# The Problem of Equivalence in the Translations of Arvind Adiga's *The White Tiger*, Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* and Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist* from English into Marathi

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ABSTRACT
The present dissertation is the outcome of research into the problem of equivalence in translation, particularly translating from English into Marathi. According to the hypothesis of the research, the barrier of detecting fitting equivalence is a basic issue in the process of translating the English texts—*The White Tiger*, *The Da Vinci Code* and *The Alchemist*—into Marathi. The three novels chosen for investigation contain different types of equivalence problems. The research addresses the problem of equivalence on various levels—linguistic, semantic, stylistic, social, cultural, symbolic and mythical—in translating these texts into Marathi because there are great differences between English and Marathi on the level of structure, meaning, socio-cultural set up, and symbolic and mythical base.

In Marathi, the term **equivalence** is perceived as **paryayishabda (पर्यायीशब्द)**, more accurately **pratishabda (प्रतिशब्द)**—literal translation of the word. Though the word **'shabd' (शब्द)** is used here to provide the meaning of the term in Marathi, it refers, broadly, not only to words and phrases but also to sentences, part of a text and the entire text. Rendering meaning is the ultimate end of translation. To find linguistic equivalence is a demanding task for a translator which includes grammar, sound system and structure of SL and TL which is one of the most complex phenomena of a language. In translating *The White Tiger* from English into Marathi, the major problem is that of linguistic and stylistic equivalence. The issues of linguistic, socio-cultural, mythical and symbolic equivalences are prominent while translating *The Da Vinci Code*; and in translating *The Alchemist*, there is major question of linguistic, mythical and symbolic equivalences. Translation of each equivalent or its type (i.e. word/ phrase/ clause/ sentence/ part of text/ whole text) is not possible, but there are many ways to resolve the complication of untranslatable equivalences in the form of literal translation, restructuring of SLT, transliteration, transcription and trans-creation, replacement, elimination, lexis formation, definition, explanation or description, borrowing or hiring, adding, deletion, metaphrase, paraphrase, and imitation. These and other ways are (should be) used to solve the untranslatable equivalences.

KEYWORDS: equivalence, linguistic equivalence, pratishabda, socio-cultural equivalence, stylistic equivalence, translation equivalence.