



HISTORY OF ORAL AND FOLK TRADITION

মৌখিক আৰু লোক পৰম্পৰাৰ ইতিহাস

EDITORS
SWAPNA DAS
RUPAM GOGOI



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Silence, Suppression and Submissiveness : On the representation of animals in Assamese Folktales

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Introduction :

Myths and legends have always found place in the various folktales narrated by our forefathers, which have thereby passed to the future generations through the oral medium. The oral mode of storytelling, in fact, has been one of the most important ways in which folklores and legends spread both in spatial and temporal dimensions, which has been stated quite correctly by R.P. Lama as "...folklores of all communities are usually handled eventually by the oral tradition in a debased or distorted form' (163). In the preface to the compilation titled *Burhi Aair Sadhu*, Lakhsminath Bezboruah had stated himself that the function of folktales and legends is to act "as the 'biography' of the community because it preserves in it