

ROLE OF MEDIA IN

Date: _____

PALESTINE - ISRAEL CONFLICT

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Positive role of media

- quick spread of information
- awareness about the issue
- on-ground realities were shared
- mass support for Palestine
- hypocrisy of western world
- highlighted emergency in the country.

Brainstorming

Negative role of media

- false reporting
- Dehumanization of Palestinians.
- Give rise to Hate speech and Islamophobia
- build biased narrative.
- Censorship and silencing voices.

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OUTLINE:-

1. Introduction

- a) Hook
- b) Background Information
- c) Thesis Statement

2. Positive role of Media In Palestine-Israel Conflict.

- a) quick spread of information and updates ^{through} ~~from~~ various platforms
- b) true reporting led to awareness about the issue
- c) non-stop on ground realities were shared
- d) highlighted the double standard of the global north
- e) gained mass support from ^{every} ~~at~~ developed nations after
- f) ~~high~~ of massive destruction

Highlighted the emergency and scarcity of basic necessities in the Palestine.

3. Negative Role of Media in Palestine-Israel Conflict

- Give rise to the dehumanization of Palestine
- increase in hate speech and Islamophobia
- Censorship and silencing voices of Palestinians
- increase in misinformation, fake news and reporting
- built biased narratives and framing.

4. Conclusion.

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"The media is the most powerful entity on Earth. They have the power to make the innocent guilty and to make the guilty innocent and that is power." Malcom X. Same is the case with Palestinians, where power made the innocent guilty.

The Palestine-Israel conflict is one of the longest and most ~~dear~~ sensitive disputes in the world. Since the creation of Israel in 1948 and the displacement of thousands of Palestinians, media has played a crucial role in shaping how people see this conflict. In the past, international media often showed a one-sided picture ~~or~~ and mostly favouring Israel. But with the rise of Arab media and other Muslims sponsored social media platforms like Al-Jazeera and various other pages on social media, the voice of Palestinians ~~are~~ also reached the world.

Today, ~~every~~ ^{each} bombing, protest or speech quickly spreads online, turning the conflict into not just a war on the ground but also a war of stories and images in the social media. This essay will discuss about the role of media in Palestine-Israel conflict. Positive role of media ~~mediacy~~ in the conflict includes; quick spread of information and updates through various platforms, true reporting led to awareness about the issue, non-stop on ground realities were shared, to the world, highlighted the double standard of the global north, gained mass support from developed and less developed nation and it also underscored the emergency and scarcity ~~bo~~ of basic necessities, in the destructive Palestine. On the philp side, the negative role of media in the on-going conflict ~~it~~ includes; it give rise to the dehumanization of Palestine, increase in hate speech and aggrandise Islamophobia, frequent use of censorship and silencing voices of Palestinians, increasing ~~in~~ ^{mis in} ~~information~~ information, fake news and reporting and lastly conflict built biased narratives, ~~and~~ ~~forming~~ in the world.

To begin with, quick spread of information and updates through various platforms, like X, Instagram, Facebook and Youtube ~~is~~ ^{are} the most prominent positive ~~resp~~ role of media in the on-going conflict of Palestine and Israel. Firstly, quick sharing of videos and photos provide evidence for war crime and violations that has been done by Israel from October 2023.

Using that evidence, not only people but also ~~the~~ foreign countries' higher authorities ~~are~~ forced the Israel^{government} to stop its aggression in the Palestine. Matters was taken to United Nation Organisation (UNO), Every country agreed to ceasefire in Gaza. But the USA misused its veto power and nullify the resolution ~~to get a~~ for ceasefire in the UN security council. Secondly, ~~the~~ spread of information provided updates within seconds to the world and people around the world organise protest to ~~end~~ end the aggression and pressurize the NGOs to speed up their work and provide humanitarian aid to the devastated devastated people. According to Pew Research Center, February 2024, survey revealed that 50% of Americans supported humanitarian aid for Gaza. Such public support and pressure by the people to the NGOs to ~~further~~ deliver ^{more} aid in the Gaza. Thirdly, ~~the~~ spread of information allowed Palestinians to show the genocide activities by the Israel government in the war-torn region. Local residents shared videos, ~~their~~ hospitals were being bombed. Ambulances carrying patients were targeted, women and children were mistreated and later killed them. This all shows ~~how~~ ^{outless} ~~outless~~ Israeli aggression had been in the Palestine state. Therefore, ~~the~~ fast sharing of information through media outlets ^{is} ~~was~~ the positive role ^{of media} in the ~~an~~ ^{on} going conflict.

Role of true media reporting helped in ~~assistan~~ ~~assisting~~ giving awareness about the Palestine - Israel conflict. Media tried to break western narratives. As Western media - CNN, BBC and Fox News - showed Israel's security issues and negating Palestinian sufferings. With the presence of social media, independent journalists and on-ground reportings ~~share~~ shared by the Palestinian, helped in reaching Palestinian perspective to the global audience. For example, coverage by Al Jazeera showed real-time attacks by Israel in the ~~strip~~ strip. Moreover, videos of bombing on the civilians that led to casualties created empathy ~~to~~ worldwide. Due to which people raised voices in the country against Israel's heinous attacks on the displaced people of Gaza. Protests were also held in the universities like Harvard and Oxford in the solidarity with Palestinians, and to pressurise the state and UNO to stop war promptly. So much so that, due to true media reporting, South Africa filed a ~~suit~~ case ~~against Israel~~ in the International Court of Justice pointing out Israel of committing acts of genocide in Gaza. Specifically intent to harm Palestinian national group. ~~Therefore, Hence~~ authentic and genuine reporting led to awareness about the issue.

The third positive role of Media in Palestine - Israel conflict is that it shared ~~an~~ ground realities ~~non-stop~~ with the world. When Al-Shifa ^{hospital} was bombed, journalist filmed ~~and~~ how the patients were being treated on the floor of hospital without

and basic medical facilities.

electricity. The ^{clip} ~~strip~~ went so viral that soon after the bomb on hospital, WHO declared that more than half of the hospitals in Gaza stopped working ~~to~~ ^{due to} attacks. Furthermore, one independent media outlet showed a boy holding empty plate waiting in a line for food. The picture went viral and after two ~~weeks~~ weeks UNO confirmed that more than 500,000 people in Gaza were ~~starving~~ starving and highlighted the famine in the strip. Thus, with the existence of independent media on-ground realities were shared with the world showing the mass ~~destruction~~ destruction, ~~and~~ famine ~~in the~~ and Palestinian sufferings in the savaged land.

Media in Palestine-Israel conflict highlighted the double standard of the global north through various ways. Firstly, civilian casualties ~~are~~ in Gaza are underreported whereas Israeli ~~casualties~~ casualties are overreported and even received more coverage, on which Western nation ~~sympathise~~ sympathise Israel a lot. For instance, during the ~~war~~ break out of war, news headlines were focused on "Israel under attack". On the other hand, more than 20,000 Palestinians were killed by Israel Defense Force. Secondly, Social media platforms - TikTok, X, Facebook - have been ~~a~~ blamed of removing and banning pro-Palestine content to sideline the sufferings and genocide in Palestine. Journalist Marc Lamont Hill, for example, was fired by his media ~~outlet~~ house CNN in 2018 for calling

for "freedom for Palestine from the river to sea" lastly, Western media, showcased Russia's illegal occupation of Ukraine in 2022, condemned and called for violation of Sovereignty, International law and UN Charter. While, Israel's occupation and merciless genocide ^{on} of Palestine from 1967 to 2025 is seen as justified by Israel. Moreover, Ukraine is declared as humanitarian crisis, whereas in Gaza it is considered as collateral damage. Ergo, Palestine-Israel conflict ~~to~~ underscored the double standard and hypocrisy of the global north.

The last ~~game~~ positive role of media in Palestine-Israel conflict is that it gained mass support from every nation after massive destruction ~~and~~ in the Strip. Campaigns such as #FreePalestine and #GazaUnderAttack and viral posts like "All eyes on the Gaza" went viral and million of people came out on their street to ~~the~~ join the protests even in the western countries to pressurising their government to force Israel for unconditional ceasefire. International Solidarity movements were started by the students in their universities to support and immediate ceasefire in the Gaza. According to estimates, at least 1000 protesters joined the walkout protest in Harvard chanting slogans like "Free, Free Palestine". So much so, Students protest gathered ~~at~~ in the Widener library demanding ^{their} University to ~~the~~ divest from companies working with Israel. So ~~because the reason~~ Hence, media obtained mass support and solidarity ~~with~~ with Palestine after ~~release~~ the circulation of Gaza's rubble and mass ~~grave~~ graves images on the internet.

Previous paragraphs single out the positive role of media in Palestine-Israel conflict and coming paragraphs would suggest ~~prop~~ ~~explan~~ ~~pin point~~ the negative role of media in the Palestine-Israel conflict.

There were several negative roles of media in Gaza-Israel conflict but the most convincing and ~~convincing~~ ~~convincing~~ was dehumanization of Palestine people. News report at times often ~~mention~~ mentioned in their headline like "200 Palestinians killed in Gaza" but their name, age, identity were not presented to the world. While, when ~~the~~ Israeli got attacked by Hamas, then media displayed Israeli victim with age, ~~and~~ name and family details. That made Palestinians ~~just~~ ^{were} merely statistics and sidelining ignoring their individuality. Moreover, when Israeli deaths were being reported, they were considered as terrorist murders by Hamas. Whereas, when Palestinian deaths were reported, they were declared as "collateral damage". This showed Palestinian lives sounded less tragic than that of Israeli. With that, rarely any Palestinian victim was interviewed by any media outlet ~~that~~ compared to ~~the~~ Israeli victims. Without voices and emotions, Palestinians were seen as a mere group ~~of~~ of people without any hopes, sufferings and lives. Thus, negative use of ^{media led to} dehumanization of Palestinians.

Another negative role of media in the Palestine-Israel conflict was revival of hate speech and Islamophobia in the world specially in global north. In London, a group of men attacked Muslims outside mosque, and started shouting "Terrorists! Go back to Gaza". It is ~~also~~ sober to mention that those Muslims ^{did} were not belong to the Palestine. ~~They~~ They were ordinary British Muslims. This shows how media displayed Palestine identity with terrorism and further revive and exaggerate ~~between~~ the concept of Islamophobia and hate crime speeches. Furthermore, another incident was aired, in June 2021, in Canada, when a Canadian man deliberately ran over the car over a Muslim family that led to four deaths. After thorough investigation, police tracked down that attacker was ~~a~~^a radicalized by online media portraying Muslim, as terrorist. Attacks like these, showed how global narratives of "Muslim violence" spill over into local hate crime. Therefore, spread of hate speech and Islamophobia is one of the negative role of media in the Hamas-Israeli conflict.

Use of censorship and silencing voices of Palestine was also negative role played by media in Palestine-Israel conflict. The media made Israel-Gaza situation complicate to understand by unfairly silencing, sidelining and misrepresenting the Palestinian side of the story. Stories and posts were removed and accounts were blocked by the west-led media platforms like Facebook, Instagram and X. Moreover, Israel controlled

Gaza's borders. Which were used to stop foreign journalists from entering the Gaza. By this way, the world could not independently verify what was happening in Palestine. Moreover, in 2021, Israeli air strikes destroyed a high-rising building in Gaza that was the office media houses of ~~the~~ The Associated Press (AP) and Al-Jazeera. By targeting media houses, it was another ~~major~~ ~~new~~ way to silence major news organisations and prevented them from reporting from the Gaza. Thus, ~~the~~ negative role of media in Palestine-Israel conflict to such extent was responsible for direct censorship and silencing the voice of Palestine.

The fourth negative role played ~~by~~ by media was increase of misinformation, fake news and reporting. Edited and out-of-the-context videos were aired after the inception of attack on Gaza on 07, October 2023. That ~~is~~ videos blamed Palestinians for violence. Old videos, for instance, from Syria or Iraq were shared as if those videos were ~~from~~ from Gaza that made confusion ~~world~~ worldwide. So much so that, a video of a burning building ~~it was~~ circulated online claiming it was in Gaza. It was, however, actually from a fire in Algeria years before. To crown it, use of AI and Deepfakes made matters worst. Very realistic fake photos, audio and videos were created making it hard to differentiate ~~the~~ and ~~identify~~.

identify what is true and what is false. Use of such fake news and reporting made people to hate the other side more and further pushing peace ~~far~~ away. Hence, during the conflict, misinformation bolstered and fake news and reporting spread ~~fast~~ in no time was ~~to also~~ ^{the} responsible main ~~reason~~ also the main ~~reason~~ factor of negative media in the Palestine - Hamas conflict.

The last and final negative aspect of media in Palestine and Israel conflict is that media built biased narratives and framing in the masses. Western media outlet called Russia's actions as invasion and occupation in the Ukraine. And Ukraine non-stop framed as a victim depending sovereignty. Whereas, Israeli actions ~~and~~ were shown displayed as ~~clear~~ retaliation, considering ^{and framing} ~~fates~~ Palestinians as militants and terrorists. That showed how media ~~has~~ created bias, condemning Russia and excusing Israel. Moreover, in 2022, CBS host referred to Ukrainian refugees as civilized Europeans, unlike those in Middle East. This illustrated deep-rooted media bias and Islamophobia in coverage. At the same time, Palestinian civilians displaced by Israel frequent bombing were shown in ^{news} ~~as~~ as Hamas-run Gaza residents, Undermining, framing and creating bias in Palestine civilian identities. Thus, media established biased narratives and ~~spread~~ in the populous.

To cap this all, the ^{positive aspect} ~~negative aspect~~ of media in Israel-Palestine conflict was; spread of information,

live reporting led to awareness, on-ground realities were shared, showcased double standard of ~~us~~ global north and gained support from developing nations. On the ~~at~~ other hand, negative role of media was, dehumanisation, hate speech and Islamophobia, misinformation and biased narrative building and framing. As regards, this ~~essay~~ ^{essay} displayed neg pros and cons of media in ^{palestine} ~~palestine~~ and Israel conflict