



KOTTAKKAL FAROOK **ARTS & SCIENCE COLLEGE**

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EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Instructions for Conducting Onam-themed Experiential Learning and Community Engagement Programmes

Dear Department Heads and Faculty Members,

As we approach the festive season of Onam, we have a wonderful opportunity to engage our students in meaningful Experiential Learning and Community Engagement Programmes that are tied to the spirit of this festival. By connecting the essence of Onam with our respective disciplines, we can provide students with valuable experiences while contributing positively to our community. Below are guidelines for each department to organize Onam-themed programmes:

Commerce and Management:

1. **Local Business Showcase:** Engage students in creating profiles of local businesses that showcase the essence of Onam, such as sellers of traditional clothes, sweets, and home decor.
2. **Marketing Campaigns:** Assign projects where students design marketing campaigns for local businesses during the Onam season.
3. **Financial Planning Workshops:** Organize workshops to educate the community on budgeting and financial planning for the festive expenses.

English:

1. **Onam Storytelling:** Encourage students to write and share stories inspired by Onam traditions. Arrange storytelling sessions in local schools or community centers.
2. **Onam Poetry Contest:** Organize a poetry contest focusing on the themes of Onam, culture, and unity. Showcase the winning poems in community spaces.
3. **Cultural Exchange:** Collaborate with local schools to arrange cultural exchange events where students share the significance of Onam through presentations.

Economics:

1. **Onam Market Analysis:** Assign projects where students analyze the economic impact of Onam on local markets, price fluctuations, and consumer behavior.
2. **Sustainable Celebrations:** Promote discussions on sustainable ways to celebrate Onam, considering economic implications and responsible consumption.
3. **Community Budgeting Workshop:** Educate the community on effective budgeting for Onam expenses, considering both financial wellness and cultural significance.

Political Science:

1. **Community Dialogue on Unity:** Host discussions on the political and social aspects of Onam, emphasizing unity, harmony, and cultural integration.
2. **Local Governance and Festivals:** Explore how local governance contributes to the successful organization of Onam celebrations. Engage students in discussions on policies supporting cultural events.
3. **Community Participation Campaign:** Encourage students to engage with local communities and discuss the significance of active participation in cultural celebrations.

Botany:

1. **Onam Flower Arrangement:** Collaborate with local florists and students to create eco-friendly flower arrangements inspired by traditional Onam designs.
2. **Eco-friendly Celebrations:** Educate the community about environmentally conscious ways to celebrate Onam, focusing on sustainable practices.
3. **Planting Workshops:** Organize workshops on planting local plants used in Onam decorations, connecting botany with cultural practices.

Physics:

1. **Science of Onam Decorations:** Conduct interactive sessions explaining the physics behind traditional Onam decorations, such as the floating flower arrangement.
2. **Physics of Traditional Games:** Engage students in demonstrating the physics principles underlying traditional Onam games and activities.

3. Science Awareness Fair: Organize a science fair showcasing the scientific aspects of Onam, integrating physics with cultural celebrations.

Let's embrace the spirit of Onam by infusing our disciplines with cultural significance and community engagement. These programmes will not only provide our students with enriching experiences but will also foster connections with our local community.

Thank you for your commitment to creating meaningful learning experiences.

Experiential Learning and Community Engagement Programme: Onam Celebrations

Introduction: The Experiential Learning and Community Engagement Programme centered around Onam Celebrations offers students a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the cultural richness of the festival while actively engaging with the local community. Onam, a significant national festival in Kerala, holds deep cultural significance and is celebrated with enthusiasm. This project combines experiential learning with community involvement to understand, celebrate, and contribute to the spirit of Onam.

Project Duration: The project will encompass the period of Onam celebrations, commencing from the 25th of the month onwards.

Project Objectives:

1. To experientially explore the cultural dimensions of Onam celebrations.
2. To actively engage with the local community and contribute to the festivities.
3. To document the essence of Onam celebrations and its impact on the community.

Project Roadmap:

Step 1: Selecting a Focus Area

- Choose a specific aspect of Onam celebrations to focus on, such as traditional rituals, decorations, culinary traditions, or cultural performances.
- Research and gain an understanding of the chosen aspect.

Step 2: Active Participation and Documentation

- Engage in the chosen aspect of Onam celebrations through active participation.
- Document your experiences, observations, and interactions during the festivities.

Step 3: Community Engagement

- Collaborate with local community members to understand their roles and contributions to Onam celebrations.
- Offer assistance or contribute in a meaningful way to the community's preparations for Onam.

Step 4: Reflective Analysis

- Reflect on the impact of your involvement on the community and your personal understanding of the festival.
- Analyze the cultural significance of the chosen aspect and how it contributes to community bonding.

Step 5: Presentation and Community Sharing

- Create a presentation showcasing your experiential journey, community engagement, and insights gained.
- Organize a community sharing session to present your findings and experiences to peers and community members.

Step 6: Documentation and Reporting

- Compile your experiences, reflections, analysis, and presentation materials into a comprehensive report.
- Submit the report to the designated faculty member for evaluation.

Assessment Criteria: Your project will be assessed based on the depth of your engagement, the quality of documentation, the sensitivity shown towards the community, the analytical reflections presented, and the effectiveness of your presentation.

Community Engagement Guidelines:

- Approach the community members with respect, humility, and a willingness to learn from their experiences.
- Collaborate on tasks that genuinely contribute to the community's preparations.

- Ensure that your engagement enhances the overall celebrations for both you and the community.

Note: The project focuses on experiencing the festival and actively contributing to the community that celebrates it. This holistic approach fosters cultural understanding, community connection, and personal growth.

By participating in this Experiential Learning and Community Engagement Programme, you will be able to connect with the essence of Onam, develop empathy for the local community, and experience the joy of celebrating a cherished festival together.