



Unique Opportunity to Learn Prakrit (The Ancient Indian Language of Jain Scriptures)

2ND – Bhagwan Mahavir Fellowship to study Prakrit in India

(August 1ST, 2020 – July 31ST, 2021)

OBJECTIVE

International School for Jain Studies aims to promote building a cadre of expert scholars in Prakrit language so that they can undertake scholarly studies of Jain canons and holy scriptures as it is essential to exact pronouncements of the promulgator of the traditions are understood and researched on to continue the tradition of old scholars like Jacobi, Max Mueller, A. N. Upadhye, Padmanabh Jaini to name a few did.

PROGRESS SO FAR

To fill this void, ISJS in partnership with Mahavir Vision Inc., USA, offered the first opportunity in 2019 whereby three students namely Mr. Itmar Ramot (Univ. of Chicago-PhD candidate), Ms. Corinne Smith (MA SOAS) and Mr. Anando Ghosh (MA SOAS) are undergoing the program since September 24th 2019 and continue till August 31st 2020. Here are the brief comments from them about their experience so far (period up to Dec 31st 2019).



Mr. Itmar Ramot, Univ. of Chicago USA

The professor is great, extremely knowledgeable and attentive. The explanations are very good. We are expected to start reading Prakrit literature soon, so we could apply the rules that we have been learning, on examples from real texts. I am looking forward to doing so.



Ms. Corinne Smith, SOAS UK

I feel that I have learnt a great deal in a short space of time. I came to this programme as a novice with no prior knowledge of Sanskrit beyond a few common vocab associated with the study of Indian religions. The Professor has not only taught us the rules of Prakrit grammar but has also given us an appreciation of the evolution and influence of the languages over time so that I gained a deeper understanding of why changes developed in the specific form that they did. Overall, it is a great experience to be in his class and I feel blessed to have the opportunity to benefit from his great knowledge of the subject.



Mr. Anando Ghosh, SOAS UK

The professor is a very knowledgeable person with an excellent command of English, Sanskrit, Prakrit and other Indian languages. He uses a number of different methodologies while teaching the syllabus and is very attentive to students' needs. We have been examined through pen and paper tests as well as orally from time to time in order to be trained as fine scholar and future tutors of Prakrit language.

Besides this program ISJS had been offering three to five days of exposure on Prakrit language to advance Jain studies participants. In 2019, Mr. Andrew Bridges from Claremont Graduate University, USA completed a two months program and looks forward to continue the same.

APPLICATION INVITED FOR 2ND PROGRAM

ISJS invites applications from interested candidates to apply for the one year study of Prakrit in India in 2020-2021. Please send your application with two recommendation letters (to be sent directly by the recommending faculty member) to scjain@earthlink.net detailing your past educational and research/teaching achievements in Jainism, Buddhism and Indian languages like Hindi/Sanskrit or Prakrit.

LAST DATE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS MAY 15TH 2020

The position carries the following financial support from Mahavir Vision Inc., USA for the one entire duration of the program in India:

1. One air ticket from his/her place of stay in USA/Europe to India and back.
2. Provide a decent monthly stipend to cover tuition fees, board, lodge, local travel and some incidental expenses in India.

Place: The program is likely to be conducted in Delhi, Shanti Niketan and Udaipur.

Period: August 1st, 2020 - July 31st, 2021 (Tentative)

No. of Scholarship Offered: 1 to 3

For a brief outline of the program in India [Click here](#).