The paper is dedicated to the linguistic cognitive analysis of the allusion, exploration of pragmatic potential of stylistic means of its expression in the speeches of Abraham Lincoln.

The paper defines the notion of allusion, the main features that distinguish it from related phenomena, structure, types and mechanisms of allusions. In addition, special attention is paid to the characteristics of political discourse as a domain of the presidential speech implementation.

Detailed analysis of the works of this issue shows that in modern linguistics the term “allusion” has no unambiguous interpretation, and therefore other related phenomena are not clearly delineated from allusion, among them are: quotation, reference to literary or general cultural phenomenon, links, folklore, literary historical or everyday fact, known aphoristic expression, idioms, associations.

Allusion studies are reflected in the works of various scientists: O. Akhmanova, O.M. Dronova, I.A. Behta, M.V. Vorobiova, T.M. Kara, O.M. Kopylna, G.V. Kuznetsova, O. Akinshyna, K.S. Karpova, O.O. Lavrynenko, N.Y. Novokhacheva, A.B. Romaniuk and other linguists. For example, G.M. Kuznetsova draws attention primarily to the cognitive aspect of allusions research. According to O.M. Dronova and A.A. Tiutenko, allusion investigation may be conducted within the study of intercultural relations, problems of intertextuality, it may cover the field of stylistics, phraseology, translation, and have different directions. N.Y. Novokhacheva focuses her works on the study of allusions in newspaper and journalistic style, and in the belles-lettres style it is researched by M.D. Tukhareli.

The topicality of the paper is stipulated by the general trends of modern researches to analyze the cognitive pragmatic aspect of the utterance, implicit world of the foreign culture, intertextual relations of the literary text and its stylistically significant parameters. There arise various issues related to the recognition of allusions in literature by the hearer, the desire to represent them without losing their artistic shades of meaning and transferring the functions they perform in the original work of art, as well as the identification of the best ways of their embodiment.

Subject of the research – allusions, found in the English texts of speeches of the 16th US president, Abraham Lincoln. Means of allusions representation, verbalized units, found in the English speeches of Abraham Lincoln: 84 cases of verbalized allusions and 15 fragments situations where biblical phrases are used constitute the object of the article. 17 A. Lincoln’s texts of speeches in English have been analyzed for the study.

The aim of the study is to identify cognitive-pragmatic potential of allusions in the English political discourse and to determine different ways of allusions verbalization by stylistic means of the English language. Thus, the objectives are:
- clarify the content of terminological notion of allusion in the modern linguistics;
- determine the types and mechanism of allusions in political discourse;
- identify characteristic features and functional features of political discourse;
- describe the possibilities of verbalization of allusions in Abraham Lincoln’s presidential speeches;
- find out pragmatic potential of biblical phrases in the
English texts of these speeches.

**Research methods.** Descriptive method is the essential one. It allows to give an accurate and complete description of language units. Descriptive-empirical method makes it possible to describe the pragmatic characteristics of the studied phenomena; contextual interpretation, which highlights the functioning of language units in a particular environment; to confirm the objectivity of the results the elements of the quantitative analysis are used and schematic representation of elements of quantitative characteristics; statistical data analysis.

In the process of research, in particular when working upon the typical papers on the subject, a sufficient number of sources has not been found, especially those that directly analyze allusion as a stylistic device in A. Lincoln’s speeches. That’s why cognitive and quantitative analysis of the ways of allusion verbalization in the English texts of presidential speeches represents an element of novelty of this work.

Language in politics implements a number of related functions, the main of which is argumentative – regulation of outlook and behavior of citizens. The distinctive feature of political discourse is its focus on the recipient in order to achieve perlocutive effect – to cause social and political reaction in the audience. Typically, members of political communication represent certain socio-political positions, and exchange of information has a pragmatic purpose, i.e., communicative process in politics always has intentional nature. Political discourse refers to a special type of communication, for which a high degree of manipulation is typical, and therefore identifying the mechanisms of political communication is important for determining characteristics of language as a means of influence.

Thus, the study of 17 A. Lincoln’s speeches made it possible to single out and analyze allusions used by the politician during his presidency. From the point of view of the abovementioned ways of verbalization of such speech expressions different stylistic means can be used, among them are: metaphors, comparisons, historical and cultural realities (using information about the known events), place names, anthroponyms, mythologisms, biblical phrases (see Fig. 1).

O. Fedorova distinguishes in A. Lincoln’s speeches basic metaphor “law”, in which the following aspects can be singled out:

![Figure 1. Stylistic means of allusion verbalization in A. Lincoln’s political speeches.](image)

“power”: Government; Republican Administration; All members of Congress; State or national authority; the Federal Union; Federal offices; Supreme Court; The Chief Magistrate; Almighty Ruler of Nations; American people; judgement of Courts; Ministers of justice. Involvement of American people into the list of “powerful institutions” has a symbolic value here (Almighty Ruler of Nations; American people);

“document”: the Articles of Association in 1774; Declaration of Independence in 1776; Articles of Confederation in 1778; Constitution; Act of the Legislature; the Nebraska doctrine; the Dred Scott decision;

“legal right”: institution of slavery; lawful right; rights of the States; evidence; delivered up on claim; clause should be enforced; civilized and humane jurisprudence; privileges and immunities of citizens; unconstitutional; legal contemplation; legal right; the exercise of the offices.

The use of legal and judicial terms, besides implementation of the mentioned tactics of conviction is a clear example and argument of “legal experience” of the speaker and therefore his authoritative and reliability. Complex syntactic structures (compound and complex sentences, branched syntactic systems, various phrases) which are common for official-business style are used in a speech with the same purpose: At the same time, the candid citizen must confess that if the policy of the Government upon vital questions affecting the whole people is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court, the instant they are

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1 Pavlova Ye.K. “Lexychnyi problemy hlobochnoho politychchnoho dyskursu” [Lexical issues of global political discourse]. Visnyk Moskovskoho universytetu, Ser. 19, Linhvistyka i mizhkulturna komunikatsiia, 2005, № 2, P. 98-112.
2 Popova O.I. “Nekotoryye problemy politicheskogo diskursa” [Some problems of political discourse]. Aktualnyye voprosy perevodovedeniya i lingvistiki: materialy nauchnoy sessii VolGU, Volgograd, 2001, P. 73-77.
3 Abraham Lincoln Online.org: [E-source], URL: www.abrahamlincolnonline.org
4 Fedorova O. “Takttyki ta linhvistychnyi zasoby persvazyvnoi strathei v inauhurtatsiiim promovi A.Linkolna” [Linguostylistic Means and Tactics of Persuasive Strategy Implementation in A. Lincoln’s Inauguration Speech]. Filolohichni dyskurs, Khmelnytskyi, 2015, Vyp. 1, P. 86-90.
5 Karpova K.S. “Oznaky metatxfrazytsi amerykanskooho kulturnoho symvolu Martin Luther King” [Peculiarities of metaphor representation of the American cultural symbol Martin Luther King]. Suchasni doslidzhennia z inozemnoi filolohii, 2010, Vyp. 8, P. 268-274.
ordinary litigation between parties in personal actions the people will have ceased to be their own rulers, having to that extent practically resigned their Government into the hands of that eminent tribunal. Sentences with complicated syntactic structure make hearer focus attention, follow the main idea, and reader – reread the text repeatedly.

At the lexical level basic metaphor of Lincoln’s notion “law” is verbalized by the nouns “right”, “law”, “oath”, by the derived adjectives “lawful”, “legal”, by the verbs “swear”, “promise”: to take in your presence the oath; I have no lawful right; rights of the States; the lawless invasion; lawfully demanded; under the laws; the lawgiver is the law; All members of Congress swear their support; contemplation of universal law; its organic law; all constitutional rights can be maintained; All the vital rights of minorities; I fully recognize the rightful authority.

The following examples illustrate comparative metaphorical turns of speech: …could not by force, take a drink from the Ohio, or make a track on the Blue Ridge, in a trial of a thousand years; If they were annually swept, from the stage of existence, by the plague or small pox, honest men would, perhaps, be much profited, by the operation; …but such belong not to the family of the lion, or the tribe of the eagle; They (the histories) were a fortress of strength; the silent artillery of time; They were a forest of giant oaks; but the all-resistless hurricane has swept over them, and left only, here and there, a lonely trunk, despoiled of its verdure, shorn of its foliage; to murmur in a few gentle breezes; They were the pillars of the temple of liberty.

Historical and cultural realities are embodied by the following expressions: under date of the nineteenth century of the Christian era; He witnessed in the beginning the throes of the French Revolution. He saw the rise and fall of Napoleon; “When Greece rose against the Turks and struck for liberty, his name was mingled with the battle-cry of freedom. When South America threw off the thraldom of Spain, his speeches were read at the head of her armies by Bolivar; …in the days of Nullification; The others followed more rapidly – the discovery of America in 1492; the Lutheran Reformation in 1517; Webster, at the time of writing his Dictionary;

Anthroponyms: with a Buonaparte for a commander; We permitted no hostile foot to pass over or desecrate his resting place; shall be that which to learn the last trump shall awaken our WASHINGTON; What! think you these places would satisfy an Alexander, a Caesar, or a Napoleon? – Never!; the head of her armies by Bolivar;

Place names: All the armies of Europe, Asia and Africa combined, with all the treasure of the earth (our own excepted) in their military chest…; They have pervaded the country; from New England to Louisiana…; Those happening in the State of Mississippi, and at St. Louis; Look at his apparel, and you shall see cotton fabrics from Manchester and Lowell; flax-linen from Ireland; wool-cloth from Spain; silk from France; fur from the Arctic regions; spices from the Indies; The whale of the Pacific furnishes his candle-light; he has a diamond-ring from Brazil; a gold-watch from California, and a Spanish cigar from Havana;

Mythologisms: …and though you throw it with more than Hercules’ force and precision; The success of the argument in favor of the existence of an over-ruling Providence, mainly depends upon that sense; when Solomon referred the sluggard to them as patterns of prudence.

Allusion belongs to the key rhetorical techniques used in speeches, it enriches content information and creates numerous associations by means of hinting at events, facts, characters of other works, or by using famous cultural and historical facts⁸.

General distribution of allusion means and techniques used in Abraham Lincoln’s’ speeches, is reflected in table 1 (see Table 1).

| Table 1 |
| --- |
| **Allusion means in Abraham Lincoln’s speeches** |

| Means / technique | Number of units | % |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Metaphor “law”** | 33 | 39,3 |
| “law – power” | 14 | 16,6 |
| “law – documents” | 7 | 8,4 |
| “law – right” | 12 | 14,3 |
| **Comparison** | 10 | 11,9 |
| **Historical and cultural realities** | 8 | 9,5 |
| **Anthroponyms** | 6 | 7,1 |
| **Place names** | 24 | 28,6 |
| **Mythologisms** | 3 | 3,6 |
| **Total** | 84 | 100 |

Thus, as it can be easily seen from the table, Abraham Lincoln often used in his speeches different types of metaphorical shifts – 39,3% and appealed to the existing US legislative base of the time, quoting the law and commenting on some of its articles; toponymic nomination stands second (28,6%), i.e., the president often compared their state to others, using proper names of countries, continents, cities and other geographical notions. Somewhat less frequent are comparisons, historical and cultural realities, and the least attention was paid to mythologisms.

Political discourse is considered by linguists as an object of linguistic and cultural study, as a secondary language

⁸ Ibid., P. 268-274.
Allusion as a linguistic phenomenon is still at its stage of development and is an important issue in the modern linguistic science. In the framework of cognitive stylistics activation of studies of allusions occurs in the 20th century, although its use as a means of expression reaches 15th century.

Since allusion is a complex multifaceted concept, there exist many linguistic works with its definitions as a term “hidden, anonymous quote that includes a hint at literary or general cultural phenomenon”; reference, folklore, literary, historical, or everyday fact, well known aphoristic expression, idiom, association.

Allusion belongs to the key rhetorical devices used in speech, it enriches texts content and creates numerous associations at the expense of addressing to facts, events, famous personalities, places, cultural and historical facts.

The analysis of political discourse involves primarily the investigation of texts together with extralinguistic factors and shows how in different linguistic groups cultural values are modeled, how social order is propagated, which elements of language picture of the world remain outside of the conscious speech strategies of the speakers, how conceptual picture of the world, typical for each linguistic community, is formed.

Conclusion. The 16th US president Abraham Lincoln often used in his speeches different types of metaphorical shifts – 39,3% and appealed to the existing US legislative base of the time, quoting the law and commenting on some of its articles; toponymic nomination stands second (28,6%), i.e., the president often compared their state to others, using proper names of countries, continents, cities and other geographical notions. Somewhat less frequent are comparisons, historical and cultural realities, and the least attention was paid to mythologies.

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