

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 53974

Date: 23/09/2025

Title: “The Betrayal of Journalistic Expression in Contemporary Reality: A Study in Light of Scriptural Texts and Maqāṣid al-Sharī‘ah, Compared with International Standards”

Recommendation:

Accept

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		√		
Techno. Quality			√	
Clarity			√	
Significance			√	

Reviewer Name: Dr Abdul Haseeb Mir

Date: 23/09/2025

Reviewer's Comment

The article presents an important and timely exploration of journalistic freedom in the context of contemporary challenges, drawing upon both scriptural sources and the Islamic legal framework of Maqāṣid al-Sharī‘ah. By situating the discussion alongside international standards of press freedom, the study attempts a valuable comparative lens that enriches the debate on ethical journalism. The author highlights the inherent dignity of journalistic expression as a means of upholding truth, accountability, and societal well-being, while critically analyzing how modern realities—such as political suppression, corporate influence, and ideological manipulation—undermine these ideals

Detailed Reviewer's Report

The article under review, “The Betrayal of Journalistic Expression in Contemporary Reality: A Study in Light of Scriptural Texts and Maqāṣid al-Sharī‘ah, Compared with International Standards”, addresses an increasingly urgent issue: the decline of authentic journalistic integrity in contemporary times. The author sets out to analyze this problem through two key frameworks: Islamic scriptural and jurisprudential sources, and international human rights standards on freedom of expression.

Strengths of the Article

One of the most commendable aspects of this study is its normative grounding in Maqāṣid al-Sharī‘ah. By connecting the ethical purpose of journalism to the higher objectives of Islamic law, the author shows

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

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that media freedom is not an unrestricted right but a responsibility that serves the collective good. This perspective is both original and important, especially in societies where debates around freedom of speech often take place in purely secular or politically charged contexts. The use of scriptural references strengthens the argument that Islam values truth-telling, accountability, and the safeguarding of human dignity—all of which are central to responsible journalism.

The comparative engagement with international standards, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), provides another strong dimension. By placing Islamic perspectives in conversation with global norms, the article bridges cultural and legal traditions, showing both overlaps and differences. This dual perspective is a valuable contribution to ongoing debates on universalism versus particularism in human rights and ethics.

Areas for Improvement

Despite these strengths, the article faces some structural and methodological challenges. The narrative occasionally shifts abruptly between scriptural exegesis, theoretical commentary, and international law, making it somewhat difficult to follow. A clearer division into thematic sections—for instance, (i) scriptural foundations, (ii) maqāṣid-based principles, (iii) contemporary challenges, and (iv) comparative analysis with international standards—would improve coherence.

Furthermore, the article remains largely theoretical. While its normative arguments are strong, the inclusion of empirical examples would add weight and relevance. For instance, referencing recent cases of media suppression, censorship, or ethical lapses in journalism (whether in Muslim-majority contexts or globally) would ground the theoretical claims in lived realities. Similarly, examples of journalism guided by Islamic ethical principles could illustrate the constructive vision the author advocates.

Recommendation

With minor revisions to structure, clarity, and empirical grounding, the article deserves publication.