SUCCESS AND FAILURE OF HERO AND VILLAIN AS THE STORYTELLING IN INTERACTIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT: AN ANALYSIS OF PAKISTANI DIPLOMATIC CYPHER UNDER VLADIMIR PROP'S MORPHOLOGY OF FOLK TALE (1968)

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ABSTRACT

The present study is conducted to understand the morphology of the Folk Tale that existed in the Pakistan Diplomatic Cypher (March 07, 2022). The study is descriptive and based on elements of the Folk Tale model of Vladimir Prop's Morphology (1968) that existed in the Pakistani Diplomatic Cypher. The Folk Tale model of Vladimir Prop's Morphology (1968) consists of the 31 story elements that are critically explored in the Cypher. The study found that the Hero Imran Khan tried to defend its national foreign policy before the US, but he could not save the regime and could not firmly reach the Wedding (Happiness). On the other hand, the US, as the Hero, succeeded in catching the targets of its foreign policy through Regime Change in Pakistan and met the Wedding (became happy). Imran Khan was punished as the villain of the US, while the US, as the villain against Imran Khan, could not be punished.

Key Terms: Hero, Villain, Success, Failure, Folk Tale.

1. INTRODUCTION

Pakistani Diplomatic Cypher was received from the Pakistani Foreign Office in the USA to the Pakistani Foreign Office in Pakistan on March 07, 2022. The language of the Cypher was threatening and full of pressure to remove the Pakistani Prime minister of the time, Mr. Imran Khan (Grim & Hussain, 2023). The Cypher consists of the discussion between Pakistani Ambassador Mr. Asad Majeed Khan and the US representative Mr. Donald Lu. Fatima et al. (2024) mentioned that the Cypher carries the resisting language and the stretch of supremacy on one another while the language of the Pakistani Ambassador is persuasive (Fatima, Jameel, & Mohani, 2024). Bukhari et al. (2024) mentioned that the narrative of the Cypher is the exercise of power and hegemony. The language used seemed aggressive, threatening, and dominant in its perspective of the US (Bukhari, Fatima, Jameel, & Rashid, 2024).

Even the stretches of power, conflict, and resistance are evident in the language Cypher, but there are a series of actions that are discussed in the Cypher, and the situation after the Cypher in Pakistan presents the games and their winnings by the characters.

Vladimir Prop's Morphology of Folk Tale (1968) describes the actions and reactions of 31 different perspectives on the story. The present study is conducted to understand the characters' actions, failures, and successes in the context of the Pakistani Diplomatic Cypher.

1.2   Statement of the Problem

Stretches of Hero and heroship lead towards the downfall of the opponent. The results of any story can be justified through the final drop scenes, through which the degree of failure and success can be measured. The element of folktale analysis can justify the characters' position as heroes or villains and their sufferings.

1.2 Research Objectives

- To understand the degree of suffering and success of characters of Pakistani Diplomatic Cypher

1.3 Research Questions

1. How did the characters of the Pakistani Diplomatic Cypher suffer and become successful?

1.4 Significance of the Study

The study can help us understand the suffering and successes of the characters of the Pakistani Diplomatic Cypher. It can also make a reader justify the characters' actions and reactions against each other and their consequences, which result in their success or failure.

1.5 Limitations of the Study

The Pakistani Diplomatic Cypher discusses many characters. The present study is confined to the period of success and failure between the Pakistani Prime Minister of that time, Mr. Imran Khan, and Donald Lu (the USA representative). Imran Khan and Donald Lu (as the USA representative) are two characters whose actions are justified under the Folk Tale analysis of the story inlaid in the Pakistani Diplomatic Cypher.

2 Literature Review

De Orellana (2020) researched "Retrieving how Diplomacy Writes Subjects, space and Time: a methodological contribution". The study aimed to understand the question "What does diplomacy say about foreign actors?" The information eventually committed to writing is observed, analyzed, prioritized, and formed through diplomatic techniques. This study argued for consideration of the distinctive function of diplomatic writing in forming the state, notably its representation and understanding of Self and Others. It draws on poststructuralist approaches to identity, diplomacy, and textuality. As a result, it creates a technique for the empirical analysis of how the language of diplomatic correspondence characterizes individuals, locations, events, and politics and influences policy. The suggested analytical approach enhances and modifies poststructuralist discourse analysis to suit the intertextual analysis of sizable sets of documents about creating diplomatic knowledge. It first chooses the facts to include based on the notion of diplomacy. Second, it creates a method for determining how representations of subjects and their settings are included in diplomatic communication. Thirdly, it tracks how representations evolve throughout the production of diplomatic information and determines when they start to sway other players in the international arena. This method is illustrated through an examination of the U.S.'s diplomatic journey to Vietnam from 1945 to 1948, highlighting the importance of diplomacy's portrayal of key players and highlighting previously overlooked events, characters, and descriptions. These analyses advance and provide empirical support for our knowledge of how diplomacy produces the Self and Others, influences international politics, and informs policy (de Orellana, 2020).

Homoler (2022) studied "A call to arms: Hero–villain narratives in US security discourse". The study described that the leaders don't just bluster when they discuss security with home audiences. Political agents rely on tales of hostility and threats to advance national and international security policy objectives to explain what is happening in the international arena, to whom, and why. They do this for the straightforward reason that an effective narrative makes a potent political tool. Based on findings from archival research at USUS presidential libraries and the US National Archives, this article explores historical "calls to arms" in the US. The paper created a new analytical framework to understand the political currency and enduring appeal of hero-villain security narratives, which split the world into opposing domains of "good" and "evil" by drawing on narrative theory and political psychology. It contended that the suspenseful plot structure of hero-villain security narratives gives them resonance, moving the conceptual focus from speakers and venues to audience and effect. Political actors' narratives about security warrant further consideration in the larger area of international security studies because they are important rhetorical instruments that influence security policy actions (Homolar, 2022).

Mapendere (2006) researched Track One and a Half Diplomacy and the Complementarity of Tracks". This study was based on a document that the author wrote for The Carter Center as part of a Graduate Assistantship project for the Conflict Resolution Program in the summer of 2000, titled "Consequential Conflict Transformation Model, and the Complementarity of Track One, Track One and a Half, and Track Two Diplomacy." Because of this,

The Carter Center is regularly cited in the paper as an illustration of a true Track One and a Half institution. The study discovered a connection between the diplomacy tracks, leadership tiers, and the players' actions at various diplomacy levels. The diagram's primary purpose is to demonstrate to other academics, practitioners, and organizations working in conflict resolution that there is a third type of diplomacy that can help bridge the gaps created by Track One and Track Two diplomacy. Actors on Track One and a Half can help to communicate between Track One and Track Two if they work well together and on time. The picture also shows how organizations can compensate for shortcomings by understanding that other organizations can enhance their activities through coordination and cooperation. Therefore, the complementarity of tracks and organizations and the advent of Track One and a Half Diplomacy will effectively provide the peace community with the necessary tools to act at any point during a conflict (Mapendere, 2006).

Marques (2016) studied "The One Who Knocks: The Hero as Villain in Contemporary Televised Narratives". To analyze the change in North American television narrative, this dissertation looked at the political and historical developments that paved the way for a creative revolution at the close of the 20th century. The third "Golden Age" of American television was marked by an explosion in high-caliber shows, with a new breed of protagonists populating the center, indicating a change from the traditional hero paradigm. This dissertation attempted to demonstrate how heroes, anti-heroes, and villains all share increasingly similar traits and increasingly flimsy differences through significant examples of American television series, such as Oz (1997–2003), The Sopranos (1999–2007), The Wire (2002–2008), Dexter (2006–2013), and House of Cards (2013–present). It did this by analyzing the traits of serial killers, cowboys, and gangsters and their significance in creating the hero figure in contemporary narratives. The chosen example to explore what made this kind of character so alluring and nuanced is Walter White, the protagonist of the Breaking Bad television series (2008–2013), who is both a hero and a villain in a disillusioned America. One of the primary goals of this dissertation will be to show how the borders of the hero paradigm have been extended to embrace modern worries, concerns, and realities, focusing on this protagonist whose journey symbolizes the development of a villain (Marques, 2016).

Torkington (2007) researched " Heroes and villains: discursive strategies for (re)producing 'myths' of national identity in the newspaper coverage of international football". This article aimed to investigate, using a Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) method, some of the discursive techniques used by British media to create national unity and identity representations during the coverage of a significant athletic event. This study examined how social representations reinforce national stereotypes based on stories of heroes, villains, and their deeds, as well as the creation of social representations of in-groups and out-groups, to (re)produce myths of national identity, taking the stance that a "nation" is a "imagined" (Anderson 1983) and thus a "ideologically constructed" social group (Billig 1995). This paper's analysis backs up the claim that news stories' depictions of social actors and actions are inherently ideologically situated and can be effectively employed to cognitively reinforce a sense of "us" against "them," which is a key component of national identity myths and the affirmation of the nation's collective unity (Torkington, 2007).Ramzan et al. (2023) have said that motivational is a significant concept. Ramzan et al. (2023) explained the writing style of different authors. Chen and Ramzan (2024) have further stated that Facebook posts about learning English as a second language (L2) provide primary motivation for learners and promote their performance. Ramzan, & Alahmadi, (2024) have confirmed that technology task-based and culturally relevant framework implication is possible in ESL education.

Zhu (2017) did research "Hero and Villain on a Foreign Land: A Textual Analysis on U.S. Newspaper Coverage of China's Uighur Unrest". The purpose of this study was to analyze how the US media covered China's interactions with the Uighur minority, which is primarily Muslim, during the period of multiple deadly attacks carried out by Uighur ethnic group members. Fifty-two news articles and three opinion pieces from the New York Times and the Washington Post over six months were examined in the study. The study discovered that the news discourse surrounding China's Uighur disturbance provided a distinct picture of an oppressive government and an imprisoned thinker named Ilham Tohti, drawing on theories of news framing and news narratives. This image invokes two

key mythological figures: the oppressive villain and the tormented Hero. The stories used an angry framing to depict China's ethnic relations and minimized the seriousness of the real attacks by placing the ultimate blame on government control and policy (Zhu, 2017).

3   Research Methodology

The present study is qualitative and was conducted to understand the story of the Cypher; the characters' successes and failures are evident. The study is qualitative based on the textual interpretation of the Cypher. Qualitative studies present the core issues of the time and place (Daniel, 2016).

The study adopted the Folk Tale model of Vladimir Prop's Morphology (1968), in which the actions and reactions were described from 31 different perspectives of the story (Prop, 1968).

The model consists of 31 different segments, which provide the sequence of the actions.

3.1   Data Collection and Analysis Process

Data is collected through text selection and analysis using the Folk Tale model of Vladimir Prop's Morphology (1968).

4   Data Analysis

No.	Designation	Definition	Description	Action in the Story
1	β	Absentation	Absent of one of the members of the family.	IK: Imran Khan is seemed absent form US policy against Russia-Ukraine War. DL: US is absent from Pakistani policy in Russia-Ukraine War.
2	γ	Interdiction	Interdiction address to hero.	IK: Imran Khan is told to not visit Russia and would have no rigid neutral stance on Russia-Ukraine War. DL: US is told that Pakistan will not follow the US policy on Russia-Ukraine War
3	δ	Violation	Violation of interdiction.	IK: Imran Khan violate the direction of US. DL: US violate the non-interference policy in others countries.
4	ε	Reconnaissance	Villain 's attempt for reconnaissance.	IK: Imran Khan is targeted by No-Confidence motion. DL: US is told about the non-intervene in national affairs.
5	ζ	Delivery	Victimization information received by villain.	IK: Imran Khan told US to not intervene. DL: US told Imran Khan to stop superior complex.
6	η	Trickery	Villain 's attempt to victim for taking possession.	IK: No-Confidence motion is put in national assembly of Pakistan. DL: Imran Khan started telling people about intervene of US in national affairs of Pakistan.
7	θ	Complicity	Submission of deception by victim to help his/her enemy.	IK: Imran Khan is asked to support US narrative. DL: US is told to preserve Pakistan from Western Diplomatic moves.
8	A	villainy	Villain as reason behind injury to a	IK: Imran Khan 's regime is changed. DL: US policy on Russia-Ukraine War is not accepted by Pakistan.

			member of family.	
8A	*a*	Lack	Wishing or lacking desire of one of the family member.	IK: Imran Khan wanted to back his regime. DL: US wanted to throne the regime and want to give ruling to near and dears.
9	B	Meditation	Approach of hero due to misfortune; allowed to go or dispatched.	IK: Imran Khan is given allegations to not securing diplomatic discussions and all stake holders turn against him. DL: US diplomatic policy is failed and international media started cursing it due to intervene.
10	C	Beginning counteraction	Agreeing of Hero or decisions of hero on counteraction.	IK: Imran Khan 's party members started meeting with US diplomats for supports. DL: US ambassadors also intended to meet with Imran Khan.
11	↑	Departure	Home is left by hero.	IK: Imran Khan totally neglect obeying of US narrative. DL: US totally neglect Pakistani situation and public voices.
12	D	First function of the Donor	Test of hero, interrogation or attacking.	IK: Imran Khan is charged after regime change. DL: US is charged of intervene after regime change in Pakistan.
13	E	The hero's reaction	Reactions of here for future.	IK: Imran Khan started to gain political power and started putting writs in courts. DL: US started meeting with different department heads against Imran Khan in Pakistan.
14	F	Provision of a magical agent	Receiving of here of a magical agent.	IK: Imran Khan attains the public support. DL: US gains official support against Imran Khan.
15	G	Guidance	Leading of hero is made for searching an object.	IK: Imran Khan started gaining public favour. DL: US started gaining official favour.
16	H	Struggle	Combated between Hero and Villain	IK: Political and Official combat can be seen. DL: Political and Official combat can be seen.
17	I	Branding	The hero functions with full potential.	IK: Imran Khan started movement to mobilize people. DL: US started movement to mobilize officials.
18	J	Victory	Defeat of Villain occurs.	IK: Imran Khan defeats narrative of US on social media. DL: US deafest narrative of Imran Khan in official correspondence.
19	K	Liquidation of Lack	Initial mistake is liquidated.	IK: Imran Khan reveals that he would not dissolve the Punjab Assembly and KPK assembly and would not leave national assembly as well. DL: US does not recognize its mistake to overthrow regime of Imran Khan.

20	↓	Return	Returns of Hero to Home.	IK: Imran Khan is not returned to Power. DL: US narratives won and no resistance can be seen in official narrative as in the age of Imran Khan.
21	Pr	Pursuit	Hero is told to do something accordingly.	IK: Imran Khan is told to act according to officials of Pakistan and would leave Pakistan. DL: US is not told to intervene or get away from Pakistani political spectrum.
22	Rs	Rescue	Hero is rescued from peruse.	IK: Her is not rescued. DL: US is perused and rescued from Imran Khan 's official narrative.
23	o	Unrecognized arrival	Arrival of hero to home of other country undesigningly	IK: Imran Khan is arrived on wrong position which is not his home. DL: US arrives to its balance state after putting throw the regime of Imran Khan.
24	L	Unfounded claims	Unfounded claims are there by a false hero.	IK: PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) claim itself as hero of the game. DL: PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) claim itself as hero of the game.
25	M	Difficult task	Hero is proposed to a difficult task.	IK: Imran Khan has been stuck in political dilemma and he is captured in the imprisonment. DL: US has to build narrative publicly against Russia and Imran Khan in Pakistan.
26	N	Solution	Resolution of the task.	IK: After leakage of Cypher by Intercept, Imran Khan 's narrative is proved true that US intervene in other's matters. DL: After leakage of Cypher by Intercept, US wants to prove itself as the most powerful state of the world.
27	Q	Recognized	Recognition of the hero.	IK: Imran Khan is recognized as Hero publicly. DL: US is recognized as hero officially in its nation.
28	Ex	Exposure	Exposition of False Hero or Villain.	IK: After leakage of Cypher, PDM could not prove itself as real hero of the game. DL: After leakage of Cypher, PDM could not prove itself as real hero of the game.
29	T	Transfiguration	New appearance is given to the hero.	IK: Imran Khan is imposed I different changes. DL: US started proving its loyalty with Pakistan by giving different packages and meetings with officials of Pakistan. Pakistan is withdrawn from Grey list of FATF.
30	U	Punishment	Punishment of Villain.	IK: Imran Khan could not be able to punish US or its officials. DL: Imran Khan was punished and sentences to jail in different allegations.
31	W	Wedding	Hero 's marriage and throne ascend.	IK: Imran Khan could not become happy and his regime was throne. DL: US meets the targets and feel happy to complete the mission of regime changes in Pakistan.

5   Conclusion

There is a stretch between a hero and a villain in the mentioned incidents in the Cypher. Being Hero, Donald Lu tries to come over on the political game of Pakistan, while being Hero, Imran Khan tries to expose the intervention of the US in Pakistani politics. Despite all this, the final scene comes to

know the regime change of Imran Khan and the loss of position.

5.1   Findings

The major findings of the study are as follows:

- The story begins with the absentation of Imran Khan from the US policy during the Russia-Ukraine War, while the US disagreement is there from the Pakistani stance of neutrality.
- Interdiction is there for Imran Khan not to visit Russia, while Pakistan tells the US that the US policy is not compulsory.
- Both violate each other's stance due to foreign policy.
- Being a villain of the US, Imran Khan is targeted, while being a Hero of Pakistan, the US (being the villain) is targeted.
- The results are the succession of the USU in regime change policy and the vocabulary imparted to the USU.
- Concerning trickery, the native politicians of Pakistan provide support, and no-confidence motions have been successful.
- The final scene comes at the Wedding, as the US meets the targets and becomes happy, while Imran Khan does not succeed in the targets and does not become happy.

5.2   Recommendations

- Folk Tale analysis can explore any story's pre-, in, and post-scenarios.
- All the components of any incident can be explored through folktale analysis.
- Official, non-official, online, and offline stories can be better analyzed under the Folk Tale model of Vladimir Prop's Morphology (1968).

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