

**Minutes of the Second Advisory Committee Meeting of H.K. Sherwani Centre  
for Deccan Studies on 4th June 2013 at 11.30 a.m.**

The meeting was attended by the following:

1. Prof. Mohammad Miyan – Vice Chancellor, MANUU
2. Dr. Khwaja M. Shahid – P.V.C, MANUU
3. Prof. Abdus Sattar Dalvi – Member
4. Prof. V. Ramakrishna – Member
5. Prof. Kancha Ilaiah – Special Invitee
6. Mr. Mir Ayoob Ali Khan – Special Invitee
7. Dr. Salma Ahmed Farooqui – Honorary Director / Member Convenor

1. The Vice Chancellor, Chairman of the Advisory Committee, opened the meeting by welcoming all the invitees. Thereafter, he asked the Honorary Director Dr. Salma Ahmed Farooqui to present the agenda of the meeting. The Honorary Director through a power point presentation explained the scope, objectives, timeline of activities and goal of the Centre and specifically spoke about the research project undertaken by the Centre for Deccan Studies.
2. The meeting was held with a single point agenda to discuss the research project – tentatively titled *A Cartographic Profile of the Deccan*. The venture has put together 130 maps and charts some over five centuries old made by map-makers in different languages of different countries. The maps range from topographic maps, nautical and hydrographic charts and physical and political maps. Dr. Salma Ahmed Farooqui went on to discuss the interdisciplinary nature, utility, cultural function, source of collection, book plan, specifications and budget. She showed 12 sample maps of various nature to the committee members so that they get a clear picture of how this is being organized in the form of a book.
3. After this presentation, the house opened up to discussions. The Vice Chancellor started the talk by expressing his appreciation for the project undertaken by the Centre which he felt would further the name of the Maulana Azad National Urdu University in research. At the same time he said one needs to be careful about the resources acquired and it will be better to get a legal opinion about the copyright issues related to this matter.
4. Prof. V. Ramakrishna agreed with the idea put forth by the Vice Chancellor and gave the suggestion that since Prof. Irfan Habib, the well known Indian historian at AMU has worked on maps, the Centre could solicit his opinion and take a feedback from him about some issues regarding this project. He also wanted Dr. Salma Ahmed Farooqui to explain how the chapter on History of Cartography has been designed.
5. Mr. Mir Ayoob Ali Khan, Special Editor, Times of India, Hyderabad felt perhaps Prof. Irfan Habib could be requested to write an introduction to this particular research work provided time and his health permit. He also wanted to know if the Centre has spent any amount on procuring this collection. He wanted to know that since the Arab and Persian travelers came to India before the Europeans, was there any resource available of this kind about them.

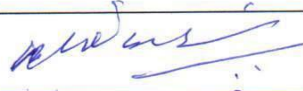

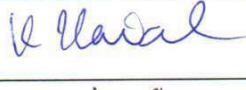

*Salma Ahmed Farooqui*



6. Prof. Kancha Ilaiah suggested that along with the text that has been scripted of the map maker and the interpretation of the map, some more information can be added about the contemporary socio-economic conditions of the Deccan. Prof. Ilaiah also wanted a clarification if these were the original copies of maps that the European Universities had acquired. He also wanted to know if all these are western sources and asked Dr. Salma Farooqui to read aloud the text of any one map to get a clearer picture of the content made.
7. Prof. Abdus Sattar Dalvi suggested that if some Arab, Persian and Chinese maps could be added to the existing collection of European travelers maps it would complete the profile.
8. Dr. Khwaja M. Shahid, P.V.C, MANUU while appreciating the work asked the Centre for Deccan Studies to use the existing resource of maps after getting a legal opinion about the copyright issues.
9. By and large all the members suggested that a legal opinion be sought on the copyright matter.
10. The Vice Chancellor while agreeing with this said that the focus should be more on the content in this particular meeting as the legal matter can always be sorted out. He also went on to say that the collection has been grouped with some logical reasoning hence it will not be proper to add maps that do not go well with this collection. The Vice Chancellor also asked the members to suggest names of the experts within the community of Indian historians who have worked on such aspects of map making. Prof. Dalvi suggested the name of Prof. Iqtidar Alam Khan.
11. The Vice Chancellor suggested that Prof. Irfan Habib be invited to MANUU and during his stay his opinion about the structure of the book can be taken. He also noted that the wider circulation of the book is imperative to this project hence it should be brought out in two versions – Urdu and English. He also asked the Honorary Director of the Centre to speak to some publishing houses who would seem interested in this. In this connection Prof. Ramakrishna suggested Oxford University Press.
12. There was a unanimous opinion that the translation should be done in simple language. The Vice Chancellor said keeping the internationality of this project in mind, the University will certainly provide required resources as it shows the serious research that is being undertaken by the University.
13. Mr. Mir Ayoob Ali Khan appreciated the Vice Chancellor's broad vision and said that a project of this kind is setting up of a milestone as there is no work of this kind done so far.
14. Dr. Salma Ahmed Farooqui appealed to the committee that a Centre of such kind with such a vast potential should have a thinking afresh approach and reorganize branches of knowledge so that new areas which haven't been examined so far are researched leading to findings at par with the best in the academic world.
15. The Vice Chancellor closed the meeting by suggesting that smaller committees within this group of larger committee can be formed as and when required. He also informed the committee that the construction work of the building of the Centre for Deccan Studies has commenced.
16. The meeting ended on a thank you note by the Vice Chancellor.

*Salma Ahmed Farooqui*



S.No	Members	Signature
1	Prof. Mohammad Miyan – Vice Chancellor, MANUU	
2	Dr. Khwaja M. Shahid – P.V.C, MANUU	
3	Prof. Abdus Sattar Dalvi – Member	
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