

Tentative Study on Solutions to English Translation Problems in Foreign Police Training

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Abstract: Foreign police training plays an important role in serving national security strategy, serving the country's overall diplomacy, and serving international law enforcement cooperation. English translation is necessary to promote the work. This paper firstly puts forward the problems existing in the English translation of foreign police training, then tries to solve the problems, and puts forward the solutions from the two aspects of Chinese to English translation and English to Chinese translation. The solutions involves the preparation of translation in advance, the use of translation methods, getting familiar with the accent of the trainees, the summary work after translation and so on. It hopes that these tentative studies are helpful to solve the problems existed in English translation and thus promote the work of foreign police training.

1. Current Research Situation in China

At present, the research on translation has gone very deep both at home and abroad, but there are not many researches on the connection between translation and foreign police training. At cnki.net, the author inputs the keyword "foreign police training", 17 articles appear. However, among the 17 articles on foreign police training, there are only two mentioning English translations at the same time, namely Yongmei Zou's *The Qualities and Skills of Translators in the Training of Foreign Police* and Fangjian Shang's *Some Thoughts on Translator's Work in Foreign Police Training*. Yongmei Zou mentions in her article that "a qualified translator should have good ideological and political qualities, solid Chinese and foreign language skills, extensive knowledge reserve and rigorous translation style". [1] Fangjian Shang mentions in his article that "translators' political awareness, professional quality and response speed will have an important impact on the training work". [2] Both of them mention the comprehensive qualities that translators should have, but they haven't detailed the translation work into specific steps, so they don't put forward specific solutions to specific problems.

2. The Importance and Necessity of English Translation in Foreign Police Training

"Foreign police training plays an important role in serving national security strategy, overall diplomacy and international law enforcement cooperation." [3]

However, in the process of foreign police training, most of the languages in the trained countries are different from ours. Language is the bridge and link of communication. Only when the bridge is built well can the communication be smooth. Translation is essential when languages are different.

What is translation? Yuanchong Xu said that translation is the unity of the two languages. [4] What is the English translation in foreign police training? In the author's opinion, English translation in foreign police training is the unity of two languages, two cultures and even two ideologies. The unity here is sometimes equal and more often improved. "Vocabulary is the gene of language and culture. Sometimes the words of two languages are equal and sometimes unequal; when they are equal, the two languages are in the balance. When they are unequal, one is in the

advantage and the other is in the disadvantage. When unifying, if the two languages are in balance, then naturally it is good; if one is superior and the other is inferior, then we should strive for advantages, so unifying is to improve. " [5] The unity and improvement of vocabulary is only a part of the task of English translation in foreign police training, and the unity and improvement of different cultures and ideologies are equally important. Through the efforts of translators, successful communication has been achieved, cultural differences have been broken, ideology has been recognized by the other side.

3. Problems in English Translation in Foreign Police Training

Foreign police training is of great importance, and the task for translators are not always easy. After practical investigation, the author finds that the following problems in the process of translation are common to translators.

3.1 Inadequate Understanding of the Importance of Translation Tasks

The author finds that the translators involved in the translation in many police training colleges are not foreign police training translators, but teachers who know foreign languages or full-time translators hired from translation companies. These translators have no problem with their language skills, but they know little about the foreign police training, and thus they tend to regard the training of foreign police as a general translation task, ignoring the importance of the training of foreign police in the overall national security strategy, the overall national diplomacy and international law enforcement cooperation. Specifically speaking, translators only pay attention to the translation of language, but ignore the diplomatic etiquette, the confidentiality of the translation content and the friendship construction in the translation process.

3.2 Unfamiliarity with the Professional Knowledge Involved in the Content to be Translated

Each foreign police training involves a professional field. For example, the foreign police training organized by China People's Police University involves oil and gas pipeline, capacity building on transnational crime fighting, peacekeeping capacity building, etc. The contents of each training course are different, and the contents involved are very professional. As translators are generally engaged in language work, rather than the study of the profession, it should be the focus and difficulty of translation work to be familiar with the content to be translated before translation work begins.

3.3 Inflexible Use of Translation Methods

One training period is about 15 days. The training lasts for more than eight hours every day for 15 days, and cultural visits are conducted on weekends. The friendship construction runs through the whole process. All these would be a huge challenge for all trainers and translators. Many translators are busy with the physical challenges, but ignore the flexible use of translation methods, which would reduce the quality of translation.

3.4 Unfamiliarity with Trainees' Accents

Usually, the trained country selects trainees from all over the country as needed. For example, in The Capacity-building Training Course against Transnational Crime in Malaysia, trainees come from 13 entry-exit management ports in Malaysia. Therefore, trainees from different regions will inevitably have different accents. There are not many opportunities for translators to contact with trainees before translation work. The translators might not be familiar with the trainee's accents, resulting in the inability to fully understand the meaning of the trainees in the first time.

4. Solutions to English Translation Problems

"For interpretation, bilingual ability is the foundation, professional and background knowledge is the premise, and translation skills are the guarantee to achieve professional level." [6] A

breakthrough from the above three points can help translators improve their translation work rapidly. Based on the above three points, the author tries to solve the above mentioned translation problems step by step according to the translation process of foreign police training.

According to the arrangements of foreign police training, there are two aspects to solve the problems of English translation. That is, the solution of translation problems in Chinese to English translation and the solution of translation problems in English to Chinese translation.

4.1 Chinese to English Translation

Foreign police training means our training personnel provide training for law enforcement personnel from the trained countries. The training mode is generally teaching, including practical training courses and theoretical courses. In the course of teaching, our trainers usually use Chinese for teaching, and the translators perform consecutive interpretation. Therefore, the solutions to translation problems are mainly embodied in classroom translation, which are divided into the following two steps:

4.1.1 Adequate Preparation before Classroom Translation

Before the translation job, the translators must make careful and sufficient preparations, which includes the full understanding of the importance of training of the foreign police, the courses and the trainers.

4.1.1.1 Full Understanding of Foreign Police Training

Foreign police training is not just about training foreign police. At present, the world situation is generally peaceful, but local wars and conflicts never stop. If China wants to develop its economy, a peaceful and stable global environment is necessary. Therefore, it is not only beneficial to the construction of the international environment, but also to the construction of China itself to carry out the training of foreign police.

In the process of foreign police training, we train law enforcement personnel for developing countries. At the same time, we have made a lot of friends. So far, we have established and maintained good relationships with many developing countries through foreign police training. Relying on these good relationships, we have solved many difficult international law enforcement cooperation problems.

Therefore, the training of foreign police is of great significance. In the process of translation, translators should pay attention to diplomatic etiquette, principle of confidentiality and friendship construction, and at the same time, they should not forget to safeguard national interests at all times.

4.1.1.2 Full Preparation for the Courses and Understanding of the Trainers

The preparation for the course is mainly to consult the professional terms in advance. There is a special subject in each course, and translators can't be proficient in all subjects. In order to translate teaching contents accurately and fluently, it's necessary to consult relevant materials in advance. If it is possible, they should prepare lessons together with the trainers, so as to master the teaching ideas of the trainers. The understanding of trainers is mainly to understand their teaching style, teaching habits and speaking speed. The trainers selected by police colleges all over the country to train in the training of foreign police are excellent teachers with outstanding professional field, excellent professional ability and personal charm. Therefore, the requirements for translators are not only accurate and fluent translation of the content taught by the trainers, but also to give full play to the advantages of their own language, help the trainers to fully display their own style, so that the trainees can fully understand and appreciate the quality of professionals in this field in China.

It should be noted that translators should be aware that they can't be competent for all English translation tasks. If, after preparation, the translator still has questions about the content of the course, he or she should refuse to undertake the translation task, because the refusal is just responsible for the task.

4.1.2 Flexible Use of Translation Methods

Translation is "to convey in another language what the author clearly expresses, hopes to express, or even should express.". The form of expression of the translation may be the same, similar or completely different from that of the original. " [7] In order to do the job well, translators must be bilingual users constantly and keep the translating state. [8] In addition, translators must master the proper translation methods. In translation, we should grasp the original text from a macro perspective, but we should make necessary choices in the output of the target language according to the actual situation, so as to be faithful to the original text and conform to the expression habits of the target language. [9]

In his teaching of literary translation, Mr. Yuanchong Xu once put forward three theories: deepening, equating and shallowing. When one language is translated, if we want to strive for the balance of the target language, we can use the equating method; if we want to change the disadvantages of the target language, we can use the shallowing method; if we want to give full play to the advantages of the target language, we can use the deepening method. [10]

These three theories are the methodology of literary translation, but they have a wide application in the English translation of foreign police training. In practice, the author sums up the three theories and turns them into equal translation, addition translation and subtraction translation. For the translation materials that do not produce ambiguity and have equivalent words in both languages, equal translation is generally adopted. As for the serious political differences between the two sides, translators should give full play to the role of lubricant in translation. First of all, we should stick to our own political position, but at the same time, we should try our best to weaken the differences. Words full of gunpowder can not be translated and should be replaced by other words without affecting communication and meaning expression. The purpose of China's foreign police training is to cultivate law enforcement personnel for other countries, contribute to world peace, and make more like-minded friends. Therefore, when the two sides have differences in speech, the translator should try to do subtraction translation. At the same time, China is an ancient civilization country with a history of more than 5000 years. Many foreign friends have a strong interest in Chinese culture. When doing the translation of "Chinese culture" as a theoretical course, translators have to do addition translation to contribute to the spread of Chinese culture. For example, how to translate the Mascot Fuwa of 2008 Olympic Games? Fuwa, the official translator, is the Pinyin Fuwa. The translation is simple and clear, but it is not enough for foreign friends to understand the story behind Fuwa. Therefore, when translating Fuwa, the translator should not only translate Fuwa, but also add the specific meaning of Fuwa, that is, who the five Fuwa are and what they represent. To a certain extent, the translation achieves the goal of cultural diplomacy. In addition, there are also some poetry translations. Only by addition translation can foreign friends have a better understanding. The author will not list them one by one here.

4.2 English to Chinese Translation

The solutions in English to Chinese translation are mainly reflected in how to deliver the requirements of trainees in time and accurately. There are four steps to overcome translation problems.

4.2.1 Preparation before Trainees' Arriving

Before the trainees arriving, the translators should use all available tools to inquire about the characteristics of English pronunciation of the trained country and get familiar with its national conditions, population distribution, human geography, etc., and understand its capital, famous cities, national culture, taboos, etc. In addition, the translators should inquire and understand the professional background of trainees as much as possible. On the one hand, these preparations help translators enter the translation state in an orderly manner, on the other hand, these preparations help translators contact trainees more naturally after the trainees' arriving, establish good relations, and promote the construction of friendships.

4.2.2 Translation in Classroom Interaction

In the classroom, after the lecturing, the trainer would generally leave time for the trainees to ask questions freely. Sometimes it might be also the communication and exchange between the two sides. In addition to getting familiar with the professional knowledge in advance mentioned above and preparing for the arrival of trainees, translators should make full use of all available time to get familiar with the accent, speaking speed and speaking habits of trainees from the very beginning of meeting the trainees at the airport. In the process of contact, the translators should quickly identify the trainees who have clear English pronunciation and who have unclear pronunciation. For trainees with heavy accents and unclear pronunciation, translators should make full use of the context to listen carefully. In case of lacking of context, translators can confirm the meaning of the trainees by asking for several times or repeating to get the approval from the trainees. If it is necessary, the translators can ask the trainees with clear accent for help.

4.2.3 Translation during Cultural Visits

In the process of cultural visits, since the destinations are generally decided in advance, translators should prepare the introduction of destinations in advance. However, in the course of the visit, there are many unexpected topics involved. The profundity of Chinese culture may inspire trainees to ask some unexpected questions. Once encountering problems, translators should keep calm, try to answer the questions that can be answered as much as possible, and politely refuse the questions that are beyond answering.

4.2.4 Careful Summary after Translation

After the translation is completed, the translator should make a careful and detailed summary of the translation job. It is necessary to summarize the content of translation, the difficulties encountered, the methods or skills used and the emergency treatment plan. Problems should be listed, including the lack of vocabulary, improper translation manners, reactions, diplomatic etiquette, etc., and try to find the solutions. The way of summary can be the combination of self summary and collective summary of translation team.

5. Conclusion

China is developing day by day, many people seem to have been used to peace and prosperity, mistakenly thinking that the world is peaceful. In fact, we are not living in a peaceful era, we are just lucky enough to live in a peaceful country. There are many countries in the world where local conflicts and tribal conflicts continue, and many people are displaced and homeless because of wars and conflicts. They lack law enforcement personnel to maintain order and struggle in a chaotic environment every day. President Xi's commitment to train twenty thousand law enforcement officers is a great help for them. However, the training of foreign police is complex and arduous. The author hopes that the exploration of this paper can help to solve some problems encountered in English translation of foreign police training, promote the training of foreign police, and contribute Chinese wisdom to the construction of world peace.

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