



INDIAN INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY
PALAKKAD

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

**The Gender and Caste Question
in India: A Thematic
Exploration Series**

Lecture 2

**'Working with Traces:
Towards a Gendered History of
Writing in Kerala'**

Prof. G. Arunima

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**Please note that registration and
participation is free.**

ABSTRACT OF THE TALK

By examining women's writing in Kerala from the 19th to the mid 20th C, ranging from petitions, poems, letters and diaries, this presentation wishes to return to a couple of questions that have been recurrent themes in feminist thought. One is the thorny, and unresolved, relationship between patriarchy/power and the social. The second is about the relationship between time, form and the writer. Do women in certain periods write in particular ways? What clues do these literary traces provide us with to think about gender, writing, or temporality? These are some of the questions I hope to address in this presentation.

Date: 01 October 2024

Time: 2.30pm-4.30pm

**Venue: R.No. 203-204,
Samgatha, Nila.**



ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. G. Arunima works as a Professor at Centre for Women's Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. Research and publications engage both the historical and the contemporary contexts of India, focusing particularly on cultural, visual and material texts, and rethinking the politics of the contemporary. Thematically, research areas of interest can be divided broadly into the study of family and kinship, both historically and theoretically; different aspects of questions of aesthetics and modernities; visual culture and theory; and religion and faith practices.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

IIT PALAKKAD

The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology, Palakkad, established in the year 2015 is committed to active engagement in teaching, research and outreach programs. With a focus on interdisciplinary dialogues, the faculty of the department presently carry out teaching and research in emerging fields of enquiries in the varied disciplines of HSS ranging from Economics, English, History, Linguistics, Philosophy, Psychology, Political science and Sociology. The department offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses for the science and engineering students with an aim to shape them into intellectually responsible and socially conscious global citizens. We also offer a PhD programme in the various disciplines mentioned above. We currently have 8 faculty members and 15 PhD scholars.



ABOUT THE SERIES

The Thematic Exploration series is an endeavour that has sprung from the interest of the department in exploring research in certain focused areas. The department wishes to focus on a theme each year and instigate dialogues in that area by facilitating a series of events namely lectures, panel discussions, performances and so on. Bringing together people of different standing like academicians, independent researchers and scholars, artists, writers, activists and many others, the department envisages it as a platform to nurture and keep alive discussions and interactions.

LIST OF EVENTS PLANNED FOR THIS SEMESTER:

- 1) Lecture by Dr Anagha Ingole, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science at the University of Hyderabad, on “Non- Brahmin Perspectives on Dharma and Sociality”, 27 September 2024, 2.30pm-4.30pm
- 2) Lecture by Prof. G. Arunima, Professor, Centre for Women's Studies, School of Social Sciences, JNU, on “Working with Traces: Towards a Gendered History of Writing in Kerala”, 1 October 2024, 2.30pm-4.30pm
- 3) Lecture by Dr. Divya Kannan, Assistant Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar University, Delhi NCR, on "Saving Bodies, Saving Souls", 18 Oct, 2024, 2.30pm-4.30pm
- 4) Lecture by Prof. Gopal Guru, Centre for Political Studies School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University on “Understanding symbiotic Relationship between Caste and (Bio) Technology”, 21 October 2024, 2.30pm-4.30pm
- 5) Lecture by Dr. V. Geetha, Independent Scholar and Researcher on Gender, Caste and the Languages of Sexual Politics, 8 November 2024, 2.30pm-4.30pm.
- 6) Lecture by Prof. Nivedita Menon, Centre for Comparative Politics & Political Theory, School of International Studies, JNU, on “Self, Labour, Technology: Three voices from early 20th Century India”, 14 Nov, 2024, 2.30pm-4.30pm.