

JNANA PRABODHINI FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

YEAR 1 ISSUE 1

APRIL 2020



The logo stands for the community-orientated approach the Jnana Prabodhini Foundation upholds in all three of its verticals. One can see the letters J, P, and F in the logo. The three circles indicate people, again symbolizing the community orientatedness of our work. Lastly, the symmetry within J and P letters form a knot-like design that stands for the ties we have with our motherland.

In this issue

From the President's Desk

JPF Milestones

Program Updates

Meetups

Our Mission

Jnana Prabodhini Foundation identifies rural development, education, and women leadership as the areas with the greatest challenges. We promote activities for drought relief, energy sufficiency, healthcare, and women leadership development to fulfill basic needs in rural India.

We also address the need for talent development, skill development, and teacher professional learning programs to enhance the quality of education in India.

From the President's Desk

As we launch our first newsletter, I want to take this opportunity to reach out to all the affiliates of the Jnana Prabodhini Foundation (JPF). I also want to express our commitment to fight the global epidemic of COVID-19. Responding to global emergencies is as important to us as it is to respond to the challenges in our three core work areas, namely, education, rural development, and women leadership. To this end, we are currently working with Jnana Prabodhini, India and our regional chapters on developing the COVID-19 relief plan. Please visit our website to know more about these relief efforts and to contribute to the relief fund.

The journey of JPF started in August 2018 when a group of Jnana Prabodhini alumni and affiliates residing outside India joined hands in supporting Jnana Prabodhini's work in India. From this inspiration and following the core principles of Jnana Prabodhini, we formed a non profit organization by the name of Jnana Prabodhini Foundation in the USA on August 9, 2019. As a part of the foundation's initiatives, we currently run seven regional chapters functioning in different regions of the USA, alongside Jnana Prabodhini's global networking initiative in Canada, Europe, the UK, the Middle East, and Oceania. I take this opportunity to appreciate volunteers for their dedicated efforts in building the formal organizational structure and its community culture.

We are committed to bridging communities across the globe to build sustainable futures through collaborative efforts. It is my humble appeal that you help us in building this platform further to foster symbiotic relationships and to positively contribute to our local communities and our motherland. We will continue to send out this quarterly newsletter to you as our patron to keep you informed of JPF's initiatives.

Thank you for your support and participation. Stay safe!

Pranav Kulkarni

President

JPF Milestones

Aug 2018

Jnana Prabodhini affiliates joined hands

8/15/2018

May 2019

Regional chapters convened

5/21/2019

June 2019

Prerana Setu online education program

6/11/2019

July 2019

BMM convention in Dallas

7/11/2019

California state registration

7/22/2019

Federal registration

8/9/2019

Aug 2019

501 (c)(3) status

12/20/2019

JPF's announcement in India

12/22/2019

Dec 2019

Logo launch

2/26/2020

Feb 2020

COVID-19 relief work

3/20/2020

Mar 2020

Program Updates



Abhishek Suryawanshi, New York, USA in interaction with students in India on his experiences as a Wikipedia ambassador.

1. Prerana Setu online education program

We completed a year-long project, entitled *Prerana Setu* (Bridge of Motivation), in collaboration with Jnana Prabodhini's Educational Activities and Research Center, Pune, India. In a series of 25 online sessions, members from a diverse pool of professions and with a wide range of expertise interacted with over 100 high school students from two schools in the state of Maharashtra, India.

2. JPF at BMM's 2019 convention

Prasad Panwalker (Vice President of JPF), and Vidya Hardikar-Sapre (Treasurer of JPF) represented Jnana Prabodhini at the biannual convention of Bruhan Maharashtra Mandal of North America held in Dallas, Texas on July 11-14, 2019. A senior psychologist and the former head of Jnana Prabodhini's Institute of Psychology, Dr. Vanita Patwardhan was present at the promotional booth and participated in fundraising efforts.



”

All of us thoroughly enjoyed the Prerana Setu initiative as we learned about a variety of new fields. We were struggling with making the right career path for the future, but now we have learned about many new career pathways.

**Vaishnavi M., 9th grade,
Solapur, India**

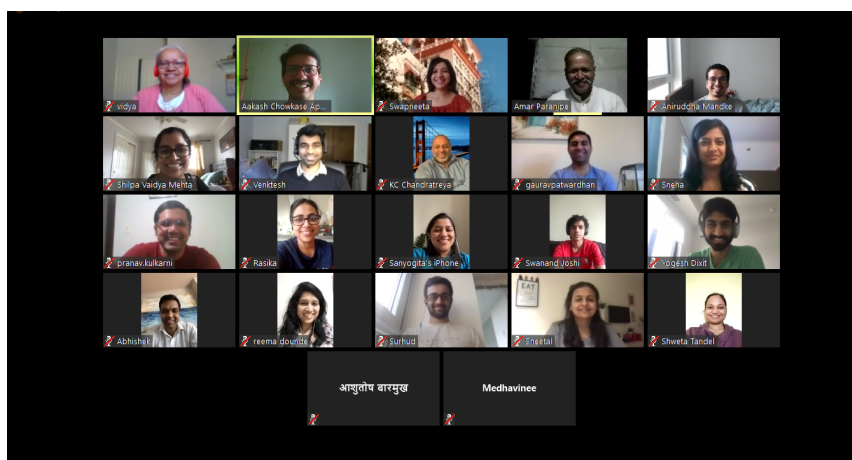
3. Fundraising initiatives

We organized a fundraiser on the occasion of the golden jubilee celebrations of Jnana Prabodhini Prashala, Pune in June 2019. Through individual donations and corporate matching funds, we raised over \$17,000 to support Jnana Prabodhini's work in India. We disbursed \$14,045 to various initiatives including a laser cutting machine at Jnana Prabodhini Prashala in Pune, infrastructure development at Jnana Prabodhini Nigdi, and *Nav Disha* women leadership program in the Velhe block of Pune district. We thank our generous donors. Currently, we are organizing a fundraiser to respond to the COVID-19 situation. We appeal to you to be a part of this relief work.

Meetups

4. Global coordination meetings

Twenty coordinators are leading a global networking initiative to bring together Jnana Prabodhini affiliates and sign up new members in the USA, Canada, the UK, Europe, the Middle East, and Oceania (Australia and New Zealand). Through 12 regional chapters, these coordinators have brought together over 450 to 500 members living abroad. The regional chapters act as platforms to come together for a greater social cause and help each other through various supports such as those needed in the trying times of COVID-19. The coordinators meet virtually for a bi-monthly meeting. In the past four meetings, Prof. Subhashrao Deshpande (Secretary, Jnana Prabodhini), Dr. Girishrao Bapat (Director, Jnana Prabodhini), and Prof. Suvarna Gondhalekar (Head, Jnana Prabodhini Rural Women Leadership Wing) guided us on building a global Jnana Prabodhini community.



5. Meetings in India

JPF representatives visited India on the occasion of Jnana Prabodhini Prashala's golden jubilee event in Pune on December 22, 2019. We met with senior officials of Jnana Prabodhini and discussed JPF's plans. The announcement of JPF's formation was made at the massive gathering of 1500 alumni.



6. Chapter meets

Regional chapters organized in-person and virtual meetups in the past 15 months on various occasions. These include in-person meets in San Francisco Bay Area, Chicago, Seattle, New York, Boston, Greater Raleigh Area, Berlin, Sydney, Dubai, and Pune. Additionally, JP-South chapter twice organized virtual meetups. Over 125 members attended these events.



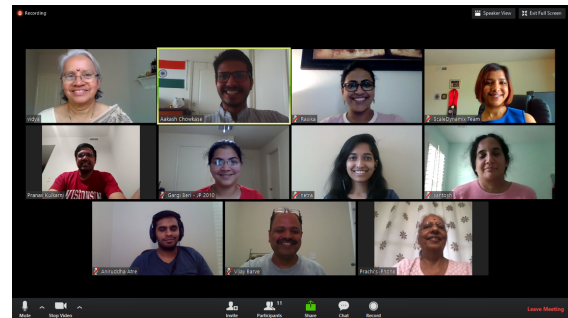
San Francisco Bay Area



Boston



Seattle



JP-South Meetup



JNANA PRABODHINI
FOUNDATION

39276 Beringer Dr.
Murrieta, CA 92563

<http://jnanaprabodhinifoundation.org>

Find us on
Facebook