

**Audiovisual Translation:  
Dubbing and Subtitling in the Central European Context**

*Book of Abstracts*

EDITED BY IGOR TYŠŠ, ANDREJ ZAHORÁK & MARTIN KAŽIMÍR

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Editors: Mgr. Martin Kažimír  
Mgr. Igor Tyšš  
Mgr. Andrej Zahorák

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**Through the Iranian Fansubbing Glass: Insights into Taboo Language Rendition into Persian**  
**Masood Khoshsaligheh, Milad Mehdizadkhani, and Saeed Ameri**

Department of English Language and Literature, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Iran  
Institute of English Studies, University of Warsaw, Poland

**Abstract**

The advent of new platforms of audiovisual material distribution across cultures and the rise in the production of audiovisual material have resulted in the need for more audiovisual translation. The need for fast interlingual access to foreign audiovisual content as well as the emergence of new technological tools have subsequently led to audiovisual translation (AVT) by fans. In some more conservative cultures, AVT by fans especially has been growing much faster recently because of the limited or late access to foreign audiovisual material. In spite of the exponential growth of such fan-produced AVT, academic research has largely overlooked such a phenomenon, especially in smaller cultures and languages. Amateur AVT in the form of fansubbing and fandubbing is extensively under-researched in Iranian context and as an attempt to address this gap, the study aims at shedding some light on the fansubbing practice in Iran. Considering the divergent and anonymous nature of (Iranian) fansubbing, a stark contrast between the official and fan-produced rendition of audiovisual material seems to be taboo language as a form of defying socio-cultural and ideological norms of such a conservative society. To explore this concept, the study intends to investigate how Iranian fansubbers deal with taboo and offensive language and what strategies they employ for taboo rendition into Persian. For that matter, a selection of ten American movies were used as the corpus of the study, and the corresponding Persian subtitle files were obtained from fansubbing websites. The findings consistently reveal that fansubbers have a general tendency to follow the norms of the source language and by and large keep original taboo language. By not toning down the taboo language, fansubbers deviate from the current official translation norms in Iran. Having presented the results using descriptive statistics, the paper further discusses the implication of keeping taboo language in written form for the Iranian society and recommends further research.

**About the Authors**

Masood Khoshsaligheh is an Assistant Professor in Translation Studies at Ferdowsi University of Mashhad (FUM) in Iran, where he teaches translation theory and research. His research focuses on translator education and audiovisual translation studies. He is currently the coordinator of MA and PhD programs in Translation Studies at Ferdowsi University of Mashhad.

Milad Mehdizadkhani has a B.A in English Translation from Zanjan University, Iran and is

currently working on his MA thesis in audiovisual translation studies both at University of Warsaw, Poland and Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Iran. His research interests are audiovisual translation, translation by fans, and higher education.

Saeed Ameri holds a BA in English Translation from Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman and received his MA with first-class honors in English Translation with a thesis on dubbing reception from Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, where he was selected as top student in Humanities in 2015. His main research interests focus on audiovisual translation, translation of popular music, and translation by fans. He is the author of several articles on dubbing in the context of Iran.