

3 Day Workshop - Special Academic Skills

Mode: Online

Date: 10, 11, 12 July 2026

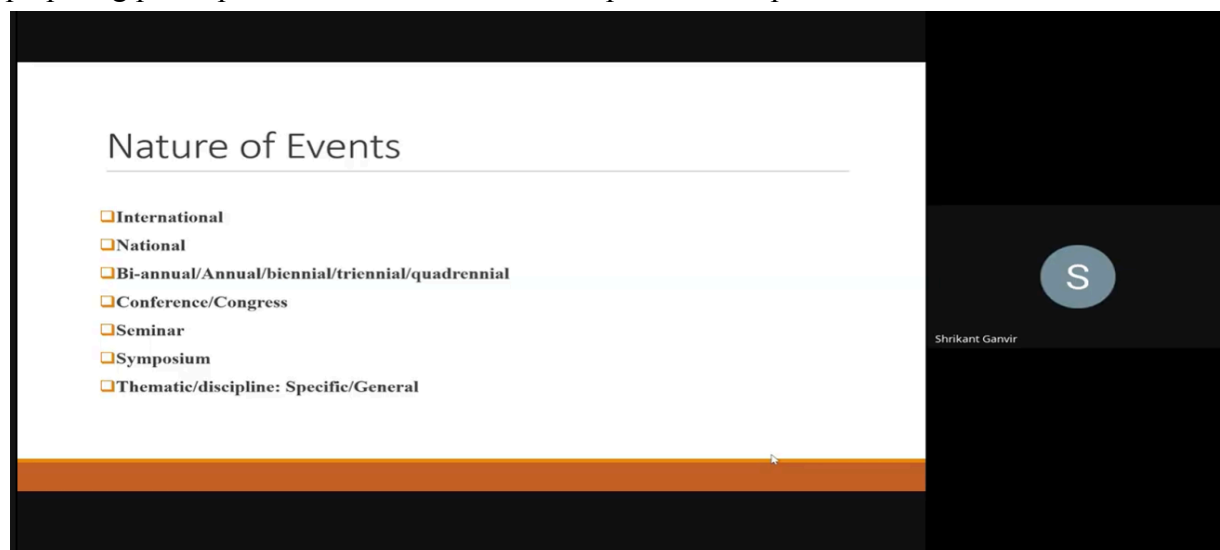
Sambhasha Foundation organised a 3-day online workshop titled "Special Academic Skills," conducted by Dr. Shrikant Ganvir. The series aimed to provide in-depth training in writing research abstracts, delivering effective academic presentations, and using proper referencing and citation practices. Each session ran from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM and was designed to build progressively on the concepts covered in the previous day.

The workshop provided participants with practical guidance on preparing well-structured research abstracts, emphasizing clarity, originality, appropriate formatting, adherence to word limits, and the importance of literature reviews and academic integrity. Participants also discussed the responsible use of digital tools and AI in academic writing.

The second session focused on effective academic presentations, highlighting the importance of clear communication, structured PowerPoint design, time management, visual clarity, and confident interaction during question-and-answer sessions. Participants were encouraged to present their research professionally while maintaining ethical standards, authenticity, and proper attribution of sources.

The concluding session addressed academic referencing and citation practices, with particular emphasis on the Chicago Manual of Style and other standard referencing systems. The workshop covered correct citation formats, the distinction between references and bibliographies, and the importance of consistency and accuracy in scholarly writing.

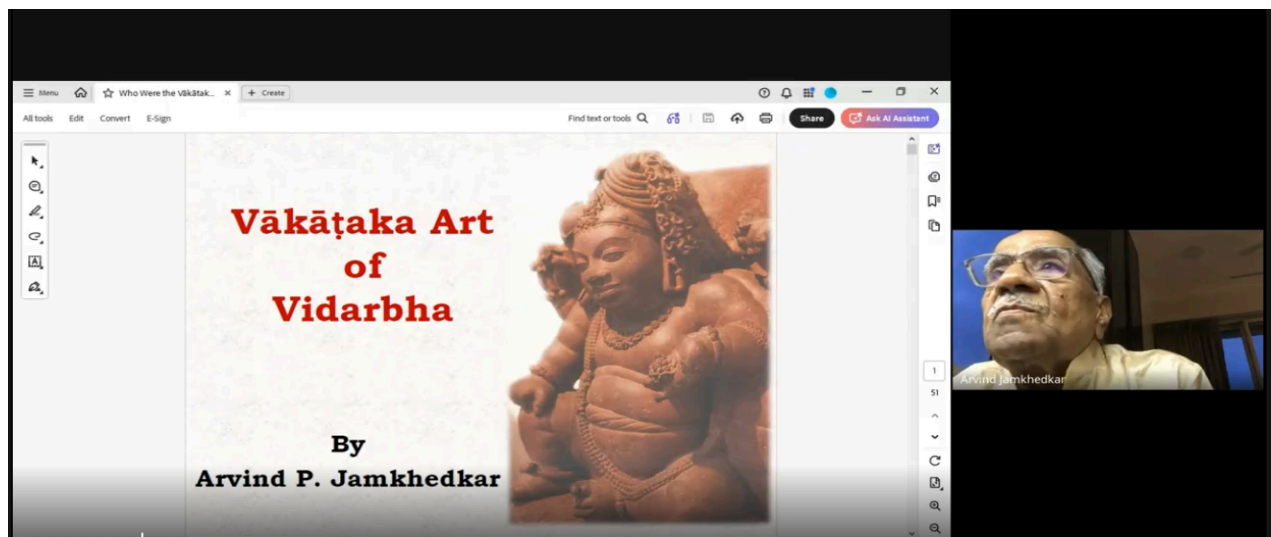
It offered a comprehensive foundation for conducting and communicating high-quality research, preparing participants for future academic and professional pursuits.



Prof. M.A. Dhaky Annual Memorial Lecture VI**Date: 31 July, 2026****Mode: Online**

As part of the **6th M.A. Dhaky Memorial Lecture Series**, Sambhasha Foundation organized a lecture on "**Vakataka Art Beyond Ajanta**", delivered by **Prof. Arvind Jamkhedkar**, eminent archaeologist and art historian. The lecture explored the artistic, architectural, and iconographic contributions of the Vakataka dynasty beyond the well-known Ajanta caves, drawing upon archaeological discoveries from sites such as Ramtek, Mansar, Mandhal, and Nagardhan.

Prof. Jamkhedkar discussed recent archaeological findings, developments in Vakataka temple architecture, sculpture, and religious traditions, while also examining the chronology of Vakataka art through inscriptions and excavations. The session highlighted the significance of Vakataka patronage in shaping early Indian art and encouraged participants to explore emerging research avenues in archaeology, art history, and temple studies.

**Research Projects****PGKM School Activity-Based Learning Programme for Social Science Grade V**

This project centered on an activity-based learning program for Grade V Social Science, aligned with the NCERT syllabus, focusing on History: Our Past I and Geography: Earth and Our Habitat. The program was designed to establish a robust foundation in Ancient Indian history and Earth sciences by integrating interactive activities that promoted independent thinking and active participation, thereby enhancing students' engagement and understanding as they progressed through the curriculum. On each Monday and Tuesday of the month, facilitators from the Sambhasha Foundation conducted interactive activities with Grade V students to enhance

their understanding of social science. In this month, students explored Maharashtra's Wari tradition and the lives of its saints, culminating in student-directed “Santa-Parampara” drama performances. The unit combined cultural learning with skills in scriptwriting, teamwork, leadership, and fair evaluation.



Documenting the Talims of Pune

An ongoing research project, to preserve the historic Talims of Pune, many of which were established during the Peshwa period. More than wrestling schools, these institutions have long served as centres of physical discipline, moral values, community life, and social leadership, playing a significant role in Maharashtra's cultural and socio-political history. In the face of rapid urbanization, modernization, and declining patronage, many traditional Talims are at risk of transformation or disappearance. Through systematic documentation of their history, architecture, oral traditions, and living practices, the project seeks to preserve this important yet often-overlooked aspect of Pune's cultural heritage for future generations.

Documenting the Sugandhis (Attar Makers) of Pune

This research project focuses on documenting the Sugandhi community of Pune—the traditional artisans engaged in attar (natural perfume) making. For generations, these families have preserved the delicate art of distilling and blending fragrances using natural ingredients such as sandalwood, rose, jasmine, and vetiver.

The project aims to explore the cultural, historical, and sensory dimensions of attar-making in Pune, tracing its journey from temple rituals and ceremonial use to everyday life, festivals, and contemporary markets. Through interviews, field documentation, photographic records, and tool

documentation, students will capture the craftsmanship, oral traditions, trade practices, and lived experiences of the Sugandhis. By preserving these narratives, the project highlights an important form of intangible heritage that connects memory, identity, and Pune's old factory and artisanal culture.

Chronological Mapping of Indian History

Understanding history through a chronological framework is fundamental to comprehending the evolution of cultures, political systems, and artistic traditions. This project focuses on developing accurate and comprehensive chronological timelines of Indian history, ranging from broad national narratives to region-specific and theme-based studies.

Students will work on creating a general timeline of Indian history as well as more focused timelines such as the Timeline of Maharashtra, Timeline of Ancient Indian Art and Architecture, and period-specific timelines covering phases like Prehistoric, Mauryan, Satavahana, or Maratha history. The project involves extensive research to identify accurate dates, dynasties, events, and cultural milestones, supported by reliable academic sources and site-specific examples.

Through this exercise, students will gain a deeper understanding of India's historical chronology while learning to analyse, verify, and visually represent historical data. The project also introduces timelines as interpretive tools that help connect political, cultural, and artistic developments across time.