

**A PRAGMATICS ANALYSIS ON PROMISE UTTERANCES  
IN THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF AL QUR'AN**



**RESEARCH PAPER**

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by

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of Study

In the real world of communication, one may commit to him/herself to perform some actions in the future. This action is usually called promise. As found in One Look Dictionary (*Promise*, 2008:1) promise is a verbal commitment by one person to another agreeing to do something in the future. The one who manifest the commitment is called the promiser. The person to whom the promise is addressed is the promisee.

Promise can also be found in the Holy Qur'an. In the belief of Islam, Al Qur'an is Allah's message that has been sent to all humanity via His last Messenger Muhammad (Gulen, 2006:1). With Al Qur'an Allah has communicated to all humanity about His Essence, Attributes, and Names. It also contains the expression and explanation of His Laws and Rules as the guidance of life. He has put emphasis on the duties and responsibilities of believers. Related to the promise, Allah's promise is used to show His reward to the believers. The following is an example of His promise:

*“These are the limits (set by) Allah (or ordinances as regards laws of inheritance), and whosoever obeys Allah and His Messenger (Muhammad SAW) will be admitted to Gardens under which rivers flow (in Paradise), to abide therein, and that will be the great success.”*

The example of His promise above can be found in the chapter of *An Nisaa'* on the 13<sup>th</sup> verse. The form of the utterance “whosoever obeys Allah and His

Messenger (Muhammad SAW) will be admitted to Gardens under which rivers flow (in Paradise), to abide therein, and that will be the great success” is declarative sentence because the subject and predicate have normal word order. The speaker of promise utterance above is Allah. The topic is concerned with the laws of inheritance, which is explained in the previous verse, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The utterance means that whosoever will be admitted in the Paradise if they obey Him and His Messenger (Muhammad). The word ‘obey’ related to the previous verse, where Allah commands to obey His laws of inheritance. Hence, it can be concluded that the promise utterance above implies commanding.

*An Nisaa’* is one of the chapters in Al Qur’an. It is the fourth chapter of the Holy Quran with 176 verses. It was named *An Nisaa’* means women because it deals extensively with women rights and obligations. It also describes a variety of other legal and ethical matters, such as inheritance law, marriage, and orphans and deals with matters relating to Madinan politics, in particular tensions with the Hypocrites and Jews. In this chapter the writer can also find many promise utterances of Allah to His believers.

Based on the explanation above, the writer has great interest in analyzing the promise utterances in the English translation of Al Qur’an by using pragmatics approach. To make it clear, the title of this research is “A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS ON PROMISE UTTERANCES IN THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF AL QUR’AN.”

## **B. Previous Study**

There are some previous researches, which are related to this research. One of them is conducted by Suharno (2004) with his research entitled “*A Pragmatics Analysis on Directive Utterances in the English Translation of Al Qur’an*”. He was one of the researchers who concern about Pragmatics related to the English translation of Al Qur’an. He analyzed the directive utterances in the form of sentence, especially in *Ya Sin* chapter translated by M.H. Shakir. His research was aimed at describing forms and finding out the speaker’s intention of directive utterances.

The second research is conducted by Rindang Bahtiar (2006) with his research entitled “*A Pragmatics Analysis on the Directive Utterances in the English Translation of Tradition of Bukhori*.” He analyzed the directives utterances in the form of sentences in the book of *Jeehad* written by Muhammad Muhsin Khan. His research was aimed at describing forms and finding out the speaker’s intention of directive utterances.

While in this research the writer is going to analyze promise utterances in the chapter of *An Nisaa’*, because she is sure that her research has not been analyzed yet.

## **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the background of the study above, the problem statements can be formulated as follows:

1. What are the linguistic forms of the promise utterances in the English translation of Al Qur'an?
2. What are the implicature of the promise utterances in the English translation of Al Qur'an?

**D. Objective of the Study**

In relation to the above problem statements, the objectives of the study are:

1. To describe the linguistics forms of the promise utterances in the English translation of Al Qur'an,
2. To describe the implicature of the promise utterances in the English translation of Al Qur'an.

**E. Limitation of the Study**

This research analyzes promise utterances that can be found in the English translation of Al Qur'an especially *An Nisaa'* chapter. So it does not analyze all of the chapters in it. The framework of this study is pragmatics. The writer wants to identify the form and the implicature of the promise utterances.

**F. Benefit of the Study**

The writer hopes that her research on the promise utterances in the English translation of Al Qur'an has some benefits. They are:

1. Academic Benefit

- a. This research gives contribution to pragmatics study especially in promise utterances,
- b. This research finding enriches the theories in pragmatics, especially in research about Al Qur'an translation.

2. Practical Benefit

- a. The readers are able to recognize the promise utterances in the English translation of Al Qur'an especially in the chapter of *An Nisaa'*,
- b. The readers know the implicature of the promise utterances in *An Nisaa'* chapter to understand its messages.

## **G. Research Paper Organization**

The organization of research paper is given in order to make the readers understand the content of the paper as follows:

Chapter I is introduction, which consists of the background of the study, review of previous study, problem statement, objective of the study, limitation of the study, the benefit of the study, and the organization of research paper.

Chapter II is the underlying theory. It deals with the notion of pragmatics, implicature theory, pragmatic context, the notion of promise, and the linguistic form.

Chapter III is the research method. It consists of type of the research, object and data of the research, the method of data collection, and the technique of data analysis.

Chapter IV is research result. In this chapter, the writer presents the data analysis, the discussion of research findings.

Chapter V is conclusion, implication, and suggestion.