

## The Accuracy of the English-Indonesian Translation of Cultural Terms in Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

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### Abstract

This study attempted to analyze the accuracy of cultural terms translation in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel. The objectives of the study were to describe types of cultural terms found in the novel, to identify translation strategies used, and to analyze their accuracy. This study was conducted qualitatively. Text analysis was done by comparing the original and the translated novel. The results of the study showed that there were 108 data of cultural terms that were classified into cultural categorization (ecology, material culture, social culture, organizations, customs, and ideas). The accuracy of cultural terms translation was presented in each categorization of cultural terms. The analysis of accuracy translation was supported by the accuracy scale given by three expert raters, and it later combined the strategies employed by the translator in translating cultural terms translation: translation by changing the lexicon, by translation by loan word, translation by cultural substitution, translation by paraphrasing using unrelated words, literal translation, translation by more general words, translation by less expressive word, and last one translation by omission. Four categorizations of cultural terms translation in the Indonesian translated novel were classified into accurate translation.

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## INTRODUCTION

Novel is one of popular literature in the world that can be enjoyed by anyone from any countries and ages. Along its popularity, it becomes easy to find the English novel in Indonesia. However, not a few people prefer the translated version of English novel to the original one. Translated novel roles as the alternative to help the readers understand and enjoy literature from around the world. Therefore, the production of translated novel is increased along the readers' demand. This phenomenon absolutely challenges

the productivity of a translator for making a good quality of translation in order to deliver the message of the original text successfully.

Translating a novel from source language to the target language is quite complicated and not as easy as translating text in common. Novel represents the culture that is embedded in the language of a society. Newmark (1998) remarks that "culture is the way of life and its manifestations that are peculiar to a community that uses a particular language as its means of expression" (p. 94). Therefore in translating a novel a translator should consider the cultural terms found in the novel. Thus, this obliges the

translator to consider various limits in the process of translating words that contain cultural terms. Larson (1984) defines that “culture as a complex of beliefs, attitudes, values, and, rules which a group of people share” (p.431). It means that the translator should be familiar with the beliefs, attitude, values and rules of one’s culture so that he can adequately understand source language text and translate it to people who have different set of beliefs, attitudes, values, and rules.

Cultural term is sensitive matter in translation. A translator cannot do only literal translation in order to transfer the meaning from the source text to the target text. S/he should have adequate knowledge of the culture of a language so that s/he is able to transfer the message without reducing its meaning. Hapsari & Setyaningsih (2013) assert that “it is important to pay attention to the culture of a language because cultural words play a significant role in describing the culture of related language. A translator often finds difficulties and leaves the original form due to no direct equivalent word of SL found in the TL” (p. 75). According to Nida & Taber (1945) there are five obstacles in translating the text: language culture, social culture, material culture, and linguistic culture. Kuncara (2015) argues that “the translation of cultural terms often raises a problem if the concept of culture in SL is hardly found in the TL, and it leads to reduce the quality on translation product” (p. 2). It can be said that a translator should notice the cultural words in both language so that the result of translation in SL will be understandable to and will not create misinterpretation to the readers. Similar to Newmark, a translator requires knowledge of literary and non-literary textual criticism since s/he has to assess the quality of a text before deciding how to interpret and then translate it (Newmark, 1982, as cited in Ismawati, 2013).

Considering significant function of translation that helps the process of transferring information from one source language to another language, this absolutely triggers the translator’s awareness of making good translation quality. There are three criteria used for translation quality assessment: namely accuracy,

acceptability and readability (Nababan, 2003, as cited in Danang, 2009). Therefore, in order to avoid creating such miscommunication in interpreting the author’s purpose, in the process of translation, the accuracy of translation should be notable. According to Larson (1984), accuracy relates to the precise understanding of the source language message and the transfer of the message as accurately as possible into the target language. During the analysis of a text a translator should be able to identify which procedures and strategies of translating cultural-specific concept seem to be more effective than the others and can be useful for particular passage (Bracaj, 2015). By choosing proper translation strategies for cultural terms, the message of SL can be successfully transferred to TL and this will result good quality of translation.

## METHODS

In this research, the researcher used a descriptive qualitative method. According to Surakhmad (1985) a descriptive research is a method in which the researcher collects, arranges and interprets the data to solve the problems. So in descriptive qualitative method a researcher is doing the investigation by analyzing the selected data by drawing an interpretation that will finally lead the researcher to a conclusion. The object of this study is a novel entitled *A Thousand Splendid Sun* written by Khaled Hosseini and its Indonesian version with the same title translated by Berliani M. Nugrahani.

There were two types of data the researcher used for collecting the data. The first data collection gained from both the English and Indonesian novel. The researcher read both of the novels to understand the novel and then to note the words and phrases that were considered as cultural terms. After reading and finding out the cultural terms, the researcher remarked the words and clauses in the Indonesian version then comparing them with the original version. After that the researcher categorized the cultural terms by its type according Newmark’s theory of CSI there were ecology, material, social, and

organization. Afterwards the researcher analyzed and classified which strategies used by the translator for translating the cultural terms. The second data collection was the accuracy scales assessment that was gained from the three expert raters. The researcher then analyzed the accuracy of cultural terms translation by examine the rate of accuracy given by the informants by referring to expert rater assessment.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this part, the researcher presented the result and discussion of the accuracy of the English-Indonesian Translation of cultural terms in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Before making the conclusion for the translation accuracy, the researcher needed the data of cultural terms and the strategy of translation to support the research.

### Cultural Terms Categorization

Adapting Nida, Newmark (1988) categorizes the cultural term into different groups; ecology, material culture/artifacts, social culture, organizations, customs, ideas (political, social, religious, artistic), and gesture and habit (p. 95). The researcher found 180 data of cultural terms in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Those terms were divided into four categories; there are ecology, material culture, social culture, and organization, custom, ideas.

**Table 1.** Cultural terms categorization

| Types of Cultural Terms  | Frequency | Percentage |
|--|-----------|------------|
| Material   |           |            |
| culture/artifacts  | 74        | 69.2%      |
| Ecology  | 18        | 16.8%      |
| Social culture   | 11        | 10.3%      |
| Organizations, custom, ideas, (political, social, religious, artistic) | 4         | 3.7%       |

The table of culture-specific items categorization above showed that the highest number of culture-specific items in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel was material culture with 74 of 180 items (69.2%). It followed by ecology with frequency 18 data, social culture 11 data, and organizations, customs, ideas 4 data. Here are

some explanation and example of each cultural term categorization.

### Material Culture

In this research, the material culture was divided into some sub-categories: clothes, food, houses, transport and material culture itself for items that are not classified into sub-category.

#### Example 1:

SL Like the **accordion** on which Tariq's father sometimes played old Pashto songs, time stretched and contracted depending on Tariq's absence or presence

TL *Bagaimana **akordeon** yang kadang-kadang digunakan oleh ayah Tariq untuk mengalunkan lagu-lagu Pashto tua, waktu dapat meregang dan menyusut, bergantung pada kehadiran dan ketidakhadiran Tariq.*

The researcher found out most of material culture identified was not classified into sub-category of cultural specific items since. This material culture properly refers to any concrete substance that cannot be grouped into food, clothes, house, and transport. For example: *cigarette, hydraulic pump, and accordion*. It can be seen from the data number 83 that *accordion* was classified as material culture. In the time of American invasion in Afghanistan, the instrument was played by the American soldiers. It is a portable keyboard wind instrument in which forced past free reeds by means of a hand operated below.

#### Example 2:

SL On the way there, Mariam saw herb shops, and open fronted cubbyholes where shoppers bought oranges and pears, books, **shawls**, even falcons

TL *Dalam perjalanan menuju rumah Jalil, Mariam melihat toko-toko obat, los-los terbuka tempat orang-orang membeli jeruk dan pir, buku, **kerudung**, bahkan burung elang.*

The example of clothes material culture sub-category can be seen in the data number 33. *Shawl* is a simple item of clothing, loosely worn over the shoulders, upper body and arms, and sometimes also over the head. It is used by the Afghanistan women to cover their head. It is translated to Indonesian into *kerudung*, a garment

usually used by Muslim women to cover upper body usually from head to chest.

### **Ecology**

Ecology has five sub-categories divided by Newmark (1988). There are fauna, flora, geography, geology, and plain. The researcher got 18 items (16.8%) that were categorized as ecology from 107 cultural-specific items. In this research, the researcher found fauna and flora sub-category.

#### **Example 1:**

SL Mariam walked along noisy, crowded, **cypress** lined boulevards, amid a steady stream of pedestrians, bicycle riders, and mule drawn *gari*, and no one threw a rock at her.

TL *Mariam berjalan menyusuri bulevar yang ribut dan sesak yang diapit oleh deretan pohon cypress, di tengah-tengah para pejalan kaki, pengendara sepeda, gari yang ditarik oleh bagal, dan tidak seorang pun melemparinya dengan batu.*

The highest number of ecology items found was the flora sub-category. The researcher found out 15 items that were included in flora sub-category, for example *cypress*, *pokeroot*, *mugwort*, *lilies*, and *petunias*. The number 21 showed that *cypress* is included as flora sub-category since *cypress* is a kind of tree and it is translated to Indonesian into *pohon cypress*

#### **Example 2:**

SL On the way there, Mariam saw herb shops, and open fronted cubbyholes where shoppers bought oranges and pears, books, shawls, even **falcons**.

TL *Dalam perjalanan menuju rumah Jalil, Mariam melihat toko-toko obat, los-los terbuka tempat orang-orang membeli jeruk dan pir, buku, kerudung, bahkan burung elang.*

The researcher also found some items included as fauna sub-categorization. There were *falcons*, *finches*, and *cobwebs*. The data number 22 showed that *falcon*, which was translated to Indonesian into *burung elang*, was classified as a kind of animal. It was included into fauna sub-category as it means to be a bird of prey with long pointed wings.

### **Social Culture**

According to Newmark (1998) social culture is divided into games, health, work and social culture itself for items that are not classified into sub-category from). The researcher got 11 items (10.3%) of 180 items of cultural-specific items in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. From 11 items, researcher only found the sub-category of health, work, and social culture itself.

#### **Example 1:**

SL From a **street vendor**, Rasheed bought her ice cream.

TL *Dari seorang pedagang kaki lima, Rasheed membelikan es krim untuk Mariam.*

There were three items are classified into work sub-category. There were *street vendor*, *midwife*, and *servant*. The data number 66 showed that that *street vendor* was classified as a kind of job. *Street vendor* is a person who sells something in the street, either from a stall or van or with their goods laid out on the sidewalk.

#### **Example 2:**

SL Every rash was either **chicken pox** or **measles**.

TL *Setiap ruam di kulit bayinya dia curiganya sebagai penyakit cacar air atau campak.*

The items are included as health sub-category is referred to any matter or circumstances that relate to health. For example, *bluish*, *chicken pox*, and *measles*. The data number 95 described that *measles* or *chicken pox* was the one which caused skin rash. It was classified as health sub-category since it is included as disease that is caused by skin disorder.

### **Organization, Customs, Ideas**

Newmark (1988) divides organization into some sub-categories of culture-specific items. There are artistic, concepts, customs, and religious. In this research, organization was the lowest number of culture-specific items categorization. The researcher found 4 items (3.7%) of 108 items of cultural-specific items in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel.

#### **Example 1:**

SL The lake had snatched him from Rasheed, swallowed him up, just as a whale had

swallowed the boy's namesake **prophet** in Koran

TL *Danau telah merenggut anak itu dari Rasheed, menelannya, tepat seperti kisah dalam Al-Quran, ketika paus menelan seorang nabi dengan nama yang sama.*

Organizations, customs, ideas category is divided into sub-category: artistic, concepts, customs, religious. The researcher found some terms. There were, *tattoo, contract, prophet* and *idolatry*. The data number 79 showed religious sub-category of organization. *Prophet* commonly relates to religious matter. *Prophet* means someone who speaks by divine inspiration; someone who is an interpreter of the will of God.

|    |                                     |      |        |        |       |
|----|-------------------------------------|------|--------|--------|-------|
|    | Using Unrelated Word                |      |        |        |       |
| 5. | Literal Translation                 | 3    | 3      | 0      | 0     |
| 6. | Translation by More General Word    | 1    | 1      | 0      | 0     |
| 7. | Translation by Less Expressive Word | 1    | 1      | 0      | 0     |
| 8. | Translation by Omission             | 1    | 0      | 0      | 1     |
|    | Total                               | 108  | 92     | 11     | 5     |
|    | Percentage                          | 100% | 85.19% | 10.18% | 4.63% |

### Cultural Terms Translation and Accuracy

In this research, the researcher also found out eight translation strategies applied by the translator in translating cultural terms in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel. There were changing the lexicon with its equivalence in target language, translation by loan word, translation by cultural substitution, translation by paraphrasing using unrelated word, literal translation, translation by more general word, translation by less expressive word, translation by omission. This part of analysis enclosed the description of each translation strategy used for translating cultural terms and its accuracy.

**Table 2.** Translation Accuracy

| No. | Translation Strategies                                       | F  | Accuracy Score |   |   |
|-----|--|----|----------------|---|---|
|     |  |    | 3              | 2 | 1 |
| 1.  | Changing the Lexicon with its Equivalence in Target Language | 58 | 52             | 6 | 0 |
| 2.  | Translation by Loan Word                                     | 21 | 18             | 1 | 2 |
| 3.  | Translation by Cultural Substitution                         | 20 | 16             | 2 | 2 |
| 4.  | Translation by Paraphrasing                                  | 3  | 1              | 2 | 0 |

Based on the table accuracy in above from 108 data, 92 data or 85.19 % were categorized in classification A or accurate, 11 data or 10.18% were categorized in classification B or less accurate, and 5 data or 4.63% were categorized in classification C or inaccurate. The description of classification translation is as follow:

#### *Changing the Lexicon with its Equivalence in Target Language*

There are alternatives in translating those problems, namely (1) translating the idea of source language lexicon, (2) changing the lexicon with its equivalents in the target language, (3) using the lexicon in source language and adding a note (Soemarmo, 1988, as cited in Danang, 2009). Changing the lexicon with its equivalence in target language replaces the term in source language with its equivalent in target language which has closest meaning. There were 52 from 58 data translated accurately by this strategy and 6 data were translated inaccurately.

#### **Example 1:**

SL Bibi jo too always brought Mariam something, a box of dishlemeh candy, a basket of **quinces**.

TL *Bibi jo selalu membawa oleh-oleh untuk Mariam, sekotak permen dishlemeh, sekeranjang buah kesemek.*

*Quinces* was translated successfully to Indoneisan into *buah kesemek*. *Quinces* are Middle East fruit similar to apples and pears which have

smooth flesh. This term hardly finds its equivalence in Indonesian since there is no kind of fruit found in Indonesia. Therefore, to make the readers familiar with the fruit, the translator renders the English term into *buah kesemek*. The translator thought that *buah kesemek* has the closest meaning with *quinces* despite different genus of fruit. Most of the raters gave score 3 for this translation. Therefore, this translation was classified into accurate translation.

#### Example 2:

- SL Mariam saw **herb shops**, and open fronted cubbyholes where shoppers bought oranges and pears, books, shawls, even falcons.
- TL *Mariam melihat toko-toko obat, los-los terbuka tempat orang-orang membeli jeruk dan pir, buku, kerudung, bahkan elang.*

The translator translated the term *herb shop* into *toko-toko obat*. By changing the lexicon with its equivalent in the target language, the translation for this term resulted to be less accurate translation, for there are some rewriting and changing are needed. From 15 respondents, 8 gave score 3 as they considered it was accurate translation, 6 gave score 2 as they considered that *herb* was supposed to be translated into *herbal* instead of *obat*, and 1 gave score 1 as he believed that this translation was inaccurate.

#### Translation by Loan Word

This strategy commonly deals with cultural specific items translation. Baker (1992) states, "This strategy is particularly common in dealing with culture-specific items, modern concepts, and buzz word" (p. 34). This strategy is used when the terms in the source language do not find their equivalences in the target language. The translator adopts or keeps the words from the source language and incorporates it into the target language without translation. This translation does not change the structure of source text a change, but this may sound foreign for the adopted words that are unfamiliar to the readers. There were 18 from 21 data were translated successfully by this strategy, 1 data was translated less accurately, and 2 data were translated inaccurately.

#### Example 1:

- SL Mariam saw herb shops, and open fronted cubbyholes where shoppers bought oranges and **pears**, books, shawls, even falcons.
- TL *Mariam melihat toko-toko obat, los-los terbuka tempat orang-orang membeli jeruk dan pir, buku, kerudung, bahkan elang.*

The English term *pear* is successfully translated to Indonesian into *pir*. The translator gave proper translation by using loan word strategy as it is successfully transferred the message of cultural term in the source language without making any distortion of meaning. Thus, this translation was classified into accurate translation. All of the 15 respondents gave score 4 for this translation. Therefore, this translation was classified into accurate translation.

#### Example 2:

- SL Nana cherished each blue-and-white **porcelain** piece, the graceful curve of the pot's spout, the hand-painted finches and chrysanthemums, the dragon on the sugar bowl, meant to ward off evil.
- TL *Nana sangat melindungi setiap cangkir porselen berwarna biru dan putih itu, lekukan anggut mulut tekonya, burung-burung pipit dan bunga-bunga krisan yang digambar tangan di permukaannya, gambar naga penolak bala di mangkuk gulanya.*

*Porcelain* is a hard white shiny substance made by baking clay and used for making delicate cups, plates and decorative objects. The translator adopts the *porcelain* for *orselen*, for this term is equivalent to the source language and also existed and familiarly used in Indonesian. The average of accuracy assessment showed that this translation was classified into less accurate translation since the term *porcelain* was translated less accurately into TL.

#### Example 3:

- SL Mariam walked along noisy, crowded, cypress lined **boulevards**, amid a steady stream of pedestrians, bicycle riders, and mule drawn *garis*, and no one threw a rock at her.
- TL *Mariam berjalan menyusuri bulevar yang ribut dan sesak yang diapit oleh deretan pohon cypress, di tengah-tengah para pejalan kaki, pengendara sepeda, gari yang ditarik oleh bagal, dan tidak seorang pun melemparinya dengan batu.*

By applying translation by loan word, the message of cultural term for *boulevards* was not successfully transferred to target language. From 15 respondents, there were 10 who gave score 1 for this translation, and the other 5 gave score 2 and 3. The translator tried to find out the equivalence for this term in Indonesian by borrowing the English term, and as the result she translated the term *boulevard* into *bulevar*. This translation is not familiar, because *bulevar* in Indonesian term is not commonly used. Therefore, it can be concluded that this translation is classified into inaccurate translation since it gains only 1.6 for the translation accuracy.

#### **Translation by Cultural Substitution**

There are some strategies to be used dealing with various types of non-equivalence. One of them is translating by cultural substitution (Baker, 1992). In this strategy, translator replaces cultural specific item of source language or expression with target language item. Although this does not result in the same propositional meaning translation, this helps make the term is more understandable for the target language readers, so they can identify the term better. There were 16 data from 20 data were translated accurately by this strategy, 2 data were less accurately translated, and 2 data were inaccurately translated.

#### **Example 1:**

- SL Then the **rugs** were folded  
 TL *Lalu, sajadah kembali dilipat*

The term *rug* was successfully translated into *sajadah*. *Rug* is a kind of carpet, and in the novel context the rug is used for layer while praying. In Indonesian, this term is equivalent to *sajadah*. The message of cultural term *rug* was well transferred to the target language by cultural substitution strategy used by the translator. Most of the raters gave score 3 for this datum, therefore this translation was classified into accurate translation.

#### **Example 2:**

- SL The padded **headpiece** felt tight and heavy on her skull, and it was strange seeing the world through a mesh screen.

- TL *Kerudung yang berlapis tebal terasa ketat dan berat diatas tempurung kepalanya, dan sangat aneh rasanya melihat dunia dari balik lubang-lubang kasa.*

The message of the term *headpiece* was successfully transferred to the target language. It was translated into *kerudung* because the translator used cultural substitution for translating this term. However, there was some rewriting needed for this translation. In the novel context, the term *headpiece* means to be a head cover for muslim women called *burqa*. In Indonesian, it is translated into *kerudung*. There were 5 respondents who gave score 1 because they considered that it was inaccurate translation, while there were 7 respondents who gave score 2 as they considered it was less accurate translation since *kerudung* was supposed to be translated into veil. Therefore, it could be concluded that this translation for this term was classified into less accurate translation.

#### **Example 3:**

- SL She devoured the entire bowl, the crushed pistachio topping, the tiny **rice noodles** at the bottom. She marveled at the bewitching texture, the lapping sweetness of it.  
 TL *Dia menghabiskan seluruh isi mangkuknya, dari pistachio cincang di atasnya, hingga bola-bola tepung beras kecil di dasar mangkuknya.*

The term *rice noodle* was translated into *bola-bola tepung beras*. Most of the respondents gave score 1. The translator used cultural substitution for translating the term. However, the cultural term in the source language was not successfully transferred to the target language, for it made distortion of meaning. *Rice noodle* is kind of food (noodle). The translation substituted the term into *bola-bola tepung beras*. In Indonesian term, *rice noodle* is more familiar to *bihun*. It could be concluded that this translation was classified into inaccurate translation as its level accuracy is only 1.6.

#### **Translation by Paraphrasing Using Unrelated Word**

Another translation strategies proposed by Baker (1992) is translating by paraphrasing using unrelated word. Translator can render it by making a phrase with unrelated word if the

cultural concept of the source language can be lexicalized in the target language, the. This strategy will make the readers of target language a concept of understanding. In this research, there were 3 data were translated by using this strategy. 1 data was translated accurately, while 2 data were less accurately translated into Indonesian.

**Example 1:**

SL On the wall beside the window stood a dark **wooden cabinet**.

TL *Bersandar pada dinding di dekat jendela adalah sebuah lemari kayu berpintu kaca.*

This translation was classified into accurate translation, for the accuracy level of its translation is more than 2.5. The term *wooden cabinet* is translated into *lemari berpintu kaca*. The translator used translation by using unrelated word so that the message of cultural term will be more understandable for the readers. Thus, 8 respondents gave score 3 for this translation.

**Example 2:**

SL There was a table, two cane seat chairs, two folding chairs, and, in the corner, a **black, cast iron stove**.

TL *Selain sebuah sofa, disana juga terdapat sebuah meja, dua kursi kayu, dua kursi lipat, dan, di sudut ruangan, sebuah tungku pemanas dari besi tempa hitam.*

*Black cast-iron stove* is a stove which is made by black iron formed by a mold. It means that hot liquid metal is poured into a mold or cast. While the Indonesian translation of this term uses the word *besi tempa* which means *wrought* iron. The translation showed that the translator expresses the meaning of the English term into Indonesian by changing the lexicon paraphrase using unrelated word. However, this translation resulted less accurate translation since there was distortion of meaning for this translation. Most of the respondents gave score 2 for this translation. The term *black cast iron stove* should have been simply translated into *tungku pemanas besi*.

**Literal Translation**

Literal translation is the other strategy can be used by the translator to translate cultural terms. It is a term used to describe word-for-word translation that sticks too close to the source text.

In this research, there were 3 data translated by using this strategy. All of them were classified into accurate translation.

**Example 1:**

SL She walked on a maroon carpet with a repeating blue and yellow octagonal pattern, saw out of the corner of her eye the **marble bases of statues**, the lower halves of vases, the frayed ends of richly colored tapestries hanging from walls.

TL *Dia berjalan di atas permadani merah marun berpola segi-delapan biru dan kuning, dari sudut matanya melihat **dudukan-dudukan patung pualam**, bagian bawah vas-vas bunga, rumbai-rumbai dari hiasan kain warna-warni yang tergantung di dinding.*

The translator applies literal translation for this term. She translates the term *marble bases of statues* word by word, and arranges it into Indonesian become *dudukan-dudukan patung pualam*. From 15 respondents, there were 12 respondents who gave score 3 for this translation. Therefore, it could be concluded that the term *dudukan-dudukan batu pualam* was classified into accurate translation.

**Example 2:**

SL Mariam saw an outhouse on the right, in a side yard, and, on the left, a well with a hand pump, a row of **dying saplings**.

TL *Mariam melihat sebuah bangunan tambahan di sebelah kanan, di halaman samoing, dan, di sebelah kir, terdapat sebuah sumur dengan pompa air tangan serta sederet **tanaman yang telah mongering***

The translator translated the term *dying sapling* into *tanaman yang telah mongering*. The translator changed the term by literal translation in Indonesian in order to make it understandable for the readers. The back translation of it is *dying tree* showed that there was no exact term in Indonesian for rendering young tree. The average of accuracy assessment showed that this was accurate translation.

**Translation by More General Word**

Translating by more general words is commonest strategy for dealing with many types of non equivalence, particularly in the area of propositional meaning (Baker, 1992). In this

strategy, the translator translates a specific word in the source language into a general word in the target language. It is because there is no specific word for that word in the target language. There was only one datum translated by using this strategy.

**Example 1:**

SL There was a table, two **cane seat chairs**, two folding chairs, and, in the corner, a black, cast iron

TL *Selain sebuah sofa, disana juga terdapat sebuah meja, dua **kursi kayu**, dua kursi lipat, dan, di sudut ruangan, sebuah tungku pemanas dari besi tempa hitam.*

In the example above *cane* was replaced by *kayu* (wood). However, cane is a strong slender often flexible stem as of bamboos, reeds, rattans, or sugar cane. In Indonesia, people call it as *rotan*, a kind of special wood which so flexible. So, *cane* is considered as the hyponym of *kayu* (wood). From 15 respondents, there were 11 respondents gave score 3 for this translation. Therefore, this translation was classified into accurate translation.

**Translation by Less Expressive Word**

This strategy is related with expressive meaning at word level. The translator renders a word in the source language into a word in the target language which has the propositional meaning but they have different expressive meaning. There was only one datum translated by using this strategy.

**Example 1:**

SL If not for the Mujahideen, we'd still be the Soviets' **servants**, remember?

TL *Jika bukan karena mujahidin, kita masih akan tetap menjadi Soviet, ingat?*

*Servant* is a person who works in another person's house, cook, clean, etc. *Kacung* in Indonesia has the same meaning with *servant*. But *servant* and *kacung* have different expressive meaning. *Servant* has more expressive meaning than *kacung* in Indonesian, which is usually considered as a servant who does a rough job. From 15 respondents, 10 respondents gave score 3, 4 respondents gave score 2, and 1 respondent gave score 1. It could be concluded that this

translation was classified into accurate translation.

**Translation by Omission**

According to Baker's (1992) omission in translation is allowed for some contexts. In this strategy, the translator omits the some words due to paraphrase or stylistic reason. It allows the translator as long as it is not the vital word and the translated words still brings the true message if source text.

**Example 1:**

SL and so she knew that the **facade** was made of blue-and-tan terra-cotta tiles, that it had private balcony seats and a trellised ceiling.

TL *dan karena itulah Mariam mengetahui genting tembikar cokelatnya, balkon-balkon pribadinya, dan langit-langitnya yang terbuat dari jaliman kayu.*

In the example above, it can be seen that the term *façade* was omitted. The translator considered that this term does not have vital role. However, the deletion of the word in translation can distract whole meaning in a unit of sentence, and this will result in ambiguity. Most of the respondents agreed that this translation is classified into inaccurate translation since it does not convey the message of cultural term of the source language.

**CONCLUSION**

After analyzing the original novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hoseini and the translated version by Berliani Nugrahani, the researcher comes to some conclusions that also answer the research question in this study.

According to the result and finding, there were 108 data of cultural terms found in the novel. The data were divided based on cultural specific item classification proposed by Newmark. There were material culture (62.2%), ecology (16.8%), social culture (10.3%), organization, custom, ideas (3.7%). This research found out eight translation strategies were applied in translating the cultural term in the novel. Translation by changing the lexicon with

its equivalence in TL was the most frequent translation strategy used with the percentage of 53.7% followed by translation by loan word (19.5%), translation by cultural substitution (18.5%), translation by paraphrasing using unrelated word (2.8%), literal translation (2.8%), translation by more general word (0.9%), translation by less expressive word (0.9%), and translation by omission (0.9%). The analysis of each translation strategy showed that 85.19% of the data were accurately translated into Indonesian. 10.18% of the data were less accurately translated, and 4.63% were inaccurately translated. Therefore, it can be concluded that the translation of cultural term in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is accurate.

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