

## **Indigenous Research Centre**

Nagaland State is situated in the North Eastern part of India. This is a hilly state inhabited by various hill tribes who are traditional known for their good qualities such as bravery, simplicity, frankness, hospitality, hardworking, honesty, truthfulness etc. However, with the increase in the population on the one hand and negligence of various individuals, government and non-governmental organizations on the other, Nagaland is lagging behind particularly in capacity building and human resource development. Although the percentage of education is higher in comparison with national percentage yet the school/college drop-outs and lack of getting good or no education at all is also higher in some parts of the state due to economic and topographic condition of the state. In such a context, Indigenous Research Centre (IRC) under the aegis of Sakus Mission College plays a distinctive role dedicated to wider understanding and appreciation of the ideas and knowledge of indigenous peoples, blending traditional and modern cultures and understanding their social, economic and political realities.

Indigenous Research Centre is a multidisciplinary centre of Learning and Research. The centre was born out of the necessity to educate, train and equip leaders and young indigenous/tribal scholars to realize the need to amalgamate their ideology with experiences and develop praxis oriented contextual indigenous studies that promotes life and strives for just world order. It also aims to provide an opportunity for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to learn and think about Indigenous knowledge in creative, transformative and critical ways.

### **Vision Statement:**

The Vision of Indigenous Research Centre under the aegis of Sakus Mission College is to empower the student community through value-based education. The Centre/College is devoted to promoting education in all branches of learning and sustaining an intellectual culture which cultivates in students a holistic personality. The motto of the college, *Learn for Excellence* underlies all our endeavours. As such the Indigenous Research Centre facilitate capacity enhancement of indigenous students in eastern India to understand the need to develop praxis oriented ideology of Life-Resistance and Hope in the midst of violent forces that negates life.

**Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Centre, in accordance with Sakus Mission College, is to promote into an “institution of excellence” which will serve the rural indigenous youth by providing them with easy access to higher education and job opportunities. The College exists to train men and women in every aspect of life, both human and non-human. The College seriously considers the emerging context of a pluriform society and thus the mission of the College is to embody an ethic of gentleness, love and sharing of knowledge irrespective of race, caste, creed, gender etc.

**Programme Focus of IRC:**

The focus of the programme is empowerment of the indigenous people in general and indigenous scholars in particular. IRC aims to enable the enablers at various levels of the society. Studies, conferences, seminars, publications and preservation of manuscripts, artefacts etc. are planned and executed by the Indigenous Research Centre with the objects of:

1. Emerging as a centre of academic excellence and research.
2. As a Centre all geared to facilitate researchers in discovering their full potential.
3. Serving the social needs and to uplift the living standards of the rural indigenous youths by imparting higher education, enabling every student employable through holistic education and development of right skills.
4. Building quality human resource through progressive capacity building that will serve the foundation for the holistic development of the state.
5. Facilitating the students to critically analyze and evaluate the existing realities of our community and society.
6. Seeking to promote indigenous researcher by undertaking Student Exchange Programme with national and international universities.
7. Sensitizing the indigenous people on various issues with a view to enabling creative participation in the struggle of the nation for a just society.
8. Preserving traditional and cultural elements.

The Indigenous Research Centre has entered into Memorandum of Understanding with the Centre for Dalit/Subaltern Studies, New Delhi, on 07<sup>th</sup> of May, 2018, and has jointly organized a two-day workshop on “**Dalit-Tribal Praxis for Life**” 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2018.

Indigenous Research Centre has also entered into partnership with Centre for Peace Studies, Madras Christian College (MCC), Chennai, and has jointly organized 4-day workshop on “Equipping Teachers for Implementation of Curriculum in Peace Studies” from 23-26<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 sponsored by United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, Hong Kong.

IRC in collaboration with India Peace Centre, Nagpur, Maharashtra, organized a one day workshop on “Capacity Development of Young Peace Builders” on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019 Dimapur, Nagaland.

More activities are underway whilst the institution waits for the confirmation.