THREATENING UTTERANCE IN ENGLISH
TRANSLATION OF AL-QUR'AN
(PRAGMATICS STUDY)

RESEARCH PAPER

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by

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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Nowadays English has an important role in this life. Most people all over the world use this language. It has become a universal and international language.

The use of English has developed in most fields of life. It also occurs in translation field, including the translation of the Moslem holy scripture, the Al-qur’an.

The Qur'an is one leg of two which form the basis of Islam. The second leg is the Sunnah of the Prophet. What makes the Qur'an different from the Sunnah is primarily its form. Unlike the Sunnah, the Qur'an is quite literally the Word of Allah, whereas the Sunnah was inspired by Allah but the wording and actions are the Prophet's. The Qur'an has not been expressed using any human's words. Its wording is letter for letter fixed by no one but Allah.

The Al-qur’an is the revelation of God which is has the highest language style. No body can make the same creation. One of the language style that God use in the Quran is the prohibition and obligation utterances. The prohibition and obligation utterances can be included in threatening utterance.
Levinson (2000: 240) mention that threat is commissive. It is a clarification of going to do some thing, which can make some body misfortune or make difficult of some one. If we do not like to one’s act, we may threat them by saying something so they do not do that. Searle, 1976 in Levinson 2000, stated commissive, which commite the speaker to some future course of action (paradigm cases: promising, threatening, offering). Commissive is one of classes in speech act.

Speech act is the study of contextual meaning (it requires the consideration of how the speakers organize what they want to say in accordance with who they are talking to, where, when, and under what circumstances). It also studies the speaker meaning (intention). It is one of the principles of pragmatics. Pragmatics is one of those words that give the impression that something quite specific and technical is being talk about, when often, in fact, it has no clear meaning (Searle 81: 11), while Yule (1996: 3) states that pragmatics is the study of speaker meaning. This means that pragmatics concerned with the study of meaning that communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader). It has consequently more to do with the analysis of what people mean by their utterance that what the word or phrases in those utterances might mean by them selves.

As for example, the real example of threatening utterance in chapter Al-Lahab or Al- Masad 111 Ayat 1 Juz’ 30 “Perish the hands of the father
of flame! Perish he! ” the underlined sentence is threatening utterance, based on tafsir Ibnu arabi this verse has a meaning that “The hands of Abu lahab will perish because its caused the negative effect to Abu Lahab, and cause of it he got the hell-fire.

The threatening utterance in English translation of Al-Qur’an is very interesting to be researched. The researcher wants to describe the pragmatic meaning of threatening utterance in English translation of Al-Qur’an and also the reasons of threatening utterance applied in English translation of Al-Qur’an?

B. Previous Study

To prove the originality of this research, the writer presents the previous study dealing with this topic. Firstly, Hatmini (UMS, 2008) conducted her research “A Pragmatics analysis of Commissive Utterances in English Translation of Prophetic Tradition Related by Bukhori”. She analyzed the commissive utterances in the grammatical form and the implicature of the utterance in the book of Jihad and military expeditions gotten from the virtual source with the address, www.sunnipath.com. Her reaserch is aimed at describing forms and finding out the implide meaning of commissive utterances. Related to the grammatical form of the commissive utterances the writer founds that there are four forms of commissive utterance in the form of clause exist in the data they are:
interrogative, imperative, exclamation, and declarative. Related to the impli- 
ded meaning of the commissive utterance there are six implied meaning 
that she found in English translation of prophetic tradition related by 
Bukhori in the book of Jihad on military expedition, they are: offer, 
warning, threat, swear, volunteering, promise.

Second researcher is Sugiyanti (UMS, 2007) in her study “A 
Pragmatics Analysis on Forbidden Utterance in The English Translation of 
Al-Qur’an” found that: 1) the speaker’s intentions are prohibition, 
inhibition and ban. There are 10 prohibitions, 9 inhibitions, and 18 bans, 2) 
The pattern of the forbidden is mostly imperative, 3) The topics of the 
forbidden utterance talk about marriage and women’s right, rights and 
duties of the guardian, social relationship, obedience to God, recompense of 
God to human being, the Jewish, the hypocrites, syirik and justice ness.

The study that has been conducted by Hatmini is pragmatic study that 
focuses on the implicature theory to find out the implied meaning of 
commissive utterances in The English Translation of Prophetic Tradition 
Related by “BUKHORI”. While the study of Sugiyanti is pragmatic study 
that focuses on the speech act theory to find out the intentions of forbidden 
utterances in Al-Qur’an. This research is focused on threatening utterance 
taken from a part of the Noble Qur’an as the data of the study like Hatmini 
does, but her data more general in commissive utterance, and this research 
uses speech Act theory seem like what Sugitanti does. It can be concluded
that the research of threatening utterance in Al-Qur’an is not yet conducts. Therefore, it is interesting to fill in the absence of the researchers.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the research background the writer formulates the following problem:

a. What are the intentions of threatening utterances in English translation of Al-Quran?

b. What are the reasons of threatening utterance applied in English translation of Al-Qur’an?

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the research problem, the writer has two objectives related to the research, they are:

1. To describe the pragmatic meaning of threatening utterances in English translation of Al-Quran, and

2. To describe the reason of threatening utterance applied in English translation of Al-Qur’an.

E. Limitation of the Study

In conducting the research, the writer limits the problems that are going to be discussed. In this research the researcher limits the problem by

F. Benefit of the Study

1. Theoretical
   1. This research gives additional academic reverence on the enlargement to the pragmatic study.
   2. The result of this research hopefully can be useful to make further analysis especially the threatening utterance in Al-Qur’an.

2. Practical
   This research improves the reader’s ability in understanding the application of threatening utterance in Al-Qur’an.

G. Organization of the Research

The writer organizes the research in order to make easier to understand. The context of this research based on the following arrangement.
Chapter I is introduction. This part consists of background of the study, previous study, problem statement, objective of the study, limitation of the problem, benefit of the study, and organization of the research.

Chapter II is underlying theory, which deals with, notion of pragmatics, principle of pragmatics, and context of speech situation.

Chapter III is research method, which involves type of the research, object of research, data and data source, method of collecting data, method and technique of analysis

Chapter IV is analyzing and discussing of the data

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion