

## THE USING OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE SONG LYRICS BY MAHER ZAIN

*Rafika Purba*

Email: [fiqapurba@gmail.com](mailto:fiqapurba@gmail.com)

STMIK Pelita Nusantara

Jl. Iskandar Muda No. 1, Medan, Sumatera Utara, Indonesia

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### ABSTRACT

Music and song is the part of this world of songs, an art based on the organization of sound in time. But many of them do not know about the meaning and messages of the song lyrics which they listen. In this thesis the writer would find out the figurative language of Islamic song by Maher Zain which has deep meaning and more messages for the listener, not only enjoy listening to music but also the listener and reader will gets knowledge about Islam more increase. The aims of the research are: To find out the types of figurative language are used in Maher Zain"s songs, and to find out the most dominant figurative language in Maher Zain"s songs. In this research, the writer used the qualitative research since the data are in the form of written or oral words the techniques of collecting data, the collected from the song lyrics. entitled "Insyah Allah" by Maher Zain released in November 2009. And the writer did 8 steps to the techniques of analysis data, follows: listening the songs, reading the song lyrics, underlining the word which related in figurative language, identifying, classifies certain lyrics, reanalyzed the song lyrics, and coding.

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### 1. Introduction

Indonesia has a wide range of music, sometimes art supports the culture of each region. So, one area and another will give you the feel of different musical art. Art is a form of expression and the appearance that never experienced a deviation from reality and a process of imitation of nature. (Aristotle : 2012).

Music is a part of people's lives for countries, and important in modern society. Some people give some opinions that music as entertainment and make the soul to be relax, relieve fatigue of the activity is very solid. By listening to the songs we will be more relaxed and enjoy.

Some types of music are jazz, rock pop, dangdut and religious music. Dangdut music is the type may exist in Indonesia, therefore dangdut be one of the typical Indonesian music. And even, not only Indonesian person who likes dangdut, but tourists and people from the other country also like to listen the dangdut songs, it causes the evident that many dangdut artists to entertain the people.

Some teenagers and adults Muslim, not only forget the culture of our own country, but feared forgotten the rules of religion. Some people listen to the music is beneficial to their life, because they are still a long way of life and must be equipped with a good religious knowledge not to be involved in things that are not desirable.

Figurative language has been commonly examined by linguist in the study of literature in some years. Because, The figurative language has the big essence of style and beauty. The Figurative language provides more effective means of saying what we mean than the direct

statement. In the specific sense, the figurative language may take the form of figures of speech. The Figurative language is used in many form of communication, such as in daily conversation, poems, novel, short story, articles in newspaper, advertisements, and etc.

The figurative language is the part of literature and a literary device used to create a special effect or feeling by making some type of interesting or creative comparison. Figurative language is also a set of literary devices that writers use to bring the reader into the writing. The literary use language as devices in such a way that what is being said is different from the actual literal meaning of the words. Figurative language also helps the reader to know a meaning picture of what's happening, and they also be used to convince the reader of something, or they can be used to simply entertain the reader.

The Literal language refers to words that do not deviate from their defined meaning. While, Non-literal or figurative language refers to words, and groups of words, that exaggerate or alter the usual meanings of the component words. A literal usage is the normal meanings of the words. It maintains a consistent meaning regardless of the context, with "the intended meaning corresponding exactly to the meaning" of the individual words. Figurative use of language is the use of words or phrases in a manner where the literal meaning of the words is not true or does not make sense, but "implies a non-literal meaning which does make sense or that could be true".

Figurative language is describing something by comparing it to something else. This type of description brings writing to life. Understanding various types of figurative language is a critical part of a student's education. There are many fun activities for teachers to use in their classrooms to get students to understand and create figurative language.

Based on explanation above, the researcher will analyzed the lyrics of Insha Allah song by Maher Zain. In the songs there are any types of figurative language that the writer's song uses in every statement. The writer wants to know the reasons of the listener's interest especially all about Islam, and interest to learn about Islam more deeply, because as far as we know that Maher Zain is an Islamic singer with Islamic song.

The Problem of the Study are What are kinds of the problem investigated is about figurative language used in the lyrics of Insha Allah song by Maher Zain? And What is the most dominant figurative language which is used in the lyrics of Insha Allah song by Maher Zain? While, The Objectives of the Study are To find out the kinds of figurative language are used in in the lyrics of Insha Allah song by Maher Zain. And To find out the most dominant figurative language in in the lyrics of Insha Allah song by Maher Zain.

## **2. Research Metodology**

### **2.1 Research Design**

In this research, the researcher will use a qualitative method. Because the researcher wants to analyze the type of figure of speech which is often used in the song lyrics. In this case the researcher will investigate lyrics of " Insha Allah" song by Maher Zain.

### **2.2 The Data Source**

In this research, the researcher uses "Insha Allah" song by Maher Zain . According to writer, in the song lyrics of Maher Zain, there are many types of figurative language which can be found if more in depth research.

#### **"Insha Allah"**

#### **Maher Zain**

*Everytime you feel like you cannot go on*

*You feel so lost*

*And that you're so alone*

*All you see is night and darkness all around*

*You feel so helpless  
You can't see which way to go  
Don't despair and never lose hope  
'Cause Allah is always by your side  
In sha' Allah, in sha' Allah  
In sha' Allah you'll find your way  
In sha' Allah, in sha' Allah  
In sha' Allah you'll find your way  
Every time you commit one more mistake  
You feel you can't repent  
And that it's way too late  
You're so confused, wrong decisions you have made  
Haunt your mind and your heart is full of shame  
But don't despair and never lose hope  
'Cause Allah is always by your side  
In sha' Allah, in sha' Allah  
In sha' Allah you'll find your way  
In sha' Allah, in sha' Allah  
In sha' Allah you'll find your way*

### 2.3 **Technique of Collecting Data**

The technique for collecting data is the observation and study documentation, and another data are collected through:

a. **Library Research**

Library sources like books and other papers that related with the research. This activity is being started by collecting the opinion and ideas derived from the experts and their writings. And there are books in the library to get some theories, opinions and ideas from the experts and their related with the research. The quotations are taken by doing reading activities from different libraries or downloaded from some sites in form of e-books (internet) or other.

b. **Browsing Internet**

The writer also browsed internet to get more information about the topic research.

### 2.4 **Technique of Analysis Data**

The technique that the researcher uses is content analysis. The researcher will write all of the finding content analysis that researcher find in the research and classify all of the statements included in each type of figurative language.

There are steps to analyze data in order to understand about the result of the data.

- a. Listening the Insya Allah songs of Maher Zain.
- b. Reading the lyrics of "Insya Allah" from the first album by Maher Zain.
- c. Underlining the words which related in figurative language
- d. Identifying. The second step of analysis data is identifying the data itself. The aim of identifying to finding out the figurative language which is often used in the lyrics from the album.
- e. Classifies certain lyrics included in the figure of speech. In classifying each lyrics, must carefully avoid mistakes. From many types of figure of speech, of every figure of speech has a specific code, in order to facilitate entered the lyrics included in the type figure of speech.
- f. Reanalyzed statements and figure of speech that have been classified to avoid mistakes by using the theories of experts. This part is very important, because when in the process of classification, it may be an error in classifying lyrics with figure of speech, and therefore need to be reviewed to strengthen the argument.

- g. Coding. After all the process is completed the writer give the code in order to make easy in rechecking.

Code

P : Personification

M : Metaphor

A : Antithesis

S : Simile

H : Hyperbole

I : Irony

L : Litotes

Al : Alliteration

Pr : Parallelism

Sy : Synecdoche

Eu : Euphemism

For example:

- S.1. St.1. P : The first song in the first stanza of song and the types of figurative language is personification.

### 3. Result and Discussion

The research finding that the writer found, there are the types of figurative language and the most dominant of figurative language which is used "Insya Allah" song lyrics of Maher Zain.

#### 3.1 The Types of Figurative Language in The Song Lyrics of Maher Zain

##### a. Personification

Personification is a statement attributes human qualities to non-human entities, such as objects or animals. People say the wind howls or opportunity knocks, for instance. Neither the wind nor opportunity can do these things, but these personifications vividly convey a particular idea. Keraf (2002) explained that "Personification is the assigning of human characteristics to non humans."

"Insya Allah"

S.3. St.13. P : Haunt your mind and your heart is full of shame

In the lyric above is mind and heart has a shame, it is like a mirror of a man itself. The meaning of this lyric is a man feels shy.

##### b. Metaphor

Metaphors directly compare two subjects. Metaphor is a figure of speech which concisely compares two things by saying that the one is the other. (McArthur: 1996: 653)

The writer found the type of figurative language metaphor in

"Insya Allah"

S.3. St.7. M : Allah is always by your side

The lyric explained that Allah is always be a guide, be a friend that with us in every time and everywhere. So, the lyric included the type of figurative language, it is metaphor.

S.3. St.20. M : You're the only one that showed me the way

The lyric above included metaphor because the lyric explained that Allah is the one who be a guider in world.

##### c. Simile

Similes are "like" or "as" comparisons between two subjects. McArthur (1996:935) said that simile is a figure of speech, in which a more or less fanciful or unrealistic comparison is made, using like or as.

"Insya Allah"

S.3. St.1. S : Every time you feel like you cannot go on

The lyric above included simile, because it used word “like”. The lyric explained that feel like can’t do anything.

**d. Hyperbole**

Hyperbole is exaggeration or overstatement. The exaggeration is so great that others are not able to take the statement literally. Hyperbole is an exaggeration or over statement, usually deliberate and not meant to be taken literally. (Larson: 1998)

In this session, the writer found the songs which included hyperbole

The meaning of the lyric is Allah is the one who be a guider in the world.

2) The third of song “Insya Allah”

S.3. St.15. H : He’s never far away

The meaning of the lyric above is Allah is always close; He is never far away from us.

S.3. St.19. H : Guide my steps don’t let me go astray

The lyric above included hyperbole, because the lyric has the affluent mean. The true meaning is want to be together

**e. Irony**

Irony can be dramatic (a play), verbal (a statement) or situational (an event). McArthur (1996: 532) state that “Irony refers to words with an implication opposite to their usual meaning.”

In this session, the writer found irony in 3 songs,

“Insya Allah”

S.3. St.2. I : You feel so lost that your so alone

The meaning of the lyric above is there’s no friend to through out a life.

S.3. St.4. I : All you is see is night, and darkness all around, you feel so helpless

The true meaning of the song lyric above is there are no things to help. It is included irony, because the song writer want the reader and the listener know that Allah is always help us.

S.3. St.5. I : You can’t see which way to go

The true meaning of the song is blind with a beautiful world because already forget about everything that Allah given.

S.3. St.10. I : Every time you can make one more mistake

The true meaning of the song lyric above is always do something wrong. It is included irony, and the song writer hopes that we are should be careful to through out the life, and always in the right way.

S.3. St.11. I : You feel you can’t repent, and that its way too late

The song lyric above tease us that the way which us choose wrong. The true meaning of the lyric is late to do something new.

S.3. St.12. I : You’re so confused, wrong decisions you have made

The song lyric above included irony, because the contents of the lyric are quibble.

**f. Alliteration**

Alliteration is the repetition of an initial consonant sound. Alliteration is the repetition of a single letter in the alphabet or a combination of letters. It’s just about the easiest form of repetition a poet can use. The repetition of the same initial letter, sound, or group of sounds in a series of words,

“Insya Allah”

S.3. St.8. Al : Insya Allah, Insya Allah, Insya Allah

In the song lyric above included alliteration, because there is any repetition in the sentences “Insya Allah”. The true meaning of the song lyric is God willing.

S.5. St.6. Al : No mother no father to a wipe my tears

In the song lyric above included alliteration, because there is any repetition. The meaning of the song lyric is there’s no someone else.

S.5. St.11. Al : That Palestine tomorrow will be free, Palestine tomorrow will be free

In the song lyric above there is any repetition, so it is included alliteration. The meaning of the song lyric is really sure, that Palestine will be Independent country.

“Insya Allah” and fourth song “For The Rest of My Life”, there is 1 lyric, and in the last song “Palestine Will Be Free”, there is any 2 song lyrics. So, the total that the writer found is 8 song lyrics.

**g. Parallelism**

Parallelism is the state of being parallel or of corresponding in some way, and the use of successive verbal construction in poetry or prose that correspond in grammatical structure, sound, meter, meaning, etc.

“Insya Allah”

S.3. St.6. Pr : Don’t despair and never lose hope

The meaning of the song lyric above is should be faithful. Between sentences “despair and lose hope” there is any parallel.

**h. Synecdoche**

Synecdoche uses a part of something to refer to the whole. As McArthur (1996:1014) defined that synecdoche is a figure of speech concerned with parts and wholes.

“Insya Allah”

S.3. St.16. Sy : Put your trust in Him

The meaning of the song lyric above is believed in God.

S.3. St.17. Sy : Raise your hands and pray

The meaning of the song lyric above is praying and asks to Allah.

**i. Euphemism**

Euphemism is the substitution of an inoffensive term. It is the use of a mild, comforting, or evasive expression that takes the place of one that is taboo, negative, offensive, or too direct (McArthur: 1996: 387)

“Insya Allah”

S.3. St.9. Eu : Insya Allah you’ll find your way

The meaning of the song lyric above is will find the problem solving because Allah will always guide us in the right way.

S.3. St.23. Eu : Insya Allah we’ll find the way

In order to know the types of figurative language in every each song that the writer analyzed, the writer makes the tables.

**3.2 The Most Dominant Figurative Language in The Song Lyrics of Maher Zain**

From the data above, the writer can concluded that there are many figurative language uses in the song lyrics that the writer analyzed in “Insya Allah” song lyrics which is the writer research. the writer found 18 the kinds of figurative language, there are: Personafication is 1 song lyric, Metaphor is 2 song lyrics, Simile is 1 song lyric, Hyperbole is 2 song lyrics, Irony is 6 song lyrics, Alliteration is 1 song lyric, Parallelism is 1 song lyric, Synecdoche is 2 song lyrics, and Euphemism is 2 song lyrics. From the songs that the research analyzed, she concluded that the most dominant of the types of figurative language which is used is Irony, the total is 6 irony in the song lyrics.

**4. Conclusion**

From the “Insya Allah” songs, the writer has found the figurative language which is used in every lyric. The most dominant is Irony, with 6 song lyrics So, based on the lyrics that are found, it can be concluded that the frequently used in “Insya Allah “ song that the researched the kind figurative language which is Maher Zain used is Irony.

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