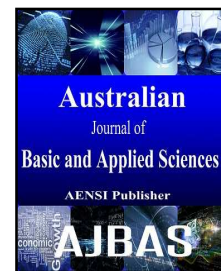




AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

ISSN:1991-8178/EISSN: 2309-8414
Journal home page: www.ajbasweb.com



Language Use and De-Legitimation Strategy in Newspaper Discourse: A Critical Discourse Analysis

¹Marwah Kareem Ali, ²Anne A. Christopher, ³Munif Zariruddin Fikri B. Nordin

¹School of Education & Modern Languages, College of Arts and Sciences, University Utara Malaysia, Kedah, Malaysia.

²School of Education & Modern Languages, College of Arts and Sciences, University Utara Malaysia, Kedah, Malaysia.

³Centre for General Studies, College of Arts and Sciences, University Utara Malaysia, Kedah, Malaysia.

Address For Correspondence:

Marwah Kareem Ali, School of Education & Modern Languages, College of Arts and Sciences, University Utara Malaysia, Kedah, Malaysia.

E-mail: marwakareem16@yahoo.com

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 28 May 2016

Accepted 29 July 2016

Published 17 August 2016

Keywords:

Critical discourse analysis, de-legitimation discursive structures, linguistic features, newspaper discourse, systemic functional linguistics.

ABSTRACT

This paper examines the discursive structures employed in delegitimizing the event of U.S. forces withdrawal from Iraq and identifies them in relation to linguistic features. It attempts to describe the relation between language use and de-legitimation discursive structures in depicting political events. The paper focuses on the political event of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq in the English newspaper issued in Iraq. The study shows the way in which journalists express their attitudes concerning this critical event. Consequently, this requires a critical discourse analysis (henceforth, CDA) to analyse news articles in the Iraqi English newspaper: The Kurdish Globe (henceforth, KG) newspaper. Accordingly, the study presents a qualitative content analysis of newspaper articles to identify the de-legitimation discursive structures and their linguistic features. It is found that the main discursive structures of de-legitimation employed in the KG newspaper are: authorization, rationalization, moral evaluation, and mythopoesis. Besides, there were four verb processes used to represent this de-legitimation strategy, including material, verbal, relational, and mental. To conclude, the paper revealed that the KG newspaper veiled its bias towards the presence of U.S. forces in Iraq through the use of various linguistic structures.

INTRODUCTION

Recently, newspaper discourse attracts the researchers' attention in the critical analysis field, particularly in relation to political issues. The essence of the newspaper discourse has changed. Thus, news articles in newspapers can be analysed to disclose the underlying intentions hidden behind the discursive construction of them (Sadeghi, Hassani, & Jalali, 2014). Newspapers occupy an important role in any modern society since they address its various issues. The language employed in the newspaper does not simply convey the information that it overtly indicates. Language is, as asserted by Wodak (2001), a medium of domination and social power so that language is a suitable medium for uncovering hidden ideologies intended to construct social norms and values (Fairclough, 1995; van Dijk, 2001).

As well, the linguistic features used in the depiction of certain political events in newspapers, such as the political event of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq, can be an important tool to legitimize these events. van Leeuwen (2008) argued that the discursive constructions of (de-)legitimation can be recognized through certain occurrences of text which may barely denote the legitimized practice or can be covered through detailed prescriptive or descriptive explanations of the institutions and practices they legitimize. The relation between language use and de-legitimation discursive structure can reveal the hidden ideologies under the words of

Open Access Journal

Published BY AENSI Publication

© 2016 AENSI Publisher All rights reserved

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution International License (CC

BY). <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>



Open Access

ToCite This Article: Marwah Kareem Ali, Anne A. Christopher, Munif Zariruddin Fikri B. Nordin., Language Use and De-Legitimation Strategy in Newspaper Discourse: A Critical Discourse Analysis. *Aust. J. Basic & Appl. Sci.*, 10(12): 318-327, 2016

journalists, yet there still more investigation needs to be done to identify this relation in the newspaper discourse.

Problem Statement and Aims of the Study:

In fact, the analysis of de-legitimation strategies has been studied previously, but these studies focused on showing the strategies of de-legitimation employed in newspapers to delegitimize an event or policy without revealing the linguistic features used to represent them. Therefore, this paper aims at identifying the linguistic features used in depicting the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq in relation to the de-legitimation discursive structures employed in KG newspaper to delegitimize this event. As well, it aims to examine the relation between the linguistic features of newspapers texts and de-legitimation structures in revealing hidden ideologies and values.

Research Contribution:

As has been clarified in the above sections, this paper aims to identify the linguistic features used in newspaper discourse to delegitimize a political event. Though the issue of de-legitimation has been studied previously in relation to various discourses and events, the newspaper discourse still needs studies to be carried out to reveal the relation between language use and de-legitimation strategy. Thus, it is the task of the current paper to reveal this relation as well as examining the role of this relation in enhancing the representation of hidden political practices in newspaper discourse.

Review of Literature:

This section focuses on presenting the relation between newspaper and CDA in the previous studies; as well as the role of language use in newspaper discourse. In addition, it highlights the language metafunctions in accordance with Halliday's (2014) SFL. Finally, it sheds light on the de-legitimation strategy and its discursive structures.

Newspaper and Critical Discourse Analysis:

Although it is regarded to be an old-fashion news media, the newspaper is still the main category of news coverage and it is the preferable one than other media forms (Shojaeiet *al.*, 2013). Besides its role in informing and transmitting different issues, the newspaper presents a great amount of details related to the news, events descriptions, and analysis of their significance and effect. Newspapers have a crucial part in portraying social and national issues. Such issues bear ideological values hidden under the words chosen to represent them. These values are revealed through the use of CDA (Fairclough, 1995).

CDA has been applied in many studies in relation to newspaper discourse. CDA contributes to the field of linguistic studies in media discourses either spoken or written as it is focused on discovering hidden meanings, the relationship between language and context, the power of language use in different disciplines, in addition to highlighting texts as reflecting ideological, social, cultural, and political ideologies (Fairclough, 1995). Hence, Fairclough (1992) defines CDA as a systematic investigation of "opaque relationships of causality and determination between (a) discursive practices, events and texts, and (b) wider social and cultural structures, relations and processes" to reveal the way in which such events, practices and texts take place and how they are ideologically categorized by power relations (p. 135).

Language Use in Newspaper Discourse:

The language use has an important role in the news writing system as it reflects the ability of the journalist/reporter to portray events in a beneficial way. In 1980, Harris clarified that newspapers bear the meaning of communication and sociality through the language use. Language is the best means of communication as it reflects our social and human activities. Through language use, we can express what we think and do either in spoken or written discourses (Harris, 1980; Richardson, 2007), it does not reflect our reality, but it also creates reality. Others, like Pennycook (2004), identified newspaper's language as a means of informing and representing various trends in social interaction. Bell (1991) depicted newspapers as institutions for language formation and realization. Therefore, in general, the realization of cultural, political, social, ideological, and economic issues should care for the role of language use in news media discourse, particularly in press, as the relationship between media and language use is an important one in relation to critical and analytical studies (Shojaeiet *al.*, 2013). According to Roksvold's (2010) viewpoint, the investigation of news language is an interesting field since it is incorporated into daily life, but its hidden processing is unknown for us.

Language use is revealed through the linguistic features which constitute the syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic structures. These features are used to clarify the events being depicted in newspaper articles. Such features are represented by the language meta-functions as highlighted by Halliday's (2014) SFL approach, namely ideational, interpersonal, and textual metafunctions.

Language MetaFunctions:

The first metafunction of language is ideational. It is represented by the transitivity system which involves participants, processes, and circumstances. As well, it has six types of processes formed by verbs, including material (happening and doing), mental (affection and thinking), behavioural (behaving), relational (attributing and identifying), verbal (saying and asking), and finally existential (being) (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2014). These processes require participants functioning in accordance with the type of process. In material process, the participants function as Actors, Goals, and Recipients; in the mental process, they function as Sensors and Phenomenon; in the behavioural process as behaviours; in the attributive relational process as Carriers and Adjectives whereas in identifying relational process as Token (Holders) and Values; in the verbal process as Sayer, Targets, and Verbiage; and finally in the existential process as Existent. In addition, the circumstances refer to the adverbial and prepositional phrases which clarify the event in terms of time, place, manner, cause and result, and conditional aspects (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2014).

The interpersonal metafunction illustrates the mood and modality of the sentence. The sentence mood is either declarative (involving Subject+ Finite sequence) or interrogative (involving Finite+ Subject sequence). Modality refers to the degree of certainty or obligation using the modal auxiliary verbs in the present tense (will, shall, can, may, must) and past tense (would, should, could, might). The third function is textual. This function is represented by the use of references, ellipsis, and conjunctions (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2014).

De-legitimation and its Discursive Structures:

De-legitimation is considered to be among the most effective ways that make things accepted or rejected in a society. This is achieved through language or, more accurately, discourses. Consistent with van Leeuwen (2008), legitimation is a prominent function of language use and discourse. It is obviously a complex social (and political) act, and it is typically accomplished by text or talk. Legitimation is one of the discursive strategies applied for changing the presentation of a single event in a way that serves the news network benefits. It has become one of the crucial issues in critical discourse analysis, and many scholars do their research in this field (Sadeghi *et al.*, 2014). Currently, the popular news media play a substantial role in the processes of legitimation owing to its "power to influence knowledge, beliefs, values, social relations, and social identities" (Fairclough, 1995: 2). To become generally accepted or rejected, the information about innovative practices must be distributed within the institutional field. Therefore, the newspaper is a reliable tool for propagating new activities and making them publicly accepted or rejected.

Legitimizing one other requires implicitly or explicitly delegitimizing the opposite other in order to put them against each other and persuade the readers to follow on them (Chovanec, 2010). According to van Leeuwen (2008), a single event, as that of the U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq, can be shown as positive (legitimized) or negative (delegitimized) through several categories and subcategories. These discursive structures or strategies are described as "specific, not always intentional or conscious, ways of employing different discourses or discursive resources to establish legitimacy" (Vaara *et al.*, 2006: p. 794) or illegitimacy. They can be used in either predetermined or unprompted way. According to van Leeuwen and Wodak (1999), de-legitimation is realized through four main strategies. These are authorization, moral evaluation, rationalization and mythopoesis. Authorization is recognized by referring to the appropriate (personal and impersonal) authority as subject, e.g. "Because I say so" or "According to the rule". Rationalization is realized by referring to the value of a particular social practice or referring to general beliefs within a particular social environment; for instance, major religions. In addition, moral evaluation refers to a certain system of values, developing the ethical foundation for de-legitimation in the social context. The last category of de-legitimation strategies is mythopoesis. It stresses de-legitimation obtained through narrative or by relating the investigated practice to the past or future through storytelling (van Leeuwen and Wodak, 1999).

Methods:

This paper focuses on identifying the linguistic features employed in the de-legitimation of the political event of U.S. forces withdrawal from Iraq. The sample is represented by eight excerpts taken from two news articles issued in the Iraqi English newspaper (KG) during December 2011 which represents the period of the formal and complete withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq after nine years of U.S. occupation of Iraq following the 2003 war. The study is carried out using the qualitative content analysis through a critical lens. Hence, Fairclough's (1995) approach to CDA is used to analyse the excerpts selected from KG newspaper. Besides, Halliday's (2014) SFL approach is used to identify the linguistic features of the selected excerpts and van Leeuwen's (2008) model of de-legitimation discursive structures employed in the newspaper to delegitimize this mentioned event.

Analysis of Data:

The excerpts were analysed following the three dimensions of CDA, namely: description, interpretation, and explanation (Fairclough, 1995). In the first dimension, the excerpts were described linguistically to identify

the linguistic features in accordance with Halliday's (2014) SFL approach. The second dimension interpreted the use of de-legitimation discursive structures in relation to models of van Leeuwen (2008) and van Leeuwen and Wodak (1999). The last dimension explained the use of certain lexical and syntactic structures to convey certain hidden political ideologies.

De-legitimation of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq:

The purpose of this section is to provide critical analysis for sentences and excerpts concerned with the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq. These sentences and excerpts depict the negative aspect of this event to delegitimize it in accordance with de-legitimation categories outlined in van Leeuwen's (2008) model of (de-) legitimation discursive structures.

Authorization:

In the case of de-legitimation, it is associated with presenting the event in question negatively.

Personal Authority:

Excerpt(1): *Kurdistan Prime Minister Barham Salih said some groups inside Iraq, including the Kurds, requested that the U.S. extend their presence inside Iraq beyond 2011.*

(KG: December 17, 2011; under the Headline: U.S. ends its military presence in Iraq)

This sentence reveals the need of extending AMFs' presence in Iraq beyond 2011. In linguistic terms, the sentence is presented in the form of indirect quotation consisting of verbal process of saying. This verbal process includes the verb (*said*), the Sayer (*Barham Salih*), and the Verbiage (*some groups inside Iraq, including the Kurds, requested that the U.S. extend their presence inside Iraq beyond 2011*). Besides, another verbal process is formed within this sentence consisting of (*some groups*) as Sayer, (*requested*) as the verb, and (*that the U.S. extend their presence inside Iraq beyond 2011*) as the Verbiage. It is a declarative sentence indicating the desire of certain political parties to extend the presence of the U.S. forces in Iraq beyond 2011. The pronoun (*their*) is used for referring to (*the U.S. [forces]*).

It can be seen that the U.S. forces' withdrawal is delegitimized on the basis of personal authority realized through using Barham Salih's statement which implies the unwillingness of some political parties for the AMF's withdrawal from Iraq. Barham Salih has the political power and authority as being the Prime Minister in KRG which governs the north region of Iraq populated by Kurdish people who represent one of the Iraqi ethnic groups. Accordingly, his statement is chosen to be embedded in this editorial to express, on behalf of certain Arabic and Kurdish political parties, the necessity of U.S. forces existence in Iraq.

Implicitly, the statement presupposes that Iraqis are divided into two groups; one group accepted the U.S. forces' withdrawal whereas the other group refused it. Lexically, this is realized in the nominal groups (*some groups*), (*the U.S.*) and (*their presence*) in collocation with the verbs (*requested*) and (*extend*), and the time circumstance (*beyond 2011*) referring to the year in which the U.S. forces will withdraw from Iraq completely and formally. The dominance of U.S. forces over Iraq is hidden under the verb (*requested*) which is used in the formal and polite requests. This request is issued by Iraqi political parties so that it presupposes that the U.S. forces are the powerful authority in Iraq.

The Authority of Conformity:

Excerpt (2): *Kurds remain publicly silent over the U.S. withdrawal, but they are not happy about it.*

(KG: December 17, 2011; under the Headline: U.S. ends its military presence in Iraq)

This sentence reveals Kurds' attitude regarding the U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq whose opinion was in opposition to other Iraqi citizens, particularly those who agreed on this event. Concerning the linguistic features, the two clauses are formulated with attributive relational process. This process involves the verbs (*remain*) and (*are*), (*Kurds*) and (*they [Kurds]*) as Carriers of the adjectives (*silent*) and (*happy*) assigned to them. In this sentence, both clauses are in active declarative mood. The adversative conjuncture (*but*) is used to highlight the real attitude of Kurds behind their silence in relation to the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq. Hence, KG focused on identifying the Kurdish nationality to which it is related.

In relation to the de-legitimation category, the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal is de-legitimized on the basis of conformity authority. This category of de-legitimation is identified through (*Kurds*) and (*publicly*). This denotes that all Kurds are not happy about the U.S. forces' withdrawal.

Implicitly, the sentence reveals KRG's disagreement upon the U.S. forces' withdrawal. The words used in this sentence bears political practices. Firstly, the writer used the noun (*Kurds*) to identify those who are not happy. Next, this phrase (*silent over the U.S. withdrawal*) means that the Kurds did not announce their disagreement upon this event explicitly. Then, the negative structure (*they are not happy about it*) is used to describe the negative attitude of Kurds in relation to U.S. forces' withdrawal. All these features enhance the importance of AMFs' presence in Iraq as well as emphasizing their significant role in controlling the security

situations. The KG newspaper emphasizes on representing the role of U.S. government and its forces as positive and effective in relation to the stability of security situation in Iraq.

Moral Evaluation:

Evaluation:

Excerpt (3): *While the Iraqi armed forces number 700,000 troops, their missions have been doubled with the American withdrawal and their abilities are still limited.*

(KG: December 17, 2011; under the Headline: U.S. ends its military presence in Iraq)

This sentence evaluates the abilities of Iraqi armed forces as being limited and may not be effective to encounter the security situations after the U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq. In terms of linguistic features, the sentence is in active declarative mood indicating the inadequacy of Iraqi armed forces in the post-U.S. forces period. It is formed using identifying relational process which involves the verb phrase (*have been doubled*) and its Token is (*their [the Iraqi armed forces'] missions*) in addition to the attributive relational process involving (*are*) as the verb process which attributes the adjective (*limited*) to the Carrier (*their abilities*). The possessive pronoun (*their*) in both positions refers to (*the Iraqi armed forces*) which is mentioned in the first clause. So, the editor avoided the redundancy by using the possessive pronouns instead of the long nominal phrase.

In this sentence, it is obvious that the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal is delegitimized through the use of negative evaluation represented by the adjective (*limited*) which indicates the inadequacy of Iraqi armed forces in controlling the security situation in Iraq after the U.S. forces' withdrawal. The editor highlighted the number of the Iraqi armed forces as (*700,000 troops*), but this number is inadequate to encounter the security threats evolving by the U.S. forces' withdrawal. Accordingly, this reflects uncertainties concerning the future of Iraq's security in post-U.S. forces period.

In spite of its positive formulation, the sentence reflects negative values. It is clear that the editor did not use negative articles, but, implicitly, he negated the ability of the Iraqi armed forces through using a collocation of words that bear negativity. This collocation of noun phrases, verbs and adjectives as represented by (*the Iraqi armed forces*), (*700,000 troops*), (*their missions*), (*doubled*), (*the American withdrawal*), (*their abilities*) and (*still limited*) signifies that in spite of having numerous troops, the responsibilities of Iraqi armed forces increased and their military capacities are still insufficient to fulfil their new duties which emerged after U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq. This represents the Iraqi armed forces as being weak and still need the presence of U.S. forces. It can be understood that it is necessary for Iraq to claim the extension of AMFs' presence till its armed forces become ready to control the security situation by having military capacities empowering them to encounter the future threats in the post-U.S. forces period.

Abstraction:

Excerpt (4): *Iraq is facing a lot of challenges. Iraq of 2011 may be safer and calmer than that of 2004-2007, but whether this calm equally calms the citizens' nerves remains to be seen.*

(KG: December 17, 2011; under the Headline: U.S. ends its military presence in Iraq)

This excerpt depicts the reality that Iraqis concern about Iraq's future after the withdrawal of U.S. forces as it still faces several challenges represented by instability of its political and security situation. Linguistically, the excerpt is presented in active declarative mood asserting the fact that Iraq suffers from poor political and security conditions as indicated by the years (*2004-2007*) during which Iraq witnessed sectarian and ethnic conflicts at both political and social levels. The excerpt includes two sentences. The first sentence has a verb of identifying relational process. This process involves the verb phrase (*is facing*), the Token (*Iraq*), and the Value (*a lot of challenges*). As well, the second sentence contains two clauses joined by (*but*). The first clause is formulated with the attributive relational process involving the verb phrase (*may be*), the Carrier (*Iraq*), and the attributive adjectives (*safer and calmer*). Besides, the years (*2011*) and (*2004-2007*) denote time circumstances; (*2011*) refers to the year during which the U.S. forces were fully withdrawn, and (*2004-2007*) refers to the years during which Iraq experienced a severe sectarian and ethnic conflicts. The second clause is formed with attributive relational process involving the verb (*remains*) which attributes the future quality (*to be seen*) to its Carrier (*this calm*). The pronoun (*that*) in this phrase (*that of 2004-2007*) which is mentioned in the second sentence refers to (*Iraq*). The modal verb used in the second sentence (*may*) reflects probability and uncertainty, i.e. the calmness period that followed the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal may not continue and the stability of Iraq's security situation in the absence of U.S. forces is uncertain.

In this excerpt, the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal is indicated by this phrase (*Iraq of 2011*) referring to the year during which the final and complete withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq has taken place. Obviously, the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal is delegitimized in this excerpt because Iraq still suffers from challenges in relation to its political and security systems as well as its stability is still uncertain in spite of the calmness that has been witnessed in Iraq after U.S. forces' withdrawal. Hence, the writer expressed the uncertainty value represented by (*may be safer and calmer*) and (*remains to be seen*). Both phrases denote uncertainty and concerns regarding the future of Iraq's stability after the withdrawal of U.S. forces.

Additionally, the excerpt contains collocations that presuppose meanings and highlight ideological practices. In the first sentence, the collocation of these words (*Iraq*), (*facing*), and (*challenges*) presupposes that Iraq witnesses conflicts. Likewise, the second sentence has this collocation of words and phrases (*Iraq of 2011*), (*safer and calmer*), (*than 2004-2007*), (*calm*), (*citizens' nerves*), and (*remains to be seen*). This collocation compares Iraq in 2011 after the U.S. forces' withdrawal and Iraq in 2004-2007 representing the years of sectarian conflicts which resulted in killing, kidnapping, and robbery actions faced in Iraq. This reveals that the security situation in Iraq following the 2003 war and U.S. occupation was instable and challenging, but this challenge has been gradually improved with the support of U.S. forces. Implicitly, KG's message is that the stability of Iraq's security situation in the post-U.S. forces period is still uncertain so that Iraq still needs the presence of U.S. forces. This reflects the positive and significant role of U.S. forces as being controlling and supportive forces and their withdrawal may result in negative effects in future. Ideologically, this excerpt represents the power of U.S. forces and their ability to control the situation in Iraq.

Analogies:

Excerpt (5): *According to varying estimates in the West, the number of civilian casualties in Iraq this year is similar to its counterpart in Afghanistan.*

(KG: December 17, 2011; under the Headline: U.S. ends its military presence in Iraq)

This sentence sheds light on the issue of civilian casualties in Iraq which resembled that in Afghanistan in terms of number. Linguistically, the sentence is presented in active declarative showing that the number of Iraqi civilian casualties in the year which witnessed the final withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq resembled the casualties' number in Afghanistan. In terms of transitivity, the sentence is formed with attributive relational process involving the intensive verb to be (*is*), the Carrier (*the number of civilian casualties*), the attributed adjectival phrase (*similar to its counterpart*), and the circumstances represented by (*in the West*) indicating the place where the statistics have been made, (*in Iraq*) identifying the place of casualties, and (*in Afghanistan*) identifying the place of casualties to which the Iraqi casualties number has been compared. The demonstrative pronoun (*this*) in this phrase (*this year*) refers to (*2011*) the year of the complete withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq.

In relation to the de-legitimation structure, the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq is delegitimized in this sentence using analogies structure which is represented by comparison between Iraq and Afghanistan in terms of civilian casualties' number (*the number of civilian casualties in Iraq this year is similar to its counterpart in Afghanistan*). In this context, casualty refers to victims of violent actions like sectarian conflicts and crimes which increased after the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq. The withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq resulted in increasing number of Iraqi civilian casualties to become similar to that in Afghanistan. Accordingly, the U.S. forces' withdrawal affected negatively on the stability of security situation in Iraq and hence it is delegitimized.

The comparison made in this sentence is based on the reality that both Iraq and Afghanistan were subjected to wars launched by the U.S. government against them. KG focused on comparing the number of civilian casualties in Iraq with that in Afghanistan other than any state because Afghanistan has been occupied by the U.S. forces as it is the case with Iraq. Hence, the political and security systems in both countries are under the domination and control of the U.S. government and its forces. Moreover, the U.S. government has withdrawn its forces from Afghanistan; thus, the security and political system in Afghanistan has become instable. Both countries underwent poor political and security conditions. This reveals the significant role of U.S. forces in controlling the security situation and keeping it stable in both countries. Accordingly, this comparison enhances the de-legitimation of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq.

Rationalization:

Instrumental Rationalization:

In this category, the practices are delegitimized by referring to their negative uses, goals and effects.

Effect-Oriented Instrumentality:

Here, "purpose is the outcome of an action," and "there is no identity between the agent of the action, whose purpose is to be constructed, and the agent of the action that constitutes the purpose itself" (van Leeuwen, 2008: p. 115).

Excerpt (6): *Only a day after the U.S. troops' departure from Iraq, almost nine years after the fall of Saddam Hussein, Shiites and Sunnis come face to face again, reviving fears of renewed sectarian violence.*

(KG: December 24, 2011; under the Headline: Iraq on the edge of possible sectarian violence)

This sentence represents Iraqis' fears of renewing the sectarian violence happened during 2006 causing numerous civilian victims from both Sunni and Shiite people. As well, it confirms that there are frequent quarrels among Iraqi powers, especially Sunnis and Shiites. Linguistically, the sentence presents the Sunni-Shiite quarrels metaphorically using material process. This process involves the verb phrase (*come face to face*)

with a metaphorical denotation for (*quarrel*), the Actors involved in this action are (*Shiites and Sunnis*), and time circumstance (*again*) clarifies the frequent occurrence of such quarrels. In addition, the adverbial phrase (*Only a day after the U.S. troops' departure from Iraq*) indicates the time of this action which happens after U.S. forces' withdrawal, while the other adverbial phrase (*almost nine years*) refers to the definite time of U.S. occupation of Iraq and the total period of the presence of U.S. forces in Iraq.

As for the de-legitimation structure, it is represented by effect-oriented instrumentality. In this sentence, the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal is delegitimized because it has affected negatively on the political stability in Iraq as well as fuelling the sectarian quarrels among Iraqi major powers, particularly Sunnis and Shiites, which become happening frequently. Therefore, U.S. forces' withdrawal is the instrument that revives these sectarian quarrels between Sunni and Shiite powers.

Furthermore, the lexical structure presupposes hidden meanings. Firstly, the noun (*fall*) is associated with the name of (*Saddam Hussein*), who was President of Iraq during 1979-2003, presupposing that the U.S.-led war in 2003 resulted in toppling of Saddam's regime. KG emphasized on proving that the result of this war is (*the fall of Saddam Hussein*) not the Iraqi State. Hence, KG believes that Saddam's regime was dictatorial; thus he must be toppled by the support of U.S. government which will provide freedom and democracy for Iraq. Accordingly, KG justifies the 2003 war as being a war for freedom and democracy. Secondly, the adverb (*again*) presupposes that the Sunni and Shiite powers quarrel frequently and this is not the first time of their quarrelling; thus, their quarrels are not new. Finally, the phrase (*reviving fears of renewed sectarian violence*) means that the quarrels between Sunni-Shiite powers may result in renewing the sectarian violence that happened in 2006 and caused many civilian casualties from both Sunni and Shiite people. Consequently, Iraqi citizens fear from the frequent sectarian quarrels between these two powers. Through these points, KG reveals certain beliefs, including: the U.S. war has freed Iraq from dictatorship; the current political system in Iraq faces challenges and cannot control its internal issues; Iraqis feel instability and insecurity because of the frequent sectarian conflicts among Sunnis and Shiites. As well, the sentence represents sectarianism ideology which became prevalent in Iraq after the 2003 war and U.S. occupation of Iraq.

Theoretical Rationalization:

Prediction:

Excerpt (7): *For the Kurds in Iraqi Kurdistan Region, the potential squabble between Shiites and Sunnis after the U.S. combat forces pulled out from Iraq was anticipated. The Kurdish leaders have warned of possible sectarian conflict in the absence of U.S. troops in the country.*

(KG: December 24, 2011; under the Headline: Iraq on the edge of possible sectarian violence)

This excerpt reveals the concerns of Kurdish politicians regarding the future of Iraq after U.S. forces' withdrawal. As far as the linguistic description is concerned, the excerpt consists of two sentences. The first sentence is formed with mental process involving the verb phrase (*was anticipated*), the Phenomenon (*the potential squabble between Shiites and Sunnis*), the Sensor (*Kurds*), and the adverbial phrase (*after the U.S. combat forces pulled out from Iraq*) refers to the time in which this squabble has happened. In fact, the agent is deleted from the sentence because it is mentioned in the introductory phrase (*For the Kurds in Iraqi Kurdistan Region*). The sentence is formed in passive declarative mood. Concerning the second sentence, it is composed of verbal process which involves the verb phrase (*have warned*), the Sayer (*The Kurdish leaders*), the Verbiage (*possible sectarian conflict*), and the prepositional phrase (*in the absence of U.S. troops in the country*) indicates the time of this conflict. It is formed in active declarative mood warning of dangerous and unpleasant thing represented by sectarian conflict which is likely to happen when the U.S. forces withdraw from Iraq so that such conflict can be avoided if Iraqis become aware of it.

In relation to the de-legitimation structure, the prediction category is employed in this excerpt to delegitimize U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq. This category is represented by the use of verb phrases (*was anticipated*) and (*have warned of possible sectarian conflict in the absence of U.S. troops in the country*). Here, Kurds and Kurdish politicians anticipated the occurrence of sectarian conflict after the withdrawal of U.S. forces; therefore, they have warned of this conflict in to order be avoided by extending the presence of U.S. forces in Iraq.

Concerning the lexical structure, the excerpt includes words that denote socio-political ideologies. The noun phrase (*the Kurds in Iraqi Kurdistan Region*) refers to the identity of Iraqi citizens who live in the north of Iraq which is known as (*Kurdistan Region*). This identity forms the focus of KG which emphasized on enhancing the Kurdish nationality and presenting it positively. In fact, emphasizing the Kurdish nationality represents one of the socio-political ideologies in KG's agenda. KG emphasized on that the Kurds and Kurdish politicians are aware of what is happening in the central government and they have predicted the occurrence of sectarian conflicts between Arab politicians after U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq. Then, the noun phrase (*the U.S. combat forces*) identifies the role of U.S. forces which is to combat and fight terrorist and militant groups. Once more, the verb phrase (*was anticipated*) indicates that there were signs confirming the possibility of having quarrels that provokes the Kurdish politicians to warn of these quarrels which will evolve after U.S. forces'

withdrawal. This enhances the role of U.S. forces in controlling the internal political issues in the Iraqi government. Thus, their presence in Iraq has to be extended for as long as possible.

Mythopoesis:

Cautionary Tales:

"Cautionary tales convey what will happen if you do not conform to the norms of social practices. Their protagonists engage in deviant activities that lead to unhappy endings" (van Leeuwen, 2008: p. 118). This category is formed using negative activities that are associated with the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq.

Excerpt (8): *As long as 170,000 U.S. soldiers operated in the country, the Iraqi government was exempt from having to worry about its borders. But now, many fear that without air defense the long borderlines with Iran, Turkey, and Syria could turn Iraq into easy prey for anyone aiming at causing violent skirmishes along those borders.*

(KG: December 17, 2011; under the Headline: U.S. ends its military presence in Iraq)

This excerpt indicates the importance of U.S. forces in keeping Iraq's borders secure from the violent attacks of its neighbour countries. Linguistically, the excerpt consists of two sentences. The first sentence is in the passive declarative mood and formulated with material process involving the verb phrase (*was exempt from having to worry about its borders*). Explicitly, the nominal phrase (*the Iraqi government*) functions as the Goal of the sentence whose agent is deleted. The circumstantial clause (*As long as 170,000 U.S. soldiers operated in the country*) identifies the deleted agent as being U.S. soldiers, more accurately the U.S. military force, who were responsible for keeping Iraq's borders secure during their operation period in Iraq. The second sentence is formed in active declarative mood. It consists of two processes, namely mental and material ones. The mental verb is represented by the affection verb (*fear*) indicating some kind of instinctive reaction. This mental verb involves the Sensor (*many [people]*) and the phenomenon (*violent skirmishes along those borders*). The material process is formed by the verb phrase (*could turn*) denoting action of change and involving (*Iraq*) as the Goal. This excerpt expresses the probability of an unwelcome event taking place in the future. This notion of modality is shown in the modal auxiliary verb (*could*). The pronouns used in this excerpt are (*its*) refers to (*Iraq*) and (*those*) refers to (*the long borderlines with Iran, Turkey, and Syria*). As well, (*But*) is used to show the difference of Iraq's security situation before and after the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal.

In this excerpt, the event of U.S. forces' withdrawal is delegitimized on the basis of cautionary tale category. This category is represented by (*the long borderlines with Iran, Turkey, and Syria could turn Iraq into easy prey for anyone aiming at causing violent skirmishes*). This clause denotes that after U.S. forces' withdrawal, Iraq will be subjected to ambitions of neighbour countries which await an opportunity to attack Iraq by fuelling the conflicts along its borders with them, but they cannot achieve their ambitions because of the presence of U.S. forces in Iraq. Thus, the U.S. forces have the military power which deters the neighbour countries from attacking Iraq and control over it. Hence, KG presented these cautions to warn Iraqis from the negative results that will be seen after U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq.

Lexically, the excerpt includes phrases that denote hidden meaning and practices. To begin with, the first sentence contains a number of phrases represented by (*U.S. soldiers*), (*the Iraqi government*), (*exempt from*), and (*worry about its borders*). These phrases reveal the dominant power of U.S. forces in Iraq; represent them as controlling forces which provide security and stability for the Iraqi government, as well as keeping Iraq's borders secure. Regarding the second sentence, it is obvious that KG focused on mentioning three names of neighbour countries of Iraq (namely: *Iran, Turkey, and Syria*). In fact, these countries share borders with the north region of Iraq known as KRG which is inhabited by the Kurdish people, as well as KG is issued in this region. Thus, these countries form a direct threat for KRG and Kurdish people in addition to threatening other Iraqi areas. KG believed that Iraq's borders with these countries are opened for terrorist and militant groups which will exploit the absence of U.S. forces to attack Iraq and achieve their ambitions and interests in it.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The event of U.S. forces withdrawal from Iraq which happened in 2011 has been an important event in Iraq since it has resulted in ending the military presence of U.S. forces in Iraq after nine years of occupation following the US-led war in 2003 against Iraq. The U.S. forces withdrawal from Iraq has been a controversial event, i.e. some Iraqi political parties agreed on it whereas others did not. So, this inspired the researcher to study the depiction of this event in the newspaper articles. The main aims of this study were to identify the linguistic structures used in delegitimizing this controversial event and to examine the relation between the linguistic structures and de-legitimation structures in revealing the political practices hidden under lexical and syntactic structures.

Based on the analysis carried out using CDA, it is found that four types of de-legitimation discursive structures were employed in the KG newspaper to delegitimize the U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq. The

discursive structures of de-legitimation were: authorization (personal and conformity), rationalization (instrumental rationalization using effect-oriented instrumentality and theoretical rationalization in the form of prediction), moral evaluation (evaluation, abstraction, and analogies), and finally mythopoesis (cautionary tale). Linguistically, the de-legitimation structures were formed using different processes. The following tables illustrate the main processes that were used in delegitimizing the event of U.S. forces withdrawal from Iraq:

Table 1: De-legitimation of U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq through relational process

No.	De-legitimation Categories	De-legitimation Subcategory	Linguistic Representation of De-legitimation			
			Participants	Role	Verbs	Type
1	Authorization	Authority of Kurds Conformity	Kurds	Subject (Carrier)	remain	Verb of attribution
			They	Subject (Carrier)	are	Attributive intensive verb
2	Moral Evaluation	Evaluation	their missions	Subject (Token)	have been doubled	Verb phrase
			their abilities	Subject (Carrier)	are	Attributive intensive verb
		Abstraction	Iraq	Subject (Token)	is facing	Verb phrase
			Iraq	Subject (Carrier)	may be	Verb phrase
		Analogies	this calm	Subject (Carrier)	remains	Verb of attribution
			the number of civilian casualties	Subject (Carrier)	is	Attributive intensive verb

Table (1) reveals the linguistic features used to identify the relational attributive process which has been employed eight times representing authorization category (conformity authority) and moral evaluation category (evaluation, abstraction, and analogies). This process is attributed to Kurds' attitudes, missions and abilities of the Iraqi forces, Iraq, and civilian casualties. This confirms that the majority of Kurds were against the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq since the Iraqi forces still have limited military capacities; as well as Iraq's civilian casualties become increased.

Table 2: De-legitimation through material process

No.	De-legitimation Categories	De-legitimation Subcategory	Linguistic Representation of De-legitimation			
			Participants	Role	Verbs	Type
1	Rationalization	Instrumental rationalization (Effect-Oriented Instrumentality)	Shiites and Sunnis	Subject (Actor)	come face to face	Verb of action
2	Mythopoesis	Cautionary tale	The Iraqi government	Foregrounded object (Subject of the passive sentence) (Goal)	was exempt	Verb of happening
			the long borderlines	Subject (Attribute)	could turn	Action of change

In Table (2), two de-legitimation structures were employed using material process, including rationalization and mythopoesis. It is clear that the sentences included negative actions related to Iraq showing the sectarian conflicts between Sunnis and Shiites; as well as denoting the ambitions of regional countries to attack Iraq and achieve their interests in it. The verbs used in depicting the actions were formulated using verbs of action. This, in turn, reveals the weakness of the Iraqi government and the need to extend the presence of U.S. forces.

Table 3: De-legitimation through verbal process

No.	De-legitimation Categories	De-legitimation Subcategory	Linguistic Representation of De-legitimation			
			Participants	Role	Verbs	Type
1	Authorization	Personal Authority	Barham Salih	Subject (Sayer)	said	Quoting verb
			some groups	Subject (Sayer)	requested	Verb of request
2	Rationalization	Theoretical rationalization (Prediction)	The Kurdish leaders	Subject (Sayer)	have warned	Verb of warn

Table (3) shows that two de-legitimation structures were presented using verbal process, namely authorization and rationalization. The main active voice used to de-legitimize the U.S. forces' withdrawal is related to the Kurdish politicians. As well, the verbs used in quoting and restating the statements are represented

by various verbs, including saying (said) which refers to a neutral form of news reporting, requesting, and warning. Accordingly, this represents the objectivity practice as the journalists attempted to distance themselves from truth claims of the statements by relying on the statements of people in authority.

Table 4: De-legitimation through mental process

No.	De-legitimation Categories	De-legitimation Subcategory	Linguistic Representation of De-legitimation			
			Participants	Role	Verbs	Type
1	Rationalization	Theoretical rationalization (Prediction)	the potential squabble between Shiites and Sunnis	Subject (phenomenon)	was anticipated	Verb of cognition

Table (4) shows that the mental process was used only one time representing the rationalization category of de-legitimation on the basis of theoretical rationalization using the prediction form.

Conclusion:

This paper focused on identifying the linguistic features used to delegitimize the U.S. forces' withdrawal from Iraq and the relation between the linguistic features and de-legitimation structures in revealing hidden ideologies. It is found that four de-legitimation structures were employed using four types of processes. The de-legitimation structures are authorization, rationalization, moral evaluation, and mythopoesis. In addition, the processes utilized in this de-legitimation are verbal, material, mental, and relational. The relational process is the most frequent process type in relation to de-legitimation structures followed by the verbal and mental processes, whereas the mental process was less frequent in the linguistic representation of U.S. forces' withdrawal. The linguistic features used to represent de-legitimation structures revealed the bias of the KG newspaper towards extending the presence of the U.S. forces in Iraq.

REFERENCES

- Bell, A., 1991. *The Language of News Media*. Blackwell.
- Chovanec, J., 2010. Legitimation Through Differentiation: Discursive Construction of Jacques Le Warm Chirac as an Apponent to Military Action. In *Perspectives in politics and discourse*, Eds., Okulska, O. and P. Cap. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company, pp: 61-82.
- Fairclough, N., 1992. *Discourse and Social Change*. Polity Press.
- Fairclough, N., 1995. *Critical Discourse Analysis: The Critical Study of Language*. Addison Wesley Publishing Company.
- Halliday, M.A.K. and C.M.I. M.Matthiessen, 2014. *Halliday's Introduction to Functional Grammar* (4th ed.). Routledge.
- Harris, R., 1980. *The Language Makers*. Duckworth.
- Pennycook, A., 2004. Performativity and Language Studies. *Critical Inquiry in Language Studies: An International Journal*, 1(1): 1-19.
- Richardson, J.E., 2007. *Analyzing Newspapers: An Approach from Critical Discourse Analysis*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Roksvold, T., 2010. Changes in Newspaper Language Explored as Changes in Cultural Norms. *Intercultural Communication Studies*, 19(3): 104-111.
- Sadeghi, B., M.T.Hassani and V. Jalali, 2014. Towards (De-)Legitimation Discursive Strategies in News Coverage of Egyptian Protest: VOA & Fars News in Focus. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 98: 1580-1589.
- Shojaei, A., K.Youssefi and H.S.Hosseini, 2013. A CDA Approach to the Biased Interpretation and Representation of Ideologically Conflicting Ideas in Western Printed Media. *Journal of Language Teaching and Research*, 4(4): 858-868.
- Vaara, E., J. Tienari and J.Laurila, 2006. Pulp and Paper Fiction: On the Discursive Legitimation of Global Industrial Restructuring. *Organization Studies*, 27(6): 789-810.
- van Dijk, T.A., 2001. *Critical Discourse Analysis*. In *The handbook of discourse analysis*, Eds., Schiffin, D., D. Tannen, and H. Hamilton. Oxford: Blackwell, pp: 352-371.
- van Leeuwen, T., 2008. *Discourse and Practice: New Tools for Critical Discourse Analysis*. Oxford University Press.
- van Leeuwen, T. and R. Wodak, 1999. Legitimizing Immigration Control: A Discourse-Historical Analysis. *Discourse Studies*, 1(1): 83-118.
- Wodak, R., 2001. What CDA Is About – A Summary of Its History, Important Concepts and Its Developments. In *Methods of critical discourse analysis*, Eds., Wodak R., and M. Meyer. London: Sage, pp: 1-13.