

assessment in the current research, *Google Translate*, is a web-based MT system which is able to produce output of texts unaided.

However, it turns out that really “good” MT is so hard to attain. The task has fatigued the best computing resources of every generation attempting it. Nevertheless, MT is going stronger than ever, fired up by the globalization of the Net. Today, all over the world, software designers, programmers, hardware engineers, neural-network experts, AI specialists, linguists, and cognitive scientists are enlisted in the effort to teach computers how to port words and ideas from language to language (Abu-Al-Sha’r & Zughoul, 2009).

Arabic is one of the languages which has been tackled since the early days of MT; however, few systems have dealt with the Arabic language due to its syntactic characteristics which are different from Latin characteristics. The Arabic language, which is the mother tongue of more than 300 million people, presents significant challenges to many NLP applications since Arabic is a nonconfigurational language.

Legal texts have been chosen in this research due to their “conventional” nature of the structure formats in use and the formulaic nature of the kind of texture employed in the field of translation (Hatim, 1997:38). In addition, legal discourse is characterized by a ‘close-knit texture’ (ibid: 18). Due to the characteristics the legal discourse has, the approach that should be followed to render a legal text is ‘literal’.

Because of globalization, developments in information technology and the international giant strides in communication, translating legal texts is of paramount importance. As many businesses are investing in the Arab world whose economies have proven to be robust in comparison with the west economies, the necessity for translating different legal documents (contracts, certificates, and agreements) has surfaced.