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**AN ANALYSIS NOUN PHRASES IN THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF  
SURAH AL-BURUJ**

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<b>Info Artikel</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Artikel Masuk: 15 Januari 2026 Artikel Review: 22 Januari 2026 Artikel Revisi: 28 Januari 2026	This study analyzes the syntactic structure of noun phrases in the English translation of Surah Al-Buruj. Using a qualitative descriptive method, the researcher identified and classified noun phrases based on their constituents: head, pre-word modifiers, and post-word modifiers. The results show that complex noun phrases with post-modifiers (such as prepositional phrases and adjectival phrases) are the most dominant pattern. This is in line with research conducted by that in religious terminology, noun phrases have the characteristic of containing many noun phrases. This dominance reflects a linguistic strategy to achieve semantic equivalence. This study serves as a linguistic reference for understanding the syntactic complexity of the translation of the Qur'an and suggests the use of tree diagram theory for structural visualization in future research.
<b>Kata Kunci:</b>	
Analysis; Noun phrase; English Translation	

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## **Introduction**

Language is the primary vessel for human communication in everyday life, because everyone in this world uses language to communicate to convey ideas and emotions. According to (Prematilake 2023) It is recognized that language is a highly complex system. Each language has various unique features that distinguish it from other languages. One such element is the range of sounds that humans use to communicate. Another is hierarchical structure, which divides sounds into words, phrases, and ultimately sentences. Therefore in the context of language, there are several things that we must learn, starting from phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics, especially in English (Daulay and Dalimunte n.d.). In English, there are many parts of speech, vocabulary, and structures to build good communication or a good sentence. And in a sentence, there is a formation system called syntax.

Syntax is at the core of human language ability, allowing humans to create and understand millions of sentences that have never been heard before (Reza Fandana 2023). That is why syntax is one of the structures of language created by humans. Syntax refers to the grammar, structure, and order of the parts of a linguistic statement (Karimi et al. 2014). Syntax pertains to both computer and natural languages, syntax is a collection of rules in a language. Essentially, according to (Paquet and Mokhov 2010) syntax functions as a guide for arranging words or symbols so that the intended meaning is clear. If we follow this guide, the message will not be ambiguous, allowing computer system users or readers to understand the instructions without mis understanding. It specifies how words

from various speech elements are combined to convey a coherent notion. This helps prevent misunderstandings when speaking and understanding written texts (Putri 2017). In Syntax studies how words from different parts of speech are combined to convey a complete thought. Based on the explanation it can be concluded that syntax is one important subjects that should be studied and mastered by the student but actually there are many aspects in syntax and noun phrase is one of them.

According to (Kusumawardhani and Rakhmanita 2022) noun is used to name a thing such as apple, table, pencil etc. Noun have two types, they are common noun and proper noun. A common noun that is often used such as apple, school, water etc. Meanwhile proper noun is that not often used, such as names of people, name of places, name of days etc. According to (Gadis Selvia Sitorus and Sipayung 2018) a phrase is a group of related words within a sentence that complements the overall structure of the sentence. A phrase is a collection of words that functions as a single structure rather than an independent statement that initiates a conversation. In a modifying structure, one word functions as the head and the other as a modifier to expand the phrase (Susatyo, Hadi, and Roziqi 2023). And a noun phrase is a phrase that can occur in one word or single phrase with a noun as its core. In a noun phrase there are three parts, namely: core, pre-modifications, and post modifications. "A phrase is introduced as a grammatical component that is prepared by a head which is surrounded by any one element or more than one element" (Ahmed, Ali, and Mullazai 2023) According to these definitions, a phrase is a group of words without a topic, a phrase is more powerful than a head, but it is still under the direction of a head. From these points of interpretation, it is clear that a phrase is completed by word clusters that include lexical and function words; yet, the lexical word is both the head of the phrase and the source of its name.

Several studies have been conducted on the analysis of noun phrases in the same context. In his study, (Lestari, Dina Rofik 2023) examined the structural patterns of noun phrases in Surah Al-Mulk using tree diagrams and analyzed the most dominant noun phrases used in the translation of Surah Al-Mulk. The results showed that there were six patterns of noun phrases in the English translation of Surah Al-Mulk. The patterns of noun phrases found in Mufti Taqi Usmani's English translation of Surah Al-Mulk were analyzed using tree diagram. Six noun phrase patterns were found, namely noun phrases consisting of one word, noun phrases modified by determiners, noun phrases modified by prepositional phrases, noun phrases modified by adjectives, noun phrases modified by nouns, and noun phrases modified by clauses. The most dominant noun phrase pattern used in Mufti Taqi Usmani's English translation of Surah Al-Mulk is noun phrases consisting of a single word. This previous research provides a basis for understanding how noun phrases function in complex texts.

In this study, the researcher chose to explore the structure of the Qur'an, specifically Surah Al-Buruj. Despite its importance, analyzing the syntax (noun phrases) in the translation of Surah Al-Buruj presents challenges. The Qur'an is widely recognized as a linguistic miracle, in which each grammatical element has a unique rhetorical and theological function. Translating its complexity into English requires the intelligent use

of various grammatical units, as translation is essential to maintain openness and provide accurate information to a wider audience (Ratnasari, Hasyim, and Priambodo 2025). Therefore, readability and acceptability in the target language must be considered in order to maintain the integrity of the noun phrases in the original text, thereby preserving the emotional depth and spiritual message of the original text.

Based on these difficulties, the researcher wants to discuss the structure of noun phrases in surah Al-Buruj, as well as analyze the dominant frequency of noun phrases usage in surah Al-Buruj. In Al-Qur'an noun phrases not only function to name an object, but also use descriptive words to show deep emotions. In translations of the Al-Qur'an, these phrases help readers visualize the message conveyed, especially in the Al-Qur'an that we will study. So this research it hoped can help readers or students find and understand the noun phrase patterns used in Surah Al-Buruj, and hoped can be useful for readers or students as a linguistic reference in terms of study.

### Research method

In this research, researcher used a descriptive method to analyze the structure of noun phrases in the English translation of surah Al-Buruj. According to (Lestari, Dina Rofik 2023) “this method is suitable for language study, because in this method is only relies on data collection techniques and also the meaning of data”. In a study conducted by (Mutiara 2019), it was shown that analyzing modification patterns in noun phrases allows for a deeper understanding of how a texts are constructed. In addition (Chanwaiwit 2019), explained that examining the structural phrases through pre- and post – modification in crucial for identifying linguistic complexity. Therefore this study focuses on the identification, classification, and description of noun phrases found in Surah Al-Buruj.

First, the researcher collected data by reading all the English translation of surah Al-Buruj, this is way to help the researcher understand the whole data. Second the researcher continued to identify the verse of surah Al-Buruj to find out what phrase patterns are used in the verse. Third, mentioning the data that has been found. Fourth, describe the structures that form the noun phrases in Surah Al-Buruj. Finally present the data and explain the results of the noun phrase structures found in the previous data.

### Result and discussion

The following are patterns that form noun phrases in Surah Al-Buruj (Verses 1-22) are summarized in Table 1. Each entry lists the main noun and accompanying modifiers as analyzed in this study.

**Table 1. The Structural Classification of Noun Phrases in Surah Al-Buruj**

Verse	Noun Phrases	Structure
1	The sky full of constellations	D + H + Post – modifier (Adj. P)
2	The promised day of judgment	D + Pre – modifier (adjective) + H + Post – modifier

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3	The witness What is witnessed	D + H (Noun) D + Post – modifier
4	The makers of the ditch	D + H + Post modifier
5	The fire ‘pit’ filled with fuel	D + H + Post modifier
6	They It	Pronoun Pronoun (Prep)
7	They The believers	Pronoun D + H
8	Allah – the almighty The praiseworthy	H + post – modifier (adjective) D + post – modifier (adjective)
9	The one The kingdom The heavens and earth	D + Head noun D + Head noun D + Head noun
10	The believing men and women The punishment of hell  The torment the burning	D + pre – modifier (adjective) + H D + H + Post – modifier (PP) + D + H +  Post – modifier (PP)
11	The greatest triumph	D + Pre – modifier (superlative adjective) + H
12	The crushing grip Your lord	D + Post modifier + H Pre – modifier (determiner possessive adjectives) + H
13	He  The one who originates and resurrects all	Pronoun  D + H + Post – modifier (relative clause)
14	He The all forgiving All loving	Pronoun D + Post – modifier (adjective) Adjective
15	Lord of the throne  The all glorious	H + Post modifier (PP)  D + H (adjective)
16	Doer of whatever	H + Post modifier (noun)
17	The story The destroyed forces	D + H (noun) Pre modifier (D) + H
18	The forces of pharaoh and Thamud	D + H + Post modifier
19	The disbelievers	D + H (adjective)
20	Allah Them From all sides	H (proper noun) Pronoun D + H

21	This A glorious Qur'an	Demonstrative pronoun D + Pre – modifier (adjective) + H
22	A preserved tablet	D + Pre – modifier (adjective) + H

**Note :** D or Det : Determiner  
H : Head  
PP : Prepositional Phrase  
Prep : Preposition  
Adj. P : Adjective phrase

Based on the data presented in Table 1, the following is a detailed description of the phrase patterns in each verse:

1) Verse 1: The sky full of constellations

In the first verse, the main noun phrase is “The sky full of constellations”. The word “sky” here functions as the main noun (Head Noun), the word ‘The’ as a pre-modifier to specify the sky in question, while the phrase “full of constellations” is a post-modifier in the form of an adjective phrase. If we break it down further, the phrase “full of constellations” has ‘full’ as the main noun and “of constellations” as a prepositional phrase that completes the word “full” as a whole. This post-modifier serves to provide further details about the main noun (sky), making it specific and clear in meaning.

2) Verse 2: And the promised day of judgment

In the second verse, there is a complete noun phrase with a pre-modifier and a post-modifier. “The” is the determiner, and “Promised” is the pre-modifier in the form of an adjective because its meaning here is promised. Next, the word “Day” is the main noun, and “Of Judgment” is the post-modifier that provides a clearer specification of meaning. If it were only “the promised day,” it could refer to another day, but with “Of Judgment,” it focuses on the day of reckoning.

3) Verse 3: And the witness and what is witnessed

The witness as a noun phrase, where the is a pre-modifier (determiner) and witness is the head noun (noun). In this third verse, there are two noun phrases, namely what is witnessed, where what is the head noun and is witnessed is the post-modifier.

4) Verse 4: Condemned are the makers of the ditch.

The noun phrases found in verse 4 are “the makers” (the is the determiner, makers is the head noun) and “the ditch” (the ditch is the post-modifier (prepositional phrase)).

5) Verse 5: The fire pit filled with fuel

The noun phrase in the fifth verse is “the fire pit,” with ‘the’ as the pre-modifier and “fire pit” as the noun. “Filled with fuel” is the post-modifier, which explains the fire pit in more detail.

- 6) Verse 6: When they sat around it  
The noun phrase found in this verse is “they” as a simple noun (pronoun) as the subject, and “it” as a simple noun (pronoun) as the object preposition.
- 7) Verse 7: Watching what they had ordered to be done to the believers  
The noun phrase found in verse 7 is “they” as the head noun, “the believers,” with ‘the’ as the determiner and “believers” as the head noun (noun of the subject).
- 8) Verse 8: Who they resented for no reason other than belief in Allah – the almighty, the praiseworthy  
The noun phrase found in the eighth verse of Surah Al-Buruj is “Allah the Almighty,” with Allah as the head noun and Almighty as the post-modifier. Likewise, “the Praiseworthy” has the as the pre-modifier (determiner) and praiseworthy as the post-modifier.
- 9) Verse 9: The ‘one’ to whom belongs the kingdom of the heavens and earth. And Allah is a witness over all things  
The noun phrase found in this verse, when broken down, has many complex noun phrases, namely the phrase “The One” with ‘the’ as the pre-modifier (determiner) and “one” as the head noun. Next is “The kingdom,” with “the” as the pre-modifier (determiner) and “kingdom” as the head noun. The third is “The heavens and earth,” with ‘The’ as the pre-modifier (determiner) and “heavens and earth” as the head noun.
- 10) Verse 10: Those who persecute the believing men and women and then do not repent will certainly suffer the punishment of hell and the torment of burning  
In this verse, the author finds the noun phrase “the believing men and women” with men and women as the head noun, and the believing as the pre-modifier (adjective). In addition, there is “The punishment of hell” with “the” as the pre-modifier (determiner), ‘punishment’ as the head noun, and “of hell” as the post-modifier (noun) that gives a clear meaning to the previous phrase. And finally, there is “the torment of the burning,” with “the” as a pre-modifier (determiner) and “torment” as the head noun (noun). Similarly, in “the burning,” ‘the’ is a pre-modifier (determiner) and “burning” is the head noun (noun).
- 11) Verse 11: Surely those who believe and do good will have gardens under which rivers flow. That is the greatest triumph  
In this verse, the noun phrase found is “the greatest triumph,” with “the” as a pre-modifier (determiner), ‘greatest’ as a superlative adjective, and “triumph” as the head noun.
- 12) Verse 12: Indeed, the crushing grip of your lord is severe  
The noun phrase found by the author in this verse is “the crushing grip,” with “crushing” as a pre-modifier that specifies the meaning that the punishment is devastating, and “grip” as the head noun. In addition, there is the phrase “your Lord,” where ‘your’ is a pre-modifier (determiner possessive adjective) and “Lord” is the head noun.

- 13) Verse 13: for he is certainly the one who originates and resurrects all  
The noun phrase found in this verse is “he” as a noun phrase (pronoun), in addition to “the one who originates and resurrects” as the determiner, with the head noun being the word one, who originates and resurrects all as a post-modifier (relative clause).
- 14) Verse 14: And he is the all forgiving, all loving  
The noun phrase found in this verse is “he” as the head (pronoun), “the all forgiving” the as a pre-modifier, forgiving (adjective) and all loving (adjective) which describe the nature of the creator.
- 15) Verse 15: Lord of the throne, the all glorious  
The phrases found in this verse are Lord as the head noun, the throne as the post-determiner (prepositional phrase), and “the all glorious” with the as the determiner, the head noun being the word “glorious”.
- 16) Verse 16: Doer of whatever he wills  
The noun phrase found in this verse is “doer of weather” with doer as the head noun and of weather as the post-modifier (noun).
- 17) Verse 17: Has the story of the destroyed forces reached you O prophet  
The phrase found in this verse is “the destroyed forces” with the destroyed as the pre-modifier that specifically describes what was destroyed and forces as the head noun.
- 18) Verse 18: The forces of Pharaoh and Thamud?  
The noun phrase found here is “the” as a pre-modifier (determiner), ‘forces’ as the head noun, and “Pharaoh and Thamud” as a post-modifier that provides specific clarity to “forces.”
- 19) Verse 19: Yet the disbelievers still persist in denial  
The noun phrase found in this verse is “the disbelievers” with ‘the’ as the pre-modifier (determiner) and “disbelievers” as the head noun.
- 20) Verse 20: But Allah encompasses them from all sides  
The noun phrases found are “Allah” as the head noun (proper noun/simple NP), “them” as the head noun (pronoun), and the phrase “all sides,” with ‘sides’ as the head noun and “all” as the determiner.
- 21) Verse 21: in fact, this is a glorious Qur'an  
The noun phrases found in this verse are “this” as the head noun (simple noun), “a glorious Qur'an”, “a” as the determiner, ‘glorious’ as the adjective, and “Qur'an” as the head noun.
- 22) Verse 22: Recorded in a preserved tablet  
The noun phrases found are “a preserved tablet”, “a” as the determiner, ‘preserved’ as the adjective, and “tablet” as the head noun.

Analysis of Surah Al-Buruj (Verses 1–22) identifies Complex Noun Phrases with Post-Modification as the most dominant pattern. This is in line with research conducted by Mavlonov Otabek Anvarovich which analyzed structural characteristics in various linguistic aspects, including syntax, stating that one of the distinctive features is that religious terms often contain complex noun phrases (Anvarovich 2024) as found in this

study. The frequent use of prepositional phrases and adjective phrases (e.g., “from judgment,” “full of constellations”) aims to provide clarity of meaning, ensuring that spiritual and historical concepts are clearly explained. Based on data the most dominant pattern in Surah Al-Buruj is Complex Noun Phrase with Post-modification. This structure serves to clarify the meaning of each head noun.

### Conclusion

Based on analysis of 22 verses of Surah Al-Buruj shows that the Complex Noun Phrase with Post-modification pattern is the most dominant structure. The use of modifiers after the core noun, as in the phrase “the fire pit filled with fuel,” serves to provide high semantic precision. The dominance of this complex pattern reflects the linguistic function of emphasizing important religious terms and historical details.

Based on these findings, this research can be further developed through tree diagram theory analysis. The aim is to visualize in detail the structure that forms noun phrases in the English translation of Quranic verses and to identify the elements that make up the phrases in each verse.

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