

## Translator's Unconscious: Psychoanalytic Study of Translation

**Marzieh Izadi**

M.A in Translation Studies, Birjand University

**Abstract:** *This paper aims to suggest an answer to one of the questions in the field of Translation Studies, i.e. one of the root causes of the professional translators' erroneous renderings. By drawing on Freudian psychoanalysis, this paper suggests that one of the root causes of the erroneous renderings in the work of any accomplished translator is the unwitting exposition of his or her unconsciousness. This paper, in four consecutive sections, tries to show how this understanding is reached and what implications it can have for the field of Translation Studies in general. In doing so, the first section draws on the theoretical framework of Freud's school of thought. The second applies the same theoretical framework to expose the influence of unconsciousness in the Persian translation of the Iran nuclear agreements. The third part interprets Freud's tripartite model in the translational terms. And finally, the fourth recapitulates the whole paper and equips the reader with some insights from the psychoanalytic study.*

**Key Words:** *Freudian Psychoanalysis, Translation Studies, Translator's unconsciousness*

### Introduction

In the past, translation has often been conceptualized as an entirely conscious process carried out by the translator. For this reason, the errors in translation have historically been attributed to linguistic incompetency or unwitting oversights on the part of the translator (Venuti, 2013). As Venuti (2013) holds, this view of translation has now been called into question by the insights from the field of Psychoanalysis which suggests that translation also could be framed as an unconscious process drawing together the consciousness and unconsciousness. According to Venuti (2013), it is the interaction between these two that guides the translator's decision making throughout the process of translating. Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis, maintains that although unconsciousness is always present in a person's decision making, it is located in that part of the psyche over which we have no control. For this reason, it is only exposed through the unwitting slips of the conscious expression (Bressler, 2011). Drawing on the insights from psychoanalysis, this paper explores the unconsciously erroneous renderings and the extent that these renderings are the signs of the unconscious part of the human psyche at work as a way to

shed some light on the root causes of the erroneous renderings which can take place in the work of any accomplished translator. In addition, this paper will also be looking at the practical application of the psychoanalytical studies to the translation by discussing the erroneous translation of the GIA between Iran and six world powers in 2013 and 2015.

### **1. Theoretical Framework of Freudian Psychoanalysis in Translation Studies**

This paper tries to afford a psychoanalytic vantage point to improve our understanding of the translation process as an unconscious, psychic process. However, to reach this vantage point, it is apt to first build a bridge between the fields of Psychoanalysis and Translation Studies. The aim of this paper is to bring the insights provided by Psychoanalysis into the field of Translation Studies. Sigmund Freud (1856-1939), the foremost investigator of Psychoanalysis, devised a tripartite model of the human psyche, the conscious, the preconscious and the unconscious. According to Freud, the conscious is “the mind's direct link to external reality, perceiving and reaching with the external environment and thereby allowing the mind to order its outside world.” The preconscious is “the storehouse of memories that the conscious part of the mind allows to be brought to consciousness without disguising these memories in some form” and the unconscious hosts “the repressed hungers, thoughts and desires of the human nature” (Bressler, 2011, p. 126).

Freud further maintains that both the conscious and unconscious parts of the human psyche ceaselessly find each another locked in an endless, uphill battle for the control of a person's action. In such a way that the unconscious relentlessly is in pursuit to force its way through the conscious, yet because it cannot be summoned directly to the conscious part, the unconscious has to be masquerading in disguised forms. According to Freud, the unconscious, despite the tight sanctions against its presence imposed on it by the conscious, appears in various disguises which he designates them as misspeakings, parapraxes or Freudian slips. Freud then postulates that, through seemingly innocuous actions, such as accidental slips of the tongue, failure of memory, the misplacing of objects or the misreading of texts, [...] we bring to our conscious minds our unconscious wishes and intentions. It is especially in our dreams, our art, our literature and our play that these parapraxes reveal our true intentions and desires. (Bressler, 2011, p. 126)

As mentioned above, Sigmund Freud's (1856-1939) tripartite model divides the human psyche into three sections: the unconscious part (*id*), the preconscious part (*ego*) and the unconscious part (*superego*). The *id* is the unconscious, irrational, instinctual part of the human psyche which is the reservoir of libido and cathexes. The libido is "the emotional energy that springs from primitive biological urges" (Bressler, 2011, p. 315) and the cathexes are "an individual's instinctual and psyche energy" (Bressler, 2011, p. 305). The *id* is a mass of all of our desires, wishes and needs seeking immediate gratification and fulfillment of any the urges of the pleasure principle. The *superego* is the result of internalization of cultural, social rules. This internalization acts as the internal censor or filtering agent. Its demands are in contrast with the *id*'s in that the *id* wants immediate satisfaction of its instinctual, mainly sexual desires whereas the *superego* tries to operate accordingly by addressing the demands of social pressures. The *ego* is the conscious, rational, logical part of the mind which acts to strike a balance between the primitive, biological derives of the *id* and the demands of social pressure issued by the *superego*. The *ego* strives to please the *id*'s desires and at the same time interacts with the *superego*'s concerns regarding the external world. Despite the *ego*'s desperate attempts to reconcile the *id* and *superego*, its ambition often fuels discontent on both sides. The *superego* works to regular the *ego* by causing a sense of guilt and discontent in the case of any transgression of the bounds of society's moral restrictions (Bressler, 2011). Bressler (2011) then explains that Freud maintains that a work of art or literature is actually the author or artist's dream or phantasy gratifying and soothing some forbidden desires or wishes gradually built up during his or her infancy stage. In the same, in the creative process of translating as Jacques Derrida (1987) puts in

The materiality of a word cannot be translated or carried over into another language. Materiality is precisely that which translation relinquishes. To relinquish materiality: such is the driving force of translation. And when that materiality is reinstated, translation becomes poetry. In this sense, since the materiality of the signifier constitute the idiom of every dream scene, dreams are untranslatable. (As quoted in Venuti, 2013, p. 34)

Premised upon Derrida's (1987) notion that "the materiality of a word cannot be carried over into another language" (p. 210), Venuti (2013) argues that the materiality of the source text comprises of a specific chain of "acoustic or graphemic signifiers" (p. 37) which are replaced in

translation by another set of signifiers specific to the target text to meet the horizons of expectation of audiences in the receiving culture. Venuti (2013) also declares that translators face a tricky double-edge sword when it comes to translating a text. On the one hand, they cannot compensate the losses incurred from the processes of translation which inevitably wreak havoc on source text's materiality, structures and figures, etc. On the other hand, they cannot possibly forego the gains that process of translating gives birth to like the creation of materiality, structures, figures, etc.

Elaborating on Lecerle's (1990) understanding of "the remainder" in the contexts of translation, Venuti (2013) claims

In translation, the remainder consists of linguistic forms and textual effects that simultaneously vary both the current standard dialect of the translating language and the formal and semantic dimensions of the ST. The variations that comprise the remainder complicate the establishment of a lexicographical equivalence with the source text because they work only in the translating language and culture and reflect the linguistic, cultural and social conditions of the receptors. (p. 37)

Venuti (2013) then pinpoints that, while carrying out the process of translation, "the remainder" can be released intentionally or unintentionally. Intentional variations are more commonly known as compensation. This is when the translator tries to compensate for some lack occurring between source and target text through the processes of translation.

While the "intentional remainder" is of vital prominence, this paper is focusing on the unintentional remainder as it is through the unintentional remainder that unconscious part of human psyche reveals itself in and through the process of translation. According to Venuti (2013), the unintentional remainder is when the translator's unconscious may escape the close monitoring of the conscious and be released unintentionally through the various disguises which according to Venuti, can take form in the translator's unwitting errors and mistakes.

Previous to Venuti's work, Bass (1985), likewise had treated translator's erroneous renderings symptomatically as signs that are unconsciously motivated. Venuti (2013) also links the unintentional slips of translators to Freud's dream analysis therapy:

Translation is a dream scene in its own right, where the translator's unconscious can emerge through variations on linguistic and discursive structure through a remainder. The signifying chain created by the translator does not translate any dream embodied in the ST, but rather replaces it with the translator's own unconscious desire, a desire for a particular meaning. Yet this desire is implicit not explicit, perceptible only through a misconstrual of the syntax. (Venuti, 2013, p. 39)

Based on the psychoanalytic analysis of translation discussed above, if the source text embodies some information that is distressing to the translator or against his or her belief system, in that case the translator might alter the source text as a way to gratify his or her wishes or make the source text comply with his or her view of the world (Venuti, 2013).

Indeed, the translator's unconsciousness exposes itself primarily in those cases where the language of translation deviates or shifts from the source text in a way that it would wind up in errors or mistakes. In fact, the changes that the translator brought about in translation comprise his or her phantasy, therefore translation like a piece of literature is "the external expression of the [translator's] unconscious mind. Accordingly, [...] [translation] must then be treated like a dream, applying psychoanalytic techniques to texts to uncover the [translator's] hidden motivations, repressed desires and wishes" (Bressler, 2011, p. 130).

Following Freud's account of dream therapy, unconsciousness mainly exerts its influence over the conscious part through the various guises, two of the most important ones are "displacement" and "condensation" (Bressler, 2011, p. 129). Displacement is achieved through the deviations that happened in the translated text and shifts from the source text. Condensation is acquired through some translation strategies like economy, implications and omissions (Bressler, 2011).

Freud maintains that the translator's unconsciousness takes concrete forms in lexical, syntactic errors in the translating text. Freud also states however insignificant and superficial they may look, these errors reverberate throughout the meaning of the whole text to the extent that they can end up opposing the intention of the original author (Venuti, 2013).

## **2. Some Practical Applications: The Case of Geneva Interim Agreement between Iran and 5+1 and the Lausanne Statement on the Iranian Nuclear Program**

In this section, this paper looks at the translational errors that might have occurred unconsciously in translation of the agreements (2015) reached over Iran's controversial nuclear program between this country and the six world powers; namely, China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States; plus Germany. In so doing, this section of the paper aims to compare and contrast the original English text with its Persian translation as a way to explain the translational errors based on Freud's psychoanalytic analysis and his technique of dream therapy.

### **2.1. Erroneous Rendering in Geneva Interim Agreement (2013)**

While translating a source text, a translator may face information that s/he finds distressing. The translator then corrects this information by unconsciously misreading, omitting or even replacing it in an effort to fit this information with his/her world view (Venuti, 2013). In fact, one of the most important contributions the Freudian psychoanalysis made to the field of translation studies is equipping the translation scholars with tools to look at translator's errors. According to the psychoanalytic scholars like Venuti (2013) and Bass (1985), errors of translation like “slips of the tongue” or “Freudian slips” open a window to the part of our mind over which we have little or no access.

To make the subject more tangible in Iranian political contexts, The author will look at some of these erroneous renderings of the Persian translation of the Geneva interim agreement (2013) and Lausanne statement on the Iranian nuclear program (2015) officially published by Iranian ministry of foreign affairs.

When comparing the original text written in English with its Persian translation officially published by Iran ministry foreign affairs, here what is found:

In the translated text, some clauses in which Iran agreed to back out or freeze some portions of its nuclear programs in exchange of sanction relief were omitted in Persian translation. In the original text, this information was added as footnotes. These paragraphs are as follows

- A) Namely, during the 6 months, Iran will not feed UF6 into the centrifuges installed but not enriching uranium. Not install additional centrifuges. Iran announces that

during the first 6 months, it will replace existing centrifuges with centrifuges of the same type.

B) At Fordow, no further enrichment over 5% at 4 cascades now enriching uranium, and not increase enrichment capacity. Not feed UF<sub>6</sub> into the other 12 cascades, which would remain in a non-operative state. No interconnections between cascades. Iran announces that during the first 6 months, it will replace existing centrifuges with centrifuges of the same type.

C) Iran announces on concerns related to the construction of the reactor at Arak that for 6 months it will not commission the reactor or transfer fuel or heavy water to the reactor site and will not test additional fuel or produce more fuel for the reactor or install remaining components.

D) Consistent with its plans, Iran's centrifuge production during the 6 months will be dedicated to replace damaged machines.

E) "Sanctions on associated services" means any service, such as insurance, transportation, or financial, subject to the underlying U.S. or EU sanctions applicable, insofar as each service is related to the underlying sanction and required to facilitate the desired transactions. These services could involve any non-designated Iranian entities.

F) Sanctions relief could involve any non-designated Iranian airlines as well as Iran Air. (Joint Plan of Action, 2013, p. 2-3)

It would be naive to attribute these omissions to linguistic incompetency or even oversight as this is a text of high importance that was supposed to guarantee Iran's national interests. To be able to correctly identify the real motivation underlying the translator's omissions, we should have a helicopter view of the general atmosphere inside Iran at the time of the publication of this translation. While translating, the translator might probably know that the conservatives probably are waiting to pre-emptively bring to task those steps which Iran agreed

to back out from his ambitious nuclear programs; therefore, he may unconsciously omitted those elements that he thinks would be criticized.

In translation of the same text, there is yet another omission that raises many eyebrows among the hardliners, in translating the paragraph, "Comprehensively lift UN Security Council, multilateral and national nuclear-related sanctions, including steps on access in areas of trade, technology, finance, and energy, on a schedule to be agreed upon" (Joint Plan of Action, 2013, p. 4). The translator might have, while trying to stick to the form and content of the source text, unconsciously omitted the phase *nuclear-related sanctions* from the paragraph.

Original English Text	Translated Persian Text	Back Translation
Comprehensively lift UN Security Council, multilateral and national nuclear-related sanctions, including steps on access in areas of trade, technology, finance, and energy, on a schedule to be agreed upon.	برداشتن شدن کامل تحریم های شورای امنیت، بین شامل اقدام المللی و ملی بردستیابی به مناطق تجاری، فناوری، مالی و انرژی طبق زمانبندی به توافق رسیده است.	Comprehensively lift UN Security Council, multilateral and national [omission] sanctions including steps on access in areas of trade, technology, finance, and energy, on a schedule to be agreed upon.

Again this time like in the previous example, it is hard to believe that the omission occurred due to the translator's oversight or incompetency, but rather it is more likely to believe that the anxious, pressurized ambiance of Iranian society provides the fertile ground for the translator's lapse. Likewise in the previous example, this erroneous rendering reverberates throughout the whole meaning of the text. In a sense, it can even be said that this time this omission does not even endorse the original authors' intention.



To elaborate on this issue, we should first paint a more general picture. According to the website of the U.S. Department of State (2015), the sanctions put in place against Iranian regime are trifold, the sanctions imposed to block Iran's potential pathway to the nuclear bomb, the sanctions due to the human rights violation in Iran and finally the sanctions due to supporting terrorist groups like Hezbollah.

In the paragraph above, the translator might have unconsciously omitted the phrase *nuclear-related*. This unwitting lapse conveys the sense that all trifold multilateral and national sanctions put in place against Iran would be lifted; however, that is in contrast with the intention of senior officials of the six world powers who repeatedly reiterate that only the sanctions related to Iran nuclear program would be lifted and all the other would still remain in place. In addition to that, this omission can also be attributed to the fact that as one of the red lines drawn by Iran Supreme Leader was for all international sanctions to be relieved instantly as a result of this agreement; therefore, the translator sought to fulfil this wish in the translated text.

## 2.2. Erroneous Rendering in Lausanne Statement on the Iranian Nuclear Program (2015)

The international statement over Iran nuclear deal was read by the EU's foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, at a press conference in Lausanne and then translated into Persian by Iran's nuclear negotiating team. Here is the verbatim translation of what Iran foreign minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif, said in a television interview concerning the issues raised by many conservatives holding that there are numerous contradictions in the translation officially published by Iran ministry of foreign affairs

The Original Persian Text	The Translated English Text
"همکاران بنده آن را ترجمه کردند، من به همکارانم باید مطمئن باشم که عین متن ترجمه شود گفتم که ی وزیر در اختتامیه رفتیم و بنده و من با به جلسه عراقچی دوباره این متن را شاهد کردیم تا کم و زیادی از متن اصلی نداشته باشد و اطمینان پیدا کنیم. ی دقیقی و وزیر منتظر ما بودند که بتوانیم ترجمه	My colleagues translated it, and I told my colleagues that we should ensure that <b>the same text be translated</b> and we went to the closing meeting with the ministers, there Arqchee [the senior nuclear negotiator] and I

<p>برای متن داشته باشیم</p>	<p>looked once again at the text to ensure that there is no lost in the translation of the English text and we verified that there is not, <b>while other ministers were waiting for us to come up with an accurate translation.</b> (My own translation, the emboldens in the original; Negahe Yek Evening Program as cited in Raja News Agency, 2015, para. 8)</p>
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This statement by the head of Iran ministry of foreign affairs expunges any possibility that these errors are merely the oversights or that they occurred due to the linguistic incompetency. In fact by looking at the errors it can be suggested that these errors all might have occurred unconsciously. In addition to that, following Freudian psychoanalytic analysis and his dream therapy, it seems apt to state that these errors are actually the Iran side's dream of what agreement should have been looked like.

At this point, let us address some criticisms that have been made so far

A) In the English text, we have, "International collaboration will be encouraged in areas of *research*" (The international statement on the Iranian nuclear deal, 2015, para. 8). Which then translated into Persian in this way

The Original English Text	The Translated Persian Text	Back Translation
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International collaboration will be encouraged in agreed areas of <i>research</i> .	در این مرکز همکاری بین‌المللی در حوزه‌های تحقیق و توسعه مورد توافق، مورد تشویق قرار خواهد گرفت.	International collaboration will be encouraged in agreed areas of <i>research and development</i> .
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Here the controversy is over the translation of the term *research* which erroneously translated as *تحقیق و توسعه* that is both *research and development* (Raja News, 2015, para. 11). The six world powers in an effort to halt Iran's continued nuclear progress, have not allowed Iran to develop its nuclear facilities, the green light they have given to Iran is only in the area of research. The erroneous rendering that might have occurred unconsciously in the Persian translation not only is opposed to the intention of western negotiators but also undermines the whole point of the negotiations as well. Be that as it may, this error like all the other errors that occurred in the translation of these agreements can be attributed to the high expectation among the conservatives in Iran who wish not to cave in to the demands of the world powers and more importantly their desirability to retain the country's sovereignty.

B) The sentence "Iran will take part in international cooperation in the field of civilian nuclear energy which can include *supply* of power and research reactors" (The international statement on the Iranian nuclear deal, 2015, para. 10) is rendered in Persian translation as follows

The Original English Text	The Translated Persian Text	Back Translation
Iran will take part in international cooperation in the	ایران در همکاریهای بین‌المللی در حوزه‌های انرژی هسته‌ای مشارکت خواهد نمود که میتواند	Iran will take part in international cooperation in the field of civilian

field of civilian nuclear energy which can include <i>supply</i> of power and research reactors.	شامل ساخت نیروگاههای هسته‌ای و راکتورهای تحقیقاتی شود.	nuclear energy which can include <i>building</i> of power and research reactors.
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In Persian translation, the term *supply* which in Persian means *تهیه و تامین* is mistakenly rendered as *ساخت*, meaning *building* in Persian (Raja News, 2015, para. 35). By carefully reading the original text, it becomes evident that the six world power, again in effort to freeze Iran nuclear activity, make no commitment what so ever for the building and constructing Iran nuclear facilities and what may perceived as an error in the translation can also be recognized as an unconscious, unwitting lapse on the translator's part that bares face the translator's wishful thinking of what this nuclear agreement should have been looked like.

C) Iran nuclear negotiating team has rendered the sentence, " the United States will cease the application of all nuclear-related secondary economic and financial sanctions simultaneously with the IAEA-verified implementation by Iran of its key nuclear commitments" (The international statement on the Iranian nuclear deal, 2015, para. 11). In this way,

The Original English Text	The Translated Persian Translation	Back Translation
The United States will cease the application of all nuclear-related secondary economic and financial sanctions simultaneously with the IAEA-verified implementation by Iran of	ایالات متحده نیز اجرای تحریم های مالی و اقتصادی ثانویه مرتبط با هسته ای را، همزمان با اجرای تعهدات عمده هسته ای ایران به نحوی که توسط آژانس بین	The United States will cease the application of all nuclear-related secondary economic and financial sanctions simultaneously with the implementation of

its key nuclear commitments.	المللی انرژی اتمی راستی آزمایی شود، متوقف خواهد کرد.	the key nuclear commitments by Iran in a way that is verified by IAEA.
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The translation carried out by the negotiating team conveys the meaning that simultaneously with the Iran's implementation of its nuclear commitments, all U.S's sanctions would be relieved and eased, however delving in the original text, it would become clear that it is not at all the intention of the western negotiators. According to the original text, only after Iran implements all its commitment and after this implementation are verified by the International Atomic Energy Agency, then United States would ease on Iran sanctions (Raja News, 2015). The probable unconscious manipulation that occurred in this translation can likewise be attributed to the tension fever built up in Iran by the conservative hardliners and the red line drawn by Iran supreme leader to the effect that, all sanctions should be simultaneously lifted on the very day that the agreement is reached.

D) The last error in this statement concerns the heavy water research reactor in Arak. In original text, the sentence is couched in this way, " An international *joint venture* will assist Iran in redesigning and *rebuilding* a modernized heavy water research reactor in Arak that will not produce weapons-grade plutonium" (The international statement on the Iranian nuclear deal, 2015, para. 9) which then translated into Persian this way,

The Original English Text	The Translated Persian Translation	Back Translation
An international <i>joint venture</i> will assist Iran in redesigning and <i>rebuilding</i> a modernized heavy water research	راکتور تحقیقاتی پیشرفته آب سنگین در اراک با همکاری مشترک بین المللی باز طراحی و نوسازی خواهد شد.	An international <i>joint cooperation</i> will assist Iran in redesigning and <i>renewing</i> a heavy water research reactor in Arak that will not

reactor in Arak that will not produce weapons-grade plutonium.		produce weapons-grade plutonium"
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The erroneous rendering in this translation is because the translator substitutes one of the main verb in the original text that negatively connotes with another main verb in the Persian translation that has a positive connotation. That is, the verb in the original is *rebuilding* which have the connotation that western negotiators are in pursuit to change the function of heavy water research reactor in Arak by rebuilding it but the Persian translation has the positive connotation that the aim of western negotiators is to *renew* the reactor. In sum, the controversy is over the rendering *rebuilding* بازسازی in English text with the term renewing نوسازی in Persian. (Raja News, 2015).

E) Again in the same very sentence, we have the substitution of *joint venture* in the English text which in Persian means همکاری مخاطره آمیز and has a very negative connotation and mirrors the sense of mistrust of world powers toward Iran with the phrase همکاری مشترک (meaning *joint cooperation*) in Persian translation that has a very positive connotation.

Before this paper moves on to the next section, it is apt to once again reiterate that it would be naïve to attribute these errors to possible linguistic incompetency or even oversights but rather it is more wise to consider these errors as Freudian slips that crack open the window to the translator's unconsciousness. In this particular case, the translator's unconsciousness is fed by a sense of mistrust between the two sides, i.e. Iran side and the six world powers' side.

### 3. The interaction between Id, Ego, Superego, and Translator's Decision Making

In this section, the psychic apparatus, i.e. id, ego, super-ego, as discussed above, are interpreted in the translational terms respectively, according to Caballero (2002), as the source text, the translator and the target text, each of which will be elaborated in the following.

### **3.1. The source Text**

The chief impetus for drawing a parallel between the id part of human psyche and the source text (ST) in translation studies is understanding that the ST like the id part is the amalgamation of all drives, wishes and desires seeking immediate discharge. In the translational terms, these desires can be translated as the ST's meaning, structures, figures, style of the author. In the field of translation studies, many translation scholars in an attempt to achieve the ideal translation, which of course is an impossibility, provide an inclusive list of all the factors which the translator is required to keep in perspective while rendering a ST, but the important point is this, how much inclusive the list may be, the caveat is that the translation can only approximate the features of the source text and the translator will never be able to reproduce the features of the source text in the translation in precisely the same way.

### **3.2. The Translator**

In the field of translation, the ego is translator and it is so because it is he or she that plays an intermediary role between the source text (id) which demands that all its features be replicated exactly in the same way in the target text. And the target text or the superego, that is all the linguistic, cultural, social, etc. norms of the target culture that he or she should be mindful of in order to meet the horizons of expectations of the receiving audiences.

The point worth being noted here is that how much accomplished and professional the translator may be, he or she can never strike a balance between these two. Therefore, the translator might ultimately wind up on the one hand, wreaking havoc on some features of the source text what may be known as loss in translation. On the other hand, compensating for this loss by bending or even breaking some features of the target text, this feature of translation goes by the name of gain in translation.

### **3.3. The Target Text**

By the same token, the target text can be interpreted as superego as it represents all those rules and restrictions that prevent the literal, verbatim translation of the source text and in the case that it happens cripples it by not allowing to function normally and easily in the linguistic, cultural, and social milieu of the target text politically, intellectually, and financially.

In sum, while the translators make the maximum efforts to decide consciously during the translating process, most of his or her decisions and choices are motivated by the unconscious part of human psyche that is id and superego. At this simplest, the Freudian psychoanalysis makes the point that, while it may be perceived that translation is mostly a conscious process in reality translation is mainly unconscious and unreflective process (Venuti, 2013). Metaphorically speaking, if we consider human psyche as a giant iceberg, only the tip of the iceberg is designated to the conscious part and the vast majority lying beneath the ocean is the unconscious part of the human psyche.

In fact, the worldview gained from the psychoanalytic study is of valuable importance to the field of translation study because up until now translation scholars consider the translation process as an exclusively conscious process and due to this mindset, they have failed to rightly identify and diagnose the mechanism of translator's decision making. For that reason, the intercourse of these two fields bears valuable fruits because it helps translation scholars broaden their horizons of knowledge on translator's decision making.

#### **4. Conclusion**

By employing Freud's psychoanalytic school of thought, especially his technique of dream therapy to the study of translation, this paper manages to throw light on some of the darkest area in the study of translation which up until now has remained mainly intact. Drawing on Freud's insightful theory that human actions mostly drink from the pool of his or her unconsciousness, the paper has shed light on the conscious and unconscious processes of translation.

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