

**A MORPHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF
COMPOUND WORDS IN ENGLISH
TRANSLATION OF SURAH AL-BAQARAH
TRANSLATED BY ABDULLAH YUSUF ALI**

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Abstract

This study is aimed to describe the forms of compound words used in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali. The results of the compound word analysis show that there are 49 compound words which are classified into three types. They are 29 compound nouns, 14 compound adjectives and 6 compound verbs. The formations of compound noun are 14 Noun-Noun (NN), 4 Verb-Noun (VN), 10 Adjective-Noun (AN), and 1 Adverb-Preposition (AdvP). The formations of compound adjective are 2 Adjective-

Adjective (AA), 4 Noun-Adjective (NA), and 8 Adverb-Adjective (AdvA). The formations of compound verb are 1 Verb-Verb (VV) 1, 4 Preposition-Verb (PV) and 1 Verb-Noun (VN). It can be concluded that compound noun is the most dominant of compound words used in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali.

Keywords: morphology, compound word, surah Al-Baqarah, Abdullah Yusuf Ali

A. Introduction

Quran or Koran is the scripture of Islam, regarded by Muslims as the impeccable word of God, served as the Muslims' guideline of life, revealed to the Prophet Muhammad through the angel Jibril, gradually over a period of approximately 23 years. There are 30 sections of Quran. It is divided into chapters (surahs), which are then divided into verses. The Quran consists of 114 surahs of varying length, 6,666 verses and written in Arabic.

One of the surahs is Al-Baqarah. It is the second and the longest surah which consists of 286 verses. The surah had been named as the female cow. Therefore, there is a story of the cow slaughter. Al-Baqarah enjoins on the believer during the month of Ramadan. In this surah, it has also the notable verse namely *Ayatul Kursi*, which is the greatest verse.

Reading and understanding every verse of Quran are very prominent for Muslims to represent the absolute obedience to God and His words. That is why translators made the translation of Quran in variety of language to make easy for Muslims understanding the content of Quran. Abdullah Yusuf Ali is one of the best translators in the world. He was a renowned English translator and commentator of

Quran. His translation and commentary have been published many times and are used widely in the English speaking world as well as places where English is read and understood (Zain, 2013: 1).

Compounding is one of processes of creating a new word. Spencer (2001: 1) states, "A compound is a word which consists of two or more word". It is in line with opinion of Fromkin et al (2003: 57) who state that compound words are two or more words which are combined into a new form. The creation of new word is basically discussed in Morphology, as it is defined as the study of the form or word structure. Haspelmath and Sims (2010: 1) state, "Morphology is the study of internal structure of words".

In this study, the writers deal with the morphological analysis of compound words used in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali because there are a number of compound words inside, as the writer serves below. A compound word generally uses two bases or roots which can be seen in the following data:

1. ...”Who believe in the Unseen, are *steadfast* in prayer, and spend out what We have provided for them”;
2. ...”Or (another similitude) is that of a *rain-laden* cloud from the sky: In it are zones of darkness, and thunder and lightning...”

The italic words are the example of compound words. The term *steadfast* consists of two roots, in which *steadfast* is a compound formed by combining the noun *stead* with the adjective *fast*. While the term *rain-laden* also consists of two roots (*rain* (N) + *laden* (Adj)) which are separated by a hyphen (-).

Compound words generally exist in unspaced forms as in *steadfast* above, and hyphenated forms as *rain-laden*. Fromkin et al (2003: 61) state, “A

compound is spelled with a space between the two words, with a hyphen, or with no separation at all depends on the idiosyncrasies of the particular compound, as shown, for example, in *blackbird*, *gold-tail*, and *smoke screen*".

A morphological analysis of compound word using McCarthy's which is combined with O'Grady and Guzman's theory has never been conducted before. Recently the research on compound word was conducted under Lieber's, Plag's and Ullman's theory. That is why this study provides different perspective analysis view by using McCarthy's theory for the types of compound word and O'Grady and Guzman's theory for the structures of compound word.

By so doing, the writers propose a study entitled, "A Morphological Analysis of Compound Words Used in English Translation of Surah Al-Baqarah Translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali".

B. Literature Review

According to McCarthy (2001: 59), compounds are words which are formed by combining morphemes. In addition, Akmajian (2001: 32) states that new words formed from already existing words by known as a process compounding, in which individual words are combined together to form a compound word. For example, the noun *ape* can be combined with the noun *man* to form the compound noun *ape-man*; the adjective *sick* can be combined with the noun *room* to form the compound noun *sickroom*; the adjective *red* can be combined with the adjective *hot* to compound adjective *red-hot*.

Furthermore, Booij (2005: 95) states, "Compound words are the combination of two words, in which one word modifies the meaning of other, the

head”. It is also called composition which is the most frequently used way of making new words.

Some words are written in one word without a space such as *blackboard*, *windmill*, *greenhouse*, *nationwide*, and *overlook*. The common criteria which can identify the compound words are without a space, a hyphen (-) and the stress is in the first word. For example, the expression a *green house* is a phrase word which has second stress word. The meaning is the house that is green, whereas expression *greenhouse*, the main stress is in first word.

Compounds tend to have a stress pattern that is different from the phrases (Plag, 2002: 175). While phrases tend to be stressed phrase-finally (on the last word), compounds tend to be stressed on the first element. It can be concluded that the way of pronouncing the compound words differs from phrases. In line with Fromkin et al (2003: 95), “Pronunciation of compounds differs from the way we pronounce the sequence words forming a noun phrase”. In compound, the first word is usually stressed (pronounced somewhat louder and higher in pitch) and in a noun phrases the second word is stressed (Fromkin et al, 2003: 95). For example, we stress *Red* in *Redcoat* (compound), but *coat* in *red coat* (noun phrase).

There may be a number of different ways of classifying compound words. One classification is proposed by McCarthy. According to McCarthy (2002: 60), there are three types of compound. They are compound verbs, compound adjectives and compound nouns. Each type will be explained below:

1. Compound Verbs

Compound verbs mean that compound have a verb as rightmost word. McCarthy gives the examples of compound verbs as follows:

- a. Verb-Verb (VV): stir-fry, freeze-dry.
- b. Noun-Verb (NV): hand-wash, air-condition, steam-clean.
- c. Adjective-Verb (AV): dry-clean, whitewash.
- d. Preposition-Verb (PV): underestimate, outrun, overcook.

Based on the examples given above, most of them are written with a hyphen (-). All of those are right-headed, the rightmost become the head. In English, the rightmost word in a compound is the head of the compound (Fromkin et al, 2003: 93).

2. Compound Adjectives

Similar to compound verb, some of compound adjectives are right-headed as the example bellow:

- a. Noun-Adjective (NA): sky-high, coal-black, nationwide.
- b. Adjective-Adjective (AA): deep-blue, red-hot, squeaky-clean.
- c. Preposition-Adjective (PA): over-ripe, in-grown.

3. Compound Nouns

McCarthy (2002: 60) states, “Compound nouns are indeed the commonest type of compound in English”. Similar to compound verbs and compound adjectives, compound nouns are right-headed elements. They have a head and this head is the right member of compound, while the main stress word is on left. The followings are the examples of compound nouns:

- a. Verb-Noun (VN): jumpsuit, swearword, breakwater.
- b. Noun-Noun (NN): fire-engine, hairnet, toothpaste.

- c. Adjective-Noun (AN): bluebird, greenhouse, blackboard.
- d. Preposition-Noun (PN): in-laws, in-group, overcoat.

Still, McCarthy (2002: 64) divides the compound noun, compound verb, and compound adjective into headed and headless compound.

1. Headed Compound

Headed compound is compound which is determined by the element inside them. Headed compounds are regarded as having an internal center (McCarthy, 2002: 65). It is known as endocentric. Some examples of headed compounds are *blackboard* (a kind of board), *truck driver* (a kind of *driver*), and *windmill* (a kind of *mill*). From seeing the examples, it can be sum up that the referent of compound word is always same as the referent of its head.

2. Headless Compound

According to McCarthy (2002: 65), headless compound is compound which is not determined by any element inside them or they may not have internal structure. Headless compound is rare to find. It is in line with Akmajian's statement (2001: 35) that headless compound is compound in which the word does not contribute its semantic and grammatical feature to the meaning of compound word. For example, *pickpocket* is not a kind of *pocket*; the word *pocket* does not contribute to the meaning of compound and is not the head of the compound. *Pickpocket* can be recognized as headless compound since it does not refer to *pocket*. It is called as exocentric.

C. Method of Investigation

This study is conducted by using descriptive qualitative research to describe the forms of compound word used in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali. The writers analyze the data qualitatively and present the findings descriptively.

The source of data of this study is taken from English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali. The writers take an e-book of the Holly Qur'an Translated by Yusuf Ali which is written by Antony Gray (2000). The data of this research are limited on the words which are included in compound words.

The writers apply *Simak Bebas Libat Cakap (SBLC)* technique to collect the data. The writers act only as observers. They are not directly involved in the language which is being studied.

The writers implement *Teknik Bagi Unsur Langsung* (segmenting immediate constituents technique) as the technique of data analysis. According to Sudaryanto in Muhammad (2011: 247), *Teknik Bagi Unsur Langsung* (segmenting immediate constituents technique) is a technique of data analysis by dividing the construction directly into constituents. The steps which are used by the writers in analyzing the data are: listing all the compound words in the English translation of surah Al-Baqarah, segmenting each compound word by using *Teknik Bagi Unsur Langsung* (segmenting immediate constituents technique), drawing word tree diagram to describe the forms of compound words, identifying the types of compound words, and establishing the conclusion from the findings and interpretation of the analysis.

D. Findings and Discussion

The writers analyze the formation and the types of compound word: compound noun, compound adjective and compound verb used in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah, translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali.

There are 49 compound words found in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah, which are 29 compound nouns, 14 compound adjectives, and 6 compound verbs.

1. Compound Noun

There are 29 compound nouns found in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali. They are *hereafter, Last Day, thunder-clap, Guardian-Lord, dwelling-place, woman-folk, wrong-doers, pot-herbs, laughing-stock, good-will, Blazing Fire, offspring, evil-doers, mankind, footstep, goat-herb, wayfarer, wrong-doing, self-restraint, New Moon, Sacred Mosque, household, Sacred Monument, foster-mother, hand-hold, mountain-tops, rainfall, date-palm and whirlwind.*

This analysis is to describe the formations of compound word as well. Compound noun can be formed by different structures: Noun-Noun (NN), Verb-Noun (VN), Adjective-Noun (AN), and Adverb-Preposition (AdvP). The structures are as follows:

a. Noun-Noun (NN)

There are 15 compound nouns which are formed from noun word classes. The words are *thunder-clap, Guardian-Lord, woman-folk, pot-herb, fawn-colour, mankind, footsteps, goat-herd, wayfarer, self-restraint, household, mountain-top,*

hand-hold, rainfall, date-palm. For example, the analysis of *footsteps*
... *and do not follow the **footsteps** of the evil one, for he is to an avowed enemy.* (verse 168)

Footsteps is a compound word which is written with no space. It is formed by three morphemes, *foot*, *step*, and *-s*. The word *foot* means *the lowest part of leg* is combined with *step* which means *act of lifting your foot and putting it down in order to walk*, they generate a new word *footstep* carrying a meaning *the sound made by a person walking as their foot touches the ground, or a step*. As a result, it is categorized as headed compound, for the meaning is predictable and it has relation to the element inside *step*. In addition, this compound word tends to compound noun for the noun being the head of the compound and it is dominated by noun. *Footstep* is followed by suffix *-s* which indicates *more than one footstep*, adding suffix *-s* does not make any contribution to the meaning of the compound word, it only indicates the plural form of *footstep*. It is commonly called by an inflectional suffix.

b. Verb-Noun (VN)

There are 4 data of compound words which are constructed from verb and noun. Those are: *dwel-place*, *laugh-stock*, *foster-mother*, and *whirlwind*.

Foster-mother:

If ye decide on a foster-mother for your offspring... (verse 233)

The word *foster-mother* is considered as a compound word which is constructed by two morphemes; *foster* and *mother*. They come from free morphemes which can exist independently as words but they are from different word classes. *Foster* is verb, which means *to take care of another person's child into your home for a period of time without becoming legal parent* combined with the word *mother*, noun, which means *a female parent or a person who is acting as mother to a child* to make a new word *foster-mother* which is separated by a hyphen. The meaning of it is *a mother who fosters a child*. It is recognized as rightmost-headed compound for it refers to *mother* or it has semantic relation to the head *mother*. *Mother* is the head of the compound word. Likewise, it is classified into compound noun, for the noun is denoted by the compound word.

c. Adjective-Noun (AN)

Compound nouns which are constructed from adjective and noun are 10 compound words. Those are *Last Day*, *wrong-doers*, *good-will*, *Blazing Fire*, *offspring*, *evil-doer*, *wrong-doing*, *New Moon*, *Sacred Mosque*, *Sacred Monument*.

New Moon:

They ask thee concerning the New Moons...(189)

The word *New Moon* is written in capitalizing each word. Therefore, it is considered as a compound word which consists of two morphemes. The first is *New* which means *not existing before, recently*

made and the second is *Moon* which means *the round object that moves round the earth and shines at night*. Both are free morphemes, yet they have different identity; *New* is from adjective and *Moon* is noun. *New Moon* is classified as compound noun as the noun (*Moon*) becomes the head of the compound and is denoted by the compound word. The meaning of *New Moon* is *kind of moon, the moon when it is shaped like a crescent*. Thus, it is categorized as right-headed compound, for the meaning is predictable, it is linked to the word *moon* and the head is on the right.

d. Adverb-Preposition (AdvP)

A compound noun which is formed from Adverb-Preposition (AdvP) is *hereafter*.

Hereafter:

... *and (in their hearts) have the assurance of **Hereafter***. (verse 4)

The word *hereafter* is combined by two morphemes. The first morpheme is *here* (Adv) which means *point to place or position*, and the second morpheme is *after* (P) which means *subsequent to*. Both are free morphemes, because those morphemes can stand alone as words. The word *here* (Adv) and *after* (P) form a new word *hereafter* (N) which means *life after death*. Therefore, the compound word *hereafter* is the headless compound for its meaning has neither relation to *here* or *after*. The combination of morphemes (*here* and *after*) can be classified into compound noun.

2. Compound Adjective

There are 14 compound adjectives found in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali. They are *steadfast, rain-laden, oft-Returning, fawn-coloured, kindred, well-acquainted, all-Pervading, all-Knowing, all-Hearing, oft-Forgiving, well-known, whole-hearted, self-subsisting* and *trustworthy*.

Compound adjective can be formed by the formation Adjective-Adjective (AA), Noun-Adjective (NA), and Adverb-Adjective (AdvA).

a. Adjective-Adjective (AA)

There are 2 compound adjectives which are built from adjective word classes are *kindred* and *whole-hearted*.

Kindred:

*... worship none but Allah; treat with kindness your parents and **kindred**, and orphans and those in need; ... (verse 83)*

Kindred is a compound word which is written with no space. This compound is built from two morphemes, *kind* and *red*. Both are free morphemes and they have the same identities which are adjective word classes. A free morpheme *kind* which implies *friendly and thoughtful to others* and *red* implies *having the colour of blood or fire*. The combination of two free morphemes, *kind* and *red* forms a compound word *kindred* which implies *family or relative*. Thus, the word *kindred* tends to be headless compound noun because each element has no relation either to the word *kind* or *red* or the meaning of compound word *kindred* is not determined by the

element inside them either to the word *kind* or *red*.

b. Noun-Adjective (NA)

Compound adjectives which are constructed by noun and adjective word class are 4 compound words. Those are *steadfast*, *rain-laden*, *fawn-colored*, *trustworthy*, and *self-subsisting*.

Trustworthy:

*whoever rejects evil and believes in Allah hath grasped the most **trustworthy** handhold...* (256)

The compound word *trustworthy* is a compound adjective which consists of two morphemes, which are noun and verb word class. There are two morphemes *trust* and *worthy* and both are free morphemes which can exist independently as words and have meaning. The word *trust* means *the belief that somebody/something is good, sincere, honest, etc.* Then, the word *trust* is combined with the word *worthy* which means *deserving something*. Those two words are built together and written with no space to create a new compound word *trustworthy* which means *deserving to be trusted*. Therefore, it is categorized into headed compound, because the meaning of this compound word can be predictable and it has relation to the head of the compound word. In addition, it is called compound adjective for the head of the compound is adjective *worthy*.

c. Adverb-Adjective (AdvA)

The following data are the compound adjectives which are formed from adverb

and adjective word class are 8 compound words. Those are *oft-Forgiving*, *oft-Returning*, *well-acquainted*, *All-pervading*, *All-knowing*, *All-hearing*, *well-known*.

Well-known:

for Hajj are the months well-known..(verse 197)

Well-known is a compound word which is formed by more than two morphemes. The word *well* is adverb which is derived from adjective *good*. It is relatively called derivational process which changes the word class. Commonly derivational suffix which is attached to adjective is *-ly* but in this analysis it is irregular derivational suffix. Then, *known* is past participle form from *know*. In this case, *known* tends to be adjective word class for *known* (A) is derived from verb *know*. It is also commonly called derivational process. It changes the word class. The combination of the word *well* which means *in good, right or acceptable way* and the word *known* which means *recognized or known about by most people* form a new word which is separated by a hyphen (-), *well-known* (Adv-A) with the meaning *known about by a lot of people or famous*. Thus, it is classified into headed compound since it refers to the word *known* and contributes to the meaning of compound word. In addition, it is categorized into compound adjective for adjective *known* as the head of the compound and dominates the entire word.

3. Compound Verbs

There are 6 compound verbs found in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali. They are *set seal*, *understand*, *backslide*, *overlook*, *undertake* and *overflow*.

Compound Verb can be formed by formation Verb-Verb (VV) 1 compound word, Preposition-Verb (PV) 4 compound words, and Verb-Noun (VN) 1 compound word.

a. Verb-Verb (VV)

Compound verb which is formed by verb word class is *backslide*.

b. Preposition-Verb (PV)

There are 4 compound verbs which are formed by prepositional and verb word class are *understand*, *overlook*, *undertake*, *overflow*.

The above three types of compound words are divided based on the meaning of compound word into two groups: headed and headless compound. There are 39 headed compound words and 10 headless compound words. They are as follows:

1. Headed Compound

There are 39 headed compounds found in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali. They are *set seal*, *Last Day*, *rain-laden*, *thunder-clap*, *Guardian-Lord*, *dwelling-place*, *oft-returning*, *woman-folk*, *wrong-doers*, *pot-herbs*, *fawn-coloured*, *backslide*, *well-acquainted*, *all-pervading*, *Blazing Fire*, *evil-doers*, *mankind*, *footstep*, *goat-herb*, *oft-forgiving*, *wrong-doing*, *self-restraint*, *New Moon*, *Sacred Mosque*, *well-known*, *household*, *Sacred Monument*, *whole-hearted*, *foster-mother*, *self-subsisting*, *trustworthy*, *hand-hold*, *mountain-tops*, *rainfall*, *date-palm*, *whirlwind* and *overflow*.

2. Headless Compound

There 10 headless compounds found in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali. They are *steadfast, hereafter, understand, laughing-stock, good-will, kindred, overlook, offspring, wayfarer, and undertake.*

E. Conclusion

It can be referred that an analysis of compound word in English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali has all types of compound word. There are 49 compound words which are categorized into three types: compound noun 29 data, compound adjective 14 data and compound verb 6 data. Compound noun can be formed by the formulation Noun-Noun (NN), Verb-Noun (VN), Adjective-Noun (AN) and Adverb-Preposition (AdvP). Compound adjective can be composed by the formulation Adjective-Adjective (AA), Noun-Adjective (NA) and Adverb-Adjective (AdvA). While, compound verb can be formed by the formulation Verb-Verb (VV), Preposition-Verb (PV), and Verb-Noun (VN). Therefore, compound noun is the most dominant of compound words which are found on English translation of surah Al-Baqarah translated by Abdullah Yusuf Ali.

Acknowledgement

The writers would like to express the deepest gratitude to Mrs. Yuniar Fatmasari, S.S., M.A as the Head of English Education Study Program of Peradaban University.

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