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**Simile in English With Reference to
Quranic Verses**

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Dedication

To our parents with love

We would like to express our appreciation to our supervisor Asst. Prof . Bisma Khalid Ingeish for providing the needed advice and encouragement.

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Abstract

The study falls in two chapters and conclusion .Chapter one focuses on classification of a figures of speech, types of simile , functions of simile and elements of simile . Chapters two analysis simile selected texts from Holy Quran

Finally ,the conclusion which sums up the findings of the study.

Chapter One

1.1 Figure of Speech

A figure of speech is figurative language in the form of a single word or phrase. It can be a special repetition, arrangement or omission of words with literal meaning, or a phrase with a specialized meaning not based on the literal meaning of the words (Evans,2009:5.).

In conversation, speakers sometimes use figurative expressions such as “had a good innings,” “take with a pinch of salt,” or “come to the end of her tether.” Figurative expressions occur regularly in topic transition sequences, and specifically in the turn where a topic is summarized, thereby initiating the closing of a topic (Bobrow,1973:343).

Figures of speech enable the writer to add colour and variety so that writer keeps his reader engrossed. His writing can be both entertaining and educating. The ideas beneath these concepts can be traced back to the ancient Greeks. They were the great orators. Thus, the following concepts come under the general term 'figures of speech' (but I like to highlight the idea of 'writing' too). Hopefully, these guidelines will help in writing and improve your skills as an author (Ibid.).

Figures of speech are plainly defined as saying one thing in terms of something else. What does that mean? Well, it's simple, actually. Whenever you say something, but you don't mean it literally, you are using a figure of speech. Let's say someone is about to head out to the store and his mother says, 'Ya better take a jacket; it's raining cats and dogs out there.' (Thompson,2004:41)

Does she literally mean animals are falling from the sky? Of course not. Her meaning is that it is raining hard outside. So why doesn't she just say, 'Take a jacket. It's

raining!' Because figures of speech are meant to clarify and describe in more detail. Rain itself has many different forms. It could be drizzling, sprinkling, misting or even down pouring. mother used a figure of speech to clarify that the rain is hard and would probably soak anyone caught in it. Figures of speech are very useful in giving a more detailed and accurate description (Ibid.).

Glucksberg(2001:26) admits that figure of speech means an example of saying something and meaning something else in order to bring about impressive effect. Similes, metaphors, symbols, metonymy, synecdoche, , apostrophe, oxymoron, and hyperbole are different figures of speech.

A Figure of Speech is where a word or words are used to create an effect, often where they do not have their original or literal meaning. If someone says that they are 'starving', they do not mean that they are in fact dying of hunger, but that they are very hungry. This is a simple example of a figure of speech, where the word is used to heighten or increase the state that they are describing. A metaphor or a simile are two of the most common forms used (Alm-Arvius,1998:84).

Chalker(1994:163)admits that A figure of speech is a poetic device which consists in the use of words and phrases in such a manner as to make the meaning more pointed and clear and the language more graphic and vivid. Figures are also called images for in them one thing is represented in the image of another. According to Bain it is “a form of expression that intentionally deviates from the ordinary mode of speech for the sake of more powerful, pleasing or distinctive effect; it is pictorial or poetic language.”

But it is a mistake to think of figures of speech as simply ornaments of language. They are part and parcel of the human language in moments of emotional excitement. When his emotions are stirred, man instinctively tends to express himself through the use of figurative language. That figures are used naturally and instinctively to express powerful feeling is seen in the fact that children and primitive, uncultured people habitually use figures of speech (Ibid.).

The world of nature is an inexhaustible storehouse of figures of speech (or images

as they are also called), and poets and writers have always drawn freely from this storehouse. Figures have been used by poets to decorate their language and to make it more vivid and pictorial, to increase its force and effectiveness, and to communicate their meaning more lucidly and clearly. By increasing the beauty of language, the use of figures provides great aesthetic satisfaction to the readers (Bobrow,1973:32).

1.2 Classification of A Figures of Speech

Figurative language is very common in poetry, but is also used in prose and nonfiction writing as well. There are many different types of figurative language. For example, it often includes the use of a specific type of word or word meaning. The most important figures of speech are Simile; epic or Homeric Simile; Metaphor; Personification; Pathetic Fallacy; Apostrophe; Hyperbole; Metonymy; Synecdoche; Oxymoron; Antithesis; Onomatopoeia; Alliteration; and Transferred Epithet (Cruse,1986:316).

Figurative language is used to describe an object, person, or situation by comparing it to or with something else. For example, “She is as pretty as a picture” describes or compares a pretty girl to a beautiful piece of art. The writer describes the lady in a simple way .She is so beautiful just like a pretty picture (Langacker,2008:2).

1.2.1 Metaphor

Lakoff (2008: 90) in his study said that ,Metaphor is defined as “a word or phrase applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable”. In other words, a metaphor links features of objects or events from two different, often incompatible domains, thus being a “realization of a crossdomain conceptual mapping”.

1.2.2 Simile

Crystal (1992:80) points out that a simile is like a metaphor and often uses the words like or as. One example of a simile would be to say, “Jamie runs as fast as the wind.” The word “Simile” comes from the Latin ‘similis’ ‘like’ and means ‘likeness’. A simile is an expression of likeness between different objects or events. It consists in placing two different things side by side and comparing them with regard to some quality common to them. In other words there are two essential elements in a simile. First, the two objects or events compared must be different in kind. Secondly, the point of resemblance between the two different objects or events compared must be clearly brought out. Such words of comparison as, like, as, so, etc., are always used. For example:

(1) Errors like straws upon the surface flow.

(2) The younger brother is as good as gold.

Simile is widely recognised as a rhetorical figure whereby an author uses a comparison which is literally, often uninformatively true to achieve effects which are usually classed as ‘figurative’. There are two ways in which this claim has manifested itself in the literature. The first is that similes have an obligatory ‘third component’ beside the tenor and the vehicle: a point or points of comparison. It would then be the task of the hearer to either decode the point of comparison when it is explicitly communicated or to supply a point of comparison inferentially in order for the simile to be comprehensible (Fauconnier, 1997:1).

The second is that similes ‘tend to’ have additional linguistically-specified material by comparison with metaphors or ‘literal’ comparisons. The best explanation of the data is not that similes require that a hearer supply a point of comparison, or that a speaker supply additional linguistically-encoded material to aid the hearer in constructing a point of comparison. Instead, similes simply are comparisons (Ibid.).

1.2.3 Personification

When something that is not human is given human-like qualities, this is known as personification. An example of personification would be to say, “The leaves danced in the wind on the cold October afternoon.” (Ibid.).

1.2.4 Hyperbole

Green (1989:54) Exaggerating, often in a humorous way, to make a particular point is known as hyperbole. One of example of hyperbole would be to say, “My eyes widened at the sight of the mile-high ice cream cones we were having for dessert .”The word “hyperbole” (“Hyper” – beyond; “ballo” – throw) literally, “a throwing beyond”, means exaggeration. This figure of speech consists in representing things as much greater or smaller than they really are, with the intention of producing a more striking effect than a plain statement can. For example:

(3) “Here is the smell of blood still; all perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand?”

1.2. 5 Symbolism

Symbolism occurs when a noun which has meaning in itself is used to represent something entirely different. One example of symbolism would be to use an image of the American flag to represent patriotism and a love for one’s country. In addition to various types of words relating to the word's meaning, figurative language also includes unusual constructions or combinations of words that provide a new perspective on the word (Ibid:55).

1.2.6 Onomatopoeia

Goossens (2000:184) states that when you name an action by imitating the sound associated with it, this is known as onomatopoeia. One example of onomatopoeia would be to say, "The bees buzz angrily when their hive is disturbed." Onomatopoeia, 'onoma' name; 'poiea' make, is the use of a word or words whose sound itself conveys the sense of the author. Examples of onomatopoeia are:

- (4) "It cracked and growled and roared and howled like noises in a swoon."
- (5) "The murmurous haunt of flies on summer eves."

1.2.7 Idiom

An idiom is an expression used by a particular group of people with a meaning that is only known through common use. One example of an idiom would be to say, "I'm just waiting for him to kick the bucket." Many idioms that are frequently used are also considered clichés (Ibid.).

1.2.8 Synecdoche

A synecdoche is a figure of speech using a word or words that are a part to represent a whole. For example, referring to credit cards as "plastic" is a synecdoche. This figure of speech is really a special form of metonymy. Its name 'syn' with, 'ekdoche' succession, means literally, "the understanding of one thing by another". (Ibid:185.).

Green (1989:76) In the figure there is the substitution of a part for the whole or vice versa, or of an abstract noun for a concrete one or vice versa, of an individual for a

class, or vice versa, or of the name of the material of which a thing is made for the name of the thing itself. For example:

(6) Kalidasa is the Shakespeare of India.

1.2.9 Cliche

A cliché is a phrase that is often repeated and has become kind of meaningless. An example of a cliché is the expression "walk a mile in my shoes." (Ibid.).

1.2.10 Assonance

Crystal(1988:96)admits that when one you repeats a vowel sound in a phrase is it assonance. For example:

(7)True, I do like Sue.

1.2.11 Metonymy

A metonymy is a figure of speech where one thing is replaced with a word that is closely associated with it such as using "Washington" to refer to the United States government (Ibid.).

1.2.12 Alliteration

Alliteration consists in the repetition of the letters or syllable, or the same sound at the beginning of two or more words in a line. In this way language becomes musical

(Ibid.).

For example:

(8) How high His Honour holds his haughty head.

1.3 Types of Simile

In Western rhetorical literature, two kinds of simile' ,are recognized: "declared" and "perceived". The previous .is recognized from the last as far as ground. All elements are mentioned .

(9) John is as specific as a machine.'

'John' and 'machine' are like each other, however not at all like in numerous viewpoints, in being 'specific', in this example the ground is left for the perceiver to asses its significance to the tenor and the vehical of the entire articulation:

(10) John is like a machine .

The second kind of simile is logically more effective than the first in light of the fact that, the perceiver needs to make sense of the ground. 'In this procedure, the perceiver may envision', elicit the ground .for the. (Al-Temimi, 1989: 84).

Other writers, Tin (1999: 1) states, order simile into two sorts:- "finish simile" and "elliptical simile". By entire simile is implied a simile in which all constituents (tenor, vehical, ground, simile marker SM) are expressed:

(11) My last examination was as hard as climbing the mountain.

Simile is implied a simile the ground is not mentioned in elliptical :

(12) She is like a princess .

1.4 Functions of Simile

Simile can be used to express different capacities, the most critical of which are the accompanying:

1.4 .1 Description

Simile can be used to express description as the following example:

"The German eruption swept like a scythe around...our armies" (Oliver et al., 1995: 195)

Simile is used by Blake to characterize the children in his village. They can't play any more since they are tried:

(13)Many sisters and brothers Like birds in their nest.

Many brothers and sisters are prepared for rest, settling round the laps of their mothers like birds in their nest (Bushnaq, 1956: 97).

1.4 .2 Praise

Praise is utilized to express warm approval, acclamation, or profound respect. Bryon utilizes simile to express his adoration for a lovely lady.

(14)She walks in beauty, like the night.

Of cloudless climes and starry skies.

Bryon reveals the more profound excellence of the lady by comparing her with a delightful night (Radzienda, 2003: 2).

1.4 3 Dispraise

Dispraise can be used to express dispraise by contrasting the tenor and an ugly picture:

(15) John is as stupid as a donkey.

Here, John is likened to a donkey in being stupid (Tininis, 1971: 2).

1.4.4 Irony

Irony is saying or keeping in touch with a certain something while at the same time meaning the inverse. For example :

(16) Bill is as educated as a Franch dog.

Here, Bill is compared to a Franch dog in being 'educated' (ibid.).

1.4.5 Lament

Scott, as Bushnaq (1956: 120) says, uses simile to mourn Duncan who is a Scottish legend and compares him to a summer-dried fountain:

(17) He is gone on the mountain,.'

He is lost to tire forest

Like a summer-dried fountain When our needs was sorest.

1.5 Elements of Simile

Simile, mostly, comprises of four components or parts: T, V , SM and G (Lynch, 2004:1):

(18) Sandy is as beautiful as the star .

T is 'Sandy'. V is 'the star'. G is 'beautiful'.

1.5 .1 Tenor, Vehicle and Ground

T, V and G are in a general sense the three terms which have been used to analyze, explore and grasp simile. Tenor is the unequivocal subject of the examination that which is 'to be' stood out from something else. vehical is the dissent of connection, the photo or Idea that the subject of the tenor is stood out from'. The vehical urges one to appreciate the tenor as of late (Robert,n.d:136; Colwell,1968:36;and James, 2004: 1).

The ground is the quality that one refers to when using a particular vehical in relation to the tenor:

(19)The man is like a tiger .

V 'tiger' shows that T 'the man' has a quality or attributes that one interface with the tiger, for example, braveness, fierceness, having appetite (James, 2004: 2).

Burton (1973: 46) clears up that T is the thing talked about, the V is the thing to which it is contemplated and the G is the component essential to both. Tis delineated by Hartman and Stork (1972: 84) as the "primary term" whereas the vehical is called "the secondary term".

Michael (2004: 4) notices that the fundamental or essential subject speaks to the obscure, the subject to be elucidated.

As far as Day (1968: 97) mentions that similes can be perceived by the grammatical pattern "(verb) like...". Like is used where the correlation is between two things by a verb and the suggestion is "in the way of".

Curme (1931: 3) presents that the conjunction like appear to originate' from 'the old compound conjunction like as'. This sense of like is particularly normal after verbs such as .feel and look:

(20) He looks like he had seen a moister .

Richard (2002: 1) says that like can also be used as a preposition:

(21) He is tall like a shadow.

Like can function as an introduction to adverbial clause of manner, again, as a subordinator:

(22) They hunted him like a lion stalking his prey.

The phrasing and arrangement are tormented by different translation. A direct choice would be that the SM (like) is a conjunction on the off chance that it is trailed by a verb in the condition.

Similes can be seen by the language structure plan "as (descriptive word/modifier) as". The tenor and the vehicular of simile share a couple of characteristics related with modifier's or verb modifiers, yet generally would, not truly be contrasted and each other (Day, 1968: 97):

(23) She was as sweet as honey. .

Pudwill (2004: 5) states that 'as...as is frequently used to describe people:

(24) She was as obstinate as a donkey.

David (2002: 4) maintains that as functions as a preposition:

(25) Mary sang as a nightingale.

As functions as a subordinator to introduce a clause of similarity.

(Gorrell and Laird, 1953: 249)

Quirk et al. (1985: 1110) notice that in formal literary style, if the as-clause is placed initially, correlative so introduces the main clause:

(26) Just as a moth is attracted by light, so he was fascinated by her.

Booth (1961: 184) calls attention to that a few scholars don't utilize like or as in .their likenesses, however they abuse as though and just as. Lynch (2004: 1) says that just as is an antiquated type of as though's. .

The conjunction as if is used when a finite verb is likened to another finite verb (Day, 1968: 96):

(27) She plays the piano as if she were wearing boxing gloves.

(Mcbumey and Wrage, 1955 :,170)

According to Pudwill (2004: 4), as if is every now and again used to clarify how individuals get things done:

(28) He puts me before the fire, as if I were going to be cooked.

Chapter Two:Analysis

Text 1:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا أَعْمَالُهُمْ كَسَرَابٍ بِقِيعَةٍ يَحْسَبُهُ الظَّمْآنُ مَاءً حَتَّى إِذَا جَاءَهُ لَمْ يَجِدْهُ شَيْئًا
وَوَجَدَ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ فُوفَاءً حِسَابِهِ وَاللَّهُ سَرِيعُ الْحِسَابِ

سورة النور

Those who disbelieve ‘will find] their deeds [will disappear] like a mirage on a desert: the thirsty man will reckon it is water till, as he comes up to it, he finds it is nothing. Yet he finds God [stands] beside him and he must render Him his account; God is Prompt in reckoning!

The tenor is (اعمالهم). The vehical is (سراب بقيعه). simile marker (ك). The function of this simile is warning .

Text 2:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ اتَّخَذُوا مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ أَوْلِيَاءَ كَمَثَلِ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ اتَّخَذَتْ بَيْتًا وَإِنَّ أَوْهَنَ الْبُيُوتِ لَبَيْتُ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ
لَوْ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ

سورة العنكبوت(41)

Those who enlist other patrons instead of God may be compared to the Spider, who adopts a house for herself. The flimsiest house is the Spider's house, if they only realized it!

The tenor is (اولياء). The vehical is (العنكبوت اتخذت بيتا). simile marker (ك). The function of this simile is warning .

Text 3:

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

(تَنْزِعُ النَّاسَ كَأَنَّهُمْ أَعْجَازُ نَخْلٍ مُنْقَعِرٍ)

سورة القمر (20)

Which snatched men up as if they were hollow palm trunks.

The tenor is (الناس). The vehical is (اعجاز نخل منقعر). simile marker (ك). The function of this simile is satire.

Text 4:

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

ثم قست قلوبهم فهي من بعد ذلك كالحجارة او اشد قسوة"

سورة البقرة (74)

Even after that your hearts were hardened and became stony, and even harder. yet, for there are some stones which rivers gush out of and there are others which water comes forth from when they split open, and there are still others which collapse out of- awe for God. God is not oblivious of what you are doing!

The tenor is (القلوبهم)The vehical is (الحجارة او اشد قسوة) . simile marker (ك). The function of this simile is satire.

Text 5:

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

ويقوم لا يجرمنكم شقاقى إن يصيبكم مثل ما أصاب قوم نوح أو قوم صالح وما قوم لوط منكم ببعيد

سورة هود(89)

My people, let not disagreement with me involve you in any crime, so the same fate as strnck Noah’s folk, or Hud's folk or Salih’s folk, will strike you. Lot's folk even lived not far way from you.

The tenor is (شقاقى). The vehical is (أصاب قوم نوح أو قوم صالح) . simile marker (مثل). The function of this simile is warning .

Text 6:

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

قُلْ لَوْ كَانَ الْبَحْرُ مِدَاداً لِكَلِمَاتِ رَبِّي لَنَفَذَ الْبَحْرُ قَبْلَ أَنْ تَنْفَدَ كَلِمَاتُ رَبِّي وَلَوْ جِئْنَا بِمِثْلِهِ مَدَدًا

سورة الكهف (109)

SAY: “If the sea were an inkwell for the words of my Lord, the sea would be drained before my Lord’s words would be spent even though we brought the same again

to replenish it.

The tenor is (الْبَحْرُ مِدَاداً لِكَلِمَاتِ رَبِّي). The vehical is (مِدَاداً). Simile marker (مثل). The function of this simile is praise.

Text 7:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

عندهم قصرات الطرف عين كأنهن بيض مكنون

(سورة الصافات ٤٨-٤٩)

With them will be bashful women whose eyes will sparkle as if they were hidden [like hatching] eggs.

The tenor is (قاصرات الطرف) The vehical is (بيض مكنون). Simile marker (ك). The function of this simile is desire

Conclusion

There is no doubt that some products of our mind and language seem literal

whereas other figurative. All human beings are able to alter their language according to the needs of the situation. It is something important to know how that is happened and also to keep an eye on how normal communication skills can be changed to manipulate people.

The Quran is a 'sea of rhetoric'. The Quran exhibits an unparalleled frequency of rhetorical features, surpassing any other Arabic text, classical or modern. The use of rhetoric in the Quran stands out from any other type of discourse

This paper has concluded that the simile has great importance in both Arabic and English, and that its use enriches any text since it adds clarification and strength to the message. The Quran also employs similes in many places to explain certain truths or to drive home important points of the message, by likening it to something well known or describing it in a pictorial manner.

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