



# A Comparative Study of the Strategies Used in the Persian Renditions of Colloquial Utterances in Daphne Du Maurier’s “Rebecca”

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**Abstract:** This study focuses on identifying translation strategies applied by two Persian translators namely Enayatollah Shakibapoor (1992) and Khojasteh Keyhan (2015) in rendering colloquial utterances used in the novel *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier (1938). For this purpose, twenty paragraphs were randomly selected from the original book. The colloquial utterances included in those paragraphs were identified according to the models proposed by McCrimmon (1963) and Holmes (1992). Then, the translations of the intended colloquial utterances were extracted from the Persian renditions by Shakibapoor (1992) and Keyhan (2015). After that, the translation strategies used to render those linguistic items were recognized. Based on the results, while the strategies including borrowing, synonymy, shift, modulation, addition, omission, colloquial translation and translation into higher degree of formality were applied to render the English colloquial utterances, synonymy had the highest number among all the strategies applied. Modulation had the lowest frequency among other strategies in Keyhan's translation. The two translation strategies of addition and omission were used more in Shakibapoor's rendition in comparison with Keyhan's. Furthermore, Keyhan's rendition was more acceptable regarding more numbers of cases recognized as colloquial translation and less numbers of cases translated into higher degree of formality. Also, the results of chi-square test showed no significant difference in the frequencies of the strategies used in the translations.

**Keywords:** Colloquialism, Persian Rendition, *Rebecca*, Translation Strategies.

## Research Paper

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

According to the level of formality, each language can be categorized into different types. This continuum of formality is described as: vulgar, slang, colloquial, neutral, formal and legal ceremonial. According to *Collins dictionary* (2003) the word 'colloquial' in linguistics is defined as "1) of or relating to conversation; 2) denoting or characterized by informal or conversational idiom or vocabulary". In *Random House dictionary* (2010) the difference between colloquial and the other types in the continuum is mentioned. "Colloquial, conversational and informal speech refer to types of speech or to usages that are not on a formal level. Colloquial is often mistakenly used with a connotation of disapproval, as if it meant "vulgar" or "bad" or "incorrect usage", where as it merely describes a causal or familiar style used in the oral exchange of the ideas, opinions, etc. Informal means

without formality, without strict attention to set forms, unceremonious. It describes the ordinary, everyday language of cultivated speakers: informal English". Thus differentiation of colloquial language from the other types is an important step for starting the task of translation. Translator should use appropriate colloquial equivalences in target language for a communicative translation as translating colloquial utterances poses some problems for translators.

Based on Dickins *et al.*, (2002), one problem is translating into a more formal language than the original one which is considered as the error in register. If the translator fails to identify the source language level of formality or translate with the same degree of formality, he cannot retain the same register as the original one. Another problem which may arise, is translator's failure in making the same effect on the target readers as the

original. A reason of this failure is the difference between the source language level of formality and target language's one. In Almaghary's (2002) opinion, the type of language used is very important in translation and the successful translator is the person who knows the type of his addressees (p. 10). The type of language of a text represents its author's aim and has a great role in making communication (Kane, 1986). As a result, unsuccessful identification of the original language leads to breaking down the communication. In translating novels, the level of formality of the language must be considered since using colloquial language in forming the novel's characters and creating the story's atmosphere by the original author is a common feature of this genre. Hence, appropriate translation of colloquial expressions is an important factor for its fidelity to the source text and transfer its message to the target language. Translator should maintain these features by using appropriate techniques as well as making an effort to preserve the style of the original author. Thus he will be able to convey the source text author's intended effect to the target text addressees. This study assesses two Persian translation versions of colloquial utterances used in the novel *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier. In this vein, this study attempts to investigate the strategies employed by two translators in rendering colloquial expressions of 'Gone with the Wind' in order to identify them and determine their degree of formality. Furthermore it recognizes the translation with more mistranslated items. In this vein, the following questions are addressed in this study:

- 1) What strategies are used by the Persian translators in translating the colloquial expressions?
- 2) Which translator is more successful in terms of preserving the same degree of formality compared to the original?
- 3) Is there any significant difference between the frequencies of the strategies applied by the translators?

On the basis of the objectives aforementioned, preserving the colloquial language is of great importance in producing a more efficient and communicative translation. This study clarifies the importance of translating colloquial expressions in order to produce a more communicatively effective translation while facing major problems in rendering colloquial utterances in source language.

## 2. Empirical Studies

Up to the present, a number of studies have been conducted on the issues of colloquialism. Popovich *et al.*, (1997) used the lexicalist or Shake and Bake (S&B) approach in developing a system of English-Spanish machine translation (MT) for colloquial texts. They aimed to introduce a fully automatic large-scale multilingual natural language processing system for translation of colloquial English (CE) input text found in many closed-caption broadcasts, and examine issues

relating to extension of the system for handling additional languages. They assessed closed-caption texts transmitted with the vast majority of North American television programs. They chose their first English lexicon from the 70,000 entries of the machine readable Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary (OALD) which was rich in morphological and syntactic information. Their Spanish lexicon was converted from a Spanish lexicon used in the METAL MT system containing about 25,000 entries. They selected two hundred sentences from TV program scripts in a random way for testing the performance of their system. The results indicated that the grammars and lexicons were sufficiently developed to allow 84.5% of the sentences to be translated using the S&B approach. The translations were evaluated by a native Spanish speaker as either correct (yes), acceptable though not ideal (ok), or unacceptable (no). Approximately two thirds of the sentences translated were understandable. As a conclusion, the lexicalist approach proved very suitable for developing an MT system for translation of English colloquialism into Spanish. It required only lexical transfer rules, and it was highly modular allowing rapid extension to new target languages. In addition to these advantages, the peculiarities of CE allowed the researches to avoid the computational complexity problems related to the S&B approach. Furthermore, the lexicalist approach enabled the MT system for rapid development of new language modules for Italian, French and German.

O'mara (2007) studied translation of English colloquial idioms/metaphors to compare the level of metaphorical meaning retention in Spanish and Catalan. He aimed to determine which of the two translations maintained the greater degree of figurative/metaphorical meaning to reflect the colloquial idioms/metaphors used by Holden Caulfield in *The Catcher in the Rye*. He used López's model, which was derived in part from Baker (1992) involving four principal methods of literal translation, translation by equivalence, translation by modification and translation by omission. He selected ninety items in a random way from the original book and the translations and identified the translation methods used in rendering them. He found that the colloquial metaphors used in the Catalan translation preserved more of the original figurative meaning of the source text. In this translation, more cases of the equivalence method of metaphor translation was seen. The number of items were 53 in the Catalan translation and 41 in the Spanish version. The modification method of translation was used more in the Spanish translation than in the Catalan version. It was used 44 times to produce the Spanish translation and 29 times in the production of the Catalan translation. Also, the researcher found that the Catalan translation used a lexicalized structure similar in form and meaning in 8 cases while 5 cases were found in the Spanish version in this regard. In other words, although this difference is small (5-8), the Catalan translation used the same or nearly the same metaphor in more cases than the Spanish translation. In the Spanish translation the

most frequent method used was that of modification (44), followed by equivalence (41), literal translation (5) and finally omission (0) and in the Catalan translation the most frequent method used was equivalence (53), followed by modification (29), literal (8) and finally omission (0).

Barzegar (2008) assessed translation of colloquial expressions in English-Persian subtitled film. He aimed to recognize the specific strategies used by Persian translators in dealing with colloquial expressions in English films subtitled into Persian. He collected his data from two American comedy films named *Midnight Run* (1988) and *Liar Liar* (1997). The original transcripts and Persian subtitles were used to extract colloquial expressions. A combination of taxonomies presented by McCrimmon (1963) and Holmes (1992) was applied by the researcher to classify the extracted colloquial expressions which is comprised of contractions and clipped words, idiomatic expressions, pronunciation features, grammatically incomplete sentences and personal or familiar tone. Then, he identified the strategies used in rendering these items. He found that the strategies employed were colloquial translation or transfer, deletion, translation into expression with higher degree of formality, paraphrase, condensation or under-translation, semantic equivalent, addition or over-translation, mistranslation and translating into expression with lower degree of formality. Transfer or colloquial translation constituted the main part or 60 % of strategies used which shows that preserving the same level of formality in translation from English into Persian is not so problematic. Deletion only formed 8% of all of translation strategies. Translation into expression with higher degree of formality, and translation into expression with lower degree of formality accounted for 7% and 0.26% respectively. Paraphrasing, semantic equivalent and mistranslation in turn constituted 6%, 6% and 2% of the items. In fact, using paraphrasing resulted in losing the effect of colloquial expressions specially the idiomatic ones and their cultural importance. Condensation or under-translation and addition or over-translation respectively formed 4% and 1% of all strategies. The researcher claimed that the low amount of this strategy does not indicate that it was used very few. Since, some strategies including mistranslation, omission and paraphrasing were used to condense the colloquial items but led to inappropriate translation of them.

Shadrah (2010) analysed the Indonesian translation of English colloquial expressions used in Children's story book "The Secret Life of Ms. Wiz" by Terence Blacker. He aimed to find out the types of colloquial expression, the translation techniques used by the translator to render colloquial expression, and to know the effect of the translation techniques used on the quality of the translation in terms of accuracy and acceptability. He used total sampling procedure to collect the data by means of content analysis and questionnaire.

His data contained 247 colloquial expressions and the form of questionnaire he used was a close-open ended. The researcher distributed the questionnaire to three raters who were translation experts. He found that there were four types of colloquial expressions in this children's storybook including single words, clipped words, contractions, and verb-adverb combinations. Also, eleven translation techniques were used by the translator in rendering the colloquialisms. They were adaptation, amplification, borrowing, calque, generalization, literal translation, modulation, reduction, deletion, transposition, and synonym. Furthermore, the researcher assessed the quality of translation of colloquialisms included in the sample. From the accuracy point of view, there were 93.1% accurate cases, 6.5% less accurate cases, and 0.4% inaccurate cases. The average score of the mean for accuracy was 1.08 meaning that the translation was accurate. From the acceptability point of view, 91.5% of cases were acceptable, 5.3% were less acceptable, and 3.2% were unacceptable. The average score of the mean for acceptability was 1.12 which indicated that the translation was acceptable. The most accurate technique was reduction which consisted of the major part of the cases or 132 of 230 accurate ones. The least accurate technique was deletion which consisted of only one inaccurate case. The most acceptable technique was reduction which formed the greatest part of the sample or 135 of 226 acceptable cases. The least acceptable technique was borrowing which formed the smallest part of the sample or 7 of 8 unacceptable cases.

Safari and Hashemian (2012) studied translation of fillers and catch phrases as a subpart of colloquial expressions in two Persian translations of Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye". The frequency of the strategies used in the translation of the fillers and catch phrases, applied by the Persian translators including Karimi (2002) and Najafi (1998) were computed to see how the translators dealt with repeated expressions and how the style and content of target text were affected. The scope of their study was limited to the dialogs of the main character and his peer which contain a great deal of colloquial expressions such as fillers or catch phrases. The researchers recognized the repeated words and phrases and compared them with their translations. They examined their data according to strategies introduced by Nopper (2010) which consist of repetition cancelling and omission. Then, frequencies of the strategies in each translation was calculated. They found that Karimi had omitted 67.34% of the expressions and had used the strategy of repetition cancelling for about 20.40% of the expressions. However, Najafi had omitted 56.12% of the fillers and catch phrases and had translated 22.44% of these expressions through repetition cancelling. The rest of the data which included 12.24% in Karimi's translation and 21.42% in Najafi's had been rendered based on Salinger's style which means that these expressions had been repeated the same as the original text as the character's catch phrase. Their results

indicated that repetition, as one of colloquial stylistic aspects of the text, was lost when the translators used the strategies of repetition cancelling and omission. Also the researchers mentioned that repetition cancelling of catch phrases and fillers is part of the neutralizing strategy and if the translator uses it repeatedly, he reduces the amount of nonstandard and colloquial language. In addition, lack of compensating the omitted colloquial expressions led to loss of style and the fading of some aspects of the main character's personality in the two translations.

Faraji and Amiriyani (2013) studied slang and colloquial expression with regard to the complexity of their translation. They aimed to explore how slang and colloquial expressions of Salinger's (1951) *Catcher in the rye* can be transferred from English into Persian in order to determine the difficulties in transferring them and to illuminate the strategies applied by the translators. Their analysis helped to determine what the overall macro strategy was. They analyzed examples of slang and colloquial terms identified in the novel and its two Persian translations. They chose a number of slang and colloquial terms adequate for the analysis to identify which micro strategies the translators have chosen and, on the basis of the found results, they gave a general indication of the translators' chosen macro strategy. The researchers identified the slangs with the help of Oxford Advanced Dictionary of Learners and NTC's Dictionary of American Slang and Colloquial Expressions by Spears (2000). Then, they compared the data with their Persian translations and grouped them according to the translation strategies suggested by López's (1997) and quantified them. They found that both of the translators tended to maintain most of the original slang and colloquial meaning of the original. Both translators significantly used more translation by equivalence method of translation. Translation by modification or paraphrasing was the second highly used method. Translation by omission and literal Translation were used less than the others. Furthermore, in terms of macro strategies, the researchers argued that both of the translators tended to use dynamic equivalence instead of formal equivalence. Since they used translation by equivalence method more than others, and whenever they could not find an equivalence translation, they used translation by modification method to solve the problem.

Sadeghpour (2013) investigated translation strategies used in dubbing comedy animations from English to Persian focusing on humorous, idiomatic and colloquial expressions. Since these items had the potential to elicit laughter and specifying the limits among these three types of expressions is not always an easy task, the researcher decided to examine all three types and their translation. Based on a purposive sampling technique, he collected his data from the five American comedy animations namely *Ice age 4*, *Shrek 4: Forever After*, *Rio*, *Kung Fu Panda*, and *The Lion King* which were dubbed into Persian. He recognized original humorous, colloquial and idiomatic expressions as well

as their Persian translations and identified the strategies used in translating them. Then, he analyzed the data and classified them into nine groups for further analysis. He assessed the quality of the translation strategies used in the dubs determining the amount and reasonableness of the deletions, reductions and errors. The researcher found that Persian translators tend to use familiar expressions rather than translate literally. In addition to humorous expressions, the translators tended to use idiomatic and colloquial expressions to produce laughter mostly in cases where the original did not use them. They tended to transfer non-humor elements to humor elements based on the visual context of the animation. Persian translators had frequently and freely used idiomatic and colloquial expressions in their secondary function to elicit laughter. The researcher argued that this strategy can be used in the translation of comedies, especially for children, where there are a lot of linguistic and cultural barriers between the two languages. In addition, taboos were deleted in Persian dubbed movies because of the cultural beliefs of Iranian society.

Mashhadi and Pourgalavi (2013) made a comparative study of translation of slangs used in the book *The Catcher in the Rye*. They aimed to investigate the extent to which slangs in dialogues were maintained in translation using the model proposed by Venuti. They randomly selected forty slangs from the original and two Persian translations of it by Najafi (the eighth edition in 2010) and the other by Karimi (the eighth edition in 2010). They used the book "Farhang-e Farsi-ye Amiyâne" by Abolhassan Najafi as a criterion for Persian slang. They found that in the first translation 80% of the items were domesticated, 5% were foreignized, 7.5% were neutralized, 7.5% were untranslated and no item was domesticated-foreignized. However, in the second translation, 90% of the items were domesticated, 5% were foreignized, 2.5% were neutralized, no items were untranslated and 2.5% were domesticated-foreignized. Infact, both translations were similar in their application of the procedures in preserving slang items. Their results also indicated that the most frequently employed translation strategy for transferring slang in both translations was domestication, They believed that the trend of domestication in the target text led to the fluency of the translation and the translator's invisibility but while many readers understand and accept these translations which are domesticated, the cultural and linguistic features of the ST were sacrificed for the naturalness and fluency of the translations. However, foreignizing strategy which can reproduce the original picture and transform the human atmosphere and spiritual essence of the ST, especially to the parts in which the source culture is different from the target cultures, was used in a few numbers of cases. The translators had better combine two cultures for keeping the characteristics of the SL texts and to prevent from information overload and cultural shock, causing no difficulty for the TT readers to accept and understand the translation. In addition the researchers asserted that slang

cannot be translated literally or foreignized since it is related to culture and should be translated to convey the intended meaning and produce the intended effect. So they concluded that based on translation purposes, translators should choose different translation strategies because both domestication and foreignization cause unavoidable losses in the process of translation.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1. Materials

“Rebecca” is a classic novel which belongs to modern gothic literature. In this study, twenty paragraphs were randomly selected from the original book. The focus was on identifying translation strategies applied by two Persian translators namely Enayatollah Shakibapoor (1992) and Khojasteh Keyhan (2015) in rendering colloquial utterances used in the novel *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier (1938). The colloquial utterances included in the paragraphs were identified according to models proposed by McCrimmon (1963) and Holmes (1992).

“Rebecca” is an instance of a gothic genre in which the whole story is full of the presence of the ghost of Rebecca. By following the gothic style, the author shows the characters' moods using the weather states. On the other hand, the Persian translators in this study, have been active in the field of translation of fictions. Kayhan has translated most of the novels by American author and director, Paul Auster, such as *In the Country of Last Things* (1987), published in the US, *Ghosts* (1986), *Oracle Night* (2003), the *Brooklyn Follies* (2005) and etc. Also, Shakibapoor has translated most of Jules Verne's novels from French into Persian (Wikipedia the Free Encyclopedia, 2013) and Maurice Maeterlinck's works. Jules Verne's *Five Weeks in a Balloon* (1863), *the Blue Bird* (1912), *the Life of the Bee* (1901), *the Great Secret* (1921) and the other works of Maeterlinck are among the renditions of Shakibapoor.

#### 3.2. Assessment Model

Considering major features of colloquial utterances, two original model frameworks developed by McCrimmon (1963) and Holmes (1992) were used and modified in this study. In this regard, McCrimmon (1963) presented the features of the colloquial language as comprising 1) relatively short simple sentences, often grammatically incomplete with few rhetorical devices; 2) a generous use of contractions (I'll, we've, didn't, can't), clipped words (cab, exam, phone), and the omission of relative pronouns (who, which, that) which would be retained in a formal style; 3) a vocabulary marked by general avoidance of learned words and by inclusion of some less objectionable slang terms; 4) a simplified

grammatical structure which leans heavily on idiomatic constructions and sometimes ignores the fine distinctions of formal grammar; and 5) a personal or familiar tone, by which the writer tries to create the impression of speaking intimately to the reader (p. 173).

On the other hand, Holmes (1992) characterized two linguistic features for colloquial utterances, including: 1) pronunciation features for example dropping some vowels or consonants ('e' instead of 'he') and ('in' instead of 'ing', and 2) Grammatical features for example using 'was' instead of 'were' for plural subject 'we' (p. 265). Considering the above frameworks, a revised model was modified and developed for identifying colloquial expressions in this study that included colloquial features of *contractions, grammatically incomplete sentences, omission of relative pronouns, informal words, and pronunciation features*, and translation strategies of *borrowing, synonymy, shift, modulation, addition, omission, colloquial translation, and translation into higher degree of formality*.

#### 3.3. Data Collection Procedure

Twenty chapters of the novel “Rebecca” were selected randomly and from each chapter one paragraph was selected randomly from which the colloquial expressions were extracted. The Persian equivalents were extracted from the target texts to identify translation strategies used by the two translators for rendering colloquial expressions based on Holmes (1992) and McCrimmon's (1963) frameworks.

#### 3.4. Data Analysis Procedure

For descriptive statistics, the frequencies and percentages of the occurrence of each translation strategy were determined. Thus, it was attempted to recognize the items rendered in a colloquial way and the cases with the highest and/or lowest degree of formality in each translation version. Then the Persian translations were compared in terms of these features to find out which translation was more accurate and more faithful to the original author's style of using colloquial language. For inferential statistics, chi-square test was run to determine whether there was any significant difference between the frequencies of the strategies applied by the translators.

### 4. FINDINGS

#### 4.1. Features of Colloquial Utterances Found in the Selected Corpus

The frequencies and percentages of features of colloquial utterances were determined based on Holmes (1992) and McCrimmon's (1963) frameworks, as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Frequencies and percentages of colloquial features found in the corpus**

Colloquial Feature	Frequency	Percentage
Contractions	64	60.37
Grammatically Incomplete Sentences	19	17.92
Omission of Relative Pronouns	8	7.54
Informal Words	12	11.32
Pronunciation features	3	2.83
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>100</b>

As shown in Table 1, contractions have the largest number (60.37%) and pronunciation features

have the smallest number (2.83%) among all features. The same findings are illustrated in Figure 1.



**Figure 1: Frequencies and percentages of colloquial features found in the corpus**

#### 4.2. Strategies Applied to Render Colloquial Utterances

Based on the aforementioned features, the colloquial utterances were found and the translation strategies applied in two translations were identified. The translation strategies included *borrowing*, *synonymy*, *shift*, *modulation*, *addition*, *omission*, *colloquial translation*, and *translation into higher degree of formality*. The following findings were obtained in this regard:

##### 4.2.1 Borrowing

Most of the cases which fall in this strategy are the proper names of people (e.g. Dora and Maxim respectively translated as دورا and ماکسیم) and properties (e.g. Manderley translated as مندرلی). However, two cases were different from the aforementioned category

including the words *Blaize* and *cabin*. One of the meanings of *Blaize* is "a girl who is a loyal friend but when crossed can be the nastiest person you come across. She loves to be in the centre of drama and is a loud outgoing person, although she is an old soul" (Urban Dictionary, 2016). Obviously, no corresponding equivalent for this word exists in target language. That's why Shakibapoor omitted it in his translation and Keyhan preferred to borrow it from the source language. Another word mentioned is *cabin* which underwent the strategy of borrowing in both translations. The equivalents proposed by Farhang Moaser English-Persian Dictionary (2006) are اتاق/خوابگاه (درکشتی). As the application of this word is specified for ships, target speakers tend to use the borrowed form instead of the more general equivalents existed in the target language.

**Table 2: Instances of borrowing in two translations**

Colloquial Segment	Shakibapoor's Translation	Keyhan's Translation
There's Dora. Isn't she just adorable?	این دورا است، به نظر بسیار زیبا باید باشد.	این دورا است. خوشگل نیست؟
The first of many similar incidents from other Blaizes.	از این حوادث در زندگی انسان زیاد پیدا می شود.	اولین بار است، اما بعدا بارها توسط بلیز های دیگر تکرار خواهد شد.
there's everything to tell them, there in the cabin.	همه چیز برای اینکه به قضیه پی ببرند در کابین وجود دارد	در کابین همه چیز از هویت او حکایت می کند
I'll look after your precious Manderley for you.	و از مندرلی توجه لازم را خواهم کرد	از مندرلی با ارزشت مراقبت می کنم
I'm so glad you decided to do this again, Maxim.	خیلی خوشحالم از اینکه بالاخره تصمیم گرفتی چنین جشنی برپا کنی ماکسیم.	خیلی خوشحالم این جشن را گرفتی ماکسیم.

#### 4.2.2 Synonymy

When translator chooses near target language equivalent for a source language word based on the context in which the word is used, the strategy of synonymy is employed. In these situations exact equivalent may or may not exist in the target language.

In case number one the equivalents used for the word *people* are *آشنایان* and *مهمان* in Shakibapoor's and Keyhan's translations respectively. Based on the context, the equivalents chosen are preferred than the exact equivalent which is *بردم*. In case number two, the phrase *can't help* denotes "not be able to avoid a situation or stop something from happening" (Wiktionary Dictionary, 2016). According to this definition, the equivalent *کاری* *است که شده* is closer to the original expression. For the item number four, the translators required to render the word *application* by the help of the concept of the following

sentences as *'It bores me stiff. But it has to be done, in this part of the world.'* *'We're not talking about boredom.'* Thus, the Shakibapoor's translation seems more related and acceptable. The phrase *out of the way* in item number four denotes "unusual, exceptional or remarkable" (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016). Therefore, both renditions (*خاص/ فوق العاده*) conform to the original concept. In item number five, two words of *give way* and *blackmail* are used which respectively referred to "yield to someone or something" (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016) and "the act of threatening to harm someone or someone's reputation unless the person does as you say or a payment made to someone who has threatened to harm you or your reputation" (*Cambridge dictionary*, 2016). The equivalent *اخاذی* is closer to *blackmail* and both translations for *give way* including *تسلیم شدن* and *تن دادن* are regarded as acceptable equivalents.

**Table 2: Instances of synonymy in two translations**

Colloquial Segment	Shakibapoor's Translation	Keyhan's Translation
I may have one or two people coming in tomorrow evening.	فردا عصر ممکن است دو سه نفر از آشنایان در منزل من باشند.	ممکن است فردا عصر یکی دو مهمان داشته باشم.
'Yes, well - it can't be helped'.	ماکسیم گفت زیاد مهم نیست.	ماکسیم گفت بله، خب کاری ست که شده.
It's a matter of application.	موضوع صبر و حوصله است.	شرط اصلی تلاش فردی است.
It's nothing out of the way	چیزی نیست، خیلی فوق العاده نباید باشد.	هیچ لباس خاصی نیست.
I'm not going to give way to blackmail	هرگز ممکن نیست که در مقابل تهدید و عمل شانتاژ تسلیم شوم.	من به اخاذی تن نمی دهم.

#### 4.2.3 Shift

According to Hatim and Munday (2004) "a shift is said to occur if, in a given TT, a translation equivalent other than the formal correspondent occurs for a specific SL element." (p. 26). There are different types of shift recognized in the sample. The first type to be explained is class shift which is referred to the cases in which parts of speech are changed (Munday, 2001, p. 61). Parts of speech include noun, verb, adjective, adverb and preposition. In case number one in Shakibapoor's translation, a noun (*companion*) is changed to an adjective (*مصاحب*). Also, case number one in Keyhan's translation is an example of class shift in which an adjective (*brave*) is changed to an adverb (*با شجاعت*). Another type of shift is called intrasystem shift which "takes place when the SL and TL possess approximately corresponding systems but where the translation involves selection of a non-corresponding term in the TL system" (Catford, 1965, cited in Munday, 2001, p. 60). An

example of intra-system shift is observed in case number two in Shakibapoor's translation where a plural noun (*pirate*) is changed to a singular one (*دزدان دریایی*). The same type of shift is occurred in item number three in Keyhan's translation which is a change from second person free plural pronoun (*You*) to first person bound plural pronoun (*ما*). Cases number two and three respectively belonging to Keyhan's and Shakibapoor's translation are instances of both level shift and unit shift. Level shift "would be something which is expressed by grammar in one language and lexis in another" (Catford, 1965, cited in Munday, 2001, p. 60) and unit or rank shifts are shifts "where the translation equivalent in the TL is at a different rank to the SL. 'Rank' here refers to the hierarchical linguistic units of sentence, clause, group, word and morpheme" (Catford, 1965, cited in Munday, 2001, p. 61). In the aforementioned cases, a pronoun is replaced by its referent (*it is replaced by مساله and her is substituted with ریکا*).

**Table 4: Instances of shift in Shakibapoor's translation**

Colloquial Segment	Shakibapoor's Translation
She's training me to be a thing called a companion.	من به عنوان ماداموازل مصاحب او هستم
Anything less like a pirate.	اتفاقا او به همه چیز می تواند شبیه شود غیر از دزدان دریایی.
They'll identify her body.	جسد ریکا را شناسایی خواهند کرد.

**Table 5: Instances of shift in Keyhan's translation**

Colloquial Segment	Keyhan's Translation
'now I've been brave enough to break the ice I hope I shall see something of you.	حالا که با شجاعت اظهار آشنایی کردم، امیدوارم بیشتر ببینمتان.
'it's not quite so easy as all that.	مساله به این سادگی نیست.
You've got her to thank for it.	باید از او متشکر باشیم.

#### 4.2.4 Modulation

Modulation is a “change in the semantics and point of view of the SL” (Munday, 2001, p, 57). According to Munday (2001), abstract for concrete, cause-effect, part-whole, part-another part, reversal of terms, negation of opposite, active to passive, space for time, rethinking of intervals and limits and change of symbol are different types of modulation. Two types of modulation including negated contrary and part for

whole were distinguished in the sample. In cases number two in Shakibapoor's translation and number one in Keyhan's translation, a negative action is translated as a positive one. However in item number three in Shakibapoor's a positive action is translated as a negative one. In case number one of Shakibapoor's rendition a part for whole modulation (*fingers rendered as دست*) is occurred. Item number two in Keyhan's translation is an example of changing of perspective.

**Table 3: Instances of modulation in Shakibapoor's translation**

Colloquial Segment	Shakibapoor's Translation
The clothes she had, the shoes, the rings on her fingers.	لباس هایی که پوشیده بود، کفش هایی که به پا داشت و حتی انگشترهایی که به دست داشت.
Why don't they keep them for the kiddies on Saturday night?	بهر بود اگر موشکی باقی مانده برای تفریح روز شنبه نگاه دارند.
I've asked you a lot of rude questions.	نباید بعضی سوالات نا به جا را از تو می کردم.

**Table 4: Instances of modulation in Keyhan's translation**

Colloquial Segment	Keyhan's Translation
Why not join us?	شما هم بیایید.
'I should shed that mackintosh,' he said, glancing down at me.	ماکسیم نگاهم کرد و گفت بهتر است آن بارانی را دریاوری.

#### 4.2.5 Addition

The strategy of addition is a useful one when it is employed for the purpose of increasing the accuracy, the clarity and the beauty of the descriptions. All three cases brought from Keyhan's translation and cases number one and two in Shakibapoor's translation are examples in which the added words are required to enhance the fluency of translation. Thus they should be retained in the translation and it is no need to omit them.

In order to be faithful to the source text, it would be better to avoid unnecessary additions as much as possible. The case number three in Shakibapoor's translation includes an unnecessary addition. In fact, omitting this phrase causes no problem in comprehending the meaning of the related sentence. Thus, the phrase *مثل بچه ها* can be omitted.

**Table 5: Instances of addition in Shakibapoor's translation**

Colloquial Segment	Keyhan's Translation
said all sorts of things I shouldn't.	چیزهایی گفته ام که نباید می گفتم.
It's so awful to think nothing in there has ever been broken before.	خیلی وحشتناک است. وقتی می شنوم تا کنون چیزی در اینجا نشکسته است.
Instead of which you scrape up the remains in an envelope and hide 'em at the <u>back</u> of a drawer	اما تو به جای این کار <u>مثل بچه ها</u> خورده های آن را جمع می کنی و در گوشه کشو <u>میز پنهان</u> می کنی

**Table 6: Instances of addition in Keyhan's translation**

Colloquial Segment	Keyhan's Translation
I hate people looking me up and down as though I were a prize cow.	من از اینکه سر تا پام را طوری برانداز می کنند که انگار یک گاو هستم، بدم می آید. گاوی که در مسابقه گاو ها شرکت کرده.
Why don't they keep them for the kiddies on Saturday night?	چرا نمی گذارند شنبه برای بچه ها منفرجهش کنند؟
her head on one side	بفاتریس سر به یک سو خم کرد

**4.2.6 Omission**

Cases number two and three in Shakibapoor's translation and number one and three in Keyhan's include examples of insignificant omissions. As it is observed the omissions made in the translations in these cases do not make any trouble for the target readers' comprehension of the source text and for this reason the translators have

not needed to worry about their faithfulness to the source text. Hence, in these cases, the omitted parts are not significant. While in cases number one in Shakibapoor's translation and number two in Keyhan's rendition omission is incorrect since the meaning of the original source text has not been conveyed to the target text because of complete deletion of the related segments.

**Table 7: Instances of omission in Shakibapoor's translation**

Rather like the Eastern slave market.	-----
'it's not a question of bringing up <u>as you put it</u> .	این مربوط به طرز تعلیم و تربیت نیست.
'She's a Dutchman, <u>ain't she</u> '?	این کشتی متعلق به هلند است؟

**Table 11: Instances of omission in Keyhan's translation**

'it's not <u>quite</u> so easy <u>as all that</u> .	مساله به این سادگی نیست
'No, I'd rather not,	-----
'Well, I must say, <u>old chap</u> , you're looking a different person.'	خب باید بگویم که آدم دیگری شده ای.

**4.2.7 Comparing Colloquial Renditions in Two Translations with Regard to Higher Degree of Formality**

Some cases from the two translations with different level of formality are assessed in this part. Table 12 shows the examples which Shakibapoor has translated them into colloquial Persian while they have been translated into higher degree of formality by Keyhan. In the first case the equivalents *می گردانم* and *می رسم* are chosen for the original word *run*. The second equivalent is more formal than the first one in the target language, so the first translation is considered as a colloquial translation and the second one is done in a formal way. In example number two the equivalents are

similar but the verb in the first translation is an incomplete form of verb which is an inflection of Persian present perfect (*بوده است*). Using incomplete forms of verbs in Persian is a feature of colloquial language. For this reason the first translation is a colloquial one. In the third example an informal idiom (*be down on*) is used which denotes "feel hostile or antagonistic towards" (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016). Therefore, translators should choose a target language informal verb for the purpose of preserving the colloquial tone of the original. Between the equivalents *بِتحقیر می کرد* and *لج بود* the first one is a more colloquial word meeting the requirements of a colloquial translation.

**Table 8: Colloquial renditions in Shakibapoor's vs. Keyhan's translations with higher degree of formality**

Colloquial Segment	Shakibapoor's Transltion	Keyhan's Translation
I'll run your house for you	من خانه ات را می گردانم	من به امور خانه ات می رسم.
I'm always very fit.	حال من همیشه خوب بوده.	من همیشه حالم خوب است.
She was always rather down on him.	بئاتریس همیشه با او لج بود.	بئاتریس همیشه او را تحقیر می کرد.

Table 13 shows the cases which were translated into higher degree of formality by Shakibapoor but undergone colloquial translation by Keyhan. In the first three cases Keyhan has successfully transferred the intimacy and colloquial tone of the original into the target language text. In examples number two and three, some clipped words are used which make these sentences very informal. Hence, translators should render these cases with the same level of formality by using Persian colloquial features. In translation of case number two,

Keyhan used bound pronoun *شان* instead of using *آن ها*. In fact, using bound pronouns is more colloquial than using free ones in Persian. In cases number four and five, Shakibapoor has chosen more formal equivalents including *از میدان کنار رفتن* and *به چوبه دار تسلیم کردن*. In addition, the sentences in Shakibapoor's rendition are longer than the original which is in contrary with the feature of using relatively short simple sentences suggested by McCrimmon (1963).

**Table 9: Colloquial renditions in Keyhan's vs. Shakibapoor's translations with higher degree of formality**

Colloquial Segment	Shakibapoor's Transltion	Keyhan's Translation
'she's down there all right'.	کشتی ته دریا می رود.	او رفته دریا.
'you must boil 'em first'.	ولی اول باید آن ها را جوشانند.	اما اول باید بپزیدشان.
'They'm all right with bread-an'-butter'.	این ها با نان و کره بسیار خوب است.	با نان و کره خوشنمز می شوند.
I've got enough evidence to hang you	من دلایلی در دست دارم که می توانم تو را به چوبه دار تسلیم کنم.	من آن قدر مدرک دارم که دارت بزندن ماکس عزیز.

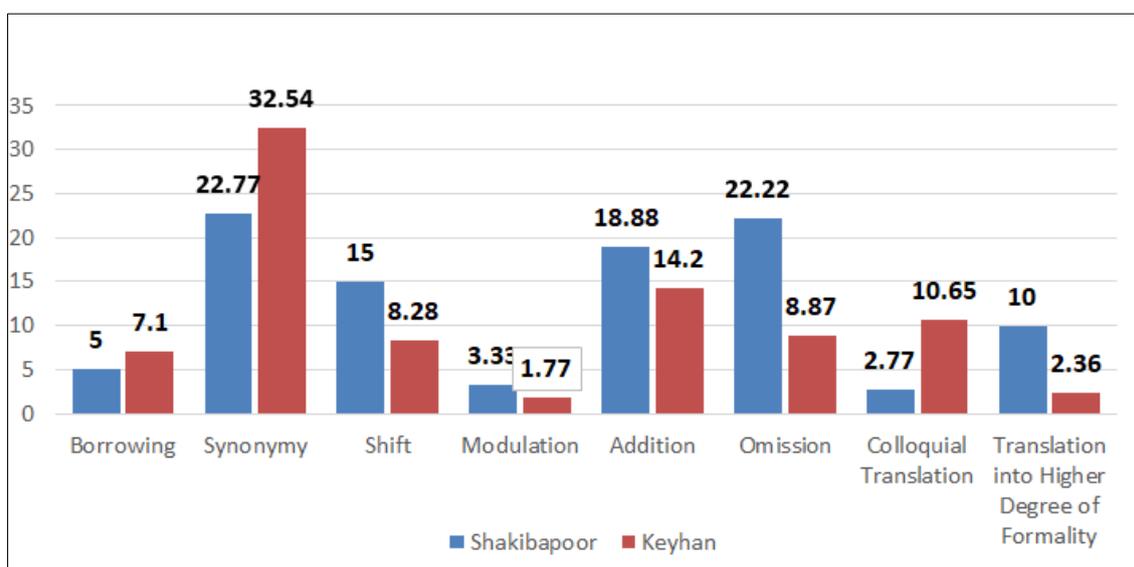
Colloquial Segment	Shakibapoor's Transltion	Keyhan's Translation
'Good bluff'.	من در مقابل این بلوف ها از میدان کنار نمی روم.	خوب بلوفی بود.

In Table 10, the frequencies and percentages of translation strategies in rendering colloquial utterances are presented.

**Table 11: Frequencies and percentages of translation strategies used to render colloquial utterances**

Translation Strategy	Frequency		Percentage	
	Shakibapoor	Keyhan	Shakibapoor	Keyhan
Borrowing	9	12	5.00	7.10
Synonymy	41	55	22.77	32.54
Shift	27	14	15	8.28
Modulation	6	3	3.33	1.77
Addition	34	24	18.88	14.20
Omission	40	15	22.22	8.87
Colloquial Translation	5	18	2.77	10.65
Translation into Higher Degree of Formality	18	4	10.00	2.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

The same findings on the frequencies and percentages of translation strategies used to render colloquial utterances are presented in Figure 2.



**Figure 2: Frequencies and percentages of translation strategies used to render colloquial utterances**

In order to find out whether there is a significant difference between the frequencies of the strategies employed by the translators, a chi-square test was run.

**Table 12: Chi-Square Test between frequencies of Strategies**

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	14.000 <sup>a</sup>	14	.450
Likelihood Ratio	19.408	14	.150
Linear-by-Linear Association	.324	1	.569
N of Valid Cases	16		

a. 30 cells (100.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .50.

As shown in Table 15, the result from chi-square test shows that the level of significant difference between the translators is 0.450. As 0.450 is more than 0.05 (0.450 > 0.05), there is no significant difference between the frequencies of the strategies employed by the translators.

## 5. DISCUSSION

Borrowing which respectively constitutes 5% and 7.10% in Shakibapoor's and Keyhan's translations is used mostly for transferring proper nouns of the source language to target one as well as filling the lexical gaps in the target text. Although similar statistics were

expected for both translators, a little difference was seen in their frequencies which is the result of Shakibapoor's tendency toward more omissions of the proper nouns and the words for which no equivalent in the target language exists.

The second translation strategy, namely synonymy, constitutes 22.77% of Shakibapoor's rendition and 32.54% of Keyhan's. Synonymy has the highest number among all the strategies applied. Keyhan was more successful in using this useful strategy regarding choosing more acceptable equivalents than the ones to be modified.

Evaluating the cases undergone the third translation strategy, namely shift, showed that 15% and 8.28% of the items in Shakibapoor's translation and Keyhan's were rendered through this strategy. The difference between these frequencies emanates from the fact that Keyhan tended to be more faithful to the original author and used the method of word for word translation wherever possible. For this reason the number of shifts in her translation is less than Shakibapoor's who preferred to use his own way of interpretation of the original text resulted in occurring more shifts in his rendition.

The fourth strategy or modulation constitutes 3.33% and 1.77% of cases in Shakibapoor's translation and Keyhan's respectively. Modulation has the lowest number among other strategies in Keyhan's translation. This strategy is a very useful one in rendering specially the cultural words but it seems that the translators were not sufficiently conscious of its use.

The two translation strategies of addition and omission were used more in Shakibapoor's rendition in comparison with Keyhan's. Analysis of the sample indicated that more subjectivity of the former in the way of interpreting the message of the original and using his own words to convey that was the reason of occurring more additions and omissions.

The strategy of colloquial translation constitutes 2.77% of the cases in Shakibapoor's translation and 10.65% in Keyhan's. While the frequency of the cases rendered into higher degree of formality in Shakibapoor's rendition was more than Keyhan's (10% versus 2.36%). Since the sample under study is a colloquial one, the characteristics of colloquial language should be used in translation to preserve the intimacy tone of the original while this is not the case in Shakibapoor's translation. Accordingly, Keyhan's rendition is more acceptable regarding more numbers of cases recognized as colloquial translation and less numbers of cases translated into higher degree of formality.

In order to find out whether there is a significant difference between the frequencies of the strategies

employed by the translators, a chi-square test was run. The result from chi-square test shows that the level of significant difference between the translators is 0.450. As 0.450 is more than 0.05 ( $0.450 > 0.05$ ), there is no significant difference between the frequencies of the strategies employed by the translators.

## 6. CONCLUSION

The results of this study showed that the translation strategies including borrowing, synonymy, addition, omission, colloquial translation and translation into higher degree of formality were used by the translators in rendering the colloquial expressions. The translation strategy of borrowing was used for transferring proper nouns of source language to target one as well as filling the lexical gaps in target text. Synonymy had the highest number among all the strategies applied. Keyhan was more successful in using this useful strategy regarding choosing more acceptable equivalents than the ones to be modified. The number of shifts in Keyhan's translation was less than Shakibapoor's who preferred to use his own way of interpretation of the original text resulted in occurring more shifts in his rendition. Modulation had the lowest number among other strategies in Keyhan's translation. This strategy is a very useful one in rendering specially the cultural words but it seems that the translators were not sufficiently conscious of its use. The two translation strategies of addition and omission were used more in Shakibapoor's rendition in comparison with Keyhan's. Subjectivity of Shakibapoor in the way of interpreting the message of the original and using his own words to convey that was the reason of occurring more additions and omissions. Furthermore, Keyhan's rendition was more acceptable regarding more numbers of cases recognized as colloquial translation and less numbers of cases translated into higher degree of formality.

Regarding the first research question "What strategies were used by the Persian translators in translating the colloquial expressions?" the researcher found that the translation strategies including synonymy, borrowing, addition, omission, colloquial translation and translation into higher degree of formality were used by the translators. Accordingly, the first research hypothesis is accepted.

Considering the second research question "Which translator was more successful in terms of preserving the same degree of formality compared to the original?" the researcher focused on the frequencies of the strategies of colloquial translation and translation into higher degree of formality. As the number of items rendered through colloquial translation in Keyhan's translation was more than Shakibapoor's and the frequency of the items translated into higher degree of formality in Keyhan's rendition was less than Shakibapoor's, Keyhan is regarded as the more successful translator in preserving the colloquial tone of the original and maintaining the same degree of

formality. Thus, the second research hypothesis is rejected.

To answer the third research question "Is there any significant difference between the frequencies of the strategies applied by the translators?" a chi-square test was run. The result from chi-square test showed that the level of significant difference between the translators was 0.450. As 0.450 was more than 0.05 ( $0.450 > 0.05$ ), there was no significant difference between the frequencies of the strategies employed by the translators. Therefore the third research hypothesis is accepted.

The results of this study can be significant in the field of translation, especially literary translation. Translation students can find it useful in comprehending the concept of translation strategies and the way of identification as well as the way of employing them. They would be familiar with the continuum of formality and would be conscious of recognizing the tone of the original text in the first step and then translating it with the same level of formality. They also would learn about the colloquial features in English and think creatively to find the ways by means of which they would be able to reflect these features in their Persian translation. Findings of this research are also useful for literary translators and university instructors. Literary translators would be aware of this fact that for the purpose of producing a communicative translation, they should pay attention to the tone of the original and make their efforts to preserve it in their rendition specially in translating conversations which have an intimate tone and informal language. University instructors also can benefit from this study in teaching the characteristics and the way of colloquial translation more appropriately. On the other hand, there are some limitations confronted in this study: A small sample of colloquial items was assessed; also, only two translations of the novel were chosen to study. Besides, the number of translation strategies to compare the performance of the translators was limited. As of the recommendations for further study, in this study, the translation of colloquial expressions was evaluated. It is suggested to assess other levels of formality such as vulgar, slang, neutral, formal and legal ceremonial expressions. It is also recommended to examine the extent of using correspondent colloquial expressions in translations of conversational parts of an English novel in different languages and find their adaptations and dissimilarities. Moreover, the models used to characterize the colloquial utterances were those of McCrimmon's and Holmes. It is suggested to employ other models in this regard. Finally, it is recommended to evaluate other linguistic items included in the novel *Rebeca* such as cultural words, euphemisms, idiomatic expressions and so on.

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