CDA analysis of Jerusalem Conflict in BBC and AJE

MA Thesis
Journalism Connected
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Abstract

This research aims at finding how BBC and AJE media represented the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The study examines the news website, which reported the recent escalation of Jerusalem conflict in December 2017, where US President Trump have recognized Jerusalem as Israeli capital, and declared to move the US embassy from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem.

The study uses qualitative research, where it investigated the impact of ideology on media discourse by means of critical discourse analysis (DHA, Topoi, and Social actor’s representation). CDA was carried out for a sample of 8 news articles published on the websites of two networks: the British Broadcasting Corporation World news “BBCWN” and the Middle Eastern Qatari owned “Al Jazeera English”. The articles were chosen within the month of December 2017.

Articles were analyzed by means of the two-level analysis method, including the thematic and in-depth analysis. On the first, entry-level analysis, I focus on contents of texts and outline the discourse topics. While in the second phase I analyze the means of discursive strategies and the representation of social actors utilized throughout the text.

The thematic analysis revealed that, both BBC and AJE have covered the incident similarly in general look. However, in-depth analysis showed that each network had portrayed the images of Israelis and Palestinians differently. On contrast of AJE, BBC tends to perceive Palestinians as a threat and the Israeli one as victims of the Palestinian violation. Moreover, the analysis revealed that each network had different ideologies and aims. The study concludes that AJE articles was biased pro-Palestinians, while BBC articles was biased pro-Israelis.

Key words: Israeli-Palestinian conflict, media bias, BBCWN, AJE, US, Trump, Jerusalem, CDA, DHA, media representation, conflict reporting, ideologies, text analysis
Acknowledgments

First and foremost I would like to thank my Mom and my family who gave the inspiration and the encouragement to do my master study and to be where I am now. I also want to thank all my professors and instructors who supported me during this Master program. I am so grateful for their efforts which taught me a lot about my future journalistic career. Special thanks to David Machin, for providing the greatest help all through the program and enabled me to hand in my thesis as the way it is today. I am also grateful for my supervisor Ahmed el-Gody for his efforts in guiding and instructing me throughout my work on the thesis.

I dedicate my research for journalists and for the ones who are looking for truth all around this world. I also dedicate my work for my country Palestine; for people who suffer everywhere in this world, for people who were forced to leave their lands and live in diaspora because of terrorism and wars.
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1 Introduction

The Israel-Palestine conflict is regarded historically as one of the longest and most complicated international conflicts, where its roots goes back at least to the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948 by the aid of the British mandate on Palestine since 1917 (Friel and Falk, 2017). Relatively, the emphasis on this conflict is due to the importance of resolving it, and to call attention to insidious partnership between governments and media producers (ibid).

Governments and other powerful sections of society put so much stock trying to control media and the work of Journalists (Richardson, 2007). Richardson suggests that Journalism is shaped by the agenda and promotions and the circulation of the powerful sections’ propaganda. In this context László Csicsmann (2015) suggests electronic and printed media are important players shaping and framing of the international public opinion together with decision makers. Accordingly, governments and other powerful sections have the possibility to control Media outlets or Media orientations, thus control the public opinion and visions for specific issue or conflict.

Not only do the Palestinian and the Israeli societies have their own narration of the story for their conflict, but also international stakeholders and the international media provide their own “truth” of the conflict Csicsmann (2015). In this context, Csicsmann in his review for (Dávid Kaposi: Violence and Understanding in Gaza, 2015); theorizes that the international and the national media are quite important tools in the conflict, offering different discourses for the same story. Accordingly, this study purposes to investigate in the form of language use if AJN’s (Al Jazeera Network) and the BBCWN’s (British Broadcasting Corporation World News) political contexts have shaped their broadcasted discourse of the IPC (Israeli-Palestinian Conflict).

1.1 Research purpose and question

Through comparing the texts used in the news stories for this two international media producers, this research aims to find out if Al Jazeera’s and the BBC’s political contexts- BBC as British Broadcasting Network and Al Jazeera middle eastern Network- have framed their presentation of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. The study also aims to understand their political ideologies and agendas towards the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
1.1.1 Research Question:

- The research question is to figure out if Al Jazeera’s and the BBC’s special political contexts influence their coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (IPC), and to examine how these two networks provide different forms of the same truth.

- Study questions from general to particular:
  1. How the image of Israelis or Palestinians was framed in the different news outlets?
  2. What are the main different ideologies both BBC and AJE networks follow, in terms of IPC?
  3. What were the different strategies deployed in the texts in purpose of justifying the actions of in-groups and assess the actions done by out-groups?

The study focuses on AJE’s and the BBC’s presentation for the Israelis and Palestinians in terms of the texts used in the news articles. In order to understand the difference between the BBC and Al Jazeera networks perspectives and guidelines employed to represent the Palestinians or the Israelis, a detailed linguistic analysis will be carried out for the language shaping of news narratives published on their news sites-BBC world and Al Jazeera English. The study focuses on the period, where Trump-the president of the US, has declared to the world that Jerusalem (eastern and western) is the capital of Israel state.

The news of each of the chosen sites will be sampled within a period of one month - December 2017; exactly the period after and before the date where trump has declared a decision of moving the us embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, as it is the period of the major crisis and the protests took place in Middle East especially in the Palestinian territories and the residents of eastern Jerusalem.

1.1.2 Research Methods

The study uses a comparative critical discourse analysis (CDA) for BBC world and Aljazeera English news narratives in covering of the declaration by Trump on December 6th, 2017- about recognizing Jerusalem as an Israeli capital, and the followed crisis in Palestine and Middle East.
In order to help the reader better understand how media producers tends to shape narratives to approaching the same news. The study will use a qualitative CDA method through analyzing the texts published on the news websites for BBC and Aljazeera English by focus on studying the discourse used in the news reports covering the issue. I also adopt the theories of CDA by Wodak (2009), with an approach of key principals DHA. The analysis will deal mainly with lexicon or vocabulary, with focus on the terms and phrases they see as ‘sensitive’ in describing the struggle between Israel and Palestine through news narratives. To a large extent, the analysis will include studying the key terms, sources and type of vocabulary used in describing the Palestinians and Israelis, to provide better and more solid links between the text and its social context (Barkho, 2011). Moreover, Barkho theorizes that the vocabularies might be the same but the broadcasters’ decision to use them to describe one side of the conflict rather than the other indicates a pre-determined discursive attempt on what linguistic/stylistic strategies to adopt in coverage.

1.1.3 Limitations of the study
According to BBC Watch website reviewing BBC News website portrayal of Israel and the Palestinians, between October 1st and December 31st 2017, one hundred and six reports relating to Israel and/or the Palestinians appeared on the BBC News website’s Middle East page. The same issue exists for AJE, where more than 152 news stories has been published covering the Trump’s declaration, and the afterwards crisis. This big number of reports takes unlimited time and effort to choose the suitable sample for the research study. This is why the study focused on the coverage of the 4 major events occurred in that period of time. The analyzed articles were chosen carefully from the two networks covering the same four incidents.
2 Literature Review

In this section, I introduce some information about the origins of the IPC, with summary of previous researches and studies done on the field of framing the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. I also present some literature on the BBC and AJE framing of the conflict.

2.1 Jerusalem conflict

Conflicts over Jerusalem go back thousands of years; the city has been captured and recaptured at least 20 times through many decades. It has been claimed by about as many countries and empires and by three of the world's major religions (Islam, Christianity, and Judaism) (Boshnaq et al., 2017).

In 1948, the state of Israel is established on the land of Palestine as an accomplish for the promise of the British government through Arthur James Balfour Lord- a spokesman for the British government and Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Jews, which includes the British government's commitment to the establishment of a national homeland for the Jews in Palestine. The Jews started then to immigrate to Palestine from all around the world, dividing its capital into eastern and western Jerusalem. They’re occupying both parts, but they grant Palestinians (the original residents) permanent resident status, but not citizenship only in eastern Jerusalem (Boshnaq et al., 2017).

2.2 The IPC and Media attention

“The Israel-Palestine conflict is one of the longest standing unresolved conflicts in the world (since 1948 to present), with tremendous amount of media attention” (Friel and Falk, 2007). Dearing and Rogers (1996) measured the number of news stories as an indicator of media attention to, and the popularity of, certain issues. For instance; a study by Segev and Blondheim (2013) have measured the relative attention given to Israel and Palestine in 37 leading news sites in 10 languages over two years through a cross-national comparison of prominence and trends. Their Findings clearly show that the Palestinian entities and Israel are the world’s most prominent polities after the United States in top news stories of international online coverage. Most news attention is given by Middle Eastern news sites, and only then by European and American news sites, during periods that attention to Israel decreases, attention to China increases.
Segev and Blondheim (2013) interprets this high prominence of Israel and Palestine in online news worldwide by many factors; including firstly the factor of where: land and the capital Jerusalem which is household words in numerous national cultures, the cradle of monotheistic religion and the wellspring of Judeo-Christian culture as well as Islam religion; For religious Jewish Israelis and religious Muslim Palestinians, the belief is deeper still, for both sides believe that God (called Jehovah by the Jews and Allah by the Muslims), gave them the land, and that to give it away or to give it up to another people is an insult to God and a sin (The History Guy, 2017). Second, in a world experiencing deep and bewildering change, the veteran Middle Eastern conflict provides a sense of orientation and closure—a newsy, hyperactive, stability—in which journalists are proficient enough to ever find a hot new twist in the comfortably familiar old story. Moreover, the fact that Arabs and Jews represent to the Western world exceptionally intriguing; perhaps even thrilling “others”, the Palestinian–Israeli conflict enables westerners to focus on these captivating protagonists as they engage each other, and allows them to choose their saints and sinners, Christ and Antichrists, from among them with some detachment, what explains why the findings of the study has showed that the attention to the conflict is much higher among westerners—European countries and the United States (Elad Segev and Menahem Blondheim, 2013).

2.3 BBC and Al Jazeera coverage of conflicts

Here I present an example of a previous study similar to this research, where a comparative analysis done by Al Nahed (2015), examined the broadcast coverage by Al Jazeera and the BBC of the 2011 uprising in Libya and the ensuing NATO intervention in the country. The article investigates how much these two networks’ political contexts have influenced their media outlets. The study relatively suggests that networks are based in countries that were present participants in the 2011 NATO intervention. Moreover, the political context here was referred to the national and foreign policy interests of where networks were based, and it also have considered how these networks were funded (Al Nahed, 2015). However, the study outcomes showed that the coverage of both these networks was associated with the national and foreign policy interests of
their home countries, making their political contexts the main influence on their news agendas, while the coverage was supportive of the aims of opposition and the intervention (Al Nahed 2015).

2.4 **AJE and BBC news approach for Palestine and Israel**

2.4.1 **AJE Ideology**

Al Jazeera network was launched in November 2006. It’s considered as the second channel of Qatar’s international network, which has been regarded as a challenge to major Western media for its reporting of international conflicts from a Middle Eastern perspective (Elmasry et al. 2013). ‘The launch of Al Jazeera provides a window of opportunity to those dissident voices to be heard again, it is considered 'a highly profile platform for political dissidents many of whom live abroad' (Zayani, 2008, p. 2).

Zayani in his book about ‘Al Jazeera phenomena’ describes Al Jazeera as a new means of communication which 'fills not only media void but also a political void. Al-Jazeera was the first free media organization in the Arab World. With its popular program ‘the opinion and the counter-opinion', the channel had managed to criticize Arab regimes, it has in some way democratize the Middle East (ibid). In the case of conflict reporting, “unsurprisingly researchers have found that Arab news media including Al Jazeera network have always advanced the Palestinian perspectives over the Israeli voices and they lack of objectivity in framing conflicts in general (Elmasry et al., 2013).

2.4.2 **BBC Ideology**

The BBCWN is the BBC’s (the British Broadcasting Corporation) commercially funded international 24-hour news channel, which was chosen as a key exemplar of mainstream news networks (Kasmani, 2013).

BBCWN was launched initially in Asia and the Middle East in October 1991 but swiftly gained a reputation as a credible and accurate international news provider alongside CNNI (Kasmani, 2013). Although the network is operated on a commercial platform, its parent organization, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), remains largely a public service institution in Britain (McPhail 2004, 159). The political context of BBC in terms of the conflict between Palestine and Israel is subjected for the role of the British
mandate in the Palestinian territories from 1917 to 1948 (Roy, 2013): in 1948, the state of Israel is established on the land of Palestine as an accomplish for the promise of the British government through Arthur James Balfour for the Jews, which includes the British government's commitment to the establishment of a national homeland for the Jews in Palestine (Friel and Falk, 2007), which in turn put the BBC in accusation of Media bias pro Israelis (Lendman, 2008).

Moreover, In general there was a disparity (in favor of Israelis) existed in BBC coverage in terms of the appearance of non-party political Israeli and Palestinian, where also the third party positions either from the Middle East or from the rest of the world were marginalized in comparison to the presentation of UK and US perspectives (Downey J. Et al, 2006., sections 4.2, 4.3).
3 Theoretical Background

Narrowing down (theoretically and methodologically) after the overview of the previous literature allows narrowing down and focusing the key areas that the research investigates; the research objective can be formulated as a hypothesis or a statement about the relationship between two or more variable that to be tested by the proposed research (Hansen and Machin, 2013). In this section I will introduce the thesis and hypothesis that I want to test on my study sample, in order to have more scientific analysis to answer my research questions and objectives.

3.1 Reporting conflicts and Media Bias

“Journalists are gatekeepers of truth” White (1950). ‘news is a report of the facts, but- the fact is being a category of practically infinitive size- there has to be some process of filtering, whereby some facts are allowed through the “gate”, while others are kept out’ (lynch and Galtung, 2010).

Conflict definition is about when people, groups, or countries stands in each other’s way, so they have incompatible goals, where it leads for a clear and present violence. In this context, Lynch and Galtung suggest that news about conflict often comes to us in a set of binary oppositions; two sides vie for advantage, and ultimately a victory. The rule of objectivity in reporting the conflict involves the correspondents (journalists) to keep their striving for their political and religious views, cultural prejudice or even their financial interests for one part, from influencing their coverage of the conflict (Rodgers, 2012, p 47).

“The idea of objectivity is often associated and confused with ideas of ‘truth’, ‘balance’, ‘neutrality’ “(Tumber and Prentoulis, 2003, cited in Rodgers 2012). Tumber and Prentoulis considers objectivity as a procedure, “it is a means to that end, not an end in itself”; in other words, to be objective you don’t need to be accurate in covering rather than following the accepted procedures of the journalistic community. For instance, if the journalist aim is to approach the truth he needs to be impartial, but that does not necessarily imply that the means he used are objective (Tumber and Prentoulis, 2003). However, Rodgers in his book ‘Reporting conflict’ (2012) refuses the practice of objectivity as a rule that some journalists follow without considerations of values and
principles of journalism morals; he stated that it was surprising how his journalist colleagues were willing to accept what the spin-doctors told them in covering British politics.

On the opposite, “the word bias refers to showing an unjustified favoritism toward something or someone” (Levasseur, 2008). Thus, on a journalistic level, media bias refers to the media exhibiting an unjustifiable favoritism as they cover the news. It occurs when a media outlet reports a news story in a partial or prejudiced manner.

In terms of Israel–Palestine news coverage there is a vast body of literature on Western framing of the Israel–Palestine conflict, where most studies point to biased coverage which gives prominence to Israeli perspectives and marginalizes Palestinian perspectives (see Elmasry et al., 2013; Friel and Falk, 2007; Philo, 2012; Richardson and Barkho, 2009). On the contrast, few English-language studies have focused on Arab media shaping of the Israel–Palestine conflict, where results showed that Arab news outlets give more voice to Palestinian perspectives than Israeli ones, and portray Palestinians as victims of Israeli aggression (Elmasry et al., 2013). However, the researches relatively suggest that Arab news coverage tends to lack objectivity in its reporting of the issues, nearly always providing its news against Israel and in favor of the Palestinians (ibid).

3.2 Media and ideology

Van Dijk (2006) theorizes that group members would use language, text or communication, in order to express their ideologies. In the same context, Bazzi, (2009) suggests that language use in media discourse production can be shaped by the communicative situation and context it’s used in.

“In times of conflict media discourse can be politically sensitive, where it’s influenced by the ideological acknowledgment between the dominant and the dominated groups” (Baidoun, 2014). This explains how the media context is manipulated easily through the ideological layers of representations: context and identity. It also has the possibility to legitimize the ideological positions of in groups and out groups (ibid).

In case of conflict reporting ideologies are more explicit than usual, as individuals mostly gain their ideologies from the discourse of ideologues (Baidoun, 2014), e.g., a journalist
who supports Israelis will refer to the air strikes on Gaza as an act of Defense; while to the journalists who supports Palestinians will refer to them as terrorist attacks (ibid).

3.3 Understanding Ideologies through discourse

“Discourse means are socially shared and acquired by the mental dimensions that are embedded in social situations and structures” (Baidoun, 2014). In other words, the study of ideas should be compatible with the experience it was formed on (ibid).

The term ideology was first coined by Antoine Destutt de Tracy in the years after the French Revolution, referring to a new science of idea- “idea-logy” (Richardson, 2007). However, Richardson suggests that ‘Ideology is not just any system of ideas or believes, but ways of thinking in which historically transient exploitative forms of social organization or social realities are represented as eternal, natural, or rational.’

Moreover, the role of Ideologies can be understood through the relationships between cognition, society and discourse (van Dijk, 1998). To what extent, van Dijk (2006) theorizes that social groups can express their ideologies through means of discourse. However, van Dijk refers to discourse as not only ideologically based social practice, but more as a major factor in the creation and distribution of ideologies. Van Dijk (2006) considers that context models can change discourses to make sure they are socially suitable for the audience. Thus, “context models can be ideologically biased depending on the social context such as the lexical choices used in discourse” (Baidoun, 2014).
Methodology Chapter

In this chapter I introduce the methods I adopted in order to answer the research questions. Moreover, I illustrate the main principles of CDA as a critical element to analyze the social actors in different contexts, aiming to reveal the power and ideology hidden in the media texts (Richardson, 2007). I also emphasis on Wodak’s (2009) Discourse Historical Approach and the representation of social actor by Van Leeuwen (2008) and the argumentation strategy offered by krzyzanowski (2010), which were adopted by Baidoun A. in her previous research on media discourse during Gaza conflict in 2014.

3.4 CDA principles

Richardson (2007) explains the discourse analysis as a theory and a method to analyze the way that individuals or institutions use the language, which indicates analyzing texts in relation their social context. It reveals the embedded relation between language use and power (Baidoun, 2014). CDA in this context offers understanding of the news gatekeepers' (Journalists) intent when producing news framing Palestinians or Israelis, as well as perceptions of the news distributed to worldwide audiences especially in the Middle East(Wodak & Meyer, 2001).

The discourse as a research method can provide information the attitudes or the goals of various groups within society (van Dijk, 1996). Accordingly, “CDA deals mainly with three concepts: power, history and ideology” (Baidoun, 2014). In short, “Ideology is enhanced and established through language, but CDA methods used to uncover it are normally ambiguous” (Barkho, 2011).

3.5 The key concepts of historical approach

Wodak (2009) explains discourse as a macro-topic on CDA, which deals mainly with the context of social action. Thus, the historical approach analysis studies the setting and context of the empirical text (Baidoun, 2014). In other words, DHA tries to examine the elements used to link between text and discourse in a historical context of reception
(Baidoun, 2014). Relatively, in the case of IPC the articles must be interpreted and studied with considerations of the historical context.

The discourse-historical studies the relation between the textual analysis and its contexts of discourse production and its social context, as it highlights the unequal distribution of power through acknowledgment of the political contexts background and the history behind a specific discursive action, (Baidoun, 2014).

I will use the following key principles of DHA, which are defined in brief:

**-Text and discourse:**
It is crucial to distinguish between texts and discourse. According to Wodak’s definition, text is the physical product, while discourse is defined through the process and the meaning which are derived from the reader’s interaction with the text (Baidoun, 2014).

**-Recontextualization and intertextuality:**
Intertextuality concept is explained through the process of linking of specific texts in the present with others in the past (Baidoun, 2014).

The term recontextualization refers for a change in the meaning, or in the communicative purpose. In brief, the recontextualization constitutes the process of taking an argument and restating it in a new context (Wodak and Krzyzanowski, 2008).

**-Interdiscursivity:**
The interdiscursivity shows that different discourses in different topics are related to each other (Baidoun, 2014). Hence, the analysis of discourse depends on the context where it's used, as the representation of social actors is shaped by means of discursive strategies and social practices (ibid).

### 3.6 Elements of the Analysis

Based on Wodak’s DHA and van Leeuwen’s approach of the representation of social actors, the analysis I adopt will take two phases; the first will deal with the thematic analysis and the second will take in depth approach.
3.6.1 The Entry-level analysis (Thematic analysis):

I use krzyzanowski’s (2010) approach for thematic analysis of topics in media texts. The thematic analysis (entry-level analysis) outlines the diversity of topics discussed in the empirical material. Moreover, as it’s a process of decoding meanings of texts, the thematic analysis can guide for the inductive analysis, and it help to order the topics and discourses into lists of key themes and sub-themes (Baidoun, 2014). Hence, in my thematic analysis the key topics for each network articles will be outlined, and classified in a table for main topics and sub-topics.

3.6.2 In depth Analysis:

The in-depth analysis mainly focuses on distinguishing between the key topics of discourse, in order to figure out how texts and discourses are shaped by the political contexts (Baidoun, 2014).

According to Baidoun the DHA offers 4 layers of context:

- The linguistic social variables
- The history of texts
- The intertextual and interdiscursive relationships between texts, genres and discourses
- The frame of specific context of a situation

Texts are shaped by means of the discursive strategies as social practices which utilized to serve political or social aims (Baidoun, 2014). Sometimes they are explicit such as the positive self-representation in the press articles; by using strategies such as justification/legitimization of inclusion/exclusion. However, in table 1, I list some types the discursive strategies suggested by Wodak (2001) which were used through the analysis phase:
### Table 1: description of the tools of the discursive strategies suggested by Wodak (2001), source: (Baidoun, 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy used</th>
<th>Tool</th>
<th>Aim</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intensification, mitigation</td>
<td>marginalizing or intensifying the actions by one group</td>
<td>Classifying the status of an assumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nomination</td>
<td>Membership categorization, Metaphors</td>
<td>Constructing of in or out groups through the texts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argumentation</td>
<td>Topos utilized</td>
<td>Justifying the negative or the positive attributions of social groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perspectivation</td>
<td>Utterances, quotations, Narrations</td>
<td>The involvement of the author’s perspectives through the narration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Topos**

Furthermore, the analysis emphasizes on the means of (Topoi), which refers to the types of argumentation strategies used for the purpose of justifying positive and negative attributors Wodak (2009). Through studying means of argumentation, the analysis will try to link between the discourse topics and the deployed topos. In addition, analysis will focus mainly on topoi and related elements of argumentation such as threat, danger, numbers, humanization and defense (Baidoun, 2014).

**3.6.3 The role of Social actors**

For further linguistic investigation, I will also use Van Leeuwen approach for the representation of social actors in discourse. This approach might be useful for answering some linguistic questions such as; which side of the story was narrated? Who is accused to be the source of violence? Or how can the author use words in purpose to gain the empathy towards the victims of one side? (Baidoun, 2014). Here are some elements of van Leeuwen’s (2008) method for analyzing the representation of social actors:

- **Inclusion/Exclusion:** In this element, social actors in the text are either backgrounded (de-emphasized) or foregrounded (emphasized) in order to serve some social or political aims.

- **Suppression:** it occurs when Social actors are removed or omitted in purpose of highlighting or hiding some other social actors.
• Role allocation: during the role allocation social actors are presented as active participants, or otherwise be passivated, leading for positive or negative presentation in the incident.

• Functionalization: it happens when social actors are outlined or attributed according to what they do.

• Impersonalisation: this element can be deployed through abstraction or objectivation of social actors. While objectivation refers to social actors as a place or thing.

Baidoun (2014) suggested in her thesis about analyzing the Gaza war in 2014 that these tools of analysis were attributed as “the most applicable tools” on examining media articles in times of conflicts, in order to understand the ideologies of specific media source (Baidoun, 2014).

3.7 Sample

To answer the research question, a critical discourse analysis will be carried out comparing Al-Jazeera English and BBC World broadcast coverage of the declaration by Trump in December 2017 about recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel in context of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, and the corresponding period of relative crisis in Jerusalem in particular and all over the world in general. AJE, like the BBC, broadcasts in English. Both broadcasters use the same language but provide two different versions of truth. The communicative event is packaged in different ways in order to represent the broadcasters’ views of the world. But little do we know about how the two broadcasters narrate their news. This study tries to unwrap this packaging and the ideology behind it.

3.7.1 AJE

Both AJA and AJE belong to the Al Jazeera network, with AJA being the Arabic language broadcast, which was launched in 1996, and AJE being the English language broadcast, aimed at an international audience. AJE was launched in 2006, 10 years after AJA.

The decision to select the Al Jazeera network as part of the research data is because it is one of the leading regional providers of Arab broadcast news, because of its positions of
influence within Arab media in the Middle East, and since it has unique political leanings especially for the Palestinian cause (Elmasry et al., 2013).

Al Jazeera is Qatar-owned which in turn plays a role in the conflict where it was accused by many regional countries for supporting Hamas against Israelis. Moreover, ALJ has been accused of taking anti-American and anti-Israeli tones (Elmasry et al., 2013). It is important to know how stations with major sway over Arab public opinion cover the IPC. Such an analysis is especially important given the Arab and world generally in case of AJE sympathetic view towards the plight of Palestine.

It is expected that Al Jazeera will support Palestinian positions and be critical towards Israeli actions. What is of interest here, though, is discover how they express Palestinian support through the discourse and the language used in the news reports.

3.7.2 BBC

The same issue is interpreted for the choice of BBC world news. First and foremost the huge status of BBC news in the British media which in turn has big role in the Middle East, and the fact that ‘Historic Palestine’ was subject to the British Mandate, means that Britain has been a key player in the region (Elmasry et al., 2013). Secondly, the British press enjoys a prestigious status across the world and in the Middle East in particular. Additionally, the British press continues to dedicate articles and analysis to the conflict, which are cited in the Middle East and throughout the world.

According to the Guardian newspaper, BBC is rated as UK's top source for news with a percentage of 34% of adults turning to BBC1 channel. On a global level the BBC website is regarded as the most popular online destination, used by 52% of people who go online, against 19% of people who use Facebook and 10% who turned to twitter for online news updates. To what extent, BBC is trusted as media platform for huge audiences all over the world; in other words its coverage and outlets plays a role in changing people visions or images about political conflicts and representation of ethnics.

AJE, like the BBC, broadcasts in English. Both broadcasters use the same language but provide two different versions of truth. The communicative event is packaged in different ways in order to represent the broadcasters’ views of the world. But little do we know about how the two broadcasters package their news. This study tries to unwrap this packaging and the ideology behind it.
Concerning sampling in CDA, Mautner (2008, p. 35) recommends to use a cyclical process instead of random sampling (Baidoun, 2014). Accordingly, the sample consists of 8 press articles (divided as 4 from each network) with 4 different news focus, collected within the period of 5th-22th of December 2017.

I collected my sample using the online search through the search service in the news outlets, using such keywords as: Jerusalem, Israel, Palestine, December, Trump, US and UN; the period of major crisis within December, 2017, where the declaration took place at the 6th of the same month.

The study investigates the news articles broadcasted on the news websites. The analysis focus on the language use and communication throughout the articles published before, during, and after the week of the declaration as they represents the period of big crisis covered by media, regarding the reactions of people in Arab world, as well as the US and Israel and other countries involved in this conflict. Moreover, the study involves the AJE’s and the BBC’s portraying of the Israelis and Palestinians through comparing the different narratives for the same incidents. Through the elements of analysis -explained in methodology chapter- the study will try to analyze the means of argumentation and the discursive strategies the author of the article used to convey specific ideologies and concepts.
4 Analysis and Results

As I explained before, I’m using the CDA as my methodology, with a focus on Wodak’s discourse historical approach and van Leeuwen’s approach of the representation of social actors, where this method is been used mostly for studies analyzing the representation of Israeli-Palestinian conflict in media (Baidoun, 2014). Moreover, the CDA used in this study will take three-dimensional methods. The first one consisted of entry level analysis or the thematic analysis. The second will analyze the discursive strategies employed in discourses, including argumentation strategies. The third and last will examine the means of the representation of social actors hidden in the texts, (Baidoun, 2014).

4.1 Thematic Analysis:

As I mentioned in the Methodology chapter, the entry level of the analysis focuses on outlining the topics found on the articles. These topics summarize the most important information found during the thematic structure of texts (Baidoun, 2014).

In the following tables the key topics of the each network (BBC and AJE) articles were outlined for main and sub-topics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discourse Topics</th>
<th>Article 1</th>
<th>Article 2</th>
<th>Article 3</th>
<th>Article 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main discourse topic</td>
<td>Erdogan warns Trump’s against recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel</td>
<td>Trump recognizes Jerusalem as Israel’s capital</td>
<td>EU supports the two-state solution with Jerusalem as the capital of both parties</td>
<td>UN calling on US to withdraw its recognition of Jerusalem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-topics</td>
<td>• No country has recognizes Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem</td>
<td>• Jerusalem status will affect the peace process</td>
<td>• EU would not recognize the city as Israel's capital before a peace agreement</td>
<td>• Trump warned to cut financial aid to those who backed the resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Ties between Israel and Turkey has been restored last year after six years, because of their support for Palestinians</td>
<td>• Palestinians claim East Jerusalem as the capital of a future state</td>
<td>• US announcement sparked worldwide protests</td>
<td>• Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem has never been recognized internationally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Jerusalem issue is the heart of the IPC, due to religious reasons</td>
<td>• International society don’t recognize Jerusalem as part of Israel</td>
<td>• Palestinians threw stones at Israeli soldiers</td>
<td>• Netanyahu rejects the results of the vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Most of world leaders didn’t support the decision</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Jerusalem issue goes to the heart of IPC, due to religious reasons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2: Thematic Analysis of BBC network articles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discourse Topics</th>
<th>Article 1</th>
<th>Article 2</th>
<th>Article 3</th>
<th>Article 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main discourse topics</td>
<td>Turkey warn to cut ties with Israel</td>
<td>Trump recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel</td>
<td>EU has rejected Netanyahu’s call</td>
<td>UN rejects Trump’s Jerusalem move</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-topics</td>
<td>• The recognition is symbolized by moving the embassy from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem</td>
<td>• Israel occupied East Jerusalem in 1967</td>
<td>• EU sees the two-state solution as the only path to resolving the IPC</td>
<td>• Trump warned to eliminate financial aid to member states who would vote against his decision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• No country has recognized Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem</td>
<td>• Jerusalem issue constitutes the heart of the IPC, due to religious reasons</td>
<td>• Netanyahu expects most of Euro countries to move their embassies to Jerusalem</td>
<td>• Palestinian leaders called the vote a victory for Palestine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The plan has drawn criticism from world leaders</td>
<td>• Jerusalem move was a promise Trump made before</td>
<td>• Euro leaders see that the move enflaming tension in the region</td>
<td>• US would move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Israel claims the city as its capital</td>
<td>• No other country keeps an embassy in Jerusalem</td>
<td>• EU rejects Trump’s decision</td>
<td>• Palestine leadership warned that Jerusalem move would end of the peace process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Palestinians have long seen East Jerusalem as the capital of their future state</td>
<td>• Palestinians consider this step as an end to peace process</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: Thematic Analysis of BBC network articles

The thematic analysis here shows how the two networks have shared similar topical structure approaches but with slight differences in the shape of information presented in the sub-topics which will be discussed through the in-depth analysis.

The topics shaded in grey where shared in both articles of AJE and BBC; among them there where two common discourse topics, *No country has recognizes Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem*, and *Jerusalem issue constitutes the heart of the IPC, due to religious reasons*. Additionally, the repeating of the same key topics throughout the articles, which is described as recontextualization was notable between the articles form the two networks. For example BBC uses the words like Palestinians, claim and avoid using the word Palestine. The same issue is found in AJE articles as they used the statement: “Israel claims the city as its capital”, with referring to Palestinians as “they have long seen East Jerusalem as the capital of their future state.”
4.2 In depth analysis

After I present how the topics from the entry-level analysis are discussed in each news media network; I sum up most common topoi and the discursive strategies used to highlight the social or political linguistic goal which is hidden in the texts, (see more in Methodology Chapter).

4.2.1 The Discursive Strategies

a) Prediction and Nomination

The Nomination is defined as the act of constructing the in and out groups, while prediction strategies is explain where social actors are labeled less or more negatively or positively” (Baidoun, 2014). Both networks have used this strategy throughout media articles, especially in AJE. For example; the word “occupation” and “occupied territories”, where used by default throughout AJE articles for the attribution of Israelis, with avoidance of labeling them as “state of Israel”, and portrayed them as the enemy and out group. Moreover, phrases such “Israel’s annexed the territory” and “Israel claims the city as its capital” appears in AJE reports through the narration of the declaration political dimensions, where negative representation was offered for Israelis; compared to phrase such “the Palestinians see it as their future capital” and “Palestine see the rejection of the decision as Victory” where used for the purpose of positive representation of Palestinian and portraying them as in-group.

To take an opposite example; the phrases: “Israel regards Jerusalem as its eternal capital, while Palestinians claim East Jerusalem..” and “the Israel’s conflict with Palestinians who are backed by..”, were used frequently all along BBC articles. Where they illustrate how the Israel were framed positively over the Palestinians who were presented as the other individuals who claim the city as their capital, and regarded them as an enemy and out-group. BBC also used more Nomination and Prediction strategies for negative representation of Palestinians, where the attribution of “Isalmist” and as “Isalmist group” was alienated when Gaza leaders or Hamas Group is mentioned through the text, compared to AJE which regards them as “Hamas Fighters” or “Leaders”.
**b) Intensification, Mitigation:**

According to Baidoun (2014), intensification and mitigation are mostly used in conflict reporting. They are applied in order to intensify the casualties and destruction of the in-groups, and marginalize the sufferings of the out-groups. One example through the articles shows the disparity between the two networks. On 11th December BBC reported: “dozens of Palestinians threw stones at Israeli soldiers.”, while in the same event AJE report was: “Israeli forces fired stun grenades and tear gas as they charged through a crowd of peaceful demonstrators”, with a headline of “Palestinians killed in protests against Jerusalem move”.

The example illustrates how BBC have ignored to mention the Israeli reaction to the Palestinians with intention to present the soldiers as causalities of the other terrorists, while on the contrary AJE have framed the Palestinians as the innocent causalities who were attacked for being peacefully protest, and charged the Israeli soldiers for illegal killing with no mercy. In the same incidents, BBC reported that “Palestinian militants in Gaza fired a rocket into Israel, and the Israeli military said it responded with air strikes”, while AJE ignored to mention this action from the Palestinians in the same news. Opposite to the BBC reports which have marginalized the Israeli response against the Palestinian to reduce the danger and justify the airstrikes as an act of self-defense.

**c) Perspectivation**

The perspective strategy is used to involve the author opinion through the text. Perspectivation was salient in the texts of the two media outlets. It was notable through the author’s choice for the news focus and quotes, especially the ones covering the protests and clashes between both sides of the conflict. For instance AJE used this strategy to intensify the Israeli attacks against the Palestinians in their articles. On the other side BBC used the same strategy to highlight the Israeli perspective over the Palestinian. These strategies were obvious through the narration of Jerusalem cause, where AJE used the phrase “Israelis proclaims Jerusalem as their capital, and Palestinian have long seen it as their future capital”. The example here illustrates how the author wasn’t neutral, where he or she decided to describe and narrate the Palestinian side of the story.
On the contrast, BBC used the phrase: “Palestinian claims East Jerusalem to be their capital, while Israel regards Jerusalem...” throughout all the articles, where it highlighted the Israeli side’s provision and story of the state of Jerusalem. Moreover, it was notable how BBC articles used Palestinian statements or quotes only when they are threatening, while they have used Israeli statements more positive and peaceful discourse. For example BBC reported in article 2, under the headline of “What do Israel and the Palestinians say?” as followed:

- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said it was a historic day, and Israel was profoundly grateful to President Trump. "Jerusalem has been the focus of our hopes, our dreams, our prayers for three millennia," he tweeted.

- Mr Abbas, the Palestinian leader, earlier warned of "dangerous consequences" through a spokesman, a sentiment echoed by other Arab leaders, who said there could be unrest. 

Also: Hamas said that Mr Trump's decision would "open the doors of hell" on US interests in the region.

Moving forward to AJE where the prespectivation strategy use in the articles is the opposite. The AJE reports in the same event have used more quotes and statements from the Palestinian side, such as quoting spokesman for Palestinian President, with reducing the presence of the Israeli side hater speech. These are number of statements and comments on ‘the UN resolution to reject Jerusalem Move’ where the editor or author of AJE articles used to show support and empathy with the Palestinian side:

- "This decision reaffirms once again that the just Palestinian cause enjoys the support of international community".
- "It's a day of shame to those who stood shoulder to shoulder with the occupation and settlements against international law".
- Al Jazeera's senior political analyst, called the result of the General Assembly vote a "great humiliation for the US".
- “Today, the international community once again showed that dignity and sovereignty are not for sale. #Turkey #Palestine and all other co-sponsors thank every country that supported #UNGA resolution on Palestine.”

**d) Argumentation and Topos**

Using means of Topoi- the strategy of argumentation deals mainly with the justification of positive or negative attributions (Baidoun, 2014). Through the 8 articles different types
of topoi were deployed to justify the actions and attributions of specific side. In the following table examples of each type of topos used through articles of both networks:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media sources</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Topoi used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BBC</td>
<td>- Palestinians threw stones at Israeli soldier</td>
<td>Danger, Threat, defense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Palestinian fired a rocket into Israel, - the Israeli military said it responded with air strikes and tank fire targeting a position of Hamas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Since 1967, Israel has built a dozen settlements, home to about 200,000 Jews, in East Jerusalem</td>
<td>Number, Humanization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- protests in response to a call from the Islamist Hamas movement</td>
<td>Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AJE</td>
<td>- Israeli forces killed four Palestinian protesters</td>
<td>Humanization, Danger, Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- an 18-year-old Palestinian shot by the Israeli military</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- protests are in response to US recognition</td>
<td>Responsibility, Defense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Adam allegedly attempted to attack Israeli forces</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 4: Examples of Topos used in articles**

Table 4 illustrate with examples the both media networks have similarly used means of topos, in order to justify the positive or negative attribution of Palestinians or Israelis side of conflict. For instance, BBC published on 11th December, as followed:

- “Since 1967, Israel has built a dozen settlements, home to about 200,000 Jews, in East Jerusalem. These are considered illegal under international law, though Israel disputes this.”

In this example, the author of the article used the arguments of numbers and humanization, to reach a conclusion that Jews have settled there for long time with this big number, so this justify this illegal situation in East Jerusalem.

In contrast, AJE have used the topos of number of number and humanization, for the purpose of highlighting the Israeli violation against Palestinians. For example, AJE reported on 15th December:

- “Israeli forces killed four Palestinian protesters”
- “an 18-year-old Palestinian shot by the Israeli military”

The example how the author utilized the topos on number, where it emphasized the number of Palestinian causalities compared to the “Israeli forces”. The number here
illustrates how the confrontation between the two parties was unfair, with only causalities from the week side. Moreover, in the second statement the number was used for the same purpose, where the Palestinians were the weak side with no arms and for no clear reasons. In addition to “the age of 18 years old”, the word “protests” was used, by means of humanization topoi, the author tended to show the weakness and peacefulness of Palestinians against the prejudiced enemy.

The same paradox shows up in the use of argumentation of responsibility, where AJE reported that “protests are in response to US recognition”. In the example the author put the responsibility on ‘the US recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital’, as the stimulant for the protesters, and accordingly the violation against the Palestinian side. On the other side, the BBC narration for the same incident was different. The BBC stated that: “protests were in response to Hamas call”. Here the author or editor of the BBC article used responsibility means of topoi, to put the blame on Hamas for the later violations. Moreover, BBC utilized on the topoi of threat and danger through texts, for example these sentences used the argumentation of threat and danger. BBC reported that: “Palestinians threw stones at Israeli soldiers”, also “Palestinian fired a rocket into Israel, - and the Israeli military said it responded with air strikes and tank fire targeting a position of Hamas”.

The Palestinians were presented as a moving terror or danger towards the borders that form a threat to the peace in the state of Israel. Hence, the Israeli forces had the right to defend their state and stop this violation from this people.

4.2.2 The Representation of Social Actors

For further investigation I use this approach which will help to answer on some linguistic questions; regarding which side of the story was narrated? , who is accused to be the source of violence? Or how can the author use words in purpose to gain the empathy towards the victims of one side? For answering these questions, I use of the following tools:

a) Inclusion/ exclusion: This tool is utilized in media articles where social actors are foregrounded (emphasized), other are background (de-emphasized). In AJE, the author foregrounded the Israeli forces, and presented them as the actors who commit violation against Palestinians which foregrounded as victims. Examples included:
“Israeli forces violently crack down on Palestinian protesters”, “Two Palestinians died after being shot by Israeli forces”. Though it’s important to mention that AJE author here ignored to report some of the Palestinians’ violent actions; such as the action of firing rockets from Gaza towards Israel, which was reported by BBC for the same incident. Moreover, BBC’s narration for Jerusalem issue adopted the Israeli version as following:

“Israel regards Jerusalem as its "eternal and undivided" capital, while the Palestinians claim East Jerusalem - occupied by Israel since 1967 - as the capital of a future Palestinian state.” (BBC, December 11th, 2017)

This is an example illustrates how the author has foregrounded the Israeli perspective for Jerusalem city over the Palestinian with back grounding for the Palestinian version of the same story. Additionally, unlike BBC, AJE foregrounded the Palestinian officials and spokesman, or others statement that support Palestinians, and put them in the forehead of the articles. **Suppression:** This element defines where social actors are being suppressed or omitted from the sentence. For example; by using passive voice, or deleting the subject. Throughout the corpora of articles, this tool was used twice by AJE. On Dec.15th. “Palestinians killed in protests against Jerusalem move” and “The death toll has risen to four”. The subject here was omitted, in purpose of making the audience to assume that the reason for the sufferance and violence in this context is the Israeli side.
b) **Role allocation:** this tool used for the false representation of characters either as victims or as criminals. Role allocation was mostly used in the articles of AJE, as it formed the Israelis as active actors in the recent conflicts over Jerusalem. On the contrary, the BBC article presented Palestinians as the active actors while Israelis were given the passive voice.

![Diagram of role allocation in analyzed articles]

"In the West Bank, dozens of Palestinians threw stones at Israeli soldiers" ➔ "The Palestinians claim East Jerusalem as the capital of a future state"

"Palestinians killed in protests against Jerusalem move" ➔ "Israel claims the city as its capital, following the occupation of East Jerusalem in the 1967 war"

**Figure 1:** Summary of role allocation in the Analyzed Articles

c) **Functionalization and Impersonalisation:** “It is the tool that indicates whether the social actors are being dehumanized by either abstraction or objectivation” (Baidoun, 2014). Functionalization deals with the presentation of social actors, in terms of what they do. AJE dehumanized the Israelis by constantly associating them with a violent activity as they were represented in their articles as “Israeli forces”. Moreover, AJE referred to the Israelis as “occupation” and “Israeli forces or military” in purpose to dehumanize the Israeli individuals who are serving their army and frame them as only forces or militants who attacks or kill Palestinians. On the other hand, BBC used words such as “Islamists”, “Islamist group” and “Palestinian militants” to refer to Hamas group and Palestinians, rather referring to them as humans. The attribution means here that Palestinians and Hamas are no longer referred to as humans but by the actions they do. In addition, BBC alienated the Palestinians in their articles with terror activities, or threatens; e.g.: “Palestinians threw stones at Israeli soldiers”;
“Palestinian militants in Gaza fired a rocket into Israel”. In contrast to AJE articles that referred to Palestinian victims with (name and age), For example:

“An 18-year-old Palestinian, Muhammad Amin Agel al-Adam, died after being shot by the Israeli military during Friday protests near the West Bank city of Ramallah.” AJE, 15 Dec 2017

5 Conclusion

This study had several purposes. The objective of comparing the two international powerful media outlets, who supposed to be neutral, was to find out the impact of ideologies on the production of their media discourses. Moreover, the study aimed to discover of the role of media in portraying the image of the Palestinians and Israelis in the recent issue of Jerusalem conflict.

The results showed that both networks were media bias towards one side of the IPC conflict.

“People can understand a discourse only if they are able to construct a model for it” (Baidoun, 2014). Relatively, news on the IPC forms a basis of context models, where media articles describes the events or actors more or less negatively or positively, depending on their ideologies” (Baidoun, 2014).

The thematic analysis for the two networks shows that both media outlets have used similar heading and similar approaches to the news stories. While the in-depth analysis reveals the differences through the use of language and discourse. For example the analysis has showed that the two networks similarly have used multiple discursive strategies, such as nomination and prespectivation, in purposes to achieve the media goals and convey specific ideologies for their audiences. In addition, the analysis of argumentation strategies in the texts was essential for building the identity and aims of the media network (Baidoun, 2014). “These topoi constructed the belief Palestinians are the victim of this conflict, and framed them only as causalities of the Israeli violation” (ibid).

Furthermore, it was important to understand the ideologies both networks follow in order to figure out the reasons behind the differences in media approaching for the IPC. The Context models reveal the relationship between the analyzed articles and ideology, where
the network’s author makes sure that the content is socially appropriate for its target audience (van Dijk, 2006).

BBC as a British Broadcasting Corporation is assumed to be the main reason for the media bias pro the Israeli side of the conflict (see the discretion of Empirical material). While, the political context of Al Jazeera as a Qatari network in the Middle East who has foreign ties with the Palestinians (Rabbani, 2012), is also assumed to be the main influencer for shaping the ideology of the network in terms of the negative representation of Israelis and construct them as the enemy who commit violence against Palestinians.

“If by politics we here understand the institutional practices of individuals or organizations holding power, including the tensions and alliances between them, as well as the processes of governance that implement and maintain social practices and disseminate the beliefs that support them, then it is clear that, today, the power of governments is increasingly shared between government and the media, and increasingly shifting from government to private capital, with complex relations of mutual dependence and complex tensions between these three.”, stated Machin and van Leeuwen (2016)

Consequently, the comparative critical discourse analysis between the two news sources confirmed the theory of (Richardson 2007) where governments and powerful sections have the possibility to influence the media outlets. In turn the international and the national media are quite important tools in the conflict, offering different discourses for the same story.

To conclude, the analysis has pointed out that each network follow different ideology in terms of the representation of the Israelis and the Palestinians. Thus, the media bias of BBC pro-Israelis and AJE as pro- Palestinians was assumed to be related to their political ideologies and contexts.

According to the previous researches (see literature review), the results were expected to be as they are. This is what Levasseur (2008) suggested as the definition of media bias, where BBC and Al Jazeera networks have expressed their favoritism towards one side on the conflict. However, “Journalists are gatekeepers of truth” White (1950). Both media outlets have not followed the main rule and moral of reporting conflicts, which is “Objectivity”. The rule of objectivity in reporting the conflict involves the correspondents (journalists) to keep their striving for their political and religious views, cultural prejudice or even their financial interests for one part, from influencing their coverage of the
conflict (Rodgers, 2012, p 47). Rather, we see that they have used this rule in descriptive manner, where they considered the objectivity as a procedure that is seized to reach an end, not a truth (Tumber and Prentoulis, 2003). To what extent, the two networks introduced two versions of reality to reach some ideological aims, rather than investigating the truth behind all this.

As a researcher first, and a Palestinian second, I suggest that this practices from media producers (rather to be pro or against Palestinians), is definitely not helping to resolve the conflict. On opposite, the media bias misleads the international public understanding of the truth behind this conflict. The Palestinian side, which is the weaker side in this (conflict), has suffered for years because of the misrepresentation (Roy, 2013). Accordingly, I concluded that media has the greatest in role in resolving or complicating the conflicts. For sake of truth, I would say that media should commit more for the morals of journalism and to be more neutral and objective in reporting.

For my reader, who is curious to know the reality behind any conflict, I would advise for not following the media news representation of any part. On the other hand, I recommended the documentary research’s, where the writer focus more on providing factual reports based on history and deep investigation for the shared information all based in official and real evidences in a scientific methods(Ahmed, 2010).
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