

**A STUDY ON THE TECHNIQUES AND GAPS IN  
TRANSLATING CULTURAL TERMS : A CASE OF  
THE NOVEL ‘MOTHER’**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education  
In Partial Fulfillment for the Master’s Degree in Education**

**Submitted by  
Sita Pokhrel**

**Surkhet Campus (Education)  
Birendranagar, Surkhet  
2009**

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Sita Pokhrel  
Surkhet Campus (Education)  
Birendranagar, Surkhet  
2009**

T.U. Registration No.: 9-1-50-447-99  
Campus Roll No.: 338  
Second Year Exam Roll No.: 570185  
2066/8/10

Date of Approval of the  
Thesis Proposal: 2066/5/12  
Date of submission:

## **DECLARATION**

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

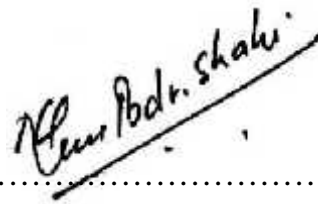
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.....  
**Sita Pokhrel**

## RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Sita Pokhrel** has prepared this thesis entitled "**The Techniques and Gaps in Translating Cultural Terms: A Case of the Novel Mother**" under my guidance and supervision. I recommend the thesis for acceptance.



.....

Date: 2066/8/12

**Mr. Nem Bahadur Shahi (Guide)**

Head

Department of English Education

Surkhet Campus (Education)

Birendranagar, Surkhet

## RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

The following Research Guidance Committee has recommended this thesis for evaluation.

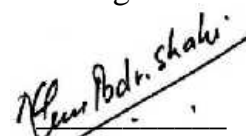
**Mr. Nem Bahadur Shahi**

Head

Department of English Education

Surkhet Campus (Education)

Signature



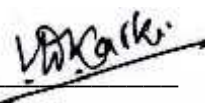
Chairperson

**Mr. Vasu Dev Karki**

Teaching Assistant

Department of English Education

Surkhet Campus (Education)



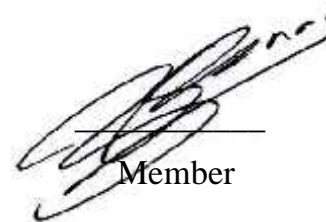
Member

**Mr. Lal Bahadur Rana**

Teaching Assistant

Department of English Education

Surkhet Campus (Education)



Member

Date: 2066/8/19



## EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

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

**Mr. Nem Bahadur Shahi**

Head

Department of English Education

Surkhet Campus (Education)

Signature

Chairperson

**Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi**

Professor

Department of English Education,

Chairperson

English and Other Foreign Languages

Education Subject Committee

Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur

Expert

**Mr. Lal Bahadur Rana**

Teaching Assistant

Department of English Education

Surkhet Campus (Education)

Member

Date: 2066/8/28

# **DEDICATION**

Dedicated  
To my Parents

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Dec., 2009

**Sita Pokhrel**

## **ABSTRACT**

This research is entitled "The Techniques and Gaps in Translating Cultural Terms: A Case of the Novel Mother". It is an attempt to find out the techniques and their frequency employed in translating cultural terms and to observe and classify the gaps in the translation by using different techniques. For this study, the data were collected from English and Nepali versions of the novel 'Mother'. In this research work two hundred cultural terms were selected and identified. Those terms were categorized into five categories. The researcher selected fifty terms with focus on translational gaps. In translating cultural terms of the novel 'Mother', nine different techniques have been employed. There are many instances of the use of non-corresponding meaning components, which lead gaps in translation. So the meaning gaps exist between SL terms and TL terms. Six types/causes of gaps are found in this study.

This study is divided into four main chapters. The first chapter introduces the study in general background, literature review, objectives, significance of the study and definition of specific terms. The second chapter, i.e. methodology includes the sources of data, sampling, tools for data collection, process of data collection and limitations of the study. The third chapter is devoted to an analysis and interpretation of the collected data. In this chapter, data are analyzed and interpreted through statistical and descriptive approach. The fourth and the last chapter deals with the findings of the study on the basis of the analysis and interpretation of data. On the basis of the findings some recommendations and pedagogical implications have been made. The references and appendices are the concluding parts of the thesis.

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## TRANSLITERATION

The researcher used the following transliteration system (based on Turner's (1931).

Nepali Alphabet and Diacritic Marks)

अ	a	क्	k	थ्	th
आ		ख्	kh	द्	d
इ	i	ग्	g	ध्	dh
ई		घ्	gh	न्	n
उ	u	ङ्		प्	p
ऊ		च्	c	फ्	ph
ए	e	छ्	ch	ब्	b
ऐ	ai	ज्	j	भ्	bh
ओ	o	भ्	jh	म्	m
औ	au	ञ्	ñ	य्	y
अँ	am, a	ट्	t□	र्	r
अं	ã	ठ्	t□h	ल्	l
:	h□	ड्	d	व्	w
		ढ्	d□h	श्	
		ण्	n	ष्	s
		त्	t	स्	s
				ह्	h

Note: The traditional letters क्ष्, त्र् and ज्ञ् are treated as conjunct letters,

e.g. क्ष् = ks, ksh, kch; त्र् = tr; and ज्ञ् = gn, gy.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

-	absence of feature
%	Percentage
+	presence of feature
CUP	Cambridge University Press
e.g.	( <i>exempli gratia</i> ) for example
ed	edition/editor
EPH	Environment, Population and Health
et. al.	et alia
etc	etcetera (and other similar things)
i.e.	( <i>idest</i> ) that is to say
M.Ed.	Master's in Education
No.	Number
OUP	Oxford University Press
Ph.D.	doctor of philosophy
SL	Source Language
SLT	Source Language Text
ST	Source Text
TL	Target Language
TLT	Target Language Text
TT	Target Text
TU	Tribhuvan University