Investigating the Meanings of ريح (a wind) and رياح (winds) and their Translation Issues in the Holy Qur’an

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Abstract
This study investigates the meanings of ريح (a wind) and رياح (winds) and their translation issues in the Holy Qur’an. It aims at identifying the contextual meanings of these words based on different exegeses of the Holy Qur’an. Then, it explains the nuances that exist between the two lexical items. The study also examines how the shades of meaning of the Qur’anic words are reflected in two English translations of the Holy Qur’an, namely, Arberry (2003) and Irving (2002). The study adopts the RC-S approach by Murphy (2003) as a theoretical framework for data analysis. It also employs the qualitative approach to collect and analyze the data of the study. Different exegeses are consulted to identify the differences between the two words. The results reveal that there are some differences in meaning between these Arabic words in Holy Qur’an and that the shades of meaning of these words are not reflected in the English translations. The study provides recommendations for readers and translators especially the translators of the Holy Qur’an.

Keywords: Affective meaning; connotative meaning; contextual meaning; denotative meaning; Holy Qur’an meaning and near-synonyms