

Basel Jbaily

English – Arabic

Translator | Proofreader | Content Manager

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EDUCATION

Both academic degrees are internationally verified by World Education Services | WES

- **“Masters A” IN TRANSLATION AND LOCALISATION (Graduate Study)**, 2006
1-year study | Faculty of Literature and Human Sciences, Homs, Syria
Graduation Project: Translating Jean-Paul Sartre's *The Flies*
- **BACHELOR IN ENGLISH LITERATURE**, 2005
4-year study | Faculty of Literature and Human Sciences, Homs, Syria
- **HIGH SCHOOL**, scientific branch, 2001

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Senior Translation Specialist, Qatar Museums - Qatar, July 2018 till Present**
Working closely with the head of the newly established Exhibition Content Department, I'm tasked to:
 - Translate, edit, proofread, and write engaging exhibition content;
 - Set editorial and project priorities and schedules;
 - Develop glossary with exhibition, museum, art and culture terminology in Arabic;
 - Develop a style-guide which reflects QM branding and audiences;
 - Closely liaise between Exhibitions Content Department and Publication Division to ensure consistency of all content related to QM exhibitions;
 - Closely liaise with PR and Communication Departments to streamline marketing communication content related to QM exhibitions in Qatar and abroad.
 - Ensure marketing and educational material is consistent with content for each exhibition;
 - Outsource translators for languages other than English and Arabic and ensuring their deliverables are up to the standards.
- **EXHIBITIONS I developed content for:**
[Magnificent Jewels of Jean Schlumberger: From the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Collection](#), 2019/2020; [KAWS: He Eats Alone](#), 2019/2020; [El Anatsui: Triumphant Scale](#), 2019/2020; [Infinite Dimensions](#), 2019; [Kazimir Malevich: Genius of the Russian Avant-Garde](#), 2019; [M. F. Husain: Horses of the Sun](#), 2019; [Rags Media Collective: Still More World](#), 2019; [MAKING DOHA: 1950 – 2030](#), 2019; [Russian Avant-Garde: Pioneers and Direct Descendants](#), 2018/2019; [Revolution Generations](#), 2018/2019; [I Strongly Believe in our Right to be f=Frivolous](#), 2018/2019; [Fateh al-Moudarres: Colour, Extensity and Sense](#), 2018; [Qatar Contemporary: Art and Photography](#), (Russia), 2018; [Pearls: Treasures from the Seas and the Rivers](#), (Russia), 2018.

▪ **Head of Translation, *Qatar Museums* - Qatar, June 2013 till June 2018**

I was in charge of publications (organize work flow: submit content to publishers, oversee production and quality assurance stages, coordinating multiple production schedules and printing deadlines, liaise with authors to acquire permissions copy rights), and translation (catalogues, labels, marketing materials, social media posts). Exhibitions and conferences I translated/edited the content for:

EXHIBITIONS I developed content for:

[*Driven by German Design*](#), 2017/2018; [*German Encounters – Contemporary Masterworks from the Deutsche Bank*](#), 2017/2018; [*Skate Girls of Kabul*](#), 2017; [*Contemporary Calligraphy – Mehmet Çebi Collection*](#), 2017; [*Picasso – Giacometti*](#), 2017; [*Dia Al-Azzawi: A Retrospective \(from 1963 until tomorrow\)*](#), 2016/2017; [*Fragments*](#), Mahmoud Obaidi, 2016; [*Mohammed Ali: Tribute to a Legend*](#), 2016; Project Space, Mathaf: Aslı Çavusoglu, [*Red/Red*](#); Mahmoud Obaid: *Fair Skies*, 2016; Mathaf [*Encyclopedia of Modern Art and the Arab World*](#), ongoing project; [*Artist in Residence Exhibition – Fire Station*](#), 2016; [*What about Art? Contemporary Art from China*](#), 2016; Qatar – Turkey Photo Book, 2015; [*Luc Tuymans: Intolerance*](#), 2015; [*Orientality: Beyond Foreign Affairs*](#), 2015; [*For them: Ismail Azzam*](#), 2015; [*Past to Present: Art Conservation Conference*](#), 2013; *Heritage of Art Diplomacy: Memoirs of an Ambassador*, 2013; *Orientality: Cultural Orientalism and Mentality*, 2013.

▪ **Translation Supervisor, *Museum of Islamic Art* - Qatar, March 2011 till June 2013**

MIA is the flagship of Qatar's attractions. I translated artifacts labels, exhibition catalogues, brochures, booklets, marketing publications, Educational Center's publications, and other materials related to the daily work of the museum, as well as training MIA staff in the field of Arabic language (editing, translating, and communicating). My Responsibility included managing MIA's Arabic language website.

EXHIBITIONS I developed content for:

- *Steel and Gold: Historic Swords from the MIA collection*, 2013
- *Ferozkoh: Tradition & Continuity in Afghan Art*, 2013
- *Arabick Roots*, 2012
- *Illuminations: the Mosque Lamp as Iconographic Image*, 2012
- *The Intelligence of Tradition: Antiquity and Early Islamic Glass*, 2012
- *Gifts of the Sultan*, 2012
- *The Dream of a King: Dresden's Green Vault*, 2011
- *Mohamed Zakariya: An Eloquent Eye*, 2011

FREELANCE PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lead Language Consultant, *Triad Berlin*, February 2018 till now

Providing full Arabic language services (translation, editing, proofreading and quality assurance) for Triad's high-profile project of King Salman Science Oasis which is one of the first major science centers of the Arab world and provides an opportunity to discover scientific topics through interactive play.

Senior Editor, *FIFA*, March 2009 till now, Sporstranslations Limited

Translating and proofreading the website's English content into Arabic: interviews, team/players profiles, tournament info, previews and daily news stories. Among the tournaments I worked in:

2010/2014 FIFA World Cup		2009 and 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup
2011/2015 FIFA Women's World Cup		2012 Football Olympic Tournament

Content Developer, Oman Museum: Across the Ages

I was commissioned to develop dozens of gallery panels and content in Arabic for the soon-to-be-opened flagship museum.

Translator and Editor, Guggenheim Museum New York, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Smithsonian, Getty, New York Public Library, The United States Capitol Visitor Center.

Several projects for the leading art and museum institutions in the United States, including:

- The catalogue for Guggenheim UBS MAP Global Art Initiative 3rd exhibition: [*But a Storm Is Blowing from Paradise: Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa, 2016/2017*](#)
- The audio-guide for Freer Gallery of Art and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery at the Smithsonian

Senior Editor, FIVB (Fédération Internationale de Volleyball) magazine, March 2011 till March 2013, Translating and proofreading FIVB's official magazine, VolleyWorld:

On-call website/social media manager, FC Barcelona, August 2012 till May 2015:

fcbarcelona.com/ar

Translator, Kalimat Middle East, January 2010 till March 2013

Kalimat is a translation and creative services agency based in Dubai, UAE. My work included:

- Localization/translation/updating Abu Dhabi's Yas Island website: yasisland.ae
- Abu Dhabi Festival 2010 and 2011: Booklet, artists' biographies, music notes and brochures. This is MENA's leading celebration of classical arts
- WOMAD Abu Dhabi 2010 and 2011, festival publications
- BMW magazine
- Etihad Airways: Destinations' profiles
- Pampers Arabia website
- Press releases and various documents for a wide variety of clients: Aldar Properties, BMW, Arqaam Capital, Masdar Institute of Science and Technology, LG, Dubai International Film Festival, Sounds of Arabia festival, Flash Entertainment, Abu Dhabi's Tourism, Development & Investment Company, InterContinental Hotels Group, UAE General Civil Aviation Authority and du Telecom
- Abu Dhabi World Tennis Championship (2010 and 2011): Translating the website

Translator/Editor, Bureau d'Informations Stratégiques (based in France), March 2005 till March 2011 BIS is a Paris-based news observatory whose operation is based on homeshoring to provide various news bulletins to officials in the Gulf region. My role included:

- Preparing UK and USA press reviews
- Translating & editing daily news bulletins about the Gulf region
- Training newly employed translators

PUBLICATIONS

- *Dia Al-Azzawi: A Retrospective (from 1963 until tomorrow)*, SilvanaEditoriale, Italy, 2018
- *Picasso – Giacometti*, Flammarion, France, 2017
- *But a Storm Is Blowing from Paradise: Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa*, Guggenheim Museum Publications, USA, 2016
- *Orientality 2: Beyond Foreign Affairs*, ongoing project (2016)
- *Focus 2: Works from Mathaf Collection*, Qatar Museums, Qatar, 2016
- *Qatar – Turkey Photo Book*, SilvanaEditoriale, Italy, 2015
- *The Hunt: Princely Pursuits in Islamic Lands*, SilvanaEditoriale, Italy, 2015
- *Orientality 1: Cultural Orientalism and Mentality*, SilvanaEditoriale, Italy, 2014
- *Heritage of Art Diplomacy: Memoirs of an Ambassador*, Skira, Italy, 2013
- *Ferozkoh: Tradition & Continuity in Afghan Art*, Bloomsbury Publishing, Qatar, 2013
- *Imperfect Perfection: Early Islamic Glass*, Bloomsbury Publishing, Qatar, 2012
- *Gifts of the Sultan: The Arts of Giving at the Islamic Courts*, Yale University Press, USA, 2012
- *Essentials of Comparative Politics*, Sharq wa Gharb Publishing House, Syria, 2011

VARIOUS FREELANCE PROJECTS

DohaCreatives: Translating the guide “Perfecting the Art of Social Media”. DohaCreatives is a social community to spread awareness and leverage Art & Design among the Creatives in Doha.

Vodafone's Firsts: Translating Vodafone's global campaign for Qatar market, including its website and subtitles of the videos, 2014

Twestival: Translating documents for Twitter Festival, Feb 2010

Project proposal (AR-EN): A 58-page project proposal “Educational Integration for Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood” Drosos Foundation, Switzerland. (Voluntary service), Nov 2010

PARTICIPATIONS and Training

- **Developing Engaging Exhibitions**, International Council of Museums, 2018
- **Writing for Museums**, University College London, 2018
- **Capacity Building:** Oxfam, OneWorld.net, Computer Aid International; UK, 2007

- **Project Management:** British Council; Tunisia, 2006
- **World Summit of Information Society:** a parallel project “Reach Out”; Tunisia, 2005
- **Study Visit:** EuroMed Youth Program; Syria, 2005
- **Youth and Gender:** El-Taller International; Tunisia, 2005
- **Youth, Human Rights and Development Issues in the Arab World:** The National Association for Human Rights and Development; Egypt, 2004
- **Non-Violence Activism:** The Lebanese Association for Civil Rights; Lebanon, 2004
- **Youth and Migration:** El-Taller International; Tunisia, 2003

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

- **Art volunteer:** Cai Guo-Qiang: Mirage exhibition, Oct 2011
- **Field researcher:** the New Youth Strategy conducted by Syrian Commission for Family Affairs, and State Planning Commission and funded by the United Nations Population Fund; Syria, Nov/Dec 2006
- **Co-organizer of Seminar:** East/West: Exchanging Possibilities. Next Generation Against Honor Related Crimes, Sweden, Oct/Nov 2006
- **Team member:** Syrian Woman Observatory. My role was to edit, translate articles, and support for the National Campaign to Stop Honor Crimes, March 2006 till March 2011
- **Syrian Women League and Syrian Red Crescent:** Various activities

REFERENCES (More could be provided upon request)

- **Dr. Olga Nefedova:** Former director of the Orientalist Museum | ovnefedova@hotmail.com (Russia)
- **Aisha Al Khater:** Director of Strategic Museums Relations | aalkhater@gm.org.qa (Qatar)
- **Brian Lee:** Content Manager | Sports Translations | brian.lee@sportstranslations.com (Ireland)
- **Marcus Jonas,** Project Manager for Content | Triad, MarcusJonas@web.de (Germany)