



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY
(International) in the United Kingdom
Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations

Note for Translators

One of the goals of the MCA project is to translate all of the abstracts produced for its catalogues into seven languages. One of our main concerns is to maintain the original information provided by the abstractor intact. Some concepts cannot be conveyed with the same words in different languages. A Persian speaker for example does not think like an English speaker. Words thus cannot always be translated literally.

Therefore we request that your translations stay meaningful and comprehensible in the target language. The document should be written in a standard language. Pompous and abstruse words should be avoided. Keep the language simple and clear, but avoid informal language and style.

If the sentences in the original language are long (such as compound sentences and subordinated sentences), please try to break them into shorter sentences in your translations. Long sentences are generally more difficult to understand, and when translated sometimes do not make sense.

Here are also a few notes for helping us work more efficiently.

Please remember to leave the name of the author at the bottom of the abstract followed by your own name as translator (translated by “Your Name”). That is if you have translated the document into Arabic, please write your name in the appropriate script.

We do appreciate your translating the title of the abstract, however please do not change the name of the Word document we have sent you, otherwise we will have difficulty filing the document.

The translation should not be literal. We want the ideas to be conveyed properly into English, but you do not need to be loyal to the Arabic terms if they do not make sense in English. Our editors would like to see a text which flows in English and does not sound foreign.

Thank you again for your collaboration and cooperation.

MCA Team