

**COMMISSIVE UTTERANCES IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE NOBLE
QUR'AN: A PRAGMATIC PERSPECTIVE**



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by:

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ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah: (1) untuk menemukan makna dari ujaran komisif yang terdapat pada Al-Qur'an terjemahan Bahasa Inggris surah Hud dan (2) untuk mendeskripsikan strategi kesantunan yang terdapat pada Al-Qur'an terjemahan Bahasa Inggris surah Hud. Penelitian ini adalah jenis penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Data dari penelitian ini adalah ayat dari surah Hud yang berisi ujaran komisif. Dalam pengumpulan data, peneliti menggunakan dokumentasi. Kemudian mengelompokkan data berdasarkan tipe dari ujaran komisif. Sebagai kesimpulannya, peneliti menemukan enam jenis makna ujaran komisif yang terdapat pada Al-Qur'an terjemahan Bahasa Inggris surah Hud. Peneliti menemukan 16 ayat termasuk menjanjikan (49%), 6 ayat termasuk menolak (18%), 4 ayat termasuk mengancam (12%), 2 ayat termasuk sukarela (6%), dan 2 ayat termasuk menawarkan (6%). Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti tidak menemukan tipe makna bersumpah karena tidak ada ciri makna bersumpah dalam surah Hud. Sebagai tambahan, peneliti menemukan 3 ayat termasuk tipe menantang (9%) yang merupakan tipe baru dari makna ujaran komisif. Berdasarkan temuan tersebut, tipe makna yang mendominasi pada ujaran komisif yang ditemukan oleh peneliti pada Al-Qur'an terjemahan Bahasa Inggris surah Hud adalah tipe makna menjanjikan (49%). Peneliti juga menemukan empat tipe strategi kesantunan yang terdapat pada Al-Qur'an terjemahan Bahasa Inggris surah Hud. Peneliti menemukan 14 ayat termasuk strategi *bald on record* (43%), 9 ayat termasuk strategi kesantunan positif (27%), 5 ayat termasuk strategi kesantunan negatif (15%), dan 5 ayat termasuk strategi *off record* (15%). Tipe strategi kesantunan yang mendominasi pada ujaran komisif yang ditemukan oleh peneliti pada Al-Qur'an terjemahan Bahasa Inggris surah Hud adalah tipe *bald on record* (43%).

ABSTRACT

The objectives of this research are: (1) to find the intentions of commissive utterances in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud, (2) to describe the politeness strategies of commissive utterances in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud. This research belongs to a descriptive qualitative research. The data of this research is verses of Chapter Hud that contain commissive utterances. In collecting data, the researcher uses documentation, then coding the data based on the type of commissive utterances. As the result, the researcher found six types of intention of commissive utterances in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud. The researcher found 16 verses belong to promising (49%), 6 verses belong to refusing (18%), 4 verses belong to threatening (12%), 2 verses belong to volunteering (6%), and 2 verses belong to offering (6%). In this research, the researcher did not find the intention of vowing, because there is no characteristic of intention of vowing in Chapter Hud. In addition, the researcher found 3 verses (9%) belong to challenging as the new type of intention of commissive utterance. Based on the finding above, the dominant type of the intention of commissive utterance that researcher found in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud is promising (49%). The researcher

also found four types of politeness strategy of commissive utterances in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud. The researcher found 14 verses belong to bald on record strategy (43%), 9 verses belong to positive politeness strategy (27%), 5 verses belong to negative politeness strategy (15%), and 5 verses belong to off record strategy (15%). The dominant type of politeness strategy of commissive utterances in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud that researcher found is bald on record strategy (43%).

Keywords: commissive utterances, intention, politeness strategy.

1. INTRODUCTION

English has role in translation field, for example in the translation of Islamic Holy Scripture. Islamic Holy Scripture or Al-Qur'an is the most complete book of guidance from Allah. Allah sent Al-Qur'an to His Prophet for guiding the people. According to Djamalludin (1992:45), Allah sent prophet and messengers to show people the right path, invite them to believe in Allah. Al-Qur'an is not only for some groups, but also for all people in the world. In Al-Qur'an, there are some utterances which are reported by Allah and the Prophet that contain secret information that we have to know as the creature of Allah. Actually each utterance has different purposes such as to express threatening, offering, promising, vowing, volunteering, and refusing. Because there are many utterances that contain secrets information in each Chapter of Islamic Holy Scripture, many researchers are interested in analyzing many aspects of linguistic including pragmatic angle.

In this research, the researcher is interested in analyzing commissive utterances in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud especially the intentions because there are utterances that contain commitments of Allah that we have to know that those will happen in the future. One of the commitments is that Allah will not destroy the town if there are still people who do the good deed. Because there are many utterances that show some events in the future, the researcher is interested to choose commissive utterance, one of classification of speech act as the object. The other reason is that the previous researchers have not used Chapter Hud as data source in their research especially in commissive angle. Besides, the analysis of Islamic Holy Scripture is important for education field because it will enrich the knowledge in linguistic perspective.

The objectives of this research are to find the intentions and describe the politeness strategy of commissive utterances in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud. According to Yule (1996:54), commissive is one of the types of speech acts that the addressers commit themselves to some future action. According to Searle (1969), classifications of commissive utterance are promising, vowing, offering, refusing, threatening and volunteering.

For analyzing the intention of the verse, the researcher uses Leech's theory that contains speech of situation. Based on Leech (1983:13), there are some aspects of speech situation: 1) Addressers and addressees, 2) The context, 3) The goal, 4) The illocutionary act, 5) The utterance as a product of a verbal act.

In analyzing the politeness strategy in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud, the researcher uses Brown and Levinson's theory. There are four types of politeness strategies. There are bald on record, positive politeness, negative politeness, and off record.

One of the examples of commissive utterances which found by the researcher in English translation of the Noble Qur'an:

Certainly, they are those who will be the greatest losers in the Hereafter. (Hud: 22)

Verily, those who believe (in the oneness of Allah—Islamic Monotheism) and do righteous good deeds, and humble themselves (in the repentance and obedience) before their Lord, they will be dwellers of Paradise to dwell there in forever. (Hud: 23)

The likeness of the two parties is as the blind and the deaf and the seer and the hearer. Are they equal when compared? Will you not take heed? (Hud: 24)

On the Noble Qur'an of Chapter Hud at twenty third verse, the utterance includes commissive utterance shows promising. The utterance "they will be dwellers of Paradise to dwell there in forever" belongs to promising. It is commitment from God to Prophet Muhammad that people who do good deeds and repentance will be dwellers of paradise forever. It means that people who do wrong deeds including people who invent a lie against Allah, they will be the greatest losers in the Hereafter and they will not dwell in the paradise. The politeness strategy which is used in this verse is positive politeness because the addresser minimizes threat to the addressee.

The researcher presents the previous studies dealing with this research. The first research was conducted by Khumaeroh (2014). This research is about commissive utterances in English translation of Surah An-Nisa. The second previous study comes from Nidak (2013). This research is about commissive utterances in *The Wizard of Oz Movie Manuscript*.

The researchers above have similarity and differences with this research. The difference between this research and the previous study is the data. The data of first previous study is taken from English translation of Surah An-Nisa while the second previous study is taken from *The Wizard of Oz Movie Manuscript*. In this study, the researcher takes the data from English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud. The similarities with two previous studies are the research about commissive utterances and pragmatic.

The researcher also presents the previous study dealing with this topic which is taken from journals. The first journal comes from Embugushiki (2010). The researcher analyzes the speech acts which performed in Cristian wedding solemnizations, the second journal come from Mahadin and Jaradat (2011), this study aims to investigate the pragmatic function of international variations in Jordanian dialect spoken in Irbid. The third comes from Ad-Darraji and Foo (2012), the research focuses on speech act theory, especially in offering as one of the speech acts which can be divided under two categories; commissive and directive. The fourth journal from Abuya (2012), the researcher uses pragma-stylistic approach to analyze the linguistic acts in the Inagural Speech of Goodluck Ebele Jonathan in General Elections of president in Nigeria on May 2011. The fifth journal is written by Nourzard and Jabbari (2015), the journal focuses on cross-linguistic analysis of the speech acts rather than their translation.

The similarity between this research and the five previous studies which is taken from journals is related to linguistic that focus on pragmatic analysis. The object of the research related to commissive utterances. However, the differences are about the data. The data of this research focuses in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud.

The researcher hopes the result of this research will enrich the theories of pragmatic in research of commissive utterances. Beside, this research can be used as the reference for the future researchers who want to analyze pragmatic angle especially commissive utterance.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The type of this research is descriptive qualitative research. Jauhari (2014) states that the descriptive qualitative is applied to solve the problem by collecting, classifying, analyzing, and describing a certain situation objectively. In this research the researcher analyzed the data in the form of word. The object of this research is commissive utterances. The data source of this research is English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud which is summarized in one volume by Dr. Muhammad Taqi-ud-Din Al Hilali, Ph.D. There are 123 verses of in the data source, while 33 verses are the data of commissive utterances found in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud. The researcher uses documentation to collect the data. The full steps in collecting data as follows:

- a. Finding the book of English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud based on Dr. Muhammad Taqi-ud-Din Al Hilali, Ph.D translation.
- b. Reading the English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud based on Dr. Muhammad Taqi-ud-Din Al Hilali, Ph.D translation.
- c. Identifying the commissive utterances in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud.
- d. Coding the commissive utterances utterances in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud, example:

Data number/ chapter / verse /Intention

Data 01/ Hud / 05 / Intention

1) Data Number

Data number shows the data number of commissive utterance in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud which researcher found.

2) Chapter

Chapter shows the name of chapter that used in this research.

3) Verse

Verse shows the verse of chapter Hud, it contains verse 1-123

4) Intention

Intention shows the intention that used in commissive utterance.

Triangulation in this research uses additional method, because the researcher will analyze the content of the document and interview the informant to get the valid data. The content of document which is analyzed is from English translation of the Noble Qur'an that is summarized by Dr. Muhammad Taqi-ud-Din Al Hilali, Ph.D. Beside analyze the content of document, the researcher also interview the consultant to know whether the data that the researcher found is valid or not. In this research, the technique of analyzing the data:

- a. Describing the intention of commissive utterances, the researcher refers to Leech's theory about speech situation.
- b. Describing the politeness strategy of commissive, the researcher refers to Brown and Levinson's theory.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Based on the data analysis, the researcher found, the result of the research findings as follows:

The researcher only found five types of intention of commissive utterance in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud based on Searle's classification. The researcher found 16 verses belong to promising (49%), 6 verses belong to refusing (18%), 4 verses belong to threatening (12%), 2 verses belong to volunteering (6%), 2 verses belong to offering (6%). The researcher did not find utterance which contains intention vowing in Chapter Hud but she found other type of intention of commissive utterance. The other type is challenging. The researcher found 3 verses belong to challenging (9%). It can be concluded that type of intention of commissive utterance that is dominant in English translation of the Noble Qur'an is promising.

The researcher also found four types of politeness strategies in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud based on Brown and Levinson's theory. The researcher found 14 verses belong to bald on record strategy (43%), 9 verses belong to positive politeness strategy (27%), 5 verses belong to negative politeness strategy (15%), and 5 verses belong to off record strategy (15%). It can be concluded that type of politeness strategy which is dominant in English translation of the Noble Qur'an is bald on record strategy.

The previous studies were conducted by Khumaeroh (2014) has differences result with this research. In Khumaeroh (2014), the researcher found six types of intention of commissive utterance in Chapter An-Nisa, they are guaranteeing, offering, promising, swearing, vowing, and threatening. In this research, the researcher found five kinds of intention of commissive utterances based on Searle's classification. Those types are promising, volunteering, refusing, threatening, offering. The researcher also found the new type of intention of commissive utterance, the new type is challenging. This research has similarity and difference with the second previous study which is from Nidak (2013). The similarity is that in Nidak's research and this research found four types of politeness strategy. They are bald on record, positive politeness strategy, negative politeness strategy, and off record strategy. The difference is that the dominant type of politeness strategy in Nidak's research is positive politeness strategy, while in this research bald on record strategy is the dominant type.

4. CONCLUSION

The researcher makes the conclusion of this research as follows:

a. The Intention of Commissive utterance

The researcher found five types of intention of commissive utterance in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud based on Searle's classification. Based on the literature review in chapter two, type of commissive utterance based on Searle's theory include promising, refusing, threatening, volunteering, offering and vowing, but the researcher only found 16 verses belong to promising (49%), 6 verses belong to refusing (18%), 4 verses belong to threatening (12%), 2 verses belong to volunteering (6%), 2

verses belong to offering (6%). The researcher did not find utterance which contains intention of vowing in Chapter Hud because there is no characteristic of type of vowing in Chapter Hud. In addition, the researcher found other type of intention of commissive utterance. The other type is challenging. The researcher found 3 verses belongs challenging (9%). It can be concluded that type of intention of commissive utterance that is dominant in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud is promising.

b. The Politeness Strategy of Commissive Utterance

The researcher found four types of politeness strategy in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud based on Brown and Levinson's theory. The researcher found 14 verses belongs to bald on record strategy (43%), 9 verses belong to positive politeness strategy (27%), 5 verses belong to negative politeness strategy (15%), and 5 verses belong to off record strategy (15%). It can be concluded that type of politeness strategy which is dominant in English translation of the Noble Qur'an Chapter Hud is bald on record strategy.

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