

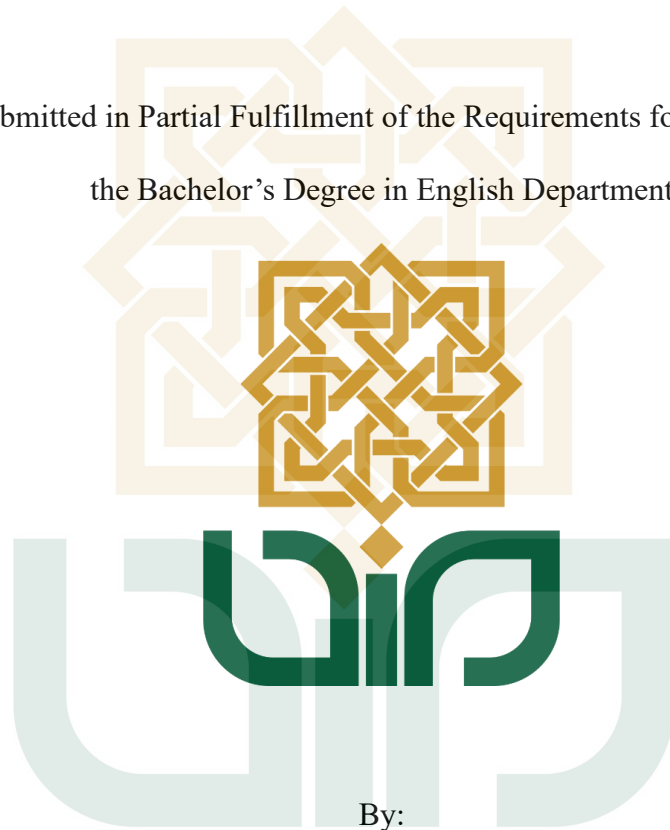
AN ANALYSIS OF SYNTACTICAL STYLISTICS DEVICES

IN AMANI AL-KHATAHTBEH'S MEMOIR

MUSLIM GIRL: A COMING OF AGE

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Gaining
the Bachelor's Degree in English Department



By:

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FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this graduate paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this graduating paper. Other researcher's opinion or finding included in this research is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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Assalamu'alaikum Warohmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Setelah memeriksa, meneliti, dan memberikan arahan untuk perbaikan atas skripsi Saudara/i:

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kami menyatakan bahwa skripsi tersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang munaqosyah untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.

Atas perhatian Bapak Dekan, kami mengucapkan terima kasih.

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Yogyakarta, 21 Juli 2025

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MOTTO

*“Semua jatuh bangunmu hal yang biasa, angan dan pertanyaan waktu yang menjawabnya, berikan tenggat waktu, bersedihlah secukupnya
Rayakan perasaanmu sebagai manusia”*

(Baskara Putra – Hindia)

*“Tidak ada mimpi yang gagal, yang ada hanyalah mimpi yang tertunda.
Cuma sekiranya kalau teman-teman merasa gagal dalam mencapai mimpi jangan
khawatir mimpi-mimpi yang lain bisa diciptakan”*

(Windah Basudara)

“Allah tidak membebani seseorang melainkan sesuai dengan kesanggupannya”

(Al-Baqarah: 286)

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DEDICATION

The researcher is respectfully dedicated this graduating paper to:

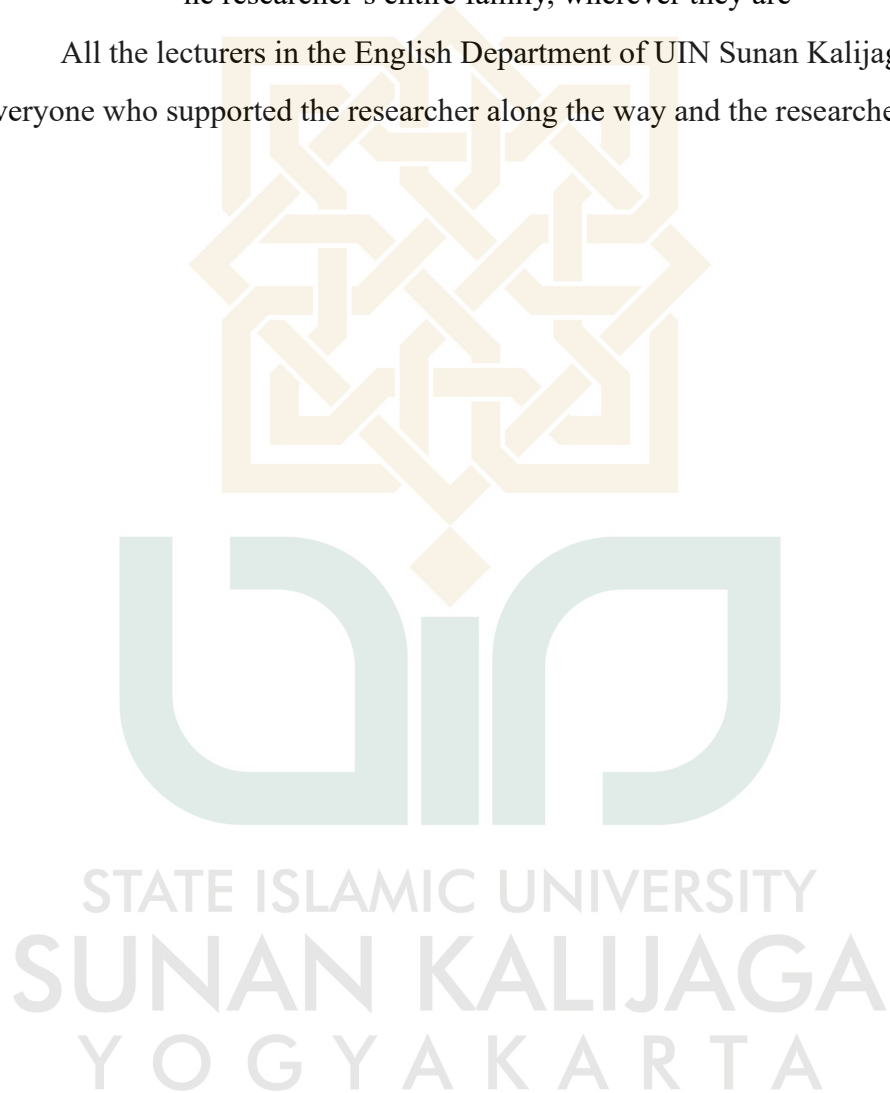
The researcher's cherished parents

The researcher's brother

he researcher's entire family, wherever they are

All the lecturers in the English Department of UIN Sunan Kalijaga

Everyone who supported the researcher along the way and the researcher herself



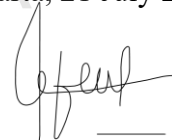
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ABSTRACT

This research analyzes the use of syntactical stylistics devices in Amani Al-Khatahtbeh's memoir *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* using Galperin theoretical framework. While previous studies have commonly focused on lexical or figurative stylistics, this study highlights the syntactical level to examine how they can evoke specific effects that contribute to the text's meaning in the memoir. Using descriptive qualitative method, the research identifies 235 data of syntactical stylistics devices across four categories: positional syntactical stylistics devices, particular ways of combining parts of the utterance, qualitative syntactical stylistics devices, and structural meaning syntactical stylistics device. The most dominant device found is detached construction, which reflects the emotional narrative tone and draws the reader's attention to the memoir. Meanwhile, chiasmus doesn't appear in the memoir because it poetic and formal, making it unsuitable for Amani's casual, emotional, and subjective memoir writing style. The study shows that Amani's stylistics choices not only shape her narrative voice but also reinforce messages of identity, resistance, and cultural critique. These findings offer new insight into how syntactical style function in nonfiction literary works and enrich the understanding of language's role in shaping reader's perception of social issues.

Keywords: *Syntactical Stylistics Devices, Memoir, Galperin, Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age*

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini menganalisis penggunaan perangkat stilistik sintaksis dalam memoar Amani Al-Khatahtbeh, *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age*, menggunakan kerangka teori Galperin. Berbeda dari penelitian sebelumnya yang umumnya berfokus pada stilistik leksikal atau gaya bahasa figuratif, penelitian ini menekankan pada tingkat sintaksis untuk mengeksplorasi bagaimana perangkat tersebut dapat menimbulkan efek spesifik tertentu yang berkontribusi pada makna teks dalam memoar. Dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif deskriptif, penelitian ini mengidentifikasi 235 data perangkat stilistik sintaksis dalam empat kategori: *positional syntactical stylistics devices*, *particular ways of combining parts of the utterance*, *qualitative syntactical stylistics devices*, dan *structural meaning syntactical stylistics device*. Perangkat yang paling dominan ditemukan adalah *detached construction*, yang mencerminkan suasana naratif yang emosional dan menarik perhatian pembaca pada memoar tersebut. Chiasmus adalah perangkat stilistika yang tidak muncul pada memoar. Hal ini dikarenakan chiasmus bersifat puitis dan formal sehingga kurang cocok dengan gaya penulisan Amani yang kasual, emosional, dan subjektif. Studi ini menunjukkan bahwa pilihan gaya bahasa Amani tidak hanya membentuk suara naratifnya tetapi juga memperkuat pesan tentang identitas, perlawanan, dan kritik budaya. Temuan ini memberikan wawasan baru tentang bagaimana gaya sintaksis berfungsi dalam karya sastra nonfiksi dan memperkaya pemahaman tentang peran bahasa dalam membentuk persepsi pembaca terhadap isu-isu sosial.

Kata kunci: *Syntactical Stylistics Devices*, *Memoar*, *Galperin*, *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Humans are individuals by nature, but they are also social beings. According to Aristotle, humans belong to the category of 'Zoon Politicon', this means that humans have an inherent desire to socialize and gather in communities (Santoso, 2018). To socialize in society and communities, people use language. Language is a system of symbols that people use to communicate (Kreidler, 2002). As a means of communication, language serves as one of the unifiers of society, because it can enable people to express their ideas, meaning, opinion, feelings and even their experiences to each other (Brown, 1980).

Experiences and feelings can be shared with others or the wider society to foster understanding and connection between individuals. These life experiences can be shared in various forms, one of which is a memoir. A memoir is a form of personal writing that allows individuals to share their life story, rooted in the truth of their own memories and experiences (Barrington, 1997). A memoir is not merely about the writer's life experiences, but also offers emotional depth, personal perspective, and strong motivation to inspire readers through the writer's struggles and life journey. Therefore, memoir is an interesting way to communicate the writer's experiences and feelings to the reader.

Memoirs are not only based on the writer's personal experiences, but are also shaped by the writer's interactions with their environment. Writers, as a member of a social group, naturally experiences and internalize social, political,

and economic changes around them (Damono, 1984). These changes shape the worldview within their social group, which is then channeled into the memoir. As a result, memoir not only represents the writer's personal feelings, experiences, but also represents the author's social group. This dual function is evident in *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh, which serves as a case study for this research.

Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age is a memoir by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh the founder of Muslim Girl platform, which has developed into an active website *Muslimgirl.com* and Instagram platform *Muslimgirl*. The memoir recounts her life experiences, providing a candid perspective that dismantles stereotypes of Muslim women and offers insights into the lives of young American Muslims in a post-9/11 world. Amani's narrative highlights the challenges of navigating identity, Islamophobia, and cultural expectations while showcasing her activism and the creation of the Muslim Girl platform (Al-Khatahtbeh, 2016). This book has significantly contributed to changing public perceptions about the lived experiences of Muslim women in America, earning recognition as a New York Times bestseller and resonating with readers who identify with its themes.

The publication of Al-Khatahtbeh's memoir came about due to a supportive partnership among women. Specifically, the book's editor, a Black woman, advocating for its release (Ragsdale, 2016). Many reviewers and readers of the book felt a sense of agreement and connection with the issues Amani wrote about, as they faced similar experiences. The memoir's popularity and critical acclaim underscore its cultural and social impact, making it an important subject for analysis. By

exploring issues based on real-life experiences, *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* becomes an intriguing object for this research, particularly in its use of language and stylistics to convey complex messages.

In the literary works, every writer has their style in write their works, known as stylistics. Stylistics according to Toolan (1996) as cited in Ikenna Kamalu (2015) is the study of the language of literature. It focuses on how meaning is constructed through language in both literature and other non-fiction texts. Stylistics studies are intended to explore the artistic function of various linguistic features, from sound and word choice to rhetorical strategies and writing style. It also examines how and to what extent an author uses linguistic elements to create particular effects (Nurgiyantoro, 2019). In *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* memoir, Amani also likely used stylistics techniques to create specific effects that she intended. By employing stylistics, Amani can influence and align her readers with the ideas she conveys, enhancing the emotional and intellectual impact of her narrative.

This study focuses on the memoir *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh, which portrays her struggles –discrimination, racism, islamophobia, stereotype— living in America as a Muslim woman. Unlike most previous studies that analyze stylistics through figurative language, this research emphasizes syntactical stylistics. Research on syntactical stylistics is very rare, even though this theory is good for examining how a writer's literary style structure can influence the text's meaning. By employing Galperin's theory of syntactical stylistics devices, which provides a systematic approach to analyzing stylistics tools, particularly at the syntactic level. This theory is highly relevant for examining

sentence structures as a means to explore how patterns of sentences create emotional impact, build atmosphere, and strengthen social messages on the memoir.

This research aims to analyze how Amani's sentence structures in her memoir create certain effects to the text's meaning on the issue addressed on the memoir. By applying Galperin's syntactical stylistics devices, this study intends to demonstrate how specific syntactic patterns create emotional resonance, build atmosphere, and enhance social messages on the memoir. This research provides a new perspective on the importance of syntactic stylistics in memoir writing, offering insights for both academic studies and aspiring writers to construct impactful narratives.

1.2. Research Question

Based on the background of the study above, the research questions are as follows:

1. What types of syntactical stylistics device are used in the memoir *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh?
2. How do Amani Al-Khatahtbeh's syntactical stylistics devices evoke specific effects that contribute to the text's meaning?

1.3. Objective of Study

Based on the background of the study and the research question above, the objective of the study are as follows:

1. To identify the types of syntactical stylistics device in the memoir *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh.

2. To analyze how Amani Al-Khatahtbeh's use of syntactical stylistics devices evoke specific effects that contribute to the text's meaning in the memoir.

1.4. Scope of Study

This study focuses on the use of syntactical stylistics devices found in the memoir *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh. The analysis includes all devices –Inversion, detached constructions, parallel constructions, repetition, enumeration, suspense, climax, antithesis, asyndeton, polysyndeton, the gap-sentence-link, ellipsis, aposiopesis, question-in-narrative, represented speech, rhetorical question, and litotes—as proposed by Galperin’s syntactical stylistics device theory (1977). This research examines how Amani uses syntactical stylistics devices in her memoir to evoke specific effects that contribute to the text’s meaning in the memoir. The scope of this research is limited to Chapter One to the Epilogue in Chapter Eight to focus more effectively on analyzing data relevant to the research objective. The data source excludes the cover, dedication, epigraph, introduction, afterword, and acknowledgments, as these sections are not part of the memoir’s main narrative, which is the focus of this study.

1.5. Significance of Study

This research offers both theoretical and practical benefits. Theoretically, it contributes to stylistics studies, particularly in analyzing syntactical stylistics devices in non-fiction literary works such as memoirs, while also providing insights into how syntactic devices are used to convey social, political, and cultural themes. Additionally, it supports research on the relationship between syntactic structures

and their effects within the text. Practically, this study provides guidance for writers in using syntactic devices to create engaging and persuasive narratives, helps readers understand the influence of language structures on their text and meaning, and serves as a reference for educators and researchers in teaching or examining the impact of stylistics devices on the quality of written works.

1.6. Literature Review

In a previous study, Hardiyanti (2021) conducted a stylistics analysis of Ernest Hemingway's short story *The Old Man*, focusing in similes, poetic expressions, and calques through pragmatic and semantic approaches. Using a combination of textual and stylistics analysis, the study highlights how Hemingway integrated his imagination with his unique language style in the narrative. Although, this study provides insight into how lexical choices shape literary style, it doesn't address syntactical stylistics features. This provides a foundation for this research to extend stylistics analysis toward sentence structures, particularly within a nonfiction narrative like a memoir.

Another study by Ali et al. (2019) analyzes Charles Lamb's essay *Dream Children: A Reverie* through linguistics, grammatical, phonological, and structural techniques to explore themes of longing and imagination. It emphasizes Lamb's use of symbolism, juxtaposition, and imagery to convey deeper meanings. The analysis highlights the unique blend of personal reflection and universal themes in Lamb's work. Kainat's research supports the relevance of stylistics analysis in nonfiction text. However, the main focus is on figurative and lexical aspects, with limited attention to syntactic structure.

A similar stylistics study was conducted by Nurhadi et al. (2021) on Earle Birney's poem *The Bear on the Delhi Road*. This research uses stylistics analysis to provide a unique approach to examining poetic expression, point of view, meaning, and themes. It explores how language features influence both the poem's poetic expression and literal meaning. Nurhadi focuses on three levels of stylistics: phonology, syntax, and lexical. Although this study acknowledges the role of syntax, it focuses more on patterns of transitivity, affixes, and pronouns usage. However, it does not discuss how sentence structure is used specifically to create certain effects. This is where this study comes in, with a particular focus on syntactic style in nonfiction prose works such as memoirs.

A relevant study by Sunani (2019), also focuses on syntactical stylistics devices by analyzing Zakir Naik's debate *Was Christ Really Crucified?* Using Galperin's theory, the study shows how Zakir used various sentence structure to attract attention and strengthen his arguments. The key difference between the study and this research lies in the object of the analysis. While the study applied stylistics analysis to a debate, which is not a literary work, this research examines a memoir, a genre more closely associated with literary studies. This approach aligns stylistics analysis with its original intent of exploring devices within literary texts, making the analysis more relevant to the field of literature.

The previous studies mentioned above focus on fictional literary works such as short stories, essays, or poems as their objects of analysis. In contrast, this research focuses on a memoir, a non-fiction literary work with reflective narratives based on the author's real-life experiences. Using a qualitative descriptive method

and Galperin's theory, this study specifically analyzes syntactical stylistics devices and their impact on text's meaning regarding the issues presented in the memoir. Not many studies have examined syntactic stylistics devices in memoirs with a focus on their impact on text's meaning, so this research fills a gap in the study of literary stylistics.

1.7. Theoretical Approach

This research uses stylistics theory for analysis. Stylistics is a branch of linguistics that studies language style, particularly in literary texts (Mode, 2015). The meaning of 'style' in the statement is more specifically in the literature. It is mean it dealing with person's personality and it is nothing but voice or sound of the writer which is reflecting throughout the essay in the form of words, tone of ideas, the structure of a sentence, and writer's mindset (Hussein & Dawood, 2018). Burke, 2014 state that stylistics is a study and analysis that is done by analyzing text, in particular and the origins of stylistics was analyzing literary text. Stylistics is the study of how language is employed to convey meaning across both literary and non-literary texts.

Specific applications in the construction of speech, means that serve to express emotions which create certain forms of speech are called syntactic stylistics devices. Syntactical stylistics devices are perceived as elaborate designs aimed at having a definite impact on the reader. It will be borne in mind that any stylistics device is meant to be understood as a device and is calculated to produce a desired stylistics effect.

This study applies Galperin's theory of stylistics, focusing on syntactical stylistics devices as tools for analysing the structure and effect of sentences in literary texts. According to Galperin (1977), syntactical stylistics devices enhance the emotional, aesthetic, and cognitive impact of a text by altering conventional sentence structures. In the book “Stylistic” by Galperin explain that there are eleven syntactical stylistics devices, that are Inversion, Parallelism, Elipsis, Antithesis, Chiasmus, Climax, Parentheses, Asyndeton, Polysyndeton, Interrogative and Exclamatory.

1.8. Method of Research

Research is a systematic process aimed at acquiring new knowledge or expanding on existing information (Pandey & Pandey, 2015). It is an intellectual endeavor that uncovers new insights, corrects errors, addresses misconceptions, and contributes to the broader pool of knowledge. Research methods refer to tools for data collection, including questionnaires, interviews, and focus group discussions (Greener, 2008). To investigate and analyze data, researcher employ various approaches and techniques to achieve meaningful results, as outlined below.

1.8.1. Type of Research

This study adopts a descriptive qualitative method. This type of research is used to investigate and comprehend the meanings that individuals or groups assign to social or human issues (Cresswell, 2009). The process involves formulating open-ended questions and procedures, with data typically gathered directly from the participants' natural environment (Creswell, 2009). Data in descriptive research are presented in the form of words or images rather

than numerical figures. In qualitative research, data analysis follows an inductive approach, where conclusions are derived from specific findings in the field rather than being guided by pre-existing theories (Abdussamad, 2021).

Based on the explanation above, this research appropriately adopts a descriptive qualitative approach to examine how language is used in communication to shape certain effect on the text's meaning. Through the qualitative approach, the researcher conducts an in-depth analysis of syntactical stylistics devices in the memoir *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* and their effects on the text's meaning. The descriptive approach is applied to explain and detail how syntactical stylistics devices contribute to creating emotional and cognitive impacts on the memoir.

1.8.2. Data Source

The data sources are the locations where information is gathered using techniques, whether it be through documents, artifacts, or people (Sutopo, 2006). The primary data source for this research is the memoir *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh. Published by Simon & Schuster in 2016, the book spans 144 pages and recounts Amani's experiences as a Muslim girl navigating adolescence, addressing Islamophobia, political challenges, and the cultural impact of launching the Muslim Girl platform. It also challenges stereotypes, such as the association of the hijab with terrorism.

The scope of the Data is limited to Chapter One to the Epilogue (Chapter Eight) to focus more effectively on analyzing data relevant to the research objective. The data source excludes the cover, dedication, epigraph,

introduction, afterword, and acknowledgments, as these sections are not part of the memoir's main narrative. Chapter One begins on page 9, and the Epilogue concludes on page 139, resulting in a total of 130 pages analyzed from the memoir.

1.8.3. Data Collection Techniques

This research employs a documentation technique. According to Sugiyono (2015), documentation is a method used to collect data and information in the form of books, archives, documents, written numbers, and images, including reports and other materials that support the research. The data for this study are directly obtained from the e-book's text of the memoir *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age*. Through documentation technique, the researcher conducts an in-depth analysis of the syntactical stylistics devices present in the memoir.

The researcher read the entire text from Chapter One to the Epilogue in Chapter Eight to identify sentences containing syntactical stylistics devices in the memoir. Sentences that include syntactical devices are then classified and explained in more depth. From these findings, the researcher examines how these devices evoke specific effects that contribute to the text's meaning in the memoir. By systematically examining the text, this documentation technique is both appropriate and relevant for understanding how stylistics devices create particular effects on the memoir.

1.8.4. Data Analysis Techniques

This study employs an inductive approach. This method starts from specific facts and concrete events, then draws generalizations with universal characteristics from those specific and concrete facts (Hadi, 1987). This method is particularly effective for understanding the relationship between syntactic devices and the social themes presented in the memoir. The researcher begins by thoroughly reading the entire text of the memoir and then identify sentences containing syntactical stylistics devices. These identified devices serve as the primary data for the analysis. From this data, the researcher examines how each syntactical stylistics device evokes specific effects by Galperin's theory that contribute to the text's overall meaning in the memoir.

1.9. Paper Organization

This research paper consists of four chapters. The first chapter is an introduction. The introductions include of a background of the study, research questions, objective and significance of the study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organizations. The second chapter of this research covers the theoretical framework that explain the Syntactical Stylistics Device by Galperin. The third chapter consist of the explain about finding research and discussion of the research. In this chapter, the data that has been collected is analyzed using Syntactical Stylistics Device theory. Then, the last chapter, chapter four, is the conclusion. In this section, the researcher explains the conclusions and suggestion of this research.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter contains conclusions from the analysis that has been conducted and suggestions based on the findings of the study. The conclusions are formulated to summarize the answers to the two research questions, while the suggestions are intended for readers, future researchers, and interested parties so that the results of this study can provide broader benefits.

4.1. Conclusion

This research aimed to analyze the types and function of syntactical stylistics devices employed by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh in her memoir *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age*, using Galperin theory as the analytical framework. The analysis is conducted to answer two research questions: (1) what types of syntactical stylistics devices are used in the memoir? And (2) how do these devices evoke specific effects that contribute to the text's meaning?

In relation to the research question number one, the analysis of this study found 235 syntactical stylistics devices. The type most frequently used by Amani is detached construction in the category positional syntactical stylistics device, which appeared 87 times. This was followed by enumeration (33), parallel construction (21), repetition (10), climax (11), suspense (8), antithesis (5), and last inversion (1). In the category particular ways of combining parts of the utterance found asyndeton (5), polysyndeton (4), the-gap-sentence-link (3). The most frequency in qualitative syntactical stylistics device's category is question-in-narrative (6), then followed by

aposiopesis (6) and represented speech (6), then ellipsis (4). In the last category structural meaning syntactical stylistic devices found a high frequency in rhetorical question (18), and litotes (7).

There is one device that does not appear in the memoir, that is chiasmus. Compared to using chiasmus, which is a reversed parallel construction, Amani prefers to use parallel construction, which has a regular and repetitive structure to emphasize meaning rather than creating sentence contrast. Chiasmus is also poetic and formal, making it unsuitable for Amani's casual, emotional, and subjective memoir writing style.

Related to the second research question, this study found that each syntactical stylistics device used in a memoir has its own effect. Devices like inversion, detached constructions, and repetition emphasize key ideas and create emotional focus. Suspense and climax build tension and draw readers into pivotal moments. Enumeration presents layered experiences to create strong impressions. Devices such as parallelism, antithesis, asyndeton, and polysyndeton shape rhythm and structure, intensifying emotional tone. Meanwhile, ellipsis and aposiopesis mirror natural speech, expressing hesitation or urgency. Tools like gap-sentence-links, represented speech, and question-in-narrative offer insight into Amani's inner world. Lastly, rhetorical questions and litotes add subtle judgment and irony. It can be concluded that these devices help Amani convey her story more powerfully and emotionally. This memoir is not only Amani's personal story but also a form of resistance and social criticism against the discrimination she experienced as a Muslim woman following the 9/11 attacks.

4.2. Suggestion

For general readers and those interested in literary works, *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* is an excellent choice. Amani Al-Khatahtbeh's writing style not only conveys her life story, but also carries important messages about identity, discrimination, and courage. Understanding the linguistic devices that author uses can help readers grasp the deeper meaning of the story.

For the future researchers who wish to study stylistics devices, especially syntactical, there are many possibilities that can still be explored. In this study, the researcher only analyzed one memoir. To make the study more valid and expand it by comparing the use of stylistics devices between one memoir and another, or between Muslim and non-Muslim writers. Other researchers can also focus and analyze only certain categories such as qualitative syntactical stylistics device to analyze how structure's sentence can make colloquial effect, so that the data obtained is more optimal.

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