



Kerala Council for Historical Research

MINUTES OF THE 46TH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Date : 23rd June 2020

Time : 11 am

Venue : Video Conferencing

The members present in the conference were as follows:

1. Professor P.K. Michael Tharakan, Chairperson KCHR
2. Professor P. Sanal Mohan, Director, KCHR
3. Dr. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai, Vice Chancellor, Kerala University
4. Professor Kesavan Veluthat, Director, ISHCK
5. Professor K. Rajan, Pondicherry University
6. Professor K.M. Sheeba, Dept. of History, SSS University
7. Dr. A. Muhammed Maheen, Dept. of History, Calicut University

EC Agenda 46.1: The Chairperson Professor P. K. Michael Tharakan welcomed the gathering especially the three new Executive Council members Professor Sheeba K.M and Professor V. Karthikeyan Nair to their EC meeting of the KCHR and Professor P.P. Abdul Razak in absentia. The Chairman informed that Professor Razak could not attend because his daughter is getting married and on behalf of the EC wished the young couple all the best in their life. The Chairperson handed over the proceedings to the Director Professor P. Sanal Mohan.

EC Agenda 46.2: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 45th Executive Council Meeting held on 3rd February 2020.

The Minutes of the 45th Executive Council Meeting was already circulated and since no dissent was received from any of the Executive Council Members within the stipulated time, the Minutes of the Meeting may be approved.

Confirmed

EC Agenda 46.3: Director's Report

1. Director: Professor Sanal Mohan has assumed charge as the Director of KCHR on the FN of 15-02-2019. The deputation period was extended up to 30-06-2020 by the previous EC (ECA 14.4). Action has been taken for the constitution of a Search Committee for the purpose of selecting the new Director. (See separate Agenda 46.5 of the current EC)
2. Residence to Professor P. Sanal Mohan: As per the recommendation of the EC9(F&AC Agenda 13.7), Govt. vide letter no, K2/165/2019 HeDn.dt.08-05-2020 has rejected the request for a residence to Professor P. Sanal Mohan during the period of deputation.

3. Regarding the issue of procuring land for KCHR (F&AC.A.14.5), the Registrar, Kerala University, vide letter no.46126/2019/UoK dt.02-02-2020 has informed that it is not possible to allot University's land for KCHR.
4. Posting of Staff at Regional Office Pattanam-Research Associates (2Nos) and Research Assistants 3 Nos. on Contract basis (F&AC.A.14.5) The Govt. Vide letter No.K2/36/2020 H Edn dt. 29-04-2020 has permitted to appoint the above staff for the period of one year on temporary basis. It is proposed to conduct further interview and selection using e-facilities. The day today activities and research projects and activities of KCHR are being affected due to the absence of the above category staff.
5. Increase in the salary of contract staff (F&AC.A.14.7). The Minutes of the EC has been forwarded to the Govt.
6. Smt. Sunanda Nair, Secretary to Director is retiring from service on the AN of 31-07-2020. Govt. vide Lr.no.K2/199/2019H Edn.dt.30-04-2020 have informed that it is not possible to grant pension to KCHR staff. The gratuity and other retirement benefits are being processed as recommended by F&AC 14.8 and approved by 45th EC .
7. The extension period of the deputation post of Library Assistant Shri. Mathew George is extended further for a period up to 20-01-2021.(F&AC Agenda 14.09)
The Library is being maintained by the Librarian Nyna John V F, appointed on contract for KCHR Annex.
8. Renewal of Contract (F&AC A No.14.11) The period of contract of seventeen staff members working on contract basis at KCHR have expired. As their services are highly essential for KCHR at present, their services have been extended (after giving a break of 2 days) for a further period of one year with the same salary and service conditions. This was necessitated by emergency situation created by Covid19. (See separate agenda No. 46.8 of the current EC)
9. Regularisation of the post of Driver : As per the EC decision dt. 31-05-2019(F&AC A:13.13). Letter has been forwarded to Government. Govt. vide Order No. സ. ഉ. നം. 605/2020 ഉ.വ്വ.വ. തിയതി.14-05-2020 has regularised the service of Shri. Santhosh, Driver, in the existing vacancy post of Driver in KCHR. He has joined duty on the FN of 14-05-2020.
10. Regarding W(P)C 1987/2020 filed by Dr. Preeta Nayar (EC 45.11.2) and the W(P)C 32137/2019 filed by Smt. Sandhya and others (EC 45.11.3), Rs.40000/- per case have been given as fees to Adv. Rajesh Kumar. K (KCHR Standing Council).
11. Agendas of the subcommittees, RAC, PC and LC and approved by the 45th EC are being implemented and the progress will be reported in the corresponding sub committees.
12. Major academic works done by KCHR during Covid -19 pandemic situation are as follows:
 - i. KCHR launched KCHR Online Repository for the availability of articles through website during Covid-19 pandemic situation.
 - a) Dalit History Month- KCHR Online Repository
 1. Why Dalit History and Historiography? by Professor P.Sanal Mohan
 2. HISTORIES OF INDIA'S PERIPHERY: British Empire and its Adivasis in Deccan India' by Dr. Bhangya Bhukya (From the KCHR Archives)

3. Oral History Narratives from Partition 1947- The Dalit Experience by Dr. Akanksha Kumar

4. കേരളത്തിലെദളിത് ചരിത്രചെറുകൾപുതുപ്രവണതകൾ - വിനിൽപോൾ

5. Rethinking Slavery in South Asia by Professor P. Sanal Mohan (From the KCHR Archives)

Resources:

1. List of Selected works from the KCHR Library collection on Dalit History and Historiography

2. Link to collated List of Survey Documents collected as part of the Endangered Archives Project (EAP) of the British Library, London, titled Creation of a digital archive of social reform movements among the Dalit and lower caste groups in Kerala, South West India (EAP292)

b) KCHR Online Repository on the History and Historiography of Labour

List of Selected works from the KCHR Library collection on "Labour History". KCHR had planned to start webinars for those Public Lectures which had to be cancelled due to the pandemic situation.

13. As per the decision of the 45th EC (PC Agenda No. 45.6), Mr. Raneesh P.R, Pottathu House, Muringoor P.O, Thrissur, having expertise in Layout and Designing has been entrusted the layout and designing works in the Publication Division, as Computer Assistant (on daily wages). His service is available in KCHR from 03.06.2020 onwards.

14. Due to unexpected lockdown following the Covid 19 pandemic, the printing of KCHR Diary 2020 has been cancelled. The same will be converted as required to print as 2021 diary. KCHR Calendar 2020 has been printed from C- Apt for an amount of Rs. 84,411.00.

15. As decided in the F&AC Agenda 14.12 regarding amendment of KCHR MOA and Service rules, Sri. Elphege Tajan I, Retd. Additional Secretary was appointed as Service Consultant. The 45th EC authorised the Director to fix his Honorarium and other terms and conditions. In this regard, the terms and conditions were fixed and his honorarium fixed at Rs. 2,00,000 for the whole work.

16. It was reported in the 45th EC (VI RAC) that we are facing difficulties in taking forward the Epigraphy Course proposed to be conducted at Pattanam, owing to the impasse regarding recruitment of Research associates and Research Assistants at Pattanam. The Government has communicated that the KCHR may carry forward these appointments. (Govt. Vide letter No.K2/36/2020 HEdn dt. 29-04-2020) Given the situation, it is expected that the Epigraphy course meant to have started in January 2020 may now be inaugurated in January 2021.

17. On the Comparative Study of Indian Ocean Slavery and Post Colonial Studies Project approved by the 44th EC (Agenda 5.13), the Director is in contact with the scholars with whom KCHR will be collaborating and will be able to prepare a proposal regarding the same by July 2020.

Approved

EC Agenda 46.4: Appointment of Director, KCHR

Director Professor P. Sanal Mohan was working as the Director of KCHR from the FN of 15-02-2019 for one year. The deputation period was extended up to 30-06-2020 and authorised the Chairperson to constitute a Search Committee for the purpose of selecting the new Director by the previous EC dated 03-02-2020 (F&AC 14.4).

The Search Committee is proposed to meet on 22nd June 2020 via video conferencing for selection of the new Director to be approved by the current EC.

The Chairperson intimated the EC that the Search Committee constituted for the purpose of selecting the Director, KCHR, had met on 22-06-2020 via video conferencing and has identified two qualified persons for the said post. The Chairperson has been authorised by the Search Committee to discuss with the shortlisted persons and the decision of the final choice to be circulated among the KCHR EC members for confirmation via email. This was approved by the EC and may be proceeded with immediate effect without waiting for the usual fifteen days confirmation time.

EC Agenda 46.5: Assigning of a Director for the interim period

As Professor P. Sanal Mohan is being relieved on the AN of 30-06-2020, a historian / scholar closely associated with KCHR / EC member may be assigned as an interim Director to facilitate the academic and daily functioning of the institution till the new Director takes charge.

In the context of Covid 19 pandemic and uncertainties, RO may discharge such everyday duties of KCHR that do not involve financial components and policy matters.

- i. Since it may take time for a new Director to be posted at KCHR, a member of the EC of the KCHR may be assigned the task of discharging the duties of the Director, KCHR for the interim period. The EC authorised the Chairperson to select the same and intimate the EC via email and implement the same immediately without waiting for the usual fifteen days confirmation time.
- ii. It was approved by the EC that the Research Officer (RO) of the KCHR may discharge the everyday duties that do not involve financial and policy matters during this interim period to be implemented immediately without waiting for the usual fifteen days confirmation time.

EC Agenda 46.6: Approval of the Minutes of the VI Archaeological Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting held on 12th February 2020. Some of the agendas of the AAC have been recommended to the EC for discussion and decision.

The Minutes of the VI Archaeological Advisory Committee (AC) was approved with the following changes and decisions made:

- i. **AAC Agenda 6.4 - Revamping of Children's Museum**

The Chairman intimated that all these suggestions have to be reviewed in the context of the State Planning Board Vice Chairman's opinion when the Director, and Finance Officer, KCHR had a meeting with him. The Vice Chairman, Planning Board was of the opinion that since the original museum building built by the Muziris Heritage Project at Pattanam site is being finished and will be handed over to the KCHR, all the artefacts can be exhibited there rather than spending money for revamping the old building where the Children's Museum is housed.

The EC members decided to opt for this option and constitute a Committee for supervising the internal arrangement of the installation of the artefacts and other exhibits in the new building once the construction work is over. The old Children's Museum may be used for other activities.

ii. **AAC Agenda 6.5- Proposal on Excavation at Pattanam and Mathilakam by PAMA**

The Chairman, KCHR intimated that after the agenda was presented to the AAC, the Government vide Lr. No. K2/44/2020 HEDn dtdt 06-05-2020 from Higher Education Dept. has intimated KCHR that other organisations should not be in charge of Pattanam excavations and KCHR should conduct excavations directly at Pattanam.

The EC decided not to grant NOC to PAMA for excavation in the land owned by KCHR at Pattanam as notified by the Government.

The EC also decided not to provide financial and other assistance to PAMA for excavations at Pattanam and Mathilakam as requested by them.

The matter of further excavation at Pattanam by KCHR may be placed in the next AAC.

iii. **AAC Agenda 6.6 -Appointment of Dr. P J Cherian as Consultant for the preparation of a Wheeler kind of report**

KCHR had received intimation that PAMA, a Private Trust with Dr P. J. Cherian as the Director was allotted license by the ASI for excavating at Pattanam. Since permission for excavation at a site is renewed by the ASI, only if all requirements like necessary excavation reports are submitted to the ASI, KCHR can infer that no more reports on Pattanam excavation are needed to be submitted.

The EC discussed and decided that under these circumstances, there is no need for the preparation of a Wheeler kind of Report and hence Dr. P. J. Cherian may not be appointed as Consultant.

iv. **AAC Agenda 6.7 : Printing of Pattanam Archaeological Research Interim Reports**

The EC decided that the annual interim Pattanam excavation reports may be published online and the consolidated report of all the nine seasons may be published both in English and Malayalam with a critical introduction by the Chairman AAC.

EC Agenda 46.7: Arising vacancy -Secretary to Director (F&AC.A.14.7)

The Secretary to Director Smt. Sunanda Nair is retiring from service on the AN of 31-07-2020. The arising vacancy in the sanctioned post may be urgently filled up. Hence advertisement in the leading English and Malayalam dailies may be given with qualification a. Degree in any discipline, b. Diploma in Computer Application, Proficiency in English and Malayalam.

Govt. circular No.83/2019/Fin.dt.05-10-2019 ordered that prior sanction is needed for the posting of staff.

The EC opined that it being an arising vacancy of a permanent post, KCHR may go ahead with the posting, keeping up all procedural formalities effectively and then report to the Government.

EC Agenda 46.8: Renewal of Contract (F&AC A No. 14.11)

The following staff who are working on contract basis, have expired their period of contract as noted against their names. As their services are highly essential for KCHR at present, their services have been extended (after giving a break of 2 days) for a further period of one year with the same salary and service conditions.

Bibitha K.R.	- Museum Assistant Gr.II	02-03-2020*
Sukumaran T.R	- Local Consultant	02-03-2020*
Hitha V	- Research Assistant	02-03-2020*
Dr.Beena K	-Research Assistant	06-03-2020
Nyna John V F	- Librarian	08-04-2020*
Swapna M K	-Office Attendant	08-04-2020*
Jishnu S Chandran-	Research Assistant	02-05-2020*
Suja G S- Ful tim.	Clea.cum Sani. Worker	08-04-2020*
Sindhu Sabu	- Site Paripalika	12-06-2020*
Jomon N.R.	- Site Paripalakan	30-06-2020
Dileep Kumar K	- Night Watchman	13-06-2020*
Sarala M.K	- Casual Sweeper	13-06-2020 *
Mariam SusanAD	-Administrative Officer	13-06-2020*
Sreekumary B	- DTP Operator	13-06-2020*
Sarathchandrababu	-Research Assistant	13-06-2020*
Bindumole S Lib.clea.cum	sweep.dail.wage	30-06-2020
Harisankar B	- Research Assistant	15-07-2020

- Those who have completed more than two years

It was approved by the EC that the staff who have completed more than 2 years of contract service may be given yearly renewal of contract based on the recommendations of an evaluation committee appointed by the Director of such contract staff every six months. The renewal of contract has to be intimated to the Government by the EC.

The evaluation committee could not be formed due to the lockdown on Covid 19 and further developments. As the services of the above staff are highly essential for the working of KCHR, the contract period of the above staff have been extended for a further period of one year from the date of expiry, subject to the approval of the evaluation committee.

Ratified.

The EC decided that, taking into consideration the dire situation arising out of Covid 19 regulations, no evaluation of the staff need to be done in the above mentioned contract cases for the present year.

EC Agenda 46.9: Cash crops sale-Pattanam Regional Office

Quotations were invited for the period from 01-01-2020 to 31-12-2020 for the collection and sale of cash crops from the 7.22 acres of KCHR owned land at Pattanam and the highest quoted amount was Rs.42000/-. Later, all the three quotationers submitted their unwillingness to get into agreement on the matter, as they fear loss. Due to lockdown due to covid 19 and further developments, the cash crops were collected by the Pattanam staff and after sale, the amount will be remitted to the bank account of KCHR.

It is decided (a) to continue the same process till 31-12-2020.

(b), to invite fresh quotations for a period of one year for the collection of cash crops from 01-01-2021 to 31-12-2021.

a, Ratified

b, Approved

EC Agenda 46.10: KCHR Fellowships and Financial Assistance schemes

As per the decision of the 44th EC (Agenda 44.5; RAC Agenda 5.3), a committee was appointed to formulate the rules and regulations of the various fellowship and financial assistance schemes of the KCHR. The committee has drafted the same and is consulting a legal expert as suggested by the EC. The draft will be sent to the members of the RAC for recommendations and for approval. In the situation of Covid 19, the announcement of fellowships and financial assistance schemes are delayed. In order to ensure that further delay is minimal, once the RAC members approve the draft via email, the notification of the fellowships and financial assistance schemes may be immediately effected and reported to the next RAC and EC for ratification

Approved

EC Agenda 46. 11: COSMOS MALABARICUS: MoU with Leiden University, Netherlands

The Chairman KCHR has been in communication with the Leiden University Netherlands, regarding the possibility of collaboration in the shared Cultural Heritage Program which is part of Netherland's International Cultural Policy. The principal purpose of collaboration is to make the digitized archival sources of the Kerala and Tamil Nadu Archives accessible to Indian and international scholars and

make part of these sources available to the widest possible audience, in particular to the people of Kerala. The collaboration will be of immense academic benefit to researchers and enrich the historical scholarship regarding both countries. It is proposed that the KCHR sign an MOU with the Leiden University Netherlands and Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Studies (SSUS) in cooperation with the National Archives of the Netherlands and The State Archives Department, Government of Kerala to carry forward the collaboration.

Approved

EC Agenda 46. 12: Purchase of computers / laptops for KCHR office

4 computer systems (desktops) in the KCHR office are outdated with old OS and poor specifications. New systems are required with the latest OS and specifications that support recent softwares. Due to COVID-19, most activities of KCHR need to be handled through online platforms for video conferencing, webinars and other academic activities. So laptops may be purchased instead of desktops to meet these requirements. Since laptops are portable, these can be used for work from home facilities in case of emergency. An additional laptop is required for the publication works. So a total of 5 laptops are required for the KCHR office work. For designing, photo/video editing and for the usage of different editing and rendering softwares, a computer with greater specifications is required. Instead of assembling a computer that meets our requirements, we can choose iMac systems with graphics cards for the above purpose. The total amount will be comparatively low for the iMac systems, than the assembled one that meets our requirements.

Approved

EC Agenda 46. 13: Fixing the honorarium for expert review, guest editing, guest proof reading and translation

KCHR do not have fixed norms for fixing the honorarium for Expert Review. This mostly creates confusions in fixing an amount for the same. Also we have no fixed rates for guest editing and guest proof reading too. Considering the rates fixed during 2017 for manuscript review, guest editing, guest proof reading and translation in Kerala Bhasha Institute, it is suggested that KCHR may fix a revised rate of the same as given below

- Academic review of the Manuscript: Rs. 200/- (per 1000 words)
- Guest Editing : Rs. 200/- (per 1000 words)
- Translation : Rs. 1000/- (per 1000 words):
- Proof Reading (per page): Demy 1¹/₈ - Rs.14/-; Crown ¼ - Rs. 16/-; Demy ¼ - Rs.18/-

Approved

EC Agenda 46. 14: Outsourcing of proof reading, editing, translation works
45th EC has approved reprint of fourteen out of print KCHR publication vide Agenda No. 11.3 of 11th Publication Committee. Since publication division has only Publication Assistant to carryout and co-ordinate the works, outsourcing of proof reading, editing etc if required, would be advisable for the timely production of the publications. Hence sanction is hereby requested to outsource the proof reading, editing, translation etc. when required as per the rates fixed for the same by KCHR.

Approved

EC Agenda 46. 15 : Honorarium for writing introductory articles in KCHR publications

45th EC has entrusted Director, KCHR to fix the honorarium for writing introductory articles which shine light on the social and cultural importance of the diaries of Late Smt. Eliamma Matthen and late Professor T.I Punnan. The review of the transcribed version of the diaries which came up to about 3200 pages is being reviewed by Smt. Mariam Ram. Transcribing of the 70 volumes of the Diaries of Prof Punnan is progressing. Considering the large amount of time and academic review required for writing the introductory articles, the honorarium for writing per introductory article is fixed as Rs.25,000/- Sanction is hereby requested to ratify the decision.

Also it is advisable that Director may be entrusted to fix the honorarium for writing papers/articles of academic importance in KCHR publications.

- i. The EC was of the opinion that the amount as Honorarium for writing introductory articles for the diaries of Late Smt. Eliamma Matthen and late T. I. Punnan may be enhanced from Rs. 25,000/- taking into account the volume of work required for it and agreement drawn based on that. Authorised the Chairman and Director to fix the rate.
- ii. Likewise, the Chairman and Director were authorised to fix the amount as honorarium for 1.critical studies as per the nature of the study and 2. For writing papers/articles in KCHR publications as per length of the paper/article.

EC Agenda 46. 16 : Revising the Publication Agreement

The revision of the publication agreement norms is being carried out by the Internal Publication Committee. Considering the situations of Covid 19, pandemic, the revised draft would be submitted to the Publication Committee members either through webinar/email for recommendations and approval. Once the draft is approved by the members, sanction is hereby requested to implement the same and ratify in the next publication committee.

Approved

EC Agenda 46.17 : Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

EC Agenda 46.17.1 : 20th year of formation of the KCHR

Dr. Karthikeyan Nair, EC Member was of the opinion that since the 20th year of formation of the KCHR is coming up in March 2021, some activities to mark this important milestone may be undertaken. The Chairperson suggested more of a critical review of the nature of the academic and administrative activities undertaken by the KCHR so far and to proceed accordingly.

The Chairman and Director were authorised to constitute a Committee of three of four members including the representatives from the EC and look into the matter and take suitable action.

EC Agenda 46.17.2 : Felicitation to the relieving Director

The Chairperson took this opportunity to thank Professor P. Sanal Mohan who is being relieved from the post of Director, KCHR on 30-06-2020 after the period of his deputation from the M G University, for serving and guiding KCHR so well in the past two years. He said that he was obliged to Professor Sanal Mohan for taking KCHR not only to higher levels of academic excellence but also for the significant work of connecting KCHR with other regions and people.

The meeting came to a close by 1.10pm.

Chairperson

Director