

International Association for Ladakh Studies
Executive and Advisory Committee Election 2023
Background details of nominees

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Monisha Ahmed

Monisha Ahmed holds a doctorate in cultural anthropology from University of Oxford and is currently the Executive Director of Ladakh Arts and Media Organisation

Secretary

Rigzin Chodon

Rigzin Chodon holds a doctorate in English literature from Jawaharlal Nehru University. She is currently working as an independent research consultant and founded Yige Publication in 2022,

Treasurer/Membership Secretary

Lauren Smyth

Lauren Smyth is a PhD Candidate in cultural anthropology at University of California, Santa Barbara, where she focuses on religious spatial production and collective belonging in Ladakh and USA.

Webmaster

Sebastian Forneck

Sebastian Forneck holds is a sociologist and social anthropologist. His research interest includes belongings, home, development and food practices in Ladakh.

Editor

Nima Tashi

Nima Tashi holds a PhD in Buddhist philosophy and history from Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (Deemed to be University), Leh. He is currently teaching.

Stanzin Lhaskyabs

Stanzin Lhaskyabs is a poet. He has recently submitted his PhD thesis in international politics and area studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Sunetro Ghosal

Sunetro Ghosal holds a PhD in international development and environment studies. He is interested in socio-ecological interactions and inter-disciplinary research.

Ladakh Liaison Officer, Kargil

Mukhtar Ahmed Zahid

Mukhtar Ahmed Zahid is currently pursuing his PhD from KMC Language University, Lucknow with a special focus on Shina language.

Nazir Hussain

Nazir Hussain has served in J&K Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages for 19 years. He is currently Under Secretary at Ladakh Academy of Art, Culture & Languages.

Ladakh Liaison Officer, Leh

Nazir Hussain

Nazir Hussain has served in J&K Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages for 19 years. He is currently Under Secretary at Ladakh Academy of Art, Culture and Languages.

Stanzin Tsetan

Stanzin Tsetan is currently a PhD scholar at Department of Far East Languages (Tibetan language and Culture), Central University of Jharkhand

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Bettina Zeisler

Bettina Zeisler conducts research on Ladakhi language and its regional dialects. She has also written about the history of Ladakh, Tibet, and adjacent areas, and is also interested in anthropological questions.

Christian Luczanits

Christian Luczanits has been researching art and architecture of Ladakh since 1990 including monuments and monastery collections.

John Bray

John Bray is an independent historian. He has been visiting Ladakh since 1979 and has served as Secretary and President of IALS.

Juliane Dame

Juliane Dame is a postdoctoral researcher in geography at University of Bonn. She focuses on society and environment, especially food security, water governance, and climate change adaptation

Marcus Nüsser

Marcus Nüsser is Professor of Geography at Heidelberg University. His research focuses on socio-hydrology, glaciers, environment and development in the Himalayas.

Mohd Sadiq

Mohd Sadiq is a teacher and a historian with a special interest in Balti society, culture, language, and global migration.

Nazir Hussain

Nazir Hussain has served in J&K Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages for 19 years. He is currently Under Secretary at Ladakh Academy of Art, Culture and Languages.

Quentin Devers

Quentin Devers holds a PhD and heads the research programme, Archaeological Exploration of Ladakh (AEL). He is a permanent researcher at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) in the French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP) and the Research Centre for East Asian Civilisations (CRCAO, Paris).

Rafal Beszterda

Rafal Beszterda holds a PhD and is a lecturer in the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology in Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, Poland.

Shanta Kumar Negi

Shanta Kumar Negi holds a PhD in Buddhist philosophy and history from Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (Deemed to be University), Leh.

Sonam Joldan

Sonam Joldan holds a PhD. He is serving as Dean of Academic Affairs, University of Ladakh and heads the Centre for Himalayan and Trans-Himalayan Studies and Department of Political Science at the university.

Stanzin Dorjay Gya

Stanzin Dorjay Gya is a filmmaker based in Ladakh and is interested in the art of storytelling that provides insights into life in the high Himalayan region.

Tashi Ldawa Tsangspa

Tashi Ldawa Tsangspa's background is in zoology. He is a senior lecturer at University of Ladakh and has also served as principal of Government Degree College, Khaltse. His long-term research interest has been in petroglyphs and their conservation.