

AZERI LITERARY DEVICES IN ENGLISH

Məgalədə poeziya tərcüməsində garшыja чыхан үмуми проблемләрдән бəһс едилир. Мүəллиф инкилис дилиндən Азərbайчан дилинə, Азərbайчан дилиндən инкилис дилинə едилən шер тəрчүмэлəриндən нүмунэлər кəтирмəклə, бу проблемлəрин һəллинə јөнэлən мүлаһизэлər ирəли сүрмүшдүр.



LITERATURE



Shahla NAGHIYEVA

*The Candidate of Philological Sciences,
Senior Teacher, Khazar University*

In Azeri thinking literature is considered to be the mirror of life & also word profession . I fully agree with this definition. Because the theme of the best literary samples is taken from life & is expressed with the words existing in the language. Everybody needs to read literary works of one people & to get acquainted with the life style of that people. From this point of view translation has a unique role. Those regarding translation as a bridge between the cultures of peoples are not mistaken. But how to translate & what to translate? It depends on the adequate & native languages. Are these languages relative? Are they included into the same, or different language groups? Such factors make deep influence on the effect of translation . In translation different language structures cause difficulties & it leads to meaning falsification.

Throughout the history the peoples have had great interest to each other's literature. Foreign scholars were deeply interested in Azerbaijan literature too. English scholar I. Atkinson translated N. Ganjavi's Leyli & Majnun into English for the first time. Journal "Soviet Literature" published in Moscow was wholly devoted to Azerbaijan literature in December, 1967. Journal "Edebiyyat" published in Pennsylvania university in USA publishes a lot of samples from Azerbaijan literature. The most remarkable point here is that literary samples are translated into English directly.

Azeri experts also have done a lot in this field. The well-known Azerbaijan play-writer J. Jabbarli translated the tragedies "Hamlet" & "Othello" by the great English poet W. Shakespeare into Azerbaijan. Azeri poet Ahmed Javad translated "Othello" & "Romeo & Julietta". Abdulla Shaig tested his translation ability

in "Macbeth". We can give more & more examples in the field of translation from English into Azeri. But unfortunately we don't have so many praiseworthy translations from Azeri into English. Even if we have some there are a lot of meaning falsifications in these translations. I want to give you examples from Azerbaijan Poetry Anthology published by Progress Publisher in Moscow in 1960. This book includes Modern poetry translations of Azerbaijan Literature . Reading translation one can easily get that poems have been translated into English not through English translators directly, but through the third language- Russian language. It is obviously seen from the translations like Nabi Khazri's poem "Gyok-Gyol", "Sing Tara" by M. Mushvig & so on. It means that Azeri poetry has lost a lot in these translations. Azeri expert gives exact translation to Russian translator. He translates it using the possible literary tools of the Russian languages. Here he sacrifices some expressions for the sake of his translation's outer appearance. English translator reads it, tries to guess the meaning & expresses the meaning using the literary devices of English language. Thus, in some cases translated poem becomes quite different according to the meaning & structure from the original poem. I want to involve your attention to some lines from Ashiq Alaskar's goshma titled 'Mushgunaz'.

*Sübhün çağı mah camalın görəndə
Xəstə könüm gəldi saza Müşkünaz.
Sonatək silkinib, gərdən çəkəndə
Bənzəyirsən quya-qaza Müşkünaz.*

Its translation into English is given here:

*Early in the morning , when I see the moon's
beauty*

*My sick heart comes to the saz Mushgunaz
When you quiver just so & crane your neck
You resemble a swan , a goose, Mushgunaz!*

As it is seen here in original poem we can easily see a perfect description of a real Azeri beauty by name Mushgunaz. But English speaking people will hardly imagine it. Because the world combination "come to saz" means nothing. The word 'saz' belongs to Azeri language. It is a folk instrument. Azeri speaking people hearing "сәзә кәлмәк" understands that people are excited & happy seeing the most pleasant things or persons to them. Original poem is a poem full of national color. Those who are willing to translate such poems should be careful & should account themselves: Shall I be able to translate it maintaining its national color partially? If not they shouldn't risk doing it.

In comparison with the Azeri syllabic verse form free verse is translated into English more accurately & easily. For example: Tom Botting has translated Rasul Rza's poem about the sea:

*I showed down my pace & shouted aloud
"What cause have you, sea, to moan?
Have you never seen fisherman frozen in woe?"*

The translation completely coincides with the original poem.

Azerbaijan language is rich with literary tools & national color. Translating from Azeri into English we should find adequate literary devices & use it effectively as we can. I deeply love Azerbaijan poetry & also I am not indifferent to the English poetry. I have translated poems from Azeri into English & from English into Azeri. In my experience I have witnessed that my poetry translation from English into Azeri is more affective than from Azeri into English. Because I know my language with all its beauty & literary devices & I can use them in my translation. To succeed in this field requires us collaboration with the English & American researches.

I have translated S. Vurgun's poem "Why so older you got, poet." Here are some lines from the translation:

*Though my hair goes grey
Still life is full of spray.
I have my pen & forever
It will make me so braver.*

*My land, my love will tell never
What's happened, aren't you young yet?
Why so older you got, poet!*

Gazal is one of the famous styles of Azerbaijan poetry. We know that in gazal the first two lines are rhymed, but the consequent first lines are free, the second lines are rhymed. It means that it is not necessary that each two lines are rhymed in gazal like in sonnet. No matter Azeri language lacks sonnet & English lacks gazal verse form they are easily translated. Here are some lines in English from the well-known gazal master Mahammad Fizuli:

*My love has tired me of my life will she not tire
of cruelty?
My sigh has set the spheres on fire –
will not the candles of my passion burn?
On those faint & fail for her, my love bestows
a healing drug
Why does she give none to me, does she not think
that I am sick?
I hid my pain from her. They said tell it to your love
If I tell that faithless one I do not know,
will she believe, or will she not?*

And some lines from W. Shakespeare's 'Sonnet 130':

*I love to hear her speak. Yet well I know
That music hath a far more pleasing sound.
I grant I never saw a goddess go :
My mistress when she walks , treads on the
ground.
And yet by heaven, I think my love as rare
As any she belied with false compare.*

Let's pay attention to its translation into Azeri:

*Musiqi səsinə olsam da heyran
Mən onu sevirəm danışan zaman
Nazlı yerişinə baxaraq bu gün
Ona heyran oldum həm də düşündüm
Sənə şükür olsun böyük yarıdan
Sevgimi bənzərsiz yaratdığınan.*

As it is seen here gazal & sonnet have been translated maintaining the meaning of original poem.

In some cases meaning is sacrificed for the sake of form. But I think that meaning should be maintained trying somehow to keep verse form too. Translation opens our closed ways to world culture. Let us not miss this chance.