

THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN CRISES AND NATURAL DISASTERS: A CASE STUDY OF THE LIBYAN AL-MASAR TV COVERING THE DERNA DISASTER

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Al-Masar TV

Abstract: This study sought to shed light on the role played by Al-Masar Libyan TV in covering the events of the Derna disaster. The study used the descriptive analytical approach, analyzing the content of the continuous live coverage carried out by Al-Masar TV for the full month, and then analyzing the content of the correspondence after the disaster to monitor the success story of the reconstruction operations. The study sample was determined using the comprehensive inventory method for a month from 9/10/2023 to 10/10/2023. The study concluded that Al-Masar TV relied on several sources of information, most notably correspondents at a rate of 33.4% and that Al-Masar TV used several technical formats to present information, the most important of which was the news format at a rate of 20%, followed by Correspondents' reports at a rate of 16.7%. The most prominent topics of coverage before the disaster were explaining the weather conditions and their severity, and during the disaster, explaining the causes and severity of the effects. Al-Masar TV faced several challenges during the coverage, the most important of which was the element of surprise and bad weather conditions, so it relied on integrating television broadcasting with social media and communications technology. Al-Masar TV continued broadcasting news related to reconstruction after the disaster. The study recommended the need to develop plans and strategies for television coverage to confront such crises.

Keywords: Role, disaster, crisis, Al-Masar TV, Derna disaster, media coverage

Introduction

The media is a prominent tool in crisis and disaster management through direct coverage of events and conveying the truth clearly and objectively via cameras and mobile phones by highlighting the stages of crises, their development, their impact on society, and their consequences. What has increased the media's ability to transmit events as they happen is the tremendous technological development and the ability of various media outlets to deploy correspondents in all countries. Crises and disasters receive wide coverage in response to the public's need for knowledge, and the media is an important component of the crisis response strategy. In these circumstances, the guiding and awareness-raising role of the media emerges in addition to its other functions in normal circumstances, mainly since it is directed to various segments of society, especially radio and television, which enjoy a wide level of spread and follow-up by the public. (Sarah, 2021, 210) Television is prominent for its great ability to shape mental images in the audience and its ability to dazzle due to its use of sound and image elements, which greatly affect the audience. (Mahmoud, 2023, 34) Recently, crisis media has become an independent scientific specialty with foundations, theories, strategies, and mechanisms, that work during crises to form relationships between

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individuals, governments, countries, and people to mobilize efforts to confront crises and disasters when they occur (Al-Maghribi, 2022, 67)The importance of paying attention to the media of crises and disasters comes from the fact that media is the first refuge for the public to rely on in obtaining correct and documented information, especially in light of the proliferation of rumors in those areas where crises and disasters are covered with a lot of mystery and surprises. Therefore, the media must not ignore crises and disasters and deal with them seriously, credibly, accurately, and balanced to overcome those emergency circumstances that confuse individuals and groups.

Materials and Methods

The media plays an important role during crises and disasters due to the public's reliance on it to know the correct and documented information and follow it continuously during disasters. Accordingly, the problem of the study is to know the role played by Al-Masar TV in covering the Derna disaster. Several sub-questions fall under the problem of the study, including:

What is the role of the media in covering crises and disasters, especially Al-Masar TV?

What are the sources of information that Al-Masar TV relied on in covering the Derna disaster?

What are the forms, artistic templates, and publishing units that Al-Masar TV presented during the coverage of the stages of the disaster?

What are the most important topics that Al-Masar TV presented in each stage of the disaster?

What are the challenges that Al-Masar TV faced during the coverage of the stages of the disaster? Moreover, what strategies did it adopt to overcome those challenges?

Importance of the study

1- The importance of the study comes from the importance of the subject due to the public's reliance on the media during disasters and crises to obtain information and warnings.

2- Given the importance of the subject, this study aims to add information to researchers and students in this field as a theoretical contribution.

3- It is possible to benefit from this study by workers in media institutions as a practical addition.

Objectives of the study:

- This study aims in general to identify the role played by Al-Masar TV in covering the Derna disaster, and there are several sub-objectives for this study, such as:

- Disclosure of information sources that Al-Masar TV relied on in covering the Derna disaster.

- Clarifying the forms, artistic templates, and publishing units that Al-Masar TV presented during the coverage of the stages of the disaster.
- Identifying the most important topics presented by Al-Masar TV in each stage of the disaster.
- What challenges did Al Masar Channel face during its coverage of the disaster? What strategies did it adopt to overcome these challenges?

Previous studies

Imran's study (2011) indicated the role of the press during crises and disasters in their three stages, relying on the content analysis method for three newspapers. The study concluded that the newspapers studied focused on the second stage largely during the occurrence of the crisis, which is the Jeddah disaster, in which floods and the airport flooded the city, then the third stage to an average extent, while they did not focus on the first stage. The percentage of the public following newspapers during the crisis was much greater than in the other stages, and the newspapers did not diversify into different forms of journalism, except for the news that they used throughout their coverage of the second stage.

Al-Bawab's study (2023) focused on the relationship between media and crises. The study was devoted to media coverage of the flood disaster in the Upper Egypt Governorate, focusing on understanding the forms of media messages during the disaster. The study concluded that the use of social media helped recipients follow the event during the disaster, television was one of the most important means of disseminating news and following it up with officials by phone, and rumors were the most important challenges facing media work during coverage.

Salem's study (2016) aimed to define crisis and disaster communication via social media, using a descriptive theoretical approach. The results show that communications and media messages addressed them, both positively and negatively, while highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of these media experiences and practices.. The study concluded that effective methods of crisis management and presenting them through the media in intensive and qualitative ways help mitigate the effects of crises, and that listening to the public and their demands and needs helps in drawing the boundaries of effective coverage.

Sheikh's study (2020) focused on the media coverage of Teresa Radio for crises and natural disasters: a case study of the coverage of the floods that occurred in 2018, through understanding the nature, methods, and art of media coverage. The study relied on the descriptive approach by developing an electronic questionnaire to collect information. The study concluded that Teresa Radio did not succeed in its media coverage of the floods in terms of the amount of information, news presentation, and follow-up, as the space was much less than the size of the disaster, media procedures, and awareness methods from the point of view of the respondents.

Abdel Dayem's study (2024) clarified the frameworks for some Arab and foreign satellite channels to address the Libyan flood disaster. The study relied on the descriptive approach by surveying and analyzing the websites of Al Arabiya, BBC, and Sky News. The study concluded that the Sky News website outperformed in the number of topics and videos it published about the Libyan flood disaster, topics of

damages resulting from the disaster topped the list, followed by deaths and injuries, then rescue operations, and then aid.

Ali et al.'s study (2024) monitored the determinants of media coverage of climate change issues and their risks to West African countries and defined the role of the media in revealing the effects and risks of these changes. The study followed the descriptive analytical theoretical approach of previous literature, relied on some interviews, and presented media coverage of climate change. The study concluded that Nigerian newspapers covered about 134 topics related to climate change and raised 438 issues of the same concern. The perception of climate change terminology was the most important obstacle facing media coverage, so the media plays a weak role in the coverage of climate change.

-Dhuwaihi's study (2004) explained the importance of media planning in confronting crises and disasters and helping the concerned agencies deal optimally during crises and disasters. The importance of the study includes identifying the positive effects of media planning. The study concluded that the sample members working in civil defense and the Ministry of Information had similar attitudes towards the importance of media planning and its role in confronting disasters and crises, and that the most important obstacles that hinder media planning are the lack of clarity of plans and the difficulty of implementing them.

Boushaala, & Al-Hassanuni study(2024)which aimed to evaluate the role played by Libyan media in covering the Derna disaster) indicated that Al-Masar TV ranked first in coverage, with Al-Masar TV correspondent Abdul Rahman Salama being the first correspondent to enter the city of Derna following the disaster.

Ayomidi's study (2022) conducted a quantitative analysis of media coverage of television media outlets for two major broadcasting outlets in Nigeria to identify the frameworks used in media coverage during floods adopted by private and public media institutions by conducting a comparative analysis in presenting their reports. By taking samples of the floods, the media played an effective role in covering the floods in Nigeria. The direction taken by the private media was to criticize the government, while the state media provided information through reports explaining the catastrophic situation.

The study of Mohd et al. (2022) used media content analysis on floods in Selangor to investigate the reality of floods using media data, for the affected areas, and the behavior of the public when receiving flood information from the media. Observation techniques were used in the most affected areas in Hulu Langat, Selangor, to identify the topics adopted by the media by distributing an online questionnaire. The results of the study proved that the information reported in the media was accurate and that the public relied heavily on social media and assumed that it formed negative public perceptions about a disaster.

Benefiting from previous studies:

Benefiting from previous studies in defining the study problem and formulating its questions and objectives to cover the shortcomings and gaps in previous studies.

- Benefiting from theoretical approaches and previous literature to build a theoretical framework aligned with the study objectives.

- Knowing the appropriate methodological methods for the subject.
- Benefit from the results of previous studies and link them to the current study, as well as know the points of similarity and difference.

Methodology

This study belongs to descriptive-analytical research to know the methods of television coverage during crises and disasters by analyzing the content of coverage periods to answer the study questions, about the methods of studying (the case of Al-Masar TV).

Study community: The total broadcast hours allocated by Al-Masar TV to cover the Derna disaster from all aspects, and follow up on its effects and methods of dealing with it, and the reconstruction process that followed the disaster.

Study sample: The periods of continuous direct coverage from 10-9-2-23 to 10-10-2023 Through a comprehensive inventory of the entire 720 continuous hours.

Table 1: Study Sample from the period 10-9-2-23 to 10-10-2023

| Period of continuous coverage | of direct and sources | Guests, speakers, and information | publication units | Topics |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| 30 continuous days | 100 daily | | 200 units daily. | Before the disaster, it repeated 7 times |
| 24 hours a day | 4-5 every hour | | 8-9 units every hour | During the disaster, it repeated 7 times. After the disaster, 7 repeated |
| 720 hours | 3000 speakers | | 6000 units | 21 repeated topics unit |

Al-Masar TV conducted the longest period of live broadcasting, especially covering news, topics, and the escalation of the Derna disaster, and was the primary source for the rest of the Libyan media and international media that were transmitting news and pictures from Al-Masar TV, especially in the first days of the disaster. The total days of coverage were 30 days, 24 hours a day, and a total of 720 hours, during which it presented 6000 diverse publishing units and relied on 3000 speakers during the coverage period.

The content analysis sheet that was prepared to answer the study questions relied upon, by referring to the channel's servers and the channel's website on YouTube, and re-following all broadcast hours related to the television coverage of the Derna disaster and analyzing them in a precise scientific manner.

The researcher used in-depth interviews with officials at Al-Masar TV, editors-in-chief, and broadcasters to extract information.

The researcher employed the observation method through her participation in television coverage of the disaster.

Operational definitions

Role: The role played by the media is the sum of the functions it performs towards the public. In this study, it means the functions performed by the media during the stages of a disaster, such as providing, explaining, and interpreting information.

Disaster: A disaster is an unusual emergency event resulting from an imbalance or disruption in the natural world, such as fires, floods, earthquakes, etc., and leads to loss of life and property. In this study, the focus is on floods and their destructive effects.

Crisis: A crisis is a dysfunction that occurs at the level of institutions and governments, leading primarily to material losses, which may be human, but they threaten stability and sometimes are the result of cumulative errors. In this study, it refers to crises resulting from a disaster.

Al-Masar TV: It is one of the Libyan media outlets and broadcasts on a frequency of horizontal polarization 11373 and HD quality on the Nile Sat 7 West satellite. Al-Masar TV started broadcasting in December 2021.

Al-Masar TV plays an important role in the Libyan media by providing purposeful content that focuses on the issues of Libyan society, and follows up and presents news based on official sources and reliable documents.

Derna disaster: On the nights of September 10-11, 2023, two dams collapsed in the Derna Valley due to Hurricane Daniel that hit the eastern Mediterranean and North Africa. The dams released about 30 million cubic meters of water, causing floods that destroyed large parts of the city of Derna, killing thousands of victims, missing persons, and displaced persons, as well as causing significant material losses.

Media coverage in this study means all forms of television broadcast during the disaster, including news, reports, feature stories, correspondence, etc.

Literature Review

Disaster: A disaster differs from a crisis because it causes losses on a wider scale, whether material or human. A disaster may occur for natural reasons, such as global warming or human misuse. Crises may occur as a result of natural disasters, and neglecting crises and their accumulation may lead to disasters, such as a malfunction in dams, for example, when heavy rains fall, an explosion occurs in the dams as a result of the flow of water in a way that exceeds the dams' ability to absorb it. (Al-Maghribi, 2022, 12)

Disaster characteristics

- Severity: Measured by the reduction of human resources and the level of destruction.
 - Wide scope: The effects of disasters extend to wide geographical areas that are sometimes difficult to stop. (Salem, 2016, 315)
 - Clarity and prevalence: Disasters are clear and public and cannot be hidden or ignored by governments or the media. (Salem, 2016, 316)
 - The element of surprise: The disaster is unrelated to a specific date and is difficult to predict.
 - It causes anxiety, fear, and tension when information is lacking.
 - The multiplicity of factors and parties influencing and causing the disaster makes it difficult to deal with it.
 - The sensitivity of the situation and the conflict of time, as the disaster or crisis requires quick action and measures.
- (Namnam et al., 2023, 171)
- Confronting requires breaking away from the traditional pattern of organization and using unconventional or unfamiliar means, and requires the assistance of external parties to solve it.
 - Its administrations need rapid means of communication to support and disseminate decisions. (Ismail, 2024, 18)

Crisis and disaster communications

Communication during crises is defined as the ongoing function of creating common meanings for individuals and groups in the context of the specificity of the crisis or disaster to prepare to confront it and limit its negative effects. (Namnam et al., 2023, 170)

The information transmitted by the media during the stages of crises and disasters constitutes an important tool for shaping public awareness through short films, interviews, discussion groups, and other artistic forms. (Kapoor, 2015, 10)

The media plays an important role in raising public awareness through information, thus informing them of the measures and steps in the subsequent period. (Abdul Hamid, 2023, 23)

The importance of the media in times of crises and disasters

The media constitutes an important tool through continuous coverage in decision-making and rapid response. (Kapoor, 2015, 10)

The media helps shape the news agenda of individuals who follow news coverage and share information in their conversations with others about what the media presents. (Mahmoud, 2023, 890).

The media works in times of crises and disasters as a link between the public and the parties concerned with crisis and disaster management, such as governments, institutions, and organizations, by providing correct and reliable information at the required speed. With the presence of social networking sites, the spread of information broadcast by the media has reached the public very quickly through its circulation and re-publication. (Salem, 2016, 317)

The media classifies events as disasters, crises, or problems and determines the level of interest of the government and the responsible parties in undertaking rescue and relief efforts. (Kapoor, 2015, 11)

Media and social media are among the most important means of psychological support for the public, helping them survive with minimal losses and show solidarity with victims. These media outlets broadcast images and videos that influence decision-makers to take positive action to support and assist victims of disasters and crises and encourage the collection of donations and necessary relief supplies from the international community and human rights organizations. (Namnam et al., 2023, 167)

During crises and disasters, the credibility of the media becomes increasingly important due to the public's reliance on it to obtain information. This requires the media to be committed to providing information immediately when disasters occur, while ensuring accuracy and balance in coverage without marginalizing any party in favor of others, as well as objectivity and referring to the sources of information. Various parties, such as governments, institutions, and organizations, are required to deal with the media as partners in trying to overcome the disaster and its negative effects and not to be stingy in providing information at any time and with credibility. (Al-Maghribi, 2022, 72)

Media coverage of crises and disasters goes through three stages in which the media plays different roles in each of them:

The first stage is the dissemination of information that accompanies the beginning of the crisis to explain the situation and its severity and to satisfy the public's need for knowledge regarding the dimensions of the crisis or disaster and its effects. It includes monitoring the environment to develop a strategy to prevent a crisis or disaster. (Mustafa2018)

The second stage is the stage of interpreting information, through which the media analyzes the causes of the crisis or disaster and compares it with previous similar crises and disasters in the same place or other places, with the help of the opinions of experts, officials, and decision-makers.

The third stage comes after the crisis, which is the preventive function, by explaining ways to confront crises and disasters or their effects in the future. (Abdul Hamid, 2023, 12)

Results and Discussion

Table 2: Sources of Information

| Information Sources | Frequency | Percentage | Rank |
|---|------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Ambulance and Emergency Service | 500 | 16.7% | 2 |
| National Army | 420 | 14% | 3 |
| Senior Officials | 100 | 3.3% | 7 |
| Experts | 100 | 3.3% | 7 |
| National Center for Meteorology | 150 | 5% | 6 |
| Reporters | 1000 | 33.4% | 1 |
| Crisis Management Committee | 300 | 10% | 4 |
| Libyan International Telecommunications Company | 30 | 1% | 9 |
| the Libyan government | 60 | 2% | 8 |
| General Electricity Company | 30 | 1% | 9 |
| Heads of Municipal Councils | 210 | 7% | 5 |
| Witness | 100 | 3.3% | 7 |
| Total | 3000 | 100% | - |

Al-Masar TV relied on many sources of information during its coverage of the disaster. The first place was reporters who were present immediately after the disaster occurred, despite the difficulties they faced during the coverage. When they were unable to be present at the location and transmit via correspondent equipment, they sent information via satellite. The number of correspondences during the coverage reached 1000 correspondences during the day and night, representing 33.4% of the total sources of information.

In second place was the Ambulance and Emergency Department, which provided Al-Masar TV with information via telephone from the event sites in the first phase, with 500 pieces of information during the coverage, representing 16.7%.

An important source that Al-Masar TV relied on was the National Army, due to its presence at the event sites and relief efforts. It came in third place with 420 pieces of information, representing 14%.

In fourth place came the Crisis Management Committee with a percentage of 10%, as Al Masar TV made direct phone calls whenever information was available.

Among the important sources in following up on events, the heads of municipal councils came in fifth place with 7% or about 7 daily interventions.

Sixth came the National Center for Meteorology, especially in covering the first days of the disaster to track dangerous areas with a percentage of 5%.

Senior officials such as the Prime Minister, the Commander-in-Chief of the National Army and his assistants, some ministers, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, experts, and eyewitnesses tied in seventh place among sources of information with a percentage of 3.3% and several 100 senior officials and the same number of experts as well as eyewitnesses.

In eighth place came the Libyan government, which established the National Development Agency during the disaster phase, including shelter centers, post-disaster assistance, and reconstruction efforts, with a percentage of 2%.

In ninth place, the General Electricity Company tied with the Libyan International Telecommunications Company (LITCO) for the reasons behind power outages and efforts to restore power, with 30% and 1% respectively. These results are consistent with Salem's study on the reliance on official sources of information, types of communications, and media messages. They are also consistent with Shamekh and Al-Bawab's studies, which confirmed that television and telephone follow-up with officials are among the most important means of disseminating news.

Table 3: Indicates the technical forms in which Al Masar TV presented information about the disaster as dissemination units

| Publication Unit | Frequency | Percentage | Rank |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Live images | 800 | 13.3% | 3 |
| Reporters' reports | 1000 | 16.7% | 2 |
| News stories | 600 | 10% | 4 |
| Newsroom reports | 300 | 5% | 7 |
| Phone calls | 1000 | 16.7% | 2 |
| Zoom interviews | 500 | 8.3% | 5 |
| Skype | 400 | 6.6% | 6 |
| News | 1200 | 20% | 1 |
| Satellites | 100 | 1.7% | 8 |
| Maps, charts, and graphics | 100 | 1.7% | 8 |
| Total | 6000 | 100% | - |

Breaking and emergency news came in the first place as a follow-up to the event, as this news answers the main questions that are on the minds of the public, with a percentage of 20% of the dissemination units.

In second place came the reports of correspondents from the heart of the event to follow up on everything new on the ground, as the presence of correspondents was one of the strongest sources of coverage, with a percentage of 16.7% of the total general coverage, and the same percentage was for various phone calls.

In third place were the live images captured by Al Masar TV cameras, surveillance cameras, and mobile devices, with a percentage of 13.3%.

Followed by the news stories produced in the newsroom, from live images with natural sounds and people's voices supported by a voice commentary explaining the situation with a Percentage of 10%.

In fifth place came Zoom interviews of the mentioned figures, a percentage of 8.3%, for either analysis, providing information, warnings, or the latest news.

The sixth was Skype interviews, which served the same purpose, a percentage of 6.6%.

In seventh place, newsroom reports constituted 5% of the coverage,

In eighth place, maps, charts, and graphics accompanied by information and music tied for the same percentage as satellite interviews for correspondents when they were unable to be on the ground due to the seriousness of the situation, or for analysts from outside Libya, with many 100 and a percentage of 1.7%.

The results of this study agreed with the study by Ayomidi, which concluded that the media played an effective role in covering the floods in Nigeria and provided information through reports explaining the catastrophic situation.

This study contradicted Abdel Dayem's study, which stated that Sky News websites ranked first in coverage. It is worth noting that Sky News and other channels took their material from Al Masar TV exclusively because, in the first days of the disaster, it was the primary source for all media outlets. However, I agreed with this study in terms of the importance of diversity in presenting disaster topics and the importance of integration between media outlets.

Table 4: Shows the most prominent topics that dominated Al Masar TV's television coverage

| Pre-Disaster Topics | Topics During a Disaster | Post-disaster topics |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Weather Explained | Conditions | Understanding and Clarifying the Causes of the Disaster |
| Dangerous Areas | | Shelters |
| Precautionary Measures | | Psychological care and social cohesion |
| Emergency Numbers and Requests for Help | Who is Responsible | Food and logistical assistance |
| How to Reduce Losses | Most Dangerous and Safe Places | Medical assistance and care |
| Answers to Frequently Asked Questions | Citizens' Suffering | Statistics of the living and the dead and the burial of remains |
| Awareness messages | Aid and Relief Centers | Disbursement of financial compensation |
| | Recovery and Identification of Bodies | Initiating reconstruction efforts |

The first column shows pre-disaster topics, which focused on explaining the weather conditions, their severity, and their locations, along with advice and guidance from officials, experts, and specialists. Emergency numbers and help centers were widely and continuously distributed, in addition to partially easing restrictions, and public safety methods through awareness messages.

During the disaster, topics varied between explaining the causes of the disaster by experts, specialists, and officials, updating figures and statistics on the disaster and its trends, and attempting to identify those responsible for the disaster and its shortcomings. Coverage also addressed the most dangerous and safe locations, and citizens' suffering was highlighted through reports and news stories concerning aid and relief centers. During the disaster, Al Masar TV followed the recovery and identification of bodies and the taking of DNA samples. In the post-disaster phase, Al Masar TV continued to identify shelter and relief centers, promote social cohesion, and provide psychological care to survivors who had lost loved ones. It then explained the methods and locations for distributing food and logistical aid, the mechanisms for obtaining it, and the locations for providing care and medical assistance to those suffering from injuries, and chronic and emergency diseases. It also provided vaccinations to prevent the spread of epidemics. Equally important, the coverage focused on urging compensation for those affected, focusing on reconstruction efforts and the National Development Agency's plans to restore life to the city gradually. It also continued to broadcast news of the recovery, identification, and burial of bodies and updated related statistics. These findings are consistent with Mohd et al.'s study in identifying topics adopted by the media and their importance to the public.

They also agree with the findings of Ali et al.'s study, which emphasized the importance of diverse broadcasting units in disaster coverage.

Table 5: Challenges faced by Al Masar TV during coverage and measures to overcome them.

| Challenges | Procedures |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Harsh weather conditions | Integrating TV broadcasting with social media |
| Equipment damage | Transmitting images, as they happen to avoid losing them due to equipment damage |
| Dangerous terrain | Using satellites to communicate with correspondents |
| Rumors | Ensuring accuracy and credibility in presenting information and data |
| Panic | Consoling and reassuring citizens |
| Overlapping information | Constantly updating information |
| Element of surprise | Adjusting coverage methods based on assessments |
| Lack of a database | Diversifying news sources and communicating with officials and relevant parties |
| The rapid development of events | Using various formats to present content |

One of the most important difficulties that Al Masar TV faced during coverage was the difficult weather conditions, accompanied by power outages and the difficulty of communicating with correspondents at times. Therefore, Al Masar TV resorted to integrating its live broadcast with social media to continue broadcasting and transmitting information. The difficult weather conditions, with the continuous rainfall and strong winds, led to equipment damage and being blown away from the hands of correspondents. Therefore, correspondents were keen to transmit and store images as soon as possible. There was also a risk to the lives of correspondents, so some reporting was conducted via satellite from secure studios. With every crisis or disaster, rumors and false information abound. Therefore, Al Masar TV sought to verify the accuracy and credibility of presenting information and deny rumors that spread a state of panic among citizens. Therefore, Al Masar TV works to constantly update information. The element of surprise was also one of the most important difficulties that accompanied the coverage from the first day of the disaster, which exceeded expectations. Therefore, there were alternative plans for coverage operations. What increased the difficulty of the work was the lack of a database. Al Masar TV relied on a variety of official sources and republished them. Al Masar TV was, in the first days of coverage, a source for the media. With the rapid development of events, television has shifted its focus to presenting content across various broadcasting units. These results are consistent with Al-Dhuwaihi's study, which emphasized the importance of effective planning for media coverage, more capable of dealing with disasters. The study also highlighted the most prominent obstacle to planning, namely the element of surprise. They also agreed with the results of Ali et al.'s study, which highlighted the difficulties facing disaster coverage, most notably the adoption and understanding of terminology related to floods. Shamekh's study and Al-Bawab's study were also consistent in this regard.

Table 6: Indicates the effects of the disaster, the reconstruction efforts, and their results

| Effects of the Disaster | The National Development Agency's efforts in post-disaster reconstruction | Reconstruction results |
|--|--|--|
| Loss of family and relatives | Adopting initiatives to provide consolation to citizens and establishing psychological support units | Opening psychological clinics and conducting recreational activities |
| Loss of homes | Rebuilding housing units | Delivering fully furnished new homes |
| Loss of job opportunities and savings | Rebuilding commercial complexes. | Disbursing compensation to citizens |
| Study interrupted due to the destruction of educational institutions | Rebuilding and renovating schools and universities | Resuming studies in schools and universities |
| Destruction of mosques and places of worship | Rebuilding and renovating places of worship | Resuming religious services in places of worship |
| Destruction of government departments and centers | Rebuilding service, administrative, and banking institutions | Issuing certificates and identification documents and opening bank accounts |
| Spread of epidemics | Sterilizing streets and removing rubble | Administering special vaccinations |
| Loss of agricultural and animal resources | Rebuilding and rehabilitating farms and agricultural lands | Disbursing aid and compensation to farm owners and livestock breeders |
| Destruction of hospitals and medical centers | Rebuilding and equipping hospitals and medical centers | Resuming the admission of sick cases and providing healthcare |
| Suspension of all activities | Rebuilding cultural centers and sports stadiums | Revitalizing cultural, scientific, artistic, and sports activities and holding celebrations, conferences, and sports matches |

The disaster left behind many painful consequences, ranging from loss and destruction to the city. Citizens lost their families, homes, livelihoods, and savings. Hospitals, places of worship, service centers, and government departments were destroyed, and studies were completely suspended in schools, institutes, and universities.

The National Development Agency, at the behest of the Libyan government and the General Command of the Armed Forces, took action to alleviate the burdens on citizens. Immediately after the disaster, it began adopting initiatives to console citizens and establish psychological support units. It began reconstruction efforts in three phases, beginning with opening roads, removing rubble, and sterilizing streets for fear of the spread of epidemics. Then, it began restoring and rebuilding buildings, including homes, hospitals, places of worship, service centers, banks, and shopping malls. It also provided food and potable water, rehabilitated farms and animal husbandry, and rehabilitated all vital facilities. In the third phase, the National Agency handed over homes, disbursed aid and compensation, opened psychological clinics to help citizens overcome their grief, and organized recreational activities for children and their families. Schools and universities then reopened, classes resumed, and places of worship and hospitals were opened to receive sick cases. Government departments resumed operations with new identity documents, followed by the resumption of production operations. The first year after the disaster concluded with a series of achievements in sports, culture, and the arts. Stadiums were opening. Matches, conferences, and concerts were held. The National Agency for Development's efforts continue, and Al Masar TV is keeping up with all these achievements through special reports prepared by correspondents from Derna. These results are consistent with Omran's study on the allocation of coverage in the three phases and the importance of each, and with Salem's study that effective crisis management methods and their intensive and qualitative presentation through the media help mitigate the effects of crises.

Conclusion

Al Masar TV had the longest live broadcast period covering news, topics, and developments related to the Derna disaster. It relied on numerous sources of information during its coverage, primarily the correspondents present immediately after the disaster, despite the difficulties they faced during the coverage. Al Masar TV presented relevant information in various ways and relied on numerous technical forms, most notably breaking and emergency news. Al Masar TV's coverage periods were divided into topics specific to each phase. The most important topics were the pre-disaster period, which focused on explaining the weather conditions, their severity, and their locations. During the disaster, topics varied from explaining the causes of the disaster by experts, specialists, and officials, to updating figures and statistics on the disaster and its trends. In the post-disaster period, Al Masar TV continued to identify shelter and relief centers, promote social cohesion, and provide psychological care to survivors who had lost loved ones. Among the most significant challenges Al Masar TV faced during its coverage were the difficult weather conditions, power outages, and the difficulty of communicating with correspondents at times. Al Masar TV continued to follow the efforts of the National Development Agency by presenting the most important achievements and monitoring the gradual return of life.

Recommendation

The need to develop plans and strategies for media coverage during crises and disasters, to overcome the time factor and address the situation from the outset.

The importance of integrating traditional media and social media during crises and disasters, given the possibility of power outages in the affected areas. It is also important to employ artificial intelligence technologies to save time and effort.

- Working to update data and information, presenting them in a timely and simple manner, and presenting them in an easy-to-understand manner.

-This study can be used to cover similar disasters anywhere in the world, as this study established the basic rules for studying the community.

Acknowledgments

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the management of Al Masar TV for their support of my participation in the conference.

Declaration of Interest Statement

The author declares that they have no conflict of interest.

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