About the Fellowship

To provide enthusiasts, students and scholars an opportunity to engage with and explore India’s rich cultural heritage, Sahapedia is pleased to announce the third edition of its Fellowship programme.

UNESCO’s Convention for Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage 2003 (referred to as UNESCO 2003 Convention hereafter), refers to ‘the importance of the intangible cultural heritage as a mainspring of cultural diversity and a guarantee of sustainable development.’ The Sahapedia–UNESCO Fellowship is a part of our efforts to raise awareness – at local, national and international levels – of the importance of intangible heritage, and to increase access to communities, groups and individuals who constitute or safeguard this heritage. The Sahapedia–UNESCO Fellowship 2019 is supported by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Through this initiative, fellows will be encouraged to conduct documentation and research in diverse areas of cultural knowledge and practices. Research and documentation carried out by the Fellows will be published on the Sahapedia web portal.

Languages

Fellowships are available in the following languages this year – English, Hindi, Bengali, Tamil and Malayalam.

Eligibility

Completed post-graduation

Application process

The first step of the process would involve the submission of:

1. Resume

2. Proposal of approximately 1000 words, along with an abstract of about 250 words. The proposal should indicate scope of work, including selection of deliverables, methodology, timeframe and familiarity with existing literature/work
on the subject. The proposal should be relevant to Sahapedia’s field of work.

3. Writing sample, a previously written essay or research paper of at least 1500 words, or a URL link of a 5-10 minutes long video clip indicating the candidates’ skills in filmmaking/videography (for documentation); or both, depending on the selection of deliverables.

4. Bibliography list of existing literature or work on the topic. No more than 15 items/titles are expected.

Duration
The fellowship has to be completed between 1 September 2019 and 15 March 2020. Failure to complete the fellowship within the stipulated timeframe will result in the cancellation of that fellowship. Candidates are advised to refer to the timeline outlined in Annexure III.

Categories
Fellowship types are divided into research, documentation, or a combination of the two categories.

Depending on their selection of category, candidates may select their deliverables. Candidates may refer to the guidelines for content creation in Annexure IV.

Deliverables
Each Fellowship consists of three elective deliverables. The candidate may identify, during the time of application, three deliverables, the options for which are given below:

Deliverable I: (Pick one)
1. Illustrated overview/ introductory article (3000 words with 5–10 images), or
2. Short documentary film (15–20 minutes with English subtitles, along with a synopsis of approximately 500 words)

Deliverable II & III: (Pick any two)
1. Allied article (1500 words with 3–5 images), or
2. Image gallery (30–50 images with captions), or Photo essay (20 images with captions
and a short essay of about 500-800 words to complement the visual narrative)
3. Text interview with an expert/scholar/practitioner (1500 words, with minimum 10 Q&As).

In addition, selected candidates working in regional languages will be required to provide content translated in English.

1. Articles with translations.
2. Transcripts and subtitles in English for documentaries.
3. Translation for text-based interviews.

Funding
Selected candidates will be granted an award of ₹44,445. Applicable Income Tax will be deducted at source as per the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Thus, the award will amount to ₹40,000, which will be released in three installments, based on the completion of specific deliverables. The procedure for disbursements will be shared upon signing the agreement.

Fellows working in regional languages will receive an additional payment of up to ₹10,000 for translation (after submission of the invoice for translation work).