Translation of Post-Soviet Kyrgyz Women's Poetry

Authors : K. Kalieva, G. Ibraimova

Abstract : In literature, poetry stands as a profound genre that bridges the life experiences of everyday people, transcending language and culture to unite people through the universal language of emotion and human connection. This paper explores the collaborative efforts of translators in creating the anthology of post-Soviet Kyrgyz women's poetry, a project spanning over ten years. This compelling anthology brings together the works of fifty prominent female poets from Kyrgyzstan during the post-Soviet era. It includes the original poems in Kyrgyz and provide English translations, sharing the rich and diverse voices of Kyrgyz women with a global audience and fostering a deep appreciation for the beauty of their words. The paper highlights the unique perspectives on life, love, and identity offered by each poet, and emphasizes the role of translation in making these voices accessible worldwide. Each poet's unique voice offers a glimpse into the rich cultural and literary landscape of Kyrgyzstan, highlighting themes that resonate universally. Methodology of the paper employs a combination of gualitative content analysis, semiotic analysis, and quantitative thematic analysis to examine the translation strategies, and the cultural and emotional peculiarities captured in the translations, as well as the themes explored by the poets in their poems. Through the art of translation, the paper explores the lyrical world of Kyrgyz women poets. Although Kyrgyz poets' names and poems are unfamiliar to many, their words resonate with an emotional depth that is sure to leave a lasting impression. Kyrgyz women's poetry translated into English celebrates the distinctive voices of women in the contemporary world. It serves as a reminder that poetry possesses the power to transcend life's obstacles, foster mutual understanding, and inspire positive change. The poems created by Kyrgyz women are envisioned to serve as a source of inspiration for readers. The paper proposes a poetic journey created by Kyrgyz women, offering readers an opportunity to experience Kyrgyz landscapes, traditions, and universal human themes through their verses. The paper provides an in-depth analysis of the poem translations, exploring the beauty and depth of the poets' thoughts and feelings. Through these translations, readers are invited to explore the world of Kyrgyz women poets, enriching their understanding of the language, culture, and the profound human experiences conveyed in the poetry. The hypotheses of the paper is that analyzing these translations through translation studies theories and linguistic and semiotic frameworks will reveal the complexities and challenges involved in translating poetry across languages and cultures.

Keywords : Kyrgyz poetry, post-soviet literature, translation, women poets.

Conference Title : ICIT 2024 : International Conference on Interpreting and Translation

Conference Location : Vienna, Austria

Conference Dates : December 30-31, 2024