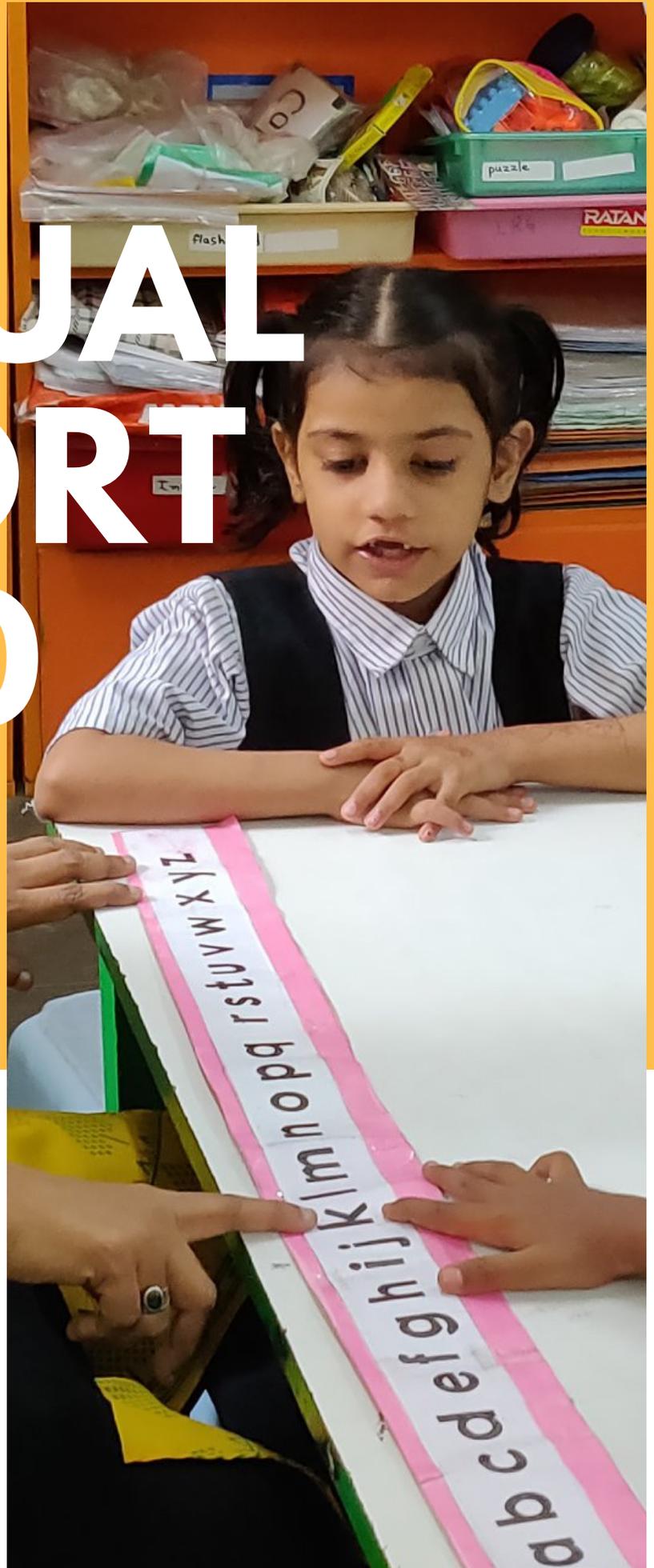


ANNUAL REPORT 2020



**MUKHTANGAN
EDUCATIONAL
TRUST**

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1155393



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



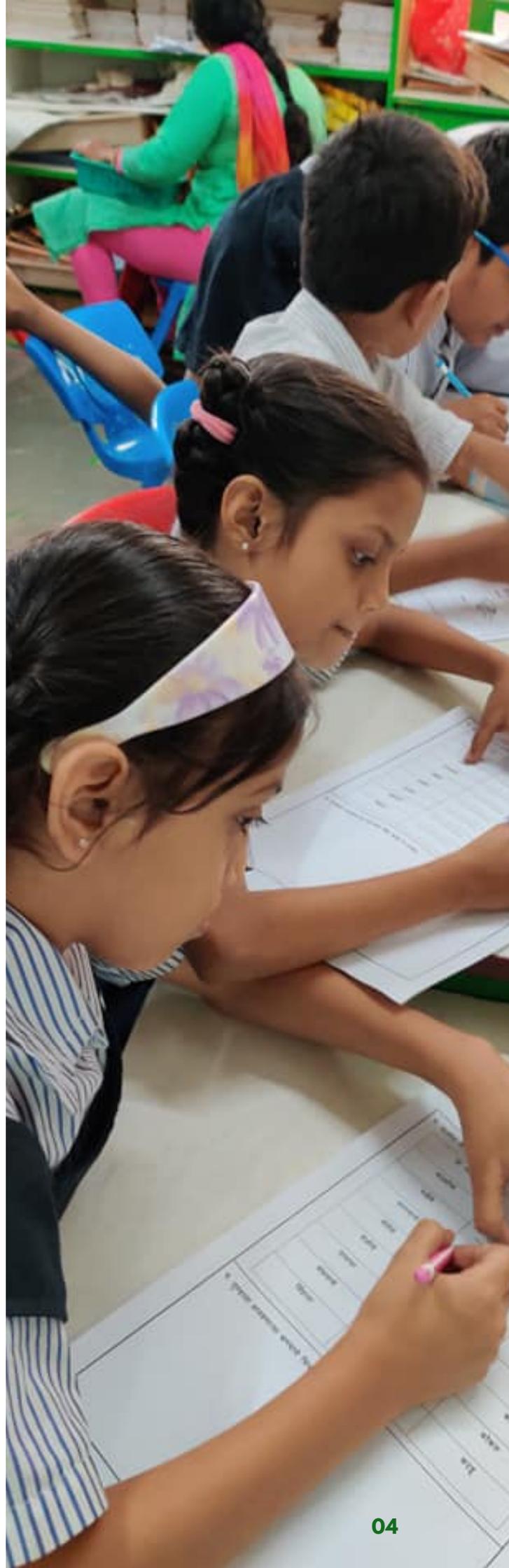
As for just about everyone, the coronavirus pandemic made 2020 an extraordinary year for Muktangan Educational Trust (the **UK Trust**). Successive lockdowns and social distancing rules made it impracticable for us to engage with our supporters in person or hold any community events during the year. Our fundraising continued nevertheless, and the online coronavirus appeal which we launched in April gathered some welcome donations. I am delighted to report that our total revenue for the year, including Gift Aid received, exceeded £97,000 which, given the severe limitations on our activities as a result of the pandemic, is a fantastic result. Our heartfelt thanks to our supporters for their generosity at a time when the pandemic placed particular strains on the Muktangan teachers and students in India. Schools there began closing in mid-March, and the Muktangan teachers worked hard to shift school assignments to digital platforms so as to ensure that the school syllabus for the year could be completed and that the students continued to receive an engaging, developmentally appropriate, quality education.

In the course of the year, the UK Trust registered with Amazon Smile. This enables our supporters who are making a purchase on Amazon to trigger a donation from Amazon to the UK Trust. This complements our registration with easyfundraising which provides a similar benefit through online purchases from other retailers.

We were delighted to welcome Monica Kohli as a new trustee in May. Monica grew up in Kolkata, read law at National Law School of India University in Bangalore and worked in Mumbai before moving to the UK. She took her Masters in law at Southampton and her MBA in Shipping from Copenhagen Business School, and currently works as a senior lawyer at one of the biggest marine insurers in the world. Her interests lie in education, gender equality and diversity. She has mentored students at another education charity in India and has been a mentor for the Prince's Trust in the UK.

During the year, we also bid a fond farewell to Aditi Surana who stepped down as a trustee in July before beginning a full-time MBA programme at INSEAD in France. We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to Patrick Montague-Jones as a trustee this month as well. We thank Aditi and Patrick very much for their invaluable contributions to the UK Trust as trustees and, before that, as volunteers. We are fortunate that Patrick will remain available to assist us as a volunteer on discrete projects. To maintain our trustee number, we will be looking to add a new trustee to our Board, who has connections in the financial sector or the education sector to help us to increase the UK Trust's income and donor base and our links with schools in the UK.

Roy Montague-Jones
March 2021





THE UK TRUST

The UK Trust was founded in 2011 to support the work of Muktangan, an educational programme run by Muktangan Education Trust, in India. Muktangan provides high-quality education to underprivileged children across seven English-medium schools and gives members of that same community a vocation, training them to be teachers. The UK Trust co-ordinates fundraising initiatives in the UK in order to support Muktangan's work in India.

The UK Trust currently comprises six trustees. Trustee meetings are held in person four times a year, with video meetings or conference calls in between, as required. Trustees are appointed for their passion for supporting the work of Muktangan in India and the skills and expertise they are able to bring to the UK Trust.

The UK Trust does not own any premises and does not run an office. All our trustees work remotely and give their time voluntarily.

Trustees receive no benefits from the charity but may claim reasonable expenses. The trustees are each appointed for a three year period. They retire by rotation at differing times (but may stand for re-election). This helps ensure long-term stability for the UK Trust.

The trustees are:

- Roy Montague-Jones, Chair
- Rodgy Kundi, Treasurer
- Abigail Gill
- Tom Wright
- Matthew Evans
- Monica Kohli

For more information about the trustees, see www.muktanganeducationaltrust.co.uk/team



IMPACT

MUKTANGAN VISION

An inclusive, empowered world in which we all live in harmony with freedom of expression, respect and integrity.

MUKTANGAN MISSION

To evolve sustainable, replicable, inclusive models of quality child-centred teacher education and school programmes in partnership with marginalised communities, and to implement them in the larger system.



7 Mukatangan schools



17 years in education



903 teachers trained



3,743 current students

UK TRUST FUNDRAISING ACHIEVEMENTS

£249,000

raised since our inception in 2011

£97,093

raised in 2020



MUKTANGAN INDIA

Muktangan was developed as an alternative model that aimed to bridge the disconnects prevalent in mainstream schooling. Supported through the Muktangan Education Trust, a charity registered under the Bombay Public Trusts Act, in partnership with the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Muktangan provides an inclusive, student-friendly, community-based model of education. Muktangan has developed into a holistic model of teacher and school education, which is working with various State departments and NGO partners to provide integrated solutions to educational disconnects, benefitting thousands of educators and children in both urban and rural settings.

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AT MUKTANGAN

The Muktangan programme runs across seven English-medium

public schools in Mumbai and caters to the individual needs of all students from pre-school up to 10th Standard (15-16 year olds). Unlike mainstream education, Muktangan is characterised by small class sizes, low pupil-teacher ratios, and classrooms which harness creativity and individuality. This education is provided free of charge.

Enforced city-wide lockdowns required all Muktangan schools, like their counterparts across the world, to close in March 2020. Despite the lockdown, Muktangan teachers were able to stay connected to 86% of the total student body through phone and WhatsApp. In 2020, 259 Muktangan students sat their Secondary School Certificate exams, 23 of whom were students with special needs. Muktangan's students secured a 99.6% pass rate and the top scorer was one of two students to secure the highest marks across all MCGM schools. In addition, 83.7% of the students scored a First Class, 9.3% of these being special needs students.

Academic success is just one component of the holistic, child-centred education that Muktangan provides, but these results are a testament to the effectiveness of Muktangan's model, the dedication of Muktangan's staff, and a lot of hard work by the students.

Muktangan continues to support its alumni even after they have finished their schooling at Muktangan. In collaboration with programme partners, Muktangan provides a structured engagement programme for its young graduates through a 'Career Ready' programme. This is a classroom-based course which covers areas such as self-awareness, clarifying career paths in chosen fields, provision of work skills and professional ethics and the provision of professional mentorship. Internship and placement opportunities are also provided.

During the pandemic, in collaboration with Project Mumbai's 'Smiles' programme, Muktangan has hosted a series of guided webinar group discussions for alumni to facilitate peer group support and to provide practical coping strategies aimed at helping these youngsters effectively adapt to the trying times to come.

TEACHER EDUCATION AT MUKTANGAN

Muktangan has an in-house teacher education programme in Mumbai which supports the development of people, mainly women, from the local community. Prospective teachers are invited to an assessment, with successful applicants being inducted into either the Foundation for Primary School programme or the Early Childhood Education for pre-school programme. They then complete a year of pre-service training, before entering the Muktangan schools to continue their training for a further two years. Muktangan's teacher education is provided free of charge. Muktangan's Educator Development Programme continues to flourish and its impact has been enhanced through the continuing partnership with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences - School of Vocational Education (TISS-SVE).

MUKTANGAN'S WIDER IMPACT

Muktangan also undertakes outreach initiatives. These take shape through special projects and workshops designed to help roll out Muktangan's educational model and spread understanding of its benefits. Muktangan has been leveraging new

digital platforms and revitalising partnerships with public and private entities in the context of formal education and vocational development.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT TOOLKITS

Muktangan has launched Early Childhood Education Toolkits which are aimed at supporting pre-school educators and parents with an easy-to-implement daily routine that equips children aged 3 to 6 with the pre-concepts and social skills required for entering primary school. The toolkits were physically launched through project partners, Learning Space Foundation and Govardhan Eco Village, followed by a digital launch through Muktangan's internally developed extension website, <https://toolkits@muktanganedu.org>. This website also contains a myriad of digital educational resources for parents and teachers to support student learning at home during the COVID-19 lockdown.

CURRICULUM RE-DESIGN AND NATIONAL IMPACT

During the last academic year, Muktangan completed their re-design of the entire course content for all three progressive work integrated levels of the Tata Institute for Social Sciences (TISS) Bachelor's Degree in Vocational



Education (B.Voc) for Early Child Development (ECD). These qualifications equip applicants to secure a position, at level one, as a pre-school teaching assistant, at level two, as a pre-school head teacher and, at level three, provides applicants with the pedagogic expertise and management skills to set up and run their own pre-school. The re-designed ECD curriculum is now being implemented in 15 TISS hub centres in five States across India with 396 applicants enrolled.

IMPACT ON RURAL EDUCATION

Muktangan's Early Learners Development Programme (ELDP) was concluded in 2020. This is a community-based model of capacity building for Anganwadi workers aimed at bringing about a sustainable change in the way pre-school education is delivered in rural Maharashtra.

22 facilitators provided by in-field partners, Learning Space Foundation, were developed into Master Trainers who cascaded Muktangan's model down to 501 ICDS Anganwadi workers. During its course, the programme provided 6,746 children in rural Palghar with developmentally appropriate education, and the model's sustainable nature will ensure it impacts many more in the future.

Under the English Language Development Programme for Vernacular Primary Schools (ELD-VPS), Muktangan supported facilitators from 18 clusters in the district of Bhiwandi with pedagogic skills for English language teaching and learning. These facilitators then conducted training workshops and provided in-classroom support to 138 primary grade teachers from 128 Zilla Parishad schools over a three year period. They also boosted community interest in school education by organising education fairs which were attended by more than 1,000 locals. This programme will immediately benefit 6,136 rural school children and their successors who are enrolled at these schools.

MCGM EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT

Muktangan has also been working on educator development within MCGM schools, to create a sustainable model of in-service educator professional development within public sector schools specifically located in the vicinity of Mumbai's most under-served communities.

Muktangan faculty have been sharing their subject matter expertise and developed pedagogic process skills with 127 educators - 87 from the primary and 40 from the pre-school sections of the 25 selected schools. These educators



have been empowered with innovative constructivist pedagogy and techniques for lesson design and development, building budget teaching aids, child observation and other formative assessment techniques.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Muktangan has been in partnership with Singapore International Federation (SIF) over three years to create a collaborative platform for experienced Early Childhood Education (ECE) professionals to connect and share best practices and design a high-quality, scalable ECE curriculum inclusive of professional development tools, educator appraisal systems and effective monitoring-feedback systems. Participants from 10 ECE-focused organisations have attended a series of workshops hosted by Muktangan and facilitated through SIF by ECE expert volunteers from across the globe.

The final outcome of this collaboration, an enhanced Muktangan ECE-Primary bridge curriculum, benchmarked to international standards will be released in 2021.

For more information about Muktangan in India and its work, see www.muktanganedu.org.



VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEERING IN THE UK

The UK Trust is always looking for new people to help our organisation grow.

This year, we were delighted to receive expert support from Rob Wilkinson, a former consultant to non-profit organisations in the areas of strategic planning, funding and project management, who delivered focused training to the trustees on writing fundraising proposals. Rob has worked at a number of charities during his career, including Save the Children, Plan, VSO, CAFOD, Merlin, Amnesty and ActionAid, and he also assisted us in reviewing a range of our fundraising materials.

We were also delighted to welcome Michael Cutts as a volunteer. Michael spent three years at Muktangan in Mumbai a few years ago where he was involved in a wide range of activities, from fundraising to teaching a range of subjects and leading art projects. Michael has been assisting us in our fundraising efforts and with communications ideas.

VOLUNTEERING IN INDIA

We also facilitate student placements in India, for UK students at Muktangan. Our volunteers fulfill a range of roles, teaching Muktangan students, training teachers or conducting crucial research. They provide a significant value-add for Muktangan's schools programme and advocacy efforts.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Years to 31 December

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Incoming resources	£	£	£	£	£
Monthly donors	2,876	2,988	3,490	4,049	4,142
Other donations	94,203	58,124	25,486	467	1,461
Fundraising events	-	1,240	9,470	14,103	3,290
Card sales	5	425	545	640	522
Other income	9	12	6	7	-
Total incoming resources	97,093	62,789	38,996	19,266	9,415
Resources expended					
Charitable activities (Muktangan India)	69,985	70,000	20,000 ¹	- ²	5,420
Fundraising and cost of events	-	1,040	4,384	4,151	2,789
Governance costs	1,544	1,432	1,261	681	614
Total resources expended	71,529	72,472	25,645	4,832	8,823
Net incoming/ (Outgoing) resources	25,564	(9,683)	13,351	14,434	592
Total funds b/forward	23,374	33,057	19,706	5,272	4,680
Total funds c/forward	48,938	23,374	33,057	19,706	5,272
Total charity funds	48,938	23,374	33,057	19,706	5,272

1. In February 2019, we transferred a further £15,000 to Muktangan India.

2. In February 2018, we transferred £10,000 to Muktangan India.



WWW.MUKTANGANEDUCATIONALTRUST.CO.UK



[@MUKTANGANUK](https://www.instagram.com/muktanganuk)