



Jeevan Rekha Parishad (JRP)



VOLUNTEERS INFORMATION-BOOKLET

Plot No. 387, ... square
C.S.Pur, ...
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ABOUT JRP:

Jeevan Rekha Parishad (JRP) is a nonprofit making voluntary organization working on sustainable development by promoting human rights and peace education, free primary education, women's equality, social and economic justice, cultural diversity and inter cultural exchanges. Founded in 1993, JRP is run and managed by a team of social workers.

For details visit: - www.jrpsai.org

Our Vision:

A self reliant society based on justice, equity and sustainability where every human being has the equal opportunity to maximize its potentialities.

Our Mission:

JRP brings rural and tribal communities together to educate them on environmental justice, Human rights and sustainable development

Our Networking:

JRP has established networking and partnership linkages with following international and national organizations:

01. Legal umbrella of Masterpeace Foundation, the Netherlands. ([Www.masterpeace.org](http://www.masterpeace.org))
02. India responsible for CESIE, Italy for EVS & YiA programmes.
03. EVS hosting & sending organizations for European Agencies.
04. Hosting Organisation of volunteers under Italian National Civil Services & French National Civil Services programmes.
05. Legal umbrella of Skills Entrepreneurship Forum for Sustainable Employment and Development (SEED).
06. Focal point of Right to Information (RTI) coalition- Utha Odisha.

Our work:

What we did (past projects)

01. Legal literacy Training for Tribal Women
02. Consumer awareness campaign
03. Safe motherhood advocacy campaign
04. RTI Awareness and advocacy campaign
05. Human Rights Education in schools.
06. Youth Peace Fest.



07. Honey Fair Trade Fair.
08. EVS and Youth Exchanges under YiA.
09. Italian Civil Services.
10. French National Civil Services.
11. India- Korea Youth Student Exchange .
12. Job Shadowing /Internship of European and African Youths.
13. Music for Peace Fest.
14. Sports for peace Fest.

Livelihood Promotion:

01. Micro credit promotion
02. Jute Diversification
03. Micro Credit.
04. Crab Fattening, Agriculture promotion.
05. Beekeeping, Honey processing.
06. Alternative Energy promotion, ECO Schools.

What We Do (current projects):

01. Honey bee keeping and Honey processes programmes for SC/T women- 300 women producing honey from honey bee boxes and saling the same on fair price.
02. Project ECO- Chillika: ECO education. Bio-diversity conservation aqnd women livelihood promotion(crab fattening ,psci culture ,vermin composting etc)
03. Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation programme in Chillika Island villages affected by Phailine cyclone.
04. Peace & Human Rights Education for Youth and students.
05. Conflict Mediation Centre- A centre of Excellence for conflict mediation through ADR Process.
06. Home Nursing training and Geriatric Health care Services.
07. Khusi-Sishu - No formal Education & Recreation Centre for slum children.
08. Micro Credit and Women for Sustainable Livelihood.
09. Peace Village - for youth.
10. Project Water Sanitation in tribal and coastal villages.
11. Green Paradise to market organic products.



FUTURE PROJECTS:

01. Eco-schools Networking Project. 02. Bio Diversity Conservation of Chilika Lagoon..
03. Language & computer schools in rural areas to teach English.
04. Old Age Home
05. Peace & Human Rights Education in schools/youths.
06. Vocational Training for working mothers.
07. Child labour schools.
08. Digital India School Campaign.
09. Students Exchange programme between India and Europe.
- 10.. Sending Indian Youths to Europe for Social Service Support.
11. Promoting Solar Energy in non- electrified villages.
12. Running Sishu Khushi Schools for drop out students of urban Slums.

Why do we need volunteers? Which skills?

JRP is run entirely by volunteers; they are the soul of our organization, and without them the important work we do would be impossible. We are eager to involve international volunteers in our organization because we believe they can bring fresh ideas to the table and diversify the skill sets we use to provide assistance to those in need. The co-operation and knowledge sharing that is born out of JRP 's connections with international volunteers is beneficial to everyone involved: the volu7nteers themselves, our local youth team, our organization and most importantly , the disadvantaged people we aim to help.

We are looking to take on skilled volunteers in order to develop the projects mentioned above, and also to work on existing ones. In particular, we need:

- Teachers for all subjects (including English) to teach our students in Chilika Island villages and tribal villages and also in slums schools of Bhubaneswar.
- Grant writers to help us acquire funding in order to develop upcoming projects.



- Leadership trainers to plan develop and conduct leadership trainings for youths in rural areas to promote peace & good governance.
- Alternative energies. We need qualified or experienced volunteers to help us open centres in several rural areas in Odisha. The volunteer would help us design and implement any alternative energy methods in our school and/or any of the co-operatives." Permaculture/organic farming. We need qualified or experienced volunteers to help us design, construct and develop a permaculture vegetable garden.
- Tailoring/fashion design. We need qualified or experienced volunteers to help us open centres in several rural areas in our project area. The volunteer would also train the youth & women from co-operatives in basic design.
- Mushrooming farming: We need qualified or experienced volunteers to help us open mushroom labs in chilika tribal districts.
- Veterinarians to help us take care of farm animals and to pass on basic knowledge to farmers and youth.
- Web/graphic designers to develop our website, a new corporate logo, posters, brochures, and other promotional materials.
- Co-operatives financial management. We need volunteers with financial or economics knowledge or experience to plan, develop and conduct trainings for the co-operatives around rural odisha for beekeeping and honey marketing.
- Photography/documentary film makers. We need volunteers to creat multimedia material such as documentaries, videos, interviews. This will help us promote our school and our ideas in Odisha and our organization around the world.
- Physiotherapists. We need experienced or qualified physiotherapist volunteers to take care of people especially older people.
- Doctors/nurses. Volunteer doctors and nurses are in high demand in rural odisha. Volunteers would prepare and conduct trainings for people in rural odisha and also help in rural hospitals where there is a shortage of doctors and nurses.
- Eco-Tourism Programmes in chilika lagoon areas.
- Intercultural exchanges.
- International Food Festival.
- Community Innovation Summer Camp.
- Master Peace Music Concert.



THE ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS.

The role of the volunteers within our organization is to act as support person and as execution agent to the activities and initiatives that already exist in the community or our NGO. They will have to bring their own motivation and plans in order to fill in the frame of these actions with meaningful, efficient content. The EVS activity of each volunteer is constructed as follows: they will have to allocate 60-70% of their time and activity, to work on this main activity, which they choose in the selection phase. 20-30% of the time, their task will be to do common activities with the other volunteers, activities which are done around the yearly community traditions, events, happenings and holidays of the community. 10% of their time will be spent to create and do visibility materials and promotion activities for the NGO and especially for their own EVS activity

Our organisation's objectives with EVS/ Youth Exchange? " Our organization is a youth centered, youth volunteers led nonprofit making organization working in coastal Orissa, India. Established by a group of women youth volunteers and social workers in 1993, our organisation (Jeevan Rekha Parishad (JRP) otherwise known as Life Line Council) is committed to undertake youth and cultural exchange programme between EU countries and India. Our organisation with the technical support of many other European and Asian Organisations has established Euro Asia Youth Network for sustainable youth and cultural exchange programme, Jobshadowing to document good practices on racism, human rights violation, peace, discrimination, xenophobia and sustainable education and development.. We adopt the nonformal method as one of our strategic intervention for our youth programmes. We strongly believe in the philosophy of EVS, youth exchange etc and also we have interested youth volunteers with our organisation to live in EU countries under EVS and other volunteers exchange programme and also ERASMUS+ programme.

Volunteering with JRP

When does each project start?

Some of our projects are ongoing and some of them require volunteers to get them off the ground. We are very flexible, and work in response to need and depending on our human resources. Volunteers may come and help us at any stage of a project. You should contact our volunteer coordinator and ask about the specific project which you are interested in. We will be happy to give you more details.



What are the minimum and maximum lengths of stay?

Usually we ask for a minimum stay of 3 months. However, this depends on the needs of the project and the skills of the volunteer. You should contact us about specific projects you are interested in.

There is no maximum length of stay. You can work with us as long as you want. However, we recommend that volunteers take a break every 6 months because resting is a very important part of any work and volunteering in Odisha, India.

Rules and Regulations of JRP - India

The key word is respecting each other with dignity - respect for mentor/ Coordinator, JRP staff, Indian volunteers, local culture and people.

Volunteers must

Participate in the planning and implementation of projects run by JRP and its Network members.

1. sign in daily attendance sheet if they are in the office
2. prepare a monthly report and final report (using a predetermined format) when they finished their work and submit it to Director - or Secretary - JRP
3. Attend all language classes and other trainings and programmes conducted by JRP.
4. co-operate with Indian volunteers, JRP members and staff in all activities and projects and use them a point of reference, informing them of progress
5. Visit Tourist places on holidays in consultation with JRP management/ Mentor.
6. NOT use drugs. It is strictly prohibited and illegal
7. Smoking in private places is also restricted .
8. use the support and assistance offered by JRP during problem or crisis
9. Use the available, resources of JRP and partner organizations. If they can increase the resources through fundraising it will be welcomed
10. Be responsible for their work and relations with related stakeholders
11. Take part in different seminar, conferences being organized by JRP and its partners.
12. Take European language classes/ spoken English classes once or twice a week for youth volunteers of India. As JRP proposes to start language school for youth from February, 2010.
13. Assist JRP in proposal writing and fund mobilization activities in India and from Europe.
14. Visit project area along with JRP staff as and when required.
15. Providing a monthly performance report to Hosting organization with pictures, video is mandatory.



16. The volunteers has to inform the hosting organization in writing for taking leave and going on holidays
17. The Volunteer has to take domestic license from Police department if she/he has to stay more than 3 months.
18. The volunteers have to assist JRP in its documentation, record keeping, proposal writing etc .

Cultural norms and values to consider respect and follow

1. India is a developing country - therefore facilities are not to European standards
2. Volunteers are coming to India for helping the community, learn about a different culture and share their own. They are here as volunteers and guests of JRP not as tourists.
3. Sometimes, our state faces communal riots. Therefore when volunteers wish to travel they are asked to inform their activity wise mentor or host organization
4. Indian and Orissan culture and tradition ought to be respected. Volunteers are asked to be open to and be motivated to learn about a new culture, tradition and language. They will be asked to observe or participate in the festivals
5. Using of drugs is strictly prohibited and illegal 6. It is discouraged to wear short skirt and open dresses in the rural area. It is better to wear Indian style Dresses in Orissa.
7. In India, people often have misconceptions that foreigners have money and they must be aware of this when meeting new people . So, one should know the actual cost of things . We will provide you the price list of different items.
8. Sex is a taboo in Orissa. Premarital or extramarital Sex is not accepted in the society. So, the volunteer has to consider this before making any friendship with Indian youth.
9. Going to disco is permitted. But kissing and Embracing each other in the disco may bring trouble. If one is going to Disco, S/he has to come back home before 10 pm. Travelling alone in the late night is not good and may give trouble.
10. It is better to visit different places with one JRP staff or volunteer for safety and security
11. Generally, people of Orissa take food like fish, chicken; crabs, Lobsters and mutton .They don't prefer beef, though beef is available in the hotel. Cooking beef in a Hindu family is prohibited.
12. In Orissa, the volunteers can learn the famous Odashi dance, music etc. One of our volunteers can teach them the same.



Practical arrangements

working hours - 6 hours each day, with possibility to do less or more according with the needs of volunteer and work, in those cases volunteers will have the right to recuperate hours days off - the weekend

holidays - all holidays that Indian calendar foresee and 2 vacation days per month of volunteering, volunteer can take them each month or accumulate and take more days in a specific period

Food - volunteer will have money to buy their own food, he/she will also have the kitchen in the flat to cook. Gas Connection is provided but resupply of gas takes one/two days in India. The volunteer has to eat outside during the period. accommodation - when the volunteer arrives he/she will stay in the rented residence in the city centre, near the office, preferable with other youths so as to encourage language acquisition

local transport - for all planned activities in which the volunteer need to use public means JRP will pay for the transportation. Local buses and Auto are available in the city near the office for transport. For visiting project area at Chilika/ Nayagarh etc, the volunteer has to travel by bus.

Rules for Living in the Rented Flat of JRP..

- The volunteers have to stay in the flat on bed sharing basis.
- The Kitchen is meant for all volunteers staying in the flat. So use of Kitchen by the volunteers has to be planned jointly..
- Maintaining cleanness is the sole responsibility of the volunteers staying in the flat.
- No strangers are allowed to the flat as per the rules of the society/ cultural norm. The volunteers can meet the strangers in lobby /reception counter of the flat. Only relatives of volunteers or volunteers permitted by JRP can stay in the flat.
- High sound music and dancing in the flat is also prohibited as there are other families living in the flat. Also, it is beyond the culture of India.
- The hosting organisation, the owner of the flat will check the condition flat and furniture on regular interval. If the furniture will be damaged by a volunteers or the group of volunteers, the cost of the same has to be paid by the volunteer/s.
- The hosting organisation will only provide bed, mattress, pillow, bed sheet etc in the flat. Other materials have to be purchased/ arranged by the respective volunteer.
- Internet connection is given in the office only. However, the internet connection can be provided in the flat on request of volunteer.
- There is aqua guard installed in the flat for safe drinking water.



Visitors' Code of Conduct

Please respect the following visitor's code of conduct during your stay in the village:

- There is no alcohol or pork allowed in Muslim villages, please respect this important village Protocol
- Please take off your shoes before entering a house, temple or building.
- Women should dress modestly so as to cover knees, chest and shoulders. Please avoid low cut tops and low hung jeans. We recommend T-shirts and board shorts over your bikini when at a beach near the villages.
- Please do not show strong affection in public
- Please ask before taking photos of people
- We advise not to feed the monkeys or wild animals





FROM PREVIOUS YOUTH EXCHANGES





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The sacred environs of Lord Jagannath temple, the eroticism of Konark's Sun temple, the wondrous caves of Jainism, the mystical monasteries of Buddhism, the paintings of folklore and the weaver's magic; all stand as meek evidences of an eloquent past and continuing golden present of Odisha. The state has a rich cultural heritage. The capital city of Bhubaneswar is known for the exquisite temples that dot its landscape. The classical dance form Odishi also originated in Odisha. Contemporary Odisha has a proud cultural heritage that arose as a result of the intermingling of three great religious traditions - Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism. The culture of the Adivasis is an integral part of modern Oriya heritage. Oriya is the mother tongue of the people of Odisha, however, English is also widely used for official purpose.

This land of fascinating beauty also boasts of colourful festivals round the year. The world-famous 'car festival' (rath yatra) is celebrated every year in the Hindu month of Ashadha (mid-June to mid-July) in Puri. Odisha is also the land of unique handicrafts and other excellent artefacts.

Ancient Odisha (Orissa) was a confluence of racial streams that kept on invading the state leaving their own imprints thus affecting the life style a lot. Historians believe that Aryans entered Odisha (Orissa) from the northeast, subjugated the primitive people living there and imposed on them their language and culture. But on reflection we conclude that the people then living in the land were not perhaps all of the primitive type, nor were they subjugated culturally. What might have happened probably was a racial and cultural amalgamation.

In spite of being rural, people of Odisha (Orissa), have still retained India's earliest civilization in its pristine form by keeping their traditional values still alive. Not only in their secluded hamlets, but also in the countless thousands of villages in the country side one can catch a glimpse of the dwindling horizon of humanity, through the innocent and benign outlook of tile villagers. A sensitive person who happens to be a prisoner of the modern society with its stress and strain will not, while in a typical Oriya village, fail to mark the relationship of its common people with God, nature and their fellow men.

Contact: For more information or any other questions please contact our Director- Dr. M R Mishra, manu2orissa@yahoo.com You can also visit our website : www.jrpsai.org





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