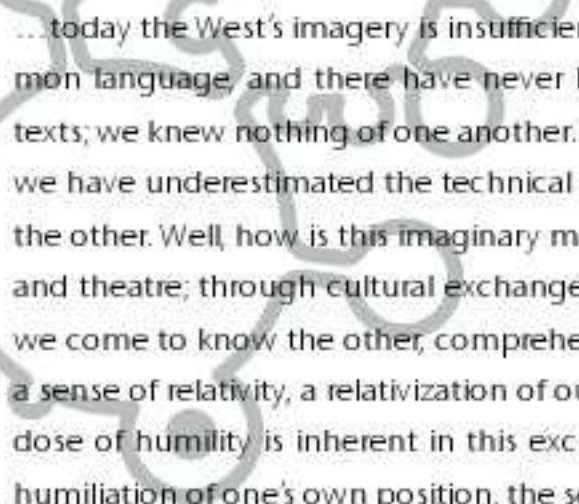


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...today the West's imagery is insufficient where Islam is concerned. We have not had a common language, and there have never been enough people to translate the messages, the texts; we knew nothing of one another. This is because, with a certain dose of hubris, of pride, we have underestimated the technical capacity of these people; we have no imagination of the other. Well, how is this imaginary made? I believe it is possible through art, literature, film and theatre; through cultural exchange and the exchange of students. Only in this way can we come to know the other, comprehend the thought of the other. And this process carries a sense of relativity, a relativization of our own position, which is also a humiliation. A certain dose of humility is inherent in this exchange. And this is the best defense against war: the humiliation of one's own position, the sense of one's own weakness and vulnerability...
