

**Domesticating the Text: Collocation Patterns and their Significance in the Translated Text****Mansour K. Thajeel Aldanani**

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**Abstract:**

This paper is an attempt to examine, through examples, the significance of collocation patterns for the translated text. To prove this, a corpus is collected from two translated articles in *National Geographic* magazine, Arabic version and their English counterparts. The given examples show that a great abundance of collocations patterns surfaced in the Arabic target texts (TT). The results obtained are used to argue that these patterns have cohesive, coherent, and aesthetic functions in the target text. To produce a translation that can read as much fluently and naturally as possible, professional translators work painstakingly to domesticate the source text as the magazine, in its Arabic version, is targeting different readership and culture. To accomplish their task, translators draw on their language competence especially 'collocation competence' as a domesticating strategy.

*Keywords:* collocations patterns, English collocations, Arabic collocations, fluency, naturalness, domesticating strategy.

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## Introduction

Collocations are “are partly or fully fixed expressions that become established through repeated context-dependent use. Such terms as 'crystal clear,' 'middle management,' 'nuclear family,' and 'cosmetic surgery' are examples of collocated pairs of words.” (Wikipedia). The translation theorist, Hatim (2001), defines collocation as “the way in which words are found together conventionally” (p.228). A few examples will suffice: *commit a mistake, deliver a speech, bright ideas, strong tea, heavy rain*, etc.

### 1.1 Collocations: a literature review

Since it was first introduced by the British linguist Firth, (1952,1968), as part of the “collocational meaning”, the notion of collocation has been the topic of debate among linguists and no agreement on one definition seems to be reached. Other opinions followed. The “Neo-Firthians” scholars such as Halliday (1966), and Sinclair (1966) also made their attempts to refine and elaborate on the concept.

In his dictionary, *A Grammar of English Words*, Palmer (1938, p. iv) defines collocation as a “succession of two or more words, the meaning of which can hardly be deduced from the knowledge of their components.” According to this definition, words such as “on the other hand, look for, last but not least are “chunks” to be learned as one unit.

Firth states that the collocation of a word is the “habitual or customary places of the word” Halliday based his definition on Firth's conceptualization. For him, collocation is “a linear co-occurrence relationship among lexical items which co-occur together.” He adds that although the two adjectives “powerful” and “strong” are the same, the word tea doesn't collocate with “powerful” but we can say *strong tea* (Halliday, 1966, p.150).

Baker agrees with Sinclair. For her, collocation is “the tendency of certain words to co-occur regularly in a given language” (1992,p.47). Baker argues that two factors determine the collocational range of any word in a language. First, the number of senses it has; second, how specific the word is. That is to say, Baker gives the verb “bury” and “inter.” According to her definition, Baker thinks that the collocational range of “bury” is more comprehensive as it can collocate with “people, treasure, feelings, memories, and one's head, face” whereas the verb “inter.” has one collocation with the word “people”

Abdul-Raof (2001) stresses the importance of collocational restrictions. He explains that words are “collocationally restricted” because “they occur and co-exist in conjunction with their mates in a special linguistic environment.” These restrictions can decide and limit the range of collocations patterns each word has. For example, the adjective “heavy” can collocate with “rain” but “strong” collocates with “tea”(pp.28-34).

Finally, words have preferences to occur with each other. Cruse (2000) refers to this when he states that words "tend to have definite preferences and discrepancies" (p.76). This tendency can clearly be seen in the following example. The intensifier "strong" can come in "strong wind" and "strong tea" but can't say "strong rain," we say "strong rain" instead.

### 1.2 Collocations: Classifications in the Arabic Language:

In Arabic, linguists have also discussed this linguistic phenomenon and have come up with different conceptualizations. Ghazala (2004) identifies twenty collocation patterns in Arabic. They are as follow:

Collocation pattern	English Examples	Arabic Examples
1-noun +adjective	deep wound	جرح عميق
3-noun+ noun connected by the Arabic conjunction ( و )	right and wrong wealth and children glory and might	المال والبنون-الخطأ و الصواب المجد والسؤدد
4-adjective +adjective	- quite sufficient - smiling crying	-كاف واف - ضاحك باك
5- verb + noun (actual meaning)	- to draw a sword	- يستل سيفاً
6- verb +noun (figurative meaning)	- to become strong /grow up	- يشند عوده
7- verb+ cognate accusative (unrestricted object)	- to win emphatically	- يفوز فوز
8- verb+ adverb	- to bite the dust	- يخر صريعاً
9- verb + preposition + noun	- to take into consideration	- أخذ بعين الاعتبار
10- verb + relative pronoun+ verb	- as one sows; so will one reap	- حصد ما زرع
11- verb + conjunction + verb	- (go) back and forth	- يقبل و يدبر
12-time /place adverbial+ conjunction +time/place adverbial	- morning and evening	- صباحاً و مساءً
13- prepositional collocation and it falls in four subcategories: a-preposition+ noun+ noun, b- preposition +noun +conjunction+ noun , c- preposition + noun + adjective and d- preposition + noun + conjunction + preposition + noun	- under the seal of secrecy. - to be most welcomed at first sight(glance) before and after	على الرحب والسعة - في طي الكتمان - للوهلة الأولى - - من قبل ومن بعد

14- collocations that start with negative particles	- nothing wrong with it/ faultless	- لا غبار عليّة
15-noun + verb	- alive and kicking	- حي يرزق
16- noun+ preposition +noun	- passable with difficulty	- سالك بصعوبة
17- collocation that starts with a particle functioning as a verb(semi-verb)	- (verily) with hardship goes ease	- إن مع العسر يسرا
18-oath collocations (do not follow one typical structure)	- may I be made your ransom. I swear by God	- والذي نفسي بيده -بأبي أنت وأمي
19- cursing collocations (do not follow one typical structure)	- Curse on you/ damn you. (God) damn you	- تَبَا لك-عليك اللعنة
20- Compliment collocations (do not follow one typical structure)	- well said God forbid cursing you	- أبيت اللعن -لا فوض فوك

### 1.3 Collocations and their central importance in Translations

The Language uses several devices to keep the text cohesive. In their argument, Hatim and Mason (1990) consider collocation as a cohesive link. They stated the point that the “more frequent the collocational pattern; the more cohesive would be the resulting text.” (p.205). Palmer (1930, as it cited in Cowie 1999: 52-53), the famous British linguist, stressed the central importance of collocations when he wrote that: "It is not so much the words of English nor the grammar of English that makes English difficult...The vague and undefined obstacle to progress ... consists for the most part in the existence of so many odd comings-together-of words"

Following the new developments in corpus research, linguists like John Sinclair (Sinclair 1991), the founder of corpus linguistics, went further to extend the notion of collocations. He explained:

"A language user has available ... a large number of semi-preconstructed phrases that constitute single choices" (p.110).

With the help of these ‘semi-preconstructed phrases’, which Firth name as "collocation" language users can communicate with the utmost clarity, naturalness, and economy. Not only that, there is a strong correlation between **frequency** in a corpus and **typicality**, which means that the use of common collocations contributes to the naturalness of a text. Drawing on Ghazal's model of Arabic collocation categorization, this study will identify the most frequent and common collocations patterns used in Arabic.

## 2. National Geographic Magazine

Since was first launched in 1888, National Geographic has gained worldwide popularity as its articles deal with environmental issues, science, history, and geography. According to Wikipedia, "the magazine is currently published in 37 local editions around the world."

In 2010, the magazine launched its Arabic version. Chris Johns, the editor-in-chief of National Geographic magazine, said he hoped the launch of the Arabic title would act as "a bridge of understanding" between MENA and the rest of the world. "We look at National Geographic as a bridge across nationalities, cultures, religion, and ethnicity,"

"We want people to connect and understand that they are people who love their children and many share the same values that we do and, in turn, for Muslims to understand Christians and Hindus and people of other faiths. "I believe that our work has never been more important? in the United States right now there is an alarming amount of misinformation about Islam and Muslims."

The Arabic-language magazine will feature a mix of features on geography, archaeology and natural science, with more than 20 percent of each issue generated locally. In his statement, Gavin Dickinson, ADMC's executive director of publishing stated that "We believe our locally tailored offering will provide readers with a unique opportunity to engage with and learn about the region's rich geography, habitats and anthropology,"

As for the complex translation task, the Emirates Foundation, in cooperation with a specialized team of environment experts sponsored by Abu Dhabi Gas Industries Company (GASCO) handled this excellent task.

## 3. Data Analysis and Discussion

For the analysis of the selected data, the study draws on Ghazala's categorization of Arabic collocation patterns as the most elaborate and comprehensive model. The target texts and its English counterparts have been put in a parallel to point out the collocations patterns used. These patterns are selected as the most dominant in Arabic since they are partly derived from the Quran and the other sources of the language.

### 3.1 Extracts that indicate Fluency and Naturalness in the target text:

In the following extracts, a lot of collocation patterns are used in the target texts in comparison with the number used in the ST. To produce natural and fluent translations, the translators used different collocation patterns that are most common and frequent in classical Arabic ( the Quran, pre-Islamic era poetry, prophets sayings) and also in modern texts. Patterns such as " انتشار النار " فالهشيم, قيود الرق والعبودية, يشي مظهرها"

Extract # 1

" ... its Victorian mansions still beautiful, is at the center of a colossal American health crisis."

"... وقصورها التي لاتزال تحتفظ ببيئاتها منذ العهد الفكتوري وجدت نفسها في خضم أزمة صحية أميركية كبيرة."

### Verb + Noun + Adjective

Extract # 2

"... high rates of obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, heart diseases: ..."

"... وسجلت فيها معدلات عالية من البدانة..."

### Verb + Prep. + Noun + Noun Pattern

Extract # 3

"... a crop that brought the ancestors of most Clarksdale residents to this hemisphere in chains."

"والمعروف ان السكر محصول زراعي جذب اسلاف غالبية من سكان كلاركسدل الى المنطقة وهم يزرعون تحت قيود الرق

والعبودية, يشي "

### Prep. + Noun, Verb + Relative pronoun+ Verb

Extract # 4

"... she was wearing scrubs- standard Monday dress for teachers, to reinforce the school's commitment to health and wellness"

" وكانت ترتدي زرة تشبه لباس الممرضين أو الجراحين على غرار ما يرتديه كل المدرسين خلال يوم الاثنين لتأكيد التزام المدرسة بالجانب الصحي السليم"

### Noun + Noun

Extract # 5

"Of course, I'm not one to judge."

" بطبيعة الحال لست في وضع يسمح لي بإطلاق أحكام بشأن الآخرين."

Extract # 6

"... where rulers entertained their guests with a plethora of sugar"

"حيث كان الحكام يكرمون وفادة ضيوفهم بتشكيلة متنوعة من الحلوى"

### Verb + Noun + Adjective

Extract # 7

"... a striking 38-year-old, Jones told me she had changed her own eating habits ..."

" التي لا يشي مظهرها الجذاب بسنواتها الثمانية والثلاثين ..."

### Verb + Conjunction + Verb

#### Adjective + Prep. + Noun

Extract # 8

" And I say, No, I'm doing it 'cause I want to live and be healthy."

" ... وأنا أرد عليهم بكوني أريد أن أعيش وأحيا حياة مفعمة بالعافية."

### Verb+ Cognate accusative (unrestricted object)

Extract # 9

" It was like throwing paint at a fan: "

" انتشر انتاج السكر كانتشار النار في الهشيم "

### Verb + Noun

Extract # 10

"For years, sugar refinement remained a secret science, passed from master to apprentice"

" وطوال سنوات عديدة, ظل تكرير السكر علما خفيا تتوارثه الاجيال من أيادي المتمكنين المهرة الى المتمرنين "

Extract # 11

" It is at this price that you eat sugar in Europe."

" هذه هي الكلفة التي نتجشم عنها حتى نأكلوا السكر في أوربا "

### (Verb+ Cognate accusative), ( Prep. + Noun + Noun )

Extract # 12

"wherever they went, the Arabs brought with them sugar, the product and the technology of its production," writes Sidney Mintz in Sweetness and Power, " Sugar, we are told, followed the Koran"

" وفي هذا السياق, جاء في كتاب سيدني مينتز " الحلاوة والسلطة" ما يلي: " كان العرب يجلبون معهم منتج السكر وتقنية انتاجه أينما حلوا وارتحلوا. فقد أخبرنا بأن السكر كان يقتفي أثر القرآن "

### Verb + Prep. + Noun

Extract # 13

"... demonstrated the wealth of the state."

"... تشى بشاء الدولة"

Extract # 14

" By 1500, with the demand for sugar surging, the work was considered suitable only for the lowest of labourers."

" وبحلول عام 1500 ومع تزايد الطلب على مادة السكر, أضحى هذا العمل لا يناسب سوى العمال من ذوي المستوى الاجتماعي المتدني."

### (Verb + Prep. + Noun), ( Verb + Noun + Noun)

Extract # 15

" Perhaps the first Europeans to fall in love with sugar were British and French crusaders who went east to wrest the Holy Land from the infidel"

" وربما كان الجنود الصليبيون البريطانيون والفرنسيون أول الأوربيون الذين وقعوا في حب السكر عندما يمموا شطر الشرق الاسترجاع " الارض المقدسة" من المسلمين "

### 3.2 Extracts that reflect the cohesive function in the target text:

Coherence and cohesion are important features of texts. Linguists identified different strategies texts employ to look cohesive. Adopting appropriate use of collocation patterns can produce

lexically cohesive and coherent texts. Hatim and Mason (1997, p. 47 ), stated that "The more frequent the collocational pattern, the more cohesive will be the resulting text". As it can be clearly seen from the following extracts, translators employed different collocations patterns to produce for their readers a coherent and cohesive translations:

### **Noun + Adjective**

Extract # 16

" ... but in this case it won the males a malign reputation"

" نال الاسود الاربعة سمعة سيئة"

### **Prep. + Noun + Noun**

Extract # 17

" Eventually, a condition known as metabolic syndrome kicks in, "

" وفي نهاية المطاف, يحدث اضطراب في الجسم يسمى بالمتلازمة الابضية"

### **collocations that start with negative particles**

Extract # 18

" According to Johnson and his colleagues, this misses the point"

" ويرى جونسون وزملاؤه أن القول لا يصيب كبد الحقيقة ..."

### **Verb + Prep. + Noun + Noun**

Extract # 19

" Yet the portion of America that is obese has grown larger"

" لكن نسبة الامريكيين البدينين ظلت في ازدياد مطرد"

### **Noun + Prep. + Noun**

Extract # 20

" Life is hard and precarious on this unforgiving landscape, and dead is dead"

" فحياة هذه الاسود صعبة ومحفوفة بالمخاطر في هذه البرية التي لا تعرف الرحمة, والموت فيها لا يقهر"

Extract # 21

" For a certain young male, black-maned and robust, known to researchers as C-Boy, the end seemed to have arrived on the morning of August 17, 2009."

" وقد كان اسد قوي ذو لبدة داكنة, معروف لدى الباحثين باسم سي-بوي, قاب قوسين أو أدنى من مواجهة نفس المصير المحتوم في صبيحة ال17 من أغسطس 2009"

### **Prep. +Noun + Noun**

Extract # 22

" Now he was four or five years old, just entering his prime."

" كان سي-بوي يومئذ في الرابعة او الخامسة من العمر, أي على مشارف مرحلة الفتوة والنضج,"

Extract # 23

" ... as he spun and rolled desperately to escape"  
" ... بينما هو يناور تارة ويزمجر تارة أخرى فيلتف للهروب منهم دون جدوى "

Extract # 24

" ... fathering cubs and becoming resident, loosely associated with the pride. They also play an important role in helping kill prey"  
" ... فيصبحون أباء للشبال ويقومون مع القطيع, دون أن يوطدوا وشائجهم معه. كما يؤدي الذكور دورا مهما أذ يساعدون في الأجهاز على الفرائس "

### Adjective + Noun

Extract # 25

" ... as members of another coalition, a group of four ambitious young adults males, notorious in her record as the Killer"  
" أذ كانوا يشكلون حلفا آخر يتألف من أربعة ذكور بالغين ومفعمين بالطموح, وقد ونتهم في بطاقات التسجيل لديها باسم مرعب: " القتلة"

### Verb + Prep. + Noun + Adjective

Extract # 26

" One lion had a bloody tooth, the lower right canine, suggesting a very recent fight"  
" كان الناب الأيمن السفلي لأحد الأسود ملطخا بالدماء, ما يشي بخروجه للتو من معركة ضارية "

### Verb + Noun

Extract # 29

" Seconds later, the fight erupted again."  
" وما هي الا ثواني معدودات حتى نشبت المعركة من جديد "

Extract # 30

" ... his subsequent book, The Serengeti Lion, became the foundational text"  
" ... وقد اصبح كتابه الذي ألفه لاحقا بعنوان "أسد سيرينغيتي" ركيزة للأبحاث في هذا المجال "

### Prep. + Noun + Noun

Extract # 31

" One thing that happens is death"  
" ويعد الموت على رأس الاحداث في هذا الواقع "

### 3.3 Extracts that reflect the "Aesthetic and Eloquent" language functions:

Collocation patterns have other functions. It can add an aesthetic aspect to the text. Arabic is well known for its eloquence. Words such as "نسيا منيا, حي يرزق, وأتلمس لنفسي سبيلا". Other eloquent patterns are also surfaced in the Arabic texts such as '... يميط اللثام, يعنكف على .. مشى القتلة الهويينا ...'. They are normally found in literary texts.

**Verb + Noun + Adverb, Adjective + Noun**

Extract # 32

" The Killers strolled off and positioned themselves atop a termite mound, with a commanding view of the river ... while C-Boy slunk away. He was alive, for the moment, but defeated"  
" مشى القتلة الهويينا فاعتلوا تلة للنمل الابيض تشرف على النهر... في حين خرج سي-بوي من ساحة الوغى بكل رفق وهو حي يرزق, لكنه كان يجرجر أذيال الهزيمة, خائر القوة ومثخنا بالجروح"

**Verb+ Cognate accusative**

Extract # 33

" ... killed by the conquering males, ... C-Boy was yesterday's favorite, yesterday's stud. This is the cold arithmetic of lion society"  
" ربما فتك بهم الاسود الجدد ... بالأمس كان سي-بوي أسدهن المفضل, واليوم اصبح نسيا منسيا, فتلك هي عقيدة الاسود في مجتمعهم الذي لا سواد فيه للرومانسية الا اذا اقترنت مع السلطان"

**Verb + Noun**

Extract # 34

" Other researchers followed. A young English man named Brian Bertram succeeded Schaller and stayed four years, long enough to begin teasing out the social factors that affect reproductive success ..."  
" وبعد شالر جاء عدد من الباحثين الى سيرينغيتي, كان من بينهم شاب انكليزي يدعى بريان بيرترام, قضى اربع سنوات كانت كفيلا بجعله يميظ اللثام بعض الشيء عن العوامل الاجتماعية ..."

**Verb + Prep.**

Extract # 35

" If you are making the first detailed study of any species, he told me recently, you grab what you can"  
"وقد قال لي مؤخرا اذا أردت أن تعكف على أول دراسة تفصيلية لأي كائن حي, عليك جمع كل ما تصل اليه يد من معلومات"

**Adjective + Noun**

Extract # 36

" They were handsome devils, a quartet of eight-year-old males, resting in a companionable cluster. They looked forbidding and smug"  
" كان القتلة ذوي وجوه وسيمة, أربعة في عامهم الثامن, يستقرون غالبا في تجمعات مع بعضهم البعض. وقد كان يعلوهم اهاب المنعة والاعتداد بالنفس"

**Verb + Noun**

Extract # 37

" It seems like every time I study an illness and trace a path to the first cause, I find my way back to sugar"  
" يبدو أنه في كل مرة أدرس مرضا معيناً وأتلمس لنفسي سبيلا لمعرفة السبب الرئيسي, أجد أن السبب يعود الى السكر"

**Verb + Noun + Adjective, Verb + Noun + Prep. + Noun**

Extract # 38

" C-Boy had made a new life for himself in a new place, with new lioness, and seemed to be thriving."

" كان سي-بوي قد بدأ صفحة جديدة من حياته في مكان جديد ومع لبوات أخريات, وقد بدت الحياة وكأنها قد فتحت له ذراعيها من جديد"

Extract # 39

"... so we heard from Nichols, who had seen it.."

" وحسب ما سمعنا من نكولاس الذي رأى الامر بأعينه"

**Verb + Noun + Prep.**

Extract # 40

" C-Boy had fed on the eland carcass alone, taking choice morsels but not too much,"

" راح سي-بوي وحده يلتهم ما لذ له من قطع بجسد الظبي دون أفراط"

**Verb + Noun + Verb, Verb + Prep. + Adjective**

Extract # 41

" So they were living the good life, those two, with all the prerogatives of resident male lions."

" وهكذا بدأت الحياة تبتسم لهذين الأسدين اللذين صاروا يعيشان على حياة هادئة بجميع الامتيازات التي يحظى بها الاسود المقيمون مع القطعان"

**Noun +Prep. + Noun, Verb+ Cognate accusative**

Extract # 42

" Rosengren had suspicion- and it was confirmed when, amid the high grass of the riverbank, we came upon the Killers"

" انتاب روزنغرين شك سرعان ما تحول الى يقين عندما التقينا وجهها لوجه مع الاسود " القتلة" وسط الحشائش الطويلة على ضفة النهر"

Extract # 43

" ... it might even be adaptive for males in some cases, ..."

" فقد تكون ضرورة من ضرورات التكيف لدى الذكور"

Extract # 44

" ... but in this case it won the males a malign reputation"

" نال الاسود الاربعة سمعة سيئة"

**Preposition +noun +conjunction+ noun, Noun + Prep. + Noun**

Extract # 45

" Those numerals did seem somehow more concordant with their air of opaque, stolid menace"

" لم تعكس هذه الارقام بطريقة أو بأخرى تلك الهالة من الخطر التي تحفهم"

Extract # 46

" Less luck, and the loser is killed in a fierce leonine battle, or he limps away, losing blood, may be crippled, maybe destined to die slowly of infection or starvation"

" أما أن كان حظه عاثرا فيخسر معركة شرسة مع أسد آخر, فإنه سيتولى جريحا ينزف دما أو ينزوي مشلولاً ليموت ببط من الاصابة أو الجوع"

### Noun + Prep. + Noun

Extract # 47

"This allows the formation of crèches, lion nursing groups in which females suckle and protect not just their own cubs but others too."

" وتسمح تلك العملية بتشكيل "دور" حضانة تطلع فيها اللبؤات بمهام حماية وإطعام أشبالهن وأشبال الأخرى أيضاً"

Extract # 48

" He was an eight-year-old lion, healthy and formidable, commanding respect within a pride"

" بلغ هذا الاسد من العمر ثماني سنوات, وقد كان في أتم الصحة والقوة فارضاً احترامه و وقاره داخل القطيع"

### Verb + Noun + Noun

Extract # 49

" Then they set out, all four together, on what looked like a purposeful march."

" ثم بدأ اربعتهم معا ما يشبه مسيرة تضع نصب اعينها هدفاً محدداً"

Extract # 50

"Occasionally, during stop, they let their voices rise in another chorus of roar, "

" أحياناً, وخلال توقفنا, كان الاسود يرفعون عقيرتهم بالزئير جميعاً في ما يشبه جوقة موسيقية"

### 3. 4 Other extracts that support domestication strategy:

Extract #

- "Perhaps the first Europeans to fall in love with sugar were British and French crusaders who went east to wrest the Holy Land from the infidel "  
"وربما كان الجنود الصليبيون البريطانيون والفرنسيون أول الأوربيين الذين وقعوا في حب السكر عندما يمموا شطر الشرق الاسترجاع " الأرض المقدسة " من المسلمين"

Extract #

"They say that cats have nine lives."

" تقول العرب ان للقطط سبعة أرواح"

Extract #

" When the Arab armies conquered the region, they carried away the knowledge and love of sugar"

" وعندما فتحت الجيوش العربية هذه المنطقة, حمل الفاتحون معهم المعارف المتعلقة بالسكر فضلاً عن الشغف بهذه المادة"

Lefevre (1992a, p. 14) proposes that translation is a form of " rewriting altered and produced in accordance with the socio-cultural, ideological and literary constraints of the target culture

system." On the above extracts, the translators tried to domesticate the source texts and produce an appropriate version for the Arab readership that fit in well with the target socio-cultural constraints. Therefore, words such as 'conquered', 'from the infidel' are loaded with negative and ideological meaning in the minds and memory of Arab readers. They were rewritten and purified from the all historical ideology to be domesticated as 'المسلمين', 'محررين'

Also, the whole text '*They say that cats have nine lives*' has been domesticated in accordance with the socio-cultural constraints of the Arab world. It was translated as "تقول العرب ان للقطط سبع أرواح". These examples clearly demonstrate that translators work as 'filters' that only allow for what closely conform to the target culture norms.

### **Conclusion:**

The paper has attempted to discuss the significance of collocation patterns in a corpus of (50) extracts taken from two articles in the world-famous magazine, National Geographic, English and Arabic versions. It is an attempt to demonstrate that translators exert efforts to present to their readers as natural, fluent, and eloquent translation as possible. They employ all possible strategies in their disposal and crunch on their language proficiency to achieve that. Among these strategies is using appropriate collocations patterns.

Drawing on the framework put forward by Hassan Ghazala in the classification of Arabic collocations, the paper has presented a comparative study of collocation patterns in a sample of article extracts from Arabic and English. The focus is to pinpoint the fact that the abundant use of collocation patterns in the (TL) is a good indicator of the translation quality. The paper has elaborately argued, through examples, that these patterns give naturalness and fluency to the (TT). They help produce a natural and eloquent translation for a different readership. All the 'foreignness' of the source text has been toned down and domesticated to tune in to the new socio-cultural context. Collocation patterns also worked as cohesive and coherent strategies for translated texts as they are demonstrated in the extracts from the two articles under study. The translators used a lot of collocations usually found in the Quran and other registers to 'domesticate' the texts and give Arab world readers as natural and aesthetic translation as possible. This comparative study of collocations patterns can also have pedagogical implications for translation teachers and students as they can compile their glossaries using the collocation patterns relevant to each text and register.

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