

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES

Bangalore, India



National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) was conceived and founded in 1988 by the late Sri JRD Tata, who sought to create an institution to conduct advanced multidisciplinary research. Housed in a picturesque green campus in Bangalore the Institute serves as a forum to bring together individuals from diverse intellectual backgrounds. They include administrators and managers from industry and government, leaders in public affairs, eminent individuals in different walks of life, and the academicians in the natural and life sciences, humanities, and social sciences.

The objective is to nurture a broad base of scholars, managers and leaders who would respond to the complex challenges that face contemporary India and global society, with insight, sensitivity, confidence and dedication.





THE MISSION

To integrate the findings of scholarship in the natural and social sciences with technology and the arts through multi-disciplinary research on the complex issues that face Indian and global society.

To assist in the creation of new leadership with broad horizons in all sectors of society by disseminating the conclusions of such research through appropriate publications and courses as well as dialogues with leaders and the public.



MANAGEMENT

NIAS was registered as a Society under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960 on 20th June 1988. The Council of Management, the Academic Council and the Holding Trustees are the three authorities responsible for overall administration of the Institute. Sri JRD Tata was the first Chairman of the Council of Management. Dr Raja Ramanna was the Founder Director until his retirement in July 1997. Prof R Narasimha was the Director during 1997-2004.

Dr MS Swaminathan currently chairs the Council of Management. Dr K Kasturirangan is the Director of the Institute.

Members of NIAS Council of Management

Chairman

Dr MS Swaminathan

Members

Dr JJ Irani

Dr K Kasturirangan

Sri Satyananda Mishra

Dr T Ramasami

Sri Kaushik Mukherjee

Sri MR Srinivasa Murthy

Dr Devaki Jain

Prof P Balaram

Sri Xerxes Desai

Sri NR Narayana Murthy

Dr Kiran Mazumdar Shaw

Dr Arcot Ramachandran

Prof Andre Beteille

Sri AN Singh

The members of the Council of Management are also members of the NIAS Society, with Dr BV Sreekantan as an additional member. Dr Dilip Ahuja is the Secretary to both the Council of Management and the NIAS Society.

RESEARCH

The philosophy underlying NIAS is given shape by its Schools and Programmes. The schools are Humanities, Natural Sciences and Engineering, and Social Sciences. The Programmes include the Centre for Philosophy as well as International Strategic & Security Studies Programme. The Institute is unique in its integrated approach to the study of the intersections between science and technology, social issues, humanities and leadership.

The research areas covered at NIAS are broadly in the field of social and political issues, education, gender issues, philosophy, psychology, science and society, environment, agriculture materials heritage, art, archaeometallurgy, science atlas, nanotechnology, history, social anthropology, interdisciplinary economics, strategic and foreign policy issues, consciousness studies, primate behavioural ecology, cognition, genetics, conservation and mathematical modelling. Research studies conducted by the faculty of the Institute are disseminated through publications in peer-reviewed journals, edited volumes, books, Institute's reports, and lectures & technical seminars.



Sri JRD Tata planted a banyan sapling in the campus on 19th March 1993.



The banyan tree today..

HISTORY & ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the years, NIAS has moved towards fulfilling the dreams of its founder Sri JRD Tata, its founder Director Dr Raja Ramanna and its subsequent Director Dr Roddam Narasimha. As a multidisciplinary Institute, NIAS combines scientific and humanistic perspectives on topics of national and international importance. Activities of NIAS include research, analysis, publications and teaching. Following the ideas of its founder, NIAS has also been an educational centre for future leaders of India through its courses and educational programmes. Over the years, NIAS has created a unique ambience wherein researchers, scholars, speakers and visitors from a variety of disciplines interact in a meaningful manner. The PhD programme that was initiated in 2004 has added to the dynamism with exploratory interest in many interdisciplinary areas of research.

The Institute has ample facilities for conferences, lectures and theatrical programmes. The JRD Tata Auditorium and the Lecture Halls facilitate an ideal atmosphere for long hours of deliberation and discussion. Situated on five acres of land within the verdant campus of the Indian Institute of Science, the buildings of NIAS have a strikingly distinctive architecture with elegant lines and arched corridors. The fully furnished guest rooms make the visitors' and course participants' stay a pleasant one.

NIAS has an active programme of public lectures, regional, national and international conferences, symposia and seminars organized independently or jointly with other institutions, that focus on topical areas of research and public concern.



The research interests of NIAS are also reflected in the projects that it manages. Significant projects carried out in the past and the ongoing ones include Application of Chaos Theory to 2-D Interpolation of Irregular Data Set and Image Compression; A Critical Study of Indian Astronomical Tables-Sarinis, Koshtakas, Padakas and Vakyas; New Methods for Digital Archiving and Preservation of Ancient Manuscripts; Evaluation of the Foraging Requirements of a Threatened Endemic Passerine, The White-Bellied Shortwing in Natural and Disturbed Habitats for Conservation Planning in the Western Ghats; Niche-Partitioning and the Impact of Disturbance and Fragmentation in Two Sympatric Species of Flying Squirrels, the Endemic Travancore Flying Squirrel and the Indian Giant Flying Squirrel in the Western Ghats; Social Evolution in Bonnet Macaques; Demography and Behavioural Ecology of Unimale and Multimale Troops; Development of Social Relations in the Slender Loris *Iydekkerianus*; Demography and Behavioural Ecology of the Indian Bonnet Macaque: A Comparative Account of the Two Subspecies; The Ecology of Two Sympatric Species of Flying Squirrels, the Endemic Travancore Flying Squirrel and the Indian Giant Flying Squirrel in the Evergreen Forests of Kerala; Distribution, Abundance and Conservation Status of the Slender Loris in the Eastern and Western Ghats of India; District Quality Education Programme in Chamarajnagar District of Karnataka; Strengthening the Chamarajnagar District Institute of Education Training; Ancient Harappan Metallurgy and Metal Processing; Studies from Recent Excavated Sites such as Dholavira; Art in Education for Chamarajnagar District; An Analysis of Regional and Sectoral Imbalances in the Development of S & T in India; Archaeological Investigations Using Remote Sensing Techniques; Perspectives on Indian S&T Developments; Indian IT Professionals in India & Europe: Work Culture & Transnationalism.

NIAS also serves as a nodal agency to oversee international collaborations such as establishing and strengthening of Zonal Water Partnerships in India and the dialogues to evolve guidelines for conflict resolution of Inter-State Transboundary Water Sharing in India.

Various funding agencies for these projects and studies include Indian Space Research Organisation, Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Indian National Science Academy, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Wenner Green Foundation, Dept of Science and Technology, Ministry of Culture, Templeton Foundation, India Foundation for the Arts, Defence Research and Development Organisation, Muthoot Environment and Research Foundation, Global Water Partnership, India Water Partnership, Office of Naval Research.

NIAS TIMELINE

1987



Dr Raja Ramanna takes charge as Founder Director.

1988

NIAS registered as a Society under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act (1960) on 20th June 1988.

Sri JRD Tata chairs the first meeting of the NIAS Council of Management.

First Meeting of the NIAS Council of Management on 8th August. Members present include Sri JRD Tata (Chairman), Sri JJ Bhabha, Dr Raja Ramanna, Dr CNR Rao, Sri TR Satish Chandran, Sri Ashok Ganguly, Sri Keshub Mahindra and Dr MGK Menon.



Dr RL Kapur joins on 1st October as Professor and starts the Unit on Health and Human Behaviour.

1989

First NIAS Course for Senior Executives (from 16th January to 18th February). Speakers include Prof Andre Beteille, Prof Romila Thapar, Prof N Mukunda. Twenty-eight senior executives attend. They include Sri ST Bhaskaran (Dept of Post, Karnataka Circle), Sri KU Limaye (DRDO), Sri B Muthuraman (The Tata Iron and Steel Co Ltd.), and Sri M Kamal Naidu (National Zoological Park).



1990



Prof CNR Rao (then Director, Indian Institute of Science) consents to be the Hon. Director (pro tempore) during the period when Dr Ramanna is away in Delhi as Minister of State.

1991

Dr CV Sundaram joins as the first Homi Bhabha Chair Professor on 18th November.



1992

Sri JRD Tata lays foundation stone of NIAS on 12th March.



Prof MN Srinivas joins as the first JRD Tata Chair Professor on 2nd February.



Dr BV Sreekantan joins as the first S Radhakrishnan Chair Professor on 6th August.

Maj Gen MK Paul VSM (Retd) joins as Controller on 7th August.



1993



Sri JRD Tata plants a banyan sapling in the campus on 19th March.

Plan for JRD Tata Auditorium unveiled.



First NIAS Course for UGC Teachers from 4th to 30th October.



Sri RK Laxman visits NIAS on 22nd October.

1997



Prof Roddam Narasimha takes over as Director on 1st August.

Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda inaugurates NIAS JRD Tata Memorial Auditorium on 23rd March.



1998

President KR Narayanan visits NIAS on the occasion of the birth centenary celebrations of Prof KS Krishnan on 28th July.

2004



Dr K Kasturirangan takes over as Director on 31st March.

Reorganisation of Units into three Schools: Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences & Engineering.

Profs BV Sreekantan, PG Vaidya and Dilip Ahuja take charge as Deans of School of Humanities, School of Natural Sciences & Engineering and School of Social Sciences, respectively. S Rajgopal takes over as Dean, Administration.

2005

President APJ Abdul Kalam delivers the 5th JRD Tata Birth Centenary Lecture.



Dr JJ Irani lays Foundation Stone of the Centenary Faculty Block on 2nd July.

2006

Prof Richard Sorabji, Fellow, Wolfson College, Oxford & Emeritus Professor, Kings College, London, inaugurates Centre for Philosophy on 20th January.



Faculty moved to the Centenary Faculty Block on 2nd October.

2007

Profs Sundar Sarukkai, PK Shetty and AR Vasavi take over as Deans of School of Humanities, School of Natural Sciences & Engineering and School of Social Sciences, respectively.

Sri EK Kutty joins as Head, Administration.



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

School of Humanities is engaged in research in philosophy, literature and the fine arts. Faculty of this school work on the philosophical foundations of sciences including mathematics; scientific and philosophical studies of consciousness; history and philosophy of science; analysis of ancient metals; social implications of nanotechnology; and translations of Kannada literary classics into English. The School of Humanities organises many national and international conferences, as well as supports visitors to the School for varying durations.

SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

This school covers research in the fields of engineering, mathematics, agriculture, ecology and conservation biology. Current research interests of the faculty members include various aspects of signal processing; number theory; artificial intelligence; soft computing; language engineering; mathematical modelling of complex chaotic systems; studies on agro-ecology; natural resource conservation, particularly soil and water conservation; pesticide stewardship; conservation of wildlife; primate behaviour and cognition.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

With an eclectic mix of disciplines, School of Social Sciences is engaged in activities that include research, teaching, outreach, advocacy and consultancy. The faculty are drawn from sociology and social anthropology, gender studies, educational studies, economics, and energy studies, and have conducted several research-cum-outreach projects in the fields of education, gender, governance and development. Current areas of interest are in forging inter-disciplinary work to understand and address issues in the areas of water, energy, and education. The school also seeks to contribute to work on globalisation, organisations, development and economic sociology.

INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIC & SECURITY STUDIES PROGRAMME

International Strategic & Security Studies Programme at NIAS promotes and conducts research that addresses the strategic and security concerns of India. It has over the years carried out a number of studies in technology dominated areas of international security, especially nuclear weapons and missiles. NIAS has also facilitated exchange of knowledge and views between interested groups working around the globe on issues related to international security by organising meetings, conferences and talks. Its continuing and ongoing dialogues with the Committee on International Security and Arms Control (CISAC) of the US National Academy of Sciences reflects the Programme's commitment to using knowledge to help improve understanding between countries. The International Strategic & Security Studies Programme has recently completed two major studies on the ballistic missile programmes of Pakistan and China. Members of the Programme working together have also produced a number of briefs on Indo-US relations and on various dimensions of the Indo-US nuclear deal. Future plans include working on themes related to nuclear and space weapons.

RBI PROGRAMME ON INTERDISCIPLINARY ECONOMICS

The programme on interdisciplinary economics is supported by the Reserve Bank of India. While much of

interdisciplinary economics, as a field, concentrates on using economic concepts to understand other social science disciplines, the focus of this programme is on using concepts from other social sciences to provide a more inclusive view of economic issues. By bringing into economic analysis elements of a situation that would normally be seen to be in the domain of other social sciences, the programme hopes to capture the critical role that social, political, technological and environmental issues play in the working of the economy. The programme includes an effort to use ethnography and other methods from social anthropology to provide a richer analysis of farmers' suicides. A project has also been undertaken on the garment industry in Bangalore which uses not just economic analysis but also concepts from urban sociology to provide greater, and more inclusive, insights into the process of globalisation.

CENTRE FOR PHILOSOPHY

Centre for Philosophy was inaugurated in January 2006 with the primary purpose of enabling and sustaining quality research and teaching in philosophy around the country, as well as promoting teaching of philosophy in vernacular languages in both urban and rural areas. Its programmes include courses on philosophy for college students in Bangalore, lectures and seminars for the public, workshops on philosophy in different parts of the country, as well as a Summer School in philosophy for post-graduate and doctoral students titled 'Philosophy for the Social Sciences and Humanities'.

NIAS PhD PROGRAMME

In collaboration with Manipal University and Mysore University, NIAS runs a doctoral programme in the areas in which it specialises. NIAS offers fellowships sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology and by the Indian Space Research Organisation to a limited number of students pursuing PhD studies. Presently there are twenty full-time doctoral students specialising in various areas under the respective schools.

DIRECTOR



K Kasturirangan
PhD (PRL, Ahmedabad)

Dr Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan is presently the Director of the Institute and an Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha). Dr Kasturirangan has steered the Indian space programme for over nine years as Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Space. He was earlier the Director of ISRO Satellite Centre, where he oversaw the activities related to the development of new generation spacecraft, Indian National Satellite (INSAT-2) and Indian Remote Sensing Satellites (IRS-1A & 1B) as well as scientific satellites. His research interests include high energy X-ray and gamma ray astronomy as well as optical astronomy. He has made extensive and significant contributions to studies of cosmic X-ray sources, celestial gamma-ray and effect of cosmic X-rays in the lower atmosphere. Dr Kasturirangan is a member of a number of important scientific academies, both within India and abroad. He has been the recipient of several awards including the Allan D Emil Memorial Award of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), and the Theodore Von Karman Award (2007) of the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), France in recognition of his leadership of the Indian space programme. He has been conferred the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan.

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MEMBERS OF SCHOOLS & PROGRAMMES

School of Humanities



Sundar Sarukkai
PhD (Purdue, USA)
Professor and Dean

Dr Sarukkai's research work covers various themes in Western and Indian philosophy with a focus on philosophy of science, philosophy of mathematics, philosophy of language, phenomenology and analytical philosophy. He was a Homi Bhabha Fellow during 1997-1999, Fellow of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), Shimla during 1999-2001 and PHISPC Associate Fellow during 2003-2004. *He is the author of the following books: Translating the World: Science and Language* (University Press of America, 2002); *Philosophy of Symmetry* (IIAS, 2004) and *Indian Philosophy and Philosophy of Science* (CSC / Motilal Banarsidas, 2005).

joined NIAS on 1st August 1994

most significant research contribution

Developed a new theory of how scientific texts create meaning and a fresh look at analysis of how Indian philosophy is important for philosophy of science.

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BV Sreekantan
PhD (TIFR, Mumbai)
Visiting Professor

Dr Sreekantan is currently Visiting Professor at this Institute and also Chairman, Gandhi Centre of Science and Human Values of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bangalore. He was Dr Radhakrishnan Visiting Professor in 1992. He was the Director of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research during 1975-87 and the Indian National Science Academy Srinivasa Ramanujan Professor during 1987-92. He has specialised in cosmic rays, high-energy physics and high-energy astronomies and has published over 200 research papers. He has received a number of professional awards including the RD Birla Award of the Indian Physics Association and the Padma Bhushan. He has held a number of Visiting positions including in the US and Japan. After moving to NIAS, Prof Sreekantan shifted his interests from pure science to studies on scientific and philosophical studies on consciousness and exploration of commonalities and similarities in holistic approaches in modern science and ancient philosophies. Through two seminars organized by him at NIAS, the historical epistemological, mathematical, experimental and technological factors that laid the foundations of sciences and led to the growth of modern science over the last few decades were analyzed and these have been incorporated in a volume that is under publication by ICPR.

joined NIAS on 6th August 1992

bvsreekantan@gmail.com



S Settar
PhD (Karnatak, India),
PhD (Cambridge, England)
S Radhakrishnan Visiting
Professor

Dr S Settar has been conducting research in the fields of Indian archaeology, art-history, history of religions and philosophy as well as classical literature during the last four decades. Works under his personal authorship comprise four volumes on history of art, two on religion and philosophy, one on human civilisation and four on historiography. He has been Professor of History and Archaeology (1970-96), Director of the Institute of Indian Art History (1978-96) at Karnatak University, Dharwad, and Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, (1996-1999).

joined NIAS on 5th August 2002

most significant research contribution

Efforts to bridge the widening gap between linguistic and regional differences of community and culture.

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Sangeetha Menon
PhD (Thiruvananthapuram,
Kerala)
Fellow

Dr Menon's graduate studies were in zoology and human evolution, while her post-graduation was in philosophy (with a gold medal). Her doctoral thesis was on 'The concept of consciousness in the Bhagavad Gita'. She is a recipient of the Swami Pranavanada Philosophy Trust of India National Award (1989) and the Young Philosopher National Award (2002). Her research areas cover consciousness and mind studies, and topical issues pertaining to Indian philosophy, Indian aesthetics and Indian psychology. She is also engaged in initiating and networking 'Science-Spirituality-Art' dialogues. She has lectured extensively in several research and academic institutions in India and other countries. Recently she was a Visiting Professor (Spring 2007) at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies (Oxford University) and at the Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture (Nagoya University, Japan) in Fall, 2007.

joined NIAS on 8th January 1996

most significant research contribution

Developed Indian transpersonal psychology, and initiated science-art-philosophy dialogues on consciousness particularly in the context of Indian aesthetics, dramaturgy and spiritual traditions.

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s menon@nias.iisc.ernet.in



MG Narasimhan
PhD (IISc, Bangalore)
Fellow

Dr Narasimhan's research work covers different themes and topics in history and philosophy of science and within that framework, issues related to biology. He is particularly interested in problems associated with evolutionary theory and related aspects. Prior to this Dr Narasimhan worked as a Lecturer in English in the Department of Pre-university Education, Government of Karnataka. He is a recipient of the Martin Foster medal for the best thesis for the year 1994-95 from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

joined NIAS on 2nd January 1998

most significant research contribution

Initiated and pioneered studies in areas of scientific controversy and history and philosophy of biology for the first time in this country.

narasimhanmarehalli@yahoo.com

narasim@nias.iisc.ernet.in



Rajesh Kasturirangan
PhD (MIT, USA)
Fellow

Dr Rajesh Kasturirangan's research interests are in cognitive science and philosophy of mind. His current work relates to applying a combination of philosophical argument, mathematical techniques and empirical observations to classical problems in cognitive science and the philosophy of mind such as the semantics of natural languages, the epistemology of beliefs and the structure of intentionality and consciousness.

joined NIAS on 1st May 2006

most significant research contribution

Developed a computational theory of how language and concepts are grounded in the world.

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Sharada Srinivasan
PhD (University College,
London)
Fellow

Dr Sharada Srinivasan has research interests ranging from archaeological science, metallurgy and materials characterisations of ancient artifacts and the implications for history of arts and crafts to performing arts. She is an acclaimed Bharata Natyam dancer. She has a PhD in archaeometallurgy from University College, London; MA from SOAS, London and BTech in engineering physics from IIT, Mumbai. She is a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society, and her awards include the Indian Institute of Metals Certificate of Excellence (2007), Materials Research Society of India Medal (2006), Maiti Nagar Ethnoarchaeology Award (2005), Materials Research Society Graduate Student Award, USA, (1997), the Flinders Petrie Prize and Medal, London University (1989) and also the Homi Bhabha Fellowship (1996-8) and the Forbes Smithsonian Research Associateship (1999).

joined NIAS on 10th June 2001

most significant research contribution

Explored the inter-relationships between art, metals and materials heritage, archaeology, aesthetics, science and technology, and performing arts.

sharasri@gmail.com

sharada@nias.iisc.ernet.in



S Ranganathan
PhD (Cambridge
University, UK)
Visiting Professor

After an outstanding academic record in Loyola College, Chennai and the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Prof Ranganathan obtained his PhD from Cambridge University, UK in 1965. His academic career as an educator and researcher in metallurgy for the past four decades has been outstanding. His seminal research contributions have advanced our understanding of the structure of metals through 300 publications including books on Wootz steel and new geometries. He is currently Honorary and INAE Distinguished Professor at the Indian Institute of Science and Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore. His contributions have been recognised by fellowships to five academies and numerous awards. His interests at NIAS include materials heritage, an atlas of India in Science and Societal Impact of Nanotechnology.

joined NIAS on 2nd July 2004

most significant research contribution

Pioneered the study on the societal implications of nanotechnology, and development of an atlas of Indian science.

Doctoral Students



SK Arun Murthy

Arun's research interests are primarily in analytic philosophy, specifically in the areas of philosophy of science. He works on the philosophical analysis of laws of nature and scientific explanation and properties.

Arun has a bachelor's degree in engineering and master's degrees in business administration as well as philosophy.

arun@nias.iisc.ernet.in



MB Rajani

Rajani's research is in the area of archaeological investigations using remote sensing techniques. The significance of this study is that it is a multidisciplinary research using the state-of-the-art space technology for archaeological study.

Rajani has a master's degree in art & design. She is a Post-graduate Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

rajanihf@rediffmail.com

rajanihf@gmail.com



Meera Baidur

Meera pursues research in the area of environmental philosophy. Her focus is on the conceptualisation of nature in Indian traditions of thought, with special reference to Vedic, Sankhya, Yoga and Jaina traditions.

Meera has a bachelor's degree in environmental science and master's in psychology.

mansilight@gmail.com

School of Natural Sciences and Engineering



PK Shetty
PhD (IARI, New Delhi)
Professor and Dean

Dr PK Shetty was earlier the Head of the Environmental Studies Unit and also served as Dean (Administration). His current interests are in biosecurity & agro-ecology, energy and sustainability, environmental stewardship, science and technology policy studies. He has worked with many government and non-governmental organizations in the areas of education, environment and society. He has co-edited two books and published several research papers, reports and articles. He was Vice-President, Society of Pesticide Science, India. He is a frequently invited speaker at various professional forums in India and abroad. Dr Shetty has received several prestigious awards including Karnataka State Rajyotsava Award (2007). He is also independent Director, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (A Government of India Enterprise) and also Director of the Advanced Research Institute, Bangalore.

joined NIAS on 6th August 1992

most significant research contribution

Studies on the societal significance in agriculture and environmental stewardship particularly ecological, social and economic implications of pesticide use; agrarian distress, bioremediation, biosecurity; and also initiation of programmes for the popularisation of science.

pkshetty17@gmail.com

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Prabhakar G Vaidya
PhD (Southampton, UK)
Professor

Dr Prabhakar Vaidya is currently a Professor of mathematical modelling. He got his BE from University of Bombay and MSc (Engg) and PhD (Acoustics) from the Institute of Sound and Vibrations Research, University of Southampton. He has worked at Lockheed, Boeing and NASA and taught at Purdue and Washington State University for many years before returning to India. His research publications range from Sonic Booms to Pathogenesis. His work at NIAS involves applications of advanced mathematics to diverse problems. Recent papers with this theme are in the areas of chaotic synchronisation and cryptography, speaker identification, advanced image processing and cardio-physics.

joined NIAS on 8th July 1999

most significant research contribution

Breaking of a method in cryptography based on chaotic synchronization, multiplexing of several chaotic signals, formulation of chaotons which simulate certain quantum behaviour, explanation of how R-R variability leads to synchronisation of cardiac cells.

pgvaidya@nias.iisc.ernet.in

pgvaidya@yahoo.com



Anindya Sinha
PhD (TIFR, Mumbai)
Professor

Dr Anindya Sinha's wide-ranging research interests are in the areas of behavioural ecology and cognitive psychology of primates, animal molecular genetics, evolutionary biology, conservation biology and the philosophy of biology. He has a master's degree in botany, a doctorate in molecular biology, and has earlier worked on the biochemical genetics of yeast, the social biology of wasps, and the classical genetics of human disease. He is also interested in biology education and popularisation of science, and has lectured extensively in a variety of educational and research institutions.

joined NIAS on 15th November 1996

most significant research contribution

Was responsible for the discovery of a new species of primate, the Arunachal macaque, in northeastern India although principal contributions have been in understanding the structure and evolution of the primate mind.

asinha@nias.iisc.ernet.in
anindyanasinha@yahoo.com



Sindhu Radhakrishna
PhD (Mysore University)
Fellow

Dr Sindhu Radhakrishna holds a master's degree in psychology and a doctorate in animal behaviour. Her research interests are in the fields of primatology, behavioral ecology and conservation biology, and her work has focused on gaining a better understanding of social behaviour and communication in nocturnal primates. She was awarded the INSA Young Scientist's Award in recognition of the significance of her doctoral research on the behavioural ecology of the Slender loris, a nocturnal primate found in southern India.

joined NIAS on 1st September 2002

most significant research contribution

Study on non-human primates contributing to significant understanding of human sociality.

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loris_sr@yahoo.com



K Ramachandra
PhD (Bombay University)
Visiting Professor

Dr Ramachandra is a mathematician interested in the analytical theory of numbers. He has done extensive research relating to the works of renowned mathematicians such as S Ramanujan, GH Hardy and IM Vinogradov. He was Professor at TIFR Bombay till 1996. His lectures on the 'Mean Value and Omega Theorems for the Riemann Zeta-function' was published by Springer-Verlag in 1995. He was elected as the President of the Calcutta Mathematical Society for the term 2006-2009. Recently he has published a book on *Theory of Numbers* by Narosa Publications.

joined NIAS on 1st September 1996

most significant research contribution

Significant study of some difficult aspects of the Riemann's zeta function. Study of the simple zeros of $(\zeta(s)-a)(\zeta(s)-b)$. Where a and b are unequal and none equal to 1, $s = \sigma + it$. The gaps between simple zeros with imaginary part between x and $2x$ are less than a constant times $\log \log x$.

kram@math.tifrbng.res.in

Doctoral Students



Nithin Nagaraj

Nithin's research areas are non-linear dynamics, chaos theory and its applications, which he is currently applying to the fields of information and coding theory and cryptography.

Nithin has bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering. Nithin has earlier worked at GE Global Research, Bangalore.

nithin_nagaraj@yahoo.com



Kishor G Bhat

Kishor works in analytic theory of numbers with a focus on prime number theory, dynamical systems with a focus on chaos theory, and mathematical modeling of various social, ecological, and physical systems using ideas from topology, acoustics and dynamical systems.

Kishor has a bachelor's degree in mathematics and master's in mathematics & scientific computing.

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Swarnali Majumdar

Swarnali's area of research is non-linear signal processing. She is working on the problem of non-linear system identification. In particular she focuses on time series analysis, specifically on ECG and speech signals.

Swarnali has a master's degree in mathematics.

swarno_r@yahoo.co.in



PS Sajini Anand

Sajini's broad area of research is applications of chaos theory to engineering and biology. Currently she is interested in cryptanalysis using nonlinear methods. She is also working on non-linear data compression methods which could find applications in medicine (compression and modeling of multidimensional EEG/ECG signals).

Sajini has a master's degree in electronic science.

sajini@nias.iisc.ernet.in

sachoo@gmail.com



KG Sreeja

Sreeja's research area is agroecology wherein her specific interest lies in understanding the linkages between agriculture and its relationship with land and other resources which shape the landscape and agroecology of a river basin.

Sreeja has a master's degree in agriculture.

kg.sreeja@gmail.com



Narayan Sharma

Narayan's research areas are community ecology and conservation of northeastern primates, effect of fragmentation on the primate diversity in the upper Brahmaputra valley, Assam, and a historical account of landscape change in the upper Brahmaputra valley.

Narayan has a master's degree in zoology.

narayansharma77@yahoo.com

narayansharma77@gmail.com



Rishi Kumar

Rishi studies the distribution of Rhesus and Bonnet macaques across India, and their social behavioural dynamics within mixed species troops.

Rishi has a master's degree in environmental science.

rishi_primate@yahoo.co.in



Mayukh Chatterjee

Mayukh studies the social behavioural dynamics in a population of Bonnet macaques (*Macaca radiata radiata*) with respect to their changing ecological regimes, in Bandipur National Park in Karnataka.

Mayukh has bachelor's and master's degree in anthropology. For master's he specialised in primatology.

mayukhc2005@gmail.com



Robin Vijayan

Robin studies a threatened, endemic bird, the White-bellied Shortwing in the Western Ghats. He studies their population biology and their response to habitat disturbance and forest patch size. He is also examining possible isolation between populations of geographically separated populations of this species using genetics and bird song.

Robin has a bachelor's degree in zoology and master's in ecology. Earlier he worked as Visiting Research Scholar at Centre for Ecological Sciences.

robinvijayan@yahoo.com



Muthuswamy Murugan

Murugan's broad area of research is agroecology of spices and plantation crops in tropical and subtropical high altitude mountain regions. The specific area of his doctoral research is the 'Investigation on the impact of plant protection and production chemicals and recent climate change in the cardamom hills on the productivity of small cardamom and sustainability of ecosystem'.

Murugan has a bachelor's degree in horticulture, and master's in agriculture. He is Assistant Professor at Cardamom Research Station, Kerala Agriculture University and presently on study leave.

muthupeyan@yahoo.co.in

School of Social Sciences



AR Vasavi
PhD (Michigan State, USA)
Professor and Dean

Dr AR Vasavi has a doctorate in social anthropology from Michigan State University. Her academic interests are in social anthropology of India, agrarian studies, and sociology of education. She taught at Tufts University, Indian Institute of Management (Kozhikode) and at several other institutions in India. She has conducted field research in various parts of India and has published a book, *Harbingers of Rain: Land and Life in South India*. Since 2002, she has been coordinating the District Quality Education Project, which seeks to enhance the quality of elementary education in Chamarajnagar district.

joined NIAS on 1st May 1997

most significant research contribution

Identified and presented the onset of the 'agrarian distress' in 1999 and continues to work on the issue.

arvasavi@gmail.com



Dilip Ahuja
PhD (Virginia, USA)
Professor

Dr Dilip Ahuja is the ISRO Professor of Science and Technology Policy. In 2007 he is on a sabbatical at the UN Foundation in Washington, DC as a Senior Policy Advisor to the Global Leadership for Climate Action. He has been a Special Advisor to the Inter Academy Council's recently concluded study titled 'Lighting the Way: Toward a Sustainable Energy Future'. He has contributed to several reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Prior to joining NIAS, he was a Senior Environmental Specialist at the Global Environment Facility Secretariat. He obtained his doctorate from the University of Virginia at Charlottesville and his Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.

joined NIAS on 13th December 1999

most significant research contribution

Proposed with his collaborators, most recently, advancing Indian Standard Time by half an hour. A recent publication estimates the energy savings and other benefits to be obtained from such a shift.

dahuja@nias.iisc.ernet.in

drahuja@gmail.com



Narendar Pani
PhD (ISEC, Bangalore)
Professor

Dr Narendar Pani is an economist by training, he has, over the last thirty years, written extensively on a variety of subjects. He is the author of *Inclusive Economics: Gandhian Method and Contemporary Policy*, *Redefining Conservatism: An Essay on the Bias of India's Economic Reform*, and *Reforms to Pre-empt Change: Land Legislation in Karnataka*. He has published a number of academic articles in India and abroad. He is also the author of an explainer on the WTO, two novels, a booklet on theatre and several hundred articles on the editorial pages of newspapers.

joined NIAS on 9th April 2007

most significant research contribution

Reformulated the Gandhian method to make it an effective tool to understand contemporary policy making.



N Shantha Mohan
PhD (ISEC, Bangalore)
Professor

Dr Shantha Mohan is an educationist with specialisation in the area of economics of education. Over the past twenty-five years she has been engaged in conducting research from a gender perspective on issues related to governance, violence against women, water and literacy. Her interests also include developing new methodologies and models for intervention and policy advocacy. She has been the recipient of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Women in Development Fellowship and The National Council for Research on Women Award, USA. She has published several books, articles and papers. She has coordinated the baseline study on 'Women and Political Participation in India' to facilitate the Fulfillment of State Obligation to Women's Equality

joined NIAS on 3rd November 1997

most significant research contribution

Evolved parameters for engendering governance in Panchayati Raj institutions in Karnataka.

shantham@nias.iisc.ernet.in



BK Anitha
PhD (ISEC, Bangalore)
Fellow

Dr Anitha is a science graduate and moved on to specialise in the field of education. Her thesis was published as a book, *Village, Caste and Education* (2000). She coauthored the book *Status of Rural Women in Karnataka* (1998, reprinted 2006). Her research interests span the broad disciplines of education and gender. During the past decade she has been engaged in both field based research and theoretical analysis on issues related to quality of education, academic leadership, innovations in higher education, gender, and science and technology institutions. She has also extensively worked in the area of quality of primary education with specific focus on classroom processes and school community relationship. Dr Anitha's expertise in the area of gender covers a wide spectrum, from examining conceptual and methodological strands of gender relations to political participation and decentralised governance as well as understanding violence against women in rural contexts.

joined NIAS on 2nd January 1995

most significant research contribution

Contributed to the understanding of women's status adopting the framework of access to and control over resources.

anibk@nias.iisc.ernet.in

anitha_ashok2002@yahoo.com



Carol Upadhyia
PhD (Yale University, USA)
Fellow

Dr Carol Upadhyia is a social anthropologist and her current research interests focus on contemporary Indian society and culture, globalisation, economic anthropology, the history of anthropology and sociology in India, and anthropological theory, topics on which she has published several articles. She has taught at SNDT Women's University in Mumbai. She is co-editor of two volumes, *Small Business Entrepreneurs in Asia and Europe* (with Mario Rutten) and *In An Outpost of the Global Economy: Work and Workers in India's Information Technology Industry* (with AR Vasavi, forthcoming in 2008).

joined NIAS on 1st September 2003

most significant research contribution

Contributed new theoretical insights and ethnographic data to the anthropology of globalisation through research on Bangalore's software industry.

carol.upadhyia@gmail.com

carol@nias.iisc.ernet.in



SS Meenakshisundaram
PhD (JMINU, New Delhi)
Visiting Professor

Dr SS Meenakshisundaram is a Post Graduate in Mathematics from Loyola College, Madras and holds a PhD in Development Economics from Jamia Milia Islamia National University, New Delhi. He joined the Karnataka cadre of the Indian Administrative Service in 1968. During his career he held a number of assignments including Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department when Karnataka launched its new system of panchayatiraj institutions. He was a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, United Kingdom for one year. Besides several articles and papers on Panchayatiraj and Rural Development, he has also published a book on *Decentralisation in Developing Countries* with special reference to Nigeria, China and India during 1994. After working as Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister of Karnataka and Joint Secretary to three Prime Ministers of India, he also served as Adviser in the Planning Commission and Secretary in the ministry of Rural Development. He is currently the Executive Vice Chairman of MYRADA, a voluntary organisation specialising in the field of building people's institutions for development. His research interests include rural development, poverty alleviation, voluntary action and decentralised governance.

joined NIAS on 10th December 2004

most significant research contribution

Evolved a process of decentralised planning for the official delivery of services through panchayat with people's participation.

ssms@nias.iisc.ernet.in
meenakshi542003@yahoo.com

Doctoral Students



Indira Vijayasimha

Indira works in the area of science education in schools, specifically looking at how teachers constitute their work. She hopes that an understanding of the culture of science teaching will help in the development of better science education programs in schools.

Indira has a bachelor's degree in education and master's in physics.

indira502@hotmail.com



Sahana Udupa

Sahana's research area is media sociology. She is engaged in a sociological study of the transformation of the news media in Bangalore in the context of the information revolution and globalisation.

Sahana has a master's degree in journalism & mass communication.

sahana@nias.iisc.ernet.in



Sailen Routray

The broader area of Sailen's research is in the field of sociology of development. In his doctoral work he is trying to unravel the disjunctions between development discourse and development practice in the context of water and agriculture in Western Orissa.

Sailen has a bachelor's degree in english literature, and master's in social work (community development).

sailenroutray@gmail.com



Rahul Mukhopadhyay

Rahul's research work centres around the complexities of the everyday functioning of bureaucracies with a particular focus on the educational bureaucracy in the state of Karnataka.

Rahul has a post-graduate diploma in management equivalent to master's degree in business administration.

rmukho123@rediffmail.com



Anu Joy

Anu's area of research is cognitive development and its implications in the field of science education. Her research focuses on understanding how scientific concepts develop and change in middle and high school children.

Anu has a master's degree in physics.

anu@nias.iisc.ernet.in



Leena Pascal

Leena's area of research is pictorial representation in children. Her study is an attempt to understand the evolution and growth of signs and symbols in children with the objective of documenting children's own understanding and conception of the drawing process.

Leena has a master's degree in psychology, and diploma in urban poverty reduction from Rotterdam.

jpleenapascal@yahoo.co.in



Sowjanya Peddi

Sowjanya's disciplinary background is in economics, but at NIAS she is interested in studying contemporary economic and development problems from an anthropological perspective.

Sowjanya has a master's degree in economics, and MPhil in applied economics.

sowjanya.nias@gmail.com



Jafar K

Jafar's research interest is in development issues in the Indian economy. He has special interest in globalisation and intellectual property rights issues.

Jafar has bachelor's and master's degree in economics. He has earlier worked at Centre for Development Studies, Tiruvananthapuram.

jafkizha@gmail.com



International Strategic & Security Studies Programme



S Chandrashekar
BTech (IIT, Madras),
PGDM (IIM, Calcutta)
JRD Tata Visiting Professor

Prof S Chandrashekar is currently a Professor in the Corporate Strategy and Policy Area at the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB). Prior to his joining IIMB he spent more than 20 years working at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). His work at ISRO covered all parts of the programme - satellite, rockets as well as the applications of space technology especially remote sensing. He was also involved with activities related to international co-operation and has represented and led Indian delegations to the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. His research interests at IIMB include technology and competitive advantage, national technology priorities and national technology policy, studies on innovation, telecommunications in the Indian context, national innovation systems, modelling complex systems and national security issues. His recent work as a part of the International Strategic & Security Studies Programme at NIAS includes an assessment of the Pakistani and Chinese Ballistic Missile Capabilities as well as a series of public briefs along with the members of the International Strategic & Security Studies Programme on various dimensions of the Indo-US Nuclear Deal.

joined NIAS on 2nd July 2004

most significant research contribution

Analysis of technical and organisational aspects of China's missile capability; assessment of Pakistan missiles; and assessing the Indo-US Civil nuclear deal.

schandra@nias.iisc.ernet.in

schandra@iimb.ernet.in



Rajaram Nagappa
BSc DMIT (MIT, Chennai)
Visiting Professor

Prof Rajaram Nagappa has specialised in aerospace propulsion and has worked extensively in the design and development of solid propellant rockets. His interests are in missile technology and space weaponisation. He has served in the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, ISRO as its Associate Director, and later was Pandalai Memorial Chair Professor at Anna University, Chennai. He has also taught at Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Israel. He is a recipient of the Astronautical Society of India Award, Distinguished Alumnus Award of the Madras Institute of Technology, DRDO's Agni Award for Excellence in Self Reliance, Certificate of Appreciation of the International Astronautical Federation and the Honorary Fellowship of the High Energy Materials Society of India. He is currently engaged in the study of missile capabilities in the neighbouring countries having bearing on the strategic and security concerns of India.

joined NIAS on 1st February 2007

most significant research contribution

Analysis of Pakistan's ballistic missile production capacity.



Other Faculty members of NIAS include

Professor Emeritus

Roddam Narasimha

Honorary Professors

N Balakrishnan

Vijay Chandru

DP Sen Gupta

Malavika Kapur

Arcot Ramachandran

S Balachandra Rao

BV Subbarayappa

Lt Gen VJ Sundaram (Retd)



Discussion over a cup of tea...



A snapshot from the District Quality Education Project

Observing a macaque in the field...



Still from *Coding Culture* film series made as part of NIAS-IDPAD project, 'Indian IT Professionals in India and Europe: Work, Culture and Transnationalism'.



NIAS COURSES

NIAS conducts several residential courses every year. Their multidisciplinary character and an integrated approach to knowledge and information distinguish these courses. The faculty for these courses include faculty from NIAS and researchers, scholars, leaders and policy makers from different parts of the country and occasionally from outside the country as well.

Course for Senior Executives

This residential annual one-week course is conducted in the month of January for executives in senior positions from the public and private sectors and from the national science and technology agencies. This flagship course of NIAS in recent years has been focusing on 'Excellence in Leadership' in order to respond to the challenges of decision-making and leadership from a lateral and multidisciplinary point of view. The modules for the course offer an understanding of a wide variety of issues such as governance, management and Indian culture, and are intended to provide the broad overview that leaders of

tomorrow will need to possess. The faculty for the course includes well-known public figures, eminent scientists and technologists, academicians and veteran administrators. The participants get to interact with some of the most important leaders and decision makers in the country.



Sangeetha Menon is the Course Coordinator

Course for University and College Teachers

University and College Teachers Course on 'An Integrated Approach to Knowledge and Information' is aimed at teachers from different disciplines, with the idea of exposing them to new advances in various fields of knowledge. This course is for three weeks and is organised in collaboration with the University Grants Commission, New Delhi and the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore.



Anitha BK and Anindya Sinha are the Course Coordinators



20th NIAS Course for Senior Executives on *Excellence in Leadership*, January 2006



5th NIAS - DST Training Programme on *Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Science and Technology*, August 2007

Courses sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India

Three courses are being conducted for senior scientist-administrators from the country with the specific purpose of broadening their horizons and planning skills.

i. The two week course on Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Science and Technology covers a wide range of topics related to social, economic, political, scientific and technological issues. The fifth edition has been conducted in August 2007 with Dr MG Narasimhan and Dr Sharada Srinivasan as coordinators.

ii. The one week course on Dimensions of Nano-technology: Science, Technology, Business and Society covers a wide range of topics on nanoscience and nano-materials. The third edition was conducted in September 2007 with Prof S Ranganathan and Dr RV Krishnan as coordinators.

iii. The one week course on Energy Security and Management focuses on the energy scenario, including different sources of energy, transmission and distribution, energy efficiency, and power reforms and their implications and management. The course is a new addition to the suite of programmes at NIAS. The first edition is due to be held in December 2007 with Prof DP Sengupta and Dr MG Narasimhan as coordinators.



S Ranganathan is the Programme Coordinator



NIAS OUTREACH EVENTS

NIAS has emerged as a key public policy forum in India contributing to an informed national debate, and providing advice and consultancy on critical national issues. A wide spectrum of events is held, ranging from major international meetings to informal discussion groups. In the past, NIAS has been a venue for many public lectures, conferences, seminars, symposiums and workshops that are organised independently by the Institute or conjointly with other institutions. The areas cover topical areas of research in the institute and issues of social and national importance. These forums are open to students and citizens of Bangalore.

Wednesday Discussion Meetings

NIAS Wednesday Discussion Meetings are among the outreach events that have continued since the inception of the Institute. The faculty of the Institute meets every Wednesday morning for academic discussions after a lecture usually delivered by one of its members. These Wednesday meetings also serve as a forum for invited guest speakers to deliver lectures on subjects of their choice.

Sangeetha Menon is the Co-ordinator of Wednesday Discussion Meetings.



NIAS Literary, Arts and Heritage Forum

NIAS Literary, Art and Heritage Forum aims to facilitate the appreciation, promotion and study of crucial cultural and artistic aspects. Apart from lectures and book readings, the Forum aims to hold screenings of films and to promote art appreciation related to exhibitions. Earlier events include a lecture by eminent writer and former IAS officer Achala Moulik-Moses, screening of the historical documentary film 'Curse of Talakad' by Sashi Sivaraman, a talk coinciding with the exhibition on the Indian miniatures of the Fontaine Fables at the Alliance Francaise, Bangalore, by Dr Jean-Marie Lafont, and a reading of translations of Sindhi Sufi poetry by Anju Makhija. The Forum held its first seminar in November 2007, sponsored by Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, entitled 'Sangam: Interactions of Poetry and Theatre'.

Sharada Srinivasan, Sangeetha Menon and Leena Pascal are the Co-ordinators of NIAS Literary, Art and Heritage Forum.

Associates' Programmes

NIAS Associates include distinguished persons from widely different backgrounds in industry, government, media, the arts and academia. The Associates constitute a strong base of ongoing support and interaction. NIAS organises regular Associates meetings, which include lectures, plays, and performing arts events.

Since the inception of this Institute, NIAS has organised about 150 Associates' Programmes. These include talks by Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, MC; Sri Gilles Bibeau, University of Montreal, Canada; Sri Soli J Sorabjee, Former Attorney General of India; Prof Senake Bandaranayake, the Former Sri Lankan High Commissioner to India, New Delhi; Prof EC George Sudarshan, University of Texas; USA; Sir David King, Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK Government; Gen S Roychowdhury, Former Chief of Army Staff; Dr Kiran Bedi, IPS; Prof Evandro Agazzi, University of Genoa, Italy; Ambassador Dennis Kux, USA, Dr Hilary Putnam, Harvard University, USA; and others. Some of the important performing arts and plays included a violin recital by Dr N Rajam, a veena duet by Dr V Doreswamy Iyengar and Sri D Balakrishna, a Hindustani classical music recital on the Rudra Veena by Ustad Bahauddin Dagar, a cello-sitar concert by Ms Saskia de Hass (Dutch cellist) and Sri Subhedra Rao (Indian Sitarist), a showing of the film Gajagamini followed by a talk by Sri MF Hussain, and a play, Copenhagen, by Sri Gerard Bayle and his team.

PK Shetty is the Coordinator of the Associates' Programme.

Meetings on Frontiers in Science & Technology

NIAS organises regular discussion meeting, workshops and seminars on Frontiers in Science & Technology and also many other issues of national importance. Leading policy makers, experts, young researchers and other stakeholders participate in this programme. Several important institutions are providing technical support to organise these meetings, including the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai,

Advanced Research Institute, Bangalore, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, Bangalore University and also many other government and non-governmental organisations.

PK Shetty is the Co-ordinator of these meetings.

NIAS Annual Memorial Lecture Series

NIAS organises three annual memorial lectures: the Dr Raja Ramanna Memorial Lecture, the Dr MN Srinivas Memorial Lecture and the Sri Mohandas Moses Memorial Lecture. Another series of memorial lectures are the JRD Tata Memorial Lectures. Eminent speakers for these lectures in the past included Sri Shyam Saran, Dr Gopalakrishna Gandhi, Dr CV Sundaram, Sri NN Vohra, Prof T Scarlett Epstein.





NIAS LIBRARY

The main objective of NIAS library has been to develop a well balanced collection of books across disciplines in which our faculty are actively engaged in research. The collection is liberal in scope but selective in titles with an emphasis on acquisitions relevant to interdisciplinary research, the doctoral programme as well as courses conducted by the Institute. Over the years, the collection has also been enriched by donations of valuable books and journals from several scholars. The collection today stands at 9350 books, 1330 back volumes of journals, 50 current

subscriptions to journals, 150 CDs and DVDs and 1200 audio tapes. The facilities of the library include six terminals using thin client technology for browsing with high speed internet connection and provision to connect laptops on all reading tables. The library uses Libsys software for housekeeping operations. An institutional repository of publications of the faculty has been developed using Eprints software. The library proposes to develop a digital library of lectures delivered at NIAS. Smt Vijayalakshmi is the Library Assistant.



Hamsa Kalyani
(MLISc, Bangalore)
Asst Librarian

Ms Kalyani has completed a course on Information Technology Applications at the National Centre for Science Information, IISc, Bangalore. She has been responsible for library management at NIAS since its inception. In addition to library collection development and automation, her responsibilities include designing, developing content and maintaining the website of NIAS. She has recently initiated an institutional repository of publications using Eprints software.

niaslib@nias.iisc.ernet.in
hamsakalyani@yahoo.co.in



ADMINISTRATION



EK Kutty
Head, Administration

Sri EK Kutty is a management analyst with a wide exposure in administration, more specifically of R & D organisations. After graduation in commerce and statistics and post-graduation (MBA) in human resource management, Sri Kutty joined ISRO and held various assignments in its Scientist/Engineer Cadre, including that of Director, Personnel Policy and Programme Management, and Director, Human Resource Development. Sri Kutty now heads the administration of NIAS.

admin@nias.iisc.ernet.in
ekkutty@gmail.com



VA Joseph
Office Manager

Capt VA Joseph (Retd) joined NIAS in 1992 after serving in the Army (Corps of Engineers) for 32 years. During his tenure in the Army he had a number of assignments including a tenure in the Indian Embassy in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia). In 1965 he was actively involved in Indo-Pak War and in 1971 he had taken part in the Bangladesh Liberation War. In appreciation of his meritorious service he was honoured by the President of India on 1st January 1992 and on 15th August 1992. His responsibility at NIAS includes the management of administration and finance.

manager@nias.iisc.ernet.in
vajose@hotmail.com



P Srinivasa Aithal
Accounts and
Administrative Officer

Sri Srinivasa Aithal joined NIAS in 1995. He has a master's degree in commerce from Karnataka University and a post graduate diploma in financial management from Pondicherry University. He has been overseeing the accounts of the Institute as well as its research projects.

accounts@nias.iisc.ernet.in
psraithal@hotmail.com

Administrative Staff

A Devaraju
KS Ramakrishna
V Girija

S Lalitha
C Shashidharan
Gayathri N Lokhande

AS Mary Stella
JN Sandhya
VB Mariyammal

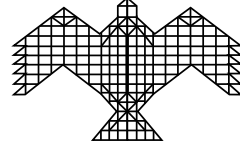
A LIST OF MEETINGS IN THE RECENT PAST

- ▶ Second Course on *System Operational Effectiveness: Systems Engineering and Profitability* (19 - 24 April 2004)
- ▶ Third Course on *Understanding Science: Introduction to History and Philosophy of Science* (14 - 25 June 2004)
- ▶ Meeting on the *Post-Graduate Programme in Education (Elementary)* (24 - 25 June 2004)
- ▶ Fifth Course for Senior IAS Officers (5 - 9 July 2004)
- ▶ Discussion Meeting on *Hydrogen-based Fuel Cell Power Generation Systems* (27 July 2004)
- ▶ Courses on Systems Engineering (31 July - 4 August and 16 - 20 August 2004)
- ▶ The Fifth Annual ISRO Course (5 - 11 September 2004)
- ▶ Workshop and Lecture by Dr Bhupendra Jasani on *Uses of Satellite Imagery for Various Security Related Studies* (11 - 15 October 2004)
- ▶ CIIS-NIAS Meeting on *Security Issues and Sino-Indian Relations* (15 November 2004)
- ▶ The First DST Course on *Multidisciplinary perspectives on Science and Technology* (15 - 27 November 2004)
- ▶ Consultation on *Employment Policies in the Information Technology (IT) and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) Sector* (3 December 2004)
- ▶ Presentation by Mr Masato Takaoka, Minister (Political), Embassy of Japan, New Delhi (14 December 2004)
- ▶ Nineteenth Senior Executives Course on *Excellence in Leadership* (23 - 29 January 2005)
- ▶ Co-operative Monitoring Centre, Sandia National Laboratories, USA and NIAS Lecture cum Exchange of Views (10 February 2005)
- ▶ Eighth UGC Course on *An Integrated Approach to Knowledge and Information* for University and College Teachers (10 February - 2 March 2005)
- ▶ Asian Dialogue Society - NIAS Meeting (12 February 2005)
- ▶ Meeting with Members of Parliament from Finland - Committee for the Future (26 February 2005)
- ▶ Meeting on *Bio-Security Issues* (21 April 2005)
- ▶ Meeting on *India - Taiwan Relationship* (18 May 2005)
- ▶ Seminar on *Sensors: Chemical and Biological Agents* (30 May 2005)
- ▶ One-Day Meeting on *Six Months After Tsunami* (16 June 2005)
- ▶ Workshop on *Space Inputs to Archaeology* (5 July 2005)
- ▶ The Second DST-NIAS Programme on *Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Science and Technology* held at NIAS and at Orange County Resort (24 July - 6 August 2005)
- ▶ International Conference on *New Global Workforces and Virtual Workplaces: Connections, Culture and Control* (12 - 13 August 2005)
- ▶ The Sixth Annual ISRO Course on *Indian Space Enterprise: Achieving Social Impact* (29 September to 5 October 2005)
- ▶ National Conference on *India's Competitiveness and Preparedness in Science and Technology for the Coming Decades* (Issues, Challenges and Strategies) (26 - 27 October 2005)
- ▶ The Third DST-NIAS Programme on *Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Science and Technology* (6 - 19 November 2005)
- ▶ India-Taiwan Dialogue (13 December 2005)

- ▶ The Ninth NIAS Course on *An Integrated Approach to Knowledge and Information* for University and College Teachers (28 December 2005 - 17 January 2006)
- ▶ Dissemination Workshop for NIAS-IDPAD research project on *IT/ITES Workforce* (21 January 2006)
- ▶ The Twentieth NIAS Course for Senior Executives on *Excellence in Leadership* (22 - 28 January 2006)
- ▶ Workshop on *Foundations of Sciences* (2 - 4 February 2006)
- ▶ National Conference on *Consciousness, Experience and Ways of Knowing: Perspectives from Science, Philosophy and the Arts* (6 - 7 February 2006)
- ▶ National Workshop on *Changing Contours of Indo-US Relations* (9 - 10 February 2006)
- ▶ Joint Indo-German Research Workshop on *Will Competition for Land and Water Hinder Energy Development in India?* (7 - 8 March 2006)
- ▶ Fourth International Tree Squirrel Colloquium and the First International Flying Squirrel Colloquia (22 - 29 March 2006)
- ▶ National Seminar on *Science, Technology and Society* (26 - 28 March 2006)
- ▶ The First DST-NIAS Workshop on *Dimensions of Nanotechnology: Science, Technology and Society* (26 June - 1 July 2006)
- ▶ Workshop on *Cognitive Science in India* (22 September 2006)
- ▶ The Sixth CISAC - NIAS Dialogue (25 - 26 September 2006)
- ▶ A State-Level Seminar on *Karnataka's Elementary Education System: Experiences, Achievement and Future Challenges* (6 - 7 October 2006)
- ▶ Workshop on *Perspectives and Future Prospects in Higher Mathematics* (25 - 26 October 2006)
- ▶ The Fourth DST-NIAS Programme on *Multi-disciplinary Perspectives on Science and Technology* (29 October - 11 November 2006)
- ▶ Discussion Meeting on *Setting up a National Agenda towards Biosecurity* (23 - 24 November 2006)
- ▶ The Tenth NIAS Course on *An Integrated Approach to Knowledge and Information* for University and College Teachers (6 - 26 December 2006)
- ▶ Encyclopaedia of Classical Indian Sciences (8 January 2007)
- ▶ The Twenty-First NIAS Course for Senior Executives (21 - 27 January 2007)
- ▶ The Second DST-NIAS Workshop on *Dimensions of Nanotechnology: Science, Technology, Business and Society* (19 - 24 March 2007)
- ▶ NIAS - CASUMM Workshop on *Water Challenges in Greater Bangalore* (27 March 2007)
- ▶ Summer School for College Students (4 - 22 June 2007)
- ▶ Fifth NIAS-DST Training Programme on *Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Science and Technology* (19 - 31 August 2007)
- ▶ Third NIAS-DST Workshop on *Dimensions of Nanotechnology: Science, Technology, Business and Society* (10 - 15 September 2007)
- ▶ First NIAS-DST Programme on *Energy Security and Management* (17 - 22 December 2007)
- ▶ Seminar on *Reconceptualising Indian Traditions* (26 April 2007)
- ▶ Consultation Meeting on UNU Diploma Programme for Water Professionals (25 April 2007)
- ▶ International Workshop on *Ego & Embodiment* (3 - 5 September 2007)
- ▶ Consultation on proposed Urban Studies programme (18 September 2007)
- ▶ Bangalore Space and Cultural Symposium (29 September - 1 October 2007)
- ▶ Seminar on *Sangam: Interactions of Poetry and Theatre* (25 - 26 October 2007)
- ▶ A Two Day National Consultation, *Towards Engaged Social Sciences* (29 - 30 October 2007).



NIAS EMBLEM



The NIAS emblem can be traced back to a remarkable Sanskrit work called the Sulva-sutras. Sulva-sutras are one of the four Kalpa-sutra texts concerned chiefly with Vedic ritual and display a deep knowledge of geometry from pre-Euclidean times. Scholars are not agreed on the precise date of the Sutras, but the text clearly pre-dates Panini and must have been composed before the 6th century B.C. The NIAS emblem displays an arrangement of bricks in the first layer of an altar called 'śyēna-cita'. The altar has the shape of an eagle or falcon and is described in the eleventh chapter of the Baudayana text.

The śyēna-cita represents imagination that inspires great mathematics and engineering – an apt symbol for the National Institute of Advanced Studies.

(Extracted from R Narasimha, *About the NIAS Emblem*, National Institute of Advanced Studies)

The NIAS Logo was designed by the renowned sculptor Sri Balan Nambiar.

Pictures Courtesy

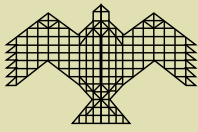
AS Shiv Kumar, Mayukh Chatterjee, KS Ramakrishna, Sangeetha Menon & NIAS Photo Archive

Design Concept

Sangeetha Menon & Aditi Enterprises

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