



**Consulate General of India
Erbil**

Press Release

Inauguration of India Book Corner, hosting of Yoga activities and session on Study in India/scholarship offered by India

From 12-16 December 2023, the Consulate General of India in Erbil organized a diverse range of activities which included student specific yoga session, inauguration of India Book Corner, and interactive sessions on Study in India and various scholarship schemes offered by India to foreign students. As part of this activities, events at International School of Chauffeit in Erbil, University of Duhok, Erbil Polytechnic University and Mergasor Technical Institute were held.

2. The consulate began the event on 12th December with a Kids friendly yoga session at International School of Chauffeit, Erbil. Around 300 young students of the school enthusiastically participated and enjoyed this yoga session, conducted by Dr. Dheeraj Joshi, a renowned Yoga instructor from India. For the benefit of yoga lovers, an open yoga session was also organized by Dr Joshi on 15th December in Sami Abdul Rahman Park, Erbil, in front of Mahatma Gandhi Bust.

3. To encourage students to know about India, the Consulate provided a collection of books on subjects like Indian literature, history, culture, philosophy, development, policy formulation, yoga etc. and opened three India Book Corners which witnessed active participation from students, faculty members, and dignitaries.

4. On 13th December, at the University of Duhok (UOD), the Consulate first hosted a yoga workshop at the university. After a brief introduction and usefulness of yoga in day to day life especially for the students, Dr Joshi organized a yoga workshop which was attended by students of the Physical Education Centre of UOD. To promote Indian literature, history, and contemporary thought etc. and providing a resource for those interested in deepening their understanding of India, an 'India Book Corner' was inaugurated by Consul General Mr Madan Gopal and President of the Duhok University in the library of the university.

5. Events at the Erbil Polytechnic University (EPU) were organized on 14.12.2023. The multifaceted celebration included a yoga session by Dr Joshi, participated by EPU students, inauguration of India Book Corner by Consul General and EPU President, Mr. Edrees Muhammad Taher Harki, interactive session on Study in India/scholarship schemes of India by Mr Santosh Kumar, Consul and a photo exhibition on life of Gandhi ji, offering a glimpse of Gandhian principles and values.

6. These students specific events by the consulate culminated on 16th December at Mergasor Technical Institute (MTI) where first, the Consul General and Dr. Talib Omer, Dean of the institute inaugurated an 'India Book Corner' at the institute library, followed by an interactive session on Study in India/Indian Scholarships by Mr Santosh Kumar, Consul and a talk on Yoga by Dr Joshi at the institute auditorium where Mayor of Mergasor District Mr. Ghafoor Ahmad also joined to motivate students. MTI is a public academic institution under EPU, about 120 km from Erbil, and it aims to prepare students with market oriented technical skills. Dr Talib visited India in 2022 as part of Academic Visitors Program (AVP) of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations. Under this programme, the Council facilitates visits by eminent academicians, (Vice Chancellors/Professor) to India to experience Indian culture and interact with institutions and audiences in India. Leading representatives of think-tanks and cultural institutions are also invited to share their insight and experiences.

Erbil,
December 21, 2023

Links for Photos/FB posts:

Int. School of Chaufait Erbil : <https://www.cgierbil.gov.in/gallery-19-12-2023-2.php>

University of Duhok: <https://www.cgierbil.gov.in/gallery-19-12-2023-3.php>

Erbil Polytechnic University: <https://www.cgierbil.gov.in/gallery-19-12-2023-4.php>

Mergasor Technical Institute: <https://www.cgierbil.gov.in/gallery-19-12-2023-5.php>