

Applications invited for KCHR fellowships/ Internship/Guideship/: 2014-'15

Harnessing the power of social science knowledge

Kerala Council for Historical Research (KCHR) chaired by Professor K N Panikkar, is an autonomous institution funded by the Higher Education Department, Government of Kerala. It is a research centre of the University of Kerala and has bilateral academic and exchange agreements with various universities and research institutes in India and abroad. KCHR strives to integrate advanced research and scholarship with historical and social consciousness through its projects and programs. Pattanam Archaeological Research by KCHR has evolved into a major international project in multidisciplinary material culture studies involving many leading Universities and Research Institutes within and outside India. Eight seasons of excavations (2007-2014) have been completed and their Interim reports published.

KCHR is located at Thiruvananthapuram, the capital of Kerala State, India, in the multi-purpose cultural complex, Vyloppilly Samskrithi Bhavan. It is housed in the blocks dedicated to the memory of the pioneer researchers on Kerala history, Sri K P Padmanabha Menon and Prof. Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai. Located between PMG junction and Nanthancode, it is about 12 km from the Trivandrum airport and less than 5 km from the Trivandrum railway and bus stations.

KCHR has a well equipped library and research centre with a fairly large collection of books on Kerala history and society. Malayali family history, biography and local history collections are some segments of KCHR contemporary history archives. KCHR publications include 46 volumes of seminal significance to research on Kerala society.

This announcement pertains to various Fellowship programs for the year 2014-'15

1. Scholar-in-Residence Fellowship

KCHR offers three-month short term Residence Fellowships to scholars to work on article(s) or monograph(s) or for completing scholarly work in progress. The scholars will be provided residence facility and financial support (honorarium) of Rs. 1,00,000/-. As a reciprocal obligation, the scholars are expected to offer seminar papers and lectures at KCHR as well as other academic institutions in the state on various themes of their interest enquiry. KCHR reserves the right of first refusal for the publication of the research product funded under the fellowship.

Who can apply?

KCHR Scholar-in-Residence Fellowships aim to promote advanced research output in the broad spectrum of social sciences and therefore the fellowships are competitively open to well established scholars cutting across disciplinary boundaries and nationalities.

How to apply?

Scholars may submit their applications at any time during the academic year, with their curriculum vitae, testimonials from two referees, a comprehensive synopsis of the proposal and an action plan

timeline pegged to completion within three months. There is no cutoff date for filing applications. The selected fellow will have to sign a document agreeing with the rules and regulations pertaining to the fellowship. There is no cutoff date for submitting applications.

Terms and Conditions:

1. The tenure of the fellowship will be three months. This will not be extended under normal circumstances.
2. KCHR will arrange the accommodation of the scholars and release a monthly subsistence grant from the honorarium corpus during the tenure of the fellowship. The unused part of the honorarium will be released only after the timely and satisfactory fulfillment of the fellowship obligations.
3. The Scholar-in-Residence is expected to utilize the full tenure to complete the identified work in all details. If a fellowship grantee drops out, it will be mandatory on his/her part to repay all the expenses incurred by KCHR on his/her behalf.
4. Scholars employed in universities/research institutes/ government sector may negotiate with their parent bodies for the protection of salary/lien, and grant of study leave. KCHR will provide possible assistance, if required.
5. The fellowship period will be operative on the day of the joining KCHR and will be effective continuously for three months. Long leave of any kind (except during unavoidable contingencies) and extension of the period of Fellowship will not be entertained.
6. The selected Fellow will be an honorable guest of KCHR and will have the right to use the research facilities available at KCHR.
7. There is no age, qualification, or disciplinary restriction in the submission of fellowship proposals. But those with proven academic/literary credentials will hold distinctive advantage in the selection.
8. A prospective Scholar-in-Residence may submit his/her application via e-mail with attachments, or through normal post.
9. If the progress or the conduct of the Residence Fellow is not satisfactory, his/her fellowship may be suspended or terminated immediately without any notice whatsoever.
10. KCHR Research Committee will be the appellate body regarding the selection and other procedural formalities.

2. Internship Programmes

KCHR offers internships to graduate, post-graduate and M.Phil students from any part of the world interested in undertaking short term assignments of their interest in social science disciplines. KCHR would also welcome persons with serious interest in pursuing an area of their interest irrespective of their age and qualifications. The internships are also meant to expose them to various projects and programmes of KCHR. Internships are available in major research projects of KCHR such as *Pattanam Archaeological Research, Pattanam Green Archaeology Project and Conservation of Historical Heritage of Kerala*.

In *Pattanam Archaeological Research* Internship facilities are offered in areas like participation in excavation, community archaeology, documentation and storage of artifacts, ethno-archaeology documentation, Pattanam Anthropology and flora and fauna of Pattanam.

Internships in organic farming of spices and medicinal plants are available under the project *Green Archaeology*.

Under the umbrella of *Conservation of Historical Heritage of Kerala*, Internship facilities are open in the following fields —*Digitizing Kerala's Past, Contemporary History Archives of Kerala, Oral History, History of Malayali Migrations and Migrant Communities, Archives on Family Histories and Biographies, Writing of Local Histories, Historical Atlas for Kerala and Archaeological Explorations and Surveys and Explorations to document the Buddhist and Jain vestiges of Kerala.*

Library assignments and field work are compulsory components of the internship.

The curriculum of the interns will be framed also taking into consideration the potential, inclination and aspiration of the applicant. Students can also utilize the period of internship to prepare their dissertation/assignment as part of their graduate or post-graduate courses.

Duration of the internship may vary from three weeks to six months and students from India and abroad can avail of this facility. The minimum fee for an individual intern will be Rs. 2000 and \$ 300 for a foreign intern. The fees may vary for group interns and others depending on the duration and course/assignment content. The selected fellow will have to sign a document agreeing with the rules and regulations pertaining to the fellowship.

There is no cutoff date for submitting applications.

Terms and Conditions

1. Internship is meant for graduate or post-graduate (including M.Phil) students.
2. Students will be admitted irrespective of their nationalities and discipline. KCHR appreciates the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the parent institutions of the intern. The details can be had from KCHR office.
3. KCHR will not provide accommodation or transportation facilities and the interns are liable to pay expenses incurred to KCHR, if any, during their internship at KCHR.
4. KCHR will not be responsible for the security of the students outside its premises and the students will not be allowed to leave the premises without prior permission.
5. If the conduct of an intern is not satisfactory, his/her internship will be suspended or terminated immediately without any notice whatsoever and the loss incurred by KCHR will be levied from the student concerned.
6. Students/institutions can submit their application, through proper channel by e-mail, or through other postal channels.
7. Regular attendance at KCHR is compulsory and leave will be granted only in exceptional situations.

3. KCHR Research Guide / Supervisor

Persons with Ph.D degree, research experience and publications in peer reviewed journals shall apply for research supervisorship at KCHR. However, the persons with outstanding academic trail and research achievements may be exempted from fulfillment of some of these criteria as a special case by the Executive Council of KCHR on the recommendation of KCHR Research Committee. There is no cutoff date for submitting applications.

Terms and conditions:

1. The scholar must have a Ph.D degree and two years research experience.
2. There should be at least two publications in peer reviewed journals.
3. The approved supervising teacher shall abide by the rules and regulations of KCHR

4. Fellowships to revise Ph.D. thesis

This fellowship supports scholars to revise/modify their PhD theses for publication. The grant under this scheme will be a maximum of Rs. 50,000 and the selected scholar will have to complete the work within one year. Applications should include curriculum vitae, the proposal in about 1500 words, time plan, and letters from two referees. They should also submit a copy of the Ph D dissertation along with the application. The last date for submitting applications is 16th August 2014.

Selection Procedure:

The Academic Committee of KCHR will shortlist the applicants. The short-listed proposals will be peer reviewed and the candidate will have to appear for the interview and make a presentation. The selected fellow can join KCHR at anytime of the year. The selected fellow will have to sign a document agreeing with the rules and regulations pertaining to the fellowship.

Terms and conditions:

1. The financial assistance may be utilized for fieldwork, travel or to meet contingency expenses.
2. The first installment of the fellowship will be Rs. 20,000/-, which the selected scholar can collect within 30 days of the acceptance of the fellowship.
3. After six months of the tenure, the scholar is expected to make a presentation/ submission on the progress of the research.
4. The candidate is expected to submit the final revised version of the dissertation before the completion of the term. The balance fellowship amount of Rs 30,000/- will be paid after a review of the dissertation. If the KCHR desires to publish the thesis it will be send for peer review.
5. The selected Fellows can use the KCHR research resources and guidance from its academic staff.
6. The date of acceptance of the fellowship will be treated as the date of joining.
7. The fellowship tenure will be one year from the date of joining.
8. If the progress of work or the conduct of the Fellow is not satisfactory, his/her fellowship may be suspended or terminated with immediate effect.
9. KCHR reserves the right of first refusal for the publication of the revised/modified thesis.

5. Fellowships to design Post-Doctoral Research theme

This fellowship is meant to support Ph D holders to pursue their research by helping them define and design an area/theme for Post-doctoral research. Scholars who have undertaken social science research at Ph D level on any aspects of Kerala society/history or social science theory may apply. The grant under this scheme will be a maximum of Rs. 50,000 and the selected scholar will have to complete the work within one year. Applications should include curriculum vitae, the proposal in about 1500 words, bibliography, time plan, and letters from two referees. The last date for submitting applications is 16th August 2014.

Selection Procedure

The Academic Committee of KCHR will shortlist the applicants. The short-listed proposals will be peer reviewed and the candidate will have to appear for the interview and make a presentation. The selected fellow will have to sign a document agreeing with the rules and regulations pertaining to the fellowship.

Terms and conditions:

1. The financial assistance may be utilized for field work, travel or to meet contingency expenses.
2. The first installment of the fellowship will be Rs. 20,000/-, which the scholar can collect within 30 days of the acceptance of the fellowship.
3. After six months of the tenure the scholar is expected to make a presentation/ submission on the progress of the research.
4. The candidate is expected to submit the finalized post-doctoral research proposal before the completion of the term. The balance fellowship amount of Rs 30,000/- will be paid after a review of the research proposal.
5. The selected Fellows can use the KCHR research resources and guidance (if required) from its academic staff.
6. The date of acceptance of the fellowship will be treated as the date of joining.
7. The fellowship tenure will be one year from the date of joining.
8. If the progress of work or the conduct of the Fellow is not satisfactory, his/her fellowship may be suspended or terminated with immediate effect.

6. PhD Fellowships

KCHR Doctoral Fellowships are open to research scholars to pursue PhD programme in any of the Indian Universities or at KCHR on themes related to Kerala society and history or social science theories. The fellowship grant will be Rs. 10000/- per month with a contingency grant of Rs. 25,000/- per annum. Students who have already enrolled themselves or qualified as per UGC norms to register for PhD programmes can apply. This fellowship is open to fulltime research scholars only. The last date for submitting applications is 16th August 2014.

Students from any of the social science disciplines with inter-disciplinary research orientation can apply with CV, letters from two referees, details of Ph D registration or impending registration, synopsis of the proposed research and a time plan.

The fellowship tenure of one to three years is to be renewed every year based on a critical evaluation of the work done so far.

Selection Procedure

The Academic Committee of KCHR will shortlist the applicants. The short-listed proposals will be peer reviewed and the candidates will have to appear for an interview. The selected fellow will have to sign a document agreeing with the rules and regulations pertaining to the fellowship.

Terms and conditions:

1. The scholar must be a full time researcher and should complete all the procedures of Ph.D registration before the release of the fellowship grants.
2. The maximum period of scholarship is three years or till the time of submission of thesis, whichever is earlier.

3. Those who are receiving financial support (in the form of salary, stipend or any such emoluments) from other agencies will not be eligible for this fellowship. But those who wish to shift to the KCHR Ph. D. Research Fellowship and complete their research can apply.
4. Besides financial support the Ph D fellows will have access to the research resources of KCHR
5. A copy of the final dissertation must be submitted to the KCHR.
6. If the research progress or the conduct of the scholar is found unsatisfactory, his/her fellowship will be suspended or terminated immediately without any notice whatsoever.
7. If a Fellow wishes to discontinue the fellowship, he/she must submit the resignation one month in advance to the KCHR specifying reasons. If the explanation is found inadequate or unsatisfactory, the scholar will be liable to refund 50% of the fellowship grant received till then.

Become a KCHR Friend

Friends Forum members get access to KCHR research resources, library, consultancy facilities for research, KCHR circulars and special discount for KCHR publications. Membership details and forms are available in the KCHR website.

Address for communication

The Director, KCHR, PB No. 839, Velloppilly Samskriti Bhavan, Nalanda. Thiruvananthapuram - 695 003.
Tel/Fax - 0471-2310409/0471-6574988 E-mail: kchrtvm@gmail.com; Web: www.kchr.ac.in



past for a positive future