

# JNANA PRABODHINI FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
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<u>Dr. Shilpa Vaze</u> <u>Kaivalyanand Chandratreya</u> Ganesh Kuber

## Facebook Fundraisers

Asawari Dharm

## **JPF Podcasts**

Listen to inspiring stories from our different projects!









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## From the President's Desk

Hello JPF Family,

It is with great pleasure that I share JPF's 2023 Q2 newsletter. I am excited to announce the launch of the <u>Learn India Campaign</u>, which focuses on the theme #EducationForAll and aims to support 215 students in continuing their education. I encourage all the JPF well-wishers to actively participate and donate to the campaign.

In the previous newsletter, I stated JPF's core principles. In continuation of the series, today, I will describe the second principle that drives the JPF's work, *Dynamic Equilibrium*. JPF is a 100% volunteer-based organization. Currently, all the JPF volunteers are part-time volunteers who have a busy personal and challenging professional life. We acknowledge and understand the personal and work commitments and run JPF with the thought, "Little Drops of Water Make a Mighty Ocean." We expect all our volunteers to spare just 2-4 hours a week for JPF but to do so for a longer duration. Small-time but steady volunteering of 100+ volunteers has laid JPF's foundation over the last 3 years. On the other hand, we encourage volunteers to explore and work in different teams, try out new ideas, provide opportunities to grow and learn, and be flexible to accommodate the challenges in personal life.

The moving pieces in the lives of volunteers can be dynamic. However, a small but long-term commitment toward society can bring a sense of purpose and establish an equilibrium in volunteers' personal lives as well as in the running of JPF.

Thanks,
Pranav Kulkarni
President
Jnana Prabodhini Foundation

# Learn India Campaign

## Unlocking dreams, one child at a time

# **Background:**

Lack of access to education has far-reaching social and economic implications, especially for marginalized children. JPF is committed to building a resilient education system, primarily in the post-pandemic era, with the goal of **#Education4All** 

## **Objectives:**

- 1. Raising \$75k to support 215 students across different centers in India
- 2. Expand the programs that focus on enhancing the quality of education

#### What do we do:

JPF is successfully implementing educational programs that focus on holistic growth:

- Promoting skill-based training
- Sponsoring educational expenses
- Improving educational infrastructure
- Fostering English communication skills
- Providing exposure to diverse professional avenues to students

## How can you help?

**Volunteering Opportunities:** 

- Share the campaign information with your family and friends
- Participate as the subject expert
- Help teach English to the students for just 1 hour per week

Donation/ Fundraising opportunities:

- Create a birthday fundraiser for JPF
- Support the education of at least 1 student with just \$350
- Match donations through a corporate donation matching program



# **Program Updates**

## **Festival of Reading**

Chhatra Prabodhan, the publishing house of Prabodhini, aims break to Jnana monotony of formal textbook learning and more interactive encourage а and multidimensional approach to developing and educating young minds. Thanks to India Roots, USA for supporting this project, which focuses on various reading initiatives, teacher training activities, and reading competitions to encourage student participation.



As a part of teacher training, a three-day residential camp was organized at Jnana Prabodhini on 29th - 31st May, wherein 28 teachers from all over Maharashtra participated. In this camp, the participants were trained to develop reading skills and improve reading speed through interactive sessions. A teaching methodology was explained through visual aids, lectures, discussions, and by visiting different departments of Prabodhini and nearby field visits. Thus, the camp provided a platform for knowledge, new initiatives, ideas, and skills to help teachers and students flourish.

## **Sponsor a Child for students from Manipur**

Manipur, one of the most beautiful places in India, is currently burning due to severe ethnic conflict. The permanent and long-term solution to social and developmental problems is education. Last year, volunteers of Jnana Prabodhini scouted the remote villages of Manipur and brought 10 young children to Solapur for further education. These children now live in a new hostel at Jnana Prabodhini and go to a private English medium school nearby. This academic year, JPF is supporting the cost of their accommodation and



**education with \$15,000.** Be a part of this initiative by supporting and contributing to JPF's ongoing <u>Learn India campaign</u>. Together lets ensure **#EducationForAll**.

#### JPF IBRETA



JPF iBRETA focuses on bridging the gap between fundamental biological research and clinical practice, creating community awareness and preparedness against issues of public health, and developing a scientific mindset among young students.

In 2023, JPF iBRETA began with a series of successful sessions under our Awareness project addressing the role of the microbiome in health delivered by emeritus scientist Dr. Yogesh Shouche. Following that, we hosted a talk by Dr. Udayan Apte, a professor at the University of Kansas, focusing on the intersection of liver and lifestyles.



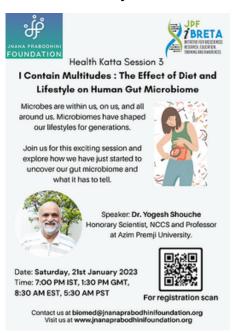


Building on the continued success of the Awareness project, JPF iBRETA launched its Training project with a successful and well-received series on menstrual health and hygiene delivered by Gynaecologists Dr. Girija Wagh and Dr. Vaishali Biniwale. All the talks are available on YouTube.

With a vision to deliver on our commitments to develop a scientific mindset among young students, work is underway to launch the Education project later this year.









## Jnana Prabodhini Global Network

Q2 saw 20 regional events across the globe, bringing together over 150 people.

#### Chicago (April)

The Midwest chapter organized a meet-up in the Chicago area, bringing together 19 members from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Ohio. A morning coffee at Starbucks and a sumptuous Indian lunch offered rich opportunities for the group to share their interests with each other. Several members joined the Student Support Group. Two new volunteers joined JPF.



#### Southern California (June)

JPF's annual So-Cal meet-up at Vedavati Katkar's place in San Pedro brought together 12 members, who enjoyed a delightful homemade lunch and engaging discussions. The day prior, 6 members embarked on an impromptu road trip to Joshua Tree for stargazing after a campfire at Dockweiler Beach. Inspired by these events, the group is now exploring forming a student sub-chapter for local universities.



#### San Fransisco Bay Area (May)

Shirish Deshmukh, a Jnana Prabodhini alumnus, delivered an engaging talk to an audience of 30 people on the development of the AGNI missile. He shared his insightful experiences from the field, explaining intricate details of missile technology. The Samosa party later added a special Indian flavor to the event.





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