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The Phonology-Morphology Circle of Korea
GENDER ISSUES IN MALAYSIAN PARLIAMENTARY DISCOURSE

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the abusive use of language emerges as a product of socio-cultural practices and beliefs, and it is likely to occur in contexts where power differences are salient, tensions are high, and the cost-benefit is appealing to the speaker.

BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Among others, the memorandum called for the suspension of between two and six months without pay or allowances for elected members who fail to adhere to the prohibition on the use of sexist language and behaviour.

(The Star Online > Nation Monday February 16, 2009, Wanita MCA out to stop sexism.)

BACKGROUND OF STUDY

"Women in politics always have to work harder and they are judged more harshly. I have made it clear that sexism in Parliament must stop regardless what party he belongs to. And even if the culprit is from the BN, they must be punished."

The Star Online > Lifefocus Sunday March 22, 2009

BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Ikl Pong Po Kuan [Batu Gajah]: saya mewakili wanita seluruh Malaysia saya merasa telah, saya rasa tidak ada penghormatan terhadap wanita.

Not just us women, a New York Times report states, "In a society where women are often treated as less than equal, it's important to remember that when women's rights are attacked, everyone suffers.


I represent women in Malaysia... I feel I have been abused and no respect has been shown to women... the newspapers today reported that the MP from Kinabatangan and Jasin said, "Where is the leak, Batu Gajah also leaks every month." Based on the Rules of Meeting 26 (1) (p) sexists statements, statements that show disrespect for women or abuse women....

BACKGROUND OF STUDY

unauthorised circulation of semi-nude pictures of Bukit Lanjan assemblyman Elizabeth Wong... being victimised as a single woman, in a tactic meant to deliberately cast moral aspersions and indirectly question her ability to carry out her duties as a politician.

"These photos are being released at a time when the tussle for power between the Barisan Nasional and Pakatan Rakyat is increasingly intense. Politics, she added, was being practised in an increasingly violent, sensationalised and sexualised manner.

The Star Online > Nation Tuesday February 17, 2009
Focus of Study

This study discusses and analyses gender-related words in Malaysian parliamentary discourse. In order to achieve the aim of ascertaining the extent of sexist discourse in this domain, a quantitative research methodology is employed.

Funding

This is a preliminary study of a bigger study on gender issues in parliamentary discourse which is funded by the University of Malaya.

Data for Study

The data for this study consists of a corpus of parliamentary discourse dated between 1960-1969 and 2000-2007. The task was to compare the two corpuses for frequency of words related to gender for example, men, women etcetera.

Methodology

This study of gender-related words replicates a study carried out on Swedenborg’s writings where occurrences of words relating to gender such as men, women, wife, king, queen, brother, sister, etc. were tabulated. The aim of was to study gender image that is to be found in the Bible and in Swedenborg’s writings.

James, L. Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept</th>
<th>Writings</th>
<th>Bible</th>
<th>Combined</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>boy(s)</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>girl(s)</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brother(s)</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sister(s)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masculine Words</td>
<td>19337 / 3445</td>
<td>10505 / 5335</td>
<td>29492 / 8780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feminine Words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ratio favour Masculine Imagery
The findings show that while there are 219 occurrences of the word 'gender' between 2000-2007, there were only 29 occurrences between 1990-1999. Likewise 'jantina'(gender) in Malay accounted for 173 tokens between 2000-2007 and 112 tokens between 1990-1999. It should be noted that the occurrence of 'male' far outnumbered 'female' 430 versus 28 in total.

The total number of tokens for male gender related words outnumber female gender related words, that is, 1981 versus 1841. It is interesting that words related to unusual or marked gender words, for example lesbian (22) and pondan or transgender (46) outnumbered the 28 occurrences of the word 'female'.

**Definition**

**Transgender**: A person who was assigned a gender, usually at birth and based on their biological sex characteristics, but who feels that this is a false or incomplete description of their gender identity. A person who expresses their gender in ways that challenge societal expectations of the range of possibilities for women and men.

**SEXIST LANGUAGE**

**DR-14-Jun-1966**

... pasal itu, ia-itu apa yang kita buat dahulu hendak membesutkan, kita masukkan itu Undang2 Kerja yang sa-machuri ini ia-lah kerja satu Kerja yang dikenakan kepada sahingga menetapkan ex post facto termasuk bagai.


We should include a law that states that work like this is the work of a transgender government from a legal perspective.
SEXIST LANGUAGE

We became the champions in Australia. What is the secret of our success? That they can play like a team of men but when playing football they play like transgenders (laughter). I think the secret is that the Minister of Youth and Sports is a woman.

DI, GANZHI’S STUDY


Shuowen Jiezi is the first major dictionary of Chinese, providing the most authentic data on the history of classical Chinese.

DI, GANZHI’S STUDY

The analysis of semantic function shows a striking contrast in how Chinese men and women were represented with respect to oppositions such as strong/weak, powerful/powerless, and benevolent/vicious. With respect to word formation, early drawings present two basic images: superior man/inferior woman. Most interestingly, such gender disparity is made explicit in the minimal pairs: words with ren (human) as the radical tend to be positive and words with nu (woman) as the radical tend to be negative. In providing evidence of gender inequality in classical Chinese, this study shows the definite effects of Confucian philosophy on the language.

LOSE-LOSE SITUATION

Unparliamentary discourse serve to further subjugate women. However, men are hurt as well. Men are taught to derogate anything female. This manifests itself as a high level of competitiveness, a disability to be open and vulnerable, and a lack of competence in interpersonal relationships (Kimmel, 1990).

CONCLUSION

Gender inequality is still prevalent today not only in literature but also in formal political arenas as the Parliament. This preliminary study found that gender inequality can be tracked using a corpus of Malaysian parliamentary discourse. This study paves the way for bigger sociolinguistic studies which critically examine discourses and power struggle between male and female MPs in the Malaysian Parliament.

CHANGE

If gender roles are to change, then so must many other institutions of our society.

To change the outlook on women would require changes in how we perceive family relationships, how we educate our children, our criminal and civil laws, and religion, among other things (Hean & Parkin, 1883).
Enforce Syariah Law. In 1995, 3 Malay Muslim women were arrested for taking part in a beauty pageant. Recently in Ipoh a transgender or pondan was also arrested. We have also received reports and news that in Melaka that Malay Muslim women have been arrested for allegedly not dressing decently, where the navel can be seen.
Korean Evidential Marker –Napo–

(9) ku (?nay)-ka hakkyo-ey ka-ess-napo-a
   he(T)-Nom school-Loc go-Past-napo-Ending
   "(I can infer that) It seems that he (T) went to school."

b. Intentionality?
   "[T]he use of indirectives when speaking of oneself then necessarily implies lack of awareness, volitionality, consciousness or control due to inattention, sleep, drunkenness, coma, etc." Johnson (2003: 285).

(10) [When the speaker has just realized that she broke the vase last night, which she cannot remember]
    nay-ka ha-ess-napo-a
    I-Nom do-Past-napo-ending
    "(Apparently) I did it."

[2] The first person pronoun is not likely to be licensed in general:
(11)? nay-ka hakkyo-ey ka-ess-napo-a
    I-Nom school-Loc go-ess-napo-a
    "(It seems that) I went to school"

a. Limitation resolved
(11') ku-ay kkum sok-eeye nay-ka hakkyo-ey ka-ess-napo-a
    he-Gen dream inside-Loc I-Nom school-Loc go-Past-napo-ending.
    "(It seems that) I went to school in his dream."

(11') na-ay kkum sok-eeye nay-ka hakkyo-ey ka-ess-napo-a
    I-Gen dream inside-Loc I-Nom school-Loc go-Past-napo-ending.
    "(It seems that) I went to school in my dream."


[4] Mirativity? (11') can be licensed in some cases where the speaker thinks that the event referred to is unexpected.

2.3 UNIQUE PROPERTIES

2.3.1 MIRATIVES

[1] Mirativity: "... the use of a non-firsthand evidential implies the lack of control and, more generally, the 'unprepared mind' of the speaker" (Aikhenvald 2004: 197).

(12) [Contrary to the interlocutors' shared knowledge that he is not going to school, seeing that he is on his way to school on the street,]
    ku-ka hakkyo-ey ka-a-napo-a
    he-Nom school-Loc go-a-napo-ending
    "(Oh/ Apparently/ I guess, I can infer that) It seems that he goes (will go) to school."

[2] Limitation on Pronoun Usage

[1] This marker shows its limitation of pronoun usage, since its evidential function requires the speaker's inference based on her objectified observation:
   a. "Evidentiality systems often interact with the grammatical person of the subject or experience" (Aikhenvald 2003: 16).

2.2 LIMITATION ON PRONOUN USAGE

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[2] Inferential: The speaker infers that the referred event occurs or has occurred (depending on the event time), based on her observation of the consequence that the speaker thinks does because of the event.

(6) [Seeing that he is packing his backpack (Pres/Fut) or finding him not there (Past)]
    ku-ka hakkyo-ey ka-a/kit/ess-napo-a
    he-Nom school-Loc go/a/Fut/Past-napo-Ending
    "(I can infer that) It seems that he goes (will go) to school."

a. The event should result from the speaker's inference (Indirect source).
b. The marker goes with any tense.

[3] The marker does not necessarily require the information source should be visual.

(7a) [When the speaker was told by the third party that he was not there,]
    ku-ka hakkyo-ey ka-ess-napo-a
    he-Nom school-Loc go-Past-napo-Ending
    "(I can infer that) It seems that he went to school."

(7b) [When the speaker tasted salty food,]
    yolisa-ka sokum-ul manhi neh-ess-napo-a
    cook-Nom salt-Acc much put.in-Past-napo-Ending
    "(I can infer that) It seems that the cook put too much salt in it."

(8) [Seeing one coming into the room, whose coat is wet,]
    pokk-ey pi-ka o-napo-a
    outside-Loc rain-Nom come-napo-Ending
    "(I can infer that) It seems that it is raining outside."

[3] Since the marker encodes the speaker's inference based on the consequence that the speaker thinks was brought about by the event, this marker can be specified to be an inferential evidential marker.

2.1 BASIC PROPERTIES OF –Napo–

[1] Construction
   (5) –na po- (usually followed by an imperative marker)
   whether see 'see whether'
   a. The speaker seeks an agreement on the validity of the information from the addressee or urges the addressee to pay attention to it.
   b. Pragmatic tactic? The speaker urges the addressee to confirm what the speaker suggests.

[2] Numerals: The numeral –napo– is used to indicate the degree of evidence.

(4) ku (?nay)-ka nay-ka hokkyo-ey ka-ess-napo-a
    he(T)-Nom Nom school-Loc go-Past-napo-Ending
    "(I can infer that) It seems that he (T) went to school."

(11) ku-ay kkum sok-eeye nay-ka hakkyo-ey ka-ess-napo-a
    he-Gen dream inside-Loc I-Nom school-Loc go-Past-napo-ending.
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PAKISTAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Karan Singh

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The problem of the identification of the speaker in a conversation is one of the most challenging and important aspects of speech recognition. The task of identifying the speaker is crucial in many applications, such as hands-free telephony, automatic speech recognition, and conversational interfaces.

In this paper, we propose a novel approach to speaker identification based on deep learning techniques. Our method utilizes a convolutional neural network (CNN) architecture to extract features from the speech signal and a recurrent neural network (RNN) to model the temporal dynamics of the speech. The proposed system achieves state-of-the-art performance on the TIMIT dataset, a widely used benchmark for speech recognition.

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The results obtained in this study indicate that the proposed method is effective in recognizing speakers in real-world conversations. The accuracy of our system is further improved when combined with additional acoustic features such as spectral envelope and prosodic cues.

In conclusion, the presented approach offers a promising avenue for speaker identification in conversational settings. The system is flexible and can be adapted to various applications by adjusting the model architecture and training parameters. Future work will focus on evaluating the system in real-time applications and exploring its potential for improving user experience in interactive technologies.