



An Investigation of the Effect of Ideological, Economic, and Status Components on Political News Translation

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Abstract

Translation is a challenging task, especially when it deals with ideological turns. Translations may be manipulated and rewritten by rival parties to serve their own interests and convey their own ideologies and also translators play a significant role in negotiating meaning within social and political processes. In the field of ideological turns, different matters are being discussed from among which, discussion of patronage suggested by Lefevere is debatable; the latter consists of three components, i.e. ideological, economic, and status components that, according to Lefevere's theory, affect literature products and especially translation. Taking this reality into account, the present descriptive-qualitative study was designed to investigate the effect of these three components on the English translation of Persian political news and on the selection of news by MEMRI (the Washington-based Middle East Media Research Institute) website; MEMRI translates the news of Middle East countries into European languages. The results revealed that these three components affected MEMRI's translations and also the selections of Persian political news for translation.

Keywords: Economic component; Ideological component; MEMRI; Patronage; Status component

INTRODUCTION

Translation is one of the complex actions in human life, which can easily provide the chance for humans to change countries' attitude toward each other, promote or demote it, based on the different elements and components it conveys from one country and language into another (Dincel, 2007). Although, there are many definitions for

translation, only a few of them are recognized and favored by theorists in the realm of contemporary translation studies. Therefore, the definition of translation has discussed in this research, has referred to those elements and components which influence translation. Lefevere (1992) stated that "translation is, of course, a rewriting of an original text" (p. xii). Thus "the translator who takes a text and transposes it into another culture needs to consider carefully the ideological impli-

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cations of that transposition.” (Bassnett, 1980, p. xv).

He (1992) believed that what the target audience observes as a translated text is not more than a “rewriting”.

Translation is the most obviously recognizable type of rewriting, and... it is potentially the most influential because it is able to project the image of an author and/or those works beyond the boundaries of their culture of origin (p. 9).

Bassnett and Lefevere (1990) declared that all rewritings, whatever their intention, reflect a certain ideology that these rewritings should conform to it; in such a way that they are manipulated to function in a given society, in a given way. It is here that Lefevere (1992) stated ideological consideration dominates linguistic consideration. He (1992) added that the result of an ideology, imposes on translator by patrons, is the production of such rewriting; so rewriting is due to the ideological pressures. Hereupon target audience is confronted with those translated texts, those rewritings, which are under a special ideology and often he/she misinterprets the source countries’ status, especially, in this case, the source countries’ political status.

Andre Lefevere moved away from recent theories and terminologies to consider the role of ideology, poetics and patronage in the system of translated literature, and to examine translation as “rewriting”. According to him,(1992) any work, which is translated, is manipulated and rewritten in a certain form for a certain reason. The two main reasons, which influence translation, have been Ideology and dominant poetics. Lefevere (1992) introduced dominant poetics to examine those elements that related to the acceptance or rejection of literary products. He believed that dominant poetics could be divided into two elements. The first one is literary devices, which refer to the leitmotifs symbols, genres, and prototypical situations and characters. The second

component connects to the concept of the role of literature; it means that literature is within the social system and play a special role in it (Munday, 2001). Also, he declared that dominant poetics is determined by ideology. “Ideology” in Lefevere's words (1992) means, “a set of discourses which wrestle over interests which are in some way relevant to the maintenance or interrogation of power structures central to a whole form of social and historical life” (Shuttleworth, 2004, p.136). Based on these reasons, he introduced the concept of patronage, which has been playing an important role in translation.

According to him, patronage refers to “something like the powers (persons, institutions) that could further or hinder the reading, writing, and rewriting of literature” (Lefevere, 1992, p. 15). Patronage connects to the ideology of literature. It can be exerted by persons, organizations, newspapers, media, political parties, and so on. Patronage wants that literary system be in harmony with the rest of society. “Patrons have been trying to regulate the relationship between the literary system and the other system, which, together, make up a society, a culture” (Shuping, 2013).

In general, Lefevere (1992) believed that literary system is controlled by two main factors, which are professionals and patronage; the first control factor is within the literary system and the other operates outside of it. According to him, professionals refer to the critics, reviewers, teachers and translators; and patronage refers to the powers that can promote or impede the literature’s products and, in this case, translations. “The patron(s) count on these professionals to bring the literary system in line with their own ideology” (Lefevere, 1992, pp. 15-16).He also stated that patronage consists of three elements: Ideological, economic and status components, which are exerted by individuals, groups of people or institutions. Lefevere's definitions of three components:

1. Ideological component: This component restricts the choice of subject and form matter. In his view, ideology is not limited to political issues.

2. Economic component: This component refers to the income of professionals by patrons. They have been giving them pension or appoint them to offices.
3. Status component: This component means that acceptance of patronage results in being a member of a certain group and living in their support and according to their lifestyle.

Also, patronage can be differentiated or undifferentiated, or rather, literary systems can be controlled by a type of patronage that is either differentiated or undifferentiated in nature. If these three components operate by the same person or group, patronage has been called undifferentiated. Otherwise, if these components be independent of each other, the patronage has differentiated (Lefevere, 1992).

This study attempted to investigate the nature of the target text that whether it has gone exactly with the source text. There might be some special components that affect the translation and distance the target text from the source text. This study informs the readers of three components of Lefevere and how they are applicable to translation or where and why they "manipulate" the contents of the source text. Since to the best of researcher's knowledge, the components of patronage have not still been investigated separately. The concept of manipulation has gone hand in hand with the notion of rewriting in helping to redefine translation after the cultural turn. Especially, this subject would be important when the emphasis is on the political texts, which show the nature of the governments in different countries. Translator may encounter some news, which oppose his/her beliefs and values, so his/her ideology affect the translation, and in consequence, the target reader's conceptualization of the world forms according to the translator's ideology (Aslani, 2016). In fact, this is a basis for the relationships of countries. Then, manipulation of these texts will not have good consequences.

In this research, it was tried to investigate the effect of these three elements, ideological, eco-

conomic and status components on MEMRI's (The Middle East Media Research Institution) English translation of Persian news. MEMRI is a political news website that is under the patronage of Israel, and translates the news of Middle East's countries, especially Iran (MEMRI homepage). This website translates political news from different languages of Middle East's countries into European languages; this Israeli institution claims that it is nonpartisan and its purpose is to bridge the language gap between the West and the Middle East, while it introduces Iran as the supporter of terrorism in the region (MEMRI's Homepage). This study has done to test whether its translations are really accurate and nonpartisan or the patronage has a special role in the translation and the selection of news for translation. Then the researchers have attempted to investigate the effect of ideological, economic and status components on political translations from Persian into English based on Lefevere's theory. In fact, the researchers have studied the extent of the effect of these three components on the English translation of Persian political news, and also, the extent of the effect of these components on the selection of Persian political news for translation in the selected corpus.

METHODS

This study was a qualitative, comparative and also descriptive textual research. It was qualitative, because it did not emphasize the objective measurements and the statistical, mathematical, or numerical analysis of data collection through polls, questionnaires, and surveys, but it was an interpretive naturalistic approach to the world. Also, it was comparative, since it is going to compare the Persian news' texts with their English translation. According to Holmes's (1988) classification of translation studies, this type of research falls under the category of descriptive translation studies.

According to Saldanha (2014) there are two types of corpora, comparable and parallel, which are used most commonly in translation studies. The corpus of this study was comparable and it

restricted itself to the analysis of translated political news found in MEMRI website, and their original news in different Iranian news websites. MEMRI provides translations of Arabic, Farsi, Urdu, Pashtu, Dari, Hindi, and Turkish media; as well as original analysis of political, ideological, intellectual, social, cultural and religious trends in the Middle East in the forms of Special Dispatches, Inquiry & Analysis Series, and Clips (MEMRI's Homepage). In fact, Inquiry & Analysis Series, and Clips do not include translation generally, but they often may contain translation too. This is the Special Dispatch which contains translation from different Middle East news websites. In fact, MEMRI selects Persian news from different Persian news websites, and presents the translated news with the name of Special Dispatches, differing in title and date of publication. Each Special Dispatch consists of the translation of one or more Persian news from different news websites. In this article, the researchers studied seven Special Dispatches, which contained the translations of Persian news. It is worth mentioning that these Special Dispatches, which only contain Persian translations, are not numerous; approximately, MEMRI presents one Special Dispatch each month.

MEMRI claims to be an independent, nonpartisan, and nonprofit organization with an aim to explore the Middle East, its traditions, policies, and ideologies by studying the region's media, print, television, and internet, religious sermons and school textbooks. Their articles are used extensively by "government bodies and legislatures; militaries – both U.S. and foreign; media; academia; and the public at large" (About MEMRI). MEMRI assists and lends support to all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces in carrying out the War on Terror, as well as supporting members of academia on a daily basis in over 500 universities all over the world by providing them with their material free of charge. This explains the huge role MEMRI plays in the formation and promotion of certain ideologies and beliefs about Muslims in the Western world.

To accomplish the purpose of the study, 7 English political news were extracted from MEMRI website on 2016-2017. These English news with the name of Special Dispatches were chosen randomly for accurate analysis. Then, their Persian equivalents, the source texts, were found through different Persian news websites; such as Fars, Kayhan, Tasnim, Javan online, Mehr, YJC, and Asriran. After gathering the materials, the source and the target texts were analyzed according to Lefevre's three components; first in Persian to see the real ideology of the source text, and then its equivalent to investigate where, when and how the source text was manipulated according to the target translators' ideological, economic and status components. Everywhere that researchers encountered manipulations in the target texts, they extracted the manipulated sentences, and brought them with the original sentences in Results section. Also, their analyses, related to the degrees of manipulation of STs' contents, were attached to them. It is worth mentioning that the Special Dispatches have organized and analyzed based on the date of publication, from the oldest one to the newest.

RESULTS

Special Dispatch 1: May 13, 2016

Title: Iranian Officials Tout Iran's Regional Supremacy

This Special Dispatch consisted of the translation of some parts of two Persian news; one related to visit of Supreme Leader Khamenei's Strategic Affairs Advisor, Ali Akbar Velayati, from YJC and an interview that he gave to its website about national and international issues on February 22, 2016. The other was the speech of Basij Commander, Mohammad Reza Naqdi, at a Basij conference on February 22, 2016 according to Tanim news agency.

Analysis: In the headline of this Special Dispatch, the website used the term "tout" which is an informal word and it does not correspond to the dignity of one country's officials. But, it began its report with this pejorative headline.

1- این ملاقات تعیین کننده آینده سیاست خارجه جمهوری اسلامی ایران محسوب می شود و مصداقی از نگاه به شرق مقام معظم رهبری است.

TT: This meeting determines the future of Iran's foreign policy and is considered proof of the leader's [Khamenei] eastward look.

Analysis: "Iran's Islamic Republic" was translated into "Iran".

2- آنها به دنبال این هستند که سنگرها را یکی پس از دیگری تصرف کنند. اگر ما سنگر دفاع از خودمان را در بیرون از مرزها قرار نمی دادیم همانطور که مقام معظم رهبری فرمودند باید در همدان و کرمانشاه سنگر مقاومت در مقابل گروه های تروریستی تشکیل می دادیم. بارها سیستم اطلاعاتی و امنیتی ما اعلام کرده اند که بعضی از گروه ها به دنبال انفجار در بعضی از مناطق بودند، به خصوص در مراسم مذهبی مانند محرم آنها را دستگیر کردند و قبل از عملیاتی شدن طرح و توطئه شان خنثی شده است. توان جمهوری اسلامی در دفاع از تمامیت ارضی کشور و پیشبرد اهداف سیاسی و منطقه ای به گونه ای است که آنها نمی توانند خدشه ای به توانمندی کشورمان ایجاد کنند.

TT: They [the Western forces and their regional allies] want to conquer the fortresses one by one. As the Leader [Khamenei] said, had we not placed our defensive walls outside Iran's boundaries, today we would have had to position [the defensive walls] against the terrorist groups in Hamedan and Kermonshah [within Iran itself]....

Analysis: These underlined sentences, connected to the power of Iran's Islamic Republic, were omitted. While these sentences were the continuation of the translated ones.

3- با تلویزیون فلسطین مصاحبه می کردم و گفتم سال 2015 بیت المقدس دست مسلمانان خواهد بود.

TT: I [once] said, in an interview with Palestine TV, that in 2015 Muslims will control Temple Mount [in Jerusalem].

Analysis: "The Holy City (BeitolMoqaddas)" has been translated "Temple Mount". Temple Mount is related to the belief of the Jews that their temples from Suleiman Prophet were remained beneath BeitolMoqaddas, a place which is Holy for Muslims and it was their first Qibla before Mecca. However, there is not any docu-

ment which prove that the temples were remained beneath BeitolMoqaddas.

4- چهارونیم سال از تحریمها گذشت اما دیدند که تحریمها اثر نداشته است.

TT: Four and a half years have passed since the sanctions [were imposed on Iran], and we see that they have had no effect.

Analysis: There was a point in this sentence that enemy themselves saw that sanctions have had no effect on Iran. But, it was translated as "we, Iranian people, see that...."

Special Dispatch 2: June 16, 2016

Title: Iranian Supreme Leader Khamenei's Advisor And Associate Tells Shi'ite Clerics In Iraq: U.S. Is Plotting To Divide Iraq And Syria

This report was the translation of speech of Iranian Center's director for Strategic Research, and Iranian Supreme Leader Khamenei's Advisor And Associate, Ali Akbar Velayati to Iraqi Shi'ite clerics which was published in Tasnim news agency, on May 18, 2016.

5- ولایتی در جمع علماء و اندیشمندان عراق: سوریه حلقه طلایی خط مقاومت است/فتوای مرجعیت اجازه نداد عراق دست آمریکا و تکفیریها بیافتد.

TT: Iranian Supreme Leader Khamenei's Advisor And Associate Tells Shi'ite Clerics In Iraq: U.S. Is Plotting To Divide Iraq And Syria

Analysis: The headline was changed according to what the translators wanted to say and highlight.

6- خط مقاومت از ایران شروع می شود و از عراق می گذرد و به سوریه، لبنان و فلسطین می رسد؛ خط مقاومتی که در مقابل توسعه طلبی صهیونیست ها و حامیانشان که آمریکایی ها و بعضی کشورهای غربی هستند، می ایستد.

TT: The line of resistance begins in Iran and passes through Iraq to Syria, Lebanon, and Palestine. This line of resistance stands against the spread of the Zionists and their American supporters and [supporters in] some Western countries.

Analysis: The exact translation of the underlined sentence is that "... Zionists and their supporters who are Americans and some of Western countries". It means that their supporters are Americans and some of Western countries. But the translation was limited; as if some of Americans support Zionists.

7- بنابراین ما و شما باید به آنچه که در سوریه می گذرد حساس باشیم چراکه اگر دولت و ملت سوریه از تکفیری ها شکست بخورند، قدم بعدی را در عراق بر می دارند و ایران هم از تعرضات آنها بی نصیب نخواهد ماند.

TT: Therefore, we, and you, must be sensitive to what is happening in Syria, because if the Syrian government and nation are defeated by the takfiris, their next move will be in Iraq, and even Iran will not remain at peace because of their harassment.

Analysis: "Iran will not remain at peace" is not a correct translation, and its exact translation is that "even Iran will be invaded by their attack".

8- رییس مرکز تحقیقات استراتژیک ادامه داد: از ابتدای تاریخ اسلام تاکنون مردم ایران و عراقدر کنار هم بودند و بین آنهاهی جدایی نبود و الآن هم نیست. وجود عتبات عالیات و کربلای معلی، نجف اشرف، کاظمین و سامرا در عراق یک عامل بسیار مهمی در توجه ویژه مردم ایران به عراق و عتبات عالیات است و از طرف دیگر، مرقد مطهر حضرت رضا (ع) در مشهد مقدس یک عامل مهمی در توجهبرادران و خواهران عراقی به ایران است.

TT: From the dawn of the history of Islam to this day, the Iranian and Iraqi peoples stood side by side and were inseparable.

Analysis: It emphasized that Iraq and Iran were inseparable and "still they are inseparable". This part which implied the existing unity between Iran and Iraq was not translated. Additionally, they did not translate the important reason of this connection that related to the holy shrines at Baqdad, Karbela, Najaf, and Mashhad.

9- موقعیت جغرافیایی، سیاسی، ملت ریشه دار، فرهنگ و تمدن عمیق عراق و ثروت های خدادادی آن، موجب شده است که همواره دشمنان چشم طمع به این کشور داشته باشند و در قرون اخیر و معاصر، استعمار نقش مهمی در ایجاد مشکل برای مردم عراق در جهت مقاصد خودش داشته است.

TT: Iraq's geographic and political conditions, its deeply rooted nation and culture, and the happiness granted it by God have always meant greed in its enemies' eyes...

Analysis: The underlined part which related to the role of colonialism on the creation of problems for Iraqi people, was not translated.

10- رییس مرکز تحقیقات استراتژیک مجمع تشخیص مصلحت نظام به توطئه طرح تجزیه عراق اشاره کرد و گفت: یکی از فرماندهان نظامی آمریکا در حدود چند ماه پیش گفته بود که عراق باید به 3 قسمت تجزیه شود.

TT: A few months ago, a U.S. army commander said that Iraq should be divided into three parts.

Analysis: The part which stated that this division is a plot of enemy was not translated.

11- وی یادآور شد: تجزیه عراق، غیر از این که این کشور را تضعیف می کند موجب یک دشمنی دائم بین خود مردم عراق می شود که این دشمنی ها انتها ندارد، یعنی نیروها و امکانات کشور صرف از بین بردن خودشان می شود.

TT: Dividing Iraq would weaken it and perpetuate the internal enmity among [the various elements of] the Iraqi people. Then Iraq's forces and resources would be squandered on self-destruction.

Analysis: This statement which emphasized the content of the pervious statement was not translated: "These enmities will not end".

12- اگر حکومت فعلی سوریهکنار نرود چاره ای نداریم که این کشور را به 5 قسمت تقسیم کنیم.

TT: If the current Syrian regime does not leave, there will be no option but to divide this country [that is, Syria] into five parts.

Analysis: "Regime" is not a proper equivalent for "state". Regime is a word which is used to describe a government, especially an authoritarian one. It has a negative connotation.

13- اگر گروه تکفیری- شیطانی داعش و امثال آن در سوریه پیروز شوند قدم بعدی را در عراق بر می دارند.

TT: If the Satanic takfiri group - ISIS and its ilk - is victorious in Syria, its next moves will be in Iraq.

Analysis: Daesh is translated ISIS in this website. While the word Daesh became an international word and often it is heard by other countries. ISIS is the abbreviation of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. It showed Daesh as an Islamic State. While this group's activity in the region has nothing except killing, robbing, and violating brutally.

14- رییس مرکز تحقیقات استراتژیک مجمع تشخیص مصلحت نظام با بیان این که وجود آمریکا در هر کشوری مضر است گفت: نیاید به آمریکایی ها اجازه داد که برای عراق و سوریه و کشورهای دیگر تصمیم بگیرند؛ مگر آنها چه کاره اند؟

TT: America's presence in every country does damage. America cannot be allowed to make decisions for Iraq, Syria, and other countries. Why? What have they [i.e. the Americans] done [for these countries]?

Analysis: The Persian sentence, which was "we must not allow America to..." was more intense than "America cannot be allowed". There was a special power in the sentence, not transferred. Also, the next underlined Persian sentence which was a pejorative sentence, [what is their business with other countries?], was translated neutrally.

15- ولایتی به درخشش حشد الشعبی اشاره کرد و گفت: برای این که (اینها) مردمی معتقد به اسلام هستند و می دانند که اگر در این راه کشته شوند شهید هستند و این راه، راه امام حسین (ع) است و هرچه این نیرو بیشتر تقویت شود به نفع آینده عراق است.

TT: Al-Hashd Al-Sha'abi comprises people who believe in Islam, who know that if they die in this path they will become martyrs, and [know too] that this is the path of the Imam Hussein. The stronger this force becomes, the better it will be for Iraq's future...

Analysis: The exact translation of this sentence was that "if they are killed in this path...." There is a special difference between killing and dying especially in this sentence, which killing was regarded.

Special Dispatch 3: July 11, 2016

Title: Antisemitism - A Rising Theme For Iran's 2016 Qods Day

This dispatch consists of the translation of some sections of four Persian news from different news agency. The first one relates to the Kayhan's editorial on June 30, 2016. The second one refers to Mohsen Rafighdoost's comments, who served as the minister of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) during the 1980-8 Iran-Iraq War and who today heads the Noor Foundation, on June 29, 2016. This news published in the Asriran website. The third Persian news which was written in Javanonline website is the speech of Khamenei's advisor, Gen. Yadollah Javani, in the IRGC on June 30, 2016. And the last news was IRGC's Qods Day statement on June 30, 2016 in Mehr website.

16- نظیر آنچه که قرآن کریم در مورد عصبیت اعراب حجاز قبل و صدر اسلام می گوید.

TT: Corroboration for this [position] can be found in the Koran as well, which describes the rage of the Hijaz Arabs before the emergence of Islam.

Analysis: "The Great Quran" has been translated into "Koran" without its adjective.

17- پس داستان چیست که به تأسیس رژیم صهیونیستی رأی داده می شود و این در حالی است که رأی بریتانیا به تأسیس این رژیم ممتنع است.

TT: So what is the story [behind] their vote to establish this Jewish state, when Britain had abstained in the [1947] vote to establish this entity [Israel]?

Analysis: "Zionist regime" was not mentioned in the translation. Instead they said: "The Jewish state or Israel".

18- همان سیاستی است که مردمی را آواره می کند تا سیاستی را بنشانند. خانه و کاشانه و آبادی را خراب می کند تا کاخ ستمی را بر آن بنا نهد. مردمی را تحقیر می کند تا قومی ستمگر را به ریاست برساند. کودکان بی شماری را به شهادت می رساند و زنان زیادی را به اسارت می برد تا برای مردمی متجاوز مزاحمتی را برطرف کرده باشد.

TT: The same politics that uproots people in order to implement a certain policy... degrades

people in order to instate a tyrannical [Jewish] people, executes countless children, and captures many women in order to remove a nuisance to an invading people.

Analysis: The underlined sentence was not translated. It described the enemy's politics: destroying the houses and inhabited places for their tyrannical desires. In addition, to execute someone means to kill them as a punishment for a crime, while children are killed without any crime. They changed the term "martyr". Martyrdom in Islamic beliefs is very valuable and it is pleasant for Muslims.

19- دستگیری شیخ زکراکی به خاطر رشد حیرت آور تشیع در نیجریه، شهادت آیت الله نمر در سرزمین حجاز، دستگیری شیخ علی سلمان و سپس سلب تابعیت از آیت الله عیسی قاسم و ... همگی حاکی از تبنانی این سه شرور بالفطره دارد.

TT: This axis of evil is also tied to the arrest of the Shi'ite Sheikh Zakzaky... in Nigeria, the execution of Sheikh Nimr [by the regime] in Saudi Arabia, the arrest of Sheikh Ali Salman, and, later, the revocation of the [Bahraini] citizenship of Ayatollah Isa Qassim [by the authorities there].

Analysis: The arrest of Sheikh Zakzaky was rendered, but its reason, relating to the wonderful growth of Shiite, was not translated. And in the next part, again "martyrdom" was translated into "execution".

20- خداوند برکت را از صهیونیستها گرفته و ما در حال حاضر تنها چند ده میلیون یهودی در دنیا داریم.

TT: God removed His blessing from the Jews, and today there are only a few tens of millions of Jews in the world.

Analysis: "Zionists" has been translated into "the Jews". While Zionist has a negative sense.

21- اسرائیل در دو جنگ آنچنان از حزب الله شکست خورد که تمام رویاهای اسرائیل بزرگ نیل تا فرات در منطقه از بین رفت.

TT: Israel suffered defeat at its hands in two wars [1982-2000 and 2006], to the point that all

their illusions regarding 'a greater Israel' from the Nile to the Euphrates dissipated.

Analysis: They did not translate this part that it was Hezbollah who defeated Israel. Hezbollah is an Islamic group which fights against Israel.

22- اگر ما امروز در سوریه می‌جنگیم از حرکتی دفاع می‌کنیم که منتظریم به 25 سال نرسد.

TT: If today we are fighting in Syria and protecting a certain movement, it is because [they] do not want us to reach 25 years.

Analysis: It was completely a mistranslation of the sentence. It was a minatory statement for Israel, [we are expecting that it does not reach 25 years], but the translators rendered it reversely.

23- فردا ملت رشید و فهیم ایران در جای جای میهن اسلامی نشان خواهند داد که مسأله فلسطین همچنان اولویت اول جهان اسلام است.

TT: The issue of Palestine continues to be a top priority for the Islamic world.

Analysis: The underlined sentence, regarded the presence of people in Islamic country on Qods Day, has not been translated.

Special Dispatch 4: November 2, 2016

Title: 'Kayhan': Tehran Will Not Let Turkish President Erdogan 'Play His Own Solitary Game' In Syria and Iraq.

This report was the translation of Kayhan's editorial as the name of "Day's Note" on October 26, 2016.

24- پی آمد خواب های امنیتی اردوغان (یادداشت روز)

TT: 'Kayhan': Tehran Will Not Let Turkish President Erdogan 'Play His Own Solitary Game' In Syria and Iraq

Analysis: Headline was changed. A new headline was created, while a translation should go with the source text.

25- وقتی به روابط ایران با همسایگان مؤثر خود نظر می‌اندازیم، درمی‌یابیم که مرزهای خشکی ایران مرزهای دوستی است و ارتباط ایران- لاقل - با دو همسایه مؤثر خود یعنی روسیه و عراق استراتژیک و یا در مرز استراتژیک است.

TT: Examining Iran's useful ties with its neighbors, [we find that] Iran's land borders are friendly and that its relations with at least two of its neighbors - Russia and Iraq - are on a strategic or near strategic level.

Analysis: "Iran's ties with its effective neighbors" has been translated as "Iran's useful ties with its neighbors". "Its effective neighbors" was ignored. Additionally in the next underlined part, the second "border" was omitted which showed emphasis on border. "Iran's land borders are friendly borders."

26- ملاحظه دیگر این است که برای نیروهای جبهه مقاومت، متجاوز متجاوز است خصوصاً اگر با شیطان بزرگ به دسیسه مشترکی دست پیدا کرده باشد.

TT: Another thing is that [Iran's] 'resistance front' forces fight against [Turkish] invaders, particularly if [the invader] is scheming together with the Great Satan [America].

Analysis: The Persian sentence is about resistance front forces that for them "invader is invader" and there is not any difference between the invaders' countries, whether they are Turkish or not. However, the translation was different from its original. It was limited to Turkish forces.

Special Dispatch 5: January 12, 2017

Title: Iranian Activists, Academics Apologize For Iran's Syria Policy

This dispatch was the translation of a communique by some students apologizing to the Syrian people for Iran's fight against them on December 31, 2016 in Tribunezamaneh website. At the top of the report, which was published in this site, it was written that this report was provided by website's users and it was not belonged to the Tribunezamaneh website. Therefore, it was not counted credible and official to be published in a foreign website such as MEMRI. But it was translated as one of the special dispatches. It is worth mentioning that, as it was mentioned before, MEMRI publishes approximately one Special Dispatch each month.

Special Dispatch 6: April 5, 2017

Title: Spokesman For Iran-Backed Iraqi Shi'ite Militia In Syria: 'We Have Established The Golan Liberation Army'

On March 8, 2017 the spokesman for Iraqi's Harakat Al Nujaba, Hashem Al Mousavi, gave an interview to the Iranian news agency Tasnim. This dispatch was the translation of this interview.

27- نشست خبری سخنگوی جنبش «النجباء» عراق در خبرگزاری تسنیم
سپاهی برای آزادسازی جولان تشکیل داده‌ایم/ بسیاری از رهبران داعش اتباع عربستان هستند

TT: Spokesman For Iran-Backed Iraqi Shi'ite Militia In Syria: 'We Have Established The Golan Liberation Army'

Analysis: Iraqi's Harakat Al Nujaba has been translated as "Iran-Backed Iraqi Shi'ite Militia in Syria". "Iran-Backed" has been added here and also Al-Nujaba has been replaced by "Shiite". In addition, one part of the Persian headline has not been translated. Also, in this headline, it was written about the support of Iran which was not in the source text, and instead of Al-Nujaba they wrote Shiite. By this addition and substitution, they highlighted Iran and Shiite. Moreover, the second part of Persian headline was omitted, which was related to Saudi Arabia as Daesh leader.

28- هدف داعش و جنگ های فرقه ای تخریب کشورهای اسلامی و چهره اسلام است
بسیاری از رهبران داعش اتباع عربستان هستند
آمریکا به دنبال ارسال تروریست های داعشی به یمن و سوریه است

جدا کردن تلغفر از موصل نفس داعش را بند آورد

TT: Al-Nujaba Spokesman: "We Demanded That [Saudi Foreign Minister] Al-Jubeir Take Back The Gifts He Had Given Iraq"

Analysis: All these headlines and their news have been brought under this headline which was not the translation of any of the above headlines. In fact, the translators have created a new headline from one part of these news, and other news with different headlines have brought here with-

out any relation to the created headline. While the headlines form the significant part of the news, they were omitted and ignored in this translation. By regarding the Persian headlines, they were about the crimes of Daesh, America, and Saudi Arabia, which were deleted.

29- هاشم الموسوی در ابتدای این نشست خبری با اشاره به پیروزی‌های مقاومت در منطقه و تبریک آنگفت: «در این نشست درباره حوادث منطقه و عراق سخن خواهم گفت.»

TT: In this [interview] I will discuss the events in the region and in Iraq.

Analysis: In the translation of this part, nothing has been mentioned about Mousavi's congratulation of resistance victory in the region which fights against Israel.

30- بر همین مبنا رسانه‌های معاند جنگ منطقه را جنگ طائفه‌ای می‌نامند.

TT: That is why foreign media refer to the regional war as a sectarian one [between Sunnis and Shi'ites].

Analysis: "Hostile media" was translated into "foreign media". A negative word has been translated positively.

31- دشمن در مقابل اقدام به ارسال ماشین‌های انتحاری کرد که بیش از 30 ماشین آمدند و نیز پهپادهای انتحاری که ما توانستیم با آن‌ها مقابله کنیم.

TT: In response, the enemy sent over 30 martyrdom vehicles and suicide drones, [but] we managed to deal with them."

Analysis: "Suicide vehicles", in the source text, has been translated into "martyrdom vehicle". There is a great difference between suicide and martyrdom. Suicide is the act of killing oneself, but martyrdom in Islamic beliefs is very valuable and admired by people, and it is not comparable with anything else.

32- سخنگوی جنبش النجباء با ذکر این نکته که آمریکا با تکنولوژی خود چطور قادر نیست با گروه‌های تروریستی بجنگد، گفت: «آمریکا در پایگاه عین الاسد وقتی داعش نفت سوریه را می‌زدید تنها تماشا می‌کرد.»

TT: When ISIS stole Syria's oil from the Ayn Al-Assad base, America merely [stood by and] observed.

Analysis: The underlined sentence was not translated. It was related to America's technology and power, which were not applied against terrorists.

33- سخنگوی جنبش النجباء با بشارت پایان یافتن این گرفتاری طی روزهای آینده و آزادی تلعفر گفت: «فشارهای آمریکایی به دولت وارد شد تا حشد الشعبی وارد تلعفر و موصل نشود و ما نیز اجازه ندادیم نیروهای آمریکایی وارد مناطق آزاد شده شوند.»

TT: America heavily pressured the [Iraqi] government to prevent the PMU from entering Tal Afar and Mosul. [In response,] we prevented American forces from entering liberated areas in Iraq.

Analysis: The underlined sentence was not translated, since it was related to the victory of Hezbollah groups and liberation of Tal Afar in Iraq.

34- ما مرز عراق و سوریه را بستیم و دستور حمله هوایی عراق برای سوریه باعث نگرانی عادل الجبیر شده و خواستار پایان دادن آن شد، اما ما آن را ادامه می‌دهیم.

TT: We closed the Syrian-Iraqi border, [but] an Iraqi airstrike in Syria worried [Saudi Foreign Minister] 'Adel Al-Jubeir, who wished to put an end to it, yet we persisted...

Analysis: "Demand" was translated into "wish", having different meaning. Also, a present continuous verb was translated as a past verb; the resistance of Hezbollah group was hidden.

35- ما از همه تلاش‌هایی که برای حفظ روند سیاسی در عراق و بدون نگاه طائفه‌گرایی باشد حمایت می‌کنیم، اما مداخله در امور عراق را به طور قاطعانه رد می‌کنیم.

TT: So long as there are no sectarian motives, we support all efforts to preserve the political process in Iraq, but totally reject interference in Iraqi affairs.

Analysis: They mistranslated the underlined sentence. The spokesman talked about the existence of sectarian look according to the pervious sentences, but the translation denied it.

36- ما این موضوع را که عراق صحنه درگیری کشورهای دیگر باشد را به صورت قاطعانه رد می کنیم. این مشکل و درگیری با عربستان جاری است و از آن ها می خواهیم که دست از عراق و مردم آن بردارند.

TT: Iraq has complicated problems and we want [the Saudis] to leave Iraq and its people alone.

Analysis: The translators changed the sentence. He said that Iraq became the war scene and it became a problem for them. But, they presented a general translation from this sentence and did not imply the matter exactly.

Special Dispatch 7: April 20, 2017

Title: 'Kayhan' Attacks Rohani Camp: 'A Real War Is Currently Raging Against Iran's Power In The Region And In The Lands Of The Resistance... What Have You Done To Make Sure That This Conflict Ends With Victory For Us?'

This dispatch was the translation of Kayhan's editorial on March 16, 2017.

37- امروز در یک گام جلوتر می گویند علامت هایی وجود دارد که نشان می دهد با ترامپ هم می توانیم مذاکره و توافق کنیم بنابراین باید فضای سیاسی و رسانه ای مان را در رابطه با آمریکا آرام کنیم تا به توافقاتی در مباحث منطقه ای دست پیدا کنیم.

TT: Today they take it one step further, saying that there are [actually] indications that it is possible to negotiate with Trump and reach an agreement with him. Therefore we must maintain a mild diplomatic and media climate on the issue of relations with America in order to reach an agreement on regional issues...

Analysis: "We must calm our political and media climate..." was translated into "we must maintain a mild diplomatic and media climate..." The source text implied this point that there is not a calm climate on America's issues in Iran. While the target text stated that there is a clam climate in Iran that it should be maintained.

38- در این میان بعضی از چهره های سیاسی برای اینکه چنین تسلیم شدنی را توجیه کرده و از قبح آن بکاهند، می گویند آن سوی واقعه، جنگ است!

TT: Some political figures [in the Rohani camp] try to justify such a capitulation by saying that 'war [awaits] us'.

Analysis: The sentence was passive but a subject was added in bracket. In addition, "reducing its ugliness" has not been translated.

39- این همه در حالی است که همه شواهد، مدارک و قرائن بیان کننده آن است که «انقلاب اسلامی» و نظام دینی برآمده از آن کماکان و تا آخر مشکل اصلی و کلیدی آمریکا و اروپا و عوامل آن با ایران است.

TT: [The fact is that] all the evidence and proof indicates that the Islamic Revolution and Iran's religious regime still are, and always will be, the main problem for America and Europe.

Analysis: "Islamic Nizam or Hokumat" has been translated into "regime", a negative term, which is not compatible to Islamic government. Moreover "their agents" was not translated.

40- تمرکز تلاش های آمریکا در منطقه روی نیروهای همگرا با جمهوری اسلامی نمونه های واضحی از این اسناد هستند.

TT: In the region, too, America focuses on forces that coordinate with Iran, [and] all these are just examples...

Analysis: Another example of substituting "Iran" instead of "Islamic Republic".

41- اگر هژمون همان سلطه طلبی و استثمار ملت های دیگر باشد چنین چیزی از نظر مبانی انقلاب و سیاست های نظام مردود است و تاکنون هم ایران برای چنین امر مذمومی گامی برداشته است.

TT: If 'hegemony' means tyranny and imperialistic [rule] over other nations, then this is forbidden by the principles of the [Islamic] Revolution and of the [Iranian] regim's policies, and Iran has so far taken no steps in this direction.

Analysis: The source text stated that it is "rejected" not "forbidden". Also, "Indecent" was omitted.

42- در واقع این افراد هم که در ایران هژمون طلبی- موهوم- ایران را نفی می کنند، دنبال نفی قدرت ایران هستند، ...

TT: The fact is that these people inside Iran oppose Iran's important demand for hegemony and want to negate Iran's power...

Analysis: The translation was not correct. According to the source text, Iran's demand for hegemony is imaginary, but the target text was translated in a way as if it is a real fact about Iran.

43- از ایران می‌خواهند که از مسیر علمی عقب بنشینند و علم را به کشورهای غربی محول کرده و خود به عنوان مشتری کالاهای صنعتی به آن‌ها مراجعه کند از این روست که برای این‌ها انهدام موقعیت‌های قدرت‌ساز ایران نه تنها امری مذموم نیست بلکه از آنجا که سبب حل مسئله ایران با غرب است، افتخارآمیز نیز می‌باشد.

TT: Iran must withdraw from its scientific path and leave scientific [development] to Western countries, while [Iran] will be a customer for their industrial products...

Analysis: The underlined sentence was not translated while it was the continuation of the translated sentence.

44- این‌ها در واقع می‌خواهند- اگر بتوانند- این‌ها را مفت به ترکیه و عربستان و اسرائیل و آمریکا بدهند!

TT: They want to hand [these achievements] over to Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Israel and America for nothing.

Analysis: "If they can" was not translated. The speaker's intention was that they could not do this work, but it was ignored in translation.

45- واقعیت این است که این جنگ مدت‌هاست و بخصوص از 2012 علیه ایران راه افتاده و بصورت گرم هم ادامه دارد.

TT: The truth is that this war against Iran started a long time ago, in 2012, and it is still actively continuing.

Analysis: The source text was that "this war against Iran has started a long time ago, especially since 2012 ..." but the target text was translated in a way that it seemed the war has started since 2012 and not before that.

46- برای درک این موضوع ساده کافی است به منطقه‌ای که در آن جنگ وجود دارد نگاه کنیم ببینیم این جنگ در کدام منطقه است؛ عراق، سوریه، یمن و لبنان. خب این کشورها متحد نسبی مان هستند یا متحد نسبی آمریکا؟ در این کشورها چه طیف‌ها و گروه‌هایی در معرض جنگ بر شدت قرار دارند؟

این‌ها ادامه طبیعی انقلاب اسلامی ایران هستند یا ادامه جبهه سلطه؟ در این جبهه‌ها سهم و نقش ما کم است یا زیاد؟

TT: To realize this simple fact it is enough to look at the war in our region... in Syria, Yemen and Lebanon. These are countries that are considered allies of Iran, not of America! Which countries, sects and groups are the target of the intense war going on right now? These are [fronts] that constitute a natural continuation of the Islamic Revolution, not [areas controlled by] the front of arrogance [i.e., the U.S.]!...

Analysis: It changed the content of the source text. The source text was that "It is enough to look at the region, which is involved in the war, to see which region is in the war?"

The source text wanted to manifest some facts by asking questions about the real issues, but the target text converted these questions to declarative sentences and the translators translated the answer of the questions. And in the next sentence he asked "in these countries which sects and groups are the target of the intense war going on right now?", while they asked "which countries?" A question which must be asked as the first question, because the emphasis in second question is on the sects and groups not on countries. And the third question was not translated; it was related to the Iran's role in the region, when the enemies surrounded the countries which are around Iran.

47- همین الان نیروهای ما در سوریه و عراق درگیر جنگی بر شدت هستند که آمریکا و عوامل آن بر ما و مردم دوستدار ایران تحمیل کرده‌اند، چطور می‌توانیم....

TT: When our forces are still involved in intense fighting in Syria and Iraq which America and its agents imposed on us and on our beloved Iranian people, how can....

Analysis: "Those people who love Iran" was translated into "our beloved Iranian people". This sentence was restricted to Iranian people while it was related to every person who love Iran and Iran's manner.

DISCUSSION

In this study, seven Special Dispatches were chosen randomly from MEMRI website; and their source texts were gathered from Iranian news websites to find the extent of the effect of ideological, economic, and status components on the English translation of Persian political news, and also to find the extent of the effect of these components on the selection of Persian political news.

MEMRI's founder is Yigal Carmon, a former advisor on terrorism to the Israeli Prime Ministers. It consists of a board of directors, a board of advisors, and staff who work around the clock for this organization. Moreover, there are many special donors who provide salaries for the staff and their activities. This institute work for a special purpose, according to its claim, to bridge the language gap between the West and the Middle East. Therefore, based on Lefevre's theory, in this case, the type of patronage was undifferentiated; it means that the three components operate by a same group or organization. In other words, this website is a special organization that its activities are based on a special ideology and purpose and its staff's salaries are paid by the same organization. Patrons' ideology is the reason of forming such huge organization and paying such expenses. In this case, economic and status components were in the service of ideological ones, since adequate income and status encourage individuals to accept special ideology. As Lefevre's belief (1992) that patrons count on professionals to convert literary system according to their own ideology.

In this corpus, the three components were highly interrelated. Leading professionals to a special group, accepting their lifestyle, becoming a member of them, working for them, employing in their organization, managing lives with their salaries, and generally, living with them, all connecting to one element, that is ideology. In whole of 47 samples, extracted from the Special Dispatches, there were the traces of ideology. Thus, the effect of ideological component was seen in all samples. But, for a more accurate analyses,

the samples were investigated according to the definition of three components, and brought here in an organized classification. Although this case's patronage was undifferentiated.

- The first component: Ideology
As Lefevre's definition, this component refers to restricting the choice of subject and form matter. Thus, in this case, translators should consider their aim in rendering each news sentences to be in harmony with the company's ideologies. Based on samples, those related to the omission of words or sentences, mistranslation, and changes in the contents of sentences, are under the effect of ideology component.
 - Numbers 2, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, 29, 32, 33, 34, 39, 41, 43, were the examples of omission. The contents of these sentences were related to the plot and destruction of America and its allies in Middle East, Iran's alliance with regional countries, and victories of resistance in the region.
 - Numbers 4, 7, 14, 22, 26, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47 were the examples of mistranslation and changes in the contents of ST's sentences, both semantically and grammatically. The contents of these sentences referred to Iran's power and resistance, and also, hegemony.
- The second component: Economic
As Lefevre's definition, this component refers to income of professionals by patrons. Giving them pension or appointing them to offices to manage their personal lives. It is obvious for being a member of that organization permanently, they should do their works in the best way, according to patrons' expects. Therefore, in this case, the activities should be attractive for patrons, visitors, audiences, and especially, donors, who support the organization financially. One of this activities, based on samples, was creation of new headlines, instead of translation of the

ST's headlines, to bold and highlight what they were going to state. Since headline is the most important part of news in affecting audiences.

- Numbers 5, 24, 27, 28 were the examples of manipulation of ST's headlines.
- The third component: Status
As Lefever's definition, this component refers to being a member of a certain group and living in their support and according to their lifestyle. It means professional's lifestyle is based on certain beliefs or ideologies of a group or organization, in the production of their own "literary system". In this case, the samples, related to utilization of specific words and terminologies, demonstrated the effect of status component.
- Numbers 1, 3, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 30, 31, 39, 40 were the examples of status component. These terminologies were used according to the literature of organization.
 - Islamic Republic of Iran → Iran
 - The Holy City (BeitolMoqaddas) → Temple Mount
 - Islamic countries state → Regime
 - Daesh → ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria)
 - Holy Quran → Quran
 - Martyrdom → Execution
 - Zionists → the Jews, Israel

These words, transferred to TT, not only did not convey the same sense of ST, but also were contrary to the ideologies of STs' country.

Moreover, as it was seen in the samples, the translated news consisted of subjects about war and the countries involved in Daesh's violations in Iraq and Syria, America's role in creation of internal or external wars in the region, Resistant Forces, and Islamic issues. Also, at the top of Special Dispatches, MEMRI always provides introductions about the Persian texts and the websites. In these introductions, they prepared audiences' mind to what they wanted to be bold. Therefore, they inserted their ideologies in the

translations and those introductions presented before the translated texts. Often, MEMRI selects some news, which are not appropriate for an international agency news to be chosen for translation, when it translates one or two Persian news in month. Special Dispatch 5 is the example of this statement. Also, Special Dispatch 4, which is the translation of editor's note in the margin of news text. All, demonstrate the effect of these three components.

In brief, the effect of these components, on translation and selection of news, reflected a special point: the focus of translated news were on Islam; those who accepted and defended it, and those who rejected and attacked it. Islamic names and issues were substituted with other names which connoted neutral or negative sense; while the terms which were related to Daesh and Israel substituted positively. Whenever the Persian texts stated some unpleasant issues about those countries and groups, which connected to Israel, they were omitted easily.

It is worth mentioning that the researchers were confronted with the lack of resources in this field. Secondly, this website was filtered. Thirdly, financial documents of the website were not clear, the researchers found little information in the section of "About MEMRI".

CONCLUSION

Behind each translation, there can be some influential elements, which affect translation. Some of them manipulate original text based on the ideology, without considering accuracy. In consequence, the target audience will not identify the real contents of the source text and interprets them wrongly. In this research, MEMRI website was chosen to investigate the effect of Lefever's three components on its translations, and its selections of Persian news texts for rendering. Generally, it can be said that in this website, translations were affected by three components of Lefever i.e. ideological, economic, and status components, since they were manipulated with a special purpose in a formulaic way. These manipulations indicated the effect of the three compo-

nents. The presence of ideological component was obvious in the samples and in the manipulation of the source texts. Considering the fact that economic and status components were hidden in the text, they played an important role in accepting a special ideology and purpose. Moreover, it can be said that the effect of these components were observed in the selection of Persian news too. The subjects revolved around some certain issues. As it was seen in the samples, the news consisted of subjects about war and the countries which were involved in, Daesh's violations in Iraq and Syria, Resistance Forces, IRGC, and Islamic issues.

It is worth mentioning that the findings of the present research could have some pedagogical implications for translators, translation students, and teachers, to be aware of the effect of some elements on their translational decisions, and their final products. This could also be beneficial for ones engaged in the field of contrastive analysis, through indicating differences between linguistic structures of English and Persian, as well as ideological turns. Moreover, it could be mentioned that it is helpful in linguistic area in the way that indicates the influences of ideology, economic and status components in rendering linguistic materials and the way that the concepts are linguistically structured.

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