



NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, DELHI

CENTRE ON THE DEATH PENALTY

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

1st June 2016

The National Law University, Delhi ('University') is seeking to engage **two (2) Associates (Research)** to work with the Centre on the Death Penalty ('Centre'), on a project on the mental health status of prisoners sentenced to 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 objective of our litigation efforts is to ensure quality legal representation to prisoners sentenced to death in India and engage in strategic litigation challenging procedural and substantive aspects of the death penalty in India. 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. Through our outreach programs, we engage with various stakeholders and the general public to inform them about the issues concerning the death penalty in India and the interaction of prisoners sentenced to death with the criminal justice system.

Currently, the Centre has nine (9) full-time Research Associates in litigation, research and public affairs roles, in addition to the Director of the Centre and three (3) administrative staff.

The Mental Health Project: The Centre, in collaboration with two (2) senior psychiatrists and a psychologist at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS, Bangalore), seeks to inquire into the mental health status of prisoners sentenced to death in India. The study has both an empirical as well as a descriptive component to it. Under the project prisoners sentenced to death across 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 the prisoners as well as their families, provided they consent to be part of the project. 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 cities and villages to conduct interviews with families of prisoners.

**Responsibilities:**

- A. Develop and implement the framework and roadmap for the project.
- B. Conduct face to face interviews with prisoners sentenced to death to assess their mental health status.
- C. Conduct face to face interviews with families of prisoners sentenced to death.
- D. Engage with the Department of Prisons and prison officials in various States.
- E. Engage and coordinate with functionaries in the central and state governments.
- F. Collate and analyse findings of the interviews and publish them.
- G. Publish a report with the findings and analysis of the interviews and recommendations with respect to the mental health of prisoners sentenced to death in India.
- H. Present the work of the Centre at appropriate fora.
- I. Any other work that may be necessary to further the aims of the Centre.

Qualifications:

- A. A doctoral degree in Psychology or a MD in Psychiatry from a recognized University, or
- B. A post-graduate with an M.Phil. degree in mental health related fields from a recognised University. Clinical experience would be desirable, or
- C. A post-graduate with an M.Phil. degree in social sciences from a recognised University. Experience in qualitative research would be desirable.
- D. Knowledge of the prison system or work with prisoners would be desirable.
- E. Ability to read/ write/ speak regional Indian languages will be an advantage but is not mandatory.

Compensation: Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will be in the range of Rs. 55, 000 – 65,000 per month.

Application Process: Interested persons may send their resume and a statement of purpose, explaining their interest in the Mental Health Project, and how they would approach it, especially the interviews conducted with prisoners. The statement of purpose must not exceed 500 words.

Email:

Please send your resume and statement of purpose to the Registrar (registrarnlud@nludelhi.ac.in) with a copy marked to deathpenalty@nludelhi.ac.in. The subject of the e-mail should be “Centre on the Death Penalty - Application for Associate (Research)”. The cover letter must state (Attn: Director, Centre on the Death Penalty.)

OR

Post/Courier:

The post address is “Registrar, National Law University, Delhi, Sector 14, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078”. The envelope must have super scribed on it, “Centre on the Death Penalty –



Application for Associate (Research)” and addressed to the Registrar, National Law University, Delhi. The cover letter must state (Attn: Director, Centre on the Death Penalty.)

The University reserves the right to conduct interviews and not fill these positions. The University will be unable to cover the costs of attending the interview but the possibility of telephonic/video interview can be explored.

Deadline:The call will be open until both positions get filled.

The interview dates will be informed to the shortlisted candidates by mail.

Note:

1. The Centre works on behalf of all prisoners sentenced to death, regardless of the offence involved.
2. The positions in this call are supported by a grant from the European Union.
3. The National Law University, Delhi is an equal opportunity employer.