



# ANNUAL REPORT 2020

## SAJAG CHARITABLE TRUST

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Reg. No: Reg No. E - 10045 /T  
Kalyan, Dombivli (west)



## ABOUT SAJAG

*Kavita, seven-year-old, cried after 15 minutes she stepped into the learning centre. This continued for many days. She would sometimes leave in between the class as her house is nearby. Few students aged 7 to 8 years old from the community with SAJAG works are not going to school regularly. They went to school for one day and refused to go back because of that one day's scary experience. But these students are coming to centre every day now. Kavita never used to participate even in drawing, craft or any activities which is generally enjoyed by most students. Her only interest was to watch TV at home. After continuous home-visits, talking to her personally, now she has started coming to centre everyday and is not scared anymore of the crowd and participates actively.*

Generally, students start socialising with others apart from own family since the age of 4 through play schools. For Kavita, there has been a gap of three years because of which the impact is very high. There are more students like Kavita who are unable to attend anganwadis because unlike villages, the public anganwadis are not close-by in urban areas and private playschools are expensive.

Since both parents are working, most of the times, it is through the support of the family members, they get day care support. It is difficult to bridge the gap but not impossible with the support of a sensible and sensitive teachers. 'Child centered approach' is an important part of our curriculum.

We at SAJAG aim to address the gap of information and opportunity that many households face. We have been working with disadvantaged students of Kalyan since 2016. Our goal is to improve their learning levels through our 'Complementary Learning Model'.

ASER, a research at the national level is conducted to understand the quality of education at the state as well as national level. Report for the year 2018 shows the following data of Maharashtra.



33% Children of 5th std cannot read standard 2 text



69.8% children of 5th std are not able to division

The learning levels of urban areas where we are working are not different. To address this, SAJAG has developed 'Complementary Learning Model' to improve students' performance who are experiencing this gap.

## Complementary Learning Model

The students from poor socio economic status are mostly first generation learners. With no support from home, it becomes very difficult for students to cope with the growing academic pressure. With poor skills in reading, writing and mathematics, they face more hurdles in every subjects as well as in the coming years. We have developed our module in such a way that students are engaged meaningfully in learning. The pedagogy we use is based on language research and successful practices in India and outside. The results about the student engagement as well the learning outcomes are positive.



Our Activities Include:

- 1) Learning By Doing - through hands on experience as well through activities, students deduce the lesson.
- 2) Guided Practice - Students are supported and guided by our teachers based on their learning style and level.
- 3) Discussions, Debates, Opinions are part of our daily activities
- 4) Exposure Visits
- 5) Home Visits

Through our home-visits, we are constantly in touch with parents for follow-up. Our rapport with parents made us aware of the hardships faced by urban poor during the Covid19 and lockdown. We immediately took steps to understand the gravity of the problem. We did phone survey of family members of our students, spread the word across. We started distribution of food grains by supporting families of students who come to our learning centre.

We work with education department of Kalyan Dombivli Municipal Corporation (KDMC) as well as other stakeholders in the community. Our activities have been acknowledged by KDMC and Kalya n Vedh, a renowned local platform.

## Highlights of the Year

### 1) Setting Up Community Centre at Umbarde

The biggest challenge this year was the rehabilitation of the community we work with. Hence, we lost a couple of months in the beginning as the families had to settle. As part of our expansion of our work, we started working with one more community in Umbarde. A community centre was set-up with the support of the inhabitants. Pre-Test was conducted to understand the reading levels of the students. Based on it, the inputs were provided throughout the year. But the summative tests could not be conducted because of the Covid19 pandemic crisis.

### 2) Recognition at Kalyan Vedh Platform

SAJAG's work was recognized in a renowned stage in Kalyan, - 'Kalyan Vedh' organized by PATHEYA and IPH. The work of SAJAG was shared and Sajitha S. Kutty, co-founder of SAJAG was felicitated at the Kalyan Vedh function.

### 3) Extensive Voluntary Support

The beginning of the academic year marked a challenge of availability of teachers. But as the months unfolded, we were able to build a team of volunteers who contributed time. 7 volunteers were part of our regular activity. During Covid relief work, around 20 volunteers risked themselves to be part of this relief work.

### 4) Social Media Reach

Soham, an intern student at SAJAG helped in setting up a youtube channel. He also developed content for the channel. The content was based on the science curriculum of our students. We conducted experiments at our learning centre with the help of the video and started understanding many concepts with the help of it. In collaboration with Metafilms, we made a short documentary on SAJAG. To share our experiences, we started a blogpost -Anubhuti. Last and the latest is the SAJAG instagram account. The links of each is shared at beginning and end of the report.

### 5) Beginning of the Covid Relief Work

As the financial year neared to end and the lockdown was announced, we were unable anticipate the next steps. But as we started our conversations with our community, we understood that they had begun to feel the impact. Their daily wages were lost for that week but they like us were hoping that it will be lifted soon. Hopefully, the uncertainty will unfold soon.

## Our Accomplishment



Student's learning level is the indicator of our accomplishment. And every year, we conduct a baseline test and a summative test to understand the difference. This year, we conducted the baseline but was unable to conduct the summative because of the covid19 pandemic. Due to the improvement seen in the performance of the children, parents also demanded to support their learning to read and write. And a special hour was decided where they would come to read and write. It is now turned into a full-fledged read and write adult learning centre too. This has indirectly helped in the improvement in the attendance of students and also in their learning levels. The bonding with the community also strengthened. Its due to the community support, our distribution process was well managed and also many of our activities have started working in long distance mode.



Our work with community and about our learning models were presented in a stage with audience of more than 1000. Kalyan Vedh, a platform where faculties from various fields come and share their experience. After the programme, many of them shared their interest in learning our models. Some also visited our Learning Centre to understand the work deeper.

### Challenge

The biggest challenge ahead is the Covid 19 crisis. How it will be impact the families and how it will affect the schooling and the learning centre is still unclear. To run the learning centre in an online mode is not possible at this stage. Only 27% of our students are able to access the video content we make as they do not have android phone. The issue of accessibility of content needs to be addressed at the earliest. Otherwise the students are losing many months of their academic year.

## Our Supporters (April 19 - Match 20)

### Contributors\*

Wipro Foundation



SPARSH TRUST



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Mr. Kuttikrishnan

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Smt. Usha Pandit

Yuva Brahman Sanstha

Ms. Isha Khanna

Mr. Kuldeep More

Mr. Rohit Mehrotra

Mr. Rounak Naphade

\*All names are not included

### **Collaborations With**

Empirical Foundation

Nalanda Buddha Vihar

Balak Mandir Sanstha

Shashank BalviharVidyalay

Kalyan Dombivli Mahanagar Palika (KDMC)

Metafilms

### **Trustees**

Mr. Kiran Limaye - President

Ms. Sajitha SKutty- Trustee

Mr. Bhushan Kolte - Trustee

**Our Working Team**

Ms. Anuja Joshi

Ms. Asha Avhad

Ms. Savita Tathe

**Our Volunteer Team :-**

Ms. Asmita Mopari

Ms. Kalpana Bhor

Mr. Nikhil Patil

Ms. Priyanka Walchure

Mr. Rohan Randive

Ms. Ruchira Puranik

Ms. Sharayu Salunke

Ms. Trupti Mallickar

**Future Plans**

- ❖ A digital learning platform
- ❖ Expansion of Complementary Learning Models
- ❖ Continuing collaborations with KDMC

**Our Social Media Presence**

Facebook : - <https://www.facebook.com/sajagkalyan/>

Sajag Channel: - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OgGraMFqSk&t=1s> (documentary link)

Blogpost: - <https://sajagblog.blogspot.com/>

Instagram Account Name: **sajagtrust**