

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

Ms Minu A, Registration Number: 2090071, 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 Monday, 12 January 2026 at 2.00 pm in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R&D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka, India.

**Title of the Thesis** : **Narratives of Violence, Power and Gender: A Study of Select Novels by T D Ramakrishnan**

**Discipline** : **English Studies**

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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:** 01 January 2026

  
**Registrar**

## ABSTRACT

The research, titled “Narratives of Violence, Power and Gender: A Study of Select Novels by T D Ramakrishnan”, investigates the complex interplay of violence, power, and gender in the select novels of T. D. Ramakrishnan- *Alpha*, *Francis Itty Cora*, and *Sugandhi Alias Andal Devanayaki*- through a multidisciplinary lens. The study employs critical frameworks, including Zizek’s theory of systemic violence, Bourdieu’s concept of symbolic violence, and Henri Lefebvre’s spatial theory, to decode the multifaceted representations of violence embedded in the narratives. The analysis reveals that violence in these texts is not merely physical but structural, ideological, symbolic, and spatial, deeply entrenched in the socio-political fabric of both historical and fictional contexts.

Central to the study is the examination of gendered violence, especially the commodification and symbolic subjugation of women. The study goes on to examine how space serves as a physical and ideological construct that justifies violence. These spatial processes also shape social stratification of the society, as well as individual identities, besides being a representation of systemic processes.

The analysis of violence as a discursive process with structural, symbolic, and spatial levels allows the research to come up with a refined understanding of the way literature reflects and questions social and political reality. The current research contributes to the fields of gender studies, literary studies, and spatial theory by demonstrating that modern Indian literature can serve as an entertaining device for investigating the sociocultural practices of resistance and superiority.

**Keywords:** *symbolic violence, systemic violence, gender representation, spatial theory.*

### Publications:

1. **Minu, A.**, and J. Sharon. “Unveiling Silence, Healing Wounds: A Study on the Traumatic Experience in TD Ramakrishnan’s *Sugandhi Alias Andal Devanayaki*.” Routledge eBooks, 2024, pp. 35–40.  
<https://doi.org/10.1201/9781003567660-7>
2. **Minu, A.**, and J. Sharon. “Conceptual Resilience Framework for Sustainable Gendered Language Assessment in Literary Works.” Patent Filed Application No. 202541027610  
<https://iprsearch.ipindia.gov.in/PublicSearch/PublicationSearch/ApplicationStatus>
3. **Minu, A.**, and J. Sharon. “Deconstructing History: Reading the Novel *Francis Itty Cora* as Site for Counter-Memory.” Routledge eBooks, 2025, pp. 203–06.  
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003606666-39>.
4. **Minu, A.**, and J. Sharon. “Reimagining the Past: A Historiographic Metafictional Analysis of *Francis Itty Cora* and *The Saga of Muziris*.” Springer Cham. forthcoming Nov. 2025.