The Translatability of Administrative and Governmental Terminologies from Arabic into English and English into Arabic

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Abstract

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This study aims at investigating the English–Arabic administrative terminologies at the governmental level and determining the adequacy of the translation of the terms and faithfulness to the original texts to see whether or not the intended meaning is correctly conveyed to the target language readers. It also attempts to identify and categorize the subjects' translations. Thus, the researcher has designed a test including 38 expressions in actual contexts which were translated by an available sample of 24 students from the M.A. translation program at Yarmouk University.

In analyzing the corpus, the subjects' translations were classified in terms of strategies followed and their accuracy and faithfulness to the original language by the researcher himself. Alternative and maybe more appropriate translations of the source language erroneous translations were also suggested. The analysis shows that the M.A. translation students at
Yarmouk University provided translations that did not match the right equivalents to the terms under study in most cases. Maybe this is due to their poor knowledge and experience in tackling such terms.

Finally, the study concludes with a number of recommendations which may enhance the process of translating administrative and governmental body terminologies and improve the practice of their translators.

**Key words:** Administrative divisions, Typologies of a government, Translation.