

Goa University
Discipline of History
D. D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies

Guest Lecture by Professor Gopal Guru

The Discipline of History, D. D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, organised a guest lecture on “What Counts a Quality Research?” by Professor Gopal Guru (Former Professor Centre for Political Studies, JNU and Former Editor, *Economic and Political Weekly*), on 08 October 2025 at 2.45 p.m. in the Seminar Hall, Faculty Block B.

The session began with a formal welcome by Professor Nagendra Rao, Dean, D. D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies. Dr. Parag D. Parobo, Associate Professor of History and coordinator of the guest lecture, introduced Prof. Guru.

Prof. Guru began his lively session by examining questions on quality and how they arise when researchers engage in research. He emphasised that when the research faces existential problems, the quality question may appear redundant. Yet, we need to think of quality research because society's questions require our scholarly attention. We also need to think about research that is not quick but high-quality. The importance of doing research lies in our existential need rather than the need posed from above. Some scholars from metropolitan thinking continue to hold the view, or rather talk down from above, that we should broaden our thinking horizon from region to metropolitan thinking.

Research also involves ethical dimensions—people don't refer when the methodological conventions demand it. On the other hand, some scholars have become the intellectual password without which one cannot open one's own file—brand scholar, as it were. Similarly, the self-referential mode also becomes a problem. Avoiding all these practices poses a challenge to conducting frontline research with new insights, and not more of the same.

Prof. Guru highlighted the complexities involved in who can validate or accredit the quality of research. There are government institutions that can accredit the quality, and they do try to ensure the quality of research; however, it may not succeed all the time. According to Prof. Guru, the peer in the discipline is another's platform that can ensure the quality. However, the

members of the group should be objective in assessing the research work of their colleagues—no courtesy exchange. The members should have time for such work. Commitment is more for the enrichment of discipline, and this would personally help the researchers. Sharing research is essential for ensuring quality.

Through insightful examples and jolly anecdotes, Prof. Guru reflected on how to raise a research question. Which question is worthy of insightful research? The new question can emerge from two sources. There could be five critical sources that could help researchers raise questions. Firstly, a review of the literature. How does it help you raise new questions rather than sequential and descriptive questions? What are the sequential questions? They occur in the same context and same nature, while the descriptive questions are similar in different contexts or different questions in a similar context. Districts and villages remain the same, and questions do not explain the reality. Secondly, the research question can emerge from the view from nowhere. That which is not covered and is excluded from imagination. Questions that are unthought. The idea of space would change the nature of the question. Why do we find the gap and fill it with insights? The cause to do research is given in the gap, providing a compelling reason.

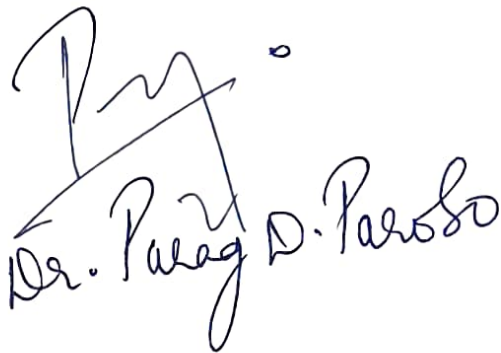
The questions are raised in the mind and sources of a question are:

1. Those who are rational beings are confronted with doubts. It is the confrontation with doubt that raises a question.
2. In the mathematical model, logic can form the basis of a question. The questions are a priori and necessarily abstract.
3. Social science questions are empirical and rooted in experience and material conditions.
4. In the humanities, questions may emerge out of curiosity. However, not curiosity but causality provides the need for research. There is a need for knowledge, and we must be open to experience.
5. Is it curiosity that leads to research? Or the patterns of domination and perpetuation of experience that should lead to a question.

Prof. Guru also highlighted the role of language in helping to articulate questions. Expressing to become universal requires a standard language. Private language would not do. We require translations in the common languages. Our research became intelligible within the framework

of a language. Language is the boundary of our research. The particular research is already universal.

The lecture was attended by 72 participants (postgraduate students, doctoral research scholars, and faculty members) from the disciplines of History, Sociology, Political Science, Women's Studies, Social Work, Philosophy, Public Administration, Law, Konkani, and English. The session ended with a vote of thanks by Mr. Vinod Kankonkar, Programme Director and Assistant Professor of History.


Dr. Parag D. Parso



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A Guest Lecture on
What Counts a Quality Research?

by
Professor Gopal Guru
Former Professor, Centre for Political Studies, JNU
Former Editor, Economic and Political Weekly

08th October 2025 (Wednesday) 2:45 p.m.
Seminar Hall, Faculty Block B

Participants

Sr. No	Name	Discipline	Signature
1.	Marushka Guiz	History	Guiz
2.	Nathan Colaco	History	Colaco
3.	Dhruv. U. Halanhar	History	Rh
4.	Venancia K. D'Souza	History	D'Souza
5.	Diksha Dasa	History	Dasa
6.	Mahek M.Y. Bepari	History	MBepari
7.	Savita K. Purshit	History	Purshit
8.	Tarushka Fernandes	History	Fds
9.	Vibhakumari Paswan	History	Paswan
10.	Sakshi Konkarnkar	History	Konkarnkar
11.	Divya Parkar	History	Divya
12.	Pradnya Marathe	History	Marathe
13.	Anushka Naik	History	Naik
14.	Renisha Pinto	History	Pinto
15.	Venu Gopal Shetgaonkar	Social Work	Shetgaonkar
16.	Aniket Bagayat	WOMEN'S STUDIES	Bagayat
17.	Pratik Gaonkar	Political Science	Gaonkar
18.	Dr. Anjali Chaudhary	English	Chaudhary

19.	Dr. Alefali Keli	Philosophy	Alefa B
20.	Dr. Sulochana Pednekar	WS	Sadukha
21.	Deepaksha Velip	WS	Velip
22.	Dr. Mozinha Fernandes	Sociology	M.fernandes
23.	Alenotikka Mender	Sociology	Mender
24.	K C Lakshmi Devi	Sociology	K C
25.	FRANZ SEBASTIAN COTTA	Portuguese	FC
26.	Divya P.	POLITICAL SCIENCE	Divya
27.	Prakash Desai	Political Science	Prakash
28.	Siddhesh Kalekar	Public Administration	Kalekar
29.	Keral Naik	Social work	K
30.	JONATHAN SEQUEIRA	SSPIS	Sequeira
31.	Parag D. Parso	History	Parag
32.	Rahul Tufatti	Political Science	R
33.	Nagendra Rao	History	Nag
34.	Ganisha Sonapji	Sociology	Ganisha
35.	Koshy Tharakan	Philosophy	Koshy
36.	Walter Menezes	Philosophy	Walter
37.	Bibin Paulon	sociology	Bibin
38.	D. S. Boreis	Sociology	D. S.
39.	Sayali Gaunkar	sociology	Gaunkar
40.	Evelyn S. Fernandes	SOCIOLOGY	E.fernandes
41.	Dr. Alaknanda Shringar	Public Administration (Faculty)	A.
42.	Dr. Steffi Quintal	MPSLGPP (Faculty) Public Administration	Steffi
43.	Richa E. Kojali	MPSLGPP (Faculty) Public Administration	Richa
44.	Vithai Zaranher	women's studies DDKSSBS	Zaranher
45.	Pratima Kamat	History	Pratima
46.	Joanna Job	Sociology	Joanna
47.	SHILPA S.P. SINHA	Pol. Science	Shilpa
48.	AKASH N. NAIK	Social Sciences	AKASH

49.	Ruchika K. Naik (Faculty)	Law	Ruchika Naik
50.	Udhita K. Naik (Faculty)	Social Work	8329914739
51.	Rishi D. Chelkove	Law	9527950748
52.	Sangeeta Tate	Sociology	- Dr. Tate
53.	Pratik P. Aselkar	Sociology	Pratik Aselkar
54.	Mosconi Debbarm	Sociology	Dr. Mosconi
55.	Gaurangi Naik	Law	gaurangi
56.	Parita U. Naik	Law	Parita Naik
57.	Elizabeth Bana	Sociology	Elizabeth
58.	Fida Tavani	Women's Studies	Fida
59.	Vasudha Sawaike	Social Work	V. Sawaike
60.	Seema Melip	History	Seema
61.	Pranjali Bhandari	History	Pranjali
62.	Vaishakhi Dessai	History	Vaishakhi
63.	Shraddha Naik	Political Science	Shraddha
64.	Sakshi Naik	" Political Science	Sakshi
65.	Rajavi Naik	Philosophy (SSPIS)	Rajavi
66.	Krupali Naik	Konkani (SSSL)	Krupali
67.	Sauha B. Chauli	History	Sauha
68.	Ballika Gawankar	Political Science	Ballika
69.	Tyrone S. Fernandez	History	Tyrone
70.	Brett Colaco	Political Science	Brett Colaco
71.	Annerese D'Gonha	History	Annerese
72.	Tanise Da Rocha	History	Tanise
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GOA UNIVERSITY

**D. D. KOSAMBI SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND BEHAVIOURAL STUDIES
DISCIPLINE OF HISTORY**

A GUEST LECTURE ON

WHAT COUNTS A QUALITY RESEARCH?

BY



PROFESSOR GOPAL GURU

FORMER PROFESSOR, CENTRE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES, JNU

FORMER EDITOR, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY



: 08TH OCTOBER 2025 (WEDNESDAY)



: 2:45 P.M.



: SEMINAR HALL, FACULTY BLOCK B

**DR. PARAG D. PAROBO
COORDINATOR**

**PROFESSOR NAGENDRA RAO
DEAN, DDKSSBS**



