



**A STUDY OF TRANSITIVITY IN BARACK OBAMA'S SPEECH
DELIVERED IN JAKARTA ON NOVEMBER 10th, 2010: A CRITICAL
DISCOURSE ANALYSIS**

THESIS

Written by:

MARIA ULFA

NIM 080110191050

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LETTERS
JEMBER UNIVERSITY**

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A thesis presented to the English Department,
Faculty of Letters, Jember University,
as one of requirements to obtain
the award of Sarjana Sastra Degree
in English Studies

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MARIA ULFA

NIM 080110191050

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DEDICATION

This thesis is profoundly dedicated to:

- ❖ My beloved Father Moch. Sutarji who has inspired me to be a humble person. I do thank you for your never ending love, hope and pride for me.
- ❖ My dearest Mother Shofiatun who teaches me to be a strong girl. I do thank you for your endless love and prayer.
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- ❖ My Alma Mater.

MOTTO

*“Man Jadda Wajada”**

“When someone tries so hard to achieve the ideals, he will succeed”

*Arabian Quote

DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled *A Study of Transitivity in Barack Obama's Speech Delivered in Jakarta on November 10th, 2010: A Critical Discourse Analysis* is an original piece of writing. I certify that the analysis and the research described in this thesis have not already 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, October 3rd, 2012

The writer,

Maria Ulfa

NIM 080110191050

APPROVAL SHEET

Approved and received by the examination committee of the English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

Day : Wednesday

Date : October, 10th 2012

Place : Faculty of Letters, Jember University

Secretary

Chairman

Indah Wahyuningsih, S.S., M.A.

NIP. 196801142000122001

Drs. Syamsul Anam, M.A.

NIP. 195909181988021001

The Members:

1. Drs. Albert Tallapessy, M.A., Ph.D.

NIP.196304111988021001

(.....)

2. Sabta Diana, S.S., M.A.

NIP. 197509192006042001

(.....)

3. Prof. Dr. Samudji, M.A.

NIP. 194808161976031002

(.....)

Approved by the Dean,

Drs. Syamsul Anam, M.A.

NIP. 195909181988021001

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Jember, October 2012

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SUMMARY

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The speech of Obama has become quite phenomenal since his visit to Indonesia in Asian Tour 2010. The speech got more enthusiasm from the audience, especially the young people in the University of Indonesia. It is interesting to investigate the factors behind the success of his speech and the power he serves to recover his image and the United States in the perspective of Indonesian people.

The goal of this study is to examine the language used by Obama in his speech in serving power. This study is conducted to expose the production of power used by Obama on the behalf of his country to present the United States and Indonesia. It also investigates the existence of inequality and power abuse used in the speech. The investigation is based on the theory of SFL proposed by Halliday (1994) from the point of processes include in transitivity. Moreover, the theory of CDA along with the theory of power is offered in this study to examine the existence of inequality and power abuse.

This study applies the mixed method (both qualitative and quantitative methods) to analyze the data. The primary data are taken from The White House website (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/>) accessed on November 11, 2011 at 5:45 am. The primary data are collected by using stratified sampling. Next, the data are analyzed by using transitivity analysis and the result is presented in the form of statistical analysis.

The findings of this thesis expose that the processes Obama used and the choice of verbs in the speech indicate the balanced production of power and domination both of the United States and Indonesia. It means that the speech delivered by Obama in Jakarta shows the equality of power. In other words, it can be assumed that there is no power abuse and inequality in Obama's speech.

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Maria Ulfa

English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University

ABSTRACT

Speech is one of spoken language that can be analyzed through discourse analysis. One of phenomenal speeches is the speech of Barack Obama delivered in the University of Indonesia on November 10th when he visited Indonesia for Asian Tour. Since the speech has been phenomenal, the critical analysis to expose the power served in the speech is conducted. The purpose of this study is to expose the production of power served by Obama in his speech. This study reveals how Obama serves the power, whether he produces strong power and domination or weak power and lesser amount of domination toward the perspective of Indonesian people. The analysis of Obama's speech is based on the theory of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), the theory of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), and the theory of power. Particularly, the analysis focuses on the transitivity of processes used in the speech. This study is conducted by using mixed method (both qualitative and quantitative methods). The result of investigation in transitivity shows that Obama tries to present the United States and Indonesia equally. It means that the power production served by the United States and Indonesia are balanced. Conclusively, there's no power abuse in Obama's speech.

Keywords: Critical Discourse Analysis, speech, transitivity, power.

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