

Gandhinagar, Thursday, May 7, 2015

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**“GNLU Faculty to Teach Indian Legal History to Japanese Scholars and Students
at Osaka, Japan”**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Greetings from GNLU!

Globalization and Internalization of education is very vibrant modern phenomenon today. Although it is a modern trend, it is not a new phenomenon as its roots date back to ancient times when various travelers from around the world, including the far eastern countries used to visit India for studying in our very own ancient Universities, viz., Nalanda and Taxila. Such academic and cultural exchange between India and far eastern countries is as old as the rise of Buddhism in countries such as China, Korea and Japan.

Indo-Japan Relations:

The friendship between India and Japan has a long history which is rooted in spiritual affinity and strong cultural and civilizational ties. Even today, the positive legacy of the old association has been strengthened by shared values of belief in democracy, individual freedom and the rule of law. Over the years, the two countries have built upon these values and created a partnership based on both principle and pragmatism. Today, India is the largest democracy, not only in Asia but also in the world while Japan being one of the most prosperous one.

In the first week of September 2014, PM Narendra Modi visited Japan. Consequent to this visit, the two countries decided to enhance the cooperation in defense and other strategic areas and has also signed



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five pacts covering defense exchange, cooperation in clean energy, roads and highways, health care and women, while vowing to take their relationship to newer level.

In pursuant to the strategic ties, the Gujarat National Law University and Osaka University in Japan have come together and collaborated to do research and teaching. GNLU is one of the fastest growing Law Universities in India and is setting a new benchmark of excellence in various areas of law under the able leadership of Prof (Dr.) Bimal N. Patel, the Director of the University. The areas include Law of the Sea, Corporate Governance, Law and Economics, Legal Heritage etc. To promote legal heritage of Asia, GNLU together with Osaka University of Japan, is exploring into novel enormity of understanding law governing mechanism with three dimensional studies in past and present and to set up more appropriate law and governance activities for future. As part of the collaboration, both the universities have initiated a faculty exchange programme to accomplish this applied research in legal history. In this initiative, Dr. Richa Sharma, Assistant Professor of History at GNLU has been selected for a teaching and research assignment at the Graduate School of Law and Politics, Osaka University for a month from 8th May 2015 to 8th June 2015. Dr. Sharma has been invited as Visiting Associate Professor after clearing a tough selection procedure. During her visit, she will be conducting extensive research in comparative legal history of India and Japan so as to enhance global understanding on Legal Heritage of Asia. Apart from research, she will also be delivering a series of lectures to Japanese scholars and students on Legal Heritage of India, Colonial Encounter and Development of Law in India and Sustainable Developments in Indian laws, both past and present.

For further details, you may contact Dr. Joshua Aston (+918511188724 or jaston@gnlu.ac.in).