

Attitude in disaster reports in Indonesian newspaper: A critical discourse analysis

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ABSTRACT

Examining disaster reports in Indonesia is critical, as it provides essential insights into people perceptions and reactions to the frequent natural disasters. Disaster reports were examined through its communicative element including attitude to see the viewpoints of the newspaper towards disaster reports. The objectives of this research are to categorize attitudes, explain how attitudes are realized, and explain why attitudes are realized in disaster reporting in Indonesian newspaper, especially The Jakarta Post (TJP). Using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) as the analytical framework, a qualitative method was employed. The data is analyzed using Martin and White's theory of appraisal (2005). A corpus of 14 TJP newspaper articles on Indonesian natural disasters published in 2021 is broken down into clauses denoting attitude. The results of the study indicate: 1) there are three different attitude types, with appreciation being the most prevalent and having a predominately negative polarity, 2) the attitude realization reveals that TJP is the most dominant appraiser, followed by the authorities, and 3) the realization is attributed to two themes namely self-claimed recognition and neglect of self-failure, and one tone multiple perspectives which means negative attitudes dominantly voiced by different appraisers. The themes reveal the newspaper's concealed ideology points to a narrative of critique and disillusionment, which may shape the readers' understanding of the disasters and the associated societal responses.

Keywords: Appraisal theory, attitude, critical discourse analysis, disaster reports

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INTRODUCTION

Media is an important part of our society since they are a means of communication that may reach a vast number of individuals. As technological improvement has had an impact on communication, the media has continued to migrate to digital media as a platform of conducting business, delivering news, and providing entertainment. For the platform of delivering news, technology has turned media particularly the conventional news into digital version. The accessibility of the online news platform is simplified. It is possible for anybody to read any news at anytime and anywhere. In addition, the results of a survey indicate that more than fifty percent of consumers get their news and information from online media (Abbasi & Huang, 2020).

News contains information on current events occurring in a certain location, across the nation, or worldwide, therefore it is classified as discourse (Van Dijk, 2013). It has a significant impact on today's society and serves as a means through which individuals can learn about the outside world due to its benefits, which include objectivity and timeliness. The public is intended to be led by the information presented in news reports. Furthermore, news can be examined within its communicative framework, wherein reporters target particular audiences and attempt to achieve certain purposes (Bednarek & Caple, 2012).

There are many online news platforms including The Jakarta Post which is an English online newspaper. The target audience is foreigners and educated people as well as the middle class (Tarrant, 2008).

News has tremendous influence over its audience. Based on what they have read, readers may adjust their behavior, ideas, or beliefs in order to navigate to a certain social group (Bednarek & Caple, 2012). Also, it is said that the ideology of a newspaper might affect readers' opinions or perspectives on

an event. However, the narration of one event can vary from one newspaper to another (Jacobs, 1996). Because of this, it becomes unclear if the information published in the newspaper is accurate or has been skewed by the publication's ideology. Newspapers have been shaped by ideology, much like other forms of discourse, and this can have an impact on the way they recount events (Fowler, 2013). Thus, news producers can influence the value of news by using language elements such as lexical and syntactic features. These lexical and syntactic elements are the core emphasis of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) which focuses on language use. Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) can be used to determine the causes behind language use.

SFL and CDA share a focus in the relationship between language and society, since both emphasize language use and its informative and social functions. There are various frameworks that can be done from the perspective of SFL and CDA to evaluate how language can be analyzed in a text. One of which is appraisal (Martin & White, 2005). Appraisal centers on the evaluative language employed to construct a position based on the author's attitude. Martin and White (2005) classified appraisal into three interacting domains: attitude, engagement, and graduation. Attitude is concerned with feelings, which include emotional reactions (affect), behavioral judgments (judgment), and object evaluations (appreciation). Engagement focuses on recognizing the specific dialogic posture connected with given meanings, as well as defining what is at stake when one meaning is used over another. Graduation has to do with the grading phenomenon, in which feelings are heightened and categories become unclear. This study focuses on attitude since it is the core system of Appraisal.

Attitude is a complex and multifaceted psychological construct that encompasses affect, judgment, and appreciation. Affect refers to the emotional aspect of attitude, involving feelings and emotions such as like, dislike, pleasure, or displeasure. It encompasses the emotional response that individuals have towards an object, person, or idea. Judgment, on the other hand, involves the cognitive aspect of attitude. It encompasses the beliefs and thoughts that individuals hold about a particular object, person, or idea. These judgments are often based on past experiences, knowledge, and information, and they shape an individual's overall attitude. Appreciation is another crucial component of attitude, involving the behavioral aspect. It reflects an individual's predisposition to act in a certain way towards an object, person, or idea based on their affective and cognitive evaluations. Appreciation can manifest in behaviors such as approach or avoidance tendencies, and it is influenced by both affective and cognitive components of attitude (Martin & White, 2005).

Moreover, attitude plays a significant part in negotiating solidarity by revealing to other people our views about things and people, through expression of attitude itself, causing individuals to respond to the viewpoints and get involved in the ongoing interaction (Martin, 2004). Analyzing language through the SFL and CDA frameworks, specifically with the Appraisal tool focusing on attitude uncovers how authors express and readers react to opinions, fostering engagement and driving the social conversations enriches people understanding of language in shaping societal interactions and perceptions.

A large number of studies on attitude in newspaper have been conducted in various field namely politics (Huan et al., 2021; Asad et al., 2021; Jakaza, 2013; Thahara et al., 2019; Tavassoli et al., 2019), education (Wigunadi, 2014), Pandemic (Jing & Lihuan, 2021; Y. Zhang et al., 2022), technology (Zhang & Liu, 2015), culture (Dong & Lin, 2018), ecology (Yang & Li, 2021; YANG, 2018) and economic (WANG, 2022; Yu & Jincheng, 2020). In addition, appraisal analysis also conducted in different section of newspaper such as in editorial (Arunsirot, 2012; Nurjanah, 2021) and commentaries (Daniarsa & Mulatsih, 2020). These studies have uncovered the diverse functions of attitude in newspaper such as influencing public perceptions, framing issues, and reflecting sociocultural values by different countries.

The aforementioned studies focused on diverse fields and sections of newspapers. This study focuses on disaster field. Some studies under the field of natural disaster also have been done with different types of disasters such as geological disasters in Japanese newspapers (Puspita & Pranoto, 2021) which revealed the dominant type used was judgement and in China newspapers (Zhang, 2015) which revealed affect as the dominant type. Both Japanese and China newspapers used such attitude due to the Japanese newspaper focused on how to Build Back Better after disaster meanwhile China newspaper focused on the feeling of ordinary people. However, few researches have been done on attitude in hydro-meteorological disasters in Indonesian newspaper particularly The Jakarta Post. Disaster is crucial to discuss due to Indonesia is geographically vulnerable to natural disasters which are then reported by the media. Moreover, the narrative delivered by the newspaper will be different from

the Indonesian language newspaper because the readers are not only Indonesians but from all over the world (Tarrant, 2008). In addition, Sari (2019) found that Indonesian and English newspapers shared different ways to show certain image in their news article.

More importantly, people have a tendency to read newspapers during times after natural disasters, since they view the media as being more reliable (Utz et al., 2013). Furthermore, media as vital arm of government (Graber, 1984) has a relationship with the government itself. For instance, Japanese newspapers play the role in mainstreaming disaster management policy through the use of judgement dominantly (Puspita & Pranoto, 2021). In other words, disaster management in a government, especially here, is that Indonesia has linearity with the newspaper. Through the newspaper, it delivers and informs people of the latest news including disasters, facilitates governments' disaster-relief work and arouses people's sympathy towards victims.

Preliminary study has been done in one of The Jakarta Post disaster news published in 2021. The news focused on the flood due to it was the dominant natural disaster happened in that year (BNPB, 2022). Moreover, preliminary data with article title *Poor river restoration blamed for Jakarta's floods* showed The Jakarta Post mostly used appreciation as to evaluate things related to river restoration policy made by the government. Further, all news from other locations of floods would be analyzed to see whether or not the newspaper narrated the same as the Jakarta flood news to represent Indonesia and the reason behind the narration.

METHOD

This study used qualitative approach to content analysis namely discourse analysis. According to Krippendorff (2004) discourse analysis is one of approaches in qualitative research to content analysis which focuses on how particular phenomena are represented. More specifically, in this study, CDA served as the analytical framework for analyzing, describing, and explaining the data. This specified approach investigates the broader power relations, ideologies, and social structures that are manifested and reproduced through language in the text

CDA was adopted as the analytical framework because news is noticed as discourse which has information about the current events taking place in particular area (Van Dijk, 2013) and can influence its audience (Bednarek & Caple, 2012). CDA aims to unpack the common sense of social and cultural ideologies embedded in all forms of language (Fairclough, 2009). Additionally, attitude system was used as tool to analyze the expression of attitudes represented in the selected disaster reports in Indonesian newspaper. The data of this study were clauses that are indicated as part of the attitude resources that were obtained from an Indonesian English online newspaper namely *The Jakarta Post* (www.thejakartapost.com) which is the source of data. This study took 14 news articles specifically about flood as it is natural disaster particularly hydro-meteorological phenomena happened in 2021 due to it is the dominant disaster occurred based on BNPB data.

Table. 1 Date and News Topic

No	Date	Topic	The Number of Words Denoting Attitude
1	26-Dec	Flood in Sumatra	33
2	22-Dec	Flood in Jakarta	76
3	20-Nov	Floods in Kalimantan	62
4	17-Nov	Flood in Jakarta	76
5	8-Nov	Floods in several regions	57
6	6-Nov	Flood in East Java	23
7	7-Apr	Flood in Adonara island	41
8	25-Feb	Jakarta's floods	84
9	21-Feb	Jakarta's floods	82
10	21-Feb	Jakarta's floods	27
11	20-Feb	Jakarta's floods	30
12	9-Feb	Jakarta's floods	26
13	18-Feb	Bekasi's floods	65
14	31-Jan	South Kalimantan flood	50

This study used documentation to collect the data from the data sources. The technique of analyzing the data was coding based on Strauss & Corbin (1998) following the analytical framework of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) offered by Fairclough (2013). Sequentially, there are three series of steps in analyzing the attitude in the online newspaper discourse namely textual analysis, discursive practice, and social practice.

At the stage of textual analysis, the texts of disaster reports in The Jakarta Post (TJP) were analyzed through pre-coding and open coding. In pre-coding, the texts were read as a whole to understand its content and read the data repeatedly and coded the relevant units of analysis in the form of clauses based on Attitude types (Martin & White, 2005) namely affect, judgment, and appreciation along with its polarity. It was counted the number of times each attitude-type category appears in the data. This was done with the help of Ms. Excel. The results of this frequency count were used to substantiate research findings, compare frequencies between subcategories in the data, or identify categories that required special attention. At the stage of discursive practice, axial coding was done. The relationships between the codes that have been identified were examined and organized at the open coding stage. Then, the patterns were looked for between the codes in sentence level along with the appraisers and appraised items. Meanwhile, at the stage of social practice, selective coding was done. The discourse was interpreted and correlated them into social practice by establishing themes. This stage helps in uncovering ideologies that contribute to the construction of meaning and social realities through language use.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

The analysis includes the attitude as well as how the attitude is realized in their news articles and the reason behind their realization in the news articles. The frequency as well as the percentage of types of attitude were provided in Table 2.

Types of Attitude Used in Disaster Reports in TJP

Table. 2 The Distribution of Attitude

Affect types	Frequency	Percentage	Total
Dis/Inclination	9	4	
Un/happiness	96	46	
In/security	43	21	
Dis/satisfaction	61	29	
			209
Positive	70	33	
Negative	139	67	
Judgment types			
Social Esteem			
Normality	19	9	
Capacity	89	43	
Tenacity	37	18	
		70	145
Social Sanction			
Veracity	34	17	
Propriety	26	13	
		30	60
Positive	163	80	
Negative	42	20	
Appreciation types			
Reaction: impact			
	63	20	
Reaction: quality	106	33	
Composition: balance	25	8	
Composition: complexity	15	5	
Valuation	109	34	
			318
Appreciation			
Positive	41	13	
Negative	277	87	
Total			732

Table 2 shows negative appreciation dominates in disaster reports. It signifies a critical stance that focuses on flaws, inadequacies, and failures in various aspects of the disaster and its management. This highlights what went wrong, who is to blame, and the extent to which responses fell short of expectations.

The Realization of Attitude in Disaster Reports in TJP

To begin with, this part elaborated how TJP conveys the news through the focus on who the appraisers and what are appraised.

Table. 3 The Frequency of Appraiser

Appraisers	Frequency	Percentage
The Jakarta Post	439	60
Authorities	158	22
The Victims	27	4
The BMKG	39	5
Others (NGOs, Expert)	69	9
Total	732	100

Table 3 shows TJP predominantly acts as an appraiser in disaster reports, representing 60% of the total appraisal. This distribution marks that TJP takes a proactive stance in evaluating and framing disaster events, potentially influencing public perception. Below is the realization of attitude in disaster reports in TJP with the excerpts labelled bold for affect, underlined for judgment, and italic for appreciation.

Affect

Unhappiness by TJP towards the victims

- 1) *Heavy* rainfall ..., **killing** at least two people and **affecting** hundreds of others. (TJP/1)
- 2) **Homeless, injured**, and with his daughter **dead**, Sugeng **stares blankly** as he comes **to grips with the devastation** (TJP/7)

Excerpt 1) shows TJP negatively appraised the victims using words like killing and affecting. Through those words, it invoked unhappiness towards the readers. Likewise, excerpt 2) also shows TJP negatively appraised the victims using words like homeless, injured, dead which inscribed unhappiness. In addition, TJP also showed unhappiness towards the victims by using phrases like stares blankly, and to grips with the devastation.

Unhappiness by the victims towards themselves

- 3) "He's **still missing**," she **sobbed**, (TJP/7)
- 4) "We **buried** my daughter yesterday... I'm **devastated**". (TJP/7)

Excerpt 3) shows the victim negatively appraised herself using the phrase like still missing. Moreover, TJP emphasized the victim's unhappiness through the word sobbed. In excerpt 4), the victim itself shared invoked unhappiness through the word buried and inscribed unhappiness through the word devastated.

Dissatisfaction by TJP towards the Authorities

- 5) Justin **regretted** ..., Jakarta deputy governor Ahmad Riza Patria was "too fast to claim victory". (TJP/8)

The excerpt 5) above showed TJP negatively appraised Justin as part of authority towards the work of Jakarta. TJP used the word regretted to show Justin felt dissatisfaction over the work of Jakarta.

Judgment

Social esteem deals with values which can lower or raise a person's esteem in society without legal or moral implications. It is the domain of judgments in which the appraisal of people's behavior is

based on social ethics and a norm of appropriateness. It entails the sub-categories of normality including whether a person's behavior is unusual, special or normal; capacity including whether one is competent or capable; and tenacity which relates to one's dependability or civility. In this study the realization of judgment is mostly positive as below:

Positive normality by TJP towards the BMKG

- 6) On Tuesday, the BMKG also detected another potential cyclone forming over (TJP/2)

Excerpt 6) uses *detected* to appraise the BMKG positively towards the behavior in discovering the existence of upcoming potential cyclone. It is included as normality due to it is a normal behavior done by the BMKG as it is in accordance with their duties.

Positive capacity by Authorities towards themselves

- 7) ... the government planned to rehabilitate the *damaged* water-catchment areas, adding that that it was preparing to build a tree nursery next year in the initial step of its reforestation efforts. (TJP/3)

Excerpt 7) showed the authority used the words planned, rehabilitate, build, and reforestation efforts to show that its capacity to improve the environment.

Positive tenacity by TJP towards the BMKG and authorities

- 8) The Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) has warned (TJP/1)
9) Jakarta Disaster Mitigation Agency (BPBD Jakarta) has warned (TJP/4)
10) President Joko Widodo in October warned of the *hazardous* impact (TJP/12)

Excerpts 8), 9), and 10) are part of tenacity subtype. The word *warned* is used to appraise The Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG), Jakarta Disaster Mitigation Agency (BPBD Jakarta), and President Joko Widodo to show that they are trying to save people through their warning. It invokes the reader's evaluation toward them namely how careful and cautious the BMKG, the BPBD Jakarta, and President Joko Widodo.

Social sanction deals with issues of morality (sins) or legality (crimes). It is a domain of judgment in which people's actions are evaluated using legal/religious standards. Unlike those that underpin social esteem, the norms governing social sanction are typically codified and documented. It is concerned with values of truthfulness (veracity) and ethical issues (propriety).

- 11) Authorities believed he was **killed** by a *fatal* electric shock while he was trying to switch off the water pump. (TJP/1)
12) ..., but that it had a *low* probability of turning into a *full-blown* tropical cyclone. (TJP/2)

Excerpts 11) and 12) are part of veracity subtype. Excerpt 11) uses the word *believed* to positively appraise the authorities' behavior by telling the truth of the reason someone is killed. In this context, the victim of flood is not killed because of the water intensity, rather due to electricity shock. Excerpt 12) uses the word *probability* to negatively appraise the agency's deputy for meteorology to the fact that a cyclone will or not happened.

- 13) ... the government downplayed the role of such damage, ... (TJP/14)
14) "... I don't think this should be allowed and the central government needs to review all palm oil permits that have been issued," (TJP/3)
15) However, the PSI said Anies appeared to be subordinating the urgent need for land acquisition. (TJP/8)

Excerpts 13), 14), and 15) are part of propriety. In excerpts 13, TJP used the word downplay to negatively appraise the authorities that the flood happened because of the weather anomaly. In excerpt 14) the authority of Central Kalimantan negatively appraised the central government by using the words should be allowed and needs to review. Those words revealed the authority of Central Kalimantan told

the central government what supposed to do related to the palm oil concession. While in excerpt 15), the word subordinating was used by the PSI (Party) member to negatively appraise Anies as Jakarta Governor.

Appreciation

According to Martin and White (2005), Appreciation is the evaluation of objects, including the ones we make and do, as well as natural phenomena. In reaction, the quality is found dominantly. Below are the excerpts of reaction quality in The Jakarta Post.

- 16) *Heavy* rainfall (TJP/1)
- 17) ... after *major* floods once again **hit** the capital city, with critics blaming its *poor* river restoration (TJP/8)
- 18) Although cases are still *relatively low* outside of the three regions,... intensifying efforts to mitigate the risk of dengue fever outbreaks,... (TJP/4)

In excerpt 16), the word used is *heavy* to negatively appraise the rainfall that become the cause of flood happened in South Sumatera and Riau. *Heavy* in TJP is collocated with rainfall, downpours, and rains. It is indicated as reaction quality as the news writer reacts to the great amount of rainfall. Excerpt 17) uses *major* to negatively appraise the floods and *poor* to negatively appraise the river restoration in Jakarta. *Poor* is used as to share reaction over the quality of the river restoration. Likewise, excerpt 18) uses the word *relatively low* to positively appraise the cases of dengue fever outbreak due to the impact of flood. *Low* is used to share reaction that the cases of dengue fever were still fine.

In composition, both balance and complexity, is placed in the last order of appreciation features. The number of occurrences is also low which is 29 words, or 24% with negative feature is greater than positive one. Below are the excerpts of composition both balance and complexity in The Jakarta Post.

- 19) Jokowi's statement marked a *significant departure* from his remarks made in January, (TJP/3)
- 20) "Building a new city as an administrative hub requires *major* infrastructure development, and it will be *critical* to do so without *jeopardizing* forests," (TJP/3)

Excerpt 19) uses the phrase *significant departure* to negatively appraise the Jokowi's statement that is contradictory to his previous statement related to the root cause of Kalimantan flooding. Excerpts 19) is part of composition balance due to Jokowi's statements were different. At first, he said Kalimantan flood was caused by a weather anomaly, but in different time, he said it is because of deforestation. Excerpt 20) uses the word *critical* to negatively appraise a building of new city in Kalimantan. It is included as composition complexity due to building a new city needed major infrastructure development and had harmful impact because there will be deforestation that led to flood disaster.

In addition, the use of valuation is mainly to explain our evaluation in terms of the value of things (Martin & White, 2005); how innovative, authentic, and timely things are. In this study, valuation is the second most frequently used sub-type of appreciation. The distribution of positive (6 words) and negative valuation (28 words) significantly have gap between the two.

- 21) Jakarta claims to have naturalized the West Flood Canal in the Shangri La-Karet segment, which Justin said was more of a "*beautification*" because there had been *no widening* of the river. (TJP/8)

Excerpt 21) uses *beautification* to negatively appraise a canal in Jakarta. It is included as negative valuation because the appraiser did not see the effective canal after it is naturalized by the Jakarta government.

The Reasons of Attitude Realized as It Is in TJP

There are two reasons of TJP used attitude as the way it is under the themes as below:

Theme 1: One tone multiple perspective

As negative polarity becomes the most dominant attitude used in disaster reports in TJP, it shows different use of negative attitude based on who the appraisers and what is appraised. Firstly, this study found authorities as the appraisers give negative appreciation towards natural phenomena. Secondly, this study found TJP as the appraiser gives negative judgment and appreciation towards the authorities. Lastly, negative attitude from neutral perspective namely The BMKG towards natural phenomena.

To begin with, the first perspective showed by authorities as the appraisers who give negative appreciation towards natural phenomena. Authorities here encompasses the government including the Disaster Mitigation Agency (BPBD), the president, the governors, and others. Authorities give a lot of negative appreciations to natural phenomena as the cause of flooding. The BPBD as a government agency who carry out disaster management tasks in the regions, both provincial and regency/city give negative appreciation toward the natural phenomena by informing the weather is extreme and the disaster is the result of weather anomaly.

- 22) In Batu city near Malang, East Java, *heavy* rains caused *flash* floods in six villages on Thursday, **displacing** at least 89 families, **killing** 7 people, *damaging* 35 houses and *submerging* 33 houses in mud as of Saturday, according to the Batu Disaster Mitigation Agency (BPBD). (TJP/5)

The BPBD whose job to mitigate disaster, instead of showing their incapability of preventive action, it blames the great intensity of rain as the cause of flash flood by using the words *heavy* and *flash* as it happened suddenly. The BPBD then puts more focuses on giving information about the victims and flooded houses.

In addition, either local or central government gives negative appreciation towards the natural phenomena as the cause of the flood as follow:

- 23) "I **urge** the public **to remain alert** for *extreme* weather as rainfall intensity is *increasing*. I've asked local leaders and BPBD Bogor officials **to pay extra attention** on flood-prone areas," Bima said. (TJP/4)
- 24) Jakarta Governor Anies Baswedan said the flow of water from Bogor and Depok in West Java had *prolonged* the floodwater receding time, which was initially estimated to take only six hours after the rain stopped. (TJP/8)
- 25) "[The flooding in West Kalimantan] was caused by *damage* in the catchment area that has been occurring *over decades*," said Jokowi on Tuesday, adding, however, that rainfall that was "*more extreme than the usual*" also caused the flooding in the province. (TJP/3)

Excerpt 23) shows Bogor Mayor focused on extreme weather as the cause of flood happened. He urged the public to be cautious of flooding due to heavy rainfall. It means whenever the flood happened, then it is just the result of increased rainfall intensity. He showed his efforts in flood prevention by encouraging his subordinates to pay more attention to areas that are easily affected by flooding. Here, the use of flood-prone showed that the area is having a natural tendency of flooding. This means that even if flooding occurs, it is indeed because of a prone area.

It is also happened to Jakarta Governor as in excerpt 24) that he blamed the flow of water from other areas as the cause of the flood receding time took very long. Moreover, even central government namely the president blamed the rainfall intensity as the cause of flooding by saying the rainfall happened is more extreme than the usual. In fact, he had previously stated that there was poor water catchment.

The second perspective showed by TJP as the appraiser who gives negative judgment and appreciation towards the authorities as excerpts below:

- 26) While environmentalists pointed fingers at deforestation and tree cover loss as the root of the disaster, the government downplayed the role of such damage, saying the flooding was primarily caused by a weather anomaly. (TJP/14)

- 27) Jokowi's statement marked a *significant departure* from his remarks made in January, when he sought to downplay deforestation as the root cause of Kalimantan's hydrometeorological disasters, saying that the flooding at the time was caused by a weather anomaly. (TJP/3)

Negative attitude is appraised by TJP towards the authorities because the authorities tend to blame the natural phenomena as the cause of the flood. As in excerpts 26 and 27, TJP uses the word downplay to negatively appraise the government that it blamed the weather rather than deforestation and the loss of tree cover as environmentalists said. Moreover, in excerpt 27) TJP saw that the government is not firm and tends to be wishy-washy about its words where previously the government did not consider deforestation as a cause of flooding but at a later time the government planned to carry out reforestation.

- 28) The Jakarta administration is in *hot water* after *major* floods once again **hit** the capital city, with critics blaming its *poor* river restoration projects amid *the ongoing polemic* of a new city development plan. (TJP/8)
- 29) The debate comes as the wet season in Jakarta is *reaching its peak*, with the Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) predicting that *heavy* rains will continue to occur throughout the week in Greater Jakarta. (TJP/8)

Excerpts 28) and 29) showed TJP also saw the authorities debate each other as rainy season peak about river restoration. TJP negatively assessed the government because there was a debate between the provincial government and the legislative government from the government's opposition party regarding naturalization and normalization programs as flood prevention. Unfortunately, the debate did not focus on flood prevention alone but also focused on bringing down the current government and glorifying the previous government, where the previous government was supported by this opposition party. TJP saw it is inappropriate to do so while the condition of Jakarta is in the wet season and prone to flooding.

The third perspective showed by the BMKG as neutral source towards natural phenomena as excerpts below:

- 30) The Meteorology Climatology and Geophysics agency (BMKG) has warned *the heaviest* rain of the season may fall in and around the densely populated capital in the coming days, with *extreme* weather, including *heavy* rain, thunder and *strong* winds, expected throughout next week. (TJP/11)
- 31) "These are *critical* times that we need to be aware of," said Dwikorita Karnawati, the head of BMKG. (TJP/11)

The BMKG is a government agency authorized in the field of meteorology, climatology, air quality and geophysics. Therefore, the use of negative appreciation will always come from the BMKG as information and warnings about natural conditions that the rain is heavy, the weather is extreme and the wind is strong.

Theme 2: Self-claimed recognition and neglect of self-failure

Over the negative attitude, this study found judgment type dominantly positive. Those positive judgments were coming from the authorities towards their own works and trying to protect themselves by justifying flooding because it is a natural occurrence. The authorities tend to self-claim by using positive judgment on themselves that they have done all they can to prevent flooding and if the flood keep happened it is because BMKG predictions show there will be much higher rainfall than previous year as in excerpts 32) and 33).

- 32) Jakarta Water Resources Agency secretary Dudi Gardesi said the agency had doubled down on preparations, based on BMKG predictions that precipitation might be 70 percent *higher* than the previous year due to La Niña. (TJP/2)

- 33) “It goes without saying, our mitigation efforts are more intense than last year because of this *increased risk* [of flooding],” Dudi said on Tuesday. (TJP/2)

Dudi Gardesi as the Jakarta BPBD secretary claimed their agency had done their preparation more than usual by using the phrase double down which means they increased their efforts twice to prevent flooding due to BMKG prediction about the high precipitation. Again, as in excerpt 33), it showed that he and his agency were claiming they are doing their best without having to say it. He emphasized that their efforts were already at a high level and different from last year due to the high risk of flooding.

Self-claimed recognition also can be seen through excerpt 34) that authority claimed success in reducing the loss of Indonesia forest. Meanwhile, TJP put NGO statement that Indonesia primary forest had shrunk as in excerpt 35).

- 34) Earlier this year, the government **claimed success in reducing** the loss of Indonesia’s forest area, with data from the Environment and Forestry Ministry showing that the country’s deforestation rate in 2019-2020 was *the lowest* in five years. (TJP/3)

- 35) Last year, the island’s primary forest area *had shrunk* by 121,000 ha, according to Global Forest Watch’s data. (TJP/3)

TJP uses the word claim because the government, in this case the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, seems to demand recognition for its success in reducing Indonesia's forest area loss. Meanwhile, data from NGOs shows the opposite, stating that the primary forest area in Indonesia has shrunk, which means that the forest has decreased in size.

Lastly, neglect of self-failure was showed through the voices of the victims and NGO showing that the authorities neglected that they failed in preventing the flood disaster.

- 36) “I **hope** that the provincial administration can ramp up its flood mitigation before the rainy season. Areas like my neighborhood are not supposed to be this *intensively* flooded,” Prasetyo said. (TJP/9)

Through the voices of flood victims, it can be concluded that the government is ignorant of its failures as in excerpt 36). Victims feel that the provincial government is unresponsive and tends to be slow in implementing flood mitigation. As experienced by the victim, he hopes that the government will immediately complete the project that is supposed to prevent flooding in his area. In addition, the victim pointed out the government's failure by comparing the recent floods should not have been this intense.

- 37) “Because there was no such information broadcast by the government.” (TJP/13)

The government's failure is also shown by residents who were once victims of flooding due to the government's unpreparedness, now they are able to replace the government's function in conducting early warnings before flooding occurs. As in excerpt 37), residents admit that the government does not provide information about flooding. So, residents took the initiative to make their own warning system for their area, and even now the government is asking for data from these residents. Another authorities’ failure can be seen from NGO voices as excerpts 38) and 39).

- 38) Instead, the authorities kept letting new coal mines operate, which *damaged* the forests, Ahmad went on to say. (TJP/14)

- 39) He urged the government to respond to the flooding seriously by reviewing existing permits of mining, palm oil and forestry companies operating across South Kalimantan and stop issuing new ones. (TJP/14)

The cause of flooding in Indonesia, according to members of environmental NGOs, is that new coal mines have been allowed to operate by authorities, endangering forests. From this statement, the NGO sees the inability of the authorities to stop the operation of new mines as part of flood prevention.

According to the NGO, the government should respond seriously to the existence of mines in South Kalimantan rather than adding another cause of flooding. This shows that the government is looking for other reasons to cause flooding and ignoring what is clearly already happening and should be stopped.

Discussion

The attitude analysis was applied to TJP's texts which included affect (values of emotional response), judgment (values of human behavior), and appreciation (evaluation of 'things') according to Martin & White (2005).

Types of Attitude Used in Disaster Reports in TJP

The first finding related to types of attitude used in TJP revealed that all types are used with the dominant type is appreciation followed by affect and judgment. Appreciation is dominant in this study due to the disaster reports in TJP focus on delivering information related to the flood situation and the causes of the flood. It also focuses on flaws, inadequacies, and failures in various aspects of the disaster and its management. It highlights shortcomings and failures in disaster management and response efforts, aiming to hold responsible parties accountable. The disaster reports seek to raise public awareness about the challenges and deficiencies in disaster preparedness and response. This is also necessary for changes and improvements in how disasters are managed in the future.

Affect is the second dominance in expressing the feeling of the victims. It focuses on describing the emotional pain and challenges experienced by those affected aiming to humanize the impact of disasters by highlighting emotions like fear, sadness, and frustration among survivors. By doing so, these reports seek to foster empathy and understanding among readers about the personal disasters' victim take on individuals and communities. This approach also underscores the vulnerability of victims and emphasizes the need for support and assistance. It encourages public awareness and potentially spurs actions such as donations, volunteerism, or policy changes to aid recovery efforts and address ongoing challenges faced by survivors.

Judgment is used to evaluate the authorities' behavior towards the flood disaster. There are instances of praising effective responses and actions by authorities. The reports likely also include critical evaluations of how authorities handle flood situations, pointing out both successes and areas where improvements could be made. This perspective aims to give readers a comprehensive view of the government's performance during disasters and influencing public perception.

The result ties well with previous studies wherein appreciation is dominant in a newspaper reporting disaster events as in Liu & Stevenson (2013) particularly Australian newspaper to evaluate the earthquake situation. Similarly, TJP uses appreciation to evaluate flood situation or non-human entities. Contrary to the finding of Japanese newspaper by Puspita & Pranoto (2021) and China newspaper by Zhang (2015) who found judgment as the dominant type in the disaster reports. This shows Japanese and China newspaper focus on the evaluation of people in disaster events.

The Realization of Attitude in Disaster Reports in TJP

In affect type, un/happiness has the highest percentage, followed by dis/satisfaction, and in/security. In line with the previous study, Zhang (2015) has the same order of affect subtype along with the dominant distribution of negative polarity. A disaster is affecting not only the environment but also the living creatures living in it (Schipper & Pelling, 2006). The Jakarta Post, when describing emotion, pay deeper attention to local people's genuine feelings particularly the victims. This is also done by Australian newspaper (Liu & Stevenson, 2013) which describe the feelings of earthquake victims. Contrary to other newspapers in Liu & Stevenson (2013), the un/happiness items are used to describe the political leaders' feelings.

In judgment type, TJP mostly uses capacity. This is in line with Australian newspaper (Liu & Stevenson, 2013). TJP uses capacity to describe how capable the government including the BPBD, the governor and its deputy to prevent the floods and to carry out the rescue works effectively. Furthermore, tenacity as the second dominance in judgment shows the reliability of the BMKG in carefully predict the weather.

In appreciation, TJP uses reaction as the highest percentage of subtype followed by valuation, and composition. Others have shown the same result (Puspita & Pranoto, 2021; Liu & Stevenson, 2013). However, Zhang (2015) has different result with valuation as the highest percentage. TJP put more

negative evaluation of things to the natural phenomena such as 'heavy rainfall' which evaluate the quality of intensity of rainfall as the cause of floods. Meanwhile, Puspita & Pranoto (2021) found more positive reaction not to disaster events rather to narrate the possible solution to tackle the future risk.

The Reasons of Attitude Realized as It Is in TJP

Regarding the attitudes used in disaster reports in TJP according to Fairclough (2013), a text is like an artifact that does not occur in isolation. It means that the reason the text is produced that way is influenced by sociopolitical context. This present study found the reasons behind its reporting under two themes namely one tone multiple perspective of using negative attitude and view the authorities as self-claimed recognition and neglect of self-failure. Other studies have shown that the same way to find the reasons of reporting the way they are that is by revealing themes as result of analyzing attitude in disaster reports. As in Japanese newspaper, Puspita & Pranoto (2021) revealed the reason of the reporting is under the theme Build Back Better due to dominant positive attitude the authorities and the newspaper used. In addition, Zhang (2015) revealed the theme namely focus on people's true feeling due to dominant negative affect it used. Moreover, Liu and Stevenson (2013) revealed negative news for sale theme due to dominant negative attitude reported by Australian newspaper.

The analysis of the perspectives presented in the excerpts from the BMKG and other related authorities reveals several important findings. It is evident that the BMKG, being a government agency authorized in the field of meteorology, climatology, air quality, and geophysics, portrays a neutral stance towards natural phenomena, particularly in relation to extreme weather conditions and potential flooding. This is demonstrated through warnings issued by the agency about heavy rain and extreme weather, emphasizing the need for awareness and preparedness.

Moreover, the self-claimed recognition and neglect of self-failure by authorities also play a crucial role in shaping the overall response to natural disasters. The study highlights a dominant tendency among authorities to demonstrate positive judgment and self-claiming behavior, particularly in justifying flooding as a natural occurrence. This is exemplified by the Jakarta Water Resources Agency secretary's statement regarding the agency's intensified preparation based on BMKG predictions, as well as the government's claim of success in reducing the loss of Indonesia's forest area, which contrasts with data from NGOs showing a shrinkage in the primary forest area.

However, a significant aspect of neglect of self-failure becomes apparent through the voices of the victims and NGOs. The victims express dissatisfaction with the government's flood mitigation efforts, pointing out the intense flooding in their neighborhoods and the government's slow response. Additionally, residents and environmental NGOs highlight the authorities' failure to prevent flooding, attributing it to the operation of new coal mines and other environmental concerns. This is in line with Huan, et al (2021) that the use of the marginalized voice can be empowered and contributes to the portrayal of negotiation of responsibility in political situation.

In conclusion, the analysis provides valuable insights into the contrasting perspectives of authorities, victims, and NGOs regarding natural disasters and the government's response. The identified patterns of self-claimed recognition and neglect of self-failure may significantly influence public perception and trust in the government's ability to effectively address and mitigate the impact of natural phenomena.

CONCLUSION

The analysis has revealed important patterns of self-claimed recognition and neglect of self-failure by the authorities, which have significant implications for how the government's response is perceived. While there is a dominant tendency among authorities to demonstrate positive judgment and self-claiming behavior, particularly in justifying flooding as a natural occurrence, the voices of the victims and NGOs express dissatisfaction with the government's flood mitigation efforts. This highlights the contrasting views on the government's role in preventing and addressing natural disasters. Understanding these contrasting viewpoints is essential in developing more robust and effective strategies for disaster preparedness, response, and mitigation.

The contrasting viewpoints on disaster response reveal a significant disconnect between those in charge and those affected. While authorities often emphasize their efforts and rationalize natural disasters as beyond their control, the on-the-ground experiences of victims and NGOs tell a different story—one of perceived neglect and inadequate response. Bridging this gap requires not only improved

disaster management practices but also a more transparent and empathetic approach from authorities, acknowledging their shortcomings and genuinely engaging with the affected communities.

To get deeper insights, future research could expand the data source to include other types of media, such as television or social media. This could provide a more comprehensive understanding of the language use and attitudes expressed across different media platforms.

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