
**AN ANALYSIS OF PERSONIFICATION IN NEW INTERNATIONAL
VERSION BIBLE: PHILIPPIANS BOOK**

Christian Deendomu¹, Diana Anggraeni², Bob Morison Sigalingging³
Universitas Bangka Belitung, Indonesia
christ.deendomuu22@gmail.com

Abstract

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Objectives: *This study aims to identify the types of personification and explain the meanings of personification in the Book of Philippians as well as explain the relationship between the meaning of personification and the entire contents of the Book of Philippians. Method: The research method used is descriptive-qualitative to collect data. Method qualitative this can used on one data time or in approach data collection during period time certain. Results: The results of this study indicate that there are 55 personification data, namely 20 noun personification data, 14 verb personification, 13 adjective personification, and 8 adverb personification. In this study, conceptual meaning has a dominant and important role because conceptual meaning is needed when the Apostle Paul conveys a message about a joyful life in the Lord Jesus, even in times of joy and sorrow for believers in Philippi. Conclusion: In Overall, the essence of the book of Philippians discuss about jo, speech gratitude, obedience, responsibility Answer, unit faith in Jesus Christ, fellowship in news The Bible, as well fellowship in suffering Jesus Christ as well as fellowship in power spirit. resurrection. All That is experience experienced by the Apostle Paul when spread news Gospel to the believers in Philippi.*

Correspondent Author : Christian Deendomu

E-mail: christ.deendomuu22@gmail.com



INTRODUCTION

Language is undoubtedly one of the means of communication between humans (Triyanto et al., 2019). It mainly consists of vowel sounds. It is articulation, systematic, symbolic and arbitrary. Language is increasingly developing its many variations in human life, because humans will never be able to communicate with each other without language. Language is a complex symbolic system that people use to communicate with each other, get information, convey their ideas, express their opinions, and more with language. (Mudjiyanto & Nur, 2013). The language used by people also refers to linguistic studies.

The scientific study of language is referred to as linguistics, and its main focus is the systematic examination of the characteristics of language in general as well as the properties of specific languages. It includes not only the study of sound, grammar, and meaning, but also the family history of language, the processes by which children and adults acquire language, the mental processing of language use, and the relationship between race and gender. (Farhurohman, 2017).

Michael Halliday argues that semantics comes from Greek: *sema* in English means 'sign' and the word *samaino* means 'sign' or 'meaning' (Salsabila & Simatupang, 2021). This term is used by linguists to refer to the part of linguistics that studies meaning. Semantics is

a branch of linguistics that studies meaning. Meaning learned by semantics is context-free meaning. Some are lexical and some are grammatical.

The use of figurative language demands consideration of how such usage differs between languages and which raises general questions about how linguistic and cultural patterns are related to cognition (Dancygier & Sweetser, 2014). Figurative language is also useful in explaining abstract concepts by comparing them with other things that readers can better relate to (Syafitri & Marlinton, 2018). In literature and poetry, writers often use it to pinpoint feelings or moods that they cannot express in more conventional words. Figurative language is a way to engage readers or listeners to be more creative in interpreting the words and writings that we convey as well as possible (Dwiraharjo, 2020).

However, personification is the main issue here because personification in this study is classified as figurative language and is closely related to semantic studies (Dorst, 2011). The interest of this research very rarely raises personification as a topic of analysis of the object of study used in this research. This study is also designed to find out how sharp the scope of the use of personification on the object of this study is. It is very interesting to analyze personification to find the types of personification and draw conceptual conclusions from the personification content found in the research object (Andhini & Arifin, 2021).

The Scriptures, more specifically the New International Version Bible: The Philippians book was chosen as the object of study because it is an interesting analysis in studying and examining more deeply the verses that are classified as personifications in parts of the New Testament. This study also aims to make it easier for Philippians readers to find classifications of the types of personification and to find out the relationship between the meaning of personification and the entire contents of Philippians. This study analyzes 104 verses in the New International Version of the Philippians Bible. Data analysis explains clearly how much use of personification in the existing data is classified into verses with personification.

According to Walter Melion's book entitled *Personification: Manifesting Meaning and Emotion*, there are four types of personification such as noun personification, verb personification, adjective personification, adverb personification. There are also three meanings such as conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, and affective meaning which are explained in the discussion section of the first problem formulation. The definition of three meanings based on the theory of Walter Melion:

Conceptual Meaning

Based on the theory, conceptual meaning is also intended to be explained as a specified meaning or denotative meaning. Conceptual meaning, also known as denotative meaning, is considered an important factor in every communication (Yunira et al., 2019). Conceptual meaning is very important in language. Conceptual meaning can be known after connecting or comparing it at the language level (Ruruk, 2014). Conceptual meaning is the meaning that corresponds to the reference of several words, phrases, and sentences.

Connotative Meaning

Connotation is a word that has another meaning behind it or something related to a word (Khamidovna, 2022). In other words, connotation is a word that has a figurative meaning. The connotative meaning is the figurative meaning or not the actual word and is related to the value of taste. The connotative meaning is influenced by the values and norms adopted by a particular society, which also causes differences in the social function of words that have almost the same meaning. The characteristics of a word or sentence that has a

connotative meaning are: Connotative meaning occurs when the word has a sense value, either positive or negative. If it has no taste value, it can also be called a neutral connotation. The connotative meaning of a word can differ from one community group to another, according to the view of life and norms that exist in that society. Connotative meanings can also change from time to time.

Affective Meaning

Affective meaning is also commonly referred to as emotive meaning. This is because the emotional greeting of the word or sentence will be affected. Feelings or emotions that arise can be either positive or negative emotions. This effect depends on the word used. Examples of words that contain affective meanings are dog, honesty, and rape. The word "dog" will have a more negative emotional effect on the reader or listener. The word "rape" can evoke negative emotions such as anger. Therefore, the words "dog" and "rape" are examples of negative affective meanings. In contrast to the word "honest" which has more impact on the emergence of positive feelings, and is an example of a word that has a positive affective meaning.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach because this research presents an analysis of personification as a type of figurative language found in the Book of Philippians. Condon L. A and Coulson N. S (2017) explain that qualitative methods are useful for presenting something specific, namely understanding information in depth (Sholikhah, 2016) . This qualitative method can be used at one time of data or in an approach to collecting data over a period of time. This study uses printed documents of the Book of Philippians in the New International Version of the Bible as data to fulfill data validity and there are several steps in collecting data, such as: 1) Reading and studying the Book of Philippians intensively, 2) Typing several verses that are classified as personified verses and making data table of personified verses according to understanding and theory, 3) Identifying the types of personified verses, 4) Categorizing each datum of personified verses into one type of personification based on the theory of Walter Melion, 5) Conducting a literature study on the relationship between the meaning of personification and the entire contents of the Bible Philippians. Literature study is based on an understanding of the interpretation of the Book of Philippians by Pastor Billy Kristanto, Ph.D., Th.D., and 6) Collect all data in a coherent and clear manner. The stages of data analysis of this study focused more on: 1) Classifying and explaining the meaning of personified verses from the data classification table, 2) Explaining the relationship between the meaning of personified verses and the entire contents of the New International Version of the Bible: The Book of Philippians based on the interpretation of Pastor Billy Kristanto, Ph.D., Th.D.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analysis of Personification Types and Meaning Classification

Conceptual Meaning

Noun personification

Example:

5th

Philippians 1:11 (NIV) - full of the fruit of righteousness that came through Jesus Christ to glorify and praise God.

Phrases in bold above are classified into Noun Personification.

20th

Philippians 2:8 (NIV) - And in human form, He humbled Himself by being obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross!

The bolded phrases above focus on Noun Personification.

Personification of the verb

Example:

4th

Philippians 1:10 (NIV) - so you can discern what is best and be pure and blameless for Christ's day,

The phrases in bold above are classified under Personification of the Verb.

30th

Philippians 2:23 (NIV) - Therefore, I hope to send it as soon as I see how I am doing.

The phrases in bold above focus on Personification of the Verb.

Adjective personification

Example:

31st

Philippians 2:24 (NIV) - And I am sure in the Lord that soon I myself will come.

Phrases in bold above are classified into Adjective Personification.

Adverb personification

Example:

Date 21

Philippians 2:10 (NIV) - ..., that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

The phrases in bold above are classified as adverb personification.

27th

Philippians 2:19 (NIV) - In the Lord Jesus I hope to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too will be comforted when I receive news about you.

The phrases in bold above are classified as adverb personification.

CONOTATIVE MEANING

Noun personification

Example:

2nd date

Philippians 1:5 (NIV) - ..., because of your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now,

Phrases in bold above are classified into Noun Personification.

13th

Philippians 1:28 (NIV) - ..., without any fear by those who oppose you. This is a sign for them that they will be destroyed, but you will be saved and by God.

The bolded phrases above focus on Noun Personification.

Personification of the verb

Example:

9th

Philippians 1:21 (NIV) - To me to live is Christ and to die is gain.

The phrases in bold above are classified under Personification of the Verb.

42nd

Philippians 3:14 (NIV) - ..., I press on toward the goal of winning the prize for which God has called me to heaven in Christ Jesus.

The phrases in bold above focus on Personification of the Verb.

Adjective personification

Example:

18th

Philippians 2:5 (NIV) – In your relationship with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.

Phrases in bold above are classified into Adjective Personification.

40th

Philippians 3:9 (NIV) - ..., and being in Him, have not my own righteousness which is of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ--the righteousness which comes from God by faith.

Phrases in bold above are classified into Adjective Personification.

Adverb personification

Example:

24th

Philippians 2:15 (NIV) - ..., that you may be blameless and pure, “sons of God without fault in a crooked and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.

The phrases in bold above are classified as adverb personification.

46th

Philippians 3:20 (NIV) – But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, Lord Jesus Christ,

The phrases in bold above are classified as adverb personification.

AFFECTIVE DEFINITIONS

Noun personification

Example:

3rd

Philippians 1:9 (NIV) - And this is my prayer: that your love may increase in knowledge and depth of insight,

Phrases in bold above are classified into Noun Personification.

23rd

Philippians 2:13 (NIV) - ..., for it is God who is working in you both to will and to act to fulfill his good purposes.

The bolded phrases above focus on Noun Personification.

Personification of the verb

Example:

10th

Philippians 1:23 (NIV) – I am torn between the two: I want to go and be with Christ, who is so much better;

The phrases in bold above are classified under Personification of the Verb.

Adjective personification

Example:

17th

Philippians 2:3 (NIV) - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain pride. Instead, in humility esteem others above yourself,

Phrases in bold above are classified into Adjective Personification.

47th

Philippians 4:2 (NIV) - I begged Euodia and I begged Syntyche to be of the same mind in God.

Phrases in bold above are classified into Adjective Personification.

The Relationship between the Meaning of Personification and the Overall Contents of the New International Version of the Bible: The Philippians

The conceptual meaning in the foregoing is related to the entire book of Philippians. The connection because of this meaning can clearly explain to the believers in Philippi that the Apostle Paul was still happy in preaching the Gospel and the joy that the Apostle Paul had did not decrease even though he was in prison. The Apostle Paul also received many invitations to rejoice through this book of Philippians, where he stated clearly what basis he wanted for believers in Christ Jesus who were in Philippi. The Apostle Paul also taught the believers in Philippi not to give up easily and not to give up easily in preaching the Gospel (Witoto, 2021). This is similar to him where he was locked up in prison but he was not restricted in his own freedom to rejoice and preach the gospel to the people of Philippi.

The connotative meaning in the book of Philippians, the Apostle Paul describes an analogy that is difficult for human logic to understand and can only be understood by believers who are given the Holy Spirit by God. The intended connotative meaning is to include a meaningful moral message to grow the Philippians' faith through an allegory that can only be understood with a strong faith in Jesus Christ. In this case, the Apostle Paul gave thanks and rejoiced because he was allowed to be a witness to the fellowship of preaching the Gospel. The gospel itself is good news and good news, and hearing the work of preaching the gospel and fellowshiping in it was a great joy for the Apostle Paul (Magdalena & Tampenawas, 2021).

Affective meaning is basically the meaning that invites or influences Christians to do what is stated in the book of Philippians. The invitation from the Apostle Paul was to spread love to fellow Christians and also invite them to fellowship and pray. Not only that, the Apostle Paul also wanted the believers in Philippi to have a unity of faith in Jesus Christ, to become like-minded believers, and not to be easily divided. They must build unity of heart and mind in the work of spreading the Gospel and other good works mandated by the Lord Jesus (Sinaga et al., 2023).

CONCLUSION

There were 55 data analyzed in this study consisting of 20 verses with noun personification, 14 verses with verb personification, 13 verses with adjective personification, and 7 verses with adverb personification. This study elaborates on 25 data in the analysis section. Looking at the data analysis, it can be concluded that through this research, each type of personification gives a certain identity by mentioning three meanings obtained from the results of the analysis, namely conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, and affective meaning. In accordance with the discussion of the first problem formulation, the most dominant conceptual meaning is used in the Book of Philippians. Conceptual meaning is a special meaning that refers to several words, phrases, and sentences while the Book of Philippians discusses the teaching that Christ is the life of believers, teaching about the life of Christ as an example for Christian life, knowing Christ as happiness. for the Christian life, and teaches that Christ is the propitiation for the Christian life. There is a conceptual meaning which is a special meaning of the entire book of Philippians, because this meaning is needed in the book of Philippians which teaches about how the Apostle Paul taught that a life full of joy is always in the Lord Jesus, even in difficulties and tribulations . Whereas in accordance with the discussion of the second problem formulation, the answer is three meanings such as conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, and affective meaning, related to the book of Philippians according to their respective roles. These three meanings are useful for Philippian believers in understanding the content of each verse which contains an element of personification in it. Overall, the essence of the book of Philippians discusses joy, thanksgiving, obedience, responsibility, unity of faith in Jesus Christ, fellowship in preaching the Gospel, as well as fellowship in the sufferings of Jesus Christ and fellowship in the power of the Spirit. resurrection. All of these are the experiences experienced by the Apostle Paul when spreading the gospel news to the believers in Philippi.

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