Translation Quality of the SPM (Santa Perawan Maria) Congregation's Constitution: A Content Analysis A THESIS



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English Language Education Study Program
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2025

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A THESIS

Presented to Faculty of Teacher Training and Education
Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya
in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of
Sarjana Pendidikan in Teaching English as Foreign Language



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Abstract

As an international Congregation, the Sisters of Our Lady or SPM (Santa Perawan Maria) congregation has a constitution which has been translated into Bahasa Indonesia. In order that the members should understand thoroughly as directives in all communities, quality translation of the constitution is required. There has been a concern among members of the Indonesian communities in the last few years about the accuracy of the translation. This study aims to evaluate the quality of the English and Indonesian translation versions of the constitution by analyzing legal terminology and contextual meaning in both versions, to identify and highlight specific sections within the constitution where translation discrepancies exist, and to recommend revisions aimed at achieving alignment between the English and Indonesian version in terms of both language and intended meaning. The technique of processing data used Nababan's theory through three parameters: accuracy, acceptability, and readability. The findings indicate that the translation quality, particularly in Chapter 1 and 2 of the constitution, needs to be improved. In terms of accuracy: 32% is accurate, 48% is less accurate, and 20% is not accurate. In terms of acceptability, 33% is acceptable, 47% is less acceptable, and 20% is not acceptable. In terms of readability, 36% is readable, 44% is less readable, and 20% is readable. In addition, there are some distortions of meaning such as omission, addition, and mistranslation. The recommended version of each discrepancy that has been discussed in the analysis. A further review, and improvement of the translation, is highly recommended to be conducted by the SPM Congregation.

Keywords: translation, quality, SPM congregation, constitution, content analysis.

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