

## Critical Discourse Analysis of the Arab and Israeli Media Representation of Jenin's 2023 Incursions

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### Abstract

This study primarily examines the media's coverage of the enigmatic incidents of Jenin intrusions that occurred in 2023. This methodology integrates Critical Linguistics (CL) with Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), with a particular emphasis on the researcher's use of Fairclough's three-dimensional framework. *The Jerusalem Post* and the *Jordan Times*, Israeli and Arab news outlets, have comprehensively covered the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The corpus contains twenty English-language news articles, ten from each agency. The media is covering Israel's 2023 Jenin military operations. According to research, media and TV employ terms relating to war, casualties, and military activities. They also employ rhetoric, emotion, and quotations to discuss disagreements. *The Jordan Times* routinely covers Palestinian suffering and anti-occupation activists' rise. While humanizing Palestinians, the stories highlight their injustices. *The Jerusalem Post* calls Palestinians terrorists without violence using hyperbole, imagery, and personification.

**Keywords:** Jenin, the Jordan Times, the Jerusalem Post, Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Critical discourse analysis, Fairclough's three-dimensional framework.

### 1 Introduction

Since this study analyzes how the media discourse represents Jenin's 2023 incursions, the following section presents a background of Jenin, and the reasons behind the Israeli incursions of Jenin.

#### 1.1 Background of Jenin and 2023 Incursions

Jenin is a compact city located in the northern part of the West Bank, close to the Israeli border. It is characterized by its mountainous terrain and is home to a densely populated refugee camp called Jenin, which is constructed mainly of concrete and cinderblocks and accommodates around 14,000 people. They are the offspring of Palestinians who were displaced when Israel was established in 1948, and most of

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them are living in poverty and are jobless (Reuters 2024). This deep-rooted heritage encourages steadfast hostility against Israel and support for Palestinian groups (Reuters 2024). The significance of Jenin Refugee Camp refers to its importance and impact in several aspects. Jenin saw significant violence during the second Intifada, a period of armed confrontation between Israel and some organizations that ensued following the breakdown of U.S.-supported peace negotiations in 2000. Jenin was a major source of suicide bombers who led the revolt. In April 2002, Israeli armored troops conducted a destructive operation on the Jenin camp as part of a broader effort to suppress regions where Palestinians enjoyed limited self-governance under provisional peace agreements in the 1990s. According to UN statistics, there were 52 fatalities in Jenin, with around half of them being civilians. Israel, on the other hand, lost 23 troops. Additionally, more than 400 houses were destroyed, leaving more than a quarter of the people without a place to live (Reuters 2024).

For twenty years, Israel has been concerned about the increasing presence of armed individuals in Jenin and their accumulation of weapons. Israel asserts that the camp serves as a central location for the planning and execution of terrorist activities, as well as a secure refuge for militants supported by Hamas or the Iranian-backed Islamic Jihad organization (Reuters 2024). What were the reasons behind Israel's assault on Jenin? Since March 2022, Israel's nationalist-religious government has deployed additional military personnel to the West Bank, particularly in Jenin and the neighboring districts in the northern region. Palestinians were engaging in assaults against individuals in the street, which resulted in these incursions.

It has been a long time since militants first started meeting at the Jenin camp and organizing themselves there. They have a lot of small guns in addition to the explosives they have collected. The Israeli military typically says that terrorist groups put its members in highly populated metropolitan areas, which might include refugee camps that have been there since 1948. The Israeli military often makes this claim. Because there are so many soldiers stationed at the camp, it is not uncommon for their families to live there as well.

The Israeli army has been carrying out military operations in Jenin, which is under Israeli occupation, since the start of January 2023. This activity led to a very sad ending, with seven armed individuals and two innocent bystanders dying. This operation led to the deaths of these people.

In July 2023, there was a prolonged exchange of gunfire between militants and Israeli soldiers, resulting in the death of six Palestinians and the injury of over 90 others. An armored truck carrying Israeli forces was severely damaged by an explosive device, resulting in injuries to seven individuals. Four Israelis were fatally murdered by Palestinian gunmen near a Jewish community, leading to settlers engaging in violent acts of destruction in Palestinian villages, setting fire to homes and automobiles. This recent escalation of aggression, reminiscent of the Palestinians' 2000 Intifada, occurred during a prolonged period without peace negotiations for Palestinian statehood. Additionally, there is a weakening of Palestinian political leadership and a continuous growth of Jewish settlements on the land that is occupied under Israel's most extreme nationalist government to date. According to Israel, Jenin-area militants have conducted over 50 gunshot incidents since the start of 2023. Additionally, about half of the people in that region are associated with either Hamas or Islamic Jihad. The recent firing of two

makeshift rockets by militants in the vicinity of Jenin in June has caused concern in Israel that the West Bank may be following a similar trajectory as the Gaza Strip. Israel withdrew its settlements from Gaza in 2005, and it is now under the control of armed Islamist organizations (Reuters 2024).

Recent Israeli incursions into Jenin, using commando units attired as Palestinians, have faced challenges due to militants' placement of explosive devices in the tight streets and their ability to identify unfamiliar individuals inside the camp quickly. This factor significantly influenced the scale of the Israeli military operation in early July, which included more than 1,000 troops. Additionally, Israel made the uncommon decision to support the operation with drone attacks to eliminate extremist infrastructure and weaponry. One of the places discovered by the Israeli forces in Jenin is a command center equipped with a set of closed-circuit television cameras that monitor the camp. Additionally, a tunnel and weapons storage area were found buried under a mosque (Reuters, 2024). Israel has reported the detention of 120 individuals believed to be militants and the elimination of at least nine armed individuals in Jenin. Out of the 10 Palestinian deaths, it has been verified that five of them were militants.

Which organizations are currently operative in Jenin?

The militant factions operating in Jenin include the Iran-supported Islamic Jihad, the Islamist Hamas, which has power over Gaza, and the armed branch of President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah organization. The militants in the camp are affiliated with the Jenin Brigades. Their increasing presence may be attributed, in part, to the lack of action by the security forces of Abbas's internationally supported Palestinian Authority (PA), which emphasizes that Israel has eroded its credibility among the public (Reuters, 2024). Since this study analyzes the media discourse of Jenin's 2023 incursions, the following section presents a background of the concerned newspapers: *the Jerusalem Post* and *the Jordan Times*.

## 1.2 Background of the Newspapers

### 1.2.1 The Jerusalem Post

*The Jerusalem Post* (JP) is an Israeli English-language daily newspaper founded in 1932 under Palestine Post. The newspaper acquired its present designation in 1950 and is the most extensive English-language publication in the nation. It is a daily newspaper except for Saturdays. It has a longstanding emphasis on international news, focusing on Arab Israeli ties. During the first years of the 21st century, the daily circulation figures of the publication were estimated to be around 11,000 in Israel and 26,000 in the United States (Britannica, 2023: *The Jerusalem Post*). The widely read weekend version of the newspaper serves as the foundation for creating a worldwide publication known as *The Jerusalem Post Weekly*. JP, known for its autonomous editorial practices, is often seen as politically right-of-center inside Israel. The newspaper has established an enviable record for its comprehensive coverage using concise writing, economical headlines, and meticulous editing. JP saw a change of ownership in 2004 when two corporations acquired equal 50 percent stakes in the publication. This transaction occurred after the sale of the Telegraph of London by the financially troubled Hollinger International. The entities that assumed ownership were CanWest Global Communications, a Canadian newspaper publisher, and Mirkaei Tikshoret, a diverse Israeli media corporation under the management of financier Eli Azur (Britannica 2023, *The Jerusalem Post*).

### 1.2.2 *The Jordan Times*

*The Jordan Times* is an autonomous English-language newspaper that is part of the Jordan Press Foundation. It started its publication since October 26, 1975. The Jordan Press Foundation is a publicly traded firm that is listed on the Amman Stock Exchange. It provides comprehensive coverage of various local, world, regional, sports, and business news (*The Jordan Times* 2023).

## 2 Literature Review

Since this study investigates how the media represents the Israeli Palestinian conflict taking Jenin's 2023 incursions as a case study, which has not been examined by discourse analysts, this section reviews the previous studies that analyzed the Israeli Palestinian crisis, in particular.

Almeida (2011) examined the language used in U.S. newspaper articles about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from 2002 to 2006. The integration of corpus linguistics and critical discourse analysis has resulted in the development of combined qualitative and quantitative analyses of six discourse dimensions: (1) direct and indirect quotations, phrases indicating acts of aggression, phrases indicating bad feelings, terms indicating disputes, and terms indicating positive speech. Analyzing the interactions between Israeli and Palestinian officials and citizens revealed many vital findings. Overall, the discourse may be described as primarily focused on topics related to aggression, disputes, and unpleasant emotions.

The analysis revealed a scarcity of positive descriptions about individuals and events. The news writers seldom include statements or perspectives from Palestinian and Israeli people when seeking information, clarification, or evaluation. Israeli citizens were cited less often than Palestinian civilians. Consequently, the focus of news reports on suicide bombers tends to be on the statements made by Palestinians rather than on the Israeli survivors of these attacks. News writers exhibit a disparity in their approach to quoting Israeli officials and Palestinian authority. While both government authorities in Palestine and Israel are mentioned directly to a comparable extent, the Israeli government is implicitly quoted far more often than the Palestinian Authority. This suggests that the U.S. press heavily depends on the Israeli government for information about events and individuals. Quantitative analysis of words related to violence reveals that the discourse surrounding the conflict in U.S. news is characterized by cruelty, bloodshed, and a war-like atmosphere. The discourse that reflected violent rhetoric consistently declined across all areas from 2002 to 2005.

Sanz Sabido (2015) and Wang (2017) analyzed the representation of the Israeli-Palestinian struggle in the British media discourse. In his study, Sanz Sabido (2015) analyzed the portrayal of the Israeli-Palestinian struggle in the British press. Postcolonial Critical Discourse Analysis is the research methodology used, and it entails examining the content of four major British national newspapers at four different points in the conflict's history: the Guardian, the Times, the Daily Herald, also known as the Sun, and the Daily Mirror. The findings demonstrated the glaring lack of references to the historical facts that underpin Britain's role in the development of the war. One may interpret this absence as a conscious attempt to disassociate oneself from the historical responsibilities resulting from colonial relations.

The inquiry uncovered changes in Britain's documentation of the conflict. One of the study's primary findings is that the major terms used to characterize those who fought in the conflict have evolved over

time owing to shifting political discourse and perspectives on historical events in each of the eras studied. Observing how the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been covered, Sanz Sabido pointed out that different analytical periods have given different contextualizations to the events and participants. The way the media has depicted the parties engaged in the conflict is strongly related to the contextualization process, which is defined by the selective focus on certain aspects of the conflict while ignoring others. The concept of 'Orientalism' is used to how Palestinians are portrayed in the media, particularly negative representations and their exclusion from the conversation, as seen in cases after 1948. Orientalist ideology is seen in the simplification of the complex historical account of the conflict and its vulnerability to manipulation by powerful organizations at certain times. Furthermore, the postcolonial nature of these depictions may be partly responsible for the retelling of historical events from several points of view. In this way, the British press is redefining Britain's colonial obligations and, implicitly, its central position in the war. The discussion is "recontextualized" to exclude the British Mandate.

Wang (2017) exposed the representation of China in American mainstream newspapers in the intersection of media discourse, knowledge and power. It addresses the following research questions: In what ways has China been defined and represented in the American press? How have linguistic tools been employed to construct China in particular ways? How have such representations and discourse concealed racialised ideology of the press and unequal power between cultures and nations? These research questions are answered through an interdisciplinary approach combining critical discourse analysis (CDA) and a postcolonial perspective. The American press coverage of the 2014 "Occupy Central" event in Hong Kong, of the 2015 China's 70th victory anniversary against Japan's fascist aggression, and of China-Africa relations between 2013-2016 are selected for the CDA analysis. Deconstructing the dominant media discourse, the thesis additionally provides alternative interpretations through contextualization and re-establishing historical connectivities between China as a semi-colonized nation and western colonialism and imperialism. It thus allows the subjectivity of the colonised and oppressed, and a space where the "subaltern" could speak for herself rather than being spoken about as a mere object. The study finds that American mainstream media has discursively constructed China in a way that is resonant with the racialised "Yellow Peril" imagery and ideology of the imperialist and colonial times. It argues that the construction of a contemporary "authoritarian", "threatening" China vis-a-vis a "democratic", "civilised" west serves to invoke colonial imaginaries and fantasies, inflict epistemic violence, and reproduce and reinforce the existing power structure between the "Self" and the "Other". The study represents one of the first attempts to apply postcolonial theory and the CDA method in analyzing the western media's representation of China. As such, it contributes to an emerging critical theoretical reflection, and broader and genuinely open scholarly debates about discourse, domination, representation of the 'Other', ideology, and the imperative for epistemological decolonisation.

Osborn (2017) examines the representation of Israelis and Palestinians in World History textbooks and the instructional rhetoric of World History educators. This research used a Multimodal Critical Conversation Analysis technique to compare written narratives with spoken conversation, analyzing the representations present in schools. Assaiqeli (2019) examined UN resolutions 242 and 338 to find whether these two milestone texts of UN discourse on the Palestine Question, taken as the basis for "the

establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East,” genuinely and practically work towards an amicable solution to this prolonged problem, this almost century-long unequal conflict. The study seeks to find out whether such UN discourse is linguistically structured to achieve such an end; with the ultimate goal being offering us “the possibility that we might profitably conceive the world in some alternative way” (Fowler, 1981 cited in Jaworski & Coupland, 1999, p. 33) as is the case with any discourse study that adopts ‘critical’ goals. The study therefore employs Ruth Wodak’s Discourse Historical Approach (DHA) — an approach within the pluralistic framework of CDA. The findings show that temporisation of the Palestine Question has been an indirect result of the bad faith and linguistic manipulation of the powerful forces; that the way these discourses are structured is responsible for perpetuating rather than ending Israeli occupation. So rather than redressing the *ethnic cleansing of Palestine* and ending Israeli occupation as the core of the Palestine Question, UN discourse is found to protract the status quo — the consolidation of Israeli power and expansionism.

The author said that the UN is failing to solve the Palestinian dilemma, which calls for the eradication of Palestinian ethnic and religious identity as well as the cessation of Israeli occupation. The research offered evidence in favor of the idea that language is used by individuals in positions of authority to create, maintain, and justify dominance and control structures. Discourse is also used to downplay the seriousness of certain incidents and hide the identities of individuals who commit crimes. The study made the case that the occupying force deliberately uses nuanced strategies to preserve a façade that permits depictions of the real situation and the ongoing strengthening of Israeli territorial authority. It claimed that Israel's occupation could not be ended by the two UN resolutions since they were both unworkable and ineffectual. The Palestinians are always at a disadvantage in this situation, suffering great losses in their social structure. Due to the UN resolutions' format, Israel has been involved in a protracted discussion over leaving areas it has seized with force since 1967. According to the research, Israel has thus far resisted the Palestinians' desire for statehood in order to ease their past displacement, continuous suffering, and contemporary occupation of these areas.

Falah (2023) argued in his article that American newspaper editors frequently choose and arrange news about tragic events in Palestine to further a political agenda that primarily supports US foreign policy toward Israel, the Palestinians, and the larger Arab or Muslim world. This remark illustrates a commonly held notion in American culture that is now changing as a result of the prevailing view that "terror" is the biggest danger to the American way of life. This view also applies to every democracy that supports Washington and the Israeli way of life. While conveniently ignoring the Israeli state policy that oppresses the Palestinians, news coverage of the tragedy and suffering in Palestine frequently frames them as the result of an ongoing conflict. The Israeli government's role in the persecution of the Palestinian people is skillfully concealed by this distortion of truth. In other words, by removing the occurrences from their larger context and chronology, a deft editorial arrangement avoids assigning blame to Israel.

Amaireh (2024) conducted a critical discourse analysis of news coverage of the 2021 Israel-Palestine crisis as reported by Al Jazeera English. In this corpus-based study, 50 news reports were analysed using Van Dijk’s ‘ideological square’ as the theoretical framework. The findings suggest that the Al Jazeera

reporters reflected their personal ideology in their lexical choices, or lexicalisation, displaying either a positive or negative stance towards the crisis, with Palestinians being the 'in-group' and Israelis the 'out-group'. The news reporters also made the Palestinians—"us"—look like innocent victims of colonization, while the "other" Israelis were made to look like victimizers, racists, and colonizers by focusing on how language works. One important thing to note is that the Al Jazeera reporters focused on the Palestinian story while also showing their own thoughts and feelings about the crisis. Simultaneously, the Israelis were muted and depicted in a derogatory manner.

Fahmy et al. (2024) used the Hierarchy of Influences Model to look at the Israel-Gaza conflict and the problems that journalists have when covering it. It uses interviews with 18 journalists from Gaza to look at the personal, media, organizational, and social factors that affect war journalism. Darajat and Widhiatama (2025) investigated how Al-Jazeera News and BBC News depicted the Israeli-Palestinian conflict using Fairclough's three-dimensional technique of analysis (2010). The study claims that BBC News depicted Hamas as the victims of the bombings on October 7. However, these attacks are depicted as targeting the Israelis. However, Al-Jazeera portrayed Hamas as the victims of Israel's scheme against the Palestinian people and Israelis as the ones responsible for the destruction.

Reviewing the previous studies reveals that most studies focused on the western media, especially the British and American news outlets framed the Israeli-Palestinian struggle. These studies have found that the media framed the Palestinians negatively as terrorists and their actions as terror. On the other hand, the Israelis are framed as victims and respond in retaliation as demonstrated by Wang (2017), Falah (2023) and Kareem and Najem (2024). Amaireh (2024) and Darajat and Widhiatama (2025) reached the same conclusion in which Al-Jazeera news outlet framed the Palestinians positively and sympathized with them. On the other side, Al-Jazeera negatively framed the Israelis. Conversely, Darajat and Widhiatama found that the BBC represent the Israelis positively and sympathised with them.

Reviewing the previous studies shows limited focus of the comparative studies of different news outlets, especially the comparison of the Arabic and Israeli news representation of the Israeli-Palestinian struggle and its participants. So, the current study tries to fill this gap in the literature of the Israeli-Palestinian struggle discourse, which focuses on specific tensions in Jenin, which received little attention from discourse analysts.

### **3 Corpus Selection and Methodology**

The corpus comprises 20 English-language news reports, with 10 reports from each of the selected news organizations: *the Jordan Times* and *the Jerusalem Post*. *The Jerusalem Post* includes 4857 tokens, and *the Jordan Times* 4235 tokens. Even though the sample size is tiny, it was carefully selected to balance theme coherence, qualitative depth, and comparative discourse insights, making it ideal for the study's goals. Reports were chosen based on their relevance to the Israeli forces' actions in Jenin in 2023 by carefully reading the articles and assuring that the content discusses and analyzes topics related to Jenin's 2023 incursions. This selection criterion ensures that the analysis focuses specifically on media coverage of the incursions. News reports from various online archives were collected, focusing on the

2023 Jenin incursions to ensure a diverse range of sources and maintain consistency and relevance in the timeframe of data collection.

Qualitative Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) Techniques:

It is essential to carry out a comprehensive analysis of the linguistic components and framing procedures involved with news coverage in order to carry out qualitative Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). Doing so is necessary in order to do this. All of these things are incorporated in this: the search for themes, the analysis of syntactic structures, and the assessment of lexical choices. In order to understand the connections that exist between ideology and prejudice, analysts make use of the methodology that was created by Fairclough. The examination of textual characteristics, sociocultural contexts, modalities, and word choices is the means by which this objective is achieved. In order to contextualize the findings within the context of the assaults that took place in Jenin in 2023, a thematic analysis was carried out. This analysis provided light on the themes of victimization and the reasons for military actions. In addition, intertextuality was explored in order to determine the significance of source selection and voice amplification.

## 4 Results and Discussion

### 4.1 *The Jordan Times*

#### 4.1.1 *Recurring Themes*

Israeli Aggression and Violence: Several reports highlight Israeli military raids and attacks on Jenin, emphasizing the resulting casualties and infrastructure damage. Many lexical items related to aggression, violence, and damage have been repeated to highlight the Israeli aggressive attacks on Jenin. The lexical item violence is repeated 12 times in the corpus, aggression is also repeated 12 times in the corpus, as exemplified in (1) below:

(1)

- (a) “The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates condemned the continuous Israeli escalations and warned against the continuation of **violence**, calling the international community to act immediately to halt Israeli **aggression** in the occupied Palestinian territories” (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 06, 2023).
- (b) “The camp’s infrastructure was **severely damaged** during the raid, which Israel said was targeting militants. Eight kilometres of water pipes and three kilometres of sewage pipes were **destroyed**, the UN said. More than 100 houses were **damaged** and a number of schools were also lightly **damaged**.” (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 8, 2023).

International Community Response: There is a recurring theme of condemnation from international actors, including the EU, Jordan, and the UN, regarding Israeli actions in Jenin. For example,

- (2) “His remarks echoed UN **chief Antonio Guterres who on Thursday told reporters "there was an excessive force used by Israeli forces" in its 48-hour operation, the largest Israel has staged in the Palestinian territory for years.**” (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 8, 2023).

Palestinian Resistance and Solidarity: Reports emphasize Palestinian resilience, resistance, and solidarity in the face of Israeli aggression, including vows to rebuild and calls for support. For instance, the

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lexical item resistance is repeated 9 times in the corpus in the context of the Palestinians' resistance in the face of the Israelis, as exemplified in (3) below:

- (3) "In fact, unlike the Israeli response to the Second **Palestinian Uprising (Intifada)** of 2000, extreme violence will not weaken, but heighten **Palestinian Resistance** and counter attacks" (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 11, 2023).

Political Implications: The reports touch upon the political implications of the conflict, including the role of Palestinian leadership, the international community, and the dynamics of power in the region as exemplified in (4) below:

- (4) **While the PA remains somewhat present in the city, it has largely abandoned the camp to groups such as the Jenin Brigades**, which Israel alleges is backed by Iran.

**Abbas had previously visited the camp itself in 2004 while running for the Palestinian presidential election after the death of leader Yasser Arafat.** (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 13, 2023)

### 4.1.2 Lexical Choices and Syntactic Structures

Victimization and Perpetration: Lexical choices often depict Palestinians as victims of Israeli aggression, while Israelis are portrayed as perpetrators of violence by analyzing the context in which the lexical items Palestinian(s) and Israeli(s) are used, as exemplified in (5) below:

- (5) "The large-scale Israeli assault on Palestinians in the Jenin refugee camp has produced a rising tide of rage and dissatisfaction among different Jordanian parties and unions" (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 6, 2023).

Military Terminology: Reports frequently use military terminology to describe Israeli actions, such as "raids," "assaults," and "attacks," to emphasize the imbalance of power in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The lexical items "raid(s)" are repeated 23 times, "attack(s)" 7 times, and "assault(s)" 7 times in the corpus, as exemplified in (6) below:

- (6) "Over the past 18 months, the security situation in the camp has deteriorated with repeated **Israeli raids**" (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 13, 2023).

Solidarity and Unity: There is a focus on words conveying solidarity and unity among Palestinians and calls for international support, such as "solidarity," "resistance," and "support." For example,

- (7) "President of the Jordan Engineers Association (JEA) and Chairman of the Supreme Committee for Palestinian Construction in Jordan, Ahmad Samara Zu'bi, announced that the association will hold a **day of solidarity with Palestinians**. On the day of solidarity, the JEA will launch a fundraising campaign to rebuild what was destroyed in the camp." (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 6, 2023).

### 4.1.3 Rhetorical Devices

Appeals to Emotions: Reports use emotional language to evoke sympathy and outrage, particularly when describing civilian casualties and destruction of infrastructure, as exemplified in (8) below:

- (8) Jenin is just the start: Did Palestinians finally **bury the ghosts of the past?**

The **deadly Israeli invasion** of Jenin on July 3 was not a surprise.

Also, unsurprising is the fact that the killing of 12 Palestinians, wounding of 120 more and the destruction of nearly 80 per cent of the Jenin Refugee Camps homes and infrastructure will not make an iota of a difference (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 11, 2023).

The report employs a rhetorical question in which the writer does not expect an answer because it is clear to the audience. The rhetorical question is mixed with metaphorical language by using “bury the ghosts of the past”, which means that the Palestinians did not forget the Israelis’ criminal acts.

Quotations and Direct Speech: Quoting directly from political figures, victims, and eyewitnesses adds authenticity and immediacy to the reports, enhancing their persuasive impact. For example,

- (9) **“European Union representative to the Palestinian territories Sven Kuehn von Burgsdorff made his comments as he led a delegation of UN officials and diplomats from 25 countries to the camp in the northern West Bank”. “We are concerned about the deployment of weaponry and weapons systems which question the proportionality of the military during the operation”** (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 8, 2023).

Repetition and Parallelism: Rhetorical devices like repetition and parallelism are used to emphasize key points and underscore the severity of the situation as exemplified in (10) below:

- (10) **Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas vowed to rebuild the Jenin refugee camp** during a rare and brief visit Wednesday, a week after a deadly Israeli raid destroyed much of the camp in the occupied West Bank.

**He vowed to oversee the reconstruction of the camp** and the wider city to restore it, to what it was, or even better (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 13, 2023).

#### 4.1.4 Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Framework

Text Analysis: Examining the linguistic features of the reports reveals how language is used to construct narratives of conflict, victimization, and resistance, as exemplified in (11) below:

- (11) **“On Wednesday evening, a number of political parties organised a mass sit-in at the Al Jaysh traffic circle under the slogan ‘Victory for the Palestinian People and their Brave Resistance’”** (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 6, 2023).

Analysis of text production and dissemination emphasizes the influence of media, governments, and international actors in forming public discourse on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. A broader sociocultural perspective reveals the historical, political, and cultural dynamics that inform the tensions and inequalities within the conflict.

- (12) **“The Jenin camp was established in 1953 to house some of those among the 760,000 Palestinians who fled or were expelled from their homes in 1948 when Israel was created, an event Palestinians call the Nakba or catastrophe”** (*The Jordan Times*, Jul 13, 2023).

Applying qualitative Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) techniques to the reports allows for deeper insights into the discursive constructions and framing strategies of various actors in the coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Jenin. A summary of the recurrent themes, lexical choices, syntactic structures, and rhetorical devices in the *Jordan Times* articles is presented in Table 1.

#### 4.1.5 Jordan Times Analysis

**Table 1:** The recurrent themes, lexical choices and syntactic structures, and the rhetorical devices used in the *Jordan Times* articles reporting the conflict in Jenin.

Themes	Lexical Choices and Syntactic Structures	Rhetorical Devices
<b>Israeli Aggression and Violence</b>	Victimization of Palestinians, military terminology	Appeals to Emotions
<b>International Community Response</b>	Condemnation from international actors	Quotations and Direct Speech
<b>Palestinian Resistance and Solidarity</b>	Solidarity among Palestinians, calls for support	Repetition and Parallelism
<b>Political Implications</b>	Role of Palestinian leadership, international dynamics	-

#### 4.2 Jerusalem Post Reports

##### 4.2.1 Recurring Themes

Throughout the narratives surrounding Jenin, the focus is on severe conflict and international disputes, particularly highlighting clashes between the Israeli military and Palestinian terrorist groups. The portrayal of Jenin as the "terror capital" of the West Bank, emphasized by repeated use of terms such as "terror," "terrorist," and "terrorists," illustrates a negative depiction of Palestinians and their actions against Israelis. This framing underscores the complexities of maintaining regional security amid ongoing violence, with a common perspective that Israelis are primary victims of these conflicts.

##### 4.2.2 Lexical Choices and Syntactic Structures

Elaboration: Reports utilize specific vocabulary and structure to convey meaning, influencing readers' perceptions. Notably, the term "Home and Garden" appears in context with the Israeli Defense Forces' operations in Jenin, pointing to a need for a more tailored approach. For instance, a phrase like "the largest raid in Jenin since the Second Intifada" emphasizes the operation's historical significance.

##### 4.2.3 Rhetorical Devices

The reports utilize various rhetorical strategies to elicit emotional responses, persuade viewpoints, and emphasize material importance. Tone is shaped by voice modulation and literary techniques such as hyperbole, imagery, and personification. For instance, describing Jenin as the "epicenter of the ongoing wave of terror" creates a sense of urgency to raise public awareness about its situation. Vivid imagery illustrates the city's decline from economic prominence to a stronghold for extremism, provoking strong emotional reactions from readers.

##### 4.2.4 Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Framework

The framework developed by Fairclough provides a robust method for analyzing language in reports, focusing on text, discourse, and social context. This approach reveals hidden power dynamics, ideologies, and social connections embedded in language. For example, in analyzing the Israeli Defense Forces operation in Jenin, studies show how language constructs narratives around safety and justification for

actions. Reports scrutinize the portrayal of objectives, methods, and results to uncover deeper meanings and implications within the text, as exemplified in (13) below:

(13) “The IDF, Shin Bet and Border Police announced after the raid that they had assassinated Hazem and an additional member of the Islamic Jihad movement named Youssef Abu Ashrin”

According to the IDF, Hazem was involved in "significant terrorist activity" and Abu Ashrin was involved in producing explosives and firing at IDF soldiers, among other terrorist activities (*The Jerusalem Post*, March 16, 2023).

The report justifies the Israeli killing of Palestinians as they constitute a serious threat against the Israelis, as the news outlet frames the Palestinians as terrorists and their actions as terrorist.

#### 4.2.5 The Jerusalem Post Reports Analysis

**Table 2:** The most recurrent themes, lexical choices and syntactic structures, and rhetorical devices of *the Jerusalem Post* reports.

Themes	Lexical Choices and Syntactic Structures	Rhetorical Devices
<b>Elaboration on Conflict</b>	Specific word choices, historical context	Hyperbole
<b>Casualties and Loss</b>	Describing human toll, use of vivid imagery	Personification
<b>Political Implications</b>	Highlighting political tensions, international response	Emotive Language

## 5 Comparison of Results

In the course of this investigation, we take a look at the articles that have been published in a variety of news outlets, including the Jerusalem Post and the Jordan Times, that discuss the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from Jenin.

If we take into account elements such as recurrent themes, word choices, sentence patterns, rhetorical methods, and Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Framework, it is feasible that we will have a better knowledge of how each report frames the conflict and what it suggests for the world. This is because we will have a better grasp of how each report frames the conflict. The articles that are published in the Jordan Times discuss topics that keep coming up, such as the violent and aggressive nature of the Israeli government, the reactions of the international community, the ways in which the Palestinian people have fought back, and the implications that all of this has for politics. These are just some of the topics that are discussed. According to the terminology used in the military, the conflict is referred to as "raids" and "attacks," which provides the idea that the Israelis are the ones who are responsible for the violence and that the Palestinians are the ones who are being victimized. The use of emotional appeals and direct quotes in the context of written communication has the ability to generate sentiments of compassion and to underline the relevance of having a range of viewpoints. This is because of the fact that these two types of quotations are direct quotations. The Jordan Times is an Arabic news source that offers support for Arabic and Islamic issues; thus, it is not surprising that these results have given the major focus that the organization places on Arabic and Islamic issues. Fairclough explains, with the use of his research, how language may have an effect on narratives of conflict and resistance and how this might occur within broader social and cultural settings.

The Jerusalem Post provides a comprehensive account of the conflict, including the dead, the political repercussions, and the societal changes that have occurred after it. When it comes to vocabulary, the tale is molded by the careful selection of words and the use of language that conveys feelings. On the other hand, rhetorical strategies like exaggeration and personification are able to generate deeply felt emotional responses from the audience. The methodology introduced by Fairclough sheds light on the way in which language influences narratives within the context of historical, political, and power relations. Every single one of the testimonies discusses violent acts, fatalities, and political tensions; yet, they do it in a variety of diverse ways and with varying degrees of significance. While the Jerusalem Post discusses how these actions have larger political implications and changes in society, the Jordan Times discusses how powerful Palestinians are and how the world is against Israeli measures. Both of these articles point out that the world is against Israeli policies. In the Jordan Times, the Palestinians are portrayed as victims and as guardians of their land and rights, whilst the Israelis are portrayed in a negative light as terrorists and as those who victimize others. According to the Jerusalem Post, on the other hand, the Palestinians are considered terrorists, and the acts that they engage in include terrorist attacks. The Israelis, on the other hand, are referred to be warriors since they are conducting operations to eliminate terrorists who pose a threat to them. Publications employ varying degrees of emotive language and military words to describe Palestinians and Israelis. This means that the vocabulary used to describe these two groups is also diverse. Each source employs a unique set of rhetorical devices in order to attract the attention of readers and highlight topics that are of significance. The fact that there are a variety of journalistic techniques and preferences among audiences is shown by this. The theory of Fairclough sheds light on the ways in which language is used in the building of narratives and the modulation of speech within the context of wide sociocultural environments. We are able to uncover the hidden power structures, ideological positions, and historical narratives that are implicit in news reporting by conducting an analysis of the text, discourse practices, and sociocultural dynamics. Through this comparative study, the complexities of media depiction are brought to light, as is the need of conducting critical analysis of news sources in order to appreciate the multifaceted nature of conflicts such as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Through the use of CDA techniques, we have the potential to uncover concealed meanings, call into question prevalent narratives, and foster informed discourse about complex social and political issues.

Below is a structured analysis of the provided reports using CDA techniques, including Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Framework. We will present a comparative analysis with tables and further discussions for each report. **Table 3** integrates the analysis of the reports of the two outlets using Critical Discourse Analysis techniques, including recurring themes, lexical choices and syntactic structures, rhetorical devices, and Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Framework.

**Table 3:** A comprehensive overview of the analysis conducted by *the Jordan Times* and *the Jerusalem Post* reports.

News outlet	Recurring Themes	Lexical Choices and Syntactic Structures	Rhetorical Devices	Fairclough's Framework	Three-Dimensional
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<b>The Jordan Times</b>	Israeli Aggression and Violence, International Community Response, Palestinian Resistance	Victimization and Perpetration, Military Terminology, Solidarity and Unity	Appeals to Emotions, Quotations and Direct Speech, Repetition and Parallelism	Text Analysis: Conflict, victimization, resistance; Discourse Practice: Media and governmental discourse; Sociocultural Context: Historical, political, and power dynamics
<b>The Jerusalem Post</b>	Elaboration on Conflict, Casualties and Loss, Political Implications	Specific word choices, Describing human toll, Highlighting political tensions	Hyperbole, Personification, Emotive Language	Text Analysis: Violence, loss, political tensions; Discourse Practice: Influence on public understanding; Sociocultural Context: Historical, political, and power relations

The results of the analysis of *the Jordan Times* news reports are in line with the results of the previous studies conducted by Amaireh (2024) and Darojat and Widhiatama (2025) in which the Arabic news outlet Al-Jazeera frames the Palestinians in a favorable way and sympathizes with them and provides them the opportunity to express their emotions and opinions of the struggle. In addition, it also supports their results that the Arabic news outlet frames the Israelis in an unfavorable way as victimizers and initiators of violence against the Palestinians. On the other hand, the results of the analysis of *the Jerusalem Post* news reports are in line with the results of the papers conducted by Falah (2023) Kareem and Najem (2024) in which they found that the British and American news agencies positively framed the Israelis and sympathized with them and negatively framed the Palestinians as terrorists.

## 6 Conclusion

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a prime illustration of the challenges that are intrinsic in reporting on geopolitical conflicts that have profound origins. The complexity of geopolitical disputes that have profound origins makes it challenging to report on them. In the context of the occupation, it is the responsibility of *the Jordan Times* to advocate for the perspectives and concerns of Palestinians. This group has expressed apprehension regarding the narratives employed in the media contexts of the Western world. Their perspective is that Israel will prosper from the implementation of the plans. The group's objective is to promote the humanization of Palestinians and to draw attention to injustices.

The *Jordan Times* and *The Jerusalem Post* are used to examine Palestinian rights in the media. It highlights doubts about media impartiality and prejudice by showing how various channels present the Israeli-Palestinian conflict without analysis. Arabic-language news organizations challenge Western media biases and emphasize the human consequences of the war by delivering factual and truthful information. Despite contradicting information, understanding global events needs several sources and rigorous analysis. This paper also examines literary techniques in media narratives. The *Jerusalem Post* employs antithesis and parallelism to engage readers and reflect Israeli principles, whereas *The Jordan Times* uses repetition and parallelism to represent Palestinian unity.

## تحليل الخطاب النقدي لتمثيل وسائل الإعلام العربية والإسرائيلية للاجتياحات في جنين عام 2023

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### الملخص

تبحث هذه الدراسة في التغطية الإعلامية للحوادث الغامضة لاقتحامات جنين التي وقعت في عام 2023، حيث تدمج هذه المنهجية بين اللغويات النقدية (CL) والتحليل النقدي للخطاب (CDA)، مع التركيز بشكل خاص على استخدام الباحثين لإطار فيركلاف ثلاثي الأبعاد. قامت صحيفتا "جيروزاليم بوست" و"جوردان تايمز"، وسائل الأخبار الإسرائيلية والعربية، بتغطية الصراع الإسرائيلي الفلسطيني بشكل شامل. تحتوي هذه النتائج على عشرين مقالة إخبارية باللغة الإنجليزية، عشرة من كل وكالة. وتغطي وسائل الإعلام العمليات العسكرية الإسرائيلية في جنين 2023. ووفقاً للبحث، تستخدم وسائل الإعلام والتلفزيون مصطلحات تتعلق بالحرب والإصابات والأنشطة العسكرية. كما أنهم يستخدمون فن الإقناع والعاطفة والاقتراسات لمناقشة الخلافات. وتغطي صحيفة جوردان تايمز بشكل روتيني معاناة الفلسطينيين وصعود النشطاء المناهضين للاحتلال. وبينما تقوم القصص بإضفاء الطابع الإنساني على الفلسطينيين، فإنها تسلط الضوء على مظالمهم. تصف صحيفة جيروزاليم بوست الفلسطينيين بأنهم إرهابيون بدون عنف باستخدام المبالغة والصور والتشخيص. الكلمات المفتاحية: جنين، جوردان تايمز، جيروزاليم بوست، الصراع الإسرائيلي الفلسطيني، تحليل الخطاب النقدي، إطار فيركلاف ثلاثي الأبعاد.

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