Analysis of Translation of the Novel "Alshehaz" Based on the Theoretical Model of Vinay and Darbelnet¹

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Abstract

In the early years of the twentieth century, new areas of linguistics were introduced and attention was focused on description of different languages based on scientific and unbiased criteria. In the middle of this century, two Canadians named John Paul Vinay and Jean Darbelnet began to describe the methods used by translators in translating texts from French to English and vice versa based on linguistic patterns and from that time on their methods have been the theoretical basis of various studies in the field of translation studies.

This paper is an attempt to extract comparative examples from the translation of the book "Alshehaz" written by Najib Mahfuz and translated by Mohammad Dehghani under the title of "Geda", considering the techniques proposed in Vinay and Darbelnet method (direct and indirect translation), and finally presents a summary of the techniques employed in this translation. The results show that the translator often used indirect translation method providing an eloquent translation in Persian and also chose equalisation among the different techniques of this method and presented a successful translation. This method includes borrowing, literal translation, adaptation, calque, transposition, modulation and equivalence.

The study results show that Vinay and Darbelnet have developed a new method to counter incompatibilities between source and target languages. Direct translation that is the word-by-word quotes from the source language to target language, include: borrowing, calque and literal translation which the translator had used less in this work.

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The second method is indirect translation, which pays attention to describing, detailing and summarizing the content of the original text, which includes: transposition, modulation, equivalence and adaptation. This study shows that the translator has benefited from this method in order to be able to recreate artistically material of the source language in the target language. Of these four, techniques adaptation has the highest frequency. And given that adaptation is the creation of the source language equivalent position in the target language, is the best and most commonly used one for conveying culture and social processes.

By translating the correct terms, phrases and other literary devices, the translator has attempted to retrieve the material in "Alshehaz", translator generally used indirect translation methods for presenting a clear translation in Persian, and among the various techniques of this method, he employs adaptation.

Keywords: Translation Techniques, Vinay and Darbelnet, Ashahhaz, Geda.