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**FOUNDATION FOR
UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITY**
of His Holiness The Dalai Lama

PROGRAMMES REPORT 2020-2021

“This Foundation will implement projects according to Tibetan Buddhist principles to benefit people everywhere, focusing especially on assisting non-violent methods, on improving communication between religion and science, on securing human rights and democratic freedoms, and on conserving and restoring our precious Mother Earth.”

- His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, founded in 1990, is a not-for-profit, non-sectarian, non-denominational organization established with the funds from the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to His Holiness in 1989.

The Foundation works at the intersection of the commitments of His Holiness the Dalai Lama – to serve all sentient beings to find personal happiness and for there to be peace on our fractured planet. Through its rich repertoire of programmes, the Foundation works to nurture:

- Universal Human Values
- Capacities for Peaceful Coexistence & Non-violence
- Interfaith Harmony & Understanding
- Women’s Equal Rights & Gender Justice
- Ecological Diversity and Protection of the Natural Environment
- Conversations between Science & Buddhism
- Preservation of Tibet’s’ Civilizational Heritage, in particular the Nalanda tradition

In the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, the Foundation brings together men and women of different faiths, professions and nationalities, through a range of creative initiatives and mutually sustaining collaborations that seek to foster an inclusive, just and non-violent world. It also seeks to expand networks of globally committed citizens that are sensitive to responsibilities in an interdependent world.

Its initiatives include **WISCOMP** (Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace) that has been at the forefront of foregrounding women’s leadership in the areas of peace and security and promoting cultures of pluralism and coexistence in the South Asian region.

Board of Trustees:

- His Holiness The Dalai Lama (Chairman)
- Chhime Rigzing Chhoekyapa
- Geshe Lhakdor
- Jamphel Lhundup (Designate)
- Ngodup Dongchung (Ex officio)
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- Tenzin Geyche Tethong
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A SNAPSHOT OF OUR PROGRAMMES IN 2020-2021

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR GONE BY

1. 2 active Dalai Lama Chairs for Nalanda Studies set up at Goa University and MIT World Peace University, Pune
2. 6 Fellowships on Dalai Lama Studies and Nalanda Studies awarded are nearing completion and the second cycle has started
3. Geshe Lhakdor completed two virtual teachings (September 2020-March 2021 and May 2021-October 2021)
4. 68 alumni of the South Asian Conflict Transformation network convened in 2021 to chart a new discourse of regional peace and inclusivity in South Asia
5. The film 'The Geshema is Born' was completed, screened at 12 festivals and won two prestigious awards
6. Weekly Wisdom Bytes and Quotes from His Holiness are featuring on social media
7. 766 short films promoting His Holiness' philosophy of compassion and interfaith harmony were produced under FUR Film Challenge

HIGHLIGHTS OF FORTHCOMING PROGRAMMES

1. Activating the third Dalai Lama Chair for Nalanda Studies for which MoU was signed prior to COVID
2. Collaboration finalized with UN Peace University Costa Rica to conduct a series of interfaith programs virtually
3. Launching Creeds of Our Times in January 2022
4. 2 new Fellowships - on Mapping Women in Interfaith Dialogue and on Compassion and Resilience – will be launched in early 2022
5. Project collating written and audio/visual anecdotes on the impact of His Holiness on humanity to be launched.

ONGOING PROGRAMMES

FUR Non-residential Fellowship 2020-2021 on Nalanda Studies and Dalai Lama Studies

The Foundation launched two Fellowship programmes in 2021. The FUR Fellowships for Dalai Lama Studies for academic research encourage innovative, multi-disciplinary, engagement and research into the life, teachings, philosophy and agendas of His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama. The Fellowships for Nalanda Studies encourage innovative, multi-disciplinary, engagement and research into diverse aspects of the Nalanda Tradition. These two Fellowships were announced in January, and after screening of over 200 applications, six research projects were selected for the award. The Fellows have made substantial progress and made a public presentation. They will submit their final research by December 2021. Dalai Lama Studies and Nalanda Studies carry within them the potential for creating a new intellectual and academic ecosystem that would offer incisive insights into contemporary predicaments. The second cycle of the Fellowships commenced on November 2, 2021 with a call for applications. The Fellowships are reaching out to scholars in different South Asia countries, in particular Bhutan and Sri Lanka, for proposals. In due course, the Fellowships will expand to other countries as well.

Weekly Wisdom Bytes & Wisdom Quotes on Social Media

Every week over the last one year, short audio-visual clips with quotes from His Holiness on different subjects have been released online.

Films of the Spirit

In partnership with the India International Center, New Delhi, the Foundation holds a monthly film screening showcasing a diversity of films on compassion, interfaith harmony and spirituality from across the world. The series is curated by Rajiv Mehrotra, Hon. Trustee & Secretary of the Foundation.

Promoting South Asia Regional Dialogue for Peace

The Foundation's WISCOMP initiative is reconvening its South Asian Conflict Transformation Network by bringing together select alumni from India and Pakistan to chart a new discourse of peace and inclusivity that is pertinent to the South Asia region. In four preliminary virtual conversations held in October 2021, the alumni expressed desire to nurture peace constituencies in the region and strengthen collective efforts for peace and sustainable development in South Asia. Creative ideas on engagement around themes of culture, storytelling, education for peace, international relations, among others, were shared to shape the way forward for the network in close collaboration with the alumni.

Dissemination of Happiness Class: A Film by Samina Mishra

Inspired by His Holiness the Dalai Lama's ideas on nurturing social and emotional learning among young people, the happiness curriculum was launched in government schools in Delhi in 2018. The Foundation commissioned a film, Happiness Class, to explore the impact of happiness curriculum on children and teachers. The film, that provides a sensitive portrayal of contemporary issues in education, is receiving accolades from educationists and has been selected for the Dharamsala International Film Festival 2021.

Dissemination of The Geshema is Born: A Film by Malati Rao

The Foundation supported film – The Geshema is Born that traces the journey of Namdol Phuntsok, the first woman ever to be awarded the highest degree in Tibetan philosophy - the Geshe degree, continues to be screened across the world. The film was screened at 12 festivals and has won two awards. Most recently, the film featured on Wisdom Quarterly American Buddhist Journal (12 August 2021) and selected as part of the monthly Film Club of Tricycle magazine. The film premiered on Dutch Public Television and discussions are underway with Netflix and VOD for digital screening rights.

Compassion in Action

The Foundation's WISCOMP initiative has collaborated with local organizations and experts in Delhi to work with women and girls with disabilities in areas that were recently affected by communal violence. Efforts are also underway on reaching out to Afghans in India, particularly women and girls, to create a safe space for building a community of support.

Ethicate: South Asian Perspectives on Ethical Values

The WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation continues to organize workshops and conference on South Asian perspectives on ethical values.

Legal Literacy

The Foundation's WISCOMP initiative is collaborating with St. Teresa's College, Kerala State Legal Services Authority, Kerala State Youth Commission and voluntary grassroots organizations to offer online Legal Literacy training to students, particularly women, at colleges and universities in Kerala. The goal is to promote basic legal literacy among students at higher education institutes and build awareness on the rights of marginalized communities.

Non-Traditional Security Consortium

The WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation continues its engagement with NTS Consortium based in Singapore that particularly foregrounds research on climate change and its impact on humans and the environment.

Expanding Public Dialogue

The WISCOMP Dialogues, organized in collaboration with India International Centre, is a discussion series which aims to provide a space for sustained public dialogue on pertinent contemporary concerns through the prism of gender. The Dialogues focus on issues of diversity and co-existence, leadership, resilience and healing, governance, democracy, multi-track peace initiatives, and development. The recent Dialogues have been organized on themes of Peace women in Northeast India; Gender and Disability; Pedagogy in the Times of the Pandemic; Gender Equity in Higher Education among others.

Peace Prints Journal

The WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation has brought out a volume of its journal Peace Prints on Peace Accords in North East India. The forthcoming volumes of the Journal will speak to issues around the impact of the Covid Pandemic and Solidarities that help in building Resilience.

ENGAGEMENTS SINCE JANUARY 2020

Course by Geshe Lhakdor under the Dalai Lama Chair for Nalanda Studies at Goa University

A week long introductory course on topics ranging from Dharma to Mental Health was facilitated by Geshe Lhakdor as part of the Directorate of Visiting Research Professors Program of the Dalai Lama Chair for Nalanda Studies at Goa University. The course ran from 6-10 December 2021.

The Dalai Lama in Frames: A Photo Exhibition

The annual exhibition of the photographs of His Holiness to commemorate the Nobel Peace Prize Day was held in collaboration with The Tibet Museum and India Habitat Centre in December.

His Holiness in 100 Anecdotes (With Illustrations)

A book on His Holiness The Dalai Lama - The Dalai Lama in 100 Anecdotes, has gone into publication. The book is being published by Penguin – Puffin.

Peacewomen of the Northeast: A Webinar

WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation in collaboration with India International Centre organized a webinar that sought to break stereotypes about women of the Northeast region of India and highlight the contributions that women of the region have made and continue to make towards peacebuilding.

Public Presentation by Foundation Fellows 2021

In October 2021 the Foundation organized the first public presentations (online) of FUR Fellows that provided the Fellows a platform to share their research work and progress with a wider audience. Eminent scholars from around the world who share similar research interests with the Fellows participated and discussed the work of the Fellows.

Conversations with Our Fellows: Introducing the Dalai Lama Studies and Nalanda Studies Fellows 2021

‘Conversations’ are short interviews that offer a glimpse into the professional trajectories of FUR Fellows 2021 as they share how the Foundation’s support is contributing to their research. These short interviews were shared in November 2021, in conjunction with the Fellowships 2022 call.

Dissemination of FUR Film Challenge: Expressions of Compassion and Interfaith Harmony

Films produced as part of the FUR Challenge: The Covid Experience, which invited professional and amateur filmmakers to produce short films using inexpensive technology, were a great success. These films were expected to capture the vision and philosophy of His Holiness on compassion in action and interfaith harmony. The award-winning films have been widely distributed and watched on the internet. The top award winning film was selected for the International Documentary Filmmakers Association Festival in Amsterdam - the Mecca of Docu-filmmaking.

South Asian Union Summit Led by Women

The Foundation’s WISCOMP initiative collaborated with eShe magazine to organize the South Asia Union Summit Led by Women. The Summit was designed to promote women’s leadership and create a space for cross-border dialogue while harnessing feminine intelligence for a collaborative future and for peace in South Asia.

Weekly Virtual Teachings II on “Letter to a Friend” by Acharya Nagarjuna

The second set of weekly virtual teachings by Geshe Lhakdor that began on 28 May 2021 ran for over five months and concluded on 29 October 2021.

Why We Need Buddha?

At the Times Litfest 2021, Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra, Secretary and Trustee of the Foundation, spoke at a session on “Why We Need Buddha”. He was joined by Mr. Jairam Ramesh, author of *The Light of Asia: The Poem that Defined The Buddha*

SDG 5: Are we there yet?

The Foundation’s WISCOMP initiative in collaboration with the Regional Centre for Security Studies, Sri Lanka organized a webinar on Sustainable Development Goal 5 - Gender Equality on 9 August 2021.

Teaching and Learning with Compassion: Lessons from the Times of the Pandemic

The Foundation’s WISCOMP initiative organized a dialogue in collaboration with India International Centre on Pedagogy in the Times of the Pandemic.

Genderlogue 3.0

The Foundation’s WISCOMP initiative runs an innovative online portal for educators, students and administrators of higher educational institutions called Log-in Gender. The Portal organized the third iteration of its online discussion forum, Genderlogue 3. This discussion was titled Experiencing the University Online: Reflections From One Year On. It was conceptualized in the context of university education – teaching, research, classrooms – moving online in response to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in early 2020.

South Asian Perspectives on Sustainable Development and Gender Equality: Book Release

The UNDP Representative at Kathmandu, Nepal released a recent book published by the The Foundation’s WISCOMP initiative in collaboration with the Regional Center for Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka on South Asia’s progress on achieving Sustainable Development Goal 5 on Gender Equality.

Speaking to Disability: A Webinar

The Foundation’s WISCOMP initiative organized a webinar in collaboration with India International Centre on disability in May 2021. The webinar was attended by over 150 people.

Happiness Class: A Webinar

The Foundation organized a webinar on the film Happiness Class on 30 April 2021. The film explores the implementation of the Happiness Curriculum at Delhi government schools which is inspired by His Holiness’ ideas on nurturing Social and Emotional learning in children.

Happiness Class: Film Premiere

Happiness Class, a film supported by the Foundation, premiered online on 28 April 2021. The film explores the world of children and teachers in three government schools in Delhi as they make their way through the newly introduced Happiness Curriculum.

The Art and Science of Happiness – The Indian Ethos

The Secretary and Trustee of the Foundation, Rajiv Mehrotra was a speaker at the #Welcon 21 organized by the National HRD Network, Chennai Chapter.

Women and Vulnerable Groups in Covid: Presentation at NTS-Asia Conference

The Foundation’s WISCOMP initiative participated at the NTS-Asia Consortium Annual Conference and our Senior Fellow, Dr. Mallika Joseph presented a paper on Women and Vulnerable Groups in Covid.

What we Learn from the Dalai Lama?

Rajiv Mehrotra delivered a talk on What we Learn from the Dalai Lama on 24 April 2021.

Coping in Challenging Times: A Discussion

The Foundation organized a panel discussion in keeping with His Holiness' vision to initiate conversations between traditional wisdom – the practices of healing and nurturing the mind, and contemporary scientific and medical perspectives on mental peace and holistic wellbeing of humans.

Weekly Virtual Teachings on Bodhisattva's Garland of Gems

The Foundation organized weekly virtual teachings on *Bodhisattva's Garland of Gems* from 25 September 2020 to 12 March 2021. The 24 teaching sessions were attended by Buddhists and those interested in the insights and perspectives Buddhism offers on contemporary predicaments.

Book Release – His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography by Tenzin Geyche Tethong

The discussion presented a rare opportunity for global listeners to witness a rich and animated conversation among three trusted companions and aides of His Holiness the Dalai Lama- Tenzin Geyche Tethong, Former Secretary of His Holiness and Author of Book; Tenzin Choegyal, the younger brother of His Holiness and Writer of the Foreword to the Book; and Rajiv Mehrotra, a student of His Holiness for 40 years. Inviting readers to explore this definitive biography of His Holiness, the speakers shared deeply personal and unique insights about His Holiness as a Teacher, Learner, Brother and Leader.

Nurturing Peace-Resolving Conflicts: The 17th AWWF Film Festival

In collaboration with the International Association of Women in Radio and Television, the Foundation organized a film festival on Nurturing Peace Resolving Conflicts from 5-7 March 2021.

Aspects of the Nalanda Tradition: A Lecture Series by Geshe Tashi Tsering, Goa University

As part of the Directorate of Visiting Research Professors Program - Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies, Goa University, Ven. Khampo Tashi Tsering delivered a series of lectures in March-April 2021. His lectures covered the following themes: The Methodologies of Enquiry, Understanding the Mind and its Training and The Nature of Consciousness. Over 100 students signed up for these lectures that included a mix of didactic studies and practical application. He used *Science and Philosophy in the Indian Buddhist Classics, Volume 2: The Mind*.

Dalai Lama Chair at KISS University, Bhubaneswar

The Foundation and KISS University- Deemed University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 6 March 2021 to establish 'The Visiting Dalai Lama Chair for Nalanda Studies'. The Chair and other programmes of advanced study in the Nalanda Tradition and Dalai Lama Studies at KISS-DU will lead up to the activation of the Dalai Lama Centre at the university.

Introduction to Nalanda Tradition: It's Relevance Today

In collaboration with the Visiting Dalai Lama Chair, MIT World Peace University, Pune, the Foundation organized a virtual lecture by Geshe Lhakdor for the students and faculty at the university on 27 February 2021.

Dalai Lama Center: MIT World Peace University, Pune

Prof. Arvind Sharma, Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University, Montreal, Canada delivered the inaugural Dalai Lama Chair lecture at MIT Pune on Inter-faith understanding on January 30, 2021. On 27 February Ven. Geshe Lhakdor delivered a lecture, An Introduction to the Nalanda Tradition – Its Relevance Today. Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra moderated the post-lecture discussion. The Dalai Lama Center established at MIT University with support from the Foundation, will diversify its activities in the coming year.

What we learn from the Dalai Lama

A virtual talk was delivered by Rajiv Mehrotra on December 22, 2020 in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Calcutta.

The Dalai Lama: An Extraordinary Life

A virtual discussion on the book by Alexander Norman was organized in collaboration with India International Center on November 30, 2020.

Applied Spirituality and Public Policy

A virtual panel discussion was organized with O.P. Jindal Global University on November 24, 2020.

The Dalai Lama's Path to a Fulfilling life

A virtual talk was organized in collaboration with Jyotirmai Sahitya Sansparsh on November 19, 2020.

What is the Nalanda Tradition and what is its value?

A virtual lecture by Ven. Geshe Tashi Tsering was organized in collaboration with the Directorate of Visiting Research Professors Programme His Holiness The Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies, Goa University on November 6, 2020.

India's Heritage of Karuna and Ahimsa

A virtual talk by HH The Dalai Lama on October 26, 2020, was organized in collaboration with the India International Centre, New Delhi.

The Dalai Lama Chair for Indic Studies at MIT World Peace University, Pune

The Dalai Lama Chair at MIT University, Pune that emphasizes Nalanda Tradition and Dalai Lama Studies was launched on October 4, 2020 in the presence of Hon. Pema Khandu, Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh.

Shaping Peace Together Through Kindness, Compassion and Hope: Peace Meet

In collaboration with Shining Network, Kamla Nehru College, University of Delhi a virtual meet was organized.

Gender Equity in Higher Education: A U.S.-India Dialogue

The WISCOMP initiative organized a virtual dialogue on August 26, 2020 that was viewed by over 1200 individuals from across the world.

Saahas Awards 2020

The Foundation organized a virtual ceremony for the 2nd Saahas Awards on August 24, 2020. The Award acknowledges and celebrates the work of 12 educators from the higher education space who foster gender justice and inclusion on campuses.

Religion in the Modern World

Juggernaut publications started a series of articles and essays once every month by the Foundation based on the speeches made by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The first article in the series was published in June 2020.

We are Together in This: Collaboration with Blind Relief Association

The Foundation joined hands with the Blind Relief Association to provide support (meals and other materials) to the visually impaired, poor, homeless and vulnerable persons during the pandemic.

Nagarjuna's Precious Garland: A Discourse

A discourse by Ven. Geshe Lakhdor on starting on the path to happiness and liberation was organized in collaboration with the India Habitat Centre from March 6-10, 2020.

Gender Equity in Higher Education: A workshop for Educators from Kashmir

The Foundation's WISCOMP initiative organized a workshop on gender equity for educators from Kashmir on January 31, 2020.

Engendering Corporate Leadership: A Roundtable Discussion

In collaboration with the India International Centre, the WISCOMP initiative organized a discussion on January 16, 2020. The theme of the discussion was how to bring more women into corporate leadership positions.

#Move with Compassion: A Public Service Campaign

A campaign at five Metro Stations in Delhi carried the message of Compassion to member of public with inspiring quotes from HH The Dalai. The messages were on display from January 11- 20, 2020.

Ethicate: Educating for Peace

The WISCOMP initiative organized a workshop for teachers from Springdales School, New Delhi as part of their annual seminar held from January 9-11, 2020.

Publications

The WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation brought out over 21 publications between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. These publications include a volume of Peace Prints: South Asian Journal of Peacebuilding, which has been assigned an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN).

FORTHCOMING PROGRAMMES

Compassion and Resilience Fellowship

The Foundation, in partnership with The Red Door, is announcing the Compassion and Resilience Fellowship 2022. Designed as a six-month virtual program, the fellowship draws on resilience science, positive psychology, existential therapy, and the Buddhist essentials of compassion and community, to nurture the psycho-social skills and wellbeing of 10 young people between 21-30 years of age. The fellowship invites people working in sectors such as development, education and healthcare, who recognize resilience enhancement as a potential game changer for themselves and the communities they serve.

Mapping Women in Interfaith Dialogue

The Foundation is launching a three-year project on Mapping Women in Interfaith Dialogue persuaded by the belief that women's active participation and leadership in conversations on religion and spirituality would help recast religion and spiritual traditions in a contemporary, egalitarian and relevant frame. The project will curate various attempts made by women to create inter religious dialogues, examine their apparent in this space, and attempt to recover the voices of women who moved beyond narrow faith based sectarianism through poetry, music, storytelling and so on. The project hopes to result in publications, curation of a resource pool of literature, a website, and lectures and presentations commissioned as part of this project.

UN Peace University, Costa Rica-FUR Partnership

United Nation Peace University, Costa Rica (UPeace) and the Foundation will collaborate to conduct a series of interfaith programs virtually. We are hoping that His Holiness the Dalai Lama will inaugurate the partnership with a moderated conversation and/or a talk on Buddhism and interfaith harmony. As part of the partnership the following programs are envisioned:

1. A series of lectures/conversations by eminent faith leaders, followed by discussion with them and groups of students from the UPeace and students from Indian universities.
2. A series of lectures by the Trustee Secretary on His Holiness The Dalai Lama's approach to interfaith harmony and on the environment.
3. The Foundation will provide the UPeace a selection of films on different religions and facilitate discussions around them.
4. The Foundation's WISCOMP initiative will organize lectures on women, religious harmony and conflict resolution for the UPeace.

Plan of Action for Dalai Lama Chair for Nalanda Studies at KISS University, Bhubaneswar

KISS University has laid out clear objectives of the Dalai Lama Chair for Nalanda Studies over the short and medium term and delineated a roadmap for the immediate future. The objectives include: 1) Compilation of an exhaustive bibliography on Nalanda University and Nalanda Tradition; 2) Establishment of a dedicated library and research cell as a consolidated repository of knowledge on the Nalanda tradition; 3) Exploration of prospects of collaboration with history, philosophy, archaeology, museology, Buddhist Studies and Pali Departments at various universities in India and abroad. 4) Conferences and publications in association with like-minded institutes. The Chair has collaborated with Dr. Birendra Nath Prasad, Assistant Professor of History at JNU, to initiate a series of lectures by scholars who have researched Nalanda's legacy and Early Buddhism.

FUR-IIC Partnership on Creeds of Our Times: Dialogues on Interfaith Harmony, Interdependence and the Environment

As part of the FUR - IIC Partnership during their Diamond Jubilee year, the Foundation will organize a series of monthly conversations with eminent personalities – academics and activists from around the world on their personal faith and Creeds of Our Times. The speakers will explore key teachings of His Holiness on the cultivation of compassion and the realization of interdependence that will yield greater harmony between faiths, between man and nature, and between man and man.

The Art of Tibetan Calligraphy and Typography: It's Value and Relevance

Jamyang Dorjee Chakrishar and Jo De Baerdemaeker will lead an interactive online session on the arts of Tibetan calligraphy and typography and their value in the contemporary society.

What The Dalai Lama Means to Humanity

This initiative seeks to reach out to a wide cross-section of people inviting them to share narratives of the impact His Holiness has had on them personally and on humanity in general. It will involve both a general call for submission of accounts and anecdotes in writing and/or audio-visuals along with specific invitations to articulate friends and associates of His Holiness from a cross-section of opinion leaders from different disciplines. The project will serve both as oral history and as source material for scholars in Dalai Lama Studies. It will be a three-year project initiated over the coming months.

Interfaith – 2022

The Foundation will organize an interfaith program in Delhi. A virtual-confluence of Interfaith Alumni is also envisioned in 2022.

Connections: 25 Years of the Gurukul Transformative Journey

To mark the 25 years of Gurukul, the Foundation plans a virtual reunion of the Gurukul alumni that highlights the remarkable work of some of the alumni. The Foundation seeks to nurture a community that is informed by the Gurukul philosophy and create opportunities for the members to empower each other.

Training and Healing the Mind

The Foundation will organize interactive virtual conversations on healing the mind during COVID times.

MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMMES

THE DALAI LAMA CHAIRS

Dec 2021 Onwards

Goa University in partnership with the Foundation hosted a week-long series of lectures by Ven. Geshe Lhakdor during the first week of December on the approaches that Buddhist wisdom and methods offer to cope with anxiety, depression, and stress, particularly in post-Covid times.

Ven. Geshe Tashi Tsering will be offering a two-week long series of lectures on the Nalanda Tradition in February 2022. The students will receive academic credit towards their degrees for participating in the course.

KISS University, Odisha has laid out clear objectives of the Dalai Lama Chair for Nalanda Studies over the short and medium term and delineated a roadmap for the immediate future. The objectives include: 1) Compilation of an exhaustive bibliography on Nalanda University and Nalanda Tradition; 2) Establishment of a dedicated library and research cell as a consolidated repository of knowledge on the Nalanda tradition; 3) Exploration of prospects of collaboration with history, philosophy, archaeology, museology, Buddhist Studies and Pali Departments at various universities in India and abroad. 4) Conferences and publications in association with like-minded institutes. The Chair has collaborated with Dr. Birendra Nath Prasad, Assistant Professor of History at JNU, to initiate a series of lectures by scholars who have researched Nalanda's legacy and Early Buddhism.

HAPPINESS CLASS- DHARAMSHALA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

4-10 Nov 2021

The Foundation supported Film - Happiness Class has been selected for Dharamshala International Film Festival 2021.

I just wanted to thank you for your role in Happiness Class, which has been showing at schools around Dharamshala as part of DIF 2021's Community Outreach Programme, with the participation of Samina Mishra via Zoom Q&A.

I think it's an amazing and highly important documentary, and it's a privilege to be able to share it locally, where the schools community is so diverse - in terms of many factors, including ethnicity, religion, class, caste, wealth and place of origin. I find the innovative ideas the film raises, its multi-faceted nature, and its use of animation without dialogue in response to the opinions given by interviews, frankly inspiring.

Matthew Sign Toor, Filmmaker

NAGARJUNA'S "LETTER TO A FRIEND" WEEKLY VIRTUAL TEACHINGS BY GESHE LHAJDOR

28 May-29 Oct 2021

The Foundation organized the 2nd series of Weekly Virtual Teachings (May 28 –Oct. 29, 2021). Ven. Geshe Lhakdor, the Director of Library of Tibetan Works and Archives and Trustee of the Foundation, led these weekly sessions (every Friday, 6-7 pm) drawing on *Letter to a Friend* by Nagarjuna. In this Text, Nagarjuna reaches out to a South Indian King in concise 123 verses. These are on leading a balanced secular life. Each session began with refuge taking and Tara mantra recitation and concluded with a Q&A and recitation of Avalokiteshvera mantra. This series of teachings also included a separate Q&A session at the end.



PROMOTING SOUTH-ASIAN DIALOGUE FOR PEACE

Oct 2021

2021 marks almost a decade since the last formal convening of WISCOMP's Conflict Transformation Program (2001-2012), although strong links among the alumni have sustained over the years. Conceptualized in 2000 as part of WISCOMP's efforts to facilitate regional dialogue between youth leaders in South Asia, the program has witnessed ten Conflict Transformation Workshops weave together a resilient web of over 400 peace animators across the South Asian region, in particular, India and Pakistan.

In early 2021, WISCOMP received an overwhelming response from alumni to reconvene the network not just for nostalgia, but to make a meaningful impact on the discourse of peace and inclusivity emerging from South Asia. Over the month of October 2021, four virtual meetings were organized with small mixed groups of alumni from India, Pakistan and the diaspora community residing across the US and Canada to reconnect, share and brainstorm on the ways forward to rejuvenate the Conflict Transformation network. The response was overwhelmingly positive and hopeful, with alumni sharing the myriad ways in which WISCOMP's Conflict Transformation workshops impacted their personal and professional trajectories. The alumni who came together held influential positions in South Asia and comprised senior academicians, filmmakers, heads of development organizations, authors, senior journalists, Parliamentarians, cultural activists, among others.

Haroon Khalid, a renowned author and journalist from Pakistan who currently serves as Communications Manager at the Toronto Arts Council and Toronto Arts Foundation, Canada, shared:

The CT workshop of 2012 was definitely the best workshop I have ever attended. When we talk about India and Pakistan, it ends up becoming a very North India and Punjab conversation. But I know that WISCOMP had made a huge effort to bring in Kashmiri students from both sides of the border, Tibetan refugees, people from South India – adding to the diversity of conversations in the India-Pakistan context. We were talking about Kashmir in 2012, when nobody seemed to be talking about Kashmir, and now of course it has become a very relevant conversation. Engaging with prominent leaders like Dr. Shashi Tharoor was very interesting. Visiting heritage sites and learning about syncretic cultures of South Asia was powerful. Some of the foundations of my own intellectual work and writing were laid here for me.

The alumni were unanimous in expressing eagerness to reconvene the network, and nurture it as a vibrant platform to reinforce ties between civil society leaders in South Asia and strengthen collective efforts for peace and sustainable development in the region. Innovative ideas on themes of education for peace, international relations, culture and art, among others were shared to chart the course of the network. The alumni also generously offered their time and leadership in helping the network with support and facilitation by WISCOMP.



CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR FELLOWS: "INTRODUCING THE DL/NL FELLOWS 2021"

Oct 2021

'Conversations' are short interviews that offer a glimpse into the professional trajectories of FUR Fellows 2021. Each scholar discusses their entry into their area of research and the motivation behind taking up the project. Fellows of the Dalai Lama Fellowships for Nalanda Studies and FUR Fellowships for Dalai Lama Studies also narrate how the Foundation has supported their research. The interactions foreground the impact that the research might have on future scholars and Dalai Lama (DL) Studies and Nalanda (NL) Studies. They also speak to the importance of interdisciplinary research.

The interviews, released on FUR YouTube channel, not only introduce the Fellows to a wider audience, but also generate interest and knowledge about the Foundation and the opportunities it offers to scholars. We hope that these interviews will inspire other researchers working broadly on the same themes to learn from the work of FUR Fellows.

FELLOWS PUBLIC PRESENTATION

23 Oct, 2021

The Foundation hosted the presentations for FUR Fellowships for Dalai Lama Studies and Dalai Lama Fellowships for Nalanda Studies Fellows 2021.

Our Fellows- Nisheeta Jagtiani, Dr Kalzang Dojee Bhutia, Dr Meenakshi Malhotra and Prof. Honey Oberoi Vahali--virtually presented their work in front of a diverse audience.

The Discussants- for the presentations consisted of Mr. Tenzin Tsundue (Friends of Tibet, India), Prof. Anu Aneja (University of Colorado), Prof. Carole McGranahan ((University of Colorado) and Mr. Dhondup Tashi Rekjong((Northwestern University).

Each presentation critically explored different aspects of Nalanda Studies and Dalai Lama Studies

Presentations by FUR fellows 2021

Saturday, 23rd October 2021

FUR Fellowships for Dalai Lama Studies 2021 Dalai Lama Fellowships for Nalanda Studies 2021

				
Prof. Honey Oberoi Vahali Discussant: Tenzin Tsundue (Friends of Tibet, India)	Anjali Nayar Discussant: Prof. Suchitra Balasubrahmanyam (Former Dean, School of Design, Ambedkar University Delhi)	Dr. Kalzang Dorjee Bhutia Discussant: Prof. Carole McGranahan (University of Colorado)	. Meenakshi Malhotra Discussant: Prof. Anu Aneja (George Mason University)	Nisheeta Jagtiani Discussant: Dhondup Tashi Rekjong (Northwestern University)

SOUTH ASIAN UNION SUMMIT LED BY WOMEN

2-3 Oct, 2021

WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation collaborated with eShe magazine to organize the South Asia Union Summit Led by Women. The Summit was designed to promote women's leadership and create a space for cross-border dialogue while harnessing feminine intelligence for a collaborative future and for peace in South Asia.

Timed to coincide with the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the UN's International Day of Non-Violence, the virtual Summit organized on Oct 2-3, 2021, included talks, interviews, workshops and panel discussions by over



30 eminent women from around South Asia and the world. The Summit speakers were academics, writers, activists, educationists, artists, influencers, thought leaders, historians, authors, and entrepreneurs.

WHY WE NEED BUDDHA?

22 Sep 2021

At the Times Litfest 2021, Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra, Managing Trustee of the Foundation spoke at a session on Why We Need Buddha. He was joined by Mr. Jairam Ramesh, author of *The Light of Asia: The Poem that Defined the Buddha*. The book is a biography of both the poem and the poet - Edwin Arnold.



SOUTH ASIAN PERSPECTIVES ON GENDER EQUALITY: BOOK RELEASE

26 July, 2021, Kathmandu, Nepal

A recent book published by the WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation on South Asian Perspectives on Sustainable Development and Gender Equality was released by the UNDP Representative at Kathmandu, Nepal. The publication is an outcome of collaboration between researchers from six South Asian countries - Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. The book release was organized by the South Asia chapter of Global Partnership for Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC-SA) of which WISCOMP is a member.



TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH COMPASSION: LESSONS FROM THE TIMES OF THE PANDEMIC

23 July 2021

The WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation organized a dialogue in collaboration with India International Centre on Pedagogy in the Times of the Pandemic. The speakers at the dialogue were Prof. Krishna Menon, Professor, Gender Studies and former Dean of the School of Human Studies at Dr. B R Ambedkar University Delhi; Prof. Rukmini Sen, School of Liberal Studies, Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi; Dr. Bijayalaxmi Nanda, Acting Principal, Miranda House, Delhi; Dushyant Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Miranda House.

The Dialogue provided a platform for educators from the higher education space to share experiences of online education in the midst of battling the anxieties and losses unleashed by the pandemic. The speakers at the dialogue foregrounded the challenges of physical distancing protocols, campus closures and online modes of interaction for everything from classes, examinations, viva voce, to conferences and meetings. They placed these experiences



against the backdrop of existing societal inequalities that impinge education in multiple ways. Several significant on-campus and off-campus support initiatives and solidarities were discussed during the dialogue which carried the message of empathy, care and compassion. The dialogue was attended by over 150 participants and continues to garner views on the social media channel of WISCOMP.

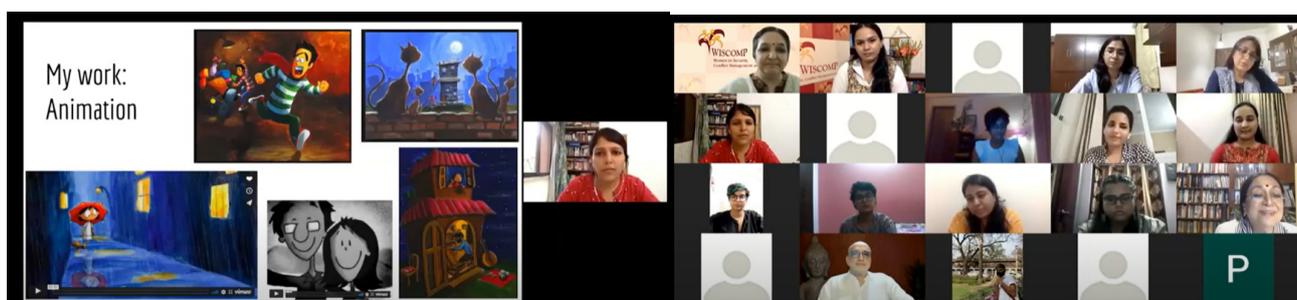
GENDERLOGUE 3.0

23-26 July 2021

WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation runs an innovative online portal for educators, students and administrators of higher educational institutions called- Log-in Gender. The Portal organized the third iteration of its online discussion forum, Genderlogue 3. This discussion was titled Experiencing the University Online: Reflections From One Year On. It was conceptualized in the context of university education – teaching, research, classrooms – moving online in response to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in early 2020. Genderlogue 3 was designed to be an event in two parts, eliciting sharing and reflection from the participants on their experiences of the university during 2020-21.

The first part was the Online Discussion Forum hosted on the Log-in Gender website. Here, participants were asked 3 elicitive questions about their experiences of university education online and the challenges they may have experienced or the benefits they may have found. Participants left their responses in the form of ‘comments’ under each question. WISCOMP received over 60 responses from participants with a wide variety of experiences on account of identity, location and disciplinary background.

The second part of the discussion was a webinar. The opening remarks at the webinar were delivered by Dr Rina Kashyap, a political science educator at University of Delhi. The speakers were young educators, researchers and students.



FUR FILM CHALLENGE: EXPRESSION OF COMPASSION AND INTERFAITH HARMONY

The FUR Challenge invited professional and amateur filmmakers to produce short films using inexpensive cellphones and home computers. They were asked to capture the vision and philosophy of His Holiness in action, in particular the manifestation of compassion and interfaith harmony. The award-winning films have been widely distributed and watched on the internet. Each of them is accompanied with a discussion on its theme. The top award winning film has been selected for the International Documentary Filmmakers Association Festival in Amsterdam, which is the Mecca of film making.

This challenge sought excellence in storytelling, and to serve as an impetus for people to create films on opportunities to engage in active courage and compassion while navigating the experiences of living through the pandemic.

In response 766 films were received. A Selection Committee was set up comprising Anandana Kapur, Hemant Gaba, Pooja Iyengar and Subasri Krishnan to create a long list of the films for consideration by a Jury. The long list was sent to the Jury of film makers and artists- Anjali Monteiro, Bina Paul and Sudhir Tandon. On March 28th, 2021 the results were announced.

The final selection of films represent a diversity of experiences, perspectives and creative processes, ranging from the deeply personal to those that address larger social concerns. 26 awards were given out – of which 8 were supported by the Foundation. A shortlist of 25 was also created – to submit nonfiction film proposals to Public Service Broadcasting Trust for up to two filmmaking grants

PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY

1. Undivided Solitude by Bijoy Chowdhury

Award - FUR Golden Lotus Award Best Film (Fiction) & FUR Golden Lotus Award Best Director

Much before Corona arrived, an elderly couple lived in a suburban town of West Bengal, in a humble abode with their son's family, spending their time bantering with their grandson. Then, one day, the son left in search of a better life, and the bond with their much-loved grandson was broken...

2. What do I say? By Lohit Lodhwal

Award - FUR Lotus Award (Theme)

'What do I say?' traces the journey of a Social Work graduate who is volunteering in the compensation process for the survivors of North-East Delhi violence. Owing to the imposed lockdown after the onset of Covid 19, she operates from her house.

3. Cremation Diary by Bishwajit Sheel

Award - FUR Lotus Award (Theme)

Narrated from the point of view of the filmmaker, the story is woven around sharing of experiences between the filmmaker and an NGO worker whose team was asked by the administration to arrange COVID-DEAD cremations.



AMATEUR CATEGORY

1. Portraits:2020 by Amartya Ray

Award - FUR Golden Lotus Award Best Film (Fiction)

Portraits: 2020 is an intimate observation of how the pandemic has affected us as human beings both on a social as well as a psychological level. It observes six scenes occurring around a death.

2. Khidkiyan by Arjun Samantaray

Award - FUR Golden Lotus Award Best Director

Khidkiyan, is a tale of the pandemic seen through the protagonist's window, who is consumed by the emptiness outside, and the chaos it has caused within.

3. Letters (Khat) by Raunak Dhupar and Rachna Chandira

Award - FUR Lotus Award (Theme)

The movie - Khat, is the story of two individuals who are dealing with loss and isolation in times of Covid. A letter exchange program connects Muskaan and Dadi, two strangers, to each other through the medium of letters.

4. Charet by Sudipta Kundu and Nandita Paul

Award - FUR Lotus Award (Theme)

The story of Charet, a railway hawker and his survival during lockdown.





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FOUNDATION FOR
UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITY
of His Holiness The Dalai Lama



We are delighted to announce the results of the FUR-PSBT FILM CHALLENGE-2020-21

-AMATEUR CATEGORY-

FUR GOLD LOTUS AWARD-BEST FILM (FICTION): Portraits: 2020 by Amartya Ray
GOLD AWARD-BEST FILM (NON-FICTION): The Heartbroken Lover by Ridhima Sharma
FUR GOLD LOTUS AWARD-BEST DIRECTOR: Khidkiyan by Arjun Samantaray

SILVER AWARD: Mahalle's School-Family Going Live by Akshay Ingle

BRONZE AWARD: My Lockdown Guest by Jyoti Galada

FUR LOTUS AWARDS: Letters by Rachna Chandira & Raunak Dhupar
Charet by Sudipta Kundu and Nandita Paul

JURY AWARDS: Sour Mangoes by Eshna Benegal

Nearly 200 days by Shriya Sista

Sixty Days of Solitude by Syed Mohammed Afnan

25th by Mansi Chawla and Chirag Wadhwa

JURY AWARD (BEST FILM FROM THE MARGINS): Semi Colon by Paromita Bora& Mousumi Kalita

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD: Khidkiyan by Arjun Samantaray

-PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY-

FUR GOLD LOTUS AWARD-BEST FILM (FICTION): Undivided Solitude by Bijoy Chowdhury

GOLD AWARD-BEST FILM (NON-FICTION): Chasing the Light by Harmeet Basur

FUR GOLD LOTUS AWARD-BEST DIRECTOR: Undivided Solitude by Bijoy Chowdhury

SILVER AWARD: My Courtyard by Shrutiman Deori

BRONZE AWARD: Hues of Life by Ghanashyam Kalita

FUR LOTUS AWARDS: What Do I Say? by Lohit Lodhwal
Cremation Diary by Bishwajit Sheel

JURY AWARDS: Revenge of the bat by Sukant Goel

Schools Closed Education Open by Yashoda Sanjay Aher

Locked Down by Pranjal Joshi

Backyard Diaries by Sudha Padmaja Francis

JURY AWARD (BEST FILM FROM THE MARGINS): Samrat Fone by Harjeet Singh

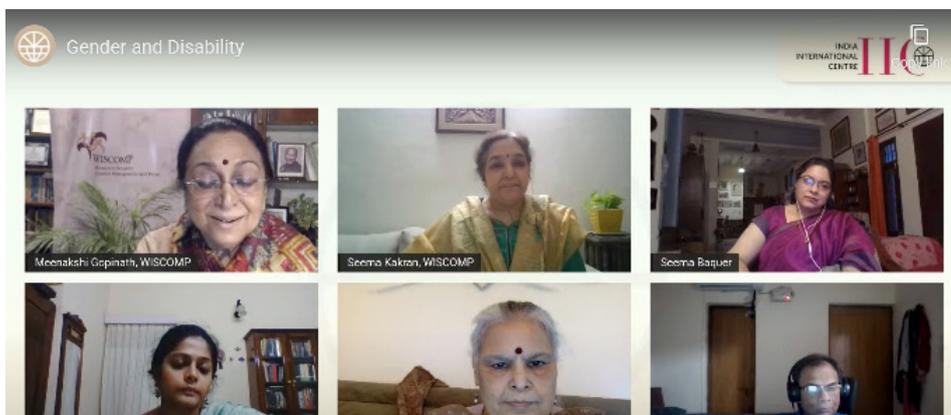
TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD: Usambara Violet by Aman Wadhan



SPEAKING TO DISABILITY: A WEBINAR

19 May 2021

The WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation organized a webinar in collaboration with India International Centre, New Delhi. The webinar was part of WISCOMP Dialogues, a discussion series that aims to provide a space for sustained public dialogue on pertinent contemporary concerns, through the prism of gender.



The gap between Niti and Nyaya is large for several marginalized groups in India. For one group of individuals this gap is particularly daunting – persons with disability. The invisibilization of persons with disabilities in the public discourse or alternatively merely tokenistic representation is routine. This, despite national laws and international covenants that mandate full and equal participation of persons with disabilities in socio-economic and political processes.

Gender and Disability dialogue sought to unravel the multiple layers of discrimination and prejudice that conspire to perpetrate individual and structural violence against persons with disabilities in the public and the private spheres. Recognizing that a sense of ‘agency’ is pivotal to transformation, this dialogue provided an opportunity to learn from the struggles and triumphs of activists, researchers and institutional leaders who work to create conditions for differently abled people to lead a life of dignity and choice. The speakers at the dialogue were Prof. Anita Ghai, Professor and Dean, School of Human Studies, Ambedkar University; Mahesh Panicker, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi; Seema Baquer, Lawyer and an independent Consultant on Cross Disability issues; Karuna Rajeev, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Lady Shri Ram College; and Meenakshi Gopinath, Director, WISCOMP. The discussion was facilitated by Seema Kakran, Deputy Director, WISCOMP. Around 200 participants attended the webinar during the live program and several others have viewed the program on the YouTube channel of IIC.

HAPPINESS CLASS: A WEBINAR

30 April, 2021

Inspired by his Holiness The Dalai Lama’s idea of nurturing social and emotional learning, in 2018 the Happiness Curriculum was launched in Delhi government schools. The Foundation commissioned a film, Happiness Class to explore the implementation of happiness curriculum and its impact on children and teachers.

In conjunction with the premier of the film, the Foundation organized a webinar on 30 April 2021 on the issues the film raises. The participants at the webinar were Samina Mishra, the Film Maker; Abha Adams, leading Educationist and Former Director of Shri Ram Schools; Mani, an Educator who works with under -privileged children at schools in Bangalore; Mekin Maheshwari, Founder of Udhyan Learning Foundation and Mr, Rajiv Mehrotra. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Prachi Kalra, a Researcher on Story-telling and Faculty at Gargi College, University of Delhi.

The participants discussed and celebrated the film and the manner in which it captures the aspirations of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to nurture Social & Emotional Learning amongst the young. Drawing on their vast experience in education, teaching and learning, the panelists also brought to light the role of various factors—system, tools, resources, among others—that are involved in the quest for Happiness.



THE ART AND SCIENCE OF HAPPINESS – THE INDIAN ETHOS

23-24 April 2021

The Secretary and Trustee of the Foundation, Mr Rajiv Mehrotra was a speaker at the #Welcon 21 organized by the National HRD Network, Chennai Chapter. The theme of the two-day conclave dealt with the stress and health related risks arising from the COVID Pandemic. During the panel discussion titled, The Art and Science of Happiness –The Indian Ethos, Mr Mehrotra spoke about some of the insights and resources offered by Indic contemplative wisdom on the Mind and the significance of Compassion in the contemporary environment.



WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE DALAI LAMA?

April 2021

Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra delivered a talk on What we Learn from the Dalai Lama on 24 April 2021. The talk was organized by Sarayu Trust, New Delhi. In his talk Mr Mehrotra reflected on His Holiness the Dalai Lama – learning from who he is, what he does and what he teaches. Mr Mehrotra foregrounded that to millions worldwide, across diverse faiths, creeds and nationalities, His Holiness embodies the aspiration of the highest human potential. His message of compassion, altruism and peace is seminal in contemporary troubled times.

WOMEN AND VULNERABLE GROUPS IN COVID: PRESENTATION AT NTS-ASIA CONFERENCE

13 April 2021

The WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation participated at the NTS-Asia Consortium Annual Conference and our Senior Fellow, Dr. Mallika Joseph presented a paper on Women and Vulnerable Groups in Covid. She provided an overview of the multi-dimensional impact of the pandemic on the well-being of women and other vulnerable groups in South Asian countries.



THE CONCEPT

Philosophers, educationists and policy leaders grapple with the profound question of what is knowledge? How is knowledge to be acquired? By whom? How should it be shared? These and many other similar questions are the staple of debates in the academy and elsewhere. Until the end of the 20th century, it was primarily universities that directed the creation, transfer and use of knowledge. Today knowledge is produced and shared both within and outside universities because of two very important factors: globalization and digitization. More than ‘things’ it is data and information that steers our economies today, so much so that we seem to exist in ‘knowledge economies’. Human societies seem to ‘know’ much more than ever before, however the challenge lies in harnessing this knowledge to just and peaceful ends.

The FUR Fellowships for Dalai Lama Studies encourage innovative, multi-disciplinary, engagement and research into the life, teachings, philosophy and agendas of His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama and the Dalai Lama Fellowship for Nalanda Studies encourages a study of the famed Nalanda Tradition in order to offer penetrating insights into its relevance in addressing contemporary predicaments. These fellowships—both in their imagination and execution—have the promise of being innovative and pathbreaking. The fellowships are based on an acknowledgment of the fact that knowledge is by nature diverse – in both the methodologies employed, as well as, the object of study. The attempt through these fellowships is to bring the world of the modern knowledge systems based on principles of rationality and evidence based ‘argument making’ as close as is possible to older approaches to learning based largely on experience and intuition.

The fellowships are committed to supporting the plurality of both epistemologies as well ontology, thereby facilitating dialogue and openness. These fellowships are looking to bring out studies of exceptional rigour that would stand up to scrutiny and critical engagement by scholars and practitioners across the world. The attempt through these fellowships is to move away from the usual binaries in the world of formal knowledge of – the university versus civil society, the secular versus the spiritual, the traditional versus the contemporary, and theory versus practice, among many others. These fellowships are committed to the idea that knowledge acquires relevance only when it is open to critique, accessible to all, and generates compassionate action. This new knowledge would need new ways of knowing and new modes of investigation and research. The two fellowships being introduced here seek to support and strongly encourage interdisciplinary, and experiential and engaged scholarship. The interconnectedness of lives on this planet and indeed interplanetary linkages requires the ability to work in interdisciplinary ways, moving away from the conventional silos of academic knowledge production. The centrality of human experience rather than a collation and collection of esoteric concepts is imagined as the font of the knowledge produced through these fellowships. This deep regard for experiential knowledge and learning it is hoped would create ways of engaging with the contemporary world.

Dalai Lama Studies and Nalanda Studies carry within them the potential for creating a new intellectual and academic ecosystem that would offer incisive insights into contemporary predicaments. Dalai Lama Studies and Nalanda Studies are attempting to create new ways of knowing, while also extending the objects of critical inquiry itself. The aim is to bring together the world of the modern knowledge systems—characterized by rationality and evidence-based argumentation—and older knowledge systems that value experience and intuition in argumentation. The intent is to avoid simplistic binaries of old and new, and instead bring these distinct ways of knowing and thinking into conversation with one another in order to address the contemporary moment.

In order to do this, multiple innovative steps are needed. The structures and processes within which such knowledge would be created would be as important as the methodology used to create this epistemic. It is obvious that a diverse set of initiatives would have to be taken to create an ethos, an ambiance and an ecosystem where a different approach to the meaning of life and role of knowledge within it could be carefully examined. We must remember to be flexible, creative, innovative and collaborative and make effective use of digital technology, travel, and field immersions. Some of the proposed steps would be:

EVENTS

1. Public Lectures: Drawing upon expertise and interest available both within India and outside, on accessible platforms, that can be recorded and shared on the website of the DL Studies and NL Studies.
2. Seminars: Would provide a context for the exchange of ideas; indicate action points for the road ahead; will also create an awareness about these new areas of inquiry.
3. Workshops: Conducted with interested applicants—scholars, journalists, media persons, health care workers, medical professionals, corporate employees, lawyers, artists and writers and others—in order to share information about the area and suggest possibilities.
4. National/international conferences: This is of prime significance to generate sufficient scholarship and publications, both of which would be necessary to make inroads into the academy.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Publish proceedings regularly and circulate: Accounts of the Events listed above should be shared periodically via the website, news bulletins, and YouTube uploads. Effective use of social media sites can also be considered.
2. Newsletter: Devoted to themes, scholarship, publications and events related to DL and NL studies would be published regularly (depending upon the pace at which work unfolds). This newsletter will serve the following purposes:
 - Report the developments in the field
 - Systematize and summarize existing knowledge/work (reading lists, interviews)
 - Share information about new books, journals, articles, practices
 - Serves as reminder about the discipline
 - Suggests possible avenues of research

NETWORK

- Some networks of friends, like-minded people will grow organically.
- Reach out to scholars who might be valuable to the discipline/who might be interested in the kind of work envisioned – but are unaware of the possibilities, for instance could be especially invited to attend events.

DEDICATED WEBSITE

- A website on DL and NL studies that is dynamic and constantly updated would be a very important initiative to be taken.
- Should contain interesting audio visual material
- Would also allow those on the fellowship to share their work

FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowships in Dalai Lama Studies and Nalanda Studies would generate interest and scholarship, conversation and awareness.

FELLOWS

- Invited to share their work at the halfway point and end point
- Record and share the journey of each of the fellows in a short film/presentation/profile

REACHING OUT TO THE YOUTH

Establish interest among the young student community that enters college- this would ensure that some of them would be interested enough to sustain their interests over a longer period of time.

A closed-door workshop was organized with the Dalai Lama Fellows and FUR Fellows online in July 2021.

The following activities are planned with participation of the FUR Fellows 2021 and Dalai Lama Fellows 2021:

1. A short interaction with each Fellow where the scholar discussed their entry into this area of research and their motivation and their experiences thus far. These interactions will be conducted online and then shared on the FUR website and Youtube channel.
2. Each Fellow will record a lecture (of about one hour duration) on their project and this will also be uploaded on the FUR website and Youtube channel.
3. Starting October/November 2021, the Fellows will make public presentations on their research where invited scholars with broadly matching interests can discuss each Fellow's work.

FELLOWS FOR DALAI LAMA STUDIES 2021

The Foundation for Universal Responsibility invited applications for the FUR Fellowships for Dalai Lama Studies. These non-residential fellowships will support academic research and media projects for a period from March to December 2021. The Fellowships seek to encourage innovative, critical and multidisciplinary engagements with the life, teachings, philosophy and agendas of His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama in order to offer penetrating insight into contemporary personal, social and global predicaments. The Foundation was delighted to receive a total of 79 applications for the FUR Fellowship for Dalai Lama Studies and, after a rigorous and holistic engagement with the proposals, is happy to welcome the following 3 Fellows.



ANJALI NAYAR

Assistant Professor, Unitedworld Institute of Design, Karnavati University will be awarded the FUR Fellowship for Dalai Lama Studies 2021 (INR 3,00,000) to work on her project titled *Tracking the impact of the SEEL (Social, Emotional and Ethical Learning) programme in India*. The SEEL programme is inspired by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and developed by researchers at Emory University.

Anjali Nayar aims to examine how the SEEL programme is implemented in Delhi schools in order to look at both qualitative and quantitative changes within the school environment as well in individual children. This study aims to go beyond measuring the effects of meditation on heart rate and anxiety. Instead, it will engage with learning outcomes and the sense of happiness. The work will look at how children use their inner resources to achieve greater happiness with the daily practice of mindfulness. Her work will shed new light on the worlds of young children who are part of the SEEL programme.

Anjali Nayar hopes that her research will help tether school learning to the lived experience of students, and is interested in children's well-being and mental health. For her, a learning space for children should bear witness and validate the individual child's experience.

Anjali Nayar has received her MS in Journalism from Columbia University and a B. Des in Film Animation Design from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad as well as a BA (Hons) in English from the University of Delhi. She teaches Animation and Motion Graphics at Karnavati University. She has written and illustrated children's book that have been published by Puffin and Scholastic. She has also created video documentaries with and written for TED, the Caravan and VICE Motherboard. She has many years of experience working with and teaching children and young people and is committed to creating joyous learning experiences for children.

Keywords: the SEEL Programme in school in education in Delhi; quantitative and qualitative study of learning outcomes



HONEY OBEROI VAHALI

Professor of Psychology, School of Human Studies, Ambedkar University Delhi will be awarded the FUR Fellowship for Dalai Lama Studies 2021 (INR 4,00,000) to work on her project titled *A Gift to 21st Century Humanity: The Psycho-Political Vision of the XIV Dalai Lama of Tibet*.

Honey Oberoi Vahali plans to explore His Holiness the Dalai Lama's deeply humane and ethical psycho-political vision. Her work will look at how Buddhist principles of dependent co-origination, non-permanence, universality of suffering, and 'no-self' influence His Holiness. Through her research, she intends to highlight how, using powerful psychological processes of healing, the Dalai Lama attends to the

trauma suffered by Tibetan survivors of torture. She intends to show how this care and healing prevents Tibetan psycho-social wounds from festering and transforming into a politics based on hatred and revenge. The project will highlight key learnings for us to re-imagine and reconfigure the role of compassion.

Honey Oberoi Vahali received her BA in English from St Bede's College, Simla before earning her MA in Psychology from Himachal Pradesh University and M. Phil in Medical and Social Psychology from NIMHANS. She earned her Ph. D. in Psychology from the University of Delhi for her thesis titled *Lives in Exile: A Psycho-Historical Reconstruction of the Tibetan Self*. She is a distinguished professor who brings into the university space her many years of research and clinical experience. She has initiated a pioneering Masters Programme in Psycho-social Clinical Studies, a one of a kind degree in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy at Ambedkar University Delhi.

Honey Oberoi is widely published and has been invited to speak on her research at various national and international conferences. She has been an advocate for the Tibetan cause. She has also received the M. V. Govindaswamy Award for Clinical Psychology and the Nehru Memorial Fellowship.

Keywords: His Holiness and Tibet; Buddhist principles of dependent co-origination, non-permanence, universality of suffering; Tibetan exile, trauma and psycho-social healing; His Holiness as a psycho-social healer and political leader



KALZANG DORJEE BHUTIA

Visiting Researcher, University of California Los Angeles will be awarded the FUR Fellowship for Dalai Lama Studies 2021 (INR 1,51,000) to work on his project titled *Prayers for the Black Mountains and Rising Oceans: Historical Resources for Developing a Tibetan and Himalayan Buddhist Climate Ethics*.

Kalzang Dorjee Bhutia intends to focus on how to engage with climate change informed by the “revolution of compassion” encouraged by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. He intends to study and work with historical resources regarding human-environment relations in Tibetan and Himalayan cultures. This project will provide translations and critical analysis of the texts related to these practices that will contribute to resources that help humans cultivate compassion for the world.

On account of his upbringing and his contemplative studies at Pemayangtse Monastery, Kalzang Dorjee Bhutia views the land upon which he lives as a sacred habitat that is full of multidimensional agents. He is concerned about the environmental changes underway in west Sikkim that have been worsened by a lack of public and apolitical engagement with diverse ways of knowing that include Indigenous and religious perspectives from Himalayan communities. Through his project he hopes to transform how we view the link between humans and the environment.

Kalzang Dorjee Bhutia earned his Ph.D. in Buddhist Studies from the University of Delhi before which he received his M. Phil in the same field from the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Varanasi and his BA from the University of Delhi. He has taught at Occidental College, California; the University of Southern California; Grinnell College, Iowa; the University of Iowa and the University of Toronto to name but a few. He has also been the monastic history consultant at the Pemayangtse Monastery in Sikkim, India. He is widely published and is the recipient of the Robert H. N. Ho Research Fellowship in Buddhist Studies from the American Council of Learned Scholars. He is fluent in Tibetan as well as several Himalayan languages.

Keywords: His Holiness' revolution of compassion; climate change and human-environmental relations; Tibetan and Himalayan climate ethics

FELLOWS FOR NALANDA STUDIES STUDIES2021

The Foundation for Universal Responsibility invited applications for the Dalai Lama Fellowships for Nalanda Studies. These non-residential fellowships will support academic research and media projects for a period from March to December 2021. The Fellowships seek to encourage innovative, critical and multidisciplinary engagements and research into the Nalanda Tradition in order to offer penetrating insight into its relevance in addressing contemporary predicaments. The Foundation was delighted to receive a total of 128 applications for the Dalai Lama Fellowship for Nalanda Studies and, after a rigorous and holistic engagement with the proposals, is happy to welcome the following 3 Fellows.



MEENAKSHI MALHOTRA

Associate Professor, Department of English, Hansraj College, University of Delhi will be awarded the Dalai Lama Fellowship for Nalanda Studies 2021 (INR 3,50,000) to work on her project titled *A Truth of Their Own: Selected Life Narratives of Women from 19th Century*.

This project is an exploration of issues of truth and truth-claims, both in a philosophical as well as in a psychological sense. In upholding the idea that truth is often subjective and contingent, keeping in mind the broad parameters of the Nalanda tradition of holistic, integrated, eclectic and multidisciplinary scholarship, the project aims to discuss the writings and life narratives of four women – Florence Nightingale, Annie

Besant, Pandita Ramabai, and Sarala Debi Chaudhurani. The project aspires to explore the potential of life narratives to work as educational and pedagogic texts. The aim in reading a variegated spectrum of life narratives is not just to explore the “pedagogy of the oppressed” but also to explore the potential of life narratives to promote feelings of empathy and compassion, ideas of plurality, diversity and heterodoxy, of ‘anekantavada’ (the understanding of reality as multifaceted and many-sided), which are vital ingredients for the growth of any society.

Meenakshi Malhotra earned her Ph.D. from Jawaharlal Nehru University before which she received her M. Phil. In English Studies from the University of Delhi and B.A. (Hons) English from Miranda House, University of Delhi. She has been a Charles Wallace Scholar and the International Visiting Fellow at the Institute for Global Engagement at Grinnell College, Iowa. She is widely published with three decades of experience teaching and supervising undergraduate and postgraduate students. She has been a resource person for numerous workshops and Faculty Development Programmes.

Keywords: Nalanda tradition of holistic, integrated, eclectic, multidisciplinary scholarship; life-narratives; women and gender; truth and truth claims



NISHEETA JAGTIANI

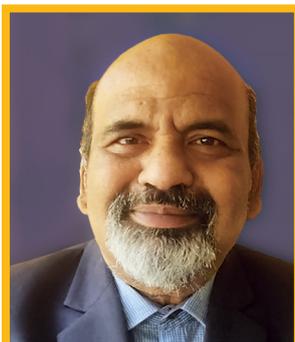
Ph. D. Candidate, Northwestern University, will be awarded the Dalai Lama Fellowship for Nalanda Studies 2021 (INR 4,00,000) to work on her project titled *The Fourteenth Dala Lama's Deployment of the Buddha's rime Approach*.

This project examines a Buddhist approach to sectarianism called rimé (ris med), which means “unbiased” or “non-sectarian.” This approach originates in the Buddha’s teachings and sermons in which he encouraged his followers to refrain from all biases and prejudices, as they are obstacles to liberation. Studies on rimé thus far have been text-based, examining the hagiographies of Tibetan Buddhist figures to understand the significance of rimé in Tibet’s religio-political history. However, the deployment and

implications of rimé in the twenty-first century are overlooked by Tibetologists. This project will focus on the Fourteenth Dalai Lama’s use of rimé in his teachings, broadening its scope through his written works and oral instructions. Nisheeta Jagtiani earned her MA in Religious Studies at the University of Chicago after receiving her Bachelor’s degree in Mass Media from Jai Hind College. As an undergraduate, she took courses in Buddhist philosophy at the Library of Tibetan Works & Archives, Dharamsala after which she studied the Tibetan language at the College of Higher Tibetan Studies. She has been awarded the Khyentse Foundation Buddhist Studies Scholarship,

the American Association of University Women's International Fellowship. She has also received the Asian Studies Cluster's Fellowship at Northwestern University where she has also been awarded the Graduate Research Grant.

Keywords: rimé; non-sectarianism; Tibetan religio-political history; His Holiness's secular ethics; religious harmony; world peace



SHIVADATTA PRABHU*

Adjunct Professor, School of Nanoscience and Technology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur will be awarded the FUR Fellowship for Dalai Lama Studies 2021 (INR 4,00,000) to work on his project titled *Neurological Correlates of Buddhist Philosophy*.

Current research in neurosciences has increased our understanding of the brain. It will be interesting to find correlates of Buddhist Philosophy in modern neurosciences. The effect goes beyond just the stress reduction and has permanent effects on Default Mode Network of Brain. Another way to practice Buddhist meditation is Metta, or lovingkindness, meditation. Metta has a correlated system of mirror Neurons in Brain.

Different meditative practices fall into two essential categories, focused attention (FA) method and open monitoring (OM) method. In normal circumstances, individual 'reacts' to the changes in these things. In OM, the reaction is avoided and 'reflection' is encouraged. Using ancient canonical texts, commentaries and modern neurological findings, this project will engage with the neurological correlates of Buddhist Philosophy.

Shivadatta Prabhu received his Ph.D. from the Grenoble Institute des Neurosciences, Universite Grenoble Alpes, France. Before this, he earned his MA in Psychology from the University of Madras and his MBBS from the University of Pune.

Keywords: Neurology; meditation; the Four Noble Truths; the human brain

**Tragically Shivadatta Prabhu passed away in a most untimely manner. His presence in the cohort will be deeply missed.*

COPING IN CHALLENGING TIMES: A DISCUSSION

20 March, 2021

A panel discussion on Coping in Challenging Times was held virtually on March 20, 2021 to spark conversation on the challenges posed by the Covid pandemic for individual well-being and mental health. Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra moderated the discussion that included as panelists: Prof. Honey Oberoi Vahali, Professor of Psychology at Ambedkar University, Delhi; Dr Bhargavi Davar, an eminent mental health advocate and Founder, Bapu Trust; Dr Amit Sen, a Psychiatrist and the Director of Children First, and Prof. Anita Ghai, Dean, School of Human Studies, Ambedkar University, Delhi. Aparna Sanyal, Board Member, the International Association of Women in Radio and Television, coordinated the event.

The panelists brought insights from their personal experiences and their professional expertise. They were unanimous in their support for creating safe spaces for articulation and equally convinced that communities must adopt a diversity of approaches and responses to the varying needs of individuals.

Mr. Mehrotra mentioned that such discussions are organized by the Foundation in keeping with His Holiness' vision to initiate conversations between traditional wisdom – the practices of healing and nurturing the mind, and contemporary scientific and medical perspectives on mental peace and holistic wellbeing of humans. This event marks the commencement of a series of engagements on the theme.



ASPECTS OF THE NALANDA TRADITION: A LECTURE SERIES

March -April, 2021

Directorate of Visiting Research Professors Programme and Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies, Goa University organized a three-day virtual lecture series on the Methodology of Enquiry, Understanding the Mind and its Training, and the Nature of Consciousness as a part of their ongoing lecture series on the Aspects of the Nalanda Tradition.

The Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies at the Goa University is established at the initiative of and with support from the Foundation.

Ven. Khampo Tashi Tsering, the Visiting Research Professor under Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies, Goa University, delivered these lectures online from 15-17 March 2021. The lectures were open to everyone. He also delivered the inaugural lecture for the Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies on November 6, 2020.



The series continued in April 2021 at Goa University. A total of seven classes of three hours each were conducted digitally by Khen Rinpoche Tashi Tsering. The classes were a mix of didactic studies and practical application and used the HH Dalai Lama's 2nd volume of the Science and Philosophy series as reference text. The course covered Buddhist Psychology and Nature of Mind.

The classes were well attended and interactive. The students especially appreciated the combination of lectures with practice-oriented sessions. About 100 students enrolled for the course. Given the overwhelming interest among the students for the course and the long wait list due to limited number of seats, the university plans to increase the number of seats in the course in 2022.

The University hopes that the classes will be hosted on campus next year and will be combined with other public events where Geshe Tashi Tsering can speak on related subjects.

WEEKLY VIRTUAL TEACHINGS BY VEN. GESHE LHAKDOR

25 September, 2020 – 12 March, 2021

Geshe Lhakdor gave an introductory set of teachings on Bodhisattvamanyàvali, Bodhisattva's Garland of Gem by Atisha as a part of the Foundation's Weekly Virtual Teachings (from September 25, 2020 – March 12, 2021). Spread over 24 weekly sessions, the Teachings provided a space for understanding the Text, a classic in the Mind Training

(blo sbyong) traditions and also for the participants to deal with the challenges emanating from the global pandemic.

The program accommodated about 100 participants—Buddhists and others interested in the insights and perspectives Buddhism offers to contemporary predicaments—from across the world. A majority of participants attended all the sessions. Geshe Lhakdor, a distinguished scholar and a popular, much in demand teacher made the Text easily accessible while retaining its authenticity.



Ven. Geshe Lhakdor is the Director of the Tibetan Library of Works & Archives in Dharamsala. He has served as an interpreter for HH The Dalai Lama & as an editor of many of His books. He is one of the Managing Trustees of the Foundation for Universal Responsibility of HH the Dalai Lama, New Delhi.

THE DALAI LAMA: AN ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHY: A DISCUSSION WITH THOSE WHO KNOW HIM WELL

8 March, 2021, India International Center, New Delhi

The Foundation, in collaboration with the India International Center, organized a book discussion on *The Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography*. The speakers at the discussion were Tenzin Geyche Tethong, the author of the book; Tenzin Choegyal, His Holiness' youngest brother (better known as Ngari Rinpoche) and Rajiv Mehrotra, a long-time personal student of His Holiness and the Foundation's Secretary and Managing Trustee. The speakers

gave the discussion a unique flavor of intimacy and depth, drawing on their association with His Holiness and with each other over the past several decades.

They touched on various aspects of His Holiness' persona; a teacher, a mentor and a leader. The discussants expressed their marvel at his generosity; his willingness to always contribute to the welfare of the people of the world and his deep sense of universal responsibility. Both Geyche and Ngari Rinpoche, making a reference to the work they did at His Holiness' office, pointed out that while His Holiness' compassion is ever-present, he expects everyone to work hard. Among his most enduring legacies, they discussed, are his efforts towards the promotion of universal ethics, interfaith dialogue and harmony and the revival of Nalanda Tradition. Whether in his religious thoughts or in his political decisions, His Holiness stands established as a forward thinking leader. From directly nominating female parliamentarians, to introducing philosophical studies in the nunneries and to enabling the possibility of Geshe ma degrees, His Holiness has also galvanised opinion on women's rights and equality. He has even given a nod at the possibility of a female Dalai Lama.

The speakers shared ideas on what lies ahead for Tibetans and the status of Tibet. Expressing both hope and fear, Ngari Rinpoche said that a lot will depend on the unity of the Tibetan people. Mr. Mehrotra concluded with the remark that "There is an overwhelming sense of joy and gratitude that we are born in the times of His Holiness".



DALAI LAMA CHAIR AT KISS UNIVERSITY, BHUBANESWAR

6 March, 2021

The Foundation and KISS University- Deemed University, Bhubaneshwar, Odisha have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish programmes of advanced study in the Nalanda Tradition and Dalai Lama Studies (initially for a period of five years). As part of the understanding, The Visiting Dalai Lama Chair for Nalanda Studies has been established at KISS-DU. This is seen as a precursor to the activation of the Dalai Lama Centre at KISS-DU. The Chair will nurture an academic discourse on the Nalanda Tradition, especially its relevance today. It will seek to facilitate an understanding of:

- The achievements and legacy of ancient Nalanda university;
- The place of Nalanda in the evolution of the contours Indian History, Philosophy and Wisdom Traditions, Buddhism in general and the Mahayana, in particular;
- The aspirations of Nalanda for the education of its students, the structure, methodologies and principles that were used;

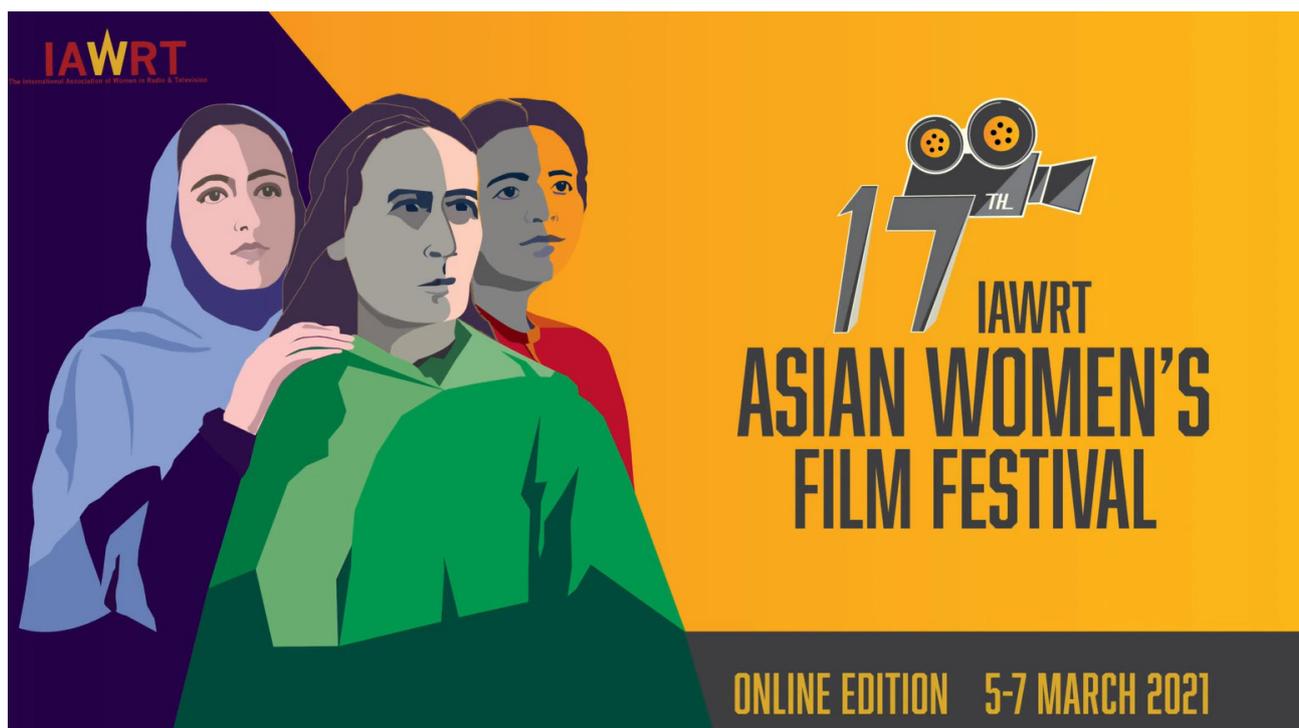
- The values and ideas that it sought to cultivate in the community that continue to have value and significance today. These include Ahimsa, Karuna, Gender, Conflict Resolution, Peace Studies, Medicine, environment, the Scientific Method, the celebration of diversity, reaching out to knowledge and traditions other than one's own; and
- It will explore Didactic studies of the Nalanda and areas such as Meditation and Training the Mind, Logic, Debate and Buddhist Metaphysics.

NURTURING PEACE-RESOLVING CONFLICTS: THE 17TH AWFF FILM FESTIVAL

5-7 March, 2021

In collaboration with the International Association of Women in Radio and Television, the Foundation organised a film festival on Nurturing Peace Resolving Conflicts in March. The sessions focused on documentary practice interlinked to ideas of conflict, resistance and possible resolutions towards nurturing peace. It featured the following films:

- Ritu Sarin and Tenzing Sonam's *Drapchi Elegy* (Belgium/India) that weaves together vignettes from the everyday life of Namdol Lhamo, one of the famous Singing Nuns of Drapchi now living in exile in Brussels, that presents a facet of spiritual resistance, reflecting how resistance can come in different forms
- Aditi Maddali's *Songs of Our Soil* (India) that explores uyyala songs and how they record women's histories in the fight for agrarian rights.
- Tamara Stepanyan's *Village of Women* (Armenia) that looks at a global phenomenon of migration for work and how that challenges women, through the lives of women in an Armenian village whose husbands leave to work in Russia for 9 months of the year.



This Festival has been made possible with support from:



Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama



The International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT) is a not for profit professional organization of women working in electronic and allied media. It is in consultative status with United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). IAWRT organizes conferences, film festivals and other allied activities. It also offers scholarships for professional advancement and grants for research projects.

INTRODUCTION TO NALANDA TRADITION: IT'S RELEVANCE TODAY

27 February, 2021, The Dalai Lama Chair for Indic Studies, MIT-WPU, Pune

Ven. Geshe Lhakdor delivered a lecture, virtually, “Introduction to Nalanda Tradition: It’s Relevance Today” for the Dalai Lama Chair for Indic Studies, Maharashtra Institute of Technology World Peace University, Pune. The Dalai Lama Chair for Indic Studies has been established in partnership with the Foundation. The event was attended by Rev. Prof. Dr. Vishwanath D. Karad, Founder and Director, MIT-WPU and the university’s faculty members and students. Rajiv Mehrotra, the Foundation’s Secretary/Trustee, moderated the Q&A.

In his lecture, Geshe outlined a succinct overview of the scope of the evolving discipline, Nalanda Studies. He strongly emphasised His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s efforts towards promoting an understanding of the field as being a larger area of study as opposed to being restricted to Buddhism and Buddhist Studies, and urged the interested scholar-community to adopt a secular approach. His lecture highlighted critical inquiry and dialogic methodologies as the basis of knowledge acquisition and their use within the Nalanda tradition.

He emphasised that ultimately the purpose of understanding the Nalanda tradition or acquiring any knowledge is to find long-lasting happiness and peace. Nalanda tradition emphasizes the flourishing of humankind through inner value development.



WISDOM BYTES

8 December, 2020 - Ongoing

WISDOM Bytes are short online AV clips of quotes from His Holiness on different subjects that are released once every fortnight. The Foundation will continue this series over the next one year.

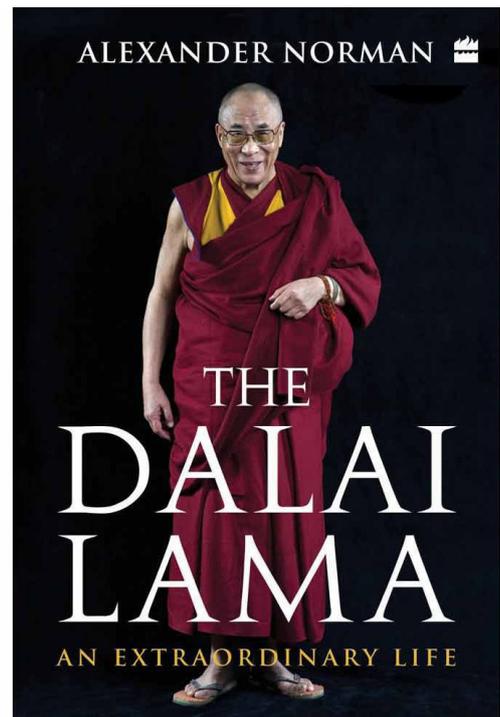


THE DALAI LAMA: AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE - BOOK DISCUSSION

30 November, 2020

The Foundation for Universal Responsibility of H.H. The Dalai Lama in collaboration with India International Center held a Book Discussion on, *The Dalai Lama an Extraordinary Life*, a definitive biography of H.H. the XIVth Dalai Lama 30th November at 4 pm (India Time) between Alexander Norman, the author, Shivshankar Menon, former diplomat and Tenzin Geyche, former secretary to H.H. the Dalai Lama.

This book, a beautifully illustrated chronicle, presents an in-depth, first hand narrative of the Dalai Lama's life story and of his people, the Tibetans. Based on the interviews with people who've been close to him, and with a treasure trove of over 400 images of Tibet's priceless visual heritage, it easily establishes itself as the veritable archive of how His Holiness created a nation from nothing, in exile, and how he rallies endlessly for his people. A rich blend of biography, history, and legacy, it captures a detailed account of the tumultuous events through which the Dalai Lama was forced to chart a path, leading to his emergence as an international figure. It also illuminates his initiatives in the wider world to relieve suffering, overcome global challenges, and foster human flourishing through compassionate universal ethics, working hand in hand with science and ingenuity.



THE DALAI LAMA'S PATH TO A FULFILLING LIFE: A VIRTUAL TALK BY RAJIV MEHROTRA

19 November, 2020

Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra gave a virtual talk on the topic "The Dalai Lama's Path to a Fulfilling Life" on November. 19. The talk was organized by Jyotirmai Sahitya Sansparsh.



FIRST LECTURE, THE DALAI LAMA CHAIR, GOA UNIVERSITY

6 November, 2020

Geshe Tashi Tsering, the abbot of Sera Mey Monastic University, India, gave the first lecture of H.H. The Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies at the Goa University, virtually, on Nov. 7, 2020 at 11 am. Geshe Tashi is a visiting research professor for the Chair. The lecture was followed by a conversation with Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra.

The Chair was established at the Goa University by the Foundation in December 2019 in the presence of His Holiness. It is a visiting position, with scholar and practitioner speakers coming to Goa University to shed light on various aspects of the Nalanda Tradition. It seeks to fulfill His Holiness's Fourth Commitment: Preservation and Promotion of the Nalanda Tradition. Emulating the Nalanda masters' example of using human intelligence to the full by employing rigorous reason and logic, the scholars adopt a strictly secular approach to address contemporary predicaments.



INDIA'S HERITAGE OF KARUNA AND AHIMSA: A TALK BY HIS HOLINESS FOLLOWED BY Q&A

26 October, 2020



The Foundation and the India International Centre jointly organized a virtual talk by H.H. the Dalai Lama on India's Heritage of Karuna and Ahimsa on Oct. 26, 2020 at 9 am. The talk was followed by a Q&A with senior Indian thought leaders, who are old associates and friends of His Holiness.

Introducing his life's four main commitments, His Holiness explained that first of all, as a human being, he works to promote an understanding that humanity needs the Indian traditions of 'karuna' and 'ahimsa'. Emphasising oneness of humanity, he mentioned that we have to learn to live together peacefully. Thinking in terms of 'us' and 'them' leads to conflicts. Regardless of our secondary differences, we are all same—physically, mentally and emotionally.

Secondly, as a religious figure, His Holiness expressed his dedication to encourage harmony among different religious traditions. Lauding India, His Holiness recounted how all the world's major religious traditions flourish together here. He underscored that despite differences at the level of practice and philosophy, all religious traditions convey the messages of love and compassion.

His Holiness based his third commitment, i.e. towards the preservation of Tibet and its culture, on two main reasons: ecological and cultural. Expressing deep concern about the Tibetan environment, he warned that as Global Warming increases, if nothing is done to avert it, there is a risk that soon the rivers and lakes — main sources of water for much of Asia — will dry up.

Tibetan culture, he said is particularly important as it is connected with the Indian Nalanda tradition in profound ways. Tibetans owe their culture and wealth of knowledge on Buddhism to India. He recounted the exchanges between Tibet scholars and Indian universities at Taxila, Nalanda, Vikramashila and Odantapuri. These led to the adoption of rigorous logical approach to learning among Tibetan Buddhist scholars and practitioners. Today, much of this knowledge is preserved in Tibetan texts, while the original sources have been lost to time.



Continuing with this, His Holiness, elaborated on his fourth commitment: revival and preservation of the Nalanda Tradition. Modern education, largely materialistic in its approach, needs to be complemented with ancient Indian knowledge of the workings of the mind and emotions. Principles and practices of non-violence and compassion, concentration and analytical insight combined with modern education can be significantly beneficial to everyone.

During his entire talk, His Holiness laid unequivocal emphasis on the revival of the study of ancient Indian knowledge and the need for its preservation. His Holiness expressed hope that India would take the lead in contributing towards the solution of problems that the world faces today. Combination of modern and ancient Indian knowledge, especially India's ancient traditions of non-violence and compassion, His Holiness said were crucial to this role of India. He urged that the new generation adapt to the changing times and needs and rethink the practices and perspectives that are ill suited to the current environment. If such perspectives have religious sanction then they too must be discarded. He advised that people should adopt a logical approach and not accept received ideas unquestioningly.

The key to creating a more peaceful world is to overcome the divisions of 'us and them'. The values of tolerance, non-violence and compassion, that are part of ancient Indian tradition, can help us see the oneness of all sentient beings.

A distinguished panel of participants: Aruna Roy, a renowned social activist; Fali Nariman, senior advocate, the Supreme Court of India; Gopal Gandhi, former diplomat, academic and grandson of the Mahatma Gandhi; N.N. Vohra, President, IIC; Dr. Prakash Amte, well known social worker; Shivshankar Menon, former National Security Adviser & Foreign Secretary; Shyam Saran, former Foreign Secretary; and Dr. Syeda Hameed, a social and women's rights' activist attended the interactive session. More than 25 other prominent guests joined the discussion that was streamed live on YouTube channel and the Facebook page of the Foundation. Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra, Secretary/Managing Trustee of the Foundation, moderated the session.

His Holiness responded to the questions on significance of prayer, Islamophobia, current socio-political environment in India, the region and the way towards a more compassionate world, among others.

Responding to a question on how to address the discrimination that the Muslim community faces and the labeling of Muslims as terrorists, His Holiness replied that the “so-called terrorists are individuals and can be found among Buddhists, Jews, Christians, Hindus and Muslims” and that the entire communities should not be stigmatized for the actions of a few individuals. As a way forward for the community, His Holiness suggested to engage in intra-community discussions and for the Indian Muslims to take the lead, globally, on building inter-community understanding.

LAUNCH OF THE DALAI LAMA CHAIR AT MIT, PUNE

4 October, 2020

The Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT), Pune and the Foundation made the announcement & declaration, of the Dalai Lama Chair for Indic Studies with an emphasis on the Nalanda Tradition & Dalai Lama Studies at the University. The virtual ceremony was held on 4 October, 2020.

The announcement was made by Hon. Pema Khandu, the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh in the august presence of Swami Atmapriyananda, a senior monk of The Ramakrishna Mission. Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra, Foundation’s Secretary and Managing Trustee introduced the Dalai Lama Chair and subsequently moderated a panel discussion on Aspects of India’s Heritage and its Relevance to Contemporary Predicaments.

The Foundation and MIT have signed an MoU to establish the Chair. The announcement is a precursor to the launch of the Dalai Lama Center at the MIT. An Official Committee has been constituted to jointly work on the long-term roadmap of the Chair and to establish the Dalai Lama Centre

VIRTUAL PEACE MEET - SHAPING PEACE TOGETHER THROUGH KINDNESS, HOPE AND COMPASSION

21 September, 2020



The Foundation collaborated with the Shining Network, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi to organize a ‘Virtual Peace Meet - Shaping Peace Together through Kindness, Hope and Compassion’ on September 21, 2020 to commemorate the United Nations ‘International Day of Peace’.

Dr. Geetesh Nirban, faculty convener of the Shining Network, opened the session by quoting His Holiness the Dalai Lama: “Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive.”

Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra, as the keynote speaker, spoke eloquently about the significance of combining the twin approaches of method and wisdom towards compassion and peace. Drawing from his personal experience as a direct disciple of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Mr. Mehrotra emphasized that efforts towards and practice of compassion are continuous and lifelong processes. He emphatically remarked that all our philosophical engagements on the topic of compassion and peace have value only when they transform our reflexes and help us soften the ‘self’.

The virtual session, witnessed participation and engagement of more than forty students from across the nation and faculty members of the Kamala Nehru College.

The Foundation views such engagements with young minds and collaborations with educational institutes as part of its endeavors toward a more equal, just and peaceful world.

GENDER EQUITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION: A U.S.-INDIA DIALOGUE

26 August, 2020

WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation organized an international webinar on August 26, 2020 to mark the culmination of the phase II of its work on gender equity in higher education campuses as part of the HAMSA Campus Equity Program.

This Program seeks to facilitate processes for the institutionalization of gender-just norms and practices at higher education institutions in India and draws on the experience of American universities. The program is supported by the Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi.

Several senior academics, heads of institutions and administrators from American and Indian universities and eminent academic institutes, including University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University, Ambedkar University, University of Pittsburgh, the Library of Congress, Miranda House, Indraprastha College for Women among others participated and spoke at the webinar. The webinar reach was over 7000 individuals.



SAAHAS AWARDS 2020

24 August, 2020

The WISCOMP Saahas Awards 2020 of the Foundation acknowledged and celebrated the courageous efforts of 12 gender-justice animators from universities and colleges across India who expanded the canvas of gender sensitivity and gender equity in higher education spaces. These awards acknowledge and applaud the efforts of educators, students and administrators to foster gender justice in higher education. The Foundation also conferred the Saahas

Shrestha Award (Shero of Courage) on Sr. Vinitha, Director, St. Teresa’s College, Kochi for her pathbreaking contributions to women’s education and facilitating gender-just institutional policies. The virtual award ceremony was held on 24 August 2020 with support from the Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi. The Ceremony was streamed live across various social media platforms and received an overwhelming response from academia and public. The program was viewed by more than 10,000 people from across the world. The media also expressed keen interest and covered the stories of Saahas in over 20 articles. This is especially significant in view of the fact that the global pandemic has led to the suspension of many activities on gender equality on university and college campuses in India.



RELIGION IN THE MODERN WORLD

June 2020

Juggernaut publications started a series of articles and essays once every month by the Foundation based on the speeches made by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The first article in the series was published in June 2020. These are compiled and edited by Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra, the Secretary and Trustee of the Foundation. With recurrent publication of words inspired by and of His Holiness, the Foundation wishes to spread the timely messages of His Holiness especially with regard to his four main commitments: Universal Ethics, Interfaith Harmony, Tibetan

Cause and the Preservation and Promotion of Nalanda Studies. The 'Religion in The Modern World' is now live on Juggernaut mobile App. The title of the series and picture of HH The Dalai Lama are also on the banner of digital platforms of Juggernaut.

COMPASSION IN ACTION: COLLABORATION WITH THE BLIND RELIEF ASSOCIATION

May 2020, New Delhi

As the COVID-19 pandemic hit India, the Foundation decided to extend its help to where it's needed the most — the physically challenged people. The Foundation made timely and generous support to the Blind Relief Association during the crisis.

The Blind Relief Association has been actively engaged in several outreach activities. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in the country, as a responsible non-governmental organization and earnest member of the civil society, The Blind Relief Association decided to go beyond the mandated services to the visually impaired and reach out to the poor, vulnerable, homeless, and persons with disability in Delhi.

In partnership with Uday Foundation, the Association started cooking and distributing meals to the homeless and poor people affected by the lockdown since 29 March 2020. In partnership with Saksham, they also distributed meals (dinner) to persons with disability, including those with visual impairment at their doorstep since 20 April 2020. Meals for 800-850 people were prepared by their staff on their premises every day.

In addition, they distributed ration, fruits, soaps and masks. Few of their vocational trainees, who remained in the hostel helped make the masks.

Later on, they also started distributing dry ration to persons/families with visual impairment, V.I. hostels, and organizations working in cross-disability in various parts of Delhi at this time.

The Foundation provided support to enable them in their deeds of compassion.



SOUTH ASIAN PERSPECTIVES ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER EQUALITY: AN EDITED VOLUME

11 May, 2020

The WISCOMP initiative of the Foundation signed an MoU with the Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (RCSS), Colombo, Sri Lanka which is also the Regional Secretariat, Global Partnership for Prevention of Armed Conflict – South Asia, in May 2020 to collaborate on a research project. The outcome of the research project on *South Asian Perspectives on Sustainable Development and Gender Equality* was an edited book on the progress the South Asian countries have made on Sustainable Development Goals. The book includes reports on Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. It also provides a succinct policy brief on the South Asian region.



Zoom Meeting

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NAGARJUNA'S PRECIOUS GARLAND: SPRING DISCOURSE, 2020

6-10 March, 2020, New Delhi



This is a part of the Foundation's Trainings in Mindfulness program and Ven. Geshe Lhaktor conducted a discourse on the chapter of the Precious Garland by Nagarjuna from March 6-10, 2020. These trainings are a response to the search for balance, equanimity and abiding happiness in today's fractured and frenetic world, based on established mind training techniques drawn from the Buddhist tradition.

Since 2007, Ven. Geshe Lhaktor has been leading discourses on mindfulness. The Foundation has a very close working relationship with him and requests his scholarship and insights to be shared with the people associated with the Foundation through its various programmes.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF SPIRITUAL INDIA 2020 (FOR HUMANITY & WISDOM)

31 January, 2020, Pune

Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra was invited to International Festival of Spiritual India 2020 and he has gave talk on "What do we learn from the Dalai Lama?"



**International Festival of Spiritual India 2020
(For Humanity & Wisdom)**



**A Discussion on
Celebrating Diversity: Harmony between Faiths**



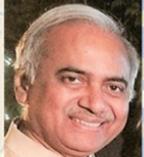
Mr. Reyaz Ahmad
Researcher, Writer and
Political Commentator



Swami Atmapriyananda
VC of Ramakrishna
Mission Vivekananda
University



Dr. John Dayal
Member of the National
Integration Council of India



Mr. Seshadri Chari
Politician, journalist, author,
strategic and foreign
policy analyst

Chaired
by



Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra
Trustee, Foundation for
Universal Responsibility
of HH The Dalai Lama

Gold Sponsor
Caringly yours
BAJAJ Allianz

Date: 31 Jan 2020 Time: 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm
Venue: Auditorium, YASHADA

HIGHER EDUCATION AND BUILDING PEACEFUL SOCIETY: A WORKSHOP FOR TEACHER EDUCATORS FROM KASHMIR

31 January, 2020, New Delhi

WISCOMP facilitated a workshop for a team of senior faculty members from Government College of Education, Srinagar on January 31, 2020 in New Delhi.

The workshop was designed on the premise that gender sensitization of teacher educators can have a ripple effect on gender awareness among young people and among teachers in schools. The program included sessions on how to conduct gender audits, how to en-gender curriculum at a teacher training institute and adherence to the legal mandates under the anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 2013.

The Government College of Education and WISCOMP will carry forward this collaboration and a follow up seminar-cum-workshop on gender sensitive pedagogic practice is proposed at Srinagar in the coming months. Prof. Seema Naz (Associate Professor and until recently the officiating Principal of the college) stated that the workshop had opened up new vistas for an institute that carries out regular 'on campus' and outreach gender sensitization programmes.



WISCOMP DIALOGUES: ENGENDERING INCLUSIVE CORPORATE LEADERSHIP

16 January, 2020, New Delhi

WISCOMP Dialogue on 'En-gendering Inclusive Corporate Leadership', was organized in collaboration with India International Centre, New Delhi.

The speakers at the dialogue were Vinita Bali, Former Managing Director of Britannia Industries Ltd.; Poonam Barua, Author and Founder Chairperson, Forum for Women in Leadership and Anuradha Das Mathur, Founder, Vedica Scholars Programme for Women. The speakers provided different perspectives on the complexities of Indian socio-economic environment and the possibilities of augmenting women's participation in the corporate world. The discussion provided a space to reflect critically on why women's representation is skewed in the corporate sector and how have women re-imagined contours of leadership in the corporate sector to make it more gender just.



#MOVEWITHCOMPASSION AT DELHI METRO STATIONS

11-20 January, 2020

Delhi Metro Stations just became a little more compassionate with the Foundation's #MoveWithCompassion campaign January 11-20, 2020.



अगर आप औरों की खुशी चाहते हैं तो करुणा का अभ्यास करें।
अगर आप स्वयं खुश होना चाहते हैं तो करुणा का अभ्यास करें।

**IF YOU WANT OTHERS TO BE HAPPY,
PRACTICE COMPASSION.
IF YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY
PRACTICE COMPASSION.**

- The Dalai Lama



Everybody appreciates compassion, agree? Share your thoughts with us: [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [h](#) #MoveWithCompassion
An initiative for a more compassionate world by Foundation for Universal Responsibility of HH the Dalai Lama
For more info: www.furhhdl.org

To align with the Foundation's wish to declare the year of 2020 as the "Year of Compassion" to commemorate the year of His Holiness's 85th birthday, the Foundation ran a campaign on Compassion - Move with Compassion, on five major transfer stations of the Delhi Metro. A collection of His Holiness's messages on compassion was compiled and curated to suit the aesthetics of the display areas of the stations and put on display. The Foundation is delighted and grateful to find collaboration of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC) for this purpose.

Through this initiative the Foundation sought to:

- Create awareness on and promote His Holiness' vision, messages and efforts towards a more compassionate world.
- Instill seeds of compassion in the commuters on one of the world's busiest rapid transits.
- Inspire people to make compassion a part of their new year to be happy and let others be the same.
- Set off the foundation's Year of Compassion.
- Make compassion a global campaign.

The Foundation had carefully chosen the five busiest metro stations in Delhi to ensure maximum outreach and impact of the His Holiness's messages on Compassion. The Kashmere Gate metro station alone receives over three hundred thousand footfall a day.

ETHICATE: EDUCATING FOR PEACE PROGRAM

9-11 January, 2020, Springdales School, New Delhi

As part of its Ethicate: Educating for Peace program, the Foundation's WISCOMP initiative collaborated with Springdales School, Dhaula Kuan, New Delhi for their annual Staff Seminar.

The theme of the 2020 seminar was Teaching Today for Tomorrow. Dr. Priti Dhawan facilitated an interactive workshop session on Professionalism and Navigating Emotions.



WISCOMP PUBLICATIONS

HAMSA: Campus Equity Initiative



Evaluation Report: Women's Equality, Empowerment & Leadership through Safe Higher Educational and Work-Spaces

A Project of:
Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
Evaluator: Nityakalyani Ramasubramanian



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace



WISCOMP DIALOGUES

En-gendering Corporate Leadership

Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama
New Delhi

PEACE PRINTS
South Asian Journal of Peacebuilding
Vol. 6, No. 1, Summer 2020



Transformative Pedagogies

- Toward a Transformative Pedagogy: Queer-feminist reflections of the classroom
NIHARIKA BANERJEA
- Court Visits and Learning Pedagogies: Access to sites of justice
RUKMINI SEN
- Her Story of Ideas: Towards a pedagogy, reading lives of lesser known women
PRIYANKA JHA
- Question Papers as the Site of Gendered Education Practice
LINDA THERESE LUIZ & AMRUTHA RINU ABRAHAM
- Speaking Memory: Testimonies to the Possibilities of Peace
MEENAKSHI MALHOTRA
- Towards Freedom and Equality: Women's Education in India
KRISHNA MENON
- Transformational Feminist Pedagogy: A Journey from Classroom to Life Lessons
BIJAYALAXMI NANDA
- Turning the Page, Countering Violence: A Challenge for Pedagogy
MEENAKSHI GOPINATH
- BOOK REVIEW
Children of the Stone: The Power of Music in a Hard Land
Sandy Tolan
Review: DIKSHA PODDAR



Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

Voices of Saahas...
...Creating gender inclusive and just educational campuses



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace

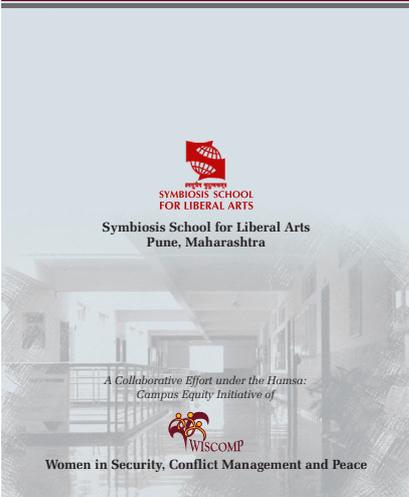


WISCOMP DIALOGUES

Social and Gender Audits in Higher Educational Spaces

Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama
New Delhi

GENDER STUDIES Curriculum Assessment and Reforms



SYMBIOSIS SCHOOL FOR LIBERAL ARTS
Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts
Pune, Maharashtra

A Collaborative Effort under the Hamasa: Campus Equity Initiative of



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace

MINI GENDER AUDIT



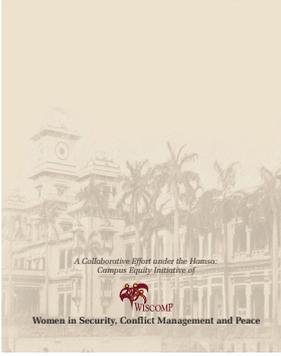
Cotton University
Guwahati, Assam

A Collaborative Effort under the Hamasa: Campus Equity Initiative of



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace

GENDER JUSTICE ON CAMPUS



A Collaborative Effort under the Hamasa: Campus Equity Initiative of



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace

THE GENDER BOOK A GUIDE FOR THE YOUNG



Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences
Bhubaneswar, Odisha

A Collaborative Effort under the Hamasa: Campus Equity Initiative of



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace

GENDER AUDIT TEMPLATE



Kanya Maha Vidyalaya
Jalandhar, Punjab

A Collaborative Effort under the Hamasa: Campus Equity Initiative of



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace




THE HAMSA NETWORK

Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
an initiative of the
Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

Safety Audits at Higher Education Institutions Across India




Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
an initiative of the
Foundation for Universal Responsibility

From Educators, With Love

An Online Letter Writing Series



Organized as a part of
Hamsa: Campus Equity Initiative



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
an initiative of the
Foundation for Universal Responsibility
New Delhi

Log-in Gender
Youth Voices on
En-gendering Campuses



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama
New Delhi

Imprinting Gender Equity on Campuses

Gender Equity:
Women's Equality, Empowerment and Leadership through
Safe Higher Educational and Work Spaces

Press and Media Coverage
Features, Articles and Reports



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
an initiative of the
Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama
New Delhi

**WISCOMP
SAARHAS
AWARDS
2020**




Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
an initiative of the
Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

KEEPING ENGAGED, VIRTUALLY...

In the early days of the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, His Holiness the Dalai Lama sent an encouraging message to the world to find opportunities in the midst of challenges. As we look back and ahead, we are grateful that virtual platforms provided us opportunities to carry on our engagements and find ways to stay connected with our fellow brothers and sisters even as we continue to battle the suffering and destruction inflicted by the pandemic.

Below is a list of some of the events from our recent past that have been recorded and posted on our Youtube channel, “furhhd”.

Letter to a Friend by Acharya Nagarjuna- Virtual Teaching Led by Geshe Lhakdor

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnHyNG4kvp-kux6cLNdCIWmUhQ9_e79wc

Fellowships 2021

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnHyNG4kvp-mpUAb0PrH01V0Zoero-epf>

Wisdom Bytes

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnHyNG4kvp-lxWlbtjG1iW5FUHp3dAlhM>

FUR x PSBT Film Challenge 2020-21

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnHyNG4kvp-kGuwbPfFDGi7WA5xgdU0Tp>

Happiness Class Webinar

<https://youtu.be/Jlo0yfkRqMM>

The Art and the Science of Happiness - The Indian Ethos

<https://youtu.be/ir6f34xKVIQ>

A Discussion: Coping in Challenging Times

<https://youtu.be/XTyBdzxr5Hk>

An Introduction to Nalanda Tradition: A Virtual Lecture by Ven. Geshe Lhakdor

<https://youtu.be/DFMLfxsg-i4>

Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography

<https://youtu.be/3Hteml4sSU8>

The Dalai Lama: An Extraordinary Life - Book Discussion

https://youtu.be/pWCM--i_m7o

Virtual Panel Discussion: Applied Spirituality and Public Policy

<https://youtu.be/63vkBfo-l9I>

The Dalai Lama's Path To A Fulfilling Life: A Virtual Talk By Rajiv Mehrotra

https://youtu.be/pWCM--i_m7o

Introduction to the Nalanda Tradition: A lecture by Ven. Khampo Tashi Tsering

<https://youtu.be/jUvM9nxjZMw>

India's Heritage of Karuna & Ahimsa: A Virtual Talk by H.H. the Dalai Lama

<https://youtu.be/Xt3HaQppThU>

Launch of the Dalai Lama Chair & Centre at MIT Pune on Oct 4th

<https://youtu.be/ZObjvgfMKs>

Virtual Weekly Teachings by Geshe Lhakdor starting from 25 Sep 2020

<https://youtu.be/eyg7uUaLdyY>

WISCOMP Saahas Awards 2020

https://youtu.be/IV_xxPxxw9OM

IFSI 2020- 'What We Learn From The Dalai Lama '-Talk by Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra

<https://youtu.be/RWWxlgNy35At>

Gender and Disability

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gt1591Vdxhc&ab_channel=IICLectures

International Webinar at the American Center | Professor Krishna Menon as panelist

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTkXjiA94xU&ab_channel=AmbedkarUniversityDelhi

IIC/WISCOMP Dialogues Pedagogy in the Times of the Pandemic

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=om_Mp6D38VY

WISCOMP Genderlogue 3.0: Experiencing the University Online

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SjIIAp7JELE&ab_channel=WISCOMPOneWorld

POSTERS OF OUR EVENTS



RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY AND INTER-RELIGIOUS HARMONY

by Nisheeta Jagtiani (FUR Fellow) for The Dalai Lama Chair at MIT World Peace University, Pune
Thursday, 23rd December 2021 at 1.30 pm IST on Zoom




Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness The Dalai Lama in collaboration with Tibet Museum and India Habitat Centre invites you for a photo exhibition to mark the 32nd anniversary of His Holiness receiving the Nobel Peace Prize.

འགོང་ས་ལྷན་ཁག་གི་འབྲེན་སྐབ་ལ་འཇུག་པའི་མཆོག་གི་མཛད་རྗེས་རྒྱུ་ལུགས།

A PICTORIAL BIOGRAPHY OF HIS HOLINESS THE 14TH DALAI LAMA



Thursday 9th to Wednesday 15th December 2021
10 am to 7 pm at Open Palm Court Gallery, IHC

The exhibition will showcase images from His Holiness's life and efforts to promote Human Values, Inter-Religious Harmony, India's Civilisational Heritage and the Preservation of Tibet's Religion & Culture.

www.furhhd.org | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/furhhd) | [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/furhhd) | [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/furhhd) | info@furhhd.org



འགོང་ས་ལྷན་ཁག་གི་འབྲེན་སྐབ་ལ་འཇུག་པའི་མཆོག་གི་མཛད་རྗེས་རྒྱུ་ལུགས།
FOUNDATION FOR UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITY of His Holiness The Dalai Lama

and
Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies, Goa University
present
Directorate of Visiting Research Professors Programme
Introductory Course (Monday 6th to Friday 10th December 2021)
by
Geshe Lhakdor
Visiting Research Professor, Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies, Goa University

Dec 2021	Topic	Time	Venue
Monday 6th	Meaning of Dharma and How to Practice <i>and</i> Meditation	3:00 to 4:20 pm	Conference Hall, Goa University
Tuesday 7th	Wisdom in the Age of Information <i>and</i> Meditation	3:00 to 4:20 pm	Conference Hall, Goa University
Wednesday 8th	Four Seals: Impermanence, Suffering, Emptiness and Selflessness <i>and</i> Meditation	3:00 to 4:20 pm	Conference Hall, Goa University
Thursday 9th	Hope in Darkness: Understanding Life and Facing Challenges <i>and</i> Meditation	3:00 to 4:20 pm	Conference Hall, Goa University
Friday 10th	Public Talk on Mental Health	5:30 pm	Mondovi Hall, ICG

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR THE COURSE](#)

www.unigoa.ac.in/vrpp | vrpp@unigoa.ac.in




Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace and India International Centre cordially invite you to a webinar on

Peacewomen of Northeast India

Monday, 1st November 2021 • 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm **ONLINE**

 <p>Pradip Phanjouam Editor, Imphal Review of Arts and Politics and author of The Northeast Question: Conflicts and Frontiers</p>	 <p>Patricia Mukhim Editor of The Shillong Times</p>
 <p>Dr. Roshmi Goswami Feminist human rights activist and independent researcher</p>	 <p>Dr. Rakhee Kalita Moral Associate Professor Dept. of English and Chair, Centre for Women's Studies, Cotton University, Guwahati</p>




Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace and India International Centre, New Delhi

Cordially invite you to a webinar on

PEDAGOGY IN THE TIMES OF THE PANDEMIC

As part of WISCOMP Dialogues

23 JULY 2021 4:00 PM TO 5:30 PM

SPEAKERS

 <p>PROF. KISHINA MENON Professor, Gender Studies and former Dean of the School of Human Studies at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi. MODERATOR</p>	 <p>DUSHYANT KUMAR Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Miranda House, University of Delhi.</p>
 <p>PROF. RUKMIN SEN School of Liberal Studies, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi</p>	 <p>DR. ALINYALAKSHI MENON Acting Principal, Miranda House, Delhi</p>

REGISTER HERE

webcast.streaminglive.in/licwebinar/signup.php

The Covid-19 pandemic is changing our world in many ways. Education, especially higher education, has borne the brunt of the pandemic in very specific ways. Students and teachers have had to keep away from the campus, since distancing norms and lockdown policies across the world made it difficult to have face to face classes and interactions on campus. As teachers committed to transformative and critical pedagogy, the speakers at the dialogue will highlight the experiences of faculty and students in campuses of higher learning while battling the anxieties and losses unleashed by the pandemic.

Meaningful interventions by the students and faculty of educational institutions to extend care and logistical support to the citizens such as in Delhi are a significant initiative that merit a discussion. However, accompanying these efforts have been the accounts of gendered experiences of the teaching/learning process as it shifted online, almost overnight. The challenges posed by the existing social inequalities have been exacerbated by online processes, how have teachers navigated these inequalities? The role of leadership in academic institutions, the gendered nature of the struggles of online teaching/learning, the initiatives by the faculty faced with unequal access to digital technology and the mental health concerns of all engaged in the higher education space would form the backdrop of this dialogue.

Presentations by FUR Fellows 2021

Saturday, 23rd October 2021 | 8:30 AM IST | ZOOM

FUR Fellowships for Dalai Lama Studies 2021

 <p>Prof. Honey Oberoi Vahali Discussant: Tenzin Tsundue (Friends of Tibet, India)</p>	 <p>Anjali Nayar Discussant: Prof. Suchitra Balasubrahmanyam (Former Dean, School of Design, Ambedkar University Delhi)</p>	 <p>Dr. Kalzang Dorjee Bhutia Discussant: Prof. Carole McGranahan (University of Colorado)</p>
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Dalai Lama Fellowships for Nalanda Studies 2021

 <p>Dr. Meenakshi Malhotra Discussant: Prof. Anu Aneja (George Mason University)</p>	 <p>Nisheeta Jagtiani Discussant: Dhondup Tashi Rekjong (Northwestern University)</p>
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ལོངས་སྤྱོད་མཁོན་པོ་ལའི་བླ་མ་མཚོ་ལག་གི་ཀུན་ལན་པད་ཅན།
**THE FOUNDATION FOR
 UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITY**
 of His Holiness The Dalai Lama

PRESENTS

THE GESHEMA IS BORN

a film by Malati Rao

Commissioning Editor & Producer: Rajiv Mehrotra



His Holiness The Dalai Lama worked for decades along with the nuns in Tibetan Buddhism to empower and enable them to finally receive the same education and degree as the monks. The film traces the journey of an exceptional nun, Namdol Phuntsok, the first woman ever to be awarded the highest degree in Tibetan philosophy - the Geshema degree which stands for the 'knower of virtue'.

For the Buddha, establishing a community of nuns was a radical experiment for its time. Over the centuries Buddhist religious life was available to women and many historical events mention highly accomplished nuns. But the highest monastic qualifications were denied to them. In achieving this the nuns impact the potential of women across all faiths and foreground the wisdom and uniqueness of the feminine experience.

Foundation for Universal Responsibility presents

HAPPINESS CLASS
A film by Samina Mishra

Now streaming on Vimeo
<https://vimeo.com/539152685>

The film is available from 8 am IST, April 28 to 8 am IST, May 3rd

Webinar with the filmmaker and education practitioners on April 30 at 6:30 pm IST

Register on:
<https://bit.ly/2QF0nrv>

Webinar

Speakers

 **Rajiv Mehrotra**,
Foundation for Universal Responsibility

 **Mekin Maheshwari**,
Udiyam Learning Foundation

Moderator  **Prachi Kalra**
Prachi Kalra teaches at Delhi University. She has a PhD in storytelling; her research showed that children, even young ones, enjoy complex stories not necessarily with a direct moral. Prachi is interested in literacy and children's literature.

Panelists

 **Samina Mishra, Filmmaker**
Samina Mishra is a documentary filmmaker, writer, and teacher based in New Delhi. Her work uses the lens of childhood, identity and education to reflect the experiences of growing up in India.

 **Poonam Batra**
Poonam Batra is Professor of Education at Central Institute of Education, University of Delhi and has co-authored a number of key education policy documents in India.

 **Vikram Bhat**
Vikram Bhat is a passionate educator with previous successful careers in Technology and Finance. He is presently working as a consultant in the Dy. CM's office in Delhi as a key member of the Education task force.

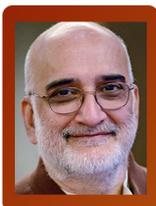
 **Mani Teacher**
Mani is co-founder of Gubbachi Learning Community, that works with under-served children in peri-urban Bangalore. She facilitates the implementation of the Joyful Learning (Nali Kali) program in the primary sections of 4 government schools.



WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE DALAI LAMA?

The talk will reflect on His Holiness the Dalai Lama – our learning from who he is, what he does, and what he teaches. To millions worldwide, across diverse faiths, creeds and nationalities, he embodies the aspiration of the highest human potential on his gently smiling face. At age 86, His message of compassion, altruism & peace is seminal in our troubled times.

Date : 24 April 2021
Time : 11 a.m. IST
Link : <https://zoom.us/j/7757998227>
 (PW: 605135)



Speaker: Rajiv Mehrotra

A student of The Dalai Lama, Rajiv Mehrotra manages the Foundation for Universal Responsibility, established with the Nobel Peace Prize. His nine books have been published in 50 languages & editions. His documentary films have won 49 National Awards from the President.

JOIN US ONLINE.

Queries?

Please write to
support@sarayutrust.org



Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

invites you to a set of introductory
Buddhist Teachings & Discussions
to help us navigate these challenging times

by
Ven. Geshe Lhakdor

on
**NAGARJUNA'S
LETTER TO A FRIEND**
starts

28TH MAY '21
FRIDAY

6 TO 7 PM
(IST)

REGISTER HERE: bit.ly/register-virtualteachings

Write to Norzin at teachings@furhhd.org for more information

#Welcon21

The art and the science
of Happiness - The
Indian Ethos



23 & 24 APRIL, 2021 | VIRTUAL

Title Sponsor ekincare®



Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra

Hon. Trustee & Secretary - The
Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness The Dalai Lama



Mr. Anil Sachdev

Founder & CEO - The School
of Inspired Leadership

23 & 24 April, 2021
Virtual

Register Now

welcon21.nhrdchennai.com

Video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/63vkBfo-I9I>



Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

INVITES YOU TO A DISCUSSION ON

COPING IN CHALLENGING TIMES

SPEAKERS:



Dr. Amit Sen
Psychiatrist



Dr. Anita Ghai
Disability & Gender
Rights advocate



**Dr. Bhargavi
Davar**
Mental Health Activist



**Dr. Honey
Oberoi Vahali**
Psychoanalyst



MODERATOR
Shri Rajiv Mehrotra

on
20TH MARCH 2021 AT 11:00 AM (IST)

REGISTER: bit.ly/discussion20mar

**DIRECTORATE OF VISITING RESEARCH PROFESSORS PROGRAMME
DALAI LAMA CHAIR IN NALANDA STUDIES,**

GOA UNIVERSITY



and
Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

INVITE YOU TO THE LECTURES
by

Ven. Khampo Tashi Tsering

VISITING RESEARCH PROFESSOR UNDER DALAI LAMA CHAIR
IN NALANDA STUDIES, GOA UNIVERSITY

**ONLINE SESSION ON 15TH/ 16TH AND
17TH MARCH, 2021 FROM 3.30 PM**

and

**IN-PERSON SESSION ON 19TH/ 20TH & 21ST APRIL
AT CONFERENCE HALL, ADMINISTRATION BLOCK,
GOA UNIVERSITY**

ON

ASPECTS OF THE NALANDA TRADITION

**The Methodologies of Enquiry,
Understanding the Mind & its Training,
The Nature of Consciousnesses, etc.**

ON GOOGLE MEET OR IGESIA

REGISTER: TINYURL.COM/SENRSYVD

Those who register will be sent a link to download the
soft-ware to participate in the event.

Course Coordinator:
Prof. Savita Kerkar
Director, VRPP
Email: savita@unigoa.ac.in



Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

The India International Centre
Invites you to a discussion on the book

THE DALAI LAMA AN ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHY WITH THOSE WHO KNOW HIM WELL



Forward by
TENZIN CHOEGYAL
(His Holiness' brother,
Ngari Rinpoche)



The Author
TENZIN GEYCHE TETHONG
(former Secretary to
His Holiness)



Moderator
RAJIV MEHROTRA
(a student of 40 years
of His Holiness)

**8TH MARCH, 2021
4:00 TO 5:00 PM**

THE CONVERSATION WILL BE FOLLOWED BY Q & A

REGISTER AT

<http://webcast.streaminglive.in/iicdiscussions3/signup.php>

If the link doesn't work, please copy and paste the URL in your browser. Please register
for the event in advance. Join the event with your name. Registration to attend the
Webinar can only be via the registration portal. It is hosted by the IIC.

The Foundation is unable to facilitate this. You can also watch the event live on
<https://youtu.be/3Hteml4sSU8>

THE VISITING DALAI LAMA CHAIR

MIT WORLD PEACE UNIVERSITY, PUNE

in partnership with

THE FOUNDATION FOR UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITY
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

Invites you to a virtual lecture

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE NALANDA TRADITION Its Relevance Today

by



VEN. GESHE LHAKDOR

Director – Library of Tibetan Works &
Archives, Dharmasala.

Distinguished Buddhist Scholar &
Author, translator for HH Dalai Lama,
Conferred Hon. Prof University of
British Columbia & Delhi

**SATURDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2021
AT 11:00 AM (IST)**

LOG IN / REGISTER:

bit.ly/dalaiLamaChair



Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama



Dr. Vishwanath Kapat
**MIT WORLD PEACE
UNIVERSITY** PUNE
Pursuing the highest quality of education & partnership



Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

WISDOM BYTES

HIS HOLINESS
THE DALAI LAMA
ON THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF
ALL RELIGIONS



CLICK HERE TO WATCH



furhhdl



ལོངས་སྤྱོད་ལོན་ཀྱི་ལྷན་ཁམས་ཀྱི་འཕུལ་པ་དངོས།
THE FOUNDATION FOR
UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITY
of HH The Dalai Lama

I believe that to meet the challenges of our times, human beings will have to develop a greater sense of universal responsibility. Each of us must learn to work not just for oneself, one's own family or one's nation, but for the benefit of all humankind.

Universal responsibility is the key to human survival.

HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA

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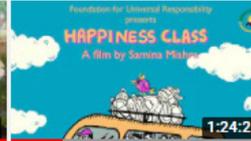
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WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE DALAI LAMA

TUESDAY, DEC 22ND, 2020
6 PM (INDIA TIME)



A VIRTUAL
TALK BY

RAJIV MEHROTRA

Trustee/Secretary,
Foundation for Universal Responsibility of HH The Dalai Lama

CLICK TO JOIN THE TALK ON ZOOM

MEETING ID: 842 9674 5836
LINK: [US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/84296745836](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84296745836)

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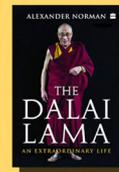
and



Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

invite you to a virtual discussion on the book

THE DALAI LAMA An Extraordinary Life



30th November, 2020

4:00 PM (India Time)

SPEAKERS



Alexander
Norman
Author



Shivshankar
Menon
Former Diplomat



Tenzin Geyche
Former Secretary
to His Holiness
the Dalai Lama



Claude Arpi
Writer &
Historian



Rajiv Mehrotra
Author &
Film-maker

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JINDAL SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY (JSGP)
 invites you to a


VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSION


APPLIED SPIRITUALITY AND PUBLIC POLICY

Panelists will be asked to talk about their work relevant to applying spirituality to public policy and address the opportunities and constraints that will be faced in seeking to apply universal spiritual understanding and values to public policy. This understanding incorporates the illusion of the egoic self, the false sense of separateness from each other and from nature, the shared consciousness and cosmic love shared by all. How can universal spiritual values such as compassion, authenticity, truth, integrity, love, etc. embedded in spirituality, guide public policy, the process and the policy makers? What might a university teaching and research agenda look like?

MODERATOR


PROF. NAREESH SINGH
 Director, CEASP, JGU

PANELISTS


SWAMI SARVAPRIYANANDA


RABBI MICHAEL LERNER


RAJIV MEHROTRA


REV. DR. JONI CARLEY


DR. MAHMOUD MSAELI

TUE | 24th NOV 2020


08:30 PM – 10:00 PM IST
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM EST

Video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/63vkBfo-l9I>



Foundation for Universal Responsibility
 of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

JYOTIRMAI SAHITYA SANSPARSH
 invites you to a Virtual Talk by

RAJIV MEHROTRA
 Author, Film-maker, TV Anchor and
 a Student of HH The Dalai Lama

on

The Dalai Lama's Path to a Fulfilling Life
 (The Dalai Lama and Human Values)

19th NOV, THURSDAY FROM 4 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 895 6256 6160
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For more info, get in touch with
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Directorate of Visiting Research Professors Programme
 HH The Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies, Goa University


Foundation for Universal Responsibility
 of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

Virtual Lecture

Ven. Geshe Tashi Tsering
 VISITING RESEARCH PROFESSOR,
 HH THE DALAI LAMA CHAIR IN NALANDA STUDIES, GOA UNIVERSITY

on

What is the Nalanda Tradition and What is its value?

6th NOVEMBER, 2020
11:00 AM TO 12:15 PM

Followed by a short conversation with

Shri. Rajiv Mehrotra
 MANAGING TRUSTEE, FURHHDL

JOIN AT: MEET.GOOGLE.COM/TPP-RHXE-ZFI

WWW.FURHHDL.ORG

Video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/jUvM9nxJZMw>


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 of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

IN COLLABORATION WITH  **INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE**

A VIRTUAL TALK BY
H.H. THE DALAI LAMA

INDIA'S HERITAGE OF KARUNA & AHIMSA

OCT 26th, 2020
 9-10 AM (INDIA TIME)

Followed by Q and A with


ARUNA ROY


FALI NARIMAN


GOPAL GANDHI


N.N. VOHRA


PRAKASH AMTE


SHIV SHANKAR MENON


SHYAM SARAN


SYEDA HAMEED


RAJIV MEHROTRA

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**Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama**

IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF
**THE DALAI LAMA CHAIR
FOR INDIC STUDIES**
with an emphasis on the
Nalanda Tradition and Dalai Lama Studies

at the
**MAHARASHTRA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WORLD
PEACE UNIVERSITY, PUNE**
ON OCTOBER 4, 2020
in the presence of

CHIEF GUEST
HON. PEMA KHANDU,
CHIEF MINISTER OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH

&

GUEST OF HONOUR
SWAMI ATMAPRIYANANDA,
SENIOR MONK, THE RAMAKRISHNA MISSION

In collaboration with the Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT), Pune
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In Collaboration with

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Organizes
Peace Meet

On the occasion of United Nations International Day of Peace 2020
On the theme
'Shaping Peace Together Through Kindness, Compassion and Hope'

21st September 2020 **Zoom** 04:00 P.M.

Guest Speaker of the Day
Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra
Hon. Trustee & Secretary
Foundation for Universal Responsibility

Opening Remarks
Dr. Kalpana Bhakuni
Principal
Kamala Nehru College

Organizer
Dr. Geetesh Nirban
Faculty Convenor
Shining Network

Introductory Address
Dr. Balaganapathi Devarakonda
Professor and Head
Department of Philosophy
University of Delhi

For Queries Contact Student Convenors:
Vanshika: +91 96506 66505
Prashanti: +91 94011 15743

Register Here:
[Google Form](#)



**Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of His Holiness the Dalai Lama**
presents
Virtual Weekly Teachings
by
Ven. Geshe Lhakdor
starting
Friday, 25th September, 2020
From **6 - 7 pm (IST)**
drawing on
**Atisha's Bodhisattva
Garland of Gems**

Ven. Geshe Lhakdor is the Director of the Tibetan Library of Works & Archives in Dharamsala. He has served as an interpreter for HH The Dalai Lama & as an editor of many of His books. Geshe is a distinguished scholar and a popular, much in demand, teacher who makes the Dharma easily accessible while retaining its authenticity.

REGISTER: [BIT.LY/VIRTUALWEEKLYTEACHINGS](http://bit.ly/virtualweeklyteachings)

The teachings will also be webcast on
facebook.com/furhhd

Write to Norzin at teachings@furhhd.org for more information.

Video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/eyg7uUaLdyY>



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AWARDS & GRANTS include
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A Call to All

Join us in celebrating...
...individuals who have enriched the canvas of gender sensitivity, equity and justice in higher educational spaces



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OF HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA

and the

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Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace and the U.S. Mission to India

Cordially invite you to the Webinar on

GENDER EQUITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

A U.S.-INDIA DIALOGUE



AUG 26
2020



FROM
6:00 PM



LIVE ON
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Speakers



PROF. RANGITA DE SILVA DE ALWIS
ASSOCIATE DEAN,
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
CAREY LAW SCHOOL,
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA



DR. MEENAKSHI GOPINATH
DIRECTOR, WISCOMP



ANTHONY MIRANDA
CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL
AFFAIRS COUNSELOR,
U.S. EMBASSY, NEW DELHI



PROF. KRISHNAMENON
DEAN, SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES,
AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI



PROF. KRISTY KELLY
ASSOCIATE RESEARCH SCHOLAR
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AND
VISITING FACULTY, DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Prof. Kathleen Modrowski, Dean, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities, O.P. Jindal Global University |
Ms. Manddeep Kaur, All India Principal Program Advisor, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi |
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The Director of National and International Outreach at the Library of Congress and Former President, Bryn Mawr
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in collaboration with
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presents a discourse on

NAGARJUNA'S PRECIOUS GARLAND

(1st Chapter)
Starting on the Path to Happiness and Liberation

BY VEN. GESHE LHAJDOR

6(Fri) - 10(Tue) March, 2020
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM AT CASUARINA, IHC

For registration, kindly write to
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Latest by 25th February.



WISCOMP
INVITES CONTRIBUTIONS
FOR LOG-IN GENDER ON

CARE, MUTUALITY, FRATERNITY

WHAT MAKES A CAMPUS A
COMMUNITY?

short creative entries such as intertextual
works, diary entries, conversation pieces,
field notes, interviews are encouraged

submit your entries to
wiscompweb@gmail.com
by 15 May 2020

Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
an initiative of the
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of His Holiness The Dalai Lama

WISCOMP
SAAHAS
AWARDS

A Call to
Counter Gender-based Violence
in Educational Spaces

Educators, Students, Administrative Staff Members and others....

Share YOUR story

...of courage, conviction and sensitivity
...of determination and resilience
...of leading the way
...of being the change

In countering gender-based violence, creating inclusive and gender-just universities,
colleges, schools and other educational spaces.

Educational Institutions are expected to be at the vanguard of progressive,
democratic and inclusive practices.

Voice, Participation and Action

are critical for engendering institutional ethos and transforming societal
attitudes and behaviours on gender-based violence.

Inspire, Motivate and Support others to speak out and take action against
violence and exclusion.

Apply for the WISCOMP SAHAAS AWARDS!

Men, women and transgender persons are invited to submit stories of how they
spoke out, stepped forward, and took action—in their schools, universities and other
educational spaces—against violence and exclusion. Educators, and survivors of
violence, who have become 'change agents' in these spaces, are specially
encouraged to apply. You may also nominate other deserving persons for the award.

For submission guidelines and application form, visit: www.wiscomp.org



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
an initiative of the
Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama
Core 4A, UG Floor, India Habitat Centre
Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003
Phone: 011-24648450
wiscomp2006@gmail.com www.wiscomp.org



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace

in collaboration with

India International Center, New Delhi

invites you to

WISCOMP Dialogues

'En-gendering Corporate Leadership'

A Roundtable Discussion

Keynote Address:

Vinita Bali
Corporate Leader

Lead Discussants:

Poonam Barua
Business Leader

Anuradha Mathur
Educator

Thursday, 16 January 2020

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Lecture Hall II, India International Center Annex, New Delhi

To register, visit: www.logingender.wiscomp.org



WISCOMP
an initiative of the
Foundation for Universal Responsibility, New Delhi



Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace
and India International Center, New Delhi

Cordially invite you to a webinar on

— GENDER AND DISABILITY —

As part of WISCOMP Dialogues

19 MAY
2021

4:30 PM TO
5:45 PM

SPEAKERS



Prof. Anita Ghai
Professor
Ambedkar University Delhi
and Disability Rights activist



Dr. Mahesh Panicker
Assistant Professor
Lady Shri Ram College
University of Delhi



Seema Baquer
Independent Consultant
on Cross Disability Issues



Karuna Rajeev
Assistant Professor
Department of English
Lady Shri Ram College
University of Delhi



Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath
Director
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Seema Kakran
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Facilitator

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The Dialogue seeks to unravel the multiple layers of discrimination and prejudice that conspire to perpetrate individual and structural violence against persons with disabilities in the public and the private spheres.

Recognizing that a sense of 'agency' is pivotal to transformation, this dialogue will provide an opportunity to learn from the struggles and triumphs of activists, researchers and institutional leaders who work to create conditions for differently abled people to lead a life of dignity and choice. It will raise questions of individual, societal and state responsibility in securing the rights of people with disability, especially women.

THE FOUNDATION FOR UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITY
of H.H the Dalai Lama

in collaboration with INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
presents a monthly festival of

FILMS OF THE SPIRIT

Curated by Rajiv Mehrotra

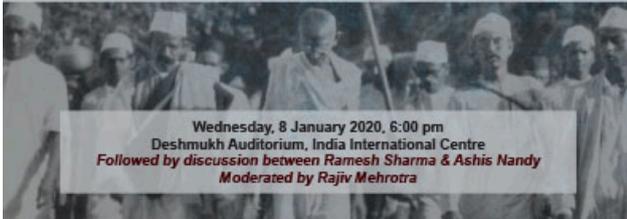
AHIMSA: GANDHI-THE POWER OF THE POWERLESS

(English/2019/103 mins)

by award winning and Emmy nominated filmmaker
RAMESH SHARMA

The film commemorates the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. It documents the impact of the Gandhian philosophy of non-violence on some of the seminal global political movements of the 20th century, underscoring why Ahimsa remains the most powerful tool for conflict resolution in the intractable conflicts of contemporary times. It documents how the spirit of non-violence inspired civil disobedience during the Indian Independence Movement in India, the Civil Rights Movement in USA, the Solidarity Movement in Poland, the Velvet Revolution of Havel, and the Anti-Apartheid strife in South Africa.

The feature documentary weaves together rare archival footage and interviews with world-renowned scholars, biographers, Civil Rights activists, Nobel Laureates and family members of Mahatma Gandhi, to craft a compelling narrative of the impact of non-violence across diverse global contexts.



Wednesday, 8 January 2020, 6:00 pm
Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre
Followed by discussion between Ramesh Sharma & Ashis Nandy
Moderated by Rajiv Mehrotra

national film archive of india

in partnership with

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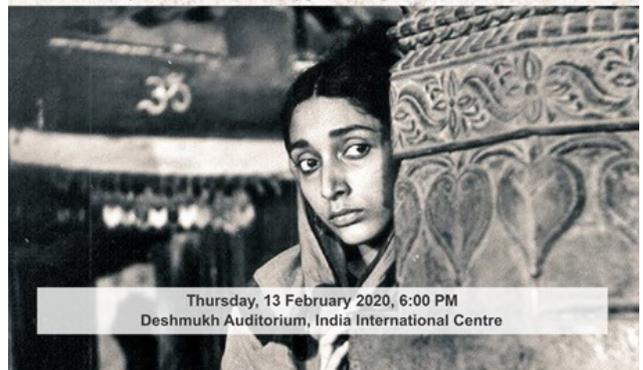
Curated by Rajiv Mehrotra

GHATTASHRADHA

(Kannada/1977/144 mins)

Direction: GIRISH KASARAVALLI

Set in a rural orthodox Brahmin Karnataka village, Kasaravalli's first feature tells the story of a child widow through the eyes of a young boy. Yamuna, a young widow, stays in an agrahara with her father Udupa, who runs a Veda Pathshala. Nani, the new entrant to the school likes her. Yamuna befriends the village school teacher and becomes pregnant. She desperately tries to abort the pregnancy before the orthodox villagers of the Agrahara come to know of it. Her efforts go in vain. Nani in his innocent way tries to help her out. Soon the villagers find out and terming it "immoral" they decide to outcast her by performing the Ghatashraadha ritual.



Thursday, 13 February 2020, 6:00 PM
Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre

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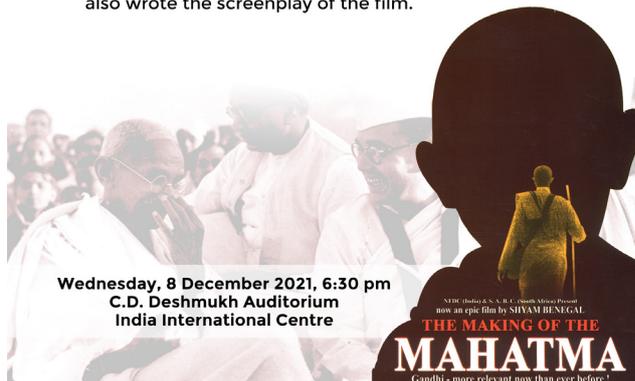
Curated by Rajiv Mehrotra

THE MAKING OF THE MAHATMA

(English /1996 /144 mins)

by SHYAM BENEAL

The national award winning film takes us on a journey into the early life of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi during his 21 years in South Africa. The jointly Indian - South African produced film is based on the book *The Apprenticeship of a Mahatma* by Fatima Meer, who also wrote the screenplay of the film.



Wednesday, 8 December 2021, 6:30 pm
C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium
India International Centre

THE MAKING OF THE
MAHATMA
Gandhi - more relevant now than ever before!

SELECT MEDIA COVERAGE

Page 13 TIMES OF INDIA

THE SPEAKING TREE

NEW DELHI, SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2020 SPIRITUAL PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

Purpose Of Life

On the eve of HIS HOLINESS THE XIV DALAI LAMA'S birthday, his student of 40 years, RAJIV MEHROTRA, shares his mentor's reflections on happiness

The purpose of life is to be happy. Right from birth, every human being wants happiness. Neither social conditioning, education nor our particular faith affects this. We simply desire contentment. I don't know whether the universe — with its countless galaxies, stars, and planets — has a deeper meaning or not, but it is clear that we face the challenge of making a happy life for ourselves. So, it is important to discover what will bring about the greatest degree of happiness.

We could divide every kind of happiness and suffering into two main categories: mental and physical. Of the two, it is the mind that exerts the greatest influence on most of us. Unless we are gravely ill or deprived of necessities, our physical condition plays a secondary role. If the body is content, we virtually ignore it. The mind, however, registers every event



THE XIV DALAI LAMA TENZIN GYATSO

survive by cooperation based on innate recognition of their interconnectedness. The subtlest level of material phenomena is also governed by interdependence. In fact, all phenomena arise in dependence upon subtle patterns of energy. When there is an imbalance, they dissolve and decay.

It is because our own existence is so dependent on the help of others that our need for love lies at the very foundation of our existence. Therefore, we need a genuine sense of responsibility and a sincere concern for others' welfare. We must consider what we really are; that we are not machines. If we were mechanical entities, then machines could alleviate all our suffering and fulfil our needs. Since we are not solely material creatures, it is a mistake to place all our hopes for happiness on external development alone. Instead, we should consider our origins and nature to discover who we are and what we require.

Leaving aside the complex ques-

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Lasith Malinga (5/6) takes 4 wickets in 4 balls and becomes the first bowler to claim 100 wickets in T20is as Sri Lanka beat New Zealand by 37 runs, P 24

Let's Build Bridges And Foster Friendships

The XIV Dalai Lama

I have learned many valuable things from other traditions. Many of their followers and leaders are my friends. They have introduced me to their scriptures and invited me to their places of worship to experience their faith. I have been to Hindu temples to perform aarti; to mosques to do namaz, wearing a skull cap; and to churches to sing hymns, with a cross hanging around my neck. I have prayed at numerous shrines, gurudwaras and synagogues. Many of my friends eagerly come to listen to Buddhist teachings and visit our monasteries. It is a useful way to enrich one's own beliefs and traditions. It builds bridges and fosters friendships.

I'm a Buddhist. I believe that Buddhism is best for me — my particular disposition and my needs. That does not mean that other faiths are in any way inferior. Each of us must follow a

religion or creed that is appropriate for us.

I believe all religions teach us to be more compassionate. Though all religions promote this, they do not share the same ideas about the nature of reality, philosophy or practices. There are substantial differences.

We live in diverse physical, political and cultural environments.

We have varied mental dispositions, preferences and capacities. No single religion, philosophy or method can respond to everyone's personal needs and the social challenges that different communities confront.

For some, a personal philosophy is not essential; surrendering to an all-embracing, powerful Creator God is easier. If they act according to the directions and wisdom of an omnipotent superior being, it gives them greater confidence, comfort and

strength. Others approach their lives based purely on reason and logic. They need a sense of autonomy and take personal responsibility for their lives. Buddhists believe in karma, the impersonal Law of Causality; they believe that whatever unfolds is a consequence of their thoughts and action, karma the most critical point is to have a disciplined mind and a warm heart.

When I was in Tibet, there was no contact with other religions. In exile, I have met people from many different traditions. I am convinced that they all have the potential to produce good, with themselves and with others

In India, there are many different traditions of thought and philosophy, even within Hinduism itself. Its civilisation has been home to virtually every faith. These have not only co-existed

harmoniously but enriched each other in numerous ways. I think this is one of the striking things about the country.

When nations and continents were relatively isolated, the concept of 'one truth, one religion' was relevant. Today, the situation is different. If we are to survive as a species, we will have to accept pluralism and celebrate diversity. We must work together to address global challenges both moral and practical — from issues of equity and human rights to the environment, distribution of natural resources, disarmament and trade.

Whatever our beliefs, everyone benefits if we are a people at peace with ourselves and with others, in a relationship of mutuality and trust. Religious *ahimsa* is a part of the Indian psyche. It has been the basis of religious harmony in India for millennia. It must remain as a model for the world. For Tibetans, India has been our Arya Bhumi, our Guru. As told to Rajiv Mehrotra.



THE SPEAKING TREE

GU, UP varsity may partner on Buddhist studies

TNN | Mar 17, 2021, 04:33 AM IST



PANAJI: Goa University (GU) and Siddharth University at Kapilvastu, Uttar Pradesh, are discussing a proposal to collaborate on promoting the study of issues relating to Buddhism from a multidisciplinary perspective. GU has already initiated exchanges on Indo-Buddhist learning and a Dalai Lama Chair on Nalanda Studies.

"A proposal for preliminary collaboration was discussed at an event held recently at Siddharth University, Kapilvastu, Siddharthnagar, with Goa University on issues relating to Buddhism, given the UP institute's location and the growing interest on the theme at both the universities. The recently established Siddharth University has an abiding interest on Buddhist studies," Rahul Tripathi, head of political science department at GU, said.

TAKING A NEW DIRECTION

➤ Goa University & Siddharth University at Kapilvastu, UP, **discussing a proposal to collaborate on promoting the study of issues relating to Buddhism**

➤ Siddharth University is located at a **place known to have been the playground of**

Prince Siddharth, later known as Gautam Buddha

➤ Students will be able to **benefit from online sessions starting from March 19**

➤ The interactions have been kept **open to students, researchers, faculty members as well as the general public**



“The Buddhist path of enlightenment, reason and middle path ought to show us the way out from the present frictions facing the world

Rahul Tripathi | HEAD OF POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, GOA UNIVERSITY

Siddharth University is located at a place known to have been the playground of Prince Siddharth, later known as Gautam Buddha.

Tripathi said it was proposed that the interaction between the two universities could begin in a virtual mode and could be expanded at a later stage. "The Buddhist path of enlightenment, reason and middle path ought to show us the way out from the present frictions facing the world," said Tripathi.

He was speaking at Siddharth University, where he was participating in the event 'Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to celebrate the 75th year of India's independence.

Only the deep civilizational and cultural legacy of secularism that India always had and the material and spiritual wealth that existed at the time will provide a basis for India to move forward, said Prof Surendra Dubey, vice-chancellor, Siddharth University.

GU has already collaborated with the Foundation for Universal Responsibility of HH The Dalai Lama, at Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, and currently, Ven Khampo Tashi Tsering is delivering lectures as visiting research professor under the Dalai Lama Chair in Nalanda Studies.

The online sessions will be held up to March 17, and students will be able to benefit from online sessions starting from March 19.

Khampo Tashi Tsering is introducing students to the 'Aspects of the Nalanda Tradition: The Methodologies of Enquiry, Understanding the Mind & its Training. The Nature of Consciousnesses.'

The interactions have been kept open to students, researchers, faculty members as well as the general public.

RECONVENING WISCOMP'S SOUTH ASIA CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION NETWORK

IDEAS FROM VIRTUAL ALUMNI CONVERSATIONS IN 2021



"I grew up around the Neemrana dialogue. Having seen difficult, adversarial conversations, representing possibly conflicting interests, being carried out in a very dignified manner, today I feel we've lost that. I don't see an environment that propagates that kind of respectful, collaborative academia. We as Pakistanis and Indians have always been able to talk to each other, do business with each other. But we have almost been regulated out of those spaces by the mood and tenor of the various governments we have. I think by convening us, WISCOMP is taking a massive corrective step to fix that space which is broken."

Azeema Cheema
Director Research & Strategy
Verso Consulting
Pakistan

WHAT DO WE HOPE TO BUILD?

PURPOSE FOR RECONVENING

2022 marks a decade since the last formal convening of WISCOMP's Conflict Transformation Program, although we have continued to stay in touch over the years. Conceptualized in the year 2000 as part of WISCOMP's efforts to facilitate cross-border dialogue between youth leaders in South Asia, we have proudly witnessed **10 Conflict Transformation Workshops** weave together a resilient web of over **400 peace animators** across the South Asian region, in particular, India and Pakistan. It fills our heart to have nurtured and been nurtured by such a special community - one that is not confined by physical and mental cartographies.

In 2021, WISCOMP received an overwhelming response from several CT alumni to reconvene the network, not just for nostalgia, but to make meaningful issue-based impact structurally, culturally, politically and relationally in the India-Pakistan and broader South Asian context, in light of the tectonic global changes in the past decade.

- Offer new ways of being and living together and **chart a new discourse of peace, justice and inclusivity that is pertinent to the current realities of the South Asian region.**
- Nurture the network as a platform to **reinforce cross-border ties and collaborations** between civil society leaders, academics, cultural activists and civilians to strengthen our collective efforts for peace in the region

- **Bring more youth into the fold** to take ownership of the peace process and shape the discourse
- Address the issue of shrinking civic spaces for articulation and **re-create channels of sustained communication and ideation**, both among the CT alumni of each country and with alumni across the border
- **Leverage the unique strength of the diaspora** in easing tensions across borders and boundaries through their ability to connect with a 'freer language', and by reinterpreting and re-appropriating what is being hijacked by shrill voices in India and Pakistan
- **'Scale up' and expand the network** to include more South Asians
- Collectively **imagine a more hopeful, interdependent and peaceful future**

For this initiative to be meaningful, we imagine it to be an **entirely consultative and collaborative process**.

WAY FORWARDS

MOVING FORWARD, CHARTING GOALS, INVESTING IN THE PROCESS

- ✓ Laying out objectives, outcomes and action points
- ✓ Creating influence and action-oriented change
- ✓ Reconnecting with existing alumni and expanding network to include more young people
- ✓ Being sensitive to current political realities on both sides.
- ✓ Planning is key to sustaining the dialogue and ensuring the energy does not fizzle away
- ✓ Experimenting with multiple creative formats
- ✓ Engaging with issues that are relevant, not controversial and where Indian and Pakistanis converge – sensitive framing of topics is critical

EDUCATION

Bushra Qadim

- **Conduct research with students (14-20 years of age) at 2-3 selected educational institutes in India and Pakistan on their views about building relations between youth** across borders. What do they think about each other as neighbors? Do they want to be in conversation with each other? If yes, on what themes?
- **Conduct online trainings on leadership for conflict transformation and peacebuilding** with students. They get an opportunity to interact and build a network of young peacebuilders. The students can write about their experiences which can be published and widely circulated.
- **Videos of students on their perceptions of the 'other' before and after the trainings** can be shared on social media and with policy makers.

Shreya Jani

- **We need a meta narrative on non-violence that is current - how do we prepare for non-violence?** We can create a knowledge resource on tools that build the non-violence discourse beyond Gandhi, King and Mandela to draw on current nonviolent movements. Practice of nonviolence needs planning. We must prepare ourselves to live in democracy rather than take the idea of democracy as an entitlement.

Anam Zakaria

- **Hate sentiment in textbooks/media and the impact of this 'otherization' on younger generations is widespread.** We can partner with WISCOMP's network of schools to connect students virtually, and invite speakers from India and Pakistan to engage with students.



“NOW, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, WE NEED TO STRENGTHEN CROSS-BORDER PEACE CONSTITUENCIES.

- Asma Awan
Head of Department of Political Science
Kinnaird College, Pakistan

Gulalai Khan

- Connect school students from India and Pakistan to dialogue on relevant and non-controversial topics to get to know each other, and build empathy. For example - How was the Covid experience for you?

Soumita Basu

- WISCOMP can conduct short online courses on conflict transformation with students from India and Pakistan. CT alumni from both countries can jointly facilitate modules and we can invite experts from neighboring countries for guest lectures on IR, Peace Studies etc.

Nasreen Pasha & Asma Awan

- Virtually invite WISCOMP's CT alumni from India to share experiences with students and make it a regular feature of classes.
- Set up an active students group in college to liaison and engage with WISCOMP's initiatives.

Muna Baig

- Online CT workshops with college students should include case studies on truth telling, reconciliation, and experiences of occupation from diverse global contexts. The workshop should help them connect the dots between - How does human rights feed into transitional justice? What news lens does CT offer?

Syed Hussain Shaheed Soherwordi

- Create cross-border interaction opportunities for scholars, school teachers and college professors, either virtually or physically.

NATION, NARRATIVES & GEOPOLITICS

Azeema Cheema

- Topics for discussion: Empowerment of right-wing ideologies, empowerment of conflict paradigms, empowerment of 'mass anxieties' which are being effectively instigated by conflict promoters, so we as peacebuilders need to come together to build 'mass confidence' – how can we do that creatively and sustainably?

Ammara Durrani

- Much of the social capital that India and Pakistan built in the 1980s/90s has eroded or remains dormant. We must analyze - Why was this social capital so easy to erode in the last 10-15 years? Why was the momentum lost? Why has the space shrunk? What could have been, should have been, but wasn't?

Bhabananda Takhellambam

- Study the history of construction of nation states in South Asia. How have the former colonies - India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, which shared a common history, culture and economy - shaped into different nations? There is value in studying Afghanistan's history also.
- What sustains the mutual antagonism between these nations, especially India and Pakistan?
- Around which issues can we collaboratively evolve narratives of regional peace and cooperation?
- How do we imagine our relationship with Afghanistan as neighbors?
- Why has SAARC been unable to achieve its aims and objectives?



“WE NEED A NEW VOCABULARY AND WISCOMP ALWAYS GIVES US THAT - WHETHER IT IS 'REHUMANIZING THE OTHER', 'ACTIVE COEXISTENCE' OR 'CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION'. AND LANGUAGE IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT HELPS CREATE A SOUTH ASIAN NARRATIVE.

- Shreya Jani
Managing Trustee, Standing Together to Enable Peace
Consultant, UNESCO MGIEP, India

Zahid Khan

- **Organize quarterly conversations where one Indian and one Pakistani pair up for an interactive online conversation.** Topics for discussion: Aggressive rhetoric in India and Pakistan, the bigger impacts of populism on peace and security at domestic and regional levels, what can be learnt from positive cross-border collaborations between researchers.

Muna Baig

- **Build Human Rights solidarity networks across South Asia,** amidst shrinking civil society spaces in Pakistan and India.

Satyabrat Sinha

- **Series of talks on probable causes of the abandonment of the peace process/cooling of India Pakistan outreach in all its dimensions - domestic/regional/global, economic, political and theoretical.** Interesting explanations will emerge to place the current context into perspective. Articles can also be published.
- Political power remains the most powerful and pushes people, initiatives, peace processes away. **How do political power and social capital work together?**
- **Collate a list of resource persons** to engage at forums across India/Pakistan to discuss not only Indo-Pak relations but also Globalization, Gender, Decline of the West etc.

Saira Yamin

- Discuss how we can support **women's empowerment in Afghanistan** to enable peace and security in the country.

Khadija Amjad, Farhat Asif & Arshia Ayub

- **Dialogues with senior political leaders** who are willing to listen to young people share their reflections on India-Pakistan.
- **Political narrative is at the core of the problem. Include voices that are politically visible** to strengthen our capacity to influence change.
- **Inclusion of representatives from diverse think tanks** that advise policy makers is crucial.

Mubarika Aijazuddin

- Invite experts to highlight success stories/best practices of regions, provinces and countries that have **overcome child labor and creatively addressed gender based violence**, which are pressing issues in India and Pakistan. FGDs on their **impact on regional peace and security.**

Syed Basharat

- **Discussion on encouraging women's participation and leadership in politics and other sectors in Jammu and Kashmir**, and the prevalence of **domestic violence in Kashmir** which gets hidden amidst conflict narratives.

Saeed Ahmed Rid

- **Conversation on cross-border people-to-people dialogue and advocacy initiatives** with case studies of Aman Ki Asha and PIPFPD.

Ishtiaq Ali Mehkri

- Pakistani alumni can meet physically, discuss issues in collaboration with WISCOMP, and release brief policy papers - **Policy Pitches** - directed towards media and policy makers.



CT Participants (2003) meet with President of India Late Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

“IN MOMENTS OF POLICY ADVICE AND BACK-CHANNEL WORK IN THE MOST HEIGHTENED OF TENSIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN, THE VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF DIALOGUE AND ENGAGEMENT FROM WISCOMP'S CT WORKSHOP STAY WITH ME. HOW DO WE RETAIN THOSE VALUES OF HUMANITY, TOLERANCE AND OPENNESS TO KEEP TALKING EVEN AT THE HEIGHT OF CONFLICT WHEN YOU SEE THERE IS NO HOPE? HOW DO YOU KEEP ENGAGING EVEN WHEN THE WALLS HAVE GONE UP SO HIGH THAT DIALOGUE SEEMS POINTLESS?”

- **Ammara Durrani**
Assistant Resident Representative
Chief Development Policy Unit
UNDP, Pakistan

CULTURE, ART & STORYTELLING

Anupama Sekhar

- **Build solidarity networks by connecting conflict transformation specialists with cultural practitioners addressing conflict issues.** There is a lot of interest in Cambodia, Vietnam, Taiwan, and post Soviet countries in Central Asia to hear from South Asia and connect to this region.

Ambreen Noon Kazi

- **Explore how the diaspora community coexist in harmony outside the region and can influence the narrative** to create change.
- **How have digital platforms broken down barriers** among the youth of the two countries?

Monica Wahi

- **Curate a South Asian Film Festival**
- When all democratic institutions are subverted, **how can we use culture in a robust, creative and integral way to push back and build public consensus? A small thematic core group on Cultural Activism can put together** something in six months.

Haroon Khalid

- Organize a conference and **facilitate a session on religious syncretism in South Asia**

Anurupa Roy

- **Artists' exchange** between India and Pakistan
- **Puppet show** with two puppets - one Indian and one Pakistani - speaking to each other

Maria Gulraize Khan

- Collaborate with Indians on themes of community led initiatives to **protect tangible and intangible heritage, promote cultural pluralism, interfaith harmony, et al.**

Sameer Patil

- **Role of social media in making/unmaking the 'other'**, reflecting on bilateral people-to-people exchange during COVID times.

Mubarika Aijazuddin

- The concept of a **'lost shared heritage'** is present among young people, and they want to connect with their pasts and with each other. We can imagine creative ways to discuss our cultural heritage.

Shreya Jani

- **The current generation doesn't talk about Partition although the antecedents of the hatred that conjures up the 'enemy' image is very present.** How can the next generation understand the language of love and coexistence even though our histories are violently pitted against each other?

Soumita Basu

- **Role of news and/or social media in constructing 'the other'.** WISCOMP can host social media pages that serve as exemplars for respectful conversations on difficult issues.
- Develop criteria to jointly monitor representation of the neighboring country in national news media, and maintain, if possible, a **Media Monitor.**
- CT alumni can **jointly guest edit a monthly online journal on the region**, focusing on human security/development instead of the kind of news that animates the news media.

Jahanzeb Sherwani

- **Stories of successful collaborations between Indians and Pakistanis as business partners, colleagues, friends** etc. to inspire people who may otherwise see both sides as only 'enemies'

Anisha Kinra

- Create a **centralized self-managed page on WISCOMP website for CT alumni to converge**, share ideas and stay connected.
- The **diaspora can mentor young people from India/Pakistan** and create meaningful dialogue between Indian and Pakistani students abroad.



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN MIT PUNE & FUR



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

DR. VISHWANATH KARAD

MIT WORLD PEACE UNIVERSITY

PUNE, INDIA

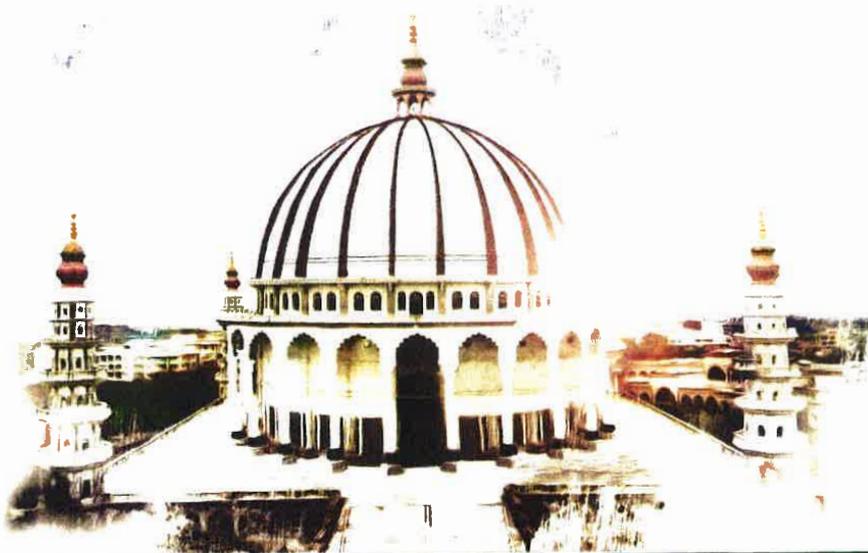
&

THE FOUNDATION FOR

UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITY

OF HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA

NEW DELHI, INDIA



Dr. Vishwanath Karad MIT World Peace University, Pune, India herein represented by its **Executive President, Shri. Rahul V. Karad**, with its official address at S.No.124, Kothrud, Pune - 411038, Maharashtra (hereinafter called **MIT-WPU** and which expression shall unless it be repugnant to the meaning or context thereof, be deemed to mean and include its executors, administrators and permitted assigns)

AND

The Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, New Delhi, India represented by its **Trustee-Secretary, Shri. Rajiv Mehrotra**, with its official address at Core A4, UGF, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003 (hereinafter called **FURHHDL** and which expression shall unless it be repugnant to the meaning or context thereof, be deemed to mean and include its executors, administrators and permitted assigns)

The above mention party will be individually known as Party and collectively as Parties.

Hereby, constitute a formal understanding of cooperation and friendship which will enable the establishment of **The Dalai Lama Centre for Peace Studies**. It will focus on India's Civilizational Heritage, and the Nalanda Tradition, especially its relevance to contemporary issues. **The Dalai Lama Centre** under the aegis of MIT-WPU will include a Department for **The Dalai Lama Studies**.

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed on the auspicious occasion of **Dasara – Vijaydashmi, Sunday, 25th October 2020**, under this, two institutions will collaborate to develop this project.

Areas of Cooperation

1. The establishment of **The Dalai Lama Centre for Peace Studies** at **MIT-WPU** under the aegis of **Philosopher Saint Shri Dnyaneshwara World Peace Prayer Hall and Library (the World Peace Dome)** will be a joint initiative. Parties have agreed upon that MIT-WPU will set up **The Dalai Lama Chair**, with a visiting faculty/expert as a precursor to **The Dalai Lama Centre**.
2. The Chair will host at least one talk or more every quarter in the first year as agreed by and between the Parties from time to time. Visiting Professors will deliver these on Indic Heritage Studies with particular reference to the Nalanda Tradition and on **His Holiness the Dalai Lama. HH the Dalai**

Lama is expected to deliver a virtual lecture on the Nalanda tradition over the coming months, once the COVID pandemic recedes, MIT-WPU will host on-campus series of lectures and/or monthly events on best possible basis. Circumstances permitting, **HH the Dalai Lama** will then visit the campus.

3. These events will continue for an initial period of approximately two years or till **The Dalai Lama Centre** is functional or any other date which can be mutually agreed by the Parties.
4. MIT-WPU, under joint initiative with FURHHDL, will evolve a detailed blueprint to establish a full-fledged **the Dalai Lama Centre as a thorough, meticulous and conscientious academic space that will nurture Indic Studies, the Nalanda Tradition and the Dalai Lama Studies**. It will explore other related subjects such as the **Study of the World's Religions, Inter-Faith Harmony, Conversation between Science and Spirituality/Faith Traditions, Union of Science and Spirituality to enable world peace**, etc. Both the Parties assure to maintain confidentiality of any Proprietary Information of the other Party.
5. Towards this aspiration, **MIT-WPU** and **FURHHDL** will jointly set up a Planning Committee for **The Dalai Lama Centre** to prepare and develop a detailed project report (DPR). The DPR will present a vision statement and objectives, along with a comprehensive blueprint for the phase-wise development of the project, its administrative and academic structures, the curriculum, student and staff profiles, the physical infrastructure required, budgets/financials and business model etc. over the long term. The Planning Committee for **The Dalai Lama Centre** will submit its recommendations within 12 months from the signing of this MoU or any other timeline mutually agreed by and between the Parties.
6. **MIT-WPU** and **FURHHDL** are committed to continuing to work together to establish and sustain the new Centre to the best global standards extending the principles of this MoU. This will be on mutually agreed upon terms that will respond to the detailed recommendations of the Planning Committee and agreed mutually by the Parties.
7. **Shri. Rahul V. Karad** (Managing Trustee and Executive President, MAEER's MIT Group of Institutions) will chair the Planning Committee for **The Dalai Lama Centre**. **Mr. Darshan P. Mundada** (Director, Philosopher Saint Shri Dnyaneshwara World Peace Dome) will be the second nominee for the **MIT World Peace University**. **Mr. Rajiv Mehrotra** will represent **FURHHDL** along with a nominee which will be

appointed and details should be shared with **MIT-WPU** on his appointment. Together they will invite additional members who will together lend credibility, stature and expertise to the process. **The Planning Committee for The Dalai Lama Centre will have up to 15 official members.** These will include Advisors/Consultants - deemed necessary and useful to represent expertise in areas such as - finance, management, academic - subject/area specialists and Government policies in particular related to the New Education Policy, etc. Other core members of the **MIT-WPU** team will be special invitees for subgroups as required.

8. The Committee will meet at least once every two months or as and when required which will be mutually agreed by the Parties. It will work with virtual and/or in-person consultations with potential stakeholders and experts, especially those such as members of possible global Board of Governors leading to future active participation.
9. MIT-WPU is committed to meeting all the expenses which are mutually agreed by and between the Parties in writing for the first two years of **The Dalai Lama Chair** or till **The Dalai Lama Centre** is established or until this MOU is terminated, at which time the Chair will be subsumed into the new entity. MIT-WPU is committed to the establishing **The Dalai Lama Centre** and sustaining it administratively and financially as required. It will function using the best practices of transparency and accountability of public, not-for-profit institutions.

Scope of the Cooperation

10. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) shall remain in force for an initial period of **three years** from the date it is signed. It may further be extended or amended with the written agreement and mutual agreed by both the Parties. This MoU may be terminated by either party with the delivery of the three months' notice, in writing and the notice shall be accepted by mutual discussion by and between the Parties. Upon serving notice of termination, both **MIT-WPU** and **FURHHDL** agree to work in good faith to enable Visiting Scholars & Professors to complete their respective programs unhindered by the Termination of this initiative
11. At MIT-WPU, the Director of MIT-WPU World Peace Dome or his nominee will oversee the implementation of the MoU. At FURHHDL, the Trustee-Secretary or his nominee will supervise the implementation.
12. Both the Parties understand that MIT-WPU will administer **The Dalai Lama Chair** in consultation with FURHHDL and meet all the costs unless

agreed otherwise by and between the Parties in writing. FURHHDL of which **HH The Dalai Lama** is the Chairman will additionally support this by its formal and public association with the project. They will draw on their network of human and domain resources to do this.

13. Both the parties agree that any disagreement regarding the interpretation of this MoU would be amicably resolved through mutual discussion. In case of any dispute which does not get resolved by mutual discussion shall be referred to a sole arbitrator as per the provisions of The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 and place of arbitration shall be Pune. All the disputes if any shall be subject to Pune Jurisdiction only.
14. Other than the mentioned above the Parties shall have no right to make any claim and/or have right to any compensation / dues / damages etc. from the other party.

This Memorandum of Understanding documented in English is hereby signed in two (2) originals with one (1) in the possession of each institution.

For and on behalf of MIT-WPU



Rahul V. Karad

Executive President, MIT-WPU

Date: 25/10/2020

For and on behalf of FURHHDL

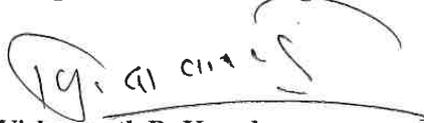


Rajiv Mehrotra

Trustee-Secretary, FURHHDL

Date: 25/10/2020

Executed under the guidance and blessings of:



Rev. Prof (Dr.) Vishwanath D. Karad

President, MIT World Peace University

Date: 25/10/2020

Witness 1:

Name Ngomalk

Witness 2:

Name Prashant
27/11/2020

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN KISS UNIVERSITY & FUR

6th March 21



Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness The Dalai Lama

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

KISS UNIVERSITY - DU, ODISHA, INDIA

& THE FOUNDATION FOR UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITY

KISS University - DU, Odisha, India herein represented by its Registrar Dr. Prashanta Kumar Routray, having its official address at KISS-DU, Campus 3, Patia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, 751024 (hereinafter called KISS-DU and which expression shall unless it be repugnant to the meaning or context thereof, be deemed to mean and include its executors, administrators and permitted assigns) and The Foundation For Universal Responsibility of H.H. the Dalai Lama, represented by its Managing Trustee, Shri Rajiv Mehrotra, having its official address at Core A4, UGF, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003 (hereinafter called FUR and which expression shall unless it be repugnant to the meaning or context thereof, be deemed to mean and include its executors, administrators and permitted assigns) establish hereby a formal understanding of cooperation and friendship. This will support KISS-DU in establishing programmes of advanced study in the Nalanda Tradition & Dalai Lama Studies. Under this Memorandum of Understanding, KISS-DU will implement the project with the support of FUR

Area of Cooperation

Establish **'The Visiting Dalai Lama Chair for Nalanda Studies'** at KISS-DU. This will be a precursor to the activation of the Dalai Lama Centre at KISS. Both parties agree to work together to evolve a blue-print, in due course, for an additional program on Dalai Lama Studies.

Scope

The Chair will nurture an academic discourse on the Nalanda Tradition, especially its relevance today. It will seek to facilitate an understanding of:

- The achievements and legacy of Nalanda university,
- The place of Nalanda in the evolution of the contours of Indian History, Philosophy & the Wisdom Traditions, Buddhism in general & the Mahayana, in particular.
- The aspirations of Nalanda for the education of its students, the structure, methodologies and principles that were used.

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- The values and ideas that it sought to cultivate in the community that continue to have value and significance today. These include Ahimsa, Karuna, Gender, Conflict Resolution, Peace Studies, Medicine, Environment, The Scientific Method, the celebration of diversity, reaching out to knowledge and traditions other than one's own.
- It will explore Didactic studies of the Nalanda and areas such as Meditation and Training the Mind, Logic, Debate & Buddhist Metaphysics,

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) shall remain in force for an initial period of five years from the date it is signed by the appropriate officials of FUR and KISS-DU. It may further be extended or amended with the written agreement of both parties. This MoU may be terminated by either party subject to the delivery of the six months advance notice, in writing.

At KISS-DU, appointed representative/nominee will oversee the implementation of the MoU. At FUR, the Managing Trustee/nominee will facilitate the implementation of the MoU.

Both parties resolve that any disagreement regarding the interpretation of this MoU will be amicably resolved through mutual discussion.

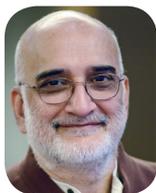


Registrar
KISS Odisha, India University
Bhubaneswar



Rajiv Mehrotra
Managing Trustee
Foundation for Universal Responsibility
of H.H. the Dalai Lama
6th March 2021

FOUNDATION PROGRAMME STAFF



Rajiv Mehrotra (Honorary Managing Trustee) has been a student of His Holiness for forty years. He traveled with His Holiness for the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony and helped establish the Foundation with the prize money. He serves as its Secretary & Trustee.

He was educated at St Stephen's College and the Universities of Oxford and Columbia. He has authored nine books that have been published in more than 50 editions and languages. These include *Mind of The Guru, Thakur: A Biography of Sri Ramakrishna* and *The Essential Dalai Lama*.

As an independent documentary filmmaker, commissioning editor and producer, Rajiv Mehrotra has won 32 National Awards in 34 years from the President of India. He serves as the Managing Trustee of The Public Service Broadcasting Trust, winning more than 340 awards worldwide from over 2,000 film festival selections. For decades, he was a familiar face as an anchor on public television in India. He was nominated a Global Leader for Tomorrow by The World Economic Forum at Davos where he twice addressed plenary sessions. He is frequently invited to talk about His Holiness, on Buddhism, inter-faith harmony and issues related to the media. Rajiv Mehrotra has served on numerous Committees and Boards. He was a Judge for the Templeton Prize for Religion.

Kunsang Tsephel (Programme Manager) manages several of the Foundation's flagship programmes, including Gurukul and Interfaith Pilgrimage.



He completed his formal education in Tibetan Children's Village School and did his undergraduate studies at Delhi University. He has a Masters in Environmental Studies, with his research focused on air pollution and respiratory health in Delhi.



Jamyang Tenzin (Programme Officer) manages the creative design and social media communication for the programmes at the Foundation and provides administrative support.

He holds a Bachelors' degree in Photojournalism from Delhi, and has studied at the Tibetan Children's Villages. He has worked at Wilderness Film India and with EduLift, Nepal where he was involved with the development of K-12 curriculum.

Meenakshi Gopinath (Director WISCOMP Initiative) founded and leads the WISCOMP initiative at the Foundation as its Director, at the urging of His Holiness.



She is Chairperson of the prestigious think-tank The Centre for Policy Research and on numerous Boards, including the United Nations Peace University in Costa Rica, the Geneva-based Non-Violent Peace Force, The Asian University for Women in Bangladesh etc. Dr Gopinath also serves on several university and school boards. She was first woman member of the National Security Advisory Board in India and served on Board of The University Grants Commission etc. She is Principal Emerita, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi which she headed 26 years. She has won numerous honours including the Padma Shri from the President of India for her contributions to Education and an Honorary PhD from La Trobe University in Melbourne. She was a Fulbright Scholar at Georgetown University, Washington DC. Dr. Gopinath has written and lectured across the world on issues of Conflict Transformation, Peacebuilding, Women's Leadership, Education for Peace, Gandhi and Philosophy, International Relations and Diplomacy.



Seema Kakran (Dy Director, WISCOMP Initiative) taught Political Science and International Relations at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA and in Delhi where she did pre-doctoral work. She has taught at the colleges of Delhi University. She studied Political Science at the University of Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru University. She is trained in Evaluation Methodologies and Public Policy Analysis. At the Foundation, Seema works on public policy issues and social justice embedded in values of justice, equality, gender and democracy. She also offers administrative leadership and support to its programmes.



Shilpi Shabdita (Consultant) works on programmes on gender, education for peace and conflict transformation at the Foundation. Previously, she worked at Heartland Alliance, USA on migration issues, and consulted with Afghan's for Progressive Thinking, Afghanistan on youth-led dialogue initiatives. She worked in Uganda at Justice and Reconciliation Project, where she collated a 'Community Memory Book' documenting war memories and justice needs of former combatants and survivors of war; led campaigns for families of disappeared persons; and authored reports on regional reconciliation. Shilpi holds a Masters' degree in International Peace Studies from University of Notre Dame, USA and a Diploma in Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding from Lady Shri Ram College.

Diksha Poddar (Junior Fellow) leads the Foundation's media outreach and communications and supports research and implementation of its programmes. An MPhil in South Asian Studies, she is pursuing a doctorate from the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, researching the processes of alternative narrativization on youth and peacebuilding in Kashmir. Diksha's research interests lie at the intersection of youth, creative arts, peacebuilding, and development.



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