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**Contact us**

[www.theasianthinker.com](http://www.theasianthinker.com)

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**Head and Publishing Office:** Dr. Ramshankar, Haidargarh Road, Bhitariya, Ram Sanehi  
Ghat, Barabanki, Pin-225409 (UP)

**Branch Office:** 91, Aadarsh Colony, Biharipura, Vijay Nagar, Ghaziabad-201009 (UP)

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## THE ASIAN THINKER

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### Preface...

*The In an era defined by hyperconnectivity, information abundance, and the rapid transformation of socio-cultural landscapes, academic inquiry across disciplines has become not only relevant but urgent. This edited volume, Interdisciplinary Discourses in Media, Society, and Governance, brings together a wide range of critical studies that reflect upon contemporary challenges shaping our world—from media manipulation and political interference to digital governance, environmental psychology, and cultural representation.*

*The diverse contributions in this volume explore how the evolving media landscape is intricately tied to democracy, identity, and public consciousness. Hauwa Mohammed and Dr. Mukta Martolia's work on fake news in Nigeria critically examines how digital misinformation destabilizes social trust and breeds insecurity. Kartikey Sharma and Prof. Jyotsna Sinha's literary-cultural study decodes Western cultural influence on immigrant identity, drawing from V.S. Naipaul's seminal novel *A House for Mr. Biswas*.*

*Harsh Tomer's exploration of traditional media in rural western Uttar Pradesh reflects upon the construction of rural identity through community storytelling and cultural continuity. The editorial note on media ownership and political interference in Indian television news offers a timely intervention into the urgent need for media reform, ethical journalism, and democratic resilience.*

*Smriti Singh and Dr. Ranjana Tiwari provide a psychological lens to disaster and health management, while Dr. Priyanka Roy and Sneha Sarkar navigate the terrain of LGBTQ+ representation in Hindi cinema, a domain still marked by socio-cultural taboos and cinematic marginalization. Teesha Rastogi and Dr. Lalit Kumar assess mobile governance in Rampur, mapping digital integration in citizen services.*

*Dr. Meenakshi Pandey and Prof. Anurag Dave's study on digital storytelling powerfully addresses themes of cyberbullying, mental health, and gender violence, highlighting new modes of awareness and advocacy. The research by Abhay Shukla and Dr. Sadhana Srivastava highlights the role of e-governance in rural development, while Sunil Kumar Sahu's twin studies provide a granular picture of e-resource awareness among tribal and undergraduate students in Jashpur, underscoring the digital divide and concerns about education equity.*

*In the sociopolitical sphere, Dikshant Suryavanshi and Dr. Gajendra Pratap Singh revisit the philosophy of Dattopant Thengadi, exploring its relevance under the Modi regime, while Sunil Kumar Sahu's research on the impact of music on society taps into the emotive, cultural, and psychological dimensions of sound in human experience.*

*Together, these papers highlight the importance of interdisciplinary perspectives in understanding a rapidly changing world. As editors, we take immense pride in presenting this volume to scholars, students, policymakers, and media professionals. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all contributing authors for their insightful scholarship and to the reviewers for their critical engagement.*

*Ramshankar*

(Editor in Chief)