Penterjemahan Puisi Arab ke Bahasa Melayu: Mencari Keindahan dalam Keterbatasan

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Translating Arabic Poetry into Malay: In Search of Beauty within Limited Borders

Abstract

There is an interesting saying: A translation is like a woman: if it is faithful, it is not beautiful; if it is beautiful, it is not faithful. If a translator wants to be faithful with the original text while translating he is bound to lose the beauty of the translated text. If he tries to maintain the beauty of the translated text he is sure to be unfaithful with the original text. This paper will present some considerations in translating Arabic poetry into Malay. Poetry translation poses more difficulty than prose translation. The reason of this lies in that poetry stress more on its musical quality while prose emphasizes more on meaning. The translation of a poem must remain to be a poem and should be faithful to the original.