

The Logic of Hatred and Textualisation of Cohesion: Revisiting Select Early Modern Bangla Sufi Texts

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Abstract

The paper proposes to diagnose the current climate of distrust, animosity and conflict across the globe and argues for/ theorises an episteme of transcendence and cohesion. Empirically it builds on the recent cases of majoritarian violence in contemporary India. The paper would engage with the following questions- How do we transcend these realities and forge a new plank of cohesion? Are there literary-cultural and philosophical possibilities of supplementation with moments/ thoughts of cohesion and shared grounds? How do Bengali Sufi texts help us in getting an answer to these questions? The paper would engage with texts like *Gyan Sagar* by Ali Raja, *Nabi Bansa* by Syed Sultan and some of the songs by Lalan Shah that offer a glimpse of possibilities and differentialities- a possible third space of counter-logic and an episteme of cohesion and conviviality.

Keywords: Sufi, conviviality, counter-logic, cohesion, third space, animosity, majoritarianism