

Illocutionary Acts Forces of Tsunami's Victims in Central Celebes 2018

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Abstract

This study elaborates the utterances spoken by Tsunami's Victim in Central Celebes. It focuses on the exclamatory speech acts. There are kinds of utterances cried by victim especially video or audio taker when the tsunami occurred in the end of September 2018. The disaster destroys the city of Palu, Donggala regency, Parigi Moutong Regency, and Mamuju Utara Regency of Central Celebes. This study is expected to get the kind of Illocutionary Speech Acts especially illocutionary acts forces and the function of those. The kinds of illocutionary acts frequently appeared are expressive and declarative. The function of the illocutionary acts in a panic circumstance are informing, commanding, asking, requesting, shouting, wishing, expecting, complimenting as well as blaming.

Keywords: *Speech Acts, Illocutionary Acts Force*

Introduction

Indonesia got sadness anymore. In the end of the September 2018, tsunami crashed one of Indonesian island namely Celebes. It is located between Borneo and Papua Island. Previously, there are many disasters in this country around 2018 such as earthquakes in West Nusa Tenggara especially in Lombok and Sumbawa Island. The earthquakes occur frequently in the islands and they have tsunami's potency. It makes many people in Indonesia feel worry when they are living near the beach and mountain. On the other hand, they become more familiar with kinds of disasters and they will have a survival program.

Facing the tsunami, there are many attitudes done by the victims. Those can be seen from the videos which are spread freely in public after the incident. For instance is one of video taken in Palu city. Many people save their valuable things and find their families. There are also many people who run in panicky, there are also people keep calm while they are praying. There are also people who

are confusing whether to save their rides (motorcycle) or run out to get the safety place or a high building.

The victims of tsunami also produce kinds of utterances, shouts, crying, summoning and kind of vocalizations. They shout as loud as possible to express their thought, to show their fear, to warn their family, friends and surrounding people. They cry all the way to find the safety place. In their crying, various vocalizations appear when the incident was occurring. They try to mention anything, related their beliefs or religion. They call Allah the greatest creator, they apologize to Allah by saying *istighfar* (asking apology to Allah for their daily behavior). This situation tends to be a sorrow moment and God memorizing. On the contrary of fact, God memorizing must be done in all situation, not only when the people are in under pressure situation.

In this disaster, there are utterances which represent the speech acts. These can be seen from the explicit performative utterance or implicit performative utterance. The forces of utterance by the victims either the video taker or the people surrounding him will be checked by speech acts approach. The victims' utterance can be seen from the language function, namely emotive speech. The tsunami victims here are represented by the video takers and also the sounds from the victims around area of disaster.

Literary Review

Speech Acts

Speech acts is the power and the energy of utterance. Yule states that speech acts is action performed via utterance. Meanwhile, Searle (1979) stated that there are taxonomies of illocutionary acts namely assertive, directives, commissives, expressive and declarations. Assertive is the involvement of the speaker toward the truth and propositional concord. The instances of Assertive are stating, suggesting, and reporting. Directive is getting the response in the form of movement from the interlocutor such as commanding, asking, begging, and reminding. Commissive is the involvement of speaker and attitude or the following act, such as promising, swearing and threatening. Expressive is showing the speaker attitude for certain condition, such as thanking, congratulating,

complementing, forgiving, and apologizing. Moreover, declarative is showing the changing after uttered, such as stating sentence, declaring, etc.

Studying about Speech Acts is closely related with three main matters, namely locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary acts. Locutionary acts deals with the utterance itself. Illocutionary Acts deals with the implicit and explicit function of Speech Acts. Perlocutionary Acts relates to the action effect from the interlocutors or receiver. Locutionary acts include phonic act, phatic act and Rhetic act (Austin 1962: 94). Phonic act means uttering noises and phones. Phatic act means uttering noises as belonging to a certain vocabulary and grammar. Rhetic act means using noises with the reference and sense. Furthermore, Illocutionary acts force (Kushartanti *et.al.*, 2009: 110) is aimed that a speaker can convey his message in a conversation or utterance, then the message is understood and responded by listener.

Research Methodology

The design of this study is a descriptive qualitative study. This will use listening and observation method in getting the data from the videos recorded by the tsunami's victims which spreading freely in the social media, printed media or television either national or international news. The writer applies the note-taking method from the record of video. There are several steps in note-taking method, namely making the transcriptions of the audio, classifying the speech acts (locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary acts), and scrutinizing the data into specific parts concerning with the illocutionary acts taxonomy.

The transcription uses the suprasegmental phoneme. It is because the accent of people in Central Celebes is interesting to be analyzed. They tends to say loudly as the characteristics of 'beach' language which is popular is high/ loud sound. People lives in Celebes are dominated by Bugisi. They are Moslem majority. Most Bugisi have different juncture, intonation, stressing and pitch when they are speaking.

Discussion

Speech acts is as known as one of part in Pragmatics study becomes an interesting theory to analyze the language phenomenon. In this study, the writer tries to elaborate between the language phenomenon and natural phenomenon. The natural phenomenon is meant by the occurrence of tsunami in Palu City, Central Celebes Indonesia several months ago along the Palu beach. The utterance of victims there will be explained by using Pragmatics approach especially Speech Acts. Pragmatics deals with context, something outside the language. The writer explores the implicit meaning from the victim's spontaneous utterances.

In general, illocutionary act force can be shown by number of verbs namely performative verb. This study focuses on the Illocutionary Speech Acts to explain the phenomenon.

Datum 01/ 1/ vid
"Allahu Akbar" (Allah The Great)

This utterance is spontaneously uttered by the video takers and people around him. This is categorized as expressive because the speaker wants to share to other his feeling that there is no greater God except Allah SWT. Besides, the datum 01/1/vid can be analyzed that it is the declarative. It means that the speaker wants to declare that this disaster is owned by Allah SWT. This disaster is sent by Allah SWT and the speaker declares his belief that this disaster is created By Allah the Great. The nuance of the utterance shows the panic condition with the high stress and intonation of the spoken by the victims. The function of the illocutionary acts force from the mentioned datum that the speaker wants to show his attitude toward certain condition.

Datum 02/1/ vid
'ini goyang' (It was shaking)

This utterance is categorized as locutionary acts or an utterance only that there is an extraordinary natural phenomenon. For a language observer, this utterance can be analyzed from the illocutionary acts. This utterance can be classified as expressive and declaration. It is expressive because the speaker tells his feeling that there is a shaking of the land because of earthquake. From this shaking makes the building, tower, trees shake from the silent condition into the

panic condition. On the other hand, this utterance can be categorized as declaration. The speaker declares that there is shaking of the ground around he sits or stands. The illocutionary acts from the utterance are informing the situation, stating the feeling, warning the others, requesting the people to get the safety place and asking to do something.

Datum 03/1/vid

'hoe, lari ke atas, tsunami' (Hi, come on here, there is tsunami)

This is also form of utterance that repeatedly uttered by the speaker or video takers when the disaster occurred. The panicky situation makes the people around there feels very inconvenience. They are afraid and confused whether run to safe the valuable thing or run to the higher place. Related to kinds of illocutionary acts, the utterance can be categorized as declaration. The article or sentence filling 'hoe' states that there is important matter to be paid an attention. Moreover, it is a declaration when the speaker says tsunami, he declares that there is a natural disaster that is very dangerous.

Datum 04/1/vid

'air, air, air...!!!' (water...water...water...!!!)

This declaration that tsunami comes immediately. The speaker says *air, air, air,....*. Related to Speech Acts, the speaker informs the people that the water comes. He declares this to instruct the people around him to be aware about the attendance of the water in the large number and the height wave. It can be classified that the mentioned datum belongs to declarative. Its function is for showing the changing condition after his utterance.

Datum 05/1/vid

Bodoh sekali nih orang! (How stupid this people!)

This expressive locutionary acts states the brainless of the people. It is in the form of explicitly phatic act. The kind of illocutionary acts is expressive because the speaker blames the other people because of the panic condition. The speaker blames the people who do not eager to run to the high place. The function of illocutionary act force is showing the speaker attitude for certain condition.

Datum 06/1/vid

Buk, naek, naek air (Mom, climb, climb, there are water)

From datum 06/1/vid, it can be seen that there are two participants of the situation. This situation becomes more terrible when the video taker summons the old lady in the street nearby the beach. As known by everyone that Palu city is located very closely to the beach. The main street is in the coastal areas or sea shore. When the video taker summons the old lady to climb the high place, or avoiding the beach, the arriving waves was so close and the lady must run as fast as possible. The sound of water stream is so loud in 'eating' all of materials near the beach.

Buk, naek, naek, air pragmatically belongs to locutionary acts. Locutionary Acts is to say something. It means the utterance *Buk, naek, naek, air* is the locutionary itself which is categorized as phatic acts because of uttering certain noises of vocabularies.

Datum 06/1/vid is categorized as directive illocutionary acts. The video taker mentions the word *naek* (climb or rise). This word is classified as requesting, alarming, begging, etc. The Illocutionary acts force is aimed to get the response from the addressee to pay attention about the speaker's utterance. The speaker cares about the other safety, so he requests and begs the lady to get the high place or building.

Datum 07/1/vid

Inilah tsunami, inilah tsunami (this is a tsunami, this is a tsunami)

Locutionary act is the statement of *Datum 07/1/vid*. Video taker helplessly mentions the word 'this is a tsunami'. He knows the word and the concept of tsunami. He does not mention the local language for tsunami, because of certain factors. It can be from his experience, background knowledge, there is no synonymy in local language and etc. This utterance occurs spontaneously.

The kind of illocutionary acts from *Datum 07/1/vid* is declarative. It is about stating a condition or situation. The illocutionary acts force from the mentioned datum is aimed to show about the changing about the condition before and after of tsunami. The speaker helplessly states that it is the sign of the greatness of Allah. He utters this in order to the audiences or people around him agree with his statement.

Datum 08/1/vid

Ya Allah Tsunami, Ya Allah Kota Palu Ya Allah (Oh Allah Tsunami, oh Allah Palu city oh Allah)

Datum 08/1/vid is locutionary acts from the disaster that occurred in Palu city. It also belongs to phatic act, because the video taker says the noises of vocabulary and using certain grammar. The kind of illocutionary acts from the mentioned datum is assertive and declarative. It is considered as assertive because the speaker states about the true condition. He utters it because of tsunami attack or lunge for Palu city. He knows the real condition of the city that makes the appearance of this utterance. Besides, it is also considered as declarative because the speaker declares about the condition and he wants to show about the effect of the disaster.

Knowing the kinds of illocutionary acts, it can be seen about the function of illocutionary acts force from *Datum 08/1/vid*. As an assertive, the function of the utterance, there is an existence of the speaker toward the truth condition. He wants to match between the natural phenomenon and his utterance. Furthermore, as declarative, the function of illocutionary acts force from *Datum 08/1/vid* reflects that there is the aim from speaker to show about the changing after it is uttered. He wants to show the effect and the destructive effect of Palu city and he also wants to Allah to keep the safety and to motivate him to be strong and resolute.

Datum 09/1/vid

Ya Allah Tsu...nami, Ya Allah inilah tsunami (Oh Allah Tsu...name, Oh Allah this is tsunami -crying)

Discussing about locutionary acts, from *Datum 09/1/vid* can be seen that the speaker sadly says that there is tsunami. He tells to God about the disaster. Studying about illocutionary acts from the mentioned datum, the writer believes that the utterance can be assertive, directive and declarative. He is sure that the datum belongs to assertive because the speaker tells about the true situation. Meanwhile, the speaker classifies the datum as directive because the speaker is implicitly expecting and requesting to Allah to save his life from disaster. Moreover, the datum is as declarative because it is about statement of certain

unexpected event. The speaker declares the word *inilah tsunami* (this is tsunami) so it gives bad and sad effects.

Concerning with the function of illocutionary acts, from the mentioned datum, it can be found many functions of illocutionary acts force, namely the speaker wants to tell the surrounding people about tsunami and begs to Allah to give safety. He also wants to show about the possible effect of disaster.

Datum 09/1/vid

Astaghfirullahalazhim, ayo lari ke atas Pak (Forgive me Allah, Come on run over here, Mister)

Datum 09/1/vid shows about phatic locutionary acts. It can be seen from the using of vocabulary noises. There is an Arabic expression in the mentioned datum namely *Astaghfirullahalazhim* (Forgive me Allah). It shows that the speaker is a religious person by saying the glory utterance.

Illocutionary acts forces in the mentioned datum are expressive and directive. Expressive can be seen from the word *Astaghfirullahalazhim* (forgive me Allah). It functions for showing the speaker's attitude toward certain condition, namely asking forgiveness from Allah. Moreover, directive in the mentioned datum is a request or command for interlocutor. The sentence *ayo lari ke atas Pak* (Come on run over her, Mister) shows that the speaker wants to get the response from the addressee.

Datum 10/1/vid

Deras deras, deras Pak (torrential torrential, torrential Mister)

The phatic locutionary acts can be found in the *datum 10/1/vid* because there are noises of vocabulary, especially adjective (torrential). The speaker utters the word *deras* three times. It means there is an emphasis for the utterance. The kind of the mentioned datum is assertive and declarative because there is a statement of the situation. The functions of illocutionary acts force are to show the reality or the truth and also showing about the changing of the situation.

Illocutionary Acts Forces and Local Wisdom as an Early Warning System

Indonesia is an archipelago country which makes the land so fertile and having a lot of prosperities. In the contrary of facts, most Indonesian people must be

familiar with disasters, such as earthquake and tsunami. Knowing the position of Indonesia which lies among the ring of fires (there are many volcanoes in almost islands in Indonesia), Indonesian people and also the government must pay attention about this issue and getting the protection. Knowing the process of illocutionary acts from the victims of tsunami, it is better for many tribes in Indonesia to have the local wisdoms related the attitude in facing the tsunami.

There is a special local wisdom owned by certain tribe in Aceh Indonesia in facing the earthquake and tsunami. This name of local wisdom is called as *smong*. It means that most people in the tribe aware about the word *smong*. It is a kind of warning which is approved by a group of tribe from previous generation till the next generation. The illocutionary acts of *smong* means informing, requesting, instructing, commanding for all people to run avoiding the beach (or sea) and reaching the highland, high place, high building, high trees and many others. By attaining the certain place, people will save from the tsunami disaster and the numbers of victim are only a few people who cannot move, run and saving themselves. When the other tribes also have the similar system of local wisdom from the utterance, it will minimize the number of victims. The local wisdom is reflected by using utterance only and can safe many people from disaster. It is an anticipation system by using speech acts especially illocutionary acts. Based on the collecting data from the tsunami victims in Celebes, most of them do not have the same perception to saving themselves from the disaster because they are in a panic situation. If they have the similar concept such as *smong*, they will have the same perception before the water reach the land, they will have a good and fast anticipation in facing the tsunami disaster.

The good local wisdom in the form utterance is good for the tribe leader or government in facing the disasters. Indonesia has many tribes spreading from many islands and it will be better that each tribe has a certain locutionary acts such as *smong* or the other concept. It is aimed as the conventional early warning system for the people especially who live near the beach. *Smong* in Simeleu Aceh consciously understood by the people for more than hundred years and it is very effective.

Related to Illocutionary acts, the utterances by victims are to inform or command the others to wisely saving themselves. The victims will be mutually intelligible by one utterance only when they are in panic condition. At least, they will utter for informing or commanding only. It means the under estimate utterance or blaming for the other victims can be reduced, such as 'you are stupid'.

Conclusion

Pragmatics deals with the study of language in use. It is closely related to the language used by society in their daily activity. When they utter utterances in certain circumstances can be analyzed by using Speech Acts Analysis. Using this approach, the writer only focuses on the illocutionary acts only. Those illocutionary covers five taxonomies as stated by John Searle in 1979 such as assertive, directives, commissives, expressive and declarations. Commissive occur when the victims try to call their God (Allah SWT) to get the safety and health.

From the research discussion, there are several conclusion related kinds of illocutionary acts and the functions of each illocutionary acts occurred in the utterance, screams, and vocalizations by the victim of mentioned disaster. The kinds of the illocutionary acts in those utterances are expressive and declarations which frequently appeared.

The function of the illocutionary acts from the utterances of the victims are informing the condition, warning to the surrounding people, catching the attention, requesting to avoid the low place to reach the higher place, blaming the people who still run around the street or near the beach, complimenting the greatness of the creator Allah SWT. Besides, the local wisdoms related to the utterance can be used as early warning system for all people along the beach.

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