Semantic Space of Arabic Conditional Markers with Reference to Translation into English

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الفضاء الدلالي للأدوات الشرطية في اللغة العربية بالإشارة إلى الترجمة إلى اللغة الانكليزية

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Abstract

The present paper traces the semantic space of the conditional markers in Arabic since they are not tackled from a semantic and translational perspective .They usually constitute thorny areas for Arabic-to-English translators to face and overcome . The study basically aims at clarifying that these markers can alter the semantic content of the whole text radically from positive into negative, interrogative and the like, stating out how such markers can be recognized by translators, and an effective rendering could not be achieved unless the semantic space is investigated thoroughly . To achieve these aims, the study hypothesizes that there is a huge difference between these markers and their English counterparts . Furthermore, the functions of the conditional markers must not be restricted to conditionality . So, this paper tends to raise translators' awareness in the semantic space of each marker to render properly .

Keywords : Function, Marker, Conditional, Rendering, Semantic

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الخُلاصة

الورقةُ البحثيةُ الحالية تتناول دراسة الفضاءِ الدلاليّ لأدواتِ الشرطِ إذْ أنها تُعَدُّ مِنْ المَوضُوعَاتِ التي لم تنلْ حضها من العناية والبَحْثِ في الدّرسِ الدلاليّ الترجميّ, وتهدف الدراسة إلى أن توضح للمترجمين أن هذه الأدوات لها الأثر البالغ في تغيير مسار النص جذرياً من اثباتٍ إلى نفيٍ أو استفهامٍ أو غير ذلك, و كذلك تبين كيف يمكن أن يُمَيِّز المترجمون هذه الأدوات, و لا يمكن التوصل إلى ترجمة فعالة إلا إذا تم التحقق من الفضاء الدلالي كلياً, و لتحقيق هذه الأهداف فالدراسة تفترض أن هناك فرقاً كبيراً بين هذه الأدوات و ما يناظرها في اللغة الانكليزية, و بالإضافة إلى ذلك فإنّ وظائف هذه الأدوات يجب أن لا تُقتصر على الشرطية فحسب, و نتيجة لذلك فهذه الورقة تحاول أن تنبه المترجمين وتزيد من اهتمامهم بالفضاء الدلالي لهذه الأدوات ليتكمنوا من ترجمة النصوص ترجمة مناسبة .

الكلمات الدالة : وظيفة, أداة, شرطية, ترجمة, دلالة

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Introduction

It goes undeniable that there are so many semantic values in Arabic which could be attached to the conditional markers . If translators take the linguistic context, and sometimes the context of situation, into consideration, they will be able to clearly identify the semantic space of each conditional marker . Despite the fact that, much research is done on the syntactic areas of (إِذَا / if) only, the semantic space of (إِذَا / if) and other markers is left unattended . If translators dig deep in this rich area of research, they will certainly arrive at great deal of crucial hidden meanings .After that, the main task of the translators will convey the intended sense of each marker .

1.Semantic Space Words occupy a certain amount of semantic space within the language, which is distributed among the specific lexical items available . So, the space of residences is divided into castle, house, maisonette , bungalow and flat. Fields such as kinship, colour, and temperature, divide the semantic space differently with respect to them (Finch, 2000 : 178) . Semantic field, i.e. semantic space, is a set of related concepts, typically lexicalized concepts in paradigmatic relation to one another (Murphy and Koskela, 2010 : 148) . The meaning of a word constitutes a "semantic field". This consists of all the possible contexts of the word organized in terms of normality, the most normal contexts forming the "core" region of the field, and the least normal forming the periphery (Cruse, 2000 : 203) . "Sometimes a novelist may use several words belonging to the same semantic field . It is always a wordy technique, and if mishandled results in verbosity.

Contrast :

(1) I blocked the alleys, lanes, streets, highways and thoroughfares that led to the hideout .

With

(2) I blocked the roads that led to the hideout .

For some readers, (1) will sound more poetic, or will convey the struggle the speaker underwent to block access . For other readers, it will sound tedious and repetitive compared to (2)," (Wright and Hope, 2005 : 172-3) .

2.Semantic Implications of English Marker

The semantic implications can mainly represent the semantic space of any marker in English . So, the semantic implications of coordination by the marker "or" can be illustrated as follows :

(1) Usually "or" Exclusive, expressing the idea that only one of the possibilities can be realized :

You can sleep on the couch, or you can go to a hotel, or you can

go back to London tonight .

(2) Sometimes "or" is understood as "inclusive," allowing the realization of a combination of the alternatives, and we can explicitly include the third possibility by a third clause :

You can boil an egg, or you can make some cheese sandwiches, or

you can do both .

(3) The alternative expressed by "or" may be a restatement or a correction of what is said in the first conjoin

He began his educational career, or, in other words, he started to attend the local kindergarten .

(4) "Or" may imply a negative condition . Thus,

Give me some money or I'll shoot

can be paraphrased by

Give me some money . <u>If you don't</u>, I'll shoot, (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1989 : 258) .

3.Semantic Space of Arabic Markers

It is quite essential to point out that some Arabic conditional markers are usually semantically loaded . Thus, they could affect and shift the intended meaning of the text . In other words, they carry major various informational weight . As a result, enough attention must be paid to them during the process of translation . So, here is a selection of markers which can be listed as follows :

1. (إذا , *itha*)

The semantic space of (إذا) can be shown as in :

(a) (إذا) as a conditional marker (أَداةُ شرطٍ) .

When (إذا) is followed by two verbs mostly in the past tenses or rarely in the present tense with the jussive moods, i.e. one at the beginning of the main clause and the other one at the beginning of the dependent clause after (إذا), it functions as a conditional marker . It does not matter whether these verbs take the forms of the present or past tenses, in both cases, they indicate futurity. Consider the following aya which contains two underlined past verbs :

(فإِذا جاءَتْهُمُ الحَسَنَةُ قالوا لنا هَذَّه) الأعراف : ١٣١

 (Then when the fair (reward) came to them, they said, " belongs to us)(Ghali, 2005 : 166) . Again, take a quick look at the following aya which includes two present verbs, i.e. the underlined ones .   الإِسْرَاء

(إذا يُتْلى عَليهم يَخِرونَ لِلأَذْقان سُجْداً) : ١٠٧   (When it is recited to them, collapse upon their faces constantly prostrating) (Ghali, 2005 : 293) (Al-Subkee, 2003 : 323) . It is to be noted that there is a deal of difference between (إذا) in Arabic and "if" in English . The word   (إذا) in Arabic cannot be omitted at all . On the contrary, "if" in English could be omitted if the auxiliary in the conditional clause is ' were,' ' had,' or ' should,' and front the auxiliary :

(1) Were she here now, there would be no problem .

(2) Had we stayed at home, we would have met them .

(3) Should you see him, give him my best wishes, (Greenbaum and Nelson, 2013 : 137-8) .

(b) (إذا) as an adverb of time .

If the marker (إذا) is followed by a noun or a verb mostly after the swearing form (صيغة القسم), it functions as an adverb of time in the sense of (عندما / *when*) . Consider the following aya :

(والنَّجْمِ إذا هَوَى) النجم : ١   (And (by) the Star when it tumbles down)   (Ghali, 2005 : 526) (Al-Subkee, 2003 : 322) .

(c) (إذا) as a marker of suddenness in the sense of (وفجأة / *suddenly*).

The word (إذا) can be recognized as a marker of suddenness when it comes in the middle of the sentence and is followed by a nominal clause . In such a case, it does not come at the beginning of the sentence at all .Consider this example, سهرتُ فنمتُ ولمَّا استيقظتُ فإِذا الشمس) I stayed up, then I slept and when I got up, suddenly <u>the sun had risen</u>) (Shuaib, 2008 : 16; Al-Radee, 1996 : 273) .

No.	SL marker	Semantic Space of (إذا)		
		No.	function	SL sense	counterpart
1.	إذا		conditionality	إذَا	if
			timing	عندما	when
			suddenness	وفجأة	suddenly

Table (1) : Semantic Categories of (إذا / if)

2.(إذْ / *ith*)

The semantic space of (إذْ) includes the following :

 (a) (إذْ) as a conditional marker in the sense of (إذَا) .

It is worth noting that (إِذْ) is different, to a certain extent, from the conditional marker (إِذَا) . Most of translators confuse these two markers widely when they deal with them as if they are one marker .

(وَإِذْ لَمْ يَهْتَدُوا بِهِ فَسَيَقُولُونَ هَذَا إِفْكٌ قَدِيمٌ) الأحقاف : ١١

(And as they have not guided by it, then they will soon say," This is an old falsehood)(Ghali , 2005 :503)(Al-Samarra'i , 2010 :Vol.4, 69).

(b) (إِذْ) as a an adverb of time in the sense of(وقتما / while) .

The marker (إِذْ) could be employed to indicate past . In doing so, it functions as an adverb of time to mean (وقتما / while) . Consider this aya : (وَاذْكُرْ فِي الْكِتَابِ مَرْيَمَ إِذِ انْتَبَذَتْ مَكَانَاً شَرْقِيَّاً) مَرْيَمَ : ١٦) (And mention in the Book Maryam as she retired from her family to an eastern place) (Ghali, 2005 : 306)(Shuaib, 2010 : 15) .

(c) (إِذْ) as a marker of causality .

The marker (إِذْ) expresses causality to mean(لأن / since), for instance كَافَأْتُ أخِي إِذْ نَجَحَ (I rewarded my brother since he had passed(ibd.:15) .

No.	SL Marker	Semantic Space of (إِذْ)		
		No.	function	SL sense	counterpart
2.	إِذْ	1.	conditionality	إِذَا	if
		2.	timing	عندما	when
		3.	suddenness	وفجأة	suddenly
		4.	causality	لأن , يسبب	because

Table (2) : Semantic Categories of (إِذْ)

3.(لَمَّا , *lamma*)

The semantic space of (لَمَّا) consists of the following :

(a) (لَمَّا) as a conditional adverb of time (حِينِيَّةٌ شَرِطِيَّةٌ) .

If (لَمَّا) is followed by two verbs in the past tense, it is considered an adverb of time in the sense of (حينما / when), e.g. لَمَّا جَاءني أكرمته (When he had visited me, I rewarded him) .

(فَلَمَّا نَجَّاكُمْ إِلَى البَرِّ أعرضْتُمْ) الإسراء : ٦٧) (Then as soon as He safely delivers you to land, you veer away) (Ghali, 2005 : 289) (Ibn Hisham, 2010, Vol.1 : 309) .

(b) (لَمَّا) as a negative marker (أداة نفي) .

If (لَمَّا) is followed by a present verb in the jussive mood, it is considered a negative marker indicating negation in the past (not yet) to mean (لم), e.g. (ولَمَّا يَدخُلِ الإيمانُ في قلوبكم) الحجرات : ١٤) …and belief has not as yet entered your hearts)(Ghali, 2005 : 517) (Al-Azhari, 2009 : 214). One can view more illustrative examples :

غادرتُ المنزلَ لَمَّا غربتِ الشمسُ .(جملة مثبتة)

غادرتُ المنزلَ ولَمَّا تغربِ الشمسُ . (جملة منفية)

There is no doubt that there is a huge difference between the two above- mentioned sentences . The first one indicates positive because there is a verb in the past (غربتِ / *set*) after the marker (لَمَّا) to become an adverb of time in the meaning of (عندما / when) . As regards the second sentence, it points out to negative since (لَمَّا) is followed by a verb in the present tense with the jussive mood (تغربِ / set) in the sense of (لم / not) . So, they both can be rendered as in :

(1) I left the house when the sun had set . (Positive)

(2) I left the house when the sun had not set yet . (Negative)

(c) (لَمَّا) as an exceptional marker (أداة استثناء) .

If (لَمَّا) is followed by a nominal clause and is very often preceded by the negative word (إِنْ), it is considered an exceptional marker in the sense of (إلا / except or without) . Consider :

ما من نفس إلا وعليها حافظ .i.e ,(إِنْ كُلُّ نَفْسٍ لِمَّا عليها حافظ) الطارق :٤ (Decidedly over every self there is assuredly a Preserver) (Ghali, 2005 : 591) (Ibn Hisham, 2010, Vol. 1 : 308 -10) .

No.	SL Marker	Semantic Space of (لَمَّا)		
		No.	function	SL sense	counterpart
3.	لَمَّا	1.	conditionality	حينما	as soon as
		1.	negative	لم	not

Table (3) : Semantic Categories of (لَمَّا)

4. (أي / ay)

The semantic space of (أي) encompasses the following :

(a) (أيّ) a conditional marker indicating time, i.e. future, or place .

When (أيّ) is followed by two verbs in the present tense and jussive moods , it behaves as a conditional marker .Consider the following aya,١٤٨ : البقرة (أينما تكونوا يأتِ بكم الله جميعاً) (Wherever you may be, Allah will come up with you altogether) (Ghali, 2005 : 23) (أيّ ساعة تذاكر أذاكر) (Whenever you read, I read)(Al-Hwari, 1994 : 308) .

(b) (أيّ) as an interrogative pronoun .

When (أيّ) is followed by a noun or verb with no jussive mood, it is considered an interrogative pronoun . Consider the following aya : ٧٣ : مريم (أيُّ الفريقين خيرٌ مقاماً) (Whichever of the two groups is more charitable in station) (Ghali, 2005 : 310) (Al-Subkee, 446 : 2003) .

(c) (أيّ) as an exclamatory marker :

The word (أيُّ) functions as an exclamatory marker if it comes between two indefinite adjectives, e.g. أنت شجاعٌ أيُّ شجاعٍ(You are uniquely brave), (Shuaib, 2008 : 58) .

(d) (أيُّ) as a relative pronoun .

The marker (أيُّ) may behave as a relative pronoun when it is used in the middle of the sentence in the sense of (الذي) . Consider this aya :

(ثم لننزعنَّ من كلِّ شيعةٍ أيُّهُم أشدُ على الرحمنِ عِتياً) (مريم :٦٩) (Thereafter indeed We will definitely draw out from every sect whichever of them was the most strict in rebellion against The All-Merciful .)(Ghali, 2005 : 310) (Shuaib, 2008 : 58) .

(e) (أيْ) might be of two kinds if there is *sukun* (ْ) over the letter (الياء) .

(1) (أيْ) as a vocative marker (حرفُ نداءٍ) .

If (أيْ) can be replaced by the vocative marker (يا), it can function as a vocative in the sense of (يا / O), e.g. أيْ ربِّ استُرْنَا i.e. يا ربِّ استُرْنَا (O Allah, save us .) (Al-Azhari, 2009 : 176) .

(2) (أيْ) as an interpretive marker (حرفُ تفسيرٍ) .

When (أيْ) cannot be substituted by the vocative marker (يا), it functions as an interpretive marker to imply the same meaning of the English abbreviation ' i.e.' . It could clarify the previous words as in : أنت غيثٌ , أيْ : كريمٌ , (You are the same rain, i.e. generous) .

وترميني بالطرف أيْ أنت مذنبٌ   وتَقْلِينَني لكنَّ إياكِ لا أَقْلِي

She gazes at me, i.e. considering me as sinful one

She abhors me, but I do not abhor her (Shuaib, 2008 : 55) .

No.	SL Marker	Semantic Space			
		No.	function	SL sense	counterpart
4.	أي	1.	conditionality	في أي مكان أو زمان .	any place or time .
		2.	interrogative	أيّ	which
		3.	relative pro.	أيّ	who
		4.	exclamatory	يا له	what
		5.	vocative	أيْ (يا)	O
		6.	interpretative	أيْ (يعني)	It means …

Table (4) : Semantic Categories of (أي)

5.(إن / *in*)

The semantic space of (إنْ) covers the following :

(a) (إنْ) as a conditional marker (أداةُ شرطٍ) .

It is evident that (إنْ) can behave as a conditional marker if it is followed by two verbs and usually in the jussive moods . Consider the following aya, ٣٥ : النساء (إنْ يُريدَا إصْلاحَاً يُوَفِق اللهُ بَيْنَهُما) (In case they (both) are willing to act righteously, Allah will cause them to reach an agreement between them (two)), (Ghali, 2005 : 84) .

(b) (إنْ) as a negative word (أداةُ نفيٍ) .

It is crystal clear that (إنْ) could behave as a negative word . It is usually recognized when it correlates with (إلا) or (أم) . If there is no sign of such markers, one can identify it when the text does not make any sense unless it can be replaced by the negative marker (لا / not) . In such a case, the context of situation determines the intended meaning of the text, ١٠٧ : التوبة (إنْ أردنا إلاّ الحُسنى) (Decidedly we would do nothing except the fairest (deeds) (Ghali, 2005 : 204)   (Al-Khateeb, 2012 : 368), (Al-Samarra'i, Vol.4, 171 : 2010) .

(c) (إنْ) as a redundant emphatic marker (أداةُ توكيدٍ زائدةٌ) .

As regards, the word (إنْ), it can behave as a redundant marker for emphasis when it is preceded by the negative marker (ما / not) . Let us consider the following poetic line :

بني غُدانةَ ما إنْ أنتُمُ ذهباً   (O Bani Ghudanh, you are not certainly like gold), (Ibn Hisham, 2010, Vol.1 : 32-33) .

No.	SL Marker	Semantic Space of (إنْ)		
		No.	function	SL sense	counterpart
5.	إنْ	1.	conditionality	إذَا	if
		2.	negative	لا	not
		3.	emphasis	بالتأكيد	certainly

 Table (5) : Semantic Categories of (إنْ)

6.(إلاَّ / *illa*)

The semantic space of (إلاَّ) can be stated as follows :

 (a) (إلاَّ) as a conditional construction (تركيبٌ شرطيٌّ) .

The construction (إلاَّ) indicates conditional situation since the conditional marker (إنْ) is inserted into it . Such construction can be distinguished from the exceptional marker (إلاَّ) when it is followed by a verb in the present tense with jussive mood . Take the following aya, التوبة : ٤٠ (إلا تنصروه فقَدْ نَصَرَهُ اللهُ) (In case ever you do not vindicate him, yet Allah readily vindicated him .)(Ghali, 2005 : 193)   (Ibn Hisham, 2010, Vol.1 : 29) .

(b) (إلاَّ) as an exceptional marker (أداةُ استثناءٍ) .

The word (إلاَّ) is regarded as an exceptional marker if it is followed by a noun . Consider the following example : ما قامَ أحدٌ إلا زيداً

 (The students attended the class except Khalid) . It is quite obvious that the marker (إلا) in the above-mentioned example is followed by the proper noun (زيداً); therefore, it is considered an exceptional marker (Ibn Hisham, 2010; Vol.1: 83) .

(c) (إلاَّ) as a marker for specification (أداةُ حَصْرٍ) .

The marker (إلاَّ) signals specification only when it is preceded by negative and the word which comes after it is not excluded from any noun in the sentence . Consider the following poetic line :

إذا ضَاقَ صَدْرُ المَرءِ لمْ يَصْفُ عَيْشُهُ   ولا يَسْتَطِيبُ العَيشَ إلاَّ المُسَامِحُ

If the one gets worried, things won't get better

None can enjoy one's life but the forgiver

(Shuaib, 2010 : 24) .

No.	SL Marker	Semantic Space of (إلاَّ)		
		No.	function	SL sense	counterpart
6.	إلا	1.	conditionality	إنْ + لا	if ----not
		2.	exceptionality	إلاَّ	except
		3.	specification	فقط	only

Table (6) : Semantic Categories of (إلاَّ)

7.(لو / *lou*)

The semantic space of (لو) contains the following :

(a) (لو) as a conditional marker (أداةُ شرطٍ) .

It is quite apparent that the word (لو) could function as a conditional marker as it is followed by two verbs . It is also to be noted that the text contains a sort of implicit negative . Hence, (لو) can function as a conditional marker denoting negation . Furthermore, both of the actions that follow the conditional marker (لو) could not actually take place, consequently, it is called (حرفُ امتناعٍ لامتناع)" a marker whose two actions are prohibited". Consider the following example : (لوْ جاء زيدٌ لأكرمتُهُ) (If Zaid came my home, I would reward him)   (Al-Subkee, 2003, Vol. 1 : 341) .

(b) (لو) as a marker for wishes (للتمني) .

 (لو) could convey the sense of wishes . It can be recognized by means of the context of situation : الشعراء

(فَلَوْ أَنَّ لَنا كَرَّةً فنكون من المؤمنين) ١٠٢

(So , if we had (a chance) to recur, then we should be among the believers) (لو تأتيني فتحدثني)   Ibn Hisham, 2010 : Vol.1. 295) .

 (c) (لو) as an offering marker (أداةُ عرضٍ) .

(لَو) is identified as a marker for offering when it is followed by a verb in the present tense . Consider the following example, (لو تَنزِلُ عندنا فَتُصِيبَ خيراً)(Would you pay a visit us to attain what you favours) (ibd .: Vol.1. 296) .

(d) (لو) as a causative marker (سببية) .

(يأَيُّها الذينَ آمَنُوا كونوا قَوَّامينَ بالقِسْطِ شُهَدَاءَ للهِ وَ لَوْ على أنفُسِكُمْ) النساء : ١٣٥) (O you who have believed, be constantly upright with quality (with others), witnesses for Allah , even if it be against yourselves)(Ghali, 2005 : 100) (Ibn Hisham, 2010, Vol.1 : 296) .

(e) (لو) as a marker for littleness (أداةُ تقليلٍ) .

It is of great interest to point out that the marker (لو) could signal the sense of littleness . This sort of meaning could be realized by the context of situation .Consider the following example,(تصدق و لو بتمرةٍ)) (Donate even if it is a palm date)(Al-Samarra'i, 2010, Vol.4. : 78) .

No.	SL Marker	Semantic Space			
		No.	function	SL sense	counterpart
7.	لو	1.	offering	طلب برفق ولين	Would you ...
		2.	urging	طلب بشدة	You should…
		3.	causality	حتى إذا	
		4.	littleness	و إن كان	Even if it is ..

Table (7) : Semantic Categories of (لو)

8.(لولا / *loula*)

The semantic space of (لولا) includes the following :

(a) (لولا) as a conditional marker .

The word (لولا) can be recognized as a conditional marker when there is "لام" *laam* at the beginning of its main clause, for instance, لولا الماء لِماتَ الأحياء (If and only if there is no water, all creatures will die)(Shuaib, 2010 : 212) .

(b) (لولا) as a reproaching marker (أداة توبيخ) .

It is obvious that (لولا) could be realized as a marker for reproaching when it is followed by a verb in the past tense . Consider this aya, ١٣ : النور (لَوْلَا جَاءُو عليهِ بأربَعَةِ شُهَدَاءَ) (If they had come up with four witnesses against it),(Ghali, 2005 : 351)(ibid .: 213) .

(c) (لولا) as an urging marker (أداة تحضيض) .

When (لولا) is followed by a verb in the present tense, it could be termed a marker for urging for instance,(لَوْلَا تستغفرون الله)(It is better for you to ask Allah's forgiveness) (Ibn Hisham, 2010, Vol.1, 302) .

It is worth noting that since (لوما) and (لولا) semantically have a lot in common; therefore, the current paper does not take (لوما) into consideration .

No.	SL Marker	Semantic Space		
		No.	function	SL sense	counterpart
8.	لولا	1.	reproaching	أيّ	which
		2.	urging	أيّ	who

Table (8) : Semantic Categories of (لولا)

9.(أنَّى / *anaa*)

The semantic space of (أنى) could encompass the following :

(a) (أنى) as a conditional marker.

When (أنى) is followed by two present verbs in the jussive moods, it functions as a conditional marker to mean (متى ما / whenever). Consider the example, (أنى نَجْتَهِدْ تَنْجَحْ) (Whenever you do your best , you will certainly pass), (Shuaib, 2010 : 49) .

(b) (أنى) as an interrogative pronoun for manner in the sense of   (كيف / *how*) .

When (أنى) is not followed by two present verbs in the jussive moods, it functions as an interrogative pronoun . In such a case, it asks about the process of manner if it can be replaced by the interrogative pronoun (كيف / *how*), for example, البَقَرَة : ٢٥٩ (أنَّى يُحْيَ هَذِهِ اللهُ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا)(However will Allah give life to this (town) after its death?   (Ghali, 2005 : 43) (Al-Sammara'i, 2010, Vol.4 : 218) .

(c) (أنى) as an interrogative pronoun for place in the sense of   (أينَ / where) .

If (أنَّى) is not followed by two present verbs in the jussive moods, it serves the function of the
interrogative pronoun to convey the sense of (أَيْنَ). Consider the following : قَالَ يَا مَرْيَمُ أَنَّى)آل عِمْرَان : ٣٧
أَلَكِ هَذَا)   (He said, "O Maryam, however does this (come) to you?"(Ghali, 2005 : 54) (ibd.: Vol.4 :
218) .

(d) (أنَّى) as an interrogative pronoun for time to mean(متى / *when*) .

When (أنَّى) is not followed by two present verbs in the jussive moods, it functions as an interrogative
pronoun in the sense of (مَتَى / *when*) . Take a glance at the following example (أنَّى رجعتَ إلى البيتِ) . Here,
the marker (أنَّى) can be replaced by the interrogative pronoun for time (متى / when) . Consequently, the
whole text can be rendered into (When did you come back home?) (Shuaib, 2010 : 49) .

No.	Marker	Semantic Space			
		No.	function	SL sense	counterpart
9.	أنَّى	1.	conditionality	متى ما	whenever
		2.	interro. pro. for manner	كيفَ	how
		3.	interro. pro. for place	أينَ	where
		4.	interro. pro. for time	مَتَى	when

Table (9) : Semantic Categories of (أنى)

Conclusion

  The current paper has arrived at the following conclusions :

1. A large number of translators believe that the conditional markers of Arabic are confined to the function
of conditionality only .

2.Linguistic context plays an active part in distinguishing the semantic space of each conditional marker
in greater detail .

3.Sometimes, the marker serves multi-functions in the same text for rhetorical purposes and to broaden the
meaning .

4.Ignoring the minor functions of the conditional markers, i.e. as an interrogative or relative pronoun,
exceptional marker and so on, very often leads to inappropriate renderings or even wrong ones .

5.Context of situation very rarely can remove the vagueness of the markers under investigation .

6.Pragmatic values of the text which contains one of these markers are usually affected by the semantic
behaviour of the conditional markers .

7.Stylistic aesthetics could be extracted from the employment of all the markers of the current study .

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