



Research Cluster and Graduate School
Society and Culture in Motion
Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg
Reichardstraße 6
06114 Halle (Saale)

December 9, 2015, 6 p.m. (s.t.)
Public Lecture

Sourav Kargupta

Erasmus Mundus postdoctoral fellow,
School of Culture and Society, Aarhus University, Denmark

Postcolonial Feminist Ethics: the Problem of Non-Essential Readings



Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak (Drawing by Nele Brönnner, 2010)

This paper tries to ask this central question: how to think of a feminist ethico-politics which does not take recourse to any essentialist ontology in thinking 'subjectivity' or 'body', in short to any essentialised figure of the 'woman'? Does the recent postmodern critique of 'stable subjectivity' make feminist politics impossible in the postcolonial world? Is it necessary for any feminist ethico-politics to think of a located subject around whom it can organize its decisions and actions? Put simply, how to think of a feminism which is nonessentialist and still able to talk about body and embodiment retaining its privileged concept-metaphor: woman? Confronting these problems, this paper tries to propose that one needs to take recourse to a non-essential way of studying contingent problems in thinking a feminist ethics which albeit retains a vigilant critique of subject-predication. The paper therefore is a provocation in the way of putting 'feminist ethic' as ethicality as such.

Research Cluster and Graduate School "Society and Culture in Motion"
Reichardstraße 6 · Seminar room

Contact: Oliver-Pierre Rudolph M.A., phone: (0345) 55-24077, email: verwaltung@scm.uni-halle.de