

MADHURA RAJVANSHI

Phaltan 415523, Maharashtra, India

Currently working at **Pragat Shikshan Sanstha**, Phaltan (www.psspaltan.org) as the Secretary of the trust, English teacher, and Education Coordinator

Trustee and Governing Council member of [Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute](#)

Honored with the '[Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program for International Teachers \(Fulbright DAI\)](#)' for the academic year 2023-24. The [Better India story on it is here](#).



EDUCATION

Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai | 2010-2012

- Master of Arts in Elementary Education with Grade A

University of Pune | 2003-2006

- Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Botany- First class with distinction (84%)

Mudhoji High School & Junior College, Phaltan | 2001-2003

Higher secondary certificate (HSC), Maharashtra Board- First class with distinction (77.6%)

Kamala Nimbkar Balbhavan, Phaltan | 1989-2001

- Primary Education
- Secondary school certificate(SSC), Maharashtra Board- First class with distinction (90.9%)

EXPERIENCE

Teaching

15 years of teaching experience in Kamala Nimbkar Balbhavan, Phaltan

Subjects- English, science, art appreciation and personality development, Sexuality and relationships, (grades 4 to10)

As a Coordinator/Administrator

- Coordinator of 'School in the Cloud' Programme at PSS A-4, Phaltan (2015-16)
- Coordinator for project titled 'Development of Early Childhood Teacher Education Programme In Rural India' funded by Tata Education Trust (2013-2014)
- Administrative Assistant for project titled Centre for Language, Literacy and Communication (2009-2011)

Resource person for trainings/ workshops

- Anganwadi (Preschool) supervisors' training workshops under project titled 'Development of Early Childhood Teacher Education Programme In Rural India' funded by Tata Education Trust (2013-2014)
- English teaching workshop for teachers in Vishva Vedant School, Raipur, October 2013
- English teaching workshop for teachers from Samajik Parivartan Sansthan, Giridih, Jharkhand, March 2015
- Marathi language teaching workshops for primary teachers of government schools under the project Nurturing Early Literacy funded by the Tata Trusts, 2017-18
- Worked as a mentor to 3 government teachers for Reflective Teachers' fellowship under the project Nurturing Early Literacy funded by the Tata Trusts, 2017-18
- 3-day residential workshop for creating music that can be used in workshops for HIV-infected youngsters, organized by Prayas Health Group, Pune, November 2019
- Presented the methods of teaching online English in a series of webinars 'Education in Lockdown' conducted by Marathi Abhyas Kendra, Mumbai, August 2020

As an Author

- Have written several articles for *Palakneeti* magazine (A well-known Marathi magazine for parents and teachers published by *Palakneeti Pariwar*, Pune)
- Marathi article on 'Making story books in classroom' in magazine *Shabdaruchi* as well as Pragat Shikshan Sanstha's publication '*Mulanche Granthalay: Pustakanshi Nate Jodtana*' (Children's Library: Bonding with books) edited by Manjiri Nimbkar, 2019. This book received 2019's 'Dr. Kumud Bansal *Utkrushta Shaikshanik Grantha Puraskar*' - an award for the books with excellent educational content, given by *Shikshan Vikas Manch*, Yashwantrao Chavan *Pratishthan*, Mumbai
- Marathi article on 'What formative and summative assessment can tell us about children' in the Special issue of magazine '*Aajcha Sudharak*' on Quality Education
- Worked as a co-author with Bon Nimbkar on agriculture related articles for Sakal's *Agrowon*
- Blog written for Pragat Shikshan Sanstha's website
 - A Man Apart <https://pssphaltan.org/blogreply.php?blogid=602251257b6d0>
 - Our Own *Puneri Patya* <https://pssphaltan.org/blogreply.php?blogid=5e72f18e1b928>
 - Happy (?) Journey <https://pssphaltan.org/blogreply.php?blogid=59894d05899c0>
 - Trip to *Apli Shala* <https://pssphaltan.org/blogreply.php?blogid=5b04f79a5f764>

As an Editor

- Worked in the editorial team of *Palakneeti* magazine for the year 2015.
- Working in the editorial team of children's annual publication *Navneet* since 2013

As a Translator

- Translated Jane Sahi's *Everyday English Part 1 Teachers' Manual* in Marathi
- Subtitles transcription and translation for Pragat Shikshan Sanstha's educational films

Educational videos

- Reading aloud to children- two videos (English book- *There is a bird on your head* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aGELly6UrZw>)
- Modeled writing (Hindi dubbed- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5hjtGEF1qaM>)

- Towards independent writing- two videos (Part 1 Hindi dubbed- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tSbdUHmZ-gs&t=2s>)
- Let's make story books- 5 parts (Part 1- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WJWNI9Pliyg>)

Talks and Presentations

- 'Making English learning interesting for children' in Active Teachers' Forum, Maharashtra Meet, May 2017
- 'Children's Independent Writing through Book Making' in *Balshikshan Parishad* (Primary Education Conference), organized by Pragat Shikshan Sanstha, Satara, February 2020
- 'Methods of teaching online English' in a series of webinars 'Education in Lockdown' conducted by Marathi Abhyas Kendra, Mumbai, August 2020
- Abstract presentation on 'Sustaining Children's Interest in English as a Third Language during Pandemic Times' at the Online International Conference on English Language Teaching during Pandemic Times- Grappling with New Normal, organized by Regional Institute of English, South India (RIESI) & IT for Change, Bengaluru, June 2021
- 'The Effective Ways to Implement English Teaching Activities in School' at Education Conference organized by DIECPD, Phaltan, March 2023

Participation in conferences, workshops and courses

- Participation and introductory presentation in 'Consultation on early literacy and language learning' organized by the Tata Trusts, Delhi, April 2011
- *Yuva English Instructors' Training Program* by Center for Learning Resources, Pune, July 2012
- Discussion sessions organized by Indian Institute of Education, Pune and UNICEF on Early Childhood Education, March 2015
- Development Partners' Meeting (Towards all children in school and learning in Maharashtra), organized by UNICEF, October 2015
- Introductory workshop on 'Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy': theory and practice conducted by Dr. Anjali Joshi, Pune, April 2016
- A two-day discussion session on 'Education for equity and empathy' held by *Nai Talim Samiti*, Wardha, March 2017
- Two-day 'NGO Management Training workshop' conducted by the Centre for E-Governance Training and Research, Pune, September 2018
- 'State level Early Literacy Consultation' organized by Pragat Shikshan Sanstha, Pune, December 2018
- '*Bhasha Wari*' (language pilgrimage) held in Pune under the 84th PEN International Congress, September 2019
- Ten-day learning expedition for educators' certificate program 'Courage to lead' organized by Disha Education Foundation, Gurgaon, October 2019
- Seminar on 'Inclusive Education' held by Dhruv Education Foundation, Pune, November 2019
- Two-day online workshop on 'Storytelling and Child Development' by Pune based psychologist and teacher- educator Vibha Deshpande, June 2020
- Online study group sessions on 'New Education Policy 2020', September 2020

- Online International Conference on English Language Teaching during Pandemic Times organized by Regional Institute of English, South India (RIESI) & IT for Change, Bengaluru, June 2021
- Online course by Sahaj foundation on 'Reinventing Organizations- Culture for Inner-Growth', April-May 2022
- Online certificate course by Applied Theatre School on Storytelling and Narratives in Learning and Education, Jan-Feb 2023
- Participated in 3 meetings of Education Network, a group of individuals from all over India deeply engaging with questions in education.

Study visits to schools and organizations

- Visit to educational organizations (Bodh Shiksha Samiti, Digantar, Tilonia) in Rajasthan, December 2011
- Visit to School in the Cloud lab and Granny Cloud centers in West Bengal with Dr. Sugata Mitra, grannies, research educators and center coordinators, February 2016
- Visit to Viswa Bharathi Vidyodaya Trust, Gudalur, Tamil Nadu November 2017
- Visit to Timbaktu Collective, Andhra Pradesh, September 2018
- Visit to Poorna Learning Centre, Bengaluru, May 2022
- Visit to Aksharnandan school, Pune, July 2022

INTERESTS

- Philosophy of Sufi saints, especially Saint Kabir. I have attended 3 workshops by Shri Prahlad Tipaniya to learn the philosophy and traditional singing of Kabir songs. Attended two Kabir festivals in Mumbai and organized a musical program of children on the songs of Amir Khusrau <https://youtu.be/WZmxPxKky0g>
- I love writing rap songs in collaboration with children and have children sing them. Rap song of a trip to Tikona mountain <https://youtu.be/WaG3cZCMMJ4>
The rain rap <https://youtu.be/rUd3Rttz1Z0>
The farmer rap <https://youtu.be/BWk5x76sf0A>
- Singing and playing harmonium
- Learning *Kathak* dance for last 3 years
- Nature walks and trekking, photography
- Making photo-stories with music