

News Construction in Algerian Radio: An Analytical Study of Al-Bahdja Local Station

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Abstract:

This study sheds light on how news is constructed in Algerian radio, using the local Al-Bahdja Radio as a model for analysis. As a medium close to the public, radio not only conveys news but also serves as a platform for awareness, education, and the expression of citizens' concerns. The study focused on analyzing a sample of news bulletins to uncover the nature of the issues at the top of the news agenda. It also monitored the time allocated to events, the sources used in coverage, and the geographical scope of interest. It also examined the news values that govern news selection and the journalistic genres employed in its formulation and broadcast. It also highlighted the influential figures in the bulletins and the prominent role of the communicator in setting media priorities. The results confirm that Al-Bahdja Radio tends to focus on local issues, in harmony with the identity and interests of its audience, while simultaneously contributing to highlighting development initiatives, reflecting its social and communication mission. The study indicated that local media, through radio, remains an effective tool for promoting community belonging and a strategic element in supporting sustainable development at the local and national levels.

Keywords: *Agenda-setting; Algerian radio; Local media; News construction; News values; Radio Bahdja*

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I. INTRODUCTION

Radio is one of the most important communication tools that contributes to building bridges between institutions and society, due to its direct proximity to the public and its ability to address their daily issues. The role of local media goes beyond conveying news and information but extends beyond that to becoming a tool for awareness and education, a platform for expressing citizens' aspirations and concerns, and an effective contribution to preserving cultural identity and strengthening the spirit of community belonging.

Local media also constitute a fundamental element in driving social and economic development by highlighting local initiatives and development challenges. Given this importance, local media, particularly radio, remains a strategic means of strengthening social ties and achieving sustainable development at the local and national levels.

From this perspective, this study aims to uncover the criteria adopted by local radio stations for prioritizing news and addressing local community issues and how Al-Bahja Radio builds its news agenda.

In this study, entitled "The Structure of News in Algerian Radio: An Analytical Study—Al-Bahdja Local Radio—as a Model," we will attempt to analyze news production on local radio and determine the nature of the news it focuses on and whether it takes into account the local aspect. Focusing on the local means respecting and taking into account the specificity of the local radio audience. This is an attempt to get closer to the reality of media work on local radio by presenting a picture of news production at this radio station. As an easily accessible means of communication, radio has built a stable audience over the years, and radio news is considered one of the most watched programs by radio listeners. To this end, this study will rely on an analysis of a sample of the news broadcasts broadcast by Al-Bahdja Local Radio to understand the news construction process and uncover the variables that influence the construction and editing of news broadcasts. This will be done by answering the main question: How does news construction take place on Al-Bahdja Radio, and what is the nature of the news it focuses on in its news broadcasts? This question has been divided into the following sub-questions:

- What issues and topics does Al-Bahja Radio focus on in its news agenda?
- How much time is allocated to the events and issues featured in the news bulletins?
- What sources does Al-Bahja Radio rely on to cover events and issues?
- What geographical area does Al-Bahja Radio focus on in its media coverage?
- How are events and issues arranged in Al-Bahja Radio's news agenda?
- What news values does the radio station under study adopt in selecting the events to broadcast?
- What journalistic genres does Al-Bahja Radio employ to convey events?
- Who are the key figures in the events and issues presented on the radio station under study?

The importance of the study lies in the topic itself. It is considered one of the most important topics that has not received attention—according to the researcher's knowledge—and is particularly important given the shift in the concept of locality in the era of modern communication technologies. Locality is considered a line of defense

adopted by local radio stations. This study attempts to uncover how news is constructed, produced, and broadcast on the local Al-Bahja Radio by answering the study's questions.

II. Methods and Materials:

Since our study examines the construction of news on local radio stations through an analytical study of Al-Bahja Radio to determine how events and issues are organized, and based on the study's problem and questions, our study falls within the category of descriptive studies with an analytical-interpretive approach.

Descriptive studies aim to depict, analyze, and evaluate specific characteristics or a specific situation characterized by specificity, or to study current facts related to the nature of a phenomenon, situation, group of people, or group of events. The aim is to obtain sufficient and accurate information without delving into their causes.

A survey is considered one of the scientific methods appropriate for descriptive studies, which are concerned with collecting facts and extracting their meanings according to the study's objectives. The researcher used the survey in both its aspects to answer the study's two main questions. A content survey was used to identify the nature of the events and issues addressed by Al-Bahja Radio and how they were structured and organized during the study period.

A content analysis survey was used to objectively describe the apparent content of the communication. Regularly and quantitatively, with the aim of determining the foundations of topics and programs presented by the media. In order to avoid a comprehensive survey that requires more time and double effort, the researcher chose the sample survey method as a method that is compatible with the objectives of the study in order to collect and analyze data related to media content, with the aim of accurately describing and measuring the study variables and formulating the results in independent frameworks related to these variables. Therefore, the data collection in this study will be based on the content analysis form.

1. Study Community and Sample

The research community in any study comprises all the elements studied by the researcher, whether audience or media material. This necessitates a thorough understanding of the elements contained in the research community, along with a precise understanding of its internal composition, as this is the basis for the success of sample selection later on (Bin Marsili, 2003).

Sample selection methods in media studies vary according to the specificity of the research into the media phenomenon. In this regard, Awatif Abdul Rahman believes that every researcher has the right to follow the method they deem appropriate for their research, whether by comprehensive enumeration or sampling. There is no ready-made recipe for sample selection that researchers can adhere to without thinking.

However, this does not mean choosing the sample in an ill-considered and irregular manner. Rather, there are criteria defined by researchers on the basis of which the sample can be selected, the most important of which is its compatibility with the

nature of the research, its objectives, and the desired results. Researchers have paid great attention to the issue of sample size when using content analysis, although it is difficult to provide an analysis that encompasses all research and studies. For most cases of content analysis, as Bernard Berelson says, the sample A small sample, carefully selected because its content is related, will provide reliable results similar to those obtained from analyzing a much larger sample (Hijab, 2002).

After carefully examining the types of samples to determine which are most appropriate for the nature of this research and consulting professors and researchers due to the lack of precise scientific rules governing sample selection, especially in the audiovisual field, the researcher decided to select the study sample using the rotation method, also known as the industrial week, to represent all days of the week and give each sample the opportunity to appear in the sample.

The rotation method is used to select a systematic random sample, giving the researcher the flexibility to move the selection by one day in each selection beyond the previous one (Abdul Hamid. 2000). The advantage of this method is that it ensures that days and dates are not repeated. The researchers believe that the rotation method in content analysis research achieves several advantages, including:

- Giving all items an equal opportunity to appear and ensuring that no item is omitted, which would result in bias in the results.
- Using the cycle method helps construct regular artificial periods (one week/two weeks/month), ensuring the same time frame between each item, rather than randomly choosing between days that are close or far apart when constructing these periods, which results in focusing on some items and neglecting others.
- Following this week helps exclude special numbers that may or may not be represented in the periods due to the lack of guaranteed repetition, which affects the research results later.

Thus, the research community in this study is represented by the news bulletins on Al-Bahja Radio, specifically the main bulletin broadcast at noon at 12:00. Given the large number of these bulletins from the start of the radio station's broadcast until the study period, it is impossible to study them all. Therefore, the researcher decided to select a representative sample of the research community in order to study how news bulletins are constructed.

The study period will be only three months (May, June, and July of 2025). Due to the difficulty of a comprehensive and complete enumeration of the research community consisting of 92 news bulletins, we relied in this research on a regular random sample, using the cycle method to suit our study, as it gives an equal opportunity for the days of broadcasting news bulletins to represent the sample and allows us to build and create regular time periods, which makes our analysis of the news objective and effective and leads us to good results, as we randomly chose the first day of the first week of the study to obtain in the end 12 news bulletins.

2. Procedural Concepts of the Study

- **News:** Adeeb Khaddour defines news as the most widely used and popular journalistic genre. It is characterized by information as its primary element and is highly effective, timely, and capable of influencing through facts (Atwan. (2009). It is also defined as media content that makes a judgment about a social, economic, or political issue, based on the assumption of the news' importance to the public (Al-Abd. (2007).

- **News Bulletin:** A news bulletin is defined as a collection of local and international news, including everything related to the activities of the state, the public, and current events at various political, social, cultural, economic, artistic, and scientific levels (Berkowitz . 1997).

Abdul Aziz Sharaf defines a news bulletin as a coverage of daily events, and its purpose is to inform and explain (Atwan. (2009). What distinguishes news bulletins as media content is that they enjoy intense and widespread attention from listeners or viewers, given their connection to their interests and concerns, especially since they have witnessed a remarkable development that has increased their appeal and influence.

In this study, news bulletins refer to media content broadcast at specific times and include events, issues, and topics of interest to broad segments of society. This makes the process of producing bulletins a process of selecting and choosing news that truly interests the receiving audience, constructing it in a way that attracts their attention and prioritizes their interests regarding issues and events.

-**Local Radio:** Abdul Aziz Sharaf defines it as "organized publishing, or broadcasting for entertainment, scrutiny, and other purposes, for simultaneous reception by a dispersed audience consisting of individuals or groups, with appropriate receiving devices" (Sharaf. (1989). As for Muhammad Munir Hijab, he defines it as "the most widespread and popular means of dissemination, and its audience is general at all levels. It can reach its communities, breaking through the barriers of illiteracy, geographical obstacles, and political restrictions that prevent some other messages from reaching their communities. It also does not require full-time dedication.

As an operational definition for the current study, we note that local radio is the media outlet (the local radio station, Al-Bahdja Radio, which was established on October 1, 1990) that is linked to the local community (the capital community that Al-Bahdja Radio reaches) in a geographically limited area (the state of Algiers with its three borders). It addresses the capital community primarily in its language and is concerned with its issues and concerns. It serves a limited and harmonious community in terms of nature and society, a community with similar economic, social, cultural, and religious environmental characteristics, and whose members are united by a special intellectual, cultural, and heritage unity. This radio station (Al-Bahdja Radio) is their natural space for expressing It reflects their interests, their heritage, their ideas, and even their local dialect. It meets their unique and distinct needs, provides news that interests them, mentions places and people they know, and discusses with them the issues that touch the core of their daily lives.

Analytical Framework for the Study

To understand how news broadcast by local radio is structured, the researcher, as previously mentioned, chose to analyze news bulletins during a three-month period (May, June, and July) in 2025, using a probability sample of 12 issues broadcast by Radio Al-Bahja, prepared by journalists working for this local radio station.

- **Note:** It should be noted that the unit of idea was used as a unit of counting and measurement in all analysis categories, whether related to the form categories (except for the time category) or to the content categories.

News Bulletin Analysis

1-Average length of news bulletins

Table (1) : Average Bulletin Length for Three Months

Month	Number of bulletin	Broadcast Time	Average Bulletin Time
May	4	57.20	14.3
June	4	55.45	13.86
July	14	52.55	13.13
Total	12	166	41.29

The source : prepared by the resercher

After analyzing all the bulletins and measuring their time, we concluded that the average bulletin time for three months ranged between 13 and 14 minutes, which is a very suitable time to present radio news. This applies to the definition of a radio news bulletin, which is: "A group of diverse and important news presented to the listener during a period of time that usually ranges between 10 and 15 minutes, because in radio, time is very important to maintain the audience of listeners and not to prolong the presentation, to avoid boredom and to take into account the focus and interests of listeners. Radio, as an audio media, takes into account the appropriate time by shortening the news and presenting it in a quick and eye-catching way that attracts the listener's attention, unlike television, which needs a long time to present the news because it relies on sound and video images

2- Average number of bulletin topics:

Table (2) : Average number of bulletin topics for three months

Month	Number of bulletin	Number of Topics	Average Number
May	4	47	11
June	4	41	10
July	4	43	10
Total	12	131	31

The source : prepared by the resercher

We note from the table above that the number of news topics included in the news bulletins under study, i.e. (12) bulletins selected over three months, amounted to 131 topics. In May, the number of topics reached 47 in four news bulletins, while in June, it reached 41 topics, and in July, 43 topics. The number of topics has been decreasing, but at a slight rate, due to the start of the holiday season and the onset of the summer season, when most workers and employees, including those working in the radio, prefer to take their summer vacations. This could be the reason behind the lack of topics covered in radio news bulletins, due to the shortage of journalists tasked with covering events and preparing field reports and reports

3- Length of the news in the bulletin:

Table (3) : shows the length of the news in all news bulletins.

News Type	Frequency	Percentage
Short news	113	83.70
Medium news	20	14.81
Long news	2	1.48
Total	135	100

The source : prepared by the resercher

From the initial reading of the table, we conclude that the most frequently repeated and circulated type of news in the news bulletins is the short news, which we classified in the news category of less than a minute, with a percentage of 83.70%, followed directly by medium news of one to two minutes, with a percentage of 14.81%, and in third place is the long news of more than two minutes, which did not exceed 1.84%. This is due to the fact that among the characteristics of radio news is taking into account accuracy, brevity, and short presentation and presentation time. Short news is very suitable for radio work as an audio media, and radio always seeks to maintain its audience and avoid prolixity and consuming a lot of time, in exchange for broadcasting the largest number of news and information to the audience of listeners. Radio always seeks to provide a lot of news in the shortest possible time.

4- Scopes of News Bulletin Titles

Table (4) : shows the subject scope of newsletter titles.

Subject Areas	Frequency	Percentage
Political	11	22.44
Security	0	0
Social	8	16.32
Economic	7	14.28
Educational	7	14.28
Cultural	1	2.04
Religious	1	2.04
Sports	08	16.32

Health	3	6.12
Environmental	3	6.12
Total	49	100

The source : prepared by the resercher

In analyzing Table (4), we note a diversity in the presence of various topics and fields in Al-Bahja Radio's headlines, albeit at varying rates. The political field ranks first in the news bulletins, accounting for 22.44%, followed closely by the social and sports field, accounting for 16.32%. This is due to the fact that the radio, as a media institution affiliated with the government sector (i.e., publicly owned), is tasked with communicating political decisions and covering official visits and national events, as it is bound by a set of specifications, focusing on social services and the development goals assigned to local radio stations. In fourth place, we find the economic and educational field, accounting for 14.28%, due to the state's interest in economic development, encouraging projects, directing investments, and driving local development. This is achieved by focusing on achievements, public facilities, and utilities, including educational ones. Within the framework of public service, the radio also focuses on topics that fall within the framework of education.

5-Geographical coverage of the bulletin topics:

Table (5) : shows the geographical coverage of the bulletin topics

Coverage Area	Frequency	Percentage
Local	67	51.14
National	52	39.69
International	12	9.16
Total	131	100

The source : prepared by the resercher

From Table (5), which illustrates the geographical scope of the news, it is clear that the local scope is the most prominent, with a percentage of 51.14% and a frequency of 67%. The national scope comes in second place with a percentage of 39.63%, and the international dimension comes in last with a percentage of 9.16%.

This can be interpreted as logical, given that we are talking about a local radio station, and it is logical for it to focus primarily on the local scope as a value and local dimension. It is illogical to focus on national or international news at the expense of local news, given the relevance and interest of the citizen's life. Citizens listen to their local radio station to learn about news from their community and region, while they obtain news outside their geographical scope from other means, such as television or the internet. Here, we are not talking about importance, but rather about the geographical scope. The logic is based on presenting local news at the expense of national and international news, regardless of their importance. - As for the national news we find, it is because it also gives special importance to national news, which it usually begins

with. As for international news, Al-Bahja Radio has been interested in following the Zionist aggression on the Gaza Strip, in order to satisfy the listening audience by providing the latest information and informing them of the latest developments and changes in the situation, and also conveying and following Algeria's positions and its support for our people in Gaza.

6- Topics of bulletin news:

Table (6) : shows the topics of all bulletin news.

Topics	Frequency	Percentage
Political	18	13.74
Social	29	22.13
Economic	24	18.32
Educational	14	10.68
Cultural	14	10.68
Religious	8	06.10
Sports	4	03.05
Security	16	12.21
Health	2	01.52
Environmental	8	06.10
Total	131	06.10

The source : prepared by the resercher

The table above shows that there is a diversity in the topics covered by Al-Bahja Radio's news bulletins, to varying degrees. Social topics are the largest, representing 22.13% of the total topics covered by the radio news bulletins under study. Economic topics are closely followed, representing 18.32%, followed by political topics, representing 13.74%. Sports topics are followed by 12.21%, educational topics by 10.68%, cultural, health, and environmental topics by 6.10%, religious topics by 3.05%, and finally, security topics by 1.52%. These figures confirm that the local radio station under study pays great attention to social issues. This is logical, as social issues are of primary and primary concern to the public, given their relevance to citizens' daily lives. One of the most important objectives of local radio is its contribution to social service and the transmission of citizens' concerns in various areas of life. What can be noted is that social content has a breadth of scope, encompassing all topics and content. Political, economic, security, and cultural topics all have specific social dimensions and touch, in some way or another, on citizens' daily lives.

In third place, we find the local radio station under study also focusing on the economic sphere. The radio station's interest in economic development is evident in terms of monitoring projects, investments, and achievements at the local level. The local radio station's interest in politics is also evident, ranking third, as it covers all news, visits, and official events. This is due to the terms of reference, as is well known in the media law. Radio, among the media outlets, is dedicated to serving the state's

plans and programs. Areas such as education, sports, culture, health, environment, religious and security issues were present in the news bulletins to varying degrees, as the radio station diversified its coverage of topics, addressed local events and focused on different aspects, all in service of the local community.

7- Journalistic type of news topics:

Table (7) : shows the journalistic format (form) of news topics

Journalistic genre	Frequency	Percentage
News	110	83.96
Report	11	8.39
Reportage	10	7.63
Total	131	100

The source : prepared by the resercher

The table of the most important journalistic formats for news editing shows that the news genre is the most widely used and relied upon in editing, accounting for 83.96% of the total, with a frequency of 110. This is followed by the report, accounting for 8.39%, and then the reportage, accounting for 7.63%.

Logically, the news genre is the most widely used and popular journalistic genre in news media, including radio, which focuses on conveying news and events to the public as they occur. Other media outlets, however, focus on opinion and monitoring opinions, positions, and trends. They use other journalistic formats and genres, such as commentary, dialogue, and investigation. As mentioned, news is the core of radio work. Radio was created primarily to quickly transmit news to the public. Radio is a fast and immediate medium, and audiences often follow it while commuting or working, requiring short, direct information. This is what news provides more than other journalistic genres. Listeners also expect the radio broadcast to provide them with the latest local and international developments in a short time, and the news fulfills this need directly and effectively. Furthermore, the broadcast is time-bound, meaning it is not possible to expand on every topic within a radio broadcast. Therefore, it is sufficient to present quick and varied news.

Also, radio news broadcasts typically begin and end with news, while investigations, commentaries, and analyses are only included in separate programs or special periods. Therefore, news constitutes the backbone of the broadcast.

Therefore, it is clear that Al-Bahjah Radio relies heavily on news in its news broadcasts, while it relies to a lesser extent on press reports to provide more detail on some of the events it devotes time and attention to. It also uses the reportage genre to convey live images of citizens' concerns and areas of local development.

8- Sources of News Bulletins:

8-1 Sources of News in the Official Framework:

Table (8) : shows the sources of news

Sources	Frequency	Percentage
Official	109	83.20
Unofficial	22	16.79
Total	131	100

The source : prepared by the resercher

From the table above, it is clear that the official sources of news were at a large percentage estimated at 83.20%, while the unofficial ones came at 16.79%. This is always due to the fact that public radio, as a media outlet, is considered a tool to serve the official media policy, and therefore it prefers to rely on official sources (such as agencies, ministries, and government institutions) which are considered the most reliable for it. Also, publishing inaccurate news may expose the radio institution to accountability, so it resorts to official sources that grant it legal protection. In addition, the time period for the radio bulletin is very short and does not allow for investigations, dialogues, and reports within the bulletins, so the radio is satisfied with transmitting what is officially stated.

8-2 Sources of news topics in the media framework:

Table (9) : shows the sources of news.

News Sources	Frequency	Percentage
Algerian Press Agency	12	9.16
Journalists and	48	36.64
Algerian Radio	12	9.16
Representatives of Official	40	30.53
Unofficial Sources	11	8.39
Unidentified Sources	8	6.10
Total	131	100

The source : prepared by the resercher

Table (9), which is related to the news sources that the news department at Al-Bahja Radio relies on to obtain information in order to build news, shows that official news sources are the most prevalent, represented by “journalists and correspondents” at a rate of 36.64%, and in second place are “representatives of official bodies” at a rate of 30.53%, and in third place are “the Algerian News Agency” and “the Algerian Radio” at a rate of 9.16%, and in fourth place are “unofficial sources” at a rate of 8.39%, and finally “unspecified sources” at a rate of 6.10%. Among the most important indicators

that can be provided through these percentages is that journalists at Radio Al-Bahdja are a significant source of news for radio broadcasts.

This is an indicator of the local dimension of this radio station, as it relies heavily on its journalistic staff and network of correspondents to cover events within the geographical boundaries of the state of Algiers, as well as field trips to municipalities and neighborhoods. Furthermore, the radio station's staff has been able to create a network of sources to obtain information and news of interest to the largest possible segment of listeners. It is also concluded that the local radio station, Al-Bahdja, is an extension of official channels, where journalists obtain news or are provided with information through official bodies, primarily ministries, the state, state directorates, administrative districts, and municipalities.

It can also be concluded that the local radio station "Al Bahja" relies on official sources, which account for more than 85%, while unofficial sources represent a small percentage, not exceeding 8.39%. This is due to the ownership of the radio station on the one hand and its media policy, and on the other hand, to avoid losing credibility and avoiding legal prosecutions due to the lack of sources or their lack of clarity.

9- Pivotal figures in news bulletin topics:

Table (10) : shows the pivotal figures in news bulletin topics.

Personalities	Frequency	Percentage
President of the Republic	9	6.87
Prime Minister	13	9.92
President of the National	4	3.05
Governor	8	6.10
President of the Municipal	16	12.21
Delegate Governor	4	3.05
Executive Directors	18	13.74
Sector Official	16	12.21
Citizens	13	9.92
Cultural Personalities	8	6.10
Economic Personalities and	5	3.81
Sports Personalities	9	6.87
Health Specialists	8	6.10
Total	131	100

The source : prepared by the resercher

Table (10) shows the key figures in the news content of the programs under study. The results of the table above revealed that the percentages were generally close, especially with regard to political and provincial figures. First place went to "executive directors" at the level of the province of Algiers, with 13.74%. Second place went to the "President of the Municipal People's Assembly" and the "Sector Official" with 12.21% each. Third place went to the "Prime Minister" and "Ministers" with "Citizens" with an equal percentage of 9.92%.

Then came the "President of the Republic" and "Sports Personalities" with an equal percentage of 6.87%. The "Governor", "Cultural Personalities", and "Doctors" with an equal percentage of 6.10%. Finally, there were figures and directors of economic institutions, delegates, the President of the National People's Assembly, and the President of the Council of the Nation, with percentages ranging between 3.05% and 3.81%. These percentages related to the key figures in the topics of the news bulletins indicate that the most prominent figures in the news bulletins were: Radio: Al-Bahdja station is linked to local affairs, as the highest percentage of broadcasts were of local figures, primarily (executive directors at the level of the state of Algiers, mayors, and sector officials in public institutions affiliated with the state of Algiers).

This spatial connection is evidence of this radio station's focus on the local aspect in its news broadcasts, and its access to information from key figures who are the legal representatives of the state in the state. The local radio broadcasts news related to development projects and programs outlined at the municipal level, as well as the responses of local and state officials to citizens' concerns in various fields. Al-Bahdja radio's interest in the neighborhood and local aspects is also evident, with "citizens," "the prime minister," and "ministers" appearing in equal proportions. The spatial proximity, on the one hand, facilitates journalists' access to information and news. The local dimension of this radio station is also evident in its interest in citizens as key figures, as the radio broadcasts news about citizens in the form of reports and reportages on issues that concern them and meet their needs.

On the other hand, the local radio's interest in covering The activities and visits of ministers in the state of Algiers, and the transmission of their statements. Radio Al-Bahdja also focuses on the personality of the "President of the Republic." Like other local and national radio stations, it follows and covers all presidential activities and developments related to this pivotal figure who represents the Algerian state. It also focuses on local and national sports affairs, covering news related to the national team and local clubs, particularly in the field of football.

10- News values of news bulletin topics:

Table (11) : shows the news values contained in news topics

News Values	Frequency	Percentage
Immediacy and Novelty	66	37.28
Conflict and Competition	13	7.34
Mass	18	10.16
Fame	13	7.34
Human Interests	23	12.94
Development	44	24.85
Total	177	100

The source : prepared by the resercher

From the table above, we note that the most prevalent news values in news topics were "immediacy and novelty," representing 37.28% of the topics, with a frequency of 66. This is due to the fact that these two values are considered among the most important characteristics that distinguish radio news from other journalistic forms. This is due to radio's association with the element of speed and time in conveying everything new to listeners.

This highlights the fact that the local radio station "Al-Bahjah" works to keep up with the latest developments, especially local and national events. The value of "development" came in second place, representing 24.85% of the topics. This is due to the fact that this news value is one of the most prominent values that local radio is keen to highlight, as it is directly related to the daily lives of citizens and the reality of society. The local "Al-Bahja" radio newscasts focus on news and content related to improving the social, service, and economic conditions of residents in neighborhoods and villages.

This reflects the developmental role of the local "Al-Bahja" radio station, as it truly serves as an intermediary between citizens and local authorities—represented by the state, administrative districts, executive directorates, and municipalities—on the one hand, and citizens on the other. Thus, the local radio station is closely aligned with the interests and aspirations of the public. "Humanitarian Interests" came in third place, at 12.94%. This highlights the local radio station's focus on the core news values that give its broadcasts a human and social dimension and attract the interest and interaction of listeners. This focus is achieved by highlighting the humanitarian aspects of events and news, shedding light on the suffering of the population, such as the lack of sewage systems, drinking water, electricity, and gas, and harsh living conditions.

It also highlights the successes and initiatives of individuals who have defied the difficulties and circumstances surrounding them, as well as reporting on charitable and volunteer associations and initiatives. In fourth place was "significant" news value, accounting for 10.16%. Significance, as a news value in local radio broadcasts, reflects the news's ability to highlight major events that have a wide impact on listeners, both in terms of the number of beneficiaries and the extent of the repercussions and impact. This gives it a prominent priority in media coverage.

Here, Al-Bahdja local radio's focus on monitoring and transmitting events and news that interest the largest possible segment of the listening audience is highlighted. This focus includes reporting on major development projects and programs across the state of Algiers, such as housing programs, road network extension projects, metro and tramway expansions, and major service facilities.

III. Results and discussion :

After a quantitative and qualitative analytical review of the tables, we can list the following results:

- The study revealed that short news is the most widely used on Al-Bahja local radio, thus respecting the characteristics and conditions of radio news, which is written in

a concise and precise manner.

- The study demonstrated a wide variety of topics in the news bulletins' headlines, with politics coming first, followed by social and sports topics.
- The study demonstrated a variety of topics discussed in the news bulletins' agenda, with slightly varying degrees of social, economic, political, and sports topics. Therefore, Al-Bahja radio pays primary attention to social topics related to citizens' lives and conveying their concerns and demands. The study reveals that the local radio station "Al-Bahdja" focuses primarily on the news genre in its newscasts, which is the most widely used, and to a lesser extent, on reporting and reportage. This is logical, given that coverage of a geographical area is linked to spatial proximity. It is unreasonable for the local radio station "Al-Bahdja" to cover news related to the provinces of Bouira or Boumerdes, for example.
- The study revealed that short news is the most frequently used in Al-Bahja Radio's broadcasts, reflecting its commitment to the professional characteristics of radio news, which are written in a concise and precise manner. Brevity is not merely a stylistic choice; it is a fundamental requirement in radio work, given the nature of the audio medium, which audiences often receive while engaged in their daily lives. Listeners do not have the luxury of re-listening or pausing to reflect, as is the case with print media, making brevity and clarity essential for ensuring understanding and comprehension. From this standpoint, it can be said that Al-Bahja Radio adheres to the characteristics of radio news and responds to the expectations of its local audience.
- The results also showed that the political sphere occupies the highest position in news broadcasts, reflecting the institutional nature of public media, which plays a key role in conveying official policies and monitoring the activities of public authorities. However, what is striking is the presence of the social sphere in second place, indicating the local radio's awareness of the need to open up to societal issues and problems. Sports ranked third, reflecting an interest in entertainment and the masses, but it remains limited compared to the political and social spheres. This ranking demonstrates a balance between the radio's commitment to official discourse and its need to address citizens' daily concerns.
- The results showed that Al-Bahja Radio prioritizes social issues in its news agenda, reflecting its primary function as a local media outlet close to the public. The broadcasts reflect people's daily concerns by highlighting their problems and demands, which reinforces the radio's service-oriented nature. This focus goes beyond simply conveying information; it also serves as a means of initiating public debate on local development issues. Coverage of social topics thus represents a response to the principle of media proximity, which constitutes one of the most prominent functions of local radio.
- The results also demonstrated that news is the most prevalent form of broadcasting on Al-Bahja Radio, while reporting and storytelling remain less frequently employed. This can be explained by the nature of local radio, which does not always allow for the allocation of time and effort to in-depth coverage, especially given its limited geographic scope. The focus on quick, short news reflects its suitability to

the needs of an audience seeking immediate updates. Thus, the dominance of news appears logical and justified, while other journalistic genres remain present within the radio's capabilities.

- The results also showed that Radio Al-Bahja relies primarily on official sources, considering them the most reliable and accurate. This choice reflects the public nature of the radio, where official information is viewed as a legitimate and reliable source. Conversely, the reliance on local journalists and correspondents highlights the radio's adaptation to its geographical location, as journalists are able to follow events in their immediate surroundings and obtain information directly from its sources. This combination of official and field experience enhances the radio's credibility and ensures its proximity to its audience.
- The study also revealed that Radio Al-Bahja's newscasts combine the presence of official figures, such as local officials, provincial directors, and mayors, with ordinary citizens, who are given the opportunity to express their demands and concerns. This combination gives the news a balanced character, combining official coverage of government activities with openness to the voices of the community. Hence, it can be said that radio performs a dual function: a platform for local authorities on the one hand, and a platform for expressing citizens' concerns on the other.
- Finally, the results showed that Al-Bahja Radio focuses on core news values such as novelty, timeliness, and development. Novelty and timeliness ensure the provision of fresh and rapid news, which is consistent with the nature of radio, which relies on the moment. The development value reflects the radio's connection to the living reality of citizens, as it seeks to highlight development-oriented projects and initiatives. These news values are not merely technical standards; rather, they express the function of radio as a medium close to the community, seeking to meet its needs and aspirations.

We conclude from the study that Al-Bahdja relies on official sources for its news because they are primarily the most reliable and accurate. It also relies more heavily on its journalistic staff and correspondents to cover events. This is consistent with the spatial and local dimension we mentioned earlier, as it is easier for journalists to obtain information because they are located in the region in which they reside. The study revealed that news on the local "Al-Bahja" radio station revolves around numerous personalities, where a blend of local elements is evident, primarily focusing on key local figures, represented by local sector officials, provincial directors, and mayors. Additionally, the station also features a key figure in its newscasts, the "citizen," who opens the microphone to make their voices heard and convey their concerns and demands. The study also showed that Al-Bahja radio newscasts focus on news values such as novelty, modernity, immediacy, and development. These are among the most prominent news elements that the local radio station is keen to highlight and present, given their connection to the element of timely news transmission, in addition to their close connection to the daily lives and living conditions of citizens.

IV. Conclusion:

This study aimed to uncover the peculiarities of news production in Algerian radio, using the local radio station "Al-Bahdja" as a model for analysis. This study utilized a quantitative and qualitative approach to a sample of its newscasts. This analysis allowed for a deeper understanding of how news is produced on local radio, the mechanisms that govern its formulation and prioritization, and the news values that guide the editorial selection process.

The results showed that "Al-Bahdja" Radio largely adheres to the characteristics of radio news, focusing on short, concise news, prioritizing political and social issues, followed by sports and economics. This reflects a balance between reporting official developments and expressing citizen concerns. It also revealed that the radio station relies primarily on official sources and field correspondents, enhancing its credibility and confirming its connection to the local space it serves. Furthermore, the presence of multiple actors in the broadcasts, led by local officials and ordinary citizens, gives the news a participatory dimension that opens the door to the public's voice.

The importance of this study lies in its presentation of a practical model of how local radio can contribute to establishing media that is close to its audience, committed to professional standards, and at the same time, effective in community development and strengthening local identity. The results also reveal that local media is not merely a news transmitter, but rather a strategic tool for setting priorities and formulating a media agenda capable of keeping pace with national development issues and societal challenges.

However, this study remains limited by the time frame and geographical scope of the study. This calls for future comparative research between various local radio stations, or the adoption of multiple methodological approaches that combine quantitative and qualitative analysis and field interviews with communicators. This will expand the scope of understanding about how news is produced locally and help develop the professional performance of Algerian radio stations in light of the rapid media transformations.

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