



**A SYSTEMIC STYLISTIC ANALYSIS ON THE GENERIC
STRUCTURE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'S SPEECH**

I HAVE A DREAM

THESIS

Written by

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FACULTY OF LETTERS

JEMBER UNIVERSITY

2011



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**A Thesis Presented to the English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University in
accordance with the Requirements for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra
In English Studies**

Written by

INDAH NURAINI

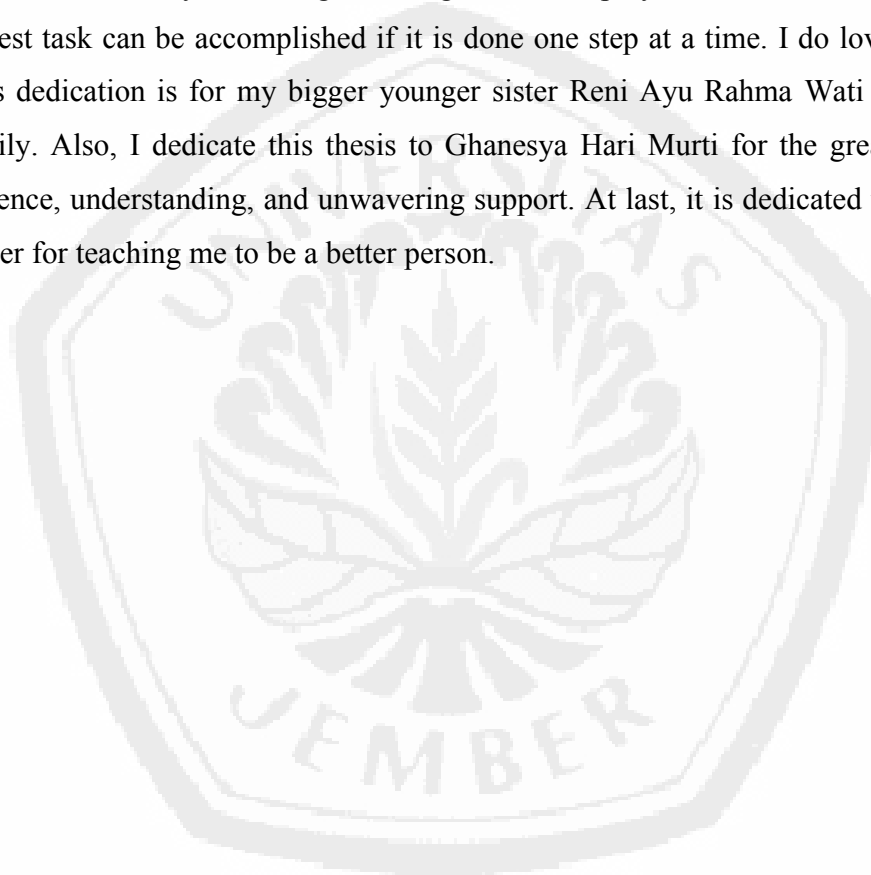
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DEDICATION

In the deepest of my heart, I dedicate this thesis to my beloved father Nero and my dearest mommy Murtiningsih who give endless prayer and teach me that even the largest task can be accomplished if it is done one step at a time. I do love you both. This dedication is for my bigger younger sister Reni Ayu Rahma Wati and my big family. Also, I dedicate this thesis to Ghanesya Hari Murti for the great affection, patience, understanding, and unwavering support. At last, it is dedicated to my Alma Mater for teaching me to be a better person.



MOTTO

*Faith is taking the first step even when
you don't see the whole staircase. **

(Martin Luther King, Jr.)

[*http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/m/martin_luther_king_jr_2.html](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/m/martin_luther_king_jr_2.html)

DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled “A Systemic Stylistic Analysis on the Generic Structure of Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Speech I Have a Dream” is an original piece of writing. I declare that the analysis and the research described in this thesis have never been submitted for any other degree or any publications. I certify to the best of my knowledge that all sources used and any help received in the preparation of this thesis have been acknowledged.

Jember, September 20, 2011

The Writer,

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SUMMARY

A Systemic Stylistic Analysis on the Generic Structure of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Speech I Have a Dream; Indah Nuraini, 070110101007; 2011: 57 pages; English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

Language is a useful means of peace and harmony. On August 28, 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. directed a peaceful march at Washington, D.C and delivered a speech known as I Have a Dream. He used abundant repetitions of phrase and clause in the speech. In fact, the speech was written with great care although it was delivered orally. This thesis is intended to know how a language works in construing its meaning in text. Systemic functional analysis is conducted in this study by applying Systemic Functional Linguistics proposed by Halliday and Eggins.

Library research is employed in this study. The data used in this study are qualitative data applying bibliographical technique as the data collection. The data are five parallel structure of generic structure of the speech: Orientation, Complication, Evaluation, Resolution, and Coda. The descriptive method is used to describe lexicogrammatical patterns, semantic components, situational dimensions and context of culture systematically. As a result, the analyses of the excerpts show that the five selected excerpts share the same Tenor: the unequal (hierarchic) power of Martin Luther King, Jr. to the civil rights supporters. Otherwise, each Field and Mode of the texts is different. Then, context of culture is also reflected in the analyses.

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Jember, September 2011

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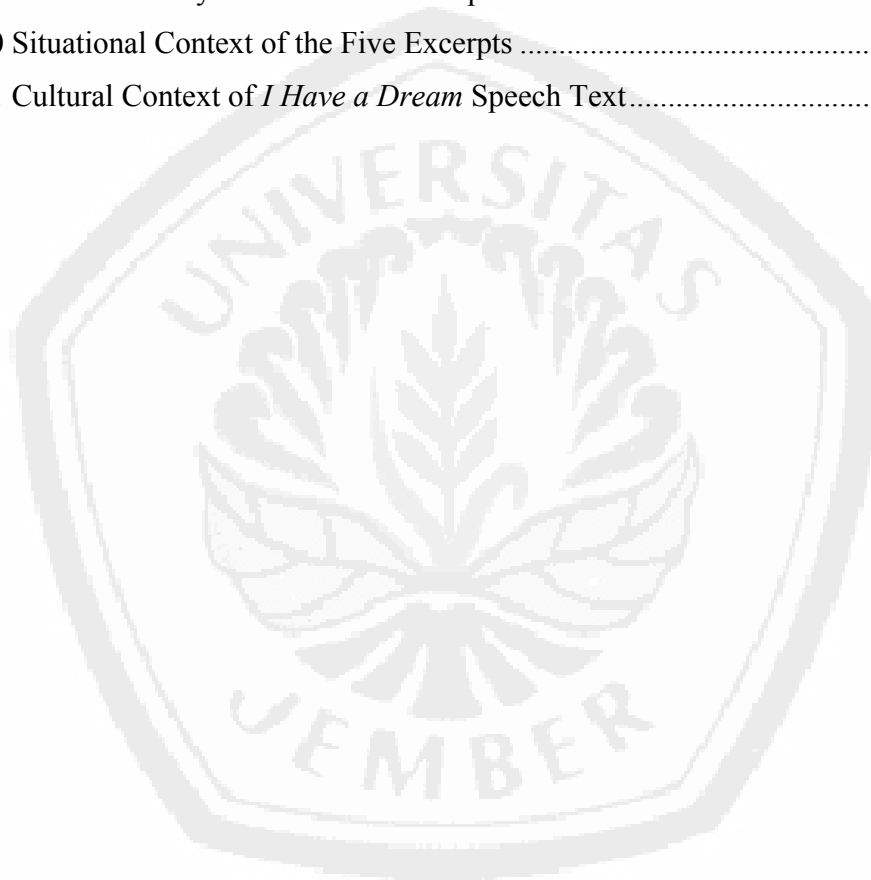
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CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, an overview to the whole thesis is provided in order to give the readers a clear description about the topic. The topic is about the systemic functional stylistic analysis on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speech *I Have a Dream*. Therefore, it is important to arrange the background of the study, the problems of the study, the scope of the study, the goal of the study, the significance of the study and the organization of the study. Each of which will be presented as follows:

1.1 The Background of the Study

Language is a useful means of peace and harmony. Aitchison (in Alip, 2006) argues language must have developed out of the human need to have better cooperation. Language can be a means of promoting peace. On the other hand, language can be a trigger of conflicts when it is used without weighing other's feeling. Aly (1968:6) states that speech is a kind of public speaking where the skills of persuading people is truly needed. It is a way to influence policy. In some circumstances, the speaker's reputation is the most powerful one of all forces in behalf of his argument. For the reason above, Martin Luther King, Jr., an American clergyman, and prominent leader in the African American Civil Rights Act for Jobs and Freedom, directed a peaceful march on Washington, D.C and delivered a speech that is well-known worldwide as "I Have a Dream" on August 28, 1963 (Ross, 2007).

The civil rights movements in the 1960s focused mainly on equal rights for African-Americans. Dr. King worked to make things equal for people regardless of their race, or color of their skin. He believed that it was important to fight for what was right without violence. The philosophy of nonviolent direct action that he did was inspired by Gandhi's success with non-violent activism in India. The speech *I*