



Jnana Prabodhini's  
Magazine For Enriching  
the Potential of Youngsters

# Chhatra Prabodhan

| English Bimonthly | Year 2 Issue 3 |

*English Diwali Issue*

Sake 1947 | 2025, PRICE ₹ 120

Silver Jubilee  
English  
Diwali Edition



# Dialogue

My dear young harbingers of progress and peace,

Chhatra Prabodhan celebrates two milestones this year! First, we present to you the **Silver Jubilee Edition of Chhatra Prabodhan's English Diwali Issue!** Second, we present to you the **400th issue of Chhatra Prabodhan's Regular Marathi issue!** This year, a **total of 32,000 copies** of Chhatra Prabodhan's three Diwali issues - Regular Marathi, English and Rural Marathi - are published.



**“Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom.”**

I think stories are just like those skilled doctors, who administer the injection so gently that you'll hardly know! So here is a story to understand the above words of Viktor Frankl, Austrian Holocaust survivor, psychiatrist, philosopher and author.

The story goes thus - A man comes across an elephant that is tied to a small rope. Despite the fact that the elephant could easily break free from the rope, it does not even try to do so. The man is curious and asks the trainer nearby why the elephant doesn't attempt to break free. The trainer explains that when the elephant was young, it was tied to the same rope and was not strong enough to break free. As a result, the elephant became conditioned to believe that it was not capable of breaking the rope, even though it could do so easily as an adult.

At some point, aren't we all like the elephant in the story who does not even try to break free or challenge any impeding circumstances that stop us from achieving our full potential? I guess you would agree!

The Diwali issue or even the bimonthly issues are always an exploration, a step taken towards finding those “responses” that can lead us to “growth” and “freedom”. Naturally, this brings me to this year's Diwali issue.

It all begins with the cover page! I am confident you will not miss it! While you linger upon it, you will be equally excited to look at the Index! Like every year, our conscious exploration this year too has led us to a bundle of thrilling sci-fi, suspense/mystery stories, biographical or historical stories of resilient people; poems that will strike a chord among all of you, informative and narrative articles that will take you around the world - in the fascinating company of birds and animals, a couple of our articles will also give you a peek into the digital world of AI and the Ghibli Studio! Although it can be hard to pick a favourite, the “Special Feature - My Rebellion” deserves to be the crowning glory of the Diwali issue. We are sure that these soul-stirring accounts of our respectable writers will help you find the “response”. Do send us your feedback after reading the magazine!

Best wishes to you and your family on the occasion of Diwali!

Make sure you celebrate Diwali responsibly! **Shubha Deepawali!**

Your pen pal,  
**Ashwini Deshpande**

# Chhatra Prabodhan

[English Bimonthly | Year 2 Issue 3 |

English Diwali Issue

Sake 1947 | 2025

Strike, strike at the root  
of misery in our hearts  
Give us the strength  
to rise above daily trifles

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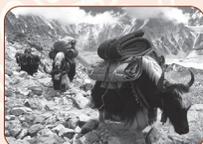
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Read English  
Diwali Issue  
2024



# Jnana Prabodhini

The unique aspects, of the distinctive culture of Prabodhini, which form the foundation of Jnana Prabodhini's work culture are :

**Futuristic Approach, Upasana-Oriented Approach, Community-Centered Approach, Organisational Approach, and Scientific Approach.**

## Scientific Approach

**The Scientific Approach means to** - be inquisitive, to examine closely to find answers, to find out the cause-effect relationships in various situations, to conduct the required experiments, and to investigate the findings. **The Scientific Approach also means** - to use existing science, to undertake new research, to not contradict the present day science when it is not explicable with the help of present day science, and to accept things beyond the scope of science after critical enquiry.

### Manifestation of Scientific Approach in Prabodhini

#### A drive for being the most Technologically and Scientifically Advanced

- Since 1984, pioneering teaching of Computer Science, and since 2001, of Biotechnology, has been carried out at Prabodhini's schools. Since 2015, experiments in Bamboo Tissue Culture have been conducted for increasing bamboo production.
- For the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, a project on creating an Encyclopedia of Fertilizers and Pesticides has been completed.
- For training in innovation and problem-solving, the Makers' Space is equipped with laser cutters, lathes, 3D printers, and similar resources. The Atal Tinkering Lab and the Skill Training Center at Shivapur are functioning actively.
- Since 2023, a 'Trichoderma Laboratory' has been started at Harali for the production of fungi, which is useful in agriculture.

#### Research in Social Sciences

- Pioneering research and development of training programs for the enhancement of Gifted education, creativity, reading speed, social awareness and scientific creativity etc.
- Consistent and continuous development of training programs based on psychological research and furtherance of new research using inputs received from training programs.

#### Embedding Scientific Approach in the work culture

- Inclusion of project methodology in school curricula for the past 50 years.
- Project workshops, science workshops, science exhibitions are set up to inculcate the Scientific Approach in society.
- Project camps, science camps, science exhibition and science teacher training programs are arranged throughout India.
- Based on rational thinking, reforms are made in the religious and educational *sanskaras* to make them relevant and meaningful to present times.
- Training on the Futurology technique is conducted for school students; and the same technique is also used at the institutional level to plan Jnana Prabodhini's journey.

#### Areas of Organizational and Institutional Work

**Education | Research | Rural Development | Health | Leadership Development |  
Mobilization of Women Power | National Integration**

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*On Planet Lumina something strange has happened! And the person who can solve this mystery is on Earth! Read the story to find out what exactly the problem is on Planet Lumina and how it is resolved!*



Story

## Chapter 1 : The Spark in the Garden

Teju was no ordinary engineering student. Sure, she loved bike rides, spicy popcorn, and reading mysteries, but what she really loved was studying optics, especially the properties and the behaviour of light. Her shelves were stacked with flashlights, glow sticks, fiber optic toys and a do-it-yourself laser pointer kit. She had converted her balcony into a small laboratory where she would be busy with her small experiments. She had also prepared an optical toolkit box which included interesting things related to light.

One summer afternoon, Teju was reading a book about rectilinear propagation of light. Just then,

"Thud!" - a loud sound was heard in her backyard. She went to check, but everything seemed to be in order except for a strange looking box which seemed to have appeared from nowhere, as if it had fallen from the sky! It lay right next to her mom's marigolds. It was a shimmering silver box, humming and glowing faintly like a light bulb



## When Light Lost Its Way

Dr. Deepti Sidhaye



trying to whisper.

Teju crept closer. The box had strange markings like lightning bolts and spirals, etched on it. When she touched it, it popped open with a soft "Fizz!" and a beam of rainbow light shot into the sky.

Suddenly, a tiny hologram of a squirrel dressed in a lab coat appeared and started speaking in a squeaky voice, "Greetings, Teju! I am Professor Bright from the planet Lumina. We need your help!

*Unity to be real must stand the severest strain without breaking.*

– Mahatma Gandhi

✧ Best Wishes from ✧

- ♦Shri. Sanjay Pradhan, Satara
- ♦Shri. Vikas Deshpande, Satara



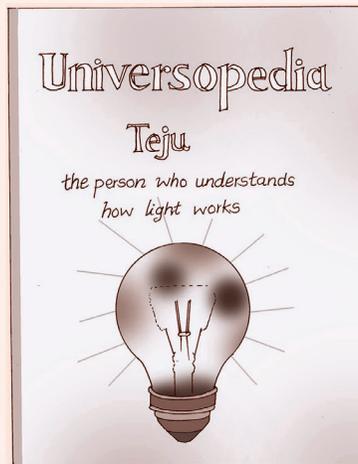
Our world depends on light but its rectilinear propagation has been disturbed leading to a lot of chaos. Can you help? You're our best hope!"

Puzzled, Teju blinked, "Why ME!?"

"Well," said Professor Bright, "Our Universopedia suggested your name as the person who understands how light works."

"Huh! What is Universopedia?" Teju asked, confused.

Professor Bright said, "It is our reference source which has information about the skill sets possessed by every living being in the Universe."



Teju wanted to ask how and when this data for Universopedia was collected. However, before she could say anything, she was wrapped up in the beam of rainbow light, and in a moment, she disappeared along with her optical toolkit box.

## Chapter 2 : Welcome to Lumina

Teju opened her eyes to a world glowing with light. On the glittering planet of Lumina, everything was powered by light. No electricity, no batteries - just beams of light! The city ran on powerful lasers and glowing sunlight tunnels. Even messages and music

travelled through special light waves. Every day, light zipped through the air in perfect straight lines, just like arrows. It travelled through clear skies, bouncing from mirror to mirror, zooming from towers to homes, from floating cars to glowing gardens. But since the previous day, something had gone terribly wrong. Light had stopped travelling in a straight line.

Usually, our vision depends on light that reaches our eyes in straight lines. But on Lumina, one saw warped images, floating objects, flickering streetlights. Even computer screens, cameras, microscopes, telescopes had been delivering such images.

Shadows rely on straight-line blockage of light. So now, when light bent around objects, the shadows had disappeared.

Read the full story in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan

**Must Know : Native Note - Tulu :** A Dravidian language of Tulu Nadu, it preserves the Tigalari script, historically related to Grantha.

✽ Best Wishes from ✽

♦Shri. Niraj Pai, Mumbai

♦Shri. Sanket Varudkar, Dhule



# Hiking Bali's Batur Volcano

☞ Vihang Ghalsasi ☜



Bali is famous for its dreamy beaches, ornate temples, and endless green paddy fields. But there's something even cooler about this island—volcanoes! Did you know Indonesia has 139 volcanoes? The entire country sits on the Pacific Ring of Fire, which means earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions are pretty common here. Bali alone has four volcanoes—Abang, Agung, Batur, and Batukaru. Mount Agung erupted in 2019, Mount Batur last erupted in 2000, and the others are sleeping (for now).

During my seven-day backpacking trip to Bali, hiking Mount Batur was the ultimate highlight. The night before, I stayed in Kintamani, a cozy little village at the base of Batur. This is where most guided sunrise treks start.

At 2 am sharp, there was a knock on my hostel door. Half-asleep but buzzing with excitement, I grabbed my jacket and hiking shoes. By 3 am, our group was ready to climb. There was a French couple, a German girl, and a Belgian girl in our group, plus our guide—a cheerful local with an epic smile. We piled into a car and drove to the starting point. Stepping out of the car, we were swallowed by pitch darkness. The guide handed us headlamps and gave a quick

pep talk. With torches strapped on, and shoelaces double-knotted, we began the climb. The trail wasn't too steep, but the slippery gravel made every step tricky—I'd take one step forward, slide half a step back! The air was cool and crisp, and when I looked up, I gasped. The sky was crystal clear, scattered with millions of stars. I even spotted the Milky Way! That sight alone made the 2 am wake-up call worth it. Energized, we climbed faster, eager to catch the sunrise.

After an hour of scrambling and sliding, we finally reached the summit. The place was already buzzing with trekkers, each group sitting in their assigned spots like a sunrise audience. It felt weirdly organized—nature's theatre, but with a ticketing system! We still had an hour until sunrise, so I perched on a rock and started playing with my camera setting to click pictures of the starlit sky. Soon, the eastern horizon started glowing. First red, then orange, then pink and gold—a painter's palette spreading across the heavens. We all held our breath, waiting for the big moment when the sun would rise in glory.

Read the full narrative in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan

*Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean.*  
– Ryunosuke Satoro

✿ Best Wishes from ✿

♦ Shri. Aniruddha Joglekar, Pune

♦ Sau. Charushila and Shri. Sharad Keshav Awate, Pune



# Let us Empower Self from Within!

Written by - **Dr. Anagha Lavalekar**

Dreaming afresh with spirits afresh  
Let us be ready - face new wars  
Not shadows but  
we are daughters of the sun  
Let us empower self from within!

The flame of self-commitment  
will glow  
It will erase the irrational beliefs  
for sure  
The acts to become  
wise and thoughtful  
Let us empower self from within!

Let us create wellness  
for greater good  
Why to worship  
the fragmentary actions?  
Let us lighten  
the beautiful lamps of intellect  
Let us empower self from within!

Let us climb new heights  
while holding hands of the needy  
Keeping 'Ma Bharati's' head  
held high  
For sowing this inspiration  
in thousand hearts  
Let us empower self from within!

Let education open the doors  
to enhance  
The feminine charm may reflect  
through sincere love  
To unite hundred such groups  
with mission  
Let us empower self from within!

**LISTEN** to the  
original Marathi  
audio of the above  
translated song



**Meaning of the above song :** The poet speaks about the awakening of the woman power. She wishes that women should not only dream big but also fight against those barriers that stop them from achieving their dreams. She thinks that women need not be aggressive but by being determined they could set their own lives as well as the future of the country on the way to success. For doing this, the poet urges women to be self-reliant, and establish a strong collective power!

**Must Know : Native Note - Kumaoni :** Language of Uttarakhand's Kumaon region, its name links to Kurmanchal, sacred land of Lord Vishnu's Kurma avatar.

✿ Best Wishes from ✿

♦Shri. Girish Palaskar, Bengaluru, Karnataka  
♦Smt. Snehlata Ganesh Gadre, Palshet, Tal. Guhagar, Ratnagiri





## Informative

# Timeless Magic of Studio Ghibli

✧ Sharvari Athavale ✧

Since its inception in 1985, Studio Ghibli has been captivating the audience by their expressive characters which hold the ability to convey complex emotions against charming larger than life backdrops. Started by directors Hayao Miyazaki, Isao Takahata and producer Toshio Suzuki, Studio Ghibli have made iconic films such as My Neighbour Totoro (1988), Spirited Away (2001), Grave of Fireflies (1988), Boy and the Heron (2023) and so on.

## Captivating Backgrounds -

Studio Ghibli is known for its distinctive style owing to the careful

use of colours, which sets the tone of the film, and creates a purging effect for the audience. The meticulous detail that is achieved in the backdrops is unmatched; right from the lush forests and meadows in My Neighbour Totoro (1988), to a mysterious spirit realm in Spirited Away (2001). Cathartic backdrops not only serve an aesthetic purpose but are also narrative tropes, which reinforce the idea of preserving nature, as nature worship has been an integral part of the Japanese Culture.

Read the full informative in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan



Captivating Backgrounds

*For the strength of the Pack is the Wolf, and the strength of the Wolf is the Pack.*  
– Rudyard Kipling

✧ Best Wishes from ✧

- ◆ Sau. Anuja Kulkarni, Pune
- ◆ Shri. Vijay Chitnis, Pune



# My Rebellion

When do we rebel and why? When we rebel, what is it exactly that we do? - If we do not agree with something, do we make sure that we have thought over it enough and then put forth our logical and rational opinion that says “No, I do not agree with what you say!”

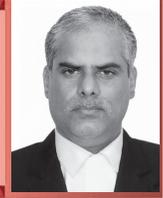
In the special feature “My Rebellion”, you will read stories of three amazing people who have stood up and voiced their opinions especially, when they thought that an action or a decision was not taken correctly. While making up their mind to stand up, what was their line of thinking and then their line of action. Were they scared of speaking their mind or were they worried that people would perceive them differently or judge them in some way? Did they want to protest only to prove their point or satisfy a temporary moment of pride or did they really feel a deep need to stand up not only for themselves but also for others who would be impacted by the wrong decision? How successful were they in bringing about any change? If they did not succeed in driving home their point, were they disappointed?

Surely, once you start reading the stories of our respectable writers, you shall ruminate on the above questions. We take pride in presenting to you our beloved rebels - **Bindumadhav Khire**, an LGBTQ activist, **Rutuja Seema Mahendra**, Director, VOPA, and **Muffadal Lokhandwala**, Founder, PEAK and GYPSY Mountaineering equipments.

Special  
Feature

## For Each of Us Matters

✧ Bindumadhav Khire ✧  
Director, Bindu Queer Rights Foundation



The parents sitting in front of me were visibly distressed; the son, who was in his early twenties, hardly spoke a word. His dad was very upset. The son had told his dad that he was gay. We were sitting in my office (I run an NGO). The son sat quietly, head bowed, avoiding my gaze.

I could empathize with the youth. A long time ago, when I had decided to tell my truth to my mother, I was very stressed out. I loved my mom and I knew the truth would badly hurt her.

I knew that the moment I would tell her that “I like men. I don’t like women. I am Gay”. Her world would change forever. Understandably, my coming out was a shock to her. She had never in her life imagined that I was carrying this painful secret all these years. She was also pained- “Why did you hide it all this while? Don’t you trust us? Since when did you realize you had these ‘feelings?’” I had no words to respond. How could I tell her a secret that I had been so ashamed of?

*When you tell a lie, you steal someone’s right to the truth.*

*- Khaled Hosseini*

✧ Best Wishes from ✧

♦Sau. Snehal Parab- Ekambikar, Pune ♦Sau. Asmita Rangnekar, Satara  
♦Miss. Sachi Kulkarni, Nashik



I had reached adolescence when I was in the 7th standard. I grew in height, my body became more muscular. I also started getting a few hairs on my upper-lip. Every morning, I would stand in front of the mirror to study my face for signs of new hair growth.

I also noticed another change. That year, many boys in the class started talking about girls and heroines. One backbencher used to get magazines

which he would show us in the recess. It carried photos of beautiful women. The boys would say, "Look at her... she looks WOW!" I would nod in agreement, but frankly, I didn't experience any such "WOW" feelings for any of the beautiful women in the magazine.

Read the full special feature in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan



I was born in Vidarbha, one of the most backward regions of Maharashtra, in a family where life was guided by old traditions. For a girl like me, the path was already written - study only till a certain age, get married early, and quietly accept life as it came. But deep inside, I wanted to see the world beyond my village, stand on my own feet, and do something meaningful in life.

In my 12th grade, I used to think that my parents only cared about my marks, so I purposely did not study well. My percentage dropped badly, and my father taunted me, saying I should get married and that I did not deserve to study further. That was the first time I said to myself, "No, this

cannot be my destiny." People laughed, relatives gossiped, and even my family was upset. But I kept moving.

I applied to different colleges, filled out forms on my own, and secured admission to an engineering college without anyone's help. When I graduated, I realised courage is not always loud. It can also be the quiet efforts of continuing, step by step, even when no one believes in you. After completing engineering, everyone expected me to work in a big IT company. I joined one, and I was the first girl in my generation to do so. But my heart was restless. I wanted to do something more meaningful than just coding. When I left the job after a

*Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.*

*- Thomas Jefferson*

✿ Best Wishes from ✿

- ◆Shri. Shreepad Purushottam Joshi, Pune
- ◆Shri. Ved Dalsukh Mundra, Pune
- ◆Dr. Deeplaxmi Dhananjay Jadhav, Pune



few months, my parents were shocked. They gave me two choices: either go back to the job, get married, or leave the house. I chose to walk away with just a few months of savings and a lot of

fear. I kept trying to find a job in NGOs, but since I was a fresher, I could not get one. I saved money by having just one meal a day and walked long kilometres only to save five rupees for tea. This

Read the full special feature in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan



## On the way to PEAK

✎ **Mufaddal Lokhandwala** ✎  
Founder, PEAK Sacks & GYPSY Tents



It's a family get together in the early 90's- grandparents, parents, uncles, aunts and near and dear ones.

The inevitable questions to an 18-year-old "What are you doing now? What do you want to be when you grow up?" "My dream is to manufacture trekking and mountaineering equipment." My heartfelt answer sends shockwaves throughout the room.

"What's that? Is that even a career? Why don't you pursue medicine like your father? Become a doctor like him. Or go into the hardware business like your kaka."

"Arrey your *mamas* are into Diwali décor and auspicious book making. They will help you if you don't want to go into hardware. But don't risk your career in a business that has no scope. What is trekking by the way?"

All these people were my well-wishers who were concerned for my

future. I come from a family with strong business backgrounds. Naturally everyone thought I would step into the established family business of hardware or something related. Peer pressure was also daunting. Many of my friends alongwith their college education were set to enter their family business and expected me to do the same. But I wanted to pursue my passion.

While still in school, I went for my first trek to Harishchandragad. The wild outdoors, the beauty of nature, the peace and serenity ignited a fire that kept telling me this was my true calling. Fortunately, the college Ness Wadia where I did my B.Com and MBA, had a trekking club of which I became an active member.

Alongwith my cousin, I joined a

Read the full special feature in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan

*Our lives improve only when we take chances - and the first and most difficult risk we can take is to be honest with ourselves. – Walter Anderson*

✎ Best Wishes from ✎

♦Sau. Sanjeevani Aaphale, Pune ♦Dr. Varsha Bakhale, Chembur, Mumbai  
♦Shri. Vyankatesh Prabhudesai, Kalyan, Dist. Thane



# Animals in the Himalayas

✎ Umesh Zirpe ✎



Close your eyes and imagine the Himalaya. You probably see endless snow, icy winds, and tall peaks shining in the sun. That picture is true - but only half true. Because hidden behind those white walls of ice lies a world full of life: forests alive with birdsong, valleys echoing with animal calls, and creatures found nowhere else on Earth.

During my years in the Himalaya, I have met many of these animals—sometimes face-to-face, sometimes from a safe distance. Some meetings made me laugh, some frightened me, and some left me amazed. Together, they form unforgettable stories from the mountains.

The first friend of every Himalayan traveler is the yak. Imagine a bull, but bigger, hairier, and far stronger. At first sight, it looks wild and dangerous, but in truth, the yak is gentle and hardworking. On the trail to Everest Base Camp, I have seen whole caravans of yaks carrying supplies - each one loaded with more than a hundred kilos! Their milk becomes tea and cheese, their hair becomes warm clothing, and in some places, even their blood is believed to cure illness.

Once, while sipping tea in a small teahouse in Nepal, I asked for “yak milk.” The locals burst into laughter. “Yak is male!” they explained. “It’s the

nak—the female—that gives milk.” Since then, I never forgot the lesson!

But not all encounters are so lighthearted. In 1998, while trekking to Beas Kund in Himachal Pradesh, I was walking with my friend Avinash and our guide Ram Singh. We were deep in conversation when suddenly—right in front of us—a huge Himalayan bear appeared. It was black, strong, and easily weighed over 120 kilos. For a few long seconds, the bear stood frozen, and so did we. My heart pounded like a drum.

Luckily, after sniffing the air, the bear turned and disappeared into the forest. Only then did we breathe again! Later, Ram Singh told us that bears rarely attack unless they feel their cubs are in danger—but when they do, the result can be deadly.



Read the full narrative in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan

**Must Know : Highest Hills - Nanda Devi (Uttarakhand) :** At 7,816 meters, it is sacred to Goddess Nanda, surrounded by UNESCO-listed Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve.

✎ Best Wishes from ✎

- ◆Shri. Abhijit Varvadekar, Pune ◆Sau.Pushpa Helwade, Pune
- ◆Sau. Sucheta Soni, Pune





## Special Diwali Gift – Lantern (Aakash Kandil)



The special gift with the Diwali issue is an attractive traditional lantern. Below is the procedure to make the lantern.

### Instructions -

- ★ At the very end of this issue, you will find two thick sheets of paper. Separate them from the magazine!
  - ★ Cut along the outer lines of the printed design (as shown in Fig. 1). Fold along all the dotted lines.
  - ★ Using the glue strips (as shown in Fig. 1) stick the ends together on the opposite side of the paper by fevicol.
  - ★ To give the lantern a stable shape, tie a rubber band to the lantern's upper and lower parts which are folded inside. Attach the paper tassels to the bottom of the lantern to make it more decorative.
  - ★ To hang the lantern, get the string through the two holes given at the top of the lantern. Thus prepare 2 lanterns, one from each sheet.
  - ★ Hang these lanterns on both sides of the doorway along with the festive garland (*toran*) to enhance the beauty of the entrance.
- Try to understand the meanings of the symbols and words printed on the lantern!

Fig. 1

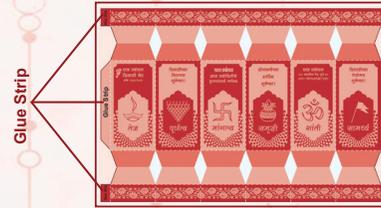
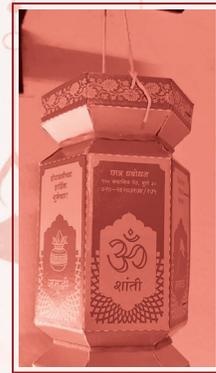


Fig. 2

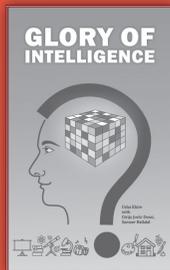


## Jnana Prabodhini Publications (English and Hindi Books)

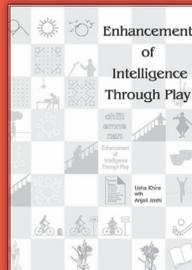
### Thinking Skills



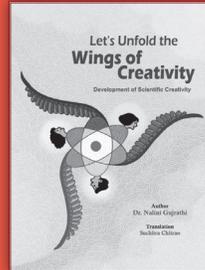
1st Edition - April 2008  
Reprint - March 2019  
Price - 150



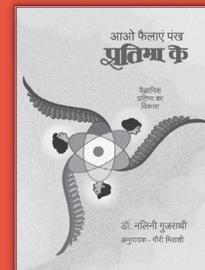
2nd Edition - 2017  
Price - 40



2nd Edition - July 2022  
Price - 150



1st Edition - August 2022  
Price - 300



First Edition - Sept 2023  
Price - 250

Scan here to see the complete list of English Books of Jnana Prabodhini Publications...



**Must Know : Highest Hills - Sonsogor (Goa) :** Goa's highest peak at 1,026 meters, it lies in Mhadei Sanctuary.

✿ Best Wishes from ✿

- ♦Sau. Akanksha Kashikar, Pune
- ♦Sau. Rasika Chikate Sharma, Pune
- ♦Shri. Vivek Khivansara, Pune



# Valour knows no Age!

☞ *Suhasini Deshpande* ☞



Indian history is fraught with valiant people who laid down their lives for the nation and the restoration of civilization. Also India has no dearth of heroic women who unhesitatingly sacrificed their lives for upholding their chastity. Suryakumari and Parimalkumari, the daughters of the King of Sindh, Raja Dahir, easily top the list.

The saga of the two princesses takes place in the backdrop of Muhammad Bin Kasem's invasion of Sindh province in India in 711 A.D. This was the first Islamic invasion of India,

*The Rajput king Dahir along with his son and wife fought bravely against Arab king Muhammad bin Kasem, but they could not survive the battle. The only ones who survived were Dahir's two daughters - Suryakumari and Parimalkumari. Do you think they must have avenged their family's defeat and death?*



when Northwestern and Northern territories of India were ruled by Rajput kings. India had an established trade route with many countries including Arabia, which was ruled by the Islamic Caliphate led by Walid Baghdad. The expanding Arab empire reached the borders of India resulting in occasional Indo-Arab skirmishes. Raja Dahir ruled Sindh from the capital city of Alor. The port of Deval on the bank of the Indus River was a renowned trading hub. The Rajput governor of Deval reportedly imprisoned 1000 odd Arab infiltrators, whom the Arab caliph was trying to free via diplomatic means. He first requested Dahir for

intervention. However, Dahir couldn't do much as Deval Port was not under his authority.

At around the same time, a ship carrying Muslim pilgrims wandered to the shores of Sindh due to inclement sea weather where a gang of pirates robbed them. The Arab governor asked Dahir for compensation which he ignored. The turn of events triggered an Arab attack on Sindh. Muhammad Bin Kasem was a young general who led the expedition in the summer of 712 A.D. He first sacked Deval Port, captured Brahmins there and tortured them to convert to Islam.

Read the full story in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan

*If you find yourself complaining a lot then you are problem-oriented. Focus on what you can do-not on what you can't-to become solution-oriented. - Anonymous*

✿ Best Wishes from ✿

- ◆Shri. Yogeshwar Gokhale, Pune ◆Dr. Vikas Karne, Pune
- ◆Shri. Siddharth Maniyar, Sangamner





## Nature's Ultimate Road Trip Champions

✧ Aditya Laghate ✧

Imagine you're planning a trip to see a friend from Pune to Delhi—a 1,500-kilometer journey that's just a quick, two-hour flight. You book a ticket online, pack your bags, and in a few short hours, you're enjoying your vacation.

Now, what if you had to make that same journey on foot? You'd trek through endless stretches of farmland, navigate bustling cities, climb mountains, and maybe swim across a river. Walking non-stop, it would take you about 15 days just to get there. Now multiply that distance by three. Then add international borders, lakes, and deserts. Twice a year, for your entire life. This is the reality for the incredible Common Cranes and Demoiselle Cranes. These birds are the true marathon runners of the sky, casually flying thousands of kilometers on an

annual migration that makes our two-hour flights look like a trip to the corner store. Let's meet these remarkable birds. Common Cranes stand about 4 feet tall with wingspans reaching 8 feet. They're elegant gray birds with distinctive black necks and red patches on their heads, looking like they're wearing fancy caps. Demoiselle Cranes are their slightly smaller cousins, standing about 3 feet tall with gorgeous black and white neck plumes that flow like silk scarves. Every year, these cranes embark on one of nature's most epic journeys. Starting from their breeding grounds in Russia and Kazakhstan (think: really, really cold places with lots of wetlands), they travel all the way to India for winter vacation—and we're not talking about a quick weekend getaway.

Read the full informative in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan

*In prosperity prepare for a change; in adversity hope for one.*

– James Burgh

✧ Best Wishes from ✧

- ◆ Dr. Sau. Radha Sangamnerkar, Pune
- ◆ Sau. Pratibha Prabhudesai, Ratnagiri
- ◆ Shri. Shailendra Kelkar, Sangli



# Deputy Sarpanch Pooja to the Rescue

✧ Santhini Govindan ✧



*What can an 11-year-old child do if the surroundings are unfavourable? Basically, how observant, keen and determined is such a young child? We present to you the story of Pooja, an 11-year-old girl who decides to contest the Bal Panchayat elections to resolve the problems of her schoolmates. It is truly exciting to see her conviction, and how she wins the support of her friends!*

“I want all of you to look carefully at the picture on this paper,” eleven year old Pooja said to the girls crowding around her. There was an immediate pushing and jostling in the group of ten girls, as each one craned her neck to get a good look at the picture.

“What’s so special about this?” Pooja’s cousin Sunita asked. “It’s just a picture of a Rohida flower.”

“It’s special because I have chosen it as my election symbol!” Pooja replied proudly. “All of you know that I am contesting the Bal Panchayat elections

again. Last year, I lost the election, mainly because many girls in our village didn’t come out to vote for me. This year, I am canvassing hard, and I hope all of you will support me. Please vote for me, put a tick mark next to my symbol - the Rohida.”

“You mean every candidate has a symbol?” Sunita asked.

“Yes,” Pooja replied, nodding vigorously. “When the votes are counted, the ones with the maximum tick marks next to their symbols win. There are several boys contesting the Bal Panchayat

election, you know. A few of them made fun of me yesterday, and asked me why I was contesting again when I was defeated last year. They think that I have no chance at all of winning this election. But I think that if many of the girls in our village vote for me, then I will surely be elected.”

“We’re your friends; we’ll surely vote for you,” said Kalpana spiritedly. “But why don’t we go around the village and show all the girls your election symbol?”

“That’s a good idea,” Sunita turned to Pooja, “And you need to

*Prosperity is a great teacher; adversity is greater.*

– William Hazlitt

✧ Best Wishes from ✧

- ♦Smt. Ketaki Thakar, Pune ♦Shri. Aniruddha Shahapurkar, Pune
- ♦Sau. Karpuri Phatak-Soman, Mulund East, Mumbai





give speeches and tell everyone what you will do for our community if you are elected to the Bal Panchayat. Have you thought about it?”

“Of course I have,” Pooja said, rather indignantly. “If I am elected to the Bal Panchayat, I will try to resolve all your problems at school. You won’t have to go to the headmaster with complaints.” Then she wrinkled her nose. “I’ll even make sure that our school’s old, smelly toilet for girls is replaced with a clean toilet, and we all have fresh drinking water every day.”

“Do you really think you can do any

of these things, even if you are elected to the Bal Panchayat?” Preeti asked Pooja doubtfully. “After all, you are still only eleven years old. Who will pay attention to what you say? You can’t get anything done by yourself without the help of grown-ups.”

“I know,” said Pooja quietly. “But the organization that helps our Bal Panchayat, the Bachpan Bachao Andolan (B.B.A.) has already spoken to the Sarpanch of our Gram Panchayat. He said that he would surely listen to our suggestions, and even better, he has agreed to allow the Bal Panchayat to sit in

the Gram Panchayat meetings!”

Preeti smiled. “That’s great! Pooja, count me in too when you go around the village to canvas for votes.”

Pooja started door to door campaigning in her village from the very next day. She stopped to make small speeches about what she hoped to accomplish if she was elected as an office bearer of the Bal Panchayat.

“I will make sure that all the children in the village attend school,” she said firmly. “Children should study, not rear goats and graze sheep. I will make sure that children from our village do not drop out of school because they have to help their parents by working in the fields.”

Finally, the day of the election dawned.

Read the full story in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan

**Must Know : Diwali Diaspora - East India :** In Bengal and Eastern regions, Diwali is Kali Puja, worshipping Goddess Kali as the fierce destroyer of evil forces.

✂ Best Wishes from ✂

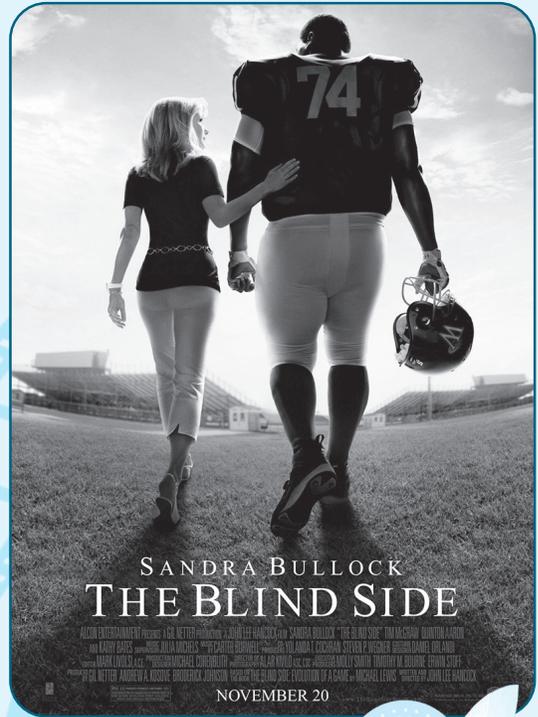
♦A well wisher, Andheri, Mumbai ♦Sau. Manisha Deodhar, Pune  
♦Sau. Shruti Phatak, Dombivali



The Blind Side (2009), directed by John Lee Hancock, is a story that stays with you forever. It is more than just a sports drama - it's a heartfelt story about kindness, family, and how one chance can change a person's entire future. With inspiring performances and touching moments, this movie delivers an uplifting message about compassion and perseverance that continues to connect with audiences. The film is based on the real-life journey of Michael Oher, a teenager who faced poverty, neglect, and homelessness before finding a new path with the support of the Tuohy family.

Michael struggles not only with an unstable home but also with poor grades and little guidance at school. When Leigh Anne Tuohy (played by Sandra Bullock) notices him wandering on a cold night, she and her husband Sean decide to invite him to stay at their house for that one night. What begins as a one-night stay, slowly turns into something much deeper as the Tuohys offer Michael a permanent place in their family.

As Michael begins to adjust to his new life, the movie shows the challenges he faces in the classroom and on the football field. With encouragement from his teachers and extra tutoring arranged by the Tuohys, he starts to improve academically. On the field, his size and strength are undeniable, but he must learn the rules, techniques, and strategies of football. Leigh Anne



## Film Review - The Blind Side

by Vrushti Sane



Narrative

plays a big role here, motivating him by comparing football to protecting the family - an idea that finally clicks with him! Step by step, Michael transforms from a quiet, irresolute teenager into a confident, self-assured young man with a bright future.

One of the film's greatest strengths is its emotional sincerity. Sandra Bullock shines as Leigh Anne, balancing toughness with warmth.

Read the full narrative in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan

*Negativity is the enemy of creativity.*  
- David Lynch

Best Wishes from

- ♦Shri. Shripad Kulkarni, Pune ♦Shri. Vinay Gadikar, Pune
- ♦Shri. Gaurav Modak, Thane



# Friendship

✧ Ojaswini Sadhu ✧  
Grade 7, Orchid School Baner

*A creative soul and a heart so pure  
For every pain, you find a cure.  
You sew bonds and relations so true  
You support me  
in every shade and hue.*

*Together we encourage  
our ups and downs.  
You help me forget all my frowns.*

*All the fun times we had together,  
In my heart I will always treasure.*

*We had so many fights and quarrels,  
But each one taught us a moral.*

*So many memorable times we had,  
Each of them we would add  
To a room in our heart  
Every day of our friendship  
is a unique start!*



# The Path of Questions

✧ Adv. Prajakta Khambete ✧

*A question is a little key,  
That opens doors for you and me.  
It makes us wonder, makes us see,  
How wide and bright the world can be.*

*Why does the sun rise every day?  
How do the birds find their way?  
Why do the stars begin to shine?  
These questions make our hearts align.*

*Each "why" and "how" we choose to ask,  
Becomes a light upon our task.  
The path of learning, step by step,  
Is built by questions that we kept.*

*So never fear to raise your hand,  
Or ask what you don't understand.  
For questions shape the road ahead,  
And guide the books that we have read.*

LISTEN to the  
audio story 'Siblings'  
written by  
Suhasini Deshpande



To read more stories by the  
same author, buy the book  
**'When Goodness Prevails'**  
by Suhasini Deshpande.  
Visit -  
[www.jpprakashane.org](http://www.jpprakashane.org)

*The way to overcome negative thoughts and destructive emotions is to develop opposing,  
positive emotions that are stronger and more powerful. – Dalai Lama*

✧ Best Wishes from ✧

◆ In the memory of Late Purushottam Shankar  
◆ Hartalkar Hospital, Dr. Vikas Hartalkar, Chopda, Jalgaon



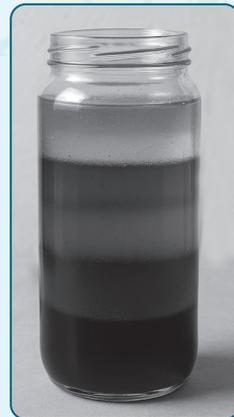


## Science Activity

# Rainbow in a Jar

**Materials :** Light-colored honey, dish detergent (blue/clear), water, vegetable oil, rubbing alcohol/clear sanitizer, food coloring (red, blue, green and yellow), tall glass bottle, mixing bowls, apron or old clothes, gloves (optional)

1. Find a jar around your house. The taller your jar, the thicker your layers can be.
  2. Pour in honey to make the first layer, about 1½ to 2 cm thick. Pour this slowly and evenly into the centre of the jar.
  3. In a small bowl or glass, combine one drop of red food colouring, one drop of blue food colouring and a few drops of water. Together, they will make purple. Mix the purple water completely into the honey. Let this settle for 60 seconds.
  4. For your blue layer, use blue dish detergent. Or, if you only have clear dish detergent, put some in a small bowl with a drop of blue food colouring added. Mix it carefully, and then slowly add it to the jar to make a second layer 1½ to 2 cm thick.
  5. In another mixing bowl, add a drop of green food colouring to some water. If you don't have green food colouring, make your own by mixing blue and yellow together. Tilt the jar, and slowly pour this green water in, so that it trickles down the side of the jar to make yet another layer 1½ to 2 cm thick.
  6. Wait a few seconds. Then, for your fourth layer, add enough vegetable oil to make a layer 1½ to 2 cm thick. Again, tilt the jar and pour very slowly so the colours don't mix.
- (You may be wondering : where's orange? Sadly, you can't make this layer truly orange, because water-based food colouring won't mix with oil.)
7. For your top layer, add some red food colouring to some rubbing alcohol or clear sanitizer. Mix it thoroughly, then tilt the jar and carefully pour it slowly in, until the top layer is 1½ to 2 cm thick.



**How does it happen ?** - This rainbow is all thanks to the science of density!

Density is a measure of how densely packed molecules are within a liquid. The denser a liquid (for instance, honey), the more closely packed the molecules. Less dense liquids can float on top of denser liquids because they're lighter!

### Find the answers by doing this experiment :

- Which other liquid could you use for more colorful layers?
- Which colors are soluble in oil? Can you use them?
- Can we use milk, saltwater or anything else?

Source & Photo - Google



WATCH the video of the Rainbow in a Jar activity

**Must Know : Diwali Diaspora - In Jainism**, Diwali marks Lord Mahavira's moksha in 527 BCE, symbolizing liberation and enlightenment from worldly attachments.

Best Wishes from

- ♦ Shri. Arnav Kulkarni, Pune
- ♦ Shri. Dinesh Jadhav, Pune
- ♦ Miss. Radha Shravan Hardikar, Pune



Naseem is disturbed. The GR says that schools with fewer enrollments will be merged with adjacent schools. What is the impact of this step? Naseem wants to visit the school once and have a firsthand view. What is after all Naseem's firsthand view? And will this change the situation in any way? Will Naseem be able to change GR's decision?



## Pie in the Sky

✧ Rohan Deshpande ✧

“No, no! This has to be done. This is what GR says.”

“Are you sure that’s the only way it has to be?”

“I’m afraid so.”

The meeting adjourned and the people sitting in the room rushed out. Naseem came out, but she was visibly upset. She wanted to try to do the right thing. She went back to the meeting room, asked everybody to come in and sit and then declared, “I want to visit that school once, before finalising the decision to close it down. Just because there are less student enrollments this year, we have no right to close it.”



“But we are not closing it, my dear. The GR says that such schools will be merged with the adjacent ones. The kids will have a school, just not the same one. The travel arrangements will also be ensured!”

“Still, I would like to see it once with my own eyes!”

“Okay, as you wish.” Naseem was determined to see that school. She took the location map from the

office and started off.

After an overnight journey from her place, she reached the town. It was a famous tourist place. She was not here as a tourist though. She took another bus to reach a small village called Mandali. This village, with little more than 1000 families, had three Government schools, and two private English medium ones. She was curious to find out why such a small village would need five

*Only the timid and the weak leave things to destiny but the strong and the self-confident never bank on destiny or luck. – Valmiki Ramayana*

✧ Best Wishes from ✧

♦Dr. Sau. Vishakha Chinchankar, Pune ♦Shri. Anant Avadhut, Pune  
♦Sau. Alka Acharya, Pune





schools and why one of it would be so tiny with just 5 kids?

The village, to her surprise, was spread alongside the main highway. It was geographically scattered across a thick forest land in the middle of nowhere. Naseem was there to visit a school in one such hamlet among the many other smaller hamlets in that village. She had no idea how to reach there, as the map had already given up.



It was a Saturday morning, and the schools were functioning. She had one contact number of Salunke Madam, the whole and sole of the school. Naseem reached out to her to ask for directions. Salunke madam struggled but finally could locate Naseem on the map and help her cross the highway, walk across the village through a thick forest and finally reach the hamlet! Naseem was not new to this terrain; her experience of 20 years in this department had given her enough exposure to not flinch at the sight of poor houses, poor infrastructure

or even poor roads. She walked through the scene unaffected, mostly like a tourist, with almost an absent urge to fix anything. She called Salunke Madam 3-4 times, asking for directions, and hoping that she was not lost in the jungle. Ms. Salunke happily helped, shushing the background noise of the kids. Naseem reached the end of the road, where the houses were scattered farther.

Finally, she called Salunke Madam once again. Ms. Salunke, smiling away, said, "Two of my kids are walking towards you, didi. Please stay wherever you are. They are wearing our school uniform." Somehow Ms. Salunke had decided to call her "didi". Naseem did not know if she had a problem with that or not, but she went with it. She did not know what their school uniform looked like either, but it wasn't hard for her to guess.

**Must Know : Dessert Discovery - Patishapta (West Bengal) :** It is a winter-special Bengali festive dessert; crepes filled with coconut or khoya.

✧ Best Wishes from ✧

- ♦Captan. C. M. Chitale, Pune ♦Dr. Abhay and Dr. Veena Limaye, Pune
- ♦Shri. Amar Ravindra Bande, Khed Shivapur, Dist. Pune



There were only 2 blue dots walking through the hamlet. The two kids reached Naseem, greeted her with a big smile and started walking towards the school. Naseem wanted to communicate something, but the kids were busy walking through the puddles and teasing each other. They were taking her through the narrow, slippery pathways of the hamlet towards a small house.

“So, which standard are you in?” Naseem had to ask something.

“4th both of us.” said one of the two.

“Ok ... 4th, good, nice. Is it a school day today?”

“Yes, our class was going on. Tai told us to get you from the road, so we came.”

Naseem felt a pinch in her gut. *‘Their class was going on. I should’ve known. They have come in the middle of their class.’* She thought.

“I am sorry kids.”

Naseem apologised.

“Didi, it happens all the time. We have to come if any guests come to visit us. It is our routine now,” the kids said happily.

Naseem was uncomfortable, so she changed the topic.

“Ok, where do you stay then?”

“I stay in the house behind this one.” One of the kids pointed to a small shack.

“I stay right at the end of this road.” The other kid pointed at a small pathway.

There was silence for a minute. They reached the school. It was an old dilapidated house, with a little patch of garden around it. Naseem could see a sweet, smiling face looking at her, and alongside stood three little kids in the same blue uniforms. That was all the school had. Naseem went in. The main door had a small frame. She had to bend

down to get in. There were two rooms - one for the class, the other for everything else. Their classroom had everything- the study material, filing cabinet, study tables, Maths toys, Language toys, everything for the five kids. Ms. Salunke was the only teacher for the school! She was the one who would teach, serve them mid-day meals, handle school management committee, work with the village for improving enrollments, and do everything else a government teacher is expected to do. Naseem realized that the contact number for the school was Salunkhe madam's personal phone number, and she herself attended to all the calls in the middle of the class. Naseem felt ashamed. They went in and sat down in the classroom.

Read the full story in the original English Diwali Issue 2025 of Chhatra Prabodhan

*To remove thorns from the path of those who have filled our path with thorns - That is the summit of selfless deed. – Valmiki Ramayana*

✿ Best Wishes from ✿

♦Sau. Uma Satam, Borivali, Mumbai ♦Shri. Aniruddha Sane, Pune  
♦Sau. Vidhatree Phondekar, Borivali, Mumbai



# Jnana Prabodhini - Main and Sister Organisations - Current Scenario 2025

**Centres** - Pune, Nigdi, Solapur, Harali; **Sub centres** - Shivapur, Velhe, Shirval, Salumbre; **Extension Centres** - Ambajogai, Dombivali; **Activity Centre** - Chiplun; **Contact Centres** - Thane, Badlapur; **Work Spheres** - Education, Research, Rural Development, Health, Leadership Development, Awakening of Women Power, National Integration, Social Entrepreneurship

## 1. Education -

### •Jnana Prabodhini, Pune•

#### 1. Jnana Prabodhini School, Pune

(A Secondary School and limited hostel facility for boys)

**Website** : prashala.jnanaprabodhini.org

#### 2. Jnana Prabodhini Navnagar Vidyalay, Nigdi

(Pre Primary, Primary, Secondary-Marathi & English Medium, Gurukul, Sports Academy)

**Website** : jpnvnigdi.org

#### 3. Educational Activities Research Centre, Pune

(Expansion of Jnana Prabodhini's Education System)

**Website** : earc.jnanaprabodhini.org

#### 4. V. N. Dandekar Teacher Training Centre

(Creation of Educational videos & App etc.)

**Website** : jnanaprabodhini.org/educational-resource-centre

#### 6. Chhatra Prabodhan, Pune (Magazine, Competitions, Publication, Development Programmes)

**Website** : chhatraprabodhan.org/jpprakashane.org

#### 7. Mukta Vidya Kendra - Open Learning Centre

**8. Supplementary Educational Project** - Pune, Dombivali, Ambajogai, Harali, Badlapur, Chiplun, Thane, Solapur, Nigdi, Velhe, Roha, Latur, Nashik, Karad, Amravati (Vikasika, Camps, Vidyavrat Sanskar, Anand Schools, Krida dal, Study group etc.)

### •Jnana Prabodhini, Solapur•

#### 9. Jnana Prabodhini Balvikas Mandir, Solapur

(Pre Primary, Primary, Secondary)

**Website**: jnanaprabodhinisholapur.org

#### 10. Shishu Adhyapika Vidyalay, Solapur

#### 11. Jnana Prabodhini Prashala, Harali

(Primary, Secondary School, Hostel)

**Website**: jnanaprabodhini.org/harali

#### 12. Krushi Padvika Mahavidyalaya, Harali

### •Gram Prabodhini, Salumbre•

**13. Gram Prabodhini Vidyalay, Salumbre, Dist. Pune** (Secondary School, Hostel)

**14. Vocational Training Centre, Salumbre**

### •Jnana Prabodhini, Shivpradesh•

#### 15. Skill Training Centre - Shivapur

**Website**: sdc.jnanaprabodhini.org

## 2. Research -

### •Jnana Prabodhini Sanshodhan Sansthan•

#### 1. Institute of Psychology, Pune

(Research, Training, Mental ability Testing & development, Counselling) **Website** : jpip.org

#### 2. Sanskrit Sanskriti Sanshodhika, Pune

**Main office** : Jnana Prabodhini, Pune. Ph.: 020-24207000 **Website** : jnanaprabodhini.org **Email** : contact@jnanaprakashini.org

(Research, ceremonial Scripts, Priesthood & Study Group) **Website**: jnanaprabodhini.org/santrika/

## 3. Regional Resource Development -

### 1. Natural Resources development centre

- Gunjavani valley, Harali, Amabajogai (Watershed Development, Solar Energy, Agriculture)

### 2. Comprehensive Rural Devt. Project,

Salumbre, Harali, Ambajogai

## 4. Health -

### •Jnana Prabodhini Medical Trust•

#### 1. Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital

Management, Pune **Website** : dmhospital.org

#### 2. Kamala Mehta Eye Hospital, Shirval

(Regular testing camps and surgery)

## 5. Leadership Development -

### 1. Youth Wing for Boys

(Pune, Nigadi, Solapur, Harali)

### 2. Youth Wing for Girls -

(Pune, Nigadi, Solapur, Harali, Ambajogai)

### 3. Leadership Development Centre, Pune

(Training, Camps, Workshops)

**Website**: netrutwavikas.jnanaprabodhini.org

### 4. Competitive Exam Centre, Pune

(Based on competitive aptitude test, guidance is offered by a network of officers for MPSC and UPSC exams)

**Website**: jnanaprabodhini.org/competitive-examinations-centre

## 6. Awakening of Women Power -

### 1. Stree Shakti Prabodhan - Rural - Shivganga,

Gunjavani valley (Self help group, Health, Development of Girls-Youth-Women, Self-employment)

### 2. Sanvadini - Pune, Solapur, Dombivali, Borivali,

Bhaindar, Thane, Shirur

(Samatol Periodical, Monthly Events, Group

Discussions etc, When coping with teenage years, Vidyavrat)

## 7. National Integration -

### 1. Slum study group, Pune

### 2. North-East India Educational Extension

Project (study tours, Friendship Campaign, Training)

### 3. Gyansetu Project (North-East India, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Jammu-Kashmir)

### 4. Tantrasnehi Project (Manipur)

**5. Social science training centre** (Lectures, study group, syllabus, projects)

**Website**: jnanaprabodhini.org/social-sciences-centre/

## 8. Social Entrepreneurship -

(Entrepreneurship Development Cell, Pune)

*Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough. – Oprah Winfrey*

✿ Best Wishes from ✿

♦Sau. Uma Bapat and Shri. Ajit Bapat, Pune

♦Vaidya Archana Dhamadhare - Deshmukh, Khopoli, Dist. Raigad





## Late Dr. Swarnalata Bhishikar

(1 May 1951 - 3 March 2025)

- ◆ A very senior dedicated volunteer of Jnana Prabodhini since 1967
- ◆ Commenced her work in the Yuvati Vibhag (the Youth wing for girls) and Pradnya Manas Sanshodhika (the Psychology Research Department)
- ◆ Personal Secretary to the first two Directors of Jnana Prabodhini
- ◆ Played a significant role in setting up the Jnana Prabodhini work in Solapur-Harali
- ◆ Accomplished writer, poet, translator with a substantial literary contribution
- ◆ A spiritual seeker who presented persuasive lectures/discourses on Upanishad, Patanjali Yogasutra and other spiritual books

## असति का ऐसे कुणी?...

बहुत असती जे यशाचे मिरवित्ती माथी तुरे  
वैभवाची शींग चढता म्हणती ना केव्हा पुरे  
यश-सुखाची मीठ मोहर मातृमुखी ओवाळुनी  
मुक्त झाले जीवनी या असति का ऐसे कुणी ।

रेखिल्या परिघात ज्यांची रमुनी गेली मनमती  
बहुत ऐसे घरकुलाच्या सुखद स्वप्नी रंगती  
होरुनी निःसंग परि जे श्रमती विजनी काननी  
हिंदुराष्ट्रा जे समर्पित असति का ऐसे कुणी ।

शिंपिती फुलबाग कोणी फुलवित्ती वनवैभवे  
रम्य उद्याने कुणाची गंध भरले ताटवे  
बांधवांच्या आर्त हृदयी मेघसे ओसंडुनी  
शिंपिती जे प्रेम अपुले असति का ऐसे कुणी ।

उजळती कोणी पसा अन् उजळती अंगण कुणी  
उजळती देवालये अन् उजळती नगरे कुणी  
त्रिभुवनाला उजळणारे प्रखर ते तेजोमणी  
प्राणदायी जे प्रचोदक असति का ऐसे कुणी ।

To the one who composed the above song and added light to not only her life but also to the lives around her, Chinmayee, Pratibha, Vijay Bhamburkar, and we, at Chhatra Prabodhan, express our sincere heartfelt condolences!

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◆ Centre Heads, Volunteers and Teachers in almost 58 centres have made pre-publication bookings, making the issue accessible to thousands of students.

To all these key players, Chhatra Prabodhan expresses their heartfelt gratitude and best wishes on the occasion of Diwali !!

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