

# The Construction of Patriotism in a China Daily Newspaper Article: A Critical Discourse Analysis

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## Abstract

This research seeks to examine the development of patriotic discourse in an article from China Daily using Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) in the context of the significant 2019 Hong Kong movement. The analysis of linguistic strategies utilized in the newspaper reveals two interconnected discourses: the embrace of national identity and the acknowledgment of the importance of national education. By emphasising the historical and emotional connection between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and mainland China, as well as the importance of compulsory education, the ultimate objective is to maintain the stability and unity of the whole nation. These studies demonstrate the correlation between media, language, ideology, and power, revealing how the government manipulates the media and language to shape popular perception and behaviour, so ensuring compliance with official policies. This study has the theoretical potential to enhance comprehension of how media and language is strategically used in political discourse, specifically in terms of its practical influence on public opinion and its contribution to policy-making in intricate socio-political contexts.

**Keywords:** Critical discourse analysis, Patriotism, National identity, National education

## 1. Introduction

The Anti-Extradition Law Amendment Bill Movement, also known as Hong Kong Riot, which took place in 2019, was the most serious political crisis that the territory has seen since it was handed over to China in 1997. This proposed law suggesting the criminal extradition between Taiwan, mainland China, and HKSAR, was ultimately withdrawn and attracted

significant attention on both a domestic and international scale. By October 31, 2022, law enforcement authorities had apprehended more than 10,000 individuals who were involved in a variety of protests, according to a 2023 report by Ming Pao. School pupils were particularly prevalent among these individuals, who spanned in age from 11 to 84 years old. The arrest rate seen in these demonstrations is unparalleled in Hong Kong's social movement history, highlighting the significant participation of the younger generation. The participation of students in these demonstrations has prompted a reassessment of Hong Kong's patriotic education.

Morris and Cogan (2001) argued that schools are obligated to cultivate a national identity and a passion for China as part of the HKSAR government's mandate to promote patriotism and Chinese values. Nevertheless, Liu (2021) observed that Hong Kong institutions have had only limited success in cultivating a positive attitude towards China. The promotion of patriotism education in the HKSAR is a contentious issue that has the potential to exacerbate value conflicts among various stakeholders (Yuen & Byram, 2007). Lam and Chiu (2019) critiqued the efficacy of the current liberal studies programmes, contending that these programmes have been manipulated by certain educators to exploit the naivety of students. In order to address and progressively rectify these issues, the Law of Safeguarding National Security in Hong Kong and educational reforms that are designed to foster patriotism have been implemented.

News is considered to contain specific socio-political agenda and can reflect relevant relations between power and ideologies, which can be used to manipulate readers to accept specific views or positions (Fairclough, 1992). Given this power, media products such as those published in *China Daily* are meticulously curated to correspond with the hegemonic group's objectives, thereby preserving their grip on public dialogue (Kim, 2014). *China Daily*, being an influential media outlet affiliated with the Chinese government, assumes a critical function in presenting the governmental position on momentous political occurrences, thereby reflecting the prevailing values and beliefs within China.

This paper investigates how the discourse of patriotism is constructed in a newspaper article by conducting a textual examination in accordance with the principles of CDA. The research centers around these two questions: Firstly, how is the discourse of patriotism constructed within the article? This involves analyzing the linguistic and structural techniques used to frame patriotism. Secondly, what does this constructed discourse reflect? This will require further discussion on constructed discourse by connecting it with broader themes. By addressing two research questions, the research seeks to enhance comprehension of how state media promotes ideological results in political debate, therefore aligning public perception with official intentions. Theoretically, this improves our understanding of how the media influences political discussions, specifically by examining how state-owned media might shape ideological results. Practically, it makes substantial contributions to academic scholarship and practical policy-making, particularly in socio-politically complex areas such as Hong Kong.

This study starts by doing a thorough examination of China's socio-political backdrop in order to provide the requisite framework for this inquiry. Subsequently, it rigorously analyses the correlation between ideology and newspaper. Afterwards, an introduction to CDA is presented, which functions as the methodological basis for this study. The process of constructing patriotism using language is thoroughly examined, and in the discussion part, the interaction between the manufactured discourse and bigger topics is carefully analyzed. The report finishes by providing a concise overview of the primary discoveries and analyzing the implications for the execution of patriotism education in Hong Kong.

## **2. Socio-political Background**

Tensions of significant magnitude have existed between Hong Kong and mainland China since the 1997 handover, stemming from a profound historical context (Wang & Ma, 2021). China reestablished authority over the area by implementing the national policy called "One Country, Two Systems", which enabled the preservation of Hong Kong's self-governance and the continuation of its separate legal and economic systems for a period of 50 years. Nevertheless, this strategy has not effectively resolved the ongoing conflicts between Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland about issues of governance and democracy. The Legislative Council in Hong Kong incorporates a system of partial elections, but the populace has still expressed a demand for enhanced democratic representation and the implementation of universal suffrage.

Since 2010, there has been a noticeable rise in political polarization and opposition to communism in Hong Kong. This is mainly due to the growing economic inequality between the governing elite and the general public, as well as other emergent social issues and demands (Philips, 2014). In light of that, in Hong Kong, there has been a notable emergence of pro-democracy movements, characterized by the organization of extensive protests, with the aim of advocating for political reforms and the protection of civil liberties (Guo, 2019). The 2019 Anti-Extradition bill Amendment Bill Movement sparked extensive protests due to concerns among opponents that the proposed extradition bill will weaken Hong Kong's judicial independence and autonomy. On March 31st, 2019, a substantial cohort of university students participated in their first public demonstration to express their opposition to a controversial proposed law. Notwithstanding the substantial demonstrations that attracted a multitude of people, the Hong Kong administration opted to proceed with the legislation on June 9th. The demonstrations rapidly escalated, resulting in violent confrontations and expanding to other districts. The protestors expressed five primary demands: the repeal of the law, a probe into alleged police brutality, the liberation of detained demonstrators, elimination of the "riots" characterization attributed to the rallies, and the resignation of Chief Executive Carrie Lam. On October 23rd, the administration revoked the law but did not yield to the other four requests. The demonstrations persisted, characterized by an increase in both the number and intensity of confrontations, which including the deployment of petrol bombs targeting law enforcement officials. Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the demonstrations diminished in intensity. Nevertheless, the fundamental problems persist without being addressed as demonstrators persist in advocating for the satisfaction of their outstanding requests (Yu, 2019).

The emergence of nationalism in mainland China has been significant among these conflicts, particularly after the collapse of Communism in the post-Cold War era. This nationalism is characterized by a responsive feeling of injured national pride and a sentiment against foreigners (Zhao, 1998). During that time, the portrayal of love for the nation in various media significantly influences public sentiment and attitudes toward national identity and governance, leading to a reassessment of the media's effect on public opinion and policy (Kwok, 2015). The heightened allegiance to mainland China in Hong Kong contrasts substantially with the local aspiration for democracy, resulting in a more complex social and political landscape.

### **3. Ideology and Newspaper**

Ideology, a key notion in critical discourse analysis, refers to a collection of partial cognitive representations, beliefs, and assessments that are collectively shared by a particular group, shaping their viewpoints and attitudes (Reisigl, 2017). The analysis of language uncovers the complex interplay of hidden ideologies and power, with a specific emphasis on how they are expressed through language and their subsequent influence on public and dominant groups.

Despite claiming neutrality, the newspaper often exhibits the ideological biases of its makers and its viewers (Fowler et al., 2018). The newspaper's effect is not random, but deliberate and planned. Different forms of expression in media material may reflect different ideologies, resulting in certain portrayals in news coverage. Journalists can manipulate readers' minds by creating stories that align with the current values and beliefs accepted by the public (Tabe & Fieze, 2018).

The reporting of the territorial disputes in the South China Sea by two publications, China Daily and The New York Times, exemplifies this point since their opposing views demonstrate their ideological stances. Despite claims by both the New York Times and China Daily that what China is doing violates maritime regulations, the Chinese government has maintained that its actions are entirely legal and has condemned American interference as interference. In their comparative study, Pradana and Suprayogi (2021) highlight how both media intentionally adopt language to promote certain ideological notions. In addition, newspapers are often criticized for the way they choose to phrase and style their articles, which may lead to the distortion of the facts, the influence of readers' views, or even the dissemination of fraudulent information (Ghannam, 2011). The vocabulary that is used to describe these organizations, such as referring to them as "terrible terrorists" or "fighters for their own freedom", has a considerable impact on how the general public perceives them (Hamborg et al., 2020).

The production and reception of news are ultimately dictated by a society's prevailing worldview. The evolution of news discourse is profoundly affected by it. This debate, on the other hand, bolsters the current paradigm in several ways. Ideology has far-reaching effects on how society acts as a whole. Furthermore, it impacts the distribution of news articles on a medium size and the use of language in media on a small scale (Wang & Ma, 2021). The ongoing process of influence emphasises the media's role in developing and reinforcing cultural norms and values. In light of this, reviewing the influence of ideologies on news

discourse highlights the need of promoting media literacy among the general population. It is evident that news organizations often exhibit the prejudices of their owners and target audience. Therefore, it is essential for readers to actively analyze and consider information from several sources in order to get a comprehensive and balanced viewpoint. Having this information may assist in reducing the manipulation of public perception and promoting a more knowledgeable population, which further justifies the purpose about this study: uncovering the hidden ideology and its function in the society.

#### 4. Theoretical Framework

Discourse may be characterized as a collection of interconnected texts, rather than a series of separate statements. It is intrinsically interconnected and evolved in tandem with social behaviors and social interactions (Fairclough, 2003). Therefore, it is crucial to examine the communicative aspect of contentious politics, as it uncovers the methods through which ideology, power, and inequity are formed and maintained by means of verbal techniques inside various social groupings (Guo, 2019). Discourse analysis involves scrutinising significant linguistic units, such as conversations or written texts. In this context, it refers to the analysis and understanding of various language used in the newspaper (Brown & Yule, 1983).

CDA was developed in the late 1980s as a methodological approach within the study of language use in society. It was initially formulated by Fairclough in 1992. According to Fairclough (1995), CDA was developed to analyse the complex interplay between texts, social events, discursive practices, and larger social and cultural structures, relationships, and processes, focusing on cause and effect. CDA would study how power dynamics and conflicts affect practices, events, and texts. It also examines how speech-society links are opaque to retain power and control. Fairclough (1992) also claimed that discourse analysis examines text, interaction, and social environment. Three phases of critical discourse analysis arose from description, interpretation, and explanation.

**Description:** Focuses on the formal aspects of text, such as its vocabulary, syntax, and textual structure.

**Interpretation:** Examines the connection between the text and its creation, seeing the act of producing the text as both an outcome and a method in communication contexts.

**Explanation:** Examines the effect of social institutions on discursive practices and the reciprocal impact of these interactions on society.

Thus, Tian (2018) posited that the relationship between speech and its three stages can be understood in the following manner: Firstly, using CDA for language analysis involves examining formal elements such as grammar and lexicon. To put it simply, discourse is all about language and how it's used to communicate, whether verbally or in writing. At this stage, it is crucial to assess the process of how communication is created and comprehended within a given community. Ultimately, the analysis of language use in texts, including its development and interpretation within social settings, is emphasized as a crucial aspect of discourse as a social activity.

To sum up, CDA is concerned with deciphering texts and then disclosing opaque connection between discursive and social practice (Fairclough & Wodak, 1997). Because of its multidisciplinary character and its integration into social practices, CDA has the ability to be used in many fields and areas, such as law, politics, business, and education (Hashemi & Ghanizadeh, 2012). Moreover, it is argued that CDA can be used to reveal the particular ideology hidden in the textual construction (Batstone, 1995). Therefore, this paper aims to use CDA to analyze the newspaper article since it conveys relevant ideology and can affect potential readers implicitly.

## 5. Data Analysis

Analytic techniques like the choice of words, grammar and generic structure would be adopted to analyze the construction of patriotism in this newspaper article. Word choice analysis would be instrumental to understand the text and decode the hidden ideology, and then analyzing grammar choice would also be serviceable to realize text, relations and orientations (Fairclough, 2003). Discussing the generic structure would be beneficial for interpreters to identify the whole text's theme, importance and orientation (Van Dijk, 1993).

### 5.1 *The Discursive Construction of Patriotism*

This newspaper story, which is featured on the widely recognized platform China Daily, presents a contemporary representation of China and can be accessed by a worldwide audience. It focuses on two primary sub-discourses that shape the discourse of patriotism: the acceptance of national identity and the recognition of the value of national education.

#### 5.1.1 Acceptance of national identity

Table 1

Critical Discourse Analysis	
Term or Phrase	Techniques Used
Patriots administering Hong Kong	Direct expression of ideology
National identity awareness	Direct expression of ideology
Motherland, pride, love, compatriots, belonging	Repetition
Cultural bonds, family ties, geographical proximity, consanguinity	Synonymy
Blood is thicker than water; Same root, same hearts	Metaphor
Return of people's heart	Metaphor



Embracing national identity is regarded as essential for the development of patriotism. The term “patriots” is employed in the phrase “Patriots administering Hong Kong” to indicate individuals who have a strong allegiance and devotion to their country, thereby emphasizing the significance of national identity. Words directly convey ideology. The word “administering” conveys the exercise of authority and management responsibilities, suggesting that those in such roles should possess a strong sense of national identity. The phrase “national identity awareness” emphasizes the significance of acknowledging and internalizing one’s national identity with “awareness”, suggesting a deliberate comprehension and embrace of this identity. The use of these phrases highlights the discussion that successful administration and social unity in Hong Kong need a fundamental embrace of and dedication to national identity.

Additionally, three noteworthy methodologies are implemented to articulate ideological orientation: metaphor, synonymy, and overwording (Fairclough, 1992). The text’s frequent use of terms such as “motherland”, “pride”, “love”, “compatriots”, and “belonging” is noteworthy; it underscores the importance of these keywords and leaves an enduring impression on the reader. Synonyms such as “consanguinity”, “family ties”, “geographical proximity”, and “cultural bonds” are employed to bolster the rationality of embracing national identity, in addition to the repetition of these ideological terms. The metaphorical expressions “blood is thicker than water” and “same root, same hearts” are particularly effective in fostering emotional resonance among readers in Hong Kong. The metaphor underscores the enduring nature of these familial ties, despite the historical isolation of Hong Kong from mainland China in terms of geography and politics. Additionally, the comparison of the people from Hong Kong and mainland China as “from the same root and sharing the same hearts” not only emphasises their shared ancestry and familial relationships, but also normalizes this connection, illustrating the acceptance of national identity as both inevitable and essential. Furthermore, the metaphor “return of the people’s hearts” denotes the spiritual recognition of national identity and affection for the nation, implying a communal awakening or a return to fundamental loyalties. The assertion that “Hong Kong residents should embrace their national identity” is effectively communicated through the intentional use of language, which links this acceptance to innate human emotions and portrays it as both a rational and heartfelt need.

The utilization of repetitive key terms, synonymous expressions, and metaphors not only showcases the writer’s positive stance on national unity and identity, but also effectively communicates the notion that Hong Kong has always been an inseparable component of China, and embracing a national identity would be as instinctive as human emotion. This research analyses the linguistic strategies used in speech to demonstrate how it fosters a certain kind of patriotism that aligns with the objectives of the state. It serves as an example of how language is exploited by authorities to influence the general population. It also exemplifies the complex manner in which language operates, serving not only as a tool for communication but also as a powerful weapon for disseminating perspectives and exerting societal influence.

## 5.1.2 Recognition of the value of national education

Table 2

Linguistic Feature	Description
Keywords	Imperative, long-term, continuous efforts, finally and most importantly, overdue, shame, superficial
Phrases for Emphasis	Core value, common ground
Sentence Structure	Mostly Subject + Verb + Object; "National education aims to enhance national identity awareness..."
Rhetorical Techniques	Use of positive and negative connotations to emphasize the urgency and necessity of national education
Modality	Frequent use of modal verbs like "should", "must", "can" to express necessity and obligation
Double Negation	"It is impossible not to..." used to reinforce arguments
Lexical Choices	Justified, undoubted, fundamental, crucial, vital, long-term, stability - used to establish the importance and legitimacy of national principles

Terms like “imperative” and “long-term” can be seen in the article, which shows the extreme significance of implementing national education in Hong Kong. However, the use of powerful phrases such as “overdue” and “shame” highlights the current and urgent situation of lacking it. This language approach is consistent with the government’s overarching ideological objective to enhance national identity among young people. Terms such as “core value” and “common ground” illustrate national education fits into the value beliefs of Hong Kong people, further justifying the patriotism and deepening ideology.

The type of process, typically structured as actions (Subject + Verb + Object), is predominantly used. Fairclough (1989) argued that the choice of process is ideological. For example, the sentence “National education is designed to improve the awareness of national identity among the younger generation and their comprehension of national affairs and the country’s current state” effectively directs readers to recognize the value and definitive purpose of national education. This process type guarantees lucidity, thereby preventing any confusion and preserving reliability. The author’s favourable attitude towards the propagation



of national education is evident in the optimistic tone of the majority of sentences concerning national education. In contrast, there are also negative sentiments; for instance, the sentence "It is a shame but not surprising that national education in Hong Kong has been rather superficial" reflects the writer's critical perspective and implies that national education in Hong Kong urgently requires improvement, as it has not been effectively implemented in the past. The statement "National education is not brainwashing." is a forceful and assertive declaration, intended to challenge negative preconceptions and promote the beneficial function of national education. The language is declarative in structure and contains negation, plainly stating that national education does not incorporate manipulative or coercive techniques. This denial is essential as it redefines national education in a favorable manner, indicating that it is a valid and advantageous kind of education. The phrase indirectly emphasizes the significance of national education in cultivating a feeling of national identity and pride by negating what it is not. These positive and negative sentences can form a contrast to demonstrate the value of national education. Another type of sentence structure "double negation" is also employed in the newspaper article. According to Newson (1994), double negation is often used to intensify a position, giving it a greater sense of absoluteness and invincibility. By negating a negative, the statement strengthens a positive argument in a more impactful manner. The sentence "It is impossible to conduct effective national education without a compatible institution run by competent professionals who sincerely love and truly understand the nation", serves the purpose of not just conveying information, but also embedding certain beliefs. The conjunction of "It is impossible" and "without" creates an impression of absoluteness, therefore validating certain prerequisites for national education. This implies that the attainment of a successful national education system is contingent upon certain circumstances that enhance the influence of specific institutions and experts. Stressing the need of professionals having a genuine affection and deep comprehension of their country encompasses a nationalist worldview, suggesting that patriotism is crucial for proficiency in education. This framework emphasizes the significance of these criteria, presenting the position as unquestionable and strengthening the belief that education should be managed by patriotic experts. The discourse strengthens the persuasiveness and legitimacy of certain policies by constructing a supposedly irrefutable logic.

Modality, conveyed by modal auxiliary verbs like "should", "must", and "can", is essential for expressing ideological positions and power relations in discursive practices (Fairclough, 2015). The study about national education emphasises the need of educational changes by the frequent usage of these modals, highlighting their urgent character. The use of these words not only emphasises the need of putting the plan into action promptly, but also clearly defines the duties of both the government and the public, indicating that participation is obligatory rather than optional. Due to its state monitoring, the China Daily intentionally aligns its material with official beliefs in order to construct China's foreign image. The use of modal verbs in the discourse signifies a deliberate governmental strategy to adopt a firm stance to enhance national education and patriotism in Hong Kong, particularly among the youth who played a prominent role in the 2019 riots. The pronoun "we" is used to establish a collective identity, including all Chinese people in the educational effort and strengthening the call to

action with a united voice.

### 5.1.3 Overall Analysis

Table 3

Textual Element	Description
Introductory Paragraph	Summarizes key concepts like “patriots administering Hong Kong” and “one country, two systems.”
Focal Lexicon	Uses words like “justified”, “undoubted”, “fundamental”, “crucial”, “vital”, “long-term”, and “stability”.
Problem-Solution Structure	Links Hong Kong’s colonial history with the need for national education.

Regarding the whole textual structure, this is a highly structured text with clear logic and order. It is believed that the order of newspaper article is concerned with importance or newsworthiness (Fairclough, 2015). The article rigorously arranges its information to conform to the criteria of newsworthiness and relevance set by journalistic standards, while also following to Fairclough’s rules on media discourse. The introductory paragraph serves as a strategic executive summary, clearly expressing important ideals such as “patriots administering Hong Kong” and “one country two systems”. This not only grabs the reader’s attention at the beginning but also sets up a basic backdrop that helps achieve the narrative’s ideological goals. Even though there were riots and turmoils in Hong Kong, the correctness and legality of these two principles are beyond doubt.

Moreover, the focal lexicon is a significant component of the description level, where lexicons can convey ideology since they reflect the writer’s mindset (Sadeghi et al., 2014). The initial paragraph carefully employs the phrases “justified”, “undoubted”, “fundamental”, “crucial”, “vital”, “long-term”, and “stability” as key elements of the focal lexicon. These potent phrases not only provide information but also implant a distinct ideology. They validate and emphasize the policy’s need and significance, presenting it as crucial and without doubt. The scrupulous use of these terms in the first paragraph establishes an aura of competence and conviction, so affecting the reader’s understanding and acceptance of the policy as crucial and beneficial.

This study adheres to a traditional problem-solution framework, which is a persuasive rhetorical tactic. This style was chosen because it follows the original ideological basis set by the research. A detailed sociological and historical analysis of previous obstacles is presented at the beginning of the report, with a particular focus on the ways in which Hong Kong’s colonial history has influenced the national identity. Moreover, it deftly establishes a connection between the problems that have occurred in the past and the programmes that are now being implemented by the government, implying that the answer may lie in the

acceptance of national identity, patriotism, and national education. This tactic not only captivates readers and constructs a narrative in support of state policy, but it also explains the rationale for national education initiatives by comparing historical injustices to difficulties that are occurring in the current day.

It is vital to use an analytical approach in order to properly evaluate the rhetorical strategies and structure of the text while simultaneously investigating speech in ideologically selected portions within the text. Through the examination of the arguments offered in the article and the ways in which they may influence various audiences, this technique enables us to get a better understanding of how discourse, power, ideology, and language are portrayed in the media. When dealing with extremely sensitive historical and political circumstances, this underscores the need of properly creating written content in order to change public opinion and generate support for legislation.

## 6. Discussion

Two important themes are highlighted in the China Daily article that foster patriotism: the need of national education and the recognition of national identity. All of this takes place under the backdrop of ongoing sociopolitical turmoil in Hong Kong, characterized by both external meddling and internal struggle, and which ultimately motivates young people to resort to violence. Because young people have been at the forefront of the uprising, the government has passed laws to strengthen national security and instituted new educational policies in an effort to instill a sense of patriotism in this generation (Wang & Ma, 2021).

Deliberately selected excerpts not only reflect the national ideology but also mould the ideological identities of readers (Van Dijk, 2005). The language used in the newspaper article is intentionally selected to evoke patriotic awareness, highlighting the cohesion between Hong Kong and mainland China, as well as the significance of internal harmony. The depiction of patriotism in this context has a dual function: it not only provides educational instruction but also acts as a preventive measure against any uprisings, implying that a strong sense of national identity might discourage future disruptions. This discourse promotes the continuous attempts to unite Hong Kong more closely with China's national identity, emphasising the consistency of the "one country, two systems" policy while quietly calling for a more unified national identity based on allegiance to the state. Discourse purposefully strengthens existing power structures and upholds the state's viewpoint, which regards the promotion of patriotism as crucial for preserving sovereignty and social stability (Hastings, 2000). The discourse in this article serves to maintain and strengthen current power dynamics by reinforcing the perspectives of those who already acknowledge the significance of patriotism. It shapes their views on China and highlights that Hong Kong is an integral part of the nation. For those with a limited comprehension of Hong Kong, the discussion highlights the continuous endeavors to cultivate patriotism, stability, and harmony in the area.

Using a historiographical approach in CDA, as suggested by Flowerdew (2012), allows the researcher to comprehend speech within a larger socio-political and historical context. One way to determine what has changed and what has stayed the same in news discourse is to examine it within its unique historical and socio-political settings (Flowerdew & Jones, 2016).

Researchers may get a deeper understanding of the causes behind the prevalence or prominence of specific language patterns in certain discourses by using this strategy (Guo & Ma, 2021). The current Chinese leadership has increased the focus on maintaining stability, which has always been a priority for the Chinese government (Gallagher, 2005). Reports on the demonstrations in China Daily, the country's official English-language publication, mostly reflected the Party's official positions. The use of obviously ideological terms like "stability" and "prosperity" several times in the text serves as crucial justification for the article's intended goal. The government uses these statements to bolster its narrative of continuous economic expansion and political domination by manipulating the reader's perception. The setting of social unrest and economic hardship makes this connection all the more critical. Stability, the demonstration of the administration's ability to maintain law and order, and economic progress, which is seen as beneficial for the general population, inspire trust in both domestic and international observers. The essay stresses the "one country, two systems" concept in addition to reassuring readers of patriotism.

The construction of patriotism in a China Daily article reflects the interactiveness between ideology, power and media. This article presents a narrative that supports the government's perspective on the importance of national identity, education and patriotism for the welfare of the state. This alignment is designed to reflect and steer public opinion in a way that supports government goals and national ideology. One example of the media's influence is the fact that China Daily is owned and operated by the Chinese government. Its purpose is to spread information in a manner that bolsters the government's stance on national issues in order to influence political discourse and mould public opinion. Here we see how the manipulation of media information serves to preserve and wield power via ideological conformity. The public is shown an edited version of events that supports the current system. Media coverage connects with power relations, as the study's investigation of national identity and education convincingly demonstrates. The media's depiction of the challenges in Hong Kong as issues of national pride and safeguarding stability lend credence to the government's position on the unrest. By normalizing government policies and actions and silencing dissenting voices, this framing keeps power relations as they are in the region. Just one example of the clear relationship between ideology, media, and power is the use of patriotic rhetoric by China Daily, which is a strategic weapon for maintaining state authority and promoting national unity. This extensive analysis not only demonstrates the bigger sociopolitical setting in which patriotism is fostered, but it also paints a better image of the process itself.

## **7. Conclusion**

In the end, it is made abundantly evident by using Fairclough's CDA paradigm that patriotic speech helps to both build and reinforce concepts of national identity as well as the need of national education. The purpose of this research was to evaluate the influence that these debates have had on national identity and national education. The findings of this study highlighted the fact that acknowledging and confirming national identity are crucial aspects in determining the perceived value of national education. This discovery answers initial study inquiry by demonstrating the crucial significance of linguistic characteristics—such as ideological language, repetition, and rhetorical strategies—in constructing a persuasive

narrative that connects identity with education. In addition, this study specifically addressed the second research question by examining how the media, when influenced by the government, serves as a crucial instrument in spreading and moulding these discourses. The dissemination of ideologically motivated information through official media platforms highlights the deliberate utilization of media to uphold and strengthen the political preferences and policies of the central government. The dynamic relationship between media, power, and ideology illustrates that the media is not an impartial platform, but rather a managed one that intentionally advances a certain ideological agenda. Therefore, this article asserts that national identity and education are intricately connected and are influenced by the government by regulated media, which impacts how the public perceives and embraces patriotism. These observations indicate the necessity for a broader and all-encompassing approach to national education, proposing that it should be obligatory and thorough, specifically designed to address the needs of the younger generation to foster a well-rounded comprehension of national identity and patriotism.

Nevertheless, it is important to recognize various constraints or restrictions. Firstly, the research is constrained by its concentration on a particular geopolitical framework, which may not be applicable to other areas with distinct political and media environments. Subsequent investigations should strive to include a wider array of circumstances in order to establish the validity of these results on a more general scale. Furthermore, this study mostly used qualitative methodologies, which, while informative, may benefit from the inclusion of quantitative analyses to provide a more well-rounded viewpoint. Furthermore, the impact of digital and social media, which have a growing and important role in moulding public opinion, was not thoroughly addressed and requires further investigation.

Hence, this article posits that there exists a close and complex relationship between national identity and education, which is shaped by government-controlled media, hence affecting the public's perception and adoption of patriotism. These observations suggest that there is a need for a more comprehensive and inclusive approach to national education. This approach should be mandatory and comprehensive, with a specific focus on meeting the needs of the younger generation. The goal is to develop a well-rounded understanding of national identity and patriotism.

The remark denounces the historical execution of national education programmes in Hong Kong as inadequate and optional. The text aggressively advocates for the improvement of education at the national level and suggests that this should be a collaborative effort including all citizens, rather than only relying on government directives. Due to the vulnerability of the younger population to outside influences, it is essential to develop and execute focused and comprehensive plans that cater to their special requirements. One key approach to successfully meet the requirements of young people is to make national education a compulsory part of school curriculum and promptly revise textbooks. These efforts are crucial for fostering a feeling of patriotism and guaranteeing the successful transfer of national ideals to future generations.

Subsequent studies should examine the long-term impacts of these educational innovations



on students' sense of national identification and patriotism. Furthermore, conducting comparative analyses of diverse educational frameworks and their influence on national identity in different nations might provide more profound understandings of the most efficacious approaches for cultivating national pride and cohesion.

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