

# CONTRIBUTORS' BIONOTES

# Contributors

**Ankur Anavkar** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai.

**Yojana Bhagat** is Coordinator and Asst. Professor at the Department of Pali, University of Mumbai, since its inception in 2007. She is a Vipassana meditator since last thirty five years. Her first PhD is in 'Impact of Vipassana Meditation on Buddhist Architecture' and the second in 'Mnemonics in Pali Literature' both from University of Mumbai. She represented India internationally and is associated with Oxford Centre for Buddhist Studies, Oxford. She teaches threefold pattern of pariyatti (learning through listening, reading, discussing etc), patipatti (actually practising what is being learned) and pativedhan (developing our own wisdom through experiential knowledge) as taught by the Buddha.

**Vinita Kaur Chiragia** is one of the three Co-founders of the architectural firm 'Design Jatra Architects and Planners', village -Geti pada, Mukkam Murbad, Post Vet, Taluka Dahanu, Dist., Thane. She practices environment friendly and climatically responsive architecture in the rural context in the state of Maharashtra. 'Design Jatra' focuses on self-sustained and self-reliant community development where architecture finds its way to fit within its social, culture and economical back drop. It focuses on designing houses using naturally available local materials, utilizing local skills and building a community through the activity of construction. She worked as a junior architect on various hotels and restaurants projects at Associated Architects (Ar. Mahesh Khanolkar), Mumbai-2011-12. She is visiting faculty for Architectural design at IES College of Architecture, Bandra - 2016 and 2017.

**Chhabildas Choudhari** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Geography, University of Mumbai.

**Tushar Dalvi** is a Postgraduate students of Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai.

**Juhi Deshmukh** is Assistant Professor Department of Psychology, Savitribai Phule Pune University. Her areas of research and specialization include Neuropsychology, Positive psychology, Cognitive and Clinical psychology. Juhi Deshmukh has been working on several research and consultancy projects in the field. She is Counsellor and Member at Pre-litigation Counsel, Family Court, Pune. She is also a Member of the Central and Forensic Science Laboratories, Technical and Evaluation Committee, Government of India. Juhi Deshmukh also is attached with the Sakal Social Foundation, Sakal Median Group as a counsellor.

**Nikhil Gawai** is a Ph.D. Research Scholar at Department of Geography, University of Mumbai. He has been deeply involved in the research on Geography of Exclusion and Marginalisation. He is also involved in Biodiversity conservation. He has developed expertise and specialization in Geo-Informatics after receiving training in the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun. He is working with the Konkan District Wetland Brief Documentation Committee as a GIS Specialist appointed by Honourable District Collector with the High Court Order.

**Shivkumar Iyer** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Geography, University of Mumbai.

**Santosh Jagdhane** is a Social Development Expert working in the field since last twenty two years. He is active in social development field since twenty two years and has worked with the reputed NGO's and corporates at various levels and presently, working with the Dorf Ketal Chemicals as Head-Corporate Social Responsibility. He has received training in mental health from an Institute of Psychological Health (IPH) and provides services voluntarily to various organizations and groups on Stress Management and Rational Emotive Behavioural Therapy (REBT). He has been honoured by the Word CSR Day by placing Santosh in its 8th edition on the Sustainable Development Goals – talent listing of the 101 Most Impactful CSR Leaders (A Global Listing). He has been acknowledged and conferred by His Holiness Dr Geshe Zopa on the 18th February, 2019 at Taj Lands End, Mumbai on the platform of ET Now CSR Leadership Award.

**Rajnandani Jaiswal** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai.

**Suhas Jejurikar** is a material scientist, graduated from Department of Physics, University of Pune in 2007. He worked as a research scientist at various Universities/Institutes across the world. He joined National Centre for Nanoscience and nanotechnology, University of Mumbai in July 2012. His research interests are oxide and nitride semiconductors growth, fabricating micro-nano devices, etc. He has been awarded the DST-TETRA award for his work in 2020 by Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), India

**Heena Kamble** is a poet, academic author and Ph.D in Psychology from University of Mumbai who studied the impact of mindfulness induced by long-term practice of indigenous contemplative techniques of Vipassana and Yoga in the workplace context for her PhD. She has been to Oxford and Germany for summer schools and presentations on their respective bursaries and scholarships. She has taken sessions related to Positive Organizational Behaviour and Vipassana & Modern Psychology during her PhD tenure. She is a devoted mindfulness practitioner and has been practicing Buddhist meditation in the Theravada tradition since ten years.

**Ujala Kumbhar** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai.

**Anuradha Majumdar** is Dean of Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Mumbai, has more than twenty four years of experience as an academican and scientist. She has been faculty in Bombay College of Pharmacy and her research areas is Neuropharmacology, Metabolic Pharmacology and novel drug delivery systems. Majumdar has successfully completed a significant number of Government sponsored projects including AICTE, BRNS-DAE, DBT-BIRAC, DBT, UGC Major etc. She is a consultant to Pharmaceutical and allied industries and has completed several industry sponsored projects. Recently her "Proof of Concept" on a drug delivery system platform has been selected by Cipla Ltd. in its Innoventia drive and taken up by the company for further development. She is the founding Director of the newly established Centre for Excellence in Maritime Studies.

**Shantanu Majumdar** has a Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering from the University of Mumbai. Currently he is enrolled for the Master's programme in Environmental Science in the University of Auckland, New Zealand to add to the wind below his wings.

**Ajit Menon** is currently the Head of People and Organisation for both the Bank and Wealth businesses at Investec PLC. He has over twenty years of experience working in the areas of Culture, Organisation Development, Change and Human Resource. Prior to investec, Ajit was a strategic leadership and organisational consultant. He built and ran his own organizational consulting practice, Blacklight Advisory Ltd. Delivering strategic people and organisation solutions to companies across multiple industries and geographies. He also worked at KPMG in London where he worked with financial institutions across the United Kingdom delivering large-scale change initiatives, culture advisory and organisational improvement projects. Ajit has a doctorate in Organisational Consulting is visiting faculty at Tavistock and Portman and UCL, and recently co-authored a book "What Lies Beneath: How organisations really works," (Phoenix, 2021)

**Suman Mhatre** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai.

**Kartikey Mishra** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai.

**Arpita Naik** is a PhD research student at the Department of Applied Psychology & Counselling Centre, University of Mumbai. She is a recipient of Junior Research Fellowship and has qualified the UGC-NTA National Eligibility Test, Maharashtra State Eligibility Test. She is also a language enthusiast and is currently working towards becoming proficient in the German and the Japanese language.

**Narayanan Neelakanteswaran** is Corporate Head of Project Controls, Asset Management and Risk Management in JMC Projects (India) Ltd., Mumbai. He is also involved in Business Responsibility Reporting (BRR), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practice improvement. He has over 27 years of experience in construction business, including infrastructure (highways, airports, metro rail), water supply & irrigation,

buildings & factories etc. after graduating from NIT Rourkela in Civil Engineering. JMC Projects (India) Ltd. is an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) company with over 35 years of experience in construction of buildings & factories, civil infrastructure projects (highways, flyovers, metro rail projects etc.), water supply & irrigation projects etc. both in India and abroad.

**Shruti Pandey** is a Junior Research Fellow, currently pursuing her Ph.D. from the Department of Philosophy, University of Delhi. Her work centres around the normative challenges raised by climate change as a global justice issue. She did her master's and under graduation from Miranda House, University of Delhi, and has also taught there as a Guest Assistant Professor.

**Dhanashree Patil** is a faculty of Botany at the Br. Balasaheb Khardekar College, Vengurla, Sindhudurg, an academician and scientist with strong connect with the region's sustainability concerns and biodiversity conservation mission. She is an integral part of various conservation missions in the region including the Mangrove Safari project of the Swamini Group. Swamini self-help group is uniquely executing a role model project at Mandovi, Vengurla the "Mangrove Safari".

**Pratik Patkar** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Geography, University of Mumbai.

**Shridhar Pednekar** is a Ph.D research scholar, Department of Geography, University of Mumbai. He has also worked as District wetland brief documentation committee members for the district of Raigad and Sindhudurg.

**Aparna Phadke** is Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, University of Mumbai. She has been engaged closely in innovative methods of learning to Jilla Parishad school children. She is also engaged in wetland protection movement in the capacity of expert. Currently she is working on a research project sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, IMPRESS on 'Urban Liveability'. She has Participated in national and international conferences and published in peer reviewed renowned national and international journals.

**Yashashre Pradhan** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai.

**Shaibal Roy** is President of Infrastructure Division in JMC Projects (India) Ltd, Mumbai. He is responsible for infrastructure business covering metro rail projects (elevated and underground corridors), highway corridors and flyovers, airports and other urban infrastructure projects. He has over 30 years of experience in infrastructure business, including metro rail projects (elevated corridors as well as underground corridors and stations), fly overs, highway corridors, hydro power projects etc. after graduating from Jadavpur University in Civil Engineering and masters in construction management from NICMAR Pune.

**Pragati Sahni** is an Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Delhi. She completed her PhD from the University of London and has been a commonwealth scholar. She was Visiting Professor of Indian Studies at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada in 2016. Her areas of interest include ethics, environmental philosophy and Buddhist ethics. She is the author of *Environmental Ethics in Buddhism: A Virtues Approach* (Routledge, 2008) and has co-edited *Understanding Ethics* (Macmillan, 2013).

**Swarali Sahasrabudhe** holds a master's degree in I/O psychology from the department of psychology, Savitribai Phule Pune University. She is the recipient of "The professor V.R. Kothurkar prize" for securing highest number of marks in psychology subject at the M.A. She earned her B.A. (psychology) degree from Fergusson college. She was associated as a teaching faculty for psychology at Symbiosis College (SCAC), Pune. She has also taught psychology at Indira Institute of management, Pune. She is associated as a contributory teacher at the department of psychology, and liberal arts department, SPPU. She has presented and published her work in a national conference.

**Sami Sardar** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai.

**Nisha Shah** is an Associate Professor at Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai since 2016. She has won five young scientists awards and she has nineteen publications on her name. Her field of research is Nanoscience and Pharmacognosy. She has been a member of biodiversity audit team of the University of Mumbai who

mapped and digitalised information on the biodiversity of the Kalina Campus of University of Mumbai.

**Arun Sharma** is a Ph.D research scholar at the department of Commerce, University of Jammu. His research topic is “Antecedents and Outcomes of Luxury Services Experience. He has presented paper at Symposium on Luxury Marketing and Branding organized by American University of Sharjah Dubai in Collaboration with Chalhoub Group in the year 2021. He has completed certificate course in Strategic Management and Innovation in Banking by IIBF (Indian Institute of Banking and Finance). He has also qualified as Junior Research Fellow, National and State Eligibility Test exams.

**Komal Sharma** has done her Masters and M. Phil in Psychology from the University of Jammu. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Jammu, J&K. She has presented research papers at many national and international conferences.

**Kanchan Singh** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Geography, University of Mumbai.

**Rajdeo Singh** is an Assistant Professor at St. Xavier’s college, (Autonomous), Mumbai in Botany department. His area of specialization is Taxonomy of higher plants (Angiosperms). He is also associated with several tree census of Mumbai and nearby corporations, biodiversity assessment survey, EIA projects, etc.

**Sarita Sood** is an Assistant Professor in Psychology at the University of Jammu, India. During her doctoral research, she worked on the quality of life among aged migrants. Her thrust areas are positive psychology, health Psychology, and positive organizational behavior. Dr. Sood is involved in providing training and conducting workshops for students and employees in various sectors. To her credit, she has scientific publications in national and international journals. She is a member of various professional bodies.

**Alka Talwar** is the former chief CSR & Sustainability Officer of Tata Chemicals. A CSR, Corporate Sustainability, Diversity & inclusion specialist with more than thirty five years of experience. She has worked



on the three elements of sustainable development especially in the neighbourhood and the regional governance precincts (development blocks) of Tata Chemical's operations, covering the UK, Kenya, US and all of India. She has facilitated and promoted "Responsible Manufacturing" across the geographies focusing attention on Science Based Target initiative (SBTi) climate change, energy and resource efficiency, water and waste management and Biodiversity & greening. She is the recipient of the "2019 - Leading Women Award in the excellence category " conferred by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). She has co-authored and published two papers-"Embedding sustainability in corporations" and "The new corporate citizenship and development- the mediating role of empowerment".

**Anjali Tiwari** is a Postgraduate student of Department of Geography, University of Mumbai.

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