



Publications

Dissemination of research findings is done through publications in the form of books, monographs and occasional papers, seminar volumes, and the Asia Annual. The yearly Maulana Azad Memorial Lectures are also published by the Institute. Bound volumes of unpublished reports are available for reference in the library.

Language Programmes

As language is an important factor in area studies, translations from original sources are undertaken. The Institute offers in-house classes in Hindi, Urdu, Russian, Uzbek and Chinese for the benefit of its Fellows.

Seminars/Workshops

The Institute organises regular national and international seminars in addition to roundtables, symposiums and workshops. Periodic presentations by the Institute Fellows, attended by external experts and scholars, are part of the academic calendar.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS) is a research institute in the social sciences. An autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, it facilitates research in social, cultural, economic and politico-administrative developments in Asia from the mid-19th century onwards with special emphasis on their linkage with India; and also on the life and works of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

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Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies

[AN AUTONOMOUS BODY UNDER MINISTRY OF CULTURE, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA]



Background

MAKAIAS was set up at the joint initiative of the Government of India, Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Government of West Bengal. Based in Kolkata, it was registered as a Society under the West Bengal Registration of Societies Act of 1961 on 4 January 1993, with the Governor of West Bengal as the President of the Society. It operates out of Azad Bhavan in Salt Lake as well as the Maulana Azad Museum located in the erstwhile residence of Maulana Azad at 5 Ashraf Mistry Lane, Kolkata.

Main Objectives of MAKAIAS

The objectives of the Institute are:

- To be a centre for research and learning with focus

 (a) on social, cultural, economic and politico administrative developments in Asia from the middle
 of the 19th century onwards, with special emphasis
 on their links with India and (b) on the life and works
 of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- To establish and maintain a library of books, pamphlets, newspapers, periodicals, microfilms, still photographs, motion pictures, sound recordings and other materials having a bearing on the secular traditions of Modern India with special reference to social, cultural and political movements and events from the middle of the 19th century onwards.





- To establish and maintain a Museum at the former residence of Maulana Azad in Kolkata. The Museum would highlight the life and works of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad as a distinguished national leader and thinker.
- To organise, undertake, conduct, encourage and promote study and research in the field of secularism and universal brotherhood and the life and work of Maulana Azad.
- To sponsor or commission studies, based on original research or translation or compilations and, for this purpose, to pay honorarium or remuneration or royalty, or to make payments for the acquisition of copyright of works already published.
- To undertake and to promote publication of books, monographs, periodicals and papers incorporating the results of the studies and research carried out at the Institute and/or any other place as the Institute may decide.
- To foster academic contacts within India as well as in other countries through exchange of personnel and research materials.
- To collaborate with institutions engaged in similar activities in India and abroad with a view to further the aims and objects of the Institute.
- To institute and award fellowships, scholarships and monetary assistance in accordance with the rules and byelaws.
- To undertake all such activities as are incidentally necessary or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the above-mentioned objectives.

Research

The Institute's Fellows are engaged in research and area studies on Asia in general, with emphasis on Central Asia, Afghanistan, South and Southeast Asia. The Institute also has a strong Northeast India programme, while policy oriented research, security issues and strategic studies are major interest areas.

Library

MAKAIAS has a well-equipped multi-disciplinary library with a collection of about 15,000 books and 90 journals. Apart from publications in English, it has books in Hindi, Bengali, Urdu and Russian, and subscribes to Project MUSE and JSTOR. The library is open to students and researchers from other institutes and universities between 10.30 am - 5.30 pm.

Maulana Azad Museum

MAKAIAS maintains a museum at a former residence of Maulana Azad at 5 Ashraf Mistry Lane, Kolkata 700019. Inaugurated on 11 November 2006, the Museum displays some artefacts of Maulana Azad including memorabilia such as photographs, awards and gifts received, as well as items of personal use. The museum aims to promote awareness and appreciation of the life and times of Maulana Azad, a distinguished national leader and thinker of the nationalist period in Indian history. It also has a collection of papers and library sources related to the life and work of Maulana Azad.

Outreach

To foster academic contacts and make a foray into the sphere of public education, MAKAIAS ventures into academic collaborations with institutions engaged in similar activities in India and abroad. MAKAIAS's outreach includes MoUs for bilateral academic exchanges with several foreign research institutions and Indian universities. The Institute also offers an internship programme, open to researchers and scholars including university students.