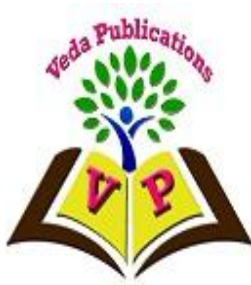**EXTENDED ABSTRACT**

JOELL
Veda Publications

# ANALYSIS OF MOVES USED BY LEGAL PRACTITIONERS IN SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENT (SPA) AS A LEGAL DISCOURSE.

Gurmit Singh Pertap Singh, Manvender Kaur Sarjit Singh

*(Universiti Utara Malaysia)*  Email: manvender@uum.edu.my

**ABSTRACT**

The language of contracts is very much restricted by the fact that it should be as precise as possible in order to avoid any misinterpretation.A corpus-based analysis was employed due to the large quantities of texts can be analysed with minimal effort. The aim of this research is to identify and analyse the moves found in Sale and Purchase Agreements (SPAs). The written Sale and Purchase Agreements (SPAs) were compiled into a learner corpus (COWSPA).Using the move analysis approach by Swales (1990;2004) and Bhatia (1993), the moves were tagged manually and a list of moves used in the SPAs were identified. Computer-Assisted Corpus Analysis (CACA) method was employed to complete the findings. A cross comparison was done by referring the findings with two specialist informants. Finally, 8 moves and 31 steps were agreed and found to be the moves and steps involved in drafting a SPA. These insights create a platform to further analyse the drafting process of SPA as well as to explore the language component in SPAs.

**Keywords**: *Corpus-Based Analysis, Sale and Purchase Agreements, Learner Corpus, Computer-Assisted Corpus Analysis, Specialist Informants.*