

Scholar Journal of Applied Sciences and Research

The Role of Citizen Journalism in Addressing Human Rights Issues through Websites and E-Newspapers in Jordan

Hanan Kamel Ismail¹

Hani A F Albadri¹

Layla Ahmad Jarrar¹

Ezzat M Hijab^{1*}

¹Middle East University, Jordan

Abstract

This study aims to examine the role of Citizen Journalism in addressing human rights issues; where ordinary citizen can participate in collecting, publishing and analysing news, a function previously reserved for major media organizations. This is a descriptive study, based on content analysis of a sample of press article represented the website of Jordanian Ammon Net, and two electronic newspapers, "El youm7th" newspaper from Egypt and Deutsche Welle from Germany. Source, subject and trends during the period from first of July until 30th of September 2017 were analysed. The results of the study indicate a clear increase interest in Citizen Journalism; also, there was a divergence of views among the study's sample on the subject of freedom of opinion and expression. The study sample differed in its approach to cover human rights issues, but agreed on the importance of the Citizen Journalism in collecting and disseminating information to the public, making this type of media a powerful tool contributing to change.

Keywords: Citizenjournalism, Human rights, Websites, E-Newspapers.

Introduction

This study is exploring the role of Citizen Journalism in covering human rights issues. This role is one of the aspects introduced by the modern technology revolution. The Internet has contributed to changing the concept of the traditional media; with the internet, people receive the news at the time of its occurrence. Over the internet we upload pictures, videos and other interactive features. All of this is in line with the emergence of new generations who are practicing all their activities through the Internet, which has attracted many segments of society.

The participation of citizens in media, gives us what we called "Citizen Journalism". In other words, the Citizen Journalism is "the recipient when he becomes a sender". The Citizen Journalism has greatly influenced over the past years in formation public opinion and the formation of people attitudes. The eyewitnesses see the accidents; and they can transfer the events at the same time it is occur. They are sending a report and photos to the media. The eyewitnesses can be a journalist in the unlike way of journalists in the mainstream media, Citizen Journalism can be anonymous contributors without any training on the press.

According to the history of electronic journalism, the first newspaper in the United States launched an electronic version was the "Chicago Tribune" in 1992. This electronic newspaper spread through "Chicago Online". News sites and e-newspapers appeared on the Internet, both for newspapers and television channels or for independent news websites,

Article Information

Article Type: Research

Article Number: SJASR117

Received Date: 24 April, 2018

Accepted Date: 16 May, 2018

Published Date: 25 May, 2018

***Corresponding author:** Dr. Ezzat M Hijab, Faculty of Media, Middle East University, Jordan. Tel: +962-799099076; Email: hijab1952@yahoo.com

Citation: Ismail HK, Albadri HAF, Jarrar LA, Hijab EM (2018) The Role of Citizen Journalism in Addressing Human Rights Issues through Websites and E-Newspapers in Jordan. Sch J Appl Sci Res. Vol: 1, Issu: 2 (35-46).

Copyright: © 2018 Ismail HK, et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

which are an independent electronic news channel in their own right.

Citizen Journalism has grown because of what the public increasingly publishes or contributes to the media rather than just consuming it. Some people think that these audiences are playing a greater role in providing news content to the media [1].

We see this in Korean website "Oh My News", being the eyes and ears of the media to provide immediate information such as pictures and videos of accidents or immediate events, in other words difficult news reports that require a presence on the ground, swept the traditional way of reporting the news. Many newspapers have relied on photos and newspaper articles published in Blogs for a citizen who have no professional practice of journalism [2].

It is clear from the above, that Citizen Journalism is taken place of the traditional press, which is no longer able to compete with the huge amount of information available through social media.

Problem of the study

With the growing interest in human rights issues at the local and international levels, we witnessed increasing demand for freedom of expression and the right of every citizen to access and disseminate information [3].

This study will examine the coverage of Citizen Journalism to human rights issues through analyzing the coverage of human rights issues in the Jordanian Ammon Net website, Egyptian daily newspaper Al-Youm-7th and the German e-newspaper Deutsche Welle.

Importance of the Study: This study depends on the importance of the phenomenon of Citizen Journalism. The importance of this study can be determined in the following points:

The scientific importance:

- Lack of research and scientific studies that dealt with Citizen Journalism and human rights issues due to the modernity of the field of knowledge related to Citizen Journalism.
- Recognize the importance of Citizen Journalism in keeping up with events and getting information about current events.
- The most importance is enabling the ordinary citizen to participate in the collection and dissemination of news and analysis of the so-called Citizen Journalism, and to serve to address human rights issues.

The practical importance:

- The results of this research can help us in identify the extent to which the public relies on the information provided in the Citizen Journalism and available in websites and electronic newspapers, and their impact on the formation of public opinion and the formation of its interests.
- This study provides practical indicators to develop the

use of Citizen Journalism, in the light of the rapid growth of the Internet and its applications.

Purpose of the study

The study aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Importance of Citizen Journalism in dealing with the current affairs issues.
- Impact of Citizen Journalism on increasing knowledge among the public.
- How Citizen Journalism address human rights issues and issues through websites and e-newspapers.
- Identifies the positive and negative effects of Citizen Journalism on the public.
- Level of interest of the Ammon Net and the e-newspaper of the Youm7 of Egypt and the e-newspaper of Deutsche Welle on covering human rights issues, especially in the areas of freedom opinion and expression and the rights of prisoners.

Study questions

The study seeks to answer the following questions:

- α) In what way the coverage of human rights issues (the freedom of opinion, expression and the rights of prisoners) in the Citizen Journalism through websites and electronic newspapers (sample study).
- β) What are the techniques of persuasion used to cover human rights issues in the Citizen Journalism, in web sites and electronic newspapers (sample study)?
- χ) What frameworks used in the dealing with human rights issues in the Citizen Journalism through websites and electronic newspapers (sample study)?
- δ) What news elements used to present the human rights issues in the Citizen Journalism through websites and electronic newspapers (sample study)?
- ε) What are the active personalities of the human rights issues in the Citizen Journalism, through websites and electronic newspapers (sample study)?
- φ) What are the sources of the subject for the human rights issues in the Citizen Journalism, through websites and electronic newspapers (sample study)?
- γ) What are the methods used in covering human rights issues in the Citizen Journalism through websites and electronic newspapers (sample study)?

Methodology

This is a descriptive study aims at describing phenomena or events, through collecting facts, information and observations. This study is describing the specific circumstances of all events, and then determining their condition, as they exist in reality [4].

The study will based on survey, in which the content of the Citizen Journalism coverage of human rights issues, especially freedom of opinion and expression and the rights of prisoners materials will be examined during the period

from 1st of July until 30th of September 2017, on Ammon Net website, the Egyptian newspaper Al-Youm-7th and the Deutsche Welle,

Population: The population of this study consists of the web sites and electronic newspapers that have been identified to serve the objectives of the study, namely, Ammon Net, the Al-Youm 7th Egyptian newspaper and the German newspaper Deutsche Welle.

We chose these websites according to its diversity and was not limited to one geographical area, but extended to include a local country (Jordan); Ammon Net identified because of its interest in local Jordanian issues. It is the first Jordanian electronic news website, which has become the first source of information, interaction with Jordanians inside and outside Jordan. This website has a high density of users according to international standards.

Al-Youm 7th Egyptian E-website/E-newsletter of Al-Youm 7th newspaper, which is considered one of the top 10 sites visited by Egyptians according to Alexa's. This website is ranked No. 7th, provides news services, news coverage and area for comments and free writing.

Deutsche Welle website, German site that provides news and analysis, presents Germany views on Arab issues.

All of these sites are interested in Citizen Journalism through publishing the best blogs and blogging pages, especially in the fields of human rights.

The analytical study was conducted to monitor the human rights issues of the Citizen Journalism, especially in the fields of the opinion, expression, and prisoners' rights. This through the study's sample, represented by the Ammon net website, the Deutsche Welle website, and Youm 7th website from 1/7/2017 to 30/9/2017.

The essential data of the site/electronic newspaper (sample study) Sample: Three months period from 1 July 2017 to 30 September 2017, with the aim of analyzing human rights issues, especially in the areas of freedom of opinion and expression and the rights of prisoners in the following websites: Ammon Net, the Youm 7th Egyptian newspaper, and the Deutsche Welle.

Study tool: To achieve the objectives of the study; we will use content analysis technique to analyze the coverage of the study sample.

Analysis Unit

The researchers tried to select the appropriate categories of research, giving dimensions to measure the value, content of the subject matter, in line with the research and enhance its results.

The units of analysis are a set of classifications or categories that the researcher prepares according to the quality of the content and the purpose of the analysis. These units will be used to describe the content and to classify it with the highest possible degree of objectivity [5]:

- **Unit of the subject/the idea:** The human rights issues covered by Citizen Journalism in the sites and electronic

newspapers of sample study.

Unit of journalism arts/templates: The journalistic arts that are used such as the report, article, news, blogs, etc. All the journalistic templates adopted by the websites represent the study sample in dealing with human rights issues through Citizen Journalism.

Categories of analysis

Categories what was said?

- Coverage dealing with human rights issues through Citizen Journalism.
- Framing used to publish human rights issues through Citizen Journalism.

Categories how was said?

- Template Such as news, photo, commentary, comics, blogs, report, article, experts and specialists, direct broadcasting from the event site, video.
- Elements of accent such as the personal photos, objective photographs related to the events, scene photography, archival material, charts, illustration maps, frames and prominence.
- Treatment style such as: mention of reasons, mention of solutions, justification, direct attack, advocacy to move and take a position, support, providing news and information.

Validity and Constancy

Credibility procedures

The research instrumentals were presented to a number of specialized researchers for measuring its validity. The results of this process helped to improve the research form in many aspects. Researchers prepared the final form after making the necessary adjustments in accordance with the observations of the arbitrators to the target data.

Stability procedures

In the side of the stability test, the test was repeated using the researcher's method of stability. The sample of the sample was analyzed by the researcher twice in two different time periods, and the stability factor was calculated based on the results, as if analyzed each time with a different code [6].

Operational definition

- **Citizen journalism:** The contribution of press content to the news process [7]. The Blogging is an example of one element of Citizen Journalism. New electronic versions can provide anyone with the opportunity to write, publish their own views and news gathered from their own sources on the Internet [8]. This new phenomenon is called "Citizen Journalism" or "citizen communication" in the field of communication and journalism.
- **The internet:** International communications network consisting of a set of computer networks that connect more than 35000 networks of various computer networks worldwide. There are about 33 million users in this

network; with more than 100 countries in the world have connectivity and access to the Internet [9].

- **E-media:** Media services that enable the development of the media content, automatically or semi-mechanically, in the information process using modern electronic technologies resulting from the integration of information and communication technology as media outlets rich in form and content, including signals, information, images, In different forms [10].

In other words, this is a new type of media that shares traditional media in concept, general principles, objectives, and differs from it depends on a new medium of new media, the integration of all traditional means of communication, in order to communicate the content required in different forms [11].

The webs sits refer to sites for publishing news, investigations, analyzes that have been prepared, published for publication on the Internet. Their articles are published around 24th hours per day. Professional editors and correspondents who can be called Internet journalists write these sites. These sites produce prepared content or immediate publication, Modern communication and its potential [10].

- **Human rights:** The concept of human rights refers to a range of needs or demands that are required by normal persons. These rights are in any society without distinction of any kind. These rights include a set of individual, collective and qualitative rights established by international law starting with the Charter of the United Nations In 1945, through the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 and the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights in 1966.

Theoretical Framework and Previous Literature

Information systems theory

The study is aiming to identify the role of Citizen Journalism in dealing with human rights issues through websites and electronic newspapers, especially in the fields of the freedom of opinion, expression and the rights of prisoners, the theory of media frameworks was chosen from many theories of communication to scientific rooting of the subject of the study.

The theory of "Information frameworks" provides a systematic explanation for the role of the media in shaping ideas, attitudes towards outstanding issues, and their relationship to the public's cognitive and emotional responses to issues [12]. The media is not limited to the mere provision of news content. It is also the construction of the meaning of this content by framing according to the angles, aspects that enable the making of assessments, judgments on it. This increases the importance of the theory and applications in the field of academic studies. The frameworks represent an important step in the production process of news articles; determine the positions of the recipient, and public attitudes towards various events and issues

The main assumption of this theory is that juveniles do not in themselves have a certain significance, but rather gain their meaning by placing them in a framework that defines, regulates, gives them a degree of consistency by focusing on certain aspects of the subject and omitting other aspects.

- The media determine the interest of public opinion in specific subjects. It decides what the public, the journalists and the citizen concerned, who are interested in this study, should decide.
- At this case, the story is more than just presenting the news. This is through the way of the news is prepared, the framework of news, the choice of journalists.
- The frameworks refer to the way in which the media organizes and presents events and issues, as well as the way in which the public interprets what is presented to them.
- Frameworks are short, concise intentions that help to organize and build social meanings.
- Frameworks affect public perception of news, so frame theory determines not only what we think but also how we think about it.

Framework defined as "the process that determines and regulates through media sources the political issue or public debate around them. According to that the media frameworks influence public opinion by focusing on specific values, facts or other ideas that are given by a high degree of more relevant clarity than alternative frameworks.

From the above we draw the most important points that underpin the theory of media frameworks [13]:

- The media is focusing in its messages on specific aspects of the case no other. The definition of specific frameworks is creating used criteria by members of the audience in their assessment of the issue. In other words, the public's information, trends towards different events and issues are formed in light of their impact on frameworks addressed through the media for those events.
- Events do not have a particular meaning with itself, but are gained by placing them within a framework that they define and regulate by focusing on certain aspects of the subject and omitting other aspects.
- The use of different reference frameworks in the media message, in turn leads to different public opinion towards the various events and issues.

The most advantages of the information frameworks' theory in the current study: The framework of the journalistic text theory is considering the entrance for Citizen Journalism through its structural elements. It consists of headings and sub-sections [14]. We can look to these elements through its structural. This theory includes; the use of image, the presented evidence, the choice of source, quotations, logos, statistics, data and concluding paragraphs, through which the implicit content of the text can be accessed and analysed, thereby integrating the analytical

vision with regard to the issues of different types and degree of importance [15].

The theory of media frameworks is depending on the events and contents of the media do not have significance in themselves unless they are organized in a context and media frameworks. These frameworks regulate words, texts and meanings, use prevailing social experiences and values, the content of the message and the interpretation of its role in influencing the views and trends of the public.

In the framework of the theory of “media frameworks”, the media can put phenomena such as violence, oppression, inequality, social issues and freedom of expression in different frames and patterns, whether ignored or confused and placed in the background of interests; In this study we are concerned primarily with the rights of opinion, expression and the rights of prisoners.

The theory of frameworks contributed in practical application of many concepts and ideas. This theory made a theoretical framework consistent with the subject of study. This theory has strong principles. This theory includes logic provided by the studies of cognitive psychology on the representation of knowledge. The judgments of this theory based on the frameworks, and concepts. We see this is clear in the media (the Internet) one of the most important sources of news in individuals. If we want to shed the theory of frameworks on the treatment of sites and newspapers for human rights issues, especially in the areas of rights of opinion and expression and the rights of prisoners. We have a several facts that are focusing on the use of certain news frameworks; other facts that are outside of the framework of news. This means that the news presented to the public is framed according to the ideology and the reference that it believes in. From these sites, the public begin to change its view of human rights issues. They are becomes more aware, awareness of rights, the way to deal with them and defend them in case of violation.

Citizen journalism

Newman comments on the played role by the Citizen Journalism, “It is not about the rate of uploading videos on YouTube, for example. The real issue is the rapid spread of what is uploaded, and this is the standard [16]”.

The Citizen Journalism has dealt with many prominent events and issues in the Arab countries, and the world at large. This role appears to try to guide public opinion on some issues, whether with support or opposition.

With the increasing interest in human rights, popular revolutions began in the Arab world in 2011, which strengthened the role of the so-called “Citizen Journalism and the new media”. We saw new thing appeared. This thing is the role of social media, mobile phones, blogs and others in the transfer of the event, the construction of the press story, Television networks and websites. All of these things have become increasingly dependent on the new media, adapted to the rapidly evolving technology that has provided these modern and ever-evolving media.

Technological advances in various forms led to

emergence the Citizen Journalism or popular journalism, have reinforced the idea that journalism should be seen today as an activity. This activity is not a profession. We see not all bloggers, social activists necessarily have press activities, but those who do so can should be subjected to harassment, threats, attacks, as do journalists who work in the traditional media. Accordingly, everyone who carries out a presswork in the public interest should enjoy special protection. All decisions recently adopted by various United Nations bodies increasing community recognition the international community.

Some researchers refer to the history of Citizen Journalism from the date of the US presidential election in 1988 among the candidates George W Bush and Michael Dukakis. When the citizen had a role in moving the media and providing them with news, following doubts raised about the credibility of television news in that period, to involve the citizen in the election campaigns and not to devote the hours of broadcasting to the candidates only as was the case at the time [17].

The term of Citizen Journalism, linked to “transformative processes that bring within participants and their communities” or ways in which the public can become involved in the media using the various resources available [18].

However, the Citizen Journalism with its current term is linked to the social networking sites has had older names according to its uses and the development of means of communication at the time. It started from the concept of participatory media. This kind of journalism allows the citizen to collect, analyze, submit information, then called the street press, lobbying campaigns to support workers outside the traditional, official media outlets, until the term “Citizen Journalism” ended up distinguishing it from several other types in which a journalist with journalism is involved in a community media product.

The Citizen Journalism applies to all “user-generated content” and is universally known as content generated-user, which is the content produced by any Internet user without professional conditions or journalistic standards [19]. The most prominent term that leads to the ultimate development of Citizen Journalism is participatory media.

On the other hand, many researchers believes that social networking sites have given the citizen power to express and thus influence the environment of citizens, so that some citizens have become sources of news and reference to journalists working in the field [20].

Previous literature

- The study from Hafez [21] entitled “Relationship between Citizen Journalism and the issue of sectarian strife, the values of Muslims, Copts in Egypt and their trends”: In this context, the survey methodology and the comparative approach were used. The study focused on the sectarian strife witnessed by the Egyptian society during from the beginning of 2011 until the middle of 2016. The study's sample was 421 individuals from the governorates of Cairo, Giza, Qalubia, Alexandria and Menia. The sample

included the analysis of theses on Facebook and the videos through YouTube. According to the result of the study reached to the use of Citizen Journalism sites almost continuously by many groups of the public as the result of the spread of mobile phone, the results indicated the important played role by the Citizen Journalism in keeping up with the events and their impact on some attitudes and attitudes of the public.

- The study from Abril and Rojas [20], entitled “Silencing Political Opinion”. This study evaluates the influence of geopolitical formations in Colombia: The study was designed to assess the freedom of opinion on post-election political issues in Colombia by drawing on national survey data collected to assess the impact of geopolitical contexts and individual cases on the public’s ability to express opinion on political issues. National incompatibility has had a great impact on voters ‘choices, and individual differences have greatly affected citizens’ ability to enjoy their right to express their opinion politically. There is also a difference between the citizen’s ability to express his opinion, E in the case of whether such self-censorship or community supervision.
- The study from Amen [22], examined “The Role of Social Networks in the Development of Political Awareness - a Case Study for the Youth of the Revolution of 25th of January”: The study relied on the descriptive approach. A questionnaire was used on a sample of 494 individual network users Social networking, prepared a content analysis form for the article published on the page of all Khalid Said on Facebook during the period from 1st December 2010 to 28 February 2011. The results of the study showed the keenness of young people to use social networks as a source of political information, Political situation by positive.
- The study from Abdel-Mooty [23], examined “The Trends of Egyptian Youths towards Citizen Journalism Coverage in the Internet”: The period of this study is from the outbreak of revolution of 25 January until today. It also discusses the played by the citizen in communicating events through internet. The results of the study showed the interest of a large percentage of young people in the follow-up to the Citizen Journalism reaching 75.5%. This model confirms the important of the entertainment situation. The results of this study showed a positive attitude toward Citizen Journalism. The study pointed out that the trust in the content presented through the Citizen Journalism is still incomplete, despite the availability of many standards of media wealth in the Citizen Journalism, but these criteria are limited to the aspect of objectivity, credibility and depth of media coverage.
- The study from El-Samari and El-Khaja [24], entitled “The Credibility of Citizen Journalism and Traditional TV Journalism among Emirati Youth”: The study sought to identify the extent to which Emirati youth relied on the new and traditional media as the main source of news, the credibility of new and traditional media for UAE youth and Emirati journalists, by citizens. The study used both the survey approach, the comparative approach to compare the credibility of Citizen Journalism, the traditional journalism among Emirati youth in December 2012. It was divided into three categories representing citizens practicing Citizen Journalism and youth journalists. This in all media in newspapers, radio, television and UAE youth, which uses social networks from 7th emirates in the UAE. This study includes three discussion groups (8 participants per group) for young journalists in the traditional media and Citizen Journalisms. The results of the study confirmed the high credibility of the Citizen Journalism for traditional credibility of young people. On the other hand, the credibility of traditional media is at the expense of the credibility of the new media.
- The study from Al-asker [25], entitled “The Role of Arab’s Websites in Increasing Awareness among Arab citizen in the issue of Palestinian Prisoners in Israeli Jails”: The issues they dealt with, the press sources relied upon to obtain the prisoners’ news, and the editorial forms used during the study period which lasted six months. The researcher also analyzed content on four Arab websites: Al-Jazeera Net, Al Arabia Net, Arab News Network and the 7th Day website to learn about its role in raising awareness of the Palestinian prisoner’s issue. The results of the study showed the weakness of attention to the issue of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails Palestinian sources or from Arab sites, especially Al-Arabia Net, as well as the neglect of the study sites in the use of various press editing arts to highlight the issue of prisoners.
- The study from Qataloni [26], entitled “The Role of Social Media (Facebook) in Political Changes –Egypt as a Model”: The study aimed to learn the conditions that helped the political change in Egypt, as a model. This through social networking sites, “Facebook”, to identify the means used by Internet activists, Facebook to circulate, maintain the revolution, Social networking is a major means for Internet, Facebook activists to face any system to meet the aspirations, and objectives of the people. The results of the study showed that social networking sites broke the fear of people because of the lack of real confrontation with the government, also contributed to accelerate and accelerate the outbreak of Arab revolutions Coordination to mobilize the masses, documenting human rights violations, demonstrators through photos and videos that are spread on these sites.
- The study from Njeim and Al-Rwas [27], entitled “The Relationship between the New Media and the Political Knowledge of Omani Youth”: The study focused on monitoring motives and the size of youth exposure to the new media, and their favorite sites to follow up on political issues. The results of the study identified the political issues favored by youth. The main reasons for the exposure to new media were: watching images and video provided in the Internet, and Al Jazeera Net came in the first place in providing youth with videos followed by the site of Oman and then Al Arabia Net.
- The study from Abdalqawi [13] entitled “The Role of Alternative Media in Activating Political Participation among Youth”: The study discusses the role of new media

in increasing awareness among young in order to change their attitudes toward political participation. The results of the study showed that Facebook helps youth to follow up on current events, comment on them and know their political rights. The new media create groups discussion among youth to spread the culture of participation and to combat political negativity among young people.

- The study from Stanyer [28], highlighted the role of Internet in highlighting repressive practices and human rights abuses in non-democratic countries. These countries are Burma and Zimbabwe. The study adopted a comparative approach between their coverage of human rights issues on the websites of both countries. The study found 68thsites, blogs with 33rdsites, blogs in Burma and 35thsites, and blogs in Zimbabwe. The researcher adopted a questionnaire as a data collection tool. The results of the study showed a difference between the two countries. In Burma, of a regional character while there was a total the sites in Zimbabwe for the first non-governmental organizations; the second consisting of local, regional nature of the sites, that interest subject to analysis of websites came in favor of regional issues on international issues.

Comment on the previous studies and its benefits

- The results of the previous studies have shown the great interest of the public in the electronic media as the main source of news, especially in the field of political information.
- Previous studies have shown that the Citizen Journalism is a realistic journalism when it provides its services to the citizen through a journalist who can absorb the technology of the age to create mass media.
- The results of the previous studies confirmed that Citizen Journalism represents a new aspect of the new media in terms of its rapid transmission of the event as soon as it occurs, as well as dealing with subjects that may be difficult to address in the traditional media.
- The previous studies have agreed that the Citizen

Journalism played an important role in media coverage of the Arab Spring revolutions as well as community issues in Arab countries and human rights issues.

- The previous studies helped the researcher to determine the objectives of the study accurately, how to formulate hypotheses and questions of study, in addition to the choice of the appropriate theoretical framework.

Finding of the Study

Coverage of human rights issues

Table 1 and 2 shows that Ammon Net come in the first place in terms of the opinion and expression's rights (79.3%), followed by Al-Youm 7th (78.43%), Deutsche Welle came in the third place with (51.16%). While in the issues of the rights of prisoners Deutsche Welle came first (48.84%), followed by the El-Youm 7thelectronic newspaper and the site of Ammon net (21.57%)(20.69%). In spite of the fact that we observe the agreement to deal with the freedom of opinion and expression in accordance with article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the rights of prisoners, take weak place in both sites (El-Youm 7thelectronic newspaper and the site of Ammon net).

Journalism arts

It is clear from Table 3 the type of Journalism Art used by the study sample. Image and news are in the first place by (34.06%), followed by image and comment (25.76%), while using caricature came in the last place.

Persuasion techniques used to cover human rights issues

Table 4 shows that the logic technique used by the study sample. The study sample used one point of view technique by (33.93%) followed by reliance on data, numbers, statistics by (29.17%), then citing evidence, evidence by (20.24%), (10.71%) and finally only information (5.95%), which was not covered by Ammon Net. While in the emotional technique, the study sample used emotional aspects or words by (68.1%), in the first place, followed by underestimation, intimidation and exaggeration (68.1%).

Table 1: Site data/E-newspaper (study sample) for citizen journalism.

Essential data/Site name	Created date	Site spicity	Type of ownership	Site nature	
				Interactive	Non-interactive
Ammon	2000	News	Governmental	√	
El Youm 7 th	2011	General	Private	√	
Deutsche Welle	2005	General	Private	√	

Table 2: Coverage of human rights issues.

The site		Frequency	Percentage (%)
Ammon Net	Freedom of Opinion and Expression	46	79.3
	Prisoners Rights	12	20.69
	Total	58	100%
Al-Youm 7 th	Freedom of Opinion and Expression	40	78.43
	Prisoners Rights	11	21.57
	Total	51	100%
Deutsche Welle	Freedom of Opinion and Expression	22	51.16
	Prisoners Rights	21	48.84
	Total	43	100%

Table 3: Journalism arts.

The site	Ammon net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Image & news	25	27.47	28	36.84	25	40.23	78	34.06
Image & comment	26	28.57	17	22.37	16	25.81	59	25.76
Report	29	31.87	23	30.26	3	4.84	55	24.02
Video	6	6.59	2	2.63	6	9.68	14	6.11
Article	--	--	4	5.26	2	3.23	6	2.62
Poetry	3	3.3	1	1.32	---	--	4	1.75
Online events	1	1.1	--	--	2	3.23	3	1.31
News	1	1.1	---	--	2	3.23	3	1.31
Blogs	---	--	---	--	3	4.84	3	1.31
Experts	---	--	---	--	3	4.84	3	1.31
Caricature	---	--	1	1.32	--	--	1	0.44
Total	91	100%	76	100%	62	100%	229	100%

Table 4: Persuasion techniques used to cover human rights issues.

The site	Persuasion Technique	Ammon net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
		R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Logic methods	One point of view	21	30	21	40.38	15	32.61	57	33.93
	Data, numbers and statistics	32	45.71	15	28.85	2	4.35	49	29.17
	Evidence and proofs	4	5.71	13	25	17	36.96	34	20.24
	Two point of views	13	18.57	--	--	5	10.87	18	10.71
	Information only	--	--	3	5.77	7	15.22	10	5.95
Total		70	100%	52	100%	46	100%	168	100%
Emotional methods	Emotional words	48	69.57	40	80	23	52.27	111	68.1
	underestimation, intimidation and exaggeration	21	30.43	10	20	21	47.73	52	31.90
Total		69	100%	50	100%	44	100%	163	100%

Table 5: Highlighted elements.

The site	Highlighted elements	Ammon net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
		R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
	Objective Images	33	48.53	27	50	23	46	83	48.26
	Personal Images	12	17.65	12	22.22	16	32	40	23.26
	Without Images	8	11.76	9	16.67	--	--	17	9.88
	Photo from event location	6	8.82	5	9.26	4	8	15	8.72
	Archives film	2	2.94	--	--	7	14	9	5.23
	Caricature with words	5	7.35	1	1.85	--	--	6	3.49
	Graphics	1	1.47	--	---	--	--	1	0.58
	Frames and highlight	1	1.47	--	---	--	--	1	0.58
	Total	68	100%	54	100%	50	100%	172	100%

Elements of highlighting

Table 5 shows that using objective images came in the first place (48.26%), followed by personal images (23.26%). While using graphics and frame highlight came in the last place. This reflects the expected result for the Citizen Journalism as it seeks to convey the reality, to serve its audiences

Media frameworks used to cover human rights issues

Table 6 shows that using negatives framework came in the first place (21.77%), followed closely by (20.16%) the framework of reasons issues. This reflects the deteriorating situation of human rights in the fields of study sample

(opinion, expression, and prisoners’ rights).

Ambitions used in presenting human rights issues

Table 7 shows that emotional and mental ambitions came in the first place in presenting human rights issues (44.44%), followed by mental ambitions (23.46%). This is indicating that issues presented by Citizen Journalism need both emotional and mental ambitions.

Active characters on human rights issues

Table 8 presented active characters in human rights issues; union and federations came in the first place (23.7%), citizen came in the second place (20.8%) and academic and experts came in the last place by (2.31%). This confirms the decline of their role in the field of active characters.

Personality tendency

In the direction of personality, we note from Table 9 that most of the tendency came towards support of human rights issues, which came in first place by nearly half (47.17%), followed neutral by (28.3%), then opposition (16.98%), and mixed by (7.55%).

Sources for human rights issues

Table 10 shows that political activist came in the first place regarding subjects sources by (30.73%), while eyewitnesses came in the last place as sources for information. It is clear from the table the role of Citizen Journalism who can detect some issues may not reach public opinion or not covered by traditional media or are limited to an official who believes it is his duty to publicize and report.

Techniques in covering human rights issues

Table 11 shows that analysis of human rights issues came in the first place by (38.15%), while given conclusion to human rights issue came in the last place by (17.34%).

Motive of raising human rights issues

Table 12 presented the motive to publish human rights issues. Behavioural change came in the first place (52.6%) while providing information in human rights issue came in the last place by (14.62%).

Techniques used in dealing with human rights issues

Table 13 dealt with the technique used in dealing with human rights issues. Giving the reasons to dealing with the

issues came in the first place by (24.89%), this can be seen to clarify the t issue. In the last place came the direct attack technique (2.22%).

Objectives of covering human rights issues

Table 14 dealt with the objectives of addressing human rights issues. We see in the first place t to cover future issues in human rights issues by (33.91%). In the last place, dealing with outcome of the issue by (4.02%), and arrange them in the latter to contribute to the goals of treatment.

Comments on Finding

Findings on human rights issues analysis shows that the issues of freedom of opinion, expression, and prisoners' rights are balanced in the study sample.

Media coverage of the journalism arts has declined to three types: photo, story and report. The story or news came in the first place among the other artistic categories, followed by a picture, comment, then the report. Each of them is superior to the rest of the journalism arts as an interactive role with human rights issues. The researchers explain that reports occupies an important position among other journalism arts because of presentation and the intensity of information that satisfy the reader's desire, especially when the subject is a highly interest in the public agenda. The news usually requires a presence on the ground, in ways that almost capture the traditional way of reporting the news. The sense of journalist citizen takes care of the immediate and immediate news only without making a press article.

Table 6: Frameworks used.

The site	Ammon net		El-Youm 7th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Treatment Used								
Frame of negatives	21	19.63	17	27.87	16	20	54	21.77
Frame of reasons' issue	19	17.76	15	24.59	16	20	50	20.16
Frame of positives	6	5.61	11	18.03	10	12.5	27	10.89
General frame	21	19.63	2	3.29	2	2.5	25	10.08
Warn frame	7	6.54	1	1.64	6	7.5	14	5.65
Frame of Persecution and discrimination	1	0.93	4	6.56	6	7.5	11	4.44
Frame of mobilization	1	0.93	--	---	9	11.25	10	4.03
Frame of fear and skepticism	2	1.87	2	3.29	4	5	8	3.23
Refuse frame	2	1.87	2	3.29	3	3.75	7	2.82
Practical frame	5	4.67	1	1.64	--	--	6	2.42
Resolution an suggestion Frame	4	3.74	2	3.29	1	1.25	7	2.82
Offensiveframe	2	1.87	--	---	---	---	2	0.81
Definite frame	1	0.93	--	---	--	---	1	0.40
Total	107	100%	61	100%	80	100%	248	100%

Table 7: Ambitions used.

The site	Ammon net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Ambitions								
Emotional and Mental (together)	42	62.69	7	14	23	51.11	72	44.44
Mental	6	8.96	31	62	1	2.22	38	23.46
Intimidation	12	17.91	5	10	14	31.11	31	19.14
Emotional	7	10.45	7	14	7	15.56	21	12.96
Total	67	100%	50	100%	45	100%	162	100%

Table 8: Active characters in human rights issues.

The site Active Characters	Ammon		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Unions and Federations	32	43.24	5	9.26	4	8.89	41	23.7
Citizens	15	20.27	15	27.78	6	13.33	36	20.81
Governmental	6	8.11	10	18.52	15	33.33	31	17.92
Parties	11	14.86	4	7.41	6	13.33	21	12.14
Parliamentarians	7	9.46	5	9.26	1	2.22	13	7.51
Organizations	--	--	2	3.7	11	24.44	13	7.51
Arabic	--	--	7	12.96	--	--	7	4.05
Foregone	--	--	5	9.26	2	4.44	7	4.05
Academic and Experts	3	4.05	1	1.85	--	---	4	2.31
Total	74	100%	54	100%	45	100%	173	100%

Table 9: Tendency towards personality.

The site Tendency towards personality	Amman net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Supporter	25	37.31	32	64	18	42.86	75	47.17
Neutral	29	43.28	7	14	9	21.42	45	28.3
Opposite	6	8.96	11	22	10	23.81	27	16.98
Mixed	7	10.45	--	--	5	11.90	12	7.55
Total	67	100%	50	100%	42	100%	159	100%

Table 10: Sources' for human rights issues.

The site Sources	Ammon net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Political Activist	27	36.49	11	21.15	17	32.08	55	30.73
Government Sources	5	6.76	16	30.77	13	24.53	34	18.99
Multi-Sources	22	29.73	7	13.46	4	7.55	33	18.44
Media Person	10	13.51	2	3.85	5	9.43	17	9.5
Organizations	1	1.35	2	3.85	12	22.64	15	8.38
Think-tank's	3	4.05	6	11.54	--	--	9	5.03
Legal Person	5	6.76	1	1.92	2	3.77	8	4.47
Eyewitnesses	1	1.35	7	13.46	--	--	8	4.47
Total	74	100%	52	100%	53	100%	179	100%

Table 11: Techniques in covering human rights issues.

The site Coverage Techniques	Ammon net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Analysis	36	47.37	12	23.08	18	40	66	38.15
Explanation	20	26.32	11	21.15	11	24.44	42	24.28
Information only	4	5.26	21	40.38	10	22.22	35	20.23
Conclusion	16	21.1	8	15.38	6	13.33	30	17.34
Total	76	100%	52	100%	45	100%	173	100%

Table 12: Motive of raising human rights issues.

The site Motive of Raising Issues	Ammon net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Changing Behavior	36	48	31	59.62	23	52.27	90	52.63
Creating Trends	8	10.67	8	15.38	14	31.82	30	17.54
Creating Opinion	21	28	4	7.69	1	2.27	26	15.20
Providing Information	10	13.33	9	17.31	6	13.64	25	14.62
Total	75	100%	52	100%	44	100%	171	100%

Table 13: Techniques used in dealing with human rights issues.

The site Techniques	Ammon net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Given the Reasons	39	34.51	6	11.76	11	18.03	56	24.89
Call to Take Action	15	13.27	17	33.33	11	18.03	43	19.11
Providing Information & News	11	9.73	7	13.73	4	6.56	22	9.78
Providing Solution	13	11.50	2	3.92	4	6.56	19	8.44
Presenting Explanation and Analysis	12	10.62	--	--	7	11.48	19	8.44
Give Justification	5	4.42	2	3.92	10	16.39	17	7.56
Provide Support	8	7.08	3	5.88	6	9.84	17	7.56
Reputation the information	5	4.42	8	15.69	3	4.92	16	7.11
Discussion and Raise Issues	5	4.42	3	5.88	3	4.92	11	4.89
Direct Attack	--	---	3	5.88	2	3.28	5	2.22
Total	113	100%	51	100%	61	100%	225	100%

Table 14: Objectives of covering human rights issues.

The site Objective of Covering human Rights Issues	Ammon net		El-Youm 7 th		Deutsche Welle		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Coverage of Future Issues	36	45	17	35.42	6	13.04	59	33.91
Limited Coverage of the Issues	29	36.25	10	20.83	11	23.91	50	28.74
General Coverage of the Issue	8	10	18	37.5	11	23.91	37	21.26
Deal with the Cause of the Issue	1	1.25	2	4.17	9	19.57	12	6.9
Provide Solution	5	6.25	1	2.08	3	6.52	9	5.17
Deal with Outcome of the Issue	1	1.25	--	--	6	13.04	7	4.02
Total	80	100%	48	100%	46	100%	174	100%

In terms of the results of the study, we find that there is a difference in the proportions and arrangement of direct publishing from site to another. We see in the table arts journalism ranked seventh, was limited to Ammon Net and Deutsche Welle. While the site of the event ranked fourth in the table elements of highlighting, was addressed by all means, differentiation in the treatment of media in the proportions of the distribution of analysis materials in the means of the study sample.

The researchers found that it is natural that the sources of the events issue in the Citizen Journalism rely on a political activist. The researchers examined the study's sample from all sides. These sides include the nature of his identity, the official, multi-source, and so on. This is not appearing in the German newspaper Deutsche Welle. From here, the role of eyewitnesses, decline in their job or role. This result indicates that the Citizen Journalism is generally dependent on the sources of the journalist citizen opposite the newspaper, in the traditional media. At the same time, we see the interesting in the news through their sources. This is from Citizen Journalism, not to adopt the views of those who convey the news.

The theory of framework analysis is consistent with the results of this study. The Citizen Journalism works to create the public domain of the issues studied, according to the different nature of its content. This is reflected in the agreement of a number of analysis tables. The aim of the issue is to behavioural changes, and then to address future aspects of the goal of addressing the issues, all of which combine to address sensitive issues such as rights issues human and private in our Arab world, which we need much

to achieve on the ground.

Thus, access is achieved through the analysis of frameworks to the implicit content of the text and its significance through its structural elements, and the framing of the media message. This message provides the ability to measure, focus, display, explain the role of the message in influencing public opinion and trends. Unions and federations are facing these issues, and all that presents the results of these confrontations is negative. We seek to turn it positively with reason, emotion and not one of them with the aim of pushing for behaviour in order to deal with future aspects, Citizen Journalism seeks to adopt positive attitudes or achieve them contrary to the idea of media oriented or traditional.

Recommendations and Conclusion

- Ensure public access to information that serves human rights issues, namely the freedom of opinion and expression and the rights of prisoners.
- Activating public interest issue in criticizing government and exposing manipulation of public money.
- The importance of citizen's journalist as social actor has responsibility to distinguish between information gathering and dissemination processes, especially in political and public interest issues.
- Given attention in covering the events to be objective and give the tow side of the story which will achieve the goal of the Citizen Journalism to participate in the covering events accurately and objectively.

References

1. Fry KG (2008) News as subject: What is it? Where is it? Whose is it? *Journalism Studies* 9: 545-560.
2. Showman M (2017) *Citizen Journalism and other Issues*.
3. Hartley J (2008) *Journalism as a Human Right: the Cultural Approach to Journalism*. NY: Blackwell Publishing, New York pp: 39-51.
4. Solyman AS (2009) *Scientific Research Steps and Skills*. World of Books, Egypt.
5. Hussein S(1983) *Content Analysis*. World of Books, Egypt.
6. Zoghub SZ (2009) *Methods of Research and Statistical Uses in Media Studies*. Egyptian Lebanese Dar, Egypt.
7. Lieb T (2009) *All the News: Writing and Reporting for Convergent Media*. MA: Pearson/Ellyn & Bacon, Boston, USA.
8. Alzaren J (2005) *Questions about the New Media, the Internet, the Arabs and the Information Revolution*. Center for Arab Unity Studies, Beirut, Lebanon.
9. Eldnane AR (2003) *Internet Media Function*. Fajr Publishing and Distribution, Egypt.
10. Alam-Alden M (2008) *Electronic Journalism*. Freedom for Printing, Publishing and Distribution, Egypt.
11. Proston P (2008) *Making the News: Journalism and News Cultures in Egypt*. NY: Routledge, New York, USA.
12. Makkawi I, Alsayed LH (2006) *Communication and Contemporary Theories*. 6thedn. The Egyptian Lebanese Library, Egypt.
13. Abdalqwi MH (2009) *The Role of Alternative Media in Activating Political Participation among Youth: An Empirical Study on Virtual Social Networks*. 15th International Scientific Conference, Media and Reform: Reality and Challenges, Cairo University, Faculty of Media, Cairo, Egypt.
14. Yahya D (2003) *The Influence of the Dimensions of the Media Framework in the Egyptian Newspapers on the Treatment of Public Opinion Issues: A Study in the Context of the Analysis of Information Frameworks*.
15. Vreese CH (2005) *News framing theory and Typology*. John Benjamin Publishing Company, London, UK.
16. Newman N (2009) *The Rise of Social Media and its Impact on Mainstream*. Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (report), UK.
17. Merritt D (2004) *News Media must regain vigor, courage*. *Citizen Journalism*.
18. Rodriguez C (2001). *Fissures in the Medias cape: an International Study of Citizens Media*. The Southampton Press, New York, USA.
19. Witschge T (2009) *Street journalists versus ailing journalists? Open Democracy, Free thinking for the world*.
20. Abril EP, Rojas H (2015) *Silencing Political Opinions: An Assessment of the Influence of Geopolitical Contexts in Colombia*. *Communication Research* 45: 55-82.
21. Hafez AF (2016) *The relationship between Citizen Journalism, the issue of sectarian strife, the values of Muslims and Copts in Egypt and their trends*. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation), Cairo University, Faculty of Media, Cairo, Egypt.
22. Amen JH (2014) *The role of social networks in the development of political awareness: a case study of the youth of the revolution of 25 January*. (Unpublished master's thesis), Cairo University, Institute of Educational Studies, Cairo, Egypt.
23. Abdel-Mooty N (2014) *Egyptian youth attitudes towards Citizen Journalism on the Internet*. (Unpublished master's thesis), Mansoura University, Faculty of Arts, Department of Media, Mansoura, Egypt.
24. Elsemariy H, Al Khaja M (2013) *The Credibility of Citizen Journalism and Traditional TV Journalism among Emirati Youth: Comparative Study*. *American Int J Contemporary Res* 3: 53-62.
25. Al-asker RK (2012) *The Role of Arab Web Sites in Raising Awareness of the Issue of Palestinian Prisoners in Israeli Occupation Prisons*. (Unpublished master's thesis), Institute of Arab Research and Studies, Media Studies Department, Egypt.
26. Qataloni MH (2012) *The role of social networking sites "Facebook" in the process of political change, Egypt model*. (Unpublished master's thesis), Al-Najah National University, Graduate Studies, Nablus, Palestine.
27. Njeim T, Alrwas (2011) *The Relationship between the Exposure of Omani Youth to New Media and the Level of Political Knowledge*. Policy and Law Books, Algeria.
28. Stanyer J (2008) *The Internet and the hyper-Visible Of Operation in Non Democratic-State: Oppressive Regimes and the on line exposure of Human Rights abuse and other Respective Acts*. De Montfort University, UK.