

# Xpression

Volume 2

November - December 2021

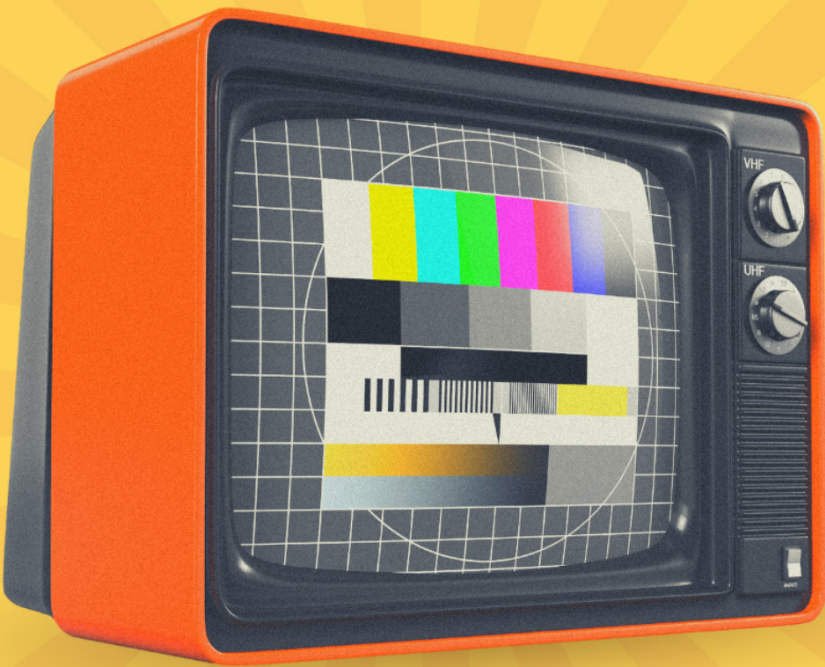
Issue 2

## WORLD

### Television Day

The Power of Visual Communication

NOVEMBER 21



NOVEMBER 21

TV makes a difference. Experience the power of tv and learn about its central role in today's society.

#### Oishi Basu

Television is one of the crucial man-made technologies that has eased everyone's life since time immemorial. It has helped in ways that no other development can ever replace. One of the examples could be how it acted as one of the saving graces during the difficult times of covid-19. Even though there are other mediums of communication, Television still shines brighter. With the advantage of it being an audio and video producing medium, it became the crowd's favorite with time.

The invention of the television can be dated back to 1927. It was invented by a young 21-year-old named Philo Taylor Farnsworth. One day while in school, he started to ponder over the design of a system that could capture and transfer moving pictures to different devices. His ideas for the mechanical television system were years ahead of the ideas he proposed back then. No one realized that television would become the medium facilitating global communication and information with its invention. In 1996, on

the 21st and 22nd of November, the United Nations hosted the very first forum of World Television. All the media personnel had gathered up to discuss how rapidly the world scenario was changing due to the existence of television. They pondered on how television brought in more information, more communication, and awareness to the issues all around the world. It did not restrict itself to one geographical region but multiple at the same time. Gradually it became one of the effective tools in spreading information, majorly showing a strong presence in the discourse of political affairs. Seeing such a positive reaction to Television, the UN General Assembly decided to celebrate 21st November as World Television Day.

By celebrating this day, we rejoice its contribution and role in spreading globalization with the hope that in the near future, the importance of Television can still be celebrated and rejoiced on.



## “Send the warm air out...Let the fresh air in....”



Vice-Chancellor Rev. Fr. Dr. J. Felix Raj, S.J.

Photography by Ahana Basu

Ahana Basu & Anik Bose

We all know that Television is a mass medium that provides entertainment, education, news, politics, gossip, etc. It has been a healthy source of information for both education and entertainment and has played a crucial role in society by delivering information. Hence, on the auspicious occasion of World Television Day, Vice-Chancellor Rev. Fr. Dr. J. Felix Raj, S.J. reiterates his pronounced views on the topic along with a little chit-chat about the nooks and crannies of his life and experiences that are lesser known to us.

### 1. How did you come up with the idea of establishing the university on the same fraternity even after the success of St Xavier's College?

**Ans.** The idea is, expansion is one of the main thrust areas of higher education. So, a well-known premier institution has to expand. So, we began what is called St Xavier's College Vision 2020, we began with this idea in 2010 and it's almost a 10 years vision, a journey of expansion and upgradation. However, we didn't want to upgrade from college to university, because the 160 years of history will disappear just like it happened to Presidency. We need to understand the basic purpose, that is to reach out to maximum number of students as possible.

### 2. You as an educationist, had this plan of vision 2025, how do you plan this path, to give the best possible service to this education sector?

**Ans.** We have completed the process of 2020, and begun with the new vision called 2025. By 2025, I have this dream of having 8-10 thousand students in another four years. So, this is an expansion in terms of number. Second is of course in terms of courses also known as academic expansion as now we have Arts, Commerce, Management, Social studies. Today we just cannot offer the traditional courses, we have to expand our academic courses as well. Expansion in terms of physical structure is important. There are so many facilities available and we will have to bring in all these facilities; technological facilities, sports facilities and many more.



Source : SXUK website

### 3. What are the additions you think all education sector should work on for the betterment of education given to students? How are you going to incorporate these plans in our university?

**Ans.** Educational institution must give orientation to students. Educational institution must reflect, think and plan and develop the orientation. Educational institution must look into every perspective and develop, because these are institutions that have the facilities to plan. It must help to open new avenues to our students. St Xavier's University, Kolkata as a premier institution must do that.

### 4. What are the extreme challenges you faced as a Vice Chancellor in our university during the crisis time of pandemic?

**Ans.** Life is a challenge and every moment is a challenge, but we shouldn't get disappointed. I always welcome challenges and along with me I have the professors from St Xavier's University, the alumni association, and the support of the government, especially the Chief Minister personally. She took a great bold step, not only in terms of giving the land but also morally supporting the project and saying "go ahead and we are there with you".

### 5. Under your leadership this institution is growing, but in this process many people might criticize, share something which is negative, how do you convert this negativity and change them into something positive which will bring an impact into our society?

**Ans.** There have been so many factors that are divisive in our society i.e. "Religion" "Caste" and "Nationality". These are all divisive forces, but these forces are to be solved. So as long as we are human beings, this will always happen, but then we can transform these things into something positive and that has to be the attitude. Spirituality has become the strength in our life, and this gives people positivity, because spirit can't be negative, our heart cannot be negative. So, this is basically the life is all about.

### 6. We have seen you as a professor, vice chancellor of our university but we have not seen the other side of yours, during your leisure time after meeting all your responsibilities. If you would like to share the other side of your personality.

**Ans.** I don't want to call it a leisure time or a hobby, but yes, I keep writing. I just published one of my books recently and the next one is in the line. I also keep attending seminars, talk to people, it helps me to continue the thinking process, and share this thinking process, the ideas and thoughts that I get with other people. I make it a point, to meet a group and share my ideas and get their ideas as well, because when two minds meet there are three ideas, and when three people meet there are five ideas. It is always good to be in a group and share.





**7. World Television Day 2020 is observed on 21 November to highlight the daily value of television. According to you what is its contribution and role in communication and globalization in this regard?**

**Ans.** As a medium it has contributed tremendously to the growth of society at large. In every stage there is a certain advancement. Today hardly people see any television, because they are in their mobile. One of the things that happened during this pandemic in the last two years is how families got together. It is a positive outcome. It is a better opportunity for them to come to know each other. Earlier the parents were working and were not available to the children and vice versa, but now it has all changed. But there is a negative side to this as well. "Familiarity builds contempt", the more you are together, the less you like to be together. So now we are waiting for our classes and colleges to start. This in any way, pandemic or not, nothing can stop the technological advancement that is going on. So, we have to celebrate, because television is an advancement.

**8. Television is a mass medium that provides entertainment, education, news, politics, gossip, etc. No doubt, it is a healthy source of both education and entertainment and plays a crucial role in society by delivering information. But do you think it is resulting to information overload day by day? What is your take on this?**

**Ans.** Yes, I do think that it is resulting in information overload. But at the same time in one way, it is good and in one way it is bad. The good way is, if I am doing research, I have everything in Google. But at the same time, I have exposure to so much information that I don't know how to do it. So, information is required because today the world has now become a free world. But it should not be misused and that's why we need to be educated, so that it is not misused. We need to educate ourselves so as to handle the information in the right way possible, so that all that is available is used for the betterment of the society.



Source : Google Images

**9. Even though we have proper sources of getting information, there is so much available on the internet that we tend to get confused. So, what is your take on this?**

**Ans.** Today's world is a world of cut and paste. It is a world of ready-made things. We always want an answer on the spot. The world is introducing things that are detrimental to growth. So, there are information if you want to take them out and use them properly you can do it. But the problem is our mind is such that we find an easy way of looking solution to our problems. When advancements are taking place, there are also dangers in it. Today's world has no confidentiality! So, we will have to face these dangers while we are advancing in a respective field, be it technologically or intellectually or academically.

**10. Is it affecting our sleeping habits or our psyche or physical health in any way?**

**Ans.** Yes, it is very much affecting. 30, 40, 50 years ago, we never heard of much sickness that we are hearing now. So many people are there in the hospital with so much crowd and no bed is available. Today we have multiplications of hospitals but they have become business centres unfortunately. So yes, it is affecting us psychologically. So, people are emotionally being affected and affecting our family lives as well.

**11. OTT is the recent boom of the time as we all know. Do you think that after the rise of OTT platforms, the craze for traditional Tv viewership has got affected in any way? if so, what according to you can be the reasons?**

**Ans.** Yes, it has it will. What is old cannot remain forever, it will definitely

disappear because we all are going after new things. So as new technologies are coming in, we are running after these new technologies. This is a human psyche. When we see an Indian with brown skin, we hardly look at them, but when we see a foreigner walking along the street, everybody is staring. So, something different we feel that is superior, something that is new, we all pay attention to. So, when something new comes in the market we all fall for it.

**12. Are you a subscriber of any OTT platform?**

**Ans.** No, I like technology but sometimes I feel that it is a waste of time.



Source : Google Images

**13. Do you think is the reason behind this shift? Do you think it is the personalized content it that we can see in these platforms or is it that the programs that come up in the television are not intriguing people anymore?**

**Ans.** Things have changed also, because people hesitate to watch TV these days. It's not informative, it's more of debating. The information is lacking, and people want information which is underplayed. It is less of information and more of advertisement. This is wrong and this is one of the reasons.

**14. Media has been a major platform to reach out to the masses and tv has always been catering to a privileged section. But now due to industrialization and recent IT boom, everybody including people of rural areas have internet connectivity. But recent survey says, that maximum villages in the outskirts of the country still use radio as a means to get information and entertainment. What do you think is the reason for the loyalty towards radio even after the touch of tv?**

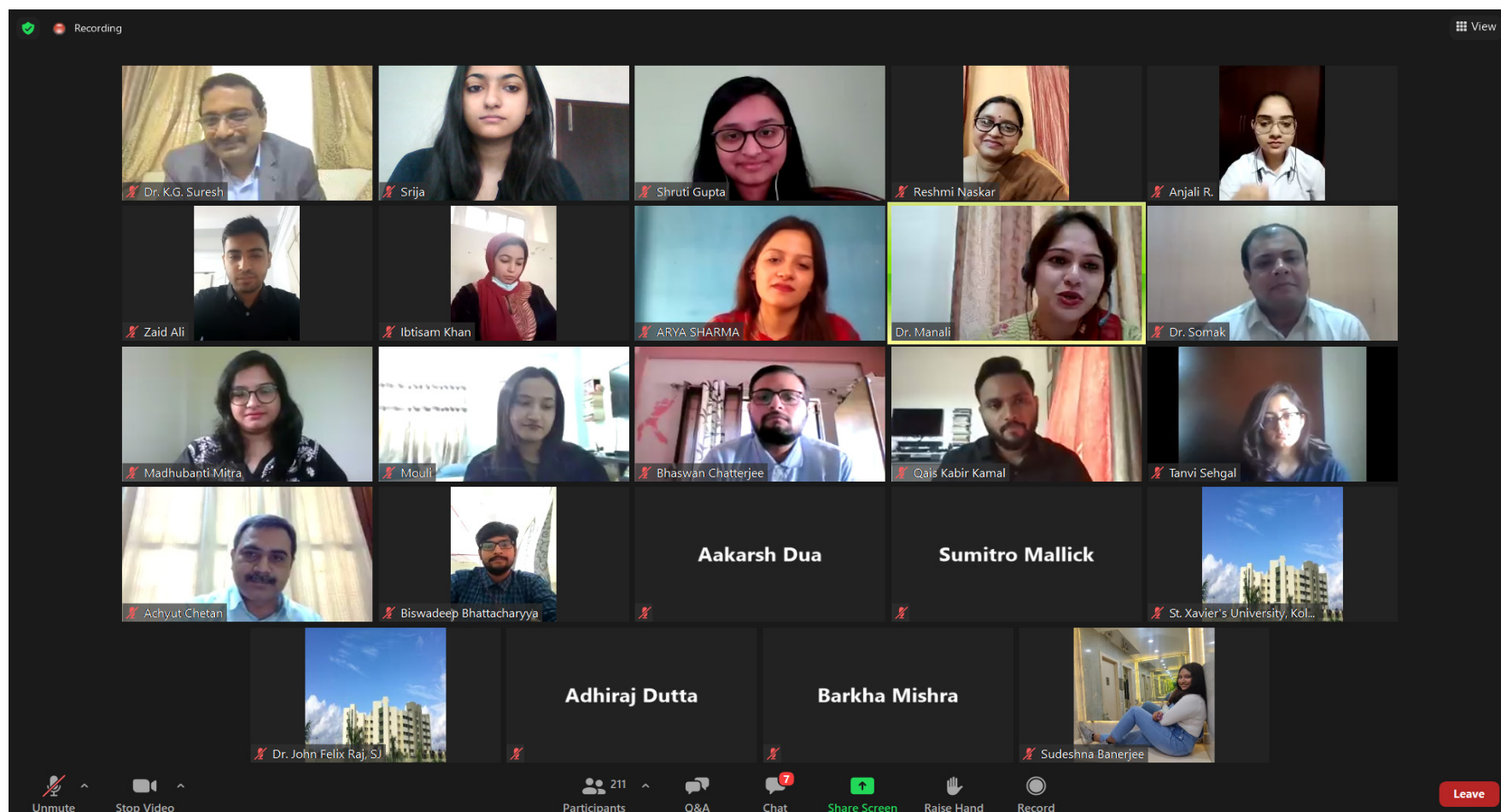
**Ans.** It has come down very much definitely. One of course, is because radios are very cheap and people do not have to sit down and watch radio can be carried anywhere. So, there are various advantages of carrying a radio. TV has to be in the house and it cannot go in a public place and TV is expensive than the radio and TV has got programs which people in villages may not like and radio is more informative than TV. But in villages where individuals cannot have TV, there are panchayats which have a common TV. So yes, there is advancement in this sense. Also, another thing is radio takes the waves very easily, but not the TV. So, there are advantages and disadvantages. But I'd like to say that both be used according to the convenience of each one. When some houses cannot afford to have a TV, they can have a radio or they can go to a public place to watch TV.



Source : Google Images



## First Fr. Gaston Roberge Memorial Lecture hosted at St. Xavier's University, Kolkata



### Shreya Banerjee

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata hosted the first of many lecture series in memory of Fr. Gaston Roberge on 18th of November, 2021. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Makhnallal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Mass Communication, Professor Dr. K G Suresh addressed the students of the Mass Communication department on the theme 'Role and Impact of Media in Society: An Indian Perspective'. Rev. Fr. Dr. J Felix Raj, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of St. Xavier's University, Kolkata led the session as the Session Chair, while Head of the Department of Mass Communication, Dr. Manali Bhattacharjee and Dr. Reshmi Naskar emceed for the e-event. Professor Dr. K G Suresh commenced the ses-

sion expressing gratitude and paying his humble tribute to Fr. Gaston Roberge. "I have been a cinema buff", he said. He talked about how he had heard so much about Fr. Gaston Roberge during his days as a society member at the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute. He added, "I won't call myself a specialist in cinema, but I have been dabbling in cinema for quite long".

He then went on to speak about the struggles involved during India's freedom and the critical role of media in it. He stated, "Journalism began on a mission more in this country", pointing out all the freedom fighters who played a massive role in spreading awareness. Furthermore he mentioned how the media has been the most

criticised segment of the society, because people have great expectations out of it and added "No other profession can take this kind of criticism, the way we can". He urged us to question ourselves and to probe into the matter of whether the media is still the voice of the voiceless or have they turned into mere profiteering institutions. He asserted that the media's job is not only to inform and educate but also to inspire the society. So, we need to talk about the plight but also need to highlight stories of success and motivate people. The afternoon then proceeded with a question answer session delegated by Dr. Somak Sen, where the students got an impeccable opportunity to interact with Professor Dr. K G Suresh.

### Dept of Mass Communication organises Xavmeet 4.0



### Arya Sharma

The Department of Mass Communication of St Xavier's University, Kolkata organised the online inter-departmental debate competition, Xavmeet 4.0 on the 1st and 2nd of November 2021. The topic for the event was "Basic education via online platforms during the pandemic: Success or Failure?" with the debate being conducted in an Oxford-style format. The Hon'ble Dean of Arts and Social Sciences

Department, Dr Achyut Chetan, the Head of the Department, Dr Manali Bhattacharya, Senior Faculty members, Dr Reshmi Naskar and Dr Chayanika Mitra presided over the event as the Chief Guests and also served as the Judges. A total of 26 students across the UG and the PG batches participated with various disciplinary backgrounds like English, Economics, BBA, BCom, BA, LLB and Mass Communication being represented in the programme. Dr Somak Sen, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mass Communication, was the Head Co-Ordinator of the Xavmeet Core Committee and provided valuable guidance to the team. The Xavmeet 4.0 was hosted by Arya Sharma while the Vote of Thanks was performed by Ibtisam Fayaz Khan on both days.

The online debate commenced at 4 pm on both days and adhered to its schedule without any delays, the or-

ators presented their views with utmost enthusiasm while maintaining the code of conduct and all the debaters were immaculate in their execution, some shone brighter. Freshers and seniors alike came together as eloquent orators, leaving behind a challenging task for the Judges to decide a winner. The event was witnessed by a large audience, comprising students as well as faculty members. Winners of Xavmeet 4.0 were declared after careful deliberations by the esteemed Judges on 9th November, 2021. From the Undergraduate batches, the first place was secured by Shely Kathotia, the second place by Yuvraj Chatterjee while Moumita Layek and Dipanita Das jointly secured the third position. From the Postgraduate batches, Syed Zulfiqar Quli secured the first position, Mouli Majhumdar secured the second position and the third position was secured by Sounak Dey.

#### Chief Patron

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor  
Rev. Fr. Dr. John Felix Raj S.J

#### Advisors

Dr. Achyut Chetan  
Dr. Manali Bhattacharya

#### Managing Editors

Dr. Somak Sen  
Dr. Reshmi Naskar

#### Chief Designers

Qais Kamal (M.A Sem 3)  
Monidipta Sarkar (M.A Sem 3)

#### Senior Sub Editors

Ahana Basu (M.A Sem 3)  
Ibtisam Fayaz Khan (M.A Sem 3)

#### Sub Editors

Oishi Basu (M.A Sem 3)  
Harshita Kumari (M.A Sem 3)

#### News Editors

Shreya Banerjee (M.A Sem 3)  
Damini Basu (M.A Sem 3)  
G. Bhargavi (M.A Sem 3)  
Maushmi Chawda (M.A Sem 3)  
Anik Bose (M.A Sem 3)  
Arya Sharma (B.A Sem 5)  
Aishwarya Banik (B.A Sem 5)  
Ansah Aktar (B.A Sem 5)  
Shrestha Manna (B.A Sem 5)  
Subhangee Mohanta (B.A Sem 5)  
Abir Banerjee (B.A Sem 5)  
Paroma Dey Sarkar (B.A Sem 5)





Delving into the 1980s via the lens of Hum Log



Image Source: Google

Harshita Kumari

Hum Log (We The People), the 1984 show aired on Doordarshan emerged as a collaboration with writer Manohar Shyam Joshi and director P. Kumar Vasudev into a never-dying diegesis. The first and foremost soap opera of Indian television, one of the good old days’ sitcoms that was moved on by the effortless aim of the day-to-day battles of a family in the line of accomplishing its dreams. The unparalleled 17 months eminent daily soap was highly tellable for the middle-class Indians at that time.

A hark back to the story of Basesar Ram and his family spells out why the 156-episode saga even now has an extra special place in the hearts of the looker ones. At the centre of its hardship, Hum Log comprised of woman empowerment spun into it. The show’s primary female dramatists, personae-Bhagwanti, Badki, Manjhli, and Chhutki, struggled around the clock with their position and name. Bhagwanti, a mother of five kids, was the absolute self-depriving, a self-effacing Indian woman who led her life for her kids

and husband. Basesar who is inebricated; a submissive Bhagwanti; unemployed older son, Lalloo; a daughter aiming to be actress, Manjhli; and a son aspiring to be a cricketer, Nanhe. Their lives and goals, which conflicted with each other in the small tumbledown house at that time, are the reality that still clashes in several such homes across India. Even today, you will find a drunkard father imprecating his wife for having three daughters and one Manjhli in a middle-class family circle holding back to escape to be a star.

World Television Day: Room to manoeuvre the power of audio-visual media

G. Bhargavi

United Nations general assembly mark November 21 as the World Television Day and acknowledge the importance of visual media across the continents annually. Television has been playing the role of entertaining its audiences since decades, from being a communication, educating and information broadcasting medium to being the ambassador for the entertainment industry, it has played a vital role in leaving an impact on the world. On this day the power of the audio-visual media is being celebrated, where different topics are taken up for discussion, along with pertinent issues around the world. These are resolved in a way, where television as a medium plays a very important role by bringing people from different culture together. Moreover, the audience gets a chance to be familiar with the economic, social, geographic and political functions of the different countries as well.

How has Television revolutionized over the years in India

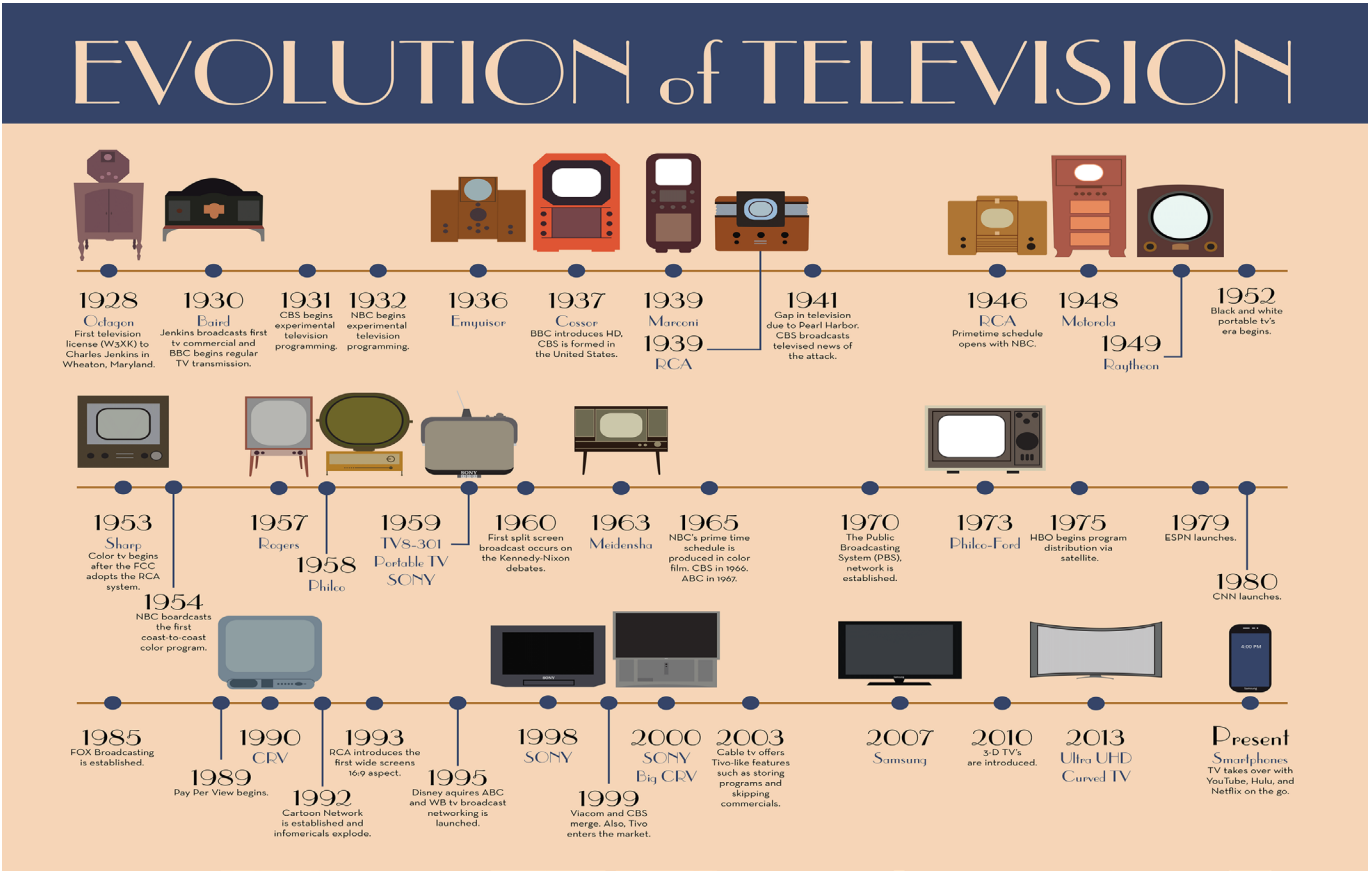


Image Source: Google

Aishwarya Banik

Television broadcasts began in India on 15th September 1959 as an experiment. The initial broadcasts were handled by AIR. There were two one-hour programs in a week. These were generally educational programs for farmers and school students. In 1975, a significant step was taken by the Indian government to use satellite ATS-6 to broadcast educational programs in six different Indian villages as an experiment to use the tv for development. It was a great success.

A significant milestone of Indian television was the first colour coverage of the 9th Asian Games in 1982 through satellite INSAT-1A. After 1982 the live coverage of sports by DD also increased

rapidly. Along with domestic transmission, DD was also providing content for the broadcasters of many other countries. In 1983, the Government of India sanctioned a massive expansion of Door darshan. Several new transmitters were set up throughout the country. Programs like ‘Hum Log,’ ‘Buniyaad,’ and ‘Nukkad’ became very popular. In 1997, the Prasar Bharti corporation was established to serve as a public service broadcast. Channels under Door darshan were only available during that time. The coverage of the Gulf war in 1991 by American News Channel pushed forward satellite TV in India. The satellite dishes were used to catch CNN signals, and cable operators took over satellite

broadcasting immediately.Hongkong-based Satellite TV agreed with an Indian company, and Zee Tv was born, the first private Hindi satellite channel in India. In 1995, the supreme court granted control over airwaves to private channels as well. Soon several private channels started emerging.

Apart from educational channels, a lot of international channels were being made available to the Indian audience. Television started with two one-hour programs but now has more than 850 channels, with 197 million households owning televisions.



# Exploring gender stereotyping in Indian television

**Ansah Akhtar**

One of the most contentious problems in today's world is how women are portrayed on television. The television depictions of contemporary Indian women are so detached from reality. Women have always been presented in clichéd ways rather than as intellectual, self-assured, and empowered individuals. Most of the shows aired these days play a huge role in gender stereotyping. The men in these serials are shown as the assertive and hard-working bread earners of the family. In contrast, the women are portrayed as a submissive homemaker who is always ready to sacrifice everything for the sake of their loved ones. These storylines stem from the patriarchal structures of Indian society.

These stereotypes are so far-fetched that it judges women based on their physical appearances too. There have been numerous instances where women who wear traditional Indian clothes are submissive plus innocent and are portrayed as the "perfect" daughter-in-law. Whereas women, who have short hair, wear western clothes and are not afraid to speak their minds are villains. Apart from that, there are a lot of instances where a fair and slim woman is cast as the lead, and the dusky-skinned women are placed in a subordinate role. Which comes across as the fair women are the face of society and dusky women are not. This leads to creating a difference and inferiority complex amongst women.

In today's world, television acts as a powerful tool for highlighting women's role in society. Even though some minor progressions are being emphasized, the misinterpretation and stereotyping of women in Indian television should be stopped, and more positive shifts should be brought in.

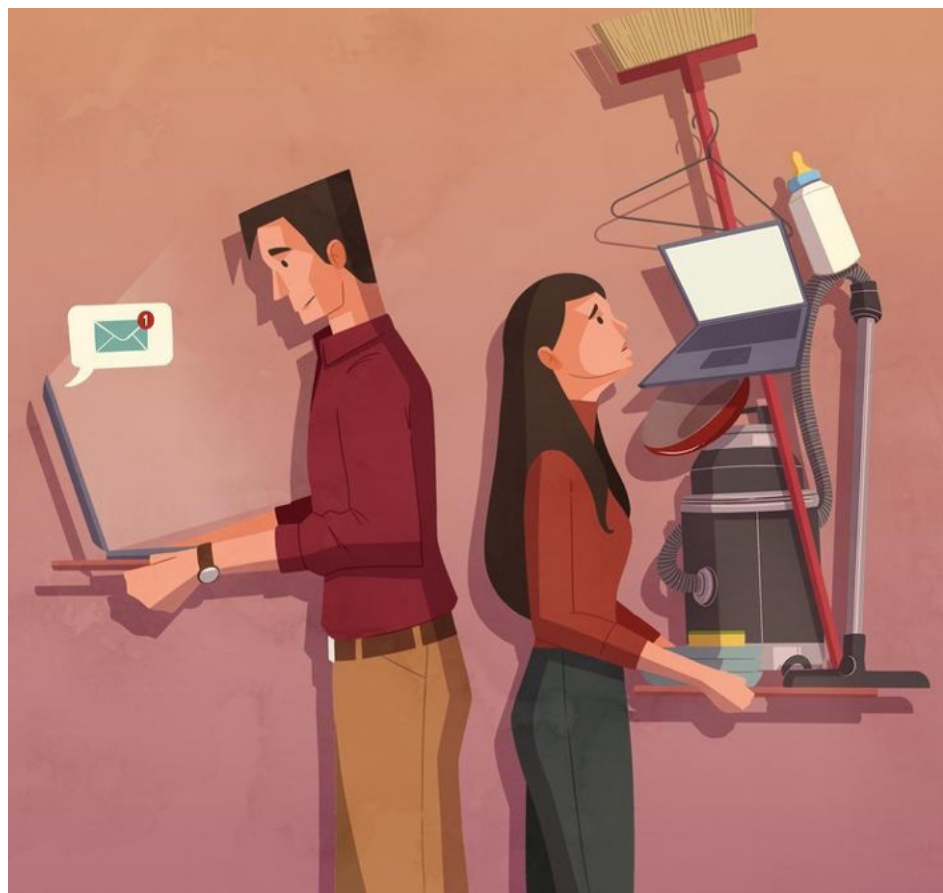


Illustration by- Anam Musta'ein Source: Today

## Television and the envision of a better India



Image Source: Google

**Subhangee Mohanta**

On 15th September 1959 television first came to Indian as an experiment with a limited transmission of three days a week. The scope of programs was restricted to educational broadcasts for a limited area around New Delhi. The most important reason to introduce television was for educational purposes and the Government of India supported the television project financially. In 1961 television program for teachers was started. A daily one-hour service started during this year. Between 1972 and 1982, there was huge development and increase in this medium. People were hugely receptive towards television, while previously Radio was the only medium besides newspapers that supplied any content for the common people. Hence, a new medium that provided people with both audio and visual became an instant hit with the masses.

There were three points that triggered the phenomenal growth of television in India from the mid-1970s. First: The Satellite Instructional Television Experiment

(SITE), the experiment was conducted between August 1975 and July 1976 and it used a satellite to broadcast educational programmes to villages across six states. Second: INSAT-1A, the first of the country's domestic communications satellites which became operational in 1982. In November 1982, the country hosted the Asian Games and the government introduced the first ever colour broadcasts for the coverage of the games. Third: in the early nineties with the broadcast of satellite TV by foreign programmers like CNN, Star TV followed the same along with domestic channels such as Zee TV and Sun TV into Indian homes.

As we retrace our technological growth, we can take a note of how far we have come digitally, and its bizarre that just a few years ago the concept of television was alien to people. We can now subscribe hundreds of channels as per our choice and affordability. But on the hindsight, as we move forward with the boom of the OTT platforms, television is seeming to lose its traditional touch.

## Survival of traditional entertainment platforms: The Television

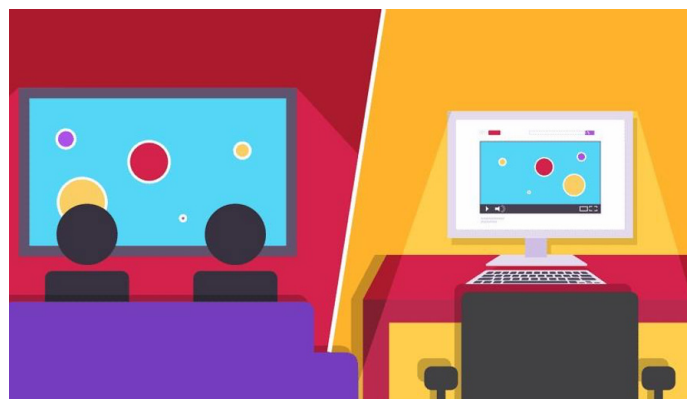


Image Source: Google

**Maushmi Chawda**

For decades before the 2000s, media consumption among the audience remained unchanged. Television was one of the most popular sources of entertainment for the public across the globe before the Internet knocked on our doors. Television has always united the whole family and prompted them to watch the news, films, or TV shows together. One can say that television used to be the binding element of the entire village. From the advent of television, we have come a long way, with just one channel, Doordarshan, being broadcasted in India, to multiple channels, from fixing the antenna to fixing the Direct-to-home (DTH) at our home. Even though we have come this far, there are still some things left to conquer. For example, the full-blown digital penetration of online platforms will still take some time.

Meanwhile, television continues to dominate the landscape. Despite the rapid growth of digital reach, people still prefer to switch on the box for detailed and accurate news. Af

ter a tiring day at work, one would still choose the comfort of a couch with a big screen in front of them. Though digital media is gaining massive popularity among the audience, it has not substituted television completely. The majority of the population is inclined towards digital platforms, but television still enjoys the larger chunk of the mass audience. The digital platform is helping the advertising industry gain colossal revenue, but advertisers still prefer television. In a digital platform, the power lies in the hands of the viewers, they can skip or close an advertisement while surfing over social media, but that is not the case in television. However, one can change the channel on television, but they cannot skip the advertisements shown. Television gives a sense of unity and togetherness, making the entire family consume the televised content together. Despite the rise in digital consumption, the good old television continues to have an edge in terms of penetration.





## The royal wedding, a royal tragedy

*Image Source: Getty*

**Abir Banerjee**

The entire world tuned in their Television sets as Prince Charles murmured “I will” in the St Paul’s Cathedral as the heir apparent and Lady Diana exchanged vows which would bind them in holy matrimony. It was the royal wedding of 1981.

The wedding of Lady Diana Spencer to Charles, Prince of Wales, was hailed “The wedding of the century” and was broadcast worldwide. 750 million people in 74 nations watched the broadcast from all around the world. The wedding of the future king, which was the most viewed royal wedding at the time. Nearly 600,000 people were on the sidewalks, some of whom had waited out the whole night, raising

Union Jack flags as they awaited the two newlyweds to pass London in their open-topped state chariot on the three-kilometre path from the cathedral. From Lady Diana’s bridal gown to the wedding cake, everything made the international headlines. The gathering masses eagerly applauded the iconic kiss on Buckingham Palace’s balcony. “This is the stuff that fairytales are made of,” remarked the Archbishop of Canterbury. But, little did people realize that the original fairytales were very terrible stories and that, like the others, this, too, shall run its course.

This wedding came as a moment that made British history and took a turn as a tragedy in the making.

## Wonders of television throughout the years



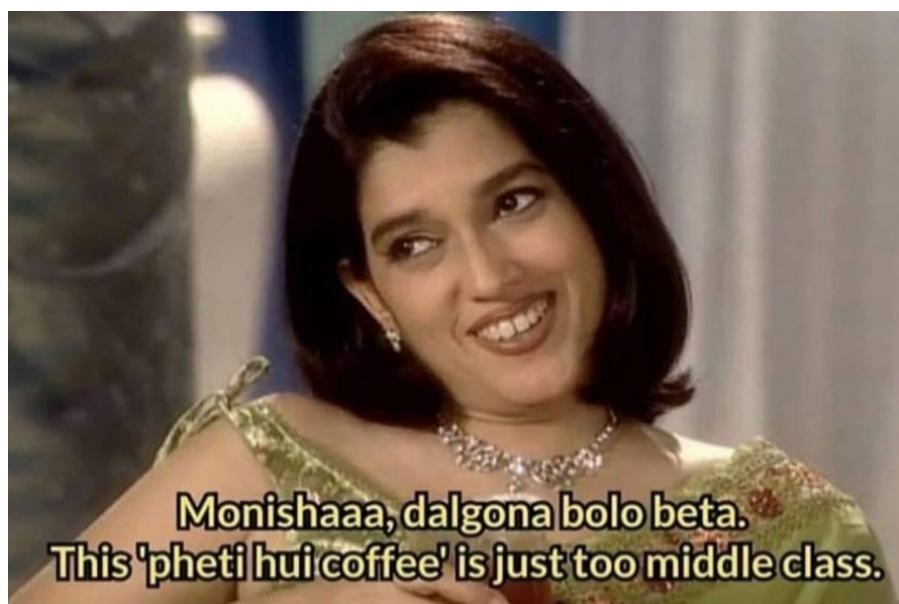
**Shrestha Manna**

“If life were predictable it would cease to be life, and be without flavour.”- Eleanor Roosevelt  
Much like how television is to us, it has kept evolving with the kind of content the audiences love to watch, and over the time educational programs were replaced by entertainment industries and contents kept changing with the preferences of people.

One of the most revolutionary forecasts was the launch of Apollo 11 and the moon landing. The entire world was astonished and proud of the remarkable feat that was

achieved. It was a thing of wonder, how a member of the human race landed on another celestial body, our natural satellite, the moon. Carl Sagan once said, “Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known”, and indeed through the power of television we are able to unravel the most eccentric thing possible. Television wasn’t just used for disseminating relevant information, but also for reuniting and connecting the world globally in times of crises, world issues and every other milestone we’ll ever achieve.

## Sarabhai vs Sarabhai: The evergreen sitcom

*Image Source: Google*

**Paroma Dey Sarkar**

If you are thinking of re-watching an old Hindi television program devoid of melodrama and will entertain you, Sarabhai vs. Sarabhai might be the perfect pick for you. Aired in 2004, it is a sitcom that twirls around the daily activities of an elite Gujarati family, primarily focusing on the class conflict between the sophisticated mother-in-law and her middle-class daughter-in-law, hence leading to its name. But wait, if you think that it’s the same stereotypical story of every soap opera, you are mistaken. It’s the entire opposite! The central stereotypes it defies are through the dressing sense and nature of the characters.

Unlike any stereotypical wealthy Gujarati woman portrayed in TV soaps, the Sarabhai ladies are never seen roaming about the house in heavy sarees and pieces of jewelry 24×7. Instead, the outfits chosen for the characters are plain, dignified, and relatively modern, given the time this series was aired. For example, the elite mother-in-law is

a perfectionist in domestic activities and simultaneously manages to keep up with social work. In contrast, the daughter-in-law is entirely the opposite, which goes against the notions of how a daughter-in-law should excel in everything. Through these differences, the series presents society in a satirical and witty format for all of us to enjoy. It also makes the show address the subjects like class conflict in a subtle, humorous, and non-offensive way. However, what makes the sitcom stand out is its witty humour, punches, and double entendres ahead of its time and will drive you to fits of laughter.

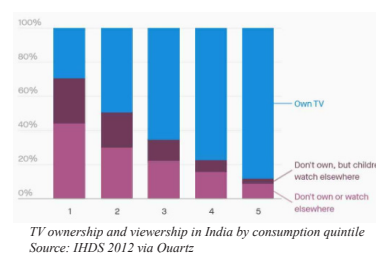
With talented actors like Ratna Pathak Shah and Satish Shah on board, it gave us some iconic, modern, and relatable characters with unique dialogues that can be seen trending even on memes today. Neither vulgar nor prudent, entertaining yet subtle, Sarabhai vs. Sarabhai is an evergreen show perfect even for today’s youngsters.

## Educational television in India during COVID-19 pandemic

**G Trisha**

In response to coronavirus (COVID19)-related school closures, many countries have used remote learning approaches with launching online learning programmes. Online learning, on the other hand, has revealed significant digital disparities across and within countries, particularly in high-income countries. The issue is even worse in low- and middle-income nations, where Internet penetration rates are often less than 50% and a huge percentage of students do not have gadgets to facilitate online learning at home. In 2017, India had over 400 million smartphone users, according to industry statistics. Only 17% of Indian families owned a smartphone, according to a household study performed by Intermedia a year later. Even if smart-

phone ownership has increased by 50%, as industry numbers claim, it still represents a small percentage of homes. Moreover, countries are turning to television to greatly boost remote learning access. Spending more time and money developing educational television (ETV) for children at early grade, it is more accessible, easier to develop, and has more rigorous evidence to back it up than smartphone based ed-tech. A considerable amount of high-quality content already exists — for example, Gali Gali Sim Sim, Planet Read’s movies, or existing ePathshala videos.





## India's dream of winning T20 World Cup smashed; Pakistan rejuvenates itself

*Image Source: Google*

**Damini Basu**

Every ardent cricket fan around the world will not hesitate to answer when asked about the most famous rivalry in cricket – India vs Pakistan. The arch-rivals rarely play outside of major tournaments due to political tensions. Fans from both the countries always have to wait for a World Cup match in any format to witness one of cricket's greatest sporting rivalries. Both the countries boast of some of the best players in business – batsmen smashing the ball out of the park, bowlers shattering into pieces the stumps mercilessly and fielders flying around to save runs fiercely. Now if looked at the head-to-head

record of both the nations ever since the onset of the T20 World Cup since 2007, India and Pakistan have faced each other in T20 World Cups 5 times, with India emerging victorious on all 5 occasions. However, on October 24th 2021, history had a new chapter to write. India headed out to the Dubai International Stadium with the belief to continue their pretty all-win record against Pakistan while Pakistan headed out with the earnest hunger to break once and for all the India jinx. Inviting India to bat first on a tricky pitch, Pakistan first managed to restrict the Men in Blue for an average 151/7. Then it was all fire-

works for the Pakistan team as both the openers, Pakistan captain Babar Azam and Mohammed Rizwan, seemed more than enough to chase down this target without losing a single wicket and 13 balls to spare.

With this win, Pakistan managed to break their India jinx on the 6th attempt, and it will be very interesting to see what will happen when again next year for the T20 World Cup 2022 both these arch-rivals lock horns, in Australia.

## Liverpool beats Manchester United as Salah scores a Hat-Trick

*Image Source: Google*

**Shreya Banerjee**

Old Trafford saw Manchester United crumble as Liverpool managed to beat them by 5-0 on Sunday. Liverpool had already attained 4-0 lead by halftime, with Naby Keita, Mo Salah and Diogo Jota all successfully finding the net. Minutes into the second half Salah adeptly scored his third for the night before the French midfielder Paul Pogba got sent off for his precarious tackle. At the fourth minute Bruno Fernandes had created a chance for himself but failed to seize the opportunity as his shot went over the crossbar. A

minute later Keita skilfully hit the ball assisted by Salah way past David de Gea's reach, earning the first goal for Liverpool. Extremely poor defending from United gave away another goal to Jota, who managed to score from the low cross assist by Trent Alexander-Arnold. On the 38th minute, the Egyptian star player, Mo Salah low side-footed the ball scoring his first goal. Just before the end of the first half he scored another magnificent goal from the corner of the box and later at 55th minute, sealed the match with

his third goal. With this spectacular performance Salah became the top scoring African player in the history of Premier League surpassing Didier Drogba, the former Chelsea player by two goals.

Right now there is immense pressure on Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, the manager of United as they have slipped to the sixth position, while Liverpool resides at fourth in the English Premier League Standings.