

THESIS
FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE AS A DIPLOMATIC TOOL IN GLOBAL
LEADER'S SPEECHES AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY (UNGA)



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MOTTO

"Sesungguhnya bersama kesulitan ada kemudahan. Maka apabila engkau telah selesai (dari suatu urusan), tetaplah bekerja keras (untuk urusan yang lain). Dan hanya kepada Tuhan-mulah engkau berharap."

(QS. Al-Insyirah: 6-8)

"Minta pertolongan dengan sabar dan shalat. Sesungguhnya ALLAH bersama orang-orang yang sabar"

(QS. Al-Baqarah: 153)

ABSTRACT

Pratiwi, Ivon Anggraeni 22620011, *Figurative Language as a Diplomatic Tool in Global Leader's at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)*. Thesis, Department of English Education, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Wijaya Kusuma University of Surabaya, 2026.

This study aimed to identify the types of figurative language used in the speeches of world leaders at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and to analyze their functions in building emotional impact, persuasion, and leadership image. This study employed a descriptive qualitative design. The data consisted of utterances containing figurative language taken from the official transcripts of speeches delivered by nine world leaders at the UNGA. The data were analyzed using Perrine's (1998) theory of figurative language, James-Lange Theory of emotion, Aristotle's rhetorical theory (ethos, pathos, and logos), and Kurt Lewin's leadership theory.

The findings revealed 113 figurative language expressions representing twelve types: metaphor, simile, personification, apostrophe, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, hyperbole, irony, and litotes. Metaphor was the most dominant type because it effectively explained complex global issues through familiar concepts. Figurative language also functioned to express emotions, especially hope, strengthen persuasion through logos, ethos, and pathos, and construct leadership images, with democratic leadership appearing most frequently. The study concludes that figurative language is not merely a stylistic device but an important diplomatic strategy that helps world leaders communicate complex ideas, influence international audiences, and promote cooperation in global political discourse.

Keywords: *figurative language, UNGA speeches, diplomacy, political speeches, world leaders.*

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