

# The Difficulties with Journalism in Print Media in the Digital Age

Shrishyam Chaurasiya<sup>1</sup> and Bhavesh Kamlekar<sup>2</sup>

Assistant Professor, BAMMC, Suman Education Society's LN College, Borivali East, Mumbai, India<sup>1</sup>

Student, BAMMC, Suman Education Society's LN College, Borivali East, Mumbai, India<sup>2</sup>

**Abstract:** *The purpose of this study is to examine the difficulties facing print media journalists in the digital era. Newspapers and print media are increasingly threatened by the growth of internet media. People are now more likely to use mobile phones or other devices to access online media because to the internet's quick expansion. Because print media are under danger, its devoted readers are likely to switch to internet media. The findings demonstrate that the competition between traditional media and new media, in this instance online media, is the greatest problem facing journalists in the digital information era. Journalism, which naturally already had a new route to transmit information and news, saw a tremendous influence as a result of the existence of online media.*

**Keywords:** Newspaper, Expansion, Media.

## I. INTRODUCTION

It may be claimed that the digital age has an impact on every aspect of human existence, including media. People are now more likely to use mobile phones or other devices to access online media because to the internet's quick expansion. Because print media are under danger, its devoted readers are likely to switch to internet media. The reality confronts print media publishers, but print media have a unique quality, namely: clear, thorough, and detailed news. In addition, print media have been a part of human society for centuries, so it is not something that can be simply forgotten. Online media are quick, current, and continuous, yet access to this information requires complex technologies, which not everyone has or understands.

Despite being smaller in size, readers of print media have greatly grown. According to Central Statistics Agency data, 23.0% of inhabitants aged 10 and over read newspapers. It dropped by 0.3% in 2006. Newspaper readers decreased sharply in 2009, dropping to 18.4%, and again in 2012, down by 17%. This indicates that print media coverage is declining in terms of readers and the market, which will inevitably lead to the closure of the press sector. In Indonesia, the phenomenon of internet media, which is expected to displace print media, is still growing. According to data from the Central Statistics Agency, just 3.34 percent of Indonesians were internet users in 2005. In 2014, there were 35.64% more internet users than in 2013, a notable rise. This indicates that there was a tenfold growth in just nine years. Of course, these benefits print media's future.

The internet creates a public forum for citizen engagement in the distribution of knowledge, whether they are experts or amateurs. The media and journalists are no longer the exclusive sources of information. Today, the general public also contributes to journalism. According to futurologist Alvin Toffler, this is the "period of consuming" (production and consumption). The general people may both create and consume information. In his piece Digital Media Ethics, Stephen J.A. Ward, a professor of journalism ethics at the University of Wisconsin Madison, remarked that the internet's existence forced today's professional journalists to coexist alongside Twitter, bloggers, citizen journalists, and social media users. In addition to technology advancements, new media is constantly present in history records. Humanity feels like it lives in a global community thanks to the internet (global village). The medium of the internet has also had an impact on how we live, particularly how we generate and consume news.

Philip Meyer claimed that there will be just one newspaper copy in 2044 in his book The Vanishing Newspaper from 2006. With the influx of TV, radio, and now the internet, the future of newspapers has become a hot topic. Numerous studies show that the dominance of internet media is undermining newspapers' status.

Displaying works and ideas through mass media is a strategic move since there are a number of elements of mass media that assert their importance. First, a very wide audience for knowledge dissemination that may transcend geographical

borders, age groupings, genders, socioeconomic classes, freedoms, and variations in understanding and orientation (psychographic). Second, the media's capacity to spread unique messages widely. Third, any mass media outlet can discuss a concept or piece of writing using their own perspectives. Fourth, there are many opportunities for one to communicate their thoughts or efforts thanks to the mass media's agenda-setting role.

The freedom and responsibility of message content in terms of communication ethics is nevertheless occasionally incongruous in practise. The power of people to make decisions for themselves is referred to as freedom in philosophy. Freedom is more advantageous and results from people having the capacity to think and act. Entity an independent being with the ability to think, will, and act freely has become human nature. The capacity of people to understand that every action they take has an effect is the concept of responsibility.

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In its broadest sense, journalism is derived from the French term "jour," which means "diary." Julius Caesar has been familiar with the term "Acta Diurna" from the early Roman era. It includes all daily tasks (government announcements, etc.). At this point, you may already be familiar with the phrase journalism. The mass media may even affect individuals in far-off rural places in the modern period. Different information and telecommunication media have a significant impact on people's views and behaviour, especially in metropolitan areas. The term journalism has a Dutch origin called *journalistiek*, which is related to the English term journalism, which derives from the word journal, which is a translation of the Latin word *diurna*, which means "daily" or "every day," and refers to printed sheets of paper that contained all the news for that day.

The labour of gathering, writing, editing, and disseminating news in newspapers and other media, which incorporates journalism and message, is described as journalism in the Indonesian Dictionary. Journalism, in the opinion of Onong U. Effendi, is the management of news, from gathering information through communicating it to the public. Journalism used to solely handle informative content. *Acta Diurna*, the earliest journalistic publication in ancient Rome at the time of Julius Caesar's ascension to power, proved this.

There are three ways to examine what is meant by the term journalism: Three categories: Harfiyah, conceptual/theoretical, and practical. Journalistic in *harfiyah* refers to journalism or authorship. The core meaning of "journal" is "report," "note," or "jour," which is French for "day." The phrase "du jour," which translates to "day" in Ancient Greek and refers to the happenings of the day that are recounted in printed sheets, is the origin of the journalistic term. Three conceptual perspectives can be used to understand journalism: (Prose), (Engineering), and (Science). Journalism is a process that involves gathering, analysing, publishing, and presenting information to the public via the mass media. Journalists are the ones that perform this task. As a method, journalism is the "expertise" or "skills" involved in producing journalistic work (news, articles, and features), including knowledge on how to gather writing materials like event and interview reporting.

### 2.1 News

An event report that is news is one that is genuine, factual, significant, and intriguing and has journalistic worth. Another name for news is "latest information." Direct news (Straight News, Spot News, Hard News), opinion news, investigative news, and soft news are some of the several types of news. Perspectives are opinions or views about a subject or circumstance. Columns, editorials, articles, reader letters, caricatures, corners, and essays all fall under this category of information. Other pieces, such as features, which combine news and viewpoints, cannot be referred to be opinions because they do not include any news. The most common feature categories are biographical features, travel / adventure notes, feature advice (how to do it features), and human-interest features.

In particular, the language of journalism can be separated based on its format, including the languages used for newspaper journalism, tabloid journalism, magazine journalism, broadcast radio journalism, television journalism, and internet online media journalism. Newspaper journalism uses a vocabulary that is highly particular or specific, in addition to adhering to broad standards or principles of journalistic language. He can be distinguished from other media journalists because of this. The seventeen basic characteristics of journalistic language—simple, concise, solid, simple, clear, appealing, democratic, populist, logical, grammatical—apply to all kinds of periodic media. Keeping silent, keeping out of foreign words and phrases, the word choice (diction) is appropriate, putting active sentences first, Avoiding words or technical terms, Subject to ethical principles.



## **2.2 Print Media as Mass Media**

The first kind of media still in use today is print. In the Roman Empire, print media first appeared as Acta Diuna and Acta Senatus. After Johann Gutenberg produced the printing machine, print media quickly expanded to include newspapers, tabloids, and magazines, among other types. As was previously noted, print media generally refers to all printed items that are used to transmit messages.

According to Suharyanto (2018), the process of identifying the sponsor takes place in the advertisement in addition to the message that has to be given and must be paid for. Advertisements not only transmit signals about the superiority of the goods being sold, but they also spread information about the businesses that make the goods being sold.

The first printed books mark the beginning of contemporary media. Even if the original book printing endeavour was only an attempt to employ technological equipment to generate the same or nearly the same text that had been copied in vast quantities, that endeavour might nevertheless be considered a form of revolution. The evolution of printed books experienced changes over time, with material becoming more secular and useful. Then, more and more widely read writings—particularly those produced in local languages as political and religious pamphlets and brochures—began to influence the mediaeval transition. As a result, the book community also played a part in the revolution at the time, which cannot be isolated from the revolution process itself.

Circulars, pamphlets, and news books from the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries cannot be separated from what we now know as a prototype newspaper until over two hundred years after the invention of the printing press. In actuality, it is obvious that the newspaper's first form was a letter rather than a book-shaped sheet. The primary purpose of the circular, which was sent through the postal service, which has not always been faultless, is to transmit information about events relevant to global commerce. In the realm of diplomacy and commerce, the growth of a newspaper is therefore the continuation of a long-standing activity. Early newspapers were characterised by a permanent format, a commercial focus (freely sold), a lot of editorial focus, public and open.

Print media (newspapers and magazines) have a higher level of innovation than printed books in the idea of comprehending above, including the development of new forms of writing, social and even if the opinions that were prevalent at the time were false. When compared to other cultural communication tools, newspapers excel in their individuality, reality orientation, usability, secularity, and fit with the needs of emerging social classes, particularly urban professionals and entrepreneurs. The uniqueness of something new is not determined by its technological components or how it is distributed, but rather by how well it serves a particular social class in a changing social and political environment. The history of newspapers and magazines might thus be considered as a continuation of the history of economic and technical advancement, or it can be seen as a sequence of conflicts, progress, and repetition that resulted in an environment of freedom. The following paragraphs will outline significant press-related historical developments that have an impact on the parameters of contemporary newspapers and magazines. In fact, it is impossible to adequately illustrate the history of how each country's press has evolved in a single succinct presentation. In addition, it should be recognised that these crucial components—which frequently mix and interact with one another—are what ultimately determine how press institutions grow. Naturally, with varying degrees of effect.

Each kind of media has advantages of its own, and print media is better than electronic media in several ways. The "durability" of information is where print media often outperform electronic media. Print media among the numerous forms of mass media provides benefits that other media do not. The printing is irreversible and may be saved so that the reader can review it for free until they comprehend the point being communicated. Mondry further asserts that more print media pages may be created if necessary.

The benefits of print media, in Wahyudin's opinion, are as follows: 1) Can be saved and read repeatedly. 2) Has the potential to inspire others to consider the writing's subject matter more closely. 3) The information's contents may be saved or gathered. 4) Both the pricing and the distribution are more reasonable. 5) More effective at explaining difficult or stiff concepts.

Newspapers and magazines are the two categories of print media that emerge in the midst of society. Both of these print media offer the following benefits: Newspapers provide the following benefits: 1) They are often not too costly. 2) Versatile (more adaptable in choosing the publishing schedule of ads and newspapers that publish (whether local, regional, or national) in relation to the audience targeted by the ad). 3) It can be savoured for longer. 4) Market coverage; based on their locality, newspapers can access urban regions. 5) Doing a price comparison; people frequently



use newspapers as sources of information when making purchases of products or services. 6) A pro-consumer mentality; the reader is also given a reference to the information's veracity.

While the following are some magazine benefits: 1) The reading is more selective and may be enjoyed for a longer period of time. 2) Is able to paint a compelling picture (Visual Quality). 3) Target audience; one of a magazine's benefits over other forms of media is its capacity to connect with particular niche market segments. 4) Public acceptability; the capacity to elevate the promoted goods is consistent with how the target audience perceives the status of the publication.

The following are the drawbacks of newspapers: 1) Ignorable and rapidly becomes stale. 2) Limited lifespan; while having a large, recorded audience, newspapers are often only read once by readers and only take 15 to 30 minutes to read. 3) Clutter; If the contents and layout are disorganised, the reader's interpretation of the advertisement's message will be impacted. 4) Limited coverage of some groups; newspapers are unable to reach some groups, such as the lower middle class or those under the age of 15. 5) Products that don't fit; since they need to be shown or take specific factors into account, some products cannot be marketed in newspapers. An illustration of sports equipment marketing.

Additionally, flaws 1) The cost of magazines is quite high. 2) Little adaptability (limited). 3. Dispersion Since many publications circulate so slowly, they just accumulate on shop racks. There are publications as well that lack an adequate distribution system. 4) Magazines are frequently lacking in certain economically powerful yet remote locations. 5) The information collected is incomplete since the material used is typically quickly ripped and has considerable mechanical interference.

### **III. DISCUSSION**

Islam really developed a notion of human interactions based on justice, and as a result, print media like newspapers and magazines are now under danger as a result of the growth of internet media. People are now more likely to use mobile phones or other devices to access online media because to the internet's quick expansion. Because print media are under danger, its devoted readers are likely to switch to internet media. This reality does pose a danger to print media publishers, but print media stands out for its clear, comprehensive, and thorough reporting, as well as the fact that it has been a part of human society for millennia and is thus not quickly forgotten.

The findings of Galarneau and Joseph's study, which reveal that consumer magazine publishers gathered at the American Magazine Publisher at the 5th Digital Conference in New York on March 3, 2009, demonstrate the diminishing trend of print media and the growth of digital media. The attendees learned about the explosive growth of digital media in the magazine business and the fading trend of print media. The topic of greater website utilisation, bridging the gap between editorials and companies, new product trends, and strategic planning, marketing, and advertising on the Internet were all discussed. The survival of print media is threatened by a movement in consumer behaviour toward using an internet connection to consume new media instead of conventional media. Print media continue to prepare for the emergence of online media by making different efforts, one of which is media convergence, even though online media cannot yet be accessed by all groups because there are still certain locations with restricted internet connections.

According to Resmadi and Yuliar, one of the mass media advances including various technology components is media convergence. The existence of the internet has spurred mass media to use online media, e-paper, e-books, radio streaming, and social media, which are examples of media convergence. Because technology growth does not primarily rely on print forms (newspapers, magazines, books), competition in the media industry is one of the forces pushing the mass media to adopt this idea. Mass media must innovate in the area of media convergence if they are to compete in the modern corporate world. Media convergence is one invention that takes a number of steps and procedures to be used. To demonstrate how media convergence may be progressively embraced by a mass media, Resmadi and Yuliar's research tracks the process of dissemination of media convergence innovation with the subject of daily research of the People's Mind.

The demise of print media has been anticipated by certain specialists. Supadiyanto reported that a lot of influential people from around the world have foreseen the development of paperless newspaper technology. These individuals are Philip Meyer, Bill Gates, Rupert Murdoch, and Roger F. Fidler. The rising usage of tablet newspapers or paperless newspaper technology in Indonesia's mass media sector has four consequences. The first immediate impact is the



significant transfer of technology from print media to the paperless newspaper business model, which is particularly cost-effective in terms of production costs and global distribution. Second, a shift in the community's orientation and lifestyle with regard to accessing mass media from the beginning, which is still customary, by opening page after sheet, to switching to hitting a button or tapping the monitor screen, is another direct impact. Thirdly, because it reaches regions that are not shielded by national or territorial borders, the ramifications for media content will be more diverse. The fourth major effect is that different mass media corporations are integrating multimedia networks more and more, leading to multimedia convergence. Fifth, there is also the idea that traditional print media organisations will automatically fail.

Print media in Indonesia is still in the adoption stage of media convergence. Print media are working to improve their content, but they haven't yet considered business expansion plans. Digital technology has advantages in that it may improve public involvement, increase access to information, and monitor democratic government. The advantage of this media's conversion and convergence is the reduction of production and distribution costs, as well as a greater selection free of any geographical limits.

As the internet has grown, non-journalists (citizen journalists) now have the ability to publish their work in this new medium. There has been a significant shift in the role of journalists as a result of the internet channel, with the audience now serving as reporters. Various occurrences in the hemisphere whose information distribution is really provided by citizen bloggers operating as citizen journalists might be considered as evidence of the involvement of citizen journalists themselves. Seth Hettena, a military reporter for The Associated Press in San Diego, believes that personal blogs and digital material play a significant part in the coverage of the military.

The emergence of citizen journalism in Indonesia is debatably already underway, and significant events like terrorist attacks and natural disasters serve as examples of how valuable it can be. Since the early 2000s, citizen media has quickly expanded as it struggles to survive in the middle of the environment of traditional media. Citizen media can transmit information over the internet in the form of text, audio, video, images, comments, and analysis. even capable of acting as watchdogs, information filters, fact-checkers, and even editors for the press.

Allan noted that Citizen Media has emerged as a fresh trend that deserves the attention of Indonesia's traditional media. He watched as traditional media, including print media, started to learn how to adapt their journalism concept from an authoritarian to a top-down approach in order to compete in this new era, including one of the strategies to stay close to their audience. He observed this with his worries and fears. So, what does citizen media's future hold? Given that citizen journalism's purpose and growth continue to catch the attention of its own population, it is inevitable that the idea will annoy conventional media.

Print media must be able to retain credibility and confidence in the information delivered if they are to survive. Only the professionalism of journalists who uphold the ethics of journalism, which include presenting true information that has been thoroughly vetted, can foster the confidence and trust of the community. This is a compelling proposition that will allow print media to thrive. According to Jarvis in Sugiya, if the media business, particularly print media, wants to avoid marginalisation, it must undergo reform. One of them is that a strategy shift is necessary for print media to thrive. Print media has to be able to differentiate themselves from the medium. Paper alone cannot be a print medium.

Both newspaper (print) and internet media have advantages and disadvantages. Newspapers appear sluggish because readers can only consume the material the next day after it has been blasted to them by television and online media. Online media has the benefit of being quick and comprehensive. For instance, internet media that provide the quickest news on natural catastrophe alerts in comparison to print media include detik.com, which provides information swiftly and up to current 24 hours a day. weaknesses in internet media, including those related to news reporting veracity. Print media can still exist in Indonesia despite the fact that internet media is growing rather quickly and is expected to replace print media in Western nations. This is demonstrated by the existence of print media, the number of which increased in 2014 compared to the previous year. The print media trend in Indonesia also has the ability to adjust to the convergence of print and online media without losing sight of print media's continued presence. As a result, it is intriguing to research and learn more about how Indonesian media relates to the future of print media in the face of the assault of online media.

If you want to find answers, you need to consider how internet media affects print media. Naturally, print media journalists must be able to grasp the advantages of online media for print media given the inevitable arrival of the

digital era. The advantages of online media over print media include the following: First, internet media may work with print media to effectively and quickly deliver messages and disseminate news that has been published by a media outlet. The second is to stop wasting paper by chopping down trees just to make paper. Thirdly, click once, and the news is read without spending money or requiring much activity.

While there are some very fundamental differences between online journalism and traditional journalism (print media), there are also benefits and drawbacks to each. These differences can be found in the media used, the actors or employees who participate in them, as well as the composition and presentation of the messages. Its presence cannot be characterised as that of a media that competes or opposes one another, but rather as one that may support one another in journalistic endeavours or the field of journalism. The two forms of journalism coexist because they both aim to serve the public's needs by providing news or information that is significant to a large audience. The two journalists are perceived as media journalisms that are competing with one another because of the distinct systems employed and the manner they are presented. In traditional journalism, journalists must also be able to adapt to the settings and circumstances that arise on the job. The strain and work involved in gathering, processing, and sharing news is also not as straightforward and easy as what takes on in internet journalism.

In order to satisfy the increasingly diverse information demands of society, journalists may need to be more passionate and adept at learning new applications in order to maximise the good effects of this technological progress. In addition to the ability to just write news, journalists need to possess a variety of additional talents. This might serve as inspiration for journalists to develop new techniques. Perhaps another benefit of social media is that it can be used to advertise a range of journalism-related items quickly and affordably. Social networking is one item that undoubtedly has perks and cons.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The battle between traditional media and new media, in this case online media, is the largest problem facing journalists in the digital information era. Journalism, which naturally already had a new route to disseminate information and news, was the party that experienced a substantial influence as a result of the existence of online media. If they don't want to lose their consumers, traditional media, which at its inception did not employ internet channels in the practise of news generation, must now follow the trend of online media.

The mainstream media is concerned about the emergence of a new style of journalism that has evolved, specifically internet journalism, which was followed by the growth of citizen journalism. However, not many conventional media are receptive to new notions.

The information supplied must continue to be credible and trustworthy for conventional media to exist. Only the professionalism of journalists who uphold the ethics of journalism, which include presenting true information that has been thoroughly vetted, can foster the confidence and trust of the community. This is a compelling proposition that will allow print media to thrive. If the media sector wants to avoid being sidelined, reforms must be made, especially in print media. One of them is that a strategy shift is necessary for print media to thrive. Print media has to be able to differentiate themselves from the medium. Paper alone cannot be a print medium. The power and value derive from content distribution and control as well. Integrating newspaper material into digital tablets is another tactic used by print media.

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