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BANGALORE · INDIA

Notice for the PhD Viva-Voce Examination

Ms Sonia Philomena V A (Registration Number: 1830095), PhD scholar at the School of Arts and Humanities, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Friday, 19 April 2024 at 2.30 pm in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029.

- Title of the Thesis** : **Cultural Memory in the Captivity Novels of Na D'Souza and Alan Machado**
- Discipline** : **English Studies**
- External Examiner (Outside Karnataka)** : **Dr Joseph Koyippally Joseph**
Professor
Department of English and Comparative Literature
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Tejaswini Hills, Periyar Post
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- External Examiner (Within Karnataka)** : **Dr S N Vikram Raj Urs**
Professor
Department of English
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Mysuru, Karnataka – 570006
- Supervisor** : **Dr Anil Joseph Pinto**
Professor
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The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 12 April 2024


Registrar (Academics)

ABSTRACT

Captivity novels are stories of men and women who were abducted and forcibly taken as captives and subjugated to slavery, usually for religious or political reasons. The research critically engages the captivity novels of Na D'Souza and Alan Machado, which vividly evoke the harrowing captivity experience of Mangalore Konkani Catholic community during Tipu Sultan's regime. It is alleged that Tipu, after the Second Anglo-Mysore war, wreaked vengeance on Konkani Catholic Christians on suspicion for betraying him and supporting the British. After two hundred years of great silence, the struggle for identity and the quest for history led the post-conflicting community to articulate the contents of the archives into the fabric of a literary composition.

The literary works of D'Souza and Machado are an essential bridge between generations problematizing history and memory illustrating the events of Great Captivity. The captivity narratives are cultural artefacts of memory that present alternative history of the Mysore Kingdom and revive the memories of the captivity experience of Mangalore Konkani Catholic Christians. The memories of the miseries revived in the writings of D'Souza and Machado at the beginning of the twenty first century from the victim's point of view expose the gaps in the official records of the Mysore Kingdom and emphasise the community's resilience and cultural significance. These narratives constitute the melancholic representation of the traumatic experience of the community and enable the community of the sufferers to re-live the torments which in turn act as a therapeutic agent. Thus, the imaginative recount of the Great Captivity by D'Souza and Machado in the form of novels using memory as a tool challenge the historical construct and call for a legitimate space for the vanquished version in the construction of history.

Keywords: Captivity Novel, Great Captivity, Identity, Archives, Memory, Counter Memory, Cultural Artefact, Melancholia, Therapeutic.

Publications:

1. Philomena VA, Sonia. & A J Pinto. "Healing and Reconciliation through Captivity Narratives: A Critical Study on *Shades within Shadows*". *Shodhak: A Journal of Historical Research*, 53(4), 146-151. 2023.
2. Philomena VA, Sonia & A J Pinto. "Literary Influence on Cultural Dialogues: A Critical Exploration of *Shades within Shadows* and *Bamonn* as Cultural Artefacts". *International Journal of Cultural Studies and Social Sciences*, 31(01), 5-11. 2024.