



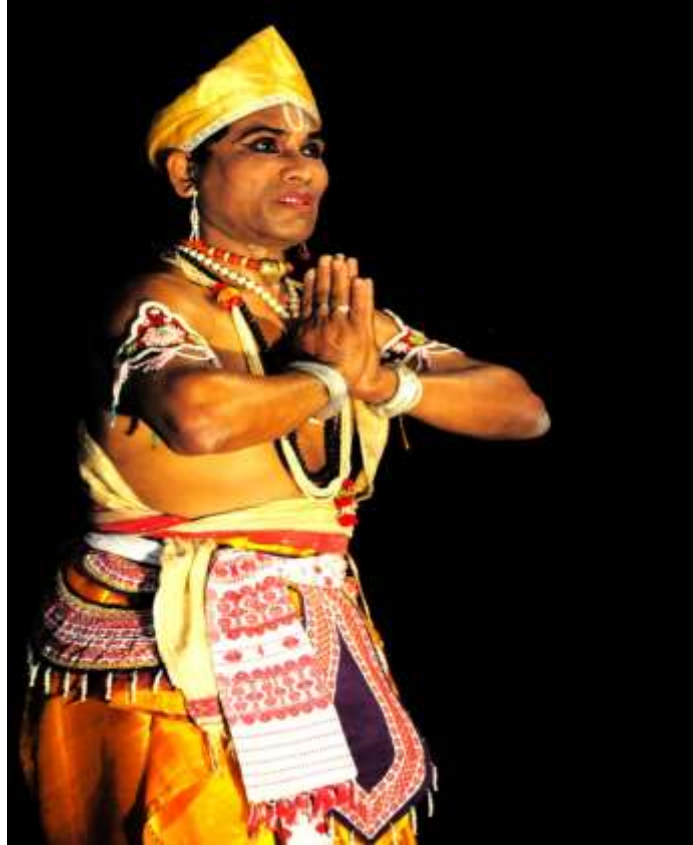
মাজুলী সাংস্কৃতিক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
MAJULI UNIVERSITY OF CULTURE

PROSPECTUS 2020-21

**Majuli University of Culture
Kamalabari-785106
Majuli, Assam**



www.muoc.ac.in



Vision and Mission

Planned as a State institution of higher education and learning in the field of art and culture the Majuli University of Culture, Majuli, shall engage itself for study and cultivation of the various dimensions of culture and civilization with an objective of promoting them to the level of an excellent and competitive order. Covering all aspects of culture within its ambit the University is destined to be a multidisciplinary institution of higher education with necessary emphasis on the vocational and professional side of learning, and high-quality research and training to make education a tool of social development and economic independence. India being a multi-cultural society with rich and colourful heritage in the field of ideas and institutions, cultures and civilizations, languages and literatures, folklore, religion and philosophy, food and health, art and architecture -these aspects shall constitute the basic concern of the University within the greater cobweb of global human civilization. In fine, it envisions to make itself a finely designed institution of innovation and research and a dependable institution for imparting education structured upon Indian values and ethos. The aim is to help transforming India to a hub of capable citizens who can successfully respond to the 21st century situations with their vibrant knowledge stores.

About University

Majuli University of Culture is a public state university located in Majuli, Assam, dedicated for research, teaching and education in the field of culture. The university is established by Majuli University of Culture Bill, 2017 which was passed by the Government of Assam on 7 September 2017.

The University plans to grow as a non-affiliating multidisciplinary higher educational institution with specialization in the studies and research in culture and cultural heritage of India with an objective of making it gradually a University of Category 1 as defined in the New Education Policy of India. Study and research in the multidimensional cultural life of the people of India, more particularly, those of Assam and the North East being its primary concern, the University envisions itself to grow finally as an institution of multidimensional education to enable it to embrace within its scope all disciplines including liberal arts and basic sciences pertaining to human cultures and civilization. The objective is to create a class of useful citizens who would be able to lead our society in the face of the twenty-first century multi-dimensional necessities. With both Undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes and programmes of critical research in the field of humanities and social sciences, folklore and orality, language and literature, music and dance, dramatic and theatre arts, applied, visual and fine arts, various forms of traditional and modern crafts and vocations, design and architecture, archaeology, ethnography and sculpture, Indian traditional systems of health cultures and knowledge systems, and any other forms of human knowledge, with particular reference to the plural culture complex of North East India the University aims to provide education towards making India a first category knowledge-hub and a centre of attraction for all classes of knowledge-seekers from across the world.



About Majuli



An island in the great Brahmaputra in its upper region, till recently a part of the Jorhat District of Assam, Majuli is now a full-fledged district of the State with nearly 2 lakh population (1,67,204 with a density rate of 300 per sq. kms. as per 2011 Census record) and about 500 sq. kms in area. Once a large island -as large as to measure about 160 miles in length -from Tekeliphutarmukh in the east to Kaliabar in Nagaon in the west, and 16 miles in breadth, at the maximum, by the close of the 19th century, it has ever been a beautiful landscape with numerous river channels -dead or alive, ponds and swamps, flora and fauna and many other geographical and topographical distinctions and varieties. Known primarily for its Vaishnava culture and the *satra* institutions, it was here in this beautiful historic island that the two great Bhakti saints of Assam *Mahapurusha* Srimanta Sankaradeva and his disciple *Mahapurusha* Madhavadeva met each other in the village of Belaguri Dhuwahat as early as the early 16th century. They preached their gospel here for more than a decade establishing the centres of their activities and common prayer halls (*namghar*), practicing *nama-kirtana*, performing *bhaona* and composing literary works. It was from here again that the great saint Srimanta Sankaradeva propounded his theory of non-violence saying that if by doing violence to the animate world one goes to the heaven, who else is going to the hell? Taking this inheritance into account the Ahom rulers later began to patronize their movement and made the island a centre of devotionism by establishing a number of *satras* and facilitating them to propagate bhakti. These *satras* upholding the bhakti tradition left by the duo (the *moni-kancana* as distinguished by the hagiographical literature) still form the special feature of the socio-cultural life of a large section of its people. It is on the strength of this cultural heritage that Majuli was proposed to the UNESCO by the national Government to be enlisted as a world heritage site in the cultural landscape category.

Already a homeland for the Deuris and the Kacharis, two aboriginal tribes of the Brahmaputra Valley, the island experienced the flow of the Mising tribe towards the close of the

18th and early 19th century from across the old channel of the Brahmaputra –the Luit, who began their settlement almost over the entire northern fringe of the island along the sides of the old river channels. Their number gradually grew and by the mid-20th century it increased to comprise about 70 per cent of the total tribal population of the island, and about 46 per cent of its total strength. The rest are caste-people including some Bengalis- chiefly the erstwhile East-Bengal immigrants, the Marwari traders, and others. The significant aspect about these people is that not only by sharing a major part in the total population strength of the island, they have also played major role in shaping the life and culture of the island. Hard working and agriculturist by vocation, and expert in the field of various forms of art and craft, these tribes, particularly, the Misings govern a large part of the economic life of the island at present. But the most noticeable aspect of these people rests in their colourful cultural life woven in the pristine character of their belief, customs and rituals, rich oral traditions, and above all, in their way of life.

Although it is not clear as to when this historic island was formed, mythical narrative brings its antiquity back to remote past. The medieval historical documents clearly mention it to have existed at least by the early 16th century by its historic name MAJULI, if not much earlier. The process of its making and unmaking however remains continuous. Similar to its role in the making of the Bhakti Movement, Majuli also had been a part in all the major phases of the historical developments of the State since the known past: the Ahom polity and administration, the 18th-century civil insurrection in the form of the Moamariya revolt, the early 19th century Burmese invasions, the British rule and the Freedom Struggle thereafter, and the like, till present times - the ‘Assam Movement’ and after. Having suffered from geographical isolation and cut off from the mainland Assam for centuries due to its being a mid-river island, Majuli remains an independent society by itself since beginning maintaining its own social, cultural and spiritual air and identity. As a measure to end up a part of this long suffering the island was declared by the Government of Assam as a district on 8 September, 2016 with its headquarters at Garamur, the place where the great embankment called *Lahdoi Garh* built by the Ahom King Pratap Singha in the year 1603, came to an end, and where King Jayadhwaj Singha (1648-1663) established the famous monastery known by the name Garamur Satra after that. Home to five Degree and ten Senior Secondary Schools (Junior Colleges) at present with about a hundred High Schools and high literacy rate -more than the State rate, Majuli, like any other isolated medieval agrarian society, was a land of mass illiteracy; and, as late as the early 20th century rarely someone could dare to attend a higher education institution across the large channel of the Brahmaputra so that the first ever Graduate of the island (the honourable *Keshabram Bora*) could not be produced earlier than 1920. It is in the light of this cultural and intellectual background and growing trend of literacy and education that the Government of Assam has rightly established the state’s first and the only Cultural University in the island in the year 2019.

Most people herein the island are Vaishnava by faith in the tradition of the two *Mahapurushas* –Samkaradeva and Madhavadeva. The *namghar* and *satra*, and *bhaona*, *ras-lila*, *janmastami*, *phalgutsav*, *the Ali Aye Lrigang*, and a few other festivals are the major institutions and festivals of the people of this island besides Bihu, the national festival of the Assamese people composed of both castes and tribes. An out and out agrarian society, Majuli does not have any industry of its own making its inhabitants largely dependent on agriculture and a little amount of trade. However, it boasts of its traditional craft of pottery cultivated by a small part of its population inhabiting the south-eastern part of the island on the bank of the

Brahmaputra, of the traditional art of mask-making for which the Chamaguri Satra as a centre of the craft is well-known, of the art of rearing mulberry silk and producing its silk by a section of its people who cultivates it as their profession, and of a few other crafts like boat-making, making of the cane-fans with floral designs, wood work and so forth.

Vice Chancellor's Message



Prof. Dambarudhar Nath

Vice Chancellor, Majuli University of Culture

The Majuli University of Culture, Majuli, has been established by the Government of Assam vide its Act XXXVII, 2017, as a very specific institution of Higher Education and learning in the country to impart education in culture and other aspects related to the pursuit of human activities and civilization in this part of India. It is expected that the University will take up the human ecology and environment of this part of India, its colourful cultures, rich folklore, language, literature and oral traditions and, all forms of the intellectual heritage to put them to in-depth research and understanding and cultivate them for the progress of our culture and civilization. A social and geographical entity by its own right with rich cultural heritage derived from the tradition inherited from Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankaradeva and his disciple Mahapurusha Madhavadeva (the *duo* being popularly called '*mani-kancana*') in the 16th century, woven with the rich floral fabrics of the pristine cultures of the Misings, Deuris and Kacharis, Majuli, the world's largest river-made island with enormous geographical, topographical and cultural specificity and diversity, is a rightful choice for the foundation of the University to study, cultivate and preserve the enormous cultural heritage of the people of this part of India. The establishment of the University on the bank of the Luit river (*Lauhitya* of the early Sanskrit literature), presupposes a unique site by itself.

The island society also boasts of its traditional Vaishnava institutions called *Satra* of which the grand ones with celibate inmates, such as the Auniati, Dakhinpat, Garamur, Kamalabari and others like Bengenaati, Chamaguri, Bhogpur etc. still govern the moral and spiritual life of Assam to a large degree. Preservatories of extensive tangible and intangible cultural resources these *Satras* along with the island's varied topographical, demographical and natural landscape areas have made the island district a natural museum for the Vaishnava

traditions of Assam. Majuli also boasts equally of its ethnic population complex with its colourful cultural life. With about 46 per cent of their population in the total population stock of the island these tribes -the Mising, Deuri and (Sonowal) Kachari, the island presents a landscape of colourful ethnic culture representing the ethos of the greater ethno-cultural scenario of North East India. Majuli therefore provides, in the most meaningful way, with a site best suited for the foundation of a cultural University justifiably having the possibility of attracting students and scholars from across the world. The Majuli University of Culture shall remain responsible for their discovery and rediscovery; understanding and interpretation; cultivation, collection and preservation; and above all, in situating them in the larger perspective of Indian culture and civilization. It is designed to enrich the nation's intellectual tradition and make us better fitted to face the challenges of the contemporary world. We hope, all irrespective of their religious affinities, ethnic and linguistic diversities, social distinctions, ages or territories will accord support for the healthy growth of the University and try through its apparatus to relook and relocate their life and culture making it a pride of Assam, a wealth of the nation, and an attraction of the Globe.

We envision a higher educational institution engaged in the studies and research, and refresh and preservation of culture in its larger intellectual perspective and, create a set of useful citizen who will be able to lead our society, with best of their abilities, in the 21st century world of multidimensional requirements. We hope the Majuli University of Culture will rediscover the '*Luitar Pār*' and resituate the divine island to look at it, once more, this time from a new perspective, as a land of attraction for pursuit of knowledge. We thank all those in whose dream the seed of the University germinated and in whose care we expect it to grow.

Programmes Offered

I. Masters' Degree Programmes

- a) M.A. in Assamese (with emphasis on Manuscript Studies and Preservation/Translation Studies/Comparative Literature/Early Literature)
- b) M.A. in Historical and Heritage Studies (M.A. History with emphasis on Heritage Studies)

II. One Year Post Graduate Diploma (PGD) Programmes

- a) Mask Making and Sculpture
- b) Yoga and Health Keeping
- c) Manuscript Studies and Preservation
- d) Heritage Studies

III. Certificate Course (Six monthly)

- a) Functional Missing Language

Eligibility Conditions

Sl. No	Programme	Eligibility
1	M.A. in Assamese	(a) Any Graduate from a recognized university or any candidate holding an equivalent degree with Assamese as major/optional subject provided they have secured a minimum of 45%(40% for SC/ST/Category-I candidates) marks in the subject. (b) candidates qualified for admission to the Master's Degree in Assamese in the selection tests conducted by the Dibrugarh or Gauhati University, provided that they will have to qualify for a first Degree from any recognized University with the minimum score of marks as mentioned above.
2	M.A. in Historical and Heritage Studies	(a) Any Graduate from a recognized university or any candidate holding an equivalent degree with History as major/optional subject provided that they have secured a minimum of 45%(40% for SC/ST/Category-I candidates) marks in the subject. (b) candidates qualified for admission to the Master's Degree in History in the selection tests conducted by the Dibrugarh or Gauhati University, provided that they will qualify for a first Degree from any recognized University with the minimum score of marks as mentioned above.
3	One Year Post Graduate Diploma on Mask Making and Sculpture	Any graduate with 45 percent marks or equivalent standard. Research Scholars/Teachers shall be given preference
4	One Year Post Graduate Diploma on Yoga and Health Keeping	Any graduate with 45 percent marks or equivalent standard. Research Scholars/Teachers shall be given preference
5	One Year Post Graduate Diploma on Manuscript Studies and Preservation	Any graduate with 45 percent marks or

		equivalent standard. Research Scholars/Teachers shall be given preference
6	One Year Post Graduate Diploma in Heritage Studies	Any Graduate/Post Graduate with 45 per cent marks or equivalent standard. Research Scholars/ Teachers shall be given preference
7	Six monthly Certificate Course on Missing Language	Twelve class pass and not above 45 years of age. Teachers/Tourists shall be given preference

Admission Procedure

1. Submission of Application

Admission Brochure can be downloaded and the Application Form to be filled On-Line from the University website (www.muoc.ac.in)

Fee Structure

MA Programme	Admission fee	1200/-
	Course fee	8000/- (per Semester)
	Library fee	250/-
	Student Aid Fund fee	500/-
	University Development fee	1000/-
	Internet fee	250/-
	Sports fee	200/-
	Total	
One Year Post Graduate Diploma (PGD) Programmes	Admission fee	750/-
	Course fee	5000/- (per Semester)
	Library fee	250/-

	Student Aid Fund fee	250/-
	University Development fee	250/-
	Internet fee	250/-
	Sports fee	100/-
	Total	
Certificate Course	-	Rs.4000/-

Intake Capacity

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

1. Assistant Professor in Assamese-1
 - (a) M.A. in Assamese with a minimum of high second class with ability to read early manuscripts in Assamese script and knowledge of early Assamese literature and language
 - (b) Preference will be given to the candidates with Ph.D. in linguistics/manuscripts studies, and/or NET/SLET or SET qualified
2. Assistant professor in Assamese-1 (Reserved for Plains Tribe of Assam)
 - (a) M.A. in Assamese with a minimum of high second class
 - (b) Preference will be given to candidates having a Ph.D. degree in Assamese/English and/or NET/ SLET or SET qualification
 - (c) Ability to speak, write and teach Mising language
 - (d) Retired person may also apply with proficiency as above
3. Assistant Professor in Assamese-1
 - (a) M.A. in Sanskrit with a minimum of high second class with Ph.D. Degree. Preference shall be given to the candidates who have qualified in the NET/SLET/SET Examinations
 - (b) Good command over English and Assamese

Or

- (c) Bachelor's Degree with a high achievement record in Dramatical and Theatre art from a recognized institution of national importance with Ph.D. Degree in concerned literature
4. Assistant Professor in History-3
- (a) M.A. in History with a high Second Class or equivalent Grade with Special knowledge in ancient/medieval/modern history and heritage of India
- (b) Preference will be given to candidates having with Ph.D. Degree and/or having qualified in the NET/SLET/SET examinations
5. Assistant Professor in Yoga-1
- (a) M.A. in Yoga with a high Second Class or equivalent Grade
- (b) Preference will be given to candidates having a Ph.D. Degree and/or having qualified in the NET/SLET/SET examinations
6. Assistant Professor in Mask Making
- (a) A high Second Class Master's Degree in Cultural Anthropology
- (b) Preference will be given to those candidates having a Ph.D. Degree in relevant area and/or having qualified in the NET/SLET/SET examinations
7. Instructor in Yoga and Health Keeping-1
- (a) Any Graduate with Post Graduate/one year Diploma in Yoga
- (b) Experience of teaching Yoga
8. Instructor in Mask Making and Sculpture:
- (a) Any Graduate with a P.G.Diploma in Mask Making and Sculpture
- (b) Experience in mask making
- Or,
- (c) An established artist with national reputation in the field of mask making