

**TRANSLATING RWANDAN FOLKTALES INTO ENGLISH:
A CULTURE-BASED ANALYSIS**

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A Masters Research Report submitted to the Faculty of Humanities,
University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg,
in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree
of Master of Arts in Translation

Johannesburg, November 2005.

Abstract

The purpose of this research report is to examine Rwandan folktales from a cultural point of view and discuss how they could be translated into English by taking into account cultural aspects that are typical of Rwandan culture. It also aims at discussing some strategies which translators can use in order to solve culture-related problems while translating Rwandan folktales into the English language for an international audience in general and for children in particular.

To lay a theoretical foundation to this study, an overview of folklore, culture and the relationship between language, culture and translation is given. Theories underlying cultural translation and underlying children's literature and its translation are also discussed. Although the study aims at analysing Rwandan folktales in general, it focuses on four folktales. These are analysed and culture-bound problems that a translator may encounter when translating them are brought to the fore. In addition, one of them is translated as an illustration and a discussion of strategies used to address culture-bound problems is provided.

Declaration

I hereby declare that this Masters Research Report is my own, unaided work. It is submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Translation at the University of the Witwatersrand, School of Literature and Languages Studies. It has not been submitted before for any other degree or examination in any other university.

Narcisse RURANGWA

The _____ day of _____ 2005

Dedication

To

Christella,
M.Victoire,
Sandrine,
Richard
and
Basilice.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my appreciation to a number of people who contributed to the completion of this research report. Without them, this work would not be what it is.

I wish to express my profound gratitude to Dr Judith Inggs, my supervisor, who gave of her time to provide me with guidance in the process of planning and writing this report. If I had not been under her tutelage and benefited from her academic expertise during the two years I spent at the University of the Witwatersrand, it would have been very difficult for me to carry this undertaking through.

My special thanks are also addressed to Dr Libby Meintjes for having guided my steps in the Department of Translation and Interpreting Studies. Her professional expertise was a real asset in the completion of this report.

I would also like to address my heartfelt thanks to my wife, children and family members for having borne with me while I was away from home. Their patience was a moral contribution to the completion of my postgraduate studies in general and of this research report in particular.

And finally, I wish to extend my appreciation to Mr. Télesphore Ngarambe for having aroused my interest in Translation Studies, all fellow Rwandans in general and Miss Spéciose Nyirabahire, Mrs. Benithe Uwamwiza, Mr. Hilaire Habyarimana, Mr. Felix Namuhoranye and Mr. Hermogène Nsengimana in particular for having been good company during my stay in the Republic of South Africa. My appreciation also goes to any other person, from far and wide, who contributed in one way or another to the completion of this research report.

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Abbreviations

SC : Source culture

ST : Source text

TC : Target culture

TT : Target text

