



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

***STRATEGIES IN TRANSLATING PARALLELISM FROM ENGLISH INTO
ARABIC IN NOVEL 'MOBY DICK'***

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**STRATEGIES IN TRANSLATING PARALLELISM FROM ENGLISH INTO
ARABIC IN NOVEL 'MOBY DICK'**

By

MOHD NOR IKBAL BIN ANUAR

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in
Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts**

September 2015

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Abstract of the thesis presented to Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Arts

STRATEGIES IN TRANSLATING PARALLELISM FROM ENGLISH INTO ARABIC IN NOVEL ‘MOBY DICK’

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September 2015

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This study examines strategies in translating parallelism and factors in retaining parallelism in the Arabic translation of the novel of ‘Moby Dick’. Parallelism is a rhetorical device which stands for identical and equivalent constructions based on syntactic, phonological, morphological and numerical aspects. Translating parallelism is a challenging task for translators as languages differ at the syntactical, morphological and phonological levels. The present study aims at identifying parallelism in ‘Moby Dick’ and discussing the factors in retaining parallelism in ‘Moby Dick’. The study is guided by Chesterman’s (1997) syntactic strategy model and a contrastive analysis (CA) is also performed. The qualitative analysis is carried out by comparing ST and TT to identify the strategies employed by the translator and examining the factors in retaining parallelism in the TT. An in-depth analysis shows that based on Chesterman’s (1997) model, the translator used three strategies, namely literal translation, clause structure change and transposition. The researcher also found other translation strategies followed by the translator which are addition, omission, rhyme, lexical repetition and pattern repetition. Besides, the researcher discovered three factors in retaining parallelism which are a syntactic factor, paraphrase and communicative translation. The findings revealed that most parallelism occurred at the syntactical level and that the strategy most used by the translator was literal translation. The findings suggest that syntactic differences may not allow the translator to use any strategy to retain parallelism in the TT.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Sarjana Sastera

**STRATEGI PENTERJEMAHAN PENGULANGAN DARIPADA BAHASA
INGGERIS KE BAHASA ARAB DALAM NOVEL ‘MOBY DICK’**

Oleh

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Kajian ini meninjau strategi untuk menterjemah pengulangan dan faktor pengekal pengulangan dalam terjemahan ‘Moby Dick’. Pengulangan ialah satu alat retorik yang bermaksud persamaan dan pembinaan setara pada aspek sintaksis, fonologi, morfologi, dan numerik. Penterjemahan pengulangan merupakan tugas yang mencabar kepada penterjemah kerana bahasa berbeza dari aspek sintaksis, morfologi, dan fonologi. Matlamat kajian ini adalah untuk mengenal pasti pengulangan dan membincangkan faktor dalam pengekal pengulangan dalam ‘Moby Dick’. Kajian ini menggunakan model strategi penterjemahan sintaksis oleh Chesterman (1997) dan analisis bandingan turut digunakan. Kajian kualitatif ini dilaksanakan menerusi perbandingan teks asal dengan teks sasaran untuk mengetahui strategi yang digunakan oleh penterjemah dan selain mengkaji faktor dalam pengekal pengulangan dalam teks sasaran. Analisis yang mendalam berdasarkan model Chesterman (1997) menunjukkan bahawa penterjemah menggunakan tiga jenis strategi iaitu penterjemahan literal, penukaran struktur klausa dan transposisi. Pengkaji turut menemukan strategi lain yang digunakan penterjemah seperti penambahan, pembuangan, rima, pengulangan lexis dan bentuk. Di samping itu, pengkaji menemukan tiga faktor dalam pengekal pengulangan seperti faktor sintaksis, parafrasa dan penterjemahan komunikatif. Dapatan menunjukkan pengulangan banyak berlaku dalam aspek sintaksis dan strategi penterjemahan literal banyak digunakan dalam menterjemah pengulangan. Dapatan juga mencadangkan bahawa perbezaan sintaksis mungkin tidak membenarkan penterjemah menggunakan sebarang strategi untuk mengekalkan pengulangan dalam teks sasaran.

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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on **29 September 2015** to conduct the final examination of Mohd Nor Ikbil Bin Anuar on his thesis entitled “**Strategies in Translating Parallelism from English into Arabic in Novel ‘Moby Dick’**” in accordance with the Universities and Universities Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The committee recommends that the student be awarded the Degree of Master.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

UPM	-	Universiti Putra Malaysia
SL	-	Source Language
TL	-	Target Language
ST	-	Source Text
TT	-	Target Text
CDA	-	Critical Discourse Analysis
CA	-	Contrastive Analysis
SVA	-	Subject Verb Adjunct
VSO	-	Verb Subject Object
SVO	-	Subject Verb Object
NP	-	Noun Phrase
ST	-	Source Text
TT	-	Target Text
P	-	Particle
Adj.	-	Adjective
AP	-	Adverb of Place
FTerm	-	First Term
STerm	-	Second Term
Adv	-	Adverb
Prep	-	Preposition
N	-	Noun
Neg. P	-	Negation Particle
Circ Acc	-	Circumstances accusative
inf clau	-	infinitive clause
coordinat. Conjunct.	-	Coordinating conjunction
demonstr. pron	-	Demonstrative pronoun
Pron	-	pronoun
t. prep.	-	true preposition
g. n.	-	genitive pronoun
affrm	-	affirmation
conditional particle	-	Cond. P
conjnd. n.	-	conjoined noun
Appo.	-	Apposition
k. v.	-	<i>kaana</i> verb
k. s.	-	<i>kaana</i> subject
k. p.	-	<i>kaana</i> predicate

TRANSLITERATION OF ARABIC ALPHABETS

(DEWAN BAHASA DAN PUSTAKA,2008)

A. Consonant

Arabic	Roman	Arabic	Roman
ا	-	ط	t
ب	B	ظ	z
ت	T	ع	,
ث	Th	غ	gh
ج	J	ف	f
ح	h	ق	q
خ	Kh	ك	k
د	D	ل	l
ذ	Dh	م	m
ر	R	ن	n
ز	z	و	h
س	s	ه	w
ش	sh	ء	,
ص	ṣ	ي	y
ض	ḏ	ة	ah*

*Transliterated as “at” in context combining two words.

B. Vowel:

Short		Long		Diphthong	
ا	a	ا	ā	اي	ay
ي	i	ي	ī	او	aw
و	u	و	ū		

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Translation is a process of replacing textual elements from a source language to a target language. While the process involves a linguistic transfer, there is also the process of cultural transfer. In fact, translation plays a significant role in science, technology, philosophy and almost all human affairs as it mediates between two different languages and cultures.

Each culture reflects its various elements in creative writing, mainly literature which consists of drama, poetry, prose and other genres. These genres are usually translated from language to language. For instance, novels are translated because they are rich in elements that will impress readers while influencing them with appealing aesthetic language through parallelism which is one important rhetorical device.

In fact, parallelism has been studied by a number of researchers. It is a rhetorical device that is commonly used by authors or speakers. Quinn (1999) defines parallelism as:

The parallelism principle represents equal ideas in the same grammatical form, for example, “government of the people, by the people, and for the people.” Parallelism produces a sense of balance and order, and is frequently employed as a feature in the periodic sentence. (p. 238)

Parallelism allows the written or spoken idea to be delivered clearly, directly and aesthetically.

The current research is on the strategies in translating parallelism from English into Arabic and the factors that prevent the translator from retaining parallelism in the target language. The framework of the study is based on the classification of the syntactic strategy by Chesterman (1997).

The researcher will compare parallelism and its translation. The study will divide parallelism with its translation into retainable parallelism and parallelism loss. The first objective of the thesis is to identify parallelism from English into Arabic in the ‘Moby Dick’. The second objective which is to discuss the factors in retaining parallelism from English into Arabic in ‘Moby Dick’, will be dedicated to parallelism loss in Arabic.

1.2 Background

The translation process involves translators' efforts to transfer texts along with their linguistic, cultural and rhetorical aspects. In the Arabic translation of the English novel 'Moby Dick' which is entitled 'Mūbī Dīk'(1980), there are several rhetorical devices employed by the author which have been transferred by the translator. In this context, the researcher will observe and study the translation strategy of parallelism, one of the rhetorical devices (Al-Jubouri, 1984) used by the author.

In analysing the Arabic translation 'Mūbī Dīk' which was published by *Mū`assasah Nāṣīr līlthaqāfah* in 1980, the researcher focuses on the translator's strategy for translating parallelism based on the syntactic model as outlined by Chesterman (1997).

1.3 Problem Statement

Parallelism is a rhetorical device employed by authors to help them convey their ideas to people. The employment of parallelism can be found in novels, speeches, poems or any other discourses which involve readers or spectators. The function of parallelism varies. Leech (1969) states,

It is impossible to summarize the function of parallelism in a way which will cover all the diverse examples of its occurrence, inside and outside poetry. Linguistic parallelism is very often connected with rhetorical emphasis and memorability. In nursery rhymes and ballads, it affords an artless kind of pleasure in itself, and probably has and needs no further justification (p. 67).

Parallelism has a rhetorical function rather than an expressive function (Leech & Short, 1981).

It is obviously the aesthetics of form which tends to attract the reader's attention here, rather than the meaning. We might almost go so far as to say that Lyly (as cited in Leech & Short) has embroidered an elaborate garment round the simple idea 'Euphues was a young coxcomb'. If 'adornment' is to be identified in linguistic patterns which have no semantic utility, we can point to... (p. 14).

Translating parallelism is a challenging task for translators as languages differ at the syntactical, morphological and phonological levels. According to Al- Darawish (as cited in Al-Hamdalla, 1998)

no two languages are exactly identical in their phonological, morphological, lexical, syntactic and semantic features, languages differ with respect to sentence arrangement or syntax, the translator is forced to front or move backwards certain items, it is rather impossible for a translator to completely master two languages. However, this problem can be resolved through specialized scientific committees (p. 5)

As such, the translator may face several difficulties to achieve or to produce the same parallel structure in the TT. It will not be a problem if the translator succeeds in preserving parallelism in the TT. 'Moby Dick' is hailed as one of the greatest American novels written by Melville who has employed rhetorical devices to impress his readers to a great extent.

Translating parallelism depends on the ability of the translator to maintain the author's style. When the translator cannot do that, the target text will sustain unintentional parallelism loss. Besides, syntactic structures will change in the target text as English and Arabic, for example, have different syntactic systems. The same goes for morphology phonology and lexicon. The process of translation will also result in parallelism loss in the TT. Accordingly, these linguistic changes made to the TT will definitely alter the text itself.

In response to this problem, the researcher will study the strategies in retaining parallelism from English into Arabic. The researcher will also try to identify the factors in retaining parallelism. An analysis will be carried out to reveal the factors that contribute to this problem.

1.4 Research Questions

This study attempts to answer the following questions:-

1. What is parallelism from English into Arabic in 'Moby Dick'?
2. What are the factors in retaining parallelism from English into Arabic in 'Moby Dick'?

1.5 Research Objectives

The researcher aims to achieve the following objectives:-

1. To identify parallelism from English into Arabic in 'Moby Dick'.
2. To discuss the factors in retaining parallelism from English into Arabic in 'Moby Dick'.

1.6 Limitations

In this research, the researcher focuses only on 'Moby Dick' and its Arabic translation. In addition, the collected data is only limited to parallelism which is available in 'Moby Dick' and its Arabic translation. Other rhetorical devices which are not part of parallelism are not the subject of this research. In order to get a comprehensive overview, parallelism was examined in all the chapters of 'Moby Dick' and its translation – Mūbī

Dik. The researcher focuses his discussion on the translation strategies only in accordance with the translation discipline perceptive.

In addition, the researcher also limits this study to textual data only; the source text (ST) and its translation – the target text (TT). Thus, the research focuses only on the textual data and not on other items such as the translator of the novel or other considerations.

1.7 The Significance of Study

It is important to do this research because it will help other translators to employ a textual approach to translating parallelism. It is also important for translators to have proper strategies for translating this rhetorical device.

The study will highlight the importance of parallelism and how it is translated into the target language. The novelist wrote the novel using this rhetorical device whose function cannot be just taken for granted or ignored by the translator.

This study will also encourage the translation of literary works as it will highlight the significance of foreign literary works which should be translated into another language and appreciated by other readers. At the same time, it is the responsibility of translators to produce excellent translation in order to do justice to the original works and impress the target readers. When readers can discern the aesthetic beauty of the translated literary works, the demands for more translated books will increase greatly.

This research is significant for promoting comparative literature as well. Translation activities involve two different cultures, and the translator will strategically make efforts to make the translation process successful in order to reach the target readers. In addition, the translator deals with two different cultures and he/she must strive to keep the content of the original work unchanged. So, translation research such as the current study will compare original works of art to their translations, hence promoting comparative literature.

1.8 Operational Definition

The study makes use of several operational definitions. Two key terms, parallelism and translation strategy, are given special emphasis.

1.8.1 Strategy for translating parallelism

Particular approaches are employed by the translator to retain parallelism from English to Arabic according to the syntactic strategy suggested by Chesterman (1997).

1.8.2 Novel 'Moby Dick'

It is an American novel written by Herman Melville and was published in 1851.

1.9 Conclusion

In general, this chapter introduced the topic of the current thesis. It included a background, the statement of the problem, the research questions, the research objectives, the significance of the study, the limitations of the study and operational definitions. As the chapter stated, this study will investigate the translation strategy followed by the translator when translating parallelism in the novel 'Moby Dick' from English into Arabic according to Chesterman (1997). The statement of the problem shows that the translation of parallelism cannot be retained in the TT. The research objectives were formulated based on the research questions. In the limitations section, the researcher asserted that only parallelism in 'Moby Dick' will be studied. The significance of the study pinpointed how the present study can benefit other research and researchers in a similar field and finally the operational definitions were formulated based on the present study. The following chapter will deal with the literature available on translation strategies and parallelism.

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