



## INFORMATION BROCHURE



**UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Institute of South Asia  
Regional Cooperation (UMISARC)**

**Pondicherry University, India**

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Pondicherry, now Puducherry about 160 km down south of Chennai on the Coromandel Coast of Bay of Bengal is a Union Territory with one of the highest levels of quality of life in the country with excellent physical infrastructure and almost a hundred per cent literacy level. The climate is tropical (between 18 and 38 degree Celsius) with two monsoons, having fairly heavy rainfall in November and very moderate rainfall in July. It is well connected with the rest of India by road, rail and air upto Chennai. There are frequent flights from Chennai to many national capitals and other important destinations across the world. Pondicherry University was established in October 1985 by the Government of India through an Act of Parliament is located in the serene surroundings of 780 acres of lush green tropical vegetation. It is the fastest growing central university in India. About 450 dedicated faculty, 5000 students, and scholars make this University highly vibrant in academic pursuits. The University offers more than 153 post-graduate programmes leading to M.Sc. M. A., M.B.A., M. Phil., and PhD degrees. Besides having oncampus teaching and research at Post Graduate level, it is also an affiliating University with 88 colleges. The University is a member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities and has signed Memorandum of Understanding with over 25 foreign universities / institutes. The University is the pioneering one to adopt a unique Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS) with modular/ unitised courses, which provides a menu of courses for students to choose depending upon a student's ambition, ability and career plan; moreover it also permits accumulating credits faster and obtaining PG degree in less than 2 years.

## **UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Institute of South Asia Regional Cooperation (UMISARC)**

The Pondicherry University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with South Asia Foundation (SAF) on June 20, 2009 for establishment of the Madanjeet Singh Institute of South Asia Regional Cooperation (MISARC), with financial support from South Asia Foundation. In the year 2010, the UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) agreed to associate with all institutions of excellence established by SAF including MISARC of Pondicherry University. Hence, it has been now renamed as UMISARC (U standing for UNESCO). The institute has thus now become truly global. The Institute is currently offering M A programme in South Asia Studies. Though this is the first and the only institution in the country, which is offering this highly innovative course, it has bright career prospects in diverse

fields such as governmental and non-governmental organizations, media, think tanks, international organizations and corporate sector. The course is uniquely designed to provide cutting edge knowledge of South Asian history, society, culture, economy, governance and politics, etc., from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students are expected not only to develop broad knowledge base to critically understand contentious issues concerning South Asia, but also offer a holistic perspective to address them and contribute towards promoting peace and cooperation in the region.

## Publications

The Institute publishes an *International Journal of South Asian Studies* to provide a forum for academic research in areas relating to political, social, economic, cultural cooperation and development in South Asia. Besides, the Institute is in the process of publishing books, monographs and papers in journals and edited volumes. Together with the publication of the Journal, the Institute offers a broad research platform for refined academic debates with regular guest lectures by eminent scholars and diverse academic activities. At the same time, the Institute organises cultural meets and exchanges for promotion of cooperation and harmony in South Asia.

## Faculty

### *Professor & Director i/c*

**A.Chella Perumal, Ph.D. (University of Madras)**

Specialization: Socio-Cultural Anthropology, Anthropology of Religion, Tribal Folklore, Ethno Poetics.

### *Associate Professor*

**A. Subramanyam Raju, Ph.D. (University of Hyderabad)**

Specialization: South Asian Politics and Security Issues, Comprehensive Security, Maritime and Energy Security Issues, India-US and India-Sri Lanka Relations

### *Assistant Professors*

**Santhosh Mathew, Ph.D (Mahathma Gandhi University, Kottayam)**

Specialization: International Organizations, Political Economy, Comparative Politics.

**S. I. Humayun, Ph.D. (University of Madras)**

Specialization: Non-Traditional Security Issues in South Asia, Maritime Security Affairs.

**D. Purushothaman, Ph.D. (Pondicherry University)**

Specialization: Indo-US Relations, Security Issues in South Asia.

## **Thrust Areas of the Institute**

1. Foreign policy of South Asian countries
2. South Asian regional cooperation
3. Peace, security and development in South Asia
4. South Asia in world affairs
5. Society, culture, history, economy and politics in South Asian states
6. Contemporary challenges in South Asia including nation and state building, poverty eradication, terrorism, nuclear proliferation, refugees, energy and water security, environmental degradation, etc.
7. India's foreign policy in general and its relations with the neighbours in particular.

## **Academic Programmes**

**•M.A. South Asian Studies**

**•Ph.D South Asian Studies**

The course of study for the Master's programme shall be for a duration of two academic years with four semesters. The total number of days will be 200 working days inclusive of study tour and material / data collection in connection with dissertation work and exclusive of admission and examination works. The duration of the Ph.D. programme shall be a minimum period of three years from the date of registration and two years for those with M. Phil or equivalent degree. In exceptional cases, the minimum period could be reduced up to one year by the Academic Council on recommendation of the Doctoral Committee. Those Indian students admitted to the Ph.D full-time programme will get a monthly stipend of Rs. 8,000/- for a period of 3 years extendable for 4 year.

The following is the revised syllabus for M.A. South Asian Studies

## Course Structure

<b>SEMESTER I</b>	1. Introduction to Political Ideas	(4-HC)
	2. Theories of International Relations	(4-HC)
	3. Colonialism and Nationalism in South Asia	(4-HC)
	4. Understanding India	(3-SC)
	5. Peace and Conflict Resolution in South Asia	(3-SC)
	6. Developmental Challenges in South Asia	(3-SC)

<b>SEMESTER II</b>	1. Contemporary International Relations	(4-HC)
	2. Introduction to Society, Culture and Economy of South Asia	(4-HC)
	3. Research Methodology	(4-HC)
	4. Understanding Pakistan and Afghanistan	(3-SC)
	5. Energy Security in South Asia	(3-SC)
	6. Environmental Issues in South Asia	(3-SC)

<b>SEMESTER III</b>	1. Government and Politics in South Asia	(4-HC)
	2. Contemporary Issues in South Asia	(4-HC)
	3. South Asia in World Affairs	(4-HC)
	4. Understanding Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh	(3-SC)
	5. Maritime Security in South Asia	(3-SC)
	6. Civil Society and Human Rights in South Asia	(3-SC)

<b>SEMESTER IV</b>	1. Regional Cooperation in South Asia	(4-HC)
	2. Foreign Policy of South Asian Countries	(4-HC)
	3. Dissertation	(4-HC)
	4. Understanding Sri Lanka and Maldives	(3-SC)
	5. Major Domestic Challenges in South Asia	(3-SC)
	6. South Asia and International Institutions	(3-SC)

Compulsory Papers (HC) = 48

Soft Core (SC) = 12

Soft Core = 12 (from other departments)



# South Asia Foundation (SAF) - Madanjeet Singh Group Scholarship

SAF–Madanjeet Singh Group Scholarship is a unique feature of South Asian Studies programme at Pondicherry University. Sixteen scholarships are awarded to Master's students from South Asian countries (eight boys and eight girls). The scholarship award covers the entire tuition fees, travel (round trip economy airfare only for international students) boarding and lodging at Pondicherry University for two years. **All MSG Scholarship students are entitled for a monthly stipend of Rs. 10000/- during their course period.** The scholarship will not cover expenses on dependent, if any, of a scholarship holder. They will have to fully support their dependents. The South Asia Foundation Chapter from each SAARC county (i.e) Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka will select two candidates and inform its selection to the university. While selecting candidates, the SAF chapters may give preference to candidates having graduate degree in Political Science, International Relations, Economic, Defence Studies, History and Sociology, etc. The MSG Scholarship holders will be subject to same rules and regulations regarding attendance and discipline, etc, as applicable to other students of the University. Candidates interested in this scholarship will have to directly apply to the SAF Chapter in their respective countries. Visit [www.southasiafoundation.org](http://www.southasiafoundation.org) for more details. For further information mail Mr. P.K. Prabhakaran, Director of Operations, South Asia Foundation ([prabhakaran@safmail.org](mailto:prabhakaran@safmail.org)).

## SAF Chapters

<p><b>Secretary SAF - AFGHANISTAN Chapter</b>  <b>Mr. Hamidulla Arefi</b>            SAF- Secretary            National Museum of Afghanistan            Darulaman, Opposite to Darulaman Palace            Kabul-25000, Afghanistan</p> <p>Cell: 0093- 700-163568  <a href="mailto:arefi@safmail.org">arefi@safmail.org</a></p>	<p><b>Secretary SAF - BANGLADESH Chapter</b>  <b>Mr. Mr. Obaidullah Al Zakir</b>            SAF- Secretary            Assistant Director, Public Relations            University of Asia Pacific            House no. 49C, Road no. 4A, Dhanmondi            Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh            Phone: +880-2-966 1193            Cell: +880-178 717 0383  <a href="mailto:zakir@safmail.org">zakir@safmail.org</a></p>
<p><b>Secretary SAF - BHUTAN Chapter</b>  <b>Mrs. Nim Dem</b>            SAF Bhutan-Secretary            Royal Thimphu College            Thimphu, Bhutan            Mob: 975-17603486  <a href="mailto:nim@safmail.org">nim@safmail.org</a></p>	<p><b>Secretary SAF - INDIA Chapter</b>  <b>Mr. Prabhakaran Menon</b>            Chief Executive Officer            SAF - India            A-33, Vasant Marg, Vasant Vihar            New Delhi -110057 - India            Ph: 0091-11-26153721-24            Fax: 0091-11-26155871  <a href="mailto:prabhakaran@safmail.org">prabhakaran@safmail.org</a></p>
<p><b>Secretary SAF - MALDIVES Chapter</b>  <b>Ms. Eman Hussain</b>            SAF Secretary Maldives            President's Office            Republic of Maldives            Male -20113            Maldives            Ph: + (960) 7776611, +(960) 9696611  <a href="mailto:email@safmail.org">email@safmail.org</a></p>	<p><b>Secretary SAF - NEPAL Chapter</b>  <b>Mr. Ramesh Timasina</b>            Secretary, SAF-Nepal            C/O Nishchal N. Pandey            Pragati Tole, Bishalnagar 5            Kathmandu -            Nepal            Ph: 977-9841737362  <a href="mailto:timasina@safmail.org">timasina@safmail.org</a></p>
<p><b>Secretary SAF - PAKISTAN Chapter</b>  <b>Ms. Sabeen Mahmud</b>            6A, North Lane , Phase I, DHA, Karachi,            75500, Pakistan            Ph: 0092-21-580-5531/2            Fax: 0092-21-589-7326  <a href="mailto:sabeen@safmail.org">sabeen@safmail.org</a></p>	<p><b>Secretary SAF - SRI LANKA Chapter</b>  <b>Ms. Swinitha Perera</b>            117, Wijerama Mawatha,            Colombo 07 - Sri Lanka            Ph: 00941-2676630, 2682692            Fax: 00941-2689775  <a href="mailto:swinitha@safmail.org">swinitha@safmail.org</a></p>

## **Facilities Available at the Institute**

Though newly established, the Institute has excellent infra-structure facilities including computers with internet connection, over head projector and LCD projectors, fax and Xerox machine, etc., to support teachers and students in their pursuit of academic excellence and relevance. The grand UMISARC building has a state of art auditorium and seminar hall well-equipped with latest audio-visual facilities, reading room, class and faculty rooms, computer labs, as well as space for research scholars and visiting faculty.

The Institute is imparting education through new and innovative methods and techniques. Frequent guest lectures by eminent scholars, diplomats, defence officers and members of think tanks from different parts of India and abroad are arranged to enable students to have a wider perspective on their area of study. The Institute is organising conferences, seminars and panel discussions on issues of contemporary relevance at frequent intervals. The Institute is developing its own specialized library to supplement resources available at central and school libraries.

### **Dates to Remember**

**Nomination from SAF Chapters : 15<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

**Academic Session Commence from : 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014**



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