



# JNANA PRABODHINI FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

YEAR 3 ISSUE 1

APRIL 2022

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## Facebook Fundraisers

We thank our friends for  
hosting FB fundraisers!

Nupoor Basmatkar  
Arya Adke

## JPF Podcasts

Listen to inspiring stories  
from our different projects!



## From the President's Desk

Hello JPF Family,

Our central theme at JPF is that of *Bridging Communities for a Sustainable Future*. JPF's work began with building communities globally. This being the essence, I share this newsletter with you that shows how the Jnana Prabodhini Global Network (JPGN) not only creates a support system but also helps its members in leading a purposeful life.

JPF will continue to work on this central theme and expand the existing community-building programs. Our UAE chapter is conducting a Holistic Personality Development Program (*Vidyavrat Samskar*) for students in the 8th to 10th grades. This includes a series of activities and lectures on physical, mental, intellectual, and spiritual development to build a foundation for a meaningful and peaceful life. The Career Forum is supporting students in landing their dream jobs. Local communities have been supporting in medical emergencies, helping newcomers in the region with moves, networking, and much more.

The essence of community building is the connection among people. Thus, we would like to expand all our community programs to those interested irrespective of their nationality, caste, and creed. Become an active part of this network. Join our support and networking programs. Help others and get helped on the way from our community-building programs. Let's build a global community of caring people.

Thanks,  
Pranav Kulkarni, President  
Jnana Prabodhini Foundation

**JPF Student Support Group had a great start to the year as well with two students getting internships with JPF's support.**

### **Testimonial**

*Saurabh JPF's Student Support Group was instrumental in refining my resume and helped me though the crucial first step in the job search. He offered pinpointed advice on my resume's structure and the use of action verbs. Due to this support from JPF, I got a big boost in the initial recruitment process, especially in the AI-powered resume screening. I am very thankful Saurabh and JPF for the same.*

**- An incoming software development intern at Nordstorm, US**

**Reach out to us if you need help with job search or other student-related concerns.**

**Email  
info@jnanaprabodhini.org.**

## **Women's Leadership Campaign**

On the occasion of Women's history month, a group of volunteers at Jnana Prabodhini Foundation revisited our pledged projects under mobilization of women's power. Our campaign team shared first-hand experiences of women in farming and transportation initiatives that sustain on the basis of revolving capital (*Bachat gat*).



We also highlighted *Project Mukti* and the benefits of alternate healthy job options. During individual reach outs, we spoke about growing our projects with new contributions.

Together the team was able to raise around 2,500 dollars over the span of 4 weeks. Also, one of our patrons donated a big chunk single-handedly. One of our 8-year-old patrons donated a portion of her birthday funds. She shared that she aims to build a board games/play area section for the Velhe girl's hostel that she visited in 2020. We are ever so grateful for every penny raised.

As a part of this campaign, we reached out to our members working in the US corporations via LinkedIn and encouraged them to spread the word and join this movement.



# Program Updates

## Healthcare and Biomedical Sciences Program

Our world today is flooded with biomedicine-related facts that to an untrained mind can land in a state of confusion leading to imprudent decision making and thus resulting in complicated health conditions. We identified this problem and launched the **Healthcare and Biomedical Sciences Program** which aims to deliver curated science-based information and organize interactions with field experts to create awareness regarding different aspects of healthcare and biomedical research.

In February 2022, we launched our pioneering project under this umbrella, '**Health Katta**'. This project has threefold aims:

- Identify and create awareness regarding the interactions of lifestyle-associated factors on human health,
- Encourage open conversations with experts from the biomedical sciences field,
- Gaining insights into diseases and possible lifestyle interventions through interactions with experts will help people modulate their lifestyles and avert future consequences.

The inaugural program was conducted on 9th April with guest speaker Dr. Milind Watve.

## Baal Prabodhini's Collaboration with Kibil Radio

*Kilbil Radio* is the world's first web radio for Marathi children around the globe. Kilbil radio does a weekly live Marathi radio show for children on pre-defined themes for each month. Children can participate and present a song, poem, narrate a story, and so on. From January 2021, Baal Prabodhini (BP) is collaborating with Kilbil Radio to provide an opportunity for BP students to participate in Kilbil Radio. This provides a virtual stage to kids and an opportunity to widen their horizons encompassing various areas such as Marathi literature, history, art, and festivals, bringing them closer to Indian heritage and culture.

### Kilbil Radio Participation by BP Kids

	Month	Theme	Participants	Description	
	January	Sankrant and Padya	1) Bela Ganu 2) Omkar Karnik 3) Vallari Bhuskute	Sankrant, Padya - He Veer Vivekananda	
	February	Jaanata Raaja	1) Sanvi Kale 2) Vallari Bhuskute	About Shivaji Maharaj, Story - Aagyahun Sutaka	

## Yuvati Vibhag Abroad

The new year kicked off for JPF's Yuvati Vibhag Abroad group with a session with Dr. Asmita Patwardhan. Dr. Asmita is an established gynecologist in the UK. She discussed challenges and solutions for important topics such as hormonal balance, PMS, PCOS, menopause, pregnancy, and weight loss as relevant to Yuvatis - especially those who have immigrated abroad. The session was immensely informative and thought-provoking.

For the second session of the year, Yuvati Vibhag Abroad invited Hon. Nalutai Gujrathi who inspired Yuvatis by illuminating the life of Swami Vivekanand and his journey to sainthood. Nalutai brought Swamiji's story to life through her narrations. She discussed how Swamiji was as a kid and how meeting Sri Ramakrishna enlightened him. Nalutai highlighted Swamiji's multifaceted personality--his physical prowess, musical talents, sharp acumen, excellent oratory, and above all, the spiritual brilliance he radiated that continues to motivate many to date.

Yuvati Vibhag Abroad is an open forum that will continue to frequently conduct these events for all Yuvatis and for all to strengthen ties in the JPF community and beyond.

## Aarogya Sakhi - Menstrual Health Education

*Aarogya Sakhi* program focuses on various health-related issues in rural India by creating awareness, providing resources, conducting tests, health camps, surveys, and in many cases educating rural women about affordable treatments. *Aarogya Sakhi* depicts a person who catalyzes a healthy life among rural women.



This program was conducted from 1st January to 31st March across 7 villages with the help of 5 health coordinators. The coordinators created awareness about menstrual health and distributed sanitary pads to the attendees for free or at reduced costs. Over 200 teenagers and women openly discussed this tabooed subject for the first time. We target to bring out behavioral changes in rural women through continued support and community engagement.



# Jnana Prabodhini Global Network

With numerous meetups, various initiatives, and heartwarming examples of community spirit, JPGN had a phenomenal first quarter!

## Regional Meetups

With rescinding COVID-19 restrictions, this quarter marked, perhaps, the highest number of in-person meets across various JPF regional groups. Members of the JPF community in Canada got together for an evening over some Chai and Samosas! Reminiscing the memories from the good old school days, they have decided to get together often now! On the other side of the border, members of the JPF midwest group welcomed and supported



Rajesh Date who was visiting from India to test equipment for a project on agro-biogas production to support farmers! Spring breaks marked the JP community in Purdue visiting Swapneeta in Nashville! In addition to these, many small meetups took place in other regions such as southern California, Portland, and Purdue University.

## Vidyavrat Samskar in UAE

JPF successfully conducted online *Vidyavrat Samskar* for 10 students in UAE. With a tremendously positive response from students and their parents, we are now planning to offer *Vidyavrat Samskar* in other countries. Reach out if you want to initiate something similar in your regional network.

## JPF's Caring Community

In February 2022, an incident truly shone a light on our community's strength and tight-knit! A 15-year-old JPF community member experienced mid-flight distress while traveling alone and had to be urgently deplaned in Pittsburgh. Once their parents reached out to JPGN, Jitendra Dahale from JPF's New York community reached the hospital within 30 minutes of the SOS call. This was in the middle of a working day. While the parents traveled to Pittsburgh that night, Jitendra took care of the individual in his place. Several JPF volunteers were instrumental in connecting the parents with Jitendra. A huge shout-out to Jitendra and the caring community of JPF! This truly shows the kind of community we aspire to build.



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