

## Department of Philosophy and Research Centre of Philosophy

Under the auspices of the Department of Philosophy, various activities are conducted. Along with B.A. in Philosophy, the Department has successfully completed 2 years of the commencement of its Masters in Philosophy. The research center is also doing well. The details of various activities conducted for students, teachers and other citizens run as follows:

- On 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2015, a movie screening for the film 'Dharma' was organized in collaboration with Philosophy and Psychology department.
- On 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, movie 'Oh My God!' was screened for T.Y.B.A. Philosophy students. Film screening was followed by interesting discussion amongst students and teachers. Various current issues were discussed in the light of themes of the films.
- On 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, a lecture was organized on the topic 'Reading-Enriching Life' for T.Y.B.A. Philosophy and Psychology students. The speaker was retired Professor of Joshi-Bedekar College, Dr. A.B. Dhopeswarkar. The lecture was intended towards initiating interest in reading among students and also to make them aware about methodical reading.
- Bhagvadgita being one of the papers at B.A. level, lecture and discussion on 'Bhagavad Gita' was conducted by Principal Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh for the T.Y.B.A. Philosophy Students on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.
- To facilitate T.Y. students to face the world, guest lectures were organized on 'Understanding Soft Skills' by Mr. P.P.Tokekar and Prof. Rajadhyaksha, Principal, New Law College, was organized on 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2015. The program started with role plays enacted by students about importance of soft skills. Sabah Shaikh, Shalina Purkait, Vishal Gawale, Burhan Suratwala, Janice Varghese and others enthusiastically performed the appropriate role plays.
- A lecture on 'Gospel of Bhakti' by Arvind Seshadri on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 for all students of the department. The speaker unraveled various dimensions of Bhakti and also explained its relevance in today's world.
- Gandhian studies being one of the subjects of M.A., an educational trip for M.A. Philosophy students to Gandhi Sangrahalay, Mani Bhavan and Nehru Science and History Center, was carried out on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 in collaboration with the Political Science Department.
- The Department of Philosophy in collaboration with the Max Muller Bhavan, a Series of Lectures have been arranged under the title 'From Kant to Habermas' (August 2015- November 2016). Principal, various professors and students enthusiastically participated in this endeavour. (Prin.Dr. Mrs. Shakuntala A. Singh, Prof. Avinash Waghmare, Prof. Aabha Pande, Prof. Vedavati Paranjape, Sayali Deshmukh, Mohini Nadkarni, Pratiksha Kulkarni,

Sabah Shaikh attended various sessions. The activity was extremely fulfilling and igniting for the students. During one of the Sessions, Dr. Suchitra Naik worked as the Chairperson and Facilitator for the Session. The lecture was on Max Weber and Georg Simmel and the speaker was Prof. Surendra Munshi.

#### Post Graduate Section:

Rank No.	Name of the student	Credit Points	Grade
1.	Shirasangi Jyoti Madival	7.00	O
2.	Sharma Ashwini Ramesh	6.75	A
3.	Yadav Preeti Rajdev	6.75	A
4.	Nair Saroja Rajkumar	6.25	A
5.	Naik Asavari Vinayak	6.00	A

Under U.G.C. guidelines, this year we have conducted two workshops for students as well as citizens of Thane. The peculiarity of workshops is that it was organized and executed mainly by post graduate students. This activity was introduced as a part of their project work. The brief reports of the workshop are as follows:

1. One day workshop on 'Personality Development and Social Awareness.'

The workshop was conducted in collaboration with 'Igniting Minds Foundation'. The workshop was inaugurated by Principal Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh and was concluded by Dr. Suchitra Naik. The purpose of the workshop was to make students aware about the functioning of democracy and role of citizens in democracy. 122 students participated in the workshop. It proceeded through various activities and interaction. Prof. Kamini Gogri and Dr. Shobha Subhedar worked as facilitators for the workshop. The main themes of the workshop were RTI (Right to Information) and 'Me and My Social Responsibilities.' The games and activities helped students to get sensitized about various vital social issues. The purpose of sensitization was fulfilled through this workshop and was highly appreciated by students.

2. As a part of the same initiative we conducted the three day workshop (25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2016) on 'Philosophy and Indian, Marathi Saint Literature'. The workshop was bilingual and was conducted in collaboration with Marathi Sanshodhan Mandal. A brief report runs as follows:

The workshop was attended by 50 people comprising of students, teachers and others including citizens of Thane.

#### Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

The workshop was inaugurated at the hands of great scholar and descendent of Saint Tukaram, Dr. Sadananda More. During the inauguration ceremony, Principal Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh and Director of the Marathi Sanshodhan Mandal, Dr. Pradeep Karnik blessed the workshop through their address. Every day, the workshop was started with Abhanga sung by students and concluded with Pasayadaan.

Dr. Sadananda More delivered two lectures on:

- a. Social Contribution of Saint Literature.
- b. Bhagvadgita and its Relation with Saint Literature.

#### Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

Two lectures were delivered by the great scholar of Indian philosophy, Dr. S. Bhelkay. The topics were

- a. Culmination of Ancient Philosophy into Social Philosophy of Saints.
- b. Chidvilasvaad Propounded by Saint Dnyaneshwar.

#### Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

Two lectures were delivered by Dr. Yashwant Pathak, an eminent writer and scholar. They were as follows:-

- a. Conservation of Social Ideology through Kirtan Tradition.
- b. The principle of Guru in Saint Traditions.

On all the three days, the lectures were followed by lively discussions.

The valedictory function was followed on the last day. The valediction was graced by Dr. Datta Powar and Dr. Pradip Karnik.

Prof. N. Barse, Prof. Santosh Rane, Dr. Anil Dhawale, Prof. Vedavati Paranjape, Prof. Avinash Waghmare, Prof. Aabha Pande contributed towards the success of the workshop. The students who have worked in the organization of the workshop are Ms. Mohini Nadkarni, Ms. Rutuja Sathe, Ms. Shruti Gogate, Ms. Uma Khedkar, Ms. Humaira, Mr. Shashi Shukla and Ms. Sayli Mukund Deshmukh.

The following students performed at the Workshop -

Nikhil Bane (Bharud)

Vishal Khoje (Dholki + Bharud)

Rahul Hitape (Harmonium + Dholki + Abhang)

Prasenjeet Waghmare (Abhnag)

Dr. Suchitra Naik worked as the coordinator of the entire workshop.



Formal lectures and informal discussions were conducted with M.A. students. Prin. Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh, Prof. Tejashree Trimakhe, Prof. Peter, Dr. Suchitra Naik worked as facilitators during these lectures and sessions.

- Guest lecture by Prof. Sudhindra on Western tradition of thought for M. A. on 08<sup>th</sup> October, 2015.

We wish to strengthen our Post - Graduate Section in the coming years.

#### Research Center:

Under the able guideship of Prin. Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh, three students successfully completed their Ph.D. The details of the same are as follows:

Name	Topic
1. Dr. Mona Parthiv Rawal	Qualia: An Antiphon to the Enigma of Consciousness in Cognitive Science.
2. Dr. Anupama Yende	Religion, Spiritualism, Mysticism : Re-understanding
3. Dr. Suchitra Naik	Philosophy of Education: A re-constructive Analysis and Evaluation of Aims, Methods and Constructs.

#### Profile of Departmental Colleagues

Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh

- Participated in the one day 'Exploratory Workshop on Quality Circle and Graduate Attributes' held at KET's V.G. Vaze College, Mulund on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015.
- Invited to deliver a lecture on 'Bhagavad Gita' for the T.Y.B.A. Philosophy Students on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.
- Nominated as Chairperson of the University Tournament and Section Committee for Badminton for the year 2014-15 by University Sports Committee and Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor.
- Invited as member of the subject Board on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015 in K.J. Somaiya College of Arts and Commerce.
- Invited as a resource person for One day Awareness Programme on "NAAC Assessment and Accreditation for Non Accredited College" on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015 in Birla College, Kalyan
- Appointed as member of the Expert Committee to visit the Sonubhau Baswant Arts and Commerce College by University of Mumbai.
- Actively participated in the One Day 'Exploratory Workshop on Quality Grade and Graduate Attributes' held at KET's V.G. Vaze College.

- Appointed as an expert in Local Inquiry Committee, (University of Mumbai) to visit Ishwardas Chunilal Yogic Health Centre, Kaivalyadhama to enroll students for Ph. D (Arts) degree Course in the subject of Yoga from the Academic year 2014-15.
  - Appointed as a Convener of Local Inquiry Committee, by University of Mumbai to visit Suyash College of Arts, Commerce and Science – Murbad and Sonubhau Baswant Arts and Commerce College – Shahapur.
  - Invited for assessment and accreditation by NAAC in Saraighat College, Assam from 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015.
  - Invited as a Chief Guest for Convocation Ceremony by University of Mumbai year 2015.
  - Awarded 'Maharashtra Kanya Gourav Puraskar' 2015-16 by Icon Foundation Nasik
  - Invited for assessment and accreditation by NAAC in Kanoria PG Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Jaipur from 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> January 2016
  - Invited for assessment and accreditation by NAAC in Sapatgram College, Assam from 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> February 2016
  - Invited for assessment and accreditation by NAAC in Barnagar College, Assam from 28<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> March 2016
  - Appointed as a member of Local Inquiry Committee, by University of Mumbai to visit N.G. Acharya and D.K. Marathe College Chembur, Sree Naryana Guru College, Chembur and Vivekanand Education Society's College, Chembur.
  - Appointed as the nominee of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, University of Mumbai to visit BNN College Bhiwandi for the Interviews of the promotion of teachers.
- Dr. Suchitra Naik
- Has been awarded Ph.D. In 'Philosophy of Education' from the University of Mumbai.
  - A workshop was conducted by Dr. Suchitra Naik on the theme 'Chemist-Alchemist' for the teachers of Kendriya Vidyalaya, IIT Powais on 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2015.
  - A session was conducted on the theme 'On Threshold of Youth' by Dr. Suchitra Naik on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 for Junior College Scholars' Academy.
  - A session on the theme of 'Stress Management' was conducted by Dr. Suchitra Naik on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 for the students of VPM Polytechnic College.
  - A session on the topic 'Confidence Building' was conducted by Dr. Suchitra Naik on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.

- A session on the theme of 'Emotional Management' was conducted by Dr. Suchitra Naik for the students of VPM Polytechnic College on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.
- Workshops on the theme 'Stress Management' was conducted by Dr. Suchitra Naik for BMS students on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2015.
- A lecture on the topic 'What is Research?' was delivered by Dr. Suchitra Naik for Research Academy Students of Junior College, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct. 2015.
- For Bombay Philosophical Society, a presentation on 'Gandhian Education' by Dr. Suchitra Naik on 12<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2015.
- A series of lectures was delivered by Dr. Suchitra Naik on the theme of 'Vanaprastha' from Bhagvadgita for Abhiruchi group- senior citizens in the period of September to November, 2015.
- Co-ordinated and facilitated a 3-days Workshop on "Philosophy and Saint Tradition of Maharashtra and India" conducted by the Philosophy Research Centre, Counselling Cell of Joshi Bedekar College (Thane) and Marathi Sanshodhan Mandal (Mumbai) from 25<sup>th</sup> February to 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.
- Written a Paper on 'समाज समता संघ', 'समता पत्र' व 'आंबेडकर चळवळीमधील देवराव नाईकांचे स्थान व योगदान: एक गतीशास्त्रीय समालोचन' in a One-day National Seminar on 'Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's Thoughts: A Contemporary Relevance' at Adarsh College, Badlapur on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2016.
- Contributed a Paper on 'संत तुकारामांच्या साहित्यविश्वातील दुष्काळ संज्ञेचे अस्तित्वावादी व मनोविश्लेषणात्मक समालोचन' in a National Seminar at Samajbhushan Ganpatrao Mahavidyalay, Loni Kalbhor, Tal-Haveli, Pune.

Prof. Avinash Waghmare

- Participated and contributed in the International workshop on "Contemporary Buddhism" organized by University of Mumbai.
- Presented paper on "Buddha's Astika and Nastika Nature of Philosophy".
- Attending National Conference organized by University of Mumbai on 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> January 2016
- Participated and contributed in a 3-days Workshop on "Philosophy and Saint Tradition of Maharashtra and India" was conducted by the Philosophy Research Centre, Counselling Cell of Joshi Bedekar College (Thane) and Marathi Sanshodhan Mandal (Mumbai) from 25<sup>th</sup> February to 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

Ms. Aabha Pande

- Attended the 89<sup>th</sup> Session of IPC (Indian Philosophical Congress) at the Adikavi Nannaya University, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh. [5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> January, 2015.
- Attended IQAC sponsored National Level Research Methodology Workshop on 'Emerging Trends in Research, at B.L. Amlani College, Vile Parle, Mumbai. [4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> February, 2015.]
- Attended a Guest Lecture on 'Consciousness' by Prof. Dr. Panneerselvam at the Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai, Kalina. [23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2015.]
- Attended a Workshop on 'Environmental Ethics' organized by the Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai, Kalina. [29<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.]
- Attended one Session on 'Immanuel Kant' among the Lecture Series 'From Kant to Habermas' jointly organized by Max Muller Bhavan, Mumbai and the Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai, Kalina; at Max Muller Bhavan, Mumbai. [22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2015.]
- Attended 'Gandhi and Tagore Session' organized by the Gandhi Centre, CHM College, Ulhasnagar. [2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2015.]
- Passed with First Class in the 'Bharatiya Sanskriti Pariksha' jointly organized by the Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari and Vivekananda Study Circle, Joshi-Bedekar College, Thane. [5<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.]
- Attended an International Symposium: 'Neuroscience of Yoga – From Yoga for Health to Yoga for Wisdom' jointly organized by the Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai and Centre for Behavioural Medicine (CBM), Pune at the Marathi Bhasha Bhavan, University of Mumbai, Kalina. [17<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.]
- Presented a Paper titled 'Management and Spirituality' at International Seminar on Management & IT (INSEMIT-2016) organized by the Institute of Management & Computer Studies, Thane. [13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.]
- Participated and contributed in a 3-days Workshop on "Philosophy and Saint Tradition of Maharashtra and India" was conducted by the Philosophy Research Centre, Counselling Cell of Joshi Bedekar College (Thane) and Marathi Sanshodhan Mandal (Mumbai) from 25<sup>th</sup> February to 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

In future, we wish to strengthen the Department by strengthening the Research Center and the Post - Graduate Section. The Department looks forward to the betterment and enhancement under the able guidance of our Head, Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh.

**Prin. Dr. Mrs. Shakuntala A. Singh**  
Head of the Department