

A B S T R A C T**The Gleaner and the Russian Revolution**

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This paper seeks to examine the newspaper coverage given by the Gleaner of Jamaica of events in Russia between September 1917 and September 1920.

By analyzing the front page and editorial reactions to events in Russia, the research seeks to establish the extent and nature of the coverage and to suggest the effect this may have had on the reading public.

Generally it was found that the Gleaner gave significant coverage to events in Russia. For the entire period under study the Revolution enjoyed continuous reflection in the editorial pages.

The Gleaner portrayed to its readers that something quite alarming had taken place in Russia. It hinted at times that the events may even have had some epochal dimensions. In the main, however, the Revolution and its leaders were not portrayed positively. In particular the leaders of the Revolution were seen as idealistic and fanatical.

The Jamaican readers' first glimpse of the Russian Revolution was therefore an unfavourable one and this may have helped in developing the foundation for the acceptance of crude and stereotypical ideas about Lenin, the Revolution and latter day Communism.