Book Review

Papers in Arabic/English Translation Studies 1: An Applied Perspective

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Reviewer: Dr. Ahmad Al-Harabsheh, Yarmouk University, Translation Dept.

The Papers in Arabic/English Translation Studies is a practical and useful guide for beginner translators, professional translators and researchers specialized in translation, because it is a handbook that tackles the theoretical and practical perspectives of translation in Arabic/English translation. The articles of the book are written by different popular researchers, who have wide experience in the theoretical and practical aspects of translation. Prof. Farghal is a well-known linguist who specialized in pragmatics and translation studies. He wrote many papers about the pedagogy of translation and the challenges encountered by translators in rendering different types of texts. He has a long experience in teaching linguistics and translation courses at Yarmouk University and Kuwait university.

The aim of this excellent collaborative book as mentioned by the authors is "to bring together and update some scattered material in one volume, which is hoped to inaugurate a series of other volumes in a scantily researched area. This will definitely serve students, researchers, and practitioners who usually experience difficulty in locating academic papers dealing with Arabic/English TS". Therefore, this book can be a beneficial resource for researchers in addressing similar issues in translation from Arabic into English and vice versa. Another significant aim of this book is to engage translators in "translational argumentation", as the solutions suggested for the challenges are not final,
so the researcher can conduct other research papers to expand, to refute, or to find new solutions and strategies to overcome the challenges that translators encounter when translating different genres of discourse.

This book consists of 15 chapters about different topics of translation such as equivalence, linguistics, coherence, religious translation, literary translation, legal translation, scientific translation, pragmatic issues such as politeness and discourse markers, syntactic issues such as passive, semantic issues such as collocations, machine translation and journalistic translation. It tackles many of the challenges that translators encounter when translating such texts from a SL into TL and the possible solutions to overcome such challenges. The topics discussed in this book are: basic issues in translation, the linguistics of translation, the translation of English passives into Arabic, translating modals by Zero equivalence, semantic and syntactic hurdles in machine translation and student translation, translation miscues: poetry as an example, audience awareness and role of translator, reader responses in Quran translation, coherence shift in Quran Translation, pragmalinguistic failure: The case of Arabic politeness formulas, Media translation: the case of Arabic Newsweek, Collocations; and index of L2 interlingual transfer competence, Explicitation vs. implicitation: Discourse markers as an example, Lexical reduction in scientific translation, Major problems in students' translations of English legal texts into Arabic.

In short, the book is valuable guide for any researcher in the field of translation. One of the impressing issues in this book is the variety of texts the book tackles, the logical and interesting methods used by the authors in analyzing the data, and in suggesting plausible solutions for the challenges that translators encounter when translating such texts from Arabic into English. I recommend this book as a manual tool for all those who interested in theoretical and practical translation, as it provides very rich data and discussions. Also, the authors evaluate the merits and demerits of each translation strategy and they reflect their experiences on these strategies to improve the practices of Arabic/English translation.

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