

SHIKSHANTAR SANSTHAN

Swaraj University - UNSCHOOLERS ECOVILLAGE

Code and Agreements

(Please read it carefully and sign below)

Welcome to the Swaraj University Unschoolers Ecovillage!!!

In order to ensure that all our learners, team members, campus staff, guests and sentient beings on the campus have a safe and healthy environment for their learning and stay, and to ensure the continuity of the program in a cordial manner, we request you all to read the following code and guidelines carefully and sign on the agreement below as a token of your voluntary acceptance of the non-negotiables and entire agreement. Swaraj University Unschoolers Ecovillage and Shikshantar Sansthan management reserves the complete right to request any guest who violates the non-negotiables to leave the premises, without any obligation to compensate such a person.

Swaraj University (Tapovan Ashram) is a space intended to run on trust, care and love. It is a space intended for co-creation, dialogue, action and reflection. It is important to understand that there are no watchmen, guards, maids, wardens, cleaners, nor are there CCTV cameras installed as the intent is to build a community of trust and accountability that has care for commons, for each other and for everyone. Thus, it becomes important for the living community to have certain agreements and principles to abide by for smooth functioning of the space, overall safety and wellbeing.

Non-negotiable:

- 1) In order to create a calm, contemplative, participative and conducive environment for self-directed learning and community living, we do not permit drinking alcohol, smoking, intake of drugs and other intoxicants on the campus. Since the program is run on an Ashram space, intake of non-vegetarian food (including eggs) is prohibited on the campus.
- 2) Any kind of behavior or conduct that leads to physical, mental or sexual violence or misconduct.
- 3) Bringing or/and using weapon(s) or any object to be used as a weapon or as a tool to cause injury.

(As mentioned before, we would ask people to leave the program and campus in case of any lapse in following the above)

Agreements:

Campus care - Read a little about our campus

- 1) We are working towards a zero waste campus. Minimize the generation of waste and if you do, please take it with you to the city and dispose it. Eco-friendly alternatives for soaps, sanitary pads, toothpaste, carry-bags are available on campus for purchase.
- 2) Commons (electronics, sports and musical instruments, library, stationery, gardening tools, kitchen utensils, etc.) are to be taken care of by everyone on the campus.

- 3) Campus space is close to nearby villages and is also home to many species of birds, plants, reptiles, mammals. Their care is our care. Since sounds in this space travel far and fast, we try to keep Tapovan a low noise zone after 10 pm and a no noise zone after 11 pm. You are also requested to respect the needs of people you are living with by turning off the lights by 11 pm.
- 4) Cleanliness and keep-up of the campus including cleaning commons utensils, dormitories, toilets, commons spaces is done by residents of the campus. Make sure you participate in all these community care activities.
- 5) Please follow the meal times that are written on the board. The menu for every meal will be written in advance on the dining room blackboard. In case you are skipping a meal, please write your name under the sign-up column on the board by the end of the previous meal.

Self-Care:

- 1) Carry a Torch in the evenings and night as it gets dark and is also the time nocturnal beings come out and roam around.
- 2) Tapovan is located outside the city and close to the highway, thus you need to take care of your own and others' safety. In case you plan to leave the campus and go to the city after 8:00 pm or even return to the campus after 8:00 pm, make sure you inform any one of the team members before stepping out of or stepping into the ashram.
- 3) Inform the team about any illness or it's symptoms or of any difficulty in living. Campus is full of healing plants. Try natural and organic methods of healing rather than popping pills. However, allopathy medicines and first aid also available on campus
- 4) Maintain personal hygiene and hygiene of the space you live in. Taking regular bath and washing clothes regularly is advisable as it reduces chances of communicable diseases and infections.
- 5) Swim in the lake only when you know swimming really well. Do not step in lake if you know partial swimming. Even if you know swimming very well, you can go to swim only if you are accompanied by a few people. Make sure you are not alone and take life jackets and rope.

Privacy, Confidentiality and community care:

- 1) Trust-building, listening and sharing are important elements of the program and space. We request you to take care of the Confidentiality and privacy of individuals by being non-judgemental and being sensitive towards the feelings of others. Do not pass unnecessary comments.
- 2) Personal gadget free zone (during the session); cell phones and cameras not to be used while in session until you are documenting the same and with permission of facilitator.
- 3) We have separate dorms for boys and girls. Keeping in mind the need of privacy and ashram ground rules, do not enter into each other's dormitory. In case you sleep on the terrace, boys and girls shall use a separate terrace for sleeping space.
- 4) In case of any conflict, dialogue and non-violent approaches of conflict resolutions can be accessed with the help of team members. Do not resort to any kind of physical, verbal or mental abuse or assault.
- 5) Respect each other's boundaries. In aspiring to make our campus non-discriminatory and respectful to all beings, strive to be extra mindful about sexual comments, or behavior that

may amount to sexual harassment or misconduct. In case of any violation, please bring to the management's immediate notice.

- 6) In order to respect the local tradition, village setting and diversity of cultures people come with, avoid using transparent or revealing clothes and dress appropriately. Avoid wearing anything shorter than knee length.

I shall be entirely responsible for my health and/or any injuries or accidents that I may suffer during my stay at Swaraj University campus (Tapovan Ashram). I am aware that I am fully responsible for any loss of my personal properties/belongings.

By signing below, I agree to fully assume all of the risks inherent in staying at the SU campus and in the travel during these two years. I hereby waive, release and relinquish any cause of action, for ill-health, for injury or damage to me or my property for any reason whatsoever, that I may have against Shikshantar Sansthan - SU, its affiliates, officers, directors, employees and agents, as well as any future claims against Shikshantar Sansthan - SU arising out of or in any way related to the activities of Shikshantar Sansthan - SU, to the maximum extent permitted by law.

SIGN HERE _____

NAME _____

DATE _____

MOBILE # _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT AND MOBILE # _____