

## SUMMARY

of the thesis for the degree of Philosophy Doctor (PhD)  
Specialty “6D020700 – Translation Studies”

**Manapbayeva Zhannura Zharkanbekovna**

Adequacy of reproduction of national realia in S. Yelubay’s novel "Ak Boz Uy"  
in Russian and English translations

Translation of literary works from Kazakh into other languages goes back to the middle of the 19th century. It was at this time that Kazakh translation science began to take shape. In the Soviet times, literary works written in the Kazakh language were mostly translated into Russian, while their translations into other world languages are a relatively recent development. Currently work is underway to translate anthologies of modern Kazakh prose and poetry into 6 UN languages within the framework of the project "Zhahandagy zamanai Kazakhstandyk madeniet" implemented by the National Translation Bureau under the "Rukhani Zhagyru" program initiated by Elbasy N.A.Nazarbayev. The works of several writers and poets have already been translated into world languages.

The appearance of such translations boosted up the comparative analysis in the field of translation studies and raised the acute problem of the quality of literary translations, because most of them are translated through the intermediary Russian language. As revealed by such studies, the quality of the Kazakh literature translations into other languages leaves much to be desired, especially in view of the numerous semantic errors committed by the translators. Since Russian is the official language in Kazakhstan widely spoken alongside with Kazakh, it is much easier for translation experts and recipients to determine the quality of translation into that language. However, there is little information on the quality of Kazakh translations into other languages, particularly into English which is a foreign language in our country. We have a vague idea as to how our Kazakh literature and culture is presented to the world. Therefore, there is an urgent need to study the Kazakh literature translations published in world languages. Such studies meet the objectives of the national idea of the national project "Mangilik el" and contribute to the dissemination of the Kazakh national values.

**General description of research.** The doctoral thesis is devoted to the study of the adequacy of translating the Kazakh national realia into Russian and English in the trilogy novel "Ak Boz Uy" by the famous Kazakh writer S. Yelubay, the employed translation strategies and techniques, their effectiveness, factors influencing the choice of a certain technique, as well as translation errors.

**Relevance of research work.** Until now, the novel-trilogy by S. Yelubay "Ak Boz uy" has been considered in translation studies from the point of translation of historical realia and in the aspect of cultural translation. However, the translation of national realia in the trilogy has not constituted a separate object of research, and the translations of the second and third books of the trilogy have not been subjected to any translation analysis.

The problem of realia in translation studies retains its relevance, since realia are a type of non-equivalent vocabulary, and their adequate translation is quite challenging for any translator. The issues of equivalence and adequacy in translation of national realia have not still found an unambiguous solution in the translation studies around the world. In addition, today we see a small number of studies on the translation of Kazakh realia into other languages.

In recent years, in Kazakh translation studies, the number of works devoted to the topic of realia has been increasing from year to year, but they are largely descriptive in nature. They focus primarily on describing translation techniques and determining the degree of preservation of national-historical content, but the prescriptive conclusions that could guide future translators are by far insufficient. Therefore, it is important to formulate the rules and requirements for adequate translation of Kazakh works of art containing non-equivalent realia into other languages.

Modern research on translation of realia in Kazakh translation studies is based on microscopic analysis, which examines the translation of realia words in a specific microcontext. In this regard, the need to consider realia in the source and translation language from macroscopic positions, allowing to determine their number, order, features, etc. in the text of the original and the translation determines the relevance of the proposed research. Such studies require the use of methods of corpus linguistics, which are widely practiced in translation science around the world. In the context of such research, corpuses of parallel translated texts in the original and the target languages are being developed actively. It's high time to introduce such automated technologies in the Kazakh translation studies.

**The object of research** is S. Yelubay's trilogy "Ak Boz Uy" and its translation into Russian ("Lonely yurt" by L. Kosmukhamedova, "Molitva" and "Brenny mir" by A.Zh.Zhaksylykov) and English ("Lonely yurt", translated by K. Fitzpatrick).

**The research materials.** Trilingual parallel corpus, consisting of Kazakh national realia and their translations into Russian and English from S. Yelubay's trilogy "Ak Boz Uy". The research case includes about 2555 microcontexts of 420 realia-words and about 80 metarealia microcontexts.

**The research work subject.** The thesis examines the classification of realia-words and metarealia, their functions in a literary text, methods and adequacy of their translation into Russian and English.

**The purpose of the study** is to determine the adequacy of the reproduction of national realia in the trilogy by S. Yelubay "Ak Boz Uy" in the Russian and English translations. To achieve this goal, the following tasks were set:

- to delineate the theoretical foundations of the study, to define the concept of realia in translation studies, types of classification, their differences from other linguistic units and functions in the text;
- to analyze strategies and techniques for translation of realia in literary prose;
- to conduct a pre-translation analysis of the novel by S. Yelubay "Ak Boz Uy", to identify the national-historical lexical features of the novel, to classify the national realia;

- to carry out a quantitative analysis of the techniques of translating realia-words and metarealia, to determine the level of domestication and foreignization of the translations;
- to analyze the adequacy of Russian and English translations of realia-words and metarealia in the trilogy novel and identify the most frequent translation errors;
- to formulate the criteria for adequate realia translation;
- to determine the techniques for adequate translation of realia, the factors affecting the choice of this or that technique by the translator;
- to formulate the basic rules for translating realia, as well as tips for translators.

**The research methods.** The research started with a pre-translation analysis of the source text. The realia in the novel have been identified, and a trilingual parallel corpus has been compiled, based on their translations into Russian and English. The corpus has made it possible to carry out a statistical analysis of realia translations. The methods of component analysis, lexical-semantic analysis, comparative analysis, etymological analysis have been used to determine the adequacy of the realia translation.

**The theoretical and methodological basis** of the research comprises the fundamental works of domestic researchers in translation studies, such as A. Aldasheva, S. Abdrakhmanov, G. Belger, Zh.D. Dadebayev, L.N. Daurenbekova, A.S.Yermagambetova, T.O. Yessembekov, A.Zh. Zhaksylykov, Zh.A. Zhakypov, A.K.Zhumabekova, M.E. Kuantayeva, A.S. Tarakov and others, and foreign scholars such as F. Aixela, I.S. Alekseeva, M.L. Alekseeva, L.S. Barkhudarov, S. Bassnett, M. Baker, L. Venuti, V.S. Vinogradov, S. Vlahov and S. Florin, I.K. Yerbulatova, I. Levyj, R.Leppihalme, I.K. Mirzaev, P. Newmark, J.I. Retzker, G. Toury, A.V. Fedorov, N.A.Fenenko, J. Holmes, S. Hervey and J. Higgins, G.V. Chernov, G.V. Shatkov, A.D.Shveitzer, I. Espindola and others.

**The theoretical significance of the study.** This dissertation provides a comprehensive analysis of the concept of realia in translation science. In the course of determining the difference of realia from other linguistic units, two main features of realia have been identified: a) they don't have an equivalent in the target text or culture, and b) they have a national and historical color. Along with realia, which are presented in the form of words or collocations, we introduce the concept of metarealia, which are the realia presupposed or deliberately hidden by the target text author. Various classifications of realia-words and metarealia into thematic, linguistic, temporal, local, translation and others have been studied comprehensively.

While using the trilingual parallel corpus, we have identified the concept of realia trajectory in the original and in the target text. The realia trajectory is described as one of the factors influencing the choice of a particular translation option by a translator.

The research work contains an analysis of the taxonomies of realia translation techniques offered by Kazakhstani and foreign translation scholars and identifies the techniques for translating metarealia.

Analysis of the criteria for translation adequacy of the realia in literary prose has brought us to the conclusion that when translating realia in literary prose one needs to

consider not only the denotative meaning and national and historical color, but also the contextual significance of its semantic components and the form of the realia. Also, the translation must be done in the literary prose style. The earlier established types of semantic errors made in realia translation have been supplemented with new types of errors as ananthropism and didactic translation.

**The practical significance of the study.** The work provides in-depth comprehensive practical insights into realia translation. The main practical achievement of the research is the use of a trilingual parallel corpus in the analysis of realia translations. Further, this corpus can be applied in translation of the second and third books of the trilogy into English. The proposed research method can be used in subsequent translation analysis, and as a model for developing the Kazakh parallel corpus.

The results and provisions obtained in the course of the study can be used in the development of special courses on the theory and practice of translation, as teaching materials in the practice of literary translation, in the development of textbooks on translation, in the compilation of trilingual dictionaries and realia reference books, in the translation of national movies from Kazakh into Russian and English.

**The research novelty.** The research work novelty consists in the following:

- The adequacy of the reproduction of national realia in the trilogy of S. Yelubay "Ak Boz Uy" in Russian and English translations has been considered in Translation Studies for the first time.

- For the first time, we investigate the reproduction of not only "traditional" realia-words, but also metarealia expressed in the form of intertext.

- For the first time in the Kazakh translation studies, a trilingual parallel corpus of national realia has been compiled and used to ensure the accuracy of the research findings.

- For the first time, an extensive database of the trilingual parallel corpus has allowed of determining the realia trajectories in the original and in the target language translations, and estimating the domestication and foreignization rate based on extensive macroscopic data.

- The list of factors influencing the trajectory of realia in literary prose has been supplemented with additional ones.

- The list of most common types of errors of realia translation has been supplemented with additional ones.

- For the first time, the work identifies the transcription/transliteration with an in-text addition technique for translating realia in literary prose as the most effective one.

- The general rules for translating realia in literary prose such as respect for other cultures, economy, collocability and consistency have been formulated for the first time.

**Provisions for the defense:**

- Realia are found not only in the form of realia-words, but also in the form of metarealia, i.e., intertextual elements.

- Despite different classifications of realia translation techniques used by different translators, they are similar in meaning.

- The trilingual parallel corpus, consisting of realia and their translations, allows to carry out micro- and macroscopic analysis of realia translations, to determine their adequacy, the most effective translation techniques and the most typical translation errors.

- The strategy of domestication prevails in the Russian and English translations of realia in S. Yelubay's novel "Ak Boz Uy".

- Translation from the original is more adequate than mediated translation. In the mediated translation there are more semantic errors.

- When translating realia in literary prose, it is necessary to consider not only the denotative meaning and national color of realia, but also their form and the contextual significance of their semantic components.

- The most effective technique for translating realia in literary prose is transcription or transliteration with an in-text addition.

- The rules of respect, economy, collocability and consistency must be obeyed when translating realia in literary prose. Also, the literary prose style must be preserved.

**Approbation of research work.** Based on the research findings, 11 scientific articles have been published, including 2 articles in scientific journals indexed in the Scopus database, 1 article in a journal indexed in the RSCI database, 3 articles in journals included in the list provided by the Education and Science Control Committee of the Ministry of Education and Science, and 5 articles in international scientific conference proceedings.

**The structure of the research work.** The dissertation consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, a bibliography and 2 appendices. The volume of work without appendices is 199 pages. The interview with S. Yelubay is given in Appendix A. The trilingual parallel corpus of 221 pages is presented in Appendix B.