The interplay of media and democracy in safeguarding human rights

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The media is the most powerful entity on earth. They have the power to make the innocent guilty and to make the guilty innocent, and that is power, because they control the minds of the masses.  

Introduction

Indian Democratic system stands on three pillars i.e. Legislature, Executive and Judiciary. The fourth one which passes on the feelings of the public at large towards these higher three pillars is Media. Media an intervening medium acquired an honorable position of fourth pillar i.e. Fourth Estate. The existence of free, independent and powerful media is the cornerstone of a democracy, especially for mixed society like India. Media is not only a medium to express one’s feelings, opinions and views but it is also responsible and instrumental for building opinions and views on various topics of regional, national and international agenda. The most important role of the media is its ability to mobilize the thinking process of millions.

The Fourth Estate plays the role of a conscious keeper, being a watch dog of other three pillars – the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary of democratic setup. However, there are always two sides of the coin. With the increased role and importance attached to the media, there is need for its accountability and professionalism in its reportage. The Fourth Estate plays the role of a conscious keeper, being a watch dog of other three pillars – the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary of democratic setup. However, there are always two sides of the coin. With the increased role and importance attached to the media, there is need for its accountability and professionalism in its reportage. Although the role of media is commendable in terms of providing justice and media has been acting as the savior of human rights but this is only a one sided picture. There are various instances where media has also violated the human rights and has also divided the democracy.

Media plays an important role in the democracy and promoting and protecting human rights. In this paper, Researcher is specifically dealing with the some points which clear that how media is promoting human rights and violating human rights in the international as well as in domestic context. Researcher is also dealing with some points as to how electronic media plays a role in the disaster situation and social responsibility of media.

1Quote by Malcolm X on Importance of Media
Basically, the media is considered as fourth pillar of the society. Even in the US Constitution’s First amendment, there is a separate position to the media that freedom of media it means media is have absolute freedom but in practically judiciary have been restricted to such extend by their decisions. When we came to Indian scenario there is no such power given to the media directly but it given power indirectly which is also available to every citizen of India and this right is not absolute there are some restriction on it.

Freedom of speech and expression which is guaranteed in the Article 19(1) (a) of the constitution and this right is restricted in the Article 19(2) of the constitution but when it come to the question of media they always thing that they have right to freedom of speech and expression and constitution of India itself given them this power but they are ignore the restriction impose by the constitution. But is press really free? That is the question there are certain factors which also can be control by the media indirect way like business man, and politicians. Which also effect on the Democracy and Human rights.

**National Perspective of Media, Democracy and Human Right.**

- **Is The Media Violator of The Human Rights?**

Yes, as researcher think it should be violator of the Human rights as I mention above the media played important role in the Rawandan Genocide. In domestic means in India media also played important role for violating human rights as well as promoting human right. There are various incidence in India whereas media played or we can say media is responsible for violating human right when there are such news like communal violence media has been spreading these kind of news by making it on interesting manner therefore there is always the chances of violation of Human right because when such types of news are published that is impact on the society.

We can get the example of *Babri mashid and Ram Mandir Issue* which is create too much violence between two groups of the people there for it violates the human rights of many people in the country. There is another incident where media played role to violating human rights of the people where as in case of *26/11Mumbai Attack* media had played significant role to telecast the incident live therefore various people loose their life.

*Gujarat riots* is also one of the examples of it. And there are various other issues also where the media violates the human rights of the people of the country like when there is sting operation media violates the right to privacy. Because of news of media or any news which are not true it also affects the human rights of the people. Likewise people also have right to free speech but when media comes into picture and interfering with it then it’s become big issue we can take the example of *Amir khan’s Intolerance issue.*

**Jawaharlal Nehru University Delhi and Electronic Media**

The ongoing occurrence of supposed enemy of Indian mottos in JNU and from that point how a few media channels have secured the entire episode without going much into the realities, have brought to bleeding edge

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4 Constitution of India
the issue of media morals. It is currently said that a portion of the recordings were doctored. In any case, certain media channels without investigating this, continued indicating the video alongside so much forceful tying down that it had all the earmarks of being a media preliminary. We as a whole in certainty need to think what media job is and what they are doing really. Media job is to advance conversation and discussion, not admonish. Its job is to pose inquiries, actually quite extreme inquiries even, however not to mishandle and shout.

How it has forcefully secured even with contorted realities and high bubbling tying down and pummeling everybody not adjusting to their perspectives as hostile to national.

Media in actuality assists with molding popular supposition by getting decent variety of perspectives and assessments. In any case, certain occasions, they impart such feelings in watchers that a group is prepared to submit brutality. How certain media channels attempted to impel individuals can be seen with attorney's rebellion in the court and other certain frequency of brutality. It can have genuine repercussions for our nation and society.

We need such a general public where individuals live in harmony and concordance. Be that as it may, if the open still, small voice continue stewing constantly and is prepared to rebuff claimed lawbreakers, this fantasy will never come around.

Job of media is, be that as it may, extremely fundamental for an energetic popular government. Majority rule government doesn't restrain itself to simply making choice after like clockwork. Popular government really implies individuals' perspectives and feelings to be tuned in to and suited in this manner advancing their interest in the dynamic procedure. Media's job is exceptionally huge right now. It gives a stage to discuss and carries differing perspectives to the fore, accordingly helping in molding general supposition.

It imparts government's plans, programs and different activities to all the individuals of India including poor and the destitute one. It makes individuals mindful of their privileges and qualifications with the goal that they can request it. It likewise uncovers different bad behaviors by the legislature and in this manner upholds responsibility. We have seen individuals asserting the avenues against debasement. How it could that have occurred without the media support? Yet, we have likewise observed that media on occasion doesn't comprehend its basic job for the general public. We despite everything recall how Indian media was scrutinized for its job in covering the awful Nepal quake which imparted enemies of India opinions in the neighbor, notwithstanding India's colossal commitment through Operation Maitri. It doubts the morals of media calling.

In India guideline could likewise be seen as checking the opportunity of press which it appreciates under Article 19(1) (an) of Indian Constitution. Be that as it may, even this opportunity has sensible limitations, one
of which incorporates instigation to brutality. So in such cases even the media channels ought to be arraigned if the forceful exhibiting of a doctored tape brings about instigation of viciousness.

After these sorts of frequencies average citizens does no most genuine on media. By doing such acts media loosing the trust just as damaging the human privileges of individuals. With no affirmation media giving somebody as criminal is gross infringement of Human rights like right to notoriety, right to life and individual freedom, to live with pride. When an individual looses their picture in the general public it excessively hard to manufactured same as in the past. Additionally the media itself ought to limit itself and pass by the qualities and morals rehearsed in the calling, at exactly that point can the media alongside common society consider the administration responsible and in this manner, fortify the majority rule texture of the nation.


A significant exercise leaving the 26/11 Mumbai assaults was in regards to the media inclusion of such occasions. Serious visual media covering the assault shot moment to minute subtleties. This live and serious inclusion of the episode by the media made a circumstance wherein psychological militant handlers situated in Pakistan, in correspondence with the fear based oppressor groups in Mumbai, could improve their situational mindfulness. The fear based oppressors to an incredible degree were cautioned of the idea of tasks being directed by the security powers. Right now on account of media's carelessness there are a few people who free their life. There are some normal people, some are armed force officials, and some are cops. They pass on account of demonstration of media which is useful to the psychological oppressor in a roundabout way. Consequently right now of electronic media there is gross infringement of human rights.

Inclination Media

There are a few situations where we can without much of a stretch discover inclination media. For instance Sanjay Dutt situation where in light of electronic media he got the compassion from the individuals of the country and media developed his picture from Khalnayak to Nayak an individual who is captured and indicted under TADA Act, who is a piece of Bomb impact how might he be a Hero of individuals it is happened simply because of media and their day in and day out channels sway on individuals. We additionally can took case of the Salman Khan Hit and run case these sorts of cases media make a Public help for these VIP and open weight please the Judges after all they are likewise individual.

The Supreme Court has held that a preliminary by press, electronic media or by method for an open fomentation is the counter proposal of rule of law and can prompt unsuccessful labor of equity. On the off chance that there is no equity there is infringement of Human rights infringement equity is one of the significant human rights in this way there is significant of Principle of Natural equity, option to get lawful
agent and if an individual who can’t or whose money related circumstance isn’t acceptable at that point state need to give legitimate delegate to that individual.

❖ **Is The Media Promoter of The Human Rights?**

Yes, we can say that media is promoter of the human right because media is the medium wherever you go you can find easily and it has huge power given by the constitution itself. In the democracy media played important role to promote and protect the human rights media have huge coverage in the world if media wants they can be spread news to each part of the world. Media also plays an important role in the protecting one of the human rights that is right to know and this is also important platform to express the idea and views which are also consider as the one of the human right. UDHR also take the help of media to promote the human right. Not only the National Human right Non-governmental Organizations taking the help of the media but also the international NGO’s taking the help of the media.

If there is any inhuman activity is happening in the any corner of the world the media having the power to telecast it and the try to minimize the inhuman activities there are many examples in the India where media has successfully played role to protect the human right. There are many incident where in the most of the part in the county where black magic is going on and killing of the child of human being as **NAR-BALI**. So in this case media making awareness, therefore we can say them as protector of the Human rights and there are also many issues where media focus on the domestic violence, sexual violence, rape, these are the some point which clears that media is also protector of the human rights.

❖ **What are The Social Responsibilities of Media?**

Media is considered to be the fourth pillar of the country and it is one of the medium. Because other three pillar means executive, Judiciary, and legislature they are not as powerful as media because they are binding with each other and they are binding by the law and they can’t reach to the each house of the county but media is the only pillar who reached to each house of the county and there is not such law which can regulate the media. Therefore it has more power as I think, and power comes from responsibility media must be the responsible. There is duty of the media to educate the people of the county and making the transparency between government and people, and to show the mirror of the society, to tell the people truth of the every incident. But now days the media has not following such guideline, running for making money and get more profit and more TRP to the program.

❖ **Media in Natural Disaster**

Responsibility of media in the natural disaster is increase. When anyone is in trouble every person have responsibility to help that person as human being and whenever the conditions like natural disaster media reached before the other authority but today’s media has running to cover these thing and get the more profit and TRP. We can take the example of the **kedarnath incident** the first duty of the media is to save the person who is in the trouble as he is human being first.
There was one guest lecture for us in that lecture one of the speaker has been show one picture whereas one child in condition to die and one bird is waiting for when the child die and when it becomes my food, because less rain in this area and there no sufficient food available in this case the journalist click the wonderful photograph of that situation and he won the various award for this photograph but when the question ask to this journalist that have save the life of that child then he does not have no any answer because he didn’t save his life so is it not the violation of human right by the media. There are many incident like this which can be prove that media has not work with proper responsibility and because of TRP they violates the human rights of the people.

**The Interplay of Media, and Democracy in Safeguarding Human Rights.**

Journalist should be professional with commitments & to follow the ethics & values of journalism. Journalist requires active learning, critical & creative thinking to use the power which they have. Because media is link between Govt. & public media have also connection with human rights & democracy. We can say that Article 19 (1) (a) of the constitution freedom of speech & expression. it also one of the example. Media is important democracy as well as human rights.

Media has prove their power in the certain cases like Jesica lal murder case, Arushi murder case and Delhi gang rape case, etc it also have power to change the government. We consider the use of social media & messages in the last election.

**Conclusion:**

Media is promoter and protector of human rights on the other side it is one of the biggest medium of violation of human rights. As researcher has discussed how powerful electronic media is through Rwandan Genocide issue only one media which is only audio, how it influence people, and how number of people killed by people. Reason behind it is electronic media and impact of it on common people. There are other examples also where electronic media plays important role in violation of Human rights. But when we look on the other side there are several instances where electronic media protect and promote the human rights. In this chapter researcher has discussed terrorist attack on World Trade Centre and after the stories run by the electronic media especially news channels, that violates the human rights of specific community. 26/11/2008 Mumbai terrorist attack where because of live coverage of electronic media there were many common people, army officers, police officers loose their life only because of electronic media and lack of regulation on electronic media law. Electronic media also plays role in communal violence. Role of electronic media in natural disaster, social responsibility and why there is need to be uniform and adequate regulation on electronic media law.