TRANSLATION OF ENGLISH NEWS HEADLINES INTO ARABIC

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ترجمة عناوين الأخبار الإنجليزية إلى العربية

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قسم تقنيات الحاسوب، المعهد العالي للتقنيات الهندسية، بني وليد ، ليبيا

Abstract

The study examines the functional theory of translation to see how translators could use the skopos theory in translating political texts. It highlights the mistranslations and the translation problems caused by cultural, political and linguistic differences. It attempts to provide some appropriate renditions for some political expressions. Furthermore, the study refers to the strategies used by translators in dealing with these expressions. This study concentrates on one of them – translating political language. The study is based on the Arabic translation of English texts concern of news headlines. The main statement encountered in the translation of this text is; what is the translation supposed to achieve in this particular case? and how does the skopos theory fit in translating political language?

Keywords: equivalence, functional theory, loyalty, newspaper headlines, political language, skopos theory.

الملخــص:

تختبر هذه الدراسة النظرية الوظيفية للترجمة، لمعرفة مدى إمكانية استعمالها من قبل المترجمين لترجمة اللغة السياسية، وهذه الدراسة تسلط الضوء على سوء الترجمة والصعوبات التي قد تواجه المترجمين بسبب الاختلافات اللغوية، السياسية والثقافية بين اللغة الام للنص واللغة الهدف، لذلك تعرض هذه الدراسة بعض الترجمات لتعابير سياسية واستراتيجية ترجمتها المعتمدة من قبل المترجمين، التركيز كان على احدى هذه الاستراتيجيات وهي ترجمة اللغة السياسية اثناء الترجمة العربية لعناوين اخبار باللغة الإنجليزية، لمتابعة نجاح المترجم في تحقيق اهداف النص الأصلي.

الكلمات الدالة: المرادف، النظرية الوظائفية، الالتزام، عناوين الصحف، اللغة السياسية.

INTRODUCTION

The issue of equivalence was a prominent point of discussion during the 1960s and 1970s in Translation Studies history. The topic of equivalence Scholars grappled with questions such as how to achieve equivalence and how a translator could execute a meticulously planned, and direct translation. [1] The concept of equivalence was dealt with in the writings of Roman Jakobson, Eugene A. Nida, John C. Catford, Jean-Paul Vinay, and Jean Darbelnet. Throughout that period, various notions of equivalence emerged, including formal and dynamic equivalence, and the introduction of the idea of shifts, among others, within the domain of translation theories.

Building upon these foundational contributions, German scholar Katharina Reiss (1978) introduced the concept of "functional equivalence," taking the notion of equivalence a step further. She delved into analyzing the relationship between the function of the original text and that of the translation, acknowledging that the functions were not always identical and that equivalence was not always the ultimate goal.

In Reiss' work (1984), translation is depicted either as a form of written communication or as a facet of human behavior embodying qualities related to human actions. Within this framework, it becomes evident that the translation process holds significant importance for Reiss in her translation approach. Her colleague, Hans J. Vermeer (1989), continued this perspective in the late 1970s and 1980s. Through his collaboration with Reiss and his independent research, Vermeer established one of the most influential theories in translation studies—the Skopos theory.

1 .1 Aims of the study

This research has the following objectives:

- to identify the functionalist school through carrying out a comparison between formal correspondence and functional equivalence.
- to demonstrate the values of using functional approaches in achieving the appropriate translation.
- to attempt to shed some light on the Skopos theory and on the crucial role it can play in translating political language.

1.2 Statement of the problem

There is a need for translation from English into Arabic and vice versa. Translation from English into Arabic is a major challenge, especially when translating political texts, because of their sensitivity. That is why many strategies and theories are adopted to translate them. Political texts are very often subject to translation, this paper discusses translating political texts and their syntactic structures. It also maintains that the most problems in the translations are due to the use of literal translation that does not consider political, cultural and religious differences. The questions that have to be asked are: What is the translation supposed to achieve? and how does the Skopos Theory fit in translating political language?

1.3 Limitation of the study

The present study is limited to investigate the theoretical and practical aspects of the difficulties involved in the process of English Arabic translation; the theoretical aspect clarifies the Skopos theory, while the practical one tackles some specimens of newspaper and agencies.

The data of the study consists of various texts extracted from media sources such as newspapers and news agencies headlines.

2. SKOPOS THEORY

2. 1 Definition

In 1978, Hans Vermeer published an article entitled 'A General Framework Theory of Translation', which marked the beginning of a new approach to translation studies and later became known as "Functionalism". Functionalist approaches turn attention away from the ST and focus on the purpose of communication. Schaffner [2] notes that: translation, like any other human action, is driven by a purpose, with the Greek term "Skopos" denoting the specific

objective of a translation. Defining the Skopos is a prerequisite before beginning the translation process. By highlighting the Skopos, this theory adopts a forward-looking perspective on translation, contrasting with theories that concentrate on rules derived from the source text, which often take a retrospective stance. Vermeer's ideas became widely known as the Skopos Theory. "Skopos is the Greek word for 'aim' or 'purpose' and was introduced in translation theory in the 1970s by Vermeer as a technical term for the purpose of a translation and of the action of translating" [3].

Other scholars who worked on this theory included K. Reiss, M. Ammann, H. Honig, P. Kussmaul, Christiane Nord and Heidrun Witte. Vermeer (1978) introduced the main framework of his general translation theory to be further developed later by him and other collaborators in subsequent publications. His basic thesis for translation is that "transfer of the parts of speech is only partial transfer", ..."all translation have to do with transfer into different cultural structures" [4]. Schaffner [2] summarized the general significance of the functionalist view briefly, when she says that: the main point of this functional approach lies in recognizing that the translation process is not driven by the source text itself, its impact on the original audience, or the author's intended function, as proposed by equivalence-based translation theories. Consequently, the Skopos is heavily influenced by the target text user (reader/listener) and their circumstances and cultural background.

Reiss and Vermeer [5] put it radically: the ST is no longer the norm. The Skopos of the TT is by definition different from the Skopos of the ST. Contrary to the more traditional - the source text is sacred, which derives from literary translation, Vermeer in his skopos theory, argues that the TT has to be established according to the purpose, function or Skopos which it is intended to fulfill. Functional approaches aim to diminish the importance of the ST itself, emphasizing the translator's role as a creator of the TT and prioritizing the intended purpose (Skopos) of the translated text. Functionalism represents a significant departure from linguistic equivalence towards functional appropriateness. Translation is viewed as a communicative act through the lens of the functional approach to translation, particularly influenced by Holz-Manttari's (1984) theory of 'translational action,'. In this perspective, translation is primarily seen as a process of intercultural communication, culminating in a text that can effectively function in specific situations and contexts of use.[6]

Vermeer [4] proposed that translation theory comprises a linguistic aspect and, more broadly, a cultural dimension. Consequently, translation is seen as a subset of 'intercultural communication,' which itself falls under the umbrella of applied linguistics. Vermeer critiqued contemporary linguistic translation theories for neglecting the cultural element in translation. While acknowledging that 'intercultural communication' remains within the domain of applied linguistics, Vermeer departed from the prevailing linguistic paradigm. He recognized that the traditional view of an equivalence relationship between the source language text (SLT) and the target language text (TLT) needed to shift towards a new paradigm that highlights the cultural dimension of translational transfer.

2. 2 The rules of Skopos theory

Reiss and Vermeer [5] summarize the fundamental principles of the Skopos Theory as follows: rule '1' encapsulates the core concept of the Skopos Theory, while rule '2' establishes a

connection between the source text (ST) and target text (TT) based on their functions within their respective linguistic environments. The essence of the Skopos Theory asserts that translations should always be approached from the perspective of the target culture (TC) rather than the source culture (SC). This implies that translations are tailored for the members of the TC, not those of the SC. Rule '2' emphasizes that the TT provides information concerning the information conveyed by the ST, or as expressed by Nord [7], "the translator presents information on specific aspects of the ST-in-situation, in accordance with the TT Skopos determined by the initiator." While the ST may serve multiple functions, it is the translator who selects a function, which may diverge from that of the ST.

Rule '3' indicates that the TT's function is not necessarily the same as the ST's function. Since the TT is oriented towards the TC. It can depart from the ST in regard to the goals which are set for it. It is not obligatory that the Skopos of the TT be the same as the ST's Skopos. If it is, there is "a certain sense of fidelity between the texts, but the demand for fidelity is always subordinate to the skopos" [8], as the rules of the Skopos Theory indicate.

The coherence rule '4' states that the TT "must be interpretable as coherent with the TT receiver's situation" [5]. The fidelity rule '5' simply states that there must be coherence between the TT and the ST, that is, between the ST information received by the translator, the interpretation the translator makes of this information, and the information that is sent for the TT receivers. Vermeer asserts [9] the Skopos Theory does not prescribe a specific guiding principle for translation; it simply asserts the necessity of adhering to some guiding principle. Essentially, while the target text (TT) is not required to mirror the function of the source text (ST), its function should still be rooted in some way in the ST.

2 .3 Loyalty

As a response to the arguments about the freedom given to the translator in the Skopos Theory, Nord [8] introduced the concept of loyalty, which limits the translator's choice of strategy and vocabulary to transform the intended message. Nord [10] distinguishes loyalty from faithfulness in translation. Faithfulness deals with the relationship between the SLT and the translation, while loyalty refers to the relationship between the translator and the various partners in the translation process. Nord [10] adds: "In this context, loyalty means that the target-text purpose should be compatible with the original author's intentions". The loyalty concept aims to limit the level of liberty given to the translator in rendering the message that the commissioner pays him for with sincerity and integrity. Nord [11] states that loyalty means:

The translator's accountability, highlighting the need to consider the norms and conventions of translation in both the source and target cultures that influence the expectations of the parties involved in the translational exchange regarding the relationship between the target text and the source text. Nord underscores that the translator is accountable to both the sender of the ST and the recipient of the TT, as readers anticipate translations to adhere to the ST, and the translator must take these expectations into account.

Vermeer also argues that the TT cannot be entirely detached from the ST. The connection between the product and the ST is termed intertextual coherence or fidelity, which hinges on both the translator's interpretation of the ST and the translation Skopos. Nord clarifies that translation involves: producing a functional target text that maintains a bond with a specific source text, as

stipulated by the intended or requested function of the target text [12]. Consequently, fidelity or loyalty necessitates the presence of intertextual coherence between the ST and TT.

Within the framework of the Skopos Theory, it is acknowledged that the translator holds expertise in translation rather than the initiator. A loyal translator must inform the commissioner if there are alterations in the cultural aspects of the ST. Essentially, the translation's skopos must align with the intentions of the ST author. If they diverge, it is the translator's responsibility to communicate this to the client and engage in a discussion about the optimal transformation strategy.

3 DATA ANALYSIS

3.1 Introduction

Focus would be on analyzing some English political texts and their Arabic translations in an attempt to illustrate the difficulties a translator would encounter in translating political texts from one language into another. The method used is a comparative descriptive analysis of some English national and international press and news agencies during several months. The ST headlines gathered from The New York Times, Haaretz the Associated Press and Reuters, while the TT headlines came from Alrayah, Alquds Al Arabi Alwatan and Aljazeera Channel.

The analysis addresses a number of other issues including most significantly the issue of how the rhetoric of news headlines in English differs from that in Arabic, and how political views of the source and target audience affect the function of press headlines. Furthermore, since syntactic investigation is not the focus of this study, literal translation was intentionally avoided.

The analysis will cover difficulties caused by issues related to political concepts accepted in one culture and rejected in another. It will be argued that the translation of political texts, especially headlines, is much more difficult than the translation of any other text type since political texts are controlled by an element, which is not present in any other text type, namely the element of sensitivity. These texts need special attention from the translator, who can deal with them.

Newspaper headlines reflect the writer's attitudes, beliefs and viewpoints or more generally, the values and assumptions of a social group or culture, or it may reflect the newspaper's policy. Ideologies embedded in news reports are challenging to translators, because ideologies and cultures of societies are different as will be shown in analyzing the headlines. What matters at the end of the day is that the final product which reaches the target readership is more important than fidelity to a ST.

Analysis will be carried out at the level of each expression separately. It will be based on various linguistic techniques as the numerical use or beginning the headline with active or passive agent..etc., in addition to drawing a discussion of the translation difficulties they present. Politics is one of the most interesting areas in critical discourse analysis. This may be the result of the nature of politics itself, in which there are no definite rules to govern the practices of the people engaged in this field. Although some politicians tend to assert that they have a foundation of principles to control their actions, others may argue that this does not seem to be always the case. The translation strategy was initially believed to be contingent upon the target audience, but later emphasis shifted to the communicative function or purpose of a translation, as in Vermeer's [13] Skopos Theory. The functional approach necessitates translators to craft a new text that

aligns with the cultural expectations of the target audience, in line with the intended skopos of the text.

The interplay between translation and politics is symbiotic, influencing decisions made by each other. Schaffner [6] conducts analyses on political texts, concluding that they are distinct as "sensitive texts," enriching the target language with new structures while potentially causing confusion or irritation among the target readership. While some perceive textual sensitivity as stemming from linguistic aspects, it predominantly revolves around cross-cultural communication issues. Translation problems typically arise from three main factors: textual function, treaty and contract requirements, and terminology and interpretation challenges, where ideological disparities may lead to varying understandings of political expressions.

An illustrative example of translation's impact on politics is seen in the differing interpretations of the 1967 UN Security Council Resolution 242 due to linguistic nuances in the English and French versions. Arabic translators have traditionally adhered closely to literal translations, prompting the UN General Assembly to address this issue, calling for a correction in the excessive focus on words rather than the essence of the original language in Arabic documentation. The original intentions of the message are lost, when the concepts are culture-specific and/or unfamiliar.

3.2 Analysis of some selected examples

Some expressions whose origins are religious or cultural are frequently used in the political language. Ideological features could be recognized in a text from the lexical choices.

Israel Calls for Changes to U.N. Jenin Camp Probe

(Reuters, April 23, 2002)

قوات الاحتلال ترتكب مجازر جماعية و تعرقل عملية تقصي حقائق مجازر جنين

(Alrayah, April 23, 2002)

BT: Occupying forces commit massacre and hinder tracing fact-finding of Jenin massacre

There is discrepancy between the two headlines primarily in the placement of the agent of each headline. Placing Israel as an active agent at the beginning of the headline and mentioning its calls for changes in the U.N. fact-finding mission investigation on the Jenin refugee camp is to emphasize Israel's right for such a call and highlights Israel's good intentions and its support to the United Nations investigation of the Palestinian allegations that Israel committed a massacre in the Jenin camp. Essentially, the ST writer's decision to portray Israel as the active subject calling for changes, rather than focusing on Israel's obstruction of the U.N. investigation into the Jenin incident, serves to downplay any negative portrayal of Israel's cooperation with the U.N. Security Council.

The source headline writer de-emphasizes Israeli negative cooperation by mentioning little of the Jenin camp events. Indeed, there is no reference to the Jenin massacre in the ST headline, and this reflects the ideology of the headline writer. In contrast, the Arabic press takes a divergent approach, emphasizing detailed information in the TT headline. The TT headline writer opts for the term 'occupying forces' instead of explicitly naming Israel. The deliberate use of 'occupying forces' in the primary TT headline is significant as it carries a negative connotation,

directly implicating Israel as the occupying entity. By forefronting a negative actor in the headline, the responsibility and culpability for the Jenin massacre are accentuated.

To sum up, when the translator replaces the ST headline agent 'Israel' with another identity 'occupying forces' he is actually sending a message to his/her target readers to the effect that 'what do you expect from occupying forces in our occupied territories'. It is clear that the TT headline highlights the Israeli aggression and vicious attack on Jenin and their violation of the United Nations resolutions.

15 Killed By Suicide Bomber in Israel
(The New York Times, May 8, 2002)
عملية استشهادية تحصد 15 إسرائيليا
(Alrayah, May 8, 2002)
BT: *Martyrdom operation cultivates 15 Israelis*

The ST writer puts '15 killed' at the beginning of the headline and that serves as the passive agent of the ST headline. The figure '15' represents the number of Israelis killed by a Palestinian 'suicide bomber'. The word 'Israel' at the end of the headline spots the light on the nationality of the victims represented by the leading figure'15'.

The translator in contrast, heads the TT with martyrdom '*amalya istishhadiya*', this expression has a powerful and positive connotation in Islam. This deliberate selection by the TT author aims to shape the perception and interpretation of the predominantly Muslim Arab target readers. This example's significance lies in its illustration of ideological, cultural, and religious influences. It is evident that the translator's purpose (Skopos) distinctly differs from that of the source author. Consequently, numerous alterations occur between the ST and TT as the Arab translator modifies the negative undertones of the original headline to align with the preferences of Arab readers in the Arabic press.

Politics serves as a platform reflecting ideologies and interests. This phenomenon is observable in today's political landscape, where numerous conflicts are framed under various dichotomies, such as East versus West, Islam versus non-Islam, US versus terrorism, and so forth.

West Bank Damages Put at $361 Million
(The New York Times, May 16, 2002)
361 مليون دولار خسائر العدوان الإسرائيلي
(Alrayah, May 16, 2002)
BT: *361 million dollar losses of the Israeli aggression*

In the headline above, the author reports the damages by using numerical information. The precise amount $ 361 million of estimated damage is listed in both the ST headline and TT headline, but there is a difference in the places of the numerical figure within the headlines. The ST headline writer opts for an unconventional approach by using a non-human entity and placing the monetary estimate at the end of the headline. This decision serves to obscure direct blame on Israel and subtly insinuates that Palestinians, as residents of the West Bank, may also bear some

responsibility for the damages. By placing 'West Bank' at the forefront and the figure at the end, the writer aims to deflect accountability for the damages in the West Bank.

Conversely, the Arabic translator places the numerical value '$361 million' at the beginning of the headline, indicating precision in the information presented and emphasizing the severity of Palestinian losses resulting from Israeli aggression. This strategic juxtaposition of the numerical figure with the phrase 'Israeli aggression' exemplifies a common rhetorical tactic that paints a negative portrayal of Israeli actions in Palestine, depicting Israel as the culpable party—a narrative that resonates with Arab readers. The differing ideologies of the ST and TT headlines are evident in their word choices: the former seeks to shield Israel from blame, while the latter endeavors to attribute responsibility to Israel. Therefore, the inclusion of the numerical figure '$361 million' in the TT headline conveys to readers the ongoing political reality—a landscape marked by persistent conflict, characterized by significant human and material losses.

U.S. Soldier Killed in a Firefight in Afghanistan

(AP, May 20, 2002)

مصرع جندي أميركي في معركة بشرق أفغانستان

(Aljazeera, May 20, 2002)

BT: The death of an American soldier in a battle in East Afghanistan

The ST headline writer presents the US soldier death simply as an ordinary event may occur frequently in the firefights. The translator chooses the noun *masra* instead of *mqtal* , the chosen noun means 'death of opponent who died in the battle ground' [14]. Linguistically, the term *masra* carries a negative undertone typically reserved for those involved in unjust wars. In fact, using such terms reveals the agency or the readership attitude towards the death of an American soldier. It is obvious, that the TT headline is evaluating the political conditions of the war in Afghanistan. The difference of the TT headline may be due to the different ideologies of the readership political concerns in both the ST and TT with respect to the Middle East conflict and US war against terror. According to the Skopos Theory, the difference of translating news reflects the goal of translation, that the translator should serve the interests of the target newspaper or agency audience.

Political expressions in language often carry cultural specificity or cultural roots. While some expressions are universal and can be transferred across cultures with relative ease, many others are intrinsically tied to a particular culture, making direct translation challenging without losing some of their nuanced meanings

 Suicide Bomb Hits Outside Tel Aviv, Killing 2 Israelis

(The New York Times, May 23, 2002)

عملية فدائية لشهداء الأقصى بتل أبيب

(Alquds Alarabi, May 23, 2002)

BT: Fedayeen operation for Al Aqsa Martyrs in Tel Aviv

The writer of the ST headline adopts negative modification techniques by using the noun phrase 'suicide bomber' instead of being more neutral by using phrase as Palestinian or militant. The author of source headline complies with the ideological ideals by emphasizing of the negative behavior of the Palestinians. By placing 'suicide bomber' at the forefront, the writer

accentuates this individual's full responsibility for the attack that resulted in the deaths of two Israelis near Tel Aviv.

Conversely, the translator of the target text (TT) headline extols the patriotic and noble nature of the fedayeen. By positioning the noun phrase 'amalya fedayh: fedayeen operation' at the beginning, the TT headline aims to evoke the heroic image of anti-Israeli Palestinians, both Muslim and Christian, who are prepared to make sacrifices for their homeland.

'Al Aqsa Martyrs' who are identified as the source of the suicide bombing in the ST headline and in the western media in general are positive signals in the translated headline for their important role in the fight against the occupiers. Clearly, the translator is aware of his readers' political orientation and has both distanced the TT headline from the negative connotation presenting the ST headline and praises the fedayeen action. The terms; suicide attacks and suicide bombings are translated in the Arabic media functionally as *amalyat fedayh* or *amalyat istishhadiya*' and not as *amalyat antehariya*. The concept of martyrdom ('shahadah') is regarded as an honorable act, distinct from the Western media's portrayal of 'suicide bombing.' Martyrs are seen as defenders of their beliefs, cause, and land, rather than individuals acting out of self-defense.

The distinction between deep structure and surface structure lies in the fact that the deep structure reflects the underlying semantic structure, while the surface structure represents the literal expression. Essentially, the deep structure conveys the pragmatic meaning deduced from the text, context, and overall situation, whereas the surface structure is the initial meaning derived at the semantic level without considering its metalinguistic or pragmatic implications.

18 Iraqis Hurt in Allied Airstrike

(AP, May 24, 2002)

العراق: غارات أمريكية بريطانية على أهداف مدنية تقتل 20 مدنيا

(Aljazeera, May 24, 2002)

BT: Iraq: Anglo-American air strikes on civilian targets kill 20 civilians

The ST headline starts with the figure 18 (the passive agent), followed by the main verb 'hurt' this fronting diminishes the direct accountability of regular allied air raids for the deaths of 18 Iraqis. In addition, the author is biased against the Iraqi victims by mentioning the figure 18 and ignoring the victims' identity, soldiers or civilians.

The translator of the TT headline, places 'Iraq' at the beginning of the headline to identify the location of the event. The importance of fronting '*gharat jawih amerikiah britaniah*: Anglo-American air strike' lies in emphasizing its responsibility for killing 20 Iraqi civilians. Ideologically speaking, the TT headline portrays Anglo-Americans as the allied aggressors who killed innocent civilians. Such airstrikes on civilian targets are often framed within a broader context of political offenses or aggressions, potentially leading to accusations of the deliberate targeting of civilians by the Anglo-American forces.

Israelis Consider New Limits on West Bank Palestinians

(The New York Times, May 24, 2002)

إسرائيل تبدأ تطبيق نظام الفصل العنصري بالضفة

(Alwatan, May 24, 2002)

BT: Israel starts implementing racial segregation system in the Bank

The above example clearly expresses the ideological and political differences between the ST author's principles and TT translator principles, as the source headline is fronted by the noun phrase 'new limits' while its Arabic functional equivalence used '*nidham almaiz alonsori*: racial segregation'. The term 'new limits' in the source headline succinctly encapsulates the situation in the West Bank, revealing the underlying ideology of the writer, who believes that imposing new boundaries in the West Bank is essential for Israeli security. The deliberate use of ambiguous language aims to engage readers and prompt them to delve deeper into the text to understand the implications of these 'new limits.'

In contrast, the TT translator displays less neutrality by translating 'new limits' as 'racial segregation,' elevating the significance of the TT headline by invoking connotations of discrimination and unjust treatment by the occupying forces. The original verb 'consider' is substituted with 'tabda tatbiq: start implementing,' conveying an evaluative standpoint that suggests the impending implementation of discriminatory actions. Consequently, the translator's political stance becomes evident in the term 'racial segregation,' which implicitly portrays Israel as a nation practicing racism.

From an ideological standpoint, the source writer's perspective leads to a neutral, if not positive, portrayal of the Israeli wall construction project in the West Bank. In essence, both 'new limits' in the ST headline and 'racial segregation' in its Arabic equivalent offer a comprehensive news summary from varying viewpoints—the former presented in a neutral tone, while the latter adopts a negative evaluative stance.

IDF shoots dead 95-year-old woman in taxi
(Haaretz, Dec, 4, 2002)
قوات الاحتلال الإسرائيلي تقتل فلسطينية عمرها 95 عاما
(Alquds Al Arabi, Dec, 4, 2002)
BT: Israeli occupying forces killed a 95-year-old Palestinian woman

The ST headline shows that the writer plays upon word choice in order to convey his or her intention which is hiding the identity of the agent. Rather than explicitly stating the agent's identity, the writer opts for the acronym 'IDF,' a tactic that may deceive unaware readers unfamiliar with the initials' meaning, which stands for the Israeli Defense Forces. The choice of lexical items carries various nuanced meanings when translated into Arabic. For instance, an Arab translator might interpret 'IDF' as 'quwat alahtilal alasraeli' or 'gish alahtilal: occupation forces,' deviating from the original text's lexical meaning. This divergence aims to underscore the ideology that 'the Israeli Occupying Forces' lack the legitimacy to engage in acts of violence, reflecting the translator's ideological stance and intended message.

The selection of these lexical items indicates that translators manipulate lexicon choice. While some translators might opt for a literal translation like 'Israel Defense Forces' or 'Israeli forces,' others may choose more ideologically charged terms. In this context, considerations of loyalty and neutrality come into play.

Aziz and Lataiwish [15] establish a connection between connotative meanings and Newmark's concept of political term ambiguity, asserting that conflicting ideologies lead to connotative word meanings becoming a central issue. For instance, Baker [16] draws a distinction between the Arabic term 'Shaheed' and the English term 'martyr,' noting that 'Shaheed'

often denotes anyone killed violently, particularly in war, regardless of their involvement, whereas 'martyr' in English carries connotations of militancy and extremism. While 'Shaheed' historically held religious significance in Islam to denote those who died in a holy war (Jihad) for Allah, its contemporary use often includes political implications.

3 Killed on West Bank

(The New York Times, Dec 10, 2002)

استشهاد ثلاثة فلسطينيين بينهم سيدة و معاق

(Alquds Alarabi, Dec 10, 2002)

BT: Martyr death of 3 Palestinians including a woman and

The ST headline begins in figure '3' without referring to the victims' identity, in other words it is indicating a preference for observation over active intervention. The TT writer offered more detailed about the victims. The initial headline in the source text (ST) commences with the number '3' without specifying the identity of the victims, indicating a preference for observation over active intervention. Conversely, the translator (TT) provides more detailed information regarding the victims.

In Arab societies, Palestinians killed by Israeli forces in Palestinian territories are regarded as shuhada (martyrs), a practice that has led to accusations of bias against Al Jazeera Channel by many Westerners. The channel's description of Palestinian suicide bombers attacking Israel as 'martyrs' is seen as a departure from objective news reporting standards. During recent conflicts between major Palestinian factions like Fatah and Hamas, Arab media outlets referred to civilian casualties caught in the crossfire and Palestinian fighters simply as 'killed persons.' The term 'martyrs' ('shuhada') is exclusively reserved for those killed by Israeli actions. 'Shuhada' originates from the Arabic word 'Ash-shahadah,' signifying presence and witnessing.

The term 'Shaheed' has been incorporated into English language usage to the extent that it is now included in modern English dictionaries as a neologism. For instance, on (dictionary.reference.com), as 'Arabic term for holy martyrs; applied by Palestinians to suicide bombers', and according to Wikipedia, 'this term is used as a title to Palestinians who were killed in the *Intifada*, and especially as a title to suicide bombers.'

Israeli Raids Kill at Least 8 Palestinians

(The New York Times, Dec 27, 2002)

يوم دام في الأراضي الفلسطينية : اغتيال تسعة فلسطينيين على الأقل

(Alquds Al Arabi, Dec 27, 2002)

BT: Bloody day in the Palestinian territories: at least 9 Palestinians were assassinated

In the above headlines, there are two different words, each one reflects a certain ideology; on the ST headline the word 'killing' was chosen in the Western media to refer to the action of depriving someone of life and could apply to anybody. In contrast, the use of '*ightiyal*: assassination' in the Arab media signifies the idea of killing a targeted politicians or religious leaders, which also indicates that somebody has carefully planned the action and that it is probably illegal or immoral. Both words reflect certain ideologies of different media and function differently. It is the translator's job to find the best way to translate the text into the target language. In other words, the deliberate choice of lexical items by the text producer may indicate particular meanings to be

conveyed in the TT.

According to Ibn Manthour [17], 'ightiyal' denotes deception or treachery, signifying the clandestine transfer of evil and murder to an individual without their awareness or sensation, implying a death that does not occur in battle or due to illness. These interpretations collectively suggest a malevolent event originating from an irrational source.

Al-Kiyali [18] explains that politically, 'ightiyal: assassination' involves the use of violence and elimination against political figures as a means of combating political adversaries. Historically, 'Tyrannicide' emerged in ancient Greek history as a national and divine obligation to eliminate tyrannical rulers. Over time, this term transitioned to mean the elimination of tyrants by imperialistic intelligence agencies and certain leftist groups as a form of dissent against established regimes. According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary [19], assassination, derived from the verb 'assassinate,' signifies "to murder (a usually prominent person) by sudden or secret attack often for political reasons" in English-speaking contexts.

A glimpse at the newspaper headlines concerning the Palestinian-Israeli conflict shows unique approaches distinct from other forms of expressions. Crafting a news headline is crucial as it serves as a preview of the story's contents.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK

Translating is not merely about substituting words from one language to another. Before embarking on a translation, translators must consider various factors, such as the intended purpose of the translation and the target audience [20].

This paper addresses the challenges of translating political language, emphasizing the significant role of the press in shaping perspectives on political matters. When translating newspaper and news agency headlines, translators often diverge from conventional translation methods by manipulating and adjusting the source text (ST) without strict adherence to the original text's sovereignty. Consequently, the translated output is expected to differ from the source. The presumed objectivity and neutrality of translators come into question, as their own political and ideological backgrounds may clash with those of the original text's author.

The paper delved into functionalism, the Skopos theory, and explores the structure of newspaper headlines and their translation, recognizing headlines as highly sensitive texts. Functionalists argue that the Skopos Theory is suitable for translating business and political texts, contrary to beliefs that it may not be applicable in literary translation [21]. In reporting news related to conflicts like the Palestinian-Israeli issue, media writers often manipulate sentence structures to convey specific narratives. Western press writers strategically use active voice to portray Palestinians as aggressors, while passive voice is employed to depict them as innocent civilians, indicating a deliberate selection of language to support their viewpoints. As discussed in the descriptive analysis, there are a lot of difficulties during the process of translation, hence further research work is required and can be done to give some sort of compromising between the SLT and TLT, taking into consideration the following subjects:

• The translation of news articles from one language to another is not a straightforward process of replicating the text verbatim.

• The process of translation involves a complex rewriting process that results in a completely new text in the target language.

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