

Abstract

East Asia Superpower Diplomatic Discourse: Japan

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This research aims to examine the discourse diplomacy in the speeches of Two Japanese foreign ministers by means of Critical Discourse Analysis approach. The objectives of his study include 1) to analyze processes of Japanese discourse construction in international affairs 2) investigate linguistic strategies used in various Japanese diplomatic discourses and 3) to analyze main Japanese ideologies hidden in diplomatic discourse. The data were gathered from 24 speeches from the website of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan from September 2011 to April 2015.

Two main discourses were found in the speeches. These are Assistance discourse and Peace discourse. Assistance discourse consists of two sub-discourses: Development and human security. The Peace discourse consists of two sub-discourses: Rule of Law and Peaceful country. The core of rule of law is ideology of democracy. Diplomatic discourse expresses opinions in international diplomatic styles and employs metaphors to convince people. Structural, orientational and ontological metaphors have been found.

The diplomatic discourse in the speeches of Ministers of Foreign Affairs presents function in creating images of Japan as a leader of the world in the field of human security especially maternal and child health. Another function is for world community to understand the role and support that Japan gave to various countries economically including United Nations. Japan as a victim of atomic bomb became peace lover: a peaceful country. Rule of Law discourse which is the main Japanese ideology creating a secured and peaceful world is repetitively reproduced.

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