



CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE INTERVENTIONS SECTION

CAESURE, VOL 3: ISSUE1, 2018

Interrogating Cultural Translation: Literature and Fine Arts in Translation

The concept of Cultural Translation has been in vogue for the past few decades both in Translation studies as well as in Post-colonial studies. If one were to trace the emergence of this concept, it goes back to British Social anthropology. Talal Asad (1986) raising the issue of understanding other cultures in Anthropology, writes of it as an act of Translation, and explores the role of cultural difference and power relations in the course of Translation. In that sense, Talal Asad's essay shares certain common concerns with post-colonial discourse/analysis, which also emerged in the 1980s. But it was not Asad's article which triggered the extensive use of the word Cultural Translation in our academic discourse; it was rather an essay by Homi Bhabha (1994) in which he talks about the subjectivity of postcolonial writers/academics as a translated one. Harish Trivedi (2005) in his essay "Translating Culture Vs. Cultural Translation" expresses dissonance with the term cultural translation as defined by Homi Bhabha and argues against its use in our academic discourse. In spite of this caution, we find the word gaining currency to flag different kinds of transformations within a culture, or in cultural encounters where not necessarily just two languages/two texts are involved.

This issue of the *Interventions* Section would include some selected presentations at the Caesurae International Conference in 2017 and would invite fresh contributions from scholars working not only in literature but also in different art forms/media (film, fine arts etc.) in which we find the interaction/coexistence of different media/languages. In a way, we are trying to see what happens when the two categories - one that Roman Jakobson (2000 (1959)) termed as 'inter-semiotic translation' and the other, which is in vogue today called 'cultural translation' - are brought

together. Would this result in any fruitful forays into the vexed issue of movement of concepts embedded in a culture across cultures and media? We are certain that engaging with such cross-overs would force us to rethink the concept of text, culture and language itself.

We invite not only theoretical reflections on these issues but also empirical and application oriented studies to be presented on various facets of transformations within a cultural form; studies on subjectivity and on the way materiality gets conceptualized (coded) not only in language but also in various art forms; the ability/inability of the term cultural translation to help us to have a conceptual handle on the process of these transformations.

Call for papers

We invite abstracts and full papers on the above topic on the following themes:

1. Intercultural cross-overs in Literature, Music, Sculpture, Painting etc.
2. Inter-medial cross-overs of narratives
3. Intralingual and Interlingual movement of narratives
4. Subjectivities at translation zone
5. Cultural Translation
6. Translation of Culture
7. Internal dynamics and external influence in literary institutions
8. Comparative perspectives on literary and fine/performing arts movements
9. Interface between orality, literacy and digital media
10. Art forms during Colonial period and in the context of Globalization
11. Interdisciplinary perspectives on literature, fine arts and performing arts
12. Ethnography and literature
13. Problems of conceptualizing culture
14. Cultural Translation and Postcolonial Narratives