

*Submitted to the Prime Minister
of India on Feb. 3-1950*

MEMORANDUM.

The "World Council on Higher Learning in the Oriental Humanities", founded in 1945 in Washington with the active co-operation of the late ANANDA COOMARASWAMY and some of the most eminent Humanists of America and Europe, which has established connections with the highest scientific authorities in the Universities - both Catholic and Protestant - for the purpose of promoting and intensifying the study of Oriental Civilisations in the Western world, appeals to the Government of the Republic of India for support in its endeavour to establish its main Centre in India.

It is essential to put our work under the auspices of Indian Scholarship and to organize team - work between the Humanists of India and those of the Western world. We need a modest house somewhere in the hills, Darjeeling or Bangalore or any other place which the Minister of Education would find fit for our purpose among the numerous bungalows evacuated by the British.

Our purpose is:

- (1) To train a small number of American and European post-graduate students and Research scholars for specialization in Indian Cultural History, Philosophy and Art, beginning modestly with a dozen such young scholars willing to dedicate their lives to Indian Culture, and who in return would be able to train young men and women in the respective Universities for teaching Indian Cultural History.
- (2) To organize an International Conference on the present state of Indian and Buddhist Studies in the Western World, under the auspices of the most eminent Indian Scholars who have specialized in the Philosophies and Arts of Ancient India. This Conference should be held during the summer in the hills, in the presence of Western Scholars - Anthropologists, Ethnologists, Archaeologists, Historians of Culture, Philosophers, etc. - to be invited to India, some of them as delegates of their own Universities, at their own expense. The number of such Western Scholars should be limited to a maximum of thirty from the United States and thirty from the Continent of Europe.
- (3) As the result of such an International Conference a new Text - Book on Indian Cultural History should be worked out in team work among Indian Humanists for the use of the Universities of the Western world. The urgent necessity of such a text-book is evident. It is essential that it should be controlled by Indian Scholars and offered to the world by India.

Preparations.

Preparations for the International Conference during the summer could be immediately started, if the Ministry of Education jointly with the Indian Universities Commission would invite Dr. FELIX VALYI to submit recommendations of appropriate nature.

New Delhi
February 1st, 1950.

Felix Valyi
S/ Felix Valyi
DR. FELIX VALYI.

19. Constitution House

MEMORANDUM

The following information was obtained from a review of the records of the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, regarding the proposed acquisition of certain lands in the State of California.

The lands in question are situated in the County of San Diego, and are owned by the State of California. The proposed acquisition is for the purpose of establishing a national monument.

The lands are of approximately 10,000 acres in area, and are situated in the vicinity of the town of Escondido. The lands are currently being used for agricultural purposes.

The proposed acquisition is authorized by the National Monument Act, and is subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. The proposed acquisition is for the purpose of preserving the natural resources of the area, and for the benefit of the people of the United States.

The proposed acquisition is subject to the payment of the fair market value of the lands to the State of California. The fair market value of the lands is estimated to be approximately \$1,000,000.

The proposed acquisition is subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and to the payment of the fair market value of the lands to the State of California.

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

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NEW DELHI February 1st, 1950

DR. FELIX VALYI

EXTRACTS FROM OUR CIRCULAR DATED CHRISTMAS 1945

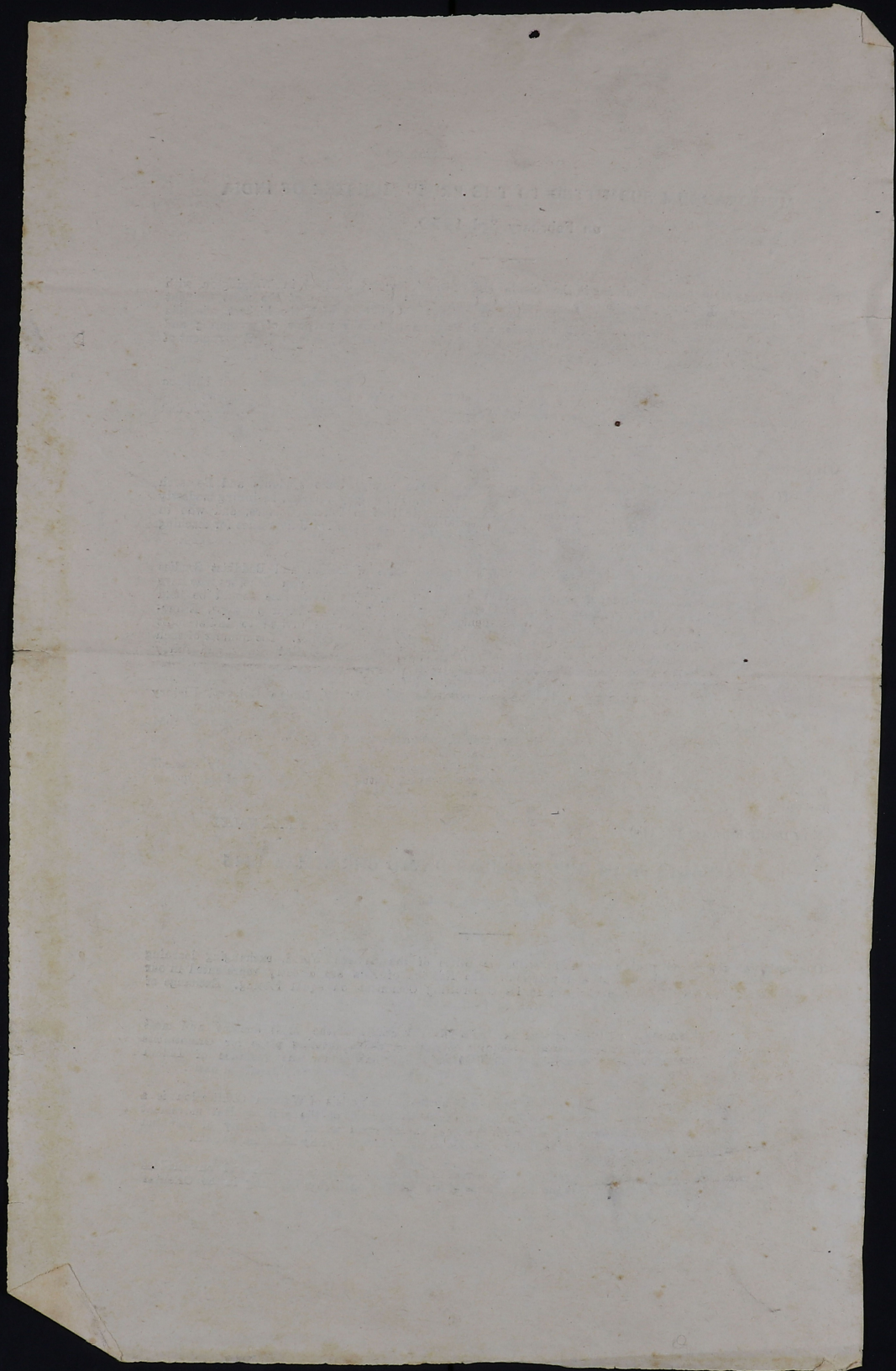
Washington, D. C.

Our essential aim is cultural co-operation with the Elites of the Eastern World, exchanging learning with them—both theoretical and practical. The Nations of Asia are directly represented in our Council and will fully participate in its Controlling Committee on equal footing. Exchange of Scholars in all the related fields will be facilitated.

A Center for Asiatic Studies will be created in India as the cradle of the most ancient and most significant culture of the world still magnificently alive, as a meeting place for Orientalists from all over the world, without any political or racial bias, under the guidance of Indian Scholarship co-operating with Western Universities on a neutral and absolutely impartial basis.

The renovation of Humanistic Studies so gravely threatened by the present crisis of Western Civilisation is a task worthy of the best Indian Scholarship inasmuch as the control of the philosophical movement on our planet, the re-discovery of the Eternal Spiritual Values upon which the destiny of mankind depends, needs the inspiration of the Indian Genius so nobly incarnated by Mahatma Gandhi.

Pan-Humanism as a Concept of Civilisation based on real knowledge, on genuine research and on self-less dedication to the highest ideals is the motive force of the "Council on Higher Learning in the Oriental Humanities".



Submitted to the Ministry of Education
on February 8th 1950

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PROJECTED CENTRE OF
COMPARATIVE PHILOSOPHY
AND
CULTURAL HISTORY
IN INDIA

1. The Centre of Comparative Philosophy and Cultural History should be established in the hills, in ~~Simla~~ or Poona, in a bungalow with approximately 30 rooms, for the purpose of housing and training foreign postgraduate students and research scholars in Indian Cultural History, Archaeology, Ethnology, Anthropology, Art History and Philosophy, besides linguistic studies essential for the specialisation in the various fields of the Humanities.

V Bangalore

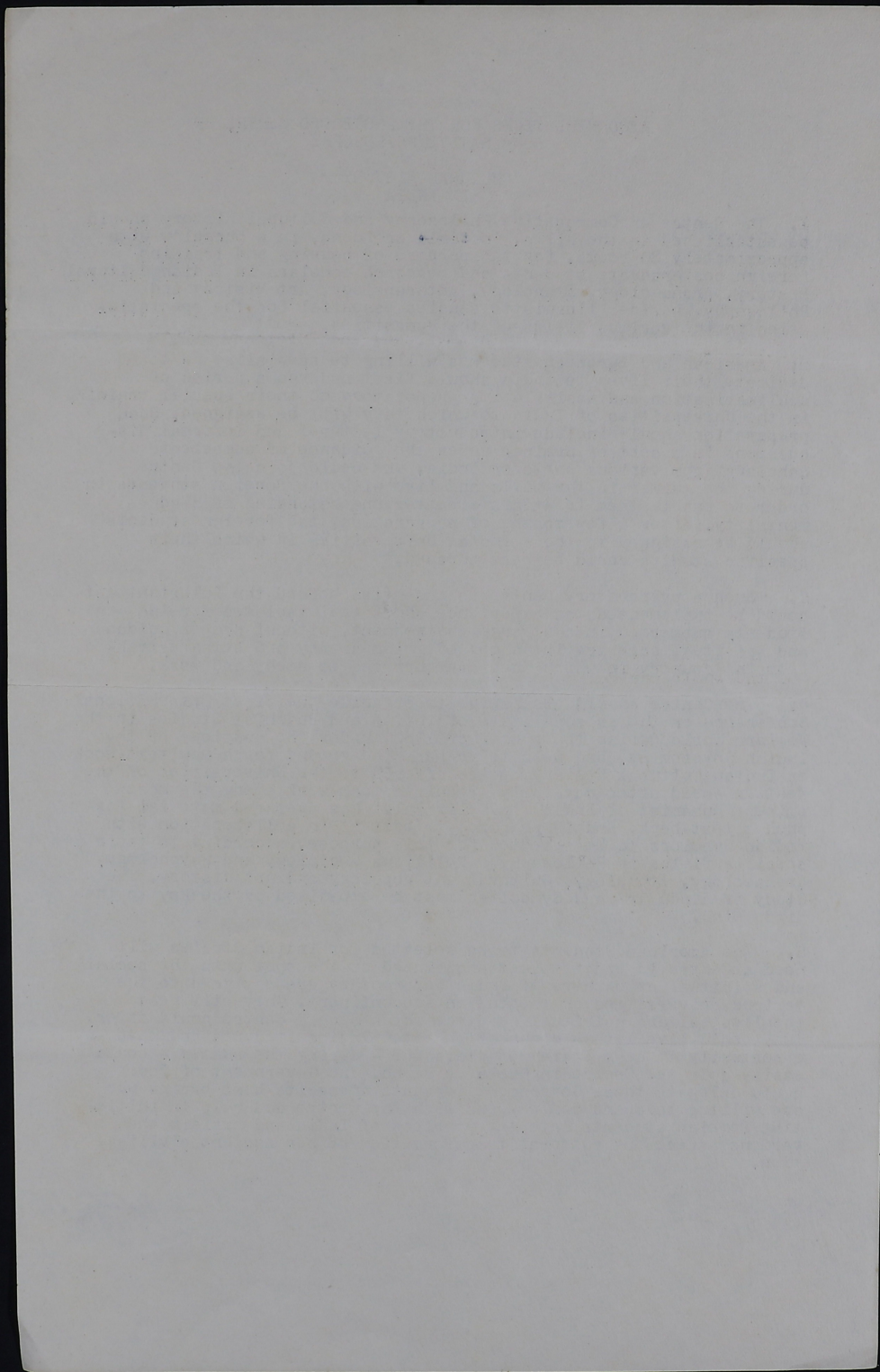
2. American and European students willing to specialise and to dedicate their lives to India should first undergo a period of acclimatisation and assimilation preparatory to their special training in the Universities of India to which they will be assigned. Such preparation should include introductory lectures and informal discussions in a sort of Seminar under the guidance of competent Scholars from various parts of India, who could join the Centre during the summer in the hills and live with the foreign students in order to enable them to attain a better understanding of Hindu mentality. After a few months of preparation, the foreign students should be assigned to those Indian Universities in which their specific studies could be best pursued.

3. Such a preparatory Centre is essential before the Fulbright Act could be implemented, as experience shows that isolated foreign students submerged in a strange environment, without proper guidance and spiritual care are in danger of going astray and being estranged from the country in which they are supposed to study and work.

4. The Centre should also serve to organise the first International Conference on the present state of Indian and Buddhist Studies in the Western World during the summer of 1960, under the auspices of the Indian Government, and help to prepare the ground for a new text-book on Indian Cultural History, to be offered to the Universities of the Western World after carefully organized team-work among the most eminent Humanist of India. Dr. Felix Valyi has prepared material for such a text-book, and is prepared to edit it in collaboration with Indian Scholars to be selected for this purpose, according to their specific fields in Philosophy, Religious Sociology and Psychology, Archaeology, Ethnology, Cultural Anthropology and Art History. The Study of Hindu Art and Symbolism must be emphasised as the key to the Hindu Mind.

5. The American Students to be selected for Indian Studies will need a Centre in order to get acquainted on the spot with the social and spiritual atmosphere of India before they are assigned to the various Universities of the Indian subcontinent. They will need intellectual and spiritual guidance which such a Centre could offer. They could live with a group of selected Indian students and have an opportunity to hear Indian Scholars who - during the summer - could easily join the Centre in ~~Simla~~ or Poona. The Government of India could delegate those Government Servants among its best brains who are willing to spend a few weeks with the Centre and help in initiating foreign students into the problems of India and explain the various aspects of cultural transformation of her ancient civilisation.

V Bangalore



6. The Centre should remain under Indian Control, on a supranational plane, admitting students and research scholars from all countries, and avoid all one-sided nationalistic aims, and only offer its services to Pulbright Plan as a cooperative movement of the spirit excluding politics and economics from its scope, in such a way that Indian Cultural History in the spirit of the pure Humanities should not be affected by the controversies of the times in which we live. This is an essential condition of the success of the Centre and both Americans and Europeans should realise that our purpose is to work on the highest spiritual and intellectual plane.

7. To achieve our purpose, the bungalow and the maintenance of the Centre with a Secretariate should be offered by the Indian Government, on a modest scale. The Centre will grow in time from small beginnings into an Institute and become a School of the Humanities.

8. In the long run such an International School of the Humanities, embracing Archaeology, Ethnology, Anthropology, Religious Sociology and Psychology, as well as Art History and Philosophy must be organised in order to save the Humanities from oblivion in the world, in which it has become extremely difficult to find young men and women willing to dedicate their lives to such studies. One of the practical tasks of such an International School of the Humanities should be to help India in her cultural transformation the result of which may and probably will determine the future of mankind. To safeguard the highest spiritual values of India is the concern of the whole world.

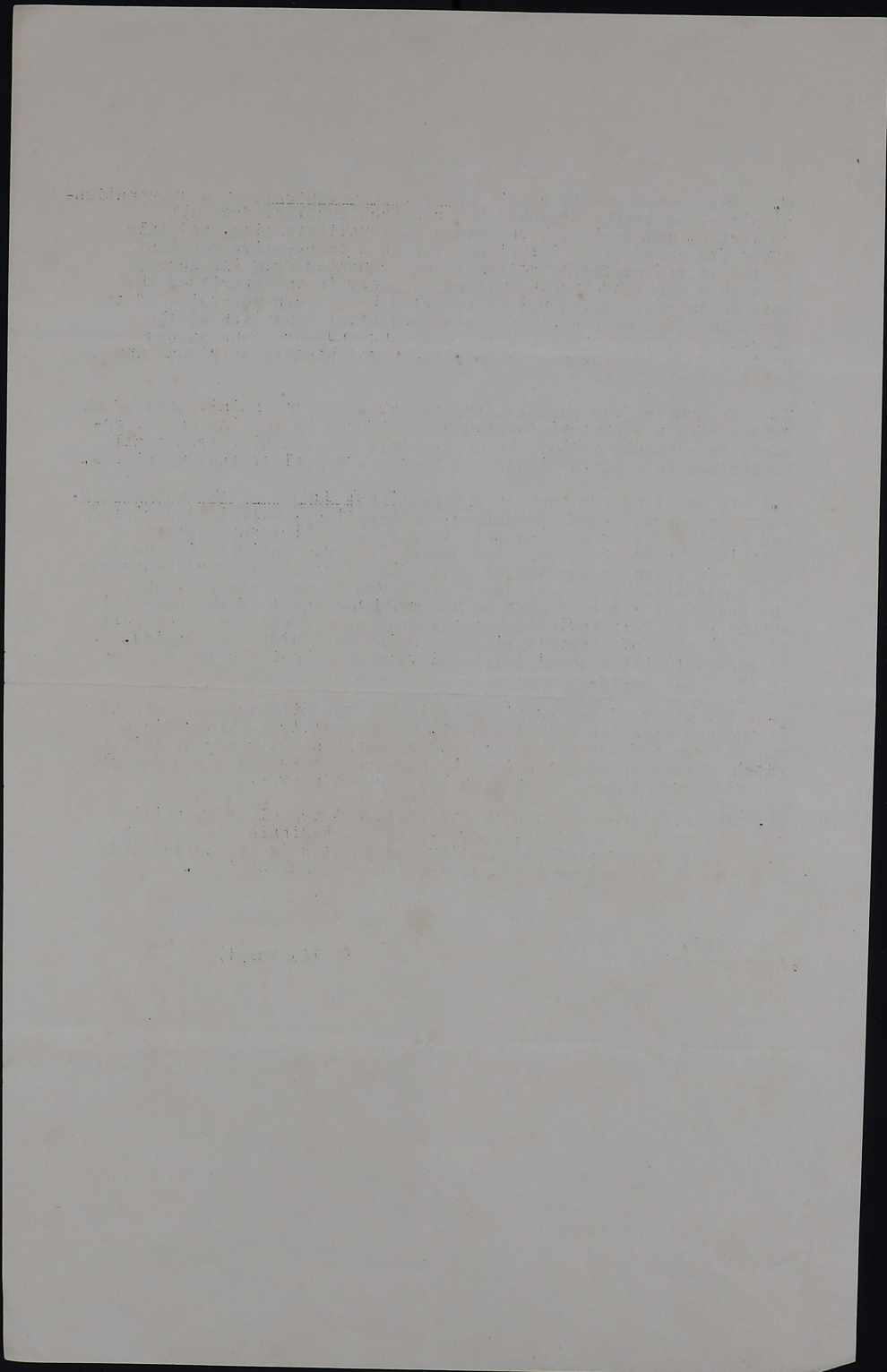
9. The study of the primitive tribes (the Hill Tribes) of India is another task for such a school, which must train young Hindu men and women for field anthropology among the matriarchal tribes which deserve close attention of Anthropologists and who certainly deserve care of the Indian Republic more than ever.

10. The financing of such an International School of Humanities can be left to the future, provided that a beginning is made one Centre, as an organ of stimulation and impetus to the world-wide interest in the cultural transformation of Hindu Society.

New Delhi,
February 8th 1950

19. Constitution House

Felix Valyi
(Felix Valyi)



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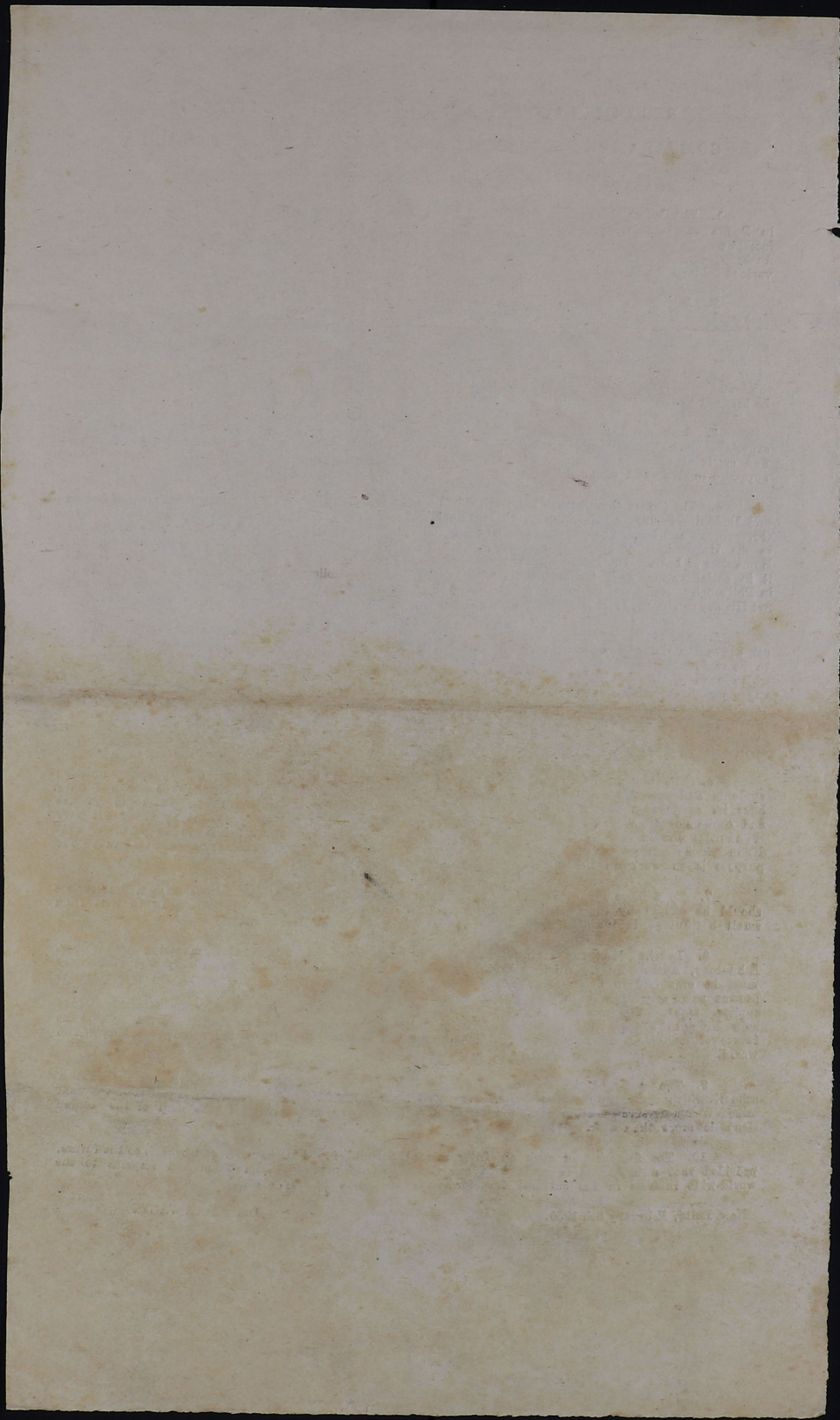
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2. American and European students willing to specialise and to dedicate their lives to India should first undergo a period of acclimatisation and assimilation preparatory to their special training in the Universities of India to which they will be assigned. Such preparation should include introductory lectures and informal discussions in a sort of Seminar under the guidance of competent Scholars from various parts of India, who could join the Centre during the summer in the hills and live with the foreign students in order to enable them to attain a better understanding of Indian mentality. After a few months of preparation, the foreign students should be assigned to those Indian Universities in which their specific studies could be best pursued.
3. Such a preparatory Centre is essential before the Fulbright Act could be implemented, as experience shows that isolated foreign students submerged in a strange environment, without proper guidance and spiritual care are in danger of going astray and being estranged from the country in which they are supposed to study and work.
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6. The Centre should remain under Indian Control, on a supranational plane, admitting students and research scholars from all countries, and avoid all one-sided nationalistic bias, and only offer its services to the Fulbright Plan as a cooperative movement of the spirit, excluding politics and economics from its scope, in such a way that Indian Cultural History in the spirit of the pure Humanities should not be affected by contemporary political controversies. This is an essential condition of the success of the Centre, and both Americans and Europeans should realise that our purpose is to work on the highest spiritual and intellectual plane.
7. To achieve our purpose, the bungalow and the maintenance of the Centre with a Secretariate should be offered by the Indian Government, on a modest scale. The Centre will grow in time from small beginnings into an Institute and become a School of the Humanities.
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New Delhi, February 8th 1950.

DR. FELIX VALYI



COUNCIL OF HIGHER LEARNING IN THE ORIENTAL DOMINIONS

1944-45

REPORT

The Council of Higher Learning in the Oriental Dominions was established in 1944 to coordinate and improve the standards of higher education in the Indian subcontinent. It has since that time been actively engaged in various educational reforms and has issued several reports on the state of higher learning in the region.

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