Abstract.
This study deals with the history, principles, roles and problems related to the Arabic translation of political texts at the diplomatic circles inside the country as well as in embassies. Arabic diplomatic translation is one of many types of translations which have a history back to the time of Prophet Mohammad (PBAH) who started communication with non-Arab kings around Arab Peninsula. The activity of diplomatic translation was widened farther after the Prophet and reached its peak at the time of Abbasid Caliphate.
Diplomatic translation is carried out within diplomatic missions, office of prime minister and ministry of foreign affairs. It has its own rules and peculiarities with flexibility. Diplomatic translators must have a wide scope of knowledge, honesty and confidentiality, understanding of a context is crucially important in addition to faithfulness, comprehensibility and elegance. Translations have important roles to play in maintaining cordial diplomatic relations between nations throughout the history.
The conclusions are intended to highlight the fact that there are no recipes for translating diplomatic text or a political speech, because translation is not only a technical process that uses translation procedures and applies transfer operations, but also a matter of understanding cultural, historical and political situations and their significance with faithfulness in what doing. Diplomatic translation requires a hard working personality to do the perfect job.