

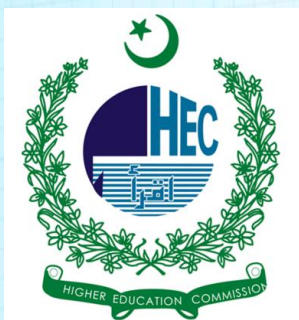
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**An Analysis of Syntactic Devices in Israel-Hamas Treaty:  
A Syntactic Perspective on International Discourse**



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**Abstract**

This paper presents a syntactic analysis of the Israel-mediated peace treaty between the United States and Israel. The study examines structural sentence types (simple, compound, and complex), functional sentence types (declarative, imperative, interrogative, exclamatory, and optative), as well as the use of pronouns, adverbials, and coordinating conjunctions. The study uses qualitative methods to analyze treaty text, that is sourced from the official website. The findings reveal a predominance of simple sentences (based on one independent clause), eleven compound sentences (coordinating two independent clauses), and eleven complex sentences (an independent clause with at least one subordinate clause). Functionally, the text contains thirty declarative sentences, which serve to make commitments and define responsibilities, and ten imperative sentences, which provide instructions. Notably, there are no interrogative sentences, and only one exclamatory and one optative sentence, reflecting a reserved rhetorical style. Modal analysis shows that "will" appears thirty times to indicate intention and future promises, while "must" is absent. The coordinating conjunctions "and," "or," "for," and "so" are used, with "and" being the most frequent. Thirty adverbials enhance clarity and procedural sequencing. Pronoun usage is limited and selective, with only "we," "it," and "they" appearing, suggesting an impersonal, institution-based diplomatic tone. Future research could compare syntactic patterns across different peace agreements, explore cross-linguistic differences, or investigate how syntactic choices influence perceptions of authority, neutrality, and conflict resolution.

**1.1 Introduction**

Language is a system which aids people in sharing meaning and creating relationships. It calculates the way speakers construct their thoughts and showcase these thoughts to others. Scholars observe that language use is never universal, since speakers tend to use forms, which are relevant to social needs and purposes (Halliday, 2014). These decisions demonstrate that language is never fixed. It varies when the speakers change tone, stress, and organization when communicating. This way, language can be used to make sense of the experience and direct the ways it is perceived by the listeners

(Gee, 2015).

Syntax refers to the inner part of linguistics where inner structures of sentences are examined. So, syntax is closely related to this process since it provides structure to what speakers desire to say. It orders the words in a manner that contributes to clarity and coherence. As syntax changes, it is demonstrated how the form and the meaning become intertwined because the meaning or the focus of an utterance might change too (Croft, 2020). The scholars believe that speakers not only construct grammatical sentences using syntax, but also direct attention, emphasize relations and control the flow of ideas (Langacker, 2008). This connection between syntax and language use shows the manner in which structure and the use of language work as a single system. Political speeches have been the subject of broad research (Ademilokun, 2016; Ademilokun and Taiwo, 2013; Aduradola and Ojukwu, 2013; Arnurudu and Oduola, 2017; Irimiea, 2010; Koussouhon and Dadjo, 2016; Okoye and Mmadike, 2016; Opeibi, 2007; Pengsun In these works, we can find the usages of language in campaigns, in a public speech, in other types of political communication. Nevertheless, there are very few studies which address the topic of political agreements between countries, despite the fact that such documents influence significant world events. Little research has been carried out on the language of international treaties, particularly treaties that are associated with conflict and peace.

In this small collection of texts, very little has been done to discuss the syntactic aspects of international treaties. Such aspects as sentence structure, and functions, the role of certain word classes are commonly disregarded. Cease-fire treaties, especially, are not intensively studied linguistically, despite the fact that they are based on the use of careful wording, which eliminates ambiguity, and imparts cooperation to parties. It is due to this reason that the current research examines the language decisions used in the cease-fire agreement between Israel and Hama backed by the United States. The paper analyzes the different kinds of sentences in regard to their structure and purpose and also explores the usages of pronouns, verbs, adverbials and conjunctions. These aspects are discussed as the most important mechanisms that can assist in the formulation of clarity, control over meaning, and regulate relations among the parties that partake in the treaty. This method presents a more in-depth perspective of the functioning of language within the international contracts, and the

ways in which the syntactic options justify the communication related to the peace.

### **1.2 Research Questions**

- What is the frequency of predominant syntactic structures found in the United States- Mediated Treaty between Israel and Hamas?
- How these syntactic devices contribute to the end goal of the treaty?

### **1.3 Research Objectives**

- To identify the frequency of predominant syntactic structures found in the United States- Mediated Treaty between Israel and Hamas.
- To know the purpose of syntactic structures used in the United States- Mediated Treaty between Israel and Hamas.

### **1.4 Statement of the Problem**

This research paper addresses a gap in syntax by examining the frequencies and functions of sentences along with pronoun, adverbial and conjunction in the treaty between Israel-Hamas mediated by US. Treaties are analyzed ideologically, but this research paper focuses only on syntactic composition and function of that syntactic composition. So far, no researcher has applied Quirk and Greenbaum theory of sentence structure (1973) and Brown and Gilman theory of pronoun (1960) on international treaty which is the strong rationale for selecting this text and applying these specific theories. The paper analyzes how grammatical choices construct authority, obligation and power relations. By foregrounding syntax, the paper contributes to a clearer understanding of how formal discourse encodes meaning and interpersonal dynamics.

## **2. Literature Review**

The syntax is usually understood as the rule and structure of arrangement in a language that determines the structure of sentences in the language including the standard structuring of the words (Andrew, 2006). In linguistic research, the aim is to describe and explain the syntactic patterns that take place in a certain language like English (Robert and Howard, 2006). As a discipline, syntax investigates the ways in which words can be joined to create phrases, the way in which phrases can be expanded to create clauses and how clauses can be enlarged to produce a complete sentence. It focuses on its central issue which is the difference between the grammatical and unacceptable constructions and this issue can be observed in the way

sentences are organised structurally. Syntactic analysis thus involves a closer scrutiny of the aspects that make up sentence structure such as the type of sentence, tense types, adjuncts, anaphoric expressions, appositives and other structural tools. These also include co-ordination, subordination, modification, determiners, mood, negation, word-class behaviour, phrasal verbs as well as other types of predications and all of which help in the organisation and interpretation of meaning in discourse. Sentence classification can form a fundamental base in textual structure analysis in syntactic studies. Sentences can be defined in terms of structure as being simple, compound, complex or complex-compound, in terms of number and level of hierarchy of clauses within them (Quirk et al., 1985). In the functional approach, the scholars normally differentiate declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamative forms all of which have different communicative functions in discourse (Biber et al., 1999). These categories inter-relate with a variety of syntactic tools that add to the cohesiveness and sense. In the case of conjunctions, conjunctions are linking factors that encode logical relationships, e.g. addition, contrast and causality, and therefore organize the relationship of clauses in a text (Halliday and Hasan, 1976). Pronouns serve as reference materials that decrease redundancy and carry the continuity of the text that helps to track participants and entities that are mentioned throughout the text easily (Lyons, 1995). Adverbials that can describe time or place or manner or degree or stance add optional and semantically enriching tiers of augmentation, which determine interpretative subtleties and information progression (Huddleston and Pullum, 2002). The modal auxiliaries like will and must also contribute to the interpersonal and epistemic orientation of speech; the will auxiliary is often used in predicting, and the must auxiliary is often used with signifying a strong obligation or a high-degree inference (Palmer, 2001). Combined, these syntactic tools explain how linguistic decisions systematic build grammatical relations, discourse coherence and pragmatic force in the process of spoken and written communication.

As research on news discourse indicates, syntactic decisions determine the process of information segmentation in readers and the way social problems are structured by writers. Studies of Pakistani editorial headlines have revealed that both The News International and The Nation still use noun-phrase structures, despite some minor variation in verb phrases and complete sentences, and have maintained a

preference of concise and topic-oriented structures as of 2023 to 2025 (Aziz et al,2025). In another study on social media discourse in the India-Pakistan conflict in 2025, elliptical constructions of 469 online comments were investigated and discovered that various meanings of ellipsis, namely, nominal, verbal, clausal, gapping, stripping and comparative ellipsis, served to conceal agency, divide ideologically, and generate words in concise messages that spread quickly in polarizing digital forums. The work has addressed a gap in the literature on conflict related discourse research by demonstrating the role of syntactic omission in perception and meaning-making in geopolitical communication (Kaiser, & Naqvi, 2025). The description of the sentence structures in the British and Pakistani newspapers has also expressed the importance of the syntactic analysis in the writing of news. An article comparison between The Nation and The Guardian has revealed that both articles have recurring structures like S + V, S + LV + SC, S + V + O + A and S + V + O + A, sentence patterns have varied preferences on simple and complex structures. Combined, these studies demonstrate that syntactic decisions in headlines, social media discourse, and articles of news-making serve to foster clarity, persuasion, and the entire communication practices that define how people understand things nationally and internationally (Khaliq, & Ahmed, 2025).

In the study by Gill et al. (2025), the genre analysis of the opening speeches of Donald Trump and Joe Biden was provided using the corpus approach, which demonstrated rhetorical and structural specifics of the political language. Through these works, the importance of gender as a prism through which language use and representation can be studied is highlighted.

Raza et al (2025) made a contribution to the syntactic theory by comparing the null-subject parameter in English and Pashto. Nevertheless, they do not describe their study in details and omit the discussion of the educational implications; the information about the sample selection and data collection would help to make the study more comprehensive. Nonetheless, it provides a good basis on which one can do more comparative syntactic studies. Theoretically, Ishtiaq and Gill (2024) tested the X-Bar Theory on the Pakistani languages, which were Urdu, Pashto, and English, and enhanced the comprehension of the general and language-specific grammatical rules. Raza et al. (2025) provide a syntactic discussion of verb phrase structure in The

Old Man at the Bridge by Hemingway in terms of the X-bar Theory (1970). In their work, they show the contribution of verb phrases, which are hierarchical structures based on the head verb, to the meaning of the sentence in that they encode the action, location, manner and modality. This is analyzed to include negatives, modals, embedded clauses, and coordinated clauses and it can be seen that verb phrase structures are quite versatile and complex in Hemingway prose. The results highlight interplay of syntax and semantics as the verb phrases not only describe but also express psychological states, which reveals the generalization of implications of constituent integration to sentence level meaning. Based on the studies above the paper provides syntactic analysis of the Israel-mediated peace treaty between the United States and the Israelis by analyzing structural types of sentences, functional types, reference to pronouns, adverbials, and use of coordinating conjunctions.

### **3. Methodology**

This study adopted a quantitative and qualitative approach. The study applies Quirk and Greenbaum (1973) theory for sentence types and functions and for pronoun the researcher uses Brown and Gilman (1960) pronoun theory. The study chooses the text of peace-treaty using purposive sampling technique: a technique in which a researcher chooses best suitable data for research objectives (Ullah et al,2024 and Raza et al,2024). The text for this research paper is obtained from the official website of BBC and cross-checked with the video on YouTube for authenticity. The study firstly used frequencies to examine the occurrence of the syntactic devices used in the treaty. This made the study flexible and ensured a reliable data analysis. The study secondly focused on how the syntactic devices helped in interpreting of the ideologies expressed in the treaty. Thus, finally the treaty served as the subject and data for this study. The peace-treaty was critically read and the syntactic devices such as sentence types, modality, conjunctions, adverbials and pronouns used in the construction of the speech were identified, categorized, interpreted and discussed in relation to the ideas relayed in the treaty.

### **4. Analysis of the selected text**

The analysis chapter include the lines from the treaty and what meaning these lines carry according to the syntactic rules

**Sentence Types Based on Structure**

1	Simple Sentence	9
2	Compound Sentence	11
3	Complex Sentence	11
4	Total	31

**Table 1. Frequency of the Use of Structural Sentence types and frequency**

- Gaza will be a deradicalised terror-free zone that does not pose a threat to its neighbours.
- Israel will not occupy or annex Gaza.
- If both sides agree to this proposal, the war will immediately end.
- Within 72 hours of Israel publicly accepting this agreement, all hostages, alive and deceased, will be returned.
- The ISF will work with Israel and Egypt to help secure border areas, along with newly trained Palestinian police forces.
- Gaza will be a deradicalised terror-free zone that does not pose a threat to its neighbours, and Gaza will be redeveloped for the benefit of the people of Gaza, who have suffered more than enough.

The chosen lines in the Israel-Hamas peace agreement reveal the way sentence structure is employed to bring about clarity, minimize ambiguity, and direct both sides to the agreement. This agreement contains nine straightforward sentences, eleven compound sentences and eleven complex sentences, which demonstrates that there is a balanced representation of structures to convey confidence, conditions, and coordinate actions. Direct commitments in simple sentences like Israel will not occupy or annex Gaza do not have any additional modifiers and the text sounds strong and definite. The ambiguous sentences like the one where the Israel publicly accepts this agreement and within 72 hours all the hostages alive and dead will be delivered will be based on dependent clauses to indicate timing, conditions, and procedure making the sequence of occurrences clear and orderly. Combining promises to security and building with those to be made on rebuilding in one coordinated frame are compound sentences, such as Gaza will be a deradicalized terror-free zone that does not threaten its neighbors, and Gaza will be redeveloped to the benefit of the people of Gaza who have suffered enough. Such things as the statement, If both sides



will accept this proposal, the war will end at once indicate how conditional clauses lead the expectations and determine the correlation between the acceptance and the result. Also, sentences with cooperation In addition, sentences with a clause of cooperation The ISF will collaborate with Israel and Egypt to assist secure border areas, as well as newly trained Palestinian police forces - apply complex structures to demonstrate shared responsibility and institutional roles. In general, this combination of the types of sentences assists the agreement to convey the obligations, conditions, and joint actions in detail that is characteristic of the communicative objectives of a cease-fire text where the clarity, sequence, and responsibility to each other are crucial.

**Sentence Types Based on Function**

1	Declarative Sentence	30
2	Imperative Sentence	10
3	Interrogative Sentence	0
4	Exclamatory Sentence	1
5	Optative Sentence	1
6	Total	42

**Table 2 Frequency of the Use of Functional Sentence Types**

**Frequency**

- Gaza will be a deradicalised terror-free zone that does not pose a threat to its neighbours.
- Israel will not occupy or annex Gaza. (both declarative)
- Israeli forces will withdraw to the agreed-upon line to prepare for a hostage release.
- All military operations, including aerial and artillery bombardment, will be suspended. (both imperative)
- Implied exclamation e.g., "a historic day for peace"
- Implied optative e.g., "may God bless you", not explicitly stated

A functional analysis of the Israel Hamas peace deal reveals that there is heavy dependency on declarative sentences, which are 30 in number and are applied to express promises, describe duties and show the agreed results, in a direct and authoritative way. The statements of Gaza will be a deradicalized terror-free zone that will not be a threat to its neighbours and Israel will not occupy or annex Gaza show

the use of declaratives as the foundation of the agreement, and provide it with clarity and formal certainty. The deal has no interrogative sentence and this is not surprising in a diplomatic document; the interrogative sentence can bring doubt or even a bargaining point as opposed to definite conditions. In addition to the declaratives, the text contains 11 imperative sentences, frequently in a diluted form of a declarative, but serving as an instruction such as in such statements as All military operations will be suspended or Israeli forces will withdraw to the agreed-upon line. These imperatives inform the necessary steps to be taken towards ceasefire implementation and give obligations and not optional steps. One of the exclamatory aspects is also present in the agreement, through such phrases as a historic day of peace, which is an expression of emotion and it is a huge breakthrough that is described with the deal but does not interfere with the formal style. Also, fearing the repetition, the text has one optative expression, an implied wish, such as may peace prevail, which provides the text with a hopeful underpinning although not the phrasing. In combination, these forms of functional sentences demonstrate that the peace agreement relies on forceful declarations and directive shows, backed by little emotional or wishful content, in setting up a defined, solid, and enforceable guide to the cessation of hostility.

**The Use of will and Must**

1	Will	30
2	Must	0
3	Total	

**Table 3 Frequency of the Use of 'Will' and 'Must'**

- Gaza will be a deradicalised terror-free zone that does not pose a threat to its neighbours.
- Gaza will be redeveloped for the benefit of the people of Gaza, who have suffered more than enough.

A modal analysis of the Israel– Hamas peace deal shows that the agreement relies heavily on the modal will, which appears 11 times, while must does not appear at all. This strong preference for will shapes the entire tone of the document, as the modal is used to signal certainty, commitment, and clear future outcomes rather than legalistic obligation. In the highlighted statements “Gaza will be a deradicalised terror-free zone that does not pose a threat to its neighbours” and “Gaza will be redeveloped for the

benefit of the people of Gaza, who have suffered more than enough”—the modal verb will play a central syntactic role. It marks the actions as firm expectations rather than possibilities, giving the text a forward-moving and decisive character. In the first sentence, will be defines Gaza’s future security status as a definite result of the agreement, reducing ambiguity and presenting demilitarization as a guaranteed condition. In the second sentence, will be redeveloped uses the same modal to express a committed promise of reconstruction for a population described as long-suffering. The repeated use of will across the treaty reinforces its declarative force, helping the agreement present future actions as assured steps in the peace process. The absence of must further supports the document’s preference for direct, practical certainty rather than formal or legalistic tone.

#### **The Use of Coordinating Conjunction**

1	And	65
2	But	0
3	Or	4
4	For	10
5	Yet	0
6	So	1
7	Total	80

**Table 4 Frequency of the Use of Conjunctions**

- Hamas and other factions agree to not have any role in the governance of Gaza, directly, indirectly, or in any form.
- Israel will not occupy or annex Gaza
- No one will be forced to leave Gaza, and those who wish to leave will be free to do so and free to return.
- Gaza will be redeveloped for the benefit of the people of Gaza, who have suffered more than enough.

A conjunction-based analysis of the selected clauses from the Israel–Hamas peace deal shows a strong reliance on coordinating conjunctions, which help structure commitments, link rights, and organize responsibilities. The conjunction and appears 65 times, making it the most frequent, as in “Hamas and other factions agree to not have any role in the governance of Gaza, directly, indirectly, or in any form” and “No

one will be forced to leave Gaza, and those who wish to leave will be free to do so and free to return". These additive links group actors, rights, and assurances, creating continuity and emphasizing cooperation. The use of conjunction 4 times, implies options and possibilities, especially in the first sentence where the governance positions are limited in one way or the other either directly or indirectly or otherwise. The word for is used 10 times usually introducing a reason or explanation of what is done, but its direct use is less apparent in these specific sentences. The so conjunction is used on one occasion, frequently to mean result or consequence, to combine a cause and effect in the statement of the benefits or results of actions. It is noteworthy that there are no but and yet, and it is possible to note that this is the deliberate use of the avoidance of contrastive and adversarial framing to keep the tone neutral and cooperative. All in all, the conjunction rule, i.e. the dominance of and, moderate use of for, or, so and absence of contrastive markers, can be seen as the way to the purpose of the text using the conjunctions to express the obligations, rights and commitments in a clear, coordinated and forward moving way, which is a must in the ceasefire agreement.

#### **The Use of Adverbial**

1	Adverbial	30
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**Table 5 Frequency of the use of Adverbial**

- "The war will immediately end"
- "All hostages, alive and deceased, will be returned"
- "Gaza will be a deradicalised terror-free zone"
- "Weapons will be placed permanently beyond use"
- "New Gaza will be fully committed to building a prosperous economy"

The analysis of these chosen clauses of the Israel-Hamas peace agreement indicates that adverbials are often employed in order to define time, way, extent and certainty, in an attempt to understand the actions and bind promises. In the treaty, 30 adverbials have been used, which shows that precision and clarity are paid special attention. The adverb immediately at the end of the sentence the war will immediately end indicates when the event will take place making the use of the adverb urgent and definite. The words alive and deceased in All hostages, alive and deceased will be returned are adverbial modifiers of state, this is how the statements are further detailed. The

statement Gaza will be a deradicalized terror-free zone suggests an adverbial degree of completeness of the deradicalization. Likewise, permanently is used in Weapons will be placed permanently beyond use to imply duration and irreversibility to emphasize the permanence of disarmament. Lastly, New Gaza will be dedicated to the creation of a thriving economy, has fully, which is an adverbial of degree and supports the totality of the reconstruction efforts. In these sentences, adverbials add strength of statement to the treaty, lessen ambiguity, and convey not only what actions are going to occur, but also how, when, and to what degree actions are expected to occur. The prudent application of adverbials makes the peace agreement clearer, more enforceable and more precise so that both sides can be certain of the extent and urgency of their commitments.

#### **The Use of Personal Pronouns**

1	First Person: - I	0
2	First Person: - We	2
3	Second Person: - You	0
4	Third Person: - He	0
5	Third Person: - She	0
6	Third Person: - It	10
7	Third Person: - They	2
8	Total	14

**Table 6 Frequency of the Use of Personal Pronouns**

- We will encourage people to stay and offer them the opportunity to build a better Gaza.
- we recognise as the aspiration of the Palestinian people.
- . It is critical to prevent munitions from entering Gaza and to facilitate the rapid and secure flow of goods to rebuild and revitalise Gaza
- agreement they will make with the transitional authority
- They are withdrawn completely from Gaza, save for a security perimeter presence that will remain until Gaza is properly secure from any resurgent terror threat

A pronoun analysis of these clauses from the Israel– Hamas peace deal shows a careful distribution of personal and impersonal references to manage perspective, responsibility, and agency. First-person plural pronouns (we) appear twice, as in “We

will encourage people to stay and offer them the opportunity to build a better Gaza” and “we recognise as the aspiration of the Palestinian people”, which signal the inclusive voice of the mediating or responsible parties, highlighting shared responsibility and guidance. Second-person pronouns (you) do not appear, reflecting the formal and neutral tone of the agreement, avoiding direct address or admonishment. Third-person plural pronouns (they) are twice, such as in They are withdrawn completely out of Gaza, save a security perimeter presence is present, and in agreement they will make with the transitional authority, where the responsibility of particular parties is attributed without giving them names, which makes it formally neutral. In general, the use of pronouns in the treaty assists in organizing the text into the division of the actors (we), the impersonal processes (it) and the external actors (they), which promotes the clarity, the agency and the objectivity of the ceasefire agreement and adds weight to the official, diplomatic tone of the document.

## **5. Discussion**

This research paper has revealed that the syntactic structure of the U.S.-mediated Israel-Hamas peace-treaty discourse is determined by an equal representation of sentence types and cohesive means that have definite communicative purposes. Here are the statistics of the measured use of the simple (nine), the compound (eleven) and the complex (eleven) sentences which indicate the conscious attempt to preserve the clarity and at the same time to cope with the complexity of the diplomatic bargaining process. There is a high proportion of declarative sentences (thirty), which indicates that the focus is on the presentation of facts and ensuring the policy, and the low representation of the imperative (ten), exclamatory (one), and optative (one) forms indicates the presence of the controlled directive force and low level of emotional coloring. The modal analysis demonstrates that it has a high dependency on will (thirty), which highlights commitments that are oriented towards the future in the treaty. Additive cohesion is reinforced with the help of coordinating conjunctions, especially and (sixty-five), whereas logical progression is supported with the help of or (four), for (ten), and so (one). The repetitive application of adverbials (thirty) increases structural consistency and situational particularity. The use of pronouns, especially the instances of it (ten), we (two), and they (two) creates an institutional as opposed to personal approach, and the treaty is framed in a collective and procedural

manner. On the whole, these tendencies prove that syntactic structuring is also a key to representation of the treaty as coherent, prospective or institutionally based.

## **6. Conclusion**

The research paper demonstrates that the syntactic tools of the Israel-Hamas peace-treaty discourse mediated by the U.S. mainly relies on the simple, complex, and compound sentence structure as each of them has a distinct linguistic role in a sensitive political environment. The value of simple sentences enhances definiteness and urgency as the speaker can provide promises, humanitarian intentions, and mediation results with accuracy and complex and compound constructions enable the attentive articulation of interdependent terms and negotiated duties. The use of future-oriented modality is also continuous, which further anticipates future diplomatic operations, reconstruction exercises, and security, and makes the treaty a time-sensitive system instead of a time-freeze. Further, there is a logical connection between propositions through the use of adverbials, referential pronouns, and other cohesive tools that ensure coherence and credibility of the institution. All these syntactic strategies combine to match intentions with the designated consequences this way contributing to the construction of the comprehension among the audience and enhancing the perceived validity of the accord. In general, the results indicate that syntactic organisation, cohesive structure, and modality collide to reveal diplomatic goals and appraisal standpoints, as well as illustrates how linguistic structure generates influence and the greater story of conflict resolution.

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