

UIGHUR MUSLIMS IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE MEDIA IN INDONESIA

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Abstract

The phenomenon of reporting on human rights violations committed by the Chinese government against its citizens who embrace Islam or the so-called Uighur Muslims, has become a big spotlight around the world. Pros and cons occur in the opinion that develops in the community. Those who are pro say this is part of dealing with terrorism and those who are against talk about freedom of religion and human rights. Indonesia is the largest muslim country in the world. It is interesting to study the issue of Uighur Muslims from the perspective of reporting carried out by the media in Indonesia. Republika (republika.co.id) which was born by the Muslim community and Seputar Indonesia (sindonews.com) which is owned by non-Muslim rulers. sindonews.com. With a qualitative approach in the critical discourse analysis model of Van Dijk's Model. The results of the research conducted found two different points of view, namely Republika.com was more directed at the criticism made by America as the identity of the country, while Sindonews.com was more directed at the criticism made by Donald Trump as the government. The conclusion of this study is that the ideological value of a media affects the news perspective.

Key Words : *Discourse Analysis, News, Media, Uighur Muslims Conflict.*

INTRODUCTION

The content presented by the media is part of the information value that is always accepted by the public. Therefore, to get good and correct information, the public must understand the validity of the value of the news received. The news value produced by the media must be understood properly and correctly, it will cause errors in thinking. This is because news content produced by the media will be able to generate opinions in the community. The ability of the media in presenting the value of information becomes very important. Philosophically, every news production or content presented is not empty words that have no meaning, but will always be framed from the point of view of the message that the media wants to convey.

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The phenomenon that is developing today, many parties say that the media in Indonesia is not neutral. The neutrality of the media is indicated by the interests of media actors in an event to be conveyed. In the dynamics of the media industry, this can be observed from the point of view of the political economy of the media. Every event, will raise interest, moreover the event has an emotional attachment to the community. the media with the ability and power they have will play these issues with their ideological concept, which is to produce an image or image on the subject being reported on.

In the incident about the Uighur Muslim phenomenon in China, there are three strong news subjects:

1. Residents of China who are members of the Uighur Muslims in Xinjiang
2. Chinese Government
3. Attitudes of countries in the world

Uighur Muslims are the subject of news as Muslims or Muslims who are reported to have experienced violence. Of course, this is in the spotlight, because the issue of Human Rights, especially in the area of religious freedom, has become an event that raises sensitive and popular issues for the entire world community. Moreover, it is related to Islam. Solidarity will emerge so quickly. It grew so fast because the incident took place in China. A country known for its communist ideology and government system. Besides that, China is also a country that today is also a big country that participates in influencing every international policy. Of course, this series of events has attracted various interests and issues because it has become part of the "global" issue. Then the major phenomena that arise are as follows:

1. Terrorism that threatens the sovereignty of the state because of its religion
2. A country that oppresses its citizens because of its ideology and system of government

Based on the above background, the purpose of this research is to examine and explore the meaning of texts/manuscripts about Uighur Muslim news from a media perspective, to find out the Ideological Media Messages conveyed about Uighur Muslim news. The theoretical and practical benefits of research are that it can increase knowledge, especially about critical discourse analysis and can be used as a basis for identifying the ideology owned by the media.

From a political economy perspective, the news production process is like economic relations that are placed as tools or components that generate profits and increase capital for the mass media. The simple assumption is that media content is governed more by the economic forces of the media. Why should the media do the reporting? Why does the media only facilitate certain individuals or groups? Why should the media raise a certain point of view or issue? These answers will be studied more clearly in a critical political economy perspective that places the political economy aspect as a control, who is more dominant in controlling the market (market driven) whether the owner, source, advertiser or audience (Harahap, 2013).

(John Dimmick, 1984) suggests that there are three sources of life for the media, namely content, capital and audiences. Content is related to the content of media presentations, for

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example programs (TV and radio), news/features, and so on. Capital concerns sources of funds to support the media. While the audience is related to the problem of the targeted segment. When the media prioritizes content and the audience, the media content presentation is in accordance with the ideal concept.

According to Mursito (2012: 6), most of our knowledge about events that occur in this world we know from and by reading the news in the media. Reading news in the media means reading events that have been constructed by the media. Thus, in fact we do not perceive events but perceive news about events. We "read events" whose facts have been selected, formatted, structured, and according to the media's perspective.

Political coverage also tends to be more complicated than reporting in other areas of life. On the one hand, political coverage has the dimension of forming public opinion, both expected by politicians and by journalists. Therefore, political news can be more than just reporting on political events, but is the result of the construction of political reality for the benefit of certain public opinion. In political communication, this aspect of opinion formation is precisely the main goal, because this will affect the political achievements of political actors (McNair, 1995 and Nimmo, 1978).

METHODOLOGY

This research is a qualitative research, namely a stand-alone field of inquiry, this research touches on various disciplines, fields and themes. A complex and interrelated group of terms, concepts and assumptions surrounds the term qualitative research. This family includes traditions that are closely related to positivism, Post Structuralism, and various points of view or methods, qualitative research that is related to cultural studies and has interpretive characteristics (Denzin, Lincoln; 2009:1). To conduct this research the stages are:

1. Conduct analysis using Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis model on text, cognition and context
2. Interpreting the comparison of the two news stories on Republika.com and Sindonews.com

Analysis in discourse analysis there are three important things that influence the production and analysis of discourse, namely: ideology, knowledge and discourse. Ideology influences the production of discourse. No discourse is completely neutral or sterile from the ideology of the speaker or maker. Ideology is a belief system, both the collective belief of society and the schemata of a typical group, which is composed of various categories that reflect the identity, social structure, and position of the group. Ideology is the basis of social attitudes. Knowledge is belief that is proven to be true. Trust becomes knowledge if it is owned by the group in question. Under certain conditions there is knowledge that has not yet become an ideology even though it is owned collectively by a group (Van Dijk, 2001).

Van Dijk describes discourse as having three dimensions: text, social cognition and social context. The essence of discourse analysis is to combine the three dimensions of discourse into

a single unit. In the text dimension, what is examined is how the structure of the text and discourse strategies are used to emphasize a certain theme. At the level of social cognition, the process of news production involves the individual cognition of news writers. The third aspect is studying the discourse building that develops in society (Van Dijk, 2001).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Analysis of the news about Uighur Muslims by republica.com with the title: US Declare China's Treatment of Uighur Muslims Genocide, published on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 12:45 WIB (<https://www.republika.co.id/berita/qn7xce366/as-nyatakan-perlakuan-china-pada-muslim-uighur-genosida>) This is in contrast to the report by sindonews.com with the title: The Trump Administration Calls China's Repression of Uighurs as Genocide, which was published on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 03.03 WIB (<https://international.sindonews.com/read/307210/42/pemerintahan-trump-sebut-represi-china-pada-uighur-sebagai-genosida-1611079266/10>) the following are the results of the comparative analysis:

Analysis of Van Dijk's Model Reporting on Republika.com:

Structure	Analysis
A.Text	
1. Macro	<p>In Republika.com's reporting on Uighur Muslims, it uses a big point of view which states that the United States of America states that the Chinese Government has committed genocide on the Uighur Muslim community. This was quoted from a statement by the United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. The statement was quoted 24 hours before the Biden government came to power. The statement verification process was carried out by citing reports by CBS news.</p> <p>News Interpretation:</p> <p>The quote from the US Secretary of State was taken when the political atmosphere in America was undergoing a leadership transition process from Donald Trump to Joe Biden. It has little</p>

	<p>political power, as policy could have changed during the Joe Biden administration. The process of taking the title chosen is very vulnerable to speculation and differences of opinion that occur in the community. The title adopted is America as a state and official identity.</p>
2. Suprastructure	<p>The news published by Republika.com contains three (3) values in the news schematic, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. News Title Affirming the attitude of the United States government to criticize the Chinese government regarding the issue of Uighur Muslims2. On the news terrace, Republika.com quoted a statement from the United States Secretary of State during the Donald Trump era, namely Mike Pompeo.3. In the body of the news and conclusions, Republika.com quotes from CBS News by writing down harsh policies and sanctions that have been given by the United States government to the Chinese Government. <p>Interpretation:</p> <p>From the publication scheme, the news publishing carried out by Republika.com identified the content of the news leading to the political attitude given by the United States government to Uighur Muslims with criticism made to the Chinese government. The content of the news about China's carification is also not based on the Source of the Clear Statement.</p>
4. Micro	<p>The style of writing done by Republika.com is more likely to lead</p>

	<p>to an epideictic rhetorical style, which is a type of rhetoric related to discourse related to praise or accusations.</p> <p>Interpretation:</p> <p>The reporting carried out by Republika.com does not contain the balance of news sources. The only source who has a clear identity is Mike Pompeo, while the Chinese government is not clearly shown.</p>
B. Social Cognition	<p>Based on online search results (https://www.republika.co.id/page/anniversary) information obtained:</p> <p>Traces of Republika Online The history of the birth of Republika Online (ROL) is an inseparable part of Republika Koran's long journey. Republika is a national newspaper that was created by the Muslim community for the people in Indonesia. The publication is the culmination of a long effort among the people, especially young professional journalists who have taken various steps. The presence of the Indonesian Association of Muslim Intellectuals (ICMI) which was able to bypass the government's strict restrictions on publishing permits at that time allowed these efforts to bear fruit. Republika was first published on January 4, 1993. Republika publication is a blessing for the people. Before that time, the aspirations of the people had no place in the national discourse. The presence of this media not only provides a channel for the aspirations of the people, but also fosters a plurality of information in society. Because of that, the people enthusiastically gave support, among others, by buying shares of one share per person. PT Abdi Bangsa Tbk as the publisher of Republika became the first</p>

	<p>media company to become a public company. The birth of ROL</p> <p>In 1995, Republika provided a news service on an internet website, with the address www.republika.co.id. This is the first newspaper in Indonesia to appear on the internet, the site we later named Republika Online. Republika Online, commonly known as ROL, first appeared on the internet in early 1995 or about two years after the Republika newspaper was published. As a news site, at that time, ROL's content only duplicated the complete Republika news material. The main purpose of publishing the internet version of Republika is to serve readers who are not accessible by print newspaper distribution and for readers who are abroad. In the next phase, ROL gradually began to develop in accordance with technological advances, especially information technology. The design and variety of web services and news materials are also enriched. Since mid-2008, ROL has undergone major changes, from a simple news site to a multimedia web portal. These changes occurred in response to the emergence of the challenges of the media industry which has begun to enter the era of media convergence. In this case, Republika as a media industry institution is required to own and distribute its media content in print, online, and mobile formats. In accordance with Republika's basic philosophy, ROL's content continues to prioritize the Muslim community as its visitor base. This new ROL display was relaunched on February 6, 2008. We call the theme RELOAD for the launch. All creativity is devoted to making Republika online always close to and serving the wishes of the public. Indeed, the effort is clearly not easy. However, we enjoyed it so far. ROL is present in the community with a vision as an integrated and superior online media.</p>
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	<p>The existence of ROL is directed to carry out the mission of building moderate, intelligent, and empowered Muslims; Voice the aspirations, ideas, and voices of the community for the establishment of a healthy and prosperous democracy; and create a healthy and effective management. ROL will appear to be a new power of online media that synergizes various needs of the people. Not only information needs, but also a space for expression for the people, entertainment, and even shopping. That's why ROL exists as a 'One Stop Community-Based Portal'. There are news, videos, communities, social media, digital newspapers, to e-commerce, which are the contents of ROL.</p>
C. Context	<p>In the news made by Republika.com, the interpretation made is to raise the attitude of the countries in the world about the events experienced by Uighur Muslims. In this case, it raises the attitude of the United States of America.</p>

Analysis of Van Dijk's Model News sindonews.com

Structure	Analysis
A.Text	
1. Macro	<p>In the report by sindonews.com about Uighur Muslims in the frame of a statement by the United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo the day before President Joe Biden took office. The process of taking the title chosen for the news is more directed at the Donald Trump Administration's Statement of opinion regarding the issue of Uighur Muslims.</p> <p>Interpretation:</p>

	<p>Sindonews.com takes the news angle from the side of the Donald Trump Administration. The political transition that occurred became the main basis for the news. Even in the contents of the news, it also stated "Currently relations between the two countries have fallen to their lowest level in decades in the last year of President Donald Trump's administration."</p>
<p>2. Suprastructure</p>	<p>The news published by sindonews.com contains three (3) values in the news schematic, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. News Title Donald Trump Administration's attitude and criticism of the Chinese government regarding the issue of Uighur Muslims 2. On the news terrace, sindonews.com quoted the statement of the United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo dealing a humiliating blow to China regarding the issue of Uighur Muslims 3. In the body of the news and conclusions, sindonews.com provides information on its reporting in the era of President Donald Trump, diplomatic relations between the two countries fell at the lowest level. <p>Interpretation:</p> <p>From the publication scheme, the news publishing carried out by Republika.com identified the content of the news leading to the political attitude of the Donald Trump Administration and the problem of worsening diplomatic</p>

	relations.
4. Micro	<p>The style of language used by sindonews.com is more directed to the style of forensic rhetoric, which is related to situations where it encourages a sense of guilt or innocence from the audience.</p> <p>Interpretation:</p> <p>The writing style used by Sindonews.com is based on the content of the news that contains the background of the statement made by the United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, namely the intensive internal debate after Congress passed a law on December 27 that requires the US government to determine within 90 days whether forced labor or other alleged crimes against Uighurs and other Muslim minorities constitute crimes against humanity or genocide.</p>
B. Social Cognition	<p>Based on online search result (https://index.sindonews.com/about/) obtained identity about sindonews.com</p> <p>SINDOnews is one of the big and influential news portals that has the genes of Koran Sindo. This portal was established on July 4, 2012, under the management of PT. Sindonews Portal Indonesia (SPI). SINDOnews has the tagline "Not Ordinary News". This tagline becomes the credo to differentiate (uniqueness) Sindonews from other portals.</p> <p>SINDOnews provides access to accurate, quality, and fast information to the wider community. The news packaged</p>

	<p>by SINDOnews is more in-depth and comprehensive so that it can be a reference for decision makers in government, businessmen, politicians, and students and related stakeholders.</p> <p>One of the strengths of SINDOnews is being under the auspices of the MNC Group where MNC Group is one of the largest media groups in Southeast Asia led by Mr. Hary Tanoesoedibjo.</p> <p>This strength creates strong news collaboration with other MNC portals such as Okezone.com, iNews.id, Koran Sindo, RCTI+, Vision+, ROOV and MNCtrijaya.com.</p> <p>SINDOnews also synergizes with the media in the MNC Group on various platforms such as television, radio and pay TV. For FTA, MNC has iNews TV, RCTI, GTV, and MNCTV. For pay TV, MNC has MNC Vision with hundreds of favorite channels, K-Vision with various other favorite channels, MNC Play and Playbox. For radio, Sindonews collaborates with MNC Trijaya FM, Global Radio, V Radio, RDI, and its 200 radio networks spread throughout Indonesia. Specifically for portal and print media, they are currently under the auspices of the holding PT MNC Portal Indonesia (PT MPI).</p> <p>Sindonews has also been verified by the Press Council: Number 499/DP-Verification/K/XII/2019.</p> <p>SINDOnews news categories include National, Metronews, Regional, Economic and Business, International, Sports, Soccer, Automotive, Science, Techno, Education, Gen Sindo, Kalam and Lifestyle information.</p>
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C. Context	In the reports conducted by sindones.com about Uighur Muslims, it is more directed to the point of view of the statement of attitude from the Donald Trump administration and the bad problem of diplomatic relations between the Chinese government.
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From the two reports made by Republika.com and Sindonews.com, it can be seen that there are differences in the media's point of view in viewing an event. In the incident that occurred in the United States, regarding the statement of Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, there were two news points of view, namely:

1. In the news published by Republika.com, the interpretation made is to raise the attitude of countries in the world regarding the events experienced by Uighur Muslims. In this case, it raises the attitude of the United States of America
2. The news made by sindones.com about Uighur Muslims is more directed at the point of view of the statement of attitude from the Donald Trump administration and the bad problem of diplomatic relations between the Chinese government

The ideological analysis included by Van Dijk in the dimensions of Text, Cognition and Context analysis in today's conditions in Indonesia will change. This change occurs because ideology becomes a separate dimension as a unit of analysis. The phenomenon that is happening in Indonesia today is the number of media corporation owners who enter the world of politics and use their companies for their political interests (anggoro, 2018).

If we look from the point of view of critical discourse analysis theory, Teun van Dijk's model identifies the analysis model into 3 dimensions, namely text, cognition and context and involves ideology in the practice of discussion in it. So in the context of today's development, referring to the results of the discussion of the two news reports, ideology is a separate part of the analysis of text, cognition and context. Because the influence of ideological power affects more than the results of the news that will be published.

CONCLUSION

From the results of the discussion above, it can be concluded into: (1) Ideology in a media industry is a force that must be taken seriously in identifying a text or news value. (2) Identifying text, context and cognition is part of identifying the direction and purpose of a news story. (3) In Republika.com's reporting on Uighur Muslims, it uses a big point of view which states that the United States of America states that the Chinese Government has committed genocide on the Uighur Muslim community. (4) On the news sindonews.com The process of taking the title

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chosen for the news is more directed at the Donald Trump Administration's Statement of opinion on the issue of Uighur Muslims.

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