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**Topic of Research:** Press, Power and Transition: A Social History of Journalism in Kashmir

### **Finding**

One of the foremost findings of the thesis is that media cultures of princely South Asia have been relegated to marginalia in the narratives of conventional media historiography. Taking this premise as a point of departure, it complicates the popular frameworks in the existing body of scholarship on media and communication, arguing that much of this academic work imitates what has been called the colonial mode of historiography. This mode of historiography, it is argued, has the tendency to further erase media cultures of princely India, thereby posing a serious challenge to many alternative accounts of media and communication in South Asia.

Secondly, the research finds that journalism research has mostly remained focused on the genre of news and information. It contrasts the dominant mode of journalism with literary and political journalism of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. This has been achieved by offering a new conceptual framework predicated on notions of language, discourse and control.

The thesis finds that the long march of press in princely Jammu and Kashmir State has been riddled with multiple tensions between the state and the press. Raging contestations on many layers between the two actors continue in the present as well.