UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA
ORIGINAL LITERARY WORK DECLARATION

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Registration/Matric No: TGC 120071
Name of Degree: Master of Linguistics
Title of Project Paper/Research Report/Dissertation/Thesis (“This work”)
Analysis of Speech Acts in Selected Military and Civilian Speeches of President Obasanjo
Field of study: Pragmatics

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ABSTRACT

The objectives of this study are to identify and analyse the commissives and directives that occur in Obasanjo’s selected military and civilian speeches. The study will again look at the similarities and differences between the commissives in his selected military and civilian speeches as well as the directives in his selected military and civilian speeches. This study will be of significant to Nigerian leaders and politicians because it will guide them on how to use language. It will also be of benefit to Nigerians since it will give them idea about what their leaders are up to. Likewise to General public and students of Pragmatics who are interest on political discourse. The study uses qualitative research method, the data for this study are six selected speeches of President Obasanjo, three from his military period and another three from his civilian period. This data are generated from the web sites, book and national daily newspapers. The theory apply for this study is Searle, (1976).

The result shows that in the military and civilian commissives President Obasanjo performs 12 promises in the military speeches and 27 promises in his selected civilian speeches. In the military directives he performs 14 different kinds of directives namely advice, commands and warning while in the civilian directives he performs 8 different kinds of directives namely request, commands and warning. The similarities between Obasanjo’s military and civilian commissives are he performs promises in both speeches. Another similarity is that he uses first person plural pronoun we to share his responsibility, he also uses the modal auxiliary will, should and must in both military and civilian speeches to express willingness, futurity and strengthen his commitment. He also uses adverbs such as immediately, quickly, anytime in both military and civilian commissives to show his readiness. The difference in the military commissives he has not use the first
person pronoun to represent himself unlike in the civilian where he uses first person singular pronoun *I* to commit himself and show his individual and personal responsibility.

The similarities between Obasanjo’s military and civilian directives are in the military and civilian speeches he performs speech act of commands and warning. Another similarity between these speeches is that he uses first person plural pronoun *I* to show his individual responsibility, personal feelings and deep attachment to the acts he is performing. The difference between the directives in the military and civilian is that in the military directives he uses the modal auxiliary *should* while in the civilian directives he uses the modal *must*. Another important difference between the two is that the directives in the military centred on nation building, education and patriotism. The directives in the civilian centre on fighting corruption, promoting the image of the nation, drawing the attention of Nigerians to participate on nation building. Another difference is that in the military directives he performs the act of advice while in the civilian directives he performs the act of request.
ABSTRAK


Hasil kajian menunjukkan bahawa di dalam komisif ketenteraan dan awam Presiden Obasanjo melaksanakan tindakan 12 janji di dalam ucapan-ucapan ketenteraan dan 27 janji di dalam ucapan-ucapan awam yang terpilih. Di dalam arahan ketenteraan, beliau melaksanakan tindakan 14 jenis arahan yang berbeza seperti nasihat, arahan dan amaran sementara di dalam arahan awam beliau melaksanakan 8 jenis arahan yang berbeza seperti permintaan, arahan dan amaran. Persamaan antara komisif ketenteraan dan awam Obasanjo adalah beliau melaksanakan tindakan janji-janji dalam kedua-dua ucapan. Persamaan yang lain adalah beliau menggunakan kata ganti nama majmuk pertama kami untuk berkongsi tanggungjawab, beliau juga menggunakan mod auxillary akan, perlu dan mesti dalam kedua-dua ucapan ketenteraan dan awam untuk meluahkan kesanggupan,
peristiwa yang akan datang dan memperkukuhkan komitmennya. Beliau juga menggunakan adverb seperti *dengan segera, dengan cepat, bila-bila masa* dalam kedua-dua komisif ketenteraan dan awam untuk menunjukkan kesediaannya. Perbezaannya terdapat dalam komisif ketenteraan di mana beliau tidak menggunakan kata ganti nama pertama untuk mewakili dirinya sendiri, tetapi berlainan dalam komisif awam di mana beliau menggunakan kata ganti nama majmuk *Saya* untuk melakukan dan menunjukkan dirinya secara individu dan tanggungjawab peribadi.

Persamaan antara arahan ketenteraan dan awam Obasanjo adalah di dalam ucapan-ucapan ketenteraan dan awam beliau melaksanakan tindakan ucapan arahan dan amaran. Persamaan yang lain antara ucapan-ucapan ini adalah beliau menggunakan kata ganti nama pertama majmuk *Saya* untuk menunjukkan tanggungjawab individu, perasaan peribadi dan ikatan yang mendalam pada tindakan-tindakan yang beliau lakukan.

Perbezaan antara arahan dalam ketenteraan dan awam adalah di dalam arahan ketenteraan beliau menggunakan mod auxillary *perlu* sementara dalam arahan awam beliau menggunakan mod *mesti*. Antara perbezaan penting yang lain antara kedua-duanya adalah arahan di dalam pusat ketenteraan dalam pembinaan negara, pendidikan dan patriotisme. Arahan di dalam pusat awam adalah mengenai memerangi rasuah, mempromosikan imej negara, menarik perhatian masyarakat Nigeria untuk mengambil bahagian dalam pembinaan negara. Perbezaan yang lain adalah di dalam arahan ketenteraan di mana beliau melaksanakan tindakan nasihat, sementara di dalam arahan awam beliau melaksanakan tindakan permintaan
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my supervisor, Dr Veronica Lowe for her constructive criticisms, invaluable support and insightful comments throughout my period of research. I also wish to thank my lecturers who taught me during the period of my course work to mention a few Prof Jariah Moh’d, Maya Kheilmani David, Prof. Toshiko Yamaguchi, Dr. Jawakhir Mior Jaafar, Dr. Sridevi Srinewas, Dr. K. K and Dr. Francisco Dumaning.

I am most grateful to my parents and my wife for their endurance, for the period of my studies in Malaysia. Their support and encouragement is highly appreciated. Special thanks to my brother Bashiru Musa, Dr. Ahmad Tanimu Jibrin and Mal. Mustapha Bala Ruma for their courage and support. I wish to thank my friends, Maiangua Alhaji, Ali Baba, Rimi Saleh Bagudu, Adamu Muhammad, Ammar Hamadnaallah, Bala Haruna, Bandar Alharbi, whose support and assistance help in the completion this programme.
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