

PU offers 1-year PG diplomas for agamic studies, rock art

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Puducherry: Pondicherry University (PU) has established two research centres offering one-year postgraduate diploma courses in agamic studies and rock art.

The Centre for Agamic Studies and Indian Knowledge Systems aims to study the dynamic role of temples in medieval Indian society. The centre would also study the role of agamic texts in the growth and expansion of the professional arts and crafts among the lower sections of society.

A statement from the university said that agamic texts help unravel their role

as contributors to sustainable development in medieval times, which can provide lessons in implementation of sustainable development goals in contemporary times.

ON TEMPLE CULTURE

The Centre for Rock Art and Cognitive Studies, a field-based course, will be a tribute to the temple culture of South India, which is vibrant and thriving, said the statement.

The centre will focus on the evolution of cognitive capabilities of the human species and their manifestation

in the form of paintings and engravings, it added.

Both centres are part of the university's department of history. Pondicherry University vice-chancellor P Prakash Babu said the courses offer exciting avenues for the young generation to explore the fascinating world of agamic temple culture, encompassing the entire gamut of contemporary society.

"The programme will equip the students with the necessary skills to get employed in eco-tourism, adventure tourism, as well as making them qualified site managers of the rock art locations," said the statement.

PU VC Inaugurates Two Research Centers



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Pondicherry University Vice-chancellor P Prakash Babu inaugurated two Research Centers Under the Department of History.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor said that the Center for Agamic Studies and Indian Knowledge systems aims to study the dynamic role of temple in the medieval Indian society and the role of agamic texts in the growth and expansion of the professional arts and crafts of the lower sections of the society. The Agamic texts also help in unravelling their role as contributors to sustainable development in the medieval times which can provide lessons to learn in the implementation of SDGs in the contemporary times.

The temple culture of south India, which is so vibrant and thriving even today, is a testimony to the engineering skills and geological knowledge of their builders, who built such magnificent temples, which

withstood the ravages of recurring cyclones. Highlighting the unique aspects of the Center for Rock Art and Cognitive Studies, the Vice-Chancellor said that this vital pictorial evidence of the prehistoric times helps us to understand the evolution of the cognitive capabilities of the human species and their manifestation in the form of paintings and engravings. In fact, the prehistoric paintings acted as teaching aids for the adolescent hunters

in understanding the behavioural patterns of the wild animals.

He said the diploma courses offer exciting avenues for the young generation to explore the fascinating world of agamic temple culture encompassing the entire gamut of the contemporary society. The diploma in rock art and cognitive studies is a field based one, the curriculum being designed to provide a wide knowledge of the global as well as Indian rock art traditions. The programme will equip the students the necessary skills to get employed in eco-tourism, adventure tourism as well as making them qualified site managers of the rock art locations.

Prof.N. Chandramouli, head, department of History, Dr.Ruman Banerjee, Assistant Professor, Prof. G.Chandhrika, Dr.Kishor Kumar Tripathy, Member Secretary, SriAurobindo Society, Pondicherry, among others attended the function.