1. Record Nr. UNINA9910341146603321 Autore Stewart Tony K. Titolo Witness to Marvels: Sufism and Literary Imagination / / Tony K. Stewart Pubbl/distr/stampa Oakland,: University of California Press, 2019 Berkeley, CA:,: University of California Press,, [2019] ©2019 **ISBN** 0-520-30633-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xxxi, 300 pages): illustrations; PDF, digital file(s) Collana Islamic Humanities; 2 Disciplina 891.4409382 Soggetti Romance fiction, Bengali Islam and literature - India - Bengal Sufism - India - Bengal Hinduism - India - Bengal Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments --Conventions Regarding Transliteration and Nomenclature --Conventions Regarding Dates -- 1. Heavenly Orchestrations: The World of the Legendary Prs of Bengal -- 2. The Enchanting Lives of the Prs: Structures of Narrative Romance -- 3. Subjunctive Explorations: The Parodic Work of Pr Kath -- 4. Mapping the Imaginaire: The Conditions of Possibility -- 5. Manipulating the Cosmic Hierarchy: A Practical Act of Conceptual Blending -- 6. Pragmatics of Pr Kath: Emplotment and Extra-Discursive Effects -- Epilogue -- Works Cited -- Index Sommario/riassunto A free open access ebook is available upon publication. Learn more at www.luminosoa.org. There is a vast body of imaginal literature in Bengali that introduces fictional Sufi saints into the complex mythological world of Hindu gods and goddesses. Dating to the sixteenth century, the stories-pir katha-are still widely read and performed today. The events that play out rival the fabulations of the Arabian Nights, which has led them to be dismissed as simplistic folktales, yet the work of these stories is profound: they provide

fascinating insight into how Islam habituated itself into the cultural life of the Bangla-speaking world. In Witness to Marvels, Tony K. Stewart

unearths the dazzling tales of Sufi saints to signal a bold new perspective on the subtle ways Islam assumed its distinctive form in Bengal.