

**Figure of Speech Used in The Story of Layla and Majnun Novel
by Nizami Ganjavi**

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ABSTRACT

Understanding the meaning of a novel need literature study in semantics aspect especially in figurative language. This study aimed to identify and examine the meaning of figure of speech used in the novel The Story of Layla and Majnun Written by Nizami Ganjavi. This study focused on simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, metonymy, synecdoche, and irony form. The data was analyzed by applying descriptive qualitative method. The data collection used was documentation technique. Interactive model data of analysis used to analyze the data. From the result, this study was examined 76 sentences which was contained of figurative language. The data was analyzed one by one to identified the kind of figure of speech used and the meaning of them. The result of this study found 20 simile form, 13 metaphor form, 10 personification, 10 hyperbole form, 12 metonymy form, 3 synecdoche form. The most dominant figurative language used in this novel was form simile (26 %). This novel preserved the Bedouin culture and presented not only a romantic journey of love between humans, but also the Divine Love (Mahabbah). The researcher hope that readers would know about the study of linguistics. Especially in figurative language analysis to increase literary insight.

Keywords: Semantics, Meanings, Figurative Language, Novel

INTRODUCTION

Literary such as social-culture phenomenon through the human creativity. Literary works are imaginative, aesthetic, and amuse the reader. According to Nurgiyantoro (2007) literary works describe the problems of human life in interacting with the nature and human, the interaction between human and god. Literary works are imaginative in the creativity of literary works include the awareness and responsibility in it.

In literature study to understanding about novel needed linguistics aspect especially in semantics. Semantics is part of linguistics that study and technical term to analysis of meaning. Meanings convey to the experiences, thinking, feeling, in line stated with Hoed in Nurgiyantoro (2007). Moreover semantics is study meaning as conveyed through signs and languages and refer to the literal or intended meaning. Meaning are divided into two category; primary and secondary meaning. The primary meaning is meaning depend on the dictionary form. Primary meanings include lexical, denotative and literal, and secondary meaning is the meaning of linguistic units that can only be identified through the use of language context. Secondary meanings include grammatical, connotative and figurative meaning. Grammatical meaning is the meaning that comes as a result of the grammatical process. Connotative is another meaning that is added

to the denotative meaning associated with the value of sense of a person or group of people.

Abrams in Nurgiyantoro (2007), states that novels come from Italian Language “Novella” and in German “Novelle” which means a stuff that is small and then interpreted as a Prose that kind a short story. Novel is author imagination which convey the reality or phenomenon occurred and develop with intrinsic elements such as scenes, plot, characters, point of view, theme and the use of figure of speech. A novel can be analyzed in several figurative language.

Al-Ma'ruf (2012) state that in the study of stylistic, literary works have to encompass, figure of speech, idiom, and proverb which considered representative to the author in supporting their idea to create imaginative and amuse literary works. Figurative language is rhetoric the ordinary manner of expression that used other words than their literal sense to enhance expression of the way author thought to obtain aesthetic effect.

Figurative language can be found in the content of novels. Novels often has difficult word choices that the way author choose language to achieve an aesthetic effect by using figurative language with figurative expression of ideas that suggest a literal meaning. Because in some cases the author used implicit sentences to create a novel more concrete, condensed, and

interesting. Figurative language is also in pragmatic perspective of literary works classified into five type include Simile, Personification, metaphor, idiom. Reaske (1966: 33)

This study focused on figurative language used in The Story of Layla and Majnun Novel by Nizami Ganjavi. The Story of Layla and Majnun novel is translated from the Persian and edited by DR. R. Gelpke and published by Bruno Cassirer. The novel was distributed by Faber and Faber 24 Russell Square, London in 1966. This novel tells a real life story of love that the most popular love novel and amaze the readers by The Story of Layla and Majnun's story.

To understanding the meaning of Nizami Ganjavi's novel was necessary used the stylistic studies because it used implicit meaning or indirect expression. The stylistics element in literary work used in Nizami' novel can be related in linguistic aspect. Based on brief explanation above the researcher focused to find out: 1) to identify the types of figurative language used in The Story of Layla and Majnun by Nizami Ganjavi, 2) to examine the meaning of figurative language used in the The Story of Layla and Majnun by Nizami Ganjavi.

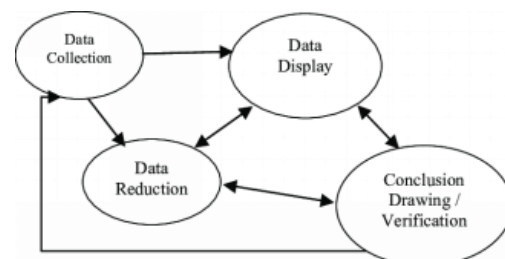
The conclusion is supported by the finding that using figure of speech creates an interesting image while also providing language construction and style. In this time, the researcher emphasizes that understanding

the concept of each expression is based on the culture background of Persian traditional poetry and imagining the expression's meaning.

METHOD OF DATA

The method used in this study was descriptive qualitative. A qualitative research is the method of the research where the data is the written form that obtained by observing the subject. The main data in this study focused only seven various of figurative language in Nizami's novel. There are simile, metaphor, personification, irony, hyperbole, metonymy, and synecdoche. Based on the analysis of 76 sentences in Nizami' novel entitled The Story Layla and Majnun that has been made.

Data collection used in this study was documentation by selecting and highlight the narration or sentences that contained with figure of speech. The data analysis technique in this study used interactive model data followed by Mile and Huberman (1992) technique appropriate with the circles below.



As follow the circle of technique to analyze the data in a way: collecting the data, data reduction, data display, and drawing the

conclusion. The data conveyed in a table and marked with the code.

RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

a. Research Result

There are two objectives in this study, the findings obtained to identify and examine the meaning of figurative language used in this novel. There are 76 data that identified as figure of speech. The data takes from Nizami Ganjavi's novel entitled *The Story of Layla and Majnun*. The following were the result of this study:

1. The Types of Figurative Language are used in The Story of Layla and Majnun Novel by Nizami Ganjavi

a) Simile

Simile is a figure in which a comparison is stated explicitly. The comparison expressed by using of some words or phrases, such as like, as, than, similar to, resembles, or seems. This study found 20 sentences (26%) which belong to simile. Here the example of the analysis in simile form.

(23/Sm/37) *"He was like a burnt-out candle, or a maimed bird that has lost its mate and flutters helplessly in the dust. In the end strength left his body. He feel to his knees as if at prayer, and cried until consciousness returned and he felt pain flowing over his lip like a dark stream."*

The sentences above were connotative meaning. The word burnt-out candle, maimed bird, a dark stream were to compared between Majnun sadness and that object. This time, the meaning was to expressed that Majnun had greatly upset and desperate. And he always call his beloved name while talk in verse and sing about his love.

b) Personification

Personification is various figure of speech that consisted to giving the attributes of a human being to animal, or object, or a concept. This study found 10 sentences (13%) which belong to personification. Here the example of the analysis in personification form.

(34/Pr/61) *"In the garden, blossom were smiling from all the trees. This morning the earth had hoisted a twin-coloured banner of red tulips and yellow roses; "*

The verb smiling is usually for human being. This time, the word of blossom is a stage development or a peak period or common meaning to describe the condition of bearing flowers. In this novel, the author compare plant with humans activity.

c) Metaphor

Metaphor is various figure of speech that more complicated than simile. the comparison between two things essentially unlike without connecting

words such as like and as. This study found 13 sentences (17%) which belong to metaphor. Here the example of the analysis in metaphor form.

(50/Mt/98) *“Having drunk his fill, he lay down in the brocade carpet in soft grass of the shade of the palm tree to rest awhile.”*

The sentence ‘lay down in the brocade carpet’ is connotative meaning. The real condition was Majnun lay down in the grass under the palm tree. That condition to show that Majnun is far from home to find his love and happiness. He live in a forest so the writer used the words ‘brocade carpet’ compared with grass to describe how pity Majnun’s life .

d) Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a rhetorical term that refers to an exaggerated statement used to create impact and not meant to be interpreted literally. It contain statement that exceed certain amounts, sizes or characteristics. This study found 10 sentences (13%) which belong to hyperbole. Here the example of the analysis in hyperbole form.

(51/Hy/101) *“The closer he came to his goal, the more his heart became drunk with Layla’s scent, the louder his ears perceived the sound of her voice, the clearer his eyes recognized her face in mountains and valleys.”*

The sentence ‘drunk with Layla’s scent’ is a hyperbole form. The author symbolizes the words ‘drunk with Layla’s scent’ as the strengthened the love that given by Majnun to Layla. Semantically, the word drunk is not denotative meaning. Drunk is having impaired faculties due to alcohol or something that characterized by intoxication.

e) Metonymy

Metonymy is a figure of speech that used a word to presents something else, because it has close related meaning. This study found 12 sentences (16%) which belong to metonymy. Here the example of the analysis in metonymy form.

(27/My/41) *“Their thought finally converged on the Caaba, God’s sanctuary in Mecca, visited every year by thousands....”*

In that sentence, the author uses the label ‘Caaba’ to describe or replace the original term ‘a place of Muslim when going to pilgrim’. It is common to Muslim society to having pilgrim in Caaba, Mecca. In Nizami novel, the metonymic usage of ‘Caaba’ explains Majnun tried to making the best dua for his beloved in Mecca.

f) Synecdoche

Synecdoche is various figure in which a part is used to represent the whole or the entire for a part. This study found three

sentences (4%) which belong to synecdoche. Here the example of the analysis in synecdoche form.

(32/Sy/53) “Whenever you look, from ant to elephant, you will find no object or creature, which is not ruled by fate.”

The word ‘from ant to elephant’ include or represent the entire all off the God’s creature that have been ruled by fate. The sentence meaning is to show the emotional feeling of Majnun’s father while he teach his son of rule of life.

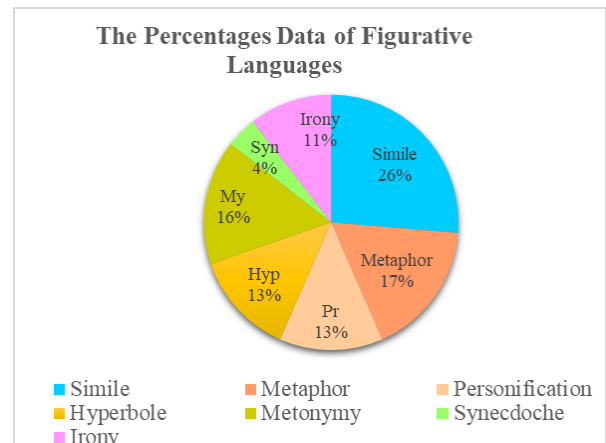
g) Irony

Irony is a type of figurative language that wants to convey a different meaning than what is contained in the structure. This study found eight sentences (11%) which belong to irony. Here the example of the analysis in irony form.

(13/Ir/24) “ he not only lost his beloved but himself. Everyone saw in his face reflection of the scorching his heart, saw the blood running from his wound.”

The word ‘every one saw’ is pointing to irony. The sentence meaning is after he separated from his beloved he become majnun (madman) and isolated himself in middle of nowhere forest.

b. Discussion



The most dominant various figurative language that used in The Story Layla and Majnun novel by Nizami is simile. There are 20 sentences contained simile (26%) in this novel. Nizami employs numerous figures of speech or similes form in the novel. The use of shape, fruit, and flower comparisons. The hidden treasure is like a candle. Referring to the animal's presumption: like an drunken elephant and the shepherd's dog. The above parable is used to contrast their tragic love story. Layla's beauty is compared to juicy fruits and the red of flowers in this parable.

Dr. Fahrudin state that the story of Layla and Majnun is a metaphor for Devine love. Love, according to Nizami, is not only a romantic journey of love between humans, but also love for God, the creators of the universe. This is an allegory about divine love for God. Which is depicted in the love story of a couple with true love.

The study of the used of metaphor in Layla and Majnun novel by Suharsono (2014) in line with the result of this study. This study was more completed than the

previous study, because this study identified the used of figurative language in general. This study compared to the second study of Mahhabah conception of the main character in Layla Majnun Story by Lestari (2020). This study had the related result and discussion about Mahhabah conception. Lestari (2020) used Psychological analysis approached to analyze the character connected with Mahhabah. On the other side, this study analyze the used of figurative language and conclude that the love story of Layla and Majnun was related to Mahhabah concept. The third study, Habibi (2016) was discussed about the used of figurative language in Edensor novel by Adrea Hirata. From the result, this study in line with Habibi (2016). Compared from the previous study, this study analyze the figurative used and examine the meaning related to the society and culture.

CONCLUSION

Figurative language is other than way the author to deliver the expressions and thoughts to the readers, but the author wants the reader can feel and imagine the story in the novel and understanding the meaning and content in Nizami' novel.

The conclusion is supported by the finding that using figure of speech creates an interesting image while also providing language construction and style. In this time, the researcher emphasizes that understanding

the concept of each expression is based on the culture background of Persian traditional poetry and imagining the expression's meaning.

This study intends to convey the readers, the students, and the other reserachers, they can understanding the concept of each expression in The Story of Layla and Majnun novel. This study would increase literary insight that develop literature in Indonesia. And this novel is one of the most well-know that should be read.

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