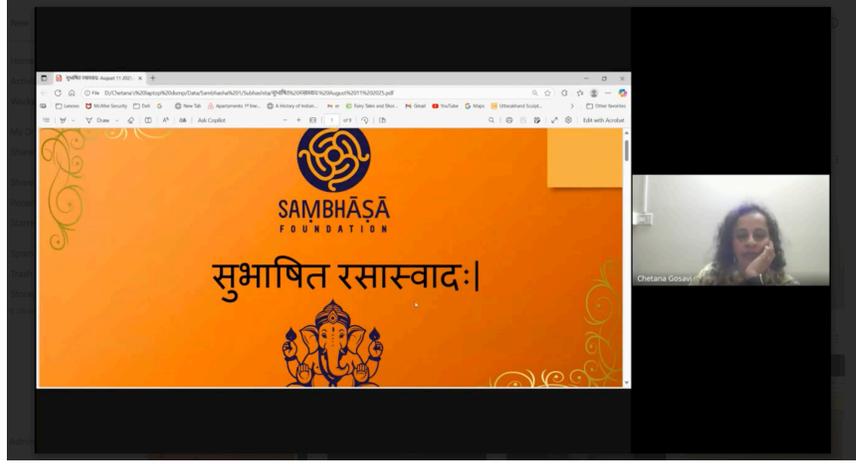


Subhāṣita Rasāsvādāna September 15 and 29, 2025

Mode - Online

Commenced on 4th August 2025, lectures Subhāṣita Rasāsvādāna are about enjoying and understanding the beauty of Sanskrit subhāṣitas, short verses that share wisdom, values, and lessons for life. The speaker explained their meanings, language, and background, showing how these verses, though written long ago, are still useful today for guidance in ethics, relationships, and daily life.

The sessions were both informative and practical, keeping the audience interested throughout. Participants not only learned more about Sanskrit literature but also experienced the joy and timeless relevance of these verses.



Introduction to Ancient Indian Iconography September 8 to October 12, 2025

Mode - Online

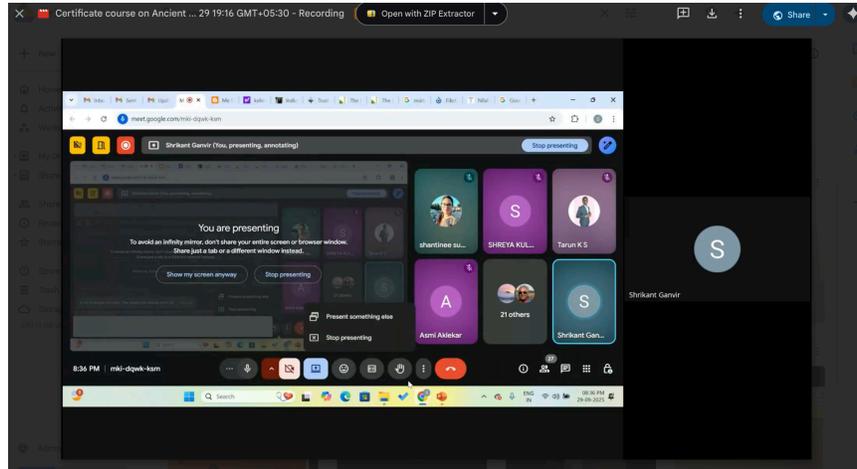
The **30-session certificate course** titled *Introduction to Ancient Indian Iconography* commenced on **8th September** and is currently ongoing. The programme is academically oriented, aiming to introduce participants to the iconographic traditions of Ancient India and to trace the development and evolution of symbols within the **Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain** traditions.

The sessions are being facilitated by an invited panel of **distinguished faculty from across India**, representing diverse specialisations in art history, archaeology, and cultural studies.

Course Objectives:

- To familiarise participants with the terminology and conceptual framework of Ancient Indian iconography.

- To explore the semiotics of forms, gestures (*mudrās*), attributes (*āyudhas*), and narrative depictions.
- To understand the evolution and development of the sculptural culture in Ancient India.
- To interpret visual material in its historical and cultural contexts.



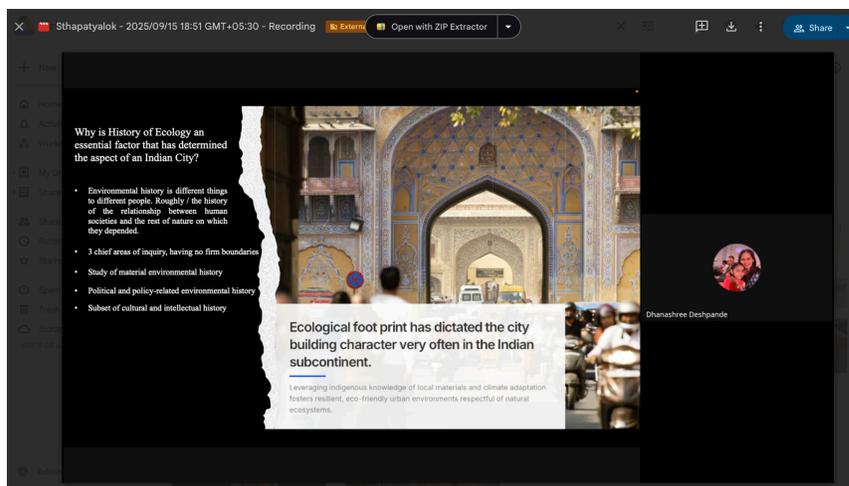
Sthapatya Loka

September 15 to 19, 2025

Mode - Online

A **5-day lecture series** titled *Sthāpatya Loka* was conducted by **Ar. Dhanashree Nigudkar**, exploring the timeless harmony between **nature and Indic architecture**. The sessions highlighted how traditional architectural wisdom was deeply rooted in ecological awareness, cultural practices, and spiritual symbolism.

The series invited participants to **step into the world of Sthāpatya Loka**, discovering how **ancient knowledge systems continue to inspire meaningful and sustainable design** in India today.



Kalakatha

September 20 and 27, 2025

Mode - Online

Sambhasha Foundation collaborated with Citi–CSMVS Museum on Wheels outreach initiative to commence the *Kalā Kathā* series in September.

Designed as an eight-session online programme, *Kalā Kathā* focuses on exploring the rich and diverse traditions of Indian arts and crafts through an interdisciplinary and child-centred approach.

The sessions aim to help young learners understand the cultural, historical, and geographical contexts that have shaped India's artistic heritage. The programme encourages curiosity, creativity, and appreciation for traditional knowledge systems while connecting them to contemporary ideas and practices.

During the month of September, two sessions were conducted:

- Session 1 (20th September): *The Story of Art* – introducing students to the concept of art, its evolution, and its role as a reflection of society and culture.
- Session 2 (27th September): *How Geography Shapes Art* – exploring how landscapes, natural materials, and regional environments influence artistic styles and craft traditions across India.

Both sessions received enthusiastic participation from students, with interactive discussions and creative activities that helped them connect artistic expression with the world around them.

Special Discussion based on the book ‘विदर्भातील विस्मृत महापाषाणीय स्थळ : खैरवाडा’

September 28, 2025

Mode - Offline

Sambhasha Foundation organised a special discussion based on the book *Vidarbhatil Vismrut Mahapashaniya Sthal: Khairwada* authored by Oshin Bamb. The event was held on Sunday, 28th September 2025 at Prabodh Sabhagruha, Jnana Prabodhini Prashala, Sadashiv Peth, Pune. The book not only makes archaeological knowledge accessible to the general public but also highlights the importance of local history and demonstrates how Marathi can serve as a language of knowledge. During the discussion, experts brought forth the rich traditions of archaeology, history, and local heritage. Key themes included the hidden megalithic contexts of Vidarbha, the significance of public archaeology, and the need for disseminating research in regional languages. The programme was presided over by Prof. G. K. Mane, while Dr. Manjiri Bhalerao and Dr. Shrikant Ganvir presented their insights as speakers. Author Oshin Bamb also shared the journey of research and writing that shaped the book.



Research Projects

PGKM School Project based learning programme ‘Exploring Maharashtra’ Grade V

Building on the success of the previous year’s project-based social science learning programme conducted with Grade VI students of PGKM school, this ongoing initiative aims to explore the impact of early experiential learning in shaping foundational social science understanding among younger learners. Observations from earlier programmes have indicated that introducing students to the study of their surroundings and their formation through activities, interaction, and storytelling significantly enriches the overall learning experience.

In response to this, Sambhasha Foundation has designed a customised curriculum titled “**Exploring Maharashtra,**” developed specifically for Grade V students, conducted with Grade V students of PGKM school. The programme adopts a project-based learning framework that connects key concepts of social science with students’ lived experiences, thereby emphasising the relevance of historical and geographical knowledge in their immediate surroundings.

The programme is being implemented in close alignment with the school’s monthly interdisciplinary themes to ensure that learning remains both meaningful and integrated. By linking social science concepts with other subjects such as environmental studies, language, and art, *Exploring Maharashtra* seeks to create a holistic and contextually rich educational experience for young learners.

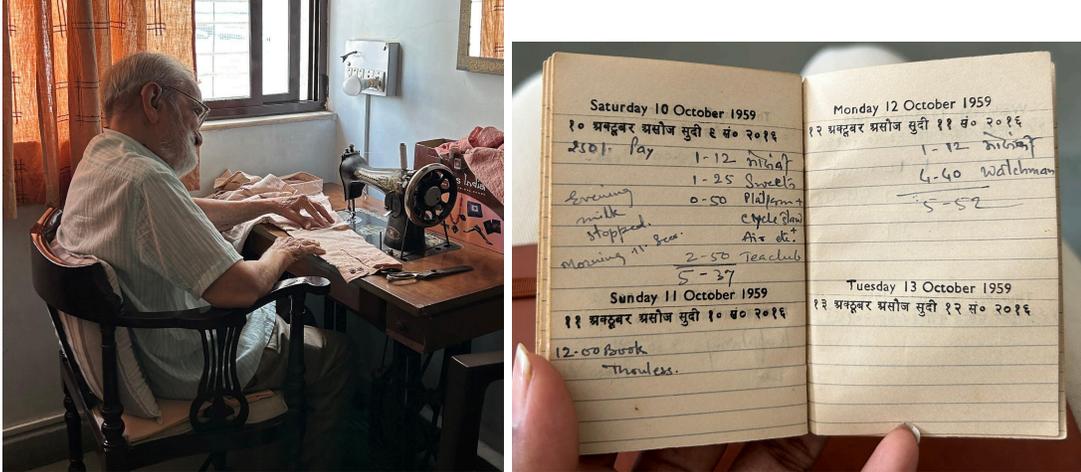
Oral History Documentation

The Sambhasha Foundation has initiated an Oral History Documentation Project aimed at preserving the narratives of prominent personalities in Pune aged 75 and above. This endeavor seeks to capture the recent past through firsthand accounts, ensuring that invaluable experiences and insights are not lost to time.

1. The project commenced with interviews of renowned psychologist **Dr. M. N. Palsane**, focusing on his personal and professional journey. In addition to recording his oral narratives, the foundation is digitizing his handwritten materials to ensure comprehensive preservation of his contributions. This initiative seeks to capture valuable insights from esteemed individuals, enriching the cultural and historical tapestry for future generations.

This month marked a significant milestone in our ongoing archival project on the legacy of Dr. M. N. Palsane. We successfully completed the transcription and translation of all recorded interviews with key individuals, including Dr. Palsane himself, his son Mr. Sudhir Palsane, daughter Dr. Vandana Palsane, and his student Dr. Mukta Puntambekar. Additionally, we digitised a newly discovered 17-page handwritten manuscript by Dr. Palsane.

2. Over the past two months, we have been documenting the life and legacy of **Late Shri Narayanrao Bodas of the Gwalior Gharana**. His handwritten notes, letters, and photographs have been digitized to preserve his personal and musical journey. This month, we also began noting insights from our conversations with **Savita Bodas**, wife of **Narayanrao Bodas**, adding valuable context to the archival material. This month we have finished compilation of all the material and data.



Ethnoarchaeological Survey of Traditional Communities in Pune Mode - Offline

The research project of the Ethnoarchaeological Survey of Traditional Communities in Pune commenced this month. Pune, often referred to as the “Cultural Capital of Maharashtra,” is home to diverse traditional communities who have preserved their ancestral professions. These professions, ranging from pottery and metalwork to weaving and making jewellery, show the rich cultural heritage of the region. However, with rapid urbanization and modernization, many of these traditions are at risk of fading away. The purpose of this project is to conduct an ethnoarchaeological survey of 10 traditional communities in Pune. The aim is to document their cultural practices, tools, techniques, and the historical significance of their professions. This study will help in understanding how these professions have evolved over time and the challenges faced by these communities today. The fieldwork is scheduled every Wednesday, when the old town is explored in search of these communities. This month, the communities like Burud (basket makers), Tambat (coppersmiths), Kumbhar (potters), and Attarwale (perfume makers) were being surveyed.

This month, we have successfully documented the traditional practices of two communities as part of our ongoing ethnoarchaeological project. The documentation has been carried out digitally, with the processes visually represented through detailed illustrations. These have been compiled into informative brochures. Additionally, the script for the documentary is in its final stages, and we look forward to beginning production soon.



River Diary Merchandise.

Designed a special Nadi Katha Diary, celebrating the stories and spirit of India's rivers. Each section is dedicated to a different river, featuring original illustrations, mythological narratives, and cultural insights that reveal how rivers have shaped India's history, faith, and daily life.

A total of 100 copies were printed as part of the Foundation's Diwali merchandise collection, offered for sale and gifting. The diary was warmly received for its thoughtful concept and artistic design, blending storytelling, tradition, and creativity.

