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Systemic Functional Linguistics Analysis of Al Sudani's Speech at Cairo Summit for Peace

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A B S T R A C T

Throughout its long history, the Arabian Gulf has had great political and economic importance, and many ports have developed on its coasts, including the ports of the eastern coast of the Arabian Gulf, which combined with several factors that contributed to highlighting its brilliance in the field of trade. One of these factors was the establishment of the Abbasid state and the growth of its power in the region, as its establishment helped in the emergence of the ports of the eastern coast of the Arabian Gulf, Seraph, ancient Hormuz, and the island of Qais in the field of trade, and their role was no longer limited to receiving and discharging goods, but went much beyond that. It began to play the role of a commercial intermediary in the Arabian Gulf, India, China, and East Africa, and this commercial activity had repercussions on the economic and social life of the residents of those ports, who began making huge sums of money. Commercial transactions prevailing in the ports of the eastern coast of the Arabian Gulf began to take a larger form than they were before. Economic transactions and the exchange of commercial goods began to increase more than before, and the commercial relations of the ports of the eastern coast of the Arabian Gulf began to expand with new and distant regions, which necessitated diversification in commercial transactions to keep pace with the active commercial movement.

التحليل اللغوي الوظيفي المنهجي لخطاب السوداني في قمة القاهرة للسلام

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المستخلص:

يدرس هذا البحث كيف يمكن تطبيق فكرة هاليداي عن نظام التحويلية على إنتاج القوة الصوتية. وتهدف الدراسة إلى التأكد من عملية التحويلية التي استخدمها رئيس الوزراء العراقي محمد شياع السوداني في خطابه، وأي عملية تحويلية تظهر بشكل أكثر تواتراً في تصريحات السوداني. (3) تحديد الكيفية التي يظهر بها البناء الأيديولوجي لخطاب محمد شياع السوداني من خلال عملية التحويلية. وقد استخدم الباحثان منهج النحو الوظيفي المنهجي الوظيفي. أما تقنيات جمع البيانات فتشمل التوبيخ والتوثيق. وتتمثل استنتاجات الدراسة فيما يلي: (1) تم تحديد جميع العمليات الانتقالية التي حدثت في الخطاب؛ (2) شكلت العمليات اللفظية 63% من جميع العمليات الانتقالية وحدثت في 30 حالة من أصل 78 حالة خطابية؛ (3) تظهر العمليات اللفظية أن السوداني يبني خطابه من خلال تقديم أمثلة وتفسيرات لكيفية دعم المجتمع الدولي لفلسطين. كما بذل السوداني جهداً لمساعدة إسرائيل في وضع حد للمواجهة مع غزة باستخدام الوسائل الخطابية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: السوداني، عملية العبور، القواعد النحوية الوظيفية للنظام.

1 . Introduction

Those with strength are the ones who have powerful conversations. Several academics have studied the powerful speeches given by well-known people in great detail and through the prism of Halliday's transitivity process. These investigations include those on Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, carried out by Zhang (2017), Zhu and Li (2018), Wang (2010), Jeo Bedien, and Barack Obama, carried out by Abdul Ameer (2022). Halliday (1967) distinguished three meta-functions of language: ideational, interpersonal, and textual. According to Halliday (1967), ideational function is a manifestation of transitivity. The writer or speaker uses this function to translate their experience of real-world happenings into language. This experience includes the linguistic acts of speaking and understanding as well as the speaker's or writer's internal reality, including their responses, perceptions, and cognitions (Halliday, 1967). In line with the aforementioned arguments, Wang (2010) states that its purpose is to introduce the hearer to new information or content. Zhang (2017) claims that more concrete semantic components enable transitivity, which conveys the ideational function.

Since the speaker's responses, thoughts, and perceptions all exhibit transitivity during speech creation, it's interesting to examine the speech of another significant figure to learn more about the speaker's genuine motivations. Previous researchers have defined material and relational processes as the two fundamental processes. However, it is impossible to find a new pair with another powerful individual. Thus, the researcher is investigating Iraq's prime minister, Mohammed Shia Al-Sudani, who has emerged as the nation's most powerful figure in recent times. At the Cairo Peace Summit, the chosen speech was given. Meeting in Egypt on October 7, 2023. In essence, the address discusses Sudan's "immediate ceasefire," "efforts to facilitate a safe and inclusive exchange of prisoners and detainees," and opening borders to allow humanitarian relief to be delivered. The goals of this research are to identify different distributions of transitivity processes in Sudani speech, identify the most common transitivity processes employed by Sudani, and demonstrate how the transitivity process interprets the speaker's ideological construction during speech delivery.

2. Literature Review

Systematic Functional Grammar (SFG) is a semantics-functional approach developed by M.A.K. Halliday. It addresses two points: the ways in which language is used in different situations and the ways in which language is a semiotic system. Representation is the interpretation of a clause. Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) also takes into account the manner in which speakers create words and texts to convey their intended meanings, according to Halliday (Halliday 1994). This approach contends that language serves a

functional purpose (Anggarini, 2018). The concept of the meta-function refers to the combination of the ideational function (which includes both logical and experiential elements), the interpersonal function, and the textual function (Halliday & Webster, 2009: 5).

The transitivity system is Halliday's ideational function. Actor + Process configuration is the foundation of the transitive model, according to Riris (2019) Based on Halliday (2014:334). It is believed that the Actor is responsible for the Process's gradual unfolding over time, which can either benefit the Actor exclusively or involve the Goal as a third party. It is assumed that the Actor's execution of the procedure affects the Goal. Furthermore, although Simpson (1993:88) claims that transitivity generally relates to how meaning is expressed in the clause, Kress (1976:169) claims that transitivity is representation in linguistic processes. Transitivity is a grammatical system that addresses a variety of processes seen in language and linguistic structures, according to Song (2013). Additionally, Nguyen (2012) argues that transitivity can show how speakers and writers replicate the outside world in their minds and encode it in language. According to Beard (2000:30), "transitivity requires analyzing the language used to describe:

- What transpires
- The identities of the participants (those who take action as well as those impacted by it)
- The current situation.

Process, participant, and circumstance make constitute a unit of ideal experience, as stated by Halliday (2014:107) in previous research. The term "process" describes the action that takes place in a verb-clause phrase. A participant in a process is an individual or object. A participant is a part of the circumstance, which is the setting in which, when, why, or how a process takes place. Since the primary experiment is a process, the process determines the participant's amount and category at the clause level. Furthermore, the method also indirectly determines the circumstances. According to Fowler (1991), a key finding of Halliday's model is that transitivity—the ability to employ a sentence to categorize events and situations as belonging to particular types—lays the groundwork for representation. Processes are divided into six categories by Halliday (2014): three primary processes (material, mental, and relational) and three supplementary processes (behavioral, verbal, and existential) .

Doing-and-happening clauses that interpret an energy input as causing a specific amount of change in the course of events are known as "material" processes. According to Halliday (2008), they communicate the sense that what one entity does could be done to another. According to Halliday (2014:224), there is only one participant in a material process, and that is the actor. Third parties are not the aim, even if they are involved. In line with Halliday, Thompson (2004) states that an actor serves as the process's doer in any material process. It could also

involve the Goal participant who is impacted by the process. The goal is "directed at" in a statement, implying the effect of the Process. Zahraa, for instance, is presently consuming a banana.

"Mental" clauses, according to Halliday (2014:245), deal with our perception of the world and our awareness. Mental phenomena, including "perception" (see, glance), "reaction" (like, please), and "cognition" (know, believe, convince) are expressed via mental processes .

The mental clause also includes phenomena that are referred to as psychological events or states of mind, according to Abdul Ameer (2019). It conveys insight, thought, and affection. The sensor and the phenomena are the two participants in a mental process. Christ, for instance, sees the rainbow .

Four criteria are offered by Thompson (2000) to distinguish between mental and material activity. First of all, mental processes always involve at least one human. The second requirement is that entities that can play the role of another participant in a metal process are less restricted than entities that can engage in material processes. The third explanation is tense. The fourth is that mental processes are reversible.

"Relational clauses serve to characterize and to identify," according to Halliday (2014:259). Participants, in this case, are referred to as carriers and attributives, for example, *It's a humid day*. The participants are referred to as value (the definition) and token (the thing that is defined), for example, *Joe is the boy; Joe is the lad*.

Information exchange takes place verbally. Stated differently, the verbal process is a process that demonstrates information-related behavior. According to Chen (2007: 39), the Sayer's authoritative appearance is achieved through the use of language. However, verbal processes demonstrate information-related behaviors, according to Saragih (2010:8). Verbs like a command, explain, ask, say, tell, talk, praise, boast, describe, and so on are frequently utilized. In addition to the Sayer, there are three other participants in this process: (3) Target, (2) Verbiage, and (1) Receiver. Suzan obeys her order to go .

Halliday (2014:301) asserts that behavioral mechanisms are almost always central. One of the most prevalent patterns is a statement that just consists of the words "**Behaver**" and "**Process**," such "**Don't breathe!**" or "**He's always gambling**." A person who participates in behavioral processes is called a behaver. If there is another person involved in this process, it is called a phenomena. Moreover, Gerot and Wignel (1994:60) state that behavioral processes encompass both physiological and psychological behaviour including breathing, dreaming, snoring, smiling, hiccapping, looking, observing, listening, and thinking.

Existential processes tell us that things happen and that life is real. An existential procedure, according to Hancock (2005:240), is a statement that affirms the existence of an entity without offering any additional context. The prefix "there"

indicates that it is the current topic. Every existential process involves an existence. Say, "*There's a painting hanging there.*"

This transitivity analysis examines a speech given by Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia Al-Sudani. Lucas (2000) defined public speaking as the deliberate, structured act of addressing an audience with the intention of informing, amusing, or influencing them. Moreover, Priyana (2008) defines a speech as "a formal talk given usually to a large number of people on a special occasion." A speech must begin with an introduction, be addressed to the audience, explain the topic, conclude with a few prayers, and finally close.

3. Approach

The goal of the object is Al Sudani's statement at the October 7, 2023, Cairo Summit Peace, which is intended to aid Palestine in its conflict with Israel in Gaza. Qualitative research is what this study falls under. The researcher analyses the speech using Halliday's SFL technique. According to Halliday, the steps involved in stylistic analysis can be broken down into three coherent categories, as stated in Wang (2010): analysis, interpretation, and evaluation. The researcher simplifies the analytical procedure by using intricate tabulation. The researcher examines the setting chosen for Sudani's transitivity system in the speech. To obtain the data for this study, the researcher takes multiple steps. These include viewing the speech's video, obtaining Sudani's speech's comments online for documentation, coding, and labeling, calculating the percentage, and compiling the results. The researcher then analyses, interprets, and assesses the information.

4. Results

4.1 Outcome of Data Coding and Marking

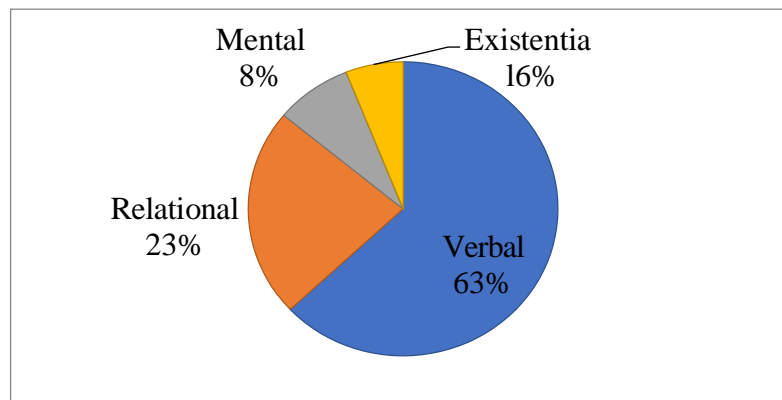
The researchers discovered 62 primary phrases. Specific key phrases need to be divided into two or three clauses or sentences. Because such sentences have multiple clauses, the separating sentences occurred. In the end, the researcher obtained 79 clauses .

4.2 Sorting the Information

In order to determine the number of instances of each step in the speech remark of Sudani's address at the summit in Egypt, the researcher classified the data according to the features discovered in those phrases that are obtained from the marking and coding table. The researcher is aware that two speech remark phrases are included as behavioral processes, nine codes are determined to be mental processes, thirty codes to be verbal processes, twenty-nine codes appear as relational processes, seven codes to be mental processes, and one code to be existential processes. The researcher had 78 codes to examine among those that were discovered .

4.3 The Appearance Percentage of the Data

Figure 1: The Share of the Visible Data for Every Procedure Transitivity Mechanisms Emerging.



The researchers reached to the conclusion that verbal processes are the most common technique based on the facts already mentioned. It comes in first place with 63%. With 23%, the relational process is ranked second. Third place goes to the mental process (8%). The fourth phase to show up is the existential process, at 6%. As seen in Figure 1, Al Sudani also employed the verbal process the most, accounting for 63% of the total. Relational processes followed at 23%, mental processes at 8%, and existential processes at 6%. The Eastern presidents who used transitivity processes are shown in Table 13 below.

As shown in Table Chart 1, the Iraqi prime minister rejected Israel's war on Gaza by expressing their opposition mainly through transitivity mechanisms as opposed to other channels, particularly verbal ones. It can be linked to the use of the verbal process, which strengthens the bond between Prime Minister Al Sudani and his listeners, portrays him as a kind individual, and increases his credibility and persuasiveness when expressing opinions on the Gaza War.

The reasoning behind this is corroborated by Yuqiong and Fengjie's (2018) study, which examined David Cameron's speech regarding Scotland's retention using transitivity analysis.

4.4 Verbal Procedure

"Clauses of saying" represent verbal processes (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014: 252). Verbal clauses were linked to Sayer, Receiver, Target, and Verbiage players in this theme. Verbal processes such as chastise, speak, tell, critique, and condemn are employed. Here are some examples: "Al-Sudani said that the Palestinian people are facing a genocide where civilians are being targeted by Israeli air strikes at homes, churches, and hospitals, according to a statement

issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO)." The prime minister of Iraq said, "Palestine is an example of how the world order fails to foster the values of humanity, justice, and freedom it calls for".

For instance, the prime minister of Iraq uses the verbal process "said" as Sayer to denounce Israel, emphasize that Israeli airstrikes are targeting people, and simultaneously condemn Israel's attack.

Additionally, he performs a statement role that illustrates how world leaders have failed Palestine by siding with Israel against Palestine (Verbiage)

Only the Attribute process represented the relational process type, which was the second most popular after the Verbal process.

A relational process involves both having and being. Attributive relational and identification relational are the two categories into which it can be separated. The term "attributive relational" refers to an object's characteristics or the category it belongs in. On the other hand, relational identification denotes the uniformity of one entity and another. It is employed to characterize subjects or things .

The auxiliary verb "is" is used in the relational process to relate the Al Sudani narrative of the civilians attacked by Israel's air force in the example above, where the attributive is a civilian.

Table 1 below lists the Eastern presidents and the Transitivity procedures employed at the Cairo Summit for Peace with reference to Gaza.

News	Category	Participants						Total	Percentage
TG	Eastern Leaders	Sayer	Actor	Carrier	Senser	Existent	Behavior		
1	Iraq	18	11		1			30	45%
2	Palestine	10	4	1				15	23%
3	Jordan	2	2	1				5	8%
4	Egypt	2						2	3%
5	Lebanon	2	1					3	4%
6	Syria	2						2	3%
7	Saudi	2	1	1	1			5	8%
8	Emirates	1						1	1%
9	Turkish	1						1	1%
10	Qatar	1						1	1%

11	Kuwait	1						1	1%
12	Iran	1	1					2	3%

Table 1 demonstrates that the Iraqi prime minister attended the Cairo Summit for Peace based on the transitivity processes. Idrus, Norb, & Ismail (2014) also examined the oral proceedings concerning the Batu Puteh Island Issue in Malaysia and Singapore using the transitivity system; they came to the conclusion that the verbal process was the highest process compared to other processes, suggesting that verbal processes in Malaysia could reflect the position and power of Malaysia. Demonstrating Iraq's might and authority is the best way to voice opposition to Israel's war on Gaza verbally. Furthermore, Iraq would angrily reject the ill-fitting agreement, which can be summed up as follows: selling Palestine, Gaza, and the Al-Aqsaa Mosque; selling a people under oppression and despotism; selling honor, dignity, and gallantry; and selling Islam and faith (Takeen, 2019).

5. Conclusions

This study looks into the six processes that are present in Al Sudani's speech, with the verbal process accounting for 63% of the total. This indicates that the prime minister of Iraq would instead convey the condition of affairs in his country, as well as his own experiences and beliefs, in order to bolster his argument and encourage the world to support Palestine. Relational processes are ranked second because they demonstrate that the speaker bases their discourse on reality and has a sincere desire to assist Gaza. Even if mental processes are almost as numerous as relational processes, this fact supports Iraq's determination to thwart Israel's invasion of Gaza. The speech appears differently depending on the transitivity process's dominance. The mental process comes first, then the verbal and relational processes, and finally, the existential processes. Considering that Muslim and Al Sudani authorities want to end the assault against Gaza immediately. The audience can be successfully persuaded to support Palestine through verbal, relational, and mental procedures .

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