

A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF PATRIOTISM IN AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE SPEECHES

NAHAWAND MUHSIN HACHIM

MA CANDIDATE AT ENGLISH DEPARTMENT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION FOR HUMAN SCIENCES, WASIT UNIVERSITY, IRAQ
EMAIL: hbskwhai@gmail.com

MAZIN JASIM MOHAMMED AL-HILU (PHD)

PROF. DR. AT ENGLISH DEPARTMENT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION FOR HUMAN SCIENCES, WASIT UNIVERSITY, IRAQ
EMAIL: malhilu@uowasit.edu.iq

ABSTRACT

This paper conducts a pragmatic analysis of patriotic language in American Independence Day speeches to explore how presidents strategically construct and reinforce patriotic sentiment through linguistic strategies. While these speeches have been extensively studied from historical perspectives, research on their pragmatic dimensions remains limited. The study investigates how patriotism is expressed through pragmatic features, contributing to constructing national identity and reflecting specific historical contexts. The research adopts a qualitative methodology to analyse four extracts from presidential Independence Day speeches delivered by Donald Trump (2019) and Barack Obama (2016) using Searle's (1969) Speech Act Theory and Grice's (1975) Conversational Implicature as analytical frameworks. Findings reveal that presidents employ sophisticated layering of speech acts and strategic manipulation of conversational maxims to evoke patriotic sentiment. Each president adapts these pragmatic strategies to address the unique challenges of their era while maintaining connections to enduring American values, balancing the celebration of national achievements with acknowledgment of ongoing challenges, and constructing a vision of inclusive patriotism.

KEYWORDS: Patriotism, Pragmatics, Speech Acts, Conversational Implicature, Presidential Speeches, Independence Day

المستخلص

تقوم هذه الدراسة بتحليل تداولي للغة الوطنية في خطابات عيد الاستقلال الأمريكي لاستكشاف كيف يبني الرؤساء ويعززون المشاعر الوطنية بشكل استراتيجي من خلال الاستراتيجيات اللغوية. في حين أن هذه الخطابات قد درست بشكل واسع من منظورات تاريخية، تبقى الأبحاث حول أبعادها التداولية محدودة. تستقصى الدراسة كيف يُعبر عن الوطنية من خلال السمات التداولية، مما يساهم في بناء الهوية الوطنية ويعكس السياقات التاريخية المحددة. يتبنى البحث منهجية نوعية لتحليل أربع مقاطع من خطابات الرؤساء لعيد الاستقلال ألقاها دونالد ترامب (2019) وباراك أوباما (2016) باستخدام نظرية أفعال الكلام لسيرل (1969) والاستلزام الحواري لجرايس (1975) كأطر تحليلية. تكشف النتائج أن الرؤساء يوظفون طبقات معقدة من أفعال الكلام والتلاعب الاستراتيجي بمبادئ المحادثة لإثارة المشاعر الوطنية. يكيف كل رئيس هذه الاستراتيجيات التداولية لمواجهة التحديات الفريدة لعصره مع الحفاظ على الروابط مع القيم الأمريكية الدائمة، وموازنة الاحتفال بالإنجازات الوطنية مع الاعتراف بالتحديات المستمرة، وبناء رؤية للوطنية الشاملة. *الكلمات المفتاحية:* الوطنية، التداولية، أفعال الكلام، الاستلزام الحواري، الخطابات الرئاسية، عيد الاستقلال

1. INTRODUCTION

The American Independence era was a defining chapter in history, where visionary leaders laid the groundwork for a new nation. Patriotism wasn't just a theme, it was the heartbeat of the revolution, echoing through speeches that have since become cornerstones of American identity. These addresses did more than rally troops; they articulated ideals that would shape the nation's consciousness for generations (Beasley, 2004).

The examination of patriotism in American Independence speeches combines knowledge from linguistics with pragmatics alongside history and political science. Historical studies of these speeches exist, but scholars have not yet comprehensively investigated how patriotism manifests through pragmatic language use (Hutcheson et al., 2004). According to Culpeper and Haugh (2014), pragmatic analysis shows how language works by assessing intended meanings and implied meanings as influenced by the context. The current research takes a pragmatic approach to

explore the strategic strengthening of patriotic feeling through the study of patriotic language in the American Independence declarations. By examining pragmatic features, the author finds linguistic strategies that express patriotic affect and create national identity.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 PRAGMATICS

Pragmatics is a central field of linguistics that is dedicated to explaining how contextual variables can alter meaning in the context of communicative interaction. In examining the mechanisms by which speakers choose lexical items to be used in real-life situations and the mechanisms by which both speakers decode and infer meaning beyond the literal semantic meaning, pragmatics directly deals with the intended meanings and the implicit assumptions that guide discourse exchange (Levinson, 1983). Al-Hilu (2017) made it clear that pragmatic interpretation is inherently dynamic, depending on the communicating parties themselves and the physical, social, and linguistic context within which the conversation takes place.

The Speech Act Theory is a core pragmatic framework that seeks to explain how linguistic utterances can be action-performers as opposed to information carriers. Based on the seminal work of Austin, *How to Do Things with Words* (1962), the field holds that utterances are actions and thus introduces a paradigm shift in the earlier focus on linguistic description. This orientation is further elaborated by Searle (1969) in a systematic manner that identifies five major types of speech acts, namely, assertives (commit the speaker to the truth of articulated propositions), directives (seek to elicit specified actions on the part of the hearer), commissives (obligate the speaker to future actions), expressives (register psychological states concerning external affairs), and declarations (effect real-world alterations through linguistic articulation) (Searle, 1969).

Conversational implicature is a concept that was introduced by philosopher H. Paul Grice and is a part of pragmatic theory. Implicature refers to meanings suggested or implied by utterances, contrasting with literal expression. Grice's (1975) Cooperative Principle establishes the theoretical basis for comprehending conversational implicature, functioning through four maxims: Quantity (providing information as needed), Quality (not asserting what one believes to be false), Relation (maintaining relevance), and Manner (eschewing obscurity and ambiguity). These maxims describe assumptions listeners typically make about how speakers will communicate, guiding both utterance production and interpretation in conversation while allowing speakers to convey meaning beyond literal content.

2.2 THE CONCEPT OF PATRIOTISM

Patriotism has been a subject of scholarly examination and public discussion for centuries. The concept encompasses emotional, cognitive, and behavioral dimensions, intertwining with notions of national identity, loyalty, and civic participation. Its complexity emerges from variations across cultures, historical periods, and individual perspectives. Fundamentally, patriotism is commonly understood as love or devotion to one's country (Kosterman & Feshbach, 1989). Primoratz (2002) provided a more nuanced definition, characterizing patriotism as "love of one's country, identification with it, and special concern for its well-being and that of compatriots" (p. 443), emphasizing its emotional connection, cognitive aspect, and behavioral component.

Political psychology research has identified distinct types of patriotism, each characterized by different attitudes, behaviors, and motivations. Scholars distinguish between blind patriotism, involving unquestioning support for one's country, and constructive patriotism, involving critical attachment that acknowledges flaws while supporting positive change (Schatz et al., 1999). In political communication, patriotism often functions as what McGee (1980) termed an "ideograph" - a high-order abstraction representing a collective commitment to particular normative goals. The malleable nature of patriotism allows politicians to deploy it in various contexts for diverse purposes, making it a versatile, communicative resource in political discourse.

2.3 AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE SPEECHES

American Independence speeches constitute a crucial component of the nation's political and communicative traditions. These speeches have played significant roles in shaping national identity, articulating core values, and mobilizing citizens around ideals of freedom and democracy. The collection of American Independence speeches is diverse, spanning from the colonial era to contemporary times, including both formal declarations and commemorative

addresses. Following the Declaration of Independence, Fourth of July orations emerged as a significant genre of American political speech, serving to reinforce national values and commemorate founding principles (Lucas & Medhurst, 2007).

In the twentieth century, Independence Day speeches often became platforms for presidents to address contemporary issues through the lens of founding principles. Presidential Independence Day addresses serve as "communicative rituals" that balance the celebration of American achievements with calls to fulfil the nation's founding promises. These speeches not only commemorate historical events but also actively shape contemporary understanding of national identity and civic responsibility, making them rich sites for examining how patriotic discourse constructs national identity through selective invocation of historical narratives, symbols, and values (Campbell & Jamieson, 2008).

3. METHODOLOGY

This study employs a qualitative research approach to analyse expressions of patriotism in American Independence speeches. Denzin and Lincoln (2018) defined qualitative research as "a situated activity that locates the observer in the world" (p. 10), allowing for an in-depth exploration of how language and pragmatic strategies construct patriotic sentiments in historical speeches. Patton (2015) confirmed that qualitative methodologies are especially appropriate to reveal the meanings inherent in communicative practices located in specific contexts, thus contributing to our understanding of how and why of patriotic expression in the discourse of American Independence.

The current analysis focuses on four extracts of Independence Day speeches by two presidents of the United States: two extracts of the speech by Donald Trump, Remarks by President Trump at the 2019 Salute to America (4 July 2019), and two extracts of the speech by Barack Obama, Remarks by the President at Fourth of July Celebration (4 July 2016). Both speeches were given in historically significant locations, the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., in the case of Trump and the White House in the case of Obama, and were chosen due to the highlighted patriotic themes and practical rhetorical strategies aimed at fostering national unity and preservation of American ideals.

The research utilizes two of the most fundamental pragmatic theories, the Speech Act Theory by John Searle (1969) and the theory of conversational implicature by Paul Grice (1975), to question the pragmatic mechanisms of how patriotism is expressed in political speeches. The five illocutionary acts of assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations provided by Searle provide the analytical framework through which the types of actions that linguistic practices cause can be identified. In a complementary manner, the four maxims of Grice, Quantity, Quality, Relation, and Manner are normative rules that regulate successful discourse. The analysis then assesses how the adherence to and the violation of these maxims create implicit patriotic messages, and it is closely involved with the textual material and the contextual information that surrounds it.

4. DATA ANALYSIS

4.1 DONALD TRUMP'S SPEECH: REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TRUMP AT THE 2019 SALUTE TO AMERICA

Extract 1

"THE PRESIDENT: Hello, America. Hello. The First Lady and I wish each and every one of you a Happy Independence Day on this truly historic Fourth of July! (Applause.) Today, we come together as one nation with this very special Salute to America. We celebrate our history, our people, and the heroes who proudly defend our flag, the brave men and women of the United States Military. (Applause.)" (Trump, 2019)

Pragmatic Analysis

Speech Act

This opening segment of Trump's speech demonstrates multiple speech acts that serve different illocutionary functions. The initial greeting, "Hello, America. Hello," functions as an expressive speech act, establishing immediate rapport with the audience and acknowledging their presence. Another notable expressive act in the oration is the Independence Day greetings by the speaker, who says, "The First Lady and I wish each and every one of you a Happy Independence Day." The Presidential voice in this statement meets a traditional ceremonial requirement and, at the same time, creates a personal connection by mentioning the First Lady and thus defining a collective celebration. The words, each and every one of you, which are incorporated into this statement, repeat the idea of inclusivity and emphasize the fact that the leader pays constant attention to every member of the audience. The President makes a

declaration of the extraordinary significance of the celebration by stating, "on this truly historic Fourth of July," the adjective truly intensifies the assertive role of the statement, as the speaker is determined to the epistemic soundness of the statement.

The phrase, "Today, we come together as one nation," is a two-function speech act that serves as both a declarative and a commissive at the same time: it formally defines the unified nature of the event, but at the same time suggests a collective promise of national unity. The same can be said about the phrase "with this very special Salute to America," which is also an assertive speech act that defines the type of event and justifies its unusual form at the same time. The last phrase, "We celebrate our history, our people, and the heroes who proudly defend our flag, the brave men and women of the United States Military," is a combination of several speech acts. It serves as an assertive, stating the reason behind the celebration, but also has an expressive part in expressing admiration and gratitude to military personnel. In all these utterances, the repetition of possessive pronouns "our" has an implicit commissive role, implying shared ownership and collective responsibility in national heritage.

Conversational Implicature

The passage demonstrates advanced conversational implicature that follows and sometimes deliberately violates Grice's maxims in order to express more complicated meanings. Regarding the maxim of quantity, the speaker provides enough relevant information concerning the occasion and, at the same time, suggests more significance by using such phrases as "truly historic" and "very special." These modifiers create an implicature that this Independence Day celebration is somehow special or more important than the past ones, but without stating the reasons why it is so. This deviation from the maxim of quantity opens the door to the auditory inference of the special meaning of the celebration.

The maxim of quality is generally observed through factual statements about the occasion, but the phrase "come together as one nation" carries important implicatures about national unity that may contrast with the actual political divisions of the time. This creates a prescriptive rather than descriptive implicature, suggesting how the speaker believes Americans should behave rather than how they currently are. The maxim of relation is carefully maintained as each statement builds upon the previous one, moving from a personal greeting to national unity to a specific celebration of military service. However, the rapid transition to military focus ("the heroes who proudly defend our flag") carries an implicature about the speaker's priorities and his conception of patriotism as closely linked to military strength.

The maxim of manner is generally observed through clear, straightforward language, but certain phrases carry additional implicatures. The repetition of "Hello" and the informal direct address to "America" flouts conventional presidential speech patterns, implying a more personal, direct relationship between the speaker and citizens. Furthermore, the phrase "the brave men and women of the United States Military" generates an implicature of moral obligation to support and respect military personnel, going beyond mere description to imply a value judgment about their service. The use of "proudly" in relation to defending the flag carries an implicature about the proper emotional attitude toward military service and, by extension, toward national symbols and identity.

Extract 2

"We are pleased to have with us Vice President Mike Pence and his wonderful wife Karen. (Applause.) We are also joined by many hardworking members of Congress; Acting Secretary of Defense Mark Esper and many other members of my Cabinet; and also the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Joe Dunford. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. (Applause.). As we gather this evening in the joy of freedom, we remember that we all share a truly extraordinary heritage. Together, we are part of one of the greatest stories ever told: the story of America. It is the epic tale of a great nation whose people have risked everything for what they know is right and what they know is true. It is the chronicle of brave citizens who never give up on the dream of a better and brighter future. And it is the saga of thirteen separate colonies that united to form the most just and virtuous republic ever conceived. (Applause.)" (Trump, 2019)

Pragmatic Analysis

Speech Act

The extract exhibits a complex layering of speech acts that serve multiple illocutionary functions. The opening statement, "We are pleased to have with us..." functions as an expressive speech act, conveying pleasure and welcome while simultaneously performing a declarative function by formally acknowledging the presence of dignitaries. This is followed by a series of similar expressive-declarative combinations acknowledging other officials, where the formal recognition ("We are also joined by") serves an institutional function while maintaining a welcoming tone. The repetition of "Thank you" operates as a pure, expressive speech act, demonstrating gratitude and recognition. The sentence, "As we meet this evening in the gladness of freedom," fulfils a two-fold speech-act role: it is at once an assertive statement that describes the present situation and a declarative statement that formally defines the aim and

character of the meeting. The clause "we remember that we all share a truly extraordinary heritage" is a hybrid speech act, which involves both assertive and commissive speech acts. It states that the participants share a common heritage and, at the same time, implicitly binds every individual in the audience to this shared memory.

The phrase "Together, we are part of one of the greatest stories ever told: the story of America" is a powerful assertive speech act, which both makes a declarative statement about American exceptionalism and sets the narrative frame that is followed. The following series of statements about American history and character ("It is the epic tale...", "It is the chronicle...", "It is the saga...") function as assertive speech acts, each making strong claims about national identity and values. However, these assertives also carry an implicit declarative force, as they not only describe but also formally establish and reinforce these characteristics as fundamental to American identity. The phrase "most just and virtuous republic ever conceived" represents a particularly strong assertive speech act, making a superlative claim about American excellence that also functions as a declarative, establishing American superiority.

Conversational Implicature

The extract demonstrates the sophisticated management of Grice's conversational maxims to generate meaningful implicatures. Regarding the maxim of quantity, the speaker provides detailed information about present dignitaries, implying their importance through explicit mention. The description of each official's role and title generates an implicature about the formal and significant nature of the occasion, going beyond mere identification to establish institutional authority.

The maxim of quality is notably engaged in the claims about American exceptionalism. Phrases like "greatest stories ever told" and "most just and virtuous republic ever conceived" technically violate the maxim of quality (as such superlatives are difficult to verify objectively), but this flouting generates important implicatures about national pride and American self-conception. The apparent violation of strict truthfulness serves to communicate deeper cultural and ideological commitments.

The maxim of relation is carefully maintained through a logical progression from present dignitaries to historical narratives. However, the specific selection of historical elements ("risked everything," "brave citizens," "never give up") carries significant implicatures about desired national characteristics and values. The emphasis on risk-taking and perseverance implies these are essential American qualities without explicitly stating them as such.

The maxim of manner is generally observed through clear structure, but certain phrases generate additional implicatures through their style. The formal acknowledgment of officials followed by repeated "Thank you" creates an implicature about institutional respect and hierarchy. The shift to more elevated language in describing American history ("epic tale," "chronicle," "saga") generates implicatures about the special nature of American history and its importance. Furthermore, the phrase "what they know is right and what they know is true" carries an implicature about moral certainty and righteousness as fundamental American characteristics, suggesting these qualities without explicitly arguing for them.

4.2 BARACK OBAMA: REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Extract 1

"We all know that our freedoms are dependent on an incredible group of men and women in uniform and their families who look out for us every single day. Some of them are in attendance here today -- please give them a big round of applause. For those in our military who could not attend, we just want to say how much we admire, respect and appreciate everything you do to fight for our freedom every single day. And obviously the Fourth of July -- we enjoy the hotdogs, we enjoy the burgers, we enjoy the barbecue, we enjoy the day off for a lot of us, we enjoy the fireworks. But it's important to remember what a miracle this country is." (Obama, 2016)

Pragmatic Analysis

Speech Acts

In this extract, Obama employs multiple speech acts that work together to create a complex web of meaning and purpose. The opening statement, "We all know that our freedoms are dependent on an incredible group of men and women in uniform," functions as a compound speech act. Primarily, it serves as an assertive speech act, making a claim about the relationship between freedom and military service. However, the phrase "We all know" adds a layer of complexity by presupposing shared knowledge, thus functioning as a declarative act that establishes common ground with the audience. The use of the adjective "incredible" in this declaration serves two purposes: it is an exclamation of admiration and a sign of gratitude. This abstract praise is then transformed into concrete performative action by the next directive speech act, which is, "please give them a big round of applause." The marker of mitigation,

"please," is counterbalanced by the intensifier, "big," thus demonstrating how executive power can be used without losing a democratic tone of inclusiveness.

The speech directed to the absent military, "we just want to say how much we admire, respect and appreciate everything you do," is a complex "expressive speech act." The use of the same three verbs ("admire, respect, and appreciate") several times increases the expressive power of the statement. This speech act is particularly interesting as it acknowledges and addresses non-present audiences, extending the speech's reach beyond the immediate context. In the section about Fourth of July celebrations, Obama employs a series of assertive speech acts ("we enjoy the hotdogs, we enjoy the burgers...") that establish shared cultural experiences. These assertives work together to create a commissive implication - by acknowledging these shared celebrations, the speaker commits the community to maintain these traditions. The final statement, "But it's important to remember what a miracle this country is," functions as both an assertive and a directive speech act. While asserting the nation's exceptional nature, it also directs the audience to maintain historical awareness and appreciation.

Conversational Implicature

Obama's use of conversational implicature in this extract reveals sophisticated adherence to and strategic flouting of Grice's maxims to convey deeper meanings. Regarding the maxim of quantity, the repeated use of "we enjoy" provides more information than is strictly necessary, deliberately flouting this maxim to emphasize the communal nature of celebration and to create a contrast with the serious message that follows. This flouting generates an implicature about the proper balance between celebration and reflection.

The maxim of quality is carefully observed through factual statements about military service and holiday celebrations. However, the characterization of the country as a "miracle" represents a calculated flouting of literal truth to convey a deeper emotional and philosophical truth about national exceptionalism. This generates an implicature about the extraordinary nature of American democracy and the need to preserve it.

The maxim of relation is maintained through careful transitions between military service, present celebration, and historical reflection. However, the juxtaposition of casual celebrations ("hotdogs, burgers, barbecue") with profound national themes generates an implicature about the relationship between everyday American life and larger democratic principles. This juxtaposition suggests that patriotism exists in both grand gestures and simple celebrations.

The maxim of manner is interestingly handled through the deliberate contrast between formal and informal language. The shift from formal acknowledgment of military service to casual discussion of holiday activities and back to serious reflection about the nation's miraculous nature creates implicatures about the multiple levels at which patriotism operates. The phrase "every single day" appears twice, generating an implicature about the continuous nature of both military service and the obligation to maintain democratic values.

Extract 2

"How incredible -- how incredibly lucky we are that people, generations ago, were willing to take up arms and fight for our freedom. And then people, inside this country, understanding that there were imperfections in our union and were willing to keep on fighting on behalf of extending that freedom to all people and not just some. And that story of independence is not something that happens and then we just put away. It's something that we have to fight for every single day. It's something that we have to nurture, and we have to spread the word, and we have to work on." (Obama, 2016)

Pragmatic Analysis

Speech Acts

This extract demonstrates a complex layering of speech acts that work together to construct a narrative about the ongoing American struggle for freedom. The opening exclamation, "How incredible -- how incredibly lucky we are," functions as an expressive speech act, conveying both amazement and gratitude. This is immediately followed by an assertive speech act describing historical actions: "people, generations ago, were willing to take up arms and fight for our freedom." The combination of these acts creates a powerful emotional connection to historical sacrifice while establishing historical facts. The next segment contains a sophisticated compound speech act: "understanding that there were imperfections in our union and were willing to keep on fighting." This functions both as an assertive, acknowledging historical flaws and as a declarative that establishes the legitimacy of the internal struggle for rights. The phrase "extending that freedom to all people and not just some" operates as both an assertive description of historical events and a commissive, suggesting an ongoing commitment to equality.

The extract pivots to a series of significant assertive and commissive speech acts about the nature of independence: "that story of independence is not something that happens and then we just put away." This negative assertion leads to three powerful commissive acts that commit the collective "we" to specific actions: "we have to fight," "we have to nurture," and "we have to spread the word." These commissives are strengthened by their modal construction "have

to," which adds a dimension of obligation and necessity. The last part of the inaugural address, "We have to work on," is both a "commissive speech act," a promise to keep working, and a "directive act," an implicit call to action to the citizens. The combination of the two commitments produces a powerful call to action that does not lose the feeling of communal responsibility inherent in the discourse.

Conversational Implicature

The text provides a vivid example of the strategic use of conversational implicature through the manipulation of the maxims of Grice. The maxim of quantity is illustrated by the repetition of "how incredible," a figure of speech that emphasizes meaning more than literal repetition would justify, and thus implicates a generalized evaluation of the extraordinary magnitude and intensity of historical sacrifice. Similarly, the phrase "generations ago" is a deliberate under-specification of time reference, which invites an implicature of many epochs of collective struggle.

Despite the fact that the principle of quality is maintained throughout the text with references to historical accuracy, the phrase, "imperfections in our union," serves as a purposeful understatement, which implies a lot of implicatures about the seriousness of historical injustices. This subtle wording decision allows not only to recognize the wrongs of the past but also to continue to focus on the future and betterment.

The maxim of relation is analytically fruitful to the extent that it allows a correlation between external dangers ("take up arms") and internal conflicts over rights. This kind of juxtaposition places both phenomena as valid aspects of American history, thus triggering an implicature of equal validity. The transition between historical account and present duty also creates an implicature of continuity between the past struggles and the present duties.

The maxim of manner is notably flouted by the repetitive formula of "we have to..." This strategic infringement creates an implicature of the ongoing and multidimensional nature of civic responsibility. At the same time, the phrase "not just some" serves as a rhetorical stalling device, which violates the maxim of manner through negative construction and implicitly appeals to historical trends of exclusion without directly referring to marginalized collectivises.

5. CONCLUSION

The pragmatic analysis of Independence Day speeches by Donald Trump (2019) and Barack Obama (2016) proves the systematic use of linguistic tools aimed at evoking patriotic feelings in the American people. The two presidents promoted national unity, historical continuity, and shared values through context-sensitive patriotic rhetoric based on speech act theory and principles of conversational implicature. The orators use historical narratives to trigger commitments to protect the basic principles by combining multiple speech acts in one utterance and by following or strategically breaking the relevant conversational maxims to produce multilayered interpretations about the international status of America, the universal principles of democracy and the further evolution of democracy. The extracts of Trump emphasize the military power and American exceptionalism by means of assertive, declarative acts, whereas the extracts of Obama prioritize inclusive patriotism and ongoing democratic responsibility by means of commissive and directive acts, thus demonstrating how the successive presidents adjust the pragmatic approaches to their historical situations and maintain the patriotic ideals of freedom, equality, and collective responsibility.

REFERENCES

- Al-Hilu, M. J. (2017). *Complimenting Behaviour in the Performance of Irish English and Iraqi Arabic Native Speakers: A cross-cultural pragmatic study*. (Unpublished PhD Thesis). University of Limerick.
- Austin, J. L. (1962). *How to do things with words*. Oxford University Press.
- Beasley, V. B. (2004). *You, the people: American national identity in presidential rhetoric*. Texas A&M University Press.
- Campbell, K. K., & Jamieson, K. H. (2008). *Presidents creating the presidency: Deeds done in words*. University of Chicago Press.
- Culpeper, J., & Haugh, M. (2014). *Pragmatics and the English Language*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Denzin, N. K., & Lincoln, Y. S. (Eds.). (2018). *The SAGE handbook of qualitative research* (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Grice, H. P. (1975). Logic and conversation. In P. Cole & J. Morgan (Eds.), *Syntax and semantics, Vol. 3: Speech acts* (pp. 41-58). Academic Press.
- Hutcheson, J., Domke, D., Billeaudeau, A., & Garland, P. (2004). U.S. national identity, political elites, and a patriotic press following September 11. *Political Communication*, 21(1), 27-50.

-
- Kosterman, R., & Feshbach, S. (1989). Toward a measure of patriotic and nationalistic attitudes. *Political Psychology*, 10(2), 257-274.
 - Levinson, S. C. (1983). *Pragmatics*. Cambridge University Press.
 - Lucas, S. E., & Medhurst, M. J. (2007). *Words of a century: The top 100 American speeches, 1900-1999*. Oxford University Press.
 - McGee, M. C. (1980). The "ideograph": A link between rhetoric and ideology. *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, 66(1), 1-16.
 - Obama, B. (2016, July 4). *Remarks by the President at Fourth of July Celebration* [Speech transcript]. Obama White House Archives. <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2016/07/04/remarks-president-fourth-july-celebration>
 - Patton, M. Q. (2015). *Qualitative research & evaluation methods: Integrating theory and practice* (4th ed.). SAGE Publications.
 - Primoratz, I. (2002). Patriotism: A deflationary view. *Philosophical Forum*, 33(4), 443-458.
 - Schatz, R. T., Staub, E., & Lavine, H. (1999). On the varieties of national attachment: Blind versus constructive patriotism. *Political Psychology*, 20(1), 151-174.
 - Searle, J. R. (1969). *Speech acts: An essay in the philosophy of language*. Cambridge University Press.
 - Trump, D. (2019, July 4). *Remarks by President Trump at the 2019 Salute to America* [Speech transcript]. Trump White House Archives. <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-salute-america/>