

**LOSS OF MEANING IN TRANSLATION:  
A CASE OF SETO BAGH**

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

**Submitted by  
Pusp Raj Joshi**

**Central Department of Education  
University Campus  
Tribhuvan University  
Kirtipur, Katmandu, Nepal  
2014**

**LOSS OF MEANING IN TRANSLATION:  
A CASE OF SETO BAGH**

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

**Submitted by  
Pusp Raj Joshi**

**Central Department of Education  
University Campus  
Tribhuvan University  
Kirtipur, Katmandu  
2014**

**T.U. Regd. No: 9-2-404-74-2004**

**Date of Approval of the**

**Thesis Second Year Examination**

**Proposal : 2068-09-11**

**Roll. No: 280679/067**

**Date of Submission: 2014-04-20**

## DECLARATION

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

Date : 10-4-2014

.....  
**Pusp Raj Joshi**

## RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Mr. Pusp Raj Joshi** has prepared this thesis entitled **Loss of Meaning in Translation: A case of Seto Bagh** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend this thesis for acceptance.

Date: 10-4-2014

.....  
**Mr. Resham Acharya (Supervisor)**

Teaching Assistant

Department of English Education

Central Department of Education

T.U., Kirtipur.

## RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

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

### Signature

**Dr. Anjana Bhattarai**

Reader and Head

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur.

.....

Chairperson

**Mrs. Hima Rawal**

Lecturer

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur.

.....

Member

**Mr. Resham Acharya (Supervisor)**

Teaching Assistant

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur.

.....

Member

Date: .....

## EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

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

*Signature*

**Dr. Anjana Bhattarai**

.....

Reader and Head

Chairperson

Department of English Education

T. U., Kirtipur.

**Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra**

.....

Professor

Member

Department of English Education

Chairperson

English and Other Foreign Languages

Education Subject Committee

T.U., Kirtipur.

**Mr. Resham Acharya (Supervisor)**

Teaching Assistant

Department of English Education

.....

T .U., Kirtipur.

Member

**Date:** 10-4-2014

# **DEDICATION**

**Dedicated to**

**My**

**Late Father**

**Kisnanand Joshi**

**Who spent his entire life to make me what I am today.**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This task of thesis writing has really taken me to a newer world. As a result, I have felt a new experience in the context of my study. I have come to the realization that it is a part of the intensive study that gives a person an insight into self study. In course of writing this these, I have fully been supported by the invaluable cooperation, suggestions, guidance and counseling by various persons. Therefore, first of all, I would like to express my profound gratitude to my supervisor Mr. **Resham Acharya**, Teaching Assistant, Department of English Education for providing me with constant supervision and guiding me with regular inspiration, encouragement and invaluable suggestions throughout the study.

I am equally grateful to **Dr. Anajana Bhattarai**, Reader and head, Department of English Education for her inspirations, suggestions and support. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to **Prof. Dr. Chandeshwar Mishra**, Department of English Education for his inspirations and valuable suggestions.

I am indebted to **Prof. Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi**, **Prof Dr. Govinda Raj Bhattarai**, **Prof. Dr. Tirth Raj Khaniya**, **Prof . Dr. Anju Giri**, **Prof. Dr. Laxmi Bdr. Maharjan**, **Mr. Raj Narayan Yadav**, **Mrs. Hima Rawal**, **Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokhrel** and all the other lecturers of the Department of English Education, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu for their invaluable and inspiring lecturers.

I am very much thankful to **Mr. Rewadher Joshi**, **Bishnu Datt Joshi**, **Deepak Raj Joshi** for their inspiration and cooperation during this study.

Date: 10-4-2014

**Pusp Raj Joshi**



## ABSTRACT

This thesis entitled '**Loss of Meaning in Translation: A Case of Seto Bagh**' is an attempt to find out the causes of meaning loss in translation. Furthermore, it aimed to analyze the ways that is used to compensate the meaning gap in translation. Only the secondary sources of data were used in the study. Descriptive and analytical study design along with qualitative data were used. To carry out this research, one hundred social and cultural words and phrases were selected from the novel 'Seto Bagh'. Out of them, forty six different cases of meaning loss were found in their translation along with causes. Some of the major causes of meaning loss were pointed out as- cultural gap, deletion, negligence of the translator, lack of functional equivalence, lack of socio-cultural knowledge (of the SL) of the translator, overgeneralization, carelessness of the translator, incomplete linguistic knowledge of the translator.

The whole thesis is divided into five chapters. Chapter one deals with the background of the study, statement of the problem rationale of the study, objectives of the study, significance, delimitations and operational definition of key terms. Second chapter deals with the review of the related literature and conceptual framework. Chapter three includes the vital elements of the research study e.g., methodology which was adopted to conduct the whole study. It contains the design of the study, sources of data, sample size, tool for the data collection, data collection procedures, analysis and interpretation of the data. The results have been discussed in chapter four and in the last chapter the whole study has been summarized and concluded along with the implications.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page. No.
<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</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 symbols and Abbreviations</i>	<i>xi</i>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-4</b>
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Statement of the problem	2
1.3 Rational of the Study	2
1.4 Objectives of the study	2
1.5 Research Questions	3
1.6 Significance of the Study	3
1.7 Delimitations of the study	3
1.8 Operational Definition of the key terms	4

## **CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE AND**

### **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK 5-18**

2.1	Review of Theoretical Literature	5
2.2	An Introduction to Seto Bagh	14
2.3	Review of Empirical Literature	14
2.4	Implications of the Review for the Study	16
2.5	Conceptual Framework	17

## **CHAPTER THREE: METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF THE STUDY**

**19-21**

3.1	Design of the Study	19
3.2	Sources of Data	19
3.3	Sampling Procedures	20
3.4	Tools for Data Collection	20
3.5	Data Collection Procedures	20
3.6	Data Analysis and Interpretation Procedure	21

## **CHAPTER: FOUR RESULT AND DISCUSSION 22-67**

4.1	Results	22
4.2	Discussion	27
4.2.1	Classification of Terms into two Categories	27
(i)	Social Terms and Phrases	27
(ii)	Cultural Terms and Phrases	29
4.2.2	Transliteration and Anecdotal Evaluation of the Cases of Meaning	

Loss	31
4.2.3 Causes of Meaning Loss in Translation	61
(i) Lack of Cultural equivalence	61
(ii) Lack of Socio-Cultural Knowledge (of the SL) of the Translator	63
(iii) Inappropriate Selection and Application of Translation Techniques	63
4.2.4 Compensating the Meaning Gap in Translation	64
(i) Definition	65
(ii) Addition	65
(iii) Deletion	65
(iv) Substitution	66
(v) Transliteration	66
4.2.5 Overall Interpretation	66

## **CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS**

**67-72**

5.1 Summary	67
5.2 Conclusion	68

5.3	Implications of the Study	69
5.2.1	Policy Level	69
5.2.2	Practice Level	69
5.2.3	Further Research	69

## **REFERENCES**

## **APPENDICES I**

## **APPENDICES II**

## LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

%	:	Percent
\$	:	And
CLT	:	Cultural Equivalence Translation
Eg.	:	Example
ER	:	Equivalent Replacement
Etc.	:	Etcetera
LT	:	Literal Translation
MT	:	Mother Tongue
Prof.	:	Professor
Dr.	:	Doctor
SL	:	Source Language
TL	:	Target Language
SLT	:	Source Language Term
TLT	:	Target Language Term
T.U.	:	Tribhuwan University