



## Research Internship Opportunity at Hasiru Dala

**Title:** Research Intern

**Location:** Bangalore, Karnataka

**Position Duration:** 1 month (starting from December 2024) with a possibility of extension based on performance and interest

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### About Hasiru Dala

Hasiru Dala, which means 'Green Force' in Kannada, is an impact organisation established in Bangalore, Karnataka focusing on securing social justice for waste pickers and working towards ensuring a life with dignity for waste pickers and other waste workers.

Hasiru Dala has been implementing community development projects since 2013, focusing on the socio-economic inclusion and empowerment of waste pickers through initiatives to promote identity rights, education, healthcare, housing, pensions, skill development and employment and entrepreneurship in sustainable waste management and green business. Guided by a community-driven approach, Hasiru Dala co-creates and co-designs interventions based on the needs of the communities it serves, while also working to conserve natural habitats.

Over the past decade, Hasiru Dala has worked to bring lasting change to the waste picker community, growing from an initial membership of 220 to over 20,000 across Karnataka and parts of Andhra Pradesh. The organisation has driven systemic transformation, providing economic empowerment and social recognition to individuals with limited formal education. Hasiru Dala also engages in stakeholder engagement with government, citizens and others as a key strategy to build opportunities for waste pickers. A pivotal milestone was securing Occupational ID cards in collaboration with the local government, the first formal recognition of informal workers like waste pickers in India. This effort helped restore dignity to the community and reduced street-level harassment.

Hasiru Dala's work has also contributed towards a significant achievement which led to the decision by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to entrust dry waste management to waste pickers, women, and self-help groups. This marked an important step toward a more sustainable and equitable waste management system.

### Position Overview

We are seeking a research intern for a research project, internally referred to as the '**Informality Study**'. The research project aims to understand the **occupational mobility of waste pickers** and other informal waste workers within and outside the waste sector in the city of Bangalore.



The study was initiated this year and after a preliminary exploratory study during its research design phase is currently focused on data collection and analysis. The intern will be working with the Research Associate at Hasiru Dala to conduct fieldwork in the city of Bangalore. As an impact-based organisation focusing on action-based research, the project aims to provide recommendations and review existing occupational mobility trajectories to highlight the challenges faced by waste pickers and other informal waste workers when moving in and out of the occupation of waste picking.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

- Conduct fieldwork in Bangalore, primarily engaging in data collection through semi-structured interviews
- Transcription, translation and timely documentation of data collected.
- Collaborate with lead researchers to enhance methodologies and data analysis techniques.
- Assist in literature review as needed.
- Conduct preliminary analysis of data collected for review of existing methodologies and sampling frameworks.
- Attend and assist in meeting research advisors for feedback on the ongoing research.
- Prepare internal reports/summaries and presentations to communicate findings.
- Attend team meetings and contribute to brainstorming sessions.
- Support the research team in drafting and editing research papers, proposals, and grant applications as required.

### **Required Qualifications**

- Proficiency in Kannada and/or Tamil, Telugu.
- Currently pursuing (or recently completed) a degree in Social Sciences [related field, e.g., Sociology, Political Science, Economics, Anthropology, Journalism, etc.].
- Basic understanding of research methodologies and data analysis.
- Strong understanding of research ethics especially working with socially marginalised communities.
- Experience with conducting field-based research.
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively within a team environment.

**Stipend:** Rs.10,000 / month

**Application Deadline:** November 16th, 2024

**To Apply:** Please submit your CV, a brief cover letter detailing your interest in the role, and any relevant work samples (not mandatory!) to [geetanjali@hasirudala.in](mailto:geetanjali@hasirudala.in) and [hr@hasirudala.in](mailto:hr@hasirudala.in).