CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

When we hear the word “terrorist”, a negative impression immediately comes to our mind. It is because we always find that a terrorist act is not reasonable, which causes others to suffer or even die. In addition, he or she acts as a vigilante to disguise in order to achieve their goals. According to *Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary* 3rd Edition, *terrorist* means “someone who uses violent action, or threats of violent action for political purposes.” (“Terrorist,” def. 1). Thus, a terrorist is a person who is involved in a group and takes part in a terrorist act.

A terrorist is not alone to carry out the plans because the person involved in this act has accomplices. What is more, they are united to make them stronger. Every terrorist has his or her own duty. In this thesis, I will analyze Imam Samudra, who is widely known not only in Indonesia but also all over the world.

Nowadays, some public places like restaurants, clubs even some places of worship become targets for terrorist attacks. Terrorists use bombs because of their efficiency and big impacts. Moreover, it draws people’s attention. Terrorists want
to make others follow their obsession so they are really committed. They even
have their own purpose in doing the act like for political and religious beliefs.

Imam Samudra’s case is one of the cases of terrorist attacks in Indonesia. Imam
Samudra is the mastermind of the Bali bombing 1 and widely known as a
means “a person who suffers very much or is killed because of their religious or
political beliefs.” (“Martyr,” def. 1). From this definition, it can be concluded that
Imam Samudra is willing to die for his belief. To carry out his plan, Imam
Samudra used many aliases so as to hide his real identity. He also has many
accomplices to commit this act. His main reason for the bombings is to carry on
the jihad in Indonesia. In fact, Imam Samudra thought that to die as a martyr
would be rewarded in Heaven. He is known as the man behind the Sari Club and
Paddy’s Bar’s bombings in Bali.

After the bombings, Imam Samudra becomes a controversial figure because
there are two opposing opinions about his act. Some people support Imam
Samudra while others are against him. At last, less than 40 days after the
explosion in Bali Imam Samudra was arrested. As a result, he got a death penalty.
Knowing the fact that Imam Samudra was sentenced to death, some people who
supported him feel disappointed while others who were against him felt relieved
and were proud of the police’s effort because they managed to arrest him.

In this thesis, I take an article from the English edition of Tempo magazine,
entitled “Killers among Us” as the source of my data. I choose this source because
Tempo is a reputable magazine which not only provides recent events but also the
background of the events. I decide to choose an article from this magazine, which
is entitled “Imam’s Journey to Martyrdom”, because I want to know more about how Imam Samudra as a terrorist is represented in this article, specifically by using Teun A. van Dijk’s theory.

I particularly use van Dijk’s theory about critical discourse analysis based on news schemata, which is a major theory of conducting my analysis. I will analyze the article using a micro level analysis which consists of the macrostructure, superstructure and microstructure analyses in order to know Imam Samudra’s representation. Thus, it can be stated that the topic of this thesis is “A Text Analysis of the Representation of Imam Samudra in Tempo magazine Entitled ‘Imam’s Journey to Martyrdom’ Using Van Dijk’s Theory.”

In the news report, a writer usually has a certain representation to represent other characters. We can know how a person is presented either positively or negatively from the way the article is written or from the way words are chosen.

I like the way this magazine represents Imam Samudra because it is really clear for the global readers to understand the article more deeply. What is more, a text analysis requires a deeper understanding for the readers to learn further. Therefore, the topic is significant to discuss as it can make the readers know how writers can create a text to represent other people in an article, especially concerning terrorists in a news report.

(740 words)
1.2 Statement of the Problem

In this thesis, there are three main problems that I will analyze. Those problems are stated as follows:

1. What is the representation of Imam Samudra in the text based on the macrostructure analysis?
2. What is the representation of Imam Samudra in the text based on the superstructure analysis?
3. What is the representation of Imam Samudra in the text based on the microstructure analysis?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

In this analysis, there are three purposes stated as follows:

1. To find out the representation of Imam Samudra in the text based on the macrostructure analysis.
2. To find out the representation of Imam Samudra in the text based on the superstructure analysis.
3. To find out the representation of Imam Samudra in the text based on the microstructure analysis.

1.4 Methods of Research

I began the research by searching and finding articles in magazines and newspapers from many sources. I decided to choose an article from Tempo magazine entitled “Imam’s Journey to Martyrdom”. Then, I read and tried to understand the purpose of the article conveyed to the readers. Next, I browsed
some further explanation about my topic on the Internet to get a deeper understanding. In addition, I read some journals in the library and searched the theory of representation by van Dijk, which is related to my thesis. Furthermore, I started doing the analysis. Finally, I wrote a research report.

1.5 Organization of the Thesis

I divide this thesis into four chapters. Chapter One is Introduction, which consists of five parts: Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Methods of Research, and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two contains the theory which is used to analyze the data in this thesis. Chapter Three contains the text analysis of the article and Chapter Four is the Conclusion of the analysis. At the end of the thesis, I put the Bibliography and Appendix.