

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53974

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Title : The Betrayal of Journalistic Expression in Contemporary Reality: A Study in Light of Scriptural Texts and Maqāṣid al-Sharʿah, Compared with International Standards.” ”

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality	✓			
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr.Abdul Hameed Shah

Reviewer's Comments for Publication

Research Objectives

- Define betrayal in journalism in light of Sharīʿah and scholarly discourse.
- Identify contemporary forms of media betrayal (e.g., manipulation, rumor, blackmail, defamation).
- Specify Sharīʿah-based regulations to balance freedom of expression with responsibility.
- Compare international media ethics with Sharīʿah principles.
- Propose a Sharīʿah-compliant **media charter**.

Significance of the Study

1. **Global & Practical:** Addresses misinformation, fake news, and ethical violations in media.
2. **Sharīʿah-Based:** Grounds media ethics in Qurʾānic injunctions and Prophetic traditions.
3. **Scientific:** Fills gaps in research on journalistic betrayal and Islamic media ethics.
4. **Maqāṣidī Perspective:** Protects society and values through ethical communication.
5. **Societal Impact:** Raises awareness of credibility, transparency, and public trust.

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Key Terms

- **Freedom of Expression:** Right to express opinions, limited by Sharī'ah and ethical responsibility.
- **Journalistic Expression:** Dissemination of information that impacts public opinion and social perception.
- **Media Trust (Amānah l'ālamiyyah):** Truthfulness and accuracy in communication.
- **Betrayal of Expression:** Any deviation from truth, honesty, or trust in communication.
- **Media Charter:** Ethical and professional code governing media practice.

Methodology

- **Inductive:** Collecting relevant Sharī'ah texts and contemporary standards.
- **Analytical:** Examining texts, scholarly opinions, and media practices.
- **Comparative:** Assessing convergence and divergence between Sharī'ah and international media standards.

Scope

- **Subject:** Betrayal of journalistic expression only.
- **Spatial:** Islamic world with references to international media.
- **Temporal:** Contemporary era, rooted in established Sharī'ah principles.

Conceptual & Sharī'ah Framework

- **Journalistic Expression:** Not just reporting; it's ethical, social, and cultural, balancing truth, public interest, and responsibility.
- **Betrayal of Expression:** Violation of trust (amanah), measured by Qur'ānic and Prophetic injunctions.

Sharī'ah Texts on Media Betrayal:

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1. **Lying:** Qur'ān Āl 'Imrān:61 – Liars are cursed.
2. **Concealment of Truth:** Al-Baqarah:159 – Hiding truth is a betrayal.
3. **Slander:** Al-Aḥzāb:58 – False accusation is sinful.
4. **Mixing Truth & Falsehood:** Al-Baqarah:42 – Prohibits distortion of facts.
5. **Spreading Discord:** Al-Aḥzāb:58 – Prevents societal harm.

Prophetic Traditions:

- A hypocrite is one who **lies, breaks promises, or betrays trust** (Al-Bukhari).
- Even minor misstatements can lead to severe consequences (Al-Tirmidhi).

Forms of Betrayal in Journalism

1. Distortion of news.
2. Spreading rumors or false information.
3. Mixing opinion with factual reporting.
4. Using media for harmful influence.
5. Selective or misleading presentation of facts.
6. Inciting social or sectarian discord.
7. Defamation and personal attacks.
8. Concealing critical information.

Dual Dimension: Betrayal of Allah and betrayal of society's trust.

Conclusion

- **Journalistic expression is a trust**, constrained by Sharī'ah principles.
- Ethical deviation is both a **religious violation** and a societal betrayal.
- Sharī'ah-based media ethics provide a **framework to align professional journalism with moral and spiritual responsibilities**, ensuring truth, fairness, and societal trust.