

Twenty First Century SPEAKS

(A collection of multi-faceted research Articles)

Edited by

Dr. Rupjyoti Dutta
Geetanjali Bora

RESEARCH

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(A Collection of Multi-Faceted Research Articles)

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Cultural Contribution of Sankaradeva: With Special Reference of Woodcarving¹ of Namdoomdomia Sattra

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Introduction

The Bhakti Movement popularly known as Neo-Vaisnavite movement in Assam was launched by Mahapurush Srimanta Sankaradeva (1449-1568), his chief disciple Madhavadeva (1489-1596) and host of other immediate apostles in the 15th-16th centuries of Christian era. To propagate the faith Sankaradeva adopted various means and ways; among which mention may be made about creations of two important components viz. Namghar and Sattra. Since their inception these institutions have been carried out various cultural activities including high degree of fine arts which includes wood carvings and paintings etc. A notable but less discussed aspect of the Bhakti movement is undoubtedly the activities of fine art and artistic works. Among the fine art activities the wood carving is considered to be an essential medium of the Bhakti movement to draw attention of the devotees continued till late 19th century. Almost all forms of arts painting, music, and woodcarving were utilized for furtherance of their spiritual ideals and social concerns among the masses.