



# मौलाना अबुल कलाम आज़ाद एशियाई अध्ययन संस्थान

## MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD INSTITUTE OF ASIAN STUDIES

(संस्कृति मंत्रालय के अधीन एक स्वायत्त निकाय, भारत सरकार)

आई. बी. ब्लॉक, प्लॉट सं. १६६, सेक्टर-३, सॉल्ट लेक, कोलकाता-७००१०६

(An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Culture, Govt. Of India)  
IB BLOCK, PLOT NO.-166, SECTOR-III, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA-700106

E-mail : makaiaskol@vsnl.net  
E-mail : makaias\_cal@vsnl.net  
E-mail : info@makaias.gov.in  
Website : www.makaias.gov.in

टेली फ़ैक्स : (०३३) २३३५-६६२९  
दूरभाष : (०३३) २३३५-६६२३ / ६६४२ / ६६२९  
Tele Fax : (033) 2335-6629  
Phone : (033) 2335-6623 / 6642

### Minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Maulana Aul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies Society held on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 11 a.m. at Azad Bhavan, MAKAIAS, Kolkata

#### Members Present:

1. Mr. Sitaram Sharma, Chairman, Executive Council, MAKAIAS
2. Mr. S. Ganai (Nominated member by the Principal Secretary, Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of West Bengal)
3. Professor Ashis Kumar Roy
4. Professor O.P. Mishra
5. Professor H.P. Roy
6. Dr. Chitra Mondal
7. Professor Md. Rafatullah
8. Professor Subhash Ranjan Chakraborty (Representative from The Asiatic Society)
9. Professor Syed Tanveer Nasreen
10. Professor Gopa Sabharwal
11. Professor Abhirup Sarkar
12. Dr. Azarmi Dakht Safavi
13. Professor Pratap Bhanu Mehta
14. Sri. Azim Bari
15. Sri. Gayanidhi Rout
16. Dr. Sreeradha Dutta (Director & Member Secretary)

#### Leave of absence was granted to:

1. His Excellency, the Governor of West Bengal & President of MAKAIAS Society, Sri. M. K. Narayanan.
2. Mr. Ravindra Singh, Secretary, MOC, GOI

3. Mr. P.K. Jha (Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, MOC, GOI)
4. Secretary, Department of Secondary & Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, GOI
5. Mr. Pramod. Kr. Jain, JS, MOC, GOI
6. Sri Rahman Rahi
7. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad
8. Mr. Siddartha Varadarajan
9. Professor Uma Dasgupta
10. Professor Suranjan Das
11. Sri. Chandrasekhar Dasgupta
12. Professor Mushirul Hasan

Dr. Sreeradha Dutta (Director & Member Secretary) informed all members of the Society about the sad demise of Professor Barun De (Historian, Founder Director of MAKAIAS and Member of the MAKAIAS, Society) and of Professor Shah Abdus Salam (Member of MAKAIAS, Society). The members observed a minute of silence in their memory.

Dr. Sreeradha Dutta (Director & Member Secretary) introduced to the members of the Society, Mr. Sitaram Sharma, nominated as Chairman, Executive Council, MAKAIAS by the Ministry of Culture, GOI to the Society Members. She further also informed that His Excellency, the Governor of West Bengal and President of the MAKAIAS Society has expressed his inability to Chair the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of MAKAIAS, due to unavoidable circumstances.

Mr. Sitaram Sharma, Chairman, Executive Council, MAKAIAS welcomed all members of the Society of MAKAIAS including the newly nominated members Sri. Azim Bari and Sri. Dayanidhi Rout and proposed Professor Ashis Kumar Roy, Executive Council Member, MAKAIAS to chair the 19<sup>th</sup> AGM of MAKAIAS Society. This was seconded by all present.

Professor Ashis Kumar Roy requested Dr. Sreeradha Dutta, Director & Member Secretary to begin the deliberation.

**Agenda Item No. 1:** To confirm the Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on December 13, 2012 at Raj Bhavan, Kolkata. (Annexure I)

Resolution: Resolved that the Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata Society held on December 13, 2012 be confirmed and approved.



**Agenda Item No. 2:** To consider the Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting.

The Director highlighted some of the major research and academic activities undertaken during the given period. This included;

- The re- launching MAKAIS Newsletter- the quarterly journal on November 11, 2013 on the occasion of the 125<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Maulana Azad.
- Several steps have been taken to bring the Maulana Azad Museum into public domain through media articles and news reporting. The new memorabilia collection acquired by the Institute is now being digitized and conservation and preservation of the artifacts is being done by INTACH and the School of Cultural Texts and Records, Jadavpur University. This once completed will be uploaded in the MAKAIAS website for easy access by all scholars and researchers. The Director also wished to record the guidance, support and active involvement of late Professor Barun De in the activities of the Maulana Azad Museum, even weeks before his demise.
- The Institute observed and celebrated the 125<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Maulana Azad on November 11, 2013 with a memorial Lecture by M. J. Akbar, at Azad Bhavan, MAKAIAS. This was followed by holding an International Conference on Understanding the Trajectories of the Contemporary Islam and an International Symposium on Contextualizing Maulana Azad for Understanding Contemporary Political Islam during November 12- 13, 2013 at the Institute. The research focus on Life and Works of Maulana Azad has been given a thrust through International Conference/ Seminar with International participants from over 12 countries and several national scholars. Two Fellows within the Institute are undertaking research on the Life and Works of Maulana Azad and external projects have been commissioned for undertaking Translation work on Maulana Azad's works.
- The Institute has also initiated a flagship pan- Asian International Seminar- Asia Perspective from 2013. While the Eurasia focus continues, several studies on South East Asia have been undertaken including Vietnam and China. The China Study programme has been given special attention. Two Research Assistants have been appointed at the Institute who are well conversed in the Chinese language and regular Chinese language classes are being held at the Institute apart from the Institute and the University of Calcutta supporting the School of Chinese language. Several brainstorming sessions have been held with experts from different Universities and Institutes in India including Professor H. P. Roy, Amb. Chandrasekhar Dasgupta and late Professor Barun De. Academic Interactions were strengthened with Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, Kunming, China. Their reciprocal visit to MAKAIAS was coincided with an

International Seminar on India and China in South East Asia during November 24-25, 2013. A collaborative Seminar volume titled "India- China Relations: Prospects for Building Synergy in the Twenty First Century" was also released at a roundtable in Manipal University. The delegation visit from Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences also coincided by a conference on India and South East Asia in October 29, 2013.

- The Member Secretary was happy to report about the progress of the Maulana Azad Centres for Research on North East India. The MOUs are likely to be signed with few North East Universities;
- To bring greater academic value and depth a monitoring system has been put in place for all research undertaken by internal as well as external fellows. Evaluation of research output is being done through the peer review process. External Projects have been streamlined and penalty clauses introduced to check the inordinate delay in submission of progress reports and manuscripts. The increased rigor in research is reflected with growing interest of international publishing house in several of the Institute's publications.
- The Institute has published 12 books this financial year 2012- 13. Thus the research activities within the Institute have undoubtedly gathered momentum. Although the Ministry has been supportive the possibility of introduction of Core faculty, the Institute is yet to receive positive response.

The Chairman of the meeting, Professor Ashis Kumar Roy, invited comments, suggestions and views from the members; Professor Abhirup sarkar, Professor Pratap Bhanu Mehta, Dr. Azarmi Safavi, Professor Gopa Sabharwal, Dr. Chitra Mondal and other members of the Society thanked the Director and expressed satisfaction on the overall functioning and academic progress made during the last year.

Several members of the Society, MAKAIAS emphasized the need for core faculty in the Institute to encourage research and better work and provide stability to the researchers. It was also, suggested that researchers within the Institute may also publish their research work in International journals.

The members present supported the idea for core faculty at MAKAIAS. It was suggested that the MOC should at least consider raising the number of Fellowship at MAKAIAS at par with Teen Murti, New Delhi. The members expressed that the Institute should keep requesting and pursuing the Ministry for introduction of pay scales and a core faculty. All the members suggested that this may be taken up with the Ministry of Culture, GOI at the earliest.

Resolution: The Director assured the members that necessary action would follow as suggested and it was thereafter resolved that the action taken report be approved.



**Agenda Item No. 3:** To consider and approve the Annual Report and Annual Audited Accounts of the Institute for the year 2012- 2013. (Annexure II)

Resolution: Resolved that the Annual Report and Annual Audited Accounts 2012- 2013 be approved.

**Agenda Item no. 4:** To consider appointment of a Chartered Accountant (CAG empanelled - Gupta & Mitra) as Statutory Auditor of the Institute for 2013- 2014, with an annual remuneration and terms and conditions as per previous year.

The Director informed the Society members that the Institute appointed of M/s Gupta & Mitra, Chartered Accountant (CAG empanelled) for conducting Internal Audit with an annual remuneration of Rs. 84, 000/- [Rupees eighty four thousand only] for Internal Audit of the Institute, 2012- 13 and requested that M/s Gupta & Mitra may be appointed with terms and conditions and annual remuneration same as the previous year i.e. 2012- 13 for conducting internal audit for the financial year 2013- 14 and other accounts matter for 2014- 2015.

Resolution: Resolved that M/s Gupta & Mitra be appointed by the Institute for conducting Internal Audit as per previous terms and conditions and remuneration.

**Agenda Item No. 5:** To discuss MAKAIAS initiative for conducting Ph. D/ M. Phil Programme in collaboration with Universities during the academic session 2014- 2015. (Annexure III)

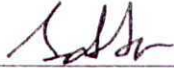
The Director placed before the members the proposal for initiating Ph. D/ M/ Phil programme and invited remarks / views and suggestions on the proposal. The Institute for the past three years has been teaching the South Asia Course for West Bengal State University. Several of the Fellows are in a position to guide students for their research degrees.

After due deliberations with regard to the proposal it was resolved that a Committee be set up to examine the feasibility / modality of introducing Ph. D/ M. Phil in collaboration with Universities.

It was further resolved that the Memorandum of Association (MoA) be amended to widen the academic scope of the Institute. The Bye Laws that are being drafted reflect the new broadened activities of the Institute. It was also noted the need to amend the MoA as recommended by the CAG for grater research flexibility.

Resolution: The Chairman, welcomed the proposal for formation of a Committee as recommended by the members of the Society.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.



Dr. Sreeradha Dutta  
(Director & Member Secretary)



Professor Ashis Kumar Roy  
(In the Chair)