

**PRAGMATICS OF TROLLING: ANALYSIS OF NEWS
ARTICLES AND COMMENT THREADS OF ONLINE
NEWSPAPER SITES**

BY

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NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MODERN LANGUAGES

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The undersigned certify that they have read the following thesis, examined the defense, are satisfied with the overall exam performance, and recommend the thesis to the Faculty of English Studies for acceptance.

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ABSTRACT

Title: Pragmatics of trolling: Analysis of news articles and comment threads of Online newspaper sites

Speech Act theory proposes that language is an autonomous and rule governing system, things which we say take their meaning from their inherent types i.e., questions, promises, statements and declarations. Language has been used in multiple ways keeping in consideration the immediate context, messages are delivered in indirect manner by saying something and meaning something else. The use of language and nature of electronic medium together creates multiple online behaviors, which are from polite to harsh nature. The focus of present study was negative behavior of trolling in news websites. This study used data from third largest media group Dawn, ranging from months of July to September 2018, news articles to examine negatively marked online behavior of trolling in articles and their comments. It examined the pragmatic factors which transforms the parameters of any discussion into different direction which are unnecessary and irrelevant. Language expressions, illocutionary forces, perlocutionary effects and interpersonal relationships are used as measures to explore the insight of this negative linguistic behavior. The study employed the techniques of content analysis, used John Langshaw Austin's framework of Speech Act theory, and explored the dimensions of trolling in sample of twenty articles and their comment threads. The context of research was language and technology. The study as a whole found out, language in non-physical conflictive and disturbing situation is used in same manner as used in aggressively tense physical situation. It uncovered eleven categories of criticism, aggression, allegation, provocation, rejection, challenge, disagreement, failure, disappointment, disturbance, and hatred. The use of metaphors, analogy, paradox, euphemism, circumlocution, and sarcasm turns discussion into trolling. Pragmatic framework pursued in research supported in recognizing the notion even though aggression and conflict appear through other means but are essentially realized through language. The findings suggested that anonymous nature of internet has conspicuous role in facilitating this type of behavior, it acts as protective shield and allows freedom of completely different nature.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

NMOB	Negatively Marked Online Behaviors
LCA	Linguistic Content Analysis
CM	Concept Mapping
MM	Mental Models
CA	Content Analysis
CMC	Computer Mediated Communication
SAT	Speech Act theory
IFIDs	Illocutionary force indicating devices

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my parents and siblings for their endless encouragement in pursuing research degree. Thanks for always being there for me.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Escalating interest in communication technologies and changes in social interactions has led to formulation of diversified online communities which are performing the functions of social communities. These facilitates the discussion process where users unanimously share opinions on integral matters, the social and news media platforms are immensely filled up with these communities. These communities have developed on expense of social media, which are communication platforms and have significant societal value. The users visit these platforms enormously for attaining updates about existing and upcoming news, not just the purpose is attaining information about matters of essential importance in addition to these users post their comments which share their perspective. The comments of users are of multiple nature ranging from civil to impolite, harsh, and provocative. Many social media avenues have policies of moderation, the posts which are entirely unacceptable are flagged by moderators, apart from these measures sites have choices of reporting and blocking. Despite all these precautionary measures yet the social media sites are flooded with antisocial behaviors. Offensive comments replies obstruct and diverge the smooth flow of discourse in internet spaces, online rudeness has possibility of hampering the objective of healthy discussions (Papacharissi, 2004), (Anderson, Brossard, Scheufele, Xenos, & Ladwig, 2014). Research determined public debate has usual feature of coarseness and most conspicuous element is name calling and secondly circumstantial aspects have links with incivility. It fluctuates on basis of subject matter of articles and sources which articles employ, specifically topics which are in mainstream and develop opposite sides turn discussion bitter (Coe, Kenski, & Rains, 2014). It has become a significant issue in contemporary age, initially antisocial behaviors were studied in context of CMC and were covered under umbrella term of impoliteness and NMOB. The antisocial behavior comprises flaming, grieving, cyberstalking, cyberbullying, and trolling. Most of behaviors share similarities but are not identical.

With the expansion of technologies and timespan the scholars have coined different names for online attitudes and differentiated them from common terms. One

of the prevalent behaviors in mainstream media literacy and social media is Trolling. Generally, the term is interpreted as antisocial behavior known for ruthlessness and disrupting online flow of smooth conversations in any forum. Despite the growing interests' techniques for analyzing and interpreting these behaviors have lagged in theoretical concerns. Within media and social circles, the term has divergent meanings while all maintains general essence of anti-social immoral behavior yet there is no one clear definition of it. The scholars have interpreted trolling individuals as one who share posts on forum with mindsets of insulting and inciting others, while causing damage to smooth ongoing of any discussion forum (Brandel, 2007).

Though trolling has nonrestrictive attributes, established on features scholars have classified them as Provocation trolling meant for deriving specific responses from participants of forum, Social engineering trolling which has links with incitement tactfully instigate participants into doing activities which are not part of their normal behavior, Partisan trolling, to disgrace and stigmatize leaders from contrary political party for political gain, Ad hominem trolling, is tormenting, slandering and disparaging folks or sets, Nuisance trolling, is disruption on communicative platforms, Snag trolling, drawing replies for gratifying inquisitiveness, Jam trolling, is disturbing interaction outlet, Sport trolling, for amusement sake appreciates a troll (Berghel, 2018).

The trolls are purposefully employed in online spaces for disseminating of political propaganda and are tools of manipulating information for winning consent of masses. The study conducted in Russia explored information propagation online is cheaper in contrast with traditional media. In Russia political leadership perceives mass media as weapon and trolls are fake social media users which implement hidden political agenda on social media. The trolls called users with insulting name, use offensive language, distribute dishonest information, and attack citizens for generating belligerent replies, they manipulate the users in following them by blocking their accounts (Aro, 2016).

The study reports initially memes and trolling appears as contradictory and unpleasant but encourage negotiation and can surface profound sentiments (Burroughs, 2013). The preceding studies have linked trolling with identity deceit as game about deceitful identity, where most participants are engaged without their approval. The troll

presents himself as appropriate and concerning member of group having similar interests, if community members recognize the intent of troll, they would let the disturbing poster out of the group. The success at the initial stages resides on interpreting the identity cues, their success at latter depends on whether the amusement is lowered or has exceeded on cost of group members (Donath, 2002).

1.2 Statement of Problem

The social media sites and news sites are enormously visited by people to keep themselves updated to new happenings in world, users not only read articles but also post their comments which is evident of their participation in matters of national and international importance. When the discussion is on immensely important political issue responses of readers have instances of aggression, impoliteness and sometimes the conversation tends to be completely irrelevant. The impolite and aggressive behavior of anonymous users appears to be a conspicuous feature of online newspaper comments. The parameters of aggression, impoliteness and disruption turns the discourse into trolling. The present study addresses the problem of trolling in comment sections of newspaper articles for purpose of unveiling the pragmatic features of the conflict, disagreement, provocation, challenge, offensiveness, and aggression in discourse of violent debates. The present study concerns the aggression component exhibited through language, and in philosophy of language one of the ways to understand meaning is by the analysis of speech acts. It unveils the overt and indirect meaning in language. The meaning is embodiment of any oral or written communication, the linguistic components are manifested in various ways to comprehend connotations and objective behind it.

1.3 Objectives of Study

1. To explore the linguistic sequence of perceptive and sardonic utterances in computer mediated context where anonymity has major impact in contribution to any conversation.
2. To highlight face threatening acts which may turn the discourse into conflictive debate.
3. To investigate the face threatening acts which unveil the undercover intentions of provocation, insult, and hateful rhetoric in comment sections of posts.

4. To highlight the use of language in different manner in virtual medium of interaction.

1.4 Research Questions

1. What illocutionary forces of language are utilized and exploited in news articles to bring forth the aggressive responses from the readers?
2. What specific perlocutionary effects of language are employed by readers for the depiction of undesirable and violent responses in comment threads section of online newspaper?
3. What sorts of interpersonal relations exist between news texts and comments posted to them?

1.5 Research Methodology

The study employed techniques of Content Analysis for analysis of news articles and comment threads. The content analysis is meant to analyze distinguishing patterns in interactions, evaluates interactions in books, newspapers, films, and other documents for recognition of concepts, structures, predetermined notions, visual, verbal, psychological patterns in human communication. In content analysis the findings are presented in charted form, frequency of each distinctive feature is mentioned and then statistical analysis of each category (Williams, 2007). There are five sections of study report namely the explanation of content examined, the attributes being explored, explanation of procedure, frequency table depicting mathematical analysis, findings about forms, concepts and predetermined notions in human interaction and data assortment.

1.6 Significance and Rationale of Study

Every text has a meaning that is to be conveyed to targeted audience, more often the notions are stayed suppressed to make it appealing and also to attain the desired ideology. The hidden implications and meanings can only be examined by probing the kinds of speech acts and by uncovering the aspects of text which are backgrounded and simultaneously how some of them are foregrounded. The present study is unique in a way that Speech Act theory has not been used prior to study the negatively marked online behavior, and also because trolling has been major issue of news sites. The vast majority of people are disturbed by this attitude, despite being immensely critiqued.

The study is highly significant in contemporary scenario as digital communication is nowadays turning more aggressive and use of harsh words evoke distinctive responses from readers. The study will assist in understanding the notion that although aggression and conflict may manifest themselves through other means, but they are fundamentally realized through language. The careful study of aggressive behavior is essential as it will explain the way language system is restructured in aggressive situation in comparison to the situation which is nonaggressive and pleasant. Pragmatic perspective offers an instinctive study and focuses on all aspects of conversation ranging from context, lexical choices to presupposition, as it is not just study of meanings as generated by linguistic unit but as conveyed and manipulated by participants in communicative situations. It is by investigating the pragmatics of impolite behavior the research will highlight the linguistic choices and all those factors which are used to aggravate the conversation and apart from this research will highlight the face invading and negative face strategies which lead to aggression and turning the discourse into violent debate. Trolling is particular characteristic of virtual interaction, and medium has impact on language in a way that emojis, hashtags and shortened word forms at some points have replaced the sentence structure. In other words, new ways of conversation are addition to language. In addition to this research is highly noteworthy that it will help future researchers to have a deep understanding to texts on news sites and the factors behind emergence of varied behaviors. It will also give them new perspective to further study every single dimension from stylistics point of view and also compare online behaviors on formal and informal sites and build a concrete stance about aggressive human attitude.

1.7 Delimitations of Study

The study was delimited to interpreting pragmatic features of political trolling only in online newspaper articles and comment threads. The study attempted to answer only three research questions using methodology of Content Analysis and framework of SAT.

1.8 Limitations of Study

The data collection for study was limited to timeframe of July to September 2018 and sample contained only twenty articles and their Comment threads published in Dawn newspaper. The specific newspaper was selected because of its influential

popularity. The study was limited only to political articles while the data was collected using web scrapping software 'Octoparse'.

1.9 Organization of Study

The thesis is organized in five chapters. First chapter comprises introduction of topic where the researcher introduces the topic and main concepts related to it, statement describing problem to be investigated, objectives of study along with delimitation and sample of study. Chapter two encompasses discussion of relevant literature regarding trolling in newspaper sites and news groups through which researcher explains the gap generated for present study. Chapter three involves discussion about the research methodology, in which researcher descriptively mention about the techniques of content analysis which are utilized for analysis. Chapter four consists of data presentation and analysis. The last chapter is of conclusion and it comprises summary along with discussions and findings of research. At the end of this chapter researcher will give some recommendations for future research.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

The chapter two consists of review of relevant literature about online antisocial behavior of trolling. It elaborates the psychological dimension, discussion of terms in context of news, streaming sources, political use of trolling, gaming situations and positive dimension of trolling in creating of new communities. Moreover, it also addresses the antisocial behavior of flaming which shares characteristics with trolling. The chapter highlights the role of technology in contemporary scenario and briefly depicts the revolution caused by technology in areas of communication and education. In the central part of the chapter the researcher has mentioned literature about news articles, comment threads and framework employed in study.

2.1 Technology in Contemporary World

Today's era is characterized as era of technology as it has got enrolled into every aspect of our life and has facilitated us to an extent, we can never imagine of living without it. Human race has reached to the stage where technology is not luxury but necessity of time. It has made our life easier and faster with everything at our doorstep. It has made remarkable advancements in health care fields, cloud computing sources, artificial intelligence, and machine learning. Utilizing technology in various fields is for improving the outcome, productivity and generate as many advantages as possible. In present age technology is tool to prosper in global world. Large scale industry, businesses and multi-tasking software thrives across the globe on expense of technology. Though technological advancements need no introduction, but internet and communication technologies have dual effect on users. Every single individual on planet has access to technology and everyone use social media platforms for connecting to world. It has changed the interaction process and most devastating attribute of social media technology is anonymity. In simple terms anonymity creates a protective fence due to which people use social media irrespective of the consequences of their online behaviors. Anonymity offers edge to share your own viewpoint regardless of the nature of content being shared. At times anonymity generates positive feedbacks but in plethora of situations negative comments are on surface which disturb the ongoing debate. The anonymity generates antisocial behaviors. Most of these behaviors fall

among the negatively marked online behaviors and most pertinent among them is trolling which share similarities with flaming but not identical. The prior research study using framework of moral development have mapped out antisocial internet behavior of adolescent internet addicts (Ma, 2011). These antisocial online behaviors included involvement in illegal activities, obscene content, bullying other users, deception, and online betting. Technology has led to the diversification of behaviors, influencing the society and individual simultaneously.

2.2 Technological Determinism

The years old notion of technological determinism explains operational manner of technology in society, it impacts and develops the social system, has leading role in bringing change (Hauer, 2017). The political thinker Langdon Winner has view technological transformations are indispensable foundation for development in society (Hess, 2015). It would not be wrong to say technology has changed civilization in diverse ways. Technology has two-sided effect on social fabric of society, on one half the positive and brightening aspect and other half has damaging and overpowering control upon masses. Positive aspect is change in the world of social interaction, learning, trade, health care, banking and communication, negative aspect is addiction to it, psychological issues, and social detachment.

2.3 Technological Means of Interaction

Technology in world of globalization has introduced new ways of collaboration. Synchronous and asynchronous communication, podcasts, Video conferencing, Vlogs, and potent use of emojis, hashtags are all among distinct ways of digital interaction. The use of emoticons and hashtags have become essential components of digital scripted interaction, it would not be wrong to say the conversation on informal social media apps is incomplete without them. Emoticons are indispensable part of social networking communication and have got massive fame in recent years, the study conducted in context of Italian twitter users have explored the multifunctional nature of emoticons and variables, which effect at discussion level and vice versa by empirically investigating the corpus data and employing statistical methodologies (Spina, 2017). The research concluded emoticons are linguistic input which are cogent means of creating and maintaining social ties in interactions. Apart from this the most forceful predictor is kind of tweet and others are gender, type of sentence which states

exclamative and interrogative sentences have diminishing impact on use of emoticons. With the expansion in use of emoticons the hashtags decline in number.

Just the way emoticons are integral of social media similarly hashtags are prerogative of social networking communication. Hashtags are not simply social media tagging tool, are in their own means a new and distinct means of interaction globally. Through a collective approach of field study and by investigating data of twitter, Instagram, and face book ten communicative functions were figured out which have decisive impact in large scale discussion. These functions are topic markers, accumulation of similar texts, association and sharing of experience, excuse, sarcasm, providing related information, expressing values and manners, signifying new movements, brand marketing and declaration of views (Laucuka, 2018). Hashtags in social media platforms have function of searchability, the study investigated the linguistic meta functions using microblogging corpus and established hashtags are flexible semiotic resource and can enact communicative functions of elucidating an experience, building relations, and uniting discourse (Zappavigna, 2015). Another novel mean of interaction powered by technology is Videoblogging abridged form is Vlogging, a new form of prevailing personal communication. The new broadcasting and communication technologies are escalating internationalism, Vlogs have prospective of evolving digital learning, speaking skills and participation besides working out the meaning of words in unfamiliar language (Combe & Codreanu, 2016).

2.4 Previous Research about Trolling

In popular literature trolling is deemed as antisocial attitude which upsets the audience and ruins the smooth functioning of community forum. The earlier studies specifically in linguistics discipline about trolling were carried out in computer mediated context, using 172-million-word corpus of UseNet synchronous and asynchronous CMC for contriving proper attributes of trolling and distinguish it from impoliteness. The corpus semantic analysis concluded troll a computer mediated user who is impostor, apparently depicts ingenious intentions but deep inside has purpose of distortion and dispute for sake of own enjoyment (Hardaker C. , Trolling in asynchronous computer- mediated communication: From User discussions to academic definitions, 2010). Troll in discussion groups, social media, news groups and in online communities do trolling. It has different attributes based on activities. Trolling can be frustrated if users perceive his intensions and do not get triggered, thwarted if users

recognize intensions and generates a counter strategy which impedes troll's victory, fail if troll gets triumph in inciting users as they fail to identify troll, success if users falls into trap and get triggered. The trolls are individuals who are part of forum but most of cases are unidentified.

Trolling behaviors are studied in multiple contexts in streaming channels, news stories and in gaming context in which players intimately argue about human behavioral patterns. The study in online gaming context examined undesirable behavior of trolling from self-professed trolls by detailed method of semi structured interviews (Cook, Schaafsma, & Antheunis, 2018). Trolls on basis of their operational knowledge and activities explained concept of trolling, it included blunt attacks on other players, deriving pleasure out of irrational behavior because of stimulation and goal of building communication in peculiar manner. The evaluation of interview data exhibited nature of group's response towards trolling from standpoint of offender and bystander, element of rage was highest in data, highly enthusiastic trolls stirred for furious actions, notion of restraint lead to no response and was least category in sample, troll's movement for engagement in counter strategy or participating in manipulation and lastly participation in trolling but not provoking and exacerbating conflict.

Trolling post use multiple modes to accomplish the function of discord and disharmony. The previous scholarships have examined the function of graph icons in Tumblr, social networking site by classifying blog posts specifically posts from trolls and non-trolls. The study analyzed graph icons are employed for purpose of heated discussion, simply flaming a discussion board. It enacts the functions of attitude enhancement, supplements the content serves as paralinguistic clue. It is meant for sarcasm, hilarity, and incitement of emotions. The second function sets graph icon in another context which alters its meaning. While the action function is used to depict physical action. It involves emojis and Gifs. The last function is of reaction meant for replying any post. Reaction function is not incorporated for trolling purpose (Fichman & Dainas, 2019).

The studies have investigated trolling from theory-based approach which involves the interpretations and motives of social beings, by studying online archives of documents and conducting semi structured interviews with community members. The study revealed not transgression alone but learning and assimilation are social

practices which functions at forefront in enabling trolling in online communities. Within a community trolling is a social practice, learning entails commitment with community values, internal functioning, the skills, and patterns which are acquired by access to forum for purpose of attaining competency and contextual knowledge. While assimilation needs insight of other users' assessments, how message is interpreted and identified in community and then for trolling purpose producing that sort of posts which best generates the desired responses (Cruz, Seo, & Rex, 2018).

Trolls share behavioral patterns with hackers but are not same. The research carried in context of Wikipedia distinguished trolls from hackers by evaluating online pages of Wikipedia and trolls, pages about vandals, trolls and lastly by interviewing system operators. The study concluded that troll specifically is considered as hacker who recognizes the flaws in system and targets them with intentions of causing damage to system while hackers are remembered in stereotypical manner as intelligent minds which is lacking in case of trolls (Shachaf & Hara, 2010).

Studies have analyzed the behavior from perspective of lay users their conceptions and thoughts about negative attitude of trolling. Previous scholarship has examined the trolling from standpoint of implicit theories which resides on ideas, conceptions, believes, values and perspectives of individuals. By empirically employing statistical methods of exploratory factor analysis on different samples of university students the study illustrated the factors of conflict concentration seeking which carries in attention needs, time wasting, disguise and callousness. The second factor was minimum level of self-esteem and self-doubts. Third factor was malicious content which includes cruelty and distasteful constructs while last two factors were lower levels of education and enjoyment in interrelation with trolling (Maltby, et al., 2016). The preceding research have analyzed the assessments of university students about trolling and contrasted the use of term within media and scholarly use by practically working with focus groups and semi structured interviews with University students. The opinions of students did not align with media scholarships, variances in interpretations of term were attributed to social and technical nature of medium which have impact on troll, individuals, and online communities. It was concluded not everyone who engages in this behavior is troll mostly people get involved in it as they find it amusing and have no intentions of creating mischief (Sanfilippo, Fichman, & Yang, 2018).

The studies have attempted to answer the replies of computer mediated users towards trolling. The study examined the responses towards trolling by incorporating eighty-six million-word Usenet corpus data of sports groups and animal group which discussed issues related to agriculture, welfare, and animals, classified the responses, and categorized them into seven distinct types (Hardaker C.). These are sincere responses, overlooking both surreptitiously and plainly, revealing to rest of group, explicit and implicit provocation to troll, sarcasm towards troll, mocking and countering the trolling.

The research has studied the sufferers of trolling which fall prey to negative attitude in online spaces. Scholars have also studied media description of trolling sufferers, in context of symbolic violence by empirically probing British newspaper reports and established media schemes of shifting the fault to target in encoded message of not responding the trolls, passive media strategy. Indirectly it conveys the media policy of shushing the victim and complete freedom to troll, while victims immediately do not completely shun the replies to their posts and engage themselves in counter answering which media shows as abuse with consent of participant (Lumsden & Morgan, 2017), (Bourdieu, 1990).

2.4.1 Psychological Studies about Trolling

Studies in psychology have attempted to answer trolling from different perspectives. Preceding work argued behavior patterns impact engagement in trolling, evaluated the study with experiment replicating online discussion supported the results with longitudinal analysis of online news community, revealed prospects of trolling rises together with negative mood and prevailing context created in discussion. Trolls engaged in cursing, character assassination, slights, cynicism, and irrelevant assertions. The posts previously flagged by moderators twice increases the prospect of trolling in upcoming discussions (Cheng, Bernstein, -Niculescu-Mizil, & Leskovec, 2017). The studies in psychology have explored the correlation between online trolling behavior and Dark personalities by empirically employing Dark Triad Personality questionnaire and multivariate regression analysis on two popular, less popular, and fake Facebook profile, determined psychopathy is substantial forecaster of trolling behavior and more preference is towards popular individuals on Face book (Lopes & Yu, 2017). Psychopaths draw motivation by tormenting those who have social well repute and are more conspicuous than others. The studies in psychology have probed antisocial

behavior from standpoint of personality disorder. The study measured the personality trait having most influence on trolling behavior by employing Short Sadistic impulse scale and Short Dark Triad Scale questionnaire to students and community in large online sample. The study landed on conclusion individuals with dark personality traits have opted trolling as most likeable activity in commenting. The personality traits positively related with self-confessed enjoyment of trolling behavior are sadism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy. Among all the dark traits the sadism measure was massively linked with trolling amusement (Buckels, Trapnell, & Paulhus, 2014).

2.4.2 Characteristics of trolls

Trolls are not some unique beings but are internal members of forum. The study empirically devised description of troll through corpus semantic analysis approach which depicted user interpretation of term. It stated, “A troller is a CMC user who uses aggression, deception, manipulation, or a mixture of these to create a context that is conducive to triggering, or aggravating conflict (Hardaker C. , 2012).”

The studies have attempted to understand the notion from the perpetrators of behavior. Trolls are widely mentioned in media for disreputable actions and aggressive attitude, using methodology of document analysis the study examined the representation of trolling in print and electronic media and established, the term has evolved over period of time has broadened its interpretation not just restricted to incitement it considers online abuse, the usage of term has expanded solely on media grounds, it is presented in relation with immorality and deleterious for children (Bishop, 2014). The depiction of trolls and trolling varies with media, in other words it could be interpreted as trolling is presented as moral outrage to audience based on their expectations from specific outlet of information, trolls are presented as negative and wicked. The different presentation relies on intentions of media houses which follows specific channel.

Trolls for their amusement never escapes any platform irrespective of nature, the case study of feminist message board recorded approaches which are cause of successful trolling by employing coding technique. The analysis of comments exposed intentional unmindfulness, denial to claims by replying the questions rationally, counter replying the harsh attitude and lastly discussing suitable attitude in online space (Herring, Job-Sluder, & Rebecca Scheckler, 2002).

Research utilizing discursive psychological perspective scrutinized the asynchronous online negotiations. It concluded, trolls are promptly recognizable, harmless and do not cause exasperation while trolling is agreeable practice in forum. The term troll and trolling do not any absolute rigid meanings but constantly evolving (Coles & West, 2016).

2.4.3 Positive Dimension of Trolling

While in literature trolling is generally perceived as antisocial attitude but contrary to the studies have shown the positive side of trolling. The research empirically evaluated a discussion in British news corpus attacked by trolls and enlisted facets of hostile debate. The furious debate started with provocative post which performs the function of bait, gather all the participants then starts an aggressive discussion, first post from community member and incensed responses from others builds up a blazing atmosphere, social defamation of community members and insincere identities of trolls aggravate an argument. In this sample the in-group members perceive outsiders a troll. When members interact, it leads to formation of networks where in group members show solidarity with each other's and freely share their perspective, support outsider and critique on basis of argument. These networks indicate trolling as beneficial activity strengthen the ties among members and outsiders (Hopkinson, 2013). The prior study discovered the significant role of aggravation in two public videotapes about earthquake and cultural performance in context of New Zealand on YouTube, scrutinized the comment chains and the participatory acts, established provocation factor in trolling is not just negative but has positive attribute of accumulating audience for securing positive views and protecting their cultural dignity. Severe form of responses and incitement appeared as eloquent aid in relation with videos, events and aggressive context which ultimately gathered the members in support of culture (McCosker, 2014).

2.4.4 Political Use of Trolling

Trolling is not just limited to achieving enjoyment goals but is employed by state sponsored agents for attainment of political goals. The findings of study conducted in context of Turkey explored the twitter political trolls from perspective of digital populism and determined trolls purposively exploit twitter space on orders of country's establishment. By evaluating the frequency of textual data, hashtags using thematic analysis method concluded the existence of entirely different groups performing their assigned agenda, which consisted the actual accounts of ruling party's ministers,

advisors and group of unspecified twitter trolls performing on links and contents of ruling party's accounts. Most of unidentified trolls are youth which are paid for disseminating ruling party, trolling is consistent with verbal abuse, manipulation, allegation, divergence and is considered as flaming in political sphere. Firstly, the paid trolls collect tweets of oppositional leaders afterwards generate misinformed context and lastly the twitter users attack that account massively. Secondly, they spam the concerned person account also hack journalist's account with objectives of silencing the public opinion and instead projecting ruling party's desired opinion (Bulut & Yoruk, 2017).

2.4.5 Contextual factor of trolling

The studies have explored the role of context in trolling behavior for having a through interpretation of behavior. The researchers have studied the behavior across context by empirically evaluating cases from know your Meme database reflecting trolling and determined that assessments of such behaviors differ because of social, demographic, and technological constructs of community which impacts the context. The opinions fluctuate because of community's accepted norms, patterns and membership requirements and context are prominent consequences of changed explanation (Sanfilippo, Yang, & Fichman, 2017). The study held in context of China have probed the sociocultural framework by empirically analyzing comments on dominant social networking site by means of mix method approach and determined that trolling is synchronized action, not something which relates only to a detached individual named as troll but instead a mutual performance. It is complicated and evolving endeavor where participants exchange their characters and not all trolling is detrimental (Sun & Fichman, 2018).

2.4.6 Antisocial Behavior of Flaming

Another antisocial behavior which shares characteristics with trolling but not identical is flaming. It is antisocial attitude of insulting folks or associations not with intentions of fun seeking as in trolling scenarios but with purpose of heated debate on matters of essential importance. The notion of flaming developed from online environment for portrayal of antagonistic and irreverent interaction conducted through electronic forums, presents the dark side of human behavior which is developed with innovative technology (O'sullivan & Flanagan, 2003). The scholars have delineated the notion of flaming as message containing features of unrestrained aggression, avowing,

pointing names, mocking, slights for others, targeting others race, religion, mental and physical potential (Kayany, 1998). The flaming comments are mostly in news sites, streaming sources and in social networking sites. It started in context of CMC successful contributing factors are missing visual and social cues facial expressions, external physical environment and prominently voice tone which are present in face-to-face interaction, another supporting factor is anonymity which impacts its success (Alonzo & Aiken, 2004). The literature on flaming has exhibited attributes of flaming are animosity, agony, menacing, violent tone, hostility, and cynicism (Turnage, 2008).

2.4.7 Anonymous Nature of Internet Communication

The internet communication is inherently anonymous in nature, which performs duly shields users from accessing their critical data and details while also has negative space of ruining the smooth functioning of social platforms. Anonymity (Paskuda, 2016) is linked with negative evaluation of online environment. Online anonymity is considered as risk to society, sole reason for negativity of online discourse. It empowers the users and offers a sense of immunity (Paskuda, 2016). In positive way it reduces the potential harms and threats economic, mental, and social in nature. It promotes in doing things which otherwise cannot be done without anonymity (Haggerty & Ericson, 2000). According to scholars the attribute of anonymity developed more in settings when there exists an opportunity to separate online actions from real identity, as it makes communicator less vulnerable. In anonymous settings the accountability factor is lacking (Suler, 2004).

The present research utilizes content analysis method to analyze articles and comment threads and involves application of speech act theory. The last part of review mentions few works about the method and theoretical framework.

2.5 Content Analysis of News Articles and Comment Threads

The current research has utilized coding and categorization techniques of Content analysis, previous scholarships in multiple fields have worked upon this method for attempting critical issues in their disciplines. The study conducted in background of Zimbabwe examined political and economic news articles in online news media by using content analysis techniques, concluded comments show discrimination on part of journalist and media suppression in political discourse (Mathe & Cladwell, 2017). The techniques of content analysis depicted the economic challenges faced by masses which are unemployment, price rises and inadequate

medical aid. Similarly, the other study in Scottish context scrutinized news website for insight of political communities formed in online spaces by incorporating content analysis method. The results of study concluded discursive spaces connect users from different far away areas and discuss on matters of common concern, simultaneously performs function of community building and social interaction (Singer, 2009). The studies in fields of medicine and psychology have utilized content analysis method for interpretation of major trends in medicine scholarship. The study using past twenty years articles investigated the settings of teaching documents and designs in undergraduate medical study determined most of research conducted in discipline was in naturalistic environment while the minimum percentage of studies were conducted in controlled settings. Secondly significant percentage of studies were evaluations and develop to compare teaching techniques and within applied context research of educational methods are conducted to answer questions about educational novel methods. It establishes intimate links between medical education and experimental or laboratory studies (Dimitroff & Davis, 1996). In addition to medical studies content analysis method has been employed for analysis of blogs, the study examined sample of twenty-one healthy living blogs to evaluate the information contained on these websites. The findings of study concluded communication on these blogs is on multiple topics which indicates the problem for audiences following and working upon them, the content stressed more on thin physic and disturbed eating patterns. Moreover, the troubling fact was the five bloggers themselves had eating disorder and internal problems (Boepple & Thompson, 2014). The studies in physical health have examined the European policies on child maltreatment by analyzing content of responses towards Global health report, policy documents and internet-based search of European ministers of health, judiciary, and social affairs. The study result showed policies union of different sectors, endorsement of concerned agencies was in almost all policies. Child ill-treatment inhibition was in all policy documents while only six percent policies have set aims to accomplish in particular time frame. Only minimum number of policies have apportioned budget for execution while majority did not mention any economic assistance (Ramiro-Gonzalez, et al., 2018).

2.6 Preceding Studies about Speech Act Theory

The current research has employed Speech Act theory for understanding illocutionary forces and perlocutionary effects in trolling. The earlier studies have

examined speech acts in multiple perspectives. Huge number of works have investigated the political communication of leadership for accessing how language is used for achieving political goals. The study in context of Inaugural elections analyzed the speeches of presidential candidates for understanding of pragmatic functions of speeches. The study evaluated twenty sentences from speeches of two U.S presidential candidates established speakers frequently use Commissive for convincing audiences for winning their votes, secondly use of Assertive was common as it convinces the audiences that speaker will not abandon his commitments and will fulfill them in future (Hashim, 2015). Similarly, the other study analyzed winning speech of candidate in Albania's elections, revealed speech illustrated the personality of orator mainly, the Commissive, Assertive and Expressive acts were utilized which are meant for giving hope to masses for achieving their expectations and his promises (Dylgjeri, 2017). The speech acts are predominantly evaluated in news and comments for understanding patterns of communication. The study conducted in context of Nigeria scrutinized two months editorial comments of magazine and verified that opinion is amalgamated with state of affairs in perpetuating of information. The predominant acts revealed in analysis were declarative meant for reinforcing judgments on important subjects while commissive were second highest used for elevating expectations of readers, news dissemination would be up to mark on behalf of concerned authorities while directive acts were not in significant percentage (Olamide & Segun, 2014). Apart from analyzing comments, speeches the studies have excessively analyzed the print and electronic advertisements. The research evaluated the speech acts in written advertisements by compiling a corpus of eighty-four written advertisements from newspapers and magazines and revealed advertisers use micro and macro speech acts. Micro are incorporated for declaration, information sharing and giving directions while macro is meant for purpose of convincing audiences and dissemination information (Simon & Dejica-Cartis, 2014).

2.7 Summary

The chapter descriptively mentions the literature about antisocial behavior of trolling. It starts with the position of technology in contemporary world, highlight its importance in education, social media, and the anonymous nature of its interaction, in addition to other related antisocial behaviors on internet. Trolling has attributes of aggression, provocation, and community building on social media forums. Mostly the

individuals involved in the behavior pretends to have genuine concern with smooth and constructive conversation but, are trolls and disrupts the conversation in way which becomes difficult for other group members to figure out. The individuals involved in behavior are termed as trolls. Mostly the state of mind and previous online incidents determine whether the user will indulge in behavior further or not. Most users deliberately carry out trolling with intension of drawing amusements by distressing others. Trolling moves involves character assassination, calling bad names, abusive language, and cynicism. Trolling gets successful because of unmindful users who fail to recognize the hidden persona and proceeds further into interaction. In many cases the online sites recognize the fellows and prohibits them, many sites in this regard flags their comments on basis their set-in criteria. Moreover, trolling is used for propagation of desired political narrative by means of false social media accounts.

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Chapter three elaborates methodology utilized in study. It delineates the techniques of Content Analysis, Relational Analysis in detail and modifications in procedure over time. The concepts of linguistic content analysis, cognitive mapping, mental models, decision trees, coding and categorization are explained descriptively. The procedures of data collection, analysis and sampling techniques incorporated in study are expounded in detail, also is description of Qualitative paradigm of study. The chapter also discusses the Speech Act theory, which is utilized as theoretical framework of study, also addresses the ethical concerns maintained in study.

3.1 Research Design of Study

The present study had qualitative research design. The qualitative research study is inductive in nature as it does not involve imposition of theories upon data for examining hypothesis instead the presence of themes, patterns, concepts, and categories reveal about the data. The themes are unified, submerged and gives meaning to text as whole. The inductive approach requires comprehensive reading of raw data according to the scholar starts with thorough reading of raw data understand concepts, themes, interpretations and emerges a theory out of data (Corbin & Strauss, 1998). The inductive approach is pursued with purposes of

- To set up relationships between goals of study and summarized data, confirm relations are obvious and justifiable.
- To create theory about underlying patterns of cases and phenomena which are in data (Thomas, 2006).

The qualitative research is delineated as an inductive approach of arranging data into classes and finding links among them (McMillan & Schumacher, 1993). The qualitative paradigm of research encompasses broad range of techniques and has certain common features are listed below (Mason, 2002).

- It has philosophical underpinning of interpretivism and is engrossed with social world. It matters how individuals perceive, interpret, and constitute social

reality differently and social world has multiple meanings, in other words no single rigid interpretation of experience and social processes.

- The data collection methods are not rigid but are subtle of context in which data is generated.
- It undergoes an all-inclusive approach in analysis and takes into consideration depth, complexity, and context of study. It not only reveals surface patterns, trends and themes but provides in depth and detail understanding of concepts.

Qualitative research is carried out in natural settings which means there is nothing sort of controlled or experimental groups; things are studied the way they exist. The primary focus of investigators is to understand the phenomena in settings where it occurred, in other words context shapes the direction of study and it cannot be undermined. The scholars have presented the comprehensive picture of qualitative study as

“an inquiry process of understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry that explore a social or human problem. The researcher builds a complex, holistic picture, analyzes words, reports detailed views of informants and conducts the study in a natural setting.” (Creswell, *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design Choosing among five Traditions*, 1998)

Unlike quantitative research which presents only the numerical and statistical results, qualitative research clarifies the depth and insight of any experience and investigates in the context. In opinion of the scholar’s qualitative search is followed by philosophical believe there is no single fix reality instead multifaceted, individual perceive complicated phenomena from their own perspectives and understanding (Suter, 2012). It shows the insight of specific experience and most pertinent ground for understanding is natural settings, guides the interpretation and construction of meaning. In qualitative paradigm the researcher rationalizes the meaning of reality and accepts its complicated and manifold nature which has changed meaning for all individuals (Onwuegbuzie & Leech, 2005). The scholar’s manifests subjectivity in interpretation of experiences, events in coding and themes processes (Creswell & Clark, *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*, 2007). Qualitative research examines significant patterns in texts for generalizations. Researchers evidently reflect their worldviews and personal opinions in all stages of study, because bias is not pessimistic

but unrestrained, basically critical thinking is expected before and during research work as means of creating context for better understanding (Sutton & Austin, 2015). Qualitative researchers for the accuracy of results use methods of participants cross checking for authentication of topics use numerous sources, for authenticity they rely on collaborators, the peers, and readers (Creswell & Clark, *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*, 2007).

The term qualitative research is hypernym having few common features and multiple approaches, investigates the perceptions, events, and interpretations from subjects of study is not concerned with numerical and empirical computation, contemplates the holistic picture examines the problem in its social framework (Brink, 1993).

3.2 Population and Sampling Technique

The sample chosen depicts where the research takes place and whom are participants, only the correct selection of sample can lead to proper results. The sampling method pursued in research was Purposive. In pursuit of present research, the investigator selected only those articles which project mainstream political issues and were frequently commented by users, in order to get best representation of online behavior. Purposive sampling constitutes group of non-probability sampling techniques, relies on assessment of investigator in the selection of units to be studied, also named as judgmental, subjective, and selective sampling (Laerd Dissertation). The concentration on specific characteristics of population is aim of purposive sampling, selects the units which purposively fits the study and has small sample. The rationale behind purposeful sampling lies in picking “information rich cases”, such cases which provides in depth understanding and are of crucial importance for the purpose of study (Patton, *Purposeful sampling*, 1990). The qualitative research takes purposeful sampling “selection for in depth study of typical, atypical, or, in some way, exemplary information rich cases”. The researcher goes to field with specific unit in mind. The purpose behind Purposive sampling is to concentrate only on population with specific characteristics and have potential of answering research questions (Patton, *Purposeful sampling*, 1990). It is excessively used in qualitative research according to scholars for learning information rich cases provides clear and in depth understanding instead of empirical simplifications (Patton, *Qualitative Research and Evaluation Methods* 3rd edition, 2002). It requires discerning and choosing individuals or factions of individuals

that are particularly well-informed and qualified about phenomena under study (Creswell & Clark, *Designing and Conducting Mix Methods Research* 2nd edition, 2011). The study employed critical case sampling technique. It is advantageous in exploratory qualitative research with restricted resources where single or few cases can be crucial in explaining the trends under study (Laerd Dissertation).

3.3 Procedure of Data Collection

The data for the study was collected from Dawn newspaper website in months of July to September 2018. Specifically, this time frame was opted as it was post-election period. In this slot masses are infuriated and just need some public platform to give vent to their anger and frustration. In this stage people are overweening, victorious use harsh and flattering tone while losers are desperate and complain about inappropriate use of election machinery. The immensity of users visit and share their perspective on important affairs.

It was collected by employing web scrapping tool Octoparse, the purpose of employing tool was efficient and prompt extraction of data. It is innovative visual web data extraction software. It swiftly scrapes web data without coding transforms webpages into structured spreadsheets within few clicks. It is easy to use both for experienced and inexperienced users. It starts with the extracting the URL of concerned page, then selection of required material, creation of pagination loop turning the settings to AJAX and setting time limit. Finally, it starts the extraction of data and transports it in excel sheets format. The tool has capacity of downloading unlimited webpages for free. It is extremely easy to use and is not time consuming, offers free trial for fourteen days. The data collection source was secondary. The news articles are formal and comments to them are informal in nature. The results of study are formulated by collaboration of both kinds of data. The study employs the data which has interlinks, in other words it can be said the words and expressions in articles acts as stimulus, while the comments are response to them. The comments are informal in nature but have maximum capacity of explaining the notion of trolling. The different nature of data is utilized keeping in consideration the functioning and background of behavior. However, the etymological meaning of trolling is that of bait, which attracts all existing in nearby surroundings, when maximum number is finally achieved than begins the attack. Similar is the scenario with the news articles which performs the function of bait, it stirs all the followers of news community, consequently everybody shares their

opinion and in the discussion phase trolling is successfully manifested. The news articles are political in nature, as trolling is most prone in political news. Though there are dimensions of humor and sarcasm, but aggressive aspect has dominant place in political trolling. The population of study covered political news articles and their comments, while the sample was restricted only to the twenty articles and their comments.

3.4 Procedure of Data Analysis

The analysis of news texts and comment threads was conducted using Content Analysis techniques of Coding and Categorization. Initially the researcher thoroughly read all the twenty articles and comments, identified the main themes discussed in them and condensed them to relevant parts only. The purpose of reading and re reading was to attain the sense of content as whole. The detail reading assisted in understanding the presence of main themes and concepts in news texts and comments. In the next stage from the condensed content the meaningful units were identified which were sentences. The meaningful units can be words, phrases, sentences, and clauses. Afterwards the sorted content was coded and then these codes were grouped into categories. The categories were developed keeping in consideration the study's aim and research questions. In the last stage the mean was calculated for all the categories and formulated into results. The study followed the inductive research approach, as conceptual understanding was developed from collected data. The approach was inductive as from specific data we had identified the patterns and themes of antisocial online behavior moreover, qualitative research design incorporates inductive reasoning, and it leads data to speak for itself. The inductive content analysis includes coding, categorization, and abstraction. In coding process, the huge stock of data is reduced to significant parts only according to French theorist "reduction is specific procedure designed to deal with the complexity and chaos of brute observation." (Lefebvre, 1991)

In opinion of scholar's code in qualitative paradigm of study is mainly a short phrase which assigns accumulative, conspicuous attribute and emblematic position to linguistic or graphical content (Saldana, An introduction to Codes and Coding, 2016). The data consists of documents, interview transcripts, websites, videos etc. It is also defined as (Saldana, An introduction to Codes and Coding, 2009) the way title illustrates about book's content in the same way code emphasizes the essence contained in information (Saldana, An introduction to Codes and Coding, 2009). The data

condensation, managing structure, procedure of data examination, evaluation and development of theory are reasons of coding. It is used in multiple ways depending upon the pursuit of study, at times in inductive manner where aim is to generate theory from empirical data while in deductive manner it is used to endorse hypothesis or theory (Cope, 2010). The abundance of data is employed in qualitative research and is problematic to manage in one attempt so, coding facilitates in abridging content and placing it in small packages arranged by means of themes, features, and concepts. The coding process is cyclic and repetitive in nature, the research questions, review of related literature and categories prevailing in study regulates the beginning codes and codes are changed as new meanings, interactions and disparities appear in study. The current study employed the descriptive manner of coding. After the coding was completed both of texts and comment threads next stage was categorization of codes. The codes were grouped under correlated categories.

The categories are critical units conceptually created to organize findings, done inductively and deductively. In the inductive form of categories, for identification of units which match the datasets the scholar investigates the content of study (Given, 2008). Categorization is method of organizing patterns observed in data in critical and coherent categories. Based on similarities and differences the coded data is classified under related categories, which are condensed to distinguish between semantic, theoretical, rational links between and across the categories. The categorization process consequently precedes to creation of themes and domains. In categories, the insight properties are exposed as analysis depicts the ways coded categories are analogous within and their contrast with other categories outside the research questions. It covers all facets of problem and persists until no other categories are developed from data. The coherence is expected between categories and phenomenon. It works in twofold manner i.e., both horizontally and vertically.

3.5 Content Analysis

The methodological approach taken in this study was Content Analysis, use to analyze patterns in verbal or any written piece of communication. It was employed to analyze the existence of concepts and words in contents chosen as data. Initially content analysis was carried manually by means of placards, and now large-scale studies use computer assisted software for content analysis. It is progressively used in communication, sociology, psychology, cultural studies, political studies, linguistics,

and media studies. Content Analysis is used both in qualitative and quantitative research. Unlike other research methods Content analysis has scientific, systematic, and organized process of interpreting texts. It could be summed as

“Content Analysis is a research technique for making replicable and valid inferences from texts (or other meaningful matter) to the contexts of their use.” (Krippendorff, 2004)

The phrases of replication and valid inferences are meant for determining the method a scientific tool of examination. The notion of replication means if some other scholar is working upon identical data using exactly same technique under some distinct circumstances and timespan then the findings must reproduce the earlier ones. This replicability of findings makes the method scientific in nature. In communication research it is explained as research procedure for unbiased, organized, and quantitative analysis of surface content of collected data (Berelson, 1952). This definition stresses upon quantified analysis and restricts it to surface level only. Scholars afterwards used this technique in both designs of research. Content analysis method is employed for findings patterns, themes, and categories in documents. The use of text not restricted to any written document, but it includes the audio, visuals, and statistical records in short anything which negotiate about some external happening (Krippendorff, 2004). Scholars presented the potential use of this method in communication by following ways:

- Method can be utilized for disclosing global differences in communication content.
- Method can be utilized for discerning the presence of misinformation.
- Method can be used for locating the goals and styles in communication.
- Method can be utilized for illustrating attitudes and interests towards communication.
- Method can be employed for ascertaining the emotional and mental states of interlocutors (Berelson, 1952).

3.6 Techniques of Content Analysis

Content analysis is carried by methods of Conceptual and Relational analysis depending upon nature of research study. The technique of conceptual analysis contemplates concepts as categories of entities, characteristics, and associations

(Furner, 2004). It revolves around interpretations of notions and identifying the situations under which concepts are labelled under category. The purpose of employing conceptual analysis in disciplines is for understanding ways of communicating an idea. The core believes behind incorporating this technique for concept orient studies are to reach at some accord considering the uses and applications of concepts, agreement is essential for constructing of knowledge. In short method has feasibility of showing the presence and existence of concepts by analyzing words and phrases in text. Conceptual analysis performs the work of only quantifying the texts and has nothing regarding interpreting the findings. Examining the findings is job of relational analysis.

Relational analysis goes one step ahead of Conceptual analysis, investigates the correlation that are among concepts detected. The priority of Relational analysis is to figure out meaningful and purposeful relations as concepts identification alone in themselves have no inherent meaning (Palmquist, Carley, & Dale, 1997). The interpretations are generated as result of interrelation between concepts. The focus of relational analysis is on semantic meaningful relationship. The concepts are ideational kernels are irrelevant in segregation; a concept only attains meaning in relation with other concepts (Lawler & M.Carley, 1996).

Relational analysis has three techniques widely used in research. All these techniques centered around extracting the concepts in texts and their interrelation, but interpretation of relationship is different in each category (Carley, Content Analysis, 1990).

3.6.1 Affect Extraction

It stipulates the emotional assessment of apparently clear concepts in text. The emotive assessment is ambiguous as, they are not fix entity are in state of flux across time and people. The emotions are influential tools of analyzing mental state of speaker and writer (Napitupulu, Napitupulu, & Kisno, 2019).

3.6.2 Proximity Analysis

It is concerned with simultaneous presence of clearly related concepts in texts, this technique treats texts as chain of words and sets up the “window” (language as sort of window and outlet for understanding of mind) of predetermined length of words (Human Factor Methods, 2019). The whole text is scrutinized for concurrent existence of concepts. It results in concept matrix which determines the meaning of overall text.

The technique is challenging as it contemplates direct concepts and locates meaning in only related concepts.

3.6.3 Cognitive Mapping

The technique of cognitive mapping was derived from cognitive science, is more concerned with interrelation of concepts observed, person's worldview and inferences based on human cognition and learning of world. A cognitive map is visual representation for the cause of recording the individual's patterns of beliefs and ideas about specific problem. It encompasses depiction of mental models and cognitive structures from texts which were once part of reminiscence (Axelrod, 1976). Cognitive mapping technique has foundations on three abstract believes. Mental models are inner presentation and can say deep structures, language is the tool to comprehending mental structures which implies language can lead to organizing the information and linking concepts and lastly, they are depicted as networks (Carley, Content Analysis, 1990). When people attain consciousness of the world, a visual representation yields a mental picture about the scenarios experience in their lives (Marr, 1982). Similarly, when individuals develop understanding of the world, they construct similar not much vivid representation, a mental model based on their understanding and knowledge (Laird, 1983). Psychologist stated by developing operational structures in their mental space's humans comprehend the world. These models are developed when individuals use inference to deduce results, it could be direct effort or some environmental stimulus or unconscious awareness (Laird, 1983). These models are built up in our memories as consequent understanding of discussions in our surroundings and self-constructed circumstances. The imaginary world is not entirely the novel but has instances and happenings of real world, simply it draws inspiration from outside world. The term Mental Model was projected by psychologist as depiction of factual and invented framework, mind develops small scale models of reality to interpret future events and figure out logical reasoning behind incidents (Craik, 1943). When some incident happens to humans they dive into their cognition, mind shows the visual picture of event which is like present event and deduce understanding for them. The scholars define mental system as firmly installed conventions, simplifications and visuals which influence our comprehension of world and guides us in taking actions (Senge, 1990). The probabilities of our ignorance or unconsciousness of model and their influences on our attitudes are very minimum. The cognitive mapping technique has three general

types which are discussed below, all are concerned with actual analysis of cognitive map.

3.6.4 Linguistic Content Analysis

It is concerned with scientific analysis of language, gets the text, and examine it at linguistic level typically one clause at a time (Carley, Content Analysis, 1990). The technique considers the clause as unit of analysis, has potential of addressing the syntactic formulation of language in social interactions. The fundamental attribute of this technique is stratification of clauses in accordance with sort of communication the speaker intends to convey (Roberts, 1989). The most notable is intent type clause which meant the perceptions about incidents, recognition type clause explains state of issues, justification type clause clarifies appropriate, and inappropriateness of practice and evaluation type clause entails comparison with standards. In analysis clauses are transformed into structure or assigned a statistical value in relation to their clause type. The technique requires the coding of clauses which can be coded as questions in corresponding relation with other clauses.

3.6.5 Decision Maps

The technique is acquired from cognitive science which facilitates in decision making procedure, shows the neural representation of humans thought process. It concentrates on concepts and their interrelation and consequently the meaning of text as whole (Carley, Coding Choices for Textual Analysis: A Comparison of Content Analysis and Map Analysis, 1993). The different names for same concept are cognitive mapping, concept mapping, scheme analysis, frame analysis, and relational analysis. The strategy in this technique is first to place texts and catalog all concepts to ascertain the presence of concepts which exist in texts and correlation between them. It would lead to similarities and differences in subject matter and patterns across the text. It has potential of comparing shared concepts and statements or both.

Concept mapping depicts the concerned areas and presents pictorial representation of their relationships (Given, 2008). In the map concepts are illustrated as nodes and interface is presented in form of link which connects to the node. The description of relationship is marked on links which shows related concepts. It has potential significance in giving voice to the members encounters, the preliminary input consists of list of concepts which individual participants arrange and present in basic

outline. The outwardly generated list assists in drawing comparisons across whole set of maps as all maps share similar set of concepts but participants link them differently.

Decision maps represents the linkages in content of text and shows interrelation in notions, values knowledge, and approaches, in other words it reconstructs the mind of author by examining the text closely from different positions. The visual representation of decision map formats into a tree kind of structure which has branches stemming from main part, known as decision tree. It works as organizer of an instance and involves repetitive division about incident, consisting of direct tree with nodes termed as root from where extensions stem out (Rokach & Maimon). The nodes are called leaves, which divides into categories according to assigned values. Each node in tree specifies a feature of incident and each branch stemming from node represents possible extension or association of attribute. In this way all the nodes correspond back to the main root.

3.6.6 Mental Model Extraction

Mental models are defined as structures through which understanding of purposes and ways are established, generates justifications about operating of mind in varied circumstances and its different stages also forecasts about future situations (Rouse & Morris, 1985). They are dynamic not static and modify over time with new circumstances and encounters, posse's constant knowledge about any matter to quite great extent which includes characteristics, operational working, effects on other parts and working manner when interact with other factors and biases in other systems (Endsley, 2000). The researchers correspond to mental models in four ways which are content analysis (Namenwirth & Weber, 1987), procedural mapping (Leinhardt) and task analysis (Ericsson & Simon, 1981), cognitive mapping (Reitman & Rueter, 1980).

Mental Models aid individuals in knowing the world, interpreting their natural environment, and recognizing themselves (World development Report 2015). It includes classes, notions, identities, initial structures, stereotypes, informal descriptions, and worldviews. Through mutual experiences mental models are developed in society and are handled over to succeeding generations. Even if they are flawed and maladjusted still, they can survive in society.

The earlier research reported mental models from writings are extracted in four critical steps (Carley & Palmquist, Extracting, Representing and Analyzing Mental

Models, 1992). It involves recognizing set of notions, links among the notions, utilizing notions and statements the researcher employs computer sponsored tools for coding of texts information. The subsequent map works as mental map which can be evaluated numerically and realistically, it can be contrasted with other maps. The process used in extraction is very general in nature and can be use with many numbers of concepts which can be specific and inherent within the text and interactions in texts can be of different sorts (Carley, Content Analysis, 1990).

3.7 Theoretical framework

Language is a social process, to realize any interaction the necessity of situational context cannot be undermined, in fact more is involved than what is just said in communication. Broadly considering the different facets of social situation, cultural references, society, values, and beliefs language is discourse. Phonology, syntax, vocabulary, each part of discourse is essential, but all aspects are subservient to thought which falls under pragmatics, it answers all the questions and give a detail insight to phenomenon. More descriptively, pragmatics completely charts out the rationale behind the use particular dialect, word choices, syntactic formulation, surface, and mental structures. Pragmatics is the inquiry into all these features of dialect, there is a reason behind each feature there is some rationale behind it and pragmatics attempts to answer.

The theoretical framework employed in the study was of John Langshaw Austin Speech Act theory for evaluating illocutionary forces and perlocutionary affects. The theory commences with supposition that minor unit of human communication is neither a sentence nor an expression, instead enactment of act and typically speaker performs one or more kinds of acts and these should not be confused with sentences or expressions. Simply utterance is not considered as mere saying instead it is the performance of an action. Austin described that utterance or sentence as performative sentence or performative utterance or simply performative. Austin said any performative utterance is neither true nor false, used terms of felicity and infelicity on basis of certain conditions which dictates the successful performance of speech acts. These requirements if not appropriately performed led to the incomplete and can say failure of speech act. In simple manner notion of performative is not concerned with true or false but with successful enactment of felicity conditions. The felicity terms are mentioned below.

- There definitely exist known conventional course of action having conventional impact, which includes uttering of particular words by certain persons in specific circumstances.
- For the attaining of specific procedure there absolutely be suitable persons and settings.
- The process certainly be enacted entirely and properly by all participants.
- All the participants involved in invoking of procedure must have those thoughts and intentions of acting upon and should conduct afterwards. The participants have intentions of acting out utterance, as an essential condition and changes the state let say from non-obligation to obligation (J.L Austin, 1962).

The acts are divided in three classes. Locutionary act is the act of making meaningful utterance, a stretch of spoken language that is preceded by silence or followed by silence or change of speaker also known as locution or an utterance act. It is an act of saying something, the act of uttering certain expressions, well-formed syntactically and are significant. The illocutionary act is the performance of an act in saying something and has underlying force, it is performed with specific function in mind. It includes informing, ordering, warning undertaking. Austin classified the illocutionary acts in five types which are Exercitives, Verdictives, Behabitive, Commissive, Expositive (J.L Austin, 1962). Thirdly perlocutionary act relates to subsequent effects on listeners thoughts, feelings, and actions such as persuading, preventing, disturbing or confusing. It is done with some purpose and function and is concerned with effect caused on listener.

3.8 Austin's Speech Act Theory

In discipline of language and Philosophy, the Speech Act theory was groundbreaking development and particularly in realm of linguistics. The theory was formulated from lectures titled 'Words and Deeds' which Austin delivered at Harvard University in 1955, which later appeared in book named 'How to do things with words' after him in 1956. He contended that utterances are generated with specific purpose in particular context. Austin work was further elaborated by Searle (1969), Levinson and Leech (1983). In his perspective saying and doing things are two different matters. He stated that all utterances are not merely statements, there are questions, clarifications, directions, exclamations, and aspirations which are utilized within specific context.

Austin on basis of this distinction presented the notion of performative and constative utterances.

3.8.1 Constatives and Performatives

Austin declared that constatives are distinct from performatives, in a way they can either be true or false. While performative is performance of certain action, it cannot be true or false. He explained the concept with following examples.

- I pronounce you husband and wife.
- I name this ship the Queen Elizabeth.
- I bet you sixpence it will rain tomorrow (*J.L Austin, 1962, p. 5*).

Austin further stated these utterances are performed under certain conditions, otherwise acts of apologize, request, order and summon will not take place.

3.8.2 Austin's Contribution to Speech Act Theory

According to Austin the act of stating something is enactment of an action, performance of locutionary act, which is uttering a sentence with meaning. The locutionary acts are of three kinds:

Phonetic Act: An act which comprises certain kinds of sounds.

Phatic Act: An act which comprises certain kinds of words and vocabulary, relating to grammar of language.

Rhetic Act: It consists of an act composed of vocables with defined and undefined sense or reference.

Austin suggested there is another sort of act known as Illocutionary Act, it includes utterances which performs an action by saying only, e.g., acts of warning, undertaking, ordering, and informing. It influences the actions, thoughts, and manner of listeners. He further suggested third type of act known as Perlocutionary Act it, is consequential effect of illocutionary force on listener which leads to some future action, e.g., persuade, refuse, astonishment and delude.

The study operates the framework firstly by identifying illocutionary force indicating devices of every utterance which are word order, diction, mood, the background, and lastly performative verbs. It was operated on formal part of data. The context of articles was countrywide mainstream political scenario and participants in

conversation were leaders and issues discussed in articles are election was rigging, conduct of previous governments, political and economic scandals. In the next stage on the basis of IFIDs the study separates the Speech acts and classifies them as Exercitive, Behabitive, Commissive, Verdictives and Expositive. While on informal part of data the intended effect of comment was evaluated primarily and then categorized under coherent categories both horizontally and vertically. It includes both explicit and implicit perlocutionary effect, while the context was same in informal part of data as it was in formal but here participants involved in communication are users and audiences of website. In both parts of data, the speakers are equipped with communicative competence, and are aware of contextual aspect. Austin classified the illocutionary acts into five different classes on basis of their illocutionary forces.

Verdictives: The term implies verdict and are issued by judge, arbitrator, and umpire.

Exercitive: The term indicates the exercise of powers and influence e.g., appointing, ordering, and warning.

Commissive: It is characterized by promising and undertaking, also includes declarations and pronouncement of intentions which are not characterized as promises.

Behabitive: It implies those actions which relates to our attitude and social behavior e.g. congratulation, cursing, apologizing etc.

Expositive: It includes those utterances which are part of argument and conversation e.g. I reply, I illustrate, I assume etc. (J.L Austin, 1962, p. 151).

The debate of speech act theory predominantly revolves around verbal mode of interaction; however, many linguists have unanimity on its application in written discourse as well. It is essential component of linguistic communication. The scholars asserts about speech act as “an act of communication performed by the use of language either in speech or in writing, involving reference, force and effect”. In Horner’s (1981) opinion, the competent writers in task of writing develop the context, purpose and interaction between reader and writer in a manner that it continues to exist even though the original writer is no more (Horner, pp. 3-10). In following this opinion, the scholars have mentioned the wider term for “speech act” to explain the similarity of writing with speaking. He writes “Perhaps ‘linguistic acts’ would have been a more appropriate term because not only acts of speaking but also acts of writing are included” (Verschueren,

1980). Furthermore, the scholars of discourse studies investigate speech acts in broader perspective, considers the immediate situational and institutional context, which is not the matter with pragmatics. The present study investigates the speech acts in written mode of interaction, perceives the interaction as discourse primarily then locates the performative verbs, intonation, tone, vocabulary, the context which elucidates the illocutionary force. Secondly, concept of speech acts relates to aptitude of speaker. In opinion of linguistic scholar, Speech act theory is involved with communicative proficiency the skill of using language in purpose-oriented manner along with understanding the sensitive nature of context to attain the task of communication (Hymes, 1971).

3.9 Ethical Considerations

The considerations of ethics are of immense importance and strict pursuance of them are necessary as violation affects the merits and casts serious doubts over integrity of study. The researcher had consulted guidelines, terms and conditions of newspaper and ensured confidentiality; data was used only for research purpose. The study dealt with participatory journalism falling in category of public domain, the security settings of source allow the access and use of data. The study elucidated online behavior meant for upgrading the knowledge about online settings, increasing awareness about recognition of diverse behaviors and clearly the results of study did not harm anybody. The results of study are beneficial for driving awareness campaigns about modifications of online behaviors and guiding users about immoral social attitudes.

CHAPTER 4

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

The chapter four deals with data presentation and analysis. It started with identification of meaningful units in news articles and comment threads, proceeded to coding process followed by discussion. The meaningful units in this study were sentences. The researcher followed the descriptive coding pattern in analysis of data. After the coding of all meaningful units, next step was categorization of data under relevant categories. The researcher coded and categorized keeping in consideration the content of study and research questions. After the coding and categorization, the next part was application of Speech act theory. First the illocutionary forces of meaningful units were examined and then perlocutionary effects were evaluated in comments. After the analysis of all twenty articles the mean values of illocutionary forces and categories were calculated, and results were given in form of tables.

4.1 Accountability Court granted six more weeks to conclude references against Sharif family. Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning different codes to them.

In plea about extension of time the judge commented that he expects the defense attorney to complete in given time. **Increase in Timeline.**

The defense attorney said managing two cases simultaneously is problematic for him, to which judge responded he must work as judiciary is doing the same. **Simultaneous Cases**

Comments

Powerful are above the law, which results in NRO. It is exploitation of national resources. **NRO**

Justice not provided in appropriate time is equivalent to no justice. **Failed Justice**

The former prime minister has plundered the country and develop huge assets for him. **Illegally earned money.**

There seems some emergency in hearing Nawaz plea before election, earlier it was given deadline prior to elections. **Court case**

This is trial of “Naya Pakistan”. **Tough time**

NRO seekers are not meant for prison but for power. **NRO**

Now, is the time to finish all cases against leadership within stipulated time, masses want verdict on basis of concrete evidence and there should not be any ordinance restricting them from return of money and closure of cases. **Cases in court**

Now is the time to recover illegal money from these leaders and their accomplices and same practice must be opted for others. **Recovery**

Without any evidence of money and its exchange the best is to delay things. **Lacking evidence**

The black ordinance has magical characteristics, within limited time they will not be restrained. **NRO**

Judiciary is lacking its control now. **Judiciary**

Individuals who have taken advantage of black ordinance are enjoying powerful positions now. **NRO**

The prosecution has no evidence to support allegations, basic law states one who puts allegations proves them in court. The institutions in Pakistan are not realizing this. **Law**

Accountability court has many ways to enlarge cases in corruption cases, specifically if defendant is public figure. **Extension in case**

4.2 Adiala Jail is waiting for Nawaz Sharif: Imran Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning different Codes to them.

The chairman of political party said the prison is expecting former premier. **Imprisonment**

The chairman stated that sickness is not an appropriate excuse to postpone the judgement of case, the decision can be read from newspapers. **Court Verdict**

The chairman accused the opponent of using illness as melodrama. **Allegation**

The chairman accused opponent of coercing the nation, said he was unaware of illness at the time he was holding processions across the country. **Allegation of extorting**

The party leadership has expectations from party workers to stand up against immoral practice of illegitimate means of getting money. **Expectations from member**

Comments

The civilian premier deserves the fortune of imprisonment, after the end of his government Adiala prison will be prepared for him. **Civilian Prime Minister**

It is difficult to understand how leaders of political parties get awareness of verdict prior to its announcement. **Court's Judgement**

I expect former premier to be confined for stealing national wealth. **Imprisonment**

The impartial elections will result in complete loss of IK from Punjab. **Elections**

The plundered money must be spent on welfare of masses, the time of nation's godfather is now finished. **Godfather**

The former leadership want to dictate judges, while in civilized countries nobody is above the law. **Leadership**

Only mudslinging at opponents does not lead to victory, while IK has no capacity to have victory in elections. **Election**

It must not be restricted to any few but for all plunderers. **Constraint**

The political leaders need to stay quiet until proper channel declares judgement. **Verdict**

The leadership never step back in uttering foul words for their counterparts, while time repeats history for all. **Abusive Language**

This is the time to confine both father and daughter. **Punishment**

Uncultured and immature. **Naive**

It is difficult to understand how political figures understand judgments prior to their declaration. **Court Verdict**

The senior leadership must abide by laws and demonstrate this through words and actions, and not speak prior to judgements. **Law**

The only outcome of judgement against party leader is end of hierarchical rule. **Dynastic politics**

The present leadership has no strategy for welfare of masses and specifically building strong relationship with neighbors. **Roadmap for government**

Instead of concentrating on confrontational politics, attention of PTI should be on polls. **Confrontational politics**

If ever money got recovered it must be spent on education. **Return of looted money.**

The state of our economy is continuously declining, nothing works to uplift it. **Economy**

If tough judgement comes for Nawaz, it is alarming signal for all leaders. **Court Verdict**

Leaders of PPP also requires similar punishment like other parties are given. **Punishment**

The former premier should not have robbed the country. **Plundering**

The political figures have priority of vengeance for their rivals. **Reprisal for opponents**

IK appears to be loaded with vengeance. He is drawing immense satisfaction from news of his rival's imprisonment. **Retaliation**

4.3 Dark Clouds are looming over elections: PMLN senators expresses reservations ahead of polls.

Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning different codes to them.

The senator warned that elections are surrounded by darkness and nation must bear the consequences of it. **Elections**

Abbasi claimed that political forces are purposefully deprived of election meetings and processions specifically PMLN. **Election meetings**

The PMLN leader alleged political setup of country is operating in a manner which facilitates specific party. **Political settings**

If the results of elections are in favor of those who have no large amount of people in procession, it clearly indicates victory is selected for them. **Election**

The senator mentioned of intervention and forceful creation of parties. **Political Conflict**

The senator said angrily the army did not subjugated this country. **Military Role**

The PMLN senator claimed party workers from Punjab apprised that security officials force them to vote jeep. **Claims of leadership.**

The senator stated his party will do effort for modification in constitution and eradicate this caretaker setup. **Caretaker set up.**

The senator claimed verdict was announced immediately after some mysterious thing was brought in bag. **Underhand doings**

The senator alleged verdict was prewritten to inhibit former premier from participating in elections. **Prewritten judgement**

In aggressive manner senator said askari name is better as it indicates support for military. **Appropriate Choice**

The senator complained that they never filed cases against opponents in their rule, while their opponents are registering cases against them. **Cases against opponents**

PPP leadership stated that Rangers were not given immense powers in past, as they are given power now. **Precedent of Rangers**

Comments

The religious sects are exterminated specifically Ahmadis, most disparaging fact is media's silence which reveals media's so-called freedom of press. **Religious discrimination**

The present elections are ruined with controversies. **Unfortunate Incidents**

The selection of Senate Chairman is itself suspicious, it is illegal. **Doubtful induction**

The appointment of Senate Chairman is itself distrustful. **Illegal selection**

To state it simply it is not election. **Rejecting Elections**

The person whose induction is dubious is saying others to have faith in institution.

Illegal selection

The person saying to have trust in elections came through power by backchannel. It is not reasonable. **Doubtful induction**

The chairman is gratifying his leaders who chosen him. **Selection**

The political forces getting favors previously are denied this time, this is real dispute.

Favors in elections.

There is no more democracy in country, he is establishment individual. **Democracy**

The mood of voters puts them in distressful condition. **Voters power**

In case of victory, it is indicator of message to hidden powers, while in loss it is rigging.

Political tactics

The election manipulation was something standard for earlier political forces but sadly their efforts this time were not successful. PPP is currently doing the same.

Manipulation in polls

The leaders are the dark clouds. **Darkness**

Elections can never be fair and square when they are not in favor of PMLN, you are uttering appropriate words at inappropriate time. **Elections**

Now when leaders have visited their constituencies, they have faced the anger of masses as they have not fulfilled their earlier promises. It is your execution of previous promises which are obstruction not manipulation of election results. **Earlier term accomplishments**

It is because of their illegal ways of money earning; the economy is surrounded by darkness. **Corruption**

The reports from international agencies, media and masses predicts specific political party is getting favors from caretaker set up. **Unfair Ways**

Darkness has surrounded major leadership of PMLN because of Panama scandal. **Condemning leadership**

Darkness has encapsulated PMLN as they are heading towards huge loss in elections.

Condemning leadership

The elections only in which he has got victory is bright. **Elections**

He personally knows that it is not safer to explain others about shifting loyalties.

Switching Parties

The country is moving towards change and prominent leadership of major political forces is facing tough time because of new emerging party. **Change**

The former premier is in prison for his corruption, he is not Mandela. If masses cannot understand this, then they have no right to complain. **Corruption**

Darkness has surrounded them since expulsion from office. **Darkness**

4.4 ISPR asks SC to look into serious allegations against state institutions by Justice Siddiqui.

Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning different codes to them.

The army wing requested the senior most court of country for investigation against allegation raised by High Court judge. **Demanding Probe**

The statement meant institutions are sacrosanct, allegations made by judge essentially needs scrutiny. **Demanding probe**

The senior judge on yesterday has taken notice of address presented by another judge and called federal institution for entire record of address. **Notice of senior Judiciary.**

The judge said employees of agency are influencing the most high-profile case of country, in addition to personal choice of benches. **Judicial proceedings**

The judge claimed employees from spy agency said president of PMLN and his daughter should not be released prior to election, secondly justice Siddiqui must not bench member. **Claiming actions of Spies**

The judge mentioned about exchange of messages. **Message Delivery**

The judge questioned about hidden reasons behind restriction of Islamabad High Court. **Administrative Control**

The judge alleged that judiciary is not independent. **Controlled Judiciary**

The judge claimed that he was offered bribery if verdict was announced in favor **Bribery.**

This judge said the legal framework will be carried out, as these assertions are not acceptable. **Rejection of statements**

The judge declared that he needed to notify the masses, as it is their matter of concern. **Ensuring Justice**

Comments

Incidents in political scenario happening nowadays are confirming the statements of senior judge as an example why senior most judge is not among jury of conspicuous cases. **Questioning Parallel Scenario**

It has become usual strategy to put culpability on institutions, whenever corruption charges are levelled and similar is situation with Justice Siddiqui. **Questioning actions of Senior Judge**

The assertions of this sort are deplorable. Simply there are critical issues in country, and everyone has awareness about them, but nobody raises voices about them. **Pointing reason of silence**

The accusations need to be completely investigated, ruining the name of institution is not appropriate. **Demanding Probe**

The acceptance of truth is always difficult. **Reality undenied**

The statements of this sort are maligning and are uttered with intent of building support in own case. **Declaring judge incorrect**

The person who raises voice is always condemned; history is full of such examples. The entire nation stands with senior judge. **Declaring judge Correct**

The judge himself is contentious he projects verdict always in favor of PMLN. **Declaring judge Contentious**

The judge has not approached the appropriate forum for levelling allegations, it indicates strain on him. The CJP must commence institutional interrogation against him. **Controversial legal system**

The statements of this sort are not acceptable, and espionage is objectionable. **Declaring Allegations as false.**

The judge has corruption charges upon him and is agent from PMLN. **Declaring judge preoccupied**

The judge is full of vengeance for state institutions, he needs immediately to be sacked. **Questioning credibility of judge**

The role of government is nowhere. **Poor functioning of government**

Justice Siddiqui must establish allegations in court, if failed he be penalized like others. **Claiming evidence of allegations**

The judge is levelling allegations upon highest state institution, difficult to understand how CJP is eligible investigate cases against his fellow judge. **Misappropriate person for investigation.**

To verify the accusations the judicial commission can be formed which is independent of any sort of pressure. **Infringing Constitution**

The judge cannot make accusations without any concrete reason. **Questioning basis of allegations**

The CJP first confirm whether agencies are meddling with judicial system, history has plethora of incidents where politicians break the law and get away with it. **Question marks surrounding Judicial system.**

Nobody is more essential than law, the allegations need to be completely probed. **Necessity of legal proceedings**

It is beyond understanding why justice Siddiqui stayed quiet at the time when he had seen ill doings of agencies meddling with judiciary. **Questioning political strategy**

The law is above anyone but lobbying of institution is inappropriate. **Rejecting politicization of institutions**

The judge attacked the spy agency and judiciary, he be removed from designation.
Sacked from designation.

If there are rumors it means, there is at least some kind of reality in them. **Trusting allegations**

It is entirely comical to protect the sacredness of institutions. **Credibility in institutions denied.**

The judgements passed by Justice Siddiqui must be investigated, as his behavior indicates incompetence for post. **Declaring judge as inappropriate**

The accountability wave in country is for limited time, with change of time everything will change. **Purposive accountability**

Nab must investigate how Siddiqui has purchased properties in most expensive area of capital, with limited income. **Demanding Probe of assets**

It is beyond understanding that our three times prime minister is imprisoned while murderer is enjoying facilities. It indicates pressure and hints at nature of coming elections. **Challenging Legal System**

If judiciary is independent, then Musharraf and Nawaz be treated in same manner. **Shaded Judicial system**

The judge should behave in accordance with his position and not like any political person or leader. **Declaring judge as politicized**

The intervention needs to be stopped here; any strange news is credible in Pakistan. However, CJP must expose disgraceful persons in institutions. **Declaring faith in judge**

Does not this investigation rationalize the stance of Justice Siddiqui. **Strategy supporting Accuser.**

The judge must know that law requires evidence; address is an attempt to manipulate masses attitude. Our nation cannot accept the loss to judiciary on expense of politics. **Suspicious surrounding Speech.**

The judge talked after so much time which suggests his bad objectives. **Declaring intentions as mala fide**

The judge be suspended from listening cases, till the interrogation of cases. **Demanding Probe**

The opinion of judge is not completely opposite to reality. **Reality hidden in Allegations.**

When the institution is alleged, it is beyond comprehension how can senior most judge can investigate. **Challenging Judicial bench**

We must get rid of politicized judiciary. **Condemning judge of politicization**

The judge must present evidence of allegations imposed on judiciary. **Demanding Evidence**

The accusations are near to reality. **Trusting Allegations**

The judge is facing corruption charges in court, there is no point in believing them. **Blaming Judge**

4.5 Khadim Rizvi slams efforts to change country's ideology. Extraction of meaningful Units (sentences) from texts and assigning different codes to them.

The religiopolitical party said pronouncement to take part in election was taken after detriment of workers in defense of religious doctrines. **Contesting Polls**

The party chief said attempts were made for admissibility of non- Muslim president. **Non-Muslim President**

The party chief condemned factions for abandoning nation's dogma. **Ideology**

The party chief critiqued factions for not embracing unambiguous position on religious doctrine. **Lacking stance**

The party workers sacrificed their lives in protecting religious principles. **Religious faith**

The party chief said they faced protest with great strength. **Protests in past**

Comments

The party chief and his workers must be confined. **Demanding Imprisonment**

The religiopolitical parties are load. **Dual nature of political parties**

The leader operating in dual disciplines signifies system is shattered. **Loopholes in System**

The religious leaders enter in politics by dishonest means. **Crooked ways in Politics**

The religious personalities can never operate independently there is always some powerful support behind them. **Dependent on Others**

The leaders who looted the country deserve confinement. **Demanding Imprisonment**

The media is not reporting about the protest. **Lacking media Coverage**

The individual persons are problematic not elected governments. **Condemning Personal agendas**

The use of religion for political purposes precedes to violence, an inappropriate trend. In addition, the derogatory language employed in address is liable to section 62/63. **Purposive use of Religion**

Religious violence at any cost is not appropriate, religiopolitical individuals space must be restricted. **Stop religious Propaganda.**

The court has issued orders for the arrest of TLP chief, still he is not arrested. **Disobedience to Court Orders**

The followers should be given the same punishment. **Demanding Imprisonment**

The chief uses religion for his own dissemination. **Purposive use of Religion**

Masses must not vote these murky politicians. **Blaming Leadership**

The religious party's involvement in politics is harmful most recent example is IJT which has created chaos in educational set up. **Clerics harming Religion.**

There definitely be some legislative orientation for preventing clergymen to participate in elections. **Power of Clerics**

4.6 LHC gives NAB final chance to submit response in petition against Sharif's conviction.

Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning different codes to them.

The bench ordered the institutional defense attorney to appear in personal capacity in next hearing and submit an answer. **Absence of Counsel**

The next hearing is the last opportunity to submit an answer. **Last Chance**

The court dismissed separate applications submitted by lawyers seeking to become coalition in legal suit. **Rejection of Applications**

The senior lawyer challenged the creation of NAB in addition to judgement of former premier. **Challenging the Ordinance**

The lawyer held argument that former prime minister was penalized by court which was established by false law. **Challenging the Conviction**

The lawyer advocated for cancellation of judgement. **Suspension of the judgment**

The lawyer contended court was established by dictator under PCO. **Challenging the Ordinance**

The PCO was proclaimed without legitimate authorization and has no legal nature. **Lacking legal power**

After the 18th amendment and with the inclusion of article 270-AA, the NAO had become nonexistent. **Unlawful basis of institution**

The proceedings stem from illegitimate ordinance so, they should be declared illegitimate. **Unlawful Proceedings**

Comments

The case should not be heard in Lahore registry as it is already settled there. **Loopholes in judicial system**

The cross pointing of arguments should be avoided. **Confrontational politics**

The president of PMLN is staying the democracy he designed while history shows the result of arrogant. **Dwindling Democracy**

The only way out is submission of money trail. **Demanding evidence**

Everyone already knows that in back channels NRO has already taken place. **Waste of money**

The leadership has least degree of concern in afflictions of masses. **Negligence towards masses**

In backchannels of politics NRO works and corrupt rises to power like always. **Underhand ways in Politics**

With the change in political temperature everything will change including accountability process, and Maryam Nawaz will be next Prime minister of country.

Political Settlement over cases

It is beyond understanding why the case is heard in Lahore registry, ultimately it will be SC case in the end. **Expectations of justice**

The law requires to present money trails in court as evidence. **Demanding evidence**

The prosecution side has entirely failed in providing evidence that flats were property of Sharif family. **Loopholes in Justice**

The proceedings of the case were supervised by judge of SC, Lahore registry cannot turn the situation opposite. **Dubious Justice**

Media trial is turning conspicuous case of NS into doubtful direction, besides institutional competency is entirely evident case. **State institutions incompetency**

The seven years sentence is given by court to Mr. Nawaz Sharif without any adequate evidence. while the reason presented by defendants is acceptable to quite great extent.

Suspicious Verdict

NAB leadership be changed so, that nobody can take advantage and run away with their cases. **Interference in State institutions**

4.7 LNG deal to be made public: Sarwar. Extraction of meaningful Units from texts and assigning different codes to them.

The petroleum Ministry said Liquefied Natural Gas contract with Qatar would be reconsidered for ascertaining the transparency. **Reassessment of Contract**

The mechanism of fuel price setting is defective because diesel is more expensive than gasoline. **Contradiction about Price**

The minister said contract has serious nature of accusations. **Allegations on Contract**

The new government has perspective of clarity and are accountable to masses. **Ensuring Transparency**

The minister stated that pact cannot be kept confidential at any cost, it would be posted on ministry's website for evaluation. **Contract to be made Public.**

The pact has always been confidential. **Contentious Issue**

The previous government had not shared particulars of pact with significant government sectors. **Contract in Secrecy**

Comments

If the pact is violated it will result in cancellation of visa free travel to Qatar.

Considerations about contract

The country has lost billions in this pact, visa free travelling is not more essential than revealing the drawbacks of pact. **Opacity in Contract**

The deal be made public as there are doubts political party has bribed the deal. **Contract to be made public.**

It is appropriate to spend billions of dollars for visa free travelling. **Neglect of National Interests**

Powerful people offer extravagant money for unethical practices, there is urgent need to plan record of looted money. **Financial irregularities in contracts**

In last decade both institutions and politicians equally plundered the nation, the pact must be communicated with masses. **Negligence of State institutions**

Petroleum minister said the Iran and Pakistan gas pipeline project seems to be in chaotic phase now. **Concerns of new Regime.**

When the pact will be on website masses, could read terms and conditions of contract.

Investigation of the contract

The minister has not talked about means of reducing energy crisis, but it is appropriate to share pact with masses. **Remainder about energy shortfall**

All the pacts of previous governments be shared with masses. **Retrieval of money**

The political opponents habitually criticize the work of each other and if deal is disastrous for country, it should immediately be cancelled. **Defamation of Opponents**

The former Prime Minister of country also be investigated. **Probe of Minister**

The kind of attitude ruling party is depicting will have impact upon business circle of country. **Oppositional behavior of new Regime**

4.8 Nawaz appears before accountability Court in Al-Azizia, Flagship references

Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning different codes to them.

The authorities prohibited the media reporting of proceedings. **Proceedings in secrecy**

The plea was opposed on grounds that cross examination will be completed separately in two cases. **Opposition towards plea**

The judge excluded the petition and case was postponed to August 15. **Plea rejected.**

The defendant's attorney pleaded for relocation of cases to another court as claims are of similar nature. **Transfer of Court.**

The court transferred the Nawaz Sharif cases to Arshad Malik's court. **Transfer of court.**

Comments

These leaders are Pharaohs, and it is delightful to see change of leadership and the accountability process in country. **Rule of law in Country**

Things like wealth and recognition are temporary, leadership must learn message from contemporary scenario. **Short lived Power**

The change of situation is interesting. The previous ruling party is presently in accountability court and opposition representatives are taking oath which is remarkable parallel. **Mysterious handling of Justice**

The judiciary will set some precedent in this case for all others. **Faith in Judicial System**

In my opinion the punishment sentence could be exchanged for lifetime banishment to Saudi Arabia, reprehensible to see former leadership is not admitting they robbed the national treasure. **Attitude of former leadership**

Arrogant attitude always leads to failure. **Misuse of authority**

The masses gave leadership the authority of savior, instead they robbed the national treasure. **Responsibility as leader**

The defendant's lawyers are only concerned about their case amounts. **Accusations on Lawyer**

In contemporary scenario when newly elected members are taking oath, the former prime minister is facing his cases. **Trial of former Prime Minister**

The contemporary situation is perfect example of honor and dishonor, each person is facing according to deeds. **Different Scenario of Leadership**

In my opinion the accountability bureaus in country adhere to Saudi pattern of accountability, masses want the return of money. **Demanding Concrete Accountability**

The former premier now has job of going to confinement and courts, all the assets he purchased were at expense of masses money. **Abusive Use of Power**

The situation has changed for former prime minister from luxury houses and protocol to life behind bars. **Change of Scenario.**

Till the time when former prime minister will finish his punishment in prison, the nation will progress by leaps and bounds. When he will be released from prison people no more will recognize him. **Imprisonment of former President**

The process of accountability needs to be rapid and justice must be served. **Demanding Justice**

The destiny always returns to our actions. **Censuring Former Premier**

The money former premier and his family has plundered must be returned. **Seeking return of national wealth**

The present situation former premier is facing is reward of his corruption. **Censuring former Premier**

The former premier will not evade the accountability this time instead punishment for stealing the national treasure. **Different Scenario for leadership**

Earlier on NS was given prison sentence, real story behind this corruption will be on surface after lapse of some time. **Recalling Previous Sentence**

The opponent party is depicting punishment sentence of NS as their great achievement but is only because of inadequate performance. **Opponents Political goal**

In my opinion there is something suspicious in asking for change of accountability court. **Suspicious on transfer of Courts**

NS is convict like all other prisoners; he should be treated the same way as other prisoners. **Demanding similar behavior**

All other plunderers be treated the same way. **Appreciating Verdict**

Corruption has serious consequences. **Censuring former leadership**

4.9 Nawaz was bereft of loyalty: Nisar. Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning different codes to them.

Interior minister accused former prime minister of being “bereft of loyalty”.
Accusation on PM

Despite the fact he worked for long period of time interior minister said NS was not truthful to him. **Anxiety of Betrayal**

In procession minister said masses of his constituency will be with him in elections.
Faith in Masses

Interior minister said he refrained from immoral tactics, instead he delivered his promises. **Good Governance**

He said he had never condescended before anybody. **Rigorous Personality**

He declared one of his adversaries to be uneducated and other one is minister. **Bashing at Opponents**

Comments

It is not democracy simply faithfulness to your boss, which is slavery and not true patriotic spirit for country. **Unpatriotic**

Interior minister will never be satisfied until he becomes prime minister. **Expectation**

The leadership first make big promises for winning elections and then robs the country.

Corrupt leaders

The upper core leadership is not deprived of loyalty instead they are loyal to themselves only. **Self-Serving leaders**

Former interior minister will again be party member of PMLN after victory in polls.

Political strategy

Former interior minister has always served the purpose of establishment. **Impostor**

You simply have failed in setting impressions by means of usual outbursts. **Upset attitude.**

The sole objective of Nisar seems only to criticize others. **Attacking at Opponents**

He left leadership of his party in most difficult of their times. **Betrayal**

No other party has delivered promises except PMLN. **Promises**

The politicians are loyal only to themselves, dishonest and avaricious. **Self-Centered**

The institutions do not impose upon masses leaders of their choice, instead true and authentic democratic ways must be employed for selection of candidates. **Democracy**

Without Nisar, PMLN is lost. **Loss of Candidate**

Former interior minister expected himself to be next candidate for prime minister, but leadership chose another candidate. **Candidate for office**

Why leadership accuse opponents and constructively depict themselves as winning strategy for elections? **Positive Self Portrayal**

Loyalty has different meaning for PMLN leader, only those useful to him are loyal, it goes in unidirectional manner his political thinking depicts feudal mentality.

Leadership perspectives

**4.10 TLP to protest in Karachi on August 12 against poll rigging
Extraction of meaningful units from texts and assigning different codes to them.**

The religiopolitical party declared that it would hold a remonstrance against rigging and warned that dissent could be transformed into extended sit-in. **Protest for rigging**

TLP, achieved victory in NA but they lost in provincial assembly. **General elections**

The party is not satisfied with their performance and claims outcomes are wrong, although their candidates ended as strong contestants with substantial votes.

Unsatisfaction with results

The party representative said they got defeat because results were manipulated. **Rigging in elections**

The party warned of long march if government got unsuccessful in meeting their demands, the protest is just an indicator. **Declaring Protest**

The party declared that it would hold a rally. **Announcement of Rally**

Comments

The masses of Karachi do not welcome any of demonstrators. **Dislike for protest**

Are they complaining about the vote's masses have given them? **Complain**

They should be enclosed. **Imprisonment**

In my opinion man is the biggest threat our country will face. **Threat to nation**

There should be an end to his activities. **Closure**

He should already be confined. **Imprisonment**

The leadership of TLP is terrorist, they must be confined for at least thirty years.

Imprisonment

It is a way out for attaining publicity in masses. **Strategies of leaders**

I do not understand why masses should vote TLP, for the hatred they have inculcated in politics. **Condemning actions of leaders**

The objectives behind establishing this political party are attained, very soon party will be nowhere simply political objectives are fulfilled. **Purposive development**

The court has already issued arrest warrants for him, while caretaker government has yet not executed these orders. **Court Orders**

The party is known for barricades. **Obstructions**

The manifesto of religious parties should be spread of Islam, instead of politics. **Strategy**

The leadership of TLP should be detained. **Imprisonment**

They should be confined. The masses have elected the new government and their mandate need not to be stolen. **Imprisonment**

These clergymen are notorious for bad reputation. **Bad name**

The solitary purpose for the party is to keep them relevant is to protest. **Purpose**

If the elections were not falsified, the party could be victorious. **Fake elections**

Why they are disillusioned about masses support for them. **Assistance**

The highest court of country should ban him for hate speech. **Prohibition**

These individuals do not have any interests for masses, they need to be confined. **Imprisonment**

Karachi is city of all religions irrespective of any caste. **Religious bias**

The party and leadership must be prohibited. **Need to stop.**

The citizens of state are exploited in their protests. **Mistreatment**

This is another performance; it will be surprising if present government will bow down like previous one. **Political strategy**

Very shortly the political opponents will be together. **Political Alliance**

Nobody came on front line. **Absence**

Is the leadership of political party being above law? **Leadership**

He should be confined and no more debate about this. **Imprisonment**

They are using religion for creating chaos in country. **Religion**

He should permanently be confined. **Imprisonment**

Why is he not imprisoned for disobeying court orders? **Captivity**

The religiopolitical parties can do nothing but protests. **Condemnation of Protests**

4.11 Zardari terms his close aide's arrest a message. Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning different codes to them.

The cochairman of PPP in responding to arrest of this friend denied any implicit agreement with establishment. **Contradicting news of Deal**

The cochairman said arrests of political members would be made on his orders if he had settled on some deal. **Arrests hinging on deal.**

Mr. Zardari said that arrest was a message. **Declaring arrest message**

He said whichever political party will win coming elections necessarily have to converse with PPP to form the following government. **Confidence in Victory**

He believed that independent applicants would win from immense number of constituencies in Punjab. **Independent Candidates**

Mr. Zardari denied meeting with former prime minister after the scheduled meeting was cancelled months back. **Meeting with former Premier**

He stated that he believed in progression and not transformation, and PTI chief is least interested in united conversation. **Faith in Improvement**

Comments

The seizure of Ismail Dhahiri does not indicate any message, cochairman is employing this as political manipulation strategy. **Arrest of Political Worker**

Why don't you let know that Mr. Dhahiri was seized because he was found with extravagant number of illegal weapons? **Challenging Leadership attitude**

Your comrade was involved in illegal activities. **Actions leading to arrest.**

In the backchannels of government PPP has got deal and are not getting punishments anymore. The cases against PPP are nowhere. **Deal protecting leadership.**

While the time leaders are robbing state, they are not frightened and the time when are punished of their deeds they are scared. **Faith in accountability**

Sure, the action communicates. It states enough to dishonest representatives. **Disregard for corrupt leadership**

Since all the cases against PPP leadership have vanished, it means some agreement has happened between party representatives and concerned authorities. **Confirming Deal of leadership**

The cochairman has entirely weakened the party. **Accusation on Leadership**

PPP leadership cannot be fool the masses of Sindh now more. **Censuring leadership**

Sure, the action communicates an end to illegal activities of politicians. **Stop betraying Nation.**

The cochairman talks like some mob leader, this attitude depicts kleptocracy. **Corrupt leaders controlling Government.**

All the top core leaders of PPP including Zardari must be seized. **Imprisonment for Leadership**

They must be confined incessantly. **Suggesting Imprisonment**

The leaders are criminals, they should be confined. **Demanding Imprisonment**

Only the condemnation does not work, more is required to educate the masses who fall in trap every time. **Disregard for corrupt Leadership**

Sure, it communicates hatred for corrupt political moves, hope the leadership gets this.

Aggression for leadership

The entire political system is revolving around contract or no contract. The deals strengthen the objectives of political leadership. **Disapproving Deal of leadership**

The party has not won large number of seats in previous elections, and in coming elections the situation seems to be more dismal. **Predicting loss in elections**

The counterfeit techniques of winning elections no more will help leadership this time.

Disapproving fraudulent ways of winning

The laws of universe never set asides the one involved in corrupt practices; deeds always repay. **Corrupt never escapes law.**

The judicial system of country has mysterious nature politicians have cases and also contesting for elections, no liability for huge sum of money which they were given in previous term. **Loopholes in Justice System**

4.12 Elections were managed to ensure victor for one party: Zubair Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning of different codes to them

The governor alleged that the election was managed in a way which ensures victory of specific party. **of Biased polls**

He claimed there is no uncertainty that elections were contrived in a way so that specific party can make government. **Allegations of one-sided polls**

In responding to the mechanical fault mentioned by EC he said whether RTS was fault or it was deliberately malfunction. **Suspicious malfunctioning of RTS**

The governor protested their election meetings and processions were influenced by arrests of party's core leadership. **Damages to political Campaign**

Comments

If you have evidence why you did not send to ECP, you were powerful at that time.

Demand of evidence

The other parties were also launched by establishment, the election was not rigged.

Rejection of narrative

Masses no more have any faith in corrupt leadership and their party members.

Rejection of narrative

When their own party comes into power only then electorates are fair. **Rejection of narrative**

The remarks of governor states that entire staff was involved in rigging, they should be removed from their posts. **Involvement in Rigging**

The governor is missing castle! **Castigating Remark**

One more loser screaming for failure in elections. **Castigating Remark**

The masses of Pakistan have rejected the old leadership which are ruling for years and opted for new this time. **Rejection of previous parties**

After apprehending the circumstances why, you did not resign immediately? **Demanding resignation**

The governor is from disputed political force, the end of his future is drawing near. **Blaming for party**

Previously the defeated party had the same narrative. **Blaming for past**

Almost all elections are rigged, this time selected candidate and political force was different. **Rigging**

Everyone was given equivalent chance. **Rejection of rigging**

Governor is just responding to his party leader who appointed him. **Slavery to bosses**

The 2018 electorate was arranged to victory of PTI. **Allegation**

The government was of PMLN, but elections were arranged for PTI. **Castigating remark**

The justification of military involvement is not acceptable, people need change of leadership. **Disagreement with rigging**

The administrator needs to be neutral and not sing like a canary when they see a mic.

Castigating remark

When political forces win only then its fair in other case it is rigging. **Political strategy**

Leaders should not teach masses about democracy. **Irritated of democracy.**

Grapes are sour! **Castigating Remark**

It is not rigging but corruption which led to failure of previous political forces.

Rejection of political party

It was your government which led to development of RTS, responsibility of stability falls on you. **Blaming for electronic process**

Your party is skillful in rigging, and now you are mentioning your opinion. **Claim of rigged elections.**

Your performance entirely failed in Sindh. **Failure of previous performance**

Masses voted to get release from corrupt leaders, they were tolerated exceedingly. **Corrupt leadership**

The election was arranged in a way which suits the candidates of choice. **Rigging in elections**

We should not depict pretension in selection of governments. **Undemocratic victory in elections**

The election process was surrounded with serious uncertainties. Why were phone not allowed stability of RTS and absence of party agents? **Doubts about rigging.**

The most surprising fact was all was managed yet khan did not get clear lead. **Underhand ways in politics**

We do not have faith in your narrative. **Rejection of opinion**

RTS was executed in earlier government and responsibility falls on them not anyone else, in my opinion it was kept as excuse of defeat. **Political strategy**

The Cronies description about elections. **Job of workers**

The political forces do not anything called as sportsman spirit. **Lack of generous behavior**

Once the members of other parties join the ruling party, they will be no more corrupt. **Strategy for clearance**

Traitors do not hesitate in doing anything. **Hatred for leadership**

Do you ever mention about robbed money in earlier government, or just mentioning it this time when previous tactics have failed? **Censuring for past**

The political situation before election was challenging for other parties. **Scenario before elections**

ECP shifted the fault to NADRA, and rumors are circulating that it is a good strategy to show a rigged electorate. **Allegation on institution**

The previous electorates were all planned, and this time it was not possible. **Failure of past strategy**

Masses managed the electors as they were tired of earlier political forces. **Management of masses**

The parties who lost the elections are not accepting the truth. **Rejection to defeat.**

When members from other parties talk with great confidences listeners get confused. **Astonishment for masses**

4.13 Firebrand PMLN leader Talal Chaudhary sentenced for contempt of Court.

Extraction of meaningful units(sentences) from texts and assigning of different codes to them

Chaudhary said just the timespan when Kaaba was filled with statues similar is situation with judiciary which is loaded with PCO judges. **Criticism on judiciary**

Chaudhary stated to his party leadership these judges be debarred as they are meant for discriminations. **Expectations from judiciary**

The PMLN leader in two of his speeches has employed words which influences the institution and judges. **Distorting words for institution**

The judgement stated his statements were immoral and are meant to convey animosity for institution. **Hatred for institution**

The speaker battered not just honorable judges but also inculcated hatred for institution in two of his addresses which is tremendously harmful for ensuring justice. **Hatred for institution and its members**

PMLN leader claimed that his adversaries have utilized his disqualification as strategy in election movements. **Opinion about disqualification**

My elections were influenced because of opponent's strategy of single agenda of exclusion. **Strategy of opponents**

He claimed party would have chosen another applicant if judgment were declared on appropriate time. **Delayed decision**

Comments

It is unjust without drawing plundered money from leadership, taxes are imposed on masses without any precedent of political forces. **Imposition of taxes**

He should have been confined for ten years in addition to one million penalty. **Severe punishment**

Earlier on influential individuals escape the law, but not this time. **Judicial change**

Political leadership needs to learn that state institutions are respectful which they must ascertain. Law is not different for anyone. **Equal law for all**

If the critique to any institution is stalled it does not lead to anything better, the charge of disrespect to an institution is ridiculous, to expel someone. **Ill devised strategy**

He deserves more intense penalty for absurd language and contempt of institution. **Need of severe punishment.**

Why the same judgment was not for TLP leadership even though he used more intense language than PMLN leader? **Unequal justice**

The penalty is not very tough. **Punishment for abuse**

The penalty at least includes year imprisonment disentitlement for life and five million payment, the sentence given is very mild. **Need of severe punishment.**

He should be sent to prison where his boss is completing his sentence. **Services for leadership**

The case was registered in month of February while the decision was announced in August. The court was extremely soft in sentence awarded to culprit. **Delay in justice.**

The penalty at least be two months captivity and disentitlement of five years span. **Need of severe punishment.**

It was not much tough at least a month imprisonment was required. **Need of severe punishment.**

PMLN leader must be confined for at least six months. **Punishment**

Disgraceful that laws are only for PMLN. **One sided justice**

He justifies strict sentence. **Need of severe punishment.**

The PMLN leaders require strict sentence for rough attitude and immoral language. **Need of punishment for others.**

It is relief to know that loose guns are now under control. **Satisfaction with decisions**

The punishment sentence at least be year imprisonment. **Need of severe punishment.**

The apex court did very appropriate decision to punish for uttering abusive language for country's judicial system. **Punishment for actions**

The media channels are sources of learning, for sake of their own popularity they are breeding illiteracy in listeners. They need to be very careful before calling guests in their shows. **Importance of media**

With the attitude of abusive language, he does not deserve to be public office holder. **Foul language**

Was party unaware of this danger then, why allotted him ticket? **Role of party**

The leader had this attitude for long time period, had been awarded penalty long before. **Abusive attitude**

The leadership now must think many times before uttering any words and he is unpredictable individual. **Need to discipline.**

He must be awarded lifetime disqualification. **Need of severe punishment.**

Only specific party is focus of attitude. **Specific target**

The sentence awarded to him is very mild. **Need of severe punishment.**

The penalty is very little at least lifetime disqualification must be awarded. **Need of severe punishment.**

The others be given similar penalty. **Other's punishment**

4.14 Imran Khan summoned by NAB for 'misusing' KP government's helicopter

Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning of different codes to them

The NAB has summoned PTI leader in relation with investigation against the suspected misuse of government's helicopters for private use. **Misuse of government's chopper**

Chairman directed the director to conduct an inquiry against the PTI chief and then chief minister over unsanctioned use of two government airplanes by abusing authority.

Misuse of authority

An inquiry had been ordered against him to ascertain if he had the power to hand over 'sensitive' assets such as choppers for non-governmental usage. **Inquiry against authorities**

Comments

Initially they keep stance of not calling officials then they call the most notable figure.

Political strategy

A settling way. **Political strategy**

In other democracies the official finds guilty of using taxpayer's money immediately resign from the position. **Personal use of taxpayer's money**

These are assortments rather than elections. The new emerging party in elections is depicting themselves as different while they exactly like others. **Selections rather elections**

Why NAB is not working on counterfeit case of KP bank? **Questions surrounding institution.**

PTI has indifferent attitude towards this inquiry. **Indifference of leaders**

NAB is presenting this as equal for all. **Strategy of institution**

These extravagant luxuries are not accessible considering declared assets. **Duality in assets**

Why NAB does not follow usual strategy of arresting in this case. **Strategy of institution**

I expect he is not summoned for clearance of allegations. **Expectations of masses**

A settling way. **Strategy of institution**

NAB is enough with his job, it is over imposing. **Awareness of reality**

Dramatic performance of an institution. **Castigating remark**

Before general elections NAB cannot confine senior leaders of PTI. **Political Strategy**

PTI leader will never show up in court, consistent delay. **Political strategy**

A settling way until leader is given penalty. **Political strategy**

Just to prove this as impartial. **Political Strategy**

A settling way. **Political Strategy**

A settling way. **Political Strategy**

In all ways it is fraud. **Castigating remark**

He will be professed honest by NAB. **Castigating remark**

It is just beginning. **Castigating remark**

This is just abusive use of power. **Abuse of Power**

Dramatic performance of an institution. **Castigating remark**

It is just performance, and nothing will change. **Castigating remark**

In the end case will be settled for him. **Political strategy**

If anyone else get involve in corruption its inappropriate but if its IK it is right. **Political Strategy**

If case was on PMLN the very next day the institution will summon for investigation. **Politicization of institutions**

He should be imprisoned for deceitful conduct. **Imprisonment**

4.15 NAB files corruption references against Gillani, inquires against Tappi, LDA and Nespak.

Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning of different codes to them.

In infringement of PPRA rules the persons are accused of misusing their authority to illegally grant contract. **Accusation of illegal contract**

These persons are said to have abused their authority to illegally allocate hundred acres of land, which was loss for national treasure. **Abuse of Power**

Individuals from LDA and Nespak have been accused of exploiting their positions for illegal gains in train project leading to heavy loss. **Accusations of misuse of Power**

He remarked if there was case then why permission of participating in elections was given. **Ambiguity hidden in reference.**

He conveyed concerns that meeting with nationalist party leader will prove burdensome for him. **Apprehensions after meeting**

Comments

In two most leading political parties of country are there any truthful associates. **Castigating remark**

This is best opportunity for retrieval of plundered wealth of nation. **Recovery of national wealth**

This is an excellent news. **Castigating remark**

An investigation from three most involved persons can generate more names engaged in plundering Sindh. **Plundering of national wealth**

The situation is exactly like the rubbing of surface while wormhole is in depth.

Castigating remark

This is excellent step; all other others involve should also be taken in consideration.

Demanding investigation

Former prime minister Gillani has discrepancy in assets, said he does not own any vehicles while media has shown his Suzuki vehicles. **Media depicting assets.**

These burglars are threat to country's progress, they must be confined. **Imprisonment**

True he is burglar. **Castigating remark**

Nobody in two eminent parties of country have turned rich without exploitation of national wealth. **Corruption of leadership**

PPP cannot cope up with new age, new leaders are required in changing times. **Lacking in novelty**

Such individuals are aware of their deeds but are never embarrassed. **Robbing of national treasury**

These were first voting in which contestant's chosen prior to polls, and opposition members are placed behind bars. **Political Strategy**

It is dishonesty of leaders. **Castigating remark**

Its corruption of yours which has led you to this stage. **Involvement in corruption**

It was not your first attempt. **Involvement in corruption**

Now the concentration is driven to someone else. **Castigating remark**

I am looking for their confinement. **Imprisonment**

4.16 Nawaz Maryam will return to Pakistan on Friday appeal against Court Verdict.

Extraction of meaningful units(sentences) from texts and assigning of different codes to them

She claimed no law has been breached in Britain so Avenfield possessions cannot be seized. **Confiscation of properties**

She stated interrogation would prove them correct even if it were conducted in Britain. **Action of concerned authorities**

Comments

No to return. **Denial**

Time for an end of this empire, prison houses be arranged for them. **Imprisonment**

They have specific relation to laws in Pakistan and are free to do anything, but the situation will not remain the same. **Freedom in homeland**

We have expectations of the retrieval of money. **Confiscation of assets**

Prior to any more fraud seize them on landing strip. **Imprisonment**

Its beyond consideration how she can purchase apartments though she was not government member. **Conviction of leader**

All tickets reside within family and staunch followers not given on merit basis. **Distribution of tickets**

The one who raises allegations on accused proves them in court in case of United Kingdom. **Responsibility of prosecution**

Entire leadership of PMLN and their children are engaged in fraud, our country needs an end to this rule. **Corruption of ruling family**

The return of this family to Pakistan is complete lie. **Expression of disbelieve.**

The strong adherents of democracy come back and complete their sentence. **Imprisonment**

The countries in west never let any outflow to their money but also never mind flow of illegal money in their country. **Strategy of west**

It is difficult to give up power and wealth. **Charms of power**

Now the tickets are given to members from other parties by PTI. **Distribution of tickets**

They need to give the court evidence, just show them legal documents. **Demand for evidence**

They should be transported straightaway to prison. **Imprisonment**

The corrupts have joined the victorious political force. **Union to new party**

The situation has changed presently, earlier leadership is facing charges and new are preparing to fill the gap. **Change of scenario.**

The police officials prepare prisons for them. **Facilities in prison**

The culprits have listened judgment in those same apartments. **Corrupt leaders**

They own huge properties but in masses opinion they are not worthy. **Sources of assets**

Nothing is more essential for a leader than his nation. Our former premier has everything outside. **Lacking true leadership qualities**

I believe they will start another episode of medical drama before Friday may be on Thursday night or Friday morning. **Declaring sickness drama**

Judgments without concrete evidence are harmful. **Disgrace to institution**

Most are concerned about themselves and not about country. **Selfish Politics**

Fake promise. **Censure**

This is penalty for their deeds and not any kind of sacrifice. **Punishment for corruption**

If they consider themselves innocent, then why not provide evidence in court. **Appeal for case**

PMLN leader claimed no law has been contravened in Britain, true but in Pakistan they never care about laws. **Infringement of law**

The best possible penalty for them is seizure of assets. **Punishment of corruption**

The members of other political party have joined victorious party, the notion of change.

Change of Party.

The party leaders distributed all party tickets to their family members. They really meant to protect illegal money. **Distribution of tickets**

They must be detained on the spot. **Arrest on spot**

The penalty given to them is least in comparison to loss they have done to country.

Imposition of fine

Maryam has assets ranging to millions and possession of agricultural land, is she giving excises on them. **Assets of leadership**

You have procured foreign properties with income of the masses of Pakistan.

Properties outside country

By tactfully sending the influential leader to prison you are strengthening them.

Castigating remark

Things will change very soon. **Castigating remark**

The time of change has arrived in Pakistan, accountability process will expose the illegally earned assets. **Accountability process**

Powerful people tend to be bigheaded. **Arrogance of powerful**

The money be taken back and then imprisoned. **Imprisonment**

The right of appeal should not be given. **Castigating remark**

Are they going to the similar prison like other culprits? **Imprisonment**

She is penalized so that others get message from this, not to support or stand up.

Punishment for abetting

End to successional rule. **Dynastic politics**

The matter of concern is that through accountability process such individuals should be exposed. **Accountability process**

They are concerned about securing money and returning to where it belongs. **Censure**

How can children purchase properties, without any finances and were supported by father? It indicates the role of father in purchasing luxury properties. **Purchase of properties**

They only have personal motive, and do not think about others. **Personal concerns**

4.17 Opposition Parties mull joint strategy to tackle PTI in parliament.

Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning of different codes to them.

Earlier premier said that perturbed parties will develop strong resistance in every situation. **Unanimous decision**

The political forces strengthen the claim of rigging in present electorates. **Election Manipulation**

Earlier premier condemned the intrusion and disapproved the suspected suppression by media bodies in broadcasting results. **Role of media and non-state elements**

The party senior leadership suspected that ECP failed in conduction of free and fair election and demanded resignation of election commissioner. **Notice**

MMA chief said institutions must be embarrassed of stripping mandate. **Mandate**

MNA chief said the results are not acceptable, an undisputed tactic is required for future. **Rejection of results**

The political forces which have established coalition prior declared about protest and reelection. **Protest irregularities**

The leader of mutual coalition said we cannot afford setbacks to democracy. **Problems surrounding democracy.**

The chief of JI presented approach of not taking pledge and new elections. **Political conflict**

Comments

It is disgrace for Molana. **Castigating remark**

It is good you people are accepting it. **Hinting previous elections**

Victory means fair and failure means manipulation. **Castigating remark**

No matter either in government or not, they will not stop trouble. **Castigating remark**

They are united for personal gains. **Personal interests**

Masses and political forces rejected this election. **Rejection of elections**

Heads of fraudulent techniques all under one roof. **Castigating remark**

The opposition members continue your narrative. **Castigating remark**

They are not anxious about country. **Personal concerns**

The parties who have lost the elections are playing the music of rigging and creating disturbances for others. **Rigging in elections**

Concrete evidence are required. **Rigging**

The political chaos in country will generate bad economic climate. **Political instability**

The history of opposition party's coalition has always resulted in disruption. **Coalition of opposition**

It was masses which led to victory of specific consent. **Castigating remark**

Failures. **Censure**

It was not manipulation but rejection. **Perception of people**

The protection of mandate is not essential but stolen money. **Intentions of Opposition**

The circumstances clearly signify their downfall. **Defeat in elections.**

Failures. **Censure**

If not satisfied with results, then why are they taking oath, protection of stolen amount is essential. **Protecting personal concerns**

Instead in politics Fazal -ur- Rehman spend time in praying. **Censure**

All these are making cheap publicity. **Media Appearance**

They are more selfish than we think of them. **Censure**

It is very odd that by manipulation they won massive number of seats in two large provinces. **Massive rigging**

In case of victory, it is free and fair, and failure simply means manipulation. **Political Strategy**

Approach is of denial. **Political Strategy**

Embarrassment. **Censure**

How PPP has got massive popularity in engineered elections. **Remainder about past**

These were expectations from crooks. **Castigating remark**

Numerous areas point out that elections were engineered say insistence on not hearing Sharif cases prior to election, opposition was targeted by accountability institution and absence of form 45. **Massive rigging**

All the losers get united. **Castigating remark**

They chalk out some measures to protect them. **Plan**

Leaders with notorious reputation. **Repute of leaders**

Masses refused them in elections. **Rejection of opposition**

The confrontational attitude in politics need to end for sake of poor masses. **Lacking true democracy**

Their priority is individual benefits. **Personal interests**

Criminals. **Censure**

They are creating problems only. **Lack of Nationalism**

This was better voting in comparison to others. **Elections**

Very soon they will dismantle. **Division in opposition**

These crooks are leaders of past. **Castigating remark**

They are united for themselves not for state. **Personal interests**

They are for themselves and will never be appreciated. **Self-serving**

In case of victory, it is fair but in failure it means elections were engineered. **Political Strategy**

Unashamed members who lost and are creating problems. **Censure**

Union for purpose. **Union**

They are united for own purpose. **Castigating remark**

They have failed the hopes of masses. **Political failure**

Unanimity. **Union**

Are the leaders more concerned about satisfying their anger or for the welfare of state?
Attitude of leadership

4.18 Opposition Parties to announce joint candidate for presidential election tomorrow.

Extraction of meaningful Units (sentences) from texts and assigning of different codes to them

The opposition leader disparaged the ECP for showing swiftness in employment of electronic system. **Disapproval on electronic polling**

The opposition leader opposed the novel way of voting. **Disagreement**

The opposition leader rejected the candidate for president as it was announced without consultation with others. **Denial of joint candidate**

The party spokesperson stated how can they vote in their favor in conditions when they rejected their candidates for both assemblies. **Rejection of party's candidate**

Comments

PMLN robbed the country. **Theft of money**

The people of this country are in misery due to their head of state. **Miserable masses**

His Murree house should be confiscated as yielded by illegal money. **Confiscation of property**

The entire leadership of past will be recognized with disgrace and are turned down by masses. **Rejection of previous**

The candidate who they will choose in compliance with instructions of convicted person, will protect them. **Candidate selection**

Dynasty politics will ultimately fail, the masses understand this, but political forces deny. The coalition of these forces is self-centeredness and nothing else. **Purposive Alliance**

With the arrival of true and real democracy, they will be nowhere. **Democracy**

These politicians never hesitate in cause to protect themselves. **Personal interests**

The opposition should have met at place outside the country for our future. **Meeting of opposition**

The alliance of opposition seems to be in trouble as every party wants candidate which will protect their interest. **Selection of candidate**

They will never agree. **Disagreement**

The victory of opposition is dangerous for all. **Victory of opposition candidate**

If they have believed in democracy, they must accept the results. **Democratic spirit**

If the victorious party even delivered the least, the crooks will be nowhere. **Expectations**

The exact truth could be known from accounts officer if there comes some discrepancy it means lifetime detention. **Lifetime incarceration**

By means of refused candidate can they stop change. **Rejection of candidate**

PPP has conspired against PTI as they do not fall for trap. **Conspiracy**

The candidate who PPP highlights will be confined for illegal assets. **Corruption**

Their concern is to defend their specific interest. **Personal interests**

The division in opposition alliance have started to be on surface. **Lacking consensus**

The people of country living in foreign can understand the situation, these plunderers are not anxious about poor masses. **Nationals living abroad.**

All plunderers in one frame. **Union**

All settled to work under terminated premier. **Previous leadership**

Large number of corrupt individuals are in effort to escape accountability.

Culpability

The letdown of electronic voting is poor justification, still there is opportunity to fix the loopholes before next elections. **Electronic system**

All crooks in one frame. **Castigating remark**

They like our money but not our election process. **Voting**

All are united against new government. **Union**

The portrait of culprit is on top. **Conviction**

After letdown in election, they have no right to vote in any case. **Rejection to vote.**

Nobody can take right to vote from nationals living abroad. **Overseas right**

The overseas right to vote is hurried pronouncement for them. **Overseas right**

How to expect from nationals abroad to vote when they are denied of their vote regardless of SC judgement. **Overseas right**

The portrait of sentenced individual was in center, cannot comprehend what rulers expect from us. **Conviction**

Leaders from PPP need their candidate for executive pardon. **Criteria for candidate**

Why are all amalgamated under picture of perpetrator? **Union**

PMLN used Ahsan Iqbal as subordinate to senior leadership, for proliferation of forged news, failure. **Ineptitude of leaders**

Giving more than required importance to convict is not appropriate for sustenance. **Building support**

Why these leaders do not proclaim their retirement when masses rejected them. **Retirement**

In consideration of overseas right to vote the opposition members undoubtedly question about this. **Right to vote**

Inherently all opposition parties are same they need not to pretend. **United at core**

Its hurtful to see all are united at convict's residence for discussion of national affairs.

Union

For which resolution they are unified. **Union**

The nationals living abroad will immensely support PTI, as we are irritated of these two party's systems. **Overseas support**

The amalgamation of all parties is divided in nature. **APC**

All are united for ensuring protection of each other. **Strategy of Union**

All members of opposition need to have remainder about past, their role and nation's favors to them. **Prior conduct**

The picture at center shows that he must stay in prison. **Imprisonment**

All those who were crossheads with each other in past are now united with Imran Khan.

Political strategy

These plunderers have robbed the country for years and we are in economic crisis, due to them. They must explain answers to our simple questions. **Financial problems**

The leaders in PMLN do not have appropriate judgments criteria, they lost direction. Why they oppose the right of foreign nationals to vote. **Judgement**

In the political alliance every province is not equal, most dominant are members from Lahore and KP is ignored greatly. This unequal attitude is cause of failure. **Details of letdown**

In the picture all crooks are united, it will be good remainder. **Portrait**

NS is clearly in prison in this picture. **Prison**

Some novel leaders are required. **Need of change.**

These people have plundered the national wealth, very soon NAB will be after them.

Accountability

These plunderers are concerned about their own period in government, advocates of successional rule and pushed the country in crisis be it economic, education and health. Most of our children are outside the school and poorly nourished. **Worst conditions**

The central positioning of portraits signifies that all members are with him also with illegal financial doings. **Portrait of leader**

They are protecting themselves for their voters, and in media presenting it as dispute.

Media presentation

Their situation is equivalent to those who cannot get things and utter bad words about it. **Present scenario**

The nationals living abroad can be extremely helpful in highlighting whereabouts of the illegal money. The heads of previous governments are responsible for the dire state of country. **Foreign nationals**

The opposition includes all plunderers having cases against them. **Parties involved in corruption.**

They do nothing but verbal about everything. **Noise for nothing**

The positioning of the picture shows their allegiances, more concerned about man proven guilty than mandate of masses. **Loyalties to leadership**

All they need are free facilitates which they use to get in NS regime. **Facilities in past**

Your retirement will be good news for nation. **Retirement**

The status quo is not understanding yet. **Castigating remark**

4.19 PPP rejects election results but will form opposition in NA:

Bilawal

Extraction of meaningful units (sentences) from texts and assigning of different codes to them

PPP chairman declared that they refuse the election outcomes. **Refusal of election results**

Chairman demanded the instant resignation of election commissioner. **Resignation**

He stated we cannot compromise on elections as they were not transparent. **Free and Fair elections**

The party spokesperson said manipulation of results was done to select candidates of own choice and demanded investigation. **Self-selection of candidate**

The MMA rejected the outcomes of elections and called the system insignificant and invalid. **Rejection to electoral process**

Comments

Worst pronouncement by dominant party of Sindh. **Decision**

They could not leave the country, must be placed on exit control list. **ECL**

These were selection in which Sindh was bestowed to them, their ties with powerful forces have worked for them. **Selections**

They seem to be satisfied with their performance in Sindh. **Performance**

With the goals of establishing cooperation in Punjab they did not attend APC. **Alliance**

The parties are crying foul, it is an end to dynastic rule. **Dynasty**

PMLN met with failure in Punjab, while PPP got the same so nothing to worry about.

Provincial Government

Metropolises have excluded but they were immensely voted in internal Sindh.

Rejection

It is very convincing that they realized not to join other party and create more problems for self. **Decision**

The dynastic rule has come to end in Sindh. **Dynasty**

By terming the elections as manipulated, it also means the same for Sindh. **Rigging**

It was appropriate decision. **Decision**

The masses required transformation which previous government failed in providing to them in their period. **Change**

They want to be member of victorious party so to hide their illegal financial doings.

Corruption

All those who are distrusted of escaping from country should be placed on ECL.

Distrustful names

They are crying over which they could not achieve, though decision is sensible.

Decision

They were given Sindh which they do not deserve. **Elections**

PPP is turned down by the masses. **Rejection**

The family has extravagances and still complaining. **Complains**

It clearly means that those results which are in their favor he discards them. **Results**

This narrative of manipulation has become usual of elections. **Rigging**

It is not bad for few to involve in illegal doings. **Corruption**

He is not refusing Sindh where they won. **Rejection**

If PMLN got victory in their province they would not have created any noise. **Strategy**

The abidance of law is for weak individuals only. **Law**

In case of victor, it implies the message of free and fair while in case of failure it implies manipulation in results. **Political Strategy**

These were choices, it should be one-way acceptance or refusal. **Selections**

Masses have refused the successional rule in country. **Rejection**

I expect PP to be anxious for masses of Sindh as they are for opposition. **Expectations**

I have only single question about acts PP has done for improvement of masses.
Performance

At the same time, he refuses results and proclaims CM applicant. **Rejection**

The reputation of chairman PPP is ruined by co chairman. **Reputation**

The decisions are inconsistent. **Decision**

Large political forces do not create mess over critical issues. **Problems**

The crooks are never embarrassed of their deeds. **Dishonest**

4.20 Saaf Pani, Ashiana Scams: Officers in NAB custody 'incriminate' Shahbaz.

**Extraction of meaningful units(sentences) from texts and assigning of
different codes to them.**

Former principal secretary and former CEO of PSPC accused then chief minister in
scam. **Accusation of contract**

Mr. Yousaf blamed of leasing out a portion of a plaza on excessive rate. **Accusations**

The sources said former chief minister got clearance from anti-corruption in case.

Allegation

Fawad confessed in inquiry he pressurized PLDC CEO for cancellation of contract and awarding it to others on orders of his boss. **Allegation**

The former chief minister frequently blames NAB of self-picked accountability.

Accusation

Comments

The former chief minister is clearly exposed in media, lifetime confinement is looking for him. Accountability court should stop being fine to him. **Media presentation**

The illegitimate orders need not to be obeyed, as person following them is culprit. Government employees need to learn from this incident. Rulers are not superior to law.

Illicit orders

Never ending story of illegal assets. **Corruption**

Very soon the entire family will be facing for their deeds in prisons. **Imprisonment**

Ravenousness and yearning, much of corruption. **Corruption**

The empire which they have created is just to fall. **Corruption**

It is time of realization for followers of PMLN, they are concerned about money.

Realization

Properties and bank accounts must be seized. **Confiscation**

He should be placed next to his brother; we want an end to their exploitation.

Corruption

It is problematic to accept Shahbaz as president of party. has many cases against him?

Cases

Until all the big names are caught, the pressure must reside on them. If we stop at this point it would prove disastrous. **Corruption**

The president will simply term as vengeance of establishment. **Establishment**

We immediately need to catch all perpetrators in different parties, they will keep on creating troubles for our country. **Need to stop.**

We expect them to get results of exploitation in which they have mastery. **Corruption**

They are rulers for last forty years and still not an end to exploitation. **Corruption**

All the corrupt politicians need to be pack into prison. **Punishment**

Entire family have plundered the country. **Corruption**

The punishment to them should be lesson for all. **Punishment**

The accountability wave has started in country. The Sharif's have perspective that power is essential for influencing state institutions. **Accountability**

To have no accountability is better but chosen is worst. **Accountability**

How can a nation prosper when notable authorities are concerned with protecting their personal concerns, the new report of corruption utterly highlights the critical economic state of our country? **Personal concerns**

The pillaged money must be taken from corrupts and robbers. **Corrupts**

Again, the situation requires to put allegations on former party. **Allegations**

It is just the starting of story. **Indicating mark**

For an extensive amount of time, they have transcended the law and escaped the courts. It is satisfactory to know that accountability courts are approaching them. **Accountability in progress**

They must be awarded lifetime imprisonment for Model Town event. **Punishment**

Where there are immense of plunders there is no surprise for the country's poor economic state. **Economic crisis**

Authorities must construct new prison houses for the new culprits. **Castigating remark**

Masses have suffered on account of leadership, not just illegitimate money making but also manhandling. They should be penalized for their deeds. **Ill practices**

This person has pocketed our billon and is greatest deceit. Why still not detained? **Misappropriated money**

To elect new government of choice, nab has started all this disinformation.

Propaganda

It is shameful situation after looting billions they claim to truthful. **Perspective of Leadership**

By now he must be detained. **Imprisonment**

Before this person cause any more distress, I expect he promptly be sent to prison.

Imprisonment

The empire which they have constructed is falling now. **Difficult situation**

They have spent billions in this project but not a single drop has reached to the poor masses of country. **Corruption**

All those involved should be sent to prison, only then amount can be recovered.

Imprisonment

After their corruption is declared in media, if masses still have faith in them, it is their mistake. **Corruption of leadership**

Their actions are lingering them. **Deeds of leaderships**

They have united to create hindrances for newly elected government and protection of their own concerns. **Purposeful alliance**

He is the real think tank behind manipulation of country's economy. he should be confined. **Corruption**

Rs 4 billion was spent in this project. It was taken by officials, administrators, and suppliers. They must be given punishments which are example for others. **Loss of national treasure**

He is more loquacious about chosen accountability, instead of proving himself in court.

Purposive accountability

If Pakistan as nation wants to live, they must bring these corrupts to court. It is by these ways they have wrecked the government employees. **Imprisonment for robbers**

Table 1**Average percentage of illocutionary Acts in texts**

Illocutionary Acts	Total Number of Articles	Average Percentage
Expositive	20	34.66
Behabitive	20	28.89
Exercitive	20	21.09
Commissive	20	11.96
Verdictive	20	3.375

Analysis of illocutionary forces

In the Table 1 are the average percentages of illocutionary forces in news texts, in sample of twenty articles. The highest percentage of illocutionary force in texts is of expositive, with an average of 34.66. It comprises actions of describing, remarks, information sharing, reporting, mentioning, replying, denying, and emphasizing. Expositive were dominant in texts. After them, the second most dominant percentage is of Behabitive with an average percentage of 28.89. It contains acts of accusation, hope, claim, request, complained, slam, assail, articulation and disapproval. Behabitive communicates the notions of speaker with interlocutors. The third dominant percentage is of Exercitive with an average percentage of 21.09. It encompasses the deeds of summon, order, asked, warn, and remarked. It included statements from concerned institutions. They are utilized for exercising of power and control. The second least percentage in texts is of Commissive with an average percentage of 11.96. It incorporates activities of announce, conduct and intentions of interlocutors in statements. The verdictive acts have least percentage in texts with an average percentage of 3.375. It mainly includes verdicts which are issued by judges.

Table 2**Average percentage of perlocutionary effects in Comment**

Perlocutionary Effect	Total Number of Articles	Average Percentage
Criticism	20	69.1305
Aggression	20	15.516
Allegation	20	5.1896
Provocation	20	3.4495
Rejection	20	2.9601
Challenge	20	1.1915
Disagreement	20	0.9425
Failure	20	0.832
Disappointment	20	0.3595
Disturbance	20	0.208
Hatred	20	0.1905

Analysis of perlocutionary effects

In the Table 2 are the average percentages of perlocutionary effects in comment threads, of twenty articles. The analysis reveals eleven different categories. The most dominant percentage of perlocutionary effects in comments is of criticism with an average of 69.1305. The readers criticize the actions of leadership, unjustified behavior, abusive linguistic attitude, blaming each other for past measures, lack of institutional measures, denying the truth and selfishness. The second category which emerged from data is of aggression with an average of 15.516. The readers stated their anger for religious intolerance, unacceptable behavior of leadership, mismanagement in critical matters, politicized judiciary, and failure to provide evidence. The third category which emerged from analysis is allegation with an average percentage of 5.1896. Afterwards provocation, rejection and challenge were major categories. The categories of disagreement, failure, disappointment, disturbance, and hatred were in minimum values.

Findings about Illocutionary Forces

In the following section are explanation about kinds of illocutionary forces in news texts with specific reference to performative verbs.

1. Analysis of illocutionary force of Expositive

The highest percentage of illocutionary force in texts was of Expositive acts with an average percentage of 34.66. It included performative verbs of admit, reply and utterances in general which are part of discussion.

2. Analysis of illocutionary force of Behabitive

The second highest percentage of illocutionary force in texts was of Behabitive acts with an average percentile of 28.89. It included performative verbs of accusation, hope, claim, request, complained, slam, assail, articulation and disapproval. It included statements from opposing political parties.

3. Analysis of illocutionary force of Exercitive

The third highest percentage of illocutionary force in texts was of Exercitive acts with an average percentile of 21.09. It included the performative verb of summon, order, asked, warn, and remarked. It included statements from concerned institutions.

4. Analysis of illocutionary force of Commissive

The illocutionary force of commissive acts in texts was 11.96. It included performative verbs of announce, conduct and intentions of interlocutors in statements.

5. Analysis of illocutionary force of Verdictive

The least percentage of illocutionary force in texts was of verdictive acts having an average percentile of 3.375. It included statements from senior judge of bench.

Findings about Perlocutionary effects

In the following section are explanation about perlocutionary effects in comments.

1. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Criticism

The perlocutionary effects in comments were investigated for unveiling different dimensions in comments threads of news sites. The variant categories emerged from the data and application of theory. The category with highest percentage was of criticism, readers of articles mostly castigated in the comments. The total number of articles selected for study were twenty and out of them perlocutionary effect highest in comments was of criticism. The average percentage of criticism was 69.1305. Mostly the news readers castigated the actions of leadership, lack of taking appropriate actions,

unjustified behavior, abusive linguistic attitude, blaming each other for past measures, lack of institutional measures, denying the truth and selfishness. In few articles the category of criticism correlated with aggression, which means perlocutionary effect was both of aggression and criticism, but such comments were grouped under category of criticism as they were more inclined towards this category. The readers directed mostly at the negative criticism in comment threads. The negative critique takes away the discussion to somewhere else and disrupts the focus of conversation, the main subject of discussion gets into background. In the analysis criticism emerged as necessary component of trolling news stories.

2. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Aggression

The table of analysis reflect second highest percentage was aggression, and the average percentage was 15.516. The news comments depicted the anger of readers for not abiding law, wasting, and looting national treasury, corruption of leaders, vendetta politics, destabilizing economy, dynastic rule, political interference, suspicious verdict, failure to conduct free and fair elections. The readers stated their anger for religious discrimination, inappropriate behavior of leadership, mishandling in serious matters, blaming state institutions, politicized judiciary, and failure to provide evidence, political leaders which were given punishment and also mentioned others which need to be given similar punishment. In trolling of news aggression is a significant factor as it puts the discussion into different direction and then readers excessively discuss the presently non debatable issue. In the analysis aggression emerged as second highest category having a significant influence on overall discussion on news site.

3. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Allegation

The third highest percentage was allegation, having an average percentile of 5.1896. The news readers in their perspective levelled allegations which are repetition of claims made by leadership. The comment threads restated those allegations which also depicted the similarity of behavior. The most repetitive allegation was looting of national wealth, rigged elections, deal between leadership and institution, role of establishment in elections, illegal use of money in elections, politicized judges, evasion from accountability process and propaganda from state institution. In the analysis it emerged as third highest factor and in trolling of news, readers raise allegations and just like leadership and did not support it with evidence which elongates the discussion. The

allegations were not just limited to the news at hand, but it draws other cases in it which pushed the discourse in other directions. Only those allegations were consistently raised by readers which were mentioned by leadership in their fury against opponents.

4. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Provocation

The fourth highest percentage was provocation, having an average percentile of 3.4495. The analysis revealed that news readers mentioned about previous performances of government, purposeful coalition, and failures to resolve serious matters of nation due to fear of powerful sectors. Such comments provoke readers which lead to vast number of comments to articles and specifically mention about masses expectations from leadership and institutions. Readers indirectly state selfishness of leadership towards public and use of public for fulfilling their own purposes, in addition to outbursts of senior leadership which puts to backstage public problems. The element of provocation introduced the other subjects into discussion which are relevant, but their presence steals away the main course of conversation and shifts discussion into different dimensions. Trolling has an attribute of deception which brings provocation factor in discussion, in analysis readers provoke about prompt verdict of political opponents' cases, confrontational statements of leadership, political appointments, favors to particulars in election, political power over essential matters, interference of state institutions, allegations from senior judiciary and control of establishment in formation of parties.

5. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Rejection

The table of analysis reflects the 2.9601 percentage of rejection. In comment threads readers rejected the opinion of other participants of discussion and opinion of author. The aspect of rejection extends the discussion as commentators deliberately mentions about their perception of appropriate and inappropriate. This category correlates with disagreement in few comments but in other comments it was clear rejection, so a new category was created to avoid confusion. The readers rejected leadership's opinion of rigged election, political strategy of acceptance where results are in favor and refusal where opponents win, involvement of military in elections and narrative of leadership. In this category comments were contradictory some commentators clearly accepted rigging and others supported narrative of victorious party refusing rigging. These two variant dimensions stretches the discussion which

involves previous references leading to discussion on topics which are not in direct relation to main topic, in simple words it emerges as trolling factor in analysis.

6. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Challenge

The perlocutionary effect of challenge in comments was not much, average percentile was 1.1915. In only two out of twenty articles' readers challenged the judicial system of country in castigating manner when burden of proof is on defendant, weakness and irregularities in judicial working were mentioned for purpose of emphasizing failures in understanding basic criminal law. The judicial system of country was under discussion, comments challenged it in direct manner that judiciary is selected and is working under pressure. Apart from poor functioning of judicial set up readers challenged the notion of 'naya Pakistan' where accountability process will be across the board or for selected persons. This aspect in discussion was not much extended although it contributed to discussion but has minimum impact in trolling of news.

7. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Disagreement

The perlocutionary effect of disagreement in comments was very little having an average percentile of 0.9425. In only two out of twenty articles' readers voiced disagreement over judicial institution operating in country, questioned about senior members of institution putting allegations and more importantly how a co accused person can investigate a case. The politicizing of institutions was disagreed and termed as unacceptable in addition to pressurized decisions from judiciary.

8. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Failure

The perlocutionary effect of failure in comments was not much having an average percentile of 0.832. This category appeared only in four articles. In the comment threads provision of justice was mentioned as failure, readers commented in sarcastic manner about leadership who have failed in stealing elections this time and fulfilling expectations of masses in previous ten years.

9. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Disappointment

The perlocutionary effect of disappointment was very slight having an average percentile of 0.3595. This category appeared only in comments to two articles. The

comments illustrated dissatisfaction with judicial set up operating in country and failure of government in maintaining law and order situation.

10. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Disturbance

The perlocutionary effect of disturbance was minor having an average percentile of 0.208. This category appeared only in comments to one article. The comments pointed about disturbance when tough verdict is only for one party it create chaotic situation, while for others it is relief.

11. Detail Analysis of Perlocutionary effect of Hatred

The perlocutionary effect of hatred was minimal having an average percentile of 0.1905. It appeared in only comments two article. The comments expounded hatred for leadership for plundering national resources and were labelled as traitors.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

The chapter five describes findings of study. It starts with summary of entire study and presents the qualitative and quantitative findings. In the starting part of the chapter the context of study was once again highlighted in addition to method of data collection. Afterwards in chronological order the findings of study are reported. In the first part of chapter the findings of three research questions are reported. The last part of chapter comprises conclusion. In last part of chapter, the findings of study are interpreted and explained descriptively. The implications of study were discussed in addition to recommendations for future studies.

5.1 Summary

Digital communication has become pervasive way of interaction in modern age, the user generated discourse decides the achievement of virtual communities. The innovations in communication technologies have changed interactional patterns and have introduced various online behaviors. Generally, such disrupting attitudes are labelled as negatively marked online behaviors. The users participate on social media, share their opinion independently, the participatory discourse the comment threads have discourse varying from polite, aggressive to antisocial responses. The study investigated the anti-social behavior of trolling in online news and their comment threads. The term trolling was coined only for electronic means of communication. By employing techniques of content analysis and framework of speech act theory the study investigated the aggressive dimension of trolling. The analysis revealed eleven categories of criticism, aggression, allegation, provocation, rejection, challenge, disagreement, failure, disappointment, disturbance, and hatred. The study has significance in understanding of parameters which shifts the dimensions of any discussion.

5.2 Findings

This chapter reports the results of the study considering research questions and conceptual framework including the presentation of quantitative and qualitative data. The study examined participation of users, the aggressive and impolite behavior on news websites turning the dimensions of smooth going discourse into trolling. The

comments are laden with aggravated responses and users have this protective barrier of anonymity and freedom to comment anything which shifts the discourse into irrelevant debate. The research investigated the illocutionary forces in news texts and perlocutionary effects in comments for justification of finding out pragmatic features of aggression in discourse of news websites in addition to finding out interpersonal relationship between news texts and comments. The data for the study was collected from online news website and time frame was July 2018 to September 2018. The web crawling software Octoparse was utilized for prompt extraction of data into a structured format. The articles and comment threads are structured in excel sheets. Octoparse was employed for its potential to gather whole information from internet within minutes and is an easily accessible tool. Octoparse was selected for its efficiency. The twenty articles were selected by purposive sampling procedure. The readers of news are members of all age groups and the population sample of the study included specifically political articles published in Dawn newspaper. Using the techniques of content analysis, the data was sorted out. In the first stage all the articles were thoroughly examined for aim of including only relevant content and filter out the irrelevant content not needed for study. After this the entire data was coded both of news texts and comment threads. The coding was done in the light of the research question for aim of achieving the desired objectives. Deductive coding was done in both news texts and comments. After the formation of different codes, next step was categorization of those codes under similar categories. The last part was application of speech act theory on categorized content. The study investigated performative verbs which signaled illocutionary forces in news texts, perlocutionary effects in comments and interpersonal relations that existed between news texts and comment threads. The illocutionary acts of Behabitive, Commissive, Expositive, Exercitives and Verdictives were figured out in news texts. The analysis led to the emergence of eleven different categories which are criticism, aggression, allegation, provocation, rejection, challenge, disagreement, failure, disappointment, disturbance lastly hatred and these categories pointed out the interpersonal relations.

5.3 Conclusion

The discourse that occurs in social media has amalgamation of content ranging from civility, impoliteness, negatively marked online behavior, cynicism, disagreement, flaming and trolling. The anonymity which social media offers acts as

protective barrier thus facilitating the users to post irrespective of any hindrance and consequences, comment threads are grounds for personal attacks, critique, antagonism, and aggressive speech. The participation of users on social media sites about mainstream political issues generates plethora of responses, users take advantage of anonymity, comment independently, and share their opinions in sarcastic, humorous, ironic, aggressive, and metaphoric way which elongates the subject under discussion and turns it into trolling. The factors of aggression, impoliteness and disruption turns the discourse into trolling. The trolls are not some mysterious beings but are members of community which disrupts the discussion forum, the study investigated the aggressive dimension of trolling for purpose of revealing pragmatic elements of news texts and comment threads. This social defamation is characteristic of only electronic means of communication. While posting users do not concentrate much on using appropriate language and words are misspelled mostly, to convey anger and disagreement users write entire sentences in capital words. To maintain anonymity the names of users were removed and also timings and description about profile.

The study proposed about illocutionary forces utilized in texts, perlocutionary effects in comments and interpersonal relations among them. The research questions are answered using techniques of Content analysis and theoretical framework of John Langshaw Austin Speech Act Theory. In the coding part only, those meaningful units were retained which were directly related to research questions. After deductive coding and categorization framework was applied for finding out illocutionary forces. In our data specific illocutionary forces were of claim, warn, say, assert, state, reject, allege, summon, hope, criticize, believe, confirm, order, announce, asking, accuse, complain, replies and utterances in general which are from party representatives and official authorities.

The techniques of content analysis employed in the study disclosed all the pertinent categories related with online commenting behavior of trolling: criticism, aggression, allegation, provocation, rejection, challenge, disagreement, failure, disappointment, disturbance, and hatred. The comments depicted variability some were extensible, and some were just restricted to few words. Few users contributed frequently in comparison to others and replied to interlocutors thus transforming a news site into complete discussion platform. The main categories are observed in the sample in variable degrees.

The different categories as mentioned in previous chapter enable trolling in online communication, and speech acts predominantly in comments are of criticism. The comment threads act as potent ground for personal attacks, antagonism, insult, and desperation. It includes all the voices, who interpret the online articles and contributes to sharing their perspective.

The news articles predominantly use different nature of speech acts to attract as well as to build up and influence the perception of readers. The illocutionary forces reveal the actual intentions of text creator, which are sometimes indistinct in implicit speech acts. The various Speech acts as shown in table work collaboratively in bringing forth aggressive and impolite responses from readers. Through the use of different performative verbs, the writer paints the picture of intense political atmosphere, and in addition to this the tone and initial prototype sets forth harsh responses from audience. The prototypes are different from each other on basis of their illocutionary force. The analysis has shown that news starts with one issue but by the time as it reaches to conclusion the initial topic of discussion is backgrounded. The following extract is from “LHC gives NAB final chance to submit response in petition against Sharif’s conviction”, which backgrounds the core theme of news and substitutes it with another discussion which has no relevance with prevalent content. The article commences with court proceedings and appearance in personal capacity in front of jury while, it concludes with national reconciliation ordinance which has no legal importance after amendment in constitution.

“The bench ordered the institutional defense attorney to appear in personal capacity in next hearing and submit an answer.” The concluding sentence of article is **“After the 18th amendment and with the inclusion of article 270-AA, the NAO had become nonexistent.”**

All this is carried out through speech acts. In many articles the discussion changes to different and unrelated context which is not the imminent subject. Moreover, the content analysis has shown that major part of news gets replaced by past references and satirical remarks. The following extract is from “LNG deal to be made public: Sarwar.”

“The petroleum Ministry said Liquefied Natural Gas contract with Qatar would be reconsidered for ascertaining the transparency.” The concluding sentence of

report was **“The previous government had not shared particulars of pact with significant government sectors.”**

It commences with contract to petroleum rich country and concludes the article by highlighting the mistakes of previous governments. The element of shifting blame was prevalent, which sets up the opponent members in flaming up the comment threads with provocative and aggressive responses. Moreover, the analysis has depicted the use of analogy sets up the impression upon the readers. For example, in the following extract from “Firebrand PMLN leader Talal Chaudhary sentenced for contempt of Court.” the text creator compares the situation and indirectly sates the judicial authorities as idols.

“Chaudhary said just the timespan when Kaaba was filled with statues similar is situation with judiciary which is loaded with PCO judges.”

In conclusion the use of metaphors, dark imagery, provocative word choices, analogies, parallelism, and reprimanding statements complicates the situation and acts as stimulus in pulling up the sentiments of readership. Furthermore, knowing the anonymous nature of digital space the comments very rarely take into consideration the ethics, subject positions, power, and norms of decent conversation. In other words, digital space has freedom which has no limitations.

The illocutionary acts are subclassified into prototypes and which are separate on basis of illocutionary force. In the following are the explanation about each of the illocutionary forces:

- 1.The law is above anyone but lobbying of institution is inappropriate.
- 2.Mr. Zardari denied meeting with former prime minister after the scheduled meeting was cancelled months back.

The above extracts have illocutionary forces of denial and rejection. These statements are news excerpts developed in context of law and underneath working of conglomerates leadership. These responses meant belligerence as audiences quite critically are aware of surface and deep level intentions behind them. The use of lobbying metaphor conveys message of aggression, distrust, hatred which incites the harsh responses from reader. Explicitly the content conveys rejection of authorities which are deemed above the law, but implicit meaning and prototype shows that

lobbying is not completely ruled out possibility. In the second statement the use of word deny indicates sense of hypocrisy, while the context of sentence shows something was planned and later on postponed very tactfully. The language use in such kind of statements have more preference for extended metaphors and predominantly have dark portrayal of political landscape.

- 1.The chairman accused the opponent of using illness as melodrama.
- 2.The senator complained that they never filed cases against opponents in their rule, while their opponents are registering cases against them.
- 3.The party chief condemned factions for abandoning nation's dogma.
- 4.The senator warned that elections are surrounded by darkness and nation must bear the consequences of it.
- 5.He declared one of his adversaries to be uneducated and other one is minister.

The use of word choices and analogies turns the discussion to an irrelevant context which ultimately replaces the real purpose of debate. The illocutionary forces of accuse, complain, and condemn, warn, and declare are hard to embrace, in response to such statement's audiences flare up the comment board with multiple accusations relating to previous and similar scenario. The use of simile 'illness as melodrama' is meant for targeting the sentiments and discussion of personal issues in national politics. In the last statement there is direct accusation upon the opponent. The discussion of personal issues means face attacks, blame game, attacks on self-respect, social slander, and nauseous reputation.

Furthermore, the use of figurative devices aggravate the context, though the number of comments avoid the critique in explicit manner but intentions behind them were clear enough to convey the meaning. In the following comments the use of euphemism in an indirect manner conveys the hopelessness, aggression, and political settlement. The following are examples from comments.

Uncultured and immature.

A settling way.

It is relief to know that loose guns are now under control.

The leaders are the dark clouds.

The Cronies description about elections.

Ravenousness and yearning, much of corruption. The governor is missing castle!

The text creator by the use of uncultured, immature, settling way, loose guns, dark clouds, cronies, ravenousness, yearning words has conveyed sarcasm, hatred and disgrace the leadership. The tone of words was harsh, though there was effort to reduce the contaminated attitude. The statement of aggressive nature acts as powerful ground for allowing more abusive and trolling statements.

Things like wealth and recognition are temporary, leadership must learn message from contemporary scenario.

In the following statements the figurative device of circumlocution targets the leadership by evoking the notion of short-lived and temporary nature of the world. The comments of this sort aggravate the situation and invite many others to behave add more to the fire.

It is not democracy simply faithfulness to your boss, which is slavery and not true patriotic spirit for country.

Loyalty has different meaning for PMLN leader, only those useful to him are loyal, it goes in unidirectional manner his political thinking depicts feudal mentality.

The above statement evoke a contrast in actual and conceived meaning of democracy. It insults the leaders for whom the democracy is not term concerned with masses but actually it is self-suited democracy. Similar is the situation with second statement which indicates loyalty has different meaning for leader, which never coincides with that of masses and even their coworkers.

The study highlighted and investigated the perlocutionary effects of comments. The speech acts reveal the true nature of discussion, which ultimately explains the dimensions of trolling. The different speech acts are categorized into broad categories. Audiences by means of performative verbs have exemplified the undesirable responses which are evidence of their participation in matters of national importance. The use of performative verb indicates an action that has already been taken. The analysis ended

with eleven different categories as they are shown in table. All the categories exemplified the general illustration of hostility, assessment, and dismissal.

- 1.The leaders are the dark clouds.
- 2.Union for purpose.
3. The crooks are never embarrassed of their deeds.
4. All plunderers in one frame.
- 5.Failures.
- 6.The situation is exactly like the rubbing of surface while wormhole is in depth.

The different speech acts together contribute to the shifting of meaning and turning smooth going debate into trolling. The metaphors of plunderers, dark clouds, crooks, and wormhole are symbolic of hatred, allegation, reprimand, and disregard. All these comments are targeting the political figures, it conveys all political decisions are taken in context of self-fulfilled objectives. The single word of failure strongly depicts lack of faith and hopelessness in leadership. The comments are pathetic and unbearable remainder to previous promises, uncertain accountability and fidelity towards masses and nation. The comments overflowing with cynicism and criticism acts as the flame and invites overabundance of readers to give expression to their aggression for public representatives.

The comment marked as one is written in context of election rigging, in comment section readers appear in very divided manner, defend political figures of their choice, while condemn, accuse, and defame the opponent with personal and mocking allegations.

The comment marked as two is castigating remark which targets entire national leadership in a very sarcastic tone, it implies union is meant only for some hidden purpose which is definitely not in best interest of nation. In comment number three there is explicit insult by the use of word crook afterwards plunderer, failure, and wormhole.

By analyzing the illocutionary forces and their perlocutionary effects the study addresses its objectives while, the research question three was overarching in nature, by answering first two questions third question itself was answered. The analysis shows

that news articles and comments to them are strongly intertwined with each other. The comments emerge in response to incitement given in articles, and two deeply align with each other. In the content analysis process the categories are developed in a way which indicates the interpersonal linkages between the texts and comments, similar is the situation with the use of language, in the article's performative verbs are used in the same way as they are used in comments.

The online behavior of trolling was most researched in robotics using different algorithmic methods and in psychology in relation with dark triad personalities, previous studies had relied upon corpus methods, qualitative document analysis and algorithmic tools for detection of trolling behavior. While in linguistics discipline it was not much researched upon, there were limited studies about online digital behavior of users and the study has generated a gap in the existing literature. The study has contributed in application of theoretical framework and data selected. The comment threads are investigated from multiple perspectives, but the research has contributed in examining the aggressive dimension of trolling in them, from the lens of Speech act theory. Pragmatic framework highlighted the aspects of discussion which played a crucial role in turning discussion aggressive and impolite, the use of metaphors and ironical contrast of situations were pertinent in excessively stretching the debate. The findings of the study are important in understanding pragmatic patterns and insight into political debates, and it also highlighted how the words change their meanings in aggressive situations. Pragmatic perspective pursued in the study supported in understanding the notion although aggression and conflict manifest themselves through other means but are fundamentally realized through language. The outcomes of research are substantial for general realization of parameters of any discussion irrespective of medium, which impact in backgrounding the main subject of discussion and foregrounding the irrelevant part of discussion. The study revealed speech acts which uncover aggressive dimensions in political debate and different use of language in computer mediated context. The highest perlocutionary effect in comments was of censure which means most speech acts were directed at critiquing the actions of leadership. In analysis of comment threads, it was noted the medium of interaction had impacted the language use. The users concentrated on writing clipped words. The findings of the study show acronyms are used tremendously in addition to ambiguous use of language mostly misspellings and incomplete sentences.

The study was delimited to political trolling only in twenty articles of online Dawn newspaper, from July 2018 to September 2018. The specific newspaper was chosen because of high readership. The study addressed only three research questions and objectives of highlighting face threatening acts and impact of electronic medium of communication upon language use.

5.4 Recommendations

The present research has investigated the aggressive dimension of trolling in news articles, future research could also investigate dimensions of humor, sarcasm, and disruption on social media forum of Twitter and Facebook with a large sample. In addition to trolling future research could investigate other antisocial behaviors like hacking, cyberstalking, cyberbullying, and flaming from perspective of theoretical construct, psychological insights of community members and lastly from perspective of system operators. Furthermore, future research could also investigate legal dimension of this behavior by employing theories of forensic linguistics.

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APPENDIX

1.Accountability court granted six more weeks to conclude references against Sharif family.

The Supreme Court on Monday directed the accountability court in Islamabad to decide the Al Azizia and Flagship corruption references against the Sharif family within the next six weeks. The court also directed Accountability Judge Mohammad Arshad Malik to submit a progress report of the case to the apex court on a weekly basis. During a hearing of the application seeking an extension in the deadline, Chief Justice Saqib Nisar remarked that he hoped that the defense counsel would complete his defense within the stipulated time. Khawaja Haris, who had asked the court to extend the time frame till December, said it would be difficult for him to manage if the Islamabad High Court (IHC) starts hearing his appeal against the verdict in the Avenfield flats case. To this, the chief justice responded that the defense counsel would have to work on Saturdays as well in such a situation, as judges are already doing so.

Earlier on Friday, Judge Arshad Malik had submitted a written request to the top court, seeking a fifth extension in the trial of ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif. The accountability court had convicted Sharif, his daughter Maryam Nawaz, and son-in-law retired Captain Mohammad Safdar in the Avenfield properties reference, whereas the court is hearing Al-Azizia and Flagship Investment references against Sharif filed by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB). On July 28 last year, the SC while accepting the petition filed by Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf chairman Imran Khan and other political rivals of the PML-N leader had removed Sharif from the office of prime minister and directed NAB to file three references against the Sharif family. Subsequently, NAB in September of last year filed three references — Avenfield

properties, Al-Azizia and Flagship Investment — against the former premier. The SC had initially directed the accountability court to conclude the trial within six months. However, the apex court in March extended the deadline of the trial proceedings till May, and then granted two one-month extensions. After the conviction of Sharif family members, the apex court set another deadline of August 25 for the accountability court to conclude the pending references. In the meantime, the IHC transferred the pending cases to Justice Malik, who has summoned star prosecution witness Wajid Zia for cross-examination in the Al-Azizia case today, after which the court will record his statement in the Flagship reference.

2. Adiala Jail is waiting for Nawaz Sharif: Imran

Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan on Thursday said Adiala jail was waiting for former prime minister Nawaz Sharif. Mr. Khan was speaking at the residence of former PML-N leader Zafar Ali Shah, who has joined the PTI. Commenting on the application filed by Mr. Sharif and his daughter asking for the date of the announcement of the verdict in the Avenfield reference to be moved ahead because they were unable to come to Pakistan due to Kulsoom Nawaz' illness, Mr. Khan said they would read the verdict in the newspapers. He also accused Mr. Sharif of using his wife's illness as "emotional blackmail". Mr. Khan said everyone had sympathy for Kulsoom Nawaz, adding that his own mother had died of cancer and had to be taken out of the country to receive treatment. He then accused Mr. Sharif of emotionally blackmailing the nation, saying: "Mr. Sharif did not remember his wife while she was under treatment in London and he was holding public meetings across the country." Welcoming Mr. Shah to the PTI, Mr. Khan said he hoped the former senator would raise his voice if he saw the PTI leadership engaging in any sort of

financial corruption, as he had against Mr. Sharif. He said Mr. Shah's inclusion would strengthen the party in NA-53.

3. Dark clouds are looming over elections': PMLN Senators express reservations ahead of polls

Senators belonging to the embattled PML-N on Friday expressed serious reservations regarding the countrywide elections due in less than a week and demanded that the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) and the caretaker government address their concerns urgently. Speaking during a session requisitioned by the PML-N, Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi warned that "dark clouds are looming over the elections" and that the nation would have to bear a "heavy loss" if the situation did not change. He said it was the ECP's responsibility to hold free and fair elections, adding that, besides PML-N, other parties have also expressed reservations over the current circumstances. He then went on to list several concerns of his party in the lead-up to the polls. Abbasi claimed that political parties are not being allowed opportunities to conduct their election campaigns; that "filters are being installed" before the elections and that police personnel are hounding PML-N leaders. "The [caretaker] government should tell us: what is our fault?" the senator asked. He also asked why the ECP had not issued directions to prevent arrests of political workers. "[We] don't see free and fair elections taking place in Pakistan," he said, adding that the PML-N's link with voters could not be broken by imprisoning its Quaid Nawaz Sharif. Abbasi also alleged that an atmosphere was being created for "one leader" to run his election campaign and urged the ECP to "open its eyes". "Don't establish customs which you might regret tomorrow," he cautioned. "Our reservations should be addressed." 'New York Times is not a PML-N newspaper'. PML-N Senator Pervaiz Rasheed in his speech said if the results of the

July 25 elections come out in favour of "those with empty chairs [at rallies]" — an apparent reference to the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) — and against "those with filled rallies" — a reference to the PML-N — then "the anger will not be against the winners, but those who enabled the winners". He said elements in Pakistan had not learnt from its electoral history, adding that international media too has published or broadcast concerns over the elections. "The New York Times is not a PML-N-owned newspaper," he said. "And neither are other broadcasting houses." "You have done the interference that you had to do in the elections," he said, without naming whom he was addressing. "You have broken and formed political parties using your force." "Don't commit acts that will damage your reputation [...] do not interfere in the election results," he added. "This country was not conquered by the royal military army battalion," Rasheed added acidly. Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed meanwhile claimed that some party workers from Okara had called him yesterday and said that they were approached by "people from the agriculture department" — a phrase the PML-N has been using in reference to security personnel — who had asked them to vote for the "jeep". "I told them the jeep has been punctured now," Syed said, adding that he will reveal the names and ranks of the persons who are allegedly forcing his party workers to switch loyalties. "The filth that [they] wanted to create has been created," he said. "Let free elections be held now ... or the reaction will be such that no force will be able to stop it." The PML-N senator also said that the caretaker government had "failed completely" and suggested that his party will move to have the Constitution amended in order to eliminate the caretaker set-up. He claimed that some journalists had told him that the verdict against Nawaz Sharif and others in the Avenfield reference was announced "immediately after something was brought [into the accountability court] in a bag [marked with] Serena Hotels [insignia]". He alleged that the judgement against

Sharif was pre-written and a conspiracy was planned to sentence the former prime minister before the elections in order to prevent him from taking part in the election campaign. Meanwhile, PML-N Senator retired Lt Gen Abdul Qayyum expressed a lack of confidence in Punjab caretaker Chief Minister Dr Hassan Askari, saying he does not possess the experience required for his post. "The Punjab chief minister can be a good professor [instead]," he said. Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmad taunted the Punjab chief minister, saying his 'Askari' surname was befitting because he supports the 'Askari' forces. Senator Qayyum complained that the PML-N government had never registered cases against opponents "even if they protested in front of parliament", yet his party's workers have now been booked in various cases in Punjab. Speaking during the session, Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq expressed reservations over the decision to give magisterial powers to Rangers personnel during elections. The PPP had earlier conveyed similar concerns. "There is no past precedent of Rangers being granted [magisterial] powers," she noted. In light of the threats, the federal government has also allowed electoral candidates to keep a private security guard with them. Khan told the upper house that while it was ECP's responsibility to hold free and fair elections, it is the interior ministry's responsibility to cooperate with the commission. He said the ministry is coordinating with all stakeholders, especially the provinces, ECP and the National Counter Terrorism Authority. Leaders of political parties have been informed regarding the security threats and steps have been taken for their protection. Khan said army personnel will be deployed on July 25 for a peaceful conduct of the elections. The troops will be present inside and outside the polling stations, he disclosed. Besides politicians, measures will be taken to ensure the security of international election observers and Chinese nationals working on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. The Senate chairman had earlier in the day thrown his support behind the ECP, backing

the watchdog to hold "free and fair elections". A series of terrorism incidents and the subsequent impediments in holding elections rallies have led some — including Sadiq Sanjrani's predecessor, Raza Rabbani — to claim that the July 25 polls are already controversial. The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan has also predicted that the coming general elections will be the dirtiest, most micromanaged and most intensively participated polls in the country's history. Sanjrani, however, has urged all the stakeholders "to trust the ECP" and believes that "the elections will be free and fair". "The election commission was strengthened, and its members were nominated by parliament, so we should trust them." Sanjrani, who became the chairman of the upper house in March, further said: "All the institutions, including the Senate's standing committee, are working [towards holding free and fair elections]."

4.ISPR asks SC to look into ‘serious allegations against state institutions’ by Justice Siddiqui.

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), via Twitter on Sunday, requested the Supreme Court of Pakistan to "initiate appropriate process to ascertain the veracity of the allegations" made by Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui of the Islamabad High Court. "An honorable judge of Islamabad High Court of Pakistan has leveled serious allegations against state institutions, including honorary judiciary and the premier state intelligence agency," reads the press release shared by Director General of ISPR Maj Gen Asif Ghafoor on Twitter. The statement shared by the army's media wing says that "in order to safeguard the sanctity and credibility of the state institutions", the Supreme Court of Pakistan has been requested to "initiate appropriate process to ascertain the veracity of the allegations and take actions accordingly." Earlier on Sunday, Chief Justice Mian Saqib Nisar took "serious notice of a speech delivered by Justice Siddiqui

[...] alleging interference of intelligence agencies of the country in judicial matters". The top judge has also called for complete record of the speech from the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Pemra). Justice Siddiqui, while addressing the Rawalpindi Bar Association on Saturday, had claimed that the agency's personnel were manipulating judicial proceedings against the Sharif family. "Their [the agency's] personnel get benches formed at their will," Justice Siddiqui had alleged. Read more: Army's top command should rein in spy agencies: Islamabad High Court judge. He had further claimed that the spy agency had approached IHC Chief Justice Muhammad Anwar Khan Kasi and said: "We do not want to let Nawaz Sharif and his daughter come out [of the prison] until elections, do not include Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui on the bench [hearing Sharifs' appeals]". "Take a look: The judiciary & military "I know who takes whose message to the Supreme Court," Justice Siddiqui had further said. He had asked: "Why was the administrative control of the accountability court taken away from the Islamabad High Court?" He had further alleged that the judiciary's freedom has been divested and that it is now in control of "those with guns". "I was told that 'if you assure us of decisions in our favour, we will end references against you'," Justice Siddiqui, who faces a corruption reference later this month, had claimed, adding that he was offered to be made chief justice of the high court by September. 'No pressure on judiciary' Chief Justice Nisar, during his day-long visit to Karachi on Sunday, told reporters: "Being the top judge, I am making it abundantly clear that there is no pressure on us. We are working under the supremacy of the Constitution and the law." "Such statements are inconceivable and unacceptable," he continued, adding that he will take into consideration all possible legal actions on the matter. He assured reporters that legal action would be taken, and the facts of the matter brought before the public. "No one can dare put pressure on the judiciary," he said, clarifying that he wanted to apprise

the public in their own interest, not because there was any pressure on the judiciary to do so. Two references against Justice Siddiqui of the Islamabad High Court are pending at the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC). The first reference pertains to a corruption case filed against him by an employee of the Capital Development Authority (CDA). In the second reference, the SJC is reviewing his critical comments regarding the role of the army in last year's Faizabad sit-in led by the Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan. The SJC will be holding an inquiry against Justice Siddiqui with regard to the above-mentioned references, which, unlike past SJC inquisitions, will be conducted in an open court.

5. Khadim Rizvi slams efforts to change country's ideology.

Tehreek Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) chief Allama Khadim Hussain Rizvi has said that the TLP has decided to contest polls after giving sacrifice of its eight workers while protecting the Khatm-i-Nubuwwat laws. Addressing a gathering of TLP activists at Bagh-i-Mustafa ground here on Monday night, he claimed that there were moves to make a non-Muslim eligible for the slot of president of Pakistan. He slammed those forces that had given up the ideology of the country. He criticized religious and political parties for not adopting a clear stance on Khatm-Nubuwwat law. Allama Rizvi said in the elections, the TLP had fielded people with integrity against those who could not recite Quran. He said TLP was formed after eight people laid down their lives for the cause of protect the Khatm-i-Nabuwwat law. He said he did not move an inch at the venue of the Faizabad sit-in even though 12,000 teargas shells were fired to disperse the participants. The TLP chief also spoke at the Karachi Press Club on Tuesday.

6. LHC gives Nab final chance to submit response in petition against Sharif's conviction.

A Lahore High Court (LHC) full bench on Monday directed the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) to file its response by Wednesday [August 29] in a petition seeking the revocation of the punishment handed to the Sharif family members in the Avenfield properties corruption reference. On July 6, an accountability court had awarded a 10-year prison sentence to former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif for owning assets beyond known sources of income. His daughter Maryam Nawaz and son-in-law retired Captain Safdar were also handed seven and one-year sentences, respectively. The three-judge bench headed by Justice Shahid Waheed also announced that the court would hear the petition on a day-to-day basis. Justices Atir Mehmood and Shahid Jameel Khan were the other members of the bench. Noting the absence of NAB's counsel in the court for the hearing, the bench ordered the bureau's prosecutor to appear before it at the next hearing and submit a reply on behalf of NAB. "NAB is being given the final chance to submit its reply," the bench cautioned. Before adjourning the hearing till August 29, the court rejected three separate applications filed by lawyers seeking to become party to the case. Senior lawyer A.K. Dogar had filed the petition assailing the conviction of the Sharifs, besides challenging the existence of the National Accountability Ordinance (NAO) 1999. The lawyer pleaded that ousted premier Sharif and others had been convicted by a court which had no jurisdiction because the law under which it (court) had been created was a dead law. He urged the LHC to suspend the operation of the accountability court's judgement for being issued by a court that had been established under a non-existent law. Challenging the validity of the NAO, Dogar argued that it had been promulgated by military dictator retired Gen Pervez Musharraf under Provisional Constitution Order (PCO) No 1 of 1999 as well as Order No 9 of 1999. He said that order No 9 was promulgated only to amend PCO No 1 of 1999 by inserting Section 5A (1) into it to the effect that limitation of 120 days

prescribed under Article 89 of the Constitution to any ordinance by the president would not be applicable to the laws made under PCO No 1 of 1999. However, he said that under Article 270-AA of the Constitution through the 18th Amendment, the PCO No 1 of 1999 was declared without lawful authority and of no legal effect. He argued that once the PCO No 1 was declared without lawful authority and of no legal effect, the amendments made to it under order No 9 of 1999 would also stand lapsed and, therefore, the limitation period of 120 days prescribed under Article 89 would be applicable to the NAO. Advocate Dogar asked the court to declare that after the 18th Amendment and insertion of Article 270-AA into the Constitution, the NAO had ceased to be the law and became non-existent and a dead letter. He stated that thousands of people had been suffering from the agony of proceedings under a law which was constitutionally non-existent. Therefore, he argued, all these proceedings should also be declared unlawful.

7.LNG deal to be made public: Sarwar.

The LNG import deal with Qatar would be made public and would also be re-examined by experts to assess its fairness, said Minister for Petroleum Ghulam Sarwar Khan on Friday. In his first press conference after a briefing by all attached departments and companies under the petroleum ministry, the minister said the fuel pricing mechanism in the country was flawed as diesel should be cheaper than petrol. Sarwar said serious allegations were raised about the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) deal with Qatar. “These reports have been strengthened by the fact that the government kept it secret for a long time despite public pressure,” he said, stressing that the new government believes in transparency and is responsible to the public for all decisions. Minister says petroleum pricing formula is ‘flawed’, promises reform “We will place the details of the deal at the petroleum ministry’s website and get experts to examine

the deal to see if it was fair to the country or not,” Sarwar said, adding “there is no reason to keep the document related to import of LNG from Qatar a secret.” Import of LNG from Qatar to meet energy shortfall has always been controversial. A plan to finalize a long-term deal in this regard fell prey to allegations and litigation during the PPP government from 2008-13. However, the previous PML-N government was able to sign a long-term contract with Qatar in 2016, but the details of the agreement were not shared even with the relevant government departments. Instead, the then petroleum minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi — who later became the prime minister — defended the secrecy on the grounds that leaking of rates at which Pakistan was buying LNG from Qatar would damage sales to other countries because Pakistan had negotiated very cheap price for the commodity. Meanwhile, talking to media, Sarwar also spoke about import of gas via pipeline from Turkmenistan. Work on the Turkmenistan—Afghanistan—Pakistan—India Pipeline (TAPI) would be expedited, he said. He, however, added that any further progress on the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline was less likely since there were sanctions and the matter was serious due to other political concerns. He expressed confidence that the Iranian side would not move to the international court against Pakistan. The petroleum minister said the government would readjust the price of petroleum products. He recalled that until 2004, diesel was cheaper than petrol. The minister said prices for petrol and diesel will be set according to the ratio in the international markets and taxation will also be done based on the same. A special briefing will be held with Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra) on this subject, he added. Sarwar also announced that Pakistan Petroleum Ltd (PPL) had made a gas discovery in Sanghar district Sindh producing 23 mmcf/d gas and 91 barrels per day crude oil. He said that currently Pakistan relies on 85pc imported petroleum products and is only producing 15pc of the required amount. The focus would be to

enhance local oil and gas production, he added. “Raising local production and reducing imports will remain the ministry’s foremost challenge,” he said, adding that the Oil and Gas Development Company (OGDCL) will have to play an important role for this to be possible.

8.Nawaz appears before accountability court in Al Azizia, Flagship references

Incarcerated former prime minister Nawaz Sharif on Monday appeared before the accountability court in Islamabad amid tight security for the hearing of the Al-Azizia and Flagship corruption references against him. Wajid Zia, the star prosecution witness in the case — and head of the Panama gate joint investigation team — also appeared in court today. Both the references were heard simultaneously. Zia was cross-examined in the Al-Azizia reference and he has yet to record his statement in the Flagship reference. The authorities had barred media from entering the judicial complex where the cases were being heard. Sharif’s lawyer Khawaja Haris did not appear before the court as he had to pursue a petition in the Islamabad High Court (IHC) against the sentences of Sharif, Maryam Nawaz and retired Capt. Safdar. Zafar Khan, another lawyer of Sharif, submitted an application in the court to get Zia’s statement recorded in the Flagship reference. The prosecution, however, opposed the plea, insisting that the cross-examination of Zia should be completed in the Al-Azizia reference first before recording the statement in the second reference. The judge rejected the plea and deferred the hearing of the two references to Wednesday [August 15]. He also directed the authorities to ensure the presence of Sharif, Zia and Mehboob Alam, the investigation officer in the Al-Azizia reference, in the next hearing. Sharif was expected to appear before the court in the last hearing, but National Accountability Bureau

(NAB) officials had told the court that he could not be produced on the day due to security concerns. On Thursday, Accountability Judge Arshad Malik had started hearing the cases after the IHC shifted the references from the court of Accountability Judge Mohammad Bashir to his court. On July 6, Accountability Judge Mohammad Bashir had announced the verdict in the Avenfield properties corruption reference filed by NAB, handing the ousted prime minister 10 years of jail time for owning assets beyond known income and seven years to his daughter Maryam Nawaz for abetment. Later on July 16, Sharif, through his counsel Khawaja Haris, had filed an appeal in the IHC for the transfer of Al Azizia and Flagship references to another accountability court since the arguments in both cases were similar to the ones given in the Avenfield reference. Days later, Judge Bashir decided to recuse himself from hearing the two pending references. Subsequently, the IHC, on the appeal of the Sharif family, shifted the references to the court of Arshad Malik.

9.Nawaz was bereft of loyalty: Nisar.

Former interior minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan on Saturday accused former prime minister Nawaz Sharif of being “bereft of loyalty”. Mr. Khan said Mr. Sharif had not been loyal to him even though he worked hard for him for 34 years. “Nawaz was bereft of loyalty, but the people of my constituency will not leave me alone on July 25,” he told a public rally in Chakri. Mr. Khan said he did not use nefarious tactics against his opponents and paid attention to his duty to work for the people. He said that he believed in serving the people, not deceiving them. He said he had always held his head high in politics and could not bow down before anyone. Mr. Khan remarked that even though he could have gotten a Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf ticket had he wanted one, he was not dependent on anyone’s party ticket. Addressing his supporters, he declared one of his opponents to be illiterate and said the other became a federal minister because he

was a traditional opponent of Mr. Khan's. He said his election symbol, a jeep, would win the support of people in the constituencies where he is running, adding: "Many independent candidates are joining the jeep instead of the tiger – the PML-N's election symbol." Meanwhile, PML-N candidate for NA-63 and PP-10 Qamarul Islam Raja's son Salar Islam Raja and daughter Uswa Islam Raja on Saturday vowed to continue the campaign of their father against Ch. Nisar Ali Khan. Qamarul Islam Raja, who had been in custody of National Accountability Bureau (NAB) soon after getting PML-N party ticket against Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan in NA-63 and PP-10. In his absence, his 12-year son Salar Islam Raja and his 17 years old daughter Uswa Islam Raja are running his election campaign. Addressing the press conference, Salar Islam Raja and Uswa Islam Raja said that they thanked the people of the constituency for their support. They said that Maryum Nawaz made a telephone call from London and assured all kind of support for them. "All the party leaders even the PML-N candidate Azhar Abbas in PP-10 are supporting Qamarul Islam Raja for July 25 elections," said Salar islam Raja.

10.TLP to protest in Karachi on August 12 against 'poll rigging.'

The Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) on Thursday announced that it will hold a protest in Karachi on August 12 against alleged rigging in last week's general elections, and warned it could even stage a sit-in or long march if its demands are not met. TLP, a religiopolitical party with far-right inclinations, was unable to bag any NA seats but did manage to win two provincial assembly seats in its first-ever General Election. Although the Khadim Hussain Rizvi-led party's candidates finished as runners-up with hefty numbers in several constituencies, especially in Karachi, the nascent outfit is not content with its debut showing and claims it was wronged. "We have been defeated through rigging in elections," a TLP spokesperson had said earlier. TLP, the political front of Tehreek-i-Labbaik Ya Rasool Allah, first appeared on the

national scene in November 2017 when it staged a sit-in at Islamabad's Faizabad Interchange against changes made in the Elections Bill 2017. The sit-in sparked similar protests in other parts of the country. The party today warned that it could even stage a sit-in or a long march "if our demands are not met". The party spokesperson said that their planned activity in the port city, which will be led by Rizvi, is only a preliminary protest. The party had earlier announced that it would hold a rally from Data Darbar to the Punjab Assembly in Lahore on August 6.

11.Zardari terms his close aide's arrest a message

Terming the arrest of his close aide near his home in Nawabshah a "message", Pakistan People's Party co-chairman and former president Asif Ali Zardari on Monday denied that he made a tacit deal with the establishment. "Ismail [Dahiri] would not have been arrested if I had made a deal with someone. Rather arrests would have been made on my instructions [if I had a deal]," said Mr. Zardari in an interview with Geo News. The former adviser to the chief minister and a close aide to Mr. Zardari, Mr. Dahiri, had been arrested at his house by the personnel of paramilitary force, Pakistan Rangers, a few days ago. "Someone has shown [his] love by arresting him in my hometown," Mr. Zardari said, adding that every such act was actually a message. About the upcoming polls, he said that "whoever" won the July 25 election would have to talk to the PPP to form the next government. He believed that independent candidates who had left the PPP, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf, would win many seats in Punjab. Asked about any recent meeting with ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif in Lahore, Mr. Zardari said he had not met him as the latter opted to cancel a scheduled meeting after inviting him several months ago. Responding to PTI chief Imran Khan's criticism directed at him, he said it was the former's right to criticize him. "I believe in evolution, not revolution. He [Mr. Khan] said he did not want to sit

with me. He himself has shut all doors,” said the PPP co-chairman. He made it clear that there was no constitutional justification to delay the July 25 polls.

12.Elections were managed to ensure victory for one party:

Muhammad Zubair.

Sindh Governor Muhammad Zubair on Sunday expressed serious concerns over the fairness of the July 25 elections, alleging that the polls were "managed" to secure victory for a particular political party. Addressing a press conference in Karachi a day after he stepped down from his post, Zubair said although he wasn't required to resign after the elections, he had done so because as per democratic traditions the new federal government should have the authority to appoint the governors of its choice. Zubair, who belongs to the PML-N, expressed reservations over the manner in which last Wednesday's elections were conducted, saying these were the other reasons that led him to step down. "I don't think there is any doubt left that the 2018 elections were managed to make a particular party win, and that too in a way that it is easily able to form the government," he alleged. He claimed that no one had expected that polling agents of parties would be expelled during the counting of ballots "from Peshawar to Karachi". "The responsibility for counting [votes] belonged to officers of the election commission and the polling agents. It was not the responsibility of any other department to sit there and count and dictate how the counting would be done and result would be disclosed. "Referring to a technical fault in the result transmission system (RTS) that was cited by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) as the reason behind the delay in the release of results, he said: "I want to ask this: did the RTS malfunction, or was it made to malfunction?" "If there was a fault [with the RTS], why was the nation not informed about it at 8pm?" he asked, adding that the ECP should show some remorse

over how events unfolded. "Who will own responsibility for the RTS breaking down?"

"The army was deployed for security, not for the election commission to abdicate its responsibilities and let them [army troops] define how the counting would be done and who would stay inside [the polling station] and who would remain outside. He also complained of a non-level playing field before the elections, saying the PML-N's election campaign was harmed through contempt and disqualification cases against its leaders and jail sentences against its senior leadership. Sources had earlier told Dawn that Zubair's resignation had been sent to Islamabad, and that he had cited reasons related to the post-election scenario. A spokesman for the President House in the federal capital said the resignation had not yet arrived there. "Such a resignation should arrive at the President House from the PM's office, and till now it has not arrived here," spokesman Farooq Adil told Dawn. Zubair was sworn in as the 32nd Governor of Sindh in February, 2017. He was sworn in after the shortest-serving Sindh governor retired justice Saeed-uz-Zaman Siddiqui passed away in January last year. Zubair, who was chairman of the Privatization Commission before being appointed to the governor's post, is the brother of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf leader and MNA-elect Asad Umar. Prior to serving as chairman of the Privatization Commission, Zubair was chairman of the Board of Investment from July to December 2013. From 2012-13, he was a part of the PML-N's Economic, Tax Reforms and Media Committees. Before working in government, Zubair was employed by IBM, where he held various positions for the duration of his 26-year career until 2007, according to information available on the Privatization Commission website.

13. Firebrand PML-N leader Talal Chaudhry sentenced for contempt of court.

The Supreme Court on Thursday held PML-N leader Talal Chaudhry in contempt of court, and sentenced him till the rising of the court, effectively rendering him disqualified to contest elections for a period of five years, Dawn News TV reported. During his speech at a PML-N rally in Jarranwala in January 2018, Chaudhry had said: "There was an era when the Kaaba was full of idols. Today, the judiciary, which is the country's highest institution, is also full of PCO [Provisional Constitution Order] idols." In the same speech, Chaudhry said: "Mian Nawaz Sharif, throw them out, throw him out of the court. They will not give justice but will continue their injustices." The three-judge bench headed by Justice Gulzar Ahmed, disposing of the case, handed him a Rs100,000 fine and sentenced him till the rising of the court. In its detailed verdict, penned by Justice Ahmed, the bench noted that Chaudhry in his two speeches [Jarranwala and Faisalabad] — as have been reproduced in order to show his "unflinching allegiance to Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, who as Prime Minister of Pakistan and was ousted from office by the judgment rendered by this Court in Panama case" — "has uttered words seriously prejudicing the office" of the Chief Justice of Pakistan and the judges of the Supreme Court. "Ultimately, the whole Court as an Institution and his utterances were not at all or within the ambit of the decency, morality and decorum but showed utter venom for which he himself has no cause of his own," the judgement added. "The alleged contemnor in his two speeches has not only abused the judges of this Court but has scandalized the Court and did everything to bring the Court into hatred, ridicule and contempt, which is substantially detrimental to the administration of justice and scandalizes the Court and tends to bring the Court and judges of the Court into hatred and ridicule." The court concluded that Chaudhry has "committed contempt of Court within the meaning of Article 204 of the Constitution read with Section 3 of the Contempt of Court Ordinance, 2003 and made himself liable

for punishment. Thus he is convicted and sentenced under Sections 3 & 5 of the Ordinance, 2003 and punished with imprisonment till the rising of the Court with fine of Rs100,000".Legal observers believe that Chaudhry stands disqualified from contesting elections for five years under Article 63(1)(g) of the Constitution, as he has now been convicted. The article says: "A person shall be disqualified from being elected or chosen a member of the parliament if he has been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction for propagating any opinion or acting in any manner prejudicial to the ideology of Pakistan, or the sovereignty, integrity or security of Pakistan, or the integrity or independence of the judiciary of Pakistan or which defames or brings into ridicule the judiciary or the armed forces of Pakistan. "Charged with contempt on February 1, Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Mian Saqib Nisar had taken Suo motu notice of "contemptuous speeches", and on February 6, the top court issued Chaudhry a show-cause notice, ordering him to file his response. On July 11, the apex court, after hearing Chaudhry's arguments, had closed the case and reserved its judgement, which it delivered today. The verdict in the contempt case against Chaudhry, and his subsequent disqualification for five years, is similar to that of his fellow PML-N leader and former privatization minister Daniyal Aziz. Talal Chaudhry, while speaking to the media outside the SC today, claimed that the "sword hanging over his head" in the form of the contempt case had negatively impacted his poll performance. Chaudhry had contested the General Election from NA-102 (Faisalabad-II) but lost to Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaaf's Nawab Shahir by almost 12,000 votes. He claimed that the people in his district "had difficulties making a decision", and that his opponents had taken advantage of the opportunity by campaigning on his expected disqualification. "My opponents conducted a one-point election campaign — that I will become ineligible, so they shouldn't vote for me. Because of this, my election results were affected." "If this

decision had been made earlier, then my party would have had a chance to select another candidate who didn't have this kind of hanging sword over his head. The results could have been even better," he claimed.

14.Imran Khan summoned by Nab for ‘misusing’ KP govt’s helicopter.

The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has summoned Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan next week in connection with an ongoing inquiry against the alleged misuse of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government's helicopters for private visits by the PTI chief. A notice has been issued to Khan to appear before NAB Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on July 18, an official confirmed to Dawn News TV. NAB chairman retired Justice Javed Iqbal had in February this year directed the bureau's KP director general to conduct an inquiry against the PTI chief and then-KP chief minister Pervez Khattak over unofficial use of two government helicopters — MI-17 and Ecureuil — by misusing authority. A press release issued by the bureau had stated that there is documentary evidence that Khan paid Rs2.1 million for using an Mi-17 and an Ecureuil helicopter belonging to the KP government for a total of 74 hours, which amounts to Rs28,000 spent for every hour the helicopters were used. The NAB report claims that had Khan used a private company's choppers, it would have cost him an hourly fare of between Rs1m and Rs1.2m for the Mi-17, and between Rs0.5m and Rs0.6m for the Ecureuil. Citing Pervez Khattak's principal adviser on technical training and aviation, the report added that the use of KP helicopters can cost as much as Rs0.2m per hour. It claimed that Khan should have paid the KP government Rs11.1m, but official documents only mention payments worth Rs2.1m. According to sources, the PTI chief was served summons after the NAB chairman approved an application in this regard by

the bureau's KP chapter. Khan had claimed at a party meeting that he had not used official helicopters of the PTI-led KP government for personal use. Former chief minister Khattak has previously appeared before NAB in connection with the inquiry as well. An inquiry had been ordered against him to ascertain if he had the power to hand over 'sensitive' assets such as choppers for non-governmental usage.

15.NAB files corruption references against Gilani, inquires against Tappi LDA and Nespak

The executive board of the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) held a meeting on Wednesday during which approval was granted for the filing of various references, including a corruption reference against former prime minister Yousuf Raza Gilani. The meeting, which was held at NAB's headquarters in Islamabad, was presided over by the accountability bureau's chairman, retired Justice Javed Iqbal. Former prime minister Yousuf Raza Gilani, former secretary of Information Technology Farooq Awan, former press information officer (PIO) Muhammad Saleem, former company secretary Universal Service Fund Syed Hasan Sheikh, the CEO of Messrs Midas (Pvt) Ltd Inam Akbar and several other individuals from the Ministry of Information Technology were named in the corruption references. The aforementioned individuals are accused of misusing their authority to illegally grant Messrs Midas an advertising contract in contravention of the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) rules. The act is reported to have cost the national treasury Rs129.07 million. Additionally, the board also granted approval for the launch of investigations in four different cases against former president Asif Ali Zardari's foster brother, Owais Muzaffar alias Tappi, who was the Sindh local bodies' minister. Other Sindh government officials named in connection with the same investigations include former

Sindh chief secretary Raja Muhammad Abbas, and the Sindh Land Utilization Department's former secretaries Ghulam Mustafa Phul and Ghulam Abbas Soomro. These individuals are said to have abused their authority to illegally allot several hundred acres of land by the Malir river, which has reportedly cost the national treasury Rs33 billion. Furthermore, the board gave the go-ahead for an inquiry against employees of the Lahore Development Authority and the management of Nespak. Individuals from LDA and Nespak have been accused of exploiting their positions for illegal gains in the Orange Line Metro Train Project leading to losses of Rs4 billion. The NAB chairman said that the bureau not only considers the eradication of corruption its national responsibility, but its officers are tirelessly working towards a "corruption free Pakistan". He provided assurances that investigations into all cases will be carried out on the basis of law, merit, transparency, and concrete evidence and within the stipulated time. Justice Iqbal said that NAB has always strictly followed its "accountability for all" policy and will continue to do so, adding that the bureau's first and last association has and will always remain with Pakistan and its citizens. Gilani taken aback by Nab decision. In reaction to Nab's decision, Gilani expressed astonishment and voiced grave concern over the development. "I met with a few N-League leaders on a few occasions and now all of a sudden a Nab reference has been filed against me," he said. He remarked that permission to contest elections is given after scrutiny and questioned why permission was granted at all "if this was the case". Furthermore, he expressed apprehensions after having met Akhtar Mengal saying that he fears the meeting will cost him even more.

16.Nawaz Maryam will return to Pakistan on Friday to appeal against Court Verdict

Maryam Nawaz, who has been sentenced to seven-year imprisonment by an accountability court, told reporters on Saturday that she and her father Nawaz Sharif would return to Pakistan on Friday [July 13], before the expiry of the 10-day deadline, to file an appeal against the decision. Maryam was talking to reporters in London regarding the Sharifs' conviction in Avenfield properties reference. When asked whether she had been informed by her lawyers that they need to surrender themselves within 10 days to get any sort of relief, she said: "We will go back before that [10 days] anyway. "She also claimed that the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) is aware that the Avenfield properties cannot be confiscated since no law had been broken in Britain. She said that even then if the authorities in Britain are moved, it would work in the Sharifs' favour as investigations would make things clear. PML-N fields candidates to replace Maryam. The PML-N fielded Malik Irfan Shafi Khokhar in PP-173 and Ali Pervaiz from NA-127 to contest the 2018 elections in place of Maryam Nawaz, after her conviction led to her disqualification. Ali Pervaiz is the son of PML-N Lahore president and former MNA Pervaiz Malik. Ali had filed nomination papers in this constituency as a covering candidate which he did not withdraw. Earlier he had been allotted election symbol of TV, however, he will now be contesting on the symbol of 'lion' after the party has awarded him a ticket. Malik Irfan Shafi Khokhar is a relative to PML-N leader and former MNA Afzal Khokhar. Sajjad Awan will contest from NA-14 Mansehra on a PML-N ticket in place of his brother, retired captain Safdar, who will also be unable to contest the election due to his one-year sentence.

17. Opposition parties mull joint strategy to tackle PTI in Parliament.

A meeting of senior leaders of four parliamentary parties — PML-N, MMA, PPP and ANP — was held in Islamabad on Monday, during which they agreed on formulating a joint parliamentary strategy to counter PTI's emergence as the most

powerful party in the National Assembly. Talking to media persons following the meeting, former prime minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said it has been decided that the agitating parties will “form a strong opposition both inside and outside parliament”. The parties also reiterated claims that the recently-held elections were massively rigged. Gilani denounced the interference of “non-state elements” and also criticized the alleged self-imposed censorship by media houses while reporting election-related protests. Senior PML-N leader Raja Zafrul Haq, also present, alleged that the Election Commission of Pakistan had “remained ineffective” in the conduct of the election and demanded that the Chief Election Commissioner tender his resignation. MMA chief Fazalur Rehman said those institutions “which stole the mandate of people” should be “ashamed” of themselves. He also talked about a joint strategy, saying that all parties are deliberating on the issue to reach a consensus regarding a future course of action. “We have unanimously rejected the election results. Now, we want to adopt a unanimous approach for a future course of action,” Fazal said. The multi-party alliance had earlier announced that a joint protest would be launched against alleged “rigging” and “massive irregularities” in the polls and demanded a “transparent re-election”. “We have given sacrifices for democracy. We will not allow the establishment to hold this democracy hostage. We will fight for the independence of democracy,” Fazal had said last week while talking to media persons following a multi-party conference on Friday. Dawn had earlier reported that PML-N and PPP are set to play an ARD-like opposition role in parliament as they have agreed on formulation of a “coordinated joint strategy” if the PTI manages to form its government at the Centre. The broad-based understanding on cooperation was reached during the first direct meeting between the leaders of the PML-N and PPP after the July 25 general elections on Sunday. However, Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) chief Sirajul Haq said that the new government, likely of the PTI,

should be given a chance to play their due role. The JI emir, while addressing a press conference in Lahore, struck a contrasting tone to that of his fellow MMA leader Fazalur Rehman, who rejected the result of the July 25 elections and floated the idea of not taking oath and may even push for fresh polls.

18. Opposition parties to announce joint candidate for presidential election tomorrow.

Representatives of the divided opposition met on Saturday at incarcerated former prime minister Nawaz Sharif's opulent Murree residence to hammer out an agreement over a joint candidate for the September 4 presidential election. PML-N's acting Secretary General Ahsan Iqbal, addressing the media after the huddle, said the opposition would announce its joint candidate for the head of state's office tomorrow (Sunday). "It is important for Pakistan that the opposition come together and nominate a joint candidate for the office," he said. Speaking on behalf of the opposition parties, Iqbal, while supporting the right to vote for overseas Pakistanis, nonetheless criticized the Election Commission of Pakistan for trying to implement the electronic polling process 'in haste' before the upcoming by-polls. "The election commission's online system already failed during the general elections. We therefore disagree with the hasty implementation of the [electronic] system of voting for overseas Pakistanis," Iqbal said. Touching upon alleged "threats" received by opposition leaders, Iqbal said: "It is the duty of the government to provide security to opposition leaders, and the incumbent government should take notice of the threatening calls made to certain leaders of opposition parties." Opposition huddle PML-N President Shahbaz Sharif and leaders Ayaz Sadiq, Maryum Aurangzeb and Dr Tariq Fazal Chaudhry had arrived at the house earlier this morning for the meeting. The PPP, represented by former opposition leader

Khurshid Shah and leaders Sherry Rehman, Yousuf Raza Gilani, Raja Pervez Ashraf and Qamar Zaman Kaira, arrived later in the afternoon. The Awami National Party's Ghulam Ahmed Bilour and Miyan Iftikhar and the National Party's Hasil Bizenjo were also in attendance. The decision to call the meeting had been made by PML-N leaders after a PPP delegation visited the former's secretariat in Lahore a day before Eidul Azha (Tuesday) to seek support for Aitzaz Ahsan, who has been nominated by the PPP to contest the presidential election to be held on Sept 4. The PPP team, comprising former Senate chairman Raza Rabbani and Khursheed Shah, had met the PML-N leadership after the latter expressed reservations over the nomination of Ahsan, who had, in a TV interview, uttered uncharitable words about Nawaz and his wife Kulsoom's ailment. After their meeting, PML-N's Ahsan Iqbal had quoted PPP General Secretary Farhatullah Babar as saying that Ahsan's name for the president's slot was "not final". However, Iqbal had feared that if the opposition remained divided on launching a joint candidate, it would give a free hand to the ruling PTI to install its nominee, Dr Arif Alvi, as president. Differences remain Sources in the PML-N had told Dawn that Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly Shahbaz Sharif had discussed the presidential election with his elder brother during a meeting at Adiala jail on Thursday. On Friday, PML-N Senator Pervez Rashid had asked Ahsan to apologize to Nawaz Sharif for criticizing the latter. Talking to reporters after meeting Nawaz in Rawalpindi, Rashid had said that the PML-N could consider Ahsan's nomination only "if he visits Adiala jail and apologizes to Nawaz Sharif". When contacted, PPP secretary general Babar had refused to comment on Pervez Rashid's condition for Ahsan's support and said that they were going to the MPC to hear the arguments of other parties. He also confirmed that the PPP had not yet officially nominated Ahsan as a candidate for the coming presidential elections. A marriage of (in)convenience. The grand opposition

alliance formed by 11 parties soon after the July 25 elections had fallen apart within weeks following the PPP's refusal to vote for Shahbaz Sharif in the election for the prime minister's office despite it earlier agreeing on a formula that had authorized the PML-N to nominate any candidate for the PM's office. The rifts had only grown with the nomination of PPP's legal wizard, Aitzaz Ahsan, as a candidate for the post of president. PML-N leaders who came to know about Ahsan's nomination through the media had reacted strongly and stated in categorical terms that Ahsan could not be considered a joint opposition candidate because the PPP had not consulted any of the opposition parties before making the decision. "How can you expect us to vote for the nominee of Asif Ali Zardari after refusal of the PPP to vote for our president [Shahbaz Sharif] in the National Assembly and our candidate [Hamza Shahbaz] for the office of chief minister) in the Punjab Assembly," PML-N information secretary Senator Mushahidullah Khan had stated while commenting on the PPP's move. He had even alleged that the PPP had nominated Ahsan intentionally in order to provide a walkover to the PTI in the presidential election. Talking to Dawn on the condition of anonymity, a senior PPP leader said that they had refused to vote for the younger Sharif only because of his controversial statements against the PPP leadership in the past and conceded that the PML-N seemed also to be taking the same position. "In my opinion, the PML-N seems to be justified in its position of not supporting Ahsan", he added. The PPP leader said his party was hoping that in Saturday's meeting the PML-N would come up with some suggestions to provide "face-saving" to the PPP "if it is really sincere in keeping the opposition alliance intact". "The PML-N can ask us to suggest three or four names, including the name of Aitzaz Ahsan, so that we can say publicly that we have not withdrawn the name of Ahsan," he said. Similarly, the PPP believes that the PML-N will not stick to its condition that Ahsan should physically seek an

apology from Nawaz Sharif and that there could be some way out. Liaqat Baloch of the Muttahida Majlis-i-Amal said that they would participate in the Murree meeting, but would not be in a position to endorse any decision as they had already convened a meeting of the MMA in Islamabad on August 26. "Whatever be our decision, we will announce it after our own meeting on 26th," he added. The Election Commission of Pakistan has already announced the schedule for the presidential election, which are to be held on Sept 4 — five days before the expiry of the five-year term of the incumbent, President Mamnoon Hussain.

19.PPP rejects election results but will form opposition in National Assembly: Bilawal

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto on Friday announced that his party rejects the election results and criticized the failure of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to hold fair and transparent elections. Furthermore, the PPP chairman asked the chief election commissioner to resign immediately. He, however, said that PPP will play its role as an opposition in the parliament setting an example for others on how "opposition [politics] is done". "Free and fair elections are every Pakistani's right and on that front we are not willing to compromise," he said, adding that PPP will take the matter forward in the parliament. Bilawal confirmed that the party is set to form the government in Sindh. He put forth Syed Murad Ali Shah's name as their chosen candidate for the post of chief minister. Earlier in the day, PPP announced that it will not attend the multi-party conference (MPC) called by the Muttahida Majlis-i-Amal (MMA) and PML-N to devise a joint strategy over alleged rigging in the 2018 general elections. PPP spokesman Farhatullah Babar told Dawn News TV neither party chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari nor co-chairman Asif Ali

Zardari will join the MPC called in Islamabad. He said the party did not see the need to attend it when its own leadership was gathering in Karachi to discuss the issue. "The PPP leadership will devise its own political strategy [over alleged poll irregularities]," Babar said. The PML-N had on Thursday decided to take all major parties, including the PPP and obviously excluding the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf, on board to formulate a joint strategy to take up the rigging issue that it believes has deprived it of majority in the coming National Assembly. PML-N spokesperson Maryum Aurangzeb had told Dawn that any decision whether or not to boycott parliament would be taken after consulting other parties at the MPC. However, she hastened to add that unlike the PTI, the PML-N was not a party that could ever do politics which was detrimental to the country. "We will (try to) form a 'united political front' to take up the issue of rigging. All political parties will gather in Islamabad on Friday to formulate a joint strategy against rigging. We will present constituency-wise evidence of rigging and issue a white paper on rigging after the MPC," she said. "Rigging had been committed in a bid to 'select ladla' (Imran Khan)," she said and called upon the authorities concerned to hold an inquiry to ascertain why the result transmission system of the Election Commission of Pakistan had broken down. "Why we're polling agents expelled and not given Form 45?" she asked. The MMA too rejected the results outright, calling for declaring the entire electoral exercise "null and void".

20.SaafPani, Ashiana Scams: Officers in NAB custody 'incriminate' Shahbaz.

PML-N president Shahbaz Sharif's troubles seem to have mounted further as one after another suspects who are in the National Accountability Bureau's custody are providing "incriminating evidence" against the former chief minister of Punjab in

different scams, sources told Dawn on Thursday. After the statement of Mr. Fawad Hasan Fawad, former principal secretary to ex-prime minister Nawaz Sharif, in which he named Shahbaz Sharif for awarding contract to a “favorite firm” in Rs14bn Ashiana Housing project on his (Shahbaz’s) orders, former chief executive officer (CEO) of the Punjab Saaf Pani Company (PSPC) Wasim Ajmal has also reportedly passed the buck to the PML-N president, accusing him of making him (Mr. Ajmal) a scapegoat to save his son-in-law Imran Ali Yousaf in the PSPC scam. “It is likely that Mr. Ajmal becomes an approver against Shahbaz Sharif,” a source said. He said Mr. Fawad had also provided “incriminating evidence” against the ex-chief minister in the Ashiana Housing corruption case, making it difficult for him (Mr. Sharif) to defend himself before a combined investigation team of the NAB Lahore on August 20. Shahbaz’s blue-eyed officers, Lahore Development Authority former director general Mr. Ahad Cheema and Mr. Fawad Hasan Fawad have been in the NAB custody in the Ashiana Housing case, while both Waseem Ajmal and PML-N leader and former PSPC chairman, Raja Qamarul Islam, are being interrogated in PSPC case. Shahbaz Sharif is also facing charges in the Punjab Power Development Company (PPDC) scam and he is summoned on Aug 20 by NAB in this case. Imran Ali Yousaf had fled to London some three months ago to escape arrest by NAB. The source said Mr. Yousaf left the country after Shahbaz Sharif gave no assurance to him that he could help avert his arrest in both PSPC and PPDC cases. Mr. Yousaf is accused of receiving Rs120m from the PPDC’s account that was transferred to his (Mr. Yousaf’s) bank account. He is also accused of getting Mr. Ikram Naveed appointed as PPDC CEO, who allegedly committed massive corruption and is currently in NAB custody. Similarly, Mr. Yousaf is also accused of renting out a floor of a plaza he owns in Gulberg, Lahore, to the PSPC on exorbitant rate (Rs28 million a year). “Waseem Ajmal has alleged that Shahbaz Sharif had got

issued a 'clean chit' to his son-in-law (Yousaf) from the Anti-Corruption Establishment and others, including him (Ajmal), were declared guilty," the source said. The NAB had also written to the interior ministry to get Mr. Yousaf's red warrants issued and have him arrested through Interpol. "The ministry has deferred the matter till formation of new government," he said, adding it would be prerogative of the new government whether to take up the matter with Interpol or not. NAB had also questioned Shahbaz' son, Hamza, in the PSPC case, for his alleged role in the award of certain contracts and making appointments in violation of rules, since he is not a member of the company's board of directors. NAB has not yet cleared Mr. Hamza in this case. Sources said Mr. Fawad admitted before the NAB investigators that being implementation secretary to then chief minister Shahbaz Sharif in 2013, he pressurized the Punjab Land Development Company (PLDC) CEO to cancel the contract of M/S Latif and Sons and award it to M/S Lahore Casa Developers at behest of his boss (Shahbaz). According to a NAB notice, Shahbaz Sharif is accused of directing PLDC to assign the project to the LDA, resulting in award of contract to M/s Lahore Casa Developers (JV), thus causing a loss of Rs715 million to the exchequer and ultimately failure of the project. The ex-CM had allegedly also directed the PLDC to award consultancy services of the project to M/s Engineering Consultancy Services Punjab for Rs192 million, whereas the actual cost was Rs35 million, as quoted by Nespak. Shahbaz Sharif often accuses NAB of 'selective' accountability. A PML-N leader from his camp did not confirm to Dawn whether Shahbaz would appear before NAB on Aug 20 or not. Earlier, he had skipped the NAB hearing citing 'election engagements. At present he is running from pillar to post to form government of his party in Punjab.