

DIPLOMATIC RHETORIC ON GREEN ISSUES: AN ECO-CRITICAL INVESTIGATION OF PAKISTAN'S REPRESENTATIONS AT UNFCCC SUMMITS

Afzal ul Haque

Scholar PhD English (Linguistics) Riphah International University Faisalabad

Email: afzaal2015ok@gmail.com

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saeed Akhter

(Corresponding author)

Professor of English, Riphah International University Faisalabad

Email: msaeed.akhter@riphahfsd.edu.pk

ABSTRACT

This research paper evaluate how Pakistani political legislatures communicate and maintain environmental issues in a diplomatic arena of 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 'Conferences of the Parties' (COP)' from 2015 to 2024, concentrating on discursive intersections, environmental governance, and ideologies. Through an interdisciplinary framework of Eco-critical discourse analysis (ECDA) by Arren Stibbe, complemented by Critical Discourse Analysis by Fairclough, this research adopts an interpretive, qualitative methodology to navigate how lexical and linguistic strategies shape and reshape ecological understandings in political narratives. A purposive sampling from diplomatic speeches delivered by Pakistan at COP21 to COP 29 has been evaluated using ECDA categories like framing, metaphor, identity, evaluation, and salience, together with lexical features 'vocabulary, modality, and nominalization' using CDA by Fairclough. The findings of this research reveal that representatives of Pakistan consistently expose green issues as most urgent, ethically charged, and deeply rooted in global justice considerations. This study also highlights that political and diplomatic discourse functions as an authentic tool to shape green realities, enabling state representatives of Pakistan to transform environmental vulnerability in the political and discursive capital while advocating green issues and equitable contribution at the COPs platform. This study recommends that future studies might expand to incorporate comparative critical analysis with other countries from the same global context, employing critical methodologies, or examining media reporting or public discourses on the same issues to maintain more comprehensive and inclusive understanding about green issues.

Key terms:- ECDA, Green Issues, Climate Change, Natural Disaster, COP

INTRODUCTION

Diplomatic and political engagement on green issues has become a central and dominant arena where countries around the whole world articulate their ecological priorities, maintain global identities, and negotiate environmental responsibilities, particularly through platform of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). As a dominant global concern of today's world over environmental degradation, and climate intensification, climate summits like COPs (Conferences of Parties) function as policy formulation body, as well as provides discursive opportunities where political representatives deploy strategic discourse to portray green issues to align international and national interests, geopolitical positioning, and eco-developmental agendas. In this global context, diplomatic narratives about green issues is far from impersonal, rather, these rhetoric reflects embedded ideological power relations, social commitments, and competing discourses of environmental responsibilities and eco-justice. Pakistan, as an eco-effective and developing state highly vulnerable to ecological degradation and climate impacts yet coordinating minimally to universal greenhouse gas emissions, owns a distinctive situation among these negotiations, often highlighting ecological themes of equity, loss and degradation, climate vulnerability, and differentiated environmental responsibilities. Understanding how ecological themes are discursively constructed and negotiated diplomatically in Pakistani official speeches at UNFCCC conferences is consequently crucial for exposing the intersections of such discursive representations, diplomacy, and eco-governance. In this way, this research seeks to expose how ecological concepts are negotiate, reproduced, legitimized and communicated in Pakistani

environmental diplomacy using an eco-critical lens through ECDA approach, drawing considerations to the ways where political discourse both shapes and reflects ecological realities at global summits.

Theoretically, this research is grounded in an interdisciplinary area of eco-linguistics, especially the modal of ECDA (Eco-critical discourse analysis) proposed by Arren Stibbe (2015), which extends CDA, a traditional critical framework which help to evaluate ecological applications of discourse. Eco-critical discourse analysis, as theorized by Arran Stibbe, highlights the impact of political and social discourse in challenging or perpetuating what Stibbe terms the “stories we live by”, deeply entrenched socio-political narratives which influence how cultures and societies interact and perceive with the natural and environmental world (Stibbe, 2015). The stories mentioned by Stibbe manifest via various discursive and linguistic strategies, including metaphor, framing, evaluation, salience, and identity construction, all of that contribute and maintain to shaping and re-shaping social understanding of green issues. Through ECDA to Pakistani diplomatic green discourse, this research aims to expose whether these political and diplomatic narratives progressive at UNFCCC conferences promote environmentally sustainable viewpoint or strengthen development-centric and anthropocentric paradigms which might undermine long-standing ecological goals. For this purpose, the study moves far from descriptive interpretations of diplomatic communication to propose a critical and qualitative evaluation of how politic discourse functions as an instrument of ecological governance and conceptual positioning at an international forum. Complementing the same approach, this study, also adopted the principles of CDA (Critical Discourse Analysis), specifically proposed by Norman Fairclough, whose 3-D model theorizes discourse as a dynamic and active interplay among text, socio-cultural traditions, and discursive practices (Fairclough, 1989, 1995). This integration of critical frameworks allows for an extra comprehensive critical analysis where micro-level lexical features, like modality, transitivity, wording, and other lexical choices, are linked to the macro-level of socio-cultural and socio-political discursive practices, including worldwide power irregularities and the diplomacies of ecological negotiations.

In present global contextual perspective, participation of Pakistan in UNFCCC summits was shaped by Pakistan’s dual identity of both developing economic country and climate vulnerable state striving for industrialization and growth. This dual nature of Pakistan is often reflected in political and diplomatic rhetoric, where simultaneously demands for global support, eco-justice, and recognition of historical emissions while embedding the right to economic progress and environmental development. Such diplomatic positioning aligns Pakistan with broader level global South Asian narratives which challenge developed countries’ dominance in setting environmental emphasize and agendas for reasonable burden sharing. Diplomatic narratives might not be monolithic; these are maintained through particular lexical choices which foreground certain green issues like, biodiversity loss, damage, and adaptation, while backgrounding many other green issues, potentially illuminating tensions among ecological sustainability and states development priorities (Chouhan et al., 2025). By examining such narratives in Pakistani political representations at UNFCCC summits, this research seeks to expose green ideologies, green issues, and ecological solutions, embedded in political discourse, including how national and international responsibilities are attributed, how ecological crises are highlighted and framed in relation to global, South Asian and national interests. Similarly, this study contributes to present research arena that views environmental diplomacy not only as policy oriented or technical domain but also a field of discursive socio-political maintenance. Furthermore, this study aims to highlight that political rhetoric is not only a source of diplomatic positions but also an effective force in developing ecological

realities, thereby maintaining valuable clues towards the role of discursive practices in addressing a most important and pressing issue ‘environmental issue’ of present time.

1. How do Pakistani political representatives portray green issues at UNFCCC forum?
2. How do Pakistani political representatives employ lexical choices to construct political agendas about green issues?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Current scholarship within ecolinguistics and diplomatic discourse demonstrates the increasing significance of ecological rhetoric within both global national arenas, especially in environmental diplomacy like UNFCCC conferences. Ecolinguistic or Eco-critical Discourse analytical approach, i.e. Stibbe’s framework (2015), highlights how human language constructs the “stories we live by,” shaping or reshaping environmental awareness and diplomatic actions (Stibbe, 2015; Fatima et al., 2025). Researches on the Pakistani political rhetoric revealed that political ecological narratives were increasingly combined into state diplomatic communications, where green ideologies, salience, framing, identities constructions and metaphors are strategically employed to highlight green issues as national crisis as well as international responsibilities (Zafar et al., 2024; Chouhan et al., 2025). In these diplomatic global contexts like UNFCCC and COP conferences, Pakistani political leaders employ convincing rhetoric, including discursive constructs, emotional appeals, and moral responsibilities, to emphasize an urgent need and foster cooperation of developed countries (Khan, 2025). Pakistani diplomatic representations significantly tend to maintain a dual ecological identity, highlighting vulnerable position to present climate change issue while asserting ethical authority of responsible global participant (Chouhan et al., 2025).

Moreover, researches on state policies and media discourse demonstrate that environmental positioning is often mediated by multimodal approaches, reinforcing ideological situations and constructing social perceptions (Nasir et al., 2022; Sadiq et al., 2025). In this regard political rhetoric especially on green issues or climate change significantly relies on ideological and metaphorical discursive constructions, like green revolution and climate crisis for simplification of multifaceted ecological realities, socio-ecological position and mobilizes sustenance (Nerlich & Koteyko, 2009; Lakoff, 2010). Yet, researchers also highlight the occurrence of ‘erasure’, where eco-critical and ecological concerns are omitted or downplayed in some of diplomatic discourses (Tariq et al., 2026; Zafar et al., 2024). This discursive duality imitates a tension among genuine ecological commitment, state environmental policies and strategic diplomatic positioning. In international climate or environmental conference like COPs or UNFCCC, ambassadorial rhetoric often bridges with sustainability rhetoric while simultaneously helping economic and geopolitical international interests, revealing the moral, cultural and ideological underpinnings of ecological communication (Khan, 2025; Gul et al., 2025).

In Pakistani context, green diplomatic narratives are shaped through complex interplay of political eco-cultural ideologies, environmental awareness, and international ecological expectations, where political language functions like a powerful instrument for identity negotiation, socio-cultural responsibility, and national action plan in international climate arena. Print media, especially newspaper advertisements construct significant and persuasive environmental narratives which might either encourage sustainability or strengthen harmful social-cultural ideologies, emphasizing language as an important instrument for the representation of green issues (Nasir et al., 2022). Recent studies on ecological awareness highlights present hot ecological concerns into media discourse, political discourses, and academic discourses, particularly via manifestos which frame justice for climate change, sustainability and preservation of natural ecological resources. It has been exposed through different researches that political parties willingly construct green rhetoric using significant

linguistic and psychological devices such as selective metaphoric language, framing, and lexical features (Zafar et al., 2024). Framing in this regard provides a critical lens to understand how ecological issues are described by political representatives, as Nisbet (2020) advocates frame functioning as interpretive discursive structures which simplify eco-cultural complex interpretations, highlighting specific linguistic aspects, thereby these discursive practices shape social understandings and state preferences. In the same way, in ecological politics, some dominant eco-frames like climate, justice, green economy and energy crisis carry distinct conceptual implications. In South Asian context, especially in Pakistan and India, ecological narratives often integrates cultural and religions ethics and state identity, framing sustainable future in terms of responsibility, national pride, and stewardship rather than taking action and de-industrialization (Tomlin, 2024). On the structural discursive underpinnings, Fariclough (2006) argued that, distinct discursive social practices are so constitutive which shape and construct socio-cultural realities strengthening socio-political ideologies. Similarly political rhetoric frequently depicts health, family reservations, war, and ecological concerns to maintain a healthy socio-cultural structure (Charteris-Black, 2018). Hence political narratives also maintain social, national and international ecological awareness to evoke urgency, responsibility and care for active participation in preservation of natural environmental resources (Lakoff, 2019). Additionally print and electronic media maintained environmental awareness through mediatization, emotional campaigns, prioritizing brevity, and audio-visual engagement Ekstrom & Patrona, 2022). Environmental communications are progressively condensed into visual slogans, audio dialogues, hash tags, and practical mimics designed for an urgent dissemination (Jones et al., 2021). These practices have contributed for the spectacle of sustainable future, where perceptible symbolic socio-cultural actions, like climate action conferences, and tree-planting awareness campaigns serve as responsible and performative exhibitions of conservational commitments (Cox & Pezzullo, 2023). Consequently, ecological discourses have become multimodal means of awareness, extending beyond the socio-cultural communicative language to include gestures, images, and media performances.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research adopts an interpretive, qualitative, research design to explore how green issues are linguistically legitimized, framed, and constructed, through political narratives by Pakistan at United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) summits or conferences of the Parties (COPs) 2015 to 2025. The qualitative, interpretive paradigm of research enables an in-depth exposure of conceptualization embedded in discursive unites of language, focusing on how green issues are expressed within particular institutional and socio-political global contexts rather than enumerated only. The selected dataset for this study consists of purposively selected diplomatic national speeches which present institutionally and authoritative situated discourse. A technique of qualitative sampling has been employed to identify and select the speeches with high and significant discursive richness, especially those appealing with ecological themes like sustainability, climate change, environmental responsibilities, and development. Through intensive and close reading of selected speeches, procedural and technical discursive content has been excluded to maintain analytical focus on this ideologically substantial discourse. The main analytical modal guiding this research is Ecological Critical Discourse Analysis (ECDA), proposed by Arren Stibbe (2015) that provides a critical and systematic tools of expose eco-cultural value system, ecological ideologies, and depictions of human-nature relations embedded in this selected political discourse. Drawing on Stibbe's concepts of "stories we live by," this critical analysis focuses delimited six important categories. i.e. framing, ideology, metaphor, evaluation, identity, and salience to expose how green issues are politically negotiated and ethically positioned. ECDA in this regard is significant as it not only point out discursive political patterns but also expose

whether these linguistic patterns promote environmentally destructive or beneficial worldviews. Following table summarizes selected analytical categories of ECDA applied in this research.

Table 1: Selected categories from Arren Stibbe's ECDA framework

Category	Description	Analytical Focus in Study
Ideology	Underlying belief systems shaping discourse	Identification of dominant environmental ideologies (e.g., development vs. sustainability)
Framing	Structuring and presentation of issues	How climate change is framed (crisis, opportunity, responsibility)
Metaphor	Figurative language shaping perception	Conceptualization of nature and climate action
Identity	Representation of social actors	Construction of national and global identities
Evaluation	Expression of values and judgments	Moral positioning of environmental policies
Salience	Foregrounding/backgrounding of information	Emphasis on certain issues over others

To enhance critical and analytical rigor, the research integrates some selected tools of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) proposed by Fairclough (1989) especially three-dimensional (3-D) model of CDA comprising textual, discursive practice, and social practice. At the descriptive or textual level, the critical analysis examines language features like modality, lexical choices, transitivity, presupposition, nominalisation, and evaluative language which uncover how responsibility, agency, and legitimacy are maintained in ecological narratives. At the first level of i.e discursive practice, the research considers how these political narratives are interpreted and produced within international and institutional context of COP conferences, where Pakistani political representatives negotiate competing rhetoric of equity, international cooperation, global responsibility and development. At this level of socio-cultural practice, this critical analysis connects descriptive patterns to the broader geopolitical and eco-ideological structures, including North-South developed countries' power relations and international climate diplomacy. This integration of Critical Discourse Analysis with ECDA enables a multidimensional critical insight where discursive patterns identified by CDA are additionally interpreted using ecolinguistic lens to explore their environmental implications. In this way, this combined analytical framework ensures that the research not only discloses how ecological meanings are constructed in diplomatic and political discourse but also critically examines whether such political discursive practices support or undermine environmental sustainability. Following table in this regard outlines the selected features of CDA framework employed in present research.

Table 2: Features of Fairclough's 3D modal

Dimension	Description	Analytical Focus in Study
Text	Linguistic features of discourse	Vocabulary, grammar, modality, and rhetorical strategies
Discursive Practice	Production and interpretation of discourse	Institutional context of COP speeches
Social Practice	Broader socio-political context	Power relations, ideology, and climate politics

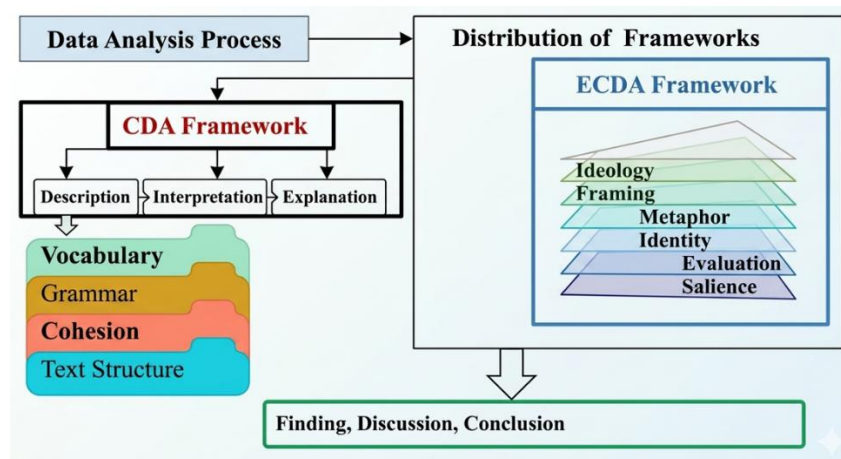


Figure 1:- Analytical procedure

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

To answer the first research question this analytical study applies ECDA Ecological Critical Discourse Analysis by Arran Stibbe (2015) to expose how Pakistani political narrators represent green issues, at an international forum i.e Conferences of Parties COPs, whereas, to address, the second research question, this research also draws on the CDA (Critical Discourse Analysis framework) developed by Norman Fairclough (1989), especially its descriptive dimension mentioned in previous chapter. This critical analysis significantly focuses on evaluative language, lexical choices, and discursive strategies employed in Pakistani political and diplomatic rhetoric to reveal how green issues are prioritized and represented at an international summit. These lexical features help expose underlying ecological ideologies, including national and international moral obligation, common responsibility, and the importance and urgency surrounding environmental challenges, demonstrating how geopolitical discourse shapes and reshapes relationships between human and the natural world.

Text-1:- This speech was delivered by Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Climate Change, Government of Pakistan at UNFCCC COP21, Paris, December 8, 2015.

*Climate change is indeed the defining issue of our time.
Left unaddressed, it could seriously undermine the
development gains achieved over the past decades,
pushing people back to poverty and
misery.....*

*.....Pakistan looks forward to working closely with our global partners to finalize
the Paris Agreement, which enjoys both strong political ownership and broad social
acceptability*

Pakistani diplomatic presenter at the UNFCCC (COP 21) conference constructs green issues using significant and strategic linguistic choices as Arran Stibbe's (2015) advocates that ecological ideologies are constructed through particular socio-political discourses. In this regard Pakistani presenter emphasized green issues through statements like "we must adhere to... 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities,'" in which modal verb, "must" raises moral urgency and international obligation. Using frame of climate change e.g "the defining issue of our time" and an ecological threat which might "undermine development gains," transferring it from geographical scientific concern to the whole developmental and humanitarian environmental crisis. Metaphor in the same way intensifies the same portrayal, as impression like "battle to confront climate change" and "arrest and reverse the threatening course" theorize the green issues as both movement and war which might demand and urgent global ecological action. Identity construction in this political rhetoric is central because it positioned

Pakistan as a “*low emitter yet extremely vulnerable*” state where the adversative “*yet*” demonstrates international injustice whereas legitimizing diplomatic claims for climate financing and international support. Saliency has been foregrounded through tangible global influences like “*sea-level rise, glacial melt, droughts, and floods,*” which intensify environmental vulnerability, whereas backgrounding some green issues like biodiversity loss which reflects some diplomatic and strategic omission. The process of evaluation in this political narrative operates through destructively charged linguistic terms like “*destructive ferocity*” for diplomatic impacts and positively overloaded discursive expressions like “*robust and effective agreement*” for resolutions, strengthening urgency, foregrounding green issues, and desired global actions. Collectively, Pakistani narrative portrays green issues as urgent, ethical, moral, and inequitable international challenges, introducing Pakistan as a liable and responsible yet vulnerable participant seeking support, justice, and equitable contribution in international climate governance.

Applying CDA framework by Norman Fairclough’s (1989) with ECDA lens, the representations of Pakistani statements at COP21 demonstrates how Pakistan’s representatives diplomatically and strategically use language choices to strengthen and legitimize green ideologies. At the vocabulary level, modifiers like “*defining issue,*” “*extremely vulnerable,*” and “*destructive ferocity*” intensify ecological crisis, whereas some positive terms e.g. “*fully committed*” and “*historic opportunity*” elevate state’s policy actions, mobilizing a polarized environmental narratives, hence, nominalization, significantly transforms procedures into concepts through “*development gains,*” “*political will,*” “*adaptation,*” and “*loss and damage*” that obscure particular align discourse and agents with global community. Modality also reinforces theoretical and ideological discursive force using obligation linguistic markers like “*must adhere*” and “*need to ensure,*” foregrounding environmental justice as an ethical necessity, whereas epistemic procedures like “*could seriously undermine*” signal ecological risks. Interactional control and text structures could be observed in this diplomatic and formal address “*Mr. President*” and declarative structural tone, strengthening authority and limiting political dialogue, whereas some inclusive personal pronouns like “*we*” maintain collective national identity. On the whole, these discursive strategies transform ecological vulnerability green issues into discursive strategic power, enabling Pakistan’s representative to legitimize and prioritize climate justice rights, strengthen administrative credibility, and position them as accountable yet affected participants in global conservational governance.

Text-2:- This speech was delivered by Mr. Malik Amin Aslam Khan, Minister for Climate Change, Government of Pakistan at UNFCCC COP26, Glasgow, 01 Nov 2021.

The ongoing COVID crisis has taught us two very important lessons.....

..... It is time to change course so let us make that happen here at Glasgow. Let us not become the dinosaurs who refused to change.

Through calibrated linguistic unites, Mr. Amin Aslam, Minister of climate change foregrounded strategically redistributed responsibility and urgency regarding green issues at COP-26. Ideologically, green issues are constructed in this narrative as humanitarian crisis, e.g. “*we cannot fight nature and hope to win,*” discursively challenges unequal global modernity. Framing according to Stibbe’s claim, reinforces this discursive stance by introducing green issues and climate change as “*the gravest human rights violation,*” and revision finance as a “*choice between life and death,*” transmuting environmental concerns into ethical, moral, legal and geopolitical imperatives. Metaphoric implications in this political narrative intensifies an urgency of sullution, as phrases “*step back from this warpath,*” “*on the front lines,*” and “*change course*” hypothesize climate action for journey and conflict, whereas

“dinosaurs who refused to change” warns of existential significances. Construction of identity as Pakistani dual entitlement e.g. *“with less than 1% of global emissions... not part of the problem, however... part of the solution,”* where *“certainly”* and *“however”* highlight responsibility and innocence. Saliency on the other hand has been given to green issues by foregrounding ecological crises e.g. *“disastrous floods, unlivable heatwaves and bursting glaciers,”*. Furthermore, process of evaluation seems explicit, because through contrasting *“real climate action”* with *“illusion,”* and critiquing international pledges as *“overpromised and under delivered.”* Ecological issues have been backgrounded. Overall, Pakistani narrative represents green issues as life-threatening, urgent, and global concerns, positioning Pakistani state as a proactive actor demanding global climate action.

Using CDA lens the speech delivered by Malik Amin Aslam at COP26 shows how he empowers and strengthens his opinions about green issues faced by his respective state. This strategically and substantial depiction of ideologies allows him to demonstrate green issues faced by South Asia especially Pakistan as Faiclough (2003) advocates that using strategic vocabulary, lexical choices, and rhetorical framing, speakers could maintain effective geopolitical narratives that might naturalize dominate ecological framing and green ideologies in a geopolitical context. In this regard, at the lexical level powerful modifiers e.g. *“decarbonized,” “nature positive,” “disastrous floods,” “unlivable heatwaves,”* and *“gravest human rights violation”* intensify green issues and transform a moral emergency. Through nominalization, institutional authorities have been nominated through expressions like *“climate injustice,” “adaptation finance,”* and *“loss and damage,”* that shift the focus from single state actors to systemic international inequalities. Likewise, modality also reinforces an urgency using linguistic expressions e.g. *“cannot fight nature,” “needs to be delivered,”* and *“this has to be the decisive decade,”* presenting ecological degradation and climate action as unavoidable, important, and morally binding. Interactional control and text structures are preserved through official discursive implication like *“Mr President”*, and personal pronouns like *“we”*, and rhetorical questioning e.g. *“can this room also walk the talk,”* that challenge international communities while sustaining ambassadorial tone. Overall, these lexical and discursive strategies transform ecological vulnerability into diplomatic credibility, enabling state of Pakistan to plan itself as a committed, responsible, and ethically justified participant advocating national and international accountability for climate justice.

Text-3:- This speech was delivered by Prime minister of Pakistan, Mr. Shehbaz Sharif at UNFCCC COP27, Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, 08 November 2022.

To me and my country, including the G- 77 & China that Pakistan Chairs at this conference, this COP rings an alarm bell for humanity.....

..... this important COP may have a real chance to find common ground towards achieving the objectives of the Convention and the Paris Agreement. It is now or never. For us there is indeed no Planet B

At the UNFCCC (COP-27), Pakistani Prime Minister represented green issues through a crisis driven and justice-oriented ecolinguistic perspective, consistent with Arran Stibbe’s (2015) stories. As for ideology construction is concerned, climate change has been portrayed as an ethical, moral and survival green issue, evident in linguistic terms like *“the survival of the human race”* and *“CBDR must be respected,”* where *“must”* signals moral obligations and demonstrates global ecological inequality. Frames of climate justice and environmental degradation reinforce an urgency of the matter, as *“this COP rings an alarm bell for humanity”* and a *“world... burning up faster than our capacities for recovery”* depict green issues or climate change as an asymmetrical and immediate ecological threat. Metaphors used in this speech like *“alarm bell,” “frontlines of climate catastrophe,”* and *“trapped in a crisis”*

conceptualize environmental collapse as structural entrapment as well as warning. Construction of state identity through lexical interpretations presents state of Pakistan as a vulnerable and innocent i.e. *“our low-carbon footprint... did not contribute”* whereas, *“G-77 & China,”* hence expanding its political role. Saliency has been maintained through foregrounding suffering of humanity, non-human species, and environmental degradation, including *“33 million people,” “catastrophic flooding,”* and *“melting glaciers,”* whereas, backgrounding some ecological issues like water pollution and biodiversity loss. Process of evaluation has been explicitly grounded through wording like *“catastrophic,” “raging,”* and *“pressing humanitarian needs,”* which deepen urgency of these hot issues, alongside significant contrasts as *“real recovery”* to critique inadequate comprehensive global responses. Overall, this political narrative portrays green issues as injustice, necessary, urgent, and collectively imbalanced area, placing Pakistani legitimacy morally strong and globally actionable.

Considering CDA by Fairclough (1989) significant use of vocabulary, intensifies ideologies of green issues through modifiers like *“catastrophic flooding,” “raging torrents,” “melting glaciers,”* and *“world that is burning up”* and constructs green issues especially climate change which demand an urgent and immediate response by the universal community, while on the other hand, phrases e.g. *“pressing humanitarian needs”* and *“transformational shift”* elevate these ideologies into ethical, moral and strategic urgency. Nominalization, expresses same ideologies i.e. *“financing gap,” “loss and damage,” “survival of the human race,”* and *“burden share formula,”* construct responsibility as well as frame climate action as collective instead of individual, thereby underpinning organized legitimacy. Hence, modality also strengthens the same ideology through deontic linguistic markers e.g. *“must be respected,” “needs to be revived,”* and *“must be clearly defined,”* representing green issues, climate justice, and economics as non-negotiable global obligations. Text structure, interactional control and cohesion are managed through political address “Excellencies”, collective pronouns “we,” and institutional diplomatic positioning via G-77 membership, expanding Pakistani opinion to all the countries of Global South. Overall, these philological and diplomatic strategies foreground green issues, climate justice, international financial injustice as well as survival legitimacy.

Text-4:- This speech was delivered by Mr. Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, Prime minister of Pakistan at UNFCCC COP28, Dubai, 2 Dec 2023.

We have all come to the COP with one aim: ensuring that the planet remains livable for our children and our children’s children.....

..... Further, it is about time we also harness the capacities of the private sector for climate action.

Concentrating Arren Stibbe’s framework, Pakistani narrative at COP-28 Ideologically positions green issues and climate action towards the *“means of implementation: finance, technology, and capacity-building,”* shifting universal focus from ecological awareness to the execution and substantial eco-justice. Ecological framing of this speech reinforces the solutions of these issues as intergenerational ethical duty, as well as *“ensuring that the planet remains livable for our children”,* and *as a structural crisis through “a new normal... of cascading effects,”* demonstrating systemic global ecological instability. Metaphors used in this narrative like *“at the core of negotiations,” “a yawning gap,”* and *“unlocking... financial support”* conceptualize and prioritize climate justice as mechanically blocked yet resolvable, highlighting disparities on global level support. Construction of Pakistani identity has been maintained through collectively aligned impression such as *“developing countries like Pakistan,”* using “us” while maintaining ambassadorial state composure. Saliency has been maintained through foregrounding ecological issues like adaptation, finance, biodiversity loss

supported by statistical inclusion e.g. “US\$6 trillion by 2030,” that claim inequalities measurable. Meanwhile, the process of evaluation looks explicit i.e. “critical concern,” “unequivocally,” and “enormous gap,” intensifies urgency for the solutions of green issues as well as critiquing universal inaction.

At the lexical level this speech employing CDA with ECDA lens, evaluative modification such as “critical concern,” “enormous gap,” “recurring natural disasters,” and “improved financial support” demonstrate climate urgency, highlight global ecological injustice and frame ecological degradation as both escalating and continuous. Grammar and nominalization, through expressions e.g. “implementation,” “capacity-building,” “adaptation needs,” and “financial commitments” transform a dynamic and urgent ecological actions into organized categories, thus legitimizing global policy-oriented affective climate governance. Modality employed in this speech strengthens ideological opinions with deontic lexical forms like “must” and “should,” e.g. “must highlight financial gaps,” presenting climate financing as an ethical and geopolitical obligation. Text structure, cohesion, interactional control and other lexical choices are reinforced through diplomatic cohesive address “Excellencies” and pronouns e.g. “we”, constructing global and geographical collective responsibilities as well as maintaining ambassadorial hierarchy. Saliency in this narrative foregrounds green issues and climate impacts like “recurring natural disasters” and economic inequality. Overall, in this political narrative, discursive strategies represent Pakistan as a vulnerable, credible, and morally justified participant of COP28, thereby transforming environmental ideologies into a convincing argument for equitable responsibility, climate justice, and strengthened geopolitical global multi-cooperations on conservational sustainability.

Text-5:- This speech was delivered by Mr. Shahbaz Sharif, Prime minister of Pakistan at UNFCCC COP29, Baku, 13 Nov 2024

A country like Pakistan faced one of the most devastating floods due to climate changeback in 2022..... Two years ago, I warned — and I want to say at the top of my voice — that the future will never forgive us if we fail to act today.

Considering Arren Stibbe’s framework, Pakistani narrative at COP-29 Ideologically positions green issues as justice-centered crisis, evident in “Without climate justice, there can be no real resilience,” where “justice” moralizes climate issue and the “real” questions superficial worldwide responses, furthermore reinforced through “we must fulfill those financial pledges.” Framing on the other hand demonstrates urgency through impressions such as “one of the most devastating floods,” “millions... homeless,” and “30 billion dollars” in losses, transforming environmental degradation into humanitarian crises, whereas “we should not bear the impact” asserts ethical unfairness. Metaphoric use of lexical expression like “pledges... have yet to see the light of day” and “the hammer is on” expose delayed global actions and demanding urgency. Identity construction of Pakistan presents it as innocent “hardly half a percent” and accountable, emphasized this idea through “resilient, hardworking, and responsible nation” along with strategic commitments like “60 percent clean energy.” Saliency also foregrounds green issues like displacement, floods, and economic needs, whereas backgrounding deforestation and biodiversity and reflects Pakistani strategic omission. Furthermore, the process of evaluation through significant linguistic choices is explicit in terms of “cruel intensity,” “catastrophic global warming,” and “huge financial commitments,” intensifying ethical, national and emotional appeal.

Using CDA by Fairclough with ECDA lens, the discourse of COP-29 demonstrates how representative of Pakistan utilize discursive stances to strengthen and legitimize exposure about green ideologies in the context of global environmental governance. Using vocabulary features,

like modifiers e.g. “*devastating floods,*” “*cruel intensity,*” “*catastrophic global warming,*” “*resilient nation,*” and “*responsible nation*” intensify environmental impacts on the globe while simultaneously demonstrating a morally reliable state identity. Grammar has no doubt been dominated through nominalization, where lexical terms e.g. “*climate justice,*” “*adaptation plan,*” “*renewable energy transition,*” and “*carbon market framework*” transform climate processes into state policy conceptualization, thereby legitimizing Pakistani discursive stance within apparent formal climate diplomacy. Modality on the other hand reinforces climate ideological force expressing “*must fulfill,*” “*should be delivered,*” and “*will face consequences,*” and demonstrates climate action, moral response and financial commitments as ethical obligations and unavoidable geopolitical realities. Hence, cohesion is maintained through contrastive connectors “*yet*” and “*but,*” that demonstrates the injustice among Pakistani high vulnerability and low emissions, whereas, causal syntactical links structure opinions from natural disasters to global responsibility. Collectively, these discursive strategies represent Pakistan as a responsible participant, hence, transforming environmental discourse into an authentic and persuasive narrative of international accountability, climate justice, and strengthened legitimacy for climate justice and green policy advocacy.

CONCLUSION

This critical analysis of political speeches of Pakistani representatives’ at successive UNFCCC summits from COP21–COP29 reveals a reliable yet evolving discursive construction of green issues, framed through both Pakistani diplomatic positioning and international climate discourse. In response to research question one, the findings of this study demonstrate that Pakistan’s political representatives represent green issues or ecological problems morally charged and deeply embedded in the inquiries of global inequality and justice. Across all these 5 political narratives, climate change and natural disasters are not merely portrayed as an ecological, scientific or geopolitical concern but a multidimensional global ecological crisis encompassing humanitarian, moral, cultural, and developmental dimensions. The discourse of selected speeches consistently constructs green issues as disproportionately affecting Pakistan like South Asian vulnerable nations, hence, reinforcing a responsible and justice-oriented ideologies rooted in collective and cultural responsibilities. Pakistan through these speeches discursively positioned as a “*low emitter yet highly vulnerable*” country, a formulation which simultaneously highlights innocence, and legitimizes financial demands for technological support. Furthermore, portrayal of the green issues has been intensified using metaphorical discourse which conceptualizes climate change as warning, movement, entrapment and war, hence all of these categories contribute towards collective responsibilities and heightened sense of ecological urgency. The selective environmental representation demonstrates a strategic ecological prioritization aligned with Pakistani advocacy for adaptation, loss-damage, and climate finance mechanisms.

Gradually, addressing the research question two; the analysis of this research exposes that Pakistani representatives technically utilized discursive modes through significant lexical devices like grammar, cohesion, interactional control, pronouns, and modal verbs to strengthen and legitimize their diplomatic and geopolitical positioning and eco-ideological commitments as Fairclough (2006) claims that through strategic selection of vocabulary rhetoric framing, grammatical structuring, and discursive unity, speakers’ narratives naturalize dominant socio-political ideologies as well as marginalize other alternative social perspectives. So, through Fairclough’s (1989) three dimensional CDA model, this research paper reveals that vocabulary plays a significant role in constructing an intensified environmental narrative, along with frequent application of modality, evaluative adjectives, connectives, interactional control and emotionally loaded discursive expressions which amplify all the severity of green issues, climate impacts as well as moral urgency of global diplomatic action. In this regard positively

connoted discursive expressions help construct credibility and forward-looking global engagement. Grammar, participate particularly via nominalization, and connectives which serve to institutionalize climate discourse, mobilizing dynamic eco-centric processes into state policy-oriented conceptions which might be helpful to reduce ecological problems of South Asian countries especially Pakistani state. This abstraction might obscure individual intervention while strengthening systemic global responsibility and aligning these political narratives with formal eco-centric structures of international governance. At present, rhetorical questions are merely employed to encounter global participants without disrupting ambassadorial tone, thus preserving both decorum and assertiveness (Charteris-Black, 2018). From an ECDA perspective, these discursive strategies cooperatively function to expose and transform ecological vulnerability to the diplomatic discursive power, allowing them assert Pakistani position in the global climate conferences effectively. The discourse of these selected political speeches not only legitimizes Pakistani demands for support and equity but also enhances political credibility and visibility as a accountable, responsible and engaged participant. Over the time span, a noticeable shift could be observed from awareness-based narrative (COP21) to implementation-oriented discourses in COP28 and COP29, where weight increasingly falls on economic mechanisms, measurable commitments, and technological global support. This development reflects a larger transition in worldwide climate dialogue from agenda setting to execution and national accountability, which Pakistani presenters actively integrate into their rhetoric. Overall, the research concludes that Pakistan's political legislatures employ a strategic and sophisticated combination of ecological framing and critical discursive practices to expose green issues as moral, urgent, and justice-driven, whereas simultaneously through significant linguistic resources to legitimize their ecological ideologies, strengthen their diplomatic agency, and advocate for equitable contribution within global ecological and climate governance. This study recommends that future studies might expand to incorporate comparative critical analysis with other countries from the same global context, employing critical methodologies, or examining media reporting or public discourses on the same issues to maintain more comprehensive and inclusive understanding about green issues. In terms of benefits and practical implications of this study, the findings suppose that diplomats and policymakers may benefit by more intentionally aligned and ecologically grounded discourse to strengthen global negotiations to promote genuinely actionable and sustainable environmental outcomes.

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