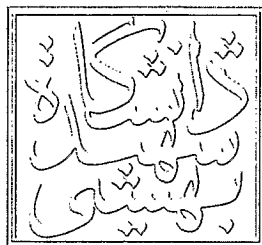


11/10/19  
11/19

*In the Name of God,  
the Compassionate,  
the Merciful*

11.190



SHAHID BEHESHTI UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF LETTERS AND HUMANITIES  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

**Ideological Effects and Discourse Shifts in Translation:  
A Critical Discourse Analysis**

**By:**

**Hamid Varmazyari**

**Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Degree of Master of Arts  
in  
Translation Studies**

**Thesis Supervisor: Dr. Jalal Sokhanvar  
Thesis Reader: Dr. Hussein Mollanazar**

**January 2009**

به نام خدا



دانشگاه شهید بهشتی  
دانشکده ادبیات و علوم انسانی  
گروه زبان و ادبیات انگلیسی

پایان نامه جهت دریافت درجه کارشناسی ارشد

در رشته

مترجمی زبان انگلیسی (مطالعات ترجمه)

## بررسی وجود و نحوه تأثیرات ایدئولوژیکی و چرخش گفتمان در ترجمه در چارچوب تحلیل انتقادی گفتمان

پژوهشگر

حمید ورمزیاری

استاد راهنما: آقای دکتر جلال سخنور

استاد مشاور: آقای دکتر حسین ملانظر

تهران، ایران

دیماه ۱۳۸۷

۱۱۰۱۹۵

۸۷/۱/۱۰۱۶  
۸۷/۱/۲۹

کتابخانه تخصصی زبان  
موسسه تخصصی زبان

۱۳۸۸ / ۱ / ۲۲

*To my dear parents*

*To my always-considerate father*

*and to my compassionate mother whose  
presence was crucial in completing this study.*

## Acknowledgments

First of all, I should express my gratitude to Dr. Jalal Sokhanvar who had an invaluable guiding and supporting role throughout this study and gave me helpful advice on how to write and organize my materials. I'd also like to express my thanks to Dr. Hussein Mollanazar, who not only patiently provided me with answers to my questions in this study and in my MA course, but also encouraged me to choose the best methods in achieving the goals of this study. In addition, he introduced me to new viewpoints in the field. I should also appreciate Dr. Amir Ali Nojournian who took time reading my thesis and accepting the judgment job of this research.

I'm also greatly indebted to all my professors at English Department of Shahid Beheshti University. Similarly, my professors at Arak University gave me insightful suggestions both for the present study and during my BA course. I'll be for ever indebted to them all.

Moreover, I would especially like to thank my classmates, friends and the office and library staff at Shahid Beheshti, Allame Tabataba'i and Arak Universities, without their help this study would have been difficult to succeed, if not impossible.

Finally, thanks must surely go to my dear family for being so understanding and for being my source of elation.

## Abstract

The issue of ideological presence of translators in translations and the effect of ideological translations on the target readership has for decades been of scholars' interest. Although such influences embodied through shifts appear to be clear-cut at the outset, the whole area requires more and more systematic studies for several reasons. One approach which can contribute to such purposes is Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), which is used more widely in today's researches including a vast body of fields such as political sciences, social sciences and education. The CDA approach best known in ideological analyses is Fairclough's approach which looks at textual analysis along with processing and social analyses. The present study was an attempt to illustrate possible advantages of CDA in translation studies in addition to the primary objective of identifying ideologies and ideological effects in translation with the focus on literary genre. Following a modified model from Fairclough's CDA the study analyzed two Persian translations of Milan Kundera's *Ignorance* at micro and macro levels. The results indicated and supported the presence of mediation in translations in the form of different translation strategies. In fact, the study presents a fuller account of translation evaluation with ideological basis.

## Table of Contents

Acknowledgments .....	iv
Abstract.....	v
Table of Contents.....	vi
List of Tables, Figures and Charts.....	x
List of Abbreviations .....	xii
Chapter One: The Problem .....	1
1.1 Overview.....	2
1.2 Background of the problem .....	3
1.3 Statement of the problem.....	3
1.4 Significance of the study .....	4
1.5 Purpose of the study.....	5
1.6 Research Questions.....	5
1.7 Research Hypotheses .....	5
1.8 Theoretical framework.....	6
1.9 Definition of key terms.....	7
1.10 Scope and delimitations of the study .....	8
1.11 Outlining .....	9
Chapter Two: Review of Literature.....	10
2.1. Overview: Organization of the Chapter.....	11
2.2. Historical Background .....	12

2.2.1. Language and Ideology.....	12
2.2.1.1. Definition of ideology.....	13
2.2.1.2 The distinction between ideology and culture .....	14
2.2.2. Discourse and Discourse Analysis .....	15
2.2.2.1. The definition of discourse .....	15
2.2.2.2 More on the relations between text, genre and discourse .....	19
2.2.2.3 Intertextuality and interdiscursivity .....	20
2.2.2.4 Linguistics branches in terms of their view of discourse.....	22
2.2.2.5 Discourse Analysis .....	22
2.2.3 Critical Discourse Analysis .....	24
2.2.3.1Origins and evolvment.....	24
2.2.3.2Definition and function.....	25
2.2.3.3 Features of CDA Research .....	28
2.2.3.4 CDA approaches (branches) .....	29
2.2.3.5 Criticism of CDA.....	32
2.2.4 Translation/ Ideology/ Critical Discourse Analysis .....	35
2.2.4.1 Kinds of translation research regarding ideology .....	38
2.2.4.3 Ideological Turn in Translation Studies.....	38
2.2.5 Patterned regularities vs. Strategic interventions .....	40
2.2.6 Related Works .....	41
2.3 Summary of the Review of Literature .....	46
Chapter Three: Methodology.....	47
3.1 Overview.....	48
3.2 Research type.....	48
3.3 Research design .....	48
3.4 Corpus.....	49
3.4.1 About Milan Kundera.....	50
3.4.1.1 Why literary texts?.....	52
3.4.2 About the translators.....	52
3.4.3 About the novel.....	54



3.5 Procedures.....	55
3.6 Data collection and recording.....	55
3.7 Data processing and analysis.....	55
Chapter Four: Data Analysis .....	57
4.1 Overview.....	58
4.2 Findings .....	58
4.2.1 Micro-level Analysis .....	58
4.2.1.1 Vocabulary (lexical selection) .....	58
4.2.1.1.1 Strategies.....	58
4.2.1.1.1.1 Deletion.....	58
4.2.1.1.1.2 Alteration .....	61
4.2.1.1.1.3 Euphemism .....	62
4.2.1.1.1.4 Under-translation .....	63
4.2.1.1.1.5 Over-translation .....	64
4.2.1.1.1.6 Addition .....	66
4.2.1.2 Grammar .....	67
4.2.1.2.1 Strategies.....	67
4.2.1.2.1.1 Change/ deletion of the subject.....	67
4.2.1.2.1.2 Passivization/ depassivization.....	68
4.2.1.2.1.3 Tense shifts .....	70
4.2.1.2.2 Use of nominalization.....	71
4.2.1.2.3 positive vs. negative sentences .....	71
4.2.2 Macro-level Analysis.....	73
4.2.2.1 Strategies.....	73
4.2.2.1.1 Deletion.....	73
4.2.2.1.2 Alteration .....	74
4.2.2.1.3 Addition .....	75
4.2.2.1.4 Translator's judgment.....	76
4.2.3 Mistranslations.....	78
4.2.4 Mediation .....	80
4.2.4.1 Minimal mediation.....	80
4.2.4.2 Partial mediation.....	81
4.2.4.3 Maximal mediation .....	82
4.2.4.4 Comparing translations.....	83
4.2.4.4.1 Comparing strategies used .....	85
4.3 Discussion.....	87

Chapter Five: Conclusions & Suggestions for Further Research.....	89
5.1 Summary .....	90
5.2 Conclusion .....	91
5.3 Suggestions .....	92
Works Cited .....	94
Appendix.....	99

## List of Tables, Figures and Charts

Tables	Page
1.1 Constraints on discourse.....	19
1.2 Crisafulli's types of investigation and analysis in description and evaluation of translation.....	41
3.1 English translation of Kundera's <i>Ignorancia</i> .....	49
3.2 Persian translations of Kundera's <i>Ignorance</i> .....	50
4.1 Deletion at micro level.....	59
4.2 Alteration at micro level.....	61
4.3 Euphemism at micro level.....	62
4.4 Under-translation.....	63
4.5 Over-translation.....	65
4.6 Addition at micro level.....	66
4.7 Change/deletion of the subject.....	68
4.8 Passivization/ de-passivization.....	69
4.9 Tense shifts.....	70
4.10 Positive vs. negative sentences.....	71
4.11 Deletion at macro level.....	73
4.12 Alteration at macro level.....	74
4.13 Addition at macro level.....	75
4.14 Translator's judgment.....	76
4.15 Mistranslations.....	78
4.16 Minimal mediation.....	80
4.17 Partial mediation.....	81

4.18 Maximal mediation.....	82
4.19 Representation of number of instances found, according to level, degree and translator.....	84
4.20 The number of instances each strategy is used by each translator at Micro- level Vocabulary.....	86
4.21 The number of instances each strategy is used by each translator at Micro-level Grammar.....	86
4.22 The number of instances each strategy is used by each translator at Macro-level.....	87

**Figures**

1.1 Fairclough's three-stage model.....	6
2.1 Hatim and Mason's relation between social occasions, genre, discourse and text.....	20
4.1 Distribution of strategies in micro-level analysis of vocabulary.....	67
4.2 Distribution of grammatical strategies.....	72
4.3 Distribution of strategies at macro-level.....	77
4.4 Distribution of mediation degrees.....	83
4.5 The comparison of the translators in terms of the number of instances.....	84
4.6 The comparison of number of mediation instances in each degree for the translations.....	85

**Charts**

4.1 Overview of strategies.....	78
---------------------------------	----

## **List of Abbreviations**

**CDA= Critical Discourse Analysis**

**DA= Discourse Analysis**

**ST= Source Text**

**TT= Target Text**

**TS= Translation Studies**

# **Chapter One: The Problem**

## *1.1 Overview*

Investigating ideology and ideological issues in translation is not a new topic. However, attempts to systematically study this area haven't been so much popular among the researchers. Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) which takes a number of approaches towards the social analysis of discourse (Fairclough 258-284) has proved to be a viable and relevant approach for this reason. As it bridges the gap between social sciences and textual analysis, it can meet part of the requirements of research in the interdisciplinary fields.

Considering the field of translation studies, in the dichotomy between postmodern or cultural studies and descriptive and linguistic approaches, linguistic approaches have also taken cultural considerations into account which are particularly evident in studies associates with discourse analysis. CDA is different from other kinds of discourse analysis, to name a few, in that it provides a critical dimension in its theoretical and descriptive accounts of text. (Gunter Kress 2) Also, it treats language as a type of social practice among other practices used to represent and signify things. It is critical, since it is both linguistically oriented and socially oriented.

Furthermore, As Robert Kaplan (1) states "the understanding [...] of grammar and lexicon does not constitute the understanding [...] of text". Meaning can be derived from the interaction between the author's intent and his/her ability to convey it through a code system and the receptor's intent and his/her ability to decode what the author has encoded. There is also general agreement that understanding a text is a prerequisite for translating it (Schäffner 178) and author's intention may be influenced by ideology (or ideologies).

This research is an attempt to discuss these issues by taking the CDA approach in the analysis and comparison of two translations of a contemporary literary work within a causal-comparative model.

### ***1.2 Background of the problem***

Translation studies today is said to be at another turn, i.e. ideological turn. This is obviously a turn which signifies the growth of trends considering ideological issues within the field. However, fewer systematic studies with the purpose of showing the effects of ideology in translation, especially in literature and more particularly focusing on novels have been carried out. The greater enthusiasm of translation scholars entails more attention to developing and/or employing models serving the aim of throwing light on less clear areas. In the last few decades researches have started to see a tendency towards cultural dimensions, more visibly around the period of cultural turn. In discussion with such new viewpoints, quantitative analysis of translator's outlook and background represented in sensitive points in his/her translations attracts increasing attention.

### ***1.3 Statement of the problem***

The analysis of the effect of translational solutions on the ideological contents of texts as well as that of the ideological orientations manifested in translation can show the conscious or unconscious, or intentional/unintentional strategies chosen by translators, which may shed lights on the process as well as the product of translation. Sometimes the translator's strategies can result in mediation (manipulation) of the ST. Meanwhile, different cases of mediation can be labeled with (interpreted by) the translator's strategies, if it is an intentional intervention or not. The concern here, in fact, is to show the possibility of existence of such mediatory influence on the



understanding and hence the attitude of a translation's readership to what the original has tried to convey and how.

#### *1.4 Significance of the study*

Since the majority of the scholars, in one way or another, agree on the tendency of translated texts to deviate from the original texts, it is of great importance to recognize and deal with the possible underlying reasons. The whole notion of translation as communication across cultures implies the idea that a change of either language or culture, brings about a change in the other. (Koskinen 1)

In addition, recent trends in linguistics, such as discourse analysis, focus on the communicative function of language, derived from Halliday's systemic functional grammar, and this shows the necessity of more systemic researches in the field. Critical linguistics, the direct parent of CDA, to use de Beaugrande's term explores the ways in which ideologies are coded in expression. As explained by Simpson (1993: 5), in critical linguistics, 'ideology is defined as the taken -for- granted assumptions, beliefs and value systems shared collectively by social groups.' It has also been defined as meaning in the service of power. (Tiina Puurtinen 2) Basically, an awareness of the subtle ways in which meaning in the form of language use carries ideology can help determine what brings dominant powers to manipulation of information and how it can have impacts on readers' perception, which possibly makes them not be indifferent to discourse production practices. (Rahimi Ali 2)

In a more general way, what can be achieved through applying CDA in translated works is the study of new cultural forms of textual expressions and a detailed study of new textual demands in new communities.

### ***1.5 Purpose of the study***

Looking at how CDA might be beneficial in the investigation of ideological and discursive issues in translation and how ideologies are inserted in translated texts via significant and effective mediation, are the objectives of the present study.

Since texts not only reflect ideological and political stances, but also produce ideological effects and as Fairclough (7) holds that text both reproduce and transform reality, this study aims to illustrate what happens which brings a transformation in reality expressed in ST as compared with that of TT.

### ***1.6 Research Questions***

The questions this study attempts to find answers for are:

- 1- How can CDA contribute in identifying areas of ideological interventions of translations?
- 2- How and to what extent ideology determines translator's decisions in translating literary works?
- 3- In what ways can the results of ideological analyses of translations help translators and researchers?
- 4- Are there specific translation strategies and patterns applied to the Persian translations of Kundera's *Ignorance*?

### ***1.7 Research Hypotheses***

Based on the research questions, the following hypothesis is drawn which is confirmed as a result of this study.

There exist certain translation strategies employed by translators and regularities observed in Persian translations of Milan Kundera's *Ignorance*.

## 1.8 Theoretical framework

CDA, beginning to develop as a separate area around 1980s, now consists of different approaches. It employs techniques for the study of textual practice and language use as social and cultural practices. According to Jørgenson and Phillips (60), CDA with its different versions is used in two ways: Fairclough uses it in describing the approach that he has developed and it is also used as a name for an extensive movement within discourse analysis, in which Fairclough's approach is a part. CDA is classified to three stages: description, interpretation, and explanation. According to Rahimi and Sahragard (4), in Fairclough's framework, the analysis has moved away from 'whatness' of the text (description) to 'howness' (interpretation) and 'whyness' (explanation). The relationship between these three stages can be seen in the diagram below which is a rough diagram of the model.

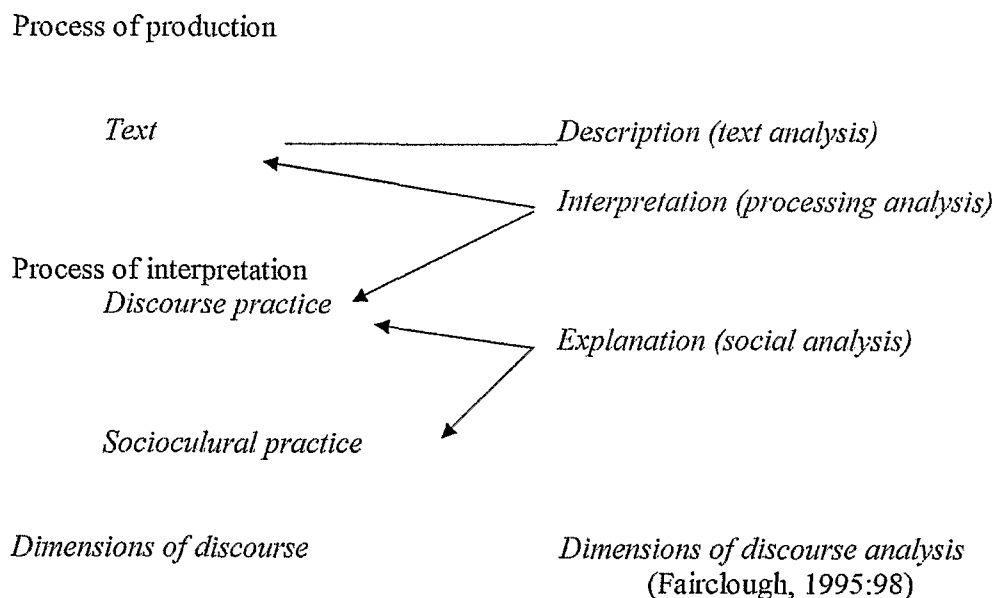


Figure 1-1 Fairclough's three-stage model

In this model, text, discourse practice and social practice are three dimensions of every instance of language use. (Jørgenson 67) A detailed discussion of the three stages is presented in chapter two.

Therefore, the theoretical framework of this study is based on Fairclough's CDA. Mainly it draws on the features and levels of textual analysis. I've also used Farahzad's (2007) proposed translation strategies for Fairclough's approach.

### ***1.9 Definition of key terms***

The key terms for which I will present conceptual definitions in this section are: discourse, ideology, CDA and mediation.

**1-Discourse:** Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (7<sup>th</sup> ed.) defines discourse as: "the use of language in speech and writing in order to produce meaning; language that is studied in order to see how the different parts of a text are connected." In the glossary provided in Hatim and Munday (334-353), discourse is defined this way: Modes of speaking and writing which involve participants in adopting a particular attitude towards areas of socio-cultural activity. There have been some other varying definitions of this term which are discussed in more detail in later chapters.

**2- Ideology:** According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, ideology is: 1. a set of ideas that an economic or political system is based on. 2. a set of beliefs, especially one held by a particular group, that influences the way people behave. According to Hatim and Munday (2004) the term may be defined as: a body of ideas that reflects the beliefs and interests of an individual, a group of individuals, a societal institution, etc. and that ultimately finds expressions in language.

**3- CDA:** Critical Discourse Analysis is an approach/framework which is not only the description of formal features of discourse, but it also attempts to explain the relations between language, society, and ideology. Therefore, it is both linguistically and socially oriented. CDA, in sum, includes a variety of approaches towards the social analysis of discourse.