LOSS AND GAIN IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF CULTURE-SPECIFIC ITEMS IN AHMAD TOHARI'S: KIND LOOKING EYES

THESIS

Presented to

State of Islamic Institute (IAIN) Kediri

In Partial Fulfillment of Requirements

For The Degree of *Sarjana* in English Language Education

By:

Azmi Puspa Dewanti

932220219

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATIONFACULTY OF TARBIYAH

STATE ISLAMIC INSTITUTE OF KEDIRI

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DECLARATION OF AUTHENTICITY

Name : Azmi Puspa Dewanti

Student's ID Number : 932220219

Study Program : Department of English Language Education

Faculty : Tarbiyah

Title of Thesis : Loss and Gain in English Translation of Culture-Specific Items in Ahmad Tohari's: Kind Looking Eyes

I hereby declare that the thesis and the work presented in it are my own and it has been generated by me as the result of my own original research. It does not incorporate any materials previously written or published by another person except those indicated in quotations and references. No portion on this work has been submitted in support of an application for another degree or qualification of this or any other university or institution of higher education. Due to this fact, I am the only person responsible for the thesis of there is any objection or claim from others.

This thesis is to fulfill the requirement for the degree of *Sarjana* (S1) in English Study Program, State Islamic Institute of Kediri.

Kediri, 15th of June 2023
The Researcher,

Azmi Puspa Dewanti
NIM. 932220219

RATIFICATION SHEET

LOSS AND GAIN IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF CULTURE-SPECIFIC ITEMS IN AHMAD TOHARI'S: *KIND LOOKING EYES*

AZMI PUSPA DEWANTI

NIM: 932220219

Has been examined by the Board of Examiners of State Islamic Institut (IAIN) of Kediri on 22nd of June 2023

1. **Main Examiner**
   Bahruddin, M.Pd.
   NIP. 197509302007101004
   (.....)

2. **Examiner I**
   Dr. Fathor Rasyid, M.Pd.
   NIP. 19690831 200003 1 001
   (.....)

3. **Examiner II**
   Nurul Aini, M.Pd.
   NIDN. 2003078801
   (.....)

Kediri, 22th of June 2023

Acknowledge by Dean of Faculty of Tarbiyah

State Islamic Institut (IAIN) of Kediri,

Prof. Dr. Hj. Munifah, M.Pd.
NIP. 197004121994032006

APPROVAL PAGE

This is to certify that the *Sarjana's* Thesis of Azmi Puspa Dewanti has been approved by the thesis advisors for further approval by the broad of examiners.

LOSS AND GAIN IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF CULTURE-SPECIFIC ITEMS IN AHMAD TOHARI'S: *KIND LOOKING EYES*

AZMI PUSPA DEWANTI

NIM: 932220219

Approved by:

Advisor I	**Advisor II**
Dr. Fathor Rasyid, M.Pd.	**Nurul Aini, M.Pd.**
NIP. 19690831 200003 1 001	**NIDN. 2003078801**

MOTTO

“Embrace your phase”

DEDICATION

1. Thanks to The Lord of the world, Allah SWT and the Prophet Muhammad SAW for the blessings.
2. My beloved parents, Dra. Siti Fadilah and Ali Nahrowi, Purwanto and Ratna Fauziah that words cannot express the depth of my gratitude for the unwavering support, unconditional love, and countless prayers you have bestowed upon me. Throughout my journey, your presence has been an anchor, providing me with strength and encouragement to overcome obstacles and pursue my dreams.
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The researcher

Azmi Puspa Dewanti

ABSTRACT

Dewanti, Azmi Puspa. 2023. *"Loss and Gain in English Translation of Culture-Specific Items in Ahmad Tohari's: Kind Looking Eyes".* Thesis. Department of English Language Education, Faculty of Tarbiyah, IAIN Kediri. Advisors:
(I) Dr. Fathor Rasyid, M.Pd. (II) Nurul Aini, M. Pd.
Keywords: *loss and gain, translation, culture-specific items.*

In this research, the primary objective is to identify the loss and gain of culture-specific items (CSIs) in the translation of Ahmad Tohari's anthology "Kind Looking Eyes". CSIs encompass cultural elements that are distinctive to a particular language or culture, presenting challenges in translation due to their cultural connotations and associations. Translating CSIs requires a deep understanding of both the source and target cultures, as they often lack direct equivalents in the target language. The study focuses on the semantic aspects of the translation process, aiming to delve into the intricate nature of translating CSIs and explore the potential losses or gains in meaning that occur. By examining the translation of CSIs in "Kind Looking Eyes," this research contributes to the broader understanding of the complexities involved in accurately conveying cultural nuances and preserving the intended meaning in translated works.

The research methodology employed in this study is qualitative research, which aims to generate descriptive data through a comprehensive analysis of words. The primary focus of the study is on culture-specific items (CSIs) found in both the source and target versions, with a specific emphasis on figurative language. The researcher serves as the main instrument, directly observing and collecting data. Supplementary instruments such as field notes assist in organizing and analyzing the data. The data collection process involves a combination of library research and the explicatory contrastive method, utilizing various primary and secondary sources. Subsequently, the collected data is analyzed by identifying and comparing the culture-specific items in the two versions. A semantic approach is employed to categorize the CSIs as either experiencing a loss or gain in translation. This method allows for a thorough exploration of the nuances and transformations that occur during the translation process of CSIs in "Kind Looking Eyes".

The result of this study indicates that the importance of employing semantic distinctive features in the English translation of 25 culture-specific items (CSIs) leading to the identification of 24 losses and 1 gain in the translation process. By applying Newmark's theory of categorizing CSIs, the CSIs were classified into five distinct groups; ecology, material culture, social culture, social organization, also gestures and habis. By employing Newmark's theory and categorizing the CSIs accordingly, this study enhances our understanding of the diverse cultural elements embedded in the translation process.

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