

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.0. Introductory Remarks

This chapter presents the introduction of the research, Critical Discourse Analysis of Obama's speeches in Libya. It consists of eight subchapters. First, the background study of the research informs on the reasons which are based and shows the importance of the research. Second, the problems of the research state the questions that will be answered in the research. Third, the aims of the research present the research goals. Fourth, the scope of the research informs the extent to which I did the research. Fifth, the research method informs the method used in the research. Sixth, the data collection and analysis inform how I gained and analyzed the data. Seventh, the clarification of key terms mentions the words that were extensively used in the research. Eight, the last is the organization of this research paper as a general description of the research paper.

1.1. Background of the Research

Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) has been applied in several studies of linguistic. Those researchers who have investigated critical discourse analysis are Van Dijk (1995), Fairclough (1999), Theo Van Leeuwen (2007), Wodak (2001), and Foucault (1975). The four researchers apply critical discourse analysis in their studies.

According to Foucault, CDA (Critical Discourse Analysis) is the method of analysis to identify the relation between power and knowledge which occur in the text. In his study of Critical Discourse Analysis, Van Dijk uses the social cognition concept which is used to analyze text construction. Van Leeuwen's method of CDA is different; he introduces the analysis model to detect how the positions of a person or a group of people are being marginalized in the text. For Fairclough, in his study of CDA, he sees how language takes a role as power practice and he divides discourse analysis into three dimensions, namely, text, discourse practice, and socio-cultural practice. Fairclough's method is used to help me to analyze Obama's speeches commenting about the US intervention in Libya, in order to discover the attitude of Barack Obama toward the US intervention in Libyan conflict as reported by Los Angeles Times:

"America's deepening role in Libya

April 1, 2011

"In his speech to the nation this week, President Obama drew a distinction between the goals of the no-fly zone in Libya — a NATO-led military endeavor narrowly aimed at protecting civilians from a humanitarian disaster — and separate, nonmilitary efforts by the United States to remove Moammar Kadafi from power. "The world would be better off without Kadafi," Obama said, but "broadening our military mission to include regime change would be a mistake." Instead, he said, the U.S. would rely on tactics such as denying the regime arms, cutting off its cash and "assisting the opposition" to hasten Kadafi's downfall." (latimes.com)

Barack Obama is the 44th and the first-colored (African-American) President in the United States of America. He was elected as president in the presidential election in 2009. He was born on 4th august 1961 in Honolulu, Hawaii. His mother is a

Caucasian woman; on the other hand, his father is an African man from Kenya. In the beginning of 2011, Obama, as President of United States of America, decided to make an international effort to help Libyans to get their right and freedom to live like human beings by intervening in the Libyan civil war. Then, on 28th-29th March 2011, Obama gave explanations to Americans through his speeches which commented about the intervention of the United States in the Libyan civil war.

Libya is an Arabic country with Tripoli as its capital city. Its area is 1,759,540 sq km (679,362 sq mi), extending 1,989 km (1,236 mi) se-nw and 1,502 km (933 mi) ne-sw (www.encyclopedia.com). It is headed by a President, named Moammar Gaddafi. In February 2011, there was a revolt, a civil war, in Libya to remove Moammar Gaddafi from power. The Libyan rebels were getting support from the forces such as the United States of America and France. The United States of America intervened in the Libyan civil war by supporting the rebellions to remove Gaddafi from power.

The United States' decision to intervene in the Libyan civil war has created world assumptions. To answer those assumptions then Barack Obama as the President of America gave an announcement and explanation in his speeches commenting United State intervention on Libyan civil war on 28th-29th March 2011. Obama as the first man of the United States of America can be seen as representing the United States of America government which is what he stated in his speeches as the attitude toward the intervention of the United States of America in the Libyan civil war to remove Gaddafi from power.

By using Linguistics as the foundation of this research, these speeches were analyzed through Fairclough's method of CDA (Critical Discourse of Analysis). Through discourse analysis, a text can be analyzed so that the attitude of Barack Obama toward the intervention of the United States of America on the Libyan civil war and how Ghadafi is represented can be discovered evidently.

1.2. Problems of the Research

The problems that were examined in this research cover two main points:

1. How is Ghadafi represented in the Obama's speeches?
2. What is Obama's attitude toward the intervention of the United States of America on the Libyan civil war to remove Gaddafi from power?

1.3. Aims of the Research

Concerning the two problems above, there are two specific aims that are communicated in this research, namely:

1. To examine how Ghadafi is represented in Obama's speeches.
2. To examine Obama's attitudes toward the intervention of the United States of America on Libyan civil war to remove Gaddafi from power represented in his speeches.

1.4. Scope of the Research

The research investigates President Obama's speeches about the America's intervention in the Libyan war. The research examines the representation of Ghaddafi in Obama's speeches on Libya, and Obama's attitude toward the intervention of the United States of America in the Libyan civil war to remove Gaddafi from power. To analyze the texts, I used Halliday's functional grammar by applying the concepts of transitivity, thematization, passivization, and lexical analysis, and to discover Obama's attitude I applied evaluation strategy proposed by Fairclough. Further, Fairclough's strategy which is the concept of identification was used as the theoretical frame work of the research to interpret Obama's speeches on the intervention of the United States of America in the Libyan civil war.

1.5. Research Method

Relevant to the research questions and aims of the study as mentioned above, I used a qualitative approach. The qualitative is more emphasizing in words rather than numbers in the data findings and analysis. The data are presented descriptively, which are included classifying, analyzing and explaining the cases. Besides, according to Creswell (1998:61) this research is also categorized as a case study, which explores a case (or multiple cases) over time through detailed, in-depth data collection involving multiple sources of information rich in context.

I collected the data transcripts of Obama's speeches. The collected data were analyzed by using Fairclough's analytical framework of discourse analysis to examine the relationship between texts, discursive practice, and social practice (Paltridge, 2000). According to Fairclough, there are three dimensions of discourse analysis, namely, description, interpretation, and explanation. In the description stage, I applied Halliday's method of functional grammar, namely, transitivity, thematization, passivization, and lexical analysis to analyze the texts and Fairclough's method of evaluation to discover Obama's attitude. Afterwards, I continued to the next stage which is interpretation to interpret the representation in the texts. Finally, I revealed the hidden attitude behind such representations which are hidden in the texts.

1.6. Data Collection and Data Analysis

I analyzed Obama's speeches about the intervention of the United States in the Libyan civil war on 28th-29th March 2011. The speeches were taken from *npr.org*.

To analyze the data, I applied several steps. First, I chunked the speeches into sentences and then they were parsed into their components by functional grammar parameters. Second, to analyze the representation of Ghaddafi appearing in the texts I applied Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), namely transitivity, thematization, passivization, and lexical analysis, and Fairclough's method of evaluation to discover Obama's attitude toward the Libyan civil war. Third, I

interpreted the results which were found. Fourth, finally, I eventually explained those results.

1.7. Clarification of Key Terms

In this subchapter, I use several terms, which are related to the research to avoid misinterpretation.

1) **intervention** is to become involved in a situation in order to improve or help it (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 2000:712)

2) **ideology** is the shared, fundamental and axiomatic beliefs of specific social groups (socialism, neoliberalism, feminism, (anti)racism, pacifism, etc.) (Van Dijk taken from Wodak and Meyer, 2009:65)

3) **attitude** is the socially shared, ideology based opinions (normative beliefs) about specific social issues having given rise to debate or struggle (abortion, divorce, euthanasia, immigration, etc) (Van Dijk taken from Wodak and Meyer, 2009:65)

1.8. Organization of the Research

The study consists of five chapters. The first chapter is *Introduction*, which presents the background of the research. The second chapter is *Literature Review*, which explains the related theories and the theories that were used as a framework.

The third chapter is *Methodology*, which gives explanation about the technique of analyzing the data that were used in this research. The fourth chapter is *Finding and Discussion*, which finds and discusses the data to discover the answers for the statements of problems that have been mentioned earlier. The last chapter is *Conclusion and Suggestion*, which concludes the results of the research and gives the suggestions for further research.

