



Research Paper

## Mohendra Bora's Assamese Transcreation 'Don Quixote': An Analytical Study

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**ABSTRACT:** Mohendra Bora is a famous poet, creative writer, critic, Translator, Biography writer and editor in post-independence Assamese literature. He made Assamese literature of second part of twenty century enriched in various innovative literary works. In the world of Assamese literature, Mohendra Bora is also a translator. He translated 14<sup>th</sup> numbers of book from world's various languages. Out of his translated books, some of the books are for junior readers, some of are for young readers and some are for senior readers. There are four books are translate from Indian literature and the other ten books are translate from various western languages and literature. In this discussion I analysis the translation skill of Mohendra Bora in his Assamese translated version *Don Quixote*. In evaluation of translated text, at first we specify the writing style, uses of language of translator, uses of phrase and Idioms. Then discuss and compare between source text and target text. In this paper, I discuss about how Mohendra Bora include his own view in the translation and equally he reflected the main theme of the source text. Here I use the descriptive and analytical methods to discuss about the topic.

**KEY WORDS:** Mohendra Bora, Translation, *Don Quixote*.

Received 07 November, 2020; Accepted 20 November, 2020 © The author(s) 2020.

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### I. INTRODUCTION:

Mohendra Bora is a renowned poet, creative writer, critic, Translator, Biography writer and editor in post-independence Assamese literature. He made Assamese literature of 2<sup>nd</sup> part of twenty century enriched in various innovative literary works. His literary contributions are so vast numbers and varied nature. In the field of Assamese literature Mohendra Bora is famous for his creative literature as for example symbolic poetry, critical analysis, editorial, and translations. His six numbers of poetry collection made his a distinguished poet of Assamese literature. The *Jatismar*, *Ei Nadiadi (Along this River)*, *Rupar Tilingar Mat (The Tingling of Silver Bell)*, *Ali Domojar Krusar Para (From the Cross of the Crossroads)*, *Nila Dhaturar Phool (The Blue Flowers of Thorn Apple)* and *Jiban Eti Astaval (Life is a Stable)* is his famous poetry collections.

In the world of Assamese literature, Mohendra Bora is also a translator. He translated 14<sup>th</sup> numbers of book from world's various languages. Out of his translated books, some of the books are for junior readers, some of are for young readers and some are for senior readers. There are four books are translate from Indian literature and the other ten books are translate from various western languages and literature. At first he translated *Gulliver* (1952) contains two journeys of *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swifts. After that he translate - *Don Quixote* (1953) is an abridged version of famous classic by Cervantes. *Yearling* (1968), *Pinocchio* (1970), *Nil Sagarar Sadhu (A Tale of Blue Ocea, 1975)* is a brief translated version of Victor Hugo's *Toilers of the Sea*, *Afke's Ten* (1992) is a transcreation of *Afke's Tiental* by Nienke Van Hichtum. These books are translated for junior and young readers only. Besides, he translate Ibsen's famous play *Ghost* in Assamese as *Bhut*, *Binodini* translate from Rabindra Nath Tagore's novel *Chokher Bali*, *Raja (The King)* is a symbolic play by Tagore. He translated the Indian epic *Mahabharata* into Assamese prose in two volumes. He translated the *Srimadbhagavadgita* into Assamese verse *Gita. Dese Dese Galpa* is translation of world's different country's 21 famous short stories.

In this discussion I analysis the translation skill of Mohendra Bora in his Assamese translated version *Don Quixote*. In evaluation of translated text, at first we specify the writing style, uses of language of translator, uses of phrase and Idioms. Then discuss and compare between source text and target text. In this paper, I discuss

about how Mohendra Bora include his own view in the translation and equally he reflected the main theme of the source text.

Mainly the Don Quixote is Spanish novel. The backgrounds of the story Don Quixote is established on the medieval aged of Spain. In 16<sup>th</sup> century, Spain has the Golden period. In this period some of people are very conservative with their tradition; but this ideology is not recognized at that time. In the novel, the character of Don Quixote reflected very strongly the alluded things. Translator Mohendra Bora creates a new text in Assamese by translation of this book. He presented the story of Don Quixote with his own literary and linguistics skills in Assamese. So that, in this study I am going to analysis the Mohendra Bora's translation skills including uses of Assamese word, phrase and idioms, different type of sentences. Here I use the descriptive and analytical methods to discuss about the topic.

### **1.1 Objectives of the study :**

The objectives of this study is here –

- To find out how to Mohendra Bora use Assamese writing style in his translation Don Quixote.
- Secondly, to find out Mohendra Bora's translation art. How he reflected main theme with Assamese Words, sentences, phrase and idiom in translation.
- Thirdly to find out Mohendra Bora's Transcreation is how much useful and enjoyable for Assamese readers and society.

## **II. MOHENDRA BORA'S TRANSLATION ART IN DON QUIXOTE:**

The subject matter of the Don Quixote is made on the base of Spanish society. In medieval Europe, some of people are called 'Knight'. During this time the Knighthood was conferred upon mounted warriors. They help the other people, who are in danger. But in late medieval period there have no value of the knighthoods. Then some of the people from society show of that they are the 'Knight'. Cervantes reflected that type of 'Knight' and 'Knighthoods' through with Don Quixote. In this book the writer made Don Quixote as a comic character. In Assamese version Mohendra Bora include most of Assamese word, phrase and idioms, Assamese presentation style. Mohendrs Bora will try to create Don Quixote as well as the source text and also present with his own art for the Assamese reader. Therefore he uses various Assamese words, sentences, symbolic description, dramatic speech in this book. These are here-

### **2.1 Words:**

Mohendra Bora translated Don Quixote with some unique Assamese noun, adjective, phrase etc. These words make his translated text not less enjoyable than the original text. These words are reflecting Mohendra Bora's own writing art. He used so many unique adjectives. As for the example -

Adjective: Sot mohiya jui (the fire of spring), Randhani rod (the daylight cook), Aghaitong (very naughty) Fitfitya (very tight) etc.

Noun: Aldhora (servant), Seteli ( bed), Fenhujali (break of day, very early morning, when it begins to get light in the morning), Chawdang (king's soldier) etc.

There are so many words in Assamese society; which are specially used to mean some specific relationships. As example –

Aidew- It means queen, madam.

Mumaiti or Mama – It means uncle, the brother of mother.

Prabhu – It means Master

Other words: Bhusung-Pahu , Napata-Phukan, Lerela, Tala-Nala, Fisinga-Fisingi, Borphukan, Kukurdhuli etc.

### **2.2 Sentences :**

Mohendra Bora included different types of Assamese sentences to make translation more effective for targeted people. Sometimes he use very short and simple sentence to present main subject, which are descriptive in the main text. He also use some long sentences, symbolic sentences. As for example –

Simple sentences : *Saibur moi aku najanu.* (page. 43)

*Ara, atiyahe monot porise. Bohitu dekhun mur hatote thaki gol* ( page. 52) etc.

Long sentences:

*seibar alop bhul korat, mur monor kamona sidhi nahol, aibar saphal hoisu.* ( page. 74)

-here three completed sentences join and mean a perfect meaning. Therefore it is a complicated sentence. An another same sentence is –

*Don Quixotor ligirijoni aru bhaginiyek joniye tewk tene sokloga abosthat dekhi ujai ghurai kandiboloi lagil.*( page.55)

Symbolic sentences:

Nametua jen tewr kanot nepurhe bojai gol. (page. 3)

Habikhonor ukho ukho gosbilakor agot botahor xu-xuwani sabda aru bharir tolot xukan pator mormoroni .( page. 38)

### 2.3 Phrase and Idioms:

Mohendra Bora use also Assamese phrase and idioms many times in this translation. In Don Quixote he included the Assamese phrase and idioms are –

*Bhagor negurere kan khajuowa ( page.16)*

*Ulur logot bogori pura (page.15)*

*Nai mumaitkoi kona mumaiyei bhal (page.42)*

*Bhadot koligoru joga (page.60) etc.*

These phrase and idioms are makes the translation into a recreation or transcreation.

### 2.4 Mohendra Bora's own art in description:

Mohendra Bora did not translate the main text as line by line. He translate main text with his own style and on the basis of readers choice. Whenever main writer use some description, sometimes, Mohendra Bora translate it to simple only one or two sentences. Besides, he use more dramatic talk bring here. As for the example –

**Main text :** *In the next place he visited his steed; and although this animals had more blemishes then the horse of Gonela, which all skin and bone, yet his eyes, nither the Bucephalus of Alexander, nor the Cid's Babieca, could be compared with him. Four days was he deliberating upon what name he should give him; for, as he said himself, it would be very improper that a horse so excellent, appertaining to knight so famous, should be without an appropriate name. ...(page.5)*

**Target text :** Aiber tew ghura-xalot xumal. Pithit hat furai di tew monor vitorote tewr nijor ghuratur logot mohabir Alexanderor Bucephalusok rijai sale. Anhate, tew ghuratu j sarita thengere dhuka di rekhibo parisil, seye jothestho. Saridin vebi-gunio ghuratur karone ata nam bisari napale. Tewr dore digbijoyi biror ghuratur nam nathokatu asombhov kotha. Karon sei ghuratur nam adin buranjir patot sunali akhorere likhibo nelagibo janu? (page.2)

Some time he used to line by line or literal translation methods in the book Don Quixote. Mohendra Bora's this translation skill made him a transcreator. His writing art, uses of words, sentences, phrase and idioms are very unique and innovative. In this things made his translation work Don Quixote is equally more effective and enjoyable as well as main text.

## II. CONCLUSION:

In this discussion, there are many thing are discover that, Mohendra Bora is a very intelligent translator. Because, he knew that when he include his own view in the target text and when use line by line translation and literal translation. He used his own words, Assamese word, sentences, phrase and idioms in appropriate place and time. The Assamese words make subject matter more simple and easy then main text. The translation of Don Quixote reflecting main theme of the main text, but the way of presentation is totally Assamese style. In this thing makes Mohendra Bora is a successful translator. The Assamese phrase and idioms are makes the story realistic for Assamese readers. On the other hand, the book will be perfect for junior or young readers, because of his presentation style. He Include such Assamese words; which are representing specific relationships. Uses of these words, it is establish that Don Quixote is a transcreation, not only a translation. In this way Mohendra Bora became a famous unique and innovative translator in Assamese literature on the period of post-independence.

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Mrs. Shyamoli Doloi. "Mohendra Bora's Assamese Transcreation 'Don Quixote': An Analytical Study." *Quest Journals Journal of Research in Humanities and Social Science*, vol. 08(11), 2020, pp. 68-70.