

A FORENSIC LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE OF NEWS CRIME REPORTS IN PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to decode the crime news reporters' intention or motive behind the language they use in their reports. Ten Crime news report headlines were collected from "Dawn" newspaper and were analyzed qualitatively through "Relevance theory" which blends the pragmatic and semantic approach for the sake of text exploration. To support the analysis, the content analysis method was also used. The paper aimed to do a forensic linguistic analysis of the language of crime news report headlines to answer the ideology behind the language used in the reports. It is found after analysis that mass media has the authority to control the minds of the masses as the language of crime news report headlines may leave positive or negative effects simultaneously on its readers based on the choice of words they make in their reports. The current study analyzed that language leaves a more negative impact on the audience than the positive one.

Keywords: Crime, Forensic Linguistics, News, Language, News Reporting

INTRODUCTION

Forensic Linguistics is an area of linguistics that is specifically concerned with the legal and juridical spheres (Fromkin, Rodman & Hyams 2014). For the very first time, the Term "Forensic linguistics" was used by Jan Svartvik (1968). He observed that statements uttered by Evans whose wife and infant daughter were murdered and quite different from a few other statements which were uttered by someone in the discourse of law enforcement. Syntax and vocabulary used by both of them were different and this is what was analyzed by Jan Svartvik concluded that his wife and daughter were killed by his neighbor, John Christie. This is named Linguistic Approaches to Authorship. Its focus is on the detection of the crime of the text of any kind, it may be spoken, printed, handwritten, or heard. One of the key objectives of Forensic linguistics is to produce a thoughtful, logical, and systematized investigation of language. The outcome obtained in the result of this investigation can be used by many professionals. For instance, if proofs are used by police officers, then they will not be only used for the purpose to interview the spectator or the criminal but also to resolve the crimes more effectively and in a trustworthy manner. And if the evidence obtained as the result of the examination of language is used by the lawyers, judges, or jury members, it will help them to figure out criminal and innocent ones fairly. Furthermore, Interpreters and translators can use this research to converse with great accurateness. Once the crime has been committed, Forensic linguistics will support people to find the fact and serve justice. To assist in solving a crime, forensic linguistics plays a very vital role in analyzing the language no matter written or recorded. It specifically focuses on dialect, grammar, sentence structure, phonetics, and other linguistic areas to determine genuineness and guarantee correct interpretation. It may help to examine Contracts, Wills, and Confessions which may include analysis of intended meaning in written or oral statements, Phone call transcripts, Suicide notes, Trademarks, Witness statements, Ransom letters, Courtroom transcripts used by trial participants, Texts, Emails, Product warnings, Police interview transcripts.

THE PROCESS OF FORENSIC LINGUISTICS

The way we interact with people, the kind, accent, and language we use while interacting, and the way we dress up ourselves determine our culture, Background, and education and it directly affects the way we write. As each person has their individuality and identity, in the same way, one has a style of expressing himself via written expression different from the rest of individuals.

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Authorship determination focuses on those factors which analyzed the written expressions in terms of geographical origination (such as Germanic background indicators in the writings of the Lindbergh kidnapper), or how in Israeli study, Male versus female words is used (Magazine Desk, 2003). It indicates that it is quite easy with 80% exactness to figure out whether the document was authored by a male or female. An exemplar writing sample is statistically compared with a document under analysis hence by analyzing cultural, educational, geographical, sexual roles, usage of words, and unique and specific patterns of writing and then comparing it with an exemplar writing sample, finally, an investigator concludes that either document matches each other or not. For instance, a Computer program named "SHAXICON" was used by Don Foster(1995) to compare the usage of words, A Funeral Elegy in memory of the late virtuous Maister William Peeter and Shakespeare's writings to conclude that either both documents match or not.

Crime rates are increasing day by day and one of the factors included in this growth is the crime news reports. Crime reports may affect their viewers in a variety of ways. Many emotions, feelings, and perceptions are built by merely reading crime reports no matter how real or fictional they are. They may build attitudes like anger, chaos, aggression, and comfort. A lot of research has been made on the impact of crime reports on the perception and mindset of the Audience and it was concluded that people feel fearful, unguarded, and diffident after getting exposed to crime news reports and the kind of language used in reports (Ficher, 2012). These crime news reports build hostile attitudes among the readers. It is observed that crime reports are the important key factors in developing criminality in society and they always create an unreal scenario enriched with panic and anxiety in the minds of the readers (Mutz, & Nir, 2010). So, there was a dire need to investigate what kind of ideology language of crime news reports headlines impose on the readers, either they feel insecure, harassed, and fearful or they feel encouraged and motivated as they get different ideas of involvement in such stuff.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

The study has the following objective:

To explore the ideology behind the language of crime news reports headlines in a Pakistani newspaper.

RESEARCH QUESTION

The study has the following research question:

What is the ideology behind the language of crime news reports headlines in Pakistani newspapers?

1. LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter is a thorough survey of the research studies conducted on the subject and argument of the present research work. This chapter would help the readers to comprehend the reason, frame of reference, and overall background of this study. The researcher has made efforts to evaluate and explain the scholarly works about Forensic linguistics and Analysis of Language of News Crime Reports in Pakistan. This chapter has been divided into three parts; the first part highlights the introduction, history, and importance of forensic linguistics in numerous fields of research. The second part consists of current trends in forensic linguistics and forensic analysis. The third part consists of studies related to crime news and briefly discusses various methods used by different researchers to analyze the language of news crime reports in Pakistan. Additionally, Media & Crime and the social construction of crime are also added at the very end.

McMenamin et al., (2002) offer an introduction to the rudimentary features of forensic linguistics, particularly emphasizing those features of linguistics which are highly closed to forensic linguistics, for instance, areas of applied linguistics, stylistics, and variations in linguistics related to forensic linguistics. Other references used in this context are by et al., (1974), Sampson (1980), Lamb (1998), Klopper (1999, 2003), Taylor (2003), Ungerer and Schmid (2006), Holcombe (2007), Baldwin et al. (2009) and Haas (no date). In these texts, Lexical- Functional Linguistics, Cognitive Linguistics, Computational Linguistics, and Corpus Linguistics' patterns of grammar are used. Gibbons (1999) considered forensic linguistics as the field in which linguistic evidence and proofs are

provided, (p. 164), in which there is the inclusion of analysis of syntactic which is a grammatical structure, phonetics, and word analysis means lexical analysis, discourse, and sociolinguistics analysis. This kind of analysis helps to identify texts whose authors are assumed to be anonymous or texts which are assumed to be questionable. Tatum Derin, Evizareza, Susy Deliani, & Budianto Hamuddin(2019) gathered a few articles related to Forensic linguistics regarding the past present and future of Forensic linguistics ranging from 1968 to its fame in 1988. It was noted that earlier forensic linguistics was used only for legal purposes. Presently, Forensic linguistics is not only concerned with the setting of the courtroom or legal cases but also it works virtually now. In short, Forensic linguistics is going to be more approachable to the masses via Artificial Intelligence. Furthermore, people will not be bothered more about hiring forensic linguistics experts as they used to do as everything will be freely available to them on Artificial Intelligence (AI). In past, while police were investigating the suspects, they were not allowed to question them randomly, and as the suspect, while justifying his statements, mumble and shutter a lot so it was hard for the investigator to jot down everything exactly in the way it was uttered. For this reason, in the past, many cases involved questioning the authenticity of the police statements.

About the emergence of forensic linguistics, Olson (2004) commented that it took birth between the 1950s to 1960s but no one made use of it till 1963. Then there was a statement that was given to police in 1953 was then analyzed by Jan Svartvik in 1968. The statement was given by John Timothy who was accused of murdering his wife and baby, that statement was analyzed by John Svartvik for the first time, and from there the term forensic linguistics was coined for the first time. It was spotted by Kniffka (1996) that in the last two decades, Forensic linguistics was capable of making some magnificent achievements and developments but still it has a long way to go. He further added that as a field, forensic linguistics is making several achievements in several countries like the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Italy, and Arab countries.

CURRENT TRENDS IN FORENSIC LINGUISTICS AND FORENSIC ANALYSIS

Current trends in forensic linguistics, Vigil, J. (2016) Stone, Russell, D. L. (2000) discussed by focusing on the fact that forensic linguistics should lay focus on language and the hurdles that cultures create because not every victim or suspect can understand the language, English and there may be a lot of reasons for it like any abnormality or language disorder. It was debated by Menon, N. (2004). Hale, S. B. (2004). Brubacher, S. P., Peterson, C., La Rooy, D., Dickinson, J. J. (2019) that the first and foremost issue now a day is to find such competent court which is not biased about gender, race, culture, etc. of the victim. A common issue which is faced now a day is that people who are not capable of speaking well English or having not good accent are considered not well educated so are not treated equally. Another thing that matters a lot in court judgments is the way people speak and it highly influences the decision because it is the only way of triumphing their case. It was exaggerated by K. R., & Vernon, M. (2001), Pollard, R. Q. Jr. (2014), Sullivan, J. M., & Akay, S. (2019), Tuck, B. M. (2009) that luckily, an effort has been made to provide an alternative way of interpretation to the non-English speakers or the deaf ones because sometimes interpreters may annoy the witnesses who are unable to express their selves.

STUDIES RELATED TO CRIME NEWS

Typically, Crime is a 19th, 20th, and 21st-century genre and it was ruled by American and British writers. Crime is considered to be a very multifaceted phenomenon that keeps on changing across cultures and across time. Few activities are believed to be legal in one country and illegal in another. Let's say, Consumption of Alcohol is legal in the UK while strictly prohibited in Muslim countries and is an act of crime (Dambazau, 2007; Usman, Yakubu, & Bello 2012; Tenibiaje, 2010). Various studies related to crime news have been conducted in which the language of crime news reports has been analyzed from different perspectives using different research methodologies.

Shah, I., Elahi, N., & Saeed, M. (2019.) Published an article related to content analysis of crime reporting in print media in which they gathered one-year crime reports from Daily dawn English language and Daily Jang Urdu language. Their descriptive analysis was done in which it was concluded that English newspaper particularly focuses on the crime in urban areas while Urdu newspaper highlights the variety of crimes while articles related to violence against women were published equally in both. All the derivatives of crime were analyzed except crimes like traffic incidents, terrorism, etc. Data were analyzed using the Matthes and Kohring (2008) coding techniques. Descriptive statistical analyses were directed to observe the frequency, types of crimes, and features of criminals. It was concluded by the research that English newspaper publishes those crime reports which were based on FIR and that

English newspaper focuses on valid and authentic information while reporting crimes. This research conducted by the above-mentioned article writers was quite similar to current research as both of them used content analysis for analyzing the language of crime news reports forensically with a slight difference that this research used Daily dawn English language and Daily Jang Urdu language as their data sample while current research analyzed the “Dawn” newspaper by applying “relevance theory” as a theoretical framework. The research was conducted by Kadir, R (2020) about the application of forensic linguistics as an investigative tool in criminal case verdicts which was a case study at the state court of Gorontalo. This research intends to focus on how legal languages are practically implied by the usage of forensic linguistics approaches via speech act, analysis of discourse textual analysis, and the style of language being used and the method used in this research is a qualitative one. As mentioned above that this research is a case study at the state court of Gorontalo and the data was gathered through the verdicts which were being presented in the state court of Gorontalo. For the analysis of data, a few steps were used, which were analyzed through discourse, style of language being used, and the speech acts. The purpose this research serves for the audience is specifically for the officials related to law as this research may help them to solve legal language from the language point of view. Since many legal issues remain unresolved so this research struggles to help in resolving those issues. Relating this research to existing research, textual analysis is also done by using relevance theory, closely relevant to speech acts, which blends the semantic and pragmatic approach to the text analysis. Nawaz (2013) researched Language of law: Stylistic Analysis of a Legal Document. His research focused on the identification of stylistic markers, how language performs its role in legal texts, and how stylistic features play their role in effective communication in legal texts. Saifullah, Aceng Ruhandi (2009), talked about the relationship between language and law in their research with a title “Analisis Linguistik Forensik Terhadap Tindak Tutur yang Berdampak Hukum (studi kasus di Polres Bandung)”. They came to declare in their research that by the time one studies forensic linguistics, it is the same as the one studies language in legal texts. Witczak, and Iowans (2009) conducted research with a title, A linguistic -Pragmatic Note on Indeterminacy in Legal Language” in which they elaborated that in legal texts, English serves as a vague language as a technique of vagueness is very prominent in text like legal texts. Witczak further added that legal language is intentionally and consciously kept ambiguous and vague so that not everyone may understand the language and is only understood by the relevant people which are part of the legal field.

Munirah and Sigit Apriyanto (2020) researched the role of forensic linguistics in police interrogation. Data was collected through journals, articles, and books, and a descriptive analysis method was used. And after analysis, it was concluded that the police used conversational implicature for the interrogation in a way the suspect felt relaxed and easy without feeling worried and depressed. Evans, (2010); Baldwin (1993) add about the police investigation that it is the only authentic source through which criminals and culprits meet their end if held accountable for the crime. For instance, figuring out wrongdoers, their confession of crime, and setting innocent people free (Moston & Engelberg, 1993). About the role of forensic linguistics in a police interrogation, Leo (2013) argued that the police’s job is to investigate the scene of the crime committed and to let the culprit confess his crime. The way the investigator coordinates with the verbal conduct of speculating during interrogation is guided by (Richardson et al., 2014). Elek (2016) exaggerates the role of forensic linguistics in a police investigation that in criminal cases, forensic linguistics plays a very vital role in unveiling the truth. Forensic linguistics not only play a vital role in police interrogation cases but is related to all crime-related affairs as existing survey examined the language of crime reports forensically. Sulieman, H. M. (2020) wrote and published a journal in 2020 named coverage of crime news: a content analysis of Al-Yaum Saudi online newspaper in which focus was made on the fact that how Al-Yaum Saudi online newspaper from Jan 2018 covers the news related to crime. The methodology used for the analysis was descriptive and data was collected through a structured content analysis sheet. By the end of the analysis, it was concluded that only internal crime news’s covered by the newspaper of Saudia, the majority kind of crimes covered were the sale of drugs, killing, and physical attacks, and very few were related to criminal assault, Conflict with boss or officer, etc. The current study was almost very relateable to this study as the news reports related to crimes were published by “ The Dawn” newspaper also mentioned major crimes like murder and robbery and a few other crimes minor in number in November and December 2021. Their diction was analyzed in current research and the impact of diction on the audience was also investigated qualitatively. Mahmoud, R. A. (2011) while analyzing the styles of crime reports in English and Arabic commented that while analyzing crime reports no matter what the language of the crime news report is, there is always a process, participants, and circumstances. Wherever verbs are found in the report which tackle the actions of the crime are handled by the process. Whoever are the criminals involved in committing the crimes or the eyewitnesses and even the police and investigators as well are considered the participants. Wherever the crime is being committed, time, place, etc. are the circumstances of the crime. He further

outlines that there are five elements upon which the basic pattern of crime reports consists. Those five are front-page named as the headline, central statement, basic description, details, and conclusion. All these features were observed in “The Dawn” newspaper while analyzing crime news report headlines.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical framework used for this research is “Relevance Theory”. This theory presents the nature of communication. As communication involves the process of encoding and decoding, the hearer decodes by interpreting what the speaker is intending to say. So, the conduct of getting inferences with context is what relevance theory is all about. The relative theory is the cognitive theory of pragmatics which was founded by Dan Sperber and Deirdre Wilson in the 1980s. This theory states that the audience/listener/reader perceives, develops inference, and interprets the communication occurring according to his/her understanding. This theory mingles the semantic and pragmatic approaches to text exploration.

The basic claims of this theory are that “any external stimulus or internal representation which provides an input to cognitive processes may be relevant to an individual at some time.” (Wilson & Sperber 2004:608).

- A meaning of a single sentence in the same context may present multiple interpretations
- Possible interpretations are categorized in terms of accessibility
- Out of multiple possible interpretations, hearers depend on a strong criterion by the time they have to select one very authentic interpretation
- Set criterion aids the hearer to select the most appropriate interpretation in a way that the hearer stops interpreting more as his interpretation matches the intended meaning of the speaker.

3. DATA TYPE

The data type used for the current research was “Textual Data”. Crime news reports headlines published in the newspapers of Pakistan named “Dawn Newspaper” was taken as a population. Ten crime report headlines were taken from “Dawn Newspaper” from November 1st, 2021 to December 31st, 2021. These were easily accessible on their websites. While searching from archives, the word “crime” was used as a derivative. Moreover, one by one every page of the newspaper was also searched to retrieve the desired report.

4. RESEARCH DESIGN/STUDY TYPE

The research design/ Study type which was used is qualitative. Qualitative research usually produces “Textual data”. Qualitative research comprises a process which is also named induction in which related to the concerned area, data is gathered and then based on gathered data, and the researcher builds theories and concepts. Qualitative research design not only focuses on “What” people think but also on “Why” they think so.

5. METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS

Data from current research was analyzed through the content analysis method. The content analysis came into existence in the 1920s in the United States of America, where an enormous amount of data from mass media such as radio and newspapers was examined. Then, Jurgen Ritsert(1972) formulated a procedure that was capable of identifying the hidden or unapparent meaning and ideological contents by applying quantitative analysis. Since that time, content analysis has been used to interpret the text and to arrive at an effective conclusion.

“Any technique for making inferences by objectively and systematically identifying specified characteristics of messages.” Holsti (1969)

It is a technique of research for the neutral, efficient, and quantitative portrayal of the content of the communication, Berelson (1952). In the content analysis method, interpretations are made based on whatever text is being used for analysis. It can be any image, manuscript, text or film, etc.

6. DATA ANALYSIS

A total of 10 crime news report headlines were collected for analysis from “Dawn newspaper”.

Report 1

“Mansehra man kills wife for demanding divorce at Jirga (Dawn, 2021)”

This crime news report is taken from “Dawn newspaper” and was published on November 1st; 2021. The report stated an incident in which a wife was killed by her husband just because she asked for a divorce at Jirga. The possible reasons for demanding divorce could be that he found her man cheating on her; the issue was irresolvable at the personal level so she approached Jirga. Another reason could be, that her husband was unable to fulfill her necessities because of unemployment or poverty maybe. The most authentic reason which can be pragmatically interpreted could be that wife had an affair with other men, so she wanted separation so that she could get marry him later.

The reason why the husband killed his wife in Mansehra could be because the issue between the couple demanded to be resolved at a personal level but it reached the public forum(Jirga), which made the husband kill his wife out of rage because it was kind of attack on his ego and self-respect. Semantically, as per relevance theory, the reason for killing his wife could be that the husband knew the intentions of his wife that she wanted to get married to another man after getting a divorce from him so he fired at her and resolved the issue in this way.

Report 2

“Man shot dead in Dera Ismail Khan (Dawn, 2021)”

This crime news report is collected from “Dawn newspaper” and was published on November 2nd, 2021. The Incident took place in Dera Ismail Khan where a random person was killed by the motorcyclists near Gomal University.

The possible reason for murder can be an unplanned attempt, the murderer wanted to attack someone else and this man became the victim unintentionally and unfortunately. Or maybe it was a planned attempt as they had any personal dispute between them. To take revenge, fired at the man.

Report 3

“Man kills sister in honor’s name (Dawn, 2021)”

This crime news report is collected from “Dawn newspaper” and was published on November 4th; 2021. It was an incident in Larkana where a sister was killed by a brother by the time she came to attend the funeral of her grandfather. A possible reason for the killing of a sister by a brother can be inappropriate dress maybe, so he couldn’t control and murdered her. It can also be explored that Sister wanted to get married by her own choice which made the brother kill him in the name of honor.

The most genuine and authentic reason interpreted pragmatically was that their sister got married by her own choice despite the opposition of her family, and by the time she came to attend the funeral of her grandfather the week after her wedding, her brother decided not to miss the chance and fired at her.

Report 4

“Two held for killing father in Swabi” (Dawn, 2021)

In “Dawn Newspaper”, this crime news report from Swabi was published on November 5th; 2021. A miserable incident took place in Swabi where a father was killed by his own two sons and later on sons of the deceased admitted their act of killing their father. One interpretation of this incident can be the sons had an unpleasant relationship with their father. Another interpretation can be that the sons wanted to marry by their own choice but there was opposition from the side of their father, so they both killed their father out of rage.

As per the relevance theory proposed by Dan Sperber and Deirdre Wilson, inference can be drawn that there was an issue of property between the sons and the father. Sons wanted to own all the property but the father was not in favor to do this in his presence. To occupy all the property, both brothers murdered their father.

Report 5

“Young woman stabbed to death (Dawn, 2021)”

The incident took place in Karachi and was published in “Dawn newspaper” on November 13th, 2021. A couple got married a year ago and a husband named Ali Hassan murdered his wife named Kainat on Friday at their home. The couple got married just a year ago and Ali murdered his wife Kainat, the possible reason for it can be the disinterest of the husband in his wife. Maybe Hassan wanted to get married by his own choice and Kainat was imposed on him by his family, to get rid of her, he attempted the crime of killing his wife, Kainat. Maybe, Kainat was a quarrelsome lady and Ali was impatient. They both had serious domestic disputes which were irresolvable, Eventually, Ali murdered his wife.

The above-mentioned fact inferred financial issues, poverty, and unemployment which made Ali a victim of complex and his wife was demanding as she demanded necessities of life from him which was her basic right, but Ali couldn't afford that and eventually killed his wife to get rid of this complex.

Report 6

“Woman shot dead, mother injured (Dawn, 2021)”

In “Dawn Newspaper”, this crime news report from Lahore was published on November 18th; 2021. A mother named Kiran was killed and the mother's mother named Azizan Bibi was injured by men having a gun at Manga Mandi on Wednesday. By the time both ladies were attacked, one of them named Kiran died on the spot while Kiran's mother Azizan Bibi was injured and the attackers escaped from the place. There may be multiple reasons for the occurrence. One interpretation can be that the culprits were in-laws of Kiran, they had any personal issues and she was at her mother's place and didn't want to go back. So out of that dispute, ladies were attacked. Kiran died at a spot and her mother was saved as she just got injured.

Based on the assumed context, it can be inferred that one of the culprits wanted to get marry Kiran, after facing opposition from Kiran's family side, they just came to threaten them and unintentionally and unconsciously fired at them. As consequence, Kiran got died and her mother got injured.

Report 7

“Three jailed for life in mason's kidnapping, killing case (Dawn, 2021)”

The crime news report was published in “Dawn Newspaper” on November 18th; 2021. The incident took place in Karachi on Wednesday where Haji Faryad was kidnapped and then killed by Asif, Abbas Ali, and Ali Asghar in December 2016. Killers were jailed for life as a punishment for their acts. A probable interpretation of the act of killing can be that four of them were friends having slight differences of three of them named Asif, Abbas Ali, and Ali Asghar with Haji Faryad. Due to those differences, they firstly kidnapped him and then, later on, killed him. On the other hand, an analysis can be made that a mason named Haji Faryad had to return the borrowed money of the three of them but he couldn't pay that back on time so was kidnapped and killed.

On a pragmatic basis, it can be figured out that most probably it was a case of ransom. Haji Faryad was kidnapped by three of them. They demanded a huge amount from his family but the family couldn't arrange the money. Three of them killed him.

Report 8

“Woman attempts suicide in Hazro (Dawn, 2021)”

The incident took place in Hazro and was published in “Dawn newspaper” on November 18th; 2021. Lady, named Hajra bibi who was 30 years old committed suicide in her house. She was a resident of Waisa, Hazro. What made Hajra bibi commit suicide may have different interpretations. It can be interpreted that Hajra was an unmarried lady who was worried about her marriage as because of her age factor, she was deprived of any suitable marriage proposal due to which she was suffering from inferiority complex and became a victim of depression and committed suicide to get rid of all the circumstances she was facing. Another deduction that can be drawn is that Hajira was a married lady and was living unhappy life with her husband. She was sick of her miserable life and was deprived of the necessities of life. She was habitual of luxury lifestyle but her husband couldn't provide for her luxurious lifestyle. Sick of her living style, she committed suicide.

It is posssed on a pragmatic basis that maybe Hajra Bibi loved someone and wanted to marry him but her family strictly opposed her choice and forcefully wanted to marry her by their own choice. Hajra preferred to end her life rather than be in a relationship with someone not of his choice.

Report 9

“Woman set on fire by husband (Dawn, 2021)”

This crime news report is gathered from “Dawn newspaper” and was published on December 4th; 2021. The Incident took place in Kasur where a wife named Samaira bibi who was 22 years old was burnt by her husband named Muhammad Arshad who set her on fire after sprinkling her with petrol. The victim managed to survive and the husband fled from the scene. The incident could have many reasons: One possible reason can be said that they both had unhealthy and unpleasant relations with each other. Their chemistry was not compatible with each other, they had irresolvable domestic issues. Muhammad Arshad had anger issues as well as he was short-tempered by nature. In anger, he sprinkled petrol on his wife samaira bibi and set her on fire. The Incident can also be interpreted in another way Arshad wanted his wife's brother to get married to his sister but samaira strongly opposed the proposal. In anger, Arshad committed this act.

Pragmatically, it is interpreted that Muhammad Arshad doubted his wife as he thought her to be dishonest and unfaithful to her. He thought she is not loyal to him and cheated on him as she demanded a divorce from him often.

Report 10

“Woman shot dead on Peshawar court premises (Dawn, 2021)”

In “Dawn Newspaper”, this crime news report from Peshawar was published on December 9th; 2021. In the area of the court, a woman in Peshawar was murdered. Murder could have many inferences. One drawn inference is that woman was married and went for divorce in court. Her husband didn't want to divorce him so she wanted to take help from the court. While the woman was in court, her husband chased her and shot her dead on the premises of the court. Another assumption can be that a woman was married to someone while her cousin wanted to get marry her while they were in a relationship earlier. By the time couple visited court for the matter of distribution of property, her cousin followed them and to take revenge, shot her dead in the court.

The most probable interpretation drawn pragmatically is that woman was in court as she was eloping with her beloved, her brother and father reached the spot and killed her.

7. DISCUSSION

Crimes have been the most uncontrollable issue in the sight of its population and striking the country over the last few decades. The major role that the media is playing is to bring the incidents of crime into the limelight to let the masses know about the prevailing situation of crime. Forensic linguistic analysis of the language of crime news report headlines was the top-notch motive of this study. All the crime news reports were dealt with pragmatically and semantically. The inference was drawn based on the language being used in crime news reports. The researcher tried to figure out the ideology behind the language of crime reports in Pakistani newspapers and how they manipulate their audience along with the impact of the language of crime news reports on the minds of people and the most commonly committed crime in the last couple of months.

Ideology is the discourse created by the language reporters use in their crime reports. Media, let's say mass media that is newspapers, play positive and negative roles simultaneously. As in the analysis section, many crime news reports are analyzed and findings are mentioned in the findings section, it is obvious that a variety of crimes including murder, robbery, kidnapping, honor killing, physical violence, suicide, and a few others are reported in a couple of months. Now the kind of language being used may positively affect the audience or possibly in a negative way as well. As it is observed that the rate of murder was highest in the last two months so specifically talking about murder, by the time crime reports related to murder were reported in the newspaper, report number 04 reported a murder case in a father was killed by two brothers on trivial issues and frequent disputes depict the decline of moral values and that respect of elders has become the story of the past. It was a time back in the 19th century when elders were respected a lot by their younger ones, it's not like everyone today is like a few of these violating and forgetting their limits. Just because of such portrayal in media, it's becoming normal among the younger generation that it's okay to be part of such stuff so the somehow negative role is being played by media in this context.

Discussing another crime named honor killing as reported in report number 03 a sister was killed by her brother in the name of honor killing. The language reporter used while reporting depicts the one patriarchal society in which male is always dominant. It portrays that even in 2021, crimes like killing for sake of honor can happen, and still it is considered normal to take the life of anyone easily which is something on which government should take strict action.

Report number 08 reports reported the case of suicide which is the presentation of the decline of religious values. As in some countries, committing suicide is normal but in a country like Pakistan, it is considered a sin. Pakistan is an Islamic republic and the majority of the population is Muslim, so accordingly Islam considers suicide a sin. The language of the reports demonstrates how people have taken Islamic beliefs for granted and without fear of the Day of Judgment where everyone will be accountable for their deeds, commits suicide.

The above-mentioned ideology which exists behind the language of crime news reports presented in the newspaper is the decline of moral, and religious values and the dominance of a patriarchal society.

8. FINDINGS

It was found out that a variety of crimes were committed in a couple of months in the Dawn newspaper.

The reason for murder which was interpreted pragmatically according to relevance theory founded in the 1980s by Dan Sperber and Deirdre Wilson was domestic issues like land and property disputes in which opponents wanted to own a piece of land and ended the case by murdering, forceful, or love marriages as in few cases, women were imposed forcefully on husband which led to an unhappy marriage and to get rid of the unwanted partner, husband killed his wife and even in some cases, women did love marriage revolting the family or eloped with her beloved and eventually was murdered by her father and brother, etc.

Suicide was also found committed a crime.

- Reason which was observed of suicide was financial crunch which is almost related to unemployment and dearness having same reasons.

- Commonly analyzed reason for suicide which was seen as unhappy marriage or imposed marriages. As someone wanted to get married by his/her own choice but they were not allowed or someone was married but not happily so got rid of depressed life by committing suicide.

In report number 09 Crime of physical violence was also observed.

It was seen that normally such crimes are committed in houses due to domestic clashes between the couple or between family members. The analyzed crime was committed because harsh words were exchanged between the husband and wife and quarrelsome nature was also cause.

Report number 07 indicated kidnapping and normally, kidnappers kidnap innocent people for ransom.

Report number 03 presented the case of honor killing. Such crimes are normally committed in illiterate or undeveloped areas where male members of the family for the sake of their turban, kill the females of their family normally in cases like love marriages or opposition to forced imposed marriages. The same happened in report number 3 where the sister came to attend the funeral of her grandfather right the week after her love marriage. Her brother availed chance and murdered her in the name of honor killing.

9. DIRECTION FOR FUTURE RESEARCH:

Those researchers intending to research in the same field in near future are directed to select more than two newspapers to get different results of most occurred crimes as the researcher selected "The Dawn" newspaper.

Researchers can even do a forensic linguistic analysis of content other than crime news reports. It can be anything like a suicide note, police reports, legislature, or any written legal transcript.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

At the end of this research, it is recommended that;

- a) The current suggested that a study must be conducted on the comparative analysis in terms of the forensic linguistics approach.
- b) This study recommends that research should be conducted on large-scale data to get better results and generalize the results to society.
- c) This study recommends that Law Enforcement Agencies understand the nature of crime and the reason behind the crime which will be helpful to control crime in society.
- d) The current research proposed the direction to the government to facilitate the public maximum to eradicate the crime ratio in the society.
- e) Lastly, this research gives further direction to future researchers who want to research in the same area to use broader data to explore maximum.

11. CONCLUSION:

The objective of this research was to do a forensic linguistic analysis of the language of crime news report headlines. The research problem was to figure out what kind of impression audiences perceive of the language of the crime news report headlines. For the said purpose, an analysis of report headlines was made. Ten crime news report headlines were analyzed through relevance theory, inferences and interpretations were drawn based on crime news report headlines, and the language of crime news report headlines was investigated. A variety of Crimes was mentioned in reports in the Dawn newspaper. These reports presented murder, robbery, suicide, honor killing, kidnapping, and physical violence. The most common crime analyzed was Murder and the reason was family or property disputes. Then it was tried to answer the research questions to meet research objectives and it was

concluded that the ideology behind the language of crime news reports headlines in a Pakistani newspaper may affect the audience positively and negatively simultaneously. It was investigated that diction of report headlines does not positively affect the audience as it becomes a source of gaining ideas in case something goes in contrast to their choice. In the end, the result of the findings was provided with a description of how and why the findings were related to the research objective.

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