ISLAMOPHOBIA: A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS ON THE 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT

RESEARCH PAPER

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

"*God commands justice and doing good and giving to relatives. And He forbids indecency and doing wrong and tyranny. He warns you so that hopefully you will pay heed*". (Qur'an, 16:90 in English translation)

All of people around the world based on their inner sense they do not like the misery accompany their life. They do not appreciate too with terrorism. As Moslems, that it will be strongly condemn the terrorist attacks on two major cities of the United States of America on September 11, 2001, which caused the death and injury of thousands of innocent people, and it offers condolences to the American nation. This attack propelled the important issue of the true source of terrorism to the top of the world agenda. This tragedy gives inspiration to commission report of United State to publish the book of 9/11 Commission Report which has subtitle Final Report of National Commission on Terrorist Attack Upon the United State. Thus, it has been announced to the entire world that Islam is a religion of peace and tolerance that summons individuals to compassion and justice. Many world leaders, leading media organizations, television and radio stations said that true Islam forbids violence, and encourages peace among people and among nations. The Western circles that have come to a full grasp of the

religion of Islam and are well-informed about Islam as commanded by God in the Qur'an noted clearly that the words "Islam" and "Terror" cannot stand side by side, and that no divine religion permits violence. The book maintains that the source of the terror that its condemn is definitely not from a divine religion, and that there is no room for terrorism in Islam. This is made clear in the Qur'an, the main source of Islam, and in the practices of all true Muslim rulers, the Prophet Muhammad being the foremost of them. This book reveals, in the light of the verses of the Qur'an and with examples from history, that Islam forbids terrorism and aims to bring peace and security to the world. But, based on the book which is released by 9/11 commission report is different from reality in Islamic view, as we read the statement here :

> "We learned about an enemy who is sophisticated, patient, disciplined, and lethal. The enemy rallies broad support in the Arab and Muslim world by demanding redress of political grievances, but its hostility toward us and our values is limitless" (9/11 Commission Report : 16)

It can be seen that the article has valuable of giving information about the real terrorist. As long as the society's accusation that the Muslims are terrorist, this information is giving fact that the real terrorist is not the Muslims but its the contrary. In Indonesia there is " *a thief says thief*". For centuries, different groups for variety of purposes have carried out various acts of terrorism in different parts of the world. Sometimes a communist organization, sometimes a fascist group, and sometimes radical and separatist factions assume responsibility for these acts. While a nation like America often became the target of attacks by racist and

marginal terrorist groups, the European countries have been center stage for violent acts carried out by terrorist groups. 17 November in Greece, RAF (Red Army Faction) and Neo-Nazis in Germany, ETA in Spain, Red Brigades in Italy and many other organizations seek to make their voices heard through terror and violence by killing innocent and defenseless people (Harun Yahya 2009: *Islam Denounces Terrorism*: 01).

The nature of terrorism changes with changing world conditions and increases its impact and power with the new means made possible by developing technology. In particular, mass communication tools such as the Internet extend the scope and influence of the terrorist activities considerably. Here, language is a powerful tool in the creation of social and culture identities. This work analyses the security policy discourses of two major actors in world politics: the Islamic world and the United States. The material is composed of security documents of both actors ranging from the time before the 9/11 terrorist attacks to present day.

The label "Critical Discourse Analysis" or CDA has come to refer to a particular branch of applied linguistics associated with scholars such as Roger Fowler, Norman Fairclough, Teun van Dijk and Ruth Wodak. It is important for the reader to recognize that the "critical discourse analysis" label in the title of this volume does not refer to this specific paradigm, but rather more broadly theoretically oriented discourse analysis across disciplines, which of course will include CDA. (Christopher Hart and Dominik Lukeš 2007. *Cognitive Linguistics In Critical Discourse Analysis* : 03) Discourse analysis, especially its Foucauldian

strand emphasizing the structural power of language, is used to analyze the material. The work places its main focus on the analysis of the term freedom; its occurrence, significance and evolution in the security policy discourse. The contemporary security discourse of the U.S. emerges from the politico-ideological frames of liberalism and neo-liberalism.

In the EU, freedom has traditionally been understood as the freedom of movement. Since the beginning of the War on Terror in 2001, the EU and the U.S. have used an increasingly offensive language in their security rhetoric. The discourses of both actors converge over the period of study and rely increasingly on them self and other opposition whereby freedom is conceptually opposed to terrorism. So, Terror, in its broadest sense, is violence committed against non-military targets for political purposes. To put it another way, targets of terror are entirely innocent civilians whose only crime, in the eyes of terrorists, is to represent "the other side". For this reason, terror means subjecting innocent people to violence, which is an act bereft of any moral justification. This, as in the case of murders committed by Hitler or Stalin, is a crime committed against mankind.

Based on this study above the writer gives assumption that is an appropriate theory to analyze in this research is use critical discourse analysis. The writer believes that the statement work of 9/11 Commission Report is always influenced by the dominant background when the authors create their book. So, it will discuss the methods 9/11 commission report's authors which has used to help

establish and perpetuate a social order based on these dogmas as independently. Their philosophy and the methods they use to establish this philosophy will be exposed and criticized.

And this paper is made because the writer wants to reveal "the aim" of the book of 9/11 commission report of the authors ideology, dominant and minority, the social cognition and also the context such as: politics, socials, religions, cultures, and economics toward Islam in this text by using critical discourse analysis. Those elements above are inseparable. Therefore the basis of the understanding in the context, the writer gives title "*Islamophobia : A Critical Discourse Analysis on The 9/11 Commission Report*"

B. Literature Review

Based on the writer's knowledge about some thesis in UNS, UMS, UNY, UGM and other university around Solo and Jogjakarta there has been no study on Critical Discourse Analysis especially on the 9/11 Commission Report. So the writer is interested in studying the book by using critical discourse analysis.

C. Problem Statement

As the statement above, the major problem of the studying are:

- "How is Islamophobia reflected in the 9/11 commission report?"

- "How does dominant ideology influence of the 9/11 commission report?"

D. Limitation of Study

This study is limited to study on the major problems of the 9/11 commission report based on critical discourse analysis perspective.

E. Objective of the Research

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze of the 9/11's commission report based on the critical discourse analysis.

2. To reveal the dominant ideology underlying the report

F. Benefit of the Study

The result of the study might be expected to give benefits as follows:

1. Theoretically, to give contribution to the body of knowledge, particularly the aspect of critical discourse analysis.

2. Practically, to give benefit to the researcher in comprehending 9/11 Commission report's book with logically analytic.

G. Research Approach

In this research, the writer analyzes the 9/11 commission report's statements using qualitative method. There are four points that should be taken into account in this research method.

1. **Object of the Study**

The object of the Study is 9/11 commission report

2. **Types of the Study**

Type of the study is qualitative study

3. **Type of the Data and the Data Source**

   There are two data sources namely primary data source and secondary data source.

   a. Primary Data Source

      The primary data source of the study is the book of 9/11 commission report which has 585 pages.

   b. Secondary Data Source

      The secondary data sources are both the article on the internet and news paper review which contains the tragedy of 9/11.

4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

   The methods of data collection of critical discourse analysis are by collecting and selecting both the primary data and the secondary data. The researcher will involve some required steps:

   a. Reading the book of 9/11 commission report repeatedly to get deep understanding.

   b. Determining the statements that will be analyzed.

   c. Reading some related books to find out the theory, data, and information required.

   d. Taking notes of important part in both primary data and secondary data sources.

   e. Classifying and determining the relevant data.

f. Arranging, researching, and developing the selected material into a good unity toward the topic of the study.

5. Data Analyzing Technique

Data analysis in the research is using method consisting three steps, classifying the data, verifying the data and interpreting the data based on underlying theories into conclusion

H. Paper Organization

This research is divided into six chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which explains the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the research, benefit of the study, research approach, and thesis organization. Chapter II is dealing with the element of critical discourse analysis, it consists of analysis of the text, they are macrostructure, superstructure, microstructure, and major principles of critical discourse analysis of book, and the theoretical application. Chapter III contains the background of America in the 20th Century until tragedy of WTC on September 11, 2001, occurs that many people accuse that the tragedy was made by Islam, USA especially enthusiastically brings a charge against Islam. Chapter IV is structural analysis with the structural of critical discourse analysis, that the writer wants to explain the structural element of the book. Chapter V is social cognition and historical context that including social context, the religion context, and the culture context based on analysis of the book. Chapter VI is conclusion and suggestion