Syntactic Classes of the Arabic Active Participle and Their Equivalents in Translation: A Comparative Study in Two English Quranic Translations

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Abstract:

This study attempts to provide an analysis of the syntactic classes of Arabic active participle forms and discuss their translations based on a comparative study of two English Quranic translations by Yusuf Ali (1934) and Pickthall (1930). It starts with a brief introduction to the active participle in Arabic and the Arab grammarians' opinions on its syntactic classes. Then it explains the study aim and technique. The third section presents an analysis of the results of the study by discussing the various renderings of the Arabic active participle classes in the two target texts. A corpus of 300 sentences has been randomly selected from the source text, together with their translations in the target texts. The two translations of all the sentences are compared and analyzed in terms of syntactic and semantic features. The various English translations of the Arabic active participle are presented with a count of the examples representing them in the corpus and their percentages. Then, the contextual reference of each translation is studied and accounted for.

Keywords:

Arabic, Active Participle, Syntax, Semantics, English, Translation, Holy Quran

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