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EDITORIAL

The editorial Board of *Al Ma'adin Journal* is honored to present this edition of its kind to our esteem audience. We had earlier published some editions of our journal and have enjoyed wider acceptance in the academia. This is because the Editorial Board has continually tried to consider the spirit of High Impact Journal publications and Quality Assurance as well as originality, as the aspiration of the contributors in literature, language, culture and intellectualism are adequately guaranteed. We have equally tried in this edition to upload our journal articles on Open Access Journal so as to enable not only our contributors but wider audience access these research seamlessly. This is a new innovation we tried to bring forth

Here, our esteem readers are informed that the ideas expressed herein this journal are but exclusive representation of their authors. It does not necessarily in any way belong to the editorial board of the journal. No doubt, we have as usual brought forth a milestone with which studies and cutting-edge research is established for the future of Arabic literary studies globally.

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Incorporating Information Communication Technology (ICT) in the professional Translating and Interpreting Training

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Abstract

Impact of translation on multicultural fabric and global development agenda cannot be over-emphasized. In fact, it is all around us, and our globalized world would probably not function without it (Taravella/Villeneuve 2013). However, ICT competence plays a major role in knowledge generation, information retrieval, extraction and processing. Under constantly increasing and changing requirements imposed by ongoing technological progress, translators should become even more proficient in the use of computer-assisted translation tools that address such issues as terminology management, pre-editing, post-editing, translating and interpreting processes etc. The present paper aims to identify the main advantages of ICT competence in Translating and Interpreting training.

This paper aims to identify the main advantages of ICT competence in Translating and Interpreting training. By examining the integration of ICT in professional training programs, this study seeks to highlight how modern technology enhances the efficiency, accuracy, and overall quality of translation and interpretation. Additionally, it explores the evolving landscape of translation and interpreting professions, where ICT tools not only assist in routine tasks but also open new possibilities for innovation and specialization.

Keywords: Incorporating Information, Communication, Technology, professional, Translating.

Introduction

"Without a new generation of trained linguists and professionals with language skills, international organisations will be unable to perform their vital tasks" *(the Paris Declaration, June 2010)*.

Scholars have argued that the world is now a global village and there are a lot of new scientific discoveries which have led to the advancement in technology in recent years. New technological advances are something that we have faced for centuries. The advance was seen in the printing press, the radio, the telephone and the television, all of these things affected us globally. It has been said that we are currently in a new era of technology, one that we have many names for: the internet, the web, cyberspace, information superhighway, and many more.

¹Technology is very important because it is used for almost everything and like everything; technology has advantages and its own disadvantages, nevertheless, the importance of technology in the 21st century cannot be overemphasized. Technology, through one of its tools which is the information communication technology has turned the world around and has been instrumental in the world becoming a globalized world.² It is noteworthy that globalizations in the world have taken roots over the years leading to connection of different countries and different nationalities across. Internet and the media are one of the leading factors that influence globalization. It has been severally said that today the world has become a village in which there are no boundaries to trade and communication between countries or people in different countries. As a result, it has led to several merits and demerits in different countries.³

Technological advancements have brought more positive impacts than visible drawbacks, fostering increased scholarship, employment, cultural exchange, and the interconnection of large businesses and enterprises. Leveraging technology and its tools, including ICT, is crucial for meeting the demands of the 21st century in scholarship, translation, media, politics, economy, religion, and culture. Through ICT, people worldwide are connected in a vast network that transcends geographical boundaries, facilitating cultural exchanges and new friendships and increasing interconnections within social clusters.

In the field of translation and interpreting, ICT has proven invaluable. Tools such as machine translation (MT) have revolutionized the industry by providing quick and efficient translations. However, these tools come with weaknesses, such as inaccuracies and a lack of contextual understanding. For instance, MT often struggles with idiomatic expressions and cultural nuances, leading to errors that human translators must correct.

To address these issues, it is essential to incorporate advanced ICT training in professional translating and interpreting programs. This includes training in computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools, which enhance translation accuracy and efficiency by providing translators with databases of terminology and previously translated texts. Additionally, terminology management systems can help translators maintain consistency and accuracy in their work. By equipping future translators and interpreters with the skills to effectively use these ICT tools, educational institutions can ensure that professionals are prepared to meet the challenges of a tech-driven industry. This training will help mitigate the weaknesses of machine translation and enhance the overall quality of translation and interpretation, ultimately contributing to the advancement of global communication and understanding.

Translator – Translation and Translation Challenges in History and Present

It is pertinent we understand the idea of what is meant by a translator, translation and some of the challenges the translators have encountered in the past which has to do with the art of translating. A Translator is someone who converts the written word from one language to another; they aid communication by converting information from one language into another. The goal of a translator is to have people read the translation as if it were the original. To do that, the translator must be able to write sentences that flow as well as the original, while keeping ideas and facts from the original source accurate. They must consider any cultural references, including slangs and other expressions that do not translate literally.⁴ While Jimenez is of the view that a translator is a person who expresses in a language generally in his mother tongue and in writing what is written in another language. The function of translators is far more important of what it is believed. Some wars have broken due to an error of the interpreter. More recently, people have died due to bad translations of medications. It is obvious then that translation is much more than just knowing two languages.

Different scholars in the academia have defined the concept of translation however one of the simplest definitions is of the idea is that, Translation is the communication of meaning of a source-language text by means of an equivalent target-language text. The English language draws a terminological distinction (not all languages do) between translating (a written text) and interpreting (oral or sign-language communication between users of different languages); under this distinction, translation can begin only after the appearance of writing within a language community.⁵

From time immemorial professional and non-professional translators have been facing some difficulties during translation before the coming

of information communication technology or and the general advancement in technology. For instance as observed by Ilyas and Jordan as regards the translation of what they referred to as "Specialized Jargon" the presents that the problem of translating specialized jargon is a very old one. During the reign of the Abbasid caliphate Al-Ma'moon, Arab translators faced the problem of translating scientific jargon from Greek, Persian, and Indian into Arabic.

Since the first half of the 20th century Arab scholars, Arab Academies, Arab Universities and Institutes, as well as many researchers and translators have been concerned about the rendering of specialized jargon in many Arab countries. In an attempt to resolve the problem, Arabic Academies were established in a number of Arab countries to tackle the problem of translating specialized jargon, Syria in 1919, Egypt in 1932, Iraq 1947, Jordan 1976, Tunisia 1983, the Institute for Studies and Research for Arabicization in Morocco, and the Kuwait Research Institute.⁶

Be that as it may, these academies did not succeed in producing consistent renderings for specialized terms, and produced inconsistent renderings. In the same vein, Qudadesse opines that, working as a professional in the translation industry is not as simple as it may sound, there are some challenges faced by translators and linguists daily. Firstly, difficulties caused by language structure, there are about 7000 living languages currently listed in the world, not to mention the number of dialects existing within these languages. Every single one of them is unique, with own origins, roots and structure. In a way, each language is a prism and has its own complex way of functioning Idioms, expressions, compound words, false friends, even onomatopoeic expressions; all of them make the richness and uniqueness of a language, but also represent an obstacle for communication.

Furthermore, in this, he presents that; literal translation can be very tricky.

⁷ Take, for example, Arabic. Not only is reads from right to left unlike English, but the subject pronouns are actually included in conjugated verbs. It shows just how complex the way of functioning of each language is, and how difficult it can be for someone whose native language is completely different to learn and even translate Arabic. These differences often create ambiguity, as words, expressions or sentences can have other meanings when used in a different context, which can cause misunderstandings and wrong interpretations and translators must be very careful with that. For example, to "hear something through the grapevine" in the English language means hearing rumours. Well, this expression would make literally no sense if translated in another language such as French. There are also many

words in each language with no literal equivalent in another language, which can make them extremely hard to transcribe without altering their exact meaning. Another factor which complicates the understanding of languages even more is the existence dialects.

Talking about dialect for instance, dialects are specific forms of languages spoken in particular regions or social groups. The interesting aspect of these subsets is that within the same language, different populations can speak in a completely different way, with words that have diverse uses and sounds which are pronounced completely differently. Again, the Arabic language, which is the fifth most spoken language in the world and the official language in 22 countries, is a good example. Although spoken by 250 million people in Eastern and North-African countries, its speakers do not actually all speak the "same" Arabic. Almost each of those countries has its very own dialect, with different variations even within the country.⁸

For instance, it would be difficult for a Moroccan to communicate with an Iraqi if they both used their own dialects of Arabic: they would probably use the classical Arabic language they learned at school, which isn't however typically spoken. The complexity of such languages makes them very difficult to learn, but, at the same time, it is also exactly what makes them very rich and fascinating. Dialectal languages are therefore a major obstacle the professional translators must deal with and overcome in order to transmit the intended message accurately, requiring a considerable knowledge and interpreting skills. It takes an advanced level of linguistic knowledge to get expressions, metaphors, jargon, slang and different dialects which are very challenging. Each population has a way of communicating and expressing its own messages, as well as its own code when it comes to language, symbols, understanding, shorthand, etc. These factors generate a big potential for misunderstanding; cultural factors are therefore another important challenge translators are faced with daily.⁹

Professional Translation and Training

Talking about professional translation and training, it has been presented that being a translator is about much more than simply being bilingual. It is about being able to interpret and transcribe a message suitably, according to its purpose and target audience, taking into account not only language aspects, but also social and cultural factors. In order to successfully and accurately complete a translation, a very specific set of skills is required to overcome language barriers. Therefore, in becoming a professional translator one will undergo some training to learn the skills and the rudiments of translation so as to be a well-trained translator. The challenges of translation have been mentioned earlier and for a translator

to be professional, he or she must be aware of these challenges and also a way of tackling them.¹⁰

Thus, working professionally as a translator involves having sufficient knowledge and experience in particular business fields. Translators have to be able to work with different materials. Whether it is legal documents, marketing documents or websites, these tasks are very different. Whatever the type of document is, a specific knowledge in the right field and industry is essential to be as accurate and reliable as possible, as it takes knowledge of the right vocabulary, the right procedures etc. it is not just about being fluent, but knowing the culture that correspond to the target language.

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

ICTs stand for information and communication technologies and are defined, for the purposes, as a "diverse set of technological tools and resources used to communicate, and to create, disseminate, store, and manage information." These technologies include computers, the Internet, broad casting technologies (radio and television), and telephony. The effectiveness of the information communication across diverse sectors cannot be overlooked neither can it be underestimated. For instance, in education, ICTs are a potentially powerful tool for extending educational opportunities, both formal and non-formal, to previously underserved constituencies scattered and rural populations, groups traditionally excluded from education due to cultural or social reasons such as ethnic minorities, girls and women, persons with disabilities, and the elderly, as well as all others who for reasons of cost or because of time constraints are unable to enroll on campus.¹¹

Anytime and anywhere, one unique defining feature of ICTs is their ability to transcend time and space. ICTs make possible asynchronous learning, or learning characterized by a time lag between the delivery of instruction and its reception by learners. Online course materials, for example, may be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. ICT-based educational delivery (e.g., educational programming broadcast over radio or television) also dispenses with the need for all learners and the instructor to be in one physical location. Additionally, certain types of ICTs, such as teleconferencing technologies, enable instruction to be received simultaneously by multiple, geographically dispersed learners.

Information and communication technology is a vast field encompassing virtually all technologies that can store, receive or transmit signals electronically. It has opened up a wide range of new communication methods, allowing you to contact others more or less instantaneously, and for less money and over greater distances than ever before. Technologies such as texting, instant messaging and video

conferencing allow users to communicate in real time with people across the world for a nominal fee, a concept which may have seemed ludicrous before the advent of computers. In addition, text-based computer communication can give those with speech or social problems a level playing field to communicate with their peers.¹² The ease of these communication methods comes with a downside, as anyone who has had to review a thousand new email messages before morning coffee is well aware. Some ICT components, such as intelligent chat bots, are finding service to help respond automatically to at least some forms of incoming communications.¹³

As well as providing a boost to existing industries such as manufacturing and shipping, heavy adoption of ICT has spawned new industries all of its own. Translators, Programmers, systems analysts and Web designers all owe their jobs to ICT, as do the people involved in secondary industries such as technology training and recruitment. However, the increased efficiency and automation brought about by ICT can also cause job losses, especially in manual roles and the manufacturing sector.¹⁴ New forms of communication also put old business models at risk. Newspapers and print magazines are pressured by online news sources. ICT provides a range of ways for fraudsters to gain access to your personal details, which could result in you or your business losing money and reputation. Technologies such as online banking mean that with the right security information a third party could impersonate you and gain access to your finances remotely. Despite the visible disadvantages of ICT, Information and Communications Technology (ICT) has an important role in the world since we are now in the information age era. With ICT, the company can make the business easier to happen with the client, supplier and the distributor.¹⁵ It is also very important in our daily lives. The lack of appropriate information at the right time will result in low productivity, low quality research works, and waste of time to pursue information and even to do research which actually others had done or in other countries. Nowadays ICT cannot be separated with our daily needs. ICT has a great impact in our daily lives. For example, we can read our local newspaper using the online newspaper. Another example is we still can get connected with our family, relatives, or colleagues even if we are abroad by using the electronic mail, yahoo messenger, call conference, or video conference.¹⁶

Incorporation of Information Communication Technology (ICT) for Professional Translation Training

To be competent in translation and interpretation and towards training translators and interpreters, the incorporation of ICT is therefore imperative. This is to meet up with the 21st century realities in the fields

of translation and interpretation. For examples, Scholars has argued that nowadays ICT are part of every translator's and interpreter's work, vast majority of professionals in this field use ICT daily. ICT is to be used to provide better acquisition of skills for specific language tasks of translation and interpretation and familiarization of future translators and interpreters with specific working practices.

ICT can be made used of in the following ways in the course of translation and interpretation:

- It can be used to provide alternatives to real-life situations in the professional field by means of video, to support acquisition of theoretical knowledge of the basic translation studies ideas and terms.
- To provide examples of translators and interpreters' failures to analyze, to show the best practices in simultaneous and consecutive interpreting.
- To provide topical texts in different languages for translating practice, to provide modern tools to support translating and interpreting, such as CAT, online dictionaries and databases, search engines, communication tools.
- To provide a high-quality audio and video material for interpreting practice. It was also observed that, "Without a new generation of trained linguists and professionals with language skills, international organizations will be unable to perform their vital tasks" (the Paris Declaration, June 2010).

This strong statement, published under the banner of the UN and issued by the IAMLADP (International Annual Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications), reinforces the message sent by the European Commission, through the launch of a Europe-wide campaign to make young people more aware of the career opportunities for translators and interpreters. The need for competent translators and interpreters has also increased in the private sector, with more and more companies going global, thus needing to resort to highly-trained, reliable professionals. So at a time when the need for competent, expert linguists is rising, we need to consider with great care the training provision for translators and interpreters. ICT can and must be a key element in the curriculum, providing they are embedded in the learning process in a way which is consistent and constructive with the development of professional skills.¹⁷

In the light of this, it has been argued that, it must be admitted that traditional forms and methods of teaching translation theory, such as lectures and classes where students just listen to the teacher, answer questions, have tests and occasionally make reports or presentations, are now out of date and ineffective. It was suggested that, theoretical classes

should be as interactive as possible. And the best solution in this case is using ICT to support acquisition of theoretical knowledge of the basic translation studies ideas and terms and to demonstrate the best and worst practices in order to illustrate the theoretical points under discussion. Furthermore, it was emphasized that, to help students to learn translation terms in the easiest way it is advisable to use puzzles crosswords. All over the world puzzles and crosswords are known as most popular intellectual games for both children and adults. They are widely used in educational practice including teaching languages.¹⁸

The experience of using crosswords in teaching translation theory demonstrates that making and solving crosswords help to learn professional terms more efficiently. Tests in the form of crosswords can be considered as an alternative solution to the traditional tasks as they enhance students' activity, improve their interest and motivation. As earlier discussed, translators must be trained and well equipped, in translators training classes, ICT can be used to provide topical texts in different languages for translating practice as well as to provide students with modern tools to support translating and interpreting, such as CAT, online dictionaries, glossaries and databases, search engines, communication tools and so on. It remains an unquestionable fact that the rapid development of online translation tools, e.g. *Google Translate*, has already transformed the whole world. Nowadays practically everyone involved in using foreign languages including translators uses these tools. Thus, it seems unreasonable to ban these technologies in classroom as students will use them anyway in their practice. For example, activities with online translation instruments (*Google Translate* and its tools *Translation*, *Translated Search*, *Translator Toolkit* and *Tools and Resources*) will provide the students with the information about the possibilities of machine translation as well as its limitations. To Beare, such activities can help students to 'notice similarities and differences between the mother tongue and the target language' which is undoubtedly beneficial for the translators-to-be. Using ICT in interpreters training course can help to show students the best practices in consecutive and simultaneous (conference) interpreting as well as to provide examples of 'bad practices' (interpreters' failures).¹⁹

The main focus of the practical translation and interpretation training is to develop students' linguistic, translation, instrumental and information mining skills concurrently by providing highly professionalized and practice-oriented training. The syllabus designers should adopt a comprehensive approach which will inculcate the use of information communication technology, to teaching translation and in such a way as to combine all competence areas into one task and hence enable the comprehensive development of translation and interpretation competence.

CONCLUSION

This paper has examined the main advantages of the information communication technology and its essence in the field of interpretation, translation, interpretation and translation training in the face of globalization and the 21st century realities. Having discussed the global relevance, reasonability and competency in the use of ICT for translation and interpretation for translators and interpreters training, it is evident and can be stated categorically that, the incorporation of ICT in this field has applaudable and laudable benefits. ICT incorporation into the curriculum enables and supports translators at every stage of the translators and interpreters learning process, to make it more effective and efficient towards getting reasonable results.

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