Epistemic Violence and Colonialism: A Study of Coetzee’s “Foe” with special reference to Gayatri Spivak’s “Can the Subaltern Speak?”

Somali Raha

1Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, Margherita College, Margherita, Assam, India

Abstract

Spivak’s Can the subaltern speaks questions the legitimations of the western discourse over the colonized subject. The colonized subject has been the area of studies for most of the occidental writers and the way they projected the so-called ‘others’. The validity of an authentic ‘self’ of the colonized ‘subject’ is the center of query in Spivak’s essay. The subaltern has become a standard way to designate the colonial subject that has been constructed by European discourse and internalize by colonial peoples who employ this discourses.

Keywords: Subaltern; Colonized; Epistemic: Violence; Tongue less.