

3 Month Internship in Qualitative Research to Understand the Drivers and Scale of Sedentarisation in Alpine & Savannah Landscapes

March 2025

Centre for Pastoralism (CfP) works on a range of pastoralists' issues across the country. Currently we are looking to understand the nuances of the sedentarisation process among the pastoral communities in Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra. In fulfilling this, CfP seeks to hire two interns who would perform extensive literature review to synthesize the social, economic, and political aspects of sedentarisation. With this the interns would also be assisting in doing transcriptions of interview data and developing qualitative themes on similar facets.

Background

Grasslands and pastoral communities in India have historically remained at the margins of research, academia and development policy. However, despite the pejorative stereotypes and challenges from bureaucratic restrictions, pastoralism has demonstrated resilience and contributed to the diversification of numerous production activities. With climate-related global pressures to increase forest cover and adopt 'sustainable' measures to safeguard natural ecosystems, grasslands are increasingly becoming the focus of large scale conversion to forests and state led enclosures of pastures that have historically sustained pastoralists. The resulting exclusion of pastoralists from their traditional grazing grounds has contributed to acceleration in pastoralist transition towards sedentarization, with a variety of unnoticed and unclear consequences.

To bridge this gap, CfP is undertaking a two year long research project in collaboration with National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore to explore the grassland-pastoralism dynamics towards producing a coherent understanding of this as a complex socio-economic and ecological system. The goal through this internship is knowledge co-creation and dissemination on the drivers and scale of sedentarisation as well as the decision making among pastoral communities in the stated regions.

Please note that we are looking for 2 interns over the course of a minimum three months.

Desired Qualifications:

- Pursuing or having a Bachelors/ Master's degree in Anthropology, Sociology, Political Ecology, Economics, Development Studies, or a similar field
- Ability to understand and interpret literature
- Potential to synthesize ethnographic data through inductive and deductive coding with familiarity of qualitative data analysis tools like ATLAS.ti, MAXQDA etc.
- Excellent social science communication skills, including speaking and writing

Expectations:

- Conduct an extensive literature review on the changing aspects of pastoralism
- Synthesize the literature to highlight the key finding, controversies, and identify gaps to point out unanswered questions on the emerging trends and current state of sedentarisation
- Participate in other aspects of the qualitative research, including data entry and transcriptions of interviews
- Explore ways to structure and visualise the qualitative data

Additional Details:

I. The internship will be solely based in CfPs Delhi office that remains functional from Monday to Friday

II. Work from home will not be permitted

III. Each intern will get a stipend of INR 20,000/per month

We will start shortlisting candidates for interviews from April 1, 2025 and continue until the positions are filled by desirable candidates. Those shortlisted will receive an email response.

Please write to Priya Rajput (priya@centreforpastoralism.org) for more information on CfP, the internship, or the project.

To apply; please submit your response and CV at the given email address.