Translatability of the Arabic Preposition baa' (الباء) into English

by
Tahani al-Azzam

Supervised by
Dr Mohammad Saraireh

BA in English Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts, Yarmouk University, Jordan, 1998

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of the Master of Arts (Translation) at Yarmouk University

Thesis Committee

br. Mohammed Saraireh .................. (Chairperson)
prof. Ali Al-Hamad .................. (Member)
br. Lutfi Abulhaija .................. (Member)
br. Abdullah Shunnaq .................. (Member)

August 2003
Abstract

Translatability of the Arabic Preposition baa’
(الباء) into English

By
Tahani Al-Azzam

Supervisor
Dr. Mohammed Saraierah

The present study aims at investigating the translatability of the baa’ from Arabic into English with regard to strategies that are used in translating the baa’. The study also aims at finding out problems hindering the translation of the baa’ to see how such problems can be handled successfully so that the translation of the baa’ gains higher degrees of equivalence.

Problems lie in the fact that there is no one-to-one correspondence between the two systems of prepositions in Arabic and English. In the course of the study, the researcher reviews a group of examples containing the baa’ so as to conclude a set of strategies that can be used to translate the meaning and/or function of baa’ properly.

A comparison has been drawn between the Arabic prepositions, in general, and the baa’, in particular, on the one hand, and the English prepositions on the other. The findings of this comparison show that certain similarities do exist between the two systems with regard to meanings and/or functions that prepositions in both languages express. On the basis of this comparison and the data analysis, it may be concluded that the baa’ is translatable from Arabic into English equivalently.