

CHOLERA IN COLONIAL BENGAL: INTERROGATING BENGALI LITRATURE

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ABSTRACT

The diseases which are liable to create epidemic in colonial Bengal, cholera takes the formidable position. This contagious disease and effects of epidemic to the soldiers creates a bar to the company to implement a well-decorated administrative system. Water pollution was the key reason for braking out cholera epidemic. It became worse due to the lake of mass-awareness and inability to reduce water pollution. Naturally people started worshipping Ola-Bibi or Ola-Chandi to protect the mselves or to get rid of themselves from this fatal disease. At last the British government managed pure water as a result the paws of epidemic gradually weaken. The contemporary Bengali literature tried to portray the condition of colonial Bengal and the reaction of the mass.

KEYWORDS: Epidemic, Cholera, Black Death, Colonial Bengal, Water Pollution, Ola Bibi, Ola- Chandi, Bengali Literature