

Goa University Directorate of Equal Opportunities & School of Sanskrit, Philosophy and Indic Studies

Report on Guest Lecture titled "Thinking Civility and Justice: Some notes on Caste and Democracy in India" by Prof. Suryakant Waghmore (03 April 2023)

The <u>Directorate of Equal Opportunities</u> (DEO) and the <u>School of Sanskrit</u>, <u>Philosophy and Indic Studies</u> (SSPIS) at Goa University co-organised a guest lecture in the physical mode titled "Thinking Civility and Justice: Some notes on Caste and Democracy in India" by Prof. Suryakant Waghmore on 03 April 2023 (Monday) from 3:00 to 5:00 PM at BG-03 (Classroom next to the SSPIS Office), Faculty Block B, Goa University.

Prof. Suryakant Waghmore is a public sociologist, academic, and writer. Currently a Professor of Sociology at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT-Bombay, he earned his PhD in Sociology as a Commonwealth Scholar from the University of Edinburgh (2011). He is the author of *Civility against Caste* (2013) and coeditor of *Civility in Crisis* (2020). He was recently awarded the New India Foundation Fellowship (2021) to work on his book tentatively titled *Is a Post-Caste City Possible?* He was previously Professor and Chairperson at the Centre for Social Justice and Governance, TISS (Mumbai). He has held visiting faculty positions at Fudan University, the University of Hyderabad, Stanford University, and Göttingen University. He occasionally writes columns in national newspapers and provides consultancy to NETFLIX on sensitive and compelling representations of marginal groups.

Prof. Koshy Tharakan, Director of DEO and Dean of SSPIS welcomed the gathering and introduced the speaker.

In his lecture, Prof. Waghmore engaged with the trajectory of democracy in India and its contemporary socio-political manifestations to suggest that democratic processes and economic changes have partially and continually altered social hierarchies. These changes are theorised through three concepts: Hindu Politeness, Hindu Cosmopolitanism, and Hinduism as a Civil Religion. Through these concepts, Prof. Waghmore highlighted the robust nature of procedural democracy in India which is simultaneously plagued with the problem of civility.

A moderated Q&A session followed the 60-minute lecture. Tea and refreshments were provided at the end of the event. The eventwas attended by around 32 participants (20 external participants), including students, faculty members, research scholars, participants from Goa University and affiliated colleges, and members of the general public.

Dean, SSPIS

School of Sanskrit, Philosophy and Indic Studies Gos University

Poster

DIRECTORATE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES &
SCHOOL OF SANSKRIT, PHILOSOPHY AND INDIC STUDIES
GOA UNIVERSITY

Thinking Civility and Justice

Some notes on Caste and Democracy in India

A talk by

Prof. Suryakant Waghmore

Professor of Sociology
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, HT-Bombay

Monday, 03 April • 03:00 PM

BG-03, Faculty Block B, Goa University

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Thinking civility and justice: some notes on caste and democracy

By Professor Suryakant Waghmore

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