

## History of Translations :-

### Translations in Ancient times :-

- (i) Translations could be seen right from 300 B.C.
- The most ancient translated work is that of Rosetta Stone of 200 B.C.
  - Livius Andronicus (240 B.C.) translated Homer's Odyssey into Latin.
  - Cicero and Horace influenced the later generation of translators. They started the distinction between "word for word" and "sense for sense" translation.

### Translation of Bible :-

- Translation gained significance through the translation of the Bible. The Hebrew Old Testament was translated into Greek.
- New Testament was translated into a number of languages.
- St. Jerome, John Wycliffe and William Tyndale are all important Bible translators of 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- Arabs promoted translations during 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- During this period, Aristotle, Plato, Galen & Hippocrates were translated into Arabian.

### Translations in fifteenth Century :-

William Caxton was a prolific translator during this period.

### Translations in Sixteenth Century :-

- Etienne Dolet formulated the important theory of translations which advocated sense for sense translations.
- Martin Luther who translated the German version of the Bible in 1522 is the most influential figure in the field.

translations.

### Translations in 17<sup>th</sup> Century :-

- (X) age of French classicism. Many classics were translated into French <sup>from English</sup> & vice versa.
- Sir John Denham in his theory stated that both the translator and the original writer are equals differentiated only by the social & temporal contents.
- Abraham Cowley and John Dryden are important translators during this time.

### Translations in 18<sup>th</sup> Century :-

- Many translated texts were rewritten to fit the contemporary standards of language and taste in order to clarify the spirit or sense of the text to the readers.
- Samuel Johnson, George Campbell, Alexander Tytler (X) Translator.
- They had the reader in their mind during translation & tried to convey the author's spirit & manner in a natural way.

### Translations in 19<sup>th</sup> Century :-

- Shelley, Colbridge, Friedrich Schleiermacher & D.G. Rossetti postulated different theories regarding translations.
- Victorian translators gave importance to literalness, archaism & formalism. Eg: Matthew Arnold gave a literal translation of Homer into English & was criticized for giving neglecting the spirit of the original work.

## Translation in Twentieth Century :-

- Development of science & technology, various communication & linguistic theories made significant changes in the principles & theory of translation.
- Good books were translated into numerous languages throughout the world.
- Tagore translated his Gitanjali from Bengali into English which won the Nobel prize for literature in 1913.
- J.C. Catford, Eugene A. Nida & Peter Newmark are important translation theorists.