

Discourse Analysis on "Solution" for the Question of Palestine — A Critical Study on Nationalism as a Cage —

Summary:

The purpose of this study is to clarify how the Palestinian political leadership has recognized and presented the concept of "Solution" for the Question of Palestine, and how such discourse has come to hold hegemony, from the perspective of critical discourse studies (CDS). In addition, the future solution is examined from this viewpoint, and the framework of the new solution is presented.

So far, the Question of Palestinian has been understood as a nationalistic question: "How Palestinians and Jews can achieve self-determination". As a result, the major premise for peace negotiations today is the two-state solution which calls for the division of Israel and Palestine and their independence.

It should be noted, however, that this perception is part of the ideology that the Palestinian political leadership has shaped. In other words, it is neither universal nor conclusive, and it is only a recognition that it can exist provisionally as a possibility that can arise in a certain context. From this critical point of view, this study conducted an analysis of discourses generated by the Palestinian political leadership over a wide range from the 1910s to the 2000s.

As a result, it became clear that the Palestinian political leadership has produced and reproduced discourses in which the above-mentioned nationalistic perception is a matter of course, through the use of inculcative and undialogical language. Therefore, the question came to be recognized in a uniform way, and the solution of the Palestinian problem was bound by the premise of the two-state solution. However, the realization of the two-state solution has been doubted and this fixed perception resulted in a stalemate in the settlement of disputes.

On the other hand, looking at discourse in the past, it became clear that the original issue of the Question of Palestinian can be attributed to the "protection / restoration of Palestinian rights". Returning to this point, it is possible to draw up a new solution by relativizing the established values of self-determination and nation-state. As a conclusion, this paper proposes a framework for governance in which people with multiple backgrounds can coexist on a single land by introducing personal principle without presupposing territorial division or ethnic separation.

Keywords:

The Question of Palestine, Critical Discourse Studies, Ideology, Nationalism, Conflict Resolution

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