



THE CHALLENGES OF TEACHING JOURNALISM EDUCATION IN UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation

This article discusses the main reasons for the widespread promotion of journalism education. For this purpose, some examples from various scientific articles were shown and it was emphasized that journalism has a great role in society. In addition, some factors of teaching journalism education in Uzbekistan are shown along with approximate solutions.

Key words: journalism, UNESCO, mass media, magazines, newspapers, journalism education, journalistic activities.

Annotatsiya

Ushbu maqola jurnalizm ta'limining keng miqyosda targ'ib qilinishining asosiy sabablari haqida so'z yuritadi. Shu maqsad yo'lida turli ilmiy maqolalardan ba'zi misollar ko'rsatilib, jurnalistikaning jamiyatdagi o'rni katta ekanligi alohida ta'kidlangan. Bundan tashqari, O'zbekistonda jurnalistika ta'limini o'rgatishning ayrim omillari, shuningdek taxminiy yechimlari ko'rsatilgan.

Kalit so'zlar: jurnalistika, YUNESKO, ommaviy axborot vositalari, jurnallar, gazetalar, jurnalistika ta'limi, jurnalistik faoliyat.

Аннотация

В данной статье рассматриваются основные причины широкого продвижения журналистского образования. Для этого были показаны некоторые примеры из различных научных статей и подчеркнута, что журналистика играет большую роль в обществе. Кроме того, показаны некоторые факторы преподавания журналистского образования в Узбекистане вместе с примерными решениями.

Ключевые слова: журналистика, ЮНЕСКО, средства массовой информации, журналы, газеты, журналистское образование, журналистская деятельность.





Introduction

As the term of journalism appeared in the second half of 19th century in Uzbekistan, the need for journalism education appeared to be one of the vital elements of it. For this, in 1997 a number of decrees such as “Receiving guarantees and the freedom of information”, about “The protection of journalistic activities”, and “About mass media” were declared. Moreover, in order to improve the position of teaching and retraining the most appropriate and suitable journalist candidates in Uzbekistan, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan signed to the document that proves the system of training and retraining of journalist personnel to improve the system of journalism. Since then, a number of works were done so as to implement these decisions into practice. However, there are a number of issues that have to be taken into consideration while processing journalism education in Uzbekistan.

Main Part

The need for journalism education has never been as hot debated issue in the world history as it is now. The explosion of Asian media in the early 1980s, as well as the expansion of commercial media has been caused to the highly demanded certified courses. We can see it's expansion in Middle East and in Africa in 1990s while in China in 2000s (Cabedoche, 2015). While there was a high demand for candidates of journalism, many countries started to organize the possible ways of journalism education worldwide. Thus, journalism was confirmed as a form of legitimate sphere of research where there was a profound focus on its theoretical dimensions (Miege, 2006; Cabedoche, 2009; Banda, 2013). In 2007, the priority direction of development was confirmed by the First World Congress in Journalism Education: journalism must serve in many aspects of society, but only if its practitioners grasped more complicated and special knowledge in this field. More precisely, in order to be a responsible journalist, one should have to acquire an ethical commitment towards publicity. This obligation should cover the role of enhancement, perpetuation and formation of informed society. These analyses were reinforced in the second World Congress based on Journalism Education in Africa in the following two years. In that congress it was stated that the Journalism Education must interact with other aspects of knowledge and contribute them in many ways.

UNESCO played a significant role in this growth, especially, it encouraged the development of African journalism training in South Africa.

What is the role of UNESCO in promoting the responsible journalism?

There are a number of ways of the development of journalism education. For this purpose, there has been organized 30 local journalism schools and UNESCO is playing





a crucial role in these schools' development since 2007 and is maintaining to provide training guides through course outlines. These course outlines were immediately accepted as the journalism education not to be reduced to make it as a practical training course but extend to cover the value of society and human right promotions. In order to create the new course contents or to improve the available courses, the course content is attracting more followers in addition to African countries. All of them were encouraged by study models that could be a vital resource in reconstruct their personal educational programs. For these reasons, in 2011 there were organized a number of journalism education schools, particularly in Guyana, Afghanistan, China, Mauritius, Pakistan, Jamaica, and in Tanzania there was a process of adaptation to these models. Many other countries, such as Congo, Uzbekistan, and Gabon also expressed their deep interest in attending this initiative. During the second half of the program in 2012, UNESCO attended in about 70 journalism trainings where all these institutions claimed that the journalism training module would be definitely be suitable for multifarious linguistic, cultural and social contexts (Banda and Smitz Weiss, 2013).

As the latest contributions indicate us that the link between enquiring of public and emphasizing the media representations, it should be our priority to focus on the journalism education. This is because, without independent and free media public sphere is impossible to survive, so the wellbeing of the media should be considered as an assessment that is affected by public sphere. In some European countries, as well as in many forms of government this public sphere is directly connected with printed press activities (Miège, 2010). Besides, there are many other theories related to agenda setting that may state this theory (McCombs & Shaw, 1972). As for European Studies director at the college of St. Antony and academic Timothy Garton Ash claim that only journalists could produce the initial drafts of our history.

Findings

In the past few decades there have been a time of great changes in journalism and journalism education. This was mainly because of the revolution in digital technology. There are a number of concerns that one country must take into consideration while encouraging the development of journalism education in a society. Firstly, students should be a number one concern that journalism has to consider to attract their main attention; employing them, maintaining their career, and offering a suitable study programme that may be useful to use. For this reason, in Uzbekistan, there has been a number of efforts to challenge students to journalism education. For this, it has opened some educational institutions as branches of foreign universities like World





Languages University, National University and so on. These universities cover not only bachelor degrees, but master's and PhD degrees as well. Yet, further efforts should be taken in order to make Uzbekistan in the ranks of other developed countries (Azizova, 2007).

Second concern is the research that universities have to provide students to gain the ability of looking for information to find out the main reasons of people's purchasing magazines. This is mainly because that people nowadays are mainly relying on their smartphones to find out daily news rather than buying newspapers and magazines. Therefore, journalism education in such universities has to cover the knowledge that encourage students to seek answers to these mainstream questions and find ways to attract the readers' attention back to the journals.

Next, it is profoundly crucial for both students and their parents to find suitable and satisfactory job after getting bachelor degree. In other words, in that age these students are eager to put their learned theories into practice at work (Frost, 2019). So what can we say about the journalism in Uzbekistan? Can the students find jobs? According to the National Statistics in Uzbekistan, in the past few years the number of people who introduce themselves as journalist has significantly increased. However, the number of practitioners is somehow decreased. There is a question will appear; where does this index of working journalists are constantly decreasing? The right answer will be the majority of journalists used to work in newspapers, journals, editorial organizations whereas they are becoming more and more deficient nowadays. For this reason, journalists are subjected to work as bloggers as well as in other specialties around our country.

At last, but not least, the role of social media and the current developing technology have a tremendous effect on public's mind. The speed and the availability of pictures along with videos give priority to users following the social media rather than press. What we need to pay attention is to give students a clear path to become excellent users of advanced equipment. Moreover, they have to be explained how to reflect critically towards using these kinds of technological devices. Drones are good examples of my opinion. However, while drones are precious devices in transmitting inaccessible pictures to take by people physically such as the sea surface or difficult terrains, journalists have to be alert from intrusion into privacy, especially, in celebrities' personal lives and display it in the press (Frost, 2018).

Conclusion

Journalism and the concept of journalism education are correlative issue nowadays. As every country wants to develop, their one of the first and initial targets would be to





improve journalism system in the country. Likewise, in Uzbekistan, there has already been targeted to maintain reliable, loyal and fast journalism. Although initial steps have already made, there are a number of issues that should be tackled simultaneously while developing journalism, and it is a journalism education that is main concern in front of the government authority. Yet, there are can occur a number of issues that are required to be more attentive while teaching journalism education such as nurturing the students' common sense in order to make them both attentive and contemporary researchers.

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