

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an introduction to the present study includes the background of the study, research problem, aims of the study, research method, and organization of the chapter.

1.1 Background of the Study

On June 1, 2008, there was a riot involving Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) and National Alliance for the Freedom of Faith and Religion (AKKBB) in National Monument (Monas) Square. The incident, which is in the same time with the commemoration of the 63rd year of *Pancasila* state ideology, was very shameful for the country known as a polite and civilized country. The incident took place when the activists, who were National Alliance for the Freedom of Faith and Religion (AKKBB) members, entered the Monas area on Sunday afternoon to commemorate the 63rd year of *Pancasila* state ideology. Suddenly, a mass wearing FPI attributes attacked them causing the riot in the area.

The tragedy, which leaved 70 people injured, seven of whom had to undergo intensive treatment at Jakarta hospitals, was a proof that the people of the country still cannot live peacefully in diversity. The country, with various ethnics and religions, often faces separatism issue caused by ethnic

and religious sentiments like what happened in Sambas and Ambon years ago.

The incident appeared to be a news commodity in a number of mass media. Each media reported the event in various points of view based on their ideology. Theoretically, media as a disseminator of information is expected to balance the flow of information among the society without siding in any involved party. But practically, they tend to be unbalanced. Mass media even determine which events are important and need to be presented to the public. For this reason, Bennet (in Eriyanto 2001) suggests that mass media should be viewed as definers of reality since they contribute to the contours, the logic, and the direction of reality's development via the socially articulated way in which they shape our point of view. In other words, a piece of news does not merely present reality. It is also a constructed reality.

News and information as the products of mass media contain ideologies, interests, and tendencies. One way to explore what is beneath texts of the mass media is by using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). CDA emphasizes the constellation strength that occurs at production and reproduction process of meaning. An individual is not considered to be a neutral subject who can interpret freely according to his/her mind because he/she is related to and influenced by social power that exists in society (van Dijk, 1998).

The focus of CDA is to reveal the discursive sources of power, dominance, inequality, and bias (Van Dijk 1998). Hence, the news

concerning conflict between FPI and AKKBB regarding the Monas Incident is essential to be discussed. Through understanding of dominance, inequality, and bias of mass media, the readers will have critical awareness of the information presented. Furthermore, the readers will be aware of how should they react to the information presented in mass media.

1.2 Limitation of the Study

This study presents an analysis of CDA in the media texts, especially in the form of newspaper. It is only concerned with a case study of four news articles of *Kompas* and *Republika*, which focus on the Monas Incident. In terms of critical method and model analysis, the study uses a model of critical linguistics approaches and apply a model of analysis presented by Teun van Dijk and Huckin (1997).

1.3 Research Problem

The problem of the present study is formulated in the following questions:

- a. how is the Monas Incident represented in *Kompas* and *Republika*?
- b. what is the ideology behind the representation?

1.4 Aims of the Study

In relation to the research problem above, the present study aims to:

- a. investigating the representation of the the Monas Incident in *Kompas* and *Republika*.
- b. discovering the ideology behind the representation.

1.5 Research Methods

The study conducts a qualitative method. William (in Ambarini, 2004) mentions one of the method's characteristics. He suggests that data collection is conducted in natural settings. Qualitative research is more interested in observing social and cultural phenomenon which is natural, not in a controlled or laboratory environment.

The present study employs the framework of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), which was adapted from Teun A. Van Dijk's model. Van Dijk's model has three level analysis; macrostructure, superstructure, and microstructure. A macro structure is the global meaning of text, which can be comprehend by the Text Representational Meaning offered by Siregar. A superstructure is the construction of texts or how discourse elements are constructed, and microstructure is the discourse of meaning that can be examined by analyzing complex sentence and paraphrase.

1.6 Data Collection and Data Analysis

The current study is a case study of the *Kompas* and *Republika* news reports focusing on Monas incident. There were four texts chosen in this study, they are "*Kebhinekaan Dicedera*" (Diversity was Tainted) published

by *Kompas* on 2nd June, 2008 and “*Negara Tidak Boleh Kalah*” (The Country Cannot Lose) which is also published by *Kompas* on 3rd June, 2008. The other two texts were taken from *Republika*, they are “*Bentrokan Akibat Pemerintah Lamban*” (The Clash Caused by the Government’s Indolence) published on 2nd June 2008 and “*Masyarakat Diimbau Tak Lakukan Provokasi*” (The Society was Suggested not to Do Provocation) published on 3rd June 2008.

In order to analyze the data, the writer uses Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) of Van Dijk’s model. The writer started out by considering the existing macro proposition of microstructure-thematization analysis and schematizing the texts of superstructure-schematization analysis, then the study moved on to microstructure-passivization analysis.

1.7 The Organization of the Paper

The paper consists of five chapters. The chapters will further be subdivided into sections that will elaborate the issue under focus.

Chapter I is Introduction. It consists of background, research problem, aim of the study research method, data collection and data analysis, and organization of the paper.

Chapter II is Theoretical Foundation. It provides theoretical accounts of discourse, discourse analysis, and Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA).

Chapter III is Methodology. It consists of the aim of the study, population and sample, subject of research, and analytical framework.

Chapter IV is Analysis, Finding, and Discussion. It discusses the description of the analysis of the data and the result of the analysis. The results support the representations of the newspapers' ideology from the text analysis.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion. It presents the conclusion of the research and offers suggestions.

