

CHAPTER 3

ON THE CONTEMPORARY VALUE OF VARIATIONAL TRANSLATION: THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL PERSPECTIVES

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ABSTRACT

Contemporary cross-cultural communication demands greater flexibility in translation practices, highlighting the increasingly prominent role of variational translation in enhancing information dissemination effectiveness. Given the insufficient recognition of contemporary value of variational translation within academic circles, this paper examines its theoretical and practical significance from dual perspectives. The findings show that the theoretical value of variational translation includes: (1) establishing “variational translation” and “complete translation” as two major research categories; (2) expanding the structural framework of traditional “equivalence theory”; (3) refining the operability of the translation theories of Western cultural school; (4) integrating innovative interdisciplinary methodologies; (5) repositioning translation functions. The practical value includes: (1) dissolving cognitive barriers between different civilizations; (2) activating the dialogic potential of diverse civilizations. This chapter aims to demonstrate that variational translation can enrich contemporary translation theory systems and provide concrete methodological guidance for translation practice, promoting mutual learning among world civilizations.

Keywords: *Variational Translation, Contemporary Value, Theory, Practice.*

INTRODUCTION

“Variational Translation” can be defined simply as follows: variational translation is a translational activity whereby translators use the target language to absorb source text content to meet specific needs. The

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