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**Matric No.: 17/SMS04/010**

**Course Code: CMS 304**

**Level: 300**

**Assignment**

1. How is the portrayal of the Global South by the Global North news organizations/Media?
2. What are the challenges a foreign correspondent is likely to face in these times, especially with the Coronavirus, Racism and all other fears in view.

The news organizations of the Global North tend to try and look like they are portraying the Global South in a positive light due to the recent wave of humanitarian movements that has swept through the West such as Feminism, Humanism and the Black lives Matter. Despite this the fact remains that the news organizations of the Global North still make plenty negative reports on the Global South by directly or indirectly portraying the Global South as backward. This is done by focusing primarily on negative happenings and all other evils that happen in the Global South such as war, poverty, death e.t.c.

The news organizations of the Global North often discuss the problems of the Global South in a condensending way, they act like the problems seen in the Global South are limited to the them and that they do not have anything to do with the Global North. They also portray the Global North as saviors to the Global South during crisis even when the Global North may have caused the crisis (Libyan Civil War:2011), (American-led Intervention in Syria:2011), more often than not the countries of the Global North mostly leaves those countries worse off than they met them, they also take opportunities to exploit the resources of the countries in the Global South. Despite all this the news organizations of the Global North pretend that these things do not happen.

Some examples of prominent news organizations in the Global North that do this are CNN and BBC. I shall show some examples from their news headlines that support the points I made previously. These headlines are as follows:

* **Amid WHO warnings and with no proof, some African nations turn to herbal tonic to try to treat Covid-19 (CNN)**

Even as global health authorities warn of potential dangers and misinformation about an untested natural therapy, the leader of one African country is pushing a traditional tonic to try to treat coronavirus patients across the continent.

The product has not been tested in line with international standards, the World Health Organization [said this week](https://twitter.com/WHOAFRO/status/1260886963663417344?s=20). Its use could accelerate resistance to an ingredient that has proven effective in treating malaria, heightening risk related to that potentially deadly infection, experimental medicine expert Dr. Arthur Grollman told CNN.

Madagascar,[where many people rely on natural medicine](https://edition.cnn.com/videos/international/2014/06/30/spc-inside-africa-madagascar-nature-medicine-b.cnn), has agreed to work with the African Union and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention on an herbal remedy it claims could help treat Covid-19, the bloc's deputy chairman [announced Wednesday in a tweet](https://twitter.com/AU_KwesiQuartey/status/1260460296537280513?s=20).

The effort would aim to "benefit the continent at large," Kwesi Quartey tweeted.

But the World Health Organization, or WHO, has [warned against](https://www.afro.who.int/news/who-supports-scientifically-proven-traditional-medicine?gclid=CjwKCAjwkun1BRAIEiwA2mJRWRsX0kvLBHpHEWxTl4iVoKDg85YPMywIR5G_9GA9tLIcvdSpWbcmJBoCY30QAvD_BwE)using untested herbal therapies to treat coronavirus patients without first "establishing their efficacy and safety through rigorous clinical trials" in step with global standards.

WHO acknowledges medicinal plants such as Artemisia annua, from which the tonic is made, are "being considered as possible treatments" but stresses they "should be tested for efficacy and adverse side effects," it [wrote this month in a news release](https://www.afro.who.int/news/who-supports-scientifically-proven-traditional-medicine).

"As efforts are under way to find treatment for COVID-19, caution must be taken against misinformation, especially on social media, about the effectiveness of certain remedies," the agency wrote.

"Many plants and substances are being proposed without the minimum requirements and evidence of quality, safety and efficacy. The use of products to treat COVID-19, which have not been robustly investigated can put people in danger, giving a false sense of security and distracting them from hand washing and physical distancing which are cardinal in COVID-19 prevention, and may also increase self-medication and the risk to patient safety."

**Analysis of the Story**

This story shows how the W.H.O and the countries of the Global North look down on the traditional medicinal practices of the Global South and write off the potential solutions that Africans in Africa has brought forth to cure the COVID-19 pandemic that plagues the world today.

* **Africa's leaders forced to confront healthcare systems they neglected for years (CNN)**

Africa's ailing presidents and powerful elites have been known to jet out to seek treatment abroad, instead of investing in healthcare in their own countries.

Zimbabwe's[Robert Mugabe](https://edition.cnn.com/2019/09/06/africa/robert-mugabe-intl-hnk/index.html)died in a hospital in Singapore, and Cameroon's Paul Biya regularly seeks treatment abroad.

Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari was out of the country for several months in 2017 for treatment in London for an undisclosed illness and has frequent checks abroad. Since he took office in 2015, he has embarked on at least [four medical trips](https://edition.cnn.com/2018/05/08/africa/nigeria-buhari-medical-leave/index.html) to the UK.

But with flights grounded and countries across the world on lockdown in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, these leaders are getting a wake-up call that they must fix their healthcare systems. The President of the [Commonwealth Medical Association](https://commonwealthdoctors.org/), Osahon Enabulele, says while citizens have endured their leaders' frequent recourse to overseas medical treatment in the past, they may not remain so tolerantif the coronavirus wreaks havoc as it has elsewhere in the world.

"There is no place for any leader to hide anymore," Enabulele said. "This whole situation of public office holders in Africa, most times using taxpayers' money to go on foreign medical trips at the slightest discomfort is one thing that will be reversed when this pandemic is over," Enabulele told CNN.

**Story Analysis**

While this story is telling the truth about Africa’s failed healthcare systems, it also largely ignores the fact that many countries in the Global North such as England, U.S.A and Spain also had problems with their healthcare systems and values exposed while making the problem seem exclusive to Africa.

**Unarmed Palestinian man shot dead by police in Jerusalem (CNN)**

An unarmed Palestinian man has been shot and killed by police at one of the entrances to Jerusalem's Old City on Saturday. Israeli police said officers believed the man had a gun and opened fire on him when he refused to stop for them.

Relatives named the deceased as 32-year-old Eyad Rawhi Al-Halaq from the Wadi Al-Joz area of Jerusalem.

They told CNN he had autism, and the mental age of a six-year-old child, and that he was on his way to his special educational needs school when the fatal incident took place.

An Israeli police statement Saturday morning said: "In Jerusalem's Old City, at Lions Gate area, police units on patrol spotted a suspect with a suspicious object that looked like a pistol. They called upon him to stop and began to chase after him on foot, during the chase officers also opened fire at the suspect, who was neutralized."

A police spokesman later confirmed to CNN that officers who checked the man's body found no weapon on him.

**Story Analysis**

This story portrays the problems of the divide in the Middle East between Israel and Palestine.

**Conclusion**

From the above CNN news articles it can be inferred that the news organizations of the Global North tend to give high coverage to the negative happenings in the Global South while making the countries of the Global North seem like a savior and a bastion of development.

1. There are several challenges a foreign correspondent can face in a time of worldwide crisis such as the novel Coronavirus, economic meltdown and racism. Some of these problems are:

* Harassment and arrest by law enforcement officers: Many local and even foreign correspondents are being harassed and arrested by the police or army in countries that are being affected by crisis such as civil unrest and the Coronavirus pandemic due to the fact that the law enforcement agencies are on edge do to the crisis being experienced by their countries an example of this is the arrest of three journalists between the 20th and 23rd of September 2019 while covering the news of anti-government protests in Egypt. A more recent example would be that of the arrest of Omar Jiminez, a CNN correspondent and his crew in Minneapolis, Minnesota, U.S.A, by the police on the morning of May 29, 2020 while covering the anti-racism protests that began on May 28, 2020 due to the unjust killing of George Floyd.
* Risk of Contacting the highly contagious COVID-19: The world today is being plagued by the highly contagious COVID-19 pandemic, however, foreign correspondents and journalists still have to move around and do their work of sourcing news for their respective news agencies. This puts them at a high risk of contracting the virus. An example of this can be seen in the experience of CNN’s business editor, Richard Quest who contracted the Coronavirus earlier this year.
* Getting stranded in a foreign country: With civil unrest occurring in some countries and the COVID-19 pandemic ravaging the world today many foreign correspondents can suddenly find themselves trapped in a foreign country due to one crisis or the other that prevents them from leaving the country’s borders. For example, Tony Gosling, a journalist from Bristol, England was stuck in new Zealand due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**Solutions**

* Foreign Correspondents must carry their credentials at all time so as to be easily identified by the law enforcement agencies and avoid being wrongly accused or arrested.
* Foreign Correspondents must take adequate preventive measures for protection against the Coronavirus.
* If trapped in a foreign country, a foreign correspondent should lay low and wait for his/her chance to live.