

Re: "standard" Arabic translation of Don Quixote

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.lang/2005-10/msg01105.html>

- *From:* "Yusuf B Gurse" <ybg@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 26 Oct 2005 18:22:53 -0700
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Yusuf B Gurse wrote:

> Marc Adler wrote:

>> Yusuf B Gurse wrote:

>>> Nigel Greenwood wrote:

>>>> Marc Adler wrote:

>>>>> Is there a translation of Don Quixote which is considered "standard" in

>>>>> Arabic?

>>>>

>>>> Doesn't Cervantes make it quite clear that his book is in fact a

>>>> translation from an Arabic original by Cide Hamete Benengeli? I think

>>>> Sancho gets the name wrong & calls him "Berenjena".

>>>

>>> it's just a narrative device. the last word apparently refers to an

>>> eggplant.

>>

>> Does "Hamete Benengeli" sound like a plausible Arabic name? There are a

>

> Hamete seems to represent Hami:d or Ha:mid or even Hama:d (with imala,

> as was in Andalusian Arabic). Berengeli seems Old Portuguese beringela

> acc. to OED "brinjal". related to "aubergine" from arabic al-barqu:q

> (which is ultimately from greek and latin, so OED) "plum, apricot" and

> probably influenced by arabic ba:*dh*inja:n "eggplant" (from persian

> ba:dinga:n)

the translation has for Cide Hamete Benengeli (Ch. 8, with footnote)

sayyidi: (si:di:) Ha:mid b(i)n al-'uyyaliyy ('uyyal is vocalized)

Badawi explains that he subscribes to the theory of an orientalist

that engeli comes from a (spanish?) word meaning "stag"(arabic:

'uyyal),

and that refers to ciervo and hence Cervantes.

he mentions that alternatively it refers to "eggplant"

these websites claim that Engeli is for 'inkili:ziyy / ingili:ziyy

i.e. "English" and that the original is not Cervantes but an

Englishman:

<http://www.sirbacon.org/links/carrq.html>

<http://users.ipfw.edu/jehle/cervante/csa/articf81/mancing.htm>

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