

The Role of Religious Context in Translating Medieval Saint Poetry in India

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Abstract

The translation of medieval saint poetry, especially in the Indian context, involves a complex interaction between language, culture, and religion. This paper explores how religious context plays a pivotal role in translating medieval saint poetry in Specifically, it addresses the challenges of translating works composed by saints like Kabir, Guru Nanak, Meera Bai, and others from various religious traditions such as Hinduism, Sufism, and Sikhism.

The present paper is an attempt to critically analyze the cultural, theological, and linguistic factors that influence the translation process, and examines how translators navigate these challenges to preserve the spiritual essence and poetic beauty of the original texts. Through case studies, this paper highlights the impact of religious context on the translation and reception of saint poetry in India.

Keywords: Religious Context-Translating poetry- Medieval India-Saint Poetry - challenges of translators

