

REWRITING HISTORY: A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF THE FUTURE OF PAKISTAN BY COHEN AND ITS SELECTED URDU TRANSLATIONS

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Abstract

Rewriting has a very significant role in the process of translation of historical and political document. The purpose of this study is to find out the role of rewriting in the translation of historical and political document translated by two translators sharing the same background. For this, a historical and political document "The future of Pakistan" by Stephen Cohen and its two Urdu translations have been selected. This study examines the methods and strategies used for the translation of historical document and also the role of perspectival position of the translator which effects the process of translation of historical document. Researcher investigated these factors through critical discourse analysis. Andre Lefevere's theory of rewriting (1992) is set as a frame work for this study. In this theory he described that how translation gives way to rewriting and the factors involved during the whole process which cause manipulation in the translated text. The study concludes that in which manner rewriting in translation causes manipulation in the originality of the historic document.

Keywords: History, Translation, Rewriting, Manipulation, Politics

1.1 Introduction

History, Politics and language are the three most important representatives of any nation's outlook. Many foreign writers write about other country's culture, politics and history. Mostly these writings are in foreign writer's own language. These writers are unable to understand the target country's common readers because of the language barrier. For this purpose these writings are translated into target country language. In these type of translations translators not only translate the source text but also rewrite the whole text in accordance with the target country's political, religious, cultural and historical situation. In this article researcher selected a Political and Historical book written by an American writer named Stephen.p.Cohen in 2011. This book was translated by two Pakistani writers Aqeel Abbas Somoro in 2011 and Muhammad Akhter in 2012. This research is actually based on the idea of rewriting given by Andre Lefevere. He explained this phenomenon of rewriting in 1992, in his book Translation, Rewriting, and the Manipulation of Literary Fame (Lefevere, 1992). During translation translators translate the source text according to their own ideology, subjectivity or demand of the target readers. For this purpose they use several type of methods and strategies to make the source text translation appropriate to the level of target readers. If any one analyzes such type of translations through critical discourse analyses method he/she finds the difference that how the translator rewrites the text into another language by omitting or adding information into it. It results in the addition of irrelevant information in the target text. This is the main reason that political and historical document are manipulated during the process of translation. Theo Herman described that, Lefevere worked on the concept of translation as a rewriting process over a long period of time. Itamar Even-Zohar discovered a new idea named as poly-system theory in the field of translation in 1970. This theory defined the process of the formation of literary text and its influence.

In 1980's the new wave of cultural turn has entirely changed the field of translation studies. Now the translation is not only done in accordance with the source text. Lefevere in the beginning shows some interest in cultural turn of 1980's and poly-system theory for some time. The concept of refraction means different type of literature for different audience Lefevere added in his theory in 1982. In 1984 he added the concept of patronage that how it effects the process of translation. In 1985 these all are collectively formed a rewriting theory. (Herman's, 2004, p. 127). According to Lefevere translation is a recreating process it is not merely related to the source text. Susan Bassnett and he worked collectively that how cultural concept are added in the source text and make the text more comprehensible for the target readers by the translators. (Bassnett and Lefevere, 2001, p.xi). He also described several kind of strategies used by the translators in his book for the better understanding of the concept of rewriting in translation. In this article researcher selected two Urdu translations of the book *The Future of Pakistan* by Stephen.p.Cohen. Translated by Muhammad Akhter and Aqeel Abbas Somoro. Lefevere's theory of rewriting is used as frame work for the critical discourse analysis of the selected data. This research reveals that how the perspectival point of the translators effect the process of translation of historical and political document. The types of strategies and methods are used by the translators in translating the historical and political document. This study culminates that in what manner these non-linguistic factors create manipulation in the historical and political documents.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The major objectives of the study are:

- To find out that how does perspectival position of the translator influence the process of translation of Historical document.
- To find out the methods and strategies employed in translating the historical document *The Future of Pakistan* by Cohen into Urdu.

1.3 Research Questions

1. How does the perspectival position of the translator influence the process of translation of Historical document?
2. What are the methods and strategies used for the translation of historical document *The Future of Pakistan* by Cohen into Urdu?

1.4 Significance of the study

The significance of the study serves the translation of historical and political document which is not only linguistic activity. The need of the study is to find out the role of rewriting in the translation of historical and political document translated by two translators sharing the same background. It also involved many non- linguistic elements in it. The process of translation may be influenced by such elements. The present research is important in this respect as it emphasizes the linguistic substitutes which are accountable on the interpretation of translation. This study will contribute to the translation of historical and political documents and will bring a fruitful contribution for future researchers in rewriting historic document.

1.5 Delimitation of the study

The study focuses on the idea of rewriting in translation from English to Urdu. It only emphasizes the study of non-linguistic elements which are involved in the rewriting of historical

and political document in the form of translation. It is also related with the study of how the perspectival position effects the translation of historical and political document. What are the methods and strategies used by the translators while translating the historical and political text?

2. Literature Review

In the arena of translation studies the addition of rewriting has extended its platform. Many promising researches have been made in the past few years which provide a great benefit in the extension of translation studies. The following study related to the Rewriting history a critical discourse analysis of *The Future of Pakistan* by Cohen and its selected Urdu translations will contribute to fill the gap in the literature related rewriting especially in the field of translation of historical and political text. As the researcher has mentioned earlier, like many other academics Susan Bassnett has acknowledged the primary role of translation, in the cultural study of language. She was on one of those language scientists who responded to the cultural turn of 1980s. She had worked hard on this new idea and published her translation studies book. In this book, Bassnett called the development of translation studies as free discipline by clarifying that translation studies emphasis on the cultural context, thus introducing the cultural turn of translation studies. Bassnett (2004) said that the actual problem of translation studies is present on the historical and cultural situation of texts. In the translation process of historical and cultural text translators need more knowledge and refined abilities to avoid any kind of manipulation in it.

All the translated texts contain some type of discourse in it. As we all know that discourse means to express something. Usually most of the translators when they rewrite some text in the form of translation they also add or omit something in order to express their own opinion to the target bibliophiles in the form of translation. Discourse means to convey something, a translator as rewriter conveys his own perspective. As Norman Fair Clough about discourse said that discourse has the capacity to convert any social or political happening or statement conferring to the preferred ideology of the speaker or the writer which he wants to implant in the minds of his target community (Fair Clough, 2003). Different kind of contrasting ideologies have been described through discourse from the same text by rewriting it in the form of translation. In the present study researcher has also examined that how the translators created contrasting ideologies through translation as a rewriting process of the similar source text. History and political text is the essential ingredient of any state values. This is the main reason due to which translation of historical and political writings require great care. Even a minute type of misconstruction in the translated text questions the validity of the translated text. Most of the time aggressive statements such as religious or political statements in the translated text create disorder in the target society. (Juric, 2010).

Haj Omar (2016) studied that in the modern times translation has moved its focus from the old concepts of restricted to the source text towards power and patronage. Haj Omar in his study has examined translation as a rewriting of the source text, detecting the translator as a rewriter who converts and modifies the ST according to his or her own perspectival approach. Study of *Haikal Autumn of Fury* by the researchers (Ahmad Mohammad Al-Harahsheh, Mariam Mohammad Al-Omari 2019) studied that how Haikal apply the strategy of addition and omission. In what manner he entirely rewrote few parts in the translated text. Study reveals that he also applied such type of adoptions at some points which did not follow the rules of translators and translation. By Critically discourse analysis of the original text and translated text of Haikal, it is

supposed that there are some kind of socio political and ideological disputes that made mandatory for Haikal to rewrite the original into a new form which is in accordance with typical ideologies of the target readers. Haikal also stated that he was very much concerned with his self-translation of Autumn of Fury because he was a multilingual and multicultural writer.

3. Research Methodology

The present study is conducted to find out that how historical and political documents are rewritten in the form of translation by applying critical discourse analysis. For this purpose the political and historical document “The Future of Pakistan” by Cohen’s and its two Urdu translations by Muhammad Akhtar and Aqeel Abbas Somoro is selected. The nature of this study is descriptive which is based on the theory of rewriting presented by André Lefevere’s in his book Translation, Rewriting, and the Manipulation of Literary Fame in 1992. Lefevere had worked a lot on this idea about systems and the place of “rewriting.” He had a collection of many essays based on the topic of Translation, Rewriting, and the Manipulation of Literary Fame. In 1981 Lefevere invented the term “refracted text”. According to him it means “texts that have actually designed for a particular audience (children, adults, youngsters, artists etc.)”, or modified to a certain poetics or a certain ideology. (Herman’s, 2004, p. 127). Lefevere included the idea of “patronage” to his theory of rewriting for the better study of the ideological pressures. “Refraction” turned into “rewriting” in 1985. In 1992 Lefevere explained his theory of rewriting in an appropriate manner in his book Translation, Rewriting, and the Manipulation of Literary Fame. In the light of the selected frame data is analyzed in order to reveal that how the perspectival point of the translators effects the process of translation of historical and political document. The types of strategies and methods are used by the translators in translating the historical and political document.

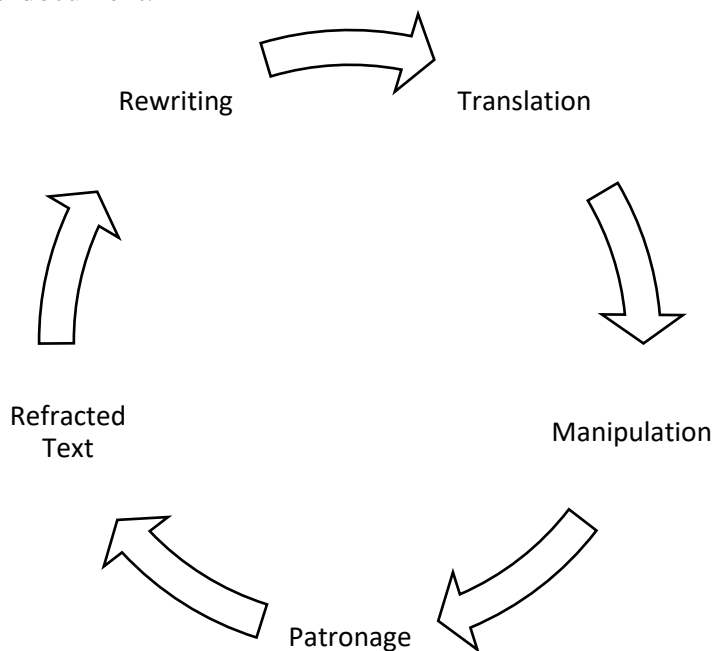


Figure 1

4. Data Discussion

The figure below explains the data discussion:

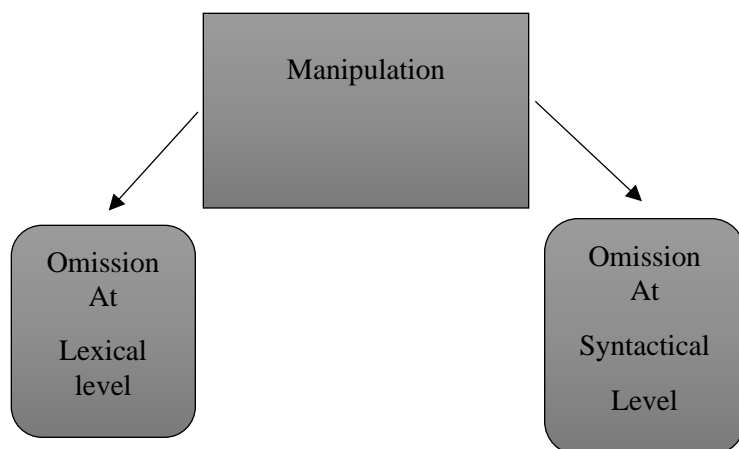


Figure 2

The present study is divided into two parts that how manipulation occurs in the translation of historical and political document at lexical level and at sentence level. This part has also been described with the help of few examples that what type of strategies are used by the translators as a rewriters of the historical and political document. In the selected data the translators used the strategy of omission to make the source text signify their perspectival position.

4.1. Omission at Lexical and Syntactical Level

This part of the data analysis deals with the manipulation in the historical and political document at lexical and Sentence level. Researcher has selected few examples from the source text (ST) and target text (TT1) and (TT2). Through the analysis of these examples researcher has described that how translator as a rewriter uses the strategy of omission and omits the words and sentences which are inappropriate or not according to the perspective of the translator. Here omission means the omission of the concept which does not match with the political ideology of the translator or may be offensive for the target readers. Non – linguistic factor play key role in the rewriting of a historic document in the form of translation. These non-linguistic elements involve perspectival difference, difference of political ideology and manipulation.

Researcher has made three categories of omission at sentence and lexical level due to these three factors. Following are the few examples in which omission occur at lexical and syntactical level due to these factors.

Table 1

Difference of Perspectival position

ST	TT(1)	TT(2)
1. Secure a regime that is minimally hostile to Pakistan.	افغانستان میں کوئی ایسی حکومت قائم ہو جو پاکستان کے لیے کم سے کم <u>حریف</u> ہو۔	اسے ایسے ملک کی حیثیت سے دیکھنا ہے جو پاکستان کے <u>تالیق</u> ہو۔

(Cohen,2011,p.39)	(اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ-70)	(سومر و2012ء، صفحہ-82)
2. A negotiated settlement between the Afghan Taliban and the Karzai government would be the best way for Pakistan to ensure an India-free Afghanistan and also to avoid a civil war. (Cohen,2011,p.40)	افغان طالبان اور کرزئی حکومت کے درمیان مذاکرات کے ذریعے کوئی سودے بازی ہو جاتی ہے تو یہ پاکستان کے لیے بھارتی اثرورسوخ کے آزاد افغانستان کے قیام اور خانہ جنگی سے بچنے کا بہترین راستہ ہو گا۔ (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ-72)	خانہ جنگی سے بچنے اور بھارتی اثرورسوخ سے پاک افغانستان کیلئے کرزئی حکومت اور طالبان کے مابین گفت و شنید کے ذریعے ہونے والا معاہدہ پاکستان کے بہترین مفاد میں ہو گا۔ (سومر و2012ء، صفحہ-84)
3. Further, the Chinese have figured out how to deal with Pakistanis – by lavish public praise and <i>suo moto</i> criticism about instances where Pakistani actions endanger Chinese interests, as in the case of training of Islamist militants of Chinese origin. (Cohen,2011,p.44)	جس کے ساتھ وہ خوشگوار جذبات کا اظہار تو کھلے عام کرتا ہے لیکن جن معاملات پر اسے پاکستان سے اختلاف ہے ان کے بارے میں خاموشی سے معاملہ اٹھاتا ہے جیسا کہ چینی صوبے سکیانگ میں اوغور مسلمانوں کے حوالے سے عسکریت پسندی کا مسئلہ ہے جن کے بارے میں الزام عائد کیا جاتا ہے کہ ان عسکریت پسندوں کو پاکستان میں تربیت دی جاتی ہے۔ (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ-79)	چینی جہاں پاکستان کی دل کھول کر تعریف کرتے ہیں وہیں اپنے مفادات کو خطرے میں دیکھ کر از خود تنقید سے بھی کام لیتے ہیں۔ (سومر و2012ء، صفحہ-91)
4. The most pessimistic of Pakistanis feel that the battle has been lost, and some seek refuge elsewhere. (Cohen,2011,p.30)	حالات سے بہت زیادہ مایوس پاکستانی سمجھتے ہیں کہ جنگ ہاری جا چکی ہے اور ان میں سے کچھ کہیں اور پناہ لے چکے ہیں۔ (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ-54)	بیشتر رجائیت پسند پاکستانیوں کا خیال ہے کہ جنگ ہاری نہیں گئی۔ (سومر و2012ء، صفحہ-64)
5. He lacked the ruthlessness of a Nasser or a Hosni Mubarak. (Cohen,2011,p.51)	ان میں ناصر اور حسنی مبارک جیسی بے رحمی نہ تھی۔ (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ-93)	مشرف میں جمال عبدالناصر اور حسنی مبارک جیسی سختی کا فقدان تھا۔ (سومر و2012ء، صفحہ-107)

Perspectival position of a translator has played a significant role in the creation of a historical and political document during the process of a translation as a rewriting. Every translator translates according to his own perspectives. The table above shows few examples in which word choices omission and addition in the sentences are the clear depiction of the translator's perspectival position. If we look at the word choices of Somoro it shows less derogatory words as compared to Akhter. Instead of using the exact and nearest equivalences he used the words which are passive in nature. Text is embedded with historical and political events related to the target readers that is why he used the strategy of omission in order to avoid any restlessness in the mind of its target readers. Akhter follows the source text and at some places he tries to add some extra information as if we look at Example no. 3 we can see that how he adds extra

information of the Chinese province Xinjiang. Translator usually applies the strategy of addition to the source text to make it more explicit and interesting Van Dijk (1988b).

If we look at the word choices of Somoro we find that he focuses to make the text passive. Here are few words that show his perspectival approach

Table 2
Equivalence used by Somoro

Words	Exact equivalence which are also used by the other translator	Equivalences used by Somoro
minimally hostile	کم سے کم حریف	تابع
most pessimistic	بہت زیادہ مایوس	پیشتر رجائیت پسند
ruthlessness	بے رحمی	سختی
settlement	سودے بازی	معادہ

These type of word choices due to difference in perspectival position of the translators create manipulation in the historic text. In this way due to such type of word choices the originality of a historic document is effected.

Table 3
Different political ideologies

ST	TT(1)	TT(2)
1. When it became clear that Musharraf was unable to provide that stability, a deal was brokered between Benazir and Musharraf, and then they acquiesced in Musharraf's departure, (Cohen,2011,p.38)	جب یہ بات واضح دکھائی دینے لگی کہ مشرف ملک میں استحکام لانے کی صلاحیت نہیں رکھتا جس پر بے نظیر اور مشرف کے درمیان ایک سودے بازی کرائی گئی۔ (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ 68)	جب یہ بات واضح ہو گئی کہ مشرف استحکام پیدا کرنے میں ناکام ہیں تو بے نظیر اور مشرف کے مابین <u>معادہ</u> کرایا گیا۔ (سومرو 2012ء، صفحہ 80)
2. In 2006, the concerns were evident, even as President Pervez Musharraf was still riding towards his non- rendezvous with a Nobel Peace prize. (Cohen,2011,p.7)	2006ء میں جبکہ پاکستانی صدر جنرل پرویز مشرف امن کا نوبل انعام حاصل کرنے کے خواب دیکھ رہے تھے اس وقت بھی تشویش کے عوامل صاف دکھائی دے رہے تھے (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ 10)	2006ء میں بھی تشویش نمایاں تھی (سومرو 2012ء، صفحہ 19)

<p>3. <u>The 1990s - the decade of democracy</u> (Cohen,2011,p.10)</p>	<p>نوے کی دہائی جسے جمہوریت کا عشرہ بھی کہتے ہیں اس میں بینظیر اور نواز شریف کل چار مرتبہ وزیر اعظم رہے۔</p>	<p>1990ء کے عشرے میں بے نظیر اور نواز شریف نے دو دو مرتبہ عنان حکومت سنبھالی۔ (سومر و 2012ء، صفحہ -25)</p>
<p>(اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ -16)</p>		
<p>4. Shah's third and most drastic scenario is a military coup d'état followed by military-led authoritarian rule. (Cohen,2011,p.34)</p>	<p>عاقل شاہ کا تیسرا اور سب سے زیادہ وسیع منظر نامہ ایک فوجی بغاوت کے پھوٹنے کا ہے جس کے بعد ملک میں فوجی سربراہی میں ایک آمرانہ حکومت قائم ہو جائے گی۔ (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ -62-61)</p>	<p>عقید شاہ کی تحقیقی رپورٹ میں تیسرا اور شدید ترین منظر عسکری قیادت میں آمرانہ حکمرانی کے نتیجے میں فوجی انقلاب ہے۔ (سومر و 2012ء، صفحہ -73)</p>
<p>5. <u>When he seized power in a bloodless coup on Oct. 12, 1999,</u> (Cohen,2011,p.10)</p>	<p>جنرل مشرف نے 1999ء میں ایک پر امن بغاوت کے نتیجے میں اقتدار حاصل کرنے کے بعد جنرل پرویز مشرف نے پاکستان میں چوتھی مرتبہ اصلاحات کا بیڑہ اٹھایا۔ اصلاحات کا چوتھا دور شروع کیا۔ (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ -19)</p>	<p>12 اکتوبر 1999ء کو پر امن فوجی انقلاب کے نتیجے میں اقتدار حاصل کرنے کے بعد جنرل پرویز مشرف نے پاکستان میں چوتھی مرتبہ اصلاحات کا بیڑہ اٹھایا۔ (سومر و 2012ء، صفحہ -25)</p>

Political ideologies are the most powerful ideologies after religion in every society. Many people are killed and tortured due to these ideologies. These are the ideologies which create different classes in the society. Translators are also the part of these societies or classes they have also their own political ideologies. In the selected data if we look at the above examples one can easily analyze that Somoro has more political tilt towards Army because he tries to rewrite the words or sentences which show any derogation towards Army while Akhter remains stick to the source text. Somoro even omitted those instances that show any hostility towards army like General Pervez Musharraf's longing for Nobel prize while the situation of the country is not stable he omitted this information from the translated text. Somoro showed less appreciation towards democracy because he also omitted the very important historical event of 1990's the decade of democracy. He always replaces the word "Coups" which exactly means بغاوت but he always uses the equivalence of پر امن فوجی انقلاب which not only shows his political tilt but also highlights the role of Army. Somoro always used the word معابہ for any political deal or settlement especially related to Army as we can see in the example no.1 in the above table. These are some of the non- linguistic factors that affect the originality of the historical and political document.

Table 4
Manipulation

ST	TT (1)	TT(2)
<p>There have been no major terrorist attacks in Islamabad or Rawalpindi over the last year.(Cohen,2011,p.17)</p>	<p>گذشتہ سال کے بعد راولپنڈی اور اسلام آباد میں دہشت گردی کا کوئی واقعہ نہیں ہوا۔ (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ -31)</p>	<p>گزشتہ برس اسلام آباد یا راولپنڈی میں دہشت گردی کا کوئی بڑا واقعہ پیش نہیں آیا۔ (سومر و 2012ء، صفحہ -39)</p>
<p>On April 8, 2010, the</p>	<p>8 اپریل 2010ء میں پاکستان کی قومی اسمبلی نے ایک</p>	<p>قومی اسمبلی نے 8 اپریل 2010ء کو متفقہ طور پر</p>



National Assembly successfully voted on and unanimously passed a constitutional amendment to curtail the powers of the president of Pakistan. (Cohen,2011,p.16)	آئینی ترمیم پر کامیابی کیساتھ رائے شماری کرائی اور اتفاق رائے سے منظور کیا جس کے تحت صدر کے کئی اختیارات کو کم کر دیا گیا (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ-27)	اٹھارہویں آئینی ترمیم منظور کی جس کی رو سے صدر مملکت کے اختیارات کم ہو گئے۔ (سومرو، 2012ء، صفحہ-21)
In U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's felicitous phrase, the new media has created a new global nervous system. (Cohen,2011,p.36)	نیو میڈیا: اس اصطلاح کو امریکی وزیر خارجہ بلیری کلنٹن نے استعمال کیا۔ نیو میڈیا نے دنیا بھر میں ایک نیا نروس سسٹم تخلیق کر دیا ہے۔ (اختر، 2011ء، صفحہ-66)	نیو میڈیا: امریکی وزیر خارجہ نے اپنی ایک تقریر میں نہایت بر محل بات کہی ہے کہ "نئے میڈیا نے نیا عالمی اعصابی نظام تشکیل دے دیا ہے" (سومرو، 2012ء، صفحہ-77)

Translation of political and historical documents in the form of rewriting need to be done with great care. Any irrelevant omission or addition in the target text creates manipulation which leads to misinformation. In the first instance the addition of a single word creates manipulation in the whole sentence. It completely alters its meaning just like if anyone told you that "Faisal mosque is located in Islamabad and you convey it to another person that "He said that a mosque is located in Islamabad" same is the case with the second instance in the following table source is conveying that there is no major incident of terrorism had occurred in Islamabad or Rawalpindi but Akhter translates it that there is no incident occurred in the last year in these cities. Actually the author of the source text minor attacks were reported but no major incident happened there. Manipulation occurred in the whole translated sentence by the addition of the word نہیں into it. Any kind of change in the date of any historical event creates confusion in the mind of its target readers it creates manipulation at higher level. The change in the date of a very significant event of Pakistani history when National Assembly successfully approved constitutional amendment to restrict the powers of the president of Pakistan. As Lefevere mentioned that sometimes due to misprinting such type of changes occur in the translation so proof readers and editors have also their role to play in the process of translation. They have equal responsibility in the translation procedure. Quotes, saying of important political personalities have also their role in transmitting the new ideas to the target word. If the translator omits their names as Somoro omitted the name of U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's who invented a new phrase of new media it also effects the durability of the target text. So each and every word of historical and political text is important otherwise manipulation is created in the target text which ruins the information present in it.

5. Conclusion

In the following article researcher has analyzed the procedure of Rewriting as a translation of the historical and political document "The Future of Pakistan" by Stephen. p. Cohen and its selected Urdu translations. Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) method is used for the analysis of the selected data. From this study researcher also examined that in what manner non- linguistic

factors i.e. ideology, politics perspectival position and societal elements produce manipulation in the translation of a historical and political script. This research also determines that how the omission of a single word misrepresents the historical and political realities existing in the source text. As a whole, this study concludes that translation creates manipulation in the historical and political text.

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