



THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON DEMOCRACY

CONTENTS:-

- ① INTRODUCTION
- ② THE PAGES OF PROGRESS
- ③ WHEN PROGRESS TURNS SOUR
- ④ A SPECTRUM OF SOLUTIONS
- ⑤ CONCLUSION

INTRODUCTION

"Democracy is not about voting, it is about ensuring that people's voices are heard"
— B.R AMBEDKAR

"Social media is the ultimate equalizer that gives a voice and a platform to anyone willing to engage"

Social media has opened a portal

for the plethora of information that we are not aware of. It is playing a pivotal role in shaping the functions of a democracy.

Social media platforms give a voice for the general public to raise ^{their voice} against injustice and inequalities. It was truly said that democracy is for the people, of the people and by the people, & the absolutely the social media is providing that for the people.

It's each citizen's responsibility to utilize all the internet platforms without harming the democracy.

THE PAGES OF PROGRESS

Social media has a profound impact on democracy. It's impact is a double-edged



Sword. Since time immemorial, the primary source of information was mass media. Years down the line, there was an unprecedented growth of social media. Earlier, if there were any issues related to the prohibition of individual's right or any other violations of democracy, the public was afraid of speaking it out.

In this era of technology, the situation has changed drastically. A post about such violations in social media platforms will unite the people to stand together to fight against that injustice.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice anywhere."

— Martin Luther King

In the ^{recent} reason dowry death of a

women woman in Kerala is an example for this. The domestic violence she had experienced in her home was posted in social media. Here, the democratic right of a women was prohibited. Subsequently, many cases were reported like this.

Social media will help the democratic country to unite all the individuals together, whenever it is necessary. During Covid-19 pandemic and natural calamities, the people who were isolated, were connected through these platforms.

Many platforms like PM e-vidyalaya, e-commerce, e-library, e-bookings etc got wide popularity in this 21st century.

Though, the social media has a plenty of pros in the democracy,



there are some areas that need attention
for a bright future.

WHEN PROGRESS TURNS SOUR

"When it all became fake, then
it is difficult to discern what is true'
true"

"The fake news in social media has
corroded the foundation of truth, sonda-
minated the well of knowledge and
leaved the society alone in the sea of
misinformation"

In this fast paced ever changing
world, the spread of fake news has
reached its zenith. India was the
country ranked in the first position
in the fake news from 2014 to 2018.

As per the recent reports, Telangana in
India is the state with more fake news.

It is so pathetic to understand that, the country that stands in 46th position out of 167 countries in best democracy, has a high number of fake news in spreading like a wildfire.

News against democracy and misinformations against the rulers and government is growing.

The advancement of technology has impacted in a painful way that 3 individuals from India has hacked the official site of Canada Government. Hacking, cyber bullying, misinformation is also advancing along with technology.

Artificial Intelligence is the robotic science that has attained the attention of all in this world. India is the 5th largest country with the best involvement



in artificial intelligence. It is the crucial and eleventh hour to pay attention against the hacking and bullying of government personal sites by these intelligence and from these it is pure and pristine that India must put stringent measure to curb and control the domination of artificial intelligence in our democracy.

Social media is often being an attractive site for launching malicious activities like cyber crimes, theft and bullying. It's best platform that Int. connects international drug dealers with local drug vendors of our society to sell drugs to the teenagers that harms a smooth functioning of democracy. Fake social media accounts of politicians are making and the foolish individuals

are posting some misinformation against the government in that.

There are many individuals who see these platforms for sending unwanted messages to the leaders and discarding them before the public. These can be utilized for many good deeds, but they are not following that.

For India and every countries, it is the need of an hour to eradicate the issues like trolling, the leaders opinions, fake news, misinformation etc for reshaping the best democracy.

A SPECTRUM OF SOLUTIONS

"If there is a will, there is a way"

"Education is the movement from darkness to light"

ALLAN BLOOM

Ensuring "digital literacy" is a major



responsibility of a government for all. There must not any issues regarding digital divides.

Digital literacy is a vital element for any person to detect the fake news to avoid tolerating it, to be aware of the government's statements and reports during pandemics and natural disasters.

There must be the formation and the implementation of stringent actions, measures and laws to those platforms and users who work against democracy.

Awareness programmes against these situations can be conducted in schools, colleges, communities and in these social media platforms.

During Israel - Palestine conflict and Russia - Ukraine war, there were various

individuals posting videos against those who were suffering and blaming them, these all were hurting their government and individuals. In the countries whose peoples were posting those were also a threat to the democracy of that country.

As a student, it is absolutely my responsibility, to ^{not} post the message and videos against the democracy. The students shall not like, share, post, comment, capture or tolerate such things for the betterment of the society.

The community and world must be aware of the real use and message of social media platforms.

These must be for a helping hand of a society in needs, for information



and must not seem as a platform to hurt other well-beings.

Democracy is not of 2 or 3 papers it is the strength of a nation compiled by laws, rights and instructions. The general public must understand that.

The democracy is formed by the people and it must be preserved by them.

"BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD." — MAHATMA GANDHI

① CONCLUSION

"A spy ship in the harbour is safe, but that is what not the ships are built for"

Youth, "Ask the you what you can do for your country, rather not what your country can do for you"

— JOHN F. KENNEDY

As per the reports of UNFPA, India has its largest youth population ever and it will continue till 2041. India has total 33% of social media users and 31% of them are youth. With a temper of will, quality of imagination, predominance of courage and the adventure will make this huge cohort a vibrant constructive force that can address all the issues related to social media and can preserve this resilient democracy.

Socrates once addressed that :-

"Democracy is always as good as the education that surrounds it". Better knowledge must be imparted for a better functioning of government.

The narrative of fight between social



and democracy must be changed to the narrative of partnership as these two sectors are inevitable part of our living standards.

There must be limitation for any thing as "anything excess is bad" and it is with social media.

By joining our hands together, let the democratic republic nation, India be the superpower nation that finds a common solution for all these problems in the ^{present and} future.

"THE BEST PREPERATION FOR TOMORROW IS DOING THE BEST TODAY."

— H JACKSON



and democracy must be changed
to the principle of partnership in
these two sectors. An inevitable part
of our learning - attachment

There must be limitation for any
thing as "anything" is bad and
it is with said media.

by joining our hands together
let the democratic republic nation
be the superpower nation that
finds a common solution for all these
problems in the ^{present and} future.

"THE BEST PREPARATION FOR TOMORROW

IS DOING THE BEST TODAY"

H JACKSON