## Seyyed Ali Miremadi

## A GOOD TRANSLATOR MUST (100)

- 1. be a creator,
- 2. get involved in translation without being influenced by his own personality,
- 3. represent the author as perfectly as possible,
- 4. be faithful,
- 5. possess the more essential characteristics of the author,
- 6. in rendering poetry, show his poetic taste,
- 7. be familiar with the theories of translation,
- 8. possess a good knowledge of at least the two languages,
- 9. have sufficient knowledge and acquaintance with the subject,
- 10. possess a sympathetic knowledge of the two cultures relating to the two language communities from which the book originated and into which the book is being translated,
- 11. be consistent in his/her use of style, dialect and lexicon,
- 12. be familiar with dialect variations of both languages,
- 13. be quite familiar with idioms and how they are to be used as a bridge to convey messages and to enrich the rendered version,
- 14. be competent in the field from which or to which he is translating,
- 15. be familiar with linguistic analysis and be able to realize diversities of languages as well as the potential power of languages in conveying messages,
- 16. be familiar with lexical, syntactic and semantic universal properties,
- 17. be a specialist in his own culture,
- 18. make himself conversant with the history, religion, social life and customs of the people in whose language the original book is written,
- 19. be an artistic judge and able to make appropriate decisions in critical situations,
- 20. love his/her profession,
- 21. be able to recognize and differentiate between poetic and prosaic stylistic variations in the two languages,

- 22. be alert to improve his/her writing ability in the target language if she/he feels being impoverished in her/his own writing,
- 23. constantly improve his/her general knowledge through reading relevant texts,
- 24. study logic which "...will assist (him/her) to assess the truth values underlying the passage he is translating", (Newmark, 1981:6).
- 25. be familiar with different techniques and approaches of translation,
- 26. be intelligent and sensitive,
- 27. have a fairly large background in philosophical issues.

Reference: *Theories of Translation and Interpretation*, Tehran, The Center for Studying and Compiling University Books in Humanities, 1999, p. 194-197.