

## 11. The translation of Proper names

- The distinction of proper names from other cultural and institutional terms is that proper names have singular reference while the former refer to classes of entities.
- The established practices for translating the names of Historical Figures are as follows: where sovereigns had translatable Christian names, and they are well-known ; their names with their titles are usually mutually translated into European languages( e.g. *Richard the heart of the lion, William the Conqueror*, etc.).
- Christian names referring to biblical figures are translated( e.g. *David, Solomon, Jonah, Joseph, Zacharias, Jacobs* etc. داود, سليمان, يحيى, يوسف, زكريا, يعقوب ). Names of classical writers(e.g. *Aristotle, Plato, Socrates*) are naturalized.
- While surnames in fiction often have deliberate connotations through sound and meaning, the translator should explain the connotations in a glossary and leave the names intact ( except, of course, in allegories like *Pilgrim's Progress, Everyman* etc. where the names are not specifically English).
- The translator also has to consider whether a previous translation or transcription may already be generally accepted, making it inadvisable to introduce a new one.
- Proper names in fairy stories, folk tales and children's literature are often translated on the ground that children and fairies are the same the world over. The names of heroes of folk tales are not translated if they represent national qualities.