A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE OF TERROR IN AMERICAN AND ARABIC NEWSPAPERS

Asst. Prof. Hussein Hameed Ma'yuuf (Ph.D.)¹ Hussein Hamid Kareem²

¹ English Department, College of Education for Human Sciences, Babylon University, Iraq,
Email: husm56@gmail.com
² University of Babylon

HNSJ, 2022, 3(1); https://doi.org/10.53796/hnsj3126

Published at 01/01/2022 Accepted at 23/12/2021

Abstract

This study is concerned with the language of terror in American and Arabic newspapers. It depends on the newspapers reports to be taken as the data of the study. It aims to show how the concept of terror is dealt with linguistically throughout the use of language together with the discursive strategies employed in writing a newspaper report. Throughout this study, rigorous analysis will be done in order to be familiar with the ways American and Arabic newspapers deal with such a concept. It is proved that there is a difference between the American and Arabic newspapers perspective in dealing with the language of terror. The use of the strategies has a great indication towards the policy that newspaper follows, which can be affected by the state’s policy. The use of the language employed in writing newspaper reports about terror is different from one newspaper into another. Such a difference in language of terror gives hints to the view of that newspaper.

Key Words: CDA, terror, newspapers, power, manipulation, burden, and mitigation.
1. Introduction

Language is considered as a human feature that they need for their interaction. It can be studied from different aspects including the field of discourse. The study of language can be affected subjectively or objectively that's why it has to be investigated out of any personal judgment in order to get objective outcomes since it is a very important tool that newspapers use in order to imply something through the use of the words that can affect the course of the discourse (Fairclough, 1995).

Accordingly, language is considered not only as a means of communication, but also as an important way to deliver a certain message by publishing reports. There are two types of language (Nunan, 1993). One type of language is the spoken language presented by the human communication in their daily life and the other type is written language which is represented by the use of words found in published newspapers reports (Widdowson, 2004). That's why the type of the language used in newspaper reports is crucially important since it indicates the general point of view of that newspaper (Luke, 1996)

Mills (1997) points out that language and discourse are used for the cultural image that give a general view to the way newspapers constructed their reports about the concept of Terror about which newspaper reports started after the September 11, 2001. In fact, newspapers have a very important role when they deal with the concept of Terror depending on the time of the language used in their reports this is something different from a newspaper into another and depending on the country and the context in which that report is written. That's why reporting the events is considered as a case of contention (Fairclough, 1995).

The newspapers are supposed to be unbiased in publishing their reports, but how unbiased they are is a debatable. Consequently, some newspapers use implementation throughout their reports in order to deliver to their readers a certain implied message (Luke, 1996)

Generally speaking, the concept of Terror is used to indicate an attack used by terrorists to establish fear among the public by means of power. This concept has associations such as assassination, torture, massacre, and it has become a very well-known topic in Media where terrorists attacked people using different ways (Ghosh et al, 2010).

Marthos, J. (2017) thinks the term ‘Terror’ is a general term and has become popular all over the world because of its negative impact on people’s minds on the one hand and on the infrastructure of countries on the other hand. Therefore, this topic has become the focus in all newspapers around the world, where these newspapers began to address this topic in different ways by using different lexical concepts. The general view of this term may differ from one newspaper to another and from country to country. Such a thing happens because of a country’s policy, as some countries may consider these terrorist events as self-defense, while some other countries consider this thing illegal and terrorist. The expression of the term ‘Terror’ can be understood through the language used in the published newspapers reports, through which it can be
concluded about the nature of the general view of that newspaper and that country (Ghosh et al, 2010).

The aim of this study is to clarify the nature of the language used to express the term ‘Terror’, which shows that it differs from one newspaper into another. This study also investigates the objectives that are acquired through the use of a special language assisted by a number of discursive strategies used to achieve a certain purpose.

2. Literature Review

This sections sheds light on the nature of the critical discourse analysis and how it deals with the language from different perspectives. Moreover, the term ‘Terror’ will be highlighted in order to understand it as well as the way it is used in relation to its different types. Additionally, there will be an investigation of the newspapers in general to grasp its role in illuminating certain worldwide phenomena by making use of its own language.

2.1. An Introduction to Critical Discourse Analysis

In 1960s, a new branch of linguistic study was started to be used called Critical discourse analysis (henceforth , CDA ) . It is concerned with analyzing the language used, the interpretation of a specific phenomenon, with a focus on the meanings that result from the use of language within a specific linguistic context(Rogers, 2004). CDA developed throughout the time and has been greatly influenced by many scholars of the contemporary period, especially philosophical and sociological scholars, in addition to other fields that have contributed to a large degree in the nature of linguistic analysis of the text in a specific context(Longman, 2003).

Fairclough (1995) points out that there are linguists who rely to a large extent on Halliday’s systematic functional analysis because they believed that there is a great relation between the nature of social structure and linguistic concepts achieved by the use of language. Those linguists believed that social meanings cannot be separated from discourse by using ideology and power(Van Dijk, 2000).

Fairclough (1995) believe that the emergence of CDA was an applied method in order to search for certain linguistic links, concepts and theories as well as the methods that can be used in order to know the intentions and foundations in the text. Thus, the emergence of CDA is a collective result for the efforts of many Fairclough, Van Dijk, Wodak, and many other scholars who have made hard work for successive years in order to help in distinguishing the linguistic analysis(Thomas, 2004). CDA is different from the other methods as it focuses on clarifying the type of problem as well as focusing on social relations and their connection to linguistic ones(Van Dijk, 1998).

Van Dijk (2011) shows that speakers of the language can communicate with each other using special methods called mental models and this communication can help to make the dialogue coherent with each other by providing basic information between the speaker and the receiver. Furthermore, CDA has a great impact on the discourse in that it has a key role in attracting the reader’s attention(Stubbs, 1983). Consequently, it can greatly affect changing his views towards a certain thing. Therefore, the use of language in the discourse affects to a large degree in changing the individuals’ views from one perspective to another (Longman, 2003).
Van Dijk (2015) points out that there are two basic terms to deal with CDA. One is called ideology which is used in order to clarify how people behave in comparison with their interests, which can be used in order to persuade people to act in a certain way and this thing is what the poor do to the rich by convincing them by using a certain linguistic concepts. The second is called power. Fairclough (1995) describes power as the ability to impact on the listeners, and this differs from the concept of authority. Power is the use of a certain method in order to influence people to do things against their personal desires.

The clear fact is that people and their minds are affected easily with strong words and this is something can be understood when analyzing the meanings of orders and other ways of power where the picture is clear when comparing this fact with people in high positions and they use their power to influence others such as the president of a state or people in highly official and social status (Hayakawa, 1978).

2.2. Terror

Ghosh, T., Prelas, M., Viswinath, D., and Loyalka, S. (2010) show that the term ‘terror’ extends to the French revolution, which began in order to support the rights of the French people in the beginning in order to establish the foundations of democracy, but this term has been used after that in order to achieve other goals and objectives. This term is derived from the word “terrere”, which indicates making pain.

These days, the main purpose of terrorism is to create fear, and this leads to the achievement of terrorist goals on Twitter in killing, assassination, and the like when fighting against terrorism. Others, when there is a terrorist attack, social media rush to cover these events, but this coverage is governed by certain limits of freedom that differ from one country to another depending on ideology and power (Ghosh et al., 2010).

Neumann (2005) shows the causes of terror can be different, some of them may be injustice in society, and other reasons are abnormal human minds to achieve a specific goal whether political or social. Therefore, terrorism is used as a means in order to achieve a specific goal, using torture and threats as a means of behavior. The terror concept is based on an idea. Killing and death leads to achieving the desired goals. Terror uses these terrorist ideas through non-verbal messages, which are destruction and killing in order to convey the idea that they are able to practice it. When terrorists attack a particular area, it means that area has been considered an essential tool in order to attract public attention to it (Fairclough, 1995).

Longman (2003) shows most of the reasons that lead to terror may be psychological. Most terrorists suffer from psychological instability, or they may be political or to prove the presence of terrorists in a particular place in order to achieve a specific goal. Another cause can be social, which is in order to modernize social expansion in a specific area, and this can only be done through the use of force. Furthermore, it can be an economic reason represented by the use of excessive force which is classified as a companion in order to achieve some financial goals (Ghosh et. al., 2010).
2.3 Newspapers

Newspapers are one of the modern means through which one can know what is going on around the world, as the reader can easily know all the events he desires. Newspapers changed over time from one perspective to another due to a social, political or economic change and this led to serving certain goals without others based on their association with foreign institutions or following the policy of the state itself (Willcox, 2005).

The characteristics of newspapers are their ease of access, and cheap comprehensive coverage of events, and this gives the reader a clear idea of all the events around the world (Wrong, D. 1979). The term newspapers indicates that the basic and comprehensive coverage is about news, but in addition to this, there are other topics such as advertisements, ceremonies, political transactions, as well as various social circumstances, where the newspapers are an essential part that deal with different news around the world (Rogers, 2005).

Randal (2007) considers newspapers as a very crucial factor in news coverage. The main objective is to investigate the facts and send them to the readers in order to clarify opinions, facts, or events in different countries of the world, but the main points that affect the newspapers is that the language of the newspapers can be affected by subjective decision.

The linguistic style, the language, used in newspapers plays a key role in conveying news, as newspapers have a special linguistic style which affects the readers. It has a great effect on the readers and on their decision towards a certain phenomenon in the world (Kadoch, 2013).

3. Methodology

This term paper depends on the qualitative method to analyse the data that are selected. This method of analysis is appropriate to certify the information found within the language used for terror. This way of analysis is chosen because it is a favoured method to ensure conducting objective results throughout valid explanations (Babbie, 2014).

3.1 Data Collection

This study depends on the reports that are chosen deliberately from the American and Arabic newspapers about the language of terror. These reports are chosen between 2017 up to 2021 to ensure up-to-date terroristic attacks. The number of the reports will be four gathered from two different newspapers, each with two different reports classified chronologically. The American newspaper is the New York Times (www.New York Times.com) and the Arabic newspaper is Asharq Al-Awsat (www.Asharq Al-Awsat.com). They are chosen as such in order to be consistent. These two different newspapers show different ideological perspectives concerning the language of terror. They are chosen since they are considered as the most profound newspapers with their worldwide coverage (William, 2004).

3.2. Theoretical Framework: An Adapted Model

This study is based on Van Dijk’s model of ‘Discourse and Manipulation’ (2006).
A Critical Discourse Analysis of Language of Terror in American and Arabic Newspapers

This model is chosen in order to help analyzing the newspapers reports in terms of two contrastive parts; the positive in-group and the negative out-group. The positive in-group is represented by the peaceful groups including ordinary people, victims, and the official members. The negative out-group is represented by the terroristic attackers in general. To achieve this study, there is a number of strategies used by Van Dijk to be investigated throughout the reports. These strategies are represented in the following figure:

Fig. An adapted model of Van Dijk’s Strategies (2006)

4. Data Analysis

This section deals with the data that are chosen to be analysed. Four reports from two different newspapers are chosen. Two reports are chosen from the American newspapers and two reports are chosen from the Arabic newspapers.

4.1 Analysis of American Newspaper Reports

Two reports are chosen to be analysed from the New York Times according to Van Dijk’ Model of discourse and manipulation (2006).

Report 1

“The Terrorist Attacks in Sri Lanka” April 24th, 2019

From the beginning of the title of the report, the reporter explains the sequence of events of the terrorist attack that extremist carried out in Sri Lanka. The writer uses many strategies, for the purpose of describing the report, and one of these strategies is the illustration in order to explain the technique of attack. The way the terrorist is by using bombs to kill as many victims as he could “A series of highly coordinated bombings has left more than 300 dead in Sri Lanka”. Throughout this strategy, the reporter uses another strategy represented by the number game “300 dead” to refer to the number of victims who were killed during the attack. Such a thing is done deliberately by the reporter to focus on the horrifying aspects of extremist thoughts the terrorists follow. The attacker is, here, one of the out-group members who attempts to
hurt the in-group members represented by the victims.

Another strategy used by the writer in order to portray the terrorist attack is the vagueness strategy, where he gives ambiguous information about the terrorist attack as they are mysterious groups that lead terrorist operations in particular against civilians “obscure and underfinanced local group carry out one of the deadliest terror attacks”. This is a strategy that the writer follows in order to keep the information ambiguous. In addition to other strategies, the writer uses the strategy of authority in order to formalize the newspaper report, as this is represented by using the Sri Lankan forces “The Sri Lankan government” in order to convey the terrorist event in a more objective way, as well as transferring the report formally to the recipient, which greatly affects the credibility of the event.

The reporter sometimes uses some intended words to communicate a particular idea. This thing is clear when using the presupposition strategy that is used in a negative sense in this report throughout the use of “government was in complete meltdown”, as the writer refers to the collapse of the state, and this is something gives a negative image of the security situation in that country. Oppositely, he makes use of self-glorification to refer to Sri Lanka positively by describing the country as “a developing country”. Such a thing is usually done on purpose to show the value of that country attacked.

The reporter uses the metaphor, indirect comparison, in order to convey a specific idea, where the writer describes the terrorists using different linguistic terms. In this context, the writer describes terrorists as monsters “very brutal”, and this thing may give a certain idea represented by the force that terrorists use in order to achieve their desired goals, which is the spread of terrorism and fear among civilians.

The reporter uses the strategy of comparison in order to clarify the difference between the past and the present in Sri Lanka before and after 10 years “about 10 years ago”, which is the spread of terror and fear among the people through the presence of armed groups aiming to kill and destroy everything they can find. Additionally, another strategy used by the reporter is to use euphemism through the use of certain linguistic words to give another meaning that is less effective, and this thing is to use the word birth “we are now witnessing the rebirth of this country after decades of bloodshed”, which represents that Sri Lanka has gone through very difficult circumstances through the presence of armed groups compared to the future in which conditions will improve through specific language use.

Victimization is also another strategy used by the reporter to convey the sense that the in-group members are no more than victims to the out-group terrorist. This fact is clear when the reporter uses the expression “encouraging them to attack Buddhists”. This strategy is accompanied with the use of implication “very hateful messages” to imply that there hatred between the in-group and the out-group resulted in this terroristic attack. The linguistic expressions are very important to deliver a certain idea indirectly especially when the reporter uses implied description for the terrorist describing him as a Muslim. Such a language is newspapers reports is very dangerous since it generalizes such a horrible attack to Muslims “Muslims have the right to kill anybody who’s not Muslim”.
To prove the credibility of the report, the reporter uses the actor description strategy by mentioning the terrorist’s name “Mohammed Zaharan and his followers are planning suicide attacks across Sri Lanka at churches” to show that the report is reliable and true. Throughout this strategy, the reporter indicates that the terrorist attack churches and those terrorists are Muslims. This might be understood by others as a sectarian discrimination between two religious parties represented by the Muslims and the Christians especially when terrorists are described ironically as Islamic State fighters.

**Reports 2**

*“ISIS Claims Attacks, and President Vows Shakeup” April 23, 2019*

The language of newspaper reports is explicit and clear, and this can be understood through the nature of the language used in publishing this report, where the reporter uses linguistic vocabulary in a strategic way to communicate a certain idea and this thing is clear through the use of the evidentiality strategy represented in the title itself “ISIS Claims Attacks”, which explains the idea that terrorists are not afraid in announcing their responsibility for terrorist attacks, and this is a clear evidence in the report that the terrorists are guilty and that shows their aggression by carrying out terrorist attacks targeting the poor and needy.

After the terrorist attacks carried out by terrorists in the city, which caused death to the lives of a large number of civilian victims, the president made a statement explaining the revenge against the terrorists “President vows shakeup”, and this shows another strategy used by the writer in the report, which is represented in the authority, which is considered as an official evidence of the difference between the two sides, which are represented by the terrorists side and the civilians and the official parties side.

Every action is followed by a reaction, and this is represented in the terrorist acts that are practiced against civilians, where the writer uses strategies to clarify this idea through the use of the strategy of burden “bombs killed more than 350 people” that shows that terrorists concentrate on attacking civilians, which is through the use of timed bombs to kill as many civilians as possible. Such a thing reflects extremism among terrorists and the extent of the foolishness of their religious beliefs. Additionally, the reporter resorts to another strategy to make his report more coherent throughout the use of a number game strategy as an objective way in publishing the report. This can be clear when he uses the phrase “killed more than 350 people” to attract his readers attention towards the cruelty of the out-group members. It is the language that affects greatly in portraying a certain idea.

The reporter sometimes resorts to using the conduction technique in order to present a specific idea within the newspaper report using a specific language, and this is represented by using the strategy of counterfactual in which he clarifies the relationship between different parties that were the cause of these terrorist attacks, and this relationship is represented between terrorists on the one hand and some Islamic organizations that It's called ISIS on the other hand “investigations have found direct communication between the attackers and Islamic State operatives”.

The use of the realistic description of terrorist events gives greater objectivity to the
language used in newspaper reports. The writer resorts to using the moderate dialogue throughout the strategy of norm description “I must be truthful and admit there were lapses on the part of the defense officials” in order to portray the nature of the terrorist attack against civilians which is reflected in taking some official precautions. The use of this strategy has an impact on readers where it is considered evidence of the objectivity of the newspaper and the moderation of the writer or the party responsible for this newspaper too.

Praising the government forces is one of the official ways to defend the state by using some linguistic expressions that give an indication of the state’s strength. This idea was represented in using the strategy of self-glorification “there was an intelligence report about the attack”, which indicates cooperation between the members of the government forces in order to confront terrorist operations as well as defend the lives of civilians. The pragmatic connotation is also one of the ways the reporter uses in designing the language about terror, and this includes the use of the strategy of implication “seems to have been foreign involvement”, which takes place indirectly, about the relationships built between terrorists and their relations with other countries, and this thing indicates that there is a cooperation between terrorists inside the country and the supportive organizations that aim to destabilize government security, and this thing may lead to very bad results.

In addition, the reporter uses the strategy of hyperbole “deadliest terrorist attacks”, and this leads to the personalization and subjective reports by using linguistic phrases to describe terrorist acts or attacks in terms of describing abnormality. This leads to achieving some of the goals sought by some organizations that stand behind the intent of the use of such expressions

4.2 Analysis of Arabic Newspaper Data

The data to represent the language of terror in Arabic newspaper has been chosen from Asharq Al-Awsat newspapers. Here, two reports have been chosen from the Arabic newspaper and analysed according to Van Dijk’s Model of discourse and manipulation (2006).

Report 1

“The threat of ISIS once again hangs over Iraq” 03 June 2021

Sometimes, the writer uses strong words from a linguistic point of view, and this is what we notice from the title at the beginning, which represents a kind of allusion to the presence of ISIS in Iraq through certain linguistic terms represented in the ISIS threat and its presence in Iraq. This is when he reinforces his writing of the press report through some One of the strategies mentioned in the model previously.

One of the most important strategies is the normal description of the events, which is represented in the attack on some Iraqi activists and killing them in front of the houses “Iraqi activists are being killed in the south on their doorsteps”. This type of description of the events and attacks represents one of the types of language used in newspapers reports, as it indicates that terror is not represented in existence only, but may be represented on the other hand by the presence of some People infiltrating within the geographical area and attacking civilian activists.
The bloody events that affect civilians have dire consequences as they lead to a division between one people in addition to increasing the people’s misery as a result of these terrorist acts. Such horrible events resulted in protests, described through the consensus strategy “Iraqis march in Baghdad and other southern cities” all around the country defending those who were killed in front of their homes carrying the slogan of “who killed me”. This thing indicates the awareness of the people in defending their rights, but at the same time it represents a kind of focus on the language used by reporters in writing their reports in communicating the idea that terror exists in the country.

Furthermore, the concept of terror is sometimes misunderstood in the sense that it includes a wide range of forces even those official ones. This can be clear when describing “Popular Mobilization” in terms that have bad connotations. Such reports make use of implication to imply that such forces are considered as a kind of terror that are considered as anti-peace groups. So, there is categorization process whereby groups are divided into in-group represented by the government and the out-group represented by the terror in general. The reporter, additionally, uses the strategy of comparison to prove credibility of his report. He resorts to mentioning “Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kazemi” as some sort of opposition between him and the militia forces. Such a thing indicates that those forces are illegal and they are against the government.

Actor description is also used here as a kind of evidence for the newspaper report. The reporter mentioned the name of “Ali al-Bayati” as a source of the information since he is a member in human rights. He pointed out people have suffered a lot because of the existence of some illegal groups that have legal relation with the government, but illegal role in their own dealing with refugees “the influence of the militants, and they retained their extremist ideas”. Accordingly, the language used here to describe terror is so comprehensive and inclusive.

Moreover, the reporter makes use of counterfactual strategy to show the reason that lies behind a certain action. In this context, the reporter shows that many people have been displaced because of the existence of ISIS “More than 3 years after Iraq declared the defeat of ISIS, about 1.3 million people are still internally displaced”.

The use of norm description is important. It has a major role in writing newspaper reports, where the reporter uses the strategy of norm description in order to convey an idea, which is that the presence of terror has a negative impact on the whole country. It resulted in the assassination of many people and soldiers, and this thing clarified the truth of religion or Sharia through practices of the brutal terroristic actions.

The policy or strategy of the presupposition is found in the newspaper reports. The reporter presupposes that there might be another widespread attack of terror within Iraqi lands “another recurrence of the ISIS occupation of Mosul”, based on some facts and events taking place inside the country. This is represented by the occurrence of some attacks in different regions. This thing indicates that the presence of some armed groups that belong to terror. It aims to occupy some other places again.
Report 2
“ISIS claims responsibility for attack on Kunduz mosque in Afghanistan” 08 October 2021

The repeated terrorist attacks had a great impact on the life of society, as it led to the disintegration of society and the increase in societal tragedy. In this regard, the reporter uses one of the strategies followed, which is the evidentiality, in Van Dijk to refer to the responsibility of terrorists in carrying out terroristic operations, including the attacks on mosques in Afghanistan “ISIS claims responsibility for attack on Kunduz mosque”, and this thing is represented in Confessions of terrorists in which their group committed terror against civilians in Kunduz Mosque “attack on Kunduz mosque”. Meanwhile, the writer uses another strategy, which is the sign that is represented in comparing the terrorists’ beliefs with their terrorist attacks, as the terrorists claim their defense of the Islamic faith, but on the other hand they attack mosques. Such a thing is done deliberately by the reporter by using certain specific linguistic terms.

Some fanatic attacks are very bloody, and for this reason the writer resorts to strategy of hyperbole in order to convey the grief of civilians represented by this bloody, suicidal attack of a suicidal on the Shiite mosques in Afghanistan “a bloody suicide attack on a Shiite mosque in the Afghan city”. In addition, the writer uses the strategy of categorization in order to draw distinctions between terrorists and civilians, and this is represented by portraying terrorists on the basis that they are responsible for the terrorist attack on Shiite cities. This implies that there is some sort of sectarianism. All such an idea is conveyed through the use of language used to describe terror.

The reporter uses the strategy of the norm description of the events carried out by the terrorist in the city of Afghanistan, especially in the kunduz Mosque, where the terrorist detonated an explosive jacket among which were civilians "detonated his explosive jacket among the crowds”, which caused many deaths and injuries. This is a strategy that the reporter resorts to in order to obtain objectivity in putting forward such an idea, which affects the reader in perceiving events in a certain way, and in this light, the reader’s ideology can be changed too.

The reporter draws attention to the use of the burden strategy. Because of these terrorist attacks, many civilians were killed and exploded. This is also one of the other strategies that the reporter applied in this report in order to clarify the idea of cause and effect in relation to the victimization strategy to show that the attack led to the killing of more than 300 people and wounding many of them “which led to the deaths of more than 300 dead and wounded among their ranks”. There is also the strategy of counterfactual used in this report, which is the depiction of a certain conclusion in order to clarify that 55 people who were killed because of this terrorist attack, with many civilian casualties “at least 55 people were killed in the terrorist attack”.

In order to make the press report objective, the writer uses the numbers game strategy in order to accurately depict the events, and this means that the newspaper transmits the events in a professional manner, as it is clarified that at least five people were killed in the Kabul area, and ISIS also adopts the responsibility “the bombing of a mosque in Kabul that killed at least five people, and ISIS also claimed responsibility for it”. 
The reporter, moreover, uses the strategy of consensus to explain the reasons for controlling a certain place in a situation and that made ISIS raise the number of the attacks in Afghanistan. That increased number in the terrorist attacks was due to the Taliban’s control over the country “a local branch of the terrorist organization, escalated its attacks in Afghanistan after the Taliban took control of the country in August”. Hyperbole is also used to maximize the number of the dead throughout the use of the word ‘dozen’ in "dozens of dead and wounded among the Hazara Shiites in an attack on their temple in northern Afghanistan”. All of such events can be affected directly by the language the reporter employed throughout the use of certain linguistic terms.

5. Conclusion

Some points have been noted after studying the data from American and Arabic newspapers, including linguistic and ideological manipulation of the news. Both newspapers use the polarization approach of disseminating events, which involves the in-group and out-group poles opposing each other. This manipulation, which is different from an ideological standpoint, could be utilized to achieve some of the objectives.

The American media produce news in a unique way, focusing on the impact of terror and its growing power over society in order to achieve previously set agendas. The material processes of these reports have been reinforced as a result of American newspapers manipulating vocabulary by characterizing, through analyzing the newspapers’ language, terror as the doer of the deed that creates chaos, violence, and damage in the place where it is located.

Through the terminology employed, Arabic newspapers emphasize on all facets of terror, where the terrorist is depicted as a murderer and a slaughterer, while those who are assaulted are described as victims and innocent. Terror is portrayed in American newspapers as an uncontrollable force that can continue for a long period, according to a certain ideological stance. This has a detrimental impact on readers and hence produces an atmosphere of manufactured confusion that is in line with American objectives.

In news reports, Arabic newspapers also follow a moderate ideological perspective, which is represented by considering terror as a controllable force when adequate supplies are available, including banding together and putting forth the necessary effort, all of which can be accomplished in a short period of time. The American portrayal of terror-affected countries is negative, whereas the Arabic portrayal is positive through words, giving people hope for a future of peace.

As a result, American newspapers approach terrorism by relying on state policy or the newspaper's official sponsor; whereas Arabic media, to a lesser extent than American newspapers, regard terrorism as a threat to all lives and as a type of humanity to the world at large.
References


