



Translating African Literature in Somalia: Challenges and Strategies

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Abstract

Translating African literature from Somalia into global languages is a complex process fraught with challenges such as preserving cultural nuances and linguistic accuracy. The research employed participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus groups with translators and literature experts to gather data. A thematic analysis was conducted on collected materials. A key finding is that maintaining cultural authenticity while ensuring readability for non-Somali speakers is a significant challenge, particularly in translating Somali poetry which often relies heavily on metaphorical language. The study concludes by recommending the use of local literature circles and community feedback to refine translations and enhance understanding among global audiences. Recommendation includes fostering partnerships between translators, scholars, and cultural organizations to develop a more inclusive and culturally sensitive translation approach for Somali literature.

Keywords: *African, Somali, Translation Studies, Cultural Preservation, Linguistic Accuracy, Ethnography, Critical Discourse Analysis*

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