

Hybrid Warfare: Geopolitics, Sabotage, and Subversive Activities in Baluchistan

A Textual Analysis of *Eu DisinfoLab.report 2020*

Muntazar Mehdi*, Muhammad Zubair Iqbal Ghouri†

Rabia Safdar‡

Abstract

This research study aims at exploring the textual features representing the hybrid warfare and subversive activities in the Pakistani province, Baluchistan, in both the EU DisinfoLab report and the narratives of mainstream officials of India. In the era of faceless, multi-faceted hybrid warfare, the EU DisinfoLab report is crucial for analysis to witness a state's policy and interests. In the current study, the discourse of EU DisinfoLab report was critically analyzed from two perspectives, namely as Harold Laswell's Communication model (1948) and Mahan's (1890) Sea Power Theory. The results of the study revealed that the discourses produced by the Indian officials represent the identity of the people of Baluchistan in a negative tone and thus, attempt to regulate a false propaganda against the people of Baluchistan and, largely, against Pakistan. The hidden agenda behind their discourses is to misrepresent the Baluch identity separating it from the national identity; in addition to inculcating and strengthening the ideology of Separate Baluchistan or "Greater Baluchistan" in the cognitive structures of the Baluchi people resulting in sabotage and subversive activities against the geopolitics of the state of Pakistan. In the light of the results of the study, the researchers suggest that the real, true and patriotic people of Baluchistan must be taken into confidence by taking their political, social and economic problems into account seriously; hence, protecting them from being misguided by the anti-state discourses produced by the Indian officials

Keywords: hybrid warfare, international politics, discourse, misrepresentation of identity, economic and electronic war.

Introduction

The wars amongst countries have changed their ways overtime. The physical wars have been replaced with the psychic war of words globally. In particular, the social media has changed the procedures and styles of wars. Electronic media is also to some extent ideologically changing the public opinions; however, it is somewhat controlled. Concurrently, the wars are being fought through discursive practices and

* Assistant Professor, NUML, Islamabad, Pakistan. Email: muntazar.mehdi@numl.edu.pk

† ORIC, NUML, Islamabad, Pakistan

‡ Research Scholar, NUML

social media can easily convey the messages to all and sundry despite the fact they might need it or not. Soon after the World War II, the tactics of warfare changed although the world has witnessed long years of World War-I too. To stop savage bloodbath and the greed for the expansion of territory subjugation, United Nations Organization came into existence with an aim of lessening traditional war. And with the advancement in the digital world, the new tools of warfare came into existence; Cyber domain, exploitation of economic, political, and cultural assets through subterfuge and fraud (Lawson, 2012).

The paper evaluates the planned propaganda with respect to misrepresentation of Baluch identity issue in accordance with Laswell's Speech Communication Model (1948); however, it also highlights whether the conflict or insurgency in Baluchistan has roots in the cultural and social identity; or it is just a misrepresentation of Baluch Identity to gain interests of a state through propaganda (Iqbal, 2019). The enriched natural resources, minerals, Gwadar port, CPEC makes it extraordinarily important in world politics. The neighbor involvement in Baluchistan is quite prevalent and India is doing sabotage and subversion activities and supports the idea of Baluchistan as a separate state. To weaken the state of Pakistan the neighbor enemy is trying every possible unneeded act to do insurgency in Baluchistan. In this age of technology, hybrid war is imposed by enemy to isolate Pakistan. India's spy Ajit Doval confessed that Pakistan is more vulnerable country, so India keeps it engage in different conflicts to sabotage the sovereignty of Pakistan.

We have observed through study that Alexander, the Great, within thirteen years made the world's greatest vast empire to spread Hellenistic culture (Walbank, 2021). Thus, culture has always been an apparatus of all wars in the past. Even now, when one state fails to dominate one's territory, they try to sway the adversary's culture and identity. And consequently, language is an underlying facet of culture and identity. Language is a mean of communication through which one can represent its inner self, express their norms and values (Zourou, 2012). In this modern world of technology, different communication channels e.g., media outlets, billboards, social media accounts are used to do fake propaganda.

Defining the term Hybrid warfare, Hoffman (2009) states that it's a "complex irregular warfare or compound warfare" (p. 36). He says that all the regular and irregular elements of warfare merged and results in a compound warfare. NATO defines Hybrid Warfare as a range of overt and covert military, paramilitary, and civilian measures are employed in a

highly integrated design. The opponent always tries to influence influential policymakers and substantial decision makers by combining kinetic operations with subversive efforts (Qureshi, 2020); thus, basically includes both physical and conceptual dimensions. Hybrid warfare is ‘the use of a range of different methods to attack an enemy, for example, the spreading of false information, or attacking important computer’[§]. Hybrid war is fought to subvert and sabotage a state. Subvert is defined as an act or attempt of weaken or damaging a political system, state, or government from power by secretly working within^{**}. The term sabotage is defined, to give damage or to destroy adversary’s property either for political or military advantage^{††}.

Keeping in view the terms of hybrid warfare, subversion and sabotage, it is evident that hybrid warfare is a multi-pronged warfare being fought using the exploitative components of fake news, fake NGOs, electoral intervention and so forth (Ahluwalia, 2019). In linguistic research studies, discourse plays a very important role in making certain foreign policies. Being in an intersubjective arena where discourse serves as a powerful tool to set agendas, produce meaning, legitimize interests, and enforce power structures. Scholars devoted to discourse analysis enrich our understanding of foreign policy by highlighting the powerful role that discourse ultimately plays. (Ripley, 2017). The results of this research will be applicable in a way that it will give enough knowledge and awareness to the readers about hybrid warfare in Baluchistan and how India is engaged in Baluchistan doing propaganda from within.

Statement of the Problem

Nowadays, the world community has accepted that fake information and cyber security is a biggest challenge. *EU DisinfoLab* report is evidence that India uses the Baluch identity for sabotage and subversion activities through proxy forces, fake NGOs and non-state violent actors to crumble or isolate Pakistan. The issue of sabotage and subversion activities and its influence on a state’s foreign policy is highlighted. The research analyzes the Baluch identity being targeted to impose hybrid warfare through the lens of discourse analysis and propaganda model.

[§] <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/hybrid-warfare>

^{**} <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/subversion>

^{††} http://www.macmillandictionary.com/dictionary/british/sabotage_2

Significance of the Study

This research is significant because it analyzes the *EU DisinfoLab* report to show how India imposed the faceless, multifaceted, and invisible war. This study is important because enemy is demoralizing the neighboring country in a particular area by propagating their self-interest therein to make it prone to international intervention. The study is a source to the awareness of the people of the world as to how they be aware of such psychic war of words and discourses overwhelmingly immersing them. In addition, it also creates consciousness of the people regarding the published or written discourses try to interpolate certain ideologies which might affect the readers or listeners by elusively becoming a part of the hybrid warfare and geopolitics in the field of linguistics. Moreover, it gives readers enough knowledge of ground realities of conflicts: ethnic, sectarian, and paid conflicts by the enemy.

Research Objectives

1. To highlight the discursive effects of the *EU DisinfoLab* report on Baluchistan
2. To highlight the relationship between discursive practices of documents and foreign policy.

Literature Review

It is a common practice that different countries have tried to dominate the other neighboring countries by using different modes of communication. Earlier the physical wars would decide the domination of countries over the surrounding countries which has, now been replaced by the psychic war of words. Ashraf (2017) reported that the apparently dramatic changes occur in the war and conflict. The cultural prism is related to individuals and organizations and to political and military aspects. This hybrid warfare is fought in a subconscious way, through which for the sake of national interests specifically security threats are dealt with. The three main players in the hybrid warfare are: West; NATO, USA, (Wither, 2016) Russians; China and Iran, third countries non-state actors Dash, Al Qaeda etc. Furthermore, it talks about the features of hybrid warfare and how information technology provides even the poorest people with weapons of know-how. The wars and proxies are broadened out of geographical area of operation. The cyber domain is a market and is used to do political propaganda.

Hassan (2019) found and ‘investigated the nature, causes, consequences, and counterstrategy for Pakistan to tackle this faceless,

multifaceted war that has embroiled the country for the past 17-years' (p. 28). After WW-II United nation organization came into existence and that has changed the conventional tactics of warfare. Also Naazer (2019) found out that the neighboring country has occasionally tried to put pressure on Pakistan internationally for the activities in Baluchistan. One of the main aims of hybrid warfare is to isolate the states through economic exploitation, terrorism and low intensity conflicts (Monaghan, 2019). This new arena of warfare fits the phrase of 'death by a thousand cuts.' It also gives a historical background of hybrid warfare and The Soviet-Afghan war. The most crucial part is 'Propaganda and Information Warfare', how propaganda is done through media in invading Iraq and it is military inability to counter such propaganda. Korbyko (2015) states that to destabilize Pakistan, hybrid warfare is being imposed through externally provoked identity conflicts and it victimized Pakistan already through economic, political and ethnic exploitation. NGOs and Info war is the substantial tool of hybrid warfare. Korbyko stated:

“There are five identity indicators in every country, geographic, socio, economic, historical, ethnic and religious. Such on ground differences can be used by enemy to manipulate one and to outrage hatred and war on the opposite. The role of CPEC in geostrategic and geopolitics is very important. China needs to robust its economic growth. External actors seek to provoke identity conflicts in states that occupy important transit routes along the New Silk road, and they do this through a strategic interplay of NGOs and information outlets.” (p. 217).

According to Muzaffar, Karamat and Saeed (2018), there are different causes behind the insurgency in Baluchistan among them, the areas feudal or tribal system play a key role. Other major causes are ethnicity issues, the financial deprivation is important in the cause of insurgency in Baluchistan. There are other factors such as lack of economic development, unstable political situation and terrorist organization, lack of education and foreign involvement are the factors that lead to insurgency in Baluchistan. Similarly, Hashmi (2015) asserts that the conflicts and insurgency in Baluchistan is an attempt to make Pakistan destabilize through low intensity conflicts i.e. Ethnicity. It particularly talks about the origin, background and history of Baluch nationalists and ethnic groups speaking, Baluchi, Pushto, and Brahui.

There are almost five hundred tribes or clans in Baluchistan, and they have different identity markers based on religion, norms and values, language, and ancestors. The paper specifically focused on historical background of the Baluchistan's geographical importance and its accession to Pakistan in 1947. While focusing on the same issue, Iqbal (2012) is of the view that there are internal and external factors that lead to insurgency in Baluchistan. Target killing, attacks on security forces, bomb blast by non-state violent actors, the Baluch insurgent's use of firing rockets to promote violence within the state lead to insurgency. These groups demand the "autonomy" and "The Greater Baluchistan" or Baluchistan as a separate nation or state. There are many Baluch tribesmen who backbone the non-state violent actors such as Baluch Liberation Army. The causes of insurgency include, lack of economic development, resources exploitation and lack of political power in the province. The role of local media helped promote anxiety and frustration among the common masses.

Noraiee (2020) reported that during the Cold War, the superpowers' global hegemonic roles strongly influenced the local and international conflicts, including the nationalist disputes, all over the world. The nationalists in Baluchistan, in ideology and strategy (or just as a tactic), were mainly influenced by the ideological hegemony of the Soviet Union (USSR). Pro-Chinese and pro-American governments in Pakistan, was an important factor for the nationalists in Baluchistan to find supporters from the Eastern Bloc. The Soviet Union pursued a strategy based on "non-capitalist path to development" in which priority was given to building their alliances, rather than genuinely considering the nature of alliances as feudal or tribal; and promoting social and political change (p. 217). Khetrani (2017) stated that India has been involved in Pakistan's internal and external affairs. Prime Minister Narendra Modi acknowledged the role of Mukti Bahini in making of Bangladesh. India is always there to weaken Pakistan overtly or covertly. Balochistan, because of tribal system, remained deprived of economic and political stability and it paved a way for foreign involvement. Government of Pakistan clearly gave evidence of India's interference in Baluchistan i.e. the case of Kulbhoshan Yadav is very evident to prove India's spying activities in Pakistan especially in Baluchistan. There are many research papers which centered on the conflicts in Baluchistan. This research fills the gap of unrest in Baluchistan with respect to hybrid warfare.

Keeping in view the above review on Baluchistan and the identity, it has been observed that there has yet not been any research on the EU DisinfoLab report that might have non-discursively indicated the policies

and propagation as mentioned therein. Hence, the present research is going to analyze the Baluch identity and misrepresentation of the same as a tool being used by enemy to impose hybrid warfare to make Pakistan prone to international intervention. It also addresses the matter how it affects the geopolitical interest of the neighbor country. Moreover, this research focuses on the discourse analysis (specifically contextual analysis) and the SMC (1948) that helps understand that misrepresentation of identity through propaganda is the main target of the enemy.

Research Methodology

The research approach for the study is qualitative and is explanatory in its design. The research being conducted is based on the textual analysis of the *EU DisinfoLab report*. After the in depth reading and textual analysis of the text of the report, the excerpts will be sequenced or organized according to the objectives and the research questions. After the analysis of the data, the findings will be presented by the researchers. The research will highlight the major themes, words or concepts in the report that supports the idea of fake propaganda, sabotage and subversion factors. In the end the research paper will be conclude a long with recommendation.

Theoretical Framework

This research is multidisciplinary. There is a very strong connection between Identity, language, and politics. In this research the Laswell's Speech Communication Model is used, and the research is carried out to highlight the fake propaganda and the disinformation spread by India. The research also focuses on the Mahan's (1890) sea power theory, as the sea power is very important aspect of socio-economic culture, and this is the key feature of identity. In the norms of social sciences, Identity, discourse, and language play equally important role to influence foreign policy. Discourse enables one to write, listen and set rules eloquently by which listeners or readers construct a meaningful understanding of the phenomenon which shapes the various form of knowledge and identity. The power of the discourse depends on the strength of the words or text on the behavior and experience of the individual or group in a particular country or society. (Hayward, 2008)

The research is carried out using the Harold Laswell's Speech Communication Model (1948), this model was developed to study the media propaganda of countries. Laswell talks about the presentation of facts and their effects. This model defines an act of communication by

defining 5W's; *Who, What, Which, Whom and with What effect*. This model is useful in analyzing a report that highlights a propaganda and disinformation. Through 5W questions readers can critically evaluate the text of the report. It talks about:

Who, that helps to identify that who is the communicator? (The important thing needs to be kept in mind while looking at who is either the sender is on topic or be honest and accurate.)

What helps to identify the content, or the message being spread? (This helps one to analyze the content of message, and how that message depicts someone as hero and villain).

Which, this will help the reader analyze the channel through which propaganda was performed.

To whom helps the researchers to analyze the target group of the propaganda.

With what effect shows that result or the success of information being spread. (Bajracharya, 2018)

Researchers in this research textually analyze the *EU DisinfoLab* report which highlights the Indian propaganda against Pakistan especially in Baluchistan. Mahan (1890) considered as one the most prominent proponent of "vigorous foreign policy." He was an American naval officer, a historian and was a huge advocate of power of sea. In his book "*The Influence of Sea Power upon History*" Mahan argued that the reason behind the expansion of Great Britain is the turned down in the naval strength of its opponents. If a country has a sea power and naval power, it can flourish in different aspects as well e.g. economic, military and political aspects. (Milestones in the History of U.S Foreign Policy^{**})

In this research the researchers have given the excerpts from the *EU DisinfoLab* report which shows that India always engaged Pakistan in low intensity conflicts e.g. ethnicity, socio and economic to disturb the foreign policy of Pakistan. The research represents the relation between the foreign policy, economy, geostrategic importance, and identity.

Delimitation

This research has been delimited to the discourse analysis of *EU DisinfoLab* report related to hybrid warfare and unrest in Baluchistan using the lens Laswell's Speech Communication Model (1948) and the Mahan's (1890) Sea Power Theory about the flourishing of socio and economic culture. All the excerpts which relate to Baluchistan have been

^{**} <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1866-1898/mahan>

identified and then, analyzed according to the lens of the theoretical framework adopted for the study. The research focuses on excerpts of discourses related to sabotage and subversion activities in Baluchistan through the textual analysis of the report.

Procedures and Tools

The researchers followed these steps to conduct this enquiry. At first, the researchers obtained EU *DisinfoLab* report “*Indian Chronicles*” published in 2020 from online source. Later, the relevant chapters and the excerpts were used as data for this research. The excerpts and snippets were analyzed using the lens of Laswell’s Speech Communication Model (1948), which was later revised by Stem (1994) and subsequently emphasized upon by Winxiu (2015). By using the Model and its 5Ws, a contextual analysis of the excerpts which were quite relevant to the study carried and thus, the findings were presented to see how far the enemy has tried to disfigure and mangle beyond its recognition. The excerpts also highlight the sociolinguistic relationship between the discourse, identity, and sociocultural practices.

Textual Analysis

a. EU DisinfoLab Report and Discourse Analysis:

In this part of thesis, the collected data with help of the models is analyzed to meet findings of the study. *EU DisinfoLab* serves as a young independent NGO focusing on research and tackling sophisticated disinformation campaigns targeting the European Union, its member states, core institutions, and core values.

The investigation was done by Gary Machado (Executive Director –EENA and Managing Director–EU DisinfoLab), Alexandre Alaphilippe, Roman Adamczyk and Antoine Gregorie. (*Indian Chronicles*, 2020). Their main goal or vision is to make citizens understand the informational context they live in, and make them less susceptible to attempts of manipulation, especially on social media. Their main goal is to provide awareness to the general public about the cyber world and disinformation being spread to impose hybrid warfare. (*Indian Chronicles*, 2020)

“*INDIAN CHRONICLES*” a report that was published in 2019 and exposed the 265 fake media outlets working in 65 countries, specifically serving Indian interests. The network was active in Brussels and Geneva uses fake NGOs to undermine Pakistan. In December 2020, there comes a sequel of “*INDIAN CHRONICLES*” which has uncovered the 750+ fake media in 116 countries, including fake journalists, direct control of 10

NGOs accredited to the UN Human Right Council. The important part of this research is to analyze the “identity theft “and fake propaganda through the lens of textual analysis. There are NGOs or organizations that have got inactive many years back, but their identity was hijacked to do propaganda against Pakistan. (Indian Chronicles, 2020)

b. Fake NGOs:

The report has exposed 10 NGOs that they could tie directly to Srivastava group promoting propaganda through demonstrations against Pakistan and to serve Indian interests. Machado, Alapphillippe, Adamczyk and Gregorie (2020) found that these UN – accredited NGOs in collaboration with non-accredited think tanks and NGOs worked in Geneva (Switzerland) and Brussels (Belgium). Many of them like European Organization for Pakistani Minorities (EOPM) and Baluchistan House were opaquely made by Srivastava group.

1. The International Institute of Non-Aligned Studies
2. The Indian Council of Education -
3. The Commission to Study the Organization of Peace
4. The International Club for Peace Research
5. The World Environment and Resources Council
6. United Schools International
7. International Association for Democracy in Africa
8. Pan African Union for Science and Technology (PAUFST) (hidden ties with Srivastava group)
9. Canners International Permanent Committee
10. Center for Environmental and Management Studies (Indian Chronicles, 2020)

As per the theoretical lens of Harold Laswell, we may observe that the text reflects the answer of the 5 Ws, *who* in this context.

Who, that the sender of the message at the UNHRC was Srivastava group. *What* as The EU DisinfoLab report also gives a clear answer to the question of Laswell’s SCM of *What*, as the report speaks volumes about the message being spread through these fake NGOs was “pro Indian and anti-Pakistani.” Similarly, *Which*, Propaganda through NGOs is a principal actor of hybrid warfare and so the answer of Laswell’s SCM’s *which* is given in the report as it is clearly stated that all this propaganda was done through the channel of fake NGOs and media outlets. *To whom*, analyzing the EU DisinfoLab report it is clear that the target of the propaganda is Pakistan.

Hayward (2008) talked about the power of discourse of a text; the above-mentioned excerpts highlight the Indian propaganda against

Baluchistan – a province of Pakistan. The main theme of all these fake NGOs was to undermine Pakistan as stated in the *EU DisinfoLab* report. There is another interesting case of the African Regional Agricultural Credit Association (or African Rural and Agricultural Credit Association) which is tied to same ecosystem of NGOs. The real mission of this NGO is to “foster cooperation among government and financial institutions in the field of rural and agricultural credit and banking.” There seems to be a real NGO working in Africa but the speeches made at Geneva by the alleged representatives of the NGO were undermining Pakistan – that was far away from the original mission of the NGO. (EU DisinfoLab, 2020).

c. Role of ANI (Asian News Agency):

The report also highlights the role of ANI (Asian News Agency) established by Prem Prakash in 1971, is a biggest Indian news agency. This news agency is also involved in disseminating the false information against Pakistan. The example of which includes many articles and tweets featuring the fake information. ANI also re quoted the original articles. The role of ANI is stated in the *EU DisinfoLab* report as following:

“Some Indian media outlets, which re-use content from ANI News Agency, become a defacto regular amplifier from the fake European media outlet EU Chronicle. For example, BW Business World, which was a magazine previously owned by the ABP Group (owner of the Telegraph India), reproduced at least 8 articles from ANI that were based on some EU Chronicle articles¹⁸⁶. Likewise, the Indian on-demand video service ZEE5, which has 2.1M followers on Facebook, published 9 news reports from ANI on its main website which originated primarily from EU Chronicles.” (Machado, Alapphillippe, Adamczyk & Gregorie, 2020 p. 46)

The above-mentioned paragraph highlights how the propaganda is inculcated at a larger scale to for the smooth process of the subversive activities.

“We were able to identify at least 13 occurrences of EU Chronicle’s MEP op-eds and articles being rewritten and amplified by ANI. Most of the topics of these articles were linked to Pakistan or China. For EU Chronicle, being quoted by ANI is a way to gain some legitimacy and to try to appear as a legitimate

media outlet”. (Machado, Alapphillippe, Adamczyk & Gregorie, 2020, p. 46)

The role of ANI as mentioned in *EU DisinfoLab* report also represent the major theme of fake propaganda, as they only turned up the demonstrations that were against Pakistan. ANI is involved in amplifying the demonstrations made at UN in Geneva. ANI reported the two interviews; one is of Hussain Haqqani’s and the other one is from an article published by Times of Geneva, the interview of Mehran Marri and Brahumdagh Bugti. ANI reported these interviews from a fake media outlet ‘Times of Geneva’ and those were reproduced by mainstream media such as Business standard or Outlook India. (Machado, Alapphillippe, Adamczyk & Gregorie, 2020).

- d. ANI intentionally highlighted the statements of Mehran Marri and Brahumdagh Bugti, regarding “*Free Baluchistan*” posters. Knowing the fact that Pakistani Government offers them many a times negotiations but they themselves exiled and are involved in misrepresentation of Baluch identity that is a tool for ANI and Srivastava group.

e. *Interlink between Sea power theory and Harold Laswell’s theory:*

CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) is one of the best projects between Pakistan and China considered as the “game changer” for Pakistan’s economy. It will enhance the infrastructure, economic and the energy zones of Pakistan. In the *EU DisinfoLab* report, the words of Amjid Ayub are highlighted, which shows the Indian frustration and exasperation and it also highlight the relationship of sea power and socio and economic aspects.

“Under CPEC our rivers are being diverted for hydropower projects and these projects are causing water shortages. The project would forever destroy the ecology of our region.” (Machado, Alapphillippe, Adamczyk & Gregorie, 2020, p. 21)

Findings

Applying here the Lesswell’s Speech Communication theory, it is evident that the sender of the message or the communicator is the Srivastave group, which could be termed as subjective. The content was specifically spread regarding pro-Indian and anti-Pakistani (as mentioned in the *EU DisinfoLab*). The channel being used is the media outlets, billboards, fake NGOs. The target was the international community to

manipulate Pakistan's image and by using names such as "Baluchistan house" it was a propaganda to make Baluchistan prone to International intervention. The effect of the fake propaganda was not as high as the targeted people who are patriotic Pakistani, can never betray to their land. Amjad Ayub Mirza's words also highlight the fake propaganda against CPEC. As Ayub is being exiled from Pakistan and appears on Indian channels. Amjad Ayub is a puppet in the hands of Indian channels e.g.; News18 and ANI. The textual analysis of *EU DisinfoLab* report also shows that the people exiled from Pakistan are presented as hero on Indian channels.

Identity Theft, Fake Propaganda, EU DisinfoLab Report

The most substantial part of this whole game is that Mehran Marri (Mehran Baluch) who served as a President of the Baluchistan House, an organization created by Ankit Srivastava. This is the pure evidence of India's use of Baluch identity to manipulate the world and make it prone to propaganda and international intervention. Mehran Marri, Brahumdagh Bugti and Hayrbyair Marri are the people who are misrepresenting the Baluch identity with the help of Indian funding.

The *EU DisinfoLab* report represents the identity theft that is a crime against the international law. Again, it comes under the main theme of the research, fake propaganda and disinformation and misrepresentation of one's identity. There was a well-known international scholar Prof Louis B Sohn who was a chairman of CSOP (Commission to study the Organization of Peace, a UN accredited NGO, got inactive in 1970s but its identity was hijacked), who died in 2006, but he was represented as a participant under the name Louis Shon in the UNHRC session. Sukhanver (2010) reported that, there is this phrase "my moon is every body's moon" represents best the importance of Baluchistan. Due to its geostrategic location, every neighbor state wants it to be their moon. Instead of focusing on the inner issues like over population, poor sanitary condition, unemployment, and the issues of very important sector of country's 'Farmers.' India is more interested in pulling the leg of others. India is manipulating the world by using and spreading false information about Pakistan specifically Baluchistan, Gilgit Baltistan and Kashmir. The evidence of India's subversion activities is very clear through this report.

As there is a strong link between narratives a state takes on any issue, which becomes the foreign policy of that state. As we know the discourse forms a form of knowledge and identity, so the movements run by adversary are to impose hybrid warfare and to make Baluchistan,

Gilgit Baltistan prone to international intervention. The movements like BLF (Baluch Liberation Front), BLA (Baluch Liberation Army) which are labeled as terrorist organization by Pakistan, United Kingdom and U.S.A has clear evidence that India is backing up such terrorist organization. All these liberation movements are backed up by India and misrepresent the Baluch identity for the sake of propaganda. Malik (2017) states that in 36th session of the Human Rights council in Geneva, the slogan, play cards, billboards of “*Free Baluchistan*” were displayed on buses and taxis done by Baluchistan house that is run by Baluch Liberation Army. The concept was the same to make Baluchistan a subject of discussion at international level. But the “*Indian Chronicles*” has exposed it. The Hindu, an Indian newspaper claimed that BLA’s commanders have been in India under fake identities for medical treatments (Bhattacharjee, 2019). BLA is involved in ethnic cleansing of minorities in Baluchistan, inner conflicts, attacks on Armed forces. The truth has already been out by the arrest of Kulbhoshan Yadav (Indian naval officer, a spy) who changed his identity under the name of Mubarak Hussain Patel, was serving in Baluchistan to impart training to Baluchistan’s separatist movement. His major target was to promote violence and subversion activities in Baluchistan and his main target was to attack Karachi and Gwadar ports. So, the *EU DisinfoLab* report gives clear evidence of India’s use of Baluchs’ identity instigating the propaganda and false information.

Pakistani Official’s Narrative

After the report got published, the narrative of Pakistan’s official was very strong. The foreign minister of Pakistan Shah Mehmood Qureshi and the National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of Pakistan Dr. Moeed Yousuf, released a press conference in which Shah has said that UN must take notice that how a prestigious platform of UNO was misused for a malicious and fake propaganda. Dr. Yusuf said that the slogan of “*Free Baluchistan*” does not rise from Baluchistan but from India. It gives a clear scenario that India want to destabilize Pakistan and they are manipulating the world by targeting Baluch Identity either its ethnic, religious or socio economic. Moreover, he added, that India’s aim was to target Pakistan, but Pakistan’s direction was focused on achieving “economic stability and peace”. This is a very strong statement which highlights the Indian intention, and the world needs to see how mature states respond. He said the world needed to “*update its narrative*” by not listening to “*India mafia*” that violated international laws, some having

penalty of 20 years. (“Pakistan urges EU, UN to probe Indian propaganda bid”, 2020)

Referring specifically to Baluchistan, Shah said, After the CPEC, the terrorism activities in Baluchistan increased. This is how India is involved in sabotage activities in Baluchistan. India’s hostility against Pakistan is deep rooted. Furthermore, “The scope and the extent of Indian operations against Pakistan under their hybrid war was now apparent before the world”. (“Pakistan urges EU, UN to probe Indian propaganda bid”, 2020).

This narrative is adopted to make the world open their eyes and see the terrorism funding activities of India. Indian officials remain silent on this issue which gives an idea that there is something fishy or they might have accepted it and are trying to save themselves under the carpet. Though, the Pakistani official’s stance was quite strong that UNO must take notice of those 10 fake NGOs involved in the abuse of international forum. Christine Fair, served as a senior political scientist, also had an association with RAND cooperation, stated that on her visit to Zahidan, Indian officials have told her that they are pumping money to Baluchistan. On India’s Independence Day, Modi confessed that he supports Baluchistan Liberation Front and that “people of Occupied Kashmir, Gilgit Baltistan and Baluchistan thanked me a lot in the past few days.” Also, a former RAW agent B Raman once said that the unfinished agenda of partition is still there, and Baluchistan’s separation is part of it. (Malik, 2017 para 10)

In the time of extreme tensions between India and Pakistan, India granted visas to BLA’s leaders show that this seditious and conspiracy being played by India is same as Mukti Bahini. (Malik, 2017 para 9). Up till now, it is evident through the report and the Pakistan’s officials’ narrative that India is involved in Hybrid warfare and subversion activities in Baluchistan.

Geopolitics, Hybrid Warfare and Baluch Identity

As Baluchistan is the chokepoint and moon of the Pakistan, having less population and more resources. The people of Baluchistan are very patriotic that Baluchistan is not like East Pakistan. That is the reason India remained unsuccessful in Baluchistan but because of geopolitical importance India try to do unrest in the region. Before diving into the deep learning of Baluchistan’s geopolitical importance, the readers must recall the words of India’s National Security Advisor Ajit Doval. In Jan 2015, he confessed that “Pakistan’s vulnerability is quite higher than that of

India” moreover he says: “*You do one more Mumbai, you lose Baluchistan*” (The Fearless Indian, 2015). The Baluch identity is always being targeted by India. And it shows that India is involved in defensive offence that Ajit Doval said “we start working on vulnerabilities of Pakistan, it can be economic, it can be internal security, it can be political, and it can be their isolation internationally.” (The Fearless Indian, 2015). The phenomenon of geopolitics is neither gentle nor serene. Geopolitics is the relation between geography and politics. It includes the territorial size, its location and the resources of that area. The areas enrich with natural resources are of primary importance in the world of geopolitics and so it influences the foreign policy of the neighbour states. The countries having oceanic attributes are always counted significant in the world politics.

Sempa and Francis (2014) reported that Mahan opposed the Mackinder’s “Heartland theory” and he stressed over the importance of navies. Sea is considered as the regional dominance and strategic chokepoints. Mahan (1890) famously listed six fundamental elements of sea power: geographical position, physical conformation, and extent of territory, size of population, character of the people and character of government. Keeping in the mind the context of this research, one can relate the importance of Baluchistan in the South Asia. Since the inception, Pakistan has been a vulnerable state surrounded by hostile India and belligerent Afghanistan. After Soviet-Afghan War, Pakistan got a very dominant influence in the Central Asia. The main void after the Soviet war was the need of national identity in the Middle East. Islam has filled Pakistan, Iran and Turkey who were the first ones to recognize the cultural flux. Middle Eastern countries were enriched with hydrocarbon and so the world needed it for Industrialization. Hence, the dissolved Regional Cooperation Development (RCD) got restructured in 1985 named Economic Cooperation (Organization (ECO). This organization was established by Pakistan, Turkey and Iran aims at the socio-economic development in the sector of communication and infrastructure. In 2025 vision of ECO’s target, China would be invited as the special guest. (Mazari, 2017)

The context behind the China being a special guest is related to CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor). Baluchistan has Gawadar port, which is quite significant strategically and economically for both China and Pakistan. In December 2020, in response to *EU DisinfoLab* report Shah Mehmood Qureshi (The Pakistan Foreign Minister) said “After the CPEC project started, the frequency of terrorist activities in Baluchistan increased. (The News, 2020). Keeping in mind the narrative

of Pakistan's officials, one can easily relate that the concept of India's imposed hybrid warfare on Pakistan is to sabotage the economic power of Pakistan. India has been trying since long to provoke his fake propaganda against the states or the identity theft. The counter narrative of Pakistani government is more legitimized that their primary focus is to strengthen their socio-economic situation.

Conclusion

It has been observed in the analysis that *Hybrid Warfare* is a tactic used for subversive and sabotage activities to disintegrate or isolate a country or a region politically, economically, or militarily. This study discovered as to how discursive propaganda sparks the flame of war in the today's world of technology. It also justified the sociolinguistic relationship between disinformatory discourses, and the misrepresentation of one's identity. The researchers have highlighted the offensive propaganda against the Pakistani identity and peaceful land, sabotage, and subversive activities through the linguistic technique of discourse analysis of EU *DisinfoLab* report. It is revealed from the textual analysis that the enemies are targeting the Baluch identity, in particular, and separating it from the national identity by funding the fake NGOs and the radical organizations in Baluchistan and initiating certain discourses to sabotage and subvert the real picture of the Pakistani identity.

It has laid down a brief analysis of Indian officials' narrative which targeted the identity of Baluch people; in addition, it is an attempt to regulate a false propaganda against the people of Baluchistan and, largely, against Pakistan. The identity of deceased people and organizations was used to attract the world towards their unlawful and unethical narrative. The analysis of the report makes the reader ponder over the motivations behind the fake NGOs missions, disinformation campaigns and the fake propaganda besides being helpful for the successive research to get insight knowledge of the same area of study.

Meanwhile talking about the CPEC and Chahbahar, it also has a very strong link with identity matters of the region. As sociocultural is an important factor of identity, bearing in mind the Mahan's (1890) concept of significance of Sea Power, these two projects are quite substantial and essential in the domain of geopolitics. Indian-Iranian Chahbahar started in 2017 and China- Pakistan Economic corridor was signed in 2015. There are long term disputes between India and Pakistan and thus, India counts China as a rival in the race of economy. India wants access to the Middle East and Pakistan would not like to approve of India using its routes.

Consequently, India is trying to use this port as an alternate strategy against the resources in Baluchistan, Pakistan. The main target of CPEC is to strengthen the economy of Pakistan and China, whereas China's dream, of getting access to Central Asia through Gwadar port and to expand the Silk route, has already come true. On the contrary, India's dream of getting access to Afghanistan and Middle Eastern countries seems weakening, in addition, it is quite clear that India lost its power in the region and now India is partaking in such non-discursive activities to dispirit Pakistan as well as other neighboring states.

Iran, at the same time, needs to be watchful of the Indian collusions in the region. There is a large population of Baluch tribe residing in Iran along with the borderline of Pakistan. India desires of destabilizing Pakistan and daydreaming of Separate Baluchistan or "Greater Baluchistan" (EU DisinfoLab, 2020) does not include only Pakistan's territory but Iran's Sistani province as well. Though, it is a responsibility of the government to give special attention to Baluchistan against these conspiracies sponsored by some anti-Pak agents to strengthen the so-called separatist movement. The real, true and patriotic people of Baluchistan must be taken into confidence by sanitizing them to the efforts the government of Pakistan is putting in for them during these very critical moments. All their political, social, and economic problems need to be considered solemnly, if there are any left. The conspiracy or the propaganda is being actuated to blemish and poison the emotions of the innocent people of Baluchistan as well as for the contagion effect in the region. There must be proper counter plan to deal with the people considered as the leaders of the people in Baluchistan, who are living a luxurious life in the country and abroad. This plan may safeguard the country besides it may secure the identity of the Pakistani as a nation in the world rather than maintaining the identity on parochial or insular bases. However, it is also a fact that the government has been trying their best to uplift the living, educational and medical standards of the people of Pakistan in order to protect them and their socio-ethnic and national identity from the foreign discursive invasion.

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