

Research paper

## Considering the Differences in Translation of Past Tenses between Two Iranian Translators in the book “Animal Farm”

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### **Abstract**

This comparative study aimed to recognize the differences in translating past tenses between George Orwell's original book titled 'Animal Farm' and its translated versions by two Iranian translators, namely Amirshahi and Kasaaeipour. The current study paved the way for discovering novel techniques that help translators, educators, and students translate various past verb forms, including the simple past, past perfect, and past continuous. One of these outstanding techniques was the descriptive study. On a descriptive basis, differences in translating past tense verbs were searched and considered. All the past verbs in the first 60 pages of the book “Animal Farm” were counted and analyzed. The results illustrated three types of past tense including simple past, past continuous, and past perfect in the book. In the initial tense, both translators aimed to preserve the simple past verbs in Persian without altering their tense. As a result, the majority of verbs were translated into the same tense, with fewer verbs being converted into other tenses in the target language (TL). For the past continuous tense, both translators opted to modify the tense of these verbs, often translating them into various tenses such as simple past or past perfect. Consequently, the number of past continuous verbs retained in the same tense was lower compared to those translated into different tenses in the TL. While the translators followed a similar approach in the last two tenses, their strategies diverged when translating past perfect verbs. Amirshahi predominantly translated past perfect verbs into different past tenses rather than maintaining the original

tense from the source language (SL). As a result, in his translation, fewer verbs remained in the same tense, with more being converted into other past tenses. In contrast, Kasaeipour largely preserved the tense of past perfect verbs in the target language (TL). Therefore, in his translation, the number of verbs translated into the same tense as the SL exceeded those translated into other past tenses.

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## Introduction

Translation is a journey between languages that matters a lot regarding communication across the world. Translation enables people from several nations to get in touch and share their ideas, beliefs, and experiences. Meanwhile, the role of translators is of great importance. They should apply different strategies in the translation to convey the message from SL to TL accurately. Translation is a psycholinguistic formulation process by which the translator creates a message in a TL (Albir & Alves, 2009). Translation goes beyond simply using a bilingual dictionary to translate individual words within a known context from one language to another. It involves comprehending the entire source language text to accurately convey its meaning into another language (Alinezhad Rad, 2013). Translating from English into another language presents even greater challenges (Ghassemi et al., 2015). Translation involves modifying the structure—such as words, phrases, clauses, sentences, or paragraphs—and encompasses the process of conveying meaning from the original language to the target language (Ameliani, 2019). Larson (1998) defines translation primarily as the alteration of form, whether spoken or written, by replacing elements of the source language with those of the target language. This transformation is achieved by substituting the source language's structure with that of the receptor language (Ameliani, 2019). Likewise, Bell (1991) describes translation as “the transfer of meaning from a text in one language

into a text in another language”. It involves transferring linguistic elements from one language into their equivalents in another language (Ameliani, 2019). Similarly, translation is essentially a communicative activity that bridges linguistic and cultural divides, with the translator positioned as a decision-maker tasked with navigating these boundaries (Mohseni, 2021). Moreover, translation is as fundamentally a synonymy issue, involving the search for equivalent meanings across linguistic levels (Mohseni, 2021). He also emphasizes that translation is not a straightforward task of matching source language (SL) words to their target language (TL) counterparts, nor can it rely solely on bilingual dictionaries. Instead, translators must analyze the meanings of SL terms and identify TL equivalents, while also accounting for cultural overlaps and linguistic interferences between the two languages (Mohseni, 2021).

The process of translating requires a thorough understanding of the source text, including its linguistic and non-linguistic elements (Machida, 2008). Translation is a branch of applied linguistics in which a translator explores the similarities and differences between two languages to find equivalent expressions (Sameri & Karimi-Doostan, 2019). Wills (1998) viewed translation as a psycholinguistic process where the translator conveys a message in the target language. Drawing from various studies, Dam-Jensen and Heine (2009) highlighted decision-making as a fundamental aspect of the translation process. This decision-making process is shaped by factors such as translators’ behavior, attitudes, psychological tendencies, cognitive and emotional states, as well as individual traits. Furthermore, decision-making is not unique to translation; its results often reflect individuals’ personalities (Shaki & Khoshsaligheh, 2017).

In the first place, every translator must know this fact that he or she should be more than just a bilingual (Bell, 1991). Being a translator requires the ability to interpret the message that adapts the most to target readers while dealing with linguistic and cultural challenges in translation (Hatim

& Mason, 2005). Translators act as active agents, making choices throughout the translation process rather than being bound to the original text (Venuti, 1995). Mossop (2014) states that a professional translator's primary responsibility is to ensure that the translation accurately conveys the meaning of the source language. Translators, being unique individuals, exhibit varying behavioral patterns (Hubscher-Davidson, 2007). These behaviors influence the translation process and, in turn, impact their overall performance (Shaki & Khoshsaligheh, 2017). They are influenced by specific norms and models that stem from the target culture's socio-cultural conditions, or context of the situation (Mollanazar, 2001). The translation process is influenced by socio-cultural constraints (Mollanazar, 2001). It is believed that while models and paradigms from other fields can enhance the descriptive and empirical nature of translation studies, helping to develop a general theory of translation, they do not threaten the discipline's autonomy (Mollanazar, 2001).

This study is significant because it highlights how grammatical tense—specifically past tense—functions not merely as a linguistic feature but as a stylistic and ideological device in literary translation. By comparing two Iranian translations of *Animal Farm*, the research demonstrates how translators' tense choices can influence narrative distance, political irony, and reader interpretation. Since *Animal Farm* is a politically charged allegory, even subtle shifts in tense may alter the author's intended satirical effect. The study therefore contributes to translation studies by showing how micro-level grammatical decisions can have macro-level implications for meaning and ideology in translated political literature (Hatim & Mason, 1997).

The justification for this study lies in the limited scholarly attention given to tense and aspect in Persian literary translations, despite their importance in shaping narrative structure and temporal perspective. Persian and English differ considerably in how past actions, continuity, and habituality are expressed, making tense translation a site of interpretive intervention rather than

mechanical equivalence. By focusing on two Iranian translators, this research addresses a gap in contrastive and descriptive translation studies and aligns with calls for translator-oriented analysis that examines how individual choices reflect broader translation norms and strategies within a target culture (Toury, 1995). Such analysis is particularly justified for canonical texts like *Animal Farm*, which continue to be retranslated and reinterpreted across cultures.

Tense is widely recognized as a fundamental aspect of language learning and teaching (Bardovi-Harlig, 2000). According to Bardovi-Harlig (2000), the term "tense" originates from the Latin word *tempus*, meaning "time". Since languages offer various ways to express the timing of actions, tenses are an essential tool for language learners (Babanezhad & Rahmany, 2016). Tense places an event about a specific point in time, such as the moment of speaking, making it a category that expresses temporal deixis (Shirai & Andersen, 1995). In contrast, the aspect does not link an event to another time but instead focuses on how the internal temporal structure of the event is perceived (Comrie, 1976). For example, the difference between *he is eating* and *he was eating* lies in tense, as the contrast between *is* and *was* reflects their relationship to the time of speech (Shirai & Andersen, 1995).

The translation of past verbs poses several challenges, particularly in balancing linguistic accuracy with cultural appropriateness. As noted by Hatim and Munday (2004), translators must navigate differences in tense systems, verb conjugations, and narrative conventions. In the case of *Animal Farm*, the choice of past tense forms can influence the reader's perception of the story's pacing, urgency, and emotional impact. For example, the use of the past perfect tense in Persian to translate the English past tense may introduce a sense of remoteness or completion that is absent in the original text.

Recent studies on Persian translations of George Orwell's *Animal Farm* have increasingly emphasized the role of ideological, cultural, and stylistic factors in shaping translators' linguistic choices, including the treatment of narrative tense. Research on retranslation in the Iranian context indicates that different Persian versions of *Animal Farm* reflect the sociopolitical conditions of their time, suggesting that grammatical decisions such as tense usage are influenced by broader ideological frameworks rather than being purely linguistic transfers (Saeedi, 2025). Similarly, paratextual analyses of Persian editions demonstrate that translators and publishers actively guide readers' interpretations through both textual and extratextual choices, implying that shifts in narrative tense may function as part of a wider strategy to enhance readability or ideological alignment (Arjmandi & Ehteshami, 2025). Comparative studies of pre- and post-1979 translations further reveal that ideological priorities significantly affect lexical and structural patterns in Persian translations of *Animal Farm*, a tendency that plausibly extends to the rendering of English past tense forms into Persian narrative structures (Amirdabbaghian & Shunmugam, 2019). In addition, descriptive translation studies focusing on grammatical equivalence between English and Persian highlight that translators often diverge in their handling of tense and aspect to accommodate Persian narrative norms, reinforcing the view that tense variation is a deliberate translational choice rather than a mechanical correspondence (Tabatabaei & Rostampour, 2010; Yazdani, 2022). Collectively, these studies suggest that differences in past tense translation across Iranian versions of *Animal Farm* should be understood within a broader framework of ideological positioning, narrative strategy, and target-language conventions.

To put it in a nutshell, these two Iranian translators differ from each other and they used various techniques during the translation. This study tries to find out how translators in the Iranian context translate past tenses (simple past, past continuous, and past perfect) in Persian as the target

language. The current study aimed to find out some novel techniques that help translators, educators, and students to translate various past tense verbs such as simple past, past perfect, and past continuous. The primary use of this study may make the translators, at any level, better understand the English past sentences and avoid producing translations that hinder communication between the translator and the readers. Furthermore, the study's findings can be incorporated into translation studies curricula, providing students with specific examples and case studies on past tense translation in Persian. This can enhance their understanding and improve their translation skills. Moreover, this study may offer practical tools and methodologies to tackle the complexities of translating past tense. This can lead to higher quality translations in legal documents, technical manuals, and novels as well. Nowadays, the translation process has evolved in comparison to the past. Translators are using modern methods, especially in the translation of past tenses. In regard to the goal of this study, there are three questions that match with the objective of this study. These questions are as below:

- (1) Is there any significant difference in translating simple past between the two translators?
- (2) Is there any significant difference in translating past continuous tense between two translators?
- (3) Is there any significant difference in translating past perfect tense between the two translators?

### **Methodology**

This study aimed to have a descriptive analysis between two Iranian translators on their translation of "Animal Farm" by George Orwell. In this chapter, first we elaborated some applied methods in conducting this study. Second, the procedures which were used to assess the hypotheses of this study were discussed. In the next part, the design of study was depicted and also some methods for analyzing data were shown.

## Material and Instrumentation

The corpus of this study contained the book “Animal Farm” by George Orwell and its two translations into Persian by Amirshahi (1969), and Kasaeipour (2014).

**Table 1**

### *Persian translations of “Animal Farm”*

| No. | Title of Animal Farm | Translator | Year of publication |
|-----|----------------------|------------|---------------------|
| 1   | Ghaleh Heivanat      | Amirshahi  | 1969                |
| 2   | Mazrae Heivanat      | Kasaeipour | 2014                |

## Original Text

In this study, the book “Animal Farm” by George Orwell was used as the source text (ST). It was one of the well-known novels which were translated into Persian several times by Iranian translators. In 1944, Orwell completed *Animal Farm*, a political allegory inspired by the Russian Revolution and its subsequent betrayal by Joseph Stalin. The story revolves around a group of farm animals who overthrew their oppressive human owners and established their egalitarian society. However, the pigs, which were the smartest and most power-hungry of the animals, eventually corrupted the revolution and created a dictatorship that was even more brutal and oppressive than the humans’ rule (All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others). Initially, Orwell struggled to find a publisher for this short masterpiece, but when it was finally published in 1945, *Animal Farm* brought him fame and, financial success.

## Translations

During this study, a brief comparison was done between two Iranian translators, Amirshahi and Kasaeipour in the book ‘Animal Farm’ by George Orwell in the field of past tense verbs.

### **Amirshahi's Translation**

Amirshahi whose dates of birth and death are unavailable is an unknown translator as there is absolutely no record of information about him except for his name on the pre-revolution translation of *Animal Farm* (Amirdabbaghian & Shunmugam, 2019). Based on his translation, however, it can be safely concluded that he supported the political ideology of the left-wingers and was a member of the opposition before the Islamic revolution in Iran since he was interested in translating Orwell who was in favor of left-wingers (Amirdabbaghian & Shunmugam, 2019).

This book has been released by various publishers over the years. The first translation was published in 1969 by Franklin Publication. Subsequent editions were published by Franklin (1973, 1977), Jami (1992, 2005, 2010), Amirkabir (1982, 2009), Marze Fekr (2010), Ruzegar (2012), Ketabe Kuleposhti (2013), Hashemi (2011), and the Blind Association of Rudaki (1997). The book consisted of 128 pages, divided into 10 chapters, and includes an introduction about the author. In addition to this, Amirshahi's translation involved 110 pages in 10 chapters.

### **Kasaeipour's Translation**

Kasaeipour's Persian translation of George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, titled *Mazra'iyih Hiyvānāt*, was published by Maahi publication in 2014. It contained 178 pages and 10 chapters. This translation is among the numerous Persian versions of Orwell's novella, which has seen approximately one hundred translations into Persian since 1979. The proliferation of translations is partly due to the novella's brevity and straightforward prose, making it an accessible choice for translators. Additionally, the political themes of *Animal Farm* allow for the expression of discourses that might otherwise be restricted in Iran's literary field.

### **Design of the study**

The design of this study was qualitative and descriptive. The first one was dealing with some procedures which were used during the translation from English into Persian. The second one was a sort of comparative study which analyzes the ST and TT. Since the translator focuses on describing and interpreting the text, it is called descriptive study.

### **Data Analysis**

This was a descriptive study. SPSS was also used for calculating the percentage of simple past tense, past continuous, and past perfect verbs which were translated respectively into simple past, past continuous, and past perfect.

### **Procedure**

In the present study, the first sixty pages of this book were selected. Two Iranian translations namely Amirshahi (1964) and Kasaeipour (2014) were chosen to make a comparison. Meanwhile, the total number of past tense verbs were counted and compared between the two translated books. These verbs were demonstrated one by one by showing their tense type in the SL and how it is translated into Persian in the TL. The researchers chose the past tense verbs and found their translated version between two Iranian translators.

**Example 1:** Mr. Jones had locked the hen-houses for the night, but was too drunk to remember to shut the pop holes.

Past tense verbs: had locked (past perfect) – he was (simple past) too drunk

We have two past tense verbs in this sentence. Amirshahi translated “had locked” to “ghofl kard” which is the conversion of past perfect in English to simple past in Persian. On the other

hand, Kasaeipour translated “had locked” to “ghofl karde bood” in which he converted past perfect in English to past perfect in Persian. But another verb was translated in the same way.

**Example 2:** With the ring of light from his lantern dancing from side to side, he lurched across the yard, kicked off his boots at the back door, drew himself a last glass of beer from the barrel in the scullery, and made his way up to the bed, where Mrs. Jones was already snoring.

Past tense verbs: lurched- kicked off- drew- made his way up was snoring.

In this sentence, these two translators often used simple past in their translations such as “Peymood” “raft” “biroon andakht” and “daravard”. They translated the verbs just like the English version. However, the last verb “was snoring” is in the past continuous form and was translated as past continuous in the Amirshahi’s translation but in the form of past perfect in the Kasaeipour’s translation.

## Results

### Descriptive Statistics Related to the Two Iranian Translations

#### Answering Question 1

Frequency distribution of the simple past tense in Amir Amirshahi’s translation is shown in

Table 2.

Table 2

*Frequency Table of simple past verbs in Amirshahi’s Translation*

| Category | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent | mean |
|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|------|
| 0        | 635       | 40.7    | 40.7          | 40.7               |      |
| 1        | 927       | 59.3    | 59.3          | 100                |      |
| Total    | 1562      | 100     | 100           |                    | 0.59 |

0 → translated different from the SL.

1 → translated the same tense as the SL.

As table 2 shows, 59/3 percent of whole verbs are translated to the same tense as the SL. So, Amirshhi preferred to translate simple past tense in the source language to simple past tense in the target language. 40.7 percent of verbs in the simple past tense in the source language were translated into other tenses. Frequency distribution of the simple past in Ahmad Kasaeipour’s translation is shown in Table 3.

Table 3:  
*Frequency Table of simple past verbs in Ahmad Kasaeipour’s translation*

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> | <b>Valid Percent</b> | <b>Cumulative Percent</b> | <b>mean</b> |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 0               | 687              | 44             | 44                   | 44                        |             |
| 1               | 875              | 56             | 56                   | 100                       |             |
| Total           | 1562             | 100            | 100                  |                           | 0.56        |

0 → translated different from the SL.  
 1 → translated the same tense as the SL.

As table3 shows, 56 percent of whole verbs are translated exactly the same as the SL. Besides, Kasaeipour decided to translate simple past in the source language to the simple past in the target language. 44 percent were translated into other tenses in the target language to transfer better meaning.

Answering Question 2

Frequency distribution of the past continuous tense in Amir Amirshahi’s translation is shown in Table 4.

Table 4:  
*Frequency Table of past continuous verbs in Amir Amirshahi’s translation*

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> | <b>Valid Percent</b> | <b>Cumulative Percent</b> | <b>mean</b> |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 0               | 46               | 59             | 59                   | 59                        |             |
| 1               | 32               | 41             | 41                   | 100                       |             |
| Total           | 78               | 100            | 100                  |                           | 0.41        |

0 → translated different from the SL.  
 1 → translated the same tense as the SL.

According to the table 4, 41 percent of whole verbs are translated exactly the same as the SL. Amirshahi avoid to translate past continuous tense in the source language to the past continuous in the target language. 59 percent of verbs in the past continuous tense in the source language translated into other tenses in the target language. Frequency distribution of the past continuous tense in Ahmad Kasaeipour’s translation is presented in Table 5.

Table 5:  
*Frequency Table of past continuous verbs in Ahmad Kasaeipour’s translation*

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> | <b>Valid Percent</b> | <b>Cumulative Percent</b> | <b>mean</b> |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 0               | 44               | 56.4           | 56.4                 | 56.4                      |             |
| 1               | 34               | 43.6           | 43.6                 | 100                       |             |
| Total           | 78               | 100            | 100                  |                           | 0.44        |

0 → translated different from the SL.

1 → translated the same tense as the SL.

Accordingly, 43.6 percent of whole verbs are translated exactly the same as the SL. Kasaeipour preferred to avoid translating past continuous in the source language into past continuous in the target language. 56.4 percent of verbs in past continuous in the source language were translated into other tenses for conveying meaning.

### Answering Question 3

Frequency distribution of the past perfect tense in Amirshahi’s translation is shown in Table 6.

Table 6:  
*Frequency Table of past perfect verbs in Amir Amirshahi’s translation*

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> | <b>Valid Percent</b> | <b>Cumulative Percent</b> | <b>mean</b> |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 0               | 139              | 55.4           | 55.4                 | 55.4                      |             |
| 1               | 112              | 44.6           | 44.6                 | 100                       |             |
| Total           | 251              | 100            | 100                  |                           | 0.45        |

0 → translated different from the SL.

1 → translated the same tense as the SL.

As a result, 44.6 percent of whole verbs are translated exactly the same as the SL. Amirshahi preferred to avoid translating past perfect tenses in the source language into past perfect in the target language. 55.4 percent of verbs in the past perfect tense were translated into other tenses. Frequency distribution of the past perfect tense in Ahmad Kasaeipour's translation is shown in Table 7.

Table 7:  
*Frequency Table of past perfect verbs in Ahmad Kasaeipour's translation*

| Category | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent | mean |
|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|------|
| 0        | 119       | 47.4    | 47.4          | 47.4               |      |
| 1        | 132       | 52.6    | 52.6          | 100                |      |
| Total    | 251       | 100     | 100           |                    | 0.53 |

0 → translated different from the SL.

1 → translated the same tense as the SL.

As Table 7 shows, 52/6 percent of whole verbs are translated exactly the same as the SL. Kasaeipour preferred to translate past perfect tense in the source language into past perfect in target language. 47.4 percent of verbs in the past perfect tense were translated into other tenses in the target language.

## Discussion

The translation of past verbs is a critical element in transferring the nuances and meaning of a source text into the target language, as verbs play a pivotal role in conveying temporal, contextual, and narrative structures. This study examines the differences in the translation of past verbs in George Orwell's *Animal Farm* by two prominent translators, Amirshahi and Kasaeipour, with a focus on their linguistic, stylistic, and interpretive choices. This comparison highlights the extent to which translation practices influence readers' perception of the narrative's tone, flow, and ideological undertones. *Animal Farm* is a renowned classic novel in modern English literature and serves as a compelling analysis of the use and misuse of political power. According to Orwell, the

story mirrors events leading up to and during the Stalin era preceding the Second World War. As a democratic socialist, Orwell was critical of Joseph Stalin and opposed Moscow-driven Stalinism, particularly after his encounters with the NKVD and his involvement in the Spanish Civil War. In a letter to Yvonne Davet, Orwell referred to *Animal Farm* as his novel "against Stalin."

One of the primary areas of divergence in translations is the treatment of grammatical tense and aspects of rendering past verbs from English into Persian. While English distinguishes between simple past, past continuous, and past perfect with distinct structures, Persian relies on contextual indicators to convey these nuances.

In the next section, some significant differences between these two Iranian translators in various aspects of translation from English into Persian will be mentioned. Firstly, two translators who belong to two different eras in the history of Iran were chosen. Amir Amirshahi was one of the very first translators who translated "Animal Farm" in 1969 before the Islamic revolution in Iran. Amirshahi's translation demonstrates a preference for more literal equivalences, often maintaining the formal structure of the original text. This approach ensures fidelity to the source material but may occasionally render the prose more rigid or less idiomatic in Persian. At that time, translators did not pay much attention to the fluency of the TT, they would rather apply more formal idioms, and equivalence to not change the final implication of the original text. In Amirshahi's translation, one can witness the pre-revolutionary effects on the Persian language in the field of fluency, formality, use of words, religious and political factors, and, so on.

In contrast, Kasaeipour's translation tends to favor fluidity and naturalness, occasionally departing from strict equivalence to prioritize readability and cultural resonance. Kasaeipour, who belongs to the post-revolutionary era in Iran, translated "Animal Farm" in 2014. For this reason, more fluency and naturalness in his translation can be seen. He rather uses less formal equivalence

in the TT. For example, Kasaeipour employs Persian idiomatic expressions or adjusts verb forms to align with the expectations of Persian-speaking readers, sometimes simplifying complex past tenses into more authentic structures. This decision can alter the perceived narrative pacing and emotional depth of certain passages, particularly in scenes involving reflection or retrospection.

The stylistic choices of each translator further underscore the differences in their treatment of past verbs. Amirshahi's approach often adheres closely to the original syntax and diction, which preserves Orwell's concise and direct narrative style. However, this adherence may occasionally fail to capture the subtleties of tone—such as irony or satire—that Orwell intended, as Persian syntax sometimes necessitates reordering or rephrasing for clarity.

On the other hand, Kasaeipour's rendition exhibits a more interpretive style, adjusting verb usage to emphasize the narrative's allegorical and emotional undertones. This is particularly evident in passages depicting pivotal moments, such as the animals' recollections of past hardships or victories. By modulating verb tense and aspect to enhance dramatic effect, Kasaeipour's translation may resonate more strongly with readers but at the potential cost of deviating from Orwell's original intent.

The translation of past verbs also plays a role in shaping the ideological narrative of *Animal Farm*. Orwell's critique of totalitarian regimes relies heavily on the depiction of historical revisionism and manipulation of collective memory, often conveyed through shifts in verb tense and narrative framing. Amirshahi's literal approach captures the chronological precision of Orwell's prose but may understate the implicit critique of historical distortion, as subtle shifts in tone and emphasis can be diluted in translation.

In contrast, Kasaeipour's freer approach to verb translation highlights the thematic elements of betrayal and nostalgia, emphasizing the animals' loss of agency and the erosion of their ideals.

This interpretive strategy aligns the translation more closely with the allegorical dimensions of the narrative but introduces a layer of subjectivity that reflects the translator's perspective.

This study includes 3 main questions, all of which are analyzed and evaluated. In this section, complete answers to these questions with extended information and relevant research are provided. In response to the first question, “Is there any significant difference in translating simple past between the two translators?”, the findings show that by gathering some important information out of analyzing past verbs in three tenses such as simple past, past continuous, and past perfect, we recognize prominent differences between the original text and translated copy.

Both translators preferred to translate simple past verbs as same as the SL in the TL. In other words, there is not much shift in the translation of verbs in simple past tense. Iranian translators decided not to change the tense of verbs in Persian during the translation since this may look better in the TT. Therefore, 59 percent of simple past verbs in Amirshahi's translation and 56% of simple past verbs in Kasaeipour's translation were translated into the same tense in the TL.

In response to the second research question, “Is there any significant difference in translating past continuous tense between two translators?”, the findings show that Amirshahi and Kasaeipour translated past continuous verbs in other tenses in the TT. For example, they translated “were running” into “davidand” simple past in Persian. Also, they translated past continuous to past perfect tense in the TL. The results show that numerous numbers of past continuous verbs were translated into other tenses in the TL. Thus, in Amirshahi's translation, 58% of past continuous verbs and 56% of past continuous verbs in Kasaeipour's translation were not translated into the same tense.

In response to the third research question, “Is there any significant difference in translating past perfect tense between the two translators?”, the findings show that Amirshahi who translated this

book in 1969, changed the past perfect verbs into other tenses in Persian. He might think that changing verbs would make his translation look better than keeping them in the same tense as the original ones. Because of this reason, the results show that the number of verbs that are translated into other tenses in Persian is more than the number of verbs that are translated into the same tense as the SL. In other words, 55% of past perfect verbs were not translated into the same tense by Amirshahi. In contrast, Kasaeipour who translated this book in 2014, would rather not change the tense of verbs while translating from English into Persian. From the outlook of Kasaeipour who belongs to the post-revolutionary era in Iran, using past perfect tense in the TL might help the translation sound more complicated and align more with current changes in religious and political factors of the Persian language. Considering this, the results indicate that the number of verbs translated into the same tense is more than the number of verbs incurring changes in their tenses during the translation. In the meantime, 52% of past perfect verbs were translated without any changes in their tense in Kasaeipour's translation.

In sum, the comparative analysis of past verb translations in *Animal Farm* by Amirshahi and Kasaeipour reveals how linguistic, stylistic, and ideological choices shape the reception of a translated text. While Amirshahi's translation prioritizes fidelity and structural accuracy, Kasaeipour focuses on readability and emotional impact. These differences underscore the complexity of translating past verbs, as each choice involves a negotiation between preserving the source text's integrity and adapting it to the cultural and linguistic norms of the target audience. This discussion highlights the critical role of the translator in mediating meaning and underscores the value of studying translation differences to better understand the interplay between language, literature, and culture.

Through this study, some outstanding techniques will be recognized. One of the best ways to rely on a descriptive basis. Translation skills via descriptive studies are enhanced and improved. There are no significant changes in the translation of simple past verbs between the SL and TL by both translators. Both try to translate this tense as same as the original version. Although they prefer to translate many verbs in the same way, there are some exceptions. For instance, Kasaeipour who belongs to the post-revolutionary era, prefers to make some changes in the translation of simple past from SL to TL.

The significance of descriptive analysis was demonstrated in the translation of two Iranian translators. There are a number of factors involved in the good comparison. Among these factors, era and culture had the most influence on this descriptive research.

It seems that translators have always been aware of cultural differences and understood their importance for the translation process (Mizani & Science, 2009). Cultural knowledge and differences have been central to translator training and translation theory since both fields began recently (Mizani & Science, 2009). The more a translator understands the complexities of cultural differences, the more effective they will be in their work. Nida's definitions (1964) of formal and dynamic equivalence address the cultural aspects of translation. He describes *formal equivalence* as a "gloss translation" that aims to faithfully replicate both form and content, allowing the target language (TL) reader to grasp the customs, thought patterns, and expressions of the source language (SL) context (Nida, 1964). In contrast, *dynamic equivalence* seeks to connect the reader with behaviors relevant to their own culture, without requiring an understanding of the SL's cultural nuances. The challenges faced in achieving equivalence vary depending on the cultural and linguistic gap between the languages involved (Nida, 1964). Therefore, translations have

evolved significantly over time, reflecting changes in linguistic theory, cultural values, and the purpose of translation.

## **Conclusion**

In the current study, different types of past tense verbs in the works of two Iranian translators: Amirshahi (1969) and Kasaeipour (2014) were examined. All past verbs between the SL and TL by the two translators were analyzed. The methods of translation applied by these two Iranian translators were not the same. According to the result of the data analysis, there were three tables, each of which illustrated three various past tenses like simple past, past continuous, and past perfect. In the first tense, both translators tried to translate many simple past verbs into the same tense in Persian without any changes in their tenses. So, the number of verbs translated into the same tense was more than the number of verbs that were translated into another tense in the TL. In a past continuous tense, the translators made a change in the tense of past continuous verbs. They preferred to translate the verbs to various tenses such as simple past or past perfect etc. Therefore, the number of past continuous verbs translated into the same tense was less than the number of verbs that were translated into the different tenses in the TL. Although these translators followed the same route in the last two tenses, they pursued different ways of translating past perfect verbs. Amirshahi translated past perfect verbs mostly into the different past tenses instead of the same tense as in the SL. Thus, in Amirshahi's translation, the number of verbs translated into the same tense was less than verbs translated into other tenses. On the other hand, Kasaeipour did not make a change in the tense of most past perfect verbs in the TL. So, the number of verbs translated into the same tense was more than verbs translated into other past tenses.

The findings of this study offer valuable implications for language teachers, translators, and curriculum designers. First, they highlight the importance of teaching verb tense translation in context, helping students understand how tense usage differs across languages according to narrative, stylistic, and cultural factors. Second, translation instruction should emphasize contextual and literary sensitivity so that learners can preserve the meaning and tone of the original text while adapting it to the target language. Third, integrating comparative linguistics into language curricula can improve students' awareness of cross-linguistic differences and strengthen their translation skills. Finally, using authentic literary texts such as *Animal Farm* can enhance students' grammatical knowledge, critical thinking, and cultural awareness by demonstrating the close relationship between language and culture.

Future research could explore how cultural context influences the translation of verb tenses and how readers interpret translated verb forms compared with the original text. Comparative studies of human and AI translations may also reveal the strengths and limitations of machine translation in conveying meaning and stylistic nuance. As translation technology continues to advance, researchers are expected to examine translators' roles as post-editors of machine-generated texts and investigate ways to improve AI's contextual and cultural understanding. Other promising areas include translation in virtual and augmented reality, emergency communication, social media, localization, and interdisciplinary research combining translation studies with fields such as cognitive science and digital humanities. Future studies may also examine how factors such as an author's gender, nationality, educational background, and cultural identity influence translation choices and outcomes.

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