

A Shift from Arabic to English: A New Trend in Using Loanwords in Kurdish Journalistic Translation

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ABSTRACT

Language is a living phenomenon; languages change, evolve and develop over time. One of the ways that languages change is through the influence of foreign languages, which is mainly reflected in loanwords. This paper addresses a new trend in translations produced in the Kurdish media, which is a shift from using Arabic loanwords to using English loanwords. In the absence of a language policy, Kurdish has become receptive of foreign words. In the past, Sorani Kurdish (otherwise known as Central Kurdish), spoken predominantly in Iraqi Kurdistan, was primarily influenced by Arabic. With the turn of the new millennium, Sorani Kurdish seems to have experienced a new sociolinguistic shift or trend whereby the use of Arabic loanwords in Kurdish has declined, in turn, English loanwords have gained currency. Through a research questionnaire, the paper aims to attest whether the new observed trend is a mere perception or a factual phenomenon. The questionnaire aims at journalist-translators working between English and Kurdish. They are required to translate 40 fairly short English sentences (from the journalistic genre) into Kurdish, each sentence containing one or more unmarked words that are thought to represent the aforementioned trend when translated into Kurdish. The results show that the use of Arabic loanwords in Kurdish journalistic translations is disproportionately low compared to English loanwords. Strikingly, the use of Kurdish equivalents is considerably high, given the fact that the chosen words are perceived to be generally translated as loanwords. Moreover, over ten per cent of the translation occurrences demonstrate exceptional cases whereby the chosen words are translated by procedures such as near-synonymy, generalization and expansion.

KEY WORDS: Arabic Loanwords, English Loanwords, English-Kurdish Translation, Journalistic Translation, Loanwords

1. INTRODUCTION

Loanwords are lexical items that originate from a foreign language (called donor language) and are used in communication in a given language (called recipient language). They are referred to as "words absorbed from

other languages. These words become neologisms in the target language, which is one major way of expanding its vocabulary and enriching the target language and culture" (Zhang *et al.* quoted in Chan 2004: 134). According to Backus (1992: 12), loanwords have linguistic as well as extralinguistic characteristics:

- 1) The linguistic aspect refers to the assimilation of the loanwords to the linguistic rules of the recipient language.
- 2) The extralinguistic aspect, on the other hand, refers to the acceptance of the borrowed words as loanwords by members of the recipient language community.

There can be all sorts of reasons for using loanwords in a given language, but a lack of equivalence in the recipient language can be the most immediate one (cf. Restall 2005: xii; Panhwar 2018: 169; Cholsy 2017: 14). As

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far as Kurdish is concerned, it tends to be receptive of foreign words and terms, especially from Arabic and English. Historically, Kurdish has been influenced by Arabic due to various factors, namely, religious, political, cultural ties as well as geographical proximity between the Kurdish and the Arabic societies. "Whatever the degree or nature of contact between neighboring peoples, it is generally sufficient to lead to some kind of linguistic interinfluencing. Frequently the influence runs heavily in one direction" (Sapir 2004: 158).

It can be argued that this influence began after the Kurds accepted Islam in the 7th century. The use of an abundance of Arabic loanwords has been a remarkable trait of Kurdish classic poetry. Kurdish poets and writers were influenced by Arabic, the language of the Quran, motivated by their religious faith. However, with the rise of Kurdish nationalism in the early 20th century, efforts were made to purify Kurdish from foreign words. "Purification can be traced back to the 17th century works of Ahmadi Khani and Ali Taramakhi... however, after World War I that purification appears most strongly as a manifestation of nationalism" (Hassanpour 1992: 398). Nevertheless, Arabic loanwords could be seen as a salient trait of the Kurdish language in both written and spoken discourse. Since the formation of modern Iraq in 1919 until 2005⁵, Arabic was the only officially recognized language in Iraq. This political factor played an essential role in the influence of Arabic upon the Kurdish language. Likewise, the sociocultural interactions between Kurds and Arabs, as two major nations in modern Iraq, were also phenomenal in bringing the two languages together. All these factors perpetuated the impact of Arabic upon Kurdish in a way that in the 1990's and 1990's the use of Arabic loanwords in Kurdish communication was viewed by some as an indication of prestige and intellectuality.

However, in the past two decades or so, Sorani Kurdish seems to have experienced a sociolinguistic trend, namely a shift from Arabic to English when it comes to the use of loanwords. New political changes in the region (such as the liberation of the Kurdish region of Iraq in 1991 and the US invasion of Iraq in 2003) and the proliferation of new media have played a significant role in opening the Kurdish society towards the outside world, especially the English-speaking countries. This might have played a role in giving rise to the use of English loanwords in Kurdish communication. Sorani Kurdish was once characterized by the use of a large number of Arabic loanwords; however, it is observed that such loanwords have yielded in favour of English

loanwords. The phenomenon seems to be more acute in the language of journalism and has reflected in journalistic translations.

2. DATA COLLECTION AND METHODOLOGY

As hinted above, the observed phenomenon of using English loanwords instead of Arabic ones is acutely felt in journalistic translations. Therefore, the field of journalism was chosen as the basis of the research. A set of 50 words, which were perceived to be normally translated by loanwords, were chosen. Then, a questionnaire of 40 short English sentences was devised based on the chosen words, with some sentences containing two of such words (see Appendix 1). To make the data sound natural, all the chosen words were incorporated in the sentences inconspicuously and no hints were given to suggest that the purpose of the translation was to observe the use of loanwords. The questionnaire, which specifically aimed at English-Kurdish journalist-translators, was sent to different Kurdish media outlets as well as individual journalist-translators. They were asked to translate the sentences in the typical way they translate for their media outlets. To make the questionnaire less time-consuming, thus maximize the number of participants, each sentence was partially translated, excluding parts that contained the words in question. Overall, the questionnaire was answered by 20 journalist-translators working from a wide range of Kurdish media outlets, such as *Rudaw*, *NRT*, *Geli Kurdistan*, *Speda* and *Kurdsat*.

As for the methodology, the research employs both quantitative and qualitative methods. The questionnaire is essentially designed to generate quantitative data. To attest the hypothesis raised at the outset of the study - Arabic loanwords are on the decline whereas English ones proliferate in Kurdish journalistic translations - the number of occurrences for each chosen loanword is given priority. This part of the research heavily depends on a quantitative study. However, the interpretation of the results and the analysis of unexpected answers from the participants require a qualitative study.

To be more specific, the translations provided by the participants are analyzed by focusing on the specific words that were supposed to be borrowed as loanwords. The answers were categorized as to whether the words in question are translated by using Arabic or English loanwords as two main categories of loanwords in this study. Unexpectedly, a large number of the chosen words were translated literally, therefore a third category (translation by Kurdish counterparts) had to be added. Moreover, some of the translations did not fit into any of the three categories mentioned above, thus they were compiled separately as a fourth category. The

results based on the four categories are tabulated in Appendix 2. To systematically study the results, the percentage of each of the categories is drawn.

The issue arose during the analysis was that, on several occasions, the participants provided two translation options for a given word, with the second option being provided mostly in parenthesis. This was expected to cause discrepancies in the quantitative analysis of the findings. Therefore, only the first option was counted in the categorization, given that the parenthesized translation was provided only as a secondary option. To illustrate the point, consider the following example, in which the word *symbol* is translated by the English loanword *سىمبول*, followed by literal translation in parenthesis (*هینما*). The translation is categorized as an instance of English loanword since the English borrowing is provided as the first option while the literal translation is only given secondary importance.

ST: For many Western observers, Kurdistan region is the **symbol** of peace and coexistence.

TT: به‌لای زۆریک له چاودێرانى رۆژئاواییهوه، ههرێمى كوردستان **سىمبول** (هینما) ى نأشتى و پىكه‌وه‌ژيانه.

It is noteworthy that translators are not normally expected to provide two translation options unless there is a legitimate reason to do so, for example when a seemingly unknown cultural term is glossed in parentheses. Otherwise, to produce an accurate translation, translators ought to choose one and the most appropriate translation among any set of possible translation options available to them.

3. A SHIFT IN USING LOANWORDS IN KURDISH

As stated above, the data for this study consists of 50 contextualized English lexical items that are likely to be translated into Kurdish as loanwords. Answers from the 20 journalist-translators participated in the questionnaire resulted in 1,000 occurrences of translation based on the 50 lexical items. The translation occurrences are systematically grouped into four categories: English loanwords, Arabic loanwords, Kurdish equivalents and other miscellaneous or exceptional cases. The results reveal that the use of English loanwords constitutes 54% of the occurrences (538 instances), the highest proportion of the four categories. However, the use of Arabic loanwords makes up only 5% (53 occurrences), the lowest proportion of the four categories. Strikingly, 298 occurrences (30%) are rendered by literal translation (i.e. using Kurdish equivalents), which is a considerably large proportion of the occurrences. Finally, 111 occurrences (11%) demonstrate exceptional cases, including translation by near-synonymy, generalization and expansion. Figure 1 below shows the percentages of translation occurrences under each category.

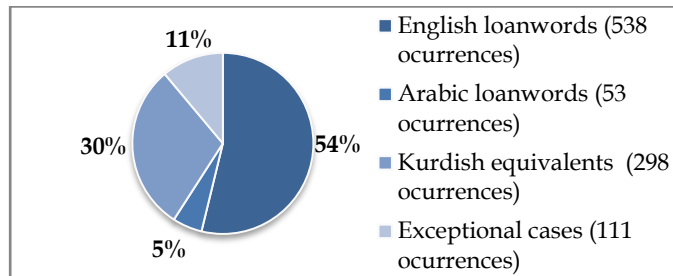


Fig. 1. The percentages of different categories of translation occurrences in the data

The predominant use of English loanwords in the Kurdish translation, as opposed to the infrequent use of Arabic loanwords, supports the hypothesis that Arabic loanwords have yielded in favour of English loanwords in Kurdish journalistic translation. The high occurrence of English loanwords might be due partly to the fact that the source texts were in English, which is likely to have a direct influence on the resultant translation.

3.1 English Loanwords in the Data

As seen above, English loanwords make up the highest proportion (54%) of translation occurrences among the four categories. Every single word of the 50 chosen lexical items was translated as an English loanword, but the frequency differs across the lexical items. Words such as *actor* (ئەمكتر); *terror* (تیرۆر); *coup d'état* (كودەتا); *company* (كۆمپانیا); *boycott* (بايكوت); *role* (رۆل); *plan* (پلان) and *conference* (كۆنفرانس) are rendered by English loanwords in almost all occurrences. Words such as *restaurant* (رێستوران); *clinic* (كلینیک); *course* (كۆرس); *copy* (كۆپی); *debate* (دیهیت) and *background* (باکگراوند) are rendered by English loanwords in about half of the cases. Finally, words such as *negative* (نێگەتیف); *positive* (پۆزەتیف); *reform* (رێفۆرم); *alternative* (ئەلتەرناتیف); *scandal* (سكاندال) and *gallery* (گالەری) are translated by English loanwords only in a few occurrences.

Although there can be several reasons for using loanwords in translation, it is difficult to pin down the exact reason simply by examining the translation product. It can sometimes be ascribed to the translator's idiosyncrasy or subconscious decision. As far as English-Kurdish translation is concerned, Rasul (2019: 98) identifies three situations in which lexical terms are typically rendered as loanwords, as follows:

- Lexical gap (lacuna):** it occurs when a word or a term is not lexicalized in the TL, such as: *debate*, *conference* and *boycott*, which do not have one-to-one counterparts in Kurdish.
- Uncommon TL equivalent:** it occurs when a word or a term has a direct equivalent but it is not commonly used in the TL. For example, the word *opposition* can be translated into Kurdish literally as (بەرەهەستکار), but its translation as a loanword is more commonly used in Kurdish.

c. **Stylistic effect/prestige:** it occurs when a word or a term has a direct equivalent in the TL but the loanword sounds stylistically more prestigious or expressive. For instance, the term *photographer* has a ready equivalent in Kurdish (وینه‌گر) but the English loanword (فوئوگرافەر) sounds stylistically more expressive. Likewise, the English loanword سیمبول [symbol] appears to be stylistically more effective than its Kurdish equivalents (هینما/نیشانه).

3.2 Arabic Loanwords in the Data

With a low percentage (5%), the use of Arabic loanwords in Kurdish journalistic translation appears to have experienced a decline. Only 18 out of the 50 chosen lexical items were translated by Arabic loanwords. The only two frequently used Arabic loanwords in the data are *مهدنی* [civilian] and *مسیحی* [Christian], occurring 11 times and 13 times respectively. The rest of the Arabic loanwords occur infrequently. For example, each of *حالت* [case] and *بەدیله* [alternative] occurs only three times and each of *ئێجابی* [positive] and *سلبی* [negative] occurs only once.

Despite the fact that Arabic loanwords are still used in Kurdish, the results show that the use of such loanwords in Kurdish journalistic translation has largely declined. However, anecdotal evidence suggests that using Arabic loanwords in Kurdish may be more common in spoken language than in written translation. All in all, the low proportion of Arabic loanwords in the study further enhances the postulation that Kurdish journalist-translators are more likely to opt for English loanwords in lieu of Arabic ones.

3.3 Kurdish Counterparts in the Data

In almost one-third of the translation occurrences (30%), the journalist-translators avoided both English and Arabic loanwords and opted for Kurdish counterparts. This is an interesting finding given the fact that the chosen lexical items were expected to be first and foremost rendered as loanwords. This finding suggests that Kurdish journalist-translators turn to Kurdish equivalents to a great extent even when they come across words that tend to be normally rendered as loanwords.

In the dataset, 35 out of the 50 chosen lexical items were rendered by Kurdish equivalents (i.e. literal translation), the rest of the lexical items do not seem to have counterparts in Kurdish. The frequency of using literal translation varies across the lexical items. Words such as *reform* (چاکسازی), *sector* (کمرت) and *gallery* (نیشانگا) are translated into their Kurdish counterparts in the majority of the occurrences. Other words such as *dialogue* (گفتوگو), *principle* (بنهما) and *candidate* (بالیوار/بهر بۆنیر) are translated literally in almost half of the occurrences. Finally, *tragic* (مەرگهسات), *logic* (ژیر بیزێ)

and *guarantee* (مسوگهری/دهسته بهری) are rendered by their Kurdish equivalents only occasionally.

3.4 Miscellaneous or Exceptional Cases in the Data

One of the striking results of this study is the considerably large proportion of unexpected translation occurrences (11%) that are categorized as miscellaneous or exceptional cases. These occur when translators use an oblique/indirect method of translation instead of a literal/direct method, to use Vinay and Darbelnet's terms (1995: 31). The most common patterns of exceptional translation occurrences identified in the study are as follows:

3.4.1 Near-synonymy:

It is referred to as "a near TL equivalent to an SL word in a context, where a precise equivalent may or may not exist" (Newmark 1988: 84). Near-synonymy is a handy procedure when a SL lexical item does not have a direct equivalent in the TL. However, more often than not individual translators employ near-synonymy even in cases where the lexical item has a counterpart in the TL. Examples of translation by near-synonymy in the data are: *discussion* > گفتوگو [dialogue]; *positive* > باش [good] and *factor* > پالنه‌ر [motive]. A more complicated instance is the translation of the word *alternative*, which is replaced by several near-synonyms in the TTs:

ST: The Kurds decided to hold a referendum because they did not have an **alternative**.

TT 1: کوردەکان بڕیار یاندا ریفرا نۆم ئەنجام بدەن چونکە چاره‌یه‌کی تریان نهبوو.

TT 2: کوردەکان بڕیار یاندا ریفرا نۆم ئەنجام بدەن چونکە چاره‌سه‌ریکی تریان نهبوو.

TT 3: کوردەکان بڕیار یاندا ریفرا نۆم ئەنجام بدەن چونکە رینگه‌چاره‌یه‌کی تریان نهبوو.

TT 4: کوردەکان بڕیار یاندا ریفرا نۆم ئەنجام بدەن چونکە بۆزار ده‌یه‌کی تریان نهبوو.

TT 5: کوردەکان بڕیار یاندا ریفرا نۆم ئەنجام بدەن چونکە هه‌لبژارده‌یه‌کی تریان نهبوو.

As is clear, there is no consistency among the journalist-translators in rendering the term *alternative*. It is expected that "[different] translators will produce different versions of the same text, partly because of different selections made between words from the same semantic field" (Allan *et al.* 2010: 124). In the example above, the first three choices (چاره‌یه‌کی, رینگه‌چاره‌یه‌کی and چاره‌سه‌ریکی) stand for English *solution*, whereas the latter two options (بۆزار ده‌یه‌کی and هه‌لبژارده‌یه‌کی) stand for English *choice/option*.

3.4.2 Generalization:

This occurs when a specific source language word or term is replaced by a more general word or term in the target language. Despite being a practical procedure when dealing with lexical gaps, "in translating by generalization translators may run the risk of meaning

loss, since in generalization a piece of information or an aspect of meaning is always lost" (Rasul 2016: 404). It is not uncommon for translators to resort to generalization when they fail to find an exact counterpart for a given lexical item. For instance, in the dataset, the verb *murdered* is translated by generalization as *كوژرا* [killed] 13 times. Obviously, there is a profound difference between *kill* and *murder*. *Kill* refers to actions that "cause the death of (a person, animal, or other living thing)" (Oxford Dictionary of English 2010: 966), whereas *murder* refers to "the unlawful premeditated killing of one human being by another" (*ibid.* 1167). Another example is the term *scandal*, which is rendered by generalization as *گه‌ندلمی* [corruption]. *Corruption* is a general term that refers to all sorts of legally and morally unacceptable actions, whereas *scandal* is only one kind of corruption that usually results in general public outrage.

3.4.3 Expansion:

This occurs when an SL term or expression is replaced by a longer stretch of language in the TL. Delisle *et al.* (1999: 138) refer to expansion as "an increase in the amount of 'text' that is used in the target language to express the same semantic content as compared to the parallel segment in the source text". Consider the following examples, from the data, in which a single word is replaced by two words in the translation:

- ambulance > [emergency car] ئۆتۆمبیللی فریاکەوتن
- clinic > [medical centre] سەنەنەری پزیشکی
- mask > [facial cover] ڕووپۆشی دەموچاو

Another interesting example of expansion in the data is the translation of the word *surprise* by the following expansive counterparts:

- [an attractive thing] شتیکی سەرنەراکێش
- [an amusing thing] شتیکی دڵخۆشکەر
- [a surprising thing] شتیکی سەرسامکەر
- [good news] هەمو لێکی خوش
- [unexpected news] هەمو لێکی پێشبینی نەکراو

For the purpose of precision, translators had better opt for accurate, one-to-one counterparts rather than using unnecessary expansions, such as those based on the empty word *شت* [thing].

3.4.4 Omission:

This occurs when a stretch of language (a word, expression, phrase, etc.) is left out in the translation process, whether it be deliberately or accidentally. While some translation researchers and scholars attribute a negative connotation to omission in translation (cf. Dimitriu (2004: 164) and Delisle *et al.* (1999: 165)), others view it as a practical procedure that can be implemented in translation (cf. Baker (1992/2018: 43-44); Chesterman (1997: 109-110); Dickins *et al.* (2017: 22) and Rasul (2015:

158)). According to Baker (2018: 43), "it does no harm to omit translating a word or expression in some contexts", especially when the meaning conveyed by such a word or expression "is not vital enough to the development of the text to justify distracting the reader with lengthy explanations". Likewise, Rasul (2015: 158) considers omission a viable translation procedure to overcome the issue of lacunae in the TL. The data contains four instances of omission, as follows:

ST: In 2018, the UK police have recorded over 1000 **cases of** online fraud.

TT: له ساڵی ۲۰۱۸ دا پۆلیسی بەریتانیا زیاد له ۱۰۰۰ ساختمکاری نەملکتزونی تۆمارکردووه.

ST: Yesterday, I received **a copy of** the book for the summer course.

TT: دوینی کتێبی کۆرسی هاوینەم بەدەست گەیشت.

ST: Yesterday, I received a copy of the book for the summer **course**.

TT: دوینی کۆپیکەم له کتێبەکم بەدەست گەیشت بۆ هاوین.

ST: In recent years, many **local** newspapers have been closed down.

TT: لەم چەند ساڵی دواییدا، زۆریک لە رۆژنامەکان داخران.

The first two instances do not seem to have changed the overall meaning of the messages communicated, whereas the latter two cases have resulted in translation loss. By translating the phrase *for the summer course* as *بۆ* (for the summer), the significant information of having a 'course' in the summer will be lost. In the same vein, by omitting the adjective *local*, in the last example above, the overall meaning of the message is distorted; it implies that newspapers worldwide have been closed down in recent years.

The considerably large number of exceptional instances occurred in the data indicates that translation is far from being a straightforward process. Professional translators carry out all sorts of interlingual operation during the translation process to produce an appropriate and natural-sounding translation. In so doing, they have to employ a wide range of procedures beyond literal translation and borrowing.

4. CONCLUSION

This research has examined the hypothesis that, while the use of Arabic loanwords in Sorani (Central Kurdish) was a common practice in the past, there is a new trend to use English loanwords in current Kurdish journalistic translations. The results of the study verify the hypothesis and show that, in 1000 translation occurrences produced by 20 journalist-translators participating in the study, English loanwords constitute the majority of the instances (54%), whereas Arabic loanwords make up only a small proportion of the concurrences (5%). This result confirms that the tendency of using English loanwords, as opposed to Arabic ones, is a factual phenomenon in Kurdish

journalistic translations. Despite the fact that the lexical items chosen for the study were supposed to be translated by loanwords, nearly a third of the occurrences (30%) were replaced by their Kurdish counterparts. This indicates that, apart from the orientation to use English loanwords, there is also a tendency towards using literal translation in lieu of borrowing. Unexpectedly, a significant proportion (11%) of the occurrences deviated from both borrowing and literal translation; they are rendered by other translation procedures such as near-synonymy, generalization and expansion.

Based on the outcome of the research, trainee and would-be translators are encouraged to use literal translation and avoid loanwords, as long as a word or a lexical item has a Kurdish equivalent. Excessive use of English loanwords, under the influence of new media, is better off avoided. However, it may not harm to occasionally use English loanwords that have already become familiarized in the Kurdish media. Finally, there is nothing wrong with borrowing Arabic words that sound expressive and/or fill in lexical gaps in Kurdish. To make communication effective, journalist-translators in the Kurdish media use such loanwords, albeit not as commonly as they used to be.

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APPENDIX 1:

QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is specifically aimed at journalistic-translators working between English and Kurdish in the Kurdish media. By answering this questionnaire, you will help the researcher to explore English-Kurdish translations carried out in the Kurdish media. The questionnaire contains 40 short English sentences partly translated into Kurdish. Please complete the translation exactly in the same way you translate for your media outlet.

Thank you for your time and contribution!

پرسیارنامه

ئهم پرسیارنامهیه تایبته به وهرگیزی رۆژنامهوانی که له بواری وهرگیزی نینگلیزی - کوردی له میدیای کوردیدا کاردهکن. به وهلامدانهوهی ئهم پرسیارنامهیه هاوکاری توێژهردهکهیت له لیکۆلینهوه له وهرگیزی نینگلیزی - کوردی له میدیای کوردیدا. پرسیارنامهکه له ۴۵ رستهی کورتی نینگلیزی پینکهاتوه که بهشیک ههر رستهیهک وهرگیزدراوه بۆ کوردی. تکایه بهشکهی تری وهرگیزانهکه تهواوبکه به ههمان ئهو شیوازی که له دهزگا میدیاییهکهتا وهرگیزان دهکهیت. سوپاس بۆ کات و بهشداریتان.

1. Jackie Chan is a Hong Kong actor who has starred in many movies.

جاکشان.....که له زۆر فلیما وک ئهستێره رۆلی بینهوه.

2. Three civilians were killed in Russian air strikes.

سێ..... له هێرشێ ناسمانی روسیادا کوژران.

3. Dr. Abdul-Rahman Qassemlou was murdered in 1989 in Vienna.

د. عبدالرحمن قاسملو.....

4. Just after the accident, I called for an ambulance.

- هەر دوای رووداو که
5. If you want to become an MP, you should have a political background.
- نەگەر بتهوێت ببیت بە ئەندام پەرلەمان، ئەوا پێویستە
6. The Kurdistan election did not change the political balance.
- هەڵبژاردنی کوردستان
7. Several organizations organized a campaign to support refugees.
- چەندین رێکخراو
8. In 2018, the UK police have recorded over 1000 cases of online fraud.
- لە ساڵی ۲۰۱۸ دا، پۆلیسی بەریتانیا
9. A friend told me that the restaurant accepts both cash and credit card.
- هاوڕێیەک پێی ووتم کە
10. My brother works in a research center.
- براکەم
11. Three PMs represent Erbil Christians in the parliament.
- سێ ئەندام پەرلەمان نوێنەرایەتی
12. The Ministry of Health regulates consultant clinics.
- وەزارەتی تەندروستی
13. When using the social media, we should expect positive and negative comments.
- کاتیەک سۆشیاڵ میدیا بەکار دێنین، دەبێت
14. We will have two activities this week: an open debate and a conference.
- ئەم هەفتە دوو چالاکیان دەبێت:
15. Yesterday, I received a copy of the book for the summer course.
- دوینی
16. I was impressed by the design of the new airport.
- سەرسام بووم بە
17. Self-confidence is an important factor for success.
- متمانە بەخۆبوون
18. Most fractions in the Parliament ask for dialogue instead of violence.
- زۆربەی
19. Even if you have a qualification, there is no guarantee that you get a good job.
- تەننات ئەگەر پروانامەشت هەبێت،
20. It is often said that modern media focus on tragic events.
- زۆر جار دەوترێت کە
21. In recent years, many local newspapers have been closed down.
- لەم چەند ساڵەدا، زۆرێک لە
22. Philosophers believe that logic is at the heart of any theory.
- فەیلەسوفان پێیانوایە کە
23. In Kurdistan, the opposition parties have the same principles as the ruling parties.
- لە کوردستان

24. In the past decade, terror has destroyed several societies in the Middle East.
- لە دەیهی رابردوودا،
25. Universities play a great role in society.
- زانکۆکان
26. Due to lack of long-term plans, most service projects stopped in the country.
- بەهۆی نەبوونی
27. Kurdistan needs reform in its system of governance.
- کوردستان پێویستی بە
28. The relationship between public and private sectors should be a complementary one.
- پەيوهندی نێوان
29. For many Western observers, Kurdistan region is the symbol of peace and coexistence.
- بەلای زۆرێک لە چاودێرانێ رۆژئاوایی، هەرمێ کوردستان
30. It is said that politicians change their masks on a daily basis.
- دەوترێت سیاسیهکان رۆژانه
31. The Kurds decided to hold a referendum because they did not have an alternative.
- کوردهکان برباریاندا ريفراندۆم ئەنجام بدن چونکە
32. "Check your email, I have a good surprise for you", Allan told his friend.
- ئالان بە هاوڕێکەمی ووت: "سەیری ئیمەیلەکەت بکە،"
33. The WikiLeaks revealed several scandals of US officials.
- ویکیلیکس چەندین
34. When I saw the silver car after the accident, I got shocked.
- کاتیەک کە ئۆتۆمبیلە
35. Thousands of teachers boycotted class attendance.
- هەزاران مامۆستا
36. Three Kurdish students organized a photo gallery.
- سێ خوێندکاری کورد
37. A Kurdish photographer has won an award in the US.
- خەڵاتیکی بەدەستپێنا لە ئەمریکا
38. The rightists believed that Trump was the strongest candidate for the presidential elections.
- راسترەوهکان پێیان وابوو کە ترمپ بەهێزترین
39. After the failed coup d'état in Turkey, thousands of suspects were sent to jail.
- ، بە هەزاران گومانیلێکر او رهوانه‌ی زیندان کران
40. We have direct contact with the company's main office in Tokyo.
- پەيوهندی راسته‌وخۆمان هه‌یه‌ به

Thanks for our time and contribution!

APPENDIX 2: Categorization of translation occurrences in then chosen set of words

English words	Arabic loanwords in Kurdish	Occurrence	English loanwords in Kurdish	Occurrence	Kurdish equivalents	Occurrence	Other	Occurrence
1) actor	مومسپیل	0	ئەکتەر	20	— ¹			
2) civilian	مەدەنی	11	سپپیل	6	—		هاولاتی	3
3) murdered	ئییغتیاکرا	0	تیرۆرکرا	6	—		کوژرا شەهیدکرا	13 1
4) ambulance	ئیسعاف	0	ئەمبویان	5	—		ئۆتۆمبیلی فریاکەوتن	15
5) background	خەلفیەت	0	باکگراوند	8	باشخان/ پێشینە	12		
6) balance	تەوازن	0	بالیانس	5	هاوسەنگی	11	هاوکیشە گۆرانکاری	3 1
7) campaign	حەمە	0	کەمپەین	16	هەمەت	4		
8) case	حالیەت	3	کەیس/دۆسیە	14	—		تاران Omission	2 1
9) restaurant	مەتەم	0	رێستوران	10	چێشتخانە/خوار دنگە	10		
10) center	مەزگەز	0	سەنتەر	13	ناوەند	7		
11) Christians	مەسیحی	13	کرێستیان	7	گاور	0		
12) clinic	عیادە	1	کلینیک	10	تۆرینگە	8	سەنتەری پزیشکی	1
13) positive	ئێجابی	1	پۆزەتیف	2	نەرینی	13	باش	4
14) negative	سلبی	1	نێگەتیف	2	نەرینی	13	خراب	4
15) comment	تەعلیق	0	کۆمێنت	15	تیچین/سەرنج	2	وتە لێدوان توانج	1 1 1
16) debate	موناژەرە	0	دیبەیت	13	—		مشتومر گفتوگۆ گەنگەشە	1 4 2
17) conference	مۆنتەمەر	0	کۆنفرانس	20	—			
18) copy	نوسخە	3	کۆپی	13	وێنە	1	چاپ لەبەرگیراوه Omission	1 1 1
19) course	دەورە	1	کورس	12	خول	6	Omission	1
20) design	تەسمیم	0	دیزاین	14	نەخشە/ نەخشەسازی	5	شێواز	1
21) factor	عامیل	0	فاکتەر	5	هۆکار	13	پالەنەر کاریگەری	1 1
22) fraction	کوتلە	2	فراکسیۆن	14	—		بەش پەرلەمانتاران لایەن	1 2 1
23) dialogue	حیوار	1	دایەلوگ	6	گفتوگۆ/تووێژ	12	دانوستان	1
24) guarantee	زەمانەت	1	گەرەنتی	13	مسوگەری/ دەستەبەری/دەلیلی	3	مەرج نیه	3
25) media	ئێعلام	0	میدیا	16	راگەیاندن	4		
26) tragic	مەهەسات	0	تراژیدی	11	مەرگەسات/ کارساتیار	3	نەخوارراو دلتەزین ناخۆش	1 1 4
27) local	مەحلی	1	لۆکالی	4	ناوخرۆبی	11	خۆمالی Omission	2 2
28) logic	مەنتیق	0	لوجیک/ لۆژیک	18	ژیربێژی	2		
29) theory	نەزەر یە	0	تیۆری	8	بیردۆز	9	لێکۆلینەوه	2

¹ The long dash (—) indicates that the term in question is not lexicalized in Kurdish.

							ریياز	1
30) opposition	موعارزه	0	ئویوز سیون	17	بهر هه‌لستکار	3		
31) party	حیزب	6	پارت	9	—		لایهن	5
32) principle	معهدهئی	1	پرینسیپ	9	بنهما	9	پهیرهو	1
33) terror	ئیرهاب	0	تیرۆر	20	—			
34) role	دهور	1	رۆل	19	—			
35) plan	خوتته	0	پلان	19	—		بهرنامه	1
36) reform	ئیسلاح	0	ریفۆرم	1	چاکسازی	17	گۆرانکاری	2
37) sector	قیناع	0	سێکتەر	4	کهرت	16		
38) symbol	رهمز	1	سیمیبول	9	هه‌یما/نیشانه	9	نمونه	1
39) mask	قیناع	0	ماسک	5	دهمامک	8	رووپۆشی روخسار هه‌لوئیس روخسار دهموچارو روو	1 2 1 2 1
40) alternative	به‌دیله	3	ئه‌لتەر ناتیف	4	جیگره‌وه	6	چاره چاره‌سه‌ر رێنگه‌چاره بژارده هه‌لبژارده	2 1 2 1 1
41) surprise	موفاجه‌نه	2	سوپرایز	13	—		شتیکه‌ی سه‌رنجراکیش شتیکه‌ی دلخۆشکهر شتیکه‌ی سه‌رسامکهر هه‌والیکه‌ی خۆش هه‌والیکه‌ی پێشبینی نه‌کراو	1 1 1 1 1
42) scandal	فه‌زیه	0	سکاندال	2	ئابرووچوون/ئابروبه‌ر	12	گه‌ندمێ پێشیلکاری تاوان کهنن پروپاگه‌نده	1 1 1 1 2
43) shock	سه‌دمه	0	شووک	10	سه‌رم سوورمان/ حه‌په‌سان/تاسان	8	سه‌رم سام بوون هه‌یدمه‌ گرتن	1 1
44) boycott	موقاته‌عه	0	بایکۆت	19	—		مانیان گرت	1
45) gallery	مه‌عره‌ز	0	گاله‌ری	3	پێشانگا	17		
46) photographer	مسه‌هر	0	فۆتۆگرافه‌ر	10	وێنه‌گر	10		
47) candidate	موره‌شه‌ح	0	کاندیدی	8	بهر بژیر/پالیئور او	12		
48) coup d'état	ئینقیلاب	0	کودمته‌	20	—			
49) company	شه‌ریکه	0	کۆمپانیا	20	—			
50) office	مه‌کته‌ب	0	ئوفیس	11	نوسینگه	9		
Total occurrences (out of 1000)	53		538		298		111	

¹ In the new Iraqi constitution, written in 2005, Kurdish is recognized as an official language along with Arabic.