

A Corpus-Based Stylistic Study of PACOP: Analyzing Nationalism, Love, and Unity in Pakistani Patriotic Anthems

ABSTRACT:

This research investigates the linguistic and stylistic characteristics of the Pakistani Patriotic Anthems Corpus of Pakistan (PACOP), concentrating on themes of nationalism, love, unity, and sacrifice. A stylistic analysis based on corpus data is utilized to explore the patterns of figurative language and their significance in forming a patriotic narrative. Through a qualitative examination of texts, important stylistic devices such as metaphor, simile, personification, imagery, alliteration, repetition, allusion, and euphemism are analyzed. Data derived from the PACOP corpus is organized in comprehensive tables, followed by specific discussions that emphasize the prevalence and context of these devices. The findings reveal that stylistic features play a crucial role in generating emotional engagement and are fundamental in crafting national identity and shared memory. This study contributes to the comprehension of patriotic language as a means for ideological articulation and emotional mobilization.

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Introduction

Poetry provides a distinct means of conveying emotions and revealing truths; national anthems exemplify a powerful outpouring of affection for one's homeland. More importantly, national anthems embody patriotism and devotion to one's country. They are composed in lyrical form using elevated language and grand ideas, encapsulating the unique identity of the nation and its state. The poetic format is employed because poetry can inspire significant change in society and can convey numerous truths concisely.

Stylistics refers to the analysis of style. Style denotes the particular manner of writing and producing text. Based on specific characteristics, both the text and the author's style are distinguished. General stylistics encompasses nonliterary forms such as newspapers, commentaries, and legal texts, while literary stylistics focuses on literary forms including novels, plays, and poetry.

Language serves as a crucial medium for expressing a nation's shared identity. Throughout history, poetry and songs have held a vital role in articulating the emotional and ideological complexities of societies. Patriotic anthems are not merely musical compositions; they are also linguistic artifacts that embody the

national spirit, socio-political ambitions, and collective memory. They function as unifying instruments during times of conflict and affirm solidarity and pride during peaceful periods.

In the context of Pakistan, patriotic anthems have historically served as influential media for national representation, particularly during times of war, moments of independence, and phases of political turmoil. These works combine poetic creativity and ideological expression to convey themes of nationalism, devotion to the homeland, unity among the populace, and the ultimate sacrifice for one's country. Despite their cultural importance, there has been a noticeable lack of scholarly attention on the stylistic features of these songs, aside from the official national anthem. Some research has examined the literary or thematic aspects of national songs, yet comprehensive, corpus-based stylistic analysis is still scarce.

This study aims to address this shortcoming by systematically analyzing Pakistan's Patriotic Anthem Corpus through a stylistic perspective. It investigates how rhetorical language and specific linguistic features contribute to the formation of a cohesive and emotionally resonant national narrative. The research incorporates principles from stylistics, discourse analysis, and nationalism to explore how metaphors and other rhetorical devices have influenced national identity. Building upon previous studies such as Arslan and Rasool (2022), there remains a significant gap in the exploration of other patriotic anthems within the Pakistani Patriotic Anthems Corpus (PACOP).

Research Objectives

1. To analyze linguistic patterns in Pakistani patriotic anthems that reflect nationalism, love, unity, and sacrifice
2. To examine the use of figurative language in shaping national identity and patriotism in Pakistani anthems.

Research Questions

1. How do linguistic patterns in Pakistani patriotic anthems reflect nationalism, love, unity, and sacrifice?
2. How does figurative language shape national identity and patriotism in Pakistani anthems?

Significance of the study

This research holds significant importance for several reasons. Firstly, it enhances the field of stylistics by employing a corpus-based methodology to examine the discourse surrounding patriotism. Secondly, it highlights the role of rhetorical language in bringing a nation together through common ideals and memories. Lastly, the study offers educational and sociological perspectives on how national identity is preserved and perpetuated through language.

Literature Review

The national anthem transcends being merely a formal document; it plays a crucial role in fostering a national identity and bringing together a diverse population based on shared values. According to Erdmen (2019), national anthems are instrumental in creating and preserving a national identity, highlighting their significance in promoting unity and collective memory through poetic imagery and historical references. A stylistic examination of the SAARC national anthem revealed that devices such as metaphor, alliteration, and repetition help clarify themes of nationalism, unity, and historical awareness. These linguistic techniques intertwine historical, cultural, and ideological stories, offering an auditory representation of national identity (Adhikaary, 2025).

Astapova-Vyazmina (2022) presents the concept of the national anthem as a "social code" that cultivates values and reinforces an ideological framework of national identity. Regarding national heroes and symbolic conflicts, the anthem delineates a model for future actions rooted in past pride. Mirza (2019) supports this notion, explaining how iconic national symbols are reinforced by the natural patriotism and duty expressed in the anthem. Even across different cultures, analogous concepts and symbols are utilized to bolster nationalism, reflecting the cross-cultural commonality of stylistic devices in anthem texts.

An emotion analysis by Bobić and Kantorowicz (2019) suggests that the national anthems reflect the war history of a nation and its emotional legacy. He found a negative correlation between the number of interstate conflicts and a positive emotion in the anthem songs, emphasizing the psychological impression of the struggle in patriotism rhetoric.

In a separate investigation, it was revealed that national anthems embody the concept of "unity in diversity" and utilize religious themes to encompass various populations. For instance, the Yamani Anthem highlights both geographical cohesion and religious-cultural elements through the repetitive use of phrases such as "My Flag," which instills emotional allegiance within the lyrics (Al-Diravish, 2022).

Oyeyemi (2018) aimed to analyze the language present in the Nigerian National Anthem. The purpose of the study was to uncover the linguistic components necessary for accurate interpretation and thorough understanding. The researcher employed three analytical elements: the principle of prominence, cohesion, and grouping, adhering to the Integrated Theory of Text Linguistics proposed by Awoyale (1991).

Rahimi (2015) examined a total of 264 national anthems from 194 different nations. The objective of this research was to ascertain the ideology of the governing bodies. The author created a corpus of these anthems and highlighted the frequency of specific words, nouns, and the concordances of particular terms. The emphasis was placed on word frequency, which illustrated the themes that each country dedicated to itself.

In addition, Waterman (2019) explored the concept of "unity," where national anthems bring people together through shared verses, fostering a strong sense of connection. He argues that the Act permits individuals to perform the nation's music, showcasing a distinct form of imagined togetherness.

Moreover, Brun (2022) supports the notion that island nations utilize their national anthems to convey themes of divine heritage, unity, and national pride. His comparative study of 42 island anthems indicates that recurring themes such as unity, hope, homeland, and divine legacy are prevalent in patriotic songs. Leach and Short (1998) stated that stylistics functions as a conversation between the literary reader and the linguistic analyst. The linguistic expert examines the text using knowledge from various linguistic levels. At the phonemic level, the linguist analyzes features like alliteration, assonance, and consonance, while at the morphological level, they investigate aspects such as compounding, blending, and word formation. Sentence structure and formation are examined at the syntactic level.

Stylistics is concerned with the investigation of style, which refers to the unique manner of writing and generating texts. Texts are differentiated based on their features and the author's style. General stylistics pertains to non-literary genres like newspapers, commentaries, and legal documents, whereas literary stylistics focuses on literary forms such as novels, drama, and poetry.

Methodology

This qualitative research adopts a corpus-based stylistic framework. A targeted selection of 128 well-known Pakistani patriotism songs from the Pacop Corpus was utilized. The texts underwent analysis

through manual annotations and thematic coding to pinpoint linguistic features and rhetorical language. The data was organized into tables to display the frequency and references of each stylistic characteristic, followed by an in-depth discussion accompanying each table. The analysis draws on stylistic principles from Leach and Short (2007), Holiday (1994), and D. Bugrande and Dresser (1981).

A detailed table of analysis from PACOP shows the frequency and contextual usage of figurative language features.

Below is a synthesized thematic analysis based on the data file:

Metaphors

Table 1

Metaphors in PACOP

A metaphor is a figure of speech that describes an object or action by comparing it to another, which helps to conceptually abstract ideas through symbolic similarities. Metaphors shaped how we see and experience the world (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
ہم تصویر ہیں، فولادیں، بہزاد ہیں	Self as art/steel/artist	National pride, strength, cultural identity	5
ہستی کے کاغذوں پر دستخط	Life as a document, self as signatory	Historical contribution, identity	1
روئے زمیں پر باندگ رہا	Self as storm element	Dynamism, omnipresence	1
آتش کہہ کا دریا	Homeland as a burning river	Threat, destruction, defense	1
گھنٹاں بخت	The nation as a garden of love	Optimism, peaceful vision	1
شمع کے پروانے	Nation as flame, people as moths	Sacrifice, patriotic love	2
شہیں سے جہاں کاٹتا ہے	Fighters as basis of global stability	Strength, national survival	1
خیل طاق کی نمو	Nation as a growing tree	Sacrifice for growth	1
خون = زکوہ	Blood as a national/religious tax	Martyrdom, sacrifice	1
مشعل و نور	Loyalty as a torch	Devotion, guidance	1
دھرتی ہے ماں	Homeland as mother	Emotional-national identity	2
تو ہے میرا وطن	Nation as beloved	National pride, devotion	6
زندگی ہوش میں ہے	Life as aware	National revival	1
دل میں پاکستان کھاہے	Heart as symbolic nation-space	Emotional bond	1
وطن ہے ہم سے، ہم وطن سے	Mutual identity metaphor	Belonging, unity	1

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
پرچم کو دل سے لگایا	Flag as object of affection	Symbolic nationalism	1
چنے دی بوئی	Sufi wisdom as sacred plant	Mystical unity	1
کو گرائیں، روئی کی طرح	Tyranny as heavy mountain turned cotton	Fragility of oppression	1
آسمان کو چھونا	Sky as a metaphor for ambition	Aspiration, success	1
نور آنکھوں کا، خاک وطن کی	Soil = light of eyes	Reverence, sacredness	1

Key metaphors such as "دھرتی ماں ہے" (Dhartī Maañ Hai - the land is mother) and "تُمیرا وطن ہے" (Tū Merā Watan Hai - you are my homeland) establish an emotional closeness between citizens and the nation. These familial metaphors elicit loyalty and foster a sense of protection and sacrifice, in line with Lakoff and Johnson's notion that metaphors influence thought and experience (Lakoff & Johnson, 2003). Metaphors like "خون=زکوٰۃ" (Khūn = Zakāt - blood as zakat) contextualize martyrdom in religious terms, framing sacrifice as a spiritual duty. This spiritual aspect connects national identity with Islamic values. Additional metaphors, such as "نخل طاق کی نمو" (Nakhl-e Ṭāq kī Numū - nation as a growing tree), incorporate agricultural and organic imagery to imply progress through sacrifice. Moreover, numerous metaphors highlight threats "آتش کا دریا" - Ātish Kada Kā Daryā - river of the fire-temple/burning place), celebrate resilience ("فولاد" - Fūlād - steel), and encourage unity "وطن ہے ہم سے، ہم وطن سے" - Watan Hai Ham Se, Ham Watan Se - the homeland is from us, we are from the homeland). Altogether, the metaphors in PACOP not only enhance the language but also root nationalism in emotional, religious, and ethical dimensions.

Similes

Table 2

Similes in PACOP

A simile compares two unlike things using “like” or “as,” helping to clarify or intensify meaning by creating vivid images (Wales, 2014).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
ماننے گردداد	Self as a tornado	Dynamism, omnipresence	1
تیرے درگا کوئی پیارا نہیں	Nation as unique love	Uniqueness, emotional attachment	1
ادر وطن کو مثل نور کریں گے	Homeland as radiant light	Purity, spiritual aspiration	1
دل اس شاخ کی ماند	Heart as a branch under pressure	Emotional burden of patriotism	1
ظلم و تم کے کو گرائیں، روئی کی طرح گر جائیں گے	Tyranny as a mountain, collapsing like cotton	Triumph of justice over oppression	1

Similes in PACOP are limited in quantity but rich in thematic significance. Each simile amplifies the concept of patriotism through analogy. For instance, "ماں گردباد" (like a tornado) portrays the self as formidable and ever-present, indicating an unyielding patriotic energy. In a similar vein, "تیرے درگا کوئی بیار نہیں" (no one as beloved as you) idealizes the nation, creating a metaphor where love is portrayed as ultimate and sacred. The phrase "شلنور" (like light) metaphorically elevates the homeland to a state of spiritual purity, reflecting the Islamic aesthetic appreciation of light as divine direction. The simile "دل اُس شاخ کی ماں" (heart like a tense branch) conveys the internal turmoil and emotional burden associated with patriotism, an expressive depiction of personal strife in relation to nationhood. Similes like "روپی کی طرح" (like cotton), utilized to illustrate crumbling tyranny, are lyrical representations of hope and resistance. Despite their scarcity, these rhetorical devices are powerful in their emotional and symbolic roles, reinforcing the themes of love, hardship, and perseverance within patriotic discourse.

Symbolism

Table 3

Symbolism in PACOP

Symbolism uses objects, figures, or events to represent abstract ideas, adding emotional and ideological layers to the text (Abrams & Harpham, 2011).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
تیکے کا فنڈ دھنٹا ہمارے	Life = document, signature = legacy	National legacy, identity	1
فولاد، صدار	Steel/smith as a symbolic strength	Resilience, hard work	1
پرچم تھام ایک ہیں	Flag as a unity symbol	National unity	5
گلستانِ محبت	The garden is a symbol of peace and love	Peace, love	1
شمع پر دانے	Flame and moth imagery	Sacrifice, emotional devotion	2
زکر کوہاں ہو	Blood as a sacred religious duty	Martyrdom, spiritual nationalism	2
شعل و نما	Torch of loyalty	Light, devotion	1

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
دھرتی، ماں	Earth as mother	Emotional-national identity	4
گیت، نام، پرچم	Cultural symbols (song, name, flag)	Identity, expression	5
شُجاع	Dawn as a metaphor for national rebirth	Hope, renewal	1
بُرپہ	Green flag	Islam, pride, sovereignty	2
خلق خدا راج کرے گی	People as divine agents	Empowerment, justice	1
شہادت کا جام	Cup of martyrdom	Spiritual sacrifice, religious honor	1
پھول، سہاگ، چمن	Floral family symbols	Harmony, familial nationalism	2
کوہ گرائ، روئی	Oppression as a crumbling mountain	Collapse of tyranny	1
چنے دی بونی	Sufi wisdom as a sacred plant	Mystical unity, spiritual heritage	1
خاکِ بلوجستان، پختاون، پختاون	Provinces as body parts	Unity in diversity	2
دل میں پاکستان لکھا ہے	Nation inscribed in heart	Internalized national identity	1
نیا انسان، نیا مکان	New human as rebirth	Post-independence hope	1
دُلخش چاند، تیر اسٹار	Moon/star as national emblems	Beauty, national pride	1

Symbolism within PACOP emphasizes themes of togetherness, sacrifice, and a sense of sacred responsibility. The key symbolic elements include the flag, soil, torch, and blood, all closely linked to both national and religious ideals. For instance, the phrase “پرچم تے ہم ایک ہیں” (We are one under the flag) conveys

political unity through a potent national emblem. The recurring motif of the mother (دُھنی، ام) presents the land in a maternal and nurturing light, reflecting traditional concepts of emotional nationalism (Charteris-Black, 2004). The green hue of the flag (بُرچ) represents Islamic pride and sovereignty, connecting political unity with religious identity. Floral and garden imagery like "چھول، چن" and "گھٹانِ محبت" depicts the nation as a peaceful and harmonious whole. In contrast, symbols such as "شہادت کا جام" (cup of martyrdom) imbue death with spirituality, elevating it as a divine reward, thus crafting a moral narrative around war and sacrifice. These symbolic connections render anthems emotionally compelling and ideologically influential instruments of collective identity.

Hyperbole

Table 4

Hyperbole in PACOP

Hyperbole involves exaggerated expressions used for emphasis or dramatic effect, often signaling strong emotional involvement (Claridge, 2011).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
ہم قصیر ہیں، فولاد ہیں، بُراد ہیں	Self as art/steel/artist	National pride, strength, cultural identity	5
ستم کے کاغذوں پر دُھنڈا	Life as a document, self as signatory	Historical contribution, identity	1
روزگار میں پرمانے گردباد	Self as storm element	Dynamism, omnipresence	1
اُن کلہ کاریا	Homeland as a burning river	Threat, destruction, defense	1
گھٹانِ محبت	The nation as a garden of love	Optimism, peaceful vision	1
نُج کے پروانے	Nation as flame, people as moths	Sacrifice, patriotic love	2
شہیدیں سے جہاں کا بیٹا ہے	Fighters as basis of global stability	Strength, national survival	1
خی طاق کی نو	Nation as a growing tree	Sacrifice for growth	1

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
خون=زکرہ	Blood as a national/religious tax	Martyrdom, sacrifice	1
مشعل و نور	Loyalty as a torch	Devotion, guidance	1
دھرتی ہے ماں	Homeland as mother	Emotional-national identity	2
تو ہے میرا وطن	Nation as beloved	National pride, devotion	6
زندگی جو شہ میں ہے	Life as aware	National revival	1
دل میں پاکستان لکھا ہے	Heart as symbolic nation-space	Emotional bond	1
میں ہے ہم سے، ہم سے، میں ہے ہم سے، ہم سے	Mutual identity metaphor	Belonging, unity	1
پرچم کو دل سے لگایا	Flag as object of affection	Symbolic nationalism	1
چنے دی بونی	Sufi wisdom as sacred plant	Mystical unity	1
کو گران، روئی کی طرح	Tyranny as heavy mountain turned cotton	Fragility of oppression	1
آسمان کو چھوڑنا	Sky as a metaphor for ambition	Aspiration, success	1
نور آگھوں کا، خاکِ وطن کی	Soil = light of eyes	Reverence, sacredness	1
ہستی کے کاغذ، دھنٹے ہمارے	Life = document, signature = legacy	National legacy, identity	1
فولاد، حداد	Steel/smith as a symbolic strength	Resilience, hard work	1
پرچم تھے ہم ایک ہیں	Flag as a unity symbol	National unity	5

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
گلستانِ محبت	The garden is a symbol of peace and love	Peace, love	1
شمع پر دانے	Flame and moth imagery	Sacrifice, emotional devotion	2
زکوٰۃِ اہل	Blood as a sacred religious duty	Martyrdom, spiritual nationalism	2
مشعلِ وفا	Torch of loyalty	Light, devotion	1
دُھرِ قُمِیں، مامِ پرِ یون	Earth as mother	Emotional-national identity	4
گیت، نام، پرچم	Cultural symbols (song, name, flag)	Identity, expression	5
شمعِ جمال	Dawn as a metaphor for national rebirth	Hope, renewal	1
بُرپا	Green flag	Islam, pride, sovereignty	2
خلق خدا را ج کر کے گی	People as divine agents	Empowerment, justice	1
شہادت کا جام	Cup of martyrdom	Spiritual sacrifice, religious honor	1
پھول، سہاگ، چن	Floral family symbols	Harmony, familial nationalism	2
کو گر ان، روئی	Oppression as a crumbling mountain	Collapse of tyranny	1
چنے دی بونی	Sufi wisdom as a sacred plant	Mystical unity, spiritual heritage	1
...خاکِ بلوچستان، پنجاب	Provinces as body parts	Unity in diversity	2
دل میں پاکستان کھاہے	Nation inscribed in heart	Internalized national identity	1

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
نیا انسان، نیا مکان	New human as rebirth	Post-independence hope	1
دلش چاند، تیر اسٹار	Moon/star as national emblems	Beauty, national pride	1
سب ہے ہنر ہمارا	All skill belongs to us	National pride, exaggerated excellence	1
کتھے چاواں گا تینوں چھوڑ کے بھلا	Cannot leave you (the nation)	Unshakable loyalty	1
یہ تن بدن ہے وار دیا	Sacrificing entire body	Intensity of devotion	4
کئیں جو چند گروں میں تو قوم میں ہو زندگی	Death of a few gives life to the nation	Martyrdom, extreme sacrifice	1
وقار اس کا کمی نہ کم اور	Nation's dignity never fades	Idealism, pride	1
ہر گھنٹی تیار و کام را ہیں ہم	Always ready and victorious	Military preparedness	1
ہر مرحلے عبور کریں گے	Crossing every obstacle	Limitless determination	1
سو اعشق کے کوئی چارہ نہ ہو	Only love can save	Spiritual unity, ultimate solution	1
دنیا ساری کہے گی تو نے پاکستان دیا	Whole world will praise	Global recognition, grandeur	1
دل میں پاکستان لکھا ہے، تیر کے دیکھا لو	Heart engraved with Pakistan	Deep emotional bond	1

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
جان لبوں پر آجائے تو پھر بھی کہہ دیں گے	Even at death's door, we'll speak	Undying patriotism	1
جان، دل فریان ہے	Heart and life sacrificed	Extreme national devotion	3
ہم اڑیں گے اُن آسمان میں	We will fly in the sky	Limitless ambition	1

Hyperbole in PACOP anthems heightens emotional depth and elevates the concept of national sacrifice. Phrases like “”دار دیباں تن بدن“” (the body fully dedicated) and “”دل میں پاکستان لکھا ہے“” (Pakistan written in the heart) exemplify absolute devotion to the nation. These statements contribute to a legendary portrayal of the citizen as a willing martyr.

Expressions such as “”ہر مرحلے عبور کریں گے“” (we'll overcome every challenge) suggest boundless potential and triumph, reinforcing themes of invincibility and discipline, especially within military settings. This idealization, although overstated, fulfills the anthems' persuasive purpose: to evoke pride, bravery, and unity. Hyperbolic expressions are also employed to immortalize the nation's dignity (“”اُن قرائس کا کبھی نہ میر“”) and depict patriotism as steadfast, even in death (“”جان لبوں پر آجائے“”). This stylistic approach shapes public perception and aligns with the traditional use of hyperbole found in classical Urdu nationalist poetry.

Personification

Table 5

Personification in PACOP

Personification gives human traits to non-human entities, making abstract concepts more relatable and emotionally resonant (Preminger & Brogan, 1993).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
کلیں فضا ہے	Fragrant atmosphere	Homeland as sensory, living being	4
زندگی ہوش میں ہے	Life as conscious and alert	National revival, reawakening	1
علم و نعمت کا تماش	Tyranny/hate is portrayed as spectacle	Social injustice dramatized	1

بُن کی ہوائیں سلام کہتی ہیں	Winds saluting the martyrs	Nature honoring patriots	1
بُن کی ہوائیں سلام کہتی ہیں	Breezes of homeland saluting	Natural world aligned with nationalism	1
غم کا سایہ، تو نے مٹایا	Homeland as remover of sorrow	Nation as healer	1
راغیں دھاتے آسودہ	Nights filled with loyalty	Time personified for emotional value	1
خاک پاک = لہنی عزت، لہنی عظمت	Soil linked to dignity	Nation as a spiritual moral force	1
درکیل ان گم ہو جائیں	Darkness as removable actor	End of oppression	1
زندگی دکھائے مزیلین	Life as guide	Empowerment, direction	1
بیاب، دلائل جانیں پڑیں	Natural disasters as killers	Urgency, heroism	1
آندھی سے لڑتے رہیں	Storms as enemies	Struggle, perseverance	1
مژ آہان پکھائے	Scene opening in the sky	Poetic national pride	1
خاک کو جاگوں پر رکھا	Soil treated like a conscious entity	Reverence for land	1

Personification in national anthems breathes life into abstract notions and lifeless entities such as nature, soil, wind, and even grief, making them emotionally impactful. A common personified figure is the homeland, portrayed as a healer, guide, or mourner. For example, "غم کا سایہ، تو نے مٹایا" (you erased sorrow's shadow) presents the nation as a source of solace, whereas "بُن کی ہوائیں سلام کہتی" (winds salute martyrs) depicts nature as an active participant in patriotism. These illustrations support Verdonk's stylistic theory, which states that personification enhances emotional responses by bridging the gap between abstract ideals and human experiences (Verdonk, 2002). Nature is employed to honor, comfort, or alert, creating a poetic ambiance surrounding nationalism. This dramatization merges the tangible homeland with its symbolic consciousness, enabling patriotism to resonate on profoundly emotional levels.

Imagery

Table 6

Imagery in PACOP

Imagery appeals to the senses through descriptive language, helping readers visualize scenes and enhance emotional experience (Perrine & Arp, 2008).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
ہستی کے گاند، دھخٹ	Signing on existence's paper	Contribution, historical identity	1
فولاد، حداد	Steel and blacksmith visuals	Labor, strength	1
گردباد، باد، خاک	Swirling natural elements	Omnipresence, motion	1
میکنی نضا، دلنشیں سر زمین	Sensory depiction of homeland	Beauty, sacredness	5
گلستانِ محبت	Garden of love	Harmony, future optimism	1
مشعل و فی، شرارے، ستارے	Torches, sparks, stars as visuals	Devotion, hope	3
چکے سرایہ	Ever-shining homeland	Eternal glory	1
نیج جاں، نیج مسافتیں	Dawn and new journeys	Hope, renewal	2
روشن دیے تیرے شہستانوں میں	Lamps glowing in homeland's dwellings	Security, peace	1
شہر ایں بنتے ہیں	Roads cutting through land	Progress, resilience	1
چاند، ستارہ، آسمان کا منظر	Celestial visuals tied to flag	National beauty, identity	2
دھر کن دھر کن سبز دل	Beating green heart	Emotional rhythm of patriotism	1
تاریکیاں گم ہو جائیں	Darkness is imagined as fading	Liberation	1
چنے دی یونی	Sacred Sufi plant	Mystical nationalism	1
آشیانہ، مشعل، پھول، چمن	Nest, flame, flowers, garden	Nurture, warmth, homeland	3

experiences. The use of visual and sensory language, such as "میکی نضا" (fragrant air), "روشن دیے" (glowing lamps), and "آسمان کا منظر" (sky view), brings the abstract concepts of patriotism to life in a way that is both tangible and memorable. Common themes include light (torches, dawn, stars), which signify hope, direction, and divine blessing. The landscapes are frequently depicted as gardens, nests, and pathways, symbolizing both safety and progress. These images ground the idea of patriotism in both physical landscapes and spiritual realms. Imagery amplifies the connection to one's homeland by transforming it into a tangible, almost sacred space. This parallels Barthes' notion of mythologized imagery in national narratives, where poetic visuals nurture profound loyalty (Barthes, 1972).

Alliteration

Table 7

Alliteration in PACOP

Alliteration is the repetition of initial consonant sounds in nearby words, enhancing rhythm and memorability in poetic language (Leech, 1969).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
فولاد...حداد	Repetition of the "د" (Dāl) sound	Strength, craftsmanship	1
...بیں...بیں	Repetitive "ہ" (Heh) sound	Unity, rhythm	4
تو، تیرے، چیوں، تپڑن	Repetition of "ت" (Tē) and "ن" (Nūn) sounds	Sacrifice emphasis	3
زندگی ہوش میں ہے، جوش ہے ایمانوں میں	"ش" (Shīn) sound repeated	Passion, rhythm	1
دل دھر کن دھر کن سبز دل	"د" (Dāl) and "ز" (Zāl) sound repetition	Emotional heartbeat of patriotism	1
پر جم جھلایا دل سے لگایا	"ل" (Lām) sound repetition	Reverence, lyrical tone	1
قادر کی جیتی جاتی تصویر	"ج" (Jīm) sound repetition	National leadership	1

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
ہم آن، ہم شان، ہم جان	"ہم" (Ham) repetition	Identity, pride	1
دُن گھکھوں گھکھوں کرے سائیں	Zikr rhythm pattern	Sufi mysticism	1
کو کڑ کڑ کے گی، دھو دھو دھو کے گی	Thunder and heartbeat mimic	Power, revolution	2

The use of alliteration in PACOP boosts the lyrical musicality and enhances the memory recall of the words. The repetition of consonant sounds (e.g., "ہم آن، ہم شان، ہم جان") highlights central patriotic concepts such as identity and sacrifice. Urdu phonetic structures like "کڑ" and "دھو" replicate natural and bodily sounds, instilling a sense of urgency and rhythm that resonates with the revolutionary spirit. This stylistic choice aids in creating poetic unity and ensures that the chants are easily remembered, essential for public performance and widespread appeal.

Repetition

Table 8

Repetition in PACOP

Repetition is the deliberate reuse of words or phrases for emphasis, cohesion, and rhetorical strength in both spoken and written texts (Tannen, 1989).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
... ہم ہم ہم ہم ہم	Structural repetition	Collective identity, unity	4
یہ تین بدن ہے وار دیا	Bodily sacrifice	Martyrdom, intensity	2
تو ہی میرا ہے سوہناؤ مل	Homeland as beloved refrain	National love, devotion	5
ہم آن، ہم شان، ہم جان ہیں	Pronoun-identity repetition	Pride, identity	1
ہم پاکستان ہیں	Declarative refrain	Patriotism, belonging	1

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
میں... میں...	Structural repetition	Continuous devotion	1
ہم دیکھیں گے	Revolutionary chant	Certainty, resistance	1
خیال رکھنا	Moral reminder	Responsibility, care	1
دل، جان قربان ہے	Emotional repetition	Loyalty, self-offering	4
ہم گلکوں گلکوں کرے سائیں	Sufi spiritual refrain	Devotion, unity	1

Repetition serves as a fundamental rhetorical element in PACOP, highlighting crucial messages and fostering collective memory. Phrases such as “میں... میں... میں...” generate an anthem-like rhythmic resonance of national identity. The use of religious repetition (e.g., “ہم گلکوں”) adds spiritual and emotional depth to the message. Through recurring statements of sacrifice and declarations, the anthems strengthen an unwavering love for the homeland. This mirrors the oral poetic traditions found in South Asia, where refrains and chants enhance communal connection and ritualistic fervor.

Allusion

Table 9

Allusion in PACOP

Allusion is an indirect reference to a person, event, or literary work, which enriches a text by invoking shared cultural or historical understanding (Abrams & Harpham, 2011).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
بہزاد بیں توہین بیں	Allusion to Persian artist Behzad	Cultural pride	1
شہادت کا جام، رسول نے پانچوں میں لیا	Prophet ﷺ and martyrdom imagery	Spiritual reward, faith	1
علی، حسین، فاطمہ ...	Prophet's family	Moral legitimacy	1
بی پاک دی گنگی جی	Sufi praise of Prophet ﷺ	Mystical nationalism	1
کلمہ نبی دا پڑھے سائیں	Islamic creed	Unity through faith	1

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
خواب ہے اقبال کا	Reference to Allama Iqbal	Ideological vision	1
قايد کی جیتی جاتی تصویر	Quaid-e-Azam	Leadership, identity	1
شرق کے خوابوں کی حسین تجیہ	Fulfillment of Eastern vision	Postcolonial triumph	1
جنپ چار	Islamic struggle	Spiritualized patriotism	1
لوح ازل میں کھاہے	Quranic allusion to fate	Destiny, divine will	1
اٹا حق کا نمرہ	Sufi martyr Al-Hallaj	Defiance, mystical union	1

The allusions found in PACOP are abundant with references to Islamic, historical, and cultural themes. They establish a connection between the past and the present, linking patriotism with figures like Iqbal and Quaid-e-Azam, along with religious icons such as Imam Hussain and Hazrat Ali. By incorporating the concept of martyrdom alongside Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and the Islamic creed (ايمان)، the texts infuse the national struggle with a sense of spiritual importance. These references offer historical context and religious endorsement to the anthems. Additionally, they serve as foundational elements of identity, uniting cultural pride with the moral authority that is essential for Pakistani nationalist discussions.

Euphemism

Table 10

Euphemism in PACOP

Euphemism replaces harsh or blunt expressions with softer ones, often reflecting cultural norms and sensitivity to taboo topics (Allan & Burridge, 2006).

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
تیرے صدقے میں جان در واگ	Giving life for you	Reverent sacrifice	1
جان فدا ہے	Life offered softly	Emotional devotion	3

Line	Context	Theme	Frequency
شہادت کا جام پی کر	Martyrdom as spiritual drink	Glorified death	1
فرمان دیا	Divine order	Spiritual obedience	1
کلہ پڑھے سائیں	Unity expressed religiously	Peaceful nationalism	1
جان لیوں پر آجائے ...	Implied death without saying it	Poetic nobility	1
جاگوں پر خاک رکھوں	Soil on eyelids	Reverent love	1

Euphemism in PACOP cushions the harsh truths of war and sacrifice, substituting direct mentions of death or violence with lyrical and spiritual imagery. Phrases such as "شہادت کا جام" (cup of martyrdom) and "جان فداء ہے" (life is offered) elevate death into something noble and meaningful. This is indicative of South Asian poetic customs where the concept of sacrifice is glorified and imbued with spirituality, particularly within Sufi and Islamic contexts. Euphemism enables the lyrics to approach delicate subjects such as grief and hardship with a sense of honor, turning suffering into a source of national pride.

Discussion

Metaphors found in the chosen anthems depict the nation as a cherished figure, a nurturing mother, an illuminating flame, or a revered object. These metaphors strengthen the emotional bond between the people and their homeland. For example, the phrase "دھرتی ہے اہ" (Mother Earth) conveys nurturing and familial qualities, portraying the homeland as deserving of loyalty and sacrifice. Likewise, "خون = زکوٰۃ" (blood as alms) intertwines religious and national sacrifice, creating a sacred representation of martyrdom (Jeffries & McIntyre, 2010). Simile Expressions such as "امن گردباد" (similar to a tornado) and "مشل نور" (resembling light) highlight strength, motion, and spiritual clarity. These analogies enable abstract concepts like freedom and love to be more tangible and vivid, making them emotionally impactful for the audience. (Leech & Short, 2007). The repeated motifs of flag, earth, sacrifice, and sunrise represent togetherness, loss, and optimism. The phrase "پرچم تے ہم ایک ہیں" (we are one under the flag) connects love for the country with communal unity. These symbols act as ideological pillars that strengthen social harmony and national pride (Halliday, 1994). Exaggerated phrases such as "سب کچھ قربان" (everything sacrificed) and "ساری دنیا کہے گی" (the entire world will say) serve to heighten the expression of devotion and commitment. This enhancement of patriotic fervor is in harmony with conventional Urdu poetic methods that emotionally invigorate nationalistic discourse (De Beaugrande & Dressler, 1981).

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(Verdonk, 2002). Vivid visual and sensory descriptions, such as "آسمان پر منظر" (sacred Sufi plant) and "چشمے دی بوٹی" (scene in the sky), create a strong bond between the land and its inhabitants. This style of language activates the imagination and instills a sense of national pride through sensory experiences. (Jeffries & McIntyre, 2010). The recurrence of consonant sounds (for example, "آن، ہم، شان، ہم، جان، ہم") elevates the lyrical quality of the anthems and aids in their retention. This stylistic element also highlights important emotional themes, increasing audience involvement through its rhythmic charm. (Leech & Short, 2007). Repetition serves as an important aesthetic and rhetorical device. Phrases such as "ہم ہیں... ہم ہیں" and "جان، دل قربان ہے" echo fundamental patriotic principles and strengthen a sense of communal belonging. This repetitive structure helps these concepts attain greater mental significance and emotional reinforcement. (Verdonk, 2002).

Cultural and religious references to prominent figures like Allama Iqbal, Quaid-e-Azam, and Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) tie the concept of national identity to its spiritual and ideological roots. For instance, "اقبال کا خواب" associates the anthem's message with the philosophical aspirations that shaped the nation's foundation. (Arslan & Rasool, 2022). Euphemisms such as "شہادت کا جام" (cup of martyrdom) alleviate the severity of death, reframing it as a dignified, even festive event. These linguistic strategies resonate with religious beliefs that glorify the concept of martyrdom, promoting a shared endorsement of sacrifice. (Jeffries & McIntyre, 2010).

Conclusion

The analysis of PACOP based on a corpus reveals that patriotic songs from Pakistan utilize a diverse range of figurative language and rhetorical techniques to forge a shared national identity founded on love, unity, sacrifice, and nationalism. Every stylistic feature enhances emotional connection and ideological dedication to the nation. This research not only adds depth to the field of stylistics but also highlights the significant influence of language in the process of nation-building.

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