

**TECHNIQUES USED IN TRANSLATING RELIGIOUS  
TEXT: A CASE OF EVEREST GITA**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education  
In Partial Fulfilment for the Master of Education in English**

**Submitted by  
Manoj Nepal**

**Department of English Education  
Tribhuvan University  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu  
Nepal  
2017**

**TECHNIQUES USED IN TRANSLATING RELIGIOUS  
TEXT: A CASE OF EVEREST GITA**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education  
In Partial Fulfilment for the Master of Education in English**

**Submitted by  
Manoj Nepal**

**Department of English Education  
Tribhuvan University  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu  
Nepal  
2017**

**T U Reg. No.: 9-2-412-19-2009**

**M.Ed. Fourth Semester**

**Roll No.: 280167/071**

**Date of Approval of the Thesis**

**Proposal: 24/09/2016**

**Date of Submission: 13/04/2017**

## **RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE**

This is to clarify that Mr. Manoj Nepal has prepared this thesis entitled  
**“Techniques Used in Translating Religious Text: A case of Everest Gita”**  
under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend this thesis for acceptance.

Date: 13/04/2017

.....  
**Mr. Resham Acharya (Supervisor)**  
Teaching Assistant  
Department of English Education  
Faculty of Education  
T. U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

## RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

This thesis has been recommended for evaluation from the following Research Guidance Committee.

### Signature

**Prof. Dr. AnjanaBhattarai**

Head

Department of English Education

T.U. Kirtipur

.....

(Chairperson)

**Mr. Resham Acharya (Supervisor)**

Teaching Assistant (Member)

Department of English Education

T.U.Kirtipur

.....

**Mr. Guru Pd. Poudel**

Teaching Assistant

Department of English Education

T.U. Kirtipur

.....

(Member)

Date: 24/09/2016

## EVALUATION AND APPROVAL FOR RESEARCH

This thesis has been evaluated and approved by the following Thesis Evaluation and Approval Committee.

### Signature

**Dr. Ram Ekwel Singh**

.....

Reader and Head

(Chairperson)

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

**Prof. Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra**

.....

Department of English Education

(Member)

Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur

**Mr. Resham Acharya (Supervisor)**

.....

Teaching Assistant (Member)

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

Date: 04/05/2017

## **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that this thesis is original; no part of it was earlier submitted for the candidature of research degree in any university.

Date: 12/04/2017

.....

Manoj Nepal

# **DEDICATION**

Dedicated to

My Grandparents and Parents

Whose religious behavior always motivated me to be what I am today.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It was really a great moment to get responsibility for conducting research being a student of the country's most reputed university for it was like a dream for me to be a researcher. So, I am very delighted to serve my research findings as a new creation in the field of translation. In the course of preparing this thesis, I received invaluable cooperation, suggestions, guidance and motivation from various persons more than expected that encouraged me to generate genuine ideas in every step. Therefore, first of all, I would like express my sincere gratitude to my research supervisor **Mr. Resham Acharya**, Teaching Assistant, Department of English Education, University Campus, Kirtipur for his continuous guidance, encouragement, enlightening ideas and valuable suggestions from the beginning phase of my proposal writing up to the final drafting of the thesis.

I am equally grateful to **Dr. Ram Ekwel Singh**, Head of the Department of English Education for his continuous counselling and suggestive feedback to improve my research work. Likewise, I am very much grateful to **Prof. Dr. Anjana Bhattarai** for her kind suggestions during her stay at T.U. as the Head of Department of English Education and **Mr. Guru Prasad Poudel** for providing me with some valuable technical and conceptual ideas related to translational research. I am really indebted to **Prof. Dr. Chandeshwar Mishra** for fairly judging my work and providing comments and suggestions to encourage and sharpen my forthcoming translational and other academic activities. At the same time, I would like to acknowledge **Prof. Dr. Govinda Raj Bhattarai, Prof Dr. Laxmi Bahadur Maharjan, Mr. Balaram Adhikari, Dr. Purna Kandel, Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokhrel, Mr. Ashok Sapkota, Mr. Khem Raj Joshi, Mr. Laxmi Prasad Ojha** and the other lecturers of the Faculty of Education, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu for their inspiring lectures.



Contribution of my family bears high in this work too. It would be a great injustice if I don't mention my dad's words, "Digr ko thesis chai mehenatrahosly r k s th failegarnuparchahaib b ; nay gy nutp dangarnu ta ahobh gya ho. (Thesis for master degree should be done very carefully and laboriously; it is a matter of fortune to produce new knowledge)." These ever encouraging words from my dad's mouth always triggered me to be honest in my every step of academic endeavour.

Similarly, I would like to thank my uncle **Shree Bhanu Nepal**, brother **Shree Madhab Nepal**, sister **Shree Mamata Nepal** and friends namely; **Prakash, Sagar, Roshan, Nixan, Gyanendra** and including all my classmates who helped me directly and indirectly in the course of the study. The role of my young brothers **Bikash** and **Pravesh** in solving computer related technical problems is equally memorable. Finally, I would like to thank **Ms. Rina Maharjan** of Academic Book House and Computer Institute for computer service.

**Manoj Nepal**

## **ABSTRACT**

The study entitled “Techniques Used in Translating Religious Text: A Case of Everest Gita” explores the extent to which the techniques and their frequency employed in translating religious text confirm equivalence for the religious terms between Nepali and English language. It primarily aims to find out the techniques and frequency of techniques employed in translation of religious text. Under survey design, interpretative and analytical procedures along with qualitative data were used. Fifty religious terms were selected randomly from the book ‘Everest Gita’ and analyzed grouping those terms under various techniques according to the meaning conveyed by them. It was found that in addition to Literal Translation, Sense Translation, Substitution, and Functional Equivalence were the commonly employed techniques of translation whereas Couplet, Blending and Reduction were used least frequently. Definition, Elaboration, Borrowing, Transliteration and Deletion were found to be used in medium rate.

The whole thesis has been divided into five chapters. First chapter entitled ‘Introduction’ includes background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, and delimitations of the study and operational definition of the key terms. Second chapter entitled ‘Review of the Related Literature and Conceptual Framework’ illustrates the major study area of translation like: language, culture, religion, translation studies, their interrelationship, techniques, gaps including introduction of the book analyzed for the study and the reference materials used for the study. Third chapter entitled ‘Methods and Procedures for the Study’ includes major elements of the study like: design, population, sample and sampling procedures, sources of data for the study, data analysis and interpretation techniques and ethical consideration. Fourth chapter entitled ‘Data Analysis and Interpretation’ is the gist of the study as it analyzes the data and interprets the results. Fifth chapter entitled ‘Findings, Conclusion and Recommendation’ summarizes the findings with main conclusion and provides some suggestions as per the findings derived.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page No.</b>
<i>Declaration</i>	<i>i</i>
<i>Recommendation for Acceptance</i>	<i>ii</i>
<i>Recommendation for Evaluation</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>Evaluation and Approval for Research</i>	<i>iv</i>
<i>Dedication</i>	<i>v</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>vi</i>
<i>Abstract</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>Table of Contents</i>	<i>ix</i>
<i>List of Tables and Figures</i>	<i>xii</i>
<i>List of Symbols and Abbreviation</i>	<i>xiii</i>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-7</b>
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	4
1.4 Research Questions	5
1.5 Significance of the Study	5
1.6 Delimitations of the Study	6
1.7 Operational Definitions of the Key Terms	6
<b>CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>8-34</b>
2.1 Review of Theoretical Literature	8
2.1.1 Language	8

2.1.2	Culture	9
2.1.3	Translation	10
2.1.4	Religion	13
2.1.5	Relationship between Translation, Language and Culture	15
2.1.6	Translation and Religion	16
2.1.7	Categories of Cultural Terms	18
2.1.8	Gaps in Translation	20
2.1.9	Techniques Used in Translation	21
2.1.10	An overview of Everest Gita	26
2.2	Review of Empirical Literature	29
2.3	Implications of the Review for the Study	32
2.4	Conceptual Framework	34
<b>CHAPTER THREE: METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF</b>		
<b>THE STUDY</b>		<b>35-40</b>
3.1	Design of the Study	35
3.2	Population, Sample and Sampling strategy	38
3.3	Sources of Data	38
3.4	Data Collection Procedures	38
3.5	Data Analysis and Interpretation Procedures	39
3.6	Ethical Considerations	39
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION</b>		
<b>OF THE RESULTS</b>		<b>41-50</b>
4.1	Analysis of the Data and Interpretation of the Results	41
4.1.1	List of Religious Words Selected for the Study	41
4.1.2	Technique-wise Interpretation of the Data	43

4.1.3	Statistical Representation	48
<b>CHAPTER FIVE: FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND</b>		
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>		<b>51-56</b>
5.1	Findings	51
5.2	Conclusion	53
5.3	Recommendations	55
5.3.1	Policy Related	55
5.3.2	Practice Related	55
5.3.3	Further Research Related	56
<b>REFERENCES</b>		
<b>APPENDIXES</b>		

## **LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES**

Table No. 1. List of Words Selected for the Study	42
Table No. 2. Frequency of Different Techniques of Translation	48
Figure No. 1: Pie-Chart (Frequency of Different Techniques of Translation)	50

## LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATION

%	:	Percent
&	:	And
E.g.	:	For example
i.e.	:	That is
TLT	:	Target Language text
SLT	:	Source Language text
No.	:	Number
Etc.	:	Etcetera
CUP	:	Cambridge University Press
OUP	:	Oxford University Press
ELT	:	English Language Teaching
Prof.	:	Professor
M. Ed.	:	Master of Education
Dr.	:	Doctor
SL	:	Source Language
TL	:	Target Language
TU	:	Tribhuvan University