

A decorative rectangular border with intricate floral and scrollwork patterns surrounds the central text.

Chapter: 01

Frame work of the Study.

FRAME WORK OF THE STUDY

1.1 Statement of the Problem:

In ancient times, people from all over the world were keen to come to India. The *Aryans* came from *Central Europe* and settled down in India. The Persians followed by the Iranians and Parsis migrated to India. Then came the Moghuls and they too settled down permanently in India. *Changez Khan*, the *Mongolian*, invaded and looted India many times. *Alexander the Great* too, came to conquer India but went back after a battle with Purus. *He-en Tsang* from China came to gain knowledge and to visit the ancient Indian universities of *Nalanda and Takshila*. Columbus wanted to come to India, but instead landed on the shores of America. Vasco da Gama from Portugal came to trade his country's goods in return for Indian species. The French came and established their colonies in India.

Lastly, the *Britishers* came and ruled over India for nearly 200 years. After the battle of *Plessey* in 1757, the British achieved political power in India. And their paramount was established during the tenure of Lord Dalhousie, who became the Governor-General in 1848. He annexed Punjab, Peshawar and the Pathan tribes in the north-west of India. And by 1856, the British conquest and its authority were firmly established.

The advent of nineteenth century saw the *East India Company* emerge as the major political power in India. Not only was the *Mughal Empire* defeated but

also most of the independent principalities that had cropped up as a result of countries disintegration were subjugated by the British. In 1799 *Tipu Sultan* (1750-99) was defeated and killed and his territory annexed. *Bengal, Bihar and Orissa* and a major part of the United Province had already passed in to the hand of the foreigners. *Awadh* was a British ally and *Hyderabad* was virtually ruled by a British Resident. The Maratha though divided and fighting among themselves remain the only source of anxiety and danger for the British. But in the *second Maratha war* (1803-1805) the British authority successfully removed this obstacle in their way on their refusal to come into the fold of subsidiary alliance on British condition was declared against them and they were defeated in the various engagement and were forced to come to terms dictated by the British interest. In these battles, the crushing defeat of *Sindhia* of Gwalior at the battle of Delhi in 1803 was the most significant and had far-reaching political consequences. It laid to the British protection of the Mughal Emperor *Shah Alam II*, now a miserable blind old man of eighty three, seated under a small tattered canopy. The British forces marched in to the city and by show of their strength convince the imperial seat that from *Calcutta* to *Delhi* they were real ruler of India¹. In the North-West of the country the Sikh feudatories were getting exhausted by internecine wars to be united and ruled by Sikh statesman, *Ranjit Singh* (1780- 1839) who concluded a peace treaty with company. Under these circumstances *Urdu Journalism* came in to existence in 1822 by *Jam-e-Jahan Numa*.

Urdu language is one of the 18th language listed on 8th schedule of Indian Constitution, which is spoken by more than 40 million people. So far as *Urdu*

¹. PE Roberts. History of British India Oxford University Press London 1952 P.P. 257

and *Hindi* are concerned they are practically identical from the perspective of Grammar and pronunciation, a considerable part of vocabulary is common to both.

Urdu is a Turkish word; meaning “camp or army with his followers”. Urdu is a language originated from the dialect, spoken around Delhi. It became spoken language of Muslim when they settled down in and around Delhi. Urdu flourished particularly during the period of Mughal emperor *Shah Jahan*. Urdu language is mostly an admixture of Turkish, Arabic, Persian, English and Hindi words. It began to take shape in what is now Uttar Pradesh, India during the *Delhi Sultanate* (1206—1527) and continued to develop under the *Mughal Empire* (1526-1858)

Urdu is written from right to left just like Arabic and Persian. Urdu has 39 basic letters and 13 extra characters, all together 52 and most of these letters are from Arabic and a small quantity from Persian. It has almost all the 'sounds' available in any other language spoken in the world.

The history of India's freedom struggle will remain incomplete without the mention of Role played by Urdu journalism. Unfortunately, very less attention has been given to the subject. Urdu’s identity, in India and abroad, revolves around romance and poetry. With the demise of a number of luminaries in last few decades the glorious chapter of Urdu journalism and its role in freedom struggle has disappeared without even being written anywhere.

The very fact that interest in Urdu personalities and poets like; *Ghalib, Zauq, Hali, Iqbal, Meer*, and other Urdu poets have always been remembered and it has even increasing. The valor and sacrifices of people for *India’s freedom*

struggle like; *Maulvi Mohammed Baqar, Munshi Sajjad Hussain, Munshi Sadasukhlal, Harihar Datt, Syed Jameeluddin, Maulvi Yaqub Ansari, Maulvi Abdur Rahman and Brij Narayan Chakbast etc.* are hardly heard and remembered.

Some personalities like *Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Hasrat Mohani, Mohammed Ali Jauhar* and others are remembered more, for their political activities that overshadows the work they did with the pen. Their popularity, prominence and fame had a lot to do with the fact that their publications and writings were loved by the masses that catapulted them in the public domain.

India's Urdu Press is the successor of the oldest manuscript journalism which appeared in Persian in the sub-continent under the *Mughal Administration* and earlier. The *Mughal* rulers established a regular cadre of news writers who reported on events of direct and special interest to the imperial administration. Their newsletters were meant only for the ruler and his chosen ministers and there was no public distribution of these newsletters "*Waqai*" (reports), formally called "*Akhbar*". Their reporters were called "*Waqai Nigar*" (event writers) and "*AkbharNavis*" (news writers).

With the advent of the printing press in India and the western journalism a little after the establishment of the British government in Bengal, an entrepreneur of Calcutta, *Hari Har Dutt* by name, floated the first Urdu newspaper under the title of "*Jam-e-Jahan Numa*" (a Persian term meaning *Mirror of the World*) in March 1822.



جام جهان نما



نمبر ۲۰۹ تاریخ ۱۳ جون سنہ ۱۸۲۶ عیسوی رد در چهار شنبہ

European Gentlemen, who may wish to be supplied with this Paper, either for their own perusal, or from a benevolent desire to diffuse knowledge among the native members of their establishment, may be supplied with it, on application to TARACHUND DUTT of Calcuttollah.

کہہدیر لنگر کاہ شدہ بود خبر است کہ نواب صاحب محترم الودر صورت نبودن طوفان تا مقام سینہ پدس پیشتر از کنکا سا کہ کہ جایی است خوش آب و ہوا مقامی است فرحت بخش و دلگشا شریف خواہند برد و چندی در انجا رونق افزا خواہند بود

خبر سیکا پور

از ردی کاغذ اخبار لاج کشت کہ در سیکا پور اقبین خالص عظیم آباد بحساب مبلغ دہ ہزار دہشتصد روپیہ فی صندوق بتقدوش رسیدہ و عرب از مقام تنگن کہ نواحی است دایرہ شمس از کوچین چین دیکہ اشیای تجارتی لڑاکو مقامات پذیردہ جہاز در انجا آمدہ فروش کردہ است و اجناس از کلکتہ دانہ ہندم باظراط در انجا سیر و دواز سیکا پور ہم مردم اسباب کثیر بہ بلاد

خبر تقرر عہدہ بجا جان

مسیرای مکسویل صاحب جج ددم کورٹ اپیل دائرہ سائر مرشد آباد

مسٹر ایرامین صاحب سیدوم ایضا

کپتن بان لوصاحب پلوٹیکل اجنت جی پور

کپتن جان سن صاحب کشتہ ہر ای بی بی رادیشوا

خبر کلکتہ

روز ہفتہ گذشتہ نواب مستطاب معنی القاب

جناب لارڈ اہرست بہادر کورنر جنرل بااہل

و عیال ہمت کسب ہوا بصداری نرد نامی سفینہ

ریاست سکارا کپنی انگریز بہادر جانش کنکا سا کہ

باو بان عزیمت برافراشتند از ردی کاغذ اخبار

پدریافت آمد کہ روز یکشنبہ مقام کیلا کچھا دروز

دو شنبہ وقت ہشت ساعت روز برآمدہ سائل

“Jam-i-Jahan Numa”, the first-ever attempt to inscribe Urdu prose for the new faculty of print journalism, set the format, column arrangement, the front page make-up and the editing pattern. This pattern was followed by almost all the Urdu papers which appeared in the first half of the 19th century in other parts of the country. The language at that time was called *Hindustani* and the

publisher of "*Jam-e-Jahan Numa*" gave the same name in his application for license (declaration) for publication of the paper. He simultaneously got it for Persian also, which was at that time the language of the nobility, the intelligentsia and the literate society. The paper consequently suffered an initial setback because there was no readership in Hindustani proper. So about two months after the launching of his Urdu paper, the founder switched over to Persian but his love for Urdu did not wane. A year later, he added an independent and regular 4-page supplement to Persian edition and continued it for about five years. The Persian version, however, survived for over 60 years, a record-run during the period.

The paper's founder was an employee of the East India Company, friendly with *William Hopkins Pears Company*, a British trading group. The paper's professional appearance led the observers to assume that it was a semi-official gazette, a Portuguese or the Company's Administration or a toady paper. The result has been that for over a century, the scholars and votaries of Urdu journalism have looked down upon this pioneer as a satellite.

Maulvi Mohammed Baqar the editor of "*Urdu Akhbar*" was a contemporary of *Ghalib*. *Maulavi Mohammad Baqar* had taken upon himself to keep up the moral of the Delhi citizens and keep people informed. Candid and forthright in his comments and reports, the British very soon realized the harm he was doing to their interest. *Maulvi Baqar's* Urdu newspaper was not a mouthpiece of the rebels, but like any nationalist of the time he opposed the British. Under the most trying circumstances, *Baqar* continued to bring out his paper, wrote against British government and policy and earned the ire of the British. *Baqar*

was shot dead after the *British* took over Delhi for helping the rebels. A young, son of *Maulvi Baqar, Mohammed Hussain Azad* who also used to help his father in bringing out the *Urdu Akhbar* managed to escape. *Syed Jamiluddin Hijr*, the editor of “*Sadiqul Akhbar*” was sentenced for three years imprisonment for aiding the rebels.

Muneer Shikohabadi, a poet based in *Farrukhabad* was arrested, tortured and sent to the *Andamans* for his nationalist views and fanning anti-British opinion. Not much is known about *Shikohabadi* and he has been reduced to a footnote in the annals of history. However, his poems give an account of the situation in North India. Heavy penalty was imposed on “*Gulshan-i-Naubahar*” and every step was taken by the British to suppress the growing menace of such Urdu publications.

Maulana Obaidullah Sindhi who used Urdu for the propagation of his ideas and produced a rich volume of political literature. The *Awadh Punch*, brought out under the editorship of *Munshi Sajjad Hussain* in 1877, took Urdu satire to new levels. It poked fun at the British administration and joined cause with the Congress. Using humor it also worked to forge Hindu-Muslim unity.

Politics and social reform dominated Urdu journalism from the very beginning of its birth. The political and social movements launched by the *Congress, the Muslim League, the Hindu Mahasabha, the Arya Samaj, the Khilafat Committee and the Aligarh Movement*, exercised profound influence on Urdu language newspapers and periodicals. They contributed towards the general growth of literature as well. The style became more forceful and direct and a much richer and varied vocabulary developed.

The introduction of lithography in 1837 gave a great flip to the growth of Urdu Journalism. The number of Urdu Journals increased rapidly after the rebellion of 1857. The Urdu Press which emerged after the great rebellion was comparatively restrained in dealing with public and political affairs.

Urdu journalism took on a strongly nationalistic note towards the turn of the 20th century. *Zameendar* was started in Lahore in 1903. It was the first Urdu newspaper to subscribe to news agencies. *Zameendar* was intensely nationalistic, which boosted its circulation to over 30,000 copies. In 1902, *Maulvi Sanaullah Khan* started the weekly “*Watan*”, meaning motherland. *Watan* was intensely nationalistic and continued for 33 years. *Maulana Muhammad Ali Jauhar* started “*Naqeeb-e-Hamdard*” in 1912. Another powerful political periodical was the “*Madina*”, edited by *Hamidul Ansari*.

The greatest Urdu periodical of that time was *Al Hilal*, started by *Maulana Abul Kalam Azad*. The weekly, *Al-Hilal* created political and religious consciousness among the Muslims. It was one of the first Urdu newspapers which put equal importance on content and presentation including the layout and design. It was designed on the pattern of Egyptian newspapers. But its greatest asset was the content. It addressed the readers in a new language and style of expression.

In 1919, the *Pratap* was started in Lahore by *Mahesh Krishnan*. It vigorously supported Gandhi’s policies and the *Indian National Congress*. It was a victim of government harassment and suspended publication several times. It had great influence among the Urdu reading Hindus of *Punjab* and *Delhi*.

In 1923, *Swami Shraddhanand* founded the *Tej* with *Lala Deshbandhu Gupta* as editor. It had a wide circulation in Rajasthan, U.P. and Delhi. It was confiscated several times by the government and banned in a number of princely states. In the same year, 1923, the *Arya Samaj* started the *Milap*, a daily in Lahore. It was known for its powerful nationalistic editorials. Jawaharlal Nehru founded *Qaumi Awaaz* in 1945.

As the government, responded quickly and forcefully against the unyielding Urdu press, then some revolutionaries started printing newspapers outside India. The Committee for Promotion of Urdu, appointed by the Government of India in 1972 pointed out some of those newspapers like: *Aina-i-Saudagari, London (1887), Tarjuman-e-Shauq, Constantinople, (1878), Sultan-ul-Akhbar, Turkey (1880), Hindustan, London (1884) Hurriyat, Tashkent (1914), Talwar, Berlin (1910), Hindustani, San Francisco (1914), Yad-e-Watan, New York, (1923).*

Urdu journalism suffered heavily, during and after Partition. Riots in Lahore lead to mobs raiding the office of *Milap* and burning machines and newsprint. Its Managing Editor, *Ranbir* was stabbed and the paper was closed for six weeks. It then shifted to Delhi. Due to the unrest, the *Pratap* also shifted to Delhi. At the time of partition there were 415 Urdu newspapers including all daily, weekly, fortnightly and monthly magazines. After partition 345 of them remained in India as owners of 70 newspapers migrated to Pakistan.

Like other newspapers and vernacular Press the *Urdu Journalism* has also contributed in the freedom struggle of our country. From first *Freedom Struggle* of 1857 to till 1947 Urdu Journalists and editors had also scarified

their lives and through their pen and paper they fought against the mighty British rule. But, due to number of reasons Urdu has lost its place as language in modern India and thus the contributions and achievements of this language have vanished from the core research activities. Therefore, examination of the contribution of Urdu journalism will not only help in identifying the contributions of forgotten heroes but also role of journalism in freedom struggle, how Urdu journalists made sacrifices and how they had fought against the mighty British will also be revealed.

Some steps have been taken in this direction which is incomplete due to insufficient attention and courtesy. Some scholars have put their best efforts to cast out the role of Urdu journalism in freedom struggle, but due to inaccessibility to necessary documents, records and scattered data they could not achieve their objective. Especially in English language no considerable work has been done on this subject.

The present proposed study shall try to address the question of whether or not Urdu journalism has played a constructive role in shaping Muslim sensibilities in post-independence India in the sense of enabling the community to face up to the challenge of adjustment as a large minority group in secular India. The researcher would like to not only document the various contributions of Urdu journalists in freedom struggle, in general, but also wishes to bring to the fore the contributors who remained invisible, and are missing from the annals of history.

Further, the researcher will also make an attempt to re-visit the secular tones of freedom movements through an in-depth analysis of the secondary sources,

so as to provide an unbiased reality of the facts, which, with the passage of time, has lost its sheen, due more to ever increasing communal shades getting deep rooted in the Indian mindset.

1.2 Aims and objectives of this Study:

In the light of the review of literature specific objective of the proposed study are as follows:

- To study the origin, growth and development of the Urdu journalism in India.
- To assess the role of press in the freedom movement in India.
- Identify the relationship between Urdu Press and freedom Movement.

1.3 Methodology:

The nature of the proposed study is historical; therefore the historical methodology had been adopted for the study. On the basis of Primary and Secondary information various historical events, birth of the Urdu newspaper has been highlighted. The role of Urdu Press in freedom struggle also assessed and evaluated, considering socio-economic and political paradigm.

The proposed study is based on the secondary sources. The previous studies, chronological compilation, reports, gazettes, archival collections etc. was the main source of data collection and analysis. Therefore it can say that the library data is very important for this study.

After collecting the facts from recognised secondary sources and through examination of less known data, the subject had been analysed and the

findings of the study had been drawn. The pro-government and anti-government nature of the Urdu press had been examined with the help of comments, research and archival material and exploratory tools such as collection of secondary facts, observation by researcher and qualitative analysis will be done.

1.4 Outline of the Thesis:

A lot has been written about the causes and consequences of the War of Independence 1857. But still many of its facets seem to be enveloped in ambiguity. The role of press during the War is one of those dimensions which still need further exploration and analysis by the researchers and historians of today. The main focus of this research is to analyze the role of Urdu newspapers during the War of Independence in qualitative and quantitative terms through content analysis, so that a link may be established between the war and the role of Urdu newspapers. This dimension of the War seems even more significant when it is combined with the fact that Urdu press was completely wiped out from Delhi and Lucknow after the War.

This work would also focus on the British attitude towards the 'Native Press' during and after the War, as one of the indicators of the impact and strength of this press. The reflections of the contents of some important newspapers would also be included to help in analyzing the role of press.

This research undertaking the task to dig out material regarding the '***Role of Urdu Journalism in Freedom Struggle' during the period of 1857 to 1947'*** has to deal with the advent of British in India, historical development of British Rule in India, their political domination and influence and the Role of

Urdu Journalism, newspapers in Freedom Struggle and in shaping the public opinion.

Therefore, the subject apparently ramifies in various domains but provides enormous information about the Contribution of Urdu Journalism in the war of Independence. The sources available regarding the subject may be classified as under:

1. ***Sources on the Decline of the Mughal Empire gradually in India.***
2. ***Sources on the advent of British in India.***
3. ***Sources on the decentralization of power of Bahadur Shah Zafar.***
4. ***Sources on the freedom movement against British Rule in India.***

Above mentioned sources can be divided into further three categories as mentioned below:

1. ***Library-oriented sources.***
2. ***Archival Sources.***
3. ***Journalistic Sources.***

Library oriented sources are available in two forms including published and unpublished ones. Research on the topics relating to the discipline of history virtually depends on 'Basic Documents.' Research aims to 're-conclude the conclusions' or to 'restructure the existing historical structures.' To give a new dimension to the existing conclusion requires support of the relevant library sources.

The researcher has divided the thesis in to six chapters; here the glimpses of all six chapters are being presented.

Chapter 01

Frame work of the study

Under this chapter statement of the problem, need and importance of the study, the research methodology, aims and objectives of the study and outline of the present study has been discussed in detail

Chapter 02

Review of Literature

This chapter, covered review of literature of the study, and focused on the detailed analysis and review of available literature in different libraries. Under this topic researcher made review of 38 books and journals related to the topic. Some important books which I have referred for the preparation of the thesis are; *They too fought for India's Freedom struggle by Asghar Ali Engineer*, *Mr Gurbachan Chandan's very famous book Urdu Shafat ki Ibtida, History of Indian Journalism of Mr J.Natrajan, The press in India (perspective and relevance) by Mr K.S Padhy and R.N Sahu, Mr B.N. Ahuja's very famous book History of Indian Press and growth of Newspaper in India, Indian regional Journalism by P.K Rabindranath, Urdu Journalism and freedom struggle of 1857 by Mr Masum Muradabadi, An Overview on Urdu Journalism by G.D. Chandan, Hindustani Akhbar Navesi company ke Ahad me a very famous book on Urdu Journalism by Ateeq Siddique, Urdu Sahafat and Jange Azadi by Sami Ahmad etc.*

Chapter 03

Origin and development of Urdu Journalism in India

This Chapter is about the origin and development of Journalism in India. A brief account has been given about the communication system in India before and in the early phase of East India Company. The different modes of communication have been dealt with in this chapter. The modernization and up gradation of technologies have been mentioned along with its implementation.

Apart from this, in this chapter researcher discussed in detail the history of Urdu Journalism in India during British period as well as in post-independence era. Some of the topics of this chapter are: Communication system in Ancient India, Communication system in Medieval India (Mughal Period) East India Company and Indian news writer, History of printing press in India, Contribution of William Bolts, Hickeys Gazette, India Gazette, Calcutta Gazette, Bengal Gazette and Oriental Magazine, Newspapers of Madras, Early Press of Mumbai, The birth of Indian languages press and history of Urdu press etc.

Chapter 04

Role and Contribution of Urdu Journalism in the Freedom Struggle of 1857

This chapter based on content analysis of the newspapers of that time. On the basis of content analysis of 13 popular newspapers of that time study shows that Urdu journalism played a significant role in freedom struggle of 1857. This chapter enriched with the facts which clearly prove the extent of efforts

made by and put in by Urdu Journalism. Among those newspapers *Dehli Urdu Akhbar, Sadiq-ul-Akhbar, Tilism Lucknow, Sahar-e-Samri, Kooh-e-Noor, Payam-e-Azadi, Riyaz-e-Noor, Akhbar-e-Murtazai, Aftab-e-Hind, Chashma-e-Faiz* were mentionable.

Chapter 05

Urdu Journalism after Uprising of 1857

After a detailed content analysis of Urdu newspaper of that time researcher presented in detail in this chapter about the status and impact of Urdu Journalism after uprising of 1857. The role of Urdu Journalism in National awareness movement is also part of this chapter. Nearly 15 papers were selected for content analysis among those; *Awadh Akhbar, Scientific Society, Awadh Punch, Tareekh Baghwat-e-Hind, Qaisar-ul-Akhbar, Paisah Akhbar, Zameendar Al-Hilal and Al-Blagh* etc. are very remarkable.

Chapter 06

Findings and Conclusion

This chapter showcases summary of the findings, conclusion and suggestions from the study.

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