

ARRANGING THE CONTRADICTIONS: THE QUESTIONS OF MODERNITY AND MORALITY IN COLONIAL ASSAM

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ABSTRACT

The trajectory of morality and modernity in colonial Assam, made many changes in the traditional life of the Assamese people. The colonial interventions introduced many new issues for the people and like other parts of the country the Assamese educated middle class also tried to situate themselves in the reshaping the mindsets of the people. But, in doing so many of the agendas and efforts of the emerging middle class failed to properly address many of the popular practices in a changing environment. The province with its particular problems and issues had to make several negotiations with the issues of nationalism and identity. This resulted confusion and till now the Assamese people are waiting for alternative answers.

KEYWORDS: Colonialism, Morality, Popular Culture, Caste, Immigration