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## **An Anthology of Translated Iraqi Arabic Literature into English (2003-2025)**

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### **Abstract**

An anthology of translated Iraqi Arabic literature is vital because it highlights the crucial role of translators in making Iraqi literature accessible to the world. Translators convey not just the words but also the context of Iraqi poetry, short stories, and novels. By compiling the translated literary works of Iraqi poets, short story writers and novelists, such an anthology showcases the diversity of Iraq's literature in other languages, including English. This collection showcases the diversity of Iraq's literature, encompassing shared translators, authors, literary genres, and years of translation. Collecting the translated Arabic language literature of Iraq into English, including novels, short stories and poetry, by non-native translators of Arabic, is the main purpose of this research. It will alphabetically list 52 translators who have translated 125 literary works of 51 Iraqi Arabic literary writers into English from the invasion of Iraq in 2003 until 2025. The main aim of this research is to create a cohesive reading experience regarding the existence of Iraqi translated literature in English. A further purpose is to choose non-native Arabic language translators to highlight the role that translators play in reaching a Western audience and culture and bringing Iraqi literature and its authors to a wider audience. The main research questions for this research paper are as follows: Who are the translators that are mostly translating Iraqi literature? Who are the authors attracting more attention and getting their literature translated? Which literary genre has received particular attention from translators? Which years have seen the highest rates of translation into English? And has there been a gradual increase in the amount of translated Iraqi Arabic literature by non-natives into English or not? The current research paper concludes that the answers are as follows: William M. Hutchins as a translator and Najem Wali as an author witnessed the highest rate; the translation of short stories as a genre; and 2007, 2013 and 2025 respectively as years.

**Keywords:** Anthology, Arabic literature, Iraqi literature, non-native translators, Arabic language, highest rate

**Received:**14/12/2025

**Accepted:** 30/12/2025

## مُختارات أدبية للأدب العربي العراقي المُترجم الى اللغة الإنكليزية

(٢٠٠٣ - ٢٠٢٥)

المدرس الدكتور رقية صبيح خلف الطائي

قسم الترجمة/ كلية الآداب / جامعة البصرة

### المستخلص

يُعدّ إصدار مختارات من الأدب العربي العراقي المُترجم أمراً بالغ الأهمية، لأنه يُبرز الدور المحوري للمترجمين في إتاحة الأدب العراقي للعالم. فالمترجمون لا ينقلون الكلمات فحسب، بل ينقلون أيضاً سياق الشعر والقصص القصيرة والروايات العراقية. من خلال جمع الأعمال الأدبية المترجمة لشعراء وكتاب قصص قصيرة وروائيين عراقيين، تُبرز هذه الأعمال تنوع الأدب العراقي بلغات أخرى، بما فيها الإنجليزية. وتُسلط هذه المختارات من الأدب العراقي المترجم الضوء على هذا التنوع، مُتضمنةً مترجمين ومؤلفين وأجناساً أدبية والسنوات التي صدرت بها الترجمات. يهدف هذا البحث بشكل أساسي إلى جمع الأدب العربي العراقي المُترجم إلى الإنجليزية، على وجه الخصوص الروايات والقصص القصيرة والشعر، من قبل مُترجمين غير ناطقين بالعربية. ويتضمن البحث قائمة أبجدية بأسماء ٥٢ مترجم قاموا بترجمة ١٢٥ عملاً أدبياً لـ ٥١ كاتباً عربياً عراقياً إلى الإنجليزية، وذلك منذ غزو العراق عام ٢٠٠٣ حتى عام ٢٠٢٥. ويهدف البحث بالدرجة الأولى إلى إتاحة تجربة قراءة متكاملة للأدب العراقي المترجم إلى الإنجليزية. ويهدف هذا البحث أيضاً إلى اختيار مُترجمين من غير الناطقين باللغة العربية لتسليط الضوء على دورهم في الوصول إلى الجمهور والثقافة الغربية، ونشر الأدب العراقي ومؤلفيه على نطاق أوسع. وتتلخص أسئلة البحث الرئيسية فيما يلي: من هم المُترجمون الأكثر ترجمة للأدب العراقي؟ من هم المؤلفون الذين يحظون باهتمام أكبر وتُترجم أعمالهم؟ ما هو الجنس الأدبي (شعر، قصة قصيرة، رواية) الذي نال اهتماماً خاصاً من المترجمين؟ أي السنوات شهدت أعلى معدلات الترجمة إلى الإنجليزية؟ وهل كان هناك ازدياد تدريجي في وفرة الأدب العربي العراقي المُترجم إلى الإنجليزية من قبل غير الناطقين بالعربية؟ ويخلص البحث إلى أن الإجابات هي كالتالي: شهد المترجم ويليام هاتشيز والمؤلف نجم والي أعلى معدل ترجمة؛ وترجمة القصص القصيرة كجنس أدبي؛ وفي الأعوام ٢٠٠٧، ٢٠١٣، ٢٠٢٥ على التوالي.

**كلمات مفتاحية:** مختارات أدبية، الأدب العربي، الأدب العراقي، المترجمون الذين ليست العربية

لغتهم الأم، اللغة العربية، أعلى معدل

تاريخ الاستلام: ٢٠٢٥/١٢/١٤

تاريخ القبول: ٢٠٢٥/١٢/٣٠

### 1.Introduction

In academic research, an anthology can be defined as a curated collection of literary works, essays, or other scholarly texts assembled around a specific theme, genre, period, or subject. It typically includes multiple contributions from different authors, often accompanied by editorial commentary, introductions, or contextual information to facilitate understanding and analysis. In research contexts, anthologies serve as valuable sources for examining diverse perspectives, comparative studies, or comprehensive overviews within a particular field or topic. Thus, the aim of this anthology is to help readers identify the main literary works translated in English, by which translators, who the authors of these literary works are, what genres of literature are being translated, and the date published.

Hence, the aim of the current research is to collect Iraqi literary works, such as short stories, novels, and poetry, translated by non-native speakers of the Arabic language, and published in English in publishing houses (online or printed) from 2003 to September 2025. The main reason for choosing this period is due to the growth of translating and reading Iraqi translated literature into English after the invasion of Iraq in 2003, and the reception of such translation into English by non-native speakers gaining more attention. There are three reasons why native speakers of the source language are not being included in the anthology discussed in this research. First, there is limited space since this is a research paper and not a book; second, there is no current anthology available for non-native Arabic translators of Iraqi literature; and third, there is notable interest for non-native speakers of Arabic to translate Arabic literature and Iraqi literature. Additionally, these translators already have their own readers and audience, compared to Arabic native translators, except for those who already have a presence in western countries. This would include, for example, Sinan Antoon who has not only self-translated his own works but also translated other Arabic literary works such as *In the Presence of Absence* by Mohammed Darwish.

Furthermore, many translations accomplished by non-native speakers of Arabic have received prizes. For example, Elizabeth Winslow's translation of Dunya Mikhail's *The War Works Hard* won

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the PEN prize for translation in 2004 and was in 2005. Jonathan Wright was shortlisted for the 2021 Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation for his translation of Hassan Blasim's *God 99* (Banipal Trust for Arab Literature, 2021). Further, Hassan Blasim and Jonathan Wright won the 2014 Independent Foreign Fiction Prize (IFFP) for *The Iraqi Christ*. This short story can be regarded as the first Arabic first collection of short stories to win the IFFP (ARABLIT&ARABLIT Quarterly, 2014). For Luke Leafgren, he received the 2018 Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation for his English edition of Muhsin Al-Ramli's *The President's Gardens*. Luke Leafgren has also received the Edinburgh First Book Award for his translation of Shahad Al-Rawi's *The Baghdad Clock*.

Within this research, the translation of Iraqi literature has been categorised into literary works published before 2003 and translated after 2003, or those published after 2003 and translated after that. Most Iraqi literature published pre-2003 focuses on exile, displacement, and political themes. On the other hand, Iraqi literature post-2003 is mostly about invasion, exile, and social circumstances after the invasion of Iraq, among other themes. For instance, Aldanani's fiction "has played an important role in narrating the untold experiences of Iraqis during years of war, occupation, and civil conflict. This burden of representation placed on literature is particularly critical in post-2003 Iraq, which has witnessed the dissolution of a coherent national space and a constricted public sphere" (Aldanani 2024: 87). Iraqi Arabic literature has been translated into English via various means. Some literature has been self-translated, while others have been translated by native speakers of Arabic, translated by authors and co-translated either by a native speaker of Arabic or native speaker of English, or translated solely by non-native speakers of Arabic.

### 1. Literature Review

An anthology of Iraqi literature translated into English is a crucial scholarly attempt as it will serve as the foundation for any serious research on the impact of Iraqi literature outside of the Arabic-speaking world. Such a work will allow scholars to map which Iraqi authors and

literary genres have been translated, which periods of Iraqi history have gained more attention in translation, and how the physical and political displacement of writers influences the availability of their works in English. Some studies regarding the translation of Iraqi literature have tackled this area via the examination of specific literary genres of fiction, Iraqi literature published in a specific period, or work produced by a particular publisher. Firstly, Büchler and Khalifa (2021), in their work *Translation of Arabic Literature into English in the United Kingdom and Ireland*, contextualised the translation of Arabic literature into English from 2010 to 2025, providing a comprehensive framework for understanding the complex factors that influence Arabic-English literary translation and placing specific findings from their UK-Ireland case study within broader patterns of global literary exchange. In their paper, they discussed the translation of Arabic literature, including Iraqi, into English. If this research is compared with the current research paper, the current paper is solely about the anthology of Iraq's literature and does not cover any literary works related to other countries.

Secondly, in his paper *Iraq's Modern Arabic Literature in English Translation 1950-2003*, Salih Altoma (2004) discussed the translation of Iraqi Arabic literature, focusing mainly on poetry but also marginally covering other literary genres such as novels and short stories. Altoma focused on Iraqi Arabic literature covering a significant period from 1950 to 2003. In comparing Altoma's research with the current research, the researcher will look at Iraqi literature in English from 2003 (after Iraq's invasion) until September 2025 and cover the translation of short stories, novels, and poetry, meaning that it will complement what Altoma has already achieved.

Thirdly, Altoma (2009), in his research *Translating Contemporary Iraq's Arabic Literature: Ten Years of Banipal's Record 1998-2008*, talked specifically about the role of *Banipal* magazine in transforming Iraqi Arabic literature from 1998 to 2008. In this research paper, Altoma did not cover a specific literary genre; instead, he focused on a specific period encompassing ten years. Comparing Altoma's paper with the current research, it can be noted that this paper deals with Iraqi literature translated into English regardless of publishing house and with no specific reference to a particular publisher. Also, Altoma discussed the

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translation of Iraqi literature until 2008, while the current paper seeks to cover Iraqi translated literature until 2025.

Fourthly, similar to Salih Altoma, Danial Newman (2008), in his book *Contemporary Iraqi Fiction: An Anthology*, indexed the translation of sixteen Iraqi authors' fiction translated into English. The translation of fiction is the central focus of Newman's book, but it only covers up to 2008 and examines the translation of fiction. In comparing Newman's book with the current research, it should be noted that this research paper does not only cover fiction translation, but also poetry. In addition, the anthology will cover 2003 until 2025, so it includes Iraqi fiction which emerged after the publication of Newman's book.

Having examined all four studies, it can be seen that these studies are either very general and cover the translation of Arabic literature, not being specific to Iraqi literature, or focus on a specific literary genre, period (usually in the past), or publisher. In addition, all of these studies were conducted not recently but some time ago (in 2004, 2008 and 2009). That is why the current research will examine Iraqi Arabic literature translated into English that has not been listed in the above-mentioned studies and covers translations from the latest research (conducted in 2009) upwards until 2025.

## **2. Anthology of Iraqi Arabic Literature**

An anthology is a collection of literary works chosen by a compiler. It may consist of works by one author or by many, and is usually unified by theme, period, genre, or source language. Anthologies serve as curated cultural artifacts that reflect the compiler's (or translator's) ideological, aesthetic, or educational objectives. In translation, anthologies often act as mediators, introducing readers to foreign literatures through selective translation. Anthology is more than "a form of publication with distinctive features of texts and paratexts" (Korte 2000: 32); it is a momentary survey of titles of literary works published by online publishers. Subsequently, a translation anthology is a collection of translated texts, often literary in nature (Frank, 1998: 13), covering literary texts as well as non-literary (in contradistinction with typical literary forms such as novels, drama, etc.) (Seruya et al., 2013: 8). Moreover, translation anthologies tend to include, in addition, parallel

levels, individual translators, and single translations (Frank, 1998: 14). Frank has further added that anthologies can be analysed at different levels as follows: country, language or geographical region; groups of authors, epochs or genres; individual authors; and single works (Frank, 1998: 14).

Accordingly, anthologies can cover the “country of origin of the works, the language in which they were originally written, the period to which they belong, their genre or theme” (Baubeta 2007: 42). Three categories of anthology in translation can be noted: multilateral, bilateral, and monoliterary anthologies (Frank, 1998: 14). However, in this paper, the anthology will include individual translators of Iraqi Arabic literature into English who are non-native speakers of Arabic. Furthermore, it will feature bilateral and period-based anthologies which cover contributions of Iraqis writing in the Arabic language that have been translated into English exclusively after the Iraq invasion from March 2003 until September 2025. It will display works written by multiple Iraqi literary novelists, poets and short story writers.

In the following sub-sections, the names of 52 non-native translators of Arabic will be included and arranged alphabetically. Under each name, the researcher will include a table displaying the translated literary work(s) conducted by every translator. Each table will outline the name(s) of the original author(s), original Arabic title(s), the translation of title(s) in English, date of publication of the translation, and the literary genre (whether short story, poetry, or novel). The main aim of listing in this way is to be able to evaluate the amount of translated Iraqi Arabic literature by author, year, genre, and per translator, and to assess the increase or decrease of translated literature from 2003 to 2025. Results will be outlined and discussed to calculate the percentage of Iraqi literature translated into English per original Arabic author, translator, year of publication of the translation, and literary genre (see **Results and discussion**).

### 2.1. Adriana Hunter

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Feurat Alani	أتذكر الفلوجة	I Remember Fallujah	2024	Novel

**2.2. Alexander Hong**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Salah Niazi	الركّاب الفضوليون	Curious Passengers	2022	Short story

**2.3. Andrew Leber**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Diaa Jubaili	العامل	The Worker in <i>Iraq +100</i>	2016	Short story

**2.4. Anthony Howell**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Fawzi Karim	الدرس العصي	Incomprehensible Lesson	2019	Poetry
Fawzi Karim	قارات الأوبئة وقصائد أخرى	Plague Lands: And Other Poems	2011	Poetry

**2.5. Barbara Romaine**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Hadiya Hussein	بانتظار الماضي	Waiting for the Past	2022	Novel

**2.6. Bianca Rosen**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Azher Jirjees	وحي الغراب	Excerpt from <i>The Crow's Revelation</i>	2024a	Short story

**2.7. Camilo Gomez-Rivas**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Majid Addam	في الشارع أكرر تصبحون على خير	From the poem on the street, I repeat "good night"	2005	Poetry



**2.8. Catherine Cobham**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Fuad Al-Takarli	الرجع البعيد	The Long Way Back: A Modern Arabic Novel	2007	Novel

**2.9. Chip Rossetti**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Diaa Jubaili	الدمية ذات الوشاح الأرجواني	The Doll with the Purple Scarf	2024	Short story
Diaa Jubaili	لا طواحين هواء في البصرة	No Windmills in Basra	2022	Short story
Diaa Jubaili	البطريق الأسود	The Black Penguin	2021	Novel
Muhammad Khudayyir	رؤيا البرج	The Dream of the Tower	2020	Short story

**2.10. Claire C. Jacobson**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Mortada Gzar	عندما كان جالساً هناك	While He Was Sitting There	2018	Short story

**2.11. David Allen Sullivan**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Mohammad Al-Amin	جسد بغداد	The Body of Baghdad <sup>1</sup>	2020a	Poetry

**2.12. Denys Johnson-Davies**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Buthaina Al Nasiri	الليلة الأخيرة	Final Night	2008	Short story

**2.13. Elezabeth Jaquette**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Ali Bader	العريف	Corporal in Iraq + 100	2016	Short story

**2.14. Elizabeth Winslow**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Dunya Mikhail	نظرية الغياب	The Theory of Absence	2005a	Poetry
Dunya Mikhail	الحرب تعمل بجد	The War Works Hard	2005b	Poetry
Dunya Mikhail	يوميات موجة خارج البحر	Diary of a Wave Outside the Sea <sup>2</sup>	2009	Poetry
Dunya Mikhail	تصريحات غير عسكرية	Nonmilitary Statements	2004	Poetry

**2.15. Emily Drumsta**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Nazik Al-Mala'ika	ثورة على الشمس: الشعر المختار لنازك الملائكة: قارئ ثنائي اللغة	Revolt Against the Sun: The Selected Poetry of Nazik al- Mala'ika: A Bilingual Reader	2020	Poetry

**2.16. Emily Selove**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Al-Khatib Al-Baghdadi	تطفيل وحكايات الطفيليين وأخبارهم ونوادير كلامهم وأشعاره	Selections from The Art of Party Crashing in Medieval Iraq	2019	Novel

**2.17. Emre Bennett**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Zahraa Alhaboby	متلازمة بغداد	Baghdad Syndrome	2016	Short story

**2.18. Gretchen McCullough**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Buthaina Al-Nasiri	موت كلب	The Death of a Dog <sup>3</sup>	2025	Short story

**2.19. Isabelle Felenda**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Muzaffar Al-Nawwab	يجي يوم نرد لهننا	One Day, We'll Return to our People	2025c	Poetry
Muzaffar Al-Nawwab	مضاييف هيل	The Cardamom Guesthouses	2025a	Poetry
Muzaffar Al-Nawwab	آه يا جابر البيلسان	Ah, Jabir al-Baylasan!	2025b	Poetry

**2.20. James Howarth**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Abd Al-Wahhab Al-Bayati	الموت والمصباح	Death and the Lamp	2003	Poetry

**2.21. James Kirkup**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Samuel Shimon	خمس قصائد	Five Poems <sup>4</sup>	2003	Poetry

**2.22. Jennifer Jean**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Nadia Al-Katib	تعاريف	Definitions	2019	Poetry

**2.23. Jennifer Kaplan**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Najem Wali	قصص البصرة	Basra Stories	2004a	Short story

Najem Wali	الوطن كمنفى، المنفى كوطن	Homeland as Exile, Exile as Homeland	2003a	Short story
Najem Wali	الراوي الأسود	The Black Storyteller	2005a	Short story
Najem Wali	إدوارد ودرس الجغرافيا الأول	Edward and the First Geography Lesson	2005b	Short story
Najem Wali	قصص عراقية	Iraq Stories	2004b	Short story

#### 2.24. John Peate

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Lutfiya Al-Dulaimi	كتاب البنات	The Book of the Girls	2010	Novel

#### 2.25. Jonathan Wright

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Ahmed Saadawi	فرانكشتاين في بغداد	Frankenstein in Baghdad	2018	Novel
Aya Chalabee	الشر في حقيبتني	Evil in My Bag	2025	Short story
Azher Jirjees	النوم في حقل الكرز	At Rest in the Cherry orchard	2024b	Novel
Azher Jirjees	حجر السعادة	An excerpt from Stone of Happiness	2023	Novel
Hassan Blasim	مجنون ساحة الحرية	Madman of Freedom Square	2011	Short story
Hassan Blasim	المسيح العراقي	The Iraqi Christ	2013a	Short story
Hassan Blasim	معرض الجثث	The Corpse Exhibition and Other Stories of Iraq	2014	Short story
Hassan Blasim	الأرنب في المنطقة الخضراء	The Green Zone Rabbit	2013b	Short story
Hassan	حدائق بابل	The Gardens of	2018	Short

Blasim		Babylon		story
Hassan Blasim	قانون سولولان	Sololand	2024	Novel
Hassan Blasim	الله ٩٩	God 99	2020	Novel
Sinan Antoon	فهرس	The Book of Collateral Damage	2019	Novel

### 2.26. Joshua Beckman

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Kadhim Al-Hallaq	حذاء	Boot <sup>5</sup>	2004a	Short story
Kadhim Al-Hallaq	كتلة من الجليد والرجل الميت	Two short stories: A Block of Ice and the Dead Man	2004b	Short story

### 2.27. Judy Cumberbatch

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Haifa Zangana	نساء على سفر	Women on a Journey: Between Baghdad and London	2007	Novel

### 2.28. Katharine Halls

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Mortada Gzar	الجامع يوما بيوم	The Day by Day Mosque in Iraq + 100	2016	Short story

### 2.29. Kay Heikkinen

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Mahmoud Saeed	زنقة بن بركة	Ben Barka Lane	2013a	Novel

**2.30. Kees Nijland**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Sargon Boulus	اللاجئ يحكي	A Refugee Talking	2007a	Poetry
Sargon Boulus	حلم الفراشة	A Butterfly's Dream	2007b	Poetry
Sargon Boulus	سقط الرجل	A Man Fell on His Knees	2007c	Poetry
Sargon Boulus	مرثية الى سينما السندباد	An Elegy for Sindbad Cinema	2007d	Poetry
Sargon Boulus	جئتُ اليك من هناك	I Came from There	2007e	Poetry
Sargon Boulus	كيف وُلِدَ الغناء الشرقي	How Eastern Singing Was Born	2007f	Poetry

**2.31. Kevin Smith**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Saadi Youssef	لِنُحْوَطَ هذا الوطن بالبتروال والديناميت	Let's Girdle This Country with Petrol and Dynamite	2020	Poetry

**2.32. Levi Thompson**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Yasmeen Hanoosh	الديكتاتور الصغير	The Little Dictator	2022a	Short story
Yasmeen Hanoosh	ملاك حارس	The Guardian Angel	2022b	Short story
Yasmeen Hanoosh	العروس	The Bride	2022c	Short story

**2.33. Luke Leafgren**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Mortada	هذا النهر يعرف	The River Knows My	2024	Novel

Gzar	اسمي	Name		
Muhsin Al-Ramli	مر الأصابع	Dates on My Fingers	2014	Novel
Muhsin Al-Ramli	حدائق الرئيس	The President's Gardens	2019	Novel
Muhsin Al-Ramli	بنت دجلة	Daughter of the Tigris	2019	Novel
Shahad Al-Rawi	ساعة بغداد	The Baghdad Clock	2018	Novel
Shalash	شلش العراقي	Shalash the Iraqi	2023a	Novel
Shalash	فيل نعيمة	Naima's Elephant	2023b	Short story

### 2.34. Marilyn L. Booth

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Alia Mamdouh	الأحباء	The Loved Ones: A Modern Arabic Novel	2007	Novel
Najem Wali	فالس مع ماتيلدا	Waltzing Matilda	2003b	Short story

### 2.35. Max Weiss

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Dunya Mikhail	في سوق السبايا	The Beekeeper: Rescuing the Stolen Women of Iraq	2018a	Short stories
Dunya Mikhail	الربيع	The Spring	2018b	Short story
Hassan Abdu Irazzak	كوزيب	Kuszib	2016	Short story
Jalal Hasan	السجن الآن وهنا	The Here and Now Prison in Iraq + 100	2016	Short story
Lutfiya Al-Dulaimi	ألف ليلة وليلة	A Thousand and One Nights and The Fruits of	2007a	Short story

		the Earth		
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**2.36. Melissa Brown**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Fawzi Karim	١٥ قصيدة	15 Poems <sup>6</sup>	2004	Poetry

**2.37. Mike Maggio**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Lamia Abbas Amara	لو أنبأني العراف	If The Fortune Teller Had Told Me	2025	Poetry
Lamia Abbas Amara	وهم الورود	An Elusion of Roses	2024	Poetry

**2.38. Miles Cayman**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Sargon Boulus	قصة	A Story	2025	Poetry

**2.39. Paul Starkey**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	genre
Mahdi Issa Al-Saqr	رياح الشرق ورايح الغرب	East Winds, West Winds: A Modern Arabic Novel	2010	Novel
Samira Al- Mana	القامعون	The Oppressors	2011	Novel

**2.40. Peter Money**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Saadi Youssef	الحنين، يا عدوي	Nostalgia, My Enemy <sup>7</sup>	2012	Poetry

**2.41. Peter Theroux**

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
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Alia Mamdouh	نفثالين: رواية بغداد	Naphtalene: A Novel of Baghdad	2013	Novel
Najem Wali	البرتغالي الحزين	The Sad Portuguese	2013a	Short story
Najem Wali	رحلة في قلب العدو	Journey into the Heart of the Enemy	2009	Novel

#### 2.42. Piers Amodia

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Samuel Shimon	عراقي في باريس	An Iraqi in Paris <sup>8</sup>	2025	Novel

#### 2.43. Rebecca C. Johnson

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Fawzi Karim	قارئ في الظلام	Reader in the Dark	2005a	Poetry
Fawzi Karim	رائحة التوت	The Scent of Berries	2005b	Poetry
Sinan Antoon	إعجام	I'jaam: An Iraqi Rhapsody <sup>9</sup>	2007	Novel

#### 2.44. Rebecca Gayle Howell

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Amal Al-Jubouri	هاجر قبل الاحتلال / هاجر بعد الاحتلال	Hagar Before the Occupation/Hagar After the Occupation <sup>10</sup>	2011	Poetry
Amal Al-Jubouri	بنت قبل الاحتلال	My daughter before the Occupation <sup>11</sup>	2010	Poetry

#### 2.45. Sabine Jimenez-Williams

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Azher Jirjees	حصان	The Reed Horse	2025	Short story

#### 2.46. Sam Reichman

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Mohammad Al-Amin	في المغرب العربي	In the Arab Maghrib/ In the Arab West	2020b	Poetry

## 2.47. Samuel Salter

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Mahmoud Saeed	الدنيا في أعين الملائكة	The World Through the Eyes of Angels <sup>12</sup>	2011	Novel

## 2.48. Thomas Ezzy

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Daisy Al-Amir	الخطوة التالية	The Next Step <sup>13</sup>	2022	Short story

## 2.49. Tristan Cranfield

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Najat Abdullah	قصيدة	A poem	2010	Poetry

## 2.50. Wen-chin Ouyang

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Al-Rikabi Abd A-Khaliq	سابع أيام الخلق	Excerpt from <i>The Seventh Day of Creation</i>	2008	Novel
Abd Al-Khaliq Al-Rikabi	العدوى	Mad Dog Disease	2003	Short story
Haifa Zangana	حياة مُعلَّبة	Packaged Lives: Ten Stories and a Novella	2021	Short stories and novella

## 2.51. William M. Hutchins

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Lutfiyah Al-Dulaimi	آلام السيد معرف	An excerpt from <i>Mr. Ma'ruf's Woes</i>	2007c	Short story
Lutfiyah Al-Dulaimi	عندما تستيقظ الرائحة	Helena Saba	2007b	Novel
Fadhil Al-Azzawi	آخر الملائكة	The Last of the Angels: A Modern Iraqi Novel	2008b	Novel
Fadhil Al-Azzawi	المسافر وصاحب الخان	The Traveler and the Innkeeper	2011b	Novel
Fadhil Al-Azzawi	القلعة الخامسة	Cell Block Five	2008a	Novel
Fadhil Al-Azzawi	حميد نايلون	Hameed Nylon	2005	Short story
Fadhil Al-Azzawi	الإباء المؤسسون	Founding Fathers	2011a	Short story
Faleeha Hassan	أنا والحرب	War and Me: A Memoir	2022	Novel
Faleeha Hassan	مقابر جماعية	Mass Grave	2016	Short story
Dunia Ghali	الطبيب النفسي	The Psychiatrist	2008	Short story
Dunia Ghali	جسدك سافر بعيداً	Your Body Journeyed Off	2013	Poetry
Muhammad Khudayyir	بصرياً: صورة مدينة	Basrayath: The Story of a City	2008	Short stories
Mahmoud Saeed	فوهة في الفضاء	A Portal in Space	2015	Novel
Mahmoud Saeed	مستعمرة العظايا	Lizards' Colony	2012	Short story
Mahmoud Saeed	الحب والمظاهرة	Love and the Demonstration	2013b	Short story
Mahmoud Saeed	شيكاغو: جنة الحاضر، سحر	Chicago: Present-Day Paradise, Future Magic	2014	Short story

	المستقبل			
Najem Wali	مكان اسمه كميث	From "Kumait"	2011	Short story
Najem Wali	سلمان وانتحارات البغال	Salman and the Mule Suicides	2013b	Short story
Najem Wali	مشرفة بغداد	Visiting the Morgue	2010	Short story
Salima Saleh	شجرة التوت	The Mulberry Tree	2013	Short story
Abd Al-Khaliq Al-Rikabi	المذبح العربي	The Arab Altar	2013	Short story
Enas al-Badran	نوسيا	Nausea	2010	Short story

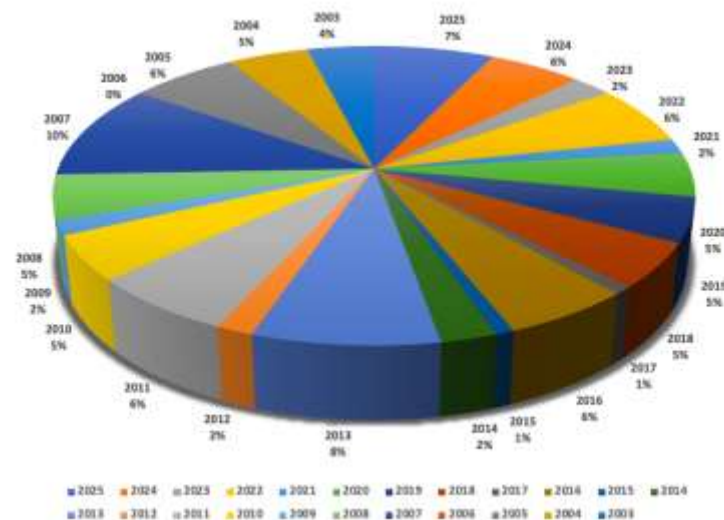
### 2.52. William Tamplin

AR Author	ST	TT	Date	Genre
Muhammed Khudayyir	الحكمة الثلاثة	The Three Wise Men	2017	Short story

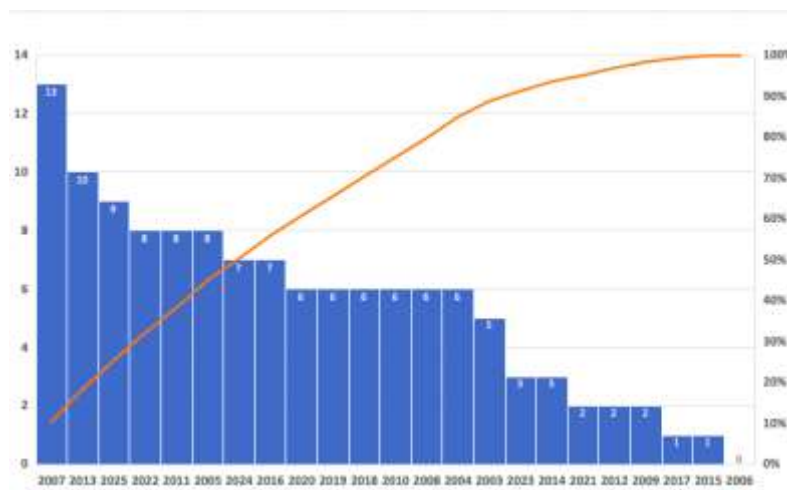
### 3. Results and discussion

Following on from listing the translators of Iraqi literary works, their titles in both Arabic and English, publication years, and literary genres, the researcher will calculate the percentage of Iraqi Arabic literature translated per year (including the minimum and maximum numbers of translations in English), translator (the highest and lowest rates of translations by translators), author (the most prominent and smallest proportion of translations by authors), and genre (the literary genres that have recorded the highest levels).

The following graph illustrates the percentage of translated Iraqi literature per year.



*Figure 1: Translated Iraqi Literature per Year*

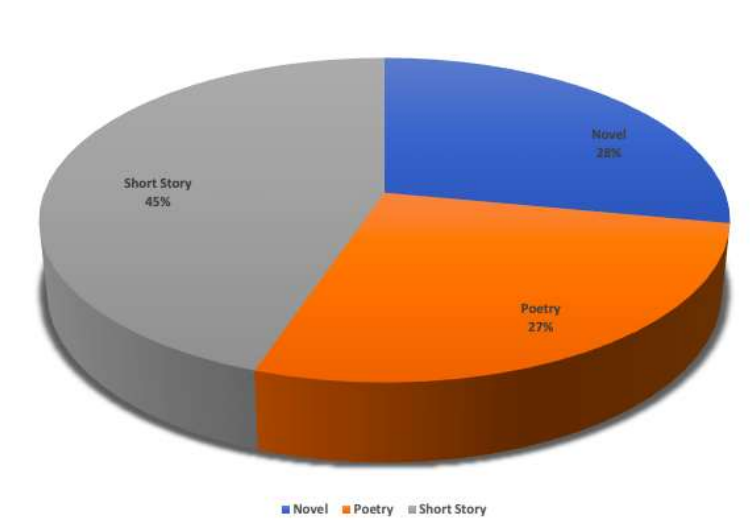


*Figure 2: Percentage of Translated Iraqi Literature (Highest to Lowest)*

It is notable that 125 literary works were translated into English from 2003 until 2025 by 52 translators of 51 literary works by Iraqi writers. It is obvious that the rate in 2007 marked a peak at 10%, while the rates in 2015 and 2017 represented the minimum, just 1%. The most prominent proportion of translated literature was 15 translations in English in 2007. 2013 occupied the second highest rate of translated literature, reaching 8%. Translation showed a clear lower rate in 2025 in which it reached

7%. The rates bottomed out in 2004, 2008, 2010, 2018, 2019, and 2020, recording 5% of the translated works for each year. 2003 occupied the next lowest rate. While most of the above examples displayed high and moderate rates, 2015 and 2017 recorded the lowest rate at only 1%, significantly below the 2% recorded in 2009, 2012, 2014, 2021, and 2023. 2006 recorded a zero rate for translations into English, indicating a complete absence of such work by non-native speakers of Arabic languages. Having reviewed all translations produced during the aforementioned years, it can be perceived that there has not been a continuing increase or decrease in the numbers of translated Iraqi Arabic literature by non-natives into English.

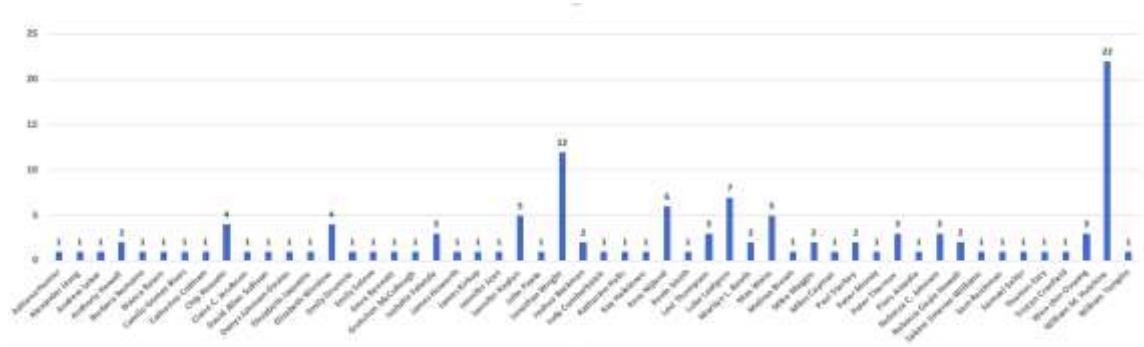
Moreover, the following graph illustrates the percentage of published Iraqi literature per literary genre.



*Figure 3: Translated Iraqi Literature per Genre*

After examining this graph, it is clear to see that the translation of short stories represented the highest proportion, with 56 short stories translated into English accounting for 45%. Poetry and novels scored lower, demonstrating approximately equal rates of about 28% for the 35 novels and 27% for the 34 poetry works listed.

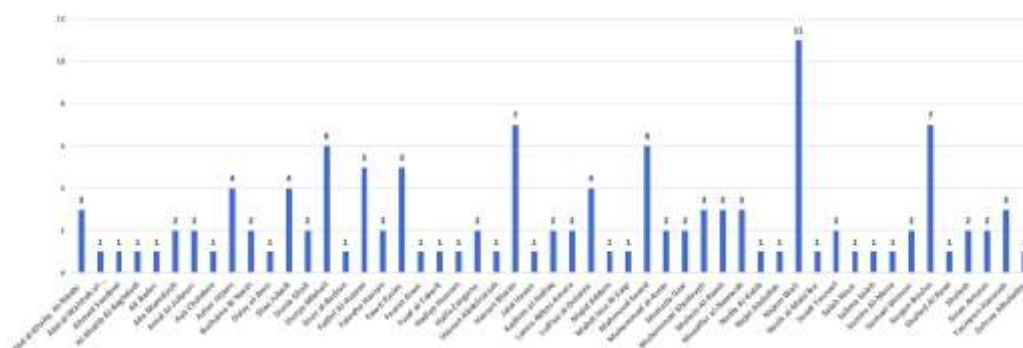
Next, the following graph elucidates the ratio of translated Iraqi literature per translator.



*Figure 4: Translated Iraqi Literature per Translator*

From the above graph, it can be seen that there were 52 translators. It is observable that William Hitches, among other translators of Iraqi literature, represented the highest amount, having conducted around 22 translations of distinctive literary genres (16 short stories, 5 novels, and 1 poetry work). Johnathan Wright recorded the next highest level of translations, covering 12 literary genres (6 novels and 6 short stories). Luke Leafgren and Keen Nijland recorded the next highest rates, at 7 and 6 respectively, while Max Weiss and Jeniffer Kaplen recorded 5 translations each. On the other hand, Chip Rossetti and Elizabeth Winslow recorded 4 translations each, whereas Isabelle Felenda, Levi Thompson, Peter Theroux, Rebecca C. Johnson and Wen-chin Ouyang recorded 3 translations. Two literary genres had been translated by Anthony Howell, Joshua Bechman, Marilyn L. Booth, Mike Maggio, Paul Starkey, and Rebecca Gayle Howell, and Bianca Rosen. As for the rest, each recorded the translation of one literary genre only.

**The subsequent graph reveals the percentage of translated Iraqi literature per original author.**



*Figure 5: Translated Iraqi Literature per Original Author*

Najem Wali had the highest number, accounting for 11 translated literary works. Hassan Blasim and Sargon Boulus recorded the second highest rate of 7 works each, whereas Mahmood Saeed and Dunya Mikhail occupied the next lowest rate of 6 works each. Fawzi Karim and Fadhil Al-Azzawi recorded 5 Arabic literary works, while Azher Jirjees, Diaa Jubaili, and Lutfiya Al-Dulaimi had 4 literary works translated into English. Muhsin Al-Ramli, Muzaffar Al-Nawwab, Abd Al-Khaliq Al-Rikabi, and Muhammad Khudayyir recorded the same amount of 3 works translated into English for each. Alia Mamdouh, Amal Al-Jubouri, Buthaina Al Nasiri, Dunia Ghali, Faleeha Hassan, Haifa Zangana, Lamia Abbas Amara, Mohammad al-Amin, Mortada Gzar, Saadi Youssef, Samuel Shimon, Shalash, and Sinan Antoon recorded 2 translated pieces of literature for each author. Ahmed Saadawi, Ali Bader, Al-Khatib Al-Baghdadi, Aya Chalabee, Enas Al-Badran, Feurat Alani, Daisy Al-Amir, Fuad Al-Takarli, Hadiya Hussein, Hassan Abdulrazzak, Jalal Hasan, Kadhim Al-Hallaq, Majid Adam, Mahdi Issa Al-Saqr, Salah Niazi, Nadia Al-Katib, Najat Abdullah, Nazik Al-Mala'ika, Salima Saleh, Samira Al-Mana, Shahad Al Rawi, and Zahraa Alhaboby recorded only one literary work each.

#### **4. Conclusion and recommendation**

Having an anthology of translators of Iraqi literature is significant since it gathers together well-known Iraqi writers and preserves information regarding them in a straightforward form. Through this Iraqi Arabic literature anthology, readers can gain access to diverse perspectives that reveal how Iraqis have understood identity, exile, displacement, conflict, war, and resilience, among other themes. Such a collection helps a worldwide audience appreciate the artistic and intellectual contributions of Iraqi writers. The anthology included 52 non-native translators of the Arabic language who converted 125 works of poetry, novels and short stories by 51 Iraqi Arabic literary writers into English from 2003 (after the invasion of Iraq) until September 2025.

Research question number one was concerned with the translators and authors who recorded the highest rates of translation. The research paper found that William M. Hitches, Johnathan Wright, and Luke



Leafgren exhibited respectively the highest amounts of Iraqi literature translated into English, whereas Najim Wali, Hassan Blasim and Sargon Boulus had the lowest records for Iraqi Arabic literature translated from Arabic into English. Regarding the question related to the genre of literature that received particular attention from translators, the research found that it was short stories, either as separate short stories or collections. Research question number four was concerned with the years that exhibited the highest rates of translation of Iraqi literature; the research found that they were 2007, 2013 and 2025. For the final research question, there is no ongoing increase in the volume of Iraqi Arabic literature in translation into English from 2003 to 2025.

Regarding recommendations for future research, further anthologies of translated Iraqi Arabic literature could be created, focusing on one specific literary genre (poetry, short stories, or novels) so that a thorough list of both native translators and non-native translators of Arabic is produced. Moreover, anthologies might be produced which focus on a specific subject considered by many Iraqi writers such as war, exile, displacement, invasion, and social life, among other themes.

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## Notes

<sup>1-</sup> It is co-translated by Gareeb Iskander

<sup>2-</sup> This story is co-translated by the author as well.

<sup>3-</sup> This short story is co-translated by Mohamed Metwalli.

<sup>4-</sup> These poems are co-translated by Samia Akl Boustani.

<sup>5-</sup> It is principally co-translated by the author.

<sup>6-</sup> These poems are co-translated principally by Saadi Simawe.

<sup>7-</sup> It is co-translated principally by Sinan Antoon.

<sup>8-</sup> It is co-translated by Christina Philips and the author.

<sup>9-</sup> This novel is co-translated by the author, Sinan Antoon.

<sup>10-</sup> This literary work is co-translated by Husam Qaisi.

<sup>11-</sup> This poetry is co-translated by Husam Qaisi.

<sup>12-</sup> This novel is co-translated by Zahra Jish, and Rafah Abuinnab

<sup>13-</sup> This story is co-translated by Sharif Elmusa.