



ज्ञान - विज्ञानं विमुक्तये

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Ph. No. 011-23604519



सत्यमेव जयते

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग
(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
बहादुरशाह ज़फ़र मार्ग, नई दिल्ली - 110 002

University Grants Commission

(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)
Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi - 110 002

Notice

F. No. 21-1/2016(IC)

November, 2017

Subject: SAARC Research Grant 2017: Buddhist Cultural Trails in Colombo.

The undersigned is directed to refer to MEA's communication dated 4th October, 2017 on the above subject and to state that SAARC Sectt. Vide Note Verbale No. SAARC/ESC/SSCProgrammes/224/2017 dated 2nd October, 2017 has requested for research proposals from Members States for new and innovative short-term research projects on the Buddhist Cultural Trails. The concept paper for the SAARC Research Grant is enclosed.

Concerned organizations are requested to go through the concept paper and send Research Proposals on the themes as stated in the concept paper through proper channel to Ministry of External Affairs at the following address:

Shri S.R. Patnaik,

Under Secretary(SAARC Division),
Ministry of External Affairs,
Room No. 1056, Jawaharlal Nehru Bhavan,
New Delhi- 110 001.

Yours faithfully,

(Mriganka Sekhar Sarma)
Education Officer

Encl. as above



SAARC CULTURAL CENTRE
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
www.saarcculture.org

CONCEPT PAPER
SAARC RESEARCH GRANT
CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS FOR SHORT-TERM RESEARCH GRANTS FOR FURTHER
RESEARCH ON BUDDHIST CULTURAL TRAILS

1. BACKGROUND

The SAARC Research Seminar on Buddhist Cultural Trails: Journey Through Time and Space, of Merchants, Monks and Pilgrims was held successfully in August 2017 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. As detailed in the Revised Concept Paper circulated among the Member States on 22nd May 2017 as Fax Message No. 634/08/100 and No. SAARC/ESC/SCCProgrammes/209A/2017, the Call for Research Proposals for further Research on Buddhist Cultural Trails will enhance and develop new avenues in "South Asian Cultural Trails". The Research Grants will provide an opportunity for the Member States to explore new research areas and sites along the Buddhist Cultural Trails. This will also act as a precursor to the Cultural Trails proposed for the future and lay the ground work in research to look at Cultural Trails as connected routes where ideas, information and knowledge travelled both ways.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH GRANT

- 2.1 To encourage new research through the SAARC Research Grants (8 Research Grants, one for each Member State)
- Research on identification of new sites, locations, trails, Tangible and Intangible Heritage associated with BCT.
 - To facilitate new research and new approaches to study the BCT as an integrated entity.
 - To study and analyse all different perspectives and areas which influenced the establishment, development and continuation of the Cultural Trails in the region.
 - To present innovative measures for the conservation and preservation of BCT locations.

3. RESEARCH GRANT OVERVIEW

The SAARC Cultural Centre invites Academics and Researchers from Member States to submit detailed Research Proposals (along with the detailed budget breakdown for US\$ 1,000/=) for new and innovative short-term research projects on the Buddhist Cultural Trails. One research proposal will be selected from each Member State to be awarded the short-term research grant of US\$ 1,000/=. The selection of Research Proposals will be carried out by a Team of Experts selected by the SAARC Cultural Centre. The first instalment of the grant (US\$ 500/=) will be

(417)

5. ELIGIBILITY

- 5.1 Academics and Researchers of the SAARC Member States.
- 5.2 Academics and Researchers who have received Research Grants from the SAARC Cultural Centre previously will not be eligible.

6. APPLICATION PROCESS

- 6.1 Format for the Application is attached herewith and available at the SAARC Cultural Centre website. (www.saarcculture.org)
- 6.2 Each Member State can forward any number of Research Proposals for consideration.
- 6.3 Research Proposals should be for an innovative and new research based on the themes mentioned above (No. 4 of this document) or on a new theme related to Buddhist Cultural Trails.
- 6.4 All sections of the application should be completed (Part A, B and C). Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- 6.5 Applications must be forwarded to the SAARC Secretariat in Kathmandu, Nepal through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Ministry of External Affairs of the Member State.
- 6.6 An advance copy can be emailed to the SAARC Cultural Centre – scc@saarcculture.org with copy to dd-research@saarcculture.org
- 6.7 All Research Proposals must reach the SAARC Cultural Centre by 10th November 2017.
- 6.8 The Research Grant will be distributed in 2 instalments – The first instalment (US\$ 500/=) at the commencement of the project and final instalment (US\$ 500/=) after the submission of the Final Report.
- 6.9 The final payment is subject to the review of the final presentation made to a Team of Experts via Video Conferencing and submission of the Final Research Paper. Any suggestions/recommendations made by the SCC Team of Experts at this stage should be included in the research process by the respective researchers.
- 6.10 At the end of the Research Project each Researcher will be required to submit a research report of academic research quality.

7. TIME SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 7.1 Deadline for Accepting Research Proposals | 10 th November 2017 |
| 7.2 Approval for the Research Project | 25 th November 2017 |
| 7.3 Commencement of the Project | 10 th December 2017 |
| 7.4 Presentation of the Research to the Team of Experts | February 2018 (Dates TBA) |
| 7.5 Final Report | 1 st March 2018 |

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(H)

9. Languages known (please indicate your proficiency level against each language, viz. *Read only; Read and write; Read, write and understand*):

Languages	<i>Read only</i>	<i>Read and write</i>	<i>Read, write and understand</i>

10. Previous research experience:

10.1 Period:

10.2 Publications: Books/Papers (published only):
(Give full References; please feel free to attach one or two off-prints of the articles if you wish.)

10.3 Assignments/Positions held:

Declaration

I hereby declare that:

1. The entries made in the form above and the additional particulars furnished by me are true to the best of my knowledge.
2. I agree to abide by the Rules of the SAARC Cultural Centre. In the event of a research project assigned/awarded to me I shall fulfil all the requirements of the award, and shall refund to the SAARC Cultural Centre any unutilized amount.
3. I would not deviate the research fund for any other purpose other than that approved by the SAARC Cultural Centre.
4. I am not in receipt of any other grant, fellowship or assistance from any other source for the same project, except to the extent stated above.

Place:

Date:

(Signature)
(Full Name)



**SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION
FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION
SECRETARIAT**

Email/Fax Message No. 1287/08/216
No. SAARC/ESC/SCC Programmes/224/2017

The Secretariat of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) presents its compliments to the Ministries of Foreign/External Affairs of the Member States of SAARC and has the honour to forward herewith a copy of the Concept Note on 'SAARC Research Grant – Research on Buddhist Cultural Trails', from the SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo.

The SAARC Cultural Centre has requested research proposals from the esteemed Member States by 10 November 2017.

The Secretariat of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministries of Foreign/External Affairs of the Member States of SAARC, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Encls: a.a.



Kathmandu, 09 October 2017

The Ministries of Foreign/External Affairs of the
Member States of SAARC.

Attn: **Directors General/Joint Secretary (SAARC Division).**

Copy to the Director, SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

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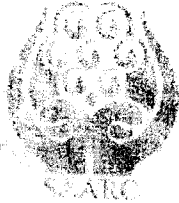
made at the commencement of the Research Project. The final payment is subject to the review of the final presentation made to a Team of Experts via Video Conferencing and submission of the Final Research Paper. Any suggestions / recommendations made by the SCC Team of Experts at this stage should be included in the research process by the respective researchers.

At the completion of the Research Project each Researcher will be required to submit a Research Report of Academic Research quality to be published in the "South Asian Cultural Trails" publication series of the SAARC Cultural Centre in 2018. The Research Project is to be presented at a local or international forum within 1 year and to disseminate the knowledge gathered with the relevant stakeholders (Academic discussion, Tourism industry, sustainable development, etc.) and to send SCC the relevant documents with regard to the above dissemination of information.

4. RESEARCH THEMES

The following themes based on discussions and ideas submitted during the Research Seminar on Buddhist Cultural Trails held in Colombo, Sri Lanka in August 2017. The Research Proposal can be based on the themes provided below but need not be limited to these themes only.

- 4.1 Identification of New Sites and Locations along the Buddhist Cultural Trails.
- 4.2 Comparative Studies of Buddhist Monasteries in different areas.
- 4.3 Comparative Research and interpretation of Landscape values of Buddhist Sites.
- 4.4 Travels of Buddhist Monks and Pilgrims. (Ariyadeva, Buddhaghosa, etc.)
- 4.5 Connectivity between Buddhist Monasteries of different Countries and Regions.
- 4.6 Buddhist Cultural Trails (BCT) - The paths of the Buddha, Sites of Relics of Buddha, the way of Arahata Mahinda, the path of Theri Sanghamitta, the Fa Xian (Fa Hsien) Route, the Xuanzang (Hsuan Tsang) Route, the Cave Caravan Routes of the Western Ghats, the pilgrimage route of King Nissankamalla to Sri Pada (Sacred Footprint), Sixteen sacred places of Sri Lanka, Footsteps of Guru Rimpoche, Buddhist Cultural Trails in Maldives, Buddhist Cultural Trails in Bangladesh, Traditional Centres of learning, New Buddhist Cultural Trails for Tourism promotion and pilgrims, Buddhist Manuscript Trails, etc.
- 4.7 Art and Architecture of BCT.
- 4.8 Archaeology of BCT.
- 4.9 Intangible Heritage of BCT (Music, dance, folk art, folk stories, traditional healing, handicrafts, etc.)
- 4.10 Trade and Commerce of BCT (Aromatics, Spices, Exotic items, etc.)
- 4.11 Buddhist Manuscripts, texts and inscriptions, languages and scripts (Gandhari, Prakrit, Sanskrit, etc., languages and Brahmi, Kharosthi, Greek Bactrian, etc. scripts) of BCT.
- 4.12 Technology of BCT (Irrigation, engineering, agriculture, etc.)
- 4.13 Cultural Diffusion of BCT
- 4.14 Heritage Management of BCT sites
- 4.15 Tourism promotion of BCT

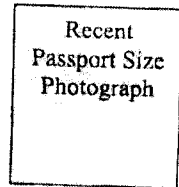


SAARC CULTURAL CENTRE
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
www.saarcculture.org

FORMAT FOR SUBMITTING RESEARCH PROPOSAL

PART A

1. Applicant's Name (in block letters with surname underlined):
2. Date of Birth:
3. Nationality
 - 3.1 Please give the National ID No. or the Passport No.:
4. Postal Address:
5. Contact Information
 - 5.1 Email:
 - 5.2 Mobile Phone No.
 - 5.3 Whatsapp/Viber/Skype ID:
6. Institutional Affiliation:
 - 6.1 Present Designation:
 - 6.2 Name and Address of the Institute:
 - 6.3 Name, Designation, Email and Phone number(s) of the Head of the Institute:
7. Whether the Applicant has received any Grants, Fellowships or Assistance for the same project or is receiving such assistance currently, or hopes to receive it in future? Please provide complete detail, with amounts received/ expected.
8. Academic Record of Applicant from the First Degree obtained:



Degree Obtained	College and University	Year	Subjects	Division

32
(449
420

PART B

(Please ensure that you a maximum of 1,000 words in this section)

1. **Title of the Research Project:**
2. **Theme of the Research Project:**

(Please refer to the themes in the Concept Paper or at the SAARC Cultural Centre website. If you are using a theme not included in the list please state it here.)

3. **Abstract:**
4. **The Research Problem:**
5. **Background to the Research Problem:**
6. **Expected Results**
7. **Abstract:**
8. **Research Methodology:**
9. **References:**

PART C

1. **Timeline of the Project:**
2. **Detailed Budget:**
(Details of the anticipated expenses)