Climate Change Coverage in Indian Print Media: A Discourse Analysis

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Abstract: Climate change has attracted much political and media attention in recent years. While western media coverage of this issue has been well-documented, there is a paucity of media analysis for climate change coverage in developing economies. This paper examines the media discourse generated in India among three leading English-language dailies (with centrist and conservative news values) during globally prominent climate change events. A quantitative analysis shows a peak in coverage when the Fourth Assessment Report by the IPCC was released in February 2007, and when climate change crusaders won the Nobel Peace Prize in October 2007. A qualitative content analysis reveals that frames such as scientific certainty, energy challenge, social progress, public accountability and looming disaster are widely employed by the elite Indian press to raise relevant social, economic and political issues. Cross-cultural comparisons of media constructs, especially with Europe and America, help identify the further development of risk communication in this field. In a broader, global sense, this work can be tied in to the idea of the ‘climatic turn’ as suggested by European researchers with climate change evolving into a grand, transnational narrative.

Keywords: Climate Change, Global Warming, Discourse Analysis, Media Reporting, Indian Print Media, Climatic Turn, Climate Coverage

Introduction

In an increasingly globalising scenario, various issues and themes find resonance within the international community, turning into global discourses. Climate change appears to be one such narrative, where life-threatening disasters, coupled with dramatic shifts in policy and the global emergence and recognition of climate science has led to a larger and stronger wave of climate discourse. In recent times, the discussion of climate change has gathered momentum, so much so, that it has been described as the “poster child” (Edwards, 2001) for a global environmental problem.

The media stand at the intersection of this discourse as a conduit between the scientific body, the political community and the public sphere. In transporting and translating scientific knowledge for common understanding, the media play a pivotal role in the public perception of risk (Nelkin, 1987; Allan, Adam, & Carter, 2000). Further, they influence public opinion and the policymaking process. It has been long acknowledged that “the mass media and public perceptions of issues and problems are inexorably linked” (Altheide, 1997), providing sufficient impetus to study the media discourse of climate change globally.

The media representation of climate change has been extensively analysed in European (notably, British, German, Swedish, Finnish, Danish, French), Australian and American media. In fact, referring to the dramatic and emotional European media coverage, Neverla (2007; 2008) has argued that there is possibly a long-term ideological shift and increase in the coverage of climate change, leading to a “grand narrative” or “super-issue,” perhaps at
a transnational level. Various researchers (Boykoff & Roberts, 2007; Brossard, Shanahan, & McComas, 2004; Neverla, 2008) have highlighted the need to study climate change coverage in other countries, particularly in developing economies like India and China.

A recent attempt in looking at climate change coverage in the Indian print media constructs the coverage along a North-South divide and finds that the issue is divided along postcolonial lines (Billet, 2010). However, this analysis leaves out opinion and editorial pieces from its selection, often the very barometer of a newspaper’s ideology and reflection of its true message. Nor is an in-depth media-framing discourse analysis performed, leaving a gap that needs to be filled. In this paper, I will look at the presence and personality of climate change coverage in select, elite English language press in India through an in-depth qualitative frame analysis of representative news articles. This analysis, besides enabling cross-cultural comparisons and a deeper understanding of the climate discourse as a whole, will also help expand on the idea of a “climatic turn” (Neverla, 2007; 2008).

The Indian Case Study

India is a growing economy with a rich ancient culture, a large human resource and an increasingly influential media. Economic liberalization from the early 1990s has brought about many changes in the country, leading to a shift in attitudes and lifestyles empowered by technological advancement, economic growth and consumerism. Similarly, the Indian media landscape has undergone a facelift. Newspapers, for instance, are slimmer, brighter, glossier and more market-driven (Sharma, 2002). The roots of Indian journalism, however, lie in the country’s freedom struggle. Theorists (Sharma, 2002; Rao, 2008, Kohli, 2006) recount the family-driven, nationalistic, activism-oriented tradition of newspaper journalism where journalists were cast in the role of nation-builders, agents of empowerment and watchdogs, becoming crusaders inseparable from the public sphere.

Against this backdrop, India’s unique ecological character provides another dimension. The Vedic texts of India have venerated nature and maintained that the environment has a moral order essential to human survival. Misra (1997), in an article examining the Indian world view and the current environmental crisis, talks of the ancient concept of *vasudhaiva kutumbakam* (i.e. all that is alive, from plants to human species, belongs to a single family) and appeals to an eco-centric way of life, as opposed to the modern techno-centric one.

Singer (1955) observed that the mass media in India drew heavily upon the stock of ancient oral stories and rituals, devotional and religious corpus to position themselves successfully. Some journalists were avowed environmentalists during the ‘70s and ‘80s and pedalled for sustainable practices at a national level, hand in hand with scientists (Guha, n.d). Environmental issues closely connected to community and livelihood, such as the Narmada dam protest and the *Chipko* movement to protect trees in the hills, were vastly covered in both regional and English language press (Chapman, Kumar, Fraser, & Gaber, 1997). With this unique cultural background, Indian newspapers have the potential to create powerful narratives within the climate change discourse and find the themes relevant to a changing, complex India.
Methodology and Materials

For this study, climate change coverage was isolated in three prominent, English-language daily broadsheets during the specific events of the release of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (February 2007) and the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to climate crusaders Al Gore and the IPCC (October 2007). The significance of these events would ensure sustained media reporting and the tenor of the articles in Indian newspapers at this time would reveal each paper’s commitment to the climate cause and their ideological standing on the issue. The three newspapers were selected for reasons of geography, influence, high circulation and ease of access. All papers are based in the cities of Delhi and Mumbai, the heavily populated, political and financial hubs of India. They cater to the educated elite and working class of these cities and have the potential to influence current and future administrators and business people.

Hindustan Times (HT) is the flagship paper of HT Media with a readership of over 3 million (Newswatch Desk, 2010). With roots in the freedom struggle, it declares people-centric values of “courage, responsibility, empowerment and continuous self-renewal” to be at its core.1 The Indian Express (IE), also started during the freedom struggle, has a readership of about half a million (Sruthijith KK, 2009), and is owned by one of India’s largest media conglomerates. With a crusading spirit against corruption and anti-democratic activities, the paper is identified by an unbiased, investigative, anti-establishment approach to journalism, embodied in its tagline “Journalism of Courage.” The Times of India (TOI) is reputed to have a readership of over 7 million (Newswatch Desk, 2010) and is owned by a business group with diverse interests including visual communication, event management, real estate and private equity. The paper has often been criticized for yellow, tabloid and crass, glamour-oriented, consumerist journalism. It defends itself by professing to be a “liberal” newspaper, “neither socialist nor extreme nationalist,” supporting market forces and the right and freedom to choose (Adhikari, 2008).

A keyword search, using the words “climate change” and “global warming” was conducted in each newspaper’s internet archive for the said months. The total number of articles (191 in all) from this search were then downloaded and assessed. Each article was quantified and classified according to the date on which it appeared, its placement in the paper, its headline, the source attributed to it and the type of article (for example news, op-ed or interview). Articles were further classified according to their content and slant of coverage (i.e. international/national/regional). Prior to the qualitative in-depth discourse analysis, a basic overview of the coverage revealed the main elements of each newspaper’s climate coverage.

Analysis Overview

Dedicated coverage of climate change is evident in all three newspapers through a vast network of collaborations with international news agencies, newspapers and invited contributions. Both Hindustan Times and The Indian Express appear to have a dedicated team of reporters covering the environment beat, and specifically climate change. Their by-lines appear repeatedly, creating a sense of familiarity and continuity for the reader. The Times of India

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relies more on news agencies and its own network of un-named correspondents under the common brand of Times News Network (TNN).

**Placement and Structure**

The placement and tenor of the articles reveal that while *HT* and *IE* give credence to climate change as a scientific fact requiring attention and action, *TOI* considers the issue important mainly if it generates a political or financial fallout. Only *IE* carries letters to the editor that discuss the issue. This reflects an attempt at creating a public space and welcoming feedback. On the other hand, *HT* manages to catch some interesting angles that other papers miss. For example, it is the only paper to reveal those at work behind the scenes, in India’s laboratories, and thus forge a connection to the common man. Structurally, both *IE* and *TOI* use subheadings to draw attention to the topic. It would be interesting to note how these develop further, how they are maintained and expanded. Subheadings, or special categories created for the topic, indicate an anticipation of further developments and continuity in coverage. This can be part of a deeper analysis, perhaps involving more international newspapers and combining the effect of various editorial policies in newspapers on the presentation of a global issue such as climate change.

**International Perspectives**

In exploring the issue internationally, *HT* examines matters from a more European perspective, reporting on Indo-EU ties, speeches made by European leaders and European initiatives in climate change. In contrast, *IE* seems to focus largely on the US. It is forthright in its criticism of US climate policy. *TOI*, on the other hand, maintains a balance between praise and mild criticism for the US and also explores reports from other countries, such as Australia and China.

**Pattern of Coverage**

The *Hindustan Times* displays a restrained and objective style of coverage, weaving the climate debate around other issues of importance, such as nuclear energy. The paper’s dispassionate outlook sometimes generates a feeling of “distanciation” (McManus, 2000), as though climate change were happening elsewhere. While there is no alarm generated by its tone, there is an effort at exploring local angles and solutions. *The Indian Express* is outspoken in regarding the issue as important; its reporting is righteous and sharp. It seems determined to make people sit up, think and debate. The paper’s editorial stance is clear and no-nonsense, offering local solutions while keeping the global nature of the problem in perspective. In comparison to the other papers, *IE* is patriotic and practical. Even though the issue is highlighted more frequently in *TOI*, *IE* carries articles with stronger substance. *The Times of India* is vocal, but glamorous in its approach. Climate change is a cause, but one that is fought on the silver screen, with celebrities and events. The paper’s worldview may be wider, but it is not focused on the common man. While *TOI* does not project a sense of responsibility like *IE*, it nevertheless has the potential to reach out to segments like urban youth, and set positive trends.
Qualitative Discourse Analysis

To identify dominant frames and opinions expressed in the papers studied, a qualitative analysis of a cross-section of selected articles was conducted. Frames, in media theory and sociology, form an integral part of understanding media discourse and public engagement with it. They help scholars understand the mediated construction of a social phenomenon (Entman, 1993). Goffman (1974) elaborated on frames as “schemata of interpretation” that enable humans to make sense of events and issues through a set of pre-existing beliefs and value systems. In simplifying complex issues, the media represent certain ideas and observations over others, leading to a specific focus, then absorbed by audiences. Gamson, Croteau, Hoynes, and Sasson (1992) identify a frame as the “central organizing principle that holds together and gives coherence to a diverse array of symbols or idea elements.” Tuchman (1978) and Entman (1991) have looked upon frames as regular, essential, everyday attributes of news that decide “what will be discussed, how it will be discussed, and above all, how it will not be discussed” (Altheide, 1997). For the purpose of this study, I have drawn upon Nisbet’s (2009) frame typology for climate change – a set of eight frames developed over time by various researchers and applied to science-related policy debates (see Table 1).

Fifteen articles were chosen according to their diversity, depiction of particular newspaper ideology, opinion-centric approach and, in a secondary consideration, prominence of placement. An effort has been made to focus on articles written by and for the newspaper (own correspondents and editors, for example), but exceptions have been made for particularly insightful articles sourced from international newspapers or agencies. Articles were picked fairly evenly from the months researched to reflect a balanced perspective. Essentially, articles that uncovered different angles, told a definite story, were prominently placed (mostly as opinion or editorial pieces) and shone with quality and depth were extracted and can be looked upon as representative articles in the Indian print media over this period.

Drawing from Carvalho and Burgess’ (2005) vast critical discourse analysis, the driving force behind the analysis was related to its morphological characteristics and the structural and active (representing the actors in the text) forms, founded on ideological views and discursive strategies. The dominant ideas and themes present in the subject matter of these articles display the “expressions of an idea” (Minichiello, Aroni, Timewell, & Alexander, 1990) in a specific socio-political, cultural context. A three-tier system was devised for the analysis, consisting of “frames,” “themes” and “textual elements.” These criteria, focusing on the theme of the article, the tone of the text and the messages in the frames employed, are inspired by a coding sheet developed by McComas and Shanahan (1999). However, while Shanahan’s coding sheet is very extensive, examining the issue in an almost statistical manner, I have narrowed down and re-cast the elements to apply it to my analysis. Moreover, my purpose is to do a content analysis, with frames as the departure point; and to that end, Shanahan’s coding sheet does not explicitly examine frames.

While the chosen frame typology provided a direction to the articles discussed, it was in no way considered comprehensive or all-inclusive, and was re-interpreted according to the message in the article. If a new idea or frame presented itself, possibly due to a vast difference in cultural and ideological frameworks between Indian and American media and people, it was applied accordingly.
The remaining analysis focused on:

1. The theme of the article, exemplified by its orientation as:
   a. political
   b. business/economic
   c. foreign policy
   d. agricultural
   e. geographical
   f. social

2. The tone of the text and the elements contained therein, depicting:
   a. scientific background
   b. new research
   c. controversy
   d. values (cultural or moral)
   e. expert opinions
   f. predictions

The criteria outlined were examined against the backdrop of more commonly accepted concepts such as narratives being developed, a thematic element within the articles, the projection of anthropogenic causes and the consequent development of fatality or activism.

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<th>Frame</th>
<th>Defines Science-related Issue as . . .</th>
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<tr>
<td>Social progress</td>
<td>A means of improving quality of life or solving problems; alternative interpretation as a way to be in harmony with nature instead of mastering it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic development and competitiveness</td>
<td>An economic investment; market benefit or risk; or a point of local, national, or global competitiveness.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morality and ethics</td>
<td>A matter of right or wrong; or of respect or disrespect for limits, thresholds, or boundaries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scientific and technical uncertainty</td>
<td>A matter of expert understanding or consensus; a debate over what is known versus unknown; or peer-reviewed, confirmed knowledge versus hype or alarmism.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pandora’s box/Frankenstein’s monster/runaway science</td>
<td>A need for precaution or action in face of possible catastrophe and out-of-control consequences; or alternatively as fatalism, where there is no way to avoid the consequences or chosen path.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public accountability and governance</td>
<td>Research or policy either in the public interest or serving special interests, emphasizing issues of control, transparency, participation, responsiveness, or ownership; or debate over proper use of science and expertise in decisionmaking (“ politicization”).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle way/alternative path</td>
<td>A third way between conflicting or polarized views or options.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict and strategy</td>
<td>A game among elites, such as who is winning or losing the debate; or a battle of personalities or groups (usually a journalist-driven interpretation).</td>
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Dominant Frames

The frames that re-appear frequently and prominently in the articles analysed are those of scientific certainty, economic development, social progress, public accountability and Pandora’s Box. That the crisis is anthropogenic seems to have been accepted unquestioningly by all the papers and they represent this certainty thematically through the news pieces. The articles also showcase a strong element of exploring economic and social consequences. The threat to geography and ensuing challenges are actively considered. According to McComas and Shanahan’s (1999) hypothesis for media attention cycles, economic issues should gain importance during the phase when the cycle starts to die down. In the newspapers examined, there appears to be a tremendous emphasis on economic issues from the very beginning. The media highlights the issues of absolute scientific certainty, of economic and energy challenges and social progress frequently and coherently. Alarmism is a part of the discourse, but it cannot be generalized as being an integral part of all media communication in the three papers. Instead, the papers seem to report the facts of the issue, as disseminated by claim-makers (relying extensively on expert opinion), then adapt the information to the Indian situation and look at problem-solutions alongside.

The Case of Scientific Certainty

A striking element in the coverage of the three papers is a complete lack of scepticism – a feature rife in US news reporting (Antilla, 2005). While the papers are, in general, critical of US climate policy; some common threads of looking toward western nations for solutions and guidance can be found running through select articles in all three papers. However, those with a more nationalistic approach (i.e., IE and HT) caution against the trap of looking to the west for all solutions.

The newspapers also express some dissatisfaction at having to pay for a crime they did not commit, namely greenhouse gas emissions and the subsequent debate over emission cuts in developing economies. This is the argument highlighted by Billet (2010); however, a deeper frame analysis reveals this thread as just one part of the discourse. The Indian Express, for example, adopts a mature response in looking at the situation at face value and resolving it. It portrays climate change as an anthropogenic environmental disturbance, not a disaster, but a situation that has undesirable effects and can be controlled and worked upon collectively. This attitude is similar to Downs (1972) description of stage two in an issue attention cycle where there is enthusiasm and confidence for seeking solutions. The approach represents some of the myriad functions associated with the fourth estate – to mobilize, motivate, inspire and to maintain a critical eye. All the papers frame India as a potential leader and urge it to take the initiative to be at the forefront of this challenge. In helping project confidence and pushing the country towards accepting responsibility, some sections of the elite Indian print media could play a positive role in possibly contributing to an alive, involved and courageous public sphere.

A Comparative Perspective

When the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded in October, newspaper coverage focused on climate change from a humanitarian angle, exploring the meaning and message behind the prize. This was also a month for glamour, especially reflected in TOI’s coverage. In February, after

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the release of the IPCC report, ‘real’ issues were explored. This is when topics related to
energy, sustainability and imminent natural disaster were highlighted, probably due to the
impact of the report. Most articles in IE and HT outlined statistical data, provided an analysis
of conditions specific to India, and projected possible futures. This was done through the
medium of experts and analysts, making the schema more credible. Nisbet and Huge (2006)
indicate that the coverage of an issue in the op-ed pages of a newspaper, especially when
the issue of ethics is involved, can be a method for a newspaper to keep a topic alive and
controversial, albeit shielding itself from direct criticism. IE can be viewed as a paper that
has optimized this technique through opinion pieces from a range of experts in the field that
focus sharply and unrelentingly on climate change.

Of the three papers, The Indian Express seems to have developed a distinct sense of iden-
tity in reporting the issue. It looks at it through the lens of the Indian economy, culture,
ideology and political situation, thereby truly creating identifiable, conclusive threads of
discourse that the audience can interact with. Hindustan Times, by bringing in a sense of
own-ness, in defending India’s political position and condemning policy attitudes prevalent
in the US, along with focusing on local initiatives, can provoke nationalist sentiments and
participation. The Times of India is comparatively more sensationalist and externalized than
the other two papers. It focuses on the change that can happen in the rest of the world, through
a larger potpourri of articles and a trendier, global outlook. Only TOI doubled its coverage
in October. This reflects the importance that scientific opinion carries for IE and HT, while
the characterization of an event appears to have more value for TOI.

The Frame of Celebritization

‘Celebrity cause’ is a frame that appears to be developing very quickly in the Indian media.
This may result in the dilution of an issue, or in a serious-minded pursuit of the issue, de-
pending on the sincerity of the celebrity featured. However, the risk of projecting an impen-
ding problem as a glamorous one lies in the possible rejection of the issue as a serious problem
by the audience. Moreover, the cause may slowly be reduced to a non-issue by the media
itself, due to over-exposure to the arc-lights. Bennett (1988) has argued that fragmentation
begins “by emphasizing individual actors over the political contexts in which they operate.”
He adds that it is heightened by “dramatic formats that turn events into self-contained, isolated
happenings.” This format is reflected in a large section of TOI’s climate coverage. The cre-
ation of, and emphasis on individual celebrities who take up the cause of climate change is
prominent. Chavez, Chirac and Al Gore have all been popularly represented in TOI, so much
so that the reader may experience a disconnect from the ‘real’ issue of climate change and
retain only the essence of the person championing it. Celebrities espousing causes are common
in the west (Turner, 2004). Boykoff and Goodman (2008) have also analysed some possible
pitfalls of the “celebritization of climate change.” While this may not be looked upon as
regular frame typology, it is possible that eventually, audience attention is diverted to the
celebrity and the cause is forgotten or simply used as a clothes peg for the model celebrity.
This process reduces the goal of media discourse as a route to active public engagement to
simply that of active public consumption of media-generated imagery. The celebritization
of climate change generates a new media frame that is open to further study.
Discussion

Globalization has made us all aware of our “common humanity” (Rootes, 2002), and we aim to address social problems as people of one world. There is much cultural cognizance and an understanding of the common problems around the world. Issues of crime, human rights, health concerns and the standard of living are all fostered by a common and empathic understanding. In this milieu, we are further connected by the simple function of living, existing on earth. Geographical distances have fused, to allow us to access other parts of the world and relate to its natural surroundings, clarifying the nature of abundance and destruction. This inter-connectedness of man and nature has taken on a globalized form today, more nuanced than primordial man’s understanding of the environment as his sustenance.

Rao (2008) writes of every issue trying to find “its epistemological location in the globalization debate” represented and supported by the media. Climate change, in some ways, may be a by product of globalization. Acceleration in the ways of living, technological improvement and mass industrialization have all had a part to play in the changing climate. In another sense, climate change may represent an ideal of globalization, when looked upon as one issue that connects the world and needs to be dealt with collectively. Responsible journalism, in this milieu, is a process of raising the right kind of questions to inspire public debate, direct political effort and generate a sense of purpose that a society can harness. Brossard et al. (2004) have conjectured that since journalistic practices and values differ in different cultures, the issue and media attention cycles will also differ. It may be that a developing economy like India can see the repercussions of climate change with a magnified perspective, the havoc it can wreck on her poor, her resources and the threat it holds out to her progress and development. Heinrichs and Peters (2006) have pointed out that industrialized countries have a different time-space perspective; they see climate change from a futurist scenario, while in industrializing countries, or developing economies, the perspective is more local and more in the present.

Frame Comparison

It is clear that during the months examined, climate change received from average to very high coverage in the English press in India. Further, this coverage amalgamated a variety of global, local and regional elements, providing a rich tapestry of information. The three newspapers examined brought different ideologies to the issue, thereby creating a broader space for dialogue; but remained unquestioningly committed to the cause. Unlike the media in the US, they do not approach the topic with scepticism (Antilla, 2005; Boykoff, 2007); quite contrarily, they approach it with complete certainty and in fact, rebuff scepticism. Like the German media, they do not project climate change as an inevitable catastrophe (Weingart, Engels, & Pansegrau, 2000) even though the elements of disaster and doom are fairly strong. Studies in Germany (Heinrichs & Peters, 2006) have found that adaptation and mitigation strategies are a primary concern for the media. In this respect, the Indian media coverage, focusing on economic and energy challenges, displays a strong parallel to the German media coverage. The politicization of issues in the British media (Carvalho, 2005; 2007; Hulme & Turnerpenny, 2004) is a trend that also exists in the Indian media. However, we see a global politicization of the issue when US policy is questioned by the Indian media. An effort has been made by all three Indian papers to bring science out of the closet and make it accessible to the lay person. In trying to explain the politics, workings and manifestations of climate
change, the newspapers seem to be laying the ground for a longer and deeper narrative. New angles more relevant to developing economies, like business opportunities created by carbon credits or the Clean Development Mechanism, are actively explored. At the same time, the emphasis is on meeting energy challenges so that development is not halted and on leading the way as an example of model sustainability. There is an attempt at merging science and policy with a pro-active stance; hoping to create a national and even international community of doers. The idea of global public accountability comes across very strongly. Chapman et al. (1997), more than a decade ago, had noted that the Indian press, due to an introverted nature and paucity of resources, was hardly concerned about “environmental problems in distant places.” Looking at news coverage in India today, we find that the distances have grown smaller and the press, while maintaining a focus on local issues, projects the environmental crisis as a global one.

A Climatic Turn?

Some of the frames present in the English press in India may be interpreted as “super frames” (Neverla, 2008). Frames of scientific certainty and consensus, of moving towards sustainable development, of mitigating and facing energy challenges, of governments being made accountable to humanity at large, and to some extent, even frames of imminent disaster seem to be repeating themselves across borders. They find a voice in both western (more so European) and Indian media coverage, and may grow, gathering strength from this transnational presence. Peterson (2007) draws from German sociologist Klaus Eder and conceives of the environmental discourse as a “master discourse.” This, he explains, “may have developed through a series of marginal, specialist and mutually unconnected discourses…” but eventually became a “master discourse in the public sphere, establishing environmental concern as a coherent project despite all differences”. It is rooted in the relationship between man and nature and the prevalence of the common good for a common future where exist equitable distribution of resources. Neverla (2007; 2008) too, suggests the idea of a “climatic turn” where intensified reporting of various claims-makers, news values and a variety of frames allow the discourse to connect to other related discourses and evolve into a grand narrative. The Indian press then, in attempting to connect the threads of national responsibility, international science and political events; in projecting local and global actors and throwing out a call to arms, is potentially contributing to the making of the climatic turn.
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The Climate Change Community
This knowledge community is brought together by a common concern for scientific policy and strategic perspective in climate change. The community interacts through an innovative, annual face-to-face conference, as well as year-round virtual relationships in a weblog, peer reviewed journal and book imprint – exploring the affordances of the new digital media. Members of this knowledge community include academics, educators, administrators, policy makers, consultants, researchers and research students.

Conference
Members of the Climate Change Community meet annually at the International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts and Responses, held annually in different locations around the world. This Conference examines evidence of climate change, its natural and human causes, its ecosystemic impacts and its human impacts. The Conference also addresses technological, social, ethical and political responses to climate change.

Our community members and first time attendees come from all corners of the globe. The Conference is a site of critical reflection, both by leaders in the field and emerging scholars. Those unable to attend the Conference may opt for virtual participation in which community members can either submit a video and/or slide presentation with voice-over, or simply submit a paper for peer review and possible publication in the Journal.

Online presentations can be viewed on YouTube.

Publishing
The Climate Change Community enables members to publish through three media. First, by participating in the Climate Change Conference, community members can enter a world of journal publication unlike the traditional academic publishing forums – a result of the responsive, non-hierarchical and constructive nature of the peer review process. The International Journal of Climate Change: Impacts and Responses provides a framework for double-blind peer review, enabling authors to publish into an academic journal of the highest standard.

The second publication medium is through the book imprint On Climate, publishing cutting edge books in print and electronic formats. Publication proposals and manuscript submissions are welcome.

Our third major publishing medium is our news blog, constantly publishing short news updates from the Climate Change community, as well as major developments in scientific policy and strategic perspectives in climate change. You can also join this conversation at Facebook and Twitter or subscribe to our email Newsletter.
## Common Ground Publishing Journals

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<th>AGING</th>
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| Aging and Society: An Interdisciplinary Journal  
Website: www.Arts-Journal.com |

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Website: www.Climate-Journal.com |

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Website: http://Food-Studies.com/journal/ |

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<td>ISSN</td>
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<td>Publisher</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Frequency</td>
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<td>Apr.</td>
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