

## **BIO-DATA**



**Name** : **DR. RAJAN GURUKKAL, P. M.**  
**Profession** : **Vice-Chancellor**  
**Address** : **Mahatma Gandhi University, Priyadarshini Hills P.O.  
Kottayam : 686 560.**  
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### **Education :**

- **M.A** in History. First Class & First Rank. 1972 University of Calicut.
- **M.Phil.** in Social History Socio-economic Functions of the Temple. A Grade. 1978 Jawaharlal Nehru University. New Delhi.
- **Ph.D** in Socio-economic History of Land System. Jawaharlal Nehru University. New Delhi. 1985

### **Awards :**

Teacher Fellowship. Indian Council of Historical Research. 1977  
National Teacher Fellowship. University Grants Commission. 1980  
Oravakkal Mathen Memorial Best Academician Award. 1986

### **Positions Held :**

- Lecturer in History. Union Christian College. Aluva. Kerala. 1972 - 87
- Assistant Professor in History. Centre for Historical Studies. Jawaharlal Nehru University. New Delhi. 1988 - 90
- Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, 1991-1993.
- Member of the Syndicate of the Mahatma Gandhi University, 1991-1993.
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Indian History Congress, 1987, 1992, 1993, 1997, & 1998.
- Sectional President, Indian History Congress, 1998
- Member of the Advisory Committee of the Gazetteer, Government of Kerala, 1987 - 90
- Member of the Advisory Committee of Cultural Publications, Government of Kerala, 1997 - 99
- Member of the Advisory Committee of Archives Bulletin, Government of Kerala, 1997 - 90
- Member of the Governing Council of the Madras Institute of Development Studies, 1995 - 97
- Member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of the Madras Institute of Development Studies - Review of Development and Change, 1998 onwards
- Member of the Lakshadweep Socio-cultural Research Commission, 1996-2001
- Sociological Consultant, India Eco- Development World Bank Project, Periyar Tiger Reserve, 1998 onwards

- Member, Advisory Committee, Kerala Research Programme for Local Level Development, Centre for Development Studies, 1999 onwards
- Dean of Humanities, Kannur University, 2000-2002
- Joint Secretary, Indian History Congress, 2002 onwards
- Member, academic Senate, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, 1999-2001
- Member, Executive Committee, International Association of Social Semiotics, 2000 onwards
- Member, Kerala Council of Historical Research, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, 2004 onwards
- Member, Foundation, Periyar Tiger Reserve, 2005 onwards
- Sectional President, Historiography Section, Andhrapradesh History Congress, Cudappa, 2007
- Member, Research Committee, State Planning Board, Kerala, 2008
- Professor & Director, School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala
- Soundararajan Visiting Professor, Centre for Contemporary Studies, IISc., Bangalore, 2008 - 2009
- Member, Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, 2008 onwards
- From 16<sup>th</sup> November 2008, Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University.

### **Experience :**

- Thirty-five years' seven months Post-graduate Teaching & Research in Socio-economic History.
- Ten Years' of Social Development Project Researches & Training
- Five Years' teaching and research in Human Ecology and Human Geography.
- Five Years' teaching in Social Theory

### **Foreign Experience :**

- Lectures and Seminars in Germany, England and Canada (Humboldt, Leipzig, Berlin, Toronto, Kingston, and Manchester Universities) 1984
- Brief International Lecture Tours in China and Japan (Shanghai, Tokyo, Taisho Universities) 1999
- Invited Professor at *Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociale*, Paris, 2002
- Social Anthropology and Archaeology of Water Management in Southern India, Asia Links Project Curriculum Workshop, Montpellier, France, 2004
- Social Water Management Curriculum Workshop, Ruhuna University, Sri Lanka, 2005

### **Current Researches :**

Early-historic Archaeology, Historical Socio-economic Processes, Historical Social Anthropology, Historical Human Geography and Human Ecology (Western Ghats)

## **Publications :**

- a) About hundred Articles in various Research Journals/periodicals of International Repute
- b) Six Books

## **Projects Done (Ten Studies on Human Ecology, Historical Geography and Socioeconomics):**

1. Fringe Area Socio-economic Study of the Periyar Tiger Reserve, World Bank Project (IEDP, 2002-03)
2. Socio-economic Sustainability Study, Periyar Tiger Reserve, World Bank Project (IEDP, 2003)
3. Sabarimala Enclave: Pilgrim Impact Assessment, Periyar Tiger Reserve, World Bank Project (IEDP, 2002-03)
4. Process Documentation Research, Periyar Tiger Reserve, World Bank Project (IEDP, 2003-04)
5. Neyyar, Peppara, Chinnar and Parambikkulam, World Bank Kerala Forestry Project (2004-05)
6. PFM Performance Appraisal, World Bank Kerala Forestry Project (2004-05)
7. Parambikkulam, Nelliampathy, Vazhachal Landscape Project (In collaboration with the French Institute, Pondicherry, 2005-06)
8. Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Improvement Project, Agasthyamala Landscape (Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India, 2006-07)
9. Ford Foundation Project on Historical Atlas of South India, in collaboration with the French Institute, Pondicherry (2006 April – 2008 April)
10. UNDP Project of Kerala State Planning Board, on Suicide Trends in Kerala, 2007-08

## **Summary**

- At present Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. (2008- )
- Dr. Rajan Gurukkal formerly Professor & Director, School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, was Soundararajan Visiting Professor, Centre for Contemporary Studies, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
- He has been teaching Social Theory and Socio-economic history.
- A postgraduate in history with First Class & First Rank (1972) from the University of Calicut, he continued his studies in JNU where he secured both M.Phil and Ph.D in historical socio-economics. He had taught at the Centre for Historical Studies of JNU for a few years before he joined his present post.
- He has held several important positions such as the Dean of Faculty, member of the academic council, senate and syndicate of a few Universities and social

science research Institutes, advisor to research journals and publications, executive committees of professional bodies like Indian History Congress and International Association of Semioticians.

- He has written about a hundred articles in various Research Journals of International Repute, a few chapters in various compilation volumes. He has written six books (three in Malayalam and the rest in English). Three of his books are on Socio-economic and Cultural History of Kerala, one on Structural Anthropology, one on Historical Sociology, and one on Human Ecology of the Southern Western Ghats. He has written many popular articles in various dailies and periodicals too on current issues.
- He has travelled extensively and lectured at several Universities in the Country as well as abroad such as Humboldt, Leipzig and Berlin (Germany), Toronto and Kingston (Canada), Manchester (UK), Shanghai (China), Tokyo and Taisho (Japan) are the Universities. He was Invited Professor and post-doctoral researcher at *Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociale*, Paris.
- Historical human ecology and human geography are his areas of current research interest. He has done a few research projects on issues belonging to these areas. Historical atlas of south India is the Project now under way.

**RAJAN GURUKKAL**

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