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Translating Divine Verses: Challenges in Conveying the Spirit of Saint Poetry

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Abstract :

Translating saint poetry presents unique challenges due to its intricate blend of linguistic, cultural, and spiritual elements. Saint poetry, often viewed as a direct expression of divine inspiration, transcends mere artistic endeavor to encapsulate profound religious truths and personal revelations. The primary challenge in translating such works lies in preserving not only the literal meaning of the words but also the sacred essence, spiritual depth, and cultural significance embedded within them.

This paper explores the complexities translators face when engaging with saint poetry, focusing on issues like linguistic barriers, the untranslatability of certain religious symbols, and the risk of distorting the spiritual message. It also examines the role of

faith and religious context in the translation process, emphasizing how the translator's understanding of the source material's theological and cultural background influences their decisions. By delving into case studies from different religious traditions, including Sufi, Christian mystic, and Hindu devotional poetry, this paper highlights the delicate balance required to capture both the form and spirit of the original text. Ultimately, this study underscores the importance of a nuanced, culturally sensitive approach to translating saint poetry, ensuring that the divine essence of the original work is faithfully conveyed to a global audience.

Keywords: *Translation process-Saint poetry-
Challenges in translation-devotional poetry-
spirit of poetry*

