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Media Discursive Strategy of CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id in Representing Jihad and Shahid: A Corpus-Based Critical Discourse Analysis Approach

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ABSTRACT

Background: The mass media play a crucial role in constructing social reality through language selection and issue framing. One significant issue concerns the representation of *jihad* and *shahid*, which are framed differently by CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id.

Aims: This study aims to examine how CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id construct the meanings of *jihad* and *shahid* across various news topics and to investigate the discursive strategies they employ in linking these concepts within their news coverage.

Methods: This study adopted a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative analyses. Fairclough's critical discourse analysis was applied to explore the discursive strategies used by the mass media to construct and reinforce ideology, stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination in the representation of *jihad* and *shahid*. The research employed the AntConc corpus tool for keyword analysis, collocation, and concordance. The dataset consisted of news articles containing the terms *jihad* and *shahid*, published over the past eight years on CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id.

Results: The findings reveal that CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id play a significant role in shaping public discourse and perceptions of *jihad* and *shahid* in Indonesia. The media frequently associate these terms with Islam, radicalism, and terrorism, often leading to generalized and oversimplified interpretations. CNN Indonesia tends to reinforce negative stereotypes and prejudices against Islam, whereas Republika.co.id presents a more positive interpretation.

Implications: This study underscores the critical role of media in shaping social and cultural understandings of religious concepts. The findings highlight the need for more nuanced and balanced media representations to prevent the perpetuation of stereotypes and to promote a more inclusive and informed public discourse on sensitive issues such as *jihad* and *shahid*.

Keywords: *Corpus studies; critical discourse analysis; Jihad; Shahid*

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1. INTRODUCTION

Mass media unconsciously constructs the human mind (Alfianistiawati et al., 2021; Saleh et al., 2022). Mass media can shape people's mindsets (Suparman, 2020). Research conducted by Li & Zhang (2022) shows that mass media play an important role in shaping public discourse about Islam and Muslims and provide a false understanding of Muslims and Islam. Then Tang (2021) also shows that the mass media is able to play a representation, namely the US media tends to present a negative image of China in certain themes, such as the economy, this can influence public opinion or perception of the image

of China, especially in terms of the economy. so that it shows that Mass media not only constructs and shapes human mindsets but also significantly influences public perceptions, as evidenced by its role in misrepresenting Islam and Muslims and portraying a negative image of China, ultimately affecting societal discourse and understanding.

In recent years, there have been frequent acts of violence in the name of religion. Religious radicalism is a real threat to all countries in the world (Yasir, 2022). Therefore, mass media coverage of the concepts of jihad and shahid has often been associated with the issue of terrorism and suicide bombing attacks. From 2016 to 2021, Indonesia experienced several suicide bombing attacks perpetrated by terrorist groups. This phenomenon led to a lot of news coverage of the incident that included the words jihad and shahid, which led to various reactions from the public, ranging from stigmatization, fear, and hatred to Islamophobia. Islamophobia is a form of fear in the form of anxiety experienced by a person or social group towards Islam and Muslims stemming from a closed view of Islam. Islamophobia refers to the fear and hatred of Islam and Muslims (Allen, 2013; Rana, 2007). The now more commonly used term islamophobia is becoming stronger, and society is increasingly mediated by various types of digitalization (Ruthven, 2002). Mass media's portrayal of jihad and shahid in the context of terrorism has contributed to the rise of Islamophobia in Indonesia, leading to public reactions characterized by stigma, fear, and hatred towards Islam and Muslims, particularly following a series of suicide bombings from 2016 to 2021.

Among the media whose news discourse links the concepts of jihad and shahid in certain events are CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id media. Based on CNN Indonesia's Company Profile, Cable News Network (CNN) is a news agency based in Atlanta, Georgia, United States. CNN media companies are expanding to countries such as the Philippines, Turkey, and Chile, and Indonesia is one of them (CNN Indonesia, 2016). CNN Indonesia is considered to often take a different point of view in reporting issues related to Muslims or Islam as a result of research conducted by Sharifi et al. (2016), which says that CNN represents Muslims as an unstable society, related to violence and terrorism. Meanwhile, Republika is a national newspaper born from the Muslim community. Republika has a vision of modern, moderate Muslim nationality and popularism (Ayuningsih et al., 2019). In 1955, Republika opened a website on the internet, namely Republika.co.id so that people can more easily access the news published. The selection of CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id media is based on their Islamic news background. This is what attracts the attention of researchers to see the production of religious issues carried out by the two media, especially those related to the concepts of jihad and shahid.

Critical discourse analysis (CDA) shows that the differences in media framing of an issue in news discourse reflect certain values, ideologies, and interests owned by those who control the media. According to Mudiawati et al. (2023), CDA views language as a tool to represent, influence, and strengthen power and ideology in society. CDA involves linguistic elements in a discourse as well as non-linguistic elements such as ideology, politics, economics, and other aspects (Kabanga et al., 2023). Any discourse written by journalists through mass media is always designed for various economic, social, ideological, and political interests (Aryana et al., 2021). CDA aims to perceive language use as a form of social practice. CDA explores not only the connections between textual structures but also the links between these textual structures and their function in interaction within society. It does not consider language as independent from social studies; instead, it focuses on language as a manifestation of social practice (Alweldi, 2024). With CDA, researchers want to find out whether it is true that the media is not a neutral channel that highlights what is in accordance with what is happening but often functions as a tool for groups to engineer news from social media (Adinda et al., 2024). Fairclough (1995) views that discourse is a form of social practice. As such, discourse interacts with other social dimensions. It not only helps

in the reshaping of social structures but also makes us reflect on those structures. Fairclough (1995) classifies discourse analysis into three dimensions: text, discursive practices, and sociocultural practices. This research is more focused on the dimensions of discursive practices. A discursive event reflects an individual's attempt to uncover the intentions and purposes behind expressed statements, both conscious and subconscious. This involves understanding the context of the conversation and interpreting the often-elusive fragments of the words spoken by the speaking subject (Putri et al., 2022). Discursive practices in the media contribute to the formation of ideologies, such as stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination. Stereotypes can be related to an ideology and a hegemonic order (Stankova, 2023). Meanwhile, according to Fairclough (1995) in (Eriyanto, 2001), discursive practice is understood as a form of text that is formed through a discourse practice that will determine how the text is produced.

1.1 Research Gap and Novelty

Research related to the representation of various groups and events in the media and corpus-based critical discourse analysis have become topics of interest in recent research. Al-Gamde & Tenbrink (2020) examined the influence of government ideology on linguistic representations in news agencies during politically critical times. Then Tang (2021) examined how China's image was represented in three major US newspapers published between 2008 and 2010 with a corpus-based critical discourse analysis approach. Similarly, Alanazi (2020) investigated the representation of Saudis on Twitter during tragic events and highlighted the lack of research on social media platforms. In addition, Alkhamash (2020) focused on the discursive representations of the EU in the UK media regarding Brexit, emphasizing conflicting discourses. Furthermore, Li & Zhang (2022) conducted a corpus-based study on the representation of Islam and Muslims in American media, using a Critical Discourse Analysis approach. Pei et al. (2022) examined the portrayal of hackers in China Daily and The New York Times, which showed a positive transformation in the formation of the image of hackers in the 21st century. In addition, Rumman & Haider (2023) used a corpus-assisted discourse analysis approach to analyze the representation of the 2011 Jordanian protest movement in Jordanian newspapers and noted positive descriptions in the mainstream media. On the other hand, Samsi et al. (2020) focused on teaching Critical Discourse Analysis to EFL learners through corpus-based analysis, highlighting the importance of incorporating specialized technologies such as corpus tools in the pedagogical aspect. In addition, Purwaningrum (2020) analyzed memes as representations of criticism on social media, specifically on the Instagram account @fakartun. Finally, there is Zhu (2023), who examines corpus-based critical discourse to analyze how the Xinjiang cotton event is portrayed in Chinese and Western mass media. The above studies as a whole discuss critical discourse analysis and corpus-based approaches to analyzing representations in the media in various discourse contexts, whether related to political ideologies, social movements, or specific groups such as Muslims, hackers, or protesters.

Based on the previous studies that have been mentioned, no research specifically discusses the discourse representation of sensitive religious issues, such as the words *jihad* and *shahid* in the context of Indonesian media news. This research carries Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis approach with the help of corpus. Therefore, the novelty of this research lies in analyzing the forms of bias that appear in the media coverage of CNN Indonesia and [Republika.co.id](#) related to the representation of the words *jihad* and *shahid*. With a corpus-based critical discourse analysis approach, this research aims to reveal the sensitivity of these religious issues.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background and research gap above, the research questions that can be formulated by researchers are “How do CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id construct the words jihad and shahid in various news issues?” and “How are the discursive practices used by CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id in linking the discourses of jihad and shahid in their news coverage?”. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to identify the way CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id construct the words jihad and shahid in various news issues and investigate the discursive practices used by CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id in linking the discourses of jihad and shahid in their news coverage. This research is expected to provide insight into how the words jihad and shahid are represented in the Indonesian media so that it can help people understand the context of the use of these words beyond the negative connotations that are often associated with terrorism.

2. METHODS

2.1 Research Design

This research employs a mixed-methods research design, combining qualitative and quantitative analyses to comprehensively understand the representation of "jihad" and "shahid" in media discourse. The research structure integrates corpus-based analysis to support the researcher in interpreting linguistic patterns in news articles in a large amount of data.

2.2 Research Objects

The objects of this research are Indonesian language news articles published by CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id from 2016 to 2023. The selection of CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id media is based on their Islamic news background. This is what attracts the attention of researchers to see the production of religious issues carried out by the two media, especially those related to the concepts of jihad and shahid. The selection criteria for the articles include the presence of the terms jihad and shahid, ensuring that the data specifically pertains to the representation of these concepts. The reason the data taken is news published over the past 8 years is that, during this period, there were many suicide bombings and acts of terrorism, causing the frequency of news coverage related to the issue of jihad and shahid associated with suicide bombings and acts of terrorism to increase.

2.3 Research Procedures

Research procedures involve several key steps: first, the collection of online news articles containing the terms jihad and shahid from the specified media outlets. The initial stage in collecting data for this research is searching and retrieving news text data on CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id that contains the words jihad and shahid in a predetermined time span. Then the data taken is copied on the document and saved in txt format. The final result of this data collection stage is the formation of a corpus containing a collection of news texts related to jihad and shahid from CNN Indonesia and Republiks.co.id, which is named “CNN corpus” and “Republika corpus.” second, the coding of these articles for both qualitative and quantitative analysis. finally, the application of Fairclough’s critical discourse analysis to interpret the discursive strategies employed by the media with the help of Ant Conc's corpus tools. This systematic approach helps researchers to identify and uncover the discursive practices used by online media CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id.

2.4 Research Instruments

The primary research instruments include a corpus of news articles and Ant Conc corpus tools for conducting discourse analysis, which facilitates the examination of keywords, collocations, and concordance lines. The development of this instrument involved selecting relevant articles based on certain search criteria and utilizing the features in the corpus tools to obtain findings on the representation of jihad and shahid in the media under research.

2.5 Data Analysis

Data analysis is conducted using both qualitative and quantitative techniques. The qualitative analysis employs Fairclough's critical discourse analysis to interpret the media's use of language and its implications for ideology, stereotypes, and discrimination through the discursive strategies used by the online media CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id. Researchers use this approach because this research not only analyzes textual structures but also identifies the social and ideological contexts that shape discursive practices. Quantitatively, the analysis involves categorizing collocations into three semantic preferences namely positive, neutral, and negative. This dual approach enables the researcher to identify patterns and themes related to the representation of "jihad" and "shahid," revealing how media framing can influence public perception and understanding of these concepts.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Findings

Framing of Jihad and Shahid by CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id in Various News Issues

It is necessary to identify dominant themes to reveal the media's discursive practices in representing the concepts of jihad and shahid.

Identify Ideological Themes

In identifying dominant themes, the first step is categorizing keywords frequently appearing in the news data corpus. Baker (2006) proposes that analysts compare word lists from different corpora to determine which words statistically appear more frequently as keywords in a corpus. These keywords will be grouped based on the similarity of meaning and context of use. This process allows us to identify the dominant themes raised by the media in the representation of jihad and shahid. Furthermore, through collocation and concordance analysis, we will classify the semantic preferences of the identified keywords. These semantic preferences will be categorized into three groups: positive, neutral, and negative. This classification will reveal how the media utilizes the selection of words and phrases to construct certain meanings, whether they tend to be positive, neutral, or negative, in the representation of the concepts of jihad and shahid.

Table 1 Top 20 keywords

Type	Rank	Freq_Tar	Freq_Ref	Range_Tar	Range_Ref	NormFreq_Tar	NormFreq_Ref
indonesia	1	22	285	1	1	543908	9642386
bom	2	17	157	1	1	420293	5311770
lihat	3	4	118	1	1	98892	3992286
surabaya	4	1	106	1	1	24723	3586291
teror	5	9	132	1	1	222508	4465947

teroris	6	18	140	1	1	445016	4736611
com	7	2	88	1	1	49446	2977298
terorisme	8	5	87	1	1	123616	2943465
pelaku	9	3	80	1	1	74169	2706635
aksi	10	32	139	1	1	791139	4702778
isis	11	1	69	1	1	24723	2334472
juga	12	134	257	1	1	3312896	8695064
radikal	13	5	62	1	1	123616	2097642
bunuh	14	23	89	1	1	568631	3011131
terduga	15	2	45	1	1	49446	1522482
polisi	16	15	73	1	1	370847	2469804
diri	17	35	104	1	1	865309	3518625
jawa	18	4	49	1	1	98892	1657814
paham	19	1	39	1	1	24723	1319484
aman	20	11	63	1	1	271954	2131475

The table above results from keyword searches with the target corpus from the news on [Republika.co.id](#) media; in contrast, the reference corpus is from the news on CNN Indonesia. The table shows that the majority of the coverage of the words *jihād* and *shahid* in CNN Indonesian media is related to the issue of terrorism in Indonesia. CNN Indonesian media posts news with these topics more often than [Republika.co.id](#) media.

Words such as *Indonesia*, *Surabaya*, *teroris* 'terrorist', *terorisme* 'terrorism', *pelaku* 'actor' appear much more frequently in the reference corpus, indicating a stronger focus on issues related to terrorism in Indonesia. Words such as *Indonesia*, *Surabaya*, *teroris* 'terrorist', *terorisme* 'terrorism', *pelaku* 'actor' and *radikal* 'radical' appear much more frequently in CNN Indonesia than in [Republika.co.id](#). This indicates that CNN Indonesia more often discusses the words *jihād* and *shahid* in the news related to the issue of terrorism in Indonesia, the media usually raises the words *jihād* and *shahid* on topics related to terrorism, terrorist movements, bombing events, and perpetrators of acts of terror. The significantly higher frequency of occurrence for these keywords indicates that the reference corpus, CNN Indonesia, is considerably more in-depth and detailed in discussing the words *jihād* and *shahid* on terrorism-related issues in Indonesia.

By comparing the frequency of occurrence of terrorism-related keywords among different sources, researchers can identify which issues get greater or lesser emphasis and comparison between various topics and themes of news coverage related to *jihād* and *shahid*. The difference in emphasis of this issue may indicate a difference in focus and priority between the two media. A comparison of the frequency of emphasis on terrorism issues that link the words *jihād* and *shahid* can be seen in the diagram below:

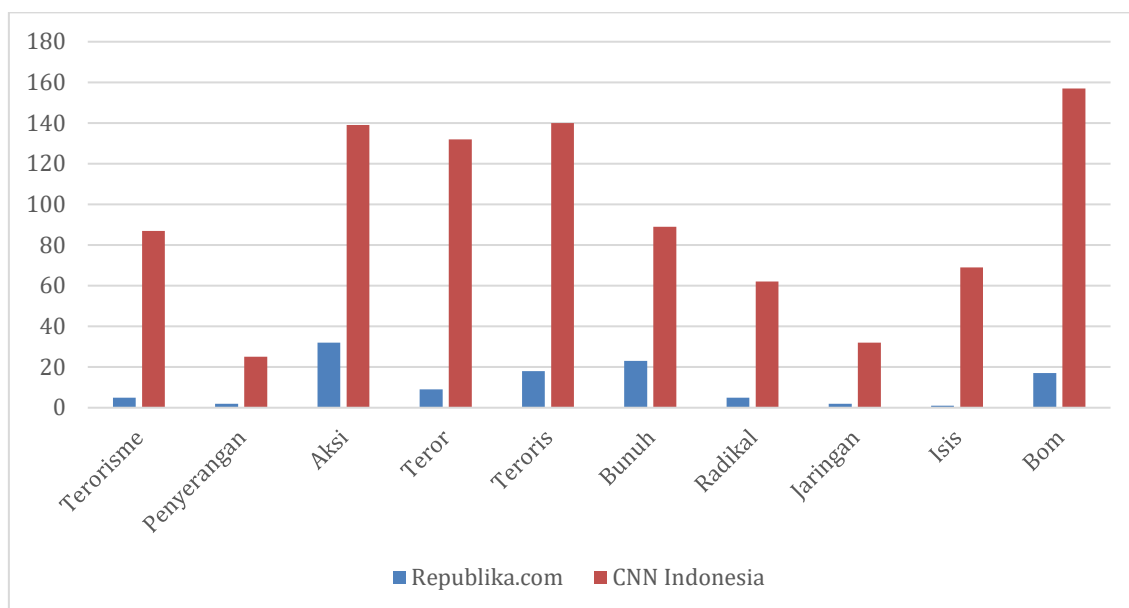


Figure 1 Keyword Comparison of Terrorism Issues

The researchers tried to take 10 keywords related to the issue of terrorism. The diagram above shows that the frequency of occurrence of 10 keywords related to the issue of terrorism is dominated by CNN Indonesia media. The difference in frequency of occurrence is very significant. CNN Indonesia media provides a larger portion of news coverage containing the words jihad and shahid on terrorism issues than Republika Indonesia media. CNN Indonesia has a focus or news agenda that accentuates the words jihad and shahid on terrorism issues. There are differences in the framing or emphasis of terrorism issues between CNN Indonesia and Republika Indonesia.

Table 2 Top 20 keywords

Type	Rank	Freq_Tar	Freq_Ref	Range_Tar	Range_Ref	NormFreq_Tar
israel	1	46	817	1	1	1556315
gaza	2	7	419	1	1	236831
syahid	3	40	369	1	1	1353317
palestina	4	51	401	1	1	1725480
islam	5	113	541	1	1	3823121
jihad	6	101	497	1	1	3417126
serangan	7	63	378	1	1	2131475
meninggal	8	11	184	1	1	372162
jalur	9	6	147	1	1	202998
orang	10	114	441	1	1	3856954
udara	11	4	121	1	1	135332
allah	12	25	196	1	1	845823
mati	13	56	274	1	1	1894644
roket	14	8	126	1	1	270663
gencatan	15	1	75	1	1	33833
telah	16	38	196	1	1	1285651
saw	17	4	86	1	1	135332
sipil	18	1	65	1	1	33833
nabi	19	6	87	1	1	202998
maka	20	11	92	1	1	372162

The table above results from keyword searches with the target corpus from the news on CNN Indonesia media. In contrast, the reference corpus is from the news on Republika.co.id. The table above shows that issues related to the conflict in Palestine-Israel and Islamic concepts containing the words *jihad* and *shahid* do not appear as much in the reference corpus as in the target corpus. Some of the keywords that appear are mostly related to conflict issues in Palestine-Israel such as the words *Gaza* , *Hamas* , *pertempuran* 'fighting', *gencatan* 'ceasefire', *serangan* 'attack'. This indicates that Republika.co.id media, which is the reference corpus, more often discusses the words *jihad* and *shahid* on issues related to the conflict in Palestine and Israel and Islamic concepts. This difference indicates a different point of view and a different agenda between Republika media and CNN Indonesia media.

A comparison of the frequency of emphasis on the issue of the conflict in Palestine-Israel and Islamic concepts that link the words *jihad* and *shahid* can be seen in the diagram below:

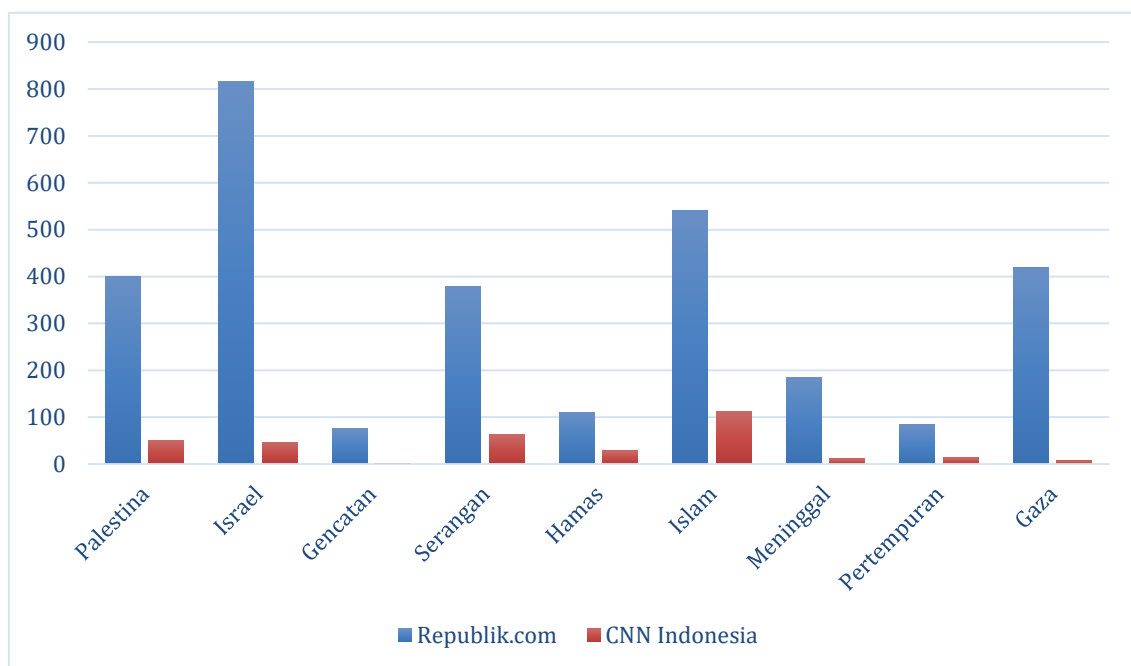


Figure 2 Keyword Comparison Palestine - Israel Issues

The researchers tried to take 10 keywords related to the issue of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The diagram above shows that the frequency of occurrence of 10 keywords related to the issue of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is dominated by Republik.com media. The difference in frequency of occurrence is very significant. Republik.com media provides a larger portion of news coverage containing the words *jihad* and *shahid* on the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict than CNN Indonesia media. Republika.co.id has a focus or news agenda that accentuates the words *jihad* and *shahid* on issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. There are differences in the framing or emphasis of news themes between CNN Indonesia and Republika Indonesia.

Semantic Preference Classification

After identifying the dominant ideological themes related to the representation of *jihad* and *shahid* in the media discourse of CNN Indonesia and Republika.co.id, researchers will conduct collocation and concordance analysis. Collocation analysis will reveal words or phrases that often appear alongside the keywords *jihad* and *shahid* . While concordance

analysis will show the context of using these keywords in sentences or paragraphs. From the collocation and concordance analyses, researchers will classify the semantic preferences of the identified keywords. Positive semantic preference indicates the use of words or phrases with connotations and meanings that tend to be favorable towards the concept of jihad and shahid. Neutral semantic preferences indicate the use of words or phrases that are descriptive, informative, or objective without carrying strong ideological content. Negative semantic preferences indicate the use of words or phrases that have connotations and meanings that tend to be negative or lead to stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination against the concepts of jihad and shahid.

Table 3 Semantic Preference Classification on Republika.co.id

Category	Jihad	Types	Shahid	Types
	collocates		Collocates	
Positive semantic preference	Syahid, Ramadan, Allah, Quds, Islam, Palestina, Gaza	7	Jihad, akhirat, pahala, muslim, keutamaan, Gaza, Palestina	7
Neutral semantic preference	Kelompok, komandan, senior, orang, situs, tiga, fasilitas, Gerakan, sekretaris, dikonfirmasi, Tayseer, menargetkan	12	yang, adalah, ia, dalam, maka, orang, meninggal, dunia, jenis, siapa, disebut, dihukumi Berasal, tergolong	14
Negative semantic preference	serangan, membalas, membunuh, tewaskan, israel	5	serangan, mati, tenggelam, terbakar, tertimpa, perut, enam	7

This table shows the classification of semantic preferences of words that collocate with jihad and shahid in Republika.co.id media coverage. Words that fall into the positive semantic preference category show positive connotations and are related to religious concepts, struggle, and honor. For jihad, it collocates with shahid, Ramadan, Allah, Quds, Islam, Palestina, Gaza. This illustrates that jihad falls into the context of spirituality, struggle against injustice, and defense of the holy land. As for shahid, it collocates with words such as jihad, afterlife, reward, Muslim, and virtue. This emphasizes the noble status and rewards for those who are martyred. Words that fall into the neutral semantic preference category tend to be descriptive, not showing explicit positive or negative judgments. For jihad, it collocates with words such as kelompok, komandan, senior, orang, situs, tiga, fasilitas, gerakan, sekretaris, dikonfirmasi, Tayseer. This describes the subjects or actors involved in jihad without cornering anyone. Meanwhile, shahid collocates with words such as *yang, adalah, ia, dalam, maka, orang, meninggal, dunia, jenis, siapa, disebut, dihukumi, berasal, tergolong*. These collocations are more descriptive of the status or state of shahid. Words that fall into the category of negative semantic preference show worse connotations or are associated with negative consequences. jihad collocates with words such as menargetkan, serangan, membalas, membunuh, tewaskan, israel. This describes the aggressive, violent, and victimizing aspects of jihad. Meanwhile, shahid collocates with words such as serangan, mati, tenggelam, terbakar, tertimpa, and perut, and these all associate shahid with death, suffering, and damage. To reinforce this determination of semantic preference, here is an example of one of the collocations found in several sentence contexts.

Table 4 Identify Collocates of Jihad on Republika.co.id

kelompok	jihad	Islam di Gaza mengucapkan selamat tinggal kepada pemimpin besar yang sejarahnya akan selalu dikenang sejak berdirinya gerakan Jihad tersebut.
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Dia menetap di Suriah pada 1995 ketika dia menjadi pemimpin kelompok	jihad	Islam
Saya ulangi, ini adalah tanggung jawab	jihad	Islam yang membunuh warga tak bersalah di rumah sakit di Gaza

In the context of the sentence above, jihad collocates with *islam*, indicating that jihad has a positive meaning because jihad is seen as following Islamic teachings and is a respected struggle, not as something negative or extremist. In the context of the next sentence, jihad collocates with *kelompok* 'group' which tends to have a neutral preference. In the context of the next sentence, the semantic preference of the word *membunuh* 'killing' has a very negative meaning. It describes acts of violence, human rights violations, and disproportionate use of force.

Overall, the above information shows how Republika.co.id media frames the concepts of jihad and shahid in a way that tends to be positive, emphasizing spiritual aspects and holy struggle. However, it also associates negative words related to violence and victims, even though when viewed in context, the words that include negative preferences have positive meanings. These results provide an overview of how Republika.co.id media represents jihad and shahid in public discourse through the selection and use of words.

Table 5 Semantic Preference Classification on CNN Indonesia

Category	Jihad	Types	Shahid	Types
	Collocates		Collocates	
Positive semantic preference	resolusi	1	Jihad, isytihadi	2
Neutral semantic preference	Semata, serukan, pola, dimaknai, perbedaan, sepak terjang,	7	Maka, orang, siap	3
Negative semantic preference	Iming, ancam, perang, mati	4	mati	1

This table shows the classification of semantic preferences of the words jihad and shahid in CNN Indonesia media coverage. In the positive semantic preference category, the word jihad collocates with the word resolusi which can be viewed positively, for example as an effort to resolve conflicts peacefully. Meanwhile, the word shahid collocates with the word jihad, isytihadi. This connects shahid with the concept of holy struggle. In the category of neutral semantic preference, jihad collocates with the words *semata*, *serukan*, *pola*, *dimaknai*, *perbedaan*, *sepak terjang*. The collocation tends to be descriptive without giving explicit judgment. Meanwhile, the word shahid collocates with the words then, people, ready. The collocation also tends to be descriptive without giving explicit judgment, so it belongs to the neutral category. In the negative semantic preference category, jihad collocates with *iming*, *ancam*, *perang*, *mati*. This collocation associates jihad with negative consequences such as threats, war, and death. As for the word shahid, there is only one collocation, *mati* 'dead' which leads to negative semantic preferences. To strengthen this determination of semantic preference, here is an example of one of the collocations contained in several sentence contexts.

Table 6 Identify collocates of Jihad on CNN Indonesia

Ketua Umum PBNU Said Aqil Siradj menjelaskan, isi resolusi	jihad	yang kedua itu berbunyi, membela tanah air hukumnya wajib bagi setiap individu.
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Andai	jihad	dimaknai perang, maka konteks perang itu harus dipahami, dimengerti secara menyeluruh karena apa makna perang dalam Islam? Tidak bisa sembarang orang.
Sedangkan anak Dita yang lain, YF dan FH ditugaskan mengebom Gereja Katolik Santa Maria Tak Bercela, Ngagel. Semua dilakukan atas nama	jihad	dan iming-iming surga

In the context of the sentence above, jihad collocates with *resolusi* 'resolution'. The collocation gives meaning to an official decision or statement issued by the Executive Board of Nahdlatul Ulama (PBNU) regarding everyone's responsibility to protect their own homeland. In this situation, the term *resolusi* 'resolution' has a good meaning because it shows the authorities' a firm and clear action to take a stand and convey it officially. Using the word *resolusi* 'resolution' shows that the decision is based on careful consideration and has a strong legal basis. The positive value of using the word *resolusi* 'resolution' in the sentence is further strengthened. In the context of the next sentence, jihad is collocated with *dimaknai perang* 'interpreted as war'. The collocation tends to be neutral because it only refers to the potential meaning or interpretation without giving a positive or negative judgement. This sentence emphasizes the importance of understanding the meaning of jihad as a whole. In the context of the next sentence jihad collocates with *iming-iming surga* 'the lure of heaven'. this shows an attempt to mislead and persuade people with false promises to encourage them to commit acts of violence or terrorism in the name of jihad.

The information above shows that *Republika.co.id* media coverage tends to be more balanced in framing the concepts of jihad and shahid, with less emphasis on both positive aspects than CNN Indonesia media. Nevertheless, some collocation words still associate the two concepts with adverse consequences. This comparison between the two media can provide insight into how framing and word choice differences can affect public perceptions of religion and conflict-related issues and the biases that may be implicit in the reporting.

Discursive Practices

After the researcher combines the identification of dominant themes and the classification of semantic preferences, the researcher can map the discursive strategies used by the media in framing issues related to jihad and shahid. In this section, the analysis focuses on discursive interpretations that are exploited to perpetuate and promote ideological themes in discourse. As Fairclough and Wodak (1997) argue, discursive practices can have profound ideological effects. they can help produce and reproduce unequal power relations such as those between social class, gender, ethnicity/culture, majority, and minority through how they represent and position people. This analysis will focus on how language is used to construct and reinforce ideologies, stereotypes, prejudices, and potential discrimination in news coverage of the topic.

Discursive analysis cannot be separated from the social, cultural, and ideological contexts behind the production of texts. In this case, *Republika.co.id* and CNN Indonesia media have strong ideological content in framing the words jihad and shahid in a discourse, in Islamic discourse. The context of terrorist incidents in Indonesia and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict also influenced how the media framed and interpreted these words. In the socio-cultural and ideological context, the representation of the words jihad and shahid in the Indonesian press cannot be separated from several important factors:

Islamic Discourse and Palestina - Israel Conflict

Jihad and shahid have strong meanings and interpretations in Islamic discourse. Jihad is generally understood as a struggle or earnest effort to uphold the truth and fight evil, while shahid refers to the person who dies in the battle. In the context of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, these words are often used to describe the Palestinian struggle against Israeli occupation. The framing of the discourse of jihad and shahid in the majority of Republika media in the context of Islamic discourse and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict shows that the media frames the discourse of jihad and shahid in a positive context so that this prevents readers from having negative stereotypes of jihad and shahid.

Terrorism Issue in Indonesia

After several suicide bombings in Indonesia, the issue of terrorism has become one of the main focuses of media coverage in Indonesia. The words jihad and shahid are then often associated with terrorist movements that claim their actions as part of jihad. However, interestingly, the way CNN Indonesia seems to frame the discourse on jihad and shahid tends to be negative. The media often associates both terms with acts of terrorism, which in turn creates negative associations in the minds of readers. In other words, when people hear the words 'jihad' or 'shahid,' they may immediately think of disturbing acts of terror.

This framing has the potential to influence the way people understand these terms, making it more difficult to see the original or positive meanings of jihad and shahid in a broader context. So, it could be argued that news coverage like this not only influences public perception but also reinforces a negative stigma against concepts that actually have deeper meanings in religious traditions.

Political Polarisation, Ideology, Interest, and Agenda Media

Jihad and *Shahid* cannot be separated from the political and ideological polarisation in Indonesia. Groups with different religious ideologies often compete in defining and interpreting these terms according to their respective views. In addition, the media also has its interests and agenda in representing sensitive issues such as jihad and shahid. Differences in ideological orientation, political affiliation, and commercial considerations can influence how the media frame and interpret these words.

In this complex socio-political and ideological context, the media plays an important role in constructing social reality through language representation. The choice of words, emphasis on issues, and framing done by the media can strengthen or challenge certain ideologies and impact public perception and understanding.

Discourse Framing Patterns

In analyzing discursive strategies, it is necessary to look at discourse framing patterns that include several important aspects. First, classifying the frequency of occurrence of keywords can provide an overview of the dominant themes raised in a discourse. This analysis can reveal certain emphases that become the focus of discussion. Secondly, issue framing must also be observed, namely how a particular issue or topic is constructed and represented. This can provide an in-depth understanding of the perspective or point of view that is put forward. Finally, ideological implications are also important to examine, to see how the discourse may be influenced or even carry certain ideological content. A comprehensive analysis of discursive strategies can be conducted by examining these three aspects.

The difference in framing the issue of jihad and shahid between the two media shows the existence of different discursive strategies. CNN Indonesia tends to frame jihad and shahid in a negative context, which is related to acts of terrorism in Indonesia. This framing

strongly links the two words with national security threats and criminal acts. This indicates that CNN Indonesia places the issue of jihad and shahid in a more threatening and dangerous context in the eyes of the public. Meanwhile, [Republika.co.id](#) is more inclined to frame it in a more positive context, related to the Palestinian people's struggle and noble Islamic values. [Republika.co.id](#) positions jihad and shahid as a representation of just, holy, and following Islamic teachings. This framing fosters readers' sympathy for the Palestinian cause and maintains the legitimacy of Islamic concepts that are considered noble. The difference in framing indicates a different strategy in constructing social reality by each media. [Republika.co.id](#) tries to maintain a positive image and build a narrative of struggle following their religious ideology. Meanwhile, CNN Indonesia tends to direct readers to a more negative perception, by highlighting the security threats associated with using these words.

This issue-framing strategy greatly influences the public's understanding and perspective on the meaning of jihad and shahid in a complex social, political, and religious context. This analysis can indicate differences in the framing of an issue that can impact the construction of public discourse and broader social dynamics.

3.2 Discussion

Differences in framing and emphasis of the issue can affect the audience's perception and understanding of the meaning of jihad and shahid. CNN Indonesia has the potential to reinforce negative stereotypes and prejudices against Islam, while [Republika.co.id](#) tends to promote a more positive interpretation. This shows how the media can play a role in constructing social reality through language. Word choice, issue emphasis, and framing can influence how the public perceives and understands sensitive topics related to ideology, religion, and conflict. as in one example of discourse in CNN Indonesia media that links jihad and shahid with the following terrorism issue.

“Mereka memahami bahwa mati secara jihad itu mati paling tinggi, di surga akan dinikahkan dengan 72 bidadari. Maka ketika dia melakukan "mati syahid" dengan cara bom bunuh diri maka dia akan langsung diangkat ke surga.”

This statement reinforces the narrative that extreme acts such as suicide bombings are considered a path to shahid that directly leads the perpetrators to heaven. This discourse has the potential to create a negative stigma because the image of shahid is often used as a strong reason for terrorists to carry out their mission. CNN Indonesia's framing, which tends to be negative and connects the two terms with terrorism, has the potential to strengthen negative stereotypes and prejudices against Islam in the wider community. This could lead to a widespread view of Islam as a religion that is synonymous with violence and radicalism. This condition can have a very detrimental impact, especially for Muslims in Indonesia. This is in line with previous studies showing that the media plays a significant role in shaping people's views about certain groups ([Li & Zhang, 2022](#); [Suparman, 2020](#); [Tang, 2021](#)). These stereotypes are not only detrimental to the image of Islam but can also impact the daily lives of Muslims, who are often subjected to discrimination and stigma. This is also in line with the opinion of Bungin (2006) cited by ([Laksono, 2017](#)) there is a possibility that various systems in modern mass media can control the minds of people or society. This is known as the 'theater of mind'.

On the other hand, [Republika.co.id](#), with its more positive framing, seeks to promote interpretations of jihad and shahid that are in line with noble Islamic values, such as just and holy struggle. This approach can help straighten public perceptions and maintain the legitimacy of true Islamic concepts. [Republika.co.id](#) seems to be endeavoring to present a

more comprehensive and balanced understanding of this sensitive issue. as in one example of discourse in [Republika.co.id](#) media that links jihad and shahid with the following terrorism issue.

“Sekretaris Jenderal kelompok perlawanan Palestina Jihad Islam, Ziyad Al-Nakhalah melakukan kunjungan ke Teheran dan bertemu dengan Pemimpin Tertinggi Iran, Ali Khamenei. Dalam pertemuan itu, Khamenei mengucapkan selamat kepada jihad islam atas pertempuran terbaru di Gaza. Al-Nakhalah pun menyampaikan apresiasi atas dukungan Iran terhadap Jihad Islam...”

In the quote above, jihad is described as a form of Palestinian struggle against Zionist Israel. In this context, jihad is positioned as an effort to fight colonialism and defend the identity and rights of Muslims. Therefore, jihad is not understood as an act of violence, but as a holy mission and struggle for justice that can generate a sense of solidarity within the Muslim community. This has the potential to build a positive stigma that associates jihad with courage and struggle against oppression.

Based on the textual analysis and discursive practice analysis above, this research shows how the media strongly constructs social reality through language selection, issue framing, and discursive practices. The public understanding formed is not only based on objective facts but is also strongly influenced by how the media packages and presents information. This has implications for how public opinions, attitudes, and behaviors can be formed following the construction of reality promoted by the media. The discourse in this media can serve as a mitigation mechanism against Islamophobia, by providing a broader context and emphasizing the positive aspects of Islamic teachings. The findings suggest that the media serves not only as a conveyor of information but also as a social reality-shaping agent that can contribute to a better understanding of sensitive issues.

Furthermore, it is important to note that the construction of social reality by the media is not only based on objective facts, but is strongly influenced by the way the media packages and presents information. This dynamic shows that the media has the power to shape public opinion, attitudes, and behavior. Therefore, the understandings shaped by the media can have a lasting impact on how individuals and groups perceive each other, as well as on broader social interactions. The implications of this research highlight the need for critical awareness of the way the media presents information, especially regarding sensitive issues such as religion and violence. The media must be responsible for framing issues in order to support better understanding and reduce the potential for social conflict. Therefore, an in-depth analysis of the discursive strategies applied by the media is important to understand how public discourse is formed and how it can be responded to constructively by society.

This research shows that mass media in Indonesia, namely CNN Indonesia and [Republika.co.id](#), have played an important role in shaping discourse and public perceptions regarding the concepts of jihad and shahid. The media tend to highlight jihad and shahid concerning Islam, radicalism, and terrorism, thus generalizing and simplifying the understanding of these concepts. CNN Indonesia has the potential to reinforce negative stereotypes and prejudices against Islam, while [Republika.co.id](#) tends to promote a more positive interpretation. These findings indicate the need for the media to present more balanced and critical information, and encourage the public to be crucial in interpreting news related to sensitive religious issues. This effort is expected to help prevent stereotyping and promote a more comprehensive understanding of spiritual issues in Indonesia. The media needs to involve competent sources who have a deep understanding of the concepts in Islam, to avoid misunderstanding or oversimplification. Presenting various perspectives and interpretations from multiple groups, including religious leaders, academics, and the

community. Use more careful language and avoid sensationalism or over-generalization when discussing sensitive religious issues. The media must ensure that reporting does not create stereotypes or trigger negative reactions in the community

4. CONCLUSIONS

Textual analysis, including identification of dominant themes and identification of semantic preferences, shows that CNN Indonesia tends to associate jihad and shahid more often with negative issues such as suicide bombings and acts of radicalism. Words such as *Indonesia*, *bom* 'bomb', *teroris* 'terrorist', *terorisme* 'terrorism', *pelaku* 'actor' appear much more frequently in the results from keyword searches, indicating a stronger focus on issues related to terrorism in Indonesia. While *Republika.co.id* tends to be more balanced in linking jihad and shahid with various issues, *republika.co.id* more often links jihad and shahid to more positive issues. This is evidenced by the keywords that appear in the *Republika.co.id* corpus mostly related to the issue of struggle against the occupiers in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict such as the words Gaza, Hamas, *pertempuran* 'fighting', *gencatan* 'ceasefire', *serangan* 'attack'. This shows that *Republika.co.id* media tends to be more dominant in linking the words jihad and shahid to issues related to the struggle against invaders and the concept of Islam.

The difference in framing the issue of jihad and shahid between the two media shows a different discursive strategy. This indicates that CNN Indonesia places the issue of jihad and shahid in a context that is more threatening and dangerous in the eyes of the public. Meanwhile, *Republika.co.id* is more likely to frame it in a more positive context, related to the struggle of the Palestinian people and the noble values of Islam. *Republika.co.id* positions jihad and martyrdom as representations of just, holy, and in accordance with Islamic teachings. This framing fosters reader sympathy for the Palestinian struggle and maintains the legitimacy of the concept of Islam which is considered noble. The difference in framing shows that there are different strategies in constructing social reality by each media. *Republika.co.id* tries to maintain a positive image and build a narrative of struggle following its religious ideology. Meanwhile, CNN Indonesia tends to potentially lead readers to a more negative perception, by highlighting the security threats associated with the use of these words

This research still has some weaknesses that need to be noted. First, the focus of analysis is still limited to news articles that contain the words jihad and shahid in various themes, so the data obtained may not cover the entire context that exists in the discourse. In addition, this study only focuses on media discourse, without considering the impact or influence of the discourse on society. Research on how media discourse affects public perception and social behavior is very important to be researched. Therefore, it is hoped that future research can complement and expand this research by collecting more complete data and including an analysis of the impact of media discourse on society so that it can make a significant contribution to the understanding of the relationship between media, discourse, and society.

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