"Oral Traditions: In Lieu of a Written History of the Tribes of Arunachal Pradesh"

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In juxtaposition to the prominence previously given to written source materials, oral traditions have in recent decades gained respectability among social scientists, anthropologists and historians. This development has given rise to an upsurge in the location and collection of the appropriate materials comprising oral traditions - such as legends, folklore, folksongs, as well as cultural objects and archaeological data with the aim of constructing the history of non-literate tribes. This lecture will elaborate on the techniques and methods used to study the rich oral traditions in lieu of written documents in an endeavour to reconstruct the history of the tribes of Arunachal Pradesh.

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