

FREEDOM, TRANSCENDENCE AND IDENTITY

Essays in memory of Kalidas Bhattacharyya

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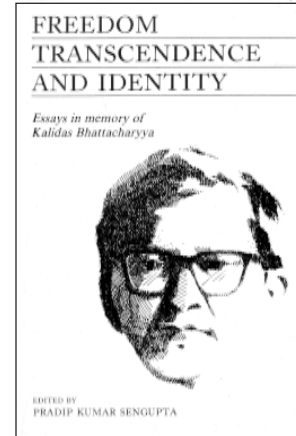
1988

228 pages

Hard Back

ISBN 81-208-0528-3

Rs 135



Kalidas Bhattacharyya (1911–1984) belonged to that select band of Indian philosophers who did not remain content with the mere exposition of classical Indian thought systems. Grounded equally well in the intricacies of both Eastern and Western philosophical systems, he refused to harp on the superiority or inferiority of either. According to him, the essential nature of Indian philosophical quest lies in its concept of ‘total man’ which finds expression in ‘the unity of spirit and matter’, in the grand idea of ‘freedom’, which is the realization of self-in-man through action.

This commemoration volume in honour of Professor Kalidas Bhattacharyya presents a selection of papers from contributors whose accomplishments in the different areas of Indian philosophy are of a high order. Great ideas, classical and modern, are brought within the ambit of rational enquiry and examined with critical insight.

In presenting the volume to the reader, the Indian Council of Philosophical Research pays its tribute to the memory of one of the outstanding philosophers of our time.