Reporting In Conflict Areas

A study of contemporary issues

Researcher

Mateen Haider Butt
Reg # 97-SS/MSMC/F10

Supervisor

Dr. ZAFAR IQBAL

Head of Department

Department of Media and Communication Studies (IIU)

Faculty of Social Sciences

International Islamic University Islamabad

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this research work to my teachers (from school to the University) because of whom I have learned something in this world.

A special feeling of gratitude to my Late parents who provided full support to me for education despite meager resources.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, the lord of the lords, the most beneficent, the most merciful who created this world and who is the owner of Day of Judgment. Without his support and blessings, nothing can be possible in this world. First of all, I express my hearties gratitude to my Allah Almighty who enabled me to accomplish this task with the given time frame. His countless blessings paved the way for my research work and due to his help and support I feel no worry and reluctances during my research procedures throughout the study.

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I take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude and deep regards to my research supervisor, Dr. Zafar Iqbal, International Islamic University, Islamabad. He is the best, honest and sincere teacher whom I like the most of all. From the selection of the topic to data collection he helped and guided me through the rest of research work. His help, stimulating suggestions, knowledge, experience and encouragement helped me in my entire research period. Due to his consistent support and sincere technical guidance in every aspect relating to my study, it was possible that I completed my work in the light of his useful counsels. Without his encouragement

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Apart of my all efforts, the success of this research work depends largely on the encouragement and guidance of many others.
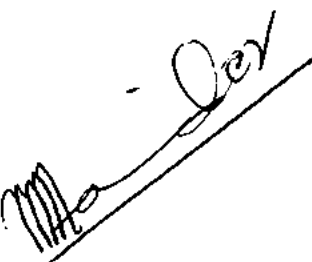
Mateen Haider Butt

Islamabad

October, 2015

DECLARATION

I, Mateen Haider Butt do solemnly affirm that this thesis, titled as "—Reporting in conflict area—A study of contemporary issues " is the result of my own research work which has never been submitted before any university or institute.

Signature:

Name : Mateen Haider Butt

Reg. No:97-FSS/MS/F-10

Date:.   7/8/2015

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International Islamic University Islamabad
Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Media and Communication Studies
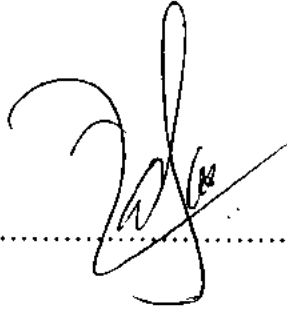
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Certificate of Approval

It is certified that we have read this thesis entitled "Reporting in Conflict Areas: A Study of Contemporary Issues" submitted by Mateen Haider Butt. It is our judgement that this thesis is of sufficient standard to warrant its acceptance by the International Islamic University Islamabad for the award of MS Degree in Media and Communication Studies.
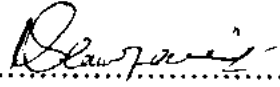
Committee

Supervisor
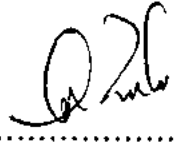Dr. Zafar Iqbal

External Examiner
Dr. Muhammad Aslam Parvez

Internal Examiner
Syed Inaam ur Rehman
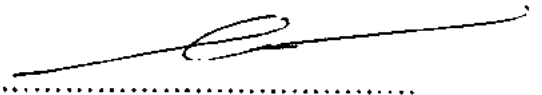
Chairman DMCS, IIUI
Dr. Zafar Iqbal

Dean FSS, IIUI
Dr. Nabi Bux Jumani

CERTIFICATE

This thesis entitled "Reporting in conflict Areas A study of contemporary issues-"

submitted by Mateen Haider for partial fulfillment of MS degree in Media and Communication

Studies(IIU) has been completed under my guidance and supervision, I am satisfied with the

quality of research work and allow him to submit this thesis for further process as per IIUI rules

and regulations

Supervisor

Signature: ————————————————

DR ZAFAR IQBAL

Head

Department of Media & Communication Studies,

International Islamic University,

Islamabad

Date:————————————

The Abstract

This research titled "reporting in conflict areas: a study of contemporary issues" is basically in-depth study of working of journalists in conflict zones and the dangers which they face. It is pertinent to know that the response of senior journalists about any specific matter have the worth especially related their field. That's why the methodology of this research study has adopted with the opinion of journalists by giving the importance through their devoted years in this field.

As the security situation of journalists in Pakistan is very miserable and alarming and the issues related conflict are going on and becoming diverse so in this scenario the focus of the researchers have turned towards highlighting the phenomenon's relating the security of the journalist as well as their contribution in this field.

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Chapter # 1

INTRODUCTION

Mass communication has been practiced through conventional means and changed its shapes gradually with the advent of technology. Folk media remained most popular form of communication through cultures and generations which reflected their values and ideals. Today, world is witnessing a boom in technological advancement and currently modern media is equipped with latest communication tools. Media is entering into postmodern age in which media is not more following principles held previous in modern world. Traditionally media was considered as only information, education and information provider but today its role has become more vibrant, turning mass society into information society (Aikat, 2009). The contribution of Internet is marvelous which has turned this world into global village. Modern technology has reduced the gap between the world communities and has played a role of bridge in bringing people closer than ever. Anyone can become part of what is happening in the other corner of the world (McLuhan, 1962).

The arrival of Internet performed two functions simultaneously. It has provided instant worldwide information and made possible world to interact at the same time. On the other hand, it has increased information gap. World Wide Web has literally proved to be much more sophisticated, equipped with latest scientific technological development to store and share bulk of information which fulfills the information needs of sixty billion people of the world. The problem arose over to what extent Internet be used and where should be red line. This invited certain rules and regulations on various cyber activities (Kraidy, 2009). The history of modern media starts with the book. Before the invention of printing press, books were hand written.

The invention of printing press allowed mass printing. The early history of newspaper can also be traced but printing press remained the major factor in its growth. Printing press made possible for public to access of information and freedom of expression which was earlier an area of government and diplomatic use (McQuail, 2010). Previously, newspaper was not as much complex as today. Its appearance was simple and it contained only facts. It consisted of few pages with only name of printers. The lack of commercialism and professional advertisement trends, newspaper barely contained any advertisement. Thus, newspaper faced acute financial stress because sold copies could not generate revenues.

In Europe, mass communication was regarded as major tool to serve public by sharing information about significant issues. In developing countries it was considered as tool for smooth national growth and expansion. In US, mass communication remained a major tool for capitalistic society. It had major function of making money through advertisement (Kraidy, 2009). Newspaper advertising started in early seventieth century yet it gained more popularity in the first decade of eighteenth century when Boston Newsletter published advertisement (Baker & Museum, 2011). Advertisement played a vital role in enhancing newspaper's industry, enabling it to convert from simple form to a complex and specialized outline. Advertisement made possible for newspapers to hire more people to gather information and disseminate across the world.

The role of journalists also emerged with the advent of modern newspapers since start of seventieth century. Modern news reporting gained more attention in the beginning of eighteenth century when first successful newspaper emerged in Boston in 1704 (Barber, 2012). Journalism is all about serving public interests and providing forum for people's voice. The role of

journalist is to gather and report fairly and objectively. Journalists ought to report unbiased and impartial. A fair and impartial reporting demands role of a watchdog which is equally challenging. Protection of public interests becomes the sole aim of journalists and they have to raise voice against misuse of power, violence, corruption, indiscriminate killing and damage during conflict reporting (Gagnon, Macklin, & Simons, 2003).

In Pakistan we are facing the issue of war on terror for more than one decade and a long list of Pakistani citizens who have lost their lives in this war. That is not our war but we have lost many lives round about fifty thousand. Very little efforts have been done to prepare the list of those journalists who have sacrificed their lives while covering this war. At one side we say that fair reporting of war or conflict is necessary but on the other hand the possible efforts to provide the safety and security cannot be seen anywhere from the ruling authorities or other authorities. It can never neglect that if the journalist is dead it means reporting is dead. So if the journalists cover the incident from some distance that is also to somehow the part of contribution by the journalists who are offering this duty without caring their lives so how one can point out questions about unfair reporting in Pakistani perspective.

It is pertinent to know that the response of senior journalists about any specific matter have the worth especially related their field. That's why the methodology of this research study has adopted with the opinion of journalists by giving the importance through their devoted years in this field. As the situation of journalists in Pakistan is very miserable and alarming and the issues related conflict are going on and becoming diverse so in this scenario the focus of the researchers have turned towards highlighting the phenomenon's relating the security of the journalist as well as their contribution in this field.

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In Pakistan there is a dire need to cover these conflicts with secure ways and being portrayed with the relevance to the ground reality. But this is a dilemma that still not any specific laws have been introduced or other security measures are provided to the journalists. In this situation this study has a pivotal role in highlighting such factors with effective solutions.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The role of journalism during conflict is significant in reducing tensions, rebuilding the society and restoring peace. The war on terror remains a major conflict across the globe and Pakistan is also part of it. Pakistani journalists remain at direct and soft target for terrorists and many journalists lost their lives while performing duty. Still, journalists are threatened and asked to quite. This has hampered the professional integrity and reliability of journalism. The study aims at exploring the conflict impact on Pakistani journalism.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

This study will endeavor towards achieving following objectives:

- To analyze the consistency in media coverage of the issues conflict and crisis and the reality in portraying these events.

- To evaluate the threats which are perceived by journalistic community when they report the conflict related issues.

- To undertake an in-depth study about the coverage of war on terror and the problems of the journalists who disseminate the information about happenings.

- To examine the viewpoints of the journalists on the behalf of their experience that how they understand and express the opinion for their community.

- To analyze the level control on media content by Taliban, militants, tribal and political, government agencies

- To check the phenomenon that what and how the journalist imposed self-restriction on themselves for their safety and security

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The study aimed at exploring effects of long-existed conflict on Pakistani journalism which has hampered in playing its role. This will invite the attention of authorities, civil society as well as media organizations to revisit their policies regarding this profession to ensure the free and independent coverage of press. Through this study the area of conflict journalism especially with the context of Pakistan and Tribal areas has been deeply operationalized with logical reasoning as well as with effective techniques. The issues which journalist community is facing from last several years especially with coving the conflict zone and war on terror are negotiated with the opinion of senior journalists. This study would explore the possible steps and measures to solve these problems in detail and their through realistic settings. This study has focused to check the role of various institutions specifically those which have strong relations with media and information in the country. The land scape of law making for journalists and what others steps have been taken for the security of the journalists are also pointed out in this research work. What type of the facilities have been provided to the journalists in conflict zone by government

and other security agencies? The study focuses mainly on the solution ration than highlighting the issues.

BACK GROUND OF THE STUDY

In this modern era media shapes the behavior and attitude of the people by introducing new discourses, ideas and novel trends. There is a flow of information that can be observed on daily basis where one can access these important pieces of information even through their mobile-phones.

The role of media has been observe since past decade as it played very positive and key role in conflict management. It has proven with its great capacity of conflict resolving if media play it role in positive direction. Media has to face a lot of obstacles and barrios in such conflict zones. The media employees face variety of hurdles; some are thematic while the others are structural.

CHALLENGES TO MEDIA

These challenges to media can be categorized into three major challenges:

- **Cultural challenges**
- **Social challenges**
- **Professional challenge**

In conflict areas some issues can be handled especially related to media while most of the problems faced by journalists in these areas are unavoidable with which they live such a way just by using tactics to minimize the risks. In Pakistan mainly conflicted areas journalists can report but the prime factor always dominant that they must be careful of the cultural norms and values of the area along with other issues, influence of other stakeholders.

The issues related media in Pakistan and rest of the world have been handled through different ways. It is pertinent to know that in Pakistan there is improper check on media regarding its contents and reporting criteria. Most of the media reports are considered as half-truth due to the filtration process by certain major institutions of state such as military and other stakeholders. Therefore, it may be said that Pakistani media is not 'responsible'.

FREEDOM WITHOUT RESPONSIBILITY

Freedom without responsibility is very dangerous for both, either for state or society. In the western world, media is free but it is also 'responsible' at the same time. Media should be very responsible while reporting from the conflicting areas. There is a very little room for disseminating the miss-information during time of violence and conflict because stakeholders are highly interested in their stakes in this situation. One may face administrative or structural issues if a journalist violates procedures laid down by the state, in other way you can say that if one harms the interests of the conflicting parties, it may cost one's life. So in this situation, journalists need to make sure that both the conflicting parties are aware of impartiality and professionalism of the journalists.

While reporting the information regarding war on terror problems began with Pakistani media. In the time of the casualties from both sides of the conflicting parties, began two common terminology like, military personnel death casualties termed as martyr while for the militants they simply used dead or even killed.

REPORTING IN CONFLICT ZONE

Keeping in view the above problems and challenges faced by the media one can understand the process involved in media reporting from conflict areas. It is the reality that Reporting is very difficult from these areas because till now the lives of the all these journalists are at risks all the time. Majority of the journalists are covering terror related issues to live in the nearer settled areas because of the security reasons. Another important thing is related the question the authenticity of the information that is being spread through the reports by media persons. And one may call it a professional dishonesty but on the other hand the life of the journalists cannot be sacrificed at any stake.

This phenomenon cannot be neglected that if the reporter is dead then no doubt the reporting is dead. So in this case if the reporting is dead then the flow of information will be stopped. What can be the ultimate result of this? Definitely unawareness will be among the public at large. The mass would not aware of what is going on in conflict related zone? But, if journalist even reports while staying away from conflict zone or the scene of the story, still we can say it generates an amount of useful information. To make it very clear, the reporting from peaceful zones cannot be compared with the reporting from a conflict zone. In nutshell, in this situation the reporter keeps in mind that 'something is better than nothing'.

EMBEDDED JOURNALISM

There are many other questions where people ask about the coverage from war and conflict zones. These questions are related to the partiality of the reporters especially under the influence of the security forces. In such case such type of the journalism is called embedded journalism where journalist has to travel with the conflicting parties, especially with the security forces. There is, no doubt, the journalist has very little space for impartiality but this does not mean that it is not totally impartial.

For countering the impartiality and manipulation of the government or other institutions for flow of information the state need proper media laws for effective communication strategy. Such laws exist in western world and USA where the process of information has often been balanced by the implementation of state laws for mass media. In such case the government or any institution of government cannot propagate its own cause or cannot manipulate information. Unfortunately these laws are absent in Pakistan. Therefore, the lake of affective laws and regulations for mass media, information process has often been considered and manipulated by certain institutions of Pakistan.

Media organizations have their internal mechanism to gauge the authenticity of reporting. In conflict zones, the reporters have certain limitations where they cannot follow the same criteria of judging the impartiality of the journalist which has been used in non-conflicting areas. So, in case of conflict zone such organizations have very little room for un-hurdled analysis or judgment of information. In majority of cases, media organizations have been accessed to

information through irregular and/or freelance journalists due to the security situation prevailing there.

Chapter # 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

Journalism has become a difficult field now a day. In 2004, 56 journalists lost their lives during their job. The number of kidnapping and murder of journalists has been on rise since war on terror begun. These killings of journalists mostly go unnoticed but they've huge impact on society as well as professional sovereignty of workers and reporters (Hargreaves, 2005).

Journalism is mostly considered as a profession in which information is published or broadcasted yet Journalism is different. Publishing a football match detail is not journalism. Journalism is selection of information, arrangement, assessment of validity and truthfulness, establishing the accuracy and impartiality (Rudin & Ibbotson, 2002). The need to learn about journalism is not confined to learning few theories and professional use of technological tools, it should be appropriate schooling and an extensive training to deal with information. The information, which travels through the hands journalist, has huge impact on people's lives. This information is going to organize or disorganize certain public attitudes and sets priorities (Burgh, 2003).

The twenty-first century brought more power to journalism, a power to influence the actions of individual as well as the actions of state. We have more news and more information today. Yet journalism remains under pressure and attack from various segments of society ranging from politics to religion (Hargreaves, 2005). The global terrorism has affected its

strength and due role in society. Number of factors has been described by various authors and researchers which affect the journalism practices inter-alia ownership and control, financial, time, space and technology, bureaucratic work routine (Rudin & Ibbotson, 2002).

Journalism is supposed to have values such as public service, objectivity, autonomy, immediacy and ethics. Journalists give public service by playing a role of watch dog of public interests. The impartiality establishes objectivity of the profession while autonomy ensures a free, independent and responsible journalism. Ethics ensures the validity and legitimacy of news (Deuze, 2005).

Conflict reporting brings more pressure and threat to reporter as well as to the profession (Crossland & Christine, 2015). Freedom of speech and freedom of expression become easy sacrifice during conflict reporting (Mendel, 2008). Worldwide armed conflicts ranging from Africa to Asia remain constant threat to peace and order. The indiscriminate killing of humanitarian aid workers as well as media personnel is a challenge to peace and protection of civilians. The appropriate response requires and reasonable discourse especially public discourse within the media is necessary (Monteiro & Jayasankar, 2011). The universally accepted role of media is to inform public. Situations like war or conflict, the responsibility become more sensitive and significant. The groups involved in armed conflict might have ideological differences, therefore, it becomes more challenging to remain partial and unbiased (PIJ, 2012).

The role of the journalists in peace building while offering their services with their good work especially in the constructing the peaceful massage through covering the incidents from conflict zone is very important. This reporting can be termed positive or negative with diverse

effects in the context of peace journalism. Journalists usually deride peace journalism as it is 'too critical'; or to some extent, and with the opinion of Phillip; majority of them object the decisive realisation of journalistic output in this context and most of the organizations ornamented in peace journalism techniques and assessment (Loyn, 2003 and 2007; Phillips, 2006).

This is alike a rejection of a number of proposals from studies on communications that has been conducted by researchers during last several years; mainly, the depiction of overseas news as constructed by Galtung and Ruge (1965) and many others in the same dimension. Although journalists fight for peace journalism in their specific cannons as they always like to spread the concepts of 'Fair reflection', 'unbiasedness', 'truth' and 'objectivity' just to defend their profession and promote the acceptable messages for their working (Loyn, 2007).

Sometimes we differ and do not accept as this notion conceals the many characteristics in this whole discussion over the part of peace journalism, and does not clear the untested chauvinism about the context of 'true' and 'false'. The work of many scholars such as Hanitzsch, 2004 and 2007 in contrast, repeatedly oppose the conception of peace journalism with this reason that peace journalism is 'not critical enough'; dormant, as it clears, happening judgments regarding the representation of conflict which it adjust to promote that peace journalism is more superior than reporting in conflict zone.

It can be focused that the debate on journalism this is necessary should incorporate some work or efforts for embarking the motives in this dimension about which some form of presentation must be selected to others for generating these ideas. There is especially the matter

of journalistic organization or other institutions related this work. It always implied in a good pieces of writings about peace journalism is the proposal that journalists –working separately or mostly can choose to give some distinction to their journalism and work in conflict related areas (Lynch and McGoldrick, 2005).

Some important points of media sociology especially related to the media institutions and practitioners that has been termed by Hackett and Carroll (2006) are necessary to mention here and those are as follow: They have focused firstly on the Work schedule within the newsroom on daily basis: practice makeup journalists' production separately of their individual surroundings and standards. Imperatives of media institutions: In business organism, the profit orientation availed by classified media corporations, integrated with their chain of command generally form content in consonance with ownership's interests.

And the third one is related to the Media workers themselves: Their professionally-related tasks and beliefs seem to have a straight effect on content, while their socio-demographic settings and their individual and opinionated viewpoints compile news in some way, particularly when persons are in authority to supersede organizational strains or practices (Shoemaker and Reese, 1996: 65). The fourth point is about Extra-media influences: It includes resources, advertisers, political power of governments, marketplace, and machinery. In their last direction they emphasis at Ideology and cultural narratives: A classification of ethics and attitudes that directs what viewers, journalists and further actors in the information organization see as 'natural' or 'obvious' and that also serves in part to sustain existing relations of supremacy. Beliefs not only shape news, it is enlarged, transformed and replicated through media contents.

There are some other important aspects regarding this area that can never be neglected and one must focus on that as many other scholars have inked on that while working on the topics of conflict and journalism, because there are many discourses in this dimension and there is a dire need to work on that and for investigation all conflict related issue must be operationalised. As some scholars are of the view that Conflict is better televised than peace. It is filled with painted instants, it holds actions and sends a dominant and pure sentiment: fear. It is clear that Peace is wide-ranging and unstructured. The founded and mentioned sentiments are always associated with it are related individuals and internal matters. Here this is a valid point to intricate these things just for the sake of telecasting (Mander, 1978: 323).

We must focus not only at the some specific issues those may be related with journalists performing as they can be considered honest negotiators, but also their specific demands about this notion that 'something must be done'.

Now it is an important question that what can be a type of 'something' that can be composed journalists' demand? No the wars are being condensed as a clash especially between the forces of good and evil. "It has become so easy to turn the western world towards the political saviour of the 'uncivilized' and under-developed world and just to demand for [military] intervention and their assistance against the forces of darkness." (Hume, 1997: 15).

So from these viewpoints, Tumber and Prentoulis' (2003) has given these unique suggestions that the events of 11 September 2001 have termed as a trend and its attachment and emotions have become fully embraced with the culture of journalism and this looks as a worrying prospect in modern world.

The depiction of the conflicts is one of the important phenomenon while covering the terror relation issues. The angling and special framing can create a different view point of the situation and audience can pic the variety of reasons through these transmissions about the conflict and Conflict depicts a certain thing in which different persons or groups with different desired goals focus on a particular agenda to accrue maximum benefits for themselves especially for the exclusion of other factors.

As with the notion of Kramer (2003), conflicts are raising when the basic human necessities especially the, identity, freedom, self-respect, survival, well-being are neglected. Conflict does achieve peace and lead to violence, it is not suffice to understand the nature of the conflict but stem the violence too (Howard, 2004).

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What are the extent the negative effects of conflict issues on journalists?

- What are self-imposed restrictions imposed by journalists while reporting in Pakistan?

- What is the level that Taliban, militants, tribal, political, government agencies control the contents of the war of terror?

- What are views about media coverage consistency in portraying the reality?

- What are the Perceive threats for the journalist in the Pakistan?

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This research has been conducted within the framework given by Galtung (1986, 1998) who viewed war journalism and peace journalism as two competing frames especially in the coverage of a conflict. Galtung has classified the peace journalism in four various broad categories which are:

1. Peace/conflict,
2. Truth,
3. People,
4. Solutions.

On the other hand he distinguished the war journalism, as the one which is oriented towards

1. War/violence
2. Propaganda
3. Elites
4. Victory

Galtung insists that the journalists should firstly strive their hard to understand the historical and cultural roots of the conflict, and then he should give voice to all parties (not only two opposing sides), understanding and try to create empathy and Peace journalism is to refrain themselves from playing up of conflict by grouping the parties especially the two opposing sides ('them vs. us')

In conflict reporting, what is mandatory is to consider the context and detect a range of stakeholders beyond the apparent engaged in any clash. For practicing the peace journalism is to undermine the distinction between underlying objectives and stated demands and their roots

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behind those demands; it is working for good and non-violent solutions and the struggle to go beyond the conflict.

The principle should be to understand the conflict not in a competitive (win-lose) way but that must be treated in a cooperative (win-win) way. The Journalists should focus a cooperative and collaborative approach towards conflict. There is a very little room to move forward when a conflict is presented as two parties' dispute for the same purpose like control, territory, or victory. However, when the parties can yield to one another with more flexibility then the conflict is understood in more complex manner constructive deals are possible. This requires careful, consistent and conscientious efforts and finally it will create a situation where solutions and causes of the problems will become more transparent.

For peace journalism, it is very important to analyse the situation in a very broader context and the multiple way regarding solution should also be adapted by the journalist community.

Another way is to promote peace journalism through preventive advocacy stance—for example, columns and editorials urging reconciliation and concentrating on common ground rather than on retaliation, vengeance and differences and focusing the effects of violence.

Apart from the direct physical violence, as well as the typical of war journalism coverage, Peace journalism raises awareness of conflict in true sense. The motives of the Peace Journalism is to understand the cultural violence and underlying the structural. Through its democratic orientation, peace journalism is expected to promote public awareness and encourage a big change in behaviours and attitudes related to the understanding of local, regional and global, governance in all corners of the world.

The Experience shows that the implementation of peace journalism can support to delineate the potential of global impact of conflicts it also call the public attention and opinion to such threats; indicate satisfy demands for more balanced coverage; and stimulate alternative interpretations and critical reflection.

Peace journalism is considered as a special form of journalism, especially it plays a pivotal role in peaceful settlement of conflicts, as Hanitzsch describes that this type of journalism is a very naïve approach for the resolution of conflicts as it is considered that media has a very powerful effect both causal and linear. He suggests that task of journalism is to present social co-orientation but it is not its prime motive to actively participate in peaceful settlements, it is the task of the military or the politics. So he argues that media's potential influence is limited although it can play a role in peaceful settlements.

The contribution in media discourses especially on conflicts must be with a careful way and linked with balanced and transparent way. The teachings of peace journalism will prevent journalists from falling into traditional conspiracies as well as propaganda tropes in which reporters often fall into (Kempf, 2007). As Tehranian considers it as a main system of global media ethics (Tehranian, 2002). It has also been argued that Galtung's theory on peace journalism can be a useful platform for teaching war reporting and the presentation of various conflict (Ottosen, 2010).

Chapter # 3

RESEARCH METHDOLOGY

3.1 RESEACH DESIGN

Research Design is a plan for collecting and analyzing data in order to answer the investigator's questions" A good research design includes such procedures which assist researchers in digging out answers to his/her research questions

Research design explains the associations between the research purpose and research methods. Every study has its own research methodology in order to bring forth answers to insight and researcher's questions in mind.

METHOD APPLIED

Quantitative research method of research was adopted in this study.

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

Quantitative research is a formal, objective, systematic process in which numerical data are used to obtain information about the world. This research method is used: to describe variables; to examine relationships among variables; to determine cause-and-effect interactions between variables.'

3.2 SAMPLE STRATEGY

POPULATION

A group or class of subjects, variables, concepts, or phenomena, in some cases, an entire class or group is investigated. In this study **Islamabad based journalist community is** a population.

UNIVERSE

A universe is the collection of things of people that you acquire as sample to conduct your study. It can be aggregate objects, person, events and variable used in the piece of qualification being specified. The universe in this study is all the members of Islamabad Press Club,

SAMPLE

A sample is a smaller representation of large whole .The only two basics requirements for sampling procedure are the firstly it must representative and secondly it must be adequate.in this research project **200 journalists have been selected** among more than two thousands members of IPC have been selected as sample.

UNIT OF ANALYSIS

The every single journalist is a unit of analysis in this study

SAMPLING METHOD USED

The Convenience method has been used in this research

One of the major aspect through this research method that a large amount of data can be collected with relative ease from a variety of people. It allow researchers to examine many variables (demographic and lifestyle information, attitudes, motives, intentions, and so on) and to use a variety of statistics to analyse the data.

For investigating the problems related Conflict and Journalism researcher has adopted this method to check the opinion of the working journalists. Research has adopted analytical survey method for this study and to reach the desired results.

ANALYTICAL SURVEY

"Analytical survey attempts to describe and explain why situations exist. In this approach, two or more variables are usually examined to investigate research questions or test research hypotheses. The results allow researchers to examine the interrelationships among variables and to develop explanatory inferences"

3.4 INTRODUCTION TO DATA COLLECTION TOOLS / METHODS

A questionnaire has been develop to collect the data as well as for gathering information from journalists about conflicts and problems facing by journalist community in Pakistan. All the variables have been investigated through questionnaire, mostly close ended questions have been drafted.

The Questionnaire was designed to investigate and examine with the variable perception of the reality of media portrayals, experience of journalists, and the big incidents in the country and their media coverage along with the professional hindrances journalists face in reporting the events and happening especially on the issue of "war on terror.

The two factors have been involved while collecting the data

1. All those journalists who have rich experience in journalism are allowed to fill the questionnaire.

2. At the start of the questionnaire a prime question has been asked by every journalist that do you have strong information about the problems of journalist community while reporting or drafting the stories about conflict related issue? If yes then please start filling the questionnaire.

3.5 ANALASIS & INTERPRETATION

GRAPH

For easy understanding as well as proper explanation with a very simple graph has been showed to highlight the journalist opinion about this specific direction. So abbreviations have been generated to show the results as well as for easy understanding.

- **DK**   **Don't Know**
- **NAA**   **Not at all**
- **TSE**   **To some extent**
- **TGE**   **To great Extent**

CHARTS

For Analysis And Interpretation Of The Data, Two Type Of The Charts Used For Clarity Of

Information And The Proper Understanding Of The Issues.

- First Is the Column Chart That Shows The Detailed Opinion About The Journalists

- Second in the Pie Chart Especially For Describing the Total Percentage and Collective

  Thinking.

CHAPTER # 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1:

A COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCE-WISE

*Response of the Journalists about the level of negative effects of 'war on terror' on the working media men.*

DK (Don't Know), NAA (Not at all), TSE (To some extent), TGE (To great Extent), Total

		DK	NAA	TSE	TGE	Total
Experience of the Journalists Gradually	1-3 Years				10 5.0%	10 5.0%
	4-7 Years	10 5.0%		20 10.0%	40 20.0%	70 35.0%
	8-11 Years		10 5.0%	30 15.0%	70 35.0%	110 55.0%
	12-15 Years				10 5.0%	10 5.0%
Total		10 5.0%	10 5.0%	50 25.0%	130 65.0%	200 100.0%

This graph shows that all those journalists who have the experience of 1-3 years have the opinion that the level of negative effect of war on terror is to the great extent. Whereas the second group having experience of 4-7 years of their journalist work shows their opinion as

10 respondents show their less information this category and fall in the category of do not know, while 20 other persons of same group consider this effect to some extent they become 10 percent out whole percentage of this group. The other 40 respondents express their views by calling it as a terror for journalist for great extent. So the 70 persons from this group

Negative Effects Of 'War On Terror' On The Working Media Men
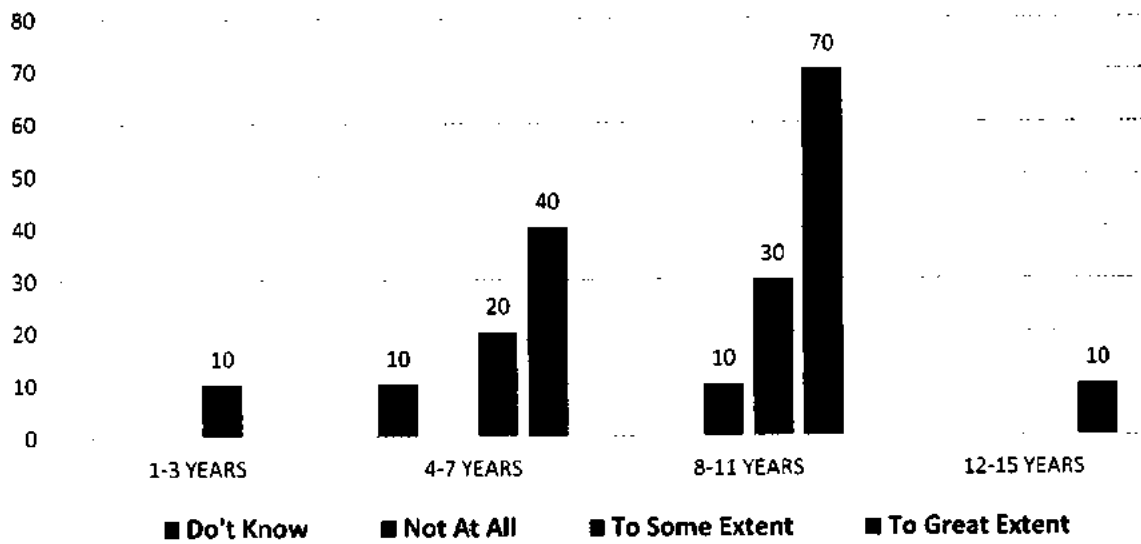
become the ration 35% of the whole population in this category.

The third group having their experience with eight to eleven years gave their opinion with the participation of 110 peoples from this group. Their opinion varies as 10 persons think that nothing any type of threat can be seen in the context of war on terror, while 30 people calls it to the level of some extent and 70 others consider it as threat for great extent for the working journalists and reporters. They are the largest opinion members from this group in this category and show on the graph as the 55 percent to the whole population.

Only the 10 members from the journalists' group experienced with 12-15 years call this threat and terror for the media member at great extent. So although they are the 5 % of this group, but their opinion have the worth as per experience.

The total data shows that 65 percent consider it the risk of terror at great extent. And 25% call it the terror to some extent. The very little percentage of the respondents only 5% are of the view with no any type of terror for journalists and 5% others responded with the answer of do not know about this section.

Don't Know **Not At All**
5% **5%**

To Some Extent
25%

To Great Extent
65%

28
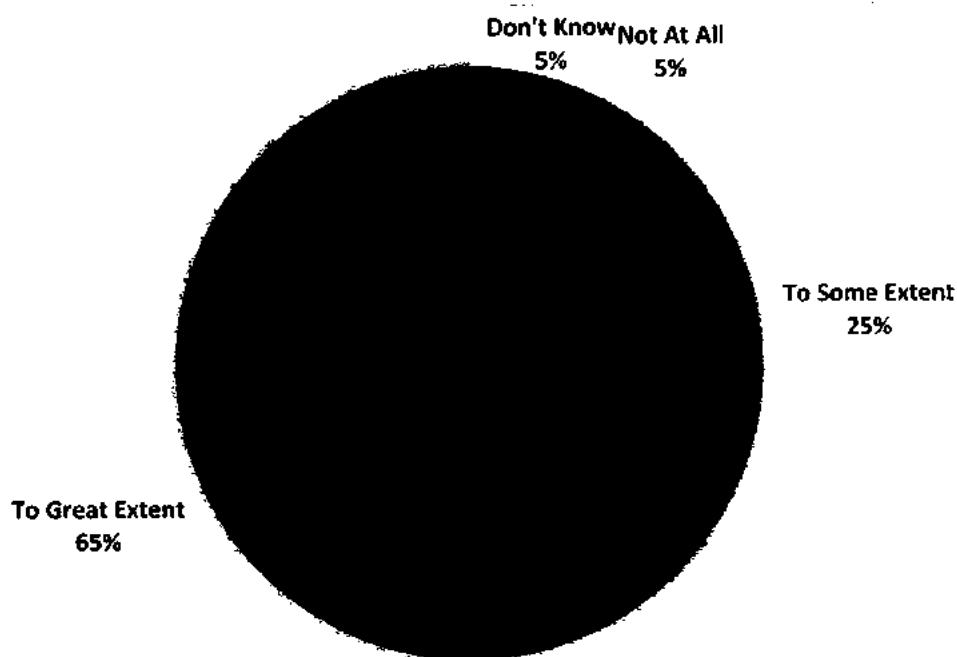
In the total view 130/200 respond this question with the option of TGE (to great Extent), and 30/200 consider it TSE (to some extent), 10 persons call it NAA (not at all) and other 10 people tick the option DK (do not know).

TABLE: 2

A COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCE-WISE

Measuring the level of self-imposed restrictions by Journalists while reporting

**DK** (Don't Know), NAA (Not at all), TSE (To some extent), TGE (To great Extent), Total

		DK	NAA	TSE	TGE	Total
Experience of the Journalists Gradually	1-3 Years			10 5.0%		10 5.0%
	4-7 Years	20 10.0%		30 15.0%	20 10.0%	70 35.0%
	8-11 Years		10 5.0%	70 35.0%	30 15.0%	110 55.0%
	12-15 Years				10 5.0%	10 5.0%
Total		20 10.0%	10 5.0%	110 55.0%	60 30.0%	200 100.0%

With the answer of this question the first category of the journalists all 10 persons out of 10, give their opinion that to some extent the journalists have to work with their self-imposed restriction especially reporting about conflict and crises in Pakistan.

In the second category of experienced journalists who are 70 and fall with the experience of 4-7 years, this population vary at this question, 20 persons say the option do not know and shows their little knowledge about this question.

But 30 persons clicked the third option by telling that to some extent journalist do work with their self-imposed restriction at workplace for their safety as well as proper reporting. The other 20 persons of this group put this question with high frequency option that with great extent journalist have to do this for reporting.

The Level Of Self-imposed Restrictions By Journalists While Reporting
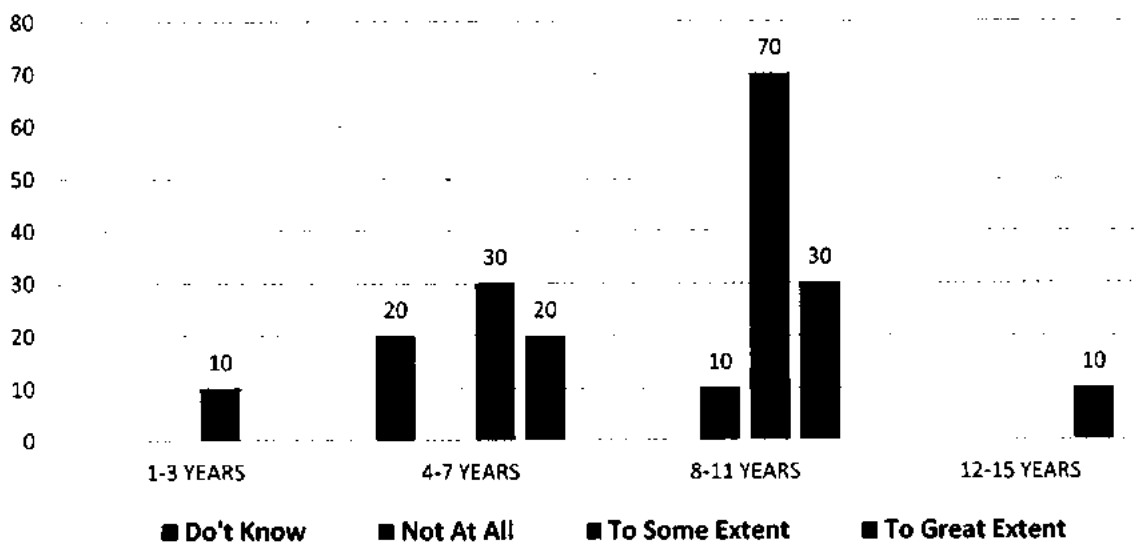
The third category of the working journalists with the experience of 8- 11 years and become the biggest ratio of the respondents in this survey with the number of 110/200. In this class 10 people are against this phenomenon and 70 people say to some extent this factor is available, while other 30 regarded that at high level journalists have to impose self-restriction for their work.

The most experienced person but their strength is only 5 percent because of their availability, their total figure is 10 persons and all are of the view that at great extent journalists focus to impose self-restrictions at workplace while covering the events related conflict and terror and

Don't Know
10%

Not At All
5%

To Great Extent
30%

To Some Extent
55%
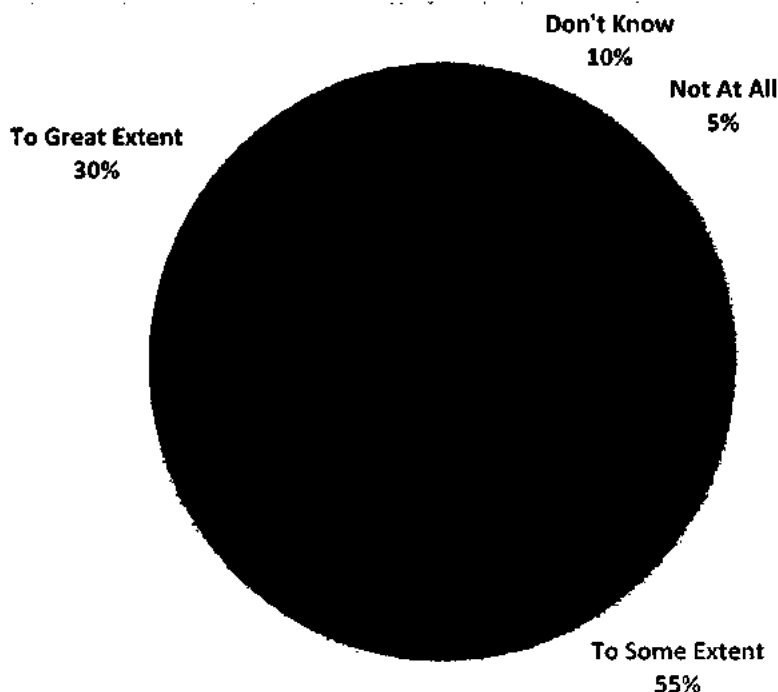
this factor can never be neglected at any cost especially in Pakistan as it is being predicted from the opinion of our experienced journalists.

In the total collected data 60 persons who are 30% of whole targeted audience consider it with great extent and 110 people approximately 55% have the view that to some extent this factor can be adopted. Ten persons say not at all, in the answer of this question, which becomes t5 percent ration. While 20 others say that they don't know about this phenomenon and click the option NAA. In this way we can conclude that the big amount consider it as an issue but to some extent with their filling option. And 60 call this factor is available at great extent.

32

TABLE: 3

A COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCE-WISE

The response of the Journalists with the level of security felt by the reporters

DK (Don't Know),   NAA (Not at all),   TSE (To some extent),   TGE (To great Extent), Total

		DK	NAA	TSE	TGE	Total
Experience of the Journalists Gradually	1-3 Years		10 5.0%			10 5.0%
	4-7 Years	10 5.0%	30 15.0%	30 15.0%		70 35.0%
	8-11 Years		80 40.0%	20 10.0%	10 5.0%	110 55.0%
	12-15 Years		10 5.0%			10 5.0%
Total		10 5.0%	130 65.0%	50 25.0%	10 5.0%	200 100.0%

In the answer of this question the first category of the journalists who have little experience in comparison with other types of the respondents give their opinion that journalist do not have any level of security in this country and almost all 10 person out of 10 clicked the option of NAA (not all all) for the answering of this question.

The second category of experienced journalists with the experience of 4-7 years and have their strength of 70 in this survey, 10 persons say the option do not know and shows their little

knowledge about this question. But 30 persons reveal their thoughts through filling the questionnaire that to some extent journalists have the security in this country and other 30 persons of this group put their opinion at the page that journalists do not have any security while covering the events of conflicts.

The Level Of Security Felt By The Reporters
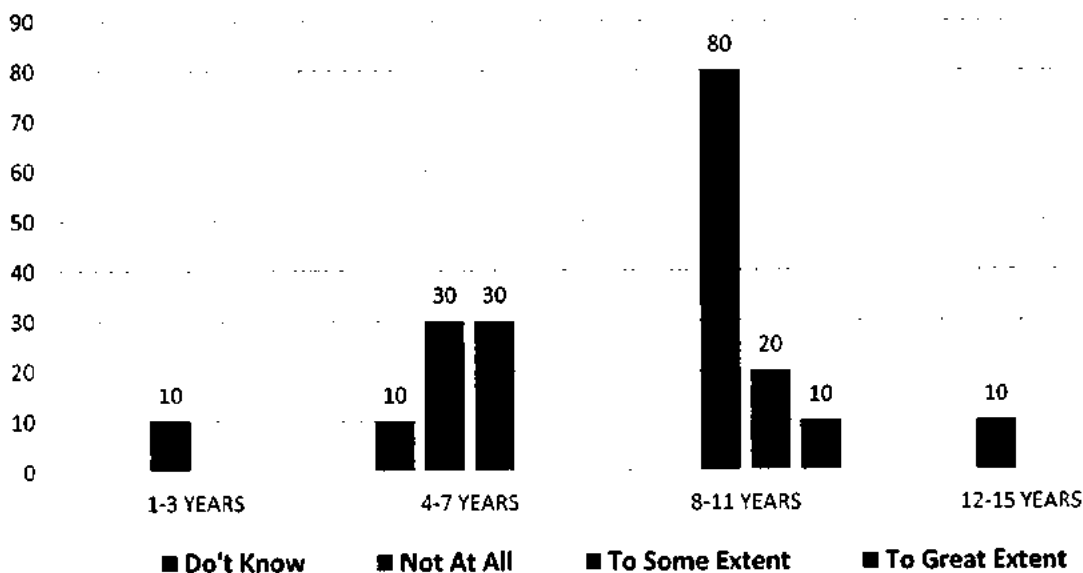
The third category with biggest ratio of the respondents in this survey with the number of 110/200 with the experience of 8- 11 years show their diverse views at this question. In this class only10 people say that at great level journalist have the security and 20 members of this group are call the security is given very little extent. But the 80 respondents from this category share their views by filling the option not at all that journalist do not have security in Pakistan.

The most experienced persons are placed in the graph at fourth category, have spent their 12-15 years in media industry but they are only 5 percent because of their availability, these 10 persons are of the view that the security situation in Pakistan is very poor, and reporters feel themselves secure not at all, the weak security situation compel the journalist to express these concerns with reality and in accordance with ground reality.

To Great Extent **Don't Know**
5% **5%**

To Some Extent
25%
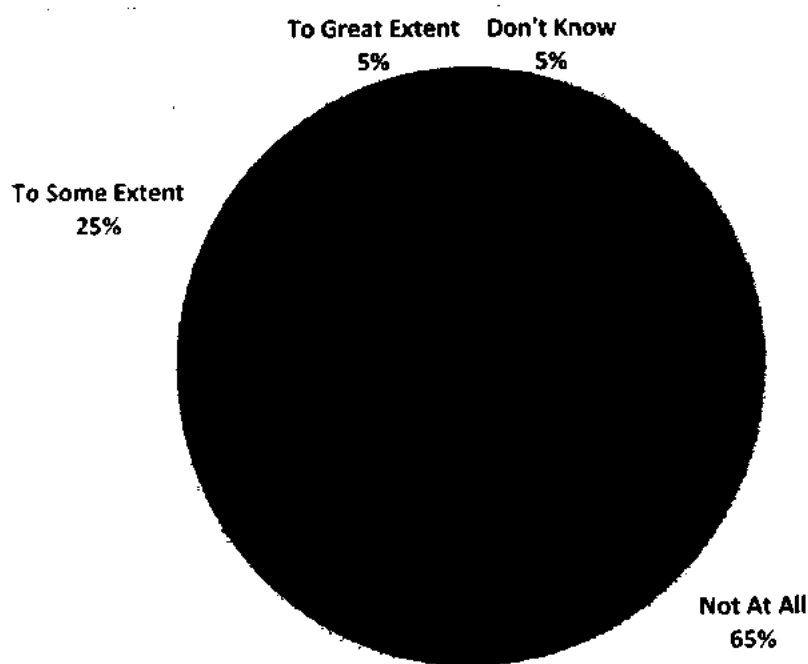
Not At All
65%

The whole collected data shows that 130 persons who are 50% of whole targeted audience agree with NAA (not at all) about security related questions, some 50 people approximately 25% says that security is provided to some extent. Ten persons say not at all, in the answer of this question, which have 5 percent ration. The other 10 person are showed in the graph that they are agree at great extent about the security of the journalists.

TABLE: 4

A COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCE-WISE

The response by the journalists about the control on content by Government, Taliban, militants, tribal and political agencies.

DK (Don't Know), NAA (Not at all), TSE (To some extent), TGE (To great Extent), Total

		DK	NAA	TSE	TGE	Total
Experience of the Journalists Gradually	1-3 Years		10 5.0%			10 5.0%
	4-7 Years		20 10.0%	50 25.0%		70 35.0%
	8-11 Years	20 10.0%	10 5.0%	60 30.0%	20 10.0%	110 55.0%
	12-15 Years		10 5.0%			10 5.0%
Total		20 10.0%	50 25.0%	110 55.0%	20 10.0%	200 100.0%

The response of this question shows that the first category of the journalists who have little experience in journalism approximately 1-3 years in comparison with other types of the respondents present their opinion that nothing an agency nor any government department have their control on media content, so all the respondents from this category say not at all in the answer related this question.

The second group of experienced journalists having experience of 4-7 years and their numbering is 70 in this survey, 20 persons from this category say not at all in the respond of this question and 50 other consider that to some extent the above mention pressure groups and other department can have the control on media content.

The Control On Media Content By Government. Taliban. Militants, Tribal And Political Agencies.
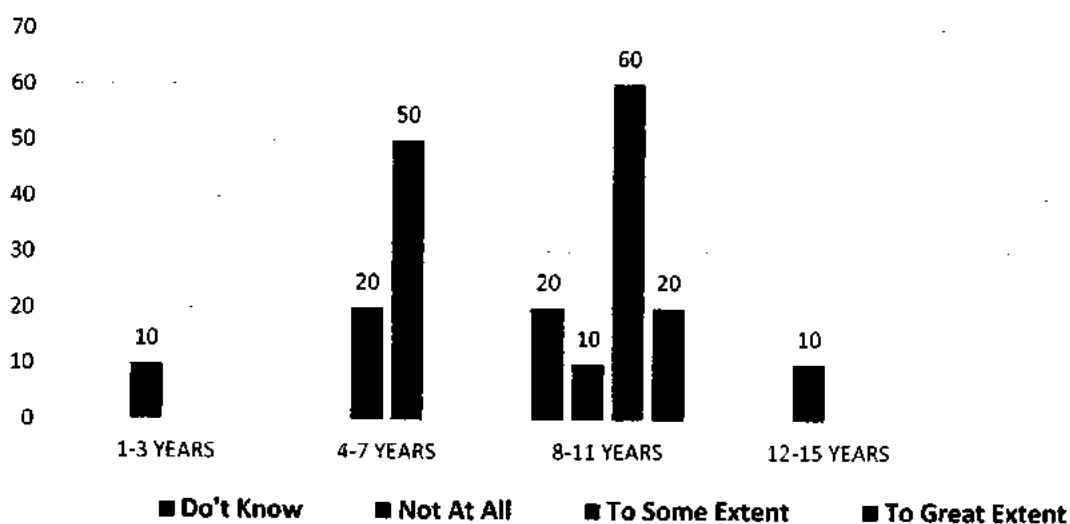
The third type of the respondents a class of those journalists who have 8-11 years' experience, the most available community as selected the biggest ratio of the respondents in this survey with the number of 110 journalists. From this class 60 people say that to some extent the control of these authorities on content in media is possible. Twenty people put their answer with do not

know and other 20 persons call this factor at great extent. The remaining ten persons negate this factor and this phenomenon can never be measured n Pakistani Media content.

The most experienced persons who are placed in the graph at fourth category, consider that noting this factor is found in media content so all of ten members are firmly touched the point of NAA (not at all). This class consider with their 12-15 years in media industry that the control on content in media outlets is nothing found at any cost.

To Great Extent
5%

Don't Know
11%

Not At All
26%
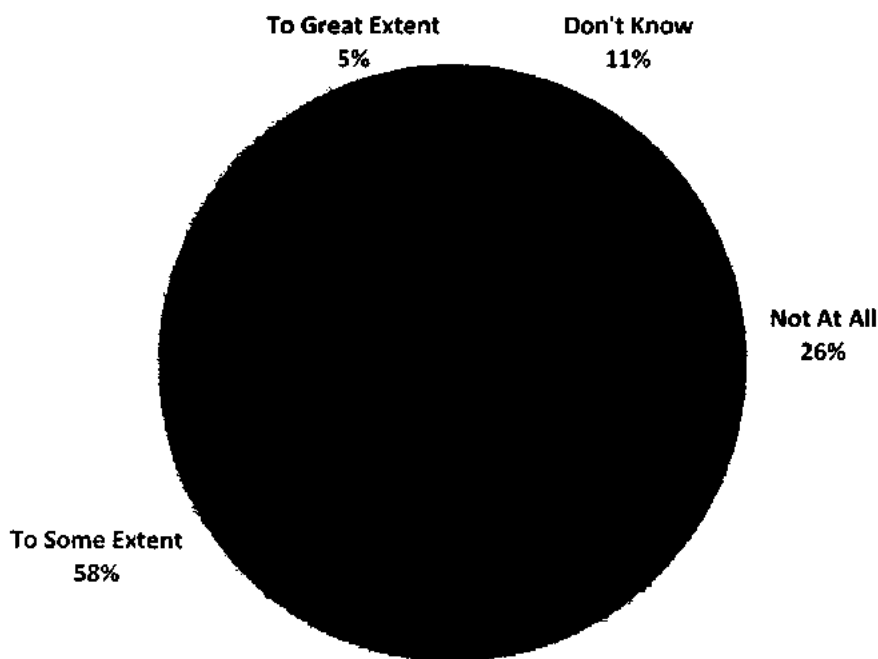
To Some Extent
58%

In the total collection of the data 110 persons who are 55% of complete targeted audience say that some extent this factor is available. The 50 people approximately 25% clicked the option

"Not at all" means noting this phenomenon can be measured in media messages. In the total data 20 people say Don't Know and other 20 are in the favor of great extent this factor is found in Pakistani media content.

TABLE: 5

A COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCE-WISE

*The Views of the Journalists about media coverage especially the consistency in portraying the reality*

DK (Don't Know), NAA (Not at all), TSE (To some extent), TGE (To great Extent), Total

		NAA	TSE	Total
	1-3 Years		10 5.0%	10 5.0%
Experience of the Journalists Gradually	4-7 Years	50 25.0%	20 10.0%	70 35.0%
	8-11 Years	50 25.0%	60 30.0%	110 55.0%
	12-15 Years		10 5.0%	10 5.0%
Total		100 50.0%	100 50.0%	200 100.0%

The response of this question shows that the first category of the journalists who have little experience in journalism approximately 1-3 years in comparison with other types of the respondents present their opinion that to some extent the consistency can be measure from media transmission developed about conflict and crises related issues.

With the response of the second group of experienced journalists having experience of 4-7 years. 50 persons out of 70 persons from this category regarded that nothing consistency is available in this regard they say not at all in the respond of this question. The other 20 person find this factor to some extent in our media content regarding war on terror and other conflict related reporting.

The Consistency In Portraying The Reality
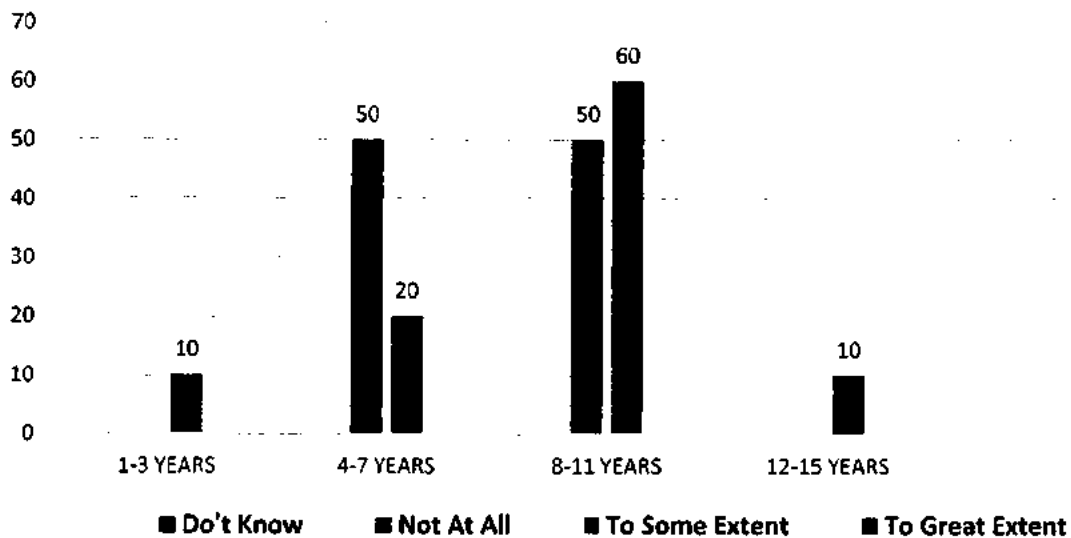
The third type of the respondents a group of experienced journalists who have 8-11 years' experience, 50 journalist are of the view that media do have any consistency about publishing the

material related conflict and terror, while other 60 journalist believe that to some extent this consistency is acceptable in media coverage about the issues.

The most experienced persons are classified as the fourth class of the journalists having experience 12-15 years in their respective field. All the ten members of this group are vows that to some extent the factor of consistency in the press coverage is acceptable.

To Great Extent
0%

To Some Extent
50%
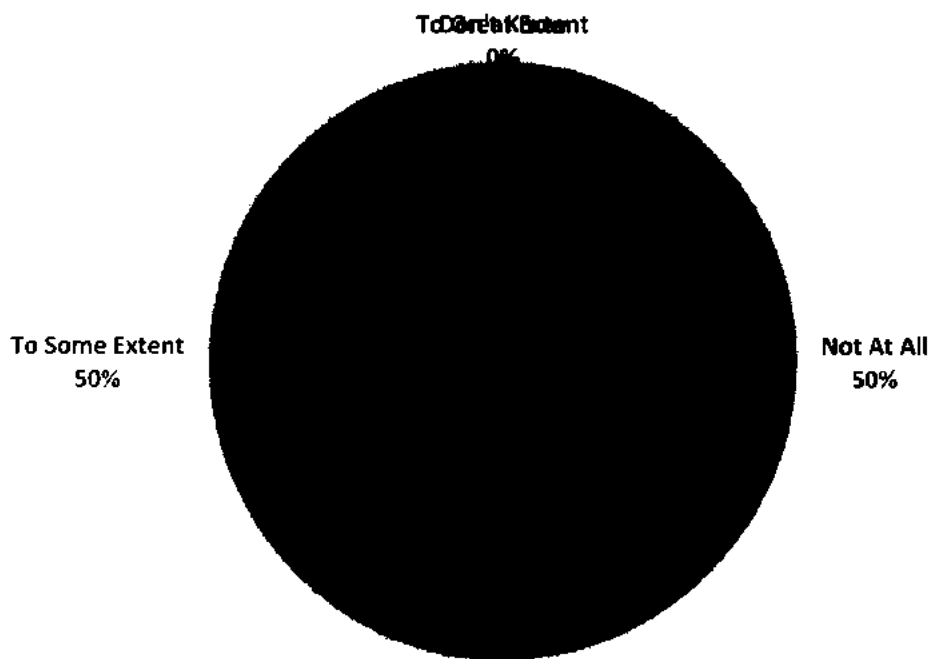
Not At All
50%

The total received data shows that 100 people have expressed their opinion with the option of NAA (not at all) and the other one hundred respondents are consider that to some extent the consistency in published is available.

TABLE: 6

A COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCE-WISE

*Opinion of the Journalist about Media success in presenting real events related Conflicts*

DK (Don't Know), **NAA** (Not at all), **TSE** (To some extent), **TGE** (To great Extent),

		NAA	TSE	TGE	Total
Experience of the Journalists Gradually	1-3 Years		10 5.0%		10 5.0%
	4-7 Years	30 15.0%	30 15.0%	10 5.0%	70 35.0%
	8-11 Years	70 35.0%	40 20.0%		110 55.0%
	12-15 Years	10 5.0%			10 5.0%
Total		110 55.0%	80 40.0%	10 5.0%	200 100.0%

In the answer of this question the first category of the journalists who have little experience in comparison with others groups. All the ten members of this group who are the 5% of the whole population, give their view that to some extent media present the content with the issue of relevancy of the issue.

Some experienced journalists with the experience of 4-7 years and have their strength of 70 in this survey, 30 persons click the option not at all in the response of the question about the relevancy of the material related the data.

The other thirty members say that to some extent this factor is available. But the ten member of this group media present the conflict issue with relevant information at great extent.

Media success in presenting real events related Conflicts
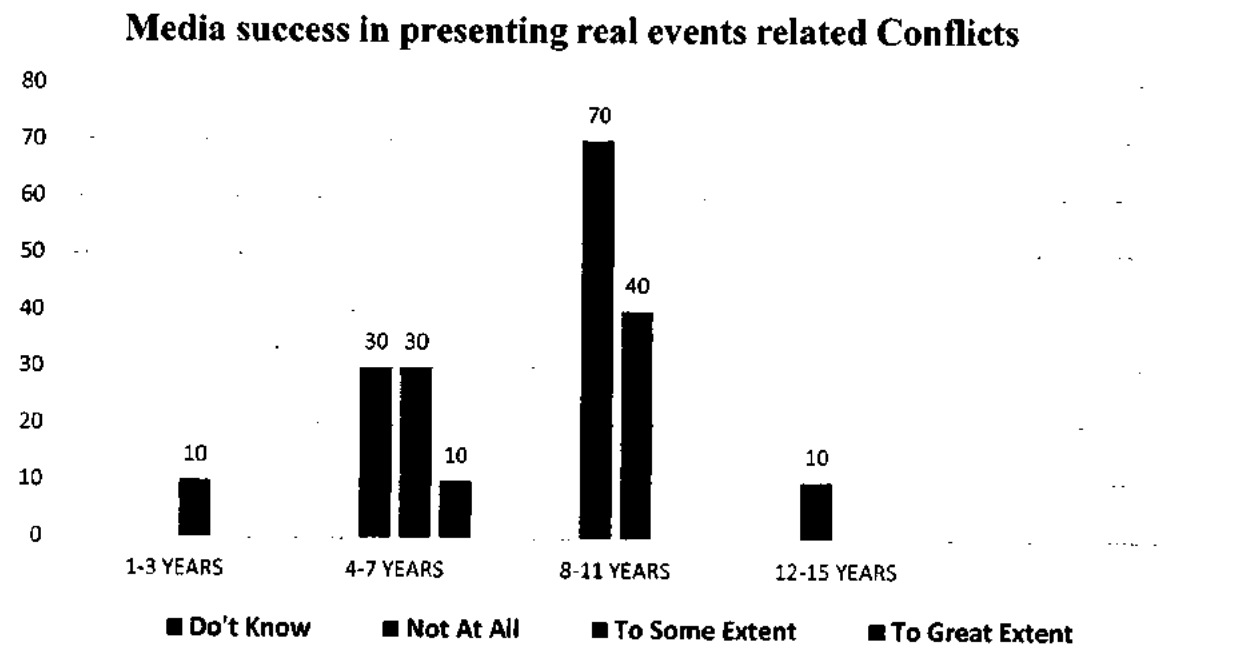
The third category 70 persons say that media do not present the real event relevant to the data and forty other members of this group think that a little bit media present the event with the reality. But the big population of this group are not in the favor of real presentation of conflict issues in Pakistani Media.

All the ten members of forth section of journalists portray their opinion against the real coverage of conflict and terror issues through Pakistani media, they consider that no at all this factor in available in Pakistani media transmission.

To Great Extent **Don't Know**
5%   0%

To Some Extent
40%
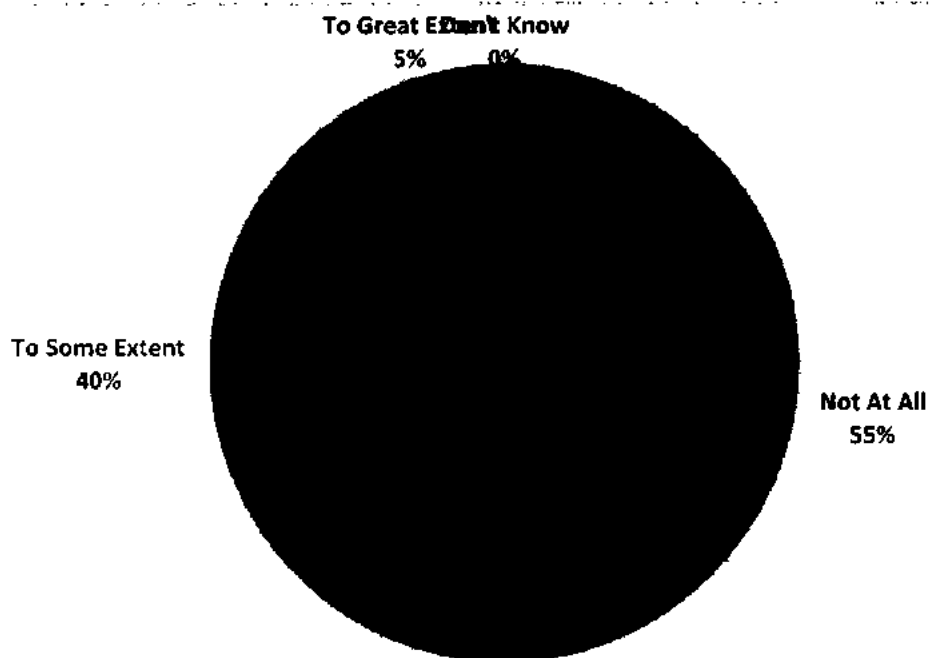
Not At All
55%

Among the whole members of this survey, 110 people are stand with the option of NAA (not at all), and clears their views that this phenomenon is hardly observed at Pak media screen. Eighty journalists say that some extent the media coverage has the relevancy with the reality of conflict-

related issues. But the remain ten member of this survey are in the favor that at great extent this factor is found that media have tried best to show the events very near to the reality.

TABLE: 7

A COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCE-WISE

The opinion of the journalists about Perceived threats by the journalist from anti-state actors

		Don't know	Received threats on reporting "War on Terror"	Mental & physical torture on "War on Terror"	Kidnapping house demolished reporting "War on Terror"	Total
Experience of the Journalists Gradually	1-3 Years		10 5.0			10 5.0%
	4-7 Years	20 10.0%	30 15.0%	10 5.0%	10 5.0%	70 35.0%
	8-11 Years	30 15.0%	30 15.0%	50 25.0%		110 55.0%
	12-15 Years			10 1.50		10 5.0%
Total		50 25.0%	70 35.0%	70 35.0%	10 5.0%	200 100.0%

Perceived threats are one of the main question in this Questionnaire. And the received data has been shown with the same category but a little bit changings have been done especially about the titles.

The journalists who have the experience for three years have the opinion that received threats being found by reporters by many sources and many factors are responsible for conflict reporting which creates hurdles for journalists.

The second group of the journalists with the population 70 have diverse opinion on this from of question for example 20 people say do not know, 30 person say that journalist receive the threats on reporting war on terror. 10 people think that journalists also receive mental and physical torture on war on terror, while 10 other people of the same group support that the issues of kidnapping and demolishing are being affected by reporters and working media groups.

Perceived Threats By The Journalist From Anti-state Actors
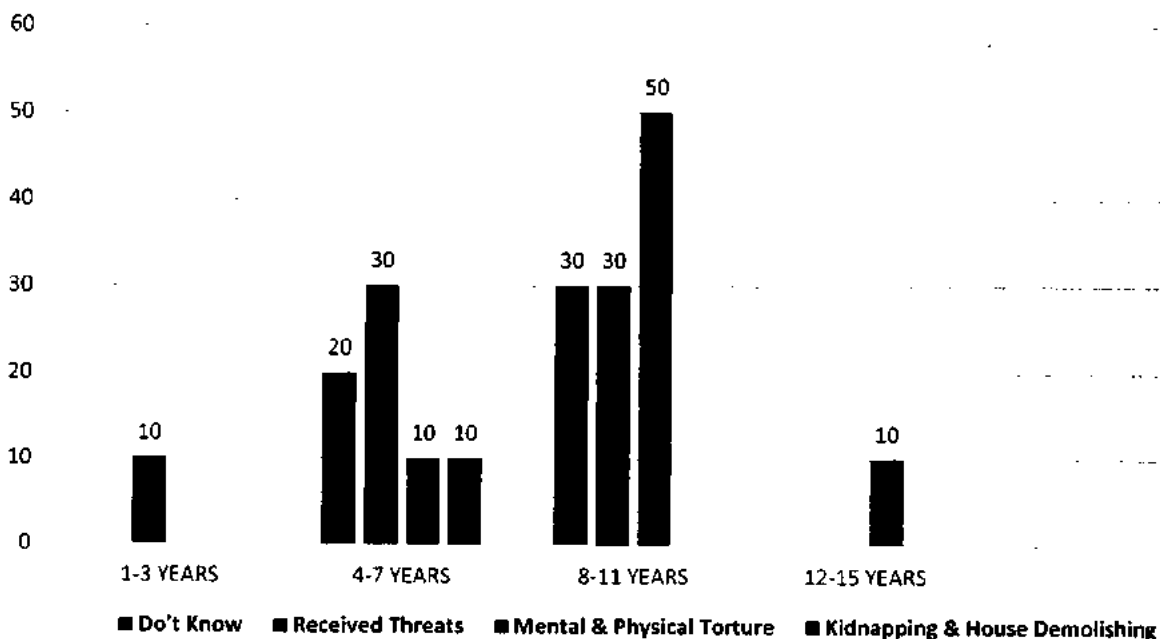
■ Do't Know ■ Received Threats ■ Mental & Physical Torture ■ Kidnapping & House Demolishing

The third category of the working journalists with the experience of 8- 11 years and become the biggest ratio of the respondents in this survey with the number of 110/200. In this class 30 people think that they do not know properly this factor and 30 people think that journalists receive threats on reporting on war on terror. But the 50 people of the same group think that journalists also face the physical and mental torture while reporting the events related war on terror.

The most experienced person but their strength is only 5 percent because of their availability, their total figure is 10 persons and all are of the view that journalists found the mental and physical torture while covering the issues on war on terror.

Kidnapping & House Demolishing

Don't Know
25%

Mental & Physical Torture
35%

Received Threats
35%
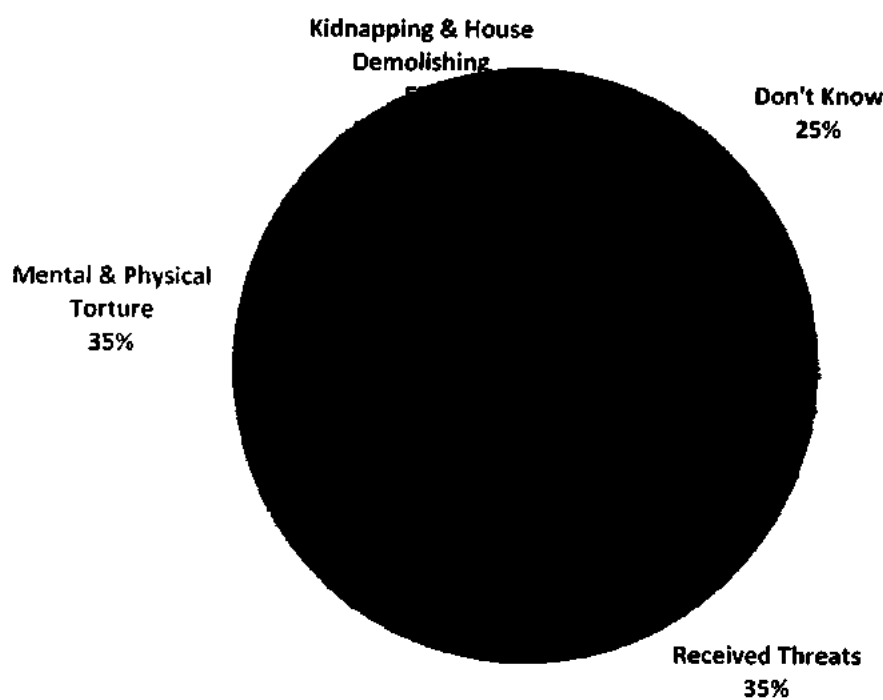
In the total collected data 50 persons who are 25% of whole targeted audience say that they do not know about this issue and 70 people approximately 35% have the view that journalists receive the threats especially cover the issues related war on terror. While 70 others say that journalist receive mental and physical torture and only present thinks that the issue of kidnapping and house demolishing is also found in this context.

Chapter No. 5

Conclusion and Recommendations

The opinion of the journalists about different aspects related conflict and journalism can be described with found results, the above detail of every portion of the Questionnaire has been describe with complete detail, numbering of the respondents, the answers of various media persons with their experience and the percentage of the results has been mentioned with detail. Many questions have been designed to check the variables and the numbering of the questions have be categorized with various portions of the questionnaire.

It is observed after investigating these issues that the negative effects of the media coverage of conflict related coverage is very high as 120 journalists out of 200 have the same believe which are the 65 percent of our sample. They have their serious concerns regarding this matter. With measuring the self-imposed restrictions by working media persons during reporting is available to some extent. As the big population of 110 journalist have the same views, in other words 55% say this factor is observed while 35 % of the targeted audience have shared their views strongly with the relevancy of this statement. The question about the security of the journalists is treated by realistic way based on the ground reality, like 65% thinks that security is very normal in Pakistan and 25% call that the situation is quite better. In the same case more than half community feel that Government, Taliban, militants, tribal and political agencies control the content but 26% are totally oppose this perception and do't feel any type of the control on the content. The respondent of this survey divided half by half on the issue of the consistency on media coverage while portraying the reality about conflict

and crises. 100 journalists think this factor cannot be seen anywhere, while other 100 journalists interrupt that this consistency is found to some extent.

Media success in presenting the issues of Conflicts and terror is one of the main question especially when one discuss the role of media in eliminating terrorism. With the answer of not at all more than hundred journalist negate this real coverage of issues in media, but 45% population strong this fact that at some extent the reality is also presented on the media.

The problems for journalists are very complex to explain in the context of conflict. The threats which journalists feels on daily basis is a big problem for their safety and security. According to this question the respondents have delivered different opinion, like 50 persons who are 25% of whole targeted audience say that they do not know about this issue and 70 people approximately 35% have the view that journalists receive the threats especially cover the issues related war on terror. While 70 others say that journalist receive mental and physical torture and only present thinks that the issue of kidnapping and house demolishing is also found in this context.

Violence against journalists and their families deliberately interference in their work that is very frequent. Many journalists are killed and an equal number of journalists are wounded and no doubt their houses are also demolished. So in this way to cover the War on terror or other conflict related issues have a direct effect on journalists and standard of journalism. The self-imposed restrictions are due to constant threats to their lives have bad psychological repercussions on the journalists. That's why Journalists are prevented to cover the real picture of conflict related issues.

The journalists are dealing with divergent groups who are mostly pressurize them to give importance to the aspects of terror-related events. They are at times compelled to give coverage

to the powerful ones only, and always marginalize others either by ignoring them or presenting them less advantageously. So this trend can have intense consequences for the global war on terror and particularly Pakistani society as one is not receiving evenly distributed news about all the factions involved in the war.

It is Pertinent to mention here that ideally, journalists need freedom of expression and access to information. Freedom of expression covers not only protection of the right to express opinions but also freedom of information that others are willing to communicate.

Journalism is an institution and social practice that proudly claims to possess special insight into the shape and meaning of the endless torrent of events that constitute our lived. However, journalism as an institution suffers specially in conflict areas where the need to understand the

real causes of the conflict are most important. This is only possible when journalists have complete freedom of expression and access to information without any fear.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The journalist should guarantee the conflicting parties that he/she is unbiased because any sort of distrust may harm the flow and access of information in crisis laden areas.

- Credibility of reports can be maintained by minimizing the reliability on freelance journalists so that the. There must be effective internal policies within media organization to analyze and judge the information.

- For the process of information gathering, information processing and information distributing there should be effective media policies especially to have check on Media organizations. So that there should give up the culture and competition of breaking news because it may affect the credibility of the information.

- The foreign media may harm the national interests while reporting the conflict. So, to minimize this risk the state of Pakistan should fill the gap by improving and installing local media in conflict-related areas. Because State run media channels are considered as unattractive to the people both presentation wise and contents wise.

- By investing state money on media or by providing security does not mean embedded journalism as it is considered that where media reports what the military wants to be reported.

- The presentation and contents of media determine the role it plays in the society. So, this role can be improved especially by providing security and investing more money

- While reporting nationwide media in Pakistan sometimes ignores certain ethnic population which goes towards the feelings of deprivation among certain ethnic communities. And no doubt such feelings further lead to the ethnic differences.

- Media either intentionally or unintentionally creates ethnic difference while at the same time it can also play a very positive role in integrating various ethnic populations into one single nationality.

5.2 LIMITATIONS

This research has some limitations.

Firstly

This is an academic research so that's why researcher was unable to take a big sample for this study. Although for

Secondly

Researcher has tried to collect the data from the experience journalists, but it was very difficult to get the access for getting information from all those.

Thirdly

The study is quite relevant with conflict and terror related issues, but research was bound to get the sample from Islamabad of those who have sharp eye on the events. Although those journalists who are reporting from tribal areas or from conflict zone were very suitable for getting information in this research.

Fourthly

In Pakistan very few studies has been designed on this area, although literature is available but those studies have been conducted with foreign perspective. It becomes the source of celerity that if studies would available in Pakistan perspective.

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