A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF ISRAEL AND PALESTINE CONFLICT REPORTED IN ALJAZEERA AND USA TODAY'S NEWS ARTICLES

A Thesis

Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for S-1 degree

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ABSTRACT

The conflict of Israel and Palestine happened again for the last 11 days and ended up with the ceasefire between Israel and Hamas on Friday, May 21, 2022. Many news media exposed the conflict rapidly including Aljazeera and USA Today's news websites. Based on both news articles were found out the different positions in delivering Israel and Palestine conflict from The Aljazeera and The USA Today. This research was aimed to see how Aljazeera and USA Today's news websites constructed the text of the ceasefire between Israel and Palestine, how the social cognition and the social context in Aljazeera and USA Today's coverage about the ceasefire of Israel and Palestine.

The method of this research was qualitative research by using social cognition of Van Dijk theory to analyze the data. Van Dijk divided the discourse into three parts there were; text structure, social cognition and social context. Van Dijk did not analyze the text discourse only but also cognition of the journalist and discourse that developed in the society.

The result of the research was every news website had its own style in presenting the ceasefire of Israel and Palestine. First here were difference headline meaning text structure raised by Aljazeera and USA Today's news websites. Second, social cognition is scheme that played a role in Aljazeera and USA Today's news are event scheme. The last, social context in this analysis divided into two elements, there were power practice and access influenced discourse. The result revealed that Aljazeera was more neutral in covering the news. Meanwhile, USA Today carried a certain ideology by implicitly emphasizing their allegiance to one of parties.

Keywords: Critical Discourse Analysis, Israel and Palestine, News websites, The Ceasefire

DECLARATION

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MOTTO

إِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا

"Verily, with the hards hip, there is relief" (QS. Al-Insyirah 6)



¹ https://quran.kemenag.go.id

DEDICATION

From the deepest site of my heart, I dedicate this thesis:

- 1. To my beautiful mother the late I. Rodiah as the best mother, teacher, motivator, and friend ever.
- 2. My father the late Ujang Adja S. as the greatest hero in my life.
- 3. My lovely brothers Aceng Kurnia, the late Yudiana, Roni Saputra, Rocky Rahmat Hidayat and lovely sisters-in-law Euis, Siti Fathonah, Vera Juwita Sari as the kindest siblings and parents that I ever have.



CURRICULUM VITAE

Fitri Mela Laelasari was born in Garut on January 08th, 2000. Fitri is the last children of Mr. Ujang Adja and Ms. I. Rodiah. She has four brothers named Aceng, Yudiana, Roni, and Rocky. Fitri Mela Laelasari completed her education at Elementary School at SDN Karangsari O1 in Garut, West Java in 2007 until 2012. In the same year she continued her education at MTs Tsalafiyah and graduated in 2015then decided to study at SMAN 02 Garut in 2015 and finished in 2018. In 2018, she chose to continue her colleagu at State Islamic University Raden Intan Lampung and chose English Education Program until she finished her study.



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This thesis can provide benefits for all parties who need it. However, this research is still imperfect, therefor suggestions are welcome to enhance this research.

Bandar Lampung, April, 2023

The researcher



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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Title Confirmation

The title of this research is "A Critical Discourse Analysis of Israel and Palestine Conflict in Aljazeera and USA Today's News Websites". To avoid misunderstanding in this research, the research must be explained first. The materials that must be explained are:

Discourse means a complete record of events about communication. Discourse in general means a linguistic unit that is larger than sentences and clauses and has a relationship between one linguistic and other. Clark in his article Production published in the Handbook of Psycholinguistics describes "Discourse" as the use of language as a whole exceeded the level of sounds, words, and sentences.² Discourse analysis is a branch of linguistics that examines naturally occurring (not hypothetical) communication in the broadest sense, at the level of meaning.³ These whole definitions put discourse as a neutral and independent construction value.

Critical discourse analysis (CDA) forms a type of discourse analysis that takes a particular interest in the relation between language and power. It focuses on the study of how power abuse, domination, and equality. CDA places the discourse as a construction which is not neutral and has not value-free. It means discourse is produced by the speakers to achieve their goals. One of the concepts in CDA is ideology, which is defined as some kind of basic self-scheme of a group. CDA aims to give consciousness to the people about the power of language in changing the event and influencing their point of view. News media primarily have the potential to control the mind's readers or viewers⁴ because media has an important role in deliver about event that happened in the society.

News becomes a representation of the world in language, because it consists of a structure of values and social in origin. News contains important information and interesting to the public, news is reported quickly by the media periodicals such as newspapers, radio, television, or internet online media. While a website is a collection of pages that contain certain information and many people can access via the internet thus, a news website is a site that is owned by the media company agency and managed by the team. It is made to convey the news about a certain event or issue that happen and everyone can see and access the news via the internet. Charnel and James M. Neal said news is a report about an event, opinion, tendencies, situation, conditions, important, interpretations, and interesting.

Israel and Palestine conflict is a conflict between two countries who want to establish a state on the same land. British promises to Arabs and Jews made both of them feel entitled to the Palestine territories. This is background of the protracted Arab-Jewish conflict to the Israel-Palestine conflict. The conflict does not happen from the 1967 war, it goes back to 130s and 1940s until now.⁸

 $^{^2}$ Alvons Habibie, Comparison Between Discourse And Critical Discourse Analysis From Linguistic View, (IAIN Sultan Amai Gorontalo), p. 4

³ Janet Beavin Bavelas and Chistine Kenwood, *Discourse Analysis*, (Newburry Park: Sage. 2002), p. 102

⁴ Teun A. van Dijk, *Power and News Media*, (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University, 2004), p. 10.

⁵ Roger Fowler, *Language in news* (USA: Routledge, 1991), p. 1.

⁶ Ni Luh Ratih Maha Rani, *Persepsi Jurnalis dan Praktisi Humas terhadap Nilai Berita Vol. 10 No. 1*, (Jurnal Ilmu Komunikasi, 2013), p. 88

⁷ Ibid

⁸ Ziad AbuZayyad, *Palestine-Israel Journal Vol 15 No. 4& Vol 16 No. 16 No. 1*, (MIDLDLE EAST PUBLICATION, 2009), p. 1

In May, 2021 the conflict re-occurs when Israel police clashed with Palestinian protesters near the Al-Aqsa Mosque during Ramadan because Palestinian who lives in the area of Sheikh Jarrah were threaten losing their home to a Jewish settlement. Israel polish responded the Palestinian. Protesters with violence until it developed into a clash. Israel ignored Hamas warning to stop violence at Al-Aqsa mosque complex so that mutual attacks ensued between HAMAS and Israel. After 11 days clashed HAMAS and the Israel's cabinet said a ceasefire would be agreed.

B. Background of the Problem

News media becomes the main tool to obtain information regarding political events or the social issue that happens in society. News media can reach the public and provide people the knowledge about the world. News media has a significant role to shape and change people's points of view and public opinion about the event that happen. Media also influence the next step in the communications, people understanding, and perspective on the topics in the news because potential for a broader view of media can influence public opinion. Mass media is a medium of communication and information that carries out the dissemination mass and accessible information mass and accessible information by the public en masse quickly. ¹⁰ Therefore, people can access news articles on the internet easily, but they usually read and give attention to one news article from one news media only. They do not consider that every news media has a different way in represent news because the language use of media is not always neutral and also has specific purpose in it. 11 Fowler said that anything said or written about the world has been articulated from a particular ideological position. We have to remember that the concept of news is new information. Reality is not only as news but as a product of interaction between journalists and facts. When journalist is hit by reality, the reality is observed by journalist and absorbed in journalist's consciousness. Then journalists throw themselves to interpret reality. So the result of the news is a product of interaction proses between journalist and fact to see the reality. 12 Hence, every news media can deliver the new news based on their perspective.

Israel and Palestine becomes one of the international issues that take deep interest to the world news media. The conflict has run for decades remain unsolved. Various argumentations about the main cause of the conflict emerged globally as the result of the news released by news media. The issue was exposed rapidly by media both electronic and newspaper. Now everyone has a smartphone hence news websites becomes a choice to know the issue is happening because they can read the news everywhere and they believe that they can find a fact of the event from them. News media is always seen to deliver the news or an event by the facts and required to report the news objectively. News media has interest and the partial tendency of a particular group or they choose to be neutral. But in critical view, individual is not considered as neutral subject. News is not always represented as in reality because there no reality is really real.

⁹ Max McCombs, The Agenda-Setting Role of the Mass Media in the Shaping of Public Opinion, (Austin: University of Texas at Austin, 1972), p. 5

¹⁰ Bend Abidin Sentosa, *Peran Media Massa dalam Mencegah Konflik*, (Universitas Sebelas Maret Surakarta., 2017), p. 200.

Mohammad Muhassin. A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF A POLITICAL TALK SHOW ON THE 2019 INDONESIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. (English Education: Jurnal Tadris Bahasa Inggris Vol 14 (2), 2021), p. 23

¹² Ibid. p. 207

¹³ Arry Purnama, "The Representation of HAMAS and Israel in American Arabian Mass Media: A Critical Discourse Analysis, (Jatinangor: Universitas Padjajaran, 2015), p. 29

¹⁴ Eriyanto, "Analisis Wacana pengantar analisis teks media". (Yogyakarta: LKiS, 2020), p. 54

content' of news media is not a fact only but it is included into 'ideas' in general, 'beliefs', 'values', 'theories', or 'ideologies'. Journalists will have a different view of the facts that they have found. That is why it can find the same events reported very differently in different media with different ways and focuses.

Aljazeera and The USA Today are the international English newspaper. Aljazeera English becomes a Qatari website with a global fact-finding mission coupled with a high degree of specialization in news agenda for Arab and Muslim countries. 15 The USA Today is an American daily middle-market newspaper. Both of them become the choices and the sources for local and international readers who want to know about international issues include Israel and Palestine conflict especially in Israel and HAMAS ceasefire may, 2021. There are different positions in delivering Israel and Palestine conflict from The Aljazeera and The USA Today. For example in covering the news of the Israel and Palestine conflict, USA Today mentions according to the Gaza Health Ministry 1.620 people who have been wounded which does not break the numbers down into fighters and civilians. Meanwhile, Aljazeera mentions according to the Gaza Health Ministry there are 1.900 wounded at least 20 of Hamas and PJI's fighters have been killed. The second example is the USA Today mentions Hamas as a terrorist organization. From those examples, we can see how media use different word choices in covering the data and the news. The different news of the Israel and Palestine conflict can cause chaos because this is a sensitive issue in the world. There are a million people from other countries who want to be a volunteer and come to the scene even United Nations participate in to propitiate the Israel and Palestine conflict. This issue has a big impact on the world, many citizens joining the demonstration in their countries. For example, thousands of protesters thronged Lincoln memorial, they protested to the US to stop the help to Israel after the ceasefire was agreed. Also, there are many protesters from the big cities of Europe, London, Berlin to support Palestine. It proves that media has a significant role in shaping the reader's perspective about the issue that happens.

Discourse analysis is to do an analysis of the language use and language goal in obtaining a description more explicitly and systematically regarding what is delivered. In analyzing the discourse is not enough to analyze the linguistic element only. It also needs to analyze the context of the discourse that builds up. The context that is associated with the linguistic factor was not quite satisfactory the process of discourse analysis therefore the critical paradigm presents breakthrough called Critical Discourse Analysis.

A Critical Discourse Analysis uses as a critical factor of particular power, power is a universal element of human existence and it is present in all forms of social relationships. ¹⁶ CDA describe language as an action to see relation of power, dominance, and inequality produced in discourse. CDA had been used by many researchers to conduct their research to see how media cover the issue. For example, Tariq Elyas and Najwa Ali Al-zahrani used CDA to examine the textual features and the discursive feature on Okaz Newspaper. The analysis of the data revealed that on the semantic level, metaphors and metonymies show their dominance, which helps make headlines attractive. The data revealed that Okaz editors employ certain to attract attention. Behind each strategy that the author used, there was an ideology the researchers and editors want

¹⁵ Martin Elena, "Framing International Media in the Face of Social Movements: CNN and Al-Jazeera English in the Fall of Morsi", (Spain: Pompeu Fabra University, 2016), 121

¹⁶ Jochen Dreher, *The Social Construction of Power: Reflections Beyond Berger/Luckmann and Bourdie*, (German: SAGE, 2016), p. 54

to achieve. The example showed how news media can put their own belief, ideologies, and strategy to influence their readers and persuade them to accept what they want.

Teun A. van Dijk's model is one of the most used to analysis the media discourse. This model has three dimensions "text structure, social cognition, and social context". This model is usually called as "Socio Cognition" because van Dijk is not only analyzing text structure of the discourse but also the process of the text production by using the journalist's mental cognition. ¹⁷ So that's why van Dijk's model called as "Socio Cognition". This research used van Dijk's model to analysis the news article about Israel and Palestine conflict from Aljazeera and USA Today's news websites because he integrates his general theory to discourse in press and authentic cases of news reports in the national or international level. ¹⁸ Analyzing different news media by using CDA can help the reader to know and understand why the same event can be reported by news media differently thus the reader can filter the information that is presented in news media. Hence, it is important to read the news of the Israel and Palestine conflict more carefully. Based on the statement above, the present study aimed to analyze the coverage of the Israel and Palestine conflict in Aljazeera and USA Today's news articles.

C. Identification and Limitation of the Problem

Based on the background of the study the researcher identified the problem of this research:

- 1. Different news media reported the same event differently with different ways and different focuses.
- 2. The cause why every news media could report the same event very differently was because they deliver the news with their perspectives and ideologies to influence their readers and persuade them to accept what they want.

Based on the identification above, the researcher was going to analyze the representation of the Israel and Palestine conflict, especially the Israel and Hamas agreement (the ceasefire after 11-day military conflict may, 2021) in The Aljazeera and The USA Today's news articles. The research has limited to the three levels analysis of Teun A. van Dijk's Model: text structure, social cognition, and social context.

D. Focus and Sub Focus of the Research

1) Focus

This research focused on critical discourse analysis by using Teun A. van Dijk's model to analyze the news articles.

2) Sub-Focus

The news articles were taken from Aljazeera and USA Today's news websites. The article of Aljazeera was published on May 20, 2021 with the title "Israel and HAMAS agree Gaza ceasefire after 11 days fighting" and the article of USA Today was published on May 21, 2021 with the title "Cease-fire in Gaza: What we know about the Israel, Hamas agreement".

¹⁷ Mohammad Muhassin. A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF A POLITICAL TALK SHOW ON THE 2019 INDONESIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. (English Education: Jurnal Tadris Bahasa Inggris Vol 14 (2), 2021), p. 24

¹⁸ Jaffer Sheyholislami, *Critical Discourse Analysis*, (Canada: Cartelon University, 2001), P. 3

E. Problem Formulation

Based on the limitation of the problem, the research focused on how Israel and Palestine conflict (Israel and HAMAS ceasefire) was represented through Teun A. van Dijk's model in Aljazeera and USA Today news website, those are:

- 1. How is the element of text structure in Aljazeera and USA Today's coverage about Israel and Palestine conflict?
- 2. How is the element of social cognition in Aljazeera and USA Today's coverage about Israel and Palestine conflict?
- 3. How is the element social context in Aljazeera and USA Today's coverage about Israel and Palestine conflict?

F. Objective of the Research

The objective of the research in Israel and HAMAS ceasefire of Aljazeera and USA Today's news articles by using Teun A. Van Dijk are:

- 1. To know the element of text structure in Aljazeera and USA Today's articles about Israel and Palestine conflict.
- 2. To know the element of social cognition in Aljazeera and USA Today's news article about Israel and Palestine conflict.
- 3. To know the element of social context in Aljazeera and USA Today's news article about Israel and Palestine conflict.

G. Significant of the Research

- 1. The theoretical contribution of the research can be used as one of the references and to add knowledge to other researchers who want to conduct critical discourse analysis in news and the application of Teun Van Dijk's theory.
- 2. Practically, this research can help readers to understand that media can shape and change their point of view toward the fact of the event. It will raise the consciousness of the readers about the manipulated and hidden meaning of news especially in Israel and Hamas ceasefire in Aljazeera and USA Today's news websites. Critical discourse analysis also has significant roles to improve student's critical thinking, critical literacy skills of students, as well awareness of critical language in strudents because schools are involved in the general development of language. Schools have responsibility to create strudents who can act as citizens with good critical language awareness. The researcher hopes the findings from in relation to power this research can offer some contribution to all language users.

H. Relevance Research

This study had been conducted by some people. News discourse took much attention of many students to study the representation of the certain in news media as Al-Dulaemi and Al-Ebadi, Tariq Elyas and Najwa Ali Al-zahrani and Rahmat Hidayat

First, written by Al-Dulaemi and Al-Ebadi investigated the way reports of Aljazeera English Satellite Chanel were used to convey events and actions during the Syrian crisis. This research used a Qualitative research design, for the analysis of the data, the study follows Van Dijk's model of 'ideological square'. The result indicates that the news reporter was not neutral in covering the news. The reporter persuasively conveyed that contrasts 'Us' with 'Them', by

emphasizing 'Us' tolerance, help, or sympathy and by focusing on negative social or cultural differences, deviance or threats attributes to 'Them'. 19

Second, written by Tariq "A Critical Discourse Analysis of Saudi Okaz Newspapers front-page headlines: A Case Study". This study wanted to examine the textual features and the discursive feature of Okaz newspaper. This research used a qualitative research design and used Fairclough's 3-dimensional model to analyze the data. The findings of this research indicate that the headlines employed by Okaz write using Arabic text are not short of semantic, syntactic, morphological, and lexical aspects that use a certain language to attract, fascinate and intrigue the newspaper's readers. Also, indicated linguistics features had been employed by the researchers and editors also have relied on their hometown ideological mindsets which were familiar to the newspaper's readership to gain more readerships and attract the attention of its readers.²⁰

Last, from Rahmat Hidayat "Analisis Wacana Kritis Pemberitaan Alinea.id Tentang Hizbut Tahrir Indonesia (HTI) yang Menolak Mati" this research focused on the story of the existence HTI in Indonesia even it had already been banned. This research uses a qualitative method and uses CDA Norman Fairclough's model. The finding of this research is the text on alinea.id entitled HTI Menolak Mati: Bermutasi, Menyebarkan, dan bergerak di Bawah Tanah construct using discourse unit Headline, Orientation, Sequence of events, and closing. Modality is used to manifest ideology in the text.²¹

Some of the previous studies that had been mentioned only focus on the headline, the articles, or the editorial. However, the researcher analyzed both headline and news articles to see the difference in language used by different news media. The present research will adopt Van Dijk's model to see how different news media represent the same event.

Research Method

Research is a systematic way to answer the problem being studied.²² The method is a way of doing something carefully to collect data and achieve a goal. The methodology is a systematic theoretical analysis of methods applied to a field of study. It can be concluded that research methodology is a set of activities and procedures used by researchers of a scientific discipline.

1. Research Design

Descriptive qualitative will be used by this research. Holloway and Wheeler stated that qualitative research is a form of social inquiry that focuses on the way people interpret and make sense of their experience and the world in which they live. 23 The type of this research is a research method that utilizes qualitative data and is described descriptively. Descriptive qualitative method is a method that uses to describe the natural phenomena. It means this method does not need the treatment or manipulated of the variable. The reason why this research chose the descriptive qualitative research design was because the researcher wanted to describe the data that would be observed in the field more specifically.

¹⁹ Al-Duleimi and Al-Ebadi. "Ideology In News Report: Al-Jazeera Reporters As Representative: A Critical Discourse Analysis" (European Centre Research Training and Development UK, 2016), p. 54.

²⁰ Tariq Elyas and Najwa Ali Al-Zahrani. "A Critical Discourse Analysis Of Saudi Okaz Newspaper Frontpage Headline case Study" (Saudi Arabia: King Abdulaziz University, 2019), p.3.

²¹ Rahmat Hidayat. "Analisis Wacana Kritis Pembicaraan Alinea.id Tentang Hizbut Tahrir Indonesia (HTI) yang Menolak Mati" (Jakarta: Fakultas komunikasi Universitas Ibnu Chaldun, 2020), p. 1

²² Jonathan Sarwono. "Metode Penelitian Kuantitaif & Kualitatif". (Yogyakarta: Graha Ilmu, 2006), P. 15

²³ Holloway and Wheeler. "Qualitative Research In Nursing".(Blackwell Science.: Oxford, 2002), p. 30

2. Source of Data

The data basically consists of all information contained in everything that is the field and target of the research. The data also can be found through various data sources, both in the form of primary data or secondary data.²⁴ The data of qualitative research is descriptive, not numerical.

Primary data was collected by the researcher during conduct the research, the data was taken from the news articles of Aljazeera and USA Today's news official websites. The researcher chose one article from each websites which reported the same event about Israel and Palestine conflict especially in Israel and Hamas ceasefire on May 2021.

- a. The title of news article from Aljazeera news websites is "Israel and Hamas agree Gaza ceasefire after 11 days fighting" on May 20, 2021
 - (https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/20/israel-and-hamas-announce-gaza-ceasefire)
- b. The title of USA Today's news website is "Cease-fire in Gaza: what we know the Israel and Hamas agreement" on May 21, 2021.

(https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2021/05/21/cease-fire-gaza-what-we-know-israel-hamas-agreement/5189517001/)

While, secondary data is found is the form of data that is already available and can obtained by researcher such as books, journals, or archives which can support the research.

3. Object of the Research

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The object of this research is Israel and Palestine conflict (The Cease-Fire between Israel and Hamas) in Al-Jazeera and USA Today's news websites. This research chose this news because Israel and Palestine conflict always take the deep interest to the society in every country. Al-Jazeera and USA Today become two from many famous news media chosen by many people that's why the researcher the news articles from those.

4. Instrument and Data Collection Technique

A researcher was a main instrument in this research and the researcher useed some tables of van Dijk's model. The method of data collection in this research used documentation. It is the technique in getting the data about the case or available note, transcription, book, magazine, and newspaper.²⁵

To obtain the data this research used two news about cease-fire Israel and Hamas from Al-Jazeera and USA Today news websites as the data resources and focus on the social cognition model. The techniques is used in collecting data are:

- a. Searching and reading carefully the news articles from Al-Jazeera and USA Today's news websites which cover Israel and HAMAS (Palestine) conflict.
- b. Selecting the news articles that language bias in covering Israel and Palestine conflict, especially in cease-fire between Israel and Hamas.
- c. Printing the selected news articles from Al-Jazeera entitled "Israel and Palestine Agree Gaza Ceasefire after 11 Days Fighting" and USA Today entitled "Cease-fire in Gaza: what we know about the Israel, Hamas agreement".

²⁴ Farida Nugraha, "Metode Penelitian Kualitatif dalam Penelitian Pendidikan Bahasa". (Surakarta, 2014), p.

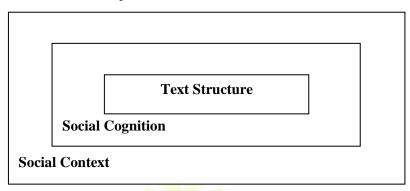
²⁵ Arikunto, S. "Prosedur Penelitian". (Jakarta: PT. Asdi Mahastya, 2010), p.321

5. Data Analyzing Technique

The data of this research was analyzed by using qualitative method. This research analyzes the representation of Israel and Palestine conflict news reflected on Al-Jazeera and USA Today by using Van Dijk's model. The steps in analyzing the data are as follow:

1. Identifying the data based on Teun A. van Dijk's model (text structure, social cognition, and social context) in both news articles of Aljazeera and USA Today's news websites.

Table 1.1 Teun A. van Dijk's model²⁶



2. Interpreting and describing the findings of text structure by macro structure, super structure, and micro structure from both news articles

Table 1.2 Macro Structure (Thematic) of the News Articles

News Websites	Topic/Theme
Aljazeera	
USA Today	

Table 1.3 Super Structure (Schematic) of the News Articles

News website	Headline	Lead	Story
Aljazeera			
USA Today			

²⁶ Eriyanto. Op.Cit, p.

Table 1.4 Micro structure (Semantic) of the News Articles

Aljazeera					
Background	Presupposition				
	IISA	Today			
Background	·				
g		F			

Table 1.5 Micro Structure (Syntax) of the News Articles

	Aljazeera	
Form of sentence	Coherence	Pronoun
A	USA TODAY	A
Form of sentence	Coherence	Pronoun
	410	

Table 1.6 Micro Structure (Stylistic) of the News Articles

USA Today	Aljazeera		

Table 1.7 Micro Structure (Rhetoric) of the News Articles

Aljazeera	USA Today		

2	T., 4 4 !		C' 1'		£
. j.	interpreting and	descriping the i	ringing of the	social cognition	from both news article
	Time Brown B will	area grand in		500101 00511111011	110111 00011 110 110 01101010

Table 1.8 Social Cognition (Person scheme)

Aljazeera	USA Today

Table 1.9 Social Cognition (Self-scheme)

Aljazeera	USA Today

Table 1.9 Social Cognition (Role scheme)

Aljazeera	USA Today	

Table 1.10 Social Cognition (Event scheme)

Aljazeera	USA Today	
2 - 4		

4. Interpreting and describing the finding social context from both news articles

Table 1.11 Social Context (Power)

Aljazeera	USA Today

Table 1.12 Social Context (Access)

Aljazeera	USA Today

5. Making conclusion of the research.

6. Trustworthiness of Data

Trustworthiness is a step to reduce errors in the data acquisition process research which certainly has an effect on the validity of the final result of the study. That is carried out by

the researcher aim to produce reliable data scientifically responsible and trusted and meet the credibility level. Triangulation uses methods, investigator, sources and theories to obtain corroborating evidence. It helps the investigator to reduce bias and examines the integrity of participant's responses.²⁷ There are four triangulation, namely;

1. Method Triangulation

Method triangulation is done by comparing information or data in different way. To obtain the truth of reliable information and a complete picture of certain information, researchers can use free interviews or structured interviews.

2. Inter-researcher Triangulation

Inter-researcher uses more than one person in data collection and analysis

3. Data Source Triangulation

Data source is to explore the truth of certain information through various methods and sources of data acquisition.

4. Theory Triangulation

The final result of qualitative research is an information formulation or thesis statement. Furthermore, the result is compared with relevant theoretical perspectives to avoid the researcher's individual bias on the findings or conclusions generated. In this triangulation the researcher is required to have expert judgment when comparing the findings with certain perspectives. In this research uses investigator triangulation to check the validity of the result and the data result that was taken from Aljazeera and USA Today's news website about Israel and HAMAS (Palestine) ceasefire will be checked by asking the expert.

7. Systematic of the Discussion

CHAPTER I

This research consists five chapters with following:

Introduction, consists the explanation of The title affirmation, Background of the problem, Focus and Sub-Focus of the research, Object of the research, Significant of the research, Relevance study, Research method, and Systematic discussion.

CHAPTER II Literature reviews, consists the theoretical studies of Discourse Analysis, Critical Discourse Analysis, and Critical Discourse Analysis of Teun A. van Dijk's model.

CHAPTER III Description of the research object, in this chapter explain the phenomena of Israel and Palestine conflict, background of Aljazeera and USA Today's news websites. In this chapter also describe about the presentation of the research fact and data.

CHAPTER IV Findings and analysis, this chapter consist the data which found by the researcher and the description of the research finding of Israel and Palestine conflict in Aljazeera and USA Today's news website.

²⁷ Vcent N. Anney, Ensuring the Quality of the Findings of Qualitative Research: Looking at Trustworthiness Criteria, (Tanzania: Scholarlink Research Institute Journal, 2004), p. 277

CHAPTER V Conclusion the conclusions and researcher's recommendation based on the research that has been done.



CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Concept of Discourse Analysis

Discourse defines as whole exceeded the level of sounds, words, and sentences.²⁸ Discourse analysis in linguistic study is a reaction from formal linguistic form which gives more attention to words, phrases, or sentences only without seeing the relation between the elements.²⁹ Discourse analysis actually examines a greater level of sentence. It means as Van Dijk posited not only grammatical, phonological, morphological, and semantic level but also "high level properties" such as coherence, themes, the topic of news stories, the whole schematic forms and rhetorical dimension of the text.³⁰ Discourse analysis related to the study of language or language use and language goal to obtain a description more explicitly regarding what is delivered.³¹

There are three views regarding to language in discourse analysis according to A.S. Hamka.³² First is from empirical-positivism, according to them language is a bridge between humans and the object outside them. This view separates between thought and reality. They do not need to know the underlying value of particular statements, the important of the statement is syntactically and semantically correct.

Second view called as constructivism. This view is opposite of the first view. In this view language set and turned on by purposeful statements. The statement is the act of creating meaning.³³ Constructivism is consider that thought or subject as an important factor in object creations or reality. Berger and Luckmann assume that "reality is social construction"³⁴ so social construction is a view that value, ideology, and institution are human production therefore discourse analysis is intended as an analysis to uncover certain meaning.

The last called as critical view. It is a correction of constructivism view because the view still have not analyzed the power relations factors that are inherent in every discourse, in this view emphasizes the power that occurs in the process of production and reproduction of meaning. Language in critical view is understood as representation that plays a role in shaping a particular subject or the strategies on it. Language is not only analyzed from language aspect but also connect with context. It means language used for the specific purposes, including the practice of power. Discourse analysis at this view involves not only examine the text and social issue of language but also the study about the roles of specific institution and individuals are played by thinking and speaking way. The last correction of constructivism view because the view still have expended to the view still

²⁸ Alvons Habibie. *Op.Cit*, P.4

²⁹ Eriyanto. Op. Cit, P. 3

³⁰ Jaffer Sheyholislami, Critical Discourse Analysis, (Canada: Cartelon University, 2001), P. 3

³¹ Alvons Habibie, Op.Cit, P. 5

³² Eriyanto, "Analisis Wacana pengantar analisis teks media". (Yogyakarta: LKiS, 2020), p. 4

 $^{^{33}}$ Enie Hendrajati, "METODE WACANA BAHASA KEKUASAAN". (Jurnal Sosial Humaniora: Vo.2, No. 1, 2009), p. 57

³⁴ Charles R. Ngangi, KONSTRUKSI SOSIAL DALAM REALITAS SOSIAL, (ASE: Volume 7 Nomor 2, Mei 2011), p. 1

³⁵ Eriyanto, Op. Cit, p. 6

³⁶ Brian David Hodges & his colleges, Qualitative Research Discourse Analysis, (University of Toronto, 2008), P.570

B. Concept of Critical Discourse Analysis

Critical discourse analysis (CDA) defines as a type of discourse analysis that focuses on the way language exercise its power in the society. It focuses on the relation between discourse, power abuse, dominance, and inequality.³⁷ Language is not just a tool to communicate with others, but language can be an instrument used by elite to conduct their power strategy. In other word language can keep many hidden meanings by certain groups. CDA obsesses language as a form of social practice and seeks to make people aware of the interplay between language and social structures that they are usually unaware of. The main function of CDA is to seek how texts are constructed so that particular perspectives can be expressed delicately and covertly. The general principles of CDA are:

- a. Dealing with social issues
- b. Power relation are related to discourse
- c. Culture and society dialectically related to discourse
- d. The use of language can be ideological
- e. Discourse is historical and is only understood when it relates to its context.
- f. The relationship between texts and society is indirect, but is manifested through intermediaries
- g. Discourse analysis is interpretive and explanatory
- h. Discourse is a form of social behavior.³⁸

CDA is practically oriented form of discourse analysis aimed at addressing social problems. Therefore, by studying CDA someone can recognize the strategies used by people who have a certain power to influence others perspective toward the issue that happen in the society.

Foucault and Althusser are one of experts which have an important role in introducing discourse theory. Foucault's greatest contribution is introducing discourse as a social practice. Meanwhile Althusser's conception discourse plays a role in defining the individual and positioning a person in a certain position. They use discourse concept in general definition, that is relation and social practice which in society but they never describe how to analyze media text. Some experts elaborate those concepts to see how to analyze text media. Those important thoughts are from Roger Fowler and friends, Theo van Leewen, Sara Mils, Teun A. van Dijk, and Norman Fairclough.³⁹ There are CDA approaches that delivered by experts as follows:

- Fowler and his colleges approach is known as Critical Linguistic. The main notion of Critical Linguistic is how grammatical language brings the position and the meaning of a particular ideology. According to them the "relationship form and content is not" arbitrary or conventional but form signifies content. In sum, language is social act and it is driven by ideological.
- 2. Wodak has carried out research in various institutional settings and on a variety of social issue such as sexism, racism and anti-Semitism. Wodak's work on the discourse of anti-Semitism in 1990 led to the development of an approach she termed the discourse historical method. The term historical occupies a unique place in this approach. It shows an attempt on the part of this approach "to integrate systematically all available background information in

³⁷ Teun A. Van Dijk, "Principle of Critical Discourse Analysis". (University of Amsterdam, 1988), p. 252

³⁸ Heri Budianto, "Kontestasi Politik dalam Ruang Media Perspektif Critical Discourse Analysis". (Jakarta: Pranemedia, 2019), p. 18

³⁹ Eriyanto, "Analisis Wacana pengantar analisis teks media". (Yogyakarta: LKiS, 2020), p. 19

the analysis and interpretation of the many layers of a written or spoken text.⁴⁰ According to them discourse analysis mush include historical context how discourse about a group and community described. For instance, a bad or good depiction of a group is built through a long historical process. Prejudices, bias, misperception and so on must be dismantled by conducting a historical review because these prejudge are a legacy or long legacy.⁴¹

- CDA offered by Van Leeuwen centers on depiction of social actors in discourse and explaining how social actors displayed in a text, Van Leeuwen shows how parties and actors featured in the new. That is why his model called as Social Actors Approach.
- 4. Sara Mills on how women who are always marginalized are shown in the text. She noticed that during this time women are always marginalized in the text and always in wrong position. On text, they are not given the opportunity to defend themselves. Therefore, this model often referred to as the analysis of feminist perspective discourse. She called her analysis as Feminist Stylistics Approach.
- 5. Norman Fairclough defines discourse as a social practice and divided into tri dimensional in understanding and analyzing the discourse, his model often called as Sociocultural Change. Those are discourse dimension as text, discourse as discursive practice and discourse as social practice by utilizing semiotic-social launched by Haliday.⁴²
- 6. Van Dijk develops Social Cognition approach. Van Dijk sees cognition as an important element in discourse production. Discourse by van Dijk described has tri dimension, those are text, social cognitions, and social context, by analyze the whole discourse structure component can reveal social cognition of discourse makers. In theory, this statement in based on the reasoning that the way you view a reality will determine the stle and structure of the resulting discourse.

This research uses Social Cognition from van Dijk's theory to analyze the data of the research. Van Dijk approach is more suitable to be used in this study because social cognition is the dimension to explain how the text reproduced by individual or group text maker. For instance, discourse analysis of the Ambon case news. In addition to analyzing the news text, it is necessary to conduct research on the mental awareness of journalists in viewing the Ambon case. How is the belief or knowledge, and journalist's prejudice against Islamic or Christian groups in Ambon.⁴³ This cognition is important and becomes an integral framework for understanding media text. Same as this research, because the researcher takes two news article about Israel and Palestine conflict from difference news websites and from the difference countries there must be differences in journalist's points of view, knowledge, belief, and also prejudice between journalist Aljazeera and USA Today's journalists in covering the conflict. In van Dijk perspective, discourse structure shows or signifies some meaning, opinion, and ideology. Ideologies are represented as "some kind of basic self-schema of a group, featuring the information by which group members identify and categorize themselves, such as their membership criteria, group activities, aims, norms, relation to others. On the other hand, this research also has to analyze social practice in discourse analysis. Discourse is part of discourse that develops in society, so to

⁴⁰ Ruth Wodak. "Critical Linguistic and Critical Discourse Analysis. in Jef Verschuren, Jan-Ola Ostman, and Jan Blommaert (eds). Handbook of Pragmatics Manual". (Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 1995), p. 209.

⁴¹ Eriyanto. *Op.Cit.*, p. 18.

⁴² Umar Fauzan. "ANALISIS WACANA KRITIS DARI MODEL FAIRCLOUGH HINGGA MILLS". (Samarinda: Jurnal Pendidikan, 2014), p. 131.

⁴³ Eriyanto. *Op.Cit.*, p. 260

examine the text it is also necessary to analyze how discourse constructed in society. According to van Dijk in analyze the society, there are two important points, those are power and access. Elite groups have more power and access than other groups that don't have power. They have bigger chance to have access on media and to influence public point of view. Aljazeera and USA Today's news websites must be have difference background between them and must be there are groups or individuals who act indirectly control by influencing mental states, such as beliefs, attitudes, and knowledge.⁴⁴

C. Critical Discourse Analysis of Teun A. Van Dijk's Model

Van Dijk's model or also called "social cognition" becomes the most approach used. Van Dijk explains that discourse research is not enough if only analyzes the text, because text is just the result of the production practice. Discourse research also must be seen from how the text is produced to know why the text becomes like that. The text shaped from a diskursus practice and discourse practice. Van Dijk makes a bridge to connect the large elements of the social structure with the micro elements of discourse with a dimension, and called "social cognition". The social cognition has two meanings, first is how the text process is produced by journalist or media and how the community values spread and absorbed by the cognition of media and are eventually used by them to make news text.

In addition to analyzing the text, Van Dijk's model also used to see how social structure, domination, and power group that exists in society and how cognition or notion influences the certain text. In essence, Van Dijk does not only analyze discourse from linguistic structural units. Because Van Dijk also realizes and believes that the meaning of a discourse is not only represented by analyzing the structure of language, but also has to look at the context in which it was born and how the discourse was produced. Especially for media texts that can easily validate things as normal as possible.⁴⁵ Van Dijk represents discourse has three dimensions: text, social cognition, and social context. Text dimension analyze how the text structure and the strategy of discourse is used to affirm a certain themes. In social cognition learn about news text produce that implicate individual and journalist cognition while social context learn about discourse building of issue that develop in society.

To analyze the discourse, Van Dijk defines technical analysis into three dimension analysis, that are text structure, social cognition, and social analysis.⁴⁶

1. Text Structure

In this dimension studies about how the structure of the text and discourse strategies are used to emphasize a certain theme. Van Dijk divided text structure into three levels that support each other and it can describe how media express an event into a particular language choice. The three levels are macro structure, superstructure, and micro structure⁴⁷.

⁴⁴ Eriyanto. *Op.Cit.*, p. 272

⁴⁵ Prof. Dr. Hj. Yoce Aliah Drma. "Analisis Wacana Kritis dalam Multiperspektif" (Bandung: PT. Refika Aditama, 2014", P. 125

⁴⁶ Eriyanto. "Analisis Wacana Pengantar Analisis Teks Media" (Yogyakarta: LkiS, 2006), p. 229

⁴⁷ Eriyanto. Opc.Cit. P. 228

Discourse		
	Observed Thing	Element
Structure	o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o	
Macro		
Structure	Thematic	Topic
Super	Schematic	Headline, lead, and story
Structure	Senemario	Treatme, read, and story
Micro	1. Semantic	Background, Detail
Structure		Meaning
	2. Syntax	2. Word form, Coherence,
		pronouns
	3. Stylistic	3. Lexicon/language style
	4. Rhetoric	4. Graphic

Table 2.1 Discourse Elements of Teun A. van Dijk's Model

Macro structure is the whole meaning (global meaning) that can be observed from the topic or theme which is appointed in a discourse. Macro structure also observes about thematic that contain what is written or said about by the object of the research. Superstructure is a discourse structure that has a relation with how parts of text arrange into the whole news. In other word, superstructure revers to the framework of discourse or schematic, like a text or speech is started from introduction, content, follow with conclusion, and ended by closing. So the thing that observed by superstructure is how an opinion is arranged. Micro structure revers to the local meaning from a discourse and it can be extracted from some aspect, semantic, syntax, stylistic, and rhetoric. He is a discourse meaning that can be observed from the small part of the text that is word, sentence, proposition, clause, paraphrase, and picture. There are 4 things are observed by micro structure:

- a. Semantic, is the meaning that want to emphasize in the text (Background, detail, presupposition, nominalization)
- b. Syntax, observes how an opinion is delivered (sentence form, coherence, and pronoun)
- c. Stylistic, describes language style, word choice is used (Lexicon)
- d. Rhetoric, observes about how is word emphasis done (Graphic and Metaphor)

The things that must be considered in the structure of text are as follows:

1) Topic

Discourse is not only contains words and sentences, discourse also contain 'globe' meaning such as 'topic' or 'themes'. Topic is the main core of the entire content of the writing to be conveyed. Topic describes what journalist wants to express in the news and also express what is found to be the most important information of a discourse.⁵⁰ Examining topic becomes important thing to identify ideologies in discourse structures. Topics represent the macro-structures which reveal the discourse global meanings and tell what a discourse is about. Topic typically is the best information recalled of a discourse by the readers from a news report. If people remember anything of a discourse at all after some delay, it is the topic and maybe some details that are personally relevant

⁴⁸ Teun A. Van Dijk. "Ideology and Discourse Analysis", (Ideology symposium Oxford, 2004)

⁴⁹ Eriyanto, op. Cit, p 226

⁵⁰ Van Dijk. "Discourse semantic and ideology", (SAGE, London, 1995), p. 282

for the recipient.⁵¹ The important notion of Van Dijk, discourse generally shaped in general rules. Test is not only defined but it can be a coherent general view that is the parts of text that refers to the general idea, and it supports each other to describe the general topic.

2) Schematic

In general text or discourse has a schema or groove from introduction until closing. The groove shows how the part of the text is arrange until form a unified meaning. ⁵² A significant meaning of schematic is a journalist strategy or news writer to support the theory want to be conveyed with arrange the parts and the certain sequences. Schematic gives an emphasis which part want to come first and which part can be a strategy to hide an important information.

3) Semantic

Semantic defines as the meaning want to be emphasized in the news text. For example, on the one hand they give many details or make the text explicit. On the other hand, they reduce the detail or make the text implicit. The emphasis meaning of the text can be seen from several things like background, detail, purpose, and presupposition. Background, detail, and purpose relate with the information is emphasized and get more portion. They have options to express information or leave it. In general schema, people chose to give information implicit about their bad things and any information that tells the recipient about the bad things of their enemies will tend to be explicitly expressed. Following ideological square that implied information is not explicitly asserted, and hence not emphasized, and will therefore typically be information that needs to be concealed in interest of the participants and the in-group. Implied information is not easy to be inferred, and needs to be known in order for propositions in the text to be true or false. We speak of presuppositions is statement by providing a trusted premise used to support the meaning of the text. The information is assumed to be true is presupposed by the discourse and it may be presupposed information in questionable or not true at all.⁵³ In general, news text contains many presuppositions. Presupposition is an un-proving fact yet, but used as base to support the certain notion.⁵⁴

4) Syntax

Syntax relate with how the sentence is chosen. Syntax can be seen from coherence, denial, form of sentence, and pronouns.⁵⁵ Coherence is the interviewing of words or sentence of the text. Two sentences that describe different facts can be connected and it looks coherence. So the fact not even connect can be connecting when someone connects it.

⁵¹ Van Dijk. "Ideology and Discourse", Op.Cit, 266

⁵² Eriyanto, *Op,Cit*. p. 232

⁵³ Ibid., p. 269

⁵⁴ Ibid., p. 256

⁵⁵ Ibid.

Coherence describes also a discourse element to see how someone use discourse to explain fact or even whether the events are viewed as separate, related or even casual. The decision is determined by the extent of the communicator's interest of the event.⁵⁶

Form of sentence relates with logical thinking (principle causality). Logical causality is subject arrangement and predicate. Form of sentence also determines the meaning shaped by tense arrangement. Tense structure can be made active or passive, but generally the important main is always at the beginning of the sentence.

Pronouns describes as an element to manipulate language by create an imaginative communication. The overall strategy of ideological discourse is to emphasize Our good thing and Their bad thing such as the well-known pronoun pair Us and Them illustrates.⁵⁷ The different pronouns are used strategically in accordance with the condition.

5) Stylistic

Stylistic observes about how word choice used of the news text. Stylistic element called as lexicon and basically lexicon signify how someone choice the word from many choices available. In general a fact consists of some words which refer to the fact. Word choices used shows attitude and certain ideology. The same event can be described by choosing different words. For example, in Western Europe today, the use of "foreigners" generally implies a reference to ethnic minorities and immigrants not to "real" foreigners. Moreover, depending on context, the use of the word may sound more negative than for instance "ethnic minorities"

6) Rhetoric

Rhetoric can be seen by graphic usage, metaphor, and expression. Graphic appears through the writing section made by another for instance, use of bold, italic and etc. graphic element also appears through table, number, or picture to support the notion or for other part which do not want to be highlighted. The parts are highlighted emphasis to reader the important of the part. The use of numbers in the news is used to suggest the truth, accuracy, and position of the report. The use of numbers, statistical measure is not only part of journalistic standards but also suggests the precision of what is meant to be said in the text.⁵⁸

For instance, the media said that several people have suffered injury or several people have been killed in Palestine and Israel conflict it is not only part of journalistic standard, but it is also effort or strategy from journalist to convince to public that the Palestine and Israel conflict filled with violence is true, factual and supported by the facts. It is because numbers still considered and regarded true, and the precision of a phenomenon.

A journalist is not only conveys the main message through text, but also can convey through metaphor or expression. The certain metaphor usage can be the main clue to find out the meaning of a text. The journalist use metaphor as the basis of thinking, reasons for justifying certain notion to the public. For instance, journalist uses public trust,

⁵⁶ Ibid., p 242

⁵⁷ Van Dijk. *Ideology and Discourse*, Op.Cit., p 49

⁵⁸ Eriyanto. *Op, cit.* p. 258

proverb, or maybe even a phrase taken from the holy verses to reinforce the main message.

2. Social Cognition

Journalists are viewed as neutral individual, but individual who has many kinds of values, experiences, and also ideologies from their life.⁵⁹ Therefore an analysis is needed on the representation of cognition and journalist strategy in produce the news. Social cognition is mental awareness of journalists who make up the text. Based on Van Dijk's model to analyze discourse is not only from structure of text but we also have to analyze how the text is produced. Text has no meaning, but meaning is given by mental awareness process from language user. Person perception, group perception, attitude formation, and interaction have been reformulated in general concept of "social cognition" more explicitly. 60

How the event can be understood is from scheme. Van Dijk calls scheme as model. It shows we use mental structure to process the information comes from society, which includes how we view people, social roles and events. There are kinds of schemas/model can be described:

1. Person scheme

This schema explains how someone describes others. For example, how Western journalist understand Asian can affect the news text that their made.

2. Self-Scheme

The schema describes how ourselves are described and understood by someone. Simple example is how the readers understand of the gender equality news reported by one media. The reader will see whether the media is pro or con of gender equality.

3. Role Scheme

Role schema relates with how someone describe position or role occupied by someone in society. For instance, what should be the role of the parliament in society because a person's role in society will affect news report.

4. Event Scheme

Almost every day we always see and hear an event and every event always interpreted in certain schema. In general, event schema is the most used by the journalist. For example, if there is a case about Kanjuruhan. What is more highlighted is the incident of the damage caused. Which actors are involved, the supporter or the police emphasize more and the characteristics of time, place, etc. of the news. If in the text has all those things, the journalist use event scheme in their news.

This model related to social representation, like trust and presupposition in society. Journalist lives among people's beliefs and views. Even though, that belief will be influenced by experiences, memory and interpretation of journalist. Most of text production happens in journalist's cognition. That is why the main question is how the information that has been had by journalist used in news production. That will be answered by social cognition.

⁶⁰ Teun A. van Dijk," News as Discourse" (New Jersey; Laurence Erlnaum Associates, 1987), p. 109

3. Social Context

This dimension analyzes how is the discourse that develops in society, production and reproduction process of someone or event described. For instance, if we want to analyze a news discourse about sexual harassment of women in Van Dijk's model we also need to analyze how discourse of gender that develops in society. There are two important points to analyze society:

1. Power practice

Van Dijk defines power as something that someone or group has to control another person or group because power has the relations of differences and the effects of differences. As Foucault said power comes from everywhere, power exercised not only by particular individuals but rather by institutions. Power does not come from individual only but individual also can be controlled by the power granted from social institutions. ⁶¹ Power must be analyzed as something which circulates. Language is not powerful on its own for CDA, but power is given by the use powerful people make of it. ⁶² Power is not only get from physical control but also persuasive action. For example is the news media because media has power to control the readers by influence mental condition, such as belief, attitude, and knowledge. Discourse analysis gives attention to domination and it is produced by specialized access provision of one group than another group.

2. Access influences discourse

Elite groups have greater access than other groups who have not power. Therefore, group in power have a greater chance of having access to the media and to influents people awareness by control over topic and contents of discourse. For instance, the case between police and society, they have different chance to the media. Police institution can do press release to explain to media. It can influence general opinion, so police institution has opportunity to have their views more widely accepted than ordinary people..

⁶¹ Seumas Miller, "Foucault on Discourse and Power". (New York: Berghahn Books, 1989), P. 122

⁶² Ruth Wodak and Michel Meyer, "Methods of Critical Discourse Analysis", (London: SAGE Publications, 2001), P. 10

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1

The News Text Of Aljazeera News Website

Aljazeera Website

Israel and Palestine agree Gaza ceasefire after 11 days of fighting

Israel and HAMAS agree ceasefire to halt 11-day conflict amid international pressure to end the fighting.

20 May 2021

Update: 20 May 2021 09:48 PM (GTM)

Israel and HAMAS have announced a ceasefire after 11 days fighting in which 232 Palestinians in Gaza and 12 people in Israel have been killed.

Israel's security cabinet on Thursday said it voted unanimously in favor of a "mutual and unconditional" Gaza truce proposed by mediator Egypt, but added that the hour of implementation had yet to be agreed upon.

HAMAS, the group which rules Gaza, and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) armed group confirmed the "mutual and unconditional" ceasefire in a statement and said it would start as 2am on Friday (23:00 GMT Thursday).

The development came amid growing global alarm about the bloodshed, with US President Joe Biden urging Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to seek de-escalation, and mediation bids by Egypt, Qatar and the United Nations.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi had ordered two security delegations into Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories to work towards upholding the ceasefire, Egyptian state TV reported.

The truce would bring to an end some of the fiercest fighting since 2014, which has caused widespread destruction in Gaza and halted much of daily life in Israel.

Ali Barakeh, a member of HAMAS's Arab and Islamic relations bureau, told The Associated Press news agency that the declaration was a defeat for Netanyahu and "a victory to the Palestinian People"

Earlier on Thursday, Israel had resumed its bombardment of the besieged Gaza Strip, and HAMAS and allied PIJ had resumed rocket attacks after an eight-hour pause.

Health officials in Gaza said 232 Palestinians, including 65 children and 39 women, were killed and more than 1,900 wounded since the violence erupted on May 10. Israel has said it has killed at least 160 combatants in Gaza, without providing evidence. HAMAS and PIJ said at least 20 of their fighters have been killed.

Authorities put the death toll in Israel at 12, with hundreds of people treated for injuries in rocker attacks that have caused panic and sent people rushing into shelters

The violence was triggered by an Israel police crackdown on protesters at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in occupied East Jerusalem on May 10, following weeks of tensions in the city caused

by the planned forced expulsion of several Palestinian families from their homes in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhoods.

After Israel missed a HAMAS deadline to withdraw its forces from the holy site, which is sacred to Muslims and Jews, the Palestinian group fired several rockets towards Jerusalem for the first time in years. Shortly afterwards, Israel launched air raids on HAMAS targets in Gaza.

The News of USA Today News Website

USA Today News Website

Cease-fire in Gaza: What we know The Israel, Hamas agreement

Joey Garrison and Deirdre Shesgreen USA TODAY

Published 12:01 am ET May 21, 2021 | Updated 2:38 p.m. ET May 21, 2021

WASHINGTON – Thousands of Palestinians rallied with joy on Friday to celebrate the cease – fire reached between Israel and Hamas, halting an 11 – day military conflict.

The cease – fire brokered by Egypt followed growing pressure from President Joe Biden's administration and others foreign leaders to de-escalate the conflict – which wrought far more devastation in Gaza than Israel and killed significantly more Palestinians. Hamas fired rockets indiscriminately into civilian areas in Israel while Israel pounded Gaza with airstrikes.

Israel described the agreement as "mutual and unconditional." Biden hailed the truce and commended Benjamin Netanyahu after the Israeli prime minister confirmed ithe cease-fire by phone Thursday evening.

More: Israel, Hamas agree to cease-fire after hundreds killed in Gaza.

Who has been killed in the Israeli – Palestinian conflict?

The latest Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been the worst outbreak of violence in the Mideast since 2014.

At least 230 Palestinians have been killed, including 64 children and 38 women, since the fighting **began**. Another 1,620 people have been wounded, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, which does not break the numbers down into fighters and civilians.

More: 'Every incendiary ingredient imaginable': Hare's what sparked worst Mideast violence since 2014.

In Israel 12 people, including a 5-year-old boy, a16-year-old girl and a soldier, have been killed.

In addition, 58,000 Palestinians have been displaced from their homes during the conflict, while 18 hospital and clinics and a health facility were destroyed, according to the World Health Organization.

The central COVID-19 testing lab in Gaza City was almost completely destroyed.

Netanyahu touts successful operation, says it has 'changed the equation'

Netanyahu said Israel accomplished its main goal of striking a "severe blow" to terrorist organizations, touting the military operation as a success that will defer Hamas in the future.

"Not everything is known to the public yet, but our set of achievements will be revealed over time," he said in a statement Friday.

Netanyahu said Israel "caused maximum damage to Hamas" while limiting casualties in Israel. He warned Hamas that future aggression would be met even more forcefully.

"We inflicted very severe blows on Hamas and changed the equation. If Hamas thinks we will suffer a drip of rockets – it is wrong," he said.

"What was," he said, "is not will be."

Biden sees 'genuine opportunity' for progress toward peace

In brief remarks Thursday, Biden said the deal opened an opportunity to seek a broader peace agreement amid the parties.

"I believe the Palestinians and Israelis equally deserve to live safely and securely and to enjoy equal measures of freedom, prosperity and democracy," he said. "My administration will continue our quite, relentless diplomacy toward that end. I believe we have a genuine opportunity to make progress and I'm committed to working for it."

More: Biden tells Netanyahu he expects 'a significant de-escalation today' whit path toward cease-fire

More: Key players in the Israel-Palestinian conflict and why peace remains elusive in Gaza

Biden extended his condolences to families of victims – Israelis and Palestinians. "These hostilities have resulted in the tragic deaths of so many civilians," he said.

As the fighting escalated, Biden faced increasing pressure from Democrats to intervene more forcefully to stop Israel's onslaught of airstrikes. On Wednesday' he called for a "significant deescalation" from Netanyahu, but Israel continued its operation.

Recounting his Thursday phone call with Netanyahu - his sixth in recent days - Biden said he reiterated the U.S.'s "full support" of Israel to defense system, which limited casualties in Israel.

Biden said the U.S. took part in "intensive high-level discussions, hour-by-hour, literally" with Egypt and other intermediaries to avoid a prolonged conflict. He credited Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi for his role in brokering the deal.

How the conflict started

The fighting began when Hamas militant groups fired rockets toward Jerusalem following days of clashes between Palestinian protesters and Israeli police in Jerusalem near the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, a site sacred to Jews and Muslims.

Hamas, which controls Gaza, fired thousands of rockets at civilian targets in Israel, sending Israelis scrambling to bomb shelters. The vast majority Hamas' rockets were intercepted by the Dome missile defense system.

Israel responded with its own fusillade of missiles aimed at degrading Hamas' military capability and killing its leaders. Gaza is home to approximately two million Palestinians.

More: Gaza children bearing the brunt in Israel-Hamas conflict

More: Al-Aqsa mosque taken from prayer to violence: Divergent photos from one of Islam's holiest sites

What's next?

Hostilities between Israel and Palestine remain high and go back decades.

Even as a cease-fire was reached, Israel's Defense said sirens alerting Israeli residents of Hamas rocket fire were sounding in the south of the country.

Taher Nounou, a Hamas official, confirmed the deal: "The Palestinian resistance will commit itself to this deal as long as the occupation is committed," he said.

More: Bernie Sanders wants to stop US arms sale to Israel, following similar resolution from AOC, Tlaib

Biden vowed "rapid humanitarian assistance" through the United Nations to the people of Gaza, making it clear it would be made through partnership whit Palestinian authorities, not Hamas.

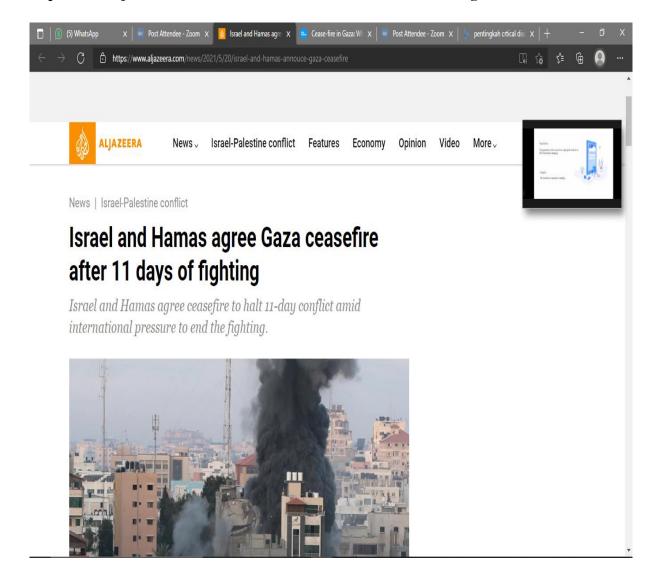
Both sides will be on edge as the truce goes into effect, and with tensions still high, some worry it may not hold. Meanwhile, the United Nations and other relief organizations will launch a massive relief and reconstruction effort in Gaza, which bore the brunt of casualties and infrastructural damage.

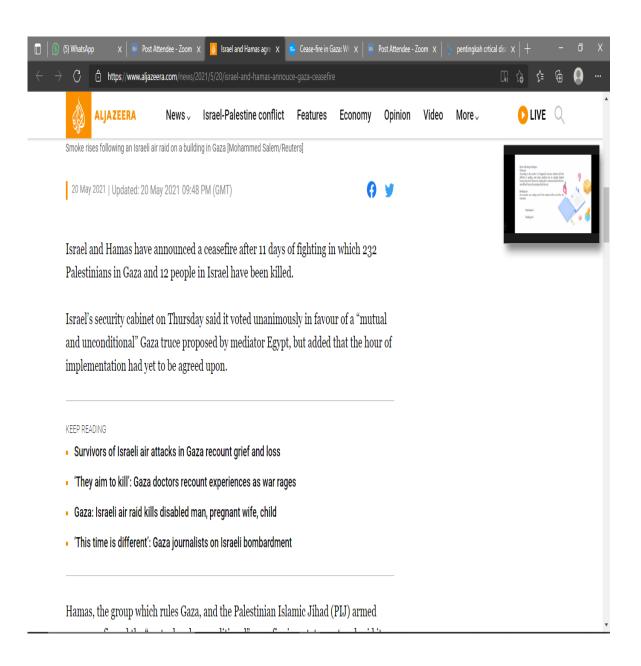
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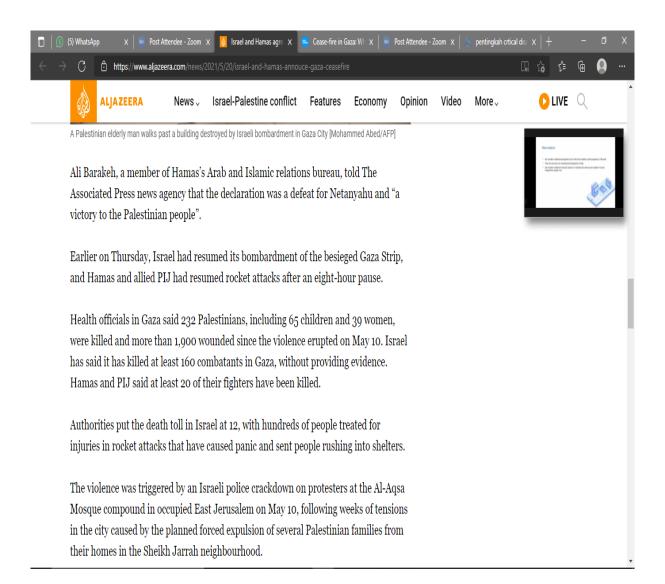
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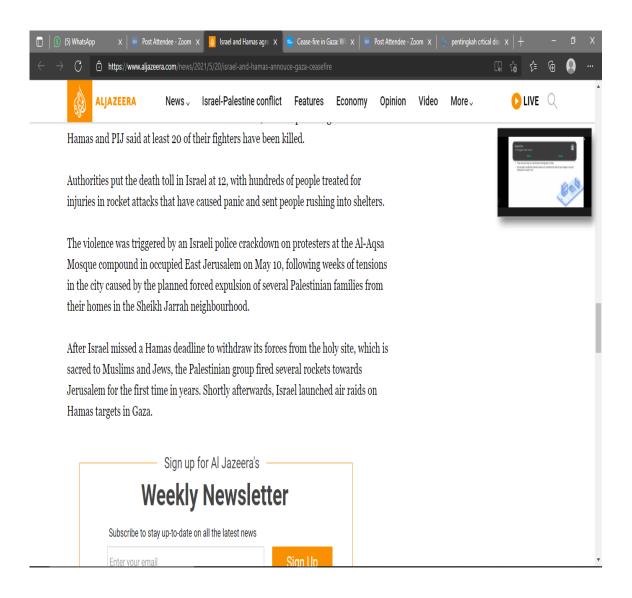
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https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/20/israel-and-hamas-annouce-gaza-ceasefire









The Pictures of USA Today News Website

USA TODAY

https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2021/05/21/cease-fire-gaza-what-we-know-israel-hamas-agreement/5189517001/

POLITICS

Cease-fire in Gaza: What we know about the Israel, Hamas agreement

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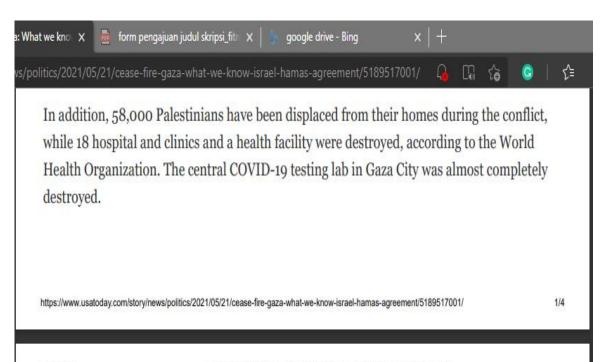
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6/11/2021

Cease-fire in Gaza: What we know about the Israel, Hamas agreement

Netanyahu touts successful operation, says it has 'changed the equation'

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"Not everything is known to the public yet, but our set of achievements will be revealed over time," he said in a statement Friday.

He also addressed critics of the airstrikes. "I want to tell you that there is always criticism from one side or the other, but I know that most Israeli citizens see that we have acted with determination, wisdom and supreme responsibility."

Netanyahu said Israel "caused maximum damage to Hamas" while limiting casualties in Israel. He warned Hamas that future aggression would be met even more forcefully.

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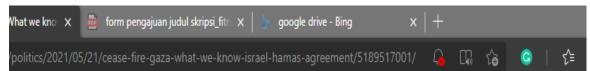
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P 4

6/11/2021

Cease-fire in Gaza: What we know about the Israel, Hamas agreement

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Palestinians were protesting an effort by Jewish settlers to evict Palestinian families from their homes in East Jerusalem.

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Israel responded with its own fusillade of missiles aimed at degrading Hamas' military capability and killing its leaders. Gaza is home to approximately two million Palestinians.

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More: Bernie Sanders wants to stop US arms sale to Israel, following similar resolution from AOC, Tlaib

Biden vowed "rapid humanitarian assistance" through the United Nations to the people of Gaza, making it clear it would be made through partnership with Palestinian authorities, not Hamas.

Both sides will be on edge as the truce goes into effect, and with tensions still high, some worry it may not hold. Meanwhile, the United Nations and other relief organizations will launch a massive relief and reconstruction effort in Gaza, which bore the brunt of the casualties and infrastructural damage.





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