

Critical Pragmatic Analysis of Online Discourses of Nigerians in the Diaspora

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In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Award of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree in English (Language)

Certification

This is to certify that Nureni Abolanle Dairo, with matriculation number LCU/PG/001800 carried out this research, titled “Critical Pragmatic Analysis of Online Discourses of Nigerians in the Diaspora” in the Department of Languages and Literature, Faculty of Arts, Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State, for the award of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree in English and this has not been previously submitted.

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Dedication

This research work is dedicated to God Almighty, my late parents Mr Murobi Dairo and Mrs Modinat Oluwarantimi Dairo.

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Abstract

The current state in Nigeria whereby numerous Nigerians deliberately embark on emigration from Nigeria to European and Asian nations to search for greener pasture calls for concern. The need to create awareness about their experiences and feelings through their language use motivated this study which aimed at investigating the critical pragmatic analysis of online discourses of Nigerians in the diaspora. This study aims to identify the recurrent themes in their online discourses. Moreover, this study also identified and analysed the critical pragmatic elements and speech acts features in the online discourses of Nigerians in the diaspora. The study used a qualitative method employing a descriptive analysis design. The data source of this study is collected from Facebook and Twitter. The data are observed and transcribed into written form. Furthermore, the data are categorised into various stances and ideologies taken by the interlocutors. The results showed that Nigerians in the diaspora have several ideologies and stances that are reflected in their utterance e.g. stances on education, culture, religion, economy and politics; and the manifestation of ideologies e.g. patriotism, racism, fanaticism and democracy. The results show that there are three kinds of illocutionary acts which are performed on Facebook and Twitter, they are representative, expressive and directive. The result of the present study shows that Facebook and Twitter handlers among Nigerians in the diaspora tended to convey their utterances by stating facts, to direct and express feelings and experiences about Nigeria and the host nation.

Keywords: Diaspora, Migration, Social Media, Critical Pragmatics, Online Discourses, Speech Acts, Nigerians in the Diaspora

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List of Acronyms

| Abbreviation | Meaning |
|---------------------|--|
| USA | United States of America |
| UK | United Kingdom |
| UN | United Nations |
| ID | Internet Discourse |
| IDP | Internally Displaced People |
| EU | Europeans |
| CMR | Central Mediterranean Route |
| WMR | Western Mediterranean Route |
| USD | United States Dollar |
| MD | Migration Discourse |
| EMN | European Migration Network |
| OED | Oxford English Dictionary |
| IOM | International Organisation for Migration |
| DM | Discourse Marker |
| AIDS | Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome |
| ANOVA | Analysis of Variance |
| RS | Rejected Sensitivity |
| COVID-19 | Corona Virus Disease 2019 |
| L1 | First Language |
| L2 | Second Language |
| ELF | English Language as a Foreign |

| | |
|--------|--|
| U&G | Uses and Gratifications |
| EAL | English as an Additional Language |
| CDA | Critical Discourse Analysis |
| EFL | English as a Foreign Language |
| NGO | Non-Government Organisations |
| ECOWAS | Economic of West African States |
| CFA | Confirmatory Factor Analysis |
| TFP | Trafficking for Prostitution |
| SSA | Sub-Sahara African |
| DK | Denmark |
| IPA | International Psychoanalytical Association |
| SADC | Southern African Development Community |
| GBMD | Global Bilateral Migration Database |
| ICT | Information and Communication Technology |
| APC | All Progressive Congress |
| IMF | International Monetary Fund |
| IGR | Internally Generated Revenue |
| EAL | English as an Additional Language |
| BME | Black Asian Middle Eastern |
| NIS | Nigerian Immigration Service |
| TCM | Transitory and Cyclical Migration |
| NAPTIP | National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Person |