

# “PROMOTION OF GLOBAL JUSTICE: ROLE OF INDIAN MEDIA WITH A REFERENCE TO ITS LEGAL PERSPECTIVE”

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## INTRODUCTION

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Global Justice is mostly considered as a utopian concept with no existence in reality.<sup>1</sup> As per John Rawls the Government of a particular nation is responsible for providing Distributive Justice to its citizens while Global Justice is based on Charity.<sup>2</sup> But we are now living in the 21st century which is dominated by the phase of Globalization where more than the national governments, the global factors assume much importance in the lives of individuals across the globe. There are even instances that proved how these global factors are violating the basic human rights of citizens who are not common to any particular nation rather are citizens of many countries or even in some cases the entire human population are made victims of such global factors, for instance- Climate Change. These are the cases where a particular national government may not be adequate enough in addressing to such human rights violations by the policy of Distributive Justice. I further believe that the term ‘International’ is different from the term ‘Global’ in the sense that International presupposes the existence of national boundaries and thereby International Law focuses mainly on maintaining the relationship between the independent and sovereign states while on the other hand the term ‘Global’ presupposes the entire world as a single community with no distinct boundaries thereby assuming the entire human population as citizens of a single Global Community where all are equal which resembles mostly the ideology of the Cosmopolitans. As such it becomes very difficult to speak in favor of Global Justice since the existence of national boundaries along with their respective political mechanisms is playing a crucial role in the struggle for power in the International Sphere. Moreover, International Law hardly recognizes individual rights, and furthermore, international law is regarded mostly as a weak law since it lacks proper sanction.<sup>3</sup> As already mentioned Global issues are influencing the Individual life styles across the Globe which may not be properly dealt

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<sup>1</sup> Gordon Anderson, ‘*Real Politik and World Peace*’, 26, IJWP, (2006)

<sup>2</sup> Michael Blake, *International Distributive Justice*, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, available at: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/international-justice/> (last visited on Jan 13, 2019)

<sup>3</sup> Scott M. Stolz, *Why International Law is a Weak Law?*, *Quora*, available at: [www.quora.com/Why-International-Law-is-a-Weak-Law](http://www.quora.com/Why-International-Law-is-a-Weak-Law) (last visited on Jan 13, 2019).

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by the national governments or even by the International Organizations due to the remoteness of such victims and lack of expression of their claims for justice in a Global Platform. Such is the scenario where the Role of Media comes into play. I believe; if we accept Global Justice as a utopian concept then it can be brought into reality by an active role of the Media. Many media channels have already showed their dedications in this direction where access to justice was made possible to the victims of Global issues, few of which will be highlighted in the next section. While in India, Media has already been recognized as the fourth essence of Democracy, as it plays the fundamental role in molding public opinion and providing the citizens of the nation the platform for exercising their fundamental right of Freedom of Speech and Expression under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India, 1950. This Article will make an attempt to highlight the Role played by some of the leading Media platforms in addressing to Global Issues and gross Human Rights Violations, the laws that rules over the Indian Media, the Role played by the Indian Media and the need of proper laws for making Indian Media more accountable for addressing serious global issues rather than limiting themselves only for earning TRP and roaming behind glamorous attraction.

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### **MEANING OF GLOBAL JUSTICE**

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When we speak about the term 'Justice', it reflects several parameters of human wellbeing, for instance anything to be just, it must be fair, equally distributable as per one's due, reasonable, non-arbitrary and so on. In simple words, we can say that Justice means fair, equitable, reasonableness, due process of law and equal treatment for equal actors. Similarly, when we speak about Global Justice the same connotation applies but at a global level assuming all the members of the human community as subjects of a single world order. Although, earlier the Philosophers were mostly concerned about Justice within the state premises, as most of them regarded state to be solely responsible for providing Justice to their citizens. But later many contemporary developments made the present philosophers to define the concept of Justice in a wider scope where the state alone may not be capable enough to do Justice in entirety. At present, most of the State Sovereignties are facing challenges due to some newly emerging factors like- intensified globalization, prominent cases of genocide, ethnic cleansing, and economic integration, new devastating patterns of terrorism since 2001, increased demand for labor from poor developing as well as least developed countries, cyber insecurity, anthropogenic Climate Change, and such other factors. This is the reason why now concerns about a new world order have been emphasized by different philosophers and scholars for securing Justice to every section of humanity, irrespective of any nationality. It was John Rawls's Law of Peoples that

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made the concept of Global Justice glamorous and put several vital questions before the world fraternity of scholars to be discussed. A valid question mostly arises, that what exactly is the difference between International Justice and Global Justice and when does a problem can be attributed as a problem under Global Justice. At first both International Justice and Global Justice differs as regards their entities that seeks for Justice. International Justice is sought basically by the State entities while on the other hand Global Justice is sought by the Individuals as entities. Secondly, a problem to become a global problem where Global Justice can be claimed must be of such a nature that it affects residents of more than one States or cannot be resolved without the co-operation of the other States.<sup>4</sup> The concern for Global Justice in this Article is mainly related to the role of media. We have seen that how a new global issues are emerging where a particular nation may not be efficient to defend the rights of individual human beings, for which a greater co-operation of different state parties assumes importance and also at the same time for making Global Justice within the touch of every individual human being of the globe, it is necessary to have a proper platform for representation which shall also be credible to have confidence over such platforms. And this is the situation where the role of a credible media comes into play.

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### **MEDIA AT GLOBAL STAGE**

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In January 2012, Reporters Sans Frontiers published Worldwide Press Freedom Index which revealed that the Democracies rated the best which mostly included countries like Finland, Norway, Estonia, etc. while traditional communist countries ranked the worst since there were equal to no Freedom of Press and Press is mostly government controlled. The other facts revealed that Canada and Germany who are rich and amongst G8 countries were ranked 10th and 16th respectively, UK ranked 28th, France 38TH, US ranked 48th Italy 61st, Japan 22nd and Russia 142nd. This report indicates that more than a country's economy it's the democratic nature of government influenced by sociopolitical factors that leads to a healthy growth of Press.<sup>5</sup> One serious instance of gross human rights violation globally where media played an active role was in the case of Syria's crisis. Media like the CNN even influenced the policy making process of the west where even allegations were made against media also for being influenced by the Political Activists and even their accountability in reporting the Syria's incident were also doubted.<sup>6</sup> However, this shows what important role media can play in world politics. It

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<sup>4</sup> Global Justice, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, available at: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/justice-global/> (last visited on Jan 13, 2019).

<sup>5</sup> Anup Shah, *Mainstream Media Introduction*, Global Issues available at: [www.globalissues.org/article/278/mainstream-mediaintroduction](http://www.globalissues.org/article/278/mainstream-mediaintroduction) (last visited on Jan 15, 2019).

<sup>6</sup> Lyse Doucet, *Syria & the CNN Effect: What Role Does the Media Play in Policy-Making?* Pdf.

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has become evident that the Role of Media has declined in the matters of Global issues which can be rightly proved by analyzing the US media facts where the Media Channel in US and Huffington Post reported that there is a substantial decrease in International Coverage in the year 2007, besides Iraq, it covered only two other countries via- Iran and Pakistan.<sup>7</sup>

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## **MEDIA UNDER LEGAL REGIME**

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Freedom of Expression was there since time immemorial. In Greek the liberty to speak was recognized as a fundamental principle of democracy where the Leaders, Philosophers, etc. expressed their views in decision making and also had the liberty to criticize government policies to some extent.<sup>8</sup> Article 19 of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UNDHR) gives recognition to the freedom of expressing oneself and the press. Further, Article 19 of International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights also provides for the similar kind of freedom.<sup>9</sup>

## **INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PRESS AND BROADCASTING**

This Council is a part of the Next Century Foundation basically aiming for resolving conflicts in media matters and also holds an annual International Media Awards in London. It organizes conferences on topics related to Xenophobia and Disinformation. This Council has published a Code of media ethics for greater accountability of the world journalism and to counter disputes and confusions in matters of information dissemination across the globe. It also published the Media Credibility Index in collaboration with the Next Century Foundation with the purpose of encouraging good journalism in the year 2011 London International Media Awards.<sup>10</sup> However, in September 2013 it merged with the International Communication Forum, a global organization committed to media ethics and freedom of expression and information. This organization recognized media as the most influencing tool which can bring about both good and ill global consequences.<sup>11</sup> International Media Support This is an International NGO situated at Copenhagen aims for protecting media rights in countries facing armed conflicts, human

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<sup>7</sup> Supra 4

<sup>8</sup> Freedom of Speech, *A&F Television Networks*, available at: [www.history.com/freedom-of-speech](http://www.history.com/freedom-of-speech) (last visited on Jan 17, 2019).

<sup>9</sup> International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966 art 19 cl 2.

<sup>10</sup> *About Media Ethics Code*, available at: <http://internationalmedia.awards.org/aboutus/media-ethics-code> (last visited on Jan 17, 2019)

<sup>11</sup> Richard Keeble, *Media Values- inspired by Bill Porter*, available at: <https://www.icforum.org/philosophy> (last visited on Jan 17, 2019)

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insecurity and political transition.<sup>12</sup> It operates actively in 41 countries worldwide with an objective to promote freedom of expression and information.<sup>13</sup>

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## INDIAN LAWS REGULATING MEDIA

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### MEDIA LAWS DURING THE BRITISH PERIOD

The Britishers were not in favor of allowing any activities relating to publications of information. The greatest evidence can be cited when James A Hicky, the first person to publish a newspaper called Bengal Gazette in 1780 had to stop the publication. And pre censorship was put into force first in 1795 on Madras Gazette. Further high security charges and several other restrictions were also enforced on any such publication. The Press Regulation was first passed in 1799 which made it mandatory to place before the Secretary of the Company's Government each content to be published before their publication along with the name and address of the editors, publishers and the owners of such publications. However, this Regulation was abandoned by Warren Hastings.<sup>14</sup> Later pre-licensing system was launched by John Adams which required all printers and publishers to obtain licenses before publishing their contents but this was repealed by the Metcalf's Press Act. This Act only demanded to the name and address of the publishers. However, after the Sepoy Mutiny in 1857 Lord Cuning again revived the old system of pre-licensing on printed publications by virtue of Gagging Act.<sup>15</sup> In 1860, the enactment of the Indian Penal Code further restricted the liberty of Press by making provisions of Defamation, Publication of Obscene Materials, Sedition, etc. then the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 was enforced to control the newspaper and the printing press. The landmark restriction on Press in that time was enforced by the Vernacular Press Act 1878 which gave the Government ultimate powers to regulate and control the contents of Indian languages in the process<sup>16</sup> of their publication; this Act was severely criticized and was therefore annulled in the year 1881. That period viewed serious resentment amongst the Indian people against the British imperial rule in India which was fueled by several extremist like Bal Gangadhar Tilak with the feelings of Nationalism through the medium of newspapers and journals. Several journals were published during that phase which were aggressively initiated against the British Colonial Rule and was supporting the India's National Freedom Struggle. This was the reason for which the Newspaper

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<sup>12</sup> International Media Support Organization, available at: <https://www.menassat.com/?q=en-media-support-organizations> (last visited on Jan 17, 2019)

<sup>13</sup> About IMS, available at: <http://web.archive.org/web/2011071912502> (last visited on Jan 17, 2019).

<sup>14</sup> Sameer Kumar Singh and Puspendra P. Singh, *Media Legislations and Laws*, Jnanda Prakashan (2009).

<sup>15</sup> Ibid

<sup>16</sup> *History of Press Laws in India*, Slideshare, Forthpillers,, available at: <https://www.slideshare.net/mobile/kashikar/157/history-ofpress-laws-in-india> (last visited on Jan 17, 2019)

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(Incitement to Offences) Act 1908 was passed with an objective to restrict publications of any matter which are likely to incite offences like uprisings. Again, the Press Act was amended in 1910 with similar objectives while the Official Secret Act was passed in 1923 to conceal information of top governmental actions.<sup>17</sup> Media Laws after Independence of India After Independence, soon the Interim Government launched the Press Laws Enquiry Committee for suggesting reforms for the purpose of developing the Indian Press; based on whose recommendations the Press (Objectionable Matter) Act 1951 was passed with an objective to penalize those publishers who published objectionable matters only. The Constitution of India by virtue of Article 19(1)(a) provided the ultimate platform for liberty of Press subject to certain Reasonable Restrictions under Article 19(2) of the said Constitution. Thus, after Independence a step was taken for allowing the citizens with the freedom of speech and expression.<sup>18</sup> Later the 1st Press Commission with Justice J.S. Rajadhyaksha as the Chairman remarked that although some newspapers adopted cheap means infringing the privacy of individuals, yet majority of them still maintained a high ethical standard. The Commission urged for the improvement of the working conditions of the Journalists and the employees of this field which led to the enactment of Working Journalist Act of 1958.<sup>19</sup> Further, three Acts via- Cinematography Act 1952 which provided for regulations of the films and cinemas along with the censorship of their contents; The Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act 1956 for preventing publications of materials that may damage and injure the minds of young people and The Copyright Act of 1957 which prevented use or reproduction or publication, etc. of items by any other person other than the real owner who created or innovated such items without such owner's consent. These Acts provided for protection of individual privacy from illicit exposure in one sense as well as provided true freedom of expression in the other sense.<sup>20</sup> However, this freedom of Press was restricted on the grounds of National Security by the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1961, Defense of India Rules 1962 and 1971. On the other hand The Press Commission was formed in 1965 for improving the standards of media in India as well as the freedom of expression who later suggested for the Public Council.<sup>21</sup> The India-Pakistan War in 1971 led to situations where it became very difficult for the then Ruling Party in India to defend their position as well as the Allahabad High Court's decision against Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India

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<sup>17</sup> *Role of the Press in Freedom Struggle*, The Hans India, available at: [www.thehansindia.com/posts/index/Hans/2015-03-12/Ole-of-the-press-in-freedom-struggle/136832/amp](http://www.thehansindia.com/posts/index/Hans/2015-03-12/Ole-of-the-press-in-freedom-struggle/136832/amp) (last visited on Jan 18, 2019).

<sup>18</sup> Puja Mondal, *History and Development of Indian Press and Press Acts*, Your Article Library, available at: <https://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/history/history-and-development-of-indian-press-and=press-acts/23717> (last visited on Jan 18, 2019)

<sup>19</sup> Ibid

<sup>20</sup> *Mass Media Laws in India, Legal Services India*. Com., available at: <https://www.legalservice.india.com/articles/media.html> (last visited on Jan 18, 2019).

<sup>21</sup> Ibid

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forced her to impose National Emergency on 25th June 1975. Then after, the liberty of Press was curtailed dramatically. Most of the Acts that granted liberty to Press was annulled. The Central Censorship Order was passed in 1975 as well as the Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Act, foreign reporters were deported while the national reporters were restricted from publishing any material against the government. Several leading journals and media criticized these initiatives of the government while the Indian Express went to the extent of publishing a blank front page in protest against the government. However, the media showed its strength which made even Mrs. Indira Gandhi to accept it as the fourth essence of democracy. The emergency lasted for two years but it proved the efficacy and importance of the freedom of Press and media for a successful democracy. After the emergency the new government repealed both the Censorship Orders and the Objectionable Matter Act and enacted the Press Council Act 1978 for promoting media rights and freedom of press.<sup>22</sup> In 1980s and 90s technology played a vital role in expanding the scope of Indian media. In 1990 the Prasar Bharati Act was passed establishing the Broadcasting Corporation of India. A major step towards separation of Press from state was taken by separating the All India Radio and Doordarshan from government control and granting them autonomy. The Information Technology Act 2000 was also passed in order to deal with technology related issues and to regulate the cyber space. While the Right to Information Act 2005, was a major achievement that allowed right to information about government activities to the Indian citizens.<sup>23</sup> The entire development of Media law in India clearly shows that the legal framework had never considered the Role of Media in handling Global Issues neither it had shown any regards for providing security to the journalists while covering such issues.

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## **CURRENT STATUS OF INDIAN MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY**

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There has been witnessed a significant development in the market of the Media and Entertainment (M&E) Industry at present and this expected to increase even further. The CAGR has grown at a rate of 10.90 percent from FY17-18 which is further expected to grow at a rate of 13.10 percent and may reach the mark of Rs. 2,660.20 billion by FY23 from Rs. 1,436.00 billion. The growth of India's media consumption is also significant since it has grown at a rate of 9 percent between 2012-18 which is nine times and two times higher than US and China respectively. Newspaper readers have also increased from 295 million in 2014 to 407 million in

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<sup>22</sup> *Emergency in India: How the press was affected in 1975-77*, Timesnownews.com, available at: [www.timesnownews.com/india/article/emergency-in-india-how-the-press-was-affected-in-1975-77/246017](http://www.timesnownews.com/india/article/emergency-in-india-how-the-press-was-affected-in-1975-77/246017) (last visited on Jan 18, 2019)

<sup>23</sup> Supra 19

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2017 at a rate of 40 percent. The Government in India has also helped in enlarging the growth of India media industry by digitalizing the cables, allowing 100 percent Foreign Direct Investment from 74 percent, and by extending many other initiatives for the said purpose.<sup>24</sup> While the other side of the scenario depicts the poor quality of Indian Journalism that gets clearly reflected from the fact that Indian media is ranked as 136 out of 180 countries across world in an index compiled by Reporters without Borders, even though India has around 400 channels in different languages with 160 more awaiting for getting clearance and also publishes around thousands of newspapers in a day.<sup>25</sup> These facts show that although the industry is achieving new heights of profit maximization yet, it is seemed that it is losing credibility and accountability. This marks a valid question about the reliability of the industry and at the same time it puts a question on the demand pattern of the consumers also, since profit of the industry is directly related to the increase of demand of their product amongst the consumers in the market. The question is whether the Indian consumers are sensitive enough on issues of global nature or whether they are even aware about the intensity of such issues and the need for promoting Global Justice?

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### INDIAN MEDIA AND GLOBAL ISSUES

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The demand for international coverage first came to light by the urban middle class in India during the 1st Gulf War crisis in 1991. Along with the policies of privatization, liberalization and globalization, freedom of press was also encouraged in India with the likes of CNN, MTV, Sky Star TV, etc. in international sphere. A Documentary titled 'Images over India' by Open University in UK provided with several facts related to Indian media and globalization which was showed in BBC2 channel on 29 October, 2003 can be briefly summarized as follows- India is the largest market for satellites with over 300 million subscribers; consumption of global television shows increased since after opening of the Indian economy in 1990s; most existing channels were state owned primarily featuring social welfare programmers ; initially Star TV was only featuring English shows but 5 years later there were about 50 channels providing English, Hindi and over 16 channels were providing regional language shows; India became the second largest market for TV networks next to US in the world; the global channels influenced around 700 million people of urban middle class which is the world largest group and these international channels had significant impact on the lives of the common Indian citizens.<sup>26</sup> As regards to the

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<sup>24</sup> *Media and Entertainment, IBEF*, available at: <https://www.ibef.org/industry//media-entertainment-india.aspx> (last visited on Jan 18, 2019)

<sup>25</sup> Murali Krishnan, *Indian Media Facing a Crisis of Credibility*, DW, available at: <https://m.dw.com/en/indian-media-facing-a-crisisof-credibility/a-39120228> (Jan 18, 2019).

<sup>26</sup> Anup Shah, *Mainstream Media Introduction' Global Issues*, available at: [www.globalissues.org/article/278/mainstream-mediaintroduction](http://www.globalissues.org/article/278/mainstream-mediaintroduction) (Jan 19, 2019).

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role played by the India media, specially the leading newspapers, in covering Climate Change, a vital global issue, analyses had revealed that Indian media strongly pursue scientific certainty in their coverage of Climate Change that is in contrasts to that of the American newspapers portraying skepticisms, further Indian media has been found highlighting energy challenges, public accountability, social disorders as well as looming disasters.<sup>27</sup> While on the other hand Indian media coverage has been found to be very low in matters related to refugee issues that can be treated as an another global issue, since India is the largest country to host around the highest population of refugee in the South Asia, it is recently that Indian journalist have started taking this issue in detail, but still the Non-English newspaper are playing a very limited role in this matter.<sup>28</sup>

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## CRITICISMS

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We have seen that media played an important role in India in defending the country's democracy during the period of emergency. And also, we have seen that media has played a significant role in representing individuals voices against global issues. But if we look into the media laws in India, we will find that they are mostly focused on defining the extent of freedom of expression. No law is found which is dealing explicitly for the purpose of encouraging Indian media for reporting global issues or even no law exists which provides for security of Indian Media while dealing with serious global issues which may even cause impact on Indian population. Further, the role of Indian media is criticized on several grounds. It is most often criticized for being influenced by businessmen, politicians and government bureaucrats and thereby producing biased news. The greatest evidence was seen when after the huge devastating Earthquake in Nepal on 25 April, 2015, tweets from Nepal said "Go Home, Indian Media".<sup>29</sup> Even the Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal suggested for public trial of Indian media on 3 May 2015<sup>30</sup> while on 8th May 2015, Arun Jaitley remarked 'Flood of Channels but dearth of Facts'.<sup>31</sup> Again, Chief Justice Dipak Misra on March 2018 opined that journalist cannot write whatever they imagine

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<sup>27</sup> Radhika Mittal, *Climate Change Coverage in Indian Print Media: A Discourse Analysis*, 3(2), TIJCCIR, 219-230.

<sup>28</sup> Pramila Krishnan, *How missing facts and context are toxic for media coverage*, Ethical Journalism Network, available at: <https://ethicaljournalismnetwork.org/resources/publications/moving-stories/India> (last visited on Jan 19, 2019).

<sup>29</sup> *Nepalese slam Indian media, #GoHomeIndianMedia, trends Deccanherald*, available at: <https://www.deccanherald.com/content/475381/nepalese-slam-indian-media-gohomeindianmedia.html> (last visited on Jan 19, 2019).

<sup>30</sup> Betwa Sharma, *Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Suggests Public Trial for Indian Media*, Huff post, available at: <https://m.huffingpost.in/2015/04/05/arvinf-kejriwal...n...7202194>. Html (last visited on Jan 19, 2019).

<sup>31</sup> *Flood of Channels but Dearth of Facts*, TOI, available at: <https://m.timesofindia.com/India/Flood-of-channel-but-dearth-of-factsarun-jaitry/articleshow/47195974.c> (last visited on Jan 19, 2019).

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and behave as if sitting on pulpit.<sup>32</sup> Similarly, media is also accused for featuring sensationalized items.<sup>33</sup> All these criticisms again put several questions like- are the consumers being fooled by the media, or is India incapable of framing regulations to govern the conduct of the media personals, or is the Indian media industry failing to comply with professional ethics and thereby getting influenced by Business and Corporate Houses, or is the Indian media not responsible for representing individual human right violations in or outside the nation at global level?

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### **MEDIA'S ROLE IN PROMOTING GLOBAL JUSTICE**

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There is no doubt that media plays a vital role in representing peoples' voice in the process of decision making for which freedom of Press becomes utmost important. Even the then President of India Pranab Mukherjee admitted that discussion and dissension are vital for a vibrant democracy and the public institutions shall be made accountable for all their actions where the media plays the role of a mediator.<sup>34</sup> Today due to the influence of globalization it has become very difficult to defend human rights by a single sovereign nation since many international players play a vital role in every country's internal decision making process and at the same time no single government is adequate enough to deal with serious global issues like Climate Change, global terrorism, global diseases, etc. as such human individual lives becomes vulnerable and further individuals are not direct subjects of International Law although exceptions are there as has been discussed above. Therefore, it becomes very necessary to highlight individual violation of human rights issues at global platform where media can play a vital role since due to technology remoteness has now become just a mere assumption. In a global world where distributive justice by a single nation may not be possible to people like Refugees, for instance, global justice by representing their voice in the global platform like United Nations General Assembly may prove handy for providing global justice which may be done by creating awareness by the media in such issues. At the same time news coverage of such global issues may bring about awareness amongst different sections of people across the world which may help them in bringing out solutions to such issues. Moreover, this awareness regarding the global issues may unite the different nation-states, irrespective of any differences amongst them over which they once engaged in wars in the past, since these issues are common to every nation-state. In short, such news coverage may bring the entire human community

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<sup>32</sup> HT Correspondents, *Chief Justice Of India Criticizes Section Of Media For Irresponsible Journalism*, Hindustan Times, available at: <https://m.hindustantimes.com/india-news/there-are-limits-supreme-court-criticizes-section-of-media-for-irresponsiblejournalism/story-IZYalq80oLTokAoKQokkaP.html> (last visited on Jan 19, 2019).

<sup>33</sup> Gaurav, *Top Lies spread by the Indian Media* in May 2015, OpIndia, available at: [www.opindia.com/2015/05/top-media-lies-may2015/](http://www.opindia.com/2015/05/top-media-lies-may2015/) (last visited on Jan 18, 2019).

<sup>34</sup> Supra 26

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together at a common platform for mitigating such issues of potential danger to the very existence of life in this world. The media can use the same agendas for education purposes as well as to expand the scope of its reach and also to extend employment facilities in this area. It may be introduced as a separate subject of Journalism in India combined with the disciplines of International Politics, Political Sociology and Public International Law. Further, in India media laws shall provide with security as well as adequate facilities for Indian Journalists covering dangerous global issues outside India and at the same time, shall prescribe professional ethical codes for maintaining their credibility during such coverage and also at the time of their publications. Media has already been attributed as the fourth pillar of democracy while it has further more potential to be showcased at the Global level.

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## CONCLUSION

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The above discussion clearly shows that how media has played its role in promoting global justice by portraying global issues and calling the whole world to counter them. But, a clear discussion on this matter is still required. Media is responsible for creating awareness about the happenings in and around the life of an individual within a society and now since we are in the phase of globalization the entire global community has become a single society. Therefore,<sup>35</sup> limiting the scope of media within a particular country that also mostly for the purpose of entertainment and commercial exposure may deprive certain sections of humanity from adequate justice after their rights are violated due to several global issues. In India, we have seen that there are media laws only to define the limits of their freedom and to regulate them mostly within the domestic sphere and also Indian media is seemed to be more focused only providing entertainment and earning TRP, while there are many serious aspects which require appropriate representation in the global level. In the present phase of globalization which is also dominated by technological innovations, the developed nations are flooding this sector with their own ideas and cultures presenting such global issues as per their own interests. We must not forget that India being still a developing country with a significant population under the Below Poverty Line may not be able to represent themselves at the global level decision making process which equally influences their lives like the domestic decision-making process. As such more accountability of media and their acceptance of the responsibility for representing India at the global level; as well as making the Indian citizens aware about the global issues become more vital. Media thus can play an active role in the promotion of global justice. However, we must also not ignore that media is also an industry which is established mostly with profit making

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<sup>35</sup> Supra 26

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motive which is generated by TRP (Television Rating Points) for TV channels and likewise similar techniques are also used to determine the popularity of the print and other media. But this TRP and other such techniques are dependent on the demand of the consumers which includes all of us. This means the media supplies those contents which we demand or we pay for the most. As such it is also our responsibility to be aware about the global issues which we are facing or are about to face in the future besides merely being interested in knowing only about which Bollywood actress is dating with whom or what kind of clothes are in fashion and so on. I can never forget the height the controversy about Anuska Sharma and Virat Kohli's love affairs reached due to the glorious efforts of our so called prestigious and civilized media reporters, but at the same time we must also acknowledge the demand for such news which was again generated by the audience. No doubt Indian media has provided several grounds to be criticized but we must also not ignore that to some extent we are also responsible behind such a status of our media. We must therefore encourage our Journalist to cover more serious and vital aspects of global issues which is or is going to impact all our lives at a large level.

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