A corpus-based ideational meta-functional analysis of Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan’s speech at United Nations general assembly

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Abstract: The current research paper aims to analyze the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan’s speech at the United Nations General Assembly. It attempts to explore the transitivity process in political speech. In this research, the Ideational meta-function of Halliday’s systemic functional linguistics (SFL) is used as a theoretical framework. Transcription of Imran Khan’s speech at UNGA is taken as research material. A quantitative research methodology is used in this paper to unveil levels of transitivity. The basic unit of transitivity analysis is a clause. For this purpose, a random sample of clauses is obtained from the text for analysis. The theme of Islamophobia, Kashmir, and related text is examined in this research. Transitivity analysis was scrutinized using UAM software, which is a corpus-based analysis tool. Participants, types of process, and circumstances were investigated in depth. Major findings showed that the material process of transitivity is most frequently used by speaker to represent actions and happenings in the physical world. This paper intends to highlight how linguistics analysis of political discourse...
can help to represent the ideology of leaders. The current research may be useful for linguists, researchers, and learners to interpret and analyze texts of different genres from the perspective of SFL.

**Subjects:** Arts & Humanities; Language & Literature; Language & Linguistics

**Keywords:** Ideational meta-function; Imran khan's speech; systemic functional linguistics; transitivity analysis; United Nations general assembly

1. Introduction

The Systemic functional linguistics (SFL) model suggests that human language has developed into three generalized meanings: ideational, interpersonal, and textual meanings (Egginns, 2004; Hao, 2020; Schwarz & Hamman-Ortiz, 2020). Language is considered only a kind of medium that conveys thought or reality. The concept of language has a prodigious effect on an individual's life. Furthermore, language is used to express feelings or opinions. People can convey their points of view verbally or in written form through language. Systemic functional linguistics (SFL) conceptualizes language as a semiotic tool intimately involved in the negotiation, construction, organization, and reconstruction of human experiences (Hasan & Martin, 1989; Sameer & Al Dilaimy, 2020). It indicates how linguistic choices (i.e., grammar) lead to the understanding of social contexts in a systemic way. In this conception, language is a principal resource of making meaning. It is concurrently “a part of reality, a shaper of reality, and a metaphor for reality” (Halliday, 2009, p. 8).

As mentioned earlier, the SFL approach is used worldwide, especially in language education, and for a number of purposes such as discourse analysis. When several linguistic theories deal with language in the form of mental practice, SFL closely relates to human society. Halliday’s tradition, as an illustration, “is more interested in the manner by which language is utilized in social settings to attain a specific target” (O’Donnell, 2011, p. 2). As regards data, SFL does not address the way language is represented or processed in the human brain, but it would rather seek to see discourses produced in the written or oral language and what is contained in the tests being produced. Despite SFL’s obsession with language use, great emphasis is attached to language features, such as what language is used for, rather than what language structure is all about and how it is constructed (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013; Mizell, 2020a, 2020b).

Through the productive principle, SFL provides a scientific description of how language accommodates both the internal organization of the language being used and the external relations associated with the phenomenon under observation (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013; Monbec, 2020). Martin and Rose (2003) explored how the clause structures can be expressed through simultaneous strands of meanings. Ideation explains clause as representation, interpersonal meanings explain clause as exchange and textual meanings explain clause as a message. One of the principal grammatical structures of the ideation is known as Transitivity (Cavallaro & Sembiante, 2020; Halliday et al., 2014).

Transitivity includes the processes [in the verbal group], the participants (human/non-human) who are participating in these processes [in the noun group] and the circumstances in which the processes occur and when, where, and how they occur [in the prepositional sentence and adverbial group]. For example: [Participant] the wild rabbits [Process] in the open glade [Circumstance] danced with their shadows [circumstance] (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013; Linares & Xin, 202). This research aims to provide an appropriate understanding of systemic functional linguistics (SFL) and the transitivity process. It will help readers to understand how a speaker observes and perceives realities and then interprets them. Imran Khan (Pakistan Prime Minister) gave a significant and inspirational speech, and it influenced the minds of Muslims across the globe. In this research, we are focusing on the lexical choices employed by the political leader to convince the people around the world and members of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
In this regard, political discourse analysis (PDA) does not only define participant role but also domains such as organizations, public, media, and writers. Discourse carries the capacity to study the interaction between society and the language used. It can also imitate power relations, hegemony, social conflicts, inequality towards a particular class or group, and feelings of prejudice. Discourse has the power to change the mindsets of people by emphasizing it. Previous studies (Gootly, 2004; Hart et al., 2005; Kazemian & Hashemi, 2014; Shayegh & Nabifar, 2012; Wang, 2010) in the field have not taken systemic functional linguistics as a framework for investigating political discourse except a few but no one did the transitivity analysis. The current study investigates Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan’s speech at United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) from Halliday and Matthiessen (2013) systemic functional linguistic perspective. Despite its reliable importance, there is a lack of linguistics research in systemic functional linguistics and transitivity analysis of the nature of political discourses in the Pakistani context. This research aims to provide a deeper understanding of the fact that political speeches influence their audience. Ideologies can be changed, with a powerful and evident address. The present study aims to analyze the ideational process used by political leaders to represent a reality that would explicate the direction of ideology taken by each clause of the text.

2. Research questions
(1) What are the types of transitivity processes used in Imran Khan’s speech at the United Nations General Assembly?
(2) How does transitivity analysis help in the meaning-making process?
(3) Which transitivity process has been used the most and why?

3. Literature review
In the late 1970s, a community of linguists and literary scholars founded Critical Linguistics at East Anglia University (Fowler et al., 2018; Linares & McCabe, 2020). For them, language represents realities, and it shapes the ideologies and thought processes of people in a significant way. Just like other fields of science and technology, linguistics also studies language in a systematic way. This scientific approach to language operates on various levels of morphology, phonology, semantics, and pragmatics. Along with these aspects, language understands discourses. The critical linguistics approach was based on Halliday’s (1995) Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). Hao (2020) a practitioner of critical linguistics asserts on “isolating ideology in discourse” and uttering, “how ideology and ideological processes are manifested as systems of linguistic characteristics and processes” (p. 11). This goal was followed by evolving analytical tools of critical analysis, based on SFL (Afzaal et al., 2019; Fowler et al., 2018; Linares & Xin, 2020).

Following Halliday’s (1985), these critical linguistics practitioners perceive language in use as performing three functions instantaneously: ideational, interpersonal, and textual. According to Fowler et al. (2018), and Martin et al. (2019), the ideational function refers to the speakers’ experience of the world and their phenomena. Another fundamental premise of CDA and SFL is that speakers make vocabulary and grammar choices and that those choices are consciously or unconsciously “principled and systematic” (Fowler et al., 2018, p.188).

Within the broader perspective of CDA, PDA involves interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary work that focuses on the linguistic and discursive aspects of political text and expression, and the political nature of discursive action. Discourse can be written or spoken language (Fairclough & Fairclough, 2013). Although many political texts including speeches are interpreted and analyzed from the perspective of critical discourse analysis (CDA), sufficient work regarding Systemic Functional Linguistics needs to be encountered in political discourse analysis (PDA). It was observed as Van Dijk (1996) says that there is always some object or agenda to establish in political discourses. That may be the rival’s positive image building or defamation, it may also be to gain the public’s sympathy or clear any position. According to Bayram (2010), language has
different levels including the grammatical level. Grammatical level deals with the transitivity process (Díaz & Deroo, 2020).

The study may help in giving way to the understanding of interpretations and considerations which are undertaken in any given text as well as defining that such an interpretation does not have an upper limit (Coffin & Donohue, 2012; Firth, 2014; Harman et al., 2020). Undertaking the logical angle of dialect, Halliday and Matthiessen (2013) expressed that the target of Systemic Functional Linguistic use is to deliver language structure for the reason of content examination: one that would make it conceivable to say sensible and valuable things around any content, verbal or written.

In recent years, many political discourse studies (Akah et al., 2020; Goatly, 2004; Hart et al., 2005; Kazemian & Hashemi, 2014; Shayegh & Nabifar, 2012; Wang, 2010) is examined under the framework of political discourse analysis (PDA), functional approaches to language are also undertaken to investigated linguistics phenomenon. Eventually, political critical discourse analysis (PCDA) has become quite a unique and emerging field of study in countries like Pakistan. Recently in Pakistan, social sciences, and linguistics, most notably, are given a great amount of attention to emphasize the language related issues because PDA studies how language choices put up a change in the ideology, mindset, and thought process of the speaker and audience.

Recently, Sharififar and Rahimi (2015) studied the political discourse of Obama and Rouhani’s speeches that they delivered at the United Nation in 2013. The fundamental purpose of this research was to examine how the two political leaders communicate their power through speeches. The research examined transitivity and modality (Zappavigna & Dreyfus, 2020) to demonstrate how the language performs its role in the speeches to shape ideology and power. The researchers claim that both political leaders used personal pronouns to demonstrate the recognition of problems faced by the common people.

In another study, Naz et al. (2012), analyzed the speech of Benazir Bhutto by using the transitivity analysis of her political speech. Findings signal that political leaders use certain words to convince people of their ideology. Many other researchers from Pakistan also tried to analyze the linguistics features of both literary and non-literary texts. Given that Noor et al. (2015) investigated semantic and functional properties of the last address given the Holy Prophet (PBUH) from the perspective of systemic functional linguistics. The study focused on the mood analysis using Halliday’s functional model of linguistics (Pramoolsook & Dalimunte, 2020), a clausal analysis and it considered that how interpersonal meta-function introduced by Halliday, operates in religious texts. Findings reveal that religious texts can also be interpreted from the perspective of systemic functional grammar (SFL) presented by Halliday and Matthiessen (2013). Thus, this study aims to show the ideologies and opinions expressed by Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in his speech delivered at UNGA.

4. Research methodology
The current study follows the quantitative research approach. For the analysis of this political discourse, experiential features of the language are interpreted. These aid to identify that how experiences are represented using the linguistics expressions. A clause is used as a unit of experience in the study. Elements of a clause which are representing experiential functions such as process, participant, and circumstances are observed deeply in the study. Ideational meta-function is proposed in this paper from Halliday’s (2009) concept of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). In terms of classifications, the data that carry a similar opinion and ideologies examined through analyzing the transitivity process, are identified in various clauses of the political discourse.

In systemic functional linguistics (SFL), the transitivity process works to link the meta-functions to the grammar. Transitivity is about transmitting a worldview. Transitivity is a key element in the
experiential role of a clause that deals with the transmission of ideas that reflect processes or interactions, actions, events, processes, and circumstances. A clause is taken as a representational unit and by using UAM software, transitivity analysis is done. For this purpose, we inserted a random sample of clauses from the text into the software to get a corpus. This corpus-based analysis was also reviewed manually to prevent any ambiguities. Results are shown by taking screenshots of the software analysis. To describe each process individually, tables are drawn to present findings and UAM results are placed within the tables for a better understanding of the readers. In this study, the clause is the basic unit of analysis. As mentioned earlier, the model followed for this study is Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) by Halliday (2009). As a research methodology, the process of ideational transitivity is adopted to interpret the ideologies and their social functions.

4.1. Material
The transcript of Imran khan’s speech at the United Nations General Assembly was delivered on 27 September 2019, and is taken as a research sample for this study. The transcript was released by BR (business recorder) Web Desk. Random sampling technique is adopted for the analysis of clauses to observe the overall ratio of different transitivity processes including material, relational, mental, verbal, etc. this sampling technique is helpful to represent the whole speech and overall findings of political discourse.

4.2. Theoretical framework
Halliday (2009) offered a functional model of linguistics in which he asserted the social purpose and functions of language in meaning-making process. He introduced three meta-functions: ideational, interpersonal, and textual. Halliday (2009) believed that linguistics could characterize actual sentences with many functions and without a deep structure. A text is analyzed in four ways in SFL. They are context, semantics, lexico-grammar, and phonology.

Semantics describes the three basic levels, which are ideational, interpersonal, and textual meta-functions.

Phonology refers to the sound system, the writing system, and the texting system.

Lexico-grammatical features elucidate both grammar and vocabulary in one stratum, which reflects both lexicon and grammatical views of languages.

The SFL defines distinguishing subsystems at both lexico-grammatical and semantic discourse levels that form contextual variables to generalize concepts or meta-functions. Consequently, SFL supporters claim that human language has evolved and changed with the passage of time into these three fundamental terms.

To begin with, context is listed as one of the core concerns, since it is a fundamental aspect to the overall sense-making process. According to Halliday (2009), language occurs in these ways:

(1) The language occurs in the context of cultures.
(2) The language occurs in the context of the situation.

Halliday (2009) models the context of a situation, where contextual aspects are intimately related to the language used to create text. Halliday (2009) describes these terms into three relations:

Field- provides us with an overview of the subject or what is being discussed.

Tenor- provides an overview of who is/are interested in the conversation and their relationships.
Mode- gives us a sense of what role the language plays in the interaction and what shape (written or spoken) it takes.

According to Halliday (2009), language performs a social function to fulfill a social purpose. These functions are performed considering field, tenor, and mode in mind because they are comprised of functional aspects of language.

The interpersonal meta-function enables us to interact with people, to create relationships with people around us, and to express our views about states or events. Interpersonal meta-function discusses the concept of modality and moods under its premises. It talks about the relationship between speaker and audience, addressee, and addressee. Another question is how far the speaker takes responsibility for the behavior that is being articulated. It also describes the role of a speaker to influence the audience according to his/her ideology.

Textual meta-function of systemic functional linguistics focuses on the text development and the way in which we organize our meanings into the text, which make sense. The textual meta-function refers to how we arrange our messages to incorporate them into other messages that we say or receive, in wider contexts. This approach to SFL works into textual systems. Its main core ingredients are theme and rHEME.

Meta-function of ideation/experiential is focused on this research. Ideational meta-function refers to a field, which relates to the formulation of ideas or thoughts. Halliday (2009) states, “the field of discourse refers to what is happening; to the nature of social action that is taking place: what is it that the participants are engaged in” (p. 12). Ideational transitivity analysis is used as a theoretical framework in this speech because the purpose of this research is to analyze the ideologies of this political discourse. For the explanation, Halliday (2009) proposed a transitivity process.

4.3. (a) Transitivity process
Transitivity analysis is concerned with the ideational meta-function. It expresses the representational meaning of a text. Transitivity analysis is applicable to the ideational mechanism transitivity framework focuses on the language’s semiotic material and looks to the speaker’s grammatical decisions regarding his experiences. Halliday and Matthiessen (2013) assert that ideational meta-function observes the representation of the linguistic order that we impose on the flow of events as we experience them. The grammatical structure to which this meta-function refers is called transitivity.

All the texts have a meaning, and they fulfill a social purpose as well, according to the functional modal of linguistics. Field shows expressed ideas of ideational meta-function.

Field refers to what is going on in the situation.

(a) The nature of the semiotic and social activity
(b) The area of experience this activity relates to (the “subject matter” or “topic”)

The transitivity system enables us to express who does what to whom, where, how, and when, and who are the participants. SFL linguists use this word participant and mean as something more than people involved in some activity. According to Thompson (2013), SFL provides a framework to identify social meanings. Participants in the SFL sense have a function that is associated with another concept they like to use. What participants are doing, and what actions are they engaged in. The transitivity structure can be described as:

5. Agent + process + target accomplishment
In simple terms, the transitivity process is all about the process, participants, and circumstances in which different processes occur. These three terminologies are the essence of this transitivity
process. In SFL, this transitivity process and its core elements help in the meaning-making process, and the creation of multiple interpretations occurs through this. The process is any activity or action of the verbal group, which involves participants in it. Participants are the agents who are contributing to the happening of the process. These participants can be human, non-humans, or ideologies that are participating in the nominal groups of the process. In the transitivity process, Halliday (2009) talks about another phenomenon as well. This phenomenon is termed as circumstances. This aspect refers to a situation in which a process occurs, how it happens, and answers the questions of where, when, and why. The major focus of this aspect is the adverbial group and other prepositional phrases. This transitivity process contains six functional processes.

5.1. (i) Material process
Many practitioners and researchers in case studies and advertisements have used the material process as a research paradigm. The material process comprises happening and achievement. The two main entities of the material process are the agent (subject) and the goal or achievement. The actor is the one carrying out the process usually a subject and the goal is the one getting affected by the process. It could be a human as well as an inanimate object. It is also referred to as a process that involves doings and happenings. In this process, participants are actors, scope attributes, goals, recipients, and clients. Circumstances tell about the manner, place, and time periods of these happenings.

5.2. (ii) Mental process
The mental process involves senses and feelings. It has been divided into four subtypes naming cognition, perception, affection, and desires. The psychological and philosophical association of the actors with their actions is considered in this process. The mental process mainly talks about two terms. These are phenomenon and senser. In this process, participants are referred to as sensers. Participants are the entities who are subjected to feelings. These feelings can be emotional. Senser also includes one who perceives and thinks about a different phenomenon. Phenomenon means anything which is felt, perceived, or thought by senser. In this political speech, many clauses are identified which are performing mental processes. Usually, the mental process does not come in progressive or continuous forms. These processes usually occur in simple present or simple past form.

5.3. (iii) Relational process
The relational process is a procedure of being and the explanation of the complicated links between certain abstract objects. This process is used to elaborate on the relationship between traditional ideals and their beliefs. The relational process helps to the purpose of relating two entities. This process can be broken down into five sub-types: possessive, circumstantial, identifying, attributive, and intensive. In the possessive process, the participants can express their possession towards something. In the circumstantial scheme, the relative process is about pointing implicitly at someone’s wrongdoing, but not proving that unequivocally. The identifying system helps the participants to be changed, along with the resulting shift in the grammatical role. The attribute mechanism does not require the participants to be reversed. Surprisingly, occasionally it does. The critical difference, though, is that the syntactic functions of the members always remain constant, whether they can be changed or not. Additionally, it may be beneficial to bear in mind that an attributive mechanism does not experience passivization. Participants can be replaced either in one of two ways, only by changing roles, or by passivization. Participants are referred to as carriers, identified by nominal phrases or nouns. Relational processes require two participants. With only one actor, one can or cannot have a relation mechanism in a finite clause. Relational processes include becoming, being in possession, or becoming. An identifying process enables the reversal of the participants along with a corresponding shift in grammatical structure. An attributive method usually does not require the reversal of the participants. The participants are Carrier and Attribute if the mechanism is attributive.

5.4. (iv) Verbal process
The verbal process is “clauses of saying” (Halliday, 2009, p.252), usually contributing to the creation of narratives by setting up distinctive dialogues and reported speech. The verbal method
refers to saying something or uttering it. It lies between mental and relational processes because the act of saying does not occur alone. There is a whole process of thinking behind it, which is related to the mind. There are three participants of the verbal process which include Sayer the addresser, Receiver the addressee, or the entity targeted by the saying, and Verbiage the content of what is said or indicated. The participants are called sayers who say something to the recipient, to whom something is being said or addressed, and the verbiage to which the utterances are being made. The verbal process consists of saying verbs such as sayer, verbiage, receiver, target. Participants are sayers; it refers to the addresser in the verbal process of transitivity. Receiver refers to the entity at the receiving end. It involves the addressee, who is identified as an object by the saying. In the verbal process, the content of the sayer can be indicated by the term verbiage. Verbal processes include all communicating and signaling forms, even if they do not need to be verbal, such as “showing”. Content can be realized as a complete expected clause, a participant (verbiage), or a situation (matter).

5.5. (v) Behavioral process
The behavioral process deals with psychology. It is a hybrid process which comprises of mental and material processes such as dreaming and starting. This process coexists with behavior. It falls in dimensions of material and mental processes. Usually, behavioral processes are intransitive and include only the Behaver as an agent. The main participant in this process is called a behaver. If there are two participants in a process, then the second one is coined as behavior.

5.6. (vi) Existential process
It is the hardest part of the bunch. It includes existential structures that are applied by an open space in the subject's role (it is sometimes called an explosive, but do not ask why). The standard verb used is the “be” verb and any time you see a structural construction; you have got an existential cycle. The existential process does not have any representational function. It has no distinctive features and does not signify anything more than the existence of an event or a material. This process explains an entity, an action, a state of being, or an event. Further, this process includes only the existence of the subject. Easy diagnosis is that, in the existential phase, progressive is prohibited. Whereas mental and emotional processes oppose the progressive aspect, and it is absolutely forbidden by the existential process. In an existential process, there is also only one actor—the Existing. The Existent is a literal process that is existentially understood.

6. Findings and discussion
Imran Khan delivered an impassioned speech at the forum of the United Nations. The purpose of delivering that speech was to promote world peace and unity and to convince the universal audience about the urgency of the issues around the world so that the United Nations could take some constructive actions. To fulfill his purpose, his lexical choice was very valuable and meaningful. He used language very skillfully to obtain his achievements.

6.1. Lexical choices
Imran khan's speech at UNGA consists of 2015 words and 173 sentences. Text complexity was also investigated. The average word length is 4.62 and the average sentence length is 11.4. In lexical density, lexeme density is 5.63, and lexemes percentage of text is 49.04. Token words and frequency are analyzed using UAM corpus-based software. The most frequently used token in the speech was the definite article “the”. The use of “the” indicates definiteness in the text, perceived by the ideologies of the speaker. It is also investigated that the material process is most frequently used in this text. Relative process type takes the second number in the speech. Topics of Islamophobia and Kashmir are taken for quantitative data analysis. Different important lexemes are discovered in frequency analysis which helps to get the speaker's perspective.

6.2. Use of personal pronouns
Results indicate that Imran Khan used the personal pronoun “I” 23 times in the text. The personal pronoun “we” is also used 36 times by the speaker in the text. The use of personals creates
a relationship between the speaker and the targeted audience. By using “we” Khan emphasized that the Pakistani nation has a particular ideology, stance, and aim to fulfill. In this speech, the transitivity process signals that the material process is more often used by Imran Khan in his speech.

6.3. Transitivity analysis
Transitivity analysis proposed by Halliday (2009) consists of three core elements, which are constituents of systemic functional linguistics (SFL). McEnery and Hardie (2011) emphasized utilizing a corpus-based model in examining the meta-function of ideational use of language that is also termed as experiential or representational. The ideational function helps in the meaning making process in this research to highlight Imran Khan’s political stance.

6.4. Participant
People and things that are involved in the process.

6.5. Process
It includes actions in the sentences and clauses.

6.6. Circumstances
This process talks about who does what to whom, when, where, why, and how. If we look at a quantitative data analysis of the speech of Imran Khan using the UAM software, we can interpret that all three elements of SFL are present in his speech as given in figure 1.

In this evidence, from the software, there are a total number N of 1297 words and they are making 96.2% of the total N.

6.7. Process type’s description
This part of the findings answers our research question: which process type is used mostly, and why is it used in this speech? Considering Halliday’s (2009) model of transitivity analysis, a corpus-based analysis was done (see figure 2) and from it, we interpreted that material process is quite frequently used by Imran Khan so that he can convince the audience to focus on his argument.

Since the basic unit of transitivity was a clause, so clauses present in the text were identified and analyzed. From the results, the most used clause-type in his speech is the material process type. The clause-type which takes the second position in this text is the relational process type. Then after relational type, comes mental, verbal, and existential in a subsequent manner in clause-types. These clause-types are making 26.52% of the total text. Hence, it can be said that these clauses and their types play a significant role in shaping-up a text and these cannot be neglected.
For further detailed analysis, each process type is studied and described individually for the easiness of the reader.

6.8. Material process
Material verbs are the most frequently used verbs in the speech of Imran Khan. He tried to convince the audience by presenting what is happening in Kashmir and in the whole world about Islam. The material process is the clause of “doing and happening” (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013, p.224). The material process perceives a chain of change as it is happening during events by the application of some energy. This energy has its root in the participant. Typically, material processes entail two participants i.e. the actor or the agent (Wang, 2010, p. 77).

An examination of the material process (as can be seen in figure 3) is important for the current study because, regarding the aspects of transitivity, the doer of the action is conceived as being more powerful than the one who merely considers or carries an attribute. From the above figure, we can notice that the material process has four types which are intransitive, mono-transitive, ergative, and ditransitive. Material processes appear two hundred and twelve times in Imran Khan’s speech, which is used to convey some message to the public. This process is suitable for him to raise his voice against Islamophobia and the issues of Kashmir.

In table 1, frequency of important lexemes is reported to indicate the choices made in the use of language by Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan. Whereas, in table 2, there are some clauses that are taken from the speech in which the material process is used. For instance, in the first clause “we” is used as an actor, and “Islamophobia” refers to the goal. Here, the speaker uses the word “we” which means he is referring to the whole nation, the whole Muslim community who face prejudice against Islam. Another example is clause number 5 in which “I” is an actor and “myself” is the goal.
speaker is the Prime Minister of Pakistan, so, he is the dominant person in the world, he used his own example to emphasize the Kashmiris who faced lockdown.

6.9. Relational process
Relational processes “are processes of being” (Halliday, 2009, p.119). They are essential in attempting to examine identity and power relationships (see table 3) because relational processes are critical ways of assigning roles, class memberships, and identities as (Halliday, 2009, p.214) posits them. According to the above table, there are four types of relational processes which
includes identifying relational process which refers to the “state of being” of the entity. As we know that “relation processes create a relation between the entities” (Wang, 2010, p. 12). Similarly, the attributive relational process refers to the quality whereas, the circumstantial process denotes the location of the particular entity (Wang, 2010). So, the possessive relational process refers to the possession of the entity.

Figure 4 shows that there is no identifying relational process and circumstantial relational process found in the speech of Imran Khan but attributive (49) relational process and possessive (10) relational process are present in the speech.

For example, in the relational clause “The state of Medina was the first that took the responsibility of women … ” here the attributive relational clause is used so that the quality of the “state of Medina” has been brought through the attribute “the first”. The second example is taken from the speech is “The Prophet (PBUH) is the ideal”, here in this example “the ideal” is the quality of the Prophet (PBUH). In the 5th example, “This is why the UN has a responsibility”, a possessive relational process is used. The 4th example “Mr. Modi is a ‘life member’ of RSS” is the attributive relational process that is taken from the speech. In this clause “life member” is the quality of “Mr. Modi”.

6.10. Mental process
Mental clauses refer to “our inner experience of the world, our consciousness, our state of being, and our reflection on or “our relation to outer experience” (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013, p.245). There are two participants involved in this process, the sensor or experiencer (see table 4), and the other one is the phenomenon. There are four types of mental processes which are: affection, feelings, cognition, and perception. The following examples are taken from the speech of Imran

| Table 3. Examples of Relational process |
|----------------------------------------|
| No | Carrier | Process | Attribute | Circumstance |
|----|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. | The state of Medina | Was | the first | that took responsibility of women; the widows, the poor. |
| 2. | The Prophet (PBUH) | Is | The ideal | |
| 3. | It | Was | In Islam, a sacred duty | to protect places of worship of all religions |
| 4. | Mr Modi | Is | a “life member” of RSS. | |
| 5. | This | Is | Why the UN has a responsibility | Why |

![Figure 4. Types of relational process and its frequency.](image-url)
Khan. In the second example, the speaker talks about the present condition, he says “he feels fear that India will again blame Pakistan for the Pulwama Incident”.

Here in this example, he uses the word “we” which refers to sensor and senses fear. In the last example, the speaker addresses the people of UNGA and directly pointing at them by saying “you”. Here in this example, desideration or perception is used. In the first example, “they” is taken as sensor and “believe” is used as a process on which sensor acts. In this example, the speaker says, “the sensor believes that the golden age of Hinduism halted because of Muslim Rule”. This example falls in the liking which is the category of mental process. In the third example mentioned in the table, the speaker presents himself and his nation by using the word “we”.

### 6.11. Verbal-process

Verbal processes are the practices of saying “which exist in the boundary between relational processes and mental processes as what did you say? I said, it is cold here?” (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013, p.302; Halliday, 2009, p. 252–253). This process involves three parts which are sayer (the participant who speaks), receiver (the one to whom the verbiage is directed) and the verbiage (verbalization or what is said). The sayer, in terms of organization, is depicted as the stronger border because its verbiage has a potential effect on the life of the target or the recipient who is seen as the goal or victim of the verbiage of sayer. For instance, in the clause taken from the following table, “I told India to give us a proof”, here in this example “I” is the sayer and the speaker too who is the prime minister of Pakistan. Ideationally, this clause brings “I” as more authoritative, the source of information and the entity that regulates behavior, while the receiver in the clause is “India” which is portrayed to be under the obligation of what the sayer says. In the first example given in table 5, that is “Modi says this is done for the prosperity of Kashmir.” Here, “Modi” is the sayer so this clause shows “Modi” as more authoritative, while the verbiage in the clause is “is done for the prosperity of Kashmir”.

### 6.12. Existential process

Existential process represents something which exists or happens. These types of clauses have verb “be” or some other verbs such as “exist and rise”, which are followed by nominal groups

| Table 4. Examples for mental process |
|---|
| No | Sensor | Process | Phenomenon |
|---|---|---|---|
| They | Believe (affective) | that the golden age of Hinduism halted b/c of Muslim rule |
| We | Fear (feelings) | Another Pulwama incident. |
| We | Thought (cognition) | post the elections we would go back to a normal relationship |
| You | Think (perceive) | Kashmiris will accept a new status quo under revocation of Article 370. |

| Table 5. Examples of verbal process |
|---|
| No | Sayer | Process | Addressee | Verbiage | Circumstance |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Modi | Says | This | is done for the prosperity of Kashmir. |
| 2 | Who | Said | Kashmir rights | To self-determination |
| 3 | I | Told | India | To give us proof |
| 4 | Who | Admitted | | To crimes |
functioning as existent (a thing which exists in the process, as given in table 6). “There are 1.3 billion Muslims in the world” this example is taken from the following table in which the speaker talks about the existence of the Muslims in the world.

The second example which is taken from the speech is “There are Radical fringes in every society”. In this example, the speaker shows the presence of the radical fringes in every society of the world, either it is Pakistani society or American society. The clause which is used in the table is also taken from the speech of Imran Khan who is the Prime Minister of Pakistan. In this clause, Imran Khan talks about the religion of Muslims which is the religion of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), named Islam which promulgates tolerance and terminates radicalism.

Figure 5 presents the whole transitivity process which includes mental type, material type, relational type, existential type, and verbal type. The material process of transitivity is the most frequently used process in this speech. Material verbs are the most frequently used verbs and the Prime minister used this verbal process to represent what is happening in the world. Since the material process in transitivity helps to identify the happenings and doings of participants, Imran Khan used words like “We faced islamophobia” which represents that some other entities do something to the actor under some circumstances, and the actor is affected by that process. To show this happening, the Prime minister preferred to use material verbs quite frequently in his speech, because the action of doer must contain some intentional process under which the action happens, so he tried to reveal the intentional process others have undertaken against Islam and Kashmir with the help of material verbs. Material process refers

| No | Circumstance | Process | Existent |
|----|--------------|---------|----------|
| 1  | There        | Are     | 1.3 billion Muslims in the world. |
| 2  | There        | Are     | Radical fringes in every society. |
| 3  | There        | Is      | Only ONE Islam and that is the Islam of Prophet (PBUH). |

Figure 5. Diagram of whole transitivity process.

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to further four types; these are intransitive, monotransitive, ergative, and ditransitive. Material process pertains a total of 16.35% of the total process of transitivity. In the material process, the most dominant part is monotransitivity, it contains 7.32% of the total process of transitivity in SFL. Similarly, the mental process comprises cognition and perception. Whereas, the relational process also has two types attributive and possessive. The attributive process makes 3.78% of the total 4.5% relational process. In contrast, the possessive quality of the relational process makes 0.77% of the total relational process. In this diagram, there are also the frequencies of the transitivity process. Material and relational process types are found as dominating features of this text. Hence, the current study illustrates that the transitivity process is a significant feature to understand a political discourse.

7. Conclusion
The analysis of the political discourse of Imran Khan’s speech is done, using systematic functional linguistics (SFL) by Michael Alexander Kirkwood Halliday. Imran Khan addressed the members of the United Nations General Assembly on 27 September 2019; when the issue of Kashmir brought two nations on the verge of war. A special meeting of the United Nations was called upon on the demand of Pakistani ambassador Maleeha Lodhi to the United Nations. Imran khan delivered his thoughts very systematically. He started his speech with climate change and money laundering and then moved towards the issue of islamophobia and Kashmir. Pakistani Prime Minister used a very clear and distinguishing style in the United Nations and made the world leaders sit and think about this urgent cause of the Kashmir issue. Through this speech, the speaker tried to describe his experiences of the real world. Ideational meta-function was analyzed in this speech. Material process and relational process are most frequently used in this speech. The material process represents the physical actions and experiences of the speaker. From the corpus-based results, it is identified that in the grammatical rank of the ideational unit, there are four core ingredients. These are participants, process, circumstances, and configuration. Participants, process, circumstances, and configuration contribute a lot to the grammatical ranking. The configuration is quite frequently found in Imran Khan’s speech that has further derivations of the clausal types. These types are material, mental, verbal, relational, modal, and existential. The material process can be observed as most dominating and most influential by Prime Minister Imran Khan. He used this process to show what is happening with the people of Kashmir and he tried to tell people how hate is spreading against Muslims. For this purpose, he mostly used Material verbs to transfer his message and the information by telling the actions of DOER and the process of happenings. Physical actions of DOER are declared by the addressee through clauses such as: “We faced Islamophobia” and “I picture myself in Kashmir”. These Material verbs show how the speaker is presenting the happenings in front of UNGA members. In the material process, there are intransitive, monotransitive, ergative, and ditransitive verbs. Among these types, the most dominating type is the monotransitive verb. From the results, it is illustrated that Prime Minister Imran Khan used material type mostly in his political discourse. Language can be observed clearly with the assist of this paper. These findings may help the reader to understand how political leaders perceive realities and represent them in their own versatile style. Leaders use language as a functional unit, and by using language as a tool they make ideologies and present them in front of the audience. The current study supports to comprehend the significance of systematic functional linguistics (SFL) in political discourse. It may also facilitate the researchers to analyze the experiential or representational elements of speech discourse through Halliday systemic functional linguistics.

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