United Nation’s Media Reporting of Peacekeeping Operations on Syrian Conflict: Perspective of Peace Journalism

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Abstract: This research article is espoused to identify the role of UN media in peacekeeping and peacebuilding. Customarily the media is bursting of incidents and stories associated to war. The intense causalities and disaster are repetitively emphasized. Each milieu has a connotation to it. The interpretation of each context is unalike. Therefore, the methodology being used in this research is critical discourse analysis (CDA) to ascertain between the lines of the discourse of organization, politic and media which implies critical discourse analysis (CDA) on UN media only, in peacekeeping and peacebuilding. UN media can be “Jouer l’enfer” in peace.

INRODUCTION

“Every war or a conflict has a price tag, in terms of life, money or material. War must be evaded at all cost. Developing countries are dependent on developed country. “Realism is Power”. With the changing scenarios media plays an important role in peacekeeping, beginning from ‘realism to constructivism’; ‘hard power to soft power or soft power to smart power’. UN media can be “Jouer l’enfer” in peace”.

Peacekeeping is originated by “the United Nations; in order to uphold peace and security. UN deployment involves dual kind of missions, i.e. employment of armed forces and other type is employment of military observers. “As clear from employment of armed forces, means enforce peace while the other means supervision of agreements, truce and ceasefire. For the last sixty years, UN peacekeeping process has developed into one of the main ‘steering of the vehicle’ practiced by the international public to accomplish intricate crises that carries a threat to international ‘security and peace’. With the start of new epoch, the strength of forces, organization or individual arrayed in UN peacekeeping operations (UNPKO) around the world has grasped unparalleled levels. ‘UN’ is developing to a complex multifunctional organization. Elsewhere noting cease fire, in today’s scenario; PKO are termed as to ‘enable the political progression through promotion of exchange of ideas and resolution, safety of the civilians, assist in arms reduction, disbandment and recuperation of combatants, protect the human rights [1] and promote them, and assist in reinstating law. Media describes about our perception and earwig about the conflicts. Particularly perceptions about those who are routing media, giving angles to stories that are enclosed. Media personnel endorse their opinions and views based on their practices, skills and experiences. They have their own pecuniary interests; as they want to sell as much they could to reach maximum public. UN has a developed infrastructure to cover such conflicts and news through press conference, briefs, social media and UN stories (Capstone Doctrine). The case study of Syrian conflict is engaged in the scope of this research. Regional and international communities are directly involved in the peacekeeping operations. The way UN media hearsays the Syria conflict is a just like to pull up the rear. This research is of Syria case study within purview of UN media only, implies critical discourse analysis (CDA) on Syrian conflict. The term CDA refer in particular to the ‘approach of critical dialect’. According to researchers, informal unit of texts should be the basic unit of communication. This research specially contemplates discourses of organization, politic and media which affirm linkages of skirmish and conflict”.

Global peace is “one of the most venerated embodiments. League of Nations was born at the termination of World War I, with the aim of ‘upkeep of peace, security and human welfare’. But this aim did not turn up long. League has to face the failure, due to “lack of military backing to implement all of its resolutions. This meant that an end to peace and people would have to take on the challenge again” (UN
1946, Forming UN Charter). Therefore, as a result, the United Nations (UN) Organization came into existence in 1945, with persistent aim to maintain international peace and security and further encouraging mutual support and cooperation between states/nations. The sole aim of UN Security Council is to ‘maintain international peace and security’. For this purpose, it positions military missions in amenableness with UN Security Council resolutions, which are according to the comestibles of the ‘charter’. These UN martial missions encompass multinational military forces for enactment of these resolutions”. The edifice of global forces, the leap at which they develop and their effectiveness have undeviating bearing on the aftermath of any UN Mission.

UN MEDIA

Department of Public Information (DPI) was established in 1946, under the resolution of General Assembly. “The main motive was to promote worldwide awareness about UN and its functions. DPI undertakes this task via various media tools. DPI and its organs are responsible for annual report to the UN General Assembly. The committee of information meets annually and in turn present reports on the working of DPI. “Furthermore, the committee provide guidelines and future implications. Recurrently in UNPKO, information produced by UN is considered reliable source for habitants. This is not merely a piece of information, but acts as mark of modus operandi for media. Reflection of UN informatics persist on UN mission and if it is not reliable, then the mission would agonize with disbelief and even in some cases, it may utter hostility. Mandate of the mission seldom include any overt statement concerning media. Most of the agreements like apropos usage of broadcasting regularities on official or independent stations are also compromised; once the mission is implemented. Amongst essential elements of PKO are that the addresses are made public information, which is according to UN system been called ‘operational necessity’. This highlights the status of UN reliable information in order to dissipate falsehood, pledge propaganda and gather sympathy and cooperation of public. Usually in first deployment to a new peace mission must include public information stratagems, and requirement of personnel to accomplish them. Despite the availability of peace and security section, DPI is being called upon only to cater for information related problems. DPI has no role in strategies and planning. As per the detail discussion in the introduction chapter, the UN Media process is explained with linkage to DPI process, in addition to that following features are elaborated and mandatory to understand regarding UN media which were found in this study; -

- All the UN documents are printed according to reference “editorial manual, UN article H 1; page 467” [2].
- Regulations for the control and limitation of documentation reference “ST/AI/189/Add.17 dated 24 June 1975 which states that the document can be considered for issuance as UN publication if it is in public interest. If some document has to be rotated in market for sales, it is declared sales publication. UN decide by the committee itself whether to sale a document or not by keeping in view the interests of economy, government and academics”.
- “Copyright principles procedures [3]. According to the revised policy all software’s, printed/electronic material and official documents are placed under copyright law, do be dealt by publication board”.
- “Criteria for the selection of material to be issued as United Nations publications reference UN Article H1. The nominated committee decide what material is feasible and meet the desired criteria for publication according to the interest of UN”.
- UN document [4] restricts the mention of the names of commercial firms, if author is associated with the firm he can use the firm name in foot note only as per clause(a). Photograph/figures may not be used if it implies endorsement or criticism of firm by UN as per clause (b)”.
- “Guidelines for the publication of Newsletters and other information materials in printed or electronic format [5]. According to the rule DPI should be consulted regarding presentation of newsletters on public access networks and internet. The Sales and Marketing Section, Department of Public Information, should be consulted for the better review of revenue-generating possibilities and potential impact on sales revenues of newsletters”.
- “Different guidelines have been laid down in accordance with the use of the UN emblem on
documents and publications [6]. The DPI is responsible to use emblem on mast-head of the document on all documents. UN symbol must be used on all official documents, whereas it shall not be used on unofficial documents like seminar or conference room papers”.

- “Five types of ad-hoc meetings [7] are (a) Meetings of expert working groups; convened by SG or legislative body for the purpose of obtaining information, advice or exchange of experience. Although experts are represented from governments, but they are attend these meetings in personal capacity. These are a brief meeting, for a short duration, and recommend only to technical matters. (b) Seminars are meetings convened by SG for studying techniques and experiences. It is not a legislative or advisory body. (c) Workshops are meetings of qualified and expert personnel’s, convened by SG for the purpose of intensive study. They often include discussion of projects. (d) Training courses are arranged for theoretical instructions and reports by the methods used and result achieved. These reports do not contain recommendations but may contain assessment of success or failure of a project, moreover suggestions for methods to be used in future. (e) Another type is symposia which components high level experts and are termed as major meetings which are convened by the SG at the request of legislative body and are focused to a discussion of policy and development in a particular field. It formulates recommendations to policy matter. There are three types of papers produced under the article H9; discussion papers, policy papers and country papers. Discussion papers are produced by the staff members and are normally attributed to the UN secretariat. It even includes policy papers which are prepared by staff members under rule 112. Whereas country paper is produced by the person nominated by the government, without the name of author. It is related to the government policy. If these papers are discussed with UN, the rights are reserved with the UN. Although these papers are in public domain but no individual can publish or collect them in his own name, even he is author of the report or analysis, unless UN desires to publish it”.

- “There are patterns of issuing International Standard Book Number (ISBN) and International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) for United Nations publications[8]. These standards were taken into consideration with effect from January 1st 1985. The identification of ISBN or ISSN is necessary to understand for recognition of parent department, to which it belongs.

- ISBN consist of Ten digits, composed of Arabic numbers 0 to 9 and x instead of 10, as 10 is the check digit, which is further divided into four parts: -

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Four Digit; is language identifier: -

- Multilingual
- English
- French
- Spanish
- Russian
- Chinese
- Arabic
- Other languages
- Official records
- Reserved

Fifth and Sixth Digits; describes department/office of origin; -

- Category 1 (DPI)
- Category 1 general
- UN publications in Arabic by the UN conference of trade and development UNCTAD
- UN publication, bilingual by the economic commission for Latin America and Caribbean ECLAC (CEPAL)

- ISSN is an eight-digit code, composed from 0 to 9, separated in two parts with hyphen; 0068-2578”.

- “According to article H4 of editorial manual, documents are categorized in three designations, (a) general (b) limited (c) restricted. General is used on basic documents and meeting records. Limited is used on documents of an ephemeral nature such as draft resolutions and amendments. The designation of restricted is used for documents which are not to be made public.

- “UN maps[9] are prepared by the Cartographic Section of the UN DPI. Others are handled by
the firms, or prepared in the field, or taken from non-UN sources. In case of copying or publishing, permission must be sought from UN DPI Cartographic section”.

Mission of DPI

“The department is responsible for communication infrastructure, reporting of UN activities at global forum. The department effectively interacts with the world audience with the mission of promoting peace and development of human rights”.

The department contains three main divisions, which are as under:

**Strategic Communications Division**

The division is responsible to formulate communication strategies on global issues and launches valid campaigns. It has sixty-three information centres across the world.

**News & Media Division**

It is the main department of DPI. The division is responsible for with publication, reporting, stories and links with the multinational media organizations. The work of the journalists on UN stories is associated primarily with this division.

**Outreach Division**

This division is responsible for communication and interaction with the audiences. It educates audiences worldwide for the global cause and gain support in return.

**Principles of Media Vs Peace Operations (PO)**

According to Wolsfeld et al. (2001) following are the Penta main difference between PO principles and principles of media.

**Syria Conflict**

“More than four hundred thousand Syrians mislaid lives in the five years of crisis, initiated with revolutionary protest formerly intensifying to a full gauge ‘civil war’. Supplementary, twelve million people have been deprived and dislodged from residences by the forces devoted to President Alasad and groups conflicting to his authority and are in battle each other with a new born gift of jihadist militants named Islamic State”.

**Violence Vented**

In March 2011, violence vented from the city of Dera located in south, with the protests and eruption of pro-democracy events just after the arrest and beating

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<td>1.</td>
<td>PO are complex in nature</td>
<td>Simple to communicate and understand</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Require minimal understanding</td>
<td>Require routine follow up</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>PO deals with friendly and peace environment</td>
<td>Media deals with violence/ threat issues</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Requires calmness and patience</td>
<td>Media is a job of emergent issues with hustle</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Peace is depicted in PO</td>
<td>Peace is absent in Media</td>
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of teenagers involved in writing revolutionary slogans. Security forces unbolted fire on protestors, massacre several and pulled a lot to the streets. The turbulence prompted into country wide nationwide riots, demanding resignation of President Alasad. The government decision for use of force in order to crush the dissention, hardboiled the protesting people. For the next running months’ large no of people were captivating towards the streets, all over the country. This forcefully made the opponent to cohort and yield upon arms for defense and throwing security forces from their locations”.

The Civil War

“Riots intensified and the region dropped into the civil war as rebellions were designed to combat government laid forces for control over the areas. In 2012, hostilities stretched to ‘Aleppo and Damascus’. The conflict results as for and against the President. It followed assimilated sectarian implications as well, pitching two sect Sunni vs Shia, and resultantlly drawing gravitational attention of super and global powers. The rise of Islamic State (IS) proved a further drama to the conflict”.

UN and Syria

“According to the UN report “war crimes have been reported. Civil sufferings, blockage of basic necessities of life has also been reported”. UN SC has necessitated all parties to end the undiscriminating use of weapons in inhabited areas, but death of civilians continued to rise.

“IS-labelled by the UN for major terrorism activities. And killing of innocent public. Millions have absconded Syria with the twitch of the conflict, mostly were small children and helpless women. Neighbouring countries of Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon have accommodated with one of the largest refugee emigrations in the world history. Out of the refugees estimated population, 10% (Ten percent) of Syrian refugees have hunted migration to Europe, resulted in politico divisions and enhancement burden. UN assessed requirement of huge financial grants to help the huge population, including women and children, for any kind of assistance inside Syria. According to the UN report, majority of the public was deprived of basic human necessities, and millions of children were placed out of schools and people forced to live a miserable life”.

Figure 2: Syria Conflict.
“Undeceive victory between neither of the conflicting parties, turn international community to conclude that only solution which could end conflict is political based. The UN SC; baptized for implementing the ‘Geneva Communique 2012’, which envisages a provisional political body. According to the report by then the UN special envoy Lakhdar Brahimi; talks named Geneva II started in 2014, diminished after second round of discussion. Findings were the refusal of government to discuss on opposition interests, Staffan de Mistura selected envoy, focused primarily on cease-fires. Free zone Aleppo plan was also refused, but the only positive outcome was a siege of three years in Homs, which was put to an end in December 2015”.

Concurrently, IS demanded a stimulus for a political resolution in Syria. US and Russia directed efforts to pull government to join ‘proximity talks’.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Public discourse has impact of ‘power of information and insight’. Access to media can change perceptions. Various kinds of media are employed worldwide to dispense knowledge and unpretentiously media became an emblem for democracy. ‘Freedom of expression/speech’ is the true reflection of media, ensure right to ‘information’ and highlight ‘human rights’ within the framework of democracy and living habitants. With this it is worth mentioning that ‘lack of information’ is a deadly weapon in the ‘information warfare’, which hinders population and cause restlessness. “Public right to access information and freedom of media must be ensuring in order to provide smooth sail to the media”. An extent of “peacekeeping” can be enhanced ‘peace journalism’. Prime aim of peace journalists is to explore root cause of the conflict. True journalism is not to exploit sufferings, human losses and damages. The real motive is to report peace in true sense. According to the academic knowledge “peace/conflict journalism forecast as; (a) peace, truth, people, conflict or solution oriented peace/conflict oriented”.

Similarly, Gareth Evans (2005) [10] argues include that “all indiscreet operations of peace desire exodus policy, if it does not include exit schedule, elections are the responsibility of the respective resident. Dynamics of peacebuilding and peacekeeping varies, but if committed peacebuilding blunder of the bygone decade had more value of leaving early or staying long, or further accelerating ahead of this”.

Furthermore, Bent Norby Bonde (2006), wrote a deliberate research on “Conflict prevention and peace building by UN led strategies [11]. He applied content analysis and enquired about the “mandate, dependence and responsibility of public information. He clinched that the initial step on the road to a media scenario and appropriate for a democratic development is; the UNSC mandate to warrant that prevailing or new media podiums are based on renowned professional journalistic standards distribute accountable, impartial news and information. It contributes to enhance strong relationship and dialogue across adversary barriers. When moving a step ahead to peace building, there is a dire need for change in media linguistic, ethics and culture. Each of UN organization works with a different mandate and it is compulsory for the organizations to follow it”. Whatever the mandate is, all organizations and UN department of information should work to explore the truth by following the mandate and help in finishing the conflict in rehabilitation (peacebuilding) era.

Similarly, Shira Loewenberg (2006), “in a research of united nations media strategy interrogated that how different products of media can be gauged by the people in public [12]. The researcher implemented quantitative analysis and concluded that; UN must ensure about the informatic material and associated deeds, which can affect the voice of media widely. The credibility of media initiatives lies in doubt. UN report upon its success rather than failures”. The end to the material is not an end to the mandate of public information. The best of UN practice segment is to ‘implement and survey of information’. These steps would definitely pawn the negative interest of the players.

Furthermore, Maintein Die La Pix (2007), published lessons of peacekeeping to peacebuilding [12]. “The main context involved UNPKO and the role of media, specially primarily role regarding report and objective information. According to the author media has a vital role in native and international support on PKO. This definitely requires a factor of trust syndrome from public to mediators. Foreign media is necessary to support a mission by seeking advice for donors about the level of help. UN media must also inform the public about the programmes been undertaken. Moreover, they must explain the importance and difficulties of their programmes”. Media has always divergent capability to build and shape opinions.

Similarly, Vladimir Bratic and Lisa Schirch (2007), produced a research that “the media construe events, yonder corporal dominion and help in constructing a sense about it. Media plays prominent role in our daily
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clandestinely a two-way communication model. Empowering refugees and affected citizens of Syria to respond. To make it a success story numerous women, girls, boys and men were regularly consulted and engaged in the programme cycle for assessment by consistent monitoring and evaluation. Two-way communication is vibrant to ensure that communities are not submissive recipients of the UN agencies but proves to be active aspirants in the dialogue with the agencies affecting their lives. 3R plan aimed at providing the basic rights, transparency to the mechanism and a viable way to communicate and address the concerns of the citizens of Syria. These were inclusive of meetings, discussions, suggestions and visits of the refugee’s camp. Keeping in view the number of refugees living outside the premises and difficulty in transportation, use of modern technology was made available to the people by providing the facilities of call centers, helplines and text messages. This was considered to be the fastest and quickest two-way communication method. Social media was also considered to be effective mechanism for communication.”

Minutes of meeting (2015) published by DPI “Ratifying road map for the peace in Syria. Syrian population demands a political solution. Syria was wrapped in playground of dead bodies with numerous refugees outflanked. First the conflict must be put to an end by cessation of armed conflict stands ready to take on such challenges with the help of member states, as there is no permanent force of UN, it is dependent on member states to provide force and manpower to handle conflicts. The displacement is continued and there seems no end to it. The Neighbouring countries claim availability of million refugees inside their territory. It is a huge and alarming concern for UN. This cross territorial shifting has lot of implications on refugees and accommodating states as well.”

On December (2015) UN DPI published an important document covering sixteen points similarly on the lines of Congress of Vienna, that describes the “decision to be taken and recommendations on the part of various actors, sub-actors, parties which deals with talks and negotiation under UN umbrella and are in line with Geneva Communiqué and Vienna rules”. The UN SG was pointed as the focal person for this. The decision has to be from his side in any case. The sixteen pointers involve detailed recommendations starting from armed conflict, human rights, basic necessities and political elections by hearing voice of Syria.”

Talks and round-table conferences from January to September 2016 discusses “fundamental issues for a feasible evolution are discussed/ reproduced exact as in the document for the correct essence of the reporting and investigation. (a) Focus on how power is to be exercised in practice by the transitional governance, including in relation to the presidency, executive powers and the control over governmental and security institutions. (b) focus on how to practically establish a calm, neutral environment that assures the safety of all in an atmosphere of stability, including through measures to reduce violence, protect vulnerable groups, ensure the rapid release of detainees, the restoration of public services and continuity and reform of governmental institutions and qualified staff, as well as the adherence of all governmental institutions, including the intelligence services, to human rights and professional standards, as referred to by paragraph 10 of the Geneva Communiqué. (c) Identification and selection of specific and effective arrangements for the oversight and control by any transitional governance arrangement of security and intelligence institutions during the transition that go beyond general human rights instruments. (d) Further to that, what strategy, joint bodies and coordination mechanisms need to be developed to combat terrorism, ensure the protection and territorial integrity of Syria’s borders. (e) Identification of standards for a unified, national, professional army as well as for the disarmament, demobilization, and re-integration of armed groups. (f) Identification and selection of the most appropriate constitutional devices that invest any transitional governance arrangement with legal legitimacy during the transition. (g) Identification of the composition of the relevant transitional governance arrangement, including selection criteria and the application of the principle of mutual consent. (h) Identification of measures to operationalize the parties’ commitment that women shall enjoy equality of rights and representation in all institutions and decision-making structures during the transition (i) Selection of appropriate decision-making procedures for any transitional governance arrangement and other bodies to ensure inclusiveness during the transition. (j) Addition to it, whether and how the principle of the separation of powers shall apply to any transitional governance arrangement so as to ensure sufficient checks and balances on the exercise of executive power. (k) Delineation between priorities for the reform and restructuring of state institutions and bodies during the transition and the comprehensive reform that may need to be undertaken pursuant to the new
Instead of denying the relationship between them, they argue that such relations be studied according to right and justified social practices. The role of analysts and scholars in society becomes intrinsic.

RQ1. How do United Nations media report on the issues relating to peace and security?

RQ2. What are the key features of UN-mandate media mechanism?

RQ3. How the UN-mandated media conforms to the theory and practice of peace journalism?

The researcher has adopted conflict case of Syria and heterogeneous UN documents, such as Ten x research papers, ten x press release and eight x minutes of meetings and a total twenty-eight units for the study. Syrian crises case study is adopted being a current and a strategic issue for Asia and in particular Pakistan. There are various contentious opinions considering being false and correct in the battle field, this paper was to analyze how UN media cover and represent conflict and image of Pakistan. To achieve this aim, three contexts of UN DPI were selected (UN briefs, research’s, publications and stories and case studies of Syria conflict). Careful scrutiny of the collected data and restricted it to last two months due to the current shift of global powers in the region. This limited data restricts the generalities that can be made, but it is sufficient to indicate how writers have established themselves as members of their respective discourse community. The analysis provides the baseline for the examination of context. Further surveillance into the context of these texts culminated in major events of the time. All data were gathered from electronic versions and experience of the researcher at few places. Data is selected from 2011 to 2016, keeping in view the restricted access to data and limited number of concerned/relative documentation. The selected data was then subjected to qualitative analysis through CDA. Following table illustrates the selection of UN research material;

Table 2: UN Research Material; Sampling

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Research papers</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Press Release</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Minutes of meetings</td>
<td>8</td>
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**LIMITATIONS**

The research involved need of sensitive documents as well. “The public reach to such documents is very restricted. Moreover, less than ten research has been made on this subject due to its area of study, reach to relevant material. Therefore, this study is based on gathering and highlighting facts and reports has to be reproduced in same words as reported or produced due to the sensitivity of the conflict and function of such a named organization”.

**RESULTS**

Researcher has used three objectives in this study. Keeping in view the research objectives and research questions, the researcher has categorized UN media in three sub categories of research publications; ten (35.71 percent), press releases; ten (35.71 percent) and minutes of meetings; eight (28.57 percent). These three sub categories are selected due to most reliable and authentic source of information released by DPI (reference UN media Centre and DPI). Data is analyzed through “Van Dijk’s method of CDA”[22]. The findings of this study shall unfold in following sequence. RQ1 is elaborated to get familiarize with the UN documentation in order to gauge essence and importance of UN reported document.

RQ1. How do united nations media REPORT on the issues relating to peace and security?

UN gave more importance to the peacekeeping, but did not focus on the mandate given or solution the Syrian conflict. Even though UN withdrew its special mission to Syria in 2012. According to document published by DPI ‘UN and conflict prevention; Gareth Evans, from the library of UN Dag Hammarskjold”; it reveals that “a six-fold increase in UN preventive diplomacy missions (to stop wars starting) and a four-fold increase in UN peace operations (both to end ongoing conflicts and reduce the risk of wars restarting)”. Hence, it means that UN is not the single player in this stream; regional, intergovernmental, international organizations and super powers have a significant role in the peace and conflict process. All the NGO’s and agencies play an important role according to mandate of UN charter. The responsibilities are ranging vast tides, starting from basic human rights, food, security and shelter. Arms cessation in armed conflict zone, refugee’s settlement, arranging food security, peacemaking, peacebuilding and restoring life by rehabilitation and settlement of conflicts by agreements.

UN media has been analyzed throughcare method, further to that; by analyzing the language into four classes as argumentation, oratorical figures, lexicon and story tell-tale. Context are analyzed according to their frames. Slants analysis by; material and words to the effect that are pro UN, western, Syrian interests or vice versa. There are multi-dimensional aspects of a material being reported or published. But keeping in view the role and active involvement of UN in peacekeeping, there are global multi players. Directly or indirectly involvement of super power persists in the global scenario. Therefore, in this case it is important to identify the stake holders.

March 2011 marks the outbreak of the violence in Syria. The turmoil prompted all over the country with the protests challenging President Assad’s resignation. The government decided to induct security forces into the turning situation which ultimately groan to a civil war between government and rebel groups. For the next running months’ hundreds of thousands were enchanting. As per the UN reports these have been war crimes in the country including use of heavy and excessive weapons. Human rights have been ruthlessly violated which ultimately gave birth to a multi polar threat of ‘ISIS’. Despite UN’s ban on use of weapons in the living areas, government and rebel groups continuously violated the arms cessation. The scenario grew worsen with the passage of time due to neither of the group turning to peace table.

ISIS has been labeled world threat by UN. Syrian conflict resulted in loss of lives and ocean of Syrian refugees migrated in different areas of the region. The UN outreach in every aspect to settle the conflict and provided refugees with basic necessities. Resultantly, UN turned to amending political solution to the conflict, for which the UN introduced communiqué, talks and conferences, but all in vain. In addition to that it gave a rise to two-polar powers i.e. Russia and USA.

RQ2. What are the key features of un-mandate media mechanism?

**Discourses- UN Media**

**APPROACH/LINGUISTIC;**

**Argumentation**

Van Dijk CDA model states that “language has historic-socio-politico context”. Furthermore; Fairclough and Wodak [23] also practice on parallel lines of this model. Critically analyzing the terms and the sentences dictates the turning road. The UN states ‘More than two
hundred and fifty thousand were killed and one million rolled in injuries since the start of crisis. UN mission to Syria was established through resolution 2043 in order to monitor arms cessation and further presented with six pointer plans. As those conditions were not met, the mission’s mandate came to an end at midnight on 19 August 2012. It is for the Syrians who agreed to political solution. (UN final Communiqué of Jun 30, 2012). For the initial two years UN neither blamed anyone in UN reports. Neither the political figure nor the rebel group. Ceasefire was adopted as the initial step in the conflict zone in 2012. The Joint Mission the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) [35], was established in 2013 to achieve exclusion of the Syrian-declared chemical weapons. It was closed on 30 September 2014. The report made by this mission was made basis for the arm cessation in Syria for usage of chemical weapons. According to another report, ‘reiterating the spread of chemical weapons, their delivery, consist threat to peace. Therefore, all of the above statements argues that the main reason of threat to peace is use chemical weapons. Despite proving the facts from other media networks rise of ISIS was a criminal activity. UN neither stopped the rise of the terrorism force but also withdrew the special mission to Syria as cited above’. Hence let us review the conflict media and prevention mechanism for the depth findings. According to the literature review the six-point plan indicates; ‘commit to stop the fighting and achieve urgently an effective UN supervised cessation of armed violence in all its forms by all parties to protect civilians and stabilize the country’..... indicates arms violence a major reason of conflict in the country. Same plan dictates, ‘Syrian government should immediately cease troop movements towards, and end the use of heavy weapons in, population centers, and begin pullback of military concentrations in and around population centers; in addition to that, the Syrian government should work with the envoy to bring about a sustained cessation of armed violence in all its forms by all parties with an effective UN supervision mechanism (The UN six-point plan 2012).At the same reference commitments, would be sought by the envoy from the opposition and all relevant elements to stop the fighting and work with him to bring about a sustained cessation of armed violence in all its forms by all parties with an effective UN supervision mechanism.

According to UN SG report on the issue “the central issue is and must remain a credible political transition. Most of the reports, publications and researches indicate political solution and settlement, need of the hour. Gareth Evans (2005) argues include that “all discreet peace operations need an exit strategy, if does not include exit schedule, elections are the responsibility of the respective resident. The ‘UNSC mandate to warrant that prevailing or new media podiums are based on renowned professional journalistic standards distribute accountable, impartial news and information. It contributes to enhance strong relationship and dialogue across adversary barriers. When moving a step ahead to peace building, there is a dire need for change in media linguistic, ethics and culture’ (Bent Norby Bonde, 2006). In addition to this, ‘Like most organizations, the UN likes to report its successes and not its failures’, yet such a policy can hardly be conceived of as encouraging trust and credibility in the institution (Shira lowenberg 2006). The main context involved the role of media in UN Peacekeeping with forthcoming that one of media’s primary roles within UN peacekeeping is to report and propagate objective information (Maintain Die La Pix, 2007). Reference literature review ‘media also act as a “gatekeeper” who modify agendas, filter the issues and tries to maintain a balanced view. Media play a balance role, even when they project to promote particular ideology. Media is also a promoting tool for the policymakers. Media events are utmost useful at the beginning of negotiations for confidence measures, to facilitate negotiations or halt diplomatic deadlocks to create a favourable situation for negotiation” (Vladimir Bratic and Lisa Schirch, 2007). Another research states ‘how conflict sensitive journalism steps further and how journalists should beware of the effects of language and reporting can have on the conflict” (Sheldon Himelfarb and Megan Chabalowski, 2008).

‘A media organization may either prError! Reference source not found.opel or undermine movements toward a free and open political system’ (Lam Duc Hein 2011). ‘Syrian population demands a political solution. Syria was wrapped in playground of dead bodies with numerous refugees outflanked. First the conflict must be put to an end by cessation of armed conflict’ (UN report of 2015). ‘Decision to be taken and recommendations on the part of various actors, sub-actors, parties which deals with preparation of negotiations under UN umbrella on a political settlement of the conflict, in accordance with the Geneva Communiqué’ (UN special report 2015). Furthermore, UN report 2016 states “Identification and agreement about the key political, legal and operational decisions to enable free and fair elections under UN supervision…”.
**Oratorical Figures**

The UN media is analyzed by the CDA [25][29] model and figured out with the oratorical figures. These are unfolded as ‘negotiations’; ‘political settlement’ and ‘political solution’ is indication of political solution to the conflict. ‘Peacekeeping, peacebuilding and peacemaking’ are directed towards UN mandate and efforts for peace restoration. ‘Effects of language’, ‘media reports’ are indications to media reporting. ‘Actors’ ‘players’ are the keywords for the superpowers or countries active in the Syrian crisis. ‘Arms cessation’ are sign of armed conflict. ‘Chemical weapons’ possess dangerous of ‘disaster’. ‘Free and fair elections under UN supervision’ dictates UN oriented agenda. Thus, UN DPI uses oratorical figures in press releases and public documents to indicate two factors. First is using of illegal and hazardous chemical weapons. Second, political favourism in any shape of political elections, refraining from taking a decision against ISIS, the terrorist organization”.

**Lexical Style**

The third aspect of CDA model is lexical style. This study analyzes UN media reports by the use of adverse words. For example, use of words like rebel forces, militants, terrorist organization, insurgents, arms cessation, human losses, food security, health hazards. Dilemma, deadlocks, propaganda, hiding facts, evil, cruel, destroy, negativity, genocide, killed, refugees, illegal, torture indicate the negative aspects.

The study revealed that the lexical style is used more in press releases by UN DPI.

**Story Tell-Tale**

Tell-tale is the fourth aspect of the CDA model. In this research story tell-tale is in-depth information given about the story and events. “These are glared negative arguments. Use of chemical weapons in the region by the government and rebel groups. Forcing armed cessation, a clear indication of confirmed use of lethal weapons. Funding for these weapons not cleared from the UN media. UN media opens their failures less. Political transition and political settlement indicates irregularities in the political hierarchy. One or the other group have sympathies or alliances with the adversaries. The disaster in shape of families leaving their homes. Fight between the groups, captives, rapes and alone children and woman. This is an indicator of human sufferings. No involvement of active participants or actors like Saudia etceleta coverts the sectarian’s issues.

UN media has mentioned ‘special mission to Syria was unable to meet the mandate and closed in 2012. The reasons for the failures are not highlighted, nor there are any visual achievements of Syrian mission. Millions of refugees fled their homes, exit strategy is precisely mentioned but rehabilitation strategy is missing in this scenario. Another story which relates to finding of facts use of chemical weapons. The location from which they arrived and the funding hands behind this case. Hence, UN media report is on telling tale situation in case of use of chemical weapons. Forcefully stressing open the elections, but no measures been made so far for stopping government and rebels/ISIS for political bodies.

**THE CONTEXT**

As described earlier in this study, according to CDA model, context is couched in three categories; historical, social and political.

**Historical Context**

The research also dictate that UN media reporting consist of ‘historical context’. By reviewing literature review, it is linkage to the past events. "UN reports indicate armed conflict 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014. Use of chemical weapons in conflict. No end to the conflict. Rebels continuous fighting state. Failure of talks. Re-entering discussions. Forcing Geneva 1, pushing Geneva 2 are words referring to the past. Discussing the common interests of the government, key players and rebels”.

All the phrases and words are sequential to events starting from outbreak since 2011. Lack of political alignment between the public and government raised rifts and gave space to rebels favouring for the rise of ISIS. Though UN reports does not mention these. But the historical context is linked with this gap. Ultimately in case of no solution these protracted the civil war which ultimately resulted in use of chemical weapons.

**Social Context**

The research revealed about the social context of the narratives affecting people, community, society or in a totality citizen of the conflict region. ‘In march 2011, millions of people started migrating to neighbor countries’ (UN Media report 2012). ‘More than 2.5 million lost their lives and continue to do so…. ISIL’. ‘UN press release 2014). The reports published by the UN human rights organization seems to highlight the sufferings of the people in food, shelter and security’.
UN press release 2014, 2015 and 2016 'raised the voice for citizens of Syria moved across the borders and settled in adjoining territories. The problems of the refugees, UN radio for the refugees to get notified on the happenings’. Similarly, ‘people lost their business, earning places, fighting destroyed millions of building and infrastructure’. ‘Access of the journalists made impossible in the area’. ‘Rebel groups fighting soldiers of the government side’. ‘UN humanitarian organization labeled the word sufferings for the people of Syria’. ‘Acceptance of refugees across the territories is an issues’ (UN 3RP Programme). The above-mentioned phrases and words depicts the social context of UN media.

**Political Context**

Various reports of UN media highlight the political context overtly and covertly. “A media organization may either propel or undermine movements toward a free and open political system’ (Lam Duc Hein 2011). ‘Syrian population demands a political solution. Syria was wrapped in playground of dead bodies with numerous refugees outflanked. First the conflict must be put to an end by cessation of armed conflict’ (UN report of 2015). ‘Decision to be taken and recommendations on the part of various actors, sub-actors, parties which deals with preparation of negotiations under UN umbrella on a political settlement of the conflict, in accordance with the Geneva Communiqué’ (UN special report 2015). Furthermore, UN report 2016 states “Identification and agreement about the key political, legal and operational decisions to enable free and fair elections under UN supervision”. Words like ‘various actors, sub-actors, parties’ and ‘free open political system’ political transition’ ‘free elections’ ‘political settlement’ ‘larger political strategy’ ‘exit strategy’ ‘problem with the leadership’ ‘against the political leader’ ‘political enforcement’ ‘peacekeeping’ ‘peacebuilding’ ‘special envoy for the settlement of crisis’ ‘UN special mission for Syrian talks with the political government and action group’. All these words highlight the political context of the UN media reporting.

**Slants In UN Media**

**Pro Peace vs Anti Peace**

Slants are indicators towards one or the other side. As such UN has no interest like power, hold etc. of its own in the conflict zone. The settlement and peace are the prime interests of UN in the region. Therefore, this research analyzes that UN media reports Pro-UN interests.

The outcome of the words like ‘UN mandate’ ‘compulsory for the members to follow the mandates’ ‘setup special mission to Syria for peace’ ‘cessation of arms’ ‘prohibition of arms’ ‘special envoy’ ‘bring parties to UN conference’ ‘peace agreement’ ‘peacemaking efforts’ ‘peacekeeping operations’ ‘UN mandate’ ‘UN condemns fight and loss of human according to the UN resolution’. These words are reflectors of UN interests in the conflict zone. As all the publications are made from USA. Maximum strategists in the communication division are from the issuing country. The words and facts covertly indicate the interests of western alliances. ‘As the special envoy was first hired from New York headquarters indication of the suitable person according to their mindset. No facts were found if any of the neutral persons sought from the action groups in Syria.

Slants used for the interests of Syrian are ‘political settlement’ ‘free election; ‘cessation of arms’ ‘political solution’ ‘damages to people’ ‘sufferings of Syrians’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 3: Slants (Various Indicators)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conflicts, cessation, agreement, political solution, political transition, concealment of boundaries, withdrawal of forces, peace mission, special envoy, use of force, stability, movements, peace missions, human rights, all words which are as per the policy of UN. Non-alliances, non-political interest, ISIS, capture of pipe lines, US interests, US special envoy for Syria, Headquarters in New York decided that, use of arms, arms manufacturing, use of weapons all words and phrases according to western interests. to effect encouraging Syrian interests such as Alasad control, sectarian hold, removal of opponent etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following table illustrates different slants as indicated in paragraph 4.6 of this research:

RQ3. How the un-mandated media conforms to the theory and practice of peace journalism?

Figure 3: According to peace journalism model it can be determined and disposed according to Figure 3:

- Peace oriented.
- Truth oriented.
- Population oriented.
- Conflict oriented.

**Peace Oriented**

Linguistic is qualified according to the peace oriented matters. From the above discussion if all the agencies and UN desires to establish peace in the region then all the frames and media reports are peace favourite. Resolution, publications, research etc. all are dictated to a peaceful solution of the crisis. Agreement, truce, peace conferences, talks were the indicators of peace oriented scenarios.

**CONFLICT ORIENTED**

Reports were based on conflict oriented statistics. Cessation of arms, innocent killings, rebels, capturing of areas, rebel groups, involvement of ISIS are indicators of conflict reporting. The media publications and specially uplifting UN mission to Syria was a clear indication to war favourite situations.

**Truth Oriented**

As far no such dialogues or reports were initiated in which truth oriented facts can be highlighted. The biggest reason to this fact was clear timelines regarding political solution or election, neither the reason was given for the withdrawal of the UN special mission. Outcomes of the special conferences. No force moved against ISIS, and a free run to such an organization and similar to these lines. Unfortunately, UN media did not appear to play the role of truth oriented media.

**Population Oriented**

Killing of innocents, displacement of refugees, deprive from basic necessities of life, food, shelter and human rights. No education facilities for children. Destruction of buildings and houses are indicators of reports regarding population oriented. Media took measures for the human rights.

**DISCUSSION**

**According to Van Dijk CDA Model**

“The CDA regime’s media situates that there are lies, crusade media to spur against Syria and the conspiracy targeting Syria’s security through inflaming public opinion, abhorrence and contention between people of the country. This hate is created through some of the media activist that work to raise complications down to trying to show the outside intervention as humanitarian mission. All the fake movies which have been filmed in Syria and processed with immediate broadcast on social media are the biggest proof. UN media has not been able to play active and unbiased role. The primary role of the media is quite pronounced. Precision, unbiased reporting and free and natural discourse of analysis and discussion marks the hallow inscriptions of a dissociate media. However, it is not false to say that the media has failed in this primary role of objectivity, exactitude, and mind’s eye [30][34]. The discourse in the UNDPI is ‘UN media has emerged as by far the most effective political tool and an instrument to support the politico-mil objectives’. It has its own agendas, very far reaching in certain cases. It has the power to make or break the governments”.

**CONCLUSION**

Conflicts in the present scenario demands rapid response to the crisis in coordination with all the
peacekeeping forces and agencies. "In this regard coordination among the various elements of a UN peacekeeping mission and different tiers is desired for the economy of effort and resources. In peacekeeping operations, each tier is responsible for the coordination among the different agencies responsible for the mission. It is pertinent to say that now media and in specific DPI presents a swift role in changing scenarios. Strengthening DPI is important to create effectiveness of DPI and strategic communication division. There is a dire need for planning from peace to peacemaking, peacemaking to peace building and finally to establish writ of the government. A smooth transition will make the plan successful as proved from the case of Syria. The Syrian conflict was left in the midway by the UN forces. Numerous actors work together to gain foothold in peacemaking. A planned framework brings all actors to a well-established peacekeeping process". Child protection was termed as first principle in peacekeeping against armed groups.

"UN DPI to publish truth and facts in term of ongoing operations based on realities and un biasness. Whatever DPI portray or display, leave foot prints all over the world. Coordination is necessary both at higher levels (between UN DPKO and other UN agencies) and on the ground among NGOs, and between NGOs and the UN peacekeeping mission). Synchronization with present actors and the government is critical in order to warrant that projects undertaken reflect the actual needs on the ground with ownership". This will not only help conflicts like Syria to be resolved but also become a stratagem for winning these conflicts as an actor of the polar world.

It is apparent that the "media has tremendous potential to subsidize to the war effort in any future conflict. A look at the case studies offers ample proof of this potential. The problem lies in its exploitation. An astute analysis to measure up the immense potentialities against identified weaknesses in international media, and UN media for peacekeeping and peace building relationship, can lead to a better understanding of steps essential to be taken, both in the international media, and within the UN itself, to explore this intoxicating instrument of national power. This research is a little effort being a modest attempt to offer a few batons in the right direction, which could, in turn, lead to more detailed research on the subject, and the undertaking of required measures in the long term. Only then can the fourth estate emanate out into its true colours".

RECOMMENDATIONS

After analyzing the role of media and UN peace process, followings are recommended with analytical view of the "UN resolution, charters and influence of super powers, directly or indirectly :

Article VI of UN Charter

There must be addition to the clause of the charter of UN under article VI, Sub clause as per the authority. "To take action against the negative role and call of members for action against denial countries, who in action or verbally compliance against peacekeeping mission. All member countries to abide by the clause".

Neutral UN Media

There is a dire need to establish a neutral media in UN, under the supervision of Security Council for the analysis and compliance of the positivity in journalism.

Active Media

Operational secrecy in modern limited wars now requires active connivance of the UN media. Media coverage is a force multiplier. People get their perception of the military as a dedicated and professional organization from media reports, which require closer trust and confidence. Factual stories and manipulation are both part of media. Most nations analyze media coverage and draw appropriate strategy. For a weaker nation, mass media’s role assumes criticality. It may only be possible through a media strategy to achieve a favorable outcome.

Strategic Oriented

Strategic oriented has access to the actions of most powerful players in all fields of life. UN media has to be effective for the strategic orientation. This would also help in the solution of Syrian crisis.

According to UN, The Third World countries are deficient in media access and require mass communication strategy so that they can propagate their messages in support of their objectives.

"DPKO should reconnoiter ways in which the media can promote a peaceful resolution to challenges. DPKO could explore the use of media to foster a national ‘discourse’ between the government, rebel leaders, and the local population. It should rink article 19, indorse greater involvement by the media in reportage on military, civil, and humanitarian affairs in
peacekeeping missions as a way to benefit the wider understanding of peacekeeping. It should provide a forum for the media personals to work in peacekeeping missions”.

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