

FNVA's copy

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

FOUNDATION FOR NON-VIOLENT ALTERNATIVES (FNVA), New Delhi

And

UNIVERSITY OF LADAKH (UoL), LEH

January 2022 - December 2027

INTRODUCTION

This memorandum of understanding is signed between the Foundation for Non-violent Alternatives (FNVA), a not-for-profit, non-partisan, public policy organization, registered as a Trust in New Delhi, and the University of Ladakh (UoL), Leh.

MOU TIME FRAME

January 2022- December 2027

RATIONALE

Whereas, keeping in view of Ladakh's strategic location and the present current geopolitical situation, the timing of the proposed collaboration between FNVA and UoL assumes importance.

Whereas the fact that the Government of India is taking steps to develop and empower the people of the region through education and dissemination of knowledge.

Whereas FNVA's principles are grounded in the belief that every cultural and religious tradition has appropriate non-violent methods for positive political, economic and social change at the local, national and international. Importance of food, shelter, health, opportunities for a livelihood and a clean environment for our future generations cannot be denied as these are aspects that are essential elements for our existence, as is peace and respect for diversity and dignity of the individual.

Whereas the UoL, a newly established State University in Ladakh has a Centre for Himalayan and trans-Himalayan studies along with the departments of political science, history and economics, travel and tourism.

Therefore, this provides an ideal platform for academic interaction in the field of HIMALAYAN STUDIES. The new knowledge centre at Ladakh with new ideas and approaches of its faculty and local resources will definitely push the boundaries of knowledge and understanding and strategic planning for future development.

AIM AND OBJECTIVE

The aim of the collaboration between FNVA and UoL is to take up activities of mutual interest and importantly national interest.

FOCUSSED AREAS OF STUDIES

Himalayan area is a strategically important region for India and it must become the focus for overall development. Studies and research programmes on the Himalayan region have been initiated to understand developmental needs and the economic and cultural conditions of people living in high altitudes with special focus on:-

- India's Himalayan region: The Himalaya is not just an insurmountable barrier that separates India from its neighbours, it is home to interconnected yet diverse ecologies, societies and politics that criss-cross current contemporary borders. Foregrounding the interconnections among Tibet and the Himalayan regions and their relationships with the Indian centre offer valuable perspectives into the process of state-making and the politics of nation-building. As recent crises show that these continue to remain live concerns.
- Trans-Himalaya: Approaching trans-Himalayan connections, as opposed to nation-state silos can teach us not just about Sino-Indian relations but also about large parts of India.
- Sino-Indian relations and border issues.
- India's relations with the Tibetan diaspora living in the country.
- Preserving digitally Ladakhi and Tibet's unique cultural heritage.
- To assess and record the situation of border-dwellers, peoples who are directly impacted by the border disputes and conflicts along the Himalayan massif.

BROAD ACTIVITIES

- Joint programmes between FNVA and UoL
- Senior research scholars can intern with FNVA for greater and wider experience and exposure
- Students from various departments can write papers which will be published not only on FNVA's website but FNVA shall also endeavour to have it published in other media outlets both here and overseas, including in journals that FNVA proposes to introduce shortly.
- Faculty members can collaborate with the Foundation to undertake additional research and writings.

This formal association will benefit both organizations in terms of academic exchange of ideas, people and outreach.

FNVA has long experience of undertaking studies and research on topical and pertinent issues through regional dialogues, seminars, workshops and lately through webinars. It brings out policy briefs, special reports and publications.

FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION

The proposed collaboration is in conformity with the policy laid down in the National Education Policy 2020, wherein the spirit of two higher educational institutions working together and supporting each other for their development, community engagement and service, contribution to various fields of practice, faculty development etc. is envisaged.

This formal association will also enable visits of research scholars and faculty to enable learning through academic interactions and programmes, both offline and online modes. It will lead to joint organization of research and publication

activities as well as organize seminars, conferences, workshops and webinars on subjects of topical concerns.

MODE OF FUNCTIONING

For the purpose of smooth implementation of programmes undertaken under this MoU and to monitor its progress, it is proposed to constitute a Standing Committee with the nominees of both the collaborating institutions to meet every six months at Ladakh and New Delhi, alternatively.


Vice Chancellor
University of Ladakh


Founding Trustee
Foundation for Nonviolent Alternatives

Date : 1.1.2022

Place : Leh

Stamp



Date

31-01-2022

Place

New Delhi

Stamp



Witnesses

1. 
Dean Academic Affairs
University of Ladakh
Leh / Kargil

2. 
Dr. Sonam Jaldan

Witnesses

1. 
Trustee (FNVA)
FOUNDATION FOR NON-VIOLENT ALTERNATIVES
143, UDAY PARK,
NEW DELHI-110049, INDIA

2. 
Secretary
Ajun Gyam Nyas