THE WORD OF '*BASAR*' AND ITS MERONYM IN QURAN: COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN QURANIC DICTIONARIES

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Abstract

The knowledge on the meaning of Quranic individual words is one of the essential prerequisite in order to comprehend the verses of Quran. A specific semantic relation to linguistics namely as meronym, represents a structural sense relation between meanings that become a fundamental part of, and refers to a bundle of different part-to-whole relationships of a word. The understanding of meronym relations, are at the heart of many question-answering systems and define the root meaning of the word itself. Therefore, this study aims to discuss the meaning of the word *Basar* and its meronym in Quran based on a comparison between four Quran dictionaries which are *Quran Corpus, Al-Mu'jam Al-Mufahras li Alfaz Al-Quran, Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha* and *Mu'jam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim.* The study applied document analysis by identifying the meronym of word basar in Quran. Then the data was analysed and compared between those aformentioned dictionaries. The findings obtained shows that ʿ*Ayn* is the meronym of the word *Basar* that means eye. The study also found that there are similarities and differences regarding the frequency of word *Basar* and ʿ*Ayn* between these sources. A comparative study of these words in Quran would therefore be of great interest, and the further discussions are expected to explain the comparison of the word *Basar* and ʿ*Ayn* in Quran based on other Quran linguistic sources.

Keywords: Basar, Quran, Meronym, Comparative

1. INTRODUCTION

The two primary sources of Islam consist of Quran and Sunnah came with Arabic language. Allah says in His verse: "Indeed, We have made it an Arabic that you might understand" (Surah al-Zukhruf: 3). Therefore, a

good understanding of Arabic language is a requirement to learn and understand the meanings indicated by the Quran and Sunnah with respect to Islamic Law (Hamidah Mat & Wan Mohamad Ubaidillah, 2016). Quran language is different from any other classical Arabic text in term of its eloquence and style. It is also rich in its vocabulary, morphology and syntactic structures. Within the same verses, some words of Quran bring their own contextual meanings. For instance, the word *fitnah* in the Quran came out with eleven different meanings in different contexts (Maha Alrabia et al., 2014). Allah has chosen each word in the Quran for a purpose as it is part of its miracle. There is a lot of things have been mentioned in Quran that have their own specific meaning and function. This feature and some more make the Quran as the most challenging Arabic text to be understood and man need to study the meanings of the words through analysis of their distributional semantics in contemporaneous texts (Muhammad Luqman et al., 2017).

Semantic plays an important role of Arabic language processing with a composite morphology that are categorized as nouns, particles and verbs (Ahmad T. Al-Taani and Alaa M. Al-Gharaibeh, 2010). The important of linguistic features for the Arabic linguists can be considered as synonym, antonym, hypernym, hyponym, meronym, holonym and association relations in Arabic language (Hossam Ishkewy et al., 2014). In this study, the researchers will discuss about meronym that will be focus on the Arabic word *Basar* in Quran. Meronymy means a structural sense relation between meanings while part-whole is a relation between two physical entities (Misbah M. D. Al-Sulaimaan & Amal Y. Muhammed, 2006). It also can be defined as a noun phrase that represents a part of a whole (Mitra Bokaei Hosseini et al., 2016). Meanwhile, *Basar* according to *almaany* dictionary means eyesight, seeing, sight and vision (almaany, n.d). In Wikipedia, *Basar* is elaborated as the visual perception, eyesight, sight, or vision resulting from the ability to interpret the surrounding environment using light in the visible spectrum reflected by the objects in the environment (Wikipedia1, n.d). It is mentioned a lot in the Quranic verses such as in surah al-Mulk, Allah says: "So return [your] vision [to the sky]; do you see any breaks?" Hence, this study will reveal the word *Basar* in Quran and its meronym referring to four different Quranic dictionaries.

As mentioned above, the four different dictionaries are *Quran Corpus, Mu'jam Mufahras Li Alfaz Al-Quran, Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha* and *Mujam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim. Quran Corpus* was created by Kais and his colleagues from University of Leeds aims to produce a new linguistic resource rich in morphological information that enables people to do more analysis of the Quran and generally contribute to the research in Arabic Natural Language Processing community (Zeroual Imad & Lakhouaja Abdelhak, 2014). It is also an online annotated linguistic resource consists of 77,430 words of Quranic Arabic that shows the Arabic grammar, syntax and morphology for each word in the Quran. (Kais Dukes & Nizar Habash, 2010). *Mu'jam al-Mufahras Li Alfaz al-Quran* is the second resource in this study compiled by Muhammad Fuad Abdul Baqi. It is a reference that collecting Quranic verses based on the root of word according to its alphabetical order (*alif - ya*). It comes with number and name of the Surah (Al-Baqi, 1364H).Thirdly, *Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha* by Muḥammad Ḥusayn Abu al-Futuḥ is the Quranic dictionary that arranged in alphabetical order, taking into consideration the form of the word at the same time focuses on the word of Quran and its frequency (Abu al-Futuḥ, 1990). Meanwhile, Fourthly, *Mu'jam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim* by Arabic Language Academy is a dictionary that organized into alphabetical order with the description of meaning and Quranic verses included the name and number of Surah (Arabic Language Academy, 1988). These four dictionaries will be compared by researchers in term of similarities and differences of the word *Basar* and its meronym.

2. METHODOLOGY

A methodology means a set of methods that define the process and order of how something is to be achieved (Andrew & Ainslie, 2000). This study applied qualitative approach by using document analysis. It involved four steps as follow:

1. Identifying meronym for the Arabic word "*basar*"

2. Analyzing words of "*basar*" and it meronym which is *"ayn"* in al-Quran.

3. Morphological analysis was applied to explore distribution of word types (noun, verb, active participle, passive participle and verbal noun).

4. Analyzing the words that have the same root but in different forms and types in a sentence or several sentences. The similarities and differences between the frequency of words and the form of words according to Arabic grammar between the four Quranic dictionaries were analyzed to produce comparative results.
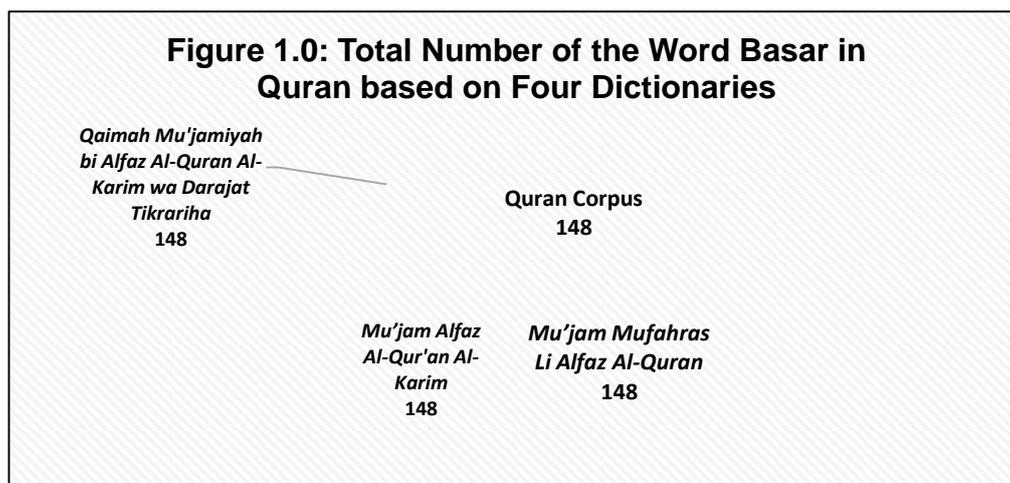
3. RESULTS

This part will discuss about the word *Basar* and its meronym in Quran according to *Quran Corpus, Mu'jam*

Mufahras Li Alfaz Al-Quran, Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha and *Mujam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim.* The study shows that the meaning of *Basar* is eyesight, sight, or vision and the part of *Basar* is *'Ayn* which means eye according to *almaany*. Eye is a sense organ which reacts to light and pressure that allows vision (Wikipedia2, n.d). The researchers aim to compare between the word *Basar* and *'Ayn* in the Quran based on four dictionaries.

3.1 *Basar* in Quran Corpus, *Al-Mu'jam Al-Mufahras li Alfaz Al-Quran, Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha* and *Mujam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim*

According to figure 1.0 below, the study reveals that the total of the word *Basar* in Quran according to *Mu'jam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim* is the lowest which is 145 times while the other dictionaries is the same in total that is 148 times. Regarding to the figure, QC refers to *Quran Corpus,* MM refers to *Al-Mu'jam Al-Mufahras li Alfaz Al-Quran*, QM refers to *Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha* and MA means *Mujam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim*.

Figure 1.0: Total Number of the Word Basar in Quran based on Four Dictionaries

Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha **148**

Quran Corpus 148

Mu'jam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al-Karim **148**

Mu'jam Mufahras Li Alfaz Al-Quran **148**

Sources: The Quranic Arabic Corpus (n.d), Al-Baqi (1364H), Abu al-Futuḥ (1990) & Arabic Language Academy (1988)

3.1.1 Quran Corpus

Acording to this dictionary, *Basar* with the root *bā ṣād rā* occurs 148 times in the Quran consists of four forms include verb (*fi'il*), noun (*isim*), active participle (*isim al-fi'il*) and verbal noun (*al-masdar*). Verb is an action word in relation to time that is past (*fi'il al-mādhi*), present (*fi'il al-mudhāri'*) and imperative (*fi'il amar*) (Zahoor Ahmed, 2008). Verbs of *Basar* in *Quran Corpus* involves all tenses such as *baṣurat* (past tense), *abṣara* (present tense) and *absir* (imperative tense). There are also noun which is *baṣīr* means All-Seer. The noun consists of singular (*mufrad*) and plural *(jama')*. A few of active participle for the word *Basar* in Quran such as *mubṣiran* means giving visibility and *mub'ṣiratan* that is visible. Besides, the verbal noun includes *tabṣiratan* means giving insight. It is the source from which all the nouns and verbs are derived (Izzath Uroosa, 2010). There are nominal sentences (*al-Jumlah al-Ismiyah*) consists of the subject (*al-mubtada'*) and the predicate (*al-Khabar*) such as the word *baṣīrun* in the verse *inna Allaha bima ta'malun basiir* (Zahoor Ahmed, 2008).

3.1.2 Mu'jam Mufahras Li Alfaz Al-Quran

There are 148 times of word with root *bā ṣād rā*. All tenses of verb for the word *Basar* contained in this dictionary. In addition, several noun are identified consists of singular such as *baṣarihi* and plural such as *al-abṣāru*. The example of verbal noun is *tabṣiratan* while for nominal is the word *baṣīran* and *mub'ṣiran* for active participle.

3.1.3 Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha

The word *Basar* repeats 148 times in this dictionary. It is found that the total of the word *Basir* is the most in Quran which is 53 times. The verb can be found in all tenses while noun exists in singular and plural. In addition, the word *Basar* also available in verbal noun, nominal and active participle.
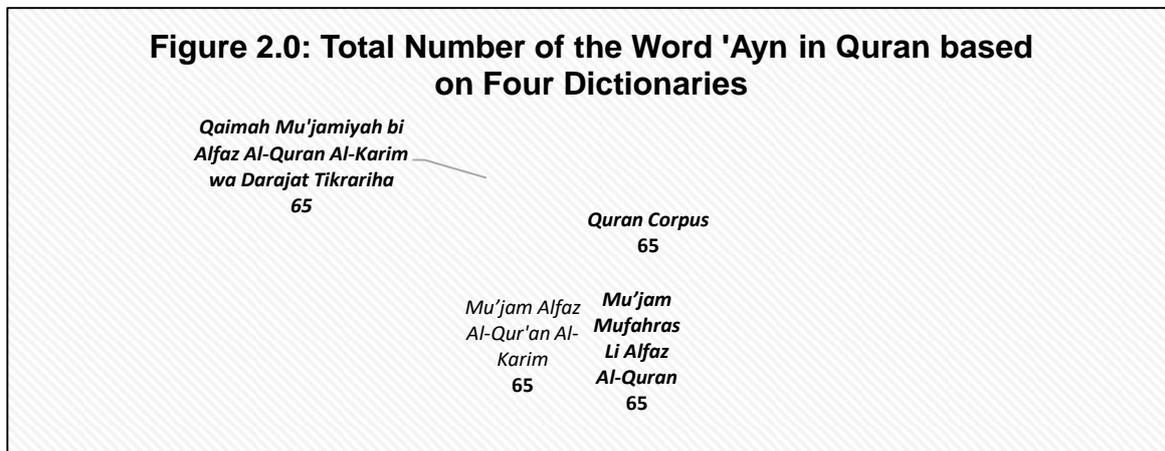
3.1.4 Mu'jam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al-Karim

The word Basar in this dictionary occurs 145 times in the form of verbs with all tenses that are past tense

such as *basurtu*, present tense which is *yubsirun* and imperative that is *absir*. There are also noun in singular and plural, verbal noun, nominal and active participle.

3.2 *'Ayn in Quran Corpus, Al-Mu'jam Al-Mufahras li Alfaz Al-Quran, Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha and Mujam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim*

Figure 2.0 below shows that the total of word frequency for *'Ayn* is the same for the four dictionaries which is 65 times.

Figure 2.0: Total Number of the Word 'Ayn in Quran based on Four Dictionaries

Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha **65**

Quran Corpus **65**

Mu'jam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al-Karim **65**

Mu'jam Mufahras Li Alfaz Al-Quran **65**

Sources: The Quranic Arabic Corpus (n.d), Al-Baqi (1364H), Abu al-Futuḥ (1990) & Arabic Language Academy (1988)

3.2.1 Quran Corpus

The triliteral root *ʿayn yā nūn* repeats 65 times in the Quran, in two derived forms. Firstly, it is in the noun form which is 57 times includes singular, dual (*mutsanna*) and plural. In addition, it is also as the nominal *ʿīn* and *maʿīn*. For example, the word *'inun* in the verse *wa 'indahum qaasiraatu al-tarfi 'aiyn.*

3.2.2 Mu'jam Mufahras Li Alfaz Al-Quran

Based on this dictionary, there are also 65 times of the word *'Ayn* in the Quran consists of noun and nominal. This word is not exist in the form of verb, verbal noun, active and passive participle. Noun is divided into singular such as *al-ʿayn*, and the example for dual is *ʿaynāni* and *ʿaynayni*. Meanwhile, the examples for plural are *aʿyuni* and *ʿuyūnin*.

3.2.3 Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha

There are number of 65 times of the word *'Ayn* based on the root *ʿayn yā nūn* in Quran made up of noun which is *ʿayn* means eye for singular and plural for example *ʿuyūn* and *aʿyun* means the eyes. There are also nominal which are *ʿīnun* and *maʿīnin*.

3.2.4 Mu'jam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al-Karim

For this dictionary, there are about 65 times of the word *'Ayn* in Quran consists of noun includes singular, dual and plural as well as nominal.

3.3 Similarities and differences between the word *Basar and 'Ayn* in *Quran Corpus, Al-Mu'jam Al-Mufahras li Alfaz Al-Quran, Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha* and *Mujam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim*

The result shows that the total of the word frequency for *Basar* in Quran is higher than the word *'Ayn.* In general, there are 148 times for the word *Basar* while 65 times for *'Ayn.* It is found that the word frequency are same for both words in these four dictionaries. However, it is clearly that the word *Basar* in *Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha* is less than others, which is 145 times. Regarding to the form of word, table 1.0 below explains the comparison between both dictionaries:

Table 1.0: Forms of word *Basar* and *'Ayn* in Quran based on Four Dictionaries

DICTIONARY / FORM	BASAR				'AYN			
	QC	MA	QM	MM	QC	MA	QM	MM
VERB (*al-fi'il*)	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
NOUN (*isim*)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACTIVE PARTICIPLE (*ismu al-fā'il*)	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
PASSIVE PARTICIPLE (*ismu al-maf'ul*)	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
VERBAL NOUN (*al-masdar*)	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
NOMINAL (*al-Jumlah al-Ismiyah*)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Sources: The Quranic Arabic Corpus (n.d), Al-Baqi (1364H), Abu al-Futuḥ (1990) & Arabic Language Academy (1988)

In addition, based on Table 1.0, the word *Basar* and *'Ayn,* can be found in the forms of noun and nominal in all these four Quranic dictionaries aforementioned. The result shows that the word *'Ayn* is not available in the form of verb, active participle, passive participle and verbal noun. In term of noun, *Basar* can be seen in the form of singular and plural whereas the word *'Ayn* consists of singular, dual and plural in Quran. However, the word *'Ayn* cannot be found in form of dual in *Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha*. Regarding to the verb, the word *Basar* has all the three type of verb which are present tense, past tense and imperative in every dictionary.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, meronym is a semantic relation specific to linguistics that denotes a constituent part or a member of something. It is a part of Arabic word groups like synonym, antonym, hypernym and hyponym. The study confirms that the word *'Ayn* which means eye is the meronym for the word *Basar*. Through semantic study of these words in *Quran Corpus, Al-Mu'jam Al-Mufahras li Alfaz Al-Quran, Qaimah Mu'jamiyah bi Alfaz Al-Quran Al-Karim wa Darajat Tikrariha* and *Mu'jam Alfaz Al-Qur'an Al Karim,* it can be said that there are similarities and differences between these words in terms of frequency and form of word. Generally, the total of the word *Basar* in Quran is higher than *'Ayn* based on these four dictionaries. The result also shows the similarities in the word frequency and form of word specifically noun and nominal. The different becomes apparent that the word *'Ayn* only consists of noun and nominal in Quran while the word *Basar* can be divided broader into verb, noun, active participle, passive participle and verbal noun. Therefore, further discussions about the comparison of the word *Basar* and *'Ayn* in Quran are expected to be done using the other Quran linguistic sources.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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