



A Study of the Arabic Translation of the Chinese Four-Character Phraseologies Based on Newmark's Communicative Theory

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Abstract. The second volume of Xi Jinping on the Governance of the Country is a model of Chinese policy literature and an important document for understanding Chinese wisdom and Chinese position. The text contains a large number of Chinese Four-Character Phraseologies with standardized structure and rich meaning, and how to translate them well and make Arab readers reach their meaning is a major difficulty in translation. This paper aims to take Newmark's translation theory as the basis and Chinese Four-Character Phraseologies as the object of study, and analyze it by citing typical examples, so as to prove that Newmark's translation theory has a guiding effect on the translation of four-letter words into Arabic, that is to say, on the basis of faithfulness to the original text, the original text should be translated in a way that is smoother and simpler, and in line with the common collocations and expressions in the culture of the target language.

Keywords: Xi Jinping on Governance Volume 2, Newmark's Theory of Communicative Translation, Chinese Four-Character Phraseologies, Chinese into Arabic

1 Introduction

In recent years, with the introduction of the "Belt and Road" initiative, China's relations with Arab countries have been developing, so it is crucial to tell China's story and do a good job of foreign propaganda. The second volume of Xi Jinping on the Governance of the Country is a model of Chinese policy literature, and its importance is self-evident. There exists a large number of four-character vocabularies in the book with standardized structure, far-reaching significance, and refined wording, which play an important role in accurately conveying the message of the text, Chinese policies and opinions. However, four-character vocabulary has always been a major difficulty in translation, and how to accurately translate it so as to make it fit the context and the style of expression of the article, so that Arab readers can better understand the vocabulary and Chinese policies, as well as how to successfully achieve the effect of propaganda all need to be carefully studied. Relying on Newmark's theory of communicative translation,

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this paper selects three typical examples from Chapter 16 of Volume 2 of Xi Jinping on the Governance of the Country, divided into two categories: idioms and general words, and analyzes them by citing typical examples to prove that Newmark's theory of translation has a guiding effect on the Arabic translation of four-word vocabulary, i.e., on top of being faithful to the original text, translating the original text in a way that is smoother, simpler, and in line with the common collocations and expressions to the original text.

2 An overview of the Four-Character Phraseologies in Xi Jinping on Governance, Volume 2

2.1 Definition of Four-Character Phraseologies

As the name suggests, four-character gram refers to words composed of Four-Character Phraseologies, also known as "four-character language" and "four-character structure". Four-character grams occupy an important position in modern Chinese. With the development of society and the progress of the times, four-character grams are used more and more frequently in the Chinese language, and their number and content are enriched constantly, which has become a hot spot of research in the academic circles. Mr. Lu Zhiwei was the first scholar to propose the term "four-character gram" and use it. According to Mr. Lu, a four-character word with four characters (syllables) that are tightly integrated in the grammatical structure, cannot be spoken without an intermediate pause, and has a certain significance is a four-character gram. Mr. Yao Dianfang and Mr. Pan Zhaoming, in their article "Saying Four Character Grams", considered that words or phrases consisting of four syllables, which are relatively independent both conceptually and syllabically, and which can either stand alone or be used as sentence constituents, are four-character grams. [1] Mr. Ma Guofan, in his article "On Four Character Grams", believes that four character grams are linguistic units consisting of four syllables, which are different degrees of four-syllable ideograms, and that four character grams exclude four-syllable prepositional structures other than idioms as well as the structure of the word "的", and that paediatric sounds cannot be used as the fourth syllable to form four character grams, and also believes that four character grams are mainly composed of external forms. [2] Mr. Ma Guofan also believes that the four-character gram is mainly characterized by its external form, and that as long as there is no obstacle to its use in language, then the general public can avoid the strict linguistic division of the four-character gram.

To sum up, Mr. Lu Zhiwei defines four-character grammars from the point of view of form, Mr. Yao Dianfang and Mr. Pan Zhaoming also define four-character grammars from the point of view of grammatical constituents, and Mr. Ma Guofan also classifies four-character grammars, so this paper considers that four-character phrases consisting of four words (syllables), with a close structure, and conveying a certain meaning, are Four-Character Phraseologies.

2.2 Classification and Characteristics of Four-Character Phraseologies in the Second Volume of Xi Jinping on the Governance of the Country

The second volume of Xi Jinping on the Governance of the Country includes Xi Jinping's important writings during the period from August 18, 2014 to September 29, 2017, with a total of 99 articles including speeches, conversations, speeches, approvals, and congratulatory messages.[3] The Four-Character Phraseologies studied in this paper will be divided into two categories: idioms and general four-character grammars.

Corresponding to Chinese page numbers Corresponding to Arabic page numbers

(1) Idioms: Idioms are a type of idioms, which are fixed phrases with a written color that are used from time to time, and their basic form is the "Four-Character Phraseologies". The idioms used in Xi 2 are steeped in the culture of the Han nation, and shine with Eastern harmonies and wisdom; some of them also contain historical allusions, and elegantly and implicitly express the viewpoints and attitudes of the Chinese government, and help to disseminate the excellent traditional Chinese culture.

(2) General words: For a partial collation; the general word class used in Xi II has a variety of four-letter structures and flexible collocations, which enhance the persuasive power of the text in a fun, natural, lively, and coordinated way.

3 Overview of Newmark's Theory of Translation

3.1 Semantic Translation and Communicative Translation

Newmark put forward "Semantic Translation" and "Communicative Translation" in his book "Exploring Translation Problems" (1981) and described them in detail respectively. The purpose of putting forward these two concepts is to narrow the gap between the traditional direct translation and the meaning of translation in order to find a balance between them. He proposed these two concepts in order to narrow the gap between traditional direct translation and meaning translation, and thus to find a balance. These two translation theories are the most important and characteristic components of Newmark's translation theory. [4]

According to Newmark, semantic translation should be defined as "an attempt to accurately reproduce the contextual meaning of the original text to the extent permitted by the semantic and syntactic structure of the target language. It tries to express the thinking process of the original text, and strives to maintain the original's linguistic characteristics and unique way of expression. The purpose of communicative translation is that "the effect of the translation on the readers of the translated text should be as equal as possible to the effect of the original text on the readers of the original text, so that the content and language of the original text can be accepted and understood by the readers, and so that the contextual meaning of the original text can be accurately expressed".[5] The key lies in conveying information, allowing readers to think and feel and act, and fulfilling the function of language to convey information and produce effects. In other words, semantic translation stands from the perspective of the author of the original text to ensure that the information in the original text must be accurately

reproduced, while communicative translation is oriented to the reader and serves the grammar, language and culture of the target language on the basis of ensuring fidelity to the original text.

Communicative translation is aimed at readers, emphasizing the effect of the translation on the target readers rather than the content of the message, and it is important to make readers think, feel and act, and to naturalize the parts of the original text that are difficult to understand or obscure, and translate the original text in a way that is smoother and simpler, and more in line with the common collocations and expressions in the target language and culture. This will help the target language readers understand more.

Newmark also categorizes texts into three types, namely expressive, informative and evocative texts. He thinks that semantic translation is more suitable for expressive texts and communicative translation is more suitable for informative and evocative texts.

3.2 Applicability of Communicative Translation Theory to Xi Jinping on Governance, Volume 2

The second volume of Xi Jinping on Governance is a collection of President Xi Jinping's speeches and messages on international occasions, which mainly promote Chinese policies and Chinese wisdom, and call for international action and cooperation to meet challenges together and create a better future, and its main purpose is to enable foreign people to understand China's policies, and then to cause the people of all countries in the world to think and take action. Therefore, this paper believes that Xi Jinping on Ruling the Country Volume 2 is an appealing text, which should not only be faithful to the original text and conform to the original ideas in the process of translation, but also allow Arab readers to fully accept and understand the Chinese policies expressed by President Xi, that is, to let them achieve the same effect after reading the translated version of Xi as Chinese readers, and is therefore more suitable for communicative translation according to the Neumarkian theory of translation. This paper focuses the theory of communicative translation on the vocabulary, i.e., the four-letter words, and studies the A-translation of different types of Four-Character Phraseologies.

4 Typical Translation Example Analysis

4.1 Idioms

要坚持经济合作和人文交流共同推进，注重在人文领域精耕细作，尊重各国人民文化历史、风俗习惯，加强同沿线国家人民的友好往来，为“一带一路”建设打下广泛社会基础。（《习近平谈治国理政》第二卷P502）

It is necessary to adhere to the joint promotion of economic cooperation and humanistic exchanges, focusing on intensive work in the humanistic field, respecting the culture, history, customs and habits of the peoples of all countries, strengthening friendly exchanges with the peoples of the countries along the route, and laying a broad social foundation for the construction of the "Belt and Road".

ينبغي التمسك بالدفع المشترك للتعاون الاقتصادي والتبادل الإنساني، والاهتمام بالعمل الدقيق والجاد في المجال الإنساني، واحترام ثقافة وتاريخ وعادات وتقاليد شعوب مختلف الدول، وتعزيز التبادلات الودية مع شعوب الدول الواقعة على طول "الحزام والطريق"، لإرساء أساس اجتماعي واسع لبناء "الحزام والطريق". (شي جين بينغ [6] حول الحكم والإدارة، المجلد الثاني، ٥٥٦)

The idiom "精耕细作", originally a term used in agricultural science and technology to refer to careful and meticulous farming, is composed of two synonyms in parallel. [7] Since the original text is several consecutive verb clauses without a subject, it has been converted into a verb clause beginning with "ينبغي", and "insisting on ... advancing" and "focusing on ... meticulous farming". ...intensive cultivation" as the subject, then "intensive cultivation" is the object of "الاهتمام بـ", which can be translated as an adjective phrase, which is translated as "العمل الدقيق والجاد". "الاهتمام بـ" means meticulous and serious work, using two adjectives to modify a noun, the translation of the "serious" using "الجاد", which I think is very good. ", I think it is very reasonable, at first the author's idea is "الجدى", although both are the meaning of "serious", but "الجاد" is the active noun of the verb "جَدَّ", which is an adjective noun derived from an active verb, specifying the action expressed by the verb, indicating that the countries are serious about doing their work, while "الجدى" is a Subordinate noun, indicating that there is a subordinate relationship between it and the original noun "جَدَّ", without the strong emotional color expressed by the active adjective, so the original translation of "الجاد" used in the original translation is very appropriate and reasonable, not only to express the meaning of the Chinese idioms, but also It does not stick to the four-word form of the original text, is more concise and fluent, is in line with the theory of communicative translation, and can also reflect China's attention and concern for humanistic exchanges among the countries along the Belt and Road. [8]

2000多年前，我们的先辈筚路蓝缕，穿越草原沙漠，开辟出联通亚欧非的陆上丝绸之路。（《习近平谈治国理政》第二卷P506）

More than 2,000 years ago, our forefathers crossed the steppe and desert to open up the Silk Road, which linked Asia, Europe and Africa.

منذ أكثر من ٢٠٠٠ سنة، اجتاز أجدادنا مشقات المسارات الصعبة ذات البيئة القاسية، وعبروا المروج والصحارى لشق طريق الحرير البري الذي يربط قارات آسيا وأوروبا وأفريقيا. (شي جين بينغ حول الحكم والإدارة، المجلد الثاني، ٥٦١)

The idiom "筚路蓝缕" means that when our ancient ancestors reclaimed the land, they pushed wood carts and wore rags, which was very hard to describe the hardships of starting a business, and it is an idiom composed of two parallel nouns. In the translation the idiom is treated as a verb sentence "اجتاز أجدادنا مشقات المسارات الصعبة ذات البيئة القاسية". Our ancestors went through a lot of hardships in harsh environments, and instead of using a direct translation, the translation of the idiom is intended to translate the derived The verb "اجتاز" can be easily associated with "اجتاز الشدة", which means to go through difficulties, adversity, and to get through difficulties, and therefore it is very appropriate to use this verb in this sentence. The common collocations in Arabic reduce the language and cultural barriers for the readers and make it easier to understand, which is in line with the theory of communicative translation. [9]

4.2 general words

总结经验、坚定信心、扎实推进，聚焦政策沟通、设施联通、贸易畅通、资金融通、民心相通，一步一步把“一带一路”建设推向前进，让“一带一路”建设造福沿线各国人民。（《习近平谈治国理政》第二卷P503）

Summarize experience, strengthen confidence, and advance in a solid manner, focusing on policy communication, facility connectivity, smooth trade, financial integration and people-to-people exchanges, so as to push forward the construction of the Belt and Road step by step, and to make the construction of the Belt and Road benefit the people of all countries along the routes.

ينبغي أن ندفع بناء "الحزام والطريق" إلى الأمام خطوة خطوة، بتلخيص التجارب، وترسيخ الثقة، والعمل الحقيقي، مع التركيز على التواصل السياسي وتربط الإنشاءات وتيسير التجارة والاندماج المالي والتواصل بين قلوب الشعوب، ليحقق بناء "الحزام والطريق" السعادة لشعوب مختلف الدول الواقعة على طولها. (شي جين بينغ حول الحكم والإدارة، المجلد الثاني، ٢٠١٧)

These five consecutive "Tong" are usually difficult to translate, with flexible structure and free semantic collocation, and all of them are translated by direct translation, because there are words that can be compared with each other in Chinese and Arabic, which can be accurately and naturally corresponded to each other. "Smooth trade": with a total population of nearly 3 billion, the Silk Road Economic Belt has a unique market size and potential. [10]Countries have great potential for cooperation in the areas of trade and investment. All parties should discuss and make appropriate arrangements for trade and investment facilitation, eliminate trade barriers, reduce trade and investment costs, improve the speed and quality of the regional economic cycle, and achieve mutual benefit and win-win, In short, all countries should make trade and investment more convenient and more fluid, the translation uses "تيسير التجارة", the verb "يسر" to make it easy, to make smooth, to facilitate, to promote, to give the meaning of convenience, because trade can not be facilitated by themselves, it must be man-made factors, and therefore the use of the root of the verb to make the verb and the secondary form a verb-object relationship of the combination of the positive and negative, which means that the trade facilitation, the more appropriate. It is more appropriate. [11]

5 Conclusions

Through the analysis of typical examples of idioms and general four-letter words in Chapter 3, this paper concludes that Newmark's theory of communicative translation can guide the translation of the four-letter words in Chapter 16 of Volume 2 of Xi Jinping on the Governance of the Nation, i.e., "the effect produced by the translation on the readers of the translated text should be as much as possible equal to that produced by the original work on the readers of the original text, so that both the content and the language of the original text are acceptable to and comprehensible by the readers. Thus, the contextual meaning of the original text can be accurately expressed". In translating four-letter words, we flexibly use the translation strategies of augmentation, paraphrase, and direct translation to translate the original text into Arabic in a faithful and smooth and natural way, and use collocations and expressions more in line with the common

ones in the target language culture to translate the original text, so as to reduce the linguistic and cultural barriers, and help the readers in the target language to better understand it.

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