

In India, Journalists Face Slut-Shaming and Rape Threats | The New York Times

By Rana Ayyub

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Indian journalist Rana Ayyub reflects on her personal experience with hate speech, doxxing, deepfakes, and threats as a woman working in the Indian media.

For the past few years, like several female journalists critical of the Hindu nationalist politics and government, I have been targeted by an apparently coordinated social media campaign that slut-shames, deploys manipulated images with sexually explicit language, and threatens rape. Mr. Modi and several of his [ministers](#) embolden the virtual mob by [following them on social media](#).

[...]

The slut-shaming and hatred felt like being punished by a mob for my work as a journalist, an attempt to silence me. It was aimed at humiliating me, breaking me by trying to define me as a “promiscuous,” “immoral” woman.

[...]

Mr. Modi has repeatedly talked about changing Indian lives through technology. Four years into his term, his followers have indeed found a vigorous use for technology: curtailing criticism and normalizing hatred and misogyny.

Source: [Opinion | In India, Journalists Face Slut-Shaming and Rape Threats - The New York Times](#)