

Dear Friend,

Bhasha Research and Publication Centre completed twenty years in April 2016. This long journey has had its achievements and challenges, learnings and failures. The Founders of Bhasha, Prof. G. N. Devy, Smt. Nisha Grover, Dr. Ravikant Joshi, Ms. Sandhya Gajjar and Prof. Surekha Devi created Bhasha to 'voice' the Adivasi communities of India. The Adivasi Academy, established by Bhasha at Tejgadh, has emerged as an inclusive institutional space to represent the Adivasi communities in terms of their languages, culture and knowledge and to come up with innovative models to respond to challenges in the areas of Adivasi development. The Adivasi Academy was a dream institution for Bhasha. Two decades since its creation, Bhasha has accomplished beyond what its founders had visualised. The organisation is looked up to by scholars, organisations and the community for its national perspective on tribal issues, its work at the grassroots and its understanding of Adivasi society.

Two decades on, this is a moment for reflection and new directions. Bhasha and the Adivasi Academy have moved on to carry out studies and research on Adivasi as well as ethnic communities to change the colonial perceptions which have so far influenced the policies on tribal development. The *People's Linguistic Survey of India* led by Prof. G. N. Devy and being published in 100 volumes presents 780 living languages of India. The survey has already begun to impact language studies and language revitalisation efforts. The Government of India has set up the National Commission for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes to form a policy for these communities for whom Bhasha had launched a national movement in the 1990s for their human rights and social justice. The struggle for the Adivasis and Denotified and Nomadic Communities is yet not over. Bhasha continues to strive in the areas of languages, education, healthcare, arts and culture to bring to these communities equity and dignity.

Many friends and well-wishers have been with us during this journey. We hope that you will continue to be with us.

Sandhya Gajjar, Managing Trustee, Bhasha Centre

EDUCATION

Vasantshala: An Initiative in Multilingual Education

The Adivasi Academy's experimental initiative 'Vasantshala' started in 2005 as a non-formal education centre for bringing out-of-school Adivasi children to age-appropriate learning levels. The centre has emerged as a 'Training Centre for Mother Tongue and Multilingual Education'. One of the key reasons for the low percentage of retention of Adivasi children in schools is the difference in their home language and the school medium of instruction. Tribal communities speak their own languages and children, unable to comprehend the teaching in Gujarati, lose interest and drop out of schools.

Vasantshala enrolls children from migratory families who have discontinued their schooling, bridges their learning gaps and admits them to government schools. Vasantshala has developed an effective pedagogy for transitioning children from mother tongue to the state medium of instruction. Vasantshala has residential facilities for 60 children. Every year as some children move on to government schools, new children move in. Last year, of the sixty children, seven children returned to their homes for health and family reasons. At the end of the year, 53 children remained, among whom 24 were girl students, the remaining 29 were boys. The children belonged to fifteen different villages spread across four talukas of Chhotaudepur, Pavijetpur, Kanwant and Naswadi in the region:

1. *Bandala*
2. *Bhumsvada*
3. *Chikbli*
4. *Dolriya*
5. *Hansda*
6. *Koliyathar*
7. *Manka*
8. *Mogara*
9. *Nani Sadbli*
10. *Navagam*

11. *Padvani*

12. *Rangpur*

13. *Raychha*

14. *Turkbeda*

15. *Zadhuli*



At the year end, children showed remarkable progress, both in studies and in areas as leadership, sports and cultural expression. Thirty-two children were enrolled to government schools and their progress in schools will be monitored by our para teachers. Against the vacancies of children who have moved to government schools, new children were enrolled. This year we have 61 children in all, twenty one who continue from the previous year, and forty whom we have enrolled newly.

Vasantshala's annual costs are Rs 18 lakhs; this includes the teachers salaries, educational and sports material, residential facilities, meals, clothing and centre maintainance. Bhasha has received partial support from Gujarat State Corporation Ltd. for 2016-17, the remaining funds are being raised through personal donations.

Promoting Child Protection and Child Friendly Schools at Kanwant

Supported by UNICEF, Bhasha has undertaken to partner with the government and other stakeholders to enhance awareness and capacity to promote child-friendly schools along with protecting children from child labour, violence and abuse. The project is being implemented in 133 villages of Kanwant taluka of Chhotaudepur district. Under the project, Bhasha has formed organisational structures as Child Protection Committees, Children Groups and Adolescent Girls Groups in all

villages. Capacity Building Workshops were conducted to make these groups effective and sustainable.

Raising awareness of the community ensures people's participation. Nearly 6000 community members were reached through folk performances in 26 villages on issues of discrimination, education and social protection. More than 6000 community members were covered under awareness programmes for education.

Community consultations were held in the villages to develop child protection plans for addressing issues as illiteracy, addiction, child labour and early marriage. During the year 608 child labour cases and 179 instances of child marriages were handled. Surveys were held to see the appropriateness of the school infrastructure. Meetings were held with parents on their role in ensuring educational delivery and to network with the School Management Committees. These in turn will ensure the creation of more child friendly schools.

Select children, teachers and anganwadi workers were publicly acknowledged for their exemplary performance and achievements.

1267 members of School Management Committees were oriented towards the role and function of the committee.

To strengthen the Right to Education, an endeavour was made to reach out to out-of-school children. In all 710 such children are now back at schools. Among these, 130 children (102 boys, 28 girls) were enrolled to government schools. Further, 190 children (73 girls, 97 boys) who were irregularly going to school, were counselled to attend school regularly. Additionally, 294 children were provided with transportation facilities for reaching the local school. Another 96 children were helped to avail of migration cards to enroll in schools where they migrated.

WASH day was observed in 27 schools; Children's day was celebrated in Devat village; Child Labour Day was observed at Kawant and Panvad.



The project activities are fully supported by UNICEF.

HEALTHCARE

Prakriti Centre for Wellbeing

The 'Prakriti Health Centre' on the campus of the Adivasi Academy has been providing health services in the area for the past seventeen years. The health centre combines allopathic treatment and traditional tribal approach to well-being. In the nearly two decades of its experience in tribal healthcare, Prakriti has focused on both preventive and curative health. A distinctive feature of the Prakriti programme is its endeavour to understand the tribal view of well-being which includes their perspective of the body, relationship with nature, traditions and rituals, philosophy of life and death and social and cultural practices. Thus, while Prakriti follows the modern/allopathic medicine, it does not negate the tribal way of healing. Prakriti's health intervention in the tribal district of Chhotaudepur aims at enhancing the well-being of tribal/rural community without critically altering their indigenous world view of health.

Prakriti has a long-experienced and dedicated doctors having experience in community care. We have:

- Dr. Kiran N. Shinglot, Director of Yog Niketan;
- Dr. Arvind Pratap, general physician and residing at Tejgadh;
- Dr. Jayshree Rao, specialising in Gynaecology and Obstetrics with 30 years of medical experience;
- Dr. Shakuntala Joshi, general physician with thirty years of medical practice
- Govind Vaidya, a traditional healer from the Adivasi community who prepares and promotes plant based medicines.

Prakriti is fully equipped with primary healthcare facilities and houses a pathological laboratory. It has its own ambulance donated by Mahindra and Mahindra which is utilised for extending health services in remote rural areas.

During the previous year, the centre covered 8938 patients related to sickle cell anaemia, dermatological, pulmonary, osteoarthritis, gynaecological, and

gastroenterological issues. The centre held health awareness camps on issues related to health, hygiene and sanitation, dermatology, reproductive and child health, neurological disorders, HIV/AIDS, and government health schemes.

The centre offers a six month Certificate Course in Rural Health Management to train community health karyakartas who are absorbed by the increasing number of government and private health initiatives in the rural sector. Last year, twenty-three tribal girl students were enrolled and successfully trained under the course conducted from July to December 2015. Post-training, the girls joined the Muni Seva Ashram at Goraj, for a specialised course in nursing.

Bhasha provides medical services at a nominal cost of Rs 200 every year which covers the entire family. So far, 11000 families have been covered under this in-house support.

Prakriti depends on personal donations for sustenance. The annual expenses for medicines, doctors' travel, emergency relief, health camps and centre maintenance is Rs 8 lakhs.

Promotion of Ayurveda for Tribal Wellness

In 2015, Bhasha was invited by the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India to undertake a pilot project for the promotion of Ayurveda in the tribal area of Chhotaudepur district in a way that it complements with their traditional medicinal practices. The project aims to develop a model whereby benchmarks are created for promotion of Ayurveda as a public health practice.

The initiative is led by a senior Ayurveda Vaidya with thirty years of experience in both research and practice. The Ayush Ayurveda Centre at the Adivasi Academy will cover 150 villages in Chhotaudepur district over three years. Already surveys are carried out in villages to document the health status and community beliefs and assess the extent of ayurveda and traditional practices in the area. A pilot survey of 24 villages was carried out, along with organising 8 camps covering 300 patients. Based on the survey, health awareness campaigns were held across 75 villages. The OPD is run on Fridays and Saturdays which receives attended by patients suffering from skin disorders, bronchitis, anaemia, arthritis, sickle cell, tuberculosis and renal stones.

Orientation programmes were held for government schools teachers to sensitise them to child health and the advantages of ayurveda.

Workshops were conducted to begin a dialogue between traditional healers, badwas/bhuvras and modern as well as ayurveda practitioners.

An ayurveda garden has been created on the campus of the Adivasi Academy having local plants and herbs. The plan is to develop local formulations based on traditional knowledge.

To further capacitate the community in enhancing its well-being, a six month Certificate Programme in Ayurveda for Community Health is being offered under which 17 trainees from the village communities are being trained in the fundamentals of ayurveda, methods of diagnosis and treatment, ayurveda treatment for the common ailments among adivasis, study of ayurvedic plants, ayurveda and modern medicines, limitations of ayurveda.

This component is fully supported by Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India.



ART AND CULTURE

Vaacha Musuem of Voice

‘Vaacha’, or the Museum of Voice at the Adivasi Academy is the largest resource centre of Adivasi Culture in India. Displaying the creative arts of Adivasi communities, Vaacha has also a vast digitised documentation of performative practices of over 150 Adivasi and nomadic communities. The centre has digitally connected the collections of eighteen Tribal Museums in the country through films, photographs, songs and stories reflecting the richness and diversity of adivasi life. Presently, the centre is creating an open-source Visual Archive collection of nearly 40,000 photographs, lectures and videos on Adivasis, providing a glimpse of adivasi life and society in transition. The centre has its backdrop the Koraj Hill which has a cave painting about 10,000 years old.



Digital Mapping of Tribal Music

Vaacha initiated the preparation of a National Digital Corpus of Adivasi Music a few years back. We have already covered the adivasi music of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Kerala and Himachal Pradesh. Last year Bhasha added to its repertoire of music archives, the tribal music of the states of Kerala and Himachal Pradesh.

Musicologist Prachi Dublay spent extended time in both states holding workshops with community ethnomusicologists and tribal artists to understand and identify their music traditions. Along with scholar and writer Shri Tobdan Tino, she visited the areas of Lahul District, Keylong, Kolong, Khangsar, Khoksar, Sisu and the three valleys of Pattan, Tinan and Tod, crossing the Rohtang at 13,000 feet. Her music documentation of Himachal Pradesh covers the Kinnauri, Lahuli, Pangwali, Gaddis, Tods and Chinali communities and their music-dance forms as

the Naati, Paghadu, Jhamakada, Sirmauri Zuri, Hamirpuri Jhamakda, Haldaa, Luddi and Gaddi. Extensive interviews with eminent artists as Raam Kumarji, Sarla Chambiyaalji, Vidya Sagarji, Lal Singhji and Sita Raamji form part of the documentation.

Prachi Dublay visited Kerala with With Nanthu Vijayakumar to capture the music of the Koragas, Mavilans, Paniyas, Irulas, Mannars, Paliyas and Thodas. The documentation includes Mangalam Kali, Kattu Nayaka songs, Mannar boat songs, Mavilar songs, Atam Patam Nrutyam, Koraga Nrutyam, Gedikka Nrutyam captured to the rhythm of the musical instruments as Turuli, Kazhal and Thudi.

Bhasha has added to its archives for Himachal Pradesh, 20 hours of video and 10 hours of audio documentation along with 2700 photographs; and for Kerala, 10 hours of video and audio documentation along with capturing 1200 visual images.

This has resulted into 13 CDs of music documentation of Himachal Pradesh and 9 CDs of music documentation of Kerala.

The music documentation is supported by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.



Bhasha Van: Forest of Indian Languages

Ever since the Bhasha Research Centre started its work of language revitalization in the late 1990s, focusing more on the survival of communities rather than merely on words and tales, many of India's previously vulnerable languages have started showing a strong resurgence. In celebration of the survival and struggle of these languages of India, the Adivasi Academy is developing on its campus, the Bhasha Van or Forest of Languages. Bhasha Van is a walkway lined with trees equipped with specially prepared audio tour that helps visitors journey through this one of a kind experience. The audio tour allows visitors to engage with India's linguistic diversity through audible language samples in the form of songs, poems, folktales,

sayings and jokes drawn from different languages of India. Already, 80 languages are recorded, the plan is to cover 780 Indian languages.

The Bhasha Van is presently unsupported. The annual maintenance and development cost is Rs 3 lakhs.



Lakhara: Studio Space for Artists'

Having extensively documented Adivasi arts and culture, the Adivasi Academy created last year the 'Lakhara' studio to bring together tribal artists from across India through national workshops and artists' in residence programmes. Lakhara aims to bring together streams of the traditional and modern in Adivasi art to understand the transitions and dynamics.

The Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, Vadodara has extended support for holding National Workshops of Adivasi Artists this year.

Kaleshwari Mela

Bhasha's annual Kaleshwari Mela at Kaleshwari at Panchmahals was held on 7 March on the occasion of Mahashivratri. The lok mela brings together over 5000 nomadic and adivasi artists from Gujarat and the neighbouring states in a visual spectacle of traditional theatre, songs, music, dance, epic narratives and acrobatics.

The range of visitors to Vaacha include dignitaries as Ambassadors, Vice Chancellors of universities, community members, artists, culture studies scholars, anthropologists, museum experts, university and college faculty, researchers and school children.



RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

During the year, the Adivasi Academy undertook the following seminal research and publications.

Socio-cultural Study of Reserved Scheduled Tribes Constituencies

The Socio- Cultural Study of Dang constituency by Roshan Chaudhari

Socio-Cultural Study of Dadra and Nagar Haveli by Kamlesh Gaekwad and Roshan Chaudhari

Socio-Cultural Study of Dahod by Shailesh Patel

These are part of the national series of ‘Socio-Cultural Surveys of Reserved Scheduled Tribes Constituencies’ which Bhasha has undertaken. The socio-cultural surveys are initiated with the aim of obtaining a citizen’s perspective on aspects significant for the well-being and progress of both, the people and the region since many of the tribal reserved constituencies continue to lag behind the national development parameters. Such studies providing insight into the cultural, social and economic aspects of tribal regions will be an important source for developmental planning.

Community Ethnographies

Bhasha has embarked upon ‘Insider Community Ethnographies’ prepared by community members. Since so far, policy making for marginalised communities has usually depended on colonial ethnographic accounts, the purpose is to provide information from an insider’s perspective. In addition to Adivasi communities, the series will also cover pastoral, nomadic and coastal groups on whom very little information is available. Last year, Bhasha prepared in all ten more ethnographs, covering communities in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Gujarat

Kolgha ethnography by Jagdish Dungarabhil

Padhar ethnography by Ashwinbhai Anadani

Rajasthan

Seharias by Guman Singh Mehta

Banjara by Phool Singh Banjara

Bhat by Manoj Thakur

Madhya Pradesh

Baiga by Ankit Jain

Maharashtra

Kolam by Shrikrushna G. Kakade

Pardhi by Shrikrushna G. Kakade

Korku by Shrikrushna G. Kakade

Gormati by Veera Rathod

Katkari by Shirish Jadhav

Babo Pithoro Painting

While there are already studies on the Pithoro by artists/scholars as Jyotindra Jain, Jyoti Bhatt and Vishwajit Pandya, two of our colleagues, Naran Rathwa and Vikesh Rathwa, both former alumni of the Adivasi Academy and now curators to the Vaacha museum, undertook two research studies which have been published as full-length books: Babo Pithoro and Chhotaudepur Jilana Adivasi Samajona Sanskritik ane Manavshastriya Abhyas. This is the first endeavour by the community to document and study their own tradition in a contemporary context.

Babo Pithoro is an insider's perspective on the pithoro tradition which takes a critical look at the place of the pithoro among the Rathwas addressing issues of identity, worldview and the making of a tradition.

Study of Rock Paintings of Chhotaudepur

Chhotaudepur Jilana Adivasi Samajona Sanskritik ane Manavshastriya Abhyas is an in-depth field study of sixteen cave sites in Chhotaudepur and Pavijetpur talukas of Chhotaudepur district in an endeavour to explore further the history of the local Adivasi communities and the region. The study looks into the cultural and religious symbolism, mythology, aesthetics and the ecological relationships and draws links between tribal memory, history and art. . The Chhotaudepur region in Gujarat is home to several prehistoric rock cave paintings dating back to 10,000 to 12,000 years. So far, these rock paintings have been overlooked by both cultural historians and archaeologists.

The above publications are available with the Bhasha Research Centre and the Adivasi Academy. They were supported by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Cultural and Anthropological Study of Tribal Communities of Chhotaudepur

Writer Prof. Kanji Patel undertook a research study of the Rathwa, Nayka, Tadvi and Dungrabhil communities of Chhotaudepur district. The research covers the aspects of social description, beliefs, family and social aspects, arts and culture, body and well-being, modernity and globalisation. The research is published under the title, Chhotaudepur Jilana Adivasi Samajono Sanskritik ane Manavshastriya Abhyas.

The research study was supported by Tribal Sub-plan, Chhotaudepur.

LANGUAGE

People's Linguistic Survey of India

During the Bharat Bhasha Confluence held in 2010 speakers of 320 Indian languages along with heads of literary and language institutions in India who had come together in Baroda, expressed concern over the depleting stock of languages in the country. As a response Bhasha Centre decided to launch a nation-wide survey of India's living languages under the title, People's Linguistics Survey of India in 2010. Bhasha's Founder and internationally renowned scholar-activist, Prof. G. N. Devy led the survey spanning all States and Union Territories of India with a team of 3000 scholars, linguists, writers and community representatives. The People's Linguistics Survey of India, completed in a span of four years, reports on 780 living languages in the country. Presently, the survey is being published in a 70-volume series in English and regional languages by Orient Blackswan and regional publishers. The following twenty-seven People's Linguistics Survey of India volumes for the following states are published and available to readers:

- Being of Bhasha: Introductory volume in English
- Andhra Pradesh volume in Telugu
- Assam volume in Assamese
- Chhatisgarh volume in Hindi
- Gujarat volume in Gujarati – (2015-16)
- Haryana volume in English
- Himachal Pradesh volume in Hindi and English
- Jammu and Kashmir volume in English
- Jharkhand volume in English
- Kerala and Lakshwadeep volume in English
- Madhya Pradesh in Hindi
- Maharashtra in Marathi
- Meghalaya in English and Khasi-Garo
- Mizoram in English

- Nagaland in English – (2015-16)
- Orissa in Oriya – (2015-16)
- Pondicherry in English – (2015-16)
- Punjab in English
- Rajasthan in Hindi and English – (2015-16)
- Tamil Nadu in English
- Uttar Pradesh in Hindi
- Uttarakhand in Hindi and English
- Indian Sign Language in English

Of these, five volumes were published during the last year. As a rare occasion, the Honourable Governorshri of Gujarat, Shri O. P. Kohli graciously hosted a Function and released the People's Linguistics Survey of India volume for Gujarat, Diu & Daman and Dadra and Nagar Haveli at the Rajbhawan, Gandhinagar on 25 May 2016.

The People's Linguistic Survey of India was partially supported by Jamsetji Tata Trust.

The People's Linguistics Survey of India in Hindi Translation

The People's Linguistics Survey of India series will also be available in Hindi for non-English and non-regional language readers. Translation on twenty-five volumes has been commenced. These include the introductory volume and covering the following States and Union Territories:

1. Being of Bhasha: Introduction to People's Linguistic Survey of India
2. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
3. Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
4. Arunachal Pradesh
5. Assam
6. Bihar

7. Goa
8. Gujarat, Diu & Daman and Dadra & Nagar Haveli
9. Haryana
10. Jammu and Kashmir
11. Karnataka
12. Kerala and Lakshwadeep
13. Maharashtra
14. Manipur
15. Meghalaya
16. Mizoram
17. Nagaland
18. Orissa
19. Pondicherry
20. Punjab
21. Sikkim
22. Tamil Nadu
23. Tripura
24. West Bengal
25. Indian Sign Language

The Hindi Volumes of the People's Linguistic Survey of India is presently unsupported. Including the expenses for Translators' Workshops, translation fees, reviews and copyediting, the cost per volume is Rs 2 lakh. The volumes will be published by Orient Blackswan.

WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

On 25 April 2015, the PLSI Continuity Committee held a one-day discussion in Baroda to discuss how the PLSI work would be continued in the years to come towards the revitalisation of Indian languages.

A Workshop to discuss and plan the Hindi PLSI Series was held at IGNOU from the 3 to 5 June 2015.

The Lakhara Artists Studio at the Adivasi Academy was inaugurated by Prof. G. N. Devy and Prof. Surekha Devi on 25 June 2015.

A one day discussion on the writings and activism of Prof. G. N. Devy was held under the title *Amnesia, Aphasia, and the Margins: In Thought and Action*, at Sarjan Art Gallery on 25 July 2015. Scholars and thinkers who participated were Dr. K K Chakravary, Prof. Kanji Patel, Prof. Rita Kothari, Dr. Prachi Khandeparkar, Shri Arun Jakhade, Prof. M. Sreenathan, Dr. Rupalee Burke, Dr. Ghanshyam Shah, Dr. Sadanand Menon, Prof. Avinash Pandey, Dr. Indranil Acharya, Prof. A.K. Singh and Prof. Rashmi Sahwney.

On 10 August 2016, a Function was held at the Palace Auditorium for announcement of Hindi PLSI Series. The Function was graced by Honourable Governorshri of Gujarat, Shri O. P. Kohli.

A core committee meeting of Editors and publishers of PLSI series was held on 11 August 2015 at Baroda.

A workshop on Multilingual Education was organised at the Adivasi Academy on 20 August and attended by Ms. Alaknanda Sanap and Aide et Action team.

On 25 August 2015, a one day meeting of the Bhasha family was held at Tejgadh to discuss the responsibilities emerging from the stepping away of Prof. G. N. Devy and Prof. Surekha Devi from the Bhasha Centre.

Justice Hemant Gokhale, former Chief Justice of Madras and Allahabad High Courts and sitting judge of the Supreme Court of India, visited Tejgadh on 20 September 2015.

A three day national seminar on “Indigenous Languages: Survival of the Oral in the Digital Future” was held jointly by Bhasha Research Centre and the India International Centre-Asia Project at IIC Delhi from 22nd to 24th September 2015. Nearly 60 scholars from across India participated in the seminar. Presentations were made on the following: key issues related to language diversity in South Asia;

Himalayan Languages; Orality, North-East Language Situation; Language and Speech Communities; Languages in South India; Indigenous Languages; Emerging Languages. A special session was devoted to the discussion of the PLSI.

Four tribal artists visited Jaipur for a week from 29th September 2015 on invitation of Mr. D. R. Mehta, former Governor of Reserve Bank.

Workshops to discuss the Socio-Cultural Studies of ST Reserved Constituencies were held at the Adivasi Academy, Tejgadh on the following dates:

8-9 October 2015 to discuss with community researchers the need for the study, to finalise the framework and methodology and the regions to be covered;

4-5-6 December 2015 during which studies conducted were presented and reviewed by experts;

19-20 February 2016 for the finalisation of the studies.

Workshops to discuss Community Ethnographies were held on the following dates:

8-9 October 2015 to orient the community researchers on the concept of Community Ethnographies, to finalise the themes, methodology and format and to identify the communities to be covered in each state;

4-5-6 December 2015 for presentations of community ethnographies, to seek critical response from scholar-reviewers and to resolve research issues and questions

19-20 February 2016 for finalisation of the community ethnographies

A two day Workshop titled Vikalp Sangam convened by Kalpvriksh, Pune was held at Tejgadh on 5 and 6 December 2015. The workshop had participation from organisations across India as Dharamitra, Samvedna, Saded, Soppecome, Centre for Education and Documentation, Development Alternatives, Shikshantar, ISEC and NESFAS to discuss developmental alternatives.

A review meeting of the Chief Editor with the publishers was convened on 24 and 25 February 2016 to discuss the schedule of publishing of the volumes.



RESEARCH FELLOWS/VISITORS

Prof. Geoffrey Davis, formerly Emeritus Professor of Anglophone Postcolonial Literatures at the University of Aachen, Germany and a co-founder of Bhasha's Chotro International Conference, was invited on a Senior Research Fellowship from 22 February to 7 March 2016. During his stay, Prof. Davis and Prof. Devy conceptualised a publication series on Indigenous Culture and Knowledge which will have scholars contributors from across the globe.

Ms. Denisa Uhliarova from Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, has affiliated with the Bhasha Centre/Adivasi Academy as a research associate for her doctoral research and field work for a year from 4 October 2015 to 15 September 2016. She has completed her Masters in social and cultural anthropology and is pursuing her doctoral studies at the Institute of Oriental Studies of Slovak Academy of Sciences, which is the research institute of Comenius University in Bratislava. Her area of research pertains to Adivasis of Gujarat.

Dr. David Fletcher from the Coady International Institute, Canada visited the Adivasi Academy on 1 April 2015.

Dr. Ivy Hansdak visited the Adivasi Academy on 17 July 2015.

Members of Tata Power, Mundra including Mr. Basu and Mr. Pradeep Ghosal visited Bhasha on 22 January 2016 to discuss potential development projects in Gujarat.

A team of ten students from MICA, Ahmedabad came on an exposure trip to the Adivasi Academy from 9 January to 12 January 2016.

Dr. Papia Sengupta from Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, visited the Adivasi Academy for her field research on Adivasi languages from 10 January to 13 January 2016.

The Board of Directors of Shakun Polymers visited the Adivasi Academy on 31 January 2016.

Mr. Sachin Sachdeva, India Director of Paul Hamlyn Foundation visited Bhasha on 22 February 2016 to discuss tribal related issues and to explore ways of bringing together knowledge and social work with institutional representation.

A team of fifteen writers, community representatives and cultural activists from Adivasi Cultural Centre, Jharkhand visited the Adivasi Academy from 13 to 17 March 2016 for exposure and training.

RECOGNITION

Writer and Trustee of Bhasha Centre, Prof. Kanji Patel was awarded the Shivam Award by Shivshankar Joshi Foundation, Palanpur and the Dhumketu Award by Dhruv Parivar and Gurjar Prakashan for his short story collection on nomadic communities, Dero.

Ethnomusicologist and playback singer, Ms. Prachi Dublay was awarded Sir C. V. Raman Research's Award for the year 2015 at Nagpur on 14 December 2015 and the Kaleshwari Sanman 2016 for her contribution in the study and promotion of tribal music.



FUNDERS AND DONORS

Funders

During 2015-16, Bhasha received funding support from the following organisations:

The Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, has sanctioned a three year project beginning October 2015 titled “Implementation of AYUSH Intervention for Promoting Wellness through Management of Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases in tribal district of Chhotaudepur in Gujarat”.

UNICEF continued its support for the second year under the Project Title “Convergent Initiative to Address the Learning and Protection Needs of Children, in continuation of “Educated and Protected: A Brighter Future for India’s Children”.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, extended financial support under the Scheme of ‘Centre of Excellence’ for the period April 2015 to March 2016.

The Tribal Sub-plan, Chhotaudepur provided support for a Cultural and Anthropological Study of Adivasi Communities of Chhotaudepur for the period July 2015 to June 2016

Tribal Cultural Heritage in India Foundation, Netherlands has given a one year support for Publication of Children’s Adivasi Literature.

Donors

Bhasha received a total amount of Rs 24,76,803 as donations from the following well-wishers and associates, from April 2015 to March 2016.

Organisations:

Bagri Seva Trust

Dosti Trust (Shri Kishan Goradia)

Flexituff International Ltd.

G H Patel Cheritable Trust

Maharashtra Andhashddha Nirmulan Samiti

Nandesari Industries Association

Narayan Powertech Pvt. Ltd.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

Shabri Chemicals Pvt Ltd

Shakun Polymers Ltd

Individuals:

Chanpreet

D. Ketkar

Dilip Borkar

Dinesh Patel

G.N. Devy, K. K. Chakravarty and Geoffrey Davis (Royalty donated)

Janardan Bhatt

K. T Patil

Kanji Patel

Krishna Patil

Krunal Kiritbhai Thaker

Lalit Ramniklal Mehta

Muktaben M Samani

Narsihman

Nikhil Mohan Wadekar

P Y Sarode & Shri K T Patil

Punita Jaimini Mehta

Putul Sathe

Rupali Burke

Sanjay Agrawal

Sulbha Shrikant Kore

Suniti Deo

Surekha Devi

Vandana Sharma

Yogniketan YTTTC Students