CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter provides the conclusions of present study based on the findings and discussion that have been presented in the previous chapter. It also contains the suggestions for the readers of the present study who might be interested in conducting research discussed in the present study.

5.1 Conclusions

This study, a semiotic analysis of the severity of mount Merapi eruption portrayed in Kemal Juffri’s photos as the 2nd prize stories winner of World Press Photo, aims to reveal the severity of Mt. Merapi eruption portrayed in the Juffri photo story, using Eco’s Hermetic Drift (1994). In addition, the symbol, index and mode are also analyzed to uncover the whole meaning in the photographs.

The signs appeared in the photo were analyzed by Eco’s (1994) hermetic drift, which involves the context of the sign to reveal the meaning behind the photograph. In the story, it can be concluded that (50%) of the symbols signify damages and losses, (33.33%) of the symbols signify suffering of the people and (16.67%) of the symbols signify death. Whereas the indexes in the photo stories, it can be concluded that (58.33%) of the indexes signify damages and losses, (25%) of the indexes signify suffering of the people, and (16,67%) of the indexes signify death. While the element of modes in the story shows that (58.3%) of the photos in the story are dominated by grey & black color. According to Zammito (2005), those colors are related to death and sadness. The fashion identity in this photo shows the people wearing uniform and collar. According to Barnard (2006), the uniform is related to the collectivism, in the stories, people who wear the uniform appeared in (25%) of the photos and collar related to the citizens appeared (8,3%) of the photos. A sad facial expression indicated by mouth open, corners of the lips down, raised cheek, eyes look downward and upper eyelids drop (Ekman & Keltner,2000) appeared in the (25%) photos in the story.
The research found that the Juffri’s photo story about the disaster of Mt. Merapi eruption portrays the suffering of the people near Mt. Merapi, which directly got the worst effect of the eruption disaster. The photo story also portrays collectiveness of Indonesian people to help the victims of the disaster.

5.2 Suggestions

After conducting the research, there are some suggestions related to the present study:

1. The next researcher can explore other genres of photojournalism such as portraiture story, documentary and photo essay based on the related issue using semiotic analysis.
2. The next researcher may find other online prestigious photo competition to pick the data such as from the winner of Pulitzer.
3. The next researcher may also analyze the caption in the photo by using particular framework such as functional grammar.
4. The next researcher may also combine the qualitative data with quantitative data in order to get an objective result.