



## **Munin Barkotoki Memorial Trust**

Regn. No. 1374/12A/CA/95-96

<http://www.muninbarkotoki.org>

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### **Munin Barkotoki Writing Fellowship**

Munin Barkotoki Memorial Trust announces the award of up to three Munin Barkotoki Writing Fellowships each year with the purpose of producing high quality, time-bound book manuscripts, in Assamese or in English, on themes pertaining to Assam's languages, literature or culture. Indian citizens less than 50 years of age as on 1 Jan. of that year are eligible for this fellowship. These fellowships will each carry a stipend of ₹1,20,000 payable in 4 instalments spread over a maximum of 18 months from the date of signing of the contract.

Interested persons will be required to submit their detailed book proposal (1,000–2,000 words), CV with full contact details, proof of age, and writing sample (2,000 words) along with two references from the literary/cultural field to the office of the Munin Barkotoki Memorial Trust (Panchabati, Guwahati –781003) on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> October of that year.

### **Guidelines for the MBMT Fellowship Programme**

#### **1. Purpose**

To support writers in producing high-quality, time-bound book manuscripts, written in Assamese or in English, on themes pertaining to Assam's languages, literature or culture.

#### **2. Eligibility**

- Applicant must be an Indian national above 21 years of age and below 50 years of age as on 1<sup>st</sup> January of the year of the Fellowship.
- Applications are open to both established and emerging writers with demonstrable interest or record in Assam's languages, literature or culture.
- Proficiency in Assamese or English.

#### **3. Application Requirements**

- CV with full contact details and proof of age
- Detailed book proposal (1,000–2,000 words)
- Sample of written work (2,000 words)
- Two references from the literary/cultural field

#### **4. Fellowship Details**

- Name: **Munin Barkotoki Writing Fellowship**
- Number of Fellowships: Up to 3 per year
- Each Fellowship will support one book-length work (minimum 50,000 words) in Assamese or in English
- **Focus Areas:** The proposed books must be in themes related to Assam's languages, literature or culture including biography, criticism, history, geography, fiction, folklore, documentation and archiving, etc.

**The MBMT Fellowship is a performance based award. Disbursement of funds is tied to strict adherence to milestones and deliverables. Fellows must submit quarterly written reports, participate in mandatory review sessions, and deliver manuscripts that meet both quality and timeline expectations.**

## **5. Stipend and Disbursement**

**Total Stipend:** ₹1,20,000 per Fellow.

### **Payment Schedule:**

- ₹30,000 upon acceptance and signing of agreement (see Note 1 below).
- ₹30,000 upon successful submission and approval of the half-way manuscript (approx. 25,000 words or 50% completion as per approved outline) (see Notes 2 & 3 below).
- ₹30,000 upon successful submission and approval of the full draft manuscript (minimum 50,000 words).
- ₹30,000 upon submission and acceptance of the final manuscript (book-length, edited and ready for publication) incorporating comments of the reviewers, if any.

Note 1. On acceptance of the Fellowship, Fellows must sign an agreement with the Trust outlining responsibilities, deliverables, and grounds for termination, including plagiarism, misconduct or significant deviation from the proposal without prior approval.

Note 2. All submissions must be in pdf or in word format and written in either Assamese or English. Manuscripts must be double spaced, and in font Times New Roman (12 pt) or equivalent.

Note 3. Approval will be based on review by a designated Fellowship Review Committee, which will evaluate submissions for quality, completeness, and adherence to the original proposal.

Note 4. Note that funds will be disbursed only upon approval of prior deliverables (as mentioned in Section 6); there will be no automatic time-line based disbursements.

Note 5. Fellows will be responsible for any tax liabilities that might be incurred due to the increase in their income due to the Fellowship.

Note 6. Note that the Trust will not make any additional payments for expenses that might be incurred in writing the manuscript (for eg. travel to collect data) as well as for publication of the manuscript (for eg. getting old photos or plates ready for inclusion in the published book).

## **6. Timeline and Work Delivery**

**Duration:** Each fellowship is for a period of 18 months from the date of award notification.

### **Interim Deliverables:**

- By Month 3: Table of contents, chapter plan, and sample chapter.
- By Month 9: Half-way manuscript (approx. 25,000 words or 50%).
- By Month 15: Complete first draft.
- By Month 18: Final, proofread manuscript, with all revisions as suggested by the review committee.

**Mandatory Review Meetings:** Fellows must attend virtual or physical review sessions at least once every quarter. Fellows will be required to submit brief written reports (1-2 pages) before each review meeting summarizing progress, roadblocks, and next steps.

**Final report:** Within a month of successful completion of the Fellowship, each Fellow must provide a short final report (public summary) for the MBMT website, outlining the work done during the Fellowship.

## **7. Other Terms**

- Originality: The submitted work must be original and unpublished, not under consideration elsewhere.
- Copyright: Authors will retain copyright, but any publication contract that the Fellow might wish to enter into within 2 years of completion of the Fellowship must have the consent of the Trust.
- Publication Support: Select completed manuscripts may be offered publication support by partner publishing houses.
- Acknowledgements: The completed book must acknowledge the support of the MBMT Fellowship Programme.

## **8. Selection Procedure**

- Selection will be made by a jury comprising academics, senior writers, and experts in Assamese studies.
- Decision of the Selection Committee will be final and binding.

## **9. Extension and Termination**

- In some exceptional cases, including health problems, the Trust reserves the right to allow more time to the Fellow or allow him/her to deviate from the original proposal already agreed upon. Such cases will be decided upon on a case to case basis.
- The Trust reserves the right to terminate a fellowship, and require return of funds already disbursed, if progress is unsatisfactory, deadlines are missed without approved extensions, or in cases of plagiarism or misconduct.

## **10. Contact and Submission**

Applications and all correspondence to be addressed to the Office of the MBMT at Panchabati, Guwahati --781003.

*Makshi*

Meenaxi Barkataki  
Managing Trustee, Munin Barkotoki Memorial Trust  
12.08.2025