

**CHRIST**(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
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Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Batoul Alhasan, Registration Number: 2370041, PhD Scholar at the Department of English and Cultural Studies, School of Humanities and Performing Arts, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Friday, 18 September 2026, at 02.00 pm in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka, India.

Title of the Thesis	:	<i>The Madman, The Prophet and The Book of Mirdad: Exploring the Influence of Literary, Mystical, Philosophical and Social Thought on Khalil Gibran and Mikhail Naimy</i>
Discipline	:	English Studies
External Examiner - I	:	Dr Arindam Das Professor Department of Languages and Literature Alliance University Anekal, Bengaluru - 562106 Karnataka
External Examiner - II	:	Dr Rosy Chamling Professor Department of English Sikkim University Joredhara Tadong Gangtok - 737102 Sikkim
Supervisor	:	Dr Vaidyanath Nishant Assistant Professor Department of English and Cultural Studies School of Humanities and Performing Arts CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Bengaluru - 560029 Karnataka

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 September 2026

Registrar (Academics)

ABSTRACT

This study examines *The Madman*, *The Prophet*, and *The Book of Mirdad* as literary sites where philosophical and mystical traditions are actively reconfigured into a human-centered mode of understanding. Using a comparative and interpretive methodology grounded in intertextual analysis and philosophical interpretation, the study investigates how influences from Friedrich Nietzsche, Jalal al-Din Rumi, the Bible, Christian mysticism, Neoplatonism, and Hermetic thought are transformed from abstract systems into lived experiential frameworks. It argues that this reconfiguration produces a conceptual movement from changes in understanding to individual awakening, which subsequently extends into relational and spatial forms of meaning, introducing the concept of spatialized unity. Concepts such as exile, home, and belonging are thus redefined beyond territorial limits as expressions of ethical and experiential awareness. These texts articulate a form of spiritual modernism that relocates authority within human experience and redefines unity as a lived, relational practice.

Keywords: Influence, Transformation, Human-centered values, Spatial analysis, Unity.

Publications:

1. **Alhasan, B., & Nishant, V.** (2025). Therapeutic romanticism: Khalil Gibran's journey from rebellion to spiritual healing. *Journal of Poetry Therapy*, 1–14.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/08893675.2025.2574607>
2. **Alhasan, B., & Nishant, V.** (2025). Challenging colonial hegemony through Khalil Gibran's beautiful and rare sayings. In L. S. Kumar, M. A., B. Khasnabis, P. M., & M. R. S. (Eds.), *Neocolonialism: Re-presenting narratives, realities and responses* (pp. 246–250). Routledge.
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003725138-45>