

تحليل مقارن لعرض واستقبال رواية "مزرعة الحيوان" للكاتب جورج أورويل في المجتمعات الإنجليزية والعربية

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Comparative Analysis of the Presentation and the Reception of George Orwell's "Animal Farm" in English and Arabic Societies

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الملخص باللغة العربية :

الغرض الرئيسي من هذه الورقة هو النظر في استخدام الكلمات وبعض العبارات في اللغة العربية . في الواقع إلى العديد من بنود الترجمات إلى الخصائص الثقافي للأمم . وبالنظر الى هذه الحقيقة يحاول المترجمون عادة قياس موقف الناس من كلمات وجمل محددة . ثم إعداد هذه الورقة بهدف النظر في الاستراتيجيات التي يستخدمها الي نسختها العربية مزرعة الحيوان

Abstract

This paper's primary goal is to examine how words and phrases are used differently in Arabic and English. In actuality, a number of the translations make reference to the national cultural quirks. Because of this, translators typically try to gauge how people feel about particular words and sentences. The purpose of this paper is to examine the methods translators employed to translate English terms from George Orwell's book "Animal Farm" into the Arabic translation, " Mazraat (Farm) Al-haywan (Animal)."

“Animal Farm” George Orwell

1. Introduction:

The writers are regularly prosecuted for their desire to reflect reality in their texts. In 1946 George Orwell published his work “An Animal Farm”. This book became a controversial piece of art due to the fact that the author

widely criticized fundamentals of that society. In fact, this book still raises concerns in the modern community as to the right acceptance of this work. The classic novels are usually translated into native language of the countries where this book will be distributed. In fact, it is rather hard to bring same idea of the book to the readers in the countries with different cultural backgrounds and peculiarities. However, the translators refer to several techniques in order to succeed in this dimension. This paper aims to consider the phenomenon of idioms, phrases and pictures that are applied in translating of the book “Animal Farm” George Orwell into Arabic version “مزرعة الحيوانات” Mazraat (Farm) Al-haywan (Animal).

In the “Animal Farm”, the author referred to several inventory techniques in order to compare representatives of the communism with actual animals. These techniques were measured in the relevant manner by the translators with preparing of the Arabic version. Besides, it should be noted that the translation of the English version of the book into the other versions grounds on the ability of the translators to consider peculiarities of the nation. In this respect, it is highly important to note about acceptance of this book in the Arabic community. Despite the fact that communism is left behind in the advanced economies, the findings of this book are relevant in the least developed communities and emerging markets as China, the Middle East countries. In the second half of the twentieth century, this book was banned in the Middle East states as reflection of the censorship policy. According to the state officials, limitation of the access to this book was a justified mean of protection of Islamic values. The book contains images and text that goes in contradiction with Islamic values. With that, it should be noted that Vietnam decided to limit access to this book because of the depiction of the communism. In turn, Kenya limited distribution of this writing because of the vast criticism of the political power of the countries. One may consider that “Animal Farm” is limited in Arab countries because of communist ideas. However, the pure desire of the state bodies of these countries to limit reading of this book was linked to the fact that pigs should not talk in accordance to Islamic values. Hence, the decision of the state bodies was to prevent publication of this book. Besides, it should be noted that meaning of this book, its findings are revisited by modern people in the Middle East countries. In

this respect, this paper observes differences in the acceptance and recognition of "Animal Farm" in English community and in the Arab world.

2. Evaluation of the Translations

2.1. General Information of Translation Techniques

Several experts stand to the position that "Animal Farm" of Orwell gives rise to the radical views of Muslims as well as creates ground for implementation of the moderation views in the Arab community. However, it is hard to agree with this statement since the early beginning as the original text and target text should be compared. According to the position of the scholars, translation implies transferring of the meaning of the original text into the target one in the manner in which the writer intends certain text to be accepted. Any language has own culture and linguistic concept that this different from other language. In this respect, the translators have to rely on the socio-cultural disparities when considering original text.

2.2. Evaluation of Systems of Designificate Tendencies

The product of any translator should be evaluated form the position of the semiotics of the process as translation. This interpretation of the text is made through the usage of *Systematics of Designificate Tendencies*. This theoretical approach implies evaluation of the performance of the translators in transferring signs and ideas of the original text into the target language. In this respect, one should understand that the Arabic version of the book "Animal Farm" should contain respective images and signs, characters that will reflect the main ideas of the writer and be acceptable by people of the Middle East. The *Systematics of Designificate Tendencies* provides an objective basis of the evaluation of the translation that may be quite subjective in essence. In addition, *Systematics of Designificate Tendencies* grounds on several translator tendencies that are developed from simple signs that are not present in the source text. Moreover, the translators may follow some tendencies that confer implicit meaning of the text in the original version for the resolution of the ambiguous essence of the text.

In order to measure the difference in the acceptance of "Animal Farm" in English society and Arab countries, it is highly important to provide sociological interpretation of this book. In the first chapter, the author

describes divided society where farmer takes advantages of the exploitation of the animals in pursuit of own objectives. This farm represents actual example of the class theory of Karl Marx in the reality. According to the merits of this theory, any society is divided into several classes. One class receives profit from the ordinary activity of the members of the other group. In this respect, it should be noted that the countries in the Middle East were fighting for the establishment of the independent and democratic institutions since the beginning of the twenty-first century. In fact, some countries succeeded in this process, while the others completely failed. In the meantime, it is high time to talk about the relevance of “Animal Farm” in the contemporary community. In particular, “Animal Farm” is used by some political experts as mere description of the attempts of the Arab people to achieve their objectives. “Animal Farm” contains evidences of constant changes in the evolution of the community. The novel represents certain type of fairy tale that is also unattainable for the people of the Arab countries. The acceptance of this book by people in the Middle East is discussed by the scholars because of the plot of the story. This implies that the book presents the situation where animals opts out to revolt against the Man. This man holds the position of the tyrannical master. However, the animals can not stand to the continuous cruelty against them. Given this fact, they decide to accept invitation of the Old Major and attend his meeting about future revolt.

2.3. Examples of Designificative Tendencies

In order to measure performance of the translator in preparation of the Arabic version of the “Animal Farm” from its source text, the systematics of designificative tendencies should be considered. These tendencies are the following:

1. *Over – interpretation of the meaning*: preparation of extensive interpretation and comment on the essence of the source text with presentation of the explicit meaning of some phrases in the target text.
2. *Darkening of the meaning*
3. *Under-interpretation of the meaning*
4. *Sliding of the meaning*
5. *Alteration of the meaning*
6. *Opposition of the meaning*

7. *Perversion of the Meaning*
8. *Destruction of the Meaning*
9. *Wiping out of the meaning* (Kazar, 2017).

2.4. Examples of the Systematics of Designificcate Tendencies in English and Arabian version

The book was partially distributed within the territory of the Middle East. In this respect, it should be noted that the decision of the translators to rely on specific *Systematics of Designificcate Tendencies* was affected with Arabic cultural patterns. The table 1 below contains overview of the words that were used by the translators so to save the meaning of the original words.

Table 1. Comparison of Arabic and English words in “Animal Farm” editions

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| /hæyez-centefa'/ | / sudmændi/ | Of benefit |
| /mæ' zalek | /ba in vojud/ | However |
| /moštæræk -ol- mænafe'/ | / daray-e sudeyeksan/ | Of common interests |
| /estemæ' soxænrani/ | / gušdadæn be soxæn/ | Listening to speech |
| /hajætinist/ | / niyazinist/ | No need |
| /qanun-e la yætægæyær/ | / qanun-e tægïmapæzir/ | Hard & fast rule |
| /tæht-etæwæjohat/ | / næzær be lotf- e/ | With kind help of |
| Arabic words in translation | Persian suggested | English |

(Abedi, 2017)

In addition to the abovementioned paper, it is clear that the most common tendencies that are used by the translators of the Arabic version are referred to the use of idioms. In order to include proper meaning of the idiom from the source text into the target one, the translators rely on the following techniques:

- Interpretation of the translation;
- Instant correction of the mistakes;
- Postponing of the correction of the errors.

In this respect, it should be noted that all examples of the text as Arabic version are made from the translation that was made by the Egyptian translator Sabri al-Fadhil, and reviewed by Mukhtar al-Swayfi. Both books contain ten chapters and are correlated. With that, it is clear that the author of the target text relies on several *Systematics of Designificate Tendencies* in order to produce relevant translation. For example, the following paragraph is the example of this use:

Sooner or later

- Source text

Sooner or later justice will be done. - Target text

. آج أو عاج عررامك إنذاح أ

Transliteration

Inna al-Adala satatahaqaq ajilan (sooner) am (or) „ajilan (later). Back translation

That justice will be achieved sooner or later.

(Lafta, 2017)

The plot of “Animal Farm” completely resembles events of the Arab Spring. One may agree that his novel attracted the attention of the working people in the Middle East. In fact, the followers of the Arab spring expressed an idea that they were strictly oppressed. These people could not bear existing injustice in the community where one group of people rules at the expense of the others. The actual flow of the events during the Arab Spring have several commonalties with the plot of “Animal Farm”. It is possible to draw the line between the causes of revolution in the Middle East and in the novel. Moreover, it is possible to state that George Orwell successfully prophesied

the development of the Arab Spring. The main character of the book as Old Major may be compared with the Tunisian leader Mohamed Bouazizi. These two figures clearly understood feelings of oppressed characters and had power to spark revolution in the right dimension. Moreover, they managed to deliver appropriate messages to the working classes in order to convene their capabilities and change state of affairs. Hence, the recognition of this book in the Arab community should be considered in view of the events occurring after its distribution within the territories of the Arab countries.

Apart from the effect of the book on the development of the revolution in the Arab countries, it is necessary to point out that it was regularly forbidden in more than 100 countries. In 2012 the United Arab Emirates, the government decided to limit access of people to this book due to contradiction with Islamic values. In addition, the same decision was made by the state bodies of the United Kingdom after the events of the WWII. The mere ground of such limitation in the United Kingdom was supported with the idea that the book may produce certain provocation to the USSR allies. However, the book was not forbidden in full. The printers were not allowed to publish it, while some people still had an opportunity to find and read this book. In this respect, it is not clear enough as to the reasons of such extensive limitation by different countries. Some experts believe that this decision is based on the fact that the messages of the author are not understood correctly. The people attempt to follow behaviour of the other subjects of the international relations and take same approach to this book. Besides, the analysis of the opinions of different people about the plot of the book shows that most of them are not aware of the messages at all.

In the Islamic countries, "Animal Farm" is still banned. From one side, this attitude of the people is related to the rough emphasis on pigs. However, this reason is not a proper justification to the limitation of the access to the books. The state bodies of these countries recognize the messages that are brought by the author. Hence, the leaders of the countries of the Arab states were afraid of uncontrolled distribution and availability of this book to the working classes. In particular, in 2002 this novel was completely banned in the education facilities of the United Arab Emirates. The state bodies explained this decision with unacceptable pictures and text in relation to the

Islamic and Arab values. Given this fact, one may consider that the state bodies were afraid with possible revolutions. These assumptions were shared among all Arab countries.

The attitude of people of the United Kingdom and Arab countries to “Animal Farm” is completely different. In fact, George Orwell wrote this book during the WWII. In this respect, the state bodies of the United Kingdom were afraid that such criticism of communism on behalf of the writers could damage the strengths of the Soviet Union during the war. Moreover, the government of the United Kingdom was reassured that unlimited distribution of this book within the territory of the country and other states of European region would affect intention of the allies of the Soviet Union to continue cooperation with this country. Besides, the position of the publishers did not change after the end of the WWII. They explained that further publication of this book could lead to extensive controversy in the foreign policy of the United Kingdom and other countries with Soviet Union. Some scholars justified this approach of the publishers as desire to avoid confrontation with Stalin and Soviet Union as the whole. Consequently, the Ministry of Information strictly observed the actions of the publishers and entered discussions with them in order to limit any intention to introduce this book (Traboulsi, 2017).

2.5. Translator Decisions When Transferring Source Text Into Target Text

Following above listed observations, it should be noted that the Arab countries are now engaged in the “Animal Farm” syndrome. In fact, the most countries of Arab world recognize the importance of the introduction of the democratic values in order to support its status in the international arena. The state bodies of these countries accept that the recognition of the country may be with provision of equal rights and opportunities for all people in the Arab countries. Hence, local residents follow the plot of the story in “Animal Farm” and continue their fight. In the meantime, it is possible to agree that several achievements were made by the revolutionary groups of the Arab countries. Despite the fact that the outcomes of the Arab Spring are treated with huge controversy, it brought more benefits than damages. The Arab countries started their path to the transformation in support of the democratic values

and ideas. In fact, the book is still banned in the United Arab Emirates. However, this fact may not curb the desire of the Arab people to be recognized. The ongoing developments in the legislation of these countries, provision of equal opportunities to females, introduction of Western concepts in the regulatory environment only reaffirm the realization of "Animal Farm" ideas. The Arab countries are full of working people. Although, these people are humans that should be respected and appreciated in the same manner as the leading groups in these countries.

2.6. Cultural Elements in Translation

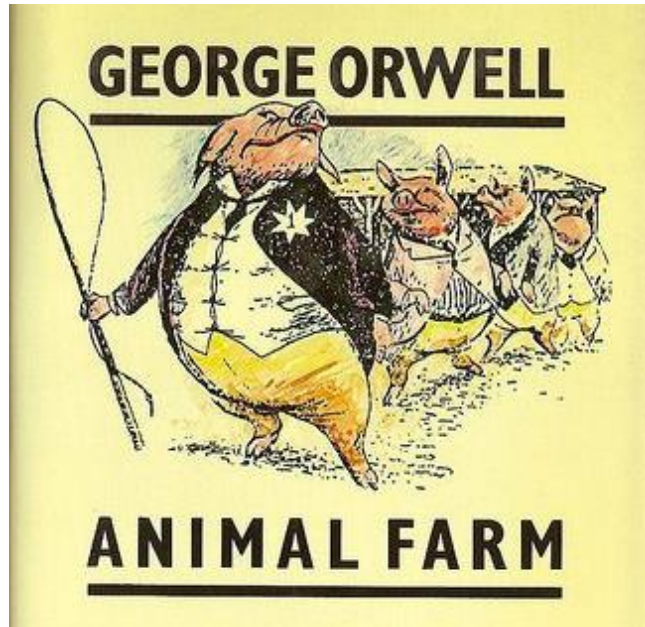
"Animal Farm" novel is timeless in nature. In this respect, one should agree that the cultural patterns of the book should be transferred from one book to the other. By virtue of this technique, the translators will approach targeted group of readers in the right manner. It contains analysis of the patterns of the behaviour of different social groups that are relevant from time to time. There is still no ideal political structure in the world as the advanced and poor economies are approaching to it. The issues of inequality will always exist until the leading class put itself above the other social categories. Given the fact that the power looks like specific form of poison that attracts leading groups of people in different communities. With that, the limitation of the access of people in several countries of the Arab world shows that there is an existence of deliberate censorship policy. The state bodies of these countries intend to take control over the ideas and thinking of people in order to produce suitable politics. Given the fact that these countries rely on religious values and Islamic rules, it is reasonable that the censorship of art products exists.

In view of the censorship policy, one may take into account the situation with limitation of George Orwell book in Iraq. The censorship policy in this country was introduced on behalf of the leaders of the authoritarian regime Saddam Hussein. The followers of this leading troop were looking for appraisal of local literary objects where authoritarian regime is respected and promoted. The followers of Ba'ath Party observed compliance with the censorship policy in prevention of any English books about democratic values. In addition, the state bodies of Iraq decided to limit access to this book because of the fact that it depicted activity of the "Big Brother" authority. The ideology of the ultimate dictator could change the attitude of local people to

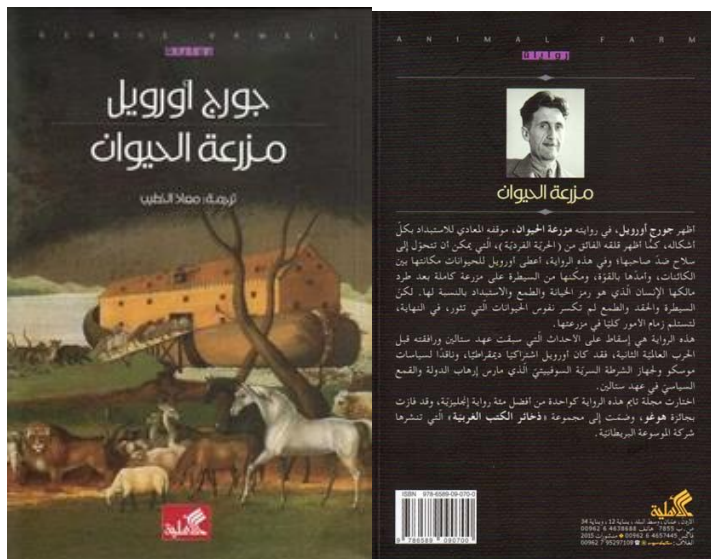
the governance of Ba'ath Party. However, this limitation was removed after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Besides, this assumption was not an only reason of such ban in Iraq. The experts considered that Orwell predicted development of new social phenomenon in the world. Although, the author of the book pursued the objective to show that any dictatorship regime would not last forever. Any dictator will lose his power in the society as all means of control will be exhausted (Yehia 42).

This position of the Arab countries partially corresponds to the ideas of the state bodies in the United Kingdom. The British government understood that distribution of the ideas about the devastating effects of the authoritarian regime could give rise to additional disruption in the countries of the developing world. However, Europe and the USSR could not afford themselves to facilitate new revolt after the events of the WWII. At the same time, it is clear that George Orwell attempted to destroy positive image around the Soviet Union in the Western countries. Some people stood to the idea that the living in the Soviet Union was better than in the Western countries or Arab world. Furthermore, reading of this book may clarified understanding of the roots of the totalitarian regime in the Arab countries. For example, Saddam Hussein took experience of the oppressive methods of Stalin in order to exercise pressure over people. This method was not allowed according to the principles of the humanitarian legislation and mere legal framework of the human rights. In this case, the status of the Soviet Union could be damaged. The author of the book shared an idea that the pigs and human beings were involved in the same bloody nature. This fact was not acceptable for the leadership of the Arab countries so that this book was limited (Yehia 48).

In Figure 1 below, it is possible to observe while the image of the pigs was considered as disregardful by the people of the Arabian countries.



In order to avoid damage to the feelings and emotions of the people of the Arab countries, the writers developed the following coverage of the Arabic version. They look as follows:



These pigs were considered by the people of the Arab countries as symbolism of power. However, the local state bodies understood the fact that distribution of Orwell's ideas about powerful group would undermine stability in the region. In this respect, this book is still partially available in the Arab countries. Despite the fact that the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and others made significant achievements in the provision of equal opportunities for different people, there are some concerns that the ideas of this book will challenge the operation of the political regimes in the Arab world. However, in the Arabic version of the book, we may see that the harmful images are removed. Besides, the essence of the title is preserved and reflected by the translator.

Conclusion:

The main purpose of this paper is to consider differences in the usage of words and some phrases in English and Arabic language. In fact, several items of the translations are referred to the cultural peculiarities of the nations. Given this fact, the translators usually attempt to measure attitude of people to specific words and sentences. This paper was prepared with the objective to consider strategies that are used by the translators in transferring of the English words from the book "Animal Farm" George Orwell into its Arabic version "إنّأ يضسح" Mazraat (Farm) Al-haywan (Animal).

Despite overwhelming availability of the literary techniques, the paper is focused preferably at the use of idioms, collocations in both languages. The analysis of more than 30 phrases shows that the most effective strategy for transferring of the meaning of the words is achieved with the help of paraphrase theory. In addition, this fact confirms that the translators succeeded to bring same meaning and form into the Arabic version. Moreover, it is clear that the people of the Middle East countries are able to get the essence of the book. Besides, it should be noted that the list of forbidden literary works is regularly added with some new items. However, one object remains in this list for the long – lasting period while the geographical location of the distribution of this book changes. This book was written by George Orwell. It is titled "Animal Farm" and represents extensive criticism of the socialism and communism. The author of this book perfectly described the essence of the power of one group in limitation of th basic rights

of the others. This book is differently accepted by several communities. In fact, this book was limited for publication in the United Kingdom because of the concerns of the state bodies of the country that the foreign politics may suffer. The United Kingdom was a loyal partner of the Soviet Union during the WWII. In this respect, the state bodies limited publication of this book and saved status of the USSR against possible negative attitude of the British people and other citizens of the European Union. The situation in the United Kingdom has changed and the book is available for reading today. Besides, the experience of the British government in the limitation of this book within the twentieth century reflected overall attitude of the people of that century.

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