

The Media Coverage of the Issue of Palestinian Youth Migration from the Gaza Strip in News Websites

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Abstract: *The study aimed to identify how electronic news websites dealt with the issue of immigration of Palestinian youth, to determine the extent of news websites' interest in the issue of immigration, and to identify the sources on which electronic news websites relied in addressing the issue. This study is a descriptive study, and the researchers used the media survey method. And the content analysis tool to analyze the content of a sample from (Wafa Agency website, Sabq 24 agency website, Shams News Agency website) for a month from October 17 to November 17 of 2022. The study reached a set of results, the most important of which are: The electronic news websites did not give the issue of Palestinian youth immigration the necessary importance, so they published 37 press articles about the issue, and the official sources are considered at the forefront of the press sources that the websites relied on in covering the issue, as it came by 78.17%, and the press news occupied It ranked first among other editorial arts in covering the issue with a rate of 94.6%, and the news target was the predominant target of websites in covering the issue of immigration, with a rate of 84.09%.*

Keywords: Media treatment, youth migration, Gaza, websites.

Introduction:

The issue of migration has become an important topic covered by various media outlets in their news coverage and other media materials. It receives varying levels of attention, sometimes active and sometimes fading, all depending on the nature of the media outlet and its interest in highlighting the issue of migration.

In the context of the economic globalization the world is witnessing, in recent years, young people, in general, have been inclined to consider migration and moving from their original countries, which offer fewer job opportunities and suffer from more destruction and blockade, to more advanced and developed countries in terms of work, economy, and welfare, seeking better life opportunities to save them from their dire home realities.

Many young people across the Arab world resort to illegal migration, despite the dangers they face, whether it involves traveling long distances by land or sea. Many have lost their lives in the process, yet this does not deter others from attempting illegal migration despite their awareness of these risks.

Palestinian youth, especially in the Gaza Strip, are not isolated from this issue. They experience the same reasons and motivations that drive them toward illegal migration, escaping from harsh realities and difficult economic conditions caused by the Israeli blockade imposed for over 15 years, ongoing wars, bombings, continuous targeting, Palestinian division, lack of job opportunities amidst noticeable population growth, and high unemployment rates among Gaza's youth.

In this context, the issue has not received adequate attention from governments, officials, or Palestinian national and Islamic factions in studying or curbing its spread or addressing its causes.

In this study, the researchers aim to address the media coverage of the issue of Palestinian youth migration from the Gaza Strip in news websites.

Chapter One

First: Previous Studies

The researchers reviewed a set of previous studies directly and indirectly related to the research problem and arranged the studies chronologically.

1. The study by Jabbar (2022) aimed to identify how social media news pages addressed the issue of illegal migration, the types of frames used in covering the issue, and the audience's interaction with the news coverage on social media news pages. The study employed a survey method and content analysis tool, finding that various frames were used to cover the issue, with the humanitarian frame being the most prevalent. Participation and interaction rates on news pages concerning illegal migration were high, and the most relied-upon sources in news coverage were news agencies, accounting for 52.2%.

2. The study by Shamis (2021) aimed to identify the frames used by Egyptian electronic newspapers in covering the issue of illegal migration. The study used a media survey method, critical discourse analysis relying on qualitative analysis, and an unstructured interview tool. It found that private newspapers led in addressing the issue of illegal migration. Unemployment, poverty, lack of job opportunities, corruption, nepotism, population growth, and political and economic instability were the main drivers of illegal migration. News reports ranked first among editorial genres in covering the issue.
3. The study by Hamad and Harb (2021) aimed to understand how Palestinian print journalism addressed youth issues, uncover the main youth-related issues it covered, and identify the methods and sources used. Using a content analysis tool, the study revealed that Palestinian print journalism dedicated high proportions of internal pages to youth issues, amounting to 93.5%. Journalistic sources, particularly correspondents, were the most relied-upon at 57%. News reports dominated youth-related content at 86.5%.
4. The study by Abdel Qader Ali and others (2021) aimed to identify the frameworks used by news channels to address illegal immigration. The researchers employed the media survey method and content analysis tool on a sample of three news channels: Nile News Channel, Al Arabiya Al Hadath, and BBC Arabic News. They used a comprehensive method to include all daily news bulletins over a period of six months. The study found that these news channels used various frameworks in presenting news in their bulletins on the issue of illegal immigration, including humanitarian frameworks, international statements, legal frameworks, and political frameworks, with the humanitarian framework being the most prominent.
5. The study by Abouzeid (2019) aimed to determine the motivations behind illegal immigration and the stance of international humanitarian law on it, as well as to examine the governing principles of Libyan national security components and the challenges posed by illegal immigration. The study employed the historical-analytical method, the descriptive method, and the legal method. It found that the large influx of illegal immigrants, which amounted to 704,000 in 2018, had significant security, economic, social, and political impacts on Libyan society. The internal political division created a state of instability in Libya due to the flow of illegal immigrants and the inability of any political faction to resolve the conflict in the public interest.
6. The study by Cherki (2017) aimed to uncover how the websites France 24 and Al Arabiya Net addressed the phenomenon of illegal immigration, determine the extent of the websites' focus on this issue, and identify the primary journalistic techniques and elements of emphasis and interaction used. The study employed the descriptive survey method, the comparative method, and the content analysis tool. It concluded that the publication of news materials on both France 24 and Al Arabiya Net was relatively similar in proportion, whether on the main page or other pages. Both websites used news reporting as a journalistic technique to present news content more than other journalistic types, with a rate of 47.85%

International Studies:

1. The study by Salameh (2019) aimed to discuss the issues of migration from Arab Spring countries to European countries, focusing on its causes and outcomes. The study concluded that migration from Arab Spring countries is due to what can be termed push factors in the Arab Spring countries and pull factors in the host countries. Moreover, the Arab Spring revolutions created a catastrophic situation for migrants, both within their countries and in the host countries, especially considering the increasing number of migrants and the negative impacts of their migration.
2. The study by Herbert and Amen (2019) aimed to understand the role of social media in facilitating illegal migration and to determine the perception of European countries that receive migrants. The study found that social media networks provide migrants with advice on how to reach Europe, migration routes, various crossing points, and Europe's policies on combating illegal migration. Additionally, videos circulating on social media depict Europe as clean, safe, and full of various economic and social opportunities.
3. The study by Rodriguez and Dawkins (2016) aimed to identify the difficulties faced by unaccompanied Latino youth in their migration and their attempts to integrate into American society after crossing the U.S.-Mexico border. The study used in-depth interviews and found that young people are more prone to personal failures in many areas, which could lead to a life of crime. Unregistered youth are more likely to be victims of crime than perpetrators. Exposure to violence and numerous challenges hinders these youths from achieving their goals after arriving in America.

Comments on Previous Studies:

1. The current study aligns with most previous studies in using the media survey method, as it is the most suitable method for media studies, such as the studies by Jabbar (2022), Shamis (2021), and Hamad and Harb (2021). It differs from the study by Abouzeid (2019), which used the historical method and the comparative method alongside the survey method.
2. This study agrees with most previous studies in using the content analysis tool, such as the studies by Jabbar (2022), Abdel Qader and others (2021), and Hamad and Harb (2021). It differs from the study by Shamis (2021), which used the critical discourse analysis tool and the unstructured interview tool.

3. The current study agreed with most previous studies on the dangers of illegal migration and the difficulties and risks faced by migrants, such as the study by Jabbar (2022), the study by Abdel Qader and others (2021), and the study by Abouzeid (2019).
4. The current study differed from previous studies in its media coverage of the issue of youth migration from the Gaza Strip governorates on electronic news sites.
5. The study benefited from previous studies in the theoretical aspects related to the issue of illegal migration and the coverage by electronic news sites.

Secondly, the problem of the study:

The issue of youth migration from the Gaza Strip governorates is one of the negative phenomena that has spread widely in recent times, claiming the lives of many young people. This phenomenon is the result of several factors, including the intensification of the Israeli blockade, repeated wars on the Gaza Strip, deterioration of life in all areas and fields, and the absence of the most basic elements of life. All these are reasons that have driven the youth to migrate in search of a safe life and better job opportunities.

Due to the widespread nature of this phenomenon, it has become necessary for the media to shed light on it through coverage across various media platforms. One of the most important media outlets that play a major role in accurately highlighting the issue and conveying information and details about it is electronic news websites. Given the multitude of electronic news websites, the researchers selected (the Wafa Palestinian News Agency website, the Sabq 24 Agency website, and the Shams News Agency website) to understand the media approach used in youth migration.

Thirdly, the questions:

In light of the problem, importance, and objectives of the study, the study's questions were crystallized under the main question: How did news websites address the issue of Palestinian youth migration?

This main question branches into a set of sub-questions as follows:

1. How much attention do news websites pay to the issue of Palestinian youth migration?
2. What are the prominent sources that news websites relied on in addressing the issue?
3. What are the most commonly used journalistic techniques in news websites in addressing the issue?
4. What are the interactive elements and media used to highlight the issue?
5. Where is the journalistic material addressing migration located on news websites?
6. What are the objectives of news websites in addressing the issue?

Fourthly: Objectives:

The main objective of the study is to understand how Palestinian news websites have addressed the issue of Palestinian youth migration. This main objective branches into a set of sub-objectives as follows:

1. Determine the extent of Palestinian news websites' interest in the issue of migration.
2. Identify the sources relied upon by Palestinian news websites in addressing the issue.
3. Identify the most commonly used artistic techniques in Palestinian news websites in addressing the issue of migration.
4. Identify the interactive elements and media used to highlight the issue.
5. Determine the location of journalistic material addressing migration on news websites.
6. Monitor and analyze the objectives of news websites in addressing the migration issue.

Fifthly: Importance:

Scientific Importance:

1. This study is among those that address Palestinian news websites and the issue of Palestinian youth migration together.
2. Understanding the reasons for the migration of Palestinian youth from Gaza to European countries.
3. Migration is considered one of the important issues in recent years.
4. Revealing the nature of how news websites address the issue of migration.

Practical Importance:

The study benefits workers in Palestinian news websites by bringing about appropriate changes in their content regarding the coverage and handling of the issue of Palestinian youth migration.

Sixth: Study Terminologies:

Migration: A geographical phenomenon that reflects population dynamics as they move from one place to another, which is part of general population movements. (Abdul Qadir et al., 2022:167) Operational Definition: The movement of individuals from their original homeland to another place illegally, and settling there permanently or temporarily in search of a better and more stable life.

Youth: There is no agreed-upon definition among researchers, but the United Nations defines youth as individuals aged between 15 and 24 years, with countries having the flexibility to define the youth category according to each country's specificity and needs. (United Nations website, <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/youth>, accessed on February 15, 2023) Operational Definition: A stage of life immediately following adolescence, characterized by some psychological, social, and cultural characteristics that distinguish them from other age groups.

Online News Websites: A multimedia platform where various journalistic arts are regularly published via the Internet, using techniques of presenting texts, animated images, and some interactive features that reach the reader. (Jarboua, 2017: 45) Operational Definition: These are websites found on the Internet specializing in the field of media, by providing news, reports, articles, and investigations, and using multimedia to deliver the media message to the public.

Websites of News Agencies:

Operational Definition: These are websites of news agencies mentioned in the research, such as the Wafa Agency website, the Sabq 24 Agency website, and the Shams News Agency website.

Seventh: Study Type:

This study belongs to the field of descriptive-analytical studies, which involve studying facts related to the nature of the phenomenon or a set of events.

Eighth: Study Methodology:

This study relies on the media survey methodology, to survey a sample of three electronic news websites represented by (Wafa Agency website, Sabq 24 Agency website, Shams News Agency website) to understand the nature of addressing the issue of Palestinian youth migration.

The survey methodology defines the methods, tools, and procedures used to study a descriptive study phenomenon that reveals its characteristics, variables, and relationships in terms of intensity and direction. (Barkat, 2012: 37).

Ninth: Study Tool:

The tool that will be used in the study to collect data is the "content analysis" tool, through which the volume of media coverage of the issue of Palestinian youth migration, as well as the content and form of the coverage, will be analyzed.

Content analysis is defined as one of the research methods used to describe the explicit or implicit content of media materials in an objective and quantitative manner. (Sharqi and Jaballah, 2019: 34).

Tenth: Study Population and Sample:

It is the population from which the researcher can choose the study sample, and it is also the population on which the results are desired to be generalized. It constitutes the original community from which the sample was drawn. Therefore, the study population is represented by the online news websites. (Shamis, 2022: 251).

Study Sample:

Its selection was purposive for each of Wafa Agency website, Sabq 24 Agency website, and Shams News Agency website, after the researchers conducted an exploratory study on ten news websites and selected the three websites, one official, one independent, and the last partisan, to see how each of them addresses a very sensitive issue like the Palestinian youth migration issue. They were chosen because they addressed the issue of Palestinian youth migration the most during the study period and are among the most followed news websites by the Gaza public, especially during crises.

Eleventh: Study Boundaries:

Objective Boundaries:

The current study is limited in terms of subject matter to the media coverage of the issue of Palestinian youth migration from the governorates of Gaza Strip on online news websites, and the researchers rely on content analysis to conduct the analytical study.

Temporal Boundaries:

They consist of the time period from October 17 to November 17, 2022, as it is a period that witnessed youth migration from various governorates of Gaza Strip, resulting in the loss of many young people, and due to the increased media coverage during that period

about drowning incidents involving youth in general, especially in the southern governorates of Gaza Strip, through the exploratory study upon which the researchers relied to determine the time frame.

Chapter Two:

First: Palestinian Youth Migration from the Gaza Strip

The issue of migration among Palestinian youth has topped the concerns in the Gaza Strip due to several reasons that have led to an increased interest in seeking a dignified life and exploring new ways of living outside their homeland.

According to a news report published by the Palestinian news agency Wafa on September 27, 2022, various factors have driven Palestinian youth to voluntarily decide to migrate to European countries. These include consecutive Israeli wars and the economic collapse that has afflicted the Gaza Strip for nearly 15 years, following Hamas's takeover in June 2007. This situation has pushed thousands of Gazans, including children, the elderly, and women, to the brink of migration, risking their lives in search of new beginnings. (Wafa Agency, "Migration from Gaza to an Unknown Hell," <https://www.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/56016>, September 27, 2022).

Additionally, many other factors have created a "fertile ground" for youth migration from Gaza, such as rising unemployment and poverty rates, lack of hope among the youth, severe job shortages, the collapse of the private sector due to the destruction of economic establishments and companies, and Israeli restrictions on imports and exports.

In recent years, there has been a noticeable trend among Palestinian youth and families in Gaza to migrate outside the Gaza Strip, mainly to European countries that accept migrants. These individuals often use illegal routes to reach their destinations.

The researchers attempted to obtain official data and statistics on the numbers migrating from the Gaza Strip from official institutions concerned with this issue. However, due to the lack of official data and no governmental or official institution discussing the routes taken by young Palestinian migrants from Gaza, the researchers could not obtain this information.

The researchers also explored the methods and routes taken by young migrants. Due to limited information, they collected data through an online interview with a young Palestinian from Gaza who recently arrived in Greece, intending to reach European countries. This interview took place in mid-November 2022, the period chosen by the researchers for their study.

The young university graduate and migrant from Gaza, Anas Qadeeh, 24 years old, spoke about the reasons that led him to take this step despite the many discussions about the associated risks. "There are many reasons that made me take this risk, related to the difficult economic conditions experienced by Gaza residents in general and Palestinian youth in particular, such as the lack of job opportunities, high unemployment, and rising prices".

Qadeeh added, "The Israeli blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip is one of the main reasons that made us, as youth, think about migration, in search of a better life and job opportunities that match our scientific abilities."

Recently, Palestinian media has focused on reporting the deaths and drownings of young Palestinians attempting to migrate by sea, whether to Greece through Turkey and its waters, or by sea from North African countries (Tunisia, Morocco, and Libya).

When asked about the dangers faced during the migration journey, especially those reported by the media, such as the risks of drowning, death, imprisonment, and detention by the authorities of the countries they pass through, the migrant youth "Qudeih" confirmed that he encountered all these dangers during his migration journey but is determined to reach his goal.

He mentioned various conditions he went through, detailing the exhaustion, imprisonment, fear, lack of visibility, sleeplessness, and the physical abuse and harm they experienced. He also talked about the financial losses they incur for their journey and to the smuggling gangs who transport them or guide them on illegal routes.

Most Palestinian youth take illegal and unauthorized routes for migration, starting from the Gaza Strip towards Turkish territories. From there, they head to the furthest maritime borders with Greece, crossing the sea in boats not equipped to carry more than 40 people. These boats carry young migrants, women, children, and entire families.

Qudeih continues, "A day before departure, the smugglers contact us, specifying the meeting place and time. After preparing everything necessary, we board large boats that take us to the middle of the sea, from where we transfer to rubber boats".

He notes that it was not his first journey by sea; he had tried multiple times before, and each time he faced death and fear at every step. The Greek coast guard would intercept them, attempting to capsize their rubber boat despite the presence of women and children.

The rubber boat is a lightweight boat made of flexible rubber tubes containing compressed gas. Small boats of this type usually have a flexible hull and structure, with a rigid transom that provides a place and structure for mounting an outboard motor (Wikipedia, <https://ar.wikipedia.org/wiki>, accessed December 19, 2022).

Qudeih concludes by expressing his determination to continue his journey to the European country he aims for, to start his life and achieve his ambitions, far from his homeland, Palestine.

Second: News Websites:

The researchers have chosen three news websites that focus on publishing and transmitting Palestinian news in general, and specifically on publishing data and news related to the migration of Palestinian youth from the Gaza Strip. These websites are the research sample, and they are: Wafa News Agency, Sabq24 News Agency, and Shams News Agency.

Wafa Palestinian News Agency

Founded in April 1972, following a decision by the extraordinary session of the Palestinian National Council in Cairo and a resolution by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization on June 5, 1972, to establish the Palestinian News Agency "Wafa" as an independent body structurally, politically, and administratively linked to the Executive Committee of the organization. Its mission is to carry out media mobilization and counter hostile propaganda, becoming an independent platform for conveying national events without any guardianship. (Wafa News Agency, About Us, <https://www.wafa.ps/Home/AboutUs>, accessed December 20, 2022)

At its inception, Wafa focused on reporting Palestinian news, especially military communiqués issued by the General Command of the Palestinian Revolution Forces. It later expanded to cover diverse national events, news from Palestinian diaspora communities, and all matters related to the Palestinian cause.

"Palestine TV," which was established after the formation of the National Authority, along with other media platforms that were founded later.

Sabq 24 Agency:

Sabq24 News Agency is one of the leading agencies in the Palestinian arena, supported by extensive experience in news coverage across all the country's governorates. (Sabq 24 Agency website, "About Us," [Sabq24.ps](<https://sabq24.ps>), accessed December 20).

The agency's work focuses on promoting the Palestinian cause, amplifying the voice of the Palestinian citizen, and exposing the crimes of the Israeli occupation against the Palestinian people. It also highlights the achievements, successes, and contributions of our Palestinian people's lives, showcasing its constructive diversity through coverage that respects all parties, opinions, and positions.

Among the agency's goals are to follow and cover official and popular events and the private sector in Gaza and all governorates, providing news coverage of political and social events in which Palestine participates both regionally and internationally.

Sabq24 News Agency has achieved various successes in delivering news information to the public, contributing to establishing the agency's status as one of the most prominent agencies in the Palestinian media landscape. The agency has a future vision of leading media coverage locally and at the level of Arab news agencies, offering media services according to the best professional practices using the latest technical means.

Shams News Agency:

Shams News Agency is a private Palestinian media institution that was launched at the beginning of 2014 with a national vision and objectives, covering various fields to promote the concept of comprehensive and neutral media work (Shams News Agency website, "About Us", <https://2u.pw/yvjVXd>, accessed December 20, 2022).

As a Palestinian media institution, it carries the Palestinian national concern and deals with regional and local issues with transparency and professionalism. It is a non-profit organization with an independent media personality.

The Shams News Agency website aims to convey the complete truth through images and news, develop intellectual and cultural stock among people, and activate the role of the media to fulfill its responsibility as the fourth estate in all areas of knowledge needed by society in its renaissance.

The site presents the humanitarian perspective of the Palestinian issue to the world, raises the level of media materials provided in local Palestinian media, and spreads media awareness to enhance attachment to the cause.

It also works to strengthen positive connections with Arab and Islamic peoples to support the Palestinian cause, provide more services to the public in all their interests, and improve performance to enhance the agency's competitive position.

In its future plans, the site seeks to excel and stand out in the Palestinian media path by offering significant media materials, keeping up with technical and human developments, and working as a team to elevate the agency to a comprehensive and integrated media institution.

Chapter Three:

Results of the Analytical Study and Recommendations:

Table (1): The extent of Palestinian news websites' interest in the issue of Palestinian youth migration

Total materials	Wafa Agency website		Sabaq 24 Agency website		Shams News Agency website	
	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%
37	13	35.13%	16	43.24%	8	21.63%

Table Analysis:

The data in the previous table shows that the three Palestinian news websites published 37 journalistic materials covering the issue of Palestinian youth migration during the study period.

Regarding each website individually, the findings are as follows:

-Sabaq 24 is the website that covered the issue of Palestinian youth migration the most, with 16 journalistic materials, accounting for 43.24% of the content published by the three Palestinian websites on the topic. Despite the overall weakness during the study period, it was the most engaged in covering the issue.

-Wafa Agency ranks second in terms of interest in covering the issue of Palestinian youth migration. The previous table indicates that it included 13 journalistic materials, representing 35.13% of the total coverage by the three sites during the study period.

-Shams News ranks third among the study sites, publishing 8 journalistic materials, which accounts for 21.63% of the coverage of Palestinian youth migration by the websites during the study period.

Table (2): The sources relied upon by the news websites in addressing the issue of migration

Source of media material	Wafa Agency website		Sabaq 24 Agency website		Shams News Agency website		Total	
	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%
Official sources	11	78.58 %	15	93.75%	7	87.5%	34	87.18%
Organizational data	1	7.14%	1	6.25%	-		2	5.12%
Book	-	-	-		1	12.5%	1	2.58%
Representative	-	-	-		-		-	
News Agencies	-	-	-		-		-	
Correspondent	2	14.28%	-		-		2	5.12%
Total	14	100%	16	100%	8	100%	39	100%

The data from the previous table indicates that Palestinian news websites relied heavily on official sources to cover the issue of Palestinian youth migration, accounting for 87.18%. Organizational statements followed at 5.12%, while writers and correspondents each contributed equally at 2.58%. This result differs from Jabar's (2022) study, which found that the primary reliance was on news agencies as the main source in addressing the issue of illegal migration at 52.2%. It also contrasts with Sharqi's (2017) study, which used multiple sources at 60.43%, and Hamad and Harb's (2019) study, which relied more on correspondents than other sources in covering youth issues in print media at 57%.

Regarding each site individually, the findings are as follows:

-**Wafa Agency** relied on official sources for 78.58% of its coverage of Palestinian youth migration, followed by organizational statements at 7.14% and correspondents at 14.28%.

-**Sabaq 24** primarily relied on official sources at 93.75%, followed by organizational statements at 6.25% in covering Palestinian youth migration during the study period.

-**Shams News** relied on official sources for 87.5% of its coverage of Palestinian youth migration, with writers contributing 12.5%.

Table (3): The most used journalistic forms in addressing the issue of migration on news websites.

Journalistic art	Wafa Agency website		Sabaq 24 Agency website		Shams News Agency website		Total	
	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%
The news	12	90.3%	16	100%	7	87.5%	35	94.6 %
Report	1	9.7%	-	-	-	-	1	2.7%
Article	-	-	-	-	1	12.5 %	1	2.7%
Investigation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dialogue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	13	100	16	100	8	100	37	100

The data from the previous table shows that the predominant journalistic form used to address the issue of Palestinian youth migration on news websites is the news article, accounting for 94.6%. This is followed by reports and articles, each representing 2.7%. However, investigative pieces and interviews were not used in the coverage of Palestinian youth migration during the study period. This result is consistent with Sharqi's (2017) study, where news articles were the most used form in addressing illegal migration issues at 47.85%. It also aligns with Hamad and Harb's (2019) study, which found that news articles dominated the coverage of youth issues in Palestinian print media at 86.5%.

Regarding each site individually, the findings are as follows:

- Wafa Agency focused on news articles in its coverage of Palestinian youth migration, accounting for 90.3%, and used reports at 9.7%.

-**Sabaq 24** solely used news articles in its coverage of Palestinian youth migration, accounting for 100%.

Shams News predominantly used news articles in its coverage of Palestinian youth migration at 87.5%, followed by articles at 12.5%.

The researchers believe that the predominance of news articles in the three news websites' coverage of Palestinian youth migration is due to the reliance on official statements. Reports and articles were used to a lesser extent, while investigative pieces and interviews were not used, leading to significant gaps in the journalistic coverage of the issue.

Mohammed Jarbou, editor-in-chief of Sabaq 24, believes that the lack of engagement from the families of "breadwinner martyrs" with journalists was a reason for the websites' reliance on news articles more than other journalistic forms.

Table (4): The placement of journalistic materials addressing the issue of migration on news websites.

The placement of the news article	Wafa Agency website		Sabaq 24 Agency website		Shams News Agency website		Total	
	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%
The homepage	13	100	16	100%	8	100%	37	100%
The regular interface	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	13	100	16	100	8	100%	37	100

The data from the previous table shows that the predominant placement of journalistic materials related to the issue of Palestinian youth migration on Palestinian news websites is on the main front page, accounting for 100%. This result contrasts with Hamad and Harb's (2019) study, which found that youth issues were predominantly featured on the inside pages of Palestinian print newspapers at 93.5%.

Regarding each site individually, the findings are as follows:

-Wafa Agency allocated the main front page entirely to the issue of Palestinian youth migration, accounting for 100%.

-Sabaq 24 also placed its coverage of Palestinian youth migration entirely on the main front page at 100%.

-Shams News relied entirely on the main front page to cover the issue of Palestinian youth migration during the study period, accounting for 100%.

The researchers believe that Palestinian news websites have given significant attention to journalistic materials on the issue of Palestinian youth migration, featuring them on the main front page across all three websites.

Table (5): The interactive elements and media used in addressing the issue.

The interactive elements and media		Wafa Agency website		Sabaq 24 Agency website		Shams News Agency website		Total	
		Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%
The headlines	Main	13	81.25	16	48.49%	8	50%	37	56.93%
	Directive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Preliminary	1	6.25	1	3.02%	-	-	2	3.07%
Images		2	12.5	16	48.49%	8	50%	26	40%
Videos		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colors		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		16	100%	33	100%	16	100%	65	100

The data from the previous table shows that the interactive elements and media used in addressing the issue of Palestinian youth exceeded the number of journalistic materials used to cover the issue during the study period, due to the ability to use multiple elements to highlight content. It is evident that the main headline was prominently used across all three websites at 56.93%, followed by the introductory headline at 3.03%. The indicative headline was not used by the websites in their coverage of the issue. Images were used at a rate of 40%, while videos and colors were not used in covering the issue of Palestinian youth migration during the study period. This aligns with Sharqi's (2017) study, where most of the news articles addressing the phenomenon were in the form of main headlines at 88.52%.

Regarding each site individually, the findings are as follows:

-Wafa Agency used the main headline in its coverage of Palestinian youth migration at 81.25%, followed by the introductory headline at 6.25%, with images used at 12.5%.

-Sabaq 24 used the main headline in its coverage of Palestinian youth migration at 48.49%, followed by the introductory headline at 3.02%, with images also used at 48.49%.

-Shams News used the main headline in its coverage of Palestinian youth migration at 50%, and images were also used at 50%.

The researchers note a clear weakness in the Palestinian news websites' use of interactive elements and media in highlighting journalistic materials.

Table (6): Objectives of Palestinian news websites in addressing the issue of Palestinian youth migration.

Objective of the journalistic material	Wafa Agency website		Sabaq 24 Agency website		Shams News Agency website		Total	
	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%	Repetition	%
Journalistic objective	13	81.2%	16	88.89%	8	80%	37	84.09
Directive objective	3	18.8%	2	11.11%	1	10%	6	13.64%

Analytic Objective	-	-	-	-	1	10%	1	2.27%
Total	16	100%	18	100%	10	100%	44	100%

The data from the previous table illustrates that the primary goal of journalistic coverage of migration issues on the three websites during the study period was informative, accounting for 84.09%. This was followed by the directive goal at 13.64%, and then the analytical goal at 2.27%. These results were in line with the findings of Shemis's (2019) study, where the majority of published journalistic materials prioritized the informative goal over other objectives.

Regarding each website individually:

-The informative goal predominates in Wafa Agency's coverage of Palestinian youth migration, representing 81.2%, while the goal comprises 18.8%.

-On the Sabaq 24 website, the informative goal overwhelmingly covers journalistic coverage of the issue at 88.89%, followed by the directive goal at 11.11%.

-Additionally, on Shams News website, the primary goal is the predominant feature in journalistic coverage of the study's issue at 80%, followed by the directive and analytical goals at the same percentage of 10% each.

The researchers note that the informative goal primarily dominated journalistic materials in addressing the migration issue, with the directive and analytical goals having weak percentages. The awareness goal to educate youth about the risks of migration was not utilized.

Study findings:

1. The three news websites published 37 journalistic articles on the issue of Palestinian youth migration from Gaza governorates, a low number compared to articles published on other topics.
2. Official sources were predominantly used by the websites, comprising 78.17% of the journalistic sources for covering the issue, with other sources like correspondents and organizational data having lower percentages.
3. Journalistic news articles were the primary editorial format used in addressing migration, accounting for 94.6% of the content.
4. The issue of Palestinian youth migration was prominently featured on the front pages of the three websites at 100%.
5. The main headline was predominantly used to highlight migration news, with a percentage of 56.93%.
6. The predominant goal for the news websites in covering migration was the informative goal, at 84.09%.

Recommendations:

1. Work to lift the blockade imposed by Israeli occupation on Gaza.
2. Call on Palestinian factions to end internal division and achieve national unity to end the Palestinian youth's tragedy.
3. Urge news website administrations to increase media coverage and diversity in presenting and addressing migration issues.
4. Recommend that the Palestinian government and civil society institutions take responsibility for providing suitable employment opportunities for Palestinian youth and empower them economically, scientifically, and culturally.
5. Raise awareness about the risks of Palestinian youth migration through sports clubs, mosques, media institutions, and various community organizations.
6. Utilize Palestinian media to strategically plan coverage of youth-related issues.
7. Call on the Ministry of Youth and Sports to establish multiple free sports clubs and public spaces and implement various community activities to channel youth energies and integrate them into Palestinian society.
8. Encourage scientific research centers, universities, and researchers to conduct more research on the issue of Palestinian youth migration.

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