CNN vs. ALJAZEERA NEWS:

The Case of Iranian Movements in 2022

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RESEARCH QUESTION

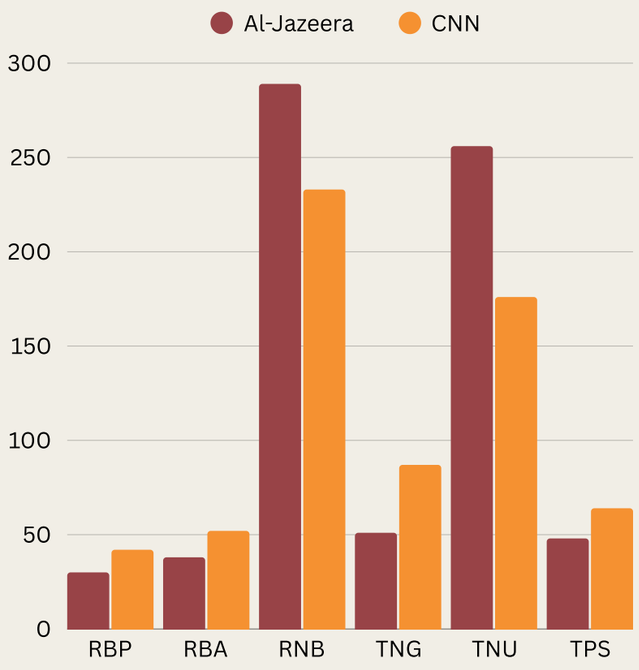
How did CNN and Al-Jazeera differ in their framing and tone when reporting on the 2022 Iranian protests following Mahsa Amini's death?

KEY FINDINGS

Both news outlets aimed for neutrality but differed subtly:

- **CNN** emphasized protestor struggles and highlighted government repression through a more negative tone.
- **Al-Jazeera** focused on delivering factual descriptions with a slightly more balanced and restrained narrative.

Implication: Even globally respected media outlets can reflect subtle biases through tone and word choice.



Repetition

RBP Bias Pro-Government
RBA Bias Anti-Government
RNB Non-Bias

Tone

TNG Negative
TNU Neutral
TPS Positive



ABSTRACT

The 2022 death of Mahsa Amini in Iran sparked a global wave of protests centered on women's rights. This study compares how CNN and Al-Jazeera reported on these events, focusing on the repetition of key terms and the tone of coverage. Using manual keyword analysis and inductive methods, the research finds that while both outlets largely used neutral language, CNN leaned slightly toward anti-government framing and negative tone, whereas Al-Jazeera maintained a more balanced and fact-based approach. The findings highlight how subtle media framing can influence public perception

METHODOLOGY

- Approach: Inductive qualitative content analysis
- Sources: 10 relevant articles from CNN & Al-Jazeera websites
- Tools:
  - Manual keyword search (CTRL+F)
  - GPT-4-assisted keyword categorization
- Categories:
  - Repetition Bias (RBP, RBA, RNB)
  - Tone (TNG, TNU, TPS)
- Coding Framework included to standardize data extraction.

CENTRAL THESIS

This research compares CNN and Al-Jazeera's coverage of the 2022 Iranian protests to uncover subtle differences in tone and framing that reflect each outlet's editorial perspective.

SOURCES

- Damanhoury, K. E., & Saleh, F. (2017). Journal of Arab & Muslim Media Research, 10(1), 85–103.
- Terman, R. (2017). International Studies Quarterly, 61(3), 489–502.
- Pukl, D. (2024). Bakalářská práce.



Entire paper with sources

