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Re-inventing the Circle: Translating, Adapting, and Constructing Lingkaran Kapur

This paper will deal with the process of translating a western classic into Bahasa and fitting it into a Malaysia context while at the same time endeavouring to maintain the central message of the play without too much emphasis on the political aspects. In addition to respecting the original form and narrative, it was necessary to ensure that the characters could find Bahasa voices and that their action and objectives made sense to the actors and local audiences who before this were unfamiliar with the play and the unique production style demanded by it.

The overall goal was to re-invent something personal and Malaysian rather than imposing another western play with all of its western references and techniques.