

## **The Poetics of Transgression: Translating the Poetry of Uday Prakash into English**

### **Abstract**

Translation and transgression, etymologically, convey a shared meaning: while to translate means to carry across, to transgress is to step across; both carry a sense of going beyond or transcending limits. But both are more than that: translation and transgression challenge the existing order; they allow a mixing of categories which leads to the creation of something new. Significantly, the concepts of translation and transgression are epistemically related too. In Western mythology, after the fall of the tower of Babel, translation becomes a necessary tool for human beings to come together to further their unrealised pursuit. Thus, in defying the divine will, translation becomes transgressive both in its nature and scope. It is true of literary translation as well. Translation helps literatures from across geographies come together and freely interact with each other, thus resisting stereotypes and blurring the boundaries that otherwise divide people. Interestingly, poetry, too, is transgressive in nature; it resists the idea of a standard language by experimenting with form, structure, and rhythm. Poetry breaks established patterns of thinking and social structures. Since poetry translation combines the transgressive elements of both poetry and translation, it can be called a double transgression. While the thesis primarily proposes to translate Uday Prakash's Hindi poetry into English, it also intends to bring to the fore the doubly transgressive nature of poetry translation. A recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Award, Uday Prakash is considered a people's poet. Raising against injustice, his poems are deeply rooted in the traditions of dissent. Uday Prakash's poetry is transgressive all the more when it challenges the hegemonic power structures that curb the free spirit of life. Despite these merits, his poetry has hardly been translated into English. Therefore, this thesis offers to present a comprehensive and systematic translation of Uday Prakash's poetry and also critically examine the elements of transgression that underlie poetry translation.

**Keywords:** Uday Prakash, Translation, Transgression, Poetry Translation, Hindi Poetry