# SYLLABUS

**Class – B.A. (HONS.) MASS COMMUNICATION**

**I Year**

**Subject – History of Media (Paper-01)**

| Unit-I | The birth of journalism in India  
Important development in the history of the Indian press before and after independence (in Brief) |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Unit-II | History of Hindi Journalism  
Main news papers, magazines & personalities. |
|        | Article:  
Raja Rammohan Roy  
Mahatma Gandhi  
Ganesh Shankar Vidhyarthi  
Lokmanya Tilak  
Bhartendur Harishchandra  
Widhyarthi |
|        | History of Journalism in Madhya Pradesh  
Development Journey |
UNIT-I

History of journalism
Newspapers have always been the primary medium of journalists since 1700, with magazines added in the 18th century, radio and television in the 20th century, and the Internet in the 21st century.

Early Journalism
By 1400, businessmen in Italian and German cities were compiling hand written chronicles of important news events, and circulating them to their business connections. The idea of using a printing press for this material first appeared in Germany around 1600. The first gazettes appeared in German cities, notably the weekly Relation aller Fuernemmen und gedenckwürdigen Historien ("Collection of all distinguished and memorable news") in Strasbourg starting in 1605. The Avisa Relation oder Zeitung was published in Wolfenbüttel from 1609, and gazettes soon were established in Frankfurt (1615), Berlin (1617) and Hamburg (1618). By 1650, 30 German cities had active gazettes. A semi-yearly news chronicle, in Latin, the Mercurius Gallobelgicus, was published at Cologne between 1594 and 1635, but it was not the model for other publications.

In the following decades, the national governments in Paris and London began printing official newsletters. In 1622 the first English-language weekly magazine, "A current of General News" was published and distributed in England in an 8- to 24-page quarto format. The first newspaper in France, the Gazette de France, was established in 1632 by the king’s physician Theophrastus Renaudot (1586-1653), with the patronage of Louis XIII. All newspapers were subject to prepublication censorship, and served as instruments of propaganda for the monarchy. Jean Loret is considered to be one of France's first journalists. He disseminated the weekly news of Parisian society from 1650 until 1665 in verse, in what he called a gazette burlesque, assembled in three volumes of La Muse historique (1650, 1660, 1665).
Gutenberg was born in the German city of Mainz, the youngest son of the upper-class merchant Friele Gensfleisch zur Laden, and his second wife, Else Wyrich, who was the daughter of a shopkeeper. It is assumed that he was baptized in the area close to his birthplace St. Christoph. According to some accounts Friele was a goldsmith for the bishop at Mainz, but most likely, he was involved in the cloth trade. Gutenberg’s year of birth is not precisely known but was most likely around 1398.

By 1450, the press was in operation, and a German poem had been printed, possibly the first item to be printed there. Gutenberg was able to convince the wealthy moneylender Johann Fust for a loan of 800 guilders. Peter Schöffer, who became Fust’s son-in-law, also joined the enterprise. Schöffer had worked as a scribe in Paris and is believed to have designed some of the first typefaces.

Gutenberg’s workshop was set up at Hof Humbrecht, a property belonging to a distant relative. It is not clear when Gutenberg conceived the Bible project, but for this he borrowed another 800 guilders from Fust, and work commenced in 1452. At the same time, the press was also printing other, more lucrative texts (possibly Latin grammars). There is also some speculation that there may have been two presses, one for the pedestrian texts, and one for the Bible. One of the profit-making enterprises of the new press was the printing of thousands of indulgences for the church, documented from 1454–55.

In 1455 Gutenberg completed his 42-line Bible, known as the Gutenberg Bible. About 180 copies were printed, most on paper and some on vellum.
HISTORY OF WORLD PRESS

**PRESS FACTS**

- **618 AD**: The first printing is done in China.
- **1300**: The first use of wooden type in China.
- **1440**: Johannes Gutenberg invents movable type.
- **1455**: Gutenberg prints his first book, the Latin Bible.
- **1559**: Pope Paul IV issues the Index of Forbidden Books, which lists books the Catholic Church considers dangerous to morals.
- **1605**: First daily newspaper published in Antwerp.
- **1690**: Erbarische Monats-Untersuchungen is published in Germany.
- **1731**: The Gentleman's Magazine, considered the first modern magazine, is published in England.
- **1796**: German A. Graefelder develops lithography, a method for transferring images that produces high-quality printed images.
- **1808**: Hipolito Jose de Casto Fundado de Mandanga creates, in London, Correo Brasileiro, the first Brazilian newspaper.
- **1819**: Rotary printing press invented by Napper.
- **1846**: Cylinder press invented; it can print 8,000 sheets an hour, which allows publishers to increase circulation.
- **1892**: Color lithography press invented.
- **1894**: William Morris establishes the Kelmscott Press to improve the high quality of books.
- **1904**: Offset lithography becomes common.
- **1907**: Commercial plate screening invented.
- **1917**: The first Pulitzer Prizes are awarded.
- **20’s**: The number of daily newspapers increased until this time—when there were more than 3,000 in circulation.
- **1933**: Esquire debuts as the first men's magazine.
- **1970**: Typewriting is introduced in newspapers and magazines. Texts and pictures are produced on glossy paper, assembled by hand and photographed. Television contributed to the decrease in the number of papers.
- **1990**: The Wimass system allows the recording directly on the printing cylinder. Reporters could send news from around the world almost instantly using laptops and modems.
- **2005**: With the computerization of newspaper companies, all stages of production become digitized. The texts are drafted in desktop publishing.
- **2005**: Amazon's e-book sales exceed 15% in paper books and newspapers, betting on tablets to increase sales.
HISTORY OF INDIAN JOURNALISM

Ancient journalism maharishi narad can be consider as forefather of journalist. he used to convey messages from one lok to another lok and also provide the news what the people want. in mahabharat sanjay worked as a TV reporter as he described whole incident to dhirastra. some of experts also consider hanuman as a journalist because he conveyed message of Ram to sita.

In the mughal era the reporters used to know as akhbaenavees, khufianavees to get all the news of the state to work properly.

Famous mughal emperor bahadur shah published newspaper 'siraj ul akbaar'. it is also said that avadh sultan has appointed 660 akbar navees in his state.

Printing press and newspaper are supplement of each other. the printing art is firstly came into existence in China than Germany and then came to India.

1780

The first newspaper in India was published by James Hicky in January 1780. It was called the Bengal Gazette and announced itself as “a weekly political and commercial paper open to all parties but influenced by none”.

Bengal Gazette was a two-sheet paper measuring 12 inches by 8 inches, most of the space being occupied by advertisements. Its circulation reached a maximum of 200 copies. Within six years of Bengal Gazette, four more weeklies were launched in Kolkata (then Calcutta).

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Bengal Gazette (English weekly) published by James Augustus Hicky in 1780 Jan 29th from Calcutta. It was the first news paper in South Asian sub-continent.
- Bengal Gazette alias 'Hicky Gazette', 'Calcutta General Advertiser'
- Declaration ‘a weekly political and commercial paper open to all but influenced by none’
- Hicky had his own column, many persons wrote by pen names.
- Bengal Gazette could not survive more than two years due to sharp confrontation with Governor General Warren Hastings and Chief Justice Elijah Impey.
- Indian Gazette as a rival to Bengal Gazette, published in the same year (1780) by Peter Read, a salt agent (backing by Hastings).
- After Bengal Gazette, other publications from India were- Madras Courier weekly (1785), Bombay Herald weekly (1789) merged into Bombay Gazette in 1791, Hurukaru weekly (1793), Calcutta Chronicle (1818), Bengal Journal, Indian world, Bengal Harkarer etc.
- In the early period newspapers in India were run by Britishers.

1782

Madras Courier was launched in 1782.
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1799
In 1799, the East India administration passed regulations to increase its control over the press.

1816
The first newspaper under Indian administration appeared in 1816. It was also called Bengal Gazette and was published by Gangadhar Bhattacharjee. It was a liberal paper which advocated the reforms of Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy himself brought out a magazine in Persian called Mirat-ul-Ukhbar. He also published The Brahmanical Magazine, an English periodical to counteract the religious propaganda of the Christian missionaries of Serampore.

1822
In 1822, the Chandrika Samachar was started in Bengal. At the same time, Bombay Samachar was started by Ferdunji Marzban. It gave importance to social reform and commercial news in Gujarati.

1826
The first Hindi newspaper Udant Martand was published in 1826 from Bengal. However, it could not survive long because of its distant readership and high postal rates. Its place was soon taken by Jami Jahan Numa, a newspaper that was pro-establishment.

1832
In 1832, Bal Shastri Jambhekar launched at Anglo-Marathi newspaper from Pune.

1830-1857
A large number of short-lived newspapers were brought out in this time. Some were in Indian languages like Bengali, Gujarati, Marathi, Urdu and Persian.

1857
The Uprising of 1857 brought out the divide between Indian owned and British owned newspapers. The government passed the Gagging Act of 1847 and the Vernacular Press Act in 1876. After 1857, the pioneering efforts in newspapers shifted from Bengal to Mumbai. Gujarati press made great progress under the efforts of Ferdunji Marzban and Kurshedji Cama. Marathi journalism followed close behind with a distinctive educational bias.

1861
In 1861, Mr Knight merged the Bombay Standard, Bombay Times and Telegraph and brought out the first issue of Times of India.

1875
In 1875, the same Mr Knight with the backing of rich merchants from Kolkata started Indian Statesman which was later called as Statesman. Around the same time, Amrita Bazar Patrika was able to establish itself in Kolkata. Starting out as a vernacular paper, it was constantly in trouble due to its outspokenness. In order to circumvent the strict provision of the Vernacular Press Act, Amrita Bazar Patrika converted itself overnight into an English newspaper. Amrita Bazar Patrika inspired freedom fighter Lokmanya Tilak to start Kesari in Pune. He used Kesari to...
build anti-cow killing societies, Ganesh mandals and reviving the Chhatrapati Shivaji cult. He used mass communication as a powerful political weapon.

1905
By 1905, the English and vernacular press had become pretty professional. Political leaders and social reformers were regular contributors to newspapers. Some prominent writers of the time were CY Chintamani, G A Natesan, N C Kellar, Phirozshah Mehta and Benjamin Horniman. Indian news was supplied by special correspondents and government hand-outs (press releases), international news was supplied by Reuters, an international news agency.

1920s and 1930s
- Newspapers in this period started reflecting popular political opinion. While big English dailies were loyal to the British government, the vernacular press was strongly nationalist.
- The Leader and Bombay Chronicle were pro-Congress.
- The Servant of India and The Bombay Chronicle were moderate.
- The Bande Mataram of Aurbindo Ghosh, Kal of Poona and Sakli of Surat were fiercely nationalist.
- In 1918, Motilal Nehru started the Independent of Lucknow as a newspaper of extreme Indian opinion.
- The Home Rule Party started Young India, which later became Mahatma Gandhi's mouthpiece.

As more and more Indians started learning English, many became reporters, editors and even owners. The Anglo-Indian press began to lose ground except in Bombay and Calcutta.

In 1927, industrialist G D Birla took over Hindustan Times and placed it on a sound financial footing. In the same year, S Sadanand started the Free Press Journal, a newspaper for the poor and the middle-class in Mumbai.

Under British Rule
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Indian's involvement in publication
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy, the pioneer Indian journalist and social reformer.

- By his inspiration Gangadhar Bhattacharjee published Bengal Gazette (1816), the first Indian owned English daily newspaper, but could not survive long

- Raja's own publications- Sambad Kaumudi (Bengali 1821), Mirut ul Akhbar (Persian 1822) and
Brahminical Magazine (English 1822)

- Press Regulation –1823 imposed by British govt. in India to control newspapers.
- The regulation was used as a tool to deport James Silk Buckingham, Editor of Calcutta Chronicle.
- Raja presented a petition to Supreme Court to protest the regulation in favour of J.S. Buckingham.
- It was his bold step for the preservation of press freedom, however he defeated the case.

- Anti reformists Hindu fundamentalists published Samachar Chandrika weekly to challenge Raja’s social reforms.
- Raja passed away in 1833
- 1857 Mutiny (the first war of Indian independence) was a turning point to Indian journalism.
- In the issue of mutiny, British owned press and Indian owned press blamed each other in the lowest level.
- British owned press acted like blood mongers of Indians.
- This event worked as a fuel to Indian owned press against the British rule in India.

- Pioneers Indian journalists on those days- Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Gangadhar Bhattacharjee, Bhawani Charan Bannerjee, Dwarkanath Tagore, Girish Chandra Ghose, Harischandra Mukharjee, Ishworchandra Vidyasagar, Kristo Pal, Manmohan Ghose, Keshub Chander Sen etc.

- Other major publications by Indians- The Reformer, Enquirer, Gyan Auneshun, Bengal Herald, Bang Doot, Hindu Patriot, Indian Mirror, Sulab Samachar, etc.

After Mutiny
- Standard, The Bombay Times and Telegraph merged into Times of India in 1861, Robert Knight was the owner, he was also owner of Statesman daily (1875) from Calcutta, Indian Economist monthly and Agriculture Gazette of India, his editorials and writings were balanced and impressive.

- Other major publications- Indu Prakash weekly, Gyan Prakash, Lokhitavadi (all 1861), Amrit Bazar Patrika (1868 Calcutta), Pioneer (1872 Allahbad), The Hindu (1878 Chennai), Keshari (marathi) and The Maratha (English) (both in1878 from Pune by veteran freedom fighter Balgangadhar Tilak)


- British govt. enacted Vernacular Press Act-1878 to suppress Indian language newspapers

- Indian National Congress (INC) founded in 1885.

- It was led by many nationalists like Surendranath Banerjee, Balgangadhar Tilak, Dadabhoi Naoroji, Motilal Gosh, Bipin Chandra Pal, G. Subramania Aiyer, etc., who were active journalists too.
- After establishment of INC, Indian press became an important part of struggle for independence.

**Leading Newspapers After Establishment of INC**

- 1900- Bangalee English Daily (ed)- Surendranath Banarjee
- 1901- New India English Weekly (ew)- Bipinchandra Pal
- 1901- Bande Mataram – Bengalee weekly- Bipinchandra Pal
- 1906- Yugantar – Bengali daily- Barendra kumar Ghose
- 1909- Leader- ed- Madan Mohan Malviya
- 1913- New India –ed- Annie Besant
- 1913- Bombay Chronicle –ed- Phiroj Shah Mehata

- 1918 –Justice- ed- Dr.T.M.Nair (published by non- Brahmin movement in Madras)
- 1918 – Searchlight- English biweekly- Shachindranath Sinha
- 1919- The Independent –ed- Pandit Motilal Neharu
- 1919- Young India – ed- Mahatma Gandhi
- 1920 – Nav Jeevan – Gujarati weekly- Mahatma Gandhi
- 1922- Swarajya- ed- T.Prakasham
- 1923- Forward- ed- Chittaranjan Das
- 1923- The Hindustan Times –ed- K.M. Panikar (first daily in Delhi)
- 1929- Liberty-ed- Subhas Chandra Bose
- 1932- Harijan- Gujarati weekly- Mahatma Gandhi
- 1938- National Herald- Jawaharlal Neharu

- Viceroy Lord Curzon Vs. Indian press
- In 1907 series of arrests and prosecutions against the journalists and press
- India Press Act –1910 asked for heavy security deposits
- 963 publications and press were prosecuted under the act
- 173 new printing press and 129 newspapers were killed at their birth by the weapon of security deposits
- British govt. collected about 5 lakhs Indian Rs. in the first year of the act enforcement.

- During the First world war (1914-1918) Indian press were divided.

- The act was forcibly executed against the press who were not in support of British side in the world war.

- In 1919 Jaliawala Bagh massacre was a big disaster to the Indian press.

- Even the Anglo-Indian press were not escaped.


- Declaration of non-cooperation movement against British rule in India.

- Press marched shoulder to shoulder with satyagrahis.

- Mahatma Gandhi lauded for freedom of expression, ideas and people's sentiments.

- Gandhi would not accept adv., he believed newspapers should survive on the revenue from subscribers.

- He would not accept any restrictions on the paper, he rather close it down.

- His writings were widely circulated and reproduced in the newspapers all over the country.

- A big challenge to non-Gandhian newspapers.

- Gandhi declared 'Salt Satyagraha' in 1930.

- The nationalist press played a memorable role, which perhaps is unique in the history of any freedom movement.

- Press ordinance issued in 1930 to suppress Indian press through heavy security deposits.

- When second world war broke out, British rulers became more suppressive to the Indian press.

- In 1940 UP government directed the press to submit the headlines of the news to the secretary of the information department for his pre-approval.

- In response to this, National Herald (newspaper run by Jawaharlal Nehru) published the news without headlines.

- Second world war and freedom fight gave more fuel to Indian press.

- Britishers charged them as ‘pro-Hitler’.

- All India Newspaper Editors Conference held in 1940 at Delhi voiced against the suppressive attitude of the British govt.

- Fresh suppression and struggle started from 1942 when Quit India Movement initiated.
- Many press, publications and journalists including Neharu suspended and arrested in 1942
- It continued until the declaration of independence in 1947 August
- K. Rama Rao, Editor, Swarajya “It was more than a vocation, it was a mission and the newspaper was a noble enterprise working for patriotic purpose”.

1947 Onwards

- India received independence from British rule on 1947 August 15th
- The press celebrated the independence, because it was their victory too.
- At the beginning of independence the relation between the national govt. and press was good, but a year after situation was changed
- P. M. Neharu, Sardar Ballav Bhai Patel, etc. were not happy with the press.
- Recommendations – Press Council, press registrar, minimum basic salary for working journalists, strengthen the role of the editors
- The working journalist act-1955
- The newspaper (price and page) act-1956
- Press Council established – 1965
- P.M. Mrs. Indira Gandhi declared state of emergency on 1975 June
- It was a shocking blow to the freedom of press
- Ignored the press freedom guaranteed by article 19 (1) in the constitution
- Heavy censorship during the emergency period under Defence Rule “in order to maintain public order…”
- 1975 Dec 8th ordinance banned the publication of all ‘objectionable matter’, no permission to report parliament, close down Press Council, blaming it was failed to curb provocative writings
- During 19 months of emergency 253 journalists detained and 7 foreign correspondence expelled
- When Janata Dal came into power, all the restrictions over press were removed
- After emergency Indian press became more professional along with high tech., simultaneous publications increased, tremendous change in the contents, more supplements, booming of specialized magazines
B.A. (HONS.) Mass Communication I Year

Sub. – History of Media (Paper-01)

- Press Council re-established under new act- 28 member, chaired by retired judge of high court
HISTORY OF HINDI JOURNALISM

The first Hindi newspaper, Udant Martand, was published in 1826 from Bengal. However, it could not survive long because of its distant readership and high postal rates. Its place was soon taken by Jami Jahan Numa, a newspaper that was pro-establishment.

The first Hindi newspaper, Udant Martand, a weekly was published in Kolkata on May 30, 1826 'in the interest of Hindustanis'. However, its editor, Yugal Kishore Shukla (Jugal Kishore Shukli in some documents) faced many difficulties in running it. He was not allowed postal concession and had to close down the paper within a year. He made another attempt to start another paper in 1850 called Samyadani Martand but this also failed.

The second Hindi newspaper, Banga Doot, was published in 1829 by Raja Ram Mohan Ray and Dwarika Prasad Thakore with Nilratan Haldar as its editor. Besides Hindi, it was also published in English, Bengali and Persian.

The first Hindi daily, Samachar Sudha Varshan, came out in June 1854 from Kolkata with Shyam Sundar Sen as its editor and publisher. It was a bilingual paper in which market and shipping reports were published in Hindi, the rest in Bengali.

Between 1850 and 1857 a number of Hindi newspapers were published. Among them were Benaras Akbar, Sudhakar Tatwa Bodhini, Patrika and Sathya. A literary magazine which set the standard for Hindi Journals in the early year of century was Saraswathi, a monthly edited by Mahavir Prasad Dwibedy. It standardised the style and pattern of Hindi journalism and developed literary criticism and book reviews. It became the torchbearer for later day Hindi journalists who cultivated its prose style. Newspapers like Bharat Mitra (1878), Sarsudhanidhi (1879), Uchit Wakta (1880) and Hindi Bangavasi (1890) were published from Calcutta during the last three decades of 19th century. Bharat Mitra, published from Calcutta became the leading Hindi newspaper of the time under the dynamic stewardship of its early editors, Balmukund Gupta and Ambika Prasad Bajpai.

The beginning of the new century saw the birth of many Hindi dailies in Bombay, Calcutta and Patna. The more prominent among them were Sri Venkateswar Samachar and Calcutta Samachar. Viswanmitra, which was started after the Calcutta Samachar became defunct, offered serious competition to Bharat Mitra from 1918.

Hindi journalism made rapid progress during the first world war period and many outstanding journalists came to the fore including Ganga Prasad Gupta, Nanda Kumar Deo Dharma, M. P. Dwivedi, Hari Krishna Jouhar, Chhote Ram Shukla, Indra Vidyavachaspati, Shri Ram Pandey, Lakshminarayan Garde and Narmada Prasad Misra. One of the foremost Hindi journalists who earned a name for his
patriotism was Ganesh Shanker Vidyarthi. In 1913, he brought out weekly Pratap from Kanpur. He made the supreme sacrifice in 1931 in the cause of Hindu-Muslim unity. Krishna Dutt Paliwal brought out Sainik from Agra which became a staunch propagator of nationalism in Western U. P. The noted Congress leader, Swami Shradhanand, started the publication of Hindi journal Vir Arjunand Urdu journal Tej. After the assassination of Swami Shradhanand, Vidyavachaspathi and Lala Deshbandhu Gupta, both prominent Congress leaders continued the publication of these journals.

At the turn of the century almost all Calcutta based Hindi newspapers went vocal against the suppressive and divisive policies of the Raj. This marked the beginning – in 1907- of two outstanding magazines: Nrisinha and Devnagar. Nrisinha edited by Ambika Prasad Vajpayee, a staunch supporter of Lokmanya Tilak was a political magazine and it joined the protest against British rule. Devnagar on the other hand tried to work on a uniform script.

In 1920, the Aj was started in Banaras. It played a notable part in the freedom struggle. Its first editor was Sri Prakasa, a great freedom fighter who occupied positions of power and prestige in free India. He was assisted by Babu Rao Vishnu Parakar whose contribution to the development of Hindi Journalism was considerable. Espousing the national cause and waging a never-ending battle with the alien rulers, the Aj was a bulwark of the Indian National Congress and its main forum to spread the message of freedom to the Hindi-speaking masses of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Nepal. It set the tone and style for Hindi Journalism and was acclaimed for its impartial objective reporting and fearless editorials. A balanced blending of national and international news was one of its strong features.

In Patna the Desh, a weekly, was an influential journal and the mouthpiece of the Congress. It was founded by Babu Rajendra Prasad and his friends in 1920. But it was not a profitable venture and had to close down.

In 1924 there were 102 Hindi newspapers; four of them were dailies (Aj, Banaras, Swatantra, Calcutta, Arjun, Delhi and Calcutta Samachar, Calcutta) According to one historian, until 1926, Hindi dailies were not financially successful. "Their get up and printing was poor, the reading material not quite up to the mark and the editorials unwieldy and lengthy. The weeklies were better edited and got up." Among the well-known better produced weeklies were Bhavishya (Kanpur), Karmaveer (Khandwa) and Sainik (Agra). Among the important Hindi dailies which flourished in 1930 were: Visvamitra and Bharat Mitra (Calcutta), Savadho Bharat (Bombay). Lokkat(Jabalpur), Variman (Kanpur), Milap (Lahore) besides Aj (Banaras), Arjun (Delhi) and Lokmanyaa (Calcutta).

As freedom struggle gained momentum, there was a steady rise of Hindi journalism both in terms of quality and quantity. More number of Hindi publications took birth in almost all North Indian states and also in Maharashtra, West Bengal, and Andhra Pradesh, especially Hyderabad. Hindi publications like other language publications by and large supported Nationalist movement and faced the suppression of the British rulers. One of the important Hindi dailies to be published from the capital was Hindustan, sister newspaper of the Hindustan Times, started in 1936. Wide news coverage and a variety of special features marked the Hindustan. Started in 1940, Aryavari of Patna was a sister publication of the Indian Nation and enjoyed considerable influence.

Hindi journalism grew more rapidly after independence. After independence Hindi was adopted as the official language of India. This also helped to spread Hindi language nationwide. The Nav Bharat Times of the Times of India group started in Delhi in 1950. The Amrita Patrika of Allahabad was another notable Hindi daily which was well-known for its trenchant editorials. By 1964 Hindi had the largest number of
newspapers among language papers. The trend of publishing multiple editions from different states helped Hindi newspapers to increase their reach and circulation.

According to RNI (Registrar of Newspapers) the total number of publications in Hindi was 27,527 in 2007-8 including 3418 daily newspapers.

By 2011 Hindi daily Dainik Jagran claimed to be the largest read newspaper of the world. Six out of the top ten newspapers with highest number of readership in India are Hindi. According to IRS (Indian Readership survey Q:2) the top ten largest read Hindi newspapers are: Dainik Jagran (readership: 159.1 lakh), Dainik Bhaskar (140.1 lakh), Hindustan (118.1 lakh), Amar Ujala (87.47 lakh), Rajasthan Patrika (70.33 lakh), Punjabi Kesari (34.79 lakh), Navbharat Times (25,89,000) Prabhat Khabar (18,12,000), Nai Dunia (17.62 lakh) and Hari Bhoomi (14.37 lakh). All of the newspapers have multiple editions from different cities and states.

Hindi newspapers are published from several states. Besides the North Indian Hindi belt, sizable numbers of Hindi publications are there in West Bengal, Maharashtra, Gujarat and other states. There are two good Hindi dailies from Hyderabad – Swatantra Vaarthaa and Milap. Sanmarg has an edition from Bhubaneswar, Orissa.

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B.A. (HONS.) Mass Communication I Year Sub. – History of Media (Paper-01)

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1861
In 1861, Mr Knight merged the Bombay Standard, Bombay Times and Telegraph and brought out the first issue of Times of India.

POINTS TO REMEMBER
- Standard, The Bombay Times and Telegraph merged into Times of India in 1861, Robert Knight was the owner, he was also owner of Statesman daily (1875) from Calcutta, Indian Economist monthly and Agriculture Gazette of India, his editorials and writings were balanced and impressive.
- Other major publications- Indu Prakash weekly, Gyan Prakash, Lokhitavadi (all 1861), Amrit Bazar Patrika (1868 Calcutta), Pioneer (1872 Allahbad), The Hindu (1878 Chennai), Keshari (marathi) and The Maratha (English) (both in1878 from Pune by veteran freedom fighter Balgangadhar Tilak)

1875
- In 1875, the same Mr Knight with the backing of rich merchants from Kolkata started Indian Statesman which was later called as Statesman.
- Around the same time, Amrita Bazar Patrika was able to establish itself in Kolkata. Starting out as a vernacular paper, it was constantly in trouble due to its outspokenness. In order to circumvent the strict provision of the Vernacular Press Act, Amrita Bazar Patrika converted itself overnight into an English newspaper.
- Amrita Bazar Patrika inspired freedom fighter Lokmanya Tilak to start Kesari in Pune. He used Kesari to build anti-cow killing societies, Ganesh mandals and reviving the Chhatrapati Shivaji cult. He used mass communication as a powerful political weapon.

POINTS TO REMEMBER
- British govt. enacted Vernacular Press Act-1878 to suppress Indian language newspapers
- Indian National Congress (INC) founded in 1885.
- It was led by many nationalists like Surendranath Banerjee, Balgangadhar Tilak, Dadabhoi Naoji, Motilal Gosh, Bipin Chandra Pal, G. Subramania Aiyer, etc., who were active journalists too.
- After establishment of INC, Indian press became an important part of struggle for independence.

Leading Newspapers After Establishment of INC
- 1900- Bangalee English Daily (ed)- Surendranath Banarjee
- 1901- New India English Weekly (ew)- Bipinchandra Pal
- 1901- Bande Mataram – Bengalee weekly- Bipinchandra Pal

1905
By 1905, the English and vernacular press had become pretty professional. Political leaders and social reformers were regular contributors to newspapers. Some prominent writers of the time were C Y Chintamani, G A Natesan, N C Kelkar, Phirozshah Mehta and Benjamin Horniman.
Indian news was supplied by special correspondent and government hand-outs (press releases), international news was supplied by Reuters, an international news agency.

**Leading Newspapers After Establishment of INC**

**1906- Yugantar – Bengali daily- Barendra kumar Ghose**
- Viceroy Lord Curzon Vs. Indian press
  - In 1907 series of arrests and prosecutions against the journalists and press

**1909- Leader- ed- Madan Mohan Malviya**
- India Press Act –1910 asked for heavy security deposits
  - 963 publications and press were prosecuted under the act
  - 173 new printing press and 129 newspapers were killed at their birth by the weapon of security deposits
  - British govt. collected about 5 lakhs Indian Rs. in the first year of the act enforcement

**1913- New India –Ed- Annie Besant**

**1913- Bombay Chronicle –Ed- Phiroj Shah Mehata**
- Viceroy Lord Curzon Vs. Indian press
  - During the First world war (1914-1918) Indian press were divided.
  - The act was forcibly executed against the press who were not in support of British side in the world war.

**1918 –Justice- Ed- Dr.T.M.Nair (published by non- Brahmin movement in Madras)**

**1918 – Searchlight- English biweekly- Shachindranath Sinha**
- Viceroy Lord Curzon Vs. Indian press
  - In 1919 Jaliawala Bagh massacre was a big disaster to the Indian press.
  - Even the Anglo- Indian press were not escaped.

**1919- The Independent -Ed- Pandit Motilal Neharu**

**1919- Young India – Ed- Mahatma Gandhi**

**1920s and 1930s**
- Newspapers in this period started reflecting popular political opinion. While big English dailies were loyal to the British government, the vernacular press was strongly nationalist.
- The Leader and Bombay Chronicle were pro-Congress.
- The Servant of India and The Bombay Chronicle were moderate.
- The Bande Mataram of Aubindu Ghosh, Kal of Poona and Sakli of Surat were fiercely nationalist.
- In 1918, Motilal Nehru started the Independent of Lucknow as a newspaper of extreme Indian opinion.
- The Home Rule Party started Young India, which later became Mahatma Gandhiji’s mouthpiece.

As more and more Indians started learning English, many became reporters, editors and even owners. The Anglo-Indian press began to lose ground except in Bombay and Calcutta.

In 1927, industrialist G D Birla took over Hindustan Times and placed it on a sound financial footing. In the same year, S Sadanand started the Free Press Journal, a newspaper for the poor and the middle-class in Mumbai.
1920 – Nav Jeevan – Gujarati weekly- Mahatma Gandhi
1922- Swarajya- ed- T.Prakasham
1923- Forward- ed- Chittaranjan Das
1923- The Hindustan Times -ed- K.M. Panikar (first daily in Delhi)
1929- Liberty-ed- Subhas Chandra Bose
1932- Harijan- Gujarati weekly- Mahatma Gandhi
1938- National Herald- Jawaharlal Neharu