

Article question: Some people say that, as social media tell us what is happening around, we don't need edited news that television channels give. Here are two comments on the matter

We can choose the news we want online.

Chances of false news are more.
We can't depend on online media.

The rise of online social networking sites has created a common man's news media, giving rise to serious doubts about the relevance of professional news channels. They make everyone a reader and a reporter at once. However, in my opinion, social media cannot be a substitute for professional reporting.

To start with the basics, amateurs do not invalidate professionals. Most often, social media news are subjective or impulsive. Naturally, they cannot replace the work of qualified reporters who have trained competency in defining what is news and formulating it according to requirements of quality. So, social media is not a reliable alternative to edited news.

Another important point is that there are authorities to verify the work of professional channels. In case of atrocious reporting, you can approach these authorities and seek remedies for your sufferings. But, as social media is a place of free play, the chances of unaccountable practices and cyber bullying are many.

It is true that social media give opportunities for all and help to strengthen the civil society. As such, it is a great possibility as well. However, the only guarding principle is that it should not substitute the accountable works of professional news agencies. Therefore, it is important to keep social media where it ought to stand.

To put things in a nutshell, professional expertise of responsible media institution is still relevant and cannot be undone by social networking. Social media is to be used as a means to ensure a say for common people.