

English Translation of Modern Iraqi Slang

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الترجمة الإنجليزية للعامة العراقية الحديثة

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خلاصة:

أحاول من خلال هذه الدراسة تقديم ترجمة للتعبير الاصطلاحي التي ظهرت في العراق خلال القرن الحادي والعشرين إلى اللغة الإنجليزية. ومن خلال هذه الدراسة تتم هذه الترجمة من خلال التفسير الدلالي وليس الحرفي. غالبًا ما تنشر وسائل الإعلام العراقية المواد العامة المترجمة. تعتبر هذه الدراسة بمثابة لمحة عامة عن المقارنة بين الأعمال الفنية العراقية الحديثة، وكيفية تأثر الخطاب بالخلفية الاجتماعية والسياسية للعراق اليوم. يبدو أن اللغة العامية مرتبطة بالثقافة التي تم إنشاؤها فيها، لذلك وجدت أنه سيكون من غير المناسب (وكذلك من الصعب على الناطقين باللغة الإنجليزية غير الأصليين الذين لم يعتادوا على الثقافة والعادات الإنجليزية) تحويل الكلمات والتعبير العربية العراقية إلى اللغة الإنجليزية العامية ذات الأساس الثقافي؛ وبدلاً من ذلك، تمت ترجمتها إلى اللغة الإنجليزية القياسية (الرسمية وغير الرسمية). ويمكن اعتبار هذه الدراسة بمثابة محاولة لترجمة العامية العراقية إلى اللغة الإنجليزية. الكلمات المفتاحية: العامية العراقية، ترجمة التعبيرات، العبارات العامية

Abstract:

Through this study, I try to provide a translation of idiomatic expressions that appeared in Iraq during the twenty-first century into English. Through this study, this translation is achieved through semantic rather than literal interpretation. Translated slang items are often published by the Iraqi media. This study is considered as an overview of the comparison of modern Iraqi artistic works, and how the discourse was affected by the social and political background of Iraq today. Slang seems to be related to the culture in which it was created, so I found it would be irrelevant (as well as difficult for non-native English speakers who are not used to English culture and habits) to convert Iraqi Arabic words and expressions into culturally-based slang English; Rather, they have been translated into Standard English (both formal and informal). This study can be considered as an attempt to translate Iraqi slang into English. Key Words: Iraqi Slang, Idioms translation, Vernacular phrases

Introduction:

This study aims at how it is possible to convert the source slang into a target text. Explaining what a slang element means and how it functions is very different from being an element in conversational situations with which most native speakers identify. Thus, It is interesting to research the use of slang in order to determine if there are any difficulties in transferring slang from one language to another. Most linguists and lexicographers have found, that it is socially shameful to study slang because it is often associated with disrespectful behavior (Adams 2009: 32). Slang is difficult for academics to analyze for this reason, and possibly because it is always changing and incomprehensible; socio-cultural variables also contribute to the difficulties. This study tries to enlighten the English-speaking reader about the slang terminology used by Iraqi youth around the turn of the

century, as well as how such slang expressions differed from, and originated from, colloquial or slang speech used in the prior modern period, or the previous youth generation. Slang is typically the focus of a translator's attention since it has its origins in the source culture to which he or she belongs. To be more specific, casual expressions are often produced by laymen and then taken to the media; the process can be reversed: a film, a television series, a talk-show program, Facebook, or even a literary work may help populate a slang expression and introduce it to a group of people who come from a different social class than where it was first originated. As a result, the research attempts to deal with dialogic (audio) source texts or aspects of colloquial phenomena in a communication generation. This study's empirical auditory samples are then translated into written English target materials. There are several meanings of 'slang,' three of which are presented below According to:

Merriam-Webster Dictionary (MWD), slang is defined as follows:

1. "language specific to a specific group, such as argot or jargon"
2. "an informal nonstandard vocabulary made up of coinages, arbitrarily changed words, and extravagant, forced, or facetious figures of speech"

Cambridge Dictionary of American English (CDAE) defines it as "a very informal language used especially in a speech by specific groups of people and which sometimes includes words that are not polite".

Longman's Dictionary of Contemporary English (LDOCE) identifies slang as: "very informal, sometimes offensive, language that is used especially by people who belong to a particular group, such as young people or criminals. The majority of lexicographers hold the view that slang is colloquial, sometimes haughty language used by a particular social group, typically misfits or teenagers. Speaking in slang enables one "to be creative, clear, and acceptable to a select group " because "sharing and maintaining a constantly changing in-group vocabulary aids group solidarity and serves to include and exclude members". (Eble 1998: 19, 119).

2. Methodology: Translation strategy

Translations offered in this study are based on an ontological examination. In other words, the source texts were obtained by constant observation and listening to slang speech now employed in Iraqi everyday settings, media, television plays, movies, literary writings, blogs, and internet chat rooms. The research does not provide normal Arabic interpretations of the slang samples in question, does not investigate the influence of Iraqi slang on target text readers, and does not refer to civilizations other than modern Iraq. By attempting to strike a balance between the non-identical source language (S L) and target language (T L), the methodologies used in this analysis highlight the functional importance of translation (Schjoldager 2008: 67,71). strategies for translating slang dialogues: Expansion, Paraphrase, Transfer, Imitation, Transcription, Dislocation, Condensation, Decimation, Deletion, Resignation. The paraphrasing technique is the main foundation for this study's glossary; it "alters a non-visualized expression in the ST, such as a language-specific expression, so that the TT conveys the same function with a significantly changed form" (Gottlieb 1992: 75).

3. Translation of slang examples

Many slang phrases and terminology arose in today's Iraq (from 2003 to 2023); most of this jargon was produced and frequently used among young people; they came from a variety of cultural backgrounds. Their informal expressions are often disseminated by the media as well as bloggers on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tiktok. Each group of teens and young men may have their own secret spoken code, which they may or may not share with other teenagers and young men; hence, a word or phrase may have several interpretations. This is an attempt to translate current Iraqi vernacular terms and phrases into English.

- 1- بمعنى هذا الكلام غير منطقي | **solifha adoba/ solifiha adoba** | سولفيها عالدبة | سولفيها عالدبة

This is illogical speech.

- 2- شوف هاي البينه الحلوه | **Baa hatha sarooq** | باع هذا الصاروخ

Here (sarooq (صاروخ) doesn't mean a "Rocket or weapon" in this phrase it means (pretty woman or handsome man) so it will translate in this way: Look at this pretty woman/ Look at this handsome man.

- 3- قتله او قطاع الطرق | **squeaky** | صكاكة

This term refers to people who – kill and kidnap people. so we can translate this term into (killers or kidnappers)

- 4- بمعنى دعك من هذا | **khli yulin** | اخلي يولن

This phrase means " stop chat/ cut it out/ enough/ enough pf that"

- 5- بمعنى مجنون | **hadha shakhit \ hay shakhituh** | هذا شاخط | هاي شاخطه

The term (shakhit\ shakhituh (شاخط\ شاخطه) refers to " Crazy person"

So we can translate this term into "hyte; Haywire; Demented; crazy"

- 6- وتعني تم طرده, طرده سواء من العمل او المكان الذين هو فيه. | **dikulah tabie** | دكولة طابع

It means "fired", fired either from work or from the place in which he/she is.

7- أي بمعنى جعلوه ينتظر لفترة طويلة \shdawlah mughadhiy\ اشدولة مغذي

Here the literal meaning is completely different from the semantic one. If we translate literally it will mean "he has an I.V. drop", but the semantic meaning in Iraqi slang means "make him/her waiting for a long time".

8- والتي تعني في اللهجة العراقية ١٠,٠٠٠ دولار \shida\ شدة Which means 10,000 dollars in Iraqi slang.

9- ترميشة / Tarmeshah

It does not mean winking at beautiful girls or using the beam of the car to push away the cars in front of you. it is currently indicating to call a friend, and as soon as the connection occurs you will cut the line by yourself in order to maintain your mobile charge cad.

10- بمعنى هل اعطيت رشوة؟ \waraqat\ ورقت

It means, did you give a bribe?

11- وقع ضحية خديعة \andarab buri\ انضرب بوري

it means he/she has been a victim of deception, not hit by a tube.

12- وتعني (\$١٠٠) مئة دولار امريكي \waraqah\ ورقه

It means (100\$) one hundred US dollars, and in some contexts it means writing notebook paper.

13- كلمة استخدمها شباب في ولاية بطيخ ومعناها انه واحد يغش مثلا وعندما يراه اصدقاءه بالمزاح /shifatuk samir\ شفتك سميير "يقال له "شفتك سميير"

it's a term used by an Iraqi young in a series called "wellyah batik/ ولاية بطيخ" and now we use it when we see someone cheating and caught by his/ her friends they say to him "shifatuk samir/ شفتك سميير".

for example, someone smoking and no one knows if he is smoking, and by chance some of his \ her friends saw him smoking, they will say to him shifatuk samir/ شفتك سميير instead what are you doing?

14- بمعنى عاطل عن العمل ولايمكك نقود \hadiqah\ احديقة

in some contexts, It means someone, who doesn't work and has no money.

The literally meaning it means "garden or yard".

15- والتي تعني ان شخص فقير الحال ولكن فجأة يصبح غني وهذا الغنى عادة مايكون عن \tagwa almaedani\ طگوا المعدان طريق السرقة بأنواعها.

tagwa, in Iraqi slang, means someone suddenly became rich, before that he was poor, but he became rich in an illegal way.

and the term "tag\ طگ" in Iraqi slang has another meaning, it means

" انفجر \ انفجر"

16- كلمة زاحف باللهجة العراقية تعني الشخص الذي يتملق الفتيات ويحاول بثتى الطرق عمل علاقة معهن من خلال : \zahif\ زاحف. الاسلوب اللطيف او بطرق اخرى.

In Iraqi it doesn't mean creeper (like a snake), but it means a person who flatters girls and tries in various ways to make a relationship with them through gentle style or other ways.

17- . وتعني انه شخص غير مؤدب في السلوك \hadh Wallah mulatlat\ هذا والله ملطظ

In Iraqi it means that he/ she is an impolite person in his /her behavior.

18- مصطلح يطلق على الشخص الذي يريد تحقيق مصلحته الشخصية حتى وان كان \rizqi warizq eayilati\ رزقي ورزق عايلتي ذلك من باب السرقة والفائدة والرشوة تحت مفهوم رزقي ورزق عايلتي

A term applied to a person who wants to achieve his personal interest, even if it is a matter of theft, interest, and bribery under the concept of (rizqi warizq eayilati)

19- \aldile almaynshlieu\ الضلع الماينشليع

(هذا التعبير في العامية العراقية يدل قوة الاخوة والصداقة بين شخصين (اي بمعنى هو جزء من اخية او صديقه ولايمكن التخلي عنه)

aldile almaynshlieu: This expression in the Iraqi colloquial language denotes the strength of brotherhood and friendship between two people (meaning it is part of a brother or friend and cannot be abandoned)

\yurid yatish\ يريد يطش- ٢٠ he \she wants to be a trend or famous on the social media.

Conclusion

In conclusion, slang – as well as colloquial speech – is often determined by sociopolitical economic, and cultural changes that take place in any given real setting (Newmark 1998:37-8). The dialect items above, which are rendered into English, obviously reflect all aspects of the Iraqi. This will open gates for scrutinizing different discourses, through cinema, media, literature, etc., in Iraq and other 'Arab Spring' countries.

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