

# **A CRITICAL FORENSIC LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF MEDIA DISCOURSE ON COURT DECISIONS IN PAKISTAN**

**By**

**NAJAM-US-SAHAR**



**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MODERN LANGUAGES**

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# **A Critical Forensic Linguistic Analysis of Media Discourse on Court Decisions in Pakistan**

By

**NAJAM-US-SAHAR**

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FACULTY OF ENGLISH STUDIES

## THESIS AND DEFENSE APPROVAL FORM

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**Thesis Title:** A Critical Forensic Linguistic Analysis of Media Discourse on Court Decisions in Pakistan

**Submitted By:** Najam-Us-Sahar

**Registration #**1217-Mphil/Eng/F16

Master of Philosophy

Degree name in full

English Linguistics

Name of Discipline

Dr. Ejaz Mirza

Name of Research Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Research Supervisor

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Safeer Awan

Name of Dean (FES)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Dean (FES)

Brig. Muhammad Ibrahim

Name of DG

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of DG

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

I Najam- Us-Sahar

Daughter of Muhammad Anwar

Registration # 1217 Mphil/Eng/F16

Discipline English Linguistics

Candidate of **Master of Philosophy** at the National University of Modern Languages do hereby declare that the thesis **A Critical Forensic Linguistic Analysis of Media Discourse on Court Decisions in Pakistan** submitted by me in partial fulfillment of MPhil degree, is my original work, and has not been submitted or published earlier. I also solemnly declare that it shall not, in future, be submitted by me for obtaining any other degree from this or any other university or institution.

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## **ABSTRACT**

### **Title: A Critical Forensic Linguistic Analysis of Media Discourse on Court Decisions in Pakistan**

This study was conducted to analyze the media discourse on court decision in Pakistan by applying critical forensic linguistic analysis. In the recent past, the media discussion on court decisions has rapidly increased. Many news and social media platforms have been discussing the decisions made by the courts. This study focused the critical forensic analysis of media discourse on court decision in Pakistan. In this study, the most famous case “Avanfield References” was selected as a case study. The data was collected from three different sources; court decision, media discussions, and social media (Facebook) discussions. This thesis applies critical forensic linguistic analysis viewpoints and methodologies to check the media discourse in the operation of criminal trials by the criminal justice system in Pakistan. Chi square test was conducted to establish the statistical associations between and among variable of the study. It is evident that media discussions do have the impact on court decisions in Pakistan. This study performs three analyses on the collected data. Concordance analysis was performed to extract the top words from the collected data under the subject corrupt. In vocabulary analysis, the examination of the lexical patterns was performed. In grammar analysis, the evaluation was made to see, whether Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz in contrast to other participants are an actor in transitive active or passive clauses. This study analyzed text by critical forensics linguistics analysis of selected social media discussions, news articles, and court decisions.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

CDA Critical Discourse Analysis

SFL Systemic Functional Linguistics

CFL Critical Forensic Linguistics

CLI Critical Linguistics Interface

FDA Forensic Discourse Analysis

CFLA Critical Forensic Linguistic Analysis

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## **DEDICATION**

This study is dedicated to my parents who enabled me to be confident in taking the plunge and completing it and my supervisor for being tolerant and always reachable for guidance.

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

Using linguistics to investigate truth and deliverance of justice in legal settings is the basic concern of Forensic Linguistics. Language can hide and reveal the truth. On the other hand, language is evidence of truth. Therefore, the true potential of language can be used for investigation, the deliverance of justice and rule of law. Forensic linguistics is the use of linguistic for crime investigation, court trial, and other judicial procedures. Today is the age of technology; different kinds of media are continuing its reach to the users of the media. Most famous media that are increasing and have a very high impact on the users are the electronic, print and social media. The decisions made by judicial systems are extensively discussed in the media. The media express judicial decisions and grasp the public opinion from the public about these decisions.

The electronic media is the key tool for discussing the common predicaments, specifically the issues regarding the felonious judicial system. It is common in the US and other countries for the public to focus on how justice should be served in individual cases and, sometimes, even to take to the roads to claim or protest a particular outcome (Pierce & Muskal 2014). Public opinion was conducted during the case of xi, the most popular case in China. The public was asked for its opinion about whether the court should sentence the defendant to death or life. The criminal was a college student. The public were divided into two main classes; the voter from the class of the student vote for life and the other public vote for the execution. The judge has decided execution (xi, 2011). It was the pre-decision opinion regarding the judicial case.

In early 1979, the Chinese public had a strong feeling about the meaning of justice in individual cases. The feeling had the great potential to influence the CCP in determining how those cases would be decided. One example of these kinds of feelings is, the case of Jiang Aizhen. The classical judgment of this act was the execution by the court. But the remarkable kindness has been shown by the public through media, and court extends the decision from death to life imprisonment (He 2008; Zhao 2015).

The case of Zhang Jinzhu is the another example of such type of public opinions. The court decided for immediate execution (Chen 2012), but the victim was reported to have declared that “I have been killed by you journalists” the case and the public opinion



turned the decisions means the impact of public opinion influenced the court decision. (Ma & Xu 2007).

The other major tool which is the most common and popular among the public is social media. The popularity of social media is due to the dynamic nature of this platform. This Media is a very useful and effective platform for the discussion on the judicial system especially the miscarriage of the justice system. The social media users are the challenge for the state authorities and decisions taken by the criminal justice system (Gies, 2017). The social media group discussions and pages can use their opinion regarding different decisions without fact-checking. They make their discussion over the evidence and alternative stories regarding the events (Wood & Douglas, 2015). There are dedicated groups for discussing and criticizing the criminal justice system. These groups use the talk shows and other media discussions as an agenda and participants are asked to share their views regarding the decisions (Bybee, 2007; Gies, 2008). Due to varying and limited interaction with the state officials or the lack of expert opinion, they may produce a different point of view regarding decisions in this discussion. (Roberts, Stalans, Indermaur, & Hough, 2003).

In the recent past, the electronic media and social media have expanded very rapidly in Pakistan. Many news channels, newspapers, and social media sites are available. Further, media is free to express the views regarding any issue in Pakistan. The use of social media has been a dramatic increase in Pakistan. Every second user of any age, region, qualification or job is using social media for expressing the views and opinions.

In the recentpast, the judicial system of Pakistan has gainedvery high attention fromall kinds of media due to some famous decisions, media talks by the officials and many others. The court has made many decisions which have gained the attention of the public, also, the official'sspeech regarding any case gains even more attention in public. The most famous decisions are the Panama case, Avanfield reference case, Zanib murder case, and Asia Bibi case.

Media use their own interpretation of the case decision, which makes the case decision more controversial. For instance, in the recentpast, the decisions of PANAMA case, LONDON FLATS, and SAF PANI case decisions are the most controversial decisions in the history of the criminal judicial system. The reason is that a lot of media talks have been made on these decisions and different interpretations are made to prove the

person innocent or criminal. For instance, one group has an interpretation like “court decision admits that the Shareef family has not committed or involved in any corruption because the decision has not used this word in the complete decision” (Innocent)

The others have a different point of view like “money laundering is infected with a type of corruption so no need to explain or use the word corruption in the decision copy” (criminal).

The other example of this judgment is, "Assets" means any property owned, controlled by or belonging to any accused, whether directly or indirectly, or held benami in the name of his spouse or relatives or associates, whether within or outside Pakistan which he cannot reasonably account for, or for which he cannot prove payment of full and lawful consideration. (Huzaima, Ikram & Ijaz, 13 July 2018).

In the contemporary era, the involvement and interference of media increased. Adjudication by media also becomes a reason for the popularity of news channels as well as Facebook. Through the coverage and impact of media, the guilty can be an innocent and an innocent can be turned into a guilty person. Media spreads the news and alters the minds of the people by the flexible and sometimes, straightforward use of vocabulary. In the 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> century, the term ‘Trial by Media’ secured a prominent place. Basically, it was related to the influence of newspaper and TV channels coverage about dissimilar legal cases in Court. Media uses power and spreads the news regarding a person’s guilt without the decision of the Court. In this way, the mentality of masses about the case is shifted automatically by the psychological impact of the news publicized by the media.

Media plays a vital role for delivering the information to the public regarding the matters of finance, Court proceedings and verdict of criminal decisions, cases of corruption, corrupt political personalities- the details of their assets and sources of income and also the economic state of the country. Masses, mostly, never suspect the information delivered by the media, further, the deliverance of the latest information to the public is the initial step of democracy. On another side, through Facebook, the public also participates actively in the matters of the country.

The study of history and contemporary situation of media and court is a necessary part for comprehending the antagonism of free media and free trial. Typically, media and court are acquainted with each other. The central point of focus of the court is to find reality and on the other side, media also strive to search and find out the reality. In this way, both

encompass the similar goal of resolving predicaments whether political or social, both media and court strive to stable the basis of democracy by playing their role of exposing the reality in front of the public. Media plays two roles at the same time, one is the authoritative role over public which leads the public towards specific description of reality that is, portrayed by the media whereas the other role can be described "eyes and ears of the general public". In trial cases, media usually turn into the second type and perform the role of the general public. Usually, in high profile cases, media publicity and propagation lead the case toward the specific outcome which puts constraints over the court decision. Also, the media collects continuously the feedback on the court proceedings and tries to spread the feedback all over the country. In the whole process, electronic media uses channels for the purpose of spreading court proceedings and feedback collected by some groups through calls and through social media like Facebook. Although the freedom of media is a necessary part of democratic governance, yet media should impose restrictions on its advancement in the freedom of expression.

Media secures the position of one of the necessary pillars of democracy. It is the general perception that media encompasses power and control to modify the whole perspective by using media instruments. Sometimes, media itself conducts operation of the trap of criminals and offenders; this action shows the dynamic nature of media. The dynamic nature of the media keeps the public aware of the country's current financial and political issues and situation. Through coverage, media attempts to deliver suggestions for handling the functionaries and administration of those country's prominent predicaments.

Sometimes, media trial can be an obstacle in the fair trial. Fair trial is the soul of the criminal justice system, also, included the category of human rights, and a significant part and parcel of democracy. In such cases, media separately gathers data, collect public opinion, analyze the data and sometimes, draw a conclusion. Media itself conducts the whole process of investigation and before the court decision, declares that the suspect is accountable for transgression. This is, basically, the tactic which is adopted by the media for interference in court proceedings.

Fair trial is without the influence and pressure of someone and is impartially conducted by the court. Sometimes, Fair trial can be affected by the media on account of using some convincing type of language which affect the process in the court. In some cases, the media's verdict is not similar to the verdict of the court; therefore, some judges become the victim of criticism by the public. For the sake of popularity and increase in

Television Rate Policy, media prefers to present its verdict and considers the suspect liable for the offense.

So, there is a need to make a critical forensic linguistic analysis of these decisions, made by the court officials and then make a comparison of media discussion and the court decisions. On another hand, in the recent past, the courts also use the media talks' arguments as evidence in many decisions, this makes the decisions even more complicated and controversial. As discussed earlier, the media talk encompasses a dissimilar context. One argument can be interpreted in different ways. So, these statements cannot be used as evidence in the case. For instance, court officials frequently refer to these statements as a comment in the hiring of the case. For instance, one of the officials calls the person saying "please come to the rostrum with Aloaha ky channea". This makes the decision and our judicial system more controversial. There are many more examples which are the evidence of these types of comments which have been made by the official of the judiciary.

The role of media channels cannot be denied because the channels are the source of delivering information to the public about miscarriages of justice. Media not only provide awareness to the public but also the platform to protest for innocent people who become the victim of false conviction. Furthermore, propaganda is one of the central functions, which is used by the prejudice having journalists to alter the thought processes and behavior of the audience. In the whole process of propagation, biased journalists promote their opinion in the public as fact or reality which is called 'selective factuality'. Selective factuality and selection of a specific or favorite personality highlight biased journalism of biased journalists. Merrill et al. (1994) commented on the effect of media's messages and the instruments, which are used to produce the impact on audience. A person who can be considered as media expert or media specialist is the man of power on account of encompassing authoritative and controlling tool. Owing to controlling and dominant tool of gathering or amalgamation and recurrence of the messages of media, media experts secure the position of control and authority. Promoters, publishers, sellers, publicists, and political influential, usually, use the device of recurrence and amalgamation of media texts for the purpose of promoting and spreading their texts related to particular topics and agendas. Merrill et. al. (1994), further, discussed above mentioned scenario. He opines that our state of minds is operated by media. Commands are given by media in form of advertisements and news; therefore, we accept the reality that is, depicted by media. Media's depiction of reality is not neutral, but contains prejudice on account of

encompassing particular motive behind news or advertisement. Media, sometimes, promotes specific viewpoint, negative or positive news about particular political parties and views regarding specific religion. In this way, other religious and political agendas are ignored. As a result, the minds of the public operated by the planned strategy of media.

Merrill highlights the power of vocabulary which can be traced through the use of various linguistic devices and repetition is one of them. It is the fact that repeatedly mentioned news quickly gains the attention of the audience. Audience diverts their attention toward the repetition and strives to comprehend the vocabulary and the theme of continuously repeated the news. It can be further explained by broadcasting ‘breaking news’ related to education, society or politics and almost, all the news channels strive to give out the latest news in form of ‘breaking news’. The fact is that news reporters perform both biased and unbiased role during reporting of news but, in every case, the role of a reporter must be investigative and reasonable and the reporter should involve only in the exploration of the reality.

There is a need to make the forensic analysis of media arguments as well as the media’s discourse on the court decisions. Media’s discussion has a greater impact on court decisions. The media talks and social media discussions can alter the dimensions of the court decisions. It will be very interesting to apply forensic linguistic techniques to analyze these type of decisions and public opinion (media discussions). This might be helpful to comprehend the gap between reality and public opinion.

Another dimension, which shall be considered and make a critical forensic analysis is how these interpretations are changing over time. This study shall make the critical forensic analysis of the:

- i. Decisions made by the criminal justice system.
- ii. Media talks and social media discussions.

### **1.1. Statement of the Problem**

In the recent era, where information technology is very common to use, the interpretation of the statements and meaning of the decisions may alter due to the understanding, educational and political background and the media trial. Many political and other statements are interpreted in different ways due to these factors. Especially the criminal decisions which are made by the criminal justice system of Pakistan are widely discussed and criticized by the public and media. It is very problematic to comprehend

these decisions and find the truth, due to the lack of understanding and the disparate interpretations of these decisions. In the same way, the media and social networking sites especially Facebook also make pre- decisions discussion in media talks, group's chats and in their twitters. There is a need for critical forensic analysis of these decisions and media talks, to understand the correct language of court decisions and media talks. In this way, the correct interpretation of the decision can be made and the stance of the media talk can also be analysed. The aim of this research is to analyse media discourse and court decision by applying critical forensic linguistics analysis.

### 1.1. Objective of the Study

The objectives of this study were:

- a. To analyse the media (social and electronic) reporting of the selected case through critical forensic analysis.
- b. To examine the court decision through critical forensic analysis
- c. To analyzed the selected text for media discourse

### 1.2. Research Questions

1. How is electronic media projecting the selected case with different interpretations?
2. How to analyzed the selected text by critical forensics linguistics to check the media discourse?

### 1.3. Research Methodology

The comprehensive details about the methodology of the present research are delineated in this section. Different points and aspects related to sampling, research design and population elucidated in this chapter. Clarification about research design, sources, research tools and significant techniques and methods related to current research is presented for the sake of simplifying the whole process of present study. Exactly, the whole research process and stages from data collection to the research inferences is delineated in this chapter. Furthermore, theoretical framework and proposed framework have been discussed for further explaining the whole research methodology.

The research design, which is used in this study, is descriptive. The researcher has collected the data from three different sources i-e court decision from the Supreme Court website, media talks from TV shows and social media discussion from Facebook. Avan Field Reference case has been used as a sample. Purposive sampling technique used for selection of court decisions, talk shows, and posts having group discussions. The data

collected from September 2017 to July 2018. The forensic analysis of data has done by using the hybrid model of Systemic Functional Linguistics and Critical Discourse Analysis. The whole procedure is divided into two parts-one contains the description of comprehensive media discourse and the other included vocabulary and analysis and grammar-based analysis. Critical linguistics is the foremost point of analysis of this research, which is dependent on media discourse. Media discourse covers the aspects of classification, register and context of situation, genre and context of culture, and mind subjugation by linguistic choices. All these aspects were traced and delineated through textual representation of word. Interpersonal meanings and experiential meanings were also traced. In order to analyze process types of the selected media reporting and court decision the system of transitivity is applied. Furthermore, ideology behind the selected media reporting is marked out with the concept of news framing and media, power and politics

#### 1.4. Significance of the Study

The finding of this study will redound to the benefit of society considering that due to the availability of media and the dynamic and free nature of media, the media trial changes the public opinion regarding any decision. This study will focus on the media trial of the criminal decisions made by the criminal justice system in Pakistan. In the general context, this study will be helpful for society to reduce the media trial and to understand the correct meaning of court decisions. The greater demand of the society with the natural background is needed to know the correct context of court decisions. Thus the present study shall help them to overcome their needs. For the researchers, the present study will help them to uncover a critical area in the field of forensic linguistics, which many researchers have not explored yet. Thus a new study in this field may be carried out. Finally, the present study will be used in different dimensions; we can make forensic analysis in a different domain like political activity and many others.

#### 1.5. Delimitation of the Study

The study is delimited to AVAN FIELD REFERENCE CASE and data collection is limited to three sources i-e Court decision, TV talk shows, and social media.

#### 1.6. Limitation of the Study

This study has some potential limitations. The media discourse has been performed on some selected studies. The study based on some selected case of the supreme court, however the results cannot be generalized the overall discourse of the media reports. The

study reflect the discourse of media reports that may be generalized the media of other cases as well. The results of the study based on the selected data with timing constraints and cannot be applicable for the generalized time period.

### 1.7. Organization of the Study

To engage in a scholarly discussion on the topic under consideration, the present study comprises of five chapters. The first chapter introduces the research and depicts a sketchy framework of the roadmap of the study. Chapter two includes a detailed survey of previous works related to critical forensic analysis, critical discourse analysis, and critical linguistics. This includes the detailed study of the role of media and interpretation of media on court decisions, also, media's attitude towards court decisions and the social media discussion on the criminal justices system in Pakistan. Chapter three includes research design, population, procedures, timelines, instruments, and data collection. This section also includes a detailed discussion of the proposed framework. This chapter also contains a detailed report on the text collection and selection criteria and the methods used in the analysis. Chapter four presents the results of the study and the detailed discussion of the results obtained from the study. This section also discusses the presentation of the results. In this section, the study performs many statistical analysis tools to validate the results to support the hypothesis. Chapter five provides the summary, conclusion and the recommendation for future research.



## **CHAPTER 2**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

In this chapter, all the substantial terms and references used in the study and overview of relevant basic concepts are discussed. This chapter reconnoitres dissimilar aspects of electronic media, social media and legal system. The chapter- literature review, covered dissimilar types of media with relation to legal system, reporting and trial. Later, systemic functional linguistics, aspects of the technique of cross-examination in legal settings and most importantly, Forensic analysis are delineated in this chapter. Further, the significance of the selected topic is highlighted for this study.

In this section, a literature review is organized in the following manner: a) Media and Legal system

- i. Social Media
- ii. Media Trial
- iii. Media Reporting
- iv. Forensic Linguistics origin
- v. Forensic analysis
- vi. SFL
- vii. Cross-examination
- viii. Summary

#### **2.1. Media and Legal System**

Media's instruments are playing a significant role in order to raise public awareness in regard to miscarriages of justice. Media also provides a platform to campaigners for the purpose of protest the innocent who has been wrongly convicted. A worthwhile advancement of the internet is the catalogue of collection of actions for the purpose of protest movements.

Savage, Grieve, & Poyser (2007) discussed the scenario of the legal systems in relation to social media and the internet. In the legal system, the internet and social media are establishing platforms against perceived injustice for citizens. These activist campaigns focused to raise a specific opinion regarding off beam conviction. In addition, a lack of belief in the ability of legal systems to investigate and to convict the real criminals is also expressed by such campaigns. They also discussed two categories of miscarriages

campaigns of justice. A belief which is the motivation behind the campaigns of wrongful conviction is that a person who has not committed that crime for which he has been convicted. Consequently, a movement comes into existence for conviction overturned on appeal. The second category is related to poor progress in investigating a crime. Due to failing to bring the perpetrator to justice, the criminal justice wrongful conviction campaigns about a person who was acquitted for his committed crime. Savage, Grieve, and Poyser (2007) also delineated the role of conventional news media in the matter of miscarriage of justice. For them, through publicity of the cause, by investigating or exposing flaws of the original trial and by facilitating the approach of specialist lawyers for the material difference in regard to outcome are the ways by which traditional news media can promote a campaign for opposing miscarriage of justice.

## 2.2. Social Media

Some of the researchers have discussed specific social media platforms for highlighting the role of media for criticizing the legal system after the analysis of the legal material. Gies, (2017); Zukerman (2014) discussed a campaign of a large Facebook group who criticized Italian justice system and media for the purpose of pushing exoneration of the defendants in the 454 case of exoneration of Amanda Knox and Raffaele Sollecito of the murder of Meredith Kercher in Italy. Gies (2017); Wood & Douglas (2015) also discussed social media campaigns in legal contexts in which members of such campaigns promote the perception of the corruptive legal system after analysing legal materials, case-related predicaments, and scenarios.

Social media sites are not only used to criticize legal material and justice system but also promote the power of government institution as Grossman (1995) and Noveck (2009) termed the function of the internet and social media as ‘power multiplier’ for a government institution. They receive commands in order to receive and circulate information, and to recruit and mobilize activists and resources and to engage people and group. Howard (2006) discussed another aspect focuses on the preference of public official’s channel dialogue instead of engaging their selves with public online social media and consider channel dialogue more ‘comfortable’ than online social media whereas these fluctuating communication channels have been slowly responded by administrative bodies (Mergel, 2013). On one side, social media is used to multiply the power of government in form of taking and implementing commands of a government, on the other hand, it is ironic that social media is less used by government institutions and they prefer to use channel

dialogue. Different theorists Bennett, 2003; Cammaerts, 2012; Carty, 2010; Garrett, 2006; Hussain and Howard, 2013) considered the internet a major tool for social movements and activists. For dissidents and global movements, social media give a 'focal point' for supporters and also a virtual meeting place to them. Further, the idea of power discussed by DeHaven-Smith (2010), who delineated innovative 'balance of power' between activists and establishment on account of the extensive adoption of social media by activists and less used by government institutions. One of the strong oppositional groups is SCAD which focuses on manipulation of democratic process, which is envisioned by government insiders, in fact, inaction or intensive actions, which are performed by government insiders are anticipated for the sake of subverting popular sovereignty. Usually, these cases stimulate due to media coverage which promotes a narrative of guilt opposite to the trial by law or legal outcome which declared the defendant not guilty.

### 2.3. Media Trial

Sometimes media proves helpful for releasing innocent persons from lockups after some biased decisions made by justice system and sometimes media becomes the reason in order to bring perpetrators to justice examined by Naughton (2013) who discussed a murdered story from English legal history of black teenager Stephen Lawrence as his killers were convicted not at a first trial but at the second trial after a long-lasting campaign resulting change in the law. So, such active campaigns become the reason for bringing the perpetrators to justice. Jenkins (2013) highlighted innocence campaigners who propel not only on the basis of procedural flaws or unfair trial but also on account of a belief that the defendant is not a criminal; he is innocent. Cammaerts (2012) talked about the less protuberant role of established news media. Nowadays the campaigns of a miscarriage of justice start out as particular issue ad-hoc pressure groups for drawing attention toward the cause. Further, 'media opportunity structure' is being properly used by protest movements. A wide-ranging mediation chances are offered by internet for the purpose of inside debate and freely notifying without considering aspects of time and space.

Due to the insights offered by the idea of 'disintermediation', the role of mass media is being rooted out; as a result, communicative power is being redistributed in order to favour ordinary citizens and users. Couldry (2008) discussed a 'correction' in his research. In his research, he focused on a role of the person who is discussed in media in negative way. Such kind of person, usually, has to discuss significant matters of his life extensively. The whole thing is the result of the concealed wounds, which are produced by media power.

Now, everyone has become a public commentator and information provider on account of the capacity of new technologies of media and the whole situation is the outcome of citizen-journalism. As a journalist, citizen-journalist holds the ability to putting the news agenda is the moot point.

News media is considered old media power which cannot be underestimated or neglected in the presence of new media power. Chouliaraki (2013) focused attention towards the state of news media which acts as a linchpin in the matter of media publicity with 'convergent journalism' which points out the accumulation of old and new media power. Chouliaraki also discussed the idea of mediation' by focusing on the point of interconnection major news outlets and citizen-journalism. Tufekci (2013) highlighting the significance of mass media in the presence of other means, which catch attention of people. The ranking and ratio of mass media incorporate high position in comparison with other means, which having capacity of catching attention. Not only social media but also print media and television are playing a significant role in relation to the criminal justice system. Covert & Washburn (2007) discussed television and print media in relation to the criminal justice system. These types of media are the source of fictional portrayals but on account of little experience with professionals of the criminal justice system, people think that they are not wrong. In fact, television and films lay their role in highlighting false stereotypes regarding the criminal justice system. A print publication another form of social media is a conventional and great provider of information to subscribers. It is unfortunate that the information is skewed for readers the flavor of a political party is involved in newspapers and magazines. Gerbner and Gross (1976) discussed the idea of cultivation of reality for television programs. For this purpose, they conducted a survey and involved adults in it and concluded the most of the televisions viewers considered estimates of television world as real-world estimates. Further, habitual television viewers become the victim of distortion of reality understated and overstated depiction of society through television. Different researchers delineated the negative aspects of viewpoints of habitual television viewers through survey and experimentation. Carlson (1985) conducted the study by taking the population of 619 students from six to twelfth grade. Carlson found that the habitual television viewers misunderstand the system and the fear of the world has been developed in their mind after the portrayal of crime on television as well as mistrust of government officials. Hetrosini and Tukacinsky (2006) conducted a study on the topic of the rate of the portrayal of crime on television and in reality. people who were in the habit of watching

television were in the opinion of high of crimes both in the television and real world and those viewers who were medium in the category of watching television had overestimated the crime rate in reality. The opinion scale was from no cultivation to over cultivation in this research.

In the process of the deliverance of information to the public, media, sometimes, plays a substantial role as an educational entity for the society. The reports which are presented by the media related to crimes and criminals become a source of detailed information for the public and for the court as well. The court also uses the crime reporting of media for dissuading crimes like fast-moving or racing and intoxicated driving (Chermark, 1995).

Consequently, heavy forfeitures are levied on offenders. In addition, researchers conducted research on the topics of crime and the criminal justice system. Some of the researchers strived to turn the attention of the readers towards high-ranked crimes which are committed by criminals frequently. Mandracchia et al (2013) considered an academic major for developing and affecting attitudes of an individual for the criminal justice system. A liberal opinion of punishment regarding dissimilar aspects of the criminal justice system encompassed by those who have more classes and which involved in the issues of criminal justice. Surette (1989, 1995) conducted his research on felony case over 10 years which were 3,453 in number, in fact, media coverage itself exceedingly revolves around of the cases which are given much attention by the public, therefore, media's impact can be traced far and wide. He finalized that the impact called media echo effect, so, when a case that is revealed much for public by the media fallouts transference in the processing for similarly charged but not publicized cases.

## 2.4. Media Reporting

If it is said that it is the age of sensationalism, it will not be wrong at all because by the use of sensation and coverage of highly-ranked spicy events can lead a channel to the heights of fame. Therefore, media, totally, strives to provide information about the latest news and happenings to everyone far and wide. Nowadays, the news about criminals and media coverage about crimes is linking with the boundary of entertainment and this amalgamation is getting the center of attention of the public. Grabosky and Wilson (1989) compared the past and present situation about the nature of news reporting as, today, the process of modification can be seen in the media reporting compared to the past, and "...tabloids has changed so they have to be an entertainer". Media in the past used to

present reflection and chronological sequence of events but, contrary to it, modern media is subdued to present information about events but not disregarding the element of entrainment in the news. Another researcher is Chermak (1995) who also opined on the consolidation of media reporting of the events and entertainment. Although the real information is provided by the media about crime through reporting in the absence of the factor of entertainment, the reporting cannot put an appealing effect on the public.

Furthermore, moral evaluation is practised and implemented through media because media, sometimes, provides complete access of hangings and enactment of dissimilar forms of punishment. By this, the public becomes aware of the consequence bestowed to the felonious for his crime. Sometimes, media collects information through reporters but, sometimes, media use the internet as the source of the information about the latest events. Internet is the source of the delivering information to people all over the world. The electronic media also develops web sites for the sake of uploading their coverage about innovative events. Basically, media provides and takes information through the internet like the details of terrorist attack, inside happenings of court, etc. In fact, the internet is also used for getting a copy of the complete decisions by the court. In this way, ordinary people even can get access to news reporting after the live reporting is publicized on the channel, details about court proceedings, comments of victim supporters, comments of victim opponents, copy of court decision and many more. Flew (2007) discussed the slogan of one of the Korean websites which are Oh-My-New. The slogan is “every citizen is a reporter”, in fact, referring toward the idea that technology and technological gadgets have the process of collection of news which is simple and easy for everyone as even ordinary people can make the pictures and videos of eyewitness experience of crime and happenings and can spread it too all over the world. Bowman and Willis (2003) discussed the above mentioned participation. He opines that the role of participation which requires democracy is centered on the deliverance of pertinent, widespread, free and precise data and information. The Internet provides a level of complicatedness which is, usually, demanded by the consumers. Internet shows a wide range of websites and links for the sake of in-depth information. Media publishes and presents reports of the latest criminal cases of the crime and grant access to via the television and internet.

## 2.5. Forensic Linguistics origin

Olsson (2004) discusses the origin of forensic linguistics. He delineated that sacred texts and the dramas written the famous writer- Shakespeare also victimized and cases

related to authorship were also filed at that time. In order to subjugate the predicament and to identify the author, forensic linguistics was advent by the scholars. Gibbons (2014) also traced the origin and emergence of forensic linguistics. He opines that the end of the 1980s and the start of the 1990s is the time period in which forensic linguistics organized properly. Chine worked a lot on the field. The book by Levi and Walker (1990) is considered the first book of forensic linguistics. Different books by different authors like Philbrick (1951) and Mellinkoff (1963) are included in the category of earlier works, but these works only covered the discussion and analysis of the language of the law.

In courtroom discourse, Atkinson and Drew (1979) can be considered as a precursor of demarcating it as verbal exchange and differentiating the term for everyday conversation. Farinde (2008) discussed the legal discourse in relation to courtroom discourse. In fact, he considered the legal discourse- the main entity and courtroom discourse as a subdivision of it. Further, he places courtroom discourse in the category of powerful and influential institutions. Berk-Seligson (1999) discussed the forensic analysis in relation to the courtroom 'interaction and developed a questionnaire for grammatical analysis in courtroom discourse. The questionnaires were contained on prosodic questions, closeended questions and truth- based questions whereas Gibbons (2003) discussed the attributes of speech in his research like intensifiers, hesitations, hedges, making use of the words like sir or madam in the speech and using other techniques of time taking and considered them the weak points of less powerful witness. Further, the influential and powerful speaker or in the courtroom discourse are only lawyers. He discussed further the power of lawyers in the courtroom. He opined that lawyers are well aware of the use of correct language at the correct place; therefore, lawyers use the technique of inveigling, influence and persuasive talk. The researcher conducted analysis in Nigerian courtrooms.

Danielewicz-Betz (2012) discussed the experts of forensic linguistics who use their expertise for the inspection of incongruities in police reports; furthermore, forensic experts expose the suspect with the assistance of ear witness, instead of using eye-witnesses. He further postulates that the liaison between the documents and the events is contemplated by forensic statisticians. The whole process is implemented for the sake of the establishment of precision of police report. The main questions about the chronological sequence of events, time frame, and time of the notes about the incident are focused by forensic experts. Further, the recording is the part of their analysis of the case which is related to the identification of the criminal.

## 2.6. Forensic Analysis

Chaski (2005) gave a model related to computational and used the stylometric technique for the purpose of scrutinizing digital evidence related to the crime and got 95% accurate results by using the method. Chaski opines that, in order to investigate computer related delinquencies, the identification of the person who used the keyboard and pressed the key is an essential part which may link to murder and dissimilar crimes associated with property, money, and identity. Usually, the three main techniques of analysis can be used for analysis. One is the quantitative method, which makes use of stylometric technique whereas the second method is a qualitative method which focuses on analyzing any peculiarities which exist in the language and recognized documents. The final one is a computer user's biometric analysis. Stamatatos (2009) conducted his research related to one of the key issues of forensic analysis, which is authorship detection. He discussed authorship ascription through in-depth analysis of text classification and text representation. Further, for the sake of authorship ascription examination, Stamatatos delineated the detailed methodologies of assessment. In fact, he gave attention to elaboration the analysis of computational requirement instead of linking his research with literary predicaments.

In past, researchers had not limited their research for the analysis of suicide letters, identification of the real author of the articles or books, in fact, they expanded the topic of authorship attribution and discussed it with the reference of short messaging services. In SMS authorship ascription, researchers strived to divert the attention of readers and forensic experts towards digital evidence in criminal-related cases. The research was conducted by Baggili, Mohan, and Rogers (2010) who presented a unique approach for the identification of text messages' authorship. In N-gram based method, a token is produced and window size is also dependent on the size of the newly-generated token. The token and window are acquainted with each other because across the text, a sliding window is moved and as a result, a token is engendered and movement of the token is processed through dissimilar stages (stage contains a word or a character). The N-gram approach can predict the results of authorship nearly 65-72% in the case of many possible authors and small text messages' samples.

Lloyd (2002) delineated the idea of social accountability with respect to media. He opines that for the purpose of keeping proportion and for the sake of maintaining viewpoint in organization of news, preparation of news and content of news, social accountability



does not encompass the position of value and high rank. Media, in the modern era, cannot be considered as an icon for the preservation of public morals. Apart from this, media is not deprived of playing the dominant role in the society and source of protection and delivering information to the public.

## 2.7. SFL

Bache (2002) delineated the idea of a metalanguage with respect to its detailed characteristics and benefits for scholars. He opines that, for the study of human languages and analysis of communication practices, explicit way of improvement of linguistic theory, metalanguage performs a substantial role. Halliday (1981) delineated that SFL occupies a substantial position as compared to paradigmatic foregrounding. The reason is that, in construction of meaning, Tense like past, present, future, and other words like would, could, an and they are associated with user choice. The system of language is considered as a multifaceted system's network which is acquainted with context and the choices made by the user. The whole process is executed with metalanguage provided by SFL. The analysis of language is transformed into a system of systems with the assistance of metalanguage.

The features of metalanguage contained intact clauses instead of, definiteness and tense. The obstacles in understanding scientific works at school level SFL, as a semiotic instrument, can be implemented too different fields in which scientific language is involved and studied. SFL plays a substantial role as a metalanguage for the sake of production, development, and negotiation of human experience. (Halliday & Martin, 1993; Schleppegrell, 2004). Van Dijk (1993) discussed the group relationship among power, social disparity, control, discourse, and the position possess discourse analyst and developed a link of all above-mentioned things with the critical perspective of text and talk. In reproduction and challenge of control or dominance, discourse plays a substantial role and is the main focus of the analysis of social inequality. Van Dijk used the word 'dominance' in order to refer towards control and authority which is exercised by the elite or any other powerful group of the society which becomes the main cause of social disparity in terms of gender, political, cultural and class. Van Dijk linked enactment, camouflage of control, renunciation and extenuation which are the 'modes' of discourse with the above-described procedure of reproduction.

Van Dijk opines that the mind of an analyst revolves around the role of dissimilar strategies, and physiognomies of talk, text and communicative events in the 'modes' of reproduction. Luke (1988) conducted an analysis related to the initial reader. In the

analysis, he took two characters who were children Jane and Dick. Luke studied the pattern in which only verbal and material processes were given to those children. After analysis, he gave the conclusion that whatever process will be given to children, they will represent by that process. They are not represented by relational and mental processes because they were not allowed to focus on these processes. Canagarajah (1999) discussed the idea of identity and its importance in case language teaching and learning. Through his study, he has written the details of remote Sri Lankan classes. In those classes, necessities, resources, and indigenous context is reflected in their classroom strategies. Canagarajah given a possibility that can be attained by those who are not powerful enough can be able in the post-colonial world to go against and alter the political structure. Also, he focused on reconstruction and development of language, culture, and identities. Behind all, he intended reconstitution of English by focusing on the democratic and ethical terms.

In 1968, Jan Svartvick was the one who used the term forensic linguistics. Forensic linguistics is the use of linguistic for crime investigation, court trial, and other judicial procedures. Later, a lot of researchers analyze the term deeply and turned the term into a proper field and a branch of applied linguistics. Nowadays, due to the past researches, Forensic linguistics secures the position of a separate field and a branch of applied linguistics.

## 2.8. Cross-examination

In evidence, forensic experts scrutinize beyond the boundaries of linguistic and cultural dissimilarities. Eades (2008) examined the case by applying the technique of cross-examination. In her research, he scrutinized the case of indigenous Australian lads who were three in numbers. In fact, this case was the case of abduction, which was against six police officers. In the findings of her research, he considered the close-ended questions not intimidating or forcible but is considered as an invitation for further elaboration in interactions of Australian indigenous, in addition, Eades presented a report related to the data, in which, she discussed the timing of indigenous silence and gave the figure of up to 23 seconds. In her research, Eades delineated the idea of indigenous silence with the cultural aspect of silence as dissimilar semantics are associated with the people of dissimilar societies or cultures. Further, the reference of English speaking Western societies was quoted with the topic of silence, in English speaking Western societies, silence is endured not more than a few seconds.

The idea of cross-examination, that is, the part of the research conducted by Eades basically, is a legal procedure, which is the part of trial courts. The process of cross-examination is applied in the verbal presentation of proofs where two revelries use words as armaments against each other. Direct examination is, in fact, the part of cross-examination because the investigation of a witness through one's rival is held in the legal process of cross-examination. Ng (2010) also discussed the idea of cross-examination and wrote about the goal of scrutinizing counsel which is disregarding the hostile witness. In addition, the procedure of cross-examination becomes the source of producing suspicion in the minds of the judges by shedding light on the discrepancies and illogicalities in the testimony of the witness. Wellman (1919) also highlighted the effect of cross-examination on judges' minds and viewpoint and considered cross-examination as one of the substantial components in the courtroom discourse. In addition, he focused on the characteristics of cross-examiner who must be proficient in revealing date, places, vocabulary, time, etc. related doubts and truth. Farinde (2008) also discussed the goal of scrutinizing counsel which is disregarding the hostile witness. He named the whole process as a tense confrontation which is executed between the witness and the lawyer who is not polite but belligerent in his conduct during the case proceedings. Moreover, Walker (1987) and Luchjenbroers (1997) put cross-examination in the category of uncooperative or disobliging and antagonistic or hostile.

In courtroom discourse, the norm of politeness cannot be implemented. The point of view was established by Penman (1987) who elucidated the process of cross-examination. Harris (2003) took the courtroom discourse of England for the sake of conducting his research and for the purpose of applying politeness theory of pragmatics on the context of the courtroom. He concluded his research by associating courtroom discourse with institutional discourse and connecting institutional discourse with face-threatening attitude. Further, he opines that various tactics are employed by the powerful interactant in the courtroom. Linell and Jonsson (1991:97) took the context of the Swedish court and analyzed the reports of the case written by police officers for the sake of presenting during court proceedings of the case. Linell and Jonsson opine that the suspicious person is not able to assert his influence on the reports developed by police officers, in fact, the dubious one encompasses 'limited influence' on the reports. Contrary to it, the viewpoint and voices of the dubious one and the institution are integrated into the final report. Linell and Jonsson (1991:75) also scrutinized the interview as well as statement steps (producing and recording

the description of the crime). The interviews were conducted with the suspect who were middle aged and were suspicious shop lifter.

Ehrlich (2001) focused on the role of cross-examiner, cross-examination and strategy implementation by cross-examiner. The researcher developed the link among them. In the process of cross-examination, cross-examiner deployed selective questioning presupposition and selective reformulation among others. These two strategies- deployed selective questioning presupposition and selective reformulation among others, in fact, included in the category of interactional strategies. The whole implementation of the strategies points out toward the use of verbal adroitness by lawyers for the sake of supporting their clients against opponents' evidences in the process of cross-examination. Hale (1999) also focused on the cross examination. In the process of cross-examination, Hale highlighted the pragmatic perspective. During the process of cross-examination, lawyers' utilization of dissimilar types of discourse markers is the main focus of Hale's research. Fromm pragmatic perspective, Hale diverted the attention of the readers toward the predicaments, which are faced by the interpreter during the process of translation of thee discourse markers, which are used by the lawyers. Farinde (2008) also scrutinizes the process of cross-examination with respect to the speech acts. Speech acts are used by the lawyers, in court proceeding while examining or cross-examining witnesses.

Language is the amalgamation of destructiveness and constructiveness. By users, the use of language' destructiveness and constructiveness is used for the sake of achieving target goals by users. Consequently, in the process of cross-examination, some of the lawyers neglect the concept of dignity while dealing with persons in the witness box. In fact, lawyers must focus on the dignity of witnesses during case proceeding. Further, lawyers must avoid threatening attitude on witnesses. Therefore, teachers and law lecturers must focus on teaching cross-examination by focusing on the concept of face—saving, instead of paying attention to face-threatening cross-examination. The reason is that teachers and law lecturers involve in the process of shaping future lawyers and those future lawyers will, actually, involve in the process of cross-examination.

Forensic linguist can play a significant role in cross-examination in court. In fact, the role of forensic linguists is interpretive for the person who is being cross-examined because forensic linguistic scrutinize all the aspects of every question like aspect acquainted with discourse, semantics or pragmatics.

## 2.9. Summary

A lot of researches have conducted for examination and analysis of social media, print media and television in relation to the criminal justice system. The literature discussed media in past, in present, and the factors influencing media comprehensively. The topics of moral evaluation, social justice, criminal justice, and dissuasion are also discussed by the researchers in the past. Above mentioned researches highlighting the powerful role of media for subjugating minds of the children and elders, for extending the power off government institutions, for depiction of artificial reality, in social movements so on and so forth, but the true interpretation of the statements and decisions made by the criminal justice system is very difficult on account of so many opinions, pre-decision discussion, group chat and criticism made by the public through social media. None of the researcher has addressed the above mentioned predicament, therefore, for the purpose of filling the gap in the body of research, forensic analysis is needed for getting sense and proper understanding of the decision of court and the stance of media talk and modification of opinion of public.

## CHAPTER 3

### THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Systemic functional linguistics was mainly developed by Mac Halliday in the early sixties (Halliday 1961). Systemic functional linguistics (SFL) is a theory of language; it is based on the notion of the language function. The SFL starts at the social context and looks at how language both acts upon and is controlled by this social context. In SFL, the language is analyzed in terms of four levels. These levels are the context, Semantics, lexicogrammar and phonology/graphology. The context concerns the field that is what is going on and Systemic semantics includes what is usually called 'pragmatics'. Semantics is divided into three components: Ideational Semantics (the propositional content); Interpersonal Semantics (concerned with speech-function, exchange structure, expression of attitude, etc.); and Textual Semantics (how the text is structured as a message, e.g., theme-structure, rhetorical structure, etc. The lexicogrammar concerns the syntactic organization of the words. (Halliday 1992, 1994).

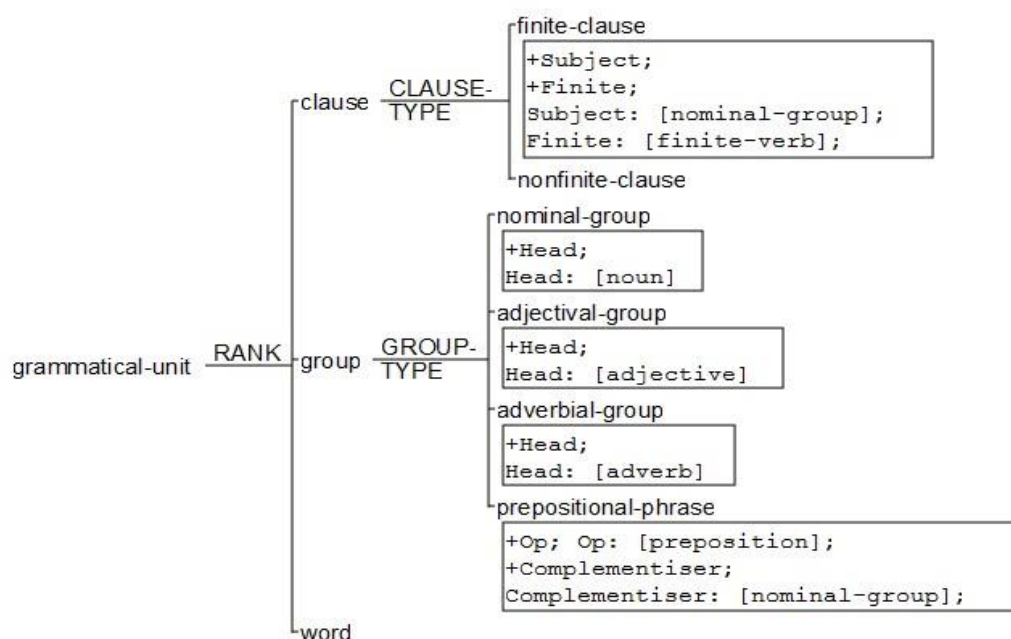


Figure 1 Holiday Framework for SFL

Halliday (2002, 1985/2003, 1995/2003, 1998/2005) found that the SFL is concerned the meaning, context, and text. The focus of his research is on the language in use because the theory of SFL cannot be separated from the real language materials from which rules and patterns are summarized. Firth (1957), who was the teacher of Halliday

use the term language and social concern of language. He observes the language from the social point of view. Firth (1930) proposed the formal and contextual meaning of language.

The language is primarily considered as a function while considering the SFL. The structure and form of language act as a function. The structure and form of language are meaningless without the function. Fontaine (2013) states that when a person involves in communication with the other person by making use of an unaccustomed language or talking with two years old baby, he will get the idea that correct grammar is not necessary in these talking contexts. The function is more important than the structure of the language; however, we need to understand the structure of the language in order to effectively produce the function. Halliday (in Fontaine, 2013) posits that a function of language in use must be incorporated by a theory of linguistics. In the new era, the language is considered as a social semiotic system rather than the language as a separate entity. There is a relationship between the language and social context.

Since the development of SFL, many variations have been proposed in SFL. Today is the age of technology, Gardner, Sheena & Alsop, Sian. (2016) and Kiernan, Patrick. (2018), proposed a new model of SFL, which is the SFL for the digital age. In the proposed model, the language acts as a text, post and group discussion of the social media sites. It is very interesting to use these posts as a language to make the analysis in terms of social context.

Since its development, SFL has provided an insightful basis for critical linguistic analysis such as the so-called Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). SFL views language as a system of systems with the meaning potential by which its users convey meaning by making choices from a range of alternatives. The notion of choice here is very essential, especially for critical perspectives. Within this framework, critical discourse analysts could investigate a text by showing “the functional organization of its structure ... and ... what meaningful choices have been made, each one seen in the context of what might have been meant but was not” (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004). From this point, they can further relate these choices to the existing ideology and power exercised within society in which the text has been (re)produced.

In this work, we used the framework suggested by the author Simon Statham (2017) in his book “Redefining Trial by Media: Towards a critical Forensic Linguistics interface”. In this book, the author integrated the Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Systemic

Functional Linguistics (SFL) in order to make a relationship between language and its use in different social contexts.

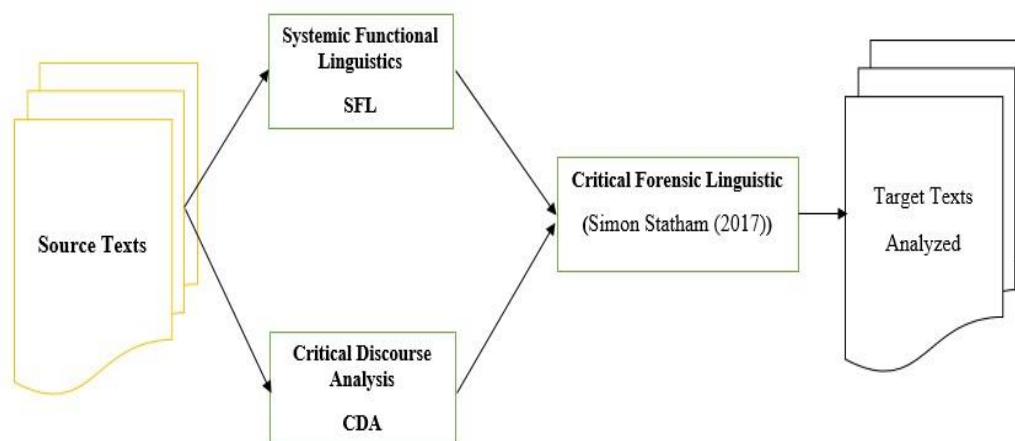
The findings of this study redound to the benefit of society considering that due to the availability of media and the dynamic and free nature of media, the media trial changes the public opinion regarding any decision. This study focused on the media trial of the criminal decisions made by the criminal justice system in Pakistan.

In the general context, this study shall be helpful for society to reduce the media trial and to understand the correct meaning of court decisions. The greater demand of the society with the natural background is needed to know the correct context of court decisions. Thus the present study shall help them to overcome their needs.

For the researchers, the present study will help them to uncover a critical area in the field of forensic linguistics, which many researchers will not explore yet. Thus a new study on this field may be carried arrived at.

Finally, the present study will be used in different dimensions; we can make forensic analysis in a different domain like political activity and many others.

### 3.1. Proposed Framework



**Figure 2 Proposed Framework**

#### 3.1.1. Source Text

In this study, we choose the Avenfield Reference case as a case study. In this study, the text is taken from two main sources.



### 3.1.2. Media

Media is divided into two subclasses- electronic/print media and social media. For the selected case, the first category, which is the electronic and print media have been used for the collection of discussions. This text contains both pre and post-decision texts. Participants from three main classes were considered during the study. The participants included-who perform the decision and who against the decision and others who were neutral. In the second category, social media discussions (Facebook) were taken as a source text. This text contains social media posts and group discussions. These posts are classified by focusing on the category of the favor, against and neutral. The groups are classified on the basis of the group of the followers and opponents of the decision. The description of the data and graphical representation shall discuss in the result discussion section.

### 3.1.3. Supreme Court decision.

The second source of the text is the court decision. The decision is available on the Supreme Court web site.

### 3.1.4. Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL)

Systemic-Functional Linguistics (SFL) is a theory of Language, which is based on the notation of the language function. SFL accounts for the syntactic structure of the language. It focuses on the function of the language that is, what and how. More structural approaches are included in the preference category by SFL. It syndicates the elements of the language and their combination. SFL focuses on both language and culture (social context) and the relationship (constrained) between them. A central notion is 'stratification', such that language is analyzed in terms of four strata: Context, Semantics, Lexico-Grammar, and Phonology-Graphology. In SFL, the language is analyzed in four strata, that is Context, Semantics, lexico-Grammar, and PhonologyGraphology. The context concerns the following items:

Field: what is going on

Tenor: the social roles and relationships between the participants Mode: channel of communication.

Systemic semantics include what is usually, called 'pragmatics'. Semantics is divided into three components. The systemic semantics refers to the pragmatics. Semantics is divided into three components. These components are ideational semantics, interpersonal semantics, and textual semantics. The ideational semantics are propositional content while

the interpersonal semantics concerned with an expression of attitude and the textual semantics deals with, how the text is structured as a message. The Lexico-Grammar deals with the syntactic organization of words into utterances.

### 3.1.5. Critical Discourse Analysis

Critical Discourse Analysis is a field that deals with studying and analyzing the text, this text may be in written or spoken form. The purpose of the analysis is to divulge broad sources of influence, power, variation, and preference. It scrutinizes how these broad sources are retained and replicated within specific social, political and historical contexts (Dijk, 1998a).

Fairclough (1993) demarcated the CDA as “discourse analysis which aims at systematically exploring often opaque relationships of causality and determination between (a) discursive practices, events and texts, and (b) wider social and cultural structures, relations and processes; to investigate how such practices, events, and texts arise out of and are ideologically shaped by relations of power and struggles over power; and to explore how the opacity of these relationships between discourse and society is itself a factor securing power and hegemony” (p. 135). The figure shows the general framework of CDA.

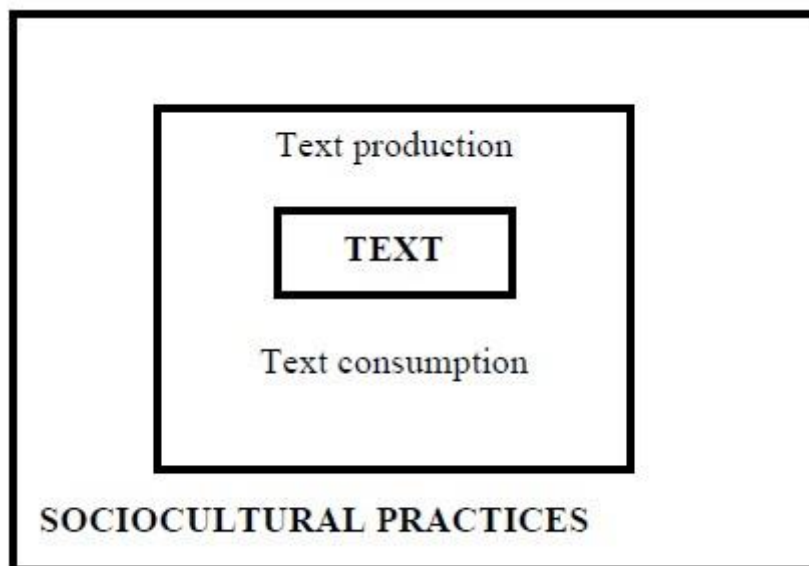


Figure 3 A framework for critical discourse analysis of a communicative event (Fairclough, 1995b, p. 59)

According to (Fairclough, 1995a; Kress, 1991; Hodge & Kress, 1993; Van Dijk, 1998a; Wodak, 1996), CDA can be summarized as the world is represented by the language. The language acts as a social practice and the meaning of a text can be acquired by the relationship between text and social subject. Discourse is used as a social practice, it does not epitomize the other social practices, but it can be used to create other social

practices, for instance, the exercise of power, etc. All speakers and writers function from precise broad practices making in distinct interests and aims. These interests and aims comprise inclusion and exclusions. Discourse delineated that the text acquires their meaning by existence placed in explicit social, cultural and ideological context, and time and space.

### 3.1.6. Critical Forensic Linguistic

The concept of critical forensic linguistic is first introduced by Simon Statham (2017) in his book “Redefining Trial by Media: Towards a Critical-Forensic Linguistic Interface”. In this work, we used this model. The critical forensic linguistics (CFL) utilizes the idea of the critical forensic interface (CFI). The critical forensic linguistics applies the critical discourse analysis to media projection. CDA used SFL as a submodel to scrutinize the language in a social context. CFL, in fact, focuses on the media representation of crime. SFL merge the concept of CDA which results in forensic discourse analysis (FDA), FDA focus on the linguistics’ translation of the courtroom trial. The hybrid model is used to redefine the trial by media as a systemic and process.

CFL reconceives the role of media in the courtroom. The new-fangled spectrum is called trial by media. The trial by media is reinvented as three real-time processes, direct trial, enhanced trial, and reinforced trial. Direct trial by media scrutinizes the theoretical function of the courtroom jurors. The Direct trial is used to make media analysis of the ongoing trial in the courtroom. The purpose of this analysis or media talks is to develop awareness about the cases in the community. In Pakistan, the practice of direct trial is very common. The media telecasts the ongoing court proceeding live. This process can be labeled as media made the trial. The enhanced trial accomplishes more technical function in comparison to the direct trial. In this category of trial, the forensic analysis of the language and the CDA are combined. In order to scrutinize the broad weakness of the juror in court, this process is used. With the purpose of finding out the information gap between the courtroom trial and media made trial, the above mention process of examination is used. The third type of trial is Reinforced Trial by media. This trial inspects the linguistic features of the strategies of courtroom advocate. The focus of this analysis is to analyze, how the advocate constructs the crime for jurors. The impact of media plays a very significant role. Jurors already dependent on media made pre-trial conceptualization. The media itself plays a substantial role in the whole process.

Fairclough (1995b) suggests that “an account of communication in the mass media must consider the economics and politics of the mass media: the nature of the market which the mass media are operating within, and their relationship to the state, and so forth” (p. 36).

It is interesting to consider some dimensions of media while making the forensic and discourse analysis of the media trial. These dimensions assist toward the access of media, money matter of media, policies of media and practices of media text, which is, how the text is produced and consumed. While considering social media, the production and consumption of text encompass significant position. Fairclough (1995b) claims that the media access is not equal among the individual and social groups in terms of writing, speaking and broadcasting. Fairclough delineated the cause of this situation as "media output is very much under professional and institutional control, and in general, it is those who already have other forms of economic, political or cultural power that have the best access to the media" (p.40). According to Van Dijk (1995), “access to discourse, for example, to that of the media, is important, because access to discourse is a major (scarce) social resource for people, and that in general the elites may also be defined in terms of their preferential access to, if not control over public discourse. Such control may extend to the features of the context (Time, Place, Participants), as well as to the various features of the text (topics, style, and so on)” (p. 10). The second factor of media is the money matter, according to Fairclough (1995b), "the economics of an institution is an important determinant of its practices and its texts" (p. 40). According to Fairclough (1995b), the mass media "are very much open to the effects of commercial pressures"(p. 42).

The policy of media is also significant while making media analysis. According to the Fairclough (1995b), "contribute to reproducing social relations of domination and exploitation" (p. 44). For instance, in Pakistan, the print and electronic media of Geo group pro-PML-N policy, in contrast, the Ary group, which is against the PML-N, while the Dunya News Group encompasses neutral policy. Same in case of social media, the group created by PML-N in media cell, have the posts in the favor of PML-N. Such media groups also make discussion in the favor of PML-N and Sharif family. While the group created by PTI media cell encompasses the opposite policy.

Production and consumption of media texts are also very significant while considering the media analysis. "...events become news when transformed by the new perspective, and not because of their objective characteristics . . . news is consciously

created to serve the interest of the ruling class" (Eaman, 1987, p. 51). "...the world of the Press is not the real world", rather a partial one, which is "skewed and judged" (Fowler, 1991, p.11). According to (Fowler, 1991, p. 11; van Dijk, 1991), normally, the readers of the media text are not trained. In fact, they are not critical users of the text. Therefore, they may not be able to text properly. In the case, that is taken as a case study in this work also pays attention to this dimension. The readers of the court decision are not acquainted with the court language as well as the media language. The other factor is the target audiences' interpretation of the text with the help and reflection their background knowledge, and information about the particular subject (Van Dijk 1993, p.242). They may perceive this information from the media discussion. According to Van Dijk "for specific types of social and political events . . . the news media are the main source of information and beliefs used to form the interpretation framework for such events . . ." (van Dijk, 1993, p. 242-243).

### 3.1.7. Target Texts Analyzed

In the previous step of Critical Forensic Linguistic, the source text is divided into two classes, the text from media (electronic/print/social) and the text from a court decision. The first class contains the text of analysts, media reporters, advocates in court, and all social media discussion. The second class contains the detailed decision of the court. Both texts were scrutinized by using the CFL. The result was compared and the impact of media on court decision was analyzed. Vocabulary based analysis and grammar based analysis are further types of analysis, which have been used in this research.

In Vocabulary based analysis, the text is divided into two main groups. One group contains the text from media and second encompasses the text form the Supreme Court decision. For the analysis purpose, the top eight words with high frequency are taken from both texts. This study deliberates only non-neutral words. Non- neutral words are those words which are relevant to the close view to the context of the categories, corrupt, offense and dishonest. The key feature of this approach is to mine the semantically relevant words from the dataset with the specified topic.

This chapter addresses the framework used in research to achieve the selected objectives. This section, first, discuss the proposed model, critical linguistics analysis, selection of media reports, criteria of selection, procedures and the analysis of the data to derive the conclusion.

### 3.1.8. Sources

In Pakistan, many well-known TV channels, newspapers, and social media sites are available to discuss the current financial, educational, political and criminal issues. TV programs have many TV shows to make pre and post a discussion on current issues. Also, the news reports are used to express the different views regarding any issue related to finance, education, politics and judiciary. Moreover, many social media sites play a role to propagate the public views regarding the current predicaments.

Many social media sites like Twitter, Facebook and WhatsApp are more common these days. All the political parties have their social media wings to propagate the current issues. Many government, political and judiciary officials used Twitter to express their view. In recent years, social media is used as a common communication tool. The other source of the data collection is the Supreme Court and NAB court decisions. These decisions are publically available. This research used the following tv, newspaper and social media for data collection and analysis: Geo news, Ary news, Dunya News. We also, extract the data from many online available magazines like Dawn, Adviser adds form social media this research using Facebook.

The reason for selecting the above-mentioned sources is, in Avenfield reference case, there are two main participants, the Sharif family who was in government and the PTI who was in opposition. Media have their own finical and political goals and affiliation. The Geo news is supposed to be as a pro-government channel, Ary is supposed to be an anti-government channel and Dunya news is a neutral channel. The news and web articles are also selected on the basis of these criteria. Facebook is the most famous tool which is used by the users to propagate the news with their own interpretation. The posts and group discussion have strong political and cultural influence. These sources separately do not provide complete details (news, talk shows, social media posts and social media group discussion). The data is collected by using all above-mentioned sources and picked specific detail for this research.

The data is collected from the specific period of time. The time intervals for the data collection are: from September 2017 to July 2018

### 3.2. Key Events

**Table 1 Key Events from September 2017- July 2018**

Month	Date	Key Event
SEPTEMBER 2017	September 14, 2017	Accountability court commenced the hearing of the Avenfield Property reference against Sharifs
	September 26, 2017	Nawaz Sharif registered the first appearance before the court
OCTOBER 2017	Oct 19, 2017	Maryam Nawaz and captain Safdar indicted

	Oct 26, 2017	Non-bailable arrest warrants were issued against Nawaz Sharif over incessantly not appearing before the court
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NOVEMBER 2017	Nov 8, 2017	Nawaz Sharif was directly indicted in Avenfield property reference
DECEMBER 2017	Dec 5, 2017  Dec 11, 2017	Prosecution witnesses recorded their statements  Prosecution Witnesses concluded statements against sharifs
JANUARY 2018	Jan 22, 2018  Jan 30, 2018	NAB filed a supplementary Avenfield reference revealing new evidence and witnesses  Sharifs' lawyer Khuwaja Haris filed objections against NAB's supplementary reference
FEBURARY2018	Feb 02, 2018	NAB allowed recording foreign witness statements



	Feb 06, 2018	via video link
	Feb 23, 2018	Foreign witnessed record their statements
		The foreign expert admitted Calibri font existed before April 2005
MARCH 2018	March 02, 2018	JIT head Wajid Zia recorded his statement in Avenfield reference
	March 16, 2018	Zia presented evidence against Sharif family
	March 20, 2018	Khuwaja Haris filed objections against the evidence submitted by Wajid
		Zia
	March 29, 2018	Nawaz's counsel concluded Wajid Zia's crossexamination

APRIL 2018	April 6, 2018	The judge of case Justice Muhammad Bashir takes absence and hearing got adjourned till Apr 09
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	April 09, 2018	Maryam's counsel crossexamined Wajid Zia
	April 17, 2018	Maryam's counsel concluded Wajid Zia's cross
	April 23, 2018	Nawaz's counsel crossexamined Zahir Shah, operations director NAB
	April 24, 2018	Maryam's counsel crossexamined Zahir Shah as a prosecution witness
	April 30, 2018	Investigation officer Imran Dogar recorded his statement

MAY 2018	May 4, 2018	khuwaja haris crossexamined Imran Dogar
	May 7, 2018	cross-examination of last prosecution witness Imran dogar by Maryam's counsel
	May 21, 2018	Nawaz Sharif recorded his statement
	May 25, 2018	Maryam Nawaz recorded her statement
JUNE 2018	June 29, 2018	Maryam Nawaz's lawyer presents final arguments in Avenfield reference
JULY 2018	July 03, 2018	Court reserves judgment against Avenfield. Verdict to be announced on 6th of July.
	July 06, 2018	Verdict announced

### 3.3. Sampling Procedures

In this study, the standard sampling procedures are used. These procedures are widely used in the field of applied linguistics. This study picked the selected news reports, media talks, news articles, social media posts, group discussions and selected text from the NAB and Supreme Court decisions.

#### 3.3.1. Timeline Specification

This study picked out the period from September 14, 2017, till 31 July 2018. From this period, the study chooses the period of May 2018 till 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018, is the period specified for the analysis. For court decision, the study chooses the selected portion of the whole decision. This study divided the timeline into two main periods, period 1 from September 14, 2017, till 31 July 2018, this period is used for the archive search. Period 2 is taken from May 2018 till 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018, this period is used for the analysis of media discourse on the court decision.

##### 3.3.1.1. *Period 1*

These posts are collected from various Facebook pages. The pages were searched with the keywords Avanfield case, Panama case and disqualification of Sharif family. Only those posts were selected, which contain the majority of content regarding the abovementioned keywords. For group discussion, the groups: “We want Imran khan as a next prime minister of Pakistan “, “get united for change “, “PMLN tigers” and the “I hate Imran khan the master of u turn”.

#### 3.3.2. Selection Criteria

##### 3.3.2.1. *Inclusion*

In this study, the relevant news reports, media discussions, news articles, social media posts, and group discussion are those describing the Avenfiled case directly or in general. Only the specified news channels, news articles, and social media posts are referred to in this study. The reports, articles, posts semantically relevant to the subject of the case also referred to in this study. Articles, news reports, talk shows and social media contents where the frequency of words Nawaz Sharif, Sharif family, and Maryam Nawaz occur two or more than two times were referred in this study.

##### 3.3.2.2. *Exclusion*

Articles, interviews, talk shows, social media post from the participants or any member related to the participants are eliminated from the study. Articles, interviews, talk

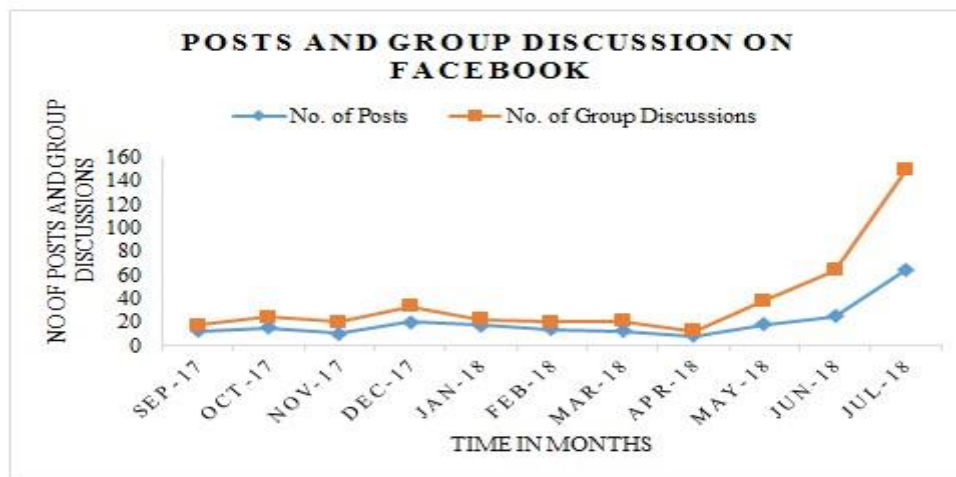
shows, and social media posts other the selected sources also eliminated from the study. Articles, interviews, talk shows, and social media posts with subject words less than two also eliminated from the study.

Table 2 shows the total number of news reports, media discussions news articles, social media posts and group discussion from the whole archive by Applying the inclusion and exclusion criteria.

**Table 2 Number of posts, group Discussions, news articles, talk shows from the full archive**

Month	No. of Posts	No. of Group Discussions	No. of news reports	No. media discussions	No. of Articles
Sep-17	12	5	1	2	4
Oct-17	15	9	3	5	4
Nov-17	10	10	3	4	3
Dec-17	20	13	6	3	2
Jan-18	17	5	4	2	1
Feb-18	14	6	2	1	1
Mar-18	12	9	5	3	2
Apr-18	8	4	9	5	3
May-18	18	20	11	9	10
Jun-18	25	39	15	20	6
Jul-18	65	85	30	24	15

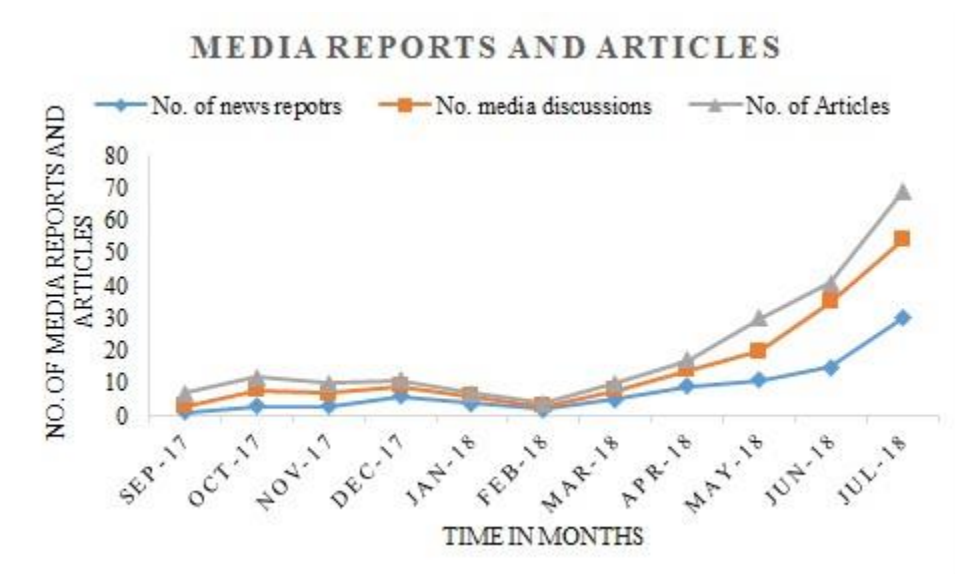
The figure shows the relevant news reports, media discussions news articles, social media posts and group discussion of different sources with a selected time period. The data is collected from the whole archive with selected criteria.



**Figure 4** Number of Posts and Group Discussion on Facebook with Different Time Interval

The figure clearly shows that, at the start of the event, there is less activity on both Facebook posts and group discussions, the reason is that, in Pakistan, it was a normal activity and the public was not involved in this activity but with the passage of time, progress of the case started to take the attention of the social media users and the number of posts and group discussions are increased during the recent past of decision, during the decision and after the decision.

The figure shows the number of news reports, media discussions and news articles are collected from the three TV channels and from news and web articles. Only those media reports, media talks, and article were considered, where these cases were discussed.



**Figure 5** Number of News Articles, News Reports and Talk Shows with Different Time Interval

Again, the figure shows the great variation in the news reports, media discussions and news articles with respect to time.

### 3.3.2.3. Period 2

In this study, the period 2 contains the selected data from the period 1. This data is used for the analysis purpose. From the figure, it has observed that the initial months are not productive as far as the study concerns the analysis. Only a few news reports, media talks, social media post, articles, and group discussion were found. The study excluded the news reports, media talks, social media post, articles and group discussion from the period of September 14, 2017, to till April 2018.

The data from May 2018 till 31st July 2018 refers to period 2 data. This data is used for the analysis purpose. Again, by using inclusion and exclusion criteria, the posts have a high frequency of subject-related words and directly related to the analysis are included. All other posts and group discussions are excluded from the final selected posts, group discussions, news articles, news reports, and talk shows.

Table 3 shows the total number of posts, group discussions, news articles, news reports and talk shows used for the analysis purpose.

**Table 3 Selected Data from May 2018 to July 2018**

Month	No. of Posts	No. of Group Discussions	No. of news Reports	No. media discussions	No. of Articles
May-18	15	17	9	9	8
Jun-18	20	35	11	18	6
Jul-18	58	75	26	24	12

The figure shows the relevant news reports, media discussions news articles, social media posts and group discussion of different sources with a selected time period. The data is selected from the period of May 2018 till July 2018.

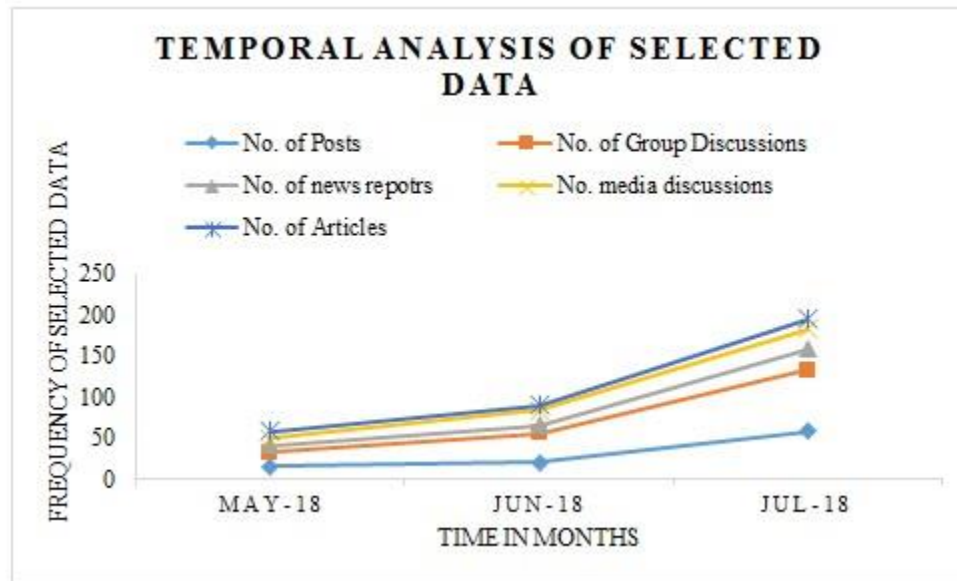


Figure 6 Temporal Analysis of Selected Data

### 3.4. Concordance Analysis

We can define the concordance as “a collection of the occurrences of a word – form, each in its own textual environment. In its simplest form, it is an index. Each word- form is indexed, and a reference is given to the place of each occurrence in a text. “(Sinclair: 1991, 32). Concordance analysis provides the collection of words with frequency. This study performs computer-based concordance analysis.

Firstly, the purpose of the concordance analysis in this research is to provide evidence of the data to the researcher. Later, this evidence is to be explained through the critical forensic analysis. It encompasses another meaning, the study’s first perception about the representation of participants (Nawaz Sharif, Sharif family, Maryam Nawaz) in media talks, news reports, news articles, social media posts, group discussions and in the court decisions can be highlighted, or altered by the results of concordance analysis.

Concordance analysis and the critical linguistics’ descriptions are complementary to each other. Sinclair (1991:36) stated: "The computer is not a device which will produce sensible categories without guidance but, on the other hand, a linguistic description which is not supported by the evidence of the language has no credibility." Furthermore, the computerized concordance analysis is used for the numerical analysis. This analysis provides significant clues for the subsequent analysis of news reports, news articles, social media posts, group discussions and court decisions as shown with a high frequency of subject words. According to Budd et al., as cited in Mousa (p.56), "a trend refers to the increase or decrease of the frequency of given symbols (or content) over a period of time."



In last, this analysis provides the collection of words related to a subject area like, Nawaz Sharif, leader, corrupt, etc. these subject words are very important in this research. In this study, the concordance analysis subjects the news articles, content from talk shows, court, NAB decisions, social media posts and group discussions from period 2. This analysis is used for frequency counting and collection. The sample for the concordance analysis with four and five news articles, news reports, talk shows, court decisions, and social media content is displayed in tables.

**Table 4 Sample of four Passages for Concordance Analysis**

S NO.	Text	Source
01	"A clear cut explanation for the title thereof and all the obvious documents in support thereof should be in the custody of the private Respondent, who claims to be the owner. Such documents have been deliberately withheld from this Court. The Flats have been in occupation of the Sharif Family since the early 90s through Respondent No.8, who was a student and was a dependent upon Respondent No.1 at that point of time. The alleged source of funds through which the various properties were acquired is shrouded in mystery and no clear cut transparent transactions have been shown. Respondent No.1 has admittedly benefitted from such assets, including Hill Metal Establishment through various "gifts" totaling an amount of Rs 84 corers as is mentioned in CMA No.432 of 2017".	Supreme Court Decision Per Justice Sh. Azmat Saeed [para 69, 72 & 80]: (Ahasn, Saeed, Ahmad, & Khosa, 2018)
02	He when called upon by the highest Court of the country to	Supreme Court

	<p>explain, what Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif chose was to remain silent and gave a bare statement that he is not the owner of the four London Flats and of the two offshore companies. This evasive attitude of Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, more so before the highest Court of the country, to me, did not appear to be justified or bonafide rather its purpose appears to throw the Court in altogether a dark alley where it is left groping without realizing that this very act of his will cast a substantial shadow upon him, more so when the Court is considering the very question of his being Honest and Ameen in holding office of the Member of National Assembly and the Prime Minister of Pakistan.</p>	<p>Decision Per Justice Gulzar Ahmed [para 11]: (Ahasn, Saeed, Ahmad, &amp; Khosa, 2018)</p>
03	<p>"Although it had specifically and repeatedly been said by respondent No. 1 on the floor of the National Assembly in the above mentioned speech that the entire record relevant to the setting up and sale of the factories in Dubai and Jeddah was available and would be produced whenever required yet when this Court required Salman Aslam Butt, Sr. ASC, the then learned counsel for respondent No. 1, on December 07, 2016 to produce or show the said record he simply stated that no such record existed or was available and that the statement made by respondent No. 1 in the National Assembly in that respect was merely a "political statement"!</p>	<p>Supreme Court Decision Per Justice Asif Saeed Khan Khosa [para78]: (Ahasn, Saeed, Ahmad, &amp; Khosa, 2018)</p>
04	<p>In the aftermath of submission of report by JIT came the unanimous judgment [2017 PLD 692] of the five-member bench of the Supreme Court asking for filing of reference against Nawaz Sharif, offspring and son-in-law. The decision by Judge</p>	<p>Supreme Court Decision Per Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan [para 36 &amp; 39]:</p>

	Muhammad Bashir also clearly establishes withholding of evidence (available with Nawaz Sharif and	(Ahasn, Saeed,
	family) regarding possession and ownership of the four Avenfield apartments. Those criticizing the judgment, many without reading and having no training in the discipline of law, must first read section 5(c) of the NAO, 1999, which defines the term 'assets' as under:	Ahmad, & Khosa, 2018)

**Table 5 Sample of Five Articles (News Articles) for concordance Analysis**

S No.	Text	Source
01	The adverse comments on the judgement declaring it "weak", full of "legal lacunae" and even "against the law" by supporters of Nawaz Sharif and some persons posing as "independent analysts" lack objectivity as well as basic understanding of the relevant law under which punishments have been awarded to Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, Maryam Nawaz (Maryam Safdar) and Captain (retired) Muhammad Safdar.	Huzaima Bukhari and Dr Ikramul Haq July 14, 2018 Business Recorder (Huzaima, 2018)

02	"The case has a different set of facts, therefore, it is distinguishable from usual cases of assets beyond sources. The accused had not appeared before NAB where a pro forma would have been given to them for the purposes of showing income, assets, and property."	Huzaima Bukhari and Dr Ikramul Haq July 14, 2018 Business Recorder (Huzaima, 2018)
03	"Assets" means any property owned, controlled by or belonging to any accused, whether directly or indirectly, or held benami in the name of his spouse or relatives or associates, whether within	Huzaima Bukhari and Dr Ikramul
	or outside Pakistan which he cannot reasonably account for, or for which he cannot prove payment of full and lawful consideration.	Haq July 14, 2018 Business Recorder (Huzaima, 2018)
04	"A holder of a public office, or any other person, is said to commit or to have committed the offense of corruption and corrupt practices:  "if he by corrupt, dishonest, or illegal means, obtains or seeks to obtain for himself, or for his spouse or dependents or any other person, any property, a valuable thing, or pecuniary advantage".	Huzaima Bukhari and Dr Ikramul Haq July 14, 2018 Business Recorder

		(Huzaima, 2018)
05	According to the verdict, she "aided, assisted, abetted, attempted and acted in conspiracy with her father". "The trust deeds produced by the accused Maryam Nawaz were also found bogus,"	Huzaima Bukhari and Dr Ikramul Haq (Huzaima, 2018)

**Table 6 Sample of Five Articles (Social Media) for concordance Analysis**

S No.	Text	Source
01	The NAB has nothing to show against the Sharif family. They are innocent. 06 July will be the blessing day of PLMN and Sharif Family.	Social Media Facebook (Tigers, 2018)
02	Have assets beyond sources does not mean corruption.	Social Media
	Nothing to show against the Sharif family. He is the true leader of Pakistan. We want him next PM.	Facebook (Pakistan, 2018)

03	Sharif family dos do not show the money trail. Banamy asserts refer to corruption. Ideala Jail is ready for Sharif Family.	Social Media Facebook (Pakistan, 2018)
04	Wajid zia nain court main sharif family ki chori sabt kr di. 06 july ko chorun ka hasib ho ga. Nwaz shrif jail jany ky liy tyar rho.	Social Media Facebook (Pakistan, 2018)
05	Nawz Sharif ko 14 sal ki saza ho skti ha, if he found guilty	Social Media  Facebook (Pakistan, 2018)

### 3.5. Data Collection Tool

In this study, the primary material is collected from the sources discussed in the theoretical framework form 2017-2018. The detail of the events of these years is discussed in other sections. The posts and news reports are collected from September 14, 2017, to December 2018. The analyzed text encompassed full-length articles, the detailed decision of the Supreme Court and the social media group discussions and posts. We consider the words Sharif family, Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz occurred twice or more. Every fifth article, post or group discussion containing the words (Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz) was randomly selected and was saved to the concordance analysis. Basically, the segregation of the words (Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz) is executed by concordance analysis with a context of two lines from the main body which was considered adequate to be able to analyze the three linguistic features. This tool is helpful to analyze a great deal of existence without manually having to search the whole text for the existence of the words (Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz),

which would be too difficult when dealing with so many existences. The words in context were then, moved to the MS word and analyzed manually. The study implements Critical Forensic Linguistics (CFL) in order to analyze the selected text. The foremost point of the study is to execute the media discourse by using the media discourse analysis technique.

The analysis focus on the direct trial, indirect trial, and reinforced trial. The number of the occurrences of the words (Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz) is about 540, 700, 634 in 2017 and 1100, 1250, 900 in 2018. The random selection generated of the words from May 2018 to July 2018 with 180, 250, 150 and 200, 250, 190 occurrences of the words (Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz) with context. Form the above random selection, we found 280 SVO-clauses, 25 passive clauses and 520 words with adequate context to be able to disambiguate their referents. In this work, the following three linguistics features were scrutinized. This study used the CFL and FDA to analyze the selected linguistic features

The lexical items from the text referring the words or to related to Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz. The distribution of words Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other contributors occurring as subjects and agents in active and passive clauses. The type of distribution of actions occurring in transitive active and passive clauses with words Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other contributors as actors.

The third feature from above-mentioned concern is the scope to this extent to which words Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other contributors occur in active and passive clauses as subjects or agents and the kind of actions, the contributors perform in transitive active and passive clauses.

In this study, the results were scrutinized using the Chi-square test. The Chi-square test is used to check whether the observed distribution of analyzed features is statistically significant. In this study, the level of significance is set to  $p < .05$ .

### 3.6. Data Sources

#### 3.6.1. Social media

##### 3.6.1.1. *PMLN*

This group is operated by the PMLN media cell. The main objective of this group to highlight the current issues related to the AvanField case verdict. As this group was operated by the PMLN media cell, the study has found that the Sharif Family was

considered innocent. Figure 7 shows the occurrence of top words forms the top 20 words. It is clear from the figure most of the words are used in the context of the subject as innocent. The context of the innocent was dominated during all periods.

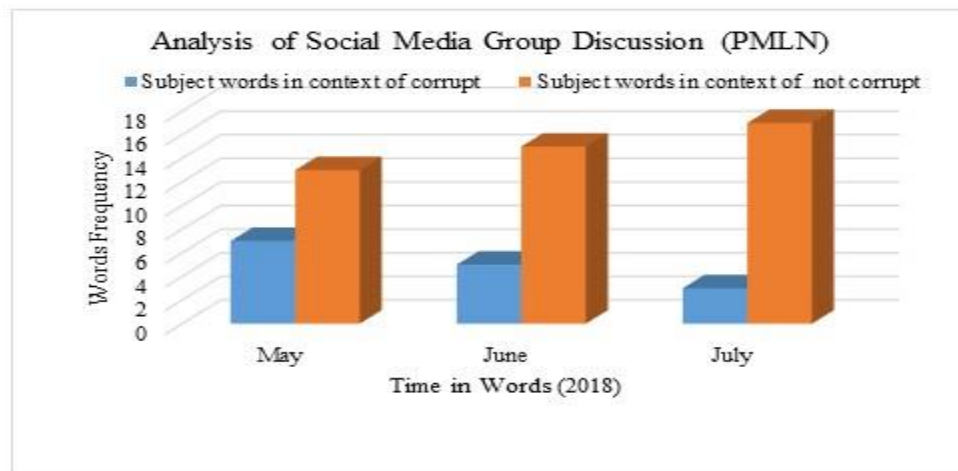


Figure 7 Analysis of Social Media Group Discussion (PMLN)

#### 3.6.1.2. *We Want Imran Khan*

This group is operated by the PTI media cell. The main objective of this group is to highlight the current issues related to the Avenfiled case verdict. As this group was operated by the PTI media cell, the study has found that the Sharif Family was considered as corrupt. Figure 8 shows the occurrence of top words forms the top 20 words. It is clear from the figure most of the words are used in the context of the subject as corrupt. The context of corrupt was dominated during all periods.

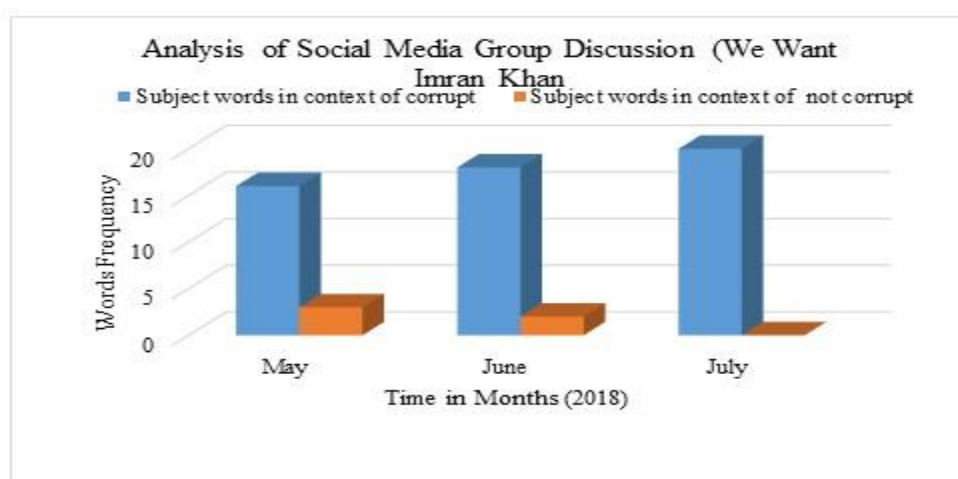


Figure 8 Analysis of Social Media Group Discussion (We Want Imran Khan)



### 3.6.2. Media Talks

For media Talks, the top words from the discussions were written related to the subject. Only the top 20 words considered for the analysis.

#### 3.6.2.1. *GEO*

This News channel is considered as the pro-PMLN media group. The political, cultural and economic impact should be considered while media text was analyzed.

During the period of May to Jul, the study observed that the most of the words related to the subject were used in the context of the subject as not corrupt, in other words, the subject was treated as innocent. All the media talks suggest that the decisions shall be in favor of the Sharif family. After the decision, the decision is to consider as the weak and the assets were considered as legal property. The word assets cannot be treated as corrupt.

Figure 9 shows the occurrence of top words during the period of May 2018 to July 2018

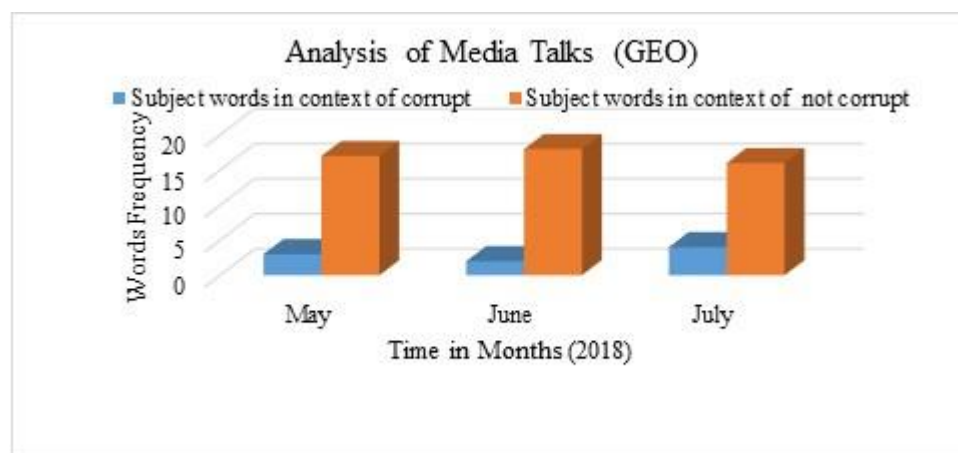


Figure 9 Analysis of Media Talks (GEO)

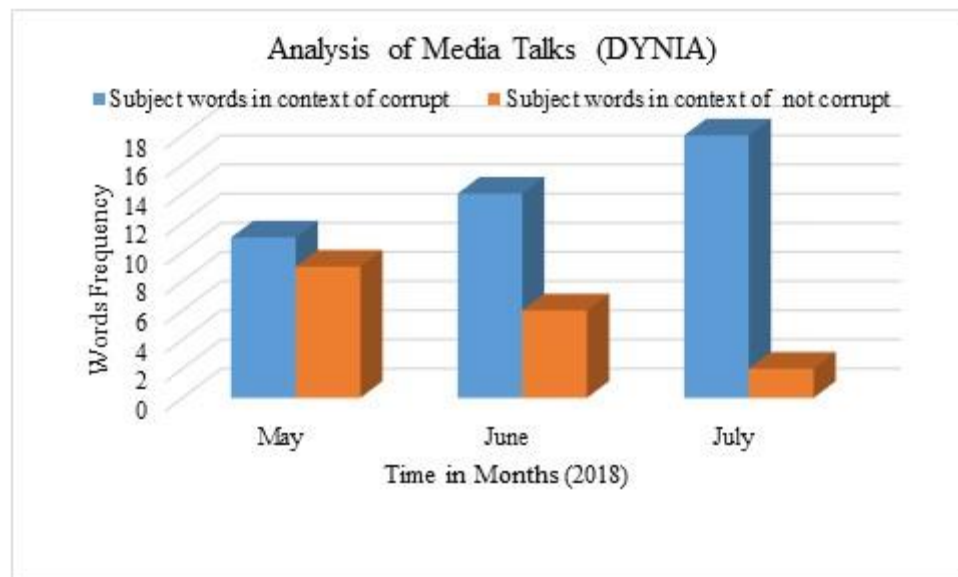
#### 3.6.2.2. *DUNYA*

This News channel is considered as the independent media group. During the period of May to July, the study observed that the most of the words related to the subject were used in the context of the subject as corrupt, in other words, the subject was treated as corrupt.

During the May 2018 the frequency of the words in the context of corrupt and not corrupt was almost equal. The reasons were that during this time period some independent media persons consider this case as a case in routine.

But during the next two periods, the results show the significant difference of the words in the context of corrupt and not corrupt with respect to the subject. During June and July, the context of corrupt with respect to the subject was dominated over the not corrupt.

Figure 10 shows the occurrence of top words during the period of May 2018 to July 2018.



**Figure 10 Analysis of Media Talks (DUNYA)**

### 3.6.2.3. ARY

This News channel is considered as the pro-PTI media group. During the period of May to July, the study observed that most of the words related to the subject were used in the context of the subject as corrupt. All the media talks suggest that the decisions shall go against the Sharif family. After the decision, the decision is to consider as the strong and the assets were considered as an illegal property. The word assets were to be treated as corrupt.

Figure 11 shows the occurrence of top words during the period of May 2018 to July 2018

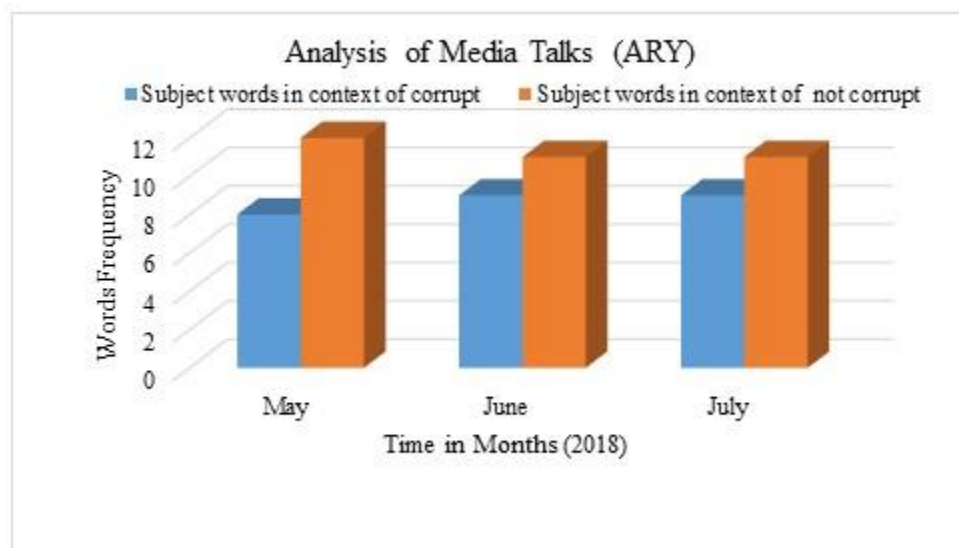


Figure 11 Analysis of Media Talks (ARY)

### 3.6.3. News Articles

Before and after the Avanfield verdict hundreds of arts were written by different authors in different newspapers and online blogs. The articles are the major source of the media trial.

This study analyzed the three top newspapers, Dawn, DUNYA, and express. Due to the high magnitude of the words, only 20 top relevant words were considered for the analysis.

#### 3.6.3.1. DAWN

The articles collected from the DAWN news showed surprising results. During the time period of May 2018 to July 2018, the top words were used in the context of the subject as corrupt.

The frequency of words in the context of corrupt was much higher than the words in the context of not corrupt.

Figure 12 shows the occurrence of the top 20 words with different time intervals.

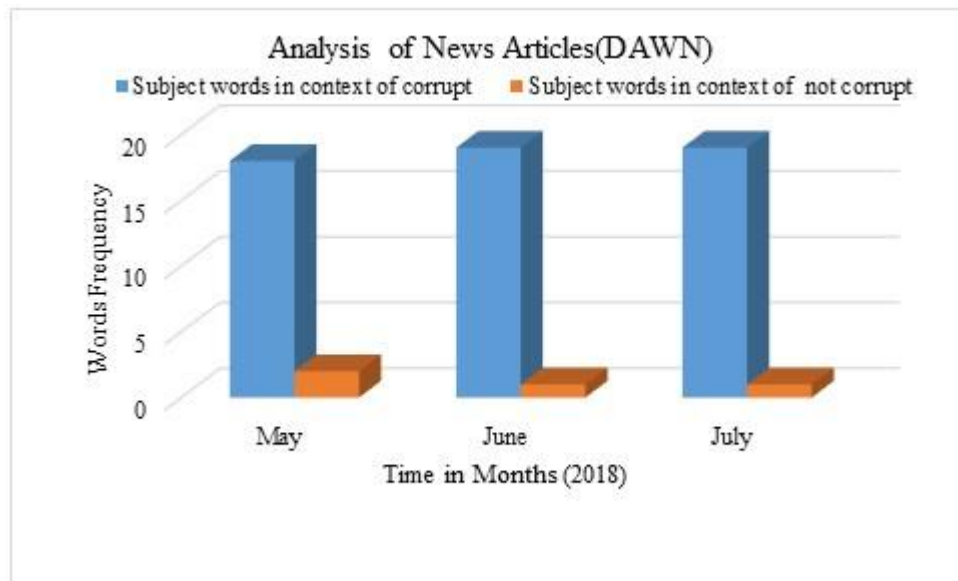


Figure 12 Analysis of News Articles(DAWN)

### 3.6.3.2. *DUNYA*

The articles collected from the DUNYA news showed almost similar results. During the time period of May 2018 to July 2018, the top words were used in the context of the subject as corrupt as well as in the context of not corrupt.

The frequency of words in the context of corrupt was higher than the words in the context of not corrupt but this frequency is very low as compared to the DWAN news. This newspaper focused on the independent analysis of the court decision.

Figure 13 shows the occurrence of the top 20 words with different time intervals.

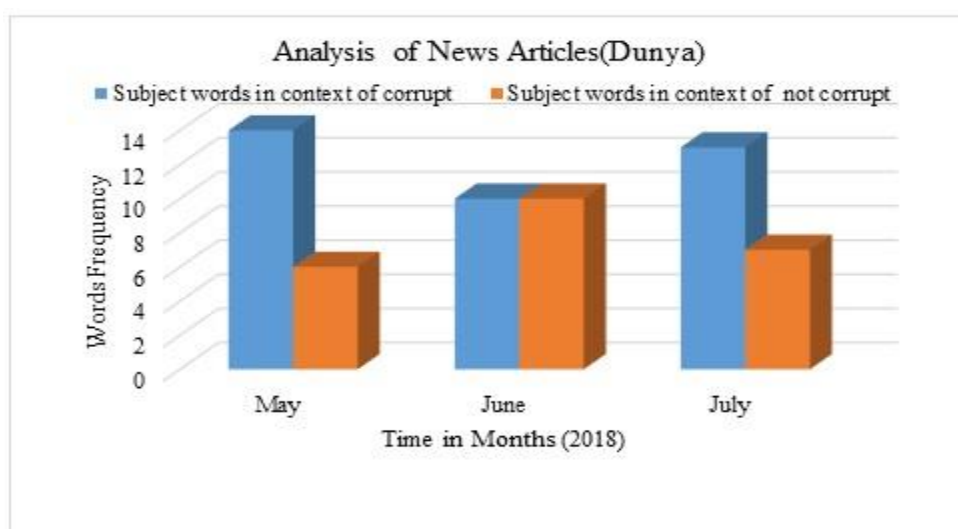


Figure 13 Analysis of News Articles(Dunya)

### 3.6.3.3. EXPRESS

The top 20 words from the articles were used in the context of corrupt. Again the frequency of the word in the context of corrupt with respect to the subject is higher than the context not corrupt. Figure 14 shows the dominance of the words during the time interval May 2018 to July 2018.

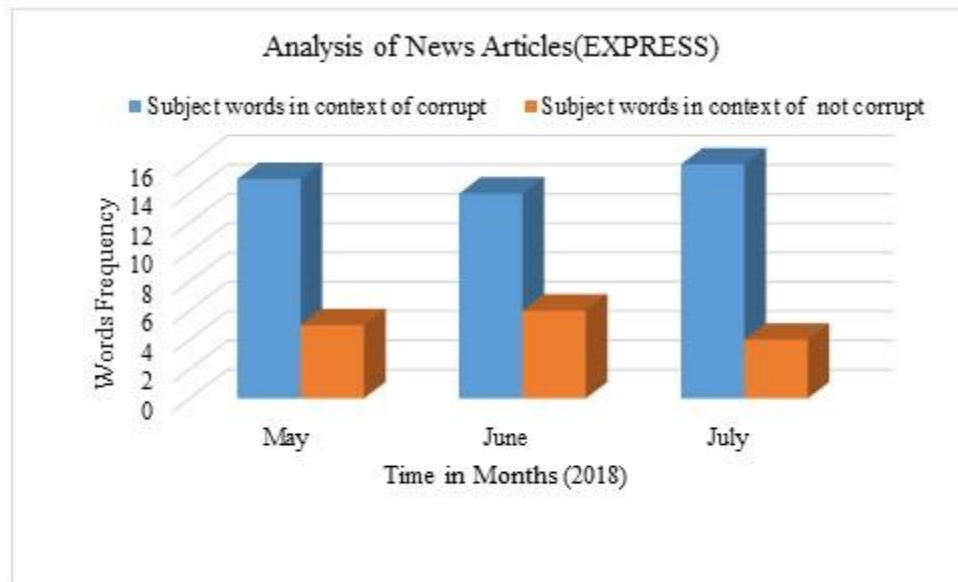


Figure 14 Analysis of News Articles (EXPRESS)

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS**

This chapter deals with the presentation of data and its detailed analysis. The analysis is divided into two parts. First part presents data on the basis of vocabulary analysis and second comprises of the grammatical analysis of the data. In second analysis all active and passive transitive were considered.

Data presentation and comprehensive data analysis is delineated in this chapter. A study of the impact of media reporting on court decisions of the selected cases by following the hybrid model of critical discourse analysis of systemic functional linguistics for forensic analysis will be conducted in this section. The most prominent political case and Supreme Court decision is collected from media and Supreme Court website. The whole analysis is divided into two parts-one contains the description of comprehensive media discourse and the other included vocabulary and analysis and grammar-based analysis. Critical linguistics is the foremost point of analysis of this research, which is dependent on media discourse. Media discourse covers the aspects of classification, register and context of situation, genre and context of culture, and mind subjugation by linguistic choices. All these aspects were traced and delineated through textual representation of word. Interpersonal meanings and experiential meanings were also traced. In order to analyze process types of the selected media reporting and court decision the system of transitivity is applied. Furthermore, ideology behind the selected media reporting is marked out with the concept of news framing and media, power and politics.

#### **4.1. Classification**

The attitude of reporters towards other people is reflected in the choice of vocabulary and is helpful for the bringing dissimilar impression forward on the reader. The whole process of naming and characterizing persons and events is called classification. For instance, 'Court has already decided punishment against the Sharif family. The 6th July is the day to complete the formality of already taken decision'. The statement was made by one of the prominent channels during the case, also, identifying the behavior of the reporter before the decision of the court. For influencing the minds of the readers toward the decision, the reporter sharply selected the vocabulary.

Another statement was made by the reporter of some other channel in which, he uncovered some hidden motives of some unknown personalities in an abstract way by saying: 'The case has some political objectives'.

A lot of assumptions were also made by the media like, 'Nawaz Sharif ko 14 sal ki saza o skti ha....'. At the consequences of the reporting of social media and the comments by Facebook users were developing a specific state of mind of the people before the decision.

#### 4.2. Court Decision

In *Avanfield ref. case*, judges were well-aware of the emotions and state of mind of common people as well as media reporting. For instance, the court officials continuously pending the decision on the 6<sup>th</sup> July, by using the strategy, they were striving to handle the emotional mental state of the people psychologically by not announcing the decision haphazardly.



Figure 15 Sample Data Taken From Media



Figure 16 Sample Data from taken from Media

### 4.3. Register or Context of Situation

Avanfiled ref case decision was taken on April 4, 2017 in constitution petition No. 29, 30 of 2016 and constitution petition No. 03 of 2017 focused on the existence, and sale of Gulf Steel Mill, purchase of flats, main and real owner of M/s Nielsen Enterprises Limited and Nescoll Limited, source of money for Flagship Investment Limited and other companies, source of working capital of these companies. The three variables of the register are Mode, Tenor, and Field. The Mode of media reporting and court decision of Avanfield ref case is written discourse and presented for the audience to read. Further, in a direct manner, audience encompasses the opportunity of feedback on the decision through electronic and social media. Another variable is Tenor, which focuses on 'social role relationship played by interactants' (Halliday 1978, 1985b as cited in Eggins 1994). Moreover, power, affective involvement and contact are the key points for the analysis of Tenor. Supreme Court judges hold unequal power relationship with their listener and high level of formality can also be traced in the decision and the receivers of the decision are Sharif family, ordinary people, media reporters. In spite of the unequal power of the court, media still put an impact on the decision by giving the opinion of experts, a large group of masses' view points and media reporters' commentary before the decision. For example, 'bari corruption k binary mulzmaan qanoon k shikanjy ma.....kyun nikala ki takraar waly kyun khaya ka hisaab na day saky..... avan filed ref ka faisla aj...' . The present headline of a news channel shows that the reporter accusing the prisoners before the Supreme court decision and striving to pressurize the mind of judges and spreading their view point all the country and subjugating the view point of ordinary people about coming decision. The reporter used the words 'kyun khaya' for the purpose of securing the trust of the people who are leading their life with a lot of troubles and deprived of basic necessities of life. So, the high level of effective involvement cannot be traced because the media reporting and decision cannot subjugate the mind of the whole country on account of a large number of favorers of the prisoners of Avanfiled ref case. The third variable is Field which is the amalgamation of speaker's or writer's purposive practices and subject related material. Field is, in fact, the whole happening in which text is being operated. The above mention example of electronic media focuses on the manipulative way of reporting about the Sharif family, also uncovering the prejudice towards the prisoners.



#### 4.4. Genre and Context of Culture

Wodak (1984 a, 1987) commented that genre production is the outcome of the influence of the group's social power in the matter of reception and production. Likewise, CDA considers schematic patterns of semantic 'content' as a genre (van Dijk, 1997) whereas SFL views 'genre' with relation to its purpose (Martin and Rose, 2008). In the decision taken by the Supreme Court, it was mentioned: "...having furnished a false declaration under solemn affirmation respondent No. 1 Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif is not honest in terms of section 99(f) of ROPA and Article 62(1) (f) of the constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973, therefore, he is disqualified to be a Member of the Majlis-eShoora (Parliament)..." In the present discourse, there is an introduction to the genre 'legal text ' having the purpose of delivering facts about Nawaz Sharif. The information was transmitted about the victim on account of furnishing incorrect declaration. The whole court decision encompasses summaries, backgrounds, recent reports of events and conclusions. All of these components justifying the court decision about the victim.

#### 4.5. Mind Subjugation by Linguistic Choices

Recipient of discourse is forced by the powerful and plausible source to believe in the information and viewpoints. Powerful sources contain reliable media, specialists, and professionals (Nesler et al. 1993, as cited in Van Dijk, 1991). For the purpose of experiential, interpersonal and especially textual understanding of media's comments and Supreme Court decision, some linguistic features will be analyzed in this section.

#### 4.6. Textual Representation of Words

##### 4.6.1. Marked Theme

Facebook comments, channel news headlines and Court reference and decision of the case shedding light on marked theme, which is corruption reference against Sharif family including Nawaz Sharif, his three children, Capt. (Retd) Safdar and Ishaq Dar, who is the former finance minister of Pakistan. In a Court hearing, it was mentioned that the Sharif family did not obtain the Park Lane flats (16, 16-A, 17, 17-A) by a legal source, but the Sharif family did not accept the charges and insisted on the ownership of Nawaz's sons of those London apartments.

#### 4.6.2. Interpersonal Meanings

##### 4.6.2.1. *Modality*

Media uses modalizing operators that are helpful for altering proposition and become a source of exerting influence on recipients' minds, for instance, a breaking news was presented related to Maryam Nawaz was tagged by a Facebook user: 'Nawaz Sharif k khilaf faisla aya to 24 December k bad gair ilania martial law k khilaf Maryam Nawaz tehrik chalain gyin'. (Maryam Nawaz will start a moment after 24 December, if the decision won't favor Nawaz Sharif.) In the comment, Maryam Nawaz's striving to defend her father by strong determination of initializing a moment in case of an unfavorable decision against Nawaz Sharif. The word 'will' uncovering her strong determination for bringing her words into action after the court decision. On the other side, the court decision has also applied the technique of modality 'The Election Commission shall issue a notification disqualifying respondent...from... Majlis-e-Shoora...he shall cease to be the Prime Minister of Pakistan...' by using helping verb of 'shall'. With the notification of Election Commission, the court decision will be implemented and secured from outside influence or modification in tangible form against the respondent (Nawaz Sharif). In the way, court confirming immediate security from the influence and the threats presented through media and also a source of persuasion to recipients.

#### 4.7. Experiential Meaning

##### 4.7.1. Processes and Participants

Court and court decision encompass high privilege but the role of media cannot step aside. By using social media, a person commented on the performance of Justice Saqib Nisar before the decision of Avanfield reference case 'Allah ko is qoom par rehm aa gaya ha is liye Justice Saqib Nisar jesa hero Pakistan ka munsif bna diya ha... choron, daku aun ko pakra, qoom ko insaf ki umeed di...shukriya cheif sahib, tusi great ho'.

Through social media, some people strived to gratify the Chief Justice on account of taking action for capturing corrupt people, pointing out toward Sharif family in a hidden way, also, strived to motivate chief justice to handle the matter with the support of people courageously. Later in the decision, the court puts Nawaz Sharif in the category of dishonest people '...Nawaz Sharif is not honest in terms of section 99(f) of ROPA and Article 62(1) (f) of the constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan...'. In this way, the user of social media polarizing participants into two categories: honest and dishonest. By praising acts of the chief justice, who focused on uncovering corrupt people secures the

position of an honest person while Sharif family was tagged as burglar, also, considered as 'not honest' in the decision by the Supreme court of Pakistan. After the decision, one of the users of Facebook commented: 'Insaaf ho gya, tabdeli aa gyi'. The comment was raised by one of the opponents of the Sharif family whereas the supporters like Shahid Khakaan Abbasi commented through electronic media: 'kis kaqoon k taht naehli ka faisla kiya gya'. Clearly, the ex-prime minister and supporter of Nawaz Sharif questioning the reliability of the decision. By forming the concept, a phenomenon is interpreted, that is, the dualism of the world. By focusing on the description, recipients and audience conceptualize the reality in relation to the categories of good and evil. Consequently, there is no space left for endurance, further, the state of mind of the recipients is developed through the categorization of semantics which encompasses moral and social repercussion

#### 4.7.2. Lexical Delicacy

Lexical delicacy is a strategy, which is used by the supporters and opponents of Nawaz Sharif. For instance, one of the posts on Facebook encompasses the comment: 'when chief justice was not the part of Panama bench, then why Imran Khan was thankful to him on the decision?' Another comment is: 'chief justice is in London, some governments officials are also in London, another London plan might be planned under the cover of dam funding'.

Above mentioned statements are shedding light on one aspect of the picture portrayed by the adherents of Sharif family. The commentators are highlighting both the personalities. ironically and striving to remove the mask of them in the matter of Nawaz Sharif case. Moreover, prejudice is being highlighted by the commentator of Imran Khan and Chief Justice in Avan Field ref case by pointing out their visit to London at the same time. The supporters of Sharif family have not given detail about the corruption and blames of Sharif family. On the other hand, one of the opponents commented: 'Again, Jumma Sharif was not favorable for Nawaz Sharif'. Further, 'straight forward question: what is the source of money for purchasing London flats'. Answer: 'give respect to vote'. Clearly, these comments are criticizing Nawaz Sharif and suspecting the source of money of the property.

All the above-mentioned comments by the users of Facebook focused on the idea of dualism as the supporters highlighted the detail of the opponents and not emphasized on the other aspect. The same strategy was adopted by opponents of the Sharif family criticized Nawaz Sharif and not shredded light on the role of Chief Justice and Imran Khan. The game

of lexical elegance is manipulating the thinking power and mental structures of the recipients in a hidden way.

#### 4.8. Transitivity

Halliday (1985) delineates transitivity in his book *Introduction to Functional Grammar*. Halliday considered transitivity, a basic part of language, which plays a significant role for people because transitivity helps people to develop their state of mind for comprehending inner experiences and outer experiences in the world, in which, they are living. Dissimilar experiences or formation of reality point out toward ‘goings on’: ‘of doing, happening, feeling, being’. Through grammar of the clause, those goings-on are conveyed and through the system of meanings, these are organized and clause express empirical and contemplative semantic side. Dissimilar forms of procedures are stipulated by the system of transitivity. Those dissimilar procedures are in fact, perceptible and identified through structures in a language. The identification of every verb, its process, and patterns in the process is an essential part of transitivity.

‘Maryam Nawaz will start a moment after 24 December, if the decision won't favor Nawaz Sharif.’

' Insaaf ho gya, tabdeli aa gyi' ‘...captured the thieves, given hope of justice to nation...thanks, Chief Justice, you are great’ "...having furnished a false declaration under solemn affirmation respondent No. 1

Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif is not honest in terms of section 99(f) of ROPA and Article 62(1) (f) of the constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973, therefore, he is disqualified to be a Member of the Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament)..."

**Table 7 Examples of Process Types of the selected media Reporting and Court Decision**

Media		Court Decision	
Activity	Process	Activity	Process
Captured the thief	Material	Furnished	Material
Given	Material	Disqualified	Material

Are	Rational	Is	Rational
-----	----------	----	----------

The illustration explicitly, highlighting significant possession of material process among other processes. Basically, the material process is the process of ‘doing’ as delineated by Halliday. In the process, an entity performs its action to another entity. Two main agents can be identified from the instances-one is media and the other is Court, whereas media portrays two sides of the picture- one can be acquainted with the followers of Sharif family and other can be the opponents of the family. In the first example, Maryam Nawaz can be considered an agent who controls the action of other members. The act of ‘doing’ will be performed in the future as described the example whereas, in the second instance, action has been taken by some authority. Same is the case with the third example, in which action has been executed by Chief justice and one of the opponents showed the attitude to gratification at the decision. The final one is actually depicting the Court decision about the Prime Minister of Pakistan. Here, media is performing two sides’ role. At one side, media acted as the agent of PMLN and strived to motivate PMLN by the statement of Maryam Nawaz but, on the other side, critical and straight forward comments were also made by media against PMLN and in favor of opposite political parties and Court decision. In short, media is the platform of common people, they use it expressing their feeling about a specific political party and event. Through language, the choice or transitivity is employed for the production and reflection of reality.

#### 4.9. Ideology

Ideology is an umbrella term which covers numerous concepts as a basic framework. On account of having a similar culture, a group of people in a society share similar characteristics of a group. Such social groups are operated by an ideology which asserts its influence on the mental thoughts of the members of the group with the aid of social and cognitive factors. Van Dijk (2002), one of the influential figures of history, discusses ideology in detail by introducing the world with his ideological square:

Emphasis positive things about Us

Emphasis negative things about them

De-emphasis negative things about Us

De-emphasis positive things about Them

All the above mentioned principles encompass a significant role for the presentation of others as negative and self as positive. Always, in the social context, the word ‘Us’ symbolizes good and positive attitude whereas the word ‘Them’ denotes deleterious behavior and denunciation. One of the social media posts was about Sharif family before the decision: ‘Wajid Zia proved Sharif family the wasters in the snuffs of the candles. The Thief would be answerable on 6th July. Nawaz Sharif should get ready for jail’. Another comment was: ‘NAB cannot prove the corruption against the Sharif family...The decision will be in favor of Sharif family’. The initial comment was raised by the opponent of Nawaz Sharif and Sharif and Sharif family and the commentator emphasis negative things and de-emphasis positive things about ‘them’ (Sharif family) whereas, the second comment was made by the supporters, therefore, they are striving to emphasise positive things ‘us’. Ironically, the commentator commenting on the incapability of NAB, which cannot prove corruption against the victim. Here, the foremost ideology is prejudice between the supporters of PMLN and adversaries of PMLN. The ideology is an important instrument of media, used by the editors, publishers and other concerned authorities of media, for the sake of subjugating minds of common people. The ideology implements the idea by provoking the desired thought in recipients. Sometimes, ideology is founded on desire and can implement the desired thought in recipients’ minds. Through flexible tongue, flexible speech and written strategies, media easily achieve its objective. Contrary to other countries, media explicitly uses its right of straightforward reporting in Pakistan. The explication and straightforwardness have become very huge and includes a high level of propagation. Moreover, the media still does not encompass the right of over-estimating its power because the protection of the country cannot be compromised at the name of freedom of media.

Moreover, the power and influence of the media still cannot be neglected because, by making use of the right of freedom of expression, media can bring the twist in the situation through altering the dimension of the court proceedings. On the other hand, reverence of the judiciary cannot be threatened on account of being a high profiled legal institution of the country. Media can utilize the potential to observe the functionality of the court within legal boundaries and not beyond the facts. Otherwise, media does not have the right of expressing Contempt about court officials and proceedings about the cases inside the court.

#### 4.10. Media, Power, and Politics

Power is an essential part of media and politics as one who is powerful will be survived. In media and politics, the rule of law is implemented for the sake of approaching the desired destination. Another aspect of power can also be traced in the connection and relation between media and politics. The idea of power and control cannot be scrutinized without shedding light over the concept of discourse. Power is exercised by two means – one is power in discourse and the other is power over discourse. Mostly, media highlight the second category which is power over discourse, for instance, all the politicians cannot assert control over media and public because some of them are dominant whereas others are not. Usually, dominant politicians are approached by media for the sake of interviews.

Media, even, strive to telecast the debates of the influential politicians in the front assemblage. Typically, fewer predilections is given to less influential figures of politics by media in veneration debates and interviews. Basically, Critical Discourse analysis secures a substantial position for the purpose of divulging and resisting exploitation of power in talk and text as discussed by Widdowson (2004). CDA is linked with DA or discourse analysis. For the purpose of uncovering mistreatment and mishandling of power and control, CDA is used because CDA focused on social justice. Critical Discourse analysis substantially plays the role of mending of the social disorder. In the whole process, interpretation of the discourse is necessary on account of putting interpretation impact on the minds of the readers as demarcated by Fairclough and Wodak (1994). CDA, ‘intervenes on the side dominated and oppressed groups and against dominating groups and that openly declares the emancipatory interests that motivate it.’ News is, basically, a sequential representation of events and are linked with the values. Values are part of reporters’ linguistic choices. Values presentation through linguistic choices can attract the audience towards reporting, in this way, media place media’s impact on the mind, opinion, and behavior of the listeners. The audience can be included in any group of people like judges, educationalists or ordinary people of the society. In the whole process of the influence, media effect on the information stored in the minds of the spectators related to identity, credence, relations, principles, and values. Media whether electronic or social, alter the way of thinking of the people, consequently, the dimension of the public way of viewing and observing the world becomes modified and decisions and verdicts are formed. Another significant part of the above-mentioned discussion is linked with advocates. Advocates of prominent political cases and other high-ranking lawyer’s comments on the high-profile

cases through news channels in which they refer legal constitution and articles for the sake of highlighting various aspects of prominent political cases of the criminal justice system and predict the time period of punishment of the suspect. For instance, one of the lawyers given a prediction by media about the punishment of Nawaz Sharif in *Avanfield* reference Case: "...Nawaz Sharif may be punished for ten years." In addition, media telecast the statements of the defense lawyer and prosecutor without their direct involvement. Side by side, media include the comment of the judges on the arguments of prosecutor and defense lawyers.

After this, when the final decision is made, some of the judges' statements include the influence of the prosecutor and defense lawyers' arguments during court proceedings of criminal cases. All the above mentioned discussion is the part of Critical Forensic Linguistics because scrutiny of the language used by media reporters, languages used by advocates and the language used by judges in criminal cases of criminal justice system included in the category of CFL because CFL focuses on the media representation of crime.

#### 4.11. News Framing

Framing-a technique, which is categorized into two things- framing in news reports and framing in everyday life. Both the categories are, almost highlight the similarity because the process of selection and exclusion of the items is applied to both the categories. In this process, for the sake of judging newsworthiness, pertinent items are selected and omitted by focusing on the needs of the speaker and the listener. The essential part of framing is its impact over people and, as a result, people can easily make decisions after comprehending the world around them. The role of framing in the text is very significant, by which, some of the facets of the reality are made noticeable or given prominence in the process of communication, for the purpose of moral assessment and fundamental or underlying interpretation. In addition, item's (which has been delineated) action endorsement is included in the category of framing. The process of framing, mainly, concerned reduction of information and the procedure of reduction resulted in themes. In fact, media selects and organize information on the basis of worthy information about events and unworthy information of events. Reporters implement the process of framing of news for the understanding the audience. In composing the story, journalists can utilize any approach or method. Usually, the topics of conflict between two political parties, an agreement between two political parties, and inheritance of conflict in story building in other topics other than politics, and state agreement and disagreement regarding some



issues among stakeholders are highlighted by the news reporters. In addition, various topics like details of the assets of prominent political figures, passing a bill in National assembly, the press conference of the minister, all these topics included in the main headlines and breaking news of the news channels. For instance, in *Avanfield reference Case*, when the decision was made by the Supreme Court of Pakistan against the leader of PLMN-Nawaz Sharif, one of the news channel continuously mentioned the news about the decision in the following words:

“Bary case ka bara faaisla aa gya---kahhin khushian to kahiin matam”.

The news channel made an eye-catching statement to get the attention of the audience. The news was framed by focusing on the psychological patterns of the human brain. The initial word is ‘big case’ and another word is ‘big decision’, these two words divert the focus of the readers or audience toward something significant. After reading the abovementioned words, the audience becomes able to divert their attention toward the news and strive to listen to the whole news for comprehending the context of the initial prominent words. Intentionally, such words were used by the reporter or administration of the channel because they wanted to increase the ratio of the audience. Therefore, the name of the person related to the case was not mentioned in the screen statement. As a result, the audience will, definitely, listen to the whole news for the sake of complete information. Another part off the information that was given by the channel “...kahhin khushian to kahin matam” pointing out toward two groups of people-supporters and opponents. Obviously, the opponents and opponent political parties showed satisfaction and contentment on the unfavorable decision for Nawaz Sharif.



Figure 17 Example Sample from Media

On the other side, the group of the supporters of Nawaz Sharif showed the attitude of disappointment and distress over the decision. The brother of Nawaz Sharif who is Shahbaz Sharif has also criticized the decision: “Decision contains injustice”.



Figure 18 Example Sample from Medi

One of the PMLN supporter Jawed Hashmi inquired Imran Khan through media about the court decision regarding Nawaz Sharif. Jawed Hashmi referred toward the statement made by Imran Khan during the government of Nawaz Sharif in which Imran Khan predicted that Nawaz Sharif will have to sacrifice his designation and it will become probable with the involvement of the court. Indirectly, Jawed Hashmi striving to use the technique of news framing.

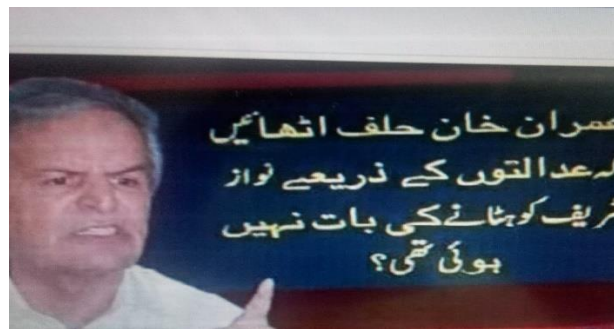


Figure 19 Example Sample from Media

Mostly, readers connect with the news with a framing technique that is applied by the reporters. In framing procedure, readers and reporters act as performers in the process of manufacturing framed story. In fact, media framing can be considered as a stage, in which both reporter or speaker playing his role of reporting and the listener, who is also the part of the stage on account of relying on depending on the information given by the reporter. Media framing is acknowledged on account of the role played by the speakers and listeners. In this way, news framing develops a kind of network of amalgamation among people. By news framing, the audience begins to believe some particular aspect of predicament and focus on the causes behind the predicaments. Through news framing, responsibilities are attributes to the audience for playing their role regarding the issue as a mature individual of the country. The information, which is collected for the production frames, gathers from political leaders or political elites and public, in fact, these two are

tagged as the sources of data filling of the frames with the recent and contemporary event and occasions. It does not happen in the matter of common frames because common frames are not specifically portrayed or present a particular group of public or politicians. In fact, the subject matter of common frames encompasses similar morals, ethics and activities all over the media of a country.

#### 4.12. Framing Structure and Techniques

The process of framing is an organized process which, usually, follows certain techniques and structure. In news, theme, script, syntax, and rhetoric are the parts of the framing structure. The techniques of framing like: “exciting, sanitizing, equalizing, personalizing, demonizing, and contextualizing.” Reporters, basically, follow their belief system for the purpose of finalizing the information of reporting. In addition, values, emotions, and principles are connected with issue representation and are acquainted with various framing devices like mottos, icons, pictorial images. The news frames like Corruption, traitor, betrayal, and be-nami asserts, etc. Two kinds of frames-oppositional frames and dominant frames are also used in media. Frames play a substantial for the sake of highlighting specific topics and stepping aside which are less significant. The whole scenario is created through the repetition of visual images and reinforcement of specific words. All the words, which are reinforced in news reporting by the reporters, highlight reference and representation of particular ideas. The intricacy of dominant frames points out toward the sponsor’s information regarding reporting or journalistic activities and its timbre in the matter of morals, ethics related to politics and propensities in culture and all the resources of sponsor whether cultural or financial. In case of oppositional frames, journalists select headline and topic sentence for the sake of highlighting or spreading opposition or negativity. Most of the people prefer to read or listen only the headlines of the news, therefore, the writer or reporters desire of preferring and placing negative impression through headline or thematized phrase is achieved. In addition, when readers or listeners only rely on reading or listening to the headline, definitely, they will attach the whole news or the whole paragraph with a topic sentence. The writers or reporters’ biases is, usually, exposed through news articles and reporting because they prefer and neglect people and information on the basis of their preferred choices and desires.

It is the fact, that framing cannot be separated from news and news cannot be detached from framing, in fact, booth the thing is acquainted with each other. Framing encompasses a significant position on account of dividing small portions of much

information. The effect of frame is also perceptible, by which media can alter the viewpoint of the audience through the repetition of specific topic. In short, frames, which are filled by reporters with recent and contemporary events, encompass the power of altering public opinion.

#### 4.13. Vocabulary based Analysis

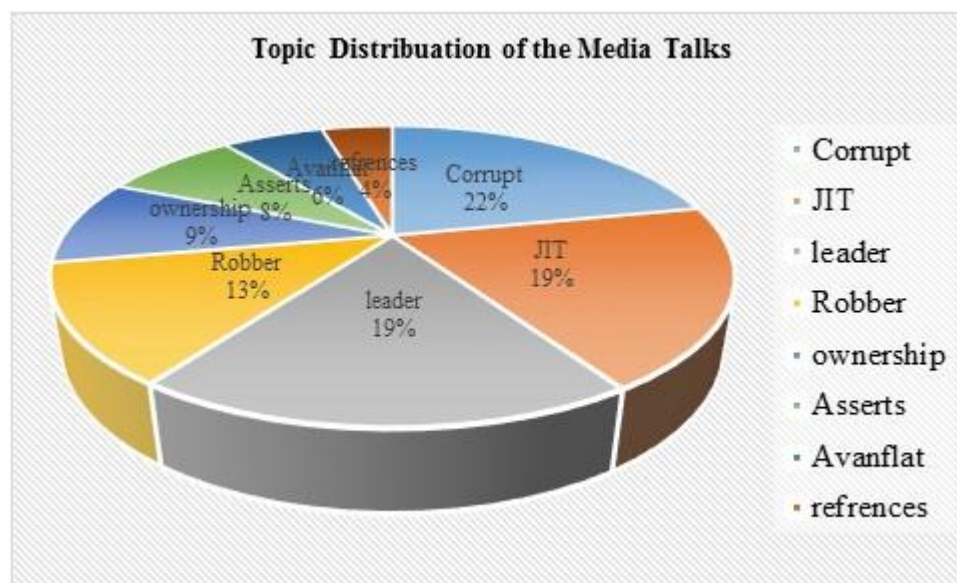
The examination of the lexical patterns is the initial stage of the study which contains the words Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif and Maryam Nawaz or words associated with the words Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz. Words referring Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz were associated with other nouns such as corrupt family, lairs, a patriot of country, robbers, honest man, traitors, true leader, etc. Words concomitant with the Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz were adjectives and are suitable as the headwords. Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and noun describing an event such as corruption, money laundering, etc. On the basis of the categorization of neutral and non-neutral words, words are classified. The categorization, which points out towards neutral and non-neutral words, Van Dijk (1991) view that Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz are often supposed as a corrupt.

The text is divided into two main groups. One group contains the text from media and second encompasses the text from the Supreme Court decision. For the analysis purpose, the top eight words with high frequency are taken from both texts. This study only deliberates non-neutral words. Non-neutral words are those words which are relevant to the close view to the context of the categories, corrupt, offense and dishonest.

The key feature of this approach is to mine the semantically relevant words from the dataset with the specified topic. The result of the concordance analysis is shown in Table 8 and Table 9: Top words from media (electronic\ print\social)

**Table 8 Top words selected from the media talks by using concordance Analysis**

Words	Frequency
Corrupt	35
JIT	31
Leader	30
Robber	20
Ownership	15
Asserts	13
Avanflat	10
References	07

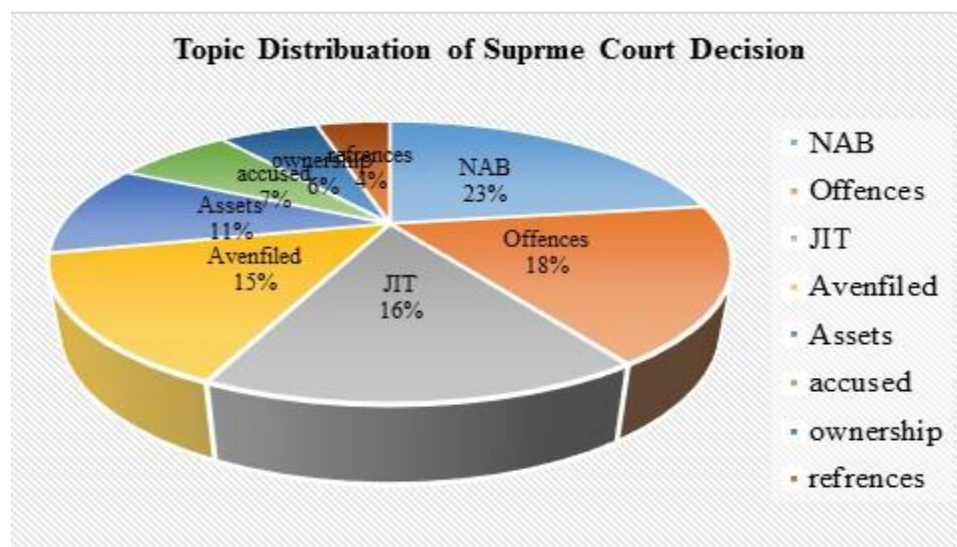
**Figure 20 Top words Selected from the Media Talks**

It is clear from the picture, the word corrupt has a high trend during this time period. The frequency of the occurrence of the word corrupt is 22%. Other words like JIT and leader have an equal frequency, the reason is that, while considering the whole corpus, the biases of the media is the crucial factor. If we divide the dataset with different to different political influence then, the distribution of the words encompass modification. For instance, the GEO group have the greater trend with the leader while the ARY group is on the opposite side. Same in case of social media, the PTI social media group' discussions and posts have a high trend with corrupt while PMLN social media group has a trend with

innocent or leader. The other words have a frequency of 13%, 9%, 8%, 6%, and 4%. Top words from the Supreme Court decision:

**Table 9 Top words selected from the media talks by using concordance Analysis**

Words	Frequency
NAB	45
Offenses	35
JIT	32
Avenflat	29
Assets	21
Accused	14
Ownership	12
References	09



**Figure 21 Top words Selected from the Supreme Court Decision**

The figure 21 shows the top words extracted from the Supreme Court decision. The top frequent word is NAB with a frequency of 23%. And the less frequent word is references with a frequency of 4%. In addition, the study scrutinizes the impact of media

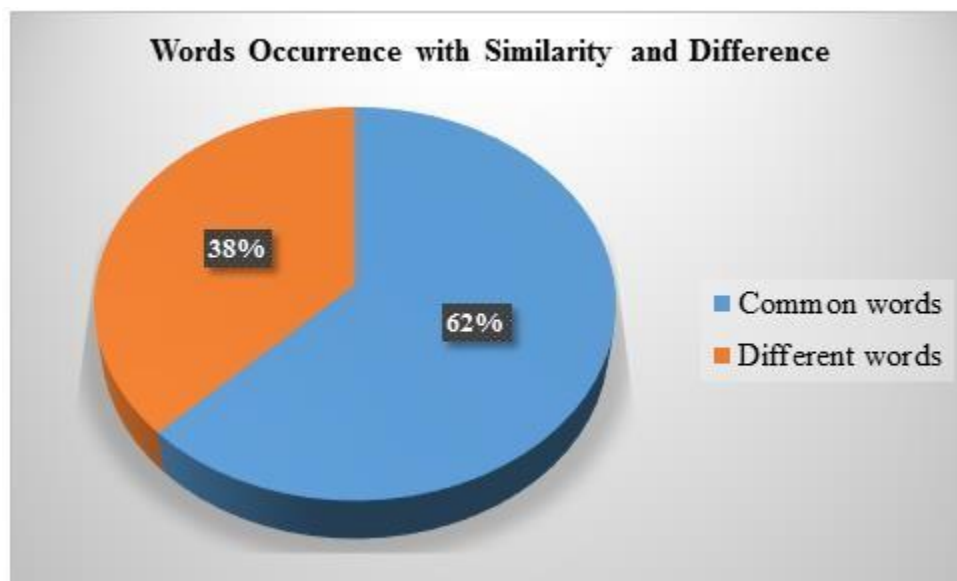
on court decision by using frequent words analysis. The table shows the common and different words from the selected 8 words. The table shows the Percentage occurrence of common and dissimilar words. It is clear from the figure that the common words have a greater frequency as compared to the other, that is, 62%.

**Table 10 Common and Different top words from both Dataset**

Common words	JIT, ownership, Asserts, references, Avanflat
Different words	Corrupt, leader, accused

**Table 11 Percentage of Top Common and Different top words from both Dataset**

Common words	05	62%
Different words	03	38%



**Figure 22 Words Occurrence with Similarity and Difference**

#### 4.14. Grammar-based Analysis

In this analysis, the evaluation was made to see, whether Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz in contrast to other participants are an actor in transitive active or passive clauses. This analysis is used to check the degree in which the words occur and to determine which kind of action most frequently occur when Sharif family or Nawaz

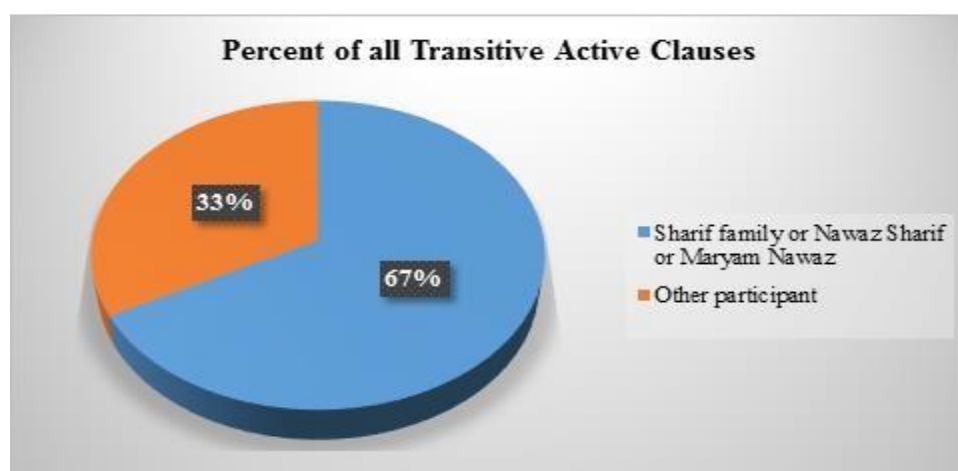
Sharif or Maryam Nawaz related to other contributor are an actor in transitive active and passive clauses. In this analysis, all the actor (transitive active, passive) clauses encompass a recognizable actor. This identification is used to check whether the actor is Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz or any other participant. For this, all the actors, which are not related to Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz in any context were considered as other participants. From total 320 transitive clauses were found in media talks and 540 transitive clauses were found in Supreme Court decision.

From total 320 the 215 had a Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz referent and 105 had another participant. The ratio of the participant and other participant is 67% and 32%.

From the second dataset out of the total 540, the 412 are considered as Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz referent and 128 as another participant. The ratio is 76% and 23%.

**Table 12 Transitive Active Clauses with subject Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other participants (Media Talks)**

Subject	Number	%
Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz	215	67%
Another participant	105	32%.
Total	320	100

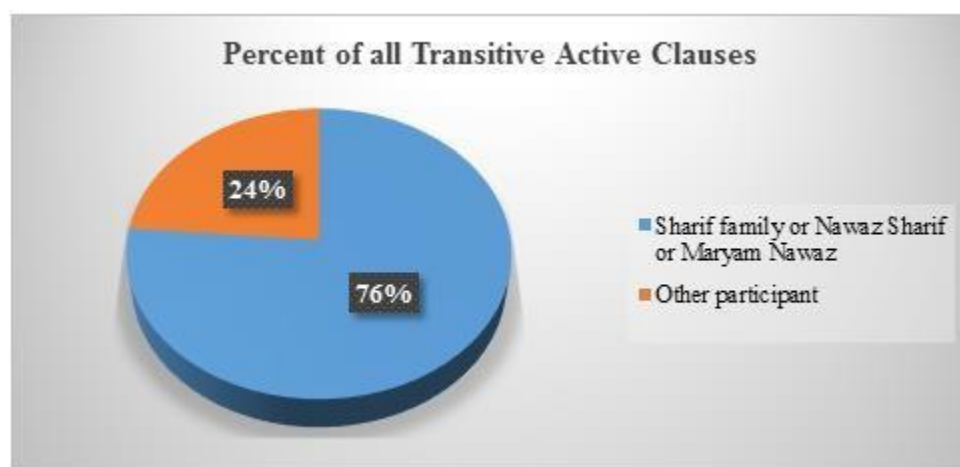


**Figure 23 Percentage of all Transitive Active Clauses**



**Table 13 Transitive Active Clauses with subject Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other participants (Supreme Court Decision)**

Subject	Number	%
Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz	412	76%
Another participant	128	23%.
Total	540	100



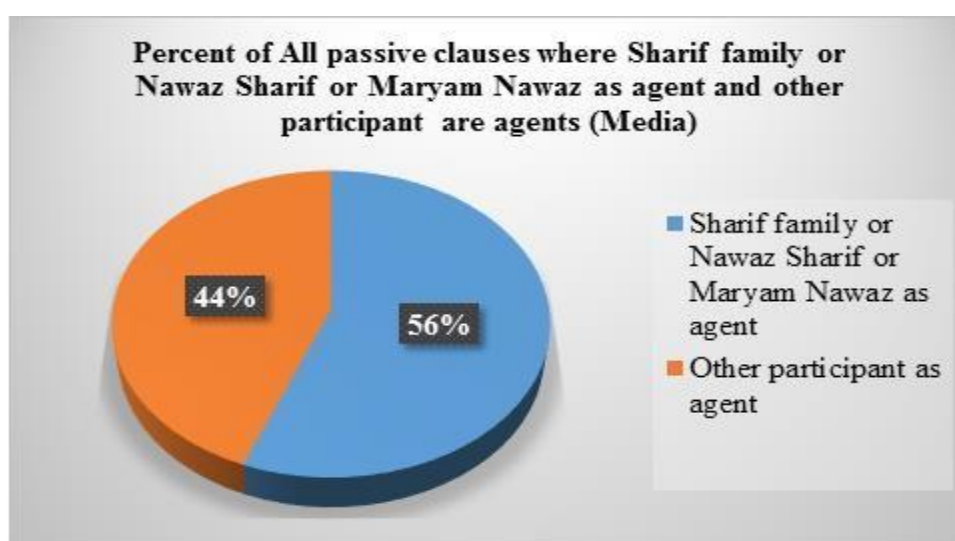
**Figure 24 Percentage of all Transitive Active Clauses**

From the dataset of media for the agent, 25 transitive passive clauses were found with the recognizable referent. From these clauses, 14 have Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as agents and 11 other participants are an agent. We also retrieve some short passive from the extracted 30 clauses. The short clauses are 20 out of 30. From which 12 are Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and 8 or another participant.

From the dataset of the Supreme Court decision, we found 20 transitive clauses with the recognizable referent. From this clause, 14 have Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as agents and 6 are other participants as an agent. We also retrieve some short passive from the extracted 20 clauses. The short clauses are 12 from which 8 are Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and 4 are other participants.

**Table 14 Transitive Active Clauses with subject Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other participants (Supreme Court Decision)**

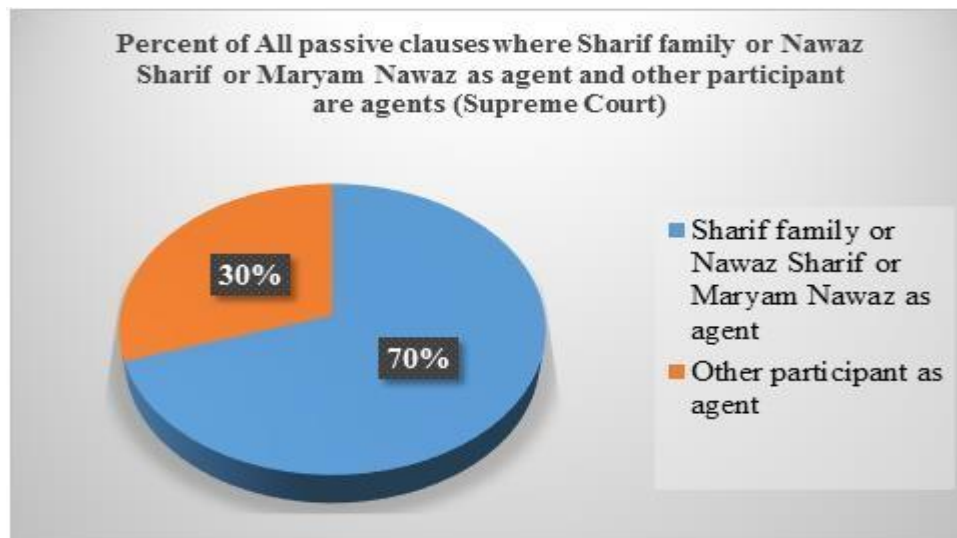
Agent	Number	%
Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as agent	14	56%
Another participant as an agent	11	44 %.
Total	25	100



**Figure 25 Percentage of All passive clauses where Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as an agent and other participant are agents (Media)**

**Table 15 Transitive Passive Clauses with Agent Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other participants (Supreme Court Decision)**

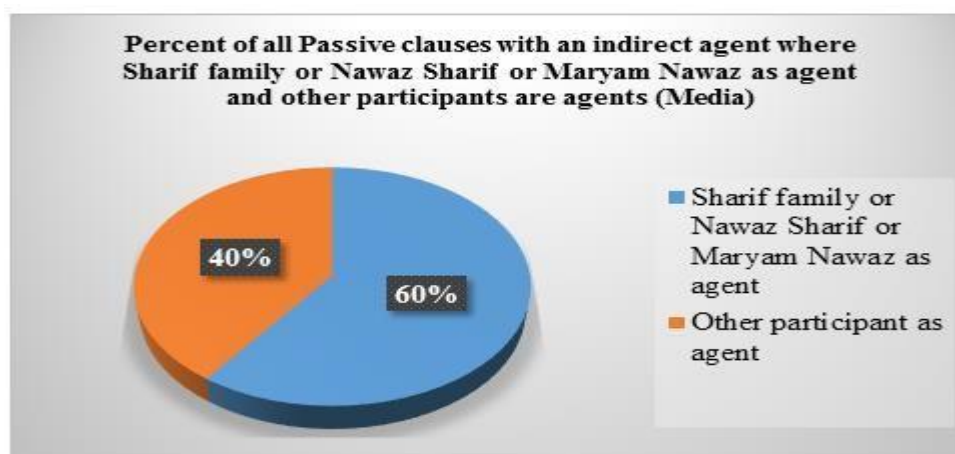
Agent	Number	%
Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as agent	14	70 %
Another participant as an agent	06	30 %.
Total	20	100 %



**Figure 26 Percentage of All passive clauses where Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as an agent and other participant are agents (Supreme Court)**

**Table 16 All passive clauses with an indirect object where Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as an agent and other participants are agents (Media)**

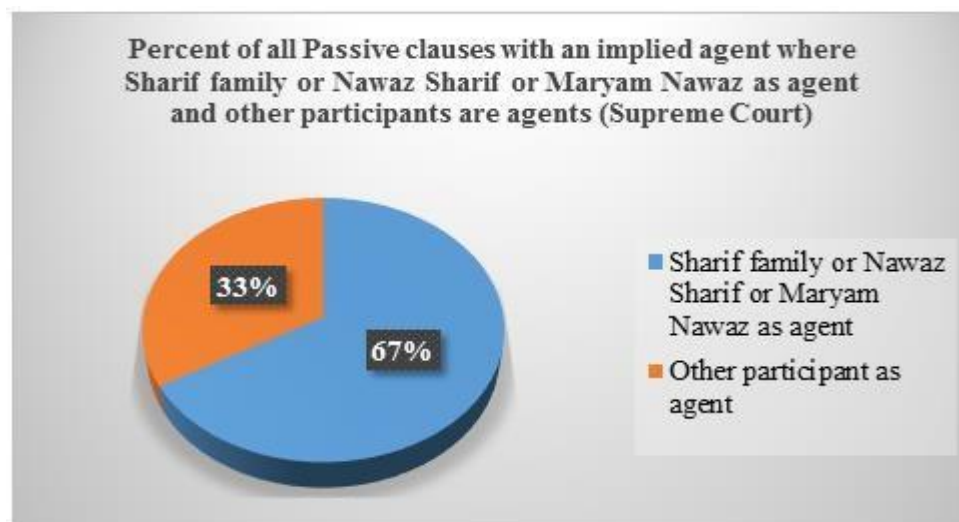
Subject	Number	%
Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as agent	12	70 %
Another participant as an agent	08	30 %.
Total	20	100 %



**Figure 27 Percentage of all Passive clauses with an indirect agent where Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as an agent and other participants are agents (Media)**

**Table 17 All passive clauses with an indirect object where Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as an agent and other participants are agents (Supreme Court Decision)**

Subject	Number	%
Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as agent	08	67 %
Another participant as an agent	04	33%.
Total	12	100 %



**Figure 28 Percentage of all Passive clauses with an indirect agent where Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as an agent and other participants are agents (Supreme Court)**

Table 18 highlighted the actions, which were accomplished by the Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other participants in transitive active clauses. The transitive active clauses are corrupt and non-corrupt. In the category corrupt actions, action such as offense, banamy, robber or intention to commit the corruption like asserts are included. The other category is not corrupt. This category includes the action that does not indicate any corruption like innocent, honest, etc. In this analysis, only media discussions and social media posts are involved.

**Table 18 Corrupt and non- Corrupt actions accomplished by Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and Other participants in active transitive clauses (total 215 and 105) (Media)**

Action	Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as subject		Another participant as subject	
	Number	%	Number	%
Corrupt	185	86 %	05	05 %
non corrupt	30	14 %	100	95 %

The results show that the Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz carry the corrupt action with 86% of the case, whereas the other participant is only 5%. Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz carries out the corrupt action with a high degree as compared to the other participants as a subject. The chi-square value for the above distribution is 0.04 at the  $p < 0.05$  and the level of fitness is 1.

Table 19 highlighted the actions, which were accomplished by Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other participants in transitive active clauses. The transitive active clauses are corrupt and non-corrupt. In the category of corrupt actions, action such as offence, banamy, robber or intention to commit the corruption like asserts are included. The other category is non-corrupt. This category includes the action that does not show any corruption like innocent, honest etc. In this analysis, only Supreme Court decision document is considered.

**Table 19 Corrupt and non- corrupt actions carried out by Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as agent and other participants in active transitive clauses (total 412 and 128 respectively). Court Decision**

Action	Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as subject		Other participant as subject	
	Number	%	Number	%
Corrupt	314	76 %	09	07 %
non corrupt	98	24 %	119	93 %

The results indicate that the Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz carry the corrupt action with 76% of the case, whereas the other participant is only 07%. Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz carry out the corrupt action with high degree as compared to the other participants as a subject. The chi-square value for the above distribution is 0.38 at the  $p < 0.05$  and the level of fitness is 1.

Table 20 shown the number of actions performed by Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other participants in passive clauses. The passive clauses are corrupt and non-corrupt. In the category corrupt actions, action such as offence, banamy, robber or intention to commit the corruption like asserts is included. The other category is not corrupt. This category included the action that does not indicate any corruption like innocent, honest, etc. In this analysis, only media discussions and social media posts are involved.

**Table 20 Corrupt and non- corrupt actions carried out by Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as an agent and other participants in active transitive clauses (20 (12 and 08)). Media**

Action	Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as subject		Another participant as subject	
	Number	%	Number	%
Corrupt	08	67 %	02	25 %
non corrupt	04	33 %	06	75 %

The results show that the Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz carry the corrupt action with 67% of the case, whereas the other participant is only 25%. Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz carries out the corrupt action with a high degree in comparison to the other participants as a subject. The chi-square value for the above distribution is 0.2 at the  $p < 0.05$  and the level of fitness is 1.

Table 13 shows the number of actions perform by Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz and other participants in passive clauses. The passive clauses are corrupt and non-corrupt. In the category corrupt actions, action such as offense, banamy, robber or intention to commit the corruption like asserts are included. The other category is not corrupt. This category includes the action that does not indicate any corruption like innocent, honest, etc. in this analysis only Supreme Court decision document is considered.

**Table 21** Corrupt and non- corrupt actions carried out by Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as an agent and other participants in active transitive clauses (12 (08 and 04)). Court

Action	Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz as subject		Another participant as subject	
	Number	%	Number	%
Corrupt	06	75 %	01	20 %
non corrupt	02	25 %	03	80 %

The results show that the Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz carry the corrupt action with 75% of the case, whereas the other participant is only 20%. Sharif family or Nawaz Sharif or Maryam Nawaz carry out the corrupt action with a high degree as compared to the other participants as a subject. The chi-square value for the above distribution is 0.09 at the  $p < 0.05$  and the level of fitness is 1.

The results of the statistical analysis favor our hypothesis, there is an impact of media reporting on a court decision.



## **CHAPTER 5**

### **CONCLUSION**

This chapter provides a comprehensive and compact detail of the research findings. The research was conducted to figure out impact of media reporting on court decisions. Furthermore, the research also figures out the change in media interpretation and impact over time. For this purpose, the critical forensic analysis was conducted and the data was analyzed through Chi square test. All the aspects discussed in the research are summarized in this chapter along with the findings and discussion on the conclusions inferred from the analysis.

#### **5.1. Summary**

This study was conducted to gauge the media discourse on the criminal justice's system in Pakistan. In the recent past, the media discussion on court decisions has rapidly increased. Many news and social media platform used to discuss the decisions made by the courts. This research focuses on the discourse of these media discussions on court decisions in Pakistan. In this study, the most famous case "Avanfield references" was selected as a case study. The data was collected from three different sources, court decision, media discussions, and social media (Facebook) discussions. This thesis applies critical forensic linguistic analysis viewpoints and methodologies to check the media discourse related to criminal trials by the criminal justice system in Pakistan.

#### **5.2. Findings**

Critical Forensic Linguistic analysis was conducted for scrutinizing the media discourse on the court decision. In this phase, the exercise of power and control is analyzed over the context. Further, the role and effect of discourse with respect to the state of mind of the public have been examined. Semantic Formation, a reflection of the cultural and situational context in the creation of semantics which is produced ideologically were also part of the analysis. All kinds of activities are dependent on language usage by speaker or writer, likewise, media's comments, discussions, and a court decision exist and in the approach of the public due to the use of the language. Discursive strategies, genre, context, talk, and text were subjugated and controlled for the sake of comprehending the neglected aspects and actions of daily life. Computer-based concordance analysis was also conducted for the analysis of frequency counting and collection. In last, this analysis provides the collection of words related to a subject area like, Nawaz Sharif, leader, corrupt, etc. these

subject words are very important in this research. In this study, the concordance analysis subjects the news articles, content from talk shows, court, NAB decisions, social media posts and group discussions from period.

The frequency of the occurrence of the word corrupt is 22%. The other words have a frequency of 13%, 9%, 8%, 6%, and 4%. Other words like JIT and leader have equal frequency, the reason is that, while considering the whole corpus, the biases of the media is the crucial factor. top words extracted from the Supreme Court decision. The top frequent word is NAB with a frequency of 23%. And the less frequent word is references with a frequency of 4%. In addition, the study checks and scrutinizes the media discourse on court decision by using frequent words analysis. The Percentage occurrence of common and dissimilar words was figured out on the basis of the selected 8 words. Common words were JIT, ownership, Asserts, references, Avanflat and different words were corrupt leader, accused. It is clear from the figure that the common words have a greater frequency as compared to the other, that is, 62%. This study performs two different analyses on the collected data.

#### 5.2.1. Media Discourse

This analysis was performed in order to analyze on the court decision. Different type of media considered for this analysis, furthermore, the pre and post media discussion was considered in the analysis. The media trial by media persons, lawyer, and other social media discussion has influenced the decisions made by the jurors. The post-discussion on court decisions changes the interpretation of the court decisions.

This study performs the analysis on selected data of the period May 2018 to July 2018. Only 20 top words related to the subject considered. All words, relevant to the subject words were also considered.

The following source considered for the analysis

1. Social media group discussions (PMLN tigers, we want Imran Khan as a next prime minister of Pakistan)
2. Media talks (GEO, ARY, DYNIA)
3. News articles (DWAN, DUNIA, EXPRESS)

#### 5.2.1.1. Trend Analysis of Media Impact

The study analyzed the media discourse over time. The trend of media trial changes over time. For instance, the time period near the verdict has a different trend over the normal time period.

Again the study considers the three months for trend analysis. The month July shows the greater change in the media trial because at the start of July the verdict decisions were announced.

Figure 29 shows the less changing trend over time because this group is being led by the PMLN media cell. Also, it is clear from figure 29, the change in trend is not significant because the group was led by the PTI. All the news talks, news articles, have political influence shows less change in trend over time. The impact of media trial was not changed over time. For instance, from the figures below the ARY, EXPRESS, DUNIA shows less change in trend. On another hand, the DWAN and GEO talk-shows and the news articles show the change in trend over time.

Figures show the change in the trend of media discourse over time of different TV channels and news articles

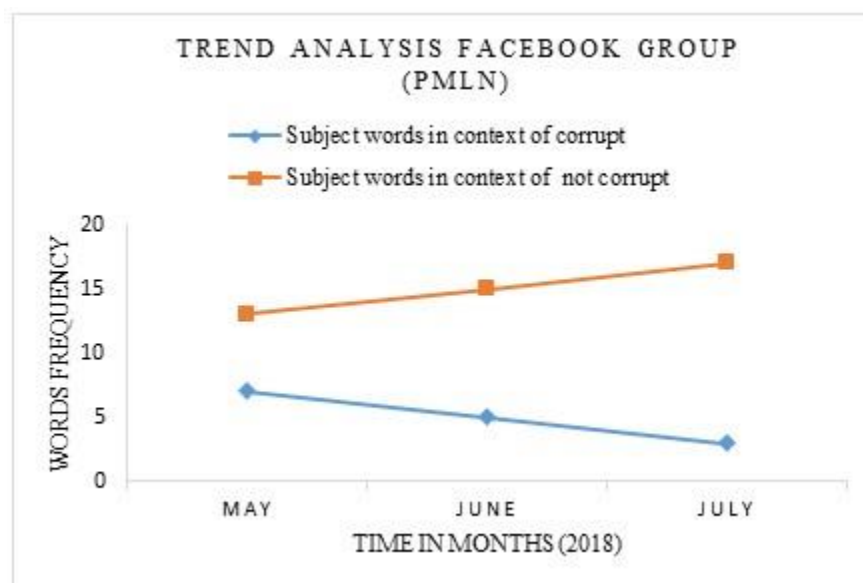


Figure 29 Trend Analysis Facebook Group (PMLN)

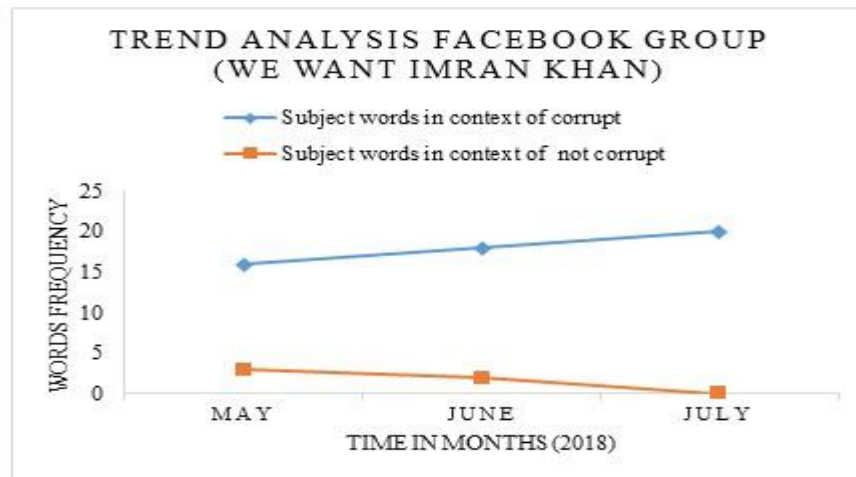


Figure 30 Trend Analysis Facebook Group (we want Imran Khan)

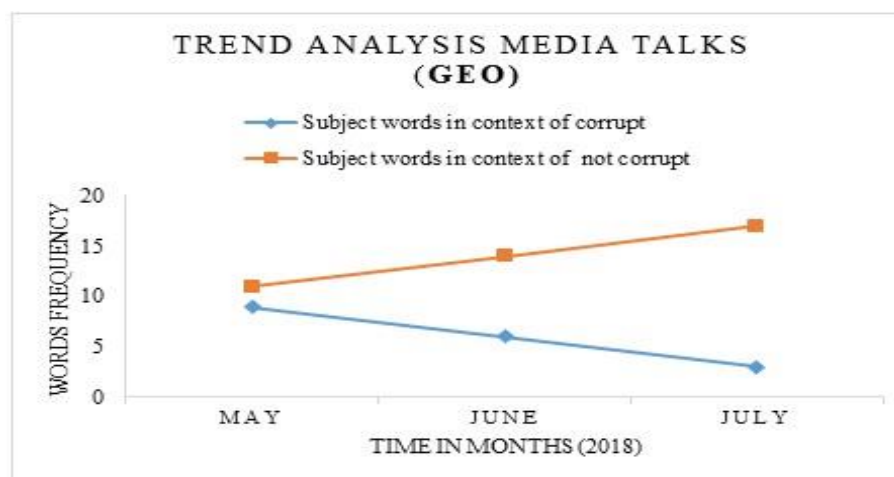


Figure 31 Trend Analysis Media Talks (GEO)

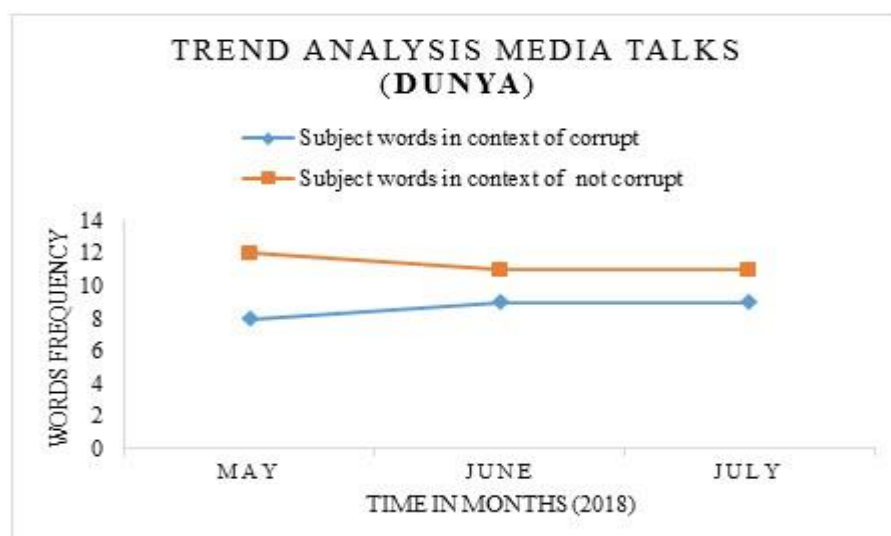


Figure 32 Trend Analysis Media Talks (DUNYA)

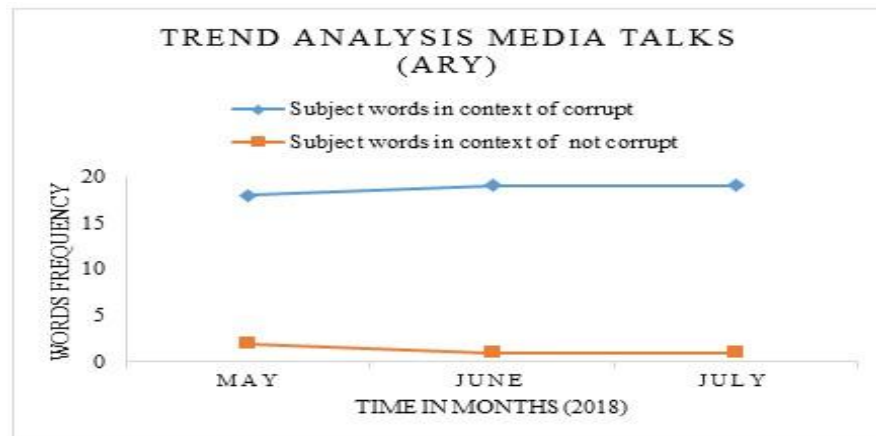


Figure 33 Trend Analysis Media Talks (ARY)

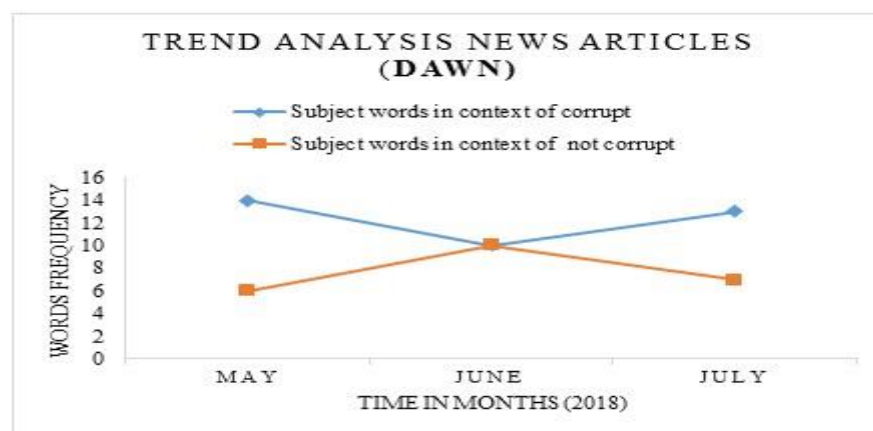


Figure 34 Trend Analysis News Articles (Dawn)

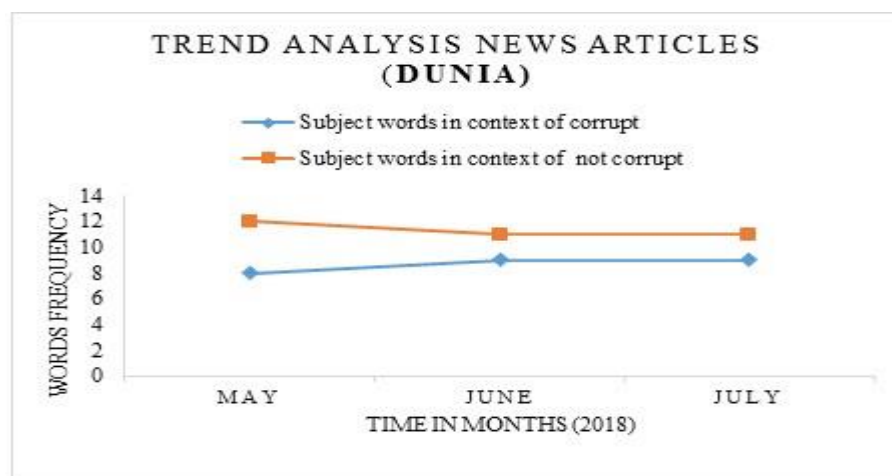


Figure 35 Trend Analysis News Articles (DUNYA)

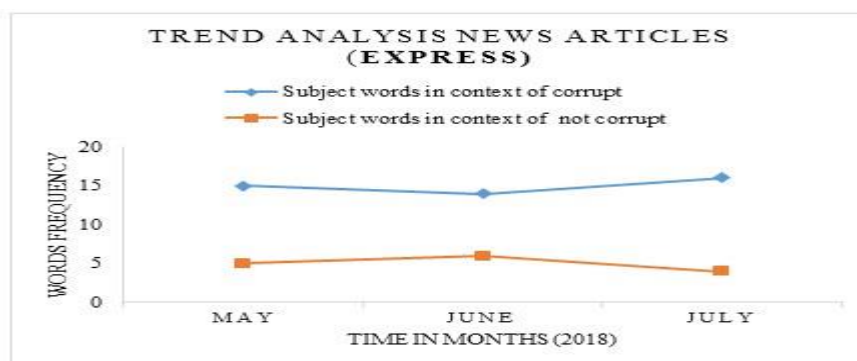


Figure 36 Trend Analysis News Articles (EXPRESS)

In this study, electronic media projection with dissimilar interpretations of the selected case has scrutinized. For this purpose, critical forensic linguistic analysis applied on particular media reporting. Furthermore, discourse of electronic and social media on the court decision is analyzed. From the different sources, the significant change in trend was found during the study. The chi-square test was performed to test the state of the problem. The results highlighted media discourse on court proceedings. In past, researchers scrutinized predicaments linked with dissuasion, criminal justice, moral evaluation, social justice, social movements, power and influence of government institutions so on and so forth, but true interpretation of the statements and decisions of criminal justice system, pre-decision discussion, public criticism through social media, group conversation and the stance of media talk and modification of public opinion are explored in this study. Also, an innovative paradigm of critical forensic linguistics interface is applied on the analysis of the selected electronic and social media discussions and court decision. Therefore, the study possesses substantial position in the body of research in the field of forensic linguistics.

### 5.3. Discussion

In Pakistan, the media is free to express the views related to the decisions made by the criminal justice's system. Furthermore, during the case proceeding many media anchors and legal experts express their views regarding the ongoing case in the court. This study explores the media discourse on court decisions. This study focuses the all major media in Pakistan.

The Avanfield case is the most famous case in the history of Pakistan. This case gains high attention in and outside the country. This case becomes the most controversial case due to the media trail.

This study finds the media discourse on Avanfield case. The study used critical forensic analysis in order to find out the discourse of media. In vocabulary based analysis,

the lexical analysis was performed on the data collected from the court decisions and from the media sources. This analysis showed media discourse on the court decision. Social media plays a vital role due to its dynamic nature and the ease of access. The social media propagate the court decided differently. Different groups and posts propagated and discuss the case and decisions in different connect. For instance, the social media group which is the supporter of Sharif Family discusses and propagates the case in favor of the Sharif family. In media talks the legal experts belong to the Sharif family discussed the case in the favor of Sharif family. The decisions were also interpreted as a win of Sharif family. For instance, they claim that the court failed to prove the Sharif family corrupt. On another hand, the social media group related to the PTI or other political parties discussed and interpreted the case against the Sharif family. The legal experts from this group proved the Sharif family corrupt. Other than this, the legal experts from independent association discussed and interpreted the case in another direction.

During the grammar analysis, the active and passive transitive clauses were analyzed. The results showed the media's discourse description on court decisions. The study also analyzed the change of media trial over time. From the different sources, the significant change in trend was found during the study.

#### 5.4. Conclusion

This research aimed analyzing the electronic and social media discourse on the court decision of 'Avanfield reference case'. Critical Forensic Linguistic analysis was conducted for scrutinizing the media discourse on the court decision. In this study, electronic media projection with dissimilar interpretations of the selected case has scrutinized. The collected data encompasses all pre and post-decision media trials, judges and advocates and comments. Computer-based concordance analysis was also conducted for the analysis of frequency counting and collection. The chi-square test was performed to test the state of the problem. Also, an innovative paradigm of critical forensic linguistics interface is applied on the analysis of the selected electronic and social media discussions and court decision. Dissimilar viewpoints and methodologies of critical forensic linguistics were applied to check the media discourse in the operation of criminal trials by the criminal justice system in Pakistan. The research also figures out the change in media interpretation over time. Based on critical forensic linguistic analysis and concordance analysis.

#### 5.4. Recommendations

The following recommendations are mainly based on the findings of the study, literature review and previous study. These recommendations are suggested with the hope that they will be taken into consideration for comprehending language from a critical forensic perspective in general and understanding of the language used by media and court in particular. Based on the inferences driven from this study, the following recommendations are made:

- i. The present study was a limited study in terms of a number of participants and population, therefore, further research is needed to conduct on a wider scale.
- ii. A comparative study of the impact of media reporting on court decision can be done with the reporting of the media on the court decision in other countries.
- iii. The study can be replicated on different criminal cases of the criminal justice system.
- iv. The study can be replicated on other political personalities of other political parties.
- v. Research can be conducted to scrutinize non-political criminal's decisions by applying the same or another framework of forensic linguistics.
- vi. The government should strive to take steps for the proper involvement of forensic experts in court proceedings of criminal cases.



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