

National Workshop
on
‘Preventive Conservation of Documentary Heritage’
(21st -25th October, 2019)

Organized by *National Mission for Manuscripts, Manuscript Conservation Centre,*
Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University

National Mission for Manuscripts started in 2003 as an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture, Government of India. Its objective is to survey, locate and conserve Indian manuscripts, with an aim to create a national resource base for manuscripts to enhance their access, awareness and use for educational/research purpose by upcoming generations. Thus, it collaborates with various organizations throughout the country and starts Manuscript Resource Centre and Manuscript Conservation Centre to achieve the goal. The Manuscript Conservation Centre at Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University has started operating from March, 2019 under National Mission for Manuscripts. At present the MCC, Tezpur University is working for the conservation of *sanchi-pat* manuscripts which hold an immense significance in the history of Assam and its native people. Other than *sanchi-pat* manuscript, the centre is also working on paper manuscripts and hand written documents belonging to pre-independence era. There is a good collection of Manuscripts, Old and Rare photographs in Museum, Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University and nearby areas. Conservation work of some manuscripts has been undertaken by Manuscript Conservation Centre under National Mission for Manuscripts at Tezpur University.

Assam is abundant with its rich store of documentary heritage specially, manuscripts. Manuscripts serve as one of the great source of information regarding social, political, economic, and cultural history. They are the carriers of great knowledge which need to be passed on to the present and the future generations. If not protected, we will tend to loose many valuables records of our past which otherwise might have found useful in the present context of development and historical research. Thus, it is our sincere concern to safeguard these heritage and make them available for the next generation. Temples, *namghars*, *satras* and even many households still have a lot of manuscripts with them. As these manuscripts hold a specific importance in the culture and history of the region, we propose to make an attempt to make them accessible and sustainable for a longer period of time. Since, there is lack of trained conservators in the region there is a great need to train people in the skill of preserving and handling manuscripts in everyday life. Thus, along with the importance of conservation, we are also focusing on the proper handling and storage of manuscripts.

In this backdrop, the proposed workshop attempts to impart practical understanding and training on the basics of preservation of documentary heritage. Thus, through this workshop we propose to train not only the persons working in various museums, archives and libraries of the region but also the active bearers of manuscript tradition, i.e., *satra monks*, *naamgharias*, etc for basic care of the manuscripts they handle on a regular basis along with the young generation and students.

Objective: The main objective of the workshop is to impart training to the participants in preventive conservation of documentary heritage with special reference to manuscripts and paper documents in a scientific method with practical demonstration.

No of participants: 25 (on a first come-first-serve-basis).

Who can apply: Conservators working in MCCs and other organizations, staffs from museum, archive & library, scholars, representatives from traditional manuscript repositories (temples, satras, naamghars) and individual owner of manuscripts interested in manuscript conservation can apply. We will inform the selected participants in due course. A few seats will be reserved for interested students from related subjects studying in Assam.

Funding: Selected participants will be provided T.A and Local Hospitality as per rules of NMM, New Delhi.

Resource Persons: Conservation experts from various organizations like IGNCA, New Delhi, National Museum, New Delhi, NRLC, Lucknow and other parts of India have been invited for the workshop as resource persons.

Last date of submission of the registration form: 20th September, 2019

For more information contact:

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National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi
Manuscripts Conservation Centre
Department of Cultural studies, Tezpur University



Five day Workshop on
Preventive Conservation of Documentary Heritage

21st October to 25th October 2019

Registration Form

(Last Date of application: September 15, 2019)

Name _____

Designation _____

Father's Name _____

Date of birth _____

Qualification _____

Conservation Experience _____

Residential address _____

Phone & Fax _____

Mobile No. _____

Accommodation required or not _____

Date & Time of Arrival, Train No. _____

Name of the organization _____

Postal address _____

Phone & Fax _____

Email _____

Photograph

Forwarded by Head of the Centre
With Seal

Signature of the candidate