

# The Effectiveness of Mobile Journalism in Producing Breaking News Stories During Social Transformations in Sudan (2018-2022)

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## Abstract

*This study examines the effectiveness of mobile journalism in covering breaking news stories during Sudan's social transformation period (2018-2022). Through quantitative analysis of data collected from 80 professional journalists and media practitioners, the research investigates the operational dynamics, professional standards, and societal impact of mobile journalism in a rapidly evolving media landscape. The findings reveal significant success in immediate news coverage and comprehensive regional coverage, while highlighting challenges in information verification and technical infrastructure. The research demonstrates mobile journalism's crucial role in promoting civic engagement and social awareness, despite facing substantial technical and professional challenges. Gender disparity in practitioner demographics and varying levels of professional standard adherence suggest areas requiring development. The study concludes that while mobile journalism has become an indispensable tool for news coverage during social transformation, its effectiveness could be enhanced through structured professional development, improved technical infrastructure, and comprehensive legal frameworks. This research contributes to the understanding of mobile journalism's role in social transformation contexts and provides evidence-based recommendations for improving professional practice.*

Keywords: Mobile Journalism, Social Transformation, Breaking News, Digital Media, Professional Standards

## المستخلص

هذه الدراسة تبحث في فعالية الصحافة المتنقلة في تغطية الأخبار العاجلة خلال فترة التحول الاجتماعي في السودان (2018-2022م). من خلال التحليل الكمي للبيانات التي تم جمعها من 80 صحفياً ومختصاً إعلامياً محترفاً، تستقصي هذه الأبحاث الديناميكيات التشغيلية والمعايير المهنية، والأثر المجتمعي للصحافة المتنقلة في ظل بيئة إعلامية متطورة بسرعة. تكشف النتائج عن نجاح ملحوظ في التغطية الفورية للأخبار والتغطية الإقليمية الشاملة، في حين تسلط الضوء على التحديات في التحقق من المعلومات والبنية التحتية التقنية. تُظهر هذه الأبحاث الدور الحاسم للصحافة المتنقلة في تعزيز المشاركة المدنية والوعي الاجتماعي، على الرغم من مواجهتها لتحديات تقنية ومهنية كبيرة. يشير التباين بين الجنسين في ديمغرافيا الممارسين ومستويات الالتزام بالمعايير المهنية المتفاوتة إلى مجالات تتطلب التطوير. وتخلص الدراسة إلى أن الصحافة المتنقلة قد أصبحت أداة لا غنى عنها لتغطية الأخبار أثناء التحول الاجتماعي، ويمكن تعزيز فعاليتها من خلال التنمية المهنية المنظمة وتحسين البنية التحتية التقنية والإطار القانوني الشامل. تساهم هذه الأبحاث في فهم دور الصحافة المتنقلة في سياقات التحول الاجتماعي وتقدم توصيات قائمة على أدلة لتحسين الممارسة المهنية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الصحافة المتنقلة، التحول الاجتماعي، الأخبار العاجلة، الإعلام الرقمي، المعايير المهنية

## 1. Introduction

Mobile journalism has evolved beyond being merely a media tool for breaking news coverage and achieving journalistic scoops during unexpected events, sudden crises, and popular protests. It has surpassed all traditional and modern media through its new manifestation in the internet environment and its adaptation of mobile device capabilities as an integrated machine that combines all journalistic tools, including audio recording, photography (still and video), immediate communication, and live broadcasting from event locations.

With these features, mobile journalism (MOJO) has demonstrated its exceptional ability to produce breaking news stories in various types, forms, and technical formats. Its communicative characteristics, ability to attract and persuade, and efficiency in saving effort, time, and money while reducing the size of media coverage teams have proven particularly valuable during wars, crises, conflicts, and popular protests that require accuracy, speed, and objectivity in immediate news coverage, Salzmann, A., Guribye, F., & Gynnild, A. (2021).

Consequently, mobile journalism has become and remains the primary media tool shaping nations' and peoples' consciousness, actively contributing to public opinion formation, whether positively or negatively, amid international, cultural, political, and social changes. It guides societies according to the journalist's construction of the news story, based on their chosen angle or the objectives and purposes followed by their media outlet's editorial policy, Kraft, N., & Seely, N. (2023).

The purpose of the study is to examine the effectiveness of mobile journalism in producing breaking news stories during popular protests and youth revolutions in Sudan, focusing on events from October 25, 2021, to July 25, 2022. This period witnessed significant political and social transformations in Sudan, during which mobile journalism played an active role in shaping public opinion. The study analyzes how mobile journalism has adapted to these challenges while maintaining its crucial role in information dissemination and public discourse formation.

Through this examination, the research aims to understand the unique capabilities and challenges of mobile journalism in covering rapid social transformations, its impact on public opinion formation, and its role in documenting and shaping historical moments in Sudan's recent history. This analysis provides valuable insights into the evolving nature of journalism in the digital age and its effectiveness in covering social transformations.

## **The Significance of the Study:**

- 1/ Contemporary Relevance: Documents the crucial role of mobile journalism during a significant covered period in Sudan (2018-2022), providing insights into modern media evolution.
- 2/ Professional Development: Identifies critical areas for improving mobile journalism practices, including training needs, ethical frameworks, and technical infrastructure requirements.
- 3/ Social Impact: Demonstrates the influence of mobile journalism on public awareness, civic participation, and social cohesion during periods of significant social change.
- 4/ Practical Implications: Provides evidence-based recommendations for enhancing mobile journalism effectiveness and overcoming operational challenges.
- 5/ Historical Documentation: Contributes to understanding how modern journalism technologies adapt to and influence social transformations in developing contexts.

## **Statement of the Study:**

This study examines the effectiveness of mobile journalism in producing breaking news stories during Sudan's social transformation period (2018-2022), focusing on its operational capabilities, professional standards, societal impact, and developmental challenges.

## **Objectives of the Study:**

- 1/ To assess the effectiveness of mobile journalism in covering social transformations in Sudan (2018-2022).
- 2/ To evaluate professional standards and credibility in mobile journalism practices during the covered period.
- 3/ To analyze the impact of mobile journalism coverage on Sudanese society during social transformations.
- 4/ To identify challenges and obstacles facing mobile journalists during the transformation period.
- 5/ To propose development recommendations for enhancing mobile journalism practices in Sudan.

## **Research Questions:**

- 1/ How effective was mobile journalism in covering social transformations in Sudan during 2018-2022?

- 2/ How did mobile journalism maintain professional standards and credibility during the covered period?
- 3/ What impact did mobile journalism have on Sudanese society during social transformations?
- 4/ What challenges and obstacles confronted mobile journalists during the transformation period?
- 5/ What development measures are needed to enhance mobile journalism practices in Sudan?

## **2. Theoretical Framework**

### **Relevant Mass Media Theories**

The study is guided by several mass media theories that provide a robust theoretical foundation for understanding the role and impact of mobile journalism during the social transformations in Sudan.

**Agenda-Setting Theory.** The agenda-setting theory (McCombs & Shaw, 1972) suggests that the media has the power to influence public opinion by highlighting certain issues and events over others. This theory is relevant in analyzing how mobile journalism shaped the public agenda and discourse during the social transformations in Sudan (RQ3).

**Gatekeeping Theory.** The gatekeeping theory (White, 1950) examines how media professionals select and filter information before disseminating it to the public. This theory can be applied to understanding the challenges mobile journalists faced in verifying information and maintaining professional standards (RQ2).

**Framing Theory.** The framing theory (Entman, 1993) posits that the media frames issues in particular ways, influencing how the audience perceives and interprets the information. This can be used to analyze how mobile journalism framed the social transformations and its impact on public perceptions (RQ3).

**Uses and Gratifications Theory.** The uses and gratifications theory (Katz et al., 1973) focuses on how individuals actively seek out and use media to fulfill their needs and goals. It can be utilized to understand the motivations and gratifications that drove the audience to rely on mobile journalism during the transformation period (RQ3).

**Diffusion of Innovations Theory.** The diffusion of innovations theory (Rogers, 2003) examines how new technologies, like mobile journalism, are adopted and spread within a social system. This can provide insights into the factors that

facilitated or hindered the adoption of mobile journalism practices (RQ4).

**Social Responsibility Theory.** The social responsibility theory (Siebert et al., 1956) emphasizes the media's role in promoting social welfare and responsible reporting. This can be applied to assess the adherence of mobile journalists to professional standards and ethical considerations (RQ2).

**Field Theory.** The field theory (Bourdieu, 1993) explores how different social fields, such as journalism, interact and influence each other. This theory can be used to analyze the dynamics between mobile journalism and the larger media landscape during the social transformations (RQ4).

**Lifestyle Journalism.** Lifestyle journalism theory (Hanusch, 2012) examines the role of journalism in covering everyday life and cultural trends. This can provide insights into how mobile journalism addressed the social and cultural aspects of the transformations (RQ3).

**Citizen Journalism.** The citizen journalism theory (Bowman & Willis, 2003) focuses on the role of ordinary citizens in producing and disseminating news content. This theory can be utilized to understand the interplay between mobile journalism and citizen-generated content during the social transformations (RQ3).

**Media Convergence.** The media convergence theory (Jenkins, 2006) explores the blending of different media platforms and the implications for journalism. This theory can be applied to analyze how mobile journalism integrated with other digital media forms to cover the social transformations (RQ4).

## **Mobile Journalism: Origins, Concept, and Applications**

### **A. Origins of Mobile Journalism:**

Mobile journalism traces its inception to January 7, 1995, when journalist Cey Gilbert of The Times (UK) pioneered the field by capturing images and writing a concise news report while aboard an aircraft at 231,000 feet, approximately 22 miles offshore during a London-Washington flight. The story, transmitted directly to his newspaper, was published on the front page the same day, marking The Times as the first publication to utilize mobile phone technology in journalistic work, López-García, X., Silva-Rodríguez, A., Vizoso-García, Á., Westlund, O., & Canavilhas, J. (2019).

The term "mobile journalism" (abbreviated as "MoJo") entered journalistic lexicon in 2003 during the U.S. invasion of Iraq, though its practical implementation

began in 2005 (Borum & Quinn, 2015). This terminology subsequently gained widespread adoption among professional journalists, academics, amateurs, and citizen journalists.

## B. Conceptual Framework:

Mobile journalism encompasses multiple definitions based on researchers' orientations and specializations (Westlund, 2013; López-García et al., 2019), reflecting its functional characteristics and communicative attributes. While some scholars emphasize its technological aspects (Borum & Quinn, 2015; Kumar & Haneef, 2018), others focus on its role in transforming professional practices and newsroom dynamics (Perreault & Stanfield, 2019; Salzmänn et al., 2021). This study emphasizes the definition that reinforces the editorial dimensions of breaking news and narrative construction within the internet environment (Mills et al., 2022; Kraft & Seely, 2023), acknowledging its evolution as both a technological tool and a journalistic practice. Quinn's (2009) definition, as a pioneer in mobile journalism, most appropriately aligns with this study's context. He defines it as "journalism that utilizes mobile devices for gathering and distributing news, potentially incorporating text, audio, images, and video, either separately or in combination." He further characterizes it as an innovative coverage method exclusively using smartphones for writing and uploading news stories, primarily through video, audio reports, or text-accompanied photo presentations.

The Southern African Journalism Education Conference researchers defined it as "journalism utilizing mobile phones for recording images, audio, writing texts, and publishing via phone." The Al Jazeera Media Training Center describes it as "the process of gathering and publishing news using smartphones or tablets, representing a new trend in news coverage and broadcasting."

## C. Applications of Mobile Journalism:

### 1/ Podcasting:

Emerging in 2003 in the United States, referring to audio content available on the internet. The term combines "pod" (from iPod) and "cast" (from broadcast). It encompasses digital media files shared online, including both audio and video content (the latter sometimes termed "vodcast"), Burum, I., & Quinn, S. (2015).

### 2/ Online Video Journalism:

Comprises news summaries and event reports produced by media institutions, journalists, and citizens. Shaw, B. (2018), categorizes online video journalism into four types:

- Moving Picture Format
- Video Diary Format
- Edited Narrative
- TV Show Vodcast

### 3/ Electronic Textual Content:

Encompasses news texts published through electronic magazines and newspapers, often adapting news stories according to journalistic patterns and writing formats specific to these publications.

### Digital Television:

Represents another journalistic format utilized in mobile journalism, satisfying audience demands through rebroadcasting news bulletins and television programs via mobile applications or social media platforms (Westlund, 2013; López-García et al., 2019). The applications of mobile journalism, according to the literature, encompass the following formats (Borum & Quinn, 2015; Kumar & Haneef, 2018; Perreault & Stanfield, 2019; Salzmänn et al., 2021):

- Online Video Journalism
- Digital Television
- Social Media Reporting
- Live Streaming
- Audio Journalism (Podcasts)
- Text-based Reporting

This diverse set of journalistic formats highlight the versatility and evolution of mobile journalism as both a technological tool and a journalistic practice.

## Mobile Journalism: Types and Technical Forms

The evolution of mobile journalism has led to diverse forms and technical applications in contemporary media practice (García-Avilés et al., 2019; Belair-Gagnon et al., 2020). These forms combine multiple media elements, reflecting the technological advancement in news gathering and distribution (Quinn, 2016; Westlund & Quinn, 2018).

### 1/ Forms of Mobile Journalism

Mobile journalism incorporates various journalistic forms combining audio, visual, and textual content (Mills et al., 2020). These include:

### A. Short Message Service (SMS):

This traditional form maintains relevance in areas with limited smartphone penetration (Omar, 2017; Villi & Matikainen, 2015), enabling basic news distribution through character-limited messages.

### B. News Reports and Stories:

Institutional media platforms have adapted to mobile delivery through specialized applications (Salzmann et al., 2021), requiring smart device compatibility and installation.

### C. Video Journalism:

Short-form video content has become increasingly prominent in mobile journalism (Borum, 2016; Montgomery, 2019), distributed through internet-enabled platforms and devices.

## 2/ Categories of Mobile Journalism

Building on Al-Saidi's framework (2018), mobile journalism serves three distinct functional roles:

### A. Monitoring Medium:

Functions as an audience engagement tool for content consumption (Chan-Olmsted & Shay, 2016).

### B. Participatory Medium:

Enables citizen journalism and collaborative content creation (Väätäjä & Egglestone, 2019).

### C. Information Gathering and Editing Tool:

Serves as a comprehensive journalistic tool for professional practice (Kumar & Haneef, 2018).

## 3/ Mobile Characteristics in Breaking News Production

The distinctive features of mobile devices in news production include:

### I. Multimedia Integration:

Facilitates comprehensive coverage through multiple format integration (Perreault & Stanfield, 2019).



- II. **Aggregation Capability:**  
Enables efficient information consolidation and distribution (López-García et al., 2019).
- III. **Breaking News Advantage:**  
Transforms traditional news flow through immediate broadcasting capabilities (Kraft & Seely, 2023).
- IV. **On-Site Reporting:**  
Facilitates real-time coverage and immediate content transmission (Mills et al., 2022).
- V. **Marketing and Advertising Functionality:**  
Revolutionizes media monetization and audience engagement (Westlund, 2013).

## News Stories in Mobile Journalism

### 1/ Concept of News Stories

The feature story lacks a unified definition but is generally characterized as relatively long, colorful reports containing more details and description than standard news articles or reports. Rather than merely informing readers about events, feature stories present events experientially.

According to Salam Zughbir, a feature story is "an independent art form encompassing distinct aspects that differentiate it from other journalistic forms."

Ali Duniyaf (2022) defines mobile journalism as "an intensive literary narrative of real events that doesn't require immediacy, aimed at highlighting human aspects and delving into backgrounds, causes, and circumstances through temporal, spatial, and character description." This definition reinforces the editorial dimensions of mobile journalism, acknowledging its evolution as both a technological tool and a journalistic practice.

### 2/ Structural Components of Mobile Journalism News Stories

#### A. Headline:

- Serves as the main gateway to the news story
- Must be concise while containing key news elements
- May require subheadings to reinforce story content
- Critical for reader engagement and content summarization

#### B. Introduction (Lead):

- Presents the most crucial event details
- Includes location, time, and key actors
- Should not exceed 30 words
- Provides succinct overview of the story

#### C. Body:

- Contains detailed event presentation and facts
- Includes supporting data, documentation, and relevant background
- Typically follows inverted pyramid structure
- Presents comprehensive analysis and context

#### D. Conclusion:

- Varies according to story type and subject matter
- Should end with impactful quotation
- Must maintain connection with introduction
- Provides closure while reinforcing key messages

### 3/ Professional Mobile Photography Guidelines (Video and Still Photography)

#### Key Technical Considerations:

1. Stability:
  - Use tripod when possible
  - Keep arms close to body when shooting handheld
  - View through screen rather than direct observation
2. Orientation:
  - Use landscape mode for video to avoid black bars
  - Maintain proper device orientation throughout shooting
3. Technical Setup:
  - Enable airplane mode during recording
  - Test audio, video, lighting before shooting
  - Allow 3-second buffer before and after scenes
4. Recording Techniques:

- Avoid digital zoom; move physically closer instead
- Minimize flash usage; prefer natural lighting
- Maintain level horizon in shots

#### 5. Camera Angles:

##### Three Main Categories:

##### A. Vertical Angles:

- Normal angle (eye level)
- High angle (looking down)
- Low angle (looking up)

##### B. Horizontal Angles:

- Full front face
- Three-quarter front
- Side angle
- Three-quarter rear
- Full rear

##### C. Specialized Angles:

- Bird's eye view
- Oblique/tilted angle

Each angle serves specific narrative purposes and creates different psychological effects on viewers, contributing to the story's overall impact and meaning (Machin & Polzer, 2015; Kress & van Leeuwen, 2006; Jewitt & Oyama, 2001). For example, a wide angle can establish a sense of context and setting, while a close-up can elicit empathy and emotional connection (Machin, 2014; Rose, 2016). The selection and framing of shots are crucial decisions that shape the viewer's experience and interpretation of the story.

### 3. Previous Studies (Literature Review):

Issa and Radwan (2016) explored Palestinian youth's reliance on mobile journalism as a primary news source during the Jerusalem Uprising, employing a combined methodological approach of surveys and structured interviews. Their study found that Palestinian youth significantly depended on mobile journalism during periods of crisis, demonstrating substantial trust in its capacity to provide

timely and relevant information. Social media platforms emerged as the dominant channels through which young Palestinians accessed news content related to the uprising, with Facebook being the most preferred social media application, YouTube for audio-visual news consumption, and Gmail as the predominant email-based platform. This research provides valuable insights into the critical role mobile journalism and social media play during political and social crises, illustrating their capability to rapidly disseminate information, influence youth perceptions, and reshape traditional media consumption patterns in conflict situations. Zakaria

Ben Sghir (2020) examined the comprehensive services provided by mobile journalism to media work and explored its future prospects within the evolving new media environment. Utilizing a descriptive methodology and questionnaire-based data collection from professional journalists, the study concluded that mobile devices are increasingly indispensable tools for contemporary media content production. The research highlighted the widespread adoption of smartphones by journalists worldwide for real-time news broadcasting, multimedia editing, and direct publishing capabilities. Key findings demonstrated the transformative impact of mobile devices on journalistic practices, the seamless integration of mobile journalism into global news production workflows, and the notable efficiency and immediacy achieved through smartphone-based content creation and distribution. This study provides crucial context for understanding the evolutionary trajectory and significant impact of mobile journalism in contemporary media landscapes, particularly in regions undergoing social and political transformations. It underscores the growing importance of mobile journalism in crisis reporting scenarios and illustrates how it contributes to reshaping traditional journalism practices within rapidly changing media environments.

Ghaly (2022) examined how Egyptian society perceived and evaluated social media platforms as information sources during the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, employing a quantitative survey methodology that included structured questionnaires distributed among a representative sample of Egyptian social media users. The study highlighted the growing significance of social media platforms in news dissemination during international conflicts and crises, revealing clear patterns in how Egyptians accessed, processed, and assessed the credibility of information about the war through various social media channels. Key findings indicated substantial reliance on social media for immediate updates, underscored the critical importance of credibility assessment mechanisms among users, and demonstrated the intricate intersection of social media and traditional journalism during crisis reporting. This research is particularly relevant to our discussion of mobile journalism as it underscores the evolving role of digital platforms in news dissemination, emphasizes the necessity of rigorous credibility assessment in contemporary news consumption practices, and illustrates the complex interplay

between new digital media forms and established journalistic methods in crisis contexts.

Khamis, S. (2011). investigated mobile journalism practices during political transitions in Egypt, particularly post-2011 revolution. The study, titled "Mobile Journalism and Democratic Engagement in Egypt's Post-Revolutionary Media Landscape," utilized qualitative analysis of interviews with Egyptian journalists and activists. Findings indicated that mobile journalism significantly contributed to democratic discourse, civic engagement, and social mobilization, despite facing severe governmental restrictions and technical difficulties. The research highlighted MoJo's pivotal role in facilitating citizen journalism and empowering marginalized voices within restrictive political environments.

Tsimba, G., Mugoniwa, B., & Mutembedza, A. N. (2020, May) explored the adoption and practice of mobile journalism among rural journalists in Zimbabwe, focusing on opportunities and obstacles associated with digital technologies. Their study, "A mobile ad-hoc strategy to enhance ICT based education in Zimbabwean rural schools," employed qualitative interviews and focus group discussions to analyze how rural journalists utilized mobile phones to bypass infrastructural barriers. Results demonstrated that mobile journalism significantly enhanced news coverage of rural and marginalized communities, enabling more inclusive and representative reporting, despite persistent challenges related to internet connectivity and resource availability.

Mutiso Ms, R. M. (2021) assessed the effectiveness of mobile journalism as a tool for crisis reporting in Kenyan media. Their research, "Place of solutions journalism in coverage of a crisis: examining reporting of covid-19 pandemic in Kenyan newspapers," employed mixed-methods approaches, including surveys and case studies of Kenyan journalists. The findings indicated that while mobile journalism dramatically improved the immediacy and multimedia quality of crisis reporting, journalists faced significant ethical and operational challenges, particularly regarding information verification and professional standards adherence. The study recommended structured professional training and ethical frameworks as essential for improving MoJo's effectiveness in crisis contexts.

Adamu, L. S. (2021). conducted a study titled "The impact of digital technologies on journalism in Nigeria. In *Media and Communication in Nigeria*," the study utilized survey methodologies and qualitative interviews with Nigerian journalists and editors. Findings indicated widespread adoption of mobile journalism practices, significantly improving news immediacy and multimedia content. However, the research also identified critical concerns regarding declining editorial standards, verification practices, and ethical considerations, emphasizing the

necessity of comprehensive training and clear editorial guidelines.

Zulkifli, N., & Aziz, F. M. (2023). examined mobile journalism's role in facilitating citizen journalism during Tunisia's democratic transition following the Arab Spring. Their study, "Mobile Journalism, Citizen Reporting, and Media Democratization in Tunisia," analyzed how mobile technologies empowered ordinary citizens to document political developments, enhance transparency, and hold authorities accountable. Findings highlighted mobile journalism's democratizing potential, particularly in transitioning contexts characterized by media censorship and governmental control. However, the study also identified significant risks related to misinformation, lack of journalistic training, and potential manipulation by political actors.

Taha, M. (2023) in his study, " Social Media Use in the Sudanese Uprising, 2018: Mediating Civilian-Military Discourse. In *Decolonizing Data*," explored how mobile journalism enabled rapid, decentralized news dissemination despite widespread internet shutdowns and governmental pressure. The results underscored mobile journalism's critical importance in bypassing traditional media restrictions, mobilizing public opinion, and documenting human rights violations, highlighting its essential role in Sudan's political transformation.

Salem and Amin (2022) investigated mobile journalism training programs' effectiveness in improving professional skills among Libyan journalists. Their study, "Mobile Journalism Training and Professional Development in Post-Conflict Libya," employed pre- and post-training assessments to evaluate skill improvement. Findings demonstrated significant enhancement in participants' abilities in multimedia reporting, ethical decision-making, and technical proficiency following structured training programs. The research emphasized the critical importance of ongoing professional development to support effective mobile journalism practice, particularly in post-conflict contexts characterized by media fragmentation and professional skill gaps.

#### **4. Research Methodology:**

##### **4.1 Research Design**

This study employs a quantitative descriptive analytical approach to examine the effectiveness of mobile journalism during Sudan's social transformation period (2018-2022). This approach was chosen for its ability to provide systematic, empirical investigation of mobile journalism practices and their impact.

##### **4.2 Study Population and Sample**

The study population consists of journalists working in Sudan during the specified period who utilized mobile journalism in their coverage. A sample of 80 journalists was selected using purposive sampling to ensure participants had direct experience with mobile journalism during the transformation period.

#### 4.3 Time Frame

The study covers the period from October 25, 2021, to July 25, 2022, a critical period of social and political transformation in Sudan.

#### 4.4 Data Collection Tool

The primary data collection instrument was a structured questionnaire comprising six main sections:

- 1/ Demographic characteristics of participants
- 2/ Role of mobile journalism in covering social transformations
- 3/ Professionalism and credibility in event coverage
- 4/ Impact of coverage on society, including procedures for impact analysis
- 5/ Challenges and obstacles encountered
- 6/ Development proposals

The questionnaire utilized a five-point Likert scale (Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, Strongly Disagree) to measure respondents' attitudes and experiences.

#### 4.5 Data Analysis

Statistical analysis was conducted using descriptive statistics, including:

- Frequency distributions
- Percentages
- Cross-tabulations of variables
- Analysis of response patterns across different demographic groups

#### 4.6 Validity and Reliability

- Content validity was ensured through expert review of the questionnaire
- Reliability was tested through pilot testing of the instrument
- Internal consistency was verified through statistical analysis

5. Analysis and Discussion

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of the Study Sample (N=80)

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	62	77.5%
	Female	18	22.5%
Educational Level	Secondary	12	15.0%
	Bachelor's	38	47.5%
	Master's	11	13.8%
	PhD	12	15.0%
	Post-doctorate	7	8.8%
Age Group	Under 19 years	2	1.3%
	19 - 34	7	6.3%
	35 - 44	26	28.7%
	45 - 54	28	30.0%
	55 and above	16	13.8%

Based on the demographic analysis of the study "The Effectiveness of Mobile Journalism in Producing Breaking News Stories During Social Transformations in Sudan (2018-2022)," several significant patterns and implications emerge. The gender distribution reveals a notable male dominance (77.5%) compared to female representation (22.5%), reflecting substantial gender disparity in Sudan's journalism field. This imbalance potentially influences the diversity of news coverage and story framing, particularly concerning issues that affect women. The significant gender gap might also indicate underlying cultural or professional barriers that limit women's participation in mobile journalism.

The educational profile of the participants demonstrates a remarkably high level of academic achievement, with 85% holding tertiary education qualifications. The largest segment consists of Bachelor's degree holders (47.5%), followed by a substantial proportion of postgraduate degree holders (37.6% combined Master's, PhD, and Post-doctorate). This educational composition suggests a strong theoretical foundation among mobile journalists, indicating enhanced capabilities in complex news analysis, ethical consideration, and quality content production. The combination of academic knowledge and practical skills particularly among Bachelor's degree holders points to a well-balanced professional capacity for news gathering and reporting.

Age distribution analysis reveals a concentration in the middle age brackets, with 58.7% of participants falling between 35-54 years. This age structure combines professional experience with technological adaptability, suggesting a balanced



perspective between traditional journalistic values and digital innovation. However, the limited representation of younger journalists (7.6% under 34) raises concerns about potential gaps in understanding youth perspectives and connecting with younger audiences. This age distribution might affect how mobile journalism adapts to evolving digital trends and younger audience preferences.

The overall demographic composition presents a picture of a well-educated, experienced professional cohort capable of effectively utilizing mobile journalism tools while maintaining high professional standards. However, the identified gaps in gender representation and age distribution suggest areas requiring attention for more inclusive and diverse mobile journalism practice. These demographics particularly influence how news stories are covered during social transformations, with implications for professional practice, content diversity, and audience engagement. The findings indicate a need for initiatives to promote greater diversity in mobile journalism, particularly in terms of gender balance and age representation, to ensure comprehensive coverage that reflects all segments of society.

Table 2: The Role of Mobile Journalism in Covering Social Transformations in Sudan (2018-2022)

Variable	Response Category	Frequency	Percentage
1. Mobile journalism contributed to immediate daily news coverage during 2018-2022	Strongly Agree	39	48.8%
	Agree	41	51.2%
	Neutral	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
2. Mobile journalism provided comprehensive coverage of social transformations in urban and rural areas	Strongly Agree	31	38.8%
	Agree	42	52.5%
	Neutral	2	2.5%
	Disagree	5	6.3%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
3. Mobile journalism enabled access to areas difficult to cover through traditional means	Strongly Agree	31	38.7%

	Agree	46	57.5%
	Neutral	1	1.2%
	Disagree	2	2.5%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
4. Mobile journalism helped document social transformations through audio, photos, and video	Strongly Agree	27	33.8%
	Agree	48	60.0%
	Neutral	4	5.0%
	Disagree	1	1.2%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
5. Mobile journalism contributed to conveying citizens' struggles during the transformation period	Strongly Agree	30	37.5%
	Agree	48	60.0%
	Neutral	2	2.5%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

### Analysis of Results:

The study results demonstrate a pivotal role for mobile journalism in covering social transformations in Sudan during the period 2018-2022, showing high levels of agreement across all studied dimensions. The immediate transmission of daily events received unanimous agreement from respondents (100% approval), confirming the vital role of mobile journalism in immediate news coverage.

Regarding coverage comprehensiveness, 91.3% of participants agreed on the effectiveness of mobile journalism in covering social transformations in both urban and rural areas, with only a small percentage (6.3%) disagreeing. Additionally, 96.2% of participants confirmed mobile journalism's ability to access areas difficult to cover through traditional means.

In terms of documentation, 93.8% of participants indicated the effectiveness of mobile journalism in documenting social transformations through multimedia (audio, photo, and video). Finally, 97.5% agreed on mobile journalism's role in conveying citizens' struggles during the transformation period, confirming its importance in transmitting the lived reality of Sudanese society during this critical period.

### Immediate News Coverage:

The study reveals a remarkable unanimous consensus regarding mobile journalism's effectiveness in immediate news coverage, with a perfect 100% agreement among respondents. The response distribution shows a nearly even split between those who strongly agree (48.8%) and those who agree (51.2%), with notably zero neutral or negative responses. This complete consensus underscores mobile journalism's unparalleled success in delivering real-time news coverage during Sudan's social transformations, demonstrating its crucial role in modern journalism's need for immediacy.

### Comprehensive Coverage:

In terms of comprehensive coverage, mobile journalism demonstrated strong effectiveness with 91.3% total agreement among respondents. The majority (52.5%) agreed with its comprehensive coverage capabilities, while 38.8% expressed strong agreement. A small portion of respondents remained neutral (2.5%), and only 6.3% disagreed. This high level of positive response, despite some minimal dissent, indicates mobile journalism's robust ability to provide thorough coverage across diverse geographical and social contexts, though with some room for improvement in certain areas.

### Access to Difficult Areas:

Mobile journalism's capability to access challenging locations received strong validation with 96.2% total agreement. The majority of respondents (57.5%) agreed with this capability, while 38.7% strongly agreed. The minimal neutral response (1.2%) and low disagreement (2.5%) highlight mobile journalism's significant advantage in reaching areas traditionally difficult to access. This overwhelming positive response demonstrates mobile journalism's crucial role in expanding news coverage to previously underserved or inaccessible locations.

### Multimedia Documentation:

The effectiveness of mobile journalism in multimedia documentation garnered substantial support with 93.8% total agreement. A significant majority (60.0%) agreed with its multimedia capabilities, while 33.8% strongly agreed. The presence of neutral responses (5.0%) and minimal disagreement (1.2%) suggests that while mobile journalism excels in multimedia documentation, there might be some technical aspects that could be enhanced. Nevertheless, the overall positive response confirms its effectiveness in capturing and conveying news through various media formats.

### Coverage of Citizens' Struggles:

The representation of citizens' struggles through mobile journalism received notably high approval with 97.5% total agreement. The majority (60.0%) agreed with its effectiveness in this area, while 37.5% strongly agreed. A small portion (2.5%) remained neutral, and significantly, there was no disagreement. This strong positive response, coupled with the absence of any negative feedback, demonstrates mobile journalism's exceptional ability to capture and convey the human aspect of social transformations, making it an invaluable tool for documenting citizen experiences during periods of social change.

### Overall Implications:

The study's findings present compelling evidence of mobile journalism's transformative impact on news reporting in Sudan, demonstrated by an exceptionally high average agreement rate of 95.7% across all measured dimensions. This remarkably consistent positive response pattern not only validates mobile journalism's effectiveness but also suggests a paradigm shift in how news is gathered and disseminated in contemporary Sudanese society. The near-unanimous positive feedback across multiple aspects of journalistic practice – from immediate coverage to comprehensive documentation – provides robust empirical support for mobile journalism's growing significance in the media landscape.

The strong validation of mobile journalism's effectiveness is particularly noteworthy when considered against the backdrop of Sudan's complex social and political transformations during 2018-2022. The minimal skepticism observed across all dimensions of the study suggests that mobile journalism has successfully addressed many of the traditional challenges faced by conventional news reporting methods. This widespread acceptance and positive evaluation from respondents indicate that mobile journalism has effectively filled crucial gaps in news coverage, particularly in situations requiring immediate response, accessible documentation, and comprehensive regional coverage.

The findings provide clear evidence of mobile journalism's essential role in modern news reporting, especially in contexts characterized by rapid social change and the need for immediate, accurate information dissemination. The technology's ability to overcome traditional barriers to news coverage, combined with its capacity to provide multimedia documentation and reach previously inaccessible areas, positions it as an indispensable tool in contemporary journalism. This is particularly significant in the Sudanese context, where traditional media infrastructure may face various limitations or constraints.

Furthermore, these results strongly support the conclusion that mobile journalism has become more than just an alternative or supplementary reporting tool – it has emerged as a primary means of news gathering and dissemination, particularly during periods of significant social transformation. The technology's demonstrated effectiveness in capturing and conveying citizens' experiences, combined with its ability to provide immediate, comprehensive coverage, suggests that mobile journalism has become an integral component of modern media operations in Sudan. This evolution represents a significant advancement in how news is collected, documented, and shared in contemporary society, particularly during periods of social change and transformation.

Table 3: Professionalism and Credibility in Event Coverage (N=80)

Variable	Response Category	Frequency	Percentage
1. Mobile journalism maintained objectivity in reporting events during the transformation period	Agree	34	42.5%
	Strongly Agree	7	8.7%
	Neutral	19	23.8%
	Disagree	16	20.0%
	Strongly Disagree	4	5.0%
2. Information verification was prioritized before mobile publishing	Agree	31	38.8%
	Strongly Agree	7	8.7%
	Neutral	12	15.0%
	Disagree	26	32.5%
	Strongly Disagree	4	5.0%
3. Avoided publishing content promoting discord or hate speech	Agree	25	31.3%
	Strongly Agree	15	18.8%
	Neutral	12	15.0%
	Disagree	18	22.5%
	Strongly Disagree	10	12.5%
4. Respected individual privacy in	Agree	30	37.5%

capturing and publishing news content			
	Strongly Agree	12	15.0%
	Neutral	7	8.8%
	Disagree	26	32.5%
	Strongly Disagree	5	6.3%
5. Documented information sources in published news stories	Agree	53	66.3%
	Strongly Agree	9	11.3%
	Neutral	7	8.8%
	Disagree	10	12.5%
	Strongly Disagree	1	1.2%

Analysis:

The study reveals complex patterns in the professional standards and credibility of mobile journalism during Sudan's transformation period, with varying levels of adherence to different journalistic principles.

Regarding objectivity in reporting, the results show a moderate positive trend, with 51.2% of respondents expressing agreement (42.5% agree, 8.7% strongly agree). However, a significant portion remained neutral (23.8%), while 25% expressed disagreement. This mixed response suggests that maintaining objectivity in mobile journalism presents ongoing challenges during periods of social transformation.

Information verification practices demonstrate a concerning pattern, with 47.5% expressing agreement about proper verification procedures, while 37.5% indicated disagreement. This nearly even split suggests significant room for improvement in verification protocols within mobile journalism practices. The presence of 15% neutral responses further emphasizes the complexity of maintaining rigorous verification standards in rapid-response journalism.

The handling of sensitive content and hate speech shows a similarly divided response. While 50.1% of respondents agreed that mobile journalism avoided inflammatory content, a substantial 35% disagreed. This division highlights the challenges in maintaining editorial standards during sensitive social periods. The 15% neutral response suggests ongoing uncertainty about appropriate content

guidelines.

Privacy considerations in news coverage revealed similar tensions, with 52.5% of respondents indicating respect for individual privacy, while 38.8% disagreed. This split underscores the challenge of balancing public interest with privacy rights in mobile journalism. The relatively low neutral response (8.8%) suggests strong opinions on this issue among practitioners.

The most positive finding relates to source documentation, with a strong 77.6% agreement rate regarding proper source attribution in news stories. This high compliance rate indicates a strong commitment to basic journalistic standards, though the 13.7% disagreement suggests room for improvement. The low neutral response (8.8%) indicates clear professional standards in this area.

These findings collectively suggest that while mobile journalism has established strong practices in some areas of professional standards, significant challenges remain in others. The results point to a need for enhanced professional guidelines and training, particularly in areas of information verification, content moderation, and privacy protection. The varying levels of adherence to professional standards likely reflect the rapid evolution of mobile journalism practices during periods of social transformation, highlighting areas requiring attention for improved journalistic integrity.

Table 4: Impact of Coverage on Society (N=80)

Variable	Response Category	Frequency	Percentage
1. Mobile journalism contributed to raising social awareness of national issues	Agree	49	61.3%
	Strongly Agree	21	26.2%
	Neutral	7	8.8%
	Disagree	3	3.7%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
2. Coverage helped strengthen social cohesion during the transformation period	Agree	39	48.8%
	Strongly Agree	18	22.5%
	Neutral	13	16.2%

	Disagree	9	11.3%
	Strongly Disagree	1	1.2%
3. Helped expose corruption and violations	Agree	42	52.5%
	Strongly Agree	23	28.7%
	Neutral	5	6.3%
	Disagree	9	11.3%
	Strongly Disagree	1	1.2%
4. Media coverage enhanced citizen participation in public affairs	Agree	47	58.7%
	Strongly Agree	24	30.0%
	Neutral	6	7.5%
	Disagree	3	3.5%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
5. Mobile journalism influenced public opinion on societal issues	Agree	46	47.5%
	Strongly Agree	24	30.0%
	Neutral	6	7.5%
	Disagree	4	5.0%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

### Analysis:

The data reveals a strong positive impact of mobile journalism on various aspects of social engagement and awareness in Sudan, with notably high agreement rates across all measured dimensions.

### Public Awareness and National Issues:

Mobile journalism demonstrated remarkable effectiveness in raising awareness of national issues, with an overwhelming 87.5% positive response rate (61.3% agree, 26.2% strongly agree). The minimal disagreement (3.7%) and absence of strong disagreement suggest mobile journalism's successful role in public education and awareness-building. This high consensus indicates mobile



journalism's crucial contribution to fostering an informed citizenry during the transformation period.

### Social Cohesion:

The technology's impact on social cohesion shows strong positive results, with 71.3% of respondents affirming its contribution (48.8% agree, 22.5% strongly agree). While some disagreement exists (12.5% combined), the significant majority supporting its positive impact suggests mobile journalism's effective role in maintaining social bonds during periods of transformation. The notable neutral response (16.2%) might reflect the complex nature of measuring social cohesion.

### Accountability and Transparency:

In exposing corruption and violations, mobile journalism showed significant effectiveness, with 81.2% positive responses (52.5% agree, 28.7% strongly agree). This high approval rate, coupled with low neutrality (6.3%), indicates mobile journalism's crucial role in promoting transparency and accountability. The relatively low disagreement (12.5% combined) suggests its effectiveness as a watchdog tool in society.

### Civic Participation:

The impact on citizen participation in public affairs was particularly strong, with 88.7% positive responses (58.7% agree, 30% strongly agree). The minimal disagreement (3.5%) and absence of strong disagreement highlight mobile journalism's success in fostering civic engagement. This suggests mobile journalism has become an effective tool for democratizing public discourse and encouraging citizen participation.

### Public Opinion Formation:

Mobile journalism's influence on public opinion shows robust positive results, with 77.5% agreement (47.5% agree, 30% strongly agree). The low disagreement rate (5%) and absence of strong disagreement indicate its significant role in shaping public discourse. The moderate neutral response (7.5%) suggests a measured understanding of media influence on public opinion.

These findings collectively demonstrate mobile journalism's substantial positive impact on Sudanese society, particularly in fostering public awareness, promoting accountability, and encouraging civic participation. The consistently high positive responses across all dimensions suggest that mobile journalism has become

an essential tool for social transformation and democratic engagement in Sudan. The results indicate its effectiveness not only as a news delivery platform but as a catalyst for social change and civic involvement.

Table 5: Coverage of Social Issues (N=80)

Variable	Response Category	Frequency	Percentage
1. Mobile journalism covered women's issues during the transformation period	Agree	39	48.5%
	Strongly Agree	18	22.5%
	Neutral	12	15.0%
	Disagree	11	13.7%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
2. Documented youth problems and future aspirations	Agree	41	51.2%
	Strongly Agree	21	26.2%
	Neutral	5	6.3%
	Disagree	11	13.3%
	Strongly Disagree	2	2.5%
3. Highlighted issues in remote and marginalized areas	Agree	41	51.2%
	Strongly Agree	24	30.0%
	Neutral	8	10.0%
	Disagree	5	6.3%
	Strongly Disagree	2	2.5%
4. Covered economic crises and their impact on citizens	Agree	44	55.0%
	Strongly Agree	24	30.0%
	Neutral	9	11.3%
	Disagree	1	1.2%
	Strongly Disagree	2	2.5%

5. Highlighted social peace and peaceful coexistence issues	Agree	36	45.0%
	Strongly Agree	26	32.5%
	Neutral	12	15.0%
	Disagree	3	3.7%
	Strongly Disagree	3	3.7%

Analysis:

The data reveals comprehensive coverage of various social issues through mobile journalism in Sudan, with strong positive responses across different thematic areas.

Women's Issues Coverage:

Mobile journalism showed significant attention to women's issues, with 71% positive responses (48.5% agree, 22.5% strongly agree). The notable neutral response (15%) and moderate disagreement (13.7%) suggest room for more comprehensive coverage of women's issues. The absence of strong disagreement indicates general acceptance of the coverage quality, though there might be opportunities for enhanced focus on women's perspectives and concerns.

Youth Issues and Aspirations:

The coverage of youth-related issues demonstrated strong positive results, with 77.4% agreement (51.2% agree, 26.2% strongly agree). The relatively low neutral response (6.3%) suggests clear opinions on this aspect, while the combined disagreement (15.8%) indicates some gaps in youth coverage. This strong positive response highlights mobile journalism's effectiveness in capturing youth voices and concerns during the transformation period.

Remote and Marginalized Areas:

Coverage of remote and marginalized areas showed particularly strong results, with 81.2% positive responses (51.2% agree, 30% strongly agree). The low disagreement rate (8.8% combined) and moderate neutral response (10%) suggest effective reach into traditionally underserved areas. This indicates mobile journalism's success in bridging geographical and social divides in news coverage.

Economic Crisis Coverage:

The coverage of economic issues and their impact on citizens received the strongest positive response, with 85% agreement (55% agree, 30% strongly agree). The minimal disagreement (3.7% combined) and moderate neutral response (11.3%) indicate highly effective coverage of economic challenges. This suggests mobile journalism's crucial role in documenting and communicating economic impacts on daily life.

Social Peace and Coexistence:

Coverage of social peace and peaceful coexistence showed strong positive results, with 77.5% agreement (45% agree, 32.5% strongly agree). The balanced neutral response (15%) and low disagreement (7.4% combined) suggest effective coverage of social harmony issues. This indicates mobile journalism's contribution to promoting social cohesion and understanding.

These findings collectively demonstrate mobile journalism's effectiveness in covering diverse social issues in Sudan. The consistently high positive responses across all dimensions indicate its success in providing comprehensive coverage of various societal concerns. The data suggests that mobile journalism has become an essential tool for highlighting and addressing different social issues, particularly in:

- 1. Providing platforms for marginalized voices
- 2. Documenting economic challenges and their societal impact
- 3. Promoting social cohesion and understanding
- 4. Addressing youth concerns and aspirations
- 5. Contributing to women's issue awareness

The results indicate that while mobile journalism has achieved significant success in comprehensive social issue coverage, there remain opportunities for enhanced focus in certain areas, particularly in women's issues and youth concerns. The overall positive response patterns suggest mobile journalism's crucial role in fostering social awareness and promoting inclusive dialogue during Sudan's transformation period.

Table 6: Challenges and Obstacles During the Transformation Period (N=80)

Variable	Response Category	Frequency	Percentage
1. Faced difficulties accessing event locations	Agree	40	50.0%

	Strongly Agree	11	13.7%
	Neutral	17	21.3%
	Disagree	6	7.5%
	Strongly Disagree	5	6.3%
2. Experienced harassment during media coverage	Agree	48	60.0%
	Strongly Agree	14	17.5%
	Neutral	8	10.0%
	Disagree	4	5.0%
	Strongly Disagree	6	7.5%
3. Suffered from weak internet networks during event coverage	Agree	30	37.5%
	Strongly Agree	44	55.0%
	Neutral	4	5.0%
	Disagree	1	1.2%
	Strongly Disagree	1	1.2%
4. Faced difficulties verifying circulated information	Agree	48	60.0%
	Strongly Agree	26	32.5%
	Neutral	2	2.5%
	Disagree	2	2.5%
	Strongly Disagree	2	2.5%
5. Coverage affected by internet service interruptions	Agree	36	45.0%
	Strongly Agree	42	52.5%
	Neutral	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Strongly Disagree	2	2.5%

## Analysis:

The data reveals significant challenges faced by mobile journalists during Sudan's transformation period, with technical, physical, and operational obstacles affecting their work.

### Access to Event Locations:

Physical access to event locations presented substantial challenges, with 63.7% of respondents reporting difficulties (50% agree, 13.7% strongly agree). The notable neutral response (21.3%) and moderate disagreement (13.8% combined) suggest varying experiences across different contexts. This indicates that while access issues were significant, they weren't universal across all coverage situations.

### Safety and Harassment:

A concerning 77.5% of respondents reported experiencing harassment during their coverage (60% agree, 17.5% strongly agree). The relatively low neutral response (10%) and disagreement (12.5% combined) highlight the prevalence of safety concerns for mobile journalists. This high agreement rate underscores the significant personal risks associated with mobile journalism during the transformation period.

### Internet Connectivity:

Technical infrastructure posed major challenges, with an overwhelming 92.5% reporting issues with weak internet networks (37.5% agree, 55% strongly agree). The minimal neutral response (5%) and negligible disagreement (2.4% combined) emphasize the pervasive nature of connectivity challenges. This nearly unanimous response indicates that technical infrastructure was a fundamental obstacle to effective coverage.

### Information Verification:

Information verification emerged as a critical challenge, with 92.5% of respondents reporting difficulties (60% agree, 32.5% strongly agree). The minimal neutral and disagreement responses (2.5% each) highlight the widespread nature of this challenge. This suggests that establishing information authenticity was one of the most significant operational challenges faced by mobile journalists.

### Internet Service Interruptions:

Service interruptions showed the most decisive response pattern, with 97.5% reporting impact on coverage (45% agree, 52.5% strongly agree). The absence of neutral responses and minimal disagreement (2.5%) emphasizes the severe impact of internet shutdowns on mobile journalism operations. This near-complete consensus indicates that service interruptions were a critical impediment to coverage.

The research findings reveal multiple interconnected challenges confronting mobile journalism in Sudan, presenting a complex landscape of technical, safety, operational, and systemic obstacles that impact journalistic practices and effectiveness.

Infrastructure challenges emerge as the most pressing concern, with technical difficulties particularly prominent in the findings. The data shows that nearly all respondents experienced significant problems with internet connectivity and service interruptions. These technical limitations fundamentally compromised journalists' ability to transmit information effectively and verify content accuracy, highlighting the critical need for robust technical infrastructure to support mobile journalism operations.

Safety concerns represent another significant challenge, with the data revealing a disturbing prevalence of harassment against mobile journalists. Personal security issues, combined with restricted access to event locations, created substantial barriers to comprehensive coverage. These physical challenges not only impeded journalists' ability to report effectively but also raised serious concerns about their personal wellbeing while performing their professional duties.

Operational difficulties manifested primarily through challenges in information verification and the compound effects of technical and physical barriers. The research indicates that journalists consistently struggled with verifying information accuracy, a challenge exacerbated by technical limitations and access restrictions. This combination of obstacles created a complex operational environment that required journalists to navigate multiple challenges simultaneously while maintaining professional standards.

Systemic issues emerged as an overarching theme, with the high agreement rates across all challenges indicating that these problems are deeply rooted rather than isolated incidents. The interconnected nature of these challenges suggests that addressing them requires comprehensive, system-wide solutions rather than piecemeal approaches. This systemic nature of the problems underscores the need for coordinated efforts to implement effective solutions.

Despite these significant challenges, mobile journalism has demonstrated

remarkable resilience and effectiveness in providing coverage. However, the findings clearly indicate several areas requiring attention for enhanced effectiveness. These include the need for improved technical infrastructure, strengthened safety measures for journalists, enhanced tools and protocols for information verification, and robust solutions for maintaining coverage during service interruptions.

The research concludes that while these challenges have not prevented mobile journalism from fulfilling its crucial role in news coverage, addressing these obstacles could substantially improve its effectiveness. By implementing comprehensive solutions to these identified challenges, mobile journalism could enhance its capacity to provide reliable, timely, and accurate coverage in future scenarios. This suggests that while mobile journalism has proven its value despite these obstacles, its full potential could be realized through systematic addressing of these identified challenges.

Table 7: Development Proposals (N=80)

Variable	Response Category	Frequency	Percentage
1. Need for training journalists in mobile journalism techniques	Agree	32	40.0%
	Strongly Agree	45	56.3%
	Neutral	1	1.2%
	Disagree	2	2.5%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
2. Need to establish a code of ethics for mobile journalism	Agree	30	37.5%
	Strongly Agree	50	62.5%
	Neutral	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
3. Necessity to develop legislation protecting mobile journalists	Agree	30	37.5%
	Strongly Agree	49	61.3%
	Neutral	0	0.0%
	Disagree	1	1.2%



	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
4. Importance of providing supporting equipment and technologies	Agree	31	38.8%
	Strongly Agree	48	60.0%
	Neutral	1	1.2%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
5. Need to establish trusted platforms for mobile journalism content	Agree	32	40.0%
	Strongly Agree	48	60.0%
	Neutral	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

Analysis:

The data reveals an overwhelming consensus on various development needs for mobile journalism in Sudan, with remarkably high agreement rates across all proposed improvements.

Professional Training and Development:

There is near-universal agreement (96.3%) on the need for training journalists in mobile journalism techniques (40% agree, 56.3% strongly agree). The minimal neutral response (1.2%) and disagreement (2.5%) emphasize the strong recognition of professional development needs. This indicates a clear understanding that enhanced technical and professional skills are crucial for advancing mobile journalism practices.

Ethical Framework:

The proposal for establishing a code of ethics received unanimous support (100%), with 37.5% agreeing and 62.5% strongly agreeing. The absence of any neutral or negative responses underscores the critical importance placed on developing ethical guidelines. This complete consensus suggests recognition of the

need to standardize professional practices and establish clear ethical boundaries.

#### Legal Protection:

The need for protective legislation showed nearly unanimous support (98.8%), with 37.5% agreeing and 61.3% strongly agreeing. The minimal disagreement (1.2%) and absence of neutral responses indicate strong recognition of the need for legal frameworks to protect mobile journalists. This strong support reflects awareness of current vulnerabilities in the legal protection of mobile journalists.

#### Technical Infrastructure:

Support for improved equipment and technologies was nearly unanimous (98.8%), with 38.8% agreeing and 60% strongly agreeing. The minimal neutral response (1.2%) and absence of disagreement highlight the recognized importance of technical support. This indicates a clear understanding that technological advancement is crucial for the field's development.

#### Content Distribution Platforms:

The proposal for establishing trusted platforms received unanimous support (100%), with 40% agreeing and 60% strongly agreeing. The absence of any neutral or negative responses emphasizes the recognized need for reliable content distribution channels such as Al Jazeera's Online platform, the BBC's News app, and the Deutsche Welle's mobile-optimized website. These regional and international examples demonstrate the importance of trusted media outlets providing credible and accessible information, especially during periods of social transformation.

#### Key Implications and Recommendations:

The findings present compelling evidence for a comprehensive transformation of mobile journalism in Sudan, highlighting several critical areas for development and improvement. The remarkable consensus among respondents across all proposed improvements suggests an urgent need for systematic changes to enhance the effectiveness and professionalism of mobile journalism practices.

Professional development emerges as a cornerstone of proposed improvements, with an overwhelming majority supporting structured training programs. This indicates a clear need to establish comprehensive training frameworks that address both technical skills and professional competencies. Regular updates to training content would ensure journalists remain current with

evolving technological advancements and industry standards. The development of specialized curricula, incorporating practical experience and theoretical knowledge, would strengthen the foundation of mobile journalism practice.

The unanimous support for establishing ethical frameworks underscores the critical importance of professional standards in mobile journalism. This suggests the need to develop comprehensive guidelines that address the unique challenges of mobile journalism while maintaining traditional journalistic values. These ethical frameworks should be regularly reviewed and updated to reflect evolving media landscapes and societal needs, ensuring their continued relevance and effectiveness.

Legal protection emerges as another crucial area for development, with nearly universal support for protective legislation. This indicates the need for comprehensive legal frameworks that specifically address the rights and responsibilities of mobile journalists. Such legislation should provide clear guidelines for professional practice while offering robust protection mechanisms against harassment and interference. The development of legal support systems would further strengthen the position of mobile journalists in their professional practice.

Technical infrastructure development represents a fundamental requirement for advancing mobile journalism. The strong support for improved equipment and technologies suggests the need for systematic investment in modern tools and support systems. Regular technological updates and maintenance programs would ensure sustained operational effectiveness. This infrastructure development should be accompanied by technical support systems to assist journalists in maximizing the utility of available resources.

The unanimous support for establishing trusted content distribution platforms highlights the need for reliable channels for mobile journalism content. This suggests developing verified platforms with robust quality control measures and content verification systems. Such platforms would enhance the credibility of mobile journalism while providing reliable channels for information dissemination to the public.

The interconnected nature of these recommendations suggests that improvements in one area would positively impact others, creating a synergistic effect in the overall development of mobile journalism. Implementation of these recommendations would require coordinated effort from various stakeholders, including media organizations, educational institutions, regulatory bodies, and technical service providers. The strong consensus among respondents indicates that such comprehensive development would receive broad support from the mobile

journalism community.

Moving forward, these findings provide a clear roadmap for enhancing mobile journalism practices in Sudan. The implementation of these recommendations would not only improve the professional practice of mobile journalism but also contribute to the broader development of media landscape in the country. The strong support across all categories suggests that such improvements would be well-received and could lead to significant positive changes in the field of mobile journalism.

## Conclusion

The comprehensive analysis of mobile journalism during Sudan's social transformation period (2018-2022) reveals significant findings that contribute substantively to our understanding of emerging journalistic practices in transitional contexts. The demographic composition of mobile journalists, characterized by a pronounced male majority (77.5%) and high educational attainment (85% with tertiary qualifications), indicates both the professional capacity and inherent gender disparities within the field. This demographic structure, while demonstrating strong professional credentials, highlights the need for greater gender inclusivity in mobile journalism practice.

The study's findings regarding operational effectiveness are particularly noteworthy, with unanimous agreement (100%) on mobile journalism's capacity for immediate news coverage and remarkably high success rates in comprehensive coverage (91.3%) and accessing challenging locations (96.2%). These results demonstrate mobile journalism's transformative potential in revolutionizing news gathering and dissemination, particularly in contexts characterized by rapid social change. The technology's effectiveness in multimedia documentation (93.8%) further emphasizes its versatility as a journalistic tool.

Professional standards analysis revealed complex patterns, with moderate success in maintaining objectivity (51.2%) and concerning results in information verification (47.5%). However, the strong performance in source documentation (77.6%) suggests an underlying commitment to fundamental journalistic principles. These mixed results indicate the need for enhanced professional guidelines and standardized practices, particularly in areas requiring rapid response and fact-checking protocols.

The social impact dimension yielded particularly compelling results, with mobile journalism demonstrating remarkable effectiveness in raising public awareness (87.5%), exposing corruption (81.2%), and fostering civic participation

(88.7%). These findings underscore mobile journalism's significant role in promoting transparency, accountability, and democratic engagement during periods of social transformation. The technology's contribution to civic discourse and public awareness represents a fundamental shift in how media influences social change.

Research implications extend across multiple domains, emphasizing the necessity for enhanced professional training, robust ethical frameworks, and improved technical infrastructure. The findings indicate that mobile journalism's effectiveness is contingent upon addressing these foundational requirements, particularly in contexts characterized by rapid social change and technical challenges. The study's results suggest that strategic investment in these areas could substantially enhance mobile journalism's impact and effectiveness.

The research objectives were comprehensively addressed, providing empirical evidence of mobile journalism's effectiveness, challenges, and opportunities during social transformation. The findings contribute significantly to theoretical understanding by extending existing frameworks of media practice in transitional contexts. This study distinguishes itself through its comprehensive examination of multiple dimensions of mobile journalism practice, providing quantitative validation of its impact and identifying specific development requirements.

Recommendations emerging from this research emphasize the need for structured professional development programs, enhanced technical infrastructure, and comprehensive legal frameworks protecting mobile journalists. These recommendations are grounded in empirical evidence and address identified gaps in current practice. The study suggests establishing standardized ethical guidelines, improving internet connectivity, providing essential equipment, and developing protective legislation as crucial steps toward enhancing mobile journalism's effectiveness.

Future research directions should explore the long-term impact of mobile journalism on social transformation processes, conduct comparative analyses across different regional contexts, and examine technical infrastructure requirements for effective practice. Additionally, investigating gender dynamics in mobile journalism and analyzing its impact on traditional media practices would contribute valuable insights to the field.

This study's findings represent a significant contribution to understanding mobile journalism's role in social transformation while identifying crucial areas for development. The research provides a foundation for future studies and practical improvements in mobile journalism practice, particularly in contexts characterized

by rapid social change and technical challenges. The comprehensive nature of the findings, combined with clear recommendations for development, positions this study as a valuable resource for both academic understanding and practical application in the field of mobile journalism.

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