



ERASURE OF GAPS IN THE TERRAINS OF WOMEN TRANSLATION: UNVEILING OF DIFFERENCES AND IDEOLOGY IN ANJANA SANKAR'S *TO THE WORKPLACE*

DR RESHMI S

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

MES ASMABI COLLEGE, KODUNGALLUR

THRISSUR, KERALA

TRANSLATION: AN INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Intellectual Investigation or research
- ▶ Cultural Translation
- ▶ Bilingual/ Multilingual Writers
- ▶ Process of mediation through ideology

WOMEN TRANSLATION

- ▶ Engagement between women
- ▶ Formation of new space
- ▶ Gender issues
- ▶ Translation as production and not reproduction
- ▶ Gender constructs through the process of subversion
- ▶ Legitimize text outside gender binaries
- ▶ Depicts historical undesirability

SELECTED WORK

- ▶ Play titled *Thozhilkendrathileku* (1948) by Antharjanasamajam
- ▶ English Translation: *To The Work Place* (2008) by Anjana Sankar

BACKGROUND OF THE PLAY

- ▶ Namboodiri women in Kerala
- ▶ Hidden turmoils brought out through translation
- ▶ Unveiling history, memories and identities
- ▶ Issues of “elite subaltern”

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- ▶ To portray translation as a tool of women empowerment
- ▶ To make visible the conventional hierarchies, ideologies and social constructs before the readers
- ▶ To unveil the cultural and historical conventions and undesirability of Malayali Brahmin community
- ▶ To record lives of women in the milieu of early twentieth century Kerala culture and society.

METHODOLOGY

- ▶ Translation is writing...a productive writing. (Derrida in *The Ear of the Other*)
- ▶ Andre Lefevere talks about rewriting or interlingual translation of texts (*Translation/History/Culture*)
- ▶ Spivak's 'Translation as Culture' depicts two perspectives- a backward looking and forward looking.
- ▶ In 'The Politics of Translation' Spivak demarcates translation as an act of grasping the other and self.

TEXTUAL ANALYSIS

- Lives of women cocooned by patriarchal and patrilineal codes.
- Assigning space to women within kitchen, depriving formal education, excluding women from family and community.
- “Antharjanams” is a Namboodiri caste name which literally means “one who lives in the interiors”.
- First women’s collective theatre experiment
- Real time experience of a 13 year old orphan girl
- Establishment of a workplace
- Progressive women activists voiced against objectification of women

RELEVANCE OF THE STUDY

- ▶ Staged when gender discrimination was at its extreme
- ▶ Echoes the need to end women's slavery and advocated rights of women
- ▶ Universalizes the experiences of women
- ▶ Unravels the identities of women

CONCLUSION

- ▶ Explored the multiple dimensions and nuances
- ▶ Caste and gender hierarchy
- ▶ Tremendous change in the status of women
- ▶ Translation and women translation transport readers beyond borders, boundaries and space.



THANK YOU