

Social Responsibility of media in Pakistan through the eyes of Audience

Qasim Shukkar

01-258172-007

MS Media Studies

Bahria University, Islamabad

Spring 2017-2019

A thesis Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of Bahria University for the degree of MS (Media Studies)

MS-13

Thesis Completion Certificate

Student's Name: Qasim Shukkar

Registration No. **01-258172-007**

Programme of Study: MS-MEDIA STUDIES

Thesis Title: "Social Responsibility of media in Pakistan through the eyes of

Audience".

It is to certify that the above student's thesis has been completed to my satisfaction and to my belief, its standard is appropriate for submission. I have also conducted a plagiarism test of this

thesis using HEC prescribed software and found a similarity index at $\underline{\%}$ that is within the

permissible limit set by HEC for MS/MPhil degree thesis. I have also found the thesis in a format

recognized by Bahria University for MS/MPhil thesis.

Principal Supervisor's Signature:	
Principal Supervisor's Name:	Dr. Shahid Hussain

Assistant Professor

Allama Iqbal Open University Islamabad

Date: _____

iii

MS-14A

Author's Declaration

I, Qasim Shukkar, hereby state that my MS thesis titled "Social Responsibility of Media in
Pakistan through the eyes of audience" is my own work and has not been submitted previously
by me for taking any degree from Bahria University or anywhere else in the country/world.
At any time, if my statement is found to be incorrect even after my graduation, the university has
the right to withdraw/cancel my MS degree.
Signature of Author/Student:
Date:

MS-14B

Plagiarism Undertaking

I solemnly declare that research work presented in the thesis titled "Social Responsibility of

media in Pakistan through the eyes of audience" is solely my research work with no

significant contribution from any other person. Small contribution/help whenever taken has been

duly acknowledged and that complete thesis has been written by me.

I understand the zero-tolerance policy of HEC and Bahria University towards plagiarism.

Therefore, I as an author of the above-titled thesis, declare that no portion of my thesis has been

plagiarized and any material as a reference is properly referred/cited.

I undertake that if I am found guilty of any plagiarism in the above-titled thesis even after award

of MS degree, the university reserves the right to withdraw/revoke my MS degree and that HEC

and Bahria University have the right to publish my name on the HEC/University's website,

where the names of students are placed who submit plagiarized thesis.

Signature of Author/Student:

Name of Author/Student: Qasim Shukkar

DEDICATION

To Allah the Almighty

&

To my family and Teachers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study could not have been possible without the expertise of Dr. Shahid Hussain, my beloved thesis supervisor. I would like to thank to Dr. Siraj for guiding me in my thesis and helping me in difficulties. Furthermore, I also thank to my colleagues Dr. Abid Sulehri for pointing point several fundamental aspects of my study.

My class fellows also supported me in every step of my work. We worked together most of the time and resolve any difficulties regarding anyone's work in any step. Other teaching staff of Bahria University also supported me in Synopsis approval as well as in approval of my topic and synopsis.

I express warm thanks to my supervisor Dr. Shahid Hussain. He is a wonderful person and it was pleasure to work under his supervision. The research could not have been completed without his guidance.

I owe special thanks to my family, especially my friends and colleagues for total support to let me concentrate on this research. They always encourage me to work independently, have faith on you and they pray for me in every thick and thin condition.

ABSTRACT

Media has some basic and fundamental rules, regulations, ethics and laws. Along with these

rules and regulations, media has some social responsibilities to ensure the privacy and dignity of

public. Pakistani media is failed to follow these rules and social responsibilities and

compromising on its basic functions as well as focusing on unethical, sensational, and

exaggerated media content. This study has investigated how much audience are aware and to

what extent Pakistani media is socially responsible in the eyes of audience. This study further

explores the thinking of audience regarding responsibility of Pakistani media and how foreign

media content is damaging our culture through indecent and inappropriate content on Pakistani

media. In order to meet all these desired purposes, researcher has collected data with the help of

questionnaire from 324 respondents and quantitative survey has used. Results of this study shows

that public perception regarding social responsibility of Pakistani media varies from media

outlets. So it is recommended that media not only provide information to general public but it

can be used as a tool to mobilize people for specific issues in bringing up a change in the society.

These findings will be helpful to working journalists and journalism students, as sophisticated

criteria will serve as professional and ethical guidelines concerning socially responsible story

selection and reporting.

Key Words:

Social Responsibility, media outlets, Media ethics, Sensationalism, exaggeration.

viii

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS:
CHAPTER 1 1
INTRODUCTION1
1.1 Introduction
1.2 Journalist's Social Responsibilities
1.2.1 Social Responsibility
1.2.2 Legal Responsibility
1.2.3 Professional Responsibility10
1.3 Media in Pakistan11
1.4 Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights (1950)13
1.5 What is Public Interest?
1.6 Media Ethics
1.7 Fundamentals of Ethics
1.8 Media Laws16
1.9 Statement of the Problem17
1.10 Objectives of the Study
1.11 Rationale of the study18
1.12 Significance of the study
CHAPTER 2 18
LITERATURE REVIEW19
2.1 Literature Review20
CHAPTER 3 26
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK27
3.1 Theoretical Framework
3.2 Social Responsibility theory of Media

3.3 Research Questions......30

CHAPTER 4

30

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	31
4.1 Research Methodology	32
4.2 Survey	32
4.3 Population of the study	33
4.4 Sample Size	34
4.5 Sampling Techniques	3 4
4.6 Delimitation of the study	34
4.7 Data Collection Instruments	35
4.8 Problems in Data Collection	35
4.9 Operationalization of Variables3	37
CHAPTER 5 38	
DATA ANALYSIS39	9
5.1 Data Analysis4	0
5.2 Demographic Information of the sample4	0
5.3 Time spent daily using media4	12
5.4 Usage of media4	13
5.5 Paying Attention during Exposure4	4
5.6 Purpose of media usage4	4
5.7 Perception of audience regarding media content45	5
5.8 Relationship b/w Exposure Satisfaction of audience46	5
5.9 Portrayal of indecent content on media46	6
5.10 Sensationalism and exaggeration on media	8
5.11 Foreign content showing by Pakistani media49	9
5.12 Social Responsibility of media in the eyes of audience	1
5.13 Financial priority of media outlets) .

5.14 Compromi	ses of social responsibility on media	53
CHAPTER 6	55	
DISCUSSION,	FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	55
6.1 Discussion	••••••	56
6.2 Findings	•••••	63
6.3 Recommend	lations	65
References	••••••	66
Appendix		

List of Tables:

Table #1	Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents	Page 41
Table #2	Time spent per day in the exposure of media outlets	Page 42
Table #3	Usage pattern of Pakistani Media Outlets	Page 43
Table #4	Purpose of Media Usage	Page 44
Table #5	Perception regarding quality of Pakistani media content	Page 45
Table #6	Relationship between Exposure times with Satisfaction of	
	audience regarding their quality of content	Page 46
Table #7	Portrayal of indecent content on Pakistani media outlets	
	through advertising as regards to demographic variable	Page 47
Table #8	Level of promotion sensationalism and exaggeration on less important issues	Page 48
Table #9	To what extent foreign content harming our culture through	
	Pakistani media	Page 50
Table #10	Social responsibility of Pakistani media outlets in the eyes of	
Table #11	audience To what extent Pakistani media give priority to their financial	Page 51
	interest than its social responsibility	Page 52
Table #12	Level of suppress/compromise the social responsibility	
	of the media	Page 53