

What has been said about India by Mexico: 2000-2019?

Kenia Maria Ramirez-Meda

Full-time Professor-Researcher
Autonomous University of Baja California (UABC.)

Yair Hernandez-Peña

Autonomous University of Baja California.

Abstract

The objective of this work is to provide an account of the academic media (specifically magazines) that have dedicated themselves to publishing studies relating to the economy, politics, culture and history of India, particularly from a Mexican point of view. This is accomplished through a documentary review of journals specializing in international relations, transpacific relations or disciplines such as political science, social sciences, and history, among others, in the period from 2000 to 2016. A quantitative analysis of the results is generated by means of tables, graphs and percentages. Based on the foregoing it is concluded that although progress has been made in the generation of knowledge about India in Mexican journals, that progress has been just a beginning. Much research regarding Indian studies in Mexico still needs to be done, since such research could help to potentiate and energize the bilateral relationship.

Keywords: *India, Mexico, scientific publications, magazines.*

Located in very different geographical areas, the mutual approach has so far been accelerated, but incipient in almost all areas. In academic matters, it is important to make an approach to the media (specifically magazines) that have been dedicated to publishing studies related to the economy, politics, culture and history of India, specifically from Mexico, the country from which this article is written.

The ascent of India in the world: hence the importance for its study

India has become a country that seeks to influence the current international system; nowadays it is known as an emerging power. It participates within the main groups of countries that make decisions, such as the G-20. It also demands greater leadership and reform on the United Nations (Security Council) and try to understand the development from a concept different from the western one. Therefore, together with the countries of the so-called BRICS group, they launched the “New Development Bank” to “finance infrastructure projects of the countries that request it and are seeking to be an alternative to the already typical international financing institutions dominated by the United States”(El Economista, 2015.)

Its rapid rise is due to the structural reforms, above all in economic matters, that Rajiv Gandhi (grandson of Nehru) began in 1984, at the same time he was transitioning to exporting culture to exporting technology, since the information industry represents an angular pillar for its growth and economic development. In addition to this, by 2015, India would have become the third most important economy in the world (Kent, 2015); In turn, ECLAC published in 2012 the study called, "India and Latin America and the Caribbean. Opportunities and challenges in their trade and investment relations" where he mentions that India is responsible for 10% of the global growth in recent times, this growth helped him emerge from the financial crisis of 2008 and 2009.

In the last 20 years India "has had a growth of between 6.5% and 8%, and the OECD expects that by 2020 it will have an annual growth of 7.2%" (SELA, 2014.) It follows that the Indian state has an important role in the world economy, despite its being a neighbor of another emerging country—China. However, in recent years India has had a more stable GDP growth than that of China.

With the abovementioned, there is demonstrated the main objective of the foreign policy of that country, which seeks to contribute to overcoming economic immobility through the international investment approach, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. To this approach India found itself obligated after 1991; let us remember that "after its independence from the British crown in 1942, the multidiverse nation got involved in an isolation—a very successful issue in a bipolar international context" (Kent, 2015.)

Faced with a growing demand for consumption by the world's largest democracy—India—it is said by ECLAC (2012) that India will become the world's fifth most important consumer at the international level. As a result, the country has activated its international relations with many regions of the globe, including Latin America (LA.) Hence, such territory has ceased to be forgotten by India (Martino and Ossa, 2016.) Since the 90s, cooperation in favor of investment and trade has been the main object of these relations between India and Latin America.

So then trade and investment between LA and India constitute a recent phenomenon, only in its beginning stage (ECLAC, 2012.) "It is estimated that imports from India have reached 10,000 million dollars worth in 2010; exports to India from Latin America (LA) were at 9,000 million" (ECLAC, 2012, p. 37.) In addition, in 2010 there were few countries with which India had trade relations; for example from 2008-2010, total exports to LA on an average were destined for Brazil (38%), Chile (20.3%), Mexico (17.7%), and Argentina (13.4%.) In contrast, imports from the region are distributed as follows, 38.3% from Brazil, 18.6% from Mexico, 7.4% from Colombia, 6.2% from Argentina, 5.7% from Peru, and 5.0% from Chile (ECLAC, 2012. p.39.)

However, the above does not mean that neither India nor the LA countries were establishing diplomatic relations. An indicator of this is that the number of LA embassies in the Asian country grew from 12 (in total there are 24 Latin American countries represented) in 2003 to 18 in 2008; and from this it grew in the region from seven to 14. India has also woven a total of 70 cooperation agreements with 21 countries in LA and the Caribbean. (SELA, 2014, p.19.)

On the other hand, in 2012 according to ECLAC (p.63) recommended priority and strategic areas in which both parties could work on South-South cooperation: Development of joint strategies for the promotion of trade and investment; Cooperation

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in infrastructure, competitiveness and innovation; Climate change and economy and ecological businesses; and Dialogue on policies of cooperation. In general, the economic problem was the minimum that could be expected, especially when facing an economic giant that primarily seeks expansion and alimentary security.

As to the Mexico-India connection, that is already more than six decades old, and has been characterized by cordial, fraternal and well-intentioned associations. “In general, the bilateral relationship has been related to present circumstances and camaraderie allied with international events in which both countries coincide” (Vazquez, 2016, p.119.) Among the main events documented by Vazquez (2016), we find the 1962 Agreement on Culture and Technology, important for the exchange of ideas between intellectuals, academics and others. In 1976 the first cultural meeting was held. By 1982, attention had turned toward the issue of economics, concluding with an Economic Cooperation Agreement—which was little used; but ten years later, in 1992, there began to be direct investment-capital flows from India to Mexico. In 2002, Mexico and India were regarded as strategic partners, and by the decade of 2005 - 2015, the commercial relationship had already grown exponentially to 288.7% (in money, from 1,519.9 Million Dollars (MMD) to 5,908.1 MDD.) Finally, just as an interesting fact, “India is the eighth investor of the Asian-Pacific countries in Mexico; the number of companies with Indian capital is 174, especially in the areas of auto parts, Tics (information technology), and pharmaceuticals” (Vazquez, 2016, p.133.)

Faced with such a growing and thriving outlook on India and its relationship with LA and especially with Mexico (the country that interests us), it is essential to have studies, research, and opinions that allow us to have information, data and a well-diagnosed relationship and context for Indian investment in Mexico. Not only that, but there must also be knowledge about how to position our products in the Indian market—above all, when scholars like Martino and Ossa (2016) comment that the global situation of this relationship is ideal for beginning to make the Latin American school stronger on the subject of studies about India.

In this regard, Vazquez says about the Mexico-India relationship, that promoting its study, including the deepest and most detailed knowledge, is a prevailing need, as is the dissemination of that knowledge around both countries. The foregoing “would contribute to fortifying the bilateral relationship, especially as it would contribute to improvement in production and the market” (Vazquez, 2016, p.135.)

Therefore, this study aims to substantiate the investigations that have been carried out from within Mexico and published in Mexican journals of great scientific quality, like an x-ray showing that much research still needs to be done in terms of generating knowledge about the bilateral relationship.

Work methodology used

It was investigated in magazine web portals in order to find out the production on various topics about India. These documents have been published by Mexican and foreign specialists in Mexican journals. In this sense, the systematization and analysis of publications aims to act as an x-ray of the literature generated from Mexico.

The documentary review of journals specialized in international relations, transpacific relations or disciplines for purposes such as political science, social sciences, history, among others, was carried out for the period from 2000 to 2019.

As well, said research is of a documentary type, since the journals of the index of scientific journals of Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT) were reviewed, plus other important journals that do not necessarily fall within that standard.

Publications on India are sought in multidisciplinary themes produced from Mexico, either by Mexicans or by foreigners, but are published from Mexican research centers, universities and institutions in general.

The census of journals that was taken as a reference for carrying out the documentary research were the E-Magazines of CONACYT, specifically in the area of Social Sciences: <http://revistascientificasconacyt.unam.edu/#/know/5>

Magazines with publications about India

From the *Padrón de Revistas del CONACYT* and other specialized magazines, there were found 54 magazines in which information of interest could possibly be located. However in only 9 were found scientific articles and reviews on books directly related to India. Specifically, out of the production from 2000 to 2016 in the country's journals of such quality and scientific rigor, only 16.6% of these journals published some Indian material (Appendix 1.) These magazines are shown in TABLE 1, below.

**Table 1. Mexican Magazines with Publications
Related to Studies on India(Footnotes)**

NO.	NAME OF THE MAGAZINE	INSTITUTION OF ORIGIN	INTERNET PORTAL
1	<i>Journal of Asian and African Studies</i>	The College of Mexico	http://estudiosdeasiayafrika.colmex.mx/index.php/ea
2	<i>Mexico and the Pacific Rim</i>	University of Guadalajara	http://www.mexicoylacuencadelpacifico.cucsh.udg.mx/
3	<i>International Forum</i>	The College of Mexico	http://forointernacional.colmex.mx/index.php/fi
4	<i>The sustainable journey</i>	Autonomous University of State of Mexico	http://rperiplo.uaemex.mx/index.php/elperiplo
5	<i>Mexican journal of political and social sciences</i>	National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)	http://www.revistas.unam.mx/index.php/rmcpys
6	<i>Confines of international relations and political science</i>	Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey	http://confines.mty.itesm.mx/
7	<i>Region and society, magazine</i>	The College of Sonora	https://regionysociedad.colson.edu.mx:8086/index.php/rys
8	<i>Revista Portes, Mexican magazine of studies on the Pacific Basin</i>	University of Colima	http://www.portesasiapacifico.com.mx/index.php
9	<i>International Relations Magazine</i>	UNAM	http://www.revistas.unam.mx/index.php/rri

Source: Prepared by the authors

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One should note that of the nine journals where a scientific text or review related to studies about India is published, only one journal—International Relations Magazine of UNAM—is not in the catalog of journals indexed in CONACYT. It, however, comes from one of the institutions of greater academic rigor in the field of Mexico’s international relations.

In addition to the above, it should be noted that the institutions that have published specialized texts on various Indian themes have some postgraduate and researchers in areas where studies on the Asia-Pacific region are addressed. However there are few specialists concentrating on India.

Radiography in figures of what was published about India 2000-2019
Table 2. Publications of Articles and Reviews on India
From 2000-2019 in Mexico

Magazine	Time period studied	Approximate items (A)	Approximate reviews (R)	Sum of A & R	How many talk about India	Percent per magazine with respect to the sum A and R
<i>Asian and African Studies Magazine</i>	2000-2019	406	201	607	42	6.9
<i>International Forum</i>	2000-2019	513	285	798	7	0.87
<i>The sustainable journey</i>	2007-2019	197	8	205	1	0.48
<i>Mexican journal of political and social sciences</i>	2000-2019	476	97	573	1	0.17
<i>Confines journal of international relations and political science</i>	2005-2017	108	74	182	1	0.54
<i>Region and society, magazine</i>	2000-2019	450	192	642	1	0.15
<i>Revista Portes, Mexican magazine of studies on the Pacific Basin</i>	2007-2019	170	27	197	5	2.53
<i>International Relations Magazine</i>	2001-2019	224	95	319	1	0.31
<i>Mexico and the Pacific Rim</i>	2000-2019	496	33	529	1	0.18

Source: Prepared by the authors based on a review of magazine portals

As one can see in Table 2, the total number of articles published by the nine journals in question is 3040; the total number of reviews is 1012. Together, they total 4052, but only 60 publications were located during the period studied. That is, of the totality published by the 9 journals, 1.48% in 19 years has been concerned with the study of some topic about India.

On the other hand, if an analysis is made per magazine, it can be found that practically all the journals published only one article or review, and that 54 of the 60 were concentrated in only three journals. Two of the three specialized in studies on Asia; the other two, from a single institution, had a historical trajectory on studies in this subject. (Appendix 2.)

One can also appreciate the fact that production in general terms is just beginning, since in 19 years there have been carried out only 60 works showing aspects of India. This production does not necessarily serve as input for the current situation, given that we can find texts on the history, life narratives, and political issues; rather than figures or international trade. There are few texts that address bilateral relations between the two countries.

What is said about India according to the Mexican journals studied *Magazines with more publications about India*

Asian and African Studies Magazine.

It was born in 1966 as *Oriental Studies Magazine* at the Colegio de México, and it was in 1975 that it changed to the name it carries today. In this magazine, scientific articles on the history and economics, social and political sciences of the peoples of Asia and Africa are published. It is quarterly. It is the magazine that has published the most around the country.

Of the 42 publications, the majority deal with questions of history, philosophy, anthropology, and culture; very few address recent issues, circumstances, things concerning economic studies, negotiation strategies, international cooperation, investment, etc. And this is obvious, because the approach of the magazine once reviewed is a historical-sociocultural approach.

However, we consider that it is important to know the historical framework of India; therefore, the information generated at The College of Mexico by specialists on Asia who publish in the magazine they themselves produce is of relevance. (Appendix 2)

International Forum Magazine.

It is a quarterly magazine published by the College of Mexico since 1960. It receives contributions from nationals and foreigners on social sciences in general and on international relations, political science, comparative politics, foreign policy and public administration, in particular.

On the subject in question—India— the seven publications deal with recent elections in India, on relations between this nation and Mexico, and even on economics and institutions. These publications are recent; they serve as a frame of reference for those studying bilateral relations between Mexico and this country

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**Table 3. Publications on India
in *International Forum Magazine***

Name of the publication	Topic or topics addressed
<i>Elections 2014 and the victory of Narendra Modi: economic development or social polarization in India</i>	Political system. Electoral issues
<i>Mexico and a group of countries called BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India and China)</i>	Comparative study
<i>The Cycle of Single Party Domination: Mexico, India, and Japan in Comparative Perspective</i>	Political system. Electoral issues
<i>Old and new India (Institutions, decentralization, employment)</i>	Economy and institutions
<i>Relations between Mexico and India 2000-2006</i>	Mexico-India bilateral relations
<i>In search of affirmation: security and BRICS in international governance</i>	Economy and institutions
<i>Relations between Mexico and India, 1995-2000</i>	Mexico-India bilateral relations

Source: Prepared by the authors based on International Forum (2000-2019)

Portes Magazine, Mexican magazine of studies on the Pacific Rim

The purpose of the publication is to disseminate research on exchanges between Mexico and Asian countries, including commercial, financial, technological, political, diplomatic and cultural exchanges, as well as international organizations active in the Pacific region, especially the Forum of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC.)

There were four publications related with our research object of the time from 2000-2019.

Table 4. Publications in *Revista Portesa* about India

Name of the publication	Topic or topics addressed
<i>Chindia. Asia to conquer the 21st century</i>	China and India relations
<i>India, Modi's challenges: poverty, diplomacy and security</i>	Security, poverty, foreign policy
<i>Recent evolution of the cement industry: a comparative study between Mexico and India</i>	Cement industry
<i>State, fetishism and social relations: Mexico versus the Indian strategy</i>	Mexico-India political systems

Source: Prepared by the authors based on Portes Magazine 2000-2019

It can clearly be observed and analyzed in the titles of the publications, that these deal with issues of interest to students of the bilateral relationship, including the publication related to the cement industry. This could have to do with materials for Mexican companies of this type that want to invest in the distant Indian country.

Magazines with at least one publication

Table 5. Magazines with at Least One Publication on India From 2000-2019

Magazine	Name of the publication	Topic or topics addressed
<i>The sustainable journey</i>	<i>Human Resource Development in the Tourism Industry in India: A Case Study of Air India Ltd., New Delhi</i>	Human resources in the Indian tourism industry
<i>Mexico and the Pacific Basin</i>	<i>The economic development model of India</i>	Economy
Mexican journal of political and social sciences	<i>Communism in India and the Political Challenge of the Castes</i>	Politics and society
<i>CONfines Journal of international relations and political science</i>	<i>Liberal economic reforms, the case of China and India</i>	Economy
<i>Region and Society Magazine</i>	<i>Review. The Rule of Water: Statecraft, Ecology, and Collective Action in South India</i>	Water
<i>International Relations Magazine</i>	<i>NOTE: India and China in international economic relations</i>	Bilateral relations China and India

Source: Prepared by the authors

Table 5 shows us other journals that at least had one publication on topics related to India in the period studied. As one can read in the titles of their publications, the topics are economics, bilateral relations and water issues. This draws attention to the publication related to economic reforms, because like China—the other competitor on the Asian continent—the interior of India went through a series of reforms, and these have permitted its current intense economic relations with the world.

Conclusions

After the exhaustive review of the production generated in the main academic journals of prestigious Mexican institutions dedicated to the study of international, transpacific relations; social sciences; and humanities, we conclude that despite the growing interest in the Asian region during recent years, the studies of India in Mexico are a subject little addressed in the most important academic media such as specialized magazines. Accordingly, in this sense it was established that the production generated in many of these periodicals is not related to the current situation of the country. Rather, they correspond to historical studies which, although they are important, do not generate an integral vision of the areas of opportunity that could be expanded in the Mexico-India bilateral relationship.

Regarded thus, it is considered that the studies of India represent an excellent opportunity for academics from all over the world, and specifically for those who wish to

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publish from Mexican dissemination platforms, given that it is still an area of studies not specifically addressed in journals specializing in international themes. As a recommendation, issues related to South-South cooperation; the development of joint strategies for the promotion of trade and investment; cooperation in infrastructure, competitiveness and innovation; climate change and economy and ecological commerce; and dialogue on cooperation policies, are those regarded as capable of subsidizing the potentialization of that Mexico-India bilateral relationship which could be promoted from the field of academia and scientific studies.

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APPENDIX 1. MAGAZINES OF THE CONACYT INDEX AND OTHERS

No.	MAGAZINE NAME	Any text about India?
		Yes
1	<i>Developmental problems. Latin American Journal of Economics</i>	
2	<i>Politic and government</i>	
3	<i>Economics magazine essays</i>	
4	<i>Latin American economic review / Mexican economy new era</i>	
5	<i>North America, academic journal of the Cisan-Unam</i>	
6	<i>Migration and development</i>	
7	<i>Border studies</i>	
8	<i>Demographic and urban studies</i>	
9	<i>Cultural</i>	
10	<i>Mexican Law Review, New Series</i>	
11	<i>Mexican Yearbook of International Law</i>	
12	<i>Agriculture, society and development</i>	
13	<i>Accounting and administration</i>	
14	<i>Communication and society</i>	
15	<i>Economics: theory and practice</i>	
16	<i>Constitutional issues</i>	
17	<i>Convergence journal of social sciences</i>	
18	<i>Library research: Archivonomy, library science and information</i>	
19	<i>The economic quarter</i>	
20	<i>Liminar. Social and humanistic studies</i>	
21	<i>Social interstices</i>	
22	<i>Political studies</i>	
23	<i>The sustainable journey</i>	X

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24	<i>Mexican magazine of economics and finance new era REMEF</i>	
25	<i>Latin American journal of social law</i>	
26	<i>Problem. Yearbook of Philosophy and Theory of Law</i>	
27	<i>Mexico and the Pacific Rim</i>	X
28	<i>North border</i>	
29	<i>Econoquantum</i>	
30	<i>International migrations</i>	
31	<i>Latin American Profiles Magazine</i>	
32	<i>Sociological</i>	
33	<i>Arguments. Critical studies of society</i>	
34	<i>Economic studies</i>	
35	<i>Sociological studies</i>	
36	<i>Mexican journal of political and social sciences</i>	X
37	<i>Polis</i>	
38	<i>Confines of international relations and political science</i>	X
39	<i>Economy, society and territory</i>	
40	<i>Andamios, social research journal</i>	
41	<i>Magazine opening</i>	
42	<i>Management and public policy</i>	
43	<i>International forum</i>	X
44	<i>Spiral. Studies on State and Society</i>	
45	<i>Mexican bulletin of comparative law</i>	
46	<i>Isonomía. Journal of theory and philosophy of law</i>	
47	<i>Population papers</i>	
48	<i>New anthropology</i>	
49	<i>Mexican journal of sociology</i>	
50	<i>Region and society, magazine of El Colegio de Sonora</i>	X
51	<i>Journal of Asian and African Studies (COLMEX)</i>	X
52	<i>Portes, Mexican magazine of studies on the Pacific Basin</i>	X
53	<i>UNAM International Relations Magazine</i>	X
54	<i>Orientando Magazine of the Veracruzana University</i>	
	TOTAL	9

APPENDIX 2. PUBLICATIONS OF ASIA AND AFRICA MAGAZINE

Name of the publication	Topic or topics addressed
<i>Crossing the River in Sandals: Anti-State Radicalism and Social Conservatism in British India</i>	Social structures and colonialism
<i>The art of disdain. Ineffability and Hermeneutics in Ancient India. By Óscar Figueroa</i>	Philosophy
<i>Indian villages between anthropology and history</i>	Culture and identity
<i>Modern Menus: Food, Family, Health, and Gender in Colonial Bengal.</i>	Health and hygiene
<i>Nationalist Oscillations: From Ghandian Ethos to Hindu Nationalism in Vallabhbhai Patel's Political Path</i>	Ideas of Gandhi
<i>Legalities and Illegalities: Crime in Colonial and Postcolonial India.</i>	Culture of crime
<i>Criminal Issues: Law and Legalities in Pre-Colonial and Colonial India</i>	Culture y crime
<i>We have already arrived in Amritsar by Bhashama Sahni (Translation)</i>	Sociocultural narratives
<i>Cultures of the body and mind in Caraka's compendium</i>	Culture
<i>The art of retracing. (Anupaya.) Elucidation of the tantras (Tantraloka) Second chapter of Abhinavagupta (Translation)</i>	Art and culture
<i>Review. From ancient to modern. Religion, power and community in India. By Ishita Banerjee- Dube and Sahurbh Dube</i>	Religion and power
<i>Review India or Pakistan? Divided spaces. By Laura Carballido Coria del Colmex and the UAM - Cuajimalpa</i>	History
<i>The Ayodhya Verdict: Reflections on the Naturalization of Secularism in Contemporary India.</i>	History and democracy
<i>Max Weber and religions in India</i>	Religion
<i>The Indian argument about the existence of God: a reading through its critics</i>	Philosophy
<i>Translation. The Souls of Camp Sham Alam De Asghar Wajahat</i>	Sociocultural narratives

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<i>Archive negotiations from below: The case of mobilized street vendors in Calcutta</i>	Informal Economy of India
<i>Science, Technology and Atoms in the Context of India-China Relations: Fetish and Taboo</i>	History, science and technology
<i>Some considerations about the origin of logic in India</i>	Philosophy
<i>Is there a caste system?</i>	Philosophy
<i>The Village Approach: An Exploration of Sect and Community in Today's India</i>	Anthropology
<i>Current Asia and Africa. The Indian labor market</i>	Job market
<i>The Subaltern's Gender: Ritual, Kinship, Myth and Sexuality in Central India</i>	Culture
<i>After conversion. Lives and stories of central India during the colony (part two)</i>	Anthropology
<i>Mythical eroticism in India by Mircea Eliade from Barcelona</i>	Culture
<i>After the Conversion: Lives and Stories of Colonial Central India (Part One)</i>	Culture
<i>Translation: The Kabir-Jogajit, Ki, Gohhthi: A Religious Dialogue in Hindi</i>	Religion
<i>Formations of faith. The initiation of a subaltern sect in Central India. C. 1800- 1850</i>	History
<i>Book Review, Hybrid Histories: Forests Frontiers and Wildness in Western India. By Ajay Skaria</i>	History
<i>Review:Le voyageur étranlé. L'inde des thugs, le colonialisme et l'inaginaire. De M. VanWoerkens</i>	Anthropology
<i>Colonial Law and Contemporary Legalities: Kinship and Conflict in Imperial India</i>	History
<i>Book Review, Another Reason: Science and the Imagination of Modern India by Gyan Prakash</i>	Power
<i>Kali and Her Contemporaries: Popular Perceptions of Time in Colonial East India</i>	Culture
<i>The Tribulations of the Lord: Religion, Law and Established Power in East India During the Colonial and Postcolonial Period</i>	Colonial history