



Goa University

D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies

Women's Studies Programme

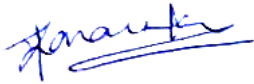
Report on Book Discussion event The Story of Janakye Bai

1. Title of the Event/Activity/program	Book Discussion event The Story of Janakye Bai
2. Date and Time	3/02/2026 at 3.pm
3. Mode of conduct (Physical/Online)	Physical Mode
4. School/ Directorate/ Section	Women's Studies Programme
5. Collaborating Agency/School/Directorate	Centre for the study of social inclusion
6. Detail of the Resource Person (Brief biodata)	<p>Mozinha Fernandes Dr. Mozinha Fernandes is an Assistant Professor, Programme Director of the Sociology Programme at the D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, Goa University. Her areas of academic specialization include gender studies, sociology of culture and tribal studies, with a focus on the indigenous communities of Goa. She holds a Ph.D. in Women's Studies, with her doctoral research titled "Christian Gawda Women, Culture and Imaging Goa", which explores the intersections of identity, representation and cultural transformation among tribal women in Goa. Dr. Fernandes has contributed significantly to scholarship on tribal and cultural dynamics. Her notable publications include: Tribal Imprint on Goa's Cultural Identity: Kunbi-Gawdaization of Goa The Marginalized Christian Gawda Tribe of South Goa: Impact of COVID-19 and Survival Strategies Book chapter: "Where Have All the Rituals and Songs Gone?" in Hanv Konna (Who Am I: Re-searching the Self).</p> <p>Salil Chaturvedi is a writer, poet and disability campaigner based in Chorão, Goa. His fiction and poems have appeared in various literary</p>

	<p>magazines and journals including Indian Quarterly, Himal South Asian, Indian Literature (Sahitya Akademi), etc.</p> <p>His writings for children can be accessed at Storyweaver, the online platform of Pratham Books.</p> <p>More recently, he has been a curator of the Serendipity Arts Festival, creating an accessible environment for the festival and for artists with disabilities.</p> <p>Asavari Gurav is a Visual artist, Poet, Performer and educator. She has completed her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting from M.S. University of Baroda and her Master's in Printmaking Graphic arts from the same university. She has exhibited and performed in Goa, Baroda, Delhi, and Ahmedabad.. She works across visual arts with painting, printmaking, text, theatre and performance art.</p>
7. Number of Faculty attended/participated	11 (2-Male, 9- Female)
8. Number of Student attended / participated	16 (Attendance attached)
9. No. of external students/faculty/other participants	6
10. The objectives of the Program/activity/event	<p>The book discussion on <i>The Story of Janakye Bai</i> aimed to create an academic platform to discuss issues of representation, identity, and knowledge production related to marginalized and indigenous communities. The programme sought to highlight the experiences of the Velip community of Goa and to bring attention to community narratives that are often missing from mainstream academic discourse. Another objective was to encourage students and scholars to critically reflect on research methodologies and the importance of ethical and community-centred research practices. The event also aimed to promote dialogue between scholars, students, and community members on the significance of oral traditions and lived experiences as sources of knowledge.</p>
11. Description of the Program/activity/event	A book discussion on <i>The Story of Janakye Bai</i> was organized at Goa University on 3

	<p>February 2026 at 3:00 pm as part of an academic engagement with literature and community narratives. The programme was compered by Deepaksha Velip, who coordinated the flow of the session. The programme began with a welcome and brief introduction to the book and speakers by Vithai Zaraunker, who has conceived the book. She spoke about the origins of the story, which was initially documented during a project in 2014 that aimed to record stories from the Velip community of Goa. Dr. Mohzinha Fernandes, Assistant Professor of Sociology, presented a short review of the book from a sociological and community perspective. She highlighted the importance of documenting community narratives and their relevance for understanding marginalized communities. Asavari Gurav, the illustrator of the book, shared her experience of visually representing the story and translating oral narratives into illustrations that reflect the cultural context of the community. Salil Chaturvedi, the translator of the story, discussed the challenges involved in translating the narrative while maintaining its cultural meaning and authenticity. In her address, Vithai Zaraunker reflected on her personal experiences as a member of the Velip community and spoke about how dominant scholarship often portrays marginalized communities as silent or voiceless. She emphasized that such portrayals arise from the failure of existing systems to listen to community voices. Her speech highlighted the importance of ethical research practices and the need to recognise marginalized communities as producers of knowledge.</p>
<p>12. Benefit/Key outcomes of the Program/activity/event</p>	<p>The programme provided an important platform for discussing issues of representation, knowledge production, and community narratives within an academic setting. It helped raise awareness among students and scholars about the importance of documenting oral traditions and lived</p>

	<p>experiences of marginalized communities.</p> <p>The discussion encouraged participants to critically reflect on research practices and the ways in which academic knowledge about indigenous and marginalized communities is produced. It also highlighted the significance of ethical and respectful engagement with communities in social science research.</p> <p>Overall, the event contributed to promoting dialogue between academia and community knowledge systems and helped bring visibility to the cultural experiences and histories of the Velip community through the story of Janakye Bai.</p>
<p>13. Enclosures with report</p>	<p>Poster, Photographs and Attendance of students/faculty/external participants</p>

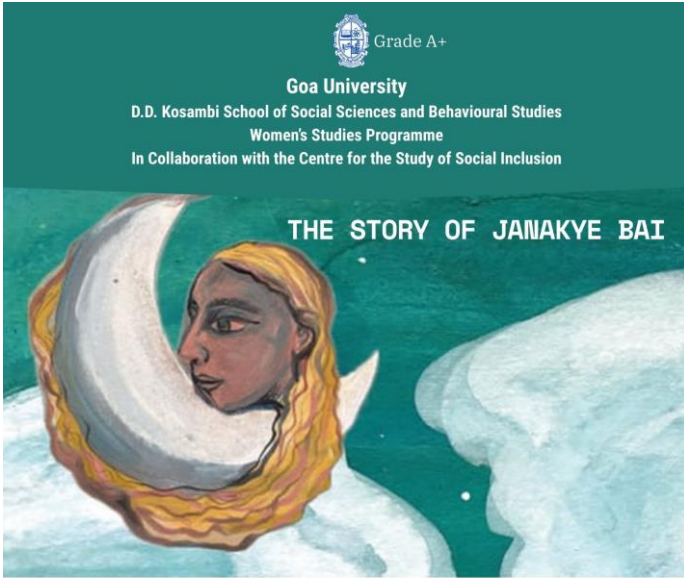


Ms Vithai Zaraunker
Assistant Professor
DDKSSSBS, Goa University



Prof Nagendra Rao
Dean, DDKSSSBS, Goa
Univesity.

DEAN
D. D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences
& Behavioural Studies
Goa University



CORDIALLY INVITED
FOR
BOOK DISCUSSION EVENT

3RD FEBRUARY 2026

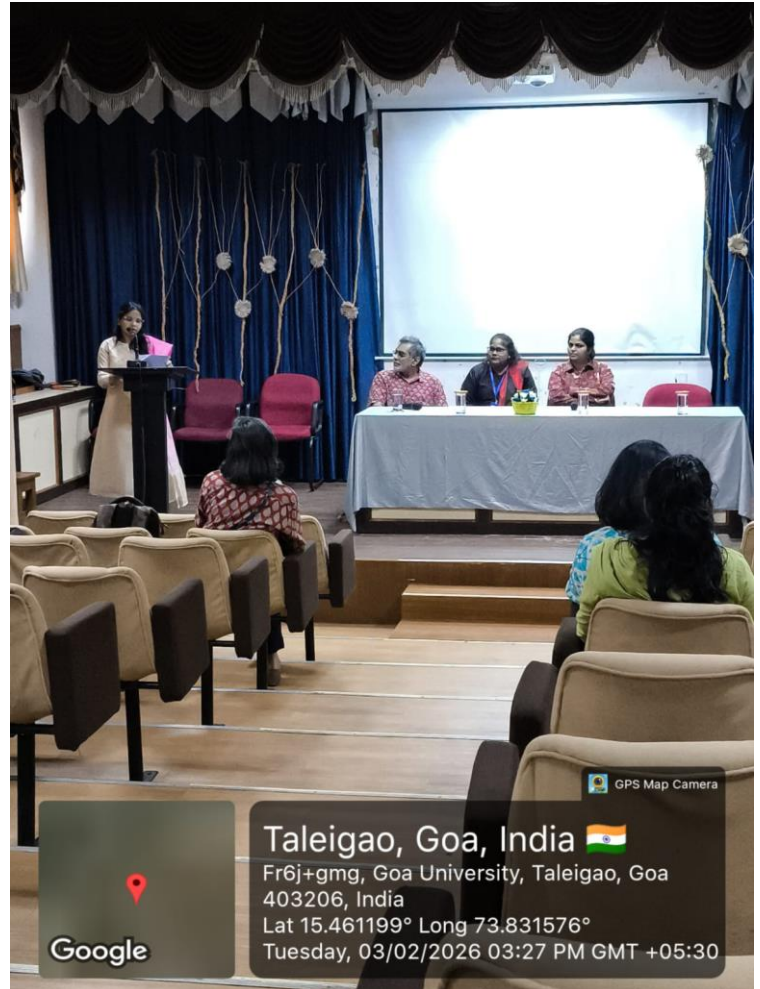


WITH THE NARRATORS OF THE STORY



DR. MOZINHA FERNANDES
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN SOCIOLOGY,
GOA UNIVERSITY

Venue: Seminar Hall,
Faculty Block B,
Goa University



Brochure of the event

Vithai Zarakker Addressing the audience



Group Photo of the event














Photo of the event

D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies

Women's Studies Programme

Book Discussion Session on 03/02/2026

THE STORY OF JANAKYE BAI

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