

Nālandā
UNIVERSITY

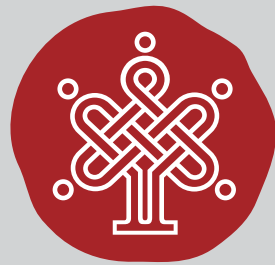
Annual Report 2015-2016



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Annual Report

2015-2016

ABOUT NALANDA



Architectural Rendering of Proposed Campus

Located in Rajgir, in the state of Bihar in India, Nalanda University is a postgraduate, research intensive, international university, supported by the participating countries of the East Asia Summit.

The University was established on November 25, 2010 by a special Act of the Indian Parliament and has been designated as "an institution of national importance".

The University presently offers programmes in the School of Historical Studies, the School of Ecology and Environment Studies and the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions. It enrolled its first batch of students in Fall, 2014.

In all matters the Nalanda University is governed by the Act and subordinate legislation in the form of Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations, each of which set out responsibilities and powers of statutory officers, conduct of business and other such matters.

Nalanda University is administered by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

The President of India is the Visitor of the University.

The Chancellor is the head of the University and is also the Chairperson of the University's Governing Board. The Chancellor presides over Governing Board Meetings and Convocations of the University.

The Vice Chancellor is the principal academic and executive officer of the University.



**Visitor: Hon'ble President of India
Shri Pranab Mukherjee**

The University's Governing Board is responsible for all the policies and directions of the University and management of its affairs.

This Annual Report of the University captures the major events and announcements made in the Year 2015-16 (April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016) and also lists other important information with regard to the University during this year.

FOREWORD

At the outset, I want to congratulate each and every person related to Nalanda University for making an effort to uphold the 'Nalanda Way' and strive towards it. The year 2015-16 has been a bitter sweet year for all of us. Many significant things happened during this year but at the same time very saddening news cast a gloom over us. Words fail to express our sorrow at the demise of our beloved former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. It was his vision to revive this ancient place of learning and once again turn it into a repository of Knowledge. The void created by his absence can never be filled and we will always miss his encouraging support and guidance but now it becomes our added responsibility to keep the Nalanda vision alive and work towards its success.

In the year 2015-16, the university took in its fold 50 new students from across India and many South-East Asian countries like Laos, Myanmar and many more. Several new faculty members and administrative staff also joined the Nalanda family. Along with these delightful tidings, various announcements were made of which one of the most important being of Mr. George Yeo taking over as chancellor of Nalanda University from the founding Chancellor Prof. Amartya Sen. I am sure we will greatly benefit from Mr. George Yeo's stewardship. After taking over as the Chancellor, Mr. Yeo visited the University twice and had worthwhile interaction with the university fraternity.

With great pleasure I would also like to announce that from the forthcoming year the school of Buddhist studies, philosophy and comparative religions will commence in the university.

"Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle. Happiness never decreases by being shared," said Gautama Buddha. Keeping this philosophy in mind, the benevolent couple Dr. Rajendra Kumar Joshi and Mrs. Ursula Joshi has made an endowment of \$ 1 million to support a professorial chair in the school of Historical studies. I extend warm regards to the couple on behalf of the Nalanda fraternity.

Libraries are reservoirs of knowledge, wisdom and wit. One such library was the library of the ancient Nalanda University. It is time we bring back the lost treasure and create the revived university library a treasure trove of wisdom. A group of donors from Singapore have pledged S\$10 million towards the construction and design of the library. I hope the Nalandites will experience an exemplary library facility in the near future.

Along with various decisive meetings during the year, there had been some vital and encouraging interactions with some eminent personalities who share the same global vision like us.

As Lao Tzu has said, "A journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step". We have also embarked on a journey to impart knowledge, "The Nalanda Way", a new knowledge system with universal brotherhood, there are miles to go to complete this journey.....

Dr. Gopa Sabharwal
Vice Chancellor

Introductory Remarks

The University Community grew considerably with 50 students, several new faculty and administrative staff joining the Nalanda Family this year.

Forty four students, from across India and six students from Laos, Myanmar and Bhutan joined the postgraduate courses at the two Schools in the University.

This annual report tries to capture all important and noteworthy developments in relation to the University.

To make the report informative and to provide a bigger picture, the report has been divided into the following sections: *The Nalanda Team, Updates, Academic Activities, Community News, Campus Construction Plans and Interim Campus, Finance.*

The section *Governance of the University* lists all the relevant people who are instrumental in driving the Nalanda Vision, including the Governing Board members and the various Committee members.

The section on *Academic Activities* captures all the lectures and conferences held by the two current Schools- School of Historical Studies and School of Ecology and Environment Studies. It also

captures all the field visits, which is an important component of the experiential learning based curriculum of the University, at both the Schools. The academic endeavours of our faculty are detailed here and it also carries an update on the Nalanda Library.

The "*Reports on Event*" section carries all the events and major announcements related to the University. Some highlights include the appointment of Mr. George Yeo, Former Foreign Minister of Singapore as the Chancellor and his subsequent visit to Rajgir in September and again in January when he met the students, faculty and staff of the University. In January Chancellor Yeo also brought along a group of donors, supporters and friends of the University from Singapore, and Hongkong. This group included donors who have contributed to the gift of Sing \$10 million to meet the cost of designing, building and delivery of the Library at main campus site of Nalanda.

Another highlight was the decision to launch the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions in the Academic Year 2016-17. The University also received an endowment of \$ 1 million from Dr. Rajendra Kumar Joshi and his wife

Mrs Ursula Joshi in the first ever personal donation.

Community News is the section that has the details on all social events like festivals and club activities of the University. Since Nalanda University is a fully residential University, the community activities and social interactions form an important part of the University activities.

The section on *Campus and Construction* carries relevant details on the building and grounds and the Finance section gives a bird's eye-view of the accounts of the University.

The Nalanda Vision continues to be upheld by the University. We hope that we grow steadily to realise this vision that started with the former President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's dream of reviving a centre of excellence like the Nalanda of yore and continues with the tireless dedication of its founding team.

We hope you find this report useful. Please reach out to us for any further information that you may require.





Nalanda Governing Board Members with the External Affairs Minister, Smt. Sushma Swaraj

Governance of the University

The University has a multi-level governance, where the decisions are taken at strategic, tactical and operational levels by various stakeholders viz. Governing Board, Executive Committee, Academic Council, Finance Committee, Building and Works Committee, Faculty and administrative staff

Governing Board

The University's Governing Board is responsible for making all the strategic decisions related to policy making and thus leading the University to the path of attaining its vision. The Board meets twice in a year to deliberate on the issues related to policy decision making.

The briefs of the Governing Board members:

Mr. George Yeo Chancellor

Mr. George Yeo is the Chancellor of Nalanda University, the Chair of its Governing Board and also the Chair of its International Advisory Panel. Mr. Yeo is the Chairman of Hong Kong-listed Kerry Logistics Network, as well as Vice Chairman of Kerry Group. He was a member of the 8-person Pontifical Commission for Reference on the Economic-Administrative Structure of the Holy See and is now a member of the newly-formed Vatican Council for the Economy. He is also a member of the Foundation Board of the World Economic Forum, the Nicolas Berggruen Institute's 21st Century Council and the International Advisory Board of IESB Business School. He has worked with the Government of Singapore for 23 years, serving as Minister for Information and the Arts, Minister for Health, Minister for Trade and Industry and Minister for Foreign Affairs. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan by the Indian Government in 2002.



Professor Amartya Sen Founding Chancellor

Professor Amartya Sen is the Founding Chancellor of Nalanda University. He is Thomas W. Lamont University Professor, and Professor of Economics and Philosophy, at Harvard University. Until 2004 he was the Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. He has served as President of the American Economic Association, the Indian Economic Association, and the International Economic Association and the Econometric Society.

His wide ranging research spans economics, philosophy and decision theory, including social choice theory, welfare economics, theory of measurement, development economics, public health, gender studies and moral and political philosophy. His honours include the Bharat Ratna (India), Commandeur de la Legion d'Honneur (France), the National Humanities Medal (USA); Ordem do Merito Cientifico (Brazil); Aztec Eagle (Mexico); Honorary Companion of Honour (UK); and the Nobel Prize in Economics.





Mr. N.K. Singh

Mr. N.K. Singh is a politician, economist and former bureaucrat. Till recently he was a member of the Rajya Sabha from the state of Bihar. He was a bureaucrat with the Indian Government and handled portfolios such as India's Expenditure and Revenue Secretary. He has also served as Secretary to the Prime Minister and was Member of the National Planning Commission as well as Deputy Chairman of the Bihar State Planning Board.



Professor Lord Meghnad Desai

Professor Lord Meghnad Desai is currently chairman of the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum (OMFIF) Advisory Board. He is also Professor Emeritus at the London School of Economics (LSE). He was made a life peer as Baron Desai, of St Clement Danes in the City of Westminster, in April 1991. Lord Desai was also a founding member of the Development Studies Institute (DESTIN) at the LSE in 1990. He has taught econometrics, macroeconomics, Marxian economics and development economics over the years. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan by the Government of India.

Professor Prapod Assavavirulhakarn

Professor Prapod Assavavirulhakarn is the former Dean, Faculty of Arts and the Head of the Department of Eastern Languages at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. An expert in Buddhism and Sanskrit, he received his PhD in Buddhist Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. His research interests lie in etymology, language and society, Pali-Sanskrit literature, and scriptural readings.



Professor Wang Gungwu

Professor Wang Gungwu is University Professor, National University of Singapore and Professor Emeritus of the Australian National University. At the National University of Singapore, he is Chairman of the East Asian Institute and of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. In Singapore, he is Chairman of Board of Trustees of ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute. Professor Wang is a Foreign Honorary Member, American Academy of Arts and Science, and Honorary Member, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. He is also Commander of the British Empire (CBE). From 1986 to 1995, he was Vice Chancellor of the University of Hong Kong.



Professor Susumu Nakanishi



Professor Susumu Nakanishi is the General Director of Koshinokuni Museum of Literature, the President of the Association for the Study of Japanese Language and Literature, and the Chairman of Japanology Foundation. He is also Professor Emeritus (former Dean) at International Research Centre for Japanese Studies, Professor Emeritus (the former President) at Kyoto City University of Arts. He was a member of Science Council of Japan. His research is in comparative literature, especially “*the Man'yōshū*”. He has written more than 100 books on Japanese writing including “*the Complete Works of NAKANISHI SUSUMU*” which consists of 36 volumes. In 1970 he was awarded the Japan Academy Prize, in 2013 he received the Order of Culture.

Professor Sugata Bose



Professor Sugata Bose is the Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs at Harvard University. He has served as Director of Graduate Studies in History at Harvard and as the Founding Director of Harvard's South Asia Institute. He was educated at Presidency College, Calcutta, and the University of Cambridge. Bose's many books include *A Hundred Horizons: the Indian Ocean in the Age of Global Empire* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2006), *Modern South Asia: History, Culture, Political Economy* (with Ayesha Jalal, 3rd edition, London and New York: Routledge, 2011) and *His Majesty's Opponent: Subhas Chandra Bose and India's Struggle against Empire* (Cambridge, MA: the Belknap Press of Harvard University Press and New Delhi: Allen Lane, Penguin, 2011). His scholarship has contributed to a deeper understanding of colonial and post-colonial political economy, the relation between rural and urban domains, inter-regional arenas of travel, trade and imagination across the Indian Ocean, and Indian ethical discourses, political philosophy and economic thought. He is currently a Member of Parliament in India and Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs.

Professor Wang Bangwei

Professor Wang Bangwei is Professor and Director of the Institute of Oriental Studies and Oriental Literature Research Center at Peking University. He is also the Director of the India Research Center at Peking University. His research includes textual studies of Buddhist literature (of Sanskrit and its Chinese translation), history of Buddhism (both of China and of India), Sino-Indian cultural interactions particularly those topics related to Buddhism, accounts of the Chinese Buddhist pilgrims to India—Faxian, Xuanzang and Yijing—and the historical and religious sources related to these accounts.



Professor Tansen Sen

Professor Tansen Sen is Professor of history at Baruch College, The City University of New York. Currently, he is a Visiting Professor of Humanities and Global China and the Director of the Center for Global Asia at NYU-Shanghai, China. Professor Sen received his MA from Peking University and PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. He specializes in Asian history and religions and has special scholarly interests in India-China interactions, Indian Ocean trade, Buddhism, and Silk Road archaeology.





Mr. Anil Wadhwa

Mr. Anil Wadhwa (Jan 06, 2014- Mar 03, 2016) was the Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) with the Indian Government from January 6, 2014 to March 3, 2016. Mr. Wadhwa has served as the Ambassador of India to Thailand, Poland and the Sultanate of Oman, besides being the Director/Joint Secretary on deputation to the Provisional Technical Secretariat and later the Technical Secretariat for the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in The Hague. He has also served in various capacities at the Indian missions in Hongkong, Beijing, and the permanent mission of India in Geneva, and spent more than a decade on disarmament matters. Fluent in English, Hindi and Chinese, he has a Master's Degree in History with specialisation in Chinese history and Medieval Indian history and architecture.



Mrs. Preeti Saran

Mrs. Preeti Saran (Mar 04, 2016 – till date) joined as the Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs on March 4, 2016. She has served as the Ambassador of India to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and prior to that as the Indian Consul General in Toronto, Canada. Her earlier charges in the Ministry of External Affairs include that of Joint Secretary, SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) and Joint Secretary, Northern Division. She has also served in various capacities in Indian Missions in Geneva, Cairo, Dhaka and Moscow. She holds a Master's degree in English Literature from Delhi University.

Dr. Gopa Sabharwal

Dr. Gopa Sabharwal is the founding Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University. A sociologist by training, she comes to Nalanda from India's foremost liberal Arts college, Lady Shri Ram College for Women where she founded the Department of Sociology in 1993. Her wide ranging research has focused on ethnic groups in urban India, visual anthropology, independence and the history of society. Her books include *Ethnicity and Class: Social Divisions in an Indian City* (New Delhi, Oxford University Press 2006); *The Indian Millennium- A.D.1000 to A.D.2000*, (Penguin India, 2000) and *India Since 1947: The Independent Years* (Penguin India, 2007). She was a Fulbright Scholar in residence at Chatham College for Women, Pittsburg, which is one of the oldest women's colleges in the US, in 2006.



Executive Committee

1. Chancellor, Nalanda University – Chairperson
2. Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs - Member
3. Two nominees of Chancellor - Member
4. Vice- Chancellor - Member Secretary



Nalanda University Governing Board at the 12th Meeting on July 5, 2015

Governing Committees

Academic Council

1. Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University: Chairperson
2. Dean(Academic Planning), Nalanda University: Member
3. Dean of Schools at Nalanda University: Member(s)
4. Two Faculty from each School at Nalanda University: Members
5. Librarian, Nalanda University: Member
6. One expert from industry or a practitioner: Member
7. Two eminent scholars from the academic field: Members
8. Registrar, Nalanda University: Member Secretary

Finance Committee

1. Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University: Chairperson
2. Nominee of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) JS (South): Member
3. Nominee of the Ministry of Finance JS FA (MHRD): Member
4. One Dean of the Schools of Study from Nalanda University by rotation, nominated by the Vice Chancellor: Member
5. Ms. Janki Kathpalia Treasurer, University of Delhi: Member
6. Ms. Dipali Khanna Member Secretary, IGNCA: Member
7. Finance Officer, Nalanda University: Member Secretary

Building & Works Committee

1. Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University: Chairperson
2. Dean (Academic Planning), Nalanda University: Member
3. AS & FA, MEA: Member
4. JS(South), MEA: Member
5. Mr. Sudhir Kumar, Chief Project Manager, IIT Patna: Member
6. Mr. A. K. Sinha, formerly ADG, CPWD: Member
7. Mr. A. R. Ramanathan, Professional Advisor, NU: Member
8. Finance Officer, NU: Member
9. University Engineer, NU: Member
10. Registrar, NU: Member Secretary

The Schools of Studies & Faculty

The university offered Post Graduation degrees in the following two schools for the Academic Year 2015-2016:

1. School of Ecology and Environment Studies.
2. School of Historical Studies

School of Ecology and Environment Studies (SEES)

The School embraces a broad range of academic pursuits from natural sciences to social sciences, in order to promote education and research on the interactions between the natural environment and human activities.

Out of a broad range of possible interest areas in the School, the present focus areas are: Human Ecology, Water Resources, Disaster Management, Food and Agriculture, Climate Change and Energy Studies.

Faculty Members at the SEES

1. B. Mohan Kumar, Professor and Acting Dean
2. Somnath Bandyopadhyay, Associate Professor
3. Pushpa Kumar Lakshmanan, Associate Professor
4. Prabhakar Sharma, Assistant Professor
5. Aviram Sharma, Assistant Professor
6. Sayan Bhattacharya, Assistant Professor

School of Historical Studies (SHS)

The School of Historical Studies (SHS) is a dynamic community of faculty members and graduate students. SHS engages in a programme of rigorous enquiry into fundamental questions that address historical experiences within and beyond Asia. The focus areas of the School draw their inspiration from the legacy of ancient Nalanda and its historical links with many countries in Asia and beyond.

The focus areas of SHS are: Asian interconnections, archaeology, art history, global history and economic history. At the same time the School also looks into the fields of non-Asian and global histories.

Faculty Members at the SHS

1. Aditya Malik, Professor and Dean
2. Pankaj Mohan, Professor
3. Samuel Wright, Assistant Professor
4. Kashshaf Ghani, Assistant Professor
5. Sraman Mukherjee, Assistant Professor
6. Murari Jha, Assistant Professor
7. Ranu Roychoudhuri, Assistant Professor

Visiting Faculty (SHS)

1. Abhishek S. Amar, Visiting Associate Professor
2. Andea Acri, Visiting Assistant Professor
3. Christine Vial KAYser, Visiting, Assistant Professor

Key Officers and Administrative Staff

Finance Officer

Mr. K. Chandramoorthi

University Librarian

Dr. Nihar Kanta Patra

Director (Communications)

Ms. Smita Polite

Manager (Admissions)

Mr. Saurabh Choudhary

Assistant Registrar (Academics)

Dr. B Ambika Prasad Pani

Assistant Finance Officer

Mr. Shishir Jain

Assistant Finance Officer

Mr. Sujitkumar Thakur

Assistant Engineer (Civil)

Mr. Joy Chowdhury

Assistant Engineer (Electrical)

Mr. Manoj Kumar

Assistant Registrar (Procurement)

Mr. Krishna Mohan





Field Trip to Bodh Gaya organised by The School of Historical Studies on November 14, 2015

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

In the Academic Year 2015-16 academic activities in the two Schools- Historical Studies and Ecology and Environment Studies increased significantly. There were over 24 formal lectures from scholars in India and around the world. Several informal and in-house academic lectures were also organised as a part of *Entre Nous* series-an initiative of the School of Historical Studies. Field trips were also organised by the two Schools and students and faculty participated in various external academic activities like paper presentations in various conferences, workshops and other scholarly events. The students in School of Historical Studies also interacted with students from University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA via Video-Conference in late September, 2015 for one of the courses. This was the first among many more such inter-university engagements expected to happen in the near future.

This section carries information on all these academic activities.

Distinguished Lecture Series

Max Deeg on “The Political Position of Xuanzang: The Didactic Creation of an Indian Dynasty in the Xiyu ji”

Professor Max Deeg, Professor in Buddhist Studies and Chair of the Board of Studies at Cardiff School of History, Archaeology and Religion, Cardiff University, UK, delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **April 9, 2015** at Nalanda University. His topic was “The Political Position of Xuanzang: The Didactic Creation of an Indian Dynasty in the Xiyu ji”.

He also talked about Buddhist narratives and their role in the construction of historical identities in Buddhist communities during his lecture.

Professor Deeg is also a member of the International Association of Buddhist Studies, European

Association of Religious Studies, De Nobili Research Society for the Study of South-Asian Religions and Philosophy. Professor Deeg specializes in Buddhist history and the spread of Buddhism from India to Central and East Asia.



Professor Max Deeg delivering the Distinguished Lecture on April 9, 2015

Dipankar Saha on “Ground Water of the Nalanda Area, Bihar”

Dr. Dipankar Saha, Member Secretary for the Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (Government of India) spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **April 18, 2015**, at the University. His talk was titled “Ground Water of the Nalanda Area, Bihar”.

Dr. Saha looks after Research and Training of the Department and has

more than 30 years of experience on ground water investigations, development and management.

He has authored a number of Departmental Reports including State Hydrogeological Reports of Bihar and Jharkhand, Geogenic Ground Water Contamination in India and is professionally trained in Applied Quaternary Geology by Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok and in Integrated Water



Dr. Dipankar Saha delivering a Distinguished Lecture on April 18, 2015

Resources Management by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Tokyo.

K. K. Muhammed on “The thrilling story of Challenging Temple conservation in Chambal valley”

Mr. K. K. Muhammed, Project Archaeological Director in Aga Khan Trust for Culture, spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **April 24, 2015**, at the University. His talk was titled “Caught between Chambal Dacoits and Mining Mafia: The thrilling story of Challenging Temple conservation in Chambal valley”.

His lecture focused on his conservation works at Bateshwar, an archaeological site in Morena (Madhya Pradesh). Bateshwar is a complex of 200 ancient Shiva & Vishnu temples situated 40 km away from Gwalior. These temples were built between 9th and 11th

century during the Gurjara-Pratihara Dynasty, around 200 years before the temples at Khajuraho were built.

When Mr. K.K. Muhammed began working in Bateshwar, he found the area under the heavy dominance of Nirbhay Singh Gujjar and the Gadariya Dacoits. His lecture involved thrilling narratives about his struggles against these communities and dacoits in convincing them to let him restore the temples. He also talked about how he had to fight against mining mafias of the region. Mr. Muhammed was able to restore 60 temples during his tenure in this area.



Mr. K.K. Muhammed delivering a Distinguished Lecture on April 24, 2015

Mr. Karingamannu Kuzhiyil Muhammed is a renowned Indian archaeologist and the Former Director, Archaeological Survey of India, North Zone. He has won several national awards for maintaining different monumental sites in India.

Madhu Khanna on “Opportunities and Challenges for Biofuels in India: Policy Lessons from US and Brazil”

Professor Madhu Khanna, the ACES Distinguished Professor of Environmental Economics in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **August 31, 2015**, at Nalanda. The lecture was on “Opportunities and Challenges for Biofuels in India: Policy Lessons from US and Brazil”.

She discussed the options for expanding ethanol production in India and the policies that are needed to achieve ethanol blend targets as well as its economic implications for the agricultural and transportation sectors. She also described the policy approaches taken by two leading producers of biofuels, Brazil and US, to significantly expand biofuel production and the extent to which these have been successful.



Dr. Madhu Khanna delivering a Distinguished Lecture on August 31, 2015

She explained the distributional effects of these policies and the lessons for policy that can be drawn for India.

Rajat Sanyal on “New Evidence on Monastic Buddhism in Western Bengal: Excavations at Moghalmari”

Dr. Rajat Sanyal Assistant Professor, Department of Archaeology, University of Calcutta, spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* at the University on **September 23, 2015**. His lecture was titled “New Evidence on Monastic Buddhism in Western Bengal: Excavations at Moghalmari”.

Dr. Sanyal, talked about the excavations at Moghalmari.

Moghalmari is a small village in the West Medinipur district of West Bengal. The digging carried out by the Department of Archaeology, C.U. resulted in the discovery of a stupendous Buddhist monastic complex (60Mx60M) consisting of two monastic units within one premises. He mainly focused on the epigraphical study of the findings from the site.



Dr. Rajat Sanyal delivering a Distinguished Lecture on September 23, 2015

David Lowe on “Overseas Students as Foreign Policy: Australian and Chinese Comparative Perspectives”

Professor David Lowe, Professor in Contemporary History at Deakin University, delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* at the University on **October 6, 2015**. The title of the lecture was “Overseas Students as Foreign Policy: Australian and Chinese Comparative Perspectives”.

Much of the common understanding of the Asian Century rests on notions of growth and mobility, especially relating to people, trade and finance, strategic power and information.

Dr. Lowe discussed the understanding of Asian Century based on the notions of growth and mobility, relating it to people, trade and finance, strategic power, and information. His talk assessed the state of thinking about overseas students as foreign policy

from Australian and Chinese perspectives and articulated some



Professor David Lowe delivering a Distinguished Lecture on October 6, 2015

suggestive lines of ongoing research, especially in the context of anticipated increasing student mobility elsewhere in Asia.

Professor David Lowe was also the Director of the Alfred Deakin Research Institute from 2009 to 2014.



K.M. Venkat Narayan on “Public Health Challenges for the 21st Century: Convergence of Biology, Demography, Economics and Environment”

On **October 30, 2015** Professor K.M. Venkat Narayan, Chair of Global Health and Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at Emory University, Atlanta (USA), delivered a lecture titled “Public Health Challenges for the 21st Century: Convergence of Biology, Demography, Economics and Environment” in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* at Adhivesan Bhawan, Old Secretariat, Patna, Bihar.

In his lecture Professor Narayan talked about how people world-wide are now living longer and disease patterns are changing with development. He said that the major challenges for public health include:

poverty and economic disparities; war and violence; climate change; healthy urbanisation; safe water and healthy food; infectious disease epidemics and healthcare systems.

Talking about how India needs to tackle its public health issues on both the urban and rural level he said that most public health solutions will require inter-disciplinary work. He insisted that investing in research and development was important and India's “demographic dividend” depends on delivering health and education effectively.

Professor Narayan is a physician-scientist trained in internal medicine, geriatric medicine, and preventive medicine, and specialises



Professor K.M. Venkat Narayan delivering a Distinguished Lecture on October 30, 2015

in the epidemiology and prevention of diabetes, obesity, and vascular diseases. His career has spanned three continents over the last two decades and has included posts at the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Richard Hughes Seager on “Nationalism, Soft power Yoga, and the World's Parliament of Religions, 1893”

Professor Richard Hughes Seager, the Bates and Benjamin Professor of Religious and Classical Studies at Hamilton College, New York, delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **November 10, 2015**. His lecture was titled “Nationalism, Soft Power Yoga and the World's Parliament of Religions, 1893”.

He discussed modernist constructions around Yoga by tracing the history of developments in the practice which got introduced to the West through World's Parliament of Religions of

1893. His research into this history was helpful in understanding the significance of Asian contributions to the Parliament. He also talked about the image of Vivekananda, current developments within the Hindu-American diaspora and American yoga communities, and the 'soft power yoga' diplomacy of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji, during his 2014 visit to the United States.

Professor Seager has taught at several institutions including Harvard University and UNC Chapel



Professor Richard Hughes Seager delivering a Distinguished Lecture on November 10, 2015

Hill. More recently he has been involved in public education about eastern cultures and their dialogues with the west.

Himanshu Prabha Ray on “Nalanda: The Making of a World Heritage Site”

Professor Himanshu Prabha Ray, former Chairperson of the National Monuments Authority, the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **November 26, 2015**, at the University. Her lecture was titled “Nalanda: The Making of a World Heritage Site”.

Professor Prabha Ray, talked about a wide range of topics. She began with

the discussion on heritage itself– a term coming from European understanding which is problematic for Indian context. She also traced Nalanda's journey as heritage.

Professor Himanshu Prabha Ray is the recipient of the Anneliese Maier research award of the Humboldt Foundation and is affiliated to Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich.



Professor Himanshu Prabha Ray delivering a Distinguished Lecture on November 26, 2015

Malise Ruthven on “Appeal of ISIS, 2015”

Professor Malise Ruthven, Former Professor of Islamic Studies, Cultural History and Comparative Religion, University of Aberdeen, Scotland delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **December 3, 2015**, at Nalanda. He spoke on the topic “Appeal of ISIS, 2015”.

Professor Ruthven, talked about flawed Western policies, structural fragility of existing state systems, the self-styled Caliphate in Iraq and Syria in the context of rise of ISIS. In his

presentation he argued that ISIS's transnational, pan-Islamic appeal for Muslims in many parts of the world lies in the way that its propaganda combines the utopian dream of the Caliphate with the eschatological vision of judgement that features in Islamic foundational texts.

A former scriptwriter with the BBC Arabic and World Services, Professor Ruthven has also taught Islamic studies, cultural history and comparative religion at Birkbeck College, University of London, the



Dr. Malise Ruthven delivering a Distinguished Lecture on December 3, 2015

University of California, San Diego, Dartmouth College, New Hampshire and at the Colorado College, Colorado Springs.

Jens-Uwe Hartmann on “Monks, Money, Manuscripts: Buddhism in Gandhara”

Professor Jens-Uwe Hartmann, Professor of Indology at University of Munich, spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **January 6, 2016** on the topic “Monks, Money, Manuscripts: Buddhism in Gandhara”.

Professor Jens-Uwe Hartmann, talked about the developments in the region of Gandhara during the first centuries of the Common Era. The region witnessed far-reaching developments in Buddhist thought as well as the artistic style where it adopted Roman models for

representing the Buddha and the Bodhisattvas in human form. In his lecture, Professor Hartmann argued that Gandharan Buddhism was extremely successful along the ancient trade routes, commonly known as the Silk Road. Buddhist art and Buddhist doctrine from Gandhara spread first to Turkestan and then further east to China, Korea and Japan along this route.

Professor Jens-Uwe Hartmann has also taught Tibetology at the Humboldt University in Berlin.



Professor Jens-Uwe Hartmann delivering a Distinguished Lecture on January 6, 2015

Prasanta K. Kalita on “Global Postharvest Loss Prevention and the ADM Institute: A Multi-stakeholder Approach”

Professor Prasanta K. Kalita, Director of ADM Institute for Prevention of the Post Harvest Loss University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **January 10, 2016** at Nalanda University. Professor Prasanta K. Kalita as also been Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA. His talk was titled “Global Postharvest Loss Prevention and the ADM Institute: A Multi-stakeholder Approach”.

Professor Kalita, stressed on the need of preventing post-harvest

losses (PHL) in order to combat hunger, especially in developing countries like India. According to him, this can be possible by making supply chains more efficient. He also talked about how

developing and developed countries stressed need to have different strategies since the situations and problems are completely different in the two cases. He also presented factual data on the current worldwide PHL situation, latest PHL data, and potential interventions for



Professor Prasanta K. Kalita delivering a Distinguished Lecture on January 10, 2016

PHL prevention. Finally, he discussed various current international collaborations and other ongoing activities supported by the ADM Institute at the University of Illinois in the concerned area of research.

Amy Paris Langenberg on “Female Agency in the Mūlasarvāstivāda and Mahāsāṅghika-lokottaravāda Vinayas”

Dr. Amy Paris Langenberg, Assistant Professor in the Religious Studies Department, Eckerd College, Florida, spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* at the campus on **January 22, 2016**. Her topic was “Female Agency in the Mūlasarvāstivāda and Mahāsāṅghika-lokottaravāda Vinayas”.

Dr. Langenberg was reading through Buddhist monastic law texts to understand the gender hierarchy within the monastic

community. Her complex reading of bhikṣuṇī vinaya texts presented the language of these texts to be sensitive to various modalities of the nun community. Her hypothesis was that the bhikṣuṇī in Buddhism had some kind of agency with them. The texts she referred for her lecture were Mūlasarvāstivāda and Mahāsāṅghika-lokottaravāda Vinayas.

Dr. Amy Langenberg has held academic positions at various



Dr. Amy Paris Langenberg delivering a distinguished lecture on January 22, 2016

Universities including Brown University and Auburn University.

Silvia D'Intino on “The Last Life: Transmigration, Renouncement, Liberation”

Dr. Silvia D'Intino, Senior Researcher from CNRS, Paris spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **February 11, 2016** at the University. Her topic was “The Last Life: Transmigration, Renouncement and Liberation”.

A specialist in Sanskrit philology and Vedic studies, Silvia D'Intino talked about the Brahmanic ideology on human life and after-life. She gave references to many Brahmanic sources and the philosophical traditions of early India during her lecture. Her engagement with the topic was highly provocative. According to her, if the end of

transmigration appears as the essential step for achieving mokṣa, liberation goes hand in hand with the implicit ideal of a last life, leading to the exhaustion of karmaphalas, vāsanās... all sorts of spots and shadows affecting human existence, and offering a model for a perfect life, embodied both by the renouncer (saṃnyāsin) and the liberated-in-life (jīvanmukta). She also mentioned the ideal of a last life from Buddha's biography to highlight the presence of a common thread of Indian ideas on human condition.



Dr. Silvia D'Intino, delivering a distinguished lecture on February 11, 2016

Birendra N. Mallick on “Understanding REM sleep to Explore Neural Basis of Consciousness”

Professor Birendra N. Mallick, Professor in the School of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Lal Nehru University, New Delhi, spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **February 15, 2016** on “Understanding REM sleep to Explore Neural Basis of Consciousness”.

Professor Mallick's lecture was on understanding consciousness through the rapid eye movement sleep (REMS). According to him, although we do not yet understand

the neural mechanism and control of consciousness, the most visible and explicit physio-behavioural correlates are sleep and waking, which are objectively defined by the associated brain electrical activities, the EEG. Nature has provided a unique state, REMS, when although one is behaviourally asleep, several signs of waking are expressed. He stressed that understanding the neural regulation of REMS could provide clues to deciphering the neural regulation of consciousness.



Professor Birendra N. Mallick, delivering a distinguished lecture on February 15, 2016

He also presented some details from advanced researches on REMS regulation.

Jane E. Schukoske on “Community-University Engagement and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan”

Jane E. Schukoske, Chief Executive Officer, S M Sehgal Foundation, Gurgaon visited Nalanda University (NU) along with her colleague, Dr. Vikas Jha, to interact with NU community and present a lecture in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **February 19, 2016**. The title of her lecture was “Community-University Engagement and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan”.

Jane E. Schukoske is also a member of the Academic Council of Nalanda University.

Jane E. Schukoske and Vikas Jha talked about the work of S M Sehgal Foundation. Sehgal Foundation's Good Rural Governance programme

provides individual citizens and the leaders of village-level institutions with knowledge, skills, and confidence to become informed active self-advocates for the development of their communities. They also talked about Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) a programme launched by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in December 2014. The UBA aims at extending the knowledge of institutes of higher learning through interventions in nearby rural villages.

Both the speakers suggested that the University could engage with such programmes and take care of



Ms. Jane E. Schukoske, delivering a distinguished lecture on February 19, 2016

community issues of neighbouring villages. Nalanda's plans for future already include working with the neighbouring villages on various fronts like waste management and agriculture.

Max Deeg on “How to Read Xuanzang’s “Record of the Western Regions” – Challenging Indian-ness and (Re-) Establishing Chinese-ness”

Professor Max Deeg, Scholar-in-Residence at Nalanda University and Professor, Buddhist and Religious Studies, Cardiff University spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* on **February 23, 2016**. The title of his lecture was “How to Read Xuanzang’s ‘Record of the Western Regions’ – Challenging Indian-ness and (Re-) Establishing Chinese-ness”.

Professor Deeg talked about the travel account of Xuanzang – “Record of the Western Regions of the Great Tang Dynasty” (*Datang xiyu ji*). He questioned the established use of text in understanding Indian Buddhism and early Mediaeval Indian history. He

presented many examples to show how the Indian-ness in the text gets overridden by the Chinese-ness. He pointed out that the readers of the text must keep in mind the context and the fact that it was written for the Chinese audience and the Chinese emperor. He further stressed that the reading of the text – or rather of decontextualised bits and pieces of the text – as a document describing an Indian historical objective reality must fail as much as interpreting any Mediaeval Indian textual source in this way must fail.

His proposed reading of the text – exemplified in the light of two selected passages – took into



Professor Max Deeg delivering a distinguished lecture on February 23, 2016

account its original Chinese context and the possible underlying intention of the text before jumping to conclusions about its descriptive content and nature. While talking about the description of Indian military and legal system, Professor Deeg also referred to Indian texts like *Dharmasastra* and *Arthasastra*.

Kalyan Rudra on “Pollution Management for the Ganga River”

Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board, spoke in the *Nalanda Distinguished Lecture Series* at the University on “Rediscovering the Ganga: the Issues of Pollution Management” on **March 31, 2016**.

Dr. Kalyan Rudra discussed at length the decaying state of river Ganga due to pollution and other human activities. He also talked about various measures taken so far to improve the water quality of the river including the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) which was launched in 1985. Dr. Rudra shared different statistics related to Ganga pollution management. He also mentioned the project undertaken by an expert committee formed with the

collaboration of seven IITs for restoration of *aviral* (uninterrupted) and *nirmal dhara* (non-polluted) in the Ganga. However, according to Dr. Rudra, these efforts are not yet sufficient. In his conclusion, he emphasised that recovering the quality of the river in all regards should be a people’s programme, in fact an initiative of collective responsibility.

Dr. Rudra is also a member of the Central Pollution Control Board. He is a Geographer by academic training with specialisation in river and water management. He took a break from his protracted teaching career in 2007 and joined in a research project of West Bengal Pollution Control Board. He worked



Dr. Kalyan Rudra delivering a Distinguished Lecture on March 31, 2016

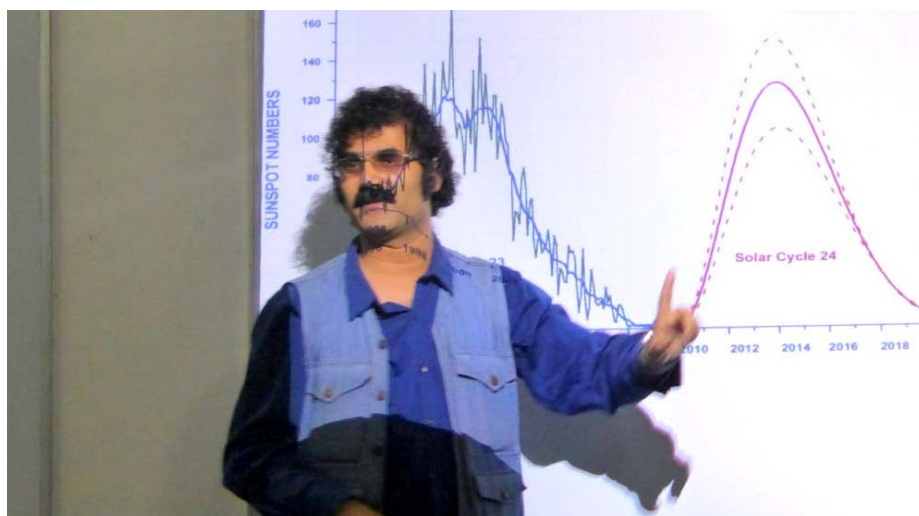
as the Project Director in two projects of WBPCB – one on water resource and its quality and other on dynamic river system of West Bengal. He has been the expert-member in the committee constituted by the apex court of the State for cleaning the Ganga since 2005.

Nalanda Special Lecture Series

Alok Mukherjee : Historical Perspectives of Land use and Climate in Indo-Gangetic Plains

Mr. Alok Mukherjee, Senior Technical Officer (Scientist-C) at the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, delivered a special lecture on April 16, 2015, at Nalanda University. The title of Mr. Mukherjee's lecture was "Historical Perspectives of Land use and Climate in Indo-Gangetic Plains".

Mr. Alok Mukherjee is working as Scientific Secretary, South Asian START Committee, at Centre on Global Change, National Physical Laboratory. He has been involved with various projects with Nepal,



Mr. Alok Mukherjee delivering a lecture on April 16, 2015

Pakistan, Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Maldives and Mauritius. He has been a visiting guest faculty in the Department of Environmental Studies, University of Delhi for the last eight years.

Masahiro Terada : Newly Emerging Historical / Environmental Concept of "Anthropocene" and Problem of Narrative in Historiography

Dr. Masahiro Terada, Visiting Associate Professor at Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, Kyoto, Japan, gave a special lecture at the University on March 18, 2016. The title of his talk was "Nature, Artificiality, and Becoming: Newly Emerging Historical/ Environmental Concept of 'Anthropocene' and Problem of Narrative in Historiography".

Dr. Terada is a historian and a research fellow at National Museum of Ethnology (Osaka, Japan). He started as a socio-economic historian of the 18th and 19th Century and later shifted focus to the

problem of historical representation, and history. museum anthropology, narrative



Dr. Masahiro Terada delivering a lecture on March 18, 2016

Makoto Ohashi: Sustainability of Mindfulness

Professor Makoto Ohashi, University of Tokushima, Japan, delivered a special lecture on the topic "How to develop Sustainability of Mindfulness" at Nalanda University on February 24, 2016.

Professor Makoto Ohashi talked

about his current research work on sustainable agricultural practices in Japan, Korea, Thailand and Mongolia. Professor Makoto Ohashi is a Ph.D. from Miyazaki Medical College, Japan and has specialised in Immunobiology.



Professor Makoto Ohashi delivering a lecture on February 24, 2016

Darrell Dorrington: Researching East Asia on a Budget: A Librarian's Perspective

Mr. Darrell Dorrington delivered a special lecture on November 27, 2015, at Nalanda University on the topic "Researching East Asia on a Budget: A Librarian's Perspective".

Mr. Dorrington was formerly head the Asia Pacific Cluster, Australia

National University Library in Australia. In his lecture he demonstrated some sites that offer free access to good resources and also talked about some strategies that can help students maximise their access to library resources.



Mr. Darrell Dorrington delivering a lecture on November 27, 2015

Nalanda Weekly Seminar Series

Dr. Murari K. Jha, Assistant Professor, School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University delivered the first lecture in the *Nalanda Weekly Seminar Series* on August 14, 2015 on the topic, "The Merchant Communities as Agents of Change in the Eastern Ganga Region (c.16th to 18th Centuries)".

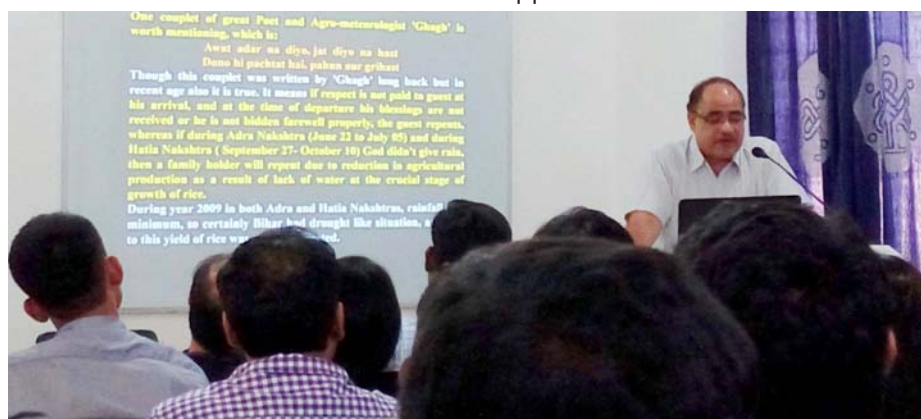
Dr. Ravish Chandra, Assistant Professor, Department of Irrigation and Drainage Engineering, Rajendra Agricultural University, Bihar delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Weekly Seminar Series* on September 24, 2015 on the topic, "Increasing Water Productivity in Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities".



Dr. Ravish Chandra

Dr. Ashutosh Upadhyaya, Head,

Division of Land and Water Management at ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna, delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Weekly Seminar Series* on October 9, 2015, on "Exploring Options for Conjunctive Use of Surface and Ground Water through Decision Support Tool".



Dr. Ashutosh Upadhyaya

Dr. Sumit Sen, Pediatrics and Quality Improvement at Stanford University and Medical Director of Infant Development at Good



Dr. Sumit Sen

Samaritan Hospital, San Jose, USA, delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Weekly Seminar Series* on October 27, 2015. His topic was "Early Childhood Intervention: Relevance to Social Economics".

Dr. Ching Y. Lo, Visiting Scholar,

Civil Engineering Department, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada



Dr. Ching Y. Lo

delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Weekly Seminar Series* on November 18, 2015 on "A Happy Solution to Global Warming".

Mr. Padma D. Maitland, Ph.D. student University of California, Berkeley delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Weekly Seminar Series* on November 20, 2015 on "California's Hippie Cosmography: Gordon Ashby



Padma D. Maitland

and the Whole Earth".

Dr. Benjamin Kingsbury, Lecturer, School of History, Philosophy, Political Science & International Relations, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand delivered a lecture in the *Nalanda Weekly Seminar Series* on February 12, 2016 on "Development and Disaster: The Case of Sagor Island".

Entre Nous Series

On October 29, 2015, faculty members of the School of Historical Studies launched *Entre Nous* ("Between Us") a forum for critical but friendly conversations during which members of the university community (faculty, students, and other interested members) present work-in-progress related to the study of culture and nature broadly conceived. Talks are for approximately 30 minutes followed by discussion.

Aditya Malik on 'God of Justice'- Goludev

The *Entre Nous* series was launched with a talk by Dr. Aditya Malik, Dean and Professor, School of Historical

Studies, titled "The Darbar of Goludev: Notes on Justice, Truth and Divine Embodiment in the Central Himalayas".

Professor Malik's lecture was based on materials and ideas that he has discussed in his most recent book: *Tales of Justice and Rituals of Divine Embodiment: Oral Narratives from the Central Himalayas* (New York: Oxford University Press, in press). The book is about ideas of justice that emerge from oral and written narratives, stories, testimonies, and rituals associated with Goludev, the 'God of Justice' (*nyay ka devta*) in the Central Himalayan province of Kumaon.

Pavni Sairam on Understanding Veerabhadra and His Traditions

On November 20, 2015, Ms. Pavni Sairam, M.A. Student, School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University spoke on the topic: "Understanding Veerabhadra and His Traditions".

She talked about the preliminary results of fieldwork that were conducted by her as part of her preparation for M.A. thesis. During this field research she studied various narratives and rituals of the deity Veerabhadra in the Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. Her sources included oral narratives,

stories, festivals, rituals, written literature, temple worship and other sacred spaces. These traditions, which can be broadly divided into temple and folk, revolve around the stories of Veerabhadra. Comparing these two traditions, which exist in the same geographical space centered on the same deity, reflect interesting observations about the existence of a multitude of understandings in this cultural milieu.

Prabhakar Sharma on Nanoparticles in the Soil Environment

Entre Nous series for Spring 2016 began with a talk on "Nanoparticles in the Soil Environment" by Dr. Prabhakar Sharma, Assistant Professor in the School of Ecology and Environment Studies at Nalanda University on January 11, 2016.

In the talk, Dr. Sharma discussed his ongoing work on the engineered nanoparticles (ENPs). His work engages with the understanding of fate and transport of engineered nanoparticles (ENPs) released from selected commercial products in the Indian or similar environment (e.g., soil, wetlands, aquifers) before widespread releases occur. ENPs are defined as having at least 1 dimension in the order of 1-100 nm. Engineered Nanoparticles (ENPs) are being used in numerous consumer products worldwide, including sunscreens, pharmaceuticals, cleaning products,

food, food packaging, and clothing industries.

Max Deeg on lifting the fog on Nalanda

Second seminar in *Entre Nous* series for Spring 2016 was a presentation by Professor Max Deeg, Scholar-in-Residence with School of Historical Studies at Nalanda University, on January 18, 2016, titled "Fog on Nalanda – and how to lift it".

In the talk, Professor Deeg presented some of the problems which he encountered during his ongoing work on the Magadha chapters in Xuanzang's *Xiyu ji* (Records of the Western Regions). He gave detailed examples from his in-progress translation of the text, and demonstrated how the weaving together of textual sources – without the necessary contextualisation and without archaeological evidence – has created a pseudo-history of Nalanda which reaches back to the time of the Buddha and Asoka. He also showcased how this narrative fabric can be disentangled for the sake of a much shorter history of Nalanda.

Sayan Bhattacharya on Re-evaluation of Approach on the Sampling of Arsenic contamination in Bengal Delta

Dr. Sayan Bhattacharya, Assistant Professor, School of Ecology and Environment Studies spoke in the

Entre Nous series on March 21, 2016. The title of his talk was "Arsenic contamination in Bengal Delta with special reference to the studies on its bioaccumulation and remediation through adsorption". As known now, Arsenic (As) is of great environmental concern because of its highly toxic nature and colossal abundance. It is also established now that the Bengal basin in India is the most acutely arsenic affected geological province in the world.

The research work, of which Dr. Sayan Bhattacharya was a part, was performed in Kalinarayanpur (23°14' N, 88°59' E), Nadia, West Bengal, India. He demonstrated the project-report and data from this research in which pre and post monsoonal water samples were collected from the tube well and were studied along with the groundwater parameters. Based on these results, Dr. Bhattacharya stressed that the contamination of arsenic in water, soil and the food chain of Bengal Delta needs be addressed more systematically in order to better understand the arsenic exposure from water and food sources and its impact.

Andrea Acri on Esoteric Buddhist Networks along the Maritime Silk Routes

On February 15, 2016, Dr. Andrea Acri, Visiting Assistant Professor at School of Historical Studies, Nalanda

University discussed his upcoming book with the title *Esoteric Buddhist Networks along the Maritime Silk Routes, 7th–13th Century AD*. Dr. Aciri is also a Visiting Fellow at Nalanda-Sriwijaya Centre (ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute), Singapore.

Dr. Aciri talked about how in the Indic (Post-Gupta) Mediaeval period, coastal and hinterland polities spread over the vast geographical expanse, were connected through a

web of entrepôts linking the Indian Ocean/Bay of Bengal to the South China Sea/Western Pacific Ocean. He conceptualises this as the 'Maritime Asia'. According to him, these cosmopolitan locales acted as crossroads of political power, mercantile entrepreneurship, and centres of learning, worship, and pilgrimage where institutionalised esoteric forms of Hinduism and Buddhism coexisted alongside

esoteric/Tantric trends. He demonstrated through his findings that from the early 7th century, Esoteric Buddhist masters, texts, and icons travelled far and wide across Asia through multiple centres of diffusion in both the Indian Subcontinent and the outlying (so-called) 'peripheries'.

Session 2015-16: Student Intake in Nalanda University

	Indian	Foreign Nationals	Male	Female	Total
SCHOOL OF ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT STUDIES	29	5	18	16	34
SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES	15	1	12	4	16
TOTAL	44	6			50

Indian students came from the following 18 states

1. Andhra Pradesh	10. Kerala
2. Assam	11. Maharashtra
3. Bihar	12. Odisha
4. Chhattisgarh	13. Punjab
5. Delhi	14. Sikkim
6. Gujarat	15. Telangana
7. Haryana	16. Uttarakhand
8. Jharkhand	17. Uttar Pradesh
9. Karnataka	18. West Bengal

Foreign students came from three countries namely LAOS, MYANMAR and BHUTAN

Nalanda University Library

Nalanda University envisions its library to be the central fulcrum of the master plan of the University, both in terms of its design and bearing. The Library shall be a constant companion in the academic journey of the entire community of the University and aid in the quest for creating new bodies of knowledge.

Nalanda University Library (NUL) constantly strives for excellence in services, and stands committed to supporting the intellectual inquiry, research and lifelong learning needs of the university community. The Library aims to become an apex intellectual resource center with state-of-the-art library resources (print and digital) in a variety of easily accessible formats. It also aspires to provide seamless access of information through innovative services to drive intellectual exchange and foster interdisciplinary cross campus research.

NUL has been acquiring books, e-books, e-journals and online databases since its inception. The library has a collection of over 7999



The Nalanda University Library

volumes of print books and provides access to over 170 e-books, 4,8000 e-journals and online databases such as Elsevier's Science Direct, JSTOR, Nature, Taylor and Francis, Oxford University Press and Sage Publication etc.

NUL has also received several endowments in the form of books from individual donors.

In the Year 2015-16, Professor Wang Gungwu, Member of Nalanda University Governing Board gifted 347 books and 1746 journals from his collection and Ms. Girija Verma

gifted 294 books from her father Mr. Yuvraj Kishen's collection to NUL.

NUL has the membership of DELNET (Developing Library Network) and Center for Research Libraries (CRL), Chicago for the benefit of users to access the resources through Inter Library Loan facility.

It is equipped with modern high-end technology and infrastructure. To automate the sub-systems of a library system, the Library has implemented library automation software KOHA.

The following services are also available for NUL users:

- Web based OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue)
- Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI)
- Current Awareness Services (CAS)
- Reference and Information Services
- Information Literacy
- Orientation programme for users
- Inter Library Loan (ILL)
- Reprography Service

School of Ecology and Environment Studies (SEES)

SEES Team Participates in Jigyasa Research 2015

A team from Nalanda University got selected for *Jigyasa*-a paper writing competition inviting academia, students and research scholars to conduct a primary research tour across the state of Bihar and present their findings in a white paper. The topics for which proposals were invited were: Women Empowerment, Education, Law and Order, Health and Agriculture.

This team was led by Dr. Prabhakar Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of Ecology and Environment Studies (SEES) and had three SEES students

from the Class of 2016: Mr. Anshuman Shekhar, Mr. Arun Gandhi and Mr. Ranjit Kumar. This team also included an agricultural entrepreneur Mr. Pramod Kumar. The district of Gaya was their region of focus.

The team had submitted a proposal under the topic of Agriculture. Their task was to examine and explore the effects of the measures taken by the Government of Bihar, to improve agricultural productivity in the state. Their research was also focused towards finding lacunae in

implementation strategies, and suggesting further steps for improvement.

Jigyasa was one among the 40,000 events scheduled for the year 2015 by the Government of Bihar, through which it aspires to reach out to 4 crore people for the Bihar@2025 campaign. This campaign is designed to ensure public participation in policy making and to produce a vision document on development of the state for the next 10 years.

SEES offers Course in GIS (ArcGIS) for Spring 2016

School of Ecology and Environment Studies offered a course in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) for all its students for Spring 2016. The course was available as certificate course to all students irrespective of the schools they were enrolled in. The University made special arrangements for the course which included inviting dedicated

tutor from GTC Consulting, every weekend to the computer lab at Student's Residence Hall. The course convener was Dr. Prabhakar Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of Ecology and Environment.

Geographic Information Systems is a key application in multiple sectors these days. A large portion of existing data now has a spatial

element. Through the course, the students developed GIS skills. This assisted them in analysing and presenting their research in more interactive manner for project submissions.

SEES Students at International Conference on Climate Science

Two students from School of Ecology and Environment Studies, Abinash Mohanty and Kundan Sagar, presented their paper at The International Conference on Climate Science organised by the Interdisciplinary Climate Research

Centre (ICRC), Cotton College, Guwahati and co-hosted by Kyoto university and ICEDS Kagawa University, Japan on March 8, 2016. The title of their paper was "Debating Development: A Reality or Myth: Evaluation of climate

change resilience in Bihar".

The main objective of students' paper was to access the advent of information assimilation to build in climate change resilience and calamity preparedness. Through

their presentation the duo demonstrated possible holistic approaches in understanding the climate change effects on environment, socio-economic status of under developed states in general and Bihar in particular.

The two-day conference in Guwahati which began on March 7, 2016 had the theme: "Frontiers of Climate Research to Enhance Cooperation of Climate Information and Services for Sustainable Development Planning in North East

India" and included presentations by researchers and research scholars from across the globe.

Field Trips organised by SEES

Field trip to Katridhi village-Studying Traditional Irrigation System

Field trip to Katridhi village, Nalanda, Bihar was organised by the School of Ecology and Environment (SEES) on August 14, 2015. Students on field visit were led by Dr. Somnath Bandyopadhyay, Associate Professor, SEES and Dr. Aviram Sharma, Assistant Professor, SEES. The field trip intended to give students in-depth knowledge of *Ahar-Pyne* the traditional irrigation system of South Bihar.

Students visited various places in and around the village and the farmlands to get a better understanding of

agricultural methodologies used by the farmers, crop patterns, irrigation techniques and overall social setup in the village. It was observed that the use of *Ahar-Pyne* in irrigation has declined in the region. Currently the farmers are using the canal passing by the village for irrigation.

Students had several brief interactions with the farmers and other villagers about agricultural conditions. It was found that the canal system, *Ahar-Pyne* is used to harvest paddy crop. The 50 km long canal was constructed by Bihar

state's first chief minister Mr. Krishna Sinha in 1953 and has been providing water to 400 villages in Nalanda district. Some farmers also cultivate wheat as a second crop with the help of tube well/well irrigation.

Students also visited the local primary school and interacted with children and teachers where Dr. Aviram Sharma also talked about various social aspects in the villages. He also provided his input on the methods of collection of data on fields in the rural areas.



Field trip to Katridhi Village

Field Trip to Dharnai – First entirely solar energy powered village of India

On September 19, 2015, the School of Ecology and Environment Studies organised a one day field trip to Dharnai (Jehanabad District) the first village in India entirely powered by solar energy. A project by Greenpeace the 100 kilowatt system

powers the 450 homes of the 2,400 residents, 50 commercial operations, two schools, a training center and a health care facility.

The pioneer batch of the School visited Dharnai as part of the

Environment, Technology and Society course with Dr. Aviram Sharma to critically analyse the project in environmental perspectives in linkage to social and technological factors.



Field trip to Dharnai Village

Field Trip to Side-Par Village

Dr. Aviram Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of Ecology and Environment Studies organised a one-day field visit for students in the Masters Programme of the Class of 2017 on November 7, 2015 to Side Par Village in Nalanda District, Bihar. The trip was for students of the Foundation Course titled *Environment* and the objective of the trip was to understand changing irrigation practices and agrarian relation in South Bihar.



Field Trip to Side-Par Village

Field Trip to Ghora Katora

On September 23, 2015, Dr. Prabhakar Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of Ecology and Environment Studies organised a one-day field visit for students in the Pioneer Batch of SEES enrolled in his course on Geohydrology. The students went along with Dr. Sharma for the field trip to Ghora Katora, Rajgir.



Field Trip to Ghora Katora

Field Trip to BAU and KVK-Visiting Laboratory Facilities in Noorsarai and Harnaut

A field visit to College of Horticulture, Bihar Agricultural University, Noorsarai and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Harnaut was organised on February 19, 2016 by the School of Ecology and Environment. This trip was a part of the curriculum for the course, *Introduction to Agroecosystem Management*. A team of 20 students from the School were supervised by two faculty members, Dr. B. Mohan Kumar, Professor and Dean (Acting) and Dr. Prabhakar Sharma, Assistant Professor for the one-day trip.

Objective of the field trip was to visit the field and laboratory facilities at the College of Horticulture, Bihar Agricultural University, Noorsarai and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Harnaut; and in particular to study the experimental/demonstration sites on crop production, crop protection and water and nutrient management of crop plants including horticulture species. Students also got an opportunity to

interact with the teaching-staff of the college and visit the labs and field units. New insights were gained on the research and development of crop varieties, plant nutrition, bio-fertilizers, green manures etc. The tour was guided by Dr. P.K. Singh, Principal of the college.

Other units visited include: Soil Testing Lab, Plant Health Clinic, Plant Breeding and Genetics

Laboratory, Tissue Culture and Molecular Biology Lab and Horticulture unit, Scented Rose Block, Medicinal/ Aromatic plants Block, Protected Cultivation Unit, Vermi-compost Unit, and Mango, Guava and Citrus Orchards. Later, the team visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Harnaut and interacted with scientists and trainee women farmers there.



Field Trip to Laboratory Facilities in Noorsarai and Harnaut

Field Trip to Vishwa Shanti Stupa-Assessing Waste Disposal Scenario

On March 17, 2016, a research based Field Trip was organised to Vishwa Shanti Stupa (Peace Pagoda) by School of Ecology and Environment Studies (SEES) for students enrolled in the course *Research Methodology in Social Science* offered by Dr. Aviram Sharma, Assistant Professor, SEES.

The tour's motive was to conduct a mixed survey based research to assess the impact of tourism on the waste management and disposal of the area along with its impact on the environment around the tourist destination.

During the visit, students were assigned with several duties in the research like interviewing the tourist, participant and environment observation, and qualitative interviews. In the peak tourist season the site gets around 3 lakh tourist visit from all around the world. The increasing pressure of tourism activities on the surrounding environment is clearly seen by the waste / garbage scattered on the hills. The Buddhist religious site is situated inside the Pant Wildlife Sanctuary of Rajgir.

The waste disposed in the forest areas is a major threat to the habitat and its animals.

Nalanda University has always focused on reaching out to the surrounding places and contributing in their sustainable development. The research conducted by the team of students gave a brief understanding of the waste / garbage disposal scenario at present and the factors that could help improve the disposal scenario.



Field Trip to Vishwa Shanti Stupa

Participation in seminars / conferences / paper presentations / training workshops as a panelist or resource person

Bandyopadhyay, Somnath, Keynote speaker at *National workshop on practices and tools of biodiversity conservation in protected areas*, convened by T M Bhagalpur University on 24-25 November 2015. The paper – “Valuation of Ecosystem Services as a tool for biodiversity conservation”, was published in their proceedings. Also, chaired a technical session.

Bandyopadhyay, Somnath, Participated, along with **B Mohan Kumar**, in the One-day workshop on *Forests and Natural Ecosystem Policies and Programmes: Implications for Adaptation under a Changing Climate* organised by the Bihar State Environment and Forests Department (in collaboration with the MoEFCC, GoI and DFID-CCIP) at Patna on November 6, 2015.

Bandyopadhyay, Somnath, was invited to deliver a lecture titled “Ecological Economics and its potential in resolving trade-offs in decision-making for development and conservation issues, with practical examples” at the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow (NOIDA Campus) on February 27, 2016.

Bandyopadhyay, Somnath, spoke on “Ecological Economics for Integrating Conservation into Development Planning” at the National Seminar on *Emerging Economics and Challenges to Sustainability towards Developing Nation*, organised by Sri Aurobindo College, Delhi University, during March 29-30, 2016.

Bhattacharya, Sayan, delivered lecture in the 1st *Asian Researcher Symposium* at University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia (April 25-27, 2016).

Bhattacharya, Sayan, delivered lecture in *World Congress of Biotechnology* in New Delhi, India (October 5-7, 2015).

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, presented paper on “Relevance of Research in Revamping Legal Education” at International Conference on *Global Legal Education: Best Practices in Teaching and Research*, organised by the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, March 11-13, 2016.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, presented paper on “The Issues and the Challenges of Implementing the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing in India” at the International Conference on *Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Energy: Law and Practice*, organised by Campus Law Centre, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, February 12-14, 2016.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, was the resource person in Workshop on *Environmental Conservation and Judicial Intervention* for Junior Level Forest Officers of Jharkhand State, Ranchi on January 20, 2016 and spoke on “Environmental Laws and Environmental Jurisprudence in India”.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, was the resource person in Workshop on *Environmental Conservation and Judicial Intervention* for Senior Forest Officers of Jharkhand State, Ranchi on January 21, 2016 and spoke on “Forest Laws and Environmental Jurisprudence in India”.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, was the resource person in the *Two day training programme for the Forest Officers of Madhya Pradesh on Biodiversity related issues* at Bhopal organised by the M.P. State Biodiversity Board, Bhopal during October 15-16, 2015 and spoke on “Legal Provisions related to biodiversity & its implementation by Forest Officers”.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, participated as a discussant in the *Fourth Global Congress on Intellectual Property and the Public Interest*, National Law University, Delhi, India, December 15-18, 2015.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, was the resource person for One-day Sensitisation programme on *Biological Diversity Acts and Rules for research scientists* organised by Odisha Biodiversity Board at Bhubaneshwar on December 19, 2015.

Mohan Kumar, B., participated at *Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) First Lead Authors' Meeting on the Regional Assessment for the Asia-Pacific Region*, August 17-15, 2015; United Nations University, Tokyo.

Mohan Kumar, B., panellist in the *Regional consultation on Agroforestry: the way forward (Harnessing new knowledge in agroforestry and post 2015 development agenda)* organised by the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), Indian Society of Agroforestry and Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) at NASC Complex, New Delhi, India, October 8-10, 2015.

Mohan Kumar, B., resource person in the One-week Compulsory Training Course on *Managing green spaces for urban biodiversity and ecosystem services* for the Indian Forest Service Officers, October 5-9, 2015, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi 680 653, Thrissur, Kerala. Delivered a lecture on "Agroforestry systems for managing green spaces and associated biodiversity in urban landscape" on October 6, 2015.

Mohan Kumar, B., participated in the One-day workshop on *Forests and Natural Ecosystem Policies and Programmes: Implications for Adaptation under a Changing Climate* organised by the Bihar State Environment and Forests Department at Patna on November 6, 2015.

Mohan Kumar, B., participated as resource person in the SAARC Regional Training on *Smart Practices for Climate Resilient Agriculture: Agroforestry Options* organised at NASC, New Delhi, 16-20 November, 2015. Delivered a talk on "Ecosystem services of agroforestry" on November 19, 2015.

Sharma, Aviram, spoke on "Changing Irrigation Practices and Emerging Sustainability Challenges in Southern Bihar: A Dialogue between Policy and Practice," *Contested Agronomy: Dynamics, Cases and Implications*, University of Sussex, UK, February 23-25, 2016 – Peer reviewed conference.

Sharma, Aviram, discussant, *Policy Impact Workshop on Risks and Responses to Urban Futures*, STEPS Centre, University of Sussex and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, January 27, 2016.

Sharma, Aviram, discussant for Working Group on "Environment, Health and Sustainable Cities: What next for the Nexus?", *Pathways to Sustainable Urbanisation*, organised by South Asia Sustainability Hub and Knowledge Network (SASH&KN) JNU, STEPS Centre and SPRU, University of Sussex, UK, New Delhi January 29-30, 2016.

Sharma, Aviram, spoke on "Growth of Drinking Water Purification Technologies in Urban India: A Critical Perspective", *47th Annual Seminar of The Regional Science Association, India on Urbanization and Regional Sustainability*, Department Of Geography, University Of Calcutta, Kolkata, January 28-30, 2016 (with Saradindu Bhaduri and Nazia Talat).

Sharma, Aviram, Poster Presentation, "Technology, Standards, and Supporting Institutions: An Evolutionary Analysis of Water Purification Technologies in Bottled Water Industry in India", *13th GLOBELICS International Conference*, Havana, Cuba, 23-25 September 2015 - Peer reviewed conference.

Sharma, Prabhakar, 2016. "Nanomaterials in the environment", *EMN Meeting on Nanoparticles*, Singapore.

Sharma, Prabhakar, 2016. "Nanomaterials in Soil Environment", Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali.

Tsang, C.F, J.E. Rosberg, **P. Sharma**, A. Niemi, and C. Juhlin. 2016. "Hydrogeologic testing during drilling of COSC-1 borehole: Application of FFEC logging method", EGU General Assembly, Vienna, Austria.

Sharma, Prabhakar, 2015. "Shared water resources: Conflicts and co-operation", Radha Shanta College, Tilothu, Bihar, India.

Fagerlund, F., M. Hedayati, J. M. Mayotte, and **P. Sharma**. 2015. "Transport of nanoparticles with groundwater affected by soil- and dissolved organic matter", Grundvattendagarna, Swedish Geological Survey, Stockholm, Sweden.

Fagerlund, F., M. Hedayati, J. M. Mayotte, and **P. Sharma**. 2015. "Effect of organic matter on the transport and retention of TiO₂ nanoparticles in saturated porous media", InterPore, International Society of Porous Media, Padova, 2.040.

Basirat, F., H. Perroud, J. Lofi, N. Denchik, G. Lods, F. Fagerlund, **P. Sharma**, P. Pezard, and A. Niemi. 2015. "Viability of modelling gas transport in shallow injection-monitoring experiment field at Maguelone, France". *EGU General Assembly*, Vienna, Austria, ERE5.2, EGU2015-15224.

Fagerlund, F., M. Hedayati, **P. Sharma**, and D. Katyal. 2015. "Transport of carbon-based nanoparticles in saturated porous media". *EGU General Assembly*, Vienna, Austria, HS8.1.6, EGU2015-10731.

Tsang, C.F, J.E. Rosberg, **P. Sharma**, A. Niemi, and C. Juhlin. 2015. "Hydrogeologic testing during drilling of COSC-1 borehole: Application of FFEC logging method". *EGU General Assembly*, Vienna, Austria, ERE1.6, EGU2015-4414.

Popular Articles /Media/Conference Proceedings

Bandyopadhyay, Somnath, published an invited blog – "Doubts dog toilet-building campaign" for the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi, see

<http://www.downtoearth.org.in/author/somnath-bandopadhyay-81292>

Bhattacharya, Sayan, participated as an expert on water pollution and remediation in DD Basundhara Programme, Doordarshan (Prasar Bharti) on March 14, 2016 from 4 pm to 5 pm.

Bhattacharya, S., Dutta, P., Shome, A., Banerjee, A., Purkait, D., Ghosh, U.C. 2015. "Hydrogeochemical characterizations of two ecologically sensitive mountain hamlets situated in North Bengal, India", *Proceedings of World Congress of Biotechnology* in New Delhi, India (October 5-7, 2015), pp. 338.

Bhattacharya, S., Mohan Kumar, B. and Arunachalam, A. 2015. "Sowing seeds for the future: an overview of initiatives to boost agriculture", *Employment News* May 30, 2015, p1 and 64. Shome, A., Majumder, G., Dutta, A., Banerjee, R. 2015. "Environmental, economic and agricultural surveys of an ecologically important forest hamlet in Darjeeling district, West Bengal, India" *Proceedings of World Congress of Biotechnology* in New Delhi, India (October 5-7, 2015), pp. 187.

Sharma, Aviram, "Why India's urban researchers need to move beyond megacities", **STEPS Centre Blog**, University of Sussex, UK – February 2016.

Research Articles/ Papers published in International Peer Reviewed Journal

Bhattacharya, Sayan, (2016). "Changing dimensions and interactions of water crisis and human rights in developing countries", *World Scientific News* 34: 86-97 (ISSN:2392-2192).

Bhattacharya, Sayan, Rimpa Maity, Gour Sarkar, Goutam Ghosh, Debasri Mukherjee and Chandrayee Mukhopadhyay (2016). "Socio-Environmental survey of an ecologically important forest edge hamlet in Buxa Tiger Reserve, West Bengal, India", *International Letters of Natural Sciences*, Vol. 52: 67-83. (ISSN: 2300-9675).

Kittur, B.H., Sudhakara, K., **Mohan Kumar, B.**, Kunhamu, T.K., and Sureshkumar, P. 2015. "Bamboo based agroforestry systems in Kerala, India: performance of turmeric (*Curcuma longa* L.) in the subcanopy of differentially spaced seven year-old bamboo stand", *Agroforestry Systems*. First online: October 8, 2015. DOI 10.1007/s10457-015-9849-z.

Thakur, S., **Mohan Kumar, B.** and Kunhamu, T.K. 2015. "Coarse root biomass, carbon, and nutrient stock dynamics of different stem and crown classes of silver oak (*Grevillea robusta* A. Cunn. ex. R. Br.) plantation in Central Kerala, India", *Agroforestry Systems*. 89 (5): 869-883. DOI: 10.1007/s10457-015-9821-y

Sharma, Aviram, 2015, "Sustainable and Socially Inclusive Development of Urban Water Provisioning: A Case of Patna", *Environment and Urbanisation Asia* 6 (1), 28-40. [Sage Publication]

Tsang, C.F., J.E. Rosberg, **P. Sharma**, C. Juhlin, and A. Niemi. 2016. "Hydrologic testing during drilling: Application of flowing fluid electric conductivity (FFEC) logging method to drilling of a deep borehole", *Hydrogeology J.* 24: 1333-1341

Hedayati, M., **P. Sharma**, D. Katyal, and F. Fagerlund. 2016. "Transport and retention of carbon-based engineered and natural nanoparticles through saturated porous media", *J. Nanoparticle Res.* 18: 57, doi: 10.1007/s11051-016-3365-6.

Sharma, P., F. Fagerlund, U. Iverfeldt, and A. Eskebaek. 2016. "Fate and transport of fire-born particles in subsurface systems", *Technologies*, 4, 2; doi:10.3390/technologies4010002

Sharma, P., C.F. Tsang, I.T. Kukkonen, and A. Niemi. 2016. "Analysis of six-year fluid electric conductivity logs to evaluate the hydraulic structure of the deep drill hole at Outokumpu, Finland", *International Journal of Earth Sciences*. 105:1549-1562.

Sharma, P., 2015. "Nanomaterials from food packaging and commercial products into ecological and soil environment", *Current Sci.* 109: 1223-1224.

Basirat, F., **P. Sharma**, F. Fagerlund, and A. Niemi. 2015. "Experimental and modelling investigation of CO₂ flow and transport in a coupled domain of porous media and free flow", *International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control*, 42: 461-470.

Book Chapters

Bhattacharya, S., "Socio-Environmental survey and sustainable management of a forest edge mountain hamlet in Darjeeling district, India." *Proceedings of the 1st Asian Researcher Symposium* at University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia (25th-27th April, 2016), pp. 549-564. ISBN No. 978-979-8972-63-8.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, Alice Skipper, Brian Hayes, 2016. "Environmental Law" in Shaun Star (ed.) *Australia and India: A Comparative Overview of the Law and Legal Practice*, Universal Law Publishing and Lexis Nexis, New Delhi. ISBN978-93-5035-625-8.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, "An Inquiry into the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 in the light of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing", *Journal of Law Teachers of India*, 6 JLT-I (2015) pp. 35-55. ISSN 2231-1580.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar. 2016. "Implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols in India" in *Locating India in the Contemporary International Legal Order*, Edited by Burra Srinivas and Rajesh Kumar, Springer Publishers, New Delhi (Accepted, forthcoming 2016).

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, and Shachi Singh, "Encouraging Socially Significant *Legal Research*" in *Legal Research Methodology*, Indian Law Institute (ILI), New Delhi (Accepted, forthcoming 2016).

Klaus Bosselmann and **Pushpa Kumar, Lakshmanan**, "The Atmosphere as a Global Commons and cleansing it with New Energy Options" in *Energy and Law* edited by Dr. Usha Tandon, Oxford University Press, (Accepted, Forthcoming 2016).

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, Mohan Kumar, B. 2016. "Homegardens as harbingers of belowground biodiversity in the humid tropics", in *Soil Biodiversity: Inventory, Functions and Management*. K.G. Saxena and K.S. Rao (eds). Bishen Singh Mahendra Pal Singh, Dehra Dun, pp 173-182. Shachi Singh, S. Asta Lakshmi, "Paris Agreement on Climate Change and India", *Journal of Climate Change*, IOS Press, Vol. 3 Issue 1 (Under review, Forthcoming Dec 2016).

Sharma, Aviram and Harvey Mark, 2015, "Divided Delhi: Bricolage Economies and Sustainability Crises", in Mark

Harvey, *Drinking Water: A Socio-economic Analysis of Historical and Societal Variation*, Routledge, London, UK.

Editorial, Reviewing, Refereeing and other Assignments

Mohan Kumar, B., Associate Editor, *Agroforestry Systems*, an international journal published by Springer Science, The Netherlands

Mohan Kumar, B., Associate Editor, *Frontiers in Agroecology and Land Use Systems* (Frontiers in Environmental Science), Nature Publishing Group. Lausanne, Switzerland

Mohan Kumar, B., Member, Advisory Editorial Board, *International Journal of Ecology and Environmental Sciences*, National Institute of Ecology, New Delhi, Agrivita, Journal of Agricultural Sciences published by Brawijaya University, Malang, Indonesia.

Mohan Kumar, B., Lead Author, *Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services* (IPBES) for the deliverable 2b - Regional assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for Asia and the Pacific.

Mohan Kumar, B., Reviewer: "Forest Ecology and Management, Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment, Agricultural Systems, Agroforestry Systems", *Biotropica*.

Mohan Kumar, B., Member of the Peer Review Team for accreditation of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur (March 2016).

Sharma, Prabhakar, Editorial Board Member: *Frontiers in Environmental Science; Current Science Environment*.

Sharma, Prabhakar, Associate Editor, *World Science Environment*

Honours / Memberships in National Level Committees

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, Member, Expert Committee to revise the existing ABS agreements, the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India. 2015-16.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, Member, **Core Expert Group on Designated Repository to review the functioning of existing National Repositories and to develop their specific mandates as well as working guidelines**, the National Biodiversity Authority, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India. 2015.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, Faculty Associate, Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard Law School, Harvard University, U.S.A., 2015-2016.

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, Founding Convenor, Green Fulbrighters Forum, India

Grants (applied, received, awarded) and ongoing

Lakshmanan, Pushpa Kumar, Expert Consultancy to prepare a "Background Policy Paper on Liability and Adequate Measures with respect to Products developed through ISCB" for Indo-Swiss Collaborative Project organised by Indo-Swiss Collaboration in Biotechnology (ISCB) and the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, New Delhi, 2016 (ongoing) Consultancy Amount: INR 3,90,000/-

Sharma, Aviram, Travel Grant for attending the *Contested Agronomy Conference* at University of Sussex, UK, February 2016.

Sharma, Aviram, Travel Grant for attending the 13th *GLOBELICS International Conference* during September 23-25, 2015 in Havana, Cuba.

School of Historical Studies (SHS)

Imagining Histories, Writing Pasts: International Workshop organised by the School of Historical Studies at Nalanda University

The first international workshop of the School of Historical Studies was held on March 11 and 12 at Rajgir International Convention Centre, Rajgir. The workshop brought together scholars from art history, anthropology, archaeology, history, visual studies, political theory, and sociology from across the globe. For the two-day workshop, NU received speakers from El Colegio de Mexico, Max-Weber-Kolleg for Advanced Social Research Germany, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata. Students and faculty from NU also presented papers at the event.

The aim of the workshop was to seek a critical re-examination of the idea(s) of history from an Asian perspective: What does 'history' mean in Asian contexts? Do local and/or regional histories situate themselves in larger pan-Asian contexts? Is the idea of Asia itself created through writing such local and/or regional histories? What practices of writing history have existed and continue to exist in Asian cultural, historical, and philosophical contexts? What are the different genres – written, visual, and oral – in which histories have been composed? In what ways

can the composition and transmission of histories be said to embody different kinds of skills and practices? Who indeed are the 'practitioners,' 'writers,' 'artists,' and 'performers' of different histories?

The workshop approached these questions by focusing on different genres of historical writing in Asian contexts and its various forms viz. literature, folklore, and visual representations i.e. different exercises in imagination. It highlighted the matter of nomenclature decided by people who engage in such narratives through writing and reading, showing and seeing, listening and telling. In doing so, the workshop paid particular attention to the scholarship of the narratives told by written histories, oral narratives, visual representations, and literary forms and the meaning that they convey to their readers, viewers, and listeners.

The workshop was successfully organised through the efforts of faculty members at the School of Historical Studies, NU, who also acted as conveners for the workshop: Prof. Aditya Malik, Dr. Samuel Wright, and Dr. Ranu Roychoudhuri. The workshop began

on March 11 with a welcome address by Dr. Gopa Sabharwal, Vice-Chancellor, Nalanda University.

Each paper in the workshop was followed by a discussion in which questions were raised by the audience attendees and other speakers. At the end of each day, a roundtable discussion was also organised. On both days, the latter discussion was initiated by a select group of students who highlighted important themes which emerged from the presentations of that day and posed broader questions. There was also a film screening on the second day of a short-film directed by Anirban Mahapatra: *Following the Box* (2015, India/USA, 26 minutes). On the following day, a few invited participants went to Nalanda ruins for a site-visit along with a student guide from the University.

After the great success of its first international workshop, Nalanda University plans to organise a sequel to this workshop next year, and other conferences in future. The School is also planning to publish the papers presented at the workshop in a single volume.



Imagining Histories, Writing Pasts: International Workshop organised by the School of Historical Studies at Nalanda University

Patna Museum and the Buddha Smriti Uddyan

Dr. Sraman Mukherjee organised a field-trip to Patna Museum on April 11, 2015 as a part of his course *Visualizing South Asia: Sites and Mediums* offered by the School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University (NU). He was accompanied by the students enrolled in his course along with the distinguished guest-lecturer Professor Max Deeg and Dr. Gopa Sabharwal, the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

The intention of the trip was to give students practical exposure to the dual-aimed construction of museum galleries. Students observed how galleries are constructed not only with the intention of increasing visual appeal for the visitors but also to emphasise a particular narrative through the arrangement of the display settings. Keeping in mind the research-oriented approach of the school curriculum at NU, it was essential to provide the students with an opportunity to observe what they have been learning as part of the course.

Known as the Mona Lisa of India, the Didarganj Yakshi, is in the proud possession of Patna Museum. One can not only study its art-historical significance but also the curatorial activities that have always been going around it. Having traveled to

several countries, including the Smithsonian Institute and the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., USA as a fine-art ambassador of India, the statue is on rest now after suffering some damage in the course of transportation. However, it still gains the attention of museum curators from all over the world. The most recent being their outrage at the way this famous statue is kept in the Patna Museum, without a glass-case to protect it.

In the words of a museum expert, "On a revisit to the Patna Museum, I found the famous Didarganj Yakshi, an exquisite piece of art, which could be the envy of any museum in the world, kept like any other statue, with the visitors allowed to touch and feel its smoothness." In a response, perhaps, Bihar government has decided to look into the matter and plans are under way of shifting the Yakshi to a new place where it could receive the well-designed display it deserves.

Another proud possession of Patna Museum is Buddha's relics which were unearthed from the stupa at Vaishali, Bihar and have remained in the museum since 1972. The visit to the relics requires a different ticket, which costs ₹100 for domestic visitors and ₹500 for foreign visitors. A visitor is taken into the room with full security arrangements where

the holy relics are kept in a room that has a maintained temperature and humidity for their safekeeping. The room is under 24×7 monitoring of CCTV. The lights and seating arrangements are made so as to keep the audience engaged with the holy relics.

However, a visitor can see only the casket and not the relics inside as the casket remains in a special glass compartment with sealed locks. This is a perfect example of how museums turn certain objects into priceless jewels. The visitors are also provided with a small booklet explaining the authenticity of the relics archaeologically and scientifically as well as according to literary sources. The fact that Patna Museum earns around ₹5 lakh every year from the visitors coming to pay homage to Buddha at the seat of his holy relics, explains the efforts put into making such special arrangements.

Hence, it can be said that the visit to Buddha's relic gallery is not only about witnessing the priceless magnitude that curatorial moves have created around it, but also about immersing into the spiritual-religious contemplation that the museum space is leading one



Field Trip to Patna Museum and the Buddha Smriti Park

Telhara and Durgaon

towards.

Dr. Abhishek Amar, Visiting Associate Professor, School of Historical Studies organised a field-trip on September 24, 2015 to neighbouring villages of Nalanda – Telhara and Durgaon, Bihar. This trip formed part of the course, *Archaeological History of Early India* offered by him at School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University. He was accompanied by students enrolled for the course, Dr. Somnath Bandhopadhyay, faculty from the School of Ecology and Environment and Dr. Rajat Sanyal from University of Calcutta who was in Rajgir for a guest-lecture.

The purpose of field trip was to expose students to the archaeological sites and thus closely examine the



Field Trip to Telhara and Durgaon

different practices-issues concerned with them. Telhara is an active archaeological site where excavations are still going on. Durgaon, although not an archaeological site in technical terms, has several locally excavated

antiquities scattered around the village. It is always a great exercise to hear from the locals, what they think of these remains from the past and how they connect themselves with these objects.

Patna Museum – Buddha relic gallery and Buddha Memorial Park, Patna

Dr. Sraman Mukherjee organised a field-trip to the State Museum and Buddha Memorial Park, Patna on October 30, 2015. This trip was for students enrolled in the course, *Buddhism across Borders: Empire, Nation, and Religion in the Theravada Worlds of Asia* offered by him at School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University.

The purpose of field trip was to let students experience the modern day constructs around relics. Literally, relic means “a part of a deceased holy person's body or belongings kept as an object of reverence.” In this case, it is Buddha relic kept at two sites which formed part of the field trip. Both of them display these relics as proud possessions while

originally relics were buried deep under the stūpa structure. Multiple layers of meaning have changed for relics and structure housing it. Overall, the trip's focus was on

making out differences between the older and the newer spaces of configuring and exhibiting Buddhist corporeal relics – from the site to the museum gallery and the theme park.



Field Trip to Patna Museum

Bodh Gaya-land of Buddha

Dr. Sraman Mukherjee, Assistant Professor at Nalanda University, organised a field-trip to the Mahabodhi Temple and Sujatagarh Stupa, Bodh Gaya on November 14, 2015. This trip formed part of the course, *Buddhism across Borders: Empire, Nation, and Religion in the Theravada Worlds of Asia* offered by him at School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University. He was accompanied by students from the School of Historical Studies, Prof. Abhishek S. Amar and Prof. Aviram Sharma from NU, Prof. Max Deeg from Cardiff University and Prof. Richard Seager from Hamilton College.

The Mahabodhi Temple Complex, Bodh Gaya lies 115 km south of the state capital of Bihar, Patna and 16 km from the district headquarters at Gaya, in Eastern India. It is one of the four holy sites related to the life of the Lord Buddha, and particularly to

the attainment of Enlightenment. The property encompasses the greatest remains of the 5th-6th century A.D in the Indian sub-continent belonging to this period of antiquity.



Field Trip to Bodh Gaya

Lumbini and other sites- In the footsteps of the Buddha

Professor Max Deeg, Scholar in Residence at the School of Historical Studies and Dr. Abhishek S. Amar, Visiting Associate Professor at the School of Historical Studies organised a six-day field trip to Lumbini, Nepal and other locations. The trip was part of the curriculum for the course *South Asian Buddhism(s)* being offered by Professor Amar. The course covers a wide range of topics in studies of Buddhism, primarily the origin, establishment and expansion of Buddhism in Southern Asia. It also deals with the multiple interpretations of the Buddha's teachings (Dharma), growth and development of the Buddhist community (Saṅgha) and ritual practices along with the transmission, expansion, and localisation of Buddhist institutions. Five students were a part of this field trip.

The trip covered several sites associated with the spread of Buddhism and are also part of the



Field Trip to Lumbini and other sites

Buddhist circuit for modern-day pilgrims. The team visited the sites of Vaishali, Kolhua excavated remains with Asokan Pillar, Kushinagar remains before reaching Lumbini. In Lumbini, the team met Christopher

Davis who was engaged with the excavation work at the site. After spending three days in Lumbini, the team visited excavation site of Lauriya Nandangarh and Kesariya while returning back to Rajgir.

Video-conference interaction with students from University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Students enrolled in Dr. Kashshaf Ghani's course *Exploring Indo-Persian Histories* at the School of Historical Studies interacted with Prof. Carl Ernst's Class at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill through video-conferencing in September and November 2015 to discuss a shrine

database project, besides other research interests.

In the first interaction UNC invited NU to collaborate on the "Shrine database project".

In the second session the project was discussed further and it was

decided that both the classes would collaborate for the Sufi shrine site – Bihar Sharif Dargah of Maneri.

The students from both universities also presented their research assignments.

Participation in conferences/seminars/talks/paper presentations

Ghani, Kashshaf, "Beyond Limits of Faith: Being Critical in Indo-Persian Traditions". *International Seminar on 'India's Critical Tradition and Maulana Azad*, Kolkata, November 6-7, 2015.

Ghani, Kashshaf, "Converging Networks of Piety: Sufi Traditions and Practices from Aurangabad". *International Conference on Histories of Interactions, Connections and Subjectivities in Aurangabad Region*, Aurangabad, June 19-21, 2015.

Ghani, Kashshaf, "Breaking the Monolith: Exploring Muslim Worlds in South Asia and Beyond", *Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies*, July 2015.

Jha, Murari Kumar, Participated in the dissertation competition after being short-listed for the best prize in the early modern section at the *World economic history congress*, Kyoto, July 2015.

Jha, Murari Kumar, Presented a paper, "Merchant communities in eastern India during the age of maritime commerce (1500-1800)", in a panel on *Competitiveness, Cooperation and Confrontation: Merchants, Networks and State in Intra-Asian Trade, 1500 – 1800* by Ryuto Shimada at the *World Economic History Congress*, Kyoto, August 6, 2015.

Jha, Murari Kumar, Gave a public lecture at the Weekly Seminar organised by SEES, Nalanda University, on the topic, "The merchant communities as agents of change in the eastern Ganga region (c.16th to 18th centuries)," on August 14, 2015.

Jha, Murari Kumar, Presented a paper titled, "South Asian context of Mughal notions of kingship and sovereignty" in an international workshop organised by SHS, Nalanda University in March 29-30, 2016 on the theme *Imagining Histories, Writing Pasts*.

Malik, Aditya, full conference paper read at: *XXI World Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR)*, Erfurt, Germany, August 23-29, 2015. Title of panel: *Me, My God and I: The Individual as Recipient of Divine Epiphanies*. Title of paper: "God's Little Horses: Justice and Ritual Embodiment in the Central Himalayas".

Malik, Aditya, Inaugural/conceptual note at International Workshop: *Imagining Histories, Writing Pasts*, School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University, Rajgir: March 11-12, 2016. Title of inaugural/conceptual note: *A history from the present*.

Malik, Aditya, Full paper presentation at International Workshop: *Imagining Histories, Writing Pasts*, School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University, Rajgir: 11-12 March, 2016. Title of paper: *The poet's dream: Imbroglions of history and imagination in the Hammira-Mahakavya*.

Mohan, Pankaj, Keynote Speaker: "The Legacy of Han Yong-Un: The Sentinel of Korean Buddhism during the Colonial Era" Proceedings of a Conference on the theme Wounds, Scars, and Healing: Civil Society and Postwar Pacific Basin Reconciliation, October 2015.

Mohan, Pankaj, "Ancient Nalanda and the World of East Asian Buddhism", A Conference organized by Won Hyon Studies, Gyeongju City, South Korea Nov 2015.

Mohan, Pankaj, Special lecture during Workshop on *Translation of Chinese classics and contemporary literary works into Hindi*, National Book Trust, 20 February 2016

Mohan, Pankaj, presented a paper at an international conference on *Trajectories of Korean Colonial Modern Literature*. Feb 19–20, 2016, JNU, New Delhi

Mohan, Pankaj, Delivered Vote of Thanks at a Conference on *Imagining Histories, Writing Pasts*, School of Historical Studies", March 11, 2016

Mukherjee, Sraman, "Traveling Lives: Archaeologists, the 'Buddhist Pope', and the Bones of the Sakya-Muni". Paper presented at New York University, Shanghai, in the symposium on *Moving Objects: Authorship, Ownership, and Experience in Buddhist Material Culture*, organised by Centre for Global Asia, New York University, Shanghai, April 28–29, 2016.

Mukherjee, Sraman, "Desiring the Buddha: Revisiting Bones and Reliquaries in South and Mainland Southeast Asia". Paper presented in the conference *Object Emotions: Polemics*, organised by Faculty of English, University of Cambridge, April 15–16, 2016.

Mukherjee, Sraman, "Buddhist Relics: Faith and Diplomacy in Southern Asia", paper presented at the workshop *Imagining Histories, Writing Pasts* organised by the School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University, International Convention Center, Rajgir, March 12 and 13, 2016.

Mukherjee, Sraman, "Conservation, Restoration, Rebuilding". Paper presented at conference on *History of Architecture in Eastern India*, organised by the Bihar Heritage Development Society and K. P. Jayaswal Research Institute, Patna, December 10, 2015.

Mukherjee, Sraman, "Recovering Ancient Pasts", paper presented at the workshop *Archiving the Past* at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences Calcutta on July 17, 2015.

Wright, Samuel, "Speaking Politically: Sanskrit Scholars and Politics in Early Modern Bengal". *Language, Power and Identity in Asia: Creating and Crossing Language Boundaries*. International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden (Netherlands). March 14–16, 2016.

Wright, Samuel, "Imagined Absences: Sanskrit Scholars in Early Modern India". *Imagining Histories, Writing Pasts*. First International Workshop of the School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University. Rajgir International Convention Centre, Rajgir, Bihar (India). March 12–13, 2016.

Wright, Samuel, "Defining a Universal Science: Sociological Considerations in Nyāya-Śāstra". *India's Critical Tradition and Maulana Azad*. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (Kolkata, India). November 6–7, 2015.

Wright, Samuel, "Rasa/Ras: Towards a Connected History of Sanskrit and Bhāṣhāin Premodern Bengal". *16th World Sanskrit Conference*. Silpakorn University (Bangkok, Thailand). June 28–July, 2015.

Wright, Samuel, Discussant for panel *Strategies of Peace and War at the Origin of Multilingual India*. *Language, Power and Identity in Asia: Creating and Crossing Language Boundaries*. International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden (Netherlands). March 14–16.

PUBLICATIONS

(Including Books, Edited Volumes, Book Chapters, Research articles published in Peer Reviewed Journals, Conference Volumes and Popular Articles)

Ghani, Kashshaf, "Succeeding the Master: Locating Chishtia Sufis in the Political and Social Environs of Peninsular India". In N. Chandramouli (ed.), *Religion and Society in Peninsular India (6th-16th Centuries CE)*, Aryan Books International, New Delhi, 2015.

Ghani, Kashshaf, "Converging Networks of Piety: Sufi Traditions and Practices from Aurangabad". In Conference Volume on *Histories of Interactions, Connections and Subjectivities in Aurangabad Region*, Aurangabad History Society & Chishtiya Arts College, Aurangabad, 2015.

Ghani, Kashshaf, "Vestige of a Dying Tradition: *Tuhfat ul-Muwahhidin* in Nineteenth Century Bengal". *Studia Iranica*, Volume 44, Issue 1, 2015

Jha, Murari Kumar, "Migration, Settlement, and State Formation in Gangetic Bihar: A historical geographic perspective". *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 57:4 (2014)

Jha, Murari Kumar, "South Asia, 1400-1800: The Mughal Empire and the Turco-Persian Imperial Tradition in the Indian Subcontinent". In Brain P. Farrell and Jack Fairey eds. *Empire in Asia: A New Global History* (forthcoming, London: Bloomsbury, 2016).

Jha, Murari Kumar, "Weavers in Early Modern South Asia (1600–1800)". In Pius Malekandathil ed. *Indian Ocean in the Shaping of Early Modern India* (New Delhi: Manohar Publishers, 2016).

Jha, Murari Kumar, Book review of *Crossing the Bay of Bengal: The furies of Nature and the Fortunes of Migrants* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2013) By Sunil S. Amrith, in *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* 46 (2015), pp.310-312.

Jha, Murari Kumar, Book review of *Steamboats on the Indus: The Limits of Western Technological Superiority in South Asia* (New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2014) by Clive Dewey in *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* 39:3 (2016), pp.705-708.

Jha, Murari Kumar, Article in Popular Magazine in Hindi, "Ganga nadi aur Bihar ke vyaparik samagriyon ka videsh vyapar: purv upniveshwadi pariprekshya," in *Bihar Samachar* (March, 2015), pp.50-52.

Malik, Aditya, *Tales of Justice and Rituals of Embodiment. Oral narratives from the Central Himalayas*. New York: Oxford University Press. (in press).

Malik, Aditya, Co-editor (with Will Sweetman): *Sage Handbook of Hinduism in India: Modern and Contemporary Movements*. (Vol. 2) New Delhi: Sage Publications. (in press).

Malik, Aditya, Co-editor with Antje Linkenbach, (Max-Weber-Centre for Advanced Social Science Research, Erfurt) based on Amartya Sen's critique of John Rawls's conception of justice. Tentative title of book: *Realizing Justice? Normative Orders and the Realities of (In) justice in India*. Sixteen interdisciplinary contributions from international scholars (India, USA, Europe) working in the fields of philosophy, religion, history, law, sociology, social anthropology, and Sanskrit Studies. (forthcoming).

Malik, Aditya, Co-editor with Samuel Wright & Ranu Roychoudhuri (eds.) *Imagining Histories, Writing Past*. (conference proceedings, forthcoming).

Malik, Aditya, "The darbar of Goludev: Possession, Petitions, and Modernity". In William S. Sax & Helene Basu (eds.) *The Law of Possession: Ritual, Healing and the Secular State*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015: 193-225.

Malik, Aditya, "Folk Hinduism: The Middle Ground?". In *Sage Handbook of Hinduism in India: Modern and Contemporary Movements*. New Delhi: Sage Publications (176-193) (see above).

Malik, Aditya, "Possession, Alterity, Modernity". In S. Bandyopadhyay & A. Sen (eds.) *Religion and Society in India*. (36-63). New Delhi: Oxford University Press (in press).

Mohan, Pankaj, "The Controversy over the Ancient Korean Kingdom of Gaya: A Fresh Look at the Korea Japan History War", *History War and Reconciliation in Japan and Korea: The Role of Historians, Artists and Activists*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016

Mohan, Pankaj, "Influence of Buddhist and Confucian Thought on 'Publicness' during the Early Silla Period". *Ancient Korean and Japanese History and Publicness*, Academy of Korean Studies Press, 2016, pp. 206-231 (a paper in Korean)

Mohan, Pankaj, "India's Buddhist Linkage with Korea during the Colonial Era". *International Journal of Buddhist Thought and Culture*, Vol. 26. No. 1 (June 2016): 11-33.

Mohan, Pankaj, "Buddhist Culture of Kaya Kingdom Based on the Samguk yusa". *Korean Studies in India & South Asia* (Vol. III), edited by Ravikesh Mishra, Manak Publications, 2016, pp. 3-19 . (A Research Project granted to JNU by the Academy of Korean Studies, Korea).

Mohan, Pankaj, Encyclopedia Articles . "Baekje Kingdom", "Goguryeo Kingdom", and "The Kingdom of Silla", *Encyclopedia of Empires*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2015 (Received information about the publication in 2016).

Mukherjee, Sraman, "Relics, Ruins, and Temple Building: Archaeological Heritage and the Construction of the Dharmarajika Vihara, Calcutta". In Nayanjot Lahiri and Upinder Singh eds. *Buddhism in Asia: Revival and Reinvention* (New Delhi: Manohar, pp. 147-190).

Mukherjee, Sraman, "Recollections of the Restorer: Joseph Daviditch Melik Beglar and the Maha Bodhi Temple". In Bijoy Kumar Choudhary ed. *Bodhgaya: Impressions Within and Beyond*. (Patna: Bihar Heritage Development Society).

Mukherjee, Sraman, "A Site Museum without a Site: The Bodh Gaya Archaeological Museum". In Saloni Mathur and Kavita Singh eds. *No Touching, No Spitting, No Praying* (New Delhi: Routledge).

Wright, Samuel, "History in the Abstract: 'Brahman-ness' and the Discipline of Nyāya in Seventeenth-Century Vārāṇasī". *Journal of Indian Philosophy* (44)5:1041-1069. (published online November 2015).

Editorial, Reviewing, Refereeing and other Assignments

Mohan, Pankaj, Member, International Advisory Board, The National Institute of Korean History Translation Project of 413-volume Veritable Records of the Choson Dynasty (1392-1910).

Mohan, Pankaj, Member, Editorial Board, *International Journal of Buddhist Thought and Culture* (Dongguk University).

Mohan, Pankaj, Member Editorial Advisory Board, *Asia munhwa yeongu* (Asian Culture), Kyungwon University,

Mohan, Pankaj, Member, Editorial Board, *Sillasa Hakbo* (Studies in Silla History)

Mohan, Pankaj, Member, Executive Committee, Korean Association of Buddhist Studies.

Malik, Aditya, Organised the International Workshop: *Imagining Histories, Writing Pasts*, School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University, Rajgir: March 11-12, 2016. Participants from India, Mexico and Germany. The workshop also involved NU students as presenters and rapporteurs.

Scholarships/Grants/Honours

Jha, Murari Kumar, Conference grant of 115,000 JPY (USD 1,150) from the organisers of the World Economic History Congress, Kyoto (2015)

Malik, Aditya, Travel grant from Nalanda University for attendance of *XXI World Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions* (IAHR), Erfurt, Germany, August 23-29, 2015. Title of panel: *Me, My God and I: The Individual as Recipient of Divine Epiphanies*. Title of paper: *God's Little Horses: Justice and Ritual Embodiment in the Central Himalayas*.

Malik, Aditya, Max-Weber-Kolleg for Advanced Social Science Studies, University of Erfurt, Germany. Teaching replacement grant for one year for Euro 81,600 (approx. US\$ 90,600), in addition to travel, accommodation, research and training funds. Award granted in February, 2016. (Fellowship funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 665958).

Malik, Aditya, Nomination to President of India's *Inspired Teachers In-Residence Programme* held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.





Chancellor George Yeo meets Nalanda University Community on a two-day Visit to Rajgir

REPORT ON EVENTS

In the year 2015-16, the University made various announcements. Some of the most important of these were Mr. George Yeo taking over as Chancellor, Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Portugal and plans to launch the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions next year. Nalanda University also received its first private endowment of \$1 million to support a Professorial Chair in the School of Historical Studies from Dr. Rajendra Kumar Joshi and his wife Mrs Ursula Joshi.

Various meetings during the year included the meeting with the Indonesian Minister for Education and Culture, Chancellor's meeting with Thai Princess HRH Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and UN Secretary General Mr. Ban ki-moon. The visitors to the University this year included groups of friends and donors from Singapore who are contributing to the funds for building the Library, members of the Royal Society of Thailand and students from Illinois and Rajendra Agricultural University.

All the major updates with regard to the University's announcements, meetings, visitors and events etc have been covered in this section.

Mr. George Yeo Takes over as the Chancellor

On May 30, 2015 Government of India announced that Mr. George Yeo, former Foreign Minister of Singapore, will be the next Chancellor of Nalanda University (NU) and his tenure will begin mid-July, 2015.

In the eleventh meeting of the University's GB held on May 3, 2015 meeting that was presided over by

the founding Chancellor Professor Amartya Sen, the Board had unanimously proposed that the Chancellorship of NU be offered to Mr George Yeo.

Mr. Yeo has been a member of the Nalanda University (NU) Governing Board (GB) and Chair of the International Advisory Panel of the Governing Board.



Chancellor George Yeo

Governing Board Approves Launch of the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions and forms an Executive Committee

The Governing Board of Nalanda University had its 12th meeting in Delhi on July 5, 2015. It was the last meeting of the Board with Professor Amartya Sen as the Chairperson and Chancellor. The Board also met the Honourable

External Affairs Minister, Sushma Swaraj, on the same day. The Minister assured the Board of her support for the University and also thanked the outgoing Chancellor, Professor Amartya Sen and welcomed the new Chancellor

Designate, Mr. George Yeo.

The next day Mr. George Yeo and the Vice Chancellor, Gopa Sabharwal went to Patna to meet the Chief Minister of Bihar, Mr. Nitish Kumar.

The most significant decision taken



Governing Board Members at the 12th Meeting on July 5, 2015



Nalanda University Governing Board at the 12th Meeting on July 5, 2015

at the board meeting was the launch of The School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions in 2016-17.

The Governing Board also discussed and approved the constitution of an Executive Committee of the Board during this meeting.

The Executive Committee shall consider, examine and act upon all matters that are referred to the Board for study, possible resolution and recommendation and serve as a forum for the consideration of significant institutional issues and priorities.

This committee will be chaired by the Chancellor who is also the Chair of the Governing Board. The Chancellor shall nominate from among the Members of the Governing Board, other members to the committee. The Vice Chancellor and the Secretary (East) from MEA will be ex-officio members. Ex-officio members shall serve for as long as they hold the office which entitles them to Committee membership. Other nominated members will serve two-year terms and can be re-appointed to successive terms.

The Executive Committee membership shall be less than half the membership of the Governing Board.

The executive committee shall meet at least three times a year. Two meetings shall be held in conjunction with regularly scheduled meetings of the Board while other meetings will be as deemed necessary by the Chair of the Committee. Meetings may be in person or any available electronic means.

Condolence Meeting held to pay tribute to Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

A condolence meeting chaired by Dr. Gopa Sabharwal, Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University was held in the Interim Campus of Nalanda University at on July 28, 2015 at 3 P.M to pay tribute at the sudden demise of Bharat Ratna, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, former President, Republic of India on July 27, 2015 at Shillong.

The Condolence Message was read out and was followed by a two minute silence for the peace of the departed soul. The senior officials and faculty members present during the meeting included Professor Pankaj Mohan, Dr. Murari Kumar Jha, Finance

Officer, Mr. K. Chandramoorthi, University Librarian, Dr. Nihar Patra, other officials and staff members. From the University's Delhi office, Dr. Anjana Sharma, Dean (Academic Planning) went to the house of late Dr. Kalam and laid a wreath on behalf of the University.

The Governing Board of the University also released a statement that said "We received the news of the passing away of the former President of India Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam with great sadness. We were fortunate in getting his unwavering support in re-establishing this ancient university.

He interacted with the Nalanda Mentor Group in the formative years and offered his constructive suggestions to the Founding Chancellor, Professor Amartya Sen and the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Gopa Sabharwal on a number of important academic issues, including the need for focusing on research, which – Dr. Kalam pointed out – is often neglected even by otherwise highly successful academic institutions in India. In the death of Dr. Kalam we not only lost a great man with a powerful vision, but also a warm and steady friend whose support has been a strong source of strength for this newly revived historic university."



Condolence meeting held at Rajgir and wreath laid on behalf of the University

Chancellor, Mr. George Yeo meets Thai Princess HRH Maha Chakri Sirindhorn to brief her about the University's Progress

The Nalanda University Chancellor, Mr. George Yeo, accompanied by Singapore's Ambassador to The Kingdom of Thailand, Mrs Chua Siew San, had an audience with Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn at Sra Pathum Palace in Bangkok to brief her about the progress at Nalanda University on July 30, 2015.

Governing Board Member Professor Prapod Assavavirulhakarn who is also the Dean, Faculty of Arts at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok was also present at the meeting. HRH Princess Sirindhorn hosted a lunch for them. HRH Princess Sirindhorn is a member of Nalanda's International Advisory Panel and

takes an active interest in the work of the University. She also visited Rajgir in February 2014, when the

first meeting of the International Advisory Panel was held.



Chancellor, Mr. George Yeo, accompanied by Singapore's Ambassador to The Kingdom of Thailand, Mrs Chua Siew San, meeting Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn at Sra Pathum Palace in Bangkok

Tripartite Agreement Signed with Singapore Architects for Building the Nalanda University Library

A group of donors from Singapore have pledged S\$10 million towards the design and construction of the central library at the Nalanda University campus in Rajgir. The NU board had graciously accepted this gesture of support.

Moving forward, the donors led by current chancellor George Yeo, have selected RSP architects, planners & engineers private limited as their architects to design the library. The RSP team will be led by the

distinguished architect and planner Mr. Liu Thai Ker. Mr Thai Ker was earlier the master-planner for Singapore and brings with him more than 50 years of experience in multifarious projects.

RSP will be working with the Masterplanners for NU, Vastu Shilpa Consultants in this regard. On August 24, 2015 a tripartite agreement was signed in Rajgir between RSP, VSC and NU. A five member RSP delegation comprising Mr Liu Thai Ker, Mr John Tanny, Ms

Lee Chee Li, Ms Peggy Chai Phet Chi and Mr Javier Corral Escribano made a presentation of the conceptual approach to the proposed library to NU and VSC. VSC was represented by Mr Rajeev Kathpalia and his team.



(L-R) Mr. Rajeev Kathpalia from VSC, Dr. Gopa Sabharwal from Nalanda University and Mr Liu Thai Ker from RSP signing the tripartite agreement

Meeting with Indonesian Minister of Education and Culture to Build Closer ties with Nalanda University

To take forward the partnership between India and Indonesia and to build closer academic and cultural ties, Nalanda University hosted a lunch for the Indonesian Minister of Education and Culture Dr. Anies Baswedan on September 8, 2015.

The Honourable Minister of Culture, (GOI), Dr. Mahesh Sharma, was the guest of honour at the Lunch.

Besides the Ministers, the lunch was attended by the visiting Indonesian delegation, the Ambassador of Indonesia to India H.E. Rizali Wilmar Indrakesuma and Professor Iwan Pranoto Education Attache. Members of the delegation include Mr Harris Iskandar DG for Early Childhood and Public Education, Mr.

Ananto Kusuma Seta Head of International Cooperation Bureau, Mr. Edy Wardoyo Counsellor, Mr. Bukik Setiawan, Education Expert, Mr. MozesTandung Lelating, Minister's Counsellor and Mr. Akbar Nugraha, Third Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia.

Nalanda University Governing Board Member, Mr. N.K. Singh, Vice Chancellor Dr. Gopa Sabharwal, Additional Secretary, Ms. Monika Kapil Mohta and Former Dean (Academic Planning) Dr. Anjana Sharma were also present at the Lunch.

Commenting on developing ties with the University, Hon'ble Minister of Education and Culture for Indonesia, Dr. Anies Baswedan said,

"We look forward to developing stronger relations with the University and also exploring cultural ties."

The Hon'ble Minister of Culture Dr Mahesh Sharma said, "Nalanda University was a repository of wisdom and continues to be one."

Indonesia has proposed to strengthen the ancient cultural links between the two countries through projects, visits by Indonesian scholars, and cultural programmes that link the two cultures and thereby build close relations with the University. Indonesia's former Foreign Minister Mr. Hassan Wirajuda is also a member of the International Advisory Panel of Nalanda University.



(L-R) Dr. Gopa Sabharwal, Vice Chancellor, NU ; Mr. N.K. Singh, Governing Board Member NU; Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Honourable Minister of Culture, Government of India; Dr. Anies Baswedan, Honourable Minister of Education and Culture, Indonesia; H.E. Rizali Wilmar Indrakesuma Ambassador of Indonesia to India and Ms. Monika Kapil Mohta, JS (South), Ministry of External Affairs

Chancellor George Yeo meets Nalanda University Community on a two-day Visit to Rajgir

The Chancellor of Nalanda University, Mr. George Yeo met the University Community in Rajgir on September 9, 2015 for the first time after taking over as the Chancellor.

In his address to the community he said "It is an honour for me to take over from Amartya Sen as Chancellor. I can't fill his shoes. Happily, he has promised me to continue his involvement with the development of the University. He remains on the Governing Board and will help me engage members of the International Advisory Panel."

Talking to members of the local media he said "My visit to Rajgir is short because I have to rush back to Singapore to vote at the General Elections on 11 Sep. Nevertheless, I had wonderful meetings with students and faculty. We are working overtime to improve their living conditions here. The Bihar Government is helping us to secure additional accommodation and improve healthcare amenities.

He also said that a new school for Buddhist Studies, Comparative Religions and Philosophy will be established next year. Talking further about future plans he said, "There will be a steady ramp up of the student intake in the coming years so that, by the time, the first phase of the new campus is ready in 3 to 4 years, there will be close to a thousand, if not more."

Chancellor Yeo was on a two-day visit to Rajgir. Prior to this visit, he also met the President who is the Visitor of Nalanda University to update him on the progress of the University.



Nalanda University Chancellor George Yeo Calls on UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon

On October 5, 2015, Chancellor of Nalanda University, Mr. George Yeo called on UN Secretary General Mr Ban Ki-moon in New York City to brief him on the progress of Nalanda University. At the time of his election as Secretary-General in 2006, Mr. Ban was Republic of Korea's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade. As Foreign Minister of Korea, Mr. Ban was an enthusiastic supporter of the revival of Nalanda.



Chancellor, Mr. George Yeo with UN Secretary General Mr Ban Ki-moon in New York

Nalanda University receives an endowment of \$ 1 million from Dr. Rajendra and Mrs. Ursula Joshi

Nalanda University has received an endowment of \$ 1 million to support a Professorial Chair in the School of Historical Studies from Dr. Rajendra Kumar Joshi and his wife Mrs. Ursula Joshi.

The symbolic cheque was handed over by Mrs. Ursula Joshi to the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Gopa Sabharwal at an Endowment Ceremony held on September 22, 2015 in New Delhi.

This is the second personal endowment of this kind to the University, the earlier being a donation from Ambassador Madanjeet Singh's South Asia Foundation for the same amount.



(L-R) Dr. Nalin Joshi, Mrs. Ursula Joshi, Dr. Gopa Sabharwal, Mr. N.K. Singh, Col R.K. Gosain at the Endowment Ceremony

The modalities of that donation are still being worked out. Nalanda University has also received endowments from countries like Australia, China, Singapore, Laos and

Thailand. It has also received endowments in the form of books from individual donors.

Thanking Dr Rajendra Joshi and Mrs.

Ursula Joshi for their contribution, the Vice Chancellor Dr. Gopa Sabharwal said, "This endowment to the University is really valuable for us specially in these formative years. We are specially thankful that the Joshis, despite their background in pharmaceuticals, decided to support the School of Historical Studies to acknowledge the importance of this discipline in the present age. At a time when History and indeed the Liberal Arts need a lot of support a gesture like this is immensely valuable."

Dr. Rajendra Joshi, now a Swiss citizen has his roots in India, Rajasthan and is a graduate of BITS Pilani. He founded a pharmaceutical company Fumapharm with other partners in Switzerland and is credited with development of highly effective drugs for the treatment of psoriasis and multiple sclerosis.

Fumapharm was bought over by the US based company Biogen Idec and the drug that Dr. Joshi developed, now a very successful medicine globally, is marketed as Tecfidera.

In 2006, Dr. Joshi and Mrs Joshi started the Rajendra and Ursula Joshi Foundation (JCF) in Zurich, Switzerland to bring the Swiss Dual System of Apprentice Training in India.

The foundation has started its first Vocational Education and Training project through The Rajendra & Ursula Joshi Skill Development Pvt. Ltd. in Jaipur.

Talking about the motivation behind the contribution, Dr. Joshi's nephew Dr. Nalin Joshi, said "Dr. R.K Joshi is a committed *Bharatvanshi* and he is not only an admirer of Indian culture but has a very strong belief in the Jagadguru image of the country. He

believes that 'knowledge gives humility, from humility one attains character and wealth and with that good deeds can follow nirvana'. In his opinion revival of this distinguished centre of education will fulfil the purpose of imparting knowledge."

Mrs. Ursula Joshi who handed over the cheque to symbolically signify the transfer of funds, said, "My husband and I are very much interested in the education system in India. As Nalanda University is one of the oldest universities of the world, we want to contribute in revival of such a prestigious institution particularly by supporting a Professorial Chair in the School of Historical Studies. Similarly we are also working towards bringing the Swiss Dual System of apprenticeship in India. In this regard BSDC in Jaipur will be inaugurated very soon."

Portugal and India sign MoU on Nalanda University

On October 9, 2015, at a ceremony in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Portugal became the seventeenth country to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of Nalanda University. The Memorandum was signed from the Portuguese side by Ambassador Ana Martinho, Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from the Indian side by Dr. Jitendra Nath

Misra, the Ambassador of India to Portugal.

Portugal is the first European country to sign the Memorandum, and the fourth outside the East Asia Summit. The seventeen countries to have signed the Memorandum are Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, New Zealand, Singapore, China, South Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand,

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Portugal and India.

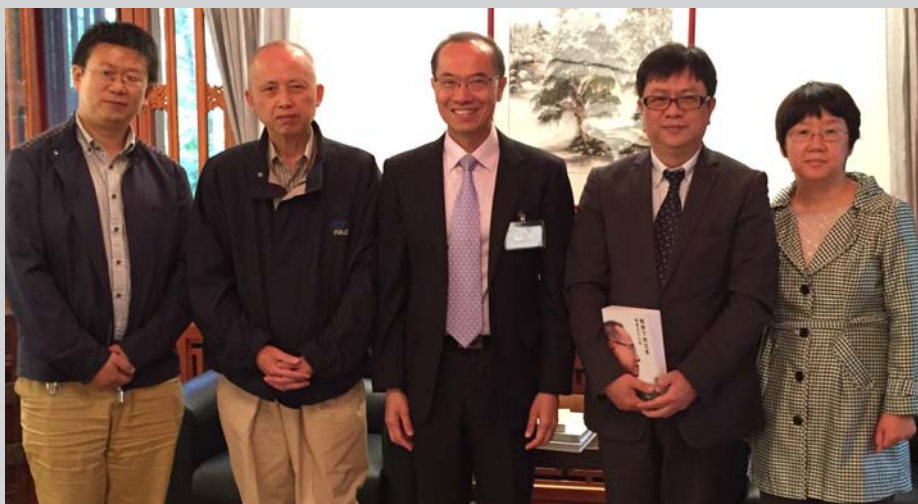


Dr. Jitendra Nath Misra, the Ambassador of India to Portugal and Ambassador Ana Martinho, Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Portugal signing the MoU

Nalanda University to build closer ties with Peking University

On October 18, 2015, Chancellor George Yeo met Peking University's Vice President Li Yansong to discuss ways to build closer cooperation between the two universities. Governing Board Member of Nalanda University, Professor Wang Bangwei, who is a Professor at Peking University, was also a part of the meeting.

Nalanda University already has links with the Peking University but the two universities are now in talks to start a centre focused on Asian Studies located at Nalanda University among other closer collaborations. Commenting on this development Chancellor Yeo said,



Chancellor George Yeo (third from left) with officials at Peking University

"We hope that through greater collaboration with Beijing University, Nalanda University can help build greater understanding between two ancient civilizations." Professor Wang Bangwei who was present for the meeting added,

"Nalanda is a sacred name to many Chinese people who love India. Hope through the newly established Nalanda University the tradition of mutual learning among Asian countries including China and India will be strengthened."

NU collaborates with BHDS to organise Heritage Walk in Rajgir

Nalanda University in collaboration with the Bihar Heritage Development Society, under Bihar government's Art, Culture and Youth Department, organised a heritage walk on November 28 and 29, 2015 during the Rajgir Mahotsav. Dr. Abhishek S. Amar, Visiting Associate Professor, School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University led the walk. The walk titled "Rajgir – Ancient to Modern" emphasised the dialogue between the past and the present at the sites of historical and religious importance in Rajgir, a place sacred to the Hindus, Buddhists, Jains and

Muslims alike. Main aim of the walk was to generate awareness about the multi-layered cultural and religious history of Rajgir among people of Rajgir and tourists. After a successful trial in October this was the first walk out of this collaboration where invitations were sent out to public through newspaper advertisements and online media.

Thirty-five people from Rajgir and Patna joined the walk which started from Quila Maidan and concluded at Veerayatan covering Ajatshatru Stupa, Venuvan, Japanese temple and Pandu Pokhar on the way in two hours. Besides Faculty and students



Heritage walk was organised on November 28 and 29, 2015 during the Rajgir Mahotsav in collaboration with BHDS

from Nalanda University, Mr. Vivek Kumar Singh, Secretary, Art and Culture department, Govt. of Bihar and Manish Verma, CMD, Electricity Board, Govt. of Bihar joined the walk on its second day. Dr Bijoy Kumar Choudhary, Director, Bihar Heritage Development Society, Patna also informed that these walks will be

organised on a regular/weekly basis for tourists and pilgrims in Mid-December.

The heritage walks have been regularly organised on the first Sunday of every month and even on

other days depending on requests from tourists or locals from Rajgir. Prominent among the other heritage walks organised in 2015-16 was the walk organised on January 10, 2016. While exploring the mound

areas around Quila maidan and Venuvan, the group also spotted some pottery and a range of brick-structures.

27-member delegation from the Royal Society of Thailand visits Nalanda University, Rajgir

A high level 27 member delegation comprising of academicians, scholars, artists and others from the Royal Society of Thailand (RST) visited the interim campus of Nalanda University, Rajgir on December 17, 2016. The RST consists of three academies – the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, the Academy of Science and the Academy of Arts. The society was originally founded as the Royal Council in the reign of King Prajadhipok in 1926. This society is the national academy of Thailand and takes care of the academic works of the government. The RST has a unique role in bringing together scholars in the various fields of knowledge.

Professor Pakorn Adulbhan, Fellow and President of the RST who is from the Engineering Section of the Academy of Science was leading this delegation of senior academics that included members from different sections of the RST including Engineering, Fine Arts, Literary Arts,



Professor Pakorn Adulbhan, Fellow and President of the Royal Society of Thailand being felicitated by Professor B. Mohan Kumar, Acting Dean School of Ecology and Environment Studies

Law, Philosophy, Psychology, Science and Agricultural Technology and Veterinary Science, and Technology.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Adulbhan said, "I would like to thank the University for the Warm Welcome extended to us. We will be happy to involve our research scholars to engage with faculty and students of Nalanda University."

Senior Professors from Nalanda University including Professor

Pankaj Mohan, Professor B. Mohan Kumar, Dr. Somnath Bandyopadhyaya, Dr. Abhishek Amar and senior administrative official Mr. K. Chandramoorthi, Finance Officer and Officiating Registrar and others were present at this interaction with the visiting delegates. Professor Max Deeg, scholar in Residence from Cardiff University, UK also addressed the delegation and shared the plan of Nalanda University for upcoming school of Buddhist Studies and Comparative Religion.

Students from University of Illinois and Rajendra Agriculture University (RAU) visit Nalanda University

A group of under-graduate students from the University of Illinois and Rajendra Agriculture University (RAU) interacted with the students of Nalanda University on January 10, 2016. Illinois students were in India to work on an ADMI project with the students from RAU. The ADM Institute for the Prevention of Postharvest Loss at University of Illinois and RAU are working under a collaboration on this project for Bihar state. The theme of project is "Reduction of Postharvest Loss for Smallholder Farmers." A distinguished lecture on the topic was also delivered by Prof. Kalita on the same day. The aim of ADMI project is to create "ADMI Village" in India. The project was launched for Bihar state in August last year with the involvement of Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India

along with several other Indian institutes working in the field of agricultural research. The ADMI project will be a practical implementation of postharvest loss-reducing technologies that match Bihar's specific challenges by focusing on postharvest loss (PHL) reduction in wheat, maize, rice and lentils in the districts of Samastipur, Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Purnea and Motihari in Bihar, India.

After the lecture, the students interacted with each other and shared information on individual interests and research projects. Later in the evening, all the guests had dinner with NU faculty and students in Tathagat Dining Hall.

University of Illinois and RAU Institute have been collaborating with Nalanda University on various aspects. One of the students from



Students from the University of Illinois and Rajendra Agriculture University at Nalanda University

the pioneer batch, Jyothirmayee Kandula had spent her summer-internship months doing research work at the University of Illinois. RAU had collaborated with the School of Ecology and Environment to organise a three-day field trip to Samastipur village of Bihar. Two students Arun Gandhi and Anshuman Shekhar from Batch 2016 of School of Ecology and Environment at Nalanda University also worked on the ADMI project for their M.A. dissertation.

Supporters and Friends of Nalanda University from Singapore come for a three-day trip to Rajgir along with Chancellor Yeo

A group of donors, supporters and friends of Nalanda University from Singapore, and Hongkong came for a three-day visit from January 24 to January 26, 2016 to the University. The group also joined NU community for the celebration of 67th Indian Republic Day on January

26, 2016.

The group was accompanied by Chancellor George Yeo, who stayed on at the University till the Governing Board Meeting on January 30, 2016.

The first visit of this group was to the Mahabodhi temple in Gaya before

arriving at Rajgir, where they were welcomed by Vice Chancellor Dr. Gopa Sabharwal. On the next day they had an interaction with the students at Tathagat Residential Hall. Later the team also visited the Nalanda ruins, Nalanda Museum, Xuan Zang Memorial Hall and other places of interest.

The group included donors who have contributed to the gift that will design, build and deliver the Library at main campus site of Nalanda. The nature of the gift is not a cash donation, but the funding of the building cost of the Nalanda Library in its first phase. This gift from the people of Singapore (not the government) to Nalanda, was an initiative of the now Chancellor, Mr. George Yeo, at a time before he was named Chancellor.

Mr. K. C. Chew a leading consultant in Philanthropy in Singapore, who earlier oversaw endowments at National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University in Singapore and is currently the Honorary Secretary at Nalanda Library Fund Limited was also travelling with this group. Commenting on the gift Mr. K.C.

Chew said, "When we set out to raise the funds for this gift, we had set ourselves a target to raise S\$10 million, and about 80% of that has been secured, and we are hopeful that the remaining amount will be reached soon after this trip which is partly to also inspire those who have not yet committed a specific gift amount to do so."

Talking about the importance of supporting a project like Nalanda University the Chancellor Mr. George Yeo said, "Endowments play a very important role in building centre of knowledge and allowing them to realise their academic vision. As the Nalanda project moves ahead, we hope to have many more people join in this vision." Thanking the supporters for their interest in the University, Dr. Gopa Sabharwal, the Vice Chancellor said, "We are

really grateful to the people of Singapore for believing in the vision of Nalanda and look forward to increasing support for this project."

The donors for the Nalanda Library have selected a Singapore based architectural firm-RSP architects, planners & engineers to design the library. The RSP team is led by the distinguished architect and planner Mr. Liu Thai Ker, who was the master-planner for Singapore and brings with him more than 50 years of experience in multiple projects. Mr Liu along with a five member team from RSP had visited Rajgir in August 2015 to discuss modalities of design. RSP is part of a tripartite agreement with Nalanda University and Vastu Shilpa Consultants, who are the Masterplanners for the University.



Supporters and Friends of Nalanda University from Singapore on a three-day trip to Rajgir along with Chancellor Yeo

University to shortly launch the School of Linguistics and Literature and the School of Public Health

The Governing Board of Nalanda University approved the launch of the School of Linguistics and Literature in 2017-18, at its 13th meeting in Rajgir on January 30, 2015. Talking about this decision Chancellor George Yeo said, "We decided on this School keeping in mind the academic needs of present Schools. A School of Linguistics and Literature will complement the present School of Historical Studies and the upcoming School of Buddhist Studies, Comparative Religion and Philosophy."

The Board also decided that the School of Public Health will follow in 2018-19. "Catering to the present needs of the neighbourhood in which

we are located is one of the mandates of the University and the School of Public Health will greatly benefit the region," said Chancellor Yeo.

The Board thanked the people of Singapore who have pledged the gift of Sing \$10 million to design build and deliver a library at the University's campus. This gift from the people of Singapore (not the government) was the initiative of Chancellor Yeo, at a time before he was named Chancellor.

Chancellor Yeo had arrived a week early at Rajgir, along with supporters and friends of Nalanda University from Singapore and Hongkong. He spent time with the University students, faculty and staff during the week and also presided over the

Indian Republic Day celebrations at the University on January 26.

A day prior to the Governing Board meeting, an exhibition was held to showcase the designs of the Masterplan and library plan of the University. Vastu Shilpa Consultants who are the Masterplanners of the University and RSP architects, planners & engineers who are the designers of the library also made presentations to explain the plans of construction in detail. The first phase of construction includes the construction of Academic & Administration Buildings, Residential Buildings for Faculty, Staff and Students Amenities Buildings, the International Centre and Sport Facilities.

Nalanda University participates at Delhi Dialogue VIII

Nalanda University was represented by the Vice Chancellor Dr. Gopa Sabharwal at the Delhi Dialogue VIII an annual international conference organised by Ministry of External Affairs (GOI) to chart the issues and dynamics facing the Asia Pacific Region for leaders and business investors.

The Dialogue was held from February 17 to 19, 2016. The Vice Chancellor spoke on February 19, 2016 at the session titled: "The Way Forward: Towards 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-India Relations".

The session was chaired by



Vice Chancellor Dr. Gopa Sabharwal Representing Nalanda University at Delhi Dialogue VIII

Ambassador Gopinath Pillai, Ambassador-at-large for the Government of Singapore and chairman of Management Board of the Institute of South Asian Studies, Singapore. The other speakers included: Prof. Nguyen Thai Yen Huong, Senior Research Fellow, Vice

President, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam; Mr. R Ravindran, Chairman, SAEA Research Group, Singapore; Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, Former Director General, ICWA, New Delhi; Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre at RIS, New Delhi; and Dr. Yang Peou, Senior Researcher and Permanent Secretary, International Relations Institute of Cambodia, Phnom Penh (TBC).



Nalanda University represented at India Today Education Conclave

Vice Chancellor, Dr. Gopa Sabharwal represented Nalanda University at the India Today Education Conclave held in Delhi on February 25, 2016.

The daylong seminar focused on innovative practices in education. The VC spoke at the session titled: "New Centres of Excellence-focus on research and collaboration".

Dr. Sabharwal talked about how inter disciplinary, experiential learning, focus on research and field work and dissertation component make Nalanda University's Masters Programmes stand out. She also explained how the unique

collaboration of several countries from the East Asia Summit is shaping the University into a centre of excellence.

Other speakers at the panel included: Prof Rupamanjari Ghosh

(Vice Chancellor, Shiv Nadar University), Rajendra Pandey (President, NIIT University) and Vineet Gupta (Co-founder, Ashoka University).







Dhvani the musical band of the University pose after their first performance on August 15, 2015

COMMUNITY NEWS

The University Community grew substantially this year with over 50 new students joining in the two schools. Several new faculty and administrative staff members also joined the University. The first ever Freshers' Night was organised and Student Clubs and Societies also started taking shape. This year the Nalanda Family also added some new celebrations to the list of last year celebrations, including Makar Sankranti and Basanta Panchami.

Welcoming the Class of 2017 – Student Orientation at Nalanda University

Nalanda University (NU) welcomed the Class of 2017 in a week long Orientation Programme held from August 3-7, 2015. with their respective faculties, residences and the University, thus taking the first step towards building a strong bond between the incoming batch and the University.

Day One

The first day of Fall 2015 was an occasion when all the current students, faculty members, and the staff of the University came together to give a warm welcome to the Batch of 2017.

The programme began with the address of the Vice-Chancellor as well as the Dean of Academic Planning and was followed by a short video comprising of messages from the members of the Governing Board of NU.

Day Two

The second day of the Orientation Week began with a tour around the Interim Campus of Nalanda University. Students from the new batch were guided by the administrative staff of NU. This was followed by an interaction with the University's team. Students were also asked to pen down their thoughts in the student book of NU. Afterwards, the students were



Class of 2017 pose for the Commemorative Picture after first day of Orientation

taken to the main campus site of the University where the construction is to begin by the end of this year. The next stop was the Nalanda ruins.

The Heritage Walk to the ASI site of ancient Nalanda Monastery and the site museum was lead by two faculty members from the School of Historical Studies- Dr. Abhishek Amar and Dr. Sraman Mukherjee.

The purpose of these visits was to help the new students get a better understanding of the idea behind the revival of the ancient Nalanda University.

Day Three

School Orientation started from the third day of the Orientation Week. A number of activities were organised to help break the ice between the new students and their seniors. This was followed by an introduction to

the curriculum at Nalanda.

A film screening, titled *My Nomad Soul (Pakkhe Nu Chaddnu Nai)*, was scheduled for the evening. The film has been directed by the students of the renowned director Mr. Sanjay Barnela.

Mr. Barnela himself was present at the occasion to address the new batch and answer questions related to the short film.

Day Four

Day four began with screening of another film co-directed by Mr. Sanjay Barnela. The title of this film was *Pastoral Politics (Gaddi Herders of Himachal Pradesh)*.

The evening programme was a continuation of the respective school orientations from the previous days. An introduction to

academic writing and the related demands of schools at NU was also a part of this event.

Day Five

The final day of the Orientation Week at Nalanda University commenced with the screening of *Footsteps Of Nikitin*, a Ministry of External Affairs' production, specifically a work of the Public Diplomacy Division. Professor Hari Sankar Vasudevan, who is one of the script writers of the 61 minutes documentary and has also been associated with Nalanda University in several ways, was present during the event and answered the queries of students based on the film.

The evening show was an Odissi



Class of 2017 along with the students from pioneer batch, school faculty and university staff at Nalanda Ruins during orientation week.

dance performance by the established dancer, Ms. Arushi Mudgal who left the audience spellbound with her graceful performance. This was followed by a gala dinner organised at the Student

Residence Hall, NU. With this the Orientation Week at Nalanda University came to an end.

Independence Day Celebrations at the University

Nalanda University has institutionalised a tradition of giving the flag hoisting honour to two students in the first year of the Master's course on the two National Festivals-the Republic Day and the Independence Day.

Accordingly on August 15, 2015, the 69th Independence Day Celebrations, Aparna Jha and Rohit Jha unfurled the Indian Tricolor at the Interim Campus.



Indian Independence Day celebration at interim campus on August 15, 2015

This year Dr. Gopa Sabharwal, the Vice Chancellor of the University also announced that since the University's international

community was growing, the University will also try to celebrate the National Days of all its students.



Dhvani the musical band of the University pose after their first performance on August 15, 2015

Aarabdhi '15 – First Ever Freshers' Night at Nalanda University



Nalanda University's pioneer batch threw a freshers' party for the new batch at NU, the class of 2017. The function called Aarabdhi was held on August 29, 2015 and included programmes with diverse colours and blends. Performances varied from classical dance to fusion, themed to fun-clad, mime to poem-recitation, musical medley to peace song, rap on Tagore's Geetanjali to Japan's pop song, and much more.

NU community after successful commencement of first ever freshers' night at NU - August 29, 2015



Students performing during Aarabdhi 2015

Nalanda University holds a two-day celebration to commemorate its Foundation Day

A two-day celebration was held on November 24-25, to commemorate Nalanda University's Foundation Day. It was on November 25, that the Nalanda University Act (2010) came into force in 2010. The University observes this day as foundation day.

Last year when it began its first Academic Session the university celebrated this day in Rajgir. This year the University invited *Indian Ocean* a band widely recognised as



Indian Ocean band members with students after their performance on Nalanda University's Foundation Day- November 25, 2015



Commemorative photograph after Foundation Day Celebration 2015 - November 24, 2015

the pioneer of the fusion rock genre in India for a live performance in Rajgir on November 25. The University invited various institutions from Bihar for the rock show by *Indian Ocean*. Students from IIT Patna, Patna Science College and Patna Womens College came to Rajgir for the show. This was the rock band's first performance in Bihar in 26 years since their inception. The University Community also organised a Cultural Performance on the eve of Foundation Day, November 24, where students, staff and even the faculty was represented.

The theme for this year was *Equality through efforts*. The guests included Rajgir Administration and other

dignitaries from Rajgir besides students from Navodaya Vidyalaya and Sainik School. Speaking on the occasion the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Gopa Sabharwal, said "Though we all often meet as a community on

various occasions, I would like to use this opportunity to specially thank all our Faculty, students and staff for helping to build Nalanda and turning into reality what started as a dream."



Live performance by Indian Ocean on Nalanda University's Foundation Day Celebration 2015

Traditional Festivals Celebrated by the University Community

The University Community celebrated many traditional festivals in the year 2015-16, including: Diwali, Dussehra, Eid, Christmas, New Year, Makar Sankranti and Basant Panchami.

On Diwali, students joined in decorating the Residence Halls with lamps and on Dussehra they staged a play. Eid was celebrated with special performances and so was Christmas and New Year.

Makar Sankranti, the harvest festival which is celebrated in different regions of India, was celebrated with dance, songs, games and bonfire.

Basant Panchami the beginning of spring season was also celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm and students made special arrangements

for offering prayers to Goddess Saraswati, who according to Hindu belief, is considered the goddess of knowledge, wisdom, art, and music.

The University Community celebrates all major festivals together with students taking the lead in organising these get-togethers.

All community members including students, faculty and staff are invited to join in for the celebrations and the University Mess serves special menu on these occasions.



Student Clubs and Societies Launched



Students and faculty during the inauguration of sports week at the University on October 9, 2015

Since Nalanda University took in its first batch of students in August 2014 a number of clubs and societies have emerged to keep the close knit community involved in creative pursuits.

Depending on their interests, students can choose to get associated with any of these clubs and societies. Being involved in these groups also gives them an opportunity to develop their communication, organisation and social skills that will prove valuable in real world situations.

These clubs are run by students and the University only provides financial support and facilities. Many of the activities of these clubs are also open for faculty and staff participation.

Here's a look at the current clubs and

societies:

Sports Club

The Sports Club organises various sporting events that are recreational as well as competitive. Faculty students and staff participate actively in all such events.

Awareness Society

The society is engaged in organising events and activities that help raise awareness on various societal and environmental issues.

Literary Society

Member students of this society are involved in promoting a culture of meaningful dialogue and creative writing.

Environment Club

The Club is involved in promoting environmental consciousness and

green activities.

Cultural and Arts Society

The Cultural and Arts Society at NU organises various cultural events and festivals on campus. The Dance, Music (Dhvani), Dramatics and Photography club are part of this society.

Career Resource Cell

The Career Resource Cell is run by a team of students with support from staff and faculty. It is involved in building connections with various organisations and companies that could be interested in hiring students for research or employment. It will help the representatives of these companies in hiring students and also help students in their search for opportunities.

Social Club

The club organises interactive sessions with experts and events

where various social problems and issues are highlighted and creative

solutions are discussed and implemented.

Sports Week and Cricket Tournament

Sports week was organised from October 9 to 16, 2015. Various sporting events were held during this week including badminton and volleyball.

A two-day cricket tournament was organised over two weekends in the



Badminton match in progress during Sports Week



Nalanda Warriors and Nalanda Spartans pose for a picture after the cricket tournament

month of January. The Students team, *Nalanda Spartans* played against administration staff team *Nalanda Warriors*. Winner for the day one (January 9) match were *Nalanda Warriors* by 8 wickets while *Nalanda Spartans* hit back hard on day two (January 16) with a handsome

victory by 36 runs. Both the matches were held at Navodaya Vidyalaya Cricket Ground, Rajgir. Friendly cricket matches like these bring the whole community together and make the bonds stronger at Nalanda University.

Indian Republic Day celebration: Klay and Aman hoist the flag



Chancellor Yeo addressing the University Community on India's Republic Day

Nalanda University once again gave a chance to its students to hoist the national flag of India on January 26, 2016 during the Republic Day celebrations of India. Two students were picked through chit draw. Naw Klay Paw who is originally from

Myanmar and Aman Verma got the honour this time. National anthem was sung with pride after the flag unfurling. Chancellor George Yeo was also present during the event. He along with the Vice Chancello Dr. Gopa Sabharwal addressed the

University Community on the occasion. Students also gave cultural performances. Snacks, sweet and tea-coffee were served afterwards.



Indian Republic Day Celebrations at Interim Campus

NU Career Resource Cell Interactions

Nalanda University Career Resource Cell was established this year and as a part of its initiatives it arranged for interactive sessions with various professionals to make students aware of different kinds of local projects that are linked to their course. These interactions also helped in establishing connections with different institutions that may be interested in hiring students for summer-internship projects.

UNICEF-Bihar Interaction: Mr. Banku Bihari Sarkar, from Bihar branch of UNICEF India (United Nations Children's Emergency Fund) along with his team members – Mr. Sayed Mansoor Umar Qadri and Ms. Parul Sharma interacted with the students on February 15, 2016.

They shared the history of UNICEF's venture in Bihar since 1982 and talked about the different models under the project of Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) which has been running in Bihar since 2004. The topics discussed included institutionalising



UNICEF-Bihar team interacting with students at the University

a Multi-Hazard Vulnerability Protection Scheme (ICPS) and the Mapping (MHVM), and Community resilience-building through CBDRR among others. Updates on the rollout of the Integrated Child Education (RTE) was also discussed.

National Rural Livelihood Mission Interaction: Mr. Debaraj Behera, National Mission Manager of Livelihoods at National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) interacted with the students on February 14, 2016, on various internships and placement opportunities.

Mr. Behra has an accomplished career in designing and implementation of large scale programme in Sustainable Agriculture Practices, Climate Smart Agriculture and Productivity Enhancement Program (System of Crop Intensification in Paddy,



Mr. Debaraj Behera, National Mission Manager of Livelihoods at National Rural Livelihoods Mission with students after an interaction

Wheat, Pulses, Oilseeds & Vegetable). He has also worked for the Community Managed Extension Mechanism, Innovation in Agriculture and Marketing of smallholder agriculture. Besides, he has been known for his roles in Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) and professionalisation of the Development Sector.

Nalanda Student Selected for Dalai Lama Fellowship 2016-17

Abinash Mohanty, a student of School of Ecology and Environment from the Class of 2017, was selected as Dalai Lama Fellow in March 2016. Dalai Lama Fellows is a unique global program that seeks out and encourages a new generation of emerging leaders to address effectively some of the most persistent global challenges of our day.

The project for which Abinash Mohanty was selected aims to raise awareness about Rajgir's tourism industry with simultaneous stress on

improving the environment of the city. This will include an integrated community management for the Tonga community (the community financially dependent on tongas used for the local tourism) which has five modules of implementation i.e. empowering the Tonga community, providing technical modalities to make Tongas more energy sufficient and efficient, making environmental friendly waste collection modules for horses by utilisation of technical (fiber) textiles and providing animal welfare so that horses can be well



Abinash Mohanty, student from the School of Ecology and Environment selected for Dalai Lama Fellowship

taken care of. The project is being mentored by Dr Pushpa Kumar Lakshmanan, Associate Professor, School of Ecology and Environment, Nalanda University, Rajgir.





Model of the Masterplan of the Upcoming Campus

CAMPUS AND CONSTRUCTION

With the University's Community growing further this year the University built a few new buildings in the interim campus and also acquired a few other buildings in Rajgir. The work on the permanent campus also moved further with the hiring of M/s MECON Ltd. as Project Management Consultants. The tender process for the construction of permanent campus which had started in February 2015 had to be revised and will now be divided into three smaller packages.

Renovation and creation of additional space at the Interim Campus

Pre-fabricated office buildings (Porta Cabins) were built on the Interim Campus. These cabins are now being used as Administrative Offices. A storm water drainage system was also built.

The University also requested the Chief Secretary, Government of Bihar for taking up construction of 8 additional housing units by demolishing the unsafe structures, renovating Block F (6 units) and adding one more floor at Block D (2 Units) with the same footprint as Ground Floor according to the plans and drawings developed by the University. The Chief Secretary entrusted the work to Bihar State Educational Infrastructure Development Corporation (BSEIDC) and the plans and drawings for the same were handed over to BSEIDC.

Since the existing space facilities at the University's Interim Campus were



Newly constructed Porta Cabins

exhausted and there was an increasing demand for accommodation and office space the University also acquired some buildings on lease in Rajgir town. It leased a newly constructed 4 storied 14-room fully-furnished building with a reception at Ground Floor including facilities like elevator, air-conditioning in all rooms and 100

per cent power back-up which has been designated by the University as 'Office cum Guest House'. Besides this the University also rented a couple of other houses which were allotted to faculty members who could not be accommodated in the interim campus.

Update on Development of Permanent Campus

The proposed campus of Nalanda University is planned to be developed on 455 acres of land that has been given to the University by Bihar Government. The site is located in the foot hill of Rajgir hills, along Patna- Rajgir highway and is well connected with the city of Rajgir, Bihar.

The Master Plan of the University has been designed by Vastu Shilpa Consultants (VSC) who had emerged as the winner of the Architectural Design Competition held in 2013. The University had

signed a contract with them in 2014.

The Master Plan of the proposed campus has been designed to have non-residential as well as residential buildings. The non-residential buildings include Academic Blocks, Library, Administration Block, Lecture Halls and Auditorium. The residential buildings include Faculty Housing, Hostels for Boys and Girls, and Mess and Dining.

All the buildings are planned to be positioned along water networks spread over the entire campus. A lotus pond called Kamal Sagar is

proposed adjacent to the Academic Spine and Residential Blocks.

The campus is also being planned to be NET ZERO, which means that the campus shall be self-reliant in so far as demand of energy, water and other natural resources is concerned.

MECON Limited comes on board as Project Management Consultant

The development of the campus is planned in phases and the construction work for Phase-I is also planned to be taken up under

different packages to facilitate integrated development of the campus.

For the successful execution of the Master Plan and the Buildings in the Phase I construction, the University decided that it was necessary to engage a Project Management Consultant (PMC).

Following an open tender and after obtaining approvals from appropriate authorities the University engaged M/s MECON Limited, Ranchi, as the PMC for Phase I Construction.

M/s MECON Ltd. (ISO 9001:2008) is a Government of India Public Sector Undertaking under Ministry of Steel and it has its Head Office at Ranchi, Jharkhand. It is the only premier multi-disciplinary design, engineering, consultancy and contracting organisation.

Tender for Phase I construction to be divided into three smaller packages

The tendering process for the Construction of the University Campus had started in February 2015 when it was decided that as the first step only a small part of the entire construction would be done in order to get a mock-up of all the design characteristics. A mock-up or model of all design characteristics was necessary as many of the characteristics of this proposed campus are unique.

Accordingly an open tender through two-bid system was announced on February 17, 2015 for the construction of the Outreach Building; Two Faculty

Housing Units, including necessary infrastructure development works (comprising all Civil, Structural, Finishing Work, all wired, piped services and Related Infrastructure Facilities, miscellaneous works); Water Bodies and Lakes for Rain Water collection and distribution for use in the campus; and Development of Internal Roads, Walkways and Landscape areas as well as Agriculture zones. The estimated cost of this tender was ₹60.50 Crore.

Through the open tender only one bid was received and post evaluation of the bid the amount quoted by the bidder was found to be higher than the permissible limit. However, a negotiation was conducted to bring down the prices quoted to a reasonable level. But the Ministry vide D.O No: S/321/15/2013 dated 30 April 2015 advised the University to cancel this tender and go for a composite tender for Phase I Construction of the University's permanent campus.

Adhering to the advice on July 6, 2015 the University called for the composite Phase I Tender (two envelope system) in e-tendering mode for the Construction of Entire Campus of Nalanda University comprising of Academic & Administration Buildings Residential Buildings for Faculty, Staff and Students, Amenities Buildings, Campus Inn, International Centre, all services Buildings & Structures including necessary infrastructure development works (comprising all Civil, Structural, Finishing Work, all

wired, piped services and Related Infrastructure Facilities, miscellaneous works), Water Bodies and Lakes for Rain Water collection and distribution for use in the campus, Development of Internal Roads, Walkways and Landscape areas as well Agriculture zones etc. with an Estimated Cost Put to Tender of ₹614.00 Crore.

Out of the five agencies that responded to the tender only three were found to be technically eligible for opening financial bids by a duly constituted Tender Evaluation Committee. Post opening the lowest bidder was found to have quoted higher than the permissible limits as prescribed in extant rules. Hence, on advice of the technical committee, the University conducted negotiation with the lowest bidder to bring down the prices to a reasonable level. However, the Building and Works Committee of the University decided to discard the tender process for Composite Phase I tender in its meeting held in March 2016. It decided that the tender would be split into smaller packages. After concurrence of the Governing Board, the University has discarded the Composite Phase I Tender and plans to call for fresh tenders by splitting the Composite Phase I Tender into three smaller packages vis-à-vis, the Road Package (Tender Package 1A), the Non-Residential Package (Tender Package 1B) and the Residential Package (Tender Package 1C).





Architectural Rendering of Proposed Campus

FINANCE AND FUNDING

The University ensures that the funds of the University are utilised to the optimum level keeping in view the vision and objective of the University.

While utilising the funds all the provisions laid down in the Act, Statutes and Financial Regulations have been observed in full spirit.

Nalanda University is fully funded by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The University receives Grant from the MEA on the basis of utilisation statement submitted by the University time to time.

The statement showing details of Funds received and its utilisation for the FY 2015-16 is shown as below:

Particulars	Amount (₹. In Lakhs)
Opening Balance	539.68
(Add) Grant received during the Year	3167.00
(Add) Internal receipt	161.38
Total Income (A)	3868.06
Less: Revenue Expenditure	1614.39
Less: Capital Expenditure	1769.37
Total Expenditure (B)	3383.76
Closing Balance (A-B)	484.30

The University also received an amount of ₹ 6,36,97,850.00 (equivalent to USD 1 Million) as foreign contribution from the Rajendra and Ursula Joshi Foundation, Switzerland.

Apart from the above fund University has also received Foreign Contributions/Donation in past. The summary of all Foreign Funds as on 31/03/2016 is presented below: (figures in ₹ Lakhs)

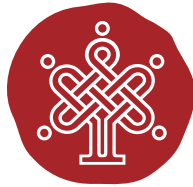
Particulars of the Fund	Balance of the Foreign Contribution/Donation as on 01.04.2015	Funds received during FY 15-16	Interest Earned/Accrued	Utilisation of Fund/ Expenses from fund	Balance of Fund as on 31.03.2016
From China	675.93	-	59.25	-	735.18
From Thailand	69.02	-	5.92	0.03	74.91
From Laos	32.16	-	2.74	-	34.90
From Indonesia	20.56	-	1.76	3.36	18.96
From Australia	586.30	-	51.39	42.32	595.37
Dr. Joshi Fund	-	636.98	34.20	30.41	640.77
Total	1383.97	636.98	155.26	76.12	2100.09

- Indonesian Fund was utilised to grant free-ship in the form of Tuition Fees waiver to the students of 2014-16 batch.
- Australian Fund was utilised to Finance the Chair Position in the School of Ecology and Environmental Studies.
- Dr. Joshi Fund was utilised to Finance the Chair Position in the School of Historical Studies.

The University has prepared its Annual Account for the Financial Year 2015-16 as per the format of accounts approved by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (also approved by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India- C&AG). The accounts were placed before the Finance Committee and thereafter to the Governing Board for necessary approval. After getting the accounts duly approved, it was submitted to the C&AG for conducting the Audit.

C&AG has conducted the Certification Audit during the period from 08/11/2016 to 24/11/2016 & 05/12/2016 to 07/12/2016. They will be submitting the Separate Audit Report (SAR) to the University in due course. Once the SAR is received by the University, it will be presented to the Finance Committee and Governing Board for their approval.

Thereafter it will be submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs for placing before both the houses of the parliament and a copy will be submitted to the Visitor of the University (i.e. Hon'ble President of India).



Nālandā
UNIVERSITY

Nalanda University Campus

Rajgir, District Nalanda
Pin: 803 116 Bihar, India
Tel.: +91-6112-255330
Fax: +91-6112-255766

Delhi Office

2nd Floor, Council for Social Development
53, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi - 110 003
Tel.: +91-11-24622330
Fax: +91-11-24618351

Website: www.nalandauniv.edu.in