



# Discourse on the Success of the Indonesian Men's Basketball Team at the 2022 SEA Games

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## ABSTRACT

From its initial participation in the SEA Games in 1977 to 2019, the Indonesian men's basketball team has never won a gold medal. Before the 2022 SEA Games, Indonesia created history by becoming the first country to win a gold medal. This study aims to understand better the conversation surrounding the 2022 Southeast Asian Games men's basketball team. This qualitative study employs Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis method. The study's analysis unit is online news on MainBasket.com from April 1 to May 29, 2022. The finding of this study demonstrates that the conversation in the online news outlet "MainBasket" has picked up signs of apprehension among the Indonesian basketball team ahead of the 2022 SEA Games in Vietnam. MainBasket also highlights the four leading players of the Indonesian national basketball team. MainBasket also appreciated the athletes for winning the first gold medal in Indonesian basketball. In addition, this victory is only considered a stepping stone towards the FIBA ASIA Cup 2022 and leads to a match at the FIBA World Cup 2023.

## Keywords

Discourse; basketball team; Indonesian men's basketball team; 2022 sea games; mainbasket.com.

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## INTRODUCTION

Sports can be a way to maintain relations between countries. The Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games) was established as a cross-country sports competition to strengthen national identity and increase post-war multilateral relations in the Southeast Asian region (Cantika, 2022; Lim & Aman, 2016). Lim and Aman (2016) explained two main objectives of holding the SEA Games: strengthening national identity and increasing post-war multilateral relations in Southeast Asia. This cross-country sports competition is held regularly every two years. The inaugural event of the SEA Games was held in December 1959, with 12 sports played. Six nations, including Thailand, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, and Laos, participated in the first competition, which took place in Bangkok. Currently, 11 nations are participating in the SEA Games, including Indonesia, which participated for the first time in 1977.

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According to Antolihao (2012), the Philippines is known as a basketball country. Forty different sports are played, including basketball. The Philippines is the most dominant country, winning 18 out of 21 championships in the SEA Games 2022 basketball competition. Not only do they love basketball, but the Philippines also gained international achievements, such as participating in the 1936 Olympics and winning the bronze medal at the World Basketball Championships in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. The 2021 SEA Games in Vietnam were postponed and held in 2022 due to the covid-19 pandemic (Lee, 2021).

According to Mulyono (2022), two actions were taken to promote regeneration and maintain the quality of basketball players from the Philippines. Establishing the University Athletic Association of the Philippines (UAAP) in 1938 was the first step toward nurturing healthy competition for young athletes and preparing them for the professional level and potential national team participation and second, recruiting Asian athletes of Filipino descent, such as Moala Delvalle Tautuaa Jr., Jamie Malonzo, and Greg Slaughter. Furthermore, two active Filipino-Americans in the NBA, Jordan Clarkson at the Utah Jazz and Jalen Green at the Houston Rockets (Kaur, 2021).

In contrast to the Philippines, Indonesia does not have a basketball-loving population. In terms of popularity, soccer and badminton are at the top of the mind of Indonesian people. However, The Developmental Basketball League (DBL) in Indonesia helped basketball gain popularity in 2004. A competition at the high school level, specifically, is organized every year and features 750 schools with around 40,000 participants (DBL, 2019). In 2014, the Director of DBL Indonesia, Azrul Ananda, claimed that the popularity of basketball was above football and badminton based on the results of a survey of young people aged 13 to 18 years (Lazuardi, 2014). From the DBL competition each year, 12 young players are selected and are sent to training abroad, between the United States and Australia. Some of these young all-star players have continued to the professional level.

The increasing popularity of Indonesian basketball is also offset by the desire to get medals, especially at the SEA Games level. Since participating in 1977 to 2019, Indonesia has never won a gold medal. Indonesia has only won silver medals in 2001, 2007, 2015, and 2017 also bronze medals in 1993, 1999, and 2011. This fact also means that Indonesia has never beaten the Philippines even once. To get a gold medal, Indonesia used the services of naturalized players such as Ebrahim "Biboy" Lopez Enguio, a naturalized Filipino descent who contributed to the 2015 and 2017 SEA Games silver medals. In addition, Jamarr Andre Johnson, of American descent, helped Indonesia get the silver medal in 2017. The two naturalizations have yet to be able to bring Indonesia to beat the Philippines.

Only at the SEA Games in 2022 did Indonesia, for the first time, make history by winning a gold medal and defeating the Philippines in the final basketball match (Ventura, 2022). The Indonesian basketball team's historic victory over the Philippines certainly caught the attention of the Indonesian people. Not only was the victory becoming the talk of the town on social media, but various media outlets also highlighted it. Many believe that Indonesia's historic victory must be connected to the role of naturalized players. In the 2022 SEA Games, the national basketball team brought three naturalized players: Marques Bolden, Brandon Jawato, and Dame Diagne. Bolden is one of the most prominent names to have had the experience of playing in the NBA with the Cleveland Cavaliers and Milwaukee Bucks, even if only for a short time. Jawato is a naturalized person with Indonesian ancestry from his Balinese father, Nyoman Jawato. Meanwhile, Diagne is a naturalization from Senegal who was only 17 years old.

On May 22, 2022, numerous major national web media in Indonesia, including *kompas.com*, *CNNIndonesia.com*, *detik.com*, and *tribunnews.com*, were flooded with news of the triumph. Not just internet media but the news on television was also fervently covering the historical event when the Indonesian basketball team defeated the Philippines with a score of 2-0. The news about the Indonesian basketball team's achievement at the SEA Games was not just about the moment of the historic victory; it was also adorned with discussions regarding the role of naturalized players.

Regardless of victory or defeat, sports coverage has an important place in the media industry. Sport and media have been intertwined, impacting society's perception of sports value and their participation in sports (Bissell, 2004; Kumar, 2018; Tak & Jung, 2021). As argued by Lever and Wheeler (1993) that "*sport has been the vehicle for bringing dramatic attention to news mass media form.*" The significant role of sports in the media was also agreed by Rowe & Gilmour (2010) as one

of the major success stories and media expansion engines. Intense and frequent media coverage of the performance of the Indonesian basketball team at SEA Games 2022 is undoubtedly found in sports media; one of the most attentive about this issue is a media titled MainBasket.com.

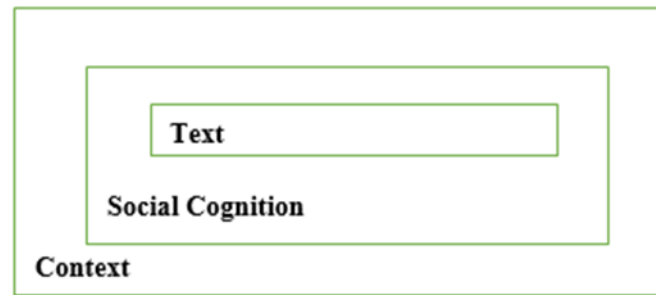
MainBasket.com is a community-based media which was started from a blog titled [mainbasket.blogspot.com](http://mainbasket.blogspot.com) in 2008 by Rosyidan. On his LinkedIn profile, Rosyidan mentioned he is the Editor in Chief of MainBasket Magazine. However, based on a search of his LinkedIn profile, information was not found on his journalistic background. As it may be because of Rosyidan's non-journalist/media background, MainBasket.com has several distinctive characteristics compared to the other sports media.

Based on the data provided on MainBasket.com's website, there is zero information about its editorial team. On its website, MainBasket.com only provides a contact number and mentions that it has a headquarters which is located in Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia. Seven sub-channels can be found on the website, which are titled: *Arena*, *Berita*, *Cerita*, *Liga & Kompetisi*, *Sneaker & Kultur*, *Video*, and *Store*. The sub-channel titled "Arena" is the homepage of the website. At the same time, the subtopic "Berita," which translates to news in English, is the repository of hard news and current news about basketball. However, many sub-channels contain the same news article if we search further in all the news channels. In other words, the separation of sub-news channels carried out by MainBasket.com is not a way to curate news according to the topic or type. The website covers the National Basketball Association (NBA), college basketball, and international leagues. MainBasket.com also provides a forum for basketball fans to engage in discussions and share their opinions about the sport. The website's social media presence, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, lets readers stay connected with the latest basketball news and updates.

Television broadcasting is one of the most popular basketball media in western countries. The National Basketball Association (NBA) has affiliations with several significant television networks, including ABC, ESPN, and TNT, which broadcast live games and offer analysis and commentary on the sport, as mentioned by Boyle and Haynes (2018). These broadcasts have been critical in boosting basketball's appeal and bringing in new followers. Social media is a significant component of basketball media. DeFleur and Dennis (2001) noted that social media platforms such as Twitter and Instagram had become essential channels for basketball players, teams, and fans to share information, engage in discussions, and build communities around the sport. These platforms also provide new opportunities for the media to connect with audiences and share news and information related to basketball. Basketball media is crucial in shaping public perception and understanding of the sport. Through television broadcasting and social media, the media helps to promote the sport, connect fans with their favorite teams and players, and drive engagement and interest in basketball. Using the Critical Discourse Analysis approach, this study aims to connect the context and social reality of the discourse text found in the news on MainBasket.com. This study is essential since it significantly advances the academic field of sports communication. Moreover, it is rare to find research related to sports communication in basketball in Indonesia. For instance, Wijanarko and Nadhifa's (2022) research focuses on framing for soccer. Meanwhile, Putri et al.'s (2022) research discusses sports communication at the national level and is limited to the Indonesia Basketball League (IBL). Based on this description, this study aims to find out about the discourse on the success of the Indonesian men's basketball team at the 2022 SEA Games.

## **METHOD**

This study adopted a qualitative methodology and relied on Van Dijk's Critical Discourse Analysis. Exploring and describing the nature of social or human problems as other people or groups view them is the primary objective of qualitative research (Creswell & Poth, 2017). Van Dijk's research focuses on textual analysis. It takes a more in-depth look at how the document is structured regarding the interactions between individuals and within individuals. The study claims these three dimensions can be used as a fusion unit. The analytical model is shown in figure 1 below.



**Figure 1.** Discourse analysis framework model of Teun A. van Dijk.  
Source: Van Dijk (2016)

One of the best ways to understand discourse is to realize that it is a technique that has been systematically used to construct an object that is addressed rather than merely a series of signals or components of a text (Mills, 1997). Therefore, Van Dijk divides this theoretical method's elements into macrostructure, superstructure, and microstructure.

**Table 1.** The textual structure on text dimension of van Dijk's analytical framework

<b>Macrostructure</b>
A text's global/general context in a subject/theme departs from a particular text.
<b>Superstructure</b>
The frame of the text, such as the introduction, material, closing remarks, and conclusion.
<b>Microstructure</b>
The local sense of a text can be seen from a combination of terms, phrases, and word styles used in a document.

Source: Van Dijk (2016)

An intelligible structure underpins the text in this study. The macrostructure of a text is an essential element that enables the exploration of its themes or ideas. A microstructure is a discourse with meanings that may be deduced from a word, phrase, preposition, clause, and images from a brief text segment. The superstructure, a discourse component, refers to the context of a text in which some pieces have already been saved and combined.

**Table 2.** Discourse elements on van Dijk's discourse structure

<b>DISCOURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<b>OBSERVED MATTERS</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>
<b>Macrostructure</b>	THEMATIC Theme/topic brought forward in a text	Topic
	SCHEMATIC How a part and order of news are being schemed in an intact news text	Scheme
<b>Microstructure</b>	SEMANTICS It is meaning that wants to be emphasized in a news text by giving detail on one side or making an explicit form of one side and reducing others.	Background, details
	SYNTAX How a sentence (form, arrangement) is selected.	Sentence form, coherence, preposition
	STYLISTICS How a word is chosen as a part of news text	Lexicon
	RHETORICS How and in what way an emphasis is conducted.	Graphics, metaphor, expression

Source: Van Dijk (2016)

One of the numerous advantages of using digital media to communicate news to viewers is that it does so much more quickly than traditional media, like newspapers. The media's politics and political economy, which are evident from the news frame of the media, impact news analysis of online media (Sadono & Fensi, 2015). The selected online news, namely MainBasket.com. MainBasket.com is a news site that presents the latest basketball news from NBA, IBL, ABL, DBL, and other competitions.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The researcher divides the online news collected into three reports: pre-competition, competition, and post-competition. Tables 3 to 10 are pre-competition news. Tables 11 to 17 are reports of the competition. Tables 18 to 21 are post-competition news. We aim to analyze the pre-competition, competition, and post-competition phases based on news reports to identify the prevailing narratives, themes, and attitudes toward the Indonesian Men's Basketball Team in the 2022 SEA Games. Additionally, we seek to examine the expectations and predictions portrayed in the news reports.

### Pre-competition news

**Table 3.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on April 1, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Central Board of the Indonesian Basketball Association (Perbasi) plans to gather foreign Indonesian Basketball League (IBL) players.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	Indonesian Basketball League (IBL) foreign players were involved as opponents for the Indonesian Basketball National Team (Timnas).
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	This program will help the National Team to find a match opponent.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Program."
	Stylistics	The word "Program" appears three times.
	Rhetorics	Jeremy Santoso, the National Team Manager, does not appear in the pictures, but his statements appear in the news.

Source: MainBasket (2022)

A series of programs that were carried out led to the FIBA Asia Cup 2022. On April 1, 2022, the news focused on the program run before the competition (SEA Games) started. The program includes training camps from April 4, 2022. After that, it will continue with competition at the SEA Games. Then a month after the SEA Games ended, a training camp was held in Australia. Of course, this program involved several foreign players in getting the whole match experience.

**Table 4.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on April 4, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Central Board of the Indonesian Basketball Association (Perbasi) announced that 31 players attended the training camp.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	The training camp aims to prepare for the FIBA Asia Cup 2022.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	The 2022 SEA Games are no less important.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Pemusatan Latihan (Training Centre)."
	Stylistics	The word "Pemusatan Latihan (Training Centre)" appears three times.
	Rhetorics	Jeremy Santoso, the National Team Manager, does not appear in the pictures, but his statements appear in the news.

Source: Irmalia (2022a)

On April 4, 2022, news on the training camp that was held before the competition (SEA Games) started. The training camp includes a training camp which involves 31 players, which are expected to be a means of sparring before the 2022 SEA Games. After that, it will continue with the FIBA Asia Cup 2022, a big mission for the men's basketball National Team (Timnas).

**Table 5.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on April 9, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas) has prepared an agenda to conduct a practice match trial in Australia on June 9-24, 2022.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	This agenda is part of the National Team's program towards the 2022 FIBA Asia Cup on July 12-24 at Istora Senayan, Jakarta.

<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	The Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas) played ten times against Australian NBL (I) teams in Brisbane and Melbourne.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Agenda."
	Stylistics	The word "Agenda" appears five times.
	Rhetorics	Jeremy Santoso, the National Team Manager, does not appear in the pictures, but his statements appear in the news.

Source Irmalia (2022b)

On April 9, 2022, the news reported that the agenda was prepared for the Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas) to conduct a trial match to Australia. This agenda is part of the program for the Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas) toward the 2022 FIBA Asia Cup.

**Table 6.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on April 13, 2022

<b>DISCOURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<b>OBSERVED MATTERS</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Indonesian National Team (Timnas) is almost complete. Marques Bolden has arrived in Indonesia but has yet to join the training.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	The Central Board of the Indonesian Basketball Association (Perbasi) summoned 23 players to the training camp for the 2022 SEA Games.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	Five of them are players who are abroad. Marques Bolden, Brandon Jawato, Agassi Goantara, and Fatih Respati are already in Jakarta. Only Derrick Michael remains from the NBA Academy in Australia.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Latihan (Exercise)".
	Stylistics	The word "Latihan (Exercise)" appears five times.
	Rhetorics	Jeremy Santoso, the National Team Manager, appears in the pictures, and his statements appear in the news.

Source: Irmalia (2022c)

On April 13, 2022, news broke of the "Training" program being prepared by the Indonesian National Team. Facing the 2022 SEA Games, the Indonesian national team is strengthened by players from abroad, such as Derrick Michael, Marques Bolden, Brandon Jawato, Agassi Goantara, and Fatih Respati.

**Table 7.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on April 14, 2022

<b>DISCOURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<b>OBSERVED MATTERS</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	Indonesian young player Derrick Michael Xzavierro continued his career in the NCAA Division I. He joined Grand Canyon University, a Western Athletic Conference (WAC) member.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	Together with the NBA Global Academy, Derrick had the opportunity to compete at the United States high school level.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	In some matches, Derrick received direct monitoring from campus-level talent scouts.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Gabung (Join)."
	Stylistics	The word "Gabung (Join)" appears three times.
	Rhetorics	Derrick Michael Xzavierro appears in the picture, but Jeremy Santoso replaced his statement.

Source: Darmika (2022a)

On April 14, 2022, news focused on Derrick Michael Xzavierro as a young player who is continuing his basketball career abroad. Derrick is a remarkable figure because he gets direct monitoring from talent scouts.

**Table 8.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on April 15, 2022

<b>DISCOURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<b>OBSERVED MATTERS</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	Marques Bolden debuted with the Indonesian national Team (Timnas) at the 2022 SEA Games.

<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	NBA G-League players are the foundation of the National Team in several future events. Apart from the 2022 SEA Games, the 2022 FIBA Asia Cup, and the 2023 FIBA World Cup (if passed).
	Semantics	For the 2022 SEA Games as the closest event, Perbasi is not tempted to take advantage of regulations regarding naturalized player slots.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Syntax	Selection of the word "Naturalisasi (Naturalization)."
	Stylistics	The word "Naturalisasi (Naturalization)" appears four times.
	Rhetorics	Marques Bolden appears in the picture, but Jeremy Santoso replaced his statement.

Source: Irmalia (2022d)

On April 15, 2022, the news focused on the issue of "Naturalization" ahead of the 2022 SEA Games. Where the name that appeared was Marques Bolden. The figure of Marques Bolden is a figure of support for the national team for matches after the 2022 SEA Games, such as the FIBA Asia Cup 2022 and the FIBA World Cup 2023.

**Table 9.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on April 25, 2022

<b>DISCOURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<b>OBSERVED MATTERS</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	Vietnam looks ready to welcome the SEA Games.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	Vietnam has locked up 12 names to bring to the global event every two years.
	Semantics	Vietnam has grown into a new power in the SEA Games
<b>Microstructure</b>	Syntax	Selection of the word "Vietnam."
	Stylistics	The word "Vietnam" appears eight times.
	Rhetorics	Juzang as, a Vietnamese basketball player, appears in the pictures, and his statements appear in the news.

Source: Darmika (2022b)

On April 25, 2022, the news focused on the readiness of Vietnam's men's national basketball team to face the 2022 SEA Games. Vietnam is one of the strongest teams and has prepared players to compete in the 2022 SEA Games.

**Table 10.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on April 27, 2022

<b>DISCOURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<b>OBSERVED MATTERS</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Indonesian National Team (Timnas) has many tasks ahead of the 2022 SEA Games.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	The Indonesian National Team (Timnas) lost 60-71 to the Select team.
	Semantics	The Indonesian National Team (Timnas) made many turnovers until they lost this momentum.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Syntax	Selection of the word "Pemain (Player)."
	Stylistics	The word "Pemain (Player)" appears five times.
	Rhetorics	Marques Bolden appears in the pictures, but his statements do not appear in the news.

Source: Irmalia (2022e)

On April 27, 2022, the news focused on the many failures of the Indonesian National Team ahead of the 2022 SEA Games. A series of mistakes and turnovers need to be made on an important note in maximizing results in the 2022 SEA Games so players can anticipate their mistakes.

Based on the data presented in table 3 to table 10, the initial conclusion can be drawn that in the news (MainBasket.com) pre-competition, the news was dominated by a strategy in setting the "Training camp" agenda which seeks to provide opportunities for the Indonesian men's basketball national team by holding a trial match in Australia. Because apart from facing the 2022 SEA Games, the Indonesian men's national basketball team is also being prepared for the FIBA Asia Cup 2022 and the FIBA World Cup 2023.



## During the competition news

**Table 11.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 16, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Indonesian National Team (Timnas) must work hard to secure the inaugural match of the 2022 SEA Games.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	Indonesia needs help to win comfortably.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	The team just found its rhythm in the second half.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Waktu (Time)."
	Stylistics	The word "Waktu (Time)" appears three times.
	Rhetorics	Abraham and Derrick were mentioned in the news but did not appear in pictures.

Source: Irmalia (2022f)

On May 16, 2022, the news focused on setting the time so the Indonesian national team could play as effectively as possible. The Indonesian national team also needs to secure themselves in the inaugural match of the 2022 SEA Games, where Abraham and Derrick are the figures mentioned in the news.

**Table 12.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 18, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas) won again against Thailand.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	The trio of Brandon Jawato, Derrick Michael, and Abraham Damar Grahita returned to be the focus of the attack.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	Indonesia has always won in the last three meetings in all competitions.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Tembakan (Shot)."
	Stylistics	The word "Tembakan (Shot)" appears six times.
	Rhetorics	Derrick Michael Xzavierro appears in the pictures, but his statements do not appear in the news.

Source: Darmika (2022c)

On May 18, 2022, the news focused on the strategy in making shots taken by the Indonesian men's national basketball team, which was dominated by Brandon Jawato, Derrick Michael, and Abraham Damar Grahita, where this configuration is a practical step and brings Indonesia victory.

**Table 13.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 19, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas) won against Cambodia again.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	Marques Bolden is the only player who entered the squad but has not yet appeared.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	Three of Indonesia's mainstay players in the previous game were given a few minutes to play today.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Akurasi (accuracy)."
	Stylistics	The word "Akurasi (accuracy)" appears twice.
	Rhetorics	Abraham appears in the pictures, but his statements do not appear in the news.

Source: Darmika (2022d)



On May 19, 2022, the news focused on the proper strategy that led the Indonesian men's national basketball team to win against Cambodia. Indonesia fielded three mainstay players in the previous match, but Marques Bolden was the only player who entered the squad but has not appeared.

**Table 14.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 20, 2022

<b>DISCOURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<b>OBSERVED MATTERS</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas) maintains a positive trend against Singapore.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	Indonesia also appeared neat in the game, which only made eight turnovers compared to Singapore's 17.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	This turnover is Indonesia's lowest of all the games that have been played.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Turnover."
	Stylistics	The word "Turnover" appears twice.
	Rhetorics	Derrick Michael Xzavierro appears in the pictures, but his statements do not appear in the news.

Source: Darmika (2022e)

On May 20, 2022, the news focused on the "Turnover" by the Indonesian men's national basketball team. This needs to be watched out for, especially against Singapore, so the Indonesian National Team must maintain a positive trend and reduce "Turnover" as much as possible.

**Table 15.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 21, 2022

<b>DISCOURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<b>OBSERVED MATTERS</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	After silencing Vietnam, the Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas) is still awake from defeat.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	Solid defense makes Indonesia dominant in this game. Indonesia has always excelled from the very beginning.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	Indonesia is quite adequate, with 51 percent accuracy.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Tembakan (Shot)."
	Stylistics	The word "Tembakan (Shot)" appears four times.
	Rhetorics	Derrick Michael Xzavierro appears in the pictures, but his statements do not appear in the news.

Source: Darmika (2022f)

On May 21, 2022, the news focused on the Indonesian national Team (Timnas), which was dominant over the Vietnam national team (Timnas). Indonesia is dominant with a solid defense and shots with pretty good accuracy; Derrick Michael Xzavierro appeared in the news, which seemed to confirm that Derrick had a big hand in shooting accuracy against the Vietnam national team.

**Table 16.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 22, 2022

<b>DISCOURSE STRUCTURE</b>	<b>OBSERVED MATTERS</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	Indonesia managed to get on the highest podium. The men's basketball national team (times) won gold in the 2022 SEA Games.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	Indonesia also almost excelled throughout the game, even though the point margin was not too far.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	Indonesia is consistently above the Philippines.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Tripoint (Three points)."
	Stylistics	The word "Tripoint (Three points)" appears three times.
	Rhetorics	Abraham does not appear in the pictures, and his statements do not appear in the news.

Source: Irmalia (2022h)

On May 22, 2022, the news focused on the success of the Indonesian National Team, which won gold at the 2022 SEA Games. From this match, Indonesia excelled throughout the match over the Philippines. The word "Tripoint" appeared in the news, emphasizing that "Tripoint" shots dominated Indonesia's victory.

**Table 17.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 22, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	Indonesia was finally able to win the SEA Games gold since its first participation in the 1977 SEA Games.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	Indonesia fielded six debutants for the 2022 SEA Games.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	Derrick and Bolden played very well, especially Derrick, who played the whole game.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Bolden."
	Stylistics	The word "Bolden" appears nine times.
	Rhetorics	Derrick Michael Xzavierro appears in the pictures, but his statements do not appear in the news.

Source: Irmalia (2022g)

On May 22, 2022, the news focused on Indonesia's success in winning a gold medal at the 2022 SEA Games since its first time participating in the 1977 SEA Games. In this event, Indonesia fielded six debutants for the 2022 SEA Games. Derrick and Bolden appeared in the news and played very well.

Based on the data presented in Tables 11 to 17, in the reporting (MainBasket.com) during the competition, reporting was dominated by strategies for timing and playing effectively. In addition, Brandon Jawato, Derrick Michael, and Abraham Damar Grahita played an essential role in making shots during the game, especially giving "Three points ."However, it is also a note that the Indonesian national team needs to reduce the "Turnover" that occurs during the match so that it is not detrimental to the team.

### Post-competition news

**Table 18.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 24, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
<b>Macrostructure</b>	Thematic	The Indonesian National Team (Timnas) has returned to their homeland and was warmly welcomed by Indonesian basketball lovers.
<b>Superstructure</b>	Schematic	The government has prepared an appreciation or bonus.
<b>Microstructure</b>	Semantics	The national basketball team (Timnas) made history by winning the first gold medal for Indonesia since participating in 1977.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Event."
	Stylistics	The word "Event" appears five times.
	Rhetorics	Derrick Michael Xzavierro appears in the pictures, and his statements appear in the news.

Source: Irmalia (2022j)

On May 24, 2022, news coverage was held at an event to welcome the Indonesian National Team (Timnas), who made history by winning the first gold medal for Indonesia since participating in 1977. For this success, the Indonesian National Team (Timnas) gave appreciation by highlighting the figure of Derrick Michael Xavierro.

**Table 19.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 24, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
Macrostructure	Thematic	Indonesia sparring with nine teams from the NBLI in Brisbane and Melbourne.
Superstructure	Schematic	Indonesia's journey continues at the FIBA Asia Cup 2022.
Microstructure	Semantics	Indonesia is targeted to enter the top eight or qualify for the group phase to appear in the FIBA World Cup 2023 finals.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Latihan (Exercise)."
	Stylistics	The word "Latihan (Exercise)" appears three times.
	Rhetorics	Derrick Michael Xzavierro appears in the pictures, and his statements appear in the news.

Source: Irmalia (2022i)

On May 24, 2022, the news focused on Indonesia, training and competing in Brisbane and Melbourne. The match in Australia is an event where the target is for Indonesia to enter the top eight or qualify for the group phase to be able to appear in the FIBA World Cup 2023 finals. Then the FIBA Asia Cup 2022 will be the next event after the 2022 Sea Games ends.

**Table 20.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 25, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
Macrostructure	Thematic	Victory The Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas) won a gold medal at the 2022 SEA Games.
Superstructure	Schematic	Indonesia looks pretty good at this event every two years.
Microstructure	Semantics	Not even once has Indonesia won without Indonesia excelling in shot effectiveness.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Bolden."
	Stylistics	The word "Bolden" appears six times.
	Rhetorics	Derrick Michael Xzavierro and Marques Bolden appear in the pictures, but their statements do not appear in the news.

Source: Darmika (2022g)

On May 25, 2022, the news focused on the victory of the Indonesian men's national Team (Timnas), who won a gold medal at the 2022 SEA Games. In this event, Indonesia performed well with shooting effectiveness. The news figure "Bolden" appears in the news, which seems to be the winner.

**Table 21.** Analysis of MainBasket online news on May 29, 2022

DISCOURSE STRUCTURE	OBSERVED MATTERS	ELEMENTS
Macrostructure	Thematic	Appreciate Abraham's success in bringing the gold medal at the 2022 Vietnam SEA Games.
Superstructure	Schematic	DBL Indonesia and Ardiles are also ready to give Bram the latest volume of special edition shoes.
Microstructure	Semantics	Bram and the Indonesian national team will face an agenda to compete in Australia.
	Syntax	Selection of the word "Apresiasi (Appreciation)."
	Stylistics	The word "Apresiasi (Appreciation)" appears four times.
	Rhetorics	Abraham appears in the pictures, and his statements appear in the news.

Source: Darmika (2022h)

On May 29, 2022, the news highlighted appreciation for the success of the Indonesian Men's Basketball Team at the 2022 SEA Games. However, in this news, Abraham appreciated the tension as an Indonesian Men's Basketball Team member. This appreciation was realized by DBL Indonesia

and Ardiles, who gave Abraham shoes and are expected to be ready to face the agenda of competing in Australia.

Based on the data presented in table 18 to table 21, the initial conclusion can be drawn that in the news (MainBasket.com) after the competition, the news is dominated by organizing events as a form of appreciation for the Indonesian men's basketball national team. This event is also an encouragement for the Indonesian men's national basketball team to be ready to face the competition agenda in Australia and continue with the FIBA Asia Cup 2022. The figures that appear in the news are Derrick Michael Xavierro, Bolden, and Abraham.

### Indonesia's National Team Faces

Each team has a 'face' that is trying to be shown to the public—especially the national team, which contains elite sportsmen. For instance, Michael Jordan was the face of the National Team of America when they competed in Barcelona Olympics in 1992 (Wenner, 1994), and LeBron James in the Redeem Team in China Olympics 2008 (Foster, 2008). The same thing also applies to the Indonesian National Team. However, based on the results above, Indonesia has not one but four stars as the face of the team. They are Abraham Damar Grahita, Derrick Michael Xzavierro, Brandon Jawato, and Marques Bolden.

**Table 22.** Indonesian National Team Star

No	Name	Position	Status	Club
1	Abraham Damar Grahita	Guard	Local	Veltex Shizuoka (B3 League, Japan)
2	Derrick Michael Xzavierro	Forward	Local	Grand Canyon University (NCAA Division I)
3	Brandon Jawato	Forward	Local Naturalization	Aishin Sea Horse (B League, Japan)
4	Marques Bolden	Centre	Naturalization	Salt Lake City Stars (NBA G League)

Source: Research processed data (2023)

The research examines three essential stages: pre-competition, competition, and post-competition. Each stage presents a different face. In the pre-competition stage, MainBasket highlighted the confirmation of Bolden and Derrick Michael's presence. This is important to boost the morale of the national team, considering there is news that Vietnam, as the host, will bring in seven naturalized players (Vietnam News Agency, 2019). Then, during the competition, the show's stars changed to Abraham, Brandon, and Derrick. They reportedly played a significant role in Indonesia's victory at the 31st Sea Games in the early matches leading up to the final, especially since Bolden had not seen any minutes. Abraham is in the spotlight because of his two-time MVP achievements in the last three years in the national league and the champion of the 2019 Indonesia Basketball League (IBL) (Apriadi, 2022). In the first match against Malaysia, Abraham put in a stunning performance by scoring 22 points. Moreover, the media inevitably paid more attention to Abraham because he consistently averaged double-digit points during the Sea Games.

Meanwhile, Brandon also came under the media's spotlight because of the coach's decision not to play Bolden in the first four matches against Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, and Singapore. In those matches, Brandon was always the motor of the attack. This is not surprising as Brandon, despite being recognized as a local, is essentially a player who underwent the naturalization process. Brandon only officially became an Indonesian citizen through the Naturalization program in 2020. However, FIBA considers Jawato a local Indonesian player because he reportedly already had an Indonesian passport before he was 16.

For background, Brandon Jawato was born in Santa Monica, California, United States. However, he has Balinese blood from his father, Nyoman Jawato. While his mother is from the United States, Belinda van Dorn. Brandon has lived in the United States since childhood and knows basketball from the land of Uncle Sam. Brandon started his career in Indonesia in 2016, joining Pelita Jaya for two seasons. After that, Brandon joined CLS Knights Indonesia and competed in the 2018-2019 ASEAN Basketball League (ABL).

In the meantime, Bolden's name was brought up, especially during the final against the Philippines. At that moment, he was considered to make a significant contribution to providing the

first gold in basketball. This is also inseparable from Bolden's experience competing at the NBA level, even though he did not get a long-term contract. Another interesting finding is that MainBasket highlighted Derrick's role in the Sea Games final. The spotlight was given because there are great expectations of this young player who has received education and training at the NBA Global Academy and joined the NCAA Division I. Even MainBasket.com called Derrick a puzzle piece missing from the National Team.

In the post-competition stage, MainBasket spotlighted three names - Abraham, Derrick, and Bolden. However, the spotlight is more on Abraham. The spotlight on Abraham can be seen in the photos featuring Abraham and the coverage of the launch of his signature shoe, AD2. The logical explanation is that MainBasket, as a community media that pays special attention to Indonesian basketball wants to push Abraham to the public as the hero figure in the historic achievement at the 31st Sea Games in Vietnam.

In addition, the fact that Abraham is a native Indonesian citizen who does not have hereditary blood and is not naturalized is the main reason for MainBasket to choose him over Derrick, Brandon, or Bolden. Both Brandon and Derrick have hereditary blood. Derrick's father, Lazare, is originally from Cameroon (Dewi, 2020). However, unlike Brandon, Derrick has grown up in Indonesia since childhood, so he did not go through the naturalization process at all.

In Indonesia basketball, there is still an impression that local athletes cannot provide neat achievements at the international level. Therefore, naturalization is carried out to boost achievements. However, there is a reluctance to acknowledge the contribution of naturalization here. According to Soffer (2013), the media has a vital role in constructing reality in terms of national solidarity. The main ingredient of national solidarity often used by the media is the main character of indigenous origin (pribumi).

Looking at the lineage of the existing choices (among Abraham, Derrick, Brandon, and Bolden), it is clear that Abraham is the only indigenous basketball player there (Setijadi, 2017; Chen, 2022). He has no bloodline and is not a naturalized player. On his social media (@abrahamdg\_), Abraham also often uses the hashtag #JustAKidFromBangka to campaign for his localness in the public eye. Thus, MainBasket transforms into a medium that constructs the public reality of its readers that there is a significant role of Abraham, as a native Indonesian, in getting gold at the 31st Sea Games in Vietnam. Another impression generated is that naturalized players and hereditary players are only co-stars.

With regard to naturalized players, FIBA rules state that only one naturalized player is allowed to play on the court. However, Indonesia has more than one on the National Team. In addition to the names Bolden and Brandon already discussed, there are two young players from Senegal, Dame Diagne, and Serigne Madou Kane. Both were under 16 at the time of their citizenship change, so they are considered local Indonesian players. Only Dame was included in the national team squad for the Vietnam Sea Games. Based on the text analysis that has been done, it is clear that MainBasket features four prominent faces from the Indonesian basketball team. However, the local face is prioritized with the logical assumptions to give the impression that the gold medal is only partially due to the contribution of naturalized players and hereditary players.

### **FIBA World Cup as a Long-Term Goal**

MainBasket, in this study, gives a high appreciation for the historic achievements of the Indonesian National Team. However, when studied in more depth, the discourse implicit in it is that the gold medal at the 31st Sea Games Vietnam is only a stepping stone towards the 2023 World Cup qualification. Indonesia's target in the basketball arena is not just to get a gold medal at the Sea Games but to participate in the FIBA World Cup 2023. Indonesia is confirmed to host the upcoming 2023 basketball world cup with two other countries, Japan and the Philippines. However, in contrast to these two countries, the Indonesian national team must wait to meet the requirements to qualify.

FIBA, as the organizer, gave conditions to Indonesia, namely qualifying for the world cup or entering the quarterfinals at the FIBA Asia Cup 2022 (Atmoko, 2022). These conditions were given because, in terms of ranking, Indonesia was in 80th place, far below Japan in 38th place, and the Philippines in 40th place (FIBA Basketball, 2022b). Unfortunately, Indonesia fails to meet both requirements set by FIBA (FIBA Basketball, 2022a). In MainBasket news, the national team reportedly conducted a training camp and a series of match trials. In the trial matches, several

foreign players who had previously competed in the Indonesia Basketball League (IBL) and several local players were gathered as a team and used as sparring opponents. However, in this report, National Team Manager Jeremy has stated plans to practice matches in Australia in preparation for the FIBA Asia Cup 2022. Thus, looking at the national team manager's statement, it is clear that the Sea Games event in Vietnam is not the main event, but the FIBA Asia Cup is the requirement to enter the World Cup.

## CONCLUSION

This study adds to the academic literature on media discourse by providing new insight into the context of Indonesia, which is of particular interest due to its recent achievements in the 31st Sea Games in Vietnam.

The analysis of this research, which looked at the pre-competition, in-competition, and post-competition stages, concluded with three exciting findings. First, MainBasket captured a signal of nervousness from the national team toward the Sea Games competition in Vietnam. However, this disappeared when Derrick and Bolden joined the National Team. Second, MainBasket highlights the four leading players of the National Team, consisting of Abraham (local), Derrick (local player with hereditary blood), Brandon (local player with hereditary blood and through the naturalization process), and Bolden (naturalized player). Third, MainBasket greatly appreciated Indonesia's first gold medal achievement in the sport by defeating the Philippines. However, the victory at the Sea Games is only considered a stepping stone toward the FIBA ASIA Cup 2022 as a requirement in order to compete in the FIBA World Cup 2023.

The media has a significant role in reporting sports, especially in shaping people's perspectives and raising awareness of an issue. MainBasket, as a media with a primary focus on reporting basketball, certainly has a role in framing the success or failure of a team.

To conclude this article, we discuss some of the limitations of this study and suggest a few avenues for future research. Although these research results are apparent, it is crucial to understand the public's perception of the National Team and their achievement in the 31st Sea Games in Vietnam. Therefore, addressing how the public deciphers these discourses would be of interest to future research. Similarly, it would be relevant to examine the processes that produce media discourses, how the editorial policy in MainBasket, and the determination of news angles are determined to be interesting for future research and discussed in depth.

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