

# Maharishi Markandeshwar (Deemed to be University)

Mullana-Ambala, Haryana (India), 133207

(Established under Section-3 of the UGC Act, 1956. Accredited by NAAC with A-Grade)

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Ref. No.: MMDU/ICVHE/2020

06.03.2020

**Subject: Postponement of the 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Human Values in Higher Education scheduled for March 20-22, 2020 at Maharishi Markandeshwar (Deemed to be University), Mullana-Ambala.**

Dear Sir/Madam

Namaskar!

As you are aware that preparations are at advanced stage for organizing 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Human Values in Higher Education to be held on March 20-22, 2020 at Maharishi Markandeshwar (Deemed to be University), Mullana-Ambala for which Organizing Teams are continuously interacting with the esteemed Educators and Policy Makers who have already registered for participation and others. Confirmations of the registration have been sent to almost all esteemed Delegates and in certain cases, their itinerary have also been received.

However, Central Government and State Governments have issued certain advisories in view of the detection of Novel Coronavirus (covid-19) in some parts of the country which include avoiding public gatherings. All International Passengers are being mandatorily screened at the airports and in certain cases, a ban has been imposed for travellers from specific countries.

More than 25 International Delegates had registered for participating in the Conference for which confirmation of registration was sent but most of such prospective delegates have now withdrawn because of threat of Novel Coronavirus.

The essence of these International Conferences, being held in series since 2012, is sharing of the good work done in promoting Universal Human Values in Educational Institutions and **Key Achievements through this conference 2012 – 2020** are listed below:

“Efforts on Universal Human Values (UHV) have led to a sharper articulation of the purpose, content and process of education. Based on UHV, there have been initiatives in several areas including education, technology, management and health.

In the area of education:

- Since 2005, some 40 universities have incorporated UHV in their core academic curricula with encouraging results
- Since 2018, AICTE has placed UHV in its model curriculum with a view to incorporate human values in all facets of education, that will lead to understanding and living with values. Presently the effort is on to prepare the faculty of about 10,000 AICTE affiliated professional colleges for:
  - Human values based 3-week mandatory Student Induction Program (SIP)
  - UHV-II, a mandatory 3-credit foundation course on understanding harmony
- 2 universities and some CSOs (NGOs) in Bhutan have been teaching universal human values since 2012. The Bhutan Institute of Wellbeing is conducting workshops with a core UHV content for young farmers and local administration in

- an effort to revitalize their villages; they are also sharing the UHV content in their Golden Youth Program
- In Bangladesh, UHV is being incorporated in one university from the academic year 2020-21

In the area of health:

- An educational module on Holistic Human Health – “How to Stay Healthy” has been developed. It has drawn out universal principles governing holistic human health. The early workshops held on this were quite well received. The material is being refined so that it can soon be incorporated in various stages of education (K-12, higher education etc.)
- A Happiness Model of Rehabilitation has been developed and intensively tried out for alcohol and substance users in Bhutan by the Bhutan Institute of Wellbeing. It focuses on primarily treating the Self. The initial results (in last 2-3 years) have been very satisfactory – the “sober rate” has increased from 30% to 53%.”


9<sup>th</sup> ICHVHE is again focused on sharing this good work done by many universities & thousands of volunteers and preparing strategies for its propagation in a structured manner, the absence of key esteemed Educators and Policy Makers specifically from the SAARC countries will adversely affect the outcomes from these efforts.

In view of these developments, we are pained to postpone 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Human Values in Higher Education to be held on March 20-22, 2020 at Maharishi Markandeshwar (Deemed to be University), Mullana-Ambala till fresh dates are fixed in consultation with the Organizing Partners. I express my gratitude from the core of my heart to all esteemed Educators and Policy Makers, who have registered for participation in this Conference and regret the inconvenience caused to them for postponing this event.

We look forward to meet again for this Conference in near future to keep up the spirit of promoting Universal Human Values in Higher Education in particular and global society in general.

*With warm regards*

Yours sincerely,

  
Prof. Victor Gambhir  
Vice Chancellor