Evaluating Attitudes in News Text: Appraisal in Critical Discourse Study

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Abstract— The discrimination in religious affair has become a global problem which is very essential to be noticed in a linguistic way, especially for conflict between Israel and Palestinians on Gaza which keep on happening for many years. This study contributes in critical discourse study by interpreting the discourse to understand social culture from the linguistic perspectives by analyzing text through systemic functional linguistics: appraisal system. The gap of the study which differs from other researches is namely analyzing the news item from Cable News Network (CNN) dated in April in 2018 in the religious case investigated in the aspects of language evaluation. The study focuses on attitude: affect to find out the classification of feeling used in the text to construe the cultural aspects. The design of the study is descriptive qualitative. There are two kinds of validity implemented in this study. They are expert validity and source validity. The expert validity is reached through the comments given by the experts. The findings of the study show that the text consists of appraisal which shows unhappiness: antipathy (23.81%); security: confidence (23.81%); dissatisfaction: displeasure (14.29%); insecurity: disquiet (9.52%); behavioral surge (9.52%); insecurity: surprise (4.76%); inclination (4.76%); security: trust (4.76%); unhappiness: misery (4.76%). The appraisal can show that the text has applied negative feeling on unhappiness: antipathy of Israel to Palestinians and security: confidence between them who both of them feel strongly confident in their each deed.

Keywords— critical; discourse; appraisal; attitude; culture

I. INTRODUCTION

The discrimination still happens in treating countries with the reason of different religions. It is very essential to investigate the discrimination between Palestinians and Israel in linguistic point of view. This study gives a great contribution in analyzing text through systemic functional grammar: appraisal. The appraisal convinces as the way to evaluate the lexis and the structure used in text to know the kinds of feeling expressed. There are three reasons why appraisal can show the meaning of the text well (Martin and White, 2005: 10-11) namely: (1) appraisal realizes the attitude through a phrase of discourse; (2) the realization of attitude is in grammatical categories such as an adjective (epithet), a verb (process), an adverb (comment adjunct); (3) there is the question of grammatical metaphor such as nominalization and modality.

There is a very close relation between critical discourse analysis and systemic functional linguistic: appraisal. There are relations between Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) stated in (Young and Harrison, 2004: 1) that become the focus of linguistic investigation, namely: both CDA and SFL are used to give a view on language as a social construction by seeing the language role in society and see the way in delivering the language, both CDA and SFL see the language which can influence the context and vice versa, how the context influences the language, both CDA and SFL give attention to the semantic aspect seen from the cultural aspect and the historical aspect.

A large number of researches have conducted a study on appraisal and there is still a gap found. Dong (2006) investigated appraisal on students’ writing in blog; Pascual and Unger (2010) focused on appraisal in proposals which got international grant; Isaac (2012) analyzed arguments of ten international non native speaker who uses English for academic purposes by using appraisal theory; Hadidi and Parvin (2015) conducted a study on appraisal in novel; Wei, Wheritty, and Zhang (2015) reviewed appraisal theory from the current research in China and abroad; Harisianti (2015) saw appraisal used by Barack Obama in his speech; Drasovean and Tagg (2015) studied on online participants’ comments. The study on appraisal by analyzing newspaper online in religion context in critical discourse analysis has not been done and it becomes the gap of the study.

II. LITERATURE REVIEWS

The literature reviews consist of aim of the critical discourse study to make sure that this study can meet the proper aim and the relation of appraisal with critical discourse analysis to convince that appraisal can be a referential theory to analyze the data.
A. Aim of Critical Discourse Study/Analysis

There are some aims of critical discourse analysis that should be known such as: (1) to make the issue of discrimination accepted by the world to protect the marginal group; (2) to make the world understand the social and political problem; (3) to conduct the empirical study with applicable theory; (4) to explain the social interaction and social structure; (5) to determine, to confirm, and to against the abuse of power and domination (Van Dijk, 2001: 353).

B. Relation of Systemic Functional Linguistics: Appraisal and Critical Discourse Analysis

Young and Harrison (2004:2) state that Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) and Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) have a great relation. SFL is as one way to explain and describe the relation of theory and application in detail by looking at the relation between language and society, language and power, language and social change. This is the way which can convince that SFL can dig the relation between power and ideology in detail through discourse analysis in real language context by giving explicit, transparent, and right result.

SFL has three general social functions. The first is interpersonal. The interpersonal function helps to see the relationship. The second is ideational. The ideational function helps to see the experience. The last is textual. The textual function assists to organize the text. In this study, SFL can explore the interpersonal function: appraisal to analyze the negotiating attitudes in depth. (Martin and Rose, 2007:7)

Appraisal is a discourse semantic resource which construes interpersonal meaning. Appraisal has three domains namely attitude, engagement, and graduation (Martin and White, 2005: 35). This study focuses on the attitudes which evaluate language to show the kinds of feeling or affect.

Martin and Rose (2007:63-64) have given some ways to help in classifying the affect as in the following way:

1. Determine if the feelings are in positive or negative one.
   For example: the girl is glad (positive); the girl is sad (negative).
2. Determine whether the feelings show an emotion or a mental state. For example: the man smiled (behavioral); the man felt happy (mental).
3. Determine if the feelings show the conscious reaction to other or undirected mood which shows uncertainty why the people feel that way. For example: the boy likes the professor/the professor pleases the boy (reaction to other); the boy was happy (undirected mood)
4. Determine whether the feelings are graded in lower or higher level. For example: the girl likes the gift (low); the girl loves the gift (median); the girl adores the gift (high)
5. Determine if the feelings involve intention (unreal) or reaction (real). For example: the girl likes the gift (real: the gift is on her hand); the girl wants the gift (unreal: there is a will to get the gift)
6. Determine the group of emotions into three kinds

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The datum shows that the lexis stand is considered in the group emotion as insecurity because stand here means: restless. The Israeli soldiers feel insecure so that they decide to stand to protect Gaza from Palestinian. The lexis stand belongs to real affect as it involves reaction and it also a part of metaphorical grammar which has a function to strengthen the words.

Table II gives information that the lexis was killed and injured includes in the group emotion as unhappiness: antipathy while the lexis demonstrated is as dissatisfaction: displeasure. The lexis was killed and injured shows the reaction to others. The statement can be written in another way; ‘one Palestinian was killed/Israeli soldiers assassinated’; ‘968 others injured/Israeli soldiers hurt 968 others’.

Table III shows the affect classification is as real affect because the feeling involves reaction to create confrontation or violence. The negative affect is shown throw the words have resulted in confrontation which express dissatisfaction: displeasure.

The datum belongs to affect classification considered as reaction to others for the lexis was shot and died’. The sentence can be written in another way, such as the Palestinian Health Ministry said Islam Hirzallah, 28, was shot in the stomach east of Gaza City and died of his wounds. The negative affect shows negative reaction of unhappiness: antipathy.

The datum gives information that the affect classification is considered as reaction to other seen from the words the result of live ammunition and tear gas fired. It can be changed into another reaction form with the same meaning such as Israeli troops attacked with live ammunition and tear gas. The negative feeling is included in unhappiness: antipathy as the real affect.

The datum shows the affect classification as real affect in the form of insecurity: surprise. Actually, the paramedics may not be attacked as the rule in war but this situation happens which realizes a shocked or surprised feeling.

The datum gives a clue that it is the affect classification as reaction to others shown by the use of lexis cover. Moreover, it also shows real affect of inclination brave. The inclination is well described from the words cover their faces against teargas. The positive feeling of security: trust and confidence comes up from Palestinians when they are definitely sure that they are in the right side.
The datum gives information that the affect classification is security: confidence noticed from the lexis said in a statement and said. The data describes that Israel is confident in giving statement and in doing the action because it harms their side.

The datum shows that the affect classification is considered in the group of emotion as security: confidence. The lexis said shows that Israel wants to give explanation with verbal sign that what has been done has a right reason in accordance with the rules of engagement.

The datum shows that the affect classification is in the group of emotion of security: confidence. There is also an intensifier used such as repeatedly that makes the emotion stronger. It means that they have a great confidence seen through the real action in the form of giving statement and giving punishment for breaking the rule.

The datum shows that the affect classification is as reaction to other shown by the lexis have been killed and have been injured considered as unhappiness: antipathy. The reaction to other is well described when the words can be changed into another form such as have assassinated and have hurt.

### TABLE VIII. APPRAISAL IN INFORMATION 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affect Classification</th>
<th>Realization of Lexis</th>
<th>Kinds of Feeling</th>
<th>Descriptive Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security: confidence</td>
<td>The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said in a statement that 10,000 Palestinians had gathered in five locations along the border fence. The IDF said several attempts to “harm or breach the security infrastructure” along the border had taken place, including the detonation of an explosive device near the disputed crossing point at Karni, and the throwing of firebombs.</td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>Positive feeling is felt by Israel in confidence of their statement and their deed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The datum gives information that the affect classification is as the verbal sign which has an aim to give punishment for breaking the rule.

### TABLE IX. APPRAISAL IN INFORMATION 9

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<tr>
<td>Security: confidence</td>
<td>The IDF said it was responding with what it called riot dispersal means, and that it was firing in accordance with the rules of engagement</td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>Positive feeling is felt by Israel in confidence of their statement and their deed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The datum gives information that affect classification shows the group of emotion of security: confidence. The lexis used is say as the verbal sign which has an aim to give confirmation that what Palestinians do is their rights to return or to take the land back.

### TABLE X. APPRAISAL IN INFORMATION 10

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security: confidence</td>
<td>The Israeli military and officials have repeatedly said they will not allow any breach of the fence, and that those who do not abide by the rules of engagement will be shot.</td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>Positive feeling is felt by Israel in confidence of their statement and their deed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The datum shows that the affect classification is as reaction to other shown by the lexis have been killed and have been injured considered as unhappiness: antipathy. The reaction to other is well described when the words can be changed into another form such as have assassinated and have hurt.

### TABLE XI. APPRAISAL IN INFORMATION 11

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unhappiness: antipathy</td>
<td>In all, 35 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza since the latest round of demonstrations began on March 30, according to a CNN count. Thousands have been injured.</td>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>Negative feeling is felt by Palestinians in unhappiness because of Israel’s antipathy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The datum gives information that affect classification shows the group of emotion of security: confidence. The lexis used is say as the verbal sign which has an aim to give confirmation that what Palestinians do is their rights to return or to take the land back.

### TABLE XII. APPRAISAL IN INFORMATION 12

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security: confidence</td>
<td>The goal of the “March of Return” protests, Palestinians say, is to cross the border fence and return to what they say are their lands, which became part of Israel seven decades ago.</td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>Positive feeling is felt by Palestinian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The datum gives information that affect classification shows the group of emotion of security: confidence. The lexis used is say as the verbal sign which has an aim to give confirmation that what Palestinians do is their rights to return or to take the land back.

### TABLE XIII. APPRAISAL IN INFORMATION 13

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unhappiness: antipathy and insecurity: disquiet</td>
<td>Israel blames Hamas and Islamic Jihad for the violence, and has said those killed were “known terrorists” while the dead include some members of Hamas and other militant groups, a journalist and other civilians also have been killed. The injured include women and children.</td>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>Negative feeling is felt by Israel in the form of unhappiness and insecurity: disquiet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The datum gives information that affect classification shows the group of emotion of security: confidence. The lexis used is say as the verbal sign which has an aim to give confirmation that what Palestinians do is their rights to return or to take the land back.
The datum shows affect classification in unhappiness: antipathy and insecurity: disquiet which show hate and restless when they think Palestinians are part of terrorists shown by the verbal sign say and the lexis blame which shows behavioral process which shows hate.

TABLE XIV. APPRAISAL IN INFORMATION 14

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral surge</td>
<td>Hasan Alshrawi, a member of the Palestinian Labor Organization (PLO) Executive Committee, slammed Israel’s use of live-fire in a statement last week. “We strongly condemn Israel’s deliberate and violent attacks against unarmed Palestinian protesters,” she said.</td>
<td>Negative feeling is felt by Palestinian on Israel shown by behavioral surge.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The affect classification is considered as behavioral surge seen from the lexis used slammed and condemn. Both of them are used to express negative feeling. There is also intensifier used strongly which shows the negative feeling is expressed stronger than usual.

TABLE XV. APPRAISAL IN INFORMATION 15

<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral surge and Dissatisfaction: displeasure</td>
<td>Rights group Amnesty International called Friday for the Israeli authorities to “put an immediate end to the excessive and lethal force being used to suppress Palestinian demonstrations in Gaza.”</td>
<td>Negative feeling is felt by Palestinian on Israel shown by behavioral surge and dissatisfaction: displeasure at once</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The datum shows that affect classification as behavioral surge seen from the lexis call for which shows dissatisfaction: displeasure. The Palestinians want to end Israel’s pressure in Gaza.

V. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings above, appraisal can show the kinds of feelings or affect clearly. The affect which is the most applicable feeling used in the news shows unhappiness: antipathy and security: confidence (23.81%). The datum means that appraisal systems explore the language evaluation to show how much unhappiness and security felt in the news text. There is a big antipathy from Israel to Palestinians and both of them have the same confidence that they are right in their own ways. The second applicable feeling used is dissatisfaction: displeasure (14.29%). The dissatisfaction: displeasure is mostly felt by Palestinians because there are many of them who are killed and injured and they think the conflict can never meet the end and even the solution to live in peace. There is one information states that both of Palestinian and Israel also feel dissatisfied with the confrontation happens.

The third feeling used is insecurity: disquiet and behavioral surge (9.52%). Insecurity: disquiet is only felt by Israeli troops while behavioral surge is only shown by Palestinians. The

TABLE XVI. APPRAISAL IN INFORMATION 16

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unhappiness: misery</td>
<td>The United Nations has failed twice to agree on the release of a statement addressing the violence in Gaza. According to two UN diplomats, the US prevented draft statements from being issued.</td>
<td>Negative feeling is felt by Palestinians because UN has failed to stop the violence and US has prevented to issue the peace draft in Gaza.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The datum shows that the affect classification is considered as unhappiness: misery or sorrow which is shown by the lexis fail and prevent. There is also intensifier shown by ordinal number twice which describes the event that it has happened more than one and it explores the deep negative feeling inside.

After exploring the data one by one, the number of negative feelings can be derived in the following table XVII.

TABLE XVII. PERCENTAGE OF AFFECT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kinds of Affect</th>
<th>Total Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unhappiness: antipathy</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>23.81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security: confidence</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>23.81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissatisfaction: displeasure</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insecurity: disquiet</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral surge</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insecurity: surprise</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclination: bravery</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security: trust</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unhappiness: misery</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.76%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Considering the findings above related with the other previous researchers’ findings is very essential to show the contribution clearly. This study has given new information that appraisal can also be conducted on news item different from the other researches to show the kinds of affect to urge the world to pay attention to the kinds of feeling felt by the marginal sides (Palestinian). It also supports the statements stated by Wei, Wherrity, and Zhang (2015) as one of the proofs that appraisal is an appropriate tool to analyze the attitude and interpersonal meanings both in discourse like what have been conducted by Dong (2006); Pascual and Unger (2010); Isaac (2012); Hadidi and Parvin (2015); Drasoavean and Tagg (2015) and in critical discourse conducted by Haristyanti (2015) on Obama’s speech.
affect which shows insecurity: surprise, inclination, security: trust, unhappiness: misery have the same percentage (4.76%) which means that the feelings are uncommon to be expressed.

Acknowledgment

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