



TAMBAPANNI ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS

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A GUIDE TO TRANSLATIONS

At present, Tambapanni Academic Publishers (TAP) focuses on translations from any language into the Sinhala language¹. TAP's mandate is to publish translations of academic and non-fiction works only.

1. WHAT INTERESTS US?

Our interest is to ensure that academic texts in the social sciences and humanities as well as non-fiction with a focus on Sri Lanka or those that can be of relevance in understanding social, cultural and political issues in Sri Lanka are published in Sinhala. If your objectives coincide with this core intention of TAP, we may have an interest in publishing your translation. If you need clarifications, please write to: info@tambapannipublishers.lk

2. WHAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER

People engage in translations for different reasons. Passion can be one of them. But if you are keen to see your translation in print, as a publisher we would ask the following questions that go beyond personal passion:

- What kind of knowledge would your translation bring into the local context? Is that knowledge not available at present?
- Is there another version of the translation you have done? If so, why would TAP want to publish your version?
- What gaps in knowledge would your translation fill?
- Is your translation the best text that can address the gaps in knowledge it seeks to address in the local context? Why?
- Would your translation be of specific use for courses in universities? Which courses?

Be as objective as possible in your answers to these questions. They will help you think clearly in selecting a specific text to translate and would also help us figure out if your translation would suite our mandate.

1. When TAP is ready to publish translations into Tamil, this information will be available at its website.

3. SKILLS YOU SHOULD HAVE

Translation is a carefully nurtured skill. If you are keen to publish your translation with TAP, you should be sure that you have the required language skills in both languages: the language from which the text is translated from and in Sinhala.

4. LOGISTICS OF STYLE

In so far as TAP is concerned, the translations it opts to publish should be lucid in style and easy to comprehend. This is because we value the pedagogic potential of translations. The process of translation in Sri Lanka constantly faces major challenges due to the relative non-establishment of the field of translation as a serious enterprise and the relative unavailability of reliable and updated glossaries. However, we suggest that the following tools can be consulted by you as you engage in your translation to ensure there is a degree of consistency in the terminology used:

- Glossaries in social sciences, humanities and sciences published by the Department of Educational Publications
- Glossaries published by the Department of Official Languages
- *Patitha English – Sinhala, Sinhala – English Glossary* (2006) - <http://www.patitha.lk/glossary/>
- *Malalasekera English Sinhala Dictionary*
- Madura English Sinhala Online Dictionary - <https://www.maduraonline.com/>
- *English Sinhala Dictionary*, 1st and 2nd Volumes compiled by Sucharitha Gamlath

Before you embark upon a translation, please ensure you have formal permission from the original copyright holder[s] to translate the work and to publish it. TAP will need this document prior to signing a contract with you and prior to publishing. Please refer to TAP's *Style Guide* for information on referencing and basic stylistic conventions, as this will help you work within conventions TAP follows.