

Harmony, Music, And Alliteration in German Translations of the Holy Qur'an

Ali Radjaie¹

Abstract

This research was an attempt to study the extent to which music and form of ayahs and surahs of the Qur'an are regarded in Qur'anic translations and how such crucial elements are translatable. Each text has different aspects and in terms of form and music, religious texts also convey special messages, which regarding their particular impact on the audience, are highly important. These significant textual features can necessarily be reflected in translation.

The current study tried to analyze these textual features and standards in German translations of the Holy Qur'an by Friedrich Rückert (1788-1866) and to answer this very question that to what extent this Qur'anic translation has been successful in transferring the form and the tone of the original text. By presenting different examples from short musical Surahs, in comparison with their Persian translations, important literal and linguistic subtleties of religious texts were analyzed and the translation quality, compared with the original Qur'anic text, was evaluated.

Keywords: German translations of the Qur'an, form and music in translation, form and tone of expression in religious texts, Friedrich Rückert

1. Assistant Professor, English Department, Arak University;
email: a-radjaie@araku.ac.ir