

HARPREET BHAGRATH

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Skype: harpreet.bhagrath

Website: cosmosmedia.info

Blog: cosmoswriters.in

Total experience (as a journalist): 17 years

Countries worked in: India, Australia, Fiji

Location preference: Anywhere in India, Australia, or an English-speaking country

SUMMARY

Seventeen years of combined experience in writing, researching, editing, and reporting; in daily affairs of magazine management and web publishing; and in dealing with publications' administration affairs

Key skills: Writing, editing, researching, and interviewing; vocabulary and hold on English language; compiling and presenting news on radio; website management through the CMS WordPress; and building rapport with people at all levels through effective communication skills and the ability to connect with underlings and colleagues alike

CAREER OBJECTIVE

Looking for a job as the editor in a periodical; suitable opening in electronic media--the internet, radio, and TV--also will interest me

EDUCATION

- Master of Arts in Media Productions, Griffith University, Australia (2005)
- Master of Arts in English Literature, Punjab University, Punjab, India (2001)
- Graduate Diploma in Digital Publishing and Editing, Griffith University, Australia (2007)
- Post Graduate Diploma in Journalism, Rajendra Prasad Institute of Communications and Management, Mumbai (1997)
- Bachelor of Commerce, Punjab University, Punjab, India (1995)

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Seventeen years as a journalist with a few publications in India and Australia (including freelancing with Indian Express)

Editor at Migration Today (Brisbane, Australia-based monthly magazine) (May 2018 -- present)

Job profile: Putting together the entire editorial contents of the monthly and its web portal. Detailed job profile includes the following:

- Plan the coming issues, ideate on contents and story ideas, assign stories to staff writers and freelancers, and liaise with them
- Edit stories for writing style, tone, content, and grammar and proofread the final version of the magazine every month
- Proofread the printer's copy of the magazine and make the appropriate edits
- Ensure a timely and efficient delivery of the magazine every month
- Attend industry events, fairs and conferences
- Ensuring that the contents comply with legal guidelines and ethical codes of practice
- Monitor the delivery and circulation of the magazine
- Promote the magazine through social media and various online avenues
- Maintain and manage the backend operations of the magazine's web portal through content management system (CMS)
 - Help the webmaster deal with the daily WordPress CMS and server issues

Associate Editor at Microsoft India Pvt Ltd. at Noida (U.P.) (October 2017 - April 2018)

- Six-month contract work to fill in for an editor on maternity leave
- Part of a team of associate editors monitoring editorial contents on MSN website for US market

Editor at [Cosmos Media](http://cosmosmedia.info) (April 2015 -- September 2017)

- Own firm with ongoing clients from Brisbane, Australia: cosmosmedia.info
- Clients outsourced radio shows, website contents and overall management, and their magazine contents jobs to our team
- Edited and managed a client's Brisbane-based magazine, Brisbane Connexion: <https://issuu.com/brisvaani>
- Also edited another client's bi-weekly newsletter and a news portal: <http://www.indiannewsqld.com.au>
 - Built the portal, designing, maintaining, and updating it daily for Queensland Indians in Australia
 - Procured editorial contents and managed content flow daily
 - Edited their bi-weekly newsletter for Queensland Indians: www.indiannewsqld.com.au/category/inq-newsletter

Editor/news presenter at Radio Brisvaani, Brisbane's Indian radio station (November 2013 – March 2015)

- Resumed job after working in Fiji as the editor of maiLife magazine (details below)
- Job description was four-pronged (details further below)
 - Compile, edit, and manage their monthly magazine--Brisbane Connexion
 - Manage the radio station's Indian branch
 - Compile, translate, and present the morning news (English and Hindi)
 - Recordings can be furnished, if needed
 - Manage Brisvaani website's contents and overall functioning

Editor at maiLife, Fiji's premier general-interest magazine (March 2013 – October 2013)

Job profile: Looked after the entire editorial contents of the Fijian lifestyle monthly and its web portal, www.maiLife.com.fj. Detailed job profile included the following:

- Plan the coming issues, ideate on story ideas, assign stories to staff writers and freelancers, and liaise with them
- Edit stories and proofread the final version of the magazine every month
 - Do first edits of stories for writing style, tone, content, and grammar
 - Rewrite stories while editing as appropriate to ensure quality of stories are up to maiLife standards
 - Editorial pages: <https://onedrive.live.com/?id=FA893AB1848F8E46%21598&cid=FA893AB1848F8E46>
- Proofread the printer's copy of the magazine and make the appropriate edits to ensure a quality publication of maiLife
- Ensure a timely and efficient delivery of the magazine every month
- Monitor the printing, and then the delivery and circulation of maiLife
- Promote the magazine through social media and various online avenues
- Maintain www.maiLife.com.fj and manage the backend operations of the portal through content management system (CMS)
 - Help the webmaster deal with the daily WordPress CMS and server issues

Editor at Radio Brisvaani, Brisbane's premier media firm catering to Indians (October 2011 – February 2013)

Job profile: Looked after the entire editorial contents of the Australian media firm's lifestyle monthly, Brisbane Indian Connexion (<https://issuu.com/search?q=brisbane+indian+connexion>), and its WordPress-based web portal, www.brisvaani.com, from news sections to feature articles and the rest. Detailed job profile included the following:

- Compile, write, and present the morning news in English as well as Hindi
 - Recordings can be furnished, if needed
- Manage the radio station's India operations
- Oversee the daily affairs of the magazine, the radio station as well as the portal with the help of junior editors
 - Help the junior editors procure and edit the editorial contents of the magazine/portal
 - Ensure timely and planned update of the portal;
 - Editorial pages: <https://onedrive.live.com/?id=FA893AB1848F8E46%21605&cid=FA893AB1848F8E46>
- Ideate on improvements in the radio station/ magazine/portal; their feasibility, and execution;
- Procure contents through news feeds, agency materials, and press releases;
- Determine editorial/designing/radio staff requirements and their assimilation within the radio/magazine/portal;
- Look after the designing staff and modify the overall look of the magazine/portal;
- Popularize Brisvaani.com through social media activities and other strategies;
- Manage the backend operations of the site through content management system (CMS)
 - Help the webmaster deal with the daily WordPress CMS and server issues; and
- Determine and implement strategies for the growth of magazine/portal--increasing the traffic and readership.

Chief Editor at TrustSquare Infomedia (TI) (www.trustsquare.net) (March 2008 – September 2011)

Job profile: Looked after the entire editorial contents of seven portals (themedguru.com, themoneytimes.com, totalfilmy.com, livepunjab.com, scivista.com, 24x7updates.com, and trustsquare.com), from news sections to interviews to feature articles and then some. Detailed profile included the following:

- Oversee the daily affairs of the portals being supervised by senior editors
 - Help them commission news/feature topics to freelancers and staff writers
 - Liaise with the freelancers, feature writers, column writers, and various contributors
 - Help them procure and edit the editorial contents of the websites/portals
 - Ensure timely and planned updates of sites;
- Teach English and writing to recruits and beginners
 - Teach writing fundamentals and improve the apprentices' level of English usage
 - Monitor their progress and modify teaching methods to suit individual apprentices
- Help senior editors decide on the top stories of the day, feature articles, and weekly cover stories;
- Help senior journalists monitor media sources for stories: news, articles, features, etc.;
- Ideate on improvements in portals, their feasibility, and execution;

- Procure content through news feeds, agency materials, and press releases;
- Determine editorial/designing staff requirements and their assimilation within the portals;
- Look after the designing staff and modify the overall look of the portals;
- Execute employee appraisal and motivation; and
- Popularise the portals
 - Determine and implement strategies for the growth of portals--increasing the traffic and readership
 - Maintain contacts with industry fraternity
 - Industry networking, interviewing industry heads, etc.

Achievements: Brought about the following improvements in TI portals:

- Six-fold increase in overall traffic since March 2008 when I joined;
- Growth in employee strength from 10 in March 2008 to 55;
- Introduction and implementation of quality control standards unprecedented in TI before I joined; and
- Maintenance of serene, positive, and flexible work-culture (team work, creativity, and controlled passion drove TI staff, and I instilled these values in them).

Editor at The Cosmo Indian, Brisbane, Australia (November 2003 - April 2004) (while on break from ‘M.A. in Media Production’)

Job profile: Responsible for bringing out a monthly lifestyle magazine, Cosmo Indian, targeted at Indian diaspora in Australia. Usual editorial duties. Broadly, the job profile included the following:

- Determine, procure and edit the editorial contents of the magazine;
- Monitoring sources for magazine stories: news, articles, features, etc.;
- Liaise with the freelancers, column writers, and various contributors;
- Oversee and guide the editorial staff in their duties;
- Look after the designing staff and modify the overall look of the magazine;
- Ensure timely and planned printing of the magazine;
- Determine and implement strategies for the growth of magazine and for increasing the circulation and readership; and
- Visualize, direct, and conduct the cover page shoot of the magazine.

And then the Editor at Brisvaani Radio 1701 AM (June 2007 – February 2008) (The Cosmo Indian was Brisvaani’s print publication)

Job profile: Maintaining the editorial contents of Brisvaani’s website

Writer at The Westender Brisbane, Australia (June 2003 - November 2003)

- Part-time job only due to concurrent ‘M.A. in Media Production’ studies

Associate Editor at Micro IT Wizard (January 2002 - February 2003)

Job profile: Looked after the entire editorial contents of this monthly IT magazine, from news to interviews to feature articles. Broadly, the job profile included the following:

- Determine, procure and edit the editorial contents of the magazine;
- Monitoring sources for magazine stories: news, articles, features, etc.;
- Liaise with the freelancers, column writers, and various contributors;
- Oversee and guide the editorial staff in their duties;
- Look after the designing staff and modify the overall look of the magazine;
- Ensure timely and planned printing of the magazine; and
- Determine and implement strategies for the growth of magazine and for increasing the circulation and readership.

Achievements: Interviewed major IT professionals and CEOs like Mr S. Ramadorai of Tata Consultancy Services, Mr Bruce Condie of CISCO, Mr Alan Sedghi of SAP India, Mr Pramod Bhalla of Bluestar, and many more

Programme Director at City Cable, Chandigarh (March 2001 - January 2002) (while working with Hosiery & Textile Journal)

Job profile: Directed and anchored their monthly lifestyle programme on Chandigarh city, Chandigarh Lifestyles. The job profile included the following:

- Conceptualize and finalize the programme episodes;
- Research on the chosen subject and prepare list of interviewees;
- Write draft and final script;
- Organize and direct the shoot as per the script;
- Act as the sole anchor;
- Help edit the programme on the editing table (director’s cut, etc.); and
- Procure, script, shoot, and edit the advertisements.

Executive Editor at Hosiery & Textile Journal (November 2000 - January 2002)

Job profile: Looked after the entire editorial contents of this bi-monthly business publication targeting entrepreneurs and executives,

from monthly news to interviews to feature articles. Oversaw editorial staff and supervised them in their editing jobs.

Achievements: Interviewed hosiery industry big-wigs like Mr Kimti Lal Jain of Oswal Fabrics, Mr Dinesh Lakra of Lakra Brothers, etc. The list runs too long; interviewed most of the big names of Ludhiana hosiery industry.

Writer/photographer at lifestyle monthly The Ludhiana Dispatch (November 1999 - October 2000)

Job profile: Wrote feature articles and edited them. Shot photographs related to my own articles

Freelance writer for the Indian Express (January 1996 – November 1999)

Job profile: Contributed freelance articles on a variety of subjects. Wrote profusely on medical, agriculture, lifestyle, travel, automobiles, IT, youth, and economics topics. Also contributed humor articles for the Indian Express's *Endline* series.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS/PROJECTS

- Brought out an Australian monthly lifestyle magazine, The Cosmo Indian, starting from scratch, single-handedly, and saw it through--from conception till the final product.
- Interviewed the big names of the Ludhiana hosiery and textile industry; for instance, Mr Kimti Lal Jain, Mr Dinesh Lakra, and countless others.
- Interviewed major IT professionals and CEOs; for instance, Mr S. Ramadorai of TCS, Mr Bruce Condie of CISCO, Mr Alan Sedghi of SAP India, Mr Pramod Bhalla of Bluestar, etc.
- Authored a novella, The Devil and the Rose.
 - <http://cosmoswriters.in/the-devil-and-the-rose/>
- Documentary film-making while in Brisbane, Australia
 - Made documentaries on Australian teenagers, and the Queen Street mall, Brisbane
 - Script-wrote, directed, anchored, and edited a 10-minute documentary on Australian teenagers
- Made a series of documentaries Chandigarh Lifestyles for Chandigarh Siti Cable. In these, I worked not only as a director but also as an anchor, script writer, and a coordinator. From conception to the final cut to getting the docos on air, I was solely responsible for the entire project.

Any of my work with all these magazines, TV station, and radio stations can be requested to be seen. Just send me an e-mail, and I will send the copies of my work.

Links to a few of my online clips

- Opinion piece in The Daily Telegraph, Australia: <http://www.news.com.au/dailytelegraph/story/0,,25639989-5001030.00.html>
- Personal blog: <http://www.thejourneyer.net/category/harpreet-bhagraths-rants>
- Blogs on cosmoswriters.in: <http://cosmoswriters.in/category/fussy-editor> and <http://cosmoswriters.in/category/harpreet-bhagraths-blog>
- Promo of Chandigarh Lifestyles: http://www.dailymotion.com/relevance/search/chandigarh%2Blifestyles%2Bpromo/video/x6kx17_chandigarh-lifestyles-promo_shortfilms
- Doco on Australian teenagers, shot in Brisbane, Australia: <http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x6kwri>
- Some of my published works from distant past: <https://onedrive.live.com/?id=FA893AB1848F8E46%21139&cid=FA893AB1848F8E46>

References: Provided on demand

PERSONAL

Date of birth: Jan. 10, 1976

Marital status: Never married

Nationality: Indian

Religion: Atheist

Strengths: Self-confidence and self-respect; sincerity, hard work, and commitment to work; and perseverance towards set goals

Weaknesses: Honesty and gullibility

Leisure activities: Reading, writing; observing and reading people and situations

Harpreet Bhagrath