



**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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To Whom It May Concern

I have known Ms. Saurya Nayak as a student of 3-year M.Sc.Tech. in Applied Geology course of our department since July 2018. I have taught her Stratigraphy, Nuclear Geology and the practical component of Igneous Petrology. She was always among the top 5 or 10 in a class of 50 students in the subjects that I had taught. I found her to be quite inquisitive and interactive in the class and showed keen interest to pursue a research career in geosciences. I found her to have critical thinking abilities even in hardcore geology subjects like petrology. She had been very good in the practical classes in igneous petrology and I felt she has a good eye for details in petrography. She had always discussed on topics outside the boundaries of course work. During a field work in Raniganj Gondwana Basin in India I had taught her Sedimentary Terrain Mapping and her performance in the training was nothing less than excellent. Her research interests are in the fields of Organic Geochemistry. She had undertaken training at Bharat Coking Coal Limited and in aspects of geochemistry and geochronology at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology. In the last 5 semesters of her studies she has secured an OGPA of 9.2 out of 10.

Apart from the regular academic activities, Saurya had participated in various institute level cultural and other extracurricular activities, where I had found her to demonstrate leadership qualities. She is an aspiring young researcher with great potential and also has an amicable character. She will easily get along with her associates and will be an asset to any institute/organization enrolling her. I strongly recommend her candidature for the available research position.

Anand