

# A Corpus-Assisted Critical Discourse Analysis of the Iranian People in the Corpus of Donald Trump's Social Media Texts

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**Abstract**—Social media has provided many opportunities for people to express, obtain, and reproduce their views, thoughts, ideologies, and even their daily routines. Perhaps the most famous person to successfully take advantage of these opportunities and become a constant trending topic around the world is former American President Donald J. Trump. The style of language he uses on social media helps spread his ideology so that he has become known as the first president of America to use social media to get his ideas across. To evaluate the keywords in the corpus of Trump's social media that dominated the topics of social media in Iran, a corpus-assisted critical discourse analysis was used as the methodology for this study. The results show that the keywords "people", "real", "brave", "suffering", and "killed" are closely related to the oppressive conditions of the Iranian people. The results also show that people who are talked about as brave figures always get help and love from Trump.

**Index Terms**—social media, Trump, corpus-assisted critical discourse analysis, Iranian people

## I. INTRODUCTION

Compared to mass media channels where certain groups select and display content Social media has captured the attention of millions of users and influenced individuals and societies. With the decreasing coverage of traditional media (newspapers and television broadcasts) and increasing use of the Internet, social media is becoming the biggest trend in communication (Himmelboim et al., 2012). On social media, citizens can join groups they find interesting, interact with political candidates, and talk about political information with other citizens. Citizens have even newer opportunities for political participation and communication than ever before (Himmelboim et al., 2012). Moreover, interpersonal communication on social media has become an important source for political analysts who can successfully predict attitudes towards online political movements through interpersonal political interactions outside of the internet. While television and daily newspapers remain the prevalent outlets for news, social media has emerged as an increasingly essential source of political information (Enli, 2017).

Social media has provided many opportunities for people to express, obtain, and reproduce their views, thoughts, ideologies, and even their daily routines primarily through text or speech. This discourse analysis study of language interaction seems both necessary and relevant, as the more people know about social media, the less vulnerable they are to being led astray by unsavory authorities. As today's society experiences different ways of language interaction, both the role and influence of social media are undeniable and need to be analyzed. The study of social media texts has led linguists to believe that it is a kind of social action and leads to the processing of social issues. Therefore, if the lexicon of social media texts is appropriately chosen, then it can have a profound effect on the decisions of followers and lead to the formation of ideological groups.

Perhaps the most notable example of how social media has become a new medium for interacting between leaders and their people is former U.S. President Donald Trump. It is worth saying that Trump incorporates an exceptionally effective individual social media account. Right now, he has about 88 million Twitter fans, even though he is also interatomic with fans on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, Periscope, and other social organizing sites counting his claim Truth Social organize (IDC Inc., 2017). Furthermore, he frequently updates his Twitter content, always attempting to make himself the focus of global media attention.

Moreover, there is an active interest in how Donald Trump uses social media. Millions of people around the world are affected by what is now called the "Trump Effect" which is a term that describes Trump's influence on society, the economy, and international relations through his use of social media (Bustan & Alakrash, 2020).

In this study, the selected corpus came from three official Trump social media accounts which are marked with blue tick verification indicating that the @realdonaldtrump accounts are his official accounts that he uses to communicate, express opinions, argue and even attack his political opponents. The three accounts selected as corpus data were Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram and were selected based on the procedure for accessing the sites directly except for Twitter which was accessed through <https://www.thetrumparchive.com/>. The Trump Archive website was created by Brenden Brown to archive Trump's tweets on Twitter because Twitter had previously deleted Trump's official account. However, other social media corpus data, namely Trump's official Facebook and Instagram accounts, can still be accessed directly and do not need third-party archives. Trump's official Facebook and Instagram social media accounts offer most of Trump's social network data and have a filter search feature that can sort all of Trump's social network text by date and keywords. The chosen keyword to search for was "Iran" and the search included the timeframe that began the day that Trump first became president in 2016 until the end of his term. So that nothing escaped the scope of this research, the keyword "Iran" was applied by using a combination of corpus linguistic research because computer-aided programs applied in corpus linguistics help analyze certain discourse patterns without involving the interests of the author and or the author's tendencies.

Conflicts in the Middle East will always be the center of the battlefield where developed countries try to maintain their hegemony. Iran is a country in the Middle East that America considers the most volatile to the stability of the region because of its nuclear development. Iran is also the eternal enemy of Saudi Arabia, which incidentally is the United States' second closest ally in the Middle East behind Israel. Furthermore, Iran's antagonism is not only its anti-American attitude but also its most distinct and prominent understanding of Shia Islam. Because of this division in ideologies between America and Iran, then-President Trump decided to withdraw from the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) nuclear deal signed by his predecessor President Barak Obama based on Trump's beliefs that Iran would continue its missile program and would continue to be involved in a number of Middle Eastern conflicts (Dwihendra & Finaldin, 2020).

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

### A. *Previous Studies*

Some research related to social media and Trump used the Corpus-Assisted Critical Discourse Analysis method to examine how selected tweets related to Muslims raise Islamophobic attitudes (Khan et al., 2021). Results showed that Trump expressed anti-Islamic rhetoric during his presidential administration and that he too utilized clearing articulations to develop the personality of displaced people and workers as hoodlums or as a risk to America and its citizens.

On the other hand, Knoblock's (2017) research also looked into Trump's Facebook posts which feature many anti-Syrian immigrant attitudes. The research showed that the term "Muslim" refers to a distinct and uniform group. Knoblock's (2017) study combines the corpus method and critical discourse analysis and highlights the strategy used in the discourse of Trump's posts which aim to position Muslims as "Other" and are not in accordance with American society. They also include dangerous and aggressive speech through Trump's choice of using semantic, syntactic, and rhetorical cursive structures.

The issue of immigration has become a prominent topic in the American political debate, and the ongoing refugee crisis in Europe has been exacerbated by the Syrian conflict. It is a problem that has also affected Syrian immigrants coming to America. This theme, among others, was abused by presidential candidate Donald J. Trump. For illustration, his proposition to boycott Muslims from entering the US accomplished awesome reverberation and started warm discourses. The objective of this investigation is to reveal the high levels of xenophobia and verbal animosity displayed by Donald Trump. The fabric was collected from Trump's official Facebook page and analyzed utilizing Basic Talk Examination and Corpus Phonetic strategies.

The inquiry about applies the CDA approach to the representation of Islam and Muslims within the Trump talk community and answers the political motivation setting where Wodak and Meyer (2011) argued that the CDA was engaging in "[an] analyzing, understanding and [explanation of] the use of digitally mediated communication" and emphasizing the incorporation of the linguistic corpus in Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). Using corpus linguistic tools in CDA proved useful for this study as social media presented certain difficulties in gathering representative sample data.

### B. *Linguistic Corpus (Keywords)*

Keywords are linguistic elements that demonstrate a notably higher occurrence in a specific corpus in contrast to another corpus (references). The high frequency of several topics and discourses in a corpus can lead to the emergence of correlations with certain lexical items and patterns that are positively related to these topics and discourses. In Trump's social media corpus, for example, keywords like "bombings" and "civilians" tend to suggest a discourse about war.

Keywords aid in revealing topics, particularly in the context of Iran. Nonetheless, the significance and collocation of keywords are determined by diverse statistical measures. It is important to recognize that utilizing various statistical criteria may yield varying results, as emphasized by Al-Hejin (2012). In the current study, log-likelihood (LL) was used as a measure of a keyword's "keyness" in the Trump social media corpus. LL is a measure of statistical significance or the level of confidence that the difference in frequency between two (or more) corpora is not due to chance. In this study, the researchers used LL because it "tends to generate high-frequency keywords that tend to indicate the most distinctive themes". Another term is "the aboutness of the text" from which Trump's Iran-related social media corpus is under investigation (Egbert et al., 2022).

The Antcont tool was employed to generate keywords by comparing individual corpora with a reference corpus consisting of 17,900 words from Iran-related tweets, utilizing the LL statistical measure. The LL measure assigns a "p-value" to each word, reflecting the likelihood that the observed keyness is unintentional. Consequently, "a higher keyness value and a lower p-value indicate greater distinctiveness of a word for a specific context" (Aluthman, 2018).

### C. Collocation

The term collocation was first introduced by Firth, who later became known as "The Father of Collocation" (T. McEnery & Hardie, 2011). According to Firth, collocations are considered actual words that often occur together and are included in one part of the meaning. Firth explained that the meaning of collocation is at the syntagmatic level; for example, the meaning of the word "night" is the ability to be used together with the word "dark" and vice versa (T. McEnery & Hardie, 2011). The meaning seen from collocation becomes a syntagmatic phenomenon. This means that collocations must be analyzed at the level of the text.

Collocation using statistical tests is usually done by comparing the frequency of each word in a text that is limited by the core word range (node) to the frequency of other words (collocate). According to this view, collocation is calculated based on whether it is significant or not using the significance test. Odlin and Sinclair (1994) calculated collocations by differentiating the position of the collocate range concerning its nodes. The collocation range can be calculated to the right based on the number of collocates after the node, such as +1, +2, or +3. Likewise, it can also be left based on the number of collocations before the node, as in -1, -2, or -3. To determine whether or not the word collocates with its node, significant tests are used such as chi-square, log-likelihood, t-score, z-score, and mutual information. The principle of this calculation is to compare the frequency of each word with the range of words around its node. If the difference in frequency is very large, then the word under study is considered a node of the collocate (Yuliawati, 2018).

### D. Keyword in Context as an Analysis of Concordance

A concordance is an enumeration or series of instances of words, fragments of words, or word combinations extracted from a textual corpus (Baker & McEnery, 2015). Keywords, the primary terms sought in the corpus, are pivotal. Various techniques exist for presenting these keywords, with one prevalent approach being the application of Keywords in Context (KWIC), also known as the keyword in context. Concordance, a crucial element in corpus linguistics, facilitates qualitative analysis of corpus data, enabling detailed exploration of individual instances. It is imperative to perform a concordance analysis before asserting language variations or changes based on frequency.

The concordance tool examines a specific linguistic element within its context, taking into account the adjacent words that can differ on either side of the "node word." - the word selected for an investigation that appears in the center of the screen - to the entire text if needed (T. McEnery, 2012). Concordance is one of the ways commonly used to refute the opinions of those who claim that corpus linguistics is simply a means of quantitative analysis. Concordance tools/techniques allow researchers to perform qualitative analysis by enabling them to study the item in the text with it. In this study, after doing keywords, and collocations, the next step is to create concordance lines for the selected words for further investigation. In some cases, a concordance search returns hundreds or even thousands of rows. In such cases, (Hunston, 2002) recommends that the researcher select a few lines for general analysis and a few lines to examine in detail and then build several hypotheses based on that analysis. After that, several other lines can be drawn to verify or reject the hypotheses they have previously made; however, their selection must be random to achieve some objectivity and to avoid bias as Liu et al. (2022) stated that computer-assisted analysis balanced the synergy.

### E. CACDA: Corpus-Assisted Critical Discourse Analysis

The combination of both Corpus-Assisted and Critical Discourse Analysis has been widely assumed by different linguists to complement the weaknesses of each method and strengthen the findings of current research (Baker et al., 2008). Such an approach is sometimes referred to as Corpus-Assisted Discourse Studies (CADS) (Partington, 2008). Quantitative methods are compared with qualitative methods and try to combine the advantages of each.

CACDA (sometimes also CLCDA) is an approach that combines two methods at once to investigate and compare the features of certain types of discourse. Furthermore, it is an analytical technique developed with a linguistic corpus as the basis of analysis (Gabrielatos & Baker, 2008). This approach is an interdisciplinary approach that combines analytical methods and techniques to analyze data extensively and intensively (A. McEnery et al., 2006). With a corpus linguistic tool, this approach can be used to analyze large amounts of data and a wide range of data. At the same time, discourse analysis can be used to analyze data in depth, explore the context of the use of certain language forms, and explore discourse practices that allow a linguistic form to emerge.

This approach is different from the traditional corpus linguistic approach because in the traditional corpus, linguistics analysis is emphasized on a quantitative approach to see the quantity of occurrence of a word and the type of discourse that allows these words to appear. Generally, the data in the traditional linguistic corpus is used for the benefit of certain languages in general, say for example Indonesian and English among others. However, in CACDA, corpora data can be compared from one discourse to another and analyzed for certain features to find out their meaning in-depth. Finally, the most significant thing in CACDA is that the corpora can be analyzed by looking at the social and political dominance that is reproduced in the text or speech.

### III. METHODOLOGY

This research will combine two methods: Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Corpus Linguistics, otherwise known as Corpus-Assisted Critical Discourse Analysis or CACDA (Partington, 2008). The working principle of CACDA is that the investigation and comparison of features in certain types of discourse are integrated with analytical techniques developed with corpus linguistics. This includes compiling corpora, keywords, word cluster frequency lists, word list comparisons, and concordance. Furthermore, the analysis is carried out to see the various possibilities of using language to represent power asymmetrically, the social context of discourse production, domination, and ideology. This method uses a descriptive qualitative approach to analyze the data.

This study sees corpus linguistics as a theory commonly referred to as corpus-driven, so using it to analyze language data can lead to the formation of several theories. T. McEnery and Hardie (2011) pointed out that corpus linguistics employs corpora to analyze language usage and holds a theoretical position, but it doesn't constitute a theory in and of itself.

Baker (2006) explained that his study focused on how to examine the frequency, collocation, keywords, and concordance to help analyze the facts of discourses. In his view, discourse analysis based on the corpus has enormous power, but it is more positioned to replace qualitative analysis on a smaller scale. The main difference between the CACDA approach and pure corpus linguistics is that, in corpus linguistics, the main approach used is quantitative. Moreover, the corpus linguistic approach uses as much data as possible from various types of discourse to build a corpus that will be useful for common languages like, for instance, Indonesian, English, German, and so on.

Gabrielatos and Baker (2008) also explained that the main point of the CACDA approach is that the corpora are natural language stores, and these language stores are large in order to find out repetition or patterns that can be used to counter the discourse analysis being carried out both intuitively and suggestively. Furthermore, discourses can be made to represent a set of experienced events as they are conveyed through the use of language.

The data sources used in this study were obtained from Trump's social media accounts which were divided into 3 platforms: Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. The researcher limited the data terms for the three-social mediums with the term "social media text" because the three platforms have different terms, they use such as "captions" on Instagram, "tweets" on Twitter, and "posts" on Facebook.

A keyword analysis was done by comparing the target corpus and the reference corpus. The keyword analysis produced the highest keyness based on statistical calculations; that is to say, each keyword must have a frequency of 5 and an LL value of 19.53 which corresponds to a p-value of  $< 0.005$ . The target corpus was gathered from <https://www.thetrumparchive.com/> and the researcher inserted the keyword "Iran". The data presented 367 tweets. On the other hand, the reference corpus gathered from <https://www.sketchengine.eu/ententen-english-corpus/> in which the keyword "Iran" was also inserted. The illustration of the data approach is shown below:

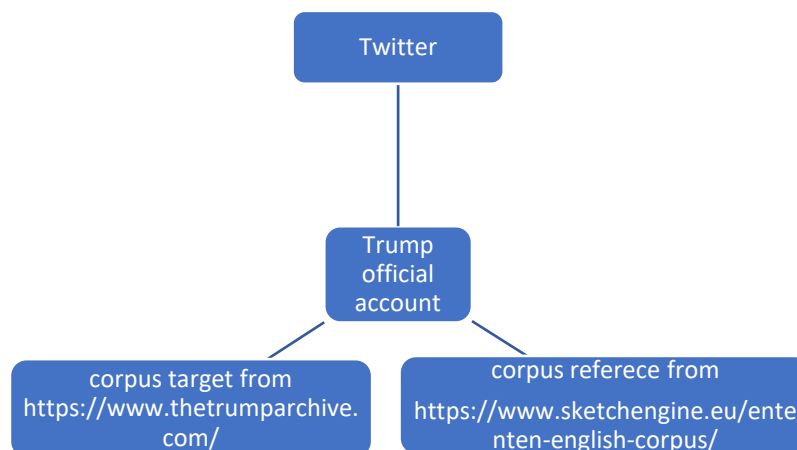


Figure 1.

IV. RESULTS

A. Keyword Analysis

The keyword “people” has a keyness of (+34.49) even though the word in Trump's social media corpus is only found 65 times. According to Baker (2006), the keyness score is illustrated as a statistically higher frequency of certain words or groups in the analyzed corpus compared to another corpus. The keyword analysis not only shows the focus on or around the corpus but also suggests the focus of further investigation based on what themes are most common in corpus collocations (Aluthman, 2018).

TABLE 1  
KEYWORDS SCORE

Rank	Frequency	Keyness	Effect	Keywords
1.	65	+ 34.49	0.0125	People
2.	62	+ 32.63	0.1119	Iranian

The keyword “people” became the biggest theme in this study based on the findings of Table 1, above. Keyword analysis facilitates the search for the most prominent themes and topics related to Iran. The high frequency of “people” statistically appears due to the peak of tensions between Iran and America during the Trump administration. Social media texts that associate people in Trump's corpus include the lives of 40 years of the failed Iranian revolution and the Iranian people who have suffered the atrocities of the Iranian regime. It also describes the oppressive conditions of the Iranian people. Other keywords also compare the condition of the oppressed Iranian people as if the American people stand in support of those who are oppressed.

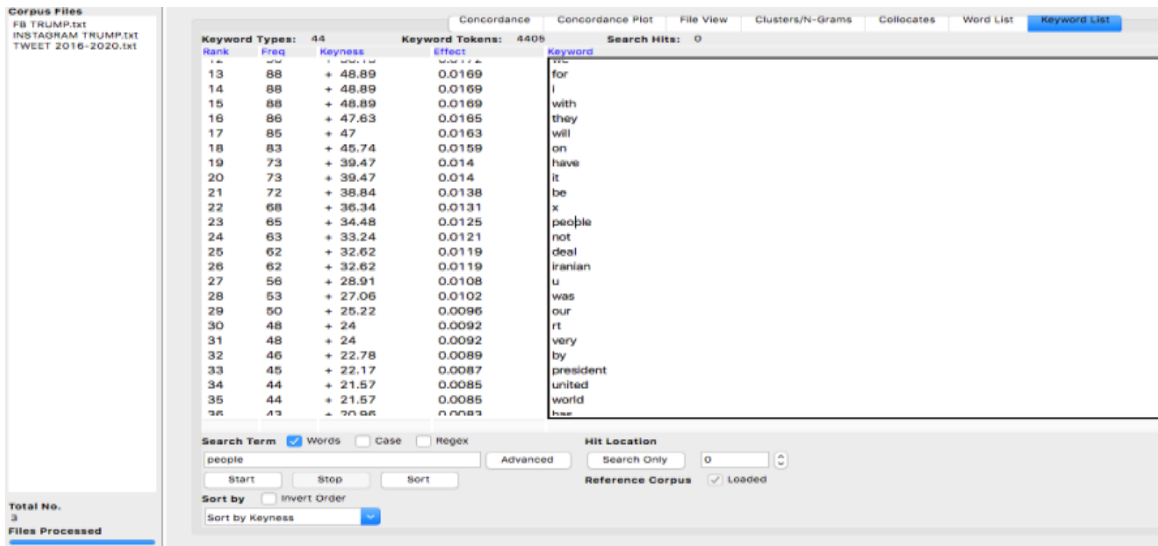


Figure 2. Keyword Result of Trump’s Social Media

The keyword analysis facilitated the search for the most prominent themes and topics related to Iran as shown in the Figure 2 above. The keywords were then been extracted to Table 2 below:

TABLE 2  
COLLOCATION SCORE

Keyword	Significance Collocate	MI Score	Frequency
people	Suffering	7.5	9
	Brave	7.3	4
	Long	5.5	5
	Many	5.1	6
	Killed	5.3	4
	Big	5.3	4
	Iranian	5.3	15
	Should	4.8	4
	American	4.3	4
	America	4.7	4
	People	4	6
	Stand	6.1	3
	Respect	5.8	3
	Protests	5.2	3
	Love	6.9	3
	Freedom	6.6	3
	Leaders	5.4	3
Great	4.1	3	

The keyword of “people” in Trump’s corpus social media has a frequency of 65 and is the highest-ranking keyword that has the most significant keyness is +34.49 in Trump’s social media corpus. The occurrences that accompany the colloquialities of the word people are in the form of verbs, nouns, and adjectives as follows:

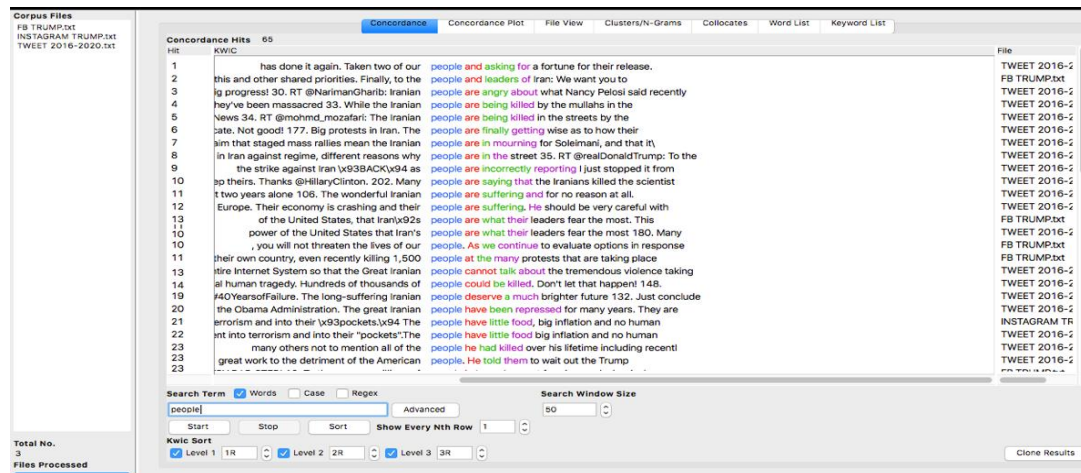


Figure 3. Concordance Result

### B. KWIC Analysis

Based on the table of significant collocates of the keyword “people”, the presence of “people” along with its collocation will be classified based on its word classes. There are adjective word classes such as “real”, “suffering”, “brave”, “long”, “big”, and “great”. Also noun classes can be found such as “Iranian”, “American”, “America”, “freedom”, “protests”, and “leaders”. Finally, there are also verb classes such as “killed”, “stand”, “understand”, “executing”, “repressed”, “respect”, and “love”.

One adjective that is often present with the word “people” shows the position of “people” as a predictive attribute that describes them as “suffering” because of the regime as shown in the sample data below:

- Example 1 “Finally, I want to deliver a message to the long-suffering people of Iran. The people of America stand with you.” 08 May 2018 (Twitter)
- Example 2 “The so-called Supreme Leader of Iran, who has not been so Supreme lately, had some nasty things to say about the United States and Europe. Their economy is crashing and their people are suffering. He should be very careful with his words!” 17 Jan 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 3 “To the brave, long-suffering people of Iran: I’ve stood with you since the beginning of my Presidency, and my Administration will continue to stand with you.” 11 Jan 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 4 “The wonderful Iranian people are suffering and for no reason at all. Their leadership spends all of its money on terror and little on anything else. The U.S. has not forgotten Iran’s use of IED’s & EFP’s (bombs) which killed 2000 Americans and wounded many more.” 25 Jun 2019 (Twitter)
- Example 5 “40 years of corruption. 40 years of repression. 40 years of terror. The regime in Iran has produced only #40YearsofFailure. The long-suffering Iranian people deserve a much brighter future.” 11 Feb 2019 2019 (Twitter)
- Example 6 “According to press reports, Iran may be planning an assassination or other attacks against the United States in retaliation for the killing of terrorist leader Soleimani, which was carried out for his planning a future attack, murdering U.S. Troops, and the death & suffering caused over so many years. Any attack by Iran, in any form, against the United States, will be met with an attack on Iran that will be 1,000 times greater in magnitude!” 14 Sep 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 7 “I want to deliver a message to the long-suffering people of Iran. The people of America stand with you, but it is now been almost forty years since this dictatorship seized power and took a proud nation hostage.” 8 May 2018 (Facebook)

In the data from Examples 1 through 7, it appears that the adjectives accompanying the keyword “people” discuss the conditions of chaos and oppression of the people caused by the regime. Furthermore, the collocation that accompanies the word “people” also describes them as “brave” and “extraordinary”. Even the collocates are discussed in the object of a process of action which, in this case, is carried out by the Iranian regime as in the concordance line below:

- Example 8                    While the Iranian people are being killed by the mullahs in the protests, you are lying to the American people! The real people of Iran don't want the Democrat-backed terrorists. Shame on you for playing with the blood of Iranian people. STOP#NancyPelosiFakeNews 13 Jan 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 9                    The Iranian people are being killed in the streets by the Islamic Republic, but Nancy Pelosi in the USA supports those QT @RNRCesearch: Pelosi dismisses protests in Iran against regime, different reasons why people are in the street 13 Jan 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 10                  President Bashar al-Assad of Syria must not recklessly attack Idlib Province. The Russians and Iranians would be making a grave humanitarian mistake to take part in this potential human tragedy. Hundreds of thousands of people could be killed. Don't let that happen!
- Example 11                  Iran is talking very boldly about targeting certain USA assets as revenge for our ridding the world of their terrorist leader who had just killed an American & badly wounded many others not to mention all of the people he had killed over his lifetime including recently. 04 Jan 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 12                  Iran is failing at every level despite the terrible deal made with them by the Obama Administration. The great Iranian people have been repressed for many years. They are hungry for food & for freedom. Along with human rights the wealth of Iran is being booted. TIME FOR CHANGE! 01 Jan 2018 (Twitter)
- Example 13                  But the brave people of Iran are not fooled. They have no illusions about the evil men who rule them. As they yet again take to the streets, God bless them and their hope for a better future. 11 Jan 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 14                  The United States of America supports the brave people of Iran who are protesting for their FREEDOM. We have under the Trump Administration and always will! 03 Dec 2019 (Twitter)
- Example 15                  To the brave, long-suffering people of Iran: I've stood with you since the beginning of my Presidency, and my Administration will continue to stand with you. 12 Jan 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 16                  To the leaders of Iran – DO NOT KILL YOUR PROTESTERS. Thousands have already been killed or imprisoned by you and the World is watching. More importantly the USA is watching. Turn your internet back on and let reporters roam free! Stop the killing of your great Iranian people! 13 Jan 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 17                  Iran has become so unstable that the regime has shut down their entire Internet System so that the Great Iranian people cannot talk about the tremendous violence taking place within the country. They want ZERO transparency, thinking the world will not find out the death and tragedy that the Iranian Regime is causing! 21 Nov 2019 (Twitter)
- Example 18                  Iran is failing at every level despite the terrible deal made with them by the Obama Administration. The great Iranian people have been repressed for many years. They are hungry for food & for freedom. Along with human rights the wealth of Iran is being booted. TIME FOR CHANGE! 01 Jan 2018

As in concordance Examples 8 through 15, the appearance of “people” collocates are found in the passive voice. The keyword “people” was used to describe an oppressive situation and the many killed by the regime. Users of passive sentences seem to show the powerlessness of people in opposing the regime. In addition, the use of sentences utilizing the present continuous tense with a passive pattern mentioned by the perpetrator (or in English terms, the “agent of the action”) depicts the powerlessness of the people caused by the cruelty of the regime and is applied continuously as in Examples 8 and 9. In fact, in Example 12 Trump again uses the passive voice in the present perfect continuous pattern by always showing the subject actor. Clearly, nearly everyone who has studied English grammar knows that the object (or agent) in the passive voice is the subject of the active voice. In the passive voice, the object and subject switch places though the object remains the recipient of the action and the subject is the one doing the action. As many learned in primary school, the present perfect continuous pattern shows that the event has taken place in the past but is still continuing today. Another colloquialism that accompanies the keyword “people” is the attributive predicate “brave”. Brave people are those who oppose the Iranian regime and will always be supported by the American people as seen in the concordance Examples 14 and 15.

Furthermore, the collocates that accompany other “people” words are the situation and support of the American people and Trump's love towards these people seen through his use of verbs that accompany the collocate “people” such as “support”, “stand”, and “love”.

Based on significant collocations and concordance collocation analysis, the next step is how to group these words based on semantic categories. Below in Table 3 are some semantic categories for the keyword “people”:

TABLE 3  
SEMANTIC CATEGORY

Category	Collocates
1. Characteristics of People	real, brave, suffering, protester
2. Place	Iran, America
3. Actual Condition	killed, depressed, rewarded
4. Support	give support, love, appreciate

Based on the semantic preference, it can be concluded that the text that uses the keyword “people” with an “Iranian” collocate is closely related to oppressive conditions as seen in the emergence of the words “real”, “brave”, “suffering”, and “killed”. People who are talked about as brave figures always get help and love from Trump.

The “American” collocate conversation has significance around the keyword of “people”. His presence appears as a comparison of the Iranian people to the American people who will always support those who are oppressed by the Iranian regime. Also, the collocation “American” tends to be Trump’s shield in defending Iran’s discredited opinion regarding the attacks on military bases.

- Example 19                      John Kerry had illegal meetings with the very hostile Iranian Regime which can only serve to undercut our great work to the detriment of the American people. He told them to wait out the Trump Administration! Was he registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act? BAD! 14 Sep 2018 (Twitter)
- Example 20                      I’m pleased to inform you: The American people should be extremely grateful and happy no Americans were harmed in last night’s attack by the Iranian regime. We suffered no casualties, all of our soldiers are safe, and only minimal damage was sustained at our military bases. Facebook
- Example 21                      While the Iranian people are being killed by the mullahs in the protests, you are lying to the American people! The real people of Iran don’t want the Democrats-backed terrorists. Shame on you for playing with the blood of the Iranian people. STOP #NancyPelosiFakeNews 13 Jan 2020 (Twitter)
- Example 22                      I want to deliver a message to the long-suffering people of Iran. The people of America stand with you but it is now been almost forty years since this dictatorship hidden power and took a proud nation hostage. Facebook

In the data from Examples 21 and 22, the “American” collocate that accompanies the keyword “people” is discussed in comparison with the Iranian people, such as in the use of the verb “stands”.

TABLE 4  
SEMANTIC PROFILE OF “IRANIAN”

Keyword	Semantic Category	Connotation (Evaluative Assessment)	Meaning
People	Iran	Positive	Great and strong in opposing the regime depressed, oppressed
People	America	Positive	Loving Peace Will always support anti-government protesters

## V. CONCLUSION

Based on the evaluative assessment above, the keyword “people” has a positive semantic preference when it is used as “those who oppose the government”. The keyword “people” is juxtaposed with a positive American chorus who love peace and fully support the Iranian people who have always demanded freedom from their regime.

## APPENDIX. TOP FIVE KEYWORDS RESULTS

Method Name: Extract_Keywords					
Corpus: user/ahmad19011@mail.unpad.ac.id/iran_corpus					
Subcorpus: -					
Item	Frequency (Focus)	Frequency (Reference)	Relative Frequency (Focus)	Relative Frequency (Reference)	Score
Soleimani	17	13155	1434,9624	0,30504	1100,32
Iran	301	1787419	25407,27539	41,4472	598,585
north	7	14551	590,86688	0,33741	442,546
Iranian	68	697906	5739,84961	16,18325	334,096
long-suffering	5	20899	422,04779	0,48461	284,955

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