Media Representation of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood in Arab and Western Outlets: A Critical Discourse Analysis

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the contrasting media coverage of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood to uncover the ideological underpinnings of the accounts presented by Al-Jazeera and CNN. It examines how the two leading media outlets report the same event from essentially contradictory viewpoints, thereby mirroring wider geopolitical divides. The study compares the narratives and examines the ideological parameters which shape the conflict reporting. It also employs Fairclough's three- dimensional approach to conduct a textual, discursive and sociocultural analysis of the context embedded in media reporting. Besides, the study conducts a qualitative content analysis of Al-Jazeera and CNN news reports and evaluates the narratives to explain the differences in the representation and inherent bias. The study design employs qualitative content analysis of broadcast news reports released by both Al-Jazeera and CNN, as well as a comparative evaluation of the narratives to explain variations in representations and inherent biases. The findings show that CNN reporting is characterized by violence- and hostility-focused language that frames the event as a legitimate use of force. However, Al-Jazeera's coverage places the emphasis on the themes of liberation and resistance. CNN's ideological bias reflects the Western geopolitical interests and Israeli sympathies, while Palestinian actions are discursively constructed as terrorist acts. By contrast, Al-Jazeera's narratives are congruent with the Middle Eastern perspectives and represent the operation as both a battle against occupation and a struggle for Palestinian independence. The study highlights the significance of media literacy in fostering critically engaged news media consumption and calls for more balanced perspectives in news coverage on international conflicts. It also underscores the value of employing diverse analytical approaches to deepen understanding of media representations in conflict contexts, thereby expanding on existing research in this particular field.

Keywords: Media representation; ideological framing; Israeli-Palestinian conflict; narrative analysis; critical discourse analysis

INTRODUCTION

News transmission across different media is a key element of global exchange and has undergone remarkable transformation with the rise of digital technologies. The media contributes in many areas of life such as in education, entertainment, commerce and politics to ensure that the informational requirement of a diversified audience are addressed. Fairclough (2015) underscores the significance of media discourse as a place where power relations are activated and presented

by stating that language and structural choices in the reporting of news are premeditated to shape content influence as well as relational communication characteristics.

One of the most salient domains in which media representation is of significant concern is the reporting of international conflict (Baden & Tenenboim-Weinblatt, 2018). The Israeli-Palestinian conflict, rich in a history of political tension, displacement and competing territorial claims of sovereignties, has witnessed multiple episodes of ethnically motivated violence that have garnered extensive media interest. A particularly salient recent occurrence in this regard is Operation Al-Aqsa Flood, launched on October 7, 2023. On this day, Hamas issued a statement describing the effort as an overall resistance campaign geared towards combating the longstanding Israeli occupation and the ongoing violations of Al-Aqsa Mosque. This event immediately and widely attracted reaction, both military and in terms of the debate of the international media. This Operation together with the ensuing military retaliation of the Israeli forces in Gaza soon gained the limelight of the world arena. The media framing and forming of the public opinion has been an extremely significant concern (Wu et al., 2025). Since Qatar and the United States have divergent political stances, which are expressed through Al-Jazeera and CNN reporting of news, the comparative analysis is a ground worth considering in the analysis of ideology as a useful news discourse. Therefore, the present study aims to make a comparative discussion of why Operation Al-Aqsa Flood was discursively framed by the two dominant media institutions with a focus on the particular significance of the Operation to the dynamic representation of the Israeli-Palestine conflict. As the ideological implications of media coverage in conflict situations are of great significance, understanding how the linguistic choices make a difference in the perception of the public.

Fairclough (1995) emphasizes how much decisions about language use in news coverage influence the shared perceptions of the public at large, social etiquette, and the character of one's interrelation with other individuals. The particular linguistic decisions employed in media discourse serve a fundamental role in shaping public opinion about specific incidents, thus unveiling implicit agendas that often prevail in backstage circumstances. Towards this objective, Paul and Elder (2006) suggest that advanced types of news media often create an illusion of objectivism and fairness that tends to influence public sentiment more effectively, particularly among individuals who have little ability to notice and distinguish between the implicit bias inherent in the communicated information.

As described by Paul and Elder (2006), media bias arises from a host of diverse sensitivities that positively affect how news stories are covered and how they are presented. One such sensitivity includes that related to government policy, such that news narratives will often tend to reflect largely the opinions and perspectives held by leaders. This tendency often translates into less chance of having critical depictions of the state or its actions featured in the media's frame for news coverage. Furthermore, another aspect of sensitivity includes one that emanates from social pressures posed by pressure groups that have influence in society, such that they tend to change news story content to ensure that they promote a more positive public opinion. Other than that, competitive forces inherent in media coverage tend to escalate both news delivery urgency and associated biases inherent in news coverage.

These considerations are the basis for a study which examines the competing narratives offered by key media outlets, Al-Jazeera and CNN, for events like the Palestinian-Israeli conflict with a special emphasis on Operation Al-Aqsa Flood. Based on Qatar's pro-Palestinian ideological position against the pro-Israel alliance of the United States, it is expected that these media outlets present differing representations of this conflict. This study uses Critical Discourse Analysis

(CDA) to analyse the ideology and narratives put forth by CNN and Al- Jazeera, as well as how these media outlets both reflect and construct the geopolitical narratives they cover. Using this theoretical lens, the study thoroughly examines the media reporting of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood, thus improving the understanding of the role of the media in constructing the socio-political relations on a global platform.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The role of media in shaping public opinion during times of geopolitical conflict has been widely studied (McCombs & Shaw, 1972; Valkenburg et al., 2016); it remains, however, a pertinent area for research due to its lasting impacts and changing nature. The coverage of the conflict between Israel and Palestine is especially noteworthy as a focal area for investigation. The more recent event known as Operation Al-Aqsa Flood, within this ongoing conflict, is a relevant and timely topic for examination. Despite the fact that indeed already exists such a massive and even overwhelming volume of research that already addressed media coverage regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, for instance, Amir (2021), it is clear that there is really quite apparent lack of research focus regarding attention to coverage regarding this specific event. Beyond that, research regarding metacompeting ideological discourse usage regarding this issue has not also been examined fully from the academic sphere.

Academic scholarship inquiries touch upon issues such as potential harm from forms of media biasness, news report truthfulness, and framing news coverage to serve specific political or ideological interests (Lynch, 2006). This particular conceptual framework has serious consequences for social knowledge, particularly where they originate from historical grievances, religious networks, and geopolitical interests heightened by the contemporary necessity arising from Israel's occupation of Palestine. More recent research (Moten, 2018; Valbjørn et al., 2024) has extensively centered on previous conflicts such as the Gaza War and opening Jerusalem embassy and thereby avoided recognizing existing media depictions in relation to elevated hostilities that occurred between warring parties in Operation Al-Aqsa Flood. Within this context, applying Fairclough's (1989) Critical Discourse Analysis to explore and differentiate media narratives regarding a single politically relevant event is not only conventional but also robust and suitable methodological framework that facilitates identification of linguistic and ideological constituents embedded in narratives.

This research endeavours to conceptualize form and scope of coverage divergences by media from the west and by media from the Arab region in particular Al-Jazeera and CNN. The inquiry addresses the void in prior research writings through an in-scale and systematic investigation into the development of divergent narratives regarding the geopolitical dynamics of this by these two salient international newsgathering channels. This study aims at explaining the conflict on a deeper level, founded upon the in-depth critical examination of media reports on the issue. Furthermore, the work here is focused on reaching understanding how media play in the countries' relationships as well as on touching upon the aspect of the spreading of stereotypes through media means, thus having an impact on global discourse and policy making (Wolfsfeld, 2004; Fahmy, 2010).

The study identifies and explains diverse media discourses in ways they may take form in the discourse framework appropriate to the political and cultural context involving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Such an explanation moves beyond mere identification of discourse itself by trying to learn about effective dynamics which evoke emotions among human beings and internal relations that occur in global interactions.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This study aimed to achieve the following research objectives:

1. To conduct a comparative analysis of CNN and Al-Jazeera's representations of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood, examining narrative structure, language use, and thematic focus to identify similarities and differences in media representations.
2. To critically evaluate the underlying ideologies and narrative framework that shape the coverage of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood in the selected media outlets.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The study utilizes Fairclough's (1989) three-dimensional model of CDA, thereby providing a systematic way of examining several layers inherent in media discourse. Fairclough's approach entails that discourse is multi-faceted such that comprehensive knowledge about it entails examination of textual qualities attributed to it, discursive practice engaged in it, and larger sociocultural contexts.

The initial feature relating to text analysis draws attention to systematic investigation of linguistic features, stylistic functions, and media discourse's structural pattern. This area is committed to lexis, syntactical patterns and rhetoric as linguistic elements whose functions in building meaning in narratives involving Operation Al-Aqsa Flood must be deciphered. That these highly detailed linguistic choices have the capability to radically change conflict interpretation renders such feature analyses invaluable.

The second dimension includes discursive practice, which deals with all activities that involve media text generation and reception. Editorial operations, journalistic practices and general institutional conditions defining how CNN and Al-Jazeera generate, report on, and circulate news about Operation Al-Aqsa Flood are studied at this dimension.

Social practice dimension is the final one and addresses the broader social and cultural frameworks that constitute the basis for discourse. This dimension addresses how media narratives are informed by historical, political, and economic circumstances that they originate from and how they reflect the impact of relations of power and ideological perspectives regarding how they depict conflict over Israel-Palestine. An understanding of this dimension is pertinent to comprehend how media narratives regarding Operation Al-Aqsa Flood will mirror and maintain social inequalties as well as existing imbalances in terms of power.

In line with Fairclough's tri-partite analytic framework, this study embarks on a detailed investigation that notes textual properties of news coverage alongside placing these properties in production contexts and broader social configurations. For specific purposes of this research work, this theoretical framework is particularly useful in that it allows one to analytically delve into how

language functions both to naturalise and disrupt social configurations and conduits of power that frame popular understandings of geopolitical conflict.

PREVIOUS WORKS

Several studies have investigated the dynamics involved in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. For instance, Amer (2017) undertakes an in-depth analysis of media reporting related to the 2008–2009 Gaza War, with specific reference to the representation of political social actors in four global newspapers. This study shows that the representation of Israeli and Palestinian parties in the context of the conflict is significantly affected by the political and ideological leaning of the newspapers. The findings refer to an identifiable pattern whereby Israeli officials are mostly represented as playing active parts in seeking a ceasefire, while Palestinian agency is mainly depicted through frames of refusal, thus showing the inherent political biases of the media outlets investigated.

Using the media frames approach, Bustam (2018) performs a textual analysis of the rhetorical devices present within news headlines regarding Donald Trump's declaration that Jerusalem was to become Israel's capital. Using van Leeuwen's (2008) theory of representation, Bustam identifies certain mechanisms by which political leaders are represented, highlighting the means by which the ideologies of media outlets affect their narratives and emphasizing the media's key role as a determinant of public opinion through selective representation. In addition, Omar (2019) examines the role of narrative framing and translation using the Arab-Israeli conflict as a paradigmatic example, analysing media reporting on three significant events concerning the issue. His study highlights the role of media translations both to construct opposing narratives, with media outlets aligned with specific political ideologies employing framing devices to construct certain arguments about the conflict, thus emphasizing the deliberate use of language and translation within media contexts, as well as to craft arguments about the conflict that confirm pre-existing views on the issue.

Similarly, Suwarno and Sahayu (2020) examine the representation of the Palestine-Israel conflict in the context of the recent uprisings that occurred during 2019 and 2020 to demonstrate how the mainstream media employs the fundamentals of systemic functional linguistics to represent Palestine as the victim from the compassionate perspective. However, such bias is exposed through diversified sensitivity in comparisons of The Jakarta Post and The New York Times, hence demonstrating the complex dynamics informing media biases and the necessity of discourse analysis in understanding such representations. In addition, Timotijevic (2022) conducts a comparative analysis of media coverage of the Israeli elections by the BBC and Al Jazeera, focusing on the central role played by historical context in media representation. Employing a critical discourse analysis, the study examines the relationship between discourse and social constructions to provide valuable insight into the inherent contradictions within media discourses about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, even calling for the incorporation of historical consciousness in media studies.

Heni and Chandra (2022) include a comprehensive comparative examination in their academic contribution, explaining the divergent and frequently contrasting framings of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict posed by two very different media channels: Fox News and Detik.com. Through systematic investigation, they pinpoint stark contrasts in framing the situation, suggesting that Fox News regularly frames Palestine and Hamas in largely negative terms, while Detik.com

equably frames Israel in comparably negative terms. This strong distinction provides strong evidence toward understanding media's strong role in initiating and developing commonly held perceptions, as well as social knowledge, through ideologically driven framing processes. With these findings in mind, the study forcefully calls for greater comprehensive and comprehensive delving into media discourse to support greater and richer understanding of framing processes operating, as well as geopolitical conflict building. Additionally, it supports the significance of careful examination of ideological bias that may emerge in narrative building and subsequent influence on public opinion.

Subsequent studies have followed on from these. Thus, Liu and Bakar (2024) deploy corpus analysis to consider how American media covered China's Covid-19 response and provide therefore a methodological contribution to studies of changing discourse dynamics in situations of conflict. Galeazzi et al. (2023) deploy methodologies guided by artificial intelligence in order to examine bias in news coverage online under the assumption that support provided by algorithms to prevailing ideological configurations itself polarises.

Despite the large corpus of research already present, there is still a lack of studies dealing with real-time accounts of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood, a 2023 episode of high magnitude and high geopolitical stakes. Moreover, the existing literature has never employed Fairclough's three-dimensional Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) model to investigate one specific, controversial event like Operation Al-Aqsa Flood. While studies like Adediran (2023) and Minh (2020) suggest a rising trend for investigating media biases and hidden ideologies, the studies mostly avoid embarking on comprehensive linguistic analyses across different media expressing different ideological stances.

The current study is distinct from the previous works that examined media framing of different geopolitical conflicts (for example, Salman & Hasim, 2011; Bolte & Keong, 2014; Velu & How, 2019; Alkhammash, 2020; Liu & Bakar, 2024; Mohammed, 2024), which applied critical discourse analysis for revealing strategy and bias, by being specifically focused on a single event, that is, Operation Al-Aqsa Flood. Such distinctiveness allows for a comprehensive analysis of the event's representation by Western media channels, namely CNN, and a comparative assessment with representation by Arab media channels, that is, Al-Jazeera. Direct comparison between these two media platforms clearly illustrates the polarization of media reporting on events and explains ideological bases which support the varied reporting approaches of these major media platforms. In conclusion, this contemporary work fills this void by pitting CNN and Al-Jazeera in a pinpoint fashion despite their stark geopolitical affinities as two highly dominant multinational news channels and placing their dynamics under a rigorous CDA framework. While prior scholarship has grounded itself on operating with historical flashpoints or war zones, this work looks into media framing dynamics of a new conflict's origin by contributing to mainstream ideational debates regarding media framing and narrative construction in international news coverage.

METHODOLOGY

This section discusses the methodology of the present study, including the study design, corpus of the study, sampling, data collection, methods of analysis and so forth.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The research is qualitative in nature and adopts the Critical Discourse Analysis approach for analysing the data. This approach is most appropriate when analysing linguistic elements of media as well as the discourses embedded in power relationships and in ideological constructions. CDA can be described as an extensive approach enabling the deconstruction and interpretation of media texts, including texts on Operation Al-Aqsa Flood coverage, and the ideological constructions embedded in and informing these texts.

CORPUS AND SAMPLE SELECTION

The present research employed purposive sampling in order to gather a sample of media texts on Operation Al-Aqsa Flood from two well-known news agencies: Al-Jazeera and CNN. A total of 20 news discourses were selected from each news organization, resulting in 40 news discourses including news reports, editorial commentary and op-ed columns generated from October 7 to October 25, 2023. The time period was specifically selected in order to capture both the direct circumstances and the ongoing narratives subsequent to the operation. Data was downloaded from the respective news agencies' official websites and selected using considerations like topicality, timeliness in event reporting and frequency of reporting. The set standards for selection demanded that coverage had to be clearly centred on operations-focused by incorporating specific terms such as "Al-Aqsa Flood," "Hamas," "Israel," and "resistance" besides having an ideologically motivated framing. The recognized texts followed a systematic form of organizing them, followed the code protocol, and were processed through several rounds of careful reading and coding.

METHODS OF ANALYSIS

Data were analysed by using Fairclough's (1989) framework consisting of three overlapping planes: textual analysis, discourse practice, and social practice. The process of analysis followed stages as below:

1. Textual Analysis (Micro-level):

Each news discourse was examined closely regarding how it selected vocabulary usage, syntactical use, and rhetorical embellishments. Key terminology was extracted alongside metaphoric usage and descriptive usage with which to reveal latent indicators of ideology. This procedure shed light upon how language had been utilized for meaning construction as well as audience delimitation.

2. Discursive Practice (Meso-level):

The researchers examined transmission and reception mechanisms and approaches to defined audiences and extracted editorial positions adopted by selected news media sources and headline traits and prevailing intertextual relationships. The goal was finding consistencies that facilitate storyline development.

3. Social Practice (Macro-level):

The theoretical framework was also extended to include all sociopolitical and cultural environments that regulate media coverage. The extension comprised the incorporation of discourse patterns encompassing geopolitical relations, historical aggressions, and the ideopolitically motivated goals apparent in mainstream media's coverage regarding war. To make

sure that the analysis was correct, a coding form was created as well as the outline of CDA and cross-validated patterns through mutually-discussed work by other scholars. The methodological tool thus ensured openness, reliability and holistic explanation of ideological assumptions evident in media discourse.

FINDINGS

This section provides the findings of the present study. It highlights the representation of the Operation of Al-Aqsa Flood in the two selected outlets as well as the ideologies behind such representations.

THE REPRESENTATION OF OPERATION AL-AQSA FLOOD IN CNN AND AL-JAZERA

Table 1 below summarises the representations of the Operations Al-Aqsa Flood in CNN and Al-Jazeera as follows:

TABLE 1. Representation of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood in CNN and Al-Jazeera

CNN Discourse	Al-Jazeera Discourse
A massacre, horrific and absolutely evil, a terrorist attack, similar to 9/11 terrorist attack, harrowing, a planned attack to Israeli, communities, a deadly attack, a slaughter, a Nazi action, a pure, unadulterated evil and unprecedented attack, a worst nightmare, a horrific situation, the biggest massacre of Israelis, an indisputable act of terrorism, horror, launched by Hamas, an action in which Israel has a right to defend itself from, and Against humanitarian law	A battle of national liberation, a source of pride for Palestinians, an action resulting from the ignorance of the rights of Palestinians and the two-state solution, an operation aimed at putting an end to Israeli violations, an operation to reclaim revolution and return to the project of establishing a state, a battle of honour, resistance, and dignity, an epic battle with Al-Aqsa, sanctities and prisoners as its focal point, an operation to defend the people, land, and sanctities, an operation resulting from Israeli occupation crimes, Intelligence failure and expected failure of policy, an escalation due to Israel continuous violations and repeated incursions into Al-Aqsa, an escalation due to provocations and attacks against Palestinians, an escalation resulting from Israel's continued occupation of Palestinian territories and its ongoing assaults, an escalation resulting from the Israeli occupation's continued attacks on the Palestinian people, an operation resulting from Israel the desecration of Palestinians' sanctities, an operation resulting from the continuation of the blockade on Gaza or the continued imprisonment of Palestinians in Israeli prisons, a pre-emptive strike to Israel, and an explosion due to the failure to implement international legitimacy resolutions on Israel.

The multifaceted representations of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood, presented in Table 1, are a collection of selected phrases from the sample i.e. 40 news discourses based on the criteria explained in the methodology. These can be explained through the use of Fairclough's (1989) model which consists of an in-depth examination of texts, discourse practices and sociocultural practices, each of which will be discussed in the following sections.

OVERVIEW NARRATIVES

This section presents the textual analysis of CNN and Al-Jazeera's discourses regarding the Operation Al-Aqsa Flood as follows:

TEXTUAL ANALYSIS OF CCN DISCOURSE

The language used by CNN to describe Operation Al-Aqsa Flood uses words like "slaughtering," "horrific," "terrorist attack," "unadulterated evil," and "worst nightmare." These words place the event in the context of utmost violence and relentless terror. The careful choice of words is designed to elicit strong emotional responses and moral quandaries from the audience, suggesting unimaginable evil and fear. The language used also triggers shared memories of atrocities in the world; naming the event as "Nazi act" seems to trigger Western communities to be aware of the unimaginable magnitude of such evil. By further emphasizing the magnitude of its importance as an event of unmatched severity and magnitude, it is termed as "the biggest slaughter of Israelis," "horrific event," and "undisputed act of terror." This well-crafted language is an earnest attempt to present the event as essentially inhumane and as violation of human dignity beyond the confines of international law.

In addition, the language used in phrases like "horror," "lethal onslaught," and "premeditated assault of Israeli civilians" implies deliberate intention to cause harm and provoke hostility and hence functions as an excuse for aggression against innocent individuals. This specific framing positions the event in terms of premeditated violence to destabilize the safety and well-being of a targeted society. Besides, the declaration that the event was "initiated by Hamas" and was "an action in which Israel has the right to defend itself" attributes fault and functionally legitimates the idea of self-defence, hence situating the narrative within issues of protection and defensive action. Besides, the description of the incident as "against humanitarian law" is against known international legal protocol, therefore questioning the validity of the actions imputed to Hamas.

In conclusion, the reporting by CNN is framed within a discourse that is saturated with ethical indignation, thus perpetuating a storyline that positions the Palestinian people within a global context of terrorism, with Israel being a victim of illegal assault. They are consistent with mainstream Western geopolitical discourse and characterize one that positions Israeli-Palestinian conflict in several realms such as terrorism, defence politics, and violations of laws of war. These presentations are consistent with Western geopolitical rhetoric and reflect a perspective that locates Israeli-Palestinian conflict within various spheres like terrorism, defence, and human rights violations.

TEXTUAL ANALYSIS OF AL-JAZERA DISCOURSE

The Al-Jazeera narratives about Operation Al-Aqsa Flood create a framework that is deeply embedded in resistance, honour, and national conflict discourse contexts. They are instrumental in developing a discourse that describes Palestinian activities as representative of a legitimate and historical struggle pertaining to the rights of a population in search of liberation from occupation and self-determination. Referencing the event as "battle of national liberation" and "the pride of Palestinians," Al-Jazeera places it in a discourse paradigm that situates Palestinian counter-response to occupation. Invoking this idea of struggle as not simply warranted as a response to military aggression but also as integral to building broader national cohesiveness and identification, it appeals to emphasizing struggle through honour, resistance, and dignity. An epic struggle linked to the sanctity of Al-Aqsa and captive-related issues positions the operation as having taken place in defence of maintaining fundamental elements of Palestine's cultural heritage and religious tradition and hence fostering a moral responsibility to maintain one's cultural community and heritage.

By defining the operation as "an act based on a misunderstanding of Palestinian rights and of the two-state solution" and describing it as "a move toward restraining Israel's abuses," Al-Jazeera constructs a discursive frame that positions Palestinian actions as acts of legitimate necessity. According to this narrative, such actions result from both the absence of political intervention at the international level and ongoing violations of rights. This framing situates the operation as a reactive necessity, interpreting it as an effort to shed light on and correct persistent injustices.

The group describes the crisis as "an escalation due to Israel's repeated incursions and continuous violations of Al-Aqsa," blaming "provocations and attacks against Palestinians" as causal factors. Describing Palestinian actions within the context of ongoing cycles of violence caused by Israeli policy, it describes the operation as one in response to continuing provocations and thus posits Palestinian actions as acts of legitimate defence.

In addition, Al-Jazeera defines the event as "an operation driven by the unrelenting blockade on Gaza or the constant imprisonment of Palestinians within Israeli prisons" and "an explosion resulting from the failure to apply international legitimacy decisions against Israel," thus emphasizing a larger geopolitical and humanitarian context. Such portrayals present Palestinian actions as being a reaction to ubiquitous and long-term pressures with the failure of international systems to end the crisis, thus imparting legitimacy on Palestinian actions as a necessary reaction to international inaction.

Finally, that is to say, by going as far as to specifically characterize the mission as "a pre-emptive strike against Israel," Al-Jazeera conveys by suggestion that such operations by Palestinians entail both anticipatory and strategic dimensions. This specific definition itself suggests that such responses are not merely reactions in isolation but as an essential pre-emptive move sought to forestall what is considered to be an immediate and grave threat. More than that, such specific identification renders the mission irrevocably in military terms in which the employment of pre-emptive measures is considered to constitute part and parcel of an entire strategy sought to ensure self-protection and ensure survivability in circumstances deemed hostile. In framing multiple realities, news coverage from Al-Jazeera arrives at a very different narrative than one reached from CNN. Palestinian actions are not framed here as mere terrorist actions but multi-dimensional and sophisticated responses to occupation, infringement upon their rights, and preservation of both national and religious identity. This news coverage occurs in a frame which

emphasizes legitimacy in resisting occupation and morality in defending one's motherland and holy sites, all in a context that has special relevance for Muslims and Arabs.

The varied linguistic methodologies utilized not only serve as depictions of various languages but also serve as critical markers of foundational ideological paradigms informing the networks' interpretative roles. Adopting Fairclough's (1989) analytic assumption, word choice is not only a restricted act but also shapes discursive practices and socio-cultural contexts in which Al-Jazeera and CNN operate. Herein, the linguistic depictions mirror the networks' identities as news outlets and their roles as active reality constructers with disparate value systems, target demographics, and geopolitical agendas. Through their differing language uses, both networks participate in an overarching discourse that shapes public perceptions and configures social understandings of the happenings aligned with Operation Al-Aqsa Flood.

THEMATIC CDA

The following subsections use the Fairclough's (1989) textual analysis framework by systematically analysing linguistic forms and functions, including lexis, syntax, attribution, modality, figurative language and repetition, and relating these features to their semantic and ideological implications.

LEXICAL CHOICE AND EVALUATIVE LEXIS

CNN utilizes vocabulary charged with connotations linked to terror; by using terms like "massacre," "horrific," "terrorist attack," "pure, unadulterated evil," "slaughter," "Nazi action," "worst nightmare," and "indisputable act of terrorism," it definitely diverts attention toward paradigms of criminality or terrorism. Al-Jazeera uses a vocabulary of resistance by using terms like "battle of national liberation," "pride of Palestinians," "defend the people, land and sanctities," "operation to bring an end to Israeli violations," and "pre-emptive strike," thus framing action within paradigms of justice, dignity and self-determination. The semantic prosody linked to each vocabulary is organized toward ideational interpretations divergent from each other (criminality vs. liberation).

ADJECTIVES, NOUN MODIFIERS AND COMPOUNDING

CNN's collocations, biggest massacre, indisputable act, lethal onslaught, intensify severity and certainty, and function as graduation resources which scale up negativity. Al-Jazeera's noun modifiers, battle of honour, epic battle and national liberation, elevate the moral and symbolic status of the action. Such modifiers and compounds (e.g., pre-emptive strike, continued occupation) function as ready-made categorizers which stabilize interpretation.

SYNTACTIC STRUCTURE, AGENCY AND TRANSITIVITY

CNN tends to describe Hamas as Actor/Agent using material process verbs like "launched," "attacked," and "slaughtered," in contrast to Israel, which is regularly cast as Goal/Affected or a Senser offering a legitimate response, as with "has the right to defend itself." Agent-backgrounding and passivity patterns like "initiated by Hamas" contribute to accountability while shifting the thematic focus to the action and its outcome. Al-Jazeera consistently employs causal chaining and

circumstantial clauses (e.g., "escalation due to… repeated incursions… continued occupation"), distributing agency to structural conditions and thus casting Palestinian actions as coerced or reactive.

QUOTATION & ATTRIBUTION PATTERNS (VOICE CONFIGURATION)

The analysed data prioritizes recurrent phrases over extensive speaker attribution; however, attributional position can be inferred from lexicalized judgments (e.g., "indisputable act of terrorism," "right to defend itself" accompanying "battle of national liberation," "defend sanctities"). Institutional assessment is included in the textual perspective as if it is merely an objective description, thus illustrating a common journalistic practice in which evaluative language is tightly interwoven with referential expressions and headline-friendly designations. Further investigation would lead one to expect CNN to echo official or state security discourse, with Al-Jazeera echoing Palestinian or rights discourses; even at the word level, the position is implied, not marked with explicit quotation marks, through the use of attributive terms.

OVER-LEXICALIZATION AND DENSITY

CNN's cluster around *terror/atrocity* (e.g., *terrorist attack*, *horrific*, *slaughter*, *Nazi action*, *9/11*) reflects over-lexicalization, numerous near synonyms occupying the same semantic field, which signals ideological pressure to fix meaning as terror. Al-Jazeera's repeated liberation/justice field (*resistance*, *liberation*, *dignity*, *sanctities*, *occupation*, *blockade*) likewise densifies a counter-frame. Over-lexicalization is a hallmark of emphasis in contested discourses.

METAPHOR AND FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

CNN's metaphorization through intertextual-metaphoric labels (*Nazi action*, *9/11*) imports scripts of absolute evil; "worst nightmare" dramatizes collective fear. Al-Jazeera's battle and sanctity metaphors (*battle of honour*, *epic battle with Al-Aqsa at its core*) sacralise the conflict and moralize agency. The operation's name itself, "Al-Aqsa Flood", evokes a natural-force metaphor, potentially implying overwhelming release after containment.

MODALITY, EVALUATION AND (UN)CERTAINTY

CNN uses a modality characterized by robust epistemic markers indexing certainty (undeniable act of terrorism) as well as deontic modality (Israel has the right to defend itself), which works to legitimize selective responses. Al-Jazeera's modality relating to obligation and necessity (intended to thwart violations, save the nation/country/sanctities) evokes feelings of moral as well as public responsibility. This strategic use of modality obliges viewers to self-identify with respective news channels' taken normative stances.

INTERTEXTUALITY AND HISTORICAL INDEXING

CNN's references to Nazi atrocities and 9/11 place the event in Western trauma intertexts and re-anchor recent news in archetypal terrorism. References by Al-Jazeera to inmates, blockade, and Al-Aqsa index lingering conflict and holy geography and place the recent in long-enduring historical memory. Such intertextual hooks are ideal devices for immediate audience recognition.

NOMINALIZATION & ABSTRACTION

Both media outlets utilize nominalization—in operation, escalation, violation, occupation and strike—the kind that condense process into separate entities. Casual chaining is enabled by this process at the cost of clarity about the involved agents (e.g., escalation by…). The event-as-entity construct by CNN (e.g., terrorist attack, massacre) yields a closed categorical understanding. Al-Jazeera's goal-nominal sentences by implication suggest teleology and intent (e.g., operation aimed at achieving an end…, operation to defend…), which give them a flavour of intentionality.

MICRO-SYNTHESIS (SEMANTIC AND IDEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS)

At textual level, CNN's evaluation discourse, agentively formed sentence structure, high-commitment modality and trauma intertexts altogether build a narrative of victimhood and terror; Al-Jazeera's lexicon of resistance, its structural foci of causality, teleological nominalization and sacred metaphors all together build a liberation-justice narrative. Such choices of style transcend bland style itself; meaning making itself is what such choices condition the reader for other meanings and moral affinities, exactly the sort of fine-grained textual analysis one would anticipate from the reviewer.

DISCOURSE PRACTICE (PRODUCTION AND INTERPRETATION)

In discourse practice as mapped out in Fairclough's (1989) framework, it is possible to identify that there exists intentional use of language that instantiates particular socio-political ideologies held by CNN and Al-Jazeera. CNN's discourse practice works not as some descriptive vehicle for relaying information; rather, it works as explanatory vehicle that aligns itself with Western geopolitical narratives. This alignment arises in terms of rhetoric regarding victimhood and right to use force as protective measures in the Israeli context and replicates a wider Western discourse that frequently defines Hamas's activities as terrorist. The reference point to the event of 9/11 offers one such example of intertextuality, referencing through allusions international terrorism threat and situating the event in a discourse that is morally and ideologically absolute such that it necessitates particular audience response. Text layout such as selection of imagery and editorial stances adopted likely works to install this worldview such that it is internalized and replicated through audience comprehension of conflict.

On the contrary, Al-Jazeera's discourse practice is assembled within a narrational framework supportive of the legitimacy of Palestinian resistance. This follows from the socio-political context within which the network exists, one reflecting the foreign policy of Qatar and its widespread connections throughout the Arab world. This language which has its foundations in a discourse of liberation and dignity is one which points to a promise to Palestinian people putting their discursive space within a very ancient struggle against occupation as well as historical injustices. This means that its construction is that which serves to convey this viewpoint and turn its discourse towards Palestinian will to sovereignty and respect. The audience has to read the text in terms of the interpretation of the nuances of occupation together with resistance as a legitimate one relying on the international law and humanitarian normativity.

The multiple discursive practices that are present to date therefore highlight the active place adopted by the media institutions in the production and explanation of the news. The media outlets such as CNN and Al-Jazeera do not portray themselves as impartially observers but seasons they narrate to provide evidence to advocate certain ideological positions. Ideological stands like these

subsequently proceed to determined interpretative schemata with which the populace understands what is happening, hence defining the global discourse of the main geopolitical events and the national knowledge of such occurrences.

SOCIAL PRACTICE

The dimension of sociocultural practice in Fairclough's (1989) framework of analysis requires one to delve into the wider social and cultural settings that surround media discourse produced by media institutions like CNN and Al-Jazeera and which impact upon communicative meaning. This dimension recognizes that media depictions take place in defined contextual conditions and are always compounded by sociopolitical relations and ideological paradigms which help constitute cultural standards among societies and ethical standards.

The CNN representation within a Western sociopolitical and sociocultural context is informed by a longstanding political alignment with Israel as well as a traditional labelling by the United States and its allies of Hamas as a terrorist organization. The mechanisms of agenda-setting and interpretive frames used by CNN are both shaped by this setting within a sociocultural context, thus affirming and perpetuating a certain social identity and epistemological structure. In this context, not only are the activities of Hamas-type groups delegitimized, but criminalized as well, thus perpetuating a discourse placing these entities at the centre of world terrorism. The discourse not only influences public opinion but is a factor within policy dialogue that contributes to Western foreign policy and military intervention within the context area.

In this context, Al-Jazeera operates from a sociocultural context more commensurate with realities from the Arab region and historical conflict dynamics arising out of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Through identification with the Palestinian aspiration toward sovereignty and conceptualizing their activities as resistance activities against occupation, Al-Jazeera's rhetoric facilitates social identity commensurate with Palestinian aspirations toward autonomy. This social identity operates in terms of a larger epistemological context critical about Western narratives regarding explanations about terrorism by reframing Palestinian activities as reactions to the arrival of an adversarial entity. Through these activities, not only does Al-Jazeera offer one frame or explanation in conflict with other dominant paradigms, it also undertakes one form of counter knowledge system operating to frame Palestinian resistance in terms commensurate with international law and ethical imperatives.

The approaches discussed in this study socioculturally diversify with the accents made on both special perceptions and unequivocal dynamics between media presentations and social identities as well as knowledge. When it came to covering other events such as Operation Al-Aqsa Flood, both Al-Jazeera and CNN were not only covering but also producing perceived realities that their multifaceted audience would perceive. These representations have been closely wrapped in larger geopolitical, cultural representations and ideologies in which such media outlets exist. Besides, the portrayals of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood by Al-Jazeera and CNN constitute the multivariate effects of the media representations themselves and their underlying socio-political biases that shape them. Such representations do not merely reproduce the events in stake but on the angle of the established ideological place or positions on the one hand, and the hegemonic discourses of the spheres of influence on the other.

The CNN framing imbued with language typical of terrorism and placed within Western geopolitics, is intended to reinforce Israel's victimhood frame while de-legitimating the Hamas cause. It is part of a larger set of socio-cultural practice supported by Western hegemonic

geopolitics that constructs Israel as a bastion of democracy under siege by actors identified as terroristic within Western frameworks. This reality construction is necessary for maintaining the dominant discourse that supports, not only the existing power relations and alliances within the Middle East, but their necessity as well.

In contrast, Al-Jazeera's framing provides a specific narrative that defines the Palestinian cause as a legitimate and righteous struggle for liberation and self-rule. This frame emphasizes strong identification of the network's orientation with prevailing socio-political ideology across the Arab region, such that resistance to Palestinian freedom and ongoing struggle over Israeli occupation is deemed highly important and central. This particular frame effectively counteracts prevailing discourse, often displaying Western bias. Through defining a voice emanating from ground zero resistance perspective, Al-Jazeera not only raises greater visibility for these issues but also strengthens legitimacy for the Palestinian movement. This frame exists in larger context whereby historical conflict along with prevailing tensions resulting from occupation and systemized marginalization of Palestinian peoples is recognized.

Every network, through its particular representation, not only maintains a particular sociocultural discourse but also becomes involved in building an epistemological construct that shapes international understandings about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Epistemological productions have an inherently strong character; they resonate internationally in public discourse, influence policy development, and construct national identity as well as shared memory. These representations require close examination to develop critical knowledge about the workings of power relations, about ideological underpinnings that uphold them, as well as about resister formations informing contemporary media narratives.

IDEOLOGIES OF THE SELECTED OUTLETS

This section sheds light on the ideologies behind the representations of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood by both selected news outlets as follows:

IDEOLOGY OF CNN

The CNN's portrayal of the Operation Al-Aqsa Flood as a massacre is based on an ideological context intended to frame the discourse in such a way as to evoke visions of unwarranted and indiscriminate violence. In utilising this stylistic approach, CNN moves beyond the simple communication of information to engage actively in the construction of a particular narrative intended to portray the parties involved and to secure a strong emotional response from its viewers. This practice is part of a larger ideological agenda intended to position such acts of violence firmly within the context of immorality and beyond the pale of civilized acts. The representation of such events as "horrific" and "absolutely evil" heightens the ideologically driven discourse, as such portrayals convey deep moral outrage and endeavour to portray such acts as entirely unacceptable. This rhetorical position provides no defence of such acts while at the same time attempting to stir up popular outrage at them. The invocation of emotionally charged language is representative of the way in which CNN places itself within a context that unambiguously condemns violence directed against civilian populations as unacceptable.

The juxtaposition of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood with the 9/11 attacks is typical of one ideological stance, which seeks to frame the incident within the context of international terrorism. This alignment has the effect of linking the incident to one of the most traumatic and critical events

in recent US history, thus framing the incident as not just an attack against one specific site but against common principles and the security of the public at large. This dichotomy implies a swift and immediate response consistent with the international anti-terror effort launched in response to terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Framing the event as a "deadly assault" operates to call attention to the deaths that followed as a consequence of the event, thus framing the loss of human life as a salient and important aspect of the conflict. This sort of framing is probably intended to draw attention to the human cost of the operation, possibly linking it to a specific ethos whereby the sanctity of human life is foremost and about which it is careful to transmit details regarding incidents accompanied by casualties and destruction.

The framing of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood in concert with the acts of ISIS places the event in a context of radical brutality and extremism. This is consistent with an ideology that defines such acts as odious and contrary to accepted standards of international behaviour. With this association, CNN strengthens a storyline that identifies Hamas with one of the most universally despised terrorist groups and literally effects a change in public opinion to viewing Hamas as a serious and uncompromising entity hostile to peace and tranquillity. The labelling of the event as a "slaughtering" is intended to draw upon a word with connotations of violence and large-scale bloodbaths and thus enunciates an ideological position that translates the act as not only violent but performed with a ghastly and repugnant lack of concern for human life. Such word choices support a report that maintains the event was not a military operation sanctioned by the authorities but was instead a brutal and indiscriminate killing of innocents. Finally, the overt identification of such an operation with Hamas is itself an ideological choice meant to serve to clearly identify responsibility.

This specific attribution method refers to a form of journalism that seeks to report facts in plain and concise language, thus eliminating all ambiguity, and also assumes that such underlying ideology of the source favours frankness and accuracy. Additionally, it assumes an implicit requirement from the reader to interpret these facts along universally accepted ethical and legal standards that condemn acts of terrorism. Through a varied use of descriptive choices, CNN systematically develops one such ideological frame laden with extraordinary implications for both policymakers and audience about how they will choose to interpret, discuss, and act upon them. Such ideological frame conforms to one decidedly Western-centric agenda that condemns terrorism, emphasizes the human consequences entwined in war, and favours one such international system founded on specific moral and legal standards in relation to violence and war.

IDEOLOGY OF AL-JAZEERA

Al-Jazeera's description of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood as a national liberation struggle assumes a specific ideological position that places the conflict in the context of historical colonial resistance and the struggle for self-rule. The Palestinian resistance is thus framed as legitimate through reference to struggle for freedom, thus linking the network to ideological framings that support self-rule in resistance to occupation. This enables these activities to be framed as parts of rightful efforts to gain freedom, and this appeals universally to the universal popularity of the Palestinian cause throughout the Arab world.

The presentation of the operation as centred on "stopping Israeli abuses" illustrates a deterministic ideological support which posits that the Palestinian response is driven by ideals regarding justice and righting perceived wrongs. This understanding is consistent with lexicon utilized by international law and human rights frameworks, which frame Palestinians as parties to

a situation characterized by systematic abuses. The development of such a framework is built upon a particular ideology which utilizes rights as key frames and subjects Palestinians not as aggressors but as responding to a stream of provocations. Through allusions to Operation Al-Aqsa Flood as involving a "battle of honour, resistance, and dignity," Al-Jazeera utilizes specific ideological frameworks which view resistance per se as noble and honourable when driven by ideals regarding protecting sacred spaces. This framing not only raises Palestinian activity to greater status itself but also positions it as efforts to maintain cultural and spiritual heritage as an admirable goal. Such understandings are deeply ingrained across both Arab and Islamic traditions, whereby protecting one's soil and holy sites is held to be.

The description of the operation as "escalation in the face of the relentless trajectory of the Israeli occupation's attack on the Palestinian people" exhibits an ideological orientation in which Palestinian activism is framed in terms of the long historical and political tradition of resistance and occupation. This paradigmatic framework imposes a hierarchy of causality by identifying target as cause and deriving subsequent resistance as response and thus frames the conflict's structural dynamics in a subordinate role. Such understanding enables resistance to fulfill its natural role in terms of liberation and oppression narrative. Furthermore, referencing the operation as responding to "upholding of the Gaza blockade or incarceration of Palestinians in Israeli jails" brings into prominence an ideology framework in which Palestinian activism is perceived to serve support to the broader struggle underway against all types of confinement and state repression. The report frames the operation as responding to perceived ongoing violations and thus discursively positions it alongside Palestinian victimhood and resistance to domination. Such framing is commensurate with an ideological orientation that views lifting of blockade and released detainees as fundamental conditions for achieving peace and justice in the region. The reference to Operation Al-Aqsa Flood as "pre-emptive strike against Israel" exhibits an ideology constructed upon self-defense and anticipatory measures in response to perceived threat.

This ideology draws from a military and strategic tradition in support of pre-emptive measures constructed on the fundamental importance of self-preservation alongside conflict defusing. This narrative assumes Palestinian actors behave rationally by reacting after due consideration of an upcoming threat and thereby situates their actions in survival terms that legitimates their counter-attacks. Furthermore, the Al-Jazeera report chronicles a broader ideology in which liberation and dignity ideals become commingled with preservation and resilience. The international worldview constructed by the network creates an international system in which actions are characterized by histories and culture prisms alongside regional sentiments, yet also participates global discourse about entitlement, sovereignty, and resilience.

DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

The findings of this study attest to clear ideological disparity in CNN's and Al-Jazeera's coverage of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood. From the analysis of the data collected, three overriding themes appear in the coverage done by the two organizations: (1) lexical depiction of participants, (2) agency and causality attributions and (3) underlying patterns of ideological narrative. This study finds a stark ideological difference between CNN's and Al-Jazeera's coverage of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood. A close scrutiny of collected data finds three salient themes which mark both media's reporting: (1) linguistic portrayal of actors, (2) agency and causation attributions, and (3) ideological narrative building frameworks.

LEXICAL FRAMING OF ACTORS

CNN utilizes charged terminology to present Hamas as the perpetrator and Israel as the victim. The use of words like "massacre," "terrorist attack," "pure evil," and "slaughter" instils an image of Hamas being unjustified and acting irrationally. The claims referencing "9/11" and "Nazi atrocities" place the event within a universally recognized Western model for terrorism. Al-Jazeera frames the Palestinian people as part of a justified movement for resistance. Evocative, powerful words like "battle of national liberation," "resistance," "dignity," and "protecting sanctities" create a narrative based on empowerment and legitimate opposition. These words align within a larger Arab-Islamic ideological context based on a tradition of anti-occupation and resistance.

ATTRIBUTION OF AGENCY AND CAUSALITY

CNN attributes sole culpability to Hamas, framing the group as the sole instigator of unprovoked hostilities. The use of repetitive dynamic action words like "launched," "attacked," and "slaughtered" places Hamas solely to blame. Conversely, Israel's responses are labelled as "responses" or "acts of self-defence," which themselves unproblematically assume rationalizations based on international juridical principles. Al-Jazeera situates causality as an ongoing process shaped by an ongoing path of conflict and structural domination. Formulations like "a response to crimes of occupation," "an escalation following persistent incursions," and "the failure of international solutions" put structural and political forces centre stage. Palestinian actions are represented as being inherently reactive and largely motivated by an ongoing lack of justness.

IDEOLOGICAL NARRATIVES AND SYMBOLIC FRAMING

The narrative spread by CNN aligns with dominant Western ideological models, which describe Hamas as a terrorist group while presenting Israel as a democratically. This dichotomy is supported through reference to traumatic Western incidents (for example, 9/11) and use of legalistic language like "humanitarian law violations." Al-Jazeera, as an opposition, frames an alternative narrative based on the unity of the region and Islamic iconography. The consistent use of words like "Al-Aqsa," "prisoners," and "blockade" supplies a spiritual and ethical motivation for the operation. This narrative frames resistance as both a political necessity and a heroic act of self-defence.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study makes it transparent how coverage by Al-Jazeera and CNN from Operation Al-Aqsa Flood is informed by both their own ideology, culture and geopolitical interests. It illustrates how these channels make frames of meaning concurrently with trying to promote public opinion through specific discursive frameworks. The coverage by CNN on the operation utilizes global terrorism-related terms such as "slaughter" and "massacre" and drawing analogies between the operation and 9/11 attacks and Nazi atrocities and thus imposing Hamas as the leading warring side and Israel as the victimized side who has valid motives to counter-attack. This frame of meaning tends to resonate with Western geopolitical interests in not relenting on support for Israel. Therefore, the portrayal by CNN best occurs through the form of concrete Western ideology bias against Palestinian resistance and in support of Israeli self-defence.

In turn, Al-Jazeera's representation exists within an Arab-Islamic ideological structure typified by powerful discourses of liberation, resistance, and the pursuit of justice through the reclaiming of histories. In defining the raid as a "battle of honour" and "national liberation," Al-Jazeera legitimizes the actions taken by Palestinians against protracted occupation, structural injustice, and inadequacies relating to international agreements. This account resonates within audiences in the Middle East, particularly within Muslim nations, and signifies a broader cultural and political affiliation with the Palestinian struggle.

The contrasting portrayals show that news media not only transmit information but also actively shape meaning and influence public interpretation. Each broadcasting agency reproduces and sustains ideological stances that reflect its socio-political context. The findings confirm that media organizations function as ideological tools, constructing reality through narrative formation, selective emphasis, and linguistic choices. These findings emphasize the significance of media literacy, particularly in the context of conflict reporting, so that audiences develop the critical skills needed to recognize underlying biases and ideological agendas.

To advance this research, future studies should broaden their scope to include a more heterogeneous range of international media sources, both mainstream and peripheral, in order to reflect diverse cultural and political contexts. Such broadening would deepen our understanding of international media discourse surrounding major geopolitical events, such as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Furthermore, by combining Fairclough's theory with other analytical frameworks, such as Van Dijk's (2009) Socio-Cognitive Approach or Reisigl and Wodak's (2009) Discourse-Historical Approach, researchers may be better positioned to gain new insights into the cognitive, social, and historical factors underpinning media representations.

Furthermore, the rapidly changing environment of new media requires an integrated theoretical framework for examining how narratives are built across platforms such as broadcasting, social media, and print. Accordingly, contextualization of media studies has high relevance in contemporary debates. Framing presentations such as Operation Al-Aqsa Flood in the wider historical context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict allows scholars to outline the development of frames of narrative over time, discern the endurance of perspectives through conflict, and track shifts in global presentations over time. Moreover, examining media rhetoric convergence with policy development and subsequent international implications for international diplomacy and public reputation can refine global politics understanding about the lengthy effects of media narratives. This study facilitates expansion of critical media rhetoric scholarship in conflict journalism's ambit and inspires building interdisciplinary, historically nuanced, and methodologically diverse approaches to facilitate scholarship across media and ideology.

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