3L: Language, Linguistics, Literature® The Southeast Asian Journal of English Language Studies
Vol 32(2), June 2026 http://doi.org/10.17576/3L-2026-3202-06

A Corpus-Assisted Critical Discourse Analysis of English-Language News from Thai and International Media: A Case Study of the 2025 Thailand Earthquake

INTISARN CHAIYASUK*
Language, Culture, and Global Citizenship Research Unit,
Mahasarakham University, Thailand
&
Department of Western Languages and Linguistics,
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Mahasarakham University, Thailand
intisarn@msu.ac.th

BARAMEE KHEOVICHAI
Faculty of Arts,
Silpakorn University, Thailand

ABSTRACT

Disasters are not only physical events but also discursive phenomena shaped by media language. This study examines how the 2025 Thailand earthquake was linguistically represented in Thai English-language newspapers and international news outlets. Drawing on 120 news reports (60 Thai and 60 international), the study employs a corpus-assisted Critical Discourse Analysis (CACDA) approach, combining Fairclough's three-dimensional model with Halliday's transitivity framework to analyse discursive and ideological patterns. Findings from corpus linguistic analysis indicate differences in the representation of the earthquake. While keywords in the Thai media tend to emphasise the government agencies' roles, the international media focuses more on the international organisations' roles, the political conflicts, and the victims' voices. Collocation analysis of "government," "earthquake/quake," and "people" further corroborates these and shows that the international media use stronger and more vivid language to depict the event. Manual analysis of selected text reveals that Thai media adopt a bureaucratic tone, foregrounding institutional responses through nominalisations, passive voice, and modality that obscure agency and reduce emotional salience. In contrast, international outlets highlight human suffering using active voice, agentive structures, and emotionally charged vocabulary. These differences reflect broader sociocultural norms—such as collectivist deference to authority in Thai journalism versus individualistic and accountability-driven narratives in international media. The study offers insights into how crisis discourse is mediated by national ideologies and journalistic conventions. Implications extend to disaster communication, media discourse education, and intercultural understanding.

Keywords: Media Discourse; Critical Discourse Analysis; Corpus Linguistics; Thailand Earthquake; Disasters

INTRODUCTION

On March 28, 2025, a powerful 7.7-magnitude earthquake struck near Mandalay, Myanmar, sending seismic waves across borders and severely impacting northern Thailand. In Bangkok, the tremors caused significant structural damage, including the collapse of a high-rise building, resulting in numerous casualties and widespread public anxiety (BBC News, 2025; CARE, 2025). The transnational scope of the disaster—spanning a democratically governed Thailand and a military-ruled Myanmar—sparked divergent media narratives. English-language international outlets as well as Thai-based platforms portrayed the same event using noticeably different tones, emphases, and linguistic framings.

Media representations of natural disasters are inherently ideological. They shape public perception, influence humanitarian responses, and reproduce power relations (Fairclough, 1995; Potts et al., 2015). Prior studies have shown that disaster discourse varies across socio-political and institutional contexts.

A corpus-assisted critical discourse analysis approach enables researchers to uncover ideologically charged linguistic patterns, including stance-taking, collocational choices, and evaluative expressions (Baker & McEnery, 2015; Partington et al., 2013). For example, Liu and Stevenson (2013) demonstrated how U.S. and Chinese media framed post-disaster narratives differently by emphasising either victimhood or resilience. Similarly, Richardson (2007) examined how newspapers strategically deployed stance and attitudinal markers to construct moral legitimacy, thereby shaping public perception and ideological alignment. These works underscore the value of a corpus-assisted Critical Discourse Analysis (CACDA) in exposing implicit worldviews embedded in disaster reporting. However, in the Thai context, such research remains limited. Furthermore, despite rich literature on the Sichuan and Pohang earthquakes (e.g., Pyles & Svistova, 2015) and earthquakes and tsunamis (e.g., Rosemary et al., 2023), there is a notable absence of CACDA-based studies on transnational disaster discourse in Southeast Asia.

This study addresses this gap by examining how the 2025 Thailand earthquake is linguistically framed across Thai and international English-language media. As Rosemary et al. (2023) argue, differing portrayals of the same disaster often reflect divergent journalistic values and cultural ideologies. Investigating these linguistic choices can yield important insights into how disaster narratives are constructed, politicised, and consumed across borders. The study is guided by the following research questions:

1. What linguistic features—such as lexical choices, metaphorical language, collocations, and evaluative expressions—characterise the reporting of the 2025 Thailand earthquake in Thai English-language media compared to international counterparts?
2. In what ways do these linguistic differences reflect deeper ideological positions, cultural narratives, or journalistic norms in Thai and international media discourses?

LITERATURE REVIEW

CORPUS-ASSISTED CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS (CACDA) IN DISASTER REPORTING

The way disasters are portrayed in the media is not neutral—it is shaped by deep-rooted cultural beliefs and ideological positions. Rather than being the result of journalistic routines alone, media representations often reflect broader discourses around responsibility, morality, and national identity. News narratives are shaped by lexicogrammatical choices that reflect broader power relations, cultural expectations, and political goals.

By way of illustration, Pyles and Svistova's (2015) analysis of post-earthquake narratives in Haiti revealed a Western-dominated discourse that cast local populations as passive victims, while promoting neoliberal recovery models as universally effective solutions where development was equated with external aid, and foreign experts were given greater prominence than local voices and knowledge systems.

While studies have investigated the language of media reports on disasters, in recent years, corpus-assisted critical discourse analysis (CACDA) has become a powerful method for exploring how disasters are reported in the media. Critical discourse analysis aims at unpacking ideological

discourse through linguistic analysis. Corpus linguistics provides a method for large-scale and quantitative analysis. The synergy of data-driven insights from corpus linguistics and the interpretive lens of critical discourse analysis enables researchers to uncover both visible and hidden discursive patterns in news texts, rendering the analysis more systematic, transparent, and replicable.

A key example is the study by Potts et al. (2015), who examined a 36-million-word corpus of news coverage on Hurricane Katrina. Their analysis focused on tag sets and collocational patterns, showing how 'newsworthiness' was constructed in ways that subtly prioritised certain actors and storylines over others. Furthermore, Li and Zhen (2025) integrated corpus linguistics and critical discourse analysis to compare American and British press reports on the discharge of radioactive water from Fukushima. They observe that while the American media conveys a supportive and confident tone, the British media is more factual and doubtful of the appropriateness of the discharge. In some other studies, Liu and Abu Bakar (2024) investigated the portrayal of China's response to COVID-19 in the American media. It is argued that the American media tend to focus on criticising China, downplaying its success, and emphasising its conflicts with the US and the WHO. Abas et al. (2023) used corpus linguistics and the discourse historical approach to critical discourse analysis to study the representation of the COVID-19 vaccine in Malaysian news. They argued that the news ideologically depicted the vaccine as the national interest, uncritically promoting the vaccine mandate. These examples underscore the importance of examining not only *which* disasters are reported but also how they are represented—and, crucially, whose perspectives are foregrounded or marginalised in the process.

CULTURAL AND IDEOLOGICAL FRAMINGS OF DISASTERS IN THE MEDIA

Culture plays an important role in discourse as shown by research in intercultural communication (Scollon et al., 2012). Different cultures vary in terms of cultural dimensions (Hofstede, 2001), influencing communication styles. Moreover, culture and geopolitical interest can lead to ideological framing of an event (Mohammed et al., 2025; Yitong & Samaha, 2026), as evidenced in cross-cultural comparison of media discourses on disasters. Cultural ideology also influences how stakeholders are portrayed in disaster narratives, resulting in the disparity in how the parties involved are discursively constructed.

For instance, Solman and Henderson (2019) showed how UK media often portrayed Indian flood victims through an exoticised lens, positioning them as distant "Others." In contrast, Indian media framed the same events with an emphasis on community resilience and local agency. They point out that Western media often portray disasters in the Global South through themes of bureaucratic failure and humanitarian crisis, while local media in those regions typically frame their coverage around resilience and effective state responses. Liu and Stevenson (2013) used the Appraisal Framework to compare Chinese and Australian news reports about earthquakes. Their findings showed that Chinese media relied more on institutional voices and emotional restraint, whereas Australian outlets used more personal and emotionally expressive language, often assigning blame to authorities.

These differences reflect contrasting cultural orientations: collectivism versus individualism, respect for authority versus critical engagement, and emotional restraint versus expressive discourse. Taken together, these findings underscore the value of bilingual and cross-cultural research in disaster discourse. While single-language or monocultural studies may obscure key ideological patterns, comparative approaches help illuminate how different societies narrate

and make sense of crisis. In doing so, they reveal the discursive infrastructures—often invisible yet powerful—that shape how disasters are framed, who is held accountable, and which voices are heard or silenced.

When applied to the case of Thailand, the bilingual nature of its press environment introduces additional complexity. Nationalistic overtones, bureaucratic optimism, and moments of strategic silence often co-exist in the country's English-language media. This reflects a dual intention: to portray national unity in times of crisis while simultaneously aligning with official government narratives. Such tensions call for a critical discourse analysis that can uncover the ideological "fault lines" between global and local constructions of the same seismic event.

RESEARCH GAP AND RATIONALE FOR THE PRESENT STUDY

Although research in Corpus-Assisted Discourse Studies (CADS) has made valuable contributions to the understanding of disaster communication, several key gaps remain unaddressed. First, there is a notable absence of empirical focus on Southeast Asia, especially Thailand. Despite the region's increasing vulnerability to natural disasters and its growing integration into global media networks, much of the existing literature has concentrated on East Asia or the Global North. As a result, the discursive patterns emerging from Southeast Asian contexts remain under-theorised and empirically neglected.

Second, many prior studies take a monolingual perspective—analysing either domestic-language or global-English corpora in isolation. This limits our understanding of how national and international English-language media may construct divergent narratives, even when reporting on the same event.

Third, there is a lack of comparative research that explicitly examines how local and international English-language media differ in their representations of the same crisis, leaving important questions unanswered about the ideological asymmetries and geopolitical biases that often underpin global disaster discourse.

To address these gaps, the present study applies a corpus-assisted critical discourse approach to examine the English-language coverage of the 2025 Thailand earthquake. It compares reporting across selected Thai-based news and prominent international media agencies. Grounded in Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics and Fairclough's critical discourse analysis framework, the analysis focuses on key discursive elements including transitivity patterns, actor representation, lexical salience, and metaphorical framing.

By investigating whose voices are foregrounded, how suffering is represented, and which narratives are prioritised or marginalised, this study seeks to contribute to a more critical and context-sensitive understanding of disaster discourse. In doing so, it responds to Pyles and Svistova's (2015) call for reflexive, situated disaster studies—research that interrogates the politics of representation and resists the tendency to naturalise inequality in times of crisis.

METHODOLOGY

RESEARCH DESIGN

This study adopts a mixed-methods comparative research design to explore how the 2025 earthquake in Thailand is linguistically represented and discursively framed in Thai and international English-language news media. Grounded in the principles of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Corpus Linguistics (CL), the research examines lexical choices, syntactic patterns, and broader discursive strategies to reveal how language is used to construct meaning, express ideological positions, assign responsibility, shape risk narratives, and stir emotional responses. This design allows for a systematic and cross-cultural exploration of media discourse, highlighting how journalistic norms, national ideologies, and audience expectations influence the language of disaster reporting.

DATA COLLECTION

The dataset for this study comprises a total of 120 English-language news articles, totalling 73,484 words, purposively sampled to ensure thematic and temporal relevance. The articles are evenly divided between three Thai and six international sources, enabling comparative investigation. The selection of news articles for this study followed clearly defined criteria to ensure topical relevance, linguistic consistency, and a balanced range of sources. The primary focus was on media coverage of the 2025 earthquake in Thailand, with the data collection period spanning from 28 March to 18 April 2025. Relevant articles were retrieved using keyword searches such as *"Thailand earthquake," "quake,"* and *"Bangkok quake."* To maintain a focus on factual representation, only hard news reports were included; opinion pieces, editorials, and commentaries were deliberately excluded to ensure a uniform informational tone across the dataset.

To promote temporal balance and reduce selection bias, the study aimed to collect approximately one article per day from each news outlet. This goal was adjusted when necessary, especially in the case of international media, where coverage of the event was less frequent and more sporadic.

The final corpus comprised 120 English-language news articles, evenly split between Thai and international sources. From the Thai media landscape, 20 articles each were collected from three major English-language outlets: Bangkok Post, The Nation, and Thai PBS World. On the international side, the corpus included 10 articles each from six globally recognised news agencies: BBC (UK), CNN (US), ABC News (Australia), Al Jazeera (Qatar), Reuters (UK), and Associated Press (US). This sampling strategy ensured both geographic and institutional diversity, allowing for meaningful cross-cultural comparison of how the same seismic event was reported and discursively framed.

ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORKS

This study adopts an integrated analytical approach that combines Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Corpus Linguistics (CL) to provide a comprehensive and insightful interpretation of media discourse. By combining qualitative and quantitative methods, this mixed-methods approach enables both broad, macro-level pattern recognition and detailed, micro-level interpretive analysis. Such methodological triangulation strengthens the validity of the findings by allowing the study to explore how language constructs meaning—both explicitly and implicitly—

in news coverage of earthquake events. As Baker and McEnery (2015) argue, integrating corpus linguistics with discourse analysis allows researchers to capture the strengths of both paradigms: corpus methods reveal systematic lexical and collocational trends across large datasets, while discourse analysis provides the interpretive depth necessary to explain their ideological and contextual significance.

The CDA strand of the analysis is grounded in Fairclough's (1995) three-dimensional model of discourse, which views discourse as operating simultaneously across three interconnected layers: textual**,** discursive practice, and social practice. At the textual level, attention is given to linguistic forms and structures that shape the discourse. The discursive practice dimension explores how texts are produced, circulated, and consumed within the media landscape. The social practice level addresses the broader institutional and ideological contexts that influence discourse construction. This framework appears to be particularly relevant for analysing disaster news, as it helps reveal how media narratives assign agency, reproduce or challenge social power, and contribute to the public's understanding of reality.

To apply CDA in practice, the study focuses on several key linguistic features that illuminate how ideology and power relations are embedded in language use. A central component of this analysis is Halliday and Matthiessen's (2004) transitivity system, which is part of the ideational metafunction in Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). This system provides a framework for examining how process types, participants, and circumstances are configured in clauses, thereby revealing how events and actions are represented in discourse. The six main process types identified by Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) are: material (actions and events), mental (perception, cognition, emotion), relational (being and having), verbal (saying), behavioural (physiological and psychological behaviour), and existential (there is/are constructions). By analysing the distribution and patterning of these processes, this study examines how agency and responsibility are encoded in news texts. The analysis also incorporates the use of evaluative language (Martin & White, 2005), exploring how attitudes, judgments, and emotions are conveyed to influence reader alignment and engagement. Finally, practices of intertextuality and quotation are examined to assess which voices are legitimised or marginalised. The inclusion or exclusion of sources—such as government officials, scientific experts, or eyewitnesses—shapes the ideological framing of the news event and contributes to the construction of social reality.

The corpus linguistics component complements the CDA findings by systematically identifying lexical trends and discursive patterns across a large dataset. Corpus tools are used to extract keywords and collocations of key terms. The analysis includes comparisons between Thai and international news sub-corpora to highlight similarities and differences in keyword prominence. Collocations and Keyword-in-Context (KWIC) tools are employed to reveal how these terms function within their discursive environments.

DATA ANALYSIS PROCEDURE

As shown in Figure 1 below, the analysis followed a systematic four-stage approach, integrating corpus-based techniques with critical discourse interpretation to explore both lexical patterns and discursive strategies in earthquake-related news coverage.

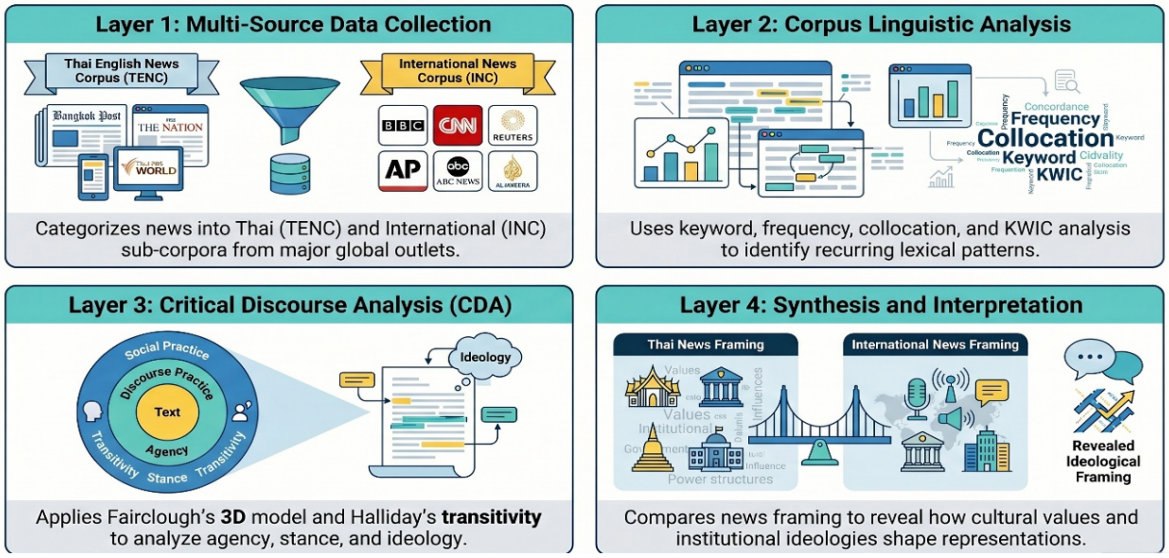

FIGURE 1. Integrated Corpus-Assisted Critical Discourse Analytical Framework

Figure 1 presents the integrated analytical framework employed in this study. The framework consists of four interconnected layers that systematically combine Corpus Linguistics (CL) and Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). The first layer comprises the data sources, which are divided into two sub-corpora: the Thai English News Corpus (TENC) and the International News Corpus (INC). The Thai corpus includes news reports from *Bangkok Post*, *The Nation*, and *Thai PBS World*, while the international corpus consists of reports from *BBC*, *CNN*, *Reuters*, *Associated Press (AP)*, *ABC News*, and *Al Jazeera*. The second layer involves corpus linguistic analysis, which includes keyword analysis, frequency analysis, collocation analysis, and Keyword in Context (KWIC) analysis. These procedures are used to identify recurring lexical patterns, salient collocates, and discursive tendencies across the two corpora. The third layer applies Critical Discourse Analysis through Fairclough's three-dimensional model and Halliday's transitivity system. At this stage, the analysis focuses on discursive features such as agency, evaluation, actor representation, stance, and ideology. The final layer centres on interpretation, where findings from both corpus linguistic and discourse analyses are synthesised to compare Thai and international news framing. This stage examines how institutional ideologies, cultural values, and journalistic norms shape the representation of the earthquake across different media contexts.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents the findings related to the first research question by drawing on both corpus-based and manual textual analyses of the Thai English-language News Corpus (TENC) and the International News Corpus (INC). The discussion begins with insights from keyword and collocation analyses, followed by results from close manual examination of selected news excerpts. Together, these methods reveal clear and systematic linguistic differences in how the 2025 Thailand earthquake was reported across Thai and international media outlets. The comparative analysis highlights distinct patterns in lexical choices, syntactic constructions, and discourse strategies, reflecting broader ideological and cultural orientations embedded in the news discourse.

KEYWORDS ANALYSIS

This section discusses the keywords identified in the corpus of Thai and International media. The semantic categories and the keywords in each category are shown in Appendix A. The raw frequency and frequency per thousand words (henceforth FPT) of each category are provided, and the number in brackets is the frequency of each word.

Based on the semantic categories, it seems that the Thai media emphasised the roles of the authority in addressing the impacts of the earthquake and the scandal associated with the State Audit Office building. The *authority* category involves government officials such as "governor," "police," and "Suriyachai," who is the Director General of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM). In addition, keywords indicating government agencies, such as "Department," "BMA" (Bangkok Metropolitan Administration), and the word "Mitigation," which refers to the DDPM mentioned earlier. In contrast, the international media has fewer words in this category, and they are used in reference to the political situations in Myanmar. The international media focus on the military junta in Myanmar, as shown in the words "military," "junta," and "Hlaing" referring to Myanmar's junta chief, Min Aung Hlaing. The emphasis on the political conflicts in Myanmar can also be gleaned from the *violence* category, a category that is absent from the Thai media. This category shows the military junta's coup and aggression towards the rebel group. This is evident in words such as "armed," "coup," and "rebel." The word "civil," in fact, refers to the Civil War.

Regarding the earthquake and its impacts, noticeable differences can be identified. The international media seem to emphasise the event and the severity of the damage, whereas the Thai media focuses on specific structural damage caused by the earthquake. The international media use the words "earthquake" and "quake" significantly more frequently than the Thai media. On the other hand, the Thai media report on the collapsed buildings as shown in "collapse," "building," and "debris." The international media use stronger and more direct words such as "hit" and "killed," thereby accentuating the devastating impact, especially on people, to enhance the emotional tone. This might be due to the international media's focus on Myanmar, which caused far more deaths than the earthquake in Thailand. With that said, these words are also used to depict the earthquake in Thailand.

Another disparity is the organisations mentioned in the news. The Thai media refers to the business organisations, especially those involved in the construction of the collapsed building. Of relevance to this are the keywords in the *investigation* category, which concern the probe into the causes of the building collapse. On the other hand, the international media mainly represent international organisations as offering rescue efforts and humanitarian aid to the earthquake victims. The keywords in the *country* category, only present in the international news, indicate influential countries that play a significant role in the earthquake relief, such as "US," "Russia," and "India." Consequently, it can be seen that the Thai media discursively represent the efficiency of the government agencies in addressing the problems, whereas the international media portray the roles of the non-governmental organisations and other countries in alleviating the negative impacts of the earthquake.

Lastly, the *grammar* category may not seem insightful at first glance. However, a closer look reveals differences in the portrayal of the earthquake. In the Thai news, the pronoun "he" is used to quote influential figures who gave interviews, as shown in Table 2 . In the international news, the pronoun "I" is used to convey quotations from the victims. Selected concordance lines for "I" are shown in Table 3. These further reinforce the depiction of the government's role in the Thai media and the victims' perspective in the international media. In addition, the modal verb

"may" is frequently used in the Thai media to convey tentative or provisional measures that government officials are considering or currently evaluating. This usage reflects uncertainty and an ongoing decision-making process, particularly concerning the extent of the damage and the official responses. For example, excerpts such as *"The actual damage may take time to assess"* (Bangkok Post, April 2025), *"Authorities may need to reevaluate building codes in affected areas"* (The Nation, April 2025), and *"The Prime Minister said that there may be additional measures if the situation worsens"* (Thai PBS World, April 2025) demonstrate how Thai media employs modality to signal cautious and strategic positioning of state-led actions amid a crisis.

TABLE 2. Concordance lines for "he" in the Thai media corpus

No	Left Context	Hit	Right Context
1	Sirikhate, Sophon Meechai and Manas Srianan.	He	said that DSI investigators raided Mr
2	the practice is detrimental to Thai businesses.	He	said the committee's findings would be
3	sniffer dogs to help in the search for trapped bodies.	He	said the team has no plan to withdraw yet
4	and collapsed, the Bangkok governor said.	He	also said that rescuers would try to find all
5	compensation for victims, Anuthin stated that	he	had instructed the Director-General of the

TABLE 3. Concordance lines for "I" in the international media corpus

No	Left Context	Hit	Right Context
1	quake happened, and the shaking was most intense,	I	was not quite sure if I'd survive," said
2	It was like the whole building was going to collapse.	I	was not sure I would get out alive." The
3	for them," she said. "I wanted them to come back.	I	was so devastated. I didn't know what to
4	streets while trapping dozens of workers beneath. "	I	was so terrified, it was so scary," Pornsak
5	home cooking when the initial quake happened. "	I	was very nervous, I was very panicked,"

COLLOCATION COMPARISON

This section discusses the collocations of selected words that discursively construct the earthquake situation. The words "government", "people", and "earthquake/quake", which are related to key players in the earthquake, are selected for the analysis. Findings indicate that the Thai and international media represented the earthquake differently.

The collocations of the word "government" in the Thai and international media are shown in Appendix B. The word "government" in the international media has a wider range of collocations. The first category of collocations is "agencies," referring to institutions or individuals associated with the government. In the Thai media corpus, there is only one collocation, "agencies." This contrasts with the results from the keyword analysis. However, this might be because the Thai media mentioned specific government agencies or officials, such as the Bangkok Metropolitan Authority (BMA). Therefore, the word "government" might not be mentioned frequently. In contrast, the international media tends to mention the government more frequently. "Government" is mentioned to criticise the military junta's rule in Myanmar. Particularly, the military government is portrayed in terms of its conflict with the ousted democratically elected government. The international corpus depicts the illegitimacy of the Junta government by emphasising the credibility of the overthrown government and the conflict that the military government has caused, as shown in the concordance lines of the collocates "democratically," "overthrowing," "Nobel," "struggle," and "elected" in Table 4.

TABLE 4. Concordance lines of collocations in the *conflict* and *credibility* category of the international media

NO	Left Context	Hit	Right Context
1	of the West for overthrowing the	democratically	elected government of Aung San
2	power in a coup in February 2021	overthrowing	the civilian government of Aung
3	overthrowing the government of	Nobel	laureate Aung San Suu Kyi in
4	which coordinates the popular	struggle	against the ruling military,
5	four years after his junta ousted an	elected	government to unleash a brutal

Regarding the collocations of "people," these can be classified into 6 categories, namely, 1) Emotion/thought, 2) help, 3) impact, 4) location, 5) number, and 6) politics. The collocations, as well as the frequencies and the percentages, are shown in Appendix C. There are more collocations in the international media corpus, and these are spread across all the semantic categories. In the Thai media corpus, collocations centre on the impact and number, which seem informative about the impact of the earthquake on the victims. The collocations in the international media, in contrast, are more emotive, depicting the impact in a more graphic and emotional tone. This can be seen in the collocations such as "climbed," "influx," and "countless." The Thai media uses specific numbers, such as "nine" and "hundreds." In addition, the strong words "killed" and "died" are far more frequent in the international media. The collocate "killed" occurs 75 times and "died" 30 times in the international media, whereas in the Thai media corpus, "killed" occurs 2 times and "died" 3 times. Another difference is that the international media refer to the People Defence Force or PDF, resulting in the collocations "PDF" and "Defence." This refers to the armed wing of the National Unity Government, which is fighting against the military junta.

In terms of the collocations of "earthquake" and "quake," more collocations were identified in the Thai corpus, but the collocations in the international corpus have broader meanings. The semantic groups of these collocations are as follows: 1) attribute, 2) impact, 3) prevention, and 4) response. These collocations and the frequency information are provided in Appendices D and E, which provide the collocation information of the words "earthquake" and "quake," respectively.

Regarding the *attribute* category, the collocations in both corpora describe the earthquake and quake in various aspects. Both characterise the event as dangerous and impactful, as shown in "strong" and "highest." However, the collocations of "earthquake" in the international media seem more vivid and emotional, as in "devastating," "heartbreaking," and "catastrophic." While similar collocations are identified in the Thai media, such as "strong" and "worst," most collocations are informative, describing the time and place of the event, such as "March," "central," and "near." From this category of collocations, it can be observed that the international media enhances the emotional impact of the event, whereas the Thai media focuses more on providing information.

Regarding the *impact* category, both media portray the severity of the event, but the international media focus more on the casualties, while the Thai media more frequently report on the problems associated with the recovery. The collocations that describe the severe impacts can be found in both corpora, such as "struck" and "trapping" in the Thai media and "kills" and "rocked" in the international media. The international media's stronger focus on casualties can be observed in "crosses," "passed," and "exact," which are used to refer to the number of casualties. Both corpora also depict the emotional impact, as can be seen from "anxiety" in the Thai media and "misery" in the international media. The Thai media's emphasis on problematic recovery can be identified in the words "disputes" and "habitability," which refer to the trouble the residents have when returning to their accommodation.

The next semantic group is *prevention*. Both corpora only contain a few words referring to how the buildings can resist the earthquake, but the word "quake" does not have any collocations

in this category. The collocations in the *response* category portray how the government addressed the aftermath of the earthquake in the Thai media, whereas they depict how the international organisations offer aid to the earthquake victims. These can be shown in the concordance lines in Tables 5 and 6. Here, it can be seen that the Thai media represent the government agencies as capable of handling the event and, in turn, reassure their credibility. The international media focuses more on the roles the international organisations play in alleviating the problems, thereby depicting the countries affected by the earthquake as requiring aid from foreign countries.

TABLE 5. Concordance lines for the collocations in the *response* category in the Thai media

No	Left Context	Hit	Right Context
1	Bangkok and the other 18 provinces	declared	areas affected by the quake, he said.
2	processing and inputting into a quake	alert	system, Prof Pennueng said. Klang
3	Quake victims	eligible	for rent waivers on state land
4	minister has declared Bangkok an	emergency	zone after a 7.4-magnitude quake
5	data for real-time processing and	inputting	into a quake alert system, Prof

TABLE 6. Concordance lines for the collocations in the *response* category in the international media

No	Left Context	Hit	Right Context
1	IRC partners have started	distributing	essential support to the earthquake-
2	but this building type is no longer	recommended	in earthquake-prone areas."
3	being favoured - which is no longer	recommended	in earthquake-prone areas. "A 'flat
4	a rare international trip as his country	recovers	from a devastating earthquake that
5	the earthquake. Here are some more	updates	from the organisation: In the face of

The manual analysis of selected texts indicates that the lexical choices in the Thai media predominantly reflect bureaucratic and formalised diction, with a strong emphasis on institutional actors and official procedures. Common phrases such as *"official inspection was conducted," "building assessments are ongoing,"* and *"assistance was provided to affected households"* exemplify a discourse style that prioritises state-led actions and institutional voice (e.g., *Bangkok Post*, 2 April 2025; *The Nation Thailand*, 31 March 2025). At the textual level, Thai news articles often employ material and relational process types in a formal, bureaucratic register, frequently using nominalisations (e.g., *"inspection," "assistance," "assessment"*) and passive constructions (e.g., *"aid was distributed," "investigations are underway"*). These grammatical choices contribute to a reduction of agency, particularly in references to government bodies, which positions the state response as detached and objective. As a result, the narrative becomes more impersonal, presenting events in a tone that is factual but emotionally distant. This stylistic tendency also aligns with the preference for maintaining institutional decorum and social harmony in Thai public discourse. Furthermore, there is a notable absence of metaphorical or emotive expressions, which contrasts with international reporting and contributes to a discourse of controlled calm rather than dramatic urgency.

In contrast, international news sources display a lexicon that emphasises human impact and drama. The international news used more active structures, evaluative adjectives, and even metaphors to create a stronger emotional impact. For example, victims and rescue teams were often placed in the subject position, allowing readers to clearly see the agents who perform the actions. Phrases such as "flattened homes," "terrified residents," and "tragic scenes" demonstrate a more emotive and affective orientation. These outlets favour active voice, explicitly naming agents and victims (e.g., "rescue workers pulled survivors"), and often use metaphors and collocations that evoke urgency and spectacle (e.g., "death toll climbs," "earth shook violently").

This contrast in tone and structure reflects divergent journalistic styles and narrative goals. While Thai media maintain a formal and restrained tone aligned with state-centred communication, international media engage in dramatisation and human-centred storytelling.

IDEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL UNDERPINNINGS

Using Fairclough's model to address the second research question, the linguistic differences observed are interpreted as reflections of deeper ideological, cultural, and journalistic norms.

Regarding textual practice, Thai media's tendency to use passive structures and a neutral tone is not merely stylistic. It reflects institutional alignment with government messaging. The limited use of evaluative or emotive language suggests a cautionary journalistic stance, wherein authority is preserved, and blame is avoided. The repeated referencing of state actors and ministries, coupled with the downplaying of civilian suffering, exemplifies a discourse that prioritises order, stability, and authority preservation. International outlets, on the other hand, leverage textual strategies that emphasise individual suffering, urgency, and moral responsibility, making extensive use of affective vocabulary and narrative hooks. These texts engage readers emotionally and foreground the human cost of disaster, appealing to global audiences through empathy and drama.

In terms of discursive practice, the production and consumption of news in Thai vs international contexts explain the divergence in discourse styles. Thai journalists often operate within institutional constraints, including political sensitivities, hierarchical structures, and cultural norms of respect for authority. These discursive practices foster a tradition of impersonal and bureaucratic news reporting, where journalists prioritise official information over investigative critique. Conversely, international media are produced within environments where press freedom and adversarial journalism are valued. The use of quotes from citizens, graphic descriptions, and emotional imagery reflects a discursive practice of human-interest framing and journalistic watchdog roles.

At the societal level, these discourses reproduce and reinforce broader ideological frameworks. Thai reporting upholds a state-centric ideology, where governmental institutions are portrayed as the central agents of action and care. This aligns with collectivist cultural values, which emphasise harmony, duty, and respect for authority. The minimisation of chaos or dissent in the news helps preserve public trust and national image. Meanwhile, international discourse aligns with liberal-democratic ideologies, where power is scrutinised, and human suffering is foregrounded. The media assumes a role in mobilising global attention and action, often presenting disasters as humanitarian crises requiring international response. This framing promotes ideologies of global solidarity, human rights, and emotional proximity.

To summarise, the analysis confirms that the linguistic features of earthquake reporting are not neutral but ideologically loaded. Thai and international media differ significantly in their representations of agency, emotion, and responsibility. These differences map onto distinct cultural narratives (collectivism vs individualism), ideological leanings (state preservation vs transparency), and journalistic traditions (institutional relay vs narrative engagement). Applying Fairclough's framework enables a deeper understanding of how media discourse both reflects and shapes public perception of crisis events.

IMPLICATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

This study critically investigates how linguistic and discursive strategies in news coverage construct different representations of the 2025 Thailand earthquake. Drawing on Fairclough's (1995) three-dimensional model of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Halliday and Matthiessen's (2004) transitivity framework, combined with corpus linguistic tools, the study reveals key textual and ideological divergences between Thai English-language and international media coverage. These differences are not merely stylistic; they embody broader sociocultural values and media ideologies, echoing previous research on disaster discourse (Barkho, 2008; Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Chouliaraki, 2006).

The corpus analysis identified salient keywords and collocates that point to a government-centric narrative in the Thai media and a human-interest angle in international outlets. Thai news articles frequently employed material and relational processes in formal registers (e.g., "assistance was provided," "inspection was conducted"), often through passive voice or nominalised constructions. These forms obscure agency and present events as bureaucratically managed and institutionally framed. These findings are consistent with research on news values, which shows that news discourse often constructs newsworthiness through the selection of salient actors, institutional authority, impact, and negativity (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Potts et al., 2015). Moreover, the Thai media's limited use of attitudinal or emotive language echoes Chovanec (2014), who notes that such neutrality can signal respect for social hierarchies and avoid panic or criticism in collectivist societies.

In contrast, international media coverage frequently used first-person pronouns (e.g., "I was terrified," "We lost everything"), attitudinal adjectives (e.g., "devastating," "traumatic"), and active structures, reflecting a personalised and emotional framing of the earthquake's impact. These linguistic strategies serve to humanise victims and invite empathy from readers, aligning with the news values of personalisation, negativity, and emotional impact (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Chouliaraki, 2006).

The discursive practices in both corpora reflect deeper ideological structures. Thai English-language media, shaped by hierarchical cultural norms and limited press freedom (Freedom House, 2023), often operate within a state-aligned framework. Government officials are consistently positioned as active agents, while victims' voices are marginalised. This supports Ambikapathy et al. (2024) findings on Asian crisis reporting, where journalistic norms are often aligned with political stability and deference to authority. In contrast, international media emphasised dissenting voices, critical evaluations of the official response, and emotional narratives. These practices align with the liberal-democratic values of transparency, press freedom, and accountability (Barkho, 2008). As Van Dijk (1998) argues, such media ideologies directly influence what is included or excluded in the news and how events are interpreted.

At the level of social practice, the representations observed in both corpora mirror broader cultural ideologies. The Thai news discourse reflects collectivist values, emphasising social cohesion, emotional restraint, and reverence for authority figures—features commonly found in high power-distance cultures (Hofstede, 2001). Avoiding overt criticism and emotional overexpression reinforces social harmony, particularly during crises. Conversely, international reporting aligns with individualist and rights-based ideologies, where transparency, expression of personal experiences, and government accountability are prioritised. The emphasis on emotional narratives serves not only to inform but also to morally position the reader, as Chouliaraki (2006) argues in her work on *the spectacle of suffering* in Western media.

These findings underscore the argument that disaster discourse is never neutral. As Fairclough (1995) posits, discourse reflects and shapes social realities. The choices of transitivity patterns, lexical selection, modality, and agency representation are all politically and culturally situated, influencing public interpretation, emotional response, and even policy support.

DISASTER DISCOURSE BEYOND MEDIA: MICRO AND MACRO SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES

Beyond the media sphere, the findings of this study suggest that disaster discourse may also influence wider social, institutional, and political processes. The linguistic framing of crises can shape how affected communities are perceived, how responsibility is allocated, and how humanitarian responses are prioritised (Khawaja et al., 2025; Raza et al., 2025). At the micro level, emotionally charged reporting may intensify public fear, empathy, or anxiety, while bureaucratic and institution-centred discourse may encourage public reassurance and trust in official institutions (Khawaja et al., 2025). At the macro level, media discourse may also affect international perceptions of national crisis management. International reports that foreground suffering, destruction, and political instability may contribute to external pressure for humanitarian intervention or global attention, whereas locally oriented institutional discourse may function to preserve state legitimacy and social stability (Chouliaraki & Vestergaard, 2022; Khawaja et al., 2025).

These discursive differences may further influence aid communication, policy responses, and intercultural understanding (Chouliaraki & Vestergaard, 2022; Khawaja et al., 2025). As Chouliaraki (2006) argues, media representations of suffering shape the moral positioning of audiences and determine whose suffering becomes globally visible. More recent humanitarian communication research similarly shows that mediated representations of suffering influence visibility, solidarity, and public engagement with distant crises (Chouliaraki & Vestergaard, 2022). This paper, therefore, argues that linguistic framing can have consequences extending beyond journalism itself, influencing public trust, social cohesion, and transnational humanitarian engagement (Khawaja et al., 2025; Raza et al., 2025). In times of disaster, these representations become particularly influential because they contribute to how crises are collectively understood, remembered, and responded to across cultural and political contexts (Raza et al., 2025).

METHODOLOGICAL AND PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

This study contributes to the growing field of critical corpus-assisted discourse studies (CADS) by demonstrating how integrating corpus linguistics and CDA can uncover both overt and covert ideological patterns. The approach not only strengthens the validity of the analysis but also allows for replicability in future research on multilingual or comparative disaster discourses (Baker & McEnery, 2015; Partington et al., 2013).

The findings of this study hold practical value for media practitioners, journalism educators, and disaster communication specialists. By understanding how linguistic framing influences public perception, these stakeholders can adopt more ethical, inclusive, and audience-sensitive reporting strategies—particularly in crisis contexts where language choices shape narratives of responsibility, empathy, and urgency. Furthermore, the insights presented here can support international aid organisations in evaluating the communicative landscape of disaster-affected areas, allowing them to better navigate local discourse norms and information flows.

In the field of applied linguistics and media discourse education, this study underscores the importance of cultivating critical media literacy. For learners in EFL contexts—who often engage with both domestic and global news in English—explicit instruction in discourse analysis can help uncover how language encodes power relations, ideological stances, and cultural perspectives. Educators can employ comparative analysis of local and international news texts to highlight contrasts in agency, tone, and emotional framing. Such classroom practices not only deepen students' linguistic awareness but also foster essential critical thinking and interpretive skills needed in the global information age.

LIMITATIONS AND DIRECTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

While this study offers rich insights, it focuses exclusively on English-language reporting, which may not fully represent domestic narratives in Thai-language media. Future studies could compare English and Thai discourses within Thailand or expand to include social media narratives to examine grassroots perspectives.

Future studies could also explore audience reception, asking how Thai and international readers interpret the same stories. Another possible direction is to apply corpus linguistics tools to a larger number of articles to examine recurring patterns in vocabulary, grammar, and discourse strategies. This would help strengthen the findings and provide a more comprehensive view of how language and ideology interact in crisis reporting.

CONCLUSION

This study revealed how Thai and international news media discursively constructed the 2025 Thailand earthquake in distinct ways, shaped by cultural values, institutional norms, and journalistic ideologies. Thai coverage emphasised official responses through formal language, passive voice, and restrained emotional tone—reflecting collectivist values and a preference for social harmony and authority preservation. In contrast, international media adopted an emotionally engaged narrative, foregrounding victims and employing active structures and evaluative language to promote empathy and accountability.

These findings affirm that disaster reporting is not ideologically neutral. Language functions as a tool for framing social reality and shaping public perception, aligning with Fairclough's (1995) view of discourse as a site of power and ideology. As such, the way crises are reported carries consequences for how events are interpreted, remembered, and acted upon—both locally and globally.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This research project was financially supported by Mahasarakham University, Thailand.

AI DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The authors acknowledge the use of ChatGPT by OpenAI and NotebookLM by Google (accessed May 2026) to support the generation and clarification of the methodological framework figure. These tools were used to assist in visualising and organising the study's methodological design. All AI-assisted content was reviewed, revised, and approved by the authors, who take full responsibility for the accuracy and integrity of the work.

REFERENCES

Abas, N., Abdul Aziz, R., Turiman, S., & Mat Daud, N. S. (2023). A corpus-assisted critical discourse analysis of COVID-19 vaccination-related news discourse in the Malaysian mainstream media. *3L The Southeast Asian Journal of English Language Studies*, *29*(3), 148–165.https://doi.org/10.17576/3L-2023-2903-11

Ambikapathy, M., Abdul Hamid, M. K., & Annamalai, S. (2024). Crisis communication strategies during natural disaster crisis case studies: Selangor flood, Malaysia. *Asian Journal of Research in Education and Social Sciences*, 6(2), 133–141.

Baker, P., & McEnery, T. (2015). *Corpora and discourse studies: Integrating discourse and corpora*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Barkho, L. (2008). The BBC's discursive strategy and practices during the Second Palestinian Intifada. *Journal of Language and Politics*, 7(1), 85–110.

BBC News. (2025, March 28). Holidaymakers describe 'chaos' after quake hits Bangkok. *BBC News*. Retrieved November 20, 2025, from https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cz9n95xepp3o

Bednarek, M., & Caple, H. (2017). *The discourse of news values: How News organizations create newsworthiness*. Oxford University Press.

CARE. (2025, April 9). CARE scales up emergency response as earthquake devastation deepens in Myanmar. Retrieved November 20, 2025, from https://www.care.org/media-and-press/care-scales-up-emergency-response-as-earthquake-devastation-deepens-in-myanmar/

Chouliaraki, L. (2006). *The spectatorship of suffering*. SAGE.

Chouliaraki, L., & Vestergaard, A. (Eds.). (2022). *Routledge handbook of humanitarian communication*.

Routledge.Chovanec, J. (2014). *Pragmatics of disaster: Discourse and emergency Events*. Peter Lang.

Fairclough, N. (1995). *Media discourse*. Edward Arnold.

Freedom House. (2023). *Freedom in the World 2023: Thailand country report*. Retrieved September 22, 2025, from https://freedomhouse.org/country/thailand/freedom-world/2023

Halliday, M. A. K., & Matthiessen, C. M. I. M. (2004). *An introduction to functional grammar* (3rd ed.). London: Arnold.

Hofstede, G. (2001). *Culture's consequences: Comparing values, behaviors, institutions and organizations across nations* (2nd ed.). SAGE.

Khawaja, S., Aslam, S., Yousaf, M., Mahmood, N., Yaser, N., Raza, S. H., & Mahmood, T. (2025). Media, disasters, and the Global South: Comparing Global North and South media framing on Pakistan's 2022 floods. *Journalism and Media,* 6(2), 70. Retrieved September 22, 2025, from https://www.mdpi.com/2673-5172/6/2/70

Li, T., & Zhen, X. (2025). A corpus-assisted discourse analysis of the American and British media reports on the discharge of water from Fukushima. *Journal of Global Trends in Social Science*, *2*(5), 1–12. https://doi.org/10.70731/y6w5w512

Liu, L., & Stevenson, M. (2013). A cross-cultural analysis of stance in disaster news reports. *Australian Review of Applied Linguistics*. 36(2). 197-220.

Liu, Z., & Abu Bakar, K. (2024). Shifting narratives: A corpus-based discourse analysis of American media's portrayal of China's COVID-19 response. *3L The Southeast Asian Journal of English Language Studies*, *30*(1), 125–141. http://doi.org/10.17576/3L-2024-3001-10

Martin, J. R., & White, P. R. R. (2005). *The language of evaluation: Appraisal in English*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Mohammed, A. R., Aladdin, A., & Shaari, A. H. (2025). Media representation of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood in Arab and Western Outlets: A Critical Discourse Analysis. *3L The Southeast Asian Journal of English Language Studies*, *31*(3), 341–361. https://doi.org/10.17576/3L-2025-3103-21

Partington, A., Duguid, A., & Taylor, C. (2013). *Patterns and meanings in discourse: Theory and practice in corpus-assisted discourse studies (CADS)*. John Benjamins.

Potts, A., Bednarek, M., & Caple, H. (2015). How can computer-based methods help researchers to investigate news values in large datasets? A corpus linguistic study of the construction of newsworthiness in the reporting on Hurricane Katrina. *Discourse & Communication*. 9(2). 149-172. https://doi.org/10.1177/1750481314568548

Pyles, L., & Svistova, J. (2015). A critical discourse analysis of Haiti earthquake recovery in *New York Times* articles: Implications for social welfare policies, practices, and education. *Critical Social Work, 16*(1), 59–77. https://doi.org/10.22329/csw.v16i1.5916

Raza, M., Khalil, H., Fareed, M., Eneizat, M. F., Ab Ul Hassan, A., & Faizuddin, A. (2025). Resilience or rhetoric? A framing analysis of flood disaster reporting in Pakistan's media. *Journalism and Media, 6(4), 185.* https://www.mdpi.com/2673-5172/6/4/185

Richardson, J. E. (2007). *Analysing newspapers: An approach from critical discourse analysis*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Rosemary, R., Syam, H. M., & Sartika, M. (2023). Framing disaster coverage of earthquakes and tsunamis on online media. *International Journal of Disaster Management*, *6*(2), 141–152. https://doi.org/10.24815/ijdm.v6i2.31867

Scollon, R., Scollon, S. B. K., & Jones, R. H. (2012). *Intercultural communication: A discourse approach* (3rd ed.). Wiley-Blackwell.

Solman, P., & Henderson, L. (2019). Flood disasters in the United Kingdom and India: A critical discourse analysis of media reporting. *Journalism, 20*(12), 1648–1664. https://doi.org/10.1177/1464884918762363

Van Dijk, T. A. (1998). *Ideology: A multidisciplinary approach*. SAGE.

Yitong, W., & Samaha, H. (2026). War and conflicting voices: Attitudinal analysis of Chinese and British news reports on the Israel-Gaza war. *3L The Southeast Asian Journal of English Language Studies*, *32*(1), 1–20. https://doi.org/10.17576/3L-2026-3201-01

APPENDIX A

SEMANTIC CATEGORIES OF KEYWORDS IN THE THAI AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA CORPORA

Semantic categories	**Thai**	**frequency (FPT)**	**International**	**Frequency (FPT)**
Aid	Machinery (27), operation (29), search (61)	117 (47.56)	Aid (202), food (51), health (38), humanitarian (136), need (79), relief (110), supplies (55)	671 (72.65)
Authority	Audit (61), BMA (32), department (53), DSI (40), governor (45), industry (20), institute (18), mitigation (13), pol (19), police (43), public (37), Suriyachai (14)	395 (160.57)	Aung (98), groups (89), Hlaing (74), Junta (149), military (245), Min (85)	740 (80.12)
Country		0	Country (194), India (41), Russia (37), US (52), world (48)	372 (40.27)
Earthquake		0	Earthquake (364), quake (244)	608 (65.83)
Grammar	May (35), he (144)	179 (72.76)	A (1,110), I (110), in (1340), it (307), ‘s (596), than (132, we (150)	3745 (405.48)
Impact	Area (45), B (24), Baht (22), Bangkok (145), bodies (65), building (200), C (27), Chatuchak (43), collapse (82), collapsed (100), confirmed (37), debris (44), district (40), heavy (43), individuals (12), listed (13), metres (19), nine (24), office (80), project (40), projects (27), SAO (84), steel (46), structural (30), zone (33), zones (18)	1343 (545.93)	Children (33), city (137), emergency (71), hit (106), killed (92), least (82), Mandalay (163), miles (44), million (110), Myanmar (604), people (416), region (49), Sagaing (70), south (32), water (84), Yangon (41)	2134 (231.05)
Investigation	Documents (16), engineer (20), engineers (29), evidence (15), findings (12), forensic (16), found (38), investigation (47), probe (14), procurement (12)	219 (89.02)		0.00
negation	No (59)	59 (23.98)	Rare (30)	30 (3.25)
Organization	Co (14), companies (18), company (33), contractors (18)	83 (33.74)	Agency (56), Cross (35), international (118), Nations (59), U (46), UN (44), United (63)	421 (45.58)
Report		0.00	Told (116)	116 (1256)
Time	March (39, Today (26)	65 (26.42)	Temporary (31)	31 (3.36)
Violence		0.00	Armed (34), ceasefire (68), civil (78), coup (33), power (41), rebel (30)	368 (39.84)

APPENDIX B

COLLOCATIONS OF "GOVERNMENT"

Semantic categories	Thai		International	
	Collocation	**N (%)**	**Collocation**	**N (%)**
Agencies	agencies	5 (20)	Civilian (7), gen (3), head (12), military (67), mrtv (6), national (18), nug (8), remnants (3), san (15), senior (9), shadow (11), tun (3), zaw (4)	166 (54.79)
Aid			Hong (4), Kong (4), non (2), pound (2), website (3)	4.95
Conflict			Kyi (8), ousted (5), overthrowing (5), sometimes (2), struggle (2), suu (9), unseated (3)	11.22
Credibility	integrity (3), standardized (2), transparency (2)	7 (28)	Backers (2), democratically (7), elected (19), laureate (8), nobel (8), prize (2), supporters (2), unity (18)	21.78
Duties	Must (3), procurement (4), projects (4), urged (2)	13 (52)	Carry (3), coordinates (2), formed (2), includes (5), investigation (4), launched (4), visits (2)	7.26

APPENDIX C

COLLOCATIONS OF "PEOPLE"

Semantic categories	Thai		International	
	Collocation	**N (%)**	**Collocation**	**N (%)**
Emotion/ thought			Believed (6), nervous (3), pressing (3), require (3), uncomfortable (2)	17 (6.09)
Help			briefly (2), deserved (2), doctor (2), identify (3), undertaken (2)	11 (3.94)
Impact	Confirmed (10), date (2), Dead (7), died (3), fled (2), Interviewed (2), killed (2), Pouring (2), stand (2), Unaccounted (5)	37 (62.71)	Bumper (2), died (30), Displaced (15), flee (2), gets (2), killed (75), killing (8), living (3), stand (3), unable (3), walked (2)	145 (51.97)
Location			Outdoors (2), silom (2)	4 (1.43)
Number	Far (4), hundreds (2), known (2), listed (4), nine (8), risen (2)	22 (37.29)	Climbed (3), countless (3), dwindling (2), final (3), influx (3), least (62), lots (3), modeling (4), scores (4), teeming (2)	89 (31.90)
Politics			Defense (4), pdf (4), Resisting (2), wing (3)	13 (4.66)

APPENDIX D

COLLOCATIONS OF "EARTHQUAKE"

Semantic categories	Thai		International	
	Collocation	**N (%)**	**Collocation**	**N (%)**
Attribute	march (20), central (8), centred (2), magnitude (16), mandalay (11), Myanmar (34), near (10), recent (2), strong (5), worst (2)	110 (60.77)	Belt (2), catastrophic (2), deeper (2), devastating (17), heartbreaking (2), highest (2), lunchtime (2), relatively (4), shallower (2), viral (2)	37 (45.12)
Impact	Affected (10), during (11), following (13), impact (9), prompted (2), resulting (2), Sending (2), struck (8), traffic (2), trapping (6)	65 (35.91)	crosses (3), displacement (3), exact (2), failing (2), kills (3), passed (3), performs (2), rattled (3), rocked (6), shifts (2)	29 (35.37)
Prevention	Withstand (3)	3 (1.66)	Designed (3), resistant (4)	7 (8.54)
Response	Monitoring (3)	3 (1.66)	Distributing (2), recommended (2), recovers (2), updates (3)	9 (10.98)

APPENDIX E

COLLOCATIONS OF "QUAKE"

Semantic categories	Thai		International	
	Collocation	**N (%)**	**Collocation**	**N (%)**
Attribute	strong (2), subsided(1),tremors (3)	6 (16.67)	Strongest (5)	5 (11.9)
Impact	Anxiety (2), damaged (2), Disagree (1), disputes (1), Habitability (1), heightening (1), hit (2), putting (1), rattled (1), struck (4), when (3)	19 (52.78)	Add (2), holidaymakers (2), misery (2), risen (2), rocks (2), struck (27)	37 (88.10)
Prevention	proof (2)	2 (5.56)		
Response	Alert (1), declared (4), eligible (1), emergency (2), inputting (1)	9 (25)		