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Name of the department: comparative religions and civilizations

Name of the topic: Contested spaces: Indigenous narration and Fawaid-al-Fuad

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Finding

Present thesis studies the process of indigenization of tasawwuf on Indian soil and its spiralling journey through various contestations which are amply visible in *Fawa'id al Fu'ad*. The specific character of the Indian terrain and its pluralistic distinctive socio-cultural milieu provided the conditions for the evolution and socialization of this process. The *malfuz* literature under study carries the markers of the evolving space and its changing concept of indigenization. It opens up areas where the concept of regionalism gets grounded both in a universal concept and as a little tradition as well. Through this interplay of regions and their changing contours an attempt is made to tease out the elements of indigenization and acclimatization of tasawwuf. Tasawwuf itself being a conglomeration of a variety of thoughts went through conflict and contestation which inform about a deeper and a complex process which finally resulted in construction of Indian tasawwuf. Thus, to understand this reconstruction and deconstruction of the process of indigenization through contested spaces it was imperative to study the various components that went into this process. *Fawa'id al Fu'ad* provides a wide canvas of multiple narrations on a variety of issues relating to fissures and faultlines that existed in those times whether ideological, political, social and so on. It also delineates the process of indigenization that was underway when *Fawa'id al Fu'ad* was being written. In this sense it provided a blue print for the subsequent Sufi literature to absorb and portray Indic realities in highly penetrative milieu.