

## **Retranslation as a March Towards Translation Quality: A Comparative Study on the First Sinhalese Literary Translation and Retranslation of E. R. Braithwaite's 'To Sir With Love'**

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Many scholars are interested in studying what lies behind the word 'Retranslation'. Thus, it still remains as a hypothesis. The scenario behind the existence of multiple translations for one source text has caught the attention of theorists for the recent past years. The present study was done in the local context to examine its main objective on the effect of retranslation on translation quality. The researcher comparatively analysed both translations and selected parallel six passages from the Source Text and the two Target Texts of between 500-600 words as samples incorporating the purposive sampling technique. Revision was done as a content analysis adhering to the revision parameters namely, accuracy, completeness, logic, facts, smoothness, tailoring, sub-language, idiom, mechanics, layout, and organization and thereby the translation quality was ranked based on the criteria introduced by Brian Mossop. To analyse and compare the texts in depth, descriptive comparative analysis method was used. Twelve government translators from the Department of Official Languages were selected to carry out the revision of each selected texts. They were provided with the revision criteria and instructed to correct and rank each passage individually by comparatively analysing the source text, first translation and the retranslation. The grade of 'A' was given if the passage was 'deliverable without further revisions', 'B' was granted if the passage was 'deliverable with just a few minor revisions', 'C' was given if the passage 'requires major revision work'; and lastly 'D' was offered for 'undeliverable; which needs retranslation'. In the first translation, five out of six passages were ranked as C and the remaining passage was ranked as D. All the passages of the retranslation were ranked as B since it still needs some minor revisions. When compared to the first translation, the retranslation has overall achieved a quality translation with slight corrections to be fulfilled, which also will conclude that retranslation process subsequently bestows more quality translations for the next generation of readers by simply minimizing shortcomings encountered in the earlier translations.

**Keywords:** *First Translation, Literary Translation, Retranslation, Revision, Translation Quality*