Translation of Mass Killings, Slavery, and Cultural Destruction in Iraq

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1. Aims
To examine how the Islamic State projects itself through the translation and dissemination of images and texts, and how this is reconstructed by Western and Arabic media.

2. Setting
Sine June 2014 and up to present following Islamic State’s seizure of different areas in Iraq. Over this period, IS has expanded its image of power, with social media being very significant in such a projection.

3. Cases
• The mass killings of Iraqi soldiers in Tikrit, June 2014.
• The slavery of Yazidi women in Sinjar, August 2014.
• The destruction of artifacts and antiques in Mosul, February-March 2015.

4. Methodology
• Collecting visual and written material disseminated by IS through Twitter, YouTube, and other online publications as well as news articles from a wide variety of Western and Arabic news websites.
• Applying a narrative-multimodal approach and a model of framing strategies to analyze the images, texts, and videos released by IS and their translation by Western and Arabic media.

5. What’s New?
• A new way to link media, communication, and translation studies.
• A new way to understand the process of translation in the spread of information and narratives in the 21st century.
• A new way to understand Islamic State as a political, social, religious, and terrorist movement.

References

Images in Cases
• https://mobile.twitter.com/meena85meena
• https://twitter.com/Free_Yezidi/media
• http://article.wn.com/view/2015/02/28/Iraq_PM ISIS_barbarians_will_not_destroy_our_history/