**Problems and Solutions in Translating Culture-Specific Items in Yemeni Laws from Arabic into English**

**By:**

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Abstract

This study aims at investigating the problems that MA translation students at Yemeni universities encounter when translating the culture-specific terms in some Yemeni laws, specifically the Criminal Law and Zakat Law from Arabic into English. It aims to identify the reasons that lead to these problems and explore some strategies that MA translation students employ in translating culture-specific terms. Moreover, it attempts to provide some possible solutions to these problems. The researcher adopted the qualitative-quantitative approach. Three instruments were developed and administered to achieve the study's objectives: a translation test, a questionnaire, and a semi-structured interview. Using the census sampling technique, the researcher selected a sample of (30) MA translation students. In addition, four experts in translation were chosen for the interview to gather some solutions to the problems in translating the culture-specific items in some Yemeni laws. The results from the test have revealed that students face real problems in translating culture-specific items as their overall performance is low. Inaccurate translations are often provided by students, whereas a small percentage of students rendered correct translations. The results from the questionnaire show that the students agree on all the causes for the problems encountered. Some are due to lack of experience, lack of knowledge, lack of professional training and practice, adopting certain strategies in legal translation, as a shortage of legal translation training programs and finding accurate cultural equivalents. The results also revealed that literal translation is the most dominant strategy used by students. According to the findings of the interviews, students need adequate knowledge, training and practice. They also have to employ some appropriate strategies when translating culturally specific items. In light of the findings, the study has come up with certain recommendations and suggestions