

WRITING BACK

By Jaydeep Sarangi

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I am that long forgotten rickshaw puller
by the name of Modan ,
that sweeper boy by the name 'kick-worthy',
that angry dalit by the name of Jiban,
semi mad alcoholic by the name Gokul,
that thief by the name of Bhagaban,
that dishonest by the identity of Agastya,
that writer by the name of Bangal –
Raju and Modan all are me.
They all make me Manorajan of today
Who writes back
In words.
You read me with in text books.

Bio

Jaydeep Sarangi has delivered lectures on Bangla dalit literature in several continents as invited/keynote speaker. With Angana Dutta, he has transliterated and edited *Surviving in My World: Growing up Dalit in Bengal* which has been reviewed favourably in many leading journals in the world like *EPW*, *Biblio*, *Commonwealth Essays* (Sorbonne University), *South Asia Research* (London), *Indian Literature*, *Kavya Bharati*, *Voice of the Dalit* (Sage Publication), *The Book Review* , etc. His another pioneering anthology (with Usha Kishore),

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EPISTEME