

the PEACE JOURNALIST

The Peace Journalist is a semi-annual publication of the Center for Global Peace Journalism at Park University in Parkville, Missouri.

The Peace Journalist is dedicated to disseminating news and information for teachers, students, and practitioners of peace and conflict sensitive journalism.

Submissions are welcome from all. We are seeking shorter submissions (300-500 words) detailing peace journalism projects, classes, proposals, etc. We also welcome longer submissions (800-1200 words) about peace or conflict sensitive journalism projects or programs, as well as academic works from the field.

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What is Peace Journalism?

Peace Journalism is when editors and reporters make choices that improve the prospects for peace. These choices, including how to frame stories and carefully choosing which words are used, create an atmosphere conducive to peace and supportive of peace initiatives and peacemakers, without compromising the basic principles of good journalism. (Adapted from Lynch/McGoldrick, *Peace Journalism*). Peace Journalism gives peacemakers a voice while making peace initiatives and non-violent solutions more visible and viable.

A number of valuable peace journalism resources, including resource packets and online links, can be found at:
<http://www.park.edu/center-for-peace-journalism/resources.html>.

Peaceful perspectives needed in Kashmir region

By Shazana Andrabi and Ruheela Hassan

In Kashmir, a conflict zone often referred to as a 'nuclear flashpoint' between India and Pakistan, the last twenty-five plus years have been those of violence (of several degrees of intensity), turmoil and loss. Like any conflict situation, education has been one of the major casualties and has sometimes been relegated to the background as more 'pressing' issues of law and order were prioritized.

Journalism, however, was needed more than ever; and responsible journalism at that.

Academics from the Centre for International Relations and Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Kashmir, and Park University, USA, came together to hold a series of workshops on Peace Journalism from the 28th to the 30th of July, 2015. The objective of

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these workshops was to understand how media affects the prospects for conflict and peace building. The series was meant to sensitize academics, journalists and students to perceive situations through the perspectives of a peace journalist.

It was recognised that Peace Journalism was much-needed, especially in a conflict zone, and practical, peace-

oriented perspectives needed to be brought forth. It could involve different academic activities like offering joint courses, organising workshops and conferences, conducting research activities and joint publications. The first step towards this end would be to make people aware of the concept of Peace Journalism. This was done

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Islamic University students review peace journalism materials during a week long workshop in Awantipora, Kashmir.