Local Media in Turkey: The Development of the Radio Landscape in Konya - Ali Sonay

Since the Justice and Development Party (AKP) came to power in 2002, the greater visibility of religion and emergence of a conservative middle class have reconfigured the thinkable and sayable regarding Turkey's identity. A primary site for negotiation in this process has been the media. Despite its importance in the Turkish media scene, radio is overlooked academically compared to television and the press. Increasing commercialisation and local concentration has affected mainstream music radio while also reshaping Islamic radio. In order to grasp the recent transformations in the Turkish media, this article focuses on radio as a societal institution of the periphery. How does the radio landscape in Central Anatolia, a region reflecting the conservative bourgeoisie's emergence, mirror recent transformations? Observations focus on Konya, one of the Anatolian 'Tigers', a politically and economically important city, and a centre of AKP support.