

## **Translation and Existence**

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In this presentation, we examine the relationship between translation and human existence, more precisely, “human existence as translation,” by following such thinkers as M. Heidegger, J. Lacan, and G. Agamben.

As famously known, R. Jakobson, basing on C. S. Peirce’s theory of semiosis, determines the translation in broader sense. According to him, the meaning of a sign is nothing but a translation of that sign to other alternative signs. This insight into the translation enables us to consider that the world appears as a kind of translation. Adopting Heidegger’s phenomenological theory of the world, human and language, we explore the relationship between this “world as translation” and human being.

In the course of exploration, we have to deal with a kind of metaphysics of translation. In other words, we speculate on the dynamic moment and its internal structure of the origin of translation. By referring to the investigations into infancy by Lacan and Agamben, we try to explain the origin of translation as language acquisition which is not a chronological but transcendental and logical moment. Agamben’s view on the denotation and the shifter makes it possible to consider human being as translation.

We can draw out from above the perspective that it is through translating himself that human being is born into the world as translation. Then we relate this conception to D. Davidson’s radical interpretation theory and the principle of charity, in order to demonstrate that the translation of the self and the world is grounded on the gamble of interpretation.