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THE PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE OF PANDEMIC COVID-19 AND ITS IMPACT: A REVIEW

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Abstract

In the world where hypercompetitive culture is more dominant, people upload each and every happening in their day to day lives. The easiest way to do that is uploading pictures, which actually conveys a lot more rather than mere text. Whatever we eat or drink, wherever we go, family selfies, whosoever joins us is all on digital platforms. Even the big Industries of Modern Media, also do's the same reason is simple, the impact on society on daily basis. The researcher will study the impact of photographs being uploaded by considering various aspects of social impact to understand the causes & awareness of COVID-19. To accomplish the research, qualitative analysis method and observatory approach will be used. The sample size will be of 7 profiles who upload photographs regularly.

Introduction

Photography invented in 1826. The journey from then to modern era it's having a splendid legacy. Surely there was lot of struggles earlier due to some mechanical reasons but as technology develops camera itself created new directions in this. Photojournalism's popularity is live example that how photography made an impact of social life of our society throughout its journey which is still going on. A Photograph is story itself. Through Visual communication photography also made impact on societies social issues. So many photo stories & photographs published to create awareness for different aspects of societies. Example can take from so many historical events in which photographs plays an epic role in it.

Covid-19: December 24, 2019, sudden a number of people reported in hospitals with suffering from a respiratory disease in a province of China,Hubei. The epic center was Wuhan when sudden outbreak happened within a span of few days.

Scientists's & doctors quote that this is a virus which is actually a respiratory illness called Covid-19. This/ s situation is become a serious public health risk. Chinese Govt. started took actions with lock down of Wuhan & then Hubei. The international Committee on taxonomy of virus's official announced the name of Covid-19 is Novel Corona Virus. Till now world is suffering from this epidemic outbreak. More than 4 Lac infected till now as per the reports of WHO throughout the world.

Photography & Novel Corona Virus

Since the outbreak of this epidemic most of the countries lockdown they to save the public & breakdown the chain of infected more peoples. Doctors & scientists are still working to develop the vaccine for this disease. As per the directions of WHO till now self-Quarantine & isolations is the only factor through which world can fight from this deadly virus. India the 2nd largest populated Country in the world lockdown purely from 21 days along with many other countries doing it for same. In all such manners people are seeing the photographs from all over the world which itself a story that how world is suffering from this

Review of Literature

The Article published in The Atlantic by Alan Taylor with the name "*Photos life in the Time of Corona virus*" suggested the recent outbreak of Novel Corona Virus which initially reported in Wuhan as a Pneumonia makes china & other neighboring countries to start isolation process as this virus can spread from one to other. A report suggest that more than 80,000 is infected and more than 1900 is dead till now Most of the Cities of china is locked down with no travelling allowed from one city to other. Hubei province & epicenter Wuhan is the most isolated area the communities is locked at their home and no one is allowed to move around. Almost similar scenario is there most of the countries across the globe. Simply the economic growth may affect both nationally & globally with this Images captured and coming from china specifically from Wuhan giving an horrifying message And with this report the photographic coverage of all this actually gives an detailed information of the current outbreak.

'Images captured from china shows how Wuhan corona virus grappled the outbreaks almost 70 % of country is quarantined and no place in hospitals for the patients' an article published in Business insider by Natalie Collarosi gives an perfect example that how life is just stopped. The world is facing this sort of situation almost after 2nd world war. Definitely with the published photographs with this article one can find the impact of outbreak on the society. Also the health organizations and the other countries of the world, such images also help them to develop the necessary system

A report from Federico Algeria published through photography opinion species without photography history might be less interesting or difficult to understand with. With some of the fantastic & famous photographers in the world one can simply feel the impact of photography in societythere is no rule book in the world to define a photograph with having capabilities to make a social impact. There's a famous line – *a picture is worth a thousand words*. Without any doubt one can say

that picture had an major impact on our mindset its depend upon the individual how that person actually perceive it.

Article published on UK essays justifies that Photography is not just click and get a picture its more than that. It's not only a source of entertainment. It's a journey & story itself. Similarly photo Journalism is not only giving society and information or a visual reference but more than that it opens the aspects to resolve it, relive it and reform it. Once you read anything immediately you start visualizing the perception with your aesthetical skills such images having the power to make world realize how other communities of the world is suffering & making life manageable.

Published article of Johnathan Ma suggested that it is impossible to deny that photography has had a major impact of social life of societies. The technology developed in last 25 years through which it impacted more in dominant way. The usage of digital platforms impacted the daily routine of peoples. Development in smart phones also helps the developments in photography's social impact to the society.

Objectives of Research

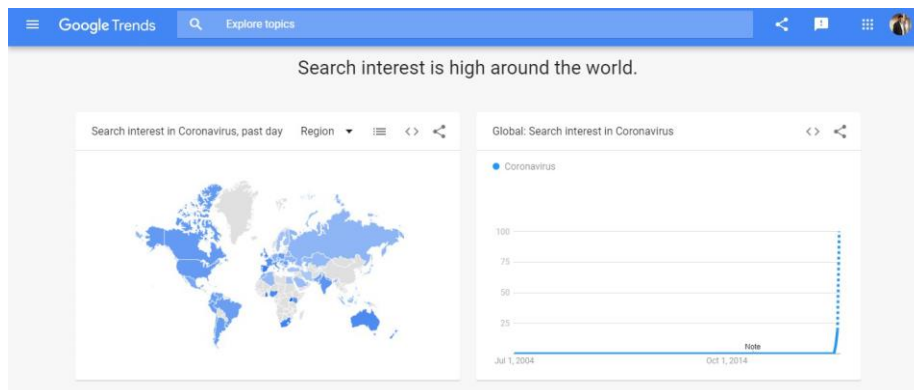
The researcher will study the quality of photographs being uploaded on all digital platforms of major News Agencies related to causes, impact & awareness of Deadly Outbreak Disease like Novel Corona Virus with also how these kind of photographs impact socially to the society. Also the effect of such photographs on societies both positive & negative.

Research Methodology

To accomplish this research, the researcher will use observational analysis method and check the quality of photographs with its capability of social impact & awareness related to outbreak of Novel Corona Virus 2020. The selection of Photographs is taken from the digital platform from Leading Media houses. The researcher will study the compositional and aesthetical aspects of photograph. Apart from this observatory approach will be used to study the effect of these photos to aware the society from the deadly Novel Corona Virus.

Data Analysis & Findings

According to a report from Google Trends Numbers of search for images related to Corona virus is been searched in google millions of times specifically from month of Feb 2020 to 23rd or March. According to the reports Covid-19 was detected in December but it didn't searched as much till its outbreak in Europe, Iran & in USA. Most of the major media houses, all major digital platforms of the world published the images for impact socially to create social distance. The authenticity of this report is believable as reason because Google trends is website which analyze the search trends on Google search engine throughout the world. The graphical representation shows how the search has been done on google search engine worldwide.



Samara, a Canadian based photographer, upload some images on Shutterstock which is one of the famous website of uploading & selling photographs. No doubt photographs is clicked as an assignment for selling it. The reason behind it it's clicked with perfect light setup. Showing a nurse with mask & a virologist who is taking sample for the testing of Corona Virus. As presently it's not that much easy to get the pictures of such epidemics breakdown. But its making a social Impact as she tried to show the fictional photographic representational for awareness. Reason for this is that Shutterstock didn't publish any photograph without checking with their barriers.



Image Source – Shutter stock

World Health Organization which is specific organizational structure of United Nations published a photograph of New Novel Corona Virus through Joint venture from medical university & ministry of medical sciences China. The photograph had a major impact as all the medical sciences trying to develop vaccine of this pandemic. All of the world wants to see the image of this deadly virus. But most importantly images coming through various channels & digital platforms horrifying the world. When WHO declares this a Global Emergency. Numbers of peoples started to search images related to this.

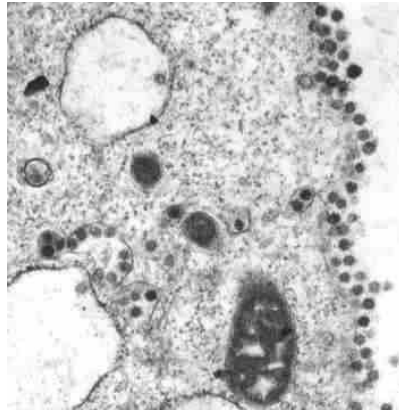


Image Courtesy – health department , China

Seriousness comes to place when Photograph published through a digital platform of BBC news that first Corona Virus patient arrives in newly built hospital in Wuhan – China. Image depicting an ambulance with medical staff taking a patient to hospital. The whole Province of Hubei Locked down for more than two months. It becomes socially famous when News Agency from BBC News uploaded an Aerial view of Wuhan with a report that London size city where the virus began. The photographs

depicting the locked streets that how that virus impact on daily life. A lady talking on Mobile with having a mask on the face. Photographs coming from Wuhan is giving a message to the world that it can spread form one person to other. So demands for the facial mask's & social distancing was on trend and even world started to feel the pain of people from Wuhan. They all were facing all issues as the all public transport was also shuts down.



Image courtesy: BBC News

A News Agency named CNET News published a photo features with the name Pandemic through Pictures: throughout the world. Total 37 pictures published from throughout the world. A photograph from this series published with a person with mobile in her hands which is showing a precautions based awareness to stay home due to Corona virus. Photograph 16 depicted how a sign board of warning displayed in a street of Poland to aware the people or tourists to stay at home due this disease. Also a picture published that a couple is passing through a sign board depicting “Wash Your Hands “



Image Courtesy – CNET . News

Aljazeera, one of the famous news agency of the world published a report related to impact of India’s PM Modi’s request to say thanks to all those who are fighting with this pandemic. Photographs published with societies, peoples ringing bells spreading smile was epic. “PM Modi’s request of public curfew seen very much a success when one can see the pictures for the same. In other image a photographer captured a man clicking photograph of awareness for the Corona virus. Both of the pictures depicts how people from India is actually fighting against the pandemic disease with unity

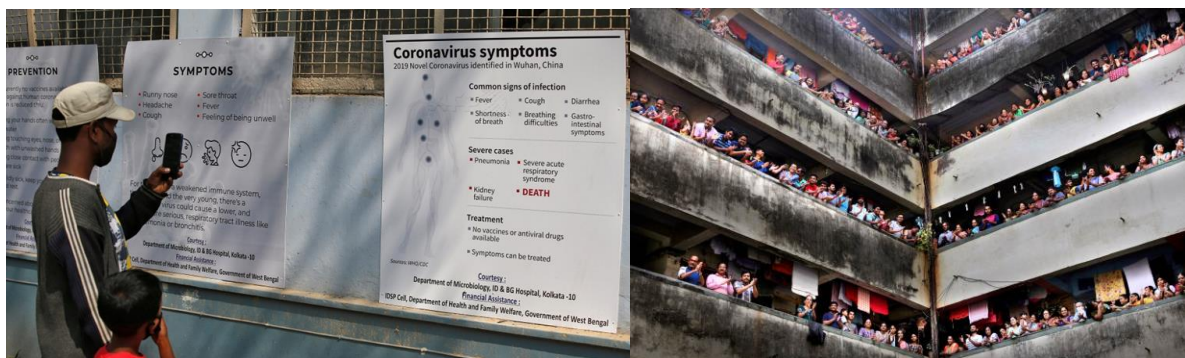


Photo Courtesy – Al Jazeera

A photo Documentary published by the leading Documentary Agency the National geographic. With the help of Getty images, Nat Geo. published few photographs from the city of china & the source started of Covid-19. Photographs clicked when the outbreak occurred in Wuhan & the whole London sized city were lockdown for having control on Corona virus a hospital made within 48 hours in china to prevent people from this mighty health risk you can see the aerial view of constructed hospital in Wuhan. In other image a patient infected from virus isolated in a ward of hospital as he is trying to see the other side of wall.



Left: An aerial photo shows the Huoshenshan Hospital in Wuhan, a makeshift hospital built in 10 days to house people infected with coronavirus.
Right: Workers prepare beds at Wuhan International Conference and Exhibition Center.
PHOTOGRAPH BY GETTY IMAGES



Image Courtesy: National geographic

The lockdown in Wuhan & Hubei affect the daily life of people. The police men, Health Workers, Army all put on duties to get control on peoples & infected patients of corona. Photograph taken from a check post before entering to Wuhan where an official captured with the all safety uniform from the virus.



Photo courtesy – Aly Song / Reuters theAtlantic.com

A very famous news Agency, the Atlantic published an article on current outbreak of Novel corona virus. Photographs capture in china where couples captured by photographers with pets in their hands. Those pets were covered with facial masks and other clothes to make them safe from the virus. Instead a report from a medical institution cleared that this virus can't effect such animals. But the care & safety measures cause that their owners don't want any risks even for their pet animals. Also this photograph is depicting the information that how the ife of people actually affected by this Virus.



Image courtesy – China daily/ the Atlantic.com

A health worker with proper medical protection scanning the Wuhan resident for a survey related to Corona Virus during Lockdown period. This picture from the Atlantic might help the other govt. or authorities of the world that how Lockdown of Wuhan helps Chinese Authorities to monitor the people of the province. Self-Quarantine & isolation gives the chance to Chinese Govt to breakdown the chain of infection



Photo Courtesy – UN News

A photo story of United Nations News Agency published from the information / interview with the name of One Doctors Story from China's corona virus ground Zero. Above image shown that a team of Doctors in china with a patient infected from Covid-19. The story itself said that they have recovered the patient and many others. This image actually plays a role to encourage the spirit of the doctors all over the world who just like soldiers fighting for war against corona



Image Courtesy – UN News

Similarly A story published by UN News that how a localite from Wuhan who was isolate for 2 months with the story line that how a Wuhan resident names Dizi was isolated for two months in Wuhan. She was also a patient of depression. Image of books is above seen which was read by her during the self-isolation period. She said that it wasn't that much easy to be at home and do nothing as everything was shut down. So she tried to found the ideas to maintain her mental & physical state in a healthy manner.



Image Courtesy – The insider.com / Nicoco

Story of ben mack through the Insider.com published a picture that shows the hard impact of Corona virus Shanghai-based photographer Nicoco captured eerie images of empty streets and public spaces in the normally bustling metropolis during the Chinese New Year period amid the Novel Corona Virus Shetold Insider: "There is a lot of anxiety in the air. The virus has robbed Chinese people from what should be the happiest time of year." Above photograph is taken in 2014 & then in 2020. Which shows that Shanghai's New Year Celebration robbed by the virus. It was full of fun & frolic in 2014 and then in

2020 the empty streets all over the city of future. As of now more than one third of population of world is locked on their houses.

An Article of Columbia Journalism Review suggested that Initial photographs coming from china is making world scared that in which direction it's starting to move. A panic situation created within a span of three months globally. Everyone is keen to know that what is going on in china, can it's a dangerous enough which harm other counties too. The interesting facts coming throughout the world is that pollution is improving enormously as nobody is moving from their house. No public transport, No air traffic. People started to express their views with the images of china that nature started to teach a lesson to humankind moreover a positive can think in this time of a health risk. Photographs is the, most iconic way of giving an information with authenticity these days and with its ability of social impact it can be used as a tool to make an massive impact on the efforts for Global warming

Early Photographs people wearing masks coming from China related to Covid 19 is giving an idea to the world that something bad can spread from one to the other person. From there pictures speeded, authorities doing sanitization. Doing screening of the travelers, wearing masks, awareness of social distancing all such awareness & prevention cause spread due to impact of photo Journalism.

Conclusion

In nutshell after studying the series of best photographs where it was a comparative analysis of different digital & social platforms it was concluded with a remark that social media is hampering the quality, authenticity and artistic angle of the photograph also the impact of photographs spreading the awareness & prevention of this epidemic. Doesn't matter that photographs taken from a professional camera or from mobile camera, it's giving an information, world is seeking for & urging for. The basic concept of Photojournalism is hereby justified & one can strongly say that photography is very powerful tool of Visual communication

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