



Jnana Prabodhini

The founder of Jnana Prabodhini Late Dr. Vinayak Vishwanath alias Appa Pendse, was an educationist, social activist and a great thinker. Swami Vivekananda was his inspiration. Swami Vivekananda tried to combine the cultural heritage of our country which expresses our identity and unity with the social awakening and organisation work required for the eradication of poverty and suffering. A number of works in India and abroad are inspired by this thought. One of such autonomous experiments is 'Jnana Prabodhini'.

A Psychologist himself, Dr. V. V. Pendse had realized, that to achieve big dreams there is a need for self-confident intelligence. He knew that those youth whose physical, intellectual and spiritual aspects of personality have taken shape, can solve the problems before independent India more efficiently. He chose the path of leadership development and leadership education for the goal of changing the face of our nation! Thus, Jnana Prabodhini was established in 1962 as an educational experiment for the intellectually gifted.

Jnana Prabodhini - "Awakener of knowledge" - a movement for motivating intelligence towards social change. What began as an academic experiment for selected students, today has created its own identity as an organization acknowledged at national and international level. This is a movement to motivate every person's intelligence for social change. As of today, departments of Jnana Prabodhini work in the following areas: Education, Research, Health, Agriculture and Rural Development, Youth Organization, *Stree Shakti Prabodhan* (Mobilisation of Women Power) and National Integration.

- Headquarter - Pune
- Sub centres - Salumbre, Shivapur, Velhe
- Centres - Nigdi, Solapur, Harali
- Extension centres - Ambajogai, Dombivali

Education

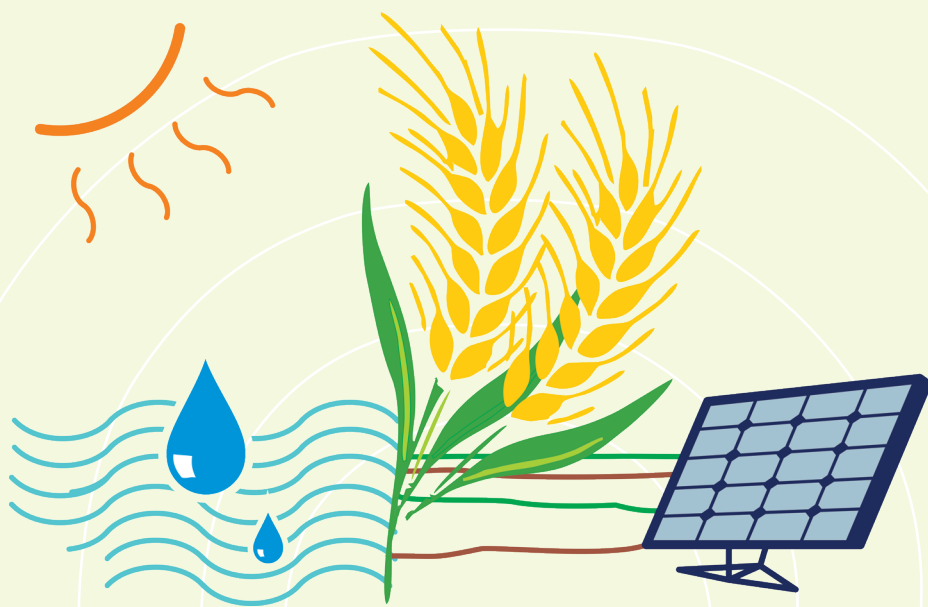
To motivate the facets of intellect of students and develop their social awareness, education has to go beyond four walls and rigid curriculum. For this, Prabodhini emphasizes on experiential learning. Recognizing that individual-development and social development go hand-in-hand, programmes like educational field trips, teaching self-study skills, rural camps, volunteering for disaster management and relief work, programs to mingle in social gatherings, chorus of inspirational songs, projects, *vidyavrat* that joins resolution with studies, curriculum based on development of *Panchakosha* (five sheaths of personality), special training to create national level players, are some of the JP's educational experiments. Developing educational resources and material, workshops for teachers, guidance for competitive examinations and camps for leadership development, training institute for pre-primary teachers and along with this publishing a magazine that delivers such educational programmes far and wide are aspects of Prabodhini's work in the field of Education.





Research

Prabodhini's Research Wing works towards finding new applications of the knowledge passed to us from ages. So that this knowledge can be used for development of mankind. Prabodhini does research work in the fields of Psychology, Sanskrit, and other Social Sciences for this purpose. Prabodhini's Research Institute has recognition of Ministry of Science and Technology, University Grants Commission and Savitribai Phule Pune University. Today, Prabodhini has several ongoing research projects in various sectors like tests based on Guilford's SOI Model of intelligence, and making revised editions of *samskar* scriptures. Workshops are conducted for people ranging from primary students to employees in companies, and workshops for teachers of the highly able, priesthood training program, *samskar* programmes from state level to international level. Members of Prabodhini are taking part in discourses on varied subjects and in many national and international level conferences.



Rural Development and Health

Prabodhini, since its beginning, has focused on all round development of villages. Entrepreneurial skill training for rural youth, natural resources development are major work areas of Prabodhini. Construction of cement nala bunds, and earthen bunds for catchment area development, farm-ponds, experiments in solar-and bio-energy, providing technical training to the rural youth, helping tribals for their livelihood, providing formal education in the field of agriculture are some activities of Prabodhini. Prabodhini has also reached remote villages through providing solar lamps. Health related work like leprosy eradication scheme during 1981 to 2003, health check-up for pregnant women, training of *anganwadi* teachers for malnutrition eradication, healthy diet plan scheme, teaching use of smokeless chulhas and water filters. has also been undertaken along with the development of natural resources. Prabodhini is also offering training to local volunteers motivated for the development of their villages and is trying to build illustrative work with their initiative.

Enhancing the organizational mind-set i.e. coming together and working as a group for achieving the common goal is the common component of solutions to all the problems before India. The main objective of the youth organization is to motivate creative and future-oriented leadership, and enhancement of the desire to achieve amongst the youth in various fields like education, research, commerce, entrepreneurship, defence, agriculture, health etc. 'Dal' which has been instrumental in reaching number of students through various aspects like sports, arts, science and enhancing their skills and organizational attitude, is the crux of the organizational efforts. Prabodhini has experienced that learning to work in groups, purposely getting involved in various social groups in the surroundings, discussing various social concerns, stretching one's own physical - psychological abilities, experiencing the thread of oneness that has bound us all together, by visiting various institutions and places in the country, prioritizing work over persons, having faith pinned in the aim, are the exposures which nurture youths so that they can contribute to realise vision of nation building.

Youth Organization



Stree Shakti Prabodhan

In Jnana Prabodhini's view, it is important for all women to be aware of their self-esteem, their participation in society and to strengthen national character among them. Not only the idea of equality is sufficient for women, but also their knowledge, skills and attitude should be developed. Keeping this in mind, Jnana Prabodhini's women volunteers are carrying out various activities for rural and urban women. Organizing rural women through self-help groups is one of the wide spread activities. Helping them in creating opportunities for their self-employment, conducting skill training through various meetings are regular activities. These women also organize various personality and leadership development programs by organizing women from various groups of the society and Health education in rural areas, family counselling, training for running *anganwadi*, publishing a bimonthly and many such activities going on today. Even graduate housewives in urban areas also come together and work for various issues. Sexuality training for students, arranging *Vidyavrat samskar* (vow of pursuit of study) and guiding students about personality development.





National Integration

From Prabodhini's perspective, motivating intellect is a work that cuts across economic, social, religious or goal-oriented boundaries. For many who can not reach to you, you must reach out to them. Initiating dialogues among various groups in the society is important work in Prabodhini's point of view. Prabodhini endeavours to imbibe all sections of society with social awareness and cultural enlightenment. Similarly, it tries to inspire and teach men and women volunteers from all strata of society. Prabodhini is reaching out in all parts of the country. From slum areas around its centres to border states, various activities like science experiments workshops, teacher training camps, online and in person for competitive examinations, personality development workshops for the purpose of national integration are conducted.

Jnana Prabodhini

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Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar	-	Former Director General, CSIR, New Delhi
Shri. K. B. (Anna) Hazare	-	Social activist
Smt. Anu Aga	-	Former MP, Entrepreneur, Social activist
Dr. Jayant Naralikar	-	Former Director, IUCAA, Pune
Shri. Manoj Naravane	-	Former Chief of Army Staff

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2. Jnana Prabodhini Medical Trust
3. Jnana Prabodhini Solapur
4. Jnana Prabodhini Shivpradesh
5. Gram Prabodhini

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2. ACIC Jnana Prabodhini Innovation Foundation

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