



Faculty of Literature and Humanities
Department of Arabic Language and Literature

Subject:
A study of the national anthems of the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf based on the theory of speech action of Searle

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April 2022

Abstract:

Today, although the world has become a village due to communication technology, nation are still trying to differentiate and preserve their national aspirations. One of those ideals is the national anthem. The national anthems of different countries of the world have originated from their beliefs and historical background, so by examining the different linguistic and literary aspects of these anthems, we can understand some of the manifestations of civilization, culture, desires and aspirations of nations. One of the important categories in the study of language is "speech action". There are several theories in this field, one of which is john searles theory as one of the most comprehensive. He divided verbal actions into five categories: declarative, persuasive, obligatory, emotional , and declarative. Based on a descriptive-analytical method, the present study intends to examine the national anthems of the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf (Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, the united Arab Emirates and Oman) based on the speech actions of john Searle. According to Searle's theory, out of a total of 191 actions studied, the highest frequency is related to expressive actions, followed by emotional, persuasive, obligatory and declarative actions. Nationalism is the most prominent them used in the national anthems of the countries in question. Other important themes in these songs include religion , a sense of sacrifice and loyalty to the country, sacred oaths, prayers to god, and pride and honesty .

Keywords: national anthems, Persian Gulf Arab countries, content analysis, Searle speech action.