Parallelism and Paraphrase in Liaredet's
Translation of Mahfouz's Tharthara
Fawqa Al-Neel "Adrift on the Nile"

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Dedication

To my parents, husband, family and friends for their love, care and encouragement.
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Abstract

Parallelism and Paraphrase in Liaredet's Translation of Mahfouz's Tharthara Fawqa Al-Neel "Adrift on the Nile"

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This study aims at investigating two linguistic phenomena, namely 'parallelism' and 'paraphrase' in Naguib Mahfouz's novel "Tharthara Fawqa Al-Neel" 'Adrift on the Nile.' It also attempts at assessing the English translation of the parallel and paraphrastic structures, which is done by Frances Liaerdet, to see to which extent the translator succeeded in conveying the same Source Language functions.

Eighteen Arabic examples on parallelism and paraphrase together with their translations are considered for discussion. They are discussed and evaluated by the researcher and her supervisor. Problems encountered by the translator of texts involving "parallelism" and "paraphrase" are highlighted. To pave the way for discussion, the researcher dwells on the classification of Al-Jubouri (1984) and Johnstone (1991) for parallelism and paraphrase.
Finally, the researcher finds that parallelism and paraphrase constitute a problem to the translator from Arabic into English and had it not observed in the transition, the target language version will be less meaningful, less rhetorical and may not convey the message of the original text.

**Keywords**: Translation, Repetition, Parallelism, Paraphrase
CHAPTER ONE
Overview

1.1. Introduction

The history of translation goes back to a very extended period of time. Throughout this long history, translation has always been of great importance to all nations as it plays an essential role in transferring knowledge and culture from one nation to another.

Throughout the history of translation, various theories have come out to the fore with less or more incongruity among them; besides, linguists failed in unifying their theoretical points of view. In light of this, Wills (1982:4) states that “in spite of having been a wholly debated topic over such a long period of time, translation still seems to be a mysterious phenomenon which defies understanding and still lacks a comprehensive theory which can explain what it is and how it happens.”

Despite what is mentioned above, the enormous efforts of theorists and scholars to put adequate responses illustrating the meaning of translation, the role of a translator and the existence of translation theory can not be excluded.
1.2 Definitions and Types of Translation

Nida (1964), Catford (1965), and Newmark (1981) among others argue that the most suitable translation is the one that can transfer ideas from a source language (SL) into a target language (TL). In his definition, Catford used the word “Equivalence” expressing the source language text (SLT) in equivalent words in the target language text (TLT) or indicating the similarity between SL and TL.

*Webster’s Dictionary* (1992) defines translation as “an act, process, or instance of rendering from one language into another.”

Translation has been sorted into different classifications. Newmark (1988: 45-47), for instance, proposes a wide range of translation types. This includes word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, semantic translation, adaptation translation, free translation, idiomatic translation and communicative translation.

Ghazala (1995:1) defines translation as “all processes and methods used to convey the meaning of the source language into the target language.” He (1995:2) then explains what is meant by meaning by saying that meaning is “a complicated network of language components […] : Grammar, vocabulary (or words), style and phonology (or sounds).”
Farqhal and Shunnaq (1999:2) define it as "a project for transferring (the denotation and connotation) meaning(s) from one language to another."

Reading these definitions, one concludes that translation is not concerned in conveying words alone, but conveying grammar, style and sounds as well.

1.3 The Role of Translators

The main duty of the translator is to convey the meaning to the audience in simple and direct manners. In trying to achieve this goal, the translator has to respect the text and satisfy the audience. Respecting the text means that the translator should be faithful to the source text. The achievement of this goal depends on the translator's honesty and proficiency. Satisfying the audience depends on the type of the audience being addressed as each audience needs a certain level of language that can be easily digested by its members.

However, Nida (1964:64) asserts that no two languages are identical in diction, structure, styles or rhythm. The problem becomes even more difficult when the source language and the target language belong to two different origins - as it is the case in English and Arabic.

Beekman and Callow (1974:32) point out that the objective of the translator should be to produce "a translation that is so rich in vocabulary,
so idiomatic in phrase, so correct in construction, so smooth in flow of thoughts, so clear in meaning, and so elegant in style, that it does not appear to be translation at all, and yet, at the same time, faithfulness transmits the message of the original."

In fact, a translator is expected to achieve the purpose of translation, which is conveying both the message and the effect made by the (SLT) into the (TLT) with equivalent effect, i.e. the same effect on its receiver.

Some linguists believe that a translator should be faithful to the SLT. That is to say, a translator should preserve the author's ideas, meanings, and style. However, others see that a translator, especially a literary translator of novels and plays, could be a co-author rather than a translator. They believe that a translator has the right to interfere in the TLT and add his own ideas and style.

In conclusion, besides being bi-lingual and bi-cultural, the translator has to maintain faithfulness to the SLT's meaning and style, and to find solutions to the lexical, syntactic, stylistic or cultural obstacles caused by the conflict between the two languages and their cultures, so that, the final version of the translation should appear meaningful, precise and natural.