



Unveiling Truth in a Rape Fatality: A Positive Discourse Ideology for Social Change and Legitimacy

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ABSTRACT: *This paper aims at exploring the sociological aspects of a text with the focus on peace linguistics resources to reveal emotions and solidarity for social change. The analysis complements the kind of social-linguistics framework that systemic functional grammar uniquely offers. Positive Discourse Analysis balances the preoccupation with unpleasant hegemonic ideologies to focus on discourses that make the world a better place. Therefore, it goes beyond any semiosis in the service of abusive power and reconsiders power communally in a social context to oppose domination in order to legitimize changes in practice. The study focuses on a final letter of an Iranian woman who was accused of having killed her rape assailant and was executed under the Iranian law of retribution. The findings state that the victim creates her positive image through her optimistic stance and by highlighting her values. Her narrative serves positively to deconstruct power and enact solidarity.*

Keywords: Peace linguistics, positive discourse analysis, ideation, narrative

Introduction

The focus of this paper highlights the importance of Peace Linguistics (Martin, 2006) alongside of Critical Discourse Analysis (hereafter CDA). Caldas-Coulthard and Coulthard (1996) suggest that it is the domain of CDA to explore, unfold and clarify how power and discriminatory values are inscribed in and disseminated through the everyday discourses (also see Wodak and Chilton, 2005; Fairclough, 1992, 95; Van Dijk 2008; Weiss and Wodak, 2002). They (ibid) further argue that CDA is essentially political in nature helping people to portray a world based on discriminatory practices. Whereas, Positive Discourse Analysis (PDA) is a strategy that brings forth positive values such as freedom, justice, solidarity to develop a strong positive argument about discourses embedding multi-layered meanings and

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the productive use of power to make world a better place to live in (Martin, 2004).

Peace linguists prioritize the humanizing nature of language use. Gomes de Matos (2005) states that language should have a peace making, and peace supporting role in our life. Therefore, PDA is applied on discourses which are known to be exposing social norms and compares those norms with the moral values. In other words, PDA focuses on those discourses which enhance our understanding how change happens for a better world (Martin, 2004), and exposes discursivity which is responsible for bringing social change.

Bartlett (2010) argues that, primarily, CDA focuses on power within discourses, whereas, PDA takes into account the message and co-operation in social networks, reflected in discourses. Moreover, PDA aims to shape future by studying the presented circumstances of past, to understand how social change is brought through solidarity discourses without countering power (Martin, 2006).

The study builds on the message recorded by an Iranian girl, Rehaneh Jabbari (the victim) for her family. She was sentenced in the murder case of her defiler; an intelligence cop. The analysis of the selected text shows that the data is rich in terms of affective and evaluative choices for the realization of the feelings; broken-hearted on her consequences, use of abstraction to reveal her experiences and the narrative to highlight the social significance of recountable events (Martin, 2004) such as the way victim expresses her feelings like hurt, ashamed, sufferings and cursed, and evaluation in terms of cold-blooded murderer and a ruthless criminal to give a few examples. In short, analysis is based on PDA framework (Martin, 2006) to reveal the pattern imbued in the selected text through which legitimation, negotiation of meanings and socio-cultural changes are expressed by the Victim (Bednarek & Martin, 2010).

Literature Review

For discourse analysts, the real challenge lies in showing how solidarity and humility disseminated is achieved both through the theory and analysis. In terms of theory I draw here on systemic functional linguistics to explore the choices in terms of meanings it instantiates. There is a rich literature which can be associated with the evaluation done on a particular text, exposing social change brought through discourses and explaining ways through which PDA is considered essential in exposition of social change (e.g. Bartlett, 2010; Hoey, 2000; Kress, 2000; Lemke, 1998; Martin, 2004; Martin, 2006; Martin and Rose, 2008; White, 1997; Wodak and Meyer, 2001) examine the texts which contain endorsement for indigenous people by

evaluating the foregrounded lexical items indicating feelings and emotional behaviour of the indigenous people whose children were parted seeking sympathies from society in result. Martin (2008) shows how positively Mandela conveys his stance, with the help of representing negative behaviour his people have received by the whites. Genre analysis seeks to positively evaluate data, which expresses change in the society. Bartlett (2015) extends the recent trends in the hegemonic practices towards an alternative approach called PDA.

Statement of the Working Hypothesis

Martin (2007) argues that CDA has been more rewarding at exploring what is wrong with the world than suggesting how to put the things right. He (2004) suggests re-focusing of parameters towards positive discourse analysis which attempts to make the world a better place. Here I interpret the text generically as a recount, and divide it into major phases, Orientation ^ Record of Events ^ Re-orientation (Martin 1997) to highlight reconciliation, and patterned pattern of meanings which present humility in the text.

Research Methodology

The analysis comprises subsections such as recount genre which divides the text into stages that are sequenced as orientation, record of events and reorientation. The second class of genre is termed as report which is also split into stages as classification followed by the description of a phenomenon. The final category of genre is personal recount which records experiences of individuals as the story hops through time and space. Further, the text has also been recontextualized in three phases, namely; abstraction that is the concrete realization of meanings, enlightenment explores the interaction of meanings with each other as the text unfolds, and the engagement which associates with rewording of the stance. In addition, the paper explores negotiation and legitimation of meanings for inequity done on the powerless through the socio-cultural changes embedded in solidarity discourses.

As stated earlier this study is built on the message recorded by the victim. The selected text is a significant site for PDA as it carries victim's voice. Keeping in view the attributive characteristics of certain parts of the letter the text has been divided generically (Martin, 2006; Martin and White, 2005; Marin and Rose, 2008). Moreover, this paper aims to explore how the victim negotiates her rights by sharing her feelings. Thus, the text expresses the solidarity and is made to be acceptable globally. The attributes of PDA (Martin, 2006) are described below:

Negotiation

Under this the negotiation of rights have been explored through the representation of emotionally contented lexical items and by representing the negative behaviour received by the society.

Legitimation

Legitimation explores the strategy applied by the writer through which certain rights are negotiated and those rights are made the part of the potentially except norms of the society.

Ideation

It deals with the way through which experiences are construed in a discourse. In this paper ideation contrast has been used in order to explore the contrasting grounds on which the victim's experiences are shared.

Data Analysis

As stated earlier that being positive, of course, highly depends on portraying one's stance by valuing constructive aspects of social change. This kind of analysis highlights the circulation of power to build a better world. In particular, the analysis will look at the voice, feeling and genre stages around the theme of reconciliation. Further, the data is organized generically to make segments which differ from each other according to their lexical choices, context and events.

Inequity of judicial system (recount)

"Dear Sholeh had long and polished nails". (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

Deportment of Society (report)

"How optimistic was.....beg to save me from being executed". (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

A desire to fulfil (recount)

"My kind mother, dear.....wanted to embrace you until I die. I love you". (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

Genre and Field

The relationship of genre and field is helpful in order to grasp the intended situation portrayed in a text. The first tool for the analysis of this text is phrases and paragraphing through which the field unfolds. Through paragraphing we can foreground the experiences that have been portrayed as the hyper Themes and hyper News. Temporal conjunctions reveal the consequences before and after her execution.

Time unfolding the activity

In the text, the usage of temporal conjunction reveals the activity done by the victim and her experiences which she faced throughout her life. For example,

*“Dear Sholeh, **today** I learned that it is now my turn.....”*

*“**That ominous night** it was I that should have...”*

*“And this country that you planted its love in me never wanted me and no one supported me **when** under the blows.....”*

*“**On the first day** that in the police office an old unmarried agent...”*

*“Beg so that it is arranged that **as soon as** I am hanged...” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)*

These temporal conjunctions represent hyper Themes which are defined as a kind of topic sentence for the events (Martin and Rose 2007). All the sentence introduced above in a text are concluded in one sentence at the end representing hyper News of the text which is defined as *an* accumulation of new information distilled in a final sentence (Martin and Rose 2007) of the inequity recount.

*“**Now I have** become a premeditated...” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)*

*“... the judge didn’t even trouble himself to look at the fact **that at the time** of the incident...” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)*

In the ‘Department of Society’ report, field is unfolded through the representation of participants of the described situation, representing the hyper Themes of this report.

*“**How optimistic was he who** expected justice...”*

*“And **this country** that you planted its love in me never wanted me....”*

*“.....when under the blows of **the interrogator** I was crying out....”*

*“On the first day that in **the police office an old unmarried agent** hurt me for my nails...”*

In the second last paragraph contains the concluding statement of all statement described above, acting as hyper New, containing subject “my ideology”.

*“My dear mother, **my ideology** has changed.....” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)*

Individual analysis of the recount ‘Inequity of Judicial System’

Generically, the letter contains the stages which mark recounts. Like every other recount this one also contains the stages of orientation, record of

events and reorientation (an additional stage of recount). The Table 1 reveals the way through which the circumstances and participants have been portrayed. In the first paragraph she had given information about her personal emotions and asked her mother that why she didn't tell her that she knew about her final execution.

In the second paragraph, she is expressing a possibility which could bring bad consequences to her family. In the third one she is describing what actually had happened to her, and in the fourth and fifth paragraph she explains the mind of her mother towards the society from which she demands justice and about the judicial system with which she associates positive expectations. In the last passage, she declares the grounds on which she was sentenced.

Table 1

Stages of Recount in the Execution Verdict

| Paragraph # | Stages of recount (Martin 2007) | Mood Analysis |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Orientation | Indicative Polar interrogative Indicative Non polar interrogative |
| 2 | Record of events | Indicative |
| 3 | | Indicative, declarative |
| 4 | | Indicative, declarative, indicative |
| 5 | | Indicative, nonpolar interrogative, declarative |
| 6 | Reorientation | Declarative, indicative, declarative |

Field and Pattern of Discourse

Pattern in discourse is organized according to the employed meanings and collective effect of the system in order to produce a particular impact. The capacity of a text to make some meanings is known as foregrounding and the collective impact of those meanings of text is known as co-articulation (Martin and Rose, 2007).

Co-articulation

In this analysis the to-ing and fro-ing in time is detected and with the help of this oscillatory movement the field is unfolded. In recount inequity of judicial system co-articulation can be detected as

*“Dear Sholeh, today I learned that it is **now** my turn to face Qisas. “I am hurt as to why you did not let me know yourself that I have reached the last page of the book of my life. The world allowed me to live for 19 years. **That ominous night** it was I that should have been killed. My body would have been thrown in some corner of the city, and **after a few days**, the police would have taken you to the coroner’s office to identify my body..... **Then** you would have continued your life suffering and ashamed, and **a few years later** you would have died of this suffering and that would have been that. **However**, with that cursed blow the story changed. My body was not thrown aside, but into the grave of Evin Prison and its solitary wards. You taught me that one comes to this world to gain an experience and learn a lesson and with each birth a responsibility is put on one’s shoulder. **But I was** charged with being indifferent in face of a crime” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).*

The co-articulations of these sequence of events contains conjunctions like but, however, then circumstances of time like that ominous night, after a few days, few years later and usage of present and past tense. In the real sense, what I am relating here that the community has been formed around attitude and feelings that the victim empathises and aligns herself with our feelings. The use of modality devices helps the victim to construct explicit realizations of effect.

In the letter, a range of resources are used in order to represent how the victim’s expectations were hurt by moving to and fro in time. Secondly, present and the past situations are compared by using present and past tenses respectively along with the usage of circumstances of time.

*“You see, I didn’t even kill the mosquitoes and I threw away the cockroaches by taking them by their antennas. **Now** I have become a premeditated murderer. My treatment of the animals was interpreted as being inclined to be a boy and the judge didn’t even trouble himself to look at the fact that at **the time of the incident** I had long and polished nails” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).*

Narrative

As the recount contains narrative technique as its quality so is the natural way of telling in writing, therefore, PDA attempts narrative analysis because of its political power (Martin, 2004; Rose, 2006). The (un)conscious story telling art

adopts macrostructure such as orientation, complication, evaluation, resolution and coda. Thus, each segment relates a quality which a story is containing due to its specific content. Likewise, this particular recount can be divided as:

Orientation

"Dear Sholeh, today..... that of dad" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

Complication

"The world allowed me..... the end of life" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

Evaluation

"You taught me that.....even if one dies" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

Resolution

"You taught us that.....trusted the law" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

Coda

"But I was charged with.....polished nails"(The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

Genre and Tenor: Evaluating time

In this paradigm of analysis, the evaluation of oscillatory movement of time is conducted which makes any text interpersonally critical towards meanings. In the first setting of the recount inequity of the judicial system the victim is representing the current scenario of her mental condition through which she shows her utmost affection for her mother and father, and also her feelings towards her final execution.

Table 2

Theme in the Execution Verdict

| Marked theme | Subject/theme | New |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| <i>Today</i> | "I | <i>learned that it is now my turn to face Qisas (appreciation)". (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| | "I | <i>am hurt as to why you did not let me know yourself that I have reached the last page of the book of my life. (judgment)". (The</i> |

| | | |
|--|-------------|---|
| | <i>“you</i> | <i>Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> Don’t <i>think that I should know</i> <i>(- appreciation)”. (The</i> <i>Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
|--|-------------|---|

In the second setting the victim expresses the probability which can lead to the bad consequences thus proves her innocence and the third setting contains the actual happenings of the past which leads her distressing story but still she looks positive about her future which does not let her to be unsuccessful.

Table 3

Theme in the Recount

| Marked theme | Subject/theme | New |
|--|-------------------|--|
| | <i>“The world</i> | <i>allowed me to live for 19 years (-judgement)”. (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| <i>“That ominous night</i> | <i>I</i> | <i>should have been killed”. (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| | <i>My body</i> | <i>would have been thrown in some corner of the city</i> |
| Marked theme | Subject/theme | New |
| <i>“...with that cursed below</i> | <i>the story</i> | <i>Changed (- judgment)”. (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| | <i>“My body</i> | <i>was not thrown aside (- appreciation)</i> |
| | | <i>the grave of Evin Prison and its solitary wards (- judgment)” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| | <i>“...death</i> | <i>is not the end of life (+ appreciation)” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |

The fourth setting of this recount contains the description about the victim’s past which was occupied under the training of her mother.

Table 4

Theme in the Personal Recount

| Marked theme | Subject/theme | New |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| | "You | <i>taught me (+ appreciation)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| | "one | <i>comes to this world to gain an experience and learn a lesson and with each birth a responsibility is put on one's shoulder (+ judgment)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| "I learned (+ appreciation) | sometimes one | <i>Has to fight (+ judgment)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |

In the fifth setting she forbears the failure of her mother's training in her practical life. She compares the ideology assumed before the execution and after the incident, and continues to follow it in the present time. In the following lines, there is a description of being incorrect about the justice system of her own country, expressing the degree of disappointment which is further re-contextualized with her presentation of the assailant in front of the jury as a ruthless murderer and criminal as the new theme but the final new theme contains the expression of strong disappointment felt which proves her perception wrong about the judicial system.

Table 5

Theme Identification in Feelings

| Theme | New |
|--|--|
| "Your experience was incorrect (- judgement)" [The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014] | "Being presented in court made me appear as a cold-blooded murderer and a ruthless criminal (- appreciation)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014) |
| | "I shed no tears (+ appreciation)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014) |
| | "I did not beg (+ appreciation)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014) |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <i>Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| | <i>"I did not cry my head off since I trusted the law (+ appreciation)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |

The last episode of the recount is the description of impetuous judgment in her case. Her ideology which reflects her own identity is re-contextualized through the expression of the ideology which builds her identity from the judge's perspective after being charged.

Table 6

Theme Identification for a Particular Ideology

| Marked theme | Subject/theme | New |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| | <i>"I</i> | <i>didn't even kill the mosquitoes (+ appreciation) and I threw away the cockroaches by taking them by their antennas (+ judgement)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| <i>"...now</i> | <i>I</i> | <i>have become a premeditated murderer (- appreciation)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| | <i>"My treatment of the animals</i> | <i>was interpreted as being inclined to be a boy (- appreciation)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |
| <i>"At the time of the incident</i> | <i>the judge</i> | <i>didn't even trouble himself to look at the fact that I had long and polished nails (- judgement)" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)</i> |

Feeling (a resource of re/alignment)

The negotiation of rights in the letter is done by the representation of feelings through which the narrator can convey his/her stance and establishes a point of persuasion for the readers. Therefore, aligning reader (feeling resource) is directly proportional to the establishment of point of

persuasion (Martin, 2004; Martin and White, 2005). So, here the text is analysed to expose the way by which readers are pursued to realign in the favour of the victim. Thus, it is also helpful to explain more about the point of negotiation of rights. In the following lines the affect and judgment is underlined, used for the realization of feelings.

"Dear Sholeh, today I learned that it is now my turn to face Qisas (the Iranian regime's law of retribution). I am hurt as to why you did not let me know yourself that I have reached the last page of the book of my life. Don't you think that I should know? You know how ashamed I am that you are sad" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

"Then you would have continued your life suffering and ashamed, and a few years later you would have died of this suffering and that would have been that" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

While for the expression of the present events the victim has appraised the situation to align the reader into empathies with her. In the following lines appraisal: judgment is underlined which aligns the readers for the victim. Emotional behaviour (*suffering, ashamed*) and the descriptions of feelings (*hurt, sad*) portray how people will empathise with her sufferings.

"However, with that cursed blow the story changed. My body was not thrown aside, but into the grave of Evin Prison and its solitary wards, and now the grave-like prison of Shahr-e Ray. But give in to the fate and don't complain. You know better that death is not the end of life" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

"Being presented in court made me appear as a cold-blooded murderer and a ruthless criminal. I shed no tears. I did not beg. I did not cry my head off since I trusted the law" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

"My treatment of the animals was interpreted as being inclined to be a boy and the judge didn't even trouble himself to look at the fact that at the time of the incident I had long and polished nails" (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

Individual analysis of report 'Department of Society'

Unlike the personal recounts the letter focuses on the entities rather than activities. The entities which get focused include the alleged defiler, judges, country, the interrogator, an old unmarried agent etc. whereas, the expression of changed ideology, victim's request for justice, and the pleas like; no support and non-endorsement from the society show deportment. The first paragraph comprises complains which the victim verbalizes for her society and judicial system and the second paragraph describes the ideology associated with word 'beauty' which her society perceives in their minds. The third and fourth paragraphs portray her request for support and justice and

significance of her request in terms of a bitter truth and reality contrary to her mother's perspective inculcated to her.

Foregrounding Contrast

This analysis gives us a contrast between the macro themes in the text. The text portrays the expectations of the victim which she longs from her people but they are endorsed when she experiences the worst time of her life. In the example below contrast is represented along temporal conjunctions.

*"This country that you planted its love in me (implicit contrast) never wanted me and no one supported me **when** under the blows of the interrogator I was crying out and I was hearing the most vulgar terms. **When** I shed the last sign of beauty from myself by shaving my hair I was rewarded: 11 days in solitary"* (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

In foregrounding contrast identification and ideation play an important role. **Identification** presents the contrast between the identities portrayed by the writer signalled by (\neq) (Martin and Rose, 2007). For example,

"The man who is optimistic regarding judgment of judges \neq the girl whose hand are not coarse like those of the sportswoman, especially a boxer".

"Her love for country \neq country did not support her..."

On the other hand, **ideation** presents a contrast between the grounds on which the opposite participants are presented. For example,

"Justice of the judges \neq judges never questioned the fact..."

Ideology before incident \neq ideology after the incident

"Beg for the completions of her request \neq don't beg to save her from being executed..."

In this report transformation of thoughts is foregrounded. The opening passage sets the transformation to justify the reason of the change in thoughts by representing the identities of those people who oppressed the victim. The mental process types (understanding, hurt, look) are mostly used for showing mental agony.

*"On the first day that in the police office an old unmarried agent **hurt** me for my nails I **understood** that beauty is not **looked** for in this era. The beauty of looks, beauty of thoughts and wishes, a beautiful handwriting, beauty of the eyes and vision, and even beauty of a nice voice"* (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)

Evaluating Contrast

This transformation of thoughts can be represented by the contrast of ideology which she had portrayed deploying process like ‘want’.

*“...country that you planted its love in me never **wanted** me and no one supported me ≠ this is the only thing I **want** from this world, this country and you...”*

In the last paragraph, the victim describes the real purpose of writing the letter by reporting it as a theme of the paragraph. Mostly verbs like ‘want’ and ‘provide’ are frequently used in order to describe the desire which she expresses with the embarrassment that she puts her mother in a difficult situation by using a verb like ‘suffer’ and the verbs like beg, need, listen increase the intensity of her message. Thus, she demands her mother to fulfil her last desire.

*“However, before my death I **want** something from you, that you have to **provide** for me with all your might and in **any way** that you can. In fact this is **the only thing I want** from this world, **this country and you**. I know you **need** time for this. Therefore, I am **telling** you part of my **will sooner**. Please don’t cry and **listen**. I **want** you to go to the court and tell them my **request**. I cannot write such a letter from **inside the prison** that would be approved by the head of prison; so once again you have to **suffer because of me**. It is the only thing that if even **you beg** for it I would not become upset although I have told you many times not to **beg to save** me from being executed” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).*

The individual analysis of recount ‘A Desire to fulfil’

In her recount the victim expresses her desire of revival which she had in her mind. She justifies her statement that ‘inequity of judicial system’ (*death is not the end of life*). Here, she makes a contrast between the kind of justice which was given to her and the justice which would be provided by God. At this point the recount represents hope of the victim. The word ‘wind’ is used as a metaphor which is referring to her hope which could help her mother not to mourn.

Negation and Concession

This tool of analysis is used to analyse foregrounding and co-articulation of negation and concession. Following clauses contain negation and concession.

*“I **don’t** want to **rot under the soil**. I **don’t** want my eye or my young heart to turn into dust. (Implicit contrast) **Beg** so that it is arranged that as soon as I am **hanged** my heart, kidney, eye, bones and anything that can be*

transplanted be taken away from my body and given to someone who needs them as a gift” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).

Abstraction

Concrete language helps a writer to write the processes and qualities as noun thus representing writing as an abstract one. For example,

*“I don’t want you to wear **black clothing** for me” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).*

In her recount concrete language is used and logical connections are made to represent the agency. The nominalized agents act and initiate event in a sentence. The ideational metaphors serve the element of arguability. For the tracking, the materialisation of power and information flow helps to unpack the ideology as the reality abstraction. Like in this example:

*“Dear soft-hearted Sholeh, in the other world it is you and me who are the **accusers** and others who are the **accused**. Let’s see what God wants” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).*

*“Beg so that it is arranged that as soon as I am hanged my heart, kidney, eye, bones and anything that can be transplanted be taken away from my body and given to someone who needs them as a gift. I don’t want the **recipient** know my name, buy me a bouquet, or even pray for me” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).*

*“In the court of the **creator** I will charge Dr. Farvandi, I will charge Qassem Shabani and all those that out of **ignorance** or with their **lies** wronged me and trampled on my rights and didn’t pay heed to the fact that sometimes what appears as reality is different from it” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014)*

Enlightenment

In this tool of analysis, the theme enlightened by the writer can be checked. In this report, hope of the victim can be represented as a major theme that can support her mother and would encourage her to live a normal life after her daughter’s final execution.

*“I **don’t want** to rot under the soil. I **don’t want** my eye or my young heart to **turn into dust**. Beg so that it is **arranged** that as soon as I am **hanged** my heart, kidney, eye, bones and anything that can be **transplanted** be **taken away** from my body and given to someone who needs them as a gift. I **don’t want** the recipient know my name, **buy** me a bouquet, or even **pray** for me. I am telling you from the bottom of my heart that I **don’t want** to have a grave for you **to come and mourn** there and **suffer**. I **don’t want** you to **wear black** clothing for me. Do your best **to forget** my difficult days. **Give** me to the wind to take away” (The Independent, Nov. 20, 2014).*

Engagement

In this tool of analysis, the position of the narrator is judged to identify her position by re-wording proposition again and again in order to make clearer meanings.

Elaboration of meanings

The world did not love us

= “*It did not want my fate...*”

= “*And now I am giving in to it and embrace the death....*”

= “*Because in the court of God I will charge the inspectors...*”

= “*I will charge inspector Shamlou...*”

= “*I will charge judge...*”

= “*And the judges of country’s Supreme Court...*”

= “*That beat me up when I was awake and did not refrain from harassing me...*”

= “*In the court of the creator I will charge Dr. Farvandi...*”

= “*I will charge Qassem Shabani...*”

= “*...and all those that out of ignorance or with their lies wronged me and trampled on my rights...*”

= “*...and didn’t pay heed to the fact that sometimes what appears as reality is different from it...*” (*The Independent*, Nov. 20, 2014)

Parallelism in wording

Parallelism in wording occurs when all the sentences follow same pattern. Like in the following clauses:

“Because in the court of God I will charge the inspectors...”

“I will charge inspector Shamlou...”

“I will charge judge...”

“In the court of the creator I will charge Dr. Farvandi...”

“I will charge Qassem Shabani...” (*The Independent*, Nov. 20, 2014)

Findings to this point

Dividing text generically provides an opportunity to make distinction of one text from the other. The first genre in the text is categorized as

recount due to the characteristics of the text to have an expression of experiences in it. The second genre is categorized as report due to its property of describing generalized statements, and the last genre is again categorized as personal recount due to the expression of personal experiences.

The analysis of genre individually presents the lexical evidences through which victim's intended message has been discussed. In the first genre the temporal conjunctions enable us to signal the hyper Themes. For example, in the usage of past tense she makes a background for a justification of her own innocence and this acts as a hyper Theme for unfolding the past events. She has compared the probability that lead to the bad consequences for her family with the incident occurred in the place of that probability. Through temporal conjunctions, tense and aspect intermingle with each other to express the present circumstances and victim's desire regarding the future. Likewise, temporal conjunctions are also used to present a hyper New Theme in the text, such that all the information given above is accumulated in one sentence and choice of more emotionally contested lexical items are introduced.

In the next genre the field is unfolded through the presentation of participants. The lexical choices used for this kind of portrayal presents her perception about the identities of those powerful people who had exploited her. So, she presents socio-cultural personas which ought to be changed. Last genre contains the accumulative idea of the portion which is presented above genres with the subject under concluding proposition by employing certain lexical items. Her life experiences are expressed through the temporal conjunctions where she creates a yardstick of the moral values of her community and unfolds injustice done to her.

Findings in the field and pattern of discourse

How pattern of discourse unfolds the field (events which take place in her life) can be discussed through result of co-articulation and foregrounding. Detailed discussion is given below.

Co-articulation

The discussion has proved that how the to-ing and fro-ing movement is significant in order to signal the injustice of the judicial system. The presence of tense and aspect leads to the oscillatory movement. As the tense tells about the location of the event in the action of the time, and aspect tells about how the event or action can be viewed with respect to time, the activity has been unfolded through the description of both (i.e. aspect and time).

The first paragraph the recount is written in the present tense describing her present emotions about the judgement of the jury. These paragraphs contain the present perfect aspect (have) but not progressive aspect which depicts that she is talking about the incidents which have happened to her and it is not in progressing condition at that time.

Along with the expressions of tense and aspect temporal conjunctions and circumstances of time are also used to unfold the events. Through temporal conjunctions and circumstances of times writer is able to refer toward the specific time period of her life in a sequence which contains certain type of experiences of the judicial system. This to- and from-movement in time through different means reveals how the victim's expectations were rewarded by injustice.

Legitimation

The process of legitimation is concerned with the meanings through which the victim has made a specific place in her society. In this section, the manner of portraying herself in such a way that her text proves to be a power discourse whose writer is in power without standing against it (Martin 2006). Legitimation reveals the manner, which denotes the voice of the minor struggling group (Bartlett 2010), because legitimation is meant to be a process through which a writer portrays her speech in such a way that her ideas not only support her innocence but also endorse the minor struggling for justice. For a fuller detail see section 4.6 and 4.9. Legitimation can be discussed through negotiation and narrative.

Narrative

Natural narrative technique presented in this genre leads to the exploration of the manner through which the victim proves her innocence and gives contrast of the socio-cultural norms of her society and her initial perceptions about her society.

After introducing initial circumstances, she presents the complication which contains the main event of the story. After complication, evaluation is presented which describes the necessity of her story. In this recount, evaluation contains those cultural norms which are introduced to a child, therefore; she justifies her highly positive expectation from the legal system. She also discusses the change which she wants to bring through her letter by creating awareness. After the evaluation, there is resolution which contains discussion about the solution of the complication that she should have achieved justice. Finally, coda contains the contrast between her present and the past circumstances which describes how their legal system deviates from the socio-cultural morality.

Both negotiation and narrative express how discourse is legitimized as negotiation discusses how discourse is made critical towards meaning and the narrative explains how discourse provides evidences of being acceptable, appropriate and privileged for an expressed behaviour.

Negotiation

Negotiation construes meanings which are negotiated interpersonally through the evaluation of time. In other words, this section brings the discussion about those rights which are negotiated through representing socio-cultural and political scenario. All these settings that are restricted to times unfold the demands of the Iranian society in general. The way the victim expresses injustice done to her invokes pitiful emotions in readers. The victim has negotiated her relationships with the social networks, through the representation of feelings about the society (Martin and Rose 2007) by presenting differences between the societal expectations and actual practices. So, she foresees a social change in her society.

Results of negotiation and Legitimation can be discussed with the help of evaluation of time and feeling (a resource of re/alignment) which are given below.

Results of the genre and tenor 'evaluating time'

In the first setting of her recount she expresses negative feelings regarding the implicit reality of the acknowledgement of her final execution so that she could have expected it before the start of her trial. In the second and third setting she gives a contrast between what had happened and what could have happened by showing probability which could lead her family to bad consequences but what actually had happened brings bad experiences for the victim.

Being negative about her past she becomes emotional so this perspective arouses the critical point about her society. At one hand, she is negative about her past but on the other hand, she is positive about her future.

The fourth setting of her recount contains the teaching of her mother which had created a positive impact on her mind. Similarly, the fifth setting expresses her positive beliefs in order to represent the past events and because of this mind she remained optimistic during her trial. In the last setting she provides the identity contrast; the positive one and the negative one created by the jury after being charged. So, the meanings are negotiated (negotiation of rights) which further lead to the justification of her total disappointment.

Result of feeling (a resource of re/alignment)

As the expression of feeling engrosses the idea of the persuasion of readers therefore, it is helpful to discuss here the point of solidarity expressed by the victim. In order to gain sympathies lexical items are appraised. In other words, a person wants the readers not only to understand his/her point but also connects with the feelings (Martin 2004). Thus, there is a conscious attempt of the expressions of right and wrong morals so that writer can persuade the reader to align with her feelings.

Table 7

Expressions of feelings (acting as a resource of realignment) and its impact on reader

| Feeling | Emotionally contented lexical items | Impact on readers |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Affect | Hurt, ashamed, suffering and sad | Through the expression of negative feelings, restricted to a particular incident, can make reader to align themselves to the feelings of writer and to have a feeling of contempt for those who are responsible for those incidents. |
| Judgment | cursed, thrown, fate, complain, end, cold blooded murderer and ruthless criminal, tears, inclined and trouble | The expression containing judgmental lexical items lead the readers to engross on their point of view and perspective for certain acts (i.e. what happened in past with Iranian girl, who is in attempt to raise her voice against power). Thus, readers are able to support the writer's point of view and to make judgments according writer's perspective. |

In the text, she expresses her emotions like hurt and ashamed for herself, and sad and suffering for her mother. So, she does not only express

her emotions but also of her family to reinforce her expectation of sympathies by construing an expressive position to make readers get her vision by passing judgments more supportive to her point of view, i.e. cursed, thrown, fate, complain, cold blooded murderer and ruthless criminal etc.

Findings of the analysis of report ‘Department of Society’

In the first genre, injustice of judicial system has been described but in the second genre societal attitude is given by unfolding the behaviours of the particular entities.

Foregrounding the Contrast

The following tools of analysis have been used to discuss the foregrounded contrast.

- i. Identification
- ii. Ideation

Identification and ideation can be defined as semantically reference made towards any entity and idea with words has respectively (Martin 2004). Her society has been identified though its ideology that how the children learn to love their national identity, and on the other hand, how the society disowns them in crisis. Likewise, by comparing her past and the present transformation of ideology has been discussed.

Findings of evaluating contrast

In the second genre verbs like ‘want’ is used frequently and excessively to show the transformation she aimed to bring in her society. Being patriot, as the victim was told, always rewards back but she fails to get their support in crisis. On contrary, she remains optimistic that her society will support her mother in its reformation to fulfil her last desire which is highlighted in the hyper Theme of the text- see section 4.10 for detail.

Results of individual analysis of recount ‘a desire to fulfil’

This recount contains the concluding part of the letter depicting the victim’s desire and positive hope regarding her future (after the execution). The tools employed in this category give the reasoning of the associated positive expectations about future.

Negation and Concession

The analysis leads to the discussion of her last hope to have written her will. She has foregrounded the contrast between what she did not want and what she wanted after her final execution.

Abstraction

Using concrete language always helps a writer to introduce a process which initiates an event in a sentence (Halliday and Martin, 1993). This property of grammatical metaphor is used in such a way that the nominalised expressions put their influence with the help of logical connections introduced by writer on other nominalised words to introduce explained agency (Martin 2008). For example, highly positive expectations about God have been presented Who would provide her justice against the injustice of the worldly court. Likewise, all the wrong doers would be punished by Him.

Enlightenment

The theme of revival has been enlightened through which her positive hope is represented. Her proposition that 'death is not the end of life' shows her optimism. As stated earlier that macro theme has been expressed by the excessive use of verb 'want' showing desires about her bright future which shows revival and hope that justice would be achieved eventually.

Engagement

This shows the manner that how proposition is shaped by rewording the first statement. Therefore, it gives writer an opportunity to make his/her position clearer. The elaboration of meanings portrays the boundaries of identity and ideology in a clear way. Parallelism in words gives reinforcement and realignment which creates a powerful impact on readers. Victim makes an extensive use of engagement style to convey her point of view- see sections above for a fuller detail.

A Brief Discussion on Findings

The analysis has shown that the victim has adopted a fairly straight forward rhetoric of solidarity. As she argues that she feels sad over the callousness of her society and sympathises to her mother, perhaps to the point of feeling sad too – and apologises as part of and /or on behalf of the community responsible for the pain. The notion of apology (for being so optimistic) takes us to another realm of evaluation dealing with the rights and wrongs of how we behave –beyond emotion to ethical considerations. She has been dealt very harshly by the judgement passed by the court. Whatever tone the victim applies here, undoubtedly, is intended to align readers around shared feelings of contempt for the overall society.

Conclusion

To conclude, we can say that the powerless victim is conducting herself her in this globalized world. She relates past with the present to change future through her optimism. The study has proved that the social

change can be brought by showing positive attitude. For example, the victim stands against power by reconstructing power through negotiation of meanings interpersonally. Power has been reconstructed by elaborating positive values, the timeline and hierarchy in her narrative has been created to highlight the incidents and this also reflects the progressive expectations of the victim. For example, in first genre of her recount, circumstances of time have been employed to portray her changing attributes (positive and negative) towards reality. The second genre reveals the opponent identities (identification) and the social behaviours (ideations), which the victim sympathises for her sufferings. In doing so, the linguistic choices mutually define the deportment of the society. The third genre highlights or obfuscates the agency through grammatical metaphor where the use of 'negation' and 'concession' portrays the expectant message for the victim's family in particular and mass awareness in general.

Based on positive discourse analysis (PDA) this study has highlighted the ways which make solidarity discourse capable to make its way moving forward to portray values. Each genre reflects specific meanings related to the sentiments of the victim. This way she induces others to construe values based on humility and solidarity to be in power without standing against it.

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