

PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MANUSCRIPT CONSERVATION CENTRE (MCC)

&

MANUSCRIPT RESOURCE CENTRE (MRC)

R.S.VIDYAPEETHA, TIRUPATI

Submitted to
National Mission for Manuscripts
11, Mansingh Road, New Delhi.



RASHTRIYA SANSKRIT VIDYAPEETHA

(University Declared Under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)

(Accredited with A+ grade by NAAC during 2003-2008 (Cycle-1))

(Re-Accredited with 3.71 out of 4 Scale CGPA by NAAC (Cycle-2))

TIRUPATI - 517 507.



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PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MANUSCRIPTS CONSERVATION CENTRE (MCC) AND MANUSCRIPTS RESOURCE CENTRE (MRC) IN THE VIDYAPEETHA.

RASHTRIYA SANSKRIT VIDYAPEETHA AT A GLANCE:

Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati(A.P.) established by Government of India in 1961, elevated as a Deemed University under section 3 of the U.G.C. Act, 1956 is higher learning Institute for Sanskrit, Traditional Sastras and Sanskrit Teacher Education. It is funded by the University Grants Commission.

Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha offers traditional academic programmes like Shastri and Acharya with various combinations in Sahitya, Vyakarana, Jyotisha, Nyaya, Advaita Vedanta, Vishistadvaita Vedanta, Dvaita Vedanta, Agama, Mimamsa, Sankhya Yoga etc., along with modern subjects like Computer Science, Mathematics, History etc. The Professional Programmes offered in the university are Siksha Sastri (B.Ed.) and Siksha Acharya (M.Ed.) monitored by National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE). Other higher programmes leading to M. Phil. and Vidyavaridhi (Ph.D.) are also conducted.

Considering its achievements and potential for research in Traditional Sastras, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha was given the status of Centre of Excellence in Traditional Sastras during the X Plan, XI Plan and XII Plan period as well.

Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha has been accredited at A level with 3.71 CGPA from NAAC in 2016.

The Vidyapeetha is located in an area of 41.48 acres having the following buildings constructed by Central Public Works Department. In addition to one Academic Building , one Library and two hostel buildings, several new buildings have been constructed after becoming a Deemed University . They include: new building for Department of Education; a three-storied Ladies Hostel (Padmachala); Guest House; Indoor Stadium; Administrative Building ; staff and teacher quarters, Garudachala Hostel and a three-storied second Ladies Hostel Building (Vidyachala), besides, Neelachala Boys Hostel and Simhachala Research Scholars' Hostel. Further, as a part of the beautification of the campus, all internal roads in the campus have been laid and greenery is ensured

by planting tree saplings and developing lush green gardens. In order to attach equal importance to Physical Education programmes, a big play ground covering an area of about six acres has been developed with Volley Ball court, Football court etc.

Proposal for establishment of Manuscripts Conservation Centre (MCC) and Manuscripts Resource Centre (MRC) in the Vidyapeetha.

Archives and manuscripts have several different kinds of value. Some, such as illuminated manuscripts, are valued as artifacts or objects of art. Other manuscripts are valued because of their association with a famous person—autographs might be a good example of this. Although some of the division's manuscripts have artifactual and associational value, most are collected for their informational or evidentiary value. They are primary sources, often unique ones, upon which the writing of history may be based. They provide evidence of human activity, and as such, are generated naturally during the course of an individual's or an organization's life.

Scholars often use these manuscripts, however, for purposes unrelated to the reasons the documents were created. For example, an organization may create membership records because it needs to send out renewal notices or match members' skills to specific tasks the group has undertaken. Later, after the group's records are donated to an archival repository, a scholar might examine those same membership lists, not because she intends to send invoices to those individuals but because she is attempting to construct a socioeconomic or regional analysis of women who joined voluntary associations at a given time in our nation's history.

Manuscript librarianship is based on the premise that the context in which documents were created must be understood before their content can be identified, authenticated, and interpreted. This leads to the central organizing principle of archives and manuscripts, which is known as *provenance* or *respect des fonds*. This concept assumes that because manuscripts and archives are the organic byproducts of individuals and organizations, they cannot be understood apart from the life of the individual or the functions of the organization that created them. Documents are therefore kept together as discrete units of material linked to their creator or collector. They are not pulled out of their collections and subjectively reorganized according to some other scheme, such as subject matter, geographical focus, or time period.

Moreover, whenever possible, the original order of documents within a collection is also preserved to help validate the documents' authenticity and to reveal as much as possible about the functions and activities that generated them. No single document can be understood in isolation; it is almost always part of a larger file, record series, or collection. These principles of provenance and

original order are apparent in the Manuscript Division's arrangement and description of its collections.

The Indian culture is largely encoded in ancient manuscripts. These manuscripts have cultural, literary as well as scientific value, which led to recognize the stature of India at international level. These manuscripts are in the custody of different institutions like libraries, museum, mutts and individuals. As per latest estimation by National Mission for Manuscripts, there are 50 lakhs of Indian Manuscripts and accurate information is available on 34 lakh manuscripts till 2016. Much of the information is culled from recent surveys and post-surveys conducted by National Mission for Manuscripts through MRCs situated at various places.

The Sanskrit, as a store house of knowledge including the finest forms of literature, records multifarious achievements of our ancestors in various branches of sciences. The vast knowledge in branches of sciences such as **Agriculture (Krishi-shastra), Architecture, Astronomy, Chemistry, Hydrology, Mathematics, Medicine, Music theory (Nada-sastra), Physics and veterinary science** has been preserved in manuscripts and therefore, many of the achievements on ancient knowledge systems are yet to be revealed to the society . In spite of painstaking efforts done in earlier years, a significant volume of knowledge bearing manuscripts have been lost or destroyed over many centuries due to various reasons.

Unfortunately the ancient Sanskrit texts on scientific subjects/ knowledge system are scattered in manuscript libraries of various Institutions and private holdings all over India and abroad.

The collections in India are, in general, neither fully catalogued nor preserved satisfactorily, more so on scientific subjects due to lack of awareness. Prof K.V. Sarma, a leading manuscriptologist wrote thus *"The fact that not even 7% of the science texts have been made available in print is a grim situation for the historians of the sciences for the reason that, ordinarily, those restrict them self to text available in print and they not aware of the manuscripts libraries or private households on various scientific texts. It is no wonder there-fore that they ignore 93% of the basic material which are in manuscripts and wallows in 7% thereof, accepting it and propagating it as the whole and sole of the contribution of India to scientific thought. This is a sorry situation from which Indian science has to be rescued and resurrected"*.

MCC & MRC at Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati (A.P.)

Introduction

The Vidyapeetha was established at Tirupati (A.P.) in 1961 by the Government of India on the recommendations of the Sanskrit Commission (1957) as an autonomous body. The basic objective of

Setting up the Vidyapeetha is to impart and improve Sanskrit pedagogy, to accelerate the pace of higher Sanskrit learning and to combine the traditional Sanskrit education with modern scientific research.

In the year 1987, the Vidyapeetha was declared as a Deemed University by the Government of India considering its service to the cause of Sanskrit achievements in research and publications and general progress in the past 25 years.

Library

The Vidyapeetha Library is named after the first Chancellor Mahamahopadhyaya Sri Pattabhirama Sastri. It has precious collection of about 1,06,808 books.

The Library has become the member of INFLIB-NET by which it would be providing information and reference data about Sanskrit studies through networking.

Manuscript Section

Apart from the books, the library also contain other prestigious holdings which are specified below:

1. No. of Palm Leaf Manuscripts	--	3140
2. No. of Folios	--	3,76,370 (Approx.)
3. No. of Paper Manuscripts	--	710
4. No. of Pages	--	58,000 (Approx.)
5. Manuscripts in digital form	--	76

(donated by various research scholars)

The manuscripts collection consist of various subjects as specified below:

S.No.	Name of the Subject	Total
1.	Agama	230
2.	Agama – Pancharatra	227
3.	Agama – Saiva	33
4.	Agama – Vaikhanasa	20
5.	Alankara	37
6.	Astronomy	07
7.	Ayurveda	25
8.	Champu	58
9.	Chandas	09
10.	Chanoola Sastram	01
11.	Chemistry	01
12.	Dharma Sastra	312
13.	Drisya Kavya/Nataka	85
14.	Gadya Kavya	14
15.	Ganita	01
16.	Gita	20

17.	History	10
18.	Itihasa	203
19.	Jainism	03
20.	Jyotisha	223
21.	Kalpa	03
22.	Kama Sastra	04
23.	Kavya	06
24.	Kosha/Nighantu	47
25.	Mantra	157
26.	Mimamsa	52
27.	Miscellaneous	29
28.	Music/Song	08
29.	Natya	05
30.	Niti Sastra	02
31.	Nyaya	505
32.	Padya Kavya	197
33.	Political Science	01
34.	Pooja Prayoga	78
35.	Pratisakhya	16
36.	Prayoga	454
37.	Purana	254
38.	Saiva Sampradaya	10
39.	Saktaism	01
40.	Sampradaya	17
41.	Samudrikam	02
42.	Sankhya	01
43.	Silpa Sastra	70
44.	Smartism	01
45.	Sociology	01
46.	Srautam	70
47.	Srivaishnava Sampradaya	185
48.	Stotra	438
49.	Subhashita	15
50.	Tantra	30
51.	Telugu Literature	29
52.	Upanishad	109
53.	Vaidya	45
54.	Vastu	02
55.	Veda	274
56.	Vedanta	71
57.	Vedanta – Advaita	110
58.	Vedanta – Dvaita	11
59.	Vedanta – Visistadvaita	215
60.	Vrata	94
61.	Vyakarana	110
62.	Yantra	02
63.	Yoga	04

The above specified subjects are existing in various scripts of manuscripts collection as mentioned below:

S.No.	Name of the Script	Total
1.	Bengali	20
2.	Devanagari	310
3.	Grantha	2462
4.	Grantha & Tamil	45
5.	Grantha & Telugu	13
6.	Kannada	69
7.	Maithili	12
8.	Malayalam	16
9.	Nandinagari	322
10.	Odiya	01
11.	Tamil	166
12.	Telugu	2016
13.	Telugu & Devanagari	16
14.	Telugu & Kannada	01
15.	Telugu & Nandinagari	15
16.	Tigalari	07

These manuscripts are being issued to various scholars and academicians for the purpose of editing, research etc. (prior to permission obtained from the higher authorities of the Vidyapeetha) as specified below:

S.No.	Year	Type of User					
		Teaching Faculty	Orissa Chair	Research Scholar (Ph.D.)	Research Scholar (M.Phil.)	P.G. Dip. In Res. Methodology & Manuscriptology (P.G.D.R.M.M.)	Others
1.	1999-2000	01	-	-	-	-	02
2.	2000-2001	-	-	01	-	-	09
3.	2004-2005	03	01	-	-	-	-
4.	2005-2006	02	-	-	-	-	03
5.	2006-2007	-	01	01	-	03	02
6.	2007-2008	-	-	-	-	-	09
7.	2008-2009	-	-	01	-	-	01
8.	2009-2010	-	-	-	01	-	-
9.	2010-2011	05	-	-	-	-	-
10.	2011-2012	-	-	02	-	-	-
11.	2012-2013	-	-	-	-	-	23
12.	2013-2014	-	-	-	-	-	03
13.	2014-2015	-	-	-	01	-	-
14.	2015-2016	-	-	-	01	-	-
15.	2016-2017	-	-	-	01	-	09

Out of the above, two people have intimated that they have published the work done by using three manuscripts of this library were published and donated five copies each to our Library.

Proposal for MRC and MCC:

In the light of the Vidyapeetha expertise being the finest Sanskrit institution in the country and are only one Deemed University in the southern part of the country imparting preservation, propagation and development of Sanskrit education.

Further, it is requested to kindly sanction Manuscript Conservation Centre (MCC) to this Vidyapeetha for the preservation & maintenance of manuscripts, which are the primary source of knowledge of Rishis & seers and scholars of Sanskrit in Veda Vedangas, Puranas & Itihasas and the contemporary important subject like yoga & meditation. Also, there is every need for collection, editing and digitizing the manuscripts for use by the researchers and which ultimately benefit the members of public at large. The Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha require fumigation chamber and other cooling agents for preservation and conservation of manuscripts and other related electronic gadgets in establishment of the said centre along with the required specialized staff, supporting academic/administrative and other contingent staff.

Really required an established Manuscript Conservation Centre/Manuscript Resource Centre at this reputed university which will cater to the needy students, researchers of manuscriptology.




17/11/17
REGISTRAR
REGISTRAR / कुलसचिव
RASHTRIYA SANSKRIT VIDYAPEETHA
राष्ट्रीय संस्कृत विद्यापीठ
University Est. u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956
(वि अ ए अनुभाग ३, अधिनियम १९५६ के अधीन स्थापित विश्वविद्यालय)
TIRUPATI / तिरुपति -517 507.



Paper manuscripts in the Vidyapeetha



Manuscripts section in the Vidyapeetha



Manuscripts in the Vidyapeetha



Digitalization of the Manuscripts

