

CENTRE FOR CULTURE, MEDIA & GOVERNANCE

Jamia Millia Islamia

New Delhi



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Dalit Public Sphere: From Print Journals of Gandhi & Ambedkar to Online Media

By

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Abstract:

This study focuses on the Dalit Public Sphere as it emerged from the journals of Mahatma Gandhi and B.R. Ambedkar and now through Online Media. In seeking to investigate the nature of the Dalit Public Sphere, this research looks into the two journals for their coverage of Dalit issues and prominent Online Media platforms working for Dalit interests. Through content analysis of Gandhi's *Harijan* and Ambedkar's *Janata*, the study interrogates the kind of Dalit issues they were highlighting in their coverages. The study, while observing the focus areas of the prominent online media platforms working for Dalit issues and through interviews with the owners and journalists of some of such ventures, also interrogates the Dalit Public Sphere in contemporary times. It is argued that Dalit issues raised by *Harijan* and *Janata* are still relevant in the digital era. Further, the study submits that the Dalit Public Sphere has evolved in a robust manner, with Dalits using Online Media as alternative media, which has given them the space to raise their issues in their own ways and is also challenging the dominant discourse.

Bio

Diwaker is a PhD Research Scholar at Centre for Culture, Media & Governance, Jamia Millia Islamia. He has completed his Post Graduate Degree from Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar. He also holds PG Diploma from Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi.

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