

**ANALYZING POLITICAL BINARIES
IN PAKISTANI ENGLISH E-
NEWSPAPERS: A CORPUS-BASED
CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF
ADJECTIVES USED IN THE
EDITORIALS**

By

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**NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES OF MODERN
LANGUAGES, ISLAMABAD**

July, 2024

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M. A., National Universities of Modern Languages, Islamabad, 2015

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY

In English

To

FACULTY OF ARTS & HUMANITIES



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MODERN LANGUAGES, ISLAMABAD

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FACULTY OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MODERN LANGUAGES

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ABSTRACT

Title: Analyzing Political Binaries in Pakistani English E-Newspapers: A Corpus-Based Critical Discourse Analysis of Adjectives Used in the Editorials

Newspapers play a vital role in the projection of narratives of political parties. Such political discourses tilting towards certain ideologies are somewhat evident in the editorials of the newspapers. For such ideological projection, the editors of newspapers use language of their own choice in order to influence the readers on a particular topic. For this purpose, they use different categories of language as tool such as adjectives as linguistic triggers in their editorials. This study seeks to investigate the use of adjectives to describe the political parties (government and opposition) before and after periods of political transition (10th April, 2022) through “Vote of No Confidence” in Pakistan. The study examines the role of adjectives in conveying positive or negative connotations, stereotypical attributions, and evaluative traits in relation to political parties. Additionally, it investigates the construction of in-groups and out-groups through membership categorization devices (Referential) and other linguistic strategies (Predication). The study employs a corpus-based approach to critical discourse analysis, focusing on two central discursive strategies: predication and referential in Wodak’s Discourse Historical Approach (2015). The research identifies three prominent Pakistani English e-newspapers for data collection: Dawn, The News, and The Express Tribune. These newspapers are analyzed to uncover the portrayal of political binaries (PDM vs PTI) and the adjectives employed to characterize political entities within their editorials. The findings of this research reveal distinct patterns in the use of adjectives in the selected editorials, shedding light on how different newspapers frame and represent political binaries. The study contributes to our understanding of how language and discourse shape political narratives in the Pakistani media.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CLAWS Tagger (POS) Parts of Speech Tagging) which has following symbols for identification of parts of speech:

AJ0: adjective (unmarked) (e.g., GOOD, OLD)

AJC: comparative adjective (e.g., BETTER, OLDER)

AJS: superlative adjective (e.g., BEST, OLDEST)

AT0: article (e.g., THE, A, AN)

AV0: adverb (unmarked) (e.g., OFTEN, WELL, LONGER, FURTHEST)

AVP: adverb particle (e.g., UP, OFF, OUT)

AVQ: wh-adverb (e.g. WHEN, HOW, WHY)

CJC: coordinating conjunction (e.g. AND, OR,)

CJS: subordinating conjunction (e.g. ALTHOUGH, WHEN)

CJT: the conjunction THAT

CRD: cardinal numeral (e.g. 3, FIFTY-FIVE, 6609) (excl ONE)

DPS: possessive determiner form (e.g. YOUR, THEIR)

DT0: general determiner (e.g. THESE, SOME)

DTQ: wh-determiner (e.g. WHOSE, WHICH)

EX0: existential THERE

ITJ: interjection or other isolate (e.g. OH, YES, MHM)

NN0: noun (neutral for number) (e.g. AIRCRAFT, DATA)

NN1: singular noun (e.g. PENCIL, MINISTER)

NN2: plural noun (e.g. PENCILS, MINISTERS)

NP0: proper noun (e.g. PAKISTAN, IMRAN KHAN, LAHORE)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am thankful to Allah without whose blessing I would not have been able to complete this difficult task.

I owe thanks to Prof. Dr. Muhammad Safeer Awan, Dean Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Dr. Farheen Ahmed Hashmi, Head Department of English for their cooperation in the entire process.

I would like to express my deepest thanks and love to my father Mr. Muhammad Shafi who always inspired and encouraged my pursuit of this degree and to my mother, brothers and sister who have supported me in all my years of academic study.

I also give my sincerest thanks to my supervisor Dr. Muntazir Mehdi who has consistently challenged my ideas with the intent of bringing out the best in me. Despite having to read through screeds of incoherent sentences, he has always given positive and constructive advice and has been extremely helpful in times of need, I am sincerely grateful for this. I also extend my deepest thanks to my best friend Mr. Zavar Hussain who guided me consistently during the whole research study despite of his own busy work schedule. Thanks to the English Department of NUML for offering me the academic and creative space, to bring this thesis to life.

Thank you all!

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my late sister Nasim Aslam who in spite of being Cancer patient always inspired and encouraged my pursuit of this degree. Sister! you are not away but in my every breath. May Allah bless you with heavenly eternal life in peace!

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

The study attempts to find out the role of Pakistani English newspapers how they present the political issues; they represent government or opposition; or they reflect a particular political pole whether that is in government or in opposition. The negative and positive portrayal of such political binaries by newspapers can be analyzed through investigation of linguistic items with their context in the text. For this purpose, lexical item “adjective” is more appropriate to judge the degree of more positive/negative connotation to different socio-political issues. In terms of bias and subjectivity, “the set of adjectives having the function of subjectivity markers are found to enable their users to construct an ideological discourse” (Ajmi, 2014).

The prevalence of political binaries in media discourse can have significant implications for public perception and political discourse. One of the most notable effects is the polarization of public opinion. When political issues are framed in binary terms, individuals are more likely to align themselves with one side of the binary, often to the exclusion of alternative viewpoints. This can lead to increased polarization, as individuals become more entrenched in their beliefs and less willing to engage with opposing perspectives (Iyengar & Hahn, 2009).

1.2 Background

The concept of political binary, or the idea of a fundamental divide in politics, has deep historical and philosophical roots. It can be traced back to various periods and thinkers who explored the dualities and oppositions within political systems. A brief background about the concept of political binary is given here:

The foundations of political thought in Western philosophy can be traced back to ancient Greece. Plato and Aristotle who examined the concepts of democracy, tyranny, and oligarchy. They often framed political systems in binary terms, such as the rule of the few (oligarchy) versus the rule of the many (democracy). In the 17th century, political philosophers like Thomas Hobbes and John Locke debated the nature of government and the social contract. Hobbes famously argued that without government, life would be "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short," while Locke

advocated for limited government and individual rights. This debate between authoritarianism and liberalism represents a fundamental political binary (Balci, 2020). The concept of the political spectrum, with left-wing and right-wing ideologies, emerged during the French Revolution. Those sitting on the left side of the French National Assembly supported radical and egalitarian reforms, while those on the right favored conservatism and monarchy. This left-right binary remains a common framework for understanding political ideologies. According to Van Dijk (2006), the overarching approach governing the structures and actions discussed relies on the inherent categorization of ideologies into ingroups and outgroups: Our positive attributes and Their negative attributes are likely to be highlighted, just as efforts to downplay Our negative attributes and Their positive attributes are common. This dynamic significantly impacts the methods used to study ideologies empirically. Within ingroup discussions, ideological beliefs are often assumed, whereas interactions with outgroup members may involve the suppression or alteration of ideological beliefs, such as in politically sensitive conversations. Consequently, investigating the relationship between ideology and discourse requires specialized, indirect, or subtle research methods. Therefore, if ideologies are structured around well-established ingroup-outgroup distinctions, we can anticipate finding such distinctions "encoded" within textual materials. This includes a pattern of promoting positive self-representation (bragging) and denigrating others (derogation). This pattern operates across various levels, typically leading to the amplification of our positive attributes and the downplaying of our negative attributes, while the opposite occurs for outgroups—where their negative attributes are accentuated, and their positive attributes may be obscured, minimized, or overlooked.

Mazur (2021) argued that the 20th century witnessed the ideological struggle between communism and capitalism. The Cold War era framed the global political landscape as a binary conflict between the Soviet Union and its allies (communism) and the United States and its allies (capitalism). In parliamentary systems, there is an inherent binary division between the government, which holds executive power, and the opposition, which provides checks and balances. This binary dynamic is central to democratic governance.

1.3 Defining Political Binaries

Political binaries refer to the division of political ideologies, parties, or groups into two opposing categories. This dichotomous thinking is rooted in the broader human tendency to categorize complex phenomena into manageable opposites. According to van Dijk (1998), political binaries simplify complex social and political realities, making them easier for individuals to comprehend and discuss. However, this simplification often comes at the cost of nuance, as it

overlooks the spectrum of political beliefs and the possibility of hybrid positions that do not neatly fit into one of the two categories.

The construction of political binaries is closely linked to the notion of ingroup-outgroup dynamics, where individuals align themselves with one side of the binary while perceiving the opposing side as the “other” (van Dijk, 2006). This division can foster polarization, as individuals become more entrenched in their views and less willing to engage with opposing perspectives.

So, the concept of political binary is also relevant in Pakistan; although the specific dynamics and parties involved differ from those in the United States. It is reasonable to characterize the political divide between the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) as a significant political binary in Pakistan in recent times. Shehzad et al. (2022) described the situation: “more than 10 political parties formed a united front titled Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) to oppose PTI narrative.” This aligns with the fundamental government-opposition binary in parliamentary systems. Pakistan has witnessed intense political polarization between the PTI-led government and the PDM-led opposition. According to Butool and Arshad (2021), the alignment of almost all opposition parties of Pakistan against the government that represents the primary agenda and the fundamental goal of PDM against the PTI government. This polarization is evident in the acrimonious political rhetoric, public demonstrations, and confrontations between the two sides. The PTI holds the reins of government, while the PDM represents a coalition of opposition parties (and vice versa after No Confidence Movement (NCM) on 10th April, 2022). Butool and Arshad (2021) further discuss anti-government strategies employed by newspapers and the formation of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) against government (PTI) policies. Hence, all political discussions in the newspapers play a crucial role in informing the public, shaping public opinion, and holding political leaders and institutions accountable. These discussions encompass a wide range of topics and formats, including op-eds, editorials, news articles.

Critical discourse analysis can help to uncover the underlying assumptions and power dynamics that underpin political binaries, and highlight the ways in which these binaries serve to reinforce existing power structures. By deconstructing these binaries and promoting a more nuanced understanding of political issues, media outlets can contribute to a more informed and engaged public, and foster a more constructive and inclusive political discourse.

Moreover, promoting media literacy among the public is crucial in helping individuals to critically engage with media representations and recognize the limitations of binary frameworks.

By developing the skills to critically analyze media content, individuals can become more informed and engaged citizens, better equipped to navigate the complexities of the political landscape.

Political discourse in newspapers is a complex interplay of language, ideology, framing, and media dynamics. It is through newspapers that political narratives are constructed, reinforced, and challenged. The study of this discourse is essential in understanding the role of media in shaping political realities. As the media landscape continues to evolve, so too will the nature of political discourse in newspapers, making this an ever-relevant field of study

In the newspaper's structure, the editorial is mouth piece of the newspaper's agenda. In newspaper editorials, the narrative is developed in such a way that facts and figures of issues are woven with the personal opinions of newspaper editors or experts. Newspaper editors and chief editors collect the information related to topics, they analyze the contents and interpret the data with their own opinions. In their corpus driven study, Mahmood et al., (2014) contends that the lexical choices play a complex role in shaping narrative. The nuanced selection of adjectives not only mirrors ideological viewpoints but also contributes significantly to the polarization of public discourse.

1.4 Construction of Political Binaries

The construction of political binaries in newspaper editorials often involves the strategic use of adjectives and other linguistic markers. Research by Fatima and Shehzad (2019) highlights how adjectives are employed to construct political binaries, with positive adjectives used to describe the ingroup and negative adjectives used to describe the outgroup. This linguistic pattern not only reinforces the binary opposition but also shapes the reader's perception of the political actors involved. For example, a liberal editorial might describe a progressive politician as "visionary" and "compassionate," while describing a conservative politician as "regressive" and "intolerant." Conversely, a conservative editorial might use adjectives such as "patriotic" and "principled" to describe a conservative politician, while labeling a liberal politician as "radical" and "unpatriotic."

Adjectives are fundamental components of language, playing a crucial role in communication by modifying nouns and pronouns to provide more detailed descriptions. However, their function goes beyond mere description; adjectives also act as subjectivity markers, conveying the speaker's attitudes, opinions, and emotions. This subjective usage of adjectives can shape discourse, influence perception, and contribute to the construction of ideological frameworks. This study explores the role of adjectives as subjectivity markers to analyze how they function within different discursive contexts.

Adjectives are uniquely positioned to convey subjectivity due to their ability to modify and qualify nouns. By attaching an adjective to a noun, the speaker can imbue it with evaluative meaning, either positive or negative. For example, the difference between "a problem" and "a serious problem" is not merely quantitative; the adjective "serious" introduces a subjective evaluation, indicating the speaker's assessment of the problem's importance.

In a comprehensive corpus-based study of the use of evaluative adjectives in promotional hotel websites, Marza (2011) emphasize that adjectives can reveal the speaker's or writer's attitudes towards the content, encompassing both objective and subjective elements. In any text, strong adjectives can highlight the significance of a topic or viewpoint, grabbing readers' attention and conveying the writer's perspective effectively. Adjectives can reflect the writer's stance on an issue, conveying approval, disapproval, or neutrality, which influences the reader's perception. Carefully chosen adjectives can evoke emotions, making readers more empathetic or passionate about the subject matter. Adjectives can clarify and specify information, reducing ambiguity and ensuring readers understand the writer's intended meaning. Therefore, it's essential for newspaper editors to use adjectives judiciously to maintain objectivity, avoid bias, and uphold journalistic standards. Overusing adjectives or using overly subjective ones can undermine the credibility of the editorial. In other words, these adjectives are used to frame issues and events in a particular light. They can convey bias by presenting a subject or viewpoint as positive or negative. This study is an attempt to investigate how these adjectives are employed to emphasize certain aspects of a topic in the editorials of Pakistani English newspapers.

1.5 Statement of the Problem

In the previous studies, the focus has been on various themes with respect to the overall role of linguistic features in the text; however, there is still some room to investigate the roles played by each lexical item in the text. Certain linguistic triggers, such as adjectives, among many others, are exploited in political media discourses. Adjectives have traditionally received less focus compared to other parts of speech, yet they constitute the second-largest open word category in English, following nouns and verbs. Both semantically and grammatically, they hold equal significance as other content words in linguistic communication. Such adjectives play a very key role in defining nouns and setting the positive or negative tone of a whole sentence in its context; consequently, this category plays a significant role in English overall, especially in various discourse types or genres. In Pakistani English newspapers, it is very crucial and significant to see how nouns are elaborated in the news by attaching them to different adjectives. Therefore, it is needed to unveil the political binaries (PDM/PTI) underpinnings of these linguistic triggers

(adjectives). So, this is an attempt to show scientifically that discourse in newspaper editorials is not immune to being subjective and biased about two political poles (government and opposition).

1.6 Objectives

- To analyze the presentation of political binaries in the editorials of Pakistani selected English e-newspapers
- To investigate the use of adjectives for political parties (government/opposition) during transition period (year, 2022) in Pakistan

1.7 Research Questions

- How are political binaries presented in the discourses of Pakistani selected English e-newspaper editorials?
- How have the selected English e-newspapers portrayed the political parties (government and opposition) in their editorials during the transition period (year, 2022) in Pakistan?

1.8 Significance of the Study

Non-native English language speakers/writers face problems to develop the narratives about their socio-political issues at international level because they lack the art of presentation of their issues with usage of powerful linguistic features. This study is significant to enable the people for building their narrative through appropriate use of adjectives in order to project their issues at international level. Moreover, this study is helpful to develop the writing skill of students to write editorials for English newspapers. Additionally, this study enables the newspaper readers to analyse critically the deep structure of text of newspaper editorials especially the students of English language.

Furthermore, it raises the awareness among the masses about the play of words by newspaper editors. The students from both disciplines (English and Media Studies) will be able to extend this research work for the role of other lexical items/parts of speech in media and advertisings. This study has a wake-up call for students to be aware of the power of using adjectives in changing and even making their points of view and opinions about the events, the political leaders, and the political parties.

1.9 Delimitation

This study is narrowed down to a specific section of newspaper that is editorial page. Moreover, area of research is delimited to only three Pakistani English newspapers including “Dawn” “The

News International”, and “The express Tribune”. Additionally, this study has covered the era when government of Pakistan was replaced through successful vote of no confidence on 10th April, 2022. Hence, the editorials published during the period of half year from 10th Jan, 2022 to 10th July, 2022 is the part of this study.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Overview

The use of language as tool for communicating narrative through using particular phrases and clauses in specific collocation is prevalent part in the writings of newspaper. According to Van Dijk (2006), the overarching approach governing the structures and actions discussed relies on the inherent categorization of ideologies into ingroups and outgroups: Our positive attributes and Their negative attributes are likely to be highlighted, just as efforts to downplay Our negative attributes and Their positive attributes are common.

Wodak's work (2015) on political alignment demonstrates an increasing interest in how language reflects specific stances. This dynamic significantly impacts the methods used to study ideologies empirically. Within ingroup discussions, ideological beliefs are often assumed, whereas interactions with outgroup members may involve the suppression or alteration of ideological beliefs, such as in politically sensitive conversations. Consequently, investigating the relationship between ideology and discourse requires specialized, indirect, or subtle research methods.

Therefore, if ideologies are structured around well-established ingroup-outgroup distinctions, we can anticipate finding such distinctions "encoded" within textual materials. This includes a pattern of promoting positive self-representation (bragging) and denigrating others (derogation). This pattern operates across various levels, typically leading to the amplification of our positive attributes and the downplaying of our negative attributes, while the opposite occurs for outgroups where their negative attributes are accentuated, and their positive attributes may be obscured, minimized, or overlooked. Van Dijk (2006) outlines a strategy that involves presenting "Us" in a positive light and "Them" in a negative light, emphasizing our virtues and their vices while downplaying our faults and their strengths.

Browning and Sweetser (2020) study investigate communication strategies used to maintain political organization-public relationships, affecting political party reputations. They highlighted the crucial role of political PR practitioners in understanding the significance of crafting authentic media relations messages. They emphasized not only the importance of sincerity in messaging but

also the strategic selection of media channels. This strategic communication approach aims to maximize the impact of messages and achieve desired outcomes effectively.

According to Van Dijk (1995), that "the expression and persuasive transmission of viewpoints." political discourses are essential components of journalism and political communication. One of the central aims of political discourse analysis, according to Wilson (2015), is to uncover how language is manipulated to achieve particular political effects. Additionally, the purpose of political discursive discourses is to engage in a broader conversation about political issues, policies, and ideologies. They allow individuals, experts, and commentators to express their opinions, analyses, and critiques. In his research, Wilson (2015) further emphasizes that political discourse involves linguistic strategies, syntactic structures, and discursive positioning to either obscure or assign responsibility, or to categorize specific individuals or groups for political purposes. Political discursive discourses encompass a wide range of written or spoken communication related to politics. They can include opinion articles, op-eds, political commentary, speeches, interviews, and debates. Authors of political discursive discourses can vary widely and may include journalists, scholars, politicians, activists, and citizens. These pieces represent the diverse voices and perspectives within society.

However, it is important to recognize that not all political binaries are inherently negative. As Wilson (2001) notes, binaries can also serve as a tool for political mobilization and resistance. In some cases, marginalized groups may adopt binary frames to challenge dominant power structures and advocate for social change. For instance, the civil rights movement in the United States utilized the binary of "equality versus segregation" to frame its struggle for racial justice. In this context, the binary served as a rallying cry for activists and a means of articulating a vision for a more just society.

2.1 Political Discourses in Newspapers

Political discussions in newspapers play a crucial role in informing the public, shaping public opinion, and holding political leaders and institutions accountable. These discussions encompass a wide range of topics and formats, including op-eds, editorials, news articles. Newspapers provide objective and factual reporting on political events, policies, elections, and government activities. Journalists strive to present information in a balanced and impartial manner, allowing readers to form their own opinions. Opinion pieces, such as op-eds and columns, offer a platform for writers, experts, and public figures to express their views and analyses of political issues. These pieces can provide diverse perspectives on the same topic, stimulating critical thinking and debate.

Newspapers feature in-depth analysis and commentary pieces that delve into the nuances of political issues. These articles often feature expert insights and research to provide readers with a deeper understanding of complex topics.

The style of political discursive discourses can range from informative and analytical to persuasive and passionate. It depends on the author's objectives and the specific medium in which the discourse is presented. The tone of political discursive discourses can also vary, from neutral and objective to strongly opinionated. Different authors may adopt different tones to convey their messages effectively. Political discursive discourses serve multiple roles in a democratic society.

Political binaries function as cognitive shortcuts that simplify complex social and political realities into digestible categories. According to Van Dijk (1998), these binaries are rooted in the ingroup-outgroup dynamics, where language is used to define and reinforce group identities. In the context of newspaper editorials, these binaries are often deployed to create a clear division between “us” (the ingroup) and “them” (the outgroup), thereby legitimizing the ingroup’s position while delegitimizing the outgroup. This dynamic is evident in the way editorial writers frame political issues, often reducing them to a struggle between opposing forces—good versus evil, right versus wrong, progress versus stagnation.

The use of political binaries in newspaper editorials has significant implications for public discourse and democratic deliberation. Wodak (2009) argues that these binaries contribute to the polarization of public opinion, as they encourage readers to adopt a simplistic, us-versus-them mentality. This polarization can lead to the entrenchment of ideological divisions, making it more difficult to reach consensus on complex social and political issues. Furthermore, the reliance on binaries can obscure the nuances and complexities of political debates, leading to a reductionist understanding of important issues.

Brezina, McEnery, and Wattam (2015) emphasize that the construction of political binaries in media discourse is not merely a matter of word choice but also involves the selection and emphasis of certain facts or arguments over others. This selective framing can lead to the exclusion or marginalization of alternative perspectives, thereby reinforcing the binary opposition. For example, an editorial might focus exclusively on the economic costs of environmental regulations while ignoring the potential benefits, thereby framing the issue as a binary choice between economic growth and environmental protection.

Farahani and Ahmadian (2016) suggest that the impact of political binaries extends beyond the realm of public opinion, influencing the actions and policies of political actors. Politicians and

policymakers may adopt the binary frames promoted in editorials as a means of mobilizing support or justifying their positions. For example, a politician might adopt a binary narrative of “law and order versus chaos” to justify tough-on-crime policies, or a “freedom versus tyranny” narrative to justify military interventions. These binary narratives can have real-world consequences, shaping policy decisions and their outcomes.

2.3 Concept of a Political Binary System and Media

The concept of political binaries is deeply entrenched in the way political discourse is structured, particularly within media representations. Political binaries, often characterized by a dualistic framework—such as liberal vs. conservative, left vs. right, or progressive vs. traditional—simplify complex political landscapes into opposing categories. This binary thinking can significantly influence public perception, shape political identities, and affect the overall political discourse. The role of media in reinforcing or challenging these binaries is pivotal, as media outlets often serve as the primary source of political information for the public. This essay explores the concept of political binaries, their implications, and the role of media in constructing and perpetuating these binaries, drawing on scholarly literature to provide a comprehensive understanding of the subject.

Media play a crucial role in constructing and reinforcing political binaries. The media’s portrayal of political events, figures, and issues often relies on binary frameworks to simplify complex stories and make them more accessible to the audience. This tendency is particularly evident in the coverage of elections, where the narrative is frequently reduced to a competition between two main candidates or parties, ignoring the broader political landscape (Hallin, 1994).

One of the key mechanisms through which media reinforce political binaries is through the use of framing. Framing refers to the way in which media outlets present information in a particular way that emphasizes certain aspects of an issue while downplaying others (Entman, 1993). By framing political issues within a binary framework, media outlets can shape public perception and influence the way individuals think about these issues.

For example, media coverage of economic policies is often framed in terms of a binary choice between government intervention and free-market solutions. This framing simplifies the debate by presenting it as a choice between two opposing ideologies, ignoring the possibility of more nuanced or hybrid approaches that might combine elements of both (Chong & Druckman, 2007).

Despite the dominance of political binaries in media discourse, there are growing challenges to this framework. One of the most significant challenges comes from the rise of digital and social media, which have democratized the production and dissemination of information. Unlike traditional media, which often rely on binary frameworks to simplify complex stories, digital and social media platforms allow for a greater diversity of voices and perspectives (Bennett & Segerberg, 2012).

This has led to the emergence of alternative media outlets and platforms that challenge the binary framework by providing more nuanced and diverse perspectives on political issues. These platforms often focus on issues that are overlooked or marginalized by mainstream media, such as environmental justice, racial inequality, and social movements. By providing a space for alternative voices, these platforms can help to disrupt the binary framework and promote a more inclusive and diverse political discourse (Castells, 2012).

However, the rise of digital and social media also presents challenges, as it can contribute to the fragmentation of the media landscape and the proliferation of misinformation. While these platforms have the potential to challenge the binary framework, they can also reinforce it by allowing individuals to seek out information that aligns with their preexisting beliefs, leading to further polarization (Sunstein, 2001).

To move beyond the limitations of political binaries, it is essential to promote a more nuanced and inclusive approach to political discourse. This requires media outlets to move away from binary frameworks and embrace more complex and multidimensional representations of political issues. Scholars such as Wodak (2015) advocate for a critical discourse analysis approach that examines the ways in which language and media shape political discourse and influence public perception.

The concept of political binary reflects the tendency of political thought and practice to simplify complex issues into opposing choices or positions. While political reality is often more nuanced than a simple binary, these divisions continue to shape political discourse, policy debates, and electoral contests in various forms across the world. “The binary opposition can be defined as a pair of ‘terms that although opposed to on another are necessarily bound together as each other’s condition of possibility’ (Buchanan, 2010). The binary opposition is as a pair of terms that are opposed to each other but are interdependent, serving as conditions for each other's existence. This definition aligns with the concept often found in structuralism and post-structuralism, where opposing concepts gain meaning from their relationship with each other.

Media discourse is another domain where adjectives serve as potent subjectivity markers. Media outlets often use adjectives to frame stories in a particular light, thereby shaping public opinion. As observed by Fairclough (1995), the language used in media is rarely neutral, and adjectives play a crucial role in subtly conveying bias.

For instance, in news reporting, the choice between adjectives like "heroic" versus "reckless" when describing a public figure's actions can drastically alter the audience's interpretation. This selective use of adjectives can serve to align the audience with a particular ideological perspective, whether consciously or subconsciously.

Polarization can also be exacerbated by the rise of partisan media, which often reinforce political binaries by presenting information in a way that aligns with the ideological preferences of their audience. This phenomenon, known as selective exposure, occurs when individuals seek out media outlets that confirm their preexisting beliefs and avoid those that challenge them (Stroud, 2010). As a result, individuals become more isolated in their ideological bubbles, leading to further polarization and a decline in constructive political discourse.

Moreover, the reliance on political binaries can contribute to the marginalization of alternative voices and perspectives. When media coverage is dominated by a binary framework, those who do not fit neatly into one of the two categories may struggle to have their voices heard. This can lead to the exclusion of minority groups, third-party candidates, and alternative political ideologies from the broader political discourse (Mudde, 2004).

This binary system simplifies complex political landscapes into "a" or "b" categories, which can impact how politicians appeal to voters and formulate policies. Binary opposition and binary systems are applied in the realm of politics, simplifying complex political ideologies into two opposing categories, and it uses the U.S. political landscape as an illustration of this concept (Vasilopoulos & Jost, 2020). In United States, where politics is often depicted as a conflict between "Left v. Right" or "Conservative v. Liberal". It mentions that only two major parties, Republicans and Democrats, significantly participate in governance, contributing to a polarized political landscape (Drochon, 2022). While the U.S. often frames its binary political system along the lines of "Left v. Right," Pakistan's binary is more complex and influenced by a range of factors, including ethnicity, regionalism, and ideology. In Pakistani context, political parties often differ on issues such as governance, economic policies, and regional autonomy. Pakistan has experienced political polarization, with sharp divisions between major political parties. This polarization can sometimes lead to political gridlock and challenges in passing legislation. In some cases, political binaries can emerge around single issues or questions, such as pro-choice vs. pro-life in debates over abortion

or pro-gun control vs. pro-gun rights in discussions about firearms regulation (Lintott, 1992). In many democratic elections, voters are presented with binary choices between two major candidates or parties, leading to a winner-takes-all outcome. This binary structure is a common feature of electoral systems worldwide.

The concept of a political binary system refers to the theory or practice of framing political parties along a single axis with two opposing positions. In any democratic system, there are typically two political poles in the parliament: the government and the opposition. It highlights that political parties align themselves with one of these poles, and this binary division is a fundamental aspect of democratic politics. Similar to many democratic countries, Pakistan's political landscape revolves around the binary division between the government and the opposition.

Similar to parliament, media is also one of the pillars of state and works as a tool to propagate different types of information about the political activities (Schäffner, 2009). They also serve as a platform for endorsements of candidates or parties. They facilitate open debate, provide a platform for dissenting voices, offer critical analysis of policies, and contribute to the marketplace of ideas. With fast global development of technologies, print media has also changed its trends and they started to share their contents as e-papers through their websites for easiness of the readers. In contrast to other pages of newspaper, the editorials are the real opinions of newspaper editors and experts of newspapers as they are the representatives of the newspapers. In addition to that, the expressions of newspaper editorials, for instance, bare some characteristics. They contain creativity based on just opinions about any topics. The power of media is utilized as soft tool to control the minds of masses. Political discussions in newspapers contribute to the health of democratic societies by promoting transparency, accountability, and informed citizenship. They serve as a bridge between policymakers and the public, fostering an ongoing dialogue on issues of national and international importance.

The concept of political binaries is deeply ingrained in political discourse, particularly within media representations. While these binaries can simplify complex political realities and make them more accessible to the public, they also contribute to polarization, the marginalization of alternative voices, and the reinforcement of existing power structures. However, there are growing challenges to the binary framework, particularly with the rise of digital and social media, which offer the potential for a more nuanced and inclusive political discourse. Moving beyond political binaries requires a critical examination of media representations, the promotion of media literacy, and a commitment to fostering a more diverse and inclusive public sphere.

2.4 Political Landscape of Pakistan and Newspapers

Pakistan's political history is marked by periods of military dictatorship, interspersed with attempts at democratic governance. The military has played a pivotal role in shaping the country's politics, having directly ruled for approximately half of its history. The military's influence extends beyond its formal rule, as it continues to be a dominant force in national security, foreign policy, and even domestic politics (Cohen, 2004). This pervasive influence is often justified by the military as necessary to maintain national stability in the face of perceived threats, both internal and external.

Civilian politics in Pakistan is largely dominated by a few major political parties, most notably the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), along with the relatively newer Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) led by Imran Khan. These parties represent various regional, ethnic, and class interests, contributing to a highly polarized political environment. Ethnic and sectarian divisions further complicate the political landscape, with regional parties and groups often holding significant sway in their respective areas, such as the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) in urban Sindh and the Awami National Party (ANP) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Shafqat, 1997).

Newspapers in Pakistan have historically played a crucial role in shaping public opinion and political discourse. During the British colonial period, newspapers were instrumental in mobilizing support for the independence movement. Post-independence, they became a battleground for ideological and political conflicts. The press in Pakistan is often categorized into two broad camps: those aligned with the state or military establishment and those that advocate for civilian rule and democratic norms (Yusuf, 2013).

The role of newspapers in Pakistan's political landscape has evolved, particularly with the advent of digital media. Traditional print media, however, remains influential, especially among the older generation and in rural areas. Major newspapers like Dawn, The News International, and Jang continue to be key players in the dissemination of political information. These publications often reflect the political leanings of their ownership, with Dawn being traditionally more liberal and pro-democracy, while The News International and Jang are seen as more centrist or conservative, depending on the prevailing political winds (Zahid, 2019).

State control and censorship have also been persistent challenges for Pakistani newspapers. Various governments, both civilian and military, have sought to control the narrative by exerting pressure on the press, through direct censorship, intimidation, and financial manipulation. This has

led to a media environment where self-censorship is common, particularly on issues related to the military, national security, and religion (Riaz, 2008).

The political landscape of Pakistan is deeply intertwined with the history of its newspapers, both of which are marked by a constant struggle for power and influence. Newspapers have been crucial in shaping public discourse, acting as both mirrors and molders of political sentiment. However, their role is often constrained by the broader dynamics of power within the country, particularly the influence of the military and the challenges posed by censorship. Despite these constraints, the press in Pakistan remains a vital part of its political ecosystem, reflecting the complexities and contradictions of the nation's democratic aspirations.

The political landscape of Pakistan is characterized by a complex interplay of historical legacies, military influence, and a vibrant, albeit volatile, democratic process. Since its inception in 1947, Pakistan has oscillated between military and civilian rule, shaping the contours of its political institutions and public discourse. The role of newspapers in this landscape has been significant, serving as both platforms for political expression and tools for state propaganda.

Political discourses in newspapers are a significant medium through which ideologies, opinions, and political stances are communicated to the public. These discourses are not just mere reflections of political realities but are instrumental in shaping public perception and influencing political behavior. The study of political discourse in newspapers, therefore, becomes crucial in understanding how language and media play a role in constructing political narratives and contributing to the broader socio-political landscape.

Language is a powerful tool in political discourse, particularly in the way it is used in newspapers. According to Van Dijk (2006), political discourse often involves the strategic use of language to polarize opinions, create in-group and out-group distinctions, and reinforce ideological positions. Newspapers, through their choice of words, framing of issues, and selective reporting, play a pivotal role in this process. For instance, the use of adjectives and metaphors can subtly influence the reader's perception of political events or figures. As Wodak (2011) points out, the language of politics is often about power, and newspapers, as a medium, are not neutral observers but active participants in the power struggle.

Framing is a critical aspect of how newspapers shape political discourse. According to Entman (1993), framing involves selecting certain aspects of a perceived reality and making them more salient in communication. This process influences how audiences interpret political issues. Newspapers, by emphasizing certain topics over others, can set the agenda and influence what the

public considers important. McCombs and Shaw (1972) argue that the media doesn't tell people what to think but what to think about, highlighting the powerful role of newspapers in setting the political agenda.

Bias in newspaper discourse is another important factor to consider. Newspapers, depending on their political alignment, may present news in a way that aligns with their ideological stance. This bias can manifest in various forms, such as the selection of sources, the prominence given to particular stories, or the framing of political issues. According to Fairclough (1995), media discourse is a form of social practice that both shapes and is shaped by societal power relations. Thus, the political discourse in newspapers is often a reflection of broader ideological battles within society.

The globalization of media has also impacted political discourse in newspapers. With the rise of digital media, traditional newspapers are now competing with online platforms for attention. This has led to changes in how political discourse is constructed and disseminated. As Castells (2009) argues, the network society has transformed political communication, making it more fragmented and polarized. Newspapers, in response, have had to adapt their discourse strategies to cater to a more diverse and global audience.

In the Pakistani parliament, political parties align themselves with one of these two poles. It is reasonable to characterize the political divide between the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) as a significant political binary in Pakistan in recent times. "Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), formally launched on August 14, 2020" (Butool & Arshad, 2021). Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) often represent contrasting ideologies and policy positions, contributing to the binary nature of their political conflict. The PTI emphasizes its anti-corruption stance and economic reforms, while the PDM criticizes the government's policies and governance. Both the PTI and the PDM have been actively involved in electoral contests, with each seeking to gain support and secure victories in various elections, including by-elections and local government elections.

The political tussle between the PTI and the PDM has garnered significant public attention and media coverage, reinforcing their roles as the primary actors in Pakistan's political binary. The PTI-led government and the PDM-led opposition often engage in policy debates and legislative battles, reflecting their competing visions for the country's future. The PDM, a coalition of opposition parties, and the PTI, the ruling party, are two of the most prominent and influential political forces in Pakistan's current political landscape (Saleem et al., 2022). While Pakistan's political landscape remains multi-faceted with several other political parties and actors, the contest between the

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) and Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) has been a central and defining feature of recent political developments. Therefore, it is appropriate to describe the PTI vs. PDM rivalry as a political binary in Pakistan in the present context.

Pakistani politics can be dynamic, with parties forming and breaking alliances based on political expediency. This fluidity sometimes blurs the lines between government and opposition. Pakistan's political landscape also features a form of political binary, with major parties typically aligning with either the government or the opposition. However, the factors contributing to this binary are more diverse, including regionalism and ideology, and the role of third parties adds complexity to the system. Political polarization and shifting alliances are characteristic features of Pakistan's political binary.

While the U.S. primarily operates with a two-party system, Pakistan has a multi-party system. Pakistan has several political parties, but two major parties have historically dominated the political scene: the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) and the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N). These parties often find themselves in opposition to each other. In addition to the PTI and PML-N, there are other significant political players, such as the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM), and various religious and regional parties. These parties may align with either the government or the opposition, contributing to the binary nature of Pakistani politics. In recent years, PTI and PDM has often made it appear as if the political binary is defined by these two parties. one represents government” while other represents “opposition”. Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) was founded on September 20, 2020 which confirms the agreement of leaders of eleven opposition parties on one page against the PTI (Opposition parties form alliance to oust govt, 2020). “The war of PDM is not against the government but against the currently governing party” (Butool et al, 2021).

The clear picture of this political polarization is observed during first half of the year 2022 when these two political parties namely Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) and Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) had a sudden reversal of their roles: opposition party came in government and ruling party went out of government. This change of government happened on 10th April, 2022 through first ever successful “Vote of No-Confidence” in the parliamentary history of Pakistan. According to Shehzad et al. (2022), “more than 10 parties formed a united front titled Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) to oppose PTI’s narrative.” As government vs opposition, there is main political binary of PTI vs PDM as whole but different binaries are existing at individual level of political parties; for example, PTI vs PML (N), PTI vs PPP, PTI vs JUI (F) and others. In addition to that there are different political binaries within the one political pole of government or

opposition. For instance, PDM consists of different political parties including PML(N), PPP, MQM, JUI (F) and others but these political parties opposite ideologies to one another. This polarization can clearly be seen at provincial level politics. For example, MQM is opponent political party of PPP in Karachi (Sindh). JUI (F) is opponent political party of PPP in KPK while PML(N) is opponent political party of PPP in Punjab. Therefore, the political binaries within the one pole of binary are existing to achieve their own political benefits. So, the biasing elements of these political binaries are also presented in different newspapers.

As Farahani and Ahmadian (2014) focus on how news reports manipulate discourse to propagate specific ideologies. It is an art of reporting news by using concise, accurate and clear words in their newspaper. Therefore, the space of page matters a lot during writing news in newspaper. Thus, the newspaper editor has to be careful about writing articles, news stories, headlines in specific given places. They are composed in such manner that it should give gist of whole scenario by using a few words. In most of cases, readers skim the newspaper looking through the lexicons. This activity of skimming through newspapers can only be affective if of newspapers are artfully written. Hence, maximum contents of news stories are displayed through lexical heads of phrases and sentences of English language. The lexicon includes nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs however a good newspaper headlines have strong nouns and verbs. It is an art of reporting news by using concise, accurate and clear words.

According to Lanosga, (2014), investigative reporting in newspapers plays a critical role in uncovering corruption, wrongdoing, or abuse of power within the political sphere. Investigative journalists often work to hold governments and officials accountable for their actions. Newspapers extensively cover elections, including candidate profiles, debates, polling, and election results. Newspapers may conduct interviews with political leaders, candidates, or experts, offering readers insights into their thoughts, policies, and backgrounds. Profile pieces can provide in-depth information about key political figures.

2.5 Political Discourses in Newspaper Editorials

Political discourses in newspaper editorials are essential in shaping public opinion and constructing political ideologies. These discourses are often characterized by the use of political binaries—oppositional pairs such as left/right, liberal/conservative, or us/them—which are utilized to frame issues, establish ideological boundaries, and influence readers' perceptions. The strategic use of language in these editorials not only reflects but also reinforces social and political power dynamics. This essay explores the construction and function of political binaries in newspaper

editorials, highlighting how they serve to perpetuate specific ideological narratives and impact the broader socio-political landscape.

The choice of binary labels is also influenced by the editorial's ideological orientation. Mahmood (2014) notes that in the context of Pakistani newspapers, political binaries are often constructed around issues of national identity and religious ideology. For instance, editorials might frame political debates as a struggle between "secularism" and "Islamism," with each side representing a distinct vision of Pakistan's future. These binaries are not neutral but are imbued with ideological significance, reflecting the editorial's stance on the issue.

Political binaries in newspaper editorials play a crucial role in shaping public discourse and influencing political outcomes. Through the strategic use of language, editorial writers construct binaries that simplify complex issues, reinforce ideological divisions, and mobilize public opinion. While these binaries can contribute to the polarization of public discourse, they can also serve as a tool for political resistance and social change. As such, it is essential to critically examine the use of political binaries in media discourse and consider their implications for democratic deliberation and social cohesion.

Browning and Sweetser (2020) further argue that the use of political binaries in media discourse is a deliberate rhetorical strategy aimed at influencing public opinion. By framing issues in binary terms, editorial writers can shape the narrative in a way that aligns with their ideological stance. For instance, a conservative newspaper might frame a debate on immigration as a choice between national security and chaos, while a liberal newspaper might frame the same debate as a struggle between human rights and xenophobia. These binary frames are powerful because they resonate with readers' pre-existing beliefs and emotions, making them more likely to accept the editorial's argument.

The newspapers provide a public forum for civic engagement and debate. They offer a space for citizens to voice their concerns, advocate for change, and participate in discussions about the direction of their country. In a Critical Discourse Analysis, CORPORA: Journal of Corpus Linguistics about newspaper racial agenda, Tanvir and Zahra (2018) describe the newspaper racial agenda because such discourses are never labeled according to their ethnicity. Newspapers space is very carefully managed to catch attractions of readers. Words are managed in such a way that can give maximum information about any incident or any event. The leads of stories are developed by inverted pyramid styles so that important information can be given in initial paragraph. For this purpose, story writers use 05 Wh+ 01 H questions (what, when, where, why, which and how) for focus. In order to explore these questions, they take the support of maximum utilization of lexical

heads instead of functional heads. The lexical heads like adjectival phrases are more capable of conveying information to the public or newspaper readers. Brezina et al. (2015) suggest that collocation networks offer insights into significant lexical connections in discourse, contributing to our understanding of language and word meanings.

Farahani and Ahmadian (2014) compared strategies of two newspapers: Tehran Times and The Los Angeles Times. This study based on report to reaction of Russia Iran. Both newspapers presented differently to their readers and contrast to each other. According to The Los Angeles Times, Russian president angry at Iran that cannot tolerate Iran's acts any more. This lexical choice works towards negative other-presentation. The lead paragraph also contains negative and derogatory terms when speaking about Iran. On other hand; In Tehran Times' report, all the lexical choices that are used to describe Russia's relationship with Iran are positive which are working towards the overall strategy of positive self-presentation. The most frequent strategies which are used in Tehran Times' report are lexicalization and repetition. These two strategies, along with other strategies of vagueness and polarization, are used to give a positive image of the reaction of Russia towards Iran. Similarly, in The Los Angeles Times' report, lexicalization is the most frequent strategy which is used by the writer to give a negative image of the reaction of Russia towards Iran after the speech.

Newspapers words are managed in such a way that can give maximum information about any incident or any event. Leads of stories are developed by inverted pyramid styles so that important information can be given in initial paragraph. For this purpose, story writers use 05 W+H questions (what, when, where, why, which & how) in their stories for focus on issue. In order to explore these questions, they take the support of maximum utilization of lexical heads instead of functional heads. This strategy becomes more important in writing newspapers because it has dual purposes: First it is economical for words structure and secondly it facilitates readers to get gist of story by skimming only few words of newspapers. Butool and Arshad (2021) investigated about "the devising anti-govt strategies by newspapers". They pointed out the deliberate use of the word 'united' in headlines to signify the alignment of various opposition parties against the government, reflecting a strategic messaging approach. Newspaper headlines are composed in such manner that it should give a gist of the whole scenario by using a few words. As compared to newspaper headlines, Editorials are written in a persuasive and authoritative style. They present a clear and well-reasoned argument, often drawing on facts, analysis, and expert opinions to support their position. Therefore, a detailed investigation about editorials is conducted here in this research.

Marza (2011) conducted a comprehensive corpus-based study focusing on evaluative adjectives in promotional hotel websites. This research aimed to analyze how these adjectives contribute to creating a super-positive portrayal, influencing audience perceptions and decision-making processes. As compare to other websites, the newspapers' websites often have the editorials to express their official stance or opinion on significant political matters. So, editorials can influence public opinion and advocate for specific policies or positions. In most of the cases, readers skim the newspaper by looking at adjectival phrases in relation with noun phrases. The activity of skimming through newspapers can only be affective if the editorials are artfully written by the editors. Hence, maximum contents of newspaper editorials are displayed through lexical heads of phrases and sentences of English language. These lexicons include nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. Out of these parts of speech, adjectives are important to judge any positive or negative connotations. Therefore, this study has analysis of adjectives used in the editorials of newspapers' websites.

Fatima et al. (2019) investigated the representation of prejudice in the short stories disseminating and reinforcing the binary of us and them. In contrast to fictional stories, newspapers editorials have non-fictional stories. These editorials are typically short essays or articles that appear in newspapers, magazines, or online news outlets. The primary purpose of editorials is to provide the newspaper's perspective on significant political, social, or economic issues. Editorials aim to guide public opinion and influence readers' views on specific topics. They represent the official stance or opinion of the publication's editorial board. In this study, an attempt is made to investigate the stances of newspapers through analysis of adjectives.

The editorial is written by members of the newspaper's editorial board or by designated editorial writers. They are considered the collective voice of the publication. Editorials can adopt various tones, including persuasive, informative, or even confrontational, depending on the publication's editorial policy and the nature of the issue being addressed. Editorials play a crucial role in shaping public discourse, advocating for specific policies, endorsing political candidates, and holding public officials accountable. They serve as a reflection of the newspaper's editorial values.

The objectives of newspaper editorials are to provide analysis about any of the current issues. The structure of editorial is developed in such a way that facts and figures of issues are woven with the personal opinions of newspaper editors or experts. Style of writing editorial is literary with formal language. Newspaper editors and chief editors collect the information related to topics, they analyze the contents and interpret the data with their own opinions. In nutshell, editorials represent the official opinions of newspapers and are characterized by their persuasive style and authoritative

tone. Political discursive discourses, on the other hand, encompass a broader range of political communication and include diverse voices and perspectives. They play vital roles in shaping political discussions, informing the public, and influencing public opinion on political matters. Therefore, the discourse in the editorials of newspapers is a focus of this research. Wilson (2015) questions whether there exists an "objective" truth that language, particularly in politics, distorts through representation, or if all interpretations are context-relative

2.6 Adjectives as Subjectivity Markers

Subjectivity in language refers to the expression of personal opinions, emotions, and perspectives by the speaker or writer. Unlike objective language, which aims to present facts and information without bias, subjective language reflects the speaker's individual stance and is often laden with evaluative meaning. According to linguists such as Lyons (1982), subjectivity is a key feature of human language, allowing individuals to express their thoughts and feelings.

The concept of subjectivity in language is closely related to the notion of evaluation, as explored by Hunston and Thompson (2000). They argue that evaluation is inherent in language and is a crucial means by which speakers express their attitudes. Evaluation can be realized through various linguistic mechanisms, including adjectives, which often serve as explicit markers of the speaker's stance.

Adjectives play a pivotal role in communication, particularly in persuasive discourse. They are essential in conveying evaluations, creating interest, and portraying value. Adjectives exhibit gradeability, possess comparative and superlative forms, and can function attributively or predicatively, enhancing the persuasive features of discourse genres.

One of the most significant roles that adjectives play as subjectivity markers is within ideological and political discourse. According to Van Dijk (1998), language is a powerful tool for constructing and maintaining ideologies, and adjectives are often used to reinforce in-group and out-group distinctions. By choosing specific adjectives, speakers can subtly influence their audience's perception of social groups, policies, or events.

Political discourse frequently employs adjectives to create and reinforce binaries, such as "us" versus "them" or "good" versus "evil." As noted by Wilson (2001), the use of evaluative adjectives in political speeches, media, and public discourse is a strategic way to polarize opinions and establish a clear dichotomy between opposing groups.

For example, in the context of immigration debates, adjectives like "illegal" and "undocumented" are not neutral descriptors but are laden with ideological implications. The term "illegal immigrant" carries a negative connotation, suggesting criminality and illegitimacy, whereas "undocumented immigrant" is a more neutral or even sympathetic term that focuses on the lack of official papers rather than the individual's actions. The choice of adjective here is a clear indicator of the speaker's ideological stance and an attempt to influence the audience's perception.

The lexical heads are more suitable of conveying report to the readers of newspapers (Dor, 2003). Adjectives contribute significantly to the overall tone and style of an editorial. Whether it's a formal, academic tone or an impassioned, informal one, adjectives play a role in setting the editorial's tone. The choice of adjectives can affect the perceived credibility and authority of the editorial. A well-reasoned argument supported by carefully chosen adjectives can enhance the editorial's impact. As Ehineni (2014) investigated lexical heads and functional heads through tree diagrams of news headlines where lexical heads are more capable of conveying information to the public. In Pakistani English newspapers, adjectives may be selected to resonate with the cultural and societal context of Pakistan. They can reflect local values, beliefs, and norms, making the editorial more relatable to the target audience. Adjectives can be used to identify with a particular group or ideology and to polarize opinions. This can be especially prominent in politically charged editorials. Adjectives can be used to draw attention to important issues or challenges, making them more salient to the readers.

Johnson (2017) heightened focused in relationship of adjectives and its impacts on public opinion that adjective polarity correlation with increased polarization. This study delves into the significance of as linguistic markers in newspaper articles, specifically focusing on their role in framing political binaries. Adjectives help paint a vivid picture or provide detailed descriptions of people, events, or issues, making the editorial more engaging and informative. Johnson (2017) further emphasizes the importance of adjectives in framing political narratives. Adjectives serve as linguistic devices that can subtly influence readers' perceptions of political actors and events. The adjectives as linguistic triggers are used to describe negative or positive connotation related to their narrative they want to build. The use of adjectives helps the reader to understand the emotional state, nature, and uncertainty of various elements discussed in the editorial. Fatima et al. (2019) highlight that negative adjectives are more frequently associated with the colonized, whereas positive adjectives are predominantly linked with the colonizer, as evidenced by collocational patterns. Their study investigates the manifestation of prejudice against the colonized in selected short stories through the strategic use of adjectives. They investigated how prejudice is reflected

against the colonized people in prose through the use of adjectives. In their study, they explored the colonizers/colonized binaries through use of adjectives in short stories and they suggested to expand similar study about such dichotomies in other genre apart from fiction.

In a study by Jones (2018), they explored the emotional impact of adjectives in political communication. They found a correlation between the use of emotionally charged adjectives and the reinforcement of political binaries, contributing to a polarized media landscape. Adjectives are used to frame issues and events in a particular light. They can convey bias by presenting a subject or viewpoint as positive or negative. For example, describing a political decision as "bold" or "reckless" can influence readers' perceptions. Adjectives are employed to emphasize certain aspects of a topic. Strong, emotionally charged adjectives can be used for rhetorical effect, drawing attention to the main argument or message. Adjectives contribute to thematic understanding. During a corpus driven study of adjectives in Sidhwa's fiction, Mahmood et al. (2014) argue that the term "little" carries a negative undertone, suggesting a lack of centrality, powerlessness, and insufficiency. Its usage in this context reflects a sense of relative inferiority. Mahmood et al. (2014) further emphasized the need for future studies to delve into the evolving dynamics of political language and its implications for democratic societies. This call for further research underscores the continuous evolution of language in political contexts and its far-reaching consequences. Keeping in view, this study is analysis of adjectives representing political binaries in the newspapers.

Adjectives can be persuasive tools, appealing to readers' emotions and values. Positive adjectives can create a sense of hope or trust, while negative ones can evoke fear or distrust. Brezina et al. (2015) observe similar lexical associations in discourse that align with general negative or positive connotations and evaluative judgments. Adjectives provide nuance and precision in language. They can help clarify the editorial's stance on a complex issue, making it more understandable to the readers. Adjectives are often used to draw comparisons or contrasts between different people, policies, or events. This helps in highlighting differences and similarities, aiding readers' understanding. Smith and Brown (2019) argue that adjectives are not neutral descriptors but carry ideological nuances. They conducted a content analysis revealing how adjectives tend to be selectively employed to portray certain political figures or parties in either positive or negative lights.

It's essential for newspaper editorials to use adjectives judiciously to maintain objectivity, avoid bias, and uphold journalistic standards. Overusing adjectives or using overly subjective ones can undermine the credibility of the editorial. Examining adjective patterns in editorials, Browning and

Sweetser (2020) investigated how partisan preferences influence the choice of adjectives. Their findings suggest a clear association between the political affiliation of a newspaper and the adjectives used to describe political events. Newspaper editors present the reports in such a colorful manner that give the impressions of neutrality. However, they have mostly subjectivity in their approach. Newspaper readers do not even realize at times that they are being prejudiced towards a certain racial or political group. Therefore, awareness is needed to be raised among the masses about such play of words by newspaper editors.

In their Corpus Analysis study about differences in evaluative adjectives across academic registers, Swales and Burke (2003) describe that the adjectives are multifaceted and plays a crucial part in shaping the overall tone, argumentation, and persuasive impact of these opinion pieces. Furthermore, the subjective nature of adjectives allows for positive appraisals, contributing to the overall effectiveness of persuasive communication strategies. These insights not only enrich our understanding of linguistic processes but also have practical implications for effective communication strategies in various contexts.

In the context of Pakistani English newspapers, the use of adjectives in editorials is a powerful tool for shaping public discourse and influencing readers' opinions. However, it's essential to critically analyze these adjectives to understand how they contribute to the overall narrative and whether they introduce bias or promote balanced reporting. This is where critical discourse analysis, as mentioned earlier, can be a valuable approach for in-depth examination.

Overall, these studies shed light on the intricate dynamics of language use in political, promotional, and persuasive contexts, highlighting the strategic role of communication strategies in shaping perceptions and achieving desired outcomes. After reviewing literature, researcher realized the similar importance of using adjectives in newspaper editorials as well. Furthermore, the use of individual linguistic item in the context of news is also very important. The researcher felt it necessary to analyze the way political binaries (PDM/PTI) are developed differently while writing about the same political issue. Hence, the role of adjectives in the context needs a scientific analysis to align it with the truth of the text in the context.

Propaganda, by its very nature, relies heavily on the use of subjective language to influence public opinion. Adjectives are a key tool in this process, as they allow propagandists to manipulate the emotional and cognitive responses of their audience. According to Wodak (2009), adjectives in propaganda often function as emotional triggers, eliciting fear, pride, anger, or other strong emotions that can be harnessed to support the propagandist's agenda.

For example, during wartime, the use of adjectives such as "brave" and "patriotic" to describe one's own soldiers, versus "cowardly" or "barbaric" to describe the enemy, serves to dehumanize the opposition and rally support for the war effort. These adjectives are not merely descriptive; they are powerful tools for constructing a subjective narrative that aligns with the propagandist's objectives.

Adjectives also play a crucial role in the construction of social identities, particularly in terms of gender, race, and class. According to Cameron (1992), language is a key mechanism through which social identities are constructed and maintained, and adjectives are often used to reinforce or challenge stereotypes.

Gendered language is one area where adjectives serve as clear markers of subjectivity, reflecting societal attitudes towards masculinity and femininity. As noted by Lakoff (1975), adjectives associated with women are often diminutive or condescending, such as "pretty," "sweet," or "cute," whereas adjectives used to describe men tend to emphasize strength and competence, such as "strong," "brave," or "assertive."

This gendered use of adjectives not only reflects but also perpetuates societal norms and expectations regarding gender roles. By consistently associating women with certain adjectives and men with others, language reinforces the binary division of gender and the power dynamics associated with it.

Adjectives also play a role in the construction of racial and ethnic identities. According to Hill (2008), the use of adjectives in racial discourse can either reinforce stereotypes or challenge them, depending on the context and the speaker's intent. For example, adjectives like "lazy," "violent," or "primitive" have historically been used to dehumanize and marginalize racial and ethnic minorities. These adjectives are not neutral descriptors but are loaded with negative connotations that reflect and perpetuate racist ideologies.

Conversely, the use of positive adjectives to describe one's own racial or ethnic group, such as "hardworking," "intelligent," or "civilized," serves to construct a positive self-identity while implicitly or explicitly denigrating others. This use of adjectives as subjectivity markers is a powerful tool for both constructing and contesting social hierarchies based on race and ethnicity.

In literature and creative writing, adjectives are often employed to convey the narrator's or character's subjective perspective. This is particularly evident in first-person narratives, where the choice of adjectives can reveal the narrator's inner thoughts and emotions. According to Leech and

Short (2007), the use of evaluative adjectives in literature allows authors to create complex characters and convey subtle nuances of meaning.

One of the key functions of adjectives in literature is characterization. By carefully selecting adjectives to describe a character's appearance, behavior, or personality, an author can convey a wealth of information about that character's identity, motivations, and relationships with others. For example, describing a character as "stoic" versus "sensitive" immediately gives the reader insight into that character's emotional makeup.

Moreover, the use of adjectives can also serve to create a particular atmosphere or tone in a literary work. For instance, the frequent use of adjectives like "dark," "gloomy," or "foreboding" in a Gothic novel sets a mood of suspense and unease, while adjectives like "bright," "cheerful," or "vibrant" in a romantic comedy contribute to a light-hearted and optimistic tone.

Adjectives are also integral to the expression of point of view in literature. In a third-person narrative, the narrator's choice of adjectives can subtly guide the reader's interpretation of events and characters. As noted by Fowler (1996), the use of adjectives in free indirect discourse, where the narrator's voice blends with that of a character, can blur the lines between objective narration and subjective commentary.

For example, in Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice," the use of adjectives like "handsome" and "disagreeable" in the narrator's description of Mr. Darcy reflects Elizabeth Bennet's evolving perception of him. The shifting use of adjectives mirrors the changes in Elizabeth's feelings and adds depth to the narrative.

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In order to unveil the political binaries in newspaper editorials, a critical discourse analysis of linguistic triggers (adjectives) is carried out in context of government vs opposition. The corpus of this study consists of the newspaper editorials published during the first half of the year 2022 (10 Jan, 2022 to 10 July, 2022). This period is important because of the transition of government in Pakistan on the 10th April, 2022 (No Confidence Movement). Hence, this timeframe provides a clear picture of the presentation of two political poles (PDM/PTI) in the newspapers because these two political parties replaced each other in the government (or opposition) before/after the transition time on 10th April, 2022.

The adjectives; that function as subjectivity markers in the discourses of editorials, are identified for the investigation of political biasness. After quantification, the exploitation of these adjectives is carried out subjectively on the basis of qualitative analysis. For this purpose, only two strategies (predication and referential) of Discourse Historical Approach (Wodak, 2015) are applied in order to find out these political binaries.

The process of retrieving editorials was different for every newspaper. The way of retrieving previous editorials from e-newspaper “The Express Tribune” was most difficult because researcher had to scroll back for every editorial. First of all, e-newspaper was browsed through <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper> link and explored opinion page where current editorials became visible on screen. There was an option of “more editorials” underside of current editorials that lead to find previous editorials. Once the option of “more editorials” was selected, the list of previous editorials displayed in chronological sequence (latest on top and oldest in lower side of list). So, researcher had to scroll down to search the oldest editorial. In the newspaper “The Express Tribune”, main difficulty is faced when we open an editorial it opens but we have to scroll again from starting point of list if we want to see the other editorial. There is no option of opening editorials directly by feeding calendar date in some specific slots. Therefore, process of downloading date-wise editorials of the e-newspaper “The Express Tribune” was time-taking.

In the process of retrieving editorials from the e-newspaper “The News”, website was browsed through epaper.news.com. After selecting the city name (Islamabad), the option of “archive” was

opened to see past e-newspaper by entering the require dates. In order to retrieve particular editorial, the page “opinion” was opened by clicking on the option of pages. So, the process of downloading of date-wise editorials of the e-newspaper “The News” was easier than those of the editorials of the e-newspaper “The Express Tribune” because the editorials of “The News” can be explored by entering directly dates in the option of “Archive” instead of scrolling down or up.

In the process of retrieving editorials from the e-newspaper “Dawn”, website was browsed through epaper.dawn.com. Then, the respective dates were searched by entering the date in given option “Newspaper Web Archive”. After searching of particular date, editorials were opened under option of “op-ed”. The process of searching editorials of ‘Dawn’ were also easier than those of “The Express Tribune”. It is pertinent to mention that links of all selected editorials of these three newspapers are given with every editorial data set in chapter 4 titled Data Collection and Analysis.

3.1 Sampling

Three top odd position Pakistani English newspapers were selected through non-random sampling. The selected newspapers are:

Dawn,
The News, and
The Express Tribune.

According to the readership rankings, Shehzad et. al. (2022) describes that first selected newspaper “Dawn” is on top position in readership ranking (The editorials of the newspaper “Dawn” are considered reliable for current affairs information and standard English language structure including vocabulary. Therefore, the competitors’ candidates of CSS, ISSB, SPSC and PPSC examination etc. prefer to read “Dawn”); Second selected newspaper “The News” is on third position in readership ranking (maximum news stories in “The News” are written in context of mind set of local audience therefore regional and local terminologies are given preference to attract the attention of readers); and Third selected newspaper “The Express Tribune” is on fifth position in readership ranking (The Express Tribune’ is Pakistan’s only internationally affiliated newspaper in a partnership with the International New York Times, the global edition of The New York Times).

The editorials are chosen in a way if they have mentioned the names of political parties or the leaders of political parties. The editorials are chosen from particular timeframe from 10th Jan, 2022 to 10th July, 2022 for the study. The rationale of selecting this period of time is transition of Pakistani government through vote of no-confidence. The opposition political party named as

“PDM” replaced the governing party “PTI” on 10th April, 2022. This date of change of government is defining and drawing a line to analyze the in-group and out-group representation of the political binaries (PDM/PTI) by the Pakistani English newspapers before and after the date of 10th April, 2022. For this purpose, total of nearly 120 editorials (around 40 editorials from each newspaper) are included for the study. Each editorial contains approximately 600 words; therefore, the total words count is about seventy-five thousand (72,000) from these newspapers.

The collocation and concordance of the adjectives are traced through Ant-conc tool however the relevant adjectives are chosen manually in order to analyze them from the context in the text of each editorial. Moreover, the type of only descriptive adjectives is focused as subjectivity markers. Furthermore, the adjectives heads are sorted out in such way that reflect the specific theme of political binary in newspaper editorial. For this purpose, at least two to three adjectives are selected from each selected editorial. In this way, almost 300 adjectives are analyzed through the lens of theoretical model (Discourse Historical Approach) by Wodak (2015).

3.2 Data Collection and Analysis Procedure

This research work involves several steps for data collection and analysis:

3.2.1 Data Collection

Researcher gathered a substantial corpus of editorials from Pakistani English e-newspapers and ensured diversity in the selection to represent various political viewpoints.

3.2.2 Data Preprocessing

Then it involves the preprocess to clean the text data, which may involve tasks like tokenization, stemming, and removing stop words.

3.2.3 Building the Corpus

In order to create a corpus with tagged adjectives, an online software “CLAWS Tagger” is used as a tool. This requires part-of-speech tagging to identify and extract adjectives from the text.

3.2.4 Analyzing Political Binaries

After that the political binaries or opposing viewpoints within the editorials are identified through reading the context in the text of editorials. This involved the categorizing editorials based on political stances, parties, or polarization.

3.2.5 Adjective Frequency Analysis

Analysis of the frequency of adjectives used in relation to these political binaries is carried out through corpus tool Ant-conc. This involves examining which adjectives are more commonly associated with each viewpoint.

3.2.6 Contextual Analysis

A special consideration is given to the context in which these adjectives are used: Are they framing the debate in a particular way? Are there patterns in how adjectives are used to create persuasive arguments?

3.3 Data Analysis Method

Biber et al. (1998) state in their study of “Corpus linguistics: Investigating language structure and use” that Corpus analysis utilizes a large and principled collection of natural texts. It is a relatively linguistic approach in the field of research and with its emergence a new door opened for the language researchers. Corpus linguistics can help in identifying the significance of including and excluding certain linguistic and textual features. As for as paradigms (world view) are concern; it uses empirical evidence as a reliable source in order to classify and investigate the linguistic structures (Brezina et al., 2015). In this study, only adjectives will be analyzed as lexical feature from editorials of Pakistani English newspapers.

To analyze this data, the Ant-conc corpus software is used. Ant-conc software tool has different options: Concord, Keywords and Wordlist, etc. however, only Concord and Wordlist options is used for this study. A wordlist is generated with the help of Wordlist option in the software. The selected text is pasted in the CLAWS (Constituent Likelihood Automatic Word-tagging System) Tagger (Rayson & Garside, 1998) and a tagged wordlist was obtained then that was scrutinized for identifying adjectives that project the binaries of political posed by Newspapers.

The adjectives, taken from the KWIC (Key Word in Context) list in the corpus, were selected for qualitative analysis keeping in view the theoretical framework.

3.4 Theoretical Framework

The concept of the context is an inherent part of the DHA and it contributes to its triangulation principle, which takes into account at four levels:

- a) The immediate language, or text-internal context; a cluster of context-dependent semiotic practices that are situated within specific fields of social action
- b) The intertextual and interdiscursive relationship between utterances, texts, genres, and discourses

- c) The extralinguistic social variables and institutional frames of a specific “context of situation”; how discourses, genres, and texts change in relation to socio-political change
- d) The broader socio-political and historical context, which discursive practices are embedded in and related to

As a political discourse research paradigm, the discourse-historical approach (DHA) was developed in a series of manuscripts in Vienna (Wodak, 1994). One of the main goals of this approach is to connect and relate as many genres and discourses on particular issues, along with the historical dimension of those issues. Three dimensions are central to the discourse historical method:

- A) The content of the data
- B) The discursive strategies employed
- C) The linguistic realization of these contents and strategies.

Discourse Historical Approach (DHA) deals with three types of critique (Wodak, 2006):

- i) Text or discourse immanent critique, which tries to discover internal or discourse related structures
- ii) Socio-diagnostic critique, which tries to uncover the persuasive and ‘manipulative’ nature of certain discursive practices
- iii) Prognostic critique, which contributes to the improvement of communication

As Wodak (2015) puts it, to avoid bias in discourse analysis, analysts should follow the principle of triangulation. It follows that one of the prominent features of DHA is the flexibility to work with different multimethodological ‘approaches’ and using various empirical data and background information.

Instead of selection of all discursive strategies illustrated in Wodak’s modal of DHA (2015), the researcher will apply only two strategies (Predication and Referential) in the current study:

- i) **Predication** –“the labelling of social actors, positively or negatively, appreciatively or depreciatorily. (Identify a certain actor or collective, inferring a threat or opportunity posed by their behavior or interests)”. Predication involves the discursive qualification of social actors, objects, phenomena, events, and actions, often expressed through adjectives, participial clauses, and other linguistic structures.

Adjectives in the text contribute to the predication by characterizing the nouns they modify, thereby providing additional information about the subject matter. They also said in reference by directing attention to specific qualities or attributes associated with the entities or situations

mentioned in the text. The choice of adjectives influences how readers perceive and interpret the discourse.

- ii) **Referential** –“the construction of in-groups and out-groups (Mobilize support for an issue and diminish potential opposition by distinguishing between in-group (‘allies’) and outgroup (opposition)”. Referential elements involve the construction of in-groups and out-groups, often achieved through membership categorization devices, deictics, and other linguistic devices. In this research, we are observing some elements related to referential strategies:

Strategies	Objectives	Devices
Predication	Discursive qualification of social actors, objects, phenomena/ events/processes, and actions (more or less positively or negatively)	stereotypical, evaluative attributions of negative or positive traits (e.g., in the form of adjectives , and participial clauses or groups) explicit predicative nouns/ adjectives/pronouns collocations explicit comparisons , and other rhetorical figures
Referential	Discursive construction of social actors, objects/phenomena/ events, and processes/action	membership categorization devices , deictics, etc. tropes such as metaphors, and nouns used to denote processes and actions

Table 3.1: *Selected strategies Description*

By applying predication and reference, we can clarify the roles and meanings of these adjectives within their respective sentences. This helps in understanding how these adjectives relate to the nouns they modify and the overall context of the text.

CHAPTER 4

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The data is analyzed with respect two dimensions (predication and referential) of Historical Discourse Approach by Wodak (2015). The analysis is further be carried out by examining the socio-political identities constructed through the binaries of in-group and out-group. The corpus for this study has a number of different adjectives within it. These adjectives were identified through CLAWS Tagging. The abbreviations for POS are attached with appendix.

After short listing the adjectives those are showing specific political binaries; the researcher selected further a detailed analysis of both positive and negative adjectives through the lens of theoretical framework (DHA).

In order to analyze how adjectives are used in an editorial to portray the PTI government and the opposition PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement), we can identify adjectives that are applied to each side and examine how they contribute to the portrayal of these political entities. Here are some adjectives and their usage as devices in the editorials.

This study is conducted on editorials of three Pakistani English newspapers which are published six months before and after of the “No Confidence Movement” dated (10th April, 2022). Detail analysis and discussions is given below:

4.1 Analysis of Editorials in “*THE NEWS*”

Numerical values of the adjectives in the editorials of “The News” are tabulated in form of data sets:

THE NEWS					
Connotation/ S. No.	PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
	+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.

Data Set. 1	-	04	-	-	-
Data Set. 2	-	05	-	-	01
Data Set. 3	-	03	-	-	-
Data Set. 4	-	04	-	06	-
Data Set. 5	01	04	-	02	03
Data Set. 6	01	03	-	02	01
Data Set. 7	01	04	03	-	-
Data Set. 8	.	06	-	-	-
Data Set. 9	04	07	-	-	-
Data Set. 10	01	04	02	-	-
Data Set. 11	-	07	-	-	-
Data Set. 12	-	04	-	01	01
Data Set. 13	-	03	-	-	-
Data Set. 14	01	06	01	01	-
Data Set. 15	-	06	-	-	03
Data Set. 16	-	04	-	-	-
Data Set. 17	-	05	-	03	
Data Set. 18	-	02	-	02	-
Data Set. 19	01	01	-	02	-
Data Set. 20	-	04	-	-	-
Data Set. 21	-	03	-	01	-

Total Adj. = 134	10	89	06	20	09
Percentage	07.46 %	66.42 %	04.48%	14.93 %	06.72 %

Table 1. *Percentage of all Positive/ Negative Adjectives for PDM/PTI in “The News”*

Moreover, the graphical representation of the newspaper “The News” is displayed in following chart:

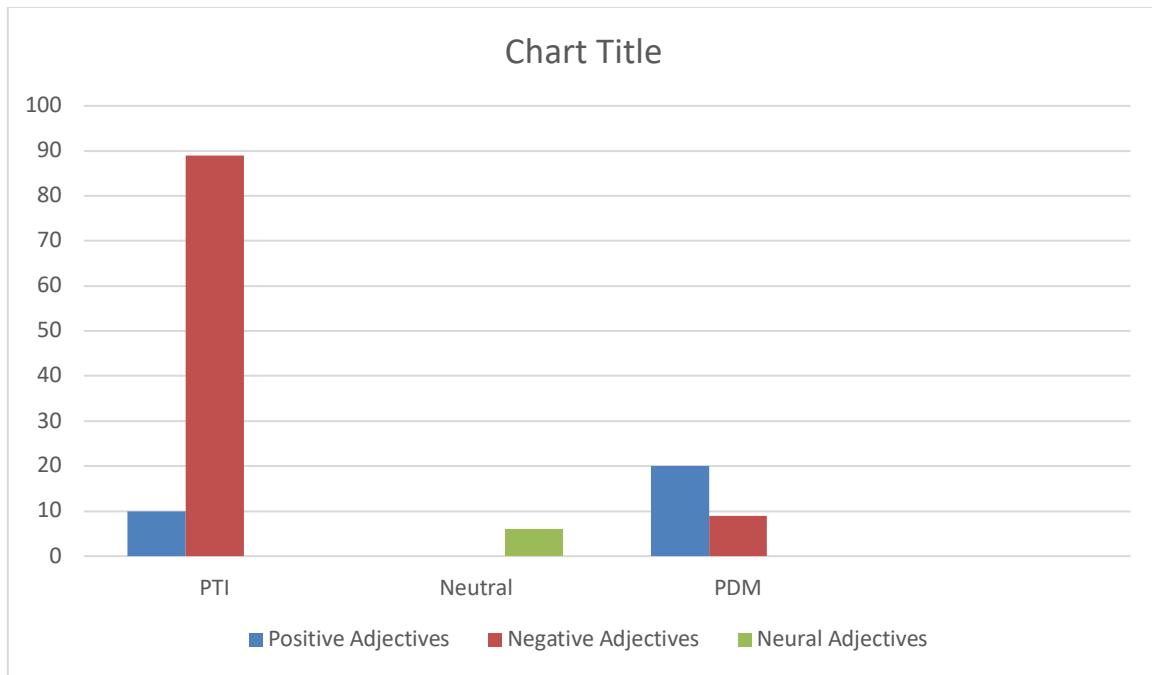


Figure 1 Graphical representation of the newspaper “The News”

Date-wise detail analysis and discussion of the editorials of each newspaper is given below:

Data Set 1. LG issues (January 10, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/karachi/10-01-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	03	-	-	-

Table 2. *Overall Adjectives in The Editorial Titled “LG Issues” (January 10, 2022)*

To analyze how adjectives are used in an editorial to portray the PTI government and the opposition PDM, we can identify adjectives that are applied to each side and examine how they contribute to the portrayal of these political entities. Here are some adjectives and their usage as devices in the editorial:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context:
1	"unresolved"	government_NN1 issues_NN2 in_II most_DAT provinces_NN2 of_IO Pakistan_NP1 remain_VV0 <u>unresolved_JJ</u> Take_VV0 for_REX21 example_REX22 Punjab_NP1 and_CC Sindh_NN1 where_CS the_AT opposition_NN1 parties_NN2 have_VH0 raised_VVN objections_NN2
2	"puzzling"	you_PPY find_VV0 an_AT1 even_RR <u>more_RGR</u> <u>puzzling_JJ</u> <u>rigmarole_NN1</u> between_II the_AT provincial_JJ government_NN1 and_CC the_AT opposition_NN1
3	"irresponsible"	provincial_JJ-governments_NN2-have_VH0 displayed-VVN an_AT1 <u>irresponsible_JJ</u> <u>attitude_NN1</u> towards_II LG_NP1 polls_NN2

Table 3 Negative Adjectives in the editorial titled "LG issues" (January 10, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of adjective "unresolved " occurred twice; "puzzling" thrice; and "irresponsible" once in the newspaper "The News". However, the adjective "irresponsible" occurred five times in the newspaper "DAWN".

Description

The adjective "unresolve " in this phrase suggests a negative situation, indicating that despite court instructions, the issues related to local governments remain unresolved, possibly due to the inefficiency of the involved parties, including the government.

Second adjective is describing the situation in Sindh as a "puzzling rigmarole" implies confusion and a lack of clarity, which can indirectly reflect negatively on the ability of the government to handle the matter effectively.

The text concludes by stating that all provincial governments have displayed an "irresponsible attitude" toward LG polls, indicating a lack of commitment to local democracy.

Explanation

Overall, text discusses unresolved local government issues in Pakistani provinces, portraying the situation as puzzling and displaying a lack of responsibility from all provincial governments. Adjectives like "unresolved," "puzzling rigmarole," and "irresponsible attitude" reflect negative aspects.

Discussion

In the provided text, there is a discussion of the local government issues in different provinces of Pakistan, and it does not explicitly use adjectives to portray PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) or PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) in a negative or positive light. However, the text focuses on the challenges and disagreements related to local government matters. While it doesn't make explicit judgments about the political parties, there are elements in the text that may indirectly imply positive or negative aspects:

Similar to Ajmi’s study (2014) that “the use of adjectives as subjectivity markers can be better explained as reflecting their users’ world views and bias. Having in essence a rhetorical function, these linguistic triggers namely possessive and descriptive adjectives help polarize representation, reconstruct identities and enhance the power relations of their users.” In this study, it's important to note that while these adjectives and phrases indirectly imply positive or negative aspects of the situation, the text primarily focuses on the challenges and disagreements related to local government issues rather than making explicit judgments about PTI or PDM.

Data Set 2. Political quicksand (January 16, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/karachi/16-01-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.

-	2	-	-	1
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Table 4 Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Political quicksand” (January 16, 2022)

In the editorial titled "Political Quicksand," adjectives and phrases are used to portray both the PTI government and the opposition, primarily consisting of the PPP and PDM. Here, researcher analyzes the adjectives and phrases that contribute to a negative or positive portrayal of these political entities:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context:
1	"Lost direction,"	how_AVQ the_AT0 party_NN1 had_VHD been_VBN corrupted_VVN and_CJC <u>lost_AJ0 direction_NN1</u> while_CJS also_AV0 questioning_VVG the_AT0 leadership_NN1 skills_NN2 of_PRF Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0
2	"struggling"	But_CJC quite_AV0 clearly_AV0 the_AT0 opposition_NN1 can_VM0 see_VVI the_AT0 PTI_NN1 is_VBZ <u>struggling_AJ0</u> and_CJC will_VM0 take_VVI full_AJ0 advantage_NN1 of_PRF this_DT0

Table 5 Negative Adjectives in the editorial titled “Political quicksand” (January 16, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term "lost" is five times; and “struggling” occurred once in the newspaper “The News”. The term “struggling” appeared twice and “lost” four times in the editorials of “The Express Tribune” newspaper. However, the term “struggling” occurred eight times and “lost” appeared eleven times in the newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective emphasizes internal divisions, leadership issues, and challenges within the PTI. They create a negative portrayal of the ruling party, suggesting instability and dysfunction.

Second adjective characterizes the PTI as facing difficulties and challenges in governing the country, particularly in addressing inflation and other issues.

Negative Portrayal of Opposition (PPP and PDM)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Increasing"	The_AT0 country_NN1 badly_AV0 needs_VVZ national_AJ0 unity_NN1 and_CJC the_AT0 <i>increasing_AJ0</i> divisions_NN2 are_VBB all_DT0 hurting_VVG it_PNP badly_AV0

Table 6 Negative Adjectives in the editorial titled “Political quicksand” (January 16, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term "increasing" is five times in the newspaper “The News”. The term “increasing” appeared four times in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “increasing” occurred twenty-five times in the newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective "increasing" indicates that the opposition is also facing internal divisions and conflicts, contributing to a negative portrayal. This adjective highlights the opposition's slow progress, divisions, and a lack of a clear alternative plan. They suggest that the opposition is not effectively countering the government.

Explanation

The use of the adjective "increasing" in describing the opposition indicates growing internal conflicts and divisions, portraying a negative image. It signifies slow progress, lack of unity, and a weak alternative plan. This suggests that the opposition is not effectively countering the government, leading to political instability and dissatisfaction. Overall, the editorial uses negative adjectives to highlight challenges faced by both the government and opposition, emphasizing the absence of clear solutions or strategies.

Discussion

Overall, the adjectives and phrases in the editorial paint a picture of political instability, divisions, and dissatisfaction within both the PTI government and the opposition. As in the study of Fatima et al.’s results (2019) show negative adjectives with the colonized as compared to the

positive adjectives with collocations of colonizers. Similarly, in these results; the tone is generally negative, highlighting the challenges faced by both sides and the absence of clear solutions or strategies.

Data Set 3. Plight of peasants (January 31, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/31-01-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	3	-	-	-

Table 7 Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Plight of peasants” (January 31, 2022)

These adjectives suggest a negative situation, which may indirectly imply that the government (PTI) has not effectively addressed the farmers' issues. The statement indirectly raises questions about the economic policies of the government and their impact on farmers, which could be seen negatively.

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	“Desperate” "Bonded"	IMF_NP0 policies_NN2 imposed_VVN on_PRP loans_NN2 taken_VVN by_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1In_PRP addition_PRP to_PRP this_DT0 ,_PUN we_PNP know_VVB that_CJT farmers_NN2 often_AV0 live_VVB in_PRP <u>desperate_AJ0</u> <u>conditions_NN2</u> with_PRP <u>bonded_AJ0</u> labour_NN1
2	"Farming" “Commercial” “Small”	<u>farming_AJ0</u> land_NN1was_VBD taken_VVN over_AVP to_TO0 build_VVI a_AT0 <u>massive_AJ0</u> development_NN1 project_NN1 including_PRP housing_NN1 and_CJC <u>commercial_AJ0</u> buildings_NN2 agricultural_AJ0 policies_NN2 have_VHB been_VBN lacking_VVG for_PRP years_NN2 and_CJC <u>small_AJ0</u> farmers_NN2

		have_VHB not_XX0 received_VVN any_DT0 assistance_NN1 from_PRP governments_NN2
3	"Massive" "Entire"	such_DT0 <i>massive_AJ0</i> <i>damage_NN1</i> to_PRP an_AT0 <i>entire_AJ0</i> <i>sector_NN1</i> of_PRF workers_NN2 who_PNQ are_VBB required_VVN for_PRP the_AT0 welfare_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 <i>entire_AJ0</i> country_NN1.The_AT0 protest_NN1 plan_NN1 by_PRP farmers_NN2)

Table 8 Negative Adjectives in the editorial titled "Plight of peasants" (January 31, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of adjective "desperate" is six times in the newspaper "The News". The adjective "desperate" appeared once in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, term "increasing" occurred twenty-five times; "desperate" three times in the newspaper "DAWN".

Description

Both adjectives "desperate" and Bonded" are Mentioning bonded labor in the context of farming highlights a negative aspect of the situation and may indirectly reflect poorly on the government's ability to protect vulnerable farmers.

Next adjectives "Farming", "Commercial" and "Small" imply land encroachments and land rights issues, which can indirectly reflect negatively on the government's land policies.

Similarly, adjectives "*Massive*" and "Entire" indicates farmers' willingness to voice their concerns and seek solutions, which is a proactive approach.

Explanation

It's important to note that while these adjectives and phrases indirectly imply negative aspects of the situation, the text primarily focuses on the challenges faced by farmers rather than making explicit judgments about PTI.

Discussion

In the text of the editorial, there is a focus on the challenges faced by farmers in Pakistan, and it discusses government policies and their impact on the agricultural sector. While the text primarily addresses the plight of farmers, it doesn't explicitly use adjectives to portray PTI or PDM in positive light. Instead, However, some statements and elements in the text can indirectly reflect

negatively on the government (PTI). The statements suggest that there is an expectation from the government to provide assistance, which can be viewed as a positive call for action.

According to Mahmood (2014), “adjectives contribute in the thematic understanding highlight a very apt point i.e. the characteristic tendency to exaggerate with the excessive use of adjectives. This tendency can also be seen from another perspective and with a less negative implications viz.”

FEBRUARY, 2022

Ant-conc Analysis

After clause tagging, corpus of all editorials is analyzed for frequency, concordance and collocation with respect to different terms like government, PTI and opposition etc.

Screen shots of results from Ant-conc tool is given below:

The screenshot shows the Ant-conc tool interface. The main window displays a word list with columns for Rank, Freq, and Word. The word 'government' is highlighted in the list. The interface also includes a search term field, search options (Words, Case, Regex), and hit location settings.

Rank	Freq	Word
36	124	vbi
37	123	government
38	117	on
39	115	by
40	114	this
41	103	dtq
42	102	as
43	102	vvd
44	97	with
45	94	have
46	90	xx
47	89	are
48	89	not
49	89	vbb
50	76	pakistan
51	72	avp
52	69	vhb
53	66	been
54	66	vbd
55	66	vbn
56	64	from
57	64	its
58	61	which
59	59	all

Figure 2 Frequency of terms (**government**) and its Ranking

In word list of the editorial, the word “government” ranks on second position.

Screen shot of Ant-conc results

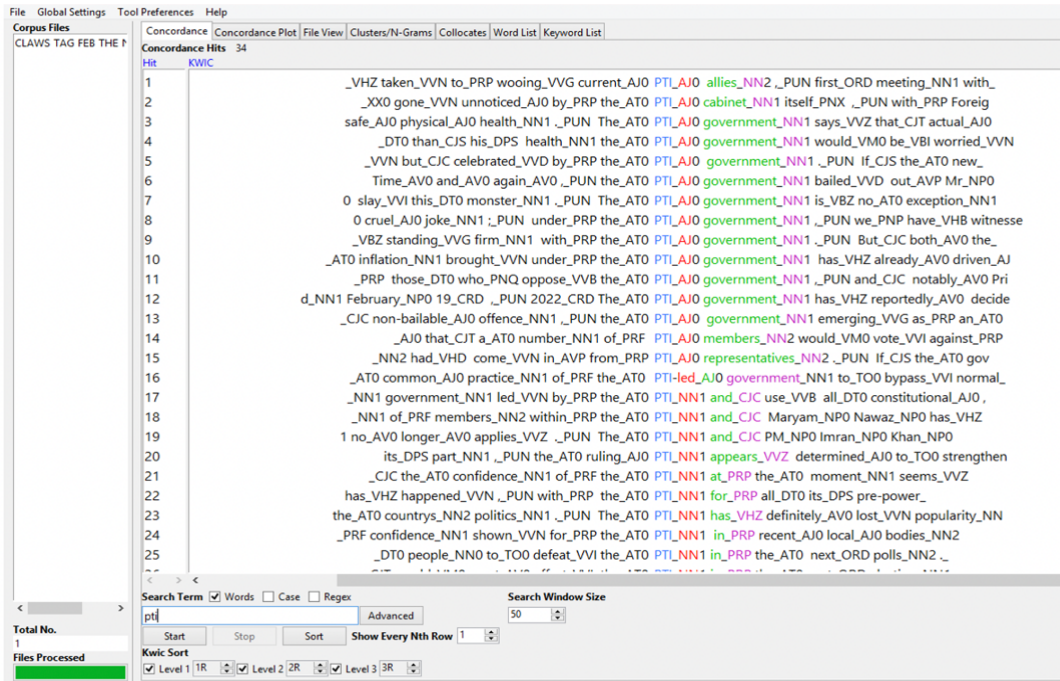


Figure 3 Concordance of terms (government)

In above screen shot we can see the concordance of PTI is mostly mentioned with this word “government”. Therefore, it is evident that editorial board’s central discussion is about the “government”.

Screen shot of Ant-conc results

The screenshot displays the Ant-conc interface with the search term 'government'. The main window shows a table of collocate results. The search term is 'government', and the results are sorted by 'Stat'.

Rank	Freq	Freq(L)	Freq(R)	Stat	Collocate
1	2	1	1	8.99610	falls
2	1	1	1	8.99610	caretaker
3	1	0	1	7.99610	virtually
4	1	0	1	7.99610	usually
5	1	0	1	7.99610	understandably
6	1	1	0	7.99610	traditional
7	1	1	0	7.99610	topple
8	1	0	1	7.99610	tackling
9	1	0	1	7.99610	suspects
10	1	0	1	7.99610	sudden
11	2	2	0	7.99610	successive
12	1	1	0	7.99610	strike
13	1	0	1	7.99610	stint
14	1	0	1	7.99610	spend
15	1	1	0	7.99610	selected
16	1	0	1	7.99610	saturdays
17	1	0	1	7.99610	reportedly
18	1	0	1	7.99610	reactive
19	1	0	1	7.99610	raised
20	1	0	1	7.99610	prevent
21	1	0	1	7.99610	owned
22	1	1	0	7.99610	overthrowing
23	1	0	1	7.99610	mostly
24	1	0	1	7.99610	miserably
25	1	0	1	7.99610	loudly

Figure 4: Collocation of Term (Government)

In above given screen shot, we can see the words that have been used in collocation of term “government”.

Screen shot of Ant-conc results

The screenshot displays the Ant-conc interface with the search term 'pti'. The main window shows a table of collocate results. The search term is 'pti', and the results are sorted by 'Stat'.

Rank	Freq	Freq(L)	Freq(R)	Stat	Collocate
1	1	1	0	13.93861	woeing
2	1	1	0	13.93861	unrealistic
3	1	0	1	13.93861	submit
4	1	0	1	13.93861	solar
5	1	0	1	13.93861	re
6	1	1	0	13.93861	oppose
7	1	0	1	13.93861	mantra
8	1	0	1	13.93861	magnitude
9	1	1	0	13.93861	inevitable
10	1	0	1	13.93861	discussed
11	1	1	0	13.93861	browser
12	1	0	1	13.93861	breathes
13	1	1	0	13.93861	avenues
14	1	0	1	12.93861	representatives
15	1	1	0	12.93861	refrain
16	1	0	1	12.93861	ranks
17	1	1	0	12.93861	papers
18	1	1	0	12.93861	monster
19	1	0	1	12.93861	determined
20	1	0	1	12.93861	definitely
21	1	1	0	12.93861	defeat
22	1	1	0	12.93861	best
23	1	0	1	12.93861	bailed
24	1	1	0	12.93861	amongst
25	2	2	0	12.61669	health

Figure 5: Collocation of Term (PTI)

In above given screen shot, we can see the words that have been used in collocation of term “PTI”.

Screen shot of Ant-conc results

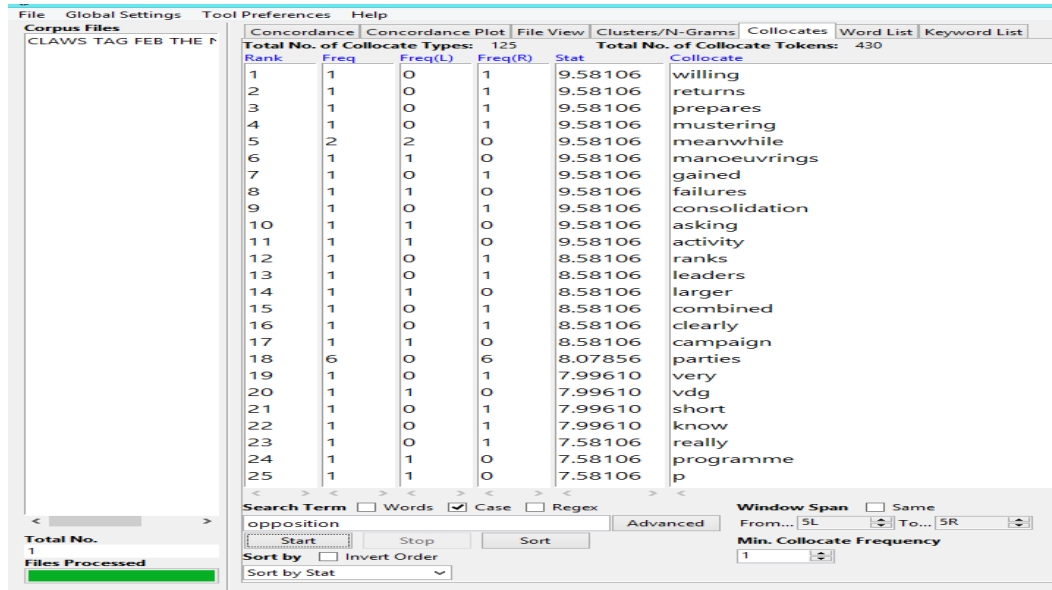


Figure 6. Collocation of Term (opposition)

In above given screen shot, we can see the words that have been used in collocation of term “Opposition”.

Data Set 4. The opposition returns? (February 07, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/07-02-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	4	-	5	-

Table 9 Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “The opposition returns? (February 07, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (PTI and PDM). Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context:
-------	------------	-----------------------------

1	"Recent" "economic" -	this_DT0 may_VM0 be_VBI the_AT0 right_AJ0 time_NN1 to_TO0 strike_VVI a_AT0 government_NN1 seen_VVN as_CJS having_VHG been_VBN weakened_VVN by_PRP the_AT0 <u>recent_AJ0 economic_AJ0 chaos_NN1</u> in_PRP the_AT0 country_NN1.
2	"selected"	they_PNP are_VBB looking_VVG to_TO0 dislodge_VVI a_AT0 <u>selected_AJ0</u> <u>government_NN1</u> ,
3	"small" "little"	<u>small_AJ0 little_AJ0 power_NN1</u> show_NN1 has_VHZ managed_VVN to_TO0 bring_VVI some_DT0 life_NN1 back_AVP in_PRP an_AT0 opposition_NN1 that_CJT till_PRP recently_AV0 was_VBD focused_VVN more_AV0 on_PRP targeting_VVG each_PNX other_PNX than_CJS the_AT0 sitting_NN1 government_NN1

Table 10 *Negative adjectives in the editorial titled “The opposition returns?”*

(February 07, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of adjective " recent " is five times; and “small” is six times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The adjective “recent” appeared seventeen times; and “small” is six times in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “recent” occurred fifteen times; and “small” is fourteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

Both adjectives "recent" and “economic" suggest that the PTI government has been ineffective in managing the economy, contributing to a negative portrayal of its governance.

Similarly, adjective “selected” implies that the PTI government was not democratically elected, which is a common opposition narrative to delegitimize the government.

Predication of adjective “selected”: The government is described as weakened.

Reference of adjective "selected": refers to the condition or state of the government, suggesting a loss of strength or power.

Predication of adjective "small" and "little": The power show is described as being "small" and "little."

Reference of adjective "small" and "little": "Small" and "little" suggest that the power show against the PTI sitting government. Previously it was not a grand or significant event but rather modest in scale.

Positive Portrayal of Opposition (PPP and PML-N)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Major" "blue-eyed"	With_PRP all_DT0 three_CRD <u>major</u> _AJ0 parties_NN2 said_VVD to_TO0 be_VBI vying_VVG for_PRP the_AT0 same_DT0 <u>blue-eyed</u> _AJ0 position_NN1, PUN it_PNP may_VM0 just_AV0 be_VBI a_AT0 matter_NN1 of_PRF who_PNQ blinks_VVZ first_ORD.
2	Rising	opposition_NN1 mustering_VVG enough_DT0 street_NN1 power_NN1 to_TO0 protest_VVI the_AT0 <u>rising</u> _AJ0 inflation_NN1 and_CJC the_AT0 governments_NN2 ineptitude_NN1 at_PRP a_AT0 time_NN1
3	credible alliance	this_DT0 may_VM0 be_VBI the_AT0 first_ORD step_NN1 towards_PRP building_VVG a_AT0 more_AV0 <u>credible</u> _AJ0 alliance_NN1 even_CJS if_CJS for_PRP the_AT0 short_AJ0 term_NN1
4	"joint"	The_AT0 PPP_NP0 and_CJC PML-N_AJ0 seem_VVB to_TO0 have_VHI decided_VVN they_PNP need_VVB to_TO0 up_AVP the_AT0 optics_NN1 game_NN1 as_CJS joint_AJ0 opposition_NN1
5	"sudden" "Legal" "political"	legal_AJ0 and_CJC political_AJ0 ways_NN2 to_TO0 get_VVI rid_VVN of_PRF the_AT0 government_NN1. This_DT0 <u>sudden</u> _AJ0 boost_NN1 of_PRF confidence_NN1 in_PRP each_PNX other_PNX

		came_VVD at_PRP a_AT0 lunch_NN1 hosted_VVN on_PRP Saturday_NP0
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Table 11 *Positive adjectives in the editorial titled “The opposition returns?”*

(February 07, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "credible" is four times; “sudden” is twice; and “political” is one hundred and ninety-six times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “credible” appeared once; and “sudden” is twice; and “political” is thirty-six times in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, term “credible” occurred three times; and “political” is two hundred and fifty-three times; and “sudden” is three times in the editorials of the newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

Both adjectives "Major" and “blue-eyed” suggest that the opposition is responsive to public concerns and is willing to take action, which can be seen positively by some segments of the population.

Next adjective “rising” implies that the opposition is determined to challenge the government, which is portrayed positively by those who oppose the government.

The adjective “credible” indicates that the opposition is working on improving its internal unity and credibility, presenting a positive image.

Similarly, adjective "joint" suggests that the opposition is becoming more strategic and cohesive, contributing to a positive portrayal of their intentions.

Predication of adjective "joint": The PPP and PML-N are described as being a "joint" opposition.

Reference of adjective "Joint": joint refers to the collaborative nature of the opposition formed by both parties.

Predication of adjective “sudden”: The boost of confidence is described as being "sudden."

Reference of adjective “sudden”: "Sudden" indicates that the increase in confidence occurred unexpectedly and rapidly.

Explanation

Overall, the adjectives and phrases in the editorial highlight the challenges faced by the PTI government, especially in managing the economy, while portraying the opposition as more united

and determined to challenge the government. The tone leans towards a critical view of the government's performance and a relatively more positive outlook on the opposition's actions.

Discussion

In the editorial titled "The Opposition Returns?" adjectives and phrases are used to portray both the PTI government and the opposition, primarily consisting of the PPP (Pakistan People's Party) and PML-N (Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz). Here, researcher analyzed the adjectives and phrases that contribute to a negative or positive portrayal of these political entities. Predication and reference are applied to adjectives in the context of the provided text to clarify their roles and meanings. However, it's important to note that these portrayals can vary depending on one's political perspective. Similarly; Mahmood et al. (2014) conducted study in which various terms are analyzed; for instance, use of term "little" is a reflection of relative inferiority in the text: "The word little has a negative connotation as it implies a state of not being at the center; a position of powerlessness and meagerness."

Data Set 5. Playing politics (February 11, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/11-02-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
1	4	-	2	3

Table 12 Overall adjectives in the editorial titled "Playing politics" (February 11, 2022)

In this editorial, adjectives are used to convey both positive and negative portrayals of the PTI government and the opposition, particularly the PML-N (Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz) and the PPP (Pakistan People's Party). The adjectives used in the text, along with their predications (how they are used in a sentence) and their referential meanings (what they refer to) are given below:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context

1	Unclear	the_AT0 lack_NN1 of_PRF confidence_NN1 shown_VVN for_PRP the_AT0 PTI_NN1 in_PRP <u>recent_AJ0 local_AJ0 bodies_NN2 polls_NN2 and_CJC by-elections_NN2 is_VBZ unclear_AJ0</u> .
2	"Strange"	In_PRP a_AT0 <u>strange_AJ0 attempt_NN1</u> at_PRP looking_VVG to_TO0 be_VBI seen_VVN to_TO0 be_VBI doing_VDG something_PNI, on_PRP Thursday_NP0 the_AT0 prime_AJ0 minister_NN1 handed_VVD out_AVP performance_NN1 certificates_NN2 to_PRP ministers_NN2 and_CJC ministries_NN2 that_CJT have_VHB apparently_AV0 performed_VVN well_AV0
3	"self-congratulatory" & "Advisable"	At_PRP such_DT0 a_AT0 time_NN1, a_AT0 <u>self-congratulatory_AJ0</u> event_NN1 like_PRP this_DT0 is_VBZ hardly_AV0 <u>advisable_AJ0</u> , and_CJC seems_VVZ almost_AV0 to_TO0 be_VBI mocking_VVG the_AT0 people_NN0 .
4	"desperate"	PTI_NN1 may_VM0 need_VVI much_DT0 more_DT0 than_CJS certificate_NN1 ceremonies_NN2 to_TO0 prop_VVI up_AVP Brand_NP0 Imran_NP0 without_PRP looking_VVG <u>desperate_AJ0</u> .

Table 13 *Negative adjectives (For PTI) in the editorial titled Playing politics (February 11, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of term "unclear" is eight times; and "desperate" is six times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "desperate" appeared once in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, term "unclear" occurred seven times; and "desperate" is three times in the editorials of the newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "unclear" the effectiveness of the PTI's strategy is questioned, especially in the face of rising inflation and a lack of confidence in recent local polls and by-elections.

Predication of adjective “unclear”: The effectiveness of the PTI's strategy is questioned, and it is described as "unclear."

Referential of adjective “unclear”: Meaning: It refers to the lack of clarity or transparency in the PTI's strategy.

Second adjective indicates the attempt to showcase government achievements through performance certificates is described as "strange," implying that it might not be an appropriate or effective action.

Predication of adjective “attempt”: The attempt to showcase government achievements through performance certificates is described as "strange."

Referential of adjective “attempt”: Meaning: It refers to the unusual or unconventional nature of the government's action.

Both adjectives "self-congratulatory" and “advisable” The PTI's self-congratulatory event is seen as mocking the people, suggesting insensitivity or disregard for their concerns.

Predication of adjective “self-congratulatory”: The PTI's self-congratulatory event is seen as "mocking" the people.

Referential meaning of adjective “self-congratulatory”: It refers to the act of ridiculing or making fun of the people's concerns.

Next adjective "desperate" indicates that the PTI is mentioned as needing more than certificate ceremonies to prop up "Brand Imran" without appearing "desperate," indicating a negative perception of the government's current state.

Predication of adjective “desperate”: The PTI is mentioned as potentially needing to resort to desperate measures.

Referential meaning of adjective “desperate”: It refers to a state of extreme urgency or a sense of hopelessness in the government's situation.

Positive Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context

1	"determined"	On_PRP its_DPS part_NN1, the_AT0 ruling_AJ0 PTI_NN1 appears_VVZ <i>determined_AJ0</i> to_TO0 strengthen_VVI its_DPS position_NN1
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Table 14 *Positive adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled "Playing politics"*

(February 11, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term "determined" is four times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "determined" appeared once in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, term "determined" occurred twice in the editorials of the newspaper "DAWN".

Description

The adjective "determined" in above table suggests that PTI is described as "determined" to strengthen its position, indicating a sense of commitment and resolve.

Predication of adjective "determined": The PTI is described as "determined."

Referential meaning of adjective "determined": It refers to the PTI government's resolve or commitment to strengthen its position.

Positive Portrayal of the Opposition (PML-N and PPP)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Greater action"	there_EX0 is_VBZ <i>greater_AJC</i> action_NN1 than_CJS before_AV0 in_PRP the_AT0 opposition_NN1 ranks_NN2.
2	"smaller"	PML-N_AJ0 and_CJC the_AT0 PPP_NP0 have_VHB been_VBN meeting_VVG with_PRP leaders_NN2 of_PRF <i>smaller_AJC</i> parties_NN2 and_CJC a_AT0 no_NN1 confidence_NN1 move_NN1 is_VBZ now_AV0 being_VBG talked_VVN about_PRP much_AV0 more_AV0 confidently_AV0.

Table 15 *Positive adjectives for PDM in the editorial titled "Playing politics"*

(February 11, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "greater" is twelve times; and "smaller" is four times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "determined" appeared once in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, term "greater" occurred eighteen times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "greater" action in the opposition ranks, is implying that they are actively pursuing their goals.

Predication of adjective "greater": There is "greater action" in the opposition ranks.

Referential meaning of adjective "greater": It refers to an increased level of activity or involvement within the opposition.

Second adjective "smaller" suggests that the opposition with the help of smaller parties is confidently talking about a no-confidence move, suggesting a sense of assurance and determination.

Predication of adjective "smaller": The opposition is confidently talking about a no-confidence move.

Referential meaning of adjective "smaller": It refers to the manner in which the opposition expresses their certainty or assurance.

Negative Portrayal of the Opposition (PML-N and PPP)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context:
1	"uncertain":	It_PNP is VBZ, however_AV0 , uncertain_AJ0 what_DTQ result_VVB this_DT0 would_VM0 have_VHI and_CJC the_AT0 questions_NN2 we_PNP have_VHB asked_VVN before_AV0 remain_VVB up_AVP in_PRP the_AT0 air_NN1 for_PRP now_AV0 what_DTQ happens_VVZ after_PRP a_AT0 no confidence_NN1 move_NN1 ?
2	"possible" "Larger"	The_AT0 PML-Q_AJ0 and_CJC MQM_NP0 are_VBB both_AV0 in_PRP the_AT0 running_NN1 too_AV0 as_AV0 <u>possible_AJ0</u> alliances_NN2 for_PRP the_AT0 <u>larger_AJC</u> opposition_NN1.

3	"desperate"	PTI_NN1 may_VM0 need_VVI much_DT0 more_DT0 than_CJS certificate_NN1 ceremonies_NN2 to_prop_VVI up_AVP Brand_NP0 Imran_NP0 without_PRP looking_VVG <u>desperate</u> AJ0.
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Table 16 *Negative adjectives for PDM in the editorial titled "Playing politics"*
(February 11, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "uncertain" is seven times; and "desperate" is six times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "desperate" appeared once in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "uncertain" occurred eighteen times and term "desperate" three times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "uncertain" in the text highlights uncertainty regarding the outcomes and strategies of the opposition.

Predication of adjective "uncertain": The text highlights uncertainty regarding the outcomes and strategies of the opposition.

Referential meaning of adjective "uncertain": It refers to the lack of clarity or predictability in the opposition's actions and plans.

Both adjectives "possible" and "larger" indicate are describing the opposition's efforts as a numbers game can suggest a lack of principled motivation behind their actions.

Predication of adjective "Larger": Describing the opposition's efforts as a numbers game.

Referential Meaning of adjective "Larger": It refers to the idea that the opposition is strategizing based on the quantity of supporters or votes they can gather.

Next adjective "desperate indicate that the PTI is portrayed as potentially needing to resort to desperate measures, implying that the opposition's actions are causing concern for the government.

Predication of adjective "desperate": The PTI is portrayed as potentially needing to resort to desperate measures.

Referential meaning of adjective "desperate": It refers to a state of extreme urgency or a sense of hopelessness in the government's situation.

Discussion

Overall, the adjectives used in the text reflect a sense of skepticism and uncertainty surrounding both the PTI government and the opposition's actions and strategies. While some positive traits like determination and confidence are attributed to both sides, negative connotations such as uncertainty, strangeness, and desperation are also present in the portrayal of their actions and intentions. "Adjectives can account for merely objective or more subjective features and as such they can reveal much of the speaker's/writer's attitude towards the textual content" (Marza, 2011). These adjectives are used to provide context and convey the tone of the text, offering both positive and negative assessments of the actions and situations.

Data Set 6. Strategic politics (February 16, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/16-02-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
1	3	-	2	1

Table 17 Overall adjectives in the editorial titled "Strategic politics" (February 16, 2022)

The adjectives from text that can be separated into those portraying the PTI government and the PDM, which includes parties like PML-N, JUI-F, and PPP) negatively or positively, along with their predication and referential usage, are given below:

Negative Portrayal of PTI Government

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context:
1	Current	opposition_NN1 has_VHZ taken VVN to_PRP wooing_VVG current_AJ0 PTI_AJ0 allies_NN2,
2	Disgruntled	vote_NN1 of_PRF no_AT0 Confidence NN1 can_VM0 succeed_VVI in_PRP the_AT0 National_AJ0 Assembly

		NN1 possibly_AV0 with_PRP the_AT0 help_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 MQM_NP0 and_CJC disgruntled_AJ0 members_NN2 of_PRF PTI_NN2
3	Permanent	there_EX0 are_VBB no_AT0 <i>permanent_AJ0</i> friends_NN2 or_CJC foes_NN2 in_PRP politics_NN1 and_CJC in_PRP Pakistan

Table 18: *Negative adjectives in the editorial titled “Strategic politics” (February 16, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term "disgruntled" is three times; and "Permanent" is five times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "current" appeared four times in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "disgruntled" occurred four times and term "Permanent" twice times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

The use of adjective "current" with PTI allies suggests negative trait that the government's allies might not remain loyal, implying a potential weakness.

Second adjective "disgruntled" is describing members of the PTI as "disgruntled" implies dissatisfaction within the ruling party, which can be seen as a negative portrayal.

Predication of adjective "disgruntled": It describes some members within the PTI as being discontent or dissatisfied.

Referential of adjective "disgruntled": It refers to certain members within the PTI government.

Third adjective "Permanent" implies that alliances can shift, suggesting potential vulnerability for the government.

Discussion

In the text of the editorial, it's important to note that adjectives are not explicitly used to portray PTI and PDM either positively or negatively in a straightforward manner. However, researcher has sorted out the adjectives that describe various aspects of both PTI and PDM. For this purpose, the help of predication and referential usage for the adjectives is taken here.

Positive Portrayal of PTI Government

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Pointed	In_PRP a_AT0 <u>pointed</u> _AJ0 statement_NN1 the_AT0 PML-Qs_UNC Moonis_NP0 Elahi_NP0 has_VHZ said_VVN his_DPS party_NN1 is_VBZ standing_VVG firm_NN1 with_PRP the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1.

Table 19: *Positive adjectives (For PTI) in the editorial titled “Strategic politics” (February 16, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term "Pointed" is three times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "Pointed" appeared three times in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "Pointed" occurred five times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

The adjective "Pointed" suggests the PML-Q's statement of standing "firm with the PTI government" portrays the government positively as having a steadfast ally.

Predication of adjective "Pointed": It indicates that the PML-Q is standing firmly with the PTI government.

Referential meaning of adjective "Pointed": It refers to the PTI government's ally, PML-Q

Positive Portrayal of the Opposition (PDM)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Significant	It_PNP would_VM0 no_AV0 doubt_AV0 be_VBI a_AT0 most_AV0 <u>significant</u> _AJ0 development_NN1 were_VBD the_AT0 PML-Q_AJ0 to_TO0 switch_VVI sides_NN2
2	"Ultimate" "important"	In PRP the_AT0 background_NN1 remains VVZ the_AT0 <u>ultimate</u> _AJ0 nod_NN1 of PRF approval_NN1 that CJT

		plays VVZ the_AT0 most_AV0 <i>important</i> AJ0 part NN1 in PRP Pakistans_NP0 politics_NN1
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Table 20 *Positive adjectives (For PDM) in the editorial titled “Strategic politics”*

(February 16, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term " Significant" is thirty-three times; and “ultimate” is three times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “Significant” appeared five times in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, the term “Significant” nineteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “significant” is describing the potential switch of the PML-Q as a "significant development" suggests that the opposition is actively seeking support, which can be seen as a positive portrayal of their efforts.

Predication of adjective “significant”: It describes something as important or noteworthy. Here it describes the potential switch of the PML-Q as a significant development.

Referential of adjective “significant”: It refers to a development within the PDM (opposition) alliance. Can refer to important factors or developments within both PTI and PDM.

Next adjective "ultimate" implies that there is a powerful force or figure behind the scenes in Pakistan's politics, portraying the opposition's understanding of the political landscape.

Predication of adjective “ultimate”: It implies the existence of a powerful force or figure in Pakistani politics or decisive factor.

Referential of adjective “ultimate”: It refers to a powerful factor in the political landscape, can refer to influential elements in the context of PTI and PDM.

Negative Portrayal of the Opposition (PDM)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context

1	“unclear”	it PNP is VBZ completely_AV0 <i>unclear</i> AJO precisely_AV0 what DTQ the_AT0 opposition_NN1 strategy_NN1 is VBZ and CJC who PNQ is VBZ leading VVG the_AT0 games
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Table 21 *Negative adjectives (For PDM) in the editorial titled “Strategic politics”*

(February 16, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "unclear" is eight times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". However, the term "unclear" occurred seven times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

The adjective "unclear" is used to describe the opposition's strategy, suggesting a lack of transparency and a potential weakness in their planning.

Predication of adjective "unclear": It indicates that the opposition's strategy is not transparent or well-defined.

Referential meaning of adjective "unclear": It refers to the lack of clarity in the opposition's plans.

Discussion

These adjectives are used to provide context and descriptions related to both the PTI government and the PDM (opposition) in the given text. They contribute to the overall portrayal of the political situation in Pakistan, including the government's challenges and the opposition's strategies. "The critical analyst sees political discourse as the use of words and phrases, syntactic processes, and discursive positioning, to either hide or distribute responsibility in certain ways, or designate specific individuals or groups as belonging to categories that may serve particular political purposes" (Wilson, 2015). In the provided text, several adjectives are used to portray both the PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) government and the opposition, primarily the PML-N, JUI-F, and the PPP (Pakistan People's Party). These adjectives are used to convey both positive and negative aspects of each group. Here is an analysis of how these adjectives contribute to the portrayal of the PTI government and the opposition:

Overall, the adjectives used in the text present a mixed portrayal of both the PTI government and the opposition. The government is portrayed as having numerical strength and a steadfast ally, but also potential vulnerabilities within its own ranks. The opposition is depicted as actively

seeking support and having a chance of success, but their strategy is described as unclear, and there is an acknowledgment of the unpredictable nature of Pakistani politics.

MARCH, 2022

Ant-conc Analysis

After clause tagging, corpus of all editorials is analyzed for collocation and concordance with respect to different term PTI. Screen shots of results from Ant-conc tool is given below:

Screen shot of Ant-conc results

The screenshot shows the Ant-conc tool interface. The main window displays a table of collocation results for the search term 'PTI'. The table has columns for Rank, Freq, Freq(L), Freq(R), Stat, and Collocate. The search term is 'PTI', and the window span is set to 5L and 5R. The minimum collocate frequency is set to 1. The search options are 'Words', 'Case', and 'Regex', with 'Words' checked. The 'Sort by' option is set to 'Stat'.

Rank	Freq	Freq(L)	Freq(R)	Stat	Collocate
1	1	0	1	7.74371	weaponize
2	1	1	0	7.74371	weakened
3	1	1	0	7.74371	warnings
4	1	1	0	7.74371	unveiled
5	1	1	0	7.74371	tinpot
6	3	0	3	7.74371	ticket
7	1	0	1	7.74371	targeting
8	1	1	0	7.74371	swipes
9	1	0	1	7.74371	surround
10	1	1	0	7.74371	sure
11	1	0	1	7.74371	stringent
12	1	1	0	7.74371	solidly
13	1	1	0	7.74371	similarities
14	1	1	0	7.74371	sent

Figure 7: Collocation of term (PTI)

Screen shot of Ant-conc results

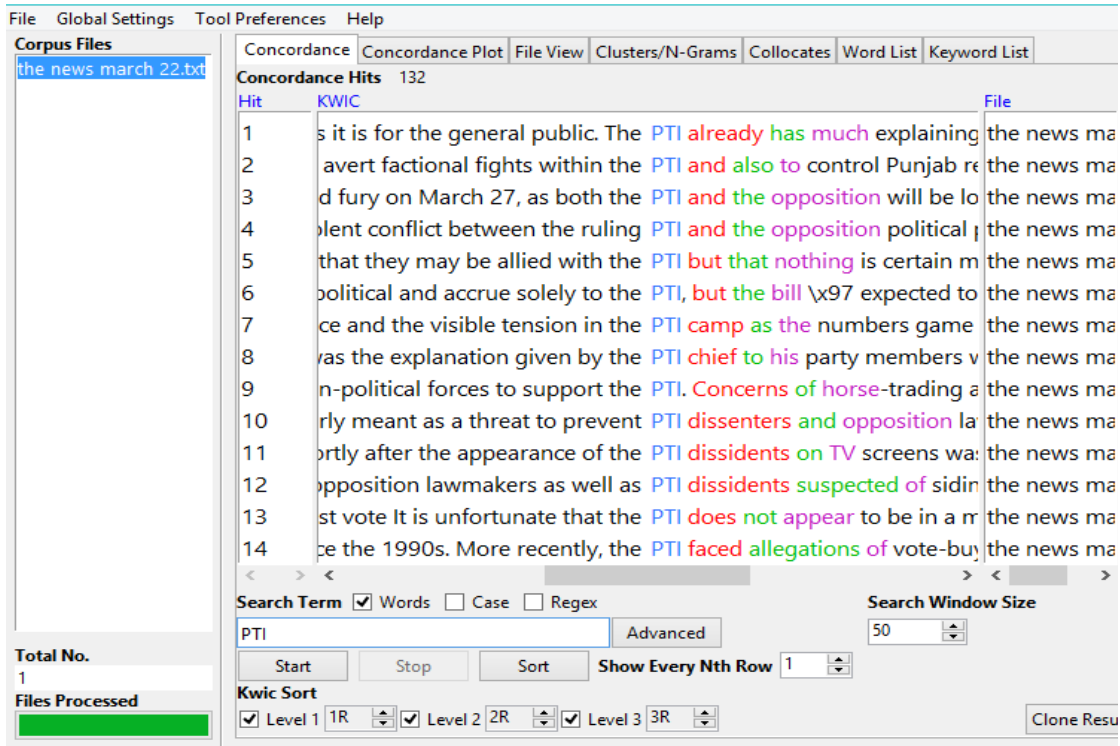


Figure 8: Concordance of Term (PTI)

Data Set 7. PM’s address (March 01, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/01-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
1	4	3	-	-

Table 22: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “PM’s address” (March 01, 2022)

Let's analyze some of the key adjectives in the context of predication and reference:

Negative Portrayal of government (PTI)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	general	The_AT0 government_NN1 seems_VVZ to_TO0 have_VHI taken_VVN notice_NN1 Of PRF the_AT0

		opposition_NN1 gathering_NN1 forces_NN2 and_CJC the_AT0 general_AJ0 feeling_NN1 of_PRF desperation NN1 in_PRP a_AT0 people_NN0 reeling_VVG under_PRP inflation NN1
2	Growing	there_EX0 is_VBZ growing_AJ0 rage_NN1 against_PRP the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1.
3	Welcome	country_NN1 took_VVD sides_NN2 without_PRP realising_VVG the_AT0 consequences_NN2 was_VBD a_AT0 welcome_AJ0 sign_NN1.
4	Draconian (laws)	a_AT0 draconian_AJ0 law_NN1 like_PRP Peca_NP0 was_VBD amended_VVN to_TO0 further_AV0 curtail_VVI the_AT0 freedom_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 media_NNI

Table 23 *Negative adjectives in the editorial titled “PM’s address” (March 01, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term "general" is fifteen times; and "draconian" is eight times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "general" appeared nine times in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "draconian" occurred three times and term "Permanent" twice times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "general" describes to generalize the feeling of the people. It has a negative connotation, suggesting a state of distress or hopelessness.

Predication of adjective "general": The adjective "general" predicates a state of mind or emotion ("desperation") to the noun "people." It describes the emotional state of the people that is negative presentation of government of PTI.

Referential meaning of adjective "general": It refers to the general population or citizens, emphasizing their emotional state, which influences the overall atmosphere which states as out-group stance newspaper for PTI.

Second adjective "growing" describes the rage against the PTI government. It has a negative connotation, indicating an increasing level of anger or frustration.

Predication of adjective "growing": The adjective "growing" predicates a quality of increase or intensification ("growing") to the noun "rage." It describes the escalating anger or frustration for PTI government.

Referential meaning of adjective "growing": It refers to the emotional state of the people, emphasizing the worsening level of anger against the PTI government.

Third adjective "welcome" is used to express approval of the Prime Minister's acknowledgment of past foreign policy mistakes. It is positive and implies a favorable development. However, it is an indirect admiration to previous government of PML(N).

Predication of adjective "welcome": The phrase "welcome sign" predicates a positive reception or approval ("welcome") to the noun "sign." It describes the favorable response to the Prime Minister's acknowledgment to previous government of PML(N).

Referential meaning of adjective "welcome": It refers to the acknowledgment itself, emphasizing its positive reception and significance to previous government of PML(N). This shows an in-group gesture of newspaper towards PML(N).

Fourth adjective of adjective "draconian" is used to describe certain laws, particularly the PECA Ordinance. It has a negative connotation, suggesting harsh, severe, or oppressive legislation.

Predication of adjective "draconian": The adjective "draconian" predicates a quality of severity or harshness ("draconian") to the noun "laws."

Referential of adjective "draconian": It refers to the nature of the laws, particularly the PECA Ordinance that is being imposed by PTI government.

Neutral Adjectives in context of political parties

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Temporary	government_NN1 manages_VVZ to_TO0 find_VVI within_PRP quick-fix_AJ0 measures_NN2 will_VM0 be_VBI only_AV0 temporary_AJ0 fuel_NN1 prices_NN2
2	Political	and_CJC a_AT0 political_AJ0 reckoning_NN1 may_VM0 not_XX0 be_VBI as_AV0 easily AV0 thwarted_VVN by_PRP applauding_VVG censorship

		NN1criminalising VVG defamation_NN1 or_CJC even_AV0 reducing_VVG
3	Inevitable	prime_AJ0 ministers_NN2 speech_NN1 appears_VVZ to_TO0 be_VBI an_AT0 attempt_NN1 to_TO0 checkmate_VVI the_AT0 opposition_NN1 or_CJC ready_AJ0 itself_PNX for_PRP an_AT0 inevitable _AJ0 early_AJ0 election_NN1

Table 24 *Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “PM’s address” (March 01, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term "inevitable" is eight times; and “political” is one hundred and ninety-six times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “inevitable” appeared once; and “political” is thirty-six times in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, term “inevitable” occurred six times; and “political” is two hundred and fifty-three times in the editorials of the newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "Temporary" is used to describe the space the government may find within quick-fix measures. It indicates a short-term duration, which can be seen as neutral.

Second adjective "political" reckoning describes a potential political consequence. It has a neutral connotation, indicating an evaluation or judgment.

Third adjective "inevitable" is used to describe the possibility of an early election. It has a neutral connotation, indicating an event that is likely to happen.

Predication of adjective "inevitable": The term "inevitable" predicates an attribute of certainty or unavoidability ("inevitable") to the noun "early election." It characterizes the nature of the potential election.

Referential of adjective "inevitable": It refers to the event of an early election, emphasizing its likelihood.

Positive Portrayal of PTI

S.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
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No.		
1	Shrewd (clever)	The_AT0 government_NN1 is_VBZ shrewd_AJ0 enough_AV0 to_TO0 know_VVI that_CJT larger_AJC debates_NN2 regarding_PRP the_AT0 IMF_NP0 programme_NN1

Table 25: *Positive adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “PM’s address” (March 01, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term "shrewd" is one in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. However, term “shrewd” occurred three times in the editorials of the newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The word "shrewd" is used to characterize the government's understanding of larger debates. It generally has a positive connotation, suggesting cleverness or astuteness.

Explanation

In the text of above-mentioned editorial, adjectives are used to describe various entities and situations, and they play a crucial role in shaping the predication and referential aspects of the discourse.

Discussion

Overall, the text contains a mix of adjectives but maximum of PM Imran Khan is in negative connotations. The portrayal of the government and its actions can be interpreted differently depending on one's perspective. Some terms, like "draconian," clearly carry negative connotations. Here, Van Dijk (2006)’ strategy is applied as “positive presentation/action of Us, negative presentation/action of Them; emphasize Our good things, and Their bad things, and De-emphasize Our bad things, and Their good things.” The overall tone appears to be critical of certain government actions and policies.

Data Set 8. United against PECA (March 02, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/02-03-2022/page7>

PTI		PDM
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+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.	Neutral Adj.	+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	6	-	-	-

Table 26: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “United against PECA”

(March 02, 2022)

The adjectives that contribute to either a negative or positive tone toward PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) are as follows:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Draconian" " (harsh)	A_AT0 larger_AJC group_NN1 and_CJC effort_NN1 appears_VVZ to_TO0 be_VBI building_VVG against_PRP the_AT0 <u>draconian_AJ0</u> Pakistan_NP0 Electronic_AJ0 Crimes_NN2 Act_NN1 (PUL PECA_NP0)_PUR amendment_NN1 passed_VVN by_PRP the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1 as_PRP an_AT0 ordinance_NN1
2	"Controversial"	The_AT0 governments_NN2 refusal_NN1 to_TO0 budge_VVI on_PRP such_DT0 a_AT0 <u>controversial_AJ0</u> media_NN0 law_NN1 is_VBZ not_XX0 serving_VVG anyones_NN2 interests_NN2
3	"Deliberate"	The_AT0 law_NN1 has_VHZ been_VBN condemned_VVN by_PRP Amnesty_NN1 International_AJ0 which_DTQ calls_VVZ it_PNP a_AT0 deliberate_AJ0 attempt_NN1 to_TO0 clamp_VVI down_AVP on_PRP free_AJ0 expression_NN1 Shahbaz_NP0 Sharif_NP0 calling_VVG the_AT0

		PECA_NN1 amendment_NN1 a_AT0 <i>deliberate_AJ0</i> attempt_NN1 to_TO0 stifle_VVI dissenting_VVG voices_NN2
4	"Malicious " (Hateful)	it_PNP is_VBZ clear_AJ0 that_CJT the_AT0 intentions_NN2 behind_PRP it_PNP are_VBB malicious_AJ0
5	"Unapolog etic"	Despite_PRP the_AT0 PMs_NP0 unapologetic_AJ0 defence_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 amendments_NN2 and_CJC PTI_AJ0 ministers_NN2 regular_AJ0 harangues_NN2 in_PRP support_PRP of_PRP PECA_NP0
6	"Fascist"	The_AT0 government_NN1 must_VM0 remember_VVI that_CJT states_VVZ where_AVQ citizens_NN2 are_VBB in_PRP constant_AJ0 fear_NN1 of_PRF speaking_VVG their_DPS minds_NN2 are_VBB called_VVN fascist_AJ0

Table 27: *Negative adjectives in the editorial titled "United against PECA"*

(March 02, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "fascist" is two; the term "deliberate" occurred five times and term "malicious" is used once that is specifically PTI; Similarly adjective "unapologetic" is used once only and "draconian" is used eight times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The terms "fascist", "deliberate" and "unapologetic" appeared once in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "draconian" occurred three times; term "fascist" appeared once and term "deliberate" three times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "draconian" is used negatively to describe the PECA amendment. In adjectival phrase "Draconian" shows negative portrayal of PTI for PECA amendment.

Predication of adjective "draconian": The term "draconian" predicates a quality of severity or harshness ("draconian") to the noun "PECA amendment." It characterizes the nature of the amendment by PTI government.

Referential meaning of adjective "draconian": It refers to the legal change introduced by the government (out-group), emphasizing its oppressive and stringent nature.

Second adjective "Controversial" is negatively used to describe the media law. In adjectival phrase "Controversial" shows negative portrayal of PTI for media laws.

Predication of adjective "controversial": The adjective "controversial" predicates a quality of being disputed or contentious ("controversial") to the noun "media law." It characterizes the nature of the law that is not implementable and it shows failure of PTI government.

Referential meaning of adjective "controversial": It refers to the legislation related to the media by government of PTI (out-group narrative by the newspaper), highlighting its contentious and divisive nature.

Third adjective "deliberate" is slightly negative, suggesting intentionality in making changes. In context of PTI adjectival phrase "Deliberate (attempt)" shows negative portrayal of party.

Predication of adjective "deliberate: The term "deliberate" predicates a quality of intention or purposeful action ("deliberate") to the noun "attempt." It characterizes the nature of the attempt that is made by PTI government.

Referential of adjective "deliberate: It refers to the government's action (that looks as not allies to newspaper), suggesting intentionality in making changes to the law.

Fourth adjective "malicious" is implying negative harmful intent or ill will. In the connotation of adjectival phrase "Malicious (intentions)", it shows negative portrayal of PTI.

Predication of adjective "malicious: The adjective "malicious" predicates a quality of harmful intent or malevolence ("malicious") to the noun "intentions." It characterizes the nature of the negative intentions of PTI government.

Referential of adjective "malicious: It refers to the government's motives or purposes, emphasizing the perceived harm or ill will behind the changes. Here, the text has felt of out-group (opposition) of newspaper towards PTI government.

Fifth adjective "Unapologetic" is indicating negative approach of PTI which shows the absence of regret or apology.

Predication of adjective "unapologetic": The adjective "unapologetic" predicates a quality of not expressing regret or remorse ("unapologetic") to the noun "defense." It characterizes the nature of the defense that is giving negative notion of PTI.

Referential meaning of adjective “unapologetic”: It refers to the government's stance or justification for the amendments, highlighting the absence of regret or apology.

Sixth adjective “Fascist” is used highly negative to describe certain states with authoritarian tendencies. It is negative presentation of PTI.

Predication of adjective “fascist”: The adjective "fascist" predicates a quality of authoritarianism or dictatorial control ("fascist") to the noun "states." It characterizes the nature of certain states.

Referential meaning of adjective “fascist”: It refers to countries or governments, emphasizing their authoritarian tendencies when citizens fear expressing their opinions. This phrase qualifies the membership categorization devices as given in DHA by Wodake, (2015), deictics, etc. such as metaphors, and nouns used to denote processes and actions.

Explanation

The adjectives in the text contribute to the predication by providing additional details about the nouns they modify. They also play a significant role in setting the tone and conveying the author's perspective on the issues discussed in the text. In this case, adjectives such as "draconian," "controversial," "malicious," and "unapologetic" contribute to a critical evaluation of the government's actions and the implications of the PECA amendment.

Discussion

The text primarily uses adjectives to describe the nature of laws, actions, and intentions rather than directly attributing them to PTI or PDM. The negative connotations are associated with the PECA amendment and the government's actions and intentions, which may indirectly reflect on PTI as the ruling party. PDM is not directly mentioned in the text. In their corpus-based study, Brezina et al., (2015), observed same lexical connections in discourse that collocates with general negative/positive associations pejorative evaluations and associations.

March,2022

Ant-conc Analysis

After clause tagging, corpus of all editorials is analyzed for collocation and concordance with term “PTI”. Screen shots of results (with respect to other parts of speech in the text) by Ant-conc tool is given below:

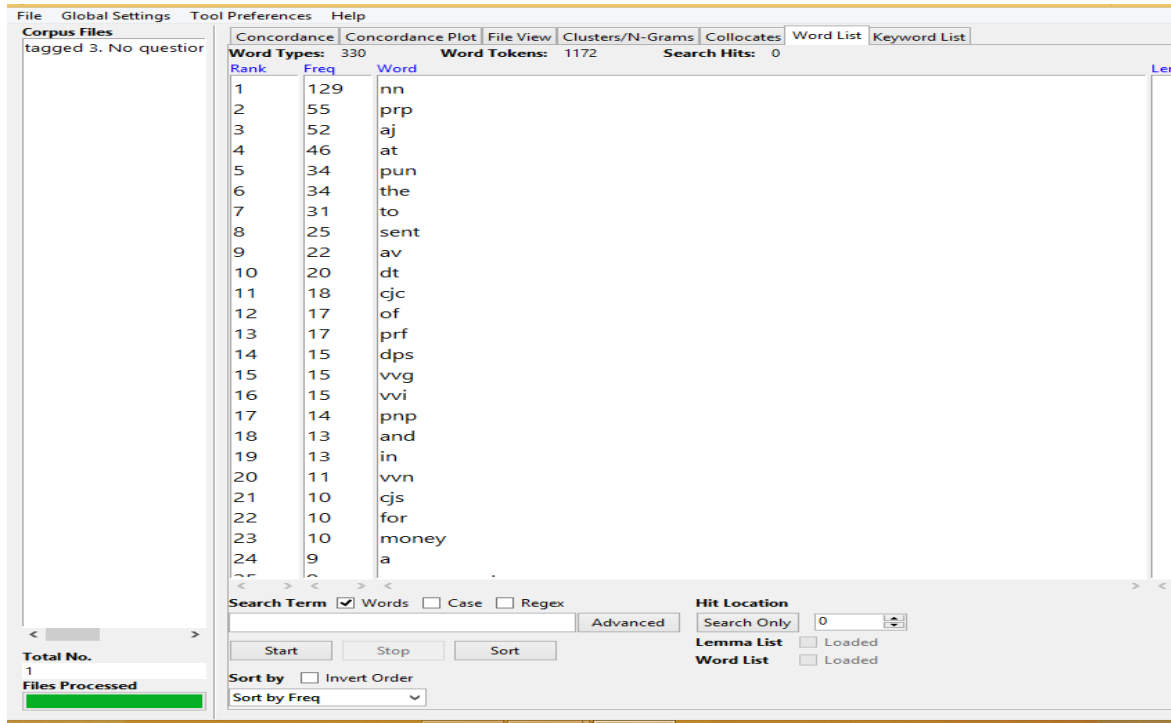


Figure 9: Frequency & Ranking of Adjectives

Frequency

Frequency of adjectives ranks number three after nouns and preposition is given below:

In this editorial, a total number of adjectives is fifty-two (52) which ranks on third position in the frequency of occurrence of parts of speech in the editorial text. However, the frequency of prepositions is fifty-three (53) and exists on second position while nouns are one hundred and twenty-nine (129) having top position with frequency of occurrence of parts of speech in the text.

screen shots of Ant-conc results



Figure 10: Concordance of Term “PTI” in “No Asked Question”

(March 03, 2022)

It is important to note that researcher did not analyze all the adjectives of editorial but the adjective those are used in the context of the political parties, government/opposition or party leader’s names.

Data Set 9. No Asked Question (March 03, 2022) by editorial board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/03-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
4	7	-	-	-

Table 28: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “No Asked Question”

(March 03, 2022)

In this editorial, the adjectives used provide both positive and negative portrayals of the PTI government's policies regarding industrialization and amnesty schemes. Let's analyze the adjectives that shape these portrayals:

Negative Portrayal of PTI Government

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Black money" & "full advantage"	In_PRP the_AT0 past_NN1 we_PNP have_VHB seen_VVN that_CJT many_DT0 investors_NN2 take_VVB <u>full_AJ0</u> advantage_NN1 of_PRF such_DT0 amnesty_NN1 to_TO0 legalise_VVI their_DPS black_AJ0 money_NN1
2	"Imaginary" or "real"	PTI-led_AJ0 government_NN1 has_VHZ been_VBN targeting_VVG its_DPS opponents_NN2 for_PRP <u>imaginary_AJ0</u> or_CJC <u>real_AJ0</u> corruption_NN1
3	Mock industries	such_DT0 amnesty_NN1 to_TO0 legalise_VVI their_DPS black_AJ0 money_NN1 and_CJC set_VVD up_AVP mock_AJ0 industries_NN2 or_CJC indulge_VVB in_PRP sham_NN1 businesses_NN2
4	Little rationale	so_CJS there_EX0 is_VBZ little_DT0 rationale_NN1 for_PRP the_AT0 legalization_NN1 of_PRF black_AJ0 money_NN1 like_PRP this_DT0
5	Favorite mode	The_AT0 government_NN1 is_VBZ about_AVP to_TO0 promulgate_VVI yet_AV0 another_DT0 presidential_AJ0 ordinance_NN1 its_DPS favorite_AJ0 mode_NN1 of_PRF legislation_NN1
6	free hand	government_NN1 is_VBZ imposing_VVG more_DT0 taxes_NN2 on_PRP middle-_NN1 and_CJC lower-income_AJ0 segments_NN2, the_AT0 rich_AJ0 are_VBB given_VVN a_AT0 <u>free_AJ0 hand</u> _NN1

7	Rude shock	citizens_NN2 are_VBB paying_VVG on_PRP commodities_NN2 you_PNP are_VBB likely_AJ0 to_TO0 get_VVI a_AT0 rude_AJ0 shock_NN1.
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Table 29: *Negative Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “No Asked Question”*
(March 03, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "Black" is fourteen; the term "Mock" occurred twice and the adjective "Rude" is used once that is specifically PTI; The term "Little" is used four times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The terms "Black" appeared once in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "Black" occurred three times; term "Mock" appeared once and term "Little" thirty-two times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "black" implies to modify money for leniency and exemption from accountability, which can be seen as a negative aspect of PTI government to give "full" advantage to businessmen.

Both adjectives "Imaginary" or "real" in one phrase highlights the lack of judgement about scrutiny or accountability of PDM by PTI led Govt., suggesting that the government's approach is too permissive, which could be perceived negatively.

Next adjective "mock" with industries suggests deceit or insincerity, painting a negative picture of investors taking advantage of amnesty schemes.

The adjective "little" before rationale questions the effectiveness of the government's approach, implying that it lacks a strong justification, which is negative in tone.

Next adjective "favorite" in this context implies a preference for presidential ordinances, which can be seen as a negative portrayal, suggesting a lack of proper legislative processes.

The adjective "free" (free hand) implies favoritism toward the wealthy and, by contrast, suggests a negative impact on middle- and lower-income segments.

The use of adjective "rude" indicates a strong negative reaction or surprise, suggesting that the government's policies are unfavorable to regular citizens.

Positive Portrayal of PTI Government

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Strong proponent	Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0 has_VHZ been_VBN a_AT0 strong_AJ0 proponent_NN1 of_PRF anti-corruption_AJ0 for_PRP at_AV0 least_AV0 20_CRD years_NN2
2	Significant step	another_DT0 industrial_AJ0 amnesty_NN1 package_NN1-termining_VVG it_PNP a_AT0 significant_AJ0-step_NN1for_PRP-the_AT0 industrialization_NN1 of_PRF Pakistan_NP0
3	Ostensible (apparent)	The_AT0 government_NN1 should_VM0 also_AV0 keep_VVI in_PRP mind_NN1 that_CJT its_DPS ostensible_AJ0 focus_NN1 on_PRP accountability_NN1 does_VDZ not_XX0 go_VVI in_PRP consonance_NN1 with_PRP such_DT0 leeway_NN1 offered_VVN to_PRP investors_NN2
4	Transparent trail	The_AT0 money_NN1 that_CJT is_VBZ allowed_VVN for_PRP investment_NN1 must_VM0 have_VHI a_AT0 transparent_AJ0 trail_NN1 of_PRF its_DPS sources_NN2

Table 30: *Positive adjectives in the editorial titled “No Asked Question” (March 03, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term " Significant" is thirty-three times; "Strong" is twenty-five times and "Ostensible" specifically occurred once to portray the PTI in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "Significant" appeared five times in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, both terms "Significant" and "Strong" occurred nineteen times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "strong" portrays the PTI government in a positive light, emphasizing their commitment to fighting corruption.

Second adjective "significant" highlights the government's efforts to boost industrialization, suggesting a positive impact on the country's economic development.

Third adjective "ostensible" implies that the government's focus on accountability, while appearing genuine, may be positive as it signals a commitment to transparency.

Fourth adjective "transparent" suggests that the government intends to ensure accountability in the source of investment, which can be seen as a positive aspect.

Explanation

This editorial is published by Editorial Board with the title: "No Asked Question" means that no one should raise the question about industrial 'amnesty' package' by PTI government. The editorial starts with previous view point of the chairman PTI Imran Khan where two adjectives "strong" and "black" are used technically in order to highlight the Imran Khan's stance about black money laundering in Pakistan. The adjective "black" is repeatedly used right from beginning till the end (almost five times in the same editorial) in order to achieve the objective of depreciatorily as mentioned in strategy of predications. The concept about "amnesty package" is attributed as a negative trait; the objective is achieved through the use of adjective "black" with the noun "money" (Black money).

Discussion

In this newspaper editorial, there is more criticism on leadership of government (PTI Govt.) as compare to give opinions about current issue which shows the features mentioned in the strategy provided by Wodak (2015). The negative adjectives are used to highlight the worse side picture of PTI government therefore maximum proper nouns (Imran Khan, PTI etc.) are used in context of these adjectives. The use of such adjectives is actually qualifying the strategy of predication in Discourse Historical Approach (2015). Overall, the adjectives used in this editorial create a nuanced portrayal of the PTI government's policies, highlighting both positive and negative aspects. The editorial appears to be critical of certain elements of the government's approach, particularly regarding amnesty schemes and their impact on accountability and industrialization.

As Browning and Sweetser's study (2020) investigate the subsequent perceived communication strategies employed to maintain political organization-public relationships, ultimately impacting political party reputation.

Text shows an apparent attempt on accountability and there is not any in-depth focus for consideration of accountability as it is only supposed and assumed action by the government.

Overall, we find the themes of deprivations and pessimistic approach towards PTI-led government by the Editorial Board. Two adjectives” imaginary or real” are used artfully to build a notion of confusion about corruption of PML (N). “*Imaginary or real*” are the adjectives to build the narrative about corruption of PML(N) to show that allegations might be imaginary which on other hand makes an ambiguous role for corruption by PTI government. In this way, editorial board is giving turn to issue of corruption by emphasizing and deemphasizing the phrases by use of adjectives. According to Wodak’s Discourse Historical Approach (2015), writers mobilize support for an issue and diminish potential opposition by distinguishing between in-group ‘allies’ and outgroup ‘opposition. Here the editor is supporting opposition party PML (N) that is one of the major political parties in Pakistan Democratic Movement. In this way, writers are developing the binaries for representation of political poles (PTI vs PDM). Additionally, instead of using simple word government, the adjective “PTI-Led” with noun government is deliberately used to emphasize on targeting the only political party that is specific to the government of PTI.

Data Set 10. Political activity (March 04, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/04-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
1	4	2	-	-

Table 31: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Political Activity” (March 04, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, the analyze the adjectives that give positive or negative connotations to PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PML-Q (Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid) is given below:

Negative Portrayal of PTI and its allies PML-Q:

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Obvious	although_CJS at_PRP the_AT0 moment_NN1, the_AT0 PM_NP0 would_VM0 be_VBI the_AT0 more_AV0 obvious_AJ0 choice_NN1.

2	Chief	PTI_NN1 has_VHZ failed_VVN to_TO0 build_VVI this_DT0 confidence_NN1 and_CJC this_DT0 may_VM0 prove_VVI to_TO0 be_VBI its_DPS chief_AJ0 undoing_NN1
3	Unresolved	There_EX0 is_VBZ also_AV0 the_AT0 as-yet-unresolved_AJ0 mystery_NN1 of_PRF whether_CJS they_PNP are_VBB planning_VVG to_TO0 bring_VVI the_AT0 no-confidence_NN1 move_NN1 against_PRP the_AT0 Speaker_NN1 or_CJC the_AT0 PM_NP0
4	Unstable	The_AT0 air_NN1 of_PRF uncertainty_NN1 hurts_VVZ an_AT0 already-unstable_AJ0 country_NN

Table 32 *Negative Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Political Activity” (March 04, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term " Obvious" is eleven times; both adjectives “unstable” and “unresolved” occurred once and frequency of “Chief” is sixty-eight times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “Chief” appeared thirty-one times in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, the term “Obvious” occurred nine times and term “Chief” forty-four times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “obvious” suggests that the government (PTI) is facing complexity or challenges. This shows negative aspect, it implies that PTI is dealing with a complicated situation.

Predication of adjective “obvious”: The adjective "perplexed" predicates a state of confusion or uncertainty ("perplexed") to the government (PTI).

Referential meaning of adjective “obvious”: It refers to PTI's current state, indicating that PTI is experiencing confusion or uncertainty in response to recent political developments.

Second adjective “chief” in the text mentions the main reason that PTI has "failed" to build confidence. This is a negative connotation, implying a lack of success or accomplishment. The adjective "chief" is used to describe potential players in the political game. It's neutral and does not inherently convey a positive or negative connotation.

Predication of adjective “chief”: The adjective "failed" predicates a state of not succeeding or achieving ("failed") to PTI.

Referential of adjective “chief”: It refers to PTI's inability to build confidence among the people, suggesting a lack of success in this regard.

Third adjective “unresolved” in the text mentions the "as-yet-unresolved mystery" surrounding PML-Q's intentions. This implies a lack of clarity or transparency, which can be seen as a negative connotation.

Predication of adjective “unresolved”: The adjective "mystery" predicates a state of being unresolved or unclear ("mystery") to PML-Q's intentions.

Referential of adjective “unresolved”: It refers to the lack of clarity and transparency surrounding PML-Q's intentions, suggesting that their position remains unclear.

The overall tone of fifth adjective “unstable” as uncertainty regarding the government's stability can be seen as a negative connotation for PTI.

Neutral Adjectives Relevant to PTI and PML-Q

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	“Quiet” & “powerful”	with_PRP all_DT0 quiet_AJ0 in_PRP powerful_AJ0 quarters_NN2, the_AT0 government_NN1 seems_VVZ to_TO0 be_VBI working_VVG on_PRP its_DPS own_DT0 to_TO0 defend_VVI itself_PNX from_PRP the_AT0 oppositions_NN2 impending_AJ0 onslaught_NN1

Table 33: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Political activity” (March 04, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "Quiet" is four times; and term “powerful” appeared fourteen times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. However, the term “powerful” occurred nine times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

Both adjectives “Quiet” & “powerful” in one phrase show that the mention of "all quiet in powerful quarters" is neutral, indicating a lack of activity or statements.

Positive Portrayal of PML-Q (coalition of PTI)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Initial	Moonis_NP0 Elahis_NP0 initial_AJ0 statement_NN1 that_CJT the_AT0 party_NN1 stood_VVD by_PRP the_AT0 PTI_NN1 has_VHZ been_VBN countered_VVN to_PRP some_DT0 degree_NN1

Table 34 *Positive adjectives in the editorial titled “Political activity” (March 04, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term "initial" is six times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News” while same term “initial” occurred twice in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective “initial” in the text notes that Moonis Elahi's initial statement in support of PTI has been "countered to some degree." This suggests that PML-Q is reconsidering its position, which can be seen as a positive connotation for those opposing PTI.

Predication of adjective “initial”: The adjective " initial " predicates an action of responding or opposing to Moonis Elahi's initial statement.

Referential of adjective “initial”: It refers to PML-Q's response, indicating a potential shift in stance away from initial support for PTI.

Discussion

The text presents a somewhat pessimistic view about PTI and its allies PML (Q), suggesting challenges and uncertainties surrounding its government. While certain adjectives like "failed" and "uncertainty" carry negative connotations, others like "perplexed" and "competent" provide a more nuanced perspective. Similar to findings of Farahani & Ahmadian (2014) from The Los Angeles Times (USA) newspaper portray Russian president angry at Iran that cannot tolerate Iran’s acts any more while reaction of Tehran Times’ report, all the lexical choices that are used to describe Russia’s relationship with Iran are positive. Both news reports are related to the manipulation of the discourse form, in order to disseminate their favorite ideologies and perspectives. In newspaper

“The News” choice of lexical item regarding PML-Q, as term "countered" indicates a potential shift in stance, while "mystery" implies a lack of transparency.

Data Set 11. Protest is criminal? (March 06, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/06-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	7	-	-	-

Table 35 Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Protest is criminal?”

(March 06, 2022)

In the text of editorial, there is an analysis of the adjectives that give negative connotations specifically to PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) separately:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Peaceful	In_PRP the_AT0 past_NN1, peaceful_AJ0 students_NN2 marching_VVG into_PRP Islamabad_NP0 have_VHB faced_VVN teargas_NN1 fire_NN1 and_CJC other_AJ0 forms_NN2 of_PRF police_NN2 brutality_NN1
2	Violent (first occurrence)	members_NN2 of_PRF the_AT0 traditionally_AV0 more_AV0 violent_AJ0 Tehreek-e-Labbaik_NP0 Pakistan_NP0 have_VHB been_VBN allowed_VVN to_TO0 march_VVI along_AVP roads_NN2 and_CJC highways_NN2
3	Intolerable	If_CJS we_PNP treat_VVB peaceful_AJ0 protests_NN2 as_CJS intolerable_AJ0, how_AVQ

		can_VM0 we_PNP promote_VVI tolerance_NN1 in_PRP society_NN1 especially_AV0 among_PRP young_AJ0 people_NN0 ?
4	Blatant	government_NN1 functionaries_NN2 should_VM0 not_XX0 be_VBI allowed_VVN to_TO0 misuse_VVI their_DPS powers_NN2 in_PRP such_DT0 a_AT0 blatant_AJ0 manner_NN1
5	Unpardonable	Such_DT0 demonstrations_NN2 should_VM0 not_XX0 be_VBI counted_VVN as_CJS unpardonable_AJ0
6	Violent (Second Occurrence)	Suppression_NN1 of_PRF voices_NN2 is_VBZ in_PRP nobodys_NN2 favour_VVB; it_PNP suffocates_VVZ society_NN1 and_CJC results_NN2 in_PRP violent_AJ0 behaviour_NN1 something_PNI we_PNP are_VBB seeing_VVG all_DT0 too_AV0 alarmingly_AV0 in_PRP Pakistan_NP0
7	Over-the-top	his_DT0 is_VBZ not_XX0 the_AT0 first_ORD time_NN1 the_AT0 government_NN1 has_VHZ taken_VVN such_DT0 an_AT0 over-the-top_AJ0 route_NN1 while_CJS handling_VVG a_AT0 protest_NN1

Table 36: *Negative adjectives in the editorial titled “Protest is criminal?”*

(March 06, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "violent" is sixteen times; moreover, it is used twice in same editorial against the PTI; Similarly, both adjectives “intolerable” and “unpardonable” occurred once which is specifically used against PTI youth; and frequency of “blatant” is seven times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “violent” appeared twice in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, the term “violent” occurred ten times and term “blatant” twice in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "peaceful" gives negative connotation in context of PTI govt. response to the students. It signifies police actions over the students were harsh and cruel actions, implying that PTI's government has been excessively forceful and cruel in its response to protests. Discursive qualification of this adjective highlights a highly negative trait in the government's response to protests.

Predication of adjective: The adjective "peaceful" predicates a state of extreme cruelty, "brutality" or violence in actions taken by the government (PTI).

Referential of adjective: It refers to PTI's response to protests, implying that the government's actions have been harsh and cruel.

Second adjective "Violent" gives negative connotation. It implies that there have been incidents of physical force and aggression during protests, which reflects negatively on PTI's governance because PTI government did not take action against Tehreek-e-labaik. In discursive qualification, it conveys a negative quality associated with the actions during protests.

Predication of adjective "Violent": "Violent" predicates a state of physical force or aggression during protests, possibly involving the government (PTI).

Referential meaning of adjective "Violent": It refers to incidents of violence during protests, reflecting negatively on PTI's handling of such situations.

Third adjective "Intolerable" gives negative connotation in discourse. It suggests that the response to peaceful protests by law-enforcement authorities, possibly under PTI's government, is perceived as unacceptable and unjust. In discursive qualification, this adjective suggests that the government's actions are unacceptable and unjust.

Predication of adjective "intolerable": "Intolerable" predicates a state of unacceptability in the response to peaceful protests, possibly by the government (PTI).

Referential meaning of adjective "intolerable": It refers to the perception that the government's actions are unacceptable, particularly regarding peaceful protests.

Fourth adjective "blatant" gives negative connotation. It suggests that the misuse of powers by government functionaries, possibly including PTI officials, is evident and conspicuous, reflecting negatively on PTI's governance. In discursive qualification, it indicates a strongly negative trait, implying that the misuse of authority is evident

Predication of adjective "Blatant": "Blatant" predicates a clear and obvious misuse of powers by government functionaries, possibly including PTI.

Referential of adjective "Blatant": It refers to the misuse of authority by government officials, suggesting a lack of subtlety in their actions. The statement is made as newspaper "allies" to PDM.

Fifth adjective "unpardonable" gives negative connotation. It implies that the impact of suppressing peaceful protests is oppressive and stifling, which may reflect negatively on PTI's government. In discursive qualification, this adjective suggests that the government's actions negatively impact society.

Predication of adjective "unpardonable": "unpardonable" predicates an action of stifling or oppressing society due to the response to protests, possibly under PTI's governance.

Referential of adjective "unpardonable": It refers to the impact of suppressing peaceful protests, implying that it negatively affects society.

Sixth adjective "violent" gives negative connotation. The reappearance of "violent" emphasizes the consequences of suppressing peaceful protests, suggesting that PTI's governance may contribute to increased violence. In discursive qualification, it reaffirms the negative nature of the actions and consequences during protests.

Predication of adjective "violent": The reappearance of "violent" emphasizes the consequences of suppressing peaceful protests, potentially associated with PTI's governance.

Referential of adjective "violent": It refers to the aftermath of suppressing peaceful protests, indicating that PTI's government may contribute to increased violence.

Seventh adjective "Over-the-top" gives negative connotation. This adjective implies excessive or unwarranted actions taken by the government (PTI) in handling protests. It suggests criticism of PTI's approach as being extreme. In discursive qualification, the adjective portrays the government's actions in a negative light, suggesting criticism.

Predication of adjective "Over-the-top": "Over-the-top" predicates an excessive or extreme approach/ actions to the government's handling of protests (PTI).

Referential of adjective "Over-the-top": It refers to PTI's actions, suggesting that the government's response to protests is excessively aggressive.

Discussion

Overall negative connotations mentioned in the text are primarily directed at the government (PTI) rather than PDM. The text of editorial emphasizes criticism of the government's actions and responses to protests while not explicitly associating these negative aspects with PDM. The adjectives (discussed above) primarily rely on discursive qualification and predication to

convey their meanings, evaluating social actors' actions, events, and processes. Similarly, Fatima and Shehzad (2019) identified the role of adjectives in creating in-group and out-group polarization. Their research underlines how the choice of adjectives influences the perception of group dynamics, highlighting the impact of language in shaping social identities. It's important to note that this text does not explicitly attribute negative connotations to PDM in this editorial. The adjectives used primarily criticize the government's handling of protests and the response of law-enforcement authorities.

Data Set 12. Political heat (March 08, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/08-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	4	-	1	1

Table 37: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled "Political Heat" (March 08, 2022)

The adjectives used in both positive and negative connotations for PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) are analyzed separately:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Scathing (sarcastic)	The_AT0 PM_NP0 is_VBZ clearly_AV0 under_PRP stress_NN1 and_CJC the_AT0 Scathing_AJ0 attacks_NN2 on_PRP opposition_NN1 leaders_NN2
2	Indiscreet (rash)	The_AT0 PM_NP0 is_VBZ clearly_AV0 under_PRP stress_NN1 and_CJC the_AT0 Scathing_AJ0 attacks_NN2 on_PRP opposition_NN1 leaders_NN2 could_VM0 have_VHI been_VBN left_VVN for_PRP another_DT0 day_NN1 and_CJC time_NN1. The_AT0 same_DT0 applies_VVZ to_PRP the_AT0 indiscreet_AJ0 tone_NN1 and_CJC tenor_NN1 against_PRP the_AT0 European_AJ0 Union_NN1

3	Angry	A_AT0 visibly_AV0 angry_AJ0 prime_AJ0 minister_NN1 addressed_VVD PTI_AJ0 workers_NN2 at_PRP the_AT0 Governor_NP0 House_NP0 in_PRP Karachi_NP0
4	Untimely	this_DT0 kind_NN1 of_PRF no-holds-barred_AJ0-tirade_NN1-was_VBD-both_AV0= <u>Untimely</u> AJ0 and_CJC unseemly_AV0

Table 38: *Negative Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Political Heat” (March 08, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term “angry” is three times; term “scathing” is used twice; Similarly, the adjectives “indiscreet” occurred once which is specifically used against PTI in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “angry” occurred four times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "scathing" gives negative connotation towards PTI leadership.

Predication of adjective "scathing": "scathing" predicates a harsh and critical tone or attitude in the attacks on opposition leaders by Prime Minister Imran Khan.

Referential of adjective "Scathing": It refers to the negative manner in which the PM criticized opposition leaders, implying that his attacks were severe and hurtful.

Second adjective "indiscreet" gives negative connotation towards PTI leadership.

Predication of adjective "Indiscreet": "indiscreet" predicates a lack of discretion or judgment in the tone and tenor used against the European Union and the US.

Referential of adjective "Indiscreet": It refers to the negative perception that the PM's comments against important trade partners were unwise and inappropriate.

Third adjective “angry” gives negative connotation towards PTI leadership.

Predication of adjective "angry": The term "angry" predicates a state of being upset or irate to Prime Minister Imran Khan's rallies and behavior.

Referential of adjective "angry": It refers to the negative aspect of the PM's emotional display during a gathering of PTI supporters, suggesting that his anger was not well-received.

Fourth adjective "untimely" gives negative Connotation towards PTI leadership

Predication of adjective "untimely": The adjective "untimely" predicates a quality of being poorly timed or ill-suited to the situation in reference to the tirade against the European Union and the US.

Referential of adjective "untimely": It suggests that the PM's critical comments at that moment were considered inappropriate and negatively timed.

Positive Portrayal of PPP (PDM)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Impressive	Combined_AJ0 opposition_NN1 having_VHG managed_VVN to_TO0 rustle_VVI together_AV0 a_AT0 requisition_NN1 for_PRP a_AT0 no-confidence_NN1 motion_NN1 as_PRP well_PRP as_PRP an_AT0 impressive_AJ0 march_NN1 towards_PRP Islamabad_NP0.

Table 39: Positive Adjectives (for PDM) in the Editorial Titled "Political Heat"
(March 08, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "impressive" is four times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "impressive" occurred once in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

The adjective "impressive" positive connotation towards Leadership of PPP (part of PDM)

Predication of adjective "impressive": The adjective "impressive" predicates a quality of being remarkable or having a positive impact on Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's mobilization in Punjab.

Referential meaning of adjective "impressive": It refers to the effectiveness of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's efforts in mobilizing support in Punjab, which is portrayed positively.

Negative Portrayal of PDM (Combined Opposition):

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
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1	Comfortable	The_AT0 PDM_NP0 on_PRP its_DPS part_NN1 is_VBZ looking_VVG comfortable_AJ0 sticking AJ0 to_PRP its_DPS numbers_NN2 claim_VVB
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Table 40: *Negative Adjectives (for PDM) in the Editorial Titled “Political Heat” (March 08, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term “comfortable” is two times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “Comfortable” occurred once in the editorials of newspaper “The Express Tribune”.

Description

The adjective "comfortable" gives negative connotation towards PDM

Predication of adjective "comfortable": The adjective "comfortable" predicates a state of ease or satisfaction in the context of the PDM sticking to its claim about having sufficient numbers.

Referential meaning of adjective "comfortable": It refers to the perception that the opposition (PDM) is confident in its position, which could be seen negatively by the ruling party.

Discussion

The text primarily uses adjectives to describe various aspects of the political binaries, including the behavior of PTI and the opposition (PDM) while there is one positive adjective ("impressive") related to PDM (PTI's opposition). The negative adjectives associated with PTI are more prominent. Similarly, Butool and Arshad (2021), in their article published in Express Tribune, highlighted the newspaper's role in representing the primary agenda of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) against the PTI government. Here, the text critiques the PM's emotional display, harsh criticism of opposition leaders, and inappropriate comments, reflecting negatively on PTI's approach. The adjective used for PDM ("comfortable") is somewhat neutral and does not carry a strongly negative connotation.

Data Set 13. Revisiting NAP (National Action Plan) March 09, 2022 by Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/09-03-2022/page7>

PTI		PDM
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+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.	Neutral Adj.	+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	3	-	-	-

Table 41: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Revisiting NAP (National Action Plan)”

March 09, 2022

In this editorial, the adjectives used in relation to PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) are analyzed separately with respect to their negative or positive tones:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Unprecedented	Pakistan_NP0 became_VVD a_AT0 target_NN1 was_VBD unprecedented_AJ0 in_PRP the_AT0 countrys_NN2 history_NN1
2	Successive	we_PNP failed_VVD to_TO0 do_VDI so_AV0 , despite_PRP claims_NN2 to_PRP the_AT0 contrary_NN1 by_PRP successive_AJ0 governments_NN2 in_PRP power_NN1
3	Potent	a_AT0 potent_AJ0 force_NN1 that_CJT is_VBZ blighting_VVG our_DPS nation_NN

Table 42: Negative Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Revisiting NAP (National Action Plan)”

March 09, 2022

Frequency

Frequency of the term "unprecedented" is ten times; The term “Potent” occurred six times and frequency of “Successive” is fourteen times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “unprecedented” appeared twice in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, the term “unprecedented” occurred four times and term “Potent” twice in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "Unprecedented" suggests a negative aspect, emphasizing the gravity of the situation under PTI's leadership. In discursive qualification, it points to a specific situation or condition during PTI's rule, emphasizing the novelty of the situation.

Predication of adjective "unprecedented": "Unprecedented" predicates a situation where Pakistan became a target of terrorism in an unprecedented manner during PTI's governance.

Referential of adjective "unprecedented": "Unprecedented" refers to the situation where Pakistan became a target of terrorism in an unprecedented manner during PTI's governance.

Second adjective "successive" gives negative connotation for PTI. In discursive qualification, it implies a negative assessment of PTI's ability to effectively implement the National Action Plan (NAP). It points to the specific outcome or performance related to the implementation of NAP under PTI's leadership.

Predication of adjective "successive": "successive" in collocation of "failed" predicates a state of not achieving success in actively following the suggestions of NAP during PTI's governance.

Referential of adjective "successive": "successive" refers to "Failed" state of not achieving success in actively following the suggestions of NAP during PTI's governance.

Third adjective "potent" gives negative connotation for PTI. In discursive qualification, it portrays a negative image of the impact of terrorism under PTI's rule. It indicates the specific impact or effect of terrorism during PTI's rule on the nation.

Predication of adjective "potent": The adjective "potent" predicates a negative impact or affliction on the nation by terrorism during PTI's governance.

Referential meaning of adjective "potent": The adjective "potent" refers to the negative impact or affliction on the nation by terrorism during PTI's governance.

Explanation

The adjectives used in this editorial serve to refer to specific situations or conditions during PTI's governance and predicate negative connotations related to the government's handling of terrorism and the implementation of NAP. These adjectives highlight concerns and criticisms in the context of counterterrorism efforts under PTI's leadership.

Discussion

The adjectives used in this editorial do not explicitly attribute positive or negative tones to PDM. However, they do express negative connotations in relation to PTI's handling of terrorism

and the implementation of NAP. The negative adjectives emphasize aspects like the severity of terrorism, perceived failure in implementing NAP, and the negative impact on the nation under PTI's governance. There are rare explicitly positive or neutral adjectives used in relation to PTI in this editorial. However, “the effects of more traditionally neutral media are more difficult to predict” (Browning & Sweetser, 2020). There are rare adjectives explicitly related to PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) Opposition in this editorial. The text primarily focuses on discussing terrorism, NAP, and the government's actions without mentioning PDM.

In the conversation about NAP (National Action Plan), the newspaper "THE NEWS" can be considered part of the out-group (opposition) to the PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) government. This is based on the critical and questioning tone of the editorial towards the government's handling of terrorism and the implementation of NAP. The editorial expresses concerns and critiques certain aspects of the government's approach, which aligns with the role of the opposition in scrutinizing the actions of the ruling party.

Data Set 14. Angry politics (March 10, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/10-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
1	6	1	1	-

Table 43: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Angry Politics” (March 10, 2022)

The adjectives used in the provided editorial with respect to their negative or positive tone towards PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) are analyzed separately:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context

1	Angry	meetings_NN2, angry_AJ0 rallies_NN2 and_CJC no-confidence_NN1 moves_VVZ against_PRP the_AT0 sitting_NN1 government_NN1
2	Unwelcome	a_AT0 sitting_NN1 prime_AJ0 minister_NN1. The_AT0 <u>unwelcome_AJ0 return_NN1</u> of_PRF the_AT0 toxic_AJ0 political_AJ0 discourse_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 1990s_CRD and_CJC the_AT0 frequency_NN1 with_PRP which_DTQ such_DT0 public_AJ0 statements_NN2 have_VHB come_VVN from_PRP Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0
3	“Jittery” (nervous) and “Certain”	the_AT0 government_NN1 has_VHZ every_AT0 reason_NN1 to_TO0 at_AV0 least_AV0 start_VVI to_TO0 look_VVI jittery_AJ0. However_AV0, nothing_PNI is_VBZ certain_AJ0
4	Diplomatic	government_NN1 look_NN1 rattled_VVD, it_PNP also_AV0 affects_VVZ-Pakistans_NP0-diplomatic_AJ0 engagements_NN2
5	Whole	removing_VVG Buzdar_NN1 would_VM0 show_VVI weakness_NN1 but_CJC keeping_VVG him_PNP on_AV0 could_VM0 lead_VVI to_PRP a_AT0 whole_AJ0 set_NN1 of_PRF defections_NN2
6	Unseemly	It_PNP has_VHZ also_AV0 led_VVN to_PRP an_AT0 unseemly_AJ0 tit-for-tat_NN1 between_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1 and_CJC the_AT0 opposition_NN1

Table 44 *Negative Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Angry Politics” (March 10, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term “Certain” is twenty-five times; terms “Unseemly” and “Unwelcome” are used twice and term “angry” thrice; Similarly, the adjectives “Jittery” occurred once which is specifically used against PTI government in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term”

certain” appeared four times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “angry” occurred four times and “certain” nine times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "angry" gives negative connotation for PTI. In discursive qualification, it implies that the PM's tone and demeanor were negative or hostile, suggesting frustration or discontent.

Predication of adjective "angry": "Angry" predicates the emotional state of Prime Minister Imran Khan during his address in Karachi.

Referential meaning of adjective "angry": It refers to the emotional state of the PTI leader, specifically Imran Khan. “THE NEWS’ presenting Imran Khan in membership category as their ‘opposition’ as categories mentioned in Wodake’s model (2015).

Both adjectives “jittery” and “certain” negative connotation for PTI. The adjective "Jittery" implies a negative tone, indicating that the government is nervous or uneasy about the political developments and challenges it is currently facing. In discursive qualification, it implies a negative assessment of the government's composure and stability.

Predication of adjective "Jittery": "Jittery" predicates the government's current state, suggesting nervousness or unease.

Referential meaning of adjective "Jittery": It refers to the state of jitteriness within the PTI-led government. The use of word PTI-Led government shows clearly an out-group gesture of newspaper towards PTI.

The adjective “diplomatic” in concordance of the term "rattled" has a negative tone, suggesting that the government's response to the situation appears agitated or disturbed.

Next adjective “whole” in context of "Weakness" carries a negative connotation, indicating that the removal of CM Usman Buzdar could be seen as a sign of weakness for Prime Minister Imran Khan.

The adjective "Unseemly" implies a negative judgment, suggesting that the government's behavior, particularly its tone and rhetoric, is inappropriate or unsuitable. Editor want here to remind Imran Khan’s dharna against PML(N) government.

Positive Portrayal of PTI through positive Tone of Adjectives

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Certain	nothing_PNI is_VBZ certain_AJ0 and_CJC for_PRP all_DT0 the_AT0 oppositions_NN2 talk_VVB about_PRP numbers_NN2 the_AT0 vote_NN1 of_PRF no_AT0 confidence_NN1 is_VBZ still_AV0 very_AV0 much_DT0 up_AVP in_PRP the_AT0 air_NN1

Table 45: *Positive Adjectives (for PTI) in the Editorial Titled “Angry Politics”*

(March 10, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “Certain” is twenty-five times in the text of editorials of “The News”. The term “certain” appeared four times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “certain” nine times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective "certain" has a positive tone, suggesting that the prime minister's efforts to woo allies can be considered a measure of success and there is nothing for opposition.

Neutral Tone of Adjectives Towards PTI/PDM

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Momentary	as_PRP regards_PRP the_AT0 no-confidence_NN1 vote_NN1 on_PRP either_DT0 side_NN1.Barring_PRP momentary_AJ0 embarrassment_NN1, even

Table 46: *Neutral adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Angry politics” (March 10, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term “momentary” is only two times appearance in the text of editorials of “The News”.

Description

The adjective "momentary" is neutral in tone, indicating that the success or outcome of the political developments can be quantified or assessed.

Positive Portrayal of PPP (PDM)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Impressive	the_AT0 combined_AJ0 opposition_NN1 having_VHG managed_VVN to_TO0 rustle_VVI together_AV0 a_AT0 requisition_NN1 for_PRP a_AT0 no-confidence_NN1 motion_NN1 as_PRP well_PRP as_PRP an_AT0 impressive_AJ0 march_NN1 towards_PRP Islamabad_NP0.

Table 47: *Positive Adjectives (for PDM) in the Editorial Titled “Angry Politics”*

(March 10, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “impressive” is four times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”; hence, it is used twice for positive portrayal of PPP (PDM). The term “impressive” occurred once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective "Impressive" carries a neutral to slightly positive tone, acknowledging Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's mobilization in Punjab as a noteworthy achievement.

Explanation

Overall, the adjectives in the editorial primarily convey a negative tone towards PTI, especially regarding its handling of political challenges and discourse. While some neutral or slightly positive terms are used, they are not directly related to PTI but rather describe specific developments or outcomes. The negative tone is more evident in the assessment of the government's behavior and challenges.

Discussion

The adjectives used in the editorial primarily convey a negative tone towards PTI, indicating frustration, unwelcome discourse, and jitteriness within the government. The editorial does not employ adjectives to explicitly convey a negative or positive tone towards PDM, focusing more on the political dynamics and government's response to the opposition. The adjectives in the editorial

serve both referential and predication functions. Wodak’s work (2015) on political alignment reflects a growing interest in how language is used to encode or reflect specific “stances.” The adjectives provide emotional and descriptive context to the PTI leadership, the political discourse, and the overall political dynamics.

Data Set 15. Stormy politics (March 12, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/12-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	6	-	-	3

Table 48: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Stormy Politics” (March 12, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (PTI and PDM). Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Full	instead_PRP of_PRP negotiations_NN2 with_PRP its_DPS opponents_NN2, the_AT0 government_NN1 goes_VVZ into_PRP <u>full_AJ0</u> attack_NN1 mode_NN1
2	Vindictive (cruel/hateful)	<u>vindictive_AJ0</u> politics_NN1 does_VDZ no_AT0 favours_NN2 to_PRP any_DT0 country_NN1 especially_AV0 a_AT0 country_NN1 like_PRP ours_PNP where_CJS we_PNP need_VVB stability_NN1 and_CJC calm_VVB more_DT0 than_CJS anything_PNI else_AV0. This_DT0 is_VBZ something_PNI the_AT0 prime_AJ0 minister_NN1 must_VM0 remember_VV

3	Antagonistic	the_AT0 prime_AJ0 minister_NN1 must_VM0 remember_VVI as_CJS he_PNP continues_VVZ his_DPS speeches_NN2 and_CJC seems_VVZ to_TO0 have_VHI decided_VVN to_TO0 double_VVI down_AVP on_PRP antagonistic_AJ0 discourse_NN1
4	Optimistic	overnment_NN1-wholly_AV0-embracing_VVG-its_DPS container mood NN1and_CJC the_AT0 opposition_NN1 parties_NN2 visibly_AV0 angry_AJ0 and_CJC starting_VVG to_TO0 respond_VVI in_PRP the_AT0 same_DT0 tone_NN1 any_DT0 hopes_NN2 regarding_PRP the_AT0 political_AJ0 temperature_NN1 going_VVG down_AVP are_VBB much_AV0 too_AV0 <u>optimistic_AJ0</u>
5	"angry"	With_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1 wholly_AV0 embracing_VVG its_DPS container-mood_NN1, and_CJC the_AT0 opposition_NN1 parties_NN2 visibly_AV0 angry_AJ0
6	"joint"	the_AT0 joint_AJ0 oppositions_NN2 move_VVB to_TO0 dislodge_VVI Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0 from_PRP his_DPS post_NN1

Table 49: *Negative Adjectives (for PTI) in the Editorial Titled “Stormy Politics”*
(March 12, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “Full” is thirty-one times; terms “vindictive” is used five times and term “angry” thrice; Similarly, the adjectives “joint” nineteen times; Both “antagonistic” and “Optimistic” occurred once which is specifically used against PTI government in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “Full” appeared seventeen times; “joint” once in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “angry” occurred four times; “joint” nine times; “antagonistic” once only; and “full” sixteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective " Full " implies a negative judgment, suggesting that the government's behavior, particularly its tone and rhetoric, is inappropriate or unsuitable. This phrase predicates the government's aggressive stance, characterizing their negative approach.

Second adjective "Vindictive" carries a negative connotation, indicating that the politics mentioned is motivated by a desire for revenge or to harm others.

Third adjective "antagonistic" has a negative tone, suggesting that the government's discourse is confrontational or hostile.

Fourth adjective "optimistic" implies to opposition's moral and a negative assessment of government, indicating that any potential change or developments mentioned may weaken the government's stance.

Fifth adjective " angry" predicates the emotional state of the Prime Minister, describing him as openly expressing anger. It appears as negative tone.

Sixth adjective " joint " predicates the government's aggressive stance, characterizing their negative while symbolizes positive collective approach by opposition against the PM Imran Khan.

Negative Portrayal of PDM (Opposition)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Disgruntled	a_AT0 vote_NN1 of_PRF no-confidence_NN1 and_CJC what_DTQ started_VVD in_PRP the_AT0 centre_NN1 has_VHZ also_AV0 taken_VVN Punjab_NP0 by_PRP storm_NN1.From_PRP Jahangir_NP0 Tareens_NP0 <u>disgruntled_AJ0</u> group_NN1 to_PRP Aleem_NP0 Khans_NP0 group_NN1 joining_VVG forces_NN2
2	Bizarre	the_AT0 prime_AJ0 Minister_NN1 in_PRP an_AT0 address_NN1 on_PRP Thursday_NP0 decided_VVD to_TO0 talk_VVI not_XX0 only_AV0 about_PRP neutrality_NN1 but_CJC also_AV0 settled_VVN on_PRP a_AT0 most_AV0 bizarre_AJ0 choice_NN1 of_PRF words

3	Strong	Unfortunately_AV0 instead_PRP of_PRP coming_VVG across_PRP as_AV0 Strong_AJ0 this_DT0 has_VHZ only_AV0 led_VVN to_PRP more_DT0 speculation_NN1 that_CJT the_AT0 government_NN1 is_VBZ definitely_AV0 feeling_VVG the_AT0 political_AJ0 heat_NN1
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Table 50: *Negative Adjectives for PDM in the Editorial Titled “Stormy Politics”*

(March 12, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "disgruntled" is three times; "Strong" twenty-nine times and "Bizarre" is seven times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". Both terms "Bizarre" and "Strong" appeared twice in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "disgruntled" occurred four times; "Strong" twenty-one times and term "Bizarre" five times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "Disgruntled" carries a negative connotation, suggesting that certain groups within the opposition are dissatisfied or unhappy.

Second adjective "bizarre" (strange/unusual) implies to solution of a negative tone of PM Imran khan; on other hand, that is describing the opposition parties as visibly upset in response to the government's actions and statements.

Third adjective "strong" has a positive tone for govt. but negative tone for opposition indicating that the situation in the country is not showing much potential for improvement or stability.

Discussion

The adjectives in the editorial primarily convey a negative tone towards both PTI and the opposition (PDM). Findings align with the study of Fatima et al. (2019) that investigates "how prejudice is reflected against the colonized in the selected short stories through the use of adjectives". Overall, these adjectives highlight confrontational politics, inappropriate discourse, and a lack of optimism regarding stability in the country. The tone is generally critical of both the government and the opposition.

Data Set 16. A dangerous narrative (March 16, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/16-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	4	-	-	-

Table 51 Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “A Dangerous Narrative”

(March 16, 2022)

In above mentioned editorial titled "Stormy politics" from "THE NEWS," let's analyze the adjectives in terms of their negative or positive tone towards PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) separately:

Negative Portrayal of PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	" Nothing <u>good</u> " “ <u>Opposing</u> sets” <u>charged</u> crowds"	Nothing_PNI good_AJ0 can_VM0 come_VVI out_PRP of_PRP two_CRD opposing_AJ0 sets_NN2 of_PRF charged_AJ0 crowds_NN2 in_PRP one_CRD space_NN1 In_PRP this_DT0 situation_NN1, the_AT0 onus_NN1 is_VBZ on_PRP the_AT0 sitting_NN1 government_NN1 to_TO0 show_VVI restraint_NN1 curb_VVB its_DPS enthusiasm_NN1 for_PRP toxicity_NN1 and_CJC try_VVB to_TO0 work_VVI matters_NN2 through_AVP by_PRP urging_VVG dialogue_NN1 and_CJC peace_NN1
2	"magic"	it_PNP does_VDZ not_XX0 need_VVI them_PNP for_PRP the_AT0 magic_AJ0 number_NN1 172_CRD in_PRP the_AT0 vote_NN1 of_PRF no- confidence

3	"vague"	There_EX0 have_VHB been_VBN vague_AJ0 statements_NN2 of_PRF discontent_NN1 with_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1
4	Coquettish (playful act)	the_AT0 allies_NN2 being_VBG wooed_VVN by_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1 and_CJC also_AV0 of_PRF interest_NN1 to_PRP the_AT0 Opposition_NN1 it_PNP seems_VVZ are_VBB being_VBG coquettish_AJ0 about_PRP their_DPS options_NN

Table 52: *Negative Adjectives in the Editorial Titled "A Dangerous Narrative"*

(March 16, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "magic" is four times; terms "vague" is used three times and term "Coquettish" twice in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "magic" appeared two times in the text of editorials of "The Express Tribune". The term "vague" occurred two times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

These adjectives have negative predication which characterizes PTI's discourse as toxic, implying that it contributes to a harmful and negative political environment.

The adjective "magic" suggests that PTI's politics are going to remove by a desire number by opposition for revenge or spite.

Next adjective "vague" in this phrase suggests that government is unable to give any clear statement. PTI is under pressure and facing challenges, indicating a negative situation.

The adjective "coquettish" (playful act) describes the confrontational situation between PDM and PTI allies in a negative light.

Discussion

In this editorial, the adjectives primarily convey a negative tone towards PTI, highlighting the tense and confrontational nature of the political situation as Marza (2011) found in their study that "adjectives seem to play a paramount role both in argumentation and persuasion." Here, the language used suggests a challenging and unfavorable political environment for both parties.

Data Set 17. Power' politics (March 18, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/18-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	5	-	3	-

Table 53: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled "Power' Politics" (March 18, 2022)

In the provided editorial titled "Power politics" from "THE NEWS," let's analyze the adjectives in terms of their negative or positive tone towards PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) separately:

Negative Portrayal of PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Terrible "	on_PRP TV_NN1 screens_NN2 some_DT0 of_PRF them_PNP in_PRP terrible_AJ0 taste_NN1 and_CJC resorting_VVG to_PRP openly_AV0 abusing_VVG the_AT0 opposition
2	"Devastating"	By_PRP all_DT0 means_NN0 yesterday_AV0 turned_VVD out_AVP to_TO0 be_VBI a_AT0 devastating_AJ0 day_NN1 for_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1 as_CJS the_AT0 oppositions_NN2 claims_NN2 of_PRF having_VHG enough_DT0 members_NN2 of_PRF the_AT0 ruling_AJ0 party_NN1 on_PRP its_DPS side_NN1 turned_VVD out_AVP to_TO0 be_VBI true_AJ0
3	"Dangerous"	Governors_NN2 rule_VVB in_PRP Sindh_NP0 may_VM0 seem_VVI like_PRP a_AT0 far-fetched_AJ0 idea_NN1 but_CJC can_VM0 lead_VVI to_PRP

		an_AT0 even_AV0 more_AV0 dangerous_AJ0 collision_NN1 with_PRP the_AT0 opposition_NN1
4	"surprising" & "live_"	The_AT0 response_NN1 from_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1 has_VHZ been_VBN hardly_AV0 surprising_AJ0 live_AJ0 meltdowns_NN2 on_PRP TV_NN1 screens_NN2 some_DT0 of_PRF them_PNP in_PRP <u>terrible_AJ0 taste_NN1</u> and_CJC resorting_VVG to_PRP openly_AV0 abusing_VVGthe_AT0 opposition_NN1is_VBZplanning_VVG its_DPS moves_NN2 any_DT0 such_DT0 showdown_NN1 on_PRP the_AT0 streets_NN2 can_VM0 be_VBI very_AV0 dangerous_AJ0
5	"Dissenting "	There_EX0 can_VM0 be_VBI a_AT0 debate_NN1 on_PRP the_AT0 right_NN1 or_CJC wrong_AJ0 of_PRF the_AT0 vote_NN1 of_PRF no_AT0 confidence_NN1 and_CJC the_AT0 dissenting_AJ0 MNAs_NN2 from PRP within PRP the_AT0 ruling_AJ0 party_NN1

Table 54: *Negative Adjectives for PTI in the Editorial Titled "Power' Politics"*

(March 18, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "Terrible" is three times; terms "dangerous" is used five times and term "dissenting" once in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "dangerous" appeared five times in the text of editorials of "The Express Tribune". The term "dangerous" occurred three times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "terrible" gives negative predication for PTI government. It suggests that some government reactions were in poor judgment or inappropriate.

Second adjective "_devastating" describes the day as a severe setback for the PTI government, implying a negative turn of events.

Third adjective "dangerous_" appeared twice in this editorial that indicates the potential for a hazardous confrontation between PTI and the opposition.

Next both adjectives "surprising" & "live_" imply that the government's reactions on television were emotional and uncontrolled.

The adjective "dissenting " (rebel) Characterizes the PTI MNAs who are openly going against their own party, suggesting internal division and dissent.

Positive Portrayal of PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"willing"	and_CJC it_PNP seems_VVZ most_DT0 of_PRF them_PNP are_VBB willing_AJ0 to_TO0 talk_VVI in_PRP detail_NN1 about_PRP just_AV0 why_AVQ they_PNP felt_VVD the_AT0 need_NN1 to_TO0 vote_VVI against_PRP their_DPS own_DT0 party_NN1
2	"concrete"	the_AT0 opposition_NN1 has_VHZ shown_VVN their_DPS cards_NN2 openly_AV0 it_PNP is_VBZ only_AV0 a_AT0 matter_NN1 of_PRF time_NN1 before_CJS we_PNP see_VVB the_AT0 allies_NN2 make_VVI some_DT0 sort_NN1 of_PRF <u>concrete_AJ0</u> announcement_NN1
3	"bright"	things_NN2 are_VBB not_XX0 looking_VVG too_AV0 bright_AJ0 for_PRP the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1

Table 55: *Positive Adjectives for PDM in the Editorial Titled "Power' Politics"*
(March 18, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "willing" is six times; terms "concrete" is used eight times and term "bright" eleven times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "concrete" appeared

four times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term "willing" occurred twice in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “Willing” shows positive predication for PDM. It suggests willingness of PTI MNAs to vote against PTI government. This scenario portrays the atmosphere at Sindh House (PPP) allies of PDM, where dissenting PTI MNAs are present, in a somewhat positive light, likening it to a lively event.

Second adjective "concrete" implies that the allies' involvement is awaited with anticipation, suggesting a positive potential outcome for the opposition (PDM).

Third adjective “bright” indicates rare chances of PTI to win confidence vote while PDM's claims of having support from within PTI are validated, suggesting a positive development for the opposition (PDM).

Discussion

In this editorial, the adjectives primarily convey a negative tone towards PTI, suggesting a challenging and unfavorable political situation for the party. On the other hand, the tone towards PDM is somewhat positive, highlighting aspects such as transparency and the validation of their claims. It's important to note that while some adjectives reflect the situation as positive or negative, others describe events or actions neutrally without explicit evaluative judgments. Hence, “One of the core goals of political discourse analysis is to seek out ways in which language choice is manipulated for specific political effect” (Wilson, 2015). In this editorial, the language used implies internal dissent, emotional reactions, and potential confrontations. However, it is worth noting that some descriptions remain neutral, focusing on events and actions without specific evaluative judgments.

Data Set 18. Cynical times (March 20, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/20-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	2	-	-	-

Table 56: *Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Cynical Times” (March 20, 2022)*

The editorial titled "Cynical times" from "THE NEWS," is analyzed the adjectives in terms of their negative or positive connotations towards PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement):

Negative Portrayal of PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	“Chaotic” & “anarchic”	The_AT0 government_NN1 must_VM0 also_AV0 realise_VVI that_CJT blaming_VVG the_AT0 opposition_NN1 solely_AV0 for_PRP creating_VVG a_AT0 chaotic_AJ0 or_CJC anarchic_AJ0 situation_NN1 may_VM0 be_VBI seen_VVN as_CJS disingenuous_AJ0 when_CJS the_AT0 PM_NP0 and_CJC his_DPS ministers_NN2 keep_VVB referring_VVG to_PRP their_DPS March NP0 27_CRD rally_VVB as_PRP a_AT0 sort_NN1 of_PRF answer_NN1 to_PRP the_AT0 opposition_NN1
2	“profane”, “virtual” & “Dissenting”	Does_VDZ it_PNP want_VVI reconciliation_NN1 with_PRP its_DPS dissenting_AJ0 members_NN2 as_CJS it_PNP seems_VVZ from_PRP the_AT0 PM_NP0 's_recent_AJ0 statements_NN2 ? If_CJS that_DT0 were_VBD the_AT0 case_NN1 ,_PUN why_AVQ it_PNP had_VHD to_TO0 go_VVI into_PRP a_AT0 virtual_AJ0 meltdown_NN1 mode_NN1 complete_AJ0 with_PRP profane_AJ0 language_NN1 makes_VVZ little_DT0 sense_NN1

Table 57: *Negative Adjectives for PTI in the Editorial Titled “Cynical Times”*

(March 20, 2022)

Frequency`

Frequency of the term “Chaotic” is three times; terms term “dissenting” is used once in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “virtual” appeared three times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “profane”, occurred once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

Both adjectives "Blaming and "anarchic" the opposition solely for creating a chaotic or anarchic situation" (Negative Predication); suggests that the government's efforts to shift blame onto the opposition are being questioned, indicating a negative perspective.

Next three adjectives "profane" (disrespectful), "virtual" & "dissenting" is referred to PTI government (referential). "Meltdown mode, complete with profane language" (Negative Predication); Portrays the government's response as emotionally charged and involving the use of offensive language.

Discussion

In this editorial, the focus is primarily on the negative discourse and political tensions within Pakistan's political setup. While PTI is mentioned in various critical contexts, there are no specific adjectives targeting PDM. Same phenomena seem in the research by Farahani and Ahmadian (2014) while comparison of newspapers Tehran Times and Los Angeles Times that was based on "their different ideologies by using two overall semantic macro-strategies of positive self-presentation and negative other-presentation."

Data Set 19. The surprise that wasn't (March 28, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/28-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
1	1	-	2	-

Table 58: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled "The Surprise that wasn't" (March 28, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (PTI and the opposition). Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
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1	"underwhelming" "bizarre" (strange)	They_PNP call_VVB PM_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khans_NP0 lack_NN1 of_PRF governance_NN1 as_PRP what_DTQ they_PNP call_VVB PM_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khans_NP0 lack_NN1 of_PRF governance_NN1, From_PRP an_AT0 underwhelming_AJ0 trump_NN1 card_NN1 to PRP drawing VVG a_AT0 bizarre_AJ0 analogy_NN1 between_PRP himself_PNX and_CJC Zulfikar_NP0 Ali_NP0 Bhutto_NP0
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Table 59 Negative Adjectives for PTI in the Editorial Titled "The Surprise that wasn't"

(March 28, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "bizarre" is seven times; terms term "underwhelming" is used once in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "underwhelming" appeared once in the text of editorials of "The Express Tribune".

Description

These two adjectives "underwhelming" (cannot impress) and "bizarre" (strange) describe to demolish the Imran Khan's image (that used in context Prime Minister Imran Khan's jalsa and trump's meeting)

Predication of adjective "underwhelming": It predicates that the speech did not meet expectations and was disappointing.

Referential meaning of adjectives "underwhelming" and "bizarre" (strange): Both "underwhelming" and "bizarre" (strange) adjectives refer to the quality of Prime Minister Imran Khan's speech during the jalsa and trump meeting.

Positive Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"biggest"	what_DTQ the_AT0 PTI_NP0 said_VVD would_VM0 be_VBI its_DPS biggest_AJS jalsa_NN1 yet_AV0 . _

Table 60: Positive Adjectives for PTI in the Editorial Titled "The Surprise that wasn't"

(March 28, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “biggest” is seventeen times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “biggest” appeared twelve times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “biggest”, occurred four times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

This adjective "biggest" is used to describe the jalsa, but not inherently negative but little positive); ironic remarks by the editorial board

Predication of adjective "biggest": It predicates that the jalsa was larger in scale compared to previous events.

Referential meaning of adjective "biggest": This adjective refers to the size of the jalsa (public gathering) organized by PTI.

Positive Portrayal of PDM (Opposition)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"smug"	opposition_NN1 is_VBZ looking_VVG far_AV0 too_AV0 smug_AJ0 to_TO0 be_VBI actually_AV0 worried_VVN about_PRP the_AT0 next ORD week_NN1 in_PRP politics_NN1 and_CJC the_AT0 calculations NN2 for_PRP the_AT0 allies_NN2 may_VM0 just_AV0 have_VHI become VVN easier_AV0 than_CJS before_AV0
2	"constitutional"	In_PRP any_DT0 case_NN1 a_AT0 vote_NN1 of_PRF no-confidence_NN1 is_VBZ a_AT0 constitutional AJ0 right_NN1 under_PRP Article_NN1 95_CRD It_PNP may_VM0 not_XX0 be_VBI to_PRP any_DT0 sitting_NN1 government_NN1 's_POS taste_NN1 but_CJC it_PNP is_VBZ part_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 law_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 land_NN1

Table 61: Positive Adjectives for PDM in the Editorial Titled “The Surprise that wasn’t”

(March 28, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "smug" is three times and "constitutional" eight times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "smug" appeared once and "constitutional" thirteen times in the text of editorials of "The Express Tribune". The term "constitutional" occurred eleven times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description:

First adjective "smug" is used to describe the opposition's demeanor.

Predication of adjective "smug": It predicates that the opposition appears overly self-satisfied or confident.

Referential meaning of adjective "smug": This adjective describes the demeanor or attitude of the opposition.

Second adjective "constitutional" used to describe the opposition's chances of success)

Predication of adjective "constitutional": It predicates that the opposition is in a favorable position in terms of achieving its goals.

Referential meaning of adjective "constitutional": This adjective refers to the opposition's chances of success in the political context.

Discussion

There are no explicitly positive adjectives used for either PTI but here is a positive adjective ("biggest") in this context. Some negative adjectives like "bizarre" (strange): repeated adjective for PM PTI government Imran Khan; that is already used in previous editorial. However, positive adjectives for PDM are used to demoralize the government. Accordingly, Butool and Arshad (2021) discussed "the movement against the policies of the government that joint political action is called Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), formally launched on August 14, 2020."

Data Set 20. Political thriller (March 29, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/29-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.

-	4	-	-	-
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Table 62: *Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Political Thriller” (March 29, 2022)*

In the editorial, several adjectives provide portrayal of both PTI and PDM (the opposition) in various ways:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Unsure"	Just_AV0 two_CRD nights NN2 back_AVP on_PRP Sunday_NP0 the_AT0 prime_AJ0 minister NN1 had_VHD seemed_VVN unsure_AJ0 of_PRF surviving_VVG the_AT0 vote_NN1 of_PRF no-confidence_NN1
2	"Complicated"	The_AT0 numbers_NN2 for_PRP the_AT0 vote_NN1 of_PRF no-confidence_NN1 are_VBB looking_VVG far_AV0 more_AV0 complicated_AJ0 now
3	"Weak"	it_PNP is_VBZ clear_AJ0 that_CJT the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1 is_VBZ playing_VVG on_PRP an_AT0 extremely_AV0 weak_AJ0 pitch_NN1
4	"Desperate"	The_AT0 calculations_NN2 made_VVD to_TO0 stay_VVI around_AVP for_PRP just_AV0 another_DT0 year_NN1 and_CJC a_AT0 half_DT0 seem_VVB almost_AV0 desperate_AJ0

Table 63: *Negative Adjectives for PTI in the Editorial Titled “Political Thriller”*

(March 29, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "unsure" is fifteen times; “weak” seventeen times; “desperate” is six times and "complicated" is nine times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “desperate” appeared once and "constitutional" occurred thirteen times in the text of editorials of

“The Express Tribune”. The term "constitutional" occurred eleven times; “desperate” appeared three times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "unsure" suggests that the Prime Minister was uncertain about surviving the vote of no-confidence, which could indicate weakness or lack of confidence in the PTI government.

Predication of adjective "Unsure": The Prime Minister was uncertain about surviving the vote of no-confidence.

Referential meaning of adjective "Unsure": Refers to the Prime Minister's state of mind and confidence in the government's survival.

Second adjective "complicated" characterizes the numbers for the vote of no-confidence as complicated, implying that PTI's position is challenging and uncertain.

Predication of adjective "complicated": The numbers for the vote of no-confidence are complicated.

Referential meaning of adjective "complicated": Refers to the complexity of the political situation and the uncertainty surrounding the vote.

Third adjective "weak" conveys the idea that PTI's current political situation is unfavorable, and the government may be vulnerable.

Predication of adjective "weak": PTI's position is weak.

Referential meaning of adjective "weak": It refers to the vulnerability of the PTI government.

Fourth adjective is describing the calculations made by PTI as desperate implies that they are taking drastic measures to hold onto power, which may not be viewed positively.

Predication of adjective "desperate": PTI's calculations are desperate.

Referential meaning of adjective "desperate": It indicates that PTI is taking drastic measures out of desperation to hold onto power.

Discussion

According to analysis of the newspaper editorial, PTI is presented negatively here which showed that ideological manipulations of language can be realized by the deployment of the positive or negative adjectives. These results are similar to general semantic macro-strategies of

Van Dijk's (2000) framework: "positive self-presentation and negative other- presentation which are manifested by other discursive strategies."

Data Set 21. Letter gate (March 31, 2022) By Editorial Board

Link: <https://e.thenews.com.pk/pindi/31-03-2022/page7>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	3	-	1	-

Table 64: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled "Letter Gate" (March 31, 2022)

The adjectives from the editorial "Letter gate" that portray the PTI and the opposition (PDM) negatively or positively

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Awkward"	The_AT0 repercussions_NN2 of_PRF outing_NN1 such_DT0 content_NN1 in_PRP this_DT0 conspiratorial_AJ0 way_NN1 means_VVZ that_CJT our_DPS Foreign_AJ0 Office_NN1 and_CJC envoys_NN2 may_VM0 find_VVI themselves_PNX in_PRP a_AT0 rather_AV0 awkward_AJ0 position_NN1 internationally_AV0
2	"draconian"	a_AT0 draconian_AJ0 law_NN1 like_PRP Peca_NP0 was_VBD amended_VVN to_TO0 further_AV0 curtail_VVI the_AT0 freedom_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 media_NN0
3	"faint"	There_EX0 was_VBD a_AT0 faint_AJ0 expectation_NN1 that_CJT perhaps_AV0 the_AT0 prime_AJ0 minister_NN1 who_PNQ was_VBD supposed_AJ0 to_TO0 address_VVI the_AT0 nation_NN1

Table 65: Negative Adjectives for PTI in the Editorial Titled "Letter Gate" (March 31, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term " faint" is four times; and "draconian" is eight times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "faint" appeared twice in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "draconian" occurred three times and term "faint" once times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "awkward" suggests that the government's actions are leading to uncomfortable situations for diplomatic representatives. It predicates that Our foreign office and envoys may find themselves in a rather awkward position internationally.

Second adjective "draconian" is used to describe certain laws, particularly the PECA Ordinance. It has a negative connotation, suggesting harsh, severe, or oppressive legislation. This adjective is already used in previous editorial with title "indefensible stance." and United against PECA (Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act). This adjective "draconian" predicates a quality of severity or harshness ("draconian") to the noun "laws." It characterizes the nature of the laws, particularly the PECA Ordinance that is being imposed by PTI government.

Third adjective "faint" suggests that the PTI government's actions are seen feeble as problematic or controversial. It predicates that PM was planning to address but postponed.

Positive Portrayal of PDM (Opposition)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"new" & "working"	joint_AJ0 opposition_NN1 the_AT0 PPP_NP0 and_CJC the_AT0 MQM-P_NP0 signed_VVD a_AT0 detailed_AJ0 Charter_NN1 of_PRF Rights_NN2 and_CJC promised_VVD to_TO0 do_VDI better_AV0 in_PRP their_DPS new_AJ0 working_AJ0 relationship_NN1

Table 66: Positive Adjectives for PDM in the Editorial Titled "Letter Gate" (March 31, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "new" is twenty-seven times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "new" appeared seventeen times in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "new" occurred ten times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

Both adjectives “new” and “working” indicate a positive development in the opposition's collaboration. They predicate PPP and the MQM-P signed a detailed 'Charter of Rights' and promised to do better in their new working relationship.

Discussion

Overall, the adjectives used in the editorial present a negative aspects portrayal of PTI, highlighting the negative aspects of the political positions and actions. These adjectives provide insights into how the editorial frames the actions and decisions of the PTI government in a more negative light, while highlighting a positive development in the opposition's collaboration. The results align with Mahmood et al.'s study (2014), “The lexical choices play intricate role in constructing political binaries within newspaper editorials. The nuanced use of biased words not only reflects ideological perspectives but also contributes to the polarization of public discourse.”

4.2 Analysis of Editorials in “DAWN”

Numerical data about the adjectives in the editorials of the newspaper “Dawn” is tabulated below:

DAWN					
Connotation / S. No.	PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
	+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
Data Set. 22	-	3	2	-	-
Data Set. 23	-	6	-	-	2
Data Set. 24	-	-	5	-	-
Data Set. 25	-	6	-	-	-
Data Set. 26	-	-	7	-	-
Data Set. 27	-	-	10	-	-
Total Adj. = 48	-	19	27	-	2
Percentage	-	39.58 %	56.25%	-	4.6 %

Table 67: Overall Percentage of all Positive/Negative Adjectives for PDM/PTI in “Dawn”

Overall, graphical representation of the newspaper “Dawn” is displayed in following chart:

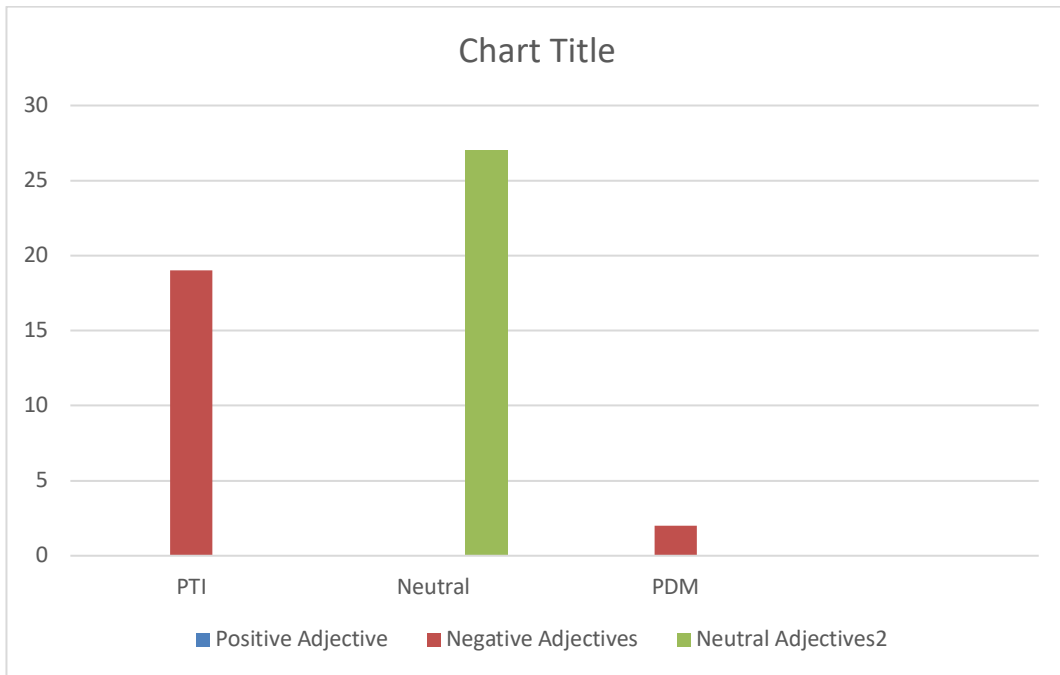


Figure 11: Overall Graphical Representation of the Newspaper "Dawn"

Date-wise detail analysis of the adjectives in the editorials of the newspaper "Dawn" is given below:

Data Set 22. "Scrambling for support?" (01 March, 2022)

Link: <https://www.dawn.com/newspaper/editorial/2022-03-01>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	3	2	-	-

Table 68: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled "Scrambling for Support?" (01 March, 2022)

Here are the predicates and referents for the neutral adjectives mentioned in the editorial "Scrambling for support?" from Dawn. These predicates and referents provide context for how these neutral adjectives are used in the editorial. In the editorial "Scrambling for support?" from Dawn, some neutral adjectives include:

Neutral Adjectives

S.No.	Neutral Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Beleaguer (annoy)	THE_AT0 relief_NN1 in_PRP energy_NN1 prices_NN2announced_VVN by_PRP a_AT0 beleaguered_AJ0 Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan
2	Similar	similar_AJ0 scheme_NN1 for_PRP housing_VVG and_CJC construction_NN1 previously_AV0 to_TO0 launder_VVI their_DPS illegitimate_AJ0 wealth_NN1 by_PRP investing_VVG it_PNP in_PRP industry_NN1

Table 69: *Neutral Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “Scrambling for Support?” (01 March, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term “similar” is thirty-four; “beleaguer” twice in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “similar” appeared twenty-two times in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, the term “similar” occurred thirteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “Beleaguered” Predicates that Prime Minister Imran Khan is under pressure. It refers that the Prime Minister is facing challenges and difficulties.

Second adjective “Similar” predicates government action of “announced tax amnesty”: that has similarity with previous actions. It refers to the policy allowing individuals to declare their undeclared wealth.

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Negative Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Illegitimate	scheme_NN1 for_PRP housing_VVG and_CJC construction_NN1 previously_AV0 to_TO0 launder_VVI their_DPS illegitimate_AJ0 wealth_NN1 by_PRP investing_VVG it_PNP in_PRP industry_NN1

2	Chaotic	CJC chaotic_AJ0 approach_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 ruling_AJ0 party_NN1 towards_PRP Pakistans_NP0 economic_AJ0 policy_NN1
3	Fiscal (Financial)	the_AT0 relief_NN1 package_NN1 since_CJS it_PNP will_VM0 not_XX0 affect_VVI the_AT0 fiscal_AJ0 deficit_NN1 target_NN1 for_PRP the_AT0 year_NN1 agreed_VVN with_PRP it_PNP

Table 70: *Negative Adjectives for PTI in the Editorial Titled “Scrambling for Support?”*

(01 March, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “Chaotic” is three times; terms term “illegitimate” is used three in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “fiscal” appeared six times and “illegitimate” twice in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “fiscal” occurred thirty-six times; and “illegitimate” once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “Illegitimate” predicates wealth that was not declared previously; it refers to the wealth obtained through unauthorized or illegal means.

Second adjective “Chaotic” predicates approach of the ruling party towards economic policy; It refers to the way the government handles economic matters.

Third adjective fiscal (Financial and economic) predicates deficit target; It refers the government's goal related to its budget deficit.

Discussion

These adjectives are used to describe various aspects of government policies and actions without necessarily portraying them in a positive or negative light. The editorial primarily focuses on Prime Minister Imran Khan's government and its recent policy decisions without using adjectives to describe the political parties themselves. Instead, it discusses government actions and political developments. In this editorial "Scrambling for support?" from Dawn, there are no specific adjectives used to portray PTI or PDM either positively or negatively. As Browning and Sweetser (2020) elaborated that the effects of more traditionally neutral media are more difficult to predict.” This editorial primarily focuses on Prime Minister Imran Khan's government and its recent policy decisions without using adjectives to describe the political parties themselves. Instead, it discusses government actions and political developments.

Data Set 23. Indefensible stance (March 3rd, 2022) Published in DawnLink: <https://www.dawn.com/newspaper/editorial/2022-03-03>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	6	-	-	2

Table 71: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled "Indefensible Stance" (March 3rd, 2022)

Here are the adjectives separated into those that portray negatively and those that portray positively, with respect to PTI and PDM, in the editorial "Indefensible stance" from Dawn:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Negative Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Draconian	Truth_NN1 be_VBI told_VVN , it_PNP is_VBZ based_VVN on_PRP the_AT0 kind_NN1 of_PRF disinformation_NN1 that_CJT the_AT0 government_NN1 itself_PNX claims_VVZ justifies_VVZ the_AT0 need_NN1 for_PRP such_DT0 draconian_AJ0 amendments_NN2 to_PRP the_AT0 law_NN1
2	Black	The_AT0 amendments_NN2 have_VHB made_VVN a_AT0 black_AJ0 law_NN1 far_AV0 worse_AJC
3	Unconstitutional	Resistance_NN1 to_PRP this_DT0 unconstitutional_AJ0 ordinance_NN1 is_VBZ Snowballing_VVG with_PRP several_DT0 journalist_NN1 organisations_NN2
4	Critical	silence_NN1 critical_AJ0 voices_NN2 its_DPS hollow_NN1 claims_VVZ about_AVP respecting_PRP the_AT0 right_NN1 to_PRP freedom_NN1 of_PRF speech_NN1

5	Unprecedented	the_AT0 government_NN1 in_PRP an_AT0 unprecedented_AJ0 move_NN1 cancelled_VVD a_AT0 scheduled_AJ0 session_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 National_AJ0 Assembly_NN1
6	Undemocratic	bout_AVP respecting_PRP the_AT0 right_NN1 to_PRP freedom_NN1 of_PRF speech_NN1 stand_NN1 exposed_VVN as_CJS do_VDB whatever_DTQ remains_VVZ of_PRF its_DPS democratic_AJ0 credentials_NN2

Table 72: *Negative Adjectives for PTI in the Editorial Titled “Indefensible Stance”*

(March 3rd, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “critical” is eight times; the terms “unconstitutional” appeared eleven times; the term “draconian” are used eight times; frequency of the term “black” is fourteen times; the term “unprecedented” occurred ten times and “undemocratic” once in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “critical” appeared four times; both terms “black” and “undemocratic” appeared once and “unprecedented” twice in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. However, frequency of term “unprecedented” is four times; both terms “undemocratic” and “draconian” occurred three times each; The term “unconstitutional” has frequency of seven times; and the term “critical” appeared eight times; the term “black” occurred three times; in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “draconian” predicates the amendments to the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act”; it refers to the changes made by the PTI government to the law.

Second adjective “black” predicates the intention behind amending PECA; amendment is for black law; it refers to the motives of the PTI government is worse.

Third adjective predicates “unconstitutional” ordinance criminalizing defamation; it refers to the nature of the legislation introduced by the PTI.

Fourth adjective “critical” predicates the PTI government's claims about respecting the right to freedom of speech; it refers to the credibility of PTI's claims.

Fifth adjective “unprecedented” predicates the legislation seeking to gag the media; it refers to the impact of the PTI government's actions on the media.

Sixth adjective “undemocratic” predicates the manner in which the ordinance was passed; it refers to the PTI government's approach to democratic processes.

Negative Portrayal of PDM

S. No.	Negative Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	functioning	In_PRP a_AT0 functioning_AJ0 democracy_NN1 , a_AT0 bill_NN1 would_VM0 have_VHI been_VBN introduced_VVN and_CJC debated_VVN by_PRP elected_AJ0 members_NN2 of_PRF parliament_NN1 before_PRP being_VBG voted_VVN on
2	Economical	But_PRP for_PRP Mr_NP0 Khan_NP0 to_TO0 say_VVI that_CJT his_DPS own_DT0 government_NN1 was_VBD only_AV0 amending_VVG it_PNP, is_VBZ being_VBG economical_AJ0 with_PRP the_AT0 truth_NN1

Table 73: *Negative adjectives for PDM in the Editorial Titled “Indefensible Stance (March 3rd, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term “functioning” is thirteen times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “critical” appeared four times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. However, frequency of term “functioning” is five times and the adjective “economical” occurred once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “functioning” predicates the enactment of PECA by the PML-N government; it refers to the action taken by the PML-N.

Second adjective “economical” predicates the Prime Minister Imran Khan's statement about amending PECA; it refers to Imran Khan's statement and its accuracy.

Explanation

Note that the editorial primarily criticizes the PTI government's actions and decisions, while briefly mentioning the PDM (PML-N) in the context of enacting the original law. There is no significant positive portrayal of either PTI or PDM in the editorial. The language in the editorial is predominantly critical of the PTI government's actions regarding the amendments to the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, and it briefly mentions the PDM (PML-N) in the context of enacting the original law. However, it does not provide neutral adjectives to describe either political entity in a balanced manner.

Discussion

The editorial "Indefensible stance" from Dawn does not contain specific neutral adjectives that are used to portray either PTI or PDM in a neutral or non-biased manner. Accordingly, Mahmood et al. (2014) found that “adjectives contribute very little in the thematic understanding highlight a very apt point”. The language in the editorial is predominantly critical of the PTI government's actions regarding the amendments to the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, and it briefly mentions the PDM (PML-N) in the context of enacting the original law. However, it does not provide neutral adjectives to describe either political entity in a balanced manner.

Industrialization goals (March 3rd, 2022)

Industrialization goals (Editorial) Published on March 3rd, 2022 along with tagged data through CLAWS Tagger POS (Parts of speech tagging) is attached with appendix.

Ant-Conc Analysis

After clause tagging, the corpus of the editorials is analyzed for concordance of adjectives. Moreover, the ranking and frequency of adjectives (as compare to other parts of speech) are observed from the results of corpus tool. Screen shots of results from Ant-conc tool is given below:

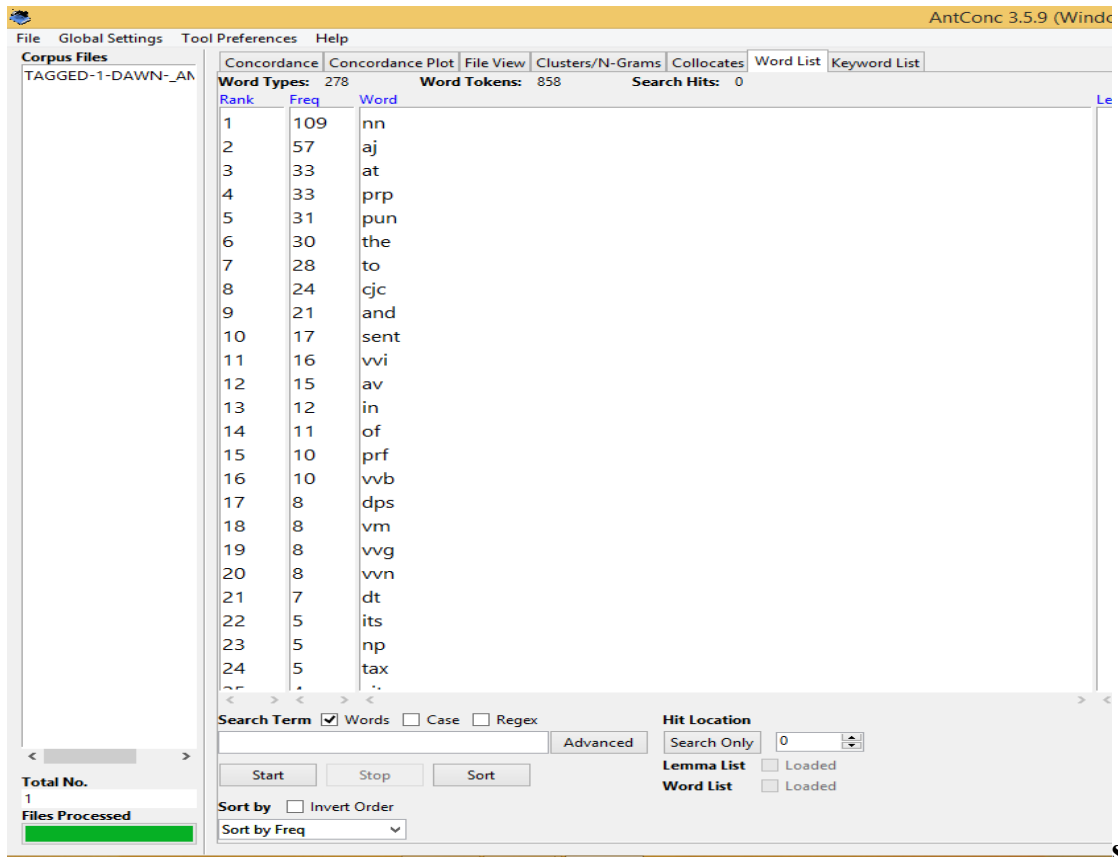


Figure 12. Frequency & ranking of adjectives (Screen shot of text)

Frequency

In this editorial, total number of adjectives is fifty-seven (57) which ranks on second position. in frequency of occurrence of parts of speech in the text of editorial. However, prepositions and articles are on third position with frequency of thirty-three (33) each and nouns are one hundred and nine (109) having top position of frequency of occurrence of parts of speech in the text.

Screenshot of the Editorial “Industrialization Goals” from “DAWN”

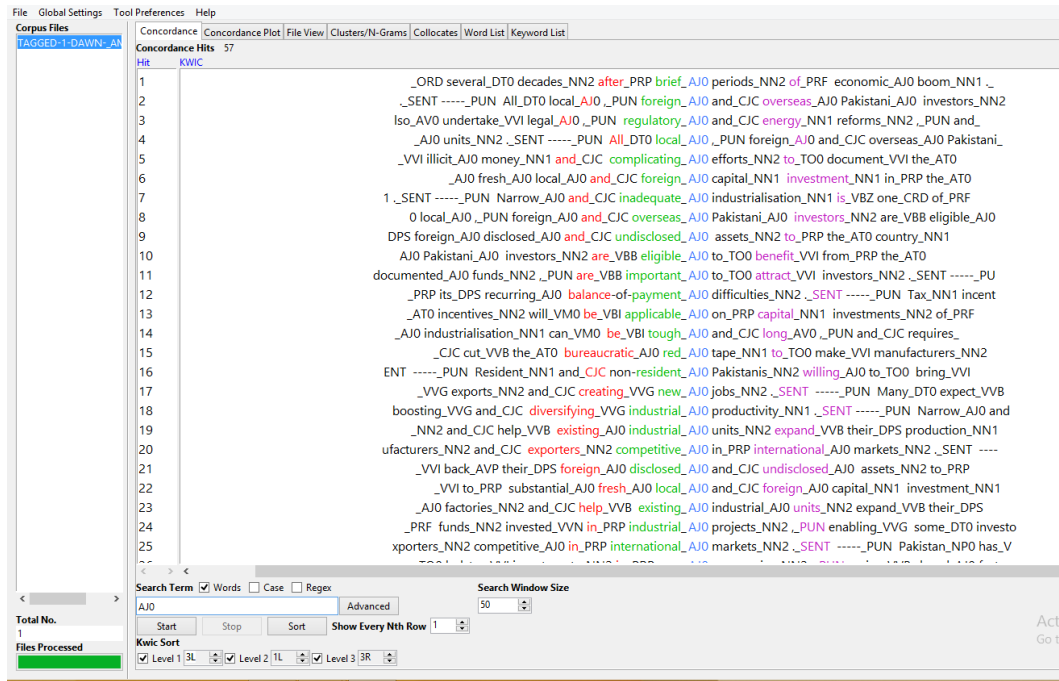


Figure 13: *Concordance of Adjectives through Corpus Tool*

Explanation

In this editorial, local and overseas investor are encouraged for their benefits as there is depiction of hopes and optimistic approach is reflected to achieve the industrial goals. An impartial opinion is passed about investment for all types of local, overseas, residential and nonresidential investors; despite the criticism, editor is highlighting the issues and their reasons with appropriate adjectival usage for future expectations of development in the country. Neither government nor opposition feel threat from use of adjectives in this editorial.

Discussion

The journey to diversified industrialization can be tough and long that requires consistency in policies and perseverance. Writers did not use the names of stockholder; instead, they used noun prime minister which does not qualify the measuring tool of in-group or out-group objective as mentioned in referential strategy of DHA (Wodak, 2015). A Positive suggestion has been passed to improve the government policies that is a step to boost and diversify the industrial production. Overall, neutral opinions are passed here for betterment of industrial goals. Instead of criticism on any political leadership or political party, the editorials of Dawn newspaper have focused on issues. Therefore, they have logical discussion about the current issue.

Data Set 24. "No-confidence tension" (March 4th, 2022) Published in Dawn

Link: <https://www.dawn.com/newspaper/editorial/2022-03-04>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	-	5	-	-

Table 74: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled "No-confidence Tension" (March 4th, 2022)

Here are the predictions and referents for the neutral adjectives in the editorial "no-confidence tension" from Dawn; In the editorial "no-confidence tension" from Dawn, the neutral adjectives include:

S.No.	Neutral Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Important	the_AT0 next_ORD 48_CRD hours_NN2 are_VBB important_AJ0 and_CJC that_CJT a_AT0 vote_NN1 of_PRF no-confidence_NN1 against_PRP Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0 is_VBZ on_PRP the_AT0 verge_NN1 of_PRF being_VBG tabled_VVN
2	Crucial	The_AT0 coming_AJ0 week_NN1 is_VBZ expected_VVN to_TO0 be_VBI a_AT0 very_AV0 crucial_AJ0 one_PNI
3	Uncertain	The_AT0 scorecard_NN1 however_AV0 remains_VVZ uncertain_AJ0 at_PRP this_DT0 point_NN1 What_DTQ is_VBZ also_AV0 uncertain_AJ0 is_VBZ the_AT0 scenario_NN1 if_CJS the_AT0 no-confidence_NN1 vote_NN1 succeeds_VVZ This_DT0 also_AV0 means_VVZ that_CJT those_DT0 being_VBG asked_VVN to_TO0 cross_VVI sides_NN2 allies_NN2 as_PRP well_PRP as_PRP PTI_AJ0 members_NN2 remain_VVB-uncertain_AJ0 of_PRF what_DTQ they_PNP would_VM0

		gain_VVI were_VBD they_PNP to_TO0 switch_VVI sides_NN2
4	Tense	if_CJS fresh_AJ0 elections_NN2 are_VBB called_VVN within_PRP a_AT0 few_DT0 months_NN2 The_AT0 situation_NN1 remains_VVZ tense_AJ0
5	Able	There_EX0 is_VBZ no_AT0 clarity_NN1 whether_CJS the_AT0 two_CRD sides_NN2 have_VHB been_VBN able_AJ0 to_TO0 narrow_VVI their_DPS differences_NN2

Table 75: *Neutral Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “No-confidence Tension” (March 4th, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term “uncertain” is seven times; “crucial” eleven times and the term “important” is fifty-three times; “tense” twice; in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “crucial” once and term “important” appeared four times in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, the term “uncertain” occurred eighteen times; term “crucial” eleven times and term “important” twenty times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “important” predicates the next 48 hours are important. It refers to the significance of the time frame for the political developments.

Second adjective “crucial” suggests the high level of importance. It predicates that the coming week is expected to be a very crucial one. It refers to the significance of the upcoming week in the political context.

Third adjective “uncertain” is used three times in this editorial. It predicates the scorecard, however, remains uncertain at this point. As per referential meaning, it indicates the lack of clarity or predictability regarding the political outcome, especially in terms of members switching sides.

Fourth adjective “tense” predicates the situation remains tense. It refers to the atmosphere of unease and anxiety surrounding the political developments.

Fifth adjective “able” predicates the process of negotiations can be a long-drawn-out affair. It refers to describe the duration or extended nature of ability of narrowing down the differences.

Discussion

These adjectives are used to describe various aspects of the political situation and the potential outcomes, without strongly favoring or criticizing any particular group or entity. According to Browning & Sweetser (2020), Political practitioners must therefore recognize the importance of not only crafting sincere media relations messaging, but also the value of communicating messages through specific media channels to increase the likelihood of creating desired effects.

Data Set 25. Hollow Words (March 6th, 2022) published in DAWN

Link: <https://www.dawn.com/newspaper/editorial/2022-03-06>

MQM (PTI)		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	6	-	-	-

Table 76 Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Hollow Words” (March 6th, 2022)

In the given editorial, the adjectives that portray negatively the MQM-P (Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan) that’s allies of PTI are as follows; Here are the predictions and referential information for the adjectives mentioned in the editorial:

S.No.	Negative Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Mealy-mouthed (indirectly/hypocritically)	MQM-P_AJ0 CONVENER_NN1 Khalid_NP0 Maqbool_NP0 Siddiquis_NP0 mealy-mouthed_AJ0 apology_NN1 over_PRP the_AT0 MQMs_NP0 role_NN1 in_PRP precipitating_VVG the_AT0 May_NP0 12_CRD , 2007_
2	Cold	riots_NN2 in_PRP Karachi_NP0 is_VBZ cold_AJ0 comfort_NN1 for_PRP those_DT0 whose_DTQ lives_NN2 were_VBD forever_AV0 scarred_VVN by_PRP that_DT0 terrible_AJ0 tragedy_NN1

3	Real	As_CJS Mr_NP0 Siddiqui_NP0 referred_VVD to_PRP the_AT0 horrors_NN2 unleashed_VVN upon_PRP unsuspecting_AJ0 citizens_NN2 that_CJT fateful_AJ0 day_NN1, he_PNP failed_VVD to_TO0 show_VVI any_DT0 real_AJ0 remorse_NN1 Instead_AV0 , he_PNP attempted_VVD to_TO0 whitewash_VVI the_AT0 partys_NN2 actions_NN2 as_PRP a_AT0 misjudgment_NN1
4	Creative	The_AT0 MQM_NP0 (_PUL and_CJC its_DPS later_AJC iterations_NN2 have_VHB been_VBN quite_AV0 creative_AJ0 in_PRP dodging_VVG accountability_NN1 for_PRP their_DPS misdeeds_NN2 often_AV0 by_PRP painting_VVG themselves_PNX as_CJS victims_NN2
5	“Disguised” & “Cynical”	this_DT0 is_VBZ perhaps_AV0 a_AV0 little_AV0 cynical_AJ0 ,but_CJC moments_NN2 of_PRF clarity_NN1 such_PRP as_PRP the_AT0 one_PNI the_AT0 MQM-P_AJ0 convener_NN1 seems_VVZ to_TO0 have_VHI had_VHN are_VBB usually_AV0 just_AV0 poorly_AV0 disguised_AJ0 attempts_NN2 at_PRP grabbing_VVG the_AT0 spotlight_NN1
6	Hollow	MQM-P_AJ0 is_VBZ genuinely_AV0 remorseful_AJ0 it_PNP owes_VVZ the_AT0 people_NN0 of_PRF Karachi_NP0 a_AV0 lot_AV0 more_DT0 than_CJS hollow_AJ0 words_NN2

Table 77: Negative Adjectives for PTI in the Editorial Titled “Hollow Words” (March 6th, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "uncertain" is seven times; "real" thirty-eight times; "crucial" eleven times; "creative" once; both terms "cynical" and "cold" appeared twice and the term "important" is fifty-three times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "crucial" once; the term "real" four times and term "important" appeared four times in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the terms "disguised" and "mealy-mouthed" occurred once; the term "cynical" three times; both terms "cold" and "hollow" four times; the term "real" ten times; the term "creative" twice and term "important" twenty times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "mealy-mouthed" suggests insincerity or a lack of genuine remorse in Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui's apology, implying a negative portrayal of the MQM-P's actions.

Predication of adjective "mealy-mouthed": The use of "mealy-mouthed" suggests that Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui's apology is insincere and lacks genuineness.

Referential meaning of adjective "mealy-mouthed": This adjective is used to characterize Mr. Siddiqui's apology, indicating a negative view of its authenticity.

Second adjective is describing the 'apology' as "cold comfort" indicates that it is not seen as sufficiently empathetic or sincere, which reflects negatively on the MQM-P.

Predication of adjective "cold": The adjective "cold" implies that it does not provide genuine consolation or remorse for the victims.

Referential meaning of adjective "cold": The adjective "cold" reflects the inadequacy of the apology in addressing the suffering caused by the party's actions.

Third adjective "real" modifies noun remorse (regret/repentance); Characterizing the party's actions as a 'misjudgment' downplays their responsibility and can be seen as an attempt to evade accountability, portraying the MQM-P negatively.

Predication of adjective "real": Labeling the party's actions as a 'misjudgment' downplays their seriousness and responsibility.

Referential meaning of adjective "real": This adjective is used to describe how the MQM-P is trying to portray its past actions as mere errors in judgment rather than deliberate wrongdoing.

Fourth adjective "creative" is mentioning that the MQM has been "creative in dodging accountability" implies a negative assessment of the party's behavior.

Prediction of adjective "creative": This adjective is mentioning that the MQM has been "creative in dodging accountability" implies that the party has consistently avoided taking responsibility for its actions.

Referential meaning of adjective "creative": The adjective "creative" highlights the party's history of evading accountability for its misdeeds.

Next adjective "disguised" is describing moments of clarity as "usually just poorly disguised attempts" suggests skepticism about the sincerity of the MQM-P's statements. Additionally, adjective cynical (sarcastic) is used for member of MQM.

Predication of adjective "disguised": Describing moments of clarity as "usually just poorly disguised attempts" suggests skepticism about the sincerity of the MQM-P's statements.

Referential meaning of adjective "disguised": This term indicates doubt regarding the genuineness of the MQM-P's expressions of remorse.

Next adjective "hollow" characterizes the MQM-P's apology as empty and lacking in genuine remorse or accountability.

Prediction meaning of adjective "hollow": the adjective "hollow" means that they are seen as insincere or lacking substance.

Referential meaning of adjective "hollow": This adjective referring to the words as "hollow" means that they are seen as insincere or lacking substance, presenting a negative view of the MQM-P's apology.

Discussion

These adjectives contribute to a critical assessment of the MQM-P's actions and statements in the editorial. as Brezina et al., (2015) point out that collocation networks show how meanings of words are formed through multiple repeated associations.

Data Set 26. PM's growing challenge (March 8th, 2022) Published in Dawn

Link: <https://www.dawn.com/newspaper/editorial/2022-03-08>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.

-	-	7	-	-
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Table 78: Overall Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “PM’s Growing Challenge”

(March 8th, 2022)

These adjectives provide additional information or context to the nouns they modify in the text. Neutral adjectives in the text include; predications and referential contexts for the neutral adjectives in the text are as follows:

S.No.	Neutral Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Disgruntled	On_PRP Monday_NP0 the_AT0 disgruntled_AJ0 Jahangir_NP0 Khan_NP0 Tareen_NP0 group_NN1 scored_VVD a_AT0 major_AJ0 victory_NN1 when_CJS Mr_NP0 Khans_NP0 close_AJ0 aide_NN1 and_CJC former_DT0 senior_AJ0 minister_NN1 of_PRF Punjab_NP0 Abdul_NP0 Aleem_NP0 Khan_NP0 joined_VVD it_
2	Major	a If_CJS the_AT0 party_NN1 was_VBD feeling_VVG the_AT0 heat_NN1 at_PRP the_AT0 federal_AJ0 level_NN1 it_PNP is_VBZ now_AV0 up_AVP against_PRP a_AT0 major_AJ0 challenge_NN1 in_PRP Punjab_NP0 too_AV0
3	High	holding_VVG such_DT0 a_AT0 high_AJ0 office_NN1 He_PNP also_AV0 piled_VVD on_PRP criticism_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 EU_NP0 and_CJC the_AT0 US_NP0
4	Intemperate	Mr_NP0 Khans_NP0 strong_AJ0 language_NN1 and_CJC intemperate_AJ0 tone_NN1 may_VM0 suggest_VVI that_CJT he_PNP is_VBZ keeping_VVG an_AT0 eye_NN1 on_PRP the_AT0 electorate_NN1
5	Harsh	The_AT0 prime_AJ0 minister_NN1 used_VVD harsh_AJ0 language_NN1 against_PRP his_DPS opponents_NN2

6	Restrained	Statesmanship_NN1 requires_VVZ greater_AJC control_NN1 on_PRP emotions_NN2 and_CJC a_AT0 more_AV0 restrained_AJ0 approach_NN1 towards_PRP those_DT0 who_PNQ have_VHB a_AT0 different_AJ0 view_NN1 of_PRF things_NN2.
7	Maximum	The_AT0 opposition_NN1 wants_VVZ to_TO0 pile_VVI maximum_AJ0 pressure_NN1 on_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1 through_PRP the_AT0 numbers_NN2 game_NN1 in_PRP the_AT0 assemblies_NN2

Table 79: *Neutral Adjectives in the Editorial Titled “PM’s Growing Challenge”*

(March 8th, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "high" is fifty-five times; "maximum" once; "harsh" twice and "disgruntled" is three times in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "maximum" appeared three times; term "high" eight times and term "major" five times in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, the term "disgruntled" occurred four times; "high" thirty-eight times; "harsh" eight times; both terms "intemperate" and "restrained" once; "maximum" three times and term "major" twenty-eight times in the editorials of newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective "disgruntled" describes the emotional state of the Jahangir Khan Tareen group, indicating their dissatisfaction or unhappiness. The disgruntled Jahangir Khan Tareen group scored a major victory.

Second adjective "major" indicates that the level being discussed is at the national or federal level. It refers to a position of authority or importance and feeling the heat at the federal level.

Third adjective refers to language of "high" office against his opponents that was unbecoming of a person holding such a high office.

Fourth "Intemperate" adjective indicates that the harsh position was taken in a public setting or manner. It is not only diplomatic problems for Pakistan; it is rather unfortunate that his advisers could not convince him to not take such a harsh position publicly.

Fifth adjective “harsh” describes the nature of the language used, indicating that it was severe or unkind. The language against his opponents that was unbecoming of a person holding such a high office.

Sixth adjective “restrained” indicates that there are varying viewpoints or perspectives that should be handled with restraint. It requires him to be more circumspect in expressing his sentiments. Statesmanship requires greater control on emotions and a more restrained approach towards those who have a different view of things.

Seventh adjective “maximum” relates to the field of politics, s political developments unfold at a quickening pace. It is indicating that the developments being discussed are related to politics.

Discussion

The text doesn't contain adjectives that explicitly portray PTI or PDM either positively or negatively. The text primarily discusses the political situation and challenges faced by Prime Minister Imran Khan and the PTI government. Adjectives mainly describe the situation and events rather than directly evaluating PTI or PDM. These adjectives don't inherently portray a positive or negative bias towards any specific subject in the text. These results are taken from the context and collocation of adjectives as Brezina et al., (2015) demonstrated “the connectivity between collocates” is an important dimension of the collocational relationship that contribute to our better understanding of complex linguistic processes to shape the everyday use of language.

Data Set 27. Rocky road for PM (March 9th, 2022) published in DAWN

Link: <https://www.dawn.com/newspaper/editorial/2022-03-09>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	-	10	-	-

Table 80 Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Rocky Road for PM” (March 9th, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (PTI and the opposition). Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Some neutral adjectives are given below:

S.No.	Neutral Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Combined	THE_AT0 day_NN1 of_PRF reckoning_VVG for_PRP the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1 may_VM0 be_VBI at_PRP hand_NN1 with_PRP the_AT0 submission_NN1 of_PRF a_AT0 no-trust_AJ0 motion_NN1 against_PRP Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0 by_PRP the_AT0 combined_AJ0 opposition_NN1 after_PRP weeks_NN2 of_PRF political_AJ0 manoeuvring_NN1 and_CJC deliberations_NN2
2	Unnecessary	His_DPS unnecessary_AJ0 statement_NN1 that_CJT he_PNP has_VHZ until_PRP November_NP0 to_TO0 decide_VVI on_PRP the_AT0 extension_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 army_NN1 chiefs_NN2 tenure_NN1 is_VBZ also_AV0 seen_VVN in_PRP this_DT0 context_NN1
3	Crucial	opposition_NN1 parties_NN2 to_TO0 retain_VVI the_AT0 crucial_AJ0 backing_NN1 of_PRF dissident_AJ0 treasury_NN1 members_NN2 until_CJS the_AT0 last_ORD moment_NN1
4	Vulnerable	ISI_NP0 chiefs_NN2 appointment_NN1 also_AV0 appear_VVB to_TO0 have_VHI cast_VVN his_DPS government_NN1 in_PRP a_AT0 vulnerable_AJ0 light_NN1
5	Dissident	opposition_NN1 parties_NN2 to_TO0 retain_VVI the_AT0 crucial_AJ0 backing_NN1 of_PRF dissident_AJ0 treasury_NN1 members_NN2 until_CJS the_AT0 last_ORD moment_NN1

6	Democratic	it_PNP should_VM0 continue_VVI to_TO0 keep_VVI away_PRP from_PRP politics_NN1 for_PRP the_AT0 sake_NN1 of_PRF democratic_AJ0 traditions_NN2
7	Full	Similar_AJ0 moves_NN2 have_VHB failed_VVN previously_AV0 Benazir_NP0 Bhutto_NP0 survived_VVD a_AT0 no-confidence_NN1 vote_NN1 in_PRP 1989_CRD though_CJS the_AT0 opposition_NN1 had_VHD the_AT0 full_AJ0 backing_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 then_AJ0 president_NN1 and_CJC the_AT0 establishment_NN1
8	Rebellious	a_AT0 sitting_NN1 government_NN1 has_VHZ enough_AV0 clout_VVB to_TO0 win_VVI back_AVP rebellious_AJ0 lawmakers_NN2 and_CJC create_VVI divisions_NN2 in_PRP the_AT0 opposition_NN1
9	Bigger	Mr_NP0 Khan_NP0, facing_VVG a_AT0 bigger_AJC threat_NN1 from_PRP within_PRP his_DPS party_NN1 has_VHZ a_AT0 maximum_NN1 of_PRF 21_CRD days_NN2 to_TO0 defeat_VVI the_AT0 motion_NN1
10	no-trust	THE_AT0 day_NN1 of_PRF reckoning_VVG for_PRP the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1 may_VM0 be_VBI at_PRP hand_NN1 with_PRP the_AT0 submission_NN1 of_PRF a_AT0 no-trust_AJ0 motion_NN1 against PRP Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0

Table 81 *Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Rocky Road for PM” (March 9th, 2022)*

Frequency

Frequency of the term “Full” is thirty-one times; terms “unnecessary” is used three times and term “crucial” eleven times; Similarly, the adjectives “bigger” four times; Both “rebellious” and “combined” occurred once in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “Full” appeared seventeen times; the term “crucial” once in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “crucial” eleven times; “vulnerable” four times; “no-trust” once only; and “full” sixteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “combined” is used to describe various aspects of the political situation, such as "political developments," "political maneuvering" and "political parties." It pertains to politics in general and doesn't carry a strong positive or negative connotation.

Second adjective “unnecessary” is used to describe a statement made by the prime minister, as in "unnecessary statement." It indicates that the statement was not required and carries a mild negative connotation, suggesting that it could have been avoided.

Third adjective “crucial” is used to emphasize the significance of a particular period, as in "a very crucial one." It highlights the importance of the time frame without inherently carrying a positive or negative connotation.

Fourth adjective “vulnerable” is used to describe federal agencies and actions, such as "federal agencies" and "federal government." It pertains to the level of government and doesn't inherently express a positive or negative sentiment.

Fifth adjective “dissident” is used to describe members who are dissenting from the majority or the party's official stance, as in "dissident treasury members." It indicates a particular role within the party but doesn't inherently carry a positive or negative tone.

Sixth adjective “democratic” is related to democratic traditions and is used to describe the need for democratic practices, as in "for the sake of democratic traditions." It signifies the democratic process without conveying a strong positive or negative sentiment.

Seventh adjective “full” is used to describe a past context involving a presidential system, as in "then president." It refers to the role of the president and doesn't inherently carry a positive or negative connotation.

Eighth adjective “rebellious” is pointing out a pillar of state that can play role and relates to the parliamentary system and is used to describe various elements, such as "National Assembly" and "parliamentary session." It signifies the parliamentary process without expressing a positive or negative sentiment.

Ninth adjective refers to the opposing parties and their actions, like "opposition parties" and "opposition benchers." It describes a role in the political landscape and doesn't inherently carry a positive or negative tone.

Tenth is related to the no-confidence motion and is used to describe the motion itself, as in "no-trust motion." It indicates the nature of the motion without inherently conveying a positive or negative sentiment

Discussion

These adjectives do not carry a strong positive or negative connotation and are used to describe various aspects of the political situation and process. These adjectives help provide context and description within the text without strongly favoring a positive or negative viewpoint. These results are little contrary to the study of a comparative corpus-assisted discourse study of the representations of hosts in promotional tourism discourse by Jaworska, (2016). In the text of this editorial, there are no adjectives that specifically portray PTI or PDM in a positive or negative light. The text primarily discusses the political situation and challenges faced by the PTI government, but it does not use adjectives to positively or negatively characterize these entities. The text focuses on the political dynamics surrounding Prime Minister Imran Khan and the no-confidence motion without expressing a clear bias towards PTI or PDM.

4.3 Analysis of Editorials in “*The Express Tribune*”

Numerical data about the adjectives in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune” is tabulated below:

THE EXPRESS TRIBUNE					
Connotation/ S. No.	PTI		Neutr al Adj.	PDM	
	+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
Data Set. 28	-	3	2	1	-
Data Set. 29	-	2	-	-	-
Data Set. 30	-	2	1	-	-
Data Set. 31	-	9	-	-	-
Data Set. 32	-	2	-	1	-
Data Set. 33	-	1	1	1	-
Data Set. 34	2	4	1	-	-
Data Set. 35	-	7	1	-	-
Data Set. 36	-	3	-	-	-
Data Set. 37	3	1	1	-	-
Data Set. 38	-	6	1	-	-
Data Set. 39	3	5	-	-	-
Data Set. 40	1	1	3	-	-
Data Set. 41	1	3	1	-	-
Data Set. 42	4	5	1	-	-

Data Set. 43	-	2	2	-	-
Total Adj. = 91	17	56	15	3	0
Percentage	18.68 %	61.54 %	16.48 %	03.30 %	00.00 %

Table 82 Percentage of all positive/ negative adjectives for PDM/PTI in “The Express Tribune”

Overall, graphical representation of the newspaper “The Express Tribune” is displayed in following chart:

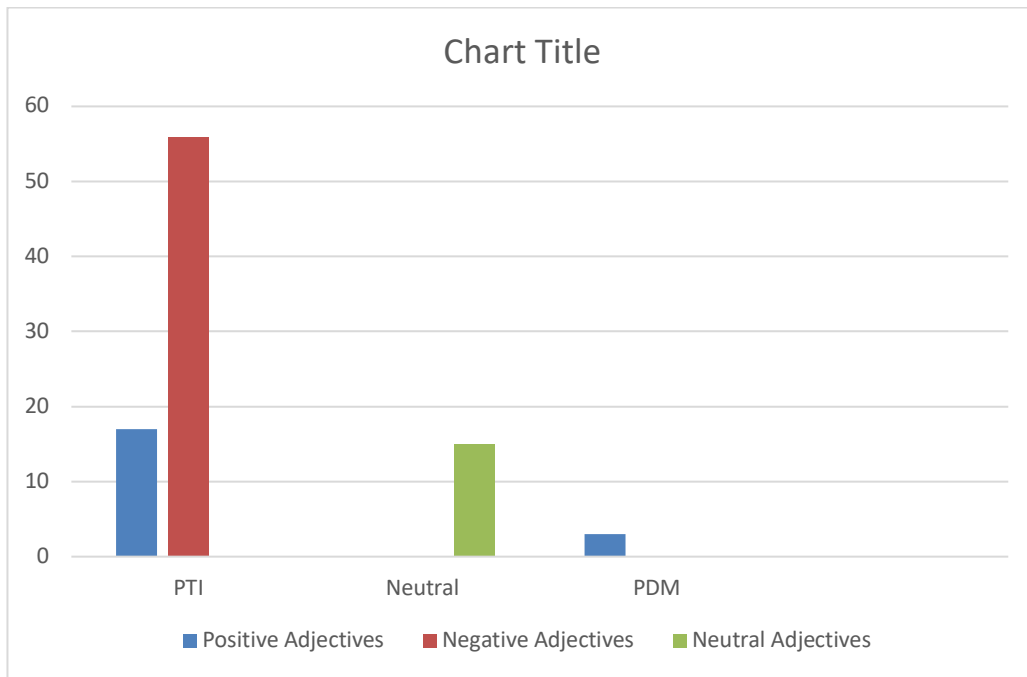


Figure 14. Graphical representation of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”

Date-wise detail analysis of the adjectives in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune” is given below:

Data Set 28. Politics of hope, despair (January 11, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-01-11/1?page=14>

PTI		PDM
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+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.	Neutral Adj.	+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	3	2	1	-

Table 83 *Overall adjectives in the editorial titled Politics of hope, despair (January 11, 2022)*

Analysis of the adjectives in the given editorial in respect of negative or positive connotations to PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (opposition parties):

Adjectives Pertaining to PTI (Negative Connotations)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Perturbing	The_AT0 most_AV0 perturbing AJ0 aspect_NN1 was_VBD the_AT0 humble_AJ0 confession_NN1 from_PRP Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0 that_CJT his_DPS government_NN1 has_VHZ failed_VVN to_TO0 ensure_VVI accountability_NN1
2	Probing	The_AT0 fact_NN1 is_VBZ that_DT0 prosecution_NN1 has_VHZ let_VVN down_AVP the_AT0 governmental_AJ0 probing_AJ0 agencies_NN2, and_CJC is_VBZ a_AT0 disaster_NN1 to_TO0 say_VVI the_AT0 least_AV0 in_PRP establishing_VVG white_AJ0 collar_NN1 crime_NN1
3	Humble	The_AT0 most_AV0 perturbing AJ0 aspect_NN1 was_VBD the_AT0 humble_AJ0 confession_NN1 from_PRP Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0 that_CJT his_DPS government_NN1 has_VHZ failed_VVN to_TO0 ensure_VVI accountability_NN1

Table 84 *Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled Politics of hope, despair*

(January 11, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “perturbing” appeared three times; the term “humble” twice and the term “probing” once in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”.

Description

First adjective "perturbing" (upset) is used to describe PTI's ability to ensure accountability, implying a negative assessment of the government's performance in this regard. The adjective predicates that PTI's government has not succeeded in ensuring accountability, indicating a negative evaluation of its performance in this regard.

Second adjective "probing" is employed to characterize PTI's efforts in establishing white-collar crime, indicating a negative portrayal of their effectiveness in addressing this issue. In same context the noun "disaster" predicates that PTI's efforts to establish white-collar crime have been a failure or catastrophe, emphasizing a negative assessment of their effectiveness.

Third adjective "humble" is used to describe Prime Minister Imran Khan's confession about his government's failure to ensure accountability. While it suggests a degree of humility on the part of the PM, it does not necessarily portray PTI positively or negatively. The adjective "humble" predicates Prime Minister Imran Khan's confession about his government's failure to ensure accountability. It suggests a degree of humility to specify a negative predication for PTI.

Adjectives Pertaining to PDM (Positive Connotations)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Upbeat	Though_CJS there_EX0 is_VBZ little_DT0 possibility_NN1 of_PRF a_AT0 change_NN1 of_PRF guard_NN1 the_AT0 oppositions_NN2 upbeat_AJ0 notion_NN1 could_VM0 prove_VVI tough_AJ0 to_TO0 handle_VVI

Table 85 *Positive adjectives for PDM in the editorial titled "Politics of hope, despair"*

(January 11, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "upbeat" appeared once in the text of editorials of "The Express Tribune".

Description

The adjective "upbeat" is used to describe the opposition's notion of translating their gain into electoral capital. While it suggests a positive outlook on the part of the opposition, it indirectly characterize PDM in a positive light. The adjective "upbeat" predicates that the opposition has a

positive and optimistic notion of translating their gain into electoral capital. It implies a positive outlook directly predicate opposition (PDM) in a positive light.

Adjectives Pertaining to Both PTI and PDM (Neutral Connotations)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Sudden	The_AT0 sudden_AJ0 inertia_NN1 on_PRP the_PRP part_PRP of_PRP opposition_NN1 parties_NN2 to_TO0 galvanise_VVI the_AT0 masses_NN2 for_PRP another_DT0 anti-government_AJ0 agitation_NN1 is_VBZ noticeable_AJ0.
2	"inevitable"	This_DT0 underscores_VVZ how_AVQ inevitable_AJ0 were_VBD reforms_NN2 across_PRP the_AT0 board_NN1

Table 86 *Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled "Politics of hope, despair"*

(January 11, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "inevitable" is eight times; and "sudden" is twice in the editorials of the newspaper "The News". The term "inevitable" appeared once; and "sudden" is twice in the editorials of the newspaper "The Express Tribune". However, term "inevitable" occurred six times; and "sudden" is three times in the editorials of the newspaper "DAWN".

Description

First adjective predicates the unexpected shift in political dynamics, emphasizing a change that occurred abruptly without specifying a positive or negative evaluation.

Second adjective "inevitable" predicates the necessity for reforms across the board, which applies to both the government and opposition. It doesn't specifically attribute a positive or negative predication to either PTI or PDM.

Explanation

Adjectives like "failed" and "disaster" negatively predicate aspects of PTI's performance, while terms like "resiliently" and "upbeat" predicate certain characteristics of PDM with little positive implications.

Discussion

Overall, the adjectives in this editorial primarily convey negative connotations in relation to PTI, particularly in the context of its government's performance and accountability. PDM's portrayal is more positive connotations in the adjectives used. In this editorial, the adjectives in this editorial primarily serve to predicate certain qualities or conditions related to PTI and PDM. These results align absolutely with study of Butool and Arshad (2021) about same newspaper Express Tribune where this newspaper represents the primary agenda and the fundamental goal of PDM against the PTI government. The word 'united' is used in the headline to represent the alignment of almost all opposition parties of Pakistan against the government.

Data Set 29. Mini-budget approval (January 15, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-01-15/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	2	-	-	-

Table 87 Overall adjectives in the editorial titled Mini-budget approval (January 15, 2022)

In the text of editorial "Mini-budget approval," analyze of the adjectives that give a negative or positive portrayal of PTI and PDM is given below:

Adjectives with Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Massive (used twice)	Finance_NN1Minister_NN1 Shaukat_NP0 Tarin_NP0 also_AV0 took_VVD an_AT0 interesting AJ0 approach_NN1 to_TO0 counter_VVI criticism NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 massive_AJ0 tax_NN1 bomb_VVB
2	Half- hearted	There_EX0 was_VBD also_AV0 a_AT0 half-hearted_AJ0 attempt_NN1 by_PRP ruling_AJ0 party_NN1 allies_NN2 to_PRP distance_NN1 themselves_PNX from_PRP the_AT0 mini-budget_NN1

Table 88: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled Mini-budget approval
(January 15, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "massive" is fifteen times; and “half-hearted” is once time in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “credible” appeared once; and “sudden” is twice; and “political” is thirty-six times in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, term “half-hearted” occurred once time; and “massive” is eleven times in the editorials of the newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "massive" is used to describe the tax bomb, implying that it is significant and potentially burdensome. It negatively characterizes the budget and, by extension, the government's financial decisions.

Second adjective "half-hearted” with noun “attempt” suggests a lack of genuine commitment or enthusiasm on the part of ruling party allies, indicating a negative portrayal of their stance regarding the mini-budget.

Discussion

Overall, the adjectives in this text primarily have a criticism on policies of PTI as compared to PDM, particularly in the context of the mini-budget and associated political developments. These results align with Mahmood et al.’s corpus driven study (2014) about Sidhwa’s fiction.

Data Set 30. Ask the PM (January 25, 2022)

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	2	1	-	-

Table 89: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Ask the PM” (January 25, 2022)

The analysis of the adjectives that gives a positive or negative portrayal of PTI and the government is given here. This is analysis of the adjectives in the text "Ask the PM" based on their predication and referential aspects:

Adjectives with Negative Portrayal of PTI government

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	“corrupt” & “Critical”	commitment_NN1 to_TO0 not_XX0 let_VVI his_DPS corrupt_AJ0 political_AJ0 rivals_NN2 escape_VVB the_AT0 process_NN1 of_PRF accountability_NN1 While CJS the_AT0 PM_NP0 was_VBD critical_AJ0 of_PRF the_AT0 opposition_NN1 parties_NN2 and_CJC the_AT0 media_NN0
2	“across-the-board” & “Whole”	an_AT0 across-the-board_AJ0 accountability_NN1 drive_VVB something_PNI that_CJT deepens_VVZ the_AT0 impression_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 whole_AJ0 exercise_NN1 being_VBG a_AT0 political_AJ0 witch-hunt_NN1

Table 90: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Ask the PM”

(January 25, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of both terms “critical” and “corrupt” is eight times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “critical” appeared four times and term “across-the-board” appeared once in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. However, frequency of term “across-the-board” is once times; and the term “critical” appeared eight times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

Both adjectives “corrupt” and “Critical” are used to negatively describe political rivals, implying dishonesty or wrongdoing. The adjective "corrupt" predicates negatively about political rivals, implying that they are involved in dishonest or unethical activities.

Next both adjectives “across-the-board” and “Whole” imply that the accountability drive is characterized as a negative and politically motivated action. These adjectives refer to a negative and politically motivated pursuit or investigation, suggesting a negative environment or approach.

Adjectives with Neutral or Mixed Portrayal

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Global	he_PNP called_VVD it_PNP a_AT0 global_AJ0 phenomenon_NN1

Table 91: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Ask the PM” (January 25, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term “global” is nineteen times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “global” appeared five times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. However, frequency of term “global” is twenty-four times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective "global" is used to describe inflation as a phenomenon, which is neutral and not inherently positive or negative. The adjective "global" is used to describe inflation as a phenomenon. It has a neutral predication as it indicates a broad or worldwide context without inherently positive or negative connotations.

Discussion

In this editorial, adjectives are used to describe various aspects related to Prime Minister Imran Khan and his government's performance. Overall, the adjectives in this editorial are primarily used to critique Prime Minister Imran Khan's approach to accountability and highlight perceived weaknesses or failures, contributing to a negative portrayal of PTI and the government. The findings have similarity with Van Dijk (1995)'s opinions and ideologies in editorials. The analysis of the adjectives used in this editorial "Ask the PM" primarily have negative predication and referential elements, contributing to a critical portrayal of political rivals and the Prime Minister's approach to accountability.

Data Set 31. Exit Shahzad Akbar (January 26, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-01-26/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.

-	9	-	-	-
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Table 92: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Exit Shahzad Akbar” (January 26, 2022)

In the text of editorials, adjectives are used for both predication and reference, helping to characterize and categorize various aspects of the subject matter. Researcher examined some of the adjectives in terms of their predication and reference:

Negative Portrayal of PTI Government

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Looted	the_AT0 mandate_NN1 to_TO0 recover_VVI siphoned_VVN off_PRP money_NN1 and_CJC alleged_AJ0 looted_AJ0 assets_NN2 was_VBD a_AT0 failure_NN1
2	Rough	Accountability_NN1 had_VHD been_VBN in_PRP rough_AJ0 waters_NN2 for_AV0 long_AV0 , his_DPS departure_NN1 will_VM0 certainly_AV0 lead_VVI to_PRP more_DT0 explanations_NN2 from_PRP the_AT0 government
3	Bizarre	The_AT0 accountability_NN1 drive_NN1 is_VBZ still_AV0 in_PRP a_AT0 bizarre_AJ0 stage_NN1 enabling_VVG the_AT0accused_AJ0 to_TO0 reap_VVI political_AJ0 capital_NN1 on_PRP a_AT0 shady_AJ0 performance_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 prosecution_NN1
4	Shady	to_TO0 reap_VVI political_AJ0 capital_NN1 on_PRP a_AT0 shady_AJ0 performance_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 prosecution_NN1
5	Disastrous	His_DPS performance_NN1 Coupled_VVN with_PRP this_DT0 enigma_NN1 is_VBZ the_AT0 disastrous_AJ0 role_NN1 of_PRF National_AJ0 Accountability_NN1 Bureau_NN1

6	Shoddy	This_DT0 underscores_VVZ not_XX0 only_AV0 the_AT0 shoddy_AJ0 homework_NN1 of_PRF individuals_NN2, but_CJC also_AV0 the_AT0 damage_NN1 they_PNP caused_VVD in_PRP terms_PRP of_PRP reputation_NN1 to_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1
7	Dismal	Likewise_AV0, the_AT0 ARUs_NN1 dismal_AJ0 performance_NN1 brings_VVZ to_PRP the_AT0 fore_NN1 as_PRP to_PRP how_AVQ difficult_AJ0 it_PNP is_VBZ to_TO0 unmask_VVI white_AJ0 collar_NN1 crime_NN1
8	Simple	The_AT0 fact_NN1 is_VBZ simple_AJ0 he_PNP was_VBD poised_VVN with_PRP a_AT0 task_NN1 which_DTQ he_PNP abandoned_VVD half-way_AV0
9	Evolutionary	This_DT0 new_AJ0 resignation_NN1, not withstanding_PRP the_AT0 ridicule_NN1 and_CJC flak_NN1 it_PNP will_VM0 draw_VVI from_PRP the_AT0 opposition_NN1 has_VHZ simply_AV0 proved_VVN that_CJT the_AT0 system_NN1 is_VBZ in_PRP need_PRP of_PRP evolutionary_AJ0 reforms_NN2 to_TO0 ensure_VVI apt_AJ0 accountability_NN1 and_CJC good_AJ0 governance_NN1.

Table 93 Negative adjectives PTI in the editorial titled “Exit Shahzad Akbar” (January 26, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “Bizarre” is seven times; terms “disastrous” is used three times and term “rough” eleven times; Similarly, the term “simple” four times; Both “shady” and “evolutionary” occurred once in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “Bizarre” appeared twice; the term “Looted” once in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “Bizarre” five times; “dismal” four times; “shoddy” once only; and “simple” sixteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "failure" explicitly characterizes the government's mandate to recover money and assets as unsuccessful, contributing to a negative portrayal. The adjective predicates the lack of success or achievement in the government's mandate for asset recovery.

Second adjective "rough waters" suggests that the Adviser to the Prime Minister on Accountability, Shahzad Akbar, had been facing significant challenges and difficulties, reflecting negatively on the government's ability to handle accountability matters.

Third adjective "bizarre" refers to the unusual and perplexing state of the accountability drive, categorizing it as deviating from normalcy. This adjective is referring to the accountability drive as being in a "bizarre stage" implies a lack of progress and effectiveness, portraying the government's actions negatively.

Fourth adjective is describing the prosecution's performance as "shady" suggests that it lacks transparency and integrity, further negatively portraying the government's handling of accountability matters. The adjective "shady" (suspicious) predicates a negative quality, suggesting a lack of transparency and integrity in the prosecution's performance.

Fifth adjective "disastrous" predicates a significant level of failure or harm concerning the role of the National Accountability Bureau. This adjective "disastrous" is referring to the National Accountability Bureau's role as "disastrous" implies a significant failure on the part of the government in combating corruption, contributing to a negative image.

Sixth adjective "shoddy" is describing the advisers who left the PTI government as having "shoddy" (lowdown) suggests incompetence and reflects negatively on the government's selection and management of its team. The adjective "shoddy" refers to the quality of homework done by departing advisers, categorizing their work as subpar and inadequate.

Seventh adjective "dismal" predicates a gloomy and unsatisfactory performance in the context of asset recovery and accountability. The adjective "dismal" with noun "performance" emphasizes the government's lackluster achievements and failures in accountability and asset recovery, portraying them negatively.

Eighth adjective "Simple" refers to the action of leaving a task incomplete, categorizing the government's approach as lacking commitment.

Ninth adjectives "evolutionary" refer to potential negative responses and criticism from the opposition, categorizing the reactions the government might face. Government is anticipating

"ridicule and flak" from the opposition indicates that the government's actions are likely to face criticism and negative responses.

Discussion

In this editorial, adjectives are used to provide a negative portrayal of the PTI government's performance and actions, particularly in the context of accountability and asset recovery. This presentation aligns with an expanding research agenda by Richardson (2008) in Language and journalism. Overall, the adjectives used in this editorial collectively contribute to a negative portrayal of the PTI government's performance in matters related to accountability, asset recovery, and governance. These adjectives emphasize shortcomings, failures, and challenges, painting a critical image of the government's handling of these issues.

Data Set 32. PDM's march (January 27, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-01-27/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	2	-	1	-

Table 94: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled "PDM's march" (January 27, 2022)

In this editorial, the adjectives used contribute to both positive and negative portrayals of the PTI government and the opposition (PDM). The analysis how these adjectives shape the portrayals is given here:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Recent"	He_PNP also_AV0 pointed_VVD to_PRP the_AT0 recent_AJ0 Transparency_NN1 International_AJ0 report_NN1, and_CJC accused_VVD PM_NP0 Imran_NN1 of_PRF being_VBG a_AT0 criminal_NN1

		because_PRP of_PRP the_AT0 foreign_AJ0 funding_NN1 case_NN1
2	“Economic” & “reputational”	Opposition_NN1 leaders_NN2 however_AV0 have_VHB rightly_AV0 called_VVN out_AVP the_AT0 hypocrisy_NN1 of_PRF such_DT0 appeals_NN2 by_PRP pointing_VVG to_PRP the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 dharnas_NN2 and_CJC the_AT0 economic_AJ0 and_CJC reputational_AJ0 losses_NN2 they_PNP caused_VVD

Table 95: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “PDM’s march” (January 27, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of adjective "recent" is five times; and “economic” is one hundred and eighteen times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The adjective “recent” appeared seventeen times; and “economic” is twenty-three in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “recent” occurred fifteen times; and “economic” is eight-four times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “recent” is referring to latest development about PM Imran as a "criminal" to portray him in a negative light, suggesting wrongdoing and legal issues.

Both adjectives "economic and reputational” with noun “losses" imply that the PTI government's actions during its own dharnas resulted in negative consequences, reflecting poorly on their governance.

Discussion

Overall, the adjectives in this editorial contribute to a critical and negative portrayal of the PTI government, particularly regarding their appeals and governance. The opposition (PDM) is portrayed more positively, with their actions being justified and supported by referencing previous statements and reports. These results are similar to the study titled “A Critical Discourse Analysis of News Headline about Pakistan Democratic Movement: Ideology, Politics and Media” by Butool and Arshad (2021).

Data Set 33. An unassured no-trust (February 13, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-02-13/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	1	1	1	-

Table 96: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “An unassured no-trust (February 13, 2022)

In this editorial, the analysis of the adjectives in terms of predication and referential aspects, focusing on their portrayal of PTI and PDM:

Adjectives Pertaining to PTI (Negative Connotations)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Wafer-thin (paper thin)	National_AJ0 Assembly_NN1 were_VBD a_AT0 success_NN1 as_CJS the_AT0 treasury_NN1 despite_PRP having_VHG a_AT0 wafer-thin_AJ0 majority_NN1 in_PRP the_AT0 lower_AJC house_NN1

Table 97: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “An unassured no-trust (February 13, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term “wafer-thin” is three times in the editorials of the newspaper “Express Tribune” newspaper.

Description

The adjective "wafer-thin" (paper thin) suggests that PTI's majority in the lower house of the National Assembly is fragile or barely sufficient. It implies that PTI's position is precarious and not strongly established.

Adjectives Pertaining to PDM (Negative Connotations)

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
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1	Divisive (troublesome)	Then_AV0 what_DTQ is_VBZ the_AT0 guarantee_NN1 that_CJT the_AT0 combined_AJ0 Opposition_NN1 which_DTQ has_VHZ a_AT0 divisive_AJ0 agenda_NN1 when_CJS it_PNP comes_VVZ to_PRP self- interests_NN2
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Table 98: Negative adjectives for PDM in the editorial titled “An unassured no-trust (February 13, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term “divisive” is once time in the editorials of the newspaper “Express Tribune” newspaper.

Description

The adjective "divisive" characterizes the opposition's agenda as causing division or disagreement, suggesting that the opposition's interests are not aligned, which could hinder their success.

Adjectives Pertaining to Both PTI and PDM (Neutral Connotations)

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	“Critical”	it_PNP has_VHZ made_VVN great_AJ0 strides_NN2 in_PRP it_PNP by_PRP winning_VVG over PRP the_AT0 critical_AJ0 support_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 PPP_NP0

Table 99: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “An unassured no-trust” (February 13, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “critical” is eight times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “critical” appeared four times in the text of the editorials of “The Express Tribune”. However, frequency of the term “critical” appeared eight times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective "critical" is used neutrally to describe the support of PPP as a critical factor in PDM's no-confidence motion. It doesn't inherently convey a positive or negative predication about either PTI or PDM.

Discussion

Overall, these adjectives contribute to the overall description and evaluation of the actions, intentions, and conditions in the context of Nawaz Sharif's health debate. They help convey the intended meaning and implications of the situation discussed in the text. In terms of referential aspects, these adjectives refer to specific qualities or conditions related to the political context, characterizing the actions and intentions of both PTI and PDM. These results are achieved in similar way as findings of study about Collocations in context: A new perspective on collocation networks by Brezina et al. (2015). The adjectives primarily convey skepticism, uncertainty, and negative views regarding the actions and strategies of both political entities.

Data Set 34. Politics of power-mongering (February 20, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-02-20/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
2	4	1	-	-

Table 100: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled "Politics of power-mongering"

(February 20, 2022)

The adjectives from the provided text that give either a negative or positive portrayal of PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) and PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) is given below:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Foremost	he_PNP admitted_VVD his_DPS mistakes_NN2 and_CJC the_AT0 foremost_AJS among_PRP them_PNP he_PNP pointed_VVD out_AVB was_VBD allowing_VVG the_AT0

		former_DT0 premier_NN1 Nawaz NP0 Sharif_NP0 to_TO0 fly_VVI abroad_AV0
2	full-fledged	It_PNP remains_VVZ to_TO0 be_VBI seen_VVN whether_CJS this_DT0 diatribe_NN1 graduates NN2 into_PRP a_AT0 full-fledged_AJ0 tug_NN1 of_PRF war_NN1
3	Unrelenting (implacable)	The_AT0 fact_NN1 that_CJT he_PNP is_VBZ unrelenting_AJ0 in_PRP striking_VVG a_AT0 chord_NN1 with_PRP the_AT0 opposition_NN1 in_PRP what_DTQ is_VBZ called_VVN an_AT0 NRO_NN1
4	personal	The_AT0 body_NN1 language NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 PM_NP0 was_VBD lambasting_VVG By_PRP scolding_VVG his_DPS adversaries_NN2 in_PRP a_AT0 personal_AJ0 tone_NN

Table 101: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Politics of power-mongering”
(February 20, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “personal” is nine times; terms “Foremost” is used three times; and the term “simple” four times; Both “full-fledged” and “Unrelenting” occurred once in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “personal” appeared four; “Foremost” three times; the term “Unrelenting” once in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “personal” six times; “Foremost” four times; and “simple” sixteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “foremost” (top level) Implies that the Prime Minister's actions or intentions are meant to intimidate or pressure the opposition, potentially viewed as negative.

Second adjective “full-fledged” implies that the Prime Minister's strong verbal attack or criticism of his adversaries is confrontational and may be perceived negatively.

Third adjective “unrelenting” suggests that Prime Minister Imran Khan is persistently pursuing a certain agenda or stance, which may be viewed negatively by some.

Fourth adjective “personal” indicates that the Prime Minister's body language was harshly critical or scolding (reprimand), which can be seen as a negative approach in politics.

Positive Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	canvassing	ruling_AJ0 party_NN1 itself_PNX has_VHZ set_VVN the_AT0 ball_NN1 rolling_VVG by_PRP opting_VVG to_TO0 take_VVI on_AVP the_AT0 opposition_NN1 through_PRP a_AT0 public_AJ0 canvassing_AJ0 campaign_NN1 This_DT0 not_XX0 only_AV0 exhibits_VVZ smartness_NN1 on_PRP the_PRP part_PRP of_PRP the_AT0 treasury_NN1
2	content	He_PNP however_AV0 , seemed_VVD content_AJ0 with_PRP the_AT0 performance_NN1 of_PRF his_DPS government_NN1

Table: 104 Positive adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Politics of power-mongering” (February 20, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of adjective "canvassing" is three times; and “content” is eighteen times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “canvassing” appeared twice; and “content” is seven in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “canvassing” occurred three times; and “content” is four times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “canvassing” (door step) suggests that the ruling party's decision to take on the opposition through a public canvassing campaign is characterized by cleverness or strategic thinking.

Second adjective “content” indicates that the Prime Minister is self-assured about his government's performance and the support of his allies, which can be viewed positively.

Neutral Adjectives

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Decisive	The_AT0 government_NN1 seems_VVZ to_TO0 be_VBI under_PRP a_AT0 realisation_NN1 that_CJT its_DPS time_NN1 to_TO0 get_VVI decisive_AJ0

Table 102: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Politics of power-mongering”

(February 20, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term “decisive” is three times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “decisive” appeared four times in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “decisive” occurred once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

Context-Dependent Portrayal of the adjective “Decisive” suggests that the government believes it's time to take determined action without inherently positive or negative connotations.

Discussion

In this editorial, the adjectives are used to describe the actions, intentions, and demeanor of Prime Minister Imran Khan and the ruling party (PTI) in their interactions with the opposition (PDM). Adjectives like "unrelenting," "browbeat," and "lambasting" present a negative portrayal of PTI's approach, while adjectives like "smartness" and "confident" offer a more positive view. These findings align a comprehensive corpus-based study of the use of evaluative adjectives in promotional hotel websites with by Marza in 2011.

Data Set 35. PPP’s long march (March 01, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-03-01/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	7	1	-	-

Table 103: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “PPP’s long march (March 01, 2022)

The analysis of the adjectives used that give a negative or positive portrayal of the PPP and PTI; Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Final	the_AT0 march_NN1 as PRP the_AT0 final_AJ0 push_NN1 against_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1
2	Leaderless	Fawad_NP0 Chaudhry NP0 said_VVD the_AT0 leaderless_AJ0 and_CJC aimless AJ0 opposition_NN1 alliance_NN1 posed_VVD
3	Aimless	Fawad_NP0 Chaudhry NP0 said_VVD the_AT0 leaderless_AJ0 and_CJC aimless. AJ0 opposition_NN1 alliance_NN1 posed_VVD
4	"serious ".	opposition_NN1 alliance NN1 posed_VVD no_AT0 serious_AJ0 threat_NN1 to_PRP the_AT0 democratically-elected_AJ0 government_NN1
5	Closest	the_AT0 leaders_NN2 from PRP the_AT0 PTI_NN1 and_CJC its_DPS closest_AJS allies NN2 have_VHB been_VBN going_VVG out_PRP of_PRP their_DPS way_NN1 to_TO0 try_VVI and_CJC convince_VVI people_NN0
6	Nationwide	The_AT0 march_NN1 is_VBZ powered_VVN mainly_AV0 by_PRP nationwide_AJ0 discontent NN1 over_PRP inflation_NN1 March_NP0 01_CRD, 2022_CRD The_AT0 PPP_NP0 began_VVD its_DPS long_AJ0 march_NN1 to_PRP Islamabad_NP0 with_PRP party_NN1 chief_NN1 Bilawal NN1 Bhutto-Zardari_NN1

		calling_VVG it_PNP a_AT0 war_NN1 on_PRP Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0
7	Broader	push_NN1 against_PRP the_AT0 government NN1, which DTQ aligns VVZ with_PRP the_AT0 broader_AJC goals_NN2 of_PRF the_AT0 PDM_NP0

Table 104: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “PPP’s long march
(March 01, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “closest” is four times; terms “aimless” is used three times and term “final” eleven times; Similarly, the term “broader” four times; Both “serious” and “nationwide” occurred once in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “broader” appeared twice; the term “aimless” once; “leaderless” three times; term “final” fifteen times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “nationwide” three times; “closest” four times; “broader” once only; and “final” sixteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “final” suggests that Opposition parties is determined to topple the PTI government, which implies an inability to reach a consensus or resolution.

Second adjective “Leaderless” is suggesting a lack of strong leadership. This statement shows the under estimation of Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry about Opposition alliance.

Third adjective “aimless” refers to opposition alliance, implying a lack of clear objectives or goals.

Fourth adjective “serious” is used by Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry, suggesting doubt or skepticism about the accuracy of the claim. This statement shows again an under estimation of Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry about Opposition

Fifth adjective “closest” is referred to allies of government that they are failed to motivate the people. Hence, PTI's anti-PPP rally in Karachi; indicating a lower level of public backing compared to expectation.

Sixth adjective “nationwide” modifies the noun discontent of public about government; therefore, PPP's characterization of the long march as a war on Prime Minister Imran Khan and his

government, implying aggression and conflict. The main driving force behind the long march, indicating widespread dissatisfaction among the public.

Seventh adjective “broader” PPP's description of the march as the "greater" objectives against the government, suggesting an all-or-nothing approach.

Neutral Portrayal

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"recent"	Despite_PRP some_DT0 recent_AJ0 infighting_NN1 other_AJ0 PDM_NP0 member_NN1 parties_NN2 have_VHB also_AV0 said_VVN they_PNP will_VM0 support_VVI the_AT0 long_AJ0 march_NN1 as_CJS it_PNP moves_VVZ north_NN1 to_PRP the_AT0 capital_NN1.

Table 105: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “PPP’s long march
(March 01, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of adjective " recent " is five times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “recent” appeared seventeen times in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “recent” occurred fifteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective “recent” refers to conflict between both political parties.

Discussion

The adjectives used in this editorial primarily portray the PTI in a negative light, emphasizing divisions, conflicts, and skepticism regarding their actions and intentions. Similar results were found in a Corpus-based Study: Exploring the Projection of the Colonizer/Colonized Binary through Selected Short Stories by Fatima et al. (2019).

Data Set. 36. Another amnesty (02 March, 2022)

Another amnesty (Editorial)) on 02 March, 2022 Editorial along with tagged data through CLAWS Tagger POS (Parts of speech tagging) is attached with Appendix.

Ant-Conc Analysis

After clause tagging, the corpus of the editorials is analyzed for frequency, ranking and concordance of adjectives. Screen shots of results from Ant-conc tool is given below:

screen shots of Ant-Conc results

Rank	Freq	Word
1	102	nn
2	45	at
3	39	pun
4	36	prp
5	34	the
6	28	aj
7	18	av
8	17	to
9	15	of
10	14	prf
11	13	vvn
12	12	dt
13	11	sent
14	11	vvi
15	10	cjs
16	8	in
17	8	is
18	8	vbz
19	6	package
20	6	vm
21	6	vvg
22	5	a
23	5	for
24	5	from

Word Types: 257 Word Tokens: 789 Search Hits: 0

Search Term: Words Case Regex Hit Location: Search Only 0

Sort by: Invert Order Sort by Freq

Total No. 1 Files Processed

Figure 15: Frequency & ranking of adjectives

Frequency

In this editorial, total number of adjectives is twenty-eight (28). The ranking of adjectives is on fifth position with frequency of occurrence of parts of speech in the text of editorial. However, articles are on second position with frequency of forty-five (45) and nouns are holding top position with frequency of one hundred and two (102) in the text. The concordance of terms are given below in screen shots of Ant-Conc results.

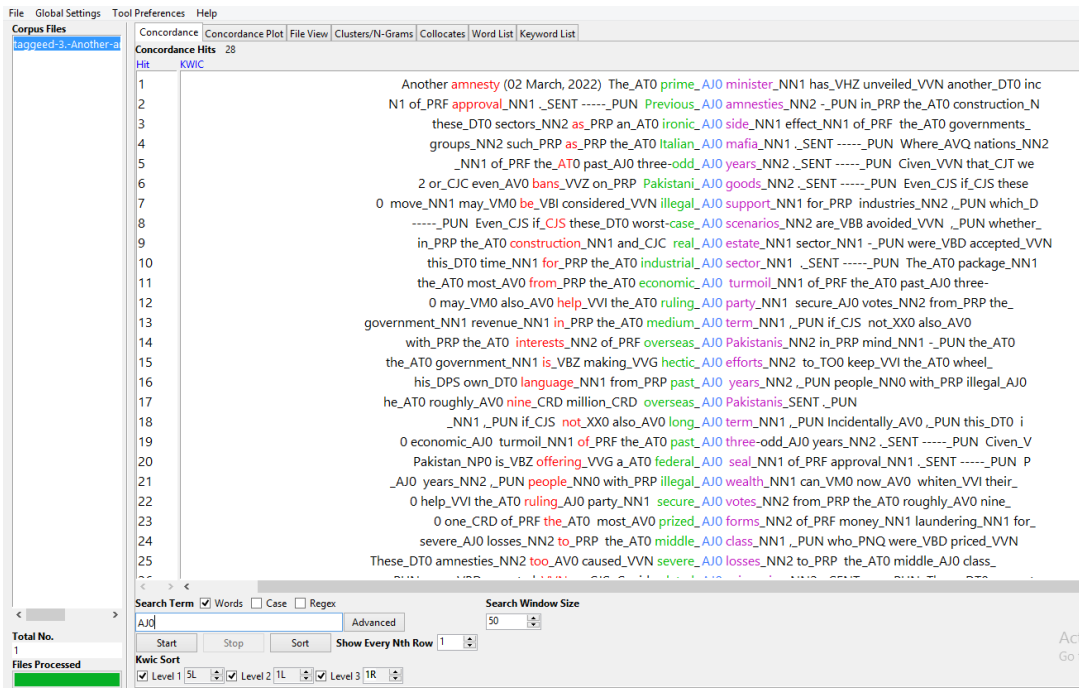


Figure 16: Concordance through Corpus Tool
(screen shots of Ant-Conc results)

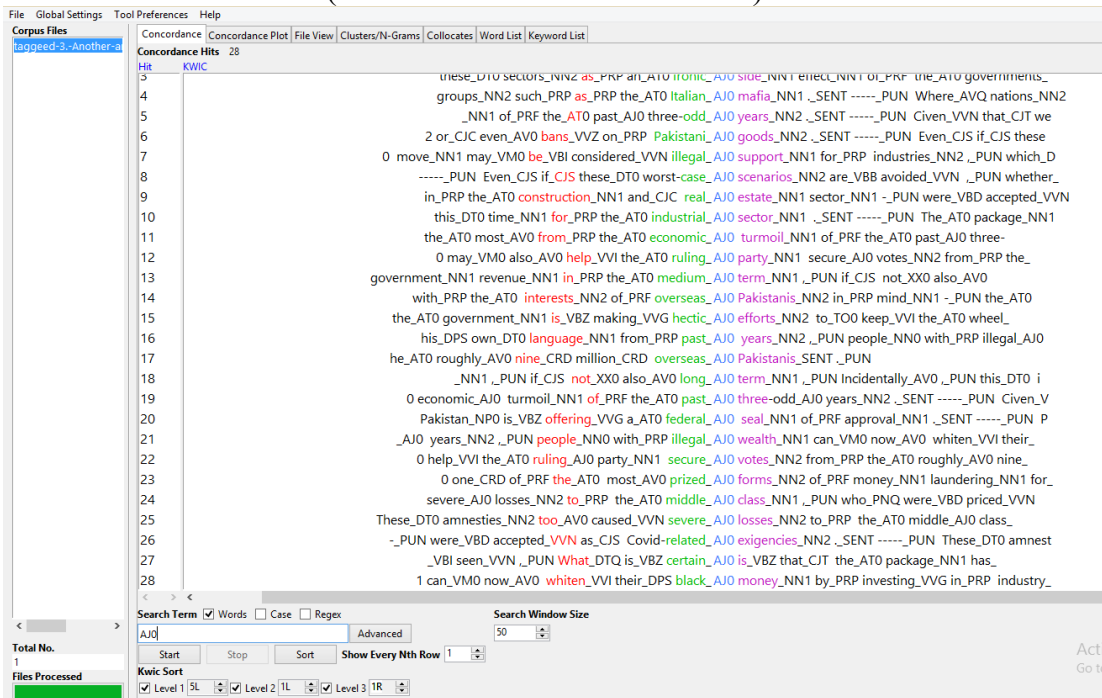


Figure 17: Concordance through Corpus Tool

Out of all these adjectives, analysis is made of only adjectives; those are giving positive or negative connotations to the political parties.

Explanation

The title of editorial indicates that government is habitual of giving the amnesties therefore the adjective “another” with amnesty is used to highlight the repeated action of government. In the first paragraph of this editorial, the exact figure of “three amnesties” is mentioned with particular name of Imran Khan that shows personal comment about PTI leader which shows sort of diminish potential of PM Imran Khan. Such statement by newspaper is an indication for in-group and out-group political binaries.

Discussion

In the beginning of editorial, this industrial amnesty is called as useless action, adjective “hectic” is used to show the efforts of government leading to negative way. Moreover, both of previous amnesties by Imran Khan which were given during COVID-19 to run the wheel of economy of Pakistan. are portrayed as useless action for middle class. Here, we can see the labeling of depreciatorily for Imran khan’s government. In addition to this, the element of predication can be seen with the emphasis of adjectives like “illegal & black” and “prized & Italian” in the context of amnesty. These findings align with the study Opinions and ideologies in editorials by Van Dijk (1995). Moreover, a pessimistic perception is being built in the minds of readers about temporal success of this industrial amnesty. For this purpose, two adjectives “medium and long” are used to give this notion that this process cannot run for long period of time.

Data Set 36. The battle is on! (March 09, 2022) The Express Tribune

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-03-09/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	3	-	-	-

Table 106: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “The battle is on!” (March 09, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (PTI and the opposition).

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
-------	------------	----------------------------

1	"Slippery"	PTI_NN1 too_AV0 felt VVD itself_PNX on_PRP a_AT0 slippery_AJ0 path_NN1
2	"evident"	The_AT0 ruling_AJ0 party NN1 seems_VVZ to_TO0 be_VBI fragmenting_VVG and_CJC political_AJ0 dissent_NN1 is_VBZ quite_AV0 evident_AJ0
3	"bad"	This_DT0 is_VBZ owing_PRP to_PRP bad_AJ0 mathematics NN1 and CJC overconfidence NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 PTI_NN1

Table 107: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “The battle is on!”

(March 09, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “bad” is fourteen times; terms “evident” is used three times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “slippery” appeared twice; the term “evident” eight times; term “bad” fifteen times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “evident” three times; and “bad” sixteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "Slippery" implies that PTI is facing challenges and difficulties, portraying a negative image of the party's current situation.

Second adjective is describing PTI as "evident" suggests clear internal divisions and discord within the party, which is a negative portrayal.

Third adjective “bad” denotes the failure of government which is presented in a negative light. Additionally, term overconfidence implies that PTI may have underestimated the challenges it faces,

Discussion

In the provided text, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (the opposition and PTI). After analysis of these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups; negative portrayal of PTI is seen in this editorial. In a Corpus Analysis by Swales and Burke (2003) titled

“It’s really fascinating work”: differences in evaluative adjectives across academic registers has similar results.

Data Set 37. Perplexing politics (March 12, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-03-12/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
3	1	1	-	-

Table 108: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Perplexing politics” (March 12, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (PTI and the opposition). Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Simmering"	Likewise_AV0 simmering_AJ0 political_AJ0 activity NN1 in_PRP Punjab_NP0 and_CJC the_AT0 emergence_NN1 of_PRF forward_AJ0 blocs NN2 in_PRP the_AT0 ruling AJ0 dispensation NN1 are_VBB factors_NN2 that_CJT will_VM0 keep_VVI the_AT0 government_NN1 on_PRP its_DPS toes_NN2

Table 109: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Perplexing politics”

(March 12, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “simmering” is once in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “simmering” twice in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective "simmering" suggests that there is unrest or tension within PTI, which can be seen as a negative portrayal of the party's internal dynamics.

Positive Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	"Legal"	As_PRP a_AT0 legal_AJ0 valve_NN1 the_AT0 ruling_AJ0 PTI_NN1 wants_VVZ the_AT0 Speaker_NN1 to_TO0 invoke_VVI the_AT0 defection_NN1 clause_NN1
2	"Prudent"	Interior_AJ0 Minister_NN1 Sheikh_NP0 Rashid_NP0 Ahmads_NP0 decision_NN1 to_TO0 Deploy_VVI paramilitary_AJ0 forces_NN2 on_PRP the_AT0 day_NN1 of_PRF show_NN1 of_PRF hands_NN2 is_VBZ a_AT0 prudent_AJ0 step_NN1
3	"law-defined"	it_PNP is_VBZ expected_VVN from_PRP political_AJ0 forces_NN2 across_PRP the_AT0 board_NN1 to_TO0 scale_VVI down_AVP the_AT0 tensions_NN2 and_CJC work_VVI amicably_AV0 in_PRP their_DPS law-defined_AJ0 political_AJ0 ambit_NN1

Table 110: Positive adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Perplexing politics”

(March 12, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “legal” is fourteen times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “law-defined” appeared twice; the term “prudent” once; term “legal” fifteen times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “law-defined” twice; and “legal” nineteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "legal" suggests that PTI's strategy to invoke the defection clause is within the bounds of the law, which can be seen as a positive portrayal of their approach.

Second adjective is describing Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed's decision as "prudent" (sensible) implies that the PTI government is taking responsible and wise actions to maintain order during the political proceedings.

Third adjective "law-defindedy" implies that PTI is open to resolving political tensions in a friendly and cooperative manner, which can be seen as a positive attitude.

Neutral Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Unwanted	political_AJ0 bickering_NN1 will_VM0 be_VBI the_AT0 most_AV0 unwanted_AJ0 thing_NN1 in_PRP its_DPS midst_NN1 While_CJS the_AT0 Chinese_AJ0 foreign_AJ0 minister_NN1 will_VM0 also_AV0 be_VBI here_AV0

Table 111 Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Perplexing politics” (March 12, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “unwanted” is once in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “unwanted” once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective "unwanted" does not inherently convey a positive or negative tone toward both opposition and government. It suggests that country is facing a challenging situation.

Discussion

Overall, the adjectives used in the text provide a mix of positive, negative, and neutral portrayals of both PTI and the opposition. The text appears to take a balanced perspective, highlighting various aspects of the political situation and actions of the political groups without strongly favoring one side over the other. All interpretations are made from context and collocations in similar way as in study Collocations in context: A new perspective of collocation network by Brezina et al., (2015).

Data Set 38. Fiscal deficit challenge (March 14, 2022) published in “The Express Tribune”

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-03-14/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	6	1	-	-

Table 112: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Fiscal deficit challenge”

(March 14, 2022)

In this editorial, the narrative surrounding the political parties, particularly the government led by Prime Minister Imran Khan, is critical and raises concerns about fiscal management and commitments to international lenders like the IMF.

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	“fiscal” “Current”, “historic”	the_AT0 current_AJ0 account NN1 deficit_NN1 for_PRP the_AT0 full_AJ0 fiscal_AJ0 is_VBZ estimated_VVN to_TO0 touch_VVI a_AT0 historic_AJ0 \$20_NN0 billion_CRD
2	“full”	the_AT0 current_AJ0 account NN1 deficit_NN1 for_PRP the_AT0 full_AJ0 fiscal_AJ0 is_VBZ estimated_VVN to_TO0 touch_VVI a_AT0 historic_AJ0 \$20_NN0 billion_CRD
3	“Historic”	a_AT0 historic_AJ0 \$20_NN0 billion_CRD to_TO0 add_VVI to_PRP that_DT0 no_AT0 other_AJ0 economic_AJ0 indicators_NN2 macro_NN1 or_CJC micro_NN1 are_VBB anything_PNI to_TO0 write_VVI home_AV0 about_PRP
4	“Specific” “New”	PM_NP0 will_VM0 either_AV0 have_VHI to_TO0 go_VVI back_AV0 on_PRP his_DPS words_NN2 and_CJC increase_VVI the_AT0 utilities_NN2

		prices_NN2 or_CJC find_VVB some_DT0 specific_AJ0 areas_NN2 to_TO0 impose_VVI new_AJ0 tax_NN2
5	Fiscal	current_AJ0 account_NN1 deficit_NN1 for_PRP the_AT0 full_AJ0 fiscal_AJ0 is_VBZ estimated_VVN to_TO0 touch_VVI a_AT0 historic_AJ0 \$20_NN0 billion_CRD

Table 113: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Fiscal deficit challenge”

(March 14, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “Full” is thirty-one times; Frequency of the terms “specific” is three times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “fiscal” appeared six times and the term “Full” appeared seventeen times; in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “fiscal” occurred thirty-six times; Frequency of the terms “specific” is four times and “full” sixteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

These adjectives “fiscal”, “Current” and “historic” suggest that the editorial highlights concern about the current account deficit, indicating that it is a matter of worry and emphasizing that various economic indicators are not positive.

The adjective “full” implies that all such measures might worsen the fiscal deficit situation, and the government may have to backtrack on its promises. The government's announcement of a relief package for the people is presented as an action that could further infuriate the IMF.

Next adjective “Historic” emphasizes that the record government's failure to achieve the primary budget surplus required by the IMF agreement is a significant breach of commitment, signaling tough times ahead. This portrayal suggests a lack of fiscal discipline on the part of the government.

These adjectives “specific” and “new” in the editorial speculate on how the government might attempt to address the fiscal gap, mentioning options such as raising utility prices, imposing new taxes, seeking fresh loans, or cutting development spending. It suggests that regardless of the chosen approach, the general public will ultimately bear the brunt of the fiscal challenges.

The adjective “fiscal” that titled the editorial; The editorial portrays the government's fiscal management in a negative light. It highlights that the budget deficit for the fiscal year is expected to be significantly higher than the target, despite various measures such as cutting the development budget, imposing additional taxes, and a breach of commitments to the IMF regarding a primary budget surplus. This narrative suggests that the government is facing challenges in managing the country's finances effectively.

Neutral Adjectives for PTI/PDM

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Economic	no_AT0 other_AJ0 economic_AJ0 indicators_NN2 macro_NN1 or_CJC micro_NN1 are_VBB anything_PNI to_TO0 write_VVI home_AV0 about_PRP

Table 114: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Fiscal deficit challenge” (March 14, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “economic” is one hundred and eighteen times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term ““economic” is twenty-three in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “economic” is eight-four times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective “economic” in the editorial concludes by mentioning financial situation of country. This "political tug of war" in the country's political landscape, implying that political conflicts and disputes among the political class are exacerbating the economic situation.

Discussion

Overall, the narrative presented in this editorial is critical of the government's fiscal management and its ability to meet its commitments to international lenders, especially the IMF. It raises concerns about the country's fiscal challenges and the potential impact on the general public. Maximum negative adjectives are used for PTI government; So, these interpretations align with a comprehensive corpus-based study of the use of evaluative adjectives in promotional hotel websites by Marza in 2011.

Data Set 39. Political pulls and push (March 19th, 2022) published in “The Express Tribune”

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-03-19/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
3	5	-	-	-

Table 115: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Political pulls and push”

(March 19th, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (PTI and the opposition). Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Negative Portrayals of PTI and Imran Khan

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	“decisive”	Prime_AJ0 Minister_NP0 Imran_NP0 Khan_NP0 is_VBZ in_PRP a_AT0 decisive_AJ0 phase_NN1 of_PRF his_DPS political_AJ0 career_NN1
2	rough	His_DPS government_NN1 is_VBZ in_PRP rough_AJ0 waters_NN2
3	Short	he_PNP is_VBZ short_AJ0 of_PRF the_AT0 required_AJ0 number_NN1 of_PRF votes_NN2 to_TO0 defeat_VVI the_AT0 no-confidence_NN1 motion_NN1 brought_VVN by_PRP the_AT0 opposition_NN1
4	bad	This_DT0 aspect_NN1 has_VHZ bred_VVN bad_AJ0 blood_NN1 and_CJC furthered_AJ0 instability_NN1 at_PRP a_AT0 time_NN1 when_AVQ polarisation_NN1 is_VBZ at_PRP its_DPS peak_NN1

5	"furthered"	This_DT0 aspect_NN1 has_VHZ bred_VVN bad_AJ0 blood_NN1 and_CJC furthered_AJ0 instability_NN1 at_PRP a_AT0 time_NN1 when_AVQ polarisation_NN1 is_VBZ at_PRP its_DPS peak_NN1
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Table 116: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Political pulls and push”

(March 19th, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “bad” is fourteen times. Frequency of term “decisive” is three times. terms “short” is used three times and term “rough” eleven times; in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “bad” fifteen times; the term “decisive” four times; the term “furthered” appeared three times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “decisive” occurred once; “rough” four times; and “bad” sixteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "decisive" shows that Prime Minister Imran Khan is in a decisive phase of his political career.

Second adjective “rough” with noun “waters” implies that Imran Khan's government is facing challenges and difficulties, which is a negative portrayal.

Third adjective "short" indicates internal dissent within the ruling PTI, which is presented as a negative aspect of the party's situation.

Fourth adjective “bad” suggests that the defections within PTI have led to negative consequences, including bad relations and instability.

Fifth adjective "furthered" predicates that the defections within PTI have led to negative consequences, including bad relations and instability.

Positive Portrayals of PTI and Imran Khan

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	“good” & “Constitutional”	The_AT0 good_AJ0 point_NN1 is_VBZ that_CJT the_AT0 Prime_AJ0 Minister_NN1 in_PRP

		consultation_PRP with_PRP the_AT0 Speaker_NN1 is_VBZ weighing_VVG constitutional AJ0 options_NN2
2	slapping	As_PRP a_AT0 credit_NN1 to_PRP the_AT0 Prime_AJ0 Minister_NN1 he_PNP has_VHZ set_VVN a_AT0 good_AJ0 precedent_NN1 by_PRP not_XX0 lending_VVG Ears NN2 to_PRP calls_NN2 for_PRP slapping AJ0 Governors NN2 Rule_VVB in_PRP Sindh_NP0
3	“advisable” & “middle”	There_EX0 is_VBZ much_DT0 room_NN1 for_PRP a_AT0 consensus_NN1 even_AV0 now AV0 and_CJC it_PNP would_VM0 be_VBI advisable AJ0 to_TO0 seek_VVI a_AT0 middle_AJ0 ground NN1 and_CJC step_VVI back_AVP from_PRP the_AT0 brink NN1

Table 117: Positive adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Political pulls and push”

(March 19th, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “advisable” is nine times. Frequency of term "constitutional" is eight times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “slapping” appeared once; and term “advisable” twice; and "constitutional" appeared thirteen times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term "constitutional" occurred eleven times; “rough” four times; and “bad” sixteen times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

Both adjectives “good” and “Constitutional” portray Prime Minister Imran Khan as someone who is taking a thoughtful and constitutional approach to the political situation, which can be seen as a positive attribute.

The adjective “slapping” highlights Imran Khan's decision not to resort to extreme measures, which is presented as a positive and prudent action.

Both adjectives “advisable” and “middle” in a statement suggest the possibility of finding common ground and consensus, which reflects a positive approach to resolving political issues.

Explanation

These adjectives collectively portray Prime Minister Imran Khan and the PTI government in a challenging and critical light. They emphasize difficulties, internal dissent, and the need for astute decision-making. However, there is also recognition of Imran Khan's cautious approach in not resorting to extreme measures. These adjectives highlight the negative aspects of the situation, particularly regarding defections within PTI and their reasons. They suggest dissatisfaction with governance and raise concerns about the impact on institutions and trust in elected representatives. Ajmi, (2014) found similar tone in her work *Subjectivity in Discourse: A CDA Approach to the Study of Adjectives in Two Political Speeches*.

Discussion

The tone in this text is critical of the political situation and emphasizes challenges and dissatisfaction within the PTI. It suggests that the government is facing internal dissent and is in a precarious position. While there is recognition of Imran Khan's cautious approach, the adjectives used generally portray the PTI government in a less favorable light. It's important to note that the text does not contain specific adjectives directly related to PDM/PML(N) leaders, so a direct comparison of adjectives used for both sides is not possible in this text. However, the adjectives used collectively create a certain tone and emphasis on the challenges faced by the PTI government.

The text in this editorial is somewhat critical of PTI and Imran Khan's government, emphasizing the challenges, internal dissent, and potential negative consequences of the political situation. However, there is also recognition of some positive attributes, such as a cautious approach and a willingness to explore consensus.

Data Set 40. Defection outlawed (May 18, 2022) The Express Tribune

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-05-18/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
1	1	3	-	-

Table 118: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Defection outlawed”

(May 18, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (PTI and the opposition).

Negative Adjectives Associated with PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	floor-crossing (breaching the parliamentary rule)	its_DPS classified_AJ0 pronouncement_NN1 has_VHZ cleared_VVN the_AT0 fog_NN1 of_PRF whispers_NN2 on_PRP defection NN1 Voting VVG against_PRP party_NN1 spirit_NN1 and_CJC floor-crossing_AJ0 stands_NN2 outlawed_VVD

Table 119: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Defection outlawed”

(May 18, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “floor-crossing” is three times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “floor-crossing” appeared three times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term " floor-crossing " occurred twice in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective “floor-crossing” (breach) is here to criticize the PTI internal clash.

Predication of adjective “ensuring”: The adjective “floor-crossing” predicates that some lawmakers from PTI have switched their allegiance or violated party discipline.

Referential meaning of the adjective “floor-crossing”: The adjective “floor-crossing” is to PTI lawmakers who have defected from their party, suggesting a negative portrayal of PTI due to the defection.

Positive Adjectives Associated with PDM

S. No.	Positive Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Ensuing	This_DT0 puts_VVZ the_AT0 infant_NN1 cabinet-less_DT0 government_NN1 of_PRF Hamza_NP0 in_PRP the_AT0 doldrums_NN2, and_CJC is_VBZ set_VVN to_TO0 send_VVI in_AVN ripple_NN1 effects_NN2 on_PRP the_AT0 ensuing_AJ0 Political_AJ0 instability_NN1

Table 120: Positive adjectives for PDM in the editorial titled “Defection outlawed”

(May 18, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “ensuing” is six times in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term "ensuing " occurred once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective "ensuing" is used in an ironic context.

Predication of adjective “ensuring”: It predicates that the government led by Hamza Shehbaz (from PML-N) is relatively new or inexperienced.

Referential meaning of adjective “ensuring”: The reference is to the government led by Hamza Shehbaz, implying that it is not firmly established.

Neutral Adjectives

S.No.	Neutral Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Much-awaited	In_PRN a_AT0 much-awaited_AJ0 decision_NN1 on_PRN a_AT0 presidential_AJ0 reference_NN1 seeking_VVG the_AT0 top_AJ0 courts_NN2 interpretation_NN1 on_PRN the_AT0 fate_NN1 and_CJC conduct_NN1 of_PRN defectors_NN2
2	Decisive	In_PRN a_AT0 decisive_AJ0 judgment_NN1, the_AT0 Supreme_AJ0 Court_NN1 has_VHZ ruled_VVN that_CJT

		a_AT0 vote_NN1 from_PRP defecting_VVG lawmakers_NN2 not_XX0 countable_AJ0
3	Holistic	Likewise_AV0 it_PNP said_VVD Article_NN1 63-A_CRD can_VM0 not_XX0 be_VBI read_VVN in_PRP isolation_NN1 and_CJC has_VHZ to_TO0 be_VBI looked_VVN into_PRP in_PRP a_AT0 holistic_AJ0 sense_NN1

Table 121: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Defection outlawed” (May 18, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term “decisive” is three times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. Frequency of the term “holistic” is once time.; term “much-awaited” is twice; and the term “decisive” appeared four times in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “decisive” occurred once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "much-awaited" shows the public interest for supreme court’s decision.

Predication of adjective "much-awaited": The adjective "much-awaited" predicates that the Supreme Court's decision was highly anticipated.

Referential meaning of adjective "much-awaited": The reference is to the Supreme Court's decision, indicating its significance and public interest.

Second adjective "decisive" is used to show clarity of decision

Predication of adjective "decisive": The adjective "decisive" predicates that the Supreme Court's judgment was clear and left no room for ambiguity.

Referential meaning of adjective "decisive": The reference is to the Supreme Court's judgment, emphasizing its clarity and impact.

Third adjective "holistic" suggests neutral meanings for any political party.

Predication of adjective: The adjective "holistic" predicates that Article 63-A should be considered comprehensively and not in isolation.

Referential meaning of adjective: The reference is to Article 63-A and the Supreme Court's interpretation of it, highlighting the need for a comprehensive perspective.

Discussion

As a whole, the adjectives used in the editorial primarily focus on the Supreme Court's decision regarding defection and its implications for PTI and PDM. The term "defection" carries a negative connotation, implying disloyalty among some PTI lawmakers. Other adjectives, such as "infant," are used ironically and neutrally to describe the government led by Hamza Shehbaz. The overall tone of the editorial seems to emphasize the importance and clarity of the Supreme Court's decision. Analysis is carried out aligning with theoretical framework of discourse-historical approach (Critical discourse analysis) by Wodak, (2015).

Data Set 41. Viability of clean energy (May 24th, 2022) Published in The Express Tribune

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-05-24/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
1	3	1	-	-

Table 122: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Viability of clean energy”

(May 24th, 2022)

Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Negative Adjectives Associated with PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Oblivious	Seemingly_AV0 oblivious_AJ0 of_PRF the_AT0 perilous_AJ0 economic_AJ0 condition_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 country_NN1 ,_PUN the_AT0 previous_AJ0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1 levied_VVN the_AT0 GST_NP0 on_PRP solar_AJ0 panels_NN2
2	Reckless	The_AT0 reversal_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 reckless_AJ0 decision_NN1 is_VBZ a_AT0 welcome_AJ0 move_NN1

3	Perilous	Seemingly_AV0 oblivious_AJ0 of_PRF the_AT0 perilous_AJ0 economic_AJ0 condition_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 country_NN1 ,_PUN the_AT0 previous_AJ0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1 levied_VVN the_AT0 GST_NP0 on_PRP solar_AJ0 panels_NN2
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Table 123: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Viability of clean energy”

(May 24th, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term “reckless” is once in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. Frequency of the term “Perilous” is once time.; term “oblivious” is twice; and the term “reckless” appeared once time in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “reckless” occurred once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective suggests that the PTI government was not adequately aware or concerned about the country's economic condition, which is a negative portrayal.

Predication of adjective "oblivious": The adjective "oblivious" predicates that the PTI government was unaware or inattentive to the economic condition of the country.

Referential of adjective "oblivious": The reference is to the PTI government, indicating that the government lacked awareness.

Second adjective "reckless" implies that the PTI government's decision to impose GST on solar panels was careless or hasty, which is a negative portrayal.

Predication of adjective "reckless": The adjective "reckless" predicates that the PTI government's decision to impose GST on solar panels was careless or done without due consideration.

Referential meaning of adjective "reckless": The reference is to the PTI government's decision, suggesting that it lacked prudence.

Third adjective “perilous” (grave risk) suggests that the PTI government was not adequately aware or concerned about the country's economic condition, which is a negative portrayal.

Positive Adjectives Associated with PTI

S.No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Clean	The_AT0 lifting_NN1 of_PRF GST_NP0 on_PRP solar_AJ0 panels_NN2 will_VM0 encourage_VVI the_AT0 use_NN1 of_PRF clean_AJ0 energy_NN1

Table 124: Positive adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Viability of clean energy”

(May 24th, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term “clean” is eight times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. Frequency of the term “clean” is three times in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “clean” occurred four times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective “clean” indicates that the decision of using is appreciated, conveying a positive aspect of the PTI government's action.

Predication of adjective “clean”: The adjective “clean” predicates that the PTI government’s decision is appreciated and greeted with approval.

Referential meaning of adjective “clean”: The reference is to the action of decision taken by the PTI government, indicating approval.

Neutral Adjectives

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	viable	people_NN0 found_VVD solar_AJ0 energy_NN1 a_AT0 viable_AJ0 alternative_NN1 to_PRP electricity_NN1

Table 125: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Viability of clean energy”

(May 24th, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term “clean” is nine times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. Frequency of the term “clean” is once time in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “clean” occurred five times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

This adjective is neutral and simply refers to the public in the past.

Predication of adjective " viable": The adjective " viable" predicates that the decision of using solar was made by the public in the past.

Referential meaning of adjective " viable": The reference is to the public, specifying that it refers to the public in a prior period.

Explanation

In summary, these adjectives are used to predicate specific characteristics or qualities (both negative and positive) associated with the PTI government's actions or decisions. They provide information about the government's behavior and the evaluation of those actions.

Discussion

The editorial does not specifically mention the PDM, so there are no adjectives directly associated with the PDM in this context. The "neutral" adjective simply denotes a temporal reference to the government in the past. Overall, this editorial portrays the PTI government negatively by suggesting that its previous decision to impose GST on solar panels was reckless and that it appeared oblivious to the economic condition of the country. However, the editorial also acknowledges the positive aspect of the government's decision to reverse the GST, using the term "welcome." Jaworska, (2016) found similar results while analysis the representations of hosts in promotional tourism discourse that was a comparative corpus assisted discourse study.

Data Set 42. Confident coalition? (June 26, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-06-26/1?page=14>

PTI		Neutral Adj.	PDM	
+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	5	1	4	-

Table 126: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled "Confident coalition?" (June 26, 2022)

In the text of this editorial, adjectives are used to convey various aspects of the political situation and the actions of both political groups (PTI and the opposition). Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Negative Portrayal of PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Painful	it_PNP was_VBD the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1 that_CJT agreed_VVD to_PRP the_AT0 IMFs_NP0 painful_AJ0 loan_NN1 conditions_NN2 such_PRP as_PRP those_DT0 that_CJT raised_VVD fuel_NN1 prices_NN2
2	Anti-Government	contrary_PRP to_PRP the_AT0 belief_NN1 of_PRF some_DT0 analysts_NN2 that_CJT revival_NN1 of_PRF the_AT0 IMF_NP0 loan_NN1 programme_NN1 could_VM0 stabilise_VVI the_AT0 sinking_NN1 economy_NN1 and_CJC reduce_VVI anti-government_AJ0 sentiment_NN1 among_PRP the_AT0 public_NN1
3	“Unaffordable” “Populist”	Most_DT0 experts_NN2 also_AV0 cite_VVB this_DT0 and_CJC other_AJ0 unaffordable_AJ0 populist_AJ0 moves_NN2 by_PRP the_AT0 PTI_AJ0 government_NN1 among_PRP the_AT0 actions_NN2 that_CJT angered_VVD the_AT0 IMF_NP0
4	Sizeable	Imrans_NN2 rallies_NN2 have_VHB been_VBN sizeable_AJ0 enough_AV0 to_TO0 create_VVI law_NN1 and_CJC order_NN1 headaches_VVZ for_PRP the_AT0 government_NN1
5	International	IMF_NP0 did_VDD not_XX0 trust_VVI the_AT0 Imran-led_AJ0 government_NN1 because_CJS it_PNP reneged_VVD on_PRP its_DPS agreement_NN1 with_PRP the_AT0 international_AJ0 financial_AJ0 institution

Table 127: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Confident coalition?”

(June 26, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term “populist” is eight times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The term “sizeable” once time; the term “international” ten times; the term “unaffordable” appeared once time in the text of editorials of “The Express Tribune”. The term “unaffordable” occurred once; “international” thirty-four times; and “populist” six times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The description of raising fuel prices as a "painful" but necessary decision suggests that the PTI government's policies have caused discomfort or hardship to the public.

Second adjective mention of "reduce anti-government sentiment" implies that there is significant discontent or opposition toward the PTI-led government.

Third adjective is referring to the PTI government's actions as "unaffordable populist moves" portrays them negatively, implying that these policies are unsustainable and have contributed to economic challenges.

Fourth adjective "Sizeable" portrays PTI negatively, suggesting that the crowd situation may cause deteriorated condition of country.

Fifth adjective “international” is referred to Imran Khan and the term in context "renege" indicates that the PTI government did not fulfill its agreement with the IMF, implying unreliability or dishonesty.

Positive Portrayal of PDM

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Incumbent	the_AT0 IMF_NP0 loan_NN1 programme_NN1 will_VM0 be_VBI restored_VVN in_PRP the_AT0 next_ORD few_DT0 days_NN2 seems_VVZ to_TO0 have_VHI breathed_VVN new_AJ0 confidence_NN1 into_PRP the_AT0 incumbent_AJ0 dispensation (relif)_NN1 That_NN2 why_AVQ Prime_AJ0 Minister_NN1 Shehbaz_NP0 Sharif_NP0 has_VHZ ,in_PRP a_AT0 televised_AJ0 address_NN1, expressed_VVD his_DPS belief

2	Recent	Prime_AJ0 Minister_NN1 Shehbaz_NP0 also_AV0 noted_VVN that_CJT the_AT0 IMF_NP0 money_NN1 ,_PUN as_PRP well_PRP as_PRP the_AT0 recent_AJ0 \$2.3_NN0 billion_CRD loan_NN1 approved_VVN by_PRP China_NP0 to_TO0 bolster_VVI Pakistans NP0 foreign_AJ0 exchange_NN1 reserves_NN2
3	“necessary”	but_CJC necessary_AJ0 decision_NN1, and_CJC one_PNI that_CJT was_VBD taken_VVN to_TO0 benefit_VVI the_AT0 country_NN1
4	New	the_AT0 IMF_NP0 loan_NN1 programme_NN1 will_VM0 be_VBI restored_VVN in_PRP the_AT0 next_ORD few_DT0 days_NN2 seems_VVZ to_TO0 have_VHI breathed_VVN new_AJ0 confidence_

Table 128: Positive adjectives for PDM in the editorial titled “Confident coalition?”

(June 26, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of adjective " recent " is five times; and “necessary” is six times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The adjective “recent” appeared seventeen times; term “Incumbent” seven times; and “necessary” is six times in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. However, term “recent” occurred fifteen times; and “necessary” is five times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “incumbent” (obligatory/essential relief) in the editorial mentions Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif expressing confidence in the PMLN-led coalition government, portraying them as stable and in control.

Second adjective “recent” is used to refer towards PDM government. The reference to new measures to correct the economy hints at efforts by the PDM to stabilize the economy, suggesting a proactive approach to economic challenges.

Third adjective “necessary” is referred to an unavoidable action by PDM government that is highlighting the foresight of PDM governments portrays them positively, suggesting that their initiatives, once criticized by PTI, ultimately proved successful.

Fourth adjective “new” is describing PML-N's initiatives as an unmitigated success further reinforces the positive portrayal of their governance.

Neutral Portrayal

S. No.	Neutral Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Unacceptable	it_PNP is_VBZ unacceptable_AJ0 for_PRP millions_CRD of_PRF people_NN0 for_PRP whom_PNQ statistics_NN0 mean_VVB nothing_PNI

Table 129: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Confident coalition?” (June 26, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of term “unacceptable” is three times in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. Frequency of the term “unacceptable” is three time in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. Frequency of term “unacceptable” occurred four times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

The adjective “unacceptable” refers to common people. The mention of "statistics mean nothing" reflects a neutral stance, indicating that statistics may not resonate with the general public, without inherently portraying either PTI or PDM positively or negatively.

Discussion

The adjectives and phrases used in the editorial generally present a negative portrayal of PTI's economic policies and actions, while portraying PDM, particularly PML-N, in a more positive light regarding economic management and foresight. However, some statements remain neutral in their portrayal of both parties. In a case of leading Pakistani newspapers of English: mediatization of Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), Shehzad et al. (2022) found similar results.

Data Set 43. Politics of hatred (July 13, 2022)

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/2022-07-13/1?page=14>

PTI	Neutral Adj.	PDM

+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.		+Ve Adj.	-Ve Adj.
-	2	2	-	-

Table 130: Overall adjectives in the editorial titled “Politics of hatred” (July 13, 2022)

Let's analyze these adjectives through the lens of predication and referential for their portrayal of the political groups:

Negative Adjectives Associated with PTI

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Unapologetic	Imran_NP0 seemed_VVD unapologetic_AJ0 about_PRP his_DPS supporters_NN2 behaviour NN1 even_AV0 praising_VVG them_PNP at_PRP a_AT0 recent_AJ0 rally_NN1 for_PRP telling_VVG the_AT0 truth_NN1
2	False	But_CJC again_AV0 ,_PUN taking_VVG the_AT0 lead_NN1 from_PRP Imran_NP0 ,they_PNP continue_VVB selling_VVG false_AJ0 narratives_NN2 to_PRP captive_AJ0 audiences_NN2 instead_PRP of_PRP opting_VVG for_PRP legitimate_AJ0

Table 131: Negative adjectives for PTI in the editorial titled “Politics of hatred” (July 13, 2022)

Frequency

Frequency of the term "false" is once time in the editorials of the newspaper “The News”. The terms “false” three times and “unapologetic” appeared once in the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune”. However, the term “false” appeared once in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective “unapologetic” gives negative connotation for PTI.

Predication of adjective “unapologetic”: The term "unapologetic" predicates that Imran Khan did not express remorse or regret for his supporters' behavior.

Referential meaning of adjective “unapologetic”: The reference is to Imran Khan's attitude regarding his supporters' behavior, suggesting a negative portrayal of PTI leadership.

Second adjective "false" indicate negative context for PTI.

Predication of adjective "false”: The adjective "false" predicates that narratives presented by PTI leaders, including Imran Khan, are not accurate or truthful.

Referential meaning of adjective "false”: The reference is to the narratives and statements made by PTI leaders, implying that they engage in misinformation.

Neutral Adjectives

S. No.	Adjectives	CLAWS Tagging with Context
1	Regrettable	The_AT0 most_AV0 recent_AJ0 example_NN1 of_PRF Regrettable AJ0 political_AJ0 rhetoric_NN1 seeping_VVG into_PRP everyday_AJ0
2	Amicable	social_AJ0 interactions_NN2 was_VBD resolved_VVN in_PRP a_AT0 relatively_AV0 amicable_AJ0 manner_NN1

Table 132: Neutral adjectives in the editorial titled “Politics of hatred” (July 13, 2022)

Frequency

Both terms “regrettable” and amicable appeared once in the editorials of “Express Tribune” newspaper. Similarly, term “regrettable” occurred once; and “necessary” is five times in the editorials of newspaper “DAWN”.

Description

First adjective "regrettable" shows neutral meaning to any political party.

Predication of adjective "regrettable”: The adjective "regrettable" predicates that the political rhetoric seeping into everyday social interactions is unfortunate or disappointing.

Referential meaning of adjective "regrettable”: The reference is to the situation where political rhetoric has affected social interactions, expressing disapproval of such incidents.

Second adjective "amicable" suggests neutral context to any political party

Predication of adjective "amicable": The adjective "amicable" predicates that the resolution of the incident involving Ahsan Iqbal and the family at the restaurant was done in a friendly and peaceful manner.

Referential meaning of adjective "amicable": The reference is to the resolution of the incident, indicating a positive outcome.

Discussion

Adjectives used in the editorial primarily focus on criticizing PTI leaders, including Imran Khan, for their behavior and rhetoric, which is portrayed as negative and divisive. The overall tone of the editorial appears to be critical of PTI leaders and their impact on society. It is important to note that previously government of PTI was presented negatively but it is government of PDM now; therefore current government is not being criticized. Similar results were found in a corpus driven study of adjectives in Sidhwa's fiction (Mahmood et al., 2014).

CHAPTER 5

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The researcher has specifically undertaken comprehensive examination, the introduction, research method, data collection, CLAWS tagging, data analysis and interpretation in the last chapter. This chapter includes the findings of the study, answers to the research questions, and conclusion.

5.1 Findings

Findings of data are given below:

5.1.1 The News

According to the data analysis, the results shows that both positive and negative adjectives were used in the editorials of newspaper “The News” as follows:

As for as positive adjectives are concerned, 07.46% positive adjectives are used for PTI and 14.93% positive adjectives are used for PDM. Among negative adjectives, 66.42% negative adjectives are used for PTI and 06.72% negative adjectives are used for PDM. Only 04.48% neutral adjectives are used in the editorials of “The News”.

There is a less use of such adjectives in the editorials of “The News” that explicitly provide a positive portrayal of PTI. The focus of the text is more on criticism. Minimum use of the adjectives in the text of editorials have positive referential elements. The focus is primarily on criticism and negative aspects.

The editorials of the newspaper “The News” carries maximum negative connotation in the adjectives those are in the context of Pakistani political party PTI which shows out-group to PTI pole for the newspaper “The News”. Whereas, the positive adjectives are used in context of PDM in order to give positive narrative to PDM which shows in-group to PDM by newspaper “The News”. The editorial board of “The News” newspaper has used both “predication and referential” devices for discursive construction of social actors, objects/phenomena/ events, and processes/action. In addition to that “The News” newspaper represented membership categorization (in-group/out-group) for PDM/PTI as mentioned in the Wodak’s model of Discourse Historical Approach (2015).

5.1.2 Dawn

As per results from data analysis of editorials of newspaper “DAWN”, average of positive and negative adjectives is as follows:

Overall, 39.58% negative adjectives are used for PTI and 04.16% negative adjectives are used for PDM. Rest 56.25% neutral adjectives are used in the editorials of “DAWN” during particular time period (10 Jan, 2022 to 10 July, 2022).

The editorials of the newspaper ‘DAWN’ gives neutral voice for any political party. Instead of criticizing the political parties or any political leader, the center of discussion remains on issues and problems of society or country. The editors of newspaper “DAWN” avoids to use proper nouns; for instance, they mostly used common noun as “government” instead of proper noun “PTI or PDM” led government. Therefore, adjectives used in the editorials have minimum negative/positive connotation towards any political party.

The adjectives are more concerned with the overall state of political discourse and behavior, rather than highlighting positive or negative aspects of any particular party. The adjectives provide a nuanced view of both PTI and PDM in the editorials, with some suggesting criticism and others describing the situation in neutral terms.

In the editorials of Dawn, the adjectives used to portray PTI (government) and PDM (opposition) are mostly neutral, without clear positive or negative connotations. The editorial focuses on the evolving political situation and the uncertainty surrounding the vote of no-confidence against Prime Minister Imran Khan. It provides a factual overview of the situation without heavily emphasizing positive or negative adjectives to describe either political entity.

5.1.3 The Express Tribune

According to the results after data analysis, following percentage of both positive and negative adjectives were used in the editorials of newspaper “*The Express Tribune*”:

In total 18.68% positive adjectives are used for PTI and 03.30% positive adjectives are used for PDM. Among negative adjectives, 61.54% negative adjectives are used for PTI while 16.48% neutral adjectives are used in the editorials of “*The Express Tribune*” during particular time period (10 Jan, 2022 to 10 July, 2022).

These results show that the attributions of adjectives in the editorials of “The Express Tribune” carries the negative traits (e.g., in the form of adjectives) to PTI and positive traits to PDM. The editorials of the newspaper “The express Tribune” carries the positive connotation in

the adjectives those are in concordance of PDM. They qualify the in-group referential “allies” to narrative of PDM. According to the lens of DHA (Discourse Historical Approach) as theoretical model by Wodake’s model (2015), the editorials of the newspaper “The Express Tribune” have predication of the negative adjectives for PTI during the specific time period (10 Jan, 2022 to 10 July, 2022).

5.2 Answers to the Research Questions

In the previous chapter, the analysis of data was carried out to align with the research’s objectives to derive answers to the research questions. The data were analyzed consistently with their respective collection modes following the research design. Initially, the quantitative data analysis was structured and then qualitative data is described with the lens of theoretical framework.

Mainly, the research questions examined the political binaries presented in the discourses of Pakistani selected English e-newspaper editorials and portrayal of the political parties (government/opposition) by the selected English e-newspapers during transition period of government in Pakistan.

The primary objective of the initial research question was to assess the presentation of political binaries in the discourses of Pakistani English e-newspapers. Particularly, the discourses of English e-newspaper editorials typically comprise diverse linguistic backgrounds, thus representation of political binaries is inevitable phenomenon. Moreover, the findings and empirical data obtained from the study explicitly affirm the political binaries presented in the discourses of Pakistani English e-newspaper editorials. During analysis of newspaper editorials, it became evident that the discourses of Pakistani English newspaper editorials portrayed political binaries (government/opposition). The quantitative and qualitative analysis of the data patterns was observed that both political poles (PDM and PTI) are presented positively or negatively in the text of editorials. Additionally, the data unveiled that the news editor relied more on use of adjectives in portraying of political parties.

The second research question was designed to explicate how have the selected English e-newspapers portrayed the political parties (government/opposition) in their editorials during the transition period (year, 2022) in Pakistan. During analysis of newspaper editorials, a significant pattern emerged wherein editors artfully used adjectives to present political parties negatively or positively. This recurring practice of newspapers was prevalent during period (January, 2022 to July, 2022) when government of PDM replaced the government of PTI through vote of no

confidence. The adjectives played dual role in providing a description (predication) and categorizing aspects of the subject matter (reference), contributing to the overall discourse's meaning and tone.

5.3 Conclusion

This study aimed to analyze the presentation of political binaries in the editorials of Pakistani selected English e-newspapers. Based on a quantitative and qualitative analysis of adjectives in the editorial of Pakistani English e-newspapers, it can be concluded that the editorials boards use the “adjectives” as devices for “predications” to portray the political parties. These adjectives have positive/negative connotation in concordance of a specific political party. In context of continuous repetition of such “predications”, they form the “referential” as in-group to favor a political party and out-group against the other political party. By applying predication and reference, we can better understand the context and nuances of the adjectives in the text, helping to convey the intended meaning more clearly.

This research clearly illustrates that the adjectives contribute to the description and evaluation of both Pakistani political poles (PTI and PDM) in the newspaper editorials, highlighting various aspects of their political situation and actions. In order to know how political binaries are presented in the discourses of Pakistani selected English e-newspaper editorials; the researcher found that the adjectives play intricate role in constructing political binaries within newspaper editorials. The nuanced use of adjectives not only reflects ideological perspectives but also contributes to the polarization of public discourse. The results indicate that referential aspects are employed to categorize various groups and entities in newspaper editorials, distinguishing them within the political landscape. Predication aspects are used to evaluate and attribute characteristics, emotions, and actions, providing a subjective assessment of the political situation. The adjectives and descriptive language used to contribute the overall tone and framing of the editorial's message.

The present research opens the door for further research in various directions. This study analyzed editorials of newspapers. A future study would cover other news sections like articles, news reports and columns. The data in this study covered only half part of the year (January, 2022 to July, 2022). Further research covering other years would add to the findings of this study. There is a particular need to study exclusion in other media outlets like the internet, TV programs, movies, etc. In addition to that, future researchers may investigate the use of other parts of speech like adverbs to find the narrative of the newspapers. To better understand the implications of these results, Future studies should continue to explore the evolving dynamics of political discourses and its implications for democratic societies.

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