



## HIMACHAL STATE MUSEUM, INVERARM HILL, SHIMLA

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### Open Knowledge and the Himalayas

**The Highland Histories Lab and Open Knowledge Initiative of IIIT Hyderabad** are organising two workshops to start building a Himalayan Open Knowledge Network. The Himalayan Open Knowledge Network is an effort to bring together people who live and work in the Himalayas to create their own knowledge about the region. Too often, information about the Himalayas is produced by outsiders, while the voices of local people remain unheard. Through this network, we want students, teachers, activists, farmers, researchers, housewives, workers, and others to share their experiences, photos, stories, and ideas in their own voices. By doing so, we hope to build a community-owned knowledge commons that represents the many cultures, histories, and environments of the Himalayas in an authentic and lasting way.

#### Objective:

We will train participants to use Wikimedia Commons, Wikipedia, and other open knowledge resources. The workshop will also discuss the importance of open knowledge networks and how we can build and sustain a network of contributors to the knowledge commons. The larger aim is to seed a Himalayan Knowledge Commons: an organic, community-driven network for documenting the history, culture, politics, environment, and life worlds of the region.

#### Who can apply for this workshop?

All people who live and work in the Himalayas and want to learn how to create and share knowledge through photos, videos, oral stories, and writing can apply and join us. We encourage young people, in particular, to join us.

#### Venue:

25-26 September 2025: Himachal State Museum, Chaura Maidan, Shimla  
(In collaboration with Himachal State Museum, Chaura Maidan, Shimla)

#### Workshop Timings: (9am- 5pm)

#### NOTE:

1. There is no registration fee for this workshop.
2. As there are limited seats, participation shall be solely based on the participant's response through the form.
3. The workshop is in person. Physical participation of the participants is necessary on both days.
4. All participants should come with a working smartphone with mobile internet connectivity. Ideally, participants should also get a laptop with them.
5. We will not be able to provide either accommodation or travel support at either of these venues. We will, however, provide tea and lunch on both the days.

Please fill this form if you are interested in participating: <https://forms.gle/zqLp4bDSZbTGBk9A9>

For any queries, kindly reach out at

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