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English Language and Literature (**Linguistics**)**

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## **A Critical Discourse Analysis of Al Jazeera English and BBC News Headlines:**

**The Case of the Israeli Raid of Gaza's Al Shifa Hospital**

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## **DEDICATIONS**

**I dedicate this humble work to my parents, who instilled in me the value of hard work and perseverance, and to my siblings, whose light-hearted banter was the best stress-reliever. This achievement is as much yours as it is mine.**

**I also dedicate it to those who profoundly inspired the topic of the study, Evil Breakers: Mahmoud, Yakoub, Zakaria, Mohamed, Ayham and Monadel.**

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# ABSTRACT

This study investigates the ideological features in the online news headlines of Al Jazeera English (AJE) and BBC's English-language broadcasts which emphatically have different perspectives. The exploration is concerned with headlines covering Israel's raid of Al Shifa hospital in the on-going war in Gaza, Al Aqsa Flood. A Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) approach is applied to analyse the headlines, specifically employing Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Framework, which consists of three interconnected dimensions: description, interpretation, and explanation. Additionally, Van Dijk's Ideological Square is used to detect the construction of biased representations of 'Us' versus 'Them'. The findings pointed to the fact that both channels have ingrained their ideological stances, using distinctively unique terminologies to report Al Shifa hospital incident, resulting in variant interpretations. More to the point, AJE highlights Israel as a rogue, whose raid is baseless and only meant to target civilians, while Hamas is a law-abiding part that has never exploited the hospital for military purposes as claimed. On the contrary, BBC depicted Israel as being compliant when raiding the hospital to achieve legal objectives against critical threats, whereas Hamas is a terrorist group which is responsible for instigating chaos, using the hospital militarily and exacerbating civilians' casualties.

**Key Terms:** news headlines, ideological features, AJE, BBC, Al Shifa hospital raid, CDA.

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# List of Abbreviations

**AJE**.....Al Jazeera English

**BBC**.....British Broadcasting Corporation

**CDA** .....Critical Discourse Analysis

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# General Introduction

## 1. Background of the Study

People's interest in news articles is progressively shifting. Among the prominent reasons for this phenomenon is the headlines' significance, a property manifested through both the eloquence of language and the amount of information that reflects on-going events; hence, "the headline is, in a sense, a super lead"(Garst&Bernstein, 1961, p.104).More to the point, the headline serves as the billboard of an article, within which certain linguistic traits as noteworthy words and eye catching structures are of great importance. Another concern would be the extent of pertinence between the headline and reality. The complexity of the latter lies on the colossal affiliations it entails, including culture, economy, religion and politics. In other terms, the headline is not only a space for initiating a piece of writing but also an informative and summarized blueprint for entire texts (Van Dijk, 1988). Basically, the more these features are fulfilled, the more readers are enticed to engage in the article.

The headline has always been a promising subject of inquiry for linguists in general and discourse analysts in particular. According to Van Dijk (1988), communication is a substantial function of news articles since they are devoted to inform large audiences. In turn, any interactional communication between people, be it in a written or spoken linguistic form, is considered as discourse (Bloor&Bloor, 2007).That is, the headline, as a part of the news article, is primarily a discourse.

In that vein, discourse may, or may not conform to the grammatical conventions since coherence renders ungrammatical structures of language meaningfully communicative messages due to the shared knowledge and understanding among individuals (Cook, 1989). Nunan believes that discourse is used "to refer to the interpretation of the communicative event in context."(1993, P.6) i.e. the context is a key element for any sort of language to be called a discourse.

Besides, discourse analysis investigates how language segments, when considered within their complete textual, social, and psychological contexts, make sense and maintain coherence for their users (Cook, 1989). Also, discourse analysis explores the ways individuals interact and handle their exchanges with one another, and how these interactions transcend the social circle to cover communication across various cultures (Paltridge, 2012).That is to say, that approach is about understanding the nuances of language used to engage and connect with others in alignment with different contexts.

Originating in the late 1970s, Critical Discourse Analysis (hereafter CDA) has consistently heralded new developments in language and discourse analysis. It should be highlighted that CDA frequently focuses on examining the discourses influenced by ideological biases (Van Dijk, 2001). That is, it investigates how language can, explicitly or implicitly, influence individuals' views and how power, the ability to control a group within community, is exercised through discourse. In similar vein, Phillips and Hardy (2002) defined CDA as an approach that examines the way language and communication shape the social environment. It explores how this environment is constructed through the development of ideas, the definition of entities, and the establishment of roles that people assume.

Tracing its roots back to 1948, the Palestinian Israeli conflict is protracted and perpetual. Since then, that conflict has been of vital concern on an international scale due to its deepening impact on the Middle East and the intermittent series of wars that broke out, the latest of which is the on-going war of Al Aqsa Flood. Israel declared the war on Hamas, The Islamic Persistence Movement, after the latter's attacks which erupted on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. That war has resulted in unrivalled casualties, with reports indicating approximately 22, 0000 people killed in Gaza and around 1000 Israelis killed so far.

For being cross-border broadcasting channels, Al Jazeera English (hereinafter AJE) and The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), have immediately and considerably reported that excruciating war. AJE is an international news network that was launched in November 2006; it originates from Al Jazeera Arabic, an independent Qatari channel. It gained a widely viewed status among diverse audiences owing to its frontline reporting .Besides, the BBC is a global media institution that was initially established in October 1922 in London. It stands as the most viewed news broadcaster in the UK. These channels are considered as counter news outlets for the evident disparity in their perspectives, namely eastern and western.

## **2. Statement of the Problem**

In light of the vehement on-going war in Gaza, Al Shifa hospital raid by Israel has marked a jolting and unprecedented event in recent decades, and thereupon, it has been reported in numerous news channels from all over the world. More importantly, "different newspapers report differently, in both content and presentation" (Fowler, 1991, p.11).In other words, any news article, including that of channels, recounts events subjectively by involving certain ideological tokens. In this context, several researchers centred the focus of their works on critical discourse analysis in order to display the embedded ideological and manipulative features in news headlines, noticeably (Taiwo, 2007; Sajid, 2013).Further,

readers' perspectives are being reinforced or altered owing to the deliberately invisible discursive processes in newspapers (Fowler, 1991). All these factors, in addition to the personal interests and regard to both discourse studies and the Palestinian Israeli conflict, have built the basic incentives for this research.

### **3. Purpose of the Study**

A deep focus is on the identification of the ways through which AJE and BBC, starkly two variant channels, implemented their ideological stances when reporting a newsworthy event in order to imprint certain perspectives on audiences.

In simpler terms, it is the intent of this dissertation to critically analyse news headlines of these channels concerning Israel's raid of Al Shifa hospital in the on-going war in Gaza. The analysis is conducted using Fairclough's Three Dimensional Framework for unveiling the covertly implicit ideologies, in addition to Van Dijk's Ideological Square for classifying the ideological features implied by each channel based on the dichotomy of "Us" and "Them".

### **4. Research Objectives**

This research is committed to:

1. Investigate the respective ideologies of AJE and BBC embedded in their news headlines.
2. Examine the frequency and extent of the ideological features of each channel.
3. Identify the ideological features used in constructing "Us" and "Them" in the headlines of AJE and BBC when reporting the incident of Al Shifa hospital.

### **5. Research Questions**

1. What are the social themes or ideological features spotted in the news headlines of AJE and BBC?
2. To what extent are the ideological features of AJE and BBC manifested in their news headlines?
3. What are the main ideological features utilized to highlight "Us" and "Them" dichotomy in the channels' headlines regarding Israel's raid of Al Shifa hospital?

## 6. Research Hypotheses

The central hypothesis being examined is:

AJE and BBC may have infused their ideological views when presenting Al Shifa hospital raid in their news headlines using deliberately distinctive terminologies in order to mobilize readers and create specific interpretations.

## 7. Structure of the Dissertation

The work is structured into General Introduction, General Conclusion and two main chapters. The General Introduction tackles the background of the study, statement of the problem as well as research questions and hypotheses. Chapter One gives space to a review of literature related to the study including the difference between text and discourse, the emergence of CDA, Fairclough's and Van Dijk's frameworks to CDA, news media discourse and a review of empirical studies. Besides, Chapter Two is devoted to the methodology and results where research design and methodology, data collection and analysis are explored. It further sheds light on the findings and discussions of the main results. Finally, a summary of the findings along with research implications, limitations and recommendations are discussed in the General Conclusion.

## 8. Definition of Key Terms

- 1. Text:** "A stretch of language interpreted formally, without a context" (Cook, 1989, p.158).
- 2. Discourse:** "The use that people make of language to convey ideas, thoughts, or beliefs within a social context." (Van Dijk, 1997, p. 2)
- 3. Critical discourse analysis:** An interdisciplinary research program focused on addressing specific issues, encompassing diverse methodologies which mainly focus on signs and symbols that relate to power, inequality, and shifts in different aspects within a society (Wodack, 2010).
- 4. Ideology:** Refers to the collective knowledge and opinions, encompassing both factual beliefs and value judgments, held by a group (Van Dijk, 1998).
- 5. News headlines:** Titles that appear at the top of an article, providing a glimpse of its main information.

# Chapter One: Literature Review

## **Introduction**

The exploration of language as a powerful tool for shaping societal discourse forms the cornerstone of CDA. This theoretical part covers pertinent key terms as text and discourse. Then, it provides a concise account on CDA emergence and its main frames used in the current work. It also scrutinizes how news media discourse not only reflects but also constructs social realities and ideologies along with its role in changing perspectives, concluding with previous works done by different researchers employing CDA approach.

### **1. Text and Discourse**

A text constitutes a complex arrangement of syntactic components, including words, phrases, and clauses. It is characterized by coherence within its parts and a sense of wholeness or conclusiveness (Werlich, 1976). That is, a text is more than a mere collection of sentences; it involves a structured relation between its elements. According to Hatim and Mason (1990), text consists of a collection of interrelated communicative tasks, organized to fulfil a collective rhetorical objective. In other terms, a text is not just a random collection of sentences; it is a coherent set of statements where each part is connected to the others. This connection is not only in terms of grammar or vocabulary, but also in terms of the functions these statements perform in communication. These functions could be informing, persuading, entertaining, etc., and they are structured strategically to fulfil the overall goal of the text, which is its rhetorical purpose.

On the other hand, Fairclough (1995) views discourse as a form of social practice that both shapes and is shaped by the social structure; he emphasizes the role of discourse to understand broader social and cultural developments. Further, discourse refers to the way language is shaped and characterized by the social environment in which it is used, who is using it, and the specific circumstances of its use (Henry and Tator, 2002) i.e. discourse is deeply intertwined with the context of society and in order for discourse to make sense, the understanding of language must go beyond mere vocabulary and grammar to include the social and cultural contexts that give language its meaning.



## 2. CDA Emergence

As stated earlier, news is inevitably infused with ideology, and the language used through is of much power in constructing perspectives and manipulating minds and thus, CDA is seen to be a practical approach to reveal the embedded effects of such discourse. That is to say, the recognition of the fundamental role of language in influencing audiences and its potential to be influenced by the social, economic and political contexts paved the way for the emergence of CDA with the aim to raise awareness and lessen the notorious forms of social injustice caused by the deliberately deviant use of language. In that vein, Van Dijk (2001) defined CDA as:

A type of discourse analytical research that primarily studies the way social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced, and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context. With such dissident research, critical discourse analysts take explicit position, and thus want to understand, expose, and ultimately resist social inequality. (p.352)

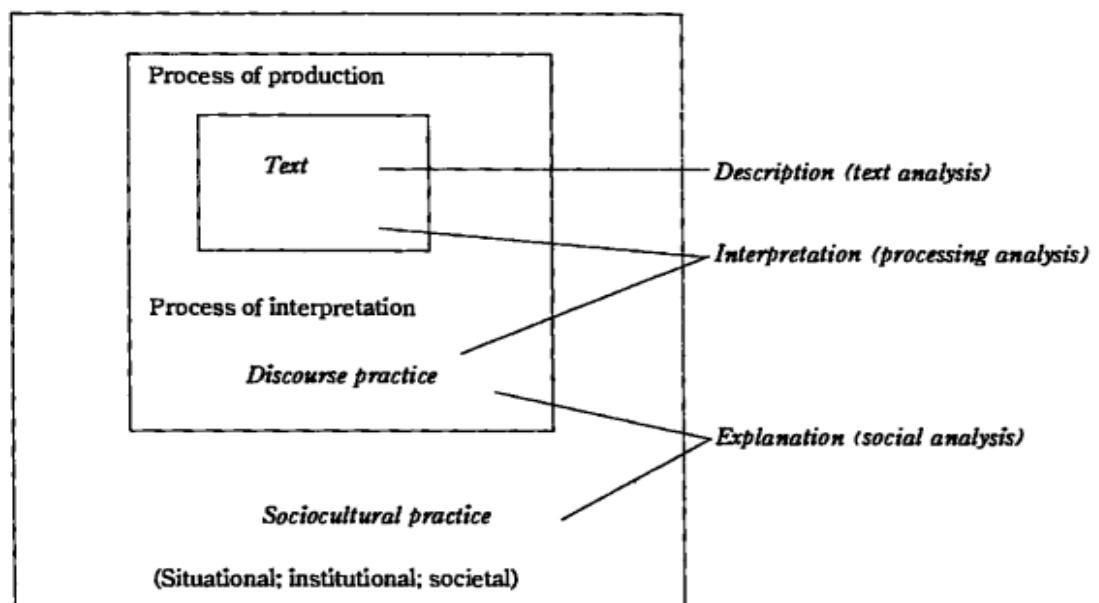
Besides, seven main principals outlined by a set of scholars as (Fairclough, 1995; Van Dijk, 1998; Wodak, 1996) characterize CDA:

1. **Language as Social Practice:** Language serves as a social practice through which individuals represent the world.
2. **Discourse Shapes Social Practices:** Discourse not only represents existing social practices but also actively shapes them. It influences power dynamics, prejudice, resistance, and domination.
3. **Meaning in Context:** Texts derive their meanings from the dynamic interaction between texts and social subjects (writers and readers). Interpretation involves choices and access to texts.
4. **Purposeful Linguistic Features:** Linguistic features and structures are purposeful, whether consciously or unconsciously chosen.
5. **Power Relations in Discourse:** Power relations are both produced and reproduced through discourse.

6. **Discursive Practices and Interests:** Speakers and writers operate from specific discursive practices influenced by their interests, leading to inclusions and exclusions.
7. **Historical Context of Discourse:** Texts gain meaning by being situated in specific social, cultural contexts, and historical time and space.

### 3. Fairclough's Framework to CDA

Norman Fairclough, a British sociologist, is a key figure in CDA. His work, along with other scholars like Ruth Wodak and Gunther Kress has significantly contributed to the development of that field. Fairclough's approach to CDA is grounded in both sociological and linguistic perspectives. He depicted the objective of this approach as "a contribution to the general raising of consciousness of exploitative social relations, through focusing upon language" (1989, p. 4). This aim is believed to be achieved based on his model of CDA for analysing different communicative events; it is basically composed of these three dimensions as illustrated in the following figure by Fairclough (1995, p.98):



**Figure 1: Fairclough's Three-dimensional Model of CDA**

By examining these connections, CDA sheds light on how discourse influences and reflects broader social contexts. These levels of analysis are further explained below:

1. **Text Analysis:** This dimension focuses on the linguistic description of the discourse. It examines the structure, vocabulary, grammar, and other linguistic features within a text. Essentially, it is about understanding the language itself.

2. **Processing Analysis:** This dimension delves into how the text is produced and interpreted. It considers the processes involved in creating and understanding language. For instance, how speakers construct meaning, and how listeners interpret it.
3. **Social Analysis:** This dimension is concerned with the contextual explanation of the text. It goes beyond the language and looks at the broader social, cultural, and situational factors that influence communication.

(Fairclough, 1995)

#### **4. Van Dijk's Framework to CDA**

Teun Van Dijk is a prominent scholar in the field of CDA; he has significantly influenced the study of discourse, ideology, and social power dynamics. A substantial contribution from him is the Ideological Square framework, which aids in understanding how discourse can be manipulated to serve specific socio-political goals. In most of his works, Van Dijk reflects upon ideology to explicate certain discursive practices; he believes that ideology, as a form of social cognition, is a basis for the social representations of a group, emphasizing its functions in terms of social relations between groups and its reproduction through discourse (2014).

In view of that, "groups build an ideological image of themselves and others, in such a way that (generally) We are represented positively, and They come out negatively." (Van Dijk, 1998, p.69). That is, groups tend to construct an ideological image that favours them (in-group) while often depicting others (out-group) in a less favourable light. This is a common social phenomenon where people view their own group in positive terms, emphasizing virtues and strengths, and sees other groups in negative terms, highlighting their flaws or weaknesses. This bias can notoriously influence social attitudes, interactions, and even conflicts between different groups. Thus, it is crystal clear that the Ideological Square offers a tool to dissect and understand the language that shapes social beliefs and power dynamics in alignment with ideology. This framework is characterized by four tenets:

- 1 Express/emphasize information that is positive about Us.
- 2 Express/emphasize information that is negative about Them.
- 3 Suppress/de-emphasize information that is positive about Them.
- 4 Suppress/de-emphasize information that is negative about Us.

(Van Dijk, 1998, p.267)

## **5. News Media Discourse**

Mass media is one of the essential sources to widen knowledge about the world. The media shapes narratives, influences culture, and impacts societal perceptions. Gerbner (1985) believes that media institutions' policies are reflected in mass media discourse, shaping conceptions in ways amenable to investigation. In simpler terms, the discourse produced by mass media, including that of news reports, is a product of the practices of media institutions which have their own sets of norms and objectives that shape the content they produce. As a result, news media plays a crucial role in perpetuating the way people conceive the world around them. That fact blatantly proves that "the media are not a neutral, common-sensed, or rational mediator of social events, but essentially help reproduce preformulated ideologies." (Van Dijk, 1988, p.11).

## **6. Empirical Studies**

The critical study of news discourse in general and news headlines in particular, regarding the embedded ideologies, have garnered the interest of numerous academics throughout the years, noticeably:

Taiwo (2007) investigated the ideology and power relations in 300 Nigerian newspaper headlines collected in a random way from six Nigerian newspapers. After applying a CDA approach, the study found that the headlines are aligned with the ideological views of their editors in order to direct and shape the audiences' views on certain national issues.

In similar vein, Baidoun (2014) conducted a study examining the coverage of the escalation of violence in Gaza in 2013 by two Israeli and two Palestinian media sources. The primary objective was to explore the impact of ideological perspectives on the reporting of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The research revealed variances in the way Palestinian and Israeli media outlets reported the events.

Besides, Daria (2018) explored the language used in online news headlines to report the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting, which took place on February 14, 2018 in Florida, United States. The corpus composed of 50 online news headlines, published by five of the most popular national and local news outlets. The major aim was to show how the word choice contributes to creating meanings, or representations of the event, and whether hidden ideologies are implied through these representations. The data was analysed using Fairclough's and Van Dijk's frameworks. Results proved that embedded meanings and

ideologies were covertly represented through language when reporting the incident and describing its participants.

Likewise, Guendouz and Al-Shuaibi (2022) conducted a study to examine the tactics of language manipulation and the ideological features present in the online news headlines of France24 and RT networks. The research explored the distinctive perspectives on the Syrian crisis as presented by French and Russian viewpoints. Utilizing CDA methods, the headlines in both languages, French and English, were scrutinized. The analysis concluded that the choice of words in news headlines from both France24 and RT led to dissimilar interpretations influenced by ideology.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, this chapter has explored the theoretical underpinnings of the topic, including a clarification of pertinent concepts such as text and discourse, an overview of CDA with its detailed principal approaches applied in this research, an elaboration on the discourse of news media and its influence on altering viewpoints, followed by a discussion of previous studies that utilized the same approach, CDA. One can deduce that news discourse is remarkably complicated for the massive operations it entails to reach specific objectives. Hence, the CDA model has always been a practical tool to analyse the barely revealed intentions of discourse as it sets comprehensive and thorough understandings.

# Chapter Two: Methodology and Results

## **Introduction**

This chapter outlines the methodological framework employed in this investigation. As a starting point, an overall account of the study's design and methodology as well as data collection and analysis is provided. Then, the corpus which comprises a diverse range of data is systematically analysed utilizing the frameworks of Fairclough and Van Dijk. Besides, it is concluded with a display of results followed by a thoughtful discussion which aims to interpret these findings within a broader scope of existing knowledge.

### **1. Research Design and Methodology**

The present research is mainly descriptive. According to Cresswell (2014), that type of research is concerned with the description of data and characteristics about a particular phenomenon. Therefore, the relationship between descriptive research and CDA is tacitly significant. In the context of news headlines, description allows researchers to analyse the linguistic features and structures that may reveal underlying ideologies as well as discuss the significance of these features in the context of social, political, and cultural practices i.e. explore the interplay between language and ideology.

Further, the adopted approach in this study is a mixed-method approach. Basically, that approach combines quantitative and qualitative methods in an attempt to gain a deeper comprehension of complex phenomena (Timans, Wouters & Heilbron, 2019). As far as this investigation is concerned, the quantitative approach enables the researcher to quantify the frequency of social themes implied by each channel through Van Dijk's Ideological Square. Meanwhile, the qualitative approach is used to extract, explain, and interpret these themes via Fairclough's model.

### **2. Data Collection**

For this corpus-based study, a set of ten news headlines from AJE and an equivalent number of news headlines from BBC, tackling Al Shifa hospital raid by Israel in the on-going war in Gaza, have been selected for a qualitative and quantitative analysis. These channels have been adopted for their global reach and unique broadcasting of a plethora of controversial and sensitive topics throughout history, in addition to their palpable impacts and contributions in their regions (Bicket & Wall, 2009; Wojcieszak, 2007).

Besides, the case study of the present research sustains as one of the most quintessential events in the on-going war in Gaza. It is worth to note that hospitals in general play a pivotal role not only by offering medical services but also through taking part in various non-medical initiatives. Such efforts, including housing development and upgrading, are instrumental in fostering better health conditions and enhancing economic prosperity within communities (Butler& Diaz, 2016).Accordingly, one may deduce that targeting hospitals during wars has critical long-term ramifications, notably displacement. In that context, Al Shifa , the largest hospital complex in Gaza, has functioned as both a medical facility and a shelter for thousands of people since the war of 2008 . The subsequent unforeseen Israeli raid of the hospital has provoked substantial judgements and opinions. In brief, this event is outstandingly compelling to be investigated from different angles, among which, is a CDA approach.

The referenced language of the whole corpus is English. The choice of language is based upon key reasons, including the universal reachability i.e. English, as a lingua franca, would enable the international community in general to easily access the study and delve into its content, and the scholarly community in particular where English is the dominant language of eminent academic publications. More precisely, an English-language corpus would accommodate various expectations and ensure dissemination across a wide spectrum. Another reason is the fact of being a researcher of English as a speciality and thus, all English-based sources are of utmost interest.

Further, the headlines are sourced from the channels' official news websites in written forms, covering the period of mid-to-late November 2023, which marked the beginning and end of the tackled event. To delineate clearly, the time frame of AJE and BBC's headlines is from 14<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> November2023. These headlines are chronologically ordered from the oldest to most recent.

### **3. Data Analysis**

The analysis of data is conducted on the basis of Fairclough's (1995) model of CDA. First, AJE's news headlines undergo the three discourse dimensions, which are description (textual), interpretation (processing) and explanation (social), following a comprehensive discussion and conclusion of the main deductions in accordance with the specified framework. This methodology is then consistently applied to the headlines of BBC. The textual analysis exclusively focuses on the word choice .Whereas the processing analysis transcends the surface level; it entails the distribution of a text in specific and limited context.



The last dimension is the social analysis which explores the broader social, cultural and historical backgrounds implied by the text and discursive practices.

In addition, a percentage representation of the social themes or ideological features is provided to delineate their frequency in each channel.

Another account for Van Disk's (1998) Ideological Square model, which is employed in order to categorize the ideological features and extrapolate which side is supported and which one is disputed. In that context, the aim is to detect whether AJE and BBC's ideologies are in favour or against Israel and Hamas.

The data analysis was reviewed by three experts in discourse analysis and an expert in English language grammar. That evaluation aims at bolstering the validity and reliability of results. To accomplish this, certain modifications and supplements were suggested for the textual and social analysis.

## **4. Findings and Discussion**

### **4.1 AJE news headlines**

#### **1. Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital forced to bury dead patients in 'mass grave'**

(Nov14)

**Text analysis:** the headline consists of specific key terms as *forced*, *bury*, *dead patients*, and the expression between inverted commas '*mass grave*'. Also, the use of adjectives is focal since they modify the words *patients* and *grave*.

**Processing analysis:** the goal of the headline is to highlight the tragic results of the confining attack of Israel at Al Shifa hospital. The verb *forced* indicates that Israel used intensive power and confinement; *dead patients* connotes that the hospital is only a medical facility full of civilian victims who were banned from their simple right of receiving care and sympathy. Besides, the expression between inverted commas *mass grave* denotes an abnormal phenomenon resulting from the aggressive attack, and the term *grave* itself may be aligned with religious affiliations as burying in graves is a ritual found in Muslim and Christian cultures.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are aggression, violation of international laws, war crime, abuse of power, genocide, erosion of trust in authorities and impunity.

## 2. Thousands trapped as Israeli forces raid Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital

(Nov 15)

**Text analysis:** the headline is basically a cause and effect where the use of certain key words including *thousands trapped*, *Israel forces* and *raid* is intriguing.

**Processing analysis:** the headline sheds light on the large number of people affected by the Israeli raid. Also, the adjective *Trapped* suggests that these individuals are unable to leave the hospital, likely due to safety concerns. In other terms, Israel deliberately imposed a confinement on people, who seemingly seek care and safety, inside the hospital.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are abuse of power, violation of international laws, impunity, genocide, aggression and war crime.

## 3. 'Terror' amid Israel's raid on Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital

(Nov 15)

**Text analysis:** this headline is represented through a post-modified nominal phrase where the term between inverted commas *terror* is highly impactful; it arouses the attention towards an idea of utmost importance. Also, the use of the preposition *on* and the key term *Israel's raid* should be highlighted.

**Processing analysis:** the headline's aim is to depict the scene inside al shifa hospital after the Israel's raid. More to the point, that operation apathetically neglected the sanctity of the hospital where thousands of patients, medical staff and displaced people dwell. Besides, it highlights that the evident goal of the raid is only to spread horror and terrify people in the hospital. Again, the preposition *on* plays an important role in showing the position of Israel and Gazans.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are aggression, war crime, violation of international laws, displacement and impunity.

#### **4. Hamas blames US for giving Israel ‘green light’ to raid al-Shifa Hospital**

**(Nov 15)**

**Text analysis:** that headline continues to attack Israel, but this time the US is exclusively mentioned .A set of key terms can be spotted including *Hamas*, *blames*, *US raid* in addition to the expression *green light*.

**Processing analysis:** the headline attempts to depict the US as complicit that stands on Israel’s side instead of protecting that facility of the civilian nature and creating reconciliation between Hamas and Israel. In other words, the US is obviously responsible for the on-going raid despite the humanitarian role it claims to proceed in the world. Also, it can be noticed that Hamas truly abides by the laws provided by the US and believes that certain standards should not be violated .The expression *green light* connotes the unlimited extent of support, afford and collaboration Israel is gaining from the US to commit such massacres inside the hospital with no punishment .

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are US intervention, impunity, aggression, war crime and respect for international laws.

#### **5. Middle East Roundup: Is Shifa Hospital really a Hamas ops hub?**

**(Nov 16)**

**Text analysis:** the headline is a question noted with the casual use of the auxiliary ‘to be’ and a question mark. However, the use of the adverb *really* is intriguing .Apparently, a substantial answer would be provided in the article. Also, the abbreviated version of operations *ops* is used.

**Processing analysis:** the headline aims to debunk news about the assumed correlation between Hamas and Al Shifa hospital by using the adverb *really* which provokes a negative answer. It also shows the audience how defamatory the claims of Israel are and that Hamas has not deviously exploited the hospital for military purposes as no evidence is provided.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are mystification, defamation, assertion, respect for international laws and erosion of trust in authorities.

## 6. More than 20 patients die at Gaza’s al-Shifa Hospital amid Israeli raid

(Nov 17)

**Text analysis:** the headline is packed with informational terms, notably more *than 20 patients, die* and *amid Israeli raid*. Typically, the use of numerals 20patients maintains the credibility of the information and creates a sense of trust and curiosity within readers.

**Processing analysis:** Again, the headline accentuates the cruel result of the Israeli raid with an emphasis on the defenceless patients who are constantly being targeted. The expression *More than 20patients* would lead readers to think of Israel unfavourably. Besides, the verb *die* denotes that the reason behind death is not military, but rather because of the confinement imposed by Israel and the lack of essential human needs such as nutrition, water and treatment.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are aggression, war crime, violation of international laws, abuse of power, genocide and impunity.

## 7. Analysis: What’s Israel’s next target after Gaza’s al-Shifa Hospital?

(Nov 17)

**Text analysis:** the headline is remarked with the use of a ‘wh’ word and a question mark. The expression *Israel’s next target* is avowedly highlighted.

**Processing analysis:** the headline sheds light on the Israeli fiasco to provide tangible evidence for raiding the hospital. The entire period of the raid marked an atrocious tyranny to civilian people, contrary to what has been claimed by Israel. Also, the headline ironically questions about the next civilian facility Israel would claim to be a military centre of Hamas.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are respect for international laws, abuse of power, mystification, defamation, erosion of trust in authorities and impunity.

## **8. Panic as Gaza's al-Shifa evacuates, Israel army denies ordering it to do so (Nov 18)**

**Text analysis :** Again , this headline represents a cause and effect through which it continues to attack Israel using the following specific terms *panic* , *evacuates* ,*Israel army* , *denies* and *ordering* .Besides, the position of *panic* is appealing and deliberate because of the stress it gives to the term.

**Processing analysis:** this instance attempts to show the hostility of Israel even with people evacuating the hospital. The word *panic* denotes that those people were leaving under gun points and surrounding tanks or snipers. The expression *denies ordering* connotes that people were forced by Israeli army to evacuate under compulsion.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are war crime, aggression, roguery, violation of international laws, displacement, abuse of power and impunity.

## **9. Israeli army says it found a 55-metre tunnel under Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital (Nov 19)**

**Text analysis:** the headline is a declaration where key terms including *Israeli army* ,*found*, *tunnel* and under *Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital* are used .

**Processing analysis :** Basically, the Israeli army attempts to legalize the raid .However, and through the lexical items in the headline, one may doubt the quality of information since that news was declared after the previously mentioned headlines which highlight the civilian nature of the hospital.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are defamation, erosion of trust in authorities and genocide.

## **10. Israeli army arrests al-Shifa Hospital director, other doctors in Gaza (Nov 23)**

**Text analysis:** in this headline, *Israeli army*, *arrests*, *al-Shifa Hospital director* and *other doctors* can be highlighted as key lexical items.

**Processing analysis:** the headline shows how brutally the medical staff that logically has nothing in common with military matters is targeted. The verb *arrests* denotes taking someone for committing a presumed charge where a strong evidence is provided, usually for a long period of time. However, according to AJE’s headline, a hospital’s director and the other doctors to be arrested for proofless reasons is a false allegation and a wrongful accusation; that act reflects the outrageous side of Israeli army.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are violation of international laws, abuse of power, injustice and impunity.

**Table 1**  
**Extracted Themes from AJE Headlines**

<b>Social themes</b>	<b>Frequency (number of occurrences)</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Aggression	<b>6</b>	<b>11.11</b>
Violation of international laws	<b>6</b>	<b>11.11</b>
War crime	<b>6</b>	<b>11.11</b>
Abuse of power	<b>6</b>	<b>11.11</b>
Genocide	<b>4</b>	<b>7.40</b>
Erosion of trust in authorities	<b>4</b>	<b>7.40</b>
Impunity	<b>8</b>	<b>14.81</b>
Displacement	<b>2</b>	<b>3.70</b>
Mystification	<b>2</b>	<b>3.70</b>
Defamation	<b>3</b>	<b>5.55</b>
Respect for international laws	<b>3</b>	<b>5.55</b>
Assertion	<b>1</b>	<b>1.9</b>
US intervention	<b>1</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Roguary	<b>1</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Injustice	<b>1</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Discussion

After analysing AJE headlines, the following results are obtained:

- a) Impunity is the most frequent social theme that dominates the headlines with 8 occurrences out of 54 and a percentage of 14.81% out of 100%.

- b) Aggression, violation of international laws, war crime and abuse of power represent the second most frequent social themes with 6 occurrences and 11.11 for each; taken together, they represent 24 occurrences out of 54 and 44.4% out of 100%.
- c) the 5 aforementioned themes represent 32 occurrences and 59.25% i.e. half of the total and the other half contains 10 different social themes:
- d) Genocide and erosion of trust represent 8 occurrences out of 54 and 14.8% out of 100%.
- e) Defamation and respect for international laws represent 6 occurrences out of 54 and 11.1% out of 100%.
- f) Displacement and mystification represent 4 occurrences out of 54 and 7.4% out of 100%.
- g) The least frequent social themes in AJE headlines are assertion, US intervention, roguery and injustice with 1time occurrence for each; taken together, they represent 4 occurrences out of 54 and 7.6% out of 100%.

One could obviously notice that AJE considers Israel's raid of Al Shifa hospital a nefarious action caused by Israel itself for invalid reasons, whereas Hamas is considered as a law-abiding party that has never exploited that hospital for military purposes, but rather it was erroneously charged despite its confirm virtue. This conviction is heavily reflected upon the social themes extracted from the headlines. First, the dominance of **impunity** indicates that it is the collective responsibility of various entities including governments and legal systems, which uphold justice in the world, in tolerating that crime. In other words, AJE profoundly correlates the atrocities committed by Israel in Al Shifa hospital with the lack of accountability or punishment. Although **US intervention** was implied once in a headline, it insinuates that responsibility is accorded primarily to the US.

In addition, AJE strategically relies on themes as **aggression, violation of international laws, war crime** and **abuse of power** to direct readers to view Israel as evil or malevolent side and tarnish its reputation. These beliefs are further reinforced by the subsequent themes:

1. **Genocide** and **displacement** are considered war crimes under international law as they involve aggressive and inhumane practices.
2. **Erosion of trust, mystification, defamation, roguery** and **injustice** are all interrelated and resulted from abuse of power. More to the point, when those in power engage in corrupt acts, it undermines the Israelis' faith in their authority. Besides, symptoms of abuse of power are detected when facts about the real motives behind the raid are

deliberately made confusing or complex and false information is spread to hide the true intentions and cover misdeeds. Similarly, deceptive behaviours and unequal application of rules are fuelled when those in powerful positions use their influence wrongly.

Conversely, AJE headlines define Hamas favourably by implying the themes **respect for international laws** and **assertion** which insist upon the shared responsibility of Hamas to maintain peace legally and the proof-based information it conveys.

Next, table 2 categorizes the various themes that highlight the positive aspects of Hamas and the negative aspects of Israel regarding the hospital's raid. Each theme will be accompanied by a corresponding percentage:

**Table 2**  
**Classification of Positive and Negative Social Themes (AJE)**

<b>Positive things about US ( Hamas)</b>	<b>Negative things about THEM (Israel)</b>
	Aggression 11.11
	Violation of international laws 11.11
	War crime 11.11
Respect for international laws 5.55	Abuse of power 11.11
	Genocide 7.40
	Erosion of trust in authorities 7.40
	Impunity 14.81
	Displacement 3.70
Assertion 1.9	Mystification 3.70
	Defamation 5.55
	US intervention 1.9
	Roguary 1.9
	Injustice 1.9
<b>Total : 7.45%</b>	<b>Total : 92.55 %</b>

It is starkly clear that AJE emphasizes enormously on the negative things of Israel with percentage of **92.55%**, while less emphasis is given to the positive things of Hamas with a percentage of **7.45%**. Accordingly, the channel focuses on attacking and defaming Israel as a rogue side for raiding the hospital more than showing the descent status of Hamas.



## 4.2 BBC news headlines

### 1. Israel-Gaza war: US says Hamas has command centre under Al-Shifa hospital (Nov14)

**Text analysis:** The headline comprises a set of key words including *US*, *Hamas* and *command centre*.

**Processing analysis:** in the abovementioned headline, one could notice the decisive role of the US, a state contributing to peace, democracy and stability around the world, in determining the legality of the raid. Besides, that headline mobilizes readers against Hamas that has unethically used a medical facility for military purposes. Through that declaration, Al Shifa hospital is considered to be a fully legitimate target to Israel.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are self-defence, legality of action, assertion, action justification, violation of international laws and peace-making and fighting terrorism.

### 2. Video shows people along evacuation road out of Al- Shifa hospital

(Nov 14)

**Text analysis:** Some key lexical items are noticed as *video*, *people* and *evacuation road*.

**Processing analysis:** this instance emphasizes that the *evacuation road* created by Israel is valid; that point is fulfilled by using the term *video* in an initial position which may make readers believe in the upcoming information. It also highlights the humanitarian side of Israel that cares about the people who are undoubtedly defenceless as they were in the hospital. Besides, the expression *evacuation road* indicates that civilians are not targeted, but rather impartially protected before the raid.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are respect for international laws, legality of action, military credibility and demystification.

### 3. Netanyahu adviser blames Hamas for hospital 'warzone'

(Nov 14)

**Text analysis:** terms as *Netanyahu adviser*, *blames*, *Hamas* and *warzone* are intriguing in this headline.

**Processing analysis:** This headline highlights that all the calamities in al Shifa hospital are caused by Hamas using the verb *blames*. Besides, the term between inverted commas *warzone* connotes the chaos, stress and conflict created in that medical facility. In other words, any atrocious action in Al Shifa is Hamas's responsibility, and Israel is only meant to defend itself and eliminate the terrorists.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are legality of action, action justification, fighting terrorism, war crime and violation of international laws.

#### **4. IDF calls on 'Hamas terrorists' present in Al-Shifa 'to surrender'**

**(Nov 15)**

**Text analysis:** the use of inverted commas is starkly remarkable as it refers to an appealing word choice, *Hamas terrorists* and *to surrender*.

**Processing analysis:** The headline shows that Israeli defence forces have a proof on the existence of Hamas members in the hospital as it *calls on* them. The expression *Hamas terrorists* highlights Israel's right to defend itself and attack the hospital to eliminate the terrorists. Also, *terrorists* are usually triggered by a religious fever or political greed which threatens peaceful people and states; this term evokes a negative load of emotions including violence and horror. In that context, the verb *to surrender* connotes that Hamas should lay down arms and missiles after being defeated by Israel that holds power and authority over the terrorists. Taken together, these descriptions are meant to deteriorate Hamas and praise Israel.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are peace-making, self-defence, legality of action, assertion, action justification, fighting terrorism, war crime and violation of international laws.

#### **5. Israel says it is carrying out an operation against Hamas in Al-Shifa**

**Hospital (Nov 15)**

**Text analysis:** again, the headline continues to attack Hamas using some key terms as *operation*, *against* and *Hamas*.

**Processing analysis:** the main aim of the headline is to show the readiness and ability of Israel to defeat Hamas using the term *operation*, a precise and efficient plan with an exertion of power. The expression *against Hamas* is a specification which emphasizes that civilians are not the target of Israel. Besides, it highlights the unethical exploitation of the medical facility by Hamas.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are self-defence, legality of action and fighting terrorism.

## **6. Bowen: Al-Shifa Hospital raid comes as tone shifts on Israel**

(Nov 15)

**Text analysis:** this instance mainly represents a cause and effect where certain key terms are noted: *raid, on, Israel* as well as the metaphor *tone shifts*.

**Processing analysis:** the headline shows that the raid was only a response to the enemy's threats i.e. that action would not be executed if stability of Israel was not jeopardized. It also emphasizes that Israel is the rightful side by using the preposition *on*.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are self -defence, action justification and legality of action.

## **7. BBC goes inside Al-Shifa hospital with the Israeli army**

(Nov 16)

**Text analysis:** the noted key words are: *BBC, inside* and *with the Israeli army*.

**Processing analysis:** two substantial implicatures are stressed through that headline. First, the BBC is a trusted resource of information as it reached a sensitive and hectic venue of conflict, al Shifa hospital. Second, the Israeli army is a committed army that abides by war laws with credibility in reporting news.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are demystification, military credibility and assertion.

## **8. Israel says hostage's body found near main Gaza hospital**

(Nov 16)

**Text analysis:** key terms: *hostage's body, found* and *near main Gaza hospital*.

**Processing analysis:** the headline insists upon the idea of existence of a plausible reason for Israel to raid the hospital. It also indicates that Hamas has really exploited the hospital for detaining hostages; an atrocious action usually done by terrorists.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are action justification, legality of action, war crime and fighting terrorism.

## **9. Gaza war: Premature babies evacuated from al-Shifa hospital**

(Nov 19)

**Text analysis:** obviously, the headline entails *premature babies* and *evacuated* as key words.

**Processing analysis:** Again, the headline sheds light on the humanitarian side of Israel as it contributed to saving the lives of premature babies, who symbolize innocence and vulnerability, by permitting them to be evacuated.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are respect for international laws and legality of action.

## **10. Israeli forces detain director of Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital**

(Nov 23)

**Text analysis:** this instance uses a set of prominent lexical items: *Israeli forces*, *detain* and *director of Gaza's Al Shifa hospital*

**Processing analysis:** the headline indicates that Israel has taken the hospital's director only for temporary investigation; an important step done during wars to gather information about the enemy. That idea is deduced from the verb *detain*.

**Social analysis:** the implied social themes are respect for international laws and legality of action.

**Table 3**

**Extracted Themes from BBC Headlines**

<b>Social themes</b>	<b>Frequency (number of occurrences)</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Self-defence	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
Legality of action	<b>9</b>	<b>22.5</b>
Assertion	<b>3</b>	<b>7.5</b>
Action justification	<b>5</b>	<b>12.5</b>
Violation of international laws	<b>3</b>	<b>7.5</b>
Peace-making	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
Respect for international laws	<b>3</b>	<b>7.5</b>
Military credibility	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
Demystification	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
Fighting terrorism	<b>5</b>	<b>12.5</b>
War crime	<b>3</b>	<b>7.5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Discussion**

After analysing BBC headlines, the following results are obtained:

- a) **Legality of action** is the most frequent social theme that dominates the headlines with 9 occurrences out of 40 and a percentage of 22.5% out of 100%.
- b) **Action justification** and **fighting terrorism** represent the second most frequent social themes with 5 occurrences and 12.5% for each; taken together, they represent 10 occurrences out of 40 and 25% out of 100%.
- c) The 3 aforementioned themes represent 19 occurrences and 47.5% i.e. approximately half of the total and the other half contains 8 different social themes:
- d) **Self-defence** represents 4 occurrences out of 40 and 10% out of 100%.
- e) **Assertion, violation of international laws, respect for international laws** and **war crime** represent 12 occurrences out of 40 and 30% out of 100%.
- f) The least frequent social themes in BBC headlines are **peace-making, credibility** and **demystification** with 2 occurrences for each; taken together, they represent 6 occurrences out of 40 and 15% out of 100%.

One could observe that BBC counts the Israeli raid of Al Shifa hospital as a diametrically legitimate operation and Hamas is primarily responsible for launching the attack and exacerbating civilians' casualties. This belief is strongly mirrored in the social themes discerned from the headlines. First, the dominance of **legality of action** highlights that the Israeli raid is in accordance with the standards of law. The themes of **respect for international laws** and **assertion** further reinforce that view. Besides; **action justification** implies the existence of a feasible rationale behind Israel's decision to raid the hospital, notably **fighting terrorism, self-defence** and **peace-making**.

Moreover, **military credibility** refers to the trustworthiness and reliability of information provided by Israeli forces when conveying real facts about Al Shifa operation, it also maintains transparency while fulfilling the unique responsibilities of the army which is open about its objectives. This is closely tied to adherence to legal norms since upholding legality reinforces trust, while violations undermine both credibility and legitimacy. Similarly, **assertion** and **demystification** ensure that military actions are understood within legal frameworks and maintain public confidence in the armed forces.

On the contrary, BBC depicts Hamas unfavourably by highlighting the themes of **violation of international laws** and **war crime**; both themes indicate that Hamas failed to adhere to ethical norms and caused critical damage to the hospital and civilians as terrorists usually do.

The following table categorizes the various themes that highlight the positive aspects of Israel and the negative aspects of Hamas regarding the hospital's raid. Each theme will be accompanied by a corresponding percentage:

**Table 4**

**Classification of Positive and Negative Social Themes (BBC)**

<b>Positive things about US ( Israel)</b>	<b>Negative things about THEM (Hamis)</b>
Self-defence 10	
Legality of action 22.5	
Assertion 7.5	War crime 7.5
Action justification 12.5	
Peace-making 5	
Respect for international laws 7.5	
Military credibility 5	Violation of international laws 7.5
Demystification 5	
Fighting terrorism 12.5	
<b>Total : 85%</b>	<b>Total : 15%</b>

It is deduced that BBC robustly stresses on the positive things of Israel with a percentage of **85%**, while there is a rare mention of the negative things of Hamas with a percentage of **15%**. Accordingly, the channel focuses on legitimizing the Israeli raid and picturing it as a legal response to counter threats more than displaying the disgraceful qualities of Hamas.

### **Conclusion**

In this chapter, the methodological principles of this research were covered. The researcher has first provided a detailed overview of the project's design, data collection and data analysis tools chosen for reaching the stated objectives. Second, the corpus was consistently and rigorously analysed using two frameworks of two different scholars, namely Fairclough and Van Dijk. Ultimately, the chapter has ended with thoughtful findings and insightful discussions on the topic of Al Shifa hospital raid.

# General Conclusion



## **1. Summary of the Major Findings**

Based on the close examination and interpretation of news headlines of AJE and BBC covering the Israeli raid of Al Shifa hospital during the on-going war in Gaza, Al Aqsa Flood, it is extrapolated that the headlines are ingrained with the channels' ideological stances .In concrete terms:

1. AJE views Israel's raid of Al Shifa hospital as a malicious act perpetrated by Israel without valid justification, and its tacit aim is targeting civilians. On the other hand, Hamas is seen as an entity adhering to laws and has been wrongfully accused for using the hospital militarily despite its proven integrity.
2. BBC believes in the legitimacy of Israel's Al Shifa hospital raid since the latter is meant to be an action undeniably done for rightful purposes. Conversely, Hamas is displayed as a terrorist group that is responsible for undermining peace, causing devastating casualties among civilians and exploiting the hospital for military matters.
3. AJE prioritizes defaming Israel and showing its inhumane practices over highlighting the positive side of Hamas that complies by laws.
4. BBC's priority is on picturing Israel as a compliant entity, whose raid is legally-driven, over derogating Hamas, the terrorist group.

## **2. Implications of the Study**

The present work would aid in cultivating a deeper grasp of the underlying ideologies manifested in seemingly objective and neutral news headlines. That is to say, it is insightful for both pedagogical and empirical or linguistic settings as follows:

1. This research will serve as a foundational resource for Master students in linguistic discourse analysis within English, political sciences as well as media and telecommunication departments. Further, the systematic analysis promotes strategies of critical thinking and active reading skills among learners. Likewise, tutors would be triggered to deliver well-informed lessons about the underlying relation between language and ideology.

2. As an empirical evidence of the way language manipulation reflects ideologies, this study would improve the linguistic research especially for the field of sociolinguistics and pragmatics. All in all, this humble work transcends the linguistic boundaries, offering a lens through which researchers can analyse language, ideology, and power dynamics in various contexts.

### **3. Limitations and Suggestions for further Research**

1. The researcher employed a CDA approach to analyse the news headlines of exclusively AJE and BBC. However, the investigation is conducted to a limited number of headlines and thus, the data may have represented a corpus of a broader range of both headlines and channels.
2. The analysis of this study was fixated on Fairclough's model and Van Dijk's Ideological Square; hence, it is recommended to variate the CDA approaches such as Wodak's Discourse-Historical Approach to deepen the results.
3. At the level of textual analysis, the focus was only on word choice. For richer results, it is suggested to expand the scope of the textual description through covering other linguistic features as passivization and cohesion.

This research work attempted to investigate the invisible ideological features within news headlines of AJE and BBC when reporting Al Shifa hospital raid by Israel in the on-going war in Gaza. The analysis was through the application of two different CDA frameworks, namely Fairclough's Three Dimensional Model and Van Dijk's Ideological Square. The findings revealed a complex interplay between language and ideology, subtly influencing the public perception. This research not only contributes to the academic discourse on media objectivity but also serves as a catalyst for a more critical and informed readership. Future research should continue to unravel the multifaceted elements of ideology in news discourse, fostering a media that champions transparency and diversity of thought.

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# Appendices

# Appendix A

## AJE News Headlines

### [1. Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital forced to bury dead patients in 'mass grave'](#)

The screenshot shows the Al Jazeera website interface. At the top, the Al Jazeera logo is on the left, followed by navigation links: News, Israel War on Gaza, Features, Opinion, Video, and More. On the right, there are buttons for LIVE, a search icon, and Sign up. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail reads: Israel War on Gaza > Live updates > Photos: Fleeing Rafah > Gaza's mass graves > Accounts from Rafah > What is Blockout 2024? > Palestine's UN >. The main content area starts with 'News | Israel War on Gaza' and a headline: 'Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital forced to bury dead patients in 'mass grave''. Below the headline is a sub-headline: 'Hospital director says 179 bodies interred together in courtyard as Israeli forces encircle the facility.' A video player is visible below the text, showing a scene with debris and a bicycle wheel.

### [2. Thousands trapped as Israeli forces raid Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital](#)

The screenshot shows the Al Jazeera website interface. At the top, the Al Jazeera logo is on the left, followed by navigation links: News, Israel War on Gaza, Features, Opinion, Video, and More. On the right, there are buttons for LIVE, a search icon, and Sign up. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail reads: Israel War on Gaza > Live updates > Photos: Fleeing Rafah > Gaza's mass graves > Accounts from Rafah > What is Blockout 2024? > Palestine's UN >. The main content area starts with 'News | Israel War on Gaza' and a headline: 'Thousands trapped as Israeli forces raid Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital'. Below the headline is a sub-headline: 'Raid follows days of heavy attacks on the area, where thousands of displaced people and patients are sheltering.' To the right of the article is an advertisement section titled 'ADVERTISEMENT' with a disclaimer: 'This content is created and paid for by advertisers and does not involve Al Jazeera journalists.' There are two ad items: one with a yellow sign icon and text 'Discover the latest trends and ideas for retirement planning. MarketViews', and another with a green plant icon and text 'The latest trends on responsible investing. MarketViews'. A video player is visible below the article text, showing a scene with people in a room.

### [3. 'Terror' amid Israel's raid on Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital](#)

The screenshot shows the Al Jazeera website interface. At the top, the Al Jazeera logo is on the left, followed by navigation links: News, Israel War on Gaza, Features, Opinion, Video, and More. On the right, there are buttons for LIVE, a search icon, and Sign up. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail reads: Israel War on Gaza > Live updates > Photos: Fleeing Rafah > Gaza's mass graves > Accounts from Rafah > What is Blockout 2024? > Palestine's UN >. The main content area features the article title 'Terror' amid Israel's raid on Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital' in large, bold black text. Below the title is a sub-headline: 'Israel's army raids Gaza's largest hospital, visiting violence and humiliation on patients, staff and displaced people trapped inside, witnesses say.' To the right of the article is an advertisement section titled 'ADVERTISEMENT' with a disclaimer: 'This content is created and paid for by advertisers and does not involve Al Jazeera journalists.' Below the disclaimer are two ad items: one for 'Robotics and Artificial Intelligence' and another for 'Retirement Ahead'.

### [4. Hamas blames US for giving Israel 'green light' to raid al-Shifa Hospital](#)

The screenshot shows the Al Jazeera website interface. At the top, the Al Jazeera logo is on the left, followed by navigation links: News, Israel War on Gaza, Features, Opinion, Video, and More. On the right, there are buttons for LIVE, a search icon, and Sign up. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail reads: Israel War on Gaza > Live updates > Photos: Fleeing Rafah > Gaza's mass graves > Accounts from Rafah > What is Blockout 2024? > Palestine's UN >. The main content area features the article title 'Hamas blames US for giving Israel 'green light' to raid al-Shifa Hospital' in large, bold black text. Below the title is a sub-headline: 'Group ruling Gaza says the White House gave Israel a green light 'to commit more massacres against civilians'.' To the right of the article is an advertisement section titled 'ADVERTISEMENT' with a disclaimer: 'This content is created and paid for by advertisers and does not involve Al Jazeera journalists.' Below the disclaimer are two ad items: one for 'Retirement Ahead' and another for 'The latest news on commodity markets'.

### [5. Middle East Roundup: Is Shifa Hospital really a Hamas ops hub?](#)

The screenshot shows the Al Jazeera website interface. At the top, the Al Jazeera logo is on the left, followed by navigation links: News, Israel War on Gaza, Features, Opinion, Video, and More. On the right, there are buttons for LIVE, a search icon, and Sign up. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail reads: Israel War on Gaza > Live updates > Photos: Fleeing Rafah > Gaza's mass graves > Accounts from Rafah > What is Blockout 2024? > Palestine's UN >. The main content area features the article title 'Middle East Roundup: Is Shifa Hospital really a Hamas ops hub?' in large, bold black text. Below the title is a sub-headline: 'Raiding Gaza's largest hospital, another communications blackout, Israel's goals in Gaza – the Middle East this week.' To the right of the article is an advertisement section titled 'ADVERTISEMENT' with a disclaimer: 'This content is created and paid for by advertisers and does not involve Al Jazeera journalists.' Below the disclaimer are two ad items: one for 'The latest news on commodity markets' and another for 'Retirement Ahead'. At the bottom of the article, there is a wide image showing a group of people in a hospital setting.



## 6. [More than 20 patients die at Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital amid Israeli raid](#)

The screenshot shows the top portion of a news article on Al Jazeera. The navigation bar includes the Al Jazeera logo, 'News', 'Israel War on Gaza', 'Features', 'Opinion', 'Video', and 'More'. There are 'LIVE' and 'Sign up' buttons. The article title is 'More than 20 patients die at Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital amid Israeli raid'. The sub-headline reads: 'Health ministry spokesman says at least 24 people have died at Gaza's largest hospital due to power cuts.' A video player is partially visible at the bottom of the article header. To the right, there is an advertisement section with the heading 'ADVERTISEMENT' and a disclaimer: 'This content is created and paid for by advertisers and does not involve Al Jazeera journalists.' Two ad items are shown: one for 'RETIREMENT AHEAD' about retirement planning, and another about responsible investing.

## 7. [Analysis: What's Israel's next target after Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital?](#)

The screenshot shows the top portion of an analysis article on Al Jazeera. The navigation bar is similar to the previous article but includes a breadcrumb trail: 'Israel War on Gaza > Live updates > Photos: Fleeing Rafah > Gaza's mass graves > Accounts from Rafah > What is Blockout 2024? > Palestine's UN >'. The article title is 'Analysis: What's Israel's next target after Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital?'. The sub-headline reads: 'Israel has yet to offer evidence that Hamas is using a network of tunnels below the hospital as a command centre.' A video player is partially visible at the bottom of the article header. To the right, there is an advertisement section with the heading 'ADVERTISEMENT' and a disclaimer: 'This content is created and paid for by advertisers and does not involve Al Jazeera journalists.' Two ad items are shown: one for 'RETIREMENT AHEAD' about retirement planning, and another about Robotics and Artificial Intelligence.

## 8. [Panic as Gaza's al-Shifa evacuates, Israel army denies ordering it to do so](#)

The screenshot shows the top portion of a news article on Al Jazeera. The navigation bar is similar to the previous article but includes a breadcrumb trail: 'Israel War on Gaza > Live updates > Photos: Fleeing Rafah > Gaza's mass graves > Accounts from Rafah > What is Blockout 2024? > Palestine's UN >'. The article title is 'Panic as Gaza's al-Shifa evacuates, Israel army denies ordering it to do so'. The sub-headline reads: 'More than 7,000 people, including critical patients, were housed in the hospital that Israeli troops have besieged for days.' A video player is partially visible at the bottom of the article header. To the right, there is an advertisement section with the heading 'ADVERTISEMENT' and a disclaimer: 'This content is created and paid for by advertisers and does not involve Al Jazeera journalists.' Two ad items are shown: one for 'RETIREMENT AHEAD' about retirement planning, and another about Robotics and Artificial Intelligence.

## 9. Israeli army says it found a 55-metre tunnel under Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital


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### Israeli army says it found a 55-metre tunnel under Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital

*Military publishes video of what it describes as a tunnel, running 55 metres in length and dug under the medical facility.*



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## 10. Israeli army arrests al-Shifa Hospital director, other doctors in Gaza

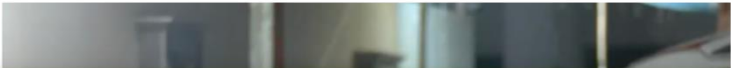
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### Israeli army arrests al-Shifa Hospital director, other doctors in Gaza

*Director Muhammad Abu Salmiya and several other medical personnel detained as Israel continues its Gaza offensive.*



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# Appendix B

## BBC News Headlines

### [1. Israel-Gaza war: US says Hamas has command centre under Al-Shifa hospital](#)



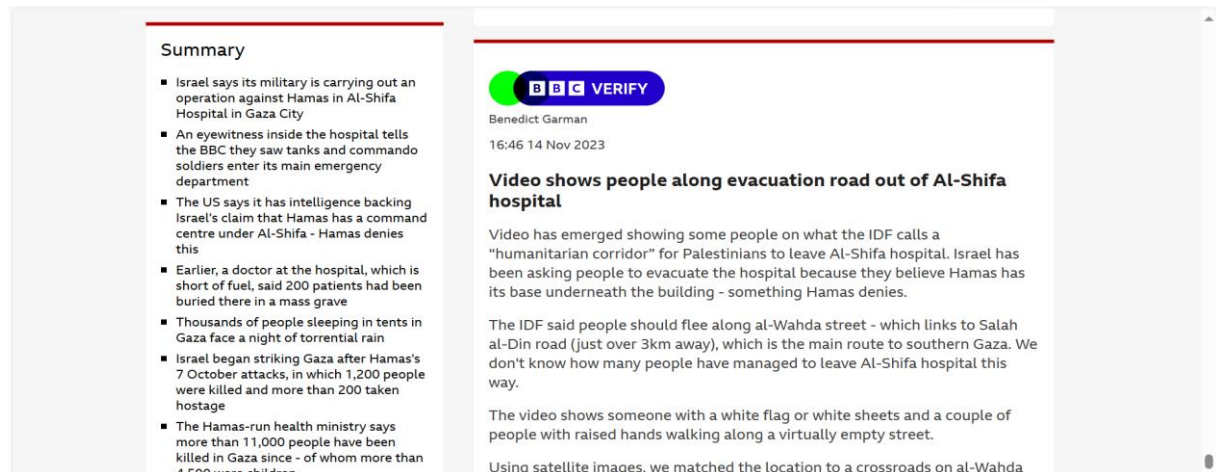
Israel-Gaza war: US says Hamas has command centre under Al-Shifa hospital

14 November 2023

By Graeme Baker & Robert Greenall, BBC News

EMERGENCY

### [2. Video shows people along evacuation road out of Al-Shifa hospital](#)



Summary

- Israel says its military is carrying out an operation against Hamas in Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City
- An eyewitness inside the hospital tells the BBC they saw tanks and commando soldiers enter its main emergency department
- The US says it has intelligence backing Israel's claim that Hamas has a command centre under Al-Shifa - Hamas denies this
- Earlier, a doctor at the hospital, which is short of fuel, said 200 patients had been buried there in a mass grave
- Thousands of people sleeping in tents in Gaza face a night of torrential rain
- Israel began striking Gaza after Hamas's 7 October attacks, in which 1,200 people were killed and more than 200 taken hostage
- The Hamas-run health ministry says more than 11,000 people have been killed in Gaza since - of whom more than 4,500 were children

BBC VERIFY

Benedict Garman

16:46 14 Nov 2023

**Video shows people along evacuation road out of Al-Shifa hospital**

Video has emerged showing some people on what the IDF calls a "humanitarian corridor" for Palestinians to leave Al-Shifa hospital. Israel has been asking people to evacuate the hospital because they believe Hamas has its base underneath the building - something Hamas denies.

The IDF said people should flee along al-Wahda street - which links to Salah al-Din road (just over 3km away), which is the main route to southern Gaza. We don't know how many people have managed to leave Al-Shifa hospital this way.

The video shows someone with a white flag or white sheets and a couple of people with raised hands walking along a virtually empty street.

Using satellite images, we matched the location to a crossroads on al-Wahda

### 3. Netanyahu adviser blames Hamas for hospital 'warzone'

Summary

- Israel says its military is carrying out an operation against Hamas in Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City
- An eyewitness inside the hospital tells the BBC they saw tanks and commando soldiers enter its main emergency department
- The US says it has intelligence backing Israel's claim that Hamas has a command centre under Al-Shifa - Hamas denies this
- Earlier, a doctor at the hospital, which is short of fuel, said 200 patients had been buried there in a mass grave
- Thousands of people sleeping in tents in Gaza face a night of torrential rain
- Israel began striking Gaza after Hamas's 7 October attacks, in which 1,200 people were killed and more than 200 taken hostage
- The Hamas-run health ministry says more than 11,000 people have been

5:33 14 Nov 2023

#### Netanyahu adviser blames Hamas for hospital 'warzone'

Mark Regev, a senior adviser to the Israeli PM, has argued that Hamas is to blame for turning Al-Shifa hospital - the largest in Gaza - "into a warzone".

In comments to the BBC, he said Hamas had "deliberately built" military infrastructure under the hospital and had "used those babies to shield its military machine".

Hamas and hospital officials have also consistently rejected these claims justifying Israel's strikes around the Strip's hospitals. Regev argued Israel was not deliberately targeting hospitals.

He said Hamas wanted "pictures to show a crisis" and they were not willing to accept solutions for fuel so the hospital could continue operating.

### 4. IDF calls on 'Hamas terrorists' present in Al-Shifa 'to surrender'

2:49 15 Nov 2023

#### IDF calls on 'Hamas terrorists' present in Al-Shifa 'to surrender'

We reported earlier that the IDF confirmed that it is carrying out "precise and targeted operations against Hamas in a specified area in the Al-Shifa Hospital, based on intelligence information".

**In a post on X**, the IDF also added that it "has publicly warned time and again that Hamas' continued military use of the Al-Shifa hospital jeopardizes its protected status under international law, and enabled ample time to stop this unlawful abuse of the hospital," it continued.

Al-Shifa is the largest hospital in Gaza, and both Israel and the US claim that Hamas has a command base under it - which Hamas denies.

The statement also called on "all Hamas terrorists present in the hospital to surrender" while reiterating that the IDF had "facilitated wide-scale evacuations" of the complex.

The BBC could not immediately verify the Israeli report.

Aid workers say the situation inside Al-Shifa is "dire" and the Hamas-run

### 5. Israel says it is carrying out an operation against Hamas in Al-Shifa Hospital

1:25 15 Nov 2023

**BREAKING** Israel says it is carrying out an operation against Hamas in Al-Shifa Hospital

The Israeli military says it is carrying out a "precise and targeted operation against Hamas" in part of Al-Shifa Hospital "based on intelligence information and an operational necessity".

**In a statement on social media**, the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) say their forces "include medical teams and Arabic speakers, who have undergone specified training to prepare for this complex and sensitive environment."

They say the intent is that "no harm is caused to the civilians being used by Hamas as human shields".

The IDF goes on to say that it had recently told Gazan authorities that all military activity within the hospital had to end but that it had not.

The BBC could not immediately verify the Israeli report.

## [6. Bowen: Al-Shifa Hospital raid comes as tone shifts on Israel](#)

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### Bowen: Al-Shifa Hospital raid comes as tone shifts on Israel

15 November 2023 ↩ Share

By **Jeremy Bowen**, BBC international editor



## [7. BBC goes inside Al-Shifa hospital with the Israeli army](#)

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### BBC goes inside Al-Shifa hospital with the Israeli army

16 November 2023 ↩ Share

By **Lucy Williamson** at Al-Shifa hospital, Gaza City, BBC News



## [8. Israel says hostage's body found near main Gaza hospital](#)

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### Israel says hostage's body found near main Gaza hospital

16 November 2023 ↩ Share



## [9. Gaza war: Premature babies evacuated from al-Shifa hospital](#)

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### Gaza war: Premature babies evacuated from al-Shifa hospital

19 November 2023 [Share](#)



## [10. Israeli forces detain director of Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital](#)

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### Israeli forces detain director of Gaza's al-Shifa Hospital

23 November 2023 [Share](#)  
By David Gritten, BBC News



## ملخص الدراسة

تهدف هذه الدراسة لتطبيق تحليل الخطاب النقدي CDA على العناوين الإخبارية عبر الإنترنت لشبكتي AJE و BBC الناطقتين بالإنجليزية. فهو يسلط الضوء على الأيديولوجيات المبطنة في عناوين كلتا القناتين فيما يتعلق باقتحام إسرائيل لمستشفى الشفاء في غزة خلال الحرب الحالية (طوفان الأقصى). يركز التحليل على استخدام بعض التراكيب المعجمية والمصطلحات الفريدة التي تقود إلى تفسيرات متعددة للحادثة. تمت دراسة العناوين بالاستناد على نموذج فار كلوف و فاندايك للتحليل النقدي. قد أظهرت النتائج أن العناوين الإخبارية تتضمن وجهات نظر الشبكات الإعلامية. حيث خلصت الباحثة إلى أن AJE صورت إسرائيل على أنها باغية فهجوما على المستشفى غير مبرر ويسعى فقط لاستهداف المدنيين، بينما حماس تلتزم بالقوانين الدولية ولم تستغل المستشفى لأي أغراض عسكرية. و على العكس من ذلك، تؤمن BBC بشرعية الاقتحام و تصف إسرائيل بالقانونية والتي تعمل جاهدة لحفظ الأمن و التصدي للتهديدات التي تزعزع استقرارها، و في المقابل تعتبر حماس جماعة إرهابية مسؤولة عن استخدام المستشفى عسكريا و مفاخرة مصائب المدنيين .

**الكلمات الرئيسية:** العناوين الإخبارية، الأيديولوجيات، AJE، BBC، اقتحام مستشفى الشفاء، تحليل الخطاب النقدي.