Professionalism in Al-Jazeera and Alarabiya Coverages of Jordan's News during the Crises of Neighboring Countries

Ibrahim Fuad Al khasawneh*
ibrfk200@hotmail.com

Abstract

This descriptive and analytical study aimed to identify the level of application of professional standards in Aljazeera and Alarabiya’s coverages of Jordan’s news during the crises of neighboring countries. The researcher used the questionnaire as a tool to collect data from a sample of 100 Jordanian journalists. The results of the study found that the overall rate of news from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on Arab satellite channels during the crisis period in neighboring countries was (3.14), with a standard deviation of (1.809), which is at the average level,. The attitudes of Jordanian journalists were moderate towards the professionalism of Aljazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya channels in covering Jordan's news during the crises of neighboring countries, with a mean ranging between (3.01) and (3.32). The study revealed that there is a statistically significant difference between the attitudes of Jordanian journalists towards the news related to Jordan transmitted by Aljazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya during crises in the countries neighboring Jordan, which indicates that Jordanian journalists have similar visions and ideological orientations.

Keywords: Professional, News, Aljazeera, Alarabiya, Journalists.
المهنية في تغطية قناة الجزيرة والعربية لأخبار الأردن في أزمات دول الجوار

إبراهيم فؤاد الخصاونة

ibrfk200@hotmail.com

ملخص

هدفت هذه الدراسة الوصفية التحليلية التعرف على مستوى تطبيق المعايير المهنية في تغطية قناة الجزيرة والعربية لأخبار الأردن خلال أزمات دول الجوار، استخدم الباحث الاستبيان أداة لجمع البيانات من عينة بلغ عددها 100 صحفي أردني، وتوصلت نتائج الدراسة بأن المعدل العام لأخبار المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية في القنوات الفضائية العربية خلال فترة الأزمة في دول الجوار بلغ (3.14) بانحراف معياري قدره (1.809) وهي تقع في المستوى المتوسط، وإن مواقف الصحفيين الأردنيين كانت معتدلة تجاه مهنية قناتي الجزيرة والعربية في تغطية أخبار الأردن خلال أزمات دول الجوار، ويمتد حسبcil يتم بين (3.01-3.32). وكشفت الدراسة أن هناك فرقاً ذا دلالة إحصائية بين اتجاهات الصحفيين الأردنيين من الأخبار المتعلقة بالأردن من الأزمات التي تنقلها قناة الجزيرة وقناة العربية أثناء وقوع الأزمات في البلدان المجاورة للأردن، وهذا يدل على أن لدى الصحفيين الأردنيين رؤية ووجهات فكرية مشابهة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: المهنية، الأخبار، الجزيرة، العربية، الصحفيون.
Introduction:

The news bulletin contributes to the audience’s interaction with the media station during the presentation of events taking place in the world. The news is also an important element in the media work after its industry witnessed a shift in the methods of preparing, directing and drafting it, and it is the mechanism of reaching the recipient, with the need to pay attention to the objectivity of publishing on TV channels. Technological development has improved the mechanisms of reporting news through television channels during international events (Al-Fardi, 2010). The need for professionalism in reporting news increased due to its repercussions on countries and human societies, in addition to news related to conflict areas that are occurring, especially in presence to what is happening in Syria and Iraq bordering Jordan. The transfer of news on Jordan during the daily events broadcasted by Al-Jazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya channels witnessed a variation in the way it presented the political and humanitarian situation in the neighboring countries and in the extent of their effects on Jordan (Al-Ansari, 2009). Through their interest in the news and its arrangement, they are interested in specific topics and not others, and other channels differ in their orientation and in the way the versions of the news are presented, so different pictures are viewed in terms of presentation of one piece news from one channel to another. Al-Jazirah and AlarabiyaAlarabiya channels discuss Jordan's political, economic and humanitarian news with new editorial methods. The news is no longer a description of an immediate event of interest to the recipient, but its preparation has become an industry with special methods in its editorial philosophy (Gavrilos, 2002). A political reality is now being expressed in connection with international understandings around the region, in addition to the humanitarian situation of Syrian and Iraqi refugees in Jordan. Aljazeera and Alarabiya channels touched on the international status of Jerusalem and the Hashemite custodianship over it, and such news had repercussions on the position of Jordan towards the issue of Palestine and AlQuds Al-Sharif. Some of the followers of the two channels considered that they have proven their presence in professionalism and competence, and they have become a source of news and did not rely on foreign sources, and others considered that what the two channels are doing has transformed the work of the two channels because they broadcast what information is available on the event and not what happened on the ground.

Perhaps those who follow the news of Aljazeera and Alarabiya during the crises of neighboring countries, Syria and Iraq, see differences in the news related to Jordan in particular. Other followers argue that the Al-
Jazeera and Alarabiya channels were objective in their handling of the situation of Syrian and Iraqi refugees inside Jordan and in the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif. Based on the foregoing, it is clear that touching on news on Jordan in news broadcasts and programs on Aljazeera and the Arab channels regarding the humanitarian, military and political situations in the neighboring countries of Jordan has repercussions on Jordan’s situation, which requires knowledge of Jordan’s news on Al-Jazeera and Arabic channels during the period of the crisis of the neighboring countries in order to study the reality of news broadcasts in them, from the viewpoint of journalists. The main news bulletins on Al-Jazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya are considered one of the most important tools for covering world events and developments, and it is one of the news sources for those who follow them to know the reality of global events (Balzarini, 2005). It should be noted that in light of the acceleration of events witnessed by the Arab world and Jordan in particular in the various political and military fields and in light of the reality of the events in the neighboring countries besides the serious challenges they face, it has been arranged for the Al-Jazeera and Arab channels to face and deal with them, which requires the development of their systems, programs and policies, according to the developments that took place in line with the principles of media work in an impartial and objective manners (Hodges, 2006).

Statement of the Problem:

There is a research gap regarding the disclosure of the availability of professional standards in the news broadcast by Al-Jazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya channels about Jordan since the beginning of the crises in Jordan’s neighboring countries, especially those dealing with the humanitarian situation of Syrian and Iraqi refugees, the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Hashemite guardianship, and the military situation on the borders with Syria. These events formed the focus of the two channels' attention, and some criticism was raised in the press about the professional standards in the two channels' coverage of these news about Jordan, which prompted the researcher to study that problem to draw objective results related to the reality of professionalism in news coverage. The problem of the study revolves around measuring the level of professionalism of Al-Jazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya channels in news coverage related to Jordan, the degree of their commitment to professional standards in selecting its news, and the way it is presented during the crises of
neighboring countries, in order to diagnose the nature of the professional reality in dealing with Jordan news, and to understand what Al-Jazeera and Alarabiya broadcast on the current conditions in the Arab world, and Jordan in particular. The problem of the study can be summarized by this question: What is the professionalism of Al-Jazeera and Alarabiya channels in covering news of Jordan during the crises of neighboring countries?

The Study Questions:

1- What is the level of professionalism of Al-Jazeera and Alarabiya’s coverage of news of Jordan during the crises of neighboring countries from the point of view of Jordanian journalists?
2- Is there a statistically significant difference at the level of statistical significance (a = 0.05) - between the attitudes of journalists regarding the news related to Jordan transmitted by Al-Jazeera and Alarabiya during the crises in the neighboring countries of Jordan, which can be attributed to the journalistic position

The study Significance:

The present study is significant because:

1- It aimed to shed a light on the Jordan-related news that is addressed by Aljazeera and Alarabiya during the occurrence of crises in the countries neighboring Jordan.
2- It aimed to identify how professional and impartial Aljazeera and Alarabiya are in delivering Jordan-related news.
3- It aimed to identify the impact of news on the events occurring in the countries neighboring Jordan. It aimed to identify the impact of news on the professional values of journalists.
4- It aimed to provide objective indicators that identify how professional Aljazeera and Alarabiya are in delivering Jordan-related news.

The Study Objectives:

The present study aimed to the following:

1- Identify the Jordan-related news addressed by Aljazeera and Alarabiya during the occurrence of crises in the countries neighboring Jordan.
2- Identify whether there is any statistically significant difference –at the statistical significance level of (a=0.05)- between the journalists’ attitudes towards Jordan-related news delivered by Aljazeera and Alarabiya during the occurrence of crises in the countries neighboring Jordan which can be attributed to the location. The latter journalists work at Alrai, Ad-Dustour, Al-Ghad and Al-Anbat newspapers.

The Study Limits:

The limits of the present study are these:

1. The spatial limits: The journalists work at Alrai, Ad-Dustour, Al-Ghad and Al-Anbat newspapers.
2. The temporal limits: The study’s instruments were applied during the academic year of 2021
3. The human limits: The journalists work at daily newspapers
4. The thematic limits: The present study aimed to shed light on the Jordan-related news delivered by Aljazeera and Alarabiya during the occurrence of crises in the countries neighboring Jordan. It aimed to shed a light on that from the perspective of journalists.

The Study Terms:

Professionalism: It is the primary responsibility of media professionals in conveying information accurately, impartially, objectively and in a balanced way in any democratic society (Al-Debaisi, 2022).

News: It refers to a piece of information about an incident that has already occurred or incident that people expects to occur (Muhammad, 2016). This incident is usually the concern of many categories of people. Delivering news is a human activity that aims at providing people with information. News affects the public opinion (Al-Majed, 2008). It refers to any information that can be delivered verbally and in writing (Saleh, 2005).

Aljazeera: It is a news network whose headquarter is located in Doha, Qatar. At the beginning, this network consisted of one TV channel. Later on, it expanded into several media outlets. Such outlets include online websites and TV channels that deliver news about various countries in various languages (Aljazeera website).
Alarabiya: It is a news network that delivers information and news through various outlets. It is affiliated with a Saudi media network. Alarabiya used to transmit its news from the Egyptian Media Production City (EMPC) in Egypt. Today, it transmits its news from Dubai Media Incorporated Co. in Dubai, UAE. Alarabiya is concerned with delivering sport, political and economic news (Sharadqa, 2018). Arab and foreign journalists work at Alarabiya with the aim of attracting the greatest number of Arab watchers (Alarabiya website).

Journalists: This term refers to Jordanian journalists who practice journalism as their main profession (Sharadqa, 2017).

Previous Studies:

The researcher reviewed the relevant previous studies, which are identified below:

The first study is the one carried out by Doufesh, & Briel (2021): Ethnocentrism in Conflict News Coverage: A Multimodal Framing Analysis of the 2018 Gaza Protests in The Times of Israel and Aljazeera. That study is based on a multimedia content analysis of news coverage of the 2018 Palestinian protests at the Gaza border. The Times of Israel and Aljazeera were studied for the effect of ethnocentrization on their coverage. A multimedia analysis was conducted, focusing on news headlines and press photos as text and visual framing devices. The results clearly showed that the two transnational news outlets were in fact racially focused in their news coverage: The Times of Israel portrayed protesters as violent and responsible for injuries and attempts to dehumanize them. Aljazeera has portrayed the protesters as peaceful soldiers and Israeli soldiers as responsible for the casualties, and Aljazeera tends to humanize the protesters more in its textual and visual context.

Another study is that of Sarker & Sayed (2021): What Makes Vews Viral?, which is a study on Aljazeera, BBC and CNN. That study explores the elements of news value behind spreading viral news, how to identify that news?, and and find out why it spreads?. The three most popular YouTube news channels were chosen: Aljazeera, BBC, and CNN, which are very popular in the US, UK and worldwide. The study analyzed and evaluated the content of 865 news stories published on Aljazeera, BBC, and CNN on YouTube. This study found that the most attractive news value elements behind viral news are conflict/violence, and negative news was more
common than positive news. People were mostly drawn to violent or conflict-related news. The study concluded that news organizations, journalists, and editors as well as many scholars would benefit from the findings in knowing viral news on social media as in the case of many regional newspapers or regional websites. The study provided insights into the value elements of viral news across Asia, Europe, and the United States.

A study of Ajwad & Al-Masry (2020) is entitled *When the news is the crisis: Al-Jazeera and Alarabiya's framing of the 2017 Gulf conflict*. The study deals with the 2017 Gulf crisis between the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which led to the severing of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Emirates, Bahrain and Qatar. The study raises important questions about what happens when news networks become an integral part of political conflict. Framing mechanisms were used. This paper uses content analysis to analyze how two leading news programs - Al-Hassad on Aljazeera and Panorama Alarabiya - framed the first phase of the 2017 Gulf Crisis. The results indicate that envy took the position of a victim by an outside tyrant, while Alarabiya channel portrayed Qatar panorama as a sponsor of terrorism.

A study of Al-Rawi (2017) carries the title *Assessing public sentiments and news preferences on Aljazeera and Alarabiya*. This article investigates the online comments made by Arab Facebook users on news items posted on the Facebook pages of two very popular TV channels: Al-Jazeera Arabic and Alarabiya. This study employs different methods to closely examine over 620,000 comments posted on the two Facebook pages as well as studying the most commented on news stories from a total of 11,685 news reports. The results indicate that commentators expressed some dominant sentiments that are mostly in line with the TV channels’ coverage of certain events, while certain news topics attracted most of the online public’s comments especially on Aljazeera channel.

Al-Sharadqah (2016) conducted a study entitled *The impact of political propaganda on the watchers of Aljazeera and BBC from the perspective of the students enrolled in the faculty of media*. That study aimed to identify the impact of political propaganda on the watchers of Aljazeera and BBC from the perspective of the students enrolled in the faculty of media. It also aimed to find-out whether there is any statistically significant difference at the statistical significance level of (α=0.05) between the respondents’ attitudes in this regard which can be attributed to gender or academic year. Those students are selected from Yarmouk University and Mutah
University. The sample consists from 150 students who are enrolled in the faculty of media. An analytical descriptive approach was adopted. It was found that the political propaganda launched by Aljazeera has a stronger influence than the political propaganda launched by BBC. That conclusion came from the perspective of the students who are enrolled in the faculty of media.

In addition, it was found that there is not any statistically significant difference at the statistical significance level of (a=0.05) between the respondents’ attitudes in this regard which can be attributed to gender. However, it was revealed that there is a statistically significant difference at the statistical significance level of (a=0.05) between the respondents’ attitudes in this regard, which can be attributed to the academic year.

Bircon (2015) carried out a study holding the title *Educational Assessment of Syrian Refuges in Turkey*. Bircon aimed to explore the reality of the Syrian refugee children in Turkey. He aimed to identify that the fact that Turkey hosts a great number of Syrians has affected the demographic characteristics of the Turkish society. Providing refugees with education has become a priority. Based on the global report that addresses the education provided to refugees, the Syrian refugees in Turkey suffer from poor education.

The latter researcher targets the refugees who live in camps. The main goal of the latter study is represented in conducting an educational assessment for the Syrian refugee children in Turkey.

It was found that there is a great number of Syrian refugee children in Turkey who are in need for receiving education. That researcher recommends boosting the cooperation between the private and the public sectors on the national and international levels to raise the educational level of Syrian refugees and help them.

O’Rourke (2015) conducted a study entitled *Education of Syrian refugees: the Failure of Second-Generation Human Rights during Extraordinary Crises*. O’Rourke aimed to identify the countries hosting Syrian refugees after the Syrian war. Jordan is considered one of these countries. It provides Syrian refugees with medical care and educational services for free. The Jordanian government has taken measures for addressing the problems that have been facing Syrian refugees.

O’Rourke sheds a light on Turkey’s experience in terms of hosting Syrian refugees. In 2013, there was about six hundred thousand Syrian
refugees in Turkey. Two hundred thousand ones of them were moved to camps. The other refugees live with the Turkish citizens.

The Turkish government spent more than two billion dollars on Syrian refugees. The services provided by the Turkish government to Syrian refugees include educational services and the establishment of centers for teaching Syrian refugees Turkish and English languages, computer skills, cooking, and so on. Despite that, the Turkish citizens have concerns about the increasing number of Syrian refugees because such increase shall negatively affect the national economy of Turkey.

Al-Mahdawi (2010) conducted a study carrying the title The Iraq-related news delivered by Arab TV channels. The latter study aimed to shed a light on the Iraq-related news delivered by Arab TV channels. Since the invasion of Iraq on May, 2003, the Iraq-related news has become hot news that is delivered by Arab and foreign channels. Later on, Iraq was occupied on April, 2003. That led to the emergence of new methods in drafting the Iraq-related news.

Al-Mahdawi used the content analysis method to analyze the news delivered on Aljazeera and Alarabiya. These channels were selected purposively. The sample consists of 72 newscasts transmitted on Aljazeera and Alarabiya. It was found that both channels provide much attention to Iraq-related news and that both channels dedicated much time to deliver Iraq-related time. However, both channels differ from one another in terms of delivering details. It was revealed that both channels lack objectivity in terms of the delivery of Iraq-related news.

Hamad (2009) conducted a study entitled The role of Palestinian TV channels in promoting political awareness among the students enrolled in Palestinian universities. The study aimed to identify the role of Palestinian TV channels in promoting political awareness among the students enrolled in Palestinian universities. The sample consists of 380 female and male students. A descriptive approach was adopted and a questionnaire was used for collecting data. It was found that Al-Quds TV is ranked first in terms of the percentage of the respondents who watch the political interviews presented on it. It was shown that respondents are concerned with political, regional and global issues.
Mahmoud and Al-Rabee’y (2007) conducted a study entitled *The secrets behind the impressive performance of TV channels*. These researchers aimed to explore the secrets behind the impressive performance of TV channels. They adopted a descriptive approach. They aimed to explore the role of TV channels in fueling conflicts and amplifying events in a manner that serves the interests of Zionist and colonialist who aim at disuniting the Muslim and Arab communities. That study targets the following TV channels: Alsharqiya, Baghdad and Aljazeera. It was shown that the sectarian tension in Iraq is attributed to the programs and photos presented on these channels that promote sectarian tension and fuel disputes among the members of the Iraqi society.

Al-Jaberi (2006) conducted a study holding the title *The techniques of delivering news on Arab TV channels: Abu Dhabi TV channel as a model*. That researcher aimed to identify the techniques of delivering news on Arab TV channels. He adopted a descriptive approach that aimed to explore the reality of reporters’ work and to identify the characteristics of such work and the mechanisms adopted by reporters. An analytical approach was adopted to analyze the main newscasts delivered by Abu Dhabi TV channel during the period (1/9/2000- 1/1/2001). The main newscast is delivered on 9 o’clock PM in UAE timing. A random sample was selected. This sample consists of the newscasts transmitted during the targeted period. A questionnaire was used to uncover the characteristics of the ones responsible for writing the news to be presented through the newscasts. The researcher also used a form to analyze the newscasts in accordance with specific information and main and subsidiary standards. It was found that the selected newscasts are free of cultural news, the ones who write the news rely on foreign sources, and the first news item in the newscasts is usually about a country’s president. Al-Jaberi believes that the ones who write the news must rely on their own sources to improve the quality of the provided news. He recommends reducing the extent of delivering national news and provide more attention to the news dedicated to Arab countries.

**The Method of the Study:**

The study followed the descriptive analytical approach. This approach depends on collecting and classifying data and facts, in addition to analyzing them accurately and providing in-depth explanations for them, using methods of measurement, classification, and interpretation (Abdel-Mawla, 2011) with the aim of obtaining important conclusions to reach the
relevant results. For professional measurement, the survey was conducted on a sample of journalists with professional experience because they are more able than others to indicate the extent of professionalism in AlJazeera and Alarabiya's coverage of Jordan news, using the questionnaire as a methodological tool for data collection and inference on the results and to draw recommendations (Hasan, 2011).

**Population and Sample:**

The study population consists of all Jordanian journalists affiliated with the Jordanian Journalists Syndicate. A random sample of 100 journalists was drawn from the original community, including Al-Rai, Al-Dustour, Al-Ghad, Al-Anbat), which were distributed according to Table No. 1. It is clear from the table that the journalists represented in the sample are distributed according to their affiliation with the newspapers as follows: 36% from AlRai newspaper, 26% from AlDustour newspaper, 20% from AlGhad newspaper, and 18% from Al-Anbat newspaper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The newspaper</th>
<th>Editorial Secretary</th>
<th>Editor</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alrai</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ad-Dostoor</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al-Ghad</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al-Anbat</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>22</strong></td>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (2) indicates that the journalists represented in the sample are distributed according to their jobs into (18) with the rank of editorial secretary, (22) with the rank of editor, and (60) with the rank of delegate.
### Table (2) The distribution of the members of the sample according to their position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Editorial secretary</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>%18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Editor</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>%22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>%60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>%100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Instrument of the Study:**

To meet the goals of the study, a questionnaire was developed. This questionnaire aims to shed light on the professionalism in covering news of Jordan on AlJazeera and Alarabiya during the crisis period in neighboring countries from the point of view of journalists. The questionnaire consists of two parts. The first part includes the introduction which includes the objectives and variables of the study. The second part includes the items of the questionnaire (i.e. 22 items).

**The Validity of the Questionnaire:**

The validity of the questionnaire was checked through using the following methods:

**a)- Face validity (measured by a panel of experts)**

The preliminary version of the questionnaire was exposed to three experts. These experts are specialized in the media field. They were asked to assess the clarity and relevancy of the statements of the questionnaire. They were asked to make any suggested addition.

The researcher decided to keep the statements that were approved to meet the goals of the study by 80% of the journalists. Some statement were re-drafted to become clearer.
The final version of the questionnaire consists of 16 statements. These statements aim at identifying the attitudes of the journalists towards the Jordan-related news delivered by Aljazeera and Alarabiya during the occurrence of crises at the countries neighboring Jordan.

**b)- The internal consistency validity**

The questionnaire forms were distributed to the members of the exploratory sample. The latter sample consists of 6 journalists. Their answers were administered into SPSS 17. After that, the correlation coefficients were calculated. That was done to measure the questionnaire internal consistency. Table (3) presents the correlation coefficient value.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The questionnaire</th>
<th>The correlation coefficient value</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professionalism in covering news of Jordan on Al-Jazeera and Alarabiya during the crises of neighboring countries from the point of view of journalists</td>
<td>0.739**</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on table (3), the overall value of the correlation coefficient is 0.739. This value is very high. It is statistically significant difference –at the statistical significance level of (α=0.05). That means that the questionnaire is characterized with a high internal consistency level.

**The Reliability of the Questionnaire:**

To measure the reliability of the questionnaire, the researcher used the following methods:

**a)- Calculating the value of Cronbach's alpha coefficient**

Using this method requires calculating the correlation values between statements. Table (4) presents the values of Cronbach's alpha coefficient.
Table (4) The values of Cronbach's alpha coefficient

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The questionnaire</th>
<th>Cronbach's alpha coefficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professionalism in covering Jordan's news on Al Jazeera and Alarabiya during the crises of neighboring countries from the point of view of journalists</td>
<td>0.693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>0.788</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on table (4), the value of Cronbach's alpha coefficient of Professionalism in covering news of Jordan on Al Jazeera and Alarabiya during the crises of neighboring countries from the point of view of journalists is 0.693. This value is considered high. The overall value of Cronbach's alpha coefficient is 0.788. This value is high.

b) The method of classifying means:

After checking the validity and reliability of the questionnaire, the final version was completed. The final version consists of 18 items. The five-point Likert scale was adopted. This scale consists of the following choices: strongly agree, agree, moderate, disagree, and strongly disagree. These answers stand for the following scores respectively: 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1. Criteria were set for classifying means. Category length = range/ the number of the required categories

Table (5) Criteria for classifying means

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Maximum score</th>
<th>Minimum score</th>
<th>Extent of agreement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Very high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighted mean</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1-Less than 1.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Statistical analysis methods:

Data was analyzing through using the SPSS-17 program. The following statistical analysis methods were used: Means, and Standard Deviations, and One Way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)

Results and discussion:

Results and discussion related to the first question:

Q.1 What is the professionalism of Al-Jazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya channels in covering news of Jordan during the crises of neighboring countries from the point of view of Jordanian journalists?

To answer this question, Means and Standard Deviations are calculated and presented in table (6) below.

Table (6) The Means and Standard Deviations about the professionalism of Al-Jazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya coverage of Jordan news during the crises of neighboring countries from the point of view of Jordanian journalists

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std.</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Aljazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya show impartiality when delivering Jordan-related news</td>
<td>3.32</td>
<td>1.387</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aljazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya comply with the code of ethics. That can be represented through the behaviors of journalists, editors, and photographers.</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Aljazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya transmit the negative stereotypical portrayal of the military situations at Jordanian Syrian borders.</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>1.243</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aljazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya present the humanitarian situation of the people across the Jordanian-Syrian borders and the Jordanian-Iraqi borders. They also present the humanitarian situation of refugees.</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>1.388</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Statement</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Std.</td>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Rank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Aljazeera and Alarabiya show objectivity when delivering Jordan-related news.</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>1.235</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Aljazeera and Alarabiya address the issues related to the Hashemite custodianship over Jerusalem. That is done through most of their newscasts and programs.</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>1.482</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aljazeera and Alarabiya dedicate much time of their programs to transmit the political news related to Jordan.</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>1.182</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Aljazeera and Alarabiya publish news without any interference from the source of the news. The source may be a TV channel, radio channel, newspaper, news report, talk show and etc..</td>
<td>3.15</td>
<td>1.209</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Aljazeera and Alarabiya do not express their opinions when delivering news. That is because they respect the right of the audience to know the facts without showing impartiality.</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>1.407</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Aljazeera and Alarabiya inform the audience that the refugee-related problems are considered prevalent problems on the international level. They inform the audience that the refugee-related problems have negative economic effects on Jordan.</td>
<td>3.11</td>
<td>1.034</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Aljazeera and Alarabiya inform the audience that the Holy Jerusalem issue is one of the priorities listed on the foreign policy of the Jordanian government.</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>1.065</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>The main newscasts on Aljazeera and Alarabiya are considered the primary means used</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>1.583</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Based on table (6), the overall weighted mean is moderate (3.14). The overall standard deviation is 1.809. Thus, journalists have moderate attitudes towards the professionalism of Al-Jazeera and Alarabiya channels covering Jordan's news during the crises of neighboring countries. The means presented in table (6) are within the range of (3.01-3.32).

The moderate attitudes of respondents may be attributed to the fact that Aljazeera and Alarabiya do not show impartiality when delivering the news concerning the Jordanian position of government on the crises of the countries neighboring it. It may be attributed to the fact that Aljazeera and Alarabiya are not objective when presenting and proposing ideas related to the Holy Jerusalem and the Hashemite custodianship over it.

It was found that both channels do not provide attention to the political role of the Jordanian government in the region. It was evident that both
channels do not provide attention to the military role of the Jordanian government on the Jordanian-Syrian borders. However, the Jordanian government plays a distinguished role in addressing the issues related to Syrian and Iraqi refugees on military, political and humanitarian levels. The moderate attitudes of respondents may be attributed to the fact that both channels do not provide attention to the impact of the latter issues on the economic status of Jordan.

It was found that the political news related to Jordan is provided by the main attention of the programs transmitted through Aljazeera and Alarabiya, such as Al-Itijah Al-Mu’akes program, and Ma Wara’ Al-Khabar program on Aljazeera and Hasad Al-Yaom on Alarabiya. It was found that the talk shows on these channels do not provide attention to the political role of the Jordanian government nor its position on the crises of Iraq and Syrian. These results are consistent with the results concluded by Al-Sharadqah (2016). For instance, the latter researcher found that the political propaganda launched by Aljazeera and BBC have a strong impact on watchers. These results are consistent with the results concluded by Al-Mahdawi (2010) and Al-Jaberi (2006).

Results and discussion related to the second question:

Q.2 Is there any statistically significant difference at the statistical significance level of \(a=0.05\) -between the journalists’ attitudes towards the Jordan-related news delivered by Aljazeera and Alarabiya during the occurrence of crises at the countries neighboring Jordan which can be attributed to position? The latter journalists work at (Alrai, Ad-Dustour, Al-Ghad and Al-Anbat newspapers)

To answer this question, one way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was conducted. The results of the latter analysis are presented in table (7):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std.</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Editorial secretary</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>122.76</td>
<td>14.804</td>
<td>2.906</td>
<td>0.275</td>
<td>Do not have statistical significance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>118.63</td>
<td>12.829</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>116.92</td>
<td>11.834</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on table (7), the calculated \(F\) value is 2.906 which is not a statistically significant difference at the statistical significance level of \((a=0.05)\). The significance value is \(0.275 > 0.05\). That means that there is
not any statistically significant difference at the statistical significance level of (a=0.05) between the attitudes of journalists towards the Jordan-related news delivered by Aljazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya during the occurrence of crises at the countries neighboring Jordan. That indicates that the Jordanian journalists have similar vision and intellectual orientations. It was found that there is not any difference between the attitudes of the respondents towards the role of Aljazeera and AlarabiyaAlarabiya in delivering Jordan-related news during the occurrence of crises at the countries neighboring Jordan.

The Recommendation of the Study:

In the light of the results of the study, the researcher recommends:

1- Showing objectivity by Aljazeera and Alarabiya when addressing issues related to the political and military situations of the countries neighboring Jordan. For instance, these channels must show impartiality when delivering the news related to these situations. That shall boost the reliability of these channels from the watchers’ perspectives.

2- Being more professional when selecting the employees who shall work at the newsroom. The researcher recommends training these employees in a regular manner.

3- Establishing research centers by Aljazeera and Alarabiya. These centers must be concerned with analyzing the content of news and anticipating the response of the audience to the news that shall be delivered.

4- Meeting the professional requirements by these channels.

5- Refraining from dealing with events in a manner that fuels disputes and stirs up controversy.

6- Showing respect to the nature of the media work.

7- Conducting a scientific study that shall participate in improving the contents of the news delivered through these channels. That shall enable these channels to address the major issues in a professional manner.
References:


Alarabiya: The official Alarabiya website, at the link: https://www.alarabiya.net.


Al-Jazeera: the official Al-Jazeera website at the link: http://www.aljazeera.net.


