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Change Is Coming: A Critical Discourse Analysis of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's State of the Nation Addresses

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Abstract:
The Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is a growing discipline under Critical Linguistics that examines political discourses. Premised on Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics, the paper aims to critically analyze the 2016 and 2017 State of the Nation Addresses of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to elucidate their meanings in terms of experiential, interpersonal and textual functions. The paper implements hermeneutic CDA method combining quantitative and qualitative approaches. Results show that in terms of experiential function, Duterte dominantly uses mental processes than any other processes type in his addresses to demonstrate his accomplishments and government agenda. For interpersonal function, he purposely uses modal verbs, tenses and personal pronouns to establish his attitudes towards an opinion about the truth of a proposition expressed in the speeches. Likewise, the textual function reveals that Duterte's whole addresses are coherent, accurate and logical. Thus, CDA provides a more comprehensive method to analyze public addresses.

Keywords: *Critical discourse analysis, political discourse, state of the nation address, experiential, interpersonal, textual*

1. Introduction

A critical study of language in spoken discourse has increased significantly in many disciplines using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) as an approach (Wang, 2010). CDA, is a type of discourse analytical research method that primarily studies the way social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced, and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context. With such dissident research, critical discourse analysts take explicit position, and thus want to understand, expose, and ultimately resist social inequality (Van Dijk, 2002). Nevertheless, spoken discourses uses authentic language material, as its core, to address the audience with different background and interpretation. Therefore, it is imperative to closely look into how the linguistic structure and discourse features are applied to reveal the social practice of dominance, power and ideologies. Generally speaking, CDA attempts to unveil the messages and motives "hidden" in the text.

In the past twenty years, CDA becomes widely popular and has attained great achievements abroad. A sufficient number of scholars have made significant contribution to flourish critical analysis of political discourse, as a discipline of research (Wang, 2010). However, CDA is still a new research approach in the Philippines. It is only in early 2000 that some articles about the theory and application of CDA have been published in academic journals. Some of them includes the study of Jibrin (2003) focusing on the State of the Nation Addresses of the former presidents Ferninad E. Marcos, Joseph E. Estrada and Gloria M. Arroyo; the study of Van der Zee (2013) on the speeches of President Benigno S. Acquino's speeches; and Caballero (2014) on the speech of Senator Miriam D. Santiago. From the review of related literature in the Philippine context, there has been no study yet that critically analyzes the speeches of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

CDA focuses on political discourse as object of investigation, such as policy papers, ministerial speeches, government press releases or press conferences, parliamentary discourse, party manifestos (or platforms), electoral speeches, and so forth. Its ultimate aim is to explore the relationship among language, ideology and power. Among the political discourses interesting to explore are President Rodrigo Duterte's speeches. Duterte is known for his expletive, brash, blunt and straightforward style of talking. His language is peppered with cuss words mainly for emphasis. He is a leader who articulates what ordinary folks always want to blurt out but are afraid to do so; a public servant who emphasizes actions rather than words; and a maverick determines to get the job done no matter the cost. Political analysts believe that his phenomenal rise for a presidential position is a result of people's disappointment with the prevailing system, an environment that criminals to prowl the streets, drug loads to enrich themselves and government officials to get kickbacks (Philippine Star, June 29, 2016 issue).

In an attempt to carry out a Critical Discourse Analysis, this paper is premised on M.A.K. Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics. It seeks to reveal the meanings behind President Duterte's addresses in terms of the three meta-functions: Experiential (clause as a representational), Interpersonal (clause as an exchange) and Textual (clause as a message).

Since hidden reality can only be seen through an in-depth study of the content of these discourses and never on the context alone, the paper hopes to provide a better understanding of President Duterte's government agenda.

2. Theoretical Background

The paper is anchored on Systemic-Functional Linguistics (SFL) also known as Systemic-Functional Grammar, which is an approach to language developed mainly by Michael Alexander Kirkwood Halliday in the United Kingdom during the 1960s, and later in Australia. Nowadays, the SFL approach is widely use across the world especially in language education, and for number of purposes like discourse analysis (O'Donnell, 2011). While a great number of language theories in the world recognize language as a mental process, SFL closely associates itself with Sociology because it primarily explores how language is used in social contexts to attain a specific goal. In terms of data, it does not address how language is processed within the human brain, but rather looks at the discourses produced whether spoken or written, and the context of the production of these texts. Because of the concern of SFL with the use of language, great importance is placed on the function of language, such as what language is used for, rather than what language structure is all about and the manner by which it is composed (Matthiessen & Halliday, 1997 as cited by Almurashi, 2016).

SFL adheres that the procedure and stylistic analysis of discourses are divided into three logically ordered phrases: Analysis, Interpretation and Evaluation. The limitless practical functions can be generalized into a set of highly coded and abstract functions—meta-functions, which are inherent in every language. Halliday's idea of meta-function includes the experiential function, the interpersonal function and the textual function. These meanings correspond to the register variables mode, field, and tenor, and lie behind the various functional approaches to language (Eggins, 2004).
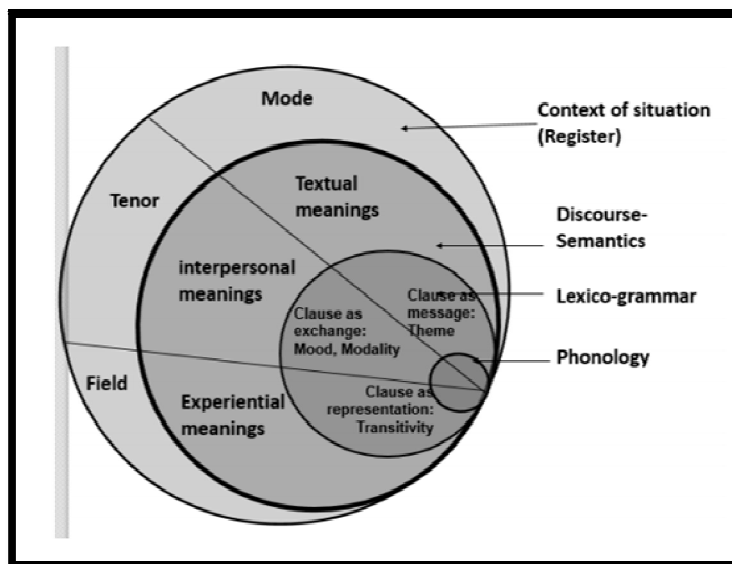

Figure 1: Levels of M.A.K Halliday's Systemic-Functional Linguistics (John, 2014)

2.1. Experiential Function (Clause as Representation)

The first language meta-function introduced by Halliday is the Experiential. This function describes the speakers or writers' means to communicate to the audience his experience of the real world and internal world of his own consciousness such as his perceptions, feelings and cognition (Halliday, 1971). Zhuanglin (1988) as cited by Wang (2010) points out that this function does not only specify the available options in meaning but also determines the nature of their structural realizations.

The experiential function is mainly represented by the transitivity system in grammar. Following this system, the meaningful grammatical unit is a clause which expresses what is happening, what is being done, what is felt and what the state is and so on (Yumin, 2007). The transitivity system is composed of six processes: Material Process, Mental Process, Relational Process, Behavioral Process, Verbal Process and Existential Process.

Material processes are processes of doing. These processes are expressed by an action verb (e.g. eat, go, give), an Actor (logical subject) and the Goal of the action (logical direct object, usually a noun or a pronoun) (Zhuanglin, 1988). For example, Kenny writes an essay. Mental processes express such mental phenomena as "perception" (see, look), "reaction" (like, please) and "cognition" (know, believe, convince). A mental process involves two participants, Senser and Phenomenon.

Relational processes are processes of being. These processes are categorized into two modes: Attributive and Identifying. Attributive has two participants namely; the carrier and the attributes. It shows what qualities an object has. For example, the speech is too long. On the other hand, identifying illustrates the identical properties of two units. It also has two participants namely the identified and the identifier. For example, Mr. Duterte is a president; The president is Mr. Duterte (Bustam, 2011).

Verbal processes are processes of saying. The participants of the processes are: sayer (participant who speaks), receiver (the one to whom the verbalization is addressed), verbiage (a name for the verbalization itself). There is however one other type of verbal process, in which the sayer is in sense acting verbally on another direct participant, with verbs such as: insult, praise, slander, abuse, and flatter. This other participant will be referred to as the target. For example: They (Sayer) asked (Process) him (Receiver) a lot of questions (Verbiage) (Bustam, 2011).

Behavioral processes refer to physiological and psychological behavior such as breathing, coughing, smiling, laughing, crying, staring, and dreaming, etc. Generally, there is only one participant—behaver, which is often a human. This kind of processes stand between material and mental processes. This depends on whether the activity concerned is physiological or psychological. When behavioral process has two participants, we may take it as material process. For example, His father beat the disobedient boy (Zhuanglin, 1988).

Existential processes represent that something exists or happens. These clauses typically have the verb be, or some other verb expressing existence, such as exist, arise, followed by a nominal group functioning as Existent (a thing which exists in the process). The existent may be a phenomenon of any kind, and is often, in fact, an event. For example, there was (process) a storm (existent: event) (Bustam, 2011).

2.2. Interpersonal Meaning (Clause as Exchange)

The second language meta-function is Interpersonal. It refers to the use of language to establish and maintain social relations. This function involves modalities so that it is related to modus system. The system is signified by two main elements, namely: mood and residue (Bustam, 2011).

Zhuanglin (1988) posited that the interpersonal meaning represents all language usage to express social and personal relations, including the various ways the speaker enters a speech situation and delivers a speech act. Interpersonal function is often expressed using Modality and Mood.

Modality shows the social and economic relationships between the persons involved in a conversation; the speakers/ writers' attitudes towards themselves, towards their interlocutors, and towards their subject and the actions performed through language (Fowler & Kress, 1979). According to Halliday (1971), pronouns, content verbs, tense, direct speech, indirect speech all carry modality, in addition to modal verbs, modal adjectives and modal adverbs. For example, the pronoun "we" is supposed to shorten the distance between the speaker/ writer and the listener/ reader. However, this is not the case. Sometimes it makes the addressees feel they are under others' influence and control. For example, "We know that's good for you" sounds a little aggressive. The addressees feel as if they have to accept the addresser's advice. What's more, the occurrence of the pronoun "you", and its frequency of occurrence are "measures of the speaker's consciousness of, care for, or most often, desire to manipulate, the addressees" (Fowler & Kress, 1979). Therefore, pronouns can sometimes be used to impose the writer/ speaker's will on the reader/ hearer and therefore should not be neglected in discourse analysis. Nor do other forms of modality such as tense, direct speech, indirect speech.

Moreover, mood shows what role the speaker selects in the speech situation and what role he assigns to the addressee. If the speaker selects the imperative mood, he assumes the role of one giving commands and puts the addressee in the role of one expected to obey orders. For example, Pass me the book (Zhuanglin, 1988).

2.3. Textual Meaning (Clause as Message)

The third language meta-function is called Textual. Bustam (2011) describes this language meaning as the use of language to signify discourse. Here, language becomes text, is related to itself and to its contexts of use, including the preceding and following text, and the context of situation. The textual can be classified into two structures, namely: thematic structure (theme and rhema) and Information structure (new and given).

Halliday (1971) explains that textual function fulfills the requirement that language should be operationally relevant, having texture in a real context of situation that distinguishes a living passage from a mere entry in a grammar book or a dictionary. Information can be clearly expressed in a discourse. It can also be implicated between the lines. Therefore, all discourses are unities of explicit and implicit message.

Since language serves as a generalized experiential meaning, it can be used to achieve all communication purposes and all contexts that entail communication of experience. Because it serves a generalized interpersonal meaning, language can be utilized for the specific forms of personal expression and social interaction. What is needed to effectively operate these meanings is the textual one whereby language becomes text, is related to itself and to its contexts of use. Without the textual component of meaning, language is impossible to be used at all (Zhuanglin, 1988).

3. Methodology

3.1. Research Methods

This paper implements a hermeneutic Critical Discourse Analysis method combining quantitative and qualitative approaches of research. Quantitative method is used to represent the data in the form of table for objectivity while qualitative method is carried out by applying a case study analysis. A case study stands for a detailed in-depth study, which observes how a certain group or population behaves in a certain context. The case study strategy is an empirical inquiry that investigates a

contemporary phenomenon in depth, within its real-life context (Yin, 2003). The case study is best suited to perform an in-depth analysis of the chosen political speeches and helps to gain a richer understanding of how political discourse shapes reality through identity performances. Another reason why this method is chosen is the speeches understudy belong to a single individual delivered on a special occasion in the context of the Philippines.

3.2. Sources of Data and Data Collection

The corpora of CDA are not too broad, and the texts analyzed are among the prototypical ones of the selected discourse. Although there are no explicit statements about this issue, one might assume that many CDA studies deal with only small corpora which are usually regarded as being typical of certain discourses (Meyer, 2002).

In this paper, the sample corpora are the two State of the Nation Addresses of President Duterte. The State of the Nation Address (SONA) is a constitutional obligation and yearly tradition mandated by Art. 7, Sec. 23 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, wherein the President of the Republic of the Philippines reports on the status of the country, unveils the government's agenda for the coming year, and proposes to Congress certain legislative measures (Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines). The 2016 State of the Nation Address was the first SONA delivered by President Duterte at the Batasang Pambansa Complex, Quezon City, Philippines on July 25, 2016 after winning the presidential election on May 9, 2016. On the other hand, the 2017 SONA was delivered by President Duterte on July 24, 2017. The full transcripts of the 2016 and 2017 SONAs are retrieved from the website of the Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines.

3.3. Data Analysis

Several aspects of the data are analyzed following the proper CDA. The linguistic categories to be analyzed are not too broad, as the aim is to accomplish a qualitative research, but also not to depart from the distinctive CDA methodological approach which is that of considering a restricted number of linguistic categories (Meyer, 2002)

Following M.A.K Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistic model, the SONAs are subjected to transitivity, modality and textual analyses. Through transitivity analysis, the experiential functions of the speeches are identified and examined. In this process, the clauses and sentences in the speeches are identified paying attention to process pattern of clauses which operated as indexes. These clauses are then categorized into six processes: material, mental, relational, behavioral, verbal and existential. Through modality analysis, the modal verbs, tenses and personal pronouns are counted and analyzed. Lastly, the textual analysis examines the logical arrangement or structure and coherence of the speeches.

3.4. Validity and Reliability

A valid empirical research is one which is acceptable to the research community (Skënderi, 2014). The validity of this paper is secured since it closely follows the research strategies and data collection and analysis techniques used and proclaimed by critical discourse analysts. On the other hand, this inquiry is considered reliable because the information in each research phase is described in detail.

The issue of bias is a challenge in performing a CDA (Phillips and Pugh, 2007). However, the investigation aims to stay away from biased analyses and interpretations by reiterating that the researcher of this inquiry is not politically engaged. Van Leeuwen (2006) asserts that Critical discourse analyst are aware that their own work, too, is driven by social and political motives, but they argue that this applies to all academic work. Critical discourse analysts at least make their position explicit and feel they do not need to apologize for the critical stance of their work.

4. Results and Discussion

Table 1 presents the statistics of the 2016 and 2017 State of the Nation Addresses. The 2016 SONA is composed of 9,671 words, 625 sentences and 158 paragraphs. On the other hand, the 2017 SONA is much longer with 13,023 words, 848 sentences and 198 paragraphs. President Duterte is known for his blunt and straightforward off-the-cut remarks and ad libs in his speeches. The same is evident even in his SONAs. The original script of his 2016 SONA is expected to run for 38 minutes but the actual delivery lasts for 1 hour and 33 minutes. Likewise, his 2017 SONA is estimated to run for 45 minutes but is in reality delivers for 2 hours.

Statistical Item	Statistical Sample	
	2016 SONA	2017 SONA
Words	9,671	13,023
Sentences	625	848
Paragraphs	158	198
Duration	1 hour and 33 mins.	2 hours

Table 1: Statistics of the SONAs

There are also insertions of extemporaneous remarks either in Filipino (National Language of the Philippines) or Cebuano (Dialect spoken in some parts of the Philippines). During the delivery of his addresses, President Duterte

irrepressibly goes out of text to convey his direct and innermost thoughts on some of the subjects he touches. As a result, the addresses afford us with a colorful and deeper measure of the intimate and salient thoughts of his mind. The ad-lib-filled speeches show that the tough-talking president cannot be packaged but he knows precisely how to connect with the audience and speak in the language of the people. This also suggests that President Duterte is very complicated and hard to figure out (Monteil, 2016).

Nevertheless, the addresses are straightforward, precise and convey a strong message to the Filipino people. Moreover, the subjects of the addresses are extensive. The 2016 SONA touches on his campaign promises to eradicate illegal drugs, corruption, and criminality. He also enumerates the administration's strong will to push for big-ticket infrastructure projects, pass the tax reform package, and ensure government's transparency through Freedom of Information executive order, among others. On the other hand, the 2017 SONA revolves around the theme "A Comfortable Life for All." It was supported by the government's three key agenda, namely: prosperity for all, law and order, and peace.

4.1. Analysis of the Experiential Function of the SONAs

The Experiential Function delves with the way reality is represented and the grammatical resources for construing our experience of the world around us (Almurashi, 2016). One of its chief grammatical systems is classified as Transitivity (Matthiessen & Halliday 1997). Transitivity It is a basic semantic system, which construes the world of experience into a manageable set of process types (Wang, 2010). Halliday divides these processes into six types: material,   mental, relational, behavioral, verbal and existential.

Process Types	Core Meaning	Participants
Material	doing, happening	Actor, Goal
Mental	Sensing	Sensor, Phenomenon
Relational	Being	
Verbal	Saying	Sayer, Receiver, Verbiage
Behavioral	Behaving	Behaver
Existential	Existing	Existent

Table 2: Overview of Process Types

Process Types	2016 SONA Participants		2017 SONA	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Material Process	249	48%	311	43%
Mental Process	51	10%	105	14%
Relational Process	75	14%	136	19%
Verbal Process	66	13%	124	17%
Behavioral Process	29	6%	6	.8%
Existential Process	44	9%	47	6.2%
Total	514	100%	729	100%

Table 3: Transitivity in the SONAs

A total of 514 and 729 process patterns of clauses are found in the 2016 and 2017 SONAs respectively and all the six processes are found to have occurred in the addresses as shown in table 3. In 2016 SONA, material process takes the lead accounting for 48%. Relational process comes in distant second with 14%. Verbal, mental and existential have an overall representation of 13%, 10% and 9% respectively. Behavioral process employs the least with only 6% representation. In 2017 SONA, material process comprises 43% which leads the representation, then comes relational process in second order which takes 19%, verbal process takes 17% and existential process takes up 6.2 %. The occurrence of behavioral process is very insignificant, with .8% which is least represented. The top three processes are the focus of the analysis and the results are presented below.

4.2. Material Process

In both addresses, material process takes the highest representation with 45% in 2016 SONA and 43% in 2017 SONA. Material process is a process of doing or action usually concrete ones, which gives the audience a feeling of power and strength. They are divided into actor and goal. The actor is the one who does something and Goal is an entity where process is extended. They express the idea that a participant (the Actor/Agent) does something to another participant (Goal/Object) (Adjei et al., 2015). President Duterte uses me and us actors to carry out the various material processes in the clauses. A closer analysis of actors and their roles indicates that they are ideologically motivated. This suggests that President Duterte identifies himself and his administration as main actors and doers of major developmental plans for the country. However, the use of We actor conveys the intent of President Duterte to seek everybody' support in realizing his reforms to bring a genuine and meaningful change for the Filipino people.

The prevalence of material process implies that President Duterte portrays himself as an active participant and a person of action who fulfills his promises of lowering crime rate and purging illegal drugs, ending corruption in the government, lowering poverty rate and achieving peace and order in the country. He assures the states that by the end of his term, he hands over a Philippines that is safe, orderly, peaceful, drug-free, transparent and progressive. He foregrounds himself as the main actor in-charged with the responsibility of bringing change in the government, change that is permanent and not transitory.

According to Wang (2010), material process is a good choice in presidential addresses to demonstrate his accomplishments, carry out his plans and developments in various aspects of the administration. In the same manner, President Duterte employs the material process to account his accomplishments especially on war against drugs and criminalities and plan programme of government to arouse the confidence of the people towards his government and to win their support in his administration.

4.3. Relational Process

Relational process comes second in order of occurrence comprising to 14% in 2016 SONA and 19% in 2017 SONA. Although being less than that of material process, the percentage is far higher than that of other processes. Relational process is a process of being and becoming. It has two modes, attributive mode and identifying mode. Attributive process describes the entity and contain two participants- Carrier and Attribute. Identifying process is the kind of process which identifies one entity in terms of another. Identifying process also contains two participants namely, the identified and the identifier (Adjei et al., 2015).

In the two addresses, President Duterte utilizes relational process to attribute the accountability of those who has sinned against the public and the government. He therefore departs from the usual practice of putting blame on the past administration. Since time immemorial, the ills of any nation are remnants from the past but he chooses not to look for blame but to steer those in government to remain dedicated, transparent and clean as his solemn promise of governance. This relational process is powerful because it is way of accepting change, letting go and moving forward.

A closer look in the addresses suggests that although a genuine and meaningful change is always hard to achieve but President Duterte gives us hope that it can be done through a unified effort of everyone. He further uses most relational clauses to identify himself as the main carrier who leads a new foundation to construct a better Philippines. He uses these relational clauses to provide definitions and explanations of the power he wields and the political and economic state of the country. He therefore, plays as an interpreter of the current situation that assigns attributes to the participants involves. Just like Obama's speech, as observed by Wang (2010), Duterte chooses process of being as an appropriate way to explain the complex relationship between some abstract items such as "time and precious" and "consensus building and vital" etc. because they sound definite. These processes elaborate the relationship between ideals and speaker's beliefs which can reach their aim of making the reasoning naturally and unconsciously accepted by the audience. Duterte's use of the relational process explains how he is going to use his new position and authority to impose reforms towards a clean and progressive Philippines.

4.4. Verbal Process

Verbal process places thirds in order of representation in the two addresses with 13% in 2016 SONA and 17% in 2017 SONA. Verbal process is a process of saying which encodes the mental operations by the physical actions of "saying", so it is intermediate between mental and material processes. The main participants are the Sayer, Receiver and Verbaige (Adjie et al., 2010).

President Duterte uses verbal process to stress his convictions like his relentless fight against drugs and criminality. He is known as a great combatant against illegal drugs and other form of criminality. In the two addresses, verbal process is employed when President Duterte emphasizes his point like when he vows to double, even triple the efforts until he can hound the culprits of illegal drugs in the country. Moreover, he uses verbal process to reiterate his support for the policeman who are at the forefront of his campaign against drugs. Although his dedication for the welfare of the brave troops is exemplary but his manner of showing his support can at times questionable. His direct statements can be perceived by some sectors and critics as offensive and tasteless. This may be attributed to his mechanism in talking and his different brand of humor and brand of speech. In addition, the seemingly casual way of talking and addressing conservative issues like rape and morality has been seen as tasteless by pro-women's right groups and even the religious groups have raised criticism on this (Atanza, 2016).

Verbal process is usually realized by direct and indirect quotation. President Duterte uses direct quotations to emphasize his innermost thoughts on some issues. For instance, "Wag ninyo ako takutin (Don't threat me). I am willing to go to prison for the rest of my life." He uses direct quotation to throw some rants to some new organizations like ABS-CBM and Rappler for their alleged biased stories about him. Verbal process is also applied by his cursing. President Duterte is known for his straightforward and fiery statements.

4.5. Analysis of the Interpersonal Function of the SONAs

The Interpersonal Function is concerned with the interaction between speaker(s) and addressee(s). It is used to establish the speaker's role in the speech situation and relationship with others. One of its main grammatical systems is Modality (Matthiessen & Halliday 1997). Modality refers to a speaker's attitudes towards or opinion about the truth of a

proposition expressed by a sentence. It also extends to their attitude towards the situation or event described by a sentence (Wang, 2010). Modality involves the use of modal verbs, tenses of the sentences and personal pronouns in a political discourse.

4.6. Modal Verb

	Low Politeness	Median Politeness	High Politeness
Positive	can, may, could, might, dare	will, would, should, shall	must, ought to, need, has/had to
Negative	can't, mayn't, couldn't, mightn't, dare not,	won't, wouldn't, shouldn't, isn't/wasn't to	mustn't, oughtn't to, hasn't/hadn't to, needn't, doesn't/ didn't, +need to, have to

Table 4: Modal Verbs (Gouling, 2006)

SONAs	Total	Low Politeness		Median Politeness		High Politeness		Total %
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2016	9,671	29	.30%	142	1.47%	28	.29%	2.06%
2017	13,023	39	.30%	128	1.0%	21	.16%	1.46%

Table 5: Modality Analysis of the SONAs (Modal Verbs)

Table 5 shows that modal verbs are used in the addresses to convey the President Duterte's attitudes and judgement, with an average of 2.06% in the whole 2016 SONA and 1.66% in the whole 2017 SONA. It can be interpreted from the table that the modal verbs falling under median politeness receive the highest frequency of occurrence in both addresses, followed by modal verbs in the low politeness and high politeness respectively.

The preponderance of particular modal verbs in President Duterte's speeches is neither coincidence nor randomized. The fact the use of modal verbs in the median politeness in both addresses are more frequent than others suggests that President Duterte is trying to balance the tenor of his addresses making the it not less or too much formal. Further, it is evident that the modal verbs are contextually deployed as a useful persuasive strategy in an attempt to forcefully and cogently transmit his political intents and purposes in the delivery of his addresses. His use of modal verbs is appropriate to highlight his temerity and boldness in addressing societal ills and his strong political will in bringing a genuine and meaningful change in the Philippines.

Boicu (2007) asserts that the role of the speakers' intentional and selective use of modal verbs plays a vital part in the articulation of directive speech acts. In a political discourse, speaker's politeness is expressed through the strategic use of modal verbs. Shayegh (2012) denotes that since the message of political discourse is intended to be re-assuring, the use of modal verbs seems appropriate since such verbs echo a certain level of commitment, seal and enthusiasm by the political leader.

4.7. Tense of Sentences

Tense is the time of a clause. Halliday (1994) points out that primary tense means past, present or future at the moment of speaking; it is the time relative to "now".

SONAs		Present	Past	Future	Total
2016	No.	313	50	128	491
	%	64%	10%	26%	100%
2017	No.	375	113	108	596
	%	63%	19%	18%	100%

Table 6: Tenses of Sentences in the SONAs

Table 6 shows that the present tense is most frequently used in the two addresses with the average percentage of 64 in 2016 SONA and 63 in 2017 SONA. Future tense ranks second with 26%, followed by past tense with 10% in the 2016 SONA. In 2017 SONA, second rank is the past tense with 19% and last in rank is future tense with 18%. The use of the tense creates a close relationship between the speaker and his audience. It also provides an identification of the validity of the assertion contained in the speeches (Wang, 2010). Thus, it is natural that simple tense is the dominant tense of sentences since the State of the Nation Addresses serves as a means where the President reports on the state of the nation the present economic, political, social and cultural condition of the country.

On the other hand, future tense is primarily used to summarize Duterte's government agenda for the coming year. This tense helps the him to demonstrate his plan programme of government both for a particular year and until the end of his term of office; and to reveal his proposed reforms to foster progressive and sustainable change in the country. In a way, the government's goals are shown to the people thereby securing their confidence to the present administration in its promise of an inclusive, prosperous and peaceful future for all Filipinos. Through his SONAs, Filipinos are informed on the government's

developmental directions, hence the addressee's goal of seeking support from his constituents is attained. On the other hand, past tense is used to summarize his accomplishments in the previous year or recall the positive and negative experiences in the past as basis of his forthcoming actions. By this means, his respect for the past is displayed and it can also make his plans reasoning and fully grounded (Yumin, 2007)

4.8. Personal Pronoun

In political speeches, personal pronouns are often used as a form of address, either to refer to an audience or to the speaker. The use of pronouns in political discourse goes beyond substitution of a noun in traditional grammar to self-emphasis, self-responsibility, inclusiveness, solidarity and unity of purpose among others (Sharndama, 2015).

Personal Pronouns	2016 SONA		2017 SONA	
	No.	%	No.	%
I (or other first person singular related pronouns)	144	36%	359	36%
He/She/ It (or other third person singular related pronouns)	12	3%	119	12%
You (or other second person related pronouns)	87	21%	228	23%
We (or other first person plural related pronouns)	132	33%	231	22%
They (or other third person plural related pronouns)	28	7%	73	7%
Total	403	100%	1,010	100%

Table 7: Personal Pronoun in the SONAs

As reflected in Table 7, the preponderance uses of first person singular pronoun I is observed in both addresses. The pronoun I is used 144 times in 2016 SONA and 359 times in 2017 SONA. Notably, I is the most dominant form even when compared with other pronouns used. President Duterte tends to use the first-person pronoun I when he holds the appropriate authority to make certain statements. The I of action is also a regular (but less foregrounded) feature of signed investigative and eye-witness reporting, where it seems to suggest exclusivity and authenticity (Fowler, Kress 1997). Politicians use personal pronouns in a strategic way to show power, solidarity and authority (Bull and Fetzer, 2016).

In both addresses, the pronouns under third person related pronouns, we, and they have a low frequency and this can be explained by the fact that the politicians address not the potential listeners directly, but they address mainly one-another and to do so they tend to use the inclusive we. The pronoun you is, as might be expected, complementary in meaning and usage to I / we Its occurrence, and its frequency of occurrence, are measures of the speaker's consciousness of, care for or, most often desire to manipulate the addressee (Fowler, Kress 1997).

Although the President makes statements like: "We can, and we will, overcome as we did countless times in the past, only if we work together towards a common goal." The use of third person plural related pronoun we, refers also that he needs the support of people in realizing the so-called change.

Hakansson (2012) asserts that the use of personal pronoun has a vital part in political speeches because they can give an idea whom the speaker identifies, thus have an important influence in the overall effect. The way politician presents themselves in their speeches, by referring to themselves, their audience and also their opposition can successfully be used to persuade the audience to agree with them.

4.9. Analysis of the Textual Function of the SONAs

The textual function is concerned with the fact that language has mechanisms to make any stretch of spoken or written discourse into a coherent and unified text and make a living passage different from a random list of sentences. It is responsible for creating cohesively structured texts and communicative events. In a structural frame, this can be analyzed in terms of theme and rheme and other linguistic devices like cohesion and coherence (Hasnain, 2014). The 2016 SONA is analyzed as an example.

The 2016 SONA is President Duterte's first State of the Nation Address as an incumbent President of the Republic. This serves as a prelude to the discussion of the program of actions and policies of government he will propose under his administration. The 2016 SONA contains the following information:

- Salutation
- Fight Against Criminality and Illegal Drugs
- Improving Access to Justice System
- Protection of Human Rights and Promotion of Social Justice
- Message to the Indigenous People
- Peace and Security
- Fight Against Poverty
- Economy and Taxation Reform
- Bureaucracy and Red Tape

- Infrastructure Development
- Protection and Conservation of the Environment
- Education and Health
- Federalism
- Freedom of Information

Occasionally, Duterte veers away from his prepared speech and spoke extemporaneously, with humorous undertone sometimes. It is done deliberately to connect with the people and emphasize his contentions. Overall, the whole address is coherent, accurate and logical. It is evident that the fight against criminality, illegal drugs and corruption are at the forefront of his administration. In a country where strong political will is required to move things forward, President Duterte's leadership style may just be exactly what is needed for the Philippines to continue rising economically and socially, following the upward trend set by the previous government (Atanza, 2016).

5. Conclusion

This paper critically analyzes the two SONAs of President Duterte to elucidate their existential, interpersonal and textual functions as anchored on M.A.K. Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics. From the analysis of the existential function of the addresses, it is concluded that Duterte uses more of mental processes than any other processes type to demonstrate his accomplishments and carry out his plans and developments in various aspects of the government. Furthermore, the analysis of interpersonal function of the addresses suggests that the use of modal verbs, tenses of sentences and personal pronouns is effective in establishing Duterte's attitudes towards an opinion about the truth of a proposition expressed in the speeches. Likewise, the textual function reveals that Duterte's whole addresses are coherent, accurate and logical.

The study affirms that the choice of linguistic forms of political discourse is ideologically motivated. There many ways in which the speaker uses language to express his ideas and intentions in his speech. For creative process, the politician either consciously or unconsciously prefers a particular choice of linguistic form over the other to put across his message. Hence, political discourse has always an ideological orientation, which depends on the social, cultural and historical framework within which it is produced.

Finally, it can be concluded that CDA provides a more comprehensive method to analyze public addresses. It explores the role of language structures to produce certain meanings and ideologies which are not always explicit for audience. CDA is proven very useful in uncovering the speaker's attitude, the participant's involvement, and their roles in the discourse. The analysis has further been used to discover the relation between meanings and wordings that account for the organization of linguistic features in the address.

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