## Contents

1 Introduction: Through the Postcolonial Abyss 1
   1.1 Ruptured Thought 1
   1.2 Postcolonial Abyss 5
   1.3 Re-Tracings 7
   1.4 Tracks of Memory 9
   1.5 Mnemic Inquiries 11
   1.6 Dispersals and Receptions of Memory 15
   1.7 Formative Singularities 19
   1.8 Of Critical Humanities 22
   1.9 The Chance of Crisis 24
   1.10 What Do You Do? 27

References 29

Part I Signatures of Memory

2 Configurations of Memory and the Work of Difference 33
   2.1 Cultures of Memory 34
   2.2 Lithic Ventures 34
   2.3 A Mosaic Distinction 37
   2.4 Derrida Elsewhere 40
   2.5 In Gratitude 42
   2.6 Legacies 46
   2.7 Prosthetic Sublimations 51

References 56

3 Futures of the Past: Mnemocultures and the Question of Inheritance 59
   3.1 Pura-api-navam 59
   3.2 Reflective Excavations 62
   3.3 Enframing Memory 65
   3.4 Atopal Mnemocultures 68
Part II  Mnemotexts of Reflection

4  Learning in the Double Bind: Mnemotextual Inquiries
and Action Knowledges  ........................................ 91
4.1  The Ear of the Other. ..................................... 92
4.2  Literary Inquiries ........................................ 93
4.3  Impossible Enumerations .................................. 97
4.4  Suspended Aggregations .................................. 99
4.5  The Literary Secrecy ...................................... 102
4.6  Literary Affects .......................................... 106
4.7  The Literary Worlding .................................... 109
4.8  Configurations of Difference ............................ 111
4.9  The Lithic Ethic .......................................... 117
4.10 The Literary Absolutism .................................. 122
4.11 Literary Praxis ........................................... 124
References .................................................... 128

5  Fables of Identity and Contingencies of Certainty:  
Disarticulations of the Panchatantra  ......................... 131
5.1  The Narrative Imperative ................................. 131
5.2  The Double Strand ....................................... 135
5.3  Disarticulations .......................................... 139
5.4  Dis-Enclosures .......................................... 143
5.5  Fables and Certainties ................................... 149
5.6  Contingencies ............................................ 152
5.7  Erasures .................................................. 153
References .................................................... 156

6  Tanunapat: Kalos, Philos and the Vestiges of Trace  ........ 159
6.1  Re-Treating Art .......................................... 160
6.2  Aniconic Memories and Iconic Regulations .............. 162
6.3  Performative in Difference ................................ 166
6.4  Ab-Original Series and Unprecedented Emergences ...... 168
6.5  Phenomenal Difference ................................... 171
6.6  Symbol, Body and the Mnemopraxial Life ................. 174
Part III  Embodiments of Response

7  The Mahabharata Contretemps: Temporality, Finitude and the Modes of Being in the Itihasa  
7.1  Risks of Contemporaneity  
7.2  Enframing Significance  
7.3  Time–Death–Finitude  
7.4  Modes of Composition  
7.5  Life and Symbolization: Bioculturality  
7.6  Repetition Compulsion  
7.7  Responsive Cultivations  
7.8  Deflections of Being  
7.9  Transformative Receptions  
7.10  Reorientations  
7.11  Double Binds of Living  
7.12  Action Knowledge  
7.13  Traction of Learning  
7.14  Learning to Fail  
7.15  Learnt Torsions  
7.16  Limits of Reach  
7.17  Beyond Tragic Imports  
7.18  Serenity of Being and Temporality of Chance  
References  

8  Responsive Receptions: The Question of Translation Beyond the Accursed Zone  
8.1  In Different Transferrals  
8.2  Dispersing Otherwise  
8.3  Survivals  
8.4  Receptive Responsibility  
8.5  Intimations of the Foreign  
8.6  Monolingual Variance  
8.7  Generic Dehiscence  
8.8  Hospitable Provocations  
8.9  Partaking in Intimacies  
8.10  Melodies of Thought.  
8.11  Rhythms of Reception  
8.12  Tending the Untranslatable  
8.13  Accursed Contestations  
References  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>266</td>
<td>8.14 The Future Anterior</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>267</td>
<td>References</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>271</td>
<td>9 Listening to the Textlooms of Vemana: Memory, History and the Archives of Betrayal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>272</td>
<td>9.1 Archive Fevers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>276</td>
<td>9.2 Textlooms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>280</td>
<td>9.3 Mnemotextual Weaves/Aphoristic Energies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>283</td>
<td>9.4 Forming Names</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>284</td>
<td>9.5 Desiring Bodies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>288</td>
<td>9.6 The Intimate Alien</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>292</td>
<td>9.7 Touching Freedom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>296</td>
<td>9.8 Epistemic Intimations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>299</td>
<td>9.9 The Sacrificial Carnivore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>302</td>
<td>9.10 Dis-Figurations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>305</td>
<td>References</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>307</td>
<td>10 Close-Ups: Approaching Critical Humanities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>308</td>
<td>10.1 Destinies of the Critical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>310</td>
<td>10.2 Castes of Thought</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>313</td>
<td>10.3 Un-Archival Impulses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>316</td>
<td>10.4 Jatis and Genres</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321</td>
<td>10.5 Purana Lives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323</td>
<td>10.6 Guardians of Memory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325</td>
<td>10.7 Mnemocultural Hospitality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329</td>
<td>References</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331</td>
<td>Index</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
http://www.springer.com/978-81-322-1697-1

Cultures of Memory in South Asia
Orality, Literacy and the Problem of Inheritance
Rao, D.V.
2014, XVI, 336 p., Hardcover
ISBN: 978-81-322-1697-1