

The Relation between Editing and Three Elements in Nida's Translation Theory (the Case of Qur'anic Translations)

Gholamreza Mastali Parsa¹
Saeed Ghasemi Porshokoh²
Mansoureh Barzegar Kaloorazi³

Abstract

Eugene Nida is one of the pioneer theorists of translation and linguistics who in his translation theory, introduced in his book *Towards a Science of Translation*, has mentioned elements in the translation process comprising of "addition, deletion, and alteration". These elements can be evaluated by the editing process at three structural, contentual and technical levels. In the present article, first the similarity of the aforementioned elements in Nida's theory with different editing types is pointed out and then those similar elements are analyzed in Qur'anic translations to emphasize that Qur'anic translations also allow for different editing types. Therefore, two aims were pursued in this study: first, to show that editing elements and translation elements share similarities in Nida's theory, and secondly these similar elements are applicable to Qur'anic translations. To carry out this scientific analytical study, the elements of Nida's theory and their relations with different types of editions were investigated in Qur'anic translations and in three fields: 1. Additions in translation and editing 2. Deletions in translation and editing 3. Alterations in translation and editing. Finally, some of the editorial defects in the translations of the Holy Qur'an were displayed, that proves the necessity of collaboration between translators and editors so that, for better explication of ayahs, either translators should incorporate editing or consult editors and improve their translation quality through editing.

Keywords: the Qur'an, translation, translator, Nida's theory, editing, editor

1. Associate Professor, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran; email: mastali.parsa@gmail.com

2. Corresponding author, PhD Student of Persian Language and Literature, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran; email: Saeedghpo@chmail.ir

3. PhD Student of Mystical Literature, Imam Khomeini International University, Ghazvin; email: mansureh.barzegar@gmail.com