

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This study explains about **The Actionality and Situation Types of Surah *Al-Kahf* in the Clear Qur'an Translated by Dr. Mustafa Khattab**. This chapter consists of background, statement of problem, research objective and research significance, conceptual framework, and previous studies.

1.1. Research Background

The study of the meaning through linguistic expressions is the definition of Semantics. Semantics is also defined as the study of meaning communicated through language. Language took an important role in every aspects of human life, such as in social life, education, economic activities, until in spiritual activities. For a Moslem, Al-Qur'an which is the guidance of life is sent down in the form of language that is Arabic. Allah S.W.T sends his words through the angel of Gabriel to Prophet Muhammad S.A.W. The Prophet accepted that in form of spoken language which later be written to make it easier for delivering it in all human beings. So nowadays we could know the guidance even in our own language. It would be very interesting to look at the Qur'an in semantics point view in order to know what semantics parts that are contain in the Qur'an or even understanding the meaning more.

Language itself is the tools of communication which used by every human being. Communication could be done in the form of verbal or non-verbal, spoken or written, formal or informal, and one way or two ways from one into another. All of the forms are differed into its purposes. Verbal communication is used when a person exchange information through words. It has two types which are spoken and written. Then, non-verbal communication is used when a person exchange information without word, it used apparent behaviors like facial expression, gesture, and touch. Beside that, formal and informal communication along with one way or two ways communication is related to the situation. Fasold

(2006) stated that the frequent job of language is communicating with other people. Meanwhile, Chandler (2007) added that language is the most powerful communication system. The scientific study of language itself is called linguistics. Linguistics explained by Matthews (2005) is concerned with the lexical and grammatical categories of individual languages, with differences between one type of language and another, and with historical relations within families of languages. Linguistics has been divided into some subfields, for instance morphology, phonology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, comparative linguistics and applied linguistics.

In this research, the writer chooses one of the surah in the Qur'an which is Al-Kahf as the data to analyze. Al-Kahf means "The Caves" in English, it consists of 110 verses. Qur'an is the important manuscript for all Moslems all over the world as the guidance from Allah S.W.T. It is written in Arabic, and translated to another language, such as English in order to be easier to be understood by human beings around the world. There are a lot of English translation of the Qur'an, such as, the message of the Qur'an by Mohammed Asad, The Holy Qur'an: English Translation of Meanings and Commentary by Abdullah Yusuf Ali, and The Clear Qur'an: A thematic English Translation of the Message of the Final Revelation by Dr. Mustafa Khattab. Then, in this research, the writer chooses The Clear Qur'an by Dr. Mustafa Khattab for the data. Dr. Mustafa Khattab is a Canadian-Egyptian, he was a member of the first team who translated the Ramadhan night prayers live from Mecca and Medina. He received his Ph.D., M.A., and B.A in Islamic Studies in English from Al-Azhar University.

Language occupies not just important but fundamental role within the Quran because the main text of Islam. Shahiditabar et al (2017) acknowledged that God sent the Quran in the current language to warn people about bad deeds and to encourage people to do good deeds; by means of a language that's understandable for the recipient ethnic group. The Quran is that the oldest book within the Arabic language-system and

even today is regarded as the ultimate authority regarding diction, morphology, syntax, grammar and rhetoric in Arabic. Thus it can be definitely difficult for non-Arabics to know, yet it doesn't mean it's impossible. Thanks to the very fact that the Quran has been translated into various languages within the world, therefore there's no reason for those non-Arabics cannot realize it. Within the English itself, the Quran has been translated since 17th Century. The reception of the Quran by English audiences now indicates a 3rd stage within the historical development of Quran translation. In the past, there have been many errors within the translation of the Quran. However, nowadays it becomes clearer, yet it still needs deep understanding because a part of the problem in translating the Quran is that the presence of an enormous number of adverse and archaic words with a large range of contextual meanings.

The writer is interested in one of Semantics themes, entitled Actionality and Situation Types. Actionality mentioned in Oskolskaya (2016) has different names in different works such as actional class (tetevosov), aktionsart (Agrell, 1908), aspectual classes (Verkuyl, 1993), and situation types (Smith, 1991). Along with that, mentioned in Zielonka (2004) situation types is also known as aktionsarten or type of actions. Vendler (1967) wrote that the types of actions are boundedness, processuality, durativity, dynamicity, and resultativity (telicity). Aspect itself is a grammatical system which gives information about the temporal structure of situation or the speaker's view (McIntyre, 2016). Also stated by McIntyre (2016), there are two criteria for classifying situation types which are telicity (telic, atelic), durativity and punctuality, while there are four situation types which are states, activities, achievement, and accomplishment.

Surah Al-Kahf itself has four stories, they are Ashabul Kahfi which mentioned about young man and faith, then Shahibul Jannatain about wealth and faith, the third one is about Moses A.S who seek knowledge to Khidr A.S it was all about knowledge and faith, and last one is the story of Dzul Qarnain about power and faith. The main point of this Surah is faith

which a Moslem must have in the present and future although the stories were told about the past. Moreover, the actionality and situation are related with tense which contain about the time. Then, the hypothesis are telic, durative, dynamic, and achievement which dominates the data because it was told about the stories and faith which is timeless.

There are some previous studies that discuss the actionality and situation types such as, Actionality and Mental Imagery in Children's Comprehension of Declaratives by Jean Pierre from University of Liege, then Aspect, Lexical Semantic Representation, and Argument Expression by Beth Levin from Stanford University, and Interactions between Viewpoint Aspect and Situation Aspect: A Case Study of Alternating Intransitive Construction in Thai by Kachen Tansiri from Chulalongkorn University.

1.2. Statements of Problem

The Qur'an contain a lot of sentences to be analyzed by Semantics, the writer tends to use actionality and situation theories for categorizing surah Al-Kahf to get its types. Based on the description above, this study will discuss the following problems:

1. What types of the actionality are in surah Al-Kahf translated by Dr. Mustafa Khattab?
2. What types of the situation are in surah Al-Kahf translated by Dr. Mustafa Khattab?
3. How to differ between actionality and situation types in surah Al-Kahf translated by Dr. Mustafa Khattab?

1.3. Research Objective

Based on the formulation of the research question above, the researcher is intended:

1. To identify and analyze the types of actionality used in surah Al-Kahf translated by Dr. Mustafa Khattab.

2. To identify and analyze the types of situation used in surah *Al-Kahf* translated by Dr. Mustafa Khattab.
3. To differ the actionality and situation types in surah *Al-Kahf* translated by Dr. Mustafa Khattab

1.4. Research Significance

The result of the study is expected to bring theoretically and practically benefits:

a. Theoretically

1. The result of this study would give contribution to the study of semantics, especially in actionality and situation type as its branch.
2. The result of this study could be developed by other researcher dealing with the study of actionality and situation type in the form of Qur'an translation.

b. Practically

1. The result of this study would give a clear description about the meaning of language in the form of Qur'an translation.
2. The result of this study can be used as a reference, especially those who conduct actionality and situation type study.
3. The finding of this research is expected to be useful for the readers to enrich their knowledge about semantics especially the theory of language actionality and situation type.

1.5. Conceptual Framework

This research tended to analyze the English translation of Surah *Al-Kahf* which taken from Qur'an translation by Dr. Mustafa Khattab entitled *The Clear Qur'an*. The writer will take actionality and situation as the tools for analyzing data. Actionality mentioned in Oskolskaya (2016) that every verb in any language has its own actional (aspectual) semantics. Along with that, Zielonka (2004) told that actionality or *aktionsarten* (type of action) is the most widely disputed issues in linguistics. There are four semantics classes for English verbs which are states, activities,

accomplishment and achievement. First is states, it does not indicate processes but can go on in time. Second is activities, that the processes going on in time but do not have any terminal point. Third is accomplishment, which the processes also going on in time but has limitation. Last is achievement, which the events occur at a single moment (Vendler, 1967). The sentence example for states is 'I know geography.', while for activities is 'He is running.', then for accomplishment is 'He is drawing a circle.', and for achievements is 'He reached the top'. Vendler (1967) also mentioned the four type of actions such as boundedness, processuality, durativity, dynamicity, and resultativity (telicity).

Smith (1991) claimed that the situation type or *aktionsart*, and the point of view aspect (grammatical aspect) are the two components of the information's composite. Telemen (1999) stated that another term for *aktionsart* is aspect. But different with Zielonka (2004), he mentioned that *aktionsart* involves aspect. Telemen (1999) in Zielonka (2004) differed the *aktionsart* type into bounded and unbounded. Bounded process has a natural terminal point beyond, and the process could not be continued, for example, 'Lotta wrote a letter.', they are also processual, durative, dynamic, and resultative. While, unbounded processes do not have a natural terminal point, for example, 'Lotta lived at home.', they are also processual, durative, and non-resultative.

McIntyre (2016) simplify the theory into criteria for classifying situation types, and the situation types itself. The criteria he mentioned are telicity, durativity, and punctuality which is the same as the type of action that Vendler (1967) mentioned above. Telicity is divided into telic and atelic. Telic is happened when the state has a natural completion or endpoint, for instance 'The plane flew to London.', different with atelic the instance sentence is 'The plane flew.', it does not have a natural completion or endpoint. Then, durativity and punctuality, a verb phrase occurs as durative is when it is perceived as lasting for a period of time, for example 'The light flashed until dawn.', and if the sentence changes into 'The light flashed.' It is punctual because it is perceived as

instantaneous. Furthermore, the situation types divided into states, activities, achievement, and accomplishment. States are situations which are static (unchanging) throughout their duration, for instance ‘He hates beer.’, ‘She knows the answer.’, and ‘She owns a car.’, so the states sentence are true of any minimal point in time. Whereas, activities are dynamic there are some sort of change is involved, for example ‘She works.’, ‘She eats.’, ‘She drinks.’, activities are durative and atelic. Then, achievements are punctual and telic, for example ‘I hit the wall.’, ‘I win the game.’, and ‘I reach the goal.’, the reference for achievement is the endpoint in a sentence. The last, accomplishment are durative and telic, they consist of an activity with an achievement at the end of it, for instance ‘I paint a picture.’, ‘He hammers the metal flat.’, and ‘He deliver a sermon.’, the reference of accomplishment is the process. Then, from the theories above the writer will analyze the data and classified each sentence whether to telicity, durativity, punctuality, states, activities, achievement,

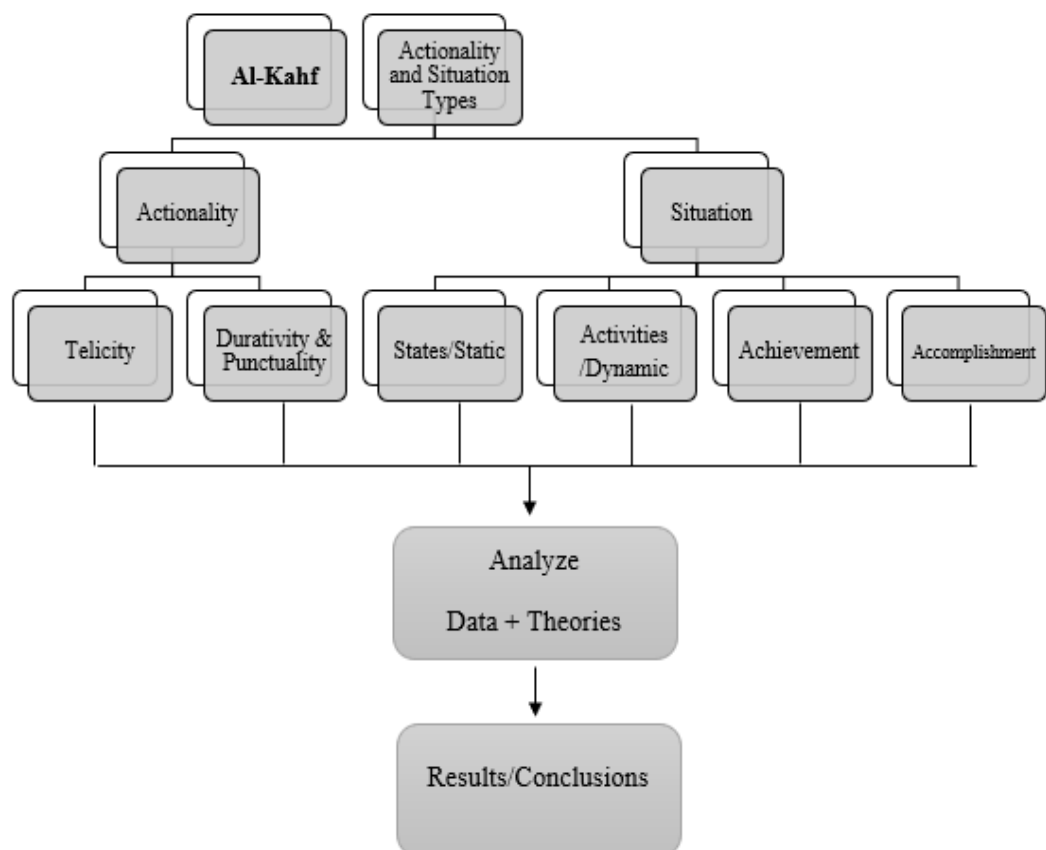


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework

1.6. Previous Studies

There are some previous studies that discuss the actionality and situation types such as, Actionality and Mental Imagery in Children's Comprehension of Declaratives by Jean Pierre from University of Liege, then Aspect, Lexical Semantic Representation, and Argument Expression by Beth Levin from Stanford University, and Interactions between Viewpoint Aspect and Situation Aspect: A Case Study of Alternating Intransitive Construction in Thai by Kachen Tansiri from Chulalongkorn University.

There are also some thesis which took semantic and pragmatic theory and surah of Al-Quran as the object of research, such as A Semantic Analysis on the English Translation of Surah Al Ra'd by: Marmaduke Pickthall written by Habib Hasan Fauzi. In that research, he concludes that the sorts of meaning found within the English translation of surah Ar Ra'd consist of meaning, sentential meaning and discoursal meaning. Lexical meaning is worried with the meanings of words and therefore the meaning relationships among words. during this surah the type of meaning is anxious with the meanings of words and also the meaning relationships among words. during this surah the kind of significance is found are synonymy, antonymy, and ambiguity. Then, Assertive and Directive Acts Found in The English Translation of Surah Luqman by Dr. Mustafa Khattab, in this research it concludes that there are eight varieties of assertive acts within the English translation of Surah Luqman by Dr. Mustafa Khattab, they're assure (8), inform (5), state (4), claim (4), remind (2), disclaim (1), criticize (1), and affirm (1). the foremost frequent type that appears is assure with total 8 data. there also eight kinds of directive acts within the English translation of Surah Luqman by Dr. Mustafa Khattab, they're order (4), forbid (3), ask (3),

advise (2), warn (2), tell (2), urge (1), and command (1). the foremost frequent type that appears is order with total 4 data. There are many moral values during this surah during which may lead people to be a good human during this era. additionally, through Luqman's words, parents could learn the way to teach their children properly in order that their children would be good children as they expected.

