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Tarjamat Sher Mohammad Iqbal al-Arabiya: Dirasa

Tahleeliyah Wa Naqadeeyah

Abstract

Background: Allama Iqbal is one of the prominent personalities of modern age. He has attracted the academicians, critics and translators all over the world. He has been widely translated to many languages including Arabic. In Arabic many translations emerged since the past century. However, a thorough evaluation of these translations from a critical point of view was always felt. Present research is an endeavour in this direction. The work analyses the translations of twelve translators who have selectively translated Iqbal's poetry into Arabic. Among them four have translated in verse and eight have translated in prose. **Method:** The translations which were close to original text linguistically and stylistically were analysed with special reference to the source text while as the translations which are only thematically related to the source text were analysed independently as well as with reference to the original. All the linguistic inaccuracies in first category mentioned above were highlighted by comparing the translation with the source text. **Results:** The research found that in case of poetic translations, Dr. Abdul Wahhab Azzam and Hussain Mujeeb al-Masri translated emulating the form and style of the source text. However, Azzam was more accurate than al-Masri in his renderings. Shiekh al-Sawi Shelan and Zaheer Zaza al-Suri had been successful in recreating the original text beautifully in Arabic. However

former were more close to the message of Iqbal than latter as he studied Iqbal's message and thought for pretty long period of time. Among prose translations, the translators like Mohammad al-Saeed Jamaluddin, Sameer Abdul Hamid Ibrahim, Abdul Majid Qazi and Shiekh Hasan al-Azami tried to give amost accurate literal equivalentents to the original text. On the other side, Shiekh Abul Hassan Ali Nadwi and Najeeb al-Kilani paid more attention to artistic aspect than literal aspect in their renderings. Dr. Hazim Mahfooz and Jalal al-Saeed al-Hafnawi prose translation are prosaic and partially fulfil the purpose and sometimes they distort the message envisaged in the poetic verses. **Conclusion:** The efforts done by the translators are commendable. However lacunae are found in many of these translations. Owing to the complicacy of Iqbal's philosophic and sophisticated verse, collective efforts should be made to translate him more accurately as large number of poetic verses is not translated yet or is translated erroneously.

Keywords: Iqbal, Poetry, Translation, text, Prose, Arabic