



Goa University

Name of Directorate: Directorate of Visiting Research Professor Programme

Report on Lecture Series

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| 1. Title of the Event/Activity/program | Lecture on topic: 1) Be Plural! A Poet's Creed 2) A Life Lived in Serial and in Parallel |
| 2. Date and Time | 27 th January 2025 to 28 th January 2025 02.30 pm to 04.30 pm |
| 3. Mode of conduct (Physical/Online) | Physical |
| 4. School/ Directorate/ Section | Directorate of Visiting Research Professor Programme |
| 5. Collaborating Agency/School/Directorate | Discipline of Philosophy (SSPIS) |
| 6. Detail of the Resource Person (Brief biodata) | Enclosed |
| 7. Number of Faculty attended/participated | 6 |
| 8. Number of Student attended / participated | 22 |
| 9. No. of external students/faculty/other participants | 4 |
| 10. The objectives of the Program/activity/event | In undertaking to "be plural like the universe!" (Pessoa 1966, 94) Fernando Pessoa was not the first to associate the creed of the poet with a |

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| | <p>demand to be many. We can better appreciate what makes Pessoa unique by way of a brief review of his premodern precursors. Already in a letter dated October 27th 1818 the Romantic poet John Keats had famously described the poet as a chameleon. Likewise Hazlitt's Shakespeare has only to exercise his formidable powers of imagination, anticipation, and intuition in order to "become that thing", and in so doing to think what it thinks, feel what it feels, and in general to experience the world as it does, from its perspective. Against the background of these two premodern understandings of the poet's creed, Pessoa comes out with a radically new and modern one. "Be plural like the universe!" is his motto, and he enacts it by becoming a plurality of poets, including the famous triplet in Portuguese literature.</p> |
| 11. Description of the Program/activity/event | <p>Being plural like the universe means, for Fernando Pessoa, two very different things at the same time. One is to live one's life as a series of heteronyms, a sequence of virtual selves or "individuated points of view" (Zenith 2021, xxix), each with their own style of being in the world, a style which is associated with those affective modes of poetic attention Pessoa identifies as astonishment and amazement. The other, even more radical, idea, which seems indeed to predate the invention of heteronymy, consists in the thought that one might lead multiple lives in parallel, meaning specifically that one occupies simultaneously a plurality of first-person positions.</p> <p>Fernando Pessoa's relationship with his</p> |

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| | <p>heteronyms is complicated. They exist as protagonists in imaginary stories of his own creation, and Pessoa imagines himself as them, or imagines being them: “But since I am me, I merely take a little pleasure in the little that it is to imagine myself as that someone else. Yes, soon he-I, under a tree or bower, will eat twice what I can eat, drink twice what I dare drink, and laugh twice what I can conceive of laughing. Soon he, now I. Yes, for a moment I was someone else: in someone else I saw and lived this human and humble joy of existing as an animal in shirtsleeves.” In “Notes for the memory of my master Caeiro,” Pessoa has Caeiro suggest that things thus seen in “dreams”, that is to say, in acts of imagination, have much the same status as things seen in pictures. The use of a name twice over, in this story, seems to be a characteristic hallmark of heteronymy.</p> |
| 12. Benefit/Key outcomes of the Program/activity/event | <p>India occupies a curious place in Fernando Pessoa’s imagination. Though declaring in a letter to Ofélia Queiroz that it is a country he had wanted to visit, India seems rather to have functioned as a symbol of the exotic and far-away, a destination to travel to in one’s imagination rather than in actuality, an emblem of the outer reaches of inner vision. An imaginary India makes an appearance, too, in Pessoa’s reflections on the internal logic of imperialism. The philosophical idea Pessoa seems most strongly to associate with India is the idea that the entire world is an illusion. His “Indian ideal” is one of transcendence, the transcendence of the illusion that is living a human life. Pessoa quotes directly from the</p> |

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| | <p>Upanisads, which he perhaps knew of having translated the theosophical work of Besant and others.</p> <p>The lectures brought to light the need for globalizing philosophy through a comparative frame by emphasizing the similarities of Pessoa's philosophy of the self and the notion of selv espoused in certain classical texts of India such as the Mokṣopāya.</p> |
| 13. Enclosures with report | Brochure, photos, Attendance of students/faculty/external participants, Bio Data of resource person. |

Bio Data

Professor Jonardon Ganeri is a distinguished philosopher known for his work in Indian philosophy, mind, and cognitive science. Born in 1962, Ganeri has made significant contributions to the global understanding of Indian intellectual traditions and their relevance to contemporary philosophical debates.

Ganeri earned his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge and has held academic positions at various prestigious institutions, including the University of Sussex, the University of Toronto, and the University of Pennsylvania. He is currently a professor at New York University, where he continues his research and teaching. His scholarly work bridges classical Indian philosophy and modern philosophical issues, exploring themes such as self, consciousness, and the nature of the mind. Ganeri is particularly noted for his interpretations of early Indian philosophical texts and their implications for contemporary thought. His notable books include "The Self: Naturalism, Consciousness, and the First-Person Stance", "Philosophy in Classical India: The Proper Work of Reason", and "The Lost Age of Reason: Philosophy in Early Modern India 1450–1700", among others.

Ganeri has received numerous accolades for his work, including the prestigious Infosys Prize in Humanities (2015), which recognizes outstanding contributions to philosophical scholarship. He is also a Fellow of the British Academy.

Professor Ganeri's interdisciplinary approach and deep engagement with both Western and Indian philosophical traditions have made him a leading figure in contemporary philosophy. His work continues to inspire and shape discussions on the global stage.

Poster



Goa University

Accredited by NAAC

Directorate of Visiting Research Professors Programme

D.D. Kosambi Chair in Interdisciplinary Studies

and

School of Sanskrit, Philosophy and Indic Studies

Lectures series by



Prof. Jonardon Ganeri



27th, 28th, 30th, 31st January 2025



Time 2.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.



VRPP Seminar Hall, Directorate Block, Goa University



Monday 27/01/2025

Topic : Be Plural! A Poet's Creed



Tuesday 28/01/2025

Topic : A Life Lived in Serial and in Parallel



Thursday 30/01/2025

Topic : Make-Believe and the *Mokṣopāya*



Friday 31/01/2025

Topic : Pessoa's Imaginary India

Lecture Series Coordinator: Dr. Walter Menezes

DR. PRAKASH S. PARIENKAR
DIRECTOR, VRPP

PROF. KOSHY THARAKAN
DEAN, SSPIS

Attendance Sheet

| ATTENDANCE SHEET | | | | | |
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| Attendance Sheet for Public Lecture | | | | | |
| Event : Public Lecture on Topic : Be Plural! A Poet's Creed | | | | | |
| Speaker : Prof. Jonardon Ganeri | | | | | |
| Date : 27.1.2025 | | | | | |
| Time : 2.30 P.M. - 4.00 P.M. | | | | | |
| Venue : D-VRPP Seminar Hall | | | | | |
| Sr.No | Name of | Student/General Public | Institution/Organization | Email/Contact No. | Signature |
| 1 | Walter Menezes | Faculty | SSPIS, GU. | menezes@unigoa.ac.in | Walter |
| 2 | Anuvi | Student | SSPIS, GU | 9952573016 | Anuvi |
| 3 | Dipanki Suikia | Student | SSPIS, GU | 9886032089 | Dipanki |
| 4 | Siya | student | SSPIS, GU | 8905192690 | Siya |
| 5 | Akash S.N. Saljeekar | Student | SSPIS, GU | 9404759727 | Akash |
| 6 | Diksha Rai | Student | SSPIS, GU | 8318868260 | Diksha |
| 7 | Rajavi Naik | Faculty | SSPIS, GU | rajavi@unigoa.ac.in | Rajavi |
| 8 | Chander Shekhar | GP | | CSSharma19@gmail.com | Chander |
| 9 | C.P. VIJAYASHARAN | GP | | 9496171735 | C.P. |
| 10 | Sudha Vijayadharan | G.P | | 9961412673 | Sudha |
| 11 | Sagar Yadav | Student | SSPIS, G.U | 8585930919 | Sagar |
| 12 | ASHA MARY KOSHY | G.P | | 9359133412 | Asha |
| 13 | Vinay Sharnapant | Student | SSPIS, G.U | 8446720430 | Vinay |
| 14 | Saish Sawant | Student | SSPIS, G.U | 9307214580 | Saish |
| 15 | Riya Gaurans | Student | SSPIS, G.U | 7620591371 | Riya |
| 16 | JONATHAN SEQUEIRA | STUDENT | SSPIS, GU | 8970294289 | Jonathan |
| 17 | Kenneth Dsouza | STUDENT | SGSLL, G.U. | 8554075480 | Kenneth |
| 18 | Noelle Barreto | Student | SGSLL, G.U | 9545714568 | Noelle |
| 19 | Tejind Coutinho | Student | SGSLL, GU | 8669612955 | Tejind |
| 20 | Joann D'Silva | Student | SGSLL, GU | 7028473123 | Joann |
| 21 | Nathan Louks | Student | SGSLL, GU | 9699197849 | Nathan |
| 22 | Bhanna Singh | Student | SSPIS, GU | 9368348851 | Bhanna |
| 23 | Natasha Gomes | Faculty | SGSLL, GU | 7350755820 | Natasha |
| 24 | Prakash Kulkarni | Faculty | SGSLL, GU | 8390305546 | Prakash |
| 25 | Kostly Thacker | Faculty, SSPIS | Pharmacy, SSPIS | 962882795 | Kostly |
| 26 | Ansa Antony | Student | SSPIS | 9702906743 | Ansa |
| 27 | Shruti Kulkarni | Student | SSPIS | 7030410589 | Shruti |
| 28 | Soofiya Mulla | Student | SSPIS, G.U | soofiya.mulla@gmail.com | Soofiya |
| 29 | Madhura Naik | Student | SSPIS, GU | 8530448121 | Madhura |
| 30 | Mayuri Kuttikar | Student | SSPIS, GU | 9373542158 | Mayuri |
| 31 | Dr. Nosima Khan | Faculty | SSPIS GU | 9309531736 | Nosima |
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| ATTENDANCE SHEET | | | | | |
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| Attendance Sheet for Public Lecture | | | | | |
| Event : Public Lecture on Topic : A Life Lived in Serial and in Parallel | | | | | |
| Speaker : Prof. Jonardon Ganeri | | | | | |
| Date : 28.1.2025 | | | | | |
| Time : 2.30 P.M. - 4.00 P.M. | | | | | |
| Venue : D-VRPP Seminar Hall | | | | | |
| Sr.No | Name of | Student/General Public | Institution/Organization | Email/Contact No. | Signature |
| 1 | Walter Munizes | Faculty | SSPIS | munizes@unifoa | Walter |
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| 9 | Akash S.N. Selvaraj | Student | SSPIS | akash@unifoa | Akash |
| 10 | Sagar Yadav | Student | SSPIS | sagar@unifoa | Sagar |
| 11 | Asha Mary Koshy | GP | | 9359133412 | Asha |
| 12 | JONATHAN SINGH | STUDENT | SSPIS | 8970294284 | Jonathan |
| 13 | Shebin Khan | Student | SSPIS | 7745072169 | Shebin |
| 14 | Mayuri Kuttika | Student | SSPIS | 9373542158 | Mayuri |
| 15 | Dipanki Sankar | Student | SSPIS | 9886032089 | Dipanki |
| 16 | Siya Sengupta | Student | SSPIS | 8905192690 | Siya |
| 17 | Anuvil | Student | SSPIS | 9952573016 | Anuvil |
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Photos





Signature:

Prof. Koshy Tharakan

Designation: Dean, SSPIS

Date: 31st January 2025



Signature

Director, VRPP

**Director
 VISITING RESEARCH
 PROFESSORS PROGRAMME**