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Academic Paper

Title: Archaeology on Bangla Grammar

Paper URL: http://ssrn.com/abstract=2015099

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Institution: La Filológica por la Causa

Linguistic Field: Discourse Analysis; History of Linguistics

Subject Language: Bengali
In this paper, the author tries to analyze the discourse of one particular school-text book of prescriptive Bangla Grammar (Suniti kumar Chattopadhyay's Bhasaa prakaas Bangaalaa vyaktaarana, 1939) in relation to the non-discursive formation of ideological state apparatuses (viz. school, family, colonial nation statist order of things). According to the author the non-discursive practice determines the discourse of prescriptive grammar, which is in fact, a meta-speaking on a particular appropriated, approximated and a selected standardized variety of speaking and writing grammar, in turn, was also contributing in the construction of the boundary of the linguistic statist imagINATION. The categories or order of things as represented in the grammar reflect the 'real (colonial)state' of affairs. In the discursive formation of this particular text-book of grammar, different epistemes from different space-time were represented sometimes with epistemological thresholds (e.g. the concept of grammar and vyaktaarana—altogether two different epistemic constructs. Their equivalence was overdetermined) and sometimes without such ruptures. In the second case, the author introduces the concept of 'epistemological amalgamation' (e.g., the order of things of Compariative Philology, Linguistics, Sanskrit vyakarana, Latin and English Grammar were sometimes amalgamated without apparently visiblable epistemological thresholds) which at a time represents so called colonial mimicry and post-colonial hybridity. The paper, on the other hand, is mimicry of Foucauldian discourse analysis with some due modifications as expected in the post-colonial hybrid academic space. /L/Neologism: Epistemological Amalgamation

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