



North American Manipur Association

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Request for Applications (RFA)

Dr. A. Surjalal Sharma Memorial Grant for PhD Candidates

Issued by:

North American Manipur Association (NAMA)

Overview

The North American Manipur Association (NAMA) is pleased to announce the *Dr. A Surjalal Sharma Memorial Grant*, established to support exceptional PhD candidates in the field of physics and other science, social science or humanities disciplines at universities within Manipur. This grant is a one-time award that honors the memory of late Dr. A. Surjalal Sharma, a renowned Manipuri astro-physicist and esteemed mentor for young scientists from Manipur. The grant aims to encourage innovative research and academic excellence among young Manipuri physicists and researchers in other disciplines.

Purpose

The purpose of this grant is to provide financial support to PhD candidates in Manipur who demonstrate outstanding academic potential and a commitment to advancing the field of physics or other disciplines. The grant will assist in covering research expenses, conference participation, and other academic activities, as needed.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the Dr. A. Surjalal Sharma Memorial Grant:

- Must be currently enrolled as a PhD candidate in the Department of Physics or in another science, social science, or humanities department at a university within Manipur.
- Must have completed all coursework requirements and be in good academic standing.
- Must demonstrate a strong commitment to research in their field.
- Must provide evidence of significant academic achievements and potential for future contributions to the field.



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Grant Details

- **Grant Amount:** INR 50,000.
- **Number of Grants:** 1 in the field of Physics AND 1 in any other field of science, social science or humanity.
- **Grant Period:** One time, one year.
- **Report:** A brief report of the research progress and/or fund utilization within 3 months of the ending period.

Application Process

Applicants are required to submit the following documents as part of their application:

1. **Application Form:** Complete the attached application form.
2. **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** Provide a detailed CV highlighting academic achievements, research experience, and publications, if any.
3. **Research Proposal:** Submit a research proposal (maximum 4 pages) outlining the research objectives and hypotheses, significance, methodology (research design, approach and data) expected outcome, and potential impact of the research.
4. **Recommendation Letters:** Provide two letters of recommendation from faculty members or academic advisors familiar with the applicant's work.
5. **Personal Statement:** Submit a personal statement (maximum 2 pages) describing the applicant's academic and research interests, career goals, and how the grant will support their research endeavors.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Academic excellence and research potential.
- Quality, originality and significance of the research proposal.
- Feasibility and clarity of the proposed research plan.
- Letters of recommendation.
- Potential impact of the research on the academic community and society.

Selection of awardee is at the sole discretion of NAMA. No request for review will be entertained.



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Submission Guidelines

Applications must be submitted by **October 15, 2024**. Late applications will not be considered. Submit all application materials electronically to NAMAGroups@gmail.com with the subject line "Dr. A. Surjalal Sharma Memorial Grant Application".

Award Notification

The successful applicant will be notified by **December 1, 2024**. The grant funds will be disbursed shortly thereafter.

Contact Information

For any inquiries regarding the application process or eligibility criteria, please contact:

Dr. Lalit Pukhrambam
Chair of the Board of Trustees
North American Manipur Association
NAMAGroups@gmail.com

Important Dates

- **Application Deadline:** October 15, 2024
- **Award Notification:** December 1, 2024
- **Grant Period Start Date:** January 1, 2025

This RFA is issued by the North American Manipur Association (NAMA) to honor the memory of Dr. A. Surjalal Sharma by supporting the next generation of physicists and scientists from Manipur in their academic and research endeavors. As a founding member of NAMA, its past President, and Chair of Board of Trustees, Dr. A. Surjalal Sharma played a pivotal role in nurturing Manipuri heritage in North America and supporting educational and humanitarian causes in Manipur.

We look forward to receiving your applications and advancing the field of research by Manipuris to honor the legacy of Dr. A. Surjalal Sharma.



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About NAMA

NAMA is a non-political and secular organization dedicated to fostering and promoting the social, cultural, and educational heritages of the people of Manipur in North America. NAMA has worked for more than 30 years to defend any just cause affecting Manipur and its people irrespective of community and origin.

We can be reached at our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/nama.manipur> and by email at namagroups@gmail.com.

Signed

Thoihen Heisnam

Dr. Thoihen Heisnam

President, NAMA

July 31, 2024