

# india reading olympiad®

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2023



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# india reading olympiad<sup>®</sup>

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2023



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# india reading olympiad®



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# MESSAGE

We at Food4Thought Foundation are extremely excited and humbled to present the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of **india reading olympiad**®

The response for nominations has been overwhelming from all walks of life. We also received feedback from the participants and associated partners, and we have incorporated the same and built this year's framework.

India has always had rich tradition of reading, but the past few decades have seen an alarming drop in reading habits, and this has become more acute with the advent of new digital distractions. We believe a developed nation without enlightened citizens is a dangerous proposition and need to create access to books and encourage reading habits.

**india reading olympiad**® is a platform which enables, encourages, endorses an ecosystem which creates active reading spaces & joy of reading and appreciates the efforts towards igniting a reading revolution across 14 categories. The three broad objectives of the **india reading olympiad**® are to Encourage reading habits and enable Joy of Reading, Encourage and appreciate individuals, groups and institutions which promote reading and inspire citizens to become lifelong readers & book lovers.

**india reading olympiad**® – 2023 has a total of 14 categories wherein we received 170 entries under 11 categories and in Joy of Reflection category 309 schools participated with 16000 entries (in 8 Languages: English, Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Kannada, Telugu, Gujarati and Urdu).

A special note of gratitude to the organizing committee at Hyderabad Literary Festival for providing a platform to propagate this idea. Special thanks to Dr. Sunita Reddy for encouraging us from the very beginning. A big note of appreciation to Aurbindo Pharma Foundation, Amadeus Software Labs Private Limited, Odessa Bengaluru, Signode, India and Green Gold Animation for supporting us and giving us confidence to continue this journey. The beautiful trophies and medals are courtesy of Samhar's India, Mr Surender Singh Arora.

Special thanks to their esteemed Jury members who regardless of their busy schedules took time off to go through all the entries and provide their decisions based on merit.

An initiative of this scale wouldn't be possible without the efforts of large number of volunteers across India who selflessly contributed to various forms, a note of their sincere gratitude to them. Hats off to the organizing team from the Foundation consisting of Madhavi Sharma, Mrityunjay Rao, Sirisha Chilukuri, Vandana Kapur and the special thanks to IIM Ranchi students for volunteering in Research Work.

We hope you will find value in what we are doing and bless us with your feedback, encouragement and support.

Happy Reading  
K Srinivas Rao (Srin)  
Founder & Chairman  
Food4Thought Foundation

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**india reading Olympiad<sup>®</sup> - 2023**

# WHAT IS

## **india reading olympiad**

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**india reading olympiad**<sup>®</sup> is promoted by Food4Thought Foundation and supported by Hyderabad Literary Festival.





# ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Food4Thought Foundation is a 'Not for Profit' organization which believes that a developed nation without enlightened citizens is a dangerous proposition.

The Foundation aims at building an enlightened nation by universalizing access to books and creating joy for reading by igniting a reading revolution.

The Foundation has opened and operates over 575+ Libraries across 23 States and 92 Cities in India, with more than 147500+ books which are tracked on real time basis across 12 Library Formats ranging from Schools to Communities to Jails to Hospitals to Temples.

[www.food4thoughtfoundation.org](http://www.food4thoughtfoundation.org)

# ABOUT THE



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# PARTNERS

Hyderabad Literary Festival (HLF) is an annual event that celebrates creativity in all its forms. HLF is a multi-disciplinary, multi-lingual event that draws over a hundred writers, artistes, academics, scholars, publishers from India and abroad each year. It represents the rich and cosmopolitan ethos of the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, now Cyberabad.

Odessa was founded with a mission to create and deliver transformative software solutions for leasing companies. We have a long history of reimagining our technology stack in anticipation of the future.

Today, we remain committed to helping businesses meet the challenges of an ever-evolving leasing environment with the most advanced technology

available.

Amadeus, a travel technology company, builds the critical solutions that help airlines and airports, hotels and railways, search engines, travel agencies, their operators and other travel players to run their operations and improve the travel experience, billions of times a year, all over the world.

Aurobindo Pharma Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Aurobindo Pharma Limited and strives for the social and economic growth of the nation through its Corporate Social Responsibility programme..

Signode Industrial Group is a leading global manufacturer of strap, stretch, and protective packaging consumables, tools and equipment. The company's products protect goods during manufacturing, transport and warehousing.

Green Gold Animation Pvt Ltd, is a Hyderabad-based Indian Animation company, with offices in India, Singapore, Philippines and the United States. It is known for creating the Chhota Bheem television series and the Krishna film series. Green Gold Animation was founded by Rajiv Chilaka in January 2001

# ABOUT THE



# JURY

Mr. Prabhakar is an Executive Vice President - Human resources (Agri-business Division) at ITC Limited. He actively supports multiple agencies which are dedicated towards art, culture and literature.

Parth Sarwate is leading the CSR efforts of RPG foundation. A Harvard alumni who is passionately working towards reforming education and development sector in order to develop independence and thinking abilities among the new generation.  
(\*Couldn't judge this year due to covid)

Ms. Shefali Rao is the co-founder of 'Food4Thought' foundation. She handles corporate liaising, operations and media relations. In addition to that, she is also a part of 'The Strategist', a Global People Advisory Firm. She is an avid reader and spends time in curating endangered stories.

Mr. Nanda Kumar is the founder of 'First Principles' which specializes in the domain of Industrial Relations. Prior to founding 'First Principles', he had a solid 36 years of work experience in companies ranging across various industry sectors. He is an avid reader and curator of his personal collection of over 5,000 books.

Ms. Shalini Nair is Senior Director -HR, Communications & Branding and Facilities at Amadeus Software Labs India Pvt Ltd.

Mr.Sanjay Jesrani is the Founder & CEO of Go North Ventures. Go North is an angel investment and advisory firm, focused on investing in & mentoring Startups. It also provides Strategy inputs to high growth Early stage companies and SMB's moving to their next orbit.

# ABOUT THE



# JURY

Mr Nathan SV is Partner and Chief Talent Officer at Deloitte India, National President, National HR Development Network

Dr Suresh Kumar is a Associate President- HR & COE at Aurobindo Pharma. He is a passionate HR Leader towards Business and People Development

Mr Sunil A Bijlani is a Retired Sr. VP- Human Resources- Asia at Synchrony.

Dr. Kiranmai, is currently the Head of Human Resource's and Site Administration, Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) India, the parent company of New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), starting its Data Services operations in India in 2019. Kiranmai Pendyala is also the Governing Body Member on several Higher Education Institutions/ Deemed Universities as well as on United Way, Hyderabad.

Deputy General Manager - Corporate Social Responsibility & Sustainability at Coromandel International Limited. Professional with 13+ years of experience. Expertise in proposing, implementing and monitoring social programs at the grassroots level with strong skills in meeting stakeholder expectations. Worked with leading NGOs and Corporates in the most backward regions of the country.



# ABOUT THE



# JURY

Mr Ashok Prabhala is Head HR at Signode India Pvt Ltd. Highly focused, result oriented, passionate HR Professional with over 11 years experience in Talent Acquisition, Talent Management & Development and Talent Engagement.

Mr Thota Ram Nagesh Naidu is Founder of Hyderabad Digital Photography Club – HDPC and CEO of Team HDPC – Professional Services.

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## Categories



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# Role Models

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# Lifetime Achievement

## Igniting Reading Habits

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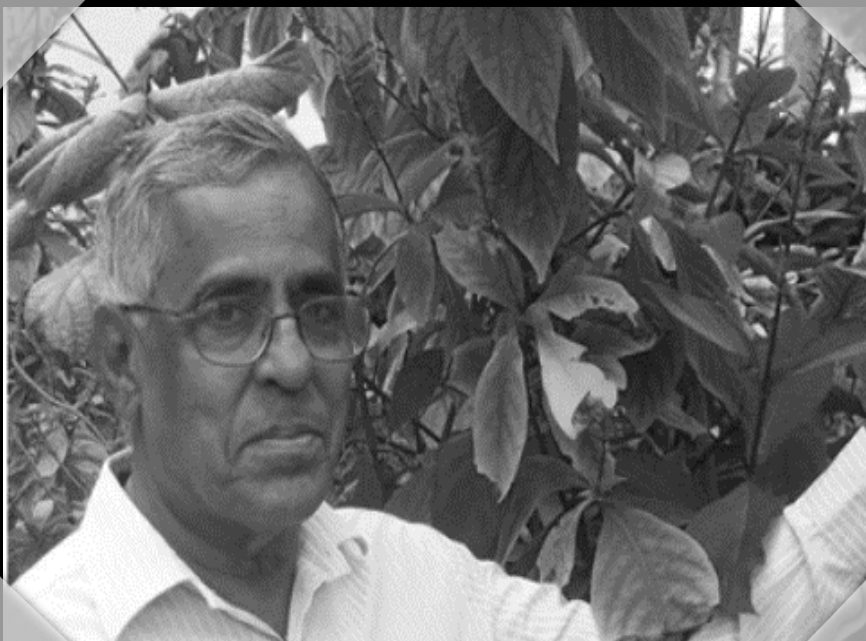


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Recognizes Individuals/Institutions  
who/which devoted their life for igniting reading habits  
and have left a lasting legacy.





**P R Ramachander**



# ONCE UPON A

## TIME...

R. Ramachander was born on January 10, 1940, in Chelakkara, Trichur District, Kerala to Sri. P.R. Rama Iyer, who belonged to Kerala's Iyer sect,.Ramachander passed M.A in Mathematics and got a Post Doctoral Diploma in Agricultural Statistics. He worked as the Head of the Department of Statistics in several ICAR institutes. After serving for 36 years, he retired as the Head of Division of Economics and Statistics of Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore in the year 2000.

Aiming to preserve Carnatic Kritis in English he has translated 1950 Kritis, which include writings of Vaggeyakaras such as Thyagaraja about 100 kritis each of Purandaradasa, Oothukadu Venkatuasubba Iyer and many other. He has kept all his works to be accessed free of cost on his website. All these translations are now available in PDF format on:

<https://hindupedia.com/en/User:P.R.Ramachander>

### Top Scientist of Millennium

Ramachander published around 150 research papers and four books on his subject. One of the institutions in England recognized him as one of the top scientists of the Millennium.

On the day of his retirement, Ramachander took a resolution. He decided himself to translate all the Hindu **stotras** written in Tamil, Malayalam, Sanskrit, Telugu, Kannada into English

P R Ramachander has undertook another marathon translation activity by writing three magnum opus "Ramayanas" of great writers Valmiki and Kamba besides translating Adhyathma Ramayana. These are not easy tasks at all.

He has, to his wonderful credit, translated 21 Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, Devi Mahatmyam, Narayaneeyam, Jnanapana, Krishna Karnamrutham, 21 Vedic Sukthas, including Chamakam, Rudram and 65 out of 80 known Stotra compositions of Adhi

# Best Reading Club

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Recognizes Volunteer driven book clubs  
for their contribution, innovation and membership drive



# My Secret Bookshelf



# GUWAHATI'S FIRST ENGLISH LANGUAGE-BASED BOOK CLUB

My Secret Bookshelf was founded in 2018. It is an online platform for authors and readers to co-exist as a community and enter the world of literature without any restrictions.

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The virtual Book Club has 30 members from across the country who come together to discuss books and much more. The Guwahati chapter has more than 20 members.

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In the book club, each month a newly released book written by an Indian writer is selected for the members to read and discuss. They even conduct author meet ups where authors are invited to discuss their work with the members.

In their attempts to bring authors and readers closer, they have also hosted book launches and partnered with notable literary platforms like Jaipur Literature Festival and Crosswords.

Their vision is to promote readership among youth, and this has led them to conduct competitions on literature and poetry for all. The book club members even worked together to publish an anthology of short stories titled "The Little White Book of Stories Vol 1".

For their such creative ways of promoting reading the book club became a finalist for the Most Promising Book Community category, The Global Book Community Awards 2020 by Qwerty Thoughts.



# **Bhubaneswar Book Reading Club**



# BIBLIOPHILES OF BHUBANESWAR

The Bhubaneswar Book Reading Club was started in 2019 to encourage reading and literature among the citizens of Bhubaneswar.

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They aim to bring all the bibliophiles of Bhubaneswar city together on one platform. Today there are total of 25 members who regularly join and participate in the meetings of the book club.

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The passion for books and reading that brought these members together saw difficulties during COVID. They resorted to online meetups to continue their discussions. Now they meet in person last Sunday of every month.

Members ranging from teenagers to people in their 70s are a part of the club. In every meet up they review 4-5 books that members have read recently.

Their dedication and love for reading has created a close-knit community of avid readers in the city. The members often lend each other books and help others grow as readers.

This continuous effort by people of the book club has allowed many to revive their love for books and created a space for members across ages to share this with each other.





# Jaipur Book Lovers



# A FREE CLUB FOR ALL READERS

Jaipur Book Lovers was started in 2015 and now has over 3500 members online. It is a free club which aims to provide a platform to the residents of the city to come together and share their thoughts on books.

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The members meet twice a month on 2nd and 4th Sunday and discuss the books that they have read. These meet ups are on a pre-decided topic that cover an entire genre.

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The main motive has always been to keep their entry free in order to bring closer people from different walks of life to share their ideas and joy for books.

They also regularly conduct competitions on various areas of poetry and literature in order to bring young adults closer to the creative ways of expression. Most of the members belong to the age group of young adults.

They have even hosted the book launch of many successful authors and even invited famous writers to interact and engage with the members. Many notable figures like Anand Neelakantan and Ravindra Singh have been a part of these meetings.

Their efforts have led to partnerships with many big literary platforms like Jaipur Literature Festival, Jaipur Sufi Festival and Crosswords.



# Himalayan Writing Retreat



# INDIA'S ONLY PURPOSE BUILT RESIDENTIAL FACILITY FOR WRITING

Located in District Nainital, the Himalayan Writing Retreat was established in 2016, and currently has 250 members. They are a unique writing retreat which connects readers and writers.

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They are India's only purpose-built residential facility dedicated to writing with the aim to bring readers closer to writers and their process of creation.

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To fulfil their vision to bridge the gap between authors and readers they have devised ways to teach their members how to write and read with equal passion.

They offer all their authors with more readers and feedback for their book through the book club. The author pays a nominal fee, and readers read, discuss and review the book. They also invite celebrity authors to speak and use the book club as a tool to connect the readers with the writers they appreciate and love.

With their unique methods and idea to connect readers and writers, they have hosted several notable figures in the Club. They have hosted authors like Kiran Manral, Kanchana Bannerjee and Arjun Raj Gaiind in the book club.

To further promote their vision, they run several courses in Creative Writing, Poetry, Non-fiction writing, Storytelling, Blogging, and emotional wellness through writing. These courses help writers and readers alike to expand their knowledge and love for literature.



# Booknerds



# BIBLIOPHILES FROM CITY OF DEHRADUN

Booknerds was established in 2016 and continues to function from Dehradun on both online and offline platforms with 25000+ members. In the past seven years, they have conducted over 150+ offline meetups.

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They wish to bring their readers to the world of books through their book recommendation videos, book club events, podcast, live sessions and more.

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Over the years they have reached out to more than 25000+ readers and created both an offline and online community. They have achieved this through many ways like curating their own authentic book podcast, they regularly organize literary events like LitDangal, Book Hustle and Banned Books Discussion.

They have even collaborated with publishing houses such as Penguin, Harper Collins, Rupa, Hachette, Pan Macmillan and Simon & Schuster to enrich the reading community with the best books and authors.

Booknerds' event of LitDangal is an annual literary event where published authors and poets compete and share the stage with each other to win over the audience with their literary prowess. They have hosted the best authors from India and beyond. Some of them include Nikita Singh, Anand Neelakantan, Deepak Ramola, Vir Sanghvi, Devdutt Pattanaik, Alan Rosling, Easterine Kire, and Andy Griffiths.

# Reading 4 Pleasure School

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Recognizes Schools for Promoting Reading Habits / Joy of  
Reading  
based on innovation, members subscribed / covered etc.





# The Alt School



# BEYOND THE SCHOOL ROOM

Alt School provides a holistic and experiential learning experience that challenges the norms of conventional schooling. It has been functioning since 2020.

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We are on a mission to transform a million lives globally and strongly believe that home schooling is the way forward to make children, life ready and create global leaders.

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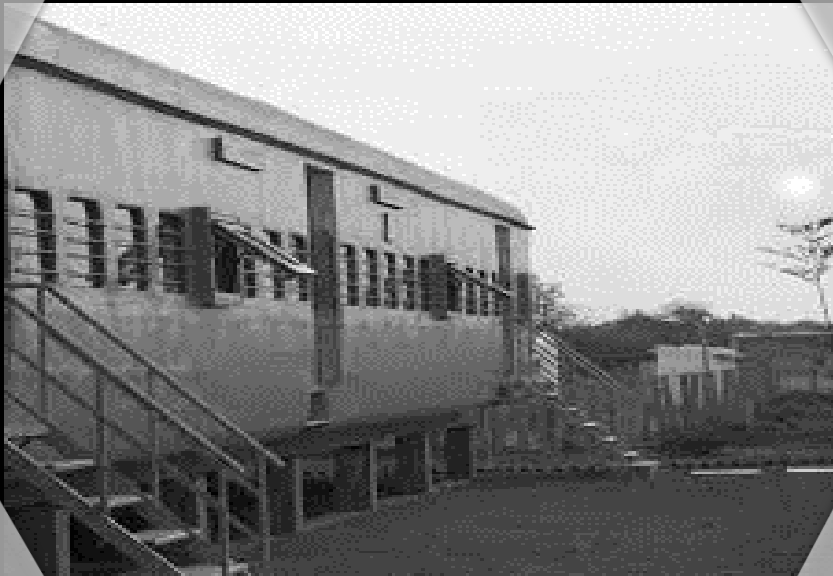
We have created several libraries in rural areas and set up book reading clubs to bring children closer to better education.

In these libraries they have created a holistic and customized learning program that caters to individual strengths and abilities. This is designed for students in the 5-17 age group. This curated and scientifically developed program includes working on their Attitude, Skills and Knowledge. Children are exposed to real life situations and projects to foster their knowledge and transform them into smart young Leaders.

They also have started short term programs for students in public speaking, theatre, debating, short film making, writing, reading.

These short-term programs for children across various topics is created with the aim to give them an exposure into the topics they choose.

The Classroom Leaders Program has given new wings to Alt School, as their mission is to create leaders with holistic approach who can represent themselves globally



# **The Yellow Train School**



# A LIBRARY IN A BOGIE

Yellow Train is an International School offering IGCSE and A Levels located in Coimbatore and operating 13 years onwards.

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Yellow Train is consistently ranked in the Top 10 schools in the country by many bodies such as Education World, India Today, Better India, All India Education summit and many other platforms.

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Their innovative efforts to bring joy of reading led them to buy a bogie of a train from the Indian Government and transform it into a library for all children to enjoy.

In December of 2017 the community ran a Marathon to raise books for this Bogie. In a day 16,500 books were raised by Yellow Train children and their families. It was only in 2019 when resources were available to transform the bogie. It was lifted and placed on the corridors of the New High School Building. It was painted and rebuilt, transformed into a magical space.

It became the Library for the school and the whole community in January 2020.

Now, on a typical Wednesday morning, one can see the primary children trotting to the bogie library for their 'book sangha' – a morning of conversation on books, reading excerpts from favourite books. The school has also engaged in programs like the 100 BOOKS project, biography project, teacher training programs and more such initiatives.



# **Sanjaykumar Rajeshbhai Sachdev**



# READING FOR ALL GENERATIONS

Sanjay Kumar Rajeshbhai Sachdev is a primary government school situated in Vansol, Gujarat and operating since 124 years

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They aim to spread joy of reading not only among children but also parents, grandparents, youngsters and all villagers of Vansol Sundha village.

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There are all types of books in their library, like story, spiritual, leaders, language, grammar, history, geography, picture story, health and awareness. These are available in Hindi, Gujarati, English language and books for early learners are provided too.

In their Classroom Library even in recess time student can use library and read books according to their subjects of interest.

Students can take the books from library to their home. They can read and acquire knowledge at home. This chain of reading connects to their parents.

The parents and grandparents also enjoy reading books at home with the help of their children. Parents and grandparents also give their valuable feedbacks to the school library. They claim that they get to enjoy reading and recall their school life because again they have got a chance to read books at their home.



# **Kendriya Vidyalaya Palwal**



# INTEGRATION OF TECHNOLOGY IN LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Kendriya Vidyalaya in Palwal is a CBSE School operating around 15 years now.

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Their aim is the integration of technology in library services and promotion of reading through effective use of web based tools, online resources, social media, and applications to make virtual learning effective *and* fun for students.

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They have made many Innovations and Experiments in reading including Virtual library, DEAR, hi Bookasour, Meet the Author program, shelvies, and by making library hub of all activities.

Their book clubs initiated sharing of books and reading together to develop caring, empathy and creativity. The library and its reading programmes helped the school to be visible by making remarkable impression in the community.

Most importantly, their Library app has been a significant innovation. It has been used by teachers and students and has become the means to connect with the reading community.

Their larger vision is collaboration with like-minded people and organizations to enhance reading and literacy





# **Bridges Learning Vidyala Hr. Sec. School**



India Reading Olympiad  
Reading4Pleasure  
School  
2023

# FIRST PIONEER SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL

Bridges Learning Vidyalaya, the first Pioneer Special Educational Schools, established in the city of Pondicherry is a Unit of Pondicherry Dyslexia Association.

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School has a track record of educating more than 4500 students since 1998. Students are trained well in both curricular and co-curricular activities. As the major objective of the school is the development of the total and multi sided personality of the students.

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They believe in holistic development of special children with learning disabilities. As there is a growing need in this field of education, creating awareness, promoting early identification (8 to 10 yrs) and assessment of children provides right learning inputs to children across ability levels.

We are on the mission to impart- skill based scientifically proven training for children with special needs in complete Systematic Online Stream of Education .

They have also created a space as well as an environment to match up the performance at par with normal children according to their ability keeping their academic progress in mind by providing Vocational training and empowering their self-sustainability and future livelihood

# Innovation 4 Reading

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Recognizes Innovations  
which Encourages reading among individuals / groups /  
communities



**Dr. Sapan Kumar**



# TURNING ELECTRIC POLES INTO BLACK BOARDS

During the two years of lockdown, Dr. Kumar had turned village walls into blackboard to teach the local children as the schools were shut. Now he has turned electric poles in rural pocket of Dumarthar, into a learning aid.

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He wrote in English, Hindi and Santhali alphabets and numerical on the electric poles so that children can easily use them for learning process

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Under the New Education Policy of the central government the ability of learning and solve basic math problems has to be developed among children (0-9 years) by end of class 3. "Since a child is admitted in the primary school only at the age of six years, I innovated this idea to give the knowledge of letters and numbers to toddlers (from 3-6 years) by writing them on electric poles," said the principal.

He put up the idea before the village head and with the help of villagers, painted Hindi Varnmala, English alphabets and Santhali numbers Meet, Bar, Pay (1, 2, 3) on the electric poles. He has inscribed on all 10 electric poles of Dumarthar. Local children who are deprived of pre-school learning due to non-availability of anganwadi centre, the electric poles played the role of black board. This idea would help all the children under 8 years before formally joining the school.



**Ajay Kale**



# USING QR CODE TO TEACH STUDENTS

Ajay Kale teaches in the Dahiwadi Zilla Parishad school in Sanghli, uses QR codes to teach his students.

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Effective Use of E- learning led to 'Ajay Kale – Tech Guru ' channel on YouTube. On this channel there is more than 11K subscribers and more than 6,26,261 views overall.

---

He collected the works of the authors that featured in his textbook and made an archive of it. Linking the archives to the QR code, the students now had access to hundreds of poems and stories for whenever they wished to read those.

In the second step, they started recording their own videos and embedding them with the codes. Now these videos were shot, and then linked back to their codes and uploaded on YouTube.

They then created “QR CODE” for each Mathematics lesson and pasted it on student's textbook. This “QR CODE” becomes very important for students because they can use it for 24 hours. It helps them to understand difficult concepts from Mathematics.

Today around 1000 students are subscribers of the channel and learn the Mathematics Concepts. Teachers from other schools from Sangli are reaching to have a training program on how to design

QR Codes.





# Kamala Dawande



# BULLOCK CART LIBRARY

Kamala Davande, is a teacher in a rural village in the tribal area of Bhainsdehi in Betul district, Madhya Pradesh

---

A new idea of a mobile library on a bullock cart was devised which distributed the books to the children door to door by crisscrossing across the village. She found a Unique way to reach out to the students and ensure that their education does not suffer as school remain closed due to pandemic.

---

Betul's bullock cart library would go door to door, calling out children and distributing books among the poor students, who have no means of accessing online classes and are still dependent on traditional means of mohalla or radio lectures.

She kept all the books on the bullock Cart, put a banner Mohalla Class and started distributing the books door to door and conduct classes in different houses of village.

There are around 87 children the village who would come to the schools but there are only 3 teachers in the school. However, one was on leave, and another had become superintendent. Only she was left in the school to take care of students.

Students were not in position to avail the online classes, thus bullock cart model helped to reach all this 87 children in the village.



# **P. Ajay Kumar & Durga Bhavani**



# COUPLE CONVERTED HOME INTO LIBRARY

P. Ajay Kumar and his wife Durga Bhavani are retired government employees. They have set up a library in Khamman - Pustaka Poodota Library.

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The idea behind this library is to guide youth at the right time and take steps to work hard for jobs.

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The idea of the library is to make it more useful for the job seekers. The library has brought a wide variety of books which are necessary for those appearing for the competitive examinations.

The library has a spacious reading hall, parking facility, clean fresh water and toilet facilities. Around 50 students can sit and study at a time. A computer with internet facility has been made available. Access to the Library is Completely Free.

By using the study material available in this library , some students have got selected in State Public Service Commission Group Prelims, SI, Police Constable Prelims, TET and Some selected for Para Military Forces. The couple is planning to convert the library 24X7 looking at the response by the students. There is also an idea to give guest lectures with subject experts on subjects required for competitive exams.



# **Veena Vadini Public School**



# 8<sup>th</sup> WONDER SCHOOL

The Veena Vadini Public School in Budhela, Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh was established in the year 1999 with vision and philosophy of Swami Vivekananda.

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This is a unique school in the World where children are taught to write with the left and right hands, some taking notes in two languages at the same time.

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Ambidexterity is the ability to use both the right and left hand equally well. The new students practice writing with both hands in 15 minutes interval, and then use both the hands. In few days, they usually get adept at writing with both hands. These students can write in six different languages like Hindi, English, Urdu, Sanskrit, Arabic, and Roman.

They can write answers of different subjects at the same time. If regular students write a paper in three hours, these students can finish it in maximum one hour or one and a half hours.

Till today 500 students have been trained from the school. While Veena Vandini only hosts students until Standard 8, many of the children who move on to other Higher Secondary Schools find admiration wherever they go.

With increased concentration capabilities and a high writing speed, many of the students complete their examination papers well before other students, proving especially beneficial for their S.S.C and H.S.C. examinations.

# #iambond Above 18

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iambond (I AM BOND) are book lovers above 18 years and who work tirelessly to Encourages reading habits / joy of reading





**Vikram Kumar**



# HOLE-IN-THE-WALL LEARNING STATION

Vikram Kumar, in his current role, is heading strategic partnerships and brand visibility at NIIT Foundation.

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His dream project Hole-in-the-Wall Learning Station is a unique concept. The Learning Station is based on a pedagogy that promotes minimal invasive education. The project with its innovative methodology was first piloted in New Delhi.

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Vikram worked with children and youth, both in and out of school, for two decades now and had been associated with prestigious projects like Hole-in-the-wall, School in the cloud, and Jaadu Ginni Ka- a Financial Literacy Program. These projects helped the children and youth to inculcate the habit of reading and made them aware about the value of self-study and to create a learning identity for themselves.

His team carved a 'Hole-in-the-Wall' – that separated NIIT premises from the adjoining slum in Kalkaji .

. A computer was set up in the hole. All who resided across the wall could freely access this kiosk. The new machine very quickly caught the curiosity of the children residing in the Kalkaji slum. It had opened a whole new world for them



# Sandeep Kumar



# RADDI SE SHIKSHA

## BOOK BANK

He is the president of open eyes foundation ,Chandigarh and age of 51 years. He started to teach in a school of Haryana village.

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He started collecting books and stationery from people which are thrown in “RADDI “. He repaired them and distributed to children.

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According to Sandeep Kumar education is right of every child. With this belief he started open eyes foundation.

He has set up “RADDI SE SHIKSHA BOOK BANK” so that free books are available for reading in the tri-city. The main objective of the library is that no student should leave school just due to lack of books. He even has set up 5 LIBRARIES OF HONESTY at different places of the tri-city so that books (of different genre- fiction, non-fiction, self help etc.) are available for reading to the general public in the city on walking distance.

As the pandemic took over our lives, it was no longer feasible to deliver books on a scooter but they were getting calls, as the need was still there.

Thus, they decided to set up a mini library in a small van and distributed away. Sandeep Kumar has also been giving masks and sanitary napkins along with the books. Hope on Wheels in a van and has been distributing books the underprivileged students who have experienced a financial setback due to the Corona virus.



# Prasad Prabhakar Bhadswale



# INNOVATIVE APPROACH OF A “GRANTH TULA”

Prasad Prabhakar Bhadswale is a librarian in RPES Abasaheb Atre Day and Night School after forgoing a corporate job in MNC. He is 55 years of age.

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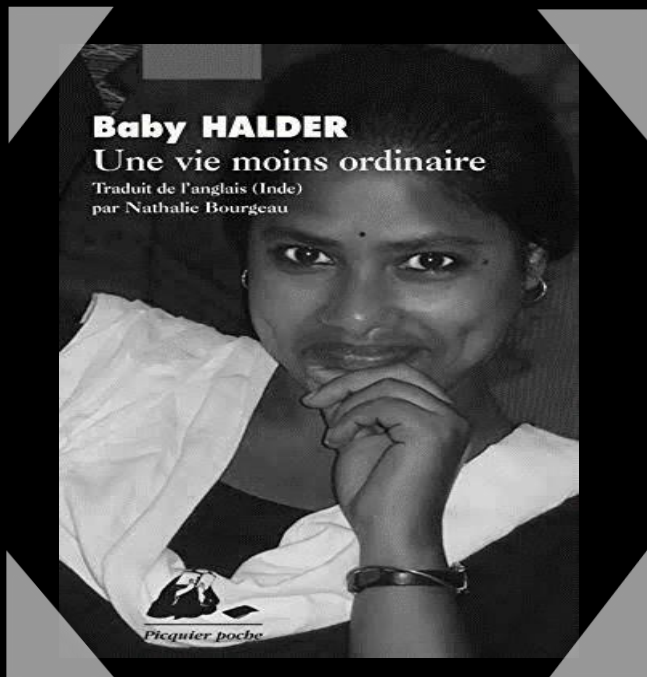
He started collecting books in order to start libraries in rural areas of Maharashtra. He has initiated around 500+ libraries around Maharashtra by either donation of books or providing consulting advice.

---

He introduced an Innovative approach of a “Granth Tula” in 2001, on 61st birthday of his father. Books of almost Rs. 45,000 were weighed against him and distributed. It became a trendsetter.

He has currently undertaken an initiative under the “Gharoghari Asavi Granthasampada” project to encourage families to purchase, during a year, at least an equal number of books as family members in a household. To include the under privileged in this project he donates books from his personal collections

In order to preserve Reading culture amongst students during Covid pandemic, presented Moral Stories in the form of Small Youtube Videos for straight 365 days. Also, to honor the Covid Warriors he collected books which he received as gifts / donations and presented at Police Stations, Medical Centers and Parks in view of cultivating new readers as well. His innovative ways have spread the joy of reading in Maharashtra.



# Baby Halder



# DOMESTIC HELPER TURNS BEST SELLING AUTHOR

Baby Haldar was born and grown up in Murshidabad, West Bengal, India and is 49 years of age. She wrote her autobiography *Aalo Aandhari* in 2002. It was first published in Hindi by Roshnai Prakashan

---

She worked as domestic helper but as she got to work for Prof. Prabodh Kumar in Delhi, he helped her in changing her life by helping her become a writer.

---

The book has been translated into more than 20 languages. The book chronicled stories of her harsh childhood and struggle as a young adult and a mother of three. Since *Aalo Aandhari*, she published two other books *Eshat Rupantar* (Roshnai, 2010) and *Ghare Pherar Pawth* (De's Publisher, 2015) and numerous articles based on her ongoing experiences; on destitute women; on COVID-19's impact on domestic workers.

Her writings give voice to thousands of women who suffer abuses at home and work but are not able to articulate in writing the numerous battles they fight. Personally, the works like Ashapurna Devi's trilogy, seem like experiences of her own life. They give her the energy and strength to write. Reading and writing provide her the joy and sustenance in her daily battle for survival.





# Njattiyela Sreedharan



# WRITING DICTIONARY IN 4 LANGUAGES

Njattiyela Sreedharan (Born in 1938 in Thalassery in Kerala), a fourth standard drop-out, has compiled a dictionary connecting four major Dravidian languages.

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This unique dictionary offers a comparative study of Malayalam, Kannada, Tamil and Telugu. The *Chathur Dravida Bhasha Nighandu* (Dictionary of Four Dravidian Languages) published in 2020 contains 125000 words.

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Travelling across four states and doing extensive research, he spent 25 years making the multilingual dictionary. There are a whopping 12.5 lakh words in this unique dictionary. Sreedharan says, "For each Malayalam word, you find a corresponding word in Kannada, Tamil and Telugu. It is truly my labour of love."

Sreedharan started learning languages as a hobby which soon grew into a passion as he delved deeper into language, colloquial words, grammar and script.

When he started this, he just wanted to learn the languages and had no intention or dream to publish it as a dictionary, says Sreedharan.

The second edition of *Chathur Dravida Bhasha Nighandu* is about to be published by the State Institute of Languages, Kerala. This will take Njattiyela Sreedharan's work to a wider readership.

# #iambond Under 18

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india reading olympiad <sup>®</sup> - 2023



odessa amADEUS



iambond (I AM BOND) under 18 are book lovers who are below the age of 18 years and work tirelessly to Encourages reading habits / joy of reading

Library for the children of Vengalathur village,  
Kancheepuram.



# Shanaya Singh



# 21 days Reading TRACKER acts as a Bookmark

Aaradhana Umesh a 8th grader studying in The Pupil International School. She works for the cause readers are the leaders and is a part of “Be the Change forum”. She loves to read books and has have been a voracious reader from the age of 5.

She strongly believe that reading is the only solution for all problems out there in the world. As the saying goes “A child who reads will be an adult who thinks”. She also believe that the future is in the hands of the next generation. Only if children are educated, that is when the society will ameliorate.

- ★ Launched a library with 200+ books at Faith home orphanage, Porur, chennai (Dec 2021)
- ★ Partnered with Dulkal team and donated 500+ books for library launch to Vengalathur government school ,Kancheepuram .( Feb' 2020)
- ★ Initiated a library launch in Seneerkupam government school with 500 + books in Thiruverkadu along with her classmates as part of a school project. (Dec' 2019)

She designed a unique reading tracker (21 days reading tracker) to create habit of reading and gifted story books who followed the reading tracker..

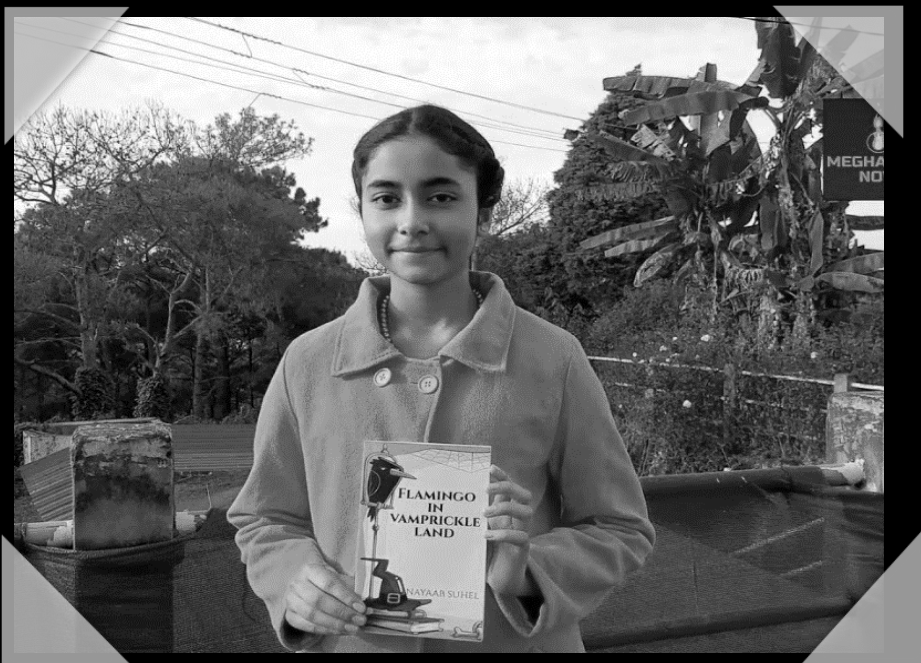
The 21 days Reading tracker acts as a bookmark and a tracker. If an individual reads everyday for 21 days he / she can reward themselves . This is an innovative format used to motivate reading habit (Free Template from : ReadAloud.org)

## **Ted Ed Students Talk Speaker**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6tFCVjW eVY>

## **Featured in Logical Indian magazine**

<https://thelogicalindian.com/uplifting/this-12-yr-old-kid-is-promoting-reading-habits-in-children-in-her-own-unique-style-32460>



# Nayaab Suhel



# YOUNG AUTHOR

## FROM MEGHALAYA

Nayaab Suhel is a ninth-grader from Shillong, Meghalaya. At 14, she is already a published author of 2 children's books - "Flamingo in Vamprickle Land" and "Gobo and the Enchanted Toadstool". Don't be surprised if her name sounds familiar - chances are that you have already come across her artwork and writing in newspapers or online portals.

---

But Nayaab is only getting started - her third book based on Meghalaya is on its way. For her brilliant writing, Nayaab has been awarded many accolades. She was declared as Author of The Year - 2020 by Story Time, a popular online portal. Her poem was shared on Twitter by The Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of Home Affairs.

---

Nayaab was initially reluctant to read books but eventually fell in love with them. When asked to describe her journey of discovering the joy of reading, she says - "once I started reading - I got addicted to it and started dwelling in those fantasy lands. I could not come out of it. It was like a potion in a magic cauldron after which there was controlling me or my pen". In her interview by Doordarshan-

Meghalaya, she urged parents to inculcate a reading habit amongst their children. She invites her friends to her place on weekends to read books. Through her numerous achievements and laurels, she has established herself as a role model and inspired by her, many of her peers have started reading more books. She plans to open a small library in her home in the future to revive the culture of reading in her community





# Adeeba Riyaz



# Youngest Kashmiri Author

Adeeba Riyaz, well known as the Youngest Author of the UT of J&K. She comes from Anantnag district of Kashmir. Writing is her passion, reading is her hobby. She read both for pleasure and wisdom.

---

She is the author of the book “Zeal of Pen”, which was published in 2021, when she was in Class 7<sup>th</sup>, as of now I am studying in class 8<sup>th</sup> in Radiant Public School, Anantnag. She got into the writing field when she won a writing contest organized by the Anantnag District Administration

---

She picked up few things and started developing in society to build basic literacy and profound in-built habits.

- *Encouraged locals to read newspapers by giving away few of them.*
- *Storytelling sessions in a few cafes and restaurants, which invited many people towards reading*
- *Met school heads and interacted with students and told them stories of Ruskin Bond*
- *Distributed books to locals in public parks and stadiums*

The ‘Zeal of Pen’ is a 96-page collection of poems, prose ,quotes put together in a lively narrative that speaks of Adeeba’s talent and wellspring of ideas. She has expressed various aspects of life in her book, available on Amazon.


She is awarded by the Indian Book Records for writing a book at such a young age



Green India is  
**My Dream India**

Sai Vishruth  
#gogreen

**K.V.Sai Vishruth**

A laurel wreath encircling the text.

India Reading Olympiad  
# iambond < 18  
2022

# ONE BOOK ONE TREE

K.V SAI VISHRUTH ,12 year old studying in NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, Gopalapuram ,Chennai. He is a social activist from the forum BE THE CHANGE forum., working for the cause GO GREEN. As an avid reader he wanted to share the joy of reading with his friends so would give his books to his friends encouraging them to read.

---

RECEIVED A LETTER FROM OUR HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI AS A TO.KEN OF APPRECIATION ON MY MISSION ONE FAMILY ONE TREE

---

He also runs a campaign ONE FAMILY ONE TREE as a part of my green journey. With his friend Aradhana Umesh to help her in setting up libraries.

They have planned to conduct various book collection drives .For each book they give in return we give them a sapling to plant.so, for the year 2023 am planning to donate 1000 sapplings so that able to collect 1000 books for the library.

ONE BOOK-ONE TREE is our future goal.

Guinness World Record Holder  
for the World Largest Child  
Safety Program

Worlds Youngest Social Activist  
by All India Association of  
Social Work



# Akarshana Sathish



# WORLD'S First Ever Historical Web Show

Riyad Maroof Hassan, a 14-year-old Indian author, social entrepreneur, director, talk show host, Global Child Rights Ambassador, singer, poet, and avid reader. He is the founder of Literature On Screen and The Clipping Universe.

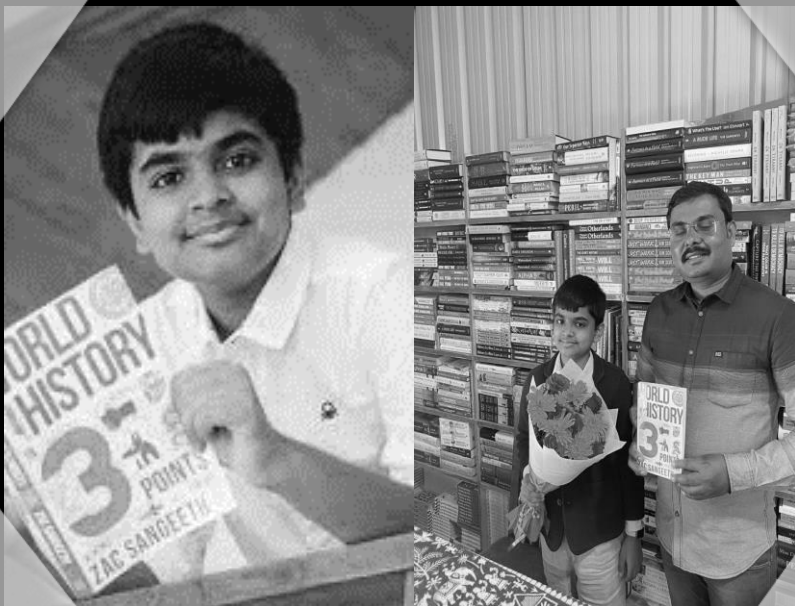
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He has been writing since the age of 5 and published debut book at 10 years old. The next year, in 2019, he was conferred with the 'Youngest Writer of Assam' award by Assam Book Of Records. When he was 11, I decided to build up a virtual space for young readers to read my literary works from any corner of the world. I named it 'Literature On Screen'.

---

He founded The Clippers TV, a division of The Clipping Universe, a digital-first initiative that helps young students to connect and network globally to empower children for self-development and empowerment. In 2021, this led to the formation of a one-of-a-kind council I founded - The Clippers Child Council of India, through which, we have conducted many workshops, conferences, competitions etc. among children around the globe.

1. Production and Creation of the world's first-ever historical web show to be developed by an entire team of children - 'Trouvaille' (2022)
2. Formation of one of the first-ever councils that have been run by child prodigies for the development of other children - 'The Clippers Child Council of India' (2021)
3. Organizing a 7 Days 7 Skills workshop with the participation of 500+ audience (2021)
4. Apart from India, our podcast 'A Sketch Of The Sky' has had Listenerships from across the globe including from countries such as the United States, Sweden, Canada, Nepal, and Ireland, from different age groups. (2022)
5. Organizing International Literacy Conference with 20+ delegates and hundreds of people as audience. (2021)



# Zac Sangeeth



India Reading Olympiad  
# iambond < 18  
2023

# WORLD's Youngest Historian

*At the age of 10 years, his book series 'The World History in 3 Points' and 'More World History in 3 Points' were published by Hachette, the world's second largest publisher. His books are now being translated into several other languages including Hindi, Punjabi, Bengali, Kannada, Tamil and Malayalam.*

---

He present history topics in 3 crisp byte sized capsules peppered with numerous illustrations. I strive to make history accessible and interesting for everyone through different mediums like books, comics and stories.

---

*According to Hachette, he is the world's youngest historian and youngest commissioned non-fiction author.*

*His 3 points formula is now being used to simplify and inculcate reading habits in several other subjects. His next book 'Hidden Links' would be published by Penguin, the world's largest publisher in 2023.*

He has also been invited as a speaker in forums such as the Global Shapers of the World Economic Forum, the Youth Forum, Switzerland, and the Lead India, USA. I will be speaking at the Bangalore Literature Festival 2022.

<http://bangaloreliteraturefestival.org/participant/zac-sangeeth/>

## Links to His Key Interviews:

### • Barkha Dutt:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wi8UoPX1JV8>

### • YourStory:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fj0GdOVDh5g>

### • Young Futurists:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OnZZNwVLfrM>

### • Mireille Toulekima 'The Greatness Hour' Talk Show:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9kyggQdlpc>



# Reading 4 Pleasure NGO

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india reading olympiad <sup>®</sup> - 2023



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Recognises NGO / Not for Profit / Voluntary Groups  
for Promoting Reading Habits / Joy of Reading  
based on innovation, members subscribed / covered etc.



# Shasta Organisation



# READING HABITS AMONG THE CHILDREN OF SONAMLING SETTLEMENT

Shasta was established in 2019 in vision to inculcate reading habits among the children of Sonamling settlement (Tibetan refugee camps in Ladakh)

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Shatsa in Tibetan means empathy or compassion which we spread through reading . They have recently launched mobile library to reach children of Agling (suburb in Leh) in the weekend.

---

Started off with visiting each camps every weekend in 2019, now they have founded the very first community library 2021. They have an average visitor of 15-20 children in a day.

They have been conducting reading intervention program in Jangthang (nomadic) schools namely Hanley, Nyoma and Sumdho.

A week-long reading intervention programs at those schools is also held in the month of August and September.

Their future plan is to sustain the community library and improve the reading culture in the community.

They are intending to extend the reading intervention program at nomadic regions. Hopefully to visit them in harsh winter as well



# **Apne Aap Women Worldwide**



# COMMUNITY CLASSROOMS INSIDE RED-LIGHT AREAS

Apne Aap's mission is to end sex-trafficking by breaking the cycle of inter-generational prostitution among de-notified criminal tribes, where prostitution is passed down from mother to daughter. They have been functioning since 2000.

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They educate children in community classrooms inside red-light areas to prepare them for formal schools and then help them with homework. They have created libraries in the red-light districts of many cities in India.

---

To make sure children have access to books they have created libraries with rotating books in their community classrooms in the red-light areas of Kolkata, Forbesganj, Bihar, Najafgarh, and east Nizamuddin in Delhi.

They also run a mobile library out of a Maruti van that is taken to different slums and red-light areas across Kolkata. They hold reading circles where women and children sit together and read together with the community members.

They have educated 4625 children through schools and 582 children through college. They are the first generation in their families to get an education in 150 years.

74 children have regular access to book due to the mobile and community libraries. 7338 children have learned to read in the red-light areas of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Bihar. Overall, 1189 children have been saved from sex-trafficking through advocacy and legal support with the police and courts.



# Bakul Foundation



# LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN ODISHA

Bakul Foundation has started a Library Movement in Odisha since 2007. Over 5000 people have so far contributed to these libraries.

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They have so far set up about 25 libraries entirely based on small individual contributions of people. They try to involve more and more people to set up these libraries and thus do not take institutional funding.

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Their model of setting up libraries through community participation has inspired many other groups to set up libraries similarly across the country.

They have set up public libraries in cities, community libraries in villages, and libraries in schools. They have even set up libraries in public spaces such as museums, cafes, public parks, urban Haats etc. They also have been organizing many events on storytelling to promote reading.

Seeing the absence of good quality picture books for readers in the local language, Odia at the primary level, they have started publishing books for pre-school level at which books didn't exist in Odia.

They even have made partnership with the state government in which schools near each of the libraries will send the children for regular library periods to the libraries, and private schools bring children for exposure visits.





# Kyrshan Foundation, Shillong



# THE OWL LIBRARY INITIATIVE

Under TOLI they aim spread the joy of reading in places where children congregate such as Anganwadi centres, orphanage and shelter homes in various parts of North-East India with a special focus in the state of Meghalaya.

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The idea to build libraries was inspired by a visit to a remote district called Anjaw, in Arunachal Pradesh bordering China. This area had no internet connectivity, radio or newspapers and limited access to the telephone even in 2017.

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It all started with spreading awareness on issues such as sanitation and menstrual health (MHM) through comic books and the interest towards books grew from there.

This later transformed into The Owl Library Initiative (TOLI) under the aegis of the Kyrshan Foundation which is a community led initiative to address the need of libraries in remote areas. They receive books through crowd sourcing from across the country. They curate them and create mini libraries of 100-300 books.

Each of their libraries include student librarians elected by the children themselves and we further impart MHM and sanitation awareness, legal advocacy, citizens rights and child safety trainings where children learn about good touch and bad touch.

In a nutshell they spread the joy of reading in remote and underserved communities all made possible by a community of volunteers.



# LIT THE LIGHT TRUST



# SUPPORT THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED COMMUNITY

Lit the Light is a non-profit organization which was started exclusively to support the under-privileged visually impaired community. Established in 2014, their organization is a volunteer driven group.

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They work in the regions of Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Vellore, Salem and more districts from Tamil Nadu .

---

The organization works to record subject and non-academic books, which includes competitive exam prep materials too.

They conduct reading workshops for students to help them with their specific needs in-person as well. They even support with career training and placements of the students.

They aim to reach every student with their specific requirements. Thus, they are open to cater to the students needs in any subject.

So far in their journey they have recorded almost all school level books and many college subjects too. They have created a community around the world to help record audio books for the visually impaired students.

They also have a dedicated team which takes care of encouraging talents like singing, dancing, sports, playing musical instruments etc in students.



**Ranjeet Bakhshi**  
**Jankalyan**  
**Foundation**



# LIBRARIES IN THE HIMACHAL PRADESH

‘Ranjeet Bakhshi Jankalyan Foundation’, was established in 2021, in Kangra District of Himachal Pradesh. The organization functions in multiple fields with primary area of focus on education.

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They have opened (and are currently running) 50 libraries in the area of Nurpur. Apart from this the NGO also crowdfunds for initiatives that assist physically challenged, widows and single women.

---

The libraries run by the organization are in public places to be easily accessible.

Most of the libraries carry textbooks, novels, books which help students prepare for competitive exams and so on, such that students get the best exposure and experience the joy of reading at the same time.

They also aim to have career counselling sessions at these libraries.

Their rural library movement was most essential during the time of COVID-19 when most of the schools and colleges have been shut down.

By locating the libraries in public buildings like Panchayat bhavans, Mahila mandal buildings, Lok Mitra Kendras etc they have provided a way to bridge the gap between Central Library and underprivileged students who cannot access it regularly.

# Joy of Reading Reflection

**Schools**

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india reading olympiad <sup>®</sup> - 2023



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Recognizes children  
for their ability to read and assimilate the essence of books /  
authors ideas  
based on Reflection Journal



# ENGLISH



Kashish

SSGM Indirapuram, Gaziabad  
SSGM Indirapuram, Gaziabad  
(Category 1 – 4)



Sk. Mohammed Fayek Ali  
ZPHS Shamshiguda  
Category (5-7)



M. Lahari  
ZPHS Gandhasiri  
Category (8-10)

# HINDI



Saraswati Ahirwar  
SSGM Indirapuram, Gaziabad  
(Category 1 – 4)



Nazia  
Sophiya Public School, Delhi  
(Category 5 – 7)



Anju Singh  
SSGM Anirudhawa, Kushinagar  
(Category 8 – 10)

# TELUGU



G.Snuthika  
A.V Model School  
(Category 1 – 4)



K.Upasana  
Akshara Vidya Mandir  
(Category 5 – 7)



B.Maheshwari  
ZPHS Shamshiguda  
(Category 8 – 10)

# KANNADA



Shreyas  
GLPS Marasandahalli  
(Category 1 -4)



Sowndarya  
GHPS Kamblipura  
(Category 5 – 7)

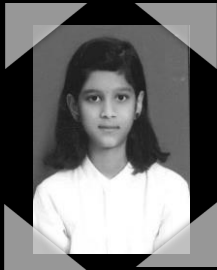


Brunda  
GHS Thavarekere  
(Category 8 – 10)

## MARATHI



Nandini Narayan Bharti  
SSGM, Shikhar, Shingnapur  
(Category 1 – 4)



Shambhavi Shashikant Rajmane  
SSGM, Shikhar, Shingnapur  
(Category 5 – 7)



Viraj Pratap Poi  
SSGM, Shikhar, Shingnapur  
(Category 5 – 7)

## BENGALI



Mousumi Mahato  
SSGM, Bisuli  
(Category 1 – 4)



Nitu Bala Mahato  
SSGM, Bisuli  
(Category 1– 4)

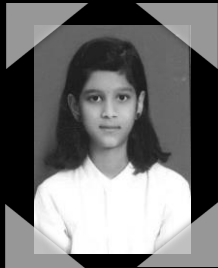


Ankush Dutta  
SSGM, Domohani  
(Category 1– 4)

# GUJARATI



Nandini Narayan Bharti  
SSGM, Shikhar, Shingnapur  
(Category 1 – 4)



Shambhavi Shashikant Rajmane  
SSGM, Shikhar, Shingnapur  
(Category 5 – 7)



Viraj Pratap Poi  
SSGM, Shikhar, Shingnapur  
(Category 5 – 7)

# URDU



Mousumi Mahato  
SSGM, Bisuli  
(Category 1 – 4)



Nitu Bala Mahato  
SSGM, Bisuli  
(Category 1– 4)



Ankush Dutta  
SSGM, Domohani  
(Category 1– 4)

# HIGHEST PARTICIPATION



SSGM Anirudhwa, Kushinagar  
(108 students)  
Category- 5 to 7



ZPHS Shamshiguda  
(95 Students)  
Category- 8 to 10



MPPS Kamalapuram, Khammam  
(108 Students)  
Category- 1 to 4

# Book Store Of The Year

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india reading olympiad<sup>®</sup> - 2023



**odessa** **amadeus**



Recognizes Boutique bookstores  
which are more than 50 years old and are using creative ways  
Of making books accessible to all and Encouraging reading  
habits & the joy of reading



# The English Book Depot





# 100 YEAR OLD BOOKSTORE

In 1923, Shri Narain Dass Ji founded The English Book Depot. Established in Dehradun, it is among the oldest bookstores, as well as a landmark in the city.

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The longevity of the iconic bookstore is attributed to 'staying relevant with the times. The English Book Depot specializes in Military History & Warfare, Geology & Petroleum and Forestry & Environment.

---

The story opens at Firozpur on the Indo-Pak border; the family finally moved to Dehradun to set up the iconic bookstore in the city's heart. Of the 100 years, Smt Snehlata has been at the helm. They are a proud women led enterprise.

They work to feed the Indian student community and academic institutions with economy reprints of all publications important to them.

The store even hosts events - readings, meet & greet authors, and the Learning Forward Academy to support our #JoyOfLearning Program at My Good School.

'My Good School' program run by Learning Forward India empowers students to personalize their learning by creating an environment for the personal and social development of an individual.



# Kunzum Books



# FREE COFFEE AND NO WIFI BOOKSTORES

Kunzum Ventures has launched a 5 bookstores in National Capital region **in 2022**. The name Kunzum comes from the Kunzum La pass in the Spiti valley, where the founder Ajay Jain found his calling.

---

Kunzum is a place where readers, authors, designers, editors and publishers come together for the love of books

---

The store demands customers coming to Kunzum to “un-tech” themselves — which is why they have removed free WiFi from all the outlets.

Kunzum also conducts Book Clubs which are moderated by authors, editors and those who enjoy reading. Each has their own format for engagement. They meet in person only at a Kunzum outlet. Some of these include the CEO Book Club and Book Bees

---

They serve freshly brewed coffee and teas – served with signature brownie cookies without any charge. When readers make a purchase of book, they gift you a coffee / tea coupon. Each outlet has shelves with pre-loved books. One may borrow one with every four new books purchased.

They also reach out to indie publishers and provide them with shelf space and prominence. Not only that, but they also give space and leverage for new authors, creators, and designers to meet customers.



# Once Upon A Time Bookshop



# ONCE UPON A TIME ...

Once upon a time bookshop which is situated in Aluva was established in 2020 by a couple who are engineers by profession but had set up the bookshop out of their passion for reading.

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They gave the name 'ONCE UPON A TIME' to bring a nostalgic feeling to the shop. It is a 5-storey building and each storey has a story to tell. This 4000 square feet store is a happy and positive space for bibliophiles.

---

The entire building is designed in such a way that it gives a feel that four huge books are arranged together in a bookshelf. It has a large collection of books of more than 20000 titles of different genres from English and regional languages. Renowned Brazilian writer, Paulo Coelho took to his Instagram on June 6, 2020, and shared a picture of the store. The post garnered lakhs of views and likes within hours of posting the image. This made the store a hit even before its launch.

The bookstore regularly hosts writers and artists from various areas of expertise. It has become a hub for regional authors and poets. Their focus is on inculcating reading in children and young adults. Thus, they have a dedicated separate floor which is arranged as reading and discussion rooms for children. They have also started their own publishing for children's literature and published three titles so far.



# **The Booktique Goa**



# BOOKS ON A CYCLE

The Booktique Goa was **started in 2018** with the idea of making reading accessible to everyone, especially younger kids.

---

They aimed to solve two main issues- the time and energy it takes to travel to a library, and the high price of buying new books. This way they started decided to deliver books at doorsteps of people, by cycle. They focus on being environmentally friendly and thus their packaging is also sustainable

---

Delivering the books by cycle enabled them to save on fuel cost, which meant that initially for only Rs.20, the readers could rent a book for a week and have it dropped and picked up from their doorsteps.

They have created a website and a licensed app for the bookstore to make it much easier and user friendly. Customers can just login and books are categorized based on their authors, titles, genres along with a short description of the books. It also helps keep a track of the books taken, for how long they are with a customer and when they are due to be returned.

They have recently opened deliveries across India for over 3000 book titles which are mainly second hand.

They have used their reach and community to spread awareness for social issues as well. When Mollam forest in Goa was endangered by megaprojects, the founders handwrote notes on their book packaging to gather support to save the forest.

They also regularly include local artists and makers from the neighborhood to promote their work.



# Ukiyo Bookstore





# THE BOOKSTORE OF JODHPUR

Ukiyo Bookstore was established in 2018 in Manipur with aims to bring joy of reading to children and young adults.

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Ukiyo, according to the founder, is a Japanese word that describes a certain feeling one gets when reading a particular passage in a book or when hearing a certain phrase or word.

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Ever since the beginning Ukiyo has hosted children from the remotest of the regions in Manipur. Children from Sunday schools which are established in remote areas have been a part of the bookstore's journey since the start and thus they aim to bring books closer to them.

Ukiyo Literature Festival 2019 was organized to commemorate the bookstore's first year anniversary. It was the first of its kind literary festival in the entire Northeast region.

During Pandemic they were among the first stores to start delivering. Even as the packaging materials ran out, they collected old newspapers and tie them with strings to wrap the books. They made sure people stay sane with the companionship of books during such a difficult time.

They also have organized book launches, readings, music listening sessions etc. in order to grow a healthy and progressive culture among the community.

# Caught Reading

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Recognizes photographs  
which capture the essence of Reading Habits / Joy of Reading

# A PICTURE TO INSPIRE



## **Aditya Bhatnagar**

- Is studying in 12th and is a Digital Creator.
- Enjoying reading books and photography whenever gets time after studies

# CAPTURING THE JOY OF READING



## **Kanish Kalra**

- Is a film student currently studying in Annapurna college of film and media(Hyderabad)
- Doing photography from last 5-6 years.

# SEIZING THE MoMENT



## **Nayaab Suhel**

- **Writer by profession and wrote 3 children's books**
- **Passionate about Photography, Writing and Reading books**

# BETWEEN THE GAPS...



## **Meenakshi Jha**

- She is a self-employed person running ‘Creative Art World’
- Runs workshop online on Arts in association with Fevicryl
- Passionate about photography and Art

# Best Library

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Recognises Schools where the Foundation Libraries are  
operating  
based on READER index parameters  
which include, how many books are being read, by how many  
children etc.



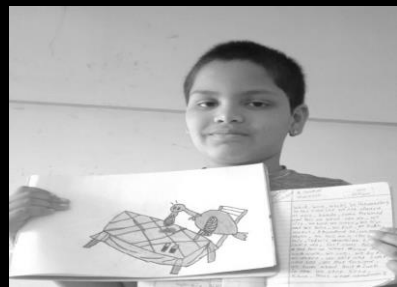
**MPPS Shamshiguda  
(South Zone)  
Principal: Ms Anuradha**



**GHPS Doddadenahalli is a high school that was established in the year 1997. As it is an upper primary school we have classes from 1 to 7.**



**SSGM Domohani is a English Medium school from Class Nursery to Class IV.**



**Sri Sri Gnan Mandir, Shingnapur school started in 2011 and from LKG to Class 7<sup>th</sup> .**



**SSGM Indirapuram is a English Medium school from Class Nursery to Class IV.**

Kukatpally in Sangareddy has a school named MPPS Shamshiguda. In 1972, MPPS Shamshiguda, Telangana was launched with the student teacher ratio being 18:1 and the primary medium of instruction being Telugu. Classes from 1st to 5th run in this school .

GHPS Doddadenahalli is a high school that was established in the year 1997. As it is an upper primary school we have classes from 1 to 7. We are very proud to say our school has many facilities and a very good infrastructure also we have 6 classrooms.

SSGM Domohani is a English Medium school from Class Nursery to Class IV. We believe in overall development and stress free education.

Sri Sri Gnan Mandir, Shingnapur school started in 2011 and from LKG to Class 7<sup>th</sup> We believe in overall development and stress free education.

SSGM Indirapuram is a English Medium school from Class Nursery to Class IV. Established in 2002 We believe in overall development and stress free education.

# Innovative Library Format

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Recognizes Innovations  
which are Encouraging reading among individuals / groups /  
communities  
Through innovative approach which is a best practice



# Tea Know +Age (चाय Charge & Books Work)



# CHAI STALL WITH BOOKS TO READ

A place where new success stories start , a place which literally encourage our youth for their life goals, a place where our youngster find out the difference between enjoying this time and destroying it.

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Four friends from Agra have started Tea Book Stall doing unique experiment with tea start up with good job. Here one can read books with good tea. They say that they started this work to give value for tea and in place of gutka and cigarettes tea should have books.

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The "**Tea know+Age**" team strongly believe that knowledge is the power in current world and books are our only true friends in the process to acquire this power. They are here to spread the awareness about how a single book can make a huge impact in one's life, how a simple books can help someone to fight toughest fight of his life.

Their vision is to spread the values, knowledge and wisdom we get from books.

All these things encourage us to create this platform and to share with all we get from everyone to connect the people with same positive mindset for betterment of society.

Their plan is to spread their platform pan India so that each and every person can get the excess to our platform, so that one can get breakthrough in his life.



# Bakul Foundation





# OUT OF BOX LIBRARIES

Bakul Foundation has been leading a Library Movement in Odisha and trying to promote reading, particularly among children..

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Bakul has created Libraries in out of the box settings such as in refrigerators. It has set up 15 libraries in refrigerators in primary schools (upto class V), The fridges are associated with good things like cold drinks and ice creams, but now contain delicious food for thought.

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They have also set up an open unmanned Library in a Beverages refrigerator at an Urbaan Haat, where one found such fridges commonly but instead of beverages, it has books.

They have set up a similar unmanned library, a little library house mounted on a tree trunk in a public park. These open libraries are to ensure that one can just pick up a book to read whenever one wants.

Set up a proper library in a Hall in one public park as well, and people who go to the park to hang out or to laze, can go and read.

With creative murals, creative bookshelves and books in public spaces in unusual spaces, we are trying to attract people to books. Each of the libraries has attractive murals that stir the creativity of children and make the libraries into a vibrant and inviting space to come and discover the world of books.

Bakul has been developing the libraries in Govt schools as creative and attractive spaces as well.



# **Kanika (Wildlife) Range, Dangamal**



# BOAT TURNS INTO LIBRARY

The Dangamal nature camp inside Odisha's Bhitarkanika National Forest, the country's second-largest mangrove ecosystem, has added something to its list of attractions - a boat library for children, which is perhaps the first of its kind in India.

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The library housed in a stationary boat at Dangamal, the gateway to the forest, threw open its doors on June 5, the World Environment Day, 2022

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The boat used to house the library is one of those discarded by the department after being used for years to protect the mangrove forest and its wildlife.

The boat is stationed at the eco-tourism complex so that children of visitors to Bhitarkanika, which has one of the largest populations of the endangered saltwater crocodiles, as well as students of nearby schools can use the library.

It was retrofitted for the purpose and a room was created in its hull to house the books. Stairs were constructed to reach the room from the ground. The aim of the library is to connect children and youth to nature and sensitise them about conservation.

Inspiration was drawn from commitment and continuous support for mangrove conservation by locals.



# Kalidas Haldar and Kumkum Haldar



# FREE STREET LIBRARY

Patuli Street Library (PSL) at Patuli, Kolkata is hidden amidst a row of makeshift shops on the margins of the pavement which borders a residential complex, a technology and management institute and a park.

Kalidas Haldar and Kumkum Haldar teamed up with a kirana store owner to open a free street library in Patuli. To get started they took an old fridge and turned it into a bookshelf which can now be seen outside Tarapodh Kahar's Kirana store

Since the family already had a large collection of books, they decided to set up a library with a difference — a street library — one without frills, one that is open, free and based entirely on trust.

It started as a family initiative, the neighbourhood came out in support of it. The local grocer lent his shop space to stack the first lot of books and when nobody was around to help a customer. Several volunteers of PSL have never received any formal education, but they believe in the value of education which motivated them to join Kalidasbabu.

A journey which began only about a year and a half ago, has now turned into a silent movement. Being a voracious reader himself and a member of popular libraries in the city, Kalidasbabu realised that such elite spaces are beyond the reach of the marginalised children. While PSL's target readers are 8 to 18 years old, many visitors are senior citizens. PSL's mission is to open 100 street libraries in remote areas in Bengal and spread the joy of reading among those for whom a library full of books is only a distant dream

# Special Jury Award

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# Njattiyela Sreedharan



# WRITING DICTIONARY IN 4 LANGUAGES

Njattiyela Sreedharan (Born in 1938 in Thalassery in Kerala), a fourth standard drop-out, has compiled a dictionary connecting four major Dravidian languages.

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This unique dictionary offers a comparative study of Malayalam, Kannada, Tamil and Telugu. The *Chathur Dravida Bhasha Nighandu* (Dictionary of Four Dravidian Languages) published in 2020 contains 125000 words.

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Travelling across four states and doing extensive research, he spent 25 years making the multilingual dictionary. There are a whopping 12.5 lakh words in this unique dictionary. Sreedharan says, "For each Malayalam word, you find a corresponding word in Kannada, Tamil and Telugu. It is truly my labour of love."

Sreedharan started learning languages as a hobby which soon grew into a passion as he delved deeper into language, colloquial words, grammar and script.

When he started this, he just wanted to learn the languages and had no intention or dream to publish it as a dictionary, says Sreedharan.

The second edition of *Chathur Dravida Bhasha Nighandu* is about to be published by the State Institute of Languages, Kerala. This will take Njattiyela Sreedharan's work to a wider readership.



A Special appreciation by the Jury for the exceptional  
work done by the Winner

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