

## تحليل تداولي لخطبة السيدة زينب (ع) في مجلس يزيد

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## A Pragmatic Analysis of Sayyida Zaynab 's (peace be upon her) Speech at Yazid's Court

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#### المستخلص

التداولية فرع من فروع علم اللغة يهتم بتفسير الاختلاف والعلاقة بين معاني الكلمات والمعاني المقصودة من قبل المتكلم. وتتعامل التداولية مع سياق الموقف والمعاني في الكلام التي لا يتم تناولها باستخدام الدلالة. ويدرس هذا الفرع المحددات المختلفة المتعلقة بالتبادل اللغوي فيما يتعلق بالسياق والموقف كشرطين أساسيين للطريقة التي يحدث بها التواصل وإنتاج المعنى بين مستخدمي اللغة في علاقاتهم التواصلية، دلاليًا ومباشرًا، حيث لا يعتمد التواصل اللغوي فقط على الكفاءة اللغوية، بل هناك مجموعة من الشروط غير اللغوية التي تتدخل في تحديد الأداء اللغوي. والتداولية هي المجال الذي يهتم بدراسة أفعال الكلام، والاستلزام والتواصل، فيما يتعلق بمجالات فلسفة اللغة، والمنطق الحجاجي، وتحليل الخطاب.

تتناول الدراسة تحليلاً تداولياً لتحليل خطاب السيدة زينب في ضوء الإقناع والاستدلال وأفعال الكلام، حيث نستطيع أن نتعرف على كيفية مساهمة لغتها في دعم الأسلوب البلاغي المتوارث عن أبيها (أستاذ البلاغة) الإمام على بن أبي طالب. .



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#### **Abstract**

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that deals with explaining the difference and relation between the meanings of words and the intended meanings by the speaker. It deals with context of situation and meanings in speech that are not addressed using semantics. This branch studies the various determinants related to linguistic exchange in relation to context and situation as two basic conditions for the manner in which communication and the production of meaning occur between language users in their communicative relations, indicatively and directly, since linguistic communication is not based solely on linguistic competence, but rather there are a set of non-linguistic conditions that intervene in determining linguistic performance. Pragmatics is the field that is concerned with the study of speech acts, communicative implication and entailment, in relation with the fields of philosophy of language, argumentative logic, and discourse analysis.

The study considers a pragmatic analysis to analyze Sayyida Zaynab's speech according to persuasion ,Implicature and Speech Acts in which we can learn how her language underpinning the rhetorical style that inherent from her father (Master of rhetoricians ) AL-Immam Ali bin Abi Talib .

#### Introduction

Pragmatics is the study of the factors that determine the language we choose in social interactions and the impact of our choices on others. Pragmatic elements influence our choice of sounds, grammatical structures, and vocabulary to produce the meaning we want to express in our interactions. Pragmatics refers to the study of the meaning of words used by people in specific social situations, that is, the meaning of words in context (Crystal, 1987: 62).

Robin (1964:23) pointed out that the study of meaning from a pragmatic perspective involves all factors surrounding the situational context. He further said that the broader interpersonal relationship system is the relationship related to the existence of human society.

The term "pragmatics" in modern usage is attributed to Charles Morris (1938), who studied semiotic signs in the early stages of the discipline. In semiotics, Morris distinguished three different branches of research: syntax; the study of formal relations between signs; semantics; the study of signs in relation to the objects to which they are applied (designated); and pragmatics: the study of signs in relation to the interpreter; Morris (1988). Levinson (1983: 5) defines pragmatics as the study of language use, i.e. the study of the relationship between language and context, the basis for interpretive language understanding, in which









inferences are made that relate what is said to what is assumed to be said or to what has been said previously. Pragmatics can also solve problems between speakers and hearers, especially point of view problems. Leech (1983:36) pointed out that pragmatics involves solving problems from the perspectives of speakers and hearers. The problem of the speaker's point of view is to produce an utterance that can achieve the result.

According to Kemson (1986:76) "Pragmatics is the study of the general cognitive principles involved in the retrieval of information from an uttered sequences of words.

Leech (1983:6) states that pragmatics is the study of meaning in relation to speech situation. Aspects of speech situation further provide a criterion to refer in determining whether we deal with pragmatic or semantic phenomenon .The occurrence one or more of the aspects then indicates a pragmatic one since, as previously mentioned, pragmatics studies meaning in relation to speech situation.

Pragmatics is the study of how context shapes the meaning, use and structure of utterances, occupying pragmatics analysis also involves the analysis of context. Context and text are interdependent as Halliday (1989: 77) defines context as what is 'with the text', and it goes beyond what is said and written; it includes other non-linguistic -goings on the total environment in which a text unfolds. According to Brown and Yule (1983:6), text is language that is functional. By functional, text means a language that is doing job in certain context. Such a job can be in different acts.

According to the Shiite narrative of historical events, Sayyida Zaynab (Pace be upon her) bint Ali bin Abi Talib delivered an eloquent speech to response to Yazid bin Muawiyah in his court after he placed her brother Hussein's head in a basin and took a stick and began to hit Hussein's lips and teeth. At that moment, Sayyida Zaynab stood up and delivered this speech; until the speech of Ali bin Hussein(Pace be upon him) in that court impressed the attendees, and turned things upside down in favor of the Ahl al-Bayt(Pace be upon them). An analysis of Eloquent and fluent speech has not only attracted the interests of Rhetoricians but also attained the attention of linguists. In this research, pragmatic models are considered in the analysis, in terms of pragmatic concepts: Persuasion, Implictiure, and Speech Acts identify out the contextual features of Sayyida Zaynab's Speech. The revealing to find out how Sayyida Zaynab (Pace be upon her ) uses the words to get power to persuade the public and has support behind it.



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### Biography of Sayyida Zaynab

Sayyida Zaynab bint Ali( peace be upon her), her father Ali Bin Abi Talib is Ameer Al Moumneen, (peace be upon him), and her mother is Fatima al-Zahra(peace be upon her). Her grandfather is the Messenger of God, may God bless him and his family and grant them peace, named her Zaynab, and it was mentioned that she used to teach women the interpretation of Qur'an during the caliphate of her father, peace be upon him, in Kufa. She participated with her brother Hussein(peace be upon him) in Karbala Battle, and had a prominent role in its events. After the tenth of Muharram, she and all the widows and orphans were taken as captives to Kufa, where she delivered her famous speech there. Then she was taken to Damascus, where she delivered another court in Damascus. According to analysts, her speech played a major role in the survival of Husseini revolution, achieving its goals, and exposing the Umayyad authority. She was nicknamed "Mother of Al- Mussaib" because of the calamities she saw in her life. She died in the year 62 AH.

Zaynab's speeches are considered the peak of eloquence and rhetoric, and a sign of the power of expression, because she lived with her father for thirty-five years, during which she was close to his heart, he was the closest to her soul and the most influential on her. Therefore, Sayyida Zaynab (peace be upon her) assumed the personality of her father in his courage and perseverance, in his eloquence and rhetoric and his devotion to God .She combined the arts of rhetoric and the methods of eloquence, and the brilliance of rhetoric and the meanings of enthusiasm and the power of argument and the argument of opposition and defense for the sake of freedom, truth and faith. The strong, sensitive soul contained the high, sublime, ideal morality. These speeches will remain screaming in the faces of the unjust tyrants throughout time and the succession of generations, and on every anniversary of an event of Al-Taff.

#### **Theoretical Bases**

#### 1-Persuasion

Each linguistic situation involves an agent (the speaker) who attempts to persuade an-other agent (the listener) to take a certain action. Whether or not the listener should accept the speaker's suggestion depends on information possessed by the speaker. In such a situation, the speaker often presents hard evidence to support her/his position, but is restricted as to how many pieces of evidence he can present. This restriction may be due either to time constraints or to limitations on the listener's capability to process in-formation. The purpose in this paper is to shed light on the rules that determine which of the facts, presented by Sayyida Zaynab, the listener will find persuasive. Persuasion is the way people to convince









hearer or reader to interest and agree with the speaker or writer. Persuasion is typically defined as "human communication that is designed to influence others by modifying their beliefs, values, or attitudes" (Simons, 1976: 21). Aristotle argued that there were three basic ways to persuade an audience of your position: ethos, logos, and pathos. It is known as Persuasion Rhetoric. Rhetoric can be defined as the faculty of discovering the possible means of persuasion in reference to any subject whatever. (This is the function of no other of the arts, each of which is able to instruct and persuade in its own special subject: thus, medicine deals with health and sickness). But Rhetoric so to (speak) appears to be able to discover the means of persuasion in reference to any given subject. That is why we say that as an art its rules are not applied to any particular definite class of things(Metsämäki, 2012:76).

### 2-Speech Acts

Communication has always been a necessity in human life. Through communication, the trade of thought among people, which directly contributes to the development of the quality of life itself, can be performed. The ability to percept utterances in communication can determine the actions followed. Communication can be conveyed through verbal and nonverbal communication. Buck (2002:79) states that there are two types of communication, they are verbal(Linguistic) and nonverbal(non-Linguistic) communications. Verbal communication is the way of communicating messages by using words as elements. Nonverbal communication is the way of communicating messages by using gesture, body movements, eye contact, facial expression, or general appearances as the elements.

Pragmatics is a study which belief is what is communicated is more than what is said. The messages that the speakers produce in communication contain deeper sense than the actual meaning of the words or phrases themselves. Yule (1996:3) states that pragmatics has consequently more to do with the analysis of what people mean by their utterances than what the words or phrases in those utterances might mean by themselves. Pragmatics also strongly related with context or situation when something is being said, thus it is very important for the speakers to focus on the context. Leech (983: 6) also states that pragmatics is the study of meaning which is related to the speech situations. In accordance to Leech statement, Yule argues that pragmatics should also consider aspects of context such as who people are talking to, when, where, and under what circumstances that will determine the way they say and what they want to say. Speech act, a variety of verbal communication and also a subdivision of pragmatics, often takes place in verbal and nonverbal communication.



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Yule states that speech acts are a study of how the speakers and hearers use language(1996:87). Bach & Harnish (1979:12) explain that an action in verbal communication has message in itself, so the communication is not only about language but also with action. In conclusion speech act is the utterance that occurs and act refers to an action.

There are certain aims beyond the utterances or phrases when a speaker says something. Austin (1962:82) explains that speech acts are acts that refer to the action performed by produced words. In line with Yule (1996: 47) urges that speech acts is action which is performed via words. uttering something means doing something. Here, people can perform an action by saying something. Through speech acts, the speaker can convey physical action merely through words and phrases. The conveyed utterances are paramount to the actions performed (Birner, 2013:69).

According to Austin (1962:90)"illocutionary" is the speech act that can "but need not" be performed by means of the performative formula. The illocutionary act is the second step of the total speech act that one performs in saying a sentence. Generally, when one acts intentionally, one has a set of nested intentions. For instance "

"Having arrived home without your keys, one might move your finger in a certain way with the intention not just of moving your finger in that way but with the further intentions of pushing a certain button ,ringing the doorbell, arousing your spouse, ..., and ultimately getting into your house".

(Reidel, 1991:87)

It is possible to categories speech acts according to performative criteria: **1-Representatives** are used to describe some state of affairs. Stating, informing, predicting, notifying. Examples:

## Stars are glistening

## The weather will be warm this night.

2-Directives are used to get the hearer ,listener and addressee to do an action (or not do) .They express what the speaker wants. "Requesting, ordering, forbidding, advising, suggesting, insisting, recommending". Directives can be "positive" or "negative" .Examples:

## Give me a class of juice .Make it coll. (Positive)

## Don't say that. (Negative)

3-Questions is used by the speaker to get information about unknown thing or to get more information about thing. The forms of question are not restricted.

Asking and inquiring. Examples:

## Where do you live?

Is he absent yesterday?









4-Commissive used to commit the speaker to do some action to the hearer intentionality. Promising, threatening, volunteering, offering, guaranteeing, refusals, and

pledges.Examples:

I'll be here.

We will do that.

We are going to do it easy next time.

5-Expressives used to express the emotional state or psychological states of the speaker and can be statements of pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes or sorrow. "Apologizing, thanking, congratulating, condoling, welcoming". Examples:

I'm really sorry.

Congratulations!

(Searle, 1996:56)

6- Declarations are used to change the state of some entity. The status of the entity changes by the mere uttering of the words. In order to perform a declaration properly, the speaker has to have a special institutional role (power) in a specific context, Naming, appointing, resigning, firing, marrying, divorcing.

Examples:

Priest: I now pronounce you husband and wife.

Referee: You're out!

Sometimes, the speaker wants to describe what someone said, one option is to use direct speech. We use direct speech when we simply repeat what someone says, putting the phrase between speech marks:

John came in and said, "I'm really hungry." (Austin ,1962:90)
3-Implicature

Paul Herbat Grice (1975) distinguishes between two kinds of implicatures, namely conventional and conversational implicatures. The conventional implicature happens when the conventional meaning of words used to determine what is implicated. Thus, the sentence "He is an Englishman; he is, therefore, brave", implicates, but doesn't say, that his being brave is a consequence of his being an Englishman. This is based on the conventional meaning of the words used in uttering that sentence. (Grice,1989:97) The conversational implicature, on the other hand, is a subclass of nonconventional implicature, and is connected with certain general features of discourse.

He observes that in conversations 'What is meant' goes often beyond 'What is said' and that this additional meaning is inferred and predictable Implicature is a term which is derived from the verb 'to imply'. The verb 'implicate' and the cognate noun 'implicature' are technical terms denoting to 'implying something by saying something else'. Thus,





implicature in Grice's definition implies that unstated information is conveyed to an audience that is able to work out what is being said by reference to cultural or linguistic maxims that are being flagrantly flouted. Implicature is dependent on the context of the situation and shared knowledge between the speaker and the hearer. For example:

A. David: Who is this standing next to the door?

### B. Marry: That's my husband.

The implicature here, 'The man is not her bother".

Conversational implicatures depend on a wide range of contextual information including information about the participants and their relationship with each other. Conversational implicatures demand to make our utterances coherent, clear and orderly. Grice attempted to account for conversational implicatures by suggesting a general cooperative principle between speaker and hearer i.e. a kind of agreement between speakers and listeners to co-operate in communication. Grice conforms conversational implicatures to four maxims of conversation which are:

1-Quantity: - Make your contribution as informative as required. - Do not make your contribution more informative than is required.

### Ex: It may be raining.

It implies that the speaker does not know whether it is raining or not.

2-Quality: - Do not say what you believe to be false. - Do not say that for which you lack evidence. **Ex: I am out of petrol.** 

The reply is: **Ex: There is a garage round the corner**.

It implies that the garage may be open.

- 3- Relation: Be relevant, make your contribution relevant.
- (A) Can I borrow ten dollars? (B) My purse is in the hall (the implicature: Yes) A's assumption is that B's reply is intended to be relevant that allows the inference (Yes).
- 4- Manner: Be perspicuous. (clear) Avoid obscurity of expression. Avoid ambiguity. Be brief. Be orderly. Ex: He cocked the chicken then he ate it. Implicature here is that one can't eat the chicken unless he cooks it.

## Analysis of Sayyida Zaynab's Speech (peace be upon her)

Sayyida Zaynab uses many linguistic concepts in her speech to introduce message to public.

#### 1-Persuasion

### **Analysis of Persuasion**

#### A-Introduction

The speech begins with preaching, guidance, warning, and luring the stubborn or opponents, where she puts the text and its subject to the









public to remove the ambiguity from it, so she continues with interest, and its benefit is to indicate the purpose targeted by the speech, or to attract the public and lure them to accept the speech and the subject with interest. Zaynabi speech approaches the public with an idea of proving the truth, and its arguments are the verses of God Almighty, by magnifying and glorifying the verses, and exciting them, by urging the public to complete the act of continuing to convince with the strength of the evidence and the appearance of the argument, and then the interest was in the introduction; because it is the first thing that strikes the ear, and with it the evidence of what is in the message is deduced, so it prompts the recipient to pay attention and listen, so the textual threshold is the first thing where the reader of the text meets its owner, and the introduction is the first active engine of the wheel of the text. The structure of the speech was escalating, rebellious, questioning, and denial, because souls are drawn to this introduction, and the introduction has an effect on the construction of the text. Rather, it is one of the components of persuasive discourse, because it is the moment of attention and attraction. It began with a Qur'anic intertextuality that provides clear evidence.

ثُمَّ كَانَ عَاقِبَةَ الَّذِينَ أَسَاؤُوا السُّوأَى أَن كَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ وَكَاثُوا بِهَا يَسْتَهْزِؤُون)

**B- Presentation** is the middle part between the introduction and conclusion of the speech. There is a thematic and psychological unity that is consistent with the parts of the same topic, and harmony is the communication with the listener of the speech. The presentation methods varied between images and artistic tools, and the use of speech acts that achieved pioneering eloquence and benefit for the listener. The topics were united, the details were branched out, and the details were mentioned by searching for causes, and linking the introductions and results.

**C- Conclusion** often sticks in the mind because it was recently read, and it suggests the end. She says:

(فالحمد لله الذي ختم لأولنا بالسعادة، ولآخرنا بالشهادة والرحمة، ونسأل الله أن يكمل لهم

الثواب، ويوجب لهم المزيد، ويحسن علينا الخلافة، إنّه رحيم ودود، وحسبنا الله ونعم الوكيل)

## 2-Implicature

Every action has a reaction by the audiences', which is an opposite reaction, adopted by the features that make up the context of the text, and interacting with its essential movement, and that reaction is one of the effects of the dialogical speech acts that call for direct conclusion within a different system, as the intentional concept of the speech act is based on communicative foundations, and those concepts have their textual and





dialogical value inherent in the most prominent systematic keys of the texts that include the acts of power included in the statement, which form a pyramid of agreement with the factors of persuasion in the shadow of a society that possesses awareness, but deviates from the value of truth, and the communicative goal that the speaker wants is achieved from the discourse and its intentionality.

One of the argumentative strategies which are used in the argumentation of the conditional style is its inclusion of words with meanings that oblige the opponent to propose an answer, so it is more effective in convincing and winning him over. Through this style, what is called the principle of (conversational implication) appeared in the text. It is considered one of the most important aspects that are examined in the interactive function, and it is the most relevant.

The linguists must schedule the passages that include the conversational implication, which are two passages, mentioned within the linguistic structure of the conditional sentence: The conversational implication and the conversation.

### **Analysis of Implicature**

1. ولئن جرّت عليّ الدواهي مخاطبتك الجواب: إنّى لأستصغر قدرك واستعظم تقريعك

It entails meanings of sarcasm.

2-لئن اتخذتنا مغنما

الجواب: لتجدنا وشيكاً مغرم

The answer here requires sarcasm and rebuke.

## 3-Speech Acts

The theory of speech acts is based on philosophical and logical principles, adopted by Austin , who is considered the founder of the theory, and deepened by Searle. It is one of the concept of modern pragmatic study, and a basic field for studying the speaker's intentions and purposes, as the intention determines the sender's goal, behind the series of linguistic acts that he utters, and this is what helps in understanding the discourse, and then the availability of the intention and its mechanism becomes a basic requirement, and a condition for the success of the linguistic act, which must be achieved and indicative of meaning. Austin has drawn up a method for speech acts based on constituting a linguistic sentence, which is in itself a linguistic act that ends with the theory of language, which is an integral part of the theory of action, where the act of speech achieves within its framework









ideological acts such as: Affirmation, Command, Prohibition, Questioning, and Astonishment.

### **Analysis of Speech Acts**

#### **A-Command**

A person who reads the noble speech will find that it includes imperative verbs that came metaphorically, and the aim of that is to confuse the listener and make him understand that "Yazid is the loser"

"فكد كيدك، واسع سعيك، وناصب جهدك، فو الله، لا تمحو ذكرنا، ولا تُميت وحينا، ولا تدرك أمدنا، ولا ترحض عنك عارها، وهل رأيك إلّا فند، وأيامك إلّا عدد، وجمعك إلّا بدد، يوم يناد المناد: ألا لعنة الله على الظالمين"

The "command" and its implications embodied the intentions of Zaynabi speech externally, with diversity and difference in meaning and in the relationship between the speaker and the listener.

Therefore, the verbs

are directed towards Yazid contain the meaning of "incapacitating" and accusing him of weakness and feebleness, because he is in obvious misguidance. This speech is dominated by threatening tone of Sayyida Zaynab . She is confident that all of Yazid's activities will fail and his power will be lost.

#### 2-Question

Interrogation has an effect in terms of accomplishment and impact, as Sibawayh noted, where he indicated that the function of the question is to request (from the addressee something that has not been settled upon by the questioner "speaker")

In Sayyida Zaynab's speech, the question goes beyond its usual meaning to metaphorical meanings that have a powerful performative power and effective influence. The questions accumulate in Zaynab's speech (peace be upon her), explicit at one time and implicit at another for establishing proof of the invalidity of the actions of Yazid and his party, and that is in her saying:

(أظننت يا يزيد حيث أخذت علينا أقطار الأرض وآفاق السماء، فأصبحنا نُساق كما تُساق الأُسارى، أنّ بنا على الله هواناً، وبك عليه كرامة، وأنّ ذلك لعظم خطرك عنده؟! أمن العدل يابن الطلقاء، تخديرك حرائرك وإماءك، وسوقك بنات رسول الله سبايا؟!





Zaynab (peace be upon her) responds with a Qur'anic textual interpolation, thus silencing Yazid and establishing evidence of the invalidity of his claim, saying:

أنسيت قول الله تعالى: "وَلاَ يَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُواْ أَنَّمَا نُمْلِي لَهُمْ خَيْرٌ لِّأَنفُسِهِمْ إِنَّمَا نُمْلِي لَهُمْ لِيَرْدَادُواْ إِثْمًا وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ مُهِينِ".

She asks Yazid for this heinous act

(وأنّى يُرتجى مراقبة من لفظ فوه أكباد الشهداء، ونبت لحمه بدماء السعداء، ونصب الحرب لسيّد الأنبياء، وجمع الأحزاب، وشهر الحراب، وهزّ السيوف في وجه رسول الله أشدّ العرب لله جحوداً، وأنكرهم له رسولاً، وأظهرهم له عدواناً، وأعتاهم على الربّ كفراً وطغياناً؟!)

(وكيف يستبطئ في بغضنا أهل البيت من نظر إلينا بالشنف والشنآن، والإحن والأضغان؟)

### 3-Negation

Negation has an effective impact on the communicative text, because its purpose to invalidate and reject the listener's opinions. Negation has a persuasive function (it shatters the foundations of the opposing opinion and strips it of credibility), overcomes the recipient's belief, and cuts off his claims. It has a function that consists of invalidating the listener's information and providing him with other information that the other considers correct, i.e. it is a compensation function.

Yazid is the addressee, whether he hears or does not hear is the same, because the speech seeks the result. Yazid heard the arguments and understood them, but due to his arrogance he did not acknowledge them, and the speech cut off his claim to reveal the result, as in:

All of this came in a harmonious context, each supporting the other with conclusive arguments. The first part of the negation was divided, and the last part was a metaphorical negation method with (the exclusive tool "except") or (the rhetorical question):

All the items are confirmed negations and convincing evidence that show the decisive result and the indisputable facts:" life is fleeting, and everyone will get what his hands have put ".

#### Conclusion

The rhetorical text is considered an art of expression and persuasion, is characterized by poetic specificity (imagination), rhetorical specificity (persuasion), and the overlap between them. Sayyida Zaynab 's speech in Damascus has important communicative and functional dimensions, due to its ability to attract, influence and persuade, which can be monitored by using what the language accomplishes in terms of



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speech acts in creating a mental or behavioral impact on people, and then achieving the accomplishment.

Pragmatics is not concerned with the grammatical linguistic structure of the imperative as much as it is concerned with the semantic, rhetorical, and pragmatic employment of the imperative and its forms. The imperative is considered one of the most used mechanisms by the directing Sayyida Zaynab, due to its major role in conveying the requirements of directive actions. She uses the imperative construction: requesting the action in a superior manner. It is the displacement of imperative forms from their original meaning to other meanings that are derived from the context of the speech, such as equalization, incapacitation, threat, and permission. The command and question.

In the speech Conversational implication has the most important contribution to the development of speaker's meaning, as (the verses of implication are based on the principle of cooperation, assuming the listener's understanding and perception of the implied meaning, in addition to his ability to draw conclusions based on the hypothesis of suitability.

Comparative Analysis: Sayyida Zaynab's Speech and Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream"

While Sayyida Zaynab's speech in the court of Yazid and Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech are separated by centuries and cultural contexts, they share remarkable similarities in their rhetorical strategies, persuasive techniques, and the socio-political impact they aimed to achieve. Both speeches are exemplary in their use of language to challenge oppression, inspire hope, and mobilize their audiences toward justice. This section will compare the two discourses in terms of their persuasive strategies, use of implicature, and speech acts, highlighting how each speaker utilized linguistic tools to achieve their communicative goals.

### 1. Persuasive Strategies

Both speeches employ ethos, pathos, and logos to persuade their audiences, though the emphasis on each varies according to the context.

#### - Ethos (Credibility):

Sayyida Zaynab (peace be upon her) leverages her lineage as the daughter of Imam Ali (peace be upon him) and granddaughter of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) to establish her credibility. Her speech is rooted in Islamic teachings and divine justice, which resonates deeply with her audience. Similarly, Martin Luther King Jr. establishes his ethos by aligning himself with the American ideals of freedom and equality, referencing the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Both speakers use their moral and ethical authority to challenge the legitimacy of their oppressors.

### - Pathos (Emotional Appeal):

Zaynab's speech is laden with emotional appeals, particularly in her descriptions of the suffering endured by her family and the injustice of Yazid's actions. Her use of vivid imagery, such as the desecration of her





brother Hussein's (peace be upon him) body, evokes deep sorrow and anger. Similarly, King's speech is rich with emotional appeals, particularly in his repeated refrain, "I have a dream," which paints a hopeful vision of racial equality and justice. Both speakers use emotional appeals to galvanize their audiences and evoke a sense of moral outrage.

### - Logos (Logical Appeal):

Zaynab's speech is structured around logical arguments, particularly her use of Qur'anic verses to refute Yazid's claims and justify her family's stance. She systematically dismantles Yazid's authority by exposing his moral and ethical failings. King, on the other hand, uses logical appeals by highlighting the contradictions between America's founding principles and the reality of racial segregation. Both speakers use logic to undermine the legitimacy of their oppressors and strengthen their own positions.

### 2. Use of Implicature

Both speeches rely heavily on implicature to convey deeper meanings beyond the literal words.

### - Šayyida Zaynab's Speech:

Zaynab's use of implicature is evident in her rhetorical questions and sarcastic remarks, which force the audience to reflect on the moral implications of Yazid's actions. For example, when she says, "Do you think, O Yazid, that by taking us captive, you have humiliated us in the eyes of God?", she implies that Yazid's actions are not only unjust but also futile in the eyes of divine justice. This implicature challenges the audience to reconsider their allegiance to Yazid.

### - Martin Luther King Jr.'s Speech:

King's speech is filled with implicature, particularly in his use of metaphors and allusions. For example, when he says, "We will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream," he implies that the struggle for civil rights is not just a political issue but a moral imperative. This implicature elevates the discourse from a mere protest to a divine calling for justice.

## 3. Speech Acts

Both speeches are rich in speech acts, particularly directives and expressives, which serve to mobilize their audiences and express emotional states.

#### - Directives:

Zaynab's speech contains numerous directives, such as her command to Yazid: "Do your worst, for you will never erase our memory or extinguish our light." These directives serve to challenge Yazid's authority and assert her family's moral superiority. Similarly, King's speech is filled with directives, such as "Let freedom ring," which serves as a call to action for his audience to continue the struggle for civil rights.

### - Expressives:

Both speeches use expressives to convey the emotional states of the speakers. Zaynab's speech is filled with expressions of grief, anger, and defiance, particularly when she describes the suffering of her family. King's speech, on the other hand, is filled with expressions of hope and









determination, particularly in his repeated use of the phrase "I have a dream." These expressives serve to connect with the audience on an emotional level and inspire them to action.

#### 4. Impact and Legacy

Both speeches had a profound impact on their respective audiences and continue to resonate today. Zaynab's speech not only exposed the tyranny of Yazid but also ensured the survival of the Husseini revolution, inspiring generations of Muslims to stand against oppression. Similarly, King's speech became a defining moment in the civil rights movement, inspiring millions to fight for racial equality and justice. Both speeches are remembered not only for their rhetorical brilliance but also for their ability to mobilize people toward a common cause.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion, while Sayyida Zaynab's speech and Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech are rooted in different cultural and historical contexts, they share striking similarities in their use of persuasive strategies, implicature, and speech acts. Both speakers used their rhetorical skills to challenge oppression, inspire hope, and mobilize their audiences toward justice. By comparing these two discourses, we gain a deeper understanding of how language can be used as a powerful tool for social and political change.

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