الترجمة الفورية للخطابات السياسية: دراسة ترجمة خطاب وليد المعلم في مؤتمر جنيف الثاني

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ملخص

تسلط هذه الورقة البحثية الضوء على الفروقات بين الترجمة التحريرية والترجمة الفورية باعتبارهما أداتين للتواصل. كما تناقش الدراسة الفروقات بين المترجم التحريري والمترجم الفوري وخاصة المترجمين الفوريين الذين يعملون في مجال الترجمة السياسية مركزة على المشاكل التي يواجهونها والاستراتيجيات المستخدمة للتغلب على هذه المشاكل. تستخدم هذه الدراسة المنهجية النوعية والمقارنة لجمع وتحليل البيانات المختارة من خطاب وليد المعلم في مؤتمر جنيف الثاني. وتخلص الدراسة إلى أنّ المترجمين الفوريين يواجهون صعوبات لغوية وأخرى غير لغوية عندما يتعاملون مع الخطابات السياسية في المؤتمرات الدولية. تعود الصعوبات اللغوية إلى افتقار المترجم الفوري للمفردات وعدم قدرته على فهم لغة النص المصدر واللكنة التي يتحدث بها ملقي النص الأصلي بينما تتعلق الصعوبات غير اللغوية بسرعة المتحدث وعامل الوقت والخلفية الثقافية للمتحدث. وتظهر الدراسة أنّ المترجمين الفورين يلجؤون إلى مجموعة من الاستراتيجيات للتعامل مع هذه المشاكل وتقديم ترجمة فورية مقبولة تعطي المعنى المقصود للرسالة التي يود المتحدث إيصالها .

الكلمات المفتاحية: الترجمة، الترجمة الفورية، الخطابات السياسية، أنواع الترجمة الفورية، استراتيجيات الترجمة الفورية.

Interpreting Political Speeches: A Case Study of Walid al-Muallem's Speech at Geneva Second Conference

Abstract

This paper sheds light on the differences between translation and interpretation as two tools of communication. The study discusses the differences between the translators and the interpreters, particularly those working in the field of politics, focusing on the problems that interpreters encounter when dealing with political speeches and the strategies that they adopt to overcome these problems. The comparative qualitative method is used to collect and analyze the data selected from Walid al-Muallem's speech at Geneva Second Conference.

The study concludes that political interpreters face linguistic and non-linguistic problems while translating political speeches at international conferences. The linguistic problems are attributed to lack of vocabulary, lack of understanding of the source language and difficulty with accent. The non-linguistic problems are related, as the study discusses, to interlocutor's high speaking speed, time constraint and the cultural background of the speaker. Interpreters, as the study shows, resort to a variety of strategies to deal with these problems and provide acceptable interpretations that convey the meaning of the message.

1. Introduction

Translation is a medium of communication that plays an immense role in the modern globalized world in bringing nations speaking different languages together and in facilitating communication between them. The same role is assigned for interpretation as a tool of communication and the role of translators and interpreters is highly evaluated in international platforms where people from around the world are aided and helped by interpreters to transmit their countries views, stances and opinions about what is happening globally.

2. Statement of the Problem

The researcher attempts to shed light on the differences between translation and interpreting and the differences between the translator and the interpreter focusing on those working in the field of politics. The study uses Walid al-Mualem's speech at Geneva Second Conference as its source of data. The reason behind choosing political speeches as the source of data is that those types of texts are sensitive (Schaffner, 1997) and incorrect interpreting of any word may affect the political message the speech intends to convey. Thus the study compares and contrasts al-Mualem's speech with the interpreter's rendition of it to highlight the problems interpreters encounter while translating political speeches and show what strategies they adopt to deal with such problems.

3. Significance of the Study

The significance of the study stems from its focus on both translation and interpreting and the differences between them. This study is also significant as it focuses on political speeches. Politicians choose their words carefully to convey their political views and stances towards political issues. Therefore, it is very important to convey the correct meaning of the politicians' words as any incorrect translation of a word will undermine the political message intended by the speech.

4. Research Questions

This study endeavors to answer the following research questions:

- What is the difference between translation and interpreting?
- What problems do interpreters of political speeches encounter?
- How do interpreters deal with these problems?

5. Methodology and Data Collection

Generally, research approaches can be qualitative, quantitative or a mixture of them. Qualitative research is used with small sample size and focuses on reasons, opinions and motivations while quantitative research depends on numbers and statistics and is used with large sample size. This research paper is conducted using the comparative qualitative method in collecting and analyzing the data because the sample size is small and because the quality of the

interpretation is what is to be examined. The source of the data is a ministerial speech delivered by Walid al-Mualem, the Syrian Foreign and Expatriate ex-Minister and the head of the Syrian delegation at Geneva Second Conference in 2014. The reason behind selecting this particular speech for conducting the present study is because of its political importance since Al-Muallem delivers it to show the ugliness of terrorism that targets the Syrian land and the Syrian people in addition to its complex structure and its richness with vocabularies that may impose difficulties for simultaneous interpreters .The speech was broadcast live on TV and interpreted concurrently from Arabic into English. The speech was interpreted entirely by two interpreters; however, the researcher did not have access to personal information about these interpreters because the video researcher downloaded did not include their names or any other information. The researcher read al-Mualem's speech carefully and selected some extracts from the speech that she found to be problematic from the perspective of interpreting and compared them with their English equivalents concentrating on the problems interpreters face and the strategies they employ to deal with these problems.

6. Background

The Oxford Advanced English Learners Dictionary (2005, p.1631) defines the verb 'to translate' as "to express the meaning of a speech or writing in a different language" and 'translator' as "a

person who translates writing or speech into a different language" (p.1632). According to the same dictionary, the verb 'to interpret' is defined as "to translate one language into another as you hear it" and the 'interpreter' as "a person whose job is to translate what somebody is saying into another language" (p.813). From the above definitions, we recognize that interpreting is a specific type of translation concerned with oral or spoken material.

According to Schaffner (2004, p.2), translation and interpreting are two modes of mediated communication or two modes of language mediation and are different because while translation is concerned with written texts, interpreting is concerned with oral speech. Academically, Schaffner (2004, p.3) states that there are two differences between translation and interpreting which are the age difference and the topics addressed by the two fields of study. Concerning the age difference, she states that interpreting studies is much younger than translation studies and in relation to the topics addressed by the two, Schaffner (2004, p.3) states that while translation addresses topics such as philosophical arguments on translatability, linguistic aspects, textual and discursive features related to text types, text functions, genres and their conventions, and cultural, historical, ideological, sociological issues, interpreting studies focus on the interpreting process and on such features as working memory, human processing capacity, time lag, attention span and cognitive skills.

As for Gile (cited in Schaffner, 2004, p.11), the word 'translation' is used for "a written target-language reformulation of a written source text" and the word 'interpreting' is used for "a non-written re-expression of a non-written source text". For him, interpreting as a process is older than translation "since it is presumably practiced before texts were actually written", but as an academic discipline interpreting studies is younger than translation studies. The same idea is emphasized by Phelan (2001, p.6), who states that translation is written down while interpreting is spoken and that interpreting has existed for a long time and used by people who had no common language who either made use of sign language or found someone who could speak different languages (p.1).

6.1. Translator versus Interpreter

Kade (cited in Schafner, 2004, p.1) argues that there are two basic differences between the translator and the interpreter which are the time factor and the availability of the source text. For the translator the source text is available in some fixed form either printed on paper or recorded on a tape. This allows the translator to refer back to the source text when it is necessary and to correct and make revisions of the translated text. Thus the final translated version is the result of many attempts and many corrections and revisions. On the other hand, the source text is presented orally for the interpreter and only once and the target text has to be produced immediately. Therefore, the interpreter has only one attempt at

producing the target text and has no time to correct or revise the version.

Farghal (2015, p.201) discuss the time factor as a major distinction between the translator and the interpreter. They state that the time lapse allowed in interpreting is usually short and the interpreter has to perform more than one operation during it. Thus the interpreter has to comprehend the semantic unit on the one hand and simultaneously find an equivalent for it in the target language.

For Brown (2010, p.7), the translator has the time to translate, proofread, revise, and consult colleagues before submitting the final version to the client. On the other hand, the interpreter does not have a luxury of time nor a second chance to revise the result of the interpretation.

6.2. Types of Interpreting

Interpreting is classified into various forms the most common of wich are discussed below following Phelan's (2001) and Gile's (2004) classifications.

6.2.1. Simultaneous Interpreting:

Phelan (2001, p.6) states that in simultaneous interpreting the listener hears the interpretation at the same time as the speech is made. The interpreter hears the speech through the headphones and simultaneously interprets. Simultaneous interpreters should not hesitate or leave sentences unfinished. They should be concerned

with meaning rather than with exact equivalents for individual words. In addition, a pleasant voice is a great asset in an interpreter. For Gile (2004, p.12), the simultaneous interpreter reformulates the source speech as it unfolds, generally with a lag of a few seconds at most.

6.2.2. Consecutive Interpreting:

In consecutive interpreting according to Phelan (2001, p.9), the interpreter listens to a speech while taking notes and when the speaker finishes talking, the interpreter stands up and gives the speech in his or her native language. The interpretation is not a summary; it is a complete rendition of the original speech in another language. Phelan (2001, p.9) states that concentration and understanding are necessary skills for a consecutive interpreter.

Gile (2004, pp.11-12) divides consecutive interpreting into two types: true consecutive and sentence-by-sentence consecutive interpreting. In true consecutive interpreting, the speaker makes a statement that generally lasts up to a few minutes while the interpreter takes notes. After that the speaker stops and the interpreter reformulates the statement. In sentence-by-sentence consecutive interpreting, the speaker's statements are much shorter and do not need note-taking.

6.2.3. Sight Translation:

According to Gile (2004, p.11), in sight translation, the source text is written and the target text is spoken. Thus interpreters are

asked to read and translate written documents aloud as Phelan (2001, p.13) states.

Kadric et al. (2021) state that for conference-like interaction formats at a multilateral level, simultaneous interpreting is the predominant form, while in dialogical communication situations such as bilateral meetings, consecutive interpreting is the standard mode complemented by a chuchotage. According to Phelan (2001, p.12), chuchotage refers to whispered interpreting that is used when one or two people do not understand the source language and interpreters use low voice to simultaneously render the speaker's statement into the listener.

6.3. Political Interpreter's Skills

Political speeches are sensitive texts and any mistakes while interpreting them will affect the message and lead to interpreting problems. Thus, the role of the interpreter at international meetings of politicians and diplomats is a critical one. Thus interpreters working in politics need not only language skills and cultural understanding, but also technical knowledge, flexibility and the ability to work under pressure, as Kadric et al. (2021) argue.

On his part, Nolan (2005, p.222) illustrates that political ideas and assumptions pervade the discourse of international conferences. Therefore, the political interpreter must have a fairly well-developed sense of current political trends and the vocabulary associated with them as well as the knowledge of the standard of

procedural jargon of deliberative and decision making bodies and fora.

6.4. Interpreting Challenges and Suggested Strategies

6.4.1. Challenges

Interpreting challenges can be classified into linguistic and non-linguistic. Gile (cited in Sin-Wai, 2018, p.537) argues that simultaneous interpreters face challenges related to language in addition to other non-linguistic challenges that include cultural, social, and affective challenges related to the interpreters role as a message mediator between groups with different languages, cultures and interests. Ardlillah and Murtiningsih (2001) discuss the linguistic and non-linguistic challenges of interpreting. According to them, linguistic problems include lack of understanding of the source language, lack of vocabulary and difficulties with accent. Ardlillah and Murtiningsih (2001) state that although interpreters possess a high level of linguistic competence, they often find difficulties when grasping for the right vocabulary to express the intended meaning. Therefore, they suggest that interpreters should master a high vocabulary level from different languages because lack of linguistic competence and vocabulary shortage would hinder interpreters from delivering interlocutors.

Non-linguistic challenges are related to time constraint, interpreter's cultural background and interlocutor's high speaking speed:

- Time constraint: Interpreters have minimal time to convey the messages received from speakers. This may lead to incomplete understanding of the meaning of the message.

- Interpreter's cultural background: interpreters have different cultural background from the community's culture in which they have to perform their job and this causes problems.

- Interlocutor's high speaking speed: this is one of the most common challenges faced by interpreters because when interlocutors speak at a high speed, interpreters would not have a full comprehension of the topic discussed.

6.4.2. Strategies

Interpreters resort to a variety of strategies to deal with the challenges they face. The taxonomies provided by Alkhanji and Al-Salman (2002) and Jones (2002) are discussed below:

Alkhanji and Al-Salman (2002, pp.611-612) discuss the strategies that the interpreter resorts to when encountering interpreting problems. They are:

1- Skipping: deletion of unnecessary repetitions, redundant expressions or unimportant utterances that even the translator ignores when working on the written version.

2- Anticipation: rendering of the utterances according to the grammatical and semantic schema of the target language.

3- Summarizing: rendering of the content into a shorter version.

4- Approximation: rendering of an utterance into a near equivalent or synonym.

5- Code-switching: shifting of the dialect from standard to a colloquial or informal one.

6- Literal interpretation: rendering of an utterance literally regardless of contextual adequacy.

7- Incomplete sentences: use of fragmented utterances or leaving sentences unfinished.

8- Message abandonment: ignoring the rendering of certain utterances due to difficulties facing the interpreter.

In addition to the above mentioned strategies, Jones (2002, pp.101-105) discusses the strategy of simplification that is used with highly technical terms to make their meaning easy for the audience. The strategy of generalization is used when the interpreter is rendering the utterance of a very fast speaker thus s/he can use a generic term to save time. The explanation or paraphrasing strategy is used when the interpreter is faced by cultural or institutional references that have no direct equivalent in the target language. Thus they can explain them to the audience; however, this strategy takes time.

7. Data Analysis

This section is concerned with the analysis of the problematic extracts that the researcher collects from al-Muallem's speech at Geneva Second Conference. From the researcher's point of view, the interpretation of those extracts is problematic; therefore, source extracts and their target equivalents are compared and contrasted to find the problems they contain and suggest suitable translations for them. Al-Muallem's selected extracts and the interpreter's version of them are organized into tables to facilitate the comparison and the analysis processes.

Table (1)

Speaker	Interpreter
أحييكم باسم وفد الجمهورية العربية السورية.. الجمهورية المدنية التي حاول بعض ممن يجلسون في هذه القاعة إعادتها إلى القرون الوسطى.. العربية التي تعتز بعروبتها المتشبثة بها رغم ما فعله بعض العرب..	I greet you on behalf of the Syrian Arab Republic.. the civilian republic that some of those in this room have tried to take back to the middle ages.. Arab proud to be Arab and that is in spite of what some of the Arab did

The interpreter omits the word (وفد) from her translation. However, this omission is not justified because the speaker is the Foreign Prime Minister, Walid al-Muallem, the head of the Syrian delegation to Geneva Second Conference and he speaks on behalf of the other members of the delegation, so this word (وفد) is important and should be mentioned in the translation. Concerning

the sentence (العربية التي تعتز بعروبتها المتشبثة بها) , the interpreter adopts the strategy of approximation and translates it into a near synonymous sentence.

Table (2)

Speaker	Interpreter
1- كل صرخة لطفل مذعور من قذيفة استهدفت أنامله الغضة.	1- The cry of every frightened child at hearing a shell during his lesson.
2- كل حرقة عائلة تهدم منزلها وأصبحت في عداد النازحين واللاجئين.	2- Every family that has become displaced or refugee.
3- كل شاب أن يبني مستقبله كما يريد ولكل رجل أن يعود إلى أولاده وبيته آمناً مطمئناً.	3- Every young man to build his future and to return home safely to his children and wife

In Table (2, No.1), the interpreter omits the sentence استهدفت أنامله الغضة supposing that this sentence is not significant to the meaning of the whole sentence; thus she adopts a message abandonment strategy. However, this omission is not justifiable because the speaker intends to convey to the audience that terrorism does not differentiate between innocent children with tiny small fingers and others. Al-Muallem was known to select his words carefully while delivering speeches in international forums and for being eloquent while speaking; therefore any deletion of a term he speaks can affect the meaning of the message he wants to deliver. In Table (2, No.2), the interpreter omits the word حرقة and the sentence تهدم منزلها while interpreting may be because it was difficult for her to

find suitable equivalents in the target language. Thus she resorts to the message abandonment strategy. However, those omitted parts affect the meaning of the sentence because they show the suffering of the Syrian families due to terrorism. In Table (2, No.3), the interpreter reduces the two sentences into one sentence in addition to the omission of some words while translating because she probably thought they are redundant information or because of the time constraint factor. Thus she has no time to translate the whole sentence. Therefore, the interpreter adopts the summarizing strategy that she thought gave the intended meaning of the utterance.

Table (3)

Speaker	Interpreter
1- يؤسفني ويؤسف شعب سوريا الصامدة. 2- دولاً صدرت الإرهاب وصدر معه صكوك الغفران. 3- شجعت ومولت وساهمت وحرضت وأصبغت الشرعية ونزعتها كما شاء. 4- لم تنظر يوما إلى بيتها الزجاجي المهترئ قبل أن ترمي القلاع الحصينة العريقة بالحجارة. 5- فمنحت وحرمت وحللت وشرّعت وكفرت ووزعت العطايا والهبات ذلك أنها اعتادت أن تكون بلادها ملكا لملك أو أمير يهب ما يريد منها لمن يريد ويحرم من يريد ما لا يريد.	1- It is regrettable to me and to the people of Syria. 2- Countries that have exported terrorism and exported instruments of pardon. 3- Have encouraged and financed terrorism. 4- They have not looked at their own houses before throwing stones at ancient castles. 5- They have given prizes here and there. They have decided what is right and wrong because they are used to be the property of a king or an Emir and that does what he wants.

The interpreter adopts various strategies in rendering al-Muallem's above utterance. In Table (3, No.1), the interpreter omits the adjective الصامدة while rendering the speech; however, this omission affects the meaning of the sentence because al-Muallem wants to stress Syrian people's steadfastness in the face of terrorism. Thus she uses message abandonment strategy. In Table (3, No.2), she adopts the strategy of approximation in rendering the phrase صكوك الغفران and provides a rendition that is semi-equivalent to the original one. In Table (3, No.3), the interpreter adopts the strategy of summarizing and renders the six verbs شجعت ومولت وساهمت وحرضت وأصبغت ونزعت into two verbs (encouraged and financed). Concerning (table3, no.4), the adjective المهترئ that modifies the noun بيتها and the adjective الحصينة that modifies the noun القلاع are omitted. However, they are significant to the meaning of the sentence because al-Muallem wants to say that those countries that do not know the real meaning of freedom and do not respect the rights of their people do not have the right to interfere in the affairs of a steadfast country as the ancient Syria. The interpreter may have adopted three strategies in rendering the final sentence in Table (3). First of all, she applies the strategy of paraphrase in rendering the verb شرعت وكفرت and the verbs حللت وحرمت. Then she omits منحت ووزعت العطايا والهبات. Here the interpreter may adopts the strategy of message abandonment because she was unable to understand the religious reference that the words التشريع والتكفير related to. In the

final part of sentence No.(6), the interpreter adopts the strategy of summarizing that she thought gave the intended meaning.

Table (4)

Speaker	Interpreter
1- حاضروا فيها بالشرف وهم يغرقون بوحول السبي والوأد والجاهلية. 2- زعزعة استقرار سوريا وتدميرها من خلال تدير منتجهم الوطني الأهم وهو الإرهاب. 3- تغتصب النساء أثناء حياتها وبعد مماتها في سلوك شنيع منحرف لا ينم إلا عن مصدري هذا الفكر. 4- في سوريا من يأكل قلب السوري ليحقق طموح الضحية في حياة حرة ديمقراطية رغيدة هانئة كما يدعي فأي سخف وضحك على العقول هذا.	1- They have preached Syria with honor while they soak in mud, they soak in backwardness. 2- Destabilize Syria, destroy Syria and that through exporting terrorism. 3- Women being raped before and after death and that only shows the thoughts of those who export this kind of thinking. 4- In Syria, this is what is happing which is totally absurd.

In Table (4, No.1), the interpreter omits the words السبي والوأد because she perhaps finds difficulty in understanding the reference to pre-Islamic practices that they contain thus she ignores them while interpreting. In Table (4, No.2), the interpreter uses message abandonment strategy and omits the phrase منتجهم الوطني الأهم that is related to the noun الإرهاب. However, this phrase has a significant role in al-Muallem's utterance because in mentioning it he wants to affirm that terrorism does not come from abroad but from those countries that are supposed to be the Syrians brothers. In Table (4, No.3), the same strategy of message abandonment is adopted when the interpreter omits the prepositional phrase في سلوك شنيع منحرف . However, this omission affects the meaning of the sentence because

the speaker wants to express the ugliness of this inhuman practice. In Table (4, No.4), the interpreter finds difficulty in understanding al-Muallem's words. This difficulty is related to the complex picture of bad terrorist acts that al-Muallem wants to draw in the minds of the listeners. Thus, due to its complexity and the time constraint factor, the interpreter is unable to fully comprehend and render the sentence thus she resorts to the strategy of generalization to give a near meaning to the meaning intended.

Table (5)

Speaker	Interpreter
1- تقصف الجوامع والمصلون سجّد. 2- تقطع الرؤوس وتعلق في الشوارع. تشوى الناس أحياء في محرقة حقيقية سينكرها التاريخ. 3- تحت مسمى الثورة يفجر أب نفسه وأطفاله وزوجته بيديه كي لا يدخل الأغراب بيته ويحرروه من ظلم وير النظام وينشروا الديمقراطية كما يدعون. 4- دخل الغرباء إليها فقتلوا ونهبوا وشنقوا واغتصبوا وحرقوا الناس أحياء. 5- دول تصدرت أخيراً رأس الحربة في جسد سورية بعد أن أزاحت أخرى كانت تحاول وعلى دماء السورين أن تتزعم المنطقة بالمال والنفوذ وشراء الذمم لتصدر لنا علنا وحوشاً على هيئة بشر شربتها الفكر الوهابي ونشرتها في سورية.	1- Mosques are being bombed. 2- We have people who have been decapitated, their heads are hung in the streets. We have seen people burnt alive on the streets and this will be denounced by history. 3- Under the name of a revolution, we see a father is killing himself and his family so he would save them from strangers entering his house. 4- Strangers came in. They killed and burnt people. 5- States who are the first attackers on Syria after they put aside others who were trying to take the leadership of the country through influence and money and this is by using the horrible Wahhabi thought that is being spread in Syria.

In Table (5, No.1), the interpreter abandons rendering the sentence المصلون سجّد thinking that mentioning the bombing of mosques is sufficient to provide the meaning. However, this omission affects the meaning because al-Muallem refers to a specific time of mosques bombing that is while worshipers are praying and terrorists choose this time to kill more innocent people. Concerning Table (5, No.2), the interpreter adds the prepositional phrase (on the streets) to the sentence (people burned alive). She predicts it as in the preceding sentence and this is referred to as the anticipation strategy. She also adopts a message abandonment strategy and does not mention the prepositional phrase في محرقة حقيقية thinking that it is insignificant to the meaning. However, the full picture of burning people alive that al-Muallem wants to express is not provided without mentioning this phrase in the interpretation. In Table (5, No.3), the strategy of summarizing is adopted and the full meaning of the sentence is expressed. In Table (5, No.4) the interpreter adopts the generalization strategy and generalizes the meaning of the six verbs قتلوا ونهبوا وشنقوا وذبحوا واغتصبوا وحرقوا by mentioning two verbs (killed and burned). Moreover, due to the time constraint factor, the interpreter was not able to follow the speaker's words thus she reduces them into two verbs only. In Table (5, No.5), the interpreter adopts the strategy of paraphrase in interpreting the sentence تصدرت رأس الحربة because she was unable to find a direct equivalent to the original sentence and this may be attributed to the short time available. The final part of the sentence is translated by

adopting the summarizing strategy and mentioning the most significant part of it that is (the horrible Wahhabi thought).

Table (6)

Speaker	Interpreter
1- لكن الجيران بالأزمة في سوريا كانوا إما سكاكين في الظهر من الشمال أو متفرج ساكت عن الحق من الغرب أو ضعيف يُؤمر ويأتمر من الجنوب أو منهك بما خططوا له ونفذوا منذ سنوات ليدمروه و يدمروا سوريا من الشرق. 2- من صفر مشاكل مع الجيران إلى صفر في الساسة الخارجية. 3- رغم ذلك استمرت في فعلتها الشنيعة ذلك أن الحلم التاريخي لسيد قطب وقبله محمد عبد الوهاب قد بدأ يتحقق كما توهموا. 4- لكن بعض الجيران أشعلوا النيران في سوريا واستقدم بعضهم الإرهابيين من شتى أنحاء العالم وهنا برزت المفارقة المضحكة المشينة.. ثلاثون وثمانون جنسية تقاتل في سوريا لم يشتك أحد ولم يشجب أو يستنكر أحد.	1- Nevertheless, the neighbors of Syria were either back-stabbing it or they were just standing silent or very weak being given orders and that for some plans that some have put for years in order to destroy Syria. 2- From problems with neighbors we see we see the problems in foreign policy. 3- Nevertheless, this government has continued these actions because of assuming that their historic dream would be realized. 4- Nevertheless, some neighbors have lit the fires in Syria and have brought terrorists from all parts of the world and here we see the horrible tragic irony, eighty three nationalities fighting in Syria and nobody condemns that.

In Table (6, No.1), the interpreter omits the prepositional phrases من الشمال، من الغرب من الجنوب، من الشرق respectively thinking that omitting them does not affect the meaning. However, those omitted

phrases are crucial to the meaning al-Muallem wants to express because they refer to the countries that have a hand in the Syrian crisis. In Table (6, No.2), the interpreter's omission of the wordصفر from the phraseمن صفر مشاكل مع الجيران changes the whole meaning and it can be attributed to the time constraint factor. Thus the interpreter is unable to follow what al-Muallen is saying and does not comprehend the meaning of his utterance because of the information he is discussing and the result of this is a mistranslation mistake. In Table (6, No.3), the interpreter abandons the phrases لسيد قطب وقبله محمد عبد الوهاب thinking that mentioning those phrases are not necessary and the meaning is expressed without them. However, those phrases contain a historical reference and may be the interpreter does not have a background knowledge of them thus she assumes that they are unnecessary to mention in her interpretation. Concerning Table (6, No.4), the translation of the noun phraseالمفارقة المضحكة المشينة as (horrible tragic irony) is not accurate because its meaning is not equivalent to that of the original noun phrase. This can be attributed to the interpreter's difficulty in comprehending the meaning of this phrase. Thus the approximation strategy that she adopts does not give the accurate meaning in this case. In the other part of the same sentence, the interpreter renders the verbsيشتك ويشجب ويستنكر into only one verb (condemn). May be she preferred to save time and mentions only one verb that she thought gave the meaning intended.

Table (7)

Speaker	Interpreter
1- دول الديمقراطية والحرية وحقوق الإنسان لا تتكلم للأسف إلا لغة الدم والحرب والاستعمار والهيمنة. 2- أفغانستان كانت خير مثال لمن يريد أن يتعظ.. لمن يريد.. لكن أغلبهم لا يريدون لا أمريكا ولا بعض الدول الغربية المتحضرة التي جرت خلفها بدءاً من عاصمة النور وصولاً إلى مملكة لم تغب عنها الشمس فيما مضى. 3- فجأة أصبحوا أصدقاء سورية أربعة من هؤلاء الأصدقاء ملكيات استبدادية قمعية لا تعلم شيئاً عن المدنية والديمقراطية. 4- سورية أغلى من الجميع وكرمى لها يجب أن نسكت عن الجرح ونكبر ونتسامى عن الضغائن والحقد. 5- بلاد أرادوها طيفاً واحداً لا أتحدث هنا أبداً عن طيف طائفي أو عرقي أو ديني فكل من يخالفهم هو آخر والآخر كافر مهما كانت ديانته أو ملته.	1- The people of democracy, freedom and human rights unfortunately only speak the language of blood of war of colonization and hegemony. 2- Afghanistan was a good example for those who wish to understand most of them do not want to understand nor the US nor some civilized western countries. 3- Suddenly they became the friends of Syria four of them totalitarian regimes that know nothing of democracy and kingdoms. 4- Syria was valuable and we must forgive all those who have trespassed against us. 5- The opposition that you claim to lead. The opposition repudiates you, reject you. The people of Syria want a Syria that is one single unit. I'm not referring here to the various religious communities or racial communities, for you those who do not agree with you are infidels.

In Table (7, No.1), rendering the word دول in the noun phrase دول الديمقراطية والحرية as (the people) is not accurate because the equivalent of the word (people) in Arabic is شعب. politically speaking, the stance of the people of those countries that al-Muallem mentions in his speech is not the same as that of their governments thus the interpreter commits a mistake by rendering دول as people. In Table (7, No.2), the interpreter omits the phrase بدءا من عاصمة النور وصولا إلى مملكة لم تغب عنها الشمس فيما مضى. This omission can be attributed to the interpreter misunderstanding of the meaning of this utterance and providing an equivalent to it in the target language. Thus, she resorts to the message abandonment strategy instead of translating it literally. In Table (7, No.3), the interpreter commits two mistakes in rendering ملكيات as (property) and المدنيةas (kingdoms). Those mistakes may have resulted because the interpreter is unable to comprehend their meaning and thus translating them literally which is an inaccurate translation. In Table (7, No.4), the interpreter reduces the two sentences نسكت عن الجرح ونتسامى ونكبر عن الضغائن into one sentence. Thus the summarizing strategy she adopts gives the intended meaning. In Table (7, No.5), the interpreter's translation of the phrase بلاد أرادوها طيفاً واحداً is not correct because here al-Muallem is talking about the opposition and the interpreter mistakenly thought that he is talking about the Syrian people, Thus she translates it incorrectly.

Table (8)

Speaker	Interpreter
1- وأين هي أصلا تلك العناصر المعتدلة التي تختبئون خلف مسمياتها الفضفاضة خاصة ما ظهر منها مؤخرا مدعوما إعلاميا وعسكريا تحت مسميات جديدة لجبهات قديمة خلعت جلدها ولبست آخر ابشع منه وادعت انها تقاتل الارهاب. 2- جئنا رغم كل ما فعله البعض منكم.. لننقذ سورية.. لنوقف قطع الرؤوس وأكل القلوب وبقر البطون.. جئنا لنعيد الأطفال والامهات إلى بيوت هجرهم الإرهاب منها. 3- جئنا لنحمي مَدَنية الدولة وتحضّرها.. لنوقف زحف التتار والمغول إلى المنطقة.. جئنا لنمنع انهيار الشرق الأوسط كله.. جئنا لنحمي الحضارة والثقافة والتنوع والغنى.. لنحمي حوار الحضارات ولقاء الأديان في منبع الأديان.. جئنا لنحمي الإسلام السمح الذي تعّرض للتشويه. 4- عودوا إلى بلادكم فالغريب غريب مهما كان قريبا والسوري أخ للسوري مهما اشتدت المحن.	1- Where are these moderate elements that you are hiding behind ambiguous names especially those who have come to light recently and that are supported military under new names. They all turn coats. They are carrying out terrorist attacks although they claim that they are fighting terrorism. 2- We have come here in order to save Syria, to put an end to the piercing of the bellies of pregnant women and to decapitation. 3- We have come to protect the civil state, to put an end to barbarism, we have come here in order to prevent the collapse of the middle East, we have come here to protect the cradle of civilization and religions. 4- Come back to your country, do not remain strangers and we are brother Syrians no matter what tragedy.

In Table (8, No.1), the interpreter finds difficulty in comprehending the utterance and renders مسميا جديدة لجبهات قديمة and مسمياتها الفضفاضة literally; however, this literal translation خلعت جلدها ولبست آخر أبشع منه

is not accurate and does not convey the meaning intended. In Table (8, No.2), the interpreter faces a difficulty in understanding the meaning of the noun phrase أكل القلوب and finding an equivalent to it in the target language; therefore, she resorts to the strategy of message abandonment to avoid committing translation mistake. In order to save time and to avoid mistakes that literal translation could create, the interpreter in Table (8, No.3) resorts to the strategy of summarizing that gave semi-equivalent meaning to that of the original message. In Table (8, No.4), the interpreter does not fully comprehend the meaning of al-Muallem's words and renders them literally; however, the target language sentence produced by the use of literal translation is not equivalent to the original one.

Table (9)

Speaker	Interpreter
1- فلنتعاون جميعا لمكافحته ولنضع اليد على اليد لوقف فكره السوداوي الظلامي المريع. 2- إما أن يستمر البعض منكم بدعم الإرهاب في سورية... هذا قراركم وقرارنا هنا.. إما أن نعزل الأيادي السوداء والوجوه الكاذبة التي تصافحكم وتضحك لكم في العلن وتغذي الفكر الإرهابي في الخفاء ليضرب سورية لكنه في النهاية سيمتد ليحرق الجميع.. هي لحظة الحقيقة مستر سيكريتاري والمصير فلنكن على قدرها	1- We must all stand together to fight terrorism and to put an end to its dark thoughts. 2- Some may continue to support terrorism in Syria and that is up to you to decide or we decide to fight terrorism and to fight the hypocrites who smile at you and feed terrorism behind your back in order to attack Syria and harm Syria.

In Table (9, No.1), the interpreter translates the three adjectives السوداوي الظلامي المريع modifying the noun فكره into one adjective (dark) thinking that it is sufficient to express the full ugly picture of terrorism. However, al-Muallem wants to show the badness and ugliness of terrorism by using those adjectives thus it more preferable to mention all of them in translation. In Table (9, No.2), the interpreter finds difficulty in following al-Muallem's words because of the many interruptions of his speech. Thus she literally translates the first part of the sentence and ignores translating نعزل الأيادي السوداء using a message abandonment strategy.

8. Conclusion:

The analysis of the selected extracts from al-Muallem's speech shows that there are certain words and expressions in his speech that cause ambiguity and create obstacles for the interpreter while translating from Arabic into English. These obstacles or problems are classified into linguistic and non-linguistic problems. The interpreter adopts a set of strategies to deal with them. The discussion shows that most of the problems are related to the interpreters misunderstanding of al-Muallem's words because of the time constraint factor, the speaker's cultural background and the interpreter's lack of vocabulary and lack of understanding of the some parts of the source text . Thus the discussion of the collected data and the results recommend that interpreters should manage the time provided for them. In addition, interpreters should be careful when dealing with political texts because they are sensitive texts and require attention and comprehension due to the fact that incorrect translation of any word affects the political message the politician attempts to convey.

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Links of the videos and the transcript used for the present study

https://thelinkyemen.net/news/3150

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJG7Pxrr1xQ

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFtTgpvGdxw