

nation), and a grenade wick with a construction letters of P.O.L.I.T.I.K - K.E.K.E.R.A.S.A.N. (political violence).

Basically by using Barthes's theory of *denotative* and *connotative* sign, denotatively, first, the index of a cranium above means as a part of the skull that encloses the brain, second, a grenade, means a small explosive bomb thrown by hand, third, a grenade wick means a piece of cord that conveys liquid by capillary action. Connotatively, the cranium and the grenade connected by a wick written with "POLITIK KEKERASAN" (political violence) symbolize a political violence that will threaten the society and totality of nation. It represents that political situation in 1999, during the New Order government in Indonesia colored by violence.

Unfortunately the illustration of the caricature is not constantly so simple, with the addition of any utterance. The use of symbol to represent society phenomena seems having no relation with the reality at all. To identify the objective of using the symbol and its relation with the real phenomena happened, the use of semiotics theory is required, because semiotics is the science which studies the life of sign system (Guiraud, 1978:2). Semiotics is the study of signs and signifying practices, bringing together the work of linguist Ferdinand de Saussure and language pragmatist Charles Sanders Peirce. One of the broadest definitions of Semiotics is that of Umberto Eco, who states that:

Semiotics is concerned with everything that can be taken as a sign. Semiotics involves the study not only of what we refer to as 'signs' in everyday speech, but of anything which 'stands for' something else. In a semiotic sense, signs take the form of words, images, sounds, gestures and objects (Eco, 1979: 7 in Chandler, 2002:2)

Furthermore, semiotics also deals with sign and object. Semiotic notion will be used to recognize the relation of non language signs in the caricature which supports the concord of a discourse.

Based on those phenomena, the writer is interested in understanding the hiding message of the caricature collected by Gatot Eko Cahyono.

B. Previous of the Study

There are several previous studies written by student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. One of them is entitled *A Semiotic Study on the Islamic CD's Cover* written by Candra Bagus Nugroho (2008). He used Islamic CD's cover as the subject of study. He analyzed the meaning of index, sign and written language on the Islamic CD's Cover. The result of the study shows the relation between the myth and the index. The index represents the myth besides the title and the content of the CD. The indexes are used based on its function on daily life, and based on the authentic *hadeeth*. The second result show that the meaning of the indexes used refer to the Islamic literature and myths that exist in society.

Safariyani (2004) a student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta conducted the study entitled *Dominant Ideology in Watch Advertisement Poster* (Semiotics Approach). This study deals with semiotic analysis of dominant ideology and the structural elements of watch advertisement poster. The result of the study shows that most of the advertisement posters constructed by the image of a man, women, and watch.

The difference between the previous ones with this study is on the subject of the research. The writer will analyze the political caricature as the subject of

the study. Briefly, the writer is certain that this research has not been analyzed yet. The function of this research is to continue the previous research.

C. Focus of the Study

Based on the background above, the focus of the study can be formulated as follows:

1. What is the relation between the index and the myths used in the caricature?
2. What is the meaning of the index used to represent the reality phenomena?

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the focus of the study above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find the relation between the index and the myths on the caricature.
2. To identify the meaning of the index used in the caricature.

E. Benefits of the Study

The benefits of the study are having two mind aspects:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of the study can enrich the study on semiotics.

2. Practical Benefit

- a. Lecturers

The result of the study can be useful in developing teaching method especially in semiotics.

- b. The future researchers

The results of the study can be used as a stimulus to conduct further research related to this study in more details or from other point of view.

c. Caricaturists

The results of the study can give more knowledge about the implication of the object used in caricature.

F. Research Paper Organization

In order to make this research easy to follow, the writer organizes this research paper as follows:

Chapter 1 is introduction consisting of background of the study, previous study, focus of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter 2 is underlying theories. It deals with the notion of semiotics, typology of sign, feature of context, the notion of caricature and understanding reasons use of the picture.

Chapter 3 is research method presenting type of study, object of study, data and data source, technique of data collection, and technique of data collection.

Chapter 4 is research result. It relates to data analysis and discussion of the finding.

Chapter 5 is dealing with conclusion and suggestion.