
GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF INDIAN ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS

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ABSTRACT

The newspaper has long been recognized as one of the most influential media for the dissemination of information, education, and public opinion. This paper traces the historical growth and development of newspapers with particular emphasis on Indian English newspapers. It examines the origin of newspapers from ancient handwritten news sheets to modern print and online journalism, highlighting significant milestones in global newspaper history. The study further explores the evolution of newspapers in India during both the pre-independence and post-independence periods, emphasizing the role of English-language newspapers in shaping public discourse, political awareness, and national development. Special attention is given to the emergence of online newspapers following advancements in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and the expansion of internet services in India. The paper discusses how digital transformation has altered newspaper production, distribution, and readership patterns while maintaining the essential role of newspapers as instruments of information dissemination and democratic participation. The study concludes that Indian English newspapers have successfully adapted to technological changes and continue to play a vital role in the country's socio-political and cultural landscape.

Keywords: *Indian English Newspapers; Print Media; Journalism; Newspaper History; Online Newspapers; Digital Journalism; Mass Communication; Media Development; Press Freedom; Information Technology; Newspaper Industry; Electronic Publishing; News Media; Indian Press; Web Journalism.*

INTRODUCTION

It is a well-known proverb, 'one can do without a cup of tea in the morning, but not without a morning newspaper'. But a number of obstacles hinder the people to have access to information, they are in need of. The World Wide Web has opened new dimensions for the information flow with the advent of web resources which have become rivulet crossing the entire border. Online newspapers, a promising their magnitude on the web. The potentialities of the web have been accepted by the newspaper market globally.

The growth of online newspapers traces back to 1992 when for the first time U.S newspaper were published on web. Newspaper content was text based and was delivered through BBS or online services such as prodigy and America online on September 12, 1994; Netscape released the beta version of its navigator, a graphic web browser. Newspapers formally established their presence on the World Wide Web soon after that online newspaper is virtual world with extraordinary intensity. Newspapers, being a product of printing press enjoyed the privilege of monopolizing the mass media market and television. It was World Wide Web that helped the newspaper sector to flourish. Time is not far when newspapers in a virtual mode will become the choice of globe.

NEWSPAPER: THE CONCEPT

For hundreds of year people have substantially depended on newspapers to know the day-to-day events occur across the world every major city has at least one newspaper, and most of them have more than one. Almost every country or town has some form of newspapers. A newspaper is not only a global history but also global culture. A newspaper is regularly published print product containing information vital the function of the market it serves.

The newspaper is a messenger of modern life. As newspaper is the educator of the society, is not only provides current information to the public but by delivering the same information to all members of the community it tells the story of human lives in different forms, in different situations, in different places and many more.

The term 'newspaper' comes from two words. 'News' and 'Paper'. According to oxford Dictionary the term, 'News' denotes a new or fresh information, reports, broadcast, or bulletin of recent events.

NEWSPAPER: ORIGIN

The history of newspapers is arguably one of the most dramatic episodes of human experience. The actual origin of newspapers lies in the Renaissance Europe when local merchants used to distribute handwritten newsletters amongst each other however it was not until the late 1400's when Germany introduced. Since then, newspapers have evolved dramatically and today there are more than 6580 daily newspapers filled with various materials like editor's columns, forecast, comic strips, entertainment section and much more. Unfortunately the sudden economic downturn has also seen the rise of electronic of web-based versions of newspaper journals which automatically resulted in a decline in and circulation.

HISTORY OF NEWSPAPERS IN WORLD

For centuries, human civilization has utilized the print media to spread news and information about politics and social happening to the masses. The brief history and development of modern newspaper can be described in their chronological order is as follows:

Newspaper began circulating in the 17th century. The first newspaper of England was printed in 1641(However the word newspaper was not recorded until 1670). The first successful daily newspaper in Britain was printed in 1702. The first American Newspaper was printed in 1690. It was called public occurrences both foreign and Domestic. The first daily American newspaper was published in 1783.

In Britain the first Sunday Newspaper was British Gazette and Sunday Monitor published in 1780. In 1785 the Daily universal Register was first published in 1788. It was renamed as The Times in 1814. The Times was printed on a steam-powered press for the first time. In 1848 The Times used a rotary printing press with the printing face wrapped around a cylinder for the first time.

Meanwhile the observer was founded in 1781. The daily telegraph was first published in 1855. The Manchester Guardian was founded in 1821. It changed its name to the Guardian in 1959. The Sunday Times was first published in 1843. Meanwhile the first Australian Newspaper was published in 1803. It was called the Sydney Gazette and New south wiles Advertiser.

Newspapers became for more common in the late 19th century. In the 18th century & the early 19th century stamp duty was changed on newspapers, which made them expensive. However In 1855 stamp duty on newspaper was abolished and they became cheaper and more common. In the mid-19th century newspaper reporters began to use the telegraph as a means to get reuse to their newspaper quickly.

Then in 1880 the New York Graphic became the first newspaper to print a photo. In Britain the first tabloid newspaper was Daily Graphic published in 1890. In 1891 it became the first British Newspaper to print a photo .In the 20th century newspaper became still more common

The Daily mail was first published in 1896. The Daily Express was first published in 1900 and The Daily Mirror began publication in 1903. In 1964 The Daily Herald became the sun and The Daily Star was founded in 1978. Meanwhile the Sunday Telegraph was Tomes became the first newspaper to publish a Sunday colour supplement the mail on Sunday began in 1982. The independent was first published in 1986. Also, in 1986 Today became the first colour newspaper in Britain.

By the beginning of the 20th century Fleet Street was the centre of the British Newspaper industry. However in the 1980s newspaper Owners moved away from Fleet Street. At that time computer technology replaced the old labour-intensive methods of ranting. The press complaints commission was created in 1990 Metro; a free newspaper for computers was first published in Britain in 1999. Then in 2010 on abbreviated version of the independent called I was launched however in 2017 the news of world ceased publication.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEWSPAPERS

Centuries human civilization has utilized the media to spread news and information about political and social happening to the masses. In ancient Rome and China, handwritten news sheets would be posted daily in the major cities to updated citizens on government scandals, military campaigns, trials and executions etc. the growth and development of newspaper is shown in Table-1 as follows.

Table-1: Growth And Development of Newspapers

SL NO	YEAR	REGION COUNTRY OF PUBLICATION	SPECIAL FEATURES/SIGNIFICANCE
1	59BC	Rome	'Acta Diruna' first newspaper was published.
2	713	China	'Kiyiyuna' was the first newspaper.
3	1392	Korea	Moveable copper type was invented.
4	1451	Germany	Johannes Gutenberg invented letterpress printing.
5	1457	Germany	First colour printing by Fust & Schoeffer.
6	1502	Germany	Zeitung newspaper published.
7	1556	Venetia	First monthly newspaper published
8	1605	Germany	First printed newspaper published weekly.
9	1690	America	In Boston, The first Public Occurance was published.
10	1702	London	The first newspaper was The Daily Courant
11	1704	Europe	Daniel Defoe the author of 'Robinson Crusoe'.
12	1780	US	The Pennsylvania packet the first daily newspaper.

13	1814	London	Jon Walte published 'The Times' at an output of 1100 sheet per minute
14	1847	New York	Opening up the first mass market for newspaper.
15	1880		First photographs appeared in newspaper.
16	1903	London	Alfred Harmsworth developed the first tabloid newspaper in Daily Mirror
17	1994		First independent On-line daily appeared on World Wide Web.

HISTORY OF NEWSPAPERS IN INDIA

Compared to many other developing countries, the Indian newspaper industries have flourished since independence and exercised a large degree of independence. British colonialism allowed for the development of traditional newspapers and many of India's great English language newspapers and some of its Indian-language presses were begin going the nineteenth century. As India became independent, ownership of India's leaving English language newspaper transferred from British to Indian Business group. The Newspaper industries have experienced impressive growth science independence. The growth and development of newspaper in India from early independence and after independence with its brief history are as follow:

GROWTH OF NEWSPAPERS IN PRE-INDEPENDENCE ERA

The English language press in pre-independence era was of course, originally intended for British readers. Many of the newspapers which appeared during the pre-independence period, the following are some of the popular incident regarding the growth and development of newspapers in pre-independence period.

In 1780 November second newspapers India Gazette, by Bernard Messnik and Peter Read. In 1784 Lord Mansfield defined the liberty of press as consisting in printing without previous incense, subject to the consequences of law. In 1823 the British Government passed two vital regulations which securely gagged the press and were directed against English language and British owned newspapers. In 1861 The Times of India' started its publication during this year which is now India's largest English Language Daily. In 1865 in this year 'the pioneer' English daily was started. In 1868 'the Madras Mail' another English Daily was started its publication from Madras in 1875 'The Statesman' an English Daily was also published from Calcutta.

GROWTH OF NEWSPAPERS IS POST INDEPENDENCE ERA

In the initial post-independence period, the relation between the government and the newspaper were quite friendly and cordial the following are some of the popular incident regarding the growth and development of newspapers in post-independence period.

In 1950 there were 214 daily newspapers, with 44 in English, and 170 in different Indian language. Especially in 1960s, the Indian newspapers began to come into its policies. In 1969 the advisory role of the newspapers at the national level gained momentum after Indira Gandhi split her congress party in 1969. In 1971 the state defined the role of the newspapers as "to report to the people and not advice the Government". 1976 in the period between1976-81, the circulation of daily newspapers 151 almost all languages got increased from 9.3million copies daily to 5.3 million, an impressive increase of 65 percent. In 1992 Government regulation of access to newsprint was liberalised, controls on the reward favoured publications and threaten those fell into disfavour. In 1995 the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited lunched internet connection for the public of India, thereby giving a scope for the newspapers to be available on the web, if so desired.

HISTORY OF ONLINE NESWAPAPER

An online newspaper is the online version of a newspaper, either as a standalone publication or as the online version of a printed periodical.

The first paperless electronic newspaper was developed in the late seventies. Some of the early commercial electronic newspapers were, Times Mirror's 'Gateway' and Knight Rudder's 'Viewtron' were marked towards home consumers. In the information age, when the video tent systems promised news and information that were more timely, more thought and more personal than the printed newspapers and when the printed medium could not complete with the compelling moving images of television, then the news corporation carted to electron early deliver news into people's home before there information business, such as telephone could do so .In 1970 is some form of online product.

CONCLUSION

The history of Indian English newspapers reflects the remarkable evolution of journalism from traditional print media to the contemporary digital era. Since their introduction during the colonial period, English-language newspapers have played a significant role in informing citizens, shaping public opinion, promoting social reform, and contributing to the democratic process of the nation. The development of newspapers in India has been closely linked with political, social, economic, and technological transformations occurring both within the country and across the world.

From the publication of early newspapers such as *Hicky's Bengal Gazette* and *The Times of India* to the emergence of modern multimedia news platforms, Indian English newspapers have continuously adapted to changing reader expectations and technological innovations. The post-independence period witnessed substantial growth in circulation, readership, and journalistic professionalism, while liberalization and globalization further strengthened the newspaper industry. The advent of the Internet and digital communication technologies has revolutionized news production and dissemination, giving rise to online newspapers that provide instant, interactive, and global access to information.

Despite challenges such as declining print readership, competition from social media, misinformation, and changing revenue models, Indian English newspapers continue to maintain their relevance by embracing digital transformation and innovative content delivery mechanisms. Their commitment to credible reporting, public accountability, and democratic values remains vital in an increasingly interconnected information society. Therefore, the future of Indian English newspapers lies in successfully integrating traditional journalistic principles with emerging digital technologies to serve the evolving needs of readers in the twenty-first century.

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