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Among The Luminaries in Assam : A Study of Assamese Biography

By Anjali Sarma

Mittal Publications, New Delhi, 1990. N.A. Book Condition: New. 23 cms. xi, 288 p. ,Biography Has So Long Been A Neglected Branch Of Assamese Literature, As It Has Been In Many Other Indian Literatures. Though Biographical Works Have Not Been Insignificant And Though Biographical Writings Have A Long Tradition In Assamese Literature, Assamese Biography Has Received Very Little Critical Attention. The Present Book Is A Pioneering Work On Assamese Biography. After Defining Biography In The Light Of Western And Ancient Indian Theories, It Surveys Assamese Biography Systematically For The First Time From Its Beginning In The Medieval Times Till Today. First, The Medieval Assamese Hagiographies Depicting The Lives Of Assamese Vaisnavite Saints And Preachers Like Sankaradeva And Madhavadeva Are Discussed. With The Establishment Of The British Rule, Western Biographical Tradition Influenced Assamese Literature When Nationalist Political Leaders, Social Reformers, Men Of Letters, Scientists And Industrialists Came To Be The Subjects Of Biographies. Assamese Biographies Of The British And Post-British Periods With Such Heroes Are Discussed In Later Chapters. In Conclusion, The Author Has Dwelt On The General Adulatory Tone Of Most Assamese Biographies That Tend To Show The Subjects As Human Beings Par Excellence, If Not An Super-Human Beings. During...



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