



Proactive Policing for Maintaining Communal Harmony With The Help of Journalism.

KEYWORDS

Proactive Policing, role of Journalism in Communal Harmony, Community Policing

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ABSTRACT

In our country people belonging to various religions live in harmony, but there are occasions when the communal fabric gets disturbed, often on trivial issues. It is the responsibility of all sections of society to ensure peace and brotherhood so that all round development of the country takes places rapidly.

The police have a great role to play in promotion of communal harmony and national integration. They come in contact with the general public in the process of performing their duties far more frequently than most other bodies of civil servants of the Government.. Community policing departments and officers must commit time to develop a "partnership" with the community to:

- 1) Prevent and counter crime;
- 2) Maintain order; and
- 3) Reduce the fear of crime.

The basic mission of the police is to prevent crime and disorder. Our duties are dependent on public approval. This diminishes with our use of physical force and increases with our impartial service to the law

Introduction--

Community Policing or Proactive Policing is in essence, collaboration between the police and the community that identifies and solves community problems with the help of Journalism or Media. The police is not only responsible for the maintaining Law and Order situation in the area or City. The police can't solve all community problems by themselves. Community policing requires the majority of the community to accept personal responsibility for personal safety and solving problems in their neighborhoods with the support of the police and other government agencies. In India religion is a way of life, it is an integral part of the entire Indian tradition. For the majority of Indians, religion permeates every aspect of life, from commonplace daily chores to education and politics. Secular India is home to Hindu, Islam Christianity, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, & other innumerable religious traditions. India has the Second largest population of Muslims in the world. In this background it is clear that, India being a multi religion country maintaining Communal Harmony is utmost important task for Law Enforcement Agency in the country including Maharashtra State.

For the sake of good & healthy society Police need to support from the Community and the Media as well as Journalism. Community and Journalism helps for solving the problems and help for the maintaining Law & Order.

Significance of the topic of research: - In such situation the importance of this research topic is very sensitive and useful . In a Country like India where so many religions were live together. Many controversial issues have potential to disturb the communal harmony and due to which the country to face serious communal riots. Political, Communal, religions rifts and increasing fundamentalism indifferent poses serious threat to communal harmony, so is utmost important to maintain communal harmony to protect integrity of country. Due to increasing unemployment and socio-economical problems in society and also new trends to become rich by using shortcuts within short period. Due

to short tempered mentality and selfish nature the property offences also increased. Tremendous increase in body offences in last few years the cause behind this is modern life style adopted by people. To encounter this trend mostly effective weapon in the hands of society and law enforcement agency is only community policing or Proactive policing.

Role of Journalism or Media Houses -

The press is the most important, effective, extensive, popular and convenient; cheapest and the surest method of molding and formulating public opinion. It is the most important of the elements which constitutes public opinion itself. Communal disharmony is a problem which attributes to various factors. Among those factors media also gives its contribution. This Journalism or media which acts disseminates of information to the public plays vital role in promoting communal harmony . "Pen is mightier than Sword" - this old proverb seems to be true even in today's context as the media seems to gain strength in the modern society. Media includes mass media like TV, News channels, News papers, Radio, Mobile, Journals, Magazines and most importantly internet and email. The sphere of influence of media is increasing day by day as the coverage of a small news article is very wide these days. And more importantly in this modern knowledge-society, media plays the role of facilitator of development, disseminator of information, and being an agent of change. Today, Journalism, Media is considered the fourth pillar of the state all over the world. More importantly this is very true in the context of a biggest democracy like India. India is a country characterized by a diverse population comprising people belonging to different religions, castes, communities, sects etc. Though generally they can all be found living together in peace and harmony, the nation has from time to time also witnessed a number of instances of serious communal tension or conflict. In times of such conflict the onus is primarily on the Government and also on various other agencies to try and restore normalcy in the country. Among all these agencies the Media is probably

the most powerful single influence today, helping mould public opinion with regard to the need of fostering friendly and harmonious relations between various communities and religious groups and thereby also promoting national solidarity. Here the term "Journalism" or "Media Houses" generally refers to the "Mass Media" which is specifically envisioned and designed to reach a very large audience such as the population of a nation state.

Historical perspective

The Journalism or Media Houses has been a major champion in promoting the cause of communal harmony in the country. Historically, right from the days of the British rule the Media has been a very vociferous supporter of communal peace and harmony and the importance of getting united to fight the common enemy, the British. On thinking of those times and the important role played by the Media then, the foremost example that comes to mind is that of the anti-partition movement launched by the Indians as a response to the administrative decision to partition Bengal in 1905. Even later on during the freedom struggle Mahatma Gandhi too launched "Young India" and "Harijan", which contained his views on the importance of uniting as a nation to fight the British, preserving communal harmony and protecting the interests of the minority communities. Maulana Azad's famous newspaper "Al-Hilal" too was a very staunch supporter of communal unity and brotherhood and strongly opposed the communal extremist ideology, which it said would greatly harm the future vision of a free India. Later on too during incidences like 2002 Gujarat violence that followed the Godhra train burning, terrorist activities such as the 2005 Ram Janmabhoomi attack in Ayodhya, the blasts in markets, the 2006 Varanasi bombings, the 2006 Jama Masjid explosions, the 11 July 2006 Mumbai train bombings, after the Ahmedabad and New Delhi blasts in 2008, to Mumbai Terror Attack and so on at every crucial time, the various agencies of Journalism or Mass Media all condemned the incidents and made the utmost efforts to maintain communal harmony by going to the affected areas and bringing forth examples of people from different communities living together in peace, helping each other despite the prevalent communal tension.



Definition and importance of harmony

Every religion, culture, society provides for living in harmony with everything surrounding us since ages. Harmony is the fundamental law of creation; it is the law that continues to govern our life. But etymologically harmony means 'joint'. Harmony is understood as binding together and being in concord with one another and the cosmos. From a sociological perspective, harmony can be understood as a mode of social existence. Social harmony means living with unity, mutual reciprocity, beyond class,

caste, creed and gender barriers. Sin or violence emerges whenever this harmony is disturbed. Harmony by itself cannot be disturbed. It needs an agent. Religious and communal harmony, economic harmony, political harmony and ecological harmony are increasingly necessary today. No human being enjoys disharmony or violence.

Definition of communal, communalism

'Communal' means: i) For common use or benefit shared; ii) Of or relating to a commune;

iii) Of or relating to the community and

iv) Between different communities.

Hypothesis- Community policing is an improved strategy of policing, it lays emphasis on crime prevention rather than crime detection and bringing the criminal before a judicial authority for punishment. In this way this type of policing is a proactive policing method. In this research paper researcher has some of the hypothesis and they are -

A) Proactive policing is useful for the harmony.

B) In proactive policing the role of Journalism or Media is Important

C) In proactive policing the role of society is useful

D) With the help of Journalism or Media, the work of the Police is easier than regular Crime detection.

E) For the purpose of controlling of Crime, the Proactive Policing is effective.

F) Active participation of Community is important for the success of Proactive Policing.

Researcher has selected survey method for the purpose of research. Proactive policing and Traditional Policing is the major points for the survey. Research has selected area of Maharashtra state for the research work. He has sent questioner for the purpose by post and received answers. He visited some of the places and take interview of some from People from Society, Journalists, & Media Persons, Police Officers with Senior Policemen's.

Conclusion-

India is a nation of more than a billion people having different ethnic origins and divided into a number of castes and communities. There are at least eight major religions, 22 scheduled languages in India. Journalism or Media has the potential to play a role in molding public opinion on correct lines in regard to the need of friendly and harmonious relations between various communities and religious groups and thus promote national solidarity. Journalism or Media is a powerful medicine, if the medicine is used properly it can heal many ills, if the medicine is misused it can become poison. The role of media in promoting communal harmony means information dissemination which combats propaganda for riots, intolerance, or racism. Journalism or Media for communal harmony means to promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among the individuals and groups and to contribute to eradication of racism, racial discrimination and racial prejudice, in particular by refraining from presenting a stereotyped, partial, unilateral or tendentious picture of individuals and of various human groups. Proactive policing is useful for the harmony. The role of Journalism & Media Houses in pro-

active policing is Important , In proactive policing the role of society is useful the schemes like Mohalla Committees , Police Mitra, schemes may be introduced for sources to Police from Public. Media and Journalists can play important role for promotion and publicity work for this purpose. With the help of media and journalist police can get help from the people or society. In Mumbai riots the Mohalla Committees were useful for the control of the riot. For the

promotion & Maintaining communal harmony and prevention of crime the role of Media or Journalism is important. With the help of people, society and Journalists and Media Houses Police can reach and grab the criminals as well as they can maintain communal harmony. The active participation of Society & Media Houses plus Journalists is Key to Success of Proactive Policing.

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