CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter presents the conclusions of the study entitled "A Semiotic Analysis on News Photographs in *The Jakarta Globe* Online Newspaper Regarding the Tragedy of Massive Demonstration in Egypt". Suggestions for further study dealing with the issue will be given at the end of this chapter.

5.1   Conclusions

This study, a semiotic analysis on news photographs of the Egyptian demonstration uncovers the portrayal of the voice of the people using Roland Barthes' orders of signification and photographic message. The results of the study show that *The Jakarta Globe* visually constructs this event (demonstration) for the readers by focusing on the human action (the protesters). Therefore, the people's voices in the 15 photographs are represented in the form of actions performed by the people who search for freedom, peace, justice and human rights. These voices also portray the courage and struggle of the Egyptian people against Mubarak's government. Thus, being the victims of Mubarak's regime, their voices may also represent a termination and turning point for Egypt's democracy and freedom.

The semiotic analysis of these news photographs shows that the photos ignite strong emotional feelings in voicing the people's demands. The photo 1, 2, 3 and 4 reveal the voice of freedom. The voice of peace is also revealed in photo 6, 7, 8 and 10, while the voice of justice is revealed in photo 5, 9, 11, 13, 14 and

15. Besides voicing justice, the photo 12, 13, 14 and 15 also emerge the voice of human rights because in photo 13, 14, and 15, the victims are the Coptic Christians who have been protesting a right they should have had in Egypt.

This study also confirms findings from the previous studies that news photographs can help to interpret particular news event through the selection, depiction, symbolism and lexical context such as headline or caption (Wolf, 2004; Fahmy and Kim, 2008; Mendelson and Wolf, 2009; Goodnow, 2010; Parry, 2010; Lovelace, 2010). Domke's idea (2002) that images have the ability to "trigger" people's pre-existing values, cognitions, and feelings that can reflect the interpretation of an image is represented by all of the photos. It is supported by the selection of photographic subjects and the object symbolism, along with the accompanying headlines and captions which reveal the voice of the people.

Ideally, this semiotic analysis would benefit from interviews with the photographers directly or other people who are responsible for the selection of such images. However, the present study presents semiotics as a tool for analyzing the news photograph and its context in different way, including the formation of meaning through the interaction between images and words (headlines and captions).

5.2   Suggestions

Several suggestions are proposed based on the present study. Some suggestions for further study of photograph analysis that has been discussed in the present study are proposed as follows:

1. The next researcher can explore the use of photographs not only about photojournalism, but also fashion photography or documentary photography based on the related issue using semiotic analysis.

2. The next researcher may also combine the qualitative data with quantitative data in order to get an objective result. The use of questionnaire might be helpful in getting the people's opinion about the investigation.

3. The next researcher may combine semiotic analysis with another theory related to the photo text, for instance, the theory of Systemic Functional Grammar.