

Stance Taking in Writing : A Pragmatic Study of Political Discourse in Chomsky's "Good News, Iraq and Beyond"

Prof. Dr. Amin Ukaal Ghailan

Researcher :Haneen Ali Jumaa

Dept. of English, College of Education for Human Sciences, University of Basrah

Abstract:

The research deals with Chomsky's "Good News, Iraq and Beyond". This article discusses one of the critical periods that Iraq and Palestine passed through (Israel's occupation and 2003 Iraq war, respectively). The study aims to identify the dysphemistic expressions used in "Good News, Iraq and Beyond", and to analyse them according to the attitudinal system of Martin and White(2005). The research shows that the negative attitude is the dominant one. Furthermore, there are only explicit affectual values with no implicit ones.

Key Words: Pragmatics, Political Discourse, Dysphemistic expressions, Chomsky, Stance Taking.

اتخاذ الموقف في الكتابة: دراسة تداولية للخطاب السياسي في مقالة تشومسكي

" "الأخبار السارة ، العراق وما بعده"

أ.د. أمين عكال غيلان

الباحثة: حنين علي جمعه

جامعة البصرة، كلية التربية للعلوم الإنسانية ، قسم اللغة الإنكليزية

ملخص البحث:

يتناول البحث مقالة "الأخبار السارة ، العراق وما بعده" للعالم اللغوي والفيلسوف والسياسي الأمريكي نعوم تشومسكي. تناقش المقالة إحدى الفترات الحرجة التي مرت على العراق وفلسطين (حرب العراق عام ٢٠٠٣ واحتلال إسرائيل لفلسطين). وتهدف الدراسة إلى التعرف على تعابير الازدراء المستعملة في مقالة "الأخبار السارة ، العراق وما بعده" ، وتحليلها على وفق النظام السلوكي لنظرية التقييم لمارتن ووايت (٢٠٠٥). وأظهرت الدراسة أن الموقف السلبي للكاتب هو السائد في جميع اجزاء المقالة . علاوة على ذلك ، فإنه لا يوجد سوى القيم التأثرية الصريحة مع عدم وجود قيم ضمنية في هذه المقالة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: التداولية ، الخطاب السياسي ، تعابير الازدراء ، تشومسكي ، اتخاذ الموقف .

1.Introduction

Chomsky continuously criticizes the American policy and the war against Iraq. Chomsky is best known for his contribution to the linguistics due to his theory of Transformational Generative Grammar. He also wrote different articles on philosophy , logic , journalism ,ect.Chomsky also focuses on politics and political matters of all the countries regardless of the identity of their peoples. It is believed that though Chomsky is an American Jewish , he is highly critical of the American policies and Israel occupation of Palestine. Such a study is expected to show the stance Chomsky adopted towards the policy of America and Israel.

2. Aims of the Study

- 1.The study aims to identify the dysphemistic expressions used by Chomsky's article "Good News, Iraq and Beyond".
- 2.To show the influential effect of such expressions in the article.

3.Questions of the Study

1. Are there any dysphemistic expressions in Chomsky's "Good News, Iraq and Beyond"?
2. What is the importance of the dysphemistic expressions for showing Chomsky's stance in writing this article.

4.Pragmatics and Political Discourse Analysis: An Overview

Yule (1996, p.3) states that pragmatics is interested in analysing meaning as conveyed by the speaker and interpreted by the listener. Therefore, pragmatic research is concerned with what these utterances mean than the isolated words and phrases of those utterances. It is believed that pragmatics is "the study of how linguistic properties and contextual factors interact in the interpretation of utterances" (Sperber and Noveck,2004, p. 1). Many phenomena, according to Horn and Kecskes(2013, p. 356), led to the formation of pragmatics. The invention of Austin's (1962) speech act theory, which was later developed by Searle, is one of them. Second, Grice's (1975) cooperative principle, is supported by four maxims that can be broken to generate conversational implications. Finally, Sperber and Wilson's Relevance theory, which is a refined version of Grice's theory.

Van Dijk (2002, p.19) states that political discourse is "a class of genres defined by a social domain, namely that of politics". Political discourse fills with struggles and cooperation, disputation and submission, commendation and scorn, as well as careful criticism and continuous support. Political participants often interact in an obscure, semantically complex, unclear, oblique and somewhat 'cautious' way due to the rather tricky and/or dangerous nature of politics itself, especially to the spoken word's strength. They communicate indirectly (Obeng,1997, p.58).

Johnson and Johnson (2002, p.2) believe that political discourse is the core of democracy, and within society, it is the source of effect. They know that political discourse is:

“the formal exchange of reasoned views as to which of several alternative course of action should be taken to solve a societal problem. It is intended to involve all citizens in the making of the decision, persuade others (through valid information and logical), and clarify what course of action would be most effective in solving the societal problem.”

It is believed that pragmatics and discourse analysis have a lot in common in how both context, text and function are concerned. Both disciplines rely on the meaning of words in conversation and how they express rather than the words they use. In addition, both fields examine discourse and text, concentrating on how language pieces become relevant and incorporated for their users. Moreover, both disciplines are concerned with function (Cutting,2002, p.2).

5.Stance Taking in Writing

Stance has the ability to provide value to objects of interest, to position of social actors in relation to those objects, to evaluate stance takers alignment, and to invoke presupposed sociocultural value systems. Taking a stand is one of the most essential things people can accomplish with language(Du Bois,2007,139).Du Bois asserts that “stance can be approached as a linguistically articulated form of social action whose meaning is to be construed within the broader scope of language, interaction, and sociocultural value”(Du Bois,2007,p.139).

Du Bois (2007,p.142) suggests three kinds of stance taking, namely; evaluation, positioning ,and alignment. Evaluation is perhaps the most prominent and well-known type of stance taking. In recent years, evaluation has garnered a lot of attention. Assessment, as explored in conversation analysis, is a closely related notion. Work on the related notion of appraisal has been investigated from the standpoint of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFL) (Martin 2000), and a number of scholars have developed additional important works on stance, point of view, and related notions (Chafe 1994;Berman et al. 2002; Karkkainen 2003a, 2003b; Kockelman 2004; Shoaps 2004;Berman 2005). To exemplify, the stance predicates 'horrible' and 'ideal' are used to evaluate something .The thing being evaluated is the object of stance.

- ❖ *That's horrible.*
- ❖ *That's ideal*

The second kind of stance which is positioning, is defined as “the act of situating a social actor with respect to responsibility for stance and for invoking sociocultural value”. For instance:

❖ *I'm glad.*

❖ *I know.*

The speaker who is taking the stance is labelled by a first-person pronoun in syntactic subject role (I) in the instances presented above for both affective and epistemic positioning, while the stance predicate (adjective or verb) specifies the nature of the stancetaker's position, whether with respect to an affective (glad) or an epistemic (know) state (Du Bois, 2007, p.143).

The third kind of stance taking is alignment. It can be defined as the act of assessing the relationship between two stances, and by extension, two stancetakers. Although using a stance verb like “agree” is the most obvious approach to show alignment with another speaker, it is not the most common way. Speakers most typically display alignment by stancetakers such as “yes” or “no”, gestures such as a “nod” or a “headshake”, or any number of other means (Du Bois, 2007, p.144). For example:

❖ I agree with you

6. Methodology of the Study

Appraisal is a Systematic Functional Linguistic Framework of text evaluation. It consists of 3 interactive sub-systems: **Attitude** is interested in one's personal emotions (emotional responses, judgments of individuals and objects appreciation); **Engagement** is interested in the placement of oneself regarding to the opinions of others (heterogloss) and concerning one's own opinions (monogloss); while **Graduation** is concerned with how language works to amplify one's own attitudes and engagements that are conveyed by a text (Read and Carroll, 2012, p.423).

6.1. Attitude

Attitude includes three sub-systems, which cover what is generally referred to as “feeling, ethics and aesthetics” (Martin and White, 2005, p.42).

6.1.1 Affect

Affect is defined as the description of personal feelings. Affect is divided into four sub-classes¹, namely, **Inclination** (desire toward or against phenomena, e.g. “miss”

¹ Abbreviations

Hap. The Variable of Happiness

Sec. The Variable of Security

Sat. The Variable of Satisfaction

Inc. The Variable of Inclination

and “wary”) , **Happiness** (internal mood, e.g., “like” and “sad”) , **Satisfaction** (satisfaction with one's goals, e.g., “pleased” and “bored”), and **Security** (environmental and social well-being,e.g., “confident” and “uneasy”). Furthermore , these classes have a positive and a negative polar (Read and Carroll,2012,p.424).

6.1.2 Judgement

Read and Carroll (2010, p.424) believe that *judgement* is the " evaluations of people". Judgement can be broken down into social esteem and social sanction. Social esteem² consists of **Normality** "a person's behaviour compared with what a culture considers normal, e.g. lucky, normal versus unlucky , odd", **Capacity** "the capability of a person, e.g. powerful, witty, versus mild, dull", **Tenacity** "the dependability of a person, e.g. plucky, reliable, versus timid, unreliable". Social sanction³ has **Veracity** "the honesty of a person, e.g. truthful, frank, versus dishonest, deceptive" and **Propriety**, "how well a person's ethics match those of the culture, e.g. good, fair versus bad, unfair".

6.1.3 Appreciation

Appreciation is "communication of aesthetic evaluations". It is divided into **Reaction, Composition, and Valuation**⁴. The reaction is concerned with **Impact** (e.g. “engaging” versus “tedious”) and **Quality** (e.g. “good” versus “nasty”). Composition is concerned with **Balance** (e.g. “unified” versus “consistent”) and **Complexity** (e.g. “simple” versus “simplistic”).Valuation is interested in something’s worthiness (e.g. “profound” versus “shallow”) (Read and Carroll,2012, pp.424-425).

6.2. Engagement

Martin & White (2005, p.97) state that engagement is "those meanings which in various ways construe for the text a heteroglossic backdrop of prior utterances, alternative viewpoints and anticipated responses". Engagement includes resources that introduce additional voices into speech through projection, modalization or concession; the main choices are either monogloss, which means one voice or more than one voice (heterogloss) (Martin & Rose, 2007, p.59).

6.3. Graduation

This system is concerned with "the scalability of attitudes" (Bloom, 2011, p.69). Bloom states that graduation has two dimensions, namely, **Focus** and **Force**. **Focus** is concerned with attitudes that are not gradable, and concerns with how much the

² Norm. The Variable of Normality

Cap. The Variable of Capacity

Ten. The Variable of Tenacity

³ Ver. The Variable of Veracity

Prop The Variable of Propriety

⁴ Imp. Impact

Qual. Quality

Bal. Balance

Val. The Variable of Valuation

desired evaluation really fits the features of the headword used to express the evaluation (for instance, “it was an apology of sorts' has softened the focus when the statement is talking about something that was not quite a straightforward apology”). **Force** works with attitudes that are gradable and interested in the sum of the appraisal being carried out. For instance, “he was **very** happy” (2011, p.69).

7. Attitude Analysis of Dysphemistic Expressions in Chomsky's "Good News, Iraq and Beyond"

In this section, the researcher will analyze the dysphemistic expressions in Chomsky's article according to the three sub-systems of attitude.

7.1 The Analysis of Affect

1. “But today it is we Americans who live in **infamy.”**

The utterance above is considered an explicit expression of disgrace. 'Infamy' is included within the category of "Satisfaction", and it is expressed negatively. The appraisal is considered as an emotional state. The war against Iraq was destructive. The sanctions from 1990 up to the war were harmful to the population, not Saddam Hussein.

2. “This glaring illustration of elite **hatred and contempt for democracy is routinely reported.”**

In utterance (2), 'hatred' and 'contempt' are considered explicit expressions of "satisfaction" expressed negatively. The emotions of dissatisfaction are realized as an emotional state (hatred) and behavioural surge (contempt). America and Israel try to establish a powerful position in the centre of the world. The U.S. seeks to establish a democratic change that did not affect the traditional structures of power with which the U.S. has long been allied.

7.2 The Analysis of Judgement

3. “Ignorant** and **meddlesome** outsiders.”**

The above utterance is an explicit judgement that is expressed negatively. 'Ignorant' is a social esteem that belongs to the category of "Capacity", while 'meddlesome' is a social sanction included within the category of "Propriety". The U.S-supported Israel and the United States itself are called 'ignorant' and 'meddlesome' because of their engagement in certain actions of terrorism and aggression represented by the occupation of Palestine and war against Iraq.

4. “Only **fools talk of `solutions' now.”**

The utterance above is considered as a negative social esteem judgement that is expressed explicitly. 'Fools' is included within the category of "Capacity". The

tragedy and destruction that take place in Iraq during the war of 2003 cannot be solved. It is not a problem that needs to be solved because the number of people killed in the war and the infrastructural destruction cannot be underestimated.

5. "The assault of the **new barbarians** is carefully circumscribed in the doctrinal system."

6. "They are **"unpeople"**."

The above first utterance is an explicit social sanction judgement that is expressed negatively. 'New barbarians' is included within the category of "Tenacity". While the second one is an explicit expression of social esteem judgement that is expressed negatively. 'Unpeople' is included within the category of "Normality". The invaders of Iraqis land, which the U.S. represents, are called "new barbarians" and "unpeople" since, in their war against Iraq, they did not care about children and old people who could not be harmful although they are killed.

7. "Ceasescu, Marcos, Suharto, Chun, and many other **monsters** supported by the U.S. and U.K."

The utterance above is a negative social sanction judgement that is expressed explicitly. 'Monsters' falls within the category of "Tenacity". The tyrants mentioned above were loyal allies to the U.S, but they were killed once they threatened the American sovereignty.

8. "We might as well turn briefly to the third member of the famous **Axis of Evil**, North Korea."

The utterance above is an explicit expression of social sanction that is expressed negatively. 'Axis of Evil' belongs to the category of "Tenacity". In world relations, Korea plays a very important role. The economic growth was first exceptional, but then, after the abolition of Jun's dictatorship, its political development was also remarkable. The Axis of evil consists of Iraq, Iran, and North Korea. U.S always accuses that North Korean had restarted a clandestine nuclear program, which would violate NPT. In contrast, North Korean consistently denied that.

9. "North Korea may have the **worst** government in the world, but they have been pursuing a pragmatic tit-for-tat policy on negotiations with the United States."

Explicit negative social esteem judgement that belongs to "Capacity" occurs in sentence (9). North Korea is an irrational dictatorship that is incapable of negotiation and unwilling to negotiate.

10. "The goal, unconcealed, is to punish the **miscreants** who fail to grasp the essential principle of democracy: "Do what we say, or else."

'Miscreants' is an explicit social sanction judgement that is expressed negatively, and it is included within the category of "Propriety". U.S uses the opposite concept of

democracy to silence those who demand the liberation of Palestine from Israel's grip by the support of the United States.

11. "Israeli **savagery** reached new heights."

12. "Israel should tell the Palestinian refugees in the territories that "we have no solution, you shall continue to live like **dogs**."

Explicit social esteem judgement of "Normality" is included in the utterances above, and they are expressed negatively. Israel, whom the United States supports, continues its brutal actions to seize the Palestinian lands by organizing a military coup.

13. "Hugo Chavez is a **tyrant** bent on destroying freedom and democracy in Venezuela, and beyond."

The utterance above is a negative social sanction judgement that is expressed explicitly. 'Tyrant' falls within the category of "Tenacity". Hugo Chavez is accused of accumulating so much power and "assault" democracy in Venezuela.

7.3 Analysis of Appreciation

14. "See my **Failed** States, on both domains."

15. "Some 70% regarded the war as fundamentally **wrong** and **immoral**," not "a mistake."

Negative appreciation of "Valuation" occurs in the utterances above. The appraised is America and its war against Iraq. The disaster in Iraq, which brings about damages in many Iraqi regions, is criticized by the American people themselves.

16. "That Iraq is "a land of **ruin** and **wreck**" is not in question."

'Ruin' and 'wreck' are negative appreciations that fall within the category of "Valuation". The appraised is Iraq. The above utterance explains the Iraqi lands after the invasion.

17. "The American occupation has been more **disastrous** than that of the Mongols, who sacked Baghdad in the thirteenth century."

Negative appreciation of "Reaction: Quality" occurs in the above utterance. The American occupation of Iraq is being evaluated.

18. "Iraqis of all sectarian and ethnic groups believe that the U.S. military invasion is the primary root of the **violent** differences."

The above utterance is a negative appreciation. It is included within the category of "Reaction: Impact". U.S. military invasion is being appraised. As mentioned in the

above utterance, the Iraqis are fully aware that America is the main reason for the destruction.

19. "One voice is missing: Iraqis. Their preference is not rejected. Rather, it is **not worthy** of mention."

Negative appreciation of "Valuation" occurs in the above utterance. The appraised is the Iraqis voice. After all what happens in Iraq and all the people who are killed, the only missing voice is the Iraqis voice. Because of the oppression of Saddam and the wars, the fight consumes the Iraqis' power.

20. "It is also of no interest that Bush's invasion of Panama, another textbook example of aggression, appears to have been more **deadly** than Saddam's invasion of Kuwait a few months later."

'Deadly' is a negative appreciation included within the category of "Reaction: Impact". Bush's invasion of Panama is being evaluated.

21. "North Korea is again trying to evade its commitments in its usual **devious way**."

The above utterance is a negative appreciation that belongs to the category of "Reaction: Quality". The appraised is North Korea. North Korea stalls on dismantling its nuclear weapons facilities.

22. "The **unusually brazen expression** of imperial will be underscored when Bush quietly issued yet another signing statement."

Negative appreciation occurs in the above utterance that falls within the category of "Reaction: Impact". The appraised is the imperial willing of America. Since Bush refuses the crucial provisions that prevent taxpayer money from building any military facility or base for the permanent United States Armed Forces in Iraq.

23. "Israel's **vicious** response was regarded as understandable if perhaps excessive."

'Vicious' is a negative appreciation included within the category of "Reaction: Impact". Israel's respond is being evaluated. Since Israel was not criticized for kidnapping two civilians as a reaction to the Israeli soldier's capture, which is considered a violation of the Geneva convention.

24. "When the Israeli High Court grants legitimacy to these measures, as it has, it is adding another page to its **ugly** record of subordination to state power."

The above utterance is a negative appreciation that falls within the category of "Valuation". The appraised is the Israeli High Court which gives legitimacy to Israel's unjust deeds.

25. “Moshe Negbi, knew what he was doing when he entitled his **despairing** review of the record of the courts We were like Sodom (Kisdom Hayyinu).”

Negative appreciation occurs in the above utterance. It is included within the category of "Reaction: Impact". The appraised is Moshe Negbi's review of the record of the courts.

26. “In January, the Hamas-led prison break allowed Gazans for the first time in years to go shopping in nearby Egyptian towns, plainly **a serious criminal act** because it slightly undermines US-Israeli strangulation of these unpeople.”

The above utterance is a negative appreciation that belongs to the category of "Valuation". Hamas-led prison break is being evaluated. Since this act lessens the US-Israeli strangulation's power, though they benefit from it as riding themselves of the responsibility for Gaza's destruction.

27. “The prison-break might allow Israel to rid itself of any responsibility for Gaza after having reduced it to **devastation and misery** in 40 years of **brutal** occupation.”

The utterance above is a negative appreciation. 'Devastation' and 'misery' are included within the category of "Reaction: Impact", and 'brutal' is included within the category of "Reaction: Quality". The appraised is the effects of Israel's occupation of Palestine (for more information about Chomsky's article check <https://chomsky.info/20080216/>). The table below shows all the above mentioned utterances with their sub-systems:

Table 1. *Explicit and Implicit Attitudes in the Dysphemistic Expressions.*

Dysphemistic Expressions	Affect	Judgement	Appreciation
1. “But today it is we Americans who live in infamy .”	-Sat ⁵		
2. “This glaring illustration of elite hatred and contempt for democracy is routinely reported.”	-Sat		
3. “ Ignorant and meddlesome outsiders.”		-Cap -Pro	
4. “Only fools talk of `solutions' now.”		-Cap	
5. “He assault of the new barbarians is carefully circumscribed in the doctrinal system.”		-Ten	

⁵ Symbols
t. Implicit
- Negative
+ Positive

*Stance Taking in Writing : A Pragmatic Study of Political Discourse
in Chomsky's "Good News, Iraq and Beyond"*

6. "Ceasescu, Marcos, Suharto, Chun, and many other monsters supported by the U.S. and U.K."		-Pro	
7. "They are "unpeople" "		-Nor	
8. "We might as well turn briefly to the third member of the famous Axis of Evil , North Korea."		-Pro	
9. "North Korea may have the worst government in the world, but they have been pursuing a pragmatic tit-for-tat policy on negotiations with the United States."		-Cap	
10. "The goal, unconcealed, is to punish the miscreants who fail to grasp the essential principle of democracy: "Do what we say, or else."		-Pro	
11. "Israeli savagery reached new heights."		-Nor	
12. "Israel should tell the Palestinian refugees in the territories that "we have no solution, you shall continue to live like dogs ."		-Nor	
13. "Hugo Chavez is a tyrant bent on destroying freedom and democracy in Venezuela, and beyond."		-Ten	
14. "See my Failed States, on both domains."			-Val
15. "Some 70% regarded the war as fundamentally wrong and immoral ," not "a mistake."			-Val
16. "That Iraq is "a land of ruin and wreck " is not in question."			-Val
17. "The American occupation has been more disastrous than that of the Mongols, who sacked Baghdad in the thirteenth century."			-Qual
18. "Iraqis of all sectarian and ethnic groups believe that the U.S. military invasion is the primary root of the violent differences."			-Imp
19. "One voice is missing: Iraqis. Their preference is not rejected. Rather, it is not worthy of mention."			-Val

*Stance Taking in Writing : A Pragmatic Study of Political Discourse
in Chomsky's "Good News, Iraq and Beyond"*

20. "It is also of no interest that Bush's invasion of Panama, another textbook example of aggression, appears to have been more deadly than Saddam's invasion of Kuwait a few months later."			-Imp
21. "North Korea is again trying to evade its commitments in its usual devious way ."			-Qul
22. "The unusually brazen expression of imperial will was underscored when Bush quietly issued yet another signing statement."			-Imp
23. "Israel's vicious response was regarded as understandable if perhaps excessive."			-Imp
24. "When the Israeli High Court grants legitimacy to these measures, as it has, it is adding another page to its ugly record of subordination to state power."			-Val
25. "Moshe Negbi, knew what he was doing when he entitled his despairing review of the record of the courts We were like Sodom (Kisdom Hayyinu)."			-Imp
26. "In January, the Hamas-led prison break allowed Gazans for the first time in years to go shopping in nearby Egyptian towns, plainly a serious criminal act because it slightly undermines US-Israeli strangulation of these unpeople."			-Val
27. "The prison-break might allow Israel to rid itself of any responsibility for Gaza after having reduced it to devastation and misery in 40 years of brutal occupation."			-Imp -Qul

8. Findings and Discussion

The findings of the analysis show that the negative attitude controls the situation. The total number of the attitudinal meanings is 29. The number of affects is 2, judgements is 12, and appreciations is 15. So, the results show that the values of appreciation occur more than affect and judgement. This indicates that the writer is highly disturbed by the deeds of the controller countries that is why he criticizes them bitterly.

As illustrated in Table 2, there are 2 explicit affectual values only, while there are no implicit ones. Normally, when compared to the implicit affect, the explicit affect is the most common type of attitude. The 2 explicit and negative affects belong to the category of "Satisfaction". This shows the negative attitude of the writer toward the American case and the hatred of American people to the American democracy.

*Table 2. Distribution of Explicit and Implicit Affect
in Chomsky's "Good News", Iraq and Beyond.*

Attitude	Explicit Affect								Implicit Affect							
	Positive				Negative				Positive				Negative			
	Ha p.	Sec .	Sat .	De s.	Ha p.	Sec .	Sat .	De s.	Ha p.	Sec .	Sat .	De s.	Hap .	Sec .	Sat .	De s.
Dysphemism	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2								0							

*Table 3. Distribution of Explicit Social Esteem and Social Sanction Judgements in
Dysphemistic Expressions of Chomsky's "Good News", Iraq and Beyond.*

Attitude	Social Esteem (Explicit)						Social Sanction (Explicit)			
	Positive			Negative			Positive		Negative	
	Nor.	Cap.	Ten.	Nor.	Cap.	Ten.	Ver.	Pro.	Ver.	Pro.
Dysphemism	0	0	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	4
Total Number	0	0	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	4
	8						4			

*Stance Taking in Writing : A Pragmatic Study of Political Discourse
in Chomsky's "Good News, Iraq and Beyond"*

Table 4. *Distribution of Implicit Social Esteem and Social Sanction Judgements in Dysphemistic Expressions of Chomsky's "Good News", Iraq and Beyond.*

Attitude	Social Esteem (Implicit)						Social Sanction (Implicit)			
	Positive			Negative			Positive		Negative	
	Nor	Cap.	Ten.	Nor.	Cap.	Ten.	Ver.	Pro.	Ver.	Pro.
Dysphemism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0						0			

Tables 3 and 4 show that the social esteem judgements are used more than the social sanction judgments. There are 8 explicit social esteem and 4 explicit social sanctions, while the implicit social esteem and sanction are zero. 4 negative judgements belong to the category of propriety. So, "Propriety" is the dominant variable, which indicates that the writer focuses on the ethics of the unjust countries (e.g America , Isreal, North korea) as a way for neither trusting these countries nor their policies.

Table 5. *Distribution of Appreciation in Dysphemistic Expressions in Chomsky's "Good News", Iraq and Beyond*

Attitude	Appreciation					
	Positive			Negative		
	Reac.	Comp.	Val.	Reac.	Comp.	Val
Dysphemism	0	0	0	9	0	6
Total Number	0	0	0	9	0	6
	0			15		

As clarified in the table above, there are 15 negative appreciations and zero positive ones. Furthermore, the category of reaction is the dominant one in 9 values. Table 6 reveals that the occurrence of appreciation is 15, while that of judgement is 12, and that of affect is 2. In addition, the results show only negative attitude with no positive one.

Table 6. *Attitude Totals in the Dysphemistic Expressions of Chomsky's "Good News", Iraq and Beyond.*

	Appraisal System	Sub-system			F	%	
Dysphemisms	Attitude	Affect	2	Positive	0	0%	6.89%
				Negative	2	6.89%	
		Judgment	12	Positive	0	0%	41.37%
				Negative	12	41.37%	
		Appreciation	15	Positive	0	0%	51.7%
				Negative	15	51.7%	
Total			29				100%

6. Conclusions

The study comes up with the following conclusions:

1. The findings illustrate that the attitudinal sub-system of appreciation occurs more than affect and judgement. This indicates that the article is interested in the evaluation of attitudes. This is quite obvious since the article evaluates the performance of the unjust countries and how the consequences of their deeds affect the peoples under their authority.
2. The analysis of the attitude's system in Chomsky's *"Good News", Iraq and Beyond* clarifies that all the attitudinal values are explicit. This shows that the writer of the article is direct and uses simple linguistic expressions so as to make all the people understand and grasp the oppression of U.S and Israel to the poor countries in the world.
3. It has been found that all the attitudinal meanings are negative. Since the article criticizes the American and Israeli wrong policies in Palestine and Iraq, so the writer's attitude is usually negative towards such policy.
4. The analysis of appreciation values reveals that Chomsky's *"Good News", Iraq and Beyond*, focuses on reactions and valuation. This implies that the writer focuses on assessing the extent of the damage happening to small countries as a result of the brutal acts committed by U.S and Israel.

References

- Bloom, K. (2011). *Sentiment Analysis Based on Appraisal Theory and Functional Local Grammars*. M.A thesis, Chicago, Illinois.
- Chomsky, N. (2008). "Good News," *Iraq and Beyond*. Available at: Znet. <https://chomsky.info/20080216/>
- Cutting, J. (2002). *Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis*. London: Routledge.
- Du Bois, J. W. (2007). "The Stance Triangle". In R. Englebretson (ed.), *Stance Taking in Discourse: Subjectivity, Evaluation, Interaction*. (pp.139-183). Amsterdam: John Benjamin Publishing Company.
- Horn, L. & Kecskes, I. (2013). *Pragmatics, Discourse, and Cognition*. Yale University
- Johnson, D.W. and Johnson, R.T. (2002). "Civil Political Discourse in a Democracy: The Contribution of Psychology". *Peace and Conflict Journal of Peace Psychology*. Vol.6(4), 291-317. doi:10.1207/S153279PAC0604-01.
- Martin, J. R. & White, P. R. R. (2005). *The Language of Evaluation: Appraisal in English*. (1st ed.). New York, NY: Palgrave MacMillan.
- Martin, J. R. & Rose, D. (2007). *Working with Discourse: Meaning Beyond the Clause* (2nd ed.). London, England: Continuum.
- Obeng, S. G. (1997). "Language and Politics: Indirectness in Political Discourse". *Discourse and Society*. 8(1), 49-83.
- Read, J. and Carroll, J. (2012). "Annotating Expressions of Appraisal in English". *Lang Resources & Evaluation*. 46(1), 421-447. Available at: doi:10.1007/s10579-010-9135-7.
- Sperber, D. and Ira A. N. (2004). "Introduction". In: Ira A. Noveck and Dan Sperber (eds.). *Experimental Pragmatics*. (pp.1-22). Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Van Dijk, T.A. (2002). "Ideology: Political Discourse and Cognition". In P. Chilton and Ch. Schaffner (eds.). *Politics as Text and Talk*. (pp.33-57). Amsterdam: Benjamins.
- Yule, G. (1996). *Pragmatics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press