

Corruption in the Field of Journalism, Whether It Is Tea Drinking or Humiliation

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Abstract: *This article provides a brief theoretical definition of the term corruption, as well as cases of corruption in journalism. The main focus is on the idea that the emergence of corruption in the industry has a negative impact on the development of the state. The problems that lead to corruption in journalism are analyzed with practical examples and addressed.*

Keywords: Corruption, journalism, reporter, journalist, impartiality, honesty, regional correspondents, constitutional law, journalistic position.

Introduction

The media is a mirror to the public eye. The problems and shortcomings in the life of the state are revealed through the work of skilled journalists. The role of journalism in eradicating the worst scourge of corruption is also invaluable. "The media can play a paramount role in exposing corruption and initiating legal, political and penal action against it. Different media genres unfold their respective strengths and show their limits as anti-corruption tools depending the different levels of on which they take effect, on the audiences they address and on the broader media ecosystem on which they rely. There is a general agreement among researchers and practitioners alike that the media has a pivotal role to play in strengthening processes of democratisation (Norris 2008), quality of government, (Färdigh 2013), economic development (Besley & Prat 2006) and anti-corruption (Brunetti & Weder 2003, Färdigh 2013). The media can be broadly defined as the communication outlets used to deliver information to large audiences. Regarding anti-corruption, the media offers a key route for information about governmental, administrative and business activities to be disseminated throughout society, and thus providing the public with a critical capacity to hold those in power accountable. By uncovering, exposing, informing and educating about the detrimental effects of corruption for society at large, the media can significantly increase the political risk of those exposed for their corrupt practices and foster the critical awareness of civil society (Mendes 2013). A 2018 OECD study found that 2% of foreign bribery cases resulted from previous media reports on alleged corruption, which makes media reporting the most important source for public awareness and a paramount source of detection of corruption (Chêne 2019)".

We usually know journalists as people who fight corruption. But what if the fighters do it themselves? Before we think about it, let's look at the lexical meaning of the term corruption. Corruption is derived from the Latin word, "corrumpō" - meaning "disgust", "bribery". "Corruption is the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. It can be classified as grand, petty and political, depending on the amounts of money lost and the sector where it occurs". "Corruption is dishonest behavior by those in positions of power, such as managers or government officials. Corruption can include giving or accepting bribes or inappropriate gifts, double-dealing, under-the-table transactions, manipulating elections, diverting funds, laundering money and defrauding investors".

Materials and methods

As for the work being done in the fight against corruption in our country, in recent years, the law provides for various penalties for bribery and abuse of office. However, we did not have a direct anti-corruption law. In particular, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Combating Corruption" was adopted on January 3, 2017. Also, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to further improve the system of combating corruption in the Republic of Uzbekistan" was issued on May 27, 2019. According to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated May 27, 2019, the State Program to Combat Corruption for 2019-2020 has been developed. The government is taking all necessary measures to combat corruption. But the corruption of journalists, who are the state's main aides on this path, is a major disaster.

Since I am studying journalism, I could not ignore this topic. Since the beginning of the second semester at the university, we have been taking a course called "Journalist Inquiry in the Fight against Corruption". During the lessons, I get acquainted with the lexical meaning of the term corruption and various information about what kind of work is an example of it, and I realize that there are particles in every step we take. Corruption, especially in the field of journalism of my choice, is deeply troubling. Is it the words of a person who does not keep his word? What else can one expect from a person who appears on the screen "journalism after he has done the same thing as corruption is the downfall of the nation"? There are, of course, many reasons for this to happen, and I blame the whole system, not just journalists.

Let me continue with the proof of my thoughts. During the summer vacation, I did an internship at a regional television and radio company. We went on more than 10 shots with reporters here. I learned a lot. But along with what I learned, there were also aspects I hated. When we went to remote districts to report, lunch was brought by district officials (as is usually the case).

“People’s money” is used, which is a cost, of course. It didn’t matter if you didn’t spend from his pocket, so the officials also ordered the food as much as they wanted until the third or fourth. Oh, while I was sitting at that table, it was as if a bone had passed through my throat, myself. I saw people working in black sweat. However, one meal could satisfy the stomach. And because I was “small,” I didn’t know how to say a word or eat food. If I did not eat, firstly, it would be disrespectful, disrespectful, and secondly, I would be hungry. Ok, I know I can eat the first meal, the second meal was brought and the third was ordered. I couldn’t contain my anger and resentment at this point: I hurriedly shouted, “Fat, more extra food, extra expenses, that’s enough.” Then the official’s uncle turned to me and said, “Daughter, don’t worry about it. If your stomach is full, you will cover the subject better. There is nothing more embarrassing and embarrassing for a pen owner. I wondered if it was tea or humiliation. You know, its meaning was : it was like if I lubricated your mouth, you would follow the path I told you.

Well, I’m used to it. Now the situation as we leave: the reporter’s hand is back full of a week’s worth of food. Money was also secretly tucked into his pocket. There was a box of eggs, a packet full of apples, cola, and a few other things in the trunk. Here is an example of open corruption ...

There is a saying among our people: one day you should bow to the place where you ate salt for forty days and say hello. So, tell me, in this case, if there is a mistake or shortcoming in the activities of the organization, will the reporter cover it? Never ... Because he is ashamed and afraid of what he eats. Aspects of objectivity and truthfulness, on the other hand, fly to places like “the sky is clear.” After neutral information is not transmitted, will people have confidence in the media, after all?

First of all, a journalist will not do such a thing if he is faithful to his conscience and a believer. In such cases, the lack of religious knowledge is justified. But I don’t think it’s just the journalist’s fault here. The bribe-giver also has a lot to say. He did so to cover up his devious and cruel way of doing things. The same reporter says that he is a man, he has children, he has a livelihood. He may have accepted the gifts after the salary were unsatisfactory, perhaps also due to shortages. What happened to his conscience is known only to him and to Allah.

It is not just the people who are to blame for corruption, but you, me, all of us, the whole society, the whole system of governance. Because if we don’t lose it, there will be no objective information, and there will be no growth and development in any field. It’s like a heavy rock in the abyss that pulls everything back....

In order to prevent corruption in the field of journalism, first of all, it is necessary to increase the legal knowledge and skills of journalists. As we all know, many journalists today are ignorant of international and national laws in their field, their ignorance of legal norms is a big shortcoming. This, in turn, leads to corruption. For example, it is natural for a person who is preparing a critical journalistic material to be threatened. In such a situation, if a journalist does not know the rights of his field, he can, of course, go to the other side in various ways, selling his position. If a journalist is familiar with the legal documents related to his / her activity, he / she will be able to claim his / her rights and maintain his / her position in the above situation.

The role of regional correspondents in providing the population with quality and fast news is great. But they are often unaware of what is happening in the world in the fight against corruption. Sometimes regional correspondents have no idea what actions lead to corruption, how to get out of it when faced with corrupt situations. This factor also creates a breeding ground for corruption. Therefore, it is necessary to organize more scientific conferences on the fight against corruption, as well as various events in remote areas and attract more journalists.

Various anti-corruption laws are enshrined in the constitution of each state. But in practice it is not always followed. In fact, it is not the giver but the recipient and the third party who witnessed it that are guilty of corruption. But we usually blame the giver, the other two parties remain innocent. In fact, all three subjects are found guilty in the process. All three should be punished equally. The tragic Chinese experience is an example of the effective application of sanctions. If a journalist commits corruption, he or she should be punished more than an ordinary citizen. Because he has a weapon called the “word” in his hand. He can change the ideology of the whole society through his writings.

Conclusion

The journalist must always be neutral and not take sides. As long as the journalist is neutral, objectivity is guaranteed. In a society where objective information is disseminated, it is natural for democracy to take deep root. Journalists are people who hold a mirror to the public. Therefore, first of all, they must fight corruption, prevent corruption, and set an example for citizens. After all, if the word being spoken is a word that is also used by the speaker himself, then the audience can follow it.

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