

# INTRODUCTION TO PAPARAZZI PHOTOGRAPHY FOR BEGINNERS

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## **Abstract:**

The aim of this research paper is to aware people about paparazzi photography and its effect in the celebrities' life. Paparazzi photography is freelance, independent photography and it is more like a candid photography. The Paparazzi are omnipresent who peruses celebrities, politician, athlete to take photographs and sell them to the magazine, newspapers and third party i.e. agents and news agencies. As a result of new media and virtual technology, Paparazzi agency plays a vital role in entertainment industry. In modern society paparazzi content has increasing a new form of knowledge in information based entertainment. This research paper will have the aim to introduce the basics of paparazzi photography, historical background, Scope, challenges and risk factor of paparazzi photography, latest technologies used in paparazzi photography. For this research paper we are using secondary data.

**Key Words:** - Paparazzi, Photography, Journalism, celebrities, Entertainment, Technology, Independent Photography, Freelance, Candid Photography, Paparazzo, Lady Diana, Princess of wales, Investigation Photography

**1.0 Introduction to Paparazzi Photography** –Paparazzi are independent photographers with knowledge of photography and lenses for taking surveillance photos of celebrities and politicians outside of their public appearances. Paparazzi photographers who take pictures of athlete, celebrities and business tycoons and sell their pictures to news agencies. The photography demands creativity and it is full of adventurous.

Paparazzi photographers usually follow the limelight celebrities and clicking their photographs and sell them in a very huge cost. Paparazzo is also known as candid photographer. So the question is that what is Candid photography, a simple definition of Candid photography is the photography captured without creating a posed appearance. In short we can say a click without posed or surprised photography. A classic example of Candid is when a person is smoking, by surprising the person, awkward condition etc.

Paparazzi are skilled photographers who click celebrity images to achieve their aim, gaining the profit from the photos of famous people and their family members. They are keen seeker, observer and expert in their field. We can say paparazzi are similar to investigation photography because all the photographs click by paparazzi by using hidden cameras. They are physically and mentally fit and used latest gadgets and techniques for good and quality pictures. They can wait outside the hotels for a long day for capturing one single photograph. A lot of patience and curiosity is required in this profession.

**1.1 Historical Background of Paparazzi** – The paparazzo word comes from Italian film “La Dolee Vita” in 1960. La Dolee vita, the film based on the life of tired journalist, Marcello and his photographer, Paparazzo Federico Fellini who was the maker of the film describes the word of paparazzo. Paparazzo are buzzing insect, hovering darting stinging. Moreover, Fellini drew a picture of the paparazzo’s character that looks like a vampirish insectile, implied that paparazzo is like mosquitoes and also parasites. After that, “Paparazzi” is a word to explain the attitude and behaviour of the photographers who follow up the celebrities to get the information about them to reveal in the public the same as the act on film.

## **2.0 Famous Celebrity who are victim of Paparazzi**

### **2.1 Lady Diana (Princess of Wales) who are a victim of paparazzi:**

Lady Diana the princess of wales death conspiracy was the tragic event for a whole world. The death of Diana shocked the whole world. Paparazzi are being the accuse of social in the incident. Lady Diana died on 31 august 1997 and it became very hot issue denouncing an ugly of paparazzi behaviour. Because of escape a group of paparazzi during traveling in Paris, the car that she had been in got an accident.

According to the article “ Who shares the Blame?” on TIME magazine in the issue September 15th,1997 the paparazzi followed Princess Diana and her rich boyfriend, Dodi al Fayed, after they left a restaurant where they had a dinner together. A group of paparazzi chased up Diana’s car, Mercedes Benz, into the darkness of night, so the driver, Paul, lost control the car and crashed into the side of the tunnel. The car hit the other side of the tunnel and the wall. There are four persons in the car; three of them, Diana, Dodi and Paul died in the crash. The fourth person is a bodyguard who was still alive. Lacayo writes, “The speedometer was frozen on impact at 120 mph.” Dodi’s family denied that statement and they said it was on zero. The French police refuse to confirm officially either claim or police speculate that the Mercedes arrived at the tunnel entrance at about 80 to 100 m.p.h.The CBS News reported paparazzi were at the scene of the accident, but they did not help her and the others in the car. They snatched for taking a photo of the dying princess instead.

It is believed the driver was speeding to avoid the paparazzi, who were chasing them on motorcycle. If the paparazzi had not chased Diana that night for special one shot, she would be alive today. This is the reason the paparazzi are being blamed for the death of Diana. Another speculation is that when the paparazzi flashed their cameras in the dark night, it may have blinded the driver.

## **3.0 Scope of Paparazzi-**

It is highly lucrative and extremely demanding profession. There is a huge scope of paparazzi photography in entertainment industry. The job requires that you consistently capture professional-quality photographs of celebrities in a variety of situations. Often the subject you attempt to photograph is uncooperative or even hostile to your efforts.

Anyone willing and interested can become a good paparazzi photographer. Understanding the business and committing yourself to taking sought-after celebrity photos gets you a job as a paparazzi photographer.

The best places to practise paparazzi are Los Angeles or New York in USA that is the hotspot for paparazzi. In order to get perfect pix, you have to be in the right place at the right time. This can be challenging and is the reason why the paparazzi are great networkers. They know people all over the film industry casting director, hairdressers, cab drivers, bouncers, and agents – who know where celebrities will be and when.

Most images will sell at highly price. It all depends on who, what, where, when, why, and how – plus the quality of the image. The prices are higher in paparazzi photography just you have to show your skills and talent.

## **4.0 Major challenges in Paparazzi**

Paparazzi life is full of ambitious and challenging one. Paparazzi hang out on the streets and in public places waiting for a single opportunity to photograph a celebrity. In public, the paparazzi can snap away unhindered by laws. But for a paparazzo who wants to make the big bucks, this method is far too inefficient. Paparazzi must make sure they are in the right place at the right time to get the shot. Paparazzi already have good contact with media people and casting agents. So they can easily find the stars where they are shooting or event.

Paparazzi work a lot like a private detectives or spy agents. Each paparazzo culls a network of informers to help keep tabs on celebrity targets. These informers can be people who work in businesses frequented by celebrities, such as barber, restaurants, shops or salons. The paparazzo often pays for this information. In many cases, people who work for the star might be bribed to divulge the whereabouts of their employer.

Paparazzo has good relations with autographers. Autographers basically stalk celebrities, approach them in public places and ask for their autographs. They make their living by selling these autographs to fans and resellers. Paparazzi pay the autographers for information on the celebrity's whereabouts. As an added bonus, when the autographer stops the celebrity on the street, the paparazzo gets the opportunity to take the perfect shot. They both work together and are good planners.

The major key for the paparazzo is to get the information and get the shot before other paparazzi do. Once the paparazzo knows where the target is, there are various tactics he or she may use to get a photograph. In order to get the photo free and clear, the paparazzo really work hard and they do anything to get the star out in public, away from a private residence. If the star is in a private area, the photo must be taken discreetly from a distance and with the photographer standing on public land. In most of the cases, It is highly risked some paparazzi have taken photographs from rooftops or tree tops. They have shot private events from rented helicopters or boats.

### **5.0 Laws Regarding Paparazzi-**

Everybody knows the death of Princess Diana in 1997. She passed away as a result of a fatal car crash in the tunnel during a high-speed paparazzi chase. This led to a number of laws in America and other countries relating to the paparazzi.

Some states and countries restrict their activities by passing laws and [curfews](#), and by staging events in which paparazzi are specifically not allowed to take photographs. In the United States, celebrity news organizations are protected by the First Amendment.

To safeguard and protect the children of celebrities, California passed a new bill in September 2013. The purpose of the new bill is to stop paparazzi from taking pictures of children in harassing manner, regardless of who their parents are. This new law increased the penalty on harassment and the penalty for harassment of children.

### **6.0 Paparazzi and Technology**

Paparazzi benefit from the digital age. Photographer will have a number of cameras, lenses, flashguns, and bits and bobs that will allow you to fulfill any likely brief. The most important weapon of the paparazzi is the good quality compact camera. The micro spy digital cameras are easier for paparazzi to conceal their work.

**6.1 Olympus C7070** wide has an excellent, fast lens, good low-light performance, and a good imaging chip. It's a little slow to process the images, the zoom range is minimal and the flash isn't great, but it's done a good paparazzi job over the years and it appears to be indestructible. Wireless video cameras are also becoming a regular staple of the paparazzi. Paparazzi can either wear the cameras or plant them to capture celebrities unaware. The tiny cameras sport increasingly powerful transmitters that broadcast digital video to receivers. **Mobile phones** help paparazzi get their equipment into events when no cameras are allowed. With mobile phones growing more prevalent, certain places may have to adopt a "no phone" policy to curb unauthorized picture-taking.

**7.0 Conclusion** – The paparazzi photography explores celebrity culture. It is the digital age photography with lot of career options for the youngsters, who want to pursue their future in this field. The profession is extremely demanding and you can earn good money. It definitely shows the hidden face of the celebrities. This photography is based on real life situation. The paparazzi profession is rising day by day and in coming days this will be the part of academics. People are very much interested in celebrity's personal lives. The overall conclusion of this paper is to aware more and more people about this unique and creative photography. Both positive and negative impacts are there in paparazzi.

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