



**NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY DELHI
CENTRE ON THE DEATH PENALTY**

**MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH PROJECT
CALL FOR INTERNS (MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND TRAINEES)**

March 21, 2017

The National Law University Delhi ('University') is seeking to engage interns to work with the Centre on the Death Penalty on a research project examining the mental health status of prisoners under the sentence of death in India.

About the Centre: The Centre is established under the aegis of the National Law University Delhi and was set up in August, 2014 to undertake litigation, research and engage with stakeholders on issues related to the death penalty. The aim of the research we undertake is to generate information, through empirical and doctrinal studies, on issues affecting prisoners sentenced to death in India, analyse the developing jurisprudence on the death penalty in India and other jurisdictions, and undertake comparative research to add to the current understanding and debate around the death penalty.

The Mental Health Research Project: The Centre, in collaboration with two professors of Psychiatry, Dr. Pratima Murthy, and Dr. Sanjeev Jain and an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology, Dr. Gitanjali Narayanan at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore (NIMHANS) seeks to inquire into the mental health status of prisoners sentenced to death in India. The study has an empirical as well as a descriptive component to it. Under the Project prisoners sentenced to death in India, who are at different stages of the judicial process, will be interviewed. As part of the Project, mental health professionals and researchers from the Centre will conduct interviews with prisoners sentenced to death as well as their families. At the conclusion of the Project, a report will be published with an analysis of the findings and observations. The Project will require travelling to different prisons to interview prisoners sentenced to death and to different parts of the country to interview families of the prisoners. This Project seeks to build on the Death Penalty India Report (May 2016) that mapped the socio-economic profiles of India's death row prisoners and their interaction with the criminal justice system.

The Centre seeks to engage mental health professionals/trainees under three distinct internship

categories mentioned below. Interested candidates may apply to only one of the categories.

Category A

Qualifications:

- a. Ph.D. or M.Phil. degree in Clinical Psychology; or Ph.D. or M.Phil. degree in Psychiatric Social Work; or Ph.D. or M.Phil. degree in Counselling Psychology; or
- b. Prior experience of conducting Mental Status Examination (MSE)/ Clinical Interviews/ Case Histories is essential;
- c. Prior experience of conducting qualitative research is essential;
- d. Familiarity with data analysis software (Atlas-ti/ N-vivo/SPSS) would be an advantage;
- e. Knowledge of the prison system or work with prisoners would be an advantage;
- f. Fluency in Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada or Bengali would be considered an asset.

Responsibilities:

- a. Conduct in-depth qualitative interviews with the prisoners sentenced to death to assess their mental health statuses.
- b. Conduct in-depth qualitative interviews with the families of prisoners sentenced to death.
- c. Track/locate families of these prisoners if required.
- d. Contribute in collating and analysing findings of the interviews.
- e. Engage with the department of prisons and prison officials in various states.
- f. Engage and coordinate with functionaries in the central and state governments.
- g. Any other work that may be necessary to further the aims of the Centre

Compensation: The stipend will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will be in the range of Rs. 35, 000 – 40,000 per month. The Centre will incur all travel related costs separately.

Category B

Qualifications:

- a. M.A. in Clinical Psychology; or M.A. in Psychiatric Social Work; or M.A. in Counselling Psychology; or Prior work experience in mental health setups would be desirable;
- b. Prior experience of conducting Mental Status Examination (MSE)/ Clinical Interviews/ Case Histories would be desirable;
- c. Prior experience of conducting qualitative research would be desirable;
- d. Familiarity with data analysis software (Atlas-ti/ N-vivo/SPSS) would be an advantage;
- e. Knowledge of the prison system or work with prisoners would be an advantage;
- f. Fluency in Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada or Bengali would be considered an asset.

Responsibilities:

- a. Conduct in-depth qualitative interviews with the prisoners sentenced to death to assess their mental health statuses.

- b. Conduct in-depth qualitative interviews with the families of prisoners sentenced to death.
- c. Track/locate families of these prisoners if required.
- d. Contribute in collating and analysing findings of the interviews.
- e. Engage with the department of prisons and prison officials in various states.
- f. Engage and coordinate with functionaries in the central and state governments.
- g. Any other work that may be necessary to further the aims of the Centre.

Compensation: The stipend will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will be in the range of Rs. 15, 000 – 20,000 per month. The Centre will incur all travel related costs separately.

Category C

Qualifications:

- a. B.A. in Psychology; or
- b. B.A. in Psychiatric Social Work
- c. Prior work experience in mental health organizations would be an advantage;
- d. Prior knowledge of conducting Mental Status Examination (MSE), clinical interviews and case histories would be an advantage;
- e. Knowledge of the prison system or work with prisoners would be an advantage;
- f. Fluency in Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada or Bengali would be considered an asset.

Responsibilities:

- a. Be part of in-depth qualitative interviews with the prisoners sentenced to death to assess their mental health statuses.
- b. Be part of in-depth qualitative interviews with the families of prisoners sentenced to death.
- c. Take down notes during the interviews.
- d. Contribute in collating and analysing findings of the interviews.
- e. Engage with the department of prisons and prison officials in various states.
- f. Engage and coordinate with functionaries in the central and state governments.
- g. Any other work that may be necessary to further the aims of the Centre.

Compensation: The stipend will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will be 10, 000 per month. The Centre will incur all travel related costs separately.

Application Process: Interested persons may send their resume and a Statement of Purpose of not more than 500 words, explaining their interest in the Mental Health Research Project, and how they intend to contribute to the Project, to Pankhuri Aggarwal on pankhuri.aggarwal@nludelhi.ac.in and Pankhuri Bhatia on pankhuri.bhatia@nludelhi.ac.in with a copy marked to deathpenalty@nludelhi.ac.in. The subject of the e-mail should be “***Application for Internship- Mental Health Project - [Category A/B/C]***”. Applicants must clearly state whether they are applying to a Category A, Category B or Category C internship.

Deadline: The call is on a rolling basis and the interview dates will be informed to the shortlisted candidates by email.

Note:

1. The University reserves the right to conduct interviews and not fill these internship positions.
2. The University will be unable to cover the costs of attending the interview but the possibility of telephonic/video interview can be explored.
3. The Centre works on behalf of all prisoners sentenced to death, regardless of the offence involved.
4. These internship positions in this call are supported by a grant from the European Union and the Oak Foundation.
5. The National Law University Delhi is an equal opportunity employer.