

**CHAPTER V**  
**CONCLUSION SUGGESTIONS**

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter presents the summary of the previous chapters and some suggestions.

#### 5.1 Conclusion

On the basis of the data presented here, it may be concluded that *International Herald Tribune* is ideologically inclined towards Israel. This conclusion is drawn on the basis that *International Herald Tribune* uses transitivity processes to bring to the fore the positive values of Israel while at the same time placing more emphasis on the negative attributes of Palestine. *ArabNews*, on the other hand presents itself as more balanced in its reporting despite of occasional favors to Palestine. However, in general, both newspapers report events as they happened.

In *International Herald Tribune*, the Material Processes of transitivity are used to evaluate Palestine negatively through the processes that they (Actor) carry out or perform. They portray an ideology that favors Israel, showing sympathy to the Israeli casualty while not giving any remarks to Palestinian casualties. Verbal Processes in *International Herald Tribune* help to sustain an ideology of Israel as dominant and superior entity, while at the same time portray Palestinian leaders as 'terrorists in suits.' Likewise, Relational Processes in *International Herald Tribune* create an ideology of positivity for Israel while creating a negative one for Palestine, i.e.: Palestinian leaders as the responsible entity for the conflict. *International Herald Tribune* steers away from evaluation and applies the process to explain the justification of Israel's attacks to Palestine, i.e.: as a retaliation of Palestine's rocket attack that killed an Israeli woman. The findings of the Mental Processes confirms with the findings of the Behavioral Processes that portray Palestinian leaders' fear to Israel.

Conversely, in *ArabNews*, the Material Processes avoid negative evaluation to Palestine through the use of passivization. They portray an ideology that favors Palestine by omitting the Actor in reporting the events that claimed an Israeli woman's life. Verbal Processes in *ArabNews* help to sustain an ideology of Palestine as a balanced counterpart to Israel. Likewise, Relational Processes in *ArabNews* create an ideology of positivity for Palestine, but without creating a negative one for Israel. *ArabNews* steers away from evaluation and applies the process to explain

the justification of Palestine's threat of retaliation in case of Israel's attack. The findings of the Behavioral Processes in *ArabNews*, like those in *International Herald Tribune*, portray Palestinian leaders' fear to Israel, while the findings of Existential Processes reflect the *ArabNews*' ideology that acknowledges the existence of the Palestinian leaders, in particular, the Hamas leaders.

Language is a powerful tool to convey ideology. In this study, there are examples of stylistic and ideological consequences of passivization. The immediate result of this transformation is deleting the Actor and thematizing the Affected. The Actor is deleted when it is known, when it is redundant and when it is totally unknown. It can also be deleted when the journalists choose to cloud the responsibility of a certain action because of fear of, respect for or care for the real Actor. Such choices are a tool and an index at one and the same time: a tool for the writer or speaker in representing reality and an index for the analyst in decoding this representation. The answers of the questions of who does what to whom where when and why are very important indicators of the distribution of power in a given context. They are also indicators of how people perceive reality. This is especially the case in Material Process clauses. In another example, in the Verbal Processes, the side which often appears as the Sayer indicates the newspaper's bias to a particular side. A news reports can also take its reader to sympathize to a particular side in the conflict by describing its Mental Processes, while the Relational Processes can be used to attribute a certain value to an entity or even identify a particular entity as good or evil.

Representational practices and processes such as transitivity have ideological effects and can assist in the realization of contrasting discourses (Matu, 2008:9). Representation, in this thesis, realized through the process of transitivity shows how newspaper reports help to sustain bias, manipulation and ideology. Material, Mental, Behavioral, Verbal, Relational, and Existential Processes of transitivity, which are a form of representation, indicate the newspapers' political stances or ideologies.

This thesis has highlighted the relevance and applicability of its theoretical construct, namely, Halliday's Approach to Transitivity, in unearthing ideologies in general and in this thesis, ideological differences among the two newspapers, *International Herald Tribune* and *ArabNews*, in particular. Such an approach may lend itself favorably to understanding political and other discourses in various contexts.

## 5.2 Suggestions

In line with the findings discussed in Chapter IV, in this section, the writer would like to provide some suggestions to newspaper readers. Furthermore, the writer would also like to give some suggestions for future studies related to ideology analysis using Halliday's Approach to Transitivity.

Firstly, newspaper readers should be aware of the presence of particular ideological content when reading a news report. By understanding Halliday's Approach to Transitivity, they can uncover the ideology hidden in the news report to avoid being misguided.

Secondly, this study only focuses on the topic of Israel – Palestine conflict within a very limited period (20 – 23 May 2007) and the data are taken from only two newspapers (*International Herald Tribune* and *ArabNews*). There are still many aspects of ideology that this study was unable to cover. For future researches, more newspapers can be chosen as data source. The research method in this thesis can also be applied to any texts aside from news reports.

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