



# JNANA PRABODHINI FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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We thank our friends for  
hosting FB fundraisers!

Aditya Kulkarni  
Parag Joshi

## **JPF Podcasts**

Listen to inspiring stories  
from our different projects!



## **From the President's Desk**

Hello JPF Family,

More than 70 years back, Jnana Prabodhini started with experiments in education for leadership and personality development to change the society for better. JPF, when established in the US, decided to continue that focus. Education is the only medium that has the capability to create a responsible society, build character, bring the family out of poverty and provide purpose to someone's life.

As education is the one-stop solution for all problems, JPF focuses on increasing the reach and quality of education. To take education to financially weak families, JPF has sponsored more than 800 students in the last two years and will continue to do so. To give a big push to all the efforts in education and launch new initiatives, JPF has decided to conduct a quarter-long **LearnIndia campaign** starting the 13th of July 2022.

JPF's educational projects will focus on five major challenges in education: creating educational infrastructure, taking advanced subjects research and technology developments to school-level education for providing global exposure, creating quality educational content, expanding quality education to the grassroots, and last but not least is supporting financially to continue the education. I appeal to everyone for your support in this journey to change education.

Support #LearnIndia and let's pledge that #EducationMustGoOn

Thanks,

Pranav Kulkarni, President  
Jnana Prabodhini Foundation

## Learn India Campaign

Despite poverty,  
**the EducationMustGoOn**

Despite COVID,  
**the EducationMustGoOn**

Despite discouragement,  
**the EducationMustGoOn**

Despite few role models,  
**the EducationMustGoOn**

Despite the family's push for marriage,  
**the EducationMustGoOn**

**We are proud to sponsor 800+ students in 2020-21**  
**We pledge to sponsor at least 270 students by raising \$100K**

**Your \$350 can pay tuition fees for 1 student**

**And education can change them forever**

So support the campaign launching on 13th July by



Sponsoring  
education for at  
least one student  
for the year



Help the campaign by  
Being vocal about the campaign  
Doing Facebook Fundraisers  
Match funds by Corporate matching



Volunteering  
your valuable  
time of just two  
hours a week

# Program Updates

## Healthcare and Biomedical Sciences Program

The JPF Healthcare program formerly Healthcare and Biosciences (HBS) underwent revolutionary changes in the last quarter and adopted a new name “initiative for Biosciences Research Education Training and Awareness (iBRETA)” and logo.



Our focus on delivering curated, scientific information and encouraging interactions with field experts to create awareness regarding different aspects of health and disease and engage in biomedical research has further strengthened. We had our first Health Katta on 9th April on how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected our lifestyles and how simple lifestyle modulations can help avert future health consequences. We are venturing into new domains of community engagement and building our research infrastructure. Our upcoming Health Katta session in the first week of August addresses the topic of Aging and Lifestyle.

## Beyond Language Barriers

JPF successfully concluded the second year of Beyond Language Barriers, where approximately 25 volunteers met weekly, in small groups with 7th grade students in India to help them with their English communication skills through fun games, group discussions, and reading sessions. For the farewell, the 30 students who were a part of this program, prepared different group performances consisting of poetry, short plays, and speeches to showcase their new English communication skills. This year, the farewell also saw active participation from parents. The project received overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents and multiple requests to keep the program going for another year.

JPF also organized a concluding session for a similar program for teachers. For this program, 17 JPF volunteers met regularly with 20 teachers from JP Nigdi to help them gain confidence in their English communication skills. This program was exceptionally well received by the teachers as well. The volunteers and teachers shared that this program formed a solid bond of friendship between them. The teachers are eager to kick off the sessions again in the next academic year in a few months!

# Program Updates

## JPF Analytics

JPF Analytics is a computational social science platform engaged in original research, analysis, and policy-making. We aim to create a data culture in India, enhance the research infrastructure in India, and strengthen the democratic fabric of India. We aim to evolve as a think tank to provide policy suggestions on the social challenges.



*Meeting with Dr. Samir Saran (President, Oerserver Research Foundation) and our some of advisory board members.*

Over the past few months, we have been using epidemiological models, geospatial analysis, big data mining, and cognitive science approaches to deepen our understanding of the socio-economic vulnerabilities of Pune that drove the differential geographic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Summer is a productive time for us because most volunteers are students: we are working on two academic papers meant for publication. We are happy to announce a formal advisory board with accomplished professionals like Dnyanada Desphande, Shirish Joshi, Dr. Subhash Lele, and Dr. Gaurav Marathe. We presented our work to the Pune Knowledge Cluster as well as to Dr. Samir Saran, President of the Observer Research Foundation. I am pleased to inform you that Dr. Saran will be our informal thinking partner for this initiative.

## Anand Shala (A School of Joy)



Anand Shala is a project for students in nomadic tribes near the Jnana Prabodhini, Harali center. This was the only program that kept their education going during the time of the pandemic when schools were closed and their education was at a halt.

This year, though the schools have started, the program will continue and focus on all-round education and the development of students with the

expertise of Jnana Prabodhini in education. After the summer vacation, the program started again on 27th June at 15 different locations with an attendance of 500 students on day 1. With the hard work of teachers and program coordinators, we expect this number to touch 700 in the next couple of weeks. Best wishes to team Harali for this program..!!



## Jnana Prabodhini Global Network

With pan-California tours by JPF leaders - VidyaTai Sapre and Aakash Chowakase, this quarter marked perhaps the highest number of meetups and *Melava* (community events)!!!

### Regional Meetups and California Melave

April and May were jam-packed for JPF community, especially in California. Aakash visited JPF HQ in April and had a series of smaller meetups culminating in a great evening with over 12 JPF community members gathering over chai, samosa, bakharwadi,... you name it!!



After a melava in SoCal, VidyaTai traveled to Bay area and organized over 10 meetups ultimately leading to a *Melava* in form of a park outing with over 15 members!

Both of these Melaves were instrumental in enabling JPF community members to get to know each other and discuss ideas and initiatives led by the community.

### Vidyavrat Samskar

JPF successfully conducted online *Vidyavrat Samskar* for 10 students in UAE in April'22. With a very positive response from students and parents, JPF is now planning to offer *Vidyavrat Samskar* elsewhere as well. Please reach out if you want to initiate something similar in your regional network.



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