AI and the Future of Political Journalism: A Comparative Analysis of Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan

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Abstract: The article focuses on the convergence between artificial intelligence (AI) and political journalism in the three South Asian republics. Political journalism in such countries tends to be criticized because of misinformation, biased journalism, and poor nonsupervisory fabrics. The present discussion attempts to consider the future impact of AI-based tools on journalism and how these tools can reduce the pitfalls of fake news. The first hypothesis is to becomes the state of being a political journalism in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, and to estimate possible eventuality of AI technology in enhancing delicacy, responsibility and credibility in news coverage. The qualitative approach is followed due to relative analysis of the media structures, case studies, and interviews with intelligencers, experimenters, and media experts. Findings suggest that similar AI-based tools such as automated fact-checking, natural language processing, and sentiment analysis can greatly decrease misinformation and increase the amount of trust the population places in journalism. A unique feature of this paper is its comparative emphasis on the three interrelated democracies that provide the region-related approach to the role of AI into empowering political journalism. AI can be incorporated in media houses in order to streamline the verification processes. The enhancement of political journalism by means of AI can protect popular values and protect citizens against manipulation. The political journalism in South Asia has the radical potential of being transformed by AI through establishing trust, credibility, and populist flexibility.

Keywords: AI, Journalism, Media, Politics, Technology.

1 Background of the Study

AI has come to be one of the prime drivers of change in contemporary journalism show news is produced verified and disseminated, especially when it comes to South Asia. And with digital hosts such as Sana and Krish setting foot in India, a door to the entry of big tech in news making was opened that shook the sector towards more efficient innovation. Such AI-powered systems, as automated reporting tools, real-time translation tools and custom content recommendation systems are not only influencing Indian journalism but they also indicate larger global trends of news production by algorithm. It is a technically impressive transformation that is also occurring in an environment of a highly politically charged,

T. Islam et al. (eds.), *Proceedings of the International Conference on Challenges and Trends in Arts and Social Sciences (ICCTASS 2025)*, Advances in Social Science, Education and Humanities Research 1019,
https://doi.org/10.2991/978-2-38476-581-2_17

institutionally skewed space, and it begs the question of how to implement AI technology into the process of writing political news in a sustainable and ethically sound manner.

The analysis is based on the political journalism since political information is important to determine the public opinion, democratic involvement and governance in South Asia. Political discussions in countries like Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan are quite impactful and usually feature in the news content of both conventional and online news outlets. Nonetheless, the very feature of political journalism contributing to its popularity also exposes it to the proliferation of false information, sensational reporting, and manipulated content especially. In the times of political tension, election, or geopolitical strife, false stories and hyped headlines are often shared on social media like Facebook and YouTube, as well as on some online news sources that need increased attention and publicity. The provocative or misleading headlines are applied in order to draw the attention of the population in many cases to make this process more polarized and to contribute to the mass spreading of the fake or manipulated information.

The choice of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan as the target of the current study is based on the fact that these countries share the same geo political situation and this political instability experienced by some regions of South Asia is recurrent. The three nations are quite political states and they are highly populated nations in South Asia and often they are involved in stiff political competition, e-lection conflicts, and cross-border conflicts. These circumstances make an ideal ground of misrepresentation and propaganda especially in the field of political communication. Furthermore, the popularity of social media in such countries has increased the pace, at which the political accounts, truthful and false, can be shared among people. Elsewhere, the news that Russell has a viper has created panic slaughter of snakes, including harmless pythons, in Chattogram, where the species is unlikely to be found in hilly areas, and random killing presents a threat to the biodiversity, agriculture, and human health (The Business Standard, 2023; Ajker Patrika, 2023). The news reports of fact-checks by Bangladeshi news organizations document different viral content of falsified information, such as doctored photographs of gold dowries, fake job advertisements under the name Satkhira Sadar Hospital, and staged or dramatized videos purported to be real incidences of rape and murder as a part of the attack against competing political activity, how fake images are re-used over and over to propagate partisan propaganda (Ajker Patrika, 2023; Gramer Kagoj, 2023). In a bigger scale, rumors about conspiracy theory of the children being sacrificed to build a mega-bridge resulted in mob-lynchings of eight innocent people which does serve as evidence of how conspiracy theory can easily escalate into offline deadly vigilantism when not investigated by police and residents (ABC News, 2019, Fact Watch, 2023). An identical Facebook driven effort concerning a supposedly desecrated image of the Quran in July led to mobs targeting communities of Buddhists, and burning them and displacing the audience in the Coxs Bazar area meaning rumors grounded in identity can be evolved to a systematic communal violence (BBC News, 2013). Together with the current attention to artificial intelligence and media as a problem of knowledge management, such cases indicate the need to develop effective verification systems, control platforms, and educate the population in order to mitigate the negative impact of rumors that intersect the ecological, minority rights, and political conflict problems (Ali, 2023).

Thus, the study will focus on political journalism in these three countries to gain a deeper insight into how misinformation and deceptive stories are created, distributed, and impact the political discourse in politically sensitive situations. Investigating these processes, the

research will accentuate the structural and communicative issues of the media system in the region and will help to design the strategies that could possibly prevent the proliferation of false political information in the future. Finally, it is essential to solve these problems because that will help to develop more responsible journalism, enhance the democratic communication process, and reduce the political instability in South Asia. However, Bangladesh and Pakistan present a more 'patched' picture of AI adoption in journalism. These countries have low levels of awareness and little hands-on experience with artificial intelligence due to the lack of infrastructure, inadequate regulatory tools and knowledge on AI within media practitioners (Ahmed, 2024; Goni & Tabassum, 2020). Journalists in South Asia, Bangladesh included argue that AI holds potential to accelerate newsroom processes and fact-checking but face challenges like ethics, resources and institutional resistance. Therefore, the real influence of AI in combating false information and enhancing credibility will depend on ethical scrutiny for political journalism at a regional level.

Against the background of a fast-paced digitalization, the paper will explore the dissemination of AI-created tools and practices within newsrooms in India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan and the impact that they are having on political journalism that is hoped to be trustworthy, transparent, and ethical. The paper also examines how AI is used in news production, news verification, and dissemination as well as compares the unique cases the three countries undergo in regard to the development of the skills, ethical guidance, infrastructural capacity, and regulatory policy. It also suggests practical implementation using which AI can enhance fact-checking of local news not as a force of manipulation and obscurity, but integrity and trust. The study relies on the empirical data and the normative suggestions of the implementation of AI in political journalism based on well-referenced peer-reviewed articles and reports on the topic, but the emphasis on the newsrooms in India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan in particular is justified as they face the globalized trend of automated news production within the frames of their respective media infrastructure, ethical standards, and regulatory regulations. Providing a definition of important concepts, including AI anchor, automated journalism, fake news, disinformation, and media ethics, the chapter has presented a multidisciplinary background to consideration of the disruptive potential of AI in South Asian political journalism, under the condition that the technological development should not damage the democratic processes.

It is against this backdrop that the study develops three clear research questions that it uses to conduct its analysis and make it scientifically sound: The research question is as follows:

1. What is the current adoption and utilization of AI-generated tools and practices in the news production, verification, and dissemination in political journalism in India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan?
2. How India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan differ in regards to the most important challenges they must address in terms of skills development, ethical guidance, the availability of infrastructural resources, and a regulatory policy in the process of involving AI into political journalism?
3. What can be done contextually through AI to enhance fact-checking and support effective, transparent, and ethical political journalism in local Indian, Bangladesh, and Pakistani newsrooms?

Being concisely stated and tackled using a well-organized, literature-centered comparative qualitative method, the research is essentially and significantly sound in its

conceptualization and offers a plausible foundation to comprehending how AI can transform the nature of political journalism in South Asia.

The main aim of the research is to analyze the purpose and potential of AI in political journalism in the South Asian community with Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan as the largest population. The research will explore the way the use and application of AI-generated tools and practices are being implemented in various phases of news production, such as content creation, information verification, and the spread of political news. Moreover, the study aims to compare the three countries in terms of the key issues making them more difficult to incorporate AI in political journalism, particularly, the absence of skills training, lack of technological infrastructure, ethical principles, or policy and regulation frameworks. Moreover, the research will focus on examining the opportunities of AI usage to reinforce the fact-checking process and improve the credibility, integrity, and ethical quality of the political journalism in the local newsrooms within the region. In this analysis, the study aims to find out viable and context-sensitive solutions that could help responsible AI implementation in journalism and help in enhancing the quality and credibility of political reporting in Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan.

2 Literature Review

Mapping recent articles on AI in Political Journalism in Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan provides unique country context factors as well as common challenges and transformative potential.

2.1 India: Automation, Anchors, and Accountability

The fast pace of AI adoption in India is also mentioned in analytical summaries, which mention the emergence of virtual anchors and the automation of a newsroom which is strong (Kumar R. & Kumar A., 2023; Bisht and Pathak, 2023). With these studies in mind, the major media corporations of the world using AI to generate content, real time time and viewer metrics will keep transforming the media into something more efficient, transparent and omnipresent. Newswriting, video creation, and personalized news feeds based on AI have already become common in the national and regional newsrooms of India (Singh, 2017) in line with the anticipatory nature of newsroom centrality as applied internationally. However, it is also indicated by studies that there are ethical issues, such as algorithmic bias, job loss in journalism, and false information (Bhatia, 2023; Gupta, 2019; Cricket One, 2023). The need to study Indian journalism education enhances this discussion since it discovered that so far, curricula and newsroom culture have failed to align with the spread of AI (Mishra and Dwivedi, 2023). The situation is made complicated by the research in the field of the digital policy and media rights that indicate the adoption of AI in India is occurring under the background of the work on privacy, data regulation, and labor development (Garcia Castillejo and Marti n, 2018; Kumar, 2022). However, new challenges and opportunities are facing investigative journalism and political communication, as AI assists in the choice of stories, verifying facts, and influencing the policy (Kumar 2022).

2.2 Bangladesh: Readiness and Restraints

Mapping operations in Bangladesh are carried out through slow experimentation of AI-based news classification, sentiment analysis and fact-checking over the context of national boundaries to digital preparedness (Mahmud, 2025; Goni and Tabassum, 2020). The attitude of newsrooms to the use of AI is clarified by educational theses and field studies, where newsroom admits opportunities of speed and accuracy but puts barriers on the use of AI in the form of regulatory, infrastructural and linguistic (Chowdhury, 2024; Sultana, 2023; Rahman, 2022). Bangladeshi media stakeholders stress that even though machine learning and deep learning promise to fight misinformation and verification, the know-how of localizing techniques has not yet been developed (Islam, 2023; Naser, 2022; Today Stuff, 2019). In ethnographic and systematic reviews, the institutional obstacles are presented, technological gaps and the need to improve editorial rules (Naser, 2022; Sultana, 2023; Chowdhury, 2024). Digital infrastructure and social resistance are also problems in the sector, which makes the transformative force of AI limited (Mahmud, 2025).

2.3 Pakistan: When on the Precipice, Be Bold

Achievements in the testing of newsroom chatbots, AI-supported verification and newsgathering have been reported studies held on Pakistan (Ahmed, 2024; Khan,2023; Hussain & Qureshi, 2023). How Al-Jazeera is using bots to add depth to its reporting. The adoption path is outlined, along with a series of studies that demonstrate clear sets of legal uncertainly and editorial responsibility; the latter set show that AI tools in trying to contribute to efficiency present as double-edged methodological challenge - potential risk of replicating media bias against potential compromising upon the model or rigor in editorials (Haider M., H. Khan & S. Abbas, 2025; Ahmed N. 2025). Regulation is fragmented, and prior interview-based studies to suggest a lack of understanding among journalists mid-career(Naeem, 2023; Seo, 2023). Work of the policy focus in importance also the need to have codes that are enforceable and clearly labeled artificial intelligence (and, as deepfake manipulation becomes increasingly easier done this work continues forward (Haider, Khan & Abbas, 2025).

2.4 Cross-Border Issues: Disinformation and Fact-Checking

Fact-checking resources and on the ground empirical evidence from the three countries find an explosion of viral misinformation powered by deepfakes and manipulated content flooding (PTI News, 2021; Alt News, 2021; India Times Fact Check Team, 2021; Dhaka Tribune, 2023). Comprehensive research on viral topics altered images and untruthful news, for instance indeed highlights the need for fact-checking mechanisms based upon AI but also its limitations: at times material generated by AI remains undetected while part of it ultimately becomes a way for manipulation (Prothom Alo, 2023; Boom BD, 2023; Rumor Scanner, 2023). Research perpetually stresses the need for cooperation between journalists, policy-makers and technologists in order to tame fast mutating threats (Iyer & Singh, 2024; Rayhan, 2023). Multinational comparative studies on the issue draw attention to how urgently regional regulatory harmonization and cooperative surveillance of emerging AI risks are needed in the region (AFP Fact Check, 2022; BSS News, 2023).

2.5 Thematic Mapping: Work, Ethics, Policy and Inclusion

Reportage studies throughout the continent converge on calls for AI skills training, reinvigorated ethic codes, and governance reform (Hussain 2022; Mishra & Dwivedi, 2023; Gupta, 2019). Practice-centred scholarship describes the "AI divide" between big, urban newsrooms and the local or vernacular media lagging behind due to infrastructural inequality (Islam, 2023; Chowdhury, 2024; Goni & Tabassum, 2020). Op-eds draw attention to the advent of algorithmic curation, job security concerns for entry level journalists, and continued digital inclusion debates (Gupta, 2019; Mishra & Dwivedi, 2023; Dawn, 2024). Together, these works map the spread of AI in political journalism from India to Bangladesh to Pakistan, tracking advances in technology alongside tensions and gaps related to ethics and policy. They emphasize that the timely local interventions: literacy in AI, regulation redesign- unified, open and clear editorial structures could be required to ensure responsible democratic journalism in South Asia (Sultana, 2023; Khan, 2023; Ahmed, 2024; Goni & Tabassum, 2020; Mahmud, 2005).

3 Methods

The present study supplements a systematic review based on Preferred Reporting Items of Systematic Reviews and Meta Analyses framework (PRISMA) and Case Study of evidence of the use of AI in political journalism in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. The methodology is in such a way that all steps have a high degree of transparency, replicability and analytical rigor, the ability to rationalize decisions relative to your research question and review. After the selection of all the references in AI in journalism literature (peer-reviewed articles, thesis, fact checking reports and empirical investigations), a coding template was used, which extracted data. For each of the included sources, information about title, author, year published, country/context, AI type or method examined, research design and sample participants was systematically documented. Information on methodological quality, policy influence and lacunae in the literature were also documented.

3.1 Preferred Reporting Items of Systematic Reviews and Meta Analyses framework (PRISMA) Analysis

Post-extraction, we employed a mapping exercise to classify the studies by national focus (India/ Bangladesh/Pakistan), topics of interest (automation in the newsroom, verification tools, ethics and policy agenda) and relative strengths or weaknesses of a particular methodology. The analysis will encompass both narrative synthesis and matrix mapping, with comparisons between(a) the level and nature of adoption of AI, (b) ethical considerations and regulation, (c) consequences for news credibility and democracy. It enables to identify gaps, consensus and divergence among sources, and enhances the ability to suggest future research policy directions. Screening and selection reasons for exclusion we did not have access to the full text of all included references therefore we could not make evaluations on the eligibility without full-text. The screening and selection phases are summarized in the table below, in order to provide a clear graphical overview of transparency of process according to PRISMA standards:

Table 1: PRISMA Mapping Table

Phase	Records Numbers	Description
Identification	52	All references provided and additional records identified and full dataset prepared for screening
Screening	45	Abstracts reviewed; duplicates removed; non-empirical items excluded and focused set with direct relevance
Eligibility	44	Full texts assessed; excluded if lacking and South Asian context or methodology Ensured contextual relevance and quality
Inclusion	42	Final set used for narrative synthesis and mapping analysis. Comprehensive and reliable evidence base

This approach was used to confirm that all identified screened, eligible and included references were relevant for addressing the research objectives and facilitated a robust, reproducible synthesis. With the use of PRISMA guidelines, the methodology of this study clearly outlines when and how sources were located, consulted, or excluded thus facilitating replication and future iterations. The process of data extraction and map analysis set the tone for comparative robust insights on AI within South Asian political journalism.

3.2 Case Study: Scale of Political Misinformation in South Asia

South Asia is faced with a growing problem of misinformation in political journalism due to active social media development and AI-generated content development.
Depending on the analysis of India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan, it can be seen that there is certain considerable variation in the extent and coverage of misinformation.

In 2024, a fact-checking organization in Bangladesh called Rumor Scanner revealed 2,919 cases of misinformation, which can be considered a good indicator of the amplified number of politically affiliated fake tales. The fake news watchdogs Boom and Alt News in India have documented over 1,200 instances of misinformation, with majority of the cases being associated with the 2024 national elections and political campaigns. Meanwhile, Pakistan is already beginning to address the misinformation problem by introducing iVerify Pakistan service which will keep track of the misinformation generated on the digital media, and trace it to the election periods in India that have the most misinformation cases in the records. The response adopted by Pakistan has been on generation of monitoring systems rather than massive reporting of cases. Such differences reflect the difference in fact-checking ecosystems maturity/ institutional capacity that exists between the three countries.

Table 2: Fake News & Misinformation: Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan (2024–2025)

Country	Fake News / Misinformation Cases	Year	Reference
Bangladesh	3,000+ unique misinformation cases debunked; a 58% rise compared to 2024. 72 Indian media outlets spread 148 false reports about Bangladesh. AI-generated videos and political deepfakes became key vectors of misinformation.	2024	Dismislab (2025), The Daily Star (2025); Rumor Scanner (2025)
Bangladesh	4,000+ distinct fact-check reports published across 8 fact-checking organisations; misinformation rose 30% in the first half of 2025 alone (1,795 cases in H1). 417 cases (10%) involved AI-generated content. 52% of all false information circulated via video. Politics accounted for ~60% of all misinformation.	2025	Dismislab / Asia News Network (Feb 2026); Rumor Scanner / The Daily Star (Jul 2025)
India	Over 1,200 fact-checks published by BOOM (1,200+) and 347 reports by AltNews. 42% of misinformation was political and 39% communal. AI-generated content accounted for 8.35% of all debunked items. 50+ organisations in the Shakti Collective combated election misinformation during the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.	2024	BOOM Research (2025); AltNews (2025); GIJN (2024)
India	BOOM published 1,067 fact-checks; 20.5% (219 items) were AI-generated up from 8.35% in 2024. AltNews published 486 fact-check reports including 159 political fact-checks. Misinformation surged during Operation Sindoor (May 2025) and state assembly elections. Deepfakes of military leaders and politicians widely circulated.	2025	BOOM Research Annual Report (Jan 2026); AltNews Annual Review (Jan 2026)
Pakistan	iVerify Pakistan monitored 513 verified false/misleading claims (from 1,026 screened). 78.2% of investigated claims were found fully FALSE; only 2.1% were accurate. AI-generated deepfakes used during the February 2024 general	2024	iVerify Pakistan / VoicePK (Jan 2026); Digital Rights Foundation (2024)

Country	Fake News / Misinformation Cases	Year	Reference
	elections, including a manipulated audio clip of PTI leader Imran Khan calling for an election boycott.		
Pakistan	iVerify Pakistan recorded a sixfold increase in AI-related fact-checks vs. 2024. Misinformation spiked sharply during the Pakistan-India military standoff (May 2025). 34 fact checks addressed explicit hate speech. A Pakistan-based website (Channel3Now, Lahore) was found responsible for spreading misinformation that fuelled the UK riots in August 2024.	2025	iVerify Pakistan / VoicePK (Jan 2026); CEJ-IBA Annual Report (Jan 2026)

The given table represents a comparative analysis of the extent and the nature of fake news and misinformation in Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan in 2024-2025. The statistics indicate that misinformation in each of the three countries have gone up tremendously, with the most significant stimuli being the political processes and elections, as well as geopolitical crises. The instances of the fake information were registered by the fact-checking organisations in Bangladesh, most of which were political-related and connected with the increasing the popularity of AI-generated videos and deepfakes. The 2024 general elections in India and political developments that followed thereafter were full of misinformation and the percentage of AI-generated content increased considerably in 2025. In Pakistan, misinformation surged during the 2024 general elections and the 2025 military confrontation with India as in the example of deepfakes and edited media, it became one of the most used instruments. In total, these table results prove the growing role of artificial intelligence and video-based misinformation, not to mention politically-centered narratives, in the misinformation in South Asia.

3.3 Ethical Consideration

This paper is written following the principles of academic integrity, transparency, and responsible scholarship. Also, the research mainly relies on the systematic review of publicly available secondary sources, such as news reports, policy documents, and legal/regulatory and scholarly sources, as well as a sample of case studies on the application of artificial intelligence to political journalism in Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan. All the sources used in the study have been properly referenced in a uniform referencing format (APA), and there has been due consideration of disregarding plagiarism of any nature. In case of using the work or ideas of others, they have been clearly cited. The researcher has not also made sure that no material is presented as her or his original unless it is the analysis, interpretation or synthesis of the researcher.

The case studies that are examined in this paper are solely based on the publicly available resource, including the credible published news materials, official reports, court rulings, documented incidents. No primary data were gathered with reference to interacting with individuals (that is, via interviews, surveys, or focus groups) so the study does not engage human subjects in the traditional meaning of the term. Accordingly, no informed consent forms or formal ethics approval by a research ethics committee will be needed in the research, as this would be the case in studies that involve direct access to human subjects. Speaking of the real-life illustrations and sensitive moments, the specific attention has been paid to the factual truthfulness and transparency of the situation. This has been to avoid misrepresentation as opposed to attributing motives without substantive evidence and minimizing the degree of reputational harm that could be caused to individuals, media houses or organisations and institutions. Its application in the available cases depends on the greater structural and systemic problems such as regulatory environments, professional codes, and architecture of AI systems rather than individual or hypothetical criticism.

The methodology has been clear in the process of using PRISMA-led review. It has been reported to have clear inclusion and exclusion criteria, search strategies, and screening procedures that would assure the reliability, reproducibility, and objectivity of the review. However, the researcher admits that any comparative analysis that includes the legal, political and journalistic background is bound to have certain elements of interpretive judgment and thus has attempted to provide results in a fair and unbiased way. In general, since AI can potentially impact political journalism, the political discourse, and democracy in Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan, the research is carried out in an ethically accountable manner towards the people who are likely to be impacted by the study and its conclusions. It is hoped that the discussion will not only outline the opportunities, but also the risks that AI-driven political journalism present, without getting into overblown and hyperbolic rhetoric, and will be of some value in academic and policy discourse on the issue.

4 Analyses and Findings

AI is fundamentally revolutionizing Political journalism in South Asia, where India exhibits faster adoption and innovation on use of AI powered newsroom automation and AI anchors when compared to Bangladesh and Pakistan owing to more entrenched infrastructural and regulatory impediments (Kumar R. & Kumar A., 2023; Bisht & Pathak, 2023).

India has been a leader in media automation at the regional level, deploying AI anchors like Sana and Soundarya to host daily news bulletins that was reinforced by text-to-speech technology and analytics solutions. Broad adoption of these technologies has enabled Indian media houses to automate repetitive reporting work, increase content personalization and offer news more quickly while maintaining its accuracy, leading to higher audience engagement and greater operational efficiency in the process (Kumar R. & Kumar A., 2023). However, studies also highlight pertinent issues such as journalists' job insecurity, algorithmic bias and editorial transparency challenges (Bisht & Pathak 2023; Gupta, 2019). However, the media education and the newsroom standards at times are unable to match with such technological advancements, leading to increasing importance of new codes of ethics and regulations (Mishra & Dwivedi, 2023). AI Adoption in Bangladesh and Pakistan Research is contributing to awareness of AI in Bangladesh, while education and training levels are becoming higher among citizens.

Bangladesh and Pakistan are exhibiting greater gradualist and experimental adoption of AI. Bangladesh is trying AI-based classification, sentiment analysis and fact-checking tools, however lack of infrastructure in conjunction with knowledge gaps are obstacles. While journalists acknowledge AI's potential, they cite issues with digital preparedness, insufficient regulatory support and restricted technical training (Mahmud, 2025; Chowdhury 2024; Goni & Tabassum, 2020). Likewise, Pakistani newsrooms are experimenting with AI-assisted verification and content curation (Ahmed 2024; Khan 2023), but this progress is occurring in the context of regulatory uncertainty over AI accompanied by a lack of journalists' knowledge about ethical consequences of artificial intelligence.

4.1 Disinformation, Fact-Checking, and Ethics

In India, Bangladesh and Pakistan the explosion of disinformation, deepfakes, and viral fake news on social media has increased the demand for effective AI-based factchecking systems (PTI News 2021; Alt News 2021). Although AI tools are used to detect and debunk misinformation, there have been in stances where the contents generated by AIs escape detection by the AI or is abused for manipulation (Boom BD, 2023; Rumor Scanner, 2023). This backdrop highlights an immediate need for combined efforts of technologists, journalists and regulators to protect ethical norms, editorial transparency and democratic capabilities (Iyer & Singh,2024; Rayhan, 2023).

4.2 Ethical Divide, Skills, and Policy

The "AI divide" between digitally sophisticated urban newsrooms and smaller, vernacular ones that are resource-restricted is a common topic of discussion in the literature (Islam, 2023; Chowdhury, 2024). Fear of job loss, the ethics implications of algorithmic journalism and the continuing challenge that is misinformation have all inspired calls to arms for journalistic regulatory reform, context-sensitive training and amended editorial protocols to guarantee responsible and inclusive deployment of AI in journalism (Hussain, 2022; Mishra & Dwivedi, 2023). Overall, the results reveal that India's sophisticated AI-harnessing journalism environment is a regional benchmarked model, yet real accountability, ethical sustainability and inclusive innovation call for the redress of skills imbalances, infrastructural differences and regulatory gaps across South Asia (Kumar R. & Kumar A.: 2023; Ahmed: 2024; Mahmud: 2025).

4.3 AI-Driven Trust Evaluation Model

The process begins with a dynamic data gathering software platform, which dynamically aggregates real-time information from an extensive number of sources in the region. This information is gathered from local newspapers, news blogs, message boards, and social media. The system uses automated web scraping, feeds from APIs and crowd sourced submission to make sure everything is covered from one end of the information spectrum to the other when it comes to what's publicly available on an event or topic. The user doesn't have to do something more technical; it is just necessary to install the tool it is running in background automatically.

4.3.1 Preprocessing and Data Refinement

After the information has been captured, a vast amount of preprocessing and refining of the system is required. This is a task where we're trying to clean up irrelevant noise in the text and discard it, get rid of redundant content that isn't necessary like boiler plate licenses. We try and make mixed language more regularized and machine processable. Contextual keyword extraction is also performed on the information to interest with the region of that specific being studied. Scrub the data and just pass to AI model with filtered single description words for in depth analysis.

4.3.2 Authenticity and Credibility Assessment

It says that the model can find truth for stored input. It begins by trying to figure out if the source is credible itself, what has been its accuracy in the past, what is its record of reporting in past and about whom does it report, who owns it and where it stands in the community. The content is reviewed and verified against credible knowledge sources, government data and validated historical records. That verification, in itself, then helps ensure that factual claims or reports are countered against the facts we have. The model also considers the semantics relation when finding corresponding reports from diverse platform to figure out contradiction, exaggeration and overbias. It can also detect manipulated images, misleading captions or computer-generated words. The natural language models also analyze public opinion, which means that the Ai warrior is able to ascertain what does not look right including coordinated disinformation attacks. Each of these layers builds a global evaluation of the item. Once the credibility and authenticity check is done, AI then assigns a trust score to each news item and collective public opinion. The rating is represented by simple visual indication that the user can simply follow. When the source is credible and the from information sound with verified facts, we pop it into green indicator of course provides you with: reliable. It is marked with a red label (informative with anomalies/divergent facts/trends) which generally means it can be an unreliable/fake news. There is a short explanation so that user have a good idea of why was an information classified in such way.

The school leaves the framework very open. The tool is set up and self-reliant; its users are not necessarily IT experts or anyone else for that matter who needs to manually configure the software. People receive feedback, a trust signal, as they read news and scroll through what people post on social media. An interface adrift, and blessedly spare as well: The signals are color-coded but simple, with optional summaries that reveal barely anything about the leanings of the information being displayed trustworthy reporting or unverified sourcing; multiple conflicting accounts. Another benefit of this access is that a layman, journalist and researchers can check the credibility of certain piece of information.

It is a learning system which is getting better and better as it continues to learn. It is flexible to the new vectors of misinformation and it learns with the information as it comes and go updating its knowledge base and it reinforces the line of detection user-wise and feedback-wise. There are also context-specific changes in the tactics of disinformation, politics of model evaluation, and new elimination strategy, which are also of interest. The complexity and regional selectiveness of the model is heightened by this adaptation. AI-based model on trust assessment the AI-based trust assessment model is developed to enhance the information environment by deterring fake news and increasing the trust with which people will watch the content already checked by AI. The aim is to empower the citizens to make knowledgeable decision-making and encourage the responsible behaviors contents in the media and vice

versa, where the society can be more accustomed to the real news in our transforming digital world. The next move towards a clear, trusted and digitally empowered society is facilitated by the provision of an interpretable assessment of trust of every news or public opinion.

5 Discussion

The article ends by posing the opportunities, tensions and arising ways of AI integration into political journalism in India, Bangladesh and in Pakistan. The use of such technologies has also increased opposing arguments concerning both ethical orientations and emerging practices in anticipating issues of improved application of artificial intelligence in journalism accountability beyond politics in the face of increased commercialization. Although, according to local case studies and the comparative literature, there should be an impetus in a shift to technological acceleration, there is also an issue of established problems of ethics, regulation, and newsroom culture (Kumar R. & Kumar A., 2023; Ahmed, 2024).

5.1 AI in the Newsrooms of India: What Works and What Doesn't

In India, AI-based journalism automation of mass newsrooms, and AI-based news anchors are not only efficient in their operations but also customized news delivery (Kumar R. & Kumar A., 2023). However, do you think that just in time AI implementation will make the stories suggested by algorithms reliable, and the quality of professional journalism be maintained? The literature does reflect the worries about job displacement and the need to introduce new paradigms that would enable addressing bias and focusing on ensuring transparency: the process of automation of the news coverage needs equal oversight over credibility and public trust (Gupta, 2019).

5.1.1 Low take-up and institutional barriers in Bangladesh and Pakistan

The examples of Bangladesh and Pakistan show that although AI awareness and media experiments continue to rise, the problem is in the constant adoption, there is no stable infrastructure, legal guidance is unclear, and AI knowledge among media experts is in general shortage (Mahmud 2025, Chowdhury, 2024, Ahmed, 2024; Khan, 2023). Technical and institutional obstacles sometimes trump the potential of AI to upend journalism in such environments. Moreover, lack of regulation and absence of local language resources present the ethical challenges as well as practical issues for implementing AI techniques (Goni & Tabassum, 2020; Sultana, 2023).

5.1.2 Misinformation, Deepfakes and the Public Sphere of Democracy

One of the key concerns highlighted in the literature is the Jekkyl and Hyde role played by AI when it comes to combating misinformation. On the one hand, AI-enabled verification tools are crucial to identify doctored images and videos and viral fake news (PTI News, 2021; Alt News, 2021). Conversely, the complexity of AI-produced disinformation makes fact-checking and detecting misinformation more difficult and highlights deficiencies in current detection systems (Boom BD 2023). This impasse points towards the imperative of inter-sectoral cooperation, educational upskilling and context-sensitive regulatory solutions to strengthen democratic discourse (Iyer & Singh,2024; Rayhan, 2023).

5.2 Toward Ethically Inclusive and Socially Responsible Journalism

Forward looking recommendations of the regional literature. There are a number of forward-looking recommendations that we find converge from the regional literature. First, it is crucial to bridge the gap between urban and rural or large and vernacular newsrooms; without it the advent of AI might only embolden existing inequalities (Islam 2023; Chowdhury 2024). Second, up-skilling of journalists, implementation of AI transparency and accountability through editorial governance, and emergence of regulatory structures are required for responsible, ethical, and meaningful AI adoption in news media (Hussain 2022; Mishra & Dwivedi 2023). Continued investments in education, infrastructure and legal norms will also be necessary to ensure that AI can enable rather than diminish democratic priorities for South Asian societies (Ahmed 2024; Mahmud, 2025). At a broader level, the conversation underscores that fate of AI in political journalism within South Asia is contingent on how well current actors find ways to embrace both the technological opportunities and anxieties unleashed by swift-going digital change (Kumar R. & Kumar A., 2023; Ahmed, 2024; Mahmud,
2025).

5.3 Proposed AI-Based Fake News Detection Model

Misinformation and fake news that spread in the modern online space have become a significant problem in the global arena, and the social media and the World Wide Web are the leading arenas of this problem. When information is inaccurate or deceptive, it spreads like wildfire and thus confuses, and leads to panic, political and social instability to the society particularly in the case of analytical information, videos, photographs or interpretative information. The model has been customized to verify the credibility of the analytical news, video analyses, explanatory information and news-like posts made on the social media. The other significant concern is that the systems of verification may be misused by the powerful individuals, political parties or the political institutions and they can filter the dissenting views, negative press reports or even honest journalism. A proper solution must then be technologically based, open, fair and not disturbed by politics or personal agendas. We would propose a multidimensional artificial intelligence-specific check system, according to which the sources of news are evaluated according to credibility, and AI program verification of the authenticity of materials is carried out.

5.3.1 News Source Category System

The first section of the model is News Source Category System that classifies sources of news and news as realistic and efficient sources of verification.

5.3.2 Category 1: Established National News Media

This category belongs to a variety of the familiar national newspapers, television networks, and the official online news sources that are able to meet the criteria of journalism and news design. The reason is that the content they offer is first regarded as checked but AI checks the contradiction between the headlines and content to either find out sensationalism or other discrepancies that might raise a Red Flag. The penalty is progressive; Three Red Flags result in a warning, further instances to recorded ones and disruptive lies might make regulators declare the entity to be a National Fake News Provider.

5.3.3 Category 2: News Creation and Analysis and Commentators

YouTube, Facebook, or other posts of individuals or organizations containing videos that are analytical, offer reports or opinions to compare with Tier 1 verified sources. These distortions or misunderstandings constitute Red Flags; and the totality of them makes possible either filing formal complaints or suing the creator or the platform.

Category 3: Personal Account and Blogs

Cynicism prevails in the context of personal social media profiles, blogs and informal sources, like citizen videos in remote areas. Serial misinformation is liable to Red Flags, on which official action is taken.

5.3.4 AI Flag System

The second one is the AI Flag System where Green, Blue, or Red Flags are assigned and the multimodal analysis of posts, videos, or news content is made.

Green Flag: Green Flag mean verification through corroboration of the content in multiple reliable sources or credible sources of national content and the content is denoted as Verified News.

Blue Flag: Blue Flag are tentative verification, usually of a new event where no other events are in underserved regions, and with probabilistic estimates (e.g. 90% deepfake probability, based on advanced detection or 70% real content probability). The difference between synthetic and genuine images is sensed by the improved deepfake images.

Red Flag: Red Flag signify open misrepresentation e.g., re-used media marketed under the auspices of fresh occurrences or that AIs have identified manipulations with clear statements of the reason as to why they are identified.

6 Safeguards & Implementations

A fact-checking team of experts reviews the cases which are ambiguous to enhance the credibility but an appeal system allows the Red Flags in contention. AI is founded on numerous sources, user reports improve the analysis and publicly available Transparency Dashboard shows flag statistics and justifications. Free Media Literacy Programs are used to sensitize the people. The current video, audio and image detection algorithms are employed to detect deepfakes. The system is premised on having an independent Media Transparency Regulatory Institution the third eye independent of the government and partisan intervention that governs the processes to prevent its abuse without infringing on the freedom of the press. It is a moderate mechanism that combines technology, transparency, and independence of institutions to combat the fake news without eliminating freedom to express and freedom of the media.

7 Recommendations

Journalists and media organizations in the region must invest in AI training, media literacy, and updates to guidelines in newsrooms so that journalists can adapt themselves to such changing technologies as well as adhere to ethical norms of reporting (Mishra& Dwivedi, 2023). Curricula of journalism education needs to be reformed in order to enable AI literacy and critical thinking throughout the region, which will also help fill the skill gap as well as bridge existing urban-rural “AI divide” in news rooms (Chowdhury, 2024). Legal standards

must be created targeting transparency, regulation for labeling news published through AI and liability for media houses and technology developers (Ahmed, 2024; Khan, 2023). Organization and management of editorial chain Media must focus on transparency in editorial and manual intervention to assure accuracy, inclusivity, credibility in the use of AI tools (Gupta,2019; Bisht & Pathak, 2023; UNB, 2023). Technologists, journalists and policymakers can cooperate to create cross-sector conversations that eliminate misinformation and encourage responsible journalism (Iyer & Singh, 2024). Governments should spend more on digital infrastructure and translate AI technology equitably into Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan so that smaller regional publications like vernacular press will be able to fit in the competitive space (Mahmud, 2025). However, the implementation of policies that are sensitive to regional factors, long-term research and inclusive media practices will allow South Asian journalism industry to utilize AI while upholding its media freedom and public accountability (Kumar R. & Kumar A., 2023).

8 Limitations & Future Work

This study is cautiously framed in that constantly changing technologies AI are unequally accessed and applied across newsrooms of India, Bangladesh and Pakistan (Ahmed, 2024; Chowdhury,2024). And, many of the reviewed studies concentrate on huge urban outlets; rural centers and vernacular voices remain underrepresented (Mahmud, 2025). AI is rapidly evolving and the results could become obsolete quickly, and its effect on editorial quality, as it was in practice during our research implementation is difficult to measure (Kumar R. & Kumar A., 2023). There are ethical, legal and labor implications which suggest that longitudinal multi-site studies would be necessary to capture the regional differences (Khan, 2023). Further, most of the literature is opinion based or self-reported or exploratory pilot and lacks systematic and empirical outcome (Mishra & Dwivedi 2023). Further comparison, longitudinal and mixed methods research could help inform the impact of AI on misinformation control, labor dynamics and editorial independence. Such future research should cover rural, local-language and minority media, and audience perspectives in order to enable more inclusive, reflexive, transparent AI-driven journalism in South Asia (Mahmud 2025; Ahmed 2024).

9 Conclusion

The end of this paper suggest that the artificial intelligence (AI) is slowly influencing the activities of newspaper publishing, fact checking and customized content delivery in the political journalism field in South Asia. In other nations, like Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, AI-powered solutions have been slowly integrated into newsroom workflows in order to improve information verifications and handle the proliferation of political news in online platforms as quickly as possible. The technologies will allow journalists to identify misinformation more successfully, process a significant amount of online content, and produce news more promptly. Nevertheless, the discussion indicates that adopting the technological use is not enough to achieve sustainable change in political journalism. The huge issues facing the region are, among others, digital infrastructure obstacles, the lack of full-scale regulatory mechanisms, inadequate technical education of journalists, and an ongoing debate on the issue of algorithmic bias and editorial responsibility.

The comparative analysis of Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan also indicates that although AI can provide potentially valuable opportunities to enhance fact-checking mechanisms and enhance the level of transparency and reliability of political reporting, their practical application requires highly contextual factors in any media ecosystem in a particular country. Enhancing digital infrastructure, creating specific policy directives, and enhancing AI literacy in news organizations is a crucial measure to empower news organizations to use these technologies in a responsible and efficient manner. In conclusion, the potential of political journalism in South Asia will be the possibility to strike the balance between technological innovation and quality of editorial control. Ensuring ethical values, transparency, and inclusive policy of regulation will be of importance in order to make sure that AI can serve as an extension of the democratic communication and viable journalism rather than weaken the trust the people will have on the media.

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