

## **ABSTRACT**

The 2019 Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act's (UAPA) Amendment Bill allows the government of India to convict individuals, as well as organizations, as terrorists if they commit, participate, plan etc in the perceived acts of terrorism and promote terrorism. This allows the Government of India to book any individual participating in protests and activities that can be 'anti-national'. The UAPA terror amendments are the focus of the paper because it incorporate the provisions from the repealed Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) by making changes to the definition of unlawful activity to contain the definition of terrorist act and terrorist organizations as ones that threaten or is likely to threaten the unity, integrity, security, economic security, or sovereignty of India, as well as the ability to include and take due action against individuals suspected of unlawful activity. This dissertation utilising Critical Discourse Analysis tries to analyze the discourse pertaining to the UAPA in India in terms of media and the government, to provide insight into how the discourse between security vs democracy is a product of oppression of minorities through dominant power hierarchies due to the effects of social cognition and society shaping discourse structures, from the micro to the macro level. It constitutes how discourse affects perception in a local sphere.

**Keywords:** UAPA, Discourse Analysis, Critical Theory, Indian Terrorism Laws, Media Discourse, Government Discourse, Minorities, Critical Discourse Analysis