

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a general description of the research which consists of background of the research, statement of problem, objective of the research, significance of the research, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Research

Generally, in everyday life people use language for communication with the others. Keith Davis (1981) stated that “Communication is the process of passing information and understanding from one person to another”. In passing the information, people will deliver by speaking or writing. Speaking is a communication form to deliver messages directly; it is done by word of mouth that includes face-to-face conversation, speech, telephonic conversation, voice from radio or video (Amri 2014, p.5). While, writing is a communication form that requires media to convey the messages. It is done by a piece of writing.

In writing, there are many media in which human beings may express and communicate an information, idea, thought, emotion, and desire by using language as the people basic of communication, such as television, magazine, newspaper, e-mail, letter, memo music etc., to convey the messages (Griffiee 1995 p.4). One of the interesting media to deliver the massages is by a song. Song is one of the tools of people to express their feeling, sadness, happiness, love, anger, abhorrence, thought, emotion, and experience, etc (Fanni 2015, p.1). It is because

song consists of lyric, tone, rhythm like a poem that makes some people love to listens a song.

To make the messages of the song understood by the listeners, they must understand the lyrics of the song. Understanding the lyrics of the song is not as easy as listeners of the song imagine. As Awe stated (2003, p.51) that lyric song is created by the songwriter with many style of language such as used figurative language and used language beyond original meaning that can be difficult to be understood by listener. The listeners often have difficulty in what the songwriter wants to convey. It is because the songwriters often use language beyond its original meaning and it will associate with the other things in the context of the song. Therefore, the message is not conveyed intact to the listener.

For instance, the word “woman” is interpreted as a female, human, and an adult. The three features of the word “woman” are defined conceptually by dictionary. In the other hands, the meaning of word “woman” can be associated with other meaning like someone that has maternal instinct, experienced in cookery, skirt or dress wearing, babbling, gregarious, frail, prone to tears, emotional, irritable, inconstant, cowardly, gentle, sensitive, compassionate, hardworking and the others (Leech 1981, p.12). It is something that goes beyond mere referent of a word and hints at its attributes in the real world. Describing the meaning of the word “woman” which associated with some meanings that more than just dictionary meaning.

In linguistics field, meaning like the phenomenon above is an object of semantic study which discusses about meaning. Language that can associate with

the other meaning and related to the things which have relation to the object of semantics is called by associative meaning. Therefore, the writer is interested in studying associative meaning especially in the lyrics of the religious song which have many messages about Islamic teachings. Associative meaning is proposed by Geoffrey Leech in his book (1981). The definition of associative meaning is unstable of meaning and has variants of individual experience (Leech 1981, p.21). In her thesis, Sarefah (2008, p.11) emphasizes associative meaning as the sense associations that are not part of a word's basic meaning and have variants meaning based on individual experience or the context of the sentences.

Leech classifies associative meaning into five kinds that are connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflective meaning, and collocated meaning (Leech 1981, p. 12). Connotative meaning refers to what is communicated by virtue of what language refers to, over and above its purely conceptual meaning. While, Social Meaning refers to which a piece of language conveys about social circumstances of its use. Affective meaning refers to a kind of language which reflects the personal feelings of the speaker. Reflected meaning refers to when one sense of word forms part of our response to another sense. Collocated meaning consists of the associations a word acquires on account of the meanings of words which tend to occur in its environment.

There are many songs that full of messages, such as religious song. Religious song is created by showing up religious teachings. Religious teachings refers to what religion want to convey, such as beliefs of god (people faith to his God include the word of god), teaching of worship practices that includes prayer,

meditation, festival and celebrations, fasting and others Justina (2017, p.10). In Indonesia there are many Islamic songs that can deliver messages about religious teachings. It is because Indonesia has a lot of Muslim population people. The religious songs that are used in this research are Harris J's songs. Harris Jung or Harris J is a British Muslim singer since 2015 with his popular religious song.

In Indonesia, Harris J has many fans and he is also famous with his religious songs titled *Salam Aalaikum*. He had visited Indonesia several times and performed a concert. The songs of Harris J are mostly used religious themes. Through the songs, Harris J also wants to convey something useful about the Islamic teachings that he professes in his religion of Islam. Therefore, this research is used Harris J's song lyrics in album "Salam" to be some object. In album "Salam", there are twelve songs, that are *My Hero*, *Salam Aalaikum*, *You Are My life*, *Rasool' Allah*, *Eid Mubarak*, *Good Life*, *Paradise*, *Worth it*, *I Promise*, *The one*, *Love Who You Are*, and *Let Me Breathe*. Except the analysis kinds of associative meaning, this research also discuss the religious contents having associative meaning are shown in the song lyrics of Harris J's album "salam".

The religious contents that are shown can be classified based on the function of religious words of the lyrics. In his article, Thomson argued (Thomson 2006, online) that utterances made in religious contexts are of many sorts, such as acts of praise, petition, thanks, confession, and exhortation. The writer has read some previous studies related to this analysis, such as research from Fanni (2015) with entitled "*Associative Meaning in Maher Zain's Song Lyrics*". This study

discusses kinds of the associative meaning of Maher Zain's song lyric and its relationship with the hadith of the prophet. This study used theory about associative meaning by Geoffrey leech (1974). The result of this research shows that there were 36 of associative meanings in song lyric of Maher Zain and its relationship with hadith of the prophet.

The others study is "*Associative meaning on Adele's "21 Album Song Lyric"*" by Mutawally (2016). This study discusses kinds of associative meaning and the function of the kinds of associative meaning. This study also used theory from Geoffrey Leech (1974) about associative meaning. The finding of this study shows there were 25 data that included to associative meaning. The most used kinds of associative meaning on Adele's 21 Album song lyrics were affective meaning. For addition, the other study is "*The Analysis of Associative Meaning in Samsung Advertisement Slogan*" by Irfan (2017). This study discusses types of associative meaning using Geoffrey Leech theory (1981). The result shows that in *Samsung* advertisement slogan, there are 15 data that included to associative meaning.

Based on some previous studies above, this research is different from some previous studies. The previous study by Fanny analyzes kinds of associative meaning and its relationship with the hadith of the prophet in Maher Zain's Song Lyrics. The previous study by Mutawally analyzes the kinds of associative meaning and the function of associative meaning in Adele's 21 Album Song Lyric. The previous study by Irfan just analyzes the types of associative meaning in *Samsung* advertisement slogan. Meanwhile, this research analyzes the kinds of

associative meaning and the religious contents having associative meaning are shown in the song lyric of Harris J's album "*salam*".

Therefore, the difference of this research from the previous studies above is this research analyze religious contents having associative meaning are shown in the song lyrics of Harris J's album "*Salam*" in the second research question. It is never analyzes by the previous researcher before. The third previous studies above give contribution for this research such as supported and give inspiration the writer to analyze which are data that include to associative meaning with seeing the findings of these previous studies and it also give additional references to the writer.

The writer has deal that the purpose of this research is to describe the embodiment kinds of associative meaning and religious contents having associative meaning that are shown in the religious song lyrics "*Salam*" Album by Harris J. Lastly, the writer takes the title of the research with "*The Associative Meaning in Religious Song Lyrics Album 'Salam' by Harris J*".

1.2 Statement of Problems

Based on introduction above, it is known that the lyrics song of Harris J in album "*salam*" contained the words that show associative meaning and having religious contents. Therefore, the writer takes the research questions as follows:

1. What kinds of associative meaning are found in the lyric song of Harris J's "*Salam*" Album?
2. What religious contents having the associative meaning are shown in the lyric song of Harris J's "*Salam*" Album?

1.3 Research Objective

The researcher has some purpose dealing with the problem statements above:

1. To identify kinds of associative meaning are found in the lyric song of Harris J's "*Salam*" Album.
2. To identify religious contents having associative meaning are shown in the lyric song of Harris J's "*Salam*" Album.

1.4 Significance of the Research

The researcher hopes that the result of this research will get benefit both academically and theoretically for everybody who needs.

1. Academically

Academically, this research is expected for students of English and Literature Department, linguistics communities and the other researchers. For students of English and Literature Department, this research can add knowledge for students about meaning especially associative meaning and kinds of associative meaning. For the linguistics communities, this research can give information about semantics study especially about associative meaning. For the other researcher, this research can use as an additional reference to discuss semantics studies about kinds of meaning especially associative meaning.

2. Theoretically

Theoretically, this research can give contribution and positive effect on developing Linguistics studies related to the meaning in semantic field.

Because this research, supports the theory of associative meaning by Geoffrey Leech which are delivered the explanation of the kinds of associative meaning and the characteristics in each kind.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

1. Associative Meaning:

The term associative meaning used in this research is to see the Geoffrey Leech theory that said associative meaning as unstable of meaning and has variants of individual experience (1974, p.21). It means, associative meaning is word, phrase or sentence that associated with the other thing besides the original meaning and based on individual experience.

2. Religious content

The terms religious content of this research refers to the words with are ones that you'll often come across in spiritual and religious writings or talk (Keane 1997, p.48).

3. Song Lyric

The term song lyric in this research is formed from language which is produced by communication between song authors to song lovers (Biladina 2014, p.6).