



ADMISSION TO THE NIAS DOCTORAL PROGRAMME, 2023-2024

The National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) was conceived and established in 1988 by the vision and initiative of the late Mr. J.R.D. Tata, primarily to nurture a broad base of scholars, managers, and leaders to address complex and important challenges faced by society through interdisciplinary approaches, as well as to conduct advanced multidisciplinary research in areas of the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and engineering, as well as in conflict and security studies. The Institute promotes trans-disciplinary research and builds synergy within and across disciplines with meaningful interactions. NIAS has been recognised as an “Institute of Exceptional Repute” by the NITI Aayog.

NIAS is looking for exceptionally motivated students, interested in pursuing interdisciplinary research in conflict and security studies, natural and engineering sciences, social sciences, humanities, and the arts. Unencumbered by the constraints of traditional disciplinary doctoral research, NIAS doctoral students have a unique opportunity to broaden their intellectual horizons, even beyond the limits of the domains listed below. NIAS not only values such cross-pollination of ideas but encourages and strongly supports its students to develop interdisciplinary approaches to problems that span academic disciplines. This interdisciplinary ethos is also reflected in the work of its faculty and research scholars over the years.

The Institute is recognised by the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) and the University of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology (TDU), from which students receive their doctoral degrees. A limited number of institutional scholarships are available for exceptionally bright and motivated students.

If you are have a postgraduate degree or are expecting your degree by July 2023, you can apply to the Programme of your choice. For this academic year, we invite applications in the following broad areas. The applications need to be limited to these fields. Any other topic related to these broad areas will also be considered.

- Brain-inspired Artificial Intelligence, Causality Testing, Scientific Theories of Consciousness
- Development Studies; Rural and Urban Livelihoods; Rural and Agrarian Change; Migration and Urbanisation; Food and Nutritional Security; Social Policy
- Satellite Remote Sensing and GIS Analysis for Landscape Archaeology, Geoarchaeology, Historical Geography, Cultural Heritage Conservation and Management
- Neuroscience of Creativity, Culture & Cognition, Neuromusicology, Neuroaesthetics, Cognitive Hermeneutics
- Behavior and cognition in megafish, mahseer; Science communication; Climate change communication; Conservation psychology
- Urban studies; Queer studies; Gender and caste; Migration and mobility; Sociology of health; Social policy and minorities in India; Social anthropological exploration of communities in South Asia; Globalization and informality; Subaltern and decolonial sociology; Ethnography
- Maritime Security of the Indo-Pacific Region
- Archaeoastronomy; Indian temple architecture; Megaliths and megalithic knowledge systems
- Inequality and Human Development
- Primate behaviour, Ecology and Cognition, Human-Wildlife interactions, Human Wildlife Conflict, Human-Environment Interactions
- Application of Geospatial Technologies in Strategic Studies & National Security; Modelling (Geospatial & Remote Sensing Systems) in Conflict Resolution and Security
- Education and Marginalisation; Identity Studies; Collective Memory; Sustainable Societies; Learning and Cognition
- Conflict Studies; Internal Conflicts in India; Democracy, Development, and Governance; Political Process in India's Northeastern States
- Optimal Electricity Mix by 2050 with a focus on rapid growth of low-carbon firm generation source; Role of Critical Energy Materials in India's Green Energy Transition and Sustainable Way Forward
- Role of Nuclear Energy in Clean Energy Transition for India; Optimal Electricity Generation Mix for India by 2050

- Archaeology, Archaeometallurgy, Material Culture, Arts and Crafts History
- Pakistan, China and Europe: Politics, Society and Security
- Conflicts: Regional, Global, Maritime and Gender
- Air Quality Forecasting and Airshed Modeling System; Science of Climate Crisis and Net-Zero Emissions; Drone-based Technology for Emission Hot spots and Satellite Remote Sensing for Urban Heat Islands; Air quality and climate policy integration, mitigation pathways and co-benefits
- Operationalising equity in global climate policy; Adaptation to weather and climatic variability; Rationalising renewable energy target setting

Applicants are advised to visit the NIAS website (<https://www.nias.res.in>) for more information on the institute faculty and their research interests.

ELIGIBILITY

Admissions to the NIAS Doctoral Programme are open to those who have completed/ are completing their Master's/M.Phil degree in any relevant subject in conflict and security studies, natural sciences, engineering, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, or the arts, and with a consistently proven academic record, including a minimum of 55% marks or its equivalent grade B in the UGC 7-point scale in the aggregate. A relaxation of 5% of marks – from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC, ST, or those Differently Abled. Some research and/or field experience in the concerned areas will be preferred. It is to be noted that the final registration with degree-granting institutions will depend on the criteria set by these institutions.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A limited number of selected candidates will be eligible to receive a NIAS Fellowship, which will be available for a period of four years on an annually renewable basis. The NIAS Fellowship is currently fixed at INR 31,000 per month for the first two years and INR 35,000 per month from the third year, with an additional 27% of the basic amount as House Rent Allowance. *Limited hostel seats are available on the NIAS Campus for women.*

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Admission to the NIAS Doctoral Programme will be based on a common online written test and two rounds of interviews. Candidates who have successfully passed the CSIR / DST INSPIRE / UGC NET examination, with an assured **junior research fellowship**, are particularly invited to apply. Such candidates are exempt from the online written examination although **they must pass the two rounds of interviews.**

HOW TO APPLY

Applications will only be accepted online. All application details are provided at: <https://www.nias.res.in> Please use the “APPLY NOW” link on the home page.

The deadline for receiving online applications, with all required documents, as specified in the above website, is **10 April 2023**

Candidates who meet all the eligibility criteria mentioned above will be permitted to appear for the online written examination. For further information, please visit the NIAS website: <https://www.nias.res.in>