University: Badji Mokhtar Annaba

Faculty: Arts, Human and Social Sciences

Department: Translation

 Class:
 Master 1 – S 2
 - Program: Master Ar/En/Ar

 Unit:
 Methodology of translation (منهجية الترجمة)

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Exercise:

Summarize the following text (into Arabic language) according to the synthetic translation process and principles:

Venuti & Domestication versus Foreignization

Venuti was the first to draw the critical distinction between domestication and foreignization in such a stark way in 1995. He mentioned that there are only two ways of translation: either the translator puts the author aside as far as possible, and moves the reader towards him; or he does the same to the reader, and moves the author towards him (Venuti, 1995, p. 42). He opined that the first one meant taking the reader over to the foreign culture and make him or her feel the linguistic differences, while the second meant the opposite, which is forming the text in a way to be familiar to the readers, in other words, bringing the foreign culture closer to the reader in the target culture. Venuti (1995, 20), in his book, the Translator's Invisibility, named the first method the foreignizing method, and the second the domesticating method. In that book, he discussed the two methods in the context of society, politics, ideology and history. He added that the domesticating method dominates Anglo-American culture which requires fluent translating.

Under the norms of fluency, the target text includes no traces of translation that can be seen, and is read as if it had been written by the original author in the target language. The differences existing between the two languages are replaced by something familiar to the target language readers. Such replacement makes it easier for the target language readers to understand and to follow the translated texts, and it minimizes the foreignness of the target text. Foreignizing method, however, seeks to restrain the ethnocentric violence of translation, and it is a strategic cultural intervention in the current state of world affairs. Venuti as a matter of fact, advocates foreignizing method which is called resistance with the hope to revolt the suzerain culture in excolonized countries and regards it as a form of resistance against ethnocentrism and racism, culture narcissism and imperialism.

Venuti as well, argues that "domestication" further covers adherence to domestic literary canons by carefully selecting the texts that are likely to lend themselves to such a translation strategy (Venuti 1997:241), whereas foreignization necessitates opting for a foreign text as well as developing a method of translation that would not include dominant cultural language(Venuti 1997:242). Domestication therefore, can be regarded as the attempt to take all the essential measures and modifications of the ST to achieve a connection in effect, while foreignization is the attempt determined by the translator to keep the flavor and the touch of the original text, as can be seen by the use of special vocabulary or sticking to the original syntax.

¹- *Ethnocentric*: showing a failure to recognize that other people's cultures are also important and valuable.