

**POWER REPRESENTATION IN THE PRESIDENT TRUMP'S  
SPEECH TO THE ARAB ISLAMIC AMERICAN SUMMIT**

**A GRADUATING PAPER**

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Gaining  
the Bachelor Degree in English Literature**



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## A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this graduating paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this paper. Other than writer's opinion or findings included in the paper are quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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kami menyatakan bahwa skripsi tersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang Munaqosyah untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.

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# POWER REPRESENTATION IN THE PRESIDENT TRUMP'S SPEECH TO THE ARAB ISLAMIC AMERICAN SUMMIT

By: Anisa Nurul Fauziah

## ABSTRACT

Critical discourse analysis is a sort of discourse analytical research that focuses on how text and talk in the social and political context enact, reproduce, and oppose social power abuse, dominance, and inequality. The goal of this study is to examine the usage of formal features in President Trump's speech. This study was organized using the descriptive-qualitative research. The documentation technique was used to acquire data. This study was examined utilizing Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis theory. The researcher discovered from this examination that the text's values, particularly in terms of formal characteristics. These formal features are divided into three categories: experiential values, relational values, and expressive values. Relational values involve the usage of phrases such as modalities, interrogative, imperative, and declarative sentences. President Trump's speech contains phrases with both negative and positive moods in terms of expressive values. President Trump delivered different types of speeches, which the author classified into three main types: declarative, interrogative, and imperative, as detailed in the relational value section. Declarative sentences account for 88% of the data, imperative account for 10%, and interrogative sentences account for 2% of the data. The usage of these sentences has the potential to have an indirect impact on people's perceptions. Trump makes a few statements to communicate his thoughts regarding a group or another person. The speaker's point of view is eventually formed by the usage of words, phrases, and sentences in the speech. As a result, Donald Trump's speech uses power dynamics to control others.

**Keywords:** *Language and Power, Critical Discourse Analysis, Rhetoric, Political Speech*



# REPRESENTASI KEKUATAN BAHASA DALAM PIDATO PRESIDEN TRUMP PADA KTT ISLAM ARAB-AMERIKA

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## ABSTRAK

Analisis wacana kritis adalah sejenis penelitian analisis wacana yang berfokus pada bagaimana teks dan pembicaraan dalam konteks sosial dan politik menampilkan, mereproduksi, dan menentang penyalahgunaan, dominasi, dan ketidaksetaraan kekuasaan sosial. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengkaji penggunaan ciri-ciri formal dalam pidato Presiden Trump melalui penggunaan kalimat. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan penelitian deskriptif-kualitatif. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan teknik dokumentasi. Penelitian ini dikaji dengan menggunakan teori analisis wacana kritis Norman Fairclough. Peneliti menemukan dari penelitian ini bahwa nilai-nilai teks, khususnya dalam hal ciri-ciri formal. Ciri-ciri formal ini dibagi menjadi tiga kategori: *Experiential value*, *Relational value*, dan *expressive value*. *Relational value* melibatkan penggunaan frasa seperti kalimat dengan modal, interogatif, imperatif, dan deklaratif. Pidato Presiden Trump mengandung ungkapan-ungkapan dengan mood negatif dan positif dalam hal *expressive value*. Presiden Trump menyampaikan berbagai jenis pidato, yang penulis klasifikasikan menjadi tiga jenis utama: deklaratif, interogatif, dan imperatif, sebagaimana dirinci di bagian *Relational value*. Kalimat deklaratif mencakup 88% data, frasa imperatif mencakup 10%, dan kalimat interogatif mencakup 2% data. Penggunaan kalimat-kalimat tersebut berpotensi memberikan dampak tidak langsung terhadap persepsi masyarakat. Trump membuat beberapa pernyataan untuk mengkomunikasikan pemikirannya mengenai suatu kelompok atau orang lain. Sudut pandang pembicara pada akhirnya terbentuk dari penggunaan kata, frasa, dan kalimat dalam tuturannya. Hasilnya, pidato Donald Trump menggunakan dinamika kekuasaan untuk mengendalikan orang lain.

**Kata Kunci:** Bahasa dan Kekuatan, Analisis Wacana Kritis, Retorika, Pidato Politik

## MOTTO

*“Actions speak louder than words”*



## **DEDICATION**

The researcher dedicates this graduating paper to:

My beloved parents and my younger brother.

All of my lovely friends.

And the last is myself.





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# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY**

Language is one of the media used to convey a message or purpose. A language relates to many aspects, such as society, culture, gender, age, etc. There is also a language that is associated with power when the speaker uses more direct statements. Sapir states that language is a purely human and noninstinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols heritage of the group, the product of long-continued social usage (Sapir, Edward. 1921, p.7). All aspects of power relations in language can be identified using critical discourse analysis theory.

Critical discourse analysis (CDA) is a type of discourse analytical research that primarily studies the way social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced, and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context. With such dissident research, critical discourse analysts take an explicit position and thus want to understand, expose, and ultimately resist social inequality (Schriffin, 2001). CDA aims to identify how power relations are constructed through language (Fairclough and Wodak, 1997). It shows how power relations are used in discourse, text, and speech, such as in the news and politics.

Schriffin also states that critical discourse analysis deals with the relationship between discourse and power (Schriffin, 2001). He has also sketched the complex theoretical framework needed to analyze discourse and power and provided a glimpse of the many ways in which power and dominance are

reproduced by text and talk. Yet several methodological and theoretical gaps remain. First, the cognitive interface between discourse structures and those of the local and global social context is seldom made explicit and usually appears only in terms of notions of knowledge and ideology. Habermas states in the Fairclough book of analyzing discourse that language is a medium of domination and social force (Fairclough, 2003, p 34). Power is connected to ideology, which requires people to conform to particular conventions.

In critical discourse theory, analysis related to power can also be applied to speech texts. Moreover, the text of the following speech is a political speech and it was attended by several delegations from other countries. This speech is about world peace, including interfaith peace in formal ways. President Trump said that he would help create peace between religious communities and eradicate terrorism. This speech was interesting because he seemed very enthusiastic about helping countries in the Middle East maintain peace and overcome terrorism and radical movements. He strongly condemned all forms of violence, terrorism, and cruel killings.

In addition to giving the address in front of Muslim leaders, Trump also mentioned it during his presidential campaign. He changed his harsh language toward Muslims and urged the Islamic world to reject terrorists. Trump addressed the heads of Muslim nations during the Arab Islamic American Summit gathering in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Sunday, May 21, 2017. Indonesian President Joko Widodo was also there. Trump encouraged Muslim leaders to "*cleanse*" radicals from their individual nations, which is substantially different from his prior

statements, which presuppose that "Islam hates us (America)". Trump always emphasizes that Islam is a dangerous "*group*". Trump's idea even included a ban on all Muslims entering the country.

The speech discussed terrorism and radicalism in the Middle East. The use of language is the main thing that the writer observes. The use of different types of sentences can show various expressions. As was the case in the speech, President Trump used sentences in the form of a formal cause in an interstate conference forum. The sentences used by President Trump are analyzed using the Critical Discourse Analysis theory initiated by Norman Fairclough. The analysis step involves analyzing the text for the use of vocabulary and grammar, analyzing discourse, and conducting social analysis.

In his speech, Trump wanted to help spread peace and resolve various human crises. He even mentioned that Islamic youth must grow without fear. However, he had previously said that there was an agreement between the United States and Saudi Arabia.

*Yesterday, we signed historic agreements with the Kingdom that **will** invest almost \$400 billion in our two countries and create many thousands of jobs in America and Saudi Arabia. This landmark agreement includes the announcement of a \$110 billion Saudi-funded defense purchase – and we **will be** sure to help our Saudi friends to get a good deal from our great American defense companies. This agreement **will** help the Saudi military to take a greater role in security operations. (Trump, 2017)*

The analysis of the sentences above, according to Norman Fairclough, uses three kinds of values: experiential values, relational values, and expressive values. The experiential value can be seen in the choice of diction for the subject "*we*". The

subject "*we*" refers to President Trump, King Salman, and other state delegates. This indicates a reduction from several subjects to only "*we*".

The second is relational value. The relational value in the sentence uses declarative sentences and modalities. The declarative sentence is shown at the beginning of the sentence, which states that President Trump and King Salman have signed an agreement between the two countries for investment and military political agreements. The purpose of a declarative sentence is to provide information to the audience.

The last one is expressive value. This expressive value is indicated by the use of the "*will*" modality, which is defined as an expectation of the agreement that has been agreed upon by both parties. The arrangement of the sentence that uses a modality such as "*will*" must be followed by an infinitive or V1. In that case, the three kinds of "*will*" in the sentences are followed by verbs to be, such as "*invest, be, help*". These modality sentences are also included in the relational value.

Above is an example of an analysis of President Trump's use of sentences in his speech. President Trump demonstrated his power through the use of language to influence the audience and help them realize what he had hoped for in this moment. Further analysis of the use of grammar, vocabulary, and choice of diction used by President Trump in his speech at the Arab-Islamic American Summit will be discussed further in the next chapter.

## 1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

From the explanation of the background, the writer formulates this research questions:

- 1.2.1 What kind of utterances does President Trump use in his Speech?
- 1.2.2 How is power represented in the President Trump's Speech to the Arab Islamic American Summit?

### **1.3 OBJECTIVE OF STUDY**

This research has two objectives. The first objective is to analyze the power representation in President Trump's speech to the Arab-Islamic American Summit. Then, the second objective is to analyze the utterances that President Trump uses. Both objectives are achieved by using critical discourse analysis from Norman Fairclough's theory to analyze the speech.

### **1.4 SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY**

This research is supposed to enrich the researcher's knowledge about the CDA theory of Norman Fairclough, which consists of text analysis, discourse practice analysis, and sociocultural practice analysis to identify power used in President Trump's speech to the Arab Islamic American Summit. This research is also hoped to give more information to the readers related to the critical discourse analysis with formal features approach. This research is also expected to provide information for the next researchers who go deep into CDA theory.

### **1.5 LITERATURE REVIEW**

Researches related to this theme have been done before. Some of them may be seen as follows

Arif Angga Putra (2016), student of Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang, wrote a thesis *“POWER RELATION ON DONALD TRUMP’S POLITICAL CAMPAIGN 2015”*. This research uses the same theory but with different objects. Arif discovered that Donald Trump portrays his relationship to those who are less powerful and that he discursively persuades and manipulates individuals in order to get them to subscribe to his ideological framework. The discourse in a speech is composed of topic meaning, textual schema, and structural elements. Donald Trump uses discourse frameworks to express his ideas about other people. The subject of the speech, as well as the utterance patterns and structural discourse, consist of words, phrases, and sentences, as well as rhetorical expression that establishes the speaker's ideological viewpoint.

Siti Mu’arifatul Kalami (2017), student of Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang, wrote a thesis *“POWER REPRESENTATION IN SATIRICAL HUMOR LAST WEEK TONIGHT WITH JOHN OLIVER”*. Related to this research, this thesis has the different data also. Siti found that the way how John Oliver as the speaker in satirical humor portrays his power to ridicule the candidates president who are powerful. John Oliver used linguistic mechanisms proposed by Norman Fairclough theory as the strategies to show his power while delivering his speech. He used Satirical word/phrase, Persuasion, Speaking Illusively, threat, imperative Verb, Interrogative statement and Declarative statement to construct his power to the audience.

Elsa Erika (2019), student of Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University of Jakarta, wrote a thesis *“APPRAISAL OF INTERPERSONAL MEANING IN*



DONALD TRUMP’S SPEECH AT ARAB ISLAMIC AMERICAN SUMMIT IN RIYADH”. Elsa found that President Trump’s used pronoun *we* and showed the equal relation between the speaker and the audiences. She also tell about the modality that President Trump used in his speech. The last part of the conclusion is about the lexical analysis using appraisal theory which is the speech contains more positive expression than negative expression. However, the theory that she used in her research was different.

Ajeng Rahayu and Hanafi Bilmona (2021), students of Pattimura University, wrote a journal “MOOD TYPES OF DONALD TRUMP’S SPEECH IN THE ARAB ISLAMIC AMERICAN SUMMIT”. There are 4 types of mood found in this speech, there are declarative, imperative, Polar Interrogative and WH-Interrogative. The most frequent clause in the text is the declarative mood type. The researcher analyzed the mood adjunct to find the Interpersonal meaning in the text. It can be concluded that there are three types of mood adjuncts, namely; First, Additional Modalities. Second, the adjunct of temporality. Finally, the Adjunct of Intensity is the most dominant. It expresses a hope. This research analyses the same object but in the different theory.

This research has similarities and differences with previous research. There are several studies that use the same theory but use different object, also there are studies that use the same object but use different theories. However, this research is to complement the previous studies.

## **1.6 THEORETICAL APPROACH**

### **1.6.1 Critical Discourse Analysis**

Critical discourse analysis (CDA) is a type of discourse analytical theory that primarily studies the way social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced, and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context. With such dissident research, critical discourse analysts take explicit position, and thus want to understand, expose, and ultimately resist social inequality. CDA generally focuses on strategies of manipulation, legitimation, consent generation and other discursive means of influencing the minds (indirect actions) of people in the interests of those in power.

Wodak and Meyer (2001) stated in their books that the term CDA is used nowadays to refer more specifically to the critical linguistic approach of scholars who find the larger discursive unit of text to be the basic unit of communication. CDA may defined as fundamentally concerned with analyzing opaque as well as transparent structural relationships of dominance, discrimination, power and control as manifested in language. In the other word, CDA aims to investigate critically social inequality as it expresses, signalled, constitutes, legitimized and so on by language use or in discourse.

In contrast to other paradigm in discourse analysis and text linguistics, CDA not only focus on text, spoken or written and text linguistics, but also fully critical account of discourse would thus require a theorization and description of both the social, processes and structures which give rise to the production of a text, and the

social structures and processes within which individuals or groups as social historical subjects, create meanings in their interaction with texts.

### **1.6.2 Language and power**

Language and power are closely related. The use of language can affect to people. A person can be said to use power when he or she utters something. It also deals with what kind of sentences he uses when speaking or writing, such as Norman Fairclough states that power is closely related to ideology. A central idea in most critical work on discourse is that of power, and more particularly the institutions or social power of groups. Those groups who control most dominant discourse also have more opportunity to control the ideas (minds) and actions of others.

According to Jack S. Damico, discourse contains power manifestations. For this debate to be fully beneficial, three caveats must be made. First, be aware that there is an interactional power when there is a power difference. When discussing manifestations, keep in mind that these actions are frequently taken to influence the conversation in order to establish and maintain "power asymmetry" (Damico, et al, 2008, p 68). It is through such asymmetry in communicative behavior that power and authority manifest themselves in social action (Fairclough, 1989; Grimshaw, 1990; Hudson, 1996). Second, the interpretation of interactional power is relative to a number of other contextual variables (e.g., solidarity), and the expression of interactional power will vary with the context, regardless of which of these manifestations are employed. It would be incorrect to assume that the linguistic and discourse features must always be employed to manifest power or to expect that

when one of these features is employed, it is exclusively for the manipulation of interactional power. The phenomenon is too complex for such a simple correlation between a surface manifestation and the social dimension. Finally, there are a variety of different ways that interactional power may be used.

## **1.7 METHOD OF RESEARCH**

### **1.7.1 Type of research**

The researcher used the method of descriptive-qualitative because analyzing a text. According to Creswell, qualitative research is a study of a social problem concluded by interpreting its meaning (Creswell, 2009). One of the characteristics of qualitative research is reflectivity. It means the researchers have to determine the interpretations of the data with descriptions. This research also uses the descriptive qualitative method, which is the appropriate approach for analyzing qualitative research because the research type encloses the researcher's basic instrument. (Sugiyono, 2019) Research with a qualitative approach has two main objectives. First, to describe and to explore, and secondly, to describe and explain. It is related to the discussion of the paper with analyze language utterance as the social phenomenon through CDA Fairclough theory.

### **1.7.2 Data sources**

The data analyzed are the speech of the Trump's speech in the Arab Islamic American Summit in Riyadh. This speech was delivered at a conference held on 21<sup>th</sup> May 2017 that attended by several delegations from other countries. The data in this research is taken from white house website.

### 1.7.3 Data collection technique

As the researcher uses the literature study method, the data will be collected using the documentation technique since the words that we decide to use to document what we see in the field are never really objective because those words can only be our interpretation of what we go through (Miles and et al., 2014:30). This approach involves collecting data using one's senses, especially in a systematic and meaningful way. The writer reads the text of the speech by President Trump. Then, make a note to identify the language and the sentences that President Trump uses. After identifying the sentences, the writer analyzes the speech using Norman Fairclough's theory.

### 1.7.4 Data analysis technique

To analyze the data, the writer uses an equivalent method. The equivalent method is a method of language analysis that uses determinants that come from outside the language that we speak. The data was analyzed using Critical Discourse Analysis theory from Norman Fairclough (1989). It could be used to identify the language used by President Trump at the Arab-Islamic American Summit. After identifying the speech using the theory, the writer describes and analyzes the data to get a sense of the language used by President Trump. To find the total percentage of each distribution, the researcher uses a formula:

$$\frac{\text{Declarative or Interrogative or Imperative}}{\text{Total sentences}} \times 100\%$$

## **1.8 PAPER ORGANIZATION**

This paper consists of four chapters. The first chapter is Introduction. This chapter discusses the reasons why the researcher decides to carry out the research. This chapter consists of the background of the study, research questions, objectives of the study, significance of the study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization. The second chapter is the theoretical framework. The third chapter is an explanation of the research findings. The last chapter is the conclusion and suggestions.





## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 4.1 Conclusion

The values of the text, specifically in terms of formal aspects, are the outcomes of the analysis with CDA at this point. Experiential values, relational values, and expressive values are the three basic divisions of the formal features. The researcher discovered numerous words in the experience values that contained the ideology, including the term "ISIS," which Trump frequently uses. The use of sentences such as modalities, interrogative, imperative sentences, and declarative sentences is included in relational values. President Trump primarily employs declarative sentences in his speeches to communicate facts, make claims, and express opinions. He rarely asks questions or uses interrogatives. In terms of expressive values, President Trump's speech uses sentences both negative and positive moods.

Researcher identified four categories of adjunct moods when it came to interpretation: expressions of probability, usualness, intensification or reduction, and inclination. It is clear from the four statements made by President Trump that he has high hopes and aspirations for future peace.

The theme of the speech, which was delivered by the Trumps as president at the time, was one of the things that became influential. Trump used direct sentences throughout his address. These sentences influence the audience's

propensity to follow Trump's instructions. His position as a high-ranking state official, or as president, also indirectly influences the audience's reaction. For example, when Trump advised Muslim youth not to be fearful of the conflict, he also attempted to do so by establishing peace and reaching an agreement with Saudi Arabia. The use of these statements has the potential to affect people's perceptions of peace and Islam indirectly. The effect of Trump's statement in his speech demonstrates the power of language in speaking.

In delivering his speech, President Trump used several types of speech which the author categorized into 3 types, declarative, interrogative and imperative which have been explained in the relational value subchapter. On the three types of sentences, declarative is the most dominant sentence with 88% of the data, then imperative with 10% and the last is interrogative/question with 2% of the data. Trump uses many statements to express his ideas about a group or other person. The use of words, phrases and sentences in the speech ultimately forms the speaker's point of view. As a result, Donald Trump's speech uses power dynamics to dominate others and influence others to be a coalition with America as he emphasized at the end of his speech, I ask you to join me, to join together, to work together, and to FIGHT together— BECAUSE UNITED, WE WILL NOT FAIL (Trump, 2017).

## 4.2 Suggestion

At the end of the study, the researcher advises that the text's object material be examined in greater depth and drawn from additional sources. The researcher expects that this current study will serve as a reference for further research into the

linguistic study, notably on the CDA Fairclough. The researcher anticipates that the research will be beneficial to society by increasing knowledge and understanding of the language used in speech. The current study should then help the next researcher that is interested in linguistic research, namely CDA Fairclough.



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