



# Political Mapping of Media Space in India: A Spatio-Temporal Study

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## ABSTRACT

Media interpreted our space (region) with a new name, identity and representation and shapes political discourse every day. The mediated political discourse was about to address the spatiality in a newer political identity and to map the regional identity. Everyday media supposed to portray a newer political discourse for political reasons meanwhile three political issues viz. reservation, caste and corruption discussed exclusively over period. The study considered three mediated political discourse viz. reservation, caste and corruption issue. How media does portrayed the issue of reservation, caste and corruption and objective of the study is that at what extent media shaped these issues and associated with particular regional identity while the nature of the issue is nevertheless uniform in the country. The study considered news (reservation, caste and corruption) that appeared in both print and visual media and conducted field survey that spread over six capital cities (Lucknow, Patna, Ranchi, Delhi, Jaipur and Bhopal) that shaped and reshaped Indian politics too. The study employed quantitative and content analysis methods to interpret the responses.

Keywords: Mapping, Space, Region, Reservation, Caste and Corruption

## INTRODUCTION

### Political Mapping and Media Space

The dimensions of space in our day-to-day lives have never been of materialistic or practical or professional as it is today. Media is a virtual space where *real* and *imaginary* construction took place in a various ways. In India, media become popular phenomena over period and portrayed myriad issues at best. Media emerged as medium that shaped and reshaped the perceptions, representations, politics, cultures, religions, infotainments and entertainments and maps<sup>1</sup> as well.

Media developed as popular phenomena and made an impression across the sections of peoples that without media there is emptiness in life. Media developed being spatio-temporal phenomena where space and time were shown in different ways-images, languages, colours, aesthetics and semiotics. Media is a virtual space. The

space is not existing in real sense rather space shown in myriad ways, for moments peoples assumed about that space variedly. The shown space over media becomes virtual space when peoples assumed that he/she is in real space/place for moments that shapes the knowledge of an individual. The cognitive knowledge somehow shapes media as virtual space. The production of space can be easily understand through the work of Henri Lefebvre (1991) who argued that space and spatial relations are the material and social outcome of capital. The totality of relations and practices between things and people, the discourses or representation of space, all act to produce space. They do not just act within a passive space, but actively generate or produce real spaces and places. One thing is to be clearly understood here that media space needs to be understood in particular contexts in terms of a point in time as well as in space and through texts, signs, symbols, colours, aesthetics, and semiotics. All needs a language for expression and distinct characteristics to represent the historical evidences to address the contemporary discourses and dialogues as well. While the historical evidences refer to the social and political in which it is being articulated in mundane ways. The political discourses create contexts that define and redefine media spaces. The consumption of media in our everyday life brought a wider range of spatial knowledge's including spatial politics of representation that is inherent. The relation between the politics and media is mutual while some extent interdependent on each other and usually believed that nobody could manage without media space. In fact everybody is consuming a little bit of mediated knowledge in his/her life variedly.

However, geography and media are interlinked through intervening products as *images* and images might be available in both public and private lives in myriad values as news, serials, advertisements, infotainments and entertainments. The study used news as source to understand the political dimensions of media space and how media reconstructed the political identity of the region. The study found that media mapped Jaipur was sensitive to reservation issue, Lucknow and Patna was sensitive to caste issue while Bhopal and Delhi was sensitive to corruption issue.

## METHODOLOGY

The study based on primary surveys of six capital cities viz. Delhi, Lucknow, Patna, Ranchi, Jaipur, and Bhopal. The selection of these cities based on political understanding that these capital cities directly and indirectly shaped and reshaped politics and known as 'heartland' of Indian politics. The study considered fifty respondents from each city and the nature of the questionnaires was about functional and political aspects of media as well as the role and the effect of news (media space) in day-to-day life. The study conducted a field survey based on following issues (reservation, caste and corruption) that appeared on news in both print and visual media across the capital cities over period. The selection of three issues viz. reservation, caste and corruption was preferred through a process and ensured that these issues are found in every geographical region uniformly and discussed in both media and politics in various order. The selection of issues was based on circulated news across national and regional media and other secondary materials as well. Content analysis were applied for selection of news and further news were restructured and asked the respondents to response the questions to address the spatial representation in the media that how media supposed to representing the region. Tables and statistical bar diagram were made to reflect the regional responses.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Politics is everywhere. Politics is an inevitable act and politicians supposed to do to execute order of works for public cause. Politics supposed to known for disclose something hidden agendas and motivate supporters. Politics supposed to known as contested knowledge-where political manipulation were placed to defend political opponents. How does and at what extent media supposed to shaping politics? Why media supposed to mapping a region? How media supposed to use the issue likes *Reservation, Caste and Corruption* to map the geographical region. Why some of issues received a grandeur support from politicians? And at what extent they played catalytic role in shaping and reshaping to these issues for political purposes. Apart from these issues few of them (issues) nurtured by politicians for various political purposes. Though, the study looked the political aspects of media that how media is constructing and reconstructing the spatial politics through news every day. Politics deriving these issues for political reasons while media covered the issues to address the political understanding over the issue.

The issue of reservation were discussed in various shapes among politicians that how to address the issue at implementation, monitoring and evaluation levels. The study is not about to follow the issues rather an attempt to understand the value of these issues in the media. The gravity of the issue can address by constitutional provision and implemented through proper mechanisms. The relevance of the issue and its extent is quite broader while it discussed at various platforms including media regarding merit and demerits of the reservation policy and its political dimensions as well. In fact, everybody wants reservation and supposed to justify about his or her suitability for reservation. The reservation issue matured over time and often drawn attention and hence, the issue cause violence in some part of the country. For example, Jaipur, the capital city of Rajasthan had responds the reservation issue eagerly while the other regions (capital cities) not responded over the issue. Political mapping of media can understand through this assumption that why Jaipur had responds the issue eagerly while other cities remained passive over the issue. However, the political role behind the surge of reservation issue in Jaipur was mere a political consequence rather socio-cultural status was main reason behind the political surge of the issue that made the region disturb for while that cause loss of public property as well. Let understand the political news (reservation) that was appeared across media in various shapes and, Kirori Singh Bainsala<sup>2</sup> was leading the agitation and pressurized the government to accept it; therefore government had issued a notification regarding the approval of reservation as per state laws. Similarly, the Brahmins community of Rajasthan is also demanded 14% reservation from Economically Backward Classes (EBC) ground and raised voice under various political banners in Rajasthan. However, the cap of fifty per cent of reservation laid down by Supreme Court somehow created a problem for state government to agree on further reservation demand that is already fifty four per cent in the Rajasthan. Meanwhile, Rajasthan government (under chief minister of Ashok Gehlot) tried hard and pacify the leaders over the issue for while.

The demand for reservation starts in the region under common minimum demand and peoples agitated across the road and railway line that obstructed in the smooth passage for while. The political parties and media played an important role during agitation that shaped the territory as 'pro' supporter of reservation. The demand for

reservation was discussed as an extension of spatial imbalance where *Meena* community become developed while *Gujjar* community remain backward, that forced the *Gujjar* community to join to the agitation. However, the agitation was mapped the region as 'pro' reservation space and overall impression was that why particular region is supporting a political agitation (for reservation). The discussion on media some extent shaped and reshaped the region as 'pro' reservation while the other region are too backward but never disrupt the public peace and loss of public exchequer while the nature of this agitation was self centric and politically motivated where role of media and politicians was inevitable.

Similarly, the caste issue discussed among peoples since ancient time in various practices. Nevertheless, caste issue is also omnipresent in the country and people's practicing at myriad form in their day-to-day life activities. The gravity of caste feeling is almost same in the country and every part of the country some extent shows faith on caste system/hierarchy except some urban pockets where it is subject to individual practices. Caste considered as a social problem in India. The gravity of caste politics is found in every region but the way it was shaped and reshaped in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh that is somehow attracted the attention of peoples that had discussed the issue in myriad forms in the media. In both city, caste does matter in politics and even politics is some extent influenced by caste factor too. The popular 'social engineering' of Ms Mayawati during 2007 assembly election made a history in various aspects when she brought both Brahmins and Dalits together and paved a new political dimension that was unexplored so far in the name of caste politics. Meanwhile, later the experiment was not continued for various political reasons. Thus, the region were mapped as caste politics region or where caste does matter in politics and in 'others'<sup>3</sup> as well. This may be one of understanding along with reservation issue to acknowledge the political mapping as one of perspective where media played an instrumental role.

Along with reservation and caste issue, corruption is also found in every society and over time it was tagged with particular region irrespective of universal features and discussed in the media and political circle for various reasons as well. The corruption phenomenon found in both rural and urban spaces with varied range. The social activist Mr Anna Hazare<sup>4</sup> had been demanding Jan-lokpal since long time and even he made public agitation during year 2011 that had received enormous support from both urban and rural population. However, the role of media was under several criticisms for supporting the Anna movement. Thus, reservation, caste and corruption issue had own political dimensions and attached with particular space that shaped and reshaped the space accordingly over period where media and politics was inevitable. Media and politics used these issues to map the spatial region at best.

Mapping is an indeed a political tool to address the space politically. Mapping is of course about to draw a line or delineate a land from another land or separates one view from another view to show distinguish identity between them. It might be myriad in dimensions and can interpret in many ways. Chinese popularized the practice of maps in the world for various reasons while the peoples of Middle East used the maps to indicate the worlds while the Europeans used to show their colonies at best. "The notion that Europe should be at the middle of the global map reflected both the role of Europeans in the development of cartography and the imperial power of Europeans states, especially in the nineteenth century" (Black, 1997: 37). In other words, the people supposed to respect the value of mapping as practice and part of

extended authority where one had created a buffer zone in order to address the authority of 'others'. Mapping is in fact a perspective and a kind of advocacy that works separately to know the different understanding over a given issue in contested ways. The mapping might be sometime simple or not constructed and sometime complex or fictitious in its appearance. Over period mapping known for a separate identity and peoples supposed to know that region accordingly and the region might be known for political, geographical, social, cultural, linguistic, gender, class and religion over period. However, the role of media over mapping a geographical region is become inevitable over period. Thus, the region mapped over period becomes representational spaces for different reasons. Why media space often called as representational spaces<sup>5</sup>.

### Media as Representational Spaces

Media as representational spaces can understand through two ways including theoretical and illustrations explanation-first, through theoretical understanding and second, through images where an individual can understand that how media is inevitable. "Everyday life and the operation of society depend on mediated communication" (Lunby, 2009: 1). Modern media (combination of old and new media) developed as a sign of technological growth to show the spatial glimpses of manifestations in term of *images*. These manifestations come through mix blend of 'real' and 'imagination' portrayals. Media became social phenomena over period and influencing and determining our day-to-day spatial course of action. Media supposed to portray all issues that appeared in the spatiality. Across the world, both developed and developing countries are providing all possible infrastructures to ensure the "flow of information" to access media at best. The pulse of everyday life from morning to evening varies with media wherein both 'public' and 'private' mediated body space represented in different dimensions. How much an individual supposed to carrying media in their daily use? Mobile phone becomes popular gadget over period in the society. Jeffrey and Doron (2012) argued that Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) used mobile phone technology to ride over power in 2007 assembly election in Uttar Pradesh. The use of mobile phone in recently held parliamentary election during 2014 in India was inevitable.

"New media technologies are transforming the place of the media in home and life and are contributing to the changing 'where' of the everyday. Increasingly, the pulse of the everyday, beating in streets, in workplaces, in transport hubs, in cars, trains, planes and buses as well as in homes, is multi-layered and on the move, happening simultaneously here *and* there, or operating across thick global transport and communication connections" (Thornham et al. (2009: 497).

Habermas (1974) develops the idea of the 'public sphere' where he examined the role of media in a democratic administration in respect to Europe. Marshall McLuhan (1964) infers "the medium is the message" and explores the role of media in order to know that how media shaped an individual's consciousness, culture, and society and considered as an active agent of historical change as well. Noam Chomsky and Edward S. Herman (1994) infers Marxist analysis of media as "manufacturing consent" through influence of spatial elites-political, military, cultural-who work collectively to maintain the interests of the influential in a class society. Stuart Hall (1980) argues in "encoding-decoding" that the elements of media communication and

communication process as a whole, how communication retrieve and send. Jean Baudrillard (1981) argues that “simulacra and simulation” is a post-modern vision of a world in that media marked every day to such an order that the boundaries between the ‘represented’ and the ‘real’ have softened, producing a mediated ‘hyper-reality’ where simulations signs and codes come to constitute everyday life activities (Greer, 2010). Media become spatio-temporal phenomena over period and constitutes mundane portrayals to depict the spatiality. “Embodying complex symbolisms, sometimes coded, sometime not, linked to the clandestine or underground side of social life, as also to art” (Lefebvre, 1991: 33). Henri Lefebvre further argues that-

“space as directly *lived* through its associated images and symbols, and hence the space of ‘inhabitants’ and ‘users’, but also some of artists and perhaps of those, such as a few writers and philosophers, who describe and aspire to do no more than describe. This is dominated-and hence passively experienced-space that the imagination seeks to change and appropriate. It overlays physical space and making symbolic use of its objects. Thus representational spaces may be said, through again with certain expectations, to tend towards more or less coherent systems of non-verbal symbols and signs” (ibid: 39).

Representational spaces are about experiences of our daily life with symbols of ‘real’ and ‘imagination’ that is posed as alive wherein media played an instrumental role.

“Representational space is alive: it speaks, it has an affective kernel or centre: Ego, bed, bedroom, dwelling, house; or: square, church, graveyard. It embraces the loci of passion, of action and of lived situations, and thus immediately implies time. Consequently it may be qualified in various ways: it may be directional, situational or relational, because it is essentially qualitative, fluid and dynamic” (ibid: 42).

Representational spaces considered alive where people’s participation remains found active and some extent peoples portrayed in myriad capacities where every things is circulating around him/her.

Representational spaces can understand through images too. In 2006, a Bollywood movie *Rang De Basanti* directed by Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra, starred by Amir Khan and others, in the film they (characters in the movie) are making protest at India Gate (a war memorial located in New Delhi) against government. Meanwhile in the movie, they are making India gate as *symbol* and *sign* and made protest against government.

Henceforth, India Gate becomes a space for protest or registers their anguish against government. A person’s supposed to do protest at India Gate under political and non-political organization. Over period, numbers of candle march organized to lodge their protest at India gate. How representational spaces (India Gate) become a notion for government? Since the film *Rang De Basanti*, who changed the attitude of people’s and associated the protests with the space wherein they can protest and register their dissent voice very firmly and loudly?

During April 2011, number of peoples gathered for a week at Jantar Mantar (located in Delhi with architectural astronomy sites built by Maharaja Jaisingh II of Jaipur) nearby India Gate under the leadership of social worker *Anna Hazare* for demand of

'Jan-Lokpal'. The issue becomes contentious between government, people, and political parties during the Anna movement. In this protest Jantar Mantar become space of protest (representational spaces) and the space become centre stage, since then many protest held for some other reasons apart from this protest but *Anna Hazare* led protest attested a new identity to the space in order to raise voice against government very arduously. Since then, many protest or hunger strike was organized under various political and non-political organizations at Jantar Mantar. The media participation was inevitable in this protest and even some sections are accused media for patronizing this movement against government. However, Jantar Mantar become lively space after *Anna Hazare's* movement and Jantar Mantar was very much there prior the Anna Hazare's movement but the way media made coverage to this movement has shaped the political feature of Jantar Mantar too.

In December 2012, again a massive crowd gathered at India Gate to lodge their protest against the government. The protest was organized in favour to show solidarity with rape victims (Nirvaya's case). Again, media especially social networking sites played a catalytic role and provide a platform to share common feeling and anguish against the crime and government. Thus, both India Gate and Jantar Mantar emerged as public spaces and become representational spaces with different signs and symbols. Both the representational spaces become central space over time and become an established space to organized protest against government. The role of media was under scrutiny for construction of such spaces irrespective of different signs and symbols. The dissemination of news (knowledge) does play a significant role to establish the space as representational spaces. How news supposed to shaping and reshaping spatiality and at what extent news become spatial impression.

#### Spatial Impression about News

During survey when people were asked about the appearance of news in the media about the issue (reservation, caste and corruption) in their respective place (region). In Jaipur, around 70 % people felt that the news ever presented is simple and not constructed while 30 % has the different opinion and believed that news appear in a constructed manner. Bhopal response was too different when 34% peoples felt that media ever portrayed straight news that seems look not constructed rather 66% believed that it is constructed. In Lucknow, around 84% people said that news is constructed while 16% people felt it is not constructed, so ever. In Delhi, around 46% agreed upon that news is ever not constructed while 54% do not agreed rather they felt that news is constructed. In Ranchi, around 36% people believed that news ever seems look not constructed while 64% people felt that news ever found in constructed manner. Interestingly, Patna responds in different ways and half of the peoples believed that it seems look like constructed while half of people do not agreed as well. The respondents believed that news apparently found constructed where content being shaped and reshaped in some extent in order to highlights the politics and the fictitious angle too<sup>6</sup> (Table 1).

Table 1

## Spatial Impression about News

Capital City	First Reaction After Read the News		
	Not Constructed	Constructed	Total
Bhopal	17 (34%)	33 (66%)	50
Delhi	23 (46%)	27 (54%)	50
Jaipur	35 (70%)	15 (30%)	50
Lucknow	8 (16%)	42 (84%)	50
Patna	25 (50%)	25 (50%)	50
Ranchi	18 (36%)	32 (64%)	50

Source: Survey conducted during 2012-13.

The contested mapping is unlike a fact when same content being served in different political colour with fictitious views.

## Political Content in News

Political news remains considered as an important constituent of newspapers and news channels. In Bhopal, around 72% people agreed that politics comprises a basic content in news stuff while 28% people do not agreed upon it. In Delhi, around 88% people said 'yes' that politics comprises of basic units in the news and 12% does not agreed. In Jaipur, around 68% people believed that across media the political news are inevitable while 32% people do not agreed. In Lucknow, around 88% people said 'yes' and 12% people refutes and do not agreed. In Patna, around 76% people believed that politics contains a major part in news and 24% people never felt and turn down the question. In Ranchi, around 80% people believed that politics or political news comprises as main news in the media while 20% do not agreed. However, respondents across the surveyed cities agreed upon that political news comprised major part of news<sup>7</sup> (Table II).

Table II

## Nature of News

Capital City	Political Contents in News		
	Yes	No	Total
Bhopal	36 (72%)	14 (28%)	50
Delhi	44 (88%)	6 (12%)	50
Jaipur	34 (68%)	16 (32%)	50
Lucknow	44 (88%)	6 (12%)	50
Patna	38 (76%)	12 (24%)	50
Ranchi	40 (80%)	10 (20%)	50

Source: Survey conducted during 2012-13.

All the surveyed cities have answered different to each other. In Bhopal, around 70% people believed that TV news channels manipulated news while around 30% people believed newspapers can manipulate the news as well. In Delhi, around 74% people believed that TV had more skills and can manipulate the news (issue) very easily in compare to newspapers have limited option while 26% felt so that newspapers can manipulate issues some extent. In Jaipur, around 68% people agreed on that TV news channels can manipulate issue very easily while 32% people believed that newspapers can manipulate the issues too. In Lucknow, around 66% people agreed that TV can manipulate the issue some extent while 34% people believed that newspapers can exaggerate the issue. In Patna, around 68% people felt that TV has skills to manipulate the issue while 32% favored to newspapers. The newly created capital city Ranchi, around 80% people believed that TV can manipulate the issue while mere 20% agreed on the manipulation skills of newspapers. Hence, when asked about the role of media (between TV and newspapers) and its manipulation skills, peoples agreed on that TV news channels can manipulate the issue effectively in compare to newspapers<sup>8</sup> (Table III).

Table III  
Media Manipulation

Capital City	Media can manipulate the issue		
	TV News Channels	Newspapers	Total
Bhopal	35 (70%)	15 (30%)	50
Delhi	37 (74%)	13 (26%)	50
Jaipur	34 (68%)	16 (32%)	50
Lucknow	33 (66%)	17 (34%)	50
Patna	34 (68%)	16 (32%)	50
Ranchi	40 (80%)	10 (20%)	50

Source: Survey conducted during 2012-13.

### Politics of Influence

The survey result envisaged that media emerge as an influential agent over period. However, the dimensions of news have been acknowledged across the cities with varied orders. In Bhopal, around 92% people felt that media emerged as influential agents can influence the nature of politics in the region too. In Delhi, around 78% people believed that media emerge as an agent and shaped and reshaped the political discourse while 22% people do not considered media can affect politics rather they considered as neutral agent (Table IV).

Table IV

## Mediated Politics

Capital City	Media can Effects Politics		
	Yes	No	Total
Bhopal	46 (92%)	4 (8%)	50
Delhi	39 (78%)	11 (22%)	50
Jaipur	32 (64%)	18 (36%)	50
Lucknow	41 (82%)	9 (18%)	50
Patna	43 (86%)	7 (14%)	50
Ranchi	41 (82%)	9 (18%)	50

Source: Survey conducted during 2012-13.

In Lucknow, around 82% people considered media shaped politics and the political discourse while 18% for any reasons do not believed that media is an influential agent and have manoeuvring power at all. In Jaipur, around 64% people believed that media can affects politics and its nature while 36% do not considered media have such power to affects the politics. In Patna, around 86% people believed that media followed the politics while 14% do not find any reason to believe media emerge as an influential agent and shaped the politics and its nature too. In Ranchi, around 82% people believed that media emerge as an influential agent while 18% people do not considered media can influence politics. The politics of news often provides the idea of agenda setting<sup>9</sup> and further it leads a line of thinking what media supposed to advise the people to follow the spatial politics as what media supposed to portray through news.

## The Political Mapping of Media

Issues produced and reproduced every moment by politicians and media at different capacities in a regular interval. The representation of issues may be a way to understand the mediated processes. Across the spatiality there is number of issues in circulation but only few of them (issues) acknowledged by media and politics and even peoples as well. The study considered *three* issues (reservation, corruption and caste). How these issues were implicitly and explicitly interpreted in the media and politics. The study revealed that the cities are sensitive to a specific issue and established a new identity parallel to older identity over time where both media and politics played an inevitable role (Table V).

Table V

## Mapping the Mediated Politics

Capital City	Cities are Politically Active on Following Issues			
	Reservation	Corruption	Caste	Total
Bhopal	7 (14%)	30 (60%)	13 (26%)	50

Delhi	5 (10%)	36 (72%)	9 (18%)	50
Jaipur	32 (64%)	13 (26%)	5 (10%)	50
Lucknow	4 (8%)	13 (26%)	33 (66%)	50
Patna	6 (12%)	16 (32%)	28 (56%)	50
Ranchi	3 (6%)	44 (88%)	3 (6%)	50

Source: Survey conducted during 2012-13.

The reservation news become a popular in Jaipur and considered much sensitive news when 64% people believed that as important news or political discourse while in other cities the issue of reservation do not bothered people at all. In Delhi, around 10% people while in 8% people in Lucknow thought that the reservation issue does matter and drawn people's attention. In Bhopal, around 14% people while in Patna it was around 12% and in Ranchi it was around 6% people who believed that reservation news does matter in the region. However, peoples agreed on that a certain amount of reservation news often appeared in the media and politics in their region.

Jaipur shows much sensitive to the reservation news in compare to other cities? The issue has been traced in every capital cities meanwhile Jaipur was higher vulnerable for reservation news in compare to other surveyed cities. The issue of reservation discussed in various ways including the long stand demand of *Gujjar* reservation and reservation for *forward* class were shaped and reshaped in various political shades in the city. Media provided more news in the concerned issue while other issues of course run parallels to it but not competed with reservation news in the city. Thus, Jaipur mapped as more sensitive to reservation news or in other words media mapped the city that preferred to talk over reservation issue than any other issue<sup>10</sup> or in other words the demand for reservation is coming from western region in the country. Hence everybody wants reservation in different proportion but none of the region came forward except western part of the country (Rajasthan). Thus, western region is mapped as reservation hunger region in the country by media.

The corruption news was ever in between the news or other issues but since Anna Hazare's movement against corruption, the issue become a political tool or centre stage and envisages the peoples to fight against corruption. The issue has been noticed in all surveyed cities and the issue was more talked in Bhopal, where around 60% people considered the issue is in the people's domain through media in various shapes and natures. In Delhi, around 72% people believed that the corruption news discussed in the street of the city in myriad ways. In Ranchi, around 88% people daily interacting with corruption news through media and often it discussed in line of swindles of public funds. In these cities, corruption news attracted more attention and even discussed in public domain at best in compare to reservation news. The cities of Bhopal, Delhi and Ranchi where corruption news talked more in compare to other issue while other issues remain in circulation but not as compare to corruption news<sup>11</sup>. The image of these cities was mapped as corrupt region or in other words these cities were talked corruption news wherein media traced people's gossips at best.

The caste news considered as one of older issues in India and often appeared across media whereas both people and politicians discussed the issue at length through various platforms. Two cities like Patna and Lucknow exposed to caste news more in

compare to other surveyed cities<sup>12</sup>. In Patna, around 56% people believed that the caste issue appeared in the media in various shades while in Lucknow, around 66% believed that the caste news is very much in the public domain wherein media played an instrumental role that shaped the issue in the region in various ways for political reasons. Caste politics does matter in both Patna and Lucknow in compare to reservation and corruption politics.

## CONCLUSION

Every capital city had myriad issues but media portrayed these cities with specific issue and constructed a new identity of the city apart from traditional identity. Media visualized Jaipur as a city where reservation news talked among peoples and political circle eagerly. However, Delhi known for corruption news where corruption discussed in varied ways while Patna known for caste news as well where caste politics is inevitable issue. Media had own way to visualize the space for various reasons including business being one of decisive factor. Politicians shaped the reservation, corruption and caste news for political reasons. Hence, media, politics and space ever conjoined and either of them changed would leave imprint on other as well. The issue of corruption, reservation and caste become a foundation issue where media and politics provide all breeding facilities to germinate politics for political purposes. In sum up, the study concedes that issues are travelling free across the spatiality but media and politics shaped and reshaped some of issues at best and made spatiality supposed to acknowledge the issue for longer period. Media shaped and reshaped the spatiality into separate political issues and made separate map for the every city apart from traditional identity of the city. Media become a tool to map the spatiality or in other words the political nerve of the any spatiality can understand through media as well.

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## NOTES

1. Mapping is a contentious project and considering a base understanding from where an individual or organization mustering authority at myriad capacity. Why maps are necessary for execution of any project and how does a map mulling a process of exclusion/inclusion of any boundary, point, location, forest, natural vegetation and territory, etc. How does identifying any locality/space/place/region/nation in the map, of course, through specific assigned features, name, sign, other semiotics code is indeed helping us to know the exact place/space and what we are supposed to looking in the map (Monmonier, 1996; Black, 1997; MacEachren, 2008). How does politics assigned in the map and for what purpose doing mapping (Crampton, 2010). "Maps have played and play a major role in politics, both international and domestic, reflecting the powerful ability of visual images and messages to represent and advance agendas" (Black, 1997: 9). Mapping and politics has

entwined relationship at both global and local scale in order to subscribe emerging views in term of power, knowledge, space, timing, identity and politics, etc.

2. He led the movement and demands for reservation to the peoples of *Gujjar* community that spread in the state. He put forth the arguments that the peoples of *Gujjar* community are also backward and his socio-economic status is too weak even worse than *Meena* community that enjoy the STs Reservation benefits. Meanwhile both the community living together in the region and due to reservation the peoples of *Meena* community become developed while *Gujjar* community lacked development.
3. All aspects of life including social, cultural, political and economical somehow governed by caste factor even political understanding reached at consensus through caste.
4. He is known social activist and fought several cases against corruption and specially known for Jan- lokpal agitation when he made week long fast over the issue in order to check corruption in government functionaries.
5. Henri Lefebvre calls it 'representational spaces' in his book *The Production of Space* (1991: 39). On the foundations of first space, second space and the third space it can describe as a creative recombination and extension of spaces. The first space is about the "real" material world while second space is about the reality though "imagined" representation of spatiality and as proceeding into third space where "real" and "imagined" combined to represents the world. The real and imagined feature easily found across the media including audio-visual and print. However, Lefebvre do not directly acknowledge the media as virtual space rather he emphasis on the heterogeneity of space in myriad senses. Further, see. Soja, Edward. (1996). *Third Space: Journey to loss Angles and other Real and Imagined Places*. London: Blackwell.
6. An impression of news can understand as words from news anchor like Rajdeep Sardesai (2006: 166-71) when he once differentiated between 'manipulation' and 'bias' in the news that how a news can categorised in following line of views. Although, news ever had motives and behind motives a section of influence worked in order to release the imprint upon the issue accordingly what they wished. So, news becomes a tool to impress the readers/listeners accordingly what a section wants what the people believed. Sardesai, R. (2006). *Manipulation and Bias in News*. In Uday Sahay (Ed). *Making News: Handbook of the Media in Contemporary India*. New Delhi. Oxford University Press.
7. Politics comprises a basic content in news. Peoples are agreed that the political contents in news over period increased and every news had some political shadows are visible proportionally as well.
8. Sudhanshu Ranjan (2006: 215) argues that "TV is essentially different from the print media in the sense that it is meant not only for literate. It is accessible to all, irrespective of literacy, class, sex, or age. That is why some people denounce it as a corrupting medium." Hence, TV has technical aspects where the chances for manipulation are little high than print medium where juggling

of words can influence the news more. Ranjan, S. (2006). *Television News Coverage*. In Uday Sahay (Ed). *Making News: Handbook of the Media in Contemporary India*. New Delhi. Oxford University Press.

9. Dr. Max McCombs and Dr. Donald Shaw in his Chapel Hill study (1968) demonstrated the agenda setting how media influenced the election issues. However, agenda setting is something like to influence the public agenda through specific mode of presentation, language, style.
10. The response of Jaipur over reservation issue was quite different from rest of surveyed cities. The reservation discourse was inherited in Rajasthan and discussed in various formats over period in both media and political platform. The study assumed that why people of Rajasthan agitate only when they know that reservation is common ground and despite that only people of Rajasthan demanding reservation and they done political mobilization under different political formation, why? What political conditions forced them to do and demand reservation? The role of media was under scrutiny how media played an instrumental role to spread the voice for reservation and remain ignite the issue.
11. The much glare discussion around corruption attracts attention particularly Anna Hazare episode when he declare zero tolerance against corruption and asked the government of India to implements the provisions of Jan-lokpal, prepared by than team Anna members, however, team Anna dismantle later due to political fraction. Henceforth, the issue of corruption were raised and discussed in the media in myriad assumptions. The issue was extensively discussed in Delhi and Bhopal irrespective of presence in every part of the country. Urban space responded the issue instantly but the reason behind the both the cities was that media highlighted some of corruption news and push people to mobilize against it. Some local news of corruption were highlighted in order to ensure peoples participation in the city earnestly.
12. Caste issue is also an inherent issue like corruption and reservation issue. Both Patna and Lucknow shows that how caste is inherited in these the cities. Though, caste is uniform in the country and in the rural belt it shows higher degrees than urban space. In both the cities respondents earmarked caste as an important way to negotiation. Media ever touch the chord of caste in various angles and discussed the issue irrespective of economic growth, development, increasing per capita income. Somehow, media shaped the issue at best in both the cities and catering politics accordingly and mapping the space per se. for more see, Jodhka, Surinder. S. (2010). *Caste and Politics*, In Niraja Gopal Jayal and Pratap Bhanu Mehta, *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. Pradeep J. Shah. (1966). *Caste and Political Process*. Asian Survey, Vol. 6, No. 9. University of California Press: 516-522. Ursula Sharma. (1999). *Caste*. Buckingham: Open University Press.

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