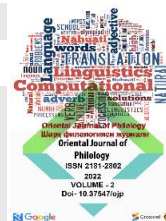


Oriental Journal of Philology**ORIENTAL JOURNAL OF PHILOLOGY**

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<http://www.supportscience.uz/index.php/ojp/about>**THE CULTURAL EFFECTS OF SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETING*****Navruz Kudratovich Daminov****Associated professor of
Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages
Samarkand, Uzbekistan***ABOUT ARTICLE**

Key words: simultaneous interpreting, cultural effects, cultural mediation, pragmatic transfer, contextualization, global communication.

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Abstract: This article examines the pivotal, yet often understated, role of simultaneous interpreting (SI) not merely as a tool for linguistic transfer, but as a critical agent in shaping and mediating cultural exchange across international platforms. While SI is typically analyzed through the lens of cognitive load and linguistic accuracy, this paper focuses on its cultural impact, specifically how interpreters manage implicit cultural codes, social formalities, and context-dependent meanings in real-time. The discussion highlights the interpreter's unavoidable function as a cultural mediator whose real-time decisions significantly influence cross-cultural understanding and the ultimate outcome of diplomatic and business engagements.

SINXRON TARJIMONLIKNING MADANIY TA'SIRI***Navruz Qudratovich Daminov****Samarqand davlat chet tillar institutining dotsenti
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Kalit so'zlar: sinxron tarjimonlik, madaniy ta'sir, madaniy vositachilik, pragmatik ko'chirim, kontekstualashtirish, global muloqot.

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada sinxron tarjimonlikning nafaqat lingvistik axborot uzatish vositasi, balki xalqaro miqyosda madaniy almashinuvni shakllantirish va unda vositachilik qilishdagi muhim, biroq ko'pincha yetarlicha baholanmaydigan o'rni tahlil qilinadi. Odatda sinxron tarjimonlik kognitiv yuklama va lingvistik aniqlik nuqtayi nazaridan o'rganilsa-da, bu maqolada uning

madaniy ta'siriga, xususan, tarjimonlarning pinhona madaniy belgilar, ijtimoiy o'odob-axloq qoidalari va kontekstga bog'liq ma'nolarni real vaqt rejimida qay tarzda yetkazishiga e'tibor qaratilgan. Muhokamalar davomida tarjimonning madaniy vositachi sifatidagi muqarrar vazifasi alohida ta'kidlanadi, zero uning real vaqtda qabul qilgan qarorlari madaniyatlararo anglashuvga hamda diplomatik va ishbilarmonlik muloqotlarining yakuniy natijasiga sezilarli darajada ta'sir ko'rsatadi.

КУЛЬТУРНОЕ ВЛИЯНИЕ СИНХРОННОГО ПЕРЕВОДА

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О СТАТЬЕ

Ключевые слова: Синхронный перевод, культурное влияние, культурная медиация, прагматическая передача, контекстуализация, глобальная коммуникация.

Аннотация: В данной статье рассматривается ключевая, но часто недооцениваемая роль синхронного перевода (СП) не просто как инструмента лингвистической передачи, а как критического агента, формирующего и опосредующего культурный обмен на международных платформах. В то время как СП обычно анализируется через призму когнитивной нагрузки и лингвистической точности, данная работа фокусируется на его культурном воздействии, в частности, на том, как переводчики управляют неявными культурными кодами, социальными формальностями и контекстно-зависимыми значениями в режиме реального времени. Обсуждение подчеркивает неизбежную функцию переводчика как культурного медиатора, чьи решения в режиме реального времени существенно влияют на межкультурное понимание и конечный результат дипломатических и деловых взаимодействий.

Introduction. Simultaneous interpreting (SI) represents the zenith of professional interpreting challenges, demanding immediate cognitive processing across linguistic barriers, often under high-pressure environments like the UN, major summits, or international business

negotiations. Traditionally, the success of SI has been measured by its linguistic fidelity - the accurate transference of denotative meaning. However, in an increasingly globalized world where communication relies heavily on unspoken cultural norms, the function of SI transcends mere word-for-word transfer. The very act of immediate translation structures the discourse and imposes a specific cultural filter on the exchange. This article argues that the cultural mediation performed by the simultaneous interpreter fundamentally affects the dynamics, trust levels, and long-term outcomes of cross-cultural communication. We will explore how cultural context is managed, transferred, or sometimes lost during the rapid processing cycle of SI.

Literature review. The study of SI has evolved from focusing on strict formal equivalence towards pragmatic and communicative theories. While models like Koller's concept of communicative equivalence offer a benchmark for translation, applying it in the split-second environment of SI is profoundly difficult. The interpreter must simultaneously decode the source message, analyze its cultural embedding, reformulate it in the target language, and deliver it, all while anticipating the speaker's future utterances.

The interpreter is not a neutral conduit but an active agent positioned between two distinct cultural realities. Scholars emphasize that culture is embedded not only in vocabulary but also in pragmatics - how things are said, when silence is used, and what implicit assumptions are shared within the speaker's cultural group [Hatim / Mason, 1990].

In Simultaneous interpreting (SI), the interpreter must manage high-context and low-context communication styles. For instance, interpreting from a high-context culture (where much meaning is implicit) into a low-context culture (where meaning must be explicit) forces the interpreter to elaborate quickly - a process that inevitably alters the original stylistic delivery. Cultural load involves elements like irony, humor, rhetorical devices, and social formalities. These elements are highly idiomatic and context-dependent. The pressure of real-time delivery often forces interpreters to prioritize denotative accuracy over the transfer of stylistic nuance. This leads to a standardization or "sanitization" of the message, stripping away the speaker's unique cultural flavor.

Simultaneous interpreting (SI) is widely recognized as the most demanding mode of language transfer, yet its impact extends far beyond the mere linguistic rendering of speech. The true significance of SI lies in its function as a high-speed cultural interface, profoundly affecting the dynamics, perception, and ultimate outcomes of cross-cultural encounters. This theoretical exploration argues that the inherent constraints and immediate demands of SI compel the interpreter to act as an unavoidable cultural mediator, whose real-time decisions inevitably filter, shape, and sometimes diminish the cultural resonance of the source message for the target audience.

The core challenge in the cultural mediation of SI stems from the foundational tension between the need for real-time efficiency and the necessity for pragmatic and cultural depth. Traditional translation theory often posits the goal as achieving communicative equivalence [Koller, 1979]. However, in the context of SI, where the interpreter operates with only a minimal processing lag, achieving full cultural equivalence becomes an aspirational rather than achievable goal. The interpreter is forced to make instantaneous judgments on how to handle elements saturated with cultural context - such as humor, irony, idiomatic expressions, and culturally specific references - under immense cognitive load.

One critical area where cultural mediation is evident is in discourse management and social distance. Different cultures maintain varied expectations regarding the speed, formality, and use of silence in professional dialogue. Cultures categorized as high-context require discourse that often seems vague or slow to low-context cultures. When interpreting from a high-context speaker to a low-context audience, the simultaneous interpreter often performs an unintentional cultural domestication. To ensure clarity, they must convert implied statements into explicit ones, thereby stripping the speech of its original nuance and conciseness. Conversely, when interpreting direct, low-context speech into a high-context language, the interpreter may be compelled to soften the delivery or insert polite softening phrases (“hedges”) to avoid seeming abrupt or impolite, a necessary cultural adjustment that alters the speaker’s original assertive tone.

This filtering process positions the interpreter as a powerful, albeit often invisible, cultural gatekeeper. For instance, when a speaker employs satire or politically charged irony unique to their national discourse, the interpreter faces a dilemma: explain the joke (breaking fluency), substitute it with a culturally analogous one, or omit it entirely. If omitted, the speaker’s rhetorical force and perceived personality are diminished for the target audience. This selective transfer shapes the receiving culture’s perception of the speaker, potentially undermining their credibility or ethos on the international stage.

Furthermore, the management of social hierarchy through linguistic markers constitutes a major cultural task for the SI. In many languages, status and respect are embedded directly into pronoun usage, verb conjugations, and address terms. The interpreter must instantly analyze the relationship between the speaker and the audience member being addressed and select the target language equivalent that preserves the original hierarchical perception. A misstep here - such as incorrectly translating a highly formal address into a familiar one - can lead to immediate diplomatic friction, proving that the cultural effect of the interpretation is immediate and potentially consequential.

The concept of the interpreter’s invisibility also clashes with their cultural function. While the professional ideal encourages the interpreter to remain unnoticed, their cultural mediation

makes them impossible to ignore. By choosing which cultural references to paraphrase and which to omit, the interpreter subtly guides the target audience's interpretation. They are forced to make constant ethical and cultural trade-offs, essentially deciding which layers of cultural meaning are expendable in the pursuit of immediate clarity. This process can inadvertently lead to cultural homogenization, where complex, specific cultural expressions are replaced by more universally accessible, but ultimately flatter, generic terms.

The interpreter's choices directly impact the flow and feeling of the cross-cultural exchange.

Simultaneous interpreting inherently compresses speech timing, reducing the natural pauses speakers use for emphasis, reflection, or building interpersonal rapport.

Loss of Interpersonal Space: Cultures that value deliberate pacing and lengthy silences (often associated with thoughtfulness or respect) may perceive the rapid-fire interpretation as rushed, aggressive, or lacking in due consideration. The SI technique forces an imposed, often Westernized, pace onto the discourse.

Formalization Bias: To mitigate the risk of cultural misinterpretation (especially regarding sensitive topics), interpreters frequently default to highly formal, generalized vocabulary. While this prevents offensive errors, it can inhibit the development of the crucial rapport needed for high-stakes negotiations, making the interaction feel sterile or purely transactional.

Rhetorical devices are often the first casualty of the SI workload.

When a speaker employs sarcasm, irony, or cultural allusions (e.g., referencing a local historical event or proverb), the interpreter faces a critical decision: omit the device, explain it (which breaks flow), or attempt an equivalent (which risks misinterpretation).

If the humorous or rhetorical flourish is lost, the speaker's intended charisma, credibility, or persuasive power can be severely diminished for the target audience, leading to a perception that the speaker is dull or unclear, thus damaging the speaker's ethos in the foreign context.

One of the most sensitive cultural areas managed by the interpreter is social hierarchy, which is conveyed through language address forms (e.g., the tu/vous distinction in French, or the siz/sen distinction in Turkic languages).

In high-stakes political settings, the speaker might use a formal address for an opposing delegate. If the interpreter translates this using a culturally equivalent but slightly less formal term in the target language, it can be perceived as an unintentional slight or condescension, instantly poisoning the pragmatic atmosphere of the meeting. The interpreter must possess deep socio-linguistic knowledge to calibrate this social distance in real-time.

Discussion and results. In many international settings, the simultaneous interpreter inadvertently assumes the role of an immediate cultural gatekeeper and educator.

When a speaker makes an assumption rooted entirely in their home culture (e.g., assuming shared knowledge about a domestic policy or religious custom), the interpreter must decide how to bridge this gap for the audience. If the assumption is left untranslated, the audience loses context; if it is translated with clarification, the audience receives more information than the original speaker intended to convey to the listener. This conscious or subconscious filtering shapes how one culture views another.

Repeated exposure to interpreted communication sets a cultural norm for future interactions. If interpreters consistently simplify complex cultural references into universally understandable (though less rich) terms, the receiving culture may begin to expect such simplification in all future cross-cultural exchanges, potentially eroding the appreciation for linguistic and cultural depth. Conversely, skilled interpreters who successfully convey complex cultural metaphors elevate the expected standard of cross-cultural dialogue.

Conclusion. Simultaneous interpreting is far more than a technical skill of language conversion; it is a profound cultural performance enacted under extreme temporal pressure. The decisions made by the interpreter regarding formality, context, and rhetorical transfer directly shape the cultural reception of the speaker's message. While the inherent constraints of SI risk sanitizing discourse and reducing cultural richness, highly skilled interpreters act as essential cultural architects. They build temporary yet vital bridges that allow speakers to maintain their rhetorical integrity while ensuring that the target audience grasps the intended pragmatic and emotional weight of the communication. Recognizing the interpreter's role as an active cultural mediator is crucial for improving international dialogue and fostering genuine cross-cultural understanding.

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