Libyan Arab Spring… the Fall of the Dictatorship or the Fall into the Abyss, A CDA Study from CNN's Ideological Perspective

Hanan Al- Radhi (Corresponding Author)

A Lecturer of English Language-University of Baghdad

Ph.D Candidate – School of Languages, Literacies and Translation

Universiti Sains Malaysia,11800 Minden, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia

Tel: 60-125-098-295   E-mail: halradhi2012@gmail.com

Prof. Dr. Ambigapathy Pandian

School of Languages, Literacies and Translation School of Languages, Literacies and Translation, Malaysia

E-mail: ambiga@usm.my

Prof. Dr. Tengku Sepora Tengku Mehdi

School of Languages, Literacies and Translation School of Languages, Literacies and Translation, Malaysia

E-mail: tsepora@usm.my

Abstract

The current study examines the Arab spring uprising consequences in Libya as reflected by CNN within its online news report. The primary goal is to unearth CNN's embedded ideological view concerning the internal conflict in Libya investigating and showing the discoursal positive "Self" and negative "Other" representations. CNN'S macro and micro structures were analyzed. At the macro level, the semantic macrostructure of CNN's article

was summarized to establish its global meaning. At the micro level, the syntactic, lexical and rhetorical structures of CNN's online news article were analyzed to establish its local meaning. Within the ideological analysis, the CNN's online news article was discussed to establish CNN's ideological positive "Self" (in-group) and negative "Other" (out-group) presentations. In general, the study is an attempt to explain how a single reality-Libyan internal conflict- is viewed and dealt with by CNN. This can be achieved within the framework of critical discourse analysis (CDA). To conduct this qualitative study, the researchers adopted van Dijk's theory of Macrostructures (1980), van Dijk's theory of ideological square (1998) and Wodak's approach of Discourse- historical (2001, 2009). Furthermore, Fairclough's model for media discourse analysis was utilized to organize the analytical process. The study approved that CNN succeeded to reflect its ideological view. It expressed its support to the Libyan government (and its army) presented as the positive "Self" (in-group) and antagonism against Ansar al-Sharia militia (the Islamists) presented as the negative "Other" (out-group).

1. Introduction

Media news representation cannot be regarded as a direct and easy reproduction of events as it involves a process of selecting, structuring and formulating such events via language (Fairclough, 1995b). Language is, then, the main tool to persuade people to accept certain representations of news events which must be organized logically and naturally for the sake of spreading the views of dominant people and then accepting them as common –sense knowledge providers (Fairclough, 1995b). In this sense, all news representations are reported from a particular angle due to the fact that all media institutions and organizations are politically, socially and financially situated (Fowler, 1991).

The application of critical discourse analysis (henceforth CDA) to analyze online news helps increase awareness and deep understanding of the linguistic strategies used to construct "Self" and "Other" ideological representations. Thus, in this study, it is considered as a viable approach to unearth the implicit ideologies hidden in the CNN's online discourse. As such, the researchers of the present study intend to concentrate on the ideological use of language to build the "Self" and "Other" polarities embedded within the CNN's online news article concerning Libyan internal conflict erupted after the Arab spring revolution 2011.

1.1 Objective

The present study aims to identify the semantic macro and micro structures of CNN's Arab spring online article and its ideological representations of "Self" and "Other" towards the Libyan internal conflict. As such, it will be an attempt to answer the following question:

1) What are the semantic macro and micro structures of CNN's Arab spring online article and its ideological representations of "Self" and "Other" towards the Libyan internal conflict?

1.2 Theoretical Framework

The proposed model of CDA adopted in this study is based on:

1 - Van Dijk's Semantic Macrostructures Theory (1980a, 1980b; 1988) which shows the linguistic analysis of the news text on both levels: macro and micro. The current study focuses on the both levels as the macro propositions (themes) and micro structures of CNN's news article will be shown and analyzed.

2 -Van Dijk's Ideology Square Theory (1998) which shows the in-group and out-group ideological presentations; and

3 -Wodak's Historical Approach (2001, 2009) to connect the linguistic – ideological analysis with Intertextual analysis by background information that facilitates the process of news text understanding.

4- Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Approach (1995a) to organize the analytical process.

The first van Dijk's two theories examine the cultural, social, political and ideological factors affecting CNN's news text that concerns with the Libyan internal conflict after the Arab spring whereas Wodak's approach is utilized to show the historical and political information

that may help clarify the reason behind CNN's ideological view. Moreover, this approach is applied to understand the functionality of the semantic Macropropositions; global structures of CNN's news text. The two theories and approach will be discussed below.

1.2.1 Van Dijk's Theory of Semantic Macrostructures

Van Dijk (1980a, 1980b; 1988) provided a method to analyze the structural organization of news text. According to him, news reports have a hierarchal schema named a superstructure that has certain categories, with the most important details come before the less important ones. The global superstructure represents the overall structural organization of a news text which covers the main event, commentary, background and evaluation categories. Each category is associated with a topic or a macroproposition. The news text covers many macropropositions which can be reduced to the main one that summarizes the news text as a whole. The textual-structural categories can be exploited to steer the reader's comprehension and interpretation.

Van Dijk (2009, p.68) believed that semantic macrostructures should be the first step in analyzing the text to be studied: "I often advocate beginning Critical Analysis […] with an analysis of semantic macrostructures, that is, with a study of global meanings, topics or themes". Thematic structures or topics are derived from the text itself. Sentences formulate topics covered within the text, representing macro-propositions. These macro-propositions, in turn, can be reduced to more general ones. These general ones should be cut down to one main macro proposition that represents the whole item of the news story (van Dijk, 2009). The analyst and reader's prior-knowledge about the topic in question helps infer many macro-propositions (van Dijk, 1988b). This theory will be utilized to analyze the headlines and the body of CNN's news report, under study.

1.2.2 Van Dijk's Theory of Ideological Square

Defining ideology as a basic shared, socio-cognitive system of a group, culture or society, van Dijk (1998a) suggested the ideological square to be applied to analyze any type of a news text, showing our positive Self–presentation and their negative Other–presentation. Words may be exploited to refer to ideological implications and conventions, creating a suitable model in the readers' minds (Ali, 2011). This notion facilitates the comprehension of these news texts, influencing the reader's interpretation of them. The present paper utilizes the ideological square to interpret CNN's positive "Self" (in-group) and negative "Other" (out-group) as far as the Libyan event is concerned.

1.2.3 Wodak's Historical-Discoursal Approach

Wodak's approach (2001, 2009) provides background information with which the discursive event is embedded. Hence, it is useful to expose the implicit meaning of a news text to be explicit by relating it to the relevant historical –socio-political situations in which it happened. Such information will be of a great help to guide the reader to comprehend the news text. This method can be used with the analysis of semantic macrostructures or with the ideological analysis. To comprehend the Libyan communicative event, it is useful to apply this approach to achieve an objective analysis.   CNN's ideological view can be understood

by integrating the historical, socio and political context with the whole process of analysis.

The two theories and approach do not work in isolation. On the opposite, they support each other, working together to create and clarify the overall meaning of the news text, in question.

1.2.4 Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Approach (1995a)

Fairclough's Three-dimension approach of CDA (1995a) will be utilized in the present study. It consists of three dimensions or steps (description, interpretation and explanation) which will be followed by the researcher throughout the process of analysis of the CNN's selected news article to manifest its positive "Self" (in-group) and negative "Other" (out-group). 'Description' is connected with the linguistic part of analysis while 'interpretation' and 'explanation' are connected with the ideological part of the analysis. In fact, this approach connects the two levels of analysis, micro and macro together. Thus, the linguistic structures are described linguistically and, then, interpreted and explained, ideologically. In other words, the first step is concerned with the linguistic analysis while the other two steps are concerned with the ideological one. That is to say, the linguistic analysis serves to achieve the ideological analysis which concerns with overall theme or topic of the news story. As such, the linguistic analysis and ideological analysis will be linked together, achieving the main target of the current study.

The study's theoretical framework will be illustrated in the following Figure 1:
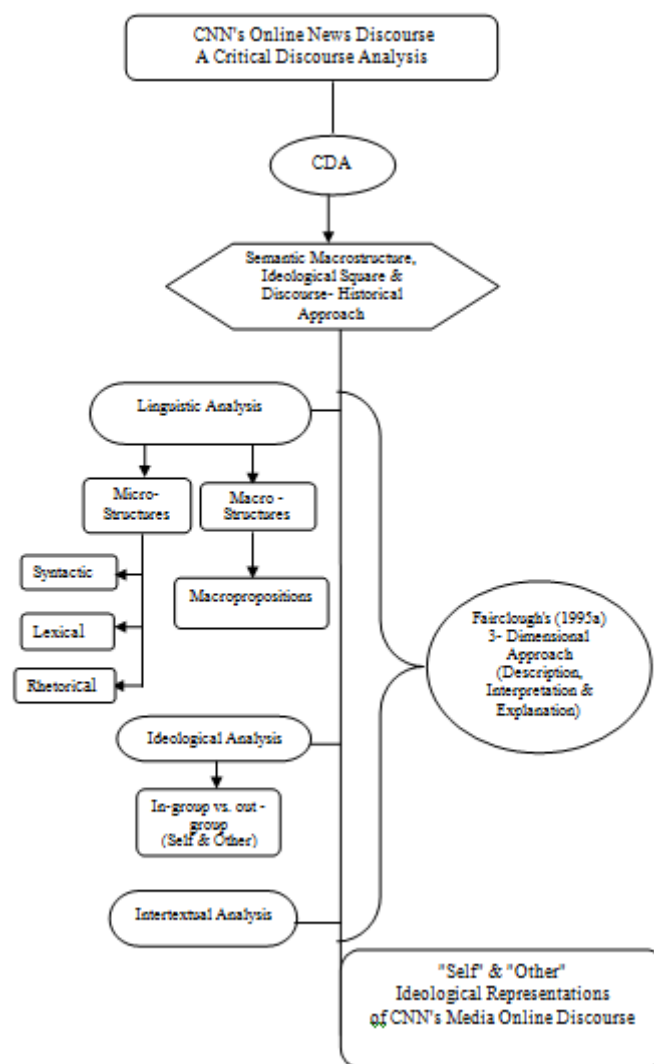
Figure 1. Theoretical Framework

2. CDA Analysis of CNN's News Article

The CNN's news story, titled "Nine killed in clashes between army, Islamist group in Benghazi, Libya", has been released by CNN's website on 25 November 2013. It deals with the escalating fighting erupted between Libyan governmental army and Islamic militia forces after president Muammar el-Gaddaffi's fall down as security collapsed completely in Libya. More specifically, it focuses on the deadly violence that shapes the Libyan political scene after the Arab spring revolution 2011. CDA will be conducted below to clarify CNN's ideological attitude towards the Libyan internal conflict.

2.1 Macro Structures Analysis

The semantic macro propositions of CNN's news story article will be dealt with in the following section concentrating on how its ideological view of positive "Self" and negative "Other" is reflected by the suggested semantic macrostructure.

2.1.1 Thematic Structures

CNN's news story text includes 23 sentences covering many initial topics or macro-propositions from which a main semantic macrostructure of the whole story can be derived. First, the headline, "Nine killed in clashes between army, Islamist group in Benghazi, Libya", concentrates on the most important piece of information about the bloody clashes that led to the death of nine people. But, it may imply the following macro-propositions:

1) Out of tension, Libyan army clashes with an Islamic group in Benghazi.

2) Security and peace are lost in Libya leading to the death of nine people.

3) Libyan army launches a military campaign against Islamists.

4) A civil war looms on the horizon in Libya.

The above-suggested macro themes can be summarized into the following main one:

A Civil war looms in the Libyan horizon as the army launches a bloody military campaign against Islamists, killing nine people amid peace and security lack.

With background-historical information, the headline's suggested semantic macro-structure will be understood ideologically. This will be clarified deeply throughout the whole news story. Moreover, CNN's headline entices the readers to read the whole text to know more details about the event. By such indication, the main purpose of a headline is met, successfully.

Examining CNN's news text as a whole, the researchers noted that the following macro-propositions   can derived, which, in turn, may be reduced to the following ones:

M (1): Libyan official statement declared that 9 people killed and 49 others injured amid clashes between the Libyan army and Islamic group accused of attacking the American diplomatic mission killing 4 Americans including the ambassador Christopher Stevens.

M (2): A tense calmness was noticed amid of the heaviest fighting after Arab spring revolution due to Ansar al-Sharia's attack on the Libyan army thunderbolt unit intensifying military presence in its stronghold n Benghazi, which receives reinforcement from its counterpart jihadist groups in Derna.

M (3): The Libyan government aimed, in its military campaign, to eliminate Islamic groups connected to al-Qaeda, in Benghazi, the cradle of Arab spring revolution 2011, where security was deteriorated deeply and assassination wave of security officials was spread clearly, blaming them for violence, insecurity and turmoil in Libya.

2.1.1.1 Derivation of Semantic Macrostructure

The above three macro-propositions can be summarized, formulating the main semantic macrostructure (M4) of CNN's news article which deals with the Libyan conflict after the Arab spring revolution. It can be shown below.

M (4): After a severe attack at a thunderbolt military unit, 9 people killed and 49 others

injured in heavy clashes erupted after the military army campaign against the Islamic Ansar al-Sharia whose fighters attacked the American diplomatic mission killing the American ambassador, Christopher Stevens, amid intensified military presence in Benghazi, the cradle of Arab spring revolution, 2011, and the stronghold of the Islamists who were accused of causing violence and turmoil in Libya.

Thus, the main macrostructure is formulated to show CNN's whole news article reflecting its ideological message that concerns with the Libyan conflict. It is derived from the last macro-propositions (M1-M3) which are derived, in turn, from the whole text.. In one complex sentence, the researchers outlines the CNN's whole news story with all its themes, reflecting its ideologically oriented view of positive "Self" and negative "Other". Say simply, CNN expresses:

1) Its support for the Libyan government and army presented as the positive "Self".

2) Its antagonism for the Islamic Ansar al-Sharia presented as the negative "Other".

As such, the suggested macrostructure is connected with van Dijk's Ideological Square of positive "Self" (in-group) and negative "Other" presentation. This connection will be clarified in the following section.

2.1.1.1.1 The Semantic Macrostructure and van Dijk's Ideological Square

With the suggested semantic macrostructure, the researchers aim to summarize CNN's news text clarifying its ideology towards the Libyan conflict. Thus, the semantic macrostructure is constructed to reflect CNN's ideological view of positive "Self" and negative "Other". Accordingly, CNN presents two ideological groups; the first is for the positive "Self" and the second is for the negative "Other", which can be listed as follows:

1) CNN's positive "Self"; which is represented by:

a) The Libyan government

b) The Libyan national army

This group represents the Libyan formal side, the government and its army, which both exerted their efforts to fight terrorism, aiming to put an end to the political turmoil for the sake of spreading justice and order. CNN looks at this group as the power that should control Libya to prevail peace and security which was lost due to the armed militias' escalated role after the fall of Muammar el-Gaddaffi's regime 2011 (van Genugten, 2011; Lynch,2012; Sawani, 2012). Thus, CNN gives this group the right to play its full role in controlling the situation in Libya. This justifies its endorsement for the military campaign being launched against these armed militias; Ansar al-Sharia in Benghazi is the first.

CNN, referring to these points mentioned above within its text, gives the right to the government to launch its military campaign to eliminate the Islamists, in general, and Ansar al-Sharia, in particular. Otherwise, the situation will be deteriorated further. For this reason, CNN draws a positive picture for the Libyan government and its army cementing their position in the Libyan political scene as they are the powerful power that will fight and

terminate terrorism in Libya. Hence, CNN supports the Libyan government and its army taking them as the positive "Self" that should be hailed, cemented and framed positively.

2) CNN's negative "Other"; which is represented by:

a) Islamic groups, their militias and supporters

b) Ansar al- Sharia, its militia and supporters

This group represents all the Islamists who follow the violent terrorist way to impose their armed will on the Libyan people (Sawani, 2012). CNN views this group as the destructive power that aims to destroy Libya. Thus, they should be opposed, eliminating their activities not, only, in their stronghold, Benghazi, only, but in all Libyan cities. In other words, CNN looks at this group as the negative power that should be terminated despite their role in ending el-Gaddaffi's tyranny in February 2011 (Gaub, 2014). As such, it works to expose this group reflecting its cruelty, brutality and retardation. This, in fact, clarifies CNN's hostile attitude against this group standing behind the military campaign launched against it with all its militias; the first is Ansar al-Sharia. For this reason, CNN draws a negative picture for it. As such, CNN antagonizes this group (Islamists, in general, and Ansar al-Sharia, in particular) taking it as its negative "Other" that should be criticized, humiliated and framed negatively.

To end this section, the researchers outline CNN's ideological view of "Self" and "Other" as far as the Libyan internal conflict is concerned as follows:

1) CNN supports the Libyan government and its army hailing their joint political and military efforts to terminate Islamic groups; Ansar al- Sharia is the first. Thus, it endorses them, drawing them positively. It legitimizes their war against terrorism.

2) CNN antagonizes the Islamists, in general, and Ansar al-Sharia, in particular, rejecting their actions that disturb security in Libya. Thus, it stands against them drawing them negatively. Hence, it delegitimizes their violent policies and actions against Libyan people.

In a nutshell, the semantic macrostructure has achieved its main goal responding to van Dijk's ideological square presentation. CNN supports the government and its army presented as the positive "Self" (in-group) against the Islamists and Ansar al- Sharia presented as the negative "Other" (out-group).

2.1.1.1.2 The Semantic Macrostructure and Wodak's Discourse-Historical Approach

Within this section, the connection between the semantic macrostructure and Wodak's Discourse-Historical Approach will be dealt with. To understand CNN's ideological representation of "Self" and "Other" towards the Libyan internal conflict standing on the reasons behind its support for the Libyan government (its army) and antagonism against Ansar al- Sharia (the Islamists), one should notice the following points (Sawani, 2012; Gaub,2014):

a) Ansar al-Sharia is the Salafi jihadist movement which follows al-Qaeda-style having the same set of fundamental extreme religious orientation and policy. Furthermore, it hoists the Qaeda's flag on its posts inside Libya, not the Libyan national one. It is formulated as a

movement on 31 April 2012 declaring its main aim to spread the hardline Islam which is opposed by USA and the whole western and European worlds.

b) Ansar al-Sharia attacked the American diplomatic mission in Benghazi, 2012, killing the American ambassador, Christopher Stevens, and three others. American government condemned the cruel attack in an official statement expressing its antagonism for Ansar al-Sharia, in particular, and hardline Islamists, in general.

c) Security Council declared Ansar al-Sharia a terrorist organization in November 2014 following the Libyan parliament's decision criminalizing it as a terrorist group in August 2014.

d) Libyan parliament's decision satisfied the American government which announced its support to the Libyan government in its war against Ansar al-Sharia. Convergence of the two governments has increased as the first supported the second in every action taken to hit Ansar al-Sharia for the sake of its termination.

Briefly, CNN's position is identical to that one of American government, supporting Libyan government and its army and antagonizing Ansar al-Sharia and Islamic groups. It is well reflected in the whole CNN's story (S1-S.23).   Hence, it legitimizes the Libyan government military campaign against Ansar al-Sharia hoping to achieve peace in Libya. At the same time, it delegitimizes Ansar al-Sharia's policies and bloody activities which disturb peace in Libya.

2.2 Semantic Micro Structures Analysis

In the following section, the semantic-syntactic, lexical and rhetorical structures within CNN's news story text will be analyzed showing how such structures serve CNN in constructing its "Self" and "Other" ideological view about the Libyan internal conflict.

2.2.1 Syntactic Structures Analysis

Within this sub-section, two categories will be described, interpreted and explained manifesting CNN's ideology from its own perspective concerning the Libyan crisis between the government, on one side, and the Ansar al-Sharia, on the side.

2.2.1.1 Actor – Role

Throughout CNN's news text, two groups of actors can be noticed. They dominate the whole Libyan conflict scene. They are as follows:

1) Joint-Actor group

Within the headline, there is no direct actor because both sides, the national army and Ansar al-Sharia militia, participate in the fighting that led to the death of 9 persons. In other words, both of them can be regarded as a joint actor. Furthermore, there is no reference to the actor in the sentence but it can be captured from its context. Within the lead sentences, there is a direct reference to the two parties of fighting; the army and the Islamic group Ansar al-Sharia. In S.3, there is the same reference of the joint actor referred in S.1 and S.2 with more details

about the numbers of the dead and injured. The joint actor is also established in S.13 and S.14 as the mutual fighting intensified.

2) Separate-Actor Group

Separate actors can be noticed throughout CNN's news article. Ansar al-Sharia (S.2) is a separate actor when its members attacked the American diplomatic mission in Benghazi killing the ambassador and three others. The government (S.7) is the main direct actor for its orders to close the schools preventing the residents to go out of their homes to secure their safety. Ansar al-Sharia (S.8) becomes the main actor for its attack on a military unit forcing the latter's soldiers to respond with bombing their sites (S.9). In spite of this, Ansar al-Sharia continues its role as an actor using heavy weapons with high technology to reciprocate the army's bombardment (S.10). Nevertheless, the government controls the main roads in Benghazi (S.11). Benghazi residents (S.15) and the Libyan government (S.18) play the same role in fighting Ansar al- Sharia in its stronghold. The thunderbolt soldiers and Ansar al-Sharia fighters verse each other replacing their roles as main agents in S.21, for the first and S.23, for the second. CNN ends its news story with accusing the radical Islamists of being the main agent behind the violence that spread in Libya after its Arab spring revolution. Thus, one can notice that the actors, in the text, can be divided into the following three groups:

1) Joint actor; the Libyan government (army) and Ansar al-Sharia in their mutual fighting leading to the death of Libyan people. Both of them participate in fighting which spread death and destruction everywhere. The situation is intermixed as who is the aggressor and who is the victim are mingled (S.1, S.2, S.3, S.13 and S.14).

2) The Libyan government (army); clarifying their role in keeping peace, security and people protection. They, both, cooperate in limiting the role of Ansar al-Sharia, in particular, and radical Islamists, in general. Here, the agent is a separate-declared one; direct and clear. It is the government and its army whose military actions are a direct reply to Ansar al-Sharia's armed attack on a thunderbolt unit forcing the latter to respond fiercely. At the same time, the government has taken all measures to protect citizens securing their lives (S.7, S.8, S.9, S.12 and S.21).

3) Ansar al-Sharia; shedding light on its destructive armed role in Libya after the Arab spring revolution, 2011, in attacking the American diplomatic mission that led to killing of the ambassador and three others, and army units and troops (S.2, S.8, and S.9). In fact, CNN ends its news text with accusing Ansar al-Sharia of violence in the whole country (S.23).

Thus, this can be regarded as a clear support to the Libyan government and its army's political and military operations to eliminate the radical Islamists, generally, and Ansar al-Sharia, particularly.

2.2.1.2 Reporting Past and Present Event

Four grammatical categories are utilized within CNN's article to reflect its attitude towards the Libyan internal conflict. By depending on past tense verbs, CNN asserts its true information conveyed to the readers. By depending on present tense verbs, CNN asserts

factual information that should be conveyed to readers. These four grammatical categories will be analyzed.

1) Passive Voice Category

Five cases of passive voice structures are used. 'Killed' (S.1) is a passive voice with (were) is deleted for the sake of the headline's brevity. Its agent is not established directly but it can be understood. It is the joint-actor of fighting; the national army and Islamists group (Ansar al-Sharia). For the sake of emphasis, this verbal passive construction is repeated in S.3 and S.4, providing the readers with more information about contradicting Figures of causalities of the heavy fighting. But what is interested in this construction is that CNN continues using agentless passive as it can be captured contextually. 'Were closed' (S.7) is also a contextually established agentless passive. It is the Libyan government that decided to close the schools, ordering people to stay at homes to ensure student and people's safety during military operations to fight Ansar al-Sharia militia. 'Is blamed' (S.23) is the last agentless passive used to end the news story with accusing the Islamic extremists (Ansar al-Sharia is the first) of total responsibility for widely spread violence in Benghazi. Here, CNN, itself, accuses Islamists of violence. As such, CNN becomes the agent of the last sentence of its news text. Put differently, CNN ends its story by blaming Islamists for causing violence, confusion and turmoil in Benghazi. This is the main core of CNN's media message to criminalize the Islamists with violence.

2) Simple Past and Present Category

'Worked' (S.7), 'responded' (S.9), 'attacked' (S.15), 'announced' (S.20) and 'reported' (S.21) are all simple past tense verbs that reflect the strength of the government and its army in managing the crisis with Ansar al-Sharia and Islamists militias confirming what did happen on the ground. The thunderbolt troops 'worked' (S.7) means that they went to the city to protect and secure people there and 'responded' (S.9) militarily at Ansar al-Sharia's attack at them by launching raids on their locations in Benghazi. Benghazi's residents, in their turn, 'attacked' (S.15) Islamists ' sites after American diplomatic mission raid killing the ambassador. By indicating this, CNN aims to assert that the Libyan people stand with their government and army, first, with the Americans, second, against Ansar al-Sharia and Islamists militias in Libya. This means that Libyan people reject Islamists, in general, and Ansar al-Sharia, in particular, supporting the Libyan government (army) and the Americans. This point is strongly established by CNN's editor to show that Ansar al-Sharia has no popular support, thus, the Libyan government has the right to fight them aiming to terminate them. As such, the government 'announced' (S.20) its plan to raid them which is confirmed by Benghazi's residents as they 'reported' (S.21) the heavy military presence, especially of thunderbolt unit, for securing their safety. They 'told' (S.13) CNN's reporter that heavy fighting 'broke out' and 'intensified' (S.13) documenting the military confrontation between the two sides of the conflict.

'Blames' (S.2) is a simple present tense verb used to assert a fact that the United States will blame and accuse Ansar al-Sharia for forever. With using this simple present tense, here, CNN intends to indicate that the last-year attack on the American diplomatic mission is an

event that Ansar al-Sharia will be blamed of forever. It will be present in minds and memories, thus, no one will forget such a documented fact.

3) Present perfect Category

'Have heard' (s.14), 'has… targeted' (S.20), and 'have targeted' (S.22) are, all, present perfect verbal structures to assert something happened in the past and continued to the present moment of saying. One witness confirms that 'I have heard' (S.14) the heaviest wave of fighting which started in the past and continued till the present time.   The government was encouraged to launch its military campaign as assassination wave 'has ….targeted' (S.20) security force members. CNN gives the right to the Libyan government, again, as there is no solution with a group that does not know but the language of blood and assassination targeting security officials. This forces the government to target them to keep security and safety of people, generally, and security keeping staff, particularly. To support its view, CNN refers to the attacks, shootings and bombings by which Ansar al-Sharia 'have targeted' (S.22) the army's checking points and patrols. This justifies the Libyan government's campaign to terminate Ansar al-Sharia and all Islamic militias and it is what CNN aims to reach at.   Thus, the present perfect structures serve to indicate the fact that the government continues to fulfill its plan to the time of releasing this news story.

4) Past and Present Continuous Category

'Has been long time coming' (S.14) and 'has been struggling' (S.18) are both present perfect continuous structures with which CNN seeks to indicate two things. The first concerns with the heavy fighting the Libyan witness thinks that people expected for a long time; waiting to happen for a long time and it will continue in the future till fulfilling the government's main goal in ending   Ansar al-Sharia and alike (S.14). The second concerns with the fact that the government 'has been struggling' (S.18) to control radical Islamic groups.   With both structures, CNN draws a fighting –struggling image of the Libyan government, aiming to frame it positively. In both, the government and its army struggle to fight radical groups in Libya continuously till terminating them utterly.

With all past and present grammatical structures, CNN seeks to cement the Libyan government and its army's positive image and play down the Islamic groups and Ansar al Sharia's negative image. In fact, CNN continues with all its utilized syntactic structures to endorse its presentation of positive "Self", the Libyan government and its army (in- group) rejecting its negative "Other", Ansar al-Sharia (out- group).

2.2.2 Lexical Structures Analysis

Under this sub-heading, CNN's lexical components will be described, interpreted and explained to show CNN's utilization of its lexical reservoir reflecting its ideological "Self" and "Other" presentation, positively and negatively. One register is noticed and will be analyzed and discussed, in detail, clarifying CNN's ideological orientation towards Libyan internal conflict.

2.2.2.1 CNN's Register of Civil War

This register can be noticed throughout CNN's news text. CNN's text covers three parts with which the two sides of the conflict (the government and its army, on one side, and Ansar al-Sharia and Islamists, on the other side) are established lexically. In the first part, the first side, the Libyan government and its army, is described with different lexical terms as 'army' (S.1), 'Libyan army forces' (S.2), 'the Libyan government' (S.4), 'troops' (S.5 and S.7), 'security forces' (S.7), 'the army' (S.8 and S.14), 'a military special forces group called thunderbolt' (S.9) and 'military forces' (S.12) whereas the second side is described as 'Islamist group' (S.1), 'Islamist militant group' (S.2), 'the group' (S.5 and S.8), 'Ansar al-Sharia' (S.9, S.11 and S.14), 'Ansar al-Sharia fighters' (S.10), 'Jihadist groups' (S.11).

In the second part, concentrating on the government's struggle to fight the Islamic militias, 'the government' (S.18) is used, only, to denote the first side while the second side is denoted differently as 'Islamist militias' (S.15), 'Ansar al-Sharia' (S.15 and S.17), 'the group' (S.16 and S.17), 'militia groups', and 'radical militant groups' (S.17). In the third part, the first side is denoted by 'the government' and 'security force members' (S.20), 'Libyan army' and 'thunderbolt force' (S.21) whereas the other side is denoted as 'Islamist extremist group' (S.23) only. It is because the whole part is concerned with the governmental and military operations to keep peace and security aiming to put an end to the assassinations wave which targeted the governmental and security officials.

In fact, the war has taken place between the two parties as the 'clashes' (S.1 and S.3) has been deepened and described as 'heavy clashes' (S.13) leading to the death of numerous victims from both sides. Moreover, 'the fighting' (S.8 and S.10) becomes 'heavy fighting' (S.2, S.5 and S.14) with using 'mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and heavy weapons' (S.10). Despite the situation was 'tense calm' (S.6), the Libyan local authorities have imposed a state of 'alert' (S.7) to protect people saving their souls and safety especially after Ansar al-Sharia has received military 'reinforcement' (S.11) from its counterpart jihadists in eastern Derna. As such, 'gunfire and explosions' (S.13) have been heard in Benghazi.

This, in fact, justifies the raids launched by the national army to hit Ansar al- Sharia locations in the city aiming to end violence and 'assassination campaign' (S.20). For this, the residents noticed 'Libyan army presence' (S.21) to secure the city. Nevertheless, 'bombings and shootings' (S.22) have targeted army checkpoints and patrols and a military official escaped 'an assassination attempt' (S.22) when 'a bomb' (S.22) targeted his car in Benghazi. Finally, CNN ends its news text with accusing the Islamist extremist groups of 'violence' (S.23) which confirms the civil war in Libya.

Finally, CNN's attitude towards Libyan conflicts is clarified within this register. It expresses its support to the Libyan government and its army, indorsing efforts to build a civil society in Libya. It expresses its antagonism to the Islamists and Ansar al-Sharia, rejecting their negative role in Libya. With the two registers, CNN's positive "Self" (in-group) and negative "Other" (out-group) presentation becomes clearer supporting the first (Libyan government and its army) and rejecting the second (Ansar al-Sharia and Islamists).

2.2.3 Rhetorical Structures Analysis

Within this sub-section, information sources and numbers will be analyzed and discussed for the sake of showing their role in shaping CNN's "Self" and "Other" ideological representation concerning the Libyan internal conflict.

2.2.3.1 Information Sources

Throughout its text, CNN works hard to reinforce its information by depending on reliable information sources, trying to approve its credibility and truth:

1) A senior Libyan military official (S.5, S.8, S.9, S.10 and S.11)

CNN depends on this source when it deals with the heavy fighting between the army forces and Ansar al-Sharia fighters. The Libyan military official asserts the following information:

a) The heavy fighting continued till Monday morning in different places in Benghazi (S.5).

b) The fighting was not planned but it was a 'reaction' to Ansar al- Sharia fighters' attack on an army unit (S.8).

c) The thunderbolt unit responded strongly at Ansar al- Sharia locations in Benghazi (S.9).

d) The fighting was intense with heavy weapons (S.10).

e) The situation in Benghazi was very tense after reports saying that Ansar al-Sharia has received military reinforcements from other jihadists in Derna (S.11).

Thus, the Libyan official, in his statement, is an important source of information for CNN as he provided it with five pieces of information in five sentences. The statement is an indirect speech quoted by CNN to enrich its text.

2) Libyan state media agency, LANA (S.12)

CNN depends on this official news agency to establish the following:

i) The right number of victims.

ii) The effective efforts of the army units in protecting and securing the main roads and entrances of Benghazi.

In both cases, CNN depends on LANA due to its determination to document its news story depending on trusted credible sources.

3) A Benghazi resident (S.13 and S.14).

CNN depends on a Benghazi witness, quoted directly, to provide the readers with the following two main pieces of information:

a) The fighting has erupted Sunday night with gunfire and explosions were heard loudly during the night until Monday morning throughout the whole city (S.13). It is a documentation of what happened reflecting the dangerous situation Benghazi surrounded by.

b) The fighting is the first of its kind; the army versus Ansar al-Sharia. It was expected at any time to erupt (S.14). The witness's statement is a direct speech CNN is keen to provide

directly to document the fighting incident without any perversion.

With all these sources, CNN deepens its ideological view towards the Libyan political actors, supporting the government against Ansar al-Sharia.

2.2.3.2 Numbers

CNN depends on numbers to prove its credibility. Numbers can be regarded as an important source for any news agency; CNN is among, to prove and assert truth. Within CNN's text, there are many references to numbers which can be listed as follows:

1-'Nine' dead (S.1- headline)

2-'four' American dead (S.2-lead)

3- 'six' & 'one' dead and '39' injured (S.3)

4-'nine' dead and '49' injured (S.3)

5-'Numbers' of the group (S.5)

6-'Numbers' of thunderbolt (S.9)

7-'2011' Libyan revolution date (S.19)

These references of numbers will be discussed. Depending on a governmental source, CNN begins its headline by referring to the 'nine' persons being killed- the causalities of fighting between the national army and Ansar al-Sharia fighters. But, it refers to statistics released by LANA, the official Libyan news agency, saying that 'six' soldiers and 'one' civilian paid their lives in the fighting in addition to '39' injured. Thus, the causalities are different. Within S.4, CNN repeats the government source's numbers: 'nine' dead and '49' injured as an assertion. By doing this, CNN prefers the government statement as it is the most trusted one. It believes in the Libyan government deeply and trusts its statistics as the truest one. In S.5, CNN refers to another number, but, this time, is opaque by saying 'members'. Here, CNN refers to some of Ansar al Sharia fighters without indicating the exact number as it is unknown. Thus, the reference to the number, here, is foggy and undefined. The same thing can be said about the same numeric reference in S. 9. It concerns with the 'members' of Thunderbolt unit fighters who responded to Ansar al-Sharia's attack by raiding on their locations in Benghazi. The number, here, is vague, as well. In both cases, the unknown numbers may be large numbers as they are armed units fighting with each other. Thus, to know the exact number is difficult as it cannot be established. In fact, what CNN cares for is that fighting took place between the two parties leading to 'nine' dead and '49' injured.

Finally, CNN refers to the year '2011' as it is the year of liberation from tyranny and oppression. It is the year when the Libyan Arab spring revolution against Muammar el-Gaddaffi's regime erupted. It is a historical date for the Libyans as they can't forget due to the fact that it ends the old era of an oppressive dictatorship and begins a new era of democracy and change.

To end the micro structures analysis, the researchers assert that CNN is determinant to show

its ideological view towards the Libyan event. It supports the Libyan government and its army, the positive "Self" (in-group) and antagonizes Ansar Al- Sharia, the negative "Other" (out –group); manifesting its text's connection with van Dijk's Ideological Square of positive "Self" and negative "Other" presentation.

3.Conclusion

Throughout its news story, CNN addresses the Libyan internal conflict between its two groups; the Libyan government and its army, on one side, and Ansar al-Sharia and radical Islamists, on the other side. It provides the readers with information to draw a comprehensive picture of the Libyan internal scene. At the beginning, CNN reminds the readers with the Ansar al-Sharia's assault at the American diplomatic mission in Benghazi killing the American ambassador and three other employees. Perhaps, this is CNN's clear hint to shed light on its ideological attitude towards the Libyan conflict which will not be supportive of this radical organization and Islamists, in general. Accordingly, the researchers noticed that CNN commits itself to be supportive for the Libyan government and army in their policies and operations to terminate Ansar al-Sharia and Islamic groups, expressing its antagonism and rejection of them. Thus, CNN's ideological representations of "Self" and "Other" are drawn vividly throughout the whole text. Within its text, CNN presents the Libyan government and its national army as the positive "Self", drawn positively, and the Ansar al-Sharia and Islamists as the negative "Other", drawn negatively. As such, CNN's ideological view is connected with van Dijk's Ideological Square theory of positive "Self" (in-group) and negative "Other" (out-group) presentation. The CDA study of CNN's news story text titled 'Nine killed in clashes between army, Islamist group in Benghazi, Libya' will be outlined in the following table (1).

Table 1. Summary of CNN's Case Study

Category	Theme	Ideological Representation
1) Semantic Macrostructure	To reflect the Libyan internal crisis showing the Libyan government's efforts to restore peace and stability against Ansar al- Sharia.	Positive for the Libyan government and army Negative for the Ansar al-Sharia and radical Islamists
2) Syntactic structures		
Actor Role	To establish three groups of actors: -Joint: the Libyan government & army and Ansar al-Sharia -the Libyan government & army -Ansar al-Sharia	Positive for the Libyan government and army Negative for the Ansar al-Sharia and radical Islamists
Reporting Past & Present event	To inform about past event and to provide background, information and historical facts To inform about present events and true facts	Positive for the Libyan government and army Negative for the Ansar al-Sharia and radical Islamists
3)Lexical structures		
War against Ansar al-Sharia register	To show the campaign against Ansar al-Sharia and Islamic militias	Positive for the Libyan government and army Negative for the Ansar al-Sharia and radical Islamists
Background information register	To enrich the text with past information for readers' better understanding	Positive for the Libyan government and army Negative for the Ansar al-Sharia and radical Islamists
4)Rhetorical structures		
Information sources	To assert credibility, truth & objectivity	Positive for the Libyan government and army Negative for the Ansar al-Sharia and radical Islamists
Numbers	To endorse credibility, trust & Objectivity To assert facts, evidence & truth	Positive for the Libyan government and army Negative for the Ansar al-Sharia and radical Islamists

Figure 2 outlines CNN's ideological representation of positive "Self" and negative "Other" for its case study that concerns with CNN's article titled 'Nine killed in clashes between army, Islamist group in Benghazi, Libya'.
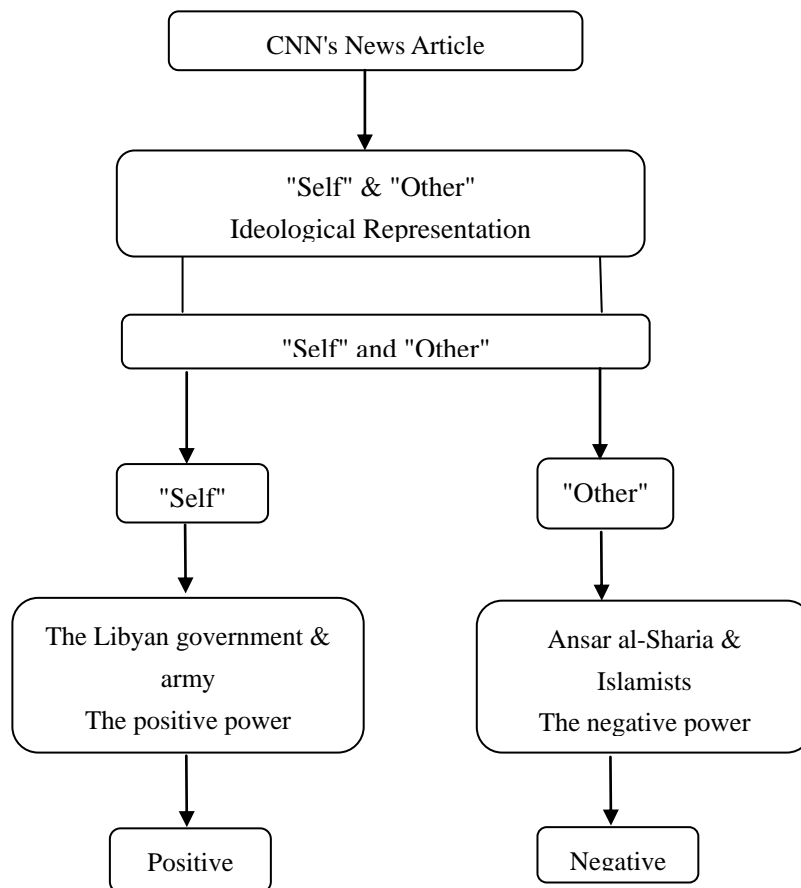

Figure 2. CNN's Ideological Representation-

Acknowledgement

References

Ali, G. (2011). Hero or terrorist? A comparative analysis of Arabic and Western media depictions of the execution of Saddam. In *Discourse & Communication*. London: Sage, *5*(4) 301-335.

Ali, G. A. (2004). *English headlines in the Arabic press: a comparative study from an ideological perspective.* Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Universiti Sains Malaysia. Malaysia

Bell, A., & Garret P. (1998). *Approaches to media discourse*. Oxford: Blackwell Publisher

Bell, A. (1991). *The Language of news media.* Oxford: Basil Blackwell, Inc.

Ben Ammar, T. (2009). The language of terrorism / Al-Jazeera and the framing of terrorism discourse. Retrieved July 28 2012 from *ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Abstract.*

el-Nawawy, M. and Powers, S. (2010). Al- Jazeera English: A conciliatory medium in a conflict –driven environment? *Global Media and Communication*, 6:61. London: Sage

Fairclough, N. (1995b). *Media discourse*. New York: Arnold.

Fairclough, N. (1995a). *Critical discourse analysis: the critical study of language.* London & New York: Longman

Firdous, T. (2009). Al Jazeera English, Presenting a non-Western viewpoint and contesting Western media dominance during the Gaza crisis. Retrieved November 3 2012 from *ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Abstract.*

Fowler, R. (1991; 2013). *Language in the news: Discourse and ideology in the press*. New York and London: Routledge

Gaub, F. (2014). Libyan recipe for disaster. *Global Politics and Strategy, 56*(1), 101-120. Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group

Lynch, S. (2012). The 2011 Libyan revolution and Gene Sharp's strategy of nonviolent action: what factors precluded nonviolent action in the Libyan uprising, and how do these reflect on Gene Sharp 's theory? Edith Cowan University press. Retrieved from htt://ro.ecu.edu.au_thesess_borns/74 , htt://www.amnesty.org

Ross, G. (2008). *Introducing War: Visual Analysis of Online Media Discourse on Forces and Weapons of the Iraq Conflict*. Carleton University

Sawani, M. (2012). Post-Qaddafi Libya: Interactive dynamics and the political future. *Contemporary Arab Affairs,* 5(1), 1-26.

van Dijk, T. A. (1998). *Ideology: a multidisciplinary approach*. London: sage.

van Dijk, T. A. (1980). *Macrostructures: An interdisciplinary study of global structures in discourse, interaction, and cognition.* New Jersey, U.S.: LEA.

van Dijk, T. A. (1988). *News as discourse.* Hillside, NJ: Erlbaum.

van Dijk, T. A., & Kintsch, W. (1983). *Strategies of discourse comprehension.* New York: Academic Press.

van Genugten, S. (2011). Libya after Gaddafi. *Survival, 53*(3), 61-74. Routledge

Wodak, R. (2001). The discourse –historical approach. In R. Wodak, & M. Mayer (Eds.), *Methods of critical discourse analysis* (pp.63-94). London: Sage

Wodak, R., & Meyer, M. (2009). *Methods of critical discourse analysis*. London: Sage.

Appendix: CNN's News Story Report

1) CNN: Nine killed in clashes between army, Islamist group in Benghazi, Libya

2) Heavy fighting continued Monday in Benghazi between Libyan army forces and an Islamist militant group the United States blames for the attack last year on its diplomatic mission that killed four Americans, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens.

3) LANA, Libya's state news agency, reported that at least six soldiers and one civilian were killed and 39 people were injured, most of them soldiers, in the clashes Sunday between the military and the group Ansar al-Sharia.

4) On Monday, the Libyan government said that at least nine people were killed and 49 injured.

5) A senior Libyan military official in the city, speaking to CNN on condition of anonymity for security reasons, said heavy fighting continued Monday morning as troops engaged members of the group in different parts of Benghazi.

6) At midday, residents and state media reported a tense calm in the city.

7) Schools in Benghazi were closed, and security forces, through alerts on state media, asked residents to remain indoors Monday morning as troops worked to secure the city.

8) The fighting was not a planned operation but a "reaction" to an attack on the army by members of the group Sunday night, the official said.

9) He said members of a military special forces group called Thunderbolt, with support from local residents, responded with raids on Ansar al-Sharia locations in Benghazi.

10) The official said the fighting Monday morning was intense, with Ansar al-Sharia fighters using mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and heavy weapons.

11) He described the situation as very tense after reports that Ansar al-Sharia might be receiving reinforcements from the eastern city of Derna, where jihadist groups are active.

12) Libyan state media reported that military forces were securing all main roads and entrances to the city.

13) A Benghazi resident told CNN that heavy clashes broke out Sunday night, and gunfire and explosions intensified Monday morning across the city.

14) "This is really the heaviest fighting I have heard in Benghazi since the revolution" he said "Ansar al-Sharia versus the army, this has been a long time coming."

Militant group returns

15) After the assault on the U.S. Consulate last year, Benghazi residents attacked the headquarters of Islamist militias in the city, including Ansar al-Sharia's base.

16) The group left the base but later returned.

17) During a visit to Benghazi this year, a CNN team confirmed that Ansar al-Sharia was back at its base and the group had a checkpoint at a western entrance to the city.

18) The government has been struggling to control the hundreds of militia groups that operate freely across the country, including some radical militant groups with ties to al Qaeda in eastern Libya.

Libyan militias hand over Tripoli bases to government

19) Over the past year, there has been a significant deterioration in the security situation in Benghazi, which is Libya's second-largest city and the cradle of the 2011 revolution.

20) After an uptick in violence in the city, most notably in an assassination campaign that has primarily targeted security force members, most of whom held positions under the former regime, the government announced a security plan to secure the city.

21) This month, Benghazi residents reported an increased Libyan army presence, most notably the Thunderbolt forces working to secure the city.

22) Bombings and shootings have targeted army checkpoints and patrols, and a senior military official escaped an assassination attempt when a bomb targeted his car in Benghazi this month.

23) The violence is blamed on Islamist extremist groups in the city.

Copyright Disclaimer