

Advertisement for post-doctoral Research Associate for my INSA project 1998
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[HM] RA in History of the Calculus

Posted: Jul 16, 1998 11:00 PM

Wanted: Research Associate in the History of Mathematics

This is a unique opportunity to work in a high-profile area for the project

Madhava and the Origin of the Differential Calculus,

sponsored by the Indian National Science Academy, coordinated by C. K. Raju. The project seeks to revise the current history of the calculus. It will focus on early developments in the calculus 1400-1720, and will cover all aspects of the Madhava/Gregory/Taylor series expansion, and its transmission from the Malabar coast to Europe, especially through the manuscripts of Jyesthadeva's Yuktibhasha (1501), and the roughly contemporary Tantrasangraha of Neelkantha Somayajulu. Only incomplete and rough English translations of the above manuscripts are today available, and the work will involve a close comparison of the contents of these manuscripts with some of the work of Kepler, Cavalieri, Fermat, Pascal, Wallis, Gregory, Newton, Leibniz, and Taylor.

Qualifications: Ph.D. in mathematics, physics or allied field. Should be thorough with calculus, basic analysis, and its use in classical dynamics and planetary motion. Knowledge of at least one of Malayalam, Sanskrit, or Latin. Some exposure to the philosophy of non-formal mathematics would be preferred.

Location: National Institute of Science, Technology, and Development Studies, Pusa, New Delhi, 110012, India. This institution functions under the umbrella of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, an organization of the Government of India.

Duration: Initially for one year, but likely to be extended to three years.

Contact: ckraju@csnistad.ernet.in OR c_k_raju@hotmail.com. Avoid sending applications by post because a postal strike is on. Applications may also be couriered to Dr. C. K. Raju at NISTADS at the above address, or faxed to 91-(0)11-575-4640 or 91-(0)11-221-6895 (redial later in case of voice response).

Applications open until: 29 July 98. Subsequently until the position is filled.