



DR. GEETA RAMANA  
Professor and Head of Department of Philosophy

**THIS VOLUME VI (SPECIAL VOLUME)  
DEDICATED  
TO OUR BELOVED FRIEND  
*PROF. GEETA RAMANA*  
(1965-2023)  
(Professor of Philosophy, University of Mumbai  
And Architect of *PTW Journal*)**

## *In Memoriam*

### **Prof. Geeta Ramana (1965-2023)**

It feels strange to write about our daughter, Geeta, in the past tense. As we are in our late 80s and touching 90s, we expected all our children, and certainly our most accomplished Geeta, to outlive us. Sad as it is, we are so grateful for the memories we have of her.

We want to thank Geeta's friend Archana, Professor, and Convener of National Conference, the Geeta Ramana Memorial Research Scholars Forum, and other organizing members under the aegis of the Department of Philosophy, Mumbai University, for recognizing her contributions and keeping her legacy alive through this Forum and this Conference - for the beneficiaries who mattered the most to her - students.

As a girl born into a family of four generations of boys, Geeta, aptly named, was the Song of our Life. She was quite a tomboy, playing all day long with her friends, and spoiled by her grandparents, uncles, and aunts. Transforming into an elder sister with siblings honed her sense of propriety, innate responsibility, and discipline. She was an avid reader ever since childhood. In high school, at a time when her peers were reading comics and novels, she was reading Bertrand Russell and Jiddu Krishnamurti from her father's library. No one in our family was surprised that she chose philosophy in college, and she very well earned a Junior Research Fellowship, followed by a Senior Research Fellowship, through her Doctorate.

If there was anything that she loved more than philosophy, it was teaching philosophy. As a teacher and professor, she meticulously prepared for every class, never using the same notes for the same topic, making fresh lesson plans for every class, even if she had previously taught them. She was so very committed to her students. It was heartening to see her beam with joy when one of her students received his doctorate with full honours - just days before she passed on. It was a personal pride for us to see her accomplishments academically, earning a post-doctorate, and later assuming the Headship at the Department of Philosophy at Mumbai University. It was a role she took seriously - bringing in much-needed reforms not only at the academic level for students, but also for staff.

She took pride in building a department that reflected the scholarship and academic rigor expected from post-graduate students, and always glowed in the

achievements of her staff and students. She had a magnanimous heart, focused on the larger picture for a greater public good. An image etched in our hearts forever was when His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, visited the Department for a conference during her Headship and blessed her in his compassionate manner.

To us she was more than our daughter - she was our parent during the Covid 19 lockdown, braving the 5:00 am curfew and bundling us from our house to hers, where we stayed for 18 months. She was a friend who would make a rainy day extra special with hot sabudana wada and masala tea. She was a philosopher, who understood the vagaries of time and uncertainty, still bringing meaning to her life until the end, touching the lives of all who knew her - family, students, friends, teachers, and well-wishers.

Today, as we commemorate her association with this Forum, I am reminded of her book published by Oxford University Press on Human Action and Consciousness. That title sums up her life: she was a soft-spoken and gentle human being, whose actions displayed an evolved consciousness. Deep within, she was always at peace.

Though Geeta is not here today, I know that her blessings and good wishes are abundant in this Forum. Please know that she is right here in our hearts every time we think of her. God bless and we wish you all much success in your endeavors. May all who have gathered here today be blessed with determination and discipline, making her legacy sustainable and successful to all members of this Forum, this Department, and this University.

Best wishes,

**Prabha Shankar & K R Shankar**

(Parents of Prof. Geeta Ramana)

July 21, 2023

Mumbai

## **Geeta, The Song of God - in tune with life and beyond ...**

The field of life was set, the battle lines were drawn,  
At the start, the despair of "samsara" made her feel like a pawn - 1

Her life soon became an ongoing enquiry  
Seeking knowledge, she found her true calling in philosophy - 2

Actions and more reactions were the new reality  
To give and give and then give some more - it was her nature, her Prakriti - 3

Karma was her strength; her love and affection was a gift to the lucky  
Knowing not to expect it's fruits, differentiated her, even when it was sticky - 4

Renunciation despite Action she practiced in many a situation  
She wrote from her heart about "Human Action, Consciousness and Problems of Representation" - 5

Her mind could be agitated by people or events, draining her energy from time to time  
But she excelled in "Striving for good in the right way, each and every time - 6

Knowing Him as the cause of the Universe  
Helped her to keep the faith especially when things got worse - 7

She always had Him in her mind despite distractions  
Her freedom came from her courageous awareness of transient situations - 8

Her dedication in her professional and personal life gave solace to all she touched  
A constant awareness of the "right path" kept her always engrossed - 9

Her intellectual blaze destroyed many ignorant mindsets around  
With The Dalai Lama, it was reinforced that Maitri was to be experienced not just spoken about - 10

It's rare to have the courage to demand from the guru - the "Vision"  
And yet have the humility to "know the truth" separated from illusion - 11

Ever striving to be better than yesterday  
Her devotion brought her closer to the maker - 12

By now she “knew” the field, the battle lines well bounded  
Her inner wisdom guided her to higher levels while remaining grounded - 13  
Attachment to knowledge kept her light shining bright and tall  
Stoic in difficulty & Composed in happiness, she soared and glided above all-14  
Her tree of samsara was eventually deeply understood  
Seeing through its delusion, she was prepared for its vicissitudes - 15  
Humility, Serenity and Generosity defined her disposition  
Coupled with her path of “action” she was ahead of us on the road to perfection  
- 16

Mental Discipline and Inner Faith were key to manage worldly expectations  
She came out stronger, purer and elevated even her difficult situations - 17  
Geeta, you tuned your life to the song of God, a successful seeker and a  
quintessential karma-yogi  
You came, you strived, you succeeded, you left a void, but more importantly,  
you left a legacy - 18

**Kartik Shankar**  
**Prof. Geeta Ramana’s Younger Brother**

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I thank Professor Archana Malik for inviting me to say a few words about Geeta. Geeta was devoted to her family and worked very hard to make our lives (mine and that of my daughter Chinmayee) better. However, she was most conscientious and passionate about her work and did not permit her house work to intrude into her official work. To me that was most impressive. Also impressive was the way Geeta organized an International Conference on Buddhism Inaugurated by His Holiness the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalia Lama at University of Mumbai in December 2018; she and her friend Archana spent months preparing for this Conference and it went off very well. Geeta will be very much missed by her family.

**T. Venkatramana**  
**Retired Senior Professor of Mathematics, Schools of Mathematics, TIFR, Mumbai**

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### ***Geeta Madam - More than a Friend for me***

I have lot to say about my Geeta Madam. I call her Madam because she is my senior colleague and elder to me. Our friendship is True friendship which has no barriers of age, caste-class, time and place. This I am saying because we used have long talk any time and used to seat anywhere in the University Campus and had ever ending talk.

Best part of her personality is she never blamed others if any wrong things happen. She was believer and follower of Karma Theory, whatever happens in life she used to say "it's my Karma". And hence due to her philosophy of life she was very humble, soft spoken, and some time angry but with very cool expressions. She was pure academician and competent administrator, always worked for development of department and others benefit specially for temporary staff. She always gave equal importance to non-teaching staff. Always she helped our temporary staff whole heartedly, whenever they were in need.

She was very compassionate and caring not only in personal life but also in professional life too. According to her, "Power or Authority means the ability to do well to others and Headship means one more opportunity to do good for betterment of department and others who are associated to department. During her headship she has given full freedom of work to everyone in the department.

I have association with her since 20 years, close friendship since 18 years. During these periods we walk together in sun as well as in rain, we talk a lot, had together lots of Chai with Samosa and also work together till late evening. We lived together some moments which are very much precious to both life i.e. His Holiness Dalai Lama visit and talked at our International Conference on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2018 and a most precious day was when we had personal talk (almost 2 and half hours) and had Lunch with his Holiness on 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018. It was our moment because His Holiness had personally appreciated our efforts and blessed both of us with Shawl brought from China.

I always missed to hear her caring voice, loving touch and hug full of love, whenever I am seating in our cabin. Last three and half months of her life was very difficult for her and difficult for her near and dear ones. During these periods we could not talk, walk and could not spent time together. This period is missing part of my life. I know she is here with me because when she gave her VRS application due to her illness, I was very nervous and feeling alone. I used to say her I am incomplete without you. She used to say me, "*Are mai kahi bhi rahu tere sath humesha rahungi re....*" As a human being we have our planning for future but we never know Universe has own planning Archana... You have to spend

many more productive and happy moments. It's up to you, not the environment.. So be natural as you are, keep smiling as you always do and face everything...." She used to say me even in her critical situation "I wish I could do something for you Archana". Only true friend can say this.

There are so many moments which will endure with me till my life end.

I would like to say her -

*"Tum Krishna ki Geeta ho aur Mai Tumhari Archana...."*

*(Geeta madam- Tum Pujaniya Ho Aur Mai Prarthaniya)*

**Archana Malik-Goure,  
Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Mumbai**

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Prof. Geeta Ramana –good human being, great academician, finest administrator. I am saddened and devastated to hear of the passing of Prof. Geeta Ramana through Prof. Archana her friend colleague emailed to me.

I considered Prof. Geeta a true philosopher and one of the few clear headed individual in the field of philosophy.

It is such a loss to us all that she passed away.

**Shyam Ranganathan,  
Professor of Philosophy, York Centre of Asian Studies, York University,  
Toronto, Canada**

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I met Geeta Ramana when she came to attend a seminar at the Department of Philosophy, Goa University 1988, where I joined as a lecturer a year back. I found her to be soft-spoken and a person of serious reflection. I remember her telling me that she hails from Mysore and her husband from Tiruttani, a temple town in Tamil Nadu. We kept in touch, especially after she joined the University of Mumbai as a faculty.

We worked together for the UGC E Pathshala. She was the course coordinator preparing online lessons in *Philosophy of Language*. I found her to be a serious scholar of modern Western and Classical Indian philosophies of language. While working together in a series of conversations, I found her observation and suggestions very useful for the Philosophy of Language and other courses. Yet another essential virtue of Geeta is the way she listens and her uncanny ability to summarise long conversations into systematic arguments.

Her book *Human Action, Consciousness and Problems of Representation*, published by Oxford University Press, makes a concerted effort to use the basic philosophy of language and analytical philosophy. It also skillfully and carefully brings the later additions to the discussion, themes such as consciousness, the tricky problem of representation through language, and, more importantly, intentionality. In this context, she also manages to traverse into classical Indian philosophy.

In addition to her excellent academic qualities, Geeta is a duty-bound, responsible, caring, humane and affectionate person. She has an uncanny ability for wit and subtle humour. My last meeting with her was with P. Sri Lakshmi, my classmate from the University of Hyderabad, Golden Threshold days. It is difficult to reconcile that Geeta is no more leaving us lonely.

**A. Raghuramaraju,**  
**Professor of Philosophy. Department of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati**

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#### ***THE GEETA I KNEW-----***

Come July 21<sup>st</sup> & every year my thoughts would be of Geeta celebrating her birthday! This year, the Birthday wishes will be sent through my prayers. Last year when I had called to wish her, she sounded sad & depressed, while talking about her illness. I tried to cheer her up by saying that these days many ladies face this problem but most recover with proper treatment. But she did not seem convinced.

"My case is bad!" She kept on repeating. How bad it was, I realized only, when I heard about her sad demise in 7<sup>th</sup> April.

Geeta & I were not the best of friends. We did not meet often nor did we call each other regularly & yet somewhere deep down there was a soft corner for each other filled with a lot of affection.

So on the rare occasions, when I would visit the Dept. & enter her room, we would meet like long lost friends, catching up on all that had happened in our lives. Her smile & her full throated laughter, was sufficient to set the mood. We would talk about a variety of topics from Politics to Theater to Films to Academic issues then I would leave, so that as a Conscientious teacher, she would have enough time to prepare for her lectures.



A devoted wife a doting mother to her beloved daughter Chinmayee, a good friend to those who knew her well, & above all a good human being!, who will be missed & remembered not only by the family, but by all her friends & well-wishers.

REST IN PEACE, dear Geeta, you have earned it by fulfilling all your responsibilities in such a short span of life.!

**Rita Doctor,  
Retired Senior Professor of Philosophy, Ruia College, Mumbai**

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*A Tribute to Geeta*

It was the March of 95 and the best of times. A short course on phenomenology was going to be held at ICPR, Butler Palace in Lucknow, and the teachers of different states had converged to attend it, where I met Geeta, a very young scholar, with a keen mind and an endearing smile. Little did I know then that our camaraderie will span over three decades. We bonded well over the next couple of weeks, pouring over books, having discussion with our professor, R Sundara Rajan, the illustrious scholar on phenomenology and hermeneutics.

Geeta and I were both very enthusiastic, and our discussions would often spill over during our coffee and lunch break, while Prof. Sundara Rajan would try to satiate our intellectual thirst. It was not only intellectual but an emotional bonding which took place between Geeta and me. We moved on in life but never lost contact. It was rekindled again in 2014 when she successfully coordinated the e-pathshala programme on philosophy of language. By then, she was an established professor, who had nurtured and guided several research students, published a book, which was the outcome of her research work. I had the privilege of meeting her at her alma mater some years back where I presented a paper on her persuasion, and I never had the slightest premonition that it would be our last meeting. We met virtually on different platforms during the pandemic, and in March' 22, she broke the news of her disease in a very gentle manner so as not to upset me. She bitterly lamented the fact that just as she was at the height of her career, enjoying her academic pursuits, this cruel fate would befall her. Her passing away has indeed created a void, a sense of emptiness in those who had come to know her.

**Shyamasree Bhattacharyya  
Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Calcutta**

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It is with deep sadness, and at the same time with a sense of abiding honor that I send this brief note in remembrance of our remarkable friend and colleague, Geeta Ramana. Geeta was committed to rigorous scholarship and the thorough education of students. She devoted great efforts to make the discipline of Philosophy accessible to scholars as well as the general public, in both the classroom as well as in international conferences she chaired. With both rigor and compassion, Geeta taught, wrote and expounded on many subjects of Philosophy, while at the same time practicing good governance as Chair of the Philosophy department of Mumbai University. I have personally enjoyed the many times I was fortunate enough to meet her, both in Goa and in Mumbai. Always caring for others, always ready to help, always joyous in her teaching and writing. In Geeta we have lost an outstanding teacher and thinker, but more than anything else, we are going to miss an extraordinary human being. Let us celebrate her life as she would have wanted us to do. May her memory be a blessing.

**Hune Margulies**

**Director, The Martin Buber Institute for Dialogical Ecology, New York, U.S.**

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*My excellent teacher, mentor and academician*

It feels very sad to be writing about Geeta ma'am using the past tense. My most vivid memory of her is that of her notes she would carry to the class. These are the handwritten notes she had gathered over her student years. I hope they are archived somewhere still.

My first impression of her was that she was a very stern and serious person who read too much Bertrand Russell and Thomas Kuhn. But while studying for her M.A. electives like Wittgenstein and Language and Reality, I encountered many times her light-spirited laughs and smiles which were filled with genuine joy. Their echoes will probably always put a smile on the faces of everybody who knew her in Jnaneshwar Bhavan. She was, of course, an excellent teacher and academic. She would often raise questions in the class which were left for the student to ponder over rather than answer away readily. In fact, when we would ask questions to her, she would have the philosopher's caution and intellectual humility to say, "Let me think on this and get back in a week." She was always skeptical about easy fixes for philosophical problems and hasty comparisons between philosophers operating in completely different contexts.

But more than that, she was also a great mentor. While doing my M.Phil. with her, I realized that she was very democratic in her approach. She would treat students as intellectual equals and would never make you feel that there was any hierarchy which put her opinions or decisions above yours. I will be particularly grateful to her for giving me confidence in times when I would be unsure and under-confident about many things. The paper I have submitted for this volume is a paper I wrote for her Wittgenstein course. She saw something valuable in it and encouraged me to think more about it.

I will also cherish the experience of working on organizing various conferences and seminars with her and Archana ma'am. It was really helpful in terms of learning time management and administrative skills.

While the things being talked about are talked about in the past tense, the memories do and will always belong to the present and the future!

**Harish Pedaprolu,**  
**Research Scholar of Prof. Geeta Ramana**

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My acquaintance with Geeta Ramana goes back to the year 2012 when I was doing my MA , and she taught us Analytical Philosophy. Later, when I decided to pursue my M.Phil, she was my guide and mentor. I remember her as a patient and approachable person. There were times when I wanted to give up, but she would encourage me and guide me with her gentle words. She was first a friend and then a guide to me. I will always cherish the happy memories I have of Geeta during our discussions. I owe my research completely to her. She will always live in the hearts of her students and research fellows.

**Agnes Dsouza**  
**Research Scholar of Prof. Geeta Ramana**

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A Guru comes into life, touches your soul for good and brightens it. It is said that you will get your guru only if you have good past Karmas. I am fortunate to meet my beloved Guide like Geeta ma'am. She came and touched my life and illuminated it forever. I met ma'am in 2012 during my post-graduation; I would go to her cabin after class and ask her all my stupid questions about lecture and she would always answer politely even after being tired. I felt comfortable with ma'am for asking deeper questions and discussing deep unanswered questions of philosophy of mind. The level of expertise ma'am had was truly exceptional; because of that she developed my interest in philosophy. I did register for PhD

under Geeta ma'am, and from the very next week and every week after that she would sit with me to read and discuss a chapter of a text. She was such a dedicated towards her students. Ma'am was very student oriented, she inspired students like me to write original authenticate paper. She has read all my 'not so good' papers and guided me about how to write an original paper, she also taught me about how to develop teaching skills. She may not have given birth to me but she raised me like her own son. She not only taught me ABCs of academic life but also took my hand and guided me with great care, paving the way for a successful journey in the professional realm of academia. I am going to miss her motherly and polite scolding whenever I failed to submit assignments or drafts on time, as it was a gentle reminder of her care and concern. I will truly miss the unique combination of her polite anger and love that she showered upon me. Apart from being magnificent expert academician, ma'am was also a humble and lovely soul.

Her loss has been significant blow to me, and the void it created in my life feels immeasurable and impossible to fill...

**Jivitesh Patil**

**Assistant Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Mumbai**

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Gita, one of my good friends, left us some days back in Mumbai. She served as Professor of Philosophy, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Mumbai. I got acquainted with her long back. She used to visit University of North Bengal as expert to conduct viva and other examination works. Some years back we conducted National Seminar on Bipin Chandra Pal, sponsored by ICPR, New Delhi and North Bengal University. Gita joined in that seminar as one of experts. As a person She was very humble and good natured. Whenever we used to meet, we talked for long on different issues. She invited me to join Buddhist Conference attended by Dalai Lama and other famous persons. That Conference was a great achievement for the department of Philosophy and Gita as head was part of that achievement along with other faculties of the department. There are so many memories which will remain with me as long as I live.

May her soul rest in peace.

**Debika Saha,**

**Retired Professor of Philosophy, University of North Bengal**

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### *In Loving Memory of Geeta Ramana*

We sincerely mourn the loss of Professor Geeta Ramana, a beloved philosopher, cherished colleague, and dear friend. Geeta's untimely departure from this world has left a void that will be difficult to fill. I first had the pleasure of meeting Geeta at a conference in IIT Bombay.

Over the years, our paths crossed on several occasions as she visited my institution, North Bengal University. I fondly remember Geeta's visit to my home and meeting with my family. Her ability to connect with people on a personal level was truly remarkable. Geeta asked me to join the editorial board of the Mumbai University Philosophy Journal. It was a gesture that showcased her generosity and belief in fostering intellectual growth within our community.

She invited me to present a paper at a conference on women achievers in academia. Geeta's dedication made the event a success, despite the transition to an online format due to COVID-19. Geeta's profound intellect was matched only by her amiable nature and down-to-earth demeanor. She possessed a rare ability to engage in conversations with depth and sincerity, making everyone feel valued and heard. Whether in the lecture hall or during informal exchanges, Geeta's warmth and kindness created an atmosphere of intellectual camaraderie that will be sorely missed.

**Professor Anirban Mukherjee**

**Department of Philosophy, University of North Bengal**

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I met Geeta Ramana and Archana for the first time in 2020 on the occasion of the conference of the Bharatiya Mahila Darshnik Parishad being hosted in Mumbai University. Being the general secretary of BMDP I was seated on the stage for the inaugural session when I experienced sudden severe irritation in my eyes. I casually inquired where the closest chemist would be so that I could purchase some eye drops to relieve the eye irritation after the inauguration. Geeta was so prompt that I was handed over a new bottle of eye drops which I used during the inaugural session giving me much relief.

I can't believe the fact that now I have to use the past tense always in reference to Geeta. I never saw her without her smile. She was such a sensitive soul, ready to help others at any cost. She had the knack of making the other person comfortable with her benign behaviour. I was in touch with her after my

departure too. We carried out a lot of official work together. Her attitude was always calm and unhurried even in the face of inadvertent delays. Even though she was on leave she got her work done in time. I never came to know of her health condition during my dealing with her. When I try to look back, I think she was so focused on the task at hand that other things did not matter. Working long distance has perhaps these disadvantages that the personal touch goes missing and work becomes more mechanical. I can now only wish and pray that her noble soul has found refuge at the lotus feet of Narayana.

**Asha Maudgil,**  
**Professor Dept. of philosophy Panjab University, Chandigarh**

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*A tribute to my teacher and friend Dr. Geeta Ramana*

I first met Dr. Geeta Ramana in the corridors of the Department of Philosophy, Kalina in a breezy morning of June in 2005. She was walking with a smile welcoming a few new faces that had come to the department for some queries about doing PhD. I and my friend walked onto her to enquire about our class schedules in the Masters course yet to start. She was with the same smile when she addressed us and never was it faded when I last met in our Sophia College online zoom Philosophy BoS meeting in December 2022. She had been to me apart from being my teacher a great support and a soothing presence of friendship. I will ever miss her smiling face in real but my memories of it will never fade.

She was an infectious character, full of life and so uninhibited by the stresses and strains of her work. She had the most distinctive of qualities: a genuine enjoyment and appreciation of the opinions and digressions of the young and the old sitting as students in her classes trying to look through the lenses of perspectives left by an array of philosophers ranging from the analytic tradition in the west to the freedom seekers in the east. Dr. Geeta never lost the ability to enjoy her time with every question posed by her students and always she was in search for the best versions of responses for her students. Teaching Philosophy was one of her passions; she studied it and talked about it. I recall the time when she successfully persuaded me to present a paper on 'Various Strands of idealism' in one of the student research seminars she took initiative to organize in the Department. But it was, in my opinion, her remarkable ability to connect with people that really defined her success. As John Hattie might remind us, teaching

is essentially a human profession carried out most successfully by passionate individuals.

I will always remember her composed attitude and unassuming simplicity. Hers was a short life, but a life thoroughly lived. Never ever she presented herself to me as having an ailment, though I knew what she had been struggling through in her last months of life.

There are many more individual memories that I could share, and qualities that I could describe, to pay further tribute to my teacher. It has taken me a while to adjust with the reality that she has moved away. But I know that my loss is nothing in comparison to that felt by her loving family. I know that I have become better as a person, a teacher now by knowing her, and for that I am massively grateful to her. This is my humble tribute to her for the learning and friendship that I received from her. May her soul rest in peace.

**T.C. Roy,**  
**Assistant Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, Sophia College, Mumbai**

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### *A few Words for the Woman I admire the Most*

My association with Prof. Geeta Ramana, whom I used to call Geeta ma'am though was for a very short period of seven months during my short assignment in the Department of Philosophy as a Guest faculty. At first, as I didn't know her personally even though I was in Mumbai doing my Ph. D from IIT Bombay, I never visited or had any association with Mumbai University. One fine day when I visited Prof. Archana Gore's quarter on the University Campus for Ganpati puja in September perhaps (as it was raining that day) I got a chance to speak to Geeta ma'am for more than an hour. Though both of us were from two different traditions she was a hard-core analytical thinker and I who just completed Ph.D. research in the continental tradition, being a North-Eastern and Ma'am from the extreme Southern part of India, never thought would interact so well and discuss so much on different topics from starting from consciousness to politics, from food to art and travel plans. Even though I was a contractual member, almost two decades younger than her, she never treated me as an Other. I was very much a part of Geeta and Archana's life. After that day on several occasions, we met over tea and sometimes I used to just sit and listen to her and Archana Ma'am st times on the road and at times in the old canteen. At times I simply used to sit and

admire her beauty, especially her hazy eyes. I still remember the toughest days in the year, 2015 when I abruptly decided to leave the university for some personal reasons and I needed guidance and a sense of comfort, for the first time when I was scared, confused and disturbed, she came and hold me so tight - that moment I felt motherly care and console. From that day, until I got a position in Goa and Tripura University, she was constantly in touch and enquired about my whereabouts. So much so that when she took charge as HOD, she invited me from Tripura to participate in an International Conference in the year, 2018. Made me a part of the team even though I was living more 3000 km away from her.

Apart from being a great academician, a philosopher and an excellent administrator, she knew how to maintain relationships and she taught me that too. I am grateful to her for teaching me the value of life and friendship. Many would call her an introvert and private person but to me, she was a dignified woman with a pure heart. My only regret is that I couldn't visit her when she needed us the most and couldn't invite her to my Department. But even then she fulfilled her promises. Once she told me - she wanted to invite me to her house in Colaba which was never materialized due to this or that but she fulfilled her wish even when she was not physically present on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April, 2023 when I visited her house I felt like she is there everywhere looking at me, welcoming me with her tight hug and gently tapping me on my cheeks and calling me 'Bacchi tu aa gayi'!

### **Sindhu Poudyal**

**Assistant Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, Tripura University**

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Professor Geeta Ramana was an excellent philosopher and friend. I first came across her philosophical writing that was published in JICPR titled Intentionality of Language and Thought in the year 2001. Later from her other writings, I found that she is deeply engaged in the study of the Philosophy of Language and Mind, particularly in the analytic tradition. When I joined IIT Bombay, we had some interaction during the seminars and conferences. She was kind enough to accept our invitation to present a paper at the international symposium on Self-Knowledge and Moral Identity, and her paper got published later in the anthology of this volume. We jointly organized another international seminar on the Philosophical writings of Donald Davidson in the year 2017. Professor Geeta was philosophically bright and thoughtful. In many discussions, she has shown



her deep interest in the study of Indian Philosophy. Her book titled Human Action, Consciousness and

Problems of Representation (OUP, 2014) will remain with us as an asset and I find her interventions in this discourse to be very profound and thought-provoking. She always encouraged young scholars and appreciated their ideas and pursuits. Some of my students are benefited having discussions with her. Her untimely demise is a great loss to the Philosophical community in Mumbai and she will be always remembered with admiration.

**Ranjan K. Panda,**  
**Professor of Philosophy, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Mumbai**

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*Tribute to Geeta*

It is still not settled in our mind that Geeta is no more. We were in touch till February 2023. In the last few weeks in her ailment and treatment, she shared her pain and agony during Chemotherapy and said, &quot; it is truly like Hiroshima hit inside my body & quot;. She also said she is still trying to wind up her commitments as much as possible. Her courage and strength stood as an example to me. Her last message was an emoji of folded hands.

Her name is reminiscent to me of a fresh and smiling face, her voice full of commitment. I will always remember her as a friend, a colleague with whom I felt comfortable sharing academic works and have participated in various academic events and evaluated each other's research students's work. You will be greatly missed, Geeta. Thank you for the time we had together and all that you shared with us. The research article I am contributing in the special edition of the Journal, Philosophical Traditions of the World, is drawn from the Ph.D. thesis of my Ph.D. student, which Prof. Geeta kindly agreed to evaluate as an external referee. Unfortunately, we lost her untimely before the submission of the thesis. We will miss her valuable evaluation. This contribution is a small token of tribute to the departed soul.

**Vikram Singh Sirola**  
**Professor of Philosophy, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Mumbai**

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### *Reminiscence of Professor Geeta Ramana of Happy Memory*

I have only very endearing reminiscence of Professor Geeta Ramana of happy memory. I have known Geeta (as I used to call her) almost for the past two decades. It is so saddening to recall her untimely demise, and it a great loss for her family, for us her friends and philosophy community in India. May her soul rest in blessed peace!

She was a wonderful colleague, helpful friend, serious academician. Let me place here an anecdote to say how helpful and unassuming person Professor Geeta Ramana was: It was in 2012-13. I was badly in need of an old book published in 1960s, and upon searching all libraries of Mumbai, I found out that it was available in the library of Mumbai University. At my request Geeta came along all the way to Fort Campus, issued the book in her name and gave me the volume, and the outcome of that was a conference paper and a paper in JICPR by me. Geeta was such a helpful and humble person in my personal interaction with her.

In academic domain Professor Geeta Ramana was an erudite scholar. A specimen of her eruditeness is seen in her magnum opus, titled, Human Action, Consciousness, and Problems of Representation (Oxford University Press, 2014) in which she examines and connects with the concepts of two major traditions, namely, the theory of mind and self in Indian Nyaya system and the western mainstream analytic philosophy. This work will go down in the annals of philosophy in India as a monumental work.

I will indeed miss such a great soul, humble person, affable friend and wonderful colleague here on earth.

**C. D. Sebastian**

**Professor in Indian Philosophy, Philosophy Group Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay, Mumbai**

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The untimely demise of Professor Geeta Ramana is a loss to us. We will bitterly miss her academic interventions and contributions, along with her warmth and her disarming smile which she unfailing displayed while making an acute critique of a philosophical position. Many like me, will surely miss her academic company, the discussions and unfailing support for academic ventures. Her

academic commitment and professional integrity will always be a yardstick for many, and I only hope that she was aware of what she meant to us. But more importantly, I am sure that the gravity of this loss is in many ways beyond words because we will continue to figure that as time moves ahead and reminds us in little nooks and corners that she is no more there to help us in our journeys. Prayers to the elements that she may rest in peace.

**Pravesh Jung Golay**

**Professor of Philosophy, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Mumbai**

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Prof. Geeta Ramana was an inspiring teacher, able administrator, a dedicated researcher and most importantly a good human being. Her rich scholarship in Indian as well as western Philosophy conveys her limitless commitment to deep learning. Her ability to develop a dialogue, inclusive approach and concern for the other was amazing.

Dr. Geeta was caring, compassionate and humble. Her simplicity, humility and calmness often revealed the artist in her in diverse ways. Dr. Geeta's objectivity was seen in her unbiased decision making and polite communication. Gratitude to Dr. Geeta for initiating deeper transformation as the Head Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai. I was fortunate to meet a living philosopher - who will be a constant source of inspiration to celebrate freedom and realise the essence of responsibility in a finer way.

**Priya M Vaidya**

**Professor & Head, Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai**

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*In Loving Memory of Prof. Geeta Ramana*

To remember and to honor the life of Prof. Geeta Ramana is to remember a remarkable teacher, mentor, and friend. For those fortunate enough to have known her, we were touched by her intellectual brilliance, her unwavering support, and her genuine warmth. My first interaction with Prof. Geeta Ramana was during my time as a student in the department. Even then, her analytical mind shone through, engaging us in thought-provoking discussions that challenged our perspectives. It was during those countless conversations over a cup of tea that I truly began to appreciate her sharp intellect and her passion for the field of analytic philosophy.

When she took over as the Head of the department, Prof. Geeta Ramana became a strong pillar of support for all of us. Her dedication and unwavering commitment to education were evident as she wholeheartedly encouraged and facilitated various seminars and conferences. Her guidance and cooperation paved the way for academic growth and intellectual exploration within the department. But beyond her professional achievements, Prof. Geeta Ramana was also a dear friend to me. We shared moments of laughter, camaraderie, and deep conversations that have become cherished memories. Her twinkle-eyed presence brought joy to our lives, and her absence now leaves an irreplaceable void. Yet, in our moments of remembrance, the pain subsides, and her spirit continues to shine through. Through Prof. Geeta Ramana, I learned valuable lessons about compassion and generosity. Her large-heartedness touched the lives of many, and her pure love for her students and colleagues was palpable. She believed in the power of education to transform lives and approached her role as an educator with unwavering dedication and enthusiasm.

A tribute to Prof. Geeta Ramana would be to carry forward her legacy of intellectual curiosity, kindness, and love. Let us honor her memory by continuing to pursue knowledge, fostering camaraderie, and supporting one another as she did for us. Though she may no longer be with us in person, her spirit lives on in our hearts and minds. Prof. Geeta Ramana, your profound impact on our lives will never be forgotten. May you find eternal peace, and may your light continue to guide us in our journey of learning and growth.  
Rest in peace, dear friend.

**Namita Nimbalkar,**  
**Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai**

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Among the many engaging discussions Dr. Geeta and I had, I distinctly remember one particular conversation. I had veered from philosophy to law and so my criteria of sound reasoning and analysis too had its own take. I began quoting the popular refrain in Courts, that Law is not logic. I extended this thought further and said that Human life is not founded on logic and that it is much more complex. So, when I casually said that 'Logic is useful just like good manners, but hardly elevating and I also said that I thought that Analytical philosophy too falls in the same category. I realized that I had unwittingly provoked Dr. Geeta, and I concede that her response was more than educating

for me, though, I tried to hold on to my grounds, saying analysis like logic was just a tool, nothing more and that it could not be a subject matter of Philosophy. She countered to say, 'Can we make even an infinitesimally small progress without that tool? The conversation ended delightfully for me, where I received enriching exposure to current research in Analytical philosophy. Though she claimed that our conversation was mutually and equally engaging, I had my doubts. She was a committed academician, equally committed to her philosophical research, whereby she contributed to the studies of analytical philosophy and consciousness.

The perennial criticism of the body mind dichotomy of Descartes was often elegantly justified by Dr. Geeta. She would often deal at length with those aspects of Indian philosophy that have issues of a similar nature but that are analyzed differently. For instance, she would say with a twinkle in her eye, 'what do you have to say about the *'Atma and Anatma debates'*?

Dr. Geeta and I met in the 90's, in the Kalina Campus, as M.Phil students. We bonded in many ways but it was our love for understanding the ideas in philosophy which brought us closer than ever. For almost two decades, I moved away from philosophy to pursue law, but I suppose philosophy with Dr. Geeta beckoned me again. She was my guide and the principal motivator who urged me to complete my Ph.D. Nothing had changed in her. She had the same thoroughness in academics, respect for scholarly critical thinking with uncompromising standards, as I remembered her. She was not only sensitive to her students' needs but also encouraged them to come into their own, often extending a supportive hand.

The last time I was in touch with her, she spoke about the joy of seeing one of her students complete his Ph.D. She was indeed a true Guru who had immense care and compassion for her students. She remained true to her calling till the end. She never let her analytical guard down. When I suggested, reiki and other *pranik* healings, alternative medicines to bring relief to her pain, she gave one of her delightful smiles and looking into my eyes, said, 'sure, but whatever must be, will be. It helps to be detached'. That's the analytical mind of Dr. Geeta and that is Geeta's triumph.

**Srilakshmi Peddada**

**Close Friend and PhD Scholar of Prof. Geeta Ramana**

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***Our Tribute to Professor Geeta Ramana***

Professor Geeta Ramana has amicable personality and she was a Nobel soul. We met her several occasions at IIT Bombay and Mumbai University in academic activities including an International Seminar on the Philosophy of Donald Davidson and the Influence of his Thought in the 21st Century organized by Department of philosophy, University of Mumbai and Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay, 25-26 November 2017. And at ICPR international seminar on Philosophy of Professor Hilary Putnam organized by Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay, India, 3-5 October 2015. She will be remembered for her amicable personality and her academic contribution to the philosophy. This research paper is our tribute to her.

**Rajakishore Nath,  
Professor in Indian Philosophy, Philosophy of Philosophy, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay, Mumbai**

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***A Warm Person with a Lovely Smile: Geeta Ma'am***

She was our teacher of analytic philosophy and philosophy of mind. She always motivated students to pursue their own interests, and always encouraged them in thinking critically and creatively.

Even after I completed my formal studies at the department, we remained connected. She always appreciated the design work that I could do for the department. It was good working with her over the aesthetics of the various events that were organized and on some publication projects too. 'Inquiry, Knowledge, Faith, Wisdom' - were the four word that she believed the department's philosophy and its working rests upon. These came about each time we discussed about the creative and aesthetic integrations that were done to the department profile, its journal that were made and to each seminar and conference that took place.

It came to me as a shock, to learn about the passing away of Geeta Ma'am; but she will always continue to live on in my mind. In Gratitude.

**Prajakti pai  
Cover Designer of Dept. Journal- *Philosophical Traditions of the World (PTW)***

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I never thought I would ever have to pen a few words in memory of Dr. Geeta Ramana. I remember our last meeting in 2022 and Geeta being her usual cheerful and ever hospitable self. We shared a meal together, without the slightest inkling that this would be the last.

Work brought Geeta and I in contact with each other. Every time that I interacted with Geeta, I saw different dimensions of her personality. I saw her sense of honesty towards what she did, the sincerity with which she dealt with her daily tasks. She was an astute leader in her work space, making just choices, with conviction. She never hesitated in taking tough decisions, never feared taking the bull by its horns. She was also very sharp and intelligent and we shared many discussions on intellectual topics, philosophies and literature. She often stood out as a voice of reason when there was a lack of it. Our endless meetings over the NAAC accreditation were always punctuated with fun, lightheartedness and Geeta's eagerness to provide fried idlis and chai to the team, for months !

I must mention her compassionate, human side- kind, gentle, ready to help, with a thought for the less privileged, and always generous with money. Whenever we met, our conversations, even if around serious concerns, were always tempered with a sense of humour. Our common love for the English language and its special expressions, made for many a lovely laugh around daily-life situations, and these are unforgettably etched in my mind.

Geeta and I were not friends in any typical sense- we did not meet often, nor did we speak often. But, we shared common life values, tastes and humour. Perhaps it was all of this that all bound us inextricably. Her last message to me, filled my heart with heaviness yet at the same time, with warmth, knowing that I truly had a genuine friend in her. She departed, leaving her family and many others bereaved, with the simple solace of having known her closely.

Fare well my friend in your next journey, till we meet once again in the unknown beyond.

**Vasumathi Badrinathan**

**Associate Professor, Department of French, University of Mumbai**

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### *A Tribute to Professor Geeta Ramana*

Dr Geeta Ramana, Par excellence eminent Professor of Philosophy and also former Head of the Department, University of Mumbai of Philosophy left us on 7th April 2023. It was a great loss not only to the academic world, but also to the University of Mumbai at large. She served the University for more than 2

decades with honesty, sincerity, dedication, and uprightness. She had few more years of service left but God had some other plans for her. She had a large number of national and international publications, to her credit and a large number of doctoral candidates completing under her supervision.

She was a founding member and instrumental in starting the ISSN and UGC CARE listed Journal of Philosophy from 2017 entitled 'Philosophical Traditions of the World'. She organized a number of workshops, seminars, conferences, and academic activities. She also organized an International conference where she called His highness Dalai Lama, and that conference was so successful that it enhanced the image of the University of Mumbai globally. We had a close academic interaction when I was the coordinator of the Mahatma Gandhi Peace Center, University of Mumbai where we organized various collaborative programmes with the Department of Philosophy. In my interaction with her, I found her to be lively, very intelligent, and enthusiastic about the subject. I have learnt a lot of things from her both, academically and administratively. She had the ability to take everyone together and was very honest in her work. It was a misfortune of our University administration that her expertise and administrative skills could not be used in the development of the University.

I recollect the friendship and the relationship of Professor Geeta with Professor Archana Malik which is often said to be akin to that of the two great philosophers- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, which existed not only during their life time but also when one of them departed. We all miss her, and I feel her memories will always remain with us and be cherished by us. She will be remembered as a true friend, comrade, colleague, and a great human being.

**Satishchandra Kumar**

**Professor and Head, University Department of Applied Psychology & Counselling Center, University of Mumbai**

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Professor Geeta Ramana, Former Head, Department of Philosophy was great human being. During her tenure as Head of the Department we had organized various collaborative programs jointly. Our Department had mentioned as best practice to give free coaching to Department students for NET/ SET Paper I and this workshop was for conducted throughout month. Department of History and Philosophy both have mentioned number of students passed in NET SET examination in NAAC those who participated in NET SET workshop. Various expertise from different Departments of University of Mumbai delivered lectures



in this workshop. Dr Geeta Ramana being Head of the Department was very cordial to conduct such programs. Dr Archana Malik was coordinating from Philosophy Department and I was coordinator from Department of History for this workshop . Hon. Ramdasji Athawale , Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India inaugurated our NET/SET and Competitive exam workshop along with Hon. Pro Vice Chancellor Dr. Ravindra Kulkarni sir .

Prof. Geeta Ramna madam has organized International conference on Metta in Buddhism and Prof. Archana was Coordinator for the Conference. They made committee of University faculty for organizing conference and I was invited as member of the committee. Dr Geeta Ramana madam took all the care for smooth conduct of the conference. His Holiness the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama graced the occasion HH very much appreciated arrangements of the Conference. Social Justice and Special Assistance Minister of Government of Maharashtra and even Hon Vice Chancellor Dr Suhas Pednekar sir also admired organizing skills of event management of Prof. Geeta Madam. In the NAAC of University of Mumbai this International conference was highlighted by the authority.

Prof. Geeta madam was sensitive human being. As Head of the Department of Philosophy she was one of the prominent Head in University to give huge support to Covid 19 patients. She moniterily was ahead all the time as far as assistance to Covid 19 patients. I appreciate her humanitarian nature and payback to society mission.

Department of History had collaborative programs with Philosophy Department under her Headship it was very helpful for the students since Philosophy is auxiliary science of History and major philosophical schools have contributed lot History I feel Philosophy is integral part history. One more important aspect of her was she always kept Dept. of Philosophy web portal updated which is necessary for NAAC. Madam had deep study of Philosophy as well as Psychology also. She use to say me to ignore to politics around and focus on positive aspect of future because we cannot change nature of human beings so instead of getting affected of politics played by colleagues better ignore and not to disturb our mind.

I felt extremely happy to know that National conference in Honour of Dr Geeta madam is organized by Department of Philosophy on her area of Specialization of Gaeta madam. This academic tribute to madam is indeed nice endeavour.

**Sandesh Wagh,**

**Professor and Head, Department of History, University of Mumbai**

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### ***Obituary***

Dr. Geeta Ramana was a good friend of mine. It is deeply disheartening to use past tense while writing about her.

The Best way to pay tribute to Dr. Geeta will be, in my opinion, to work for the change in the rules of transliteration. We have always seen her spelling the word with ee and not i. For enabling understanding of the Sanskrit Texts, into English, there was a need to come up with a set of fixed rules. Accordingly, even today the same set is used. But now the present generation will be more comfortable if the set is revisited and what is to be retained and what is to be discarded is decided in the light of the needs of the people in the present century. Such a change is necessary for easy access to Sanskrit by the English-speaking community. If our ancient Indian Wisdom is to be disseminated among the inspired, inquisitive minds, then let not rules of transliteration be a barrier. Of course, we have overcome this barrier; It is not an insurmountable difficulty. But it is partially redundant and, therefore, the reconsideration is a must. I wish the departed soul may rest in peace and let the family have the strength to bear the loss.

**Sharmila Virkar**

**Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai**

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My memories of Dr. Geeta Ramanna is still very vivid . I had passed my bachelor's degree and stepped into the university (Kalina campus) to get admission for PG. The first person I met was Geeta in the department. We introduced ourselves and spoke to each other briefly. After completing the formalities of obtaining admission we left. Again my first day of attending lectures...I entered the class room and coincidentally went on to sit with Geeta. It was nice knowing her. She was a bit reserved but very sincere in her opinions and clear in her concepts. We had both offered Heidegger as one of the papers in the second year and how much we used to enjoy the lectures. We were together at Pune University for our Refresher course along with Amit and had a really good time.

I do miss a very sincere, cooperative and honest friend in Geeta.

**Tabassum Sheikh**

**Principal, Momin College, Bhiwandi**

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*Geeta.....3 decades and more!*

Geeta and me first met in August 1987 as classmates in first year of M.A. Philosophy in the Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai. In the process of making friends in all the new faces, we came closer and became good friends. We enjoyed our classes, had heated discussions with our professors, especially with late Prof. S.S. Antarkar and late Prof. N.G. Kulkarni and also made fun of few others. We travelled together, along with eight others, led by Prof. Antarkar to Pondicherry in 1988 for the IPC and the bonds became closer. Our joining as JRFs, seminar-presentations, teaching assignments, and parallelly important events in personal lives.....the journey was on and was ended abruptly in April 2023!!

As a student, Geeta was very sharp, inquisitive and courageous; as a friend equally loving, caring and jovial. She would perfectly remember the birthdays of friends and would bring some beautiful gift without fail.

In the later period, she developed more interest in Empiricism and Analytic tradition. Her research in the area of Philosophy of Consciousness gave her identity as the scholar and author in that subject. As a teacher, she took keen interest in the contemporary Indian thinkers like Ravindranath Tagore and J. Krishnamurty. As a colleague in the Department, she was very cooperative and insightful. Moreover, she was particular about respecting and safeguarding the 'rights' of teaching fraternity. She would work as a whistleblower even though sometimes she would be in minority. She always made an attempt to maintain cordial and friendly atmosphere in the corridors of department.

With her untimely departure, I have lost a friend, who, I thought would always be there in the department where we first met!

May her soul rest in Peace!!!

**Meenal Katarnikar,**  
**Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai**

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I was humbled when Prof. Geeta Ramana, with her decades of experience, agreed to be my Ph.d. guide. I admired her depth of scholarship and philosophical analysis of the shadowy labyrinths of the mind, consciousness, and language. When reading her work one shares her delight, as she tackles age-old philosophical conundrums, playing with language, and peering at the mind from different angles. In the time I spent in her office, I was greeted with her laughter, generosity, and grace. In her presence, I bore witness to her genuine honesty and

value for the truth. During the pandemic, we spoke of the transitory nature of all things, of how our comfortable frameworks of meaning-making that had served us for so long were invited for examination. As she faced the greatest challenge of her life, her stance towards the world was fearless courage, strength, and unadulterated joy. She would send roses, sunflowers, the light of the sun, and rainbows in her text messages. She typed thoughtful and optimistic messages, of her effort to 'feel as alive as I can'. Even during such a time, she continued to offer her invaluable guidance and support for my work. She shared her own research journey and insisted that I enjoy the Ph.D. reading and writing process. Prof. Geeta will continue to generously offer the world her love and wisdom, through her writing, and in the heart-minds of those that were blessed to have known her.

**Gayatri Mendanha**

**Research Scholar, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Mumbai and  
Assistant Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, Symbiosis School for  
Liberal Arts, Symbiosis International (Deemed University)**

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### *A Tribute to Geeta Ma'am*

My association Geeta Ma'am began when she was my teacher in MA. Later, when I asked her if she could be my guide for PhD, she readily agreed. In fact, she pushed me into submitting my proposal and helped me in whatever way she could. We used to have long discussions, sometimes over a cup of coffee. Covid put an end to that, and we could converse only through phone call. She used to inquire about how far my thesis work is complete and used to keep encouraging me to consistently write every day. I knew I could call her to discuss my problems with her. She was always willing to help, and I could gain a lot of insight from her. The day she called me to tell that she was unwell, I thought it must be some minor health setback. But she said that I would have to change my guide as her health was not permitting her to carry on. However, when she again asked me to come back to her, after some months, I was sure that she was now recovering and was happy for her. But universe had other plans. She messaged me saying her health was deteriorating. I wanted to meet her, but she refused that. Probably she did not want anyone to see her in pain. Even in this condition she sent messages telling me to keep working on my thesis. My only regret is that I could not see her mortal remains as I got the news of her passing away a bit late.

Geeta Ma'am, you left us too soon, forever, to a place where I know you are finally at peace, free from physical and mental pain. Your life was a treasure, and you will be missed sorely.

**Sudha Ramakrishnan**  
**Research Scholar of Prof. Geeta Ramana**

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*On Geeta Ma'am*

Prof Geeta Ramana ma'am was my teacher, mentor and a personal philosopher. I first came in contact with her when I was pursuing my MA in Philosophy and her subject of Contemporary Western Philosophy was very intriguing to me. It opened doors of philosophical viewpoints that I as a student of philosophy had not yet explored. This was one of the most exciting things to me as a budding philosophy student. As a teacher, she noticed my keen interest in philosophy as an entire subject and encouraged me to present a paper and also entrusted me with the task of being a student coordinator for the event commemorating Swami Vivekanada's 150 Birth Anniversary.

As a Junior Research Fellow at the Dept. of Philosophy, I got the opportunity to work with her during her tenure as the HoD. With her guidance, I was entrusted with various subjects to teach to different students and as such my perspectives on philosophy greatly improved. She introduced me to the world of philosophy beyond the regular classes and colleges and instilled the strong belief that I could develop to be a decent philosopher myself. Even prior to my PhD defense, she gave me tips on making a successful and an impactful presentation. I sincerely believe that it is because of her guidance that I am able to be a successful teacher to a set of my own students.

**Sudhindra Maganahalli,**  
**Assistant Professor, VES College of Law, Mumbai**

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Dr. Geeta Ramana I met her first in the year 2000 as professor of philosophy. Later an opportunity arose to be closely in touch with her on a daily basis when I was Yoga course coordinator and teacher at the Department of Philosophy. She was a simple and unassuming personality with a depth of knowledge. It was refreshing to have well-informed conversations with her. She was always available to answer innumerable questions. Lately, she being my M.Phil guide deepened our relationship. It was amazing how quickly she responded to the

immense material I would send though she has tremendous responsibilities and I could complete my M.Phil in record time. A more friendly relation emerged over the last few years and will always cherish those memories. I am forever grateful to her. May she be in eternal peace.

**Damini Dalal**

**Research Scholar of Prof. Geeta Ramana**

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Prof. Geeta Ramana, ever smiling, energetic professor of philosophy, is no more in this world. Very hard to believe her untimely exit from this world. My interaction with Prof Geeta was on very few instances but deeply remained in my heart. I knew her as a faculty of Philosophy but in 2018, for University NAAC work, being an IQAC coordinator of my department, I started talking with her for work purpose. I was supposed to upload data of my department in her computer. I was hesitant to speak to her as she was Head but in few minutes she made me so comfortable, that my formal approach turned into informal talks. After that I never felt awkward while interacting with her.

Later on I had few doubts regarding office work and I was talking to my friend Prof. Archana Malik. She suggested me to talk to Prof Geeta to clear my doubts for resolving some technical problems. And believe it or not Prof Geeta helped me voluntarily with lots of tips in future if I face such difficulties. I was always welcome by her to Philosophy department to conduct sessions on NET SET workshops organized by Prof. Archana Malik. After that many times we had interaction informally in the campus and she remained always humble, simple and down to earth person every time.

It was very shocking when i heard she is suffering with not curable disease like cancer but I am sure she must have confronted to it with her cheerful face even in such traumatic situation.

May departed soul rest in eternal peace!!

**Ashwini Karwande**

**Professor , Department of Education, University of Mumbai**

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I fondly remember my first phone call with Geeta Ma'am when I approached her to become my PhD supervisor. She asked me to come to Mumbai and meet her; after meeting her, she said, "Shikha, it's good to do your MPhil and then pursue a PhD." Geeta Mam's words convinced me, and I enrolled for Mphil in the Philosophy department at the University of Mumbai. After staying and studying

in Delhi for more than five years, Mumbai's culture seemed a bit different and complex, especially the administrative process and getting a seat in Mumbai University's hostel. The then Head did not cooperate in providing a hostel seat to a full-time department student; instead, she prioritized a student doing a diploma course. It was Dr Geeta Ramana who came to my rescue at that time. She was wonderfully made, and her calm and composed personality added much more to her persona.

I remember another beautiful encounter with Geeta Ma'am; one day, she asked me about my experience in Mumbai and whether I had visited any place, I told her that I didn't have any friend circle yet, to which she immediately replied, now you have your guide who will take care of you. There are multiple sweet remembrances I have of Geeta Ma'am. I still remember the last phone call with her, where we discussed life, people and society and how bravely she talked about her illness. She was a strong-willed woman and had got tremendous strength.

I thank Mam for providing an excellent Letter of Recommendation for my academic growth. I sincerely thank her for the support and guidance she provided. She will always occupy a special place in my heart. Keep showering your blessings on me, Ma'am.

Miss you, always!

**Shikha Sharma**

**Research Scholar of Prof. Geeta Ramana and Faculty, FLAME University, Pune.**

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I've had the opportunity to know Prof. Geeta Ramana as a member of the DRC committee of the Department of Philosophy, in The Maharaja SayajiRao University of Baroda and as a member of the Board of Studies in Philosophy, of the same University. During the meetings of the DRC, Prof. Geeta Ramana always took a keen interest in the research topic of the students. Her interactions and suggestions in the course of the meetings were scholarly and enlightening. She would get engrossed in the student's topic as if it was her own student. She had a very agreeable disposition because of which it was easy to communicate with her. She talked at length on different areas of Philosophy, which revealed her genuinity profound knowledge of the subject.

Her attitude was cooperative and helpful.

She loved to talk about the subject and all that she said was pertinent and useful. Her love for the subject and her sound knowledge were obvious to anyone who

would speak to her even for a short time. Her attitude towards the students was very encouraging. She displayed a very positive and amicable personality . Her demise is a great loss to me personally and a loss to my department. I have learnt new things from her, for which I am thankful. I miss her. Wherever she is, may God be with her.

**Rajeshree Trivedi,**  
**Professor and Head, Department of Philosophy, The Maharaja SayajiRao**  
**University of Baroda**

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I first met Dr. Geeta Ramana in 2018 when I visited the University of Mumbai at Kalina to explore the possibility of arranging interactions with the students to explore J. Krishnamurti's teachings. Dr. Geeta Ramana, who was then the head of the Dept. of Philosophy, gave me a very warm welcome. I was pleasantly surprised to know that she herself taught the optional paper on J. Krishnamurti for the M.A. Philosophy course and was also a guide for the PhD students, some of whom had taken up topics on various aspects of Krishnamurti's philosophy. She had published a paper on 'Patañjali and J. Krishnamurti on the Logic of Suffering', in the Philosophical Journal, published by the University of Mumbai. Meeting Dr. Geeta gave me a broad perspective of how Krishnamurti's philosophy was part of the curriculum at the university.

In April 2018, Dr. Geeta helped us to arrange a one-day interaction with Shri Kabir Jaithirtha, trustee - Krishnamurti Foundation India. He spoke on 'What is the Self?'. She guided and helped us in every way in making all the arrangements for the event, inviting educators from other departments etc. The event started with her introductory address and went off very well. It was very heartening to see how the students interacted with sharp inquiring minds during Kabir's QA session. Later in January 2022, we started a series of monthly online interactions - 'Discovering Life Afresh', with the students in various educational institutions. The approach was to raise questions about issues which would interest the young adults in a way that could kindle the spirit of enquiry in their minds. Dr. Geeta was of great help in conceptualizing and planning the series, in connecting with many depts. She blessed the initiative with her kind words - 'May the venture be of great success and spread a totally different way of living'. We will forever be grateful to her for all that she did for us, so unassumingly, with so much care and affection. Her deep interest in Krishnamurti's philosophy



along with her extremely proactive nature helped us in thinking about various ways in which we could take our initiatives ahead.

Little did we know that our association would be short-lived. In her untimely demise, we have lost a friend of the foundation; the world has lost a good soul, vibrant and caring. Our *Pranaams* to her memory.

**Anjali Kambe**

**Krishnamurti Foundation India - Mumbai Centre**

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**My gratitude to Gaeta madam**

Geeta madam was very cooperative and encouraging to our colleagues, she will always remain in our memory. I have very short interaction with her during my CAS promotion and later on I got one more chance to have conversation with her on emerging Philosophy in Dec. 2022, which was the only opportunity I had to meet her. It was my misfortune I could not meet her later. I got attracted more when I saw her Friendship with her youngest colleague Archana madam, that moment I realized that friendship has no barrier of age. I had planned to call her as invited speaker at my college and wanted to know more about the development of philosophy. As she was expert in western philosophy, I was eager to attend her lecture on Analytic philosophy. But due to her sudden death I missed everything. Her restlessness to complete all her paper work, to complete her responsibilities for students before she left this world was very touching moment to me and it was very emotional moment of my life.

My *Aadarnajali* to a respected person who care, love and always give strength to her friends, students and others. Madam you will be always there in my memories. I will be grateful to you forever.

**Rajesaheb Maradkar,**

**Professor & Head Department of Philosophy, Vasantao Naik Govt. Institute of Arts and Social Sciences, Nagpur**

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In loving memory of a remarkable woman, an esteemed philosopher, and a compassionate guide. Today, we gather to celebrate the life and legacy of our dear friend, a shining light in the world of academia and a source of inspiration for all who had the privilege to know her.

As a philosophy professor, she possessed a rare gift of imparting wisdom and kindling curiosity within her students. Her classes were a sanctuary of intellectual exploration, where minds were nurtured, and critical and analytical thinking flourished. She possessed a profound ability to make the complex concepts of philosophy accessible, engaging her students in thought-provoking discussions that challenged their perspectives and broadened their horizons.

But her impact went far beyond the classroom walls. She was a guide, an empathetic listener, and a pillar of strength for me. With unwavering compassion, she guided not only me but also many other individuals through the labyrinth of life, offering profound insights and helping them find their own path to fulfillment and philosophical self-discovery.

Her legacy will forever be engraved in our hearts and minds. We will remember her contagious passion for knowledge, her unwavering dedication to truth, and her unwavering commitment to nurturing the minds of future generations. She leaves behind an indelible mark, a legacy that will continue to inspire and shape the lives of countless individuals for years to come.

May her spirit soar among the great philosophers of history, forever guiding and enlightening those who seek wisdom.

Rest in eternal peace, dear friend, mentor, and guide.

**Peter Akabar**

**Research Scholar of Prof. Geeta Ramana**

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Prof. Geeta Ramana was a veteran scholar, a thinker and above all human par excellence. Her knowledge of Indian and Western Philosophy was phenomenal. I was acquainted with her since last 25 years. She was my teacher and later I worked under her as a Course Coordinator, when she was Head of the Department. Her work culture was simple and very methodical. Her vision was very clear therefore functioning under her was very easy and effective. I learnt many traits of human life from her, like punctuality, presence mind, discipline and alertness about every activity in the department

Prof. Geeta's understanding of human values was remarkable. The subtlety with which she used to visualize the problem and solve it was commendable. May it

be teaching, accounts or coordination work her interest in each every matter was admirable. The teachers teach the subject, but one who teaches skills of human behaviour is rear. Prof. Geeta is one of them, physically she has left but spiritually she is alive in us.

**Shilpa Chheda**

**Course Coordinator, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Mumbai**

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I have fond memories of Geeta. When I joined the department as Yoga course coordinator in the year 1997. She was keen to know about the course and the practices of Yoga. She would invite me for a cup of tea and ask me about Yoga. She was very warm and approachable. I always admired her scholarship in western philosophy and J. Krishnamurti. While interacting with her I was able to understand more about philosophy as an academic discipline and about the department of Philosophy .In seminars and her presentations I have seen her digging deep into questions pertaining to research areas.

I will remember you always as a great human being and a good academician.

**Pushpa Nilkantan**

**Course Coordinator since 2018, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Mumbai**

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I during 2008-15 I did a course of studies in philosophy M. A., M. Phil. For this my electives were Analytic Philosophy and Wittgenstein, both of which were taught by Prof. Geeta Ramana and for my M Phil the topic was Reality as per Science in Philosophy of Science, for which also Prof. Geeta Ramana was guiding teacher. I am thus greatly indebted to Prof. Geeta Ramana for having benefitted from deep and comprehensive understanding of these topics mentioned above. I also benefitted from her deep understanding of Philosophy of Language, of Mind, and Consciousness, both in and out of the classroom.

Even prior to commencing my studies in the Department, I used to meet and discuss with her my doubts in Philosophy of Consciousness. I have very fond memories of my association with late Prof. Geeta Ramana and greatly miss her absence.

**Durganand Nadkarni,**

**Retired Scientists, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre Mumbai and M.Phil Research Scholar of Prof. Geeta Ramana**

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Professor Geeta Ramana was not a person in a hurry and that makes her untimely departure so much more poignant. She was calm yet competent, systematic yet open-minded, grounded yet cosmopolitan, reserved yet caring. Her teaching assignments included the introduction to students, of the largest number of philosophers and their works, both in the Western and Indian traditions of Philosophy.

It is little wonder that the department journal that she launched during her tenure as head of the department was called : World Traditions in Philosophy. Holding an enviable position in the male- dominated domain of Analytical Philosophy, she was often consulted by PhD and Post- doctoral students, sometimes even those guided by other faculties in the department and from other institutions. Her classes in the master’s program were themselves structured to motivate students to think for themselves and constantly cultivating an ethos of inquiry, deliberation and research: “ May be, one of you could consider writing a paper on this.. “was a common refrain and those words would hopefully continue to resonate in the classrooms for a long time. Her teaching was admired by serious students of Philosophy.

Though a bit reserved in her interactions with students, she was deeply student-centric. Every time a student academic program was organised in the department , the next day, each of those students would receive a small gift from her, as a token of appreciation and encouragement- a colourful handy note-book or a compact work of a philosopher, often purchased at the Strand Book Stall, in South Mumbai. I received a copy of Mill’s “On Liberty” after my interaction with Professor Amartya Sen, during his visit to the University of Mumbai.

These small gestures revealed her compassionate intellect. Independent of her vocation as a ‘philosopher of action’, Professor Geeta would be remembered as a person whose ‘actions’ spoke as loud as her ‘words’!

**Dr. Prakash Dhanabal**  
**Director, Institute for Healthcare Quality, Mumbai**

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## **Tribute to a kind teacher**

I had the privilege to be taught by Dr. Geeta, and to do my M.Phil. dissertation under her between 2014-15. I can confidently say that she was the kindest academic I have ever met in my life. During the period I wrote my dissertation, I interacted with her frequently and discussed my ideas. This gave me great opportunity to know her as a person.

From the beginning she was encouraging and helpful. At first, I was very timid and scared of writing my ideas as I thought it could be non-sense. She gave me courage to explore new ideas and to be confident in saying what I wanted to say. Throughout the process of writing my dissertation, she was prompt in replying to my emails and understanding my time constraints as I was also working.

I was researching on one of Plato's dialogues - *Gorgias*. Knowing my interest in Greek philosophy, she encouraged me to visit Greece by sharing details of conferences and programs organized there. Later, I moved to Singapore to do a master's degree in theology, expanding my research on Plato and applying it to Christian Theology. When I contacted her at that time, she asked me to visit the department when free so that I can talk about my work connecting Philosophy and Theology to her students. But unfortunately, I could never fulfill that wish.

Now I am at Durham University, UK pursuing my PhD in Theology, continuing to build on the foundation laid during my M.Phil. I fondly remember Dr. Geeta's encouragements which gave me courage to pursue this field of study. My continuing academic journey will be a tribute to her inspiring life in academia. I owe a lot to her ever-smiling face and the gentle persuasions which pushed me to explore academically.

Ever grateful student.....John

**John Jebaseelan,  
M.Phil Research Scholar of Prof. Geeta Ramana**

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