



SILENT RUSTLES FELLOWSHIP

Tiny steps towards creating an open repository of Indigenous Values about
People | Places | Practices



Call for Applications

'Silent Rustles' is an initiative to acknowledge and realize small ideas towards documentation and capacity-building. The idea is to create a digital library, a collation of various valuables in the form of people, places or practices that are documented and which serve as references; thus creating an archive.

The Fellowship is an initiative to encourage small observations and ideas for documentation. It will bring together persons from different disciplines towards learning and sharing. A process of collective exploration and shared learning; involving a sense of work greater than the individual.

Know more.



Last Date for Applying 31st December 2023 | Announcement of Fellows 31st January 2024 | Duration of fellowship 3-12 months



Know more about Silent Rustles Fellowship :

The 'Silent Rustles Fellowship' by Akarmaa is a platform for anyone who is keen on understanding and documenting the lesser-known narratives of people, places and practices. The idea of the fellowship finds its roots in the possibilities of identifying potential narratives and their narrators who represent various collective values in the present context.

The larger intent of the fellowship is to begin with documenting and creating a digital library of rare invaluable values that may exist in the form of places, practices or people; while initiating the fellows towards shaping up and bringing together narratives of significance. Selected 'fellows', through the Silent Rustles program, would be supported by the means of skill enhancement, capacity building, peer networking and mentorship.

To bring about a positive impact on the ground is a longer process of consistent engagement with constantly changing parameters. Hence selected fellows would have the support of the fellowship beyond the active period of the fellowship, if consistent impact on the ground is established.

Eligibility: (Who can apply?)

Anyone who is persistent enough to identify the point of intervention in a system and can propose a feasible, inclusive solution that would directly impact and aid in the sustenance of the parameters involved.

The fellowship is open to interested individuals from across different disciplines. The fellowship would prefer enthusiastic, honest with oneself and persistent individuals,



for skill sets can be learnt and developed over time. It is the idea and the coming together of ideas that the fellowship would find that the fellowship would find value in. While the scope of the research is wide, the applicants must be residing in India during the course of the fellowship.

Objectives:

- To encourage and motivate in-depth place and context-based research.
- To sensitize the public about the pluralistic narratives and instill a sense of responsibility towards preserving the functionality of the system.
- To understand the complex and ever-evolving interaction of place, people, practice, and process by means of concentrated research, documentation and active action.
- To protect, manage and preserve the identified system by undertaking necessary measures and identifying specific tools which will be needed to orchestrate the plan better, leading to an improved practice.
- To draw from the research and build action plans for intervention in select locations in due time.
- Facilitate open public platforms that enable awareness, discussion and action that are sustainable, inclusive, creative and undertake necessary measures.
- To identify specific tools that are needed to better manage and improve the practice.



- To facilitate continuity and change by attempting to weave the need for continuity along with the need for openness that enables change/growth.

Language:

The content for the Fellowship is preferred to be in English.

However, we are willing to explore a multi-lingual approach to research, considering the diversity we live amidst; In the given case that the research is more relevant when done in a local language, the applicant would be required to submit a bi-lingual work. We would also need the applicant to identify a mentor who is proficient in both languages and is willing to help us verify the authenticity of the created work.

Duration:

Considering the thought processes involved along with the skills, willingness and humility to learn the required skills as fundamentals of learning and working, the ideal duration of the fellowship can be 3 - 12 months.

We also understand that certain topics might require more time to establish a trust-based relationship with people / community in order to carry out the work. It will be ideal to consider multiple parameters beforehand.



At the end of their Fellowship, Fellows are asked to present their research and findings which will be followed by a review and further discussion regarding the outcomes.

The proposal will not be eligible if it is part of a submission to any academic institution (or) if the applicant is already receiving funding for the said proposal. Silent Rustles Fellowship aims to be a tool for explorative learning for enthusiasts from different grades of the learning ladder.

Once appointed, the fellowships shall be conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions as stipulated in the memorandum of understanding that had been entered between the fellows and Akarmaa.

Timelines (2023 - 2023)

The Fellowship will be open all round the year. If you have something worth documenting – 'Apply Now'.

We are considering the following timelines for 2023

31st December - Last date for receiving applications.

31st January 2024 - Announcement of fellowship.

How to apply:

To apply for a fellowship, please fill in the [application form](#).



Selection Criteria:

The Fellowship Selection Committee assesses all fellowship proposals. Short-listed applicants will have the opportunity to share their ideas and plans, in conversation with members of the jury and assessment team.

Deliverables:

The intrinsic quality of the deliverables is to be presented in a manner understandable by people from different backgrounds. Rest, the deliverables will be derived from the topic of the fellow's will.

Ownership:

Fellows will retain authorship of the final pieces/ articles/ photographs; they are free to publish the insights of their research efforts, with appropriate acknowledgement to Akarmaa. Akarmaa too will have the right to collate and publish all articles and photographs and produce a compendium/ distribution material after discussion with the fellow and due acknowledgement to all fellows and their work. All works will be collaborative and copy-lefted for collective sharing.

Whom to Contact?

You can write to fellowship.akarmaa@gmail.com for any queries of concerns, else the application form is sufficient.

