

Political Discourse in Arabic Media: A Critical Discourse Analysis

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Abstract

The present investigation is an endeavor to examine discourse from the CDA perspective. The following inquiries are the focus of the investigation: The extent to which the language employed in Trump's speech influenced individuals. Is the discourse beneficial or detrimental to the Egyptian populace? Additionally, which discursive strategies are implemented during their discourse? The study posits that speakers employ a variety of strategies, argumentation, and historical contexts to communicate their ideologies to their audience in order to secure their support. This will address the aforementioned inquiries. Additionally, it is postulated that the manner in which English and Arabic speakers employ these resources differs. The data selected has been analyzed using Wodak's (1999) historical discourse approach (DHA). Consequently, the data for this study is derived from the speech of "the former president of the United States of America", Donald Trump, on October 23, 2020, regarding the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam. The historic approach's components, such as the topos, the context, the historical framework, and the strategies, will be the primary focus. These components are employed to analyze each discourse. The research investigates how politicians wield social power and engage in through their speeches. The analysis highlights that many of the techniques employed are related to meaning and argumentation. Critical discourse analysis is a type of discourse analysis that is dedicated to the exploration of the discursive manifestations of ideology and authority. The study aims to investigate the manner in which politicians and exercise social authority in their addresses. The research indicates that the majority of the methodologies employed in critical discourse analysis are pertinent to political speeches. This research employs the lens of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to dissect the language, rhetoric, and underlying ideologies within media coverage.

Keywords: historical discourse approach (DHA), Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), Politics.

1. Introduction

The study investigates the underlying assumptions that the media's linguistic choices and group polarisation are primarily ideological, as they are influenced by the ideological positions of the

respective outlets. Representations and labelling of the rival factions are significantly different as a result of media manipulation and polarisation. The institution of the media and the phenomenon of mass communication, as well as their relationship to other public.

Political Discourse in the Media investigates media communication from a cross-cultural perspective, with a particular focus on political discourse on television. This collection of papers employs a comparative and descriptive analysis of the cross-cultural perspective (discursive and other semiotic) practices of journalists and politicians in a variety of cultural contexts, as well as the practices of international broadcasting, which are required to accommodate a culturally diverse and heterogeneous audience. The volume is divided into four sections, with the editors' introductory contribution serving as the first. An examination of the transition to a cross-cultural analytical perspective and the political discourse in the media. The editors discuss the relationship between the public sphere, the media, and politics in relation to the former and provide a list of the benefits that a cross-cultural perspective can bring to their analysis (Bonyadi, 2011).

In addition, they confront the obstacles that cross-cultural research faces when it investigates culture as a heterogeneous, diverse entity. Fairclough, Van Dijk, and Wodak are among the researchers who are associated with critical discourse analysis (CDA). Provided that its practitioners employ linguistic analysis as the foundation for their interpretations of texts, this discipline is theoretically compatible. Critical discourse analysis (CDA) is a methodical examination of the frequently ambiguous relationships of causality and determination. The aim of this study is to examine the ideological impact of power relations and power struggles on these practices, events, and texts (Fairclough, 1995).

The research tries to answer the following questions:

1. How is Power Constructed in Arabic media Political Discourse?
2. What Role Does Ideology Play?

2. Literature Review

2.1. Criticism

Van Dijk (1995:139) defines critique as "a shared perspective on conducting linguistic, semiotic, or discourse analysis," a term that is essential for CL and CDA. The Frankfurt School and Jürgen Habermas had a substantial impact on the development of critical or critique. Critical referring to the act of explicitly embodying the data in a social and political context and withdrawing from it. "It also signifies the practical integration of social and political engagement into the scientific research" process, with a "focus on self-reflection" as scholars conduct their research. The social dimensions of language use are revealed by examining the relationships between discourse patterns and social structure. The moral and political assessment of these dimensions should have a beneficial effect on society by empowering the marginalised, providing a voice to the disadvantaged, "exposing power" abuse, and mobilising individuals to resolve social injustices.

Critique is a written or spoken expression from a specialist known as a critic that expresses their opinion on the virtues and demerits of actions, creations, or decisions made by an individual or group of individuals in a variety of disciplines. It also discusses its strengths and weaknesses and may occasionally propose solutions. Criticism encompasses a wide range of disciplines, including literature, politics, cinema, and theatre. Criticism may be expressed through internal documents, political speeches, newspapers, television, and radio interviews. Critique is the process of assessing the worth of an object. For instance, cognitive criticism involves the examination of the conditions and potential of knowledge, as well as its constraints. It typically entails declining to embrace a statement or opinion without first evaluating it. It is typically classified into two categories: external criticism, which examines the source of the opinion, and internal criticism, which examines the opinion's structure and content (Johnson and Johnson, 2000).

2.2 Discourse

The concept of discourse is a generalisation of the conversation to incorporate all forms of communication. Discourse is a significant topic in social theory, and research on the subject encompasses disciplines "such as sociology, anthropology, continental philosophy, and discourse" analysis. As the control of discourse is equivalent to the "control of how the world is perceived, social theory" frequently examines discourse as a means of obtaining insight into power. The exchange of linguistic information is the narrower interpretation of discourse in theoretical linguistics. In the field of sociology, discourse is defined as any activity that enables individuals to imbue reality with significance. Discourse is perceived by political scientists as being inextricably linked to policy formulation and politics (Feindt and Oels, 2005).

In the same way, discourse is perceived as being linked to power and the state by various theories from a variety of disciplines, as the regulation of discourses is perceived as a form of control over reality. Discourse is fundamentally unavoidable, as the use of language will inevitably influence "individual" perspectives. "In other words, the discourse" that is chosen "provides the vocabulary, expressions, or style" that are necessary for effective communication. For example, two discourses that are markedly distinct can be implemented to characterise an assortment of guerrilla movements: "terrorists" and "freedom fighters." The discussion of language is both constrained and facilitated by a variety of rhetorical genres and meta-genres that are interwoven in psychological discourses (Van Dijk, 2001).

2.3. Ideology

Numerous academicians have conducted extensive research on ideology using a variety of methods. However, van Dijk's (1995) ideological theory provides a more comprehensive comprehension of this concept by integrating and incorporating its three fundamental components, which have been previously the subject of separate study. The following is a compilation of these components:

1. Cognitive psychologists typically investigate the concepts that individuals hold in their minds, which are referred to as ideology.

2. Sociologists and social scientists typically investigate group membership and value judgement, which are also elements of ideology, within a societal context.

It is defined as a collection of beliefs that are deceptive, misguided, or deceitful, and that are in opposition to the truth of scientific knowledge. Ideology is an instrument for the exploitation of power, dominance, and, as a result, social inequality, according to these definitions. It also suggests the potential for the emergence of alternative ideologies, as opposed to those that are dominated and excessively deceptive or negative (van Dijk, 2006: 7).

A political ideology is a specific ethical framework in the field of political science that is associated with a social movement, institution, class, or significant group. This framework consists of ideals, principles, doctrines, mythologies, or symbols. This framework elucidates the operation of society and offers a political and cultural framework for a particular social order. Two dimensions define political ideologies: Objectives: the optimal operation of society; and Methods: the most appropriate methods for accomplishing this ideal arrangement. The distribution of power and the purposes for which it should be employed are the primary focus of a political ideology. Some parties are steadfast in their commitment to a particular ideology, while others may derive inspiration from a collection of related ideologies without explicitly adopting any of them. Each political ideology has its own set of beliefs regarding the optimal economic system, scope of government, and form of government (Larrain, 1994).

2.4. "Critical Discourse Analysis"

"Critical discourse analysis (CDA) is a discourse Analysis" genre that is dedicated to the analysis of the discursive manifestations of authority and ideology. CDA is a discourse analysis research method that prioritises the analysis of the methods. In the 1979, Roger Fowler and his colleagues at the University of East Anglia developed "critical linguistics", which has since evolved into critical discourse analysis. The terms are frequently used interchangeably. Social hierarchy and authority were not given sufficient consideration in sociolinguistic research. Five Norman Fairclough was the most prominent figure in "the Lancaster school of linguists, which was the" group that first developed CDA." Ruth Wodak has also made a significant contribution to this field of "study.

The historical dimension is also a significant factor in critical discourse studies. Critical discourse analysts adopt an explicit stance in their pursuit of understanding, exposing, and ultimately resisting social inequality through dissident research. In contrast to the numerous other "approaches" in discourse studies, "CDA is not so much a direction, school, or specialisation". Rather, it endeavours to provide a distinct "mode" or "perspective" of "theorising, analysis, and application" that is applicable to the entire discipline. Explicit awareness of their function in society is essential for critical discourse analysts (Wodak, 2001).

They maintain a tradition that denies the existence of a "value-free" science, contending that science, and particularly scholarly discourse, are intrinsically influenced by and part of social structure, and are generated through social interaction. Rather than dismissing or disregarding this relationship between scholarship and society, they advocate for its examination and explanation in its own right, and for the establishment of scholarly practices based on these insights. Discourse analysis, including theory formulation, description, and explanation, is

sociopolitically "situated," regardless of our preferences. Thus, the discourse analytical enterprise incorporates "reflection on the role of scholars in society and the polity". "This may entail, among other things, that discourse Analysis" collaborate and conduct research in solidarity with subjugated groups (Jan and Chris, 2000).

3. Methodology

"Four degrees of setting can be recognized in this methodology. These levels are" as follows:

1. "The co-text, which is the prompt language or text-inside setting".
2. The interdiscursive and intersexual connections between expressions, texts, types, and conversations".
3. "The institutional casings and extra-etymological social variables of a specific context".
4. "The more extensive sociopolitical and verifiable setting in which desultory practices are implanted and associated" (Wodak, 2001: 67).

The subsequent stages will constitute the methodology employed in this investigation. The four components previously mentioned topos, strategies, context, and historical background will be employed to analyze Trump's speech.

4. Data Analysis

The speech of the "former president of the United States of America", Donald Trump, on October 23, 2020, regarding the "Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam" will be analyzed in accordance with the components of Wodak's model. The objective is to reveal the concealed ideologies that the speaker possesses and to communicate them to their audience in order to secure their support. A discourse analysis of this nature may disclose a wealth of information regarding the speakers' identities. As evidenced by the data. The following is an explanation of the strategies and topos that President Trump has employed:

1. Disadvantage: Trump employs this topos in the data selected once: "The largest dam in many years is being built, unfortunately, it prevents water from flowing into Egypt, which is a minor issue." "The argument is that the dam prevents water from flowing, and the conclusion" is that this is a problem.
2. Responsibility: In the subsequent excerpt, Trump employs the topos of responsibility: "I have been negotiating with Sudan regarding that matter, and I am concerned about the progress of the third party involved with Ethiopia and Egypt. Are they in the process of finalizing their agreement? I facilitated a deal for them, but Ethiopia subsequently violated it, which was entirely avoidable." Trump endeavors to assume the role of the chef in order to resolve the issue, as he is of the opinion that he is accountable for the security of the East.
3. Danger: Trump intentionally employs this topos multiple times in an effort to intimidate the opposing party: "Unfortunately, Ethiopia violated the agreement, which they should not have

done." The menacing topos is employed by Trump through the use of the adverb "unfortunately" and the modal verb "should not," as the construction of the dam (argument) would result in the termination of the agreement (conclusion), which is exceedingly perilous for Ethiopia.

4. Definition: In the following excerpt, Trump employs a topos of the type definition when he states, "That was a significant error." It is a significant error to assert that Ethiopia's construction of the dam is a breach of the agreement between Egypt, Sudan, and Ethiopia, as it will have consequences for all three countries.

5. Loss and Finances: Trump has employed the topos of loss and finances when he stated, "That was a significant error, and we have halted the payment of approximately a significant amount of aid to them as a result. They will never receive that money unless they comply with the agreement." In this instance, "Trump is announcing that Ethiopia will forfeit any financial assistance unless they adhere" to the agreement.

6. Law: Egypt is not to be held responsible for any reaction due to Ethiopia's construction of the dam, which prevents water from flowing into the Nile, thereby influencing the way of life in Egypt and Sudan. "This topos of law or right is illustrated in Trump's speech", as the decision to construct the dam has a perilous repercussion, necessitating that Egypt discontinue this action.

5. Results

Trump employed this topos extensively in his speech because he is of the opinion that the construction of the Ethiopian dam is a political decision that has dire repercussions for Sudan and Egypt. Consequently, he positioned himself as the world's policeman in order to prevent Ethiopia from concluding the dam project. Trump has employed this topos only once; he is of the opinion that his audience is capable of comprehending the situation without the need for further explanation. Trump used the topos of disadvantage because he anticipated that Ethiopia's decision to build the dam would have an adverse impact on others. As a result, he used this topos once to explain why such a decision is risky and should be avoided. Trump once again used the financial topos, believing that the payment card is a type of support to Ethiopia that will be discontinued if Ethiopia refuses the negotiations. "Trump used the topos of burdening because he believes" Ethiopia's "prime minister is burdened with issues" and it is his obligation to ease them. Trump also used the topos of law, as he is from the.

6. Conclusion

The research examines the manner in which politicians exercise social power and authority during their addresses. The research demonstrates that a multitude of CDA methodologies "are applicable to Arabic political speeches", suggesting that politicians frequently employ language manipulation to effectively communicate their political agendas. This paper endeavors to analyze Trump's remark regarding Ethiopia's endeavor to construct a dam on the Nile. The components of Wodak's model (1999) are as follows: The model of analysis has been based on topos, strategies, context, and historical foundation. The results demonstrate that personality traits can

be identified through this type of analysis. Despite their efforts, speakers are unable to conceal their personalities during their speeches. The results indicate that Trump is dauntless, outgoing, ambitious, dominant, sardonic, and aggressive.

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