

Interrogating Body Politic: Reflections towards Thuggee Cult in British India

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Introduction

- *Among all the socio-cultural institutions that sought explicit reformation under the British Raj, the institution of banditry—popularly known as Thuggee—has remained instrumental in constructing wild romantic imagination in colonial narratives.*

Central Argument

- *Familial relationships in the cult takes a preconditioned homophobic yet non-erotic architecture that not only portrays British attitude towards the concepts of family and marriage, it also indicates, in principle, the Raj's perception towards the human body in general.*

Central Argument

- *A variety of writing—fictional, historical, judicial or otherwise—document the same issue in its extremity.*

Explanation of Argument

In evaluating colonial texts, I take into account the gendered structure of the texts on the Thuggee cult and show the Raj's attitude towards intellectual and moral continence.

Central Themes

Familial relationships

Explanation

Homophobic architecture

Explanation

Central Themes

- Marriage and children

Explanation

- Gendered structure

Explanation

Central Themes

- Intellectual and moral continence

Explanation

- State of criminality

Explanation

Concluding Remarks

Within the framework of a strict conjugal boundary state of criminality has been documented and has positioned itself to perform a gendered architecture of the human body.

Thank You
