

# CONCEPTUAL METAPHOR RELATED TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND BAHASA INDONESIA ON ONLINE NEWS IN INDONESIA

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## ABSTRACT

Conceptual metaphor is fundamental property of human thought and conception as well as an important part of everyday communication processes. The use of this metaphor reflects how language users think and respond to a phenomenon or event. This research will explore the use of metaphors related to COVID-19 pandemic, which has greatly impacted since the end of 2019 until now in 2021. The research objectives are to explain the conceptual metaphorical mapping related to COVID-19 from the source domain to the target domain both in English and Bahasa Indonesia and compare the cognitive function or the ways of thinking reflected through metaphorical expressions in both languages.

This study analysed lingual units, especially the lexical ones which conceptually are metaphorical. Data were taken from five Indonesia's online newspapers: two in English (The Jakarta Post and Independent Observer) and three in Bahasa Indonesia (Kompas, Jawa Pos, and Kedaulatan Rakyat), which have with regional and national readership. The data collecting method used The Metaphor Identification Procedure (MIP). The collected data were analysed with Conceptual Metaphor Theory (CMT) proposed by Lakoff dan Johnson (1980; 2003), was then developed by Kövecses (2010).

The results show that conceptual metaphors that intersect in both languages are related to the description that the pandemic is war, disaster, and journey; Corona virus is a wild animal; The transmission of COVID-19 is a chain; The number of cases is up, flat, and down; and the affected regions are the color spectrum. The conceptual metaphors show ways of thinking, behaving, and acting regarding COVID-19 in the context of the dangers and crisis of the ongoing pandemic. Referring to the second objective, the metaphors used in news in the five data sources perform the three cognitive functions: structural, ontological, and orientational. Structural metaphors related to war and disasters emphasize the understanding that the pandemic situation is a very precarious and dangerous situation. The most prominent ontological metaphor is the one with the target domain of Corona Virus, which is compared to real and visible objects or entities in our environment, such as wild animals, balloon, radiation, water, and rain. Through ontological metaphors, the target domain whose existence is difficult to sense becomes clearer. Findings related to the orientational function show that spatial orientation is not only related to two opposite things, such as Positive and Negative for COVID-19 sufferers or Up and Down for the number of cases. More than that, conceptually, a static movement or flatening is also something that is considered better than increasing.

Kata Kunci: *COVID-19 pandemics; Conceptual metaphors; Cognitif functions*