

## **Rewriting in Online News Translation**

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### ***Abstract***

Translating online news is a common practice among translators working at government institutions and ministries. Almost all government institutions in Indonesia now have their own official websites and several of them are even available in other languages, particularly English. One of the features of those websites that is usually translated into English is online news articles. Translating online news articles from Indonesian into English poses its own translation difficulties and challenges, including the facts that the original texts (ST) are mostly poorly written, STs that are not clear and sometimes incomprehensible, STs that contain inaccurate data and when those STs have to be translated into English, they have to be 'modified' so as to conform to the standard writing of news article in English. Therefore, in this case, a translator has to do more *beyond* translating. Oftentimes, he has to re-write the articles and produce a proper English news article based on the ST, he has to research missing but important information and he also has to correct incorrect data or information from the original article. Simply put, in the case of translating online news websites, there is blurred line between the concept of 'translation' and 're-writing' and this paper tries to investigate whether translating online news articles can be regarded as a 'pure' form translation or rewriting. The source of data for this research is taken from news articles of the official website of Cabinet Secretary and their English versions. Several Indonesian articles with their English translations are randomly selected for the analysis of this paper. The result of this paper shows that in many cases of the translation of news article on the website of Cabinet Secretariat, those Indonesian articles are mostly 'rewritten' in the Target Text. This paper also concludes that in the case of online news translation, the translator often has to do more than just translating but also rewriting.

Keywords: translating, translator, online new article, website, rewriting

### **Abstrak**

Penerjemahan berita daring adalah hal yang lazim di kalangan penerjemah yang bekerja pada institusi pemerintah dan kementerian. Hampir semua institusi pemerintah di Indonesia kita memiliki situs resmi dan beberapa di antaranya bahkan tersedia dalam bahasa lain, terutama

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bahasa Inggris. Salah satu fitur pada situs-situs itu yang diterjemahkan adalah artikel berita daring. Penerjemahan berita daring dari Bahasa Indonesia ke dalam Bahasa Inggris memiliki kesulitan tantangannya tersendiri and challenges, termasuk fakta bahwa Teks Sumber (TSu) kebanyakan ditulis dengan buruk, TSu yang tidak jelas and terkadang tidak dapat dipahami, TSu yang mengandung data yang tidak akurat dan ketika TSu itu harus diterjemahkan ke dalam Bahasa Inggris, teks itu harus ‘dimodifikasi’ sehingga sesuai dengan standar penulisan berita dalam Bahasa Inggris. Oleh karena itu, dalam hal ini, seorang penerjemah harus melakukan *di luar* kegiatan penerjemahan itu sendiri. Seringkali, ia harus menuliskan ulang artikel-artikel tersebut dan membuat teks berita dalam Bahasa Inggris yang layak, yang berdasarkan TSu, ia harus meriset informasi yang hilang tapi penting, dan ia juga harus membetulkan data-data atau informasi yang tidak benar di teks asli. Singkat kata, dalam kasus penerjemahan teks berita daring, ada garis yang kabur antara konsep ‘menerjemahkan’ dan ‘menulis ulang’, dan penelitian ini berusaha menginvestigasi apakah penerjemahan artikel berita daring dapat dikategorikan sebagai bentuk ‘murni’ penerjemahan atau kegiatan penulisan ulang. Sumber data untuk penelitian ini diambil dari artikel berita pada situs Sekretariat Kabinet dan versi Bahasa Inggris-nya. Sejumlah artikel bahasa Indonesia dengan terjemahan dalam bahasa Inggrisnya dipilih secara acak untuk analisis penelitian ini. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa dalam banyak hal, penerjemahan berita daring pada situs Sekretariat Kabinet, artikel bahasa Indonesia tersebut kebanyakan ‘ditulis ulang’ dalam Teks Sasaran. Penelitian ini juga menyimpulkan bahwa dalam kasus penerjemahan berita daring, penerjemah seringkali tidak sekadar menerjemahkan tetapi juga menulis ulang.

Kata kunci: penerjemahan, penerjemah, artikel berita online, situs, penulisan kembali

## 1. BACKGROUND

Translation has become an indispensable activity at ministries and government institutions in Indonesia, both at central government level and regional government level. Many of those institutions and ministries now have their own translators and interpreters to perform translation-related jobs such as legal translation, speech translation, website translation, online news translation or interpreting in a bid to support the main tasks and duties of those ministries and institutions. Those translators working for ministries or government institutions are formally known as ‘Translator Functional Official’ or *Pejabat Fungsional Penerjemah* (PFP) in Bahasa Indonesia. As of 2015, there are

approximately 150 Translator Functional Officials in ministries and institutions all across Indonesia.

One of the translation tasks that some of those government translators have to carry out is translating contents of websites of their ministries or institutions. The contents that are usually translated include online news, pictorial news, legal documents (laws, presidential regulations, and the like), announcements, and some other features. Some of those websites are available in other languages, such as English, Arabic, Mandarin, French, and some other foreign languages. Website translation is indeed a common practice among translators working for the government institutions and ministries. Peyrot (no date) in Hariyanto (2015) suggests that there are seven classic reasons to translate websites, namely:

- (a) More people are non-native speakers of English
- (b) A lot of people are searching and surfing the Webs only in their native languages
- (c) Less and less Internet contents are in English
- (d) Web users have a tendency to spend more time with web using their language,
- (e) They tend to purchase via websites with their native language
- (f) More and more online trade is in non-English language
- (g) Non-English speaking market grows rapidly.

However, in the case of the translation of website contents done by translators at government institutions and ministries in Indonesia, the reasons are slightly different because the website is translated from Bahasa Indonesia *into* foreign languages, particularly English. The website is translated for the following reasons:

- (a) The website aims for non-Indonesian readership or international readers;
- (b) The English version is expected to introduce Indonesia to the international world;

(c) The English version is also expected to build more understanding about Indonesia for the international community.

In the meantime, on the website itself, as discussed above, one of the features commonly found on it is online news, which is mostly written in the Indonesian language as the Source Language (SL). The online news normally present the latest news on both domestic issues and international issues, as well as news on the official activities of the President, Vice President ministers, or other high-ranking government officials. Moreover, just like other contents in the website, the news is also translated into other languages, predominantly English, in order reach out to international readership.

One of government institutions in Indonesia that has an official website and its English version is Cabinet Secretariat. The institution, which is helmed by a high-ranking government official of the same level as minister, is in charge of providing technical supports to the President of the Republic of Indonesia. The official website of Cabinet Secretariat has a number of features such as *Berita* (news), *Artikel* (opinions), *Peraturan* (laws, presidential regulations, and the like) online news, speeches, and *Galeri* (pictorial news). As for the news section, it is available in Indonesian and with its English translations. However, only certain news articles that are translated into English. Usually news articles that have international implications or about Indonesia's foreign policies are translated into English.

Nevertheless translating those news articles is not without translation problems and challenges. Some of the biggest challenges faced by the translators are the fact that many of those news articles are poorly written, contain inaccurate or incomplete data and facts; thereby making the task of the translating the news even more challenging. Consequently, in some cases, the translators have to 'go beyond the translation job itself' in that they sometimes have to re-write the news in in Target Language, which is English in this case. Another challenge of translating those news

articles is that translators also have to make the translation article read as proper English news article, even at the expense of making changes in the translation. The translators also have to research some missing information needed for the articles. Here, there could be some confusion as to what those translators are actually doing: are they translating or rewriting? With those considerations, this paper seeks to investigate challenges faced by translators who are assigned to translate news articles from the website and how those challenges and problems are addressed.

## **2. TRANSLATION AND TRANSLATOR**

There are many definitions of translation, one of which is the one proposed by Juliane House (2014). According to her, translation can be defined as the result of a linguistic-textual operation in which a text in one language is re-produced in another language. In her definition, House also suggests that translation is both a linguistic and textual activity that involves the reproduction of a text written in one language into another language. She also argues that translation is not only a linguistic act but also an act of communication. Meanwhile, Larson (1984) argues that translation is the act of transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor language and this is done by going from the form of the first language to the form of a second language by way of semantic structure. In other words, in her definition of translation, Larson puts more emphasis on the meaning over the form.

Another definition of translation is proposed by Wills (1977), who argues that translation is a text-processing and text-re-verbalization which leads from a source text to a target text that is as equivalent as possible and presupposes an understanding of the original text in terms of content and style. Will's definition of translation, in other words, views translation as a text-processing and text-re-verbalization activity.

The various definitions of translation show that translation is indeed a complex phenomenon that can be viewed from multiple perspectives – be it linguistic perspective, social perspective, functional perspective and so

on. As for translating online news articles, it can be argued that this type of translation is both a linguistic act and an act of communication, just like what is proposed by House (2014). The process of translating online news article does not only involve the linguistic activity of translating a news article written in the Source Language (ST) into the Target Language (TT) but also serves as an act of communication act, in that the translator functions as a 'bridge' of communication barriers between the two languages. In this case, the translator is tasked to re-tell the Indonesian news originally written in Indonesia into English for a wider international audience. For example, when a translator has to translate the news about President Jokowi inaugurating a new airport in eastern Indonesia, they have to transfer the messages contained in the news article (what the President says, news about the new airport itself, several direct quotes of the President) from Indonesian into English. As a result, the translator is expected to re-tell the news in English.

Meanwhile, translating news articles is also a kind of translation activity that should put more emphasis on meaning over form. It must be born in mind that in some cases, the translation of a news article can be, and to some extent, has to be different from its ST in terms of form due to several factors, one of which is that the translated version has to comply with the 'standard' rule newspaper writing in English. The Structure of Indonesian news article might be different from that in English and it is the task of the translator to transfer the structure from the structure of Indonesian news article into the structure of English news article.

More about the task of a translator, Hatim and Mason (1994) state that basic problems faced by translators in their work in broad and general terms can be listed as follows:

1. Comprehension of Source Text:
  - (a) parsing of text (grammar and lexis)
  - (b) access to specialized knowledge
  - (c) access to intended meaning

2. Transfer of Meaning:

- (a) relaying lexical meaning
- (b) relaying grammatical meaning
- (c) relaying rhetorical meaning, including implied or inferable meaning, for potential readers

3. Assessment of Target Text

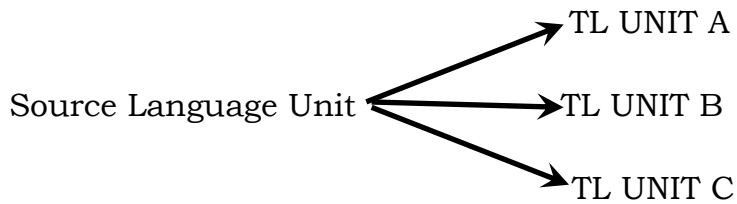
- (a) readability
- (b) conforming to generic and discoursal TL conventions
- (c) judging adequacy of translation for specified purpose.

In relation to the basic problems faced by translators who are assigned to translate news articles, they are more or less the same with what are proposed by Hatim and Mason. However, one of the biggest problems in translating news articles, as mentioned before, is that the translators are required to produce translations that are acceptable as proper news articles in English. Thus, in this case, the translation should only become the translated text of the ST but also an 'acceptable' news article in English.

In the meantime, Baker (2014) maintains that translation is also understood as a form of (re)-narration that constructs rather than represents the events and characters it re-narrates in another language. The concept of narration itself is defined as our only means of making sense of the world and our place within it (Baker 2006; Harding 2012a, 2012b). The narrative concept, according to Baker, proceeds from two basic assumptions about the relationship between human beings, their environment, and the stories that circulate within that environment: the first is that we have no direct, unmediated access to reality; specifically, our access to reality is filtered through the stories we narrate to ourselves and others about the world(s) in which we live and the second assumption is that the stories we narrate do not only mediate our access to reality but also participate in configuring the reality. In relation to translating news, as suggested earlier, the translator is demanded to re-tell the stories originally written in Bahasa Indonesia into English for TT readers or

international readers. International readers who have no access to news about Indonesia due to language barriers can probably read the news thanks to the ‘re-narration’ done by the translators.

Furthermore, translation process can be described as follows, suggested by Koller:



Actualization of A, B, or C on the Level of TL Text

*Figure 1.2. Model of the translation process (adapted from Koller 2011: 95)*

This model can be applied in the translation of news articles owing to the fact that there are always more potential equivalence in the translation of news articles. For example, the translation of headlines that can be different from one translator to another and one headline written in ST for example can have more than one form in the TT.

### **3. TRANSLATION OF ONLINE NEWS ARTICLES (JOURNALISTIC TRANSLATION)**

Journalistic translation can be regarded as a non-literary translation. It can also be argued that this type of translation is a specific type of translation as it presents unique challenges in the translation process, one of which is the different news structure that might be different in ST and TT. In general, there are no universal rules as for what news article should be like. However, Bard (2005) proposes the notion of ‘style’ in newswriting. According to him, ‘styles’ are simply standard one refers to in deciding how to spell, punctuate. In general, however, Bard argues that news article in English should contain the following things:



- **Headlines**, the title of the article. It usually should be the shortest, punchiest summary of the story. It has the skeleton of, but seldom is, a complete sentence. It must have a noun and a verb (the verb understood if not expressed). Articles, most adjectives and auxiliary verbs are omitted.
- **Lead**, which is the first dozen or so words that carries 90 percent of the burden of the whole story. In other words, a lead set the tones of the whole article and from the lead, we can expect that the story is all about.
- **Body**, which contain facts that support the lead, and they are in descending order of importance, all the way to the least important fact, which makes the bottom point of the pyramid.

It is those three main parts that are usually found in news articles in English and the problems arise when translating a news article written in Indonesian, for example, which sometimes does not have a lead into a news article in English that mostly require to have those three main elements.

Translating news can be considered a special type of translation. News mainly contain information, such as the date, number, statistics, policies, direct quotes of the President, the Vice President, ministers, government officials, and many others. Translating news articles can be different from translating other types of text in terms of the approaches that should be taken.

Reiss (1977) identifies three main types of different text based on the language function proposed by Bühler (1965). Those three types of text are informative text, expressive text, and operative text. As for news articles, they can be categorized mainly as informative text because the function is predominantly to provide readers with information, for example about the latest policies issued by the government, news about the latest activities of the President, national news, foreign policies, and many others. Nevertheless, it does not mean news articles only contain

informative function. In some cases, however, a news article may contain operative functions when for example it contains calls from the government to the people to do something (eg. Paying taxes on time, go to the polls during election, etc). In this respect, a news article can also have an operative function.

Furthermore, one of the biggest problems in the translation of news arises when the Indonesian text does not have features of news commonly found in English news articles. For example, there are some cases in which an Indonesian news article does not have the lead; in fact, in most news written in English, the lead is one of the most important features of news article. In other words, the task of translator who translates news also involves 'transferring' the form of news article used in ST into the form of news article used in TT. In the meantime, Bassnett (2014) said that translation has been redefined in recent times as a form of rewriting, and the status of the translator once dismissed as little more than a hack, has been revalued.

#### **4. Discussion**

As discussed in the introduction, translating online news article can also considered as 're-writing' the news from one language in another language, which in this regard is from Indonesian into English. The process usually begins with translating the headline. Headline of news in English usually have a number of criteria, for example:

1. It usually uses strong verbs, active rather than passive.
2. The subject should not be left out.
3. Each line should be a grammatical unit
4. Attribution can be used

However, consider the following headline from an Indonesian news article:

*Luncurkan Rute Ro-Ro Davao-Bitung, Presiden Jokowi: Pelayaran Dari 5 Minggu Jadi 2,5 Hari*

If this headline is literally translated into English as it is, it would be like:

Launching Davao – Bitung Ro-Ro Route, President Jokowi: Sailing from 5 Weeks Becomes 2.5 Days.

However, the translation is not natural in English but it is also not read as a good, natural headline. So this is the beginning of a series of challenges faced by translators translating newspaper article: translating headlines. Translating headlines can indeed be tricky because we not only have to convey the message of the headline in the ST but also have to ensure the ‘translated’ headline is acceptable and natural in the TT. For this purpose, it would be a good idea for the translators to find the examples of headlines written in English language newspapers. In Indonesia, we can find examples of headlines used by *the Jakarta Post* or *the Jakarta Globe*, two of which are the country’s leading English media outlets.

Back to the translation of the headline ‘*Luncurkan Rute Ro-Ro Davao-Bitung, Presiden Jokowi: Pelayaran Dari 5 Minggu Jadi 2,5 Hari*’, the English version on the Cabinet Secretariat websites goes as follow:

Indonesia, Philippines Launch Shipping Route Connecting Mindanao and North Sulawesi

The translation was made by considering that the Source Text is about Indonesian President and Philippine President who had launched the route. The choice was made after reading the content of the ST and re-writing the ST into the TT (with a number of changes). Another factor that contributed to the change in the headline is the ‘internal policy’ within the ministry. The translator, the editor and those in charge of the English version have agreed that the English version does not have to be ‘exactly’ similar to the Indonesian version; thus the translators and the editors have bigger freedom in re-writing the Indonesian texts in English. Another example of problem in translating a headline is as follows:

The original Indonesian headlines goes likes:

*Presiden Jokowi: Dengan Cara Apapun Program Listrik 35.000 MW Harus Bisa Diselesaikan*

And the English version of the headline is as follows:

Gov't Will Finish 35,000 MW Electrification Project, the President Says.

The English translation is not only shorter than the original text but it also changes a passive sentence in the ST (*diselesaikan*) into an English active sentence (to finish). The author believes that English favors active sentences, especially when it is used as a headline of news. In this case, the translator can take the liberty in changing the form from passive into active. In fact, for the sake of naturalness, it is indeed necessary for the translator to change the form.

Some headlines in Indonesians can also be grammatically wrong. Take this sentence for example:

*Dilantik Jadi Kapolri, Presiden Jokowi Minta Tito Lakukan Reformasi Polri Secara Menyeluruh*

The English translation of this headline is as follows:

*President Jokowi Inaugurates Tito Karnavian as New Indonesian National Police Chief*

The problem with this translation is that before translating it from Indonesian into English, the translator has to analyze the Indonesian text (the headline) first. It turns out that there is a grammatical error in the TT because if one refers to the word order of the sentence, it can be understood that the one who is '*dilantik*' (inaugurated) as '*Kapolri*' (police

chief) is the President himself. If the headline were translated literally, it would be like:

<b>ST</b>	<b>TT</b>
<i>Dilantik Jadi Kapolri, Presiden Jokowi Minta Tito Lakukan Reformasi Polri Secara Menyeluruh</i>	Inaugurated as Police Chief, President Jokowi Asks Tito to Conduct Police Reforms as a Whole

The English translation of this headline does not make sense because of the dangling modifier found in the sentence. Thus, one alternative to make the translation natural in English is to modify it into:

*President Jokowi Inaugurates Tito Karnavian as New Indonesian National Police Chief*

There are also some omissions in the translation as the translator leaves out the phrase ‘*President Jokowi Minta Tito Lakukan Reformasi Polri Secara Menyeluruh*’ (President Jokowi Asks Tito to Conduct Fundamental Police Reforms). The reason for the omission is that headline, especially in English news articles, should be made as short as possible and the main theme of the article is already covered by the phrase ‘President Jokowi Inaugurates Tito Karnavian as New Indonesian National Police Chief’. Another example is the translation of this headline:

*Lagi, 7 WNI Disandera Kelompok Milisi di Filipina*

The headline is translated as:

*Seven Indonesians Kidnapped in Southern Philippines: Foreign Affairs Minister*

The translator decided to add attribution ‘: Foreign Affairs Minister’ to show that the statement is officially issued by Indonesian Foreign Minister. This is something that is not found in the headline in the ST but is actually important to tell readers that this statement is not made by the journalists but by the minister. For these two examples, it can be seen that translating the headline can be tricky. Bard (2005) suggests the following requirements for a good headline:

1. The headline should use strong verbs, active rather than passive. Use specific, not general nouns.

*Women found safe after accident* (too broad)

*Two women survive fall from tower* (specific)

2. The headline should not leave out the subject

*Resigns, then changes minds and returns* (no subject)

*Dean resigns, then changes mind*

3. Each line should be a grammatical unit. Try not to end a line with a preposition. Avoid splitting verb parts and do not split modifier from a noun.

*Quake hits bay area; no damage reported*

4. Attribution: just as the body in the story, one must attribute everything not vouched for by the reporter as fact

*New tuition too high* (no attribution)

*Tuition too high*, say students

Furthermore, many news articles written on the website of Cabinet Secretariat do not comply with the standard of a good news writing. Thus, in this case, as previously mentioned, the translator is also expected to 're-write' the article in the Target Language, which is in English in this case. The notion of translation is a type of rewriting is first stated by Lefevre (1992) in Munday (2001), who argues that:

Translation is the most obviously recognizable type of rewriting, and ... it is potentially the most influential because it is able to project the image of an author and/or those works beyond the boundaries of their culture of origin.

In the case of news articles on websites of government institutions and ministries, some of those news articles often lack complete, necessary data needed for a news article. Therefore, in some cases, the translator has to provide more information and data in the translation to make the translation clear for the TT readers. The following example can illustrate my point:

Untuk mendukung kesiapan Indonesia menghadapi persaingan tersebut, Presiden Jokowi salah satunya meminta dilakukan percepatan pengembangan Bandara Sultan Thaha, Jambi, yang dikelola oleh **PT Angkasa Pura II**.

The problem with the above sentence is the phrase ‘PT. Angkasa Pura’. Most Indonesian readers or those with enough background knowledge about Indonesia, are probably aware that PT. Angkasa Pura II is one of state-owned enterprises in Indonesia engaged in rendering airport services. However, for English readers or those without background knowledge about Indonesia, it is deemed necessary for the translator to add more information in the translation about the company. Hence, one of the options of the translation can be like this:

Therefore, as one of the preparations for Indonesia in facing the global competition, President Jokowi has instructed the expansion of Sultan Thaha Airport, which is managed by **state-owned airport operator** PT Angkasa Pura II.

The phrase ‘PT. Angkasa Pura II’ is translated into English as ‘state-owned airport operator’ by adopting the addition translation strategy proposed by Newmark (1998).

Furthermore, the ‘translation’ of news article can also involve the change not only in the headline, at the sentence or phrase level, but also at the text level. Take the following Indonesian text for example. The article was published on 11 January 2016.

**Presiden Jokowi: Arab Saudi Kembalikan Kuota Haji Indonesia ke 211 Ribu dan Tambah Kuota 10 Ribu**

Presiden Joko Widodo (Jokowi) secara mendadak, di Istana Merdeka, Jakarta, Rabu (11/1) sore, menyelenggarakan konperensi pers terkait keputusan Pemerintah Kerajaan Arab Saudi, yang mengembalikan kuota haji Indonesia ke angka yang normal, yaitu 211.000 jamaah.

“Pemerintah Arab Saudi, dalam hal ini Menteri Haji dan Umrah Kerajaan Arab Saudi, telah memutuskan untuk mengembalikan kuota normal haji bagi Indonesia dari 168.800 menjadi 211.000 untuk tahun 2017,” kata Presiden Jokowi.

Selain pengembalian kuota sebesar 211.000, menurut Presiden, pemerintah Arab Saudi juga menyetujui permintaan tambahan kuota untuk Indonesia dan memutuskan pemberian tambahan kuota sebesar 10.000.

“Dengan demikian, kuota haji untuk Indonesia tahun 2017 dari 168.800 menjadi 221.000. Dengan demikian Indonesia memperoleh kenaikan sebesar 52.200,” ungkap Presiden Jokowi.

Sebelumnya Presiden Jokowi menjelaskan, sebagai tindak lanjut dari kunjungannya ke Arab Saudi pada September 2015 yang lalu dan pertemuan dirinya dengan Pangeran Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud dari Arab Saudi di Hangzhou pada September 2016 lalu, dirinya telah meminta kepada Menteri Agama Lukman Hakim Saifuddin dan Menteri Luar Negeri Retno Marsudi untuk melakukan pembicaraan tindak lanjut dari pertemuan itu.

Dari proses pembahasan tindak lanjut tersebut, lanjut Presiden, Pemerintah Arab Saudi, dalam hal ini Menteri Haji dan Umrah Kerajaan Arab Saudi, telah memutuskan untuk mengembalikan kuota normal haji bagi Indonesia dari 168.800 menjadi 211.000 untuk tahun 2017.

Sebagai catatan, Presiden Jokowi menyampaikan bahwa sejak 2013 jumlah kuota jamaah haji Indonesia dan negara lainnya mengalami pemotongan 20 persen karena perluasan pembangunan fasilitas di Masjidil Haram, Mekah.

Presiden menegaskan, Indonesia, menyampaikan penghargaan yang tinggi kepada Pemerintah Arab Saudi yang telah memberikan tambahan kuota haji kepada Indonesia.

“Penghargaan dan apresiasi juga kami sampaikan atas upaya Pemerintah Arab Saudi untuk terus meningkatkan kualitas pelayanan jamaah haji, termasuk jamaah haji dari Indonesia,” ujar Presiden.

Dengan sudah adanya keputusan ini, Presiden Jokowi berharap persiapan



penyelenggaraan haji tahun 2017 sudah dapat dilakukan sejak dini.

Selain itu, Presiden juga menyampaikan rencana kunjungan Raja Arab Saudi Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud ke Indonesia pada bulan Maret mendatang. “Tentunya kita menyambut baik rencana tersebut,” pungkas Presiden.

Mendampingi Presiden Jokowi dalam konperensi pers itu Menteri Luar Negeri Retno Marsudi, Menteri Agama Lukman Hakim Saifuddin, dan Mensesneg Pratikno. **(FID/ES)**

The English translation, or version to be exact, is as follows:

### **Indonesia Gets Hajj Quota of 221,000 Per Year**

Indonesia’s Hajj quota has returned to the normal figure of 211,000 a year from the previous 168,000. “The Saudi Arabian Government, which in this case Minister of Hajj and Umrah of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has decided to return Hajj quota for Indonesia from 168,800 into 211,000 for 2017,” the President said in a press conference on Wednesday (11/1) at the Merdeka Palace.

In addition, the Saudi Arabian Government has also given an additional 10,000 quotas, President Jokowi said. “Thus, Indonesia’s Hajj quota for 2017 has increased from 168,800 into 221,000. It means Indonesia has a 52,220 quota increase,” President Jokowi said.

President Jokowi explained that as the follow up of his visit to Arab Saudi in September 2015 and his meeting with Saudi Arabian Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud in Hangzhou in September last year, he had instructed Minister of Religious Affairs Lukman Hakim Saifuddin and Minister of Foreign Affairs Retno Marsudi to have further talks with the Saudi Arabian Government. As a result, the President said, the Saudi Arabian Government has decided to return the quota for Indonesia from 168,800 into 211.000 in 2017.

For the record, Hajj quota for Indonesia and other countries was cut by 20 percent in 2013 due to the renovation of the Masjidil Haram Grand Mosque in Saudi Arabia.

President Jokowi also expressed his highest appreciation to the Government of Saudi Arabia who has given additional Hajj quota for Indonesia. “We would also like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Saudi Arabia for continually improving services for Hajj pilgrims including Hajj pilgrims from Indonesia,” the President said.

Following the decision, President Jokowi hopes that the preparation for Hajj this year can be done earlier.

On that occasion, President Jokowi also mentioned the planned visit by Saudi Arabian Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud to Indonesia in March this year. “We certainly welcome the plan,” the President said.

Accompanying the President at the press conference were Minister of Foreign Affairs Retno Marsudi, Minister of Religious Affairs Lukman Hakim Saifuddin, and Minister of State Secretary Pratikno. **(FID/ES) (EP/YM/Naster)**

From the example of an Indonesian news article and its English version, it can be seen not the changes are not only found in the title but in some parts of the body. The title is certainly different. The Indonesian title '*Presiden Jokowi: Arab Saudi Kembalikan Kuota Haji Indonesia ke 211 Ribu dan Tambah Kuota 10 Ribu*' is translated as 'Indonesia Gets Hajj Quota of 221,000 Per Year'.

Another highlight from this sample is the difference in the lead between that in the ST and that in the TL. The lead in the ST is:

Presiden Joko Widodo (Jokowi) secara mendadak, di Istana Merdeka, Jakarta, Rabu (11/1) sore, menyelenggarakan konperensi pers terkait keputusan Pemerintah Kerajaan Arab Saudi, yang mengembalikan kuota haji Indonesia ke angka yang normal, yaitu 211.000 jamaah.

While in the English version, it becomes:

Indonesia's Hajj quota has returned to the normal figure of 211,000 a year from the previous 168,000.

The translator decided to change the lead in ST because in English, lead should be concise, and set the tone for the whole text. The lead in the Indonesian text includes several aspects that should not be included in a lead. For example, the sentence '*Presiden Joko Widodo (Jokowi) secara mendadak, di Istana Merdeka, Jakarta, Rabu (11/1) sore, menyelenggarakan konperensi pers..*' Although there is nothing wrong with the sentence grammatically or semantically and the author writes the truth, the sentence cannot be put as a lead in English news article. Thus, the translator changed the lead to make it more acceptable in the English version "Indonesia's Hajj quota has returned to the normal figure of 211,000 a year from the previous 168,000." This example illustrates that under certain circumstances, the translators in charge of the English

version of Cabinet Secretariat, also have to re-write their news articles and new leads so as to make them more acceptable in the English version.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

From all those examples above, in translating news articles at the Cabinet Secretary, the translators often have to re-write the news in the TT. For some reason, not only is the TT poorly written but also it is due to the different 'systems' of the two languages involved. For example, it might be acceptable for a headline to be written to a passive sentence but in general and if the subject is known in English, it would be advisable to use the active voice. Therefore, a translator must also have good understandings of the 'norms' in the two languages involved (in Indonesian and English). However, it must be born in mind that the decision to rewrite news articles, instead of performing the 'pure' form of translation the SL in the TL, in which the translators can have more 'freedom' to add or to omit several parts of the TL and so on, depend on the policy of the ministry where they work for. If the ministry's policy requires them to 'translate the articles as they are', then the translators have no choice. However, if the ministry allows them to make a few adjustments in the TL or to rewrite the TL, the translators can have more freedom in rewriting the TL. Either way, both choices carry their own consequences and have their own pluses and minuses. For this case, further research will be needed.

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