Analysis of the Translation of Feature Words of "Government Work Report"

Libo Zhang

School of Chinese Language and Literature, Xinjiang Normal University, Urumqi, Xinjiang 830017, China

Abstract

The Government Work Report is a political document that follows rigorous content and wording guidelines. Many words with Chinese characteristics appear in the 2019 Government Work Report (hereafter referred to as "Report"). This work uses the Chinese and Uyghur versions of "Report" as a research corpus to investigate Uyghur translation methods for characteristic words. Through research, it is found that the vocabulary with Chinese characteristics in "Report" mainly has the following categories: major policy categories, economic development categories, people's livelihood development categories, Chinese culture categories, and common saying expression categories. Through the analysis of the translation, it is found that Literal translation, Transliteration, Free translation, Omission, Amplification, and Interpretative translation can well solve the problems in the translation of political papers, thus providing a useful reference for translation.

Keywords

Government Work Report; Characteristic Words; Uyghur Translation.

1. Introduction

The Uyghur translation of characteristic words in "Report" is a key point. Accurate translation of characteristic words is helpful for Uyghur learners to understand political literature, understand current affairs and politics, and strengthen exchanges and integration between nationalities. This paper takes the Chinese version and Uyghur version of "Report" as the research corpus and draws lessons from previous scholars' research results on characteristic words to summarize the Uyghur translation methods of characteristic words. The Chinese version of "Report" comes from the Chinese government website [1], and the Uyghur version comes from the People's Daily Online [2].

It is generally believed that characteristic words refer to the vocabulary generated under the background of Chinese politics, economy, and culture, and are unique expressions in the Chinese language. Through these words, people can fully understand the current situation and development of China. [3] Words with Chinese characteristics often have distinctive lexical features, which refer to those words that are subject to the cultural customs, lifestyles, cultural traditions, history, and political events of a particular country or nation, involving all aspects of China's politics, economy, history, society, and daily life, and which embody Chinese-specific things and phenomena.[4]

At present, a large number of studies on the translation of characteristic words focus on the English translation, and the proportion of other languages is relatively small. In China, the number of theoretical achievements in the translation of characteristic words in "Report" is small and the distribution area is small, mainly on the metonymy, metaphor, and language characteristics of "Report". Based on the research results of many scholars, this paper makes a

quantitative analysis of the characteristic words in "Report" by using relevant translation theories.

2. Classification and Statistics of Characteristic Words

Different scholars have different understandings of the classification standard of characteristic words. Compared with other kinds of literature, "Report" involves profound meaning, a wide range, and rich information. According to the characteristics and cultural connotation of characteristic words, based on the analysis of the corpus, the characteristic words are roughly divided into five categories, namely, general policy, economic development, people's livelihood development, Chinese culture, and colloquial expression.

2.1. Major Policy Categories

Major policy words play an important role in the dissemination of the party and the country's major policy. Such words reflect the major decision-making arrangements, political concepts, ideas, and forms proposed by national leaders and party and government organs. "Report" contains many Chinese characteristics of the policy vocabulary, such as "streamline administration and delegate power" (简政放权) a total of 44.

2.2. Economic Development Categories

Since the reform and opening up, many characteristic words of economic development have emerged from time to time, which reflect China's economic policies, such as "the five priority task" (三去一降一补), a total of 49.

2.3. People's Livelihood Development Categories

With the continuous development of China's economy, people pay more and more attention to people's livelihood. A large number of new words of people's livelihood development with Chinese characteristics emerge as the times require. These words carry the unique cultural information of the Chinese nation. To better disseminate and carry forward culture, it is urgent to translate the words of people's livelihood development with strong characteristics, which are closely related to people's lives. A total of 28 such as "switching jobs or industries" (转岗转业).

2.4. Chinese Culture Categories

Chinese culture is a unique national culture of the Chinese nation developed from the Chinese civilization. It is an excellent culture created by ancestors and passed down from generation to generation. "Report" contains many Chinese cultural words with Chinese characteristics, such as "completing" (收官), a total of 15.

2.5. Common Saying Expression Categories

The characteristic words of colloquial expression are generally used by people in their daily life. They appear in the "Report", and appear to be grounded and have more flavor of life. The report contains nine colloquial expressions with Chinese characteristics. A total of 9 such as "the grain supply" (饭碗).

3. Translation Methods and Techniques

The translation goal of "Report" is to convey the original information accurately and fully. If the words are not properly used in the translation, it will lead to the misunderstanding of the national conditions and policies of the Uyghur compatriots. The translator needs to choose the appropriate method to express the meaning of the original text accurately, which is consistent with the current development of our country and the expression habits of the Uyghur language.

3.1. Literal Translation

The literal translation is a translation strategy that conveys the original meaning, takes care of the form, and is accepted by the target readers. Conveyance of meaning is the priority. The text moves without expressing its meaning, and full translation is to blame. The form of care is not deliberate, word-by-word and word-by-word only a few are literal translation, most are hard translation or dead translation. What is accepted by the target language readers is that literal translation is different from dead translation and hard translation so it is difficult for the translation to exert the effect of cultural communication. (Huang Zhonglian: 2009) [5]

The culture of all ethnic groups is unique and common, which is the basis for mutual translation between different languages. When characteristic words are expressed in Uyghur without affecting the expression effect, the literal translation is the best translation method.

Example 1[original text]We owe our achievements of the past year to the strong leadership of the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, to the sound guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, and the concerted efforts of the Party, the military, and the people of all ethnic groups in China.

[translated text] ɵtkɛn bir jilda qolɣa kɛlgɛn nɛtidʒilɛr joldaʃ ʃi dʒinpiŋ jadroluqidiki partijɛ mɛrkizij komitetiniŋ kyʧlyk rɛhbɛrlikiniŋ nɛtidʒisi, ʃi dʒinpiŋniŋ jeŋi dɛwr dʒuŋgoʧɛ sotsijalizm idijɛsiniŋ ilmij jetɛkʧilikiniŋ nɛtidʒisi, ʃundaqla pytyn partijɛ, pytyn armijɛ, pytyn mɛmlikɛttiki hɛr millɛt χɛlqiniŋ ittipaqliʃip kyrɛʃ qilɣanliqiniŋ nɛtidʒisi.

"Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era" (新时代中国特色社会主义) has no equivalent in Uyghur, and the translators have adopted the direct translation method to jeŋi dɛwr dʒuŋgoʧɛ sotsijalizm, where New Era is translated as jeŋi dɛwr, and "Chinese characteristics" (中国特色) is translated as dʒuŋgoʧɛ, where the quantitative similarity of the noun indicates something similar to something or action or feature, in terms of quantity, degree, etc. The noun + ʧɛ is the grammatical form of the quantity-like-gram, which can indicate the characteristics of something with the nature of ......, dʒuŋgo+ʧɛ indicates the nature of China, i.e., Chinese characteristics. "Socialism" (社会主义) translated as sotsijalizm, which retains the content and form of the original text and achieves a simple and accurate translation.

Example 2[original text]The system of river chiefs and lake chiefs was established across the country.

[translated text] dɛrja baʃliqi, kɵl baʃliqi tyzymini omumjyzlykornattuq.

The system of river chiefs and lake chiefs (河长制、湖长制) is a key step in the construction of ecological civilization, in the country, it is a system innovation, mainly to protect the river and lake water environment. In Uyghur, there is no corresponding word in the system of river chiefs and lake chiefs. The translator adopts the literal translation method to translate to ,dɛrja baʃliqi kɵl baʃliqi tyzymi, and the river and lake are both literally translated to dɛrja, kɵl. In "Modern Chinese Dictionary", "长" is interpreted as "leader". The translator literally translates it into baʃliqi, and baʃliqi is interpreted as head, head, and officer. Two systems (制) are literally translated into tyzymi.

3.2. Transliteration

The transliteration method is to keep the pronunciation unchanged in translation and select similar Uyghur letters according to the pronunciation, while the words composed of these letters are meaningless in Uyghur. Many Chinese words can not find equivalent correspondence in the Uyghur language, such as "rice noodle"(米线). If only translate its literal meaning metir siziqi, it will lose the original meaning and even cause misunderstanding. Therefore, when translating, it is generally directly translated into miʃjɛn.

Example 1[original text] <u>The State Council</u> conducted major accountability inspections to ensure the implementation of reform and development policies and plans.

[translated text] <u>gowujɛnniŋ</u> kɛŋ kɵlɛmlik tɛkʃyryʃini ʧoŋqur qanat jajdurup, islahat, tɛrɛqqijat sijasɛtliri wɛ orunlaʃturmiliriniŋ ɛmɛlijliʃiʃini ilgirisyrduq.

The State Council (国务院) has spoken in daily life, so transliteration is adopted to facilitate communication.

Example 2[original text]We will elevate the integrated development of <u>the Yangtze River Delta</u> to the status of national strategy and design and implement an overall development plan.

[translated text] <u>ʧaŋʤiaŋ deltisi</u> rajonini bir gɛwdilɛʃtyryp tɛrɛqqij qilduruʃni dɵlɛt istrategijɛsigɛ kɵtyryp, tɛrɛqqijat jirik pilani pirogrammisini tyzyp jolɣa qojimiz.

InExample 2 ,"长三角" means the Yangtze River Delta, in which "长" is the abbreviation of "Yangtze river" (长江), here, the transliteration is ʧaŋʤiaŋ The Yangtze River is an exclusive . place name in China, which is frequently used. Transliteration of place names enriches the .vocabulary of the target language

3.3. Free Translation

Free translation is a translation strategy that conveys meaning and does not stick to the original form. "Conveying meaning" means reproducing the linguistic meaning and pragmatic value in the original work; "Non-binding the form of the original" means keeping the macro characteristics of the original without being bound by the micro-linguistic structure, and emphasizing the preservation of the original. (Huang Zhonglian:2009) [5]

In the process of translation, to avoid the obstacles in understanding caused by literal translation, free translation can be used to faithfully express the original text. Free translation gets rid of the shackles of the original form and is close to the thinking of the Uyghur audience.

Example 1[original text]China stands ready to <u>work together with all other countries</u> to make new contributions in promoting enduring world peace and shared prosperity.

[translated text] ʤuŋgo hɛrqajsi dɵlɛtlɛr bilɛn qol tutuʃup hɛmkarliʃip, <u>ʤapa-muʃɛqqɛttɛ billɛ bolup</u>, dunjaniŋ uzaq muddɛtlik tinʧliqi wɛ ortaq tɛrɛqqijatiɣa jeŋi tɵhpɛ qoʃidu.

"Work together with all other countries" (同舟共济) from "sunzi Jiudi": ' Madame Wu and the Vietnamese evil, when the same boat to help, in the wind, the rescue also, as left and right hand. It means that the people of Wu and Yue hate each other, but when they cross the river in the same boat, if they encounter wind and waves, they will rescue each other, and now it is a metaphor to work together to overcome difficulties.

If it is literally translated as taking the same boat, it is impossible to understand the meaning that the article wants to express. It is intentionally translated as ʤapa-muʃɛqqɛttɛ billɛ bolup, where ʤapa-muʃɛqqɛttɛ represents difficulties and dangers, and billɛ bolup represents together. The translation of these words generally translates the ancient meaning into the popular modern meaning and then translates the modern meaning. The translation can be as close as possible to the expression habits of the Uyghur language, convey the meaning of words as far as possible, and enhance the acceptance .of Uyghur readers

Example 2[original text] We must ensure, through our own efforts, <u>the grain supply</u> for almost 1.4 billion Chinese people.

[translated text] az kɛm 1 miljard 400 miljon ʤuŋgoluqniŋ <u>tamaq mɛsilisini</u> ʤɛzmɛn ɵzimizgɛ tajinip hɛl qiliʃimiz kerɛk.

The word "the grain supply" (饭碗) refers to the bowl used for eating. The rice bowl in this sentence is a metaphor, which actually refers to the food problem and cannot be literally translated into tamaq qatʃisi. In the translation, it should be translated into tamaq mɛsilisi (food problem) according to the context. Every grain in our country is related to the security of the country and the happiness of the people. Rice bowls must be firmly in their own hands, highlighting the confidence and ability of the Chinese to solve the food problem. Free translation emphasizes the transfer of the original "spirit" meaning.

3.4. Omission

Omission refers to the compression and deletion of the original content, focusing on its central meaning. Indeed, the omission deletes only some words that do not affect or violate the target language's expression habits, so it can make the translation simpler and ensure its readability and fluency (Li Yunxing:2001) [6].

Example 1[original text] In the protection of property rights we must <u>be firm and unwavering</u>.

[translated text] mylyk hoquqini qoɣdaʃta <u>qɛtij</u>bolimiz.

"Be firm and unwavering" (坚定不移) originates from "Comprehensive Mirror for Aid in Government" which means that people's views and opinions are unwavering. In this sentence, "be firm" (坚定) and "be unwavering" (不移) both mean perseverance. Therefore, "Be firm and unwavering" as a whole translation, is not transformed into "firm faith and perseverance" respectively. Directly translate "be firm and unwavering" into "qɛtij", the translation language is concise, but without losing the original determination to protect intellectual property rights.

Example 2[original text] We will implement a vocational skills training initiative, and allocate 100 billion yuan from the surplus in unemployment insurance funds to provide training for over 15 million people upgrading their skills or <u>switching jobs or industries</u>.

[translated text] kɛspij maharɛtni aʃuruʃ hɛrikitini jolɣa qojup, iʃsizliq suɣurta fondi eʃinʧisidin 100 miljard jyɛn adʒritip, uni 15 miljon adɛm qetimdin artuq iʃʧi-χizmɛtʧini kɛspij maharitini aʃuruʃ, <u>iʃ orni wɛ kɛsip almaʃturuʃ</u> bojiʧɛ tɛrbijɛlɛʃkɛ iʃlitimiz**.**

The meaning of "switching jobs" (转岗) is similar to that of internal job transfer. "Switching industries" (转业) is transferred to other occupations. In "switching jobs or industries" (转岗转业)， "jobs" (岗) is translated into orni, and "industries" (业) is translated into kɛsip. One of the two "switching" (转) was omitted and the sentence is more concise.

3.5. Amplification

Amplification, namely Additional Full Translation, refers to the full translation method of adding some necessary linguistic units to the translation according to the needs of logic, syntax, and rhetoric. According to the frequency of amplification, the increased linguistic units include words, phrases, and clauses. (Huang Zhonglian: 2009)[5]

Example 1[original text] We will reform and refine monetary and credit supply mechanisms, and employ as needed a combination of quantitative and pricing approaches, like required reserve ratios and interest rates, …… and avoid funds circulating within the financial sector <u>without entering the real economy or being diverted out of the real economy</u>.

[translated text] pul- kiredit sɛlinmisi meχanizmini islah qilip wɛ mukɛmmɛllɛʃtyryp, amanɛt pul tɛjjarliq fondi nisbiti wɛ ɵsym nisbiti qatarliq miqdar wɛ baha wasitisini muwapiq pɛjttɛ qollinip,……mɛblɛɣniŋ mɛwhum aɣduruluʃiɣa wɛ <u>ɛmɛlij iqtisadtin ʧɛtlɛp ketiʃigɛ</u> jol qojmajmiz.

"Without entering the real economy or being diverted out of the real economy" (脱实向虚) means that investment is separated from the real economy and turned to the virtual economy. This word does not mean "real" (实) and "virtual" (虚) on the surface of the word. The additional translation is used to translate "economy" (iqtisad).

Example 2[original text] Support policies for <u>cap-picking counties</u> and pro-poor populations should be maintained for some time to consolidate pro-poor outcomes.

[translated text] <u>namratliq qalpiqi eliwetilgɛn nahijɛlɛr</u> wɛ namratliqtin qutulɣan ahalini jɵlɛʃ sijasitini bir mɛzgil dawamlaʃturup, namratliqtin qutulduruʃ nɛtidʒilirini mustɛhkɛmlɛjmiz.

Cap removal is an image metaphor, the poor metaphor as a "cap" (帽子), poverty-stricken counties to achieve all poverty is a metaphor for poverty-stricken counties cap removal. If the literal translation is qalpiqi eliwetilgɛn nahijɛ, the translator will be unable to understand the meaning of the original, so the translator chooses to add translation poverty (namratliq).

3.6. Interpretative Translation

The interpretative translation is not a means of annotation, but a direct expression of unfamiliar information of target language readers in the original text through interpretation. The adoption of explanatory translation helps target language readers understand the content of the original text.

Example 1[original text] We must push forward with reforms that <u>delegate power, improve regulation, and upgrade services</u>, bring down government-imposed transaction costs, and make every effort to create an enabling environment for development.

[translated text] <u>hoquq beriʃ, baʃquruʃ, mulazimɛt qiliʃ»</u> islahatini ʧoŋqurlaʃturup, tyzymlyk soda» tɛnnɛrχini tɵwɛnlitip, piʃqan maharɛt arqiliq tɛrɛqqijat jumʃaq muhitini jaritiʃimiz kerɛk.

"Delegate power, improve regulation, and upgrade services" (放管服) is the abbreviation of "streamline administration and delegate power, improve regulation, and upgrade services" (简政放权, 放管结合, 优化服务). If translated literally, it will make readers misunderstand. The translator interprets "streamline" (放) as decentralization hoquq beri, "regulation" (管) as management baʃquruʃ, "services" (服) as service mulazimɛt qiliʃ, and readers can understand the content expressed in the original text.

Example 2 [original text] We will establish a science and technology innovation board that will pilot an IPO registration system, encourage the issuing of special bonds for <u>innovation and entrepreneurship</u>.

[translated text] pɛn-teχnikida jeŋiliq jaritiʃ baziri tɛsis qilimiz hɛmdɛ rojχɛtkɛ eliʃ tyzymini sinaq qilimiz, <u>awam igilik tiklɛʃ, awam jeŋiliq jaritiʃ</u> bojiʧɛ pul muamilɛ zajomi tarqitiʃqa ilham berip.

"Innovation and entrepreneurship" (双创) is the abbreviation of "Widespread Entrepreneurship and Innovation" (大众创业, 万众创新). If it is simply translated into qo.jariti, it will only make the Uyghur language a fog, but through explanatory translation, it can be translated into awam ilik tikl, awam jeiliq jariti, it can play a complementary role.

4. Analysis of Translation Methods and Techniques of "Report"

The report, which has been discussed by many translation experts, is scientific and representative. In the 18th century, Campbell, a British translator and translation theorist, translated the Bible by himself. He made a detailed and systematic analysis of how the translation of the Bible serves two different purposes of literature and religion, especially how to achieve equivalence in terms of vocabulary and grammar. For the first time, he put forward three principles of translation: First, to accurately reproduce the meaning of the original; the second is to transplant the author's spirit and style as much as possible under the premise of conforming to the original language characteristics; third, make the translation as natural and fluent as the original. [7]

4.1. Translation Processing

4.1.1. Handling Faithfulness and Accuracy of the Translation

Review that the principle of faithfulness is one of the main criteria to measure translation quality in traditional translation circles. Many articles are studying the principle of faithfulness in translation, which shows the significance of the principle of faithfulness in translation.(Li Zhanxi and Li Guiping: 2016)[8]

The faithfulness principle emphasizes the equivalence between the source text and the target text as far as possible, and there should be coherence between the source text and the target text. The degree and form of faithfulness between the translation and the original depend on the purpose of the translation and the translator's understanding of the original. (Zhang Yanfang: 2020)[9]

"Content" and "form" are two major problems to be solved in the process of translation. Transliteration and Literal translation are the most effective translation methods to embody the principle of faithfulness. When translating characteristic words, the principle of faithfulness should be emphasized first. When the principle of faithfulness cannot be well applied, the principle of accuracy should be adopted. Whether it is a free translation, omission, amplification, or explanatory translation, the principle of accuracy can be reflected.

4.1.2. The Treatment of Identity and Particularity in Translation

When it comes to language and translation, contemporary British translation theorist Susan Bassnett says: "Just as people can't ignore other parts of the body outside the heart during heart surgery, we can't venture to separate the content and culture of translation."[9]

Some characteristic words in "Report" appear only once, and some appear many times. When translating the same characteristic words, the translator does not rigidly translate them.

"Small businesses" (小微企业) appeared in the full text 12 times, the translator translated into the same form, which is the embodiment of identity.

"Tax and fee reduction" (减税降费) has appeared five times in the full text. According to the context, the position of the sentence where the words are located, and the reasons for Uyghur expression habits, the translator is translated into four forms :

baʤni kemεjtiʃ, hεqni azajtiʃ;

elinidiɣan baʤ wε hεqni azajttuq;

baʤ kemεjtiʃ, hεq azajtiʃ;

baʤ wε hεqniŋ kemεjgεnliki.

This is a manifestation of particularity.

4.2. Method Analysis

The conclusion of this paper is drawn from quantitative research, which is scientific to some extent. It is hoped that some data and conclusions of this paper can provide some support for such related research in the future.

As can be seen from Table 1, the most frequently used translation method of "Report" is "literal translation". It can be seen that a considerable part of the characteristic words are translated literally, because both Han and Uyghur nationalities belong to the family of the Chinese nation, and there are many similarities between cultures. Some other words adopt free translation to break the shackles of literal translation, flexibly translate and fully and accurately convey the meaning of the original.

Table 1. Statistics on the translation methods of characteristic words in "Report"

Translation methods and techniques	frequency	proportion
Literal translation	179	73.06%
Transliteration	8	3.27%
Free translation	21	8.57%
Omission	15	6.12%
Amplification	16	6.53%
Interpretative translation	6	2.45%

5. Summary

The translation of characteristic words should follow the principle of unity of fidelity and accuracy, and balance the relationship between preserving the original characteristics and conforming to the target language readers ' habits. In the process of translation, the principles of identity and particularity should also be followed, and the translation should be analyzed by specific contexts and appropriate translation methods should be selected.

The translation is of great significance, not only for language communication but also for cultural transmission, which is a challenge to translators. In the process of translating characteristic words, it is necessary to be faithful to the language style of the original text and the connotation and extension of national culture to the maximum extent. Only by accurately expressing the content of the original text can the target language readers get the same understanding as to the source language readers, and better show the Chinese culture. No matter what kind of translation method is adopted, the essence of the speech should be reproduced accurately and vividly.

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