# **Different View Points on Princess Diana's Death**

### **Don Jacobs**

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Language in India www.languageinindia.com ISSN 1930-2940 Vol. 13:6 June 2013

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**Princess Diana**Courtesy: www.biographyonline.net

#### **Different View Points on Princess Diana's Death**

This article is a semi-review of the analysis of the speeches "delivered" by four different sources. Below are my thoughts of the four views separately. My views are based on my interpretation of what I read in the texts.

All speech is delivered with some purpose. The status of the speaker, the state of his or her audience, content, and the manner of delivery, including sentence and word choice, all somehow relate to the purpose of speech.

Princess Diana was a well-known personality and her untimely death in a motor accident stirred the hearts of millions around the world.

#### **Eulogy**

Language in India <a href="www.languageinindia.com">www.languageinindia.com</a> ISSN 1930-2940 13:6 June 2013

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Mourning Death or Celebrating Life? - An Analysis of Eulogy for Princess Diana

www.dictionary.com defines eulogy as "a formal speech or piece of writing praising a person or thing, esp[ecially] a person who has recently died." Not all the four sources that I deal with may not be directly considered as an eulogy. Two of these are reports, one on TV and another on the Internet as part of an encyclopedia.

**BBC** 



The first of the four views discussed in the book is the view presented on BBC, the local news broadcasting. They presented basic information of how it happened and the background information. They also provide the commentary of those who were close to her and the reaction of the public.

(http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/august/31/newsid 2510000/2510615.stm http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk news/6175119.stm)

The speaker is the news station and their political views and limitations are stretched to the fullest in almost everything they review. That includes this as well. They focus on the main incidents happenings, not getting into the controversial details present at the moment.

The audience is worldwide and it could be anyone who can understand the topic and what has happened. The audience there can be from as young as an 8 year old to a 90 year old or even older. The audience however must have an in depth knowledge and desire or interest in the topic that is the death of Princess Diana.

Now the main purpose of this news report is to alert the public of the tragedy and what is being done about it. The purpose is not to go into detail of everything real and assumptions being made. That is saved for a little later after the tragedy has ended and the audience has calmed down.

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#### Queen Elizabeth's Televised Speech



Queen Elizabeth II Courtesy: www.biography.com

Queen Elizabeth talked about the loss of Princess Diana three days after her accident. I assume the time had come for her to recompose her stature as the queen to a point where she can lead help those watching her for guidance. During her speech she was very weary and tired and depressed looking to some degree. <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7cYjOssB5Q">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7cYjOssB5Q</a>

During her speech she only focused on the good things of Diana as expected and she reminded everyone once again of her life accomplishments. She also expressed her emotions towards Diana in a positive manner and her desire to honor her and her deeds and to encourage others to do the same. She also expressed her grief to all the families who were affected.

Queen Elizabeth's audience was like the first one, all over the world, and very similar. But, unlike BBC, what was different about her speech was that the audience valued her word more than BBC's report and had more respect for her.

The purpose of the Queen's speech was to assure, comfort, and express her feelings and sum up the feelings of others in a positive manner to encourage those who watch her or look to her for leadership. That purpose was filled in the most complete form possible if you ask me.

## Earl Spencer's Eulogy for Diana

Earl was Diana's brother and his eulogy was presented to a worldwide audience. He talked about his sister, her disabilities, her works, and life accomplishments. More importantly, her true or inner personality and her securities and insecurities, her being or soul.

http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/9thearlspencerdianaeulogy.htm

Earl, being her brother, had a personnel relationship with her and shared the experiences he had with her over the years for himself and on behalf of the family. He was emotional in his speech and showed the deep and sentimental nature of their relationship.

The audience was, as I said above for other speeches, an international audience; they were viewing the ceremony from all around the world through TV and radio broadcasts. More important is the fact that the audience has known of the tragedy for some time and has had some time to cope with it. The audience is watching to show their respects for Princess Diana.

The point of the Eulogy was to remind everyone of the true Diana and this was accomplished. Through this eulogy those watching had a glimpse of Diana again in a sense and were encouraged to remember her in a way she could be honored, rather than mourning her death. There was also a suggestion to not idolize her but rather look at what she has done and build off of it.

#### Wikipedia Entry for Princess Diana

Wikipedia has an entry of their take on the story. But it is not necessarily their view point but rather all the information they could get that was credited to some degree. Wikipedia is

known for having a lot of information. At first it was all questioned but in today's world a lot of work has been put in to it to fix that by review and sourcing all the information. Point is that they have given all the details of what happened, the controversy of how it happened and the background story. They also have information on the current news about the subject.



Wikipedia

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death\_of\_Diana, Princess\_of\_Wales

The speaker is, well, a collective identity and long term collection of news that always has room to grow. Because of this all the information is presented, good and bad. And the information has been checked multiple times for error.

The audience of this is unique because it was meant for everyone but in reality the users of the information are those seeking it. To be more specific, the users are those searching for answers and details that are not just the good and 'safe' but the ugly truth itself. But know that there isn't much ugly truth.

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  <a href="http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/9thearlspencerdianaeulogy.htm">http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/9thearlspencerdianaeulogy.htm</a>.

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