

Original and Modified Text in the Crime Investigation System of Pakistan: A Critical Forensic Linguistic Analysis

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Abstract: *This study aimed to analyze the legal discourse in the crime investigation system of Pakistan by applying critical forensic linguistic analysis. Discourses regarding the legal system are planned by police officers, lawyers and judges. It involves the complex procedure of investigation and trial in courtrooms which mentions topics of interest and public concern. The mixed method research was carried out through a comprehensive theoretical framework that includes Van Dijk's model of Sociocognition and as well as his ideological square model defined by a double norm for positive self-representation and negative other-representation concurrently. The study illuminates two other points of view in Van Dijk's concept of ideological square: Us vs Them representation. The current study focuses on the three prominent murder cases that are decided on different dates by the courts of Pakistan. Total 30 extracts were selected regarding the modification done by different social actors from the legal discourse. In order to analyze the discourse, the discursive technique has been employed which emphasize 'our' good and de-emphasize their 'bad'. Moreover, this study analyzed legal text by critical forensics linguistics analysis of selected three murder cases of different nature, postmortem reports, forensic reports, police records and court decisions. The findings of the study showed that there lie modifications in the investigation system of Pakistan, on the basis of which the accused are given the benefit of doubt and are released from the charge leveled against them. Throughout the investigation and trial system, Lawyers, Judges, Medical Officials, Forensic experts, and Police Officers express their findings and opinions about the investigation. The current study provides academic researchers with a critical and better understanding of the application of forensic linguistics in legal settings and will also be helpful for police officers, lawyers, and judges to avoid modification in legal discourse and to fulfill the demands of justice.*

Keywords: Legal media discourse, Pakistani courts, police officers

Introduction

Natural languages are enormously complex, complicated, and dissimilar, but the one thing that is common between all of them is their unanimity of structure, meaning, and purpose of communication. Languages have their efficacy in many ways, such as announcing intents, deducing facts, assuming realities, solving language related problems and the most significant of all is thinking creatively. In a nutshell: The field of applied linguistics is concerned with the application of knowledge to real-world

problems in which language plays a central and essential role. An implemented linguist is a scientist who studies various aspects of language. Language has the ability to both conceal and convey the truth. Language, on the other side, is proof of truth. As a result, the real potential of linguistic can be utilized for investigation and justice delivery.

Both reality and language have the power to influence one another. The field of forensic linguistics is when we use our linguistic expertise in a situation where exploitation is occurring through language and offer a solution. With regard to crimes in which language plays a significant role, forensic linguistics addresses various facets of language (Leonard 2003, 2004, 2005, in press, Shuy 1998). The study of linguistics focuses on language-based crimes and their solutions. This research work examines how the investigation process functions in Pakistan and how police officers deceive eyewitness testimony when it comes to writing testimony.

This study also discusses the significance of forensic linguistics and its wide range of uses, particularly in the context of its usefulness and viability in the legal system to aid in the public's understanding of the complexities and police officers' falsification. In courthouses, language is used to limit, coerce, and control the testimony of the witnesses. (1980; Matosian; 1993; Cotteril; Dante et al.; 2003). The majority of eye witness accounts lack the education or are unsure of the police dept's registration, so law enforcement officers manipulate language even without eyewitnesses' knowledge. This entire manipulation is carried out by a special subjugation of language, necessitating the use of a linguist as just an expert witness inside a judicial proceeding to demystify the above special register.

More than 10 cases were observed by the researcher throughout police stations and courts, out of which 3 cases were selected, they discovered numerous changes that were reflected inside the written form. In Pakistan, the procedure starts whenever the police interview a culprit who is thought to have committed a crime. The interview would then be translated into formal writing. The majority of legal proceedings in Pakistan (Shari'ah plus Common Law system) are spoken, whereas legal setting is conducted in writing. In Pakistani police headquarters, it is customary for judges to read verbal language that has been written primarily by police officers. As a result, judges only receive the writing system of police interrogations, as opposed to certain other Common Law nations like New Zealand, the USA, Canada, British, Australia, etc.. where juries and magistrates have easy access to the actual police interrogations.

According to Jonson and Linell (1991), which Haworth (2010) cites, there are substantial differences between both the account administered orally by a suspect as well as the commensurate written report given by the interviewer. They attribute these distinctions to the variations between spoken or written language. Gibbons (2003:31) gives "an illustration in that he was involved and he conclusively demonstrated that the interview full report did appear to be a record of the interview's 30 minutes, but it took below 5 minutes to read aloud slowly, or in another case, two hours interview could be read aloud slowly and steadily in less than 20 minutes. He comes to the conclusion that at least 70% of the interview appears to have vanished in many instances. The author doesn't really assert that the police purposefully changed the interview; however, there have been some significant changes that may have an impact on the verdicts of the judges. The linguistic techniques are therefore convincing enough to evaluate the police interrogation as well as to find solutions. Constable (2014) makes the case that language is essential for the application of the law. The ability to use the language is crucial to the performance's success. Police officers issue orders, issue warrants, evaluate evidence, interrogate suspects, record testimony, record confessions, and record contracts in language investigations, which they can then accept or reject. Police interrogators frequently attempt to comprehend how body language, expressions, and gestures relate to one another and aid in the investigation during investigations. The language used by the interrogators and the suspect refers to the method of gathering information and is either true or false, according to (Kassin, Goldstein & Savitsky, 2003 and MacKeith, 2006).

According to (Vehement, 2016), the interrogation process will be carried out in the majority of situations if the information obtained by the interrogating officer is required to question the accused, and this is the appropriate procedure. Police will question the suspect to confirm their involvement in such a crime. Leahy & Bull (2017) noted that the suspect was frequently denied the chance to refute their accusations. In other words, even though they may not always do it, the accused should be making a public acknowledgement of a case.

The suspects acknowledge false statements or confessions if they are not given their proper rights or a chance to defend themselves. Ambiguous statements are more likely to result in false confessions. Suspects may give ambiguous confessions during interrogation due to personal and environmental factors (Kassin, 2014). One of the personal aspects that emerges is the suspect's attempt to evade interrogation so that they can escape the law. Confrontational interrogation techniques like asking irrelevant questions are ineffective from a situational standpoint for getting the suspects to speak and cooperate (Deeb et al., 2018).

According to a study by Kredens (2016), the interrogators demonstrated a knowledge of the interpreter's analysis in resolving the discrepancy between the violent act and the linguistic data. A linguist's assistance in understanding an acknowledgment as well as interpreting a declaration that may have meant lost unintentionally is very beneficial to the interrogators (Correa, 2013).

Professional in forensic linguistics can run a significant risk of misinterpretations and giving the police interviews the wrong meaning because of the way they speak and the distinctive variety of words they use. Olsson (2008): 8 The purpose of this research is to provide a solution to the problem faced by non-professionals in Pakistan. With this goal in mind, the present study will look at various ways the legal system has been abused and will offer some workable solutions.

CHAPTER 2

Literature Review

This chapter comprehensively covered all the key terms and references used in the research and provided an overview of the basic concepts involved. This chapter describes various aspects of the investigative system and its support in the legal system. This chapter focuses on the role of research in relation to the legal system, reporting, and litigation. Later in this chapter, we discuss techniques for positive self-representation and negative other-representation and Us Vs Them dichotomy in the legal environment, particularly forensic analysis, with the help of Van Dijk socio-cognitive approach and ideological square model which makes it a critical linguistics analysis. Furthermore, the importance of the topics chosen for this study is emphasized.

2.2 Forensic Analysis

Typically, three main analysis techniques can be used for analysis. One is a quantitative method that uses stylometric techniques, while the other is a qualitative method that focuses on analyzing any peculiarities that exist in language and recognized documents. The last is the biometric analysis of the computer user. In his research, Gibbons (2003) discussed attributes of speech such as intensity, hesitation, hedging, the use of words such as ``sir'' and ``madame'' in speech, and the use of other timing techniques, and viewed as a weakness. Of less strong In his research, Gibbons (2003) discussed attributes of speech such as intensity, hesitation, hedging, the use of words such as ``sir'' and ``madame'' in speech, and the use of other timing techniques, and viewed as a weakness. Of less strong testimony. Moreover, only lawyers are powerful speakers or orators who are influential in court. He continued to speak about his power of attorney in court. He believed that lawyers were very careful about using the right words in the right places. Therefore, lawyers use techniques of prosecution, persuasion, and persuasive speech. Researchers conducted the analysis in a Nigerian court. Danielewicz-Betz (2012) discussed the use of forensic linguistics specialists' expertise to screen police reports for consistency.

Additionally, forensic experts identify suspects with the help of ear witnesses rather than eyewitnesses. Furthermore, it assumes that forensic statistics take into account the relationships between documents and events. The entire process is implemented to ensure the accuracy of police reports. Furthermore, Stamatatos outlined detailed assessment methodologies for the purpose of examining the ascription of authorship. In fact, he paid attention to developing an analysis of computational requirements instead of connecting his research to literary problems.

2.4 Critical Discourse Analysis

Critical discourse analysis is a multidisciplinary approach which endeavors to examine, interpret and explain the relationship between power, language and ideology manifested in discourse (O'Halloran, 2001). Analysts of CDA take text and talk as a tool which is used to explain relationship between social structure and power relation (Van Dijk, 2001). For empirical study CDA gives theories and methods which describe relation between social domain & discourse (Jorgensenm & Phillips, 2002). The main proponents of CDA are Norman Fairclough, Van Dijk, Ruth Wodak, Halliday and Paul Chilton etc. (O' Halloran, 2001). To conclude that one may explain CDA as an attempt to scrutinize the discourse practice through understanding the description, interpretation & explanation of language use. It shed light on how much discourse practice is biased linguistically, politically, socially and psychologically. Many CDA practitioners such as Van Dijk (2006), Fairclough (1995), Wodak (2000) who thought that CDA adopts descriptive approach and thus this approach cannot be tagged as highly subjective or pre-defined. CDA never declared to be political, unbiased or of neutral classification of analysis. The CDA is a critical approach that exposes philosophical contradictions and is heavily influenced by broader social systems. Social practice provides historical context and it also provides foundation for examining the social connections which strengthen due to text. CDA provides platform to analyze whether the text is positioning or positioned and how these postures generate analytical effect on power relations within a society. Moreover, it illustrates how text explains relation of power and how it shed light on power hierarchies in cultural and social context. Van Dijk (2003) proclaims how social structure influence the mental delineation of social group. The crucial point in text may not be affected by the conversation of the subject. CDA is not a school/discipline which is isolated on its own but it is designated as multi-methodical and interdisciplinary approach. By investigating CDA is considered as critical theory and application itself (Van Dijk, 2009). The method for critical analysis is CDA which plays key role in categorizing hidden ideologies and providing attention to the power of media discourse studies.

Harris (2003) took up the courtroom discourse of England to conduct his research and to apply politeness theory and pragmatics to the courtroom context. He concluded his research by linking judicial discourse with institutional discourse and linking institutional discourse with face-threatening attitudes. He further believes that the powerful interactant in the courtroom uses different tactics. Linell and Jonsson (1991:97) took the context of a Swedish court and analyzed case reports written by police officers for presentation during the trial of the case. Linell and Janson believe that the suspect person is not destructiveness and constructiveness is used to achieve the target goals of the users. As a result, some lawyers in the cross-examination process neglect the concept of dignity when dealing with persons in the witness box. In fact, lawyers must focus on the dignity of witnesses during the trial of the case. Furthermore, lawyers must avoid threatening attitudes towards witnesses. Therefore, law teachers and lecturers need to focus on teaching cross-examination by focusing on the face-saving concept rather than paying attention to face-threatening cross-examination. This is because law teachers and lecturers are involved in the process of forming future lawyers and these future lawyers will in fact be involved in the process of cross-examination. The ability to assert one's influence over the reports produced by the police, in fact, the dubious one involves "limited influence" on the reports. Unlike her, the point of view and voices of the doubter and the institution are integrated into the final report. Linell and Janson (1991:75) also examined the interview as well as the statement steps (creating and recording a description of the crime). Interviews were conducted with suspected middle-aged persons and suspected

traders.

2.6 Definition of Criminal Investigation

Before understanding the criminal investigation in Pakistan, it is important to know about its definition. There are many definitions of criminal investigation, including the following:

"Legal search for persons and things for the purpose of reconstructing the circumstances of an illegal act, catching or identifying the culprit and assistance in the state prosecution of the offender" (1).

"Collection of information and evidence for the identification, apprehension and conviction of suspected offenders (2)".

The purpose of an investigation is to establish guilt or make legal efforts to find the truth through various sources adopted by law enforcement/police to present and prove in court. Since the main responsibility of the police is to maintain law and order and enforce law in the society, it is essential for the police to bring the perpetrators/violators to justice through fact-finding. Without a proper criminal investigation, it is impossible to prove a crime in court. Therefore, the investigation of criminal offenses is of great importance in any society in the world and therefore also in our country. Although the criminal investigation system is a global phenomenon, but every society / country has its own resources, trends, approach to conduct investigations and Pakistan has its own system.

2.7 Investigation Process

In Pakistan, the main source of investigation is the police. The investigation process starts when the victim or some police officer, councilor or director or community watch person approaches the police station. Private citizens can also report the occurrence of a crime in the locality or by telephone or file a complaint about illegality. Court Jurisdiction Directives relating to victim submissions or local informant contact or SUO-MOTO notices may also be issued for police action for any crime commission. Some cases are investigated directly by the police (16).

Violations of service laws are reported by the head of the relevant department of police intervention. This crime report is called "First Information Report" which is commonly known as (FIR). If the offense committed is cognizable (crime), an FIR will be filed in the appropriate book and an investigation will be conducted. However, if the offense is non-cognizable (misdemeanors), the FIR will not be filed in the same book but in another appropriate book. According to Pakistani law, the FIR is the most important document in a criminal case, which provides a clue to the possible truth of the allegations against the accused and also gives a strong impression of the prosecution's case. It is a statement that is made shortly after an incident when the memory of the event is fresh (17).

In relation to the requirement to register an FIR, the law of the country says that a police officer must register an FIR compulsorily about the detected case under (Section 154Cr). PC however, if it is an unrecognizable case, the substance of such information must be entered in the appropriate register, but in any case, refusal to register the case is not considered (18). The police have no power to cause delay (19). After registering an FIR, the police are required to conduct the investigation fairly and equitably without being influenced by the connivance of senior officers. Further, under the Act, any police officer in charge of a police station may, without the order of a magistrate, investigate any cognizable case in which a court having jurisdiction for the local area within the limits of such station (20). When an FIR is filed, the police are required to conduct an investigation, which consists of the steps listed below:

- a) Proceedings to spot
- b) Finding out the facts and circumstances of the case
- c) Detection and arrest of the suspected offender
- d) collection of evidence; and only the officer in charge of a police station has power to investigate

a cognizable offense (21).

e) There are said to be three main sources of police suspicion in the United States:

f) I. The victim or other witness complains

II.A police officer on patrol observes a criminal act or

III. Police departments actively search for criminal activity (22).

g) But it is in accordance with the law in these countries. In Pakistan, when an FIR is registered at a police station, generally the Station House Officer (SHO), who is the head of the police station, assigns the duty of a junior officer, usually of the rank of Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) or Sub-Inspector, to conduct the investigation, who mostly lack proper training nor technical experience. What he has seen in policing according to this experience, he will conduct an investigation and prepare a report of this crime, which is called "Challans", and submit it to the appropriate court.

h) Being an important task to seek the truth about such a sensitive responsibility simply has nothing to do with such seriousness. It is generally the reason that the police are not successful in investigating crimes. Otherwise, the myth of detective work includes it;

i) Criminal investigation is exciting and often dangerous

j) The investigator must bear in mind that the information obtained may be tested in court and should prepare for this eventuality (24). But that has nothing to do with the investigation in Pakistan; trends and reality are quite different as below:

A lot of researches have been conducted for examination and analysis of author identification, and authenticity of written and recorded documents in relation to the criminal justice system. This literature review discussed the above mentioned constraints in past, in present, and the factors influencing on the undeniable role of forensic linguistic comprehensively. The topics of moral, social justice, criminal justice, and dissuasion are also discussed by the researchers in the past. Above mentioned researches highlighted the undeniable role of forensic linguistic in the crime investigation system for the purpose of extending the power of government institutions, for the assistance of judicial system. In true interpretation of the statements police officers do the linguistic modification while handling the testimonies of the criminals because police officers write the testimony of an eye witness in their own register and it is difficult to understand by the laymen. None of the researchers dealt with the aforementioned hole, Therefore, to fill research gaps, forensic analysis is needed to gain a meaningful and appropriate understanding of eyewitness testimony and the adjustments made by the police to disadvantage offenders. Attention should be paid to adjustments.

CHAPTER 3

Research Methodology

The researcher in this chapter has discussed the research methodology and research process assumed within this study. The research methodology is divided into two sections. The first is the methodological framework and the second is the theoretical framework. Researchers devised research equipment and methods.

3.1 Methodological Framework

The methodological framework of this study is presented here to describe the tools and procedures used in this study. Describe the nature and source of data. The data comes from various criminal cases decided by courts.

3.2 Data Collection

For this study the data gathering source is various criminal cases that includes ,first information report (FIR),written police records, post-mortem reports ,forensic reports, zimmins written by the police officer eye witnesses ,testimonies of eye witnesses and judicial proceedings . The data is in the form of hardcopies taken from courts and lawyers. When a complainant goes into police station to get register his complaint about some crime against the accused. Police official on duty registered his complaint and officially it is called as first information report or FIR. This very first information report is the only original document that cannot be changed latterly while on the other hand rest of the documents can be modified and become the cause of delay of justice and ultimately relief is offered to accused. This modification can be done either by police officers, forensic experts, and medical officer on post-mortem duty and eye witnesses of criminal cases. With regard to the accuracy of this study. Firstly, data is drawn from primary sources i.e. FIR, testimonies of eye witnesses, forensic reports and post-mortem reports. Secondly from secondary source i.e. written police record or scripts of accused which serves as an evidence for data validity and reliability.

3.3 Population

The population of the study covers the various criminal cases, police officers, accused persons, forensic experts, medical officers rescue officials and lawyers.

3.4 Sample

In this study, researchers used a deliberate sampling technique, which is a non-probabilistic sampling technique. Oliver (2006) emphasizes that targeted sampling is one in which researchers select specific samples based on importance, capacity, and research question in this approach the researcher chooses units of sample on knowledge basis and specifically for this research study (Oliver, 2006). Purposive sampling is done by choosing data from three prominent murder cases that were registered in police station Aroop, police station Ladhewala and police station city against different accused persons in different time span.

3.5 Theoretical Framework

In this study the ideological square model and Socio-cognitive model of Van Dijk are used for analysis. By using Van Dijk notion of ideological square, the researcher has explored two essential ends of ideological square model one is positive self-representation and other is negative other representation. In addition, the analysis has emphasized and shed light on other two perspectives: Us vs. them representation.

The ideological square model consists of four steps (Oktar, 2001, p.344):

1. Emphasize 'positive' information about us.
2. Emphasize 'negative' information about them.
3. De-emphasize 'positive' information about them.
4. De-emphasize 'negative' information about us.

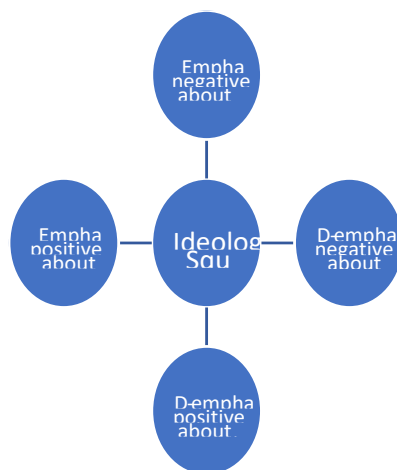


Figure. 1 Van Dijk's ideological square model

A key component of critical discourse analysis in Van Dyck's model of social cognition is social cognition, by which researchers can draw critical, cultural, social, historical, and political views for better text comprehension (Van Dijk 1998c & 2006). Another important feature of Van Dyck's model of social cognition is cognition. Understanding is described as conviction sets, goals, and values and extract pictures of mental procedures and social constructions (Sheyholislami, 2001). Society is another important construct of Van Dijk model which covers macro-microstructures, group attributions and group associations. Van Dijk's discourse analysis is essentially an ideological analysis, acting as an intermediary between the text and society.

CHAPTER 4

Data Analysis

The chapter emphasizes on the findings and results derived from data collected from various criminal cases, which are decided, by different courts on different dates. The analysis is conducted by following Van Dijk socio-cognitive approach (specifically semantic model & context models) and ideological square model. Van Dijk's ideological square model has following constraints, positive and negative representation, in-group and out-group members, Us vs Them dichotomy. It also includes the context of discourse i.e. social, political, historical, and analysis of formal structure as well.

4.1 Summary of the case 1:

State vs Abida Kalsoom FIR no 421/19. In this case, the complainer of the case got registered the above-mentioned case in the **Aroop police station Gujranwala** against the **Nisar Ahmad S/o Fazal Karim** and his son **Ihtisham**. Above said accused, murdered two persons (Shafaqat Murtaza and Saima Bibi) with pistold 30-bore at their home at 7.30 am on 05.05.2019. However, the police registered this case at 11.50 am. This caused complication in the above-said case and delayed justice.

4.1.1 Text modification in criminal investigation system:

Let us now look at the few examples extracted from the criminal cases selected for analysis. These examples assist the researcher to uncover the aspect that how ambiguous, unclear, and linguistically exploited statements during trials become a cause of delayed justice or unfair treatment towards the complainant.

Extract 1:

- a) According to FIR the date and time of death was 05, 05, 2019, 7:30 AM. According to FIR, dead body was received in dead house at 12:20 PM on 05,05,2019.

- b) It is correct that complete documents were received for postmortem examination at 9:30 pm and Dead body was received in mortuary at about 12:20pm**
- c) Time between injury and death about 15 to 20 minutes and time between death and postmortem approximately 14 to 15 hours**
- d) I mentioned that time between death and postmortem approximately 14 to 15 hours and it is possible that death may happen at 6:30am**

Above quoted context is postmortem examination-in-chief who conducted the postmortem of victim Shafaqat Murtaza. In statement on oath social actor stated, that FIR shows that the time of death was 7:30 AM but dead body was received at 12:20 PM in hospital (a). However, when the learned defense council asked about the huge difference between time slots of dead body moved to hospital vs conducting of postmortem. Social actor (doctor) answered that postmortem was overdue because police submitted the complete papers around 9:15 PM (b). The question that arises here is if dead body was moved to hospital at 12:20 PM then why it took 8 to 9 hours to police to collect the documents? This delay might be instigated by investigating officers. Furthermore, postmortem investigation-in-chief mentioned that (c) time between injury and death was 15 to 20mint, considering the fact, the victim died around 7:45 AM. However, next statement (d) which is extracted from postmortem report social actor affirms that death may happen at 6:30 AM. Matoesian pronounced, “Inconsistency between telling and retelling of story in different situations shows dearth of truthfulness” (Eades, 2012). Therefore, above statements creates misunderstanding here if the first statement is right then second might be wrong but if the second one is right it means the incident happened around 6:30 AM not 7:30 AM which means the whole case is the narrator's own version. Such linguistic modifications can be disadvantageous for complainant and for accused as well. Moreover, these transformations by various social actors weaken the case and impose difficulties. According to Van Dijk “the link between text and society is mediated by cognition and cognition is the thinking process/ memory that helps humans to represent believes, ideologies, and knowledge stored in memory” (Dijk, 2014).

Concerning registration of FIR Pakistani law says that police officials must record FIR of a cognizable case under (section) 154 Cr. P.C. But if it is non-cognizable case then the content of such data must be registered in the relevant logbook (Government of Pakistan, 1898). However, in each of these instances, refusal to record a case is not an option. The police are not permitted to cause delays (Government of Pakistan, 1898). Therefore, in current scenario registration of FIR is approximately 4 hours late after the occurrence of incident, which is causing complications, there might be possible this delay is willingly or consciously, and may be the cause of delaying justice.

Considering this fact researcher assumed that statements produced by social actor in written and oral testimonies may differ from each other because those how have little knowledge of linguistics knows that spoken and written discourse is widely different. In addition, researcher does not claim that social actors willingly amend the text, but these transformations may affect the court decision.

Extract 2:

- a) I mentioned injury no. 10 was exit point. I mentioned that the said injury on the left lower portion of the lateral side of the abdomen. Injury no. 4 is the exit wound of injury no. 3. From the dead body of deceased no sika/goli was recovered.**
- b) I had not mentioned entry and exit wound specifically. It is possible that a person received firearm from front side and it also exit from the same side. Probable time between injury and death is immediate & b/w death and postmortem 12 to 14 hours.**

This particular extract is derived from Dr. Mehwish statement in court who was in charge of the postmortem of deceased Saima Bibi (second victim of this case). Testimonial statements of Dr. Mehwish was full of uncertainty and improbability which develops doubt about the originality of

statement. Initially, social actor scrutinized that the entrance and exit of wound were not mentioned specifically its vague that a doctor who is the key witness in juridical procedure skip such an important thing. Besides, more than a commoner these institutional actors must know how much their words matter in criminal trials. Linguistic transformations, misinterpretation, or reconstruction of text in the courtroom intentionally or unintentionally intrude the juristic decisions. Social actor added that firearm might enter and exit from the same side also death of Saima Bibi was immediate but postmortem was 12 delayed to 14 hours (a). According to the draftsman of this particular case, firearm sprouted from point E, and accused was standing in front of the target, so if the firearm hit the left lower portion of the lateral side of abdomen and released from lateral aspect of left thigh upper portion it means the distance between entrance and exit of the bullet was trivial. Forensic pathology of wounds states that small weapons used from a closer distance usually hit the target harder, travel a certain trajectory, and often exit from opposite side of the body. But in the current situation firearm hit the left lower abdomen and released from left upper thigh which is equivocal and hard to comprehend.

Conversely, in the next trial social actor's avowal repudiate her own previous testimony (b) she not only confessed the exit point of injury but instead highlighted multiple exits which show that the victim has more than one injury. Still a number of injuries and their location is not exposed. This discursive conversion by social actor is misleading and harmful to uncover the truth. Additionally, Dr. Meshwish also refutes the discovery of "sika goli" in deceaseds body. In extract (c) social actor describes the time difference between transfer of dead body in the hospital vs conducting of postmortem was around 8 to 9 hours, which is unexplained by any institutional body. Furthermore, she changes her stance on death. Social actor stated that she is not sure that the deceased saima bibi died at 9:30 am. In the above mentioned extract (d) social actor (Dr Mehwish) stated that the death of Saima Bibi was immediate while on the hand ,in this same case, (extract 2) the social actor on duty who was postmortem incharge of husband of Saima Bibi stated that the probable time between death and injury is 15 to min but according to the FIR both were died at the spot , moreover postmortem was 12 delayed to 14 hours Question here is if defendant attorney purposefully asked such question. why not doctor straightforwardly said no the death was immediate because it was written in postmortem report? It means social actor was confused and unsure about her own statement. In legal proceedings, institutional actors (police officials, lawyers etc.) encapsulate the interview stories, cross-examination stories etc. This process of telling, retelling, contextualization , modification, or transformation of text can impose an essential transformation (Eades, 2012). A police officer is obliged to testify her/his part faithfully in court because in legal processes language is the most persuasive and effective tool. Here social actor used quite anonymous discourse to testify in court. Such discursive strategies have negative effect on jury and audience. To forget few episodes of a story/incident is a common phenomenon of human mind but it is unusual that a on-duty police officer fails to recall every single detail about the happening. Tiersma cited that "Failure of recollection is a communal experience, and innocent misrecollection is not unusual" (Tiersma, 1999: 253). Social actor gives the impact that she might be readily explaining the situation to distract or deferment the case. Such language transformations sway human thoughts and make it difficult to figure out what is right and what is wrong.

Extract 3:

Complainant was not known to me that is why I cannot say that he was present in the hospital or not. Many persons were present from complainan's side in the hospital. Soon after the postmortem examination, the dead body was handed over to the legal hires within one to two minutes. The dead body was handed over to Ghulam Rasul and Muhammad arif, I do not know whether Ghulam Rasul and Muhammad arif are the legal hires of deceased or not. I.O got recorded my statement u/s 161 CR.P.C at Sialkot Bypass.

This text is investigation officer Zubair Ahmed's statement on oath. The Officer incharge of the case at the moment showed very non serious attitude towards his duty . Social actor also mentioned that after

postmortem he handed over the dead bodies to the hires' deceased but he was not sure whether receiver of dead bodies are relative of the deceased's or not. Question ascended here is how can a police officer hand over the dead bodies of a murder case to someone without testifying about their identity. Additionally, persons mentioned in statement were close friends of the deceased Shafaqat Murtaza, not his close relative. Also, FIR was filed by the brother-in-law of Shafaqat Murtaza then why he was not there that time? And why not investigating officer contact him to hand over the dead bodies? This shows two possibilities; either officer in charge of the case was not interested in the case or he gave a false statement to create indistinctness. These language variations create confusion and provide the opposite party a reasonable doubt and they can claim the untruthfulness of the context .

In the modern communication age influence and control are managed via language because an element that is of essential control is language. The analysis of the extracted text illustrates that statements given by different social actors were full of linguistic modifications, recontextualization, and reconstruction of the text, storytelling, and retelling, and transformation of cognitive thoughts from one aspect to other. Social actors/ institutional officers implemented the linguistic ideologies for text production which sometimes hinder to perceive the facts and affects the decisions. Linguistic modification in text shows how one can control any situation through language.

4.1.2 Positive and Negative Opinion about US vs THEM

Van Dijk's ideological model presents ideology is social, socio-political, and cognitive, and linked to groups and social cognitive analysis is the most essential part of this framework. Van Dijk defines that cognitive analysis helps to create the relationship between society and discourse/ language (Dijk, 1995). It's a mental process that organizes human thoughts, beliefs, knowledge, ideas, and present social group attitude. For him, ideologies are the combination of context model and discourse model, cognitive system analysis the social practices at individual or group level (Aragbuwa, 2021). According to Van Dijk's ideological square approach members of different social groups emphasize positive values about "us" and accentuate negative values about "them". It shows the polarization between description of ingroup positive self-representation and outgroup's negative other representation (Wirth-Koliba, 2016). In this whole process cognitive process helps to analyze social structures and linguistic patterns of social groups. The basic goal of Van Dijk's model was to reveal the linguistic structure of US and THEM, highlighting the positive aspects of the in-group and weakening the negative aspects of the out-group.

Current case analysis highlights how in criminal trials defendant lawyers, accused, and institutional actors use discursive variations in courtroom, to present their positive/good attributes and negative/bad other traits. The analysis examines that how ideological square model cooperates in courtroom discourse to present US vs THEM dichotomy.

Table 2. US vs THEM groups in case 1

US	THEM
Institutional actors, accused, learned counsel for defence	Complainant, learned counsel complainant, complainant eye witness

Extract 04:

During the intervening period complainant concocted a false story and roped accused persons in this case being cinimical towards them on the basis of previous FIR i.e 38/19 date 25.01.2019 u/s 406 PPC police station Ferozwala, Gujranwala.

Above context illustrates that social actor presented himself and his group members in a good aspect and mitigates the bad intentions of the out-group members. He claims that members of the out-group party created a false story just to target the members of other party due to previous dispute. Furthermore,

positive-self and negative-other representation are very prominent.

The above-quoted text illustrates the dishonest and inconsistent stance of the plaintiff toward the current case. Text elucidates accuser himself admits in court they have no witness regarding the female suspect of the other party. Additionally, the evidence presented by complainant about chance witnesses is unbelievable. Whole story is solely created by himself. Also, its implausible that his dear ones were murdered in front of him but he remained untouched or unharmed in the entire episode. This context shows the second part of Van Dijk's model, all the flaws, bad aspects, and negative characteristics of out group members are emphasized.

Extract 05:

The conduct of complainant to register FIR after 4 hours with out any effort to take his sister and brother in law to hospital or to inform rescue1122-or to-15 is quite unnatural.

From linguistic point of view "registration of FIR after 4 hours", "not informing 1122 or 15", and "not shifting dead bodies to hospital" all depict the negative ideology. Van Dijk's ideological square, negative-other representation fits this extract. Social actor highlighted unscrupulous and negative traits of the out group member.

Table 3: In-group and Out-group Member Description in case 1

In-group	Out-group
accused, defendents, learned counsel for defence	Complainant, accuser, learned counsel complainant, complainant eye witness

4.2 summary of case 2:

State vs Rafaqat Ali FIR no. 777/20. In this case, the complainer of the case got registered the above-mentioned case in the **Aroop police station Gujranwala** against the **Rafaqat Ali s/o Muhammad Hussain**. On 12.05.2020 at about 01:00 p.m, in the area of Opp. Naveed Kanda, Link Road, Samanabadi Chock Gujranwala, within the territorial jurisdiction of Police Station Aroop, Gujranwala, accused named above armed with pistols30-bore along with his unknown co-accused, in pursuance of his common intention, attempted murder of Javed Iqbal, brother-in-law of Muhammad Abid Ali, complainant by way of firearm injury, and Irfan s/o Ghulam Muhammad and caused firearm injury at his abdomen with your armed pistol.

4.2.1 Text modification in CIS Examples

Textual transformation in legal procedures is the most widely used phenomenon. Text modifications vary according to situation, location, and mode of communication. Text below collected from a murder case is analyzed through forensic analysis. Forensic linguistics highly in demand to identify linguistic variations in legal processes. Researcher using Van Dijk's socio-cognitive and ideological square model to elucidate the linguistic modifications by social actors in existing case. Examples are given as:

Extract 06:

Muhammmaad Abid Ali Submitted written application for registration of FIR, On the basis of which I got registered the FIR through computer operator without any addition or omission on my part.

I do not remember how many persons were along with complainant while preferring application for registration of FIR. I cannot tell the source for drafting the application for registration of FIR. Application for registration of FIR was drafted through computer device. It is correct that in endorsement rapt number is not available on the application.

Text produced in court or legal process has vigorous influence on spectators' and juror's decisions. As Van Dijk suggested, "the manner in which participants present the situation influences the discourse, but not the social situation" (van Dijk 2008). The above-mentioned context elaborates Van Dijk's phenomena. In the instant case, social actor (Abid Ali) submitted the written application in police station for registration of FIR, and following that application ASI (social actor) recorded the FIR with computer operators assistance without any addition or deduction. But during cross-examination when he was asked about the process or source of registration of FIR he denied the source used for drafting the application. Conversely, he admitted in previous statement who submitted the application and how it was recorded. Then again in very next sentence, he mentioned application was drafted through computer also he accepted the application without rapat number which is unbelievable. A lay-man might not be aware of the legal technicalities but an on-duty police officer is obliged to follow all legal protocols. Moreover, he started his statement with the addition of unnecessary content which is extraneous.

Extract 07:

I informed the rescue 1122 at the time of occurrence 10/15minutes after the Occurrence. I did not inform the police on 15. Firstly, rescue- 1122 came at the place of occurrence before arrival of the police then I shifted the injured Behnui to hospital on ambulance of escue-1122. Before our departure to the hospital, already police came there at the spot. Before our shifting the injured to hospital, the police officials who came at the spot/not recorded my statement. Almost at about 1:25 /1.30 pm, we reached at the DHQ Hospital, Gujranwala. Emergency treatment was provided to the injured for 10/12 minutes, who succumbed to the injuries. The police who were arrived at the place of the occurrence, after shifting the injured to the hospital also came to the hospital. Just after our arrival to the hospital, police, came in the hospital. Accused made 6/7 fire shots upon the deceased with his pistol 30 bore.

Later in cross-examination social actor (who is also the complainant of this case) admitted that he informed the rescue 1122 within 10/15 minutes and shifted the injured person to hospital. However, he did not inform the police but before exodus to the hospital police also arrived at the crime scene. His statement on oath is very complex ,he informed rescue 1122 after 10/15 minutes what he was doing in the above said time?,was he waving the plot?. His statement is totally doubtful .The second possibility here is someone from the surrounding might inform the police but this point is not explained by complainant nor by institutional actors . The word **I** is also important to note in this discourse because in his statement before the honorable court ,the social actor who is the complainer of above said case, admitted that **he** informed the rescue 1122 but later on when rescue official on duty got recorded his statement before the court, he unveiled that he didn't receive call about this incident from complainer's personnel cellphone . He further explained that after they shifted the injured persons to hospital police officials also followed them to the hospital. Lastly according to complainant accused fired 6/7 gunshots.

Extract 09:

I conducted medical examination of the said injured namely Irfan at 1:50 p.m. Police papers were brought by police and examination was performed at the same time. A firearm lacerated wound of entry 0.75 * 0.75 on the left side of abdomen.

Social actor (medical officer examination) affirms in above statement that Irfan (victim) was brought to hospital at 1:50 and he attended the injured person. Furthermore, his examination report highlights the fact that a firearm wound was found at left abdomen of the injured person. This medical evidence proves that victims abdomen was injured and declined the injured Irfan's statement that no injury was found in the abdomen. Researcher describes that omission or modification of few parts of the text is common in communication because written and spoken discourse has different formats. Telling and retelling a story differently is also ok but factual modification during legal process has negative effect

on trial.

Extract 10:

On 13.05.2020, I was posted as Medical Officer at DHQ Teaching Hospital, Gujranwala, on the same day at 2:30 am, I conducted postmortem examination of the dead body of Javed Iqbal son of Faqar Din. Mouth and eyes were closed. The probable time between injury and death was within 01 hour and the probable time between death and postmortem was approximately 08 to 12 hours. I received whole documents with respect to postmortem of the dead body at 12.15 a.m on 13.05.2020 and soon after receipt of documents, conducted post mortem examination. The autopsy was completed at about 3.00 a.m on 13.05.2020. On the same time, after completion of autopsy, last worn clothes and relevant papers were handed over to the police.

Text quoted is taken from examination-in-chief Dr. Mubashir Hussain who did the autopsy of the dead. Social actor stated that Police handed over the documents at 12:15 am, and he performed the postmortem of deceased at 12:30 am, on 13.05.2020 soon after his appointment in DHQ Gujranwala. The postmortem examination was completed around 3:00 am to 3:15 am, also doctor returned the deceased's worn clothes and relevant documents to police official. After examination social actor described that the eyes of the deceased were closed at that time (1), injury and death were within one hour (2), postmortem was 8 to 12 hours delayed. After reading this statement a conscious mind must think that; first, instant occurrence happened on 12/5/2020 at 1:00 pm why documents were provided 11 to 12 hours late confronting documents of the injured passerby were submitted soon after he was shifted to the hospital. Even FIR was not lodged at that time. A police officer cannot proceed with the investigation process without FIR . While on the other hand ,the statement of institutional actor is confronting with the statement of complainant . According to the complainant the probable time between death and injury was 10/12 minutes but according to the institutional actor on duty the probable time of death was within 1hour which created suspicions . Furthermore the medical official on duty left some loopholes in the postmortem report and are quite obvious from his statement before the court. Social actor on duty mentioned in the postmortem report that the deceased and the passersby received injuries by hitting the bullets but didn't explain the nature of holes caused by bullets . According to the medical science when a fire is fired from the front ,the hole will be circular in shape and when it is fired by a side ,the nature of the hole will be oval in shape but not explained by the doctors . Additionally, the social actor joined the hospital on 13/05/2020 few minutes after joining the hospital, which means he joint at midnight late at night, received the document at 12:15 am, and conducted the autopsy at 12:30 am. Why? Was he the only doctor who can perform the postmortem in hospital at that time? Or it's just the part of the entire episode just to cover the facts. Researcher is not saying that doctor or any other actor falsifies the story but these aspects are confusing and difficult to understand. Moreover, its common in Pakistani investigation system to recreate the stories in legal processes.

4.2.2 Positive-self and negative-other representation

Discourse producers in the courtroom employ various discursive strategies to present good and bad attitudes of one another, special when two groups are involved. Van Dijk's ideological square is the best fit for this forensic analysis, which aids to display the positive self and negative other qualities. Examples below are collected from the court cases selected for this study.

Table 4: US vs THEM representation in case 2

US	THEM
Institutional actors, police, petitioner, Accuser, victim	Defendant, Perpetrator, defense counsel, defendant notary

Table 5: In-group and Out-group Description in case 2

In-group	Out-group
Institutional actors, police, petitioner, Accuser, victim	Defendant, Perpetrator, defense counsel, defendant notary

4.3 summary of case 3:

State vs Muhammad Iftikhar alias FIR no.343/09 u/s 324/18/149 PPC. In this case, the complainer of the case registered the above-mentioned case **P.S. Tatley Aali Gujranwala** against the **Muhammad ftikhar Alias Ashtoo s/o Muhammad Ramzan**. On 07.08.2009 at about 04:00 p.m., near boys school at Maraliwala Bus Stop Gujranwala, accused named above armed with pistols30-bore along with his unknown co-accused, committed the murder of Muhammad Irshad s/o Muhammad Munawar.

4.3.1 Text Modification in CIS Examples

Extract 11:

I do not know that for how long the accused Iftikhar was on Physical remand. I joined investigation at 1:30 P.m. I joined investigation till 2.00 pm. We reached the graveyard i.e place of recovery at about 2:30 p.m. I was not issued any weapon on the said date of recovery. We remained at place of recovery for about 25/30minutes. We reached back to police station at about 3: 00/3:30 p.m.

In the aforementioned context, the institutional actor recounted the settings behind his engagement in the current case and revealed the recovery of the accused's weapon. It is significant to note that an investigator joined a murder case investigation but he was unaware of the accused's physical detention duration. Additionally, he joined the investigation for half hour and than followed the suspect to recover the firearm. Social actors also mentioned that it took them 30 minutes to travel to the recovery location, and they remained there for another 30 minutes. The moment of their return to the station is cryptic, though. It is common to have hazy memories of the past, but an investigating officer needs to have the record of the case. Another possibility is that institutional actor willfully makes a false proclamation during the trial. This fact is obscure and enigmatic which causes misunderstanding.

Extract 12:

I do not remember what was written on the parcel prepared by I.O. On the observation of P1 pistol, it was not sealed..

According to Van Dijk description and comprehension of events from social actors leads the audience to interpret the situation in a certain context. Above text illustrates the statement of a social actor involved in investigation. As per his testament, he forget what was written on the parcel, which contain evidence provided by I.O. He further added that parcel of the firearm was unsealed. But the fact is no evidence can be delivered unsealed. Even an investigation officer is bound to deliver the recovered evidence to concerned authorities following departmental protocols. Therefore, it is unbelievable that I.O. handed over unsealed parcel.

4.3.2 Positive-Self and Negative-Other Portrayal

De-emphasizing positive values of the opponent and accentuating affirmative behaviors of us is very common in legal discourse. Forensic linguistics is the best fit to identify such discursive variation used in legal procedures. Every party tries to defend itself by portraying its good and others' negative attitudes. Similar to previous cases current case also contains such examples presented below.

Table 6: US Vs THEM Representation in Case 3

US	THEM
Institutional actors, defendant, suspect learned counsel for defence	Plaintiff, learned counsel complainant, eye witness

Extract 13:

That the impugned judgment is sketchy, non-speaking, against the law and facts of the case. That there is delay in lodging of the FIR and with due deliberations and consultations, appellant has been involved in this case by the complainant.

In above text, social actor (suspect) emphasized how the accuser frames them in this case, which affects the judgment as well. It is significant to note that to portray their positive image in-group members accentuated the fact that out-group members deliberately delay the registration of FIR. Social actor highlighted the negative behavior of the accuser. Furthermore, the initial judgment against him and his co-accusers are inappropriate and against the law, he added that evidence provided by the opposite party was not enough to prove them guilty. Defendants try to protect themselves by bestowing their respectable and opponents' evil attitudes.

Extract 14:

All the accused persons have been found innocent and real culprit emerged-during the course of investigation, i.e. Khurram Butt. It is also pertinent to mention here that the local police asked the complainant to nominate the real culprit Khurram Butt but he complainant refused to involve him, as he is his relative

It is significant to note here that defendant elucidates how they were convicted to life imprisonment erroneously because the real culprit was someone else who emerged at the end and accused was found innocent. Social actor highlighted that plaintiff intentionally frame them just to save the actual criminal because he was his relative. Social actor applied the second part of Van Dajik's ideological square model to emphasize the ruthless intentions of the accuser towards them.

Extract 15:

The wife "of deceased Irshad, namely, Musarrat Shaheen submitted her affidavit to the effect that her husband Irshad while admitted in Mayo Hospistal Lahore, told her that he was hit by the fire of Khurram Butt accused of complaint case title Muhammad Ramzan..Vs Khurram Butt", and that accused Iftikhar alias Ishtu etc. are innocent in this case.

In current scenario, the widow of deceased irshad is regarded as social actor whose statement was quoted as proof of the accused innocence. Suspect again portrayed their positive self here by mentioning that deceased himself confessed in front of his wife that indicted in the instant case is innocent and the real offender is their relative cited above. Discursive strategies implied by respondent in the above extract show his determination to display a positive picture of himself and his friends in this regard.

Extract 16:

The sentence imposed upon the appellant is very sever and Unjustified in the special circumstances of the present case.

Above-mentioned context elucidated positive-self representation of social actor. He requested that current judgment is unfair and unjustified in certain circumstances when actual criminal appeared. He emphasized the wrongdoings of out-group members and de-emphasize the fact that suspects are culprits.

Table 7: In-Group & Out-Group Members in Case 3

In-group	Out-group
Institutional actors, defendant, suspect learned counsel for defence	Plaintiff, learned counsel complainant, eye witness

4.4 Use of Forensic Linguistics to Evade Linguistic Exploitation in CIS & JS of Pakistan

Language is a pivotal medium of communication between law enforcement officials, suspects, accusers, etc. during legal proceedings (written/spoken), and additionally, a means of argumentation in courtroom. In the present era, forensic linguistics is an excessively applied field of linguistics in legal discourse. Forensic linguistics helps to analyze linguistic variations, discursive confusions, and linguistic ambiguities in legal discourse. Moreover, it aids to scrutinize the interaction between suspects and police officials, to verify the accuracy of statements provided by witness, suspects, or complainants, and fabricated testimonies in the courtroom (Correa, 2013). In particular forensic linguistics in judicial and criminal investigation systems is applied to identify the linguistic proof in written or verbal discourse. Evidently, forensic linguistics refers to uncovering the truth behind sources of interactions (written, verbal, recorded, etc.) used during the criminal investigation and jurisdictional procedures. Furthermore, forensic linguists express the authorship of the instant context and linguistic modifications in respondents' discourse (Coulthard, 2010). It is a highly progressive field of study around the globe for decades to till now. Unfortunately, in Pakistan, we don't have a single name that we can quote in this domain. In this era of technology when worlds legal experts seek help from forensic linguists as well as modern technology to identify the right and wrong in criminal investigation and courtroom trails. Pakistani law enforcement institutes and authorized personals are still using traditional ways to conduct investigation. As we know every field have specific jargon and terminologies used to communicate. Pakistani legal discourse also have a specific jargon, which is unknown to a common person that cause confusion. Text produced by the concerned person vs text produced by institutional official often have variation, also communication gap between respondent and receiver is a cause of misunderstanding. Lack of forensic experts and no use of forensic linguistic in criminal trails in Pakistani courts leads to unjust judgments often especially in sever crimes like murder etc. Another significant aspect of textual exploitations during legal process is narrative strategies and linguistic styles applied by prosecutors, perpetrator notaries, and offenders' themselves have huge influence on jurors judgement. Implementation of forensic linguistic and linguistic tools in criminal investigation and judicial system will not only improves the credibility of our judicial system and legal institutes, but also encourage the commoner to fight for their right. In conclusion, forensic linguistics is a profession that Pakistan's investigation system desperately needs since it will give legal judgement on discursive modifications at any point throughout the trial and prevent incorrect interpretation of the key details of the case.

CHAPTER 5

Conclusion

Language is indispensable for the practice of law; otherwise, there would be no legislation, no courtrooms, no hearings, and maybe no evidence. Despite the fact that forensic linguistics is an emerging field, it has made a substantial contribution to the criminal justice system (Correa, 2013). Cook argues that forensic linguistics is "the use of linguistic evidence during the criminal investigation and other legal matters" (Cook, 2003). Critical forensic linguistic analysis has been used for evaluating legal discourse in social and situational contexts. The main purpose of this study was to scrutinize the linguistic modification in the Pakistani investigation system and how to avoid discursive abuse in courtrooms utilizing Van Dajik's socio-cognitive and ideological square model. Researcher examined the linguistic strategies deployed in witness narration, offender's description, complainant's narration,

and institutional actor's narration and explores how the narrative techniques and linguistic variations affect justice. To achieve the objective of this study researcher investigated the legal discourse of three murder cases decided by Pakistan criminal court; State vs Abida Kalsoom, State vs Rafaqat Ali, and State vs Muhammad Iftikhar alias. The finding of the study reveals that the Pakistani criminal investigation and judicial system is full of discursive exploitations. Following Van Dijk's situational and contextual models researcher figured out that discourse produced by various social actors during police investigations, statements on oath, and courtroom trials have a massive impact on jurors' decisions. Further, inconsistency between text produced by lawyers, police officers, doctors, plaintiffs, accused, and witnesses shows the lack of truthfulness. Forensic analysis illustrates that in legal proceedings, social actors have their own interpretation and narration style of a certain situation and these narrative strategies have a huge influence on judgment. Precisely, words used to describe a certain situation, what the social actor implicit, and how the audience and jury perceived the text all matter. The legal discourse i.e instant cases reflect that vulnerable witness testimonies, institutional actors' linguistic variations while describing the situation and powerful defendant counsel influence the jurisdictive results. Moreover, the implementation of ideological square helps the researchers to identify the phenomena of positive self and negative other representation in law discourse. In the majority of cases offenders and learned defense counsel use US vs THEM strategy to de-emphasize the malicious behaviors of out-group members and highlight the virtuous acts of in-group. Critical forensic analysis also shows that forensic linguistics can be highly helpful to identify the textual modifications and linguistic structures used in a certain context. Therefore, it's highly suggested that Pakistani courts and law enforcement organizations must incorporate forensic analysis methods in criminal investigations. CFL provides the solid foundations to investigate linguistic evidence in legal discourse. This will help to control the fabricated testimonies, decrease the crime rate, and help to maintain a peaceful and healthy society.

Researcher analyzed the legal discourse and summarize the modification of text in the Pakistani criminal investigation system, its effects on judgments, and how forensic linguistics helps to prevent such discursive exploitations in legal procedures. The findings of the study are given below;

- a) Forensic linguistics aids to produce linguistic evidence in legal matters and criminal investigations. Linguistic expert testimony benefits in identifying language abuse in courtrooms and police stations.
- b) The findings of the study show that in legal discourse, especially during criminal investigations; what is said, what the speaker implies, and how the listener perceives the text are interrelated and have a great impact on the verdict.
- c) Emphasize our positive self and de-emphasize their negative other methods were employed in law discourse.
- d) In legal discourse social actors portrays the optimistic picture of in-group members and the negative picture of out-group members.
- e) The findings of the study reveal that the Pakistani judicial system dreadfully needed the implication of forensic linguistics and forensic experts' testimonies in their judicial system. This will helps them to verify the semantic, syntactic, pragmatic, structural, and other linguistic alterations by social actors during trials.

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