



## **Media under Control, Ideologies under Control**

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### **Abstract**

This paper is an attempt to show how cultural and political institutions construct and direct the ideologies of different communities, a condition dramatically observed in the translational policies in Iran.

In this situation a myriad of external constraints, that is, cultural, religious, and political, lead to rewriting or manipulation of various cultural imports, mainly foreign novels, a practice which is the repercussion of the government's censorship policies adopted by the conservative clerics who hold sway in the Iranian media and warnings about the "corrupt" western influence. Hence, they bend themselves over backwards to create barriers against western influence by eliminating the supposedly morally contaminating elements of the foreign cultures. This way they want to postpone Iran's assimilation into a global culture, and to "immunize" the Iranian people against the unhealthy western culture by the backlash of censorship and control of the content of the books and other cultural imports. In the same line of activities, the conservatives now specify political and religious norms which must be followed in translational activities. This is an effective means for creating and naturalizing ideologies. This paper seeks to delineate the constraints imposed on translators of foreign movies and novels in the context of Iran.