CANDIDATE’S NAME

FATEMA AL-HADAD

TITLE OF THESIS

QATARI CULTURE (UNDER)REPRESENTED? ANALYZING THE SUBTITLES OF THE FIRST QATARI FEATURE FILM CLOCKWISE

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Supervisor: Dr. Tarek Shamma
Assistant Professor, TII Postgraduate Study, Hamad bin Khalifa University

TII Faculty Member: Dr. Nicholas Cifuentes-Goodbody
Assistant Professor, TII Postgraduate Study, Hamad bin Khalifa University

External Examiner/ Second TII Faculty Member: Dr. Chris Rundle
Visiting Professor, TII Postgraduate Study, University of Bologna

DATE OF DEFENSE:

April 21, 2014
When Qatar decided to preserve and promote its rich culture to the world, *Clockwise* was produced as the first Qatari feature film. *Clockwise* subtitles, however, contrast the film’s declared purpose of informing foreign audiences about Qatari culture. Many Qatari culture specific items (QCSI) were “lost in translation”; either through omission or domesticated translation. The only way to maintain QCSIs is through foreignizing the translation to preserve the culture. But, is this possible? The paper explores two questions: 1) To what extents can a subtitler foreignize *Clockwise*’s subtitles to maintain Qatari culture-specific items (QCSIs)? 2) What other paralinguistic elements could affect the degree of foreignization? The findings reveal that the degree of QCSI foreignization in the film subtitles depends on four elements: firstly, the subtitler’s expertise linguistic skills in ST and TT languages; secondly, the technical constraints; thirdly, the type of audience, and lastly the popularity of the QCSI or its meaning.

**Keywords:**

audiovisual translation; *Clockwise*; domestication; feature films; foreignization; Qatar; subtitles; translations into English