



## What does the Prout Research Institute do?

When I joined the PRI board at the request of my friend, Dada Maheshvarananda, I didn't have any preconceptions about where it was headed or how it could bring about positive change. As time passed though, it became clear that PRI would be able to serve as a center for developing, refining, and sharing Prout with the broader society - both in theory and practice.

The Prout Research Institute (PRI) develops practical projects and policies, raises consciousness, and trains people in Prout's holistic model for the welfare and happiness of all.

The PRI building in Marshall, North Carolina, 30-minutes by car from Asheville, will enable staff and interns to live and work together. It will also be the physical headquarters of Prout Alliance. The PRI director, Dada Maheshvarananda, has extensive experience in developing, running, and teaching at a Prout Research Institute. He is the author of six books that include practical training books about Prout. Many other Proutists also live in the Asheville area and contribute to the Institute. Its location on the campus of the Neohumanist College of Asheville (NHCA) enables both organizations to share facilities and learning platforms.

In person study and research: People wishing to learn and apply Prout in depth will be able to stay at the PRI for both short and long periods of time. Prout scholars and writers will also be able to undertake intensive research and writing at the PRI and share their work with others. The staff has extensive contacts and networks with cooperatives and community organizers throughout Western North Carolina.

Because Prout is holistic in nature, the Institute is designed for the physical, mental, and spiritual growth

and well-being of each person who comes. Daily chanting and meditation sessions, yoga asana classes, a nutritious plant-based sentient diet, and a supportive community of spiritual seekers and wisdom traditions will soothe your heart and mind.

Courses, seminars, and conferences: The Institute will allow participants to come from throughout North America and the Caribbean, as well as interact with people and community organizers in the greater Asheville area.

Online access: Almost every program offered by the PRI will be live and recorded for engaging distance learning. The PRI is also in regular communication with the global Prout network active on every continent.

As the center rises, so does my excitement level. I'd like to encourage you to join me and the other PRI board members in contributing to bring this exciting project to reality and hasten the day when it robustly hosts many activities promoting Prout.

I look forward to partnering with you in this work.

### Craig Runde

*Craig E. Runde is a member of the PRI Board of Directors. His newest book, A Proposal for a World Constitution Based on the Works of Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar, came out in December, 2022. He is also the co-author of several books on conflict management. He is received his B.A. from Harvard University and a J.D from Duke University.*



# Prout Research Center Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the Prout Research Institute (PRI) was built upon the ancestral land of the Cherokee People or Aniyunwiya in the Cherokee Language. For thousands of years, the Cherokee evolved a culture and language in sacred harmony with all creation.

The PRI, which promotes the Progressive Utilization Theory (Prout), supports the idea of Cosmic ownership, the idea that recognizes one Universal Entity as the owner of all land and resources and humanity's role in the just and equitable utilization of these resources for the welfare of all.

Prout is also guided by Neohumanism, a new expression of humanism that recognizes all human beings as sisters and brothers in one family, and that also nurtures love and respect for all created beings and the inanimate world. Prout rejects all forms of exploitation which divide and suppress humanity. Guided by these principles, the PRI deems the injustices and suffering of the Cherokee, and all other indigenous peoples of North America, at the hands of European invaders as unacceptable and requiring action that addresses this harm.

Before their encounters with European colonizers, Cherokee towns were established throughout what is now known as the southeastern United States. Today, the town of Cherokee, North Carolina is the capital of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and is about 70 miles west of the PRI campus, residing within the Qualla Boundary.

Most of Cherokee land was stolen by successive generations of colonizers through slaughter, removal, starvation, smallpox, genocide, and erasure of identity. The history of treaties made and broken documents the basic rights of the Cherokee that were stolen.

The Prout Research Institute seeks to learn about and support the history and culture of the Cherokee on the parcel of land that we now live and work upon. Further, we accept our responsibility to identify these lands as Cherokee, and to seek out a partnership that is based on understanding,

responsibility, and support.

PRI pledges to take action steps to begin to rectify harm done and that addresses the needs and aspirations of the Cherokee people from now and into the future.



*This arrowhead was found on PRI Land.*

## Action Plan

Dispersal of 5 percent of the Institute's Excess of Revenues over Expenses to be donated to the Cherokee Preservation Foundation.

Preference to contract with Cherokee businesses for services, wherever possible.

Identifying research, oral history, testimony, and references to the Cherokee on our land.

To develop a resource guide on our website that covers: The history and present state of local, regional, national, and global Land Acknowledgment Statements, an ongoing history of the progress and development of our own LAS, and an archive of relevant documents, publications, and resources.

*The Prout Research Institute Board of Directors and Advisors*



*This painting of the Cherokee Trail of Tears is from the Woolorac Museum in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.*



# PROUT ANCHORS: A Tool to Evaluate Real World Solutions

By Dada Maheshvarananda, Shriraksha Mohan  
and Chandravati Rodriguez.

The Prout Alliance Materials Team members were inspired by ideas in Sohail Inayatullah's book, *Prout in Power* (Proutist Bloc India Publications, New Delhi, 2017. Digital Version.).

Starting with a few of Sohail Inayatullah's ideas, in the midst of a pandemic filled with conspiracy theories, the Team explored and developed ten criteria to use in the evaluation of proposed solutions or theories of various world issues.

Global capitalism is fundamentally unjust and exploitive. It is often difficult to judge whether different proposals and theories in government, social media, or corporate media are credible and deserving of our support.

Prout's focus is always on what is benevolent for humanity and the planet. For this reason, we suggest using the following ten criteria to help evaluate the worthiness of real world proposals.

## DOES THE SUGGESTED SOLUTION:

- Strengthen social unity?
- Build economic equity?
- Promote diversity and inclusion?
- Support gender equity?
- Uphold science and rationality?
- Foster cooperation?
- Accelerate progressive change?
- Inspire benevolent action?
- Forge ecological and spiritual connections?
- Encourage neohumanistic love for all creation?



# Prout Research Institute *Asheville* *North Carolina USA*

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# Don't miss these Upcoming Prout Events for 2023

## Ecological, Cooperative, Intentional Communities

J Peter Fleury, Landscape Architect in Austin TX  
February 9, 2023  
8-9 PM EST

Peter will provide an analysis of ecological, sustainable, cooperative communities, past, present and future, including the components proposed by P.R. Sarkar's vision to make them vibrant models and centers of creativity for a healthy society fully integrated into the natural world.

Register at:  
<https://proutalliance.wildapricot.org/events>

## The Place of World Government and a World Constitution in the Philosophy of Prout

Craig Runde, author and lawyer in St. Petersburg FL  
March 9, 2023  
8-9 PM EST

Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar first shared his thoughts about Prout in the late 1950's and continued to clarify that comprehensive socio-political-economic system until his passing in 1990. After reviewing his ideas about the creation of a world government and a world constitution, the program will enable participants to explore how these ideas help in the creation of a PROUT social order. Participants will also be encouraged to develop ideas about how a world government can be implemented.

Register at:  
<https://proutalliance.wildapricot.org/events>

## Interested in Volunteering?

We need support work for the PRI.institute website. Need volunteers for installing windows and doors and doing finishing work. Contact [Maheshvarananda@gmail.com](mailto:Maheshvarananda@gmail.com)



## ProutSisters Convention

July 17-18, 2023  
Ananda Gaorii  
Holbækvej 56, 4560 Vig, Denmark  
Information at: <https://proutsisters.com/>

A two-day in-person educational and support gathering for Prout-focused women around the world.

## Prout Global Convention 2023

Ananda Gaorii  
Holbækvej 56, 4560 Vig, Denmark  
July 19-23, 2023

Register at: <https://www.anandagaorii.dk/>  
Contact: [gaoriiconnections@gmail.com](mailto:gaoriiconnections@gmail.com)

The convention is a meeting place where one can learn more about Prout and become acquainted with the many Prout activities in different countries, and the possibilities to visit them and work with them to contribute to building our global community. Many of these projects are addressing local environmental and sustainability issues. There will also be a children's program so families are welcome and the parents will be able to attend the various sessions. Ananda Gaorii is located in the countryside nearby miles of beaches where one can escape. Much of the vegetarian food served will come directly from the gardens of Ananda Gaorii.

## Prout Alliance Annual Convention

Hosted by Prout Research Institute Asheville  
Marshall, NC  
October 6-9, 2023  
Register at:  
<https://proutalliance.wildapricot.org/events>

Prout Alliance meets together annually to plan our year's activities, choose our Steering Committee, and offer educational workshops online and in-person.



# Construction Underway at the Prout Research Institute

*Submitted by Jiivanmukta  
(James Steen)*

I am excited to update you on the construction of the Prout Research Institute building in Marshall, North Carolina.

The roof trusses were installed just before the turn of the new year and the roof is now covered with tar paper. In the next couple of weeks, we will install the asphalt roof tiles and the deck planks. This is a big achievement towards getting the building 'dried in.' The last step is to install the windows and doors.

We have quotes from a few building suppliers for the windows, and expect that these will cost \$36,000. This will be the single biggest purchase, and your tax-exempt donations would be a great help now.

As the project manager, my goal is to save \$100,000 in construction costs. We could really use volunteers to help to install the windows and doors and for all the finishing work inside that will continue over the spring and summer. Please let us know if you or someone you know would be willing to help. It would be a great opportunity to learn and serve in a spiritual setting.





# Meditation Instructions

*From Dada Nabhaniilananda, in Tools to Change the World,*

**Sit comfortably with a straight back. Place your hands in your lap, thumbs together. Close your eyes and breathe naturally.**

**Begin by noticing any little tensions or sensations in your body. Now become aware of your breath. Breathe in, and as you breathe out, let go of those little tensions. And again, breathe in, noticing your lungs filling with air as your chest expands, and then relax as you breathe out.**

**Begin mentally repeating the mantra, Baba Nam Kevalam. Feel as though your inner self is the source of this mantra. Your inner self is reminding you of something very important. It is reminding you that deep within you is the source of all the love you have ever felt.**

**It is there right now, and if you pay attention, you can feel it. Remember to focus on the meaning of the mantra, on this feeling of limitless love deep within you.**

**If your mind wanders, do not be concerned. Simply bring your attention back to the mantra and continue repeating it. Continue doing this for the duration of your practice.**

*Find a quiet place to practice and sit twice daily, before you eat. Make sure your phone is switched off completely. Meditate like this for 10 to 15 minutes. When you are finished, you can open your eyes and sit quietly for a moment before getting up. If you make a habit of this you will be amazed at the difference it makes to your everyday state of mind. If you use the audio recording, you will hear the mantra music leading into the meditation, and a voice guiding you into the practice. This guided meditation with the music will make your practice much easier. BlissTimer.com*



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