Lecture:(4)

Translation Versus Interpretation (التأويل / التفسير).

4.1 Introduction

Q/ Make a comparison between translation and interpretation.

1. *Translation* and *interpretation* are **similar** to *writing* and *speech*.

2. *Translation has to do with* **written language** *whereas interpretation has to do* **with speech**. *Speech historically preceded written language.*

3. Interpretation was used **before translation** as a means of communication between people of different languages.

4. Translation was and is still the main streamline from which interpretation has recently branched out as an **independent discipline**.

4.2 Translation Domains

Note: domains refer to *(i.e. subject-matter)* or *"Province" (i.e. field)*.

Q/ What are the *Translation 's "domains"?*

- **Literary:** *involves the translation of prose and poetry.*

- **Technical/medical**: *involves all sorts of scientific texts.*

- **Legal:** *involves the translation of legal documents and scripts.*

- **Political/diplomatic**: *involves the translation of texts relating to diplomacy and politics.*

- **Social/cultural:** *involves the translation of texts relating to customs, traditions, habits, etc. of a particular community.*

- **Economic:** *involves the translation of texts relating to economics, finance, commerce, etc.*

- **General:** *involves the translation of all sorts of texts which have nothing to do with the above categories.*

4.3 Translators' tools and aids

Translators' aids may be divided into:

1. *Linguistic aids: (dictionaries & glossaries* قائمة من المصطلحات)

This involves the use of:

(a) *Mono-lingual dictionaries such as (Collins English Dictionary).*

(b) *Bilingual dictionaries such as (Al-Mawrid).*

(c) *Glossaries, which differ from dictionaries in that they contain a selection of words in a language given within a very restricted field only, can also be helpful to translators.*

2. *Literature aids:*

This involves books, translated texts and technical encyclopaedias which have something in common with the subject-matter the translator is working with.

3. *Mechanical aids:*

This involves the use of type-writers, dictating machines, photocopying machines, Google translator etc.

4.4 What is interpretation/interpreting?

*Interpretation is defined as an **oral translation of a message in one language into an equivalent oral message in another language**.*

*This may indicate that main difference between translation and interpretation is that the former involves **only "written texts"**, whereas the latter only **"oral messages".***

4.5 Forms of Interpreting.

1. *Conference interpreting*

*Since The First World War, interpreting has generally been attached to conference meetings and has internationally been known as "**conference interpreting**".*