

LANGUAGE AND IDEOLOGY OF POLITICAL INTERACTIONS IN NIGERIA'S NATIONAL GOOD GOVERNANCE TOUR (NGGT)

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ABSTRACT

Several issues have shaped political discourse in Nigeria since her independence. Speeches read from scripts and other texts as well as various media forums have been major sources of data. Political interactions, dealing with spontaneous discourse/speech events have hardly been subject of discourse. Recently one of the platforms that transverse the Nigerian political sphere is the National Good Governance Tour (NGGT) of Nigeria; this study therefore, explores language use in the tour and ideologies transmitted, and the purpose with which language use in the tour serves. The study adopts Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), as its theoretical framework and Halliday's SFL, to identify language and ideology in the political interactions. Data for the study was sourced by downloads from the website of the federal ministry of information, and live recordings as televised. The discourse interactions were played over, listened to, and transcribed verbatim as uttered for the purpose of this study. Findings indicate that the interactions sought to counter the dominant apathetic ideology of most Nigerians with that of optimism through pungent and direct spontaneous spoken discourse. It was established also that CDA can explore the relationship between language and ideology of political interactions.

Key words: Political Interaction, Ideology, CDA, SFL,

Word count - 193

INTRODUCTION

Several issues have been subject of political discourse in Nigeria depending on the time and the context since her independence, in 1960. Over these years, due to the different kinds of socio-political experiences, some of the political discourse centered on corruption and mismanagement of resources, human right abuses, ethno-religious violence, resource-related crises, highly flawed electoral processes, power generation crises, labour-related crises, insecurity of lives and property, terrorism etc. the last decade particularly, witnessed discussions in the Nigerian political scene that have centered on issues like handling the problem of resource control and the Niger-Delta crises, tackling corruption, resolving the energy crisis, food and personal security. And with the elections that have been on since 1999, discourses on electoral reforms and the electoral tribunal judgments have been the main stay. Recently, one of the platforms of political discourse that transverse the Nigerian political space has been the National Good Governance Tour (NGGT); its emergence has been sequel to growing expectations, desires and aspirations by Nigerians for a positive change in the different sectors of the national life and economy:- the

deplorable state of the nation's roads and the transport sector generally, poor electricity supply, lack of job opportunities for the teeming youths, decay in the educational system, corruption in government agencies and increased security threats – the boko-haram saga in the north, headsmen marauders and kidnappings across the nation are few issues that are bedevilling the nation. Sequel to these, there has been an increased growing apathy among many Nigerians about government policies and promises, and a growing lack of confidence in the credibility and ability by those in government to deliver the so called dividends of democracy.

Successive administrations have come with promises and policies; both from the federal, states and local government levels – and this they do with the use of language to persuade the people to accept them. Alo (2008), for instance, illustrates how political actors present these proposals to the public in the language that speaks of preferred norms and values in a bid to persuade them for their votes. Other scholars, who have focused their research on the Nigerian political discourse hitherto, looked at different aspects exposing deficiencies with the intention of steering resistance and mounting pressure on governments to address the issues so raised. Though this present study shares the same outlook with the previous studies on Nigerian political discourse, its data and focus differ. What is new, first, is the context to which it is been studied – the National Good Governance Tour (NGGT). And the context is also spontaneous spoken discourse interactions, as against formal speeches read from scripts, written texts from books and the media as previous studies have done. The NGGT is showing how the government, through its agent, is trying to counter and surmount dominant mind-sets, ideologies, and to convince the populace of their bid to deliver the dividends of democracy that Nigerians are clamouring for.

Language and Ideology

Language is a very significant concept in human life and endeavor; it is a means by which ideas, emotions, perceptions, intentions and desires are communicated from one person/group to another. Human beings are daily interfaced with encounters that require they transmit information, that convey intentions, desires, or express emotions and or even perform a series of actions and as Halliday 1978:9 puts it, "the main channel through which the patterns of living are transmitted from man to man is language." He further reiterates that language is equally useful in detecting an individual's stand and perception. This is because language is not experienced in isolation but rather experienced in relation to context – which entails the background knowledge of the person(s) involved in the speech, the period, the socio-situational context, the psychological context and even the linguistic context of the speech event. (Halliday 1978:28).

This goes to affirm the assertion posited by Taiwo, 2008:20 that language indeed does not just reflect the reality we see, but rather that language is used to create the reality. Every discourse situation is therefore used to create the reality that is given expression in the use of the language. As a result, no words or speech event are neutral, but carry the power and reflects the interest which the language users carry.

Ideology

A universally accepted definition of what ideology is has not been easy to come by; this is because the concept of ideology has different shades of meaning, depending on the discipline one is coming from. A general view of the concept however, as seen in the Microsoft Encarta Encyclopedia Standard 2008 views ideology as 'a comprehensive system of concepts and beliefs, often political in nature, held by a group or an individual.' It further reiterates that the modern concept of ideology originated in the writings of Karl Marx, who believed that ideologies are false systems of political, social, and moral concepts invented and preserved by the ruling class out of self-interest. The Encarta thesaurus also gives the synonyms of ideology to include: philosophy, belief, creed, system, dogma, or line. Thus we can say that ideology is a system of belief, doctrine, values, ideas, and opinions that shapes the way a person or group thinks acts and views the world. Olowe (1993:3) buttressing this says, 'ideology means belief systems that helps to justify the actions of those in power...' Critical linguist argue, that ideologies are embedded in texts (Fairclough 1992, 1995), van Dijk (1998:8). And van Dijk also asserts that formulation of ideologies in their social reproduction are discourses, which include language use, text, talk and as manifested in the media. Thus language and ideology can be said to be intricately related.

Any group of people that share an ideology therefore share a common set of ideas as to what the world is like, and since ideologies are akin to language it is therefore normal that as people dwell together they construct social realities that fit their beliefs. And when majority of the members of the society share a common belief or ideology in this case, it is referred to as the dominant ideology of the society. Thus, ideology becomes the prescribed way of life in a society. And every society is bound to display a general or dominant ideology that most members of the society share, consciously or unconsciously. To figure out such ideologies however, one needs to cast back at experiences and the history of the people and the present to decipher its evolution. According to Littlejohn (1998:3) most societies have mix ideologies. He further categorized three types of ideologies: (i) dominant, (ii) subordinate and (iii) radical ideologies. The dominant ideology being that idea which is held by most of the people in the society, while the subordinate ideology is a set of ideas that agree with the dominant ideology in the main, but argues for a limited amount of change. And the radical ideology as

being the set of ideas that is in direct opposition to the dominant ideology and sets out to replace the dominant ideology with a new one. Over time, such radical ideologies if subsistent can grow to become dominant, and the dominant can dissolve and disappear.

Language, Ideology and Politics

Language is principally a phenomenon of social experience. And human beings, being social beings need and use language to convey and express feelings, ideas, opinions, beliefs, impressions, sentiments etc among themselves. (Which all combine to make up ideologies) This viable tool of language is what politicians need and use to inform, instruct, direct, assert and persuade the public to gain and sustain power. Beard (2000:2) confirms that "... language is used by those who wish to gain power, those who wish to exercise power and those who wish to keep power." Thus language, ideology and politics are so inter-twined and inseparable and all go together.

Discourse Interactions

These are communicative exchanges that serve social encounters, where the social processes which realize social activity unfold in stages and in doing so achieve certain goals. Such discourse interactions are natural language used by speakers in real situations and contexts to achieve certain goals. They are spoken forms of language that are naturally occurring, not having been read from a script but produced as the discourse encounter progresses. As such they constitute what can be termed spoken discourse.

Political discourse

Political discourse is that field of discourse analysis which focuses on discourse in political forums (such as debates, speeches, and hearings) as the phenomenon of interest. Political discourse is the informal exchange of reasoned views as to which of several alternative courses of action should be taken to solve a societal problem and resolution of issues. The present study is situated in political discourse interactions. Its data stems of from political interactions, and the discourse encounters are naturally occurring speech events. It aims at establishing the language, view point, beliefs, opinion and perspectives of the NGGT, with particular reference to Mr. Labaran Makus' speeches in his interactions in the NGGT, as he brings to the fore the stance and perspective of the present government, as it relates to the general apathy by many to governance in Nigerians, and to the present administration in particular. The data was sourced by downloading from the website of the ministry of information and recordings from live telecast. The data sourced, was then played over and listen to and transcribed verbatim as uttered for the purpose of this study.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This study adopts an eclectic approach that is characteristic of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). Fairclough's (1989, 1992, and 1995) supported by, van Dijk's (1993a, 1993b, 1998) models of CDA were adopted in the analysis of the texts. Halliday's (1985, 1994) Systemic Functional Linguistic ideas were also very useful in explicating hidden ideologies from the text and also deciphering rhetoric. Fairclough's approach, which is the bedrock of this theoretical frame also draws upon Halliday's SFL, and sees language, discourse and power in society as integral to sociological concepts. By this, the approach to language and discourse interpretation is not just centered on context alone, but it equally views language as a form of social practice as Fairclough (1992:2) asserts.

DATA ANALYSIS

A. The National Good Governance Tour (NGGT) of Nigeria

On September 20, 2012, Mr Labaran Maku, the then Hon. Minister of Information, kicked off what is described as the "National Good Governance Tour" (NGGT). The tour, according to official comments from the federal ministry of information website, was a collaborative project designed by the Federal Ministries of Information and National Planning. The tour also has the blessings of the Office of the Special Adviser to the President on Project Monitoring and Evaluation as well the thirty-six (36) state governments through the Nigerian Governors Forum. Highlights of the Tour include physical inspection of Federal, State and Local Government development projects by the Mass Media, Civil Society Organizations and other stakeholders as well as a Citizens' Forum across the states of the federation and Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Abuja, Nigeria. And this on-going event is capturing the attention of numerous Nigerians, who are getting the score cards of their elected representatives from across the nation. The tour started with Abuja (FCT).

B. Text Analysis

On 4th October, 2012, Mr. Maku addressed the people of Kwara state at the end of his tour to give his assessment of the tour and answered some questions posed by citizens of the state at the citizens' forum and from other persons via social media: emails, texts and twitter. On the 22nd of February, 2013, he was in Asaba, Delta state having a similar discourse encounter. While he was in Enugu, the Enugu state capital in March, 2013. The interactions and speeches mainly adopted simple words and relatively short sentences, the language easy and colloquial. The audience at the speech events was varied, cutting across social strata, thus the adoption of simple spoken English as the mode of exchange in the interactions. The subject matter of the speech is equally varied, covering different aspects of the country, and the states. It was a rendering of account of what the governments at both federal and state levels have done, and are yet

doing to bring about the desired dividends of democracy. He talked on the essence of the NGGT, its concept, initiation and progress. On things he has seen and observed in the states: road infrastructure, agricultural development, the aviation sector etc. basically to highlight the achievements been made by the government and its challenges. Some rhetorical strategies used in the speeches include the use of lexico-semantic devices such as lexical repetitions to emphasize ideas portrayed and series of pronominal references and conjunctions' to achieve cohesion and coherence. There was a profuse use of declarative sentences for the purpose of educating and informing the people on government activities and achievements in other to garner support and win confidence from the populace. Direct address was the main tool used to create warmth and a friendly atmosphere so as to effectively achieve solidarity with the audience, and which enhances persuasion.

Transitivity Analysis

The Ideational function is represented in text by transitivity. It is the basic semantic system that construes the world of experience of a speaker to a recognizable set of process types. Halliday (1971) divides these processes into six types: material, mental, relational, behavioral, verbal and existential processes. Instances of such in the texts include the following:

Excerpt 1

...another objective of this tour is to give the people a say...
-NGGT Kwara state 4/10/12

This is an instance of a material process capturing one of the essences of the NGGT. Material processes usually are indicated by a verb expressing an action, concrete or material, from an actor to a receiver, referred to as the goal. In the above the 'tour' serving in the noun position is 'giving' – verb, the people – object, a say.... This is to be construed in the fact that Nigerians before now had no say in the affairs of governance. Those in governance elected or those that seized power via the barrel of the gun, governed with impudence.

Excerpt 2

...the East West road is one of the most difficult roads that this government inherited ah! And **we** (Actor) have been working (material process) on that road (goal)... the president, the government, **we** (Actor) are committed (Mental process) to the completion of the road, (goal) and more activity will be witnessed there from this year. **You** (actor) will see (Mental process) it (goal) yourselves...

-NGGT Delta state 22/2/13

Here also we notice a series of transitivity processes from material to mental with the actors highlighted to signify their starting point. These forms of actions abound in the texts with the above typifying their existence.

The following reveal an aspect of the verbal processes captured in the texts

Excerpt 3

...**I want to say** that I am here as a member of the civil society organization... **let me quickly say** without fear or equivocation that **what we are saying** in the course of this tour remains what we have seen. **I want to say** this because, we have come in this country to the point where people feel that the easiest way to gain popularity is to say negative things about government and leadership. And **I say** that the hallmark of civil society movement does not lie in negativism...

-NGGT Kwara state 4/10/12

Verbal processes are characterized by the participant roles as it relates to the verbal process of the 'sayer' (the speaker) and 'receiver' (addressee) and the 'verbiage' (what is said). Example of verbs that can operate in verbal processes include, say, claim, assert, reply, suggest, report, promise etc. the example above highlights some of the verbal processes as seen in the texts.

MODALITY ANALYSIS

Modality refers to a speaker's attitude or opinion towards a proposition expressed by a sentence. It could either be positive or negative and the level of politeness low, median or high. An example of such could be expressed in the following verb forms:

Table I-MODAL VERBS (Wang 2010)

	Low Politeness	Median Politeness	High Politeness
Positive	Can, may, could, might, dare	Will, would, should, shall	Must, ought to, need, has/had to
Negative	Needn't, doesn't/didn't, need to, have to	Won't, wouldn't, shouldn't, isn't/wasn't	Mustn't, ought not to, can't, couldn't, may not, might not, hasn't, hadn't

Wang (2010:259) notes that compared to other verbs, modal verbs are more easily identified and understood and can be more easily accepted in spoken discourse because at the time of listening to the speech, there is no time for the audience to reflect, thus in our texts, the following are extracted for illustration.

Excerpt 4

... the people **must** have their say.. that is why we consciously designed this program to inform you... so that you **will** take advantage of some of these programs and improve on their implementation.... the Abuja light rail... we **will** be delivering by January...

NGGT Kwara state 4/10/12

Excerpt 5

... We **will** work on that and I **will** resource with my colleague in the ministry of power. We **will** forward the answers to you... we **will** still call you to discuss the progress... we **will** do everything possible to ensure that actions are taken so that Sapele that generates power, has some of those power to energize itself development.

NGGT Delta state 22/2/13

Above are few out of the numerous modal verbs in the text under study used to express the interpersonal function embodied by the speaker in the speech situation.

C. Extract Analysis Extricating Ideologies

Excerpt 6

...what we have set out to achieve is simply to promote good governance. To promote democracy. And you cannot lead in a democratic society without involving the people.....The purpose of the NGGT therefore is to project what the federal, states and the local governments are doing to promote the welfare of the people, through the numerous things and projects and other welfare packages for the people.

-NGGT Kwara state 4/10/12

Mr. Maku setting the tune for the NGGT, tries to project its essence. The dominant mind-set, belief and attitude of most Nigerians is that of apathy, they have looked up to governments for long but have got little or nothing to show for it and have lost trust and hope in its ability to deliver on its mandate for credible leadership, needed infrastructure, hence the non- charlatan attitude. And what this government is out to achieve through this tour is to correct this prevailing attitude and to get the people to be involved by showing what the government is doing, convincing the people that government is working.

Excerpt 7

...This tour is nonpartisan. It is not about any party. That is why all the thirty six (36) state governors, no matter which parties they were elected from are part of this tour... And that is why we have brought civil society across board. So that this tour will be a true assessment tour of the progress and the challenges been faced by the federal, states and local governments in implementing projects and programs for the good welfare of Nigerians.

-NGGT Kwara state 4/10/12

Another prevailing mind-set among Nigerians is that, even where things are done by the government, you must belong to the ruling party to have and enjoy such benefit(s). And Mr. Maku in his speech sets out to counter that notion, and portray the present administration's desire to be fair and equitable in its affairs.

Excerpt 8

...Another objective of this program is to give the people a say, because this is democracy. It is no longer military rule. It is not for people to just be led. It is not sufficient for leaders to lead the people. The people must have their say; the people must express their opinion. The people must be mobilized to be part of the developmental process.... The job of developing Nigeria truly, it belongs to the people. It belongs to the teacher in the classroom; it belongs to the farmer on the farm; it belongs to the doctor and the nurse in the hospital; it belongs to the artisan in his workshop; it belongs to all Nigerians, in all their various professional places for the development of Nigeria....No governor can do a miracle unless the people support him. No president, no prime minister can do anything. It is the people that develop a nation. And that is why we consciously designed this program to inform you and constantly about government programs and policies and to bring you on board so that you will take advantage of some of these programs and improve on their implementation.

NGGT Kwara state 4/10/12

Due largely to the long reign of the military in Nigeria, whose basis is subjugation, the prevalent mindset and belief of most Nigerians is to sit back and let the government initiates and do everything. But the minister opines that such orientation needs to change. The people need to be involved, from the decision

making to the implementation of policies that will bring about the needed development as no government can do it all.

Excerpt 9

...What we have seen in this place is the spirit of continuity. (Applause) not only from Kwara's state, when we went round Abuja, the same spirit exist in Abuja – FCT capital, and we have seen the same thing in Kwara's state. That is to say, majority of the projects we visited since we arrived this place are projects that were in existence before now, (applause). If there is this spirit of continuity, our railway system will not be in this state of a comatose system that we met it. If there is this spirit of continuity, our roads will not be as bad as we have it today...

...Let me quickly say without fear or equivocation that what we are saying in the course of this tour remains what we are seen. I want to say this because, we have come in this country to the point where people feel that the easiest way to gain popularity is to say negative things about government and leadership... I will have to insist that whatever we see that is good, we will not shy away from saying 'this is good'... and when there is need for criticism... we will criticize accordingly...

NGGT Kwara state 4/10/12

The above extracts from the president of RATAWU and Engr. Nwosu, the president, Transformation Movement Nigeria, a civil society organization in the interaction at the NGGT town hall meeting in Kwara's state also buttress the fact that there is general apathy and lack of confidence and trust in the government to deliver any meaningful dividend of democracy. But their opinions as depicted in their speeches and the tour is that some things are happening that need to be noticed, for which they are attesting to such facts and thus calling for a change of attitude. The interactions in the extracts that follow are from the town hall meeting in Asaba, Delta state on 22nd February, 2013.

Excerpt 10

...I think this is a very good exchange; this is the purpose of the good governance tour. That we will offer citizens the opportunity to ask questions and get answers from their government. And to hear your own suggestions... somebody talked about power in Sapele, Our mummy, she said, power has been flying over Sapele, (echo – Yes!) power has not come down to Sapele (echo – No!). And she is very worried about that. And now that Sapele is producing power for Nigeria, it must have power.

...yesterday, when we were at the plant, the youths of the area also asked that question... what is going on in Sapele? Why is it generating power and it does not have light in the environment?
...Now there was a question on... by the youths, one of those vibrant youths that spoke...there was a question on whether the 'Show P' money is been diverted by the PDP...?Now I was asked a question on the dredging of the Niger by my elder eeh! Colleague eeh! I think Mr. Willy Bosimoh, as to whether the Niger has been dredged properly?

NGGT Delta state 22/2/13

From the foregoing, we notice how the citizens engage those in government in an accountability encounter, where they demand answers for actions or in action on the part of the government. And as the minister opens in the initial extract, that is the true essence of governance, the ideal that should be. Where those in governance are called to book and can be asked about what they do or do not do. That is the mindset crafted in the NGGT. A migration from the norm, where those in government are lords, unquestionable, doing what they want with impudence and no one dear ask why. The mindset being proposed here is to get to that point where everyone has the right to contribute to governance; decide in what should be and shouldn't be and find out why some things are the way they are.

Excerpt II

...I am not the one directly in charge of running Sapele, and I do not know the entire circumstances, but I offer to carry the message to the ministry of power, to find out what is happening in Sapele, why it is generating power and it does not have power in its environment...We will work on that and I will resource with my colleague in the ministry of power. We will forward the answers to you. If we have your phone numbers and so on... eeh! We will still call you to discuss the progress...But what I can say is, we will do everything possible to ensure that actions are taken so that Sapele that generates the power has some of those power to energize its self-development...On the East – West road,... we met with the contractor yesterday... Celtraco... told us they are mobilizing and going back to site with high activity. ...the president, the government we are committed to the completion of the road, and more activity will be witnessed there from this year. You will see it yourselves. (Applause)...The 'Show P' money is divided into three (3) portions from the federation account. The Local governments take their money – I

hope you are aware? ...the federal government does not detect to them how the money is to be spent. The state governments take their own money directly. And the ministry of finance has been advertising what... is been collected throughout the country. So the federal government is not in charge at all about the 'Show P' program... The dredging of the Niger, the capital dredging has been completed, and I can tell you that... and there is a subsisting contract ah! For maintenance dredging to keep sewage out of it, Baggies are moving up the Niger. So please this is a technical issue which you can't just stand by the side of the river and make conclusions...the river port in Baro is completed it will be completed in April, in Lokoja, by the end of the year. Onitsha is finished, Oguta is to be completed in April, so it is not true that the dredging is not going on properly. I called the minister of transport... to get confirmation, and the confirmation from my colleague is that the dredging of the Niger is proper...

NGGT Delta state 22/2/13

The extracts above are sequel to the demands, probing made by citizens on the government for explanations for actions and in actions of the government. It is a display of a steward accounting for his stewardship. A mindset created and crafted by the NGGT that citizens have a say, and contribute in issues of governance. This is a clear deviation from the norm – where citizens had no such privileges of asking questions and demanding answers and proffering solutions on issues of governance in this country.

Excerpt 12

...so the federal government is not in-charge of the 'Shop P' program. The federal government only takes its portion, the states are taking their own, and the local governments are taking their own. And no question is been asked about what is going on at the other levels. I am the only one telling you that the federal government is using its own to give you jobs, so it is left for all of us to demand for how the money is been used...I thought it is important that you know, that yes we have challenges. I can tell you at the federal level that there are challenges, why? Almost all our roads are looking for attention at the same time... it is a pity that in some places the roads have not been delivered, but there is renewed activity and more funding is going on into our road system...

...and so we ask for patience by Nigerians to understand that a government that is facing an emergency in power, an emergency in rail – it has never worked, emergency in all areas. We must prioritize... we are fixing these things, they may not be going as fast as we want, but the president and all of us are committed to ensuring that the three levels of transportation are put in place for Nigerians.

NGGT Delta state 22/2/13

From the foregoing, we notice also the government decrying and showing its challenges to the citizenry. This is done to weep up sentiments and understanding from the people towards the government and its programs and activities and the beliefs they are trying to pass across. The mindset is that things are happening, the government is working even though it appears slow, it is because of the enormity of the challenges. And for the citizenry to also be alert and awake to demand and ask for what is due them from every sphere of the government.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, we may summarize and come to the conclusion that the discourse interactions in the NGGT where basically made up of simple words and short sentences instead of complex and difficult ones. The language was basically easy and colloquial; as a result it easily shortened the distance between the interlocutors. These are characteristics of spoken discourse that are naturally occurring generally, which political discourse of this nature fall within. Some other basic characteristics of spoken language which adorn the data investigated include: syntax, as noted earlier, spoken language is typically less structured than the written form. Spoken language is characterized by; simple sequences or phrases, often incomplete sentences and sometimes incorrect grammatical expressions. This is because the speaker(s) are both involved in processing of thoughts and delivery of speech, which is why often you find speakers intersect their speech with 'eeh!' 'aah' 'well' 'I think' or brief pulses, to enable them complete such thoughts proceed on the next course of the speech event. Also probably because there is so much to talk about, or one is obsessed with so many words, they display a tendency to want to produce all at once, thus there is usually some sort of self-correction and non fluency of speech. Also the grammar is often not observed strictly but rather the pragmatic relevance of words used in context. Also observed in the data is the fact that there is a prevalent or the dominant ideology amongst most Nigerians. Which is that governments in the country are in for their personal gains and not for the development and better condition of living of the masses? There is a national cake and successive governments go in for their share and not to develop the

nation. And the general populace has little or nothing they can do about how those in governance manage and handle the nation's resources. And the purpose of the NGGT is to promote a radical shift in the mindset and mentality of Nigerians by proposing the ideology that every citizen has a say and should participate in the act of governance. Captured in these words by Mr. Maku:

Another objective of this program is to give the people a say, because this is democracy. It is no longer military rule. It is not for the people to just be led. It is not sufficient for leaders to lead the people. The people also must be mobilized to be part of the development process... the job of developing Nigeria truly, it belongs to the people. It belongs to the teacher in the classroom; it belongs to the farmer on the farm; it belongs to the doctor and the nurse in the hospital; it belongs to the artisan in his workshop; it belongs to all Nigerians, in all their various professional places for the development of Nigeria. It is pertinent to understand that, radical ideologies are set of ideas that are in direct opposition to the dominant ideology and set out to replace the dominant ideology with the new if they subsist and are allowed to grow. Thus the mindset or rather ideology being crafted by the NGGT is that which every citizen can contribute to national governance and a radical change from the military rule where everyone is subjugated with the barrel of the gun. Another prevalent ideology is that due to the so much publicized negative news about Nigeria and in Nigeria, from bad governance to infrastructural decay, to religious, ethnic and political crisis and lately terrorism, assassinations and kidnappings, one least thinks of developmental strides of any sort in the country. Another radical change in ideology and mindset set out by the NGGT to counteract. Again using Mr. Maku's words to capture this:

Excerpt 13

... I thought it is important that you know, that yes we have challenges... almost all the roads are looking for attention at the same time throughout the country... but there is renewed activity and more funding is going into our road system, so we will ask for patience by Nigerians, to understand that a government that is facing emergency in power, an emergency in rail, it has never worked, emergency in all areas, we must prioritize. And so we are fixing those things, they may not be as fast as we want, but the president and all of us are committed to ensuring that the three levels of transportation are put in place for Nigerians.

-NGGT Enugu, March 2013

And the whole reason for the NGGT as enunciated is to show case the achievements, level of progress and challenges faced by the various tiers of government in administering governance. And to also give Nigerians a chance and a voice to contribute in the administration process by asking questions, seeking clarifications and offering suggestions where applicable. In this way, the desire and intentions of the government are made known to the populace and at the same time the confidence of the people towards the government is been built as they are shown the achievements and level of works been done by the government. This is done in other to further build trust in the government and to garner support for it too. It is an attempt at persuading the people to accept and support the policies of the government. We also discovered that CDA is indeed a tool that can be used to explore the relationship between language and ideology of political interactions. It is thus another method used to analyze spoken discourse interactions, as such worth paying more attention to.

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