CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

International world is currently focused on the death of well-known Saudi Arabian born journalist named Jamal Khashoggi. Khashoggi, as he is called by the news media, is found death in the Saudi Arabia's Istanbul Consulate on October 2nd, 2018 after reported missing for days by the media (The New York Times, October 2018). The news of his death has been a concern for many parties especially Turkey's President, Reccep Tayyip Erdogan. Erdogan is actively giving attention in the details of the murder.

The murder of Khashoggi is said to be "premedidated" as Erdogan stated from the beginning of the case's announcement. The murder case has more than enough evidences collected by Turkish investigation team. Erdogan since the beginning has asked and even pressed Saudi Arabia for comprehensive explanation regarding the murder of Khashoggi, however the country even made controversial explanation. Saudi Arabia at first confirmed that they have nothing to do with the missing of Jamal Khashoggi, including their crown prince that is free of the knowledge. They stated that Jamal Khashoggi has left the building freely on Oct 2 after his visit. It sparks suspicion from Erdogan although he never mentioned the crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman

(MbS), at first before evidences led him to have suspicion on the crown prince. (The New York Times, 2018)

Days after their statement that they had nothing to do with the Khashoggi's death, after being exposed to evidences by Turkey authorities, Saudi Arabia changed their opinion. Premeditated murder that has been revealed by Erdogan is finally confirmed by Saudi Arabia that Khashoggi did died in the consulate and there were 15 men involved in a 'fistfight' with Khashoggi before the victim was strangled (The Washington Post).

Jamal Khashoggi (59) was a critic of Royal Kingdom Saudi Arabia before his death. In 2005, he moved to Washington, DC worked in Saudi Arabia embassy as a key adviser to the ambassador. Since his younger years, Khashoggi is a journalist and ever became a newspaper editor however it made him fired twice because he interviewed Saudi Arabia critic. In 2015, Khashoggi named head of TV station in Bahrain, called Al Arab, which is his biggest project.

However, on the first day the TV station got shut after 6 hours broadcasting because Khashoggi interviewed famous government critic of Saudi Arabia. In the same year, Mohammed bin Salman become deputy crown prince and because of that Khashoggi who was often appeared on TV was barred from media appearances. Furthermore, Khashoggi moved to U.S. to Washington suburb and joined the Washington Post as his purpose moving fro Saudi Arabia was to gain free speech. Khashoggi once stated to National Public Radio's Michel Martin in May, "The power struggle is over.

[Mohammed is] totally in control, and he has no one to challenge his rules," (National Public Radio, October 2018).

Erdogan has just been re-elected in June 2018 as President of Turkey. Since his youth, Erdogan has been involved in politics as he is good in that field and active in political party too. He has improved Turkish economy and introduced political reform according to his supporter meanwhile critics accuse Erdogan as an authoritarian, corrupt, and extravagance country leader. Since 2003 until 2014 he serves as Prime Minister of Turkey ("Recep Tayyip Erdogan Fast Facts", CNN Library). The murder of well-known journalist becomes his problem because it happened in the land of country he rules. Although the murder occurred in the Saudi Arabia Consulate, which according to the law it is the land property of Saudi Arabia, it still happened in his country. Therefore, the problem becomes his concern too as the state leader. The murder of Jamal Khashoggi then involves two countries, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, not only Saudi Arabia as Khashoggi's origin.

News coverage of Khashoggi's death is being discussed by many international media for example like CNN, BBC, Al Jazeera, The Guardian, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and including Indonesian English popular newspaper namely The Jakarta Post. However, The New York Times is one of the media that intensely reporting the case as it also includes intense views of controversial Turkey state leader that is President Reccep Tayyip Erdogan on the murder case. Tewsbury & Althaus (2000) (cited in Louine, 2016) stated that The New York Times is the most respected

and widely read paper in the U.S.. The New York Times even declare themselves as a media that will try to serve the news in truth, with integrity, and fairness to its readers (The New York Times Company).

Erdogan can be said has long history when it comes to journalist and the news media. He has complicated relationship with many news media, either Turkish press or international press said The Washington Post's foreign reporter, Taylor (2015). The Washington Post (Taylor, 2015) reported that there are 17 incomplete statements from Erdogan's responses toward journalists because of the news they write on him and his country. One of his statements is for The New York Times. His statement to The New York Times is "As a newspaper, you should know your place." It was a reference to an editorial from The New York Times entitled "Dark Clouds Over Turkey" that is a critic of Erdogan's leadership. How the newspaper represent Erdogan especially in Khashoggi is interesting to be analyzed.

Fowler, in referring to Michael Halliday, explains that "transitivity is the foundation of representation: it is the way the clause is used to analyze events and situations as being of certain types." (Fowler 1991:71) (cited in Ong'onda, 2016, p.78).

Using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), Ayoola and Olaosun (2014) focused on representation of Boko Haram, a Nigeria militant Islamic group, in some Nigerian newspapers. The study found that Nigerian can trust the media that is its national newspapers for accurate information on Boko Haram and analysis of crucial socio-political happenings in the country. Information

gained from the media mentioned above actually can be used by Kenyan police to prevent future accident caused by the terrorist group.

A study of representation on Kim Jong Un's succession in BBC news by Nugraha (2012) is using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) like the study of Boko Haram by Ayoola and Olaosun. The study found that in line with Ayoola and Olaosun, CDA could reveal the representation of an important figure's succession like Kim Jong Un in the newspaper coverage, BBC news. Analyzed three articles using CDA, BBC news' coverage of Kim Jong Un's succession is found that Jong Un is a premature leader and it is a continuity of Kim's family dynasty. Jong Un's succession in the throne of North Korea leader is also believed because of his resemblance to his grandfather.

A study by Ong'onda (2016) analyzed newspaper headlines on terrorism attack by Al-Shabaab in Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya using Halliday's theory of transitivity. He studied 24 headlines from two newspapers, Daily Nation and Standard Newspaper, to find out how Al-Shabaab as the terrorist is represented through the attack's news coverage. The study concludes that the negative image is associated with the Al-Shabaab because verbs related to them belong to violence and chaos. Meanwhile, Kenyans are represented positive as they are the one suffered from the attack seen from the verbs headlines used on them.

A study by Kurniawan and Utami (2016) analyzed representation of Joko Widodo in the Jakarta Post. Using nomination and predication strategies of Discourse Historical Approach (DHA) by Reisigl and Wodak (2001), they

analyzed fifteen editorials focusing on Jokowi. The study analyzes Jokowi figure as the governor of Jakarta, the presidential candidate, and the President of Indonesia. The study concludes that the Jakarta Post supports Jokowi since all his performance is in line with the newspaper's values however the Jakarta Post does not support Jokowi in KPK issue as Jokowi's action contradict the newspaper value who support anticorruption movement.

Different from the mentioned previous studies, this research is going to analyze four articles from online newspapers that is The New York Times. Although using Systemic Functional Linguistics like in the terrorist attack in Kenya, this study is going to examine the representation of Erdogan as a well-known state leader on Khashoggi's death in The New York Times. The writer of the study would like to see how the journalists from The New York Times represent Erdogan on the news coverage of Khashoggi's death that involves a nation's Consulate in Turkey using transitivity system in Systemic Functional Linguistics. Transitivity examines the processes, participants, and circumstances involved in the text. Gee (2005) (cited in Ong'onda, 2016, p.78) claims that language has a magical property: when we speak or write, we design what we have to say to fit the situation in which we are communicating. The choice of words can reveal the writer's perspective of how the subjects should be represented. Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFG) views language as a resource for making meanings (Halliday, 1978) or as a strategic, meaning making resource.

There have been some studies about transitivity analysis in newspaper articles which mostly about how a certain figure is portrayed in some events like during pre-election or other current national event, however the writer has not found a study about Erdogan's representation in the newspaper especially on international issue. Therefore, this study aims to analyze how The New York Times represents Erdogan as the president on Khashoggi's death in his country.

1.2 Research Question

How is Erdogan represented on Khashoggi's death in The New York Times online newspaper?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to analyze the representation of Erdogan on Khashoggi's death in The New York Times online newspapers.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

The writer will focus on the words, clauses, and sentences level that are presented in four articles about Erdogan on Khashoggi's death in The New York Times from October to November 2018. The data of this study is going to be analyzed using transitivity analysis at ideational level by M.A.K Halliday.

1.5 Significance of the study

This study is expected to make the readers become more critical as readers in reading news regarding any issue either in national or international and enrich discourse using transitivity analysis.