

Abstract

This thesis focuses upon the Punjabi film industry and the Gujjars films they have produced. Many castes that reside within Pakistan have developed stereotypes regarding their character, our focus will be on the Gujjar caste that have fallen victim to the stereotypes that are perpetuated through the cinema.

The Gujjar community have been present in India, since the arrival of the Aryans and have therefore become a part of Indian culture. However, through the years they developed a reputation as Gundas, that seemed to taint their societal recognition. Through further study, it was discovered that many of the Gujjar films were produced by Gujjars. The most important aspect is that these Gujjars were the family members of well-known Gundas, who had either been killed or had garnered a reputation as criminals. Interviews of actors and producers showed that the movies have been the production of a handful of Gujjars and it may have been their own fault that the Gujjars may have developed such a negative image.