

Research Activities

Study Region:

The focus of the Centre is on the delineated geographic region *i.e* “Central Asia” which includes the following countries/sub-regions:

- Uzbekistan,
- Tajikistan,
- Kazakhstan,
- Turkmenistan,
- Kyrgyzstan,
- Xinjiang and Tibet,
- Iran and Azerbaijan
- Afghanistan,
- Mongolia and
- North & North-West of the Indian subcontinent including Kashmir and Ladakh.

Thrust Areas of Research:

In view of the historical and contemporary studies on the above geographical space, the Centre and its faculty is engaged in research on India’s bilateral and multilateral relation with Central Asian countries. In addition to above, the focus of research is currently on the themes like:

- International Relations & Conflict Resolution
- Power Structure & Security
- History & Culture
- Silk Route Revival and Trade
- Islamic Revivalism
- Ethnicity & Out-migration
- Socio-economic Transformation
- Resource Management
- Disaster Management
- Cooperative Development
- Environmental Degradation
- Technology Transfer
- Globalisation and Liberalisation

Mode of Research:

a) Research Projects:

The Centre conducts research on the above issues through individual and integrated research projects allotted to its faculty by the Centre itself. These are besides those that are sponsored by different funding agencies such as UGC, ICSSR, Ministry of External Affairs, etc. most of these projects are based on empirical studies carried out in the region and the findings are mostly published. For the empirical studies many members of the faculty have been to Central Asia.

b) M. Phil. and Ph.D.:

The Centre’s Research agenda is also fulfilled through a number of research projects assigned to scholars of the Centre for the pursuit of M. Phil and Ph. D degrees.

c) Archaeological Explorations:

Archaeological explorations and excavations carried out by the faculty also contribute to the accomplishment of research agenda of the Centre. The findings thereof are reported and published by the Centre.

d) Publications of the Centre:

The research projects completed by the faculty are regularly published by the Centre for the dissemination of knowledge and feed back to subject experts, academia and others. By this way, the Centre, to little or large extent, contributes to the regional and global academic ambiance.

In addition, the faculty publicizes its research out- put through publications in reputed national and international journals.

e) MOUs:

To facilitate the job of the faculty for field work in Central Asian states, and organize joint research projects, publications, conferences, besides faculty and student exchange programmes, the Centre has inked several MOUs with most prestigious research institutes/universities of China, Turkey, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

f) Seminars & Conferences:

In order to provide common platform for intellectual discourse and allow the faculty / scholars to interact with eminent national and international scholars for exposure and up gradation of knowledge, the Centre has been constantly holding International Conferences with participation from Central Asian countries, China, Japan, Korea, US, France, Germany, Netherlands, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, etc, Indian participants apart. Besides the faculty members and research scholars of the Centre participate and present papers in numerous national and international conferences.

g) Guest Lectures:

To augment the above objects and for the furtherance of achieving updated knowledge on Central Asia the Centre has been inviting reputed scholars for guest lectures on aforementioned historical and current issues of the Eurasian region.

h) Journal of Central Asian Studies:

In continuation to the ongoing research agenda, the Centre has been uninterruptedly publishing annually *The Journal of Central Asian Studies* (ISSN 0975086X) for the past 20 years. It has an international Editorial Board and is acclaimed across the world for its quality, style and content. Of late, this refereed Journal; with the research papers received from across the world are being evaluated by experts from the world over. Besides, printing its hard copies, it is also available on-line and indexed in the world's two leading databases EBSCO and ProQuest.