



## The Palestinian-Israeli Ceasefire Proposal: Van Dijk's Critical Discourse Analysis of Al-Arabiya's Reporting

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### Abstract

The ceasefire proposal between Israel and Palestine shocked the world's residents because of the pros and cons of several related parties. Israel and Hamas as the target parties showed different responses to the proposal agreement presented by President Biden in his speech. So, this research is certainly considered interesting because it concerns the most important world phenomenon that has succeeded in shaking the global community. This research uses a qualitative method that aims to describe and analyze the discourse on this ceasefire proposal with the reactions of certain parties as stated in the Al-Arabiya news text based on Teun van Dijk's critical discourse analysis through the text dimension. The results showed the following data findings: 1) macrostructure (theme); 2) superstructure (scheme) includes summary (title and lead) and story (comment and situation); 3) microstructure four studies include semantic (background, detail, intent, presupposition, and nominalization), syntax (sentence form, coherence, and pronoun), stylistic (lexicon), and rhetoric (graphic, metaphor, and expression). The three structures have various elements with their characteristics to form the entire discourse content cohesively and relate to each other. Especially in the title and lead of the discourse, Al-Arabiya journalists have indirectly summarized the responses of those who accept or reject President Biden's statement after understanding the news content.

**Keywords:** Critical discourse; Van Dijk Analysis; Ceasefire proposal; Palestine-Israel; Al-Arabiya News

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## INTRODUCTION

Critical discourse analysis predominantly focuses on media texts, especially in various news disseminated through web platforms and social media. This critical discourse analysis is different from descriptive discourse analysis that examines discourse textually only because its main motive is to bring together the text with the discourse context (Aliah, 2014). This discourse context leads to the form of language used for certain purposes and practices, including the practice of power (Eriyanto, 2012). Quoting from the expression of Peter L. Berger and Thomas Luckmann which states that language is not only able to build symbols that are highly abstracted from everyday experience, but also restore these symbols and present them as real and objective elements in everyday life (Sobur, 2015).

This research takes the object of the events that occurred between Israel and Hamas, namely the news reported from al-Arabiya news by the Middle East agency regarding the pro and contra responses of several parties concerned to the three-phase ceasefire agreement proposal submitted by the President of the United States, Joe Biden, through his speech (2024, وكالات). Regarding the object of research, this research is almost similar to Arindita & Markhamah's research (2024) which examines the news text of Detik

News, which also discusses the conflict between Israel and Hamas with the title “Israel-Hamas War Continues, Death Toll in Gaza Tops 22.000”. The study analyzed the text dimension of the discourse as in this study. However, the study has significant differences from this study, where the superstructure analysis includes opening, content, and closing elements, while the microstructure consists of syntax and rhetoric elements only.

To analyze this discourse, the researcher used Teun A. van Dijk's model, which is the most widely used and is often called “social cognition”. This term is taken from the field approach of social psychology, specifically to explain the structure and process of forming a discourse (Sobur, 2015). Van Dijk does not only observe discourse textually, but also contextually, namely how social structures, domination, and power groups occur in society, as well as how discourse is formed and influenced by the cognition and awareness of journalist (Eriyanto, 2012). Through Van Dijk's discourse analysis, the researcher will focus more on the ideology and power issues that occur in Israeli and Palestinian society in this global conflict as well as the discourse structure that has been illustrated in public opinion in the form of media texts by journalist.

Van Dijk combines three structures supported by several specific elements into a unified text dimension analysis. This text dimension analysis will examine how discourse structures and strategies are used to focus on certain theme (Aliah, 2014). Three structures in this dimension are interconnected with each other. First, macrostructure, is the global meaning of a text by observing the main theme of a discourse. The theme of a discourse is generally known after reading and understanding the entire news content. Second, superstructure, is a discourse structure related to the framework of the text so that it can be explained as a whole, starting from the introduction, body, to the conclusion. Third, microstructure, which is the meaning of the smallest parts of a text, such as word, sentence, proposition, paraphrase, and image. Through microstructure, discourse text can be observed in terms of meaning, sentence structure, word choice, and rhetoric (Eriyanto, 2012). These three structures form the discourse text as a whole to provide cognition to readers and influence public opinion.

On the other hand, this research has similarities and differences with some previous studies. The similarities are in the quantity of news titles studied, among others: *Penyidik Disuap, Operasi Penangkapan Bocor, sampai Skandal Ketua KPK yang Tak Terungkap* in *Narasi Newsroom* (Winingsih et al., 2022); *Bayi Kembar Siam Dempet Perut di Percut Sei Tuan Butuh Bantuan Gubsu Edy Rahmayadi untuk Dioperasi* in *tribun-medan.com* (Pertiwi et al., 2022); *Di Balik Kasus Penusukan Wiranto dan Penangkapan Sejumlah Terduga Teoris* in *kompas* (Wirahyuni & Sudiana, 2020); *Gaduh Peduli Lindungi Dituding Melanggar Hak Asasi Manusia, Asa Apa* in *nasional.tempo.co* (Oktiaputri, 2023); *Merekam Kekerasan di Papua* in *tirto.id* (Wahyudi et al., 2021); *RI Kena Kritis Energi? Aneh Kalau sampai Kejadian!* in *cncbindonesia.com* (Andayani et al., 2021); *PMK Mengancam, Ridwan Kamil Minta Pemda Waspada Hewan Ternak Jelang Idul Adha* in *sindo news* (Pramitasari & Khofifah, 2022); *Satgas Covid-19 Ingatkan Prokes Wajib Ditaati* in *suara merdeka* (Pramitasari & Clarasida, 2022); and *George Floyd's Brother Pleads with Congress: 'Make it Stop'* in *New York Times* article (Yudhi & Tanto, 2022).

Meanwhile, the difference lies in the text dimension elements that are used as material for analysis, including: 1) superstructure includes introduction, body, and conclusion (Hidayat, 2022; Pramitasari & Clarasida, 2022; Surya R et al., 2023); title, lead, and body (Agustini & Herdiana, 2022; Handayani et al., 2023; Indriyawati & Hudiyono, 2023; Irmayani & Usman, 2022; Kurniati et al., 2023; Mukramah & Nurhasanah, 2022); lead (Simanjuntak, 2022); title, introduction, body, and conclusion (Suprianto et al., 2023); title, body, and conclusion (Rahman et al., 2024); and 2) micro structure semantic of background and detail, syntax of tense and pronoun, rhetoric graphic (Alfathan &

Aladdin, 2022); semantic of background, detail, intent, and presupposition (Indriyawati & Hudiyono, 2023; Syaifullah & Abbas, 2024; Tarigan et al., 2023); syntax of coherence, conditional coherence, distinguishing coherence, negation, tense, and pronoun (Nurkhazanah et al., 2022).

Based on the similarities and differences between this research and previous research, it can be said that the position of this research is to complement previous research in terms of the third element of structure in the text dimension. In addition, this research is interesting to study because it investigates important world events that are currently viral, namely the Israeli and Hamas war conflicts, and focuses on discourse topics related to the ceasefire proposal agreement in Biden's speech. In fact, this research directly uses al-Arabiya news text as primary data, which is the original media of the Middle East where the conflict between Israel and Palestine occurs. The researcher will reveal how the discourse structure is formed in the al-Arabiya news text regarding the response of several parties to the Israeli and Palestinian ceasefire proposal by using the Van Dijk analytical framework model. Therefore, this study aims to describe and analyze the dimensional aspects of Al Arabiya news text about the pros and cons of holding a ceasefire proposal for Israel and Palestine which includes macrostructure, superstructure, and microstructure, based on Teun A. van Dijk's critical discourse analysis perspective.

## RESEARCH METHOD

### Research Design

This research utilizes a qualitative type of research. This type of research is used to understand and interpret the meaning of events in the discourse in question based on the researcher's point of view. With this research, the researcher must move himself to the object of study to collect primary and secondary data which will then become material for analysis. This primary data is the main news text that is analyzed, supported by secondary data in the form of news reports that are still related to add implicit information to the main news text. Researcher attempt to reveal the events behind the discourse formed by journalist through this type of research. So, this research also uses Van Dijk's framework to analyze the dimensions of the news text which includes macrostructure, superstructure, and microstructure, so that this analysis can be referred to as the result of the researcher's comprehensive understanding and interpretation of the object of research based on the findings of the data generated.

### Research Participants or Population and Sample

The data sources of this research include primary and secondary data. The primary data which is also the object of this research is the news text entitled "نتنياهو يتمسك بالقضاء على حماس" (Netanyahu insists on destroying Hamas and Lapid asks for a response to Biden's speech) reported by al-Arabiya media on June 1, 2024. This news text is used as primary data because the information is considered more detailed about the ceasefire proposal and the various responses of the groups concerned, and can be supported by other news. The secondary data is al-Arabiya news that matches with the primary data, namely several news texts posted in the period May 30 to June 2, 2024. Through these two types of data, the researcher tries to understand and describe what is meant and expressed by the research subject, namely the journalist, from the news related to the ceasefire proposal circulating in the al-Arabiya media. This underlies the tendency of journalists through news texts formed to influence public opinion, especially among the people of the Middle East and North Africa.

### Instruments

Data collection was conducted by the researcher using two techniques. First, the reading technique which applies repeated and comprehensive reading, translation, and understanding of the journalist's explicit and implicit intentions in several news texts about

the ceasefire proposal. The implied meaning is explored more broadly and deeply by connecting it to other news in al-Arabiya media to clarify the meaning that is still vague in the main news text. Second, the note-taking technique, by marking and taking several data that support the main topic of the news text that becomes primary data and meets the characteristics of each element of the text dimension based on van Dijk's critical discourse analysis, both from primary and secondary data. Each news element is adjusted to the third element of the structure in the text dimension according to van Dijk's analytical framework, for example the comment element in the superstructure is interpreted with some news text sentences that show active reactions from certain parties.

### Data Analysis

Researchers analyzed the data through three stages following what was stated by Miles and Huberman. First, data reduction. At this stage, the researcher selects several data that are considered suitable and important which refer to the characteristics of various elements of the text dimension. Just as the themes in the macrostructure are obtained after going through the process of reading and understanding the main news text gradually and thoroughly. Second, data presentation. This stage is in the form of presenting data that has passed the reduction process by describing and commenting on what is expressed by the journalist in the news text based on the researcher's understanding and interpretation. Interpretation of data findings is matched with media framing in other news that is still sustainable. Third, concluding. The researcher in this stage explains the focus of research based on the result of data description and analysis as well as the relationship between the differences in the results of this study with several other studies descriptively.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Research Findings

In the critical discourse analysis study of the al-Arabiya news entitled “نتنياهو يتمسك “ (Netanyahu insists on eliminating Hamas and Lapid asks for a response to Biden's speech), the research findings and discussion are in line with Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis observed from the text dimension, which are summarized in the following table (1):

Tabel 1. Summary of Data Analysis

No.	Structure of the Text	Element of the Structure	Summary of Data Description	
1.	Macrostructure	Theme	Israeli officials respond to Biden's speech	
		Title	Netanyahu and Lapid's response to Biden's speech with ceasefire proposal	
		Lead	Hamas view on Biden's proposal for a three-phase ceasefire agreement	
		Situation	Netanyahu's assertion that a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip is impossible	
2.	Superstructure		Opposition's requirement to Netanyahu for his government's security	
			Hamas looks favorably on Biden's speech on three-phase ceasefire proposal in Gaza	
			Gaza Health Ministry statement regarding the latest situation of Palestinian victims	
	Comment	Netanyahu's statement that Israel's missions must be accomplished before the ceasefire		
		Lapid's statement that Israel should follow up on Biden's speech for government security		
Hamas' positive response to working constructively on ceasefire proposal				



No.	Structure of the Text	Element of the Structure	Summary of Data Description
3.	Microstructure	Background	Biden's speech on Israeli proposal for ceasefire and release of Israeli prisoners
		Detail	Information from the Gaza Health Ministry about latest condition of Palestinian victims
		Purpose	Israel's strong desire to achieve its mission before establishing a permanent ceasefire
		Presupposition	Condition for Hamas' readiness to cooperate positively and constructively Temporary ceasefire could turn permanent if Hamas commits to fulfill its obligations
		Nominalization	Change of verb to noun in تنفيذ so that the subject is disguised
		Sentence Form	The active voice subject Hamas is made explicit to emphasize its positive response The passive voice subject Israeli is made implicit because it has not been validated
		Coherence	Sentences are connected by conjunctions that express causality, opposition, or temporality
		Pronoun	Some verbs keep the pronouns هو, هي, هما, هم and نحن which have a specific purpose
		Lexicon	Some words have both general and specific, or similar meanings
		Graphic	Some words are enclosed in quotation marks, or brackets, or are large and bold for a specific function
		Metaphor	The term "re-armament" refers to several important international events
		Expression	Hamas takes a positive view of Biden's proposal in his speech

### Macro Structure (Thematic)

The discourse raises a theme or topic about the response of Israeli officials to President Biden's speech regarding Israel's proposal. This can be seen from the overall content of the news that this news contains opposing responses from two Israeli officials regarding President Biden's speech containing a ceasefire proposal submitted by Israel through a newspaper publisher in Qatar "Al Waseet" to Hamas. The speech was delivered on Friday at the White House (the official residence of the United States) when President Biden held intensive diplomacy with the leaders of Israel, Qatar, Egypt, and other Middle Eastern countries.

### Superstructure (Schematic)

Superstructure observes the discourse text in terms of its scheme which includes: 1) summary, in the form of title and lead; and 2) story, in the form of situation and comment.

#### Title

نتنياهو هو يتمسك "بالقضاء على حماس" ولا يريد يطلب الاستجابة لخطاب بايدن

The title of the discourse shows the stance of the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, to eliminate Hamas. This is based on his firm comment on Biden's speech that the war will not end until the mission is accomplished, including the destruction of Hamas' military power and leadership, the release of all prisoners, and the assurance that Gaza poses no threat to Israel. On the other hand, the title explains Israeli opposition leader Yair Lapid's request to Netanyahu to respond to President Biden's speech on Israel's

proposal for a three-phase ceasefire agreement. Lapid stated that the Israeli government should not ignore the speech and the agreement proposed in it should be implemented.

#### Lead

مقترح بايدن يتكون من 3 مراحل، وحماس أعلنت أنها "تتظر بإيجابية" إلى المقترح

The lead describes Biden's proposal for a three-phase ceasefire agreement. Based on the discourse, the contents of the agreement are: (1) the first phase includes a total ceasefire, the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all populated areas in Gaza, the release of Israeli prisoners (women, elderly, and wounded) resulting in the release of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners, the return of the Palestinian population to their areas, and an increase in humanitarian aid entering the Gaza Strip; (2) the second phase is the full withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Gaza Strip in exchange for the release of all prisoners alive by Hamas; and (3) the third phase is the extensive reconstruction of the Gaza Strip due to severe damage caused by the war.

In addition, the lead also describes Hamas' statement that it has a positive view of the content of President Biden's speech and affirms its readiness to cooperate positively and constructively with any proposals relating to a permanent ceasefire, full withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, reconstruction, return of refugees to their homes, and prisoner exchange, as long as Israel is also openly committed to the proposal.

#### Situation

أكد رئيس الوزراء الإسرائيلي، بنيامين نتانياهو، اليوم السبت، أن وقف إطلاق النار في قطاع غزة لا يمكن أن يتم إلا بعد القضاء على القدرات العسكرية والقيادية لحركة حماس. وجاءت التصريحات في بيان نشر على الإنترنت بعد إعلان الرئيس الأميركي جو بايدن أن إسرائيل اقترحت اتفاقاً من ثلاث مراحل لوقف إطلاق النار في غزة مقابل إطلاق حماس سراح المحتجزين.

The first situation shows that on Saturday, exactly a day after Biden's speech, Netanyahu responded to statements spread online regarding Biden's declaration that Israel proposed a three-phase ceasefire agreement in the Gaza Strip in exchange for Hamas releasing prisoners. Netanyahu emphasized that a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip is not possible except after the destruction of Hamas' military power and leadership.

ومن جهة أخرى، نقلت صحيفة "هآرتس" الإسرائيلية، السبت، عن زعيم المعارضة الإسرائيلية، يائير لابيد، قوله إن المعارضة ستمنح رئيس الوزراء نتانياهو شبكة أمان لحكومته إذا أبرم صفقة لإطلاق سراح الأسرى. وشدد لابيد على أن أمام الحكومة اتفاقاً على الطاولة ويجب إبرامه، موضحاً أنه لا يمكن للحكومة تجاهل خطاب الرئيس الأميركي بايدن.

The second situation illustrates that at the same time on Saturday, the Israeli daily newspaper "Haaretz" quoted Lapid as saying that the opposition would provide a safety net for the Netanyahu government if he approved the prisoner release agreement. Lapid also emphasized that the government cannot ignore US President Biden's speech containing the agreement so it must be approved by the government.

وليل الجمعة، أعلنت حركة حماس أنها "تتظر بإيجابية" إلى المقترح الذي أعلن عنه بايدن.

The third situation featured right on Friday evening after Biden's speech, Hamas stated that they viewed positively regarding the proposal presented by Biden containing three phases of a ceasefire in Gaza in his speech. The purpose of the proposal, according to Biden, is none other than to provide a ceasefire and a halt to the war in Gaza, and a real opportunity to end the conflict and achieve stability in the region.

هذا وأعلنت وزارة الصحة في غزة، اليوم السبت، ارتفاع عدد القتلى الفلسطينيين في الحرب الإسرائيلية على القطاع منذ السابع من أكتوبر الماضي إلى 36 ألفاً و379 قتيلاً، بينما زاد عدد المصابين إلى 82 ألفاً و407 مصابين. وأضافت الوزارة في تقريرها اليومي أنه لا يزال هناك عدد من الضحايا تحت الركام وفي الطرقات لا تستطيع طواقم الإسعاف والدفاع المدني الوصول إليهم.

The fourth situation explained that the Gaza health ministry on Saturday stated that the number of Palestinians killed in Israeli fighting in the Gaza Strip since October 7 reached 36,329, as well as the number of wounded increased to 82,407. The Gaza health

ministry added in its daily report that ambulance and civil defense workers could not reach the victims who were still buried under rubble and in the streets.

#### Comment

وقال نتنياهو إن "شروط إسرائيل لإنهاء الحرب لم تتغير، وهي القضاء على قدرات حماس العسكرية وقدرتها على القيادة وإطلاق سراح جميع الرهائن وضمان ألا تشكل غزة تهديداً لإسرائيل". وأضاف أن "إسرائيل ستبقى مصرة على تحقيق هذه الشروط قبل التوصل إلى وقف دائم لإطلاق النار. وفكرة أن إسرائيل ستوافق على وقف دائم لإطلاق النار قبل تحقق هذه الشروط غير مطروحة."

The first comment came from Netanyahu who explained that Israel's conditions for ending the war have not changed, namely the destruction of Hamas' military power and leadership, the release of prisoners, and guarantees that Israel is not threatened. Netanyahu added that Israel still insists on meeting these conditions before reaching a permanent ceasefire. The idea that Israel would agree to a permanent ceasefire before meeting these conditions was not in the negotiations.

وقال: "لا يمكن للحكومة الإسرائيلية أن تتجاهل الخطاب المهم الذي ألقاه الرئيس بايدن. هناك صفقة مطروحة على الطاولة ويجب تنفيذها. نذكر نتنياهو بأن لديه شبكة أمان منا إذا ترك (وزير الأمن القومي إيتamar) بن غفير و(وزير المالية بتسلئيل) سموتريتش الحكومة."

The second comment came from Lapid, who explained that the Israeli government could not ignore President Biden's speech, which contained an agreement that must be implemented. Lapid also offered Netanyahu a safety net for his government if Israel's two extremist ministers, National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir and Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, resigned from the government. The two ministers also threatened to dissolve the government if Netanyahu agreed to President Biden's proposed three-phase plan to end the war in Gaza.

وقالت الحركة في بيان إن "حماس تنتظر بإيجابية إلى ما تضمنه خطاب الرئيس الأميركي جو بايدن اليوم من دعوته لوقف إطلاق نار دائم، وانسحاب قوات الاحتلال من قطاع غزة، وإعادة الإعمار، وتبادل للأسرى". وأضافت أنها "تؤكد على موقفها الاستعداد للتعامل بشكل إيجابي وبناء مع أي مقترح يقوم على أساس وقف إطلاق النار الدائم والانسحاب الكامل من قطاع غزة وإعادة الإعمار وعودة النازحين إلى جميع أماكن سكنهم وإنجاز صفقة تبادل جادة للأسرى إذا ما أعلن الاحتلال التزامه الصريح بذلك."

The third comment came from the target party, Hamas, which stated that it looked favorably on what was contained in President Biden's speech regarding his call for a permanent ceasefire, the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip, reconstruction, and a prisoner exchange. Hamas also affirmed its readiness to cooperate positively and constructively with any proposal calling for a permanent ceasefire, full withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, reconstruction, return of refugees to their homes, and fulfillment of the prisoner exchange agreement, should Israel show explicit commitment to such a proposal.

#### Microstructure

Microstructure looks at discourse from several aspects, including: 1) semantic, including background, detail, intent, presupposition, and nominalization; 2) syntax, including sentence form, coherence, and pronoun; 3) stylistic, namely lexicon; and 4) rhetoric, in the form of graphic, metaphor, and expression.

#### Background

وجاءت التصريحات في بيان نشر على الإنترنت بعد إعلان الرئيس الأميركي جو بايدن أن إسرائيل اقترحت اتفاقاً من ثلاث مراحل لوقف إطلاق النار في غزة مقابل إطلاق حماس سراح المحتجزين.

The background of this discourse is President Biden's statement about Israel proposing a three-phase ceasefire agreement in Gaza in exchange for the release of prisoners by Hamas. This statement drew responses from several parties concerned, including Netanyahu as the prime minister of Israel, who expressed opposition to the contents of Biden's speech, Lapid as the leader of the Israeli opposition emphasized that the agreement in Biden's speech must be implemented, and Hamas as one of the target

parties emphasized its readiness to cooperate positively and constructively with Biden's speech regarding the proposal to stop the war in Gaza.

#### Detail

هذا وأعلنت وزارة الصحة في غزة، اليوم السبت، ارتفاع عدد القتلى الفلسطينيين في الحرب الإسرائيلية على القطاع منذ السابع من أكتوبر الماضي إلى 36 ألفاً و379 قتيلاً، بينما زاد عدد المصابين إلى 82 ألفاً و407 مصابين. وأضافت الوزارة في تقريرها اليومي أنه لا يزال هناك عدد من الضحايا تحت الركام وفي الطرقات لا تستطيع طواقم الإسعاف والدفاع المدني الوصول إليهم.

The discourse detail that there has been a significant increase in the number of Palestinians killed and injured by the Israeli war since October 7, 2023. On the other hand, ambulance and civil defense staff are still unable to reach the victims who are under piles and streets. This was announced by the Gaza health ministry a day after Biden delivered a speech regarding the ceasefire proposal. The discourse also indirectly shows that journalist pay attention to the dire situation of Palestinian victims every day due to the Gaza war.

#### Intent

وأضاف أن "إسرائيل ستبقى مصرة على تحقيق هذه الشروط قبل التوصل إلى وقف دائم لإطلاق النار. وفكرة أن إسرائيل ستوافق على وقف دائم لإطلاق النار قبل تحقق هذه الشروط غير مطروحة."

The intent contained in this discourse is Israel's strong desire to achieve its goals before a permanent ceasefire. The idea that Israel will agree to a permanent ceasefire before its goals are met is not in the negotiations. This indicates that Israel will never make a permanent ceasefire before achieving their desired conditions.

#### Presupposition

وأضافت أنها "تؤكد على موقفها الاستعداد للتعامل بشكل إيجابي وبناء مع أي مقترح يقوم على أساس وقف إطلاق النار الدائم والانسحاب الكامل من قطاع غزة وإعادة الإعمار وعودة النازحين إلى جميع أماكن سكنهم وإنجاز صفقة تبادل جادة للأسرى إذا ما أعلن الاحتلال التزامه الصريح بذلك." وشدد الرئيس الأميركي على أنه "طالما وفت حماس بالتزاماتها، فإن وقف النار المؤقت سيصبح، وفق العبارة الواردة في الاقتراح الإسرائيلي، وفقاً دائماً للأعمال العسكرية."

The first form of presupposition is that Hamas will be prepared to cooperate positively and constructively with a proposal that benefits both parties if Israel makes an explicit commitment to the content of the proposal. The second form of presupposition is that the temporary ceasefire will certainly be able to turn into a permanent one as stated in the Israeli proposal if Hamas is also committed to fulfilling its obligations.

#### Nominalization

One form of nominalization in this discourse is the word تنفيذ in the sentence هناك صفقة مطروحة على الطاولة ويجب تنفيذها. This word تنفيذ undergoes a change process from verb to noun, which comes from the verb تنفذ which is added with أن to become أن تنفذ, then changes to the noun تنفيذ. The addition of أن to the verb and its nominative form is known in Arabic as *mashdar muawwal* and *sharih*. This nominalization is probably done so that the intended perpetrator seems vague because it is considered not to rush to follow up on the contents of the agreement.

#### Sentence Form

أعلنت حركة حماس أنها "تنتظر بإيجابية" إلى المقترح الذي أعلن عنه بايدن. The sentence shows that the Hamas movement as the subject is explicitly expressed by its actions that look positively at Biden's proposal. This emphasizes that Hamas really heeds what Biden says. While the passive sentence form in this discourse is يذكر أن مقترح الهدنة يتألف من ثلاث مراحل. The subject in this sentence is expressed implicitly which refers to Israel, as Biden's speech contained Israel's proposal for a ceasefire. The subject is not shown as if it is not known exactly who made the ceasefire proposal.



### Coherences

The first form of coherence is the conjunction إذا in the sentence إن المعارضة ستمنح. رئيس الوزراء تنتباهو شبكة أمان لحكومته إذا أبرم صفقة لإطلاق سراح الأسرى. This sentence is connected with إذا to express causality that Netanyahu's government will certainly get a safety net from the opposition due to the threats of the two extremist ministers who plan to overthrow the government if Netanyahu agrees to the prisoner release agreement. However, if Netanyahu acts otherwise, the two extremist ministers will remain in the government to achieve Israel's goals. Meanwhile, Lapid thinks that the two ministers' threats are irrational, even causing harm to the country's national security.

Second, the conjunction لكن in the sentence ولفت بايدن إلى أنّ الجانبين الإسرائيلي والفلسطيني سيتفاوضان خلال تلك الأسابيع الستة حول وقف دائم للنار، لكنّ الهدنة ستبقى قائمة طالما بقيت المحادثات بينهما جارية. This sentence is connected with لكن to express the opposition that while negotiations between the two parties are still ongoing about a permanent ceasefire, a temporary ceasefire will still take place. In other words, when negotiations between the two sides stop, the temporary ceasefire will not take place.

Third, the conjunction طالما in the sentence طالما وفّت حماس بالتزاماتها، فإنّ وقف النار المؤقت سيُصبح، وفق العبارة الواردة في الاقتراح الإسرائيلي، وفقاً دائماً لأعمال العسكرية. There is a طالما that begins the sentence to express temporally that the temporary ceasefire will transition into a permanent cessation of military action as long as Hamas fulfills its obligations. So, the chances of the temporary ceasefire becoming permanent are greater when Hamas does not neglect to fulfill its obligations.

### Pronoun

There are several verbs that keep pronouns. First, the verb يمكن in the sentence أن وقف إطلاق النار في قطاع غزة لا يمكن. The verb is located at the end so it keeps هو which returns to وقف إطلاق النار. The verb is located at the end so it keeps هو to further emphasize that a ceasefire in Gaza is impossible. Secondly, the verb اقترحت in the sentence أن إسرائيل اقترحت اتفاقاً من ثلاث مراحل لوقف إطلاق النار. The verb keeps هي which returns to إسرائيل. The verb keeps هي to highlight the Israeli representative responsible for proposing the ceasefire agreement. Third, the verb سيتفاوضان in the sentence أنّ الجانبين الإسرائيلي والفلسطيني سيتفاوضان خلال تلك الأسابيع الستة. The verb keeps هما which returns to الجانبين. The verb keeps هما to distinguish the two negotiating parties.

Fourth, the verb نزحوا in the sentence وسيسمح للفلسطينيين خلال هذه المرحلة بالعودة لمناطق التي نزحوا منها. The verb keeps هم which returns to الفلسطينيين. The verb keeps هم because it is intended for the Palestinians. Fifth, the verb نذكر in the sentence نذكر تنتباهو بأن لديه شبكة أمان. The verb keeps نحن which returns to the speaker, namely Lapid. The use of نحن is a symbol of representation of the opposition and a form of respect for the person being discussed, namely Netanyahu.

### Lexicon

The words وقف إطلاق النار and هدنة have the same meaning, which is a ceasefire. However, looking at the context of the sentences in the discourse, these meanings are different. The word وقف إطلاق النار is more general than هدنة unless it is next to a word that specializes it, such as مؤقت and دائم. Meanwhile, the word هدنة is more likely to mean a temporary truce. Then, the words أسرى and محتجزين, رهائن, have the same meaning, namely captives and hostages. However, the words محتجزين and رهائن are more directed to the Israeli side who are captives, while the word أسرى is spoken by the Hamas side.

### Graphic

First, the phrase “بالقضاء على حماس” enclosed in quotation marks implies that destroying Hamas is the main motive that Netanyahu and the Israelis want to follow up. These quotation marks are used to emphasize the news about the actions that Netanyahu

and his men will take. Second, the sentence “شروط إسرائيل لإنهاء الحرب لم تتغير، وهي القضاء على” also uses quotation marks because it is a direct sentence uttered by Netanyahu in response to the proposal for a three-phase ceasefire agreement that results in the release of prisoners.

Third, the word “هآرتس” is enclosed in quotation marks to explain that Haaretz is the name of the oldest daily newspaper in Israel. This shows that Haaretz is a name that is specific to a particular object. Fourth, the words (وزير الأمن القومي إيتمار) are enclosed in brackets for three reasons: 1) to avoid misreading due to the large number of words; 2) to interpret the unbracketed word after it because Arabs in general may refer to a person by his last name; and 3) to focus on the bracketed word so that its placement takes precedence over the unbracketed one, although in Indonesian, bracketed words are generally placed last to explain the previous word. Fifth, the word المرحلة الأولى in the news display uses letters that are slightly large and bolded. This indicates that the word is the title of an important part that must be read and paid attention to by the audience. In addition, there are several other similar words, including “حماس تنظر بإيجابية” لمقترح بايدن، المرحلة الثانية، and المرحلة الثالثة.

### Metaphor

The word إعادة التسلح or re-armament is a term that refers to several important international events, especially in Germany, as well as the process of strengthening a country's arsenal in terms of equipment and objects designed for war and combat purposes. The word was emphasized by Biden to Hamas in the third phase of the ceasefire agreement not to “re-armament”.

### Expression

The form of expression is shown in the subheading of the discourse حماس تنظر بإيجابية, in which Hamas looks positively at the proposal put forward by Biden in his speech. This indicates that Hamas responded well to what President Biden said by emphasizing its readiness to cooperate positively and constructively on any proposal whose main goal is to call for peace by stopping the war if it is openly committed to it.

## Discussion

This research analyzes the dimensions of the discourse text based on Van Dijk's critical review which produces findings in the form of macrostructure, superstructure, and microstructure and their elements. The macrostructure found the topic of the problem in the news text that raised an Israeli and Palestinian problem from a series of recent conflicts, namely the alleged ceasefire proposal from the Israeli side as a peace agreement to the Palestinian Hamas group.

The superstructure includes four elements, including title, lead, situation, and commentary. The title and lead have summarized the content of the news as a whole from the opening to the closing regarding the pro and con responses from the Israeli and Palestinian sides as well as the contents of the three-phase ceasefire agreement proposal. The situation element explains the various conditions in Israel and Palestine after President Biden delivered Israel's ceasefire proposal in his speech at the White House, such as Netanyahu's ambition, Lapid's policy, Hamas' optimism, and the situation of Palestinian victims. Meanwhile, the commentary element includes active reactions that support and reject the ceasefire proposal agreement, both of which are Israeli officials, namely Benjamin Netanyahu and Yair Lapid.

Microstructure consists of various domains of study that include specific elements. In the semantic domain, there are five elements, including the setting of the discourse in the news text, the details of certain events described in the news text independently and in detail, the intention desired by a party as an acknowledgment, presumptions that state the

alleged cause and effect before the action occurs, and nominalization used to disguise the perpetrator of the event. Then, the syntactic domain consists of three elements, namely active and passive sentence forms to mention the perpetrators of events explicitly or implicitly, coherence that relates to sentences to express causality, opposition, or temporality, and invisible pronouns that function to emphasize, point to the perpetrator, distinguish, mention groups, and pay homage. The other two domains are stylistics in the form of lexicon with appropriate word selection, both general and specific, connotative and denotative, and the rhetorical domain includes graphics in several words or sentences using punctuation marks such as quotation marks and parentheses, metaphors used to mention terms with certain meanings, and expressions that show the reaction of certain parties to an event.

Based on the results of the decryption and analysis of data findings, if it is related to Al-Arabiya media bias, it can illustrate that the journalist's subject perspective is considered neutral in shaping the news text related to the ceasefire proposal because the proportion of Israeli and Palestinian circumstances described can be said to be commensurate. So, the media does not take sides with anyone and conveys discourse to the public according to the cognition obtained about the conflict situation. Al-Arabiya media news used as the object of this study in terms of information is more intended for audiences living in the Middle East and South Africa. However, Al-Arabiya media is not only centered in these regions, but also spreads to other regions so that it can be said to be an international media with the language of each region.

Meanwhile, research conducted by Fadillah & Nurhadi (2021) produced van Dijk's discourse analysis from aspects of the text dimensions that are different from this study, including the elements of superstructure including 5W + 1H, brief description, topic shift, direct and indirect quotations, and microstructure including the elements of rhetorical realm in the form of graphic and expression, the elements of semantic realm in the form of background, detail, and intention, the elements of syntactic realm in the form of coherence and sentence form, and pronoun element that is included in the stylistic realm.

On the other hand, van Dijk's text dimension in the news text analyzed by Afdholi, et al (2022) also have differences with this study, including the superstructure in the form of an explanation of each sub-theme and the microstructure divided into the semantic realm elements of background, detail, intention, and presumption, the syntactic realm elements of pronoun, sentence form, and several types of coherence, the rhetorical realm elements in the form of graphic and metaphor, without examining the stylistic realm.

## CONCLUSION

This research uses Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis to understand the structure and events behind the discourse related to the ceasefire proposal delivered by Biden through his speech. The results of this study show findings in the form of text dimensions consisting of macrostructure about the theme of the discourse, namely the response of Israeli officials to Joe Biden's speech regarding Israel's proposal, superstructures related to discourse schemes which include summary (headline and lead) and story (four event situations and three comments from several parties), and the microstructure includes semantic studies (background, detail, intent, two forms of presupposition, and nominalization), syntax (active and passive sentence forms, three coherences, and five pronouns), stylistic (three lexicons), and rhetoric (five graphics, metaphor, and expression) contained in the discourse. Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis is used to find out how Al-Arabiya's media strategy in compiling news texts about the Israeli and Palestinian responses to form audience cognition and opinion in the public sphere.

From the research obtained, future critical studies can explore how the media frames certain conflicts along with the cultural and political context in which they occur.

Studies can also explain in more detail about discourse strategies in a media to influence public opinion and policy. Moreover, news analysis of the Middle East region, especially in Al-Arabiya media, can be said to be little studied. Therefore, future research can increase the quantity of critical studies with more diverse discourse themes. As for media practitioners or policymakers, they can sort out news that avoids language bias and guarantees the validity of its sources.

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