

Meaning Equivalence in Abdullah Yusuf Ali's Translation of Surah al waqiah from English into Indonesian

Wirdatul Mardhiah
English Applied Linguistics Study Program
State University of Medan
Medan, Indonesia
asshifa.shifa@gmail.com

Abstract— The aims of this study were to find out the kinds of meaning equivalence in Abdullah Yusuf Ali's translation of Surah al Waqiah from English into Indonesian. The research was conducted by using qualitative descriptive design. The data of this study was Holy Qur'an Surah al Waqiah 1 – 96 ayahs that translated into Indonesian. Besides that, informants were needed to validate data. The data was analyzed by using Modification of Accuracy Rating Instrument. The result of this study were there kinds of meaning equivalence in translation of surah al Waqiah from English into Indonesian namely equivalence 62,5%, almost equivalence 26%, and non equivalence 11,5%.

Keywords—translation; meaning equivalence; Holy Qur'an; Surah al Waqiah

I. INTRODUCTION

Al-Qur'an consists of 30 sections, 114 surahs, and 6666 verses. Some of them were revealed to the prophet Muhammad in Mecca and the other in Medina. The Holy Qur'an was written in Arabic transcript. In order to be understood by the Moslems around the world, it was translated into many languages, including English. One of the famous translators (holy Qur'an into English) is Abdullah Yusuf Ali. He is a South Asian Islamic scholar who translated Qur'an into English. Holy Quran is a Holy Scripture that has been revealed by God (Allah) via angel Gabriel communicated to prophet Muhammad to be shared to mankind around the world without looking a religion, a race, age, sex, a country, even a color skin. (Al-Hasany 79).

Translation as defined by Newmark (1988:7) is "a craft consisting in the attempt to replace a written message and/or statement in one language by the same message and/or statement in another language." Nida and Taber (1982:12) propose a rather complete definition of translation. According to the two experts, "Translating consisting of reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalence of source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style." The definition proposed by Nida and Taber contain some elements that should be taken into account by a translator in performing his/her task: reproducing the message, equivalence, natural equivalence, closest equivalence, priority on meaning and also style.

It is interesting to talk about equivalence in the translation of surah Al – Waqiah of the Holy Qur'an by Abdullah Yusuf Ali based on three reasons. Firstly, the Holy Qur'an is a miracle and the Word of God and it is as guidance of life to be understood by the mankind around the world to differ between right and wrong. Secondly, surah Al - Waqiah is the heart of the holy Qur'an. As mentioned by some narrators, Tirmidzi and Baihaqi in the narration, "Everything has a heart and the heart of Qur'an is surah Al - Waqiah.". Various aspects of monotheism (Tawheed) are explained in this surah, likewise there is a topic related to the Hereafter. The third reason why translation of Holy Qur'an is interesting because the writer hopes to find the words in the Holy Qur'an which have relation meaning with the other words, so it will make easier in understanding the message. As it will be explained that meaning equivalence is between two things, they have the same use, function, size, or value.

II. METHOD

This research used descriptive qualitative approach. The writer used qualitative approach because this research focuses on the analysis of the English translation of Surah Al Waqiah of the holy Quran. Other characteristics of qualitative research were explained by Tracy (2013: 5). The data of this study was Holy Qur'an Surah al waqiah 1- 96 ayahs that translated into Indonesian.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data was analyzed based on the kinds of meaning equivalence which is based on Modification of Accuracy Rating Instrument (Kurnianingtyas : 2008), there is the indicator of the equivalence which has been rearranged :

TABLE 1. MODIFICATION OF ACCURACY RATING INSTRUMENT BY KURNIANINGTYAS (2008)

scale	Category	Indicator
3	Equivalence	• The message conveyed appropriately in the target language

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No interchange meaning • No the addition, removal, or change the meaning • The selection or use of an appropriate term in translation
2	Almost Equivalence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The message conveyed inaccurate in the target language • Some interchange meanings • Several additional, removal, or change the meaning • Several errors in the selection or use of the term
1	Non Equivalence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The message conveyed inappropriate in the target language • Interchange meaning • The addition, removal, or change the meaning • Many errors in the selection or use of the term

IV. CONCLUSION

Al Quran is the guide of life of human beings in the world and has many features that contained in the Qur'an. The Quran is Kalam Illahi, so as not to damage the contents of messages that contained in the Qur'an and can be easily understood by the reader. Translation is very important, because language and translation cannot be separated. Abdullah Yusuf Ali's has succeeded to translate the Qur'an perfectly, especially in translating surah al Waqiah.

Based on the data analysis on the previous chapter, the writer concludes that : There were three kinds of meaning equivalence in Abdullah Yusuf ali's translate of Surah al Waqiah into Indonesian namely equivalence (62.5%), almost equivalence (26%) and non equivalence (11.5%).

REFERENCES

- [1] Akhun, Naf'an, 2007: *Al – Qur'an Pdf Terjemah*. Semarang: Imajina Fun Studio. Mouton Publisher.
- [2] Creswell, John. W. 2009: *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Method Approaches*. United Kingdom: Sage Publication
- [3] Kurnianingtyas, W. S. A. 2008. *Kualitas Hasil Penerjemahan Individu dan penerjemahan Kelompok*. Surakarta: Universitas Sebelas Maret
- [4] Larson, M. L. 1998. *Meaning Based Translation. A Guide to Cross-Language Equivalence*. Second Edition. New York: University Pressof America
- [5] Sherif, 1994. *Abdullah Yusuf Ali (The Holy Qur'an)*. [online]. Tersedia. [http://abdullah-yusuf- ali.blogspot.co.id/](http://abdullah-yusuf-ali.blogspot.co.id/).