

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Al-Wahidi (2008:10) says today, people's desires for the sciences of the Qur'an are false and restrained, as they are turned away from them. And no amount of censure could prevent this from happening. As a result, people have ended up benefiting the beginners in the sciences of the Book, by expounding the occasions for which it was revealed. This is because it is the best that one ought to know and the most appropriate thing to which one should direct one's attention, since it is not possible to know the interpretation of a given verse or the meaning it alludes to without knowing its story and the occasion of its revelation.

To know the meaning needs the knowledge of linguistics such as words galore. It consists of a verbal bonanza, jargon, slang, cliches and catch-phrases, a rose by any other name, clipping, acronyms and abbreviations, fads and copycat formations, back-formation, blends, and euphemism (Katamba:1997). One of them is a euphemism. It consists in replacing the original signifier, perceived as being offensive or unpleasant, by another one; it is often referred to as a "veil" or a "shroud" thrown over the signified, as if to conceal it. (Jamet, 2012:3)

It is true that actually euphemisms are not only in daily language but also in English translation of Holy Qur'an. In the English translation of Holy

Qur'an by Yusuf Ali, there is one of the above words galore, it is euphemism. The real meaning of the euphemisms expressions can be known through three steps of analysis. First is describing the type of euphemisms by classifying them into language levels: word, phrase, clause, and sentence. Second is describing the referent. The last is describing the intention.

For example, in chapter Maryam verse 20, 'She said: "How shall I have a son, seeing that no man has *touched* me, and I am not unchaste?"' It actually means the husband-wife relationship (having sex or coitus). Based on the type of euphemism, the word 'touched' is a verb, it is replaced by phrase, 'sexual intercourse'. Thus, the type is a semantic change which is semantic shift.

The symbol is the word 'touched', then to know the real entity or the real meaning needs the referent of the symbol. According to Nida (1975) the referent of 'touched' is not the action of put a body part to someone, extensionally the referent is an action of a couple to make new baby. It belongs to approaches to meaning that is stated by Nida (1975). By knowing the reference, it can be concluded that the referent of 'touched' is sexual intercourse.

After knowing the referent, the writer digs the intention (based on speech act theory by Austin (1969)) of the utterance "*touched*" is also important. The locution can be 'no man approaches her to touch her part of body'. The illocution is informing that no man has sexual intercourse with her, it is known because the utterance "How shall I have a son," and "and I am not

unchaste?" It belongs to sexual intercourse euphemism because it gives a special divine attention so as not to harm the public modesty of the recipients. It is stated in Kathir commentary.

Based on the above condition and the examples, the writer is interested in doing the research on euphemistic utterances reflected on the English translation of Holy Qur'an. The writer is curious to know the beautiful and polite words of English translation of Holy Qur'an in the case of euphemisms. Besides, the writer wants to know the intention of some verses which use euphemisms. In this research, the writer uses the English translation of Holy Qur'an by Yusuf Ali as the subject of the study.

C. Problem Statement

This research is conducted in order to find the answers of the research problems, they are:

1. What are the type of euphemisms used in the translation of English Holy Qur'an and their replacement?
2. What are the referents of euphemisms used in the translation of English Holy Qur'an?
3. What are the intentions of euphemistic expression used in the translation of English Holy Qur'an?

D. Objective of the Study

In the relation to the above problem statements, the writer will formulate the following research objectives.

1. To describe the type of euphemisms used in the translation of English Holy Qur'an and their replacement.
2. To describe the referent of euphemisms used in the translation of English Holy Qur'an.
3. To describe the intention of euphemisms used in the translation of English Holy Qur'an.

E. Benefit of the Study

The writer really hopes that her research on Euphemisms used in English translation of Holy Quran has benefits to the readers. Below are the benefits of the study.

1. Theoretical benefits
 - a. This research is used to be a reference by other researcher to conduct further research dealing with euphemisms.
 - b. This research is able to enrich the study of linguistic especially on Euphemisms in English translation of Holy Qur'an and its contribution for English Department student.
2. Practical benefit
 - a. The English teacher can enrich the sexual euphemisms in the English translation of Holy Qur'an by Yusuf Ali.

- b. The readers of the English translation of Holy Qur'an by Yusuf Ali know the intention of some words which use euphemisms.
- c. The future researchers can criticize and or complete this study to make it better and perfect.

F. Research Paper Organization

This research paper organization is divided into some parts. It can help the readers' understanding the content of the paper.

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

Chapter II is the previous studies and underlying theory. This chapter presents Pragmatics that consists of the notion of pragmatics, the principles of Pragmatics, and the referent; and Euphemisms that consists of the notion of euphemisms, type of euphemisms, and function of euphemisms.

Chapter III is the research method. It deals with the type of research, object of research, data and data source, technique of collecting data, and technique of analyzing data

Chapter IV is the research finding and discussion. It tells us about the research finding that contains analysis of the type, the referent and the intention of euphemisms; and discussion of research findings.

Chapter V is about the conclusion of the research and the suggestions.