



The Academic Book Review of the Book " الذكاء الاصطناعي وتأثيره في ترجمة الشعر " **(Artificial Intelligence and Its Impact on Poetry Translation)**

Haida Kareem Ali

Ministry of Education, Baghdad, Iraq

Email: haidakareemali@gmail.com

Received: May 02, 2025

Reviewed: May 20, 2025

Accepted: June 3, 2025

Published: June 07, 2025

Introduction

Full Title and Author

Title: الذكاء الاصطناعي وتأثيره في ترجمة الشعر (Artificial Intelligence and Its Impact on Poetry Translation)

Author: الأستاذ المساعد الدكتور إبراهيم طلعت إبراهيم
Asst. Prof. Ibrahim Talaat Ibrahim, Ph.D.

Edition: First Edition, 2024

Publisher: دار ومكتبة عدنان، بغداد، العراق
Adnan House for Printing and Publishing, Baghdad, Iraq.

Series: سلسلة جمعية المترجمين العراقيين – مشروع ١٠٠ كتاب (الثانية) – العدد ١٥
Iraqi Translators Association Series – One Hundred Book Project (2nd version) -No. 15.

Pages: 262 pages

ISBN: 9789922732497

Deposit Number: 418

Thesis Statement

The book comprises a trail-blazing empirical investigation of the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to translate Arabic poetry into English, evaluating whether or not machine-generated translations are able to capture the poetic nature, cultural richness, and linguistic intricacies usually achieved by human translators.

Purpose of the Review

This review evaluates the book's contribution to the field of translation studies, namely the intersection of AI and poetic translation, on the basis of its originality, methodological soundness, and theory build-up.

Context

Dr. Ibrahim Talaat Ibrahim is a translation studies expert who combines linguistic expertise with literary consciousness. The book comes at a time when AI is proceeding extremely quickly to revolutionize fields of study across the humanities, beginning with literary and poetic translation—a sector long considered to be the final stronghold of human creativity.

Summary of the Content**Main Arguments**

The book explores whether AI—big language models specifically—are effective in translating poetry without losing the original's artistic qualities. It raises questions as to whether machines can replicate the sensitivity, rhythm, cultural nuance, and emotional depth that are integral to poetry.

Overview of Structure

The book is divided into three significant chapters:

1. Chapter One contains 20 selected Arabic poems of different eras and authors.
2. Chapter Two provides two versions of human translations of each poem and AI translations.
3. Chapter Three provides a comparative analysis of the translations on the grounds of four criteria: linguistic, cultural, psychological, and semantic dimensions.

Scope and Focus

The book focuses solely on AI-based Arabic-to-English poetry translation. Analytical and empirical in focus, the book uses practical examples to illustrate theoretical points about the potential and limitations of machine translation today.

Critical Evaluation**A. Strengths**

Originality: The work is one of the first Arabic monographs to venture into the practical implications of AI in literary translation, with poetry being a particularly challenging genre.

Clarity and Style: The article is academic and readable. It very intelligently leads the reader through in-depth comparative analyses.

Methodology: The two-translation model with human and AI is extremely useful for illustrating subtle differences in translation.

Relevance: The research meaningfully contributes to digital humanities, AI ethics, and comparative translation studies.

B. Weaknesses

Lack of Technical Detail: The book is silent on which AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Google Translate, DeepL) were used, and how they were configured. It is impossible to reproduce or scientifically examine the results given this lack of technical detail.

Theoretical Depth: The literary analysis itself is correct, but there is minimal reference to recent AI translation scholarship (e.g., recent work since 2020 in neural machine translation).

Overgeneralizations: At times, the book hypothesizes an absolute difference between AI and human translation without fully examining hybrid processes or AI-supported human translation processes.

Bias Potential: Since the author comes from a translation background, the evaluation of the human translator is more sympathetic, possibly due to confirmation bias.

C. Comparison with Other Works

There is no similar reference to the current one under review in terms of its variables: Poetry, Translation (Human Vs. AI) and analysis on four levels. That is, Dr. Ibrahim's book is unique in its Arabic focus and empiric richness. It is rare for bridging classical Arabic poetry and modern machine translation.

Theoretical or Disciplinary Relevance

This book contributes to several overlapping disciplines:

Translation Studies: It redefines the boundaries between creative translation and automated processing.

Digital Humanities: Offers empirical data for evaluating AI's role in literature and arts.

AI and Ethics: Raises philosophical questions about authorship, creativity, and emotional fidelity in machine-generated texts.

Methodologies: Combines qualitative literary critique with comparative analysis, although it lacks quantitative metrics (e.g., BLEU scores or human evaluation ratings).

Conclusion

Overall Assessment

The book is a timely and welcome contribution to Arabic-language scholarship in AI and translation. It maintains a good balance between literary depth and technological competence,

though it could benefit from more technical transparency and theoretical alignment with global discussion.

Audience Recommendation

Unreservedly recommended for:

Graduate students and researchers in Translation Studies, Computational Linguistics, and Arabic Literature.

Literary translators and poets who utilize AI tools.

Policy-makers and educators in language technology.

Final Remarks

With more advancements in AI, this book lays a critical foundation for more research and development. It points to the necessity of human judgment in poetry translation but also recognizes the enhanced capabilities of AI.

References

Reviewed Book

إبراهيم طلعت إبراهيم. (٢٠٢٤). الذكاء الاصطناعي وتأثيره في ترجمة الشعر. بغداد: دار ومكتبة عدنان، جمعية المترجمين العراقيين.

Ibrahim, I. T. (2024). *Artificial intelligence and its impact on poetry translation*. Adnan Printing & Publishing House, Iraqi Translators' Association.

Other References

Hutchins, W. J. (2005). The history of machine translation in a nutshell. *Computers and the Humanities*, 38(2), 1–13.

Toral, A., & Way, A. (2018). What level of quality can neural machine translation attain on literary text? *Translation Quality Assessment*, 24(1), 1–25.

<https://doi.org/10.1075/btl.138.03tor>