



Pratidhwani the Echo

A Peer-Reviewed International Journal of Humanities & Social Science

ISSN: 2278-5264 (Online) 2321-9319 (Print)

Impact Factor: 6.28 (Index Copernicus International)

Volume-VIII, Issue-I, July 2019, Page No. 305-317

Published by Dept. of Bengali, Karimganj College, Karimganj, Assam, India

Website: <http://www.thecho.in>

Arabic Journalism in India: its growth and development

Dr. Farid Uddin Ahmed

Asst. Professor, Dept. of Arabic, Cotton University, Guwahati, Assam

Abstract

In this paper an attempt has been made to highlight various Arabic journals that appeared at the different parts of India since the beginning to till date. In Arabic, Journalism was evolved very late in comparison to other languages like English, Persian and Urdu and the main reason behind that the then Muslims of India considered Arabic as a sacred language because the holy Qur'an was revealed in it. In addition to this, the Prophetic Traditions (Hadith) and other Islamic theological sciences are also written in Arabic language at large scale. That is why; a large group of Indian Muslims bore some misconception about it and assumed that it has no utility and applicability in their social life. In the long run, this notion was disproved from the minds of Muslim looking at the scenario of Arab world and the functional capability of this language. Finally, various journals like Al-Bayan, Al-Ziya, Al-Jamia, Thaqafat-ul-Hind, Al-Daie, Dawat-ul-Haqq, Saut-ul-Umma, Al-Sahwat-ul-Islamiyyah etc. came into existence in Arabic by the eminent Indian Arabic scholars which definitely played a vital role in the development of Arabic journalism in India.

Keywords: Arabic language, journalism, Indian sub-continent, Muslim scholars, history.

Introduction: The term journalism is derived from the French word “*Journal*” and it is evolved from a late Latin word “*Diurnalis*” which denotes belonging to a day.¹ The Arabic term which is used for journalism is ‘*Shihafa*’ comes from the word ‘*Suhuf*’ and ‘*Sahifa*’. Regarding this term Arab lexicographers have given some definitions. According to Ibn Manzur, the Journalism is (a leaf of paper) wherein people write”¹. In the holy Quran Almighty Allah says:

"إِنَّ هَذَا لَفِي الصُّحُفِ الْأُولَى ، صُحُفِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَ مُوسَى"

(This is surely in the earlier books, the Books of Abraham and Moses)².

Here, the word “*Suhuf*” refers to the Books of Heavens revealed upon Prophet Ibrahim and Moses (pbuh)³.

The author ‘N. Jayapalan’ in his book defines “Journalism” in this way: “Journalism is that part of social activity which is concerned with the dissemination of news and views about society”. Journalism is gathering and disseminating news—modern Journalism feeds five essential departments of mass communication, such as, Newspaper and Periodicals, radio, television, films, and Advertising.⁴

In short, Journalism has a great significance in a state and that is the reason it considers as the “fourth pillar” of the democracy. It is a highly sophisticated and refined profession. It has its visible and invisible impact on all aspects of modern life.

Discussion: Before going to discuss about Arabic journalism in detailed, I would like to mention a few famous Arabic scholars who were in fact the torch-bearer of Arabic journalism in India and their sincere effort Arabic Journalism developed and got a significant position. Among them Syed Muhammad al-Hasani was the most prominent scholar whose sincere initiative the famous Arabic journal “*Al-Baas-al-Islami*” came into existence. Thereafter, other outstanding Arabic scholars and writers like Syed Muhammad Wazeh Rashid Hasani Al-Nadwi, Dr. Saidur Rahman Azmi, Maulana Masood Alam Nadwi and Syed Abul Hasan Ali al-Nadwi also developed it. It needs to mention that al Syed Abul Hasan Ali al-Nadwi wrote many books in Arabic language, Literature and Islamic culture. Moreover, he had contributed a lot in Arabic and Urdu journalism also. He was the chief editor of the journal ‘*Al-Nadwa*’, which was considered as the mouthpiece of *Nadwa al-Ulama*. He also published two Urdu journals, entitled: ‘*Tamir-e-Hayat*’ and ‘*Nida-e-Millat*’.

Beginning of Arabic Journalism in India: The first Arabic newspaper was published in Indian sub-continent entitled “*Al-Nafu al-Azeem li-Ahli Hâda al-Iqlim*” (النفع العظيم لهذا الإقليم) on 17th October, 1871 from Lahore by Shaikh Muqarrab Ali and supervised by Mr. G.W. Laithir, the then Registrar of Punjab University. This newspaper was comprised of eight pages at the beginning and then increased up to ten pages. This newspaper used to cover various issues like religious, social, educational, literary and moral etc. A special column on Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and his significant role on educational reform was also published. Moreover, it publishes different articles on classical Arabic poetry. The newspaper bears some noble objectives which are as follows⁵:

- a) To circulate Arabic language among the Indian Muslims, so that all the people can understand the rules of the Islamic sciences compiled in this language.
- b) To acquaint religious Muslims with the subjects and contemporary issues, so that they can understand their responsibly and to open up their wide thinking.
- c) To make familiar various Arabic sciences with the Arabic in the midst of Indian men of letters.
- d) To aware the religious Muslims to the modern concerns and current issues.
- e) To practice Arabic widely in speaking and writing; those who have already familiar with it.

This newspaper stopped publication in 1885 A.D. but it made a great impact to emerge other journals and newspaper in later stage, for instance, “*Al-Bayan*”(1902), “*Al-Raid*”, “*Al-Jamia*”(1923), “*Al-Zia*”(1931), “*Thaqafat-ul-Hind*”(1950), “*Al-Baas-el-Islami*” (1955), *Dawat-ul-Haqq*” (1965), *Saut-ul-Ummah*” 1969 A.D. *Al-Daie*” (1976) etc.

Description: During pre-Independence and post-Independence period lots of Indian Arabic journals and newspapers got published from the various parts of India: North India, North-

West India, South India and also from the Indian Embassy to Egypt and Syria. Here, I would like to discuss those journals in the following pages:

▪ **‘MAJALLAT-UL-BAYAN’ (مجلة البيان):** The “*Majallat-ul-Bayan*” was one of the earliest Arabic journals which received great reputation in India and abroad. The first issue of the journal was published in 1902 A.D. from Lucknow under the guidance of Shaykh Abdullah al-Imadi who worked there as an editor for eight years. Regarding his service Syed Abdul Hai al-Hasani says:

“He (i.e. Shaykh Abdullah al-Imadi) became familiar by his vast knowledge in various sciences, like Prophetic tradition (*Hadith*), Commentary of the holy Quran (*Tafsir*), Jurisprudence (*Fiqh*), and Scholastic science (*Ilm-ul-Kalam*) and his mastery in Arabic, Persian and Urdu languages. He used to compose poetry and had the capacity to analyze critically poetry of others. Moreover, he translated many articles published in various journals into Arabic and Urdu languages. He had good memory that made him possible to grasp various knowledge⁶.”

The journal “*Majallat-ul-Bayan*” was a monthly bilingual journal. It was published Arabic and Urdu articles. The content of the articles are generally educational, literary, historical and informatory types. The first issue of the journal contains forty four pages and there was a column entitled: “*Hadha Bayan li'l-Nas*” (هذا بيان للناس) in which commentary of the holy Quran (*Tafsir*) used to discuss. Moreover, it provides information about the research, studies and also the current books that got published from various Muslim countries.⁷”

The *Majallat-ul-Bayan* was the most popular journals in India and it was appreciated by the intelligentsia. Regarding this journal Dr. Ayyub Nadwi says:

“The Journal “*Al-Bayan*” has made great astonished to the learned personalities of India and abroad. In the Arab countries, the Arabs who have gone through it commended it nicely. In fact, the Journal “*Al-Bayan*” was like a school where a whole generation was taught in the way of modern Arabic and its importance lies on that it was the only medium of communication between Indian Muslims and the Arab countries at that time⁸”

▪ **‘MAJALLAT-UL-JAMIA (مجلة الجامعة):** The journal “*Al-Jamia*” was first published by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad from Kolkata in the year 1923 A.D. This journal was published fortnightly. This journal bears some important objectives. The main objective of the journal was to establish unity among the Muslims and Oriental nations and to acquaint Indian Muslims with the Muslim and Arab World. It also gave importance to achieve freedom of politics, thinking and to exchange the ideas, thoughts among the scholars, writers and thinkers from every corner of the Muslim countries. One of the objectives of his journal was to support the Turkish Ottoman rule and to oppose Sultan Sharif Husain, the governor of *Al-Hizaj* who used to support British government. The first editor of this journal was Maulana

Abul Kalam Azad and afterwards Shaykh Abdur Rajjaq Mulihabadi al-Nadwi was given its charge.

This journal played a vital role in reviving the Islamic sciences and cultures in India through the publication of religious, educational and cultural articles.

In needs to mention that Sharif Husain, the governor of Hejaz, found the articles extremely bitter published in the journal “*Al-Jamia*”, and for that reason he opposed the journal through his official journal entitled “*Al-Qibla*”.⁹

In short, “*Al-Jamia*” was widely accepted journal among the scholars and the journalists as well. Its various scholarly articles influenced not only the Indians but also a large number of Arabs. Its expression and the styles were good enough. Unfortunately, this journal got published only one year and then stopped publication since March, 1924 due to financial and political causes.

▪ **‘MAJALLAT-UL-ZIA (مجلة الضياء):** The journal “*Al-Zia*” was introduced by Masud Alam Nadwi (1910-1954), one of the great Muslim personalities of India during the 20th century. He had the mastery in Arabic language and its literature, in addition to this; he had vast knowledge in Islamic theology and also rendered great service in Islamic reformative movements. He was considered one of the leading journalists in India and achieved good name and fame by his literary, Islamic and social articles and became familiar among the journalists of India and Arab. The journal “*Al-Zia*” was established in the month of May, 1932 A.D. under his editorship. Moreover, two venerable personalities, like, Syed Sulaiman Nadwi from India and Taqiuddin al-Hilali from Morocco were the sole members of this journal and supervised it.

The journal “*Al-Zia*” used to publish in the mid of every Islamic month and it discusses basically themes like literary, educational and social. This journal achieved great success in India and its sub-continent. It is a matter of fact that this journal came to existence in a period when Arabic language victimized of stagnation and static condition.

This journal had a vital role in the development of Arabic language in India and it was applied for the purpose of literary knowledge. Moreover, it developed Islamic sciences and also spread Indian culture. This very journal tried its best to realize that Arabic is a living and progressing language which gets vibration by the life and power and it is not a dead language in which we cannot use various sciences other than Islamic sciences. Unfortunately, it stopped after four years only but it paved the way to publish other journals and newspapers from various parts of Indian sub-continent. In short, the journal got familiarity in every nook and corner and left deep impression to the luminaries in India and abroad.

As far as the familiarity of this journal, “*Al-Furqan*”, a Syrian based journal, precisely mentioned its quality in the following way:

“It is an intellectual, literary, educational, and social journal. It used to publish in the mid of every Islamic month by Masud Alam Nadwi, a well-known scholar

in India. This is the most progressive journal which bears literary articles and eloquent expression.¹⁰”

Syed Muhammad Mahmud Hafiz al-Nadwi also provided a good comment about the journal, when he says: “Its fame spread across the boundary of Indian continent and reached the Arab countries and it was well received by the Arab writers and they even praised it excessively, and they appreciate its intellectual and literary subjects which give clear ideas and styles.”

Amir Nasiruddin of Lebanon also praised the journal by the following words:

“In the city of Lucknow there is a journal in Arabic entitled “*Al-Zia*” incepted by Syed Masud Alam Nadwi, one of the most outstanding figures in India. This journal used to publish in a printing called lithography and focused in it valuable Islamic research articles which are full of beneficial ..., and as far as the language use in it pure and style was more fascinating than all the newspapers and journals published in Arab countries”¹¹.

▪ **THAQAFAT-UL-HIND (ثقافة الهند)**: This is a reputed quarterly Arabic journal which has been publishing by the Indian Council for the Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi, under the sponsorship of Indian foreign ministry since 1950 A.D. The first director of this journal was Abdur Razzak Mulihabadi. The main objective of this journal was to grow cultural as well as mutual relation between India and Arab Countries and to strengthen it.

This journal represents all the past and present Indian cultures. It publishes articles about various Indian stories, drama, novel, biography etc. The contributors of this journal are mostly the professors, teachers of various Indian as well as foreign universities, colleges, and Islamic institutions. There is an attempt has been taken to translate articles of different Indian languages like English, Urdu, Hindi, Bengali, Malayalam, and Tamil etc. into Arabic also. Moreover, it publishes about the great personalities of India like noble laureate Rabindranath Tagore, Sir Ahmad Khan, Mirza Ghalib, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam etc. In addition to this, it also publishes various aspects of culture and festivals observing by the different communities of India.

▪ **AL-BAAS-AL-ISLAMI (البعث الإسلامي)**: This is a reputed monthly Arabic Journals which has been publishing continuously from the great Islamic institution like *Nadwa al-Ulama*, Lucknow, India. The founder of this journal was Syed Muhammad al-Hasani (1935-1979 A.D).

The first issue of this journal came to light in the year 1955 AD. Syed Muhammad al-Hasani along with three other eminent Indian scholars of Arabic like Allama Sayeed al-Azmi, Dr. Muhammad Ijtaba al-Nadwi, Dr. Rashid al-Nadwi were the sole members in its editorial council. In 1960 AD, the office of the journal was shifted from the house of Muhammad al-Hasani to the campus of *Nadwa al-Ulama, Lucknow*, and since then it has been publishing regularly and later on Sayed al- Rahman al-Azami al-Nadwi became its next editor-in-Chief.

The journal bears some important objectives which are as follows:

- a) To create religious awareness among the people of new generation,
- b) To reconstruct the religious thought and to provide perfect Islamic thinking,
- c) To protect Islam from the attack of its enemies,
- d) To criticize the corrupted and destructive ideas as well as its false proclamations,
- e) To oppose western culture and thought ,
- f) To provide information to the people of Muslim World ,
- g) To give much attention to Indo-Arabic literature,
- h) To acquaint with the Muslim personalities and circulate the concern of *Nadwa al-Ulama* and its ideology,
- i) To revive Islamic heritage and to train Muslim generation as a propagators,
- j) To publish valuable research paper without any racial ideology,
- k) To strengthen mutual relation between India and the Arab countries.

Some of the abovementioned objectives were depicted in the preface of its maiden issue written by the chief-editor Syed Muhammad al-Hasani wherein he mentions:

“The journal “*Al-Baas-el-Islami*” will increase connectivity and link between India and other neighboring Arab countries. It will convey the message from India to their brothers staying in Eastern Arab, and will carry the best wishes as well as their good intention of the people of the Arab Countries to their Indian brothers and it would be searched from various corners of the countries.¹²”

It needs to mention that the journal “*Al-Baas-el-Islami*” has become the most famous Arabic journal within a short span of time. It has contributed a lot in circulation of propagation and true Islamic thought to the whole Muslim World. Moreover, it has played vital role in the promotion of Arabic language and literature throughout the Indian sub-continent. The journal is distinguished from other journals of India as because it publishes various articles and research papers on Islamic as well as literary perspectives which are written in modern and elegant styles.

After the demise of its first editor Syed Muhammad Mahmud Hafiz al-Nadwi put forwarded a nice comment about the importance of the journal with the following words:

“More than twenty years of its inception this journal continuously has been playing great service in Islam and also protected its pure thought and core issues, true word, as well as basics principles. In many times, this journal alone took responsibility to oppose the dangerous political trends which were attacked our Arab region during the year of 1956 and 1967 A.D.¹³”

▪ **SAUT -UL-SHARQ (صوت الشرق):** This is a monthly journal which was issued from the centre of information, Indian Embassy in Cairo, Republic of Egypt. It was appeared in the month of October, 1952 AD under the editorship of Jargis Khalil¹⁴. This journal basically focuses cultural aspects of India. The main goal of the journal is to promote relation between India and Arab Countries and to strengthen it in every field. Since the inception of

this journal, it has been continuously playing important role in disseminating Indian culture and also various Indian sciences and arts of it like technology, science, literature, fine arts, business, and economics to the Arab world.

Among the contributors of this journal were the great Arab thinkers, writers and leaders. This journal publishes sometimes translates English or Indian articles into Arabic. The articles and research papers which publish in it are contain of Indian culture, civilization, touring places. Moreover, it includes the education of Indian language but it gives special importance on Indo-Egypt relation only.

▪ **AL-RAID (الرائد)**: This is a fortnightly Arabic newspaper that represents the thought of “Al-Baas-el-Islami” and its views. It has been publishing since 1959 A.D. from *Darul Uloom Nadwatul Ulama*, Lucknow. The founder of the newspaper was Shykh Muhammad Rabi al-Hasani al-Nadwi who tried his level best to circulate it extensively in India and abroad. It is an Arabic newspaper. This newspaper basically gives importance to the valuable articles and research papers of the own students. In addition to this, it gives special attention to circulate news of Muslims of India and their circumstances.

At the beginning, Shykh Saeed al-Azmi al-Nadwi was the chief editor of this journal and later on Wazeh Rashid al-Nadwi and Abdullah al-Hasani simultaneously took its responsibility. The newspaper publishes many thoughtful articles of the students and the teachers also.

This newspaper bears some objectives and aims which are as follows:

- a) To enhance the Arabic literary taste for the students of the coming generation,
- b) To aware them to learn Arabic language and literature,
- c) To provide pure Islamic ideas and thought ,
- d) To oppose the misrepresentation made by the heretics (*Kafirs*), polytheists and the enemies of Islam.

In short, this newspaper has played a vital role to spread the basic teachings of Islam, its culture to every nook and corner of India. In addition to this, it has tried also to disprove the false conceptions of the religion.

▪ **DA‘WAT-UL-HAQQ (دعوة الحق)**: This was another famous quarterly Arabic journal used to publish from *Darul Uloom*, Deoband, during 1965 A.D. to 1972 A.D. The founder of this journal was Wahid al-Zaman al-Kiranawi (d.1995 A.D), who was one of the famous Arabic scholar and writer used to teach at *Darul Uloom*, Deoband, and achieved good name and fame there.

This journal bears some valuable objectives which are as follows:

- a) To create awareness to the Muslim *Ummah* (nations) about the pure Islamic sprit,
- b) To protect the Islamic believes from the doubts raised by the enemies of Islam who criticizes the pure teachings of Islam,
- c) To promote Arabic language and literature,

- d) To disseminate and spread Islamic culture throughout the Indian sub-continent and also Arab World.

The journal, with the above-mentioned noble objectives, published many intellectual, religious, social articles which denote the skillfulness of the scholars of *Darul Uloom, Deoband* and its disciples, graduates of Arabic language and literature and their ability in writing, research and analyze.

It needs to mention that when Wahid al-Zaman al-Kiranawi observed that *Darul Uloom, Deoband* gave much attention to the religious educations like *Hadith* (Prophetic traditions), jurisprudence etc. more than Arabic language and literature. That is why he felt dire necessity to form this journal, so that the readers of Arabia could know the services rendered by this great Islamic institution. The editorial chief of the journal mentions its objectives with the following words:

“We desire to provide some life histories of the reputed scholars of *Darul Uloom* in the pages of the journal ‘*Dawat-ul-Haqq*’ to acquaint with their services in the field of religion and Islamic sciences so that the Arab as well as Muslim world can understand it. In the same way, in every issue of the journal, we try to provide some important intellectual religious articles for our Indian brothers.¹⁵”

- **AL-DAIE (الداعي)** : This is a famous fortnightly Arabic Islamic journal which was published from *Darul Uloom Deoband, Saharanpur, India* under the editorship of Wahid al-Zaman al-Kiranawi. This journal came into existence in 1976 A.D. after the stopping of his previous journal “*Dawat-ul-Haqq*” in 1972 A.D. The main aim of the journal was chief editor and other editorial members of this journal had to focus about the dignitaries of *Darul Uloom, Deoband* and its graduates only.

There is no doubt that the journal has been rendering great services in the field of Islam and literary arts since the great journalist Nur Alam Khalil al-Amini was entrusted its charge. He is very efficient in Arabic literature and also fond of journalism and compilation. He has good experience and practice which he got under the supervision of Shaykh Said al-Azmi al-Nadwi, the chief editor of “*Al-Baas-el-Islami*” and the great journalist Wazeh Rashid al-Nadwi. He has made a great service in the development of Arabic Journalism in India.

It is worth-mentioning that the learned bodies, scholars as well as the journalists have had good response to this Journal as because it has been propagating pure Islamic sciences and true ideology of Islam. This journal has attracted the attention of the great scholars from India and the Arab World. Regarding this journal, many scholars have put forwarded nice comment about it. The great scholar of Bahrain like Qasim Yusuf al-Shaykh also commended it with his words by the following way:

“We are immensely happy to read some issues of your excellent Islamic papers where we have found the spirit of Islam and enlighten believing thought and we have become

more happy when we found some pages of its articles about Shaykh Muhammad Tayyeb, the head of Islamic University at Deoband and other great reformers. ¹⁶”

• **SAUT-AL-UMMAH (صوت الأمة):** This is a monthly Arabic journal publishes from *Darul Ta'lif wa Tarzama* (publication library and translation) which is under the Salafia University of Banaras since 1969 A.D. The first issue of this journal got published under the name of “*Saut-ul-Jamia*” and carried the same title till 1976 A.D. and later on, Salafia University took a decision to change its name from “*Saut-ul- Jamia*” to “*Saut-ul-Ummah*”. The main target of this journal is to publish articles on religion, literature and Islamic sciences.

This journal “*Saut-ul-Ummah*” is considered one of the best known journals of India. Its value increased both thematically and literally when Dr. Muqtada Hasan al-Azhari, one of the great contemporary journalists of India, took its editorial charge. His articles were widely accepted by the scholars of India and abroad. In the domain of Journalism, he had good experience and talent in using Arabic words, expression and also framing sentences.

Since its establishment, this Journal has been playing an important role in the propagation of Islam and to acquaint with the Islamic legacy and also to protest against the baseless conceptions of people and the propagandas of Christians against Islam and Muslim community. Moreover, it provides correct Islamic knowledge and opposes the heretical doctrine (*Bida* ‘), superstitions, and false statements. It also aims to reform Islamic beliefs and to rectify religious understandings, to provide scientific research, religious *fatwā* (formal legal opinion) and the pure Islamic jurisprudence.

This journal bears some important objectives and aims which are as follows¹⁷:

- a) To sublime the words of Allah and call people to keep continue with the rope of Allah, and to hold fast with His book and also the *Sunnah* of His Messenger. Keeping away from discriminative thought and religious bigotry, to spread the message of Islam, and to raise the standard of Islamic studies and religious culture etc.
- b) To defend the false notions, deviating trends, and destructive concepts etc.
- c) To Support the Muslim authors and litterateurs and awaken their endeavor in touching current concerns, and to explain the pure teachings of Islam.
- d) To awaken the religious spirit as well as to spread the Islamic awareness to the Muslim youths and also to equip them with the vast Islamic culture and to make them ready contributing in the field of language and education etc.
- e) To spread Arabic and Islamic sciences among the Muslims of India and to introduce Arabic among the cultured people and also to raise its standard both literally and verbally.

• **AL-MAJMA-UL-ILMI AL-HINDI (المجمع العلمي الهندي):** This is one of the popular contemporary half yearly Arabic Magazines, publishes by the Indian Scientific Association under the department of Arabic, Aligarh Muslim University. India. The first issue of it was

introduced by the former head, department of Arabic, Aligarh Muslim University, Dr. Mukhtaruddin Ahmad, in 1976 A.D. It publishes articles very cautiously and precisely.

This journal bears some important objectives which are as follows:

- a) To promote Arabic language and literature ,
 - b) To acquaint the Muslims of India with the history of Arabs and their civilization,
 - c) To preserve the rare educational manuscripts and the Islamic legacy,
 - d) To translate the important works of the scholars of India written in different fields into Arabic language,
 - e) To attempt to promote and to stimulate educational tendency of Arabic in India.
- **MAJALLAT-UL-HIND (مجلة الهند)**: This is an educational and cultural portrayal journal which was introduced by the Indian Embassy in Syria in the year 1972 A.D. It was a bi-monthly journal. This journal covers the all the matters of Republic India, including political and economical issues of India and Indian relation with the foreign nations. Moreover, it portrays the Indian society and culture.

In short, this journal played a great role in strengthening relation between India and Syria in various fields. And through it Arabs come to know Indian culture and its civilization both ancient and modern.

- **MAJALLAH AL-RABITAT AL-ISLAMIYYAH (مجلة الرابطة الإسلامية)**: This is a monthly Arabic journal publishes jointly missionary and cultural aspects. It was introduced by a few graduates of *Dar-ul-Uloom*, Deobond in a period when they felt dire necessity to create an association which gives importance on Islam and its culture. With this aim they have founded an association which is entitled “*Al-Rabitat-ul-Islamiyyah li-'l Dawah wa-'l Thaqafat-ul-Uloom*” (Islamic Association for the Missionary, culture and Islamic science) in 1985 A.D and they introduced a journal “*Al-Rabitat-ul-Islamiyyah*” to circulate objectives of this journal and to propagate its message. Its first issue was published in 1986 A.D. and since its inception the journal has been publishing regularly in every Islamic month of the year.

In addition to the abovementioned reputed newspaper and journals, we can find other journals as for example:

- **Al-Kifah (الكفاح)**: This was a half yearly Arabic Magazine which was introduced by the students of *Dar-ul-Uloom*, Deobond in 1973. The first Editor-in-Chief was Shaykh Wahiduzzaman Kiranawi.
- **Al-Da'awa (الدعوة)**: This was fortnightly Arabic Magazine which was published April, 1975 founded by “*Al-Jamiat-ul-Islamia al-Hindiyyah*”.
- **Al-Thaqafa (الثقافة)**: This magazine was founded by ‘*Dar al-Thaqafah li-Tibaah wa Nashr*, and edited by Muhammad Islam al-Qasimi in 1973 but it stopped publication after few years.

- **Aāfaq-ul-Hind** (أفاق الهند): This was a monthly Arabic journal used to publish in 1992 by the Ministry of foreign affairs, India, New Delhi and it was focused on literature, culture and educational matters at large.
- **Majallat-ul-Tarikh al-Islami** (مجلة التاريخ الإسلامي): This was a quarterly journal which was founded by the Association of Islamic History and Centre for Arabic and Islamic Study, New Delhi, India in 1995 A.D.
- **Al-Mazahir** (المظاهر): This was a quarterly Arabic journal which was published by *Al-Jamia al-Islamia Mazahir al-Uloom*, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India in 1995.
- **Al-Nahdat-ul-Islamiyyah** (النهضة الإسلامية): This was another quarterly Arabic journal which was published from *Markaj-ul-Dawah wa Irshadat-ul-Islamia bi Dar-ul-Uloom*, Basti, Uttar Pradesh, India in 1992 A.D.
- **Al-Haram** (الحرم): This was a quarterly Arabic journal, used to publish from *Jamiat-ul-Imdadiyyah*, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh in 1996 A.D.

Arabic Journalism in South India: In regards to South India, lots of Arabic journals, magazines and newspaper came into existence during the second half of the 20th century. The first Arabic newspaper entitled “*Majallah al-Bushra*” (مجلة البشري) was appeared in the state of Kerala in 1963 A.D. by the Arabic Teachers’ Association and it has been publishing for ten years and then stopped forever. In the same year another Arabic research journal came into existence in Hyderabad, India that was “*Majallah al-Tanveer*” (مجلة التنوير) which was published by the department of Arabic, faculty of arts and commerce, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India. This was considered the second Arabic journal in South India and the first in Andhra Pradesh. After nine years, in 1972 A.D. another journal “*Majallah al-Hadi*” (مجلة الهادي) started to publish from Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. In 1974 the *Jamiyatu-al-Baqiat al-Sawaliha* of Valor, Tamil Nadu published one and only Arabic journal entitled “*Al-Baqiyat*” (الباقيات). After eight years another Arabic journal which was appeared from by the initiative of the students of *Jamia* Islamic, Bhatkal, Karnataka, South India by name “*Al-Jahira*” (الزاهرة) in 1982. In Andhra Pradesh another Arabic journal entitled “*Al-Adhwa*” (الأضواء) was established by the Arabic religious Institution at the new road in the village of Shah Ali Banda, Hyderabad, in 1986 and it was considered as the second Arabic journal in Andhra Pradesh. After one year later in 1988 another quarterly Arabic journal entitled “*Saut-ul-Salam*” (صوت السلام) was published by *Dar al-Uloom Sabeel al-Salam*, Hyderabad, India. This was the third Arabic journal used to publish from A.P., India. The fourth famous quarterly Arabic Magazine which was introduced by the *Jamia Islamia Dar-ul-Uloom*, Hyderabad, India, in the 1989 A.D. The Chief Editor of this journal was Shaykh Muhammad Numanuddin al-Nadwi, one of the extraordinary writers who compiled various Arabic books. This Magazine has been considered one of the leading Arabic journals in India due to its subject matters, good styles and techniques. This Magazine achieved recognition from the journalists of India and abroad. Besides Indians, many Arab authors have nicely commented on this magazine. In 1996, another Arabic journal entitled “*Al-Thaqafa*” (الثقافة) came into existence at Calicut, Kerala by the initiative of Centre for Islamic Sunni culture. In 2004, two reputed Arabic Islamic magazine journals

namely “*Al-Raihan*” (الريحان) and “*Al-Tadhamun*” (التضامن) came into existence in Kerala, the former used to publish from Department of Arabic, Faculty of science and arts, Wayanad and the later was published by *Azharul Uloom* Islamic Complex, Ernakulum, Kerala, India. The Chief Editor of this magazine is K. A. Muhammed Jamaludheen and Editor-in-Chief is Mohammad Iqbal Nadwi. Similarly in 2005, two other journals namely “*Al-Salah*” (الصلاح) and “*Al-Hira*” (الحراء) started to publish in south India. The former was founded by *Jamiatu-al-Nadwiah*, Malappuram, Kerala and the later one is an Arabic and Urdu fortnightly newspaper which has been publishing from *Dar-ul-Arab*, Hyderabad, India. The editor-in-chief of this newspaper is Professor (Dr) Syed Jahangir, Head, Department of Arabic, The English and Foreign Languages University. It is an educational, cultural, reformation and welfare newsletter. In 2016, three famous Arabic journals namely: “*Al-Jamia*” (الجامعة), “*Al-Nahda*” (النهضة) and “*Calicut*” came into existence in the state of Kerala. The journal “*Al-Jamia*” was published from *Jamiat-ul-Islamia*, Malappuram, Kerala. As far as the “*Al-Nahda*” (النهضة) is concerned, it is a famous Arabic bimonthly Newspaper publishes from “*Sabeel-ul-Hidaya* Islamic College”, Parappur, Kerala, India. In this newspaper basically Islamic Missionary activity and thoughtful literary articles are being published. In 2018, three reputed Arabic journals were founded in South India. Among those journals, *Aqlamun Waidah fi al-Shair wa-al Adab* (أقلام واعدة في الشاعر والأدب) a quarterly Arabic journal publishes from Hyderabad, India. The Chief Editor of this journal is Professor (Dr.) Muhsin Usmani Nadwi, former Dean in the Faculty of Arab Studies, The English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad. This journal has been publishing from Arabic Language Teachers’ Welfare Association, Hyderabad. The two other journals namely: “*Manar al-Nahda*” (منار النهضة) and “*Al-Ietesam*” (الاعتصام) used to publish from Kerala but stopped after some period. In 2009, two other leading Arabic journals got published from Kerala. The first one “*Al-Aasima*” (العاصمة) used to publish from Thiruvananthapuram, the capital of Kerala, and the other “*Al-Diwan*” (الديوان) from government college, Malappuram.

Three other current journals have also been published from Kerala namely: *Majallah al-Nur* (مجلة النور), “*Kerala*” (كيرالا), and “*Al-Madad*” (المداد). As far as *Majallah al-Nur* (مجلة النور) it has been publishing since 2010 by *Jamiat-ul-Arabia al-Nuria*, Faizabad, Malappuram. On the other hand, the journal “*Kerala*” has been publishing since January, 2011 by the Department of Arabic, Kerala University, Thiruvananthapuram and in the same year another journal entitled “*Al-Madad*” also been published by *Majmau’ Dar-ul-Hasanat al-Islamia*, Kannur, Kerala .

There were around twenty Arabic journals appeared in various parts of South India since 1963. Off those journals, maximum number were being published from Kerala, six from Andhra Pradesh and one each from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. It needs to mention that some journals like: “*Al-Baqiyat*”, “*Majallah al-Tanveer*”, “*Majallah al-Hadi*”, “*Manar al-Nahda*”, “*Al-Ietesam*” and “*Saut-ul-Salam*” were published for a few period and later on disappeared permanently. A few journals entitled “*Al-Thaqafa*” (الثقافة), “*Calicut*” (كاليكوت), “*Al-Diwan*” (الديوان) and “*Al-Adhwa*” (الأضواء) which have been published irregularly.¹⁸

Conclusion: In fine, journalism is such a profession where eminent scholars across the world get involved in it actively and also pen down their valuable ideas and thoughts. They disseminate news to the masses. Their artistic writings definitely help the people and the learners to aware about the various issues and facts. Moreover, it makes the people cultured, refines their beliefs and promotes inventions and discoveries and much more. At present, there are lots of Arabic journals and newspapers have been publishing regularly from North India as well as South India simultaneously e.g. “Al-Bas-el-Islami”, “Al-Daie”, “Al-Tadhamun” , “Al-Jamia”, “Al-Nahda”, “Al-Salah”, “Kerala” , “Aqlamun Waidah fi al-Shair wa-al Adab”, “Al-Raid”, and “Al-Hira” and these journals definitely have played a great role in the development of Arabic language and literature in India.

Foot notes:

1. Padmanabhan. Dr. N, History of Journalism, University of Calicut, Page:5
2. لسان العرب، ابن منظور، ص 186/9
3. سورة الأعلى ، الآية 19
4. النثر العربي المعاصر في الهند ، ص221
5. N. Jayaplan, “Journalism”, p.1
5. الصحافة العربية في الهند : نشأتها وتطورها،
6. النثر العربي المعاصر في الهند ، ص235
7. نفس المصدر، ص23
8. نفس المصدر، ص236
9. نفس المصدر ، ص237
10. نفس المصدر ، ص240
11. نفس المصدر ، ص237
12. نفس المصدر ، ص242
13. نفس المصدر ، ص243
14. نفس المصدر، ص243
15. نفس المصدر ، ص246
16. نفس المصدر ، ص248
17. نفس المصدر ، ص249
18. مجلة النهضة ، عدد:4، المجلد: 7، أكتوبر- نوفمبر 2013، ص-6.

References:

1. القرآن الكريم
2. ابن منظور، "لسان العرب" ، دار المعارف ، مصر، ج/9، ص-186.
3. الدكتور أيوب تاج الدين " الصحافة العربية في الهند- نشأتها و تطورها " ، مطبعة دار الهجرة ، جامو كشمير.
4. أستاذ أشفق أحمد، " النثر العربي المعاصر في الهند " ، دار عمر طباعة و نشر نيو دلهي، 2013م
5. أستاذ جمال الدين فاروقي و جماعته ، " أعلام الأدب العربي في الهند" ، مكتبة الهدى كاليكوت، الطبعة الأولى 2008م.
6. السيد عبد الحي الحسني ، " الإعلام بمن في الهند من الأعلام (نزهة الخواطر) " ، دار ابن حزم، دمشق.
7. "مجلة النهضة" ، عدد:4، المجلد: 7، أكتوبر- نوفمبر 2013.
8. N. Jayaplan, **Journalism**, Atlantic Publications and Distributors, New Delhi-27, Ed.2001.
9. Padmanabhan. Dr. N, **History of Journalism**, University of Calicut, Ed. 2011.