TENOR OF BARACK OBAMA’S SPEECH
ON OSAMA BIN LADEN’S ASSASSINATION

a final project
submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of Sarjana Pendidikan
in English

by
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2012
ABSTRACT

Ardianti, Triubaida Maya. 2012. Tenor of Barack Obama’s Speech on Osama bin Laden’s Assassination. A Final Project, English Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Semarang State University. Advisor I. Helena I.R. Agustien and Advisor II Dr. Djoko Sutopo, M.Si

Keywords: Language, Communication, Speech, Tenor, Interpersonal meanings, Lexicogrammar

The study deals with language as communication realized in the speech. The study focuses on the tenor of the discourse which discusses relationships between the interactants. While, the object of the study is Barack Obama’s speech on Osama bin Laden’s Assassination. The tenor analysis functions to reveal the attitudes of Barack Obama in perceiving Osama bin Laden’s assassination. In conducting this study, I have one statement of the problem which should be fulfilled; that is what underlying tenor is revealed in Barack Obama’s speech in relation to Osama bin Laden’s assassination.

The research approach of the study is descriptive qualitative. Text analysis is functioned to produce qualitative analysis in which quantitative data enhance the depth of the analysis. There are two analyses in the study: grammar analysis to unveil interpersonal meanings and lexical analysis to uncover Barack Obama’s attitudes.

The result of the analysis shows that Obama tended to be as objective as possible by depersonalizing moments and events into subjects. Further, Barack Obama tended to perceive bin Laden’s assassination from the United States and American people’s point of view instead of himself. It is shown by the use of ‘we’ as subject instead of ‘I’. On the other hand, in terms of lexical analysis, Obama tended to give appreciation to value the work of the United States’ intelligence and military, and any phenomena. That appreciation is aimed to give the audience clear visualization upon what was happening during 9/11 tragedy till the assassination of Osama bin Laden.

Finally, based on the study, in watching and listening to the speech, we should analyze to uncover the meanings behind it.