

Expressionistic techniques, critical and stylistic analysis of Nelson Mandela’s speech

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ABSTRACT

Over the last decade ago, there have been a lot of discussions on languages and thoughts. In the wake of contemporary epoch, the basic purpose of this research is to explore enthusiasm, expressionism and coordination of meaning in Mandela’s eternal speech. The present paper is focused on artistic beauty of language, one of the most prominent speeches of Nelson Mandela through stylistic and critical analysis. Chiefly, it demonstrates the power of Mandela’s expressions, style and words’ choice in 11 February, 1990 speech. Special poetic techniques have made the speech of Mandela “an internationally accepted and everlasting accomplished phenomenon”. This paper provides a critical review of thoughts and illustrates thematic concerns of speech with the help of speech act theory. To acclimatize to the young and newly waved generation with peace and prosperity, Mandela’s speech is like a mirror. His influential strategy for taking up decisions and bearing the burden in struck and challenging environment have made him a greatest hero of 20th and 21st century. His prophetic vision and mission is very much being displayed in the speech. Although he spent 27 years in jail, there was no dearth in his zeal and zest. Due to sympathetically expressionistic and stylistic view, this speech is considered an icon of peace, prosperity, integrity and harmony at international level and in international relations. This research paper examines the different aspects of this speech correlated with his personal and political life and highlights the fantastic way of saying in front of foe and friends.

Keywords: *Ideational views, Interpersonal views, Textual views, Expressions, Persuasive power, Classic rhetoric, Poetic devices*

Introduction

For anti-apartheid’s freedom, Nelson Mandela, a man has started struggle cordially with strategic understanding. A man who was prisoner at one time but became a president at another time; a great hero, Nelson Mandela had done this with his full zestfulness and eagerness. He was inaugurated president of South Africa in Pretoria on May 10, 1994. He gave this under discussion speech, after releasing from prison on 11 February 1990, especially for the supporters of the anti-apartheid movement and generally addressed to the whole world in the rally in Cape Town. In his address, he has used a lot of poetical devices that made his speech memorable and immeasurable not for the blacks but also for white and

whole world. The speech was broadcast live around the world and consists of thirty-two small paragraphs. Speech act theory and stylistics approach have made visible his words, phrases, sentences and the intensity of the words that have made his speech's effect everlasting. Long, descriptive address show the cordial relationship with people and producing harmony between two (White & Black). His language's persuasive power, leadership and power's intelligence, variations of style, effective use of words, classical rhetoric and coordinated management of meaning have made his speech eternal (Benson, 1994).

As Nelson Mandela has received freedom from the bars of Victor Verster Prison, Africa, additionally, made a plan for English language's ci-devant capacity and developed the way for English Language's usage. For the sake of Africa's fortune and panorama, Nelson Mandela's wish of harmonization occurred and Government had followed it for independence and democracy. The reason of Nelson Mandela's Cape Town speech was his 27 years imprisonment with speechless condition in a tiny cell just because of being a political prisoner. He became forgiving and realized that he must compromise with South Africa instead of dividing it. He was democratically selected as a black president in 1994. It was his Journey from Political prisoner to be a successful president (Crain, 1995).

Speech act theory defines the utterance of Mandela's discourse. John Searle expanded and incorporated speech act theory and proposed some terms that are commonly used in a text such as apology, complain, compliment, invitation, promise, or request (Sbisà, 2009). The one, who presents and narrates the discourse captures the audience to observe and hear the narrative and expects that this is a great time to pay tribute to all. "I greet you", "I pay tribute", "I am a loyal and disciplined member of ANC", "I wish to report to you", "I feel duty bound to make the point" and "I salute you" were the phrases that have lightened the lamp for seers and poetic voice for hearers.

Parallel Stylistic analysis and critical analysis have demarcated textual analysis (its significant language forms for the sake of interpretation and art of forming good style in writing) and critical views in this regard. Moreover, stylistic analysis is made for the purpose of commenting on quality and possible meaning in a text. Many poetic devices used in the speech will be highlighted (Wales, 2014).

Other than that, technique of expressionism's emblematic character explicates the world's particularly personal perspective, changing it drastically for sentimental outcome in order to arouse moods or ideas (Perkins, 1974). Expressions of Mandela in speech "Our march to freedom is irreversible. We must not allow fear to stand in our way", "Our struggle has reached a decisive moment", "We have waited too long for our freedom" have made the speech more effective.

Historical Background

Apartheid was implemented in 1948 and the aim was to isolate the non-white people from the white people. Nelson Mandela wanted to abolish the apartheid. In that context, he led many different campaigns. In 1962 he was sentenced to life in prison and Oliver Tambo tried to free Mandela in the 1980s. At the end, F.W De Klerk started to dismantle the apartheid.

Mandela, who has tried and crossed a long path for the rights of blacks, also suffered sadness, suffering, torture, and grief from the rulers, and eventually it

Expressionistic techniques, critical and stylistic analysis of Nelson Mandela's speech

came the time when he was in South Africa in 1994 as elected President. The long struggle of Nelson Mandela was the end of racism in South Africa. After becoming president, he declared, "Today, all South African people are equal before the law. They can vote on their own will and lead the life by own choice."

Today the world is paying tribute to a great human being, Nelson Mandela. A time has passed, when many Western powers and politicians, including the United States and the United Kingdom, called him a dangerous Personality and a terrorist. In 1956, Mandela charged with treason due to the connection with ANC. In a case of high treason in 1964, he was sentenced to life imprisonment on charges of harming national security (SPRING, 2002). In the absence of Mandela, people have continued his mission as it was their vision and mission as well. They have printed the images of Mandela on shirts and made a huge campaign. In 1991, The United States removed Nelson Mandela's name from the terrorist's names list. Then in 1994, he became an elected president (Crain, 1995).

Nelson Mandela was an amateur, aspiring young boxer. He wrote in his biography 'Long Walk to Freedom' that boxing is equally fun. Age, color and wealth in the boxing ring have no meaning. Mandela had two qualities that are generally not found in other leaders, tolerance and laughter. These kinds of qualities have made him an everlasting and an interesting hero not only in politics but also in general life. His Space of hope and reconciliation gives the viewer ubiquity to stand up and take risk (Nelson, 2014)

In history, Nelson Mandela's birthday on celebration of long struggling South Africa against color and racism is celebrated as the world's day of Nelson Mandela. UN decided to celebrate this day in May, 2009. The purpose of this day is to encourage people to help the people around them as Nelson Mandela's view "to focus your life on matters that are larger than yourself" with personal courage and integrity (McDougall, 2014).

Research objectives

- What kind of techniques has made the speech of Mandela "an internationally accepted and everlasting accomplished phenomenon"?
- Why this speech is considered an icon of peace, prosperity, integrity and harmony at international level and in international relations?

Message after releasing from jail

"When I moved to the door that was taking me to freedom, then I knew that if I did not leave my hatred and bitter memories here, I would always be in prison" (Mandela, 1990).

"I think of a democratic and free society where all people live in peace and get equal opportunity. This is the thought for which I want to live and in any need I'm ready to die for it too" (Chrismoffat, 2015).

Speech organized way and its delivery

The speech was very organized and in two parts, the first half part of his speech is emotional. He uses emotions just to involve people in his speech. The second half

part of the speech is based on argument. There are logos and strong reasoning in the second half part. Thus, by involving people through emotions and arguments, he makes people his more strong supporters and inductive order of development. His deliberately slow delivery of speech was impressive even after 25 years. It shows that he is well aware of his goal.

Language and communication indicate the presence of Nelson Mandela's promise, order, sympathy and great discourse as well by descriptive decision theory, J. L. Austin's development of performative utterances and his theory of illocutionary act. First of all, he introduced patriotism and greeted his friends as he said "Friends, Comrades and fellow South Africans" and refines his leadership as "*I stand here before you not as a prophet but as a humble servant of you, the people. Your tireless and heroic sacrifices have made it possible for me to be here today. I therefore place the remaining years of my life in your hands.*" Language- reached out to local South Africans by cheering with Zulu words such as "Amandla Awethu" which means "power to the people" or "power is in our hands." It was a political slogan, to boost the moral of people and the audience. Although Africa has 11 official languages, the Dutch only allowed locals to speak. English has been chosen by him as his speech language because this is the worldly wide knowing and universal language.

The tone of the speech was honorable, commanding, passionate and inspirational; he inspired a lot of people to fight for what they believed in. Nelson wanted peace, democracy and freedom for everyone, and told them that if they wanted freedom they have to fight for it.

Purpose of the speech

Nelson Mandela's speech occupies various purposes. The first aspect of his speech was to bring the black people and white together. His speech was a source of inspiration and motivation for South Africans and for the whole world at the same time.

The second purpose of this speech was to thank everyone at their support and protesting, but also to keep fighting for freedom and equality; because they can't stop now what they already had started and to show other countries that South Africa was a model state.

Themes

- Bring the whites together and unify the nation
- Took a stand against the apartheid to make a better life for the black people as "apartheid has no future".
- Tries to engage several different dichotomies (white, black, workers, leaders)
- Explored human rights violation

Nelson Mandela and his rhetoric

Not only South Africans but the whole worldwide envisioned nations have seen Nelson Mandela after releasing from jail and presenting the view. His empathy that he saluted several people, organizations- thanking people and encouraging

Expressionistic techniques, critical and stylistic analysis of Nelson Mandela's speech

them to keep fighting for their cause- freedom. Deliberate slow pace and lengthy speech with emotional mood have made the that time ideal for the crowd, who were more enthusiastic and were raising the Slogan of "Amandla Awethu", but he uses in order to demonstrate the importance and significance of every word and every person mentioned in his speech. Although it was a rhetorical problem to pursue people towards a long discourse, a great greeting of respect as well. He has supported his speech with Ethos as he's been arrested for his passion towards the goal of freedom and equality. He portrays himself as a simply and just an instrument for the people. He and the whole party were struggling but he said that he is just a "humble servant" rather than a "prophet." He has focused on the pain and suffering of others and involved them in the movement rather than concentrating on his own perils behind bars (27 years); as he declared in his speech for the refinement of leadership that "I stand here before you not as a prophet but as a humble servant of you the people." He recognizes the controversial views of armed struggle but defends and is in "full agreement" with strategies employed in order to end the violence of apartheid. Overall, his loyalty and selflessness can be observed.

Critical, analytical and expressionistic study of the speech

By the usage of Aristotelian appeals, he has used Ethos as "*I greet you in the name of peace, democracy, and freedom for all*", "*I am convinced that your pain and suffering was far greater than my own*", "*The freedom movement is a political home for you too*", "*I extend my sincere and warmest gratitude to the millions of my compatriots and those in every corner of the globe who have campaigned tirelessly for my release*". This appears to the credibility of speaker because he was much loved by his people, and they protested for his right to be released. Logos, "*On the question of democratic practice, I feel duty bound to make the point that a leader of the movement is a person who has been democratically elected at a national conference*", "*It [Apartheid] has to be ended...in order to build peace and security*", "*Negotiations cannot take place above the heads or behind the backs of our people. It is our belief that the future of our country can only be determined by a body which is democratically elected on a non-racial basis. Negotiations on the dismantling of apartheid will have to address the overwhelming demand of our people for a democratic, non-racial and unitary South Africa*". This is a logical statement because everyone has a right to say and people should know when decisions are being made. Pathos, (in order to help better connection with his audience) "*The memory of great communists like Moses Kotane, Yusuf Dadoo, Bram Fischer and Moses Mabhida will be cherished for generations to come.*", "*...holding the flag of liberty high...*", "*...the pride of our movement...*", "*The people need to be consulted...*", "*We must not allow fear to stand in our way*", "*therefore place the remaining years of my life in your hands*", "*You have sacrificed life and limb in the pursuit of the noble cause of our struggle*", "*The fabric of family life of millions of my people has been shattered. Millions are homeless and unemployed. Our economy lies in ruins and our people are embroiled in political strife*" etc. This appeal to emotions because the people in the audience feel as though their future is doomed because millions seems like everybody.

Through different perspectives like Calm Logic, we can say that despite his time in Prison, Nelson Mandela was very calm and forgiving about his time there; as he opened his narrative as *"I greet you all in the name of peace, democracy and freedom for all"*. This shows Mandela's capacity to forgive which he is trying to get his supporters to gain also. Mandela used this forgiveness to assist himself in his attempts to *"win over skeptic whites"* and negotiate *"the country's first all-race elections"*. Other than that, Fiery Emotion, Mandela choice then proceeds to use language that is filled with emotional phrases to stir the audience like *"Even during the darkest days in the history of our struggle, you held the flag of liberty high"* to complement his supporters and followers. Also he claims that *"there must be an end to the white monopoly of political power"*, *"leader of the great march to freedom"* and *"sacrificed life and limbs in the pursuit of the noble cause of our struggle"* have been described in a way that it raised the emotions of the audience. His emotional speech reflects his struggle against apartheid, his sacrificed based on life and limb and his positive aspects of freedom (Austin, 2014).

Poetic / Literary devices of Speech and stylistics

A huge crowd of supporters of the anti-apartheid movement was there. Mandela's purpose was to inspire the people to keep pushing to end the apartheid and reassure them actions are being taken to reach peace. Nelson Mandela was released from prison and gave a speech to inspire and reassure the people listening that things are being done to try to end the apartheid. Honorable, commanding, inspirational, trustworthy, confidential and passionate tone has made his address more valuable like *"I salute"*, *"I pay tribute"*, *"The people need to be consulted"*, *"We must not allow fear to stand in our society"*, *"But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die"*. Though audience was South African, his speech was for everyone. His speech found the status of international and nationwide broadcast. Its purpose was nothing but to show Africa as a model state.

The rule of three was most important that describes by Mandela in his speech as *"I greet you all in the name of peace, democracy and freedom for all"*. He delivered the speech with a lot of Rhetorical devices like Metaphors, *"Even during the darkest days in the history..."*, *"Rock hard"*, *"I pay tribute to the endless heroism of youth, you, the young lions"*, repeated Anaphora, *"I salute the African National Congress..."*, *"I salute our President..."*, *"I salute the rank and file members of the ANC..."*, *"I salute combatants of Umkhonto..."*, *"I salute the South African communist Party..."*, *"I salute General Secretary Joe Slovo..."*, *"I salute the United Democratic Front..."* Polysyndeton, *"I pay tribute to the mothers and wives and sisters of our nation"*, Assonance, *"I pay tribute to the endless heroism of youth, you, the young lions."*, Analogy, *"I am a loyal and disciplined member of the African National Congress."*, *"I have fought against white domination and I have fought against black domination."*, Repetition *"The people need to be consulted on who will negotiate and on the content of such negotiations. Negotiations cannot take place above the heads..."*so, we can say that Nelson Mandela uses the word negotiations just to encourage and able for more negotiations-the things, the situations that will make his freedom certain. Personification as *"Our march to freedom is irreversible. We must not allow fear to stand in our way."* Speech has very poetic Alliteration, like *"Darkest Days"*, *"youth, young lions"* etc.

Rules and commands to own people and the whole world

- Work and befriend with others even enemies.
- Brave is the one who conquers the world in fearful circumstance.
- Do because the action seems impossible without act.
- You cannot take a rest until social evils are growing in the world.
- Never remember the past, see dreams and fulfill them with mind, heart and struggling power.
- Just cross the journey, never stop with fear. When you are successful, there are many more failed stories, change them in achievements.
- In the enjoyment of a triumph, take the others in front. In the condition of fear, take the front seat for yourself. This act will prove your leadership and people will acclaim it.
- Walk to freedom is not easy, it needs and requests for lives and deaths simultaneously. Be ready for it to fulfill the desire.

Conclusion

Above all, he thanks all of those, who have supported a lot for an idea of freedom to an ideal man. His dialogues or words realize people their importance and persuasiveness regarding freedom on the subject of effective struggle. In his great speech, at several places, he attempts to engage several dichotomies; black and white, leaders and workers, "Apartheid has no future" to make them more prominent. Speech starts with a call to arms "Our march to freedom is irreversible. We must not allow fear to stand in our way." He finishes his speech with own words taken from the trail of 1964 and depicts his determination and passion that he had. "I have fought against white domination and I have fought against black domination." "I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities." "It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die" (Mandela, 1990).

Nelson Mandela tried his best to maintain peace and logic through emotions in order to involve all and sundry of the crowd. In this regard, his aim was to raise the emotions of the members of ANC and his other supporters in order to farther navigate the government of white people and F.W. de Klerk to end apartheid. Emotional phonology and philology have designated and highlighted the reason because of which they are fighting for. Moreover, special kind of words and sketches to imagine have recapped his admirers their struggle and hurdles that they have endured in order to fulfill their one aim (TED, 2013).

Influential ending of the speech and this paper explicate that it was a thanksgiving speech. He received cheers and appreciations at the end of the speech and during the speech as well. Especially, he thanks of those who ask him to carry on his struggle for them and he requested to them to continue their support. He reinforced the idea of equality and freedom to strengthen different dichotomies (white & black, leaders & workers) and to abolish apartheid.

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