

Al-Muallaqat and their Emotive Meanings

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Abstract

The objective behind this paper is to examine the concept of 'emotiveness in Arberry's translation of Al-Muallaqat, be it at the phonological, morphological, lexical and semantic levels. To achieve this end, an in-depth analysis of phrases and sentences will be carried out to see whether Arberry has succeeded in rendering all kinds of emotive meanings expressed in the Al-Muallaqat. Samples subjected to the analysis will be taken from the Odes of five bards, namely: Imru' al-Qais, Tarafa, Zuhair, Antara, and Labid. The reason behind focusing on these odes is that they have cultural overtones that are difficult to capture in translation. These sentences and phrases will be discussed and analyzed in details, and their emotive meanings at all levels will be compared to those in the ST. After the analysis is conducted, conclusions will be drawn as to why Arberry has not accounted for the loss of emotive meaning that has led to the distortion of the source text (ST). This paper concludes with useful tips to overcome the mismatch inherent in emotive meaning-related problems.

Keywords :Arberry's translation, emotive meaning, expressive function, Al-Muallaqat

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