

MAHARSHI DAYANAND SARASWATI UNIVERSITY, AJMER

ORDINANCE FOR THE AWARD OF THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LITERATURE (D.Litt. Honoris Causa), DOCTOR OF SCIENCE (D.Sc. Honoris Causa) AND DOCTOR OF HUMANITARIAN DEVELOPMENT (D.H.D. Honoris Causa)

1. Short Title and Commencement

1.1 This Ordinance may be called the Ordinance for the Award of the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Literature [D.Litt. (Honoris Causa)], Doctor of Science [D.Sc. (Honoris Causa)] and Doctor of Humanitarian Development [D.H.D. (Honoris Causa)] of the Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer.

1.2 It shall come into force from the date of its approval by the competent authorities of the University.

2. Purpose of the Award

The Honorary Degrees shall be conferred upon persons of exceptional eminence in recognition of distinguished and outstanding contributions as follows:

(i) Doctor of Literature [D.Litt. (Honoris Causa)]

For outstanding intellectual contributions to:

- Education
- Literature
- Culture
- Fine Arts
- Indian Knowledge Traditions
- Other allied disciplines of humanities.

(ii) Doctor of Science [D.Sc. (Honoris Causa)]

For outstanding intellectual contributions in:

- Science
- Technology
- Engineering
- Innovation
- Research.

(iii) Doctor of Humanitarian Development [D.H.D. (Honoris Causa)]

For distinguished contributions in fields of human endeavour such as:

- Sports
- Social Work
- Business and Entrepreneurship

 

Dr. Mathur
17.7.26

- Public Administration
- Governance
- Public Service
- Any other field bringing honour and distinction to society, the State, the Nation or humanity at large.

3. Nature of the Degree

(i) The honorary degree shall be designated as:

- Doctor of Literature [D.Litt. (Honoris Causa)]
- Doctor of Science [D.Sc. (Honoris Causa)]
- Doctor of Humanitarian Development [D.H.D. (Honoris Causa)]

(ii) The degree shall be honorary in character and shall not confer any academic qualification for purposes of employment, promotion, registration or admission to any academic programme.

4. Persons Not Eligible

The honorary degree shall not be considered for any person who is:

- (a) an employee of the University during his or her tenure;
- (b) convicted by a court of law for an offence involving moral turpitude;
- (c) whose conduct is considered prejudicial to the dignity and reputation of the University;
- (d) deceased.

5. Automatic Disqualification

Nominations shall be automatically rejected, without further consideration, if the nominee falls under any of the following categories:

- (a) Self-nomination;
- (b) Fabricated or false credentials;
- (c) Academic fraud;
- (d) Proven plagiarism in scholarly or creative works;
- (e) Major active public controversy adversely affecting the dignity of the University;

These disqualifications shall be mandatory and shall not be subject to discretion or appeal.

6. Initiation of Proposal

6.1 A proposal for the conferment of an Honorary Degree may be initiated by:

- (a) any member of the Academic Council;
- (b) any Faculty, School, Department, Centre, Board of Studies or any other academic body of the University.

6.2 The proposer shall submit:

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- either the Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the nominee; or
- a detailed profile prepared by the nominator containing:
 - identification and background;
 - professional trajectory;
 - major achievements;
 - awards and honours;
 - national/international impact;
 - contribution to society;
 - alignment with the vision and values of the University;
 - longevity and consistency of achievements.

If the CV is submitted, then a note must be added by the nominator, highlighting the points mentioned above and justifying the value of the achievements for the society/students/ environment.

6.3 The proposal shall be placed before the Vice-Chancellor.

6.4 Upon the approval of the Vice-Chancellor, the proposal shall be placed before the Academic Council.

6.5 The Academic Council may call for additional documents, including:

- complete CV;
- biodata;
- supporting documents;
- other relevant evidence.

6.6 The Academic Council may recommend the proposal by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.

6.7 The proceedings from nomination to the recommendation or rejection shall remain confidential.

7. Approval by the Board of Management

7.1 The recommendation of the Academic Council shall be placed before the Board of Management.

7.2 The Board of Management may approve the recommendation by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.

7.3 Upon such approval, the recommendation shall be submitted to the Chancellor.

8. Approval of the Chancellor

The recommendation approved by the Board of Management shall be submitted to the Chancellor.

Upon approval by the Chancellor, the Honorary Degree shall be conferred.

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The decision of the Chancellor shall be final.

9. Conferment

- (i) The Honorary Degree shall ordinarily be conferred at the Annual Convocation or at a Special Convocation convened for the purpose.
- (ii) The recipient shall be presented by the Vice-Chancellor.
- (iii) In exceptional circumstances, the degree may be conferred in absentia.

10. Citation

At the time of conferment, an official citation highlighting the recipient's distinguished achievements and exceptional services shall be read before the conferment of the degree.

11. Number of Honorary Degrees

Not more than **four** Honorary Degrees shall be conferred during any one academic year.

The awards shall, as far as possible, be distributed across diverse disciplines and fields of human endeavour.

12. Withdrawal of the Degree

The Board of Management may, on the recommendation of the Academic Council and with the approval of the Chancellor, withdraw an Honorary Degree by a two-thirds majority if the recipient is subsequently found to have:

- (a) obtained the honour through fraudulent credentials;
- (b) been convicted of a serious criminal offence involving moral turpitude;
- (c) committed major ethical misconduct;
- (d) grossly violated accepted professional standards;
- (e) committed documented plagiarism or research fraud;
- (f) engaged in conduct unbecoming of the dignity of the University.

13. Interpretation

If any doubt arises regarding the interpretation of this Ordinance, the matter shall be referred to the Chancellor whose decision shall be final and binding.

Conferment Format

Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer, on the recommendation of the Academic Council and the Board of Management and with the approval of the Chancellor, in recognition of the exceptional and distinguished contributions made by Shri/Smt./Dr. _____, is pleased to confer upon him/her the Degree of Doctor of _____ (Honoris Causa) and admit him/her to all the rights, privileges and honours appertaining thereto.



