

**A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF WAR-
RELATED TERMS IN BBC AND CNN OF GAZA
ISRAEL: NOW CORPUS (2024)**

A THESIS

**Presented in a Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for Completing the
Sarjana Degree in Department of English Literature**



By:

ETIA SURYA RAHMA WARDANI
1612100096

**FAKULTAS ILMU BUDAYA
UNIVERSITAS 17 AGUSTUS 1945 SURABAYA**

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This is to certify that the Sarjana Thesis of **ETIA SURYA RAHMA WARDANI** entitled **“A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF WAR-RELATED TERMS IN BBC AND CNN OF GAZA ISRAEL: NOW CORPUS (2024)”** has been approved by the thesis advisor for further approval by the Examining Committee.

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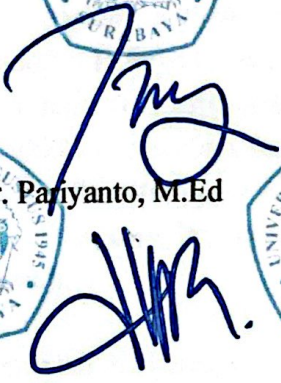


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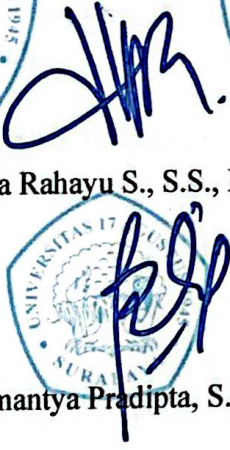
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MOTTO

**“Indeed, with hardship comes ease.”
(Qur'an 94:6)**

**Just as the light comes after night –
happiness comes after patience**

DEDICATION

I dedicate to the little girl within me, you've made it, at last. Through sleepless nights and weary days, you held on, you stood strong. This journey was never easy, balancing books and burdens, dreams and deadlines. But you kept walking, even when the road was rough.

To all who study and work, you are warriors in quiet ways.

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ABSTRACT

In an era of rapid digital communication, news media play a pivotal role in shaping public perception, especially during global conflicts. The language used in media reporting can subtly influence readers' understanding, emotions, and opinions through particular word choices and framing techniques. Media reporting of war and conflict is never entirely neutral, as the language used can frame events in ways that shape public opinion and political discourse. In the case of the Gaza-Israel conflict, international news media play a key role in constructing narratives through their lexical and discursive choices. This research aims to analyze the use of war-related terms, particularly the word "airstrike," in the reporting of the Gaza-Israel conflict by international media BBC and CNN, using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) based on Teun A. van Dijk's model. The data were collected from the NOW Corpus (News on the Web), which compiles online news articles from various countries. The analysis was conducted at the micro (textual structure), meso (social cognition), and macro (social context) levels to uncover hidden ideologies and power dynamics embedded in media discourse. The finding shows that the term "airstrike" frequently co-occurs with specific state actors, particularly "Israeli," and is often used in contexts emphasizing destruction, civilian casualties, and humanitarian consequences. The implication of this study is that word choices in news reporting, such as "airstrike," can subtly reflect bias and influence public perception of global conflicts. Both BBC and CNN frequently associate the term with Israeli military actions, but CNN places greater emphasis on humanitarian impact and civilian suffering.

Keywords: *Airstrike, BBC, CNN, Critical Discourse Analysis, NOW Corpus*