CHRIST
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# Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Marian Dias, Registration Number: 1950073, PhD Scholar at the Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Monday, 23 November 2026, at 10.30 am in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka, India.

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| **Title of the Thesis** | : | **Beyond Binaries: Exploring the Subversive Possibilities of Bisexuality in an Indian Context** |
| **Discipline** | : | **Sociology** |
| **External Examiner - I** | : | **Dr Himadri Roy**<br>Professor<br>School of Gender and Development Studies<br>Indira Gandhi National Open University<br>Maidan Garhi<br>New Delhi – 110068 |
| **External Examiner - II** | : | **Dr Shaila Desouza**<br>Professor<br>Department of Women's Studies<br>D D Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies<br>Goa University<br>Taleigao Plateau, Goa - 403206 |
| **Supervisor** | : | **Dr OM Prakash L T**<br>Associate Professor<br>Department of Sociology<br>School of Social Sciences<br>CHRIST (Deemed to be University)<br>Bengaluru - 560029<br>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.

**Registrar (Academics)**

**Place:** Bengaluru
**Date:** 05 November 2026

# ABSTRACT

This ethnographic study explores the subversive possibilities of bisexuality in urban Bangalore, India, to rethink human sexuality beyond the heteronormative and homonormative binaries. While historical scholarship has conceptualized bisexuality through anatomical makeup, polymorphous perversity, and a fixed sexual orientation, contemporary research continues to privilege identity and visibility. Departing from these frameworks, this study foregrounds sexuality as enacted through sexual acts rather than stable identities. Drawing on fieldwork in Bangalore across informal and formal queer spaces, online platforms, and everyday settings, the study engages individuals who identify as heterosexual, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, pansexual, and kothi, yet navigate same- and opposite-sex intimacies in fluid, situational ways. Using Butler's performativity, Foucault's discourse and power, and Fairclough's critical discourse analysis, the study explores individuals who engage in same-sex and opposite sex intimacies, taking into account several factors that include but are not reducible to the sex and gender of the self and other. The study extends beyond the binary construction of space by exploring networks of sexual intimacies and encounters that extend beyond fixed meanings attached to space, its visibility and relationship boundaries. It further reads a popular film, Cobalt Blue (2022), to examine how cinematic narratives discipline bisexuality through silence, negative stereotypes, and mono-temporality, while extending an understanding of silence and mono-disruptions as essential in understanding the disruptive potential of bisexuality to binary normative systems. This study argues that bisexual practices and silences reconfigure relationality, monogamy, and gender norms, offering a framework to understand human sexuality in India as fluid, contextual, and irreducible to binary normativity.



**Keywords:** bisexuality, beyond binaries, human sexuality, morality, binormativity, relationships, encounters


**Publications:**

1. **Dias, M.**, & Om Prakash, L. T. (2025). Living Life Beyond Binaries-Bisexuality in Urban India. Journal of Bisexuality, 1-36. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1080/15299716.2025.2541162
2. **Dias, M.**, & Om Prakash, L. T. (2025). Silent subversions and negotiations: An interview with a married effeminate man from the MSM community. Feminist Review. Available at: 10.1177/01417789251388326

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CU:BCC:OR:CFR:PhD:11/26 **Office of Registrar**
19 November 2026

## Corrigendum Notice

## PhD Viva Voce Examination

PhD Viva Voce Examination of Ms Marian Dias, Registration Number: 1950073, PhD Scholar in Sociology, communicated vide Notification dated 05th November, is rescheduled for Thursday, 17 December 2026 at 10.00 am, in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka.

All other details remain unchanged.

For CHRIST (Deemed to be University),

(Dr Anil Joseph Pinto)
Registrar

Registrar
CHRIST (Deemed to be University)
Bengaluru - 560 029

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