



## تحليل نوع خطابات الاستقالة الرئاسية مع الإشارة إلى ريشرد نكسون وجمال عبد الناصر: تحليل مقارنة

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ماجستير في اللغة الإنكليزية / أستاذ مساعد

### ملخص البحث:

تُعد خطابات الاستقالة السياسية جنساً من أجناس الخطابات السياسية؛ إذ يستخدمها السياسيون—من رؤساء دول، ورؤساء وزراء، ووزراء، وغيرهم— لإعلان تركهم أو تخليهم عن مناصبهم الحكومية في أبان الأزمات والفضائح السياسية والاقتصادية. ويُعد الإخفاق في الوفاء بالالتزامات والواجبات أحد الأسباب الداعية لاستقالة السياسيين. ويوفر هذا النوع من الخطابات فرصة للسياسيين لتبرير أخطائهم واستقالة تعاطف الجمهور.

تكمن مشكلة الورقة البحثية في فحص خطابات الاستقالة الصادرة عن الرئيس الأمريكي "نكسون" والرئيس المصري "عبد الناصر". ولتحليل البيانات المختارة، تم اعتماد نموذج انتقائي يستند إلى تحليل الأجناس الخطابية لـ "سوربانو" (٢٠٢٣) والتكتيكات التي وضعها "روسي" (٢٠١٩). وتتبع الدراسة منهجاً نوعياً لتقديم رؤية وصفية معمقة للموقف القائم في هذه الدراسة. ويسعى الباحث للإجابة عن التساؤلات المطروحة، وهي: إلى أي مدى ينطبق النموذج المعتمد على هذين الخطابين، وكيفية توظيف السياسيين للتكتيكات التي تساعدهم في إيصال أفكارهم وإقناع جمهورهم بالانحياز إليهم. تهدف الورقة الحالية إلى الكشف عن جوانب الجنس الخطابي لخطابين من خطابات الاستقالة السياسية.

تتخذ الورقة اتجاهين؛ يتناول الأول الجانب النظري، بينما يُخصص الثاني لتحليل خطابي الاستقالة بناءً على النموذج الانتقائي المقترح. ويوصفه خاتمة، فقد كشف التحليل عن غياب أربع حركات (وهي: إعلان الاستقالة، وتعيين الرئيس القادم، وإنجازات الرئيس المستقبل، والدعاء)؛ لذا اقترح الباحث تعديل النموذج بإضافة هذه الحركات. أما فيما يتعلق بالتكتيكات، فقد استخدمها الرئيسان بشكل متفاوت لتحقيق الأهداف الرئيسة لخطابيهما.

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# Genre-based Analysis of presidential Resignation Speeches with Reference to Richard Nixon and Jamal Abdul-Nasser: A Contrastive analysis

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## Abstract:

Political resignation speeches are a genre of political speeches. They are utilized by politicians such as presidents, prime ministers, ministers and others to announce their leaving or quitting of their governmental positions in times of political and economic crises and scandals. Failure to fulfill their commitments and duties is one of the reasons why politicians resign. Such type of speeches provide an opportunity for politicians to justify their mistakes and gain sympathy from the audience.

The problem of the paper is to inspect resignation speeches released by presidents Nixon of the United States and Abdul-Nasser of the Egypt. For the analysis of the selected data an eclectic model is adopted by Soriano (2023) genre analysis and the tactics set up by Rossetee (2019). It is a qualitative method to give a deeper description insight of the attitude in this study. The researcher endeavors to answer the questions raised: To what expanse is the adopted model applicable in these two speeches and how the tactics are employed by the politicians to help them to convey their ideas and convince their audience to take sides with them. The present paper aims to uncover the genre aspects of two political resignation speeches.

The paper has two directions. The first one deals with the theoretical aspect while the second part is dedicated to analyzing the two resignation speeches based on the proposed elected model.

As a conclusion, the analysis has shown lack of four moves (the announcing the resignation, assignment of the next president, the resigning president's achievements and supplication) so the researcher proposed to modify the model by adding these moves. As far as the tactics are concerned, the two presidents used them differently to achieve the main goals of their speeches.

## 1. Definitions of Genre

There have been varieties of ways in which the term 'genre' has been treated and defined. As far as the functional side of genre, Martin<sup>1</sup> sees it as an activity that is characterized by stages having orientations with a particular purpose. The users of a genre are invested with membership to their culture. Contributors from other fields including Paltridge, Tardy, and Hyland, to name but a few, have looked at the concept of genre as a second language activity of writing as Johns et al<sup>2</sup>. puts it. Two perspectives of the notion of genre are distinguished by them. Some scholars are interested in the text itself while others focus on genre as a type of text related to a particular context or situation. According to Paltridge and Starfield<sup>3</sup>, genre is a combination of the way users of a language attempt to achieve things by means of using the language within a specific context. Hyland states that genre can be described as a social tool of a language where it includes social realities.

Three approaches to genre are so far identified by scholars of genre: RGS, ESP and SFL. The first is an abbreviation of the Rhetorical Genre Studies or alternatively the North American Genre Theory which has come under the influence of psychology and cognition. It emphasizes the social aspects of genre. For Miller<sup>4</sup> defines genre as actions of rhetorical nature repetitive in various situations. From a sociological point of view, genre is investigated as a mediator between textual and social means of cognition. For scholars like Bawarshi and Reiff<sup>5</sup>, RGS does not regard genre as merely channels of action that re-occur in different situations but as culturally significant things. This approach is adopted in this paper.

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- 1 Martin, J. R. Language, Register and Genre. In F. Christie (Ed.). *Language Studies: Children's Writing: Reader* (Geelong: Deakin University Press, 1984).
  - 2 Johns A. M. et al., "Crossing the Boundaries of Genre Studies: Commentaries by Experts," *Journal of Second Language Writing* 15, no. 234–249 (2006): 234.
  - 3 B. Paltridge and S. Starfield, *Thesis and Dissertation Writing in a Second Language: A Handbook for Supervisors* (London: Routledge Flamer, 2007).
  - 4 Miller, C. *Genre as Social Action. Genre and the New Rhetoric*. Ed. Aviva Freedman and Peter Medway (Bristol: Taylor and Francis, 1984), 31.
  - 5 Bawarshi A. S. and Reiff, M. J. *Genre: An Introduction to History, Theory, Research and Pedagogy* (West Lafayette, Indiana: Parlor Press LLC, 2010).

The SFL approach has gained support for its concept of genre in terms of stages and orientation towards certain goals. Culture is vital in this approach in the realization of texts. Genres are considered as social processes aiming at finding an interpretation of how language is organized and structured to achieve the social goals as far as a particular culture. Genre can be seen as a process with stages and goals to be achieved. This approach leans on Halliday's (1978) linguistic thoughts in particular his Systemic Functional Linguistic. The concept of realization which refers to the 'dynamic' connection between language and social contexts. This relationship can be pictured as a reciprocal one for which Halliday used the term 'register'. Furthermore, Martin<sup>6</sup> (1984) distinguishes between register and genre where the first works at the level of context of situation while the second is concerned with the context of culture.

Esp stands for Genres as forms of Communicative Actions in which the focus is on analyzing the communicative purposes and linguistic features of a particular genre to assist language learners in their attempts to meet their needs. The discourse members are in a position to determine these communicative purposes in this way they establish the objective of the genre and how it is used<sup>7</sup>.

## 2. The Concept of The Political Resignation

Political resignation is the act of abdication of a political position. A political resignation occurs when a politician quits his position which he obtained through being elected. One of the main reasons behind resigning is the need to withdraw from the "toxic political environment" a politician may find himself in. Oftentimes, politicians, especially straightforward ones are caught in the mesh of corruption, bribery or controversial political arguments and the ebb and flow of public opinions. By resigning, a politician can save his reputation and future<sup>8</sup>.

6 Martin, Language, Register and Genre. In F. Christie (Ed.). Language Studies: Children's Writing: Reader.

7 Bhatia, V. K. Analyzing Genre: Language Use in Professional Settings (London: London, 1993).

8 Ling, C. The Art of the Exit: How a Well-Timed Political Resignation Can Catapult You Forward, 2024, 2, <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/art-exit-how-well-timed-political-resignation-can-catapult-craig-ling-kt9af>.

Failing to fulfill their commitments while in office is what resigning politicians mainly give as a justification for their early abandonment of the government. This can lead to the ruining of their career and chaos as far as the public are concerned and picturing them as weak and irresponsible<sup>9</sup>. Other politicians' resignations can make them heroes in the eyes of people. In some cases of resignation there is often a shift from a state of defense to that of sacrifice<sup>10</sup>.

### 3. Political Resignation Speeches

Political speeches can be defined as, Carron and Svetanant<sup>11</sup> state, are a type of argument that makes the public think, feel, act and provides them with reasons for all actions. Political speeches are not a symmetrical genre. They are diverse according to occasion, the subject, length, style, structure and the message the politicians wish to convey<sup>12</sup>.

A political resignation speech is a special type of speech that requires special conditions given its formal nature. Political resignation speeches are rarely delivered without prior preparation. They share with political speeches the common features of "legitimization" and "delegitimization". The first politicians use to strengthen their position and reputation while the second to injure their political adversaries<sup>13</sup>. The main goal of the genre of political resignation speech is to make the public aware of the politician's departure and it also provides the politician with an opportunity of thanking his supporters<sup>14</sup>. It is a chance to further express their sadness over failing to achieve their supporters' goals and needs.

9 Neshkovska, S. *The Rhetoric Behind Political Resignation Speeches* (Republic of N. Macedonia: Goce Delcev University, Faculty of Philology, Stip, 2020), 99.

10 Ling, C. *The Art of the Exit: How a Well-Timed Political Resignation Can Catapult You Forward*, 2024, <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/art-exit-how-well-timed-political-resignation-can-catapult-craig-ling-kt9af>.

11 Carreon J. R. and Svetanant, C. "What Lies Underneath a Political Speech? Critical Discourse Analysis of Thai PM's Political Speeches Aired on the TV Programme Returning Happiness to the People," *Open Linguistics* 3, 2017, 638.

12 Chilton, P. *Analysing Political Discourse: Theory and Practice* (London and New York: Routledge Taylor and Francis Group, 2004).

13 Chilton.

14 Soriano, R. *Resignation Speeches in Terms of Genre Analysis*, 2023, 2, <https://assets.pubpub.org>.

#### .4. Model of Analysis of Political Resignation Speeches

According to Dudley-Evans<sup>15</sup>, Miller and Martin defined a genre as a method of accomplishing a communicative target to respond to certain rhetorical requirements. A genre does not remain constant but undergoes changes to meet those requirements. Miller<sup>16</sup> states that genre is an integral part of the daily life of the speakers of any language. Generally, genre encompasses all the conversations, situations and public speeches. Political resignation speeches, according to Neshkovska<sup>17</sup>, is a type of a public speaking genre. This type of genre is used by politicians to present their reasons for stepping down or relinquishing their power, admitting failure and saving face. Soriano<sup>18</sup> leans on Miller<sup>19</sup>, Dudley-Evans and Martin<sup>20</sup> in their views of genre. She develops a model of genre analysis focusing on the rhetorical structure of political resignation speeches<sup>21</sup>. proposes that the following Four Moves are necessary for the realization of the structure of this type of genre.

**Move 1: Greeting the audience**

**Move 2: Thanking and expressing gratitude**

**Move 3: Explaining reasons for quitting current political position**

**Move 4: Looking towards the future, faith and wishes**

**The first move** is realized by using a special form of greeting. It is significant for establishing a strong first impression. Presenting and focusing on the first statement is crucial since it engages the audience with the events, capture their intention from the starting points and making them unforgettable. After greeting, the politician declares his resignation from the present situation. Some politicians state the time and place for this huge gathering and shocking the public by delivering their resignation<sup>22</sup>.

15 Dudley-Evans, T. Genre Analysis: An Approach to Text Analysis for ESP .In M. Coulthard (Ed.) , Advances in Written Text Analysis (London: Routledge, 1994), 219.

16 Miller, Genre as Social Action. Genre and the New Rhetoric. Ed. Aviva Freedman and Peter Medway.

17 Neshkovska, The Rhetoric Behind Political Resignation Speeches.

18 Soriano, Resignation Speeches in Terms of Genre Analysis.

19 Miller, Genre as Social Action. Genre and the New Rhetoric. Ed. Aviva Freedman and Peter Medway.

20 Martin, J. R. Analysing Genre: Functional Parameters. Genre and Institutions: Social Processes in the Workplace and School. Ed. Frances Christie and J.R. Martin (London: Cassell., 1997).

21 Soriano, Resignation Speeches in Terms of Genre Analysis.

22 Tracy, B. How to Start a Speech: The Best Ways to Capture Your Audience, 2025, 2, <https://www.briantracy.com>.

**The second move** According to gratitude is a reciprocal process<sup>23</sup>. The politicians start thanking and appreciating their followers for coming to the event and spending their valuable time and support. Simultaneously, they build a strong rapport with their supporters. The politicians denote gratitude in their speech by using inclusive language such as 'we' or 'I' demonstrating their supporters' value

**In the third move**, there are many obvious causes why a politician is ousted from his or her office. Following are some of them: 1. Ethical principles: when a politician is caught in a conflict between being virtuous or deficient. 2. Party line: some political parties may find themselves forced to select one of its members holding a minister position to quit for the sole reason of saving the face of the party. 3. Personal reasons: For reasons related to a party's dubious activities, such as corruption, bribery or sexual harassment cases, a politician has to leave his office<sup>24</sup>.

**In fourth move**, The audience of a politician are often made to sense the end of his speech through a host of strategies like the employment of a well-known quote, a summary or a formulaic expression. Politicians often inspire their audience by giving them a dose of strong emotions and feelings to achieve the desired goal in the real phase. Supporters should advocate for the hope of sanguinity, perkiness and meliorism<sup>25</sup>.

### 5. Tactics of political resignation speeches.

According to Rosette-Crake (2019) that there are a host of tactics that are employed by politicians to attain their purposes.

#### 5.1 Storytelling

Historically, pioneers, scholars and politicians have drawn on stories to lead their audience to believe what they wanted them to believe and win them over effectively<sup>26</sup>. According to Carnegie and Esnwein (2005), politicians wield personal stories to construct a powerful bond with their audience and deliver the intended message. Storytelling can be a potent tool because the human brain is designed to hear and preserve stories and as a result, the audience are prompted

23 Soriano, Resignation Speeches in Terms of Genre Analysis.

24 Hubert, I. What Are Some Reasons Why Politicians Might Resign, Even If They Have Done Nothing Wrong? (Press. © Quora, Inc., 2025).

25 Ling, The Art of the Exit: How a Well-Timed Political Resignation Can Catapult You Forward.

26 Brown-Grant, J. "The Competencies and Skills Needed for a Successful Implementation." In: Leeds (Ed.), Knowledge Management and the Practice of Storytelling (Emerald Publishing Limited, 2022), 113.

to perform a certain action, that is, they are emotionally moved.

Ameresekere<sup>27</sup> states that there are three reasons that render stories essential in public speaking: firstly, they expand credibility by involving the audience or making them take part in the personal experiences the speaker is going through, and secondly creating a memorable message that captivates the listeners' minds to keep listening and thirdly engaging the audience by relating stories that evoke emotions to adhere to their beliefs.

## 5.2. Quotations

Quoting is a style of discourse representing a linguistic instance of verbal as well as non-verbal communication. Quotations incorporate statements or messages someone passes within a certain context and time frame to be reused by another language user indirectly<sup>28</sup>. According to Feldman<sup>29</sup> expounds that there are two main types of quotation. The first type is self-quoting and the second is other-quoting. A speaker can produce another-quote in an ongoing speech thereby constructing anaphoric reference to a foregoing discourse delivered by them or some historically renowned personality. Politicians ply self-quotation in their speeches by means of the first-person singular pronoun. A Japanese parliamentarian self-quotes when he is visiting Ethiopia saying "I visited....." where the pronoun I does not refer to himself but indicates a group he represents. Occasionally, some speakers in the political arena may refer to themselves while they actually mean their institutions or organizations. Predominantly, quotation is strategic in having the public convinced into accepting the politician's stance. Using a suitable quotation at an ideal moment is helpful in bringing about emotional reactions by the audience and thus earning the speech a decent position on the day's news desk of TV channels worldwide.

27 Ameresekere, T. "Power of Story Telling in Public Speaking.' The Speaker Weekly by Dan&Ken," (2023), 1.

28 Fetzer, A. "'And I Quote': Forms and Functions of Quotations in Prime Minister's Questions.," *Journal of Pragmatics* 157 (2020): 3, <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pragma.2019.05.004>.

29 Feldman, O. "Introduction: Persuasive Speaking and Evoking Political Behavior. In O. Feldman (Ed.)," *The Rhetoric of Political Leadership: Logic and Emotion in Public Discourse*, 2020, 1.

### 5.3. Questions

Posing questions is according to some scholars an effective way to consolidate a politician's views to achieve his intentions<sup>30</sup>. In most cases, a rhetorical question is asked with the aim of eliciting the audience's response creating opportunities for them decode or get to the bottom of the speaker's message. Questions oblige listeners respond through promoting cognitive perception of clarity and logic<sup>31</sup>.

### 5.4. Personal references

The idea of in-group can be conveyed by dint of the employment of personal reference. Politicians emphasize the sense of inclusiveness and joint efforts with their audience<sup>32</sup>. The inclusive "we" can be used to identify the politician with his supporters and build a strong personal tie with them. Likewise, the pronoun "I" can give a sense of individuality in the responsibilities and the decision-making that a politician undertakes<sup>33</sup>.

### 5.5. Indirect speech

It works as a restating of someone's statements in the speaker's own words. It is paraphrasing an original speech into an indirect one<sup>34</sup>. A politician would make use of indirect speech to evade immediate authority and be on the safe side. It enables him to stage a diplomatic maneuver that has the effect of securing himself from blame and saving him the negative unwanted reactions from the public if he uses direct speech. Further, it gives the advantage of winning the trust of the public by standing aloof from the onus of otherwise provocative references to a case of scandal of corruption.

30 Ziembicki, D. "Questions as Elements of Argumentation in Political Debates," *Argumentation* 39 (2025): 5, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10503-025-09674-z>.

31 Ilie, C. "Question-Response Argumentation in Talk Shows," *Journal of Pragmatics* 31 (1999): 128.

32 Ranjha, I.M and Islam, M. "Association vs Disassociation: An Analysis of Inclusive and Exclusive Plural Personal Pronouns in the Pakistani Parliamentary Speeches," *Bulletin of Education and Research* 40, no. 2 (2018): 1.

33 Beard, A. *Language of Politics* (London: Routledge, 2000).

34 Juhila, K. Jokinen, A . and Saario, S. *Analysing Social Work Communication: Discourse in Practice* (London: Routledge, 2014), 1.

## 5.6 Political polarization

It is one of the features of modern governance. It shows how association communities separate into various factions to represent different ideologies or doctrines. Polarization is an outcome of lacking the agreement and intensifying aggression. It reveals intensity, severity and bias for one nation's line of thought and philosophy and revokes those of the other nation<sup>35</sup>.

## 5.7 Repetition

It is one of the strategic vehicles functioning as intricate objective. West<sup>36</sup> mentions that repetition in political speeches highlights the views and prompts the effective and unforgettable message. Politicians usually repeat a specific phrase or sentence to acquaint their supporters' minds with their views.

## 6. Previous Studies

A brief review of studies of resignation speeches is presented. The first study is by Neshkovska<sup>37</sup> in which she investigates the rhetorical devices employed by three prime ministers from Britain. She carries out a critical discourse analysis of their resignation speeches concentrating on the social and political conditions at the time their resignations. The study concludes that the politicians relied heavily on what they previously went through and achieved and didn't directly accuse or blame anyone for their failure in office. They positively employed lexical devices to render their speeches more persuasive to their audience.

The other study is performed by Boonsinsuk and Charoenroop<sup>38</sup> on resignation speeches delivered by female politicians from Australia, England, Scotland and New Zealand. They apply a multimodal discourse analysis to the speeches which reveals that the four female politicians strategically utilized self-praise in shaping their political identities.

35 Laliberte, L. What Is Political Polarization? An Overview and Some Solutions (Copyright 2026 GoodParty.org, 2023), 1.

36 West, J. The Power of Contrast: The Secret Formula for Great Communication, 2024, 1, <https://www.mediashower.com/blog/contrast-in-communication/>.

37 Neshkovska, The Rhetoric Behind Political Resignation Speeches.

38 P. Boonsinsuk, U. Charoenroop, Analyzing Self- Praising Strategies in Political Resignation Speeches of Female Heads of the Government from Australia, England (New Zealand, Scotland: A Multimodal Discourse Analysis, 2024), DOI10.58837/CHULA.PASAA.68.1.4 .

The current study demonstrates itself as the first of its kind for the reason that it uniquely applies a genre-based approach to two presidents' resignation speeches from a contrastive perspective. As far as the researcher is aware, no similar studies of resignation speeches in English and Arabic have been previously conducted.

## 7. The Methodology

The present study adopts Soriano's<sup>39</sup> four-move model of resignation speeches and tactics of political resignation speeches by Rosette-Crake(2019). Since the study is concerned with the descriptive aspects of the speeches concentrating on the understanding and exploring the main themes so a qualitative method is implemented.

An analysis will be carried out on two resignation speeches by former president of the United States Nixon and former president of Egypt Abdul Nasser. The reason for choosing these presents because they tendered their resignations in the aftermath of serious political crises. This renders the analysis more challenging and demanding. Knowing where the president stands concerning the crisis at that time, helps in fully comprehending the practical motives that stand behind his resignation and shapes the reaction of his audience. The script of the speeches were obtained by accessing the internet websites [https://www.pbs.org/newshour/spc/character/links/nixon\\_speech](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/spc/character/links/nixon_speech). and <sup>40</sup>الجريدة الرسمية respectively.

### 7.1.The analysis of Nixon's resignation speech .

He was the American president. He left his position because of the Crisis of Watergate. He wanted to resign to prohibit the scandal.

" Good morning"

**In the first move**, Nixon initiates his speech by saying **Good evening**. He uses phatic language create a friendly atmosphere with his supporters. Attempting to exhibit a strong bond with the public, he moves them to the main idea by discussing a couple of themes that touch the nation sensitively.

39 Soriano, Resignation Speeches in Terms of Genre Analysis.

٤٠ الجريدة الرسمية - العدد ٦٤, "نص الخطاب الذي أذاعه السيد الرئيس جمال عبد الناصر رئيس الجمهورية العربية المتحدة على المواطنين في الساعة السابعة والنصف من مساء يوم الجمعة الموافق ١١ يونيو سنة ١٩٦٧", ١٩٦٧

" I have made in my public life, I have always tried to do best for the Nation, I have felt it was my duty to preserve".

Here, the president repeats his words merging personal reference to grant himself forceful authority. Repeating the phrase I have three times, he emphasizes the idea of his personal responsibility and his determination to make to exert his utmost efforts to gain and maintain their trust.

" In the past few day,... I have no longer a strong enough political base in Congress justifying to continue that effort. I felt strongly it was necessary to see Constitutional Process through its conclusions..." .

In these lines, Nixon paves the way effectively by describing his personal experience and how his political journey is changed throughout the time. The personal pronoun I is used to intensify the personal relation with his supporters. The storytelling strategy is there to emotionalize his connection with the public vivifying the major events of the speaker by making them more memorable. He further informs the listeners of his deteriorating political relations with the Congress members on account of the Watergate scandal the thing which has driven him to make serious decisions.

He says: "The interest of the Nation must always come before any personal consideration."

Nixon mentions the reasons for tendering his resignation but only indirectly justifying it by reference to the interests of all Americans. He is politically polarizing the discord between the statesmen and the public.

"I have concluded that because of Watergate matter I might not have the support of Congress"

President makes a leap to Move three when he uses indirect speech to convince his followers of his loss of support of the government. He utilizes polarization to demonstrate to contributors that there is a conflict between him and the Congress.

"I have never been a quitter".

He defends his position implicitly against the other party who leveled blame at him and he rejects any allegations or impeachment. He also categorically negates any weakness or defeatism on his behalf. He implicitly polarizes the idea of the Congress bias towards the other side rather than his standpoint.

" I must put the interest of America the first, America needs a full-time Congress and President...this time with the problems we face ...".

Tactically, Nixon repeats the noun **America** twice to corroborate his viewpoint that his country takes precedence over anything else. The inclusiveness of **we** assists him in declaring his participation with the others in encountering difficult times or hardships the Nation faces. His intention to iron out any differences and shorten the distance between them for the benefit of the community at large.

"I shall resign...vice president Ford will be sworn".

He tells the Nation about his intention to resign his office. He makes reference to the future time **at noon tomorrow** wanting to inform the audience of his soon-to-come leaving of the presidentship and exchange of power to Ford who will be the new president.

"As we look to future, it is essential to heal the wounds of the nation".

He calls for the unity of the American Nation to cut back on the polarization and biases towards one party over the other.

"I regret deeply any injuries ,...some of my judgments were wrong".

Nixon is being indirectly apologetic in this part of the speech admitting his sadness on account of some faulty decisions he took.

" to those who have stood with me during the past difficult months,to my family, my friends, to many others joined in supporting my case".

**In move two**, the president expresses his appreciation by thanking his followers and declares his strong and deep passion towards his family and friends for backing him up and stating his adamant belief in his political case,

"We must now ensure ...people Republic of China will be our friends...we must build the friendship so that a peace can settle at last in the MiddleEast".

Nixon, here, boasts his achievement. He uses the pronoun **we** to mark down polarization by means positioning himself as one of the citizens sharing the same

success and triumph. Among these successes, establishing good relations with China turning foes into friends. Arabs also have their share of the steady relations with the US thanks to Nixon's efforts. Again he goes on with his reference to his political victories inclusively.

"Together with the Soviet Union, we have made the crucial breakthroughs....".

With the Soviet Union, there is an essential turn of events. The outcome of this development is the arms control deal. Nixon manipulates the words **together** and **we** to narrow down the gap between him and the American people.

" if he fails, at least fails while darling greatly".

He uses the tactic of quoting a quotation by president Theodore Roosevelt which he had delivered in France. It is about a man who endures hardships with all the power he had working hard to reach his goals. Failure and defeat do not always mean the end, rather they may point to just the a new onset. He also uses a personal quotation to emphasize his ideas when saying "I can summon the cause of peace among nations"

He emphasizes his promise to continue to do what is in the best interest of the Nation by repeating the structure "I shall....".

" I have done my very best ...I hope will be legacy to you, to our country".

In the **fourth** move, He closes his speech by reminding the audience of his former achievements as a president and reiterates his feeling of unity with all Americans wishing them all the best in their future life.

" may God's grace be with you in all days ahead"

He ends his speech by praying for his followers and wishes them all the best prosperity and welfare.

## 7.2 Analysis of president Jamal Abdul Nasser's speech

President Abdul Nasser, in the **first move**, commences his speech addressing his audience 'O, brethren!' "أيها الأخوة" seeking to establish an intimate bond with them by identifying himself with them.

"لقد تعودنا في أوقات النصر وفي أوقات المحنة، في الساعات الحلوة وفي الساعات المرّة أن نجلس معاً.."

(We've been accustomed in times of victory and in times of trials. In sweet hours and bitter hours to sit down together.)

Abdul Nasser makes use of the plural inclusive reference in تعودنا 'we used to...' and 'to sit down together' نجلس to bring his supporters closer to the decision-making body. He accentuates this closeness further by resorting to the tactic of repetition of the balanced structure in times of triumph and times of tribulation and sweet hours and bitter hours

"ولا نستطيع أن نخفي على أنفسنا...أيها الأخوة...نحتاج إلى نظرة على ما وقع...وتتبع التطورات"

(And we can't hide it from ourselves, brothers, that we are in need to look back on what happened and keep pace of the latest)

Here, he admits facing a major setback still holding to the identification of himself with other fellow Egyptians using the reflexive pronoun meaning 'ourselves'. He uses again the expression 'O, brethren!' deepening and confirming the relationship and feeling of brotherhood inside his audience. The inclusive pronoun in the نتتبع and نحتاج 'we need' and 'we track down' helps establish solid association and connectivity with the ordinary people.

"إننا نعرف جميعاً الأزمة في الشرق الأوسط... كانت مصادر إخواننا السوريين قاطعة وأصدقائنا"  
"بالاتحاد السوفيتي بأن هنالك قصداً مبيتاً ضدّ سوريا"

(We all know the crisis in the Middle East...Our Syrian brothers' sources were positively definite and (so) our friends in the Soviet Union that there had been a hidden agenda against Syria)

He engages the audience with the story of the events that led to the crisis in the Middle East such as the Israeli regime's scheme to invade Syria as stated openly by their politicians and military commanders. He widens the circle of brotherhood to include Syrians when says 'our Syrian brothers' sources were...' and expresses friendship with the Soviet Union being an ally when he says 'our friends in the Soviet Union did...'

"كان مرور علم العدو أمام قواتنا أمرًا لا يحتمل"

(The enemy's flag passing by before our troops was (totally) unbearable)

Abdul Nasser is polarizing when he refers to the enemy's flag passing by the Egyptian forces being regarded by him as an unbearable, even humiliating act. The Arabs and Zionists have been historical enemies for many years. Abdul Nasser seizes the opportunity to remind his audience of this specifying the two camps resulting from this conflict. He effectively pins down this collective patriotic antagonism enflaming the nationwide emotions of the audience.

"وكانت أمامنا عوامل عديدة. رسالة من الرئيس الأمريكي ليندون جونسون تطلب الينا ضبط النفس"

(And we've had many factors. A message from the American President Lyndon Johnson asking us self-control)

In these lines, the president gives us the reasons of leaving his current position indirectly so the **third moved** is utilized before the second . The tactic of quotation is used through dropping the name of the American president Lyndon Johnson and his letter urging the Egyptians to exercise self-control. Abdul Nasser is trying to amplify the position of `Egypt being asked by a world power like the US government not start a face-off with the

"فإنَّ السفير السوفيتي أبلغني ألا نكون البادئين بإطلاق النار"

(The Soviet ambassador has told me not to be the ones to start action)

In a similar vein, he was indirectly reporting the Soviet ambassador's request to have a meeting urgently. That's another instance of attempting to a blown up image of his country and a special position among the world's important and powerful countries.

"جاءت ضربة العدو... جاءت بأكثر مما توقعناه... بأكثر مما يملكه"

(There came the enemy's strike.... It came with more than we expected... greater than they had)

He retold his audience the events of the Israeli strike explaining the reasons why the Arab armies lost the fight against the enemy's offensive.

"يغطي نفسه بلؤم وخبث. إنَّ حاملات الطائرات أمريكية وبريطانية بالقرب من شواطئ العدو تساعد مجهوده الحربي"

(hiding themselves wickedly and viciously. The American and British aircraft carriers near the enemy's coastline assisting them with military action)

He continued intensifying the build-up of polarization against the Israeli aggression. He analyzes the strong position of the military forces through receiving backup from some powerful conspirators. He uses vehemently expressive words to depict this hostility which are: "خبث" wickedness and "لؤم" ignobility.

"قوات الجيش الأردني التي قاتلت معركة باسلة بقيادة الملك حسين ... لقد أعطى الشعب الجزائري وقائده هواري بو مدين، وكذلك أعطى شعب العراق وقائده عبد الرحمن عارف بغير تحفظات، وبغير حساب للمعركة"

(The Jordanian military fought a battle courageously under the leadership of King Hussein...certainly the Algerian people and their leader Hawaari Bu Midian and the people of Iraq and their leader Abdul Rahamman Ariff have given (their best) without reservations to the battle.)

In the **second move**, the president sets to extend his thanks to his supporters. He pays attribute to the Jordanian people and King Hussein. He also commemorates the bravery of the Jordanian armed forces in facing up to the Israeli aggression. He praises the efforts exercised by the Algerian people and their leader Hawarri Bu Median, the Iraqis led at the time by Abdul Rahmman Arif and expresses his gratitude to many Arab countries and states for their honorable stances.

"لقد اضطرت قواتنا إلى إخلاء خط الدفاع الأول، وحاربت معارك رهيبية في الخط الثاني، ثم استجبنا لقرار وقف إطلاق النار في مشروع القرار السوفيتي الأخير، المقدم إلى مجلس الأمن، وأمام تصريحات فرنسية فنشعر ببشاعة قوى السيطرة العالمية علينا"

(Our troops had to evacuate the first line of defense and fought a ferocious battle in the second line and then we responded to the ceasefire declaration in the latest Soviet proposal presented to The Security Council and in the light of the French statements, we sense the horrible world control over us)

Here, Abdul Nasser revises in a narrative way the events that forced him to cease fire. The superiority of the enemy's air force was one of the reasons why the first line of defense had to be vacated in response to the Soviet Union's ceasefire resolution presented to the Security Council and the pressure exerted by public opinion sensing the horrendous domination of some world powers. The point behind mentioning those reasons was to persuade and at the same time justify the step taken by the Egyptian government. This also assists in perpetuating these engaging events in people's memory for generations to come.

By going through events and the circumstances before, during and after, he endeavors to both to justify, although indirectly, the defeat and prepares the ground for the announcement of his resignation.

"إن نقف مع الأمة العربية موقف الصلابة والصمود ... القضاء على الاستعمار في العالم العربي يترك إسرائيل بقواها الذاتية ... وإعادة توجيه المصالح العربية".

(That we ought to stand by the Arab Nation with affirmation and perseverance...putting an end to occupation in the Arab World will leave Israel to their own self-capabilities....and redirecting the Arabs' interests)

Political polarization is clear and sharply drawn in the above lines through use of words indicating hostility and aggression العدوان. The negative connotations of this word is to describe the enemy's camp while the words الصلابة and الصمود referring positively to resistance and steadfastness of the Arab nations' camp. This polarization intensifies with Abdul Nasser's use of the political term الاستعمار that is the illegal occupation of the Arab nations whether politically, militarily or both as opposed to these nations' lawful right to be free from such occupation and having the self-determination. He thus categorically segregates between the oppressor and the oppressed fronts. There is another polarization of being in service of this occupation by means of giving support of any sort to this occupation and being in service of the homeland. The first kind of service implies negatively a traitor's stance and the other implies a loyalist's stance.

"هل معنى ذلك إننا لا نتحمّل مسؤوليّة في تبعات هذه النكسة؟ لقد قررت أن أتحنّى نهائياً عن أيّ منصب رسمي أو دور سياسي".

(Does that mean we'll not take the responsibility for the consequences of this setback? I've made up my mind to step down from any official position and any political role)

Sharing of the responsibility for the aforementioned defeat is admitted straightforwardly by Abdul Nasser when poses a rhetorical question. A tactic whose aim is to rationalize his decision to leave his office as president. There is a dear price to pay and consequences to account for.

"فلقد كلفت صديقي يحيى زكريا بأن يتولى المنصب... القوى المعادية تحاول تصويرها بأنها إمبراطورية جمال عبد الناصر... فإنَّ الوحدة العربيَّة بدأت قبل جمال عبد الناصر، وسوف تبقى بعد جمال عبد الناصر."

I've commissioned my comrade Yahya zakaria to be the president. The adversary forces are trying to picture it as the empire of Jamal Abdul Nasser...but the Arab Unity has begun before Jamal Abdul Nasser and shall continue after Jamal Abdul Nasser.)

The repetition of the name جمال عبد الناصر emphasizes the personality of the president and politically polarizes himself from the antinationalist Arab movement powers. He appoints his friend as the president of Egypt. He also indulges in the tactic of self-quotation emphasizing his adherence to his ideas:

"وكنت أقول لكم دائماً: إنَّ الأمة هي الباقية، وإنَّ الفرد هو أداة لإرادة شعبية"

(I've always said to you that the Nation shall last and that the individual is but a tool to a popular will.)

He emphatically, by self-quotation, states his continuous perseverance to Arabic nationalistic principles and popular willpower of the nation whether before he is in presidency or after he leaves office.

"حقَّق جلاء الاستعمار... حقَّق استقلال مصر... قاد الثورة الاجتماعيَّة... وبناء السد العالي... تبنِّي الاشتراكيَّة وتحقق النصر"

(Drove the occupation out....achieved Egypt's independence.....led the social resolution...built the High Dam...socialism is built and victory attained.)

He reminds his audience of his achievements that brought about the radical transformation in Egypt. He mentions examples of these such as the independence from colonialism and occupation, social revolution, the return of the Egyptians' control of their wealth sources and the construction of the High Dam.

"إنَّ ثقتي غير محدودة بهذا التحالف، الفلاحين والعمال والجنود والمتقنين والرأسمالية الوطنية... إنَّ هذه الوحدة قادرة على أن تصنع بالعمل والعمل الجاد والعمل الشاق".

(I have unlimited trust in this coalition. Farmers and workers and soldiers and scholars and national capitalism....surely this unity is able to do (a lot) with hard work.)

He clearly states his faith in the unification of the farmers, workers, soldiers, the educated and national capitalism. In **Move four**, he stresses his confidence in what has been accomplished by these. He repeats the word العمل which means work or labor exerted by the social classes in Egypt to bring about prosperity and elevation to the homeland and earn it a prestigious position among the world countries. The repetition of the word العمل emphasizes the need to collaborate and unify the efforts in the face of challenges and hardships. This is all for the sake of gaining strength for the Arab nation and securing peace for the whole world.

"إنَّ التضحيات التي بذلها شعبنا والبطولات المجيدة، التي كتبها الضباط والجنود من قواتنا المسلحة"

(The sacrifices given by our people and glorious acts of heroism demonstrated by officers and soldiers of our military)

He sings the praises of the valuable sacrifices and the enthusiasm reflected by the Egyptians. He thanks the soldiers and officers in the army for their courageous acts in the conflict.

Jamal Abdul Nasser continues his indebtedness to the sacrifices given by the Egyptians as a form of encouragement to them and an invitation to remain unified and inspired for the coming generations.

"إنَّ هذه ساعة للعمل وليست ساعة الحزن"

(Certainly this is the time of labor and not time of grief.)

He repeats the word ساعة **hour** or **time** emphatically to stimulate people's awareness not grieve but to work harder. He also tries to remind them that it is not time for being selfish but for cooperation and love. Finally, he closes his speech by asking the people to continue their support of him and supplicating Allah for help. He bids them peace and mercy from Allah by saying

"ليكن الله معنا جميعاً. وأملأ في قلوبنا، وضياءً وهدياً".

## Conclusions

Political resignation speeches are one the types of public speeches. Through such speeches, presidents can announce to the public their intention and decision to leave office. The primary goal of this form of speech is to convince their followers of their ideas and beliefs. The analysis of this genre of speech has revealed that the applied model of Soriano<sup>41</sup> lacks four important moves particularly the announcing the resignation, assignment of the next president, the resigning president's achievements and supplication. So the researcher suggested to add four moves and modify the model will be:

- 1. Greeting**
- 2. Why leaving the current position**
- 3. Announcing the resignation**
- 4. Assignment of the president's position to a new one**
- 5. Thanking and gratitude**
- 6. The resigning president's achievements**
- 7. Looking forward to the future**
- 8. Supplication**

As far as the comparison of the two speeches, Nixon tries to reduce the political polarization while Abdul Nasser emphasizes it in his speech. The reason for this difference is that Nixon's quarrel is with fellow politicians and countrymen but Abdul Nasser uses polarization against his country's enemies. Both presidents employ indirect language to escape direct responsibility and secure their political line. Both use repetition but Nixon uses it more to stress he's not a quitter. They include quotation in their speeches and indulge in telling stories. Abdul Nasser takes advantage of the telling of stories tactic to keep the events he recounts fresh in his audience's memory. Personal reference is used by both to put emphasis on the feeling of unity with their followers. Only Abdul Nasser uses the tactic of rhetorical question to underscore his responsibility for some of the events and setbacks. President Abdul Nasser revealed to the Egyptian people the small details in his speech by using various tactics in order to inform them of how serious the situation is and to urge them to unify to achieve victory, Presi-

41 Soriano, Resignation Speeches in Terms of Genre Analysis.

dent Nixon was focused on achieving unity and his accomplishments during his office comparing them to those of his former predecessors. He did not inform the American people of any details leading to his resignation in comparison to Abdul Nasser.

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