Call for Applications: Doctoral Fellowship

A new Max Planck Research Group ‘Ageing in a Time of Mobility’ based at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen invites applications for one doctoral fellowship.

‘Ageing in a Time of Mobility’ is a global and interdisciplinary project led by Dr. Megha Amrith that investigates the interconnections between ageing populations and global migration, and the new social transformations that they jointly shape. The project will explore the different ways through which older persons are embedded in global and transnational networks, how they engage with new forms of socio-cultural diversity, and how they experience new convivialities and inequalities. It will focus on the migration and mobility experiences of older populations in regions of the world that are rapidly ageing, but which have been less visible in research agendas - Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Projects should relate to one or more of the following conceptual areas: ageing and forced displacement; the experiences of those who choose to migrate in later life; the active role that older family members play in familial migration projects and in intergenerational care processes; experiences of ageing in diverse urban communities; questions of return, home and belonging in the diaspora. Preference will be given to proposals that focus on these themes in an African context.

Applicants should have a degree in Anthropology, Sociology, Geography, History or related field in the social sciences and humanities. Candidates should have a strong background in qualitative research methods, with proven field research experience (ethnography, in-depth interviews and/or oral histories). They should also demonstrate relevant language skills for their proposed field sites.

The doctoral fellow is expected to independently develop their own research project within the thematic framework of the research group. They will share their research findings in academic venues and for wider audiences. The working language of the Institute is English.

The contract is for an initial period of three years (renewable for one further year). The salary is based on the German civil service scale TVöD E13 (50%). The position begins as soon as possible, or by September 1 2018.

NOTE: The Max Planck Institute does not award PhD degrees. Doctoral fellows must be independently enrolled in universities and PhD programmes anywhere in the world. Applicants for the doctoral position should indicate the PhD programme in which they are already enrolled or wish to enrol. MPI offers doctoral fellows a salary and research support costs, but not university fees.

The Max Planck Society wishes to increase the participation of women wherever they are under-represented; therefore, applications from women are particularly welcome. Following its commitment to an equal opportunities employment policy, the Max Planck Society also especially encourages persons with a disability to submit their applications.

The position remains open until it is filled. The review of applications begins from June 1 2018 - applications received by this date will be given full consideration. Please submit your application electronically to bewerbung_amrith@mmg.mpg.de. Applications must include: a cover letter (outlining research trajectory and interest in the position); a CV; a summary of the proposed research (up to 1500 words); a writing sample (e.g. published article, Master thesis chapter) and the names and contact details of two referees. Informal queries may be directed to Megha Amrith (amrith@mmg.mpg.de). Please visit www.mmg.mpg.de for more information on the institute.

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