
UNIT 17 PHOTOJOURNALISM

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17.0 INTRODUCTION

Photojournalism is the process of telling stories using photos as the medium. It uses a camera to capture visual representations of a story. Photojournalism follows a set framework of rules and principles for composition. The stories told using photos are supposedly true and thus should be communicated in a fair and unbiased way. In photojournalism, the news photos often evoke intense emotions among viewers, like shots of disaster survivors or scenes of a terrorist attack. In print media, the content is largely text, and photos support only certain stories. In photojournalism, photographs are used to tell incidents, events and other important news. It uses the subjects' body language and facial expressions, i.e. the people involved in the incident, to tell their story. As the term suggests, photojournalism is the fusion of photography and journalism. It is used extensively in newspapers, news magazines, film magazines and advertising magazines.

Every newspaper and magazine takes the services of photojournalists to cater to its audience. News photography is used in print and electronic media to convey the stories and reach the maximum audience.

17.1 LEARNING OUTCOMES

After reading the Unit, you will be able to

- understand the concept of photojournalism;
- understand the visual grammar used in photojournalism;
- know the different types of news photography; and
- understand the composition and its use in photojournalism.

17.2 PHOTOJOURNALISM

Photojournalism is an effective way of telling stories and disseminating information to a diverse group of people. Photojournalism gives visual support to the news story. A good news photo tells a story on its own and requires little to no writing to back it up. Social media tools like Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, WhatsApp etc., have made it convenient for people to share photos and videos. News organisations are even using these tools to disseminate news. Youtube provides space for people and organisations to start their channels where viewers can come and see the videos on various subjects. Photographs paint real pictures of news, events and varied human emotions.

In big newspapers and magazines, photographers work with a journalist assigned to a particular news beat. This means that the photographer takes photos related to the news story, and the reporter collects the facts for the story and writes it. The main objective of photojournalism is to tell a story better than the text or write-up that usually accompanies the photos. Therefore, it should capture images that have a specific meaning or relevance to the story being told. For example, a story about a father reuniting with his daughter after being apart for 30 years will be more effective if accompanied by a photo showing them rushing into each other's arms.

Photojournalism covers the latest national and international news developments which are of public interest. A good photojournalist will focus on the latest news discussed by the common person, for example, the current cricket tournament series or the announcement of elections etc., which will be of more interest to the reader.

A good photojournalist should be objective and honest. He should present the images as they are with no manipulation. A photojournalist knows that people's real emotions are captured when they are relaxed and busy with their daily chores. These candid and perfect moments are captured by the lens and become timeless classics. A good photograph should try to answer a maximum number of Ws and H. For example, a photo that shows a family of four begging for food and money tells a clearer story than a single person begging for food.

Photojournalists follow certain principles to produce photos that catch the attention of different audiences. Photos were taken with the right focus, exposure, angle, and colour are understood better by a larger audience than photos in which the subject is not in focus and lacks proper camera angle. Photojournalism can be done for –

- General News Stories, which pertains to any event that is planned ahead of time. Examples are press conferences, product launch ceremonies, exhibitions and political rallies.
- Spot or Breaking News refers to any event or incident that has just happened. It is a breaking news story where the photojournalist rushes to the place of the incident and takes shots that convey the essence of the story. A house or building on fire, car accident, plane crash or a bridge collapse are some examples.
- Sports Photography is seen as the most difficult type of photojournalism. The camera lens has to follow the player's movement, ball or vehicle as the case may be. Special attention has to be given to the aperture and shutter speed settings. Generally, experienced photojournalists are given sports assignments like a basketball game, a football championship, or an IPL match.
- Portrait Photojournalism: a portrait shows people from the society in their usual environment, like a race car driver beside his car, a doctor inside the operating theatre or the defence minister in her office. The portrait captures the emotional state of the person. The portrait is often given in an exclusive interview or any special report where that person happens to be a central figure or an important functionary.

Good photos convey the key points of a story faster than their accompanying text. The photos should focus on the faces of the people and not on their backs. A good photo will show the person doing some action or group of people involved in some activity. Any unusual photograph showing a new phenomenon, emotion or extraordinary act may qualify as a good photograph. The subject has to be in focus, and the audience should be able to find the key area to focus on in the frame. For example, after a heavy snowfall, the focus of one picture can be on the sufferings of the people living in that area, and the other picture can be on the extent of snowfall, i.e. the amount of snowfall.

Through the right composition and proper visualisation, the photographer has to convey the right message, one that should be able to tell the audience where to look in the photo. Any two pictures will have two different angles for a story. This sort of work needs careful planning and execution. Always take note of the angle of the shots and the camera's position before taking the pictures. Experienced photographers often take multiple shots from different perspectives. This process is quite easy with digital cameras. Digital Single-lens Reflex Camera (DSLR) manufactured by Nikon, Canon, Sony, Fuji etc., support memory cards as high as 128 GB. They can also, at the same time, see the output and take many shots without worrying about the storage space.

17.2.1 History of Photojournalism

The history of photojournalism can be traced back to the experiments done by Joseph Nicéphore. In 1826 Joseph Nicéphore slotted a pewter (an alloy of tin, copper with antimony) plate into his camera obscura and exposed that plate to the surroundings. After eight hours, he washed this exposed plate with lavender oil and found that an image had formed on the plate. This image was not very clear, but the scene was more or less visible. Joseph Nicéphore claimed it to be the first photograph, built without a negative. Carol Szathmari, a Romanian painter and photographer, was among the first who did

Homai Vyarawalla



India Celebrates its first Republic Day on 26th Jan 1950.

photojournalism with the help of his engraving and painting technique. This engraving technique was also used in the American Civil war.



The first 35mm Leica camera came in 1925, marking the beginning of the Golden Age of Photojournalism. The first commercial flashbulbs came in 1927. The early 35 mm camera was small and light. They were more portable, and the printing methods used in these cameras were less cumbersome. Prominent photographers in the golden age, from the 1930s to 1960s, included Walker Evan, Dorothea and Gordon Parks.

Homai Vyarawalla is recognized as the first woman photojournalist of India. She was born in Gujarat, and it was her husband, Manekshaw Vyarawalla, introduced her to the world of photography.

Tamabarahalli Subramanya Satyanarayana Iyer, popularly known as T S Satyan, is the father of Indian photojournalism. He was born in Mysore in 1923. In 2005 T S Satyan published his memoir “Alive and Kicking”, which has mentioned his experiences and various assignments he did in his life as a photojournalist. T S Satyan passed away in 2009.

It seems the market for visual storytelling is going to stay and rather going to expand further. The media and industry report by the Indian Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF) predicts that the market share of television will increase by 7.5 per cent in 2023, and for print, it will increase by 1.4 per cent. Photojournalism will rather increase with the help of social media in India. Cheaper data plans encourage people to download pictures and consume news in the form of visuals. Many news organisations have started giving news in photo stories, slide shows and multimedia presentations. When Life magazine announced in 1972 that it was ceasing its weekly publication, many people said this was the end of photojournalism. Photojournalism not only survived, but it took a new avatar. Photojournalism is just as impactful on a webpage as it is when viewed on the page of a magazine.

17.2.2 Why Study Photojournalism

Photojournalism is the right field for a creative person who has an eye for detail and loves to travel. One who likes meeting people and is prepared to work long hours in difficult situations can do well in photojournalism. There are lots of job opportunities for a photojournalist. Websites, news portals, news magazines, TV channels and newspapers are looking for dedicated and efficient camera persons. Apart from joining a company, a good photojournalist can become a freelancer. A degree from a reputed college or a university can be an added advantage for the student. Qualified photographers can join:

- Print and Advertising Industry –magazines, adverts and photo libraries;
- Fashion Industry – creative photography of models and clothing for magazines and catalogues;
- Event Company- social functions, family, wedding and celebrations photography;
- And Corporate (industrial/commercial) – company promotional material

17.2.3 The Camera as a tool

A camera is a device for recording visual images, which may be pictures or videos. A camera is only a tool. The cameraperson has to master the photographic technique. The most important thing is to think of the best way to show the visual regarding the story to the audience. For this, the photojournalist should mentally visualise the shots he wants to show and then plan accordingly. This is achieved by taking the shots from the right perspective. The photojournalist will think about the right angle, the content

of the frame and the content he wants the audience to focus on.

It is always wise to know as much as possible about the subjects to be photographed and think of all possible different perspectives that could be shown to the reader to convey the point. These days' professional photographers use Digital Single-Lens Reflex Camera (DSLR). In DSLR, instead of hitting the film, the light which enters hits the sensor. DSLR comes with a zoom lens with a variable focal length in the range of 35 mm-70 mm.

A good photograph can be powerful and can be a change agent. Different journalists and photographers approach news stories differently. Some highlight the government's failure in a story, whereas some shoot to support a public cause. They capture different aspects of the life of a common person to highlight their plight and suffering to draw the attention of authorities towards these issues. By publishing pictures of pending projects and unfinished tasks, they remind different agencies and the public to meet their responsibility. For example, by publishing pictures of garbage and piles of waste material, the photojournalist reminds the citizens of their duty to maintain a clean neighbourhood free of dirt and diseases.

Good camerawork focuses on the relevant parts of the story, i.e. visual parts, which are important for storytelling and leaves the rest. The relevant visual parts are photographed in a manner that develops an emotional connection with the audience. The audience likes such a photograph with the emotional appeal, and they remember it for a long. While doing his camerawork, the photojournalist needs to be sensitive to the feelings of other human beings. Right specifications of focal length, exposure, and ISO can bring good results even with an old camera. The specifications depend on whether the photography is outdoor or indoor. The time of the day also affects the quality of the picture. The Source of light and the temperature of artificial lights also affect the final picture. A keen study of these parameters will enable a photojournalist to plan his camera work appropriately.

Let us discuss a few technical terms used frequently in photojournalism. A good understanding of these terms is necessary to bring the desired results. The exposure or exposure value is the amount of light received by the camera. If more light goes inside the camera, the image becomes overexposed, and if the amount of light is less, it is underexposed. Inappropriate levels of exposure are seen as noise and affect the message. Many newsrooms reject these images as they are not fit for publication. Three values are considered important when looking at the amount of light entering a camera. a) Shutter Speed, b) Aperture and c) Sensitivity. Shutter speed refers to the time the sensor is exposed to the light and is measured in a fraction of seconds. A shutter speed of 1/30 exposes the sensor to light for 1/30th of a second. For most cameras, successive shutter speed roughly halves the exposure time (i.e. 1/30s, 1/60s, 1/120s.) Faster shutter speed is required to capture fast motion like a cycling race or 100-meter sprint. Shutter speed of 1/250s freezes the frame. Higher shutter speed also reduces the amount of light entering the camera. Doubling the shutter speed reduces the amount of light entering the camera by half.

Shutter speed is the duration, i.e. how long light will take to go through the sensor. At the same time, the aperture of the iris is the adjustable opening in a camera lens that determines how much light reaches the sensor in a unit of time. Aperture settings are given in f-stops and are written as f/1.2, f/2.8, f/4. F-stop is designated in fractions of focal length. Higher aperture values represent smaller aperture openings, which means higher aperture values allow less amount of light to enter the camera. Lenses with a large aperture that allow more light to enter through are called fast lenses. The third key factor which determines the exposure of a picture is the sensor's sensitivity. ISO denotes the sensitivity of a sensor. ISO measures the sensitivity of the image sensor. 100 ISO is accepted as a 'normal or 'standard' ISO and will give fine shots with little noise. The photojournalist has to check the ISO settings when covering different assignments with different light conditions.

A camera lens is an assembly or combination of optical lenses to make images on a film or any optical storage medium. Different types of lenses have different focal lengths, which helps them to be used in different situations. The focal length of a lens is the distance between the lens of a camera and its image sensor when the subject is pointing is in focus. The focal length is usually stated in millimetres. The focal length of few lenses and their uses are given below:

Focal length	Type of lense	Usage
8-24 mm	Fish Eye	Landscapes and panoramic shots
24-35 mm	Wide Angle	Forest, Moving, Vehicle, Running
55-200 mm	Zoom	Portrait, Wedding, News
200-400 mm	Telephoto	Wildlife, Sports

Check Your Progress: 1

Note: 1) Use the space provided below for your Answers.

2) Compare your answers with those given at the end of the Unit.

1. A good news photograph should answer a maximum number of Name four types of news where photojournalism is more relevant.

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2. Expand the abbreviation – DSLR.

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3. What marked the start of the golden age of photojournalism?

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4. Who is considered the father of Indian photojournalism?

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5. Mention three values that define the amount of light that enters a camera.

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17.3 A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

Photography is a medium that conveys thoughts and feelings without saying a word. A photograph can speak louder than words, and the message will be clear and with little noise. Photography as a medium of communication is easy to comprehend for the larger audience as the encoding is quite easy. The encoding in news photography has to be easy so that a maximum number of people can understand the message and the photograph serves the desired purpose. The beauty lies in the universal appeal of the photograph. People across cultures and boundaries can understand a photograph and relate to its content.

Photographs in the form of selfies, cellphone snaps, unplanned photos and any time random shots have flooded the social media and internet with visuals in the present visual culture. Anybody can become a photographer

and with the help of a good camera and software can do wonders. This massive production of digital images affects photojournalism and the importance it is used to carry.

Photographs are representations of time and events, light and shadows, and contrasts of vibrant colours. A good photograph speaks to our own emotions and the thoughts and emotions of others. Photos allow us to express our feelings uniquely.

The photo could be a portrait that shows an important day of a person's life and catches him or her in a certain mood. The background of a portrait could be a mountain, desert or scenic beauty of any kind. A painter or a sculptor also displays a part of the world as seen and interpreted by him. He uses his perception and creates a static reality of time and events. On the other hand, a photograph does all this and also captures the same world where we all live. It depicts the different points of reality through a much larger canvas. A photograph transfers the viewer to the place and time shown in the photograph.

17.3.1 Visual Research

Visual research examines the everyday visual culture, including the visual signs and markers we encounter in daily life or different social situations. It focuses on images. Pictures represent data that is analysed using different research methodologies. Pictures are also a means of data representation. Visual research also studies the representation of human bodies in different social conditions which represent reality. Visual communication is often interpreted differently by different people, i.e. the same message may mean different things to different people. For example, an image of a dog may mean a companion, a pet, a guard or help. Each person's perspective comes from his education, background and culture. Different meanings of the dog could be because of different angles and positions in the picture. It could also be because of the different sizes, colours and looks of the dog.

17.3.2 Composition and aesthetic value

The composition can be defined as the arrangement of objects within the frame of an image. A photo with good composition and proper values of exposure, contrast, and ISO looks pleasing. Good composition directs the eyes of the viewer. A picture with good compositions is easy to comprehend. The photojournalist can plan a good composition after seeing the subject matter of the story. Good composition is achieved through contrast of size and colour, the contrast of shape, patterns, rhythm, distribution of subject/s and props in different planes, i.e. the foreground, middle ground and the background. This is achieved by using a wide-angle lens which provides a good depth of field. The contrast of light can also highlight key components in the frame and hide components not required for the story. Bright light can direct the viewer's attention and help him understand the crux of the visual image. A good photograph with the right composition will hold together and will not divide the viewer's attention.

The composition can be learned by practice, and the rules are just guiding principles. These rules can always be bypassed and are not sacrosanct.

The human brain can perform seeing and composition simultaneously. This extremely important skill becomes better with practice. After acquiring these skills, a competent photojournalist can easily evaluate his photographs as a whole.

Rule of thirds is one of the most popular rules of composition. Four lines (2 horizontal and 2 vertical) will divide the frame into nine parts. Thus the four points of intersections are the key points for placement in the frame. According to this rule, the key subject, action or prop in the frame should be placed at the intersections of the imaginary lines that divide the frame into thirds. Placing the subject in the centre of a frame is seen as bad composition. This rule is often useful when two shots, i.e., two people, are talking or fighting. Proper placement of subjects at points can create a high angle shot, a low angle shot, and an eye-level shot.

A skilful, creative person with knowledge of visual aesthetics can utilize the full potential of a camera. Simply pointing and shooting the camera, i.e. using automatic controls, is not photojournalism or even photography. It is the art of the person behind the camera that produces award-winning pictures.

Press photographers are always short of time and rarely have time to plan good composition. In case of breaking news, it is quite difficult to plan a shot like this. In the case of a portrait, feature or photo story, they have the time and can take photos with high aesthetic values and composition.

17.3.3 Visual Grammar: Shots and Angles

The photograph of a subject, whether stationary or moving, can be taken from different points of view. These different points of view are captured by changing the angle and the position of the camera or by changing the position of the subject.

The location in both these cases can be the same. Each image will be a different one and will convey a different story. So for a certain event or a news story, a cameraperson can take multiple shots and experiment with different exposure and focal length values.

In the case of photography, as the camera person changes his position, the background changes, lighting changes, and so does the composition. The cameraperson can move close to the subject or move his lens close by using a zoom lens. Keep in mind that moving the camera close physically is different from moving the zoom lens closer. These two shots will create different perspectives. Often the photojournalist uses a tripod to make the camera stationary, especially if the event is of long duration.

A good photojournalist always prefers to take multiple takes from different angles and positions. Either he uses a zoom lens or moves physically closer to the subject or the place of action.

The art of proper visualization helps the photojournalist in the long run.

Visualization means to form a mental image of the frame and all that the photojournalist plans to capture in that frame.

Shot size describes the area visible within the frame and is the distance between the camera and the subject. If the camera moves closer to the subject, the distance decreases, and the shot size becomes bigger and vice versa.

1. **An extreme close-up (ECU)** shot shows only a part of a character's face. It fills the screen with the details of a subject or a prop. It is used to highlight some important elements of a story.
 2. **A Close-up (CU)** shot shows a character's face and shoulders. It shows subtle facial expressions clearly. It is used to show the emotions of the suffering of a person, say after a tragedy. ECU and CU are generally single-shot, i.e. one person occupies the frame.
 3. **Medium (MS)** shot shows a character's upper body, arms, and head. MS is used in portraits or educational programs. MS also shows the background where the story happened. This background adds credibility to the photograph.
- **A wide shot (full shot FS)** shows an entire character from head to toe. This shot is used in sports like cricket, basketball, hockey etc. The full shot shows the relationship of the subject with the background.
 - **Extreme wide shot (long shot)** shows a broad view of the surroundings around the character and conveys scale, distance, and geographic location. This is generally used when the photojournalist wants to capture natural calamities, say floods, hurricanes etc. The extent of damage to property in a city. Aerial shots taken from a helicopter are extremely wide shots. A wide-angle lens with a focal length of 15-10mm may be used.

The position and angle from which a shot is taken decide its appeal. The position is the height (level) of the camera relative to the ground. The camera can be handheld or can be mounted on a tripod. The angle is the degree relative to the horizontal axis the camera is kept to take a shot. By changing the level of the camera and keeping the distance between the camera and subject, different shots can be taken. Again, the same different shots can be taken by changing the angle and keeping the position and distance.

When the camera is kept at the height of say 5-6 ft (average human height), it is called the eye-level position. Taking it higher than this level makes it high-position, and bringing it lower than 5 ft makes it low-position. When the camera faces downwards towards the subject from a high position, it makes a high-angle shot. For. e.g. if the camera is at the height of 10 ft and the person to be shot is of 5 ft height, then the angle formed is called a high angle shot. When the camera faces upwards towards the subject from a low position, it makes a low angle shot.



Check Your Progress: 2

- Note:** 1) Use the space provided below for your Answers.
2) Compare your answers with those given at the end of the Unit.

1. Explain the qualities of a photograph?

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2. Define the term 'composition'?

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- is one of the most popular rules of composition.
- If the camera moves to the subject the distance and the shot size becomes and.....

3. Name two factors that decide the appeal of a shot?

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17.4 NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

A news photographer should try to capture the essence of a whole story in a single image. This photographer should take pictures as the event unfolds. This will add credibility to the story. The photographer has to wait for the right moment to capture a photo for a news story in certain situations. He should have patience, perseverance, the ability to predict events and should be a quick thinker. These qualities will help him in situations where the outcome of an event is not known. It can be a court decision, cricket match or a public rally. A good photojournalist covering spot news should always make a contingency plan to get the shots for his story. The camera person has to protect himself and take care of the equipment, and above all, he should take plenty of shots for his newspaper or magazine.

17.4.1 News value and photography

Photography for newspapers includes photographs on a variety of subjects. News photographs are published with hard news as well as with soft news stories. The photojournalist should have a nose for news and highlight the 'key' component in his photography. Children, traffic, celebrities, politicians, members of society etc. these are common subjects for news photography. Large organisations hire experienced photojournalists; otherwise, one person does both still and video camera work in small newspapers. Photojournalists also specialise in their work; some are good at sports, whereas others prefer spot news or breaking news. Depending on the assignment, they need to carry a variety of lenses, flashlights, additional battery backup, tripod, filters, memory card etc., in their camera bag. News can happen any time of the day. There can be a fire accident at night or a crime that is committed at night. The weather might be sunny and clear, or it might be cloudy and dark.

A photojournalist has to chase news and show it through his pictures. Digitalisation has not only made the camera better, but it has also made the dissemination of videos and photos much faster.

An experienced new photographer would arrive early at an event and stay late to take some interesting and unusual shots. It is always wise to keep some storage free in the camera to capture expected events which qualify to be shot.

17.4.2 Spot News, Portrait, Sports

Spot News: Photojournalism for Spot news refers to photos that are taken for a time-sensitive news event. The news is governed by the basic values of timeliness, proximity, conflict, prominence and human interest. Typical spot news can be on accidents, fires, political meetings, rallies, elections etc. These events attract large crowds also, and a photojournalist would do well if he plans this. In some cases, the camera person also has to follow the subject, rarely using a tripod. The camera work is all handheld. He should try to take still shots as the camera can also shake in a huge crowd. Special attention is to be given to aperture and ISO in case of breaking news at night. Additional lights and battery backup is a must.

The photojournalist should remember that there are no re-takes in spot news. Failure of equipment at the time of new coverage can make you lose your job. In case of accident, tragedy or big news, always look at a human loss first, i.e. grab those pictures and take pictures of loss of property etc.

Portrait Photography: A portrait attempts to show a person's nature and emotional state in his world. A portrait shows a person in his place of work, in a social setting and may highlight his status, authority and contribution etc. A portrait may reveal more about a person's character and show it from a new perspective. A good portrait will avoid busy background. A busy background will distract the audience, and he/she will not be able to focus on the subject and his environment. Props in a portrait are extremely important as they help in storytelling and help in making the picture complete. While taking shots for a portrait, many photojournalists focus on the face and take close up

shots. Photographers also often choose to take portraits against a white or black background. For group portraits, soft light is preferred. Portraits also become interesting when special attention is given to the dress, body language and expressions of the subject. The main challenge for the photojournalist is to make the subject feel comfortable and develop a rapport with him/her. The best method is to start a conversation, and gradually the subject starts moving in a comfortable zone. This moment of confidence gives the best shots to the photojournalist. In a portrait, the main light should fall on the side of the face of the subject. It is also good to know your subject before planning a portrait. This will help the cameraperson in capturing his personality and attitude in a much better way. A portrait can be a medium shot or a full shot.

Sports photography: Sports photography is about timing. It is about being in the right place at the right time. A photojournalist covering sports has to be an athlete first. He should have good knowledge of all sports and the various rules of all major sports. This knowledge will help him predict the game, and by this, he can plan his camera work in a better way. For example, in a 20-20 IPL match, the photojournalist should know that after 15 overs, the batsman will go after the ball, and there will be more boundaries. So the photojournalist can focus more on the batsman and the movement of the cricket ball. Sports photography is difficult because the movement of a ball, person or vehicle is to be recorded. This is done by ensuring proper shutter speed, aperture and the use of the right lens. Telephoto lens (300mm-400mm) is used in the case of cricket or soccer. The faster the lens, the faster the shutter speed one can use. Higher shutter speeds are required to freeze the action with long lenses. The position and the angle is of importance here as it varies from game to game. In boxing, the camera is at eye level, whereas in basketball, high angle shot is preferred.

17.4.3 Features and Photo story

A photo feature is about capturing everyday activity or shooting a slice of everyday life. Features are timeless, and unlike news, pictures do not get stale. For example, pictures of former President APJ Abdul Kalam talking to school students is a timeless feature. Photo features evoke a reaction from the audience as they convey emotions to the viewers. Candid shots of celebrities, sportspersons, politicians can qualify for features. A person with a creative bent of mind can plan and execute good features. He should have a keen eye for details and should observe the surroundings to identify subjects for features. Every big hard story may have some side stories, which may offer some good features. Animals, children, artists, actors, elderly people are great subjects for a feature.

A photo story is based on a theme. The individual pictures in the photo story are on one subject or one issue. Different pictures support one central idea. There can be a photo story on the life of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. These pictures can be about his political career, family, education etc. The lighting style is generally the same, and the background can be different in different pictures of a photo story. A photo story on political leaders and their achievements often come in news magazines.

17.5 POST-PRODUCTION AND EDITING

Editing: Post-production is done for effective communication. Editing is done by selecting, cropping, and enlarging certain photographs for a bigger impact. A photo editor may not be a photojournalist. The photo editor may crop the image, check the white balance, noise, remove noise, and improve sharpness. Resizing and scaling of the images is also done in editing. It is always good to work with 'raw' images during editing. The image formed through the camera sensor is the 'raw' image. Adjustments like conversion into grayscale, and normal toning and minimal colour adjustments are acceptable as long as they restore the authentic nature of the photograph.

17.6 PHOTOJOURNALISM AND ETHICS

Photojournalism provides important information to its audience. This information has to be correct as it is important for decision making. A photojournalist has to show whether the message in the picture is for the larger interest of society. The photojournalist should also respect the privacy of a person or a family involved in the story. Breach of privacy and selling of pictures of a private event is unethical. In a private party or a function, it is always good to seek permission before taking pictures. Manipulation is to be avoided. Re-enacting of events or staging of events is seen as manipulation. Adding or deleting images, substantial background or props is also counted as manipulation. One has to be careful when taking pictures of a major tragedy like an earthquake or an explosion. Mutilated parts of the human body are not to be shot and published. The human body and its parts should not be published unless there is a requirement, as in the case of a health story. If the publication is for the public good, then it may be photographed and published. The content of a photograph must not be altered in Photoshop or by any other means. Image editing tools like Photoshop must not alter the faces or identities of the subjects. Many media organisations say that the removal of the "red eye" from photographs is not acceptable. Photo editors should not manipulate images or add in any way that misleads the viewers.

Check Your Progress: 3

Note: 1) Use the space provided below for your Answers.

2) Compare your answers with those given at the end of the Unit.

1. What do you understand by photojournalism?

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2. Discuss the different types of shots used in photojournalism?

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3. If you are asked to cover a cricket match in your town, what preparations will you do to get perfect pictures?

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4. What are the primary ethical issues that a photojournalist should adhere to?

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17.7 LET US SUM UP

Photography is a creative process of recording pictures by means of capturing light through a camera on a light-sensitive medium, such as a sensor or film. Light patterns reflected from objects are recorded onto a sensitive medium or storage chip. In newspapers and magazines, a photojournalist does with photos what a reporter does with words. A good sense of aesthetics and composition is a useful tool for a photojournalist. Besides using the camera, he should be computer savvy and be willing to experiment with new technology. Photographers must be well organised, practical, and friendly. Finally, they must have excellent communication skills and should work in an ethical framework.

17.8 KEYWORDS

A Close-up (CU) shot shows a character’s face and shoulders. It shows subtle facial expressions clearly. It is used to show the emotions of the suffering of a person, say after a tragedy.

F-stop is designated in fractions of focal length. Higher aperture values represent smaller aperture openings, which means higher aperture values allow less amount of light to enter the camera.

Shutter speed refers to the time the sensor is exposed to the light and is measured in a fraction of seconds.

17.9 FURTHER READINGS

1. Blaney, A., & Shah, C. (2018). The Aesthetics of Contemporary Indian Photography in an “Incredible India”. *Photography and Culture*, 11(1), 3-18.
2. Hoy, F. P. (1986). *Photojournalism: the visual approach*. Prentice-Hall.

3. Kobre, K. (2008). Photojournalism: the professionals' approach. Rutledge.
4. Lester, P. M. (2015). Photojournalism: An ethical approach. Rutledge.
5. Pinney, C. (2008). The coming of photography in India. British Library.

17.10 CHECK YOUR PROGRESS: POSSIBLE ANSWERS

Check Your Progress: 1

1. A good news photograph should answer the maximum number of **Ws and H** General news stories, spot news, sports news, and Portrait photojournalism
2. Digital Single Lens Reflex Camera
3. Introduction of 35 mm Leica Camera
4. T S Satyan
5. Shutter Speed, Aperture and Sensitivity

Check Your Progress: 2

1. Photographs are representations of time and events, light and shadows, and contrasts of vibrant colours.
2. The composition can be defined as the arrangement of objects within an image's frame.
 - Rule of thirds
 - If the camera moves **closer** to the subject, the distance **decreases**, and the shot size becomes **bigger** and **vice versa**.
3. Position and Angle

Check Your Progress: 3

1. Photojournalism is an effective way of telling stories and disseminating information to a diverse group of people. Photojournalism gives visual support to the news story.
2. Extreme Close-Up, Close-Up, Medium Shot, Wide Shot, and Extreme Wide Shot
3. Sports photography is difficult because the movement of a ball, person or vehicle is to be recorded. This is done by ensuring proper shutter speed, aperture and the use of the right lens. Telephoto lens (300mm-400mm) is used in the case of cricket or soccer. The faster the lens, the faster the shutter speed one can use. Higher shutter speeds are required to freeze the action with long lenses.
4. A photojournalist has to show whether the message in the picture is for the larger interest of society. The photojournalist should also respect the privacy of a person or a family involved in the story.