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RAM DAS SEN LIBRARY: AN INDIGENOUS AGENCY OF NINETEENTH CENTURY BENGAL RENAISSANCE

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ABSTRACT

It was in the second half of nineteenth century that a number of personalities gathered in Berhampur, who added new dimension to the Bengal Renaissance. They enriched Bengal with their wisdom and scholarly activities over the century. Many mysteries regarding social, cultural and political aspects of the past of the country have been revealed with their tireless efforts. It can be said that renaissance does not take place in any particular region all of a sudden; a suitable background helps it to take place. Some famous libraries played an important role to create that intellectual ferment in Murshidabad. Ram Das Sen Library was one of them. The persons like Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, Akshay Chandra Sarkar, Gurudas Bandopadhyay, Pandit Ramgati Nyayaratna, Taraprasad Chottopadhayay, Dinonath Gangopadhyay and various eminent persons used this legendary library to enrich their writings. The library and the exceptional collection of Dr. Sen still exist in the mind of literature lovers and scholars of history.

KEYWORDS: Orientalist, Intelligentsia, Renaissance, Annotated, Classical