



JNANA PRABODHINI FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
YEAR 7 ISSUE 2
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From the President's Desk

Hello JPF Family,

I am delighted to share our Q2 newsletter with you. In this issue, you will learn about two programs in India that your generous support has helped sustain. The **Health Improvement Program for women** working in the tobacco industry continues to improve the lives of more than 650 families. Similarly, the **WonderQuest Library** initiative has expanded its reach to students across 80 locations in Maharashtra. Thank you for making this work possible through your continued support.

This issue also highlights two of our key volunteer-led programs. Our **Translation Team** continues its efforts to bring inspiring Marathi content to English-speaking audiences. We also congratulate the **Baal Prabodhini** team on completing five years of meaningful work nurturing and connecting children of Indian origin growing up abroad.

Q2 was especially vibrant for our **Global Networking initiative**, with numerous in-person gatherings bringing members of the JPF community together. In the pages ahead, you will find highlights from many of the events held across our network this quarter.

I hope you enjoy reading about our work. If any of these initiatives inspire you to **get involved**, please reach out. We are always excited to welcome new volunteers and supporters to the JPF community.

With gratitude,
Aakash Chowkase
President
Jnana Prabodhini Foundation

JPF-Funded Program Updates

Project Mukti (Health Improvement Project for Bidi-Rolling Women)

Jnana Prabodhini runs the Mukti Project in Solapur to improve the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of women engaged in bidi-rolling work. From April to June 2026, the project covered around 10 areas, with approximately 6 Pranayama groups in each area, for a total of 60 Pranayama groups. Each group consisted of around 10–12 women, reaching approximately 650 women beneficiaries.



Women participating in daily health activities

Special events organized under the project included a Diverse Cultural Showcase that engaged 256 women beneficiaries and an International Yoga Day activity involving approximately 200 students. These initiatives enhanced awareness of physical and mental health, strengthened participants' confidence, discipline, and leadership skills, and promoted greater community engagement through cultural and wellness-focused activities.

Wonderquest Library

This quarter, the Door-to-Door Library initiative helped students build reading habits and self-expression during the summer break. Students in 6th to 9th grades ran community libraries in their neighborhoods, each committing at least an hour a day for 20 days. Twelve schools received a total of 20 book sets, with 100 books each. These book sets were divided among students to run libraries at 80 locations across cities, including Nandurbar, Ahilyanagar, Wai, Palghar, Pune, Satara, Kolhapur, Roha, Raigad, and Karad.



Students engaged in reading books during summer breaks

Several schools extended the program's reach by supplementing new sets with books carried over from last year and from their school libraries, maximizing the impact of every book.

Volunteer-Led Programs

Translation Project

In the first quarter of the year, the Translation Team, in collaboration with Chhatra Prabodhan Pune, selected आम्ही असे घडलो (Amhi Ase Ghadalo) as its next translation project. The book features inspiring articles by accomplished individuals from diverse professional backgrounds, highlighting their life journeys and personal growth.

The project is now underway, with 20 articles distributed among a team of 10 translators and with the first review draft targeted for completion by the end of the year. The team also welcomed new volunteers through JPF's Volunteer Outreach Program, whose contributions will support current and future translation efforts.



Baal Prabodhini

Celebrating 5 Wonderful Years!

This Gudhi Padwa, Baal Prabodhini celebrated five successful years of inspiring young minds through language, culture, and values. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our students, parents, volunteers, and well-wishers for being part of this journey.

Winter-Spring Segment Highlights

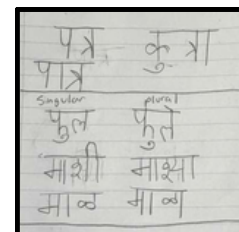
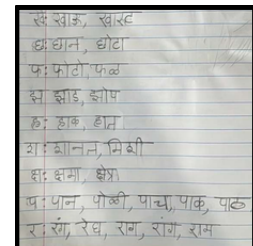
The segment concluded with engaging Marathi quizzes. Though summer travel affected participation, 70% of our students took part, and we are delighted to share that 87% of the participants scored above 85%, a wonderful reflection of their enthusiasm, dedication, and learning.

Growing Stronger Together

A warm welcome to **Aishwarya Kolkute**, **Ketakee Ghate**, **Madhura Herekar**, **Pruthav Abhyankar**, and **Purva Ketkar** as they join the Baal Prabodhini family.

Looking Ahead

We look forward to an exciting fall segment and to welcoming returning and new students to continue this journey together.



Jnana Prabodhini Global Network

This quarter was highlighted by regional meetups, meaningful community interactions, and celebrations that connected 217 members of the JPF community.

The quarter began with the Southern California Meetup, where 21 JPF members gathered in Irvine for a long-awaited reunion. The afternoon featured a delicious lunch, followed by tea and dessert, providing ample opportunity for members to reconnect. The meetup also included an engaging discussion on various JPF initiatives, including BLB, iBreta, and the Career Forum. Several attendees expressed interest in volunteering, making it a promising start to the quarter.

In May, Aakash Chowkase visited the Bay Area and met with 28 JPF members. One of the highlights was a get-together in Los Gatos with volunteers from the Bay Area Networking Initiative, where participants engaged in thoughtful discussions and exchanged ideas for strengthening future Bay Area meetups. Later in the quarter, Vidya Hardikar-Sapre travelled to India and met with numerous JP-JPF volunteers, well-wishers, and donors. In June, Aakash continued the community outreach with a visit to Texas, meeting 49 members across several small gatherings. Together, these visits fostered conversations, strengthened relationships, and reinforced the sense of community across the JPF network.



Socal Meetup



Austin Celebration

In June, the JPF family came together in Austin to celebrate the wedding reception of one of our volunteers. A total of 22 JPF members attended the celebration, making it a memorable occasion filled with warmth, joy, and togetherness. The gathering provided another opportunity for members to strengthen friendships while celebrating this special milestone as one extended JPF family.