

## **Goa University**

## Women's Studies Programme, Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy

## **Report on Visiting Lecture**

Title of the Event	Contemporary Queer movements' interaction with the law 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2023		
Date and Time			
Mode of conduct	ONLINE and OFFLINE		
School/ Directorate/ Section	Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy		
Collaborating Agency	None		
Detail of the Resource Person	<ul> <li>Dr. Ashley Tellis- Associate Professor, activist, writer- Dr. Ashley Tellis is an Associate</li> <li>Professor in English and Gender Studies, editor, journalist and LGBH rights activist. He was most recently Desk Editor</li> <li>at <i>Outlook</i> magazine. He is currently Fellow for 2023-24 at the Institute of Advanced Study, Nantes in France</li> <li>His research areas are gender, the literary and minority identities. His PhD at the University of Cambridge was on Contemporary Irish women's poetry. His postdoctoral work at the University of Arizona's 'Sex, Race and Globalization' program was on postcolonial same-sex identities in India.</li> </ul>		

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Recent publications include the co-edited volume (with Sruti Bala) The Global Trajectories of Queer: Re- Thinking Same-Sex Politics in the Global South (Brill: Amsterdam, 2015) and essays in Men and Feminism in India (Routledge, 2018) and Law and Violence (OUP, 2020), an edited a textbook on literary modernism published by Worldview Books, Delhi (2022) for Third Year BA English Honours students at Delhi University entitled Modernism: Texts and Contexts and has essays forthcoming in a book on Indian media history and a journal essay on Affect Theory in ). He is editing a volume on gender and English Studies in India entitled Recasting Gender(Routledge, 2023) and will have an article in a journal issue of the International Journal of Welsh Writing in English, a special issue on the work of Raymond Williams.

He is currently at work on a book on Marathi Dalit autobiography entitled Affirmative Abjection: Reading Marathi Dalit Autobiography (2024) and another on Bombay cinema and feminism in the 70s and 80s entitled Ashanti: Feminism and Popular Culture in Bombay in the 70s and 80s (Delhi: Three Essays, 2023).

Dr. Tellis works at the intersection of gender and sexuality studies, minority studies, psychoanalysis and literature. He is an LGBH, anti-communal, environmental and labour rights activist, with sexuality and the psyche as his foci. He combines activism and academic work, which he does not frame in the false binary in which they are usually placed.

He is also a creative writer and his first book of poems *A Turn of Breath* (Tehreer, 2021) was published last year. He is at work on a second book of poems *Desiring Men*, due out in early 2024 and is finishing his first novel *Small Moves* which will be published in December 2024.

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The objective of the guest lecture was to acquaint students with regards to the contemporary queer movements and their interaction with the law.
Ms. Divya Parmar introduced the resource person Dr. Ashley Tellis. He focused on questioning the terms 'queer' and 'movement 'in consonance to judicial activism. The lecture centered around the legalistic desires for justice and equality, the humanist desire for dignity and orientalist desire of liberating the postcolonial queer from barbaric cultures and call for more radical and critical engagement with the politics of the current conjecture which produces the 'queer' in contemporary India.
As the topic is a part of the Women's Studies curriculum and Social Work curriculum it was a beneficial lecture for the insights made by Dr. Ashley Tellis.
Photographs, Attendance of participants



Participants attended the lecture online and offline.

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Name of the Coordinator- Divya Parmar

**Designation- Assistant Professor** 

Date- 09/10/2023

10/10/23 Signature-

Dean- Prof. Rajendra S Gad

Seal of School/Directorate/ University

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