

# The Meaning of Dialogue in the Quran: Pragmatic Studies

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## Abstract

Dialogue is not only in oral form; it can also be found in written texts. One of the written texts that contain dialogues is the holy book that becomes a guide for all mankind, which is the Quran. In every dialogue, whether written or unwritten, there are implicit and explicit meanings. Because of that, the researcher decided to study the existence of the implicit and explicit meaning in the dialogues of the Quran, and if the researcher found the implicit meaning, then the researcher will study them by using the appropriate theory. The researcher is using the qualitative approach for this research. And for this qualitative research, the researcher is using two methods in implementing it: the library method and textual analysis. The research method is divided into two parts: the data collection method and the data analysis method. In conclusion, the interpretation of meaning involving pragmatic areas in implicit dialogue from the Quranic verses is easier.

**Keywords:** Meaning, Dialogue, Al-Quran, Pragmatic

## Introduction

Dialogue is a system of natural human interaction in conveying messages and obtaining information. To achieve the desired objective, humans need to ascertain the purpose of the interaction and the information that is appropriate for the interaction. This kind of system usually examines the use of keywords used in interaction. Therefore, it pushes towards several issues that contain different criteria for getting to what the user of this dialogue system wants.

In every dialogue, whether written or unwritten, there are implicit and explicit meanings. The meaning conveyed implicitly will be difficult to get the desired results and in accordance with the author or listener. Yaakub and Mohamed (2018) have summarized Horn's (2004) description in which implicit is a component present in a person's speech whose intent or meaning implied by a speaker is different from what he says.

Whereas, explicit meaning is information that is stated so as to cause the reader to attempt to make inferences or conclusions if the information is not stated (Becher, 2011). According to Becher (2011) again, "Explicitness means stating something that the interlocutor may already understand."

This dialogue is not only focused orally, but it can also take place in the form of writing. Among the writing texts that contain dialogue verses is the holy book that is a guide for all mankind, namely the Qur'an. In the context of the Quran, dialogue is one form of language

style used in the construction of its verses. It is a form that describes how the da'wah delivered by the apostles is built based on a system of conversation that mandates the process of information sharing (Latif et al., 2014).

In the study of the meaning of the Qur'an, scholars must prove the authenticity of the data used by it. The aspects that are the milestones of the beauty of its language such as language barrel, processing of intent, techniques of conveying meaning, methods of expressing meaning and density of implicit and explicit meaning are beyond the limits of human thinking to match it (Zakaria et al., 2017).

The delivery of messages through written and spoken language communication requires an understanding of what is conveyed so that there is no mistake in giving meaning or interpreting something. The delivery of messages or ideas can be conveyed in various forms of meaning, namely in each meaning there are different meanings. The use of meaning will characterize each meaning to be achieved in every delivery of something in writing or unwritten. The meaning conveyed indirectly is still a lot of mistakes in giving meaning. In interpreting the meaning conveyed indirectly requires a deeper process to understand what is conveyed.

Interpreting a language meaning becomes a benchmark for readers to understand what the author wants to convey because there are many differences in terms of language, culture and customs in the use of language meanings. Therefore, many mistakes occur in interpreting meanings that differ in language, culture and customs (Narawaty, 2016).

Every verse uttered in the Quran contains a specific meaning. Incorrect interpretation of the verses of the Quran can have implications for the accuracy of the meaning of the verse. This is because the accuracy of the meaning of something said cannot be measured through mere expression because there are times when someone has another intention. What's more, the verses in the Qur'an certainly have implicit meanings that are so broad (Zakaria et al., 2017).

The mistake of misinterpreting the original author's intent has resulted in an incorrect translation. Even if this implied intent can be interpreted correctly, it is sometimes difficult to find an equivalent word in the target language that can convey all the features of meaning. This results in over-translation or under-translation (Pillay, 2002).

Therefore, the reviewer is interested in studying the existence of implicit and explicit meanings in dialogue utterances in the Qur'an and if the existence of this implicit meaning, then the reviewer will study it using the appropriate theory.

### **Literature Review**

Othman and Hamzah (2020) through the study of implicit elements in the lyrics of the song 'Rapuh' have used Relevance theory by Sperber and Wilson (1986) through three ideas namely context, context impression and process cost. This study focuses on the meaning of implicit utterances in song lyrics using Relevance theory. The results of the study found that there are three data that have implicit meaning found from the aspects of words, phrases and sentences.

As for Nopiah and Nasrong (2020) through the study of the meaning of implicit utterances in Mat Luthfi's vlog which also uses Relevant theory in analyzing these implicit elements. The study found that there were ten utterances in the vlog containing implicit elements. This study explains that the utterances used by the Malay community can carry various meanings, not just the literal meaning to be understood and interpreted into the

utterance. Thus, the interpretation of the meaning of an utterance becomes easier to interpret with the presence of Relevance theory.

Meanwhile, Zakaria et al (2017) through their study of the implicit meaning of question utterances in surah al-Naml aims to identify and describe the explicit and implicit meanings contained in question utterances and the meaning of utterances based on context. The results of the study found that question utterances in surah al-Naml are not only used for the function of orders or questions but also as expressors of various other purposes such as persuasion, encouraging thinking, giving warnings, advising, reproaching and so on.

Next, Kadir and Hamzah (2017) have used Relevance theory to analyze the meaning of implicit speech in the Classical Malay film 'Sri Mersing'. The result of the study found that there are five passages that contain implicit utterances in this film. This leads to the need for the application of Relevance theory to analyze the elements of implicit speech meaning based on context, context impression and process cost. The essence of the study found that the community already understands the richness of meaning implicit in the Malay language.

Abdullah (2015) focused his study on the implicit and explicit forms of meaning in the book 'Rihlah Ibn Batutah' and reviewed the cultural influences and strategies used in translation in dealing with the translation difficulties of these implicit and explicit forms of meaning. The results of the study not only show that implicit and explicit meanings are driven by cultural factors in general but are also significantly influenced by religious factors, Arabic rhetorical features, lexico-graphic, pragmatics, communication choices and target language politeness values as well as the communication strategy of the dialogue itself.

Latif et al (2014) have studied the dialogues of the two ways as a whole in the surahs of the Quran, so as to identify the existence of these dialogues based on the Makkiyah and Madaniyyah surahs and suggest the relevance of these dialogues from the aspect of sprinkling in the surahs as a Qur'anic strategy in reciting the Quran. The findings show that the dialogues of the two ways are mostly in the long surahs and in the Makkiyah surahs. The study findings also prove that the Qur'an is a miracle from Allah SWT which is the most crowded and often read by humans.

Latif also examined the verses of the two-way dialogue found in the Quran by involving three structures, namely the macro structure (thematic), superstructure (schematic) and micro structure (language style). The elements resulting from the analysis of the three structures have produced the basic framework for the development of the Quranic Two-Way Dialogue Model (MDHQ) presented in this study.

It can be concluded that this study contributes to the study of pragmatics in Malaysia. However, the study of implicit and explicit meanings, especially those involving dialogues in the Qur'an is still less emphasized by freelance reviewers. In this regard, through the spotlight of freelance studies, it has opened up space for reviewers to examine and study more deeply the implicit and explicit meanings of dialogues in the Qur'an. The reviewer will identify the explicit and implicit meanings and summarize the implicit meanings contained in the dialogues from the Qur'an by using the Relevance theory through the main ideas, namely context, context effects and processing efforts.

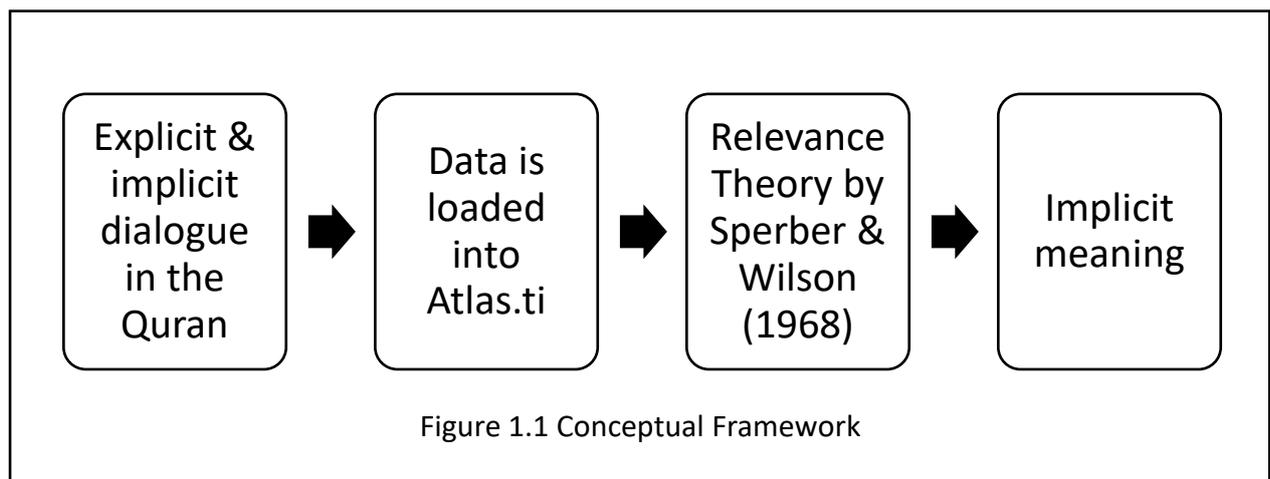
## **Methodology**

The reviewer used a qualitative approach for this study. For this qualitative study, the reviewer used two methods in carrying out this study, namely the method of literature and textual analysis. The method of study is divided into two parts, namely the method of data collection and the method of data analysis.

The reviewer obtains detailed information about the study by examining the reading sources or reference books related to it. Since this study is related to the Quran, the reference sources are from the Quran and the books of muktabar commentaries. The dialogue verses from the Quran have been excluded to further facilitate the process of interpreting speech.

This is done to obtain the implicit and explicit utterances conveyed in the dialogue verses in the Quran and see how far the meaning or message can be conveyed to the reader. Those dialogue verses that potentially contain implicit speech are then interpreted using the Relevance theory.

### Proposed Conceptual Framework



The above diagram illustrates the process involved in the overall study undertaken. The first step involves the process of the reviewer identifying the explicit dialogue and the implicit dialogue utterances in the Quran. Subsequently, the identified implicit dialogue utterances will be analyzed meticulously using the Relevance theory founded by Sperber & Wilson (1965) for deciphering the implicit meaning contained in the dialogue utterances.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, the interpretation of meaning involving the field of pragmatics of implicit utterances in Quranic dialogue verses can facilitate the interpretation of meaning. The implicit meaning through utterances containing Quranic dialogue verses in this study explains the importance of in-depth interpretation of meaning to ensure that vague meanings can be avoided. This is because the meaning of a word that comes out of someone's speech is not only solely dependent on the explicit meaning that can be interpreted in a layered interpretation alone, but needs to be interpreted in more depth with its implicit meaning.

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