

## Evaluative Report of the Department India Arab Cultural Centre

1. Name of the Department **India Arab Cultural Centre**
2. Year of establishment **2007**
3. Is the Department part of a School/Faculty of the university? Yes, Faculty of Social Sciences
4. Names of Programmes / Courses offered (UG, PG, M.Phil., Ph.D., Integrated Masters; Integrated Ph.D., etc.)

S. No.	Name of the Programme	Type of the Programme	Annual Intake
1.	Ph.D in Gulf Studies	Regular and Full Time	4
2	P.G. Diploma in Iranology	Regular and part time	20

5. Interdisciplinary courses and departments involved.

S. No.	Name of the Programme	Type of the Programme	Annual Intake
1.	Ph.D in Gulf Studies	Regular and Full Time	4
2	P.G. Diploma in Iranology	Regular and part time	20

6. Courses in collaboration with other universities, industries, foreign institutions, etc. N/A
7. Details of programmes / courses discontinued, if any, with reasons: N/A
8. Annual/ Semester/Choice Based Credit System: Semester System
9. Participation of the department in the courses offered by other departments N/A
10. Number of teaching posts sanctioned and filled (Professors/Associate Professors/Asst. Professors)

Designation	Sanctioned	Filled
Professor	1	0
Associate Professors	1	1
Asst. Professors	1	1

11. Faculty profile with name, qualification, designation and specialization (D.Sc./D.Litt./ Ph.D./M. Phil., etc.)

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Name	Qualification	Designation	Specialization	No. of Years of Experience	No. of Ph.D. students guided for the last 4 years
Javed Ahmad Khan	M.A	Associate Professor & Officiating Director	West Asian Economy, India GCC Trade	22	N/A
M. H. Ilias	Ph. D	Associate Professor	Politics and Government in the Gulf, Gulf in International Relations	8	4
Sameena Hameed	Ph. D	Assistant Professor	Gulf Economies, Energy Security & India-GCC Trade	6	3

12. List of senior Visiting Fellows, faculty, adjunct faculty, emeritus professors

1. Ms. Gry H. Pederson (centre for Contemporary Middle Eastern Studies, Southern Denmark University)- Honorary Visiting Fellow.

13. Percentage of classes taken by temporary faculty – programme-wise information N/A

14. Programme-wise Student Teacher Ratio

1. Ph.D in Gulf Studies 3: 8 ( Teacher: Students)
2. PG Diploma in Iranology- 2: 5 ( Teacher: Students)

15. Number of academic support staff (technical) and administrative staff: sanctioned and filled

S. No.	Post	Sanctioned	Filled	Actual
1.	Programme Officer	1	1	1
2	Administrative Officer	1	1	NIL
3.	Administrative Assistant	1	1	outsourcing
4.	Librarian			outsourcing
5.	Peon	1	1	outsourcing

16. Research thrust areas recognized by funding agencies

1. Literature and Culture in the Arab World (Abu Dhabi Authority for Cultural Heritage, UAE)

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2. India-Arab Cultural Relations (Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, Govt. of India)
3. IndiaGulf Relations (Public Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs), Govt. of India
4. Energy Security (ICSSR)

17. Number of faculty with ongoing projects from a) national b) international funding agencies and c) Total grants received. Give the names of the funding agencies and grants received project-wise.

S. No.	Faculty	project	Funding Agency	Grant
1	Prof. Zikrur Rahman (Professor and Director)	International Translation project*	Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage and Kalima Publishers.	Total cost of printing books
2	Dr. M.H.Ilias (Associate Professor)	Documentation of Arabic- Malayalam Language and Linguistic-Cultural Traditions of Mappila Muslims of Kerala	Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA)	Rs. 18,75,000.00
3.	Dr. Sameena Hameed (Assistant Professor)	Investment in Northern Indian Ocean Rim: Implications for India's Energy Security	Indian Council for Social Science Research	Rs. 4, 94, 650

\* Under this project 30 books have been translated and published from Abu Dhabi and India. Out of these, 15 books are from English to Arabic and the rest are from Arabic to Hindi and Urdu. Translation of 6 more books from Arabic to Urdu is already in press for printing. In the next phase of the translation 23 more books are to be translated and published in collaboration with the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage.

18. Inter-institutional collaborative projects and grants received N/A

19. Departmental projects funded by DST-FIST; UGC-SAP/CAS, DPE; DBT, ICSSR, etc.; total grants received.

1.	Dr. Sameena Hameed (Assistant Professor)	Investment in Northern Indian Ocean Rim: Implications for India's Energy Security	Indian Council for Social Science Research	Rs. 4, 94, 650
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20. Research facility / centre with

- state recognition

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- national recognition:  
Ph.D in Gulf Studies is the first-of its kind in India offering exclusive research course in Gulf Studies.
- international recognition  
Through various interactive programmes, regular participation of our faculty members in international seminars/ workshops and publications, Gulf Studies Programme (GSP) has captured the attention of reputed institutions with similar mandate and scholars internationally.

21. Special research laboratories sponsored by / created by industry or corporate bodies N/A

22. Publications:

\* Number of papers published in peer reviewed journals (national / international)

S. No.	Item	Total Numbers
1	Number of papers published in peer reviewed journals (national / international)	21
2	Number of papers published in conferences	4
3	Monographs	1
4	Chapters in Books	20
5	Edited Books	2
6	Laboratory Manuals	N/A
7	Articles in Magazines	24
8	Editorials	15
9	Books with ISBN with details of publishers	8
10	Number listed in International Database (For e.g. Web of Science, Scopus, Humanities International Complete, Dare Database - International Social Sciences Directory, EBSCO host, etc.)	
11	Citation Index – range / average	11
12	SNIP	
13	SJR	
14	Impact Factor – range / average	
15	h-index	2

23. Details of patents and income generated N/A

24. Areas of consultancy and income generated N/A

25. Faculty selected nationally/ internationally to visit other laboratories in India and abroad N/A

26. Faculty serving in  
a) National committees

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S. No.	Faculty	Committee
1	Prof. Zikrur Rahman (Retd)	a) Joint Secretary, The Association of Indian Diplomats b) Member, Indian Literature Abroad (Ministry of Culture, GOI)
2	Dr. M.H.Ilias	Member, Advisory Group on West Asia (AGWA), Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA). Member, Expert Committee, Islamic History Museum being set up jointly by the Government of Kerala & Cultural Ministry, Government of India
3.	Dr. Sameena Hameed	Member of Advisory Board and Energy Security Consultant to Independent Power Producers Association of India (IPPAI)

### b) International committees

S.No.	Faculty	Committee
1.	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	Member, Steering Committee Meetings of the Council of Security Cooperation in Asia-Pacific
2	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	Member of Indian Delegation to 17 <sup>th</sup> Arab League Summit, Algiers
3	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	Member of Indian Delegation to 18 <sup>th</sup> Arab League Summit, Riyadh
4	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	Member, Sheikh Zayed Book Award Literary Committee, UAE
5	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	Member, Advisory Committee, NCPUL, MHRD, NEW DELHI
6	Dr. M.H.Ilias	Member, Islamic Manuscript Association (Cambridge)
7	Dr. M.H.Ilias	Member, Association for Gulf and Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

### c) Editorial Boards

S.No.	Faculty	Committee
1.	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	1- Editor, " <i>Taqafatul Hind</i> " Quarterly Journal published by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) 2- Member, Editorial Board " <i>Indian Foreign Affairs Journal</i> "
2	Dr. M. H.Ilias	Member Editorial Board, <i>Islamic Insight</i> an international journal in Islamic studies

### d) Any other (please specify)

27. Faculty recharging strategies

28. Student projects

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- percentage of students who have done in-house projects including inter-departmental projects
- percentage of students doing projects in collaboration with other universities / industry / institute

29. Awards / recognitions received at the national and international level by

a. Faculty

S. No.	Faculty	Committee
1.	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	Award from The Arab Ambassadors Council, New Delhi for Outstanding Contribution to the Arab-Indian Co-operation and Fraternal Relations in the year 2012.
2	Dr. M.H.Ilias	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ford Foundation Post Doctoral Research Fellowship at Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (UK)</li> <li>• Post Doctoral Visiting Research Fellowship at Centre for Modern Orient ( Berlin)</li> <li>• Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Fellowship for a study visit in Egypt.</li> <li>• Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) Travel Grant for a trip to Russia.</li> </ul>

Doctoral / post doctoral fellows

- Students

30. Seminars/ Conferences/Workshops organized and the source of funding (national / international) with details of outstanding participants, if any.

International

S. No.	Seminar	Co-Organizers And date	Funding Agencies	Participants.
1.	“People, Culture and Goods in Motion: India-Arab Maritime Historical Relations”,	Gulf Studies Programme (GSP), JNU On 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2010	UGC, ICSSR and ICHR	12 participants from four different countries
2	‘Continuity and change in India-Kuwait Relations’	28 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2011	Govt. of Kuwait	4 participants from Kuwait.
3	“Society, Gender and Media: Experiences from Kuwait”	14 <sup>th</sup> May, 2012	Govt. of Kuwait	5 Eminent scholars from the Gulf.
4	“India and the Gulf in History”,	13 <sup>th</sup> April, 2012	IACC	Scholars from the UK and India.

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5	“India-Arab Cultural and Literary Interaction”	February 25, 2012	ADACH, UAE	eminent authors and literary figures from India and Arab World participated
6	Gulf Studies Seminar	28-30 January, 2013	ICSSR, The Embassies of the Netherlands, Oman & Kuwait.	Scholars from The UK, Denmark, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Malaysia, the Netherlands

31. Code of ethics for research followed by the departments

N/A

32. Student profile course-wise:

Name of the Course (refer to question no. 4)	Applications received	Selected		Pass percentage	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Ph.D in Gulf Studies ( 2013-14 intake)	46	1	1	M: 0%	F: 100%
P.G. Diploma in Iranology( 2013-14)	13	4	1	M: 75%	F: 25%

33. Diversity of students

Name of the Course (refer to question no. 4)	% of students from the same university	% of students from other universities within the State	% of students from universities outside the State	% of students from other countries
Ph.D in Gulf Studies	70	30	0	0
P.G.Diploma in Iranology	50	10	40	0

34 .How many students have cleared Civil Services and Defence Services examinations, NET, SET, GATE and other competitive examinations? Give details category-wise.

S.No.	Examination cleared	No. of Students
1	UGC/JRF	3
2	UGC/NET	4
3	UGC’s Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad National Fellowship for Minority Students	2
4	ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship	1

Student progression

N/A

Student progression	Percentage against enrolled
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Student progression	Percentage against enrolled
UG to PG	
PG to M.Phil.	
PG to Ph.D.	
Ph.D. to Post-Doctoral	
Employed	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campus selection</li> <li>• Other than campus recruitment</li> </ul>	
Entrepreneurs	

### 35 Diversity of staff

Percentage of faculty who are graduates	
of the same university	0
From other universities within the State	100
From universities from other States	0
From universities outside the country	0

### 37. Number of faculty who were awarded Ph.D., D.Sc. and D.Litt. during the assessment period

S.No.	Faculty Name	Degree awarded
1.	Sameena Hameed	Ph. D

### 38. Present details of infrastructural facilities with regard to

S. No	Facility	Description
1.	Library	With approximately 6000 books
2.	Internet facilities for staff and students	6 terminals with internet for staff and students along with Wi-fi
3.	Total number of class rooms	3
4.	Class rooms with ICT facility	(2) Video Projector and Interactive Board

### 39. List of doctoral, post-doctoral students and Research Associates

#### a) from the host university

#### Doctoral

S. No	Student	Supervisor
1.	T.K.Jabir	Prof.Zikrur Rahman
2.	Sivakeerthi Raveendran	Prof.Zikrur Rahman
3.	Maheep. P	Dr.M.H.Iias
4.	Sarvat Aziz	Dr.M.H.Iias
5.	Rhea Abraham	Dr.M.H.Iias
6.	Saifuddin Kunju	Dr.M.H.Iias

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7	Ashia Khan	Dr.M.H.Iias
8.	Sajid.P.P	Dr. Sameena Hameed
9.	S.M.Khalid	DrSameena Hameed
10	Nikhath Mushir	Sameena Hameed

### Post Doctoral Research Fellows

S. no	Name of Scholar	Supervisor
1.	Seema Ahuja ( ICSSR Post- Doctoral Research Fellow)	Dr.M.H.Iias
2	Shah Alam ( ICSSR Post- Doctoral Research Fellow)	Dr.M.H.Iias

b) from other universities: NIL

40. Number of post graduate students getting financial assistance from the university. N/A

41. Was any need assessment exercise undertaken before the development of new programme(s)?  
If so, highlight the methodology. N/A

42. Does the department obtain feedback from

a. Faculty on curriculum as well as teaching-learning-evaluation? If yes, how does the department utilize the feedback?

“Centre gathers opinion from faculty members on yearly basis. Each faculty member has to give an assessment of each course. The centre utilizes their suggestions for redesigning the course and introducing new courses time to time.

b. Students on staff, curriculum and teaching-learning-evaluation and how does the department utilize the feedback?

There is a routine evaluation of faculty to get a picture how effective is their teaching method. The centre uses this feedback while assigning the faculty members a special task.

c. Alumni and employers on the programmes offered and how does the department utilize the feedback? N/A

43. List the distinguished alumni of the department (maximum 10) N/A

44. Give details of student enrichment programmes (special lectures / workshops / seminar) involving external experts.

S.No.	Special Lectures/Talks	Speaker	Date
1.	Boom amid Gloom: Spirit of Possibility in 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Gulf”	Dr.N. Janardhan, Political Analyst, UAE	27 <sup>th</sup> August, 2012.
2	“The British Indian Empire	James Onley, Director, Centre	28 <sup>th</sup> March, 2012

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	and the Persian Gulf”	for Gulf Studies, University of Exeter, UK	
3	“UN and the Current development in the Arab World”	H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdul Aziz Al –Nasser, President of the United Nations General Assembly	17 February, 2012
4.	The UK and the Arab Spring	Sir Geoffrey Adams Director General (Political) Foreign and commonwealth office, United Kingdom	8th December, 2011
5.	The Arab Awakening’s Impact on the Middle East Order and The New roles of Iran and Turkey	Mr. Emile Hokayem Senior Fellow for Regional Security (Bahrain)	29 November, 2011
6	‘Changing Determinant and Ideals: Foreign Policies of the Arab Gulf States(1975-2010)	Dr. Khaled Al-Maena Editor in chief Arab News (Saudi Arabia)	29 <sup>th</sup> September,2011
7.	“Predicting the Impact of the Arab Spring on the Arab States of the Gulf”,	Prof. Tim Niblock (Professor of Arab Gulf Studies Institute for Arab and Islamic Studies University of Exeter, UK)	3 <sup>rd</sup> November, 2011
8	Recent Reverberations in Arab world and Challenges of Reform’	Talmiz Ahmad Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	4 March, 2011

### Seminars Held

S. No.	Seminar	Co-Organizers and date	Participants.
1.	“People, Culture and Goods in Motion: India-Arab Maritime Historical Relations”,	Gulf Studies Programme (GSP), JNU On 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2010	12 participants from four different countries
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6	Gulf Studies Seminar	28-30 January, 2013	Scholars from The UK, Denmark, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Malaysia, the Netherlands
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45. List the teaching methods adopted by the faculty for different programmes.

1. Regular Taught Classes, Weekly Seminars and Tutorials
2. Audio-Visual methods and screening of films and documentaries have successfully been adopted for teaching some papers. The faculty members find it very effective while teaching about art and culture in West Asia

46. How does the department ensure that programme objectives are constantly met and learning outcomes are monitored?

The centre has adopted following methods to examine whether the programme objectives are constantly met.

1. Students' feedback
2. Faculty members' feedback
3. Regular assessments by Committee of Studies Members ( which constitute eminent professors from other universities, such as JNU and Aligarh)

47. Highlight the participation of students and faculty in extension activities.

S. No.	Faculty/students/ Centre	Extension activities.
1.	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	Translation project in collaboration with Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage (ADACH) and Kalima has translated 30 books from English into Arabic and from Arabic into Indian language. Under this project 15 books have been translated and published from Abu Dhabi and 15 from India. Six more books of translation from Arabic to Urdu and three from English to Arabic are already in press
2	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	Since January 2009 is editing since January 2009 the only ISSN bearing Arabic journal in India <i>Thaqafatul Hind</i> published by ICCR, New Delhi. The journal was started by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad when he was the education Minister under the Nehru government for letting the Arab world know about Indian culture.
3	Prof. Zikrur Rahman	Regular columnist in Arabic Newspapers on India-Arab cultural, literary and contemporary relations. His weekly Arabic column appears in the reputed daily "AL-ITTIHAD" Newspaper of UAE.

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48. Give details of “beyond syllabus scholarly activities” of the department.

S. No.	
1.	The Centre has undertaken translation projects in collaboration with the King Abdul Aziz Foundation, Saudi Arabia. Two books have already been translated by the Centre from Arabic Language and are already in press.
2.	The Centre in collaboration with Indian Council for Cultural Relations organizes cultural events by troupes mainly from West Asia and North Africa.
3	The Centre in collaboration with various diplomatic missions in New Delhi organizes Arab Film Festival annually
4	The Centre organizes lectures and talks of eminent literary personalities and performers from West Asia
5	The Centre regularly organizes Photo/Painting Exhibitions on India-Arab Diplomatic and cultural relations
6	The Centre regularly participates in prestigious International Book Fairs and also organized book fairs to display its collection of books and publications on India-Arab Civilisational relations.

49. State whether the programme/ department is accredited/ graded by other agencies? If yes, give details.

The Centre is a UGC approved one with the purpose to promote India Arab Cultural Relations.

50. Briefly highlight the contributions of the department in generating new knowledge, basic or applied.

Through following academic activities the centre contributes to generate the production of knowledge in the field.

- Innovative research
- Local, national and international conferences
- Workshops, symposia, colloquia
- Occasional lectures
- Policy analysis,
- Publication of journals, books, monographs and working papers
- Film screenings
- Exhibitions
- Cultural activities

51. Detail any five Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Challenges (SWOC) of the department.

Strengths

1. India-Arab Cultural Centre already has recognition in the Arab world for its expertise on the Gulf Studies.

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2. The Centre has already undertaken a number of important research projects and has regular participation in international seminars and workshops organized in the Gulf and other places. Some of the prominent institutions with which the Centre is linked are:
  - a) Gulf Research Centre, UAE
  - b) Gulf Studies Centre, Exeter Univeristy, (UK)
  - c) Al-Ittihad Media Forum, Abu Dhabi
  - d) Gulf Research Centre -Cambridge
  - e) The Centre for Modern Orient (Germany),
  - f) Foreign Service Institute, New Delhi
  - g) Policy Planning and Research Division, Ministry of External Affairs
  - h) Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi
3. The Centre has a wide network of linkages with institutions in the Gulf for regular exchange programme, which is helping the Centre in building its library and other archival collection. The Centre has collaborated with;
  - (a) Abu Dhabi Authority for Cultural Heritage, UAE
  - (b) Ministry of Culture, State of Kuwait
  - (c) Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi
  - (d) National Library and Archives, Arab Republic of Egypt
  - (e) Al-Assad National Library, Damascus
4. The Centre currently enjoys a strong reputation among the Gulf diplomatic missions in India and Indian diplomatic missions in the Gulf.
5. State-of-the Art Facilities
  1. Exclusively dedicated building
  2. Library with a huge collection of Arabic language books
  3. ICT enabled class rooms
  4. Conference Hall and Seminar Room with advanced amenities

### Weakness

1. Shortage of faculty members
2. Shortage of Administrative support staff

### 52. Future plans of the department.

1. Gulf Archives: For the preservation of area related documents.
2. Audio-visual Documentation Unit: The scope of the proposed facility is to create audio, video, graphic and text documentation material covering various activities and events related to the history and society of the Gulf. The activities include commercial activities like pearl diving, fishing and petroleum drilling and events include various art forms, performances and life-cycle events among the natives of the Gulf countries.
3. Manuscript Digitization Unit: Thanks to India's ancient, medieval and early modern maritime trade connections with the Gulf countries, there is a very rich but largely unutilized collection

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of rare manuscripts in the holdings of libraries and individuals. The proposed programme shall embark on the digitization and preservation of such documents in digital format.

4. Library with primary materials: Journals, Popular magazines, Daily News Papers, Directories, Brochures, Technical literature, Monographs, Biographies and memoirs.
5. Film Archives: India-Arab Cultural Centre already boasts a film archive with two hundred plus feature films, documentaries, video footages and music albums from different parts of the Arab World. Films and documentaries from the Gulf countries constitute a significant share of this collection. The collection can be built up further with the cooperation of cultural missions of various countries and agencies assigned for cultural promotion in each Gulf country.
6. Exhibition Centre/ Art Gallery: An exhibition centre for regular display of paintings, photographs and works of art that speak eloquently of the Gulf region. India-Arab Cultural Centre presently has a state-of-the art exhibition hall with cutting edge facilities.
7. The Gulf Information Centre: The Gulf Information Centre is meant for documenting various events and issues in the region. The work may vary from simple filing of press cuttings and reports to indexing and abstracting of journal articles.
8. Integrated database  
Through integrated database, the proposed centre can stay in touch with institutions with similar mandate in India and abroad. The major purpose of this integrated database would be information sharing.