

Recommendations

To boost regional, economic and cultural cooperation among the Silk Route partners in Inner Asia & Europe, the following recommendations, framed by the committee comprising Professors(Drs.) Ruel Hanks(USA), Valeiry Khan (Uzbekistan), Akihiro Iwashita (Japan), Ajay Patnaik (JNU, India) and Mushtaq (Kashmir University, India), were adopted at the Valedictory function of the 4-day international conference(15-18 October, 2008) on "Dynamics & Revival of Silk Route: Perspective, Challenges & Opportunities" at the Centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir (Hereafter CCAS, UK):

- 1. Notwithstanding political, territorial and geographical demarcations, the ongoing Indo-Pak peace process and composite dialogue should be carried forward for multilateral benefits to the ancient Silk Route partners, China, Central Asian Republics (Hereafter CARs), Afghanistan, India and Pakistan including the peoples of J&K (India) and AJK (Pakistan);
- 2. The Home Affairs Departments and Ministries of External Affairs in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, China, CARs and Europe be requested to simplify visa regime to facilitate research and participation of the foreign delegates in international workshops, seminar and conferences;

- 3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India's communication: No.34-27/2008-U.4 dated, 6th August, 2008 relaxing prior consent of Govt. of India for foreign delegates in the international seminars & conferences at the Jawahar Lal Nehru University (JNU, New Delhi), should be invariably extended to other universities in India to avoid delays and inconvenience;
- 3. The *Centre of Central Asian Studies*, *University of Kashmir* (*CCAS*, *UK*), should regularly hold scholarly conferences on the role of the Silk Road to analyze and evaluate changes and developments taking place across Europe, South and Central Asia;
- 4. The *CCAS*, *UK* should organize the Silk Route expedition across Gilgit and other trans-Kashmir corridors to document and preserve the rapidly perishing Silk Route heritage: the rare ethnic communities, precious religious structures, glorious cities & towns, rich arts, crafts, folk and language;
- 5. The *CCAS*, *UK* should produce a Historical Atlas featuring the structure of Silk Route/s, its allied nodes, commodities, traders & merchants, religio-ideological agents and socio-cultural linkages between Asia and Europe;
- 6. While upholding the already signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with foreign universities & research institutions for the pursuit of joint research, conferences, publications and exchange of scholars, the *CCAS*, *UK*, should sign similar Memoranda of Understanding with such prestigious universities/institutes as are engaged in research on "Silk Route Strategy" in USA, Europe and Asia;
- 7. The *CCAS*, *UK* should publish the conference proceedings in several languages, English, Russian, etc. and seek support from the language experts in CARs for the purpose.

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