

KARAN SHARMA

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UGC Senior Research Fellow working in the field of political theory, moral philosophy, and queer studies. Currently studying the effects of the regimes of morality on human autonomy, freedom, and sexuality, with special emphasis on the experiences of queer individuals. Apart from the immediate area of research I also write extensively on India's foreign policy and defense.

EDUCATION

PhD Researcher at BITS-Pilani, KK Birla Goa Campus (2020-2024)

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Topic: "An inquiry into the effects of regimes of morality on the experience of freedom as an authentic self-expression among queer individuals in India."

Supervisor: Prof. Reena Cheruvalath (HSS, BITS-Pilani, Goa)

Co-Supervisor: Prof. Prabhu Venkataraman (HSS, IIT Guwahati)

MA Political Science (2017-2019)

Department of Political Science, University of Delhi

BA Political Science (Hons.) (2014-2017)

Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, University of Delhi

CERTIFICATION

Awarded UGC NET Junior Research Fellowship (January 2020)

Commenced as Senior Research Fellow (January 2022)

PUBLICATIONS

- Sharma, Karan (2024) "I Thought They Would at Least Love Me": The Gay Experiences of Heteronormative Regimentation in Indian Families, a Phenomenological Ethnography, *LGBTQ+ Family: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 20:2, 122-139, DOI: [10.1080/27703371.2024.2304743](https://doi.org/10.1080/27703371.2024.2304743) [Q1, 3.4 IF, H Index = 38]

Research papers under revision:

- Sharma, Karan. Navigating Queerness and Religion in India: A Phenomenological Queer Ethnography. *Religion*. [Q1, H index = 37]

- Sharma, Karan, & Reena Cheruvalath. An Inquiry into Queer Experiences of Regimes of Morality in Indian Schools: A Phenomenological Institutional Ethnography. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*. [Q2, H Index = 70]

Research papers out for review:

- Sharma, Karan, & Hajara A. Hameed. Heteronormative Regimes of Sexual Morality in India: Scale Development and Analysis. *Quality & Quantity*. [Q1, H Index = 71]
- Sharma, Karan, & Reena Cheruvalath. The intersection between law and morality and its impacts on queer community in India. *Law and Social Enquiry*.

BOOK CHAPTER:

- Sharma, Karan. (2022). A Diatribe on Morality: Understanding Nietzsche's Transvaluation of Moral Values. In G. N. Shinde & L. V. P. Rao (Eds.), *Ethics and Human Values through Literature* (pp. 189–198). Parikalpana: New Delhi. ISBN: 978-93-95104-10-4

News Paper Articles/OPEDS

- Sharma, K. (2024, May 24). Chabahar Port: Why US may 'Secretly Support' India-Iran Connectivity Deal despite threatening sanctions. *The Eurasian Times*. <https://www.eurasiantimes.com/chabahar-port-why-us-may-secretly-support-india-ira/amp/>
- Sharma, K. (2024, May 13). China Threatens India's Hold Over Siachen, Kashmir As Beijing 'Creeps Into' Shaksgam Valley Using CPEC. *The Eurasian Times*. <https://www.eurasiantimes.com/n-china-threatens-indias-hold-over-siachen/>
- Sharma, K. (2024, June 18). The J-20 Challenge: Can India Bridge the Fighter Jet Gap With China? *The Diplomat*. <https://thediplomat.com/2024/06/the-j-20-challenge-can-india-bridge-the-fighter-jet-gap-with-china/>
- Sharma, K. (2024, June 17). India "Bets Big" On Russia Despite US Lure & Chinese Fear; Here Is Why Delhi & Moscow Remain 'Trusted Pals' *The Eurasian Times*. <https://www.eurasiantimes.com/with-brics-sco-karan-sharma-unpacking/>

CONFERENCE

- International Centre of Advanced Studies 'Metamorphoses of the Political' by ICAS: MP Spring School 2021 for Doctoral Researchers – 'Thinking the Political' From March 15 to 24, 2021
- Presented a paper titled "A Diatribe on Morality: Understanding Nietzsche's Transvaluation of Moral Values" at Ethics and Human Values Through Literature, an international conference organized by the Yeshwant Mahavidyalaya, Nanded, Maharashtra.

- Gave a talk on “Nietzsche’s *Genealogy of Morals*,” at the Research Forum, Department of Humanities and Social Science, BITS-Goa, 30 September 2022.

RESEARCH PROJECT

- SPARC Project on Public Humanities and Pedagogy in the Global South: Challenges and Directions. Indo-German Collaborative Project on Public Humanities (2023-2025)

PI and Collaborators: Prof. Geetha Bakilapadavu, Prof. Reena Cheruvalath, Prof. Lakshmi Subramanian, Dr. Hareesh AG, and Mr. Karan Sharma from BITS-Pilani Goa, India and Prof. David Kaldewey, University of Bonn, Prof. Patricio Langa, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique; Guest Professor, University of Bonn, Prof. Desiree Schauz, Karlsruhe Institute for Technology, Prof. Adrian Hermann, Director of the Department for Religion and Society, University of Bonn, and Prof. Dr. Julika Griem, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, KWI, Essen, Germany

PEER REVIEW ACTIVITY

- Review Activity for Journal, *Archives of Sexual Behavior*. ISSN: [0004-0002](#)
- Review activity for Journal, *Social sciences & humanities open*. ISSN: [2590-2911](#)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant (TA) work for the following courses at BITS-Pilani Goa

- BSDCH ZC151 WRITING PRACTICE, IC: Prof. K.A. Geetha
- GSF231 DYNAMICS OF SOCIAL CHANGE, IC: Dr. Mohan Kumar Bera
- PSZC221 BUSINESS COMMUNICATION, IC: Prof. Basavadatta Mitra
- GSF112 TECHNICAL REPORT WRITING, IC: Prof. K.A. Geetha
- HSS F236 SYMBOLIC LOGIC, IC: Prof. Reena Cheruvalath

LANGUAGE

English: Certified Advanced English (spoken) from the British Council, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi. (2016)

Hindi: Native, high proficiency