

ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of the “Peringatan Darurat” (Emergency Warning) symbol that emerged in Indonesia in August 2024 reflects a form of public response to a socio-political situation perceived as a threat to democratic principles. This symbol spread widely through social media, especially through collaborative posts on the accounts @narasi.tv, @najwashihab, @matanajwa, and @narasinewsroom, and served as a form of criticism against the Constitutional Court's decision and the revision of the Regional Head Election Law (UU Pilkada), which were considered to undermine the sovereignty of the people. This study aims to analyze the “Peringatan Darurat” symbol using M.A.K. Halliday's social semiotic approach, focusing on three key elements: field of discourse, tenor of discourse, and mode of discourse. The research employed a qualitative method with social semiotic analysis techniques applied to texts uploaded by Narasi media as the main unit of analysis. The results show that the discourse is not limited to legal aspects, but also reflects broader dynamics of power, where decisions made by state institutions have the potential to erode public trust in the existing political system. This study concludes that social media symbols can serve as important tools for shaping public opinion and raising societal awareness.

Keywords: M.A.K. Halliday Social Semiotics, Peringatan Darurat, Political Criticism