Critical Discourse Analysis of Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s speech in UN General Assembly dated 27 Sep 2013

1. Rao Muhammad Aqeel, aqeelpk786@yahoo.com. A Researcher, scholar, Intellectual Thinker, critical analyst and above all Humanist, (5 International research articles), MS (18 years) in Applied Linguistics in 2014 from Lahore Leads University, Pakistan
2. Muhammad Amin Sajid, researcher. Scholar , MS (18 Years) in Applied Linguistics in 29014 from Lahore Leads University, also Head of the Department of English in Punjab College, Pattoki, Qasoor, Pakistan
3. Prof. Dr. Mahmood Ahmad Azhar, HOD Dept of English Ling and Lit, Lahore Leads University, Lahore
4. Muhammad FarhanAsharaf, M. Phil Scholar in Pol Science, 2nd Semster from NCBA & E, Multan Campus, Band Bosan Road Multan
5. AbidaKanwal, researcher. Scholar, MS (18vYears) in Applied Linguistics in 2013 from Lahore Leads University. Lahore
6. Tanveer Ahmed, MA English from ISP Multan, a critical analyst and also serving as Health Officer in Multan.

ABSTRACT

The basic aim of this research article is to open broad avenue for the development of international peace, security, human rights, governance, food and nutrition, health, education, infrastructure, water sanitation, infer of technology, discrimination against women, and prosperity for developing countries in the light of Indian PM’s Speech in UN General Assembly. And the critical goal of this research article is “a message to all” through words to solve all burning issues between India and Pakistan for the economic development of Asia, through dialogue for social, political, and economical development of Asia and this immortal world beyond India and Pakistan. Our analysis is focused in claiming that “text are open to diverse interpretations” (Fariclough:1995). And it is also focused in Fairclough, I. and Fairclough, N.’s Political Discourse Analysis. A Method for Advanced Studies (London: Routtledge 2012).

Key Words: Critical Discourse Analysis, Discourse Analysis, Critical Discourse Studies, Critical Paradigm, Contextualization, Political Discourse Analysis, Political Relations.

IMP NOTE: Scholars, Researchers, Philosophers, Intellectual persons, critical analysts, including Political Scientists are analyzing it. And we know that these persons are the “unbeaten able shining stars” of this immortal world which is full of moans and groans and full of tensions, uncertainty, confusion, complexity, ambiguity, frustration, religious unawareness and lack of moral values. But their motto is “To develop humanity through their services, wisdom in the shape of their critical, creative and innovative writings. So the researcher’s motto and religion is “Humanity”. And through this article this research group tries to motivate and request all respectable persons (including Indian Prime Minister, Pakistani Prime Minister, and United Nations General Assembly)
to promote such type of “textual and written relation” for the development of Humanity, practically beyond the level of words or dialogues.

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Rao Muhammad Aqeel and co authors

INTRODUCTION

CDA or CDS is a recognizable approach to language study of “program” (Wodak 2011:50). It is a branch of Applied Linguistics and as a field fall within the group of “Humanities” and “Social Science”. CDA or CDS is a form of Discourse Analysis, through which we study the relationship between discourse and ideology (consisting set of beliefs, behaviors and attitudes). CDA is concerned with studying and analyzing text to reveal discoursive source of poser, domininace, inevetability and bias. Van Dijk 1998a. CDA or CDS is an intellectual, universal,. Unique, sublime, invulnerable, innovative and critical approach to language study, which advocates “Social Justice” and “Social Change”, reducing “Social Injustice” in the Society. (Rao Muhammad Aqeel, Apr 2015). Through this approach, critical analysts, intellectual persons, philosophers, scholars, writers, authors etc, analyze text on different topics related to politics, domain, power, ideology, crime, sexism, racism, homophobia, immigration and many more because it emphasis the ----------- of text (written or spoken) in their historical and social context. The purpose of CDA is to look and view how “social injustice” is portrayed in society and provide new tools, open broad avenue to study language not just for Linguistic Analysis or academically level, but to provide and justify the right path for social, cultural and much more developments on society at different levels including politics, power, domain, strategies, policies, etc. (Rao Muhammad Aqeel, M.Phil scholar in Applied Linguistics at Lahore Leads University, Lahore, Pakistan, 2015). CDA is obviously not a homogenous model, nor a school or a paradigm, but at most a shared perspective on doing linguistics. Semiotics of DA.: (Teun A V Dijk 1993b:131).

Methodology:

The tool of this research article is levels and stages of CDA by Norma Fairclough. Norman Fariclough in his book “Language and Power 1989”, describes three levels of discourse. These are:- Istly, social condition, 2ndly, process and lastly text. Further three stages also accord with the above mention levels: Ist, description; 2nd, interpretation and 3rdly explanation.

ANALYSIS

The Research group analyze the Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s Speech not only in linguistic level but also on textual, ideological, political and social level, which is as under:-

Linguistic Analysis

Cohesion: (Link in Structure)

The use of linguistic devices (phrases, words etc that helps to associate previous statements with subsequent ones) to carry on grammatical and lexical relationship between different parts of a text and elements of sentence, which hold it together. Cohesion is the very first term in “Discourse Analysis” and it describes the “Properties of written text”.

In the very opening sentence of the speech of the Ist paragraph, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh use the word, “We wish you every success and assure you of our
fullest co-operation”. The words “You” are substitute of Mr. President and the words “we”, “our” are substitute of “me”. Similarly the speech is full of such type of substitutions and cohesive devices. And these devices signal relations between sentence and paragraphs, artistically and beautifully associating previous statements/background with subsequent ones.

Reference:

Reference also create “cohesion” in text and links that hold a text together, giving fruitful meaning.

i Anaphora: (to proceeding text)

In paragraph 17 sentence number 1, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s speech the word, [“India is proud of its partnership with developing countries. Using modest resources, we”]. “We” instead of “India” is use like “Anaphoric Reference”. And such type of reference is use to avoid repetition. The writers/political leaders/political scientist/scholars/journalists and genius peoples refers back to someone/something that has been previously identified.

ii Cataphoric: (to following text)

Last sentence of paragraph number 7, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in his speech, use cataphoric reference (a reference found in written text: a reference forward as opposed to backward in the text/discourse, usually opposite to anaphora), “we also look ____... 3rd conference ____... in Samoa in 2014”. The usages of this cohesive device “cataphoric reference” make the text more cohesive and unite.

Synonyms: (Not only for words but for context)

In Paragraph 1 Sentence 1 and 2 Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh use, “Mr. President ____ we wish you and assure you”. This is also called “elegant variation” and usually use when direct repetition is too obvious. And through using this “cohesive device” politicians, analysts, journalists, writers create link of one sentence to the next sentence.

Opposition:

Opposition is also another important “cohesive device” which jouralits/analysts use in the text. In paragraph 4 sentence 3 of the speech, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh also use this device, “Countries are now not only more independent but also face new”. Here “But” is opposition for the word “countries”.

Addition

This cohesive device indicates “continuation”. In paragraph 4 sentence 3, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh use this device, “Countries are not ____..., but also face new and ______ complex challenges”. Here the word “and” shows the continuation in the sentence in a different and critical style, which Indian Prime Minister use. Again in
paragraph 5 sentence 1, Indian Prime Minister use the same cohesive device, Further a lot of time also use this. be reformed 'and' restructured”.

Cause and Effect

In paragraph 15 sentence 2, Indian Prime Minister use this device, “Especially critical is women’s equal _____..., and that”. Here the word ‘that’ is the cause and effect of “women’s equal access to economic opportunities”. But we mention that this “cause and effect” if should be resolved in fruitful and beneficial, otherwise it is no more just “words” or “dialogues”. And this artistic style of Indian Prime Minister is a sweet fruit for women in the light of the text of this speech in United Nations General Assembly.

Collective Noun

In sentence 2 of 1st paragraph of the speech “we wish you”, by Indian Prime Minister Manmohan use the word “we” as collective noun instead of using the word “I”. Similarly, the use of this collective noun “we” represent whole India to United Nations General Assembly (congratulations and best wishes from “Whole India” to president of United Nations General Assembly). The usage of such words is a style and “strategic technique” which promotes, prevail, develop, and create attraction, co-operation and relations. That’s why it is said, “Orators may win where army fails”.

Similarly speech is full of such devices, but due to shortage of time and limitations of the “Text” bound us not to go ahead. However, these devices, inform us that, Indian Prime Minister explain political issues and situations in his/her own style. The very basic purposes of these devices are unique, universal and vast because these clarify the ways of “success”, specially “Political Development”.

Critical Discourse Analysis

Our critical discourse analysis and interpretations of the critical, political, textual, ideological and economic factors in Indian Prime Minister’s speech allows us to look from a broad vision and find out positive response and attitude from the speech for the development of Humanity. The opening sentence of the speech “Let me first of all congratulate you”. Here in the light of Critical Analysis and interpretations of the text of Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s speech “congratulation and assurance of co-operation” is clear for multidimensions. But without any doubt it is very clear that the opening paragraph of Indian Prime Minister’s speech is full of extra ordinary “style” because in this paragraph Indian Prime Minister not only appreciate, congratulate and wish to United Nations President for selection to the president of United Nations General Assembly, but also “shows and remembrance of “United Nations” fully and whole heartedly ‘co-operation’ for the betterment and development of India. And this is no doubt “grand style in political speech”of “sublime motto” of a political leader for his/her nation/state/region/country.

Further analyzing it on political level including economic level, it is visible in paragraph 2 of the speech that Indian Prime Minister has a vital background and knowledge about UN Gen Assembly and its role for “International peace, security and prosperity”. It
shows that politically and economically, United Nations play its unique role specially for India.

In paragraph three of the speech, Indian Prime Minister “Nearly seven decades of the work ___ most successful”. This is no doubt and excellent and outstanding style of a political leader for description and appreciation of United Nations role and performance toward developing countries, especially for India because Indian Prime Minister tells us in paragraph 4 of his speech that developing countries not only more independent but also able to face their “complex challenges” with patience. And this is possible due to extra ordinary efforts of United Nations General Assembly and the charter of United Nations.

In paragraph 9 and 10 of the speech Indian Prime Minister said that “Global economic growth and inclusive development” are naturally important for all countries”. It is clear from the text of the speech that Indian Prime Minister also promotes and willing for development especially for developing countries including his own homeland “India”.

In paragraph 11 of the speech Indian Prime Minister says, “Poverty remains a major political and economic challenge”, without any doubt everyone knows it, but it is the need of the time to control “poverty” not only through words or dialogues but to develop a plan and practical roadmap to control this. And developing countries including India will make progress politically and economically if they control the ratio of ‘poverty’.

In paragraph 15, Indian Prime Minister post 2015 development agenda, food, health, education, water, sanitation, energy, discrimination against women”. Here analysis and interpretation, especially critical analysis is multidimensional but very clear in the light of the text that Indian Prime Minister’s efforts are extra ordinary for the post 2015 development agenda. Here one thing is important and this is “discrimination against women”. It means is that Indian Prime Minister having a soft cornet for this, and this is a passion of Humanity. So we are all human being and we also pay our role for the sake of humanity.

In paragraph 19, 20, 21 of the speech Indian Prime Minister discuss about Syria. Shows hospitality for Syria and also said that“There is no military solution” to this conflict. Soanalysis of the text opens multidimensions but also open a broad avenue to solve this problem for the social and political settlement of Syria. And in this connection Indian Prime Minister assure that India support strongly.

In paragraph 22 Indian Prime Minister says that India support Palestine and also try to become Palestine a member of United Nations. It is a good and positive step for the development and political establishment of Palestine but, it should be done practically beyond the “Words Strokes” through dialogues or speeches.

In paragraph 23 of the speech Indian Prime Minister promote and appreciate Afghanistan for his political and economic development. In paragraph 24 of the speech, Indian Prime Minister tells that Terrorism a threat to security and stability. SO, it is the need of the day, to control it for peace o the region.
In paragraph 25 of the speech Indian Prime Minister “India s committed sincerely to resolving all issues with Pakistan” holding the issue of Jammu and Kashmir”. Here analysis and interpretation is again multidimensional but also clear that Indian Prime Minister, as a representative of India, is eager to solve all burning issues with Pakistan under Jammu and Kashmir issue. So it is a good step for both India and Pakistan.

The speech contains 28 paragraphs, and also defines multidimensions for analysis, but we sum up, because we need quality not quantity.

Findings/Conclusions

On linguistic level, the findings of the speech analysis have shown us that Indian Prime Minister use a different style in an artistic and stylistic way, using a lot of linguistic and CDA devices. And these devices play a pivotal and vital role. And using these devices are the keys to solve and turn an issue/problem in a positive way and achieve goals. That’s why it is said, Dialogues/Table talk are a key to solve issues/problems.

Cohesion and coherence (reference, anaphoric, cataphoric, synonyms, opposition, addition, cause and effect, collective noun etc) are the very basic keys of Applied Linguistics. They create link in structure and meaning. The usages of these devices are very high, because we know that “Orators may win where army fails”. And such orators/political scientists form/shape their ideas and ideologies into such types of devices to achieve their aims/goals. These devices are very common and simple, but very important and play outstanding role. We also know that “common sense is a sense which is not common in the common people. The usage of these devices is very fruitful in two ways, Firstly; these are very simple in diction and due to this reason easily understandable for everyone. 2ndly, no need to interpret and translate them due to their simple diction.

The main theme of the speech is “Growth and inclusive development” for all our countries. It shows the passion of hospitality and humanity in the heart of Indian Prime Minister. But it should be practically done for the developing countries of Asia, is purposeful.

Through such speeches, political leaders/politicians and generalists protect the “tutorial integrity” of the state and also protect the “interests” of their nation/state/country at internal and external level for the social, political and economic development as well as maintain links/sources with other nations/states/countries of “International Community”. And also promote “National Interests” of the state/nation/country.

Through such speeches these political leaders/analysts/Journalists promote “Economic Interests” of the state. And such type of “politics” play a more effective role in “International Politics”. And we cannot deny the importance of this factor from the fact that “the states despite their “Ideological Differences”, to patch up their differences, due to “Economic considerations”.

Such political leaders/politicians resolve their country’s “political conflict” through using such political speeches, democratic principles for “peaceful settlement of International disputes”.

Further Suggestions

The researchers recommend that governments as well as political leaders solve their problems through dialogue, if they establish peace in the region, and development in Asia especially in India and Pakistan.

We also know that Critical Analysts, Journalists, Chief Ministers, Prime Ministers, Political Leaders, Civil Servants, Senior Members of Society etc. are the “Heroes” of their state/nation/country. So they should work like heroes. Because heroes lives in hearts and minds of their public/nation. So it is the need of the day that these responsible persons play their role like heroes otherwise provides a chance to others, so they play their role in a better way.

The heroes, in the above mention paragraph should establish relations and links to reduce issues and factor that are influencing and affecting them.

These heroes explore and recognize “substitute Ways” for solution of “burning issues” including Jammu and Kashmir on urgent basis in the light of United Nations Charter.

The researchers recommend that UN General Assembly including Indian and Pakistan Government representatives also play a positive and immediate role to resolve all burning issues between India and Pakistan, especially the issue of Jammu and Kashmir.

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1. Muhammad Aqeel is a Pakistani who belongs Rajput Family, Province Punjab, District Multan Tehsil Shujabad Village Sikanderabad. He completed his M.A in Political Science from Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, B. Ed from AllamaIqbal Open University, Islamabad and M.A in English from Institute of Southern Punjab, Multan with distinction. And also complete his MS (18 Years) degree in applied linguistics at Lahore Leads University, Lahore in 2014. His keen interest for the cultural, social, economic and educational development of his nation with the help of his pen argue him to write in International Journals for the welfare and prosperity of all human beings of this mortal world. Before this his article is also published in European Academic Research Vol.II Issue 6 September 2014 ISSN 2286-4822. His 2nd and 3rd article also publish from India in IJSR under vol III dated 11 Nov 2014. His fourth article is also publish from IJEE Saudi Arabia in Jan 2015. His fifth article is also published from IJSER in Vol 6 Issue 1, in January 2015. His 6th article is also accept from USA in Ijoart and under process (paper ID: AJ-024189 dated 25 Apr 2015). His field of interest is Applied Linguistics.

2. M Amin Sajid is a Pakistani belongs to Province Punjab District Qassor near Lahore. He is a lecturer in English in Punjab Group of Colleges in Pattoki since 23 July 2012. He completed in MA in English literature and ELT) from University of Education Lahore and MS (18 Years) degree from Lahore Leads University, Lahore. He also publish three articles from India and Saudi Arabia. His field of interest is also Applied Linguistics. This is his fourth article.

3. Professor Doctor Mahmood Ahmad Azhar, Head of the Department of English Language and Literature at Lahore Leads University, Lahore.
4. Muhammad Farhan Ashraf is a Pakistani, who belongs to Shujabad, Multan. He completed his MA in Pol Science. And now he is a M Phil scholar in Pol Science at NCBA and E, Multan Campus. This is his maiden article.

5. Abida Kanwal, SallehUd Din, is a citizen of Pakistan; she completed her MS (18 years degree) in Applied Linguistics from Lahore Leads University, Lahore. This is her 2\textsuperscript{nd} article. Before this she also publish her maiden article from IJSER, France. Her field of interest is also Applied Linguistics.

6. Tanveer Ahmed completed his MA in English from ISP Multan, and now serving as Heath Officer In Multan City, Punjab, Pakistan. This is his maiden article. His field of interest is also applied linguistics.