

Unveiling Bengali Women's Appreciation of Modernizing Japan

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Abstract : It is known to all that Japan was closed till 1853 abruptly; Commodore Culbreath Matthew Perry has played a pivotal role in Japan's exposure to modernization and facing the real world as an Asian entity. As Japan opened its door for the world, Indians, especially four women from Bengal, visited Japan. They were Hariprova Takeda, Sarojnalini Dutta, Santa Devi and Parul Devi. All of them were from different entities, but there were some bewildering similarities also in their depiction. How they penetrated their exposure to modernizing Japan is the motto of the research. It should be mentioned that two of them were directly influenced by Rabindranath Tagore. The methodology that has been followed while doing this research is depending on secondary source materials, like books, articles, etc. Japan was changing herself relentlessly towards modernization and westernization and these four women had witnessed the changing Japan and how the changing Japan has reflected in their write-ups and autobiography is the fundamental part of the research. As all of them were women, they had compared themselves with Japanese women. The finding of the research is, astonishingly, all of them found and comprehended Japan as a country where women were having more financial sovereignty and freedom of thought comparing to India in those days.

Keywords : empowerment, Japan, modernization, women

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