



World Media Summit Global Awards for EXCELLENCE 2014

Truth
Objectivity
Excellence

WMS Secretariat 世界媒体峰会秘书处 编

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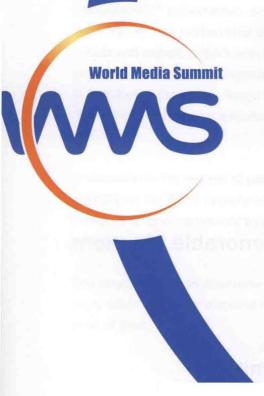
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The WMS Global Awards for Excellence, launched by the World Media Summit (WMS), is the first comprehensive news awards covering multiple media formats, including text, photo, video, and integrated media. The awards honor "TRUTH, OBJECTIVITY, EXCELLENCE" in journalism, encouraging all people working in media sectors to keep honing their professional skills and pursue excellence, while inspiring media outlets and setups to work with the times in the spirit of innovation. The awards include three categories: Awards for Exemplary News Teams and News Professionals in Developing Countries, Award for Media Innovation, and Award for New Media Reporting. The first ever awards announced 4 winners and 19 honorable mentions in late 2014.

In response to the request of participants, overseas media entities and academic institutions, the WMS Secretariat publishes this collection of the 2014 prizewinning entries, with brief comments by professionals and judges of the leading world media outlets.

The awards have garnered extensive support from WMS presidium members and many other international media organizations. We hereby extend our heart-felt thanks to all of them.

Foreword

PUBLIC WELFARE AWARDS

Awards for Exemplary News Teams in Developing Countries Winner

101 East, Al Jazeera English

Honorable Mentions:

This Week in Palestine
Truth vs Hype, New Delhi Television Limited
Rural Damascus, Al Jazeera
Outlook India

PUBLIC WELFARE AWARDS

Awards for Exemplary News Professionals in Developing Countries Winner:

Palagummi Sainath, The Hindu, India

Honorable Mentions:

Meera Srinivasan, The Hindu, India Surendra Paudel, Nepal Republic Media Pvt. Ltd., Nepal Tan EE Long, Nanyang, Malaysia Sheuli Akter, Ns NewsWire, Bangladesh Adow Jubat, the Standard Group Limited, Kenya

Winners List

AWARDS FOR MEDIA INNOVATION

Winner:

Behind the Bloodshed, USA Today

Honorable Mentions:

Sea Change: the Pacific's Perilous Turn, the Seattle Times

Live Blog of Israel-Gaza Conflict, Haaretz, Israel

3D Animated Videographics, AFP

The Change for Health App, The Standard Group Limited,

Kenya

Putin's Q&A, as It Happened: All the Best Quotes and

Realtime Reaction, Russia Today

AWARDS FOR NEW MEDIA REPORTING

Winner:

Myanmar Emerges, Global Post, US

Honorable Mentions:

Chicago under the Gun, Chicago Tribune

Meteorite Hits Russian Urals, Russia Today

Privacy and Information Security, Al Jazeera

Overdose, ProPublica, US

Mandela: The Father of the Rainbow Nation, Al Jazeera



101 East

Al Jazeera English

PUBLIC WELFARE AWARDS

Award for Exemplary News Teams In Developing Countries



Recommendation Letter

2 OCTOBER 2014 To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to recommend Al Jazeera's weekly Asian current affairs program, 101 East.

Since its inception, 101 East has garnered a loyal international audience through fearless reporting on the issues shaping Asia today.

From child abuse and natural disasters to political upheaval and climate change, 101 East tackles the difficult issues that matter most in the region.

Telling untold stories and giving a voice to the world's most vulnerable is clearly one of the program's driving motivators. This unique approach, whereby issues are illuminated through the eyes of everyday people, has helped 101 East consistently deliver films that create awareness and understanding of the issues affecting people's daily lives.

Another hallmark of every 101 East film is the use of compelling cinematography. The program's powerful storytelling techniques are always complemented by powerful images that capture the issue and high production values.

101 East has received much international recognition in the form of media awards. More important, however, many 101 East programs have been able to effect real change in society, including policy changes and ending abusive practices.

101 East deserves great recognition for bringing the world's attention to under-reported issues in such an engaging, comprehensive manner.

Kind Regards,

IRIS FOK SENIOR NEWS COORDINATOR ASIA PACIFIC

Category:

Public Welfare Awards – Award for Exemplary News Teams in Developing Countries

Winner:

101 East, Al Jazeera English Channel

Language:

English

Comments:

The team has done a very good and authentic job on a variety of strong issues. One of them is rather a serious issue where it is most needed to be tackled, family violence reaching epidemic levels in Papua New Guinea.

About 101 East

101 East is Al Jazeera's weekly Asia Pacific current affairs program covering a dynamic region with diverse cultures and conflicting politics. It reports on the lives of people across the region: from Japan's criminal underworld – the Yakuza – to Mongolia's Sumo wrestlers, from South Korea's K-Pop stars to child workers in Bangladesh. The program travels to far flung corners to tell the stories that make Asia unique – from the deadly pursuit of climbing the world's highest mountain – Qomolangma – to the last timber elephants in Myanmar's deep jungles, to the struggle for cultural survival on remote Easter Island. Through special reports, in-depth interviews, and rousing debates, we speak direct to all the players from those on the street to those in power. The official website is http://www.aljazeera.com.

Influence

101 East's hard-hitting, investigative style of reporting routinely effects real change and has significant impacts on the people and the issues at the heart of our programs. Examples where 101 East programs have resulted in real change include:

Return of the Lizard King – this year-long international investigation into wildlife trafficking led to the arrest of a key wildlife smuggling figure in Malaysia.

The Lost Boys – this film explored the plight of the thousands of children working in the dangerous coal mines of India's Meghalaya state. Since the film was broadcast, authorities have stopped the practice of using children to mine for coal.

Nepal's Slave Girls - this powerful film about the young girls who work as slaves in the homes of Nepal's elite shone a light on an abusive practice that destroys young lives. In the aftermath of this film's broadcast, greater coverage was given to this issue and Nepal's slave girls became a political issue.

It's a Man's World – this insightful and disturbing documentary exposed the men who rape women, and gave important insights into their motivations and characters. The film led to the launch of an education campaign for high school students in Cambodia.



Entries

Myanmar's Turn

After releasing hundreds of political prisoners and a series of dramatic reforms, 101 East asks if Myanmar could emerge as Asia's newest democracy.

Short Synopsis:

Myanmar, formerly known as Burma, is undergoing its most significant political change since military rule began in 1962. President Thein Sein has surprised the world with a series of democratic reforms. He has opened the country to the western world, released hundreds of political prisoners and eased media censorship. Opposition Leader Aung San Suu Kyi has spent the past month campaigning openly in the country's by-election, and expectations among the people are the highest they have been in a lifetime. 101 East travels to Myanmar to find out the reasons behind the country's dramatic turn, witnessing the transformation through the eyes of ordinary people and asking whether the country will emerge as Asia's newest democracy.

Crew:

Reporter/Producer: Aela Callan

Cameraman: Lee Ali Field Producer: Nikki May Video Editor: Andy Mees

Exec Producer: Sharon Roobol



Battered & Bruised

Papua New Guinea is home to some of the world's worst rates of domestic violence. Why are so many women being assaulted in the South Pacific?

Short Synopsis:

Family violence has reached epidemic levels in the South Pacific's largest nation – Papua New Guinea. Two out of three women have been victims of domestic violence and 50% have experienced forced sex or gang rape.

Social media, radio, and innovative community policing projects are being used to tackle the rising rates of violent acts in family homes. But PNG remains a tribally-oriented patriarchal society, where brutality in the community is a way of life. 101 East examines how Papua New Guinea can curb some of the worst rates of family violence in the world.

Crew:

Reporter/Producer: Drew Ambrose

Cameraman: Lee Ali Video Editor: Andy Mees

Exec Producer: Sharon Roobol



Educating Indonesia

101 East investigates why Indonesia's education system is one of the worst in the world.

Short Synopsis:

Indonesia came last in a recent landmark education report of 40 nations measuring literacy, test scores, graduation rates, and other key benchmarks. 57 million children attend Indonesian schools, and 20% of the national budget is spent on an education system plagued by poor teaching and corruption. This year, a new curriculum is being introduced across the archipelago in an effort to simplify education in a country where one in three students drop out of school. But knowledge-based subjects like science have been downgraded in favor of more nationalism and religion. 101 East examines the challenges in educating Indonesia.

Crew:

Reporter/Producer: Drew Ambrose Cameraman: Timothy Deagle

Video Editor: Andy Mee





Mr. Palagummi Sainath

The Hindu, India

PUBLIC WELFARE AWARDS

Awards for Exemplary News Professionals in Developing Countries



Recommendation Letter

September 15, 2014

I have tremendous pleasure in recommending P. Sainath for the WMS Award in the Public Welfare category.

I have known Sainath for over two decades now as a passionate and pioneering journalist who has set new standards in the profession and inspired generations of younger journalists by his example. He has, throughout this period, been unwavering and uncompromising in his commitment to the cause of the marginalized and deprived sections of our society and devoted his formidable skills of research, investigation and analysis to shedding critical light on the daily struggle of the vast majority of the people eking out their livelihood in the relative obscurity of our vast rural hinterland. He has almost blazed a trail of fact-finding and telling-truth-to-power journalism in India which has made a real difference in terms of drawing attention to, and creating awareness about, the gross inequities operating in our society and in pressuring public policy to tackle them.

The two greatest crops, Sainath has often written, are hunger and thirst. And there is no food security without water security. India with 16 per cent of the world's population and four per cent of its water resources is also the biggest guzzler of groundwater amongst large nations, with 65 per cent of its irrigation and 85 per cent of its drinking water coming from that source.

In 2013, parts of India saw one of the worst "droughts" in decades. In the giant state of Maharashtra (307 000 sq. km; pop.115 million) the government and the media called it the greatest drought in half a century.

In a painstaking investigation across six very dry months, Sainath travelled thousands of kilometers visiting dozens of villages in the worst-affected regions that media rarely go to. The five field reports he submits as entries for the WMS Award (Public Welfare) are part of a series that reveals startling truths and had a tremendous impact when they were published in India's prestigious and leading national daily, *The Hindu*. "Thirst Economy" as Sainath terms it, is worth tens of billions of dollars. The reports drove home the point that what we have in India is not simply

Category:

Public Welfare Awards – Awards for Exemplary News Professionals in Developing Countries

Winner:

Mr. Sainath Palagummi, Former Rural Affairs Editor, *The Hindu*, India

Language:

English

Comments:

Water, being the essence of life, is needed where people are most deprived. The sources of development and better life. The journalist had the stamina to write, in a wise and strong way, about all the facets of this problem.