The Textual Metafunction in Surah Al-Humazah: A Hallidayian Functional Linguistic Approach

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Abstract

The systemic functional theory of Halliday is based on three levels of semantics, known as ideational, interpersonal, and textual. The present descriptive-analytical research aimed to study the clauses of ayahs of Surah Al-Humazah from the point of view of textual metafunction. The findings showed that the frequent use of marked theme has highlighted and better conveyed the message to the audience and this usage fits the discourse space of the surah in question. Furthermore, new information in this surah has the highest frequency because the surah makes use of curse, warning, and threatening of the accumulators of property and wealth ("who amasses wealth and counts it") as well as faultfinders ("Woe to every backbiter, slanderer"). Grammatical and lexical coherence and linking, which are in a logical exchange with each other, has made the text integrated, helping the readers to better understand the Qur'anic text.

Keywords: the Qur'an, Surah Al-Humazah, Halliday, functional linguistics, textual metafunction

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