

**Examining the Speeches of Imran Khan (Ex-Pakistani Premier) After Regime Change Operation Through Fairclough’s Critical Discourse Analysis Technique**

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**Abstract:**

The primary aim of this study is to investigate the descriptive, interpretative, and discursive elements present in the speeches of Imran Khan, the former Prime Minister of Pakistan, following the regime change operation. The study will center on a thorough analysis of the language employed in these speeches to expose the underlying ideological influences shaping the narratives. Additionally, it seeks to provide valuable insights into the personal ideologies held by the speaker. Data for this research is collected from electronic media sources and analysed utilizing Fairclough's model of critical discourse analysis, incorporating a mixed-method approach to ensure a comprehensive data analysis comprising of both qualitative and quantitative techniques to gain an inclusive understanding of the speeches and conveyed ideologies. Qualitative analysis involves close reading to identify themes, rhetorical devices, and linguistic strategies used by politicians, revealing narrative structures and ideological foundations. Quantitative methods complement these findings, measuring linguistic patterns like word frequency, sentiment analysis, and rhetorical tropes to provide empirical evidence and enhance the study's rigor and validity.

**Keywords:** *Critical Discourse Analysis, Fairclough’s Model, Rhetoric Devices, Regime Change, Stylistic Techniques.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Regime change refers to a significant shift in political leadership and governance that occurs when a new government comes into power, either through democratic elections, military intervention, or other means. Such transitions often mark a critical juncture in the nation's political landscape, shaping policies, ideologies, and the direction of the country. During April 2022, regime change in Pakistan represents a significant milestone in the nation's political history, indicating a notable shift in leadership and governance; the political opposition successfully toppled the coalition government led by Imran Khan. After regime change, political leaders, including Imran Khan, strategically harnessed the power of language to motivate and mobilize their political followers. Their speeches served to inspire enthusiasm and passion among their supporters, leading to a surge of political momentum.

To understand the deeper nuances of these speeches and the ideologies they conveyed, a critical examination is conducted using Fairclough's model of discourse analysis. This model allows readers to analyse the language at various levels, including the textual level (examining specific linguistic features), the discursive level (understanding how language constructs power relations and ideologies), and the social level (considering the broader societal context and implications). Furthermore, the speeches are also subjected to rhetorical analysis, which involves studying the use of persuasive techniques, rhetorical devices, and stylistic elements employed by the political leaders to sway public opinion and reinforce their messages. By employing both Fairclough's model of discourse analysis and rhetorical analysis, one can gain a comprehensive understanding of the language used in the political speeches, uncover the underlying power dynamics, and shed light on the persuasive strategies employed during this significant period of political change.

The objective of the current investigation can be summarized as follows:

- To analyse how language is employed as a tool of power.
- To explore the ideologies conveyed by Imran Khan through their linguistic choices in their speeches.
- To uncover concealed and implicit meanings within the speeches using Fairclough's 3D model of critical discourse analysis.

Critical discourse analysis delves into the implicit meaning of a text, examining both the overarching context (trunks type meaning) and the specific details (token meaning). Language serves as a powerful tool for communication, serving various communicative functions. As (Bannet 1976) suggests, people communicate to convey information or prompt actions. Language fulfills two significant functions: the transactional and interactional functions. The

transactional function involves using language to transmit information, whether propositional or factual. This form of language function is commonly employed in literature development. Conversely, the interactional function revolves around using language to establish and maintain social relationships.

Discourse serves as the primary social expression of communication, encompassing all forms of language utilized by communicators within a society (Fairclough 1993, Van Dijk 1995, Fairclough and Wodak 1997). It involves the exchange of linguistic sentences between speakers or writers and listeners or readers. Within a social context, discourse represents the form through which people convey ideas, thoughts, and beliefs (Van Dijk 1997). Discourse analysis is a linguistic field that examines language in context from a grammatical perspective (Jorgensen and Phillips 2002). This approach investigates how language users interpret and comprehend social and contextual messages conveyed in linguistic texts. Critical discourse analysis focuses on the evaluation features present in vocal and written language usage (Fairclough 1995). It explores the relations between text and discursive practices. Wodak (1995) perceives critical discourse analysis as an examination of both ambiguous and unambiguous structural power, discrimination, control, and dominance evident in language.

Within the domain of discourse analysis, the speeches of Pakistani politicians during the 2022 regime change attract attention. This study delves into the hidden meanings of power and ideology in their speeches by analysing word choice and grammatical aspects. The discourse whether written or oral is written with various meanings conveying the speakers' ideology is thoughts and ideas (Alonso 2014). According to (Fairclough and Wodak, 1997) critical discourse analysis ideological work where it contributes society and culture with the nature of being interpretive and explain it three. Critical discourse analysis is a field of study that has diverse waves of creating or reproducing meaning from language used that is using language consciously and unconsciously to express the original meanings. These layers of meanings can be explained critically in details and interestingly when it concerns and important aspects that control humans' life in the concept of power and ideology full stop critical discourse analysis is the suitable methods of studying the ideological discourses for finding the eclectic characteristic. Critical discourse analysis could be used to deal with the dielectric ideology also find the link this course is any type of utterance which is written or spoken. It's a segment of speech that may be simple or complicated that the sentence that it gives the meaning which is always beyond the sentence full stop this term discourse can be applied to both written and spoken language (Kinneavy 1971, Schiffrin 1987, Mumby and Clair 1997, Johnstone 2018). There are a lot of examples of this course as a teacher discusses are lecture with students these discussions will be discourse (Kirvalidze and Samnidze 2016). Discourse analysis means to analyse the returns

spoken or gestures in a critical way full stop it is a method for studying spoken and written language in reference to social context.

It also aims that how discourse is used in a real situation. Researchers can analyse any type of data by applying this technique. So, it can be identified that what is beyond the sentence and what it means. Two types of discourse that is written and spoken language. the researchers discuss the written form in more complex than spoken discourse (McCarthy 1991, Potter and Edwards 1996, Van Dijk 1998). According to (Van Dijk 1997) critical discourse analysis was considered as a tool for analysing the return as well as spoken material. He proposed the study 1998. According to Fairclough (Fairclough 1992, Fairclough and Fairclough 2018) critical discourse analysis is a tool to analyse any type of discourse critically. He said that by using this model we can analyse any sort of discourse spoken or return usually it is applied to political speeches and all types of dialogues by using the Fairclough model power, identification as well as hidden agendas of a particular person can be identified (Fairclough and Wodak 1997). Discourse analysis is a social act and central to their practice (Fowler 1979, Fowler, Hodge et al. 1979, Fairclough 1992, Fairclough 1993, Fairclough 1995, Fairclough and Wodak 1997, Fairclough 2000, Fairclough, Jessop et al. 2002, Fairclough and Fairclough 2018). Fowler said in his research that critical linguistic is much close to sociolinguistics. According to him, there is a strong connection between social structure and Linguistic Structure (Fowler 1979). According to (Fairclough 1989) Language is a form of social practice. It focuses on social, Political and media related discourses and it also investigates speech critically. This model investigates the political leader speeches. The researcher can identify the hidden meaning of any type of speech. (Fairclough, Jessop et al. 2002). According to (Fairclough and Wodak 1997) critical discourse analysis means language in both socially representative, constitutive as well as socially shaped and critical scores analysis has a keen emancipatory objective. According to researchers there is another study about critical discourse analysis that is politics is a struggle for power and language is the most powerful tool for gaining power (Van Dijk 1998). Critical discourse analysis helps to investigate the power of language which is used by the political leaders (Emanuel, Fairclough et al. 2000). It also studies that how political leaders formulated their power of language by using suitable choices of words (Gusev, Lee et al. 2014). By using discourse practice politicians show their power of government as well as status. Bhatia completed his research all over the world and was given the name political discourse analysis according to this status of political discourse analysis all over the world (Bhatia 2006) and analysed these speeches accordingly. It is reported by the researchers (Jorgensen and Phillips 2002, Basaria, Coviello et al. 2010) that critical discourse analysis can be applied for the empirical studies of the relation between discourse, social and cultural development in

various civic domains. Further, (Van Dijk 1998) argued that critical discourse analysis is a kind of research that emphasizes the ways that dominate inequality and social power abuse which can be reproduced and enacted by the talk and text in the political and social context. Similarly, (Jaworski and Couplend 2006) observed that power relations can be found in political discourse.

However, (Pennycook 2001) presented general classification of critical discourse analysis. While, (Wang 2010) argued that Wodak and Fairclough work relied on linguistic analysis of texts starting with the analysis of syntactic functions and ending with analysis of text meta function and genre. In essence, discourse analysis goes beyond individual sentences to study how language operates in social contexts. The method involves analysing longer texts or utterances, considering both their linguistic content and sociolinguistic context.

### **1.1 Research Questions:**

This research adheres to answering the following research questions:

- How can language be used as a tool of power?
- How the ideologies of Imran Khan are being reflected through the linguistic choices in their speeches after regime change 2022?
- How to investigate the hidden and embedded meanings of the speeches of the politicians by using Fairclough 3D model of critical discourse analysis?

The following methodology has been devised to address these research questions.

## **2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

In this study, the Fairclough model will serve as the theoretical framework for analysing the speeches, aiming to reveal the ideologies, motives, power dynamics, and relationships between the speakers and the audience. A mixed-method approach will be utilized to achieve the research objectives. The qualitative approach involves a thorough examination and interpretation of the speech text, focusing on vocabulary, grammar, and textual structures, in line with the Fairclough 3D model. This approach provides a subjective understanding of the social interactions within the text. On the other hand, the quantitative approach will analyse the frequency and usage of linguistic tools employed by Pakistani politicians in their speeches. This quantitative analysis offers insights into the linguistic patterns used by the politicians during the specified period.

### **2.1 Sample of Study:**

As part of the ongoing investigations, a specific set of videos featuring speeches delivered by Imran Khan were downloaded from the internet within the time frame of April 2022 to December 2022. These videos were obtained in relation to the current investigative proceedings.

## 2.2 Instruments of the Study:

Current investigation adopts an interpretive qualitative research approach, aiming to delve into the intricate linguistic features exhibited in the political speeches delivered by Pakistani politicians during the regime change of 2022. The researcher meticulously analysed the collected data using the well-established Fairclough's model 1995 (Fairclough 1995), which serves as a comprehensive framework facilitating the exploration of various linguistic features that address the study's research questions. The Fairclough model incorporates three interrelated dimensions within discourse analysis, namely, the object being evaluated, the processes entailed in its creation and comprehension, and the socio-historical conditions that exert an influence on these processes. Each dimension necessitates a distinct form of analysis: textual content analysis for description, interpretive analysis for processing evaluation, and social analysis for explanation. By employing this methodological approach, researchers can focus their attention on the specific signifiers present within the text, including their layout, linguistic choices, sequencing, and juxtaposition. The theoretical framework encompasses a wide range of grammatical components, such as lexicalization, transitivity patterns, the use of active and passive voice, nominalization, mood choices, modality or polarity options, thematic structure, information focus, and cohesion devices. These elements, derived from Halliday's grammatical resources, cover ideational, interpersonal, and textual meanings. In this particular study, the researcher adeptly employs selected tools from the Fairclough model to fulfill the study's objectives. The data analysed comprises sentences and phrases extracted from political discourse, serving as a representative form of communication. Specifically, the study delves into word choice, investigating the nuances associated with the selection of particular terms, as well as the use of personal and plural pronouns such as "I" and "we." Additionally, the structures involving necessity models are scrutinized to unravel their underlying implications within the political speeches. Through this meticulous analysis, the study aims to offer a profound understanding of the linguistic dimensions and implications present in the political discourse of Pakistani politicians during the transformative regime change of 2022.

## 2.3 Validity and Reliability of the Instruments

**Validity:** To ensure the validity of the selected speeches, the oral versions were obtained and presented to a panel of discourse analysis experts who are university professors. This rigorous process aimed to assess the appropriateness of the speeches and determine whether they sufficiently fulfill the objectives of the study.

**Reliability:** In order to establish reliability, the researcher conducted a pilot study on the chosen speeches. The findings of this pilot study were documented and

included in the appendices section, providing additional evidence of the reliability of the data analysed in this study.

#### **2.4 Data Analysis Tool**

This study employed Fairclough's (1995) Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) model as the theoretical framework to guide the research. The choice of this model was based on its relevance and suitability in analysing the linguistic structures present in the data. The researcher employed a range of linguistic tools, such as word choice, pronouns, modal verbs, and comparative and superlative forms, to conduct a thorough analysis of these structures (Fairclough 1995). The study adhered to Fairclough's three-dimensional model, comprising description, interpretation, and explanation. In the description dimension, discussed in chapter four, the researcher conducted a comprehensive textual analysis utilizing the aforementioned linguistic tools. This dimension involved meticulously examining and documenting the linguistic features observed in the speeches of Pakistani politicians during the regime change of 2022. The interpretation and explanation dimensions were addressed in chapter five. In these dimensions, the researcher delved deeper into the analysis, interpreting the findings from the description dimension and providing explanations for the observed linguistic patterns. This involved linking the linguistic features to their underlying meanings, ideologies, and power dynamics. The research questions of the study were systematically answered through the interpretation and explanation of the linguistic data. The inclusion of these dimensions allowed for a comprehensive exploration of the linguistic structures in the political speeches, shedding light on their hidden meanings and ideological implications. By following Fairclough's model, this study ensured a rigorous and systematic approach to analysing the data, thereby enhancing the validity and reliability of the findings.

#### **2.5 Procedures of the Study:**

The research process involved a series of steps undertaken by the researcher, as outlined below:

- Defining the research questions and objectives to provide a clear direction for the study.
- Conducting a comprehensive review of theoretical and empirical literature relevant to the subject matter to establish a solid theoretical foundation.
- Collecting the necessary video recordings of the speeches from reliable online sources.
- Ensuring the validity of the research questions by evaluating their appropriateness and relevance to the study.

- Ensuring the reliability of the research by employing appropriate methods and procedures to enhance the consistency and accuracy of the findings.
- Thoroughly examining and analysing the selected samples of speeches to identify key linguistic features and uncover their underlying meanings and implications.
- Drawing meaningful conclusions based on the analysis of the speeches and addressing the research questions and objectives.
- Providing recommendations for future studies, suggesting areas for further investigation and potential improvements in research methodology.
- Compiling and organizing the references used in the study according to the APA style guidelines for proper citation and acknowledgment of sources.
- Including appendices in the research document, which may contain additional supporting materials, such as transcripts of the speeches, interview transcripts, or any other relevant supplementary information.

During present studies Fairclough model will be applied as a theoretical framework on the text of speech to conclude the ideologies, motives, power and their relationships between speaker and audience. The extracted data will be analysed using a mixed-method approach to attain the required objectives. Using qualitatively approach, the text based on vocabulary, grammar and textual structures has been scrutinized and interpreted based on the Fairclough 3D model. It can help the learner to get a subjective understanding of the text about social interactions. While quantitative approach analyses the number of linguistic tools used by Imran Khan.

### **Research Questions:**

How can language be used as a tool of power?

- How the ideologies of Imran Khan are being reflected through the linguistic choices in their speeches after regime change 2022?
- How to investigate the hidden and embedded meanings of the speeches of the politicians by using Fairclough 3D model of critical discourse analysis?

### **3. RESULTS**

In the subsequent section, two speeches of Imran Khan are selected after the regime change operation. As mentioned earlier, through the adoption of Fairclough's model and the utilization of its different dimensions, this study aimed to offer a comprehensive understanding of the discourse under investigation. The model facilitated a detailed analysis of the texts through descriptive examination, followed by interpretation and explanation of the identified linguistic features. By employing this approach, the study sought to contribute valuable insights to the <https://journalsriuf.com/index.php/IJLL/index>

field and address the research questions at hand. Imran Khan first speech is delivered on 6th of July 2022 at Sahiwal Jalsa (referred as speech 1). The second speech was delivered on 22nd of April 2022 in Lahore Jalsa (referred as speech 2).

Following a thorough examination of the aforementioned two speeches by Imran Khan, the findings relevant to the research questions are presented below:

### **3.1 Findings related to the first question “How language is used as a tool of power?”**

#### **Language and power:**

This section centers on the manifestation of power in the language used by Imran Khan during his speeches. The study thoroughly examines all instances of words conveying power. The objective is to gain insights into how language is harnessed to achieve political objectives. Language, being a potent means of expressing ideas, frequently carries hidden power dynamics that may go unnoticed. The subsequent examples highlight the presence of power in both speeches.

*“Out on 17<sup>th</sup> July and by the will of Allah we will win 2020 election (speech 1).”*

*“And that if we dared speak up then we will be imprisoned and punished (Speech 1).”*

*“We must walk with the truth justice or they will jail us (Speech 1).”*

*“I am the only Pakistani captain who defeated Indians in the cricket match on their land and now I will defeat these looters (Speech 1).”*

*“We must walk with the (Speech 1).”*

*“It is believing that we won’t bow down in front of anyone except God (Speech 2).”*

*“I know my nation is ready for sacrifices the struggle for real freedom will continue until we don’t send the (Speech 2).”*

*“I will unite the nation and together it would pay of the countries loans and stand on its feet (Speech 2).”*

*“I will never allow the nation to become a slave anymore (Speech 2).”*

*“I tried in my 3 years of government that cases against them (Speech 2).”*

*“I am challenging (Speech 2).”*

#### **3.2 Religious Expressions in Speeches of Imran Khan:**

The optimal relationship between religion and politics involves finding answers to significant political questions through religious principles. Politics should be guided by ethical values rooted in religion. Imran Khan often employs

religious expressions to promote acceptance and tolerance. However, other political leaders have criticized him for using religious sentiments against them.

The following examples are extracted from Imran Khan's speeches and demonstrate the use of religious expressions:

*“The power of La Ilaha Illa Allah is that it liberates a man from all forms of slavery (Speech 1).”*

*“You don't bow down in front of anyone except Allah. This Qalima gives you your honor back (Speech 1).” “Allama Iqbal dreamed of a country where we as Muslims would be living like a free nation and that nation would be build on the principles of the welfare state created by Prophet Muhmmad (PBUH) (Speech 1).”*

*“What is true freedom it is believing that we would not bow down anyone except God” (Speech 2).”*

### 3.3 Findings related to Second Research Question “Investigate the ideologies of the Pakistani Politicians that can be reflected through linguistic choices in their respective speeches?”

The findings have been further divided as:

#### 3.3.1 Linguistic Choices:

This section centers on the examination of specific words used by Imran Khan in both speeches. Selected examples are analysed to highlight his vocabulary choices. The first set of words pertains to identity and belonging, while the second set relates to beliefs and thoughts. Words like "country," "Pakistan," and "nation" have been scrutinized to understand their importance in Imran Khan's speeches. These words offer insights into the speaker's ideology and attitude. The frequency of these mentioned words is depicted in Figure 1 below.

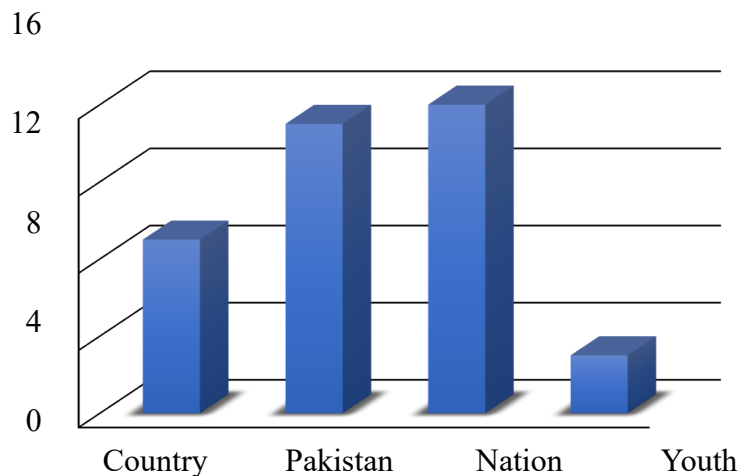
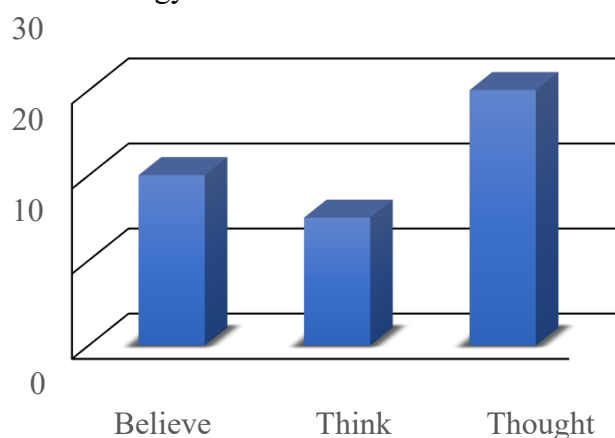


Figure 1: Frequency of the words that express identity and belonging.

Upon analysing Imran Khan's speeches, it becomes evident that he employs certain words repeatedly. The term "country" appears 9 times, "Pakistan" is mentioned 15 times, "youth" is mentioned 3 times, and "nation" is mentioned 16 times. When Imran Khan uses the word "country," he is referring to Pakistan and its people, while the term "Pakistan" specifically addresses the nation and its citizens. Additionally, the word "youth" is utilized to signify the young, educated generation of Pakistan. These specific details serve as valuable evidence for supporting the analysis of ideology and attitudes.



**Figure 2: Frequency of the words that express believe and thoughts.**

In the following part of the analysis, the researcher closely examines each instance of words that express thoughts and beliefs, particularly "think," "believe," and "thought." These specific words are chosen because they reveal the speaker's viewpoints and beliefs on various issues, potentially indicating their ideological stance. The frequency of these selected words is presented in Figure 2.

These words were employed by Imran Khan to communicate the levels of certainty he held regarding specific events, opinions, and beliefs, drawing from his past experiences.

### **3.3.2 Pronouns:**

The pronouns examined in this study consist of the subjective first-person singular and plural pronouns, namely "I" and "we," along with their possessive forms, "my" and "our." The frequency of their usage is depicted in Figure 3 below. In both speeches, Imran Khan utilizes the pronoun "I" 48 times, indicating a sense of egoism. The pronoun "we" is used 14 times, suggesting a comparatively lower frequency than "I." The possessive pronoun "my" appears 16 times, while the possessive pronoun "our" is used 19 times, indicating a relatively higher frequency of "our" compared to "my."

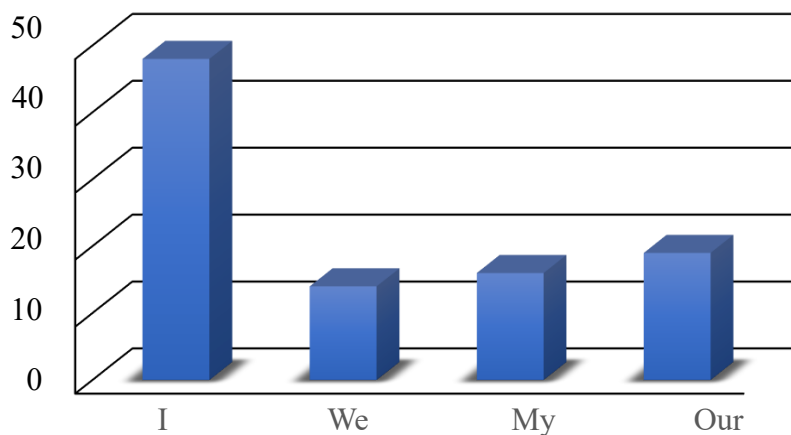


Figure 3: Frequency of the pronouns.

### 3.3.3 Modal Verbs:

In this section of the analysis, the researcher delves into the structures of modal verbs, which are vital in revealing the speaker's intentions, levels of certainty, and potential expressions of hopes, predictions, abilities, and decisions. The modal verbs under investigation include "will," "would," and "have to." The frequency of these modal verbs in both affirmative and negative forms is illustrated in Figure 4 below.

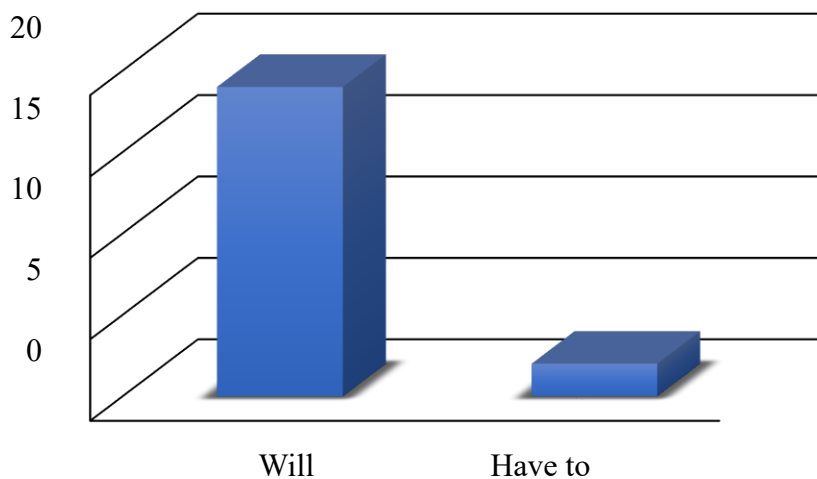
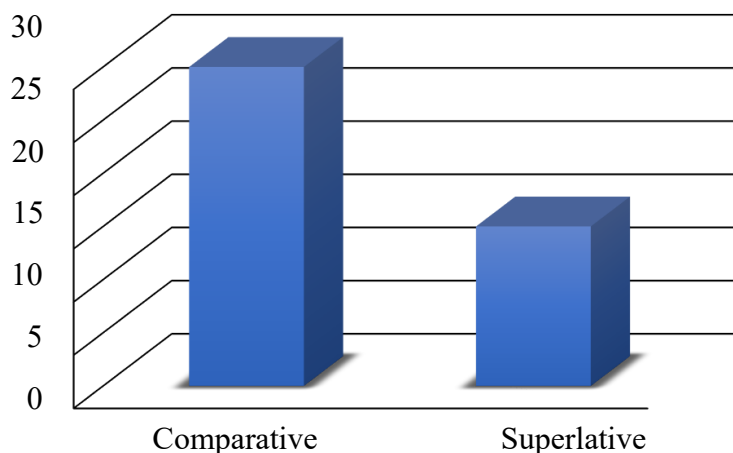


Figure 4: Frequency of the modal verbs.

It is evident that Imran Khan employs the modal verb "will" frequently, with it appearing 19 times in both speeches. Furthermore, the modal verb "have to" is utilized twice in both speeches to convey necessity and obligation.

### 3.3.4 Comparative and Superlative Forms:

In this section of analysis, the researcher scrutinizes the usage of comparative and superlative forms, as they play a role in reflecting the attitude and views of the speaker. These structures are examined in the speeches of Imran Khan under investigation, as illustrated in Figure 5.



**Figure 5: Frequency of comparative and superlative forms.**

In both speeches, superlative structures are utilized, possibly highlighting Imran Khan's exceptional leadership as the prime minister and within his party. Moreover, the comparative structures draw comparisons between his achievements and those of past Pakistani leaders, as well as with other countries.

#### **3.4 Findings related to the third question “How to investigate the hidden and embedded meanings of the speeches of the politician by using Fair Clough’s 3D Model of critical discourse analysis?”**

The following paragraphs present excerpts from Imran Khan's speeches, followed by a detailed analysis of each paragraph using Fairclough's 3D Model of critical discourse analysis.

##### **3.4.1 First Selected Paragraph from Speech 1 of Imran Khan:**

*"The fall of our government with their regime operation and planting this foreign government based on these crooks who've stolen the wealth of Pakistan over the last few decades. The Mir Jafars and Mir Sadiqs among us betray the trust and conspire to bring these thieves into power. The crooks who were stealing for generations from Pakistan, Nawaz Sharif, Zardari, and even Diesel, and took their turns to continue their daylight robbery. When we raise our voices against their thievery, they retaliate and file F.I.Rs against us to silence us."*

##### **3.4.1.1 Interpretation:**

The excerpt conveys a profound feeling of betrayal and frustration towards certain individuals referred to as "Mir Jafars and Mir Sadiqs," who are believed to

have betrayed the trust of the people and collaborated to install corrupt politicians into positions of power. The speaker explicitly mentions figures like Nawaz Sharif, Zardari, and Diesel (possibly referring to former Pakistani Prime Ministers Nawaz Sharif and Asif Ali Zardari, as well as another individual known by the nickname "Diesel") as examples of these corrupt politicians. The speaker accuses them of engaging in longstanding acts of theft and embezzlement from Pakistan, describing their actions as "daylight robbery." Furthermore, the statement highlights alleged efforts by these individuals to silence dissent by filing F.I.Rs (First Information Reports, a legal document used to initiate a criminal investigation) against those who raise their voices against their alleged wrongdoing. Overall, the interpretation reflects a potent sentiment of outrage and disillusionment with perceived corruption and attempts to suppress dissent.

### **3.4.2 Second selected paragraph from speech 1 of Imran Khan**

*"I am going out among the people and am readying them for our battle for real freedom which is in its last and most decisive stage I want the people to take my message of real freedom to every doorstep. I will give roadmap of real freedom and the steps that needed to be taken for its achievement. I'm not ready to compromise on my people's interests, I will never allow the nation to become a slave to anyone. I will unite the nation and together it would pay off the country's loans and stand on its feet after bearing difficult times. I know my nation is ready for sacrifices. The struggle for real freedom will continue until we don't send the imported government packing and have fair and free elections. What is true freedom? It is believing that we won't bow down in front of anyone except God."*

#### **3.4.2.1 Interpretation:**

The initial statement expresses the speaker's conviction in their nation's preparedness to make sacrifices in the pursuit of genuine freedom. They emphasize the ongoing nature of the struggle and the determination to remove what they perceive as a foreign government from power. The speaker's objective is to establish a system where fair and free elections can take place. The subsequent statement reflects the speaker's understanding of authentic freedom. They define it as the belief in not submitting or surrendering to anyone other than God, conveying a sense of individual autonomy and rejecting subjugation to any human authority. Overall, these statements underscore the speaker's dedication to achieving true freedom and their faith in their nation's inherent strength to endure challenges. They

highlight the significance of self-determination and aligning oneself with higher principles.

### **3.4.3 First Selected Paragraph from Speech 2 of Imran Khan**

*"I challenge that if you dare then listen to our cases collectively so all of the nation knows who really collected money through proper channels and who does it through illicit means".*

#### **3.4.3.1 Interpretation:**

Imran Khan poses a challenge to a specific individual or group, asserting that if the recipient dares to accept it, they should listen to the cases presented collectively. The purpose of this collective presentation is to disclose to the entire nation those who have legitimately collected money through lawful channels and those who have done so through illicit means.

### **3.4.4 Second selected paragraph from speech 2 of Imran Khan:**

*"Now you know what a selected government is. It is placed atop after being selected from abroad and is afraid of elections. I, in any situation, will not accept this government. During their time, when presents came, they could buy them back by giving just 15pc. We came and increased the minimum price to 50pc".*

#### **3.4.4.1 Interpretation:**

The first statement appears to criticize a specific government. The speaker contends that the current government is a "selected" one, implying it was chosen or supported by foreign powers rather than being elected by the people. The speaker also accuses this government of being apprehensive about elections, hinting at a lack of confidence in their ability to win in a fair democratic process. Additionally, the speaker emphatically declares that they will not accept this government under any circumstances, indicating strong opposition or disagreement with its policies or legitimacy. The speaker seems to emphasize a comparison between the current government and a previous one. During the time of the previous government, when presents were received, they could be repurchased by paying only 15 percent of their value. However, the current government has apparently increased the minimum price for repurchasing these presents to 50 percent. This suggests that the current government is taking a stricter stance on gifts or perhaps implementing more stringent regulations regarding their handling.

## **4. DISCUSSION**

This research aims to analyze the speeches delivered by Ex-Pakistani Prime Minister after the power transition in 2022. It seeks to illuminate how Imran Khan effectively conveys ideas, thoughts, and emotions, ultimately inspiring and influencing the thoughts and actions of thousands of individuals. The study also emphasizes the subjective nature of language, which, at times, allows him to evade

scrutiny and accountability for his statements. Through a close examination of his speeches, the research aims to gain insights into his rhetorical strategies, persuasive techniques, and the overall impact of his words on public discourse. This comprehensive analysis intends to provide a deeper understanding of how politicians wield language to shape public opinion, sometimes exploiting its subjectivity to avoid consequences for their statements. The detailed discussion of each research question is as follows:

#### **4.1 Discussion on the findings related to the first question “How language is used as a tool of power?”**

*“We must walk with the truth, justice or they will jail us.”*

*“I will unite the nation and together it would pay of the country’s  
loan and stand on its feet.”*

From Imran Khan's speeches, two compelling illustrations have been carefully extracted, vividly demonstrating his adeptness at utilizing language as a potent means of wielding power. In the first example, he passionately expresses his unwavering commitment to truth and justice, fearlessly articulating his intentions, regardless of the potential consequences, including the possibility of facing imprisonment. This reveals his resolute determination to stand by his principles, even in the face of adversity, and underscores his strong conviction in advocating for what he believes to be right and just. In the second example, Imran Khan emphasizes his ideology of fostering national unity and revitalizing the nation after enduring challenging periods. He articulates a vision of progress and development, emphasizing his dedication to empowering the citizens and uplifting the country. This showcases his unwavering resolve to unite the nation and drive it towards a brighter future. In both instances, Imran Khan's masterful use of language is evident, enabling him to inspire and motivate the masses with his compelling messages. His speeches serve as a testament to his skill in harnessing the power of words to assert his ideals and influence the thoughts and actions of countless individuals.

#### **Discussion on the findings related to Second Research Question “Investigate the ideologies of the Pakistani Politicians that can be reflected through linguistic choices in their respective speeches?”**

The following discussion delves into how the ideologies of Pakistani politicians are manifested through the linguistic decisions made in their speeches following the regime change of 2022. This examination focuses on specific words that convey a sense of identity and belonging, such as "Pakistani people," "Pakistanis," "country," and "Kashmir." By analyzing these linguistic choices, we can gain insights into the politicians' perceptions of the nation and its people, and how they aim to foster a collective sense of belonging and patriotism among the citizens. Within the realm of political speeches, the concept of national unity

emerges as a central and recurring theme, representing a fundamental principle underlying the speaker's ideas. This investigation aims to uncover how the politicians use language to emphasize the importance of unity and solidarity among the diverse population of Pakistan.

In particular, the research concentrates on the frequency of the word "nation" in Imran Khan's speeches. By closely examining how often this word is used and the contexts in which it appears, we can better understand its significance and role in shaping the speaker's ideological message. The following examples illustrate how the word "nation" is employed and shed light on its importance in conveying the speaker's vision for a unified Pakistan.

*“My nation is fully aware of the corruption of these families.”*

*“Today I want to give my nation a message and a warning to anyone who is standing with criminals.”*

The presented examples consistently affirm the prominence of Pakistanis in all spheres of society, as conveyed by the politicians. It is evident that they are determined to express a profound sense of care and concern for their nation. Upon analyzing the examples, it becomes apparent that the politicians place considerable emphasis on the notion of caring for their country, especially in response to perceived threats and opposition. They strive to communicate that their democratic counterparts, whom they perceive as adversaries, are actively working against the interests of the nation. By drawing a contrast with the opposition, they position themselves as the true champions who genuinely care for and support the country. The politicians aimed to convey an unwavering dedication to the nation, positioning themselves as its guardians and champions, deeply committed to its well-being. They implied that their level of commitment surpassed that of their opponents, asserting that they alone possessed the true spirit of care and sacrifice for the nation's betterment. In essence, these examples were used by the politicians to reinforce the narrative that they are heroic figures who prioritize the welfare of the country above all else. By portraying themselves as the primary caretakers of the nation, they sought to inspire trust and confidence in their leadership, tapping into the populace's desire for strong and devoted leaders who genuinely care about the progress of their country. The following examples vividly illustrate how they integrate the ideals of national unity and genuine concern for the nation.

*“Don't try to stand in the pathway of truth lest you want Pakistan to turn in to Sri Lanka or Lebanon (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“I will unite the nation and together it would pay off the country's loans and stand on its feet after bearing difficult times (Imran Khan Speech 2).”*

The engagement of citizens was prominently reflected in his speeches through the inclusion of the adverb "together." By employing this term, he conveyed that actions and decisions were not solely the responsibility of the leaders but also of the Pakistani people. The use of "together" signified a collective effort in which both parties, the politicians and the citizens, shared the responsibility. This approach aimed to ensure that the burdens and duties of progress and development were shouldered collectively, fostering a sense of shared ownership and accountability among all stakeholders. It can be inferred that Pakistani politicians made intentional linguistic choices to underscore the importance of Pakistani citizenship, effectively expressing their commitment to caring for the nation's people and promoting a sense of national unity. Throughout their speeches, they consistently stressed the idea that all Pakistanis form a unified entity, sharing a common identity as one nation, one country, and one people. This concept was further strengthened by highlighting the existence of a common adversary and envisioning a collective future. The politicians endeavored to evoke a collective sentiment of grief and empathy, emphasizing the vital importance of solidarity and unity among the citizens. They conveyed the idea that during times of sorrow or national challenges, it is crucial for everyone to come together as one cohesive family, supporting and comforting each other.

Moreover, they placed strong emphasis on their commitment to safeguarding the interests and well-being of all Pakistanis, regardless of their geographical locations. They stressed that no matter where Pakistanis reside in the world, they would strive to protect their rights and provide support, exhibiting a profound sense of inclusivity and unity that transcends borders. In essence, they utilized their carefully selected words to strengthen the significance of Pakistani citizenship, nurturing a collective identity and shared purpose. By emphasizing care for fellow citizens, grieving together as a family, and providing support to all Pakistanis worldwide, they aimed to foster a profound sense of national unity and solidarity among the population. The active participation of citizens is the fundamental factor that brings a nation to life. Recognizing this, politicians highlighted that every decision should be driven by the best interests of the people. They utilized the concept of togetherness as a means to engage Pakistanis in the affairs of the nation, encouraging them to shoulder shared responsibilities. Implicitly, in their speeches, they want to convey the importance of citizen involvement and their active role in shaping the trajectory of the nation. Their objective was to instill a sense of ownership and empowerment among the people, emphasizing that their voices and actions held significance in the larger context of national development.

The given quotations serve as examples of his dedication to citizen participation. Through their words, they aimed to ignite a sense of collective

responsibility, urging Pakistanis to come together and contribute towards the nation's progress. By emphasizing the ideas of togetherness and shared responsibility, he strived to nurture a sense of unity and purpose among the citizens, underscoring the crucial role they play in shaping the destiny of their country. The following are a few selected examples:

*“I present you all my homage, especially my sisters who came  
(Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“You all have to prepare in the streets, cities and villages (Imran  
Khan Speech 2).”*

#### **4.3 Discussion about the words that express ‘Thought’ and ‘Belief’.**

The politicians' word choices regarding their thoughts, beliefs, and convictions demonstrate an interesting pattern. They more commonly used the term "think" rather than "believe," suggesting a certain level of uncertainty or a potential lack of steadfast commitment to their previous positions. By favoring "think," politicians project ongoing contemplation, indicating a willingness to consider alternative perspectives and adapt to evolving political circumstances. The relatively lower usage of "believe" may imply a hesitancy to firmly commit to specific positions, maintaining flexibility and adaptability in their discourse within a dynamic political landscape. The presented examples provide additional illustrations of this intricate pattern, offering insights into how Imran Khan expresses his thoughts and beliefs. They reveal a preference for language that allows for interpretation or revision, highlighting the intricacies of political communication and the strategic use of words to convey intentions while retaining flexibility.

*“I thought I’d be able to swim here but it won’t be possible for us  
to hold a jalsa (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“We should believe in GOD (Imran Khan Speech 2).”*

The politician's frequent use of the term "think" suggests a degree of uncertainty about his expectations and a cautious approach towards making firm commitments that could be subject to change in the future. Additionally, he employs the term "think" in connection with expressions encouraging people to reelect him, like envisioning a prosperous economic future during his upcoming tenure. The provided examples serve as evidence supporting this observation.

*“I believe to provide a peaceful environment to the people  
(Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“We should believe in one God (Imran Khan Speech 2).”*

#### **4.4 Discussion Regarding use of Pronouns:**

The analysis of pronoun usage among political leaders indicates a notable trend. They more frequently employ the pronoun "we" than "I" to express the

institutional identity of the country. This linguistic choice serves a significant purpose: to emphasize unity and collective responsibility within the political landscape. By consistently using "we," politicians convey the idea of a cohesive team where everyone, including themselves and the citizens, actively contributes to serving the country. This approach highlights the shared commitment and involvement of all stakeholders in the nation's progress and well-being. The frequent use of "we" over "I" signifies a conscious effort to reinforce the notion of teamwork and collaboration, fostering a sense of togetherness and unity among the populace. The given examples serve as concrete illustrations of this concept, demonstrating how a politician uses the pronoun "we" to represent the collective effort and shared responsibility in serving Pakistan. By employing this linguistic device, they seek to foster a sense of solidarity, motivating citizens to actively engage in the nation-building process.

*“We will win 20 out of 20 elections (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“We raise our voices against their thievery  
(Imran Khan Speech 2).”*

*“We must walk with the truth, justice and stand against evil  
(Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

Once again, the ideas of togetherness and unity are emphasized through the use of "we," as evident in the following statements.

*“We don't accept the leadership of this corrupt Government  
(Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“If we dared speak up, then we will be imprisoned and punished  
(Imran Khan Speech 2).” “We do not want to hurt our country but  
we won't accept this imported government in any way.*

*This movement will gain momentum (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

Politicians skillfully used eloquent and impactful language to sway the emotions of their audiences, seeking to gain support and align individuals with their perspectives. They consciously positioned themselves as integral members of the people, emphasizing their deep connection and shared experiences. This approach aimed to establish a sense of relatability and solidarity with the populace. Furthermore, the speeches emphasized the significance of unity and reflected genuine concern for the welfare of the Pakistani nation. This was evident in the careful selection of words and phrases that highlighted shared values and common aspirations. The politician's speeches also emphasized the principle of equality, underscoring the importance of fair treatment and equitable opportunities for all members of society. Below are specific examples:

*“I know my nation is ready for sacrifices  
(Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“I want to give my nation a message, and a warning to anyone who is standing with these criminals today will also go down with them as this nation will bring you to account for your unforgivable stance (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“My nation now is fully aware of the corruption of these families alongside (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

The pronoun "I" was commonly employed in the speeches delivered by Imran Khan. Its frequent usage in certain contexts, as demonstrated in the examples below, may imply a sense of superiority or self-importance.

*“The wall I had to erect (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“I ask the courts, “is it not your job to protect these officers?” (Imran Khan Speech 2).”*

The given quotations exemplify Imran Khan's effort to establish a personal connection with their audience, a strategy particularly valuable in a context where news and information are constantly disseminated. He aims to persuade his listeners by showcasing his own achievements and unique contributions. By adopting this personalized approach, he seeks to establish a direct and intimate connection with his audience. This enables him to effectively convey his message and create a sense of relatability, making his accomplishments more tangible and relevant to the concerns of the people.

In today's information-rich era, politicians understand the importance of capturing their audience's attention. They utilize personal anecdotes, experiences, and achievements to stand out in the crowded media landscape. This approach enhances their credibility and establishes a stronger rapport with listeners, influencing their perception and gaining support. In conclusion, the use of personal language and anecdotes in the given quotations is a powerful tool for politicians to captivate their audience, persuade them with their accomplishments, and leave a distinct impression in a media environment saturated with information.

#### **4.5 Discussion Regarding the Use of Modals:**

The analysis of modal verbs in political speeches reveals their significant role in conveying attitudes towards the content of the speech and regulating interpersonal relationships. The linguistic model employed encompasses various modalities, with a specific focus on assertive expressions. Additionally, an assumptive modality with a proactive and dynamic nature is prevalent in political speeches. The modal verb "will" holds particular importance within the discourse, appearing in both negation and passive forms throughout the text. This usage signifies conditional consequences and reflects a forward-looking perspective. Moreover, the presence of "will" indicates certainty and determination, aligning

with central epistemic and futurity concepts as outlined by (Huddleston and Pullum 2002).

Moreover, the distribution of modal verbs in the text suggests a sense of power and control, as they are employed to shape the speaker's position and assert their authority. The intentional use of modal verbs enhances the persuasive nature of political speeches, expressing confidence, making promises, and establishing a sense of inevitability. The provided quotations serve to exemplify the presence of presuppositions and demonstrate the strategic use of modal verbs in political discourse. These examples highlight how modal verbs are employed to convey attitudes, assert power, and shape the overall message. Below are some of the selected examples from Imran Khan's speeches.

*“This movement will gain momentum (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“I, in any situation, will not accept this government  
(Imran Khan Speech 2).”*

The use of the modal verb "will" suggests a strong sense of determination. However, upon careful analysis, it becomes apparent that several of these promises were left unfulfilled, indicating the politician's inability to effectively address the country's issues. In his speeches, the politician strategically employed the modal verb "can" to convey various meanings and intentions. The modal verb "can" has the capacity to express ideas such as ability, informal requests, possibilities, informal permissions, or impossibilities in the negative form, as described by (Azar 2002). After analyzing the speeches, it became evident that Imran Khan predominantly used the modal verb "can" to convey a sense of ability. He frequently employed this modal verb to emphasize his competence, skills, and capacity to accomplish various tasks or address challenges. The frequent usage of "can" in his speeches holds significant importance. It serves as a rhetorical tool to project a confident image and reinforces the idea that as a politician, he possesses the necessary capabilities to meet the demands and expectations of his constituents.

The researcher's findings consistently demonstrate the prevalent use of the modal verb "can" throughout the speeches. The provided examples below aptly illustrate its application in conveying the notion of ability and showcase the politician's self-assuredness in his roles and responsibilities. Consequently, the deliberate usage of the modal verb "can" in political speeches reflects the politician's efforts to convey his abilities and reassure the audience of his competence. By employing this modal verb, he aims to inspire confidence, establish credibility, and assert his readiness to tackle the challenges facing the country. Below are a few examples extracted from the selected speeches of Imran Khan.

*“I can challenge that if you dare then listen to our cases collectively so all of the nation knows who really collected money through proper channels and who does it through illicit means (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“We cannot accept this imported government in any way (Imran Khan Speech 2).”*

The politicians also integrated the modal verb "could" into their speeches, as observed by (Azar 2002). The modal verb "could" can convey multiple meanings, including past ability, a level of certainty, polite requests, suggestions, and impossibility in its negative form. In specific instances, politicians utilized this modal verb to express a tentative possibility, as demonstrated in the following example:

*“I should try my best to unite the nation and my people against these looters (Imran Khan Speech 1).”*

*“We should go peace full protest against the policies of imported Government (Imran Khan Speech 2).”*

The politicians also utilized the modal verb "should," which lies between the strength of "must" and "may" as stated in (Azar 2002, Collins 2009). According to (Azar 2002), "should" can express advisability and certainty regarding future expectations. Furthermore, another modal verb employed by the politicians is "have to." Although it shares significant similarities with "must," it does not directly compete in terms of epistemic meaning. Both modals express necessity, but "have to" emphasizes external and existing obligations that can be objectively perceived or described, independent of the speaker. On the other hand, "must" serves as a more general marker of obligation, often carrying a sense of urgency, resistibility, and unconditional imposition, which can be subject to pragmatic interpretation (Westney 1995). Additionally, it is crucial to acknowledge that the situation's dynamics may evolve, especially as the modal verb "have to" undergoes increasing grammaticalization. This process will introduce lighter consequences related to obligations and requirements, leading to a more firmly established pragmatic meaning. Such evolution takes place through subjectification, wherein the modal verb "have to" acquires a more subjective and speaker-oriented interpretation (Collins 2009).

#### **4.6 Discussion about Superlative and Comparative Form:**

Moreover, in Imran Khan's speeches, another prevalent grammatical pattern is the use of comparative and superlative forms. These linguistic constructs aim to accentuate Pakistan's superiority and exceptional position. Through comparative forms, politicians draw comparisons between Pakistan and other entities, while

superlative forms emphasize Pakistan's unparalleled status. The provided quotations from his speeches effectively convey this idea of superiority and distinction.

*“I tried in my 3.5 years of Government those cases against them progressed. But nothing happened (Comparative form).”*

*“I know my nation is ready for sacrifices and given a roadmap of real freedom (Superlative form).”*

*“Kalimah gives you your honor back it turns a small person in to a mighty man (Superlative form).”*

## 5. CONCLUSION

After analyzing the speeches of Ex-Pakistani Premier, Imran Khan, after regime change operation in 2022, several noteworthy conclusions can be drawn:

Nationalism and the sense of Pakistani superiority were prevalent themes in his speeches. He used words and language that emphasized national unity, care for the nation, equality, citizen involvement, and perceived superiority to evoke national identity and pride among the audience. This approach aimed to persuade and gain support for their ideologies, similar to how Hillary Clinton's speeches in the US elections employed self-glorification, as observed by (Houda 2016).

Imran Khan frequently employed self-identification and exaggeration, using pronouns like "I" and "we." By aligning him with the collective identity of the Pakistani people, he aimed to create a strong connection and establish credibility as a leader representing national interests. However, the bombastic language used after the regime change posed challenges in attracting the Pakistani population to his ideologies. This exaggerated language hindered his ability to resonate with the public and connect on a genuine level. The consequences of this approach may be evident in subsequent elections, where voters chose more down-to-earth and relatable candidates, indicating that bombastic language may have undermined his efforts.

In short, the analysis highlights the complexities of nationalism, self-identification, exaggeration, and the impact of bombastic language on public opinion and electoral outcomes. By understanding these linguistic nuances, policymakers and politicians can refine their communication strategies to better resonate with the concerns and aspirations of the Pakistani people.

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