The Coverage of Bahraini Newspaper for Environmental Issues

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master Degree in Mass Media

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Abstract

The purpose of the researcher’s study was to identifying the extent of coverage of environmental issues in the Bahraini Newspaper in relation to the elements: size, location, usage of images and colors, usage of highlights, coverage framework, sources, journalism templates used, and also the geographical dimensions in the light of the list of environmental issues that is adopted and approved by The Supreme Council for the Environment in December 2015. The researcher drives from the theoretical framework that the relationship between the community institutions is based on integration where he measured the extent by which the press achieved publications and delivery of the Bahraini communications messages to the public in a period of one year for two newspapers: Akhbar Al-Khaleej and Alayam. This covered 365 issues, which will total to 23,360 pages. The results came with clear indications, as there were only 749 environmental subjects in this large number of pages, where 66% of it in the size of two columns and less than quarter of a page, and 75% of it published in internal pages. Also more than 64% of it were short news that does not offer any kind of depth to showing or explaining environmental issues. The researcher recommended that The Supreme Council for the Environment issues an Environmental Charter to be a framework that will regulates the process of increasing the attention of the environmental issues in the Bahraini Local Newspapers to insure the coverage of the important environmental issues. In addition, a yearly report of press compliance with this Charter is to be issued to generate clear indications, by which it can be used to measure, compare and improve. The researcher also recommended on obliging a role for The Society of Bahraini Journalism in this matter, to coordinate with The Supreme Council for Environment to provide special training programs for some Journalist to provide them with the needed skills and training to write in the environment field. It will also be beneficial to train the environmental experts and specialist with the needed skills to provide the information to the journalist or write on their on to insure the contribution in delivering of the Environmental media message to decision-makers and the rest of the readers.