

The distinctiveness of the Kazakh national character in English literary translations

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The study aims to analyse the peculiarities of Kazakh national identity in English translation in fiction. The following methods were used: descriptive, deductive, and comparative. The translation of fiction serves as a key medium in the cultural dialogue, offering an opportunity to present the cultural specificities of Kazakhstan to an English-speaking audience. The study confirmed that the active dynamics of transformations of national colouring are occurring in the process of translation. These changes are explained not only by differences in language structure but also by the translators' desire to convey cultural nuances in a more accessible form. Successful examples demonstrate that translators actively incorporate elements of Kazakh culture into the English version of the text, making it understandable and attractive to English-speaking audiences by focusing on preserving cultural metaphors and symbols. These elements are key to conveying unique semantic concepts that might otherwise be lost. It was revealed that in the process of artistic interpretation, there are difficulties associated with finding semantic equivalence between Kazakh and English terms. The importance of the translator's creativity in solving problems related to the representation of national identity is emphasised. The results of the work provide valuable practical and theoretical insights that can serve as a basis for the development of effective strategies for the artistic translation into English of Kazakh works with the preservation and transmission of national identity.

Keywords: Semantic equivalence; cultural metaphors; authenticity; cross-cultural communication; adaptation.

1. Introduction

The research relevance is determined by the leading role of national identity in translations as a key element of intercultural exchange, influencing the perception and understanding of Kazakh culture by English-speaking audiences. With the growing interest in world literature among readers, analysing

how Kazakh works are adapted in translations becomes increasingly important. With the threat of loss of cultural uniqueness in globalisation, the emphasis on preserving national identity in artistic translations is an important tool to protect cultural heritage and diversity. It is a task that requires the translator not only to have relevant knowledge but also a deep understanding of national identity. In this context, the representation of national identity in literary translation becomes a true exploration of the cultural facets that permeate the text, giving it a distinctive aesthetic and unique character. The literary work in the process of artistic translation becomes not only an instrument of a new linguistic structure but also a foundation that endeavours to preserve the magic of cultural heritage in its original context.

Literary works, rich in national identity, play an important role in shaping the literary canon and the unique cultural heritage of each nation. By revealing traditions, customs and language peculiarities, national identity makes an invaluable contribution to literature. It reflects the identity and originality of a nation. This phenomenon in literary works helps the reader to immerse into the spiritual space of the respective culture. The specificity of language, images and themes create a unique picture of the national character.

Kazakh works, rich in history, national customs, and traditions, serve as a linguacultural tool that the translator must navigate, paying close attention to various linguistic and cultural details (Sun 2022). The reflection of national identity in the artistic translation of Kazakh works into English is a holistic linguistic structure where each feature represents a particle of cultural heritage developing in harmony with the new speech context (Imani *et al.* 2021). The study of the specificity of its representation faces several complex problems that require deep analysis and understanding (Sadykova *et al.* 2018). One of the key ones is the difficulty of conveying the multidimensionality of cultural context and national specificity across the language barrier, as Kazakh literature is permeated with unique cultural nuances and meanings that do not always have direct analogues in English. The translator meets the challenge of conveying not only the literal meaning of words but also deep cultural nuances, sometimes losing some of the original's multiple meanings and colours.

There are many studies devoted to the peculiarities of artistic translation from Kazakh into English. As such, Alpysbayeva and Ashymkhanova (2021) considered the properties and characteristics of translation within the framework of literary works. The study reveals the aspects of the interpretation of the Kazakh text in Jumabayev's works. Particular consideration is devoted to the translation activity into English and Russian languages. At the same time, the scientists did not describe the linguacultural tools of national Kazakh identity. Kozhirbayev and Islamgozhayev (2023) analysed the peculiarities of the methodology of translation of Kazakh texts. The elements of introducing

cascade interpretation of speech are reflected in the disclosure of the topic. The authors identified the factors of using such translation and its advantages and disadvantages. However, the work does not mention the cultural components of Kazakh identity, which are transmitted through language. Akkaliyeva *et al.* (2021) highlighted the communicative context of the translation process. In the research work the corresponding strategy in the representation of Kazakh text is structured. With the help of various materials, the concept of national culture transmission is realised. However, the linguistic possibilities in translation from Kazakh to English are not considered.

Manapbayeva *et al.* (2021) interpreted realities in translations of Smagul Elubai's novel. The researchers identified the linguistic factors of the interpretation of fiction of Kazakhstan. The characteristic linguacultural components of the work have been described within the framework of the topic under study. Meanwhile, the tools of integration of Kazakh linguistic aspects into the English-language context have not been revealed. Zharylgapov *et al.* (2020) described the mechanisms of functioning of Kazakh literary studies in translation. The researchers characterised this process and its features within works. The typology of realism and the problems of its transfer into a foreign language were carried out. Nevertheless, the authors do not present the possibilities of displaying national identity in the artistic translation of Kazakh works into English.

The study aims to examine the characteristic features of artistic translation in reflecting Kazakh national identity in English. Based on the aforesaid, the following research objectives are set:

- consider the theoretical basis of artistic translation in conveying Kazakh national identity;
- analyse the challenges and processes of linguistic transformation and adaptation in mapping national identity from Kazakh into English.

2. Materials and methods

The material and methodological basis of the study was formed by such methods as descriptive, deductive, and comparative. The descriptive method was used to consider the main aspects of artistic translation in depicting the Kazakh national identity, analysing subtleties and complexities of interpretation in more detail, and addressing the unique linguistic landscape of the society. It was used to highlight the important elements of linguistic harmony that occur in the translation process to preserve meaning and create an appropriate image reflecting Kazakh culture and national identity. This study method was used to reveal the contextual depth in conveying linguacultural components, where each lexical unit or idiom becomes a tool to reveal the richness of Kazakh identity and distinctiveness. Its elements determined the allocation of a characteristic synergy between theoretical aspects of artistic translation and their practical implementation, creating a new unique text. This

method was used to characterise the emotional versatility of the transfer of Kazakh national identity, where each choice of the interpreter is conditioned by the desire to preserve not only the semantic depth but also the emotional colouring of the original text.

The deductive method was used to reveal the peculiarities of artistic translation and its impact on preserving the Kazakh national identity, making it possible to address the cultural context while adapting to the new linguistic environment. Its elements were used to define the importance of preserving the identity of the text during its transformation from Kazakh to English, facing the dilemma and balancing between the two linguistic systems to preserve the spiritual and semantic components of the original. This scientific cognition method was used to emphasise the patterns and structures inherent in the translation of Kazakh works into English, which are most often subjected to changes, transformations, and adaptations. The method revealed typical difficulties faced by translators in conveying national identity, which requires special attention in the process of interpretation. This method contributed to the definition of general principles of translation, which can serve as a basis for preserving the identity and national culture, as well as the formation of complex patterns in the artistic translation of Kazakh works into English.

The comparative method was used to identify the features inherent in the artistic translation of Kazakh works into English while reflecting the national identity. It was used to note how translators choose English analogues for Kazakh cultural terms and expressions, emphasising the uniqueness of the original's identity. It was also employed to highlight the lexical and grammatical solutions used in translation, adapting language structures to convey national identity and maintain structural harmony. Its elements conditioned the determination of the degree of fidelity of the national identity in the process of artistic interpretation by comparing specific phrases, expressions, and meanings. This method also revealed how translators change the structure of the text, introduce new elements or, on the contrary, preserve original features to convey the linguistic identity and emotional colouring of the text more effectively. The comparison facilitated the identification of both strengths and weaknesses of the translators' work and provided insight into how interpretation reflects cultural nuances, balancing the preservation of colour and adaptation to the demands of English-speaking audiences.

3. Results

3.1. Theoretical aspects of artistic translation in depicting Kazakh national identity

Literary translation presents the challenge of conveying not only the literal meaning of words but also the underlying essence and cultural nuances of the original text. This process requires the translator

to capture the traditions, customs, mentality, and way of thinking embedded in the source language, as well as the subtleties of vocabulary and phraseology that may be unique to the original culture. The translator's role extends beyond technical accuracy, acting as a cultural mediator who ensures that the original work's essence is preserved while making it accessible to a different audience. This task is inherently challenging because of the need to balance fidelity to the source text with the necessity of adapting it to the target language's cultural and linguistic framework. When working with texts rich in specific cultural contexts, such as Kazakh literature, the translator must navigate the complexities of idiomatic expressions, symbols, and cultural references that may lack direct equivalents in the target language. This challenge becomes particularly pronounced in the translation of works from Kazakh to English, where unique cultural elements require careful adaptation without losing their original meaning and impact (Cadera and Walsh 2022).

Translators play a crucial role as cultural mediators, ensuring that not only the linguistic meaning but also the cultural nuances of a text are faithfully conveyed. Their task goes beyond mere word-for-word translation; they must understand and respect the cultural context of both the source and target languages. Cultural sensitivity and accuracy are paramount, as translators must navigate the complexities of idiomatic expressions, symbols, and traditions that may not have direct equivalents in the target language. By preserving the original cultural essence while making it accessible to the target audience, translators bridge the gap between cultures, fostering deeper intercultural understanding. This role is especially important in translating works rich in cultural significance, such as Kazakh literature, where the translator's ability to convey national identity is critical.

The depiction of Kazakh national identity in fiction translation plays a fundamental role in strengthening cultural understanding. One of its key features is the perception of time. Kazakh culture is rooted in respect for older generations and attention to the transmission of experience through generations. This aspect is reflected in artistic texts, where temporal transitions and narratives with frequent references to the past create a special atmosphere of respect for history. The symbolism of nature also has a special place in defining national identity (Valdés 2023). The boundless steppes, mountain ranges and dunes become not only the background for the plot but also vivid participants in the narrative. The description of nature in works of fiction carries a deep meaning, symbolising man's connection with the surrounding world and his inner spiritual landscape. Another important aspect of the Kazakh national identity in literature is the emphasis on traditional values and customs. Family ties, respect for elders, and a nomadic way of life—all form a special code of character behaviour in the works, creating special ethics and spiritual harmony.

Lastly, language plays the most significant role in conveying the Kazakh national identity in literature. The use of Kazakh expressions, proverbs and sayings brings the works closer to a more authentic cultural context. Transmission of metaphors and symbols inherent in Kazakh literature becomes the main task of the translator, no less important than the interpretation of the content. This allows preserving not only the semantic depth but also the emotional impact of the original text. The Kazakh language is rich in expressive and colourful expressions, which do not always have direct analogues in other languages. The translator can use synonyms, metaphors, and periphrases to convey not only the semantic component but also the atmosphere of the text (Pan 2021). The rendering of Kazakh national identity in literary translation presents numerous opportunities, but also comes with several challenges (Table 1).

<i>Limitations</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>
Linguistic barriers	Some unique aspects of the Kazakh language may be difficult to translate. For example, dialectal expressions or language ‘games’ that have no direct analogues may lose their semantic value in translation.
Cultural differences	The translator may face challenges related to cultural differences that may be incomprehensible to readers in other cultural contexts. This requires a careful balancing act between preserving meaning and adapting it for the audience.
Loss of semantic nuance	Semantic elements related to ways of thinking and cultural characteristics are often lost in translation. The translator should endeavour to minimise this by using a variety of linguistic and stylistic techniques.
Style techniques	The author’s use of stylistic devices characteristic of Kazakh literary creativity may also present certain difficulties in conveying semantic reference points involving original images, narrative devices, and sentence structures.

Table 1. Limitations of national identity in the translation of Kazakh works of fiction.

Consequently, defining Kazakh national identity in an artistic context requires a careful study of the multifaceted cultural elements. It is not just a linguistic feature but a holistic panorama of values, traditions and attitudes that makes Kazakh literature unique and attractive to readers from all over the world. The role of context and idioms in fiction translation is a key aspect that affects the accuracy of conveying national characteristics and creating a cultural background that encompasses the traditions, customs, and way of life of the Kazakh people. The translator must be able to recreate the atmosphere

in which the event takes place so that the reader can experience the same flavour as the original reader in the context of their language system.

Idioms, being an integral part of a language, pose a special challenge to the translator. They are unique and specific to the culture in which they are used, and their literal translations often lose their original meaning. The translator must carefully select appropriate idioms in the target language that not only retain meaning but also reflect the subtleties of idiomatic expression in Kazakh. An example is the Kazakh idiom *zhasyryn kant*, literally ‘blood of a young horse.’ In this context, it can have the meaning of strength, energy, and youth. It is important for the interpreter not only to convey this meaning but also to use an idiom that would be similar in its cultural colouring. The role of stable expressions and context is also related to the transmission of traditions and customs (Cozma 2022). For example, an expression related to the nomadic way of life may require the introduction of explanatory context in translation so that a reader unfamiliar with Kazakh realities can understand the depth of meaning. The translator’s intervention in the text to introduce the necessary context or to select appropriate idioms requires both creativity and an understanding of the cultural specificities of both languages.

Each writer brings unique features to creative work, reflecting a unique vision of the world, peculiarities of thinking and characteristic techniques of imagery. The translator must be able not only to convey meaning but also to recreate the aesthetics that make the work recognisable. Adaptation of the author’s style is related to cultural nuances, such as the use of specific idiomatic expressions or cultural references that might not have direct equivalents in the target language. For instance, in Kazakh literature, phrases like *tugan zher* (‘homeland’) carry deep emotional connotations tied to national identity and patriotism, which may not have the same cultural weight in English. Similarly, folkloric motifs such as the symbolism of horses in Kazakh culture may require creative reinterpretation to convey the same level of significance to an English-speaking audience. In both cases, “the translator must find a way to maintain the stylistic expressiveness of the original text while making it culturally resonant for the target reader” (Baudinet 2020). Kazakh literature is saturated with unique images, folklore motifs and traditional forms of presentation. The translator must be sensitive to these elements to preserve the depth of the fiction text. Sometimes this may require creative reinterpretation to adapt cultural features for a wider readership without losing the author’s uniqueness. The process of preserving style also requires flexibility and creativity, as the interpreter may be confronted with ambiguous concepts and polysemous words that may not have a clear analogue in the target language. In such cases, the interpreter should be able to find the best compromise without losing the stylistic expressiveness of the work.

Hence, the successful transmission of Kazakh national identity in literary translation requires the translator to carefully analyse and balance between preserving the uniqueness of the original and adapting to new linguistic and cultural contexts. The role of context and idioms in the artistic translation of Kazakh works is to create atmosphere, reproduce the subtleties of language and convey national characteristic features. This art requires from the translator a deep cultural understanding and creative interaction with the language to make the work accessible and, at the same time, to preserve its semantic component. Displaying the Kazakh national identity in artistic translation carries not only a linguistic task but also a mission of preserving cultural riches and their creative interpretation. The translator, acting as a linguistic mediator, makes his contribution to the preservation and dissemination of Kazakh literary tradition. However, despite the challenges that cultural differences present, they also open up new possibilities for creativity. A translator who intelligently considers the cultural context can enrich the text, giving it unique nuances and bringing it closer to the authentic Kazakh experience.

3.2. Transformation, adaptation, and problems of displaying national identity in translating literary works from Kazakh into English

The transformation of cultural metaphors and symbols when translating Kazakh literary works into English is a complex and fascinating process in which the translator faces the challenge of maintaining the authenticity of the original while considering the characteristics of the target culture (Zhang 2023). One of the key challenges in transforming cultural metaphors is to find analogues in English that match the meaning and emotional charge of the author's text. For example, metaphors associated with nomadic lifestyles, such as 'vast steppes or 'horses as free as the wind,' may require creative reinterpretation to convey them in a context that is understandable to an English-speaking audience. It is also important to consider the cultural associations associated with the symbols. For example, the term *tulpar*, which refers to a winged horse in Turkic mythology, is associated with courage and freedom in Kazakh culture. However, when translated into English, it is difficult to find similar symbols that can convey the same spirit and meaning of the concept.

The translator should be attentive to how changes in cultural context can affect the perception of metaphors and symbols (Spiteri Miggian 2021). In particular, if a Kazakh idiom is based on the tradition of cattle breeding, the translator should find appropriate analogues in a culture where cattle breeding is not such a pronounced part of the way of life. In the process of transforming concepts, it is important to preserve the essence and emotional load, which includes not only the choice of appropriate words and expressions but also adjusting the rhythm and style of the text to convey the literary context. Thus,

for example, the meaning *tugan zher* ('homeland') is occasionally used in fiction, which evokes associations with patriotism and love for one's native land. The word "homeland" in the English translation of *tugan zher* captures the concept of one's native land, but it also conveys a deeper sense of emotional attachment and personal experience—elements that are central to the Kazakh understanding of homeland. In this way, artistic translation aims to convey not only the linguistic meaning but also the cultural and emotional nuances that are intrinsic to the national identity.

When translated into English, the symbolism associated with the nomadic way of life is most often retained, adapting for better understanding by a foreign-speaking audience. Such a process includes the use of analogues such as 'steppes,' which not only convey the geographical context but also emphasise the uniqueness of Kazakh nature and language load. The interpretation of the idiom *zhelili qar* can be rendered as 'blooming snow,' preserving the image of nature characteristic of Kazakh poetry while emphasising beauty and lightness. It is worth noting that in some cases translators may use not a literal transposition of a stable expression but close-in-meaning expressions that are more understandable to the English-speaking audience. As such, the term *qayyrmas baldyr* can be translated literally as 'mute plough' or 'speechless plough,' preserving the meaning and adding additional semantic nuance to this variant. Artistic translation from Kazakh to English is not only a linguistic but also a cultural art (Han 2023). However, translators face several problems in the process of conveying national identity, which are related to the need to choose equivalent expressions and word substitutions. The first challenge is finding lexical equivalents that accurately convey the meaning and cultural connotations of the original (Locher and Sidiropoulou 2021). Some Kazakh terms may be unique and lack direct English analogues, requiring careful selection to preserve their uniqueness. For example, the idiom *tobe zhaty* often used in literary works literally means 'to lie on the mountain' and is used in the sense of humility before the higher powers. In the English context, it is possible to use the expression 'to lie to the mountain,' however, it may reduce the effectiveness of conveying national identity, as it misses the semantic meaning of the image.

Sometimes translators must substitute words that, although close to the original, cannot convey the same depth or imagery. This runs the risk of losing part of the cultural context. For example, in Kazakh literature the word *zhigit* denotes a young man or a knight, whereas its English equivalent 'young man' may lose the cultural associations with the spirit of adventure and valour inherent in the Kazakh image. Among other things, some words and expressions are closely associated with specific places or cultural features, which makes their equivalent representation in English more complex. For example, the term *zhaylau*, describing the atmosphere of nomadic life, can be described as 'nomadic,' however, it does not always convey all the connotations of freedom, independence, and harmony with

nature inherent in the Kazakh understanding of this lexeme within the literature. An additional problem in conveying national identity in fiction is the difficulty of translating Kazakh idioms into English, as some expressions may not have exact analogues. For example, the idiom *sala basu* (literally ‘to put a boat’), used in the context of crossing a river, may require additional explanation or substitution in the English translation. In addition, the phrase *balalyk shoqtygy* is most often translated literally as ‘fishy smell,’ which, while conveying the basic meaning, overlooks the cultural connotation associated with fishing traditions in Kazakh culture. In such a case, it is possible to replace the idiom with another expression such as ‘something’s fishy,’ retaining the idiomatic meaning but losing the cultural support.

The translation of the idiom *altyn oryn*, meaning ‘golden place’ and used to designate a prominent or sacred space in fiction, may cause certain difficulties. The translation ‘golden place’ does not always convey the same lexeme meaning, and the variants ‘sacred ground’ or ‘holy place’ may lose the original association with the blessing and holy character of the area. In turn, the set expression *tastau zhemisi* (literally ‘fruit of the stone’) associated with the peculiarities of the cultural context epitomises hardship and survivability within different works. In the artistic interpretation of English, the variants ‘fruit of the rock’ or ‘stone’s fruit’ are most often used. At the same time, neither of them conveys the depth of the national meaning in full. Artistic translations from Kazakh into English provide an opportunity to enrich English-language literature and present readers with the unique national identity of Turkic culture. The following practical ways of improving the identity representation are as follows (Sevilla-Morales and Chaves 2021):

- collaboration with cultural experts;
- creation of annotations and reference materials;
- support for literary festivals and events;
- search for flexible equivalents;
- use of stylistic features of language;
- reader feedback.

The combination of these approaches can significantly improve the representation of national identity in artistic translations from Kazakh into English, making the cultural heritage of Kazakhstan accessible and understandable to English-speaking readers. Preserving cultural richness in translation is essential, as it allows the unique elements of a culture—its traditions, values, and identity—to be communicated across linguistic boundaries. Translators play a vital role in this process, acting as bridges between cultures. Their task is not simply to transfer words but to capture the depth of cultural

meaning embedded in the text. By being sensitive to cultural nuances, idiomatic expressions, and symbolism, translators ensure that the essence of the original work is maintained while making it accessible to a new audience. In doing so, they facilitate a deeper understanding and appreciation of the source culture, allowing readers to connect with traditions and perspectives that might otherwise remain distant or misunderstood. Thus, translators are not merely linguistic conveyors but cultural mediators, enriching the exchange between diverse cultural worlds.

Thus, by analysing various aspects of artistic translation to convey national identity as well as linguacultural aspects, this process was found to be a fusion of languages and cultures in a creative act where every word becomes a reinterpretation, and every page becomes a link between cultural structures. The preservation and transmission of cultural nuances becomes an important element of this act. Idioms, images, and traditions act as the basic elements from which an artistic translation is constructed while preserving the richness of the original. The importance of creativity in translation in the context of national identity cannot be overemphasised. It is an art not only of reproduction but also of adaptation, making the work accessible to a wide audience. Furthermore, meaningful rendering of national identity allows readers to immerse themselves in the atmosphere and comprehension of another culture through the pages of the translated text. In turn, creativity is not only professionalism and language skills but also the art of recreating the colour and spirit of the original with respect for cultural heritage and the use of creative tools.

4. Discussion

From the point of view of Muntlin and Jangland (2023), literary works imbued with national identity are cultural archives for translation activities. They transmit ancestral wisdom, embodying the moral values, customs, and lifestyle of the people. This role is particularly important in the context of globalisation when preserving uniqueness becomes a special challenge. Through language, personification and symbols, the author reveals the peculiarities of his culture, immersing the reader in the atmosphere and environment of the work. Literary works with national identity are often a platform for exploring cultural contradictions and dialogue between tradition and modernity in the process of their interpretation into a foreign language. They can become a binding framework between different cultures, allowing readers to understand and feel what it means to be part of an intercultural society. The views of the researchers reviewed echoed the findings, emphasising the importance of conveying national identity in art translation.

According to Ruthven (2023), fiction, as a mirror of the soul of a nation, carries the richness of its traditions and inner world. When works are translated into a foreign language, the translation of

meaning and atmosphere becomes a true art that requires a deep cultural understanding. The translator, aware of this aspect, endeavours not only to convey the literal meaning but also to recreate the traditional aspects of the original, which sometimes carry national characteristics. Often artistic texts are enriched with traditional images and symbols that may remain mysterious to a reader from another culture. The interpreter, being a kind of mediator of images, is faced with the challenge of conveying various elements and thoughts in such a way that they do not lose their depth and significance. The translation of such components requires the observance of cultural norms and ethical standards, where, respecting the peculiarities of the culture, it is important to find adequate expressions and turns that will allow preserving the semantic specificity of the original. An indispensable aspect of successful text interpretation is also a thorough understanding of the context from which the fiction grew. This includes knowledge of history, customs, religious traditions, and socio-cultural background. The study results also emphasised that the transmission of traditions and the inner world of the people in fiction into a foreign language translates as a tool for enriching cultural heritage.

Hongisto and Taivalkoski-Shilov (2023) believe that the translator, as a word artist, strives to create an experience for the reader who not only comprehends the story but also immerses himself in the overall atmosphere and spirit of the work. Translators' role in the process of transferring national identity, meaning and emotion from the original to the target language renders them integral creators on the canvas of intercultural exchange. Translators strive to convey not only the literal meaning but also respect for the cultural traditions, idioms and features that form the national identity of the work. In the process of translation, the interpreter creatively adapts the original to a new linguistic and cultural context. Such a process includes the selection of appropriate equivalents to convey the emotional nuances and artistic features of the original text. The use of various stylistic techniques, lexical features and grammatical forms allows the structure and style of the author's view to be preserved, considering the introduction of cultural explications, annotations and explanations, which enable the reader to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the context and meaning of the works. The translator, as a creator, seeks an expressive interpretation of the text to preserve its artistic value. When analysing the data, it is observed that the translator in an artistic context does not just transmit words but creates a work of art, preserving and recreating the national identity of the original so that the reader in another language can feel the full range of emotions and depth of cultural heritage.

Bak (2023) emphasised that idioms, phraseological expressions, and cultural turns are often real artistic jewels, which can also become a kind of 'trap' for the translator. When the unique expressions

of one culture have no direct analogue in another, conveying the exact meaning becomes a difficult task. National identity is often revealed in context, which can be lost in translation. The nuances of cultural meaning and associations associated with certain words may be impossible to fully convey. The use of dialects and regional peculiarities in the original gives the text uniqueness and authenticity. However, in translation, these linguistic nuances may be lost, and with them some of the cultural baggage. This necessitates a choice between literalness and conveying the artistic style. Consequently, to successfully overcome linguistic barriers in fiction translation, the translator must not only be a master of language but also a cultural connoisseur. Translating requires creativity, a deep understanding of cultural elements and sensitivity to artistic nuances. Keywords and phrases are often cultural treasure troves full of meaning and history. The creative translator selects them not only for their literal meaning but also based on how they sound in the culture of the original text. The scholar's reasoning echoed the study results, highlighting the distinctive challenges and opportunities faced by translation work in the artistic dimension.

According to Kryeziu and Mrasori (2021), the meaningful rendering of national identity in literary translation begins with a deep understanding of the linguistic features of both cultures. The translator does not just replace words but adapts them to the new linguistic context while preserving the semantic meaning. The art of word choice is fundamental in translation, reflecting the individuality of the characters, their linguistic features, and their mentality. The details form the overall picture, or in the case of translation, the cultural picture, recreating the subtle semantic elements that give the text vibrancy and uniqueness. Artistic translation not only transfers words from one language to another but is also a means of transforming cultural codes. The work is often woven into the context of a culture's traditions and customs. The multiple meanings of cultural codes can be a challenge in translation. As a result, artistic translation becomes a platform for the exchange of cultural values. The translator, by rising above literal translation, creates a deeper layer of meaning that invites the reader on a fascinating journey through the diverse worlds of the colourful component. The authors' results coincide with the findings of this paper, emphasising the need to replace or adapt collocations and stable expressions for a clearer semantic rendering of lexical equivalents focused on conveying national identity.

In conclusion, this study reinforces the critical role of translators in conveying national identity through literary translation, aligning with existing research that highlights the challenges and complexities involved in preserving cultural richness. Similar to previous studies, it underscores the importance of translators not merely as linguistic converters but as cultural mediators who creatively adapt the original work to ensure its meaning, emotional depth, and cultural context resonate with the

target audience. The findings confirm that effective translation requires not only linguistic skill but also a deep understanding of both the source and target cultures, as well as sensitivity to the nuances of idiomatic expressions and cultural symbols. Moreover, the study supports the notion that artistic translation is a transformative process, where translators must balance fidelity to the original text with the need for adaptation, thus ensuring that the cultural essence of the work is preserved while making it accessible to a new readership. These results further validate the view that translation serves as a vital platform for intercultural exchange, enabling the transmission of national identity and enriching the global literary landscape.

5. Conclusions

This study has thoroughly examined the process of displaying Kazakh national identity in artistic translations into English, revealing the complex interplay between linguistic adaptation and cultural preservation. The findings confirm that translation is far more than a mere transfer of words—it is a transformative act that requires a deep understanding of both the source and target cultures. The translator's role is not just to convey the literal meaning of words but to creatively adapt the original text, ensuring that the cultural richness and emotional depth of the Kazakh identity are preserved. The study highlights the challenges translators face in capturing the essence of Kazakh motifs, idiomatic expressions, and cultural nuances, particularly in a language like English, where direct equivalents may not exist.

Despite these challenges, the study demonstrates that artistic translation is not only a technical process but also an act of cultural mediation. It emphasises that each translation is an opportunity to bridge cultures and offer readers a deeper understanding of Kazakh traditions, values, and worldview. The successful preservation of national identity in translation requires both linguistic expertise and a sensitivity to cultural details, ensuring that the uniqueness of the original text is maintained while making it accessible to a global audience.

Looking forward, future research could explore the specific strategies translators employ to overcome the challenges identified in this study, particularly when translating Kazakh literature into different languages. It would also be valuable to examine the role of the translator as a cultural mediator, analysing how their creative choices affect the reader's engagement with the original work and their understanding of national identity. Comparative studies between translations of Kazakh literature into various languages could offer additional insights into how national identity is navigated in diverse cultural contexts.

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