verses, the book's title, and the terms used several times in the book.

Keywords: Translation procedure, islamic terms, english-indonesian translation

1. Introduction

Translating source language (SL) texts into equivalent target language (TL) texts is called translation. It is a method of conveying meanings across languages. (Newmark, 1988) In addition, translation is recognized as a means of communication for acquiring foreign languages. (House, 2016). Catford (1974) also says translation is the act or outcome of converting information from one language to another. The objective is to replicate the grammatical and lexical characteristics of the Source Language in the target language as closely as possible by identifying equivalents.

In other words, translation is converting written or spoken texts in one language (SL) into written or spoken texts in another language (TL) while maintaining their equivalence. Translation, in essence, seeks to render diverse types of materials, such as religious, literary, scientific, and philosophical works, into different languages, thus increasing accessibility to a wider range of readers. One of the most widely translated books is Reclaim Your Heart, the best-selling book written by an American Muslim psychologist.

Reclaim Your Heart is a popular psychology book written by Yasmin Mogahed. She is an American-born Muslim author and speaker. This book is about the experience of the author's religious journey. She writes the book in an easy-to-understand style of language. The text flows like a diary. The author of Reclaim Your Heart declares in the opening section that the book is "a manual about the journey of the heart in and out of the ocean of this life."(Yasmin, 2012) The book describes how to prevent one's heart from plummeting to the bottom of that ocean and what to do when it does. This text's main target is those experiencing morality, religion, and ideology (Reiss, 2000). The translation must use the adaptation method for a text with this target. What must be considered is that anything in the original text that may affect the delivery of morals, opinions about religion, or ideological attitudes can be eliminated. That is, the text can be modified as needed, either by adding, reducing, expanding, or paraphrasing.

When the researcher compared English and its Indonesian translation book, several cases could be analyzed, such as the terms used in the text. The researcher chose to analyze Islamic terms in their translation since several changes were made from the original to the Indonesian version.

A research study has examined the translation of Islamic term, including a study conducted by Ahmad Murodi (Murodi, 2020). The article examines the translation of the Islamic terms employed in the book "Islam between War and Peace" created by Yakub and compares the data using Arabic and English dictionaries. The data analysis is conducted using Newmark's Translation Procedures theory. Based on the study, it was discovered eight translation procedures used to translate Indonesian Islamic terms into English. They are literal, transference, naturalization, reduction, addition, notes, paraphrase, and transposition. Eight procedures were employed, with the most frequently used procedures including notes and transference.

Furthermore, M. Fariz Usman conducted additional research on the topic of Islamic terms (Usman, 2013). The study relied on a comparative analysis of Islamic terms in the Novel Negeri 5 Menara and its translation. The data analysis is performed with Peter Newmark's theory of translation procedure, together with input from other experts, and criteria established by Eugene Nida to evaluate a translation. The analysis reveals that the translator applies 13 different translation procedures. The predominant procedure employed is transference. The quality of the translation procedures applied to the Islamic terms found in the novel is 35.42% very good, 55.60% good, and 8.96% poor.

The study also examined Islamic terms translation conducted by Danti Pudjiati and Ernawati (Pudjianti, 2016). The writers employed Newmark's procedure of notes theory for analyzing the data in *"I Am Malal Novel"* and its translation in Indonesian.

Similarly, this research employs a similar theoretical framework, which focuses on procedures for translation. However, this study implements translation procedures to evaluate the translation of Islamic terms from English to Indonesian from the translation book Reclaim Your Heart. With that being said, it differs in the subject matter. The past research also focused on the translation procedures used to analyze terms found in Islam between War and Peace, that is, Indonesian to English translation. It is the same as in the second study; the previous study compared the Islamic terms in the Novel Negeri 5 Menara and its translation. This study compared Indonesian to English translation novels. Comparing to the third previous studies, this research shares the same theory and procedures of translation. However, the prior research only employed

one specific translation procedure, that is, note. This research diverges from previous studies by not specifically targeting a certain procedure. Instead, it focuses on the identified cases and later analyzes the procedures employed.

Translation of Islamic terms is often challenging as these source language (SL) words are culturally bound and contain religious concepts of Islam (Aminuddin et al., 2020). Islamic terminology originates in Arabic and mainly consists of words or phrases derived from religious texts for Muslims, such as the Qur'ān (the sacred book of Islam) and Hadith (prophetic traditions). It is also important to remember that the Islamic terms from those holy texts were translated for communication and, in particular, for guidance. Therefore, the translations must maintain the originality of Islamic messages (Long, 2013). In addition, translating religious terms into the target language (TL) requires a translator who can effectively communicate the meaning of the source language (SL) to the readers.

The translator should be able to provide solutions in translating Islamic terms so that the reader of the TL will also feel the greatness of the SL text. That is why translators often use several procedures to complete translation tasks. Several terms commonly used in translation as ways or techniques to overcome translation problems are procedures, strategies, and methods. The terms strategies and methods have similar meanings and functions with the procedure. Translation strategies are key to a translator's abilities and provide options for identifying an effective answer through a suitable translation procedure. Translation strategies and procedures have distinct roles in problem-solving. While the former elements are involved in the process, the latter elements impact the final outcome more. Molina and Hurtado Albir (2002: 508). Newmark (1988: 81) distinguishes between methods for translation and procedures, stating that translation methods apply to entire texts, whereas translation procedures are employed for sentences and smaller linguistic components.

Newmark states that the procedure is the most suitable approach to finding a solution in translating the unfamiliar word between the source language (SL) and the target language (TL). He discusses the translation procedures used to determine equivalency, namely:

a. Transference is the process of transferring a word from a source language (SL) to a target language (TL). It is commonly referred to as a loanword or transcription. Newmark (1981:75) regards this process as a key approach for translating proper names.

b. Cultural Equivalent: The term "Cultural Equivalent" refers to the process of translating a cultural word from a source language (SL) to a target language (TL) by finding the closest matching equivalent (a target language cultural word). (Newmark, 1988, p.82)

c. Naturalization: It adapts the source language word first to the normal pronunciation, then to the normal morphology (word forms) (Newmark, 1988, p.82). This procedure involves adapting the word to conform to the standard pronunciation and structure in the target language to make it more easily understandable to native speakers.

d. Functional Equivalent: Applying functional equivalents to cultural terms requires utilizing a phrase independent of any specific culture, sometimes supplemented by a new, more precise term. This process neutralizes or generalizes the word from the source language (SL). (Newmark, 1988, p.82).

e. Descriptive Equivalent: The descriptive equivalent refers to the translator's task of providing a description that clarifies the meaning and purpose of a particular term in the original language (Newmark, 1988, p.83).

f. Synonymy: Synonym refers to the relationship between words that have the same or similar meanings. A synonym is a word from the source language that does not have an exact equivalent in the target language. It is used when the specific word is unnecessary in the text (Newmark, 1988, p.84).

g. Calque or loan translation refers to translating popular collocations, names of organizations, compound components, and sometimes sentences literally through translation (Newmark, 1988, p.84).

h. Shifts or transpositions refer to a translation technique in which the syntax is altered when translating from a source language (SL) to a target language (TL) (Newmark, 1988, p.85).

i. Modulation refers to the alteration in viewpoint, perspective, and sometimes the mode of thinking (Newmark, 1988, p.88).

j. Paraphrase is the act of expanding or clarifying the significance of certain parts of the text. The term 'anonymous' is often used to refer to a work that is either badly written or contains significant implications and omissions (Newmark, 1988, p.90).

k. Notes: Notes are supplementary details incorporated into a translation. It is considered to be footnotes. (Newmark, 1988, p.91).

l. Adaptation. Adaptation refers to the utilization of an acknowledged correspondence between two circumstances. It pertains to the concept of cultural equivalency, as discussed by Newmark (1988, p.91).

m. Recognized translation refers to using an official or widely accepted translation of an institutional phrase by a translator. (Newmark, 1988, p.91)

n. Compensation is the phenomenon in which one part of a sentence makes up for the loss of significance in another part. (Newmark, 1988, p.91)

o. Reductions and Expansion: Newmark suggests that reduction and expansion can be used intuitively, especially with poorly written SL texts. Procedures (Newmark, 1988, p.91). An example of reduction can be seen in comparing the French term 'science linguistique' and its English equivalent, 'linguistics.' On the other hand, an SL adjective may need to be transformed into a TL adverb together with a participle, which is considered an 'expansion' in the translation procedure.

p. Couplet: Couplets arise when the translator merges two procedures (Newmark, 1988, p.91). Couplets, triplets, and quadruplets are formed by combining two, three, or four operations.

2. Method

The qualitative method involves interpreting data based on descriptive words that capture the qualities and nature of the data (Djajasudarma, 2010). Using this methodology, the researcher formulates a concept and collects data without conducting any hypothesis testing. In this study, the researcher was the primary data collection instrument. The data collection process involved several steps, using the bibliographical technique to obtain the data. The data are obtained from previously available sources (Cresswell, 2014).

This technique is sometimes referred to as a documentation technique. Technical documentation refers to the process of gathering information from many textual sources, as stated by Nawawi and Hadari (1992). The textual sources cover a variety of mediums, such as newspapers, magazines, books, scientific papers, laws, and more. Firstly, the researcher gathered the data in the first three subtitles of Reclaim Your Heart book, written by Yasmin Mogahed and published by FB Publishing in 2012 (Yasmin, 2012)) and the Indonesian translation of the book titled "*Rebut Kembali Hatimu*" was published in 2014 by Penerbit Zaman. The data are Islamic terms that are translated from English to Indonesian text. After gathering the data, the researcher analyzed it using Newmark's relevant theory of translation procedure. The ways to analyze the data were reading, understanding, classifying, identifying, and analyzing the research object and comparing the data with its translation book.

This study was conducted by observing English Islamic terms and their Indonesian equivalents and identifying types of translation procedures proposed by Newmark that were used by the translator in the book *Reclaim Your Heart*. It then provided a detailed description of how Islamic terms are translated from English into Indonesian.

3. Results and Discussion

Based on the collected data, the writer discovered a total of 34 examples of Islamic Terms in the first three subtitles of the "*Reclaim Your Heart*" book. From the investigation, the writer identified four different translation procedures in Islamic terms translation.

Table 1. Translation Procedures

No	Translation procedures	Number of procedures	Percentage
1	Transference	13	38.23%
2	Couplet	12	35.29%
3	Naturalization	6	17.64%
4	Cultural Equivalent	3	8.82%
	Total	34	100%

Table 1. shows that the Islamic terms from the "*Reclaim Your Heart*" book are translated using four separate procedures: transference, couplet, naturalization and cultural equivalent. The translation procedure that is most commonly used is transference. There are 13 data translated used by transference, which represents 38.23% of cases. On the other hand, the translation procedure that is least commonly used is cultural equivalent, with a total frequency of three data, representing 8.82% of cases. Two more translation procedures are couplet, which represents 35.29% of the total (12 data), and naturalization, representing for 17.64% (6 data). The most common procedure of translation employed in the book is transference, which aims to improve the reader's understanding of Islamic terms. The analysis of the translation procedures can be seen in the following discussion.

3.1 Transference

Transference becomes the most commonly used procedure when translating Islamic terms from English to Indonesia in this study. It is used in 13 cases (38,23%). This procedure is mainly

accomplished by maintaining the original form of the SL. The usage of transferences implies that the terms translated refer to existing references in the world, such as proper names, places, verses, the book's title, and the terms used several times in the book. The book contains terminology such as *Muhammad, Yusuf, Musa, Hajar, Ibrahim, Masjid*, and *Madarij Al Salikin*. They are not transliterated into Indonesian to preserve cultural features for TL readers to experience.

The application of transference can be seen in the following data.

Data 1

SL: I dreamt of sitting inside a **masjid**, and a little girl walked up to ask me a question. (p. 2)

TL: *Dalam mimpi itu saya duduk di dalam **masjid** dan seorang gadis kecil menghampiriku dan bertanya, (p.19)*

The translator preserved the word "*masjid*" that translated into "*masjid*." In this case, the translator did not give an additional explanation or note about the meaning of the word "*Masjid*" because the word "*masjid*" is common in Indonesian Culture since Indonesia is the most significant Muslim-populated country in the world.

The translator retained the word "*masjid*" from the source language without explaining it within brackets. Based on the provided data, the translator employed the transference translation procedure. The translator retained the original word or source text for the term "*masjid*" in order to translate it into the target language.

3.2 Couplet

The second most used procedure is couplet. Couplet occurs when the translator combines two procedures to translate a term. It is used in 12 cases (35,29%). The translator uses 6 types of combinations. Using this procedure, the translator combined some procedures to handle some difficulties. The combinations are naturalization and reduction, literal translation and reduction, transference and reduction, transference and expansion, transference and note, adaptation and reduction. The application of couplet can be seen in the following data.

Data 2

SL: Don't let **shaytan (satan)** deceive you.

TL: *Jangan biarkan **setan** memperdaya Anda*

The translator used the translation procedure of a couplet, which is a combination of **naturalization** and **reduction**. The translators neutralized the word "*shaytan*" and reduced the additional information on the Islamic term in the TL.

At first, the translator employed the translation of naturalization to render the Islamic term. The translator modified the spelling of the word *"shaytan"* according to the accepted pronunciation in the target language. The term "*shaytan*" is equivalent to *"setan"* in the target language. Based on the provided data, the translation process involved reduction, as the translator reduced the term *"satan"* as a note within the brackets in the original text. The translator did not provide more details regarding the word *"setan"* in the target language, as it is widely used and recorded in the Indonesian dictionary.

3.3 Naturalization

The third most used procedure is naturalization. The translator used this procedure for 6 times (17,64%). It is commonly used when an SL word does not have a replacement in the TL; then, the SL word is naturalized to the TL. Newmark's naturalization is the same as other experts' naturalized borrowing. Using this procedure, the translator transferred and adapted the source language word first to the standard pronunciation, then to the typical morphology of the target language (Newmark,1988). This procedure translates into more natural words and makes them familiar to the readers' tongues because they adjust the standard pronunciation of the target language. The application of naturalization can be seen in the following data.

Data 3

SL: An **ayah** began to cross my mind.

TL: *Satu **ayat** mulai berkelebat di benak saya*.

The translator used the naturalization translation procedure to translate the Islamic term "ayah". In this case, the translator translated the word by modifying the spelling system. The adjustment occurred by changing the consonant *h* in the word "*ayah"* with the consonant *t* in the target text, and the result translation is "*ayat"*. The word "*ayah*" is translated into *"ayat"*. Ayat is a common Islamic term in Indonesian, so the translator did not need to explain the word with a note within brackets.

3.4 Cultural Equivalent

The fourth most used procedure is cultural equivalent. The translator used this procedure three times (8,82%). The concept of cultural equivalent refers to translating a cultural word from a source language (SL) to a target language (TL) using the closest equivalent (Newmark, 1988, p.82).

Data 4

SL: We are told in **the Quran**:

TL: *Seperti yang ditegaskan dalam **firman-nya**:*

In data 4, the cultural equivalent, the translator selected words that closely approach the meaning of the source language words. The translator translated the word "*Quran"* by selecting the word *"firman"* as the closest equivalence in TL. The word *"firman"* is a common Islamic term in Indonesian. The translation procedure used in this instance is cultural equivalent, in which the approximate term was used to translate the SL word.

4. Conclusion

From the results of the above analysis, it can be concluded that there are 34 data on Islamic terms in the first three subtitles of the Reclaim Your Heart translation book. The Islamic terms were translated by a translator using some translation procedures. They are transference, couplet, naturalization, and cultural equivalent. The most common procedure used by the translator is transference, which maintains the English Islamic terms (SL) in Indonesian text (TL) without some linguistic changes (phonological or morphological).

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