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Public Culture in the Multiple City: Examining Bengaluru as a Conducive Space for Hybridization

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ABSTRACT

The central theme when it comes to the concepts like Syncretism, Creolization, Fusion and Hybridity across history has been that of cultural mixing. It is evidently felt even today in a globalized world, as the physical and metaphorical borders have turned into a melting pot of multiple cultures. Therefore it becomes imperative to examine the process of Hybridization augmented by cultural mixing in different domains of space. The aim of the paper is to examine if Bengaluru is a conducive space for Hybridization. The paper seeks to explore the public culture of Bengaluru with the claim that, the multiple tags given to the city across history, like the garden city, the modern city, information city, the developmental city, Kannada city and the Knowledge society augmented by the bifurcated layout, Industrialization, Globalization and Immigration, makes it a conducive space for Hybridization. The public culture will be looked at from a spatio-temporal lens put forward by the theoretician Edward Soja and the philosopher Michel Foucault. The paper will use this lens to provide a geo-historic perspective of the formation of the public culture of the city.

Key words: Hybridization, Bengaluru, Public Culture, cultural mixing.