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**ASSIGNMENT: 1 HOW IS THE PORTRAYAL OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH BY THE GLOBAL NORTH NEWS ORGANIZATIONS.**

**2 WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT IS LIKELY TO FACE IN THESE TIMES, ESPECIALLY WITH CORONAVIRUS, RACISM AND ALL OTHER FEARS IN VIEW? PROFFER THE SOLUTIONS YOU THINK WILL OVERCOME THE CHALLENGES YOU RAISE.**

**THE GLOBAL NORTH AND THE GLOBAL SOUTH**

Definition of a News agency? A news agency is an organization of journalists established to supply news reports to news organizations: newspapers, magazines, radio and television broadcasters. Such an agency may also be referred to as a wire service, newswire, or news service. There are three major forms of news agency: National News Agencies, Regional News agencies and International News Agencies.

i National News Agencies: they are news agencies that operate on national level. Some are established and funded by the governments of the country involved while some others are established and funded by corporate bodies. Many governments establish news agencies not only to aid the media system and performance but also to have certain control of the media and monitor media activities. Examples of National News Agencies are: News Agency Of Nigeria (NAN), Ghana News Agency (GNA).

ii Regional News Agency: Regional News Agency occurs when some country within a region of a particular continent come together to establish news agency to cater for the interest of the region in term of information and communication advantage. If a news agency care for the interest of West African countries, such news agency is regional in function. Examples of Regional News Agency are: Pan-African News Agency (PANA), MENA.

iii International News Agencies: International news agencies are those whose operations are not limited by national or regional boundaries. Although some of them are sponsored and influenced by the governments of the world power, their operations are made to believe free of political influences and economic dictates. International news agencies are not responsible to media of a particular region; they serve all base on transaction agreement.

There are two economic worlds that cut across the globe, these are the Global North and the Global South. The Global North (First World) generally refers to the richer and more economically developed countries like United States, France, United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia among others. The term Global South, on the other hand, refers to developing countries that are economically backward like African countries, Latin America, Russia, China, India, Brazil, Mexico amongst others. Global North countries are wealthy, technological advanced, politically stable and aging as their societies tend towards zero population growth while Global South countries are agrarian based, dependent economically and politically on the Global North, the Global North has continued to dominate and direct the global south in international trade and politics.

The growth of media programs along with the wide-spread diffusion of the technologies that make creation of media content possible means that more and varied voices from around the world may lead to a greater realization of global village. Although the term Global South has replaced the notions of the third world or periphery, its meaning is still inherently slippery, inchoate and unfixed while the Global North countries are wealthy, technologically advanced, politically stable and aging. The Global South are often politically and culturally marginalized. The Global South is not one homogenous entity but a vibrant, intricate and diverse combination of nations, languages, values and ideologies. The global dichotomy between the Global North and the Global South is not a mere fiction but a fact that actually plays out in many spheres of life. The current position of many nations in the Global South is involuntary, however, the derogatory characteristics of a Global South nation can change when there is a sincere, determined resolution by all stakeholders to make the nation functional and efficient. Internationalization of neoliberalism reproduces inequalities in global wealth and power and causes duality in economic and political atmosphere. Global North is mentioned by wealth, democratic governance, peace, technology, creativity, stability and Global South is seen as a confusion, war, conflict, poverty, anarchy and oppression.

Now going to the question asked, news organizations in the Global North paint the Global South in their report in a bad way. In the sense that there is an imbalance in communication between the Global North and the Global South and cultural imperialism is one of the results of imbalance. This can be seen in the way we live our lives, addressing some of the food we eat, the music we listen to, the films we watch and many other western things we crave for. Cultural imperialism is also called media imperialism, it refers to a situation whereby the Global North through their international news agencies and conglomerates continuously disseminate their cultural values to the Global South without the latter been able to do the same to the Global North. In other word, the cultural hegemony of industrialized, politically and economically influential countries which determine general cultural values and standardize civilizations throughout the world. What this is saying is that most of the Global North countries colonized the Global South countries so believe that can report ill of the Global South because they think they are superior over the Global South.

Arising from the foregoing, it is important to note that inequality and imbalance have continued to characterize international communication today. The distribution of power and wealth in international economic system, which favors the Global North, as created influence on communication structures and flow, leading to the Global North dominating the Global South in international communication.

Another reason is imbalance and equality. The Global North report bad news of the Global South because they think we are not equal so they can do and report whatever they say, still the Global South won’t do anything. Some of the reasons for the imbalance and equality are clear: most of the international news agencies are from the Global North. Besides, this region of the world is scientifically and technologically advanced with adequate infrastructure and expertise for news dissemination, as a result they can lay emphasis on news from their region and neglect the Global South or make a bad report about the Global South.

Another dimension of the imbalance and inequality can be seen in the volumes of information that flow between the Global North and the Global South. This can be quantitative and qualitative. Quantitatively, more information flows from the Global North to the Global South, while small bits of information trickle from the later to the former. Qualitatively, the types of news and information often disseminated about the Global North consist of Scientifics, technological development, while that of the Global South often consist of wars, coups, famine, hunger, diseases, poverty etc. the news agencies in the Global North doesn’t say good things in their report about the Global South. I will be summarizing some news stories reported by an international news agency in the Global North (BBC).about the Global South.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2,2019**

**MALI ATTACK KILLS 49 SOLDIERS IN NORTH OF THE COUNTRY**

Militants in north-east Mali have killed 49 soldiers in an attack on a military post, the army said in a Facebook post. This makes it one of the deadliest assaults of the past decade.

Mali has suffered violence since 2012, when islamist militants took over the north of the country. With the help of France, Mali’s army has recaptured the territory but insecurity continues. The violence has also spread to other countries in the region.

Earlier it was reported that 54 soldiers had died based on a statement by government spokesperson Yaya Sangare.

**AFGHANISTAN: BLAST KILLS NINE CHILDREN AS THEY WALK TO SCHOOL**

Nine children have been killed in a roadside blast in north-eastern Afghanistan as they made their way to school. The children, eight boys and a girl aged between seven and ten accidentally stepped on a deliberately planted mine. So far, no one has claimed responsibility for the bomb. Last month, the UN said 1,174 Afghan civilians had been killed in the three months until the end of September. More than 3,000 people have also been injured over this period.

The militants routinely plant roadside devices as they leave a district in the hope of targeting advancing security forces.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2019**

**INDIA AIR POLLUTION AT UNBEARABLE LEVELS; DELHI MINISTER SAYS**

Air pollution in the north of India has reached unbearable levels, the capital Delhi’s chief minister Arvid Kejriwal says. In many areas of Delhi air quality deteriorated into the hazardous category on Sunday with the potential to cause respiratory illnesses.

Authorities have urged people to stay inside to protect themselves. Mr. Kejriwal called on the central government to provide relief and tackle the toxic pollution. Schools have been closed, more than 30 flights diverted and construction work halted as the city sits in a thick blanket smog.

Delhi health minister satyendar Jain advised the city’s residents to avoid outdoor activities, especially during morning and late evening hours. The advisory also said people should wear anti-pollution masks, avoid polluted areas and keep doors and windows closed.

**EBOLA: ATTACKERS KILL DR CONGO JOURNALIST SHINING LIGHT ON VIRUS**

A Congolese journalist who had been raising awareness about the Ebola virus in the Democratic Republic of Congo has been killed at his home. The army said unidentified attackers raided Papy Mumbere Mahamba’s home in Lwebma, in the north-eastern province of Ituri, killing him, wounding his wife and burning their house down.

DR Congo is experiencing the world’s second-worst Ebola epidemic on record. People working to stop the virus are often targets of attacks. The DRC declared an Ebola epidemic in August 2018. More than 2,000 lives have been lost amid a total of 3,000 confirmed infections, according to the world Health Organization (WHO).

**IRAQ PROTESTS: CAPITAL BAGHDAD BLOCKED AS UNREST ESCALATES**

Protesters have blocked the main thoroughfares in the Iraqi capital Baghdad, as mass anti-government protests continue. Demonstrators were seen parking cars at key junctions of the city as police looked on without intervening.

More than 250 have been killed in clashes with security forces.in Baghdad, protesters have been defying a curfew introduced in late October. The epicenter of the unrest has been Baghdad’s central Tahrir square. Protesters there have been attempting to cross a nearby bridge to the fortified Green zone, which houses government buildings and foreign embassies

The above news stories have shown how the Global North only report bad happenings about the Global South rather than reporting the developments of the Global South.

In conclusion the news agencies in the Global North have a great hatred for the Global South, if not they wouldn’t be reporting only the bad happenings, they will also try and report the good happenings because that is what the news agencies in the Global South does.

**2 CHALLENGES OF A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT IN THIS PANDEMIC PERIOD**

The challenges foreign correspondents are facing this period are quite enormous.

1 they won’t be able to go for field reporting to get news story based on the pandemic so they have limited number of new stories because they are not able to go out to capture event as they happen.

2 there is also reported harassment by the military. Based on the rules of the lockdown, no one must be seen outside, if not they will be harassed by the military despite the governments has permitted correspondents to continue operating.

3 some of the correspondents have been experiencing different forms of discrimination and stigmatization from family members and other people, saying they are the ones going to meet so many people and interacting with so many people so people believe that they could easily get infected and also infect them at home and the community at large.

4 some of the correspondents have also been working from home so that they will be able to decongest the news room.

5 some of the correspondents going to cover events may be exposed to traumatic events.

6 some of the correspondents working from home have been experiencing power cuts.

7 the foreign correspondents that go to another country to source or cover event won’t be able to go because of this pandemic. Because the world is on lockdown.

What i think can be done is to do in-house Journalism. What this means is that you can stay at home and source for news even though it won’t be like going to the field to cover event but at least there will something to disseminate to the general public.

Even now, community journalism is now rampant. For example, the issue of Floyd when the police officer was harassing him till it led to his death. It was a random person that was just videoing it till it became viral. What I am trying to say in essence is that things happen every day, you might just be walking on the road and an unusual event will occur, it can always be covered. So my advice for foreign correspondent is that this whole phase will be over, and everyone can continue their normal lives but till then they should work from home for their own safety.