

THE LANGUAGE STYLE IN SAMI YUSUF'S SONG LYRICS

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ABSTRACT

Song as piece of music with words that are sung has a function to express the thoughts and feelings. Song is one of the media to convey one's ideas, messages, feelings, and creativities. Song lyrics contain aesthetic and artistic values that are displayed through the use of various types of language styles. Language style is an idea from the author (the user of the language) which is poured through the vocabulary imaginatively so that the reader or listener has different views and creates a certain meaning. One of famous singer is Sami Yusuf. Sami Yusuf is a singer and songwriter. In the album Without You there are seven songs from eleven song that use English. The purpose of this research is to describe kind of language style in selected song lyrics on Without You album by Sami Yusuf. The songs are My Only Wish, Without You, In Every Tear He is There, Forever Palestine, A Thousand Times, Anything for You, and Not in My Name. The research used theory Language style by Henry Guntur Tarigan. The researcher uses descriptive qualitative method. The researcher finds 45 data and 3 types of language style. Comparison language style are; personification (1), metaphor (9), simile (3), tautology (1). Contradictory language style is hyperbole (11). Repetitive language styles are alliteration (3), anaphora (8), assonance (6), and epizeukis (3).

Keyword: *song, song lyric, language style, Sami Yusuf*

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Literature offers the readers kinds of imaginative stories or any factual information. Therefore, literature is divided into two; imaginative and informative literature. Among imaginative literatures, song lyric is one of them. In a literary work such as: novel, poem, and song need a beautiful language in order to make interesting points to read. One way to make novel and song become interesting is by using figurative language. Figurative language is language which uses all types in creative writing. The figurative languages are such making comparison between two things that would not have been thought before. Song is a part of imaginative literature creation. Literature represents a language of people, culture and tradition. "Furthermore, literature represents "life" and "life" is in large measure of social reality, even though the natural world and the inner or subjective world of the individual have also been objects of literary imitation."¹

In learning and understanding language, people do not only understand the form of language, but also the meaning in it. There are many ways people do in delivering their idea to other people so that people can understand and catch the meaning of idea up. One of the ways that can be used is by song. Many people figure out their ideas and feeling into a song. There are many messages delivered in a song. Through song, people can convey his voice to many people, so that people can know his feelings and idea. "Currently, many songs can express our feelings, such as song with theme of love, social, political and others. In this time, people can speak to

others through song. It means that the song can be used as the way to delivering idea and feeling so that the people can understand what the composer means.”²

Song as piece of music with words that are sung has a function to express the thoughts and feelings. Song has two elements, such as lyric and music. “Songs have been an amusing companion for human beings for as long as or even longer than we can speak. As an integral part of our language experience, it can be of great value to foreign language teaching.”³ When the process of listening to the song is in good focus, the listeners will be able to catch the meaning easily. On the other hand, when the listeners are not in good focus, they will get difficulty in understanding the meaning of the lyrics. When the lyric used figurative language, therefore, one of the way to know the true meaning that contained in figurative language is using content analysis.

Music has performed an important stages of person’s life with specific types or pieces of music. “There are birthday songs, holiday songs, retirement songs, and even death songs. Music’s influence is so prevalent that, to this day, most of us remember songs that played it our most important moments.”⁴ Music’s intimacy is so powerful that it seduces us. There are as many styles of music as there are peoples in the world. “Within that context we will discuss a few categories of music. Those broad classifications are: sound track, popular, jazz and blues, religious, new age.”⁵ In line with that, when the theme of song about religious especially in islam religion, it will give more positive effect for moslem life. One of many famous singers in islamic song is Sami Yusuf. Sami Yusuf is a singer, song writer, composer, producer and multi instrumentalist musician. Sami Yusuf became a popular singer, because he has good voice, language features in his song. Wikipedia writes that “Sami Yusuf is a British singer-songwriter, composer, producer and multi-instrumentalist musician of Azerbaijani origin.” This means that Sami Yusuf is recognized as “a British Singer-Songwriter”.He used arabic and English in his song.

Every title of Sami Yusuf’s song has moral value and the Islam’s message which are very useful for the moslem everywhere. Sami Yusuf has many purposes and ideas on his song for tranfering to listener. Every song has a music sound, rhythm and lyrics. Sami Yusuf’s song as well have a lot of the messages and beautiful lyrics. Based on langauge used in his song to be sure those songs will be known by a lot of people on word. Moreover, Sami Yusuf has many purposes and ideas on his song for transferring to listener. The understanding langauge features and figurative language is more determined factors for getting the messages and implied meaning of his song itself. To get meaning and content of song that must analyze the lyrics of song.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested to analyze figurative language in song because every song has a message. The listeners who love the song can be involved within the message of the story that happened in the song. The listeners love songs because they can pick the message of the song lyric and figurative language meaning deeply. The students who love the western song, they have an own ability to comprehending meaning the figurative language. Most of the songs uses simple word that make the listeners get message and understand the songs well. Most of songs is taken from knowledge and experience, love and sociality in the life.

Based on the description above, the researcher studies languagestyle used in Sami Yusuf’s album, because the researcher is interested in analyzing language styles, especially comparison language style, contradictory language style and repetition language style in religious song lyrics

from Sami Yusuf. Therefore, the researcher takes the title of this research "*The Language Style in Sami Yusuf's Song lyrics*".

Problem Statements

According to the background above, this research purpose is to answer the following questions:

1. What kind of language style in selected song lyrics on *Without You* album by Sami Yusuf?

Objectives of Study

Relating to the problem statements above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find the kind of language style in selected song lyrics in the album *Without You*.

Significances of Study

By conducting this research, there are some benefits which the researcher expects from this study, there are:

The results of this study are expected to add to the repertoire of research in the field of linguistics, especially those relating to the style of language in song lyrics. In addition, the results of this study can be used as a reference and information for read. The researcher expects people to get advantage to know and understand about Islam religion, especially belief of Allah.

Literature Review

There are several studies that support this research. After reading them, this research has similarities and differences with those researches. The researches founded are three researches, as follows:

The first literature review is from graduating paper written by Suphandee Yalaha (2018) entitled "*An Analysis of Contextual Meaning in Selected Sami Yusuf's Song Lyrics on Wherever You Are Album*". In this research the researcher discusses the contextual meaning in song lyrics by Sami Yusuf on *Wherever You Are* album. The researcher tries to find the contextual meaning in three songs in the album, there are *Where You Are*, *In Every Tear He is There* and *No Word is Worthy* and uses qualitative method and documently technique to select the data. The difference with this research is to use the theory of contextual meaning, while researcher use the theory of language style. The researcher used references based on the studies above, because the above studies have a discussion subject namely analyzing the language style and using song lyrics. The difference with this research is that there are differences in specific objects, because the most important thing in a study is an object. Even though the same theory has been used before, the object to be studied in this study is the song lyrics in the album "*Without You*" by Sami Yusuf with a style analysis and using qualitative description research methods.

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Theoretical Approach

Style or specifically the style of language is known in rhetoric with the term style. Word of style is derived from the Latin word *stylus*, which is a kind of tool for writing on a plate candle. Later, the emphasis will be placed on the skills to write beautifully, and then change to the ability and expertise to write or use beautiful words. Because of this development, style is

a problem or part of diction or choice of words which is as questions whether or not a word is used, certain phrases or clauses to deal with certain situations. Therefore, the problems of language style covering all linguistic hierarchies are: individual choice of words, phrases, clauses, and sentences, even includes a whole discourse. Finally, style or language style can be limited as a way of expressing the mind through language that is typical show the soul and personality of the author or language user (Tarigan, 2009: 5).

Figurative language is often regarded as a synonym of the language style, but actually figurative language is included in the style of language. Before entering the discussion about figurative language, first question about language will be presented. Style language has very wide coverage. According to Harimurti's explanation Kridalaksana (Dictionary of Linguistics) (1982), language style has three understands, namely:

1. The use of language by someone in speaking or writing.
2. The use of certain types to buy certain effects.
3. The overall characteristics of the language of the literary writer.

Meanwhile, Leech and Short (1981: 12): suggested that language style is a way of using language in certain contexts, by certain people, for certain purposes. When it is viewed from the function of language, the use of language style is including in the poetic function, which makes the message weightier. Use of the right language style (according to the time and recipient become a target) can attract the attention of the recipient. Conversely, if the use is not appropriate, then the use of language style will be useless.

All kinds of meanings that are not visible in certain contexts can form the presence of Figurative language (Kerbrat-Orecchioni, 1986: 8). Figurative language is just a case specifically from implicit functions, such as: understanding the language style of the experts is not visible which is fundamental, even the most complete clarifies the concept from the style of the language itself. Thus, it can be marked as a style language is the arrangement of words and sentences by the author or readers in expressing their ideas, ideas and experiences for optimizing or influencing listeners or readers. For that, language style in writing or writing itself must be revealed and disclosed with a logical mind and with solid observations.

Method of Research

Research method is a more systematic activity directed toward discovery and development of an organized body of knowledge. "Research can be defined as the systematic and objective analysis and the recording of a controlled observation that may lead to the development of generalization, principles, or theories, resulting in prediction and possibly ultimate control of events" (Best, 1981: 18).

Type of Research

In this research, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative method. Descriptive qualitative method is a method relating to the topic of the research. According to Creswell (2010) in descriptive design, the study focusing on the present condition descriptive design has many types. A qualitative approach is one of those in which the inquirer often makes knowledge claims based primarily on constructivist perspectives or advocacy/ participatory perspectives or both (Creswell, 2010).

Data Sources

The subject of this research is in the form of words, phrases that are available in Song's lyrics in the album *Without You* by Sami Yusuf. According to Kesuma, the object is a linguistic unit devoted to research (2007: 26). So, the object of the research is the style of language in the song lyrics in the album *Without You*.

Research data is the object of research and it is context encompassing it in the form of linguistic units surrounding the object of research (Kesuma, 2007: 26). So this research data is in the form of words, phrases, sentences which contain the style of the songs in the album *Without You* by Sami Yusuf.

Data Collection Technique

According to Sudaryanto (1993: 132), data collection method is divided into two, namely the method of scrutinizing and the method of conversing. The researcher uses scrutinizing method. There are 2 kinds of scrutinizing method. It is scrutinizing and noting. The method is chosen because object is studied in form of language.

Data Analysis Technique

Qualitative data analysis by Bogdan & Biklen (1982) as quoted Meleong is effort made by working with data, organizing data, sorting it out into manageable units, synthesizing, searching, finding the patterns, discovering what is important and what is studied, and deciding what can be told to people (2007: 248).

After the data are collected, the researcher analyzes the following matters such:

1. The researcher reads the data for many times.
2. The researcher organizing the data with sorting it out into manageable units.
3. The researcher synthesizing the data by searching and finding the patterns.
4. The researcher discovering the data what is important to be analyzed.
5. The researcher deciding which part of language style and find the meaning of the language style, then write the result of the analyses.

Paper Organization

This paper consists of four chapters. Chapter 1 is an Introduction consisting of Background of Study, Problem Statements, Objectives of Study, Significance of Study, Literature Review, Theoretical Approach, Method of Research, and Paper Organization. Chapter II is Language Style in lyrics. Chapter III is Types and Functions of Figurative Language. Chapter IV is a closing consisting of conclusions and implications. This paper is also equipped by the Bibliography, Attachments and Curriculum Vitae.

RESEARCH FINDING

This chapter presents the research finding and discussion related to the research problems. The finding related to the kinds of figurative language is presented in sub-heading A and the most dominant of figurative language is presented in sub-heading B. In addition, in this chapter the researcher analyzes the figurative language based on Charles Dillon Perrine and supported by the theories of M.H Abrams, Gorys Keraf and Reaske's theory. There are five songs that have been selected to be analyzed, the songs are: Hold My Hand, For the Rest of My Life, Number One For Me, Open Your Eyes, Awaken.

Kinds of Figurative Language

Figurative language is language which employs various figures of speech. Some examples are metaphor, simile, personification, and hyperbole. In general, figurative language

is a kind of language which departs from the language employed in the traditional, literal ways of describing persons or objects. Based on Perrine's theory, types of figurative language are divided into twelve types. Using Figurative language can make imaginative descriptions in fresh ways.

After analyzing the data, the researcher found several kind of figurative language in Sami Yusuf's songs. The kinds of figurative language found in this research are presented as follows:

1. Simile

Simile and metaphor genuinely have an identical definition. Both of them compare two things that are absolutely different. Simile is the comparison of two things, by the use of some words or phrase such as like as, than, similar to, or resemble. Based on the theory, simile is comparing two things indirectly, and using the word like or as. In other words, simile is a direct comparison of two things, which are unlike in their sense. Here are some lyrics from Sami Yusuf "Hear your call" that uses figurative language of simile:

Hear Your call

a. Though you feel so cold, Abandoned and alone

The lyric included simile because in that lyric used word "cold" and "alone". The songwriter compares between the word "lose hope" and "hold on to the rope". The meaning of this lyric is the person feel like lost something, it is their smile in their life. You lost their smile because some of problem in your life, so they can not smile like other person in the world.

b. But don't let go, don't let go .I hear your call

The lyric included simile, because it used word "let go". The songwriter compares between phrase "we're still going on" and "like nobody really cares". The lyric explain that feel like alone.

2. Metaphor

Charles Dillon Perrine states that between metaphor and simile is similar. Both of which are comparison between two things that are essentially unlike. The only distinction between them is the use of connective words. In simile, the poet uses the connective word such as: like, as, than, similar to, resemble or seems; while in metaphor the comparison is implied; the figurative term is substituted for or identified with literal term.

a. Supplication

"O, my lord, my sins are like the highest mountain "

metaphor the comparison is implied; the figurative term is substituted for or identified with literal term.

3. Personification

Charles Dillon Perrine states that personification is a figurative in a way directly without using "as" or "like" to create the comparison. "In personification a thing or object which is not human is given a human characteristic because of some similarity between the thing and a person. It is easy to remember because contains the word „person" inside it.

a. Supplication

"My sins are like the highest mountain "

"My sins are like the highest mountain " an example of personification since it depicts an inanimate object which has a quality like human beings. In fact, the word "my sins" is an inanimate object which can not be count or measured like mountain. The meaning of the lyric above, my sins has the characteristic like a man. But because it used the type of figurative

language personification, so the sins like a man which has the same characteristic. The true meaning of the lyric above is the sins has great number.

b. To guide you home

”Thirsty as a desert’s pain”

The sentence above is an example of personification since there is a phrase “the thirsty as a dessert’s pain”. ‘Thirsty’ is a human characteristic “desert” is an inanimate object. In the lyric above, “pain” also has the characteristic like a man. Whereas, the dessert can not sad like a man. But because used the type of figurative language personification, so the dessert equated with human nature. The true meaning of the lyric above is blowing the breeze is very quick.

4. Synecdoche

Perrine states synecdoche is the use of the part for the whole Padopo divides synecdoche into two parts: they are Pars pro toto and Totem proparte. Pars pro toto is a part for the whole and Totem proparte is when the whole things stands stand for its part.

Hold my hands

“Hold My Hand” is an example of synecdoche. The meaning of the song lyric above is handful, and hangs together each other. From the data above, the researcher found synecdoche in the some lyrics, and the researcher can concluded that in the first song “Hold My Hand”, there are any 1 song . So, the total of personification is 1 song lyrics.

5. Irony

Charles Dillon Perrine states that irony is the opposite of what one means. An authors employs the device for irony for irony effect, letting the reader into the author’s confidence, and revealing him as an inventor who is often at or loss for matter to sustain his plot and undecided about how to continue it.

Hold My Hand

1) *Lost a way long time ago did we really turn out blind*

The lyric above contain with irony because the use of words to express something other than and especially the opposite of the literal meaning. The meaning of the song lyric above is did something wrong in the past.

2) *We don’t see that we keep hurting each other, all we do is just fight.*

We don’t see that we keep hurting each other, all we do is just fight” is an example of irony. The use of words where the meaning is the opposite of their usual meaning or what is expected to happen. The meaning of the song lyric is no cares with the other people. It is included irony, because the song lyric has quibbled.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

After analyzing all data, the researcher finds comparison language style, contradictory language style, and repetition language style. In the comparison language style there are personifications, metaphor, simile and tautology. In the contradictory language style thereis just hyperbole. In the repetition language style there are alliteration, anaphora, assonance, and epizeukis.

In the comparison language style, the researcher finds three personifications is *trust has tongue*. Seven metaphors and songwriter compare are *see eyes like see the sun, smile like see the moon, hand withbrow, tear that trickles down, God with amour and sword, there is sacred rose,*

walk on fire, compare *world* with *clutch*, and have a big *thumb*. In the album *without you* by Sami Yusuf there are three similes, first he equates God to *heart between beats*. Second, songwriter equates final breath to *a kiss*. Then, he equates God give wings like a *kite*. On etymology, songwriter uses repeated idea *believe* with *trust*. In Contradictory language style, there are ten hyperboles. Those are *took love*, *cost of losing someone*, *look deep in eyes*, *reaching out to the heart*, *die for Palestine*, *without light* of someone feel *so blind*, *run and walk for thousand miles*, *slip and fall for thousand times*, *reach up to the sky*, *sail the seven sky*.

In repetition language style, there is three of alliteration those often used are *stumbled* and *something*. The alliteration with closely sound and same consonant is *where-would-what-without* and *who-who-wrong*. There is eight of anaphora. Those are *who is*, *all your*, *across*, *they say*, *without your*, *a thousand*, *against*, *not in my name*. Next is assonance, there are six assonances. Those are *strong-wrong*, *fighter-soldier*, *land-hand*, *tonight-sight*, *night-right*, *me-be*. The last is epizeukis, there are three epizeukis. Those are repeat word *wonder*, *wish*, and *Palestine*.

The most dominant in comparison language style is metaphor, in contradictory language style only find hyperbole it is also dominant for language style in this album, and the most dominant in repetition language style is anaphora. The use of metaphor and hyperbole in those lyrics makes the song lyrics do not become bored lyric. The use of anaphora makes the lyric has a beautiful rhyme. It can make the song easy to remember to listener, then the anaphora style also making music of word sound.

Suggestion

Based on this research, the researcher wants give some suggestion for the reader and researcher who are interested to analysis about language style in the song lyric. First, song lyric is similar with poem so if analyze song lyric witch have same character with poem it will be better if the future researcher using rhyme analysis.

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