REPRESENTATION OF SOCIAL ACTORS OF THE PRESS STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDONESIA IN THE ISSUE OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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REPRESENTATION OF SOCIAL ACTORS OF THE PRESS STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDONESIA IN THE ISSUE OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Abstract

This research was aimed to identify the social actors represented in the press statement of the President of Indonesia in the issue of covid-19 pandemic using two analytical models of Halliday's transitivity model (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004) and Van Leeuwen's (1996) framework applied to analyze the clauses were counted and analyzed critically through public discursive models. The research data were obtained from two news published by Setkab.go,id (Secretary of cabinets).. The results showed show the positive portrayal or inclination of the press statement towards one social actor and it also portrays the ideology or stance of the president shown inclination towards as a current ruler of government at time of data collection and his influence on Setkab.go.id. he showed that actor in material process represented in the role allocation of government was aimed to show the action of the Indonesian President toward the issue of the covid-19 pandemics.

Keywords: social actors,Transitivity and President's Press Statement

INTRODUCTION

Press statement of a President is very important because it will influence on his own people due to the statement as a guideline to carry out his country. Through media as a tool will gave him to say publicly through his statement of the dangerous of the covid-19 pandemics occurred around of the world including Indonesia. Covid-19 is recently known widely because its devastation emerged.

Therefore, the issue of Covid 19 has made trending topic in the social media around the world, including in Indonesia. This becomes the president of Indonesia's concern due the fatality in Indonesia is considered the highest level, 9,87. The government vehemently struggled to protect its people by suggesting to keep the distance using new term of Indonesia people of "physical distancing". According to Safitri (2020) Covid-19 cannot be seen as a benchmark because it is an extraordinary incident; it isn't normal. This condition has driven how the government through the president's press statement represented some groups concerned in the issue. The groups are social actors in the covid-19 issue. Therefore, the role of media is very important to influence on the people in the issue of corona.

Asad (2015) regards that media is considered as a cultural source in the political world, it enacts political 'kingmakers', which legalize or illegalize different positions as in the media discourse. As the media has great role to influence on its readers if the source is from a public figure. Fairclough (1995) added that texts are social life spaces by comprising of cognition process and social interaction. And by considering 'context' of language as a notion leads to the useful investigation (Halliday, 1999). By adding context with the language investigation it creates a dialectical relationship between them (Asad, 2019).

Previous research has been done in media during the last five years (2015-2019) researches it has been seen that internet is connected to the process of democratization of news production and distribution (Heer et al; 2019), which is proven that Malaysian political history also but the linguistics stances of independent and online newspapers on elections 2018 have not been identified so far in comparison to show their inclination towards any political party in Malaysia. To find the different gap in this research linguistics stances' comparison, the research is conducted to bridge the gap and open up new dimensions for further studies to opt the same linguistics analysis framework. Jóhannsdóttir (2018) augmented that he focused on Iceland press that online traditional newspapers are formed by their institutional norms, not by the internet. His results show that commercialization has increased in online newspapers with the emergence of internet services so; the portrayal of news has an effect on commercialization, news institutions, and journalists.

Asad (2019) and Noor (2017) studied on online newspapers by having a framework of Critical Discourse Analysis and Systematic Functional Linguistics. They studied on media in Malaysia. Asad (2019) studied the meaning behind the text of two streams of online newspapers in Malaysia, the present study is conducted on 'Malaysiakini' (independent newspaper) and 'The News Straits Times' (mainstream newspaper). The other is the study done by Noor (2017) worked on a Malaysian graduate employability issue which is construed in discourse of public in English, which is considered a powerful language in Malaysia. In Malaysian settings the direct quotations had been found in mainstream newspapers with government to show the supporting material instead of only newspaper voice by journalist. It shows the shadows of government control.

As already stated that language is tool to communicate among the people. Language is a system of grammatical and lexical items, which have a relationship with its context (Halliday, 1999). As stated by Asad et al (2019) social actors are individuals are represented. in the 'Individualization' category, social actors were chosen as individuals (van Leeuwen, 2005). In the category of 'Activation', they were an as dynamic force and identify as 'doers' (van Leeuwen, 2005). On the other is in 'Passivation' categorized as a beneficiary 'doers'. In grammatical roles, they commonly fall under goal, beneficiary, phenomena and receiver roles (van Leeuwen, 2008). In 'Nomination' process social actors are represented with proper nouns (van Leeuwen, 2008). In the category of 'Personalization', the actor was chosen as an influential person who was involved and responsible for his actions (van Leeuwen, 2005 cited by Asad, 2019). The 'Functionalization' occurs on the social activity of social actors in context by his performance (van Leeuwen, 2005). Thus, the function of social Semiotics is initiated from

Halliday's Systematic Functional Linguistics (SFL) in which social actors were analyzed grammatically under ideation function of language.

The important of the role of media as already stated that language can be realized through media. Media as a cultural source in the political world is considered political 'kingmakers', which legitimize or de-legitimize different positions as media discourse (Leong, 2015,Asad, 2019). Regarding to the previous studies, this research is aimed to identify social actors represented by Indonesian president's press statement.

This research highlights three important elements in enacting the social actors. Firstly, the role of president of Indonesia ensure to the people how he is able to help people to solve the problem of the issue of covid-19 pandemics. Secondly, the role of government to convince the people of the covid-19 pandemics. This is aimed to show how the government struggle to overcome the issue of covid-19 pandemics. Thirdly, the Media, especially wetkab.go.id published the press statement of the Indonesian president.

Why certain social groups are important in this research, due to basically Indonesia still embraces presidential system which focuses on the president as the main role in ruling the nation and the government as well. Thus, the main focus is on types of social actors and their grammatical and rhetorical realization in Indonesian public discourse. As stated by van Leeuwen (2008) social semiotics was adopted as the framework of analysis. Therefore, the social actors represented in this research consist of government, president, and people.

Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA)

Systematic Functional Linguistics (SFL) initially introduced Michael Alexander Kirkwood Halliday in 1978 as linguistic analytical tool. Therefore, the systemic functional study is found in the analysis of CDA in the work of van Dijk (1985), Wodak (1989), Fairclough (1989) and Fowler (1996). The Halliday's thoughts of SFL have been reviewed by Halliday & Matthiessen (2004,2014), van Leeuwen (2008),as description of the relation between CDA and SFL.

This research uses CDA of Fairclough (1995). Fairclough (1995) explains a discourse analysis as an analysis method which includes linguistic description of the language text, interpretation of the relationship between the (productive and interpretative) discursive processes and the text, and explanation of the relationship between the discursive processes and the social processes. The study connects between language and social reality in the social life through critical discourse analysis (CDA)

CDA has been applied as linguistics approaches employed many times "language as a form of social practice" (Fairclough, 1989: 20) and focuses on the ways social and power domination is reproduced by text and talk. It enables to investigate the social function in term of linguistics. Thus, discourse can realize particular world views, particular social relations between people, and particular social identities based on its aims, context and addressees of the text. The approach is shaped to review the connection between linguistic and social resources. Discourse and communicative events are an important part for CDA. Besides, CDA is used to identify critically social imbalance "as it is stated, signaled, constituted, legitimized and so on by language use" (Wodak, 2001). Therefore, CDA views from the outset that language is invested, that is language is not a neutral tool for transmitting a message but, that all "communicative events" (van Dijk, 1993: 250). Using

the CDA as approach and analyzing Fairclough's (1995) which emphasizes on transitivity analysis approach (Halliday, 1985; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004) to open how events, situations, relationships and people are represented in media texts. According to Noor (2017:83) "through the production of text by news institutions, choices are made as to what is included and what is excluded, what is made explicit or left implicit, and what is foregrounded and what is backgrounded". Then she proved that the linguistic elements of media texts identified based on the structuring of propositions and their combination and sequencing. Using Transitivity analysis (TA) in CDA has been used as an analytical tool to be correct to study public discourse on a wide range of social issues (Fairclough, 1995). In brief the connection of CDA and SFL are very crucial to study social actors represented through media.

Metafunctions

In SFL, language has main functions as known as 'metafunctions', according to Halliday (1978), which are, following Butt et al0(2010) and Noor (2016):

a. to talk about what is happening, what will happen, and what has happened (ideational metafunction)

b. to interact and/or to express a point of view (interpersonal metafunction)

c. to turn the output of the previous two functions into a coherent whole (textual metafunction).

Experience and activity are construed by the ideational metafunction, while social relationships, power, and identity are enacted by the interpersonal metafunction.

This research applied 'transitivity process' (ideational function), which is from the nominal group, which denotes a broader class of phenomenon as compared to other groups (Asad, 2019). She then augmented that the nominal group included nouns, determiners, adjectives, and numerals, which come in one description and that, are experiential function. The clauses are the main channel in grammar, which are located under their metafunction context (Matthiessen&Halliday, 2014,). The 'ideation' function is categorized under the processes in which each actor was analyzed asper his role; the processes are named as a material process, mental process, verbal process, relational process, behavioral process, an existential process (Asad, 2019).

Noor (2016, 2017) augmented that transitivity system is able study the representation of a particular event or situation in different ways. For example:

• He was hit. (One participant, 'done-to'; one action, process)

• I saw her hit him. (Same event: three participants, one 'done-to', one 'do-er', one 'see-er'; one sensing process and one action process).

Participants: People, things, places, and ideas typically realized by nominal groups a.

Attributes: (qualities of participants), typically realized by adjectival and nominal groups.

Processes: Actions and relations, typically realized by verbal groups (doing, behaving, saying, thinking, feeling, being).

Circumstances: The 'how', 'when', 'where' and 'why' of a clause, typically realized by adverbial groups, prepositional phrases.

As the above that the process above is related to a specific set of grammatical participants, whereas circumstances are optional; and the different types can freely

associate with any process type. In the application, process refers to the occurred activities described into clause, participant refers to the involved thing or person in the event, and circumstance refers to the environment where the process involving the participant take place.

The Representation of Social Actors in Media Texts

As already stated the above that this research focused on the social actors represented in the social media, the social actors are represented actively or passively due to their power in the media. This research is aimed to identify the representations of social actors as construed by the news and government documents in the issue of mudik in Indonesia, using existing literature on the representation of social actors by Fairclough (1995) and by Van Leeuwen (2008) will be employed, as they support the use of SFL in their framework. Fairclough (1995) probed the linguistic elements of media texts, and investigated the structuring of propositions and their combination and sequencing.

In brief, Van Leeuwen (2008) explains when social actor is presented as the performer of action, that is considered as the active, dynamic forces in an activity. However, passivation happens when the social actor is the recipient action or is shown as undergoing the activity(van Leeuwen, 2008:32-33). Further Noor (2016:52) applies the approach of Systemic Functional Linguistics, transitivity analysis is utilized in identifying social actors; and this framework is discussed in more detail in following parts.

Social representations can reallocate roles or rearrange the social relations between the participants (van Leeuwen, 2008)The role allocation of social actors can be achieved through the Activation and Passivation of social actors. Activation occurs when social actors are represented as the active, dynamic forces in an activity. According to (Halliday &Mathiessen, 2004) activated social actors, coded as This is realized by activated social actors, coded as Actor in Material process, Sayer in verbal process, Senser in mental process, or Assigner in relational process or 'participation'. Van Leeuwen (2008) adds that activation can also be realized through 'circumstantialization', which is by prepositional circumstantials with 'by, and 'from'. Passivation occurs when the social actors are represented as 'undergoing' the activity, or as being 'at the receiving end of it'. Passivation can also be realized through 'participation', when the passivated actor is Goal in a material process, Phenomenon in mental process, or Carrier in an effective attributive process. It also necessitates a further distinction: the passivated social actors can be 'subjected' or 'beneficialized'. 'Subjected' social actors are treated as objects in the representation. Beneficialized social actors form a third party, which positively or negatively benefits from the action. It can also be realized by 'participation', where the beneficialized participant is Recipient or Client in relation to a material process or Receiver in relation to a verbal process(Noor, 2016).

METHOD

This research employed qualitative descriptive research approach. The data which were collected to explore the social actors hidden the press statement of the Indonesian president in the Setkab.go.id as construed in the public discourse of news English version in the covid-19 issue.

The theoretical framework of this research is Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) of Norman Fairclough (1995) is employed with the Systematic Functional Linguistic (SFL) analytical tool of Halliday & Matthiessen (2004, 2014). The social actors are framed on the social semiotic approach of van Leeuwen's (2008) which is the basis of selection of news reports. Using social media in collecting the data in this current research is more appropriate to take benefits from this research more easily.

Data Collection

By taking social media online in English version retrieved from the setkab online media is very important to obtain the data. The English press statement of the Indonesian President based on News reported in the Setkab.go.id had been downsized on the basis of social actors. As already stated in the backgroundthat the main focus is on types of social actors and their grammatical and rhetorical realization in Indonesian public discourse. As stated Leeuwen's (2008) social semiotics was adopted as the framework of analysis. Therefore, the social actors represented in this research consist of government, president, and people.

Procedure

The dataset was published on 31 March 2020 (1017 words) and on 10 April 2020 (1026 words). The data were analyzed using tools from SFL and the analysis of text and discourse comprises:

a. the linguistic description of the formal properties of the text;
b. the interpretation of the relationship between the discursive processes/ interaction and the text, where text is the end product of a process text production and a resource in the process of text interpretation;
c. the explanation of the relationship between discourse and social and cultural reality (Noor,2017).

The following step, the researchers downloaded the text and then copied and pasted into available word processing software package (WORD). The data was then divided into clauses, and embedded clauses. Then, the clauses were pasted into a widely available spreadsheet software package for each specific analysis (EXCEL) -the transitivity analysis (Noor, 2017).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION
Findings

As in the research data, the analysis of the framework of CDA and transitivity, there are three social actors represented in the *setkab.go.id* of the press statement of the Indonesian President. The data findings as described in the table 1and below;

Table 1 Total Occurrences of Social Actors

No	Social Actors	Data 1	Data 2	Quantity	Percentage
1	Government	15	8	23	40,3%
2	President	6	6	12	21,5
3	People	13	9	22	39,2%
	TOTAL	34	23	57	100%

The social actors are mostly represented in the press statement of the president of Indonesia are government 23 (40,3%), People 22 (39,2%), and President 12 (21,5%). The press statement of the president mostly represented the government, then people, and the last is president himself. He shows how the role of government are very crucial in solving the issue of the covid-19, while people are represented as the focus of the government and president as the priority.

Transitivity analysis

Transitivity as an analytical tool in corporation with social network is aimed to investigate social actors represented in the press statement of the president of Indonesia using transitivity system as the framework. In line withAsad (2019) explains that the social actors in transitivity analysis were involved in different roles as a participant. Firstly they are analyzed through process types and then secondly against their participant role, which had been given to them in particular clause as per their actions e.g. sayer, verbiage, goal, actor, beneficiary, token, affected, phenomena, scope, target, etc.

Table 2: the Frequency of the Participants

	Process	Government	President	People	Quantity	Percentage
1	Actor	14	4	1	19	33,3%
2	Senser	4	4	1	9	15,7%
3	Sayer	4	4	0	8	14,3%
4	Goal	0	0	7	7	12,2%
5	Beneficiary	0	0	6	6	10,5%
6	Phenomenon	1	0	2	3	5,2%
7	Carrier	0	0	2	2	3,5%
8	Token	1	0	1	2	3,5%
9	Value	0	0	1	1	1,7%
	TOTAL	24	12	21	57	100%

The findings above show that the social actors to be considered as activation in the data 1 and 2 were Actor 19 (33,3%), Senser 9 (15,7%), Sayer 8 (14,3 %), while the occurrences of the passivation Goal 7 (12,25) beneficiary 6 (10,5%), Phenomenon 3 (5,2%), while the participant fall outsides the both were carrier 2(3,5%), Token 2 (3,5%), and Value 1 (1,7%). The process of an actor 33,3 % was mostly used in the press statement of the Indonesian president, he focused on the 'action' in his statement.

Discussion

Based the findings, it refers to social semiotics analysis in two categories of van Leeuwen's (2008) frameworkand role allocation of social actors. The role allocation of social actors can be achieved through the activation and passivation of social actors.

As already stated in previous part that Actor in Material process, Sayer in verbal process, Senser in mental process, or Assigner in relational process or 'participation'. Van Leeuwen (2008) adds that activation can also be realized through 'circumstantialization', which is by prepositional circumstantials with 'by, and 'from'. While passivation occurs when the social actors are represented as 'undergoing' the activity, or as being 'at the receiving end of it'. Passivation can also be realized through 'participation', when the

passivated actor is Goal in a material process, Phenomenon in mental process, or Carrier in an effective attributive process.

The role allocation of social actors

The social actors were represented in the press statement of the Indonesian president in their different roles. The main social actors were government, president and people. The percentages' comparison is verifying the results in their various roles and presentation of data in the following tables were giving a clear perception of each social actor's standing with others in the same issue.As previously stated that social actors are represented in this current research are government, president, and people.

The Government

It is based the data which based the president's press statement of social actors represented in the covid-19 pandemic in Indonesia in the two news of the setkad.go.id are frequently represented actively and passively of the grammatical roles as actors, behaver, sayer and then Senser. In the the two news of the setkad.go.id, they are represented most frequently as sayer. Sayer is the most activated grammatical role in van Leeuwen's (2008) framework. Sayer are construed as the 'speakers', the agents of social action. As sayer, social actors are represented as having authority, and as those who disseminate public information such as policy, or government's plan to overcome the covid-19 case, which becomes the news. Some of the samples with these social actors as the sayer is given in Table 1:

Table 3: Role Allocation of Government

No	Social Actors	Data 1	Data 2	Quantity	Percentage
1	Actor	7	7	14	54,9%
2	Sayer	4	0	4	15,8%
3	Senser	0	4	4	15,8%
4	Phenomenon	0	1	1	3,8%
5	Carrier	1	0	1	3,8%
6	Value	1	1	2	7,6%
	TOTAL	13	13	26	100%

The data 3 above showed that Actor 14 (54,9%), Sayer 4 (15,8%), Senser 4 (15,8%), Phenomenon 1 (3,8%), Carrier1 (3,8%), and value 2 97,6%). The government was represented as social actor mostly he had been quoted with 14 (54,9%) in actor role was mostly occurred in the press statement of the Indonesian president. The actor role was aimed to show how he was doing an action.

President

This social actor representing how he was represented in the discourse on the issue of covid-19 pandemic in the press statement of the Indonesian President. The president was based on the finding was the least occurrence. The representation of social actor of president allocated as described in Table 4
the President

Table 4: Role Allocation of Government

No	Social Actors	Data 1	Data 2	Quantity	Percentage
1	Actor	1	3	4	33,3%
2	Sayer	2	2	4	33,3%
3	Senser	3	1	4	33,3%
	TOTAL	4	4	12	100%

As displayed in table 4 above that the Actor 4 (33,3%), Sayer4 (33,3%), and Senser 4 (33,3%), the role of the president was represented the same occurrences. There is a close margin among actor, sayer and senser in representation, which showing and giving equal opportunity to them were involved in the press statement of the Indonesian president. The actor showed how he did an action, then the sayer showed how his thought, action and evaluation of the issue. The last was senser, he showed how he also felt what the others experienced.

Table 5: Role Allocation of People

No	Social Actors	Data 1	Data 2	Quantity	Percentage
1	Actor	1	0	1	4,7%
2	Senser	1	0	1	4,7%
3	Goal	2	5	7	33,3%
4	Beneficiary	4	2	6	28,5%
5	Phenomenon	1	1	2	9,5%
6	Carrier	2	0	2	9,5%
7	Token	1	0	1	4,7%
8	Value	1	0	1	4,7%
	TOTAL	13	8	21	100%

As stated in the table 5 above showed that Actor 1 (4,7%), Senser 1 (4,7%) Goal 7 (33,3%), Beneficiary 6 (28,5%), Phenomenon 2(9,5%, Carrier 2(9,5%), Token 1 (4,7%) and Value 1 (4,7%). The occurance was mostly used to represented the people in the press statement of the Indonesian President was goal. The representation of the people was goal, who is affected for evaluation by the president.

CONCLUSION

This reserach has been concluded that Press statement of the Indonesian President in the setka.go.id as an official media of the Secretary of cabinet of the Republic of Indonesia. The issue of covid-19 has been published through in the setka.go.id. The president stated about the issue by representing some social actors, such as government, president, and people. The data obtained from two news in the issue of covid-19 pandemics in Indonesia, and then it affected whole people and government as represented in the social actors.

The government was represented as social actor mostly he had been quoted with 14 (54,9%) in actor role was mostly occurred in the press statement of the Indonesian president. He showed how his action toward the issue of the covid-19 pandemics. Then,

the representation of the people was mostly realized as goal in the material process, who is affected for evaluation by the president. The last was president, who was represented equally by actor, sayer and senser. The actor showed how he did an action, then the sayer showed how his thought, action and evaluation of the issue. The last was senser, he showed how he also felt what the others experienced.

The results of different frequencies clearly show the positive portrayal or inclination of the press statement towards one social actor and it also portrays the ideology or stance of the president shown inclination towards President statement as a current ruler of government at time of data collection and his influence on Setkab.go.id. he showed that actor in material process represented in the role allocation of government was aimed to show the action of the Indonesian President toward the issue of the covid-19 pandemics.

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