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Critical Ecolinguistic Discourse Analysis: Representation of Environmental Issues in the Conference on Religion And Climate Change South East Asia 2023
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Universitas Gadjah Mada, 2026 | Diunduh dari http://etd.repository.ugm.ac.id/

ABSTRACT

Environmental crises have become a global concern in recent decades. Climate change, ecosystem degradation, deforestation, and environmental pollution have had serious impacts on the sustainability of human life and the planet. In the Southeast Asia region, ecological threats such as rising sea levels, hydrometeorological disastes, and the unsustainable exploitation of natural resources indicate that environmental issues can no longer be understood merely as ecological problems, but also as humanitarian issues. In this context, religion plays an important role in fostering ecological awareness and encouraging collective action to protect the environment. This research aims to examine the representation of environmental issues in the speeches of religious and belief representatives at the Conference on Religion and Climate Change South East Asia 2023. The research analyzes textual practices, the ideology underlying the representation of environmental issues, and evaluates the ideology through an ecolinguistic discourse approach. This research employs Fariclough's (2015) critical discourse analysis through the dimensions of textual analysis, discouse practice, and social practice. Halliday's (2014) transitivity system is used to identify textual patterns, while the ecolinguistic perspective of Stibbe (2021) is applied to evaluate the ideological tendencies of the discourse. the findings reveal that relational, material, and mental processes dominate the transitivity structures of the speeches. The dominance of these processes indicates that environmental discourse is constructed through representations of the relationship between humans and nature, ecological actions, and moral awareness toward the environmental issues. In addition, circumstances of manner, cause, location, and matter emerge as dominant elements in enriching the ecological meaning context. In its discursive practice, CORECS 2023 represents an ideology that positions the environment as the central focus while simultaneously emphasizing human responsibility toward nature. Based on Stibbe's (2021) ecolinguistic perspective, the environmental discourse in this forum falls into the category of beneficial discourse because it supports environmental preservation and interreligious solidarity in maintaining the sustainability of the earth.

Keywords: ecolinguistics, critical discourse analysis, environmental issues, transitivity, CORECS 2023.

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INTISARI

Krisis lingkungan menjadi perhatian global dalam beberapa dekade terakhir. Perubahan iklim, degradasi ekosistem, deforestasi, dan pencemaran lingkungan telah memberikan dampak serius terhdap keberlangsungan kehidupan manusia dan bumi. Di kawasan Asia Tenggara, ancaman ekologis seperti kenaikan permukaan laut, bencana hidrometeorologis, dan eksploitasi sumber daya alam yang tidak berkelanjutan menunjukkan bahwa isu lingkungan tidak lagi dipahami semata-mata sebagai persoalan ekologis, tetapi juga sebagai persoalan dan kemanusiaan. Dalam konteks tersebut, agama memiliki peran penting dalam membangun kesadaran ekologis dan mendorong tindakan kolektif untuk menjaga lingkungan hidup. Penelitian ini bertujuan mengkaji representasi isu lingkungan dalam pidato para perwakilan tokoh agama dan kepercayaan para Conference on Religion and Climate Change South East Asia 2023. Penelitian ini menganalisis praktik tekstual, ideologi yang mendasari representasi isu lingkungan, serta mengevaluasi ideologi tersebut melalui pendekatan wacana ekolinguistik. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan analisis wacana kritis Fairclough (2015) melalui dimensi tekstual, praktik wacana, dan praktik sosial. Sistem transitivitas Halliday (2014) digunakan untuk mengidentifikasi pola tektual, sedangkan perspektif Stibbe (2021) digunakan untuk mengevaluasi kecenderungan ideologis wacana. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa proses relasional, material, dan mental mendominasi struktur transitivitas pidato-pidato tersebut. Dominasi proses tersebut menunjukkan bahwa wacana lingkungan dibangun melalui penggambaran hubungan manusia dan alam, tindakan ekologis, serta kesadaran moral terhadap krisis lingkungan. Selain itu, sirkumstansi cara, sebab, lokasi, dan perihal menjadi unsur yang dominan dalam memperkaya konteks makna ekologis. Dalam praktik kewacanaannya, CORECS 2023 merepresentasikan ideologi yang menempatkan lingkungan sebagai pusat perhatian sekaligus menegaskan tanggung hawab moral manusia terhadap alam. Berdasarkan perspektif ekolinguistik Stibbe (2021), wacana lingkungan dalam forum ini termasuk kategori wacana bermanfaat karena mendukung pelestarian lingkungan, dan solidaritas agama dalam menjaga keberlanjutan bumi.

Kata kunci: ekolinguistik, analisis wacana kritis, isu lingkungan, transitivitas, CORECS 2023