

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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**MUKHTANGAN  
EDUCATIONAL  
TRUST**

**REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1155393**



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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Lockdowns and social distancing rules once again prevented us from engaging with our supporters in person in 2021 and from holding any community events during the year. Our fundraising in 2021 did not match the level of our record year in 2020, but I am very pleased to report that the UK Trust still raised over £34,000 during the year, including Gift Aid received, and our thanks go out to our donors for their continuing support during these testing times. These funds have been extremely welcome in a period during which Muktangan's schools in Mumbai have had to continue to contend with the impact of the COVID pandemic. In periods of enforced absence from school, the Muktangan teachers organised many kinds of virtual activities with the help of technology to assist the children to

continue learning and to harness their potential and draw out their talents.

During the year, the UK Trust helped create a connection between Shaftesbury Park Primary School in London with Muktangan in Mumbai. This has led to a cultural exchange with a Reception class from Shaftesbury Park and Muktangan through a number of online sessions for the children on the culture of Maharashtra and festivals such as Diwali and Makarsankranti and traditional art from Maharashtra. The children also learned to make rangolis, Indian sweets and kites. Links between a Year 5 class at Shaftesbury Park and Muktangan are also being discussed.



With respect to trustees, we bid farewell to Matthew Evans who stepped down as a trustee in the summer with his job relocating to Florida. At the same time, we significantly strengthened the trustee board with the appointment of four new trustees, John Williams, Sreeja Nedungadi, Prasad Khambalika and Rishi Chowdhury. I am delighted to welcome each of them to the team. You can read more about John, Sreeja, Prasad and Rishi on our website at [www.muktanganeducationaltrust.co.uk/team](http://www.muktanganeducationaltrust.co.uk/team).

**Roy Montague-Jones**  
**March 2022**



# THE UK TRUST

The UK Trust was founded in 2011 to support the work of Mukhtangan, an educational programme run by Mukhtangan Education Trust, in India. Mukhtangan 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 Mukhtangan's work in India.

The UK Trust comprises nine trustees. Trustee meetings are held four times a year, either in person or by video or a combination of both. Trustees are appointed for their passion for supporting the work of Mukhtangan 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
- Monica Kohli
- John Williams
- Sreeja Nedungadi
- Prasad Khambalikal
- Rishi Chowdhury

For more information about the trustees, see [www.muktanganeducationaltrust.co.uk/team](http://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

The creation of sustainable, inclusive, integrated models of student-friendly teacher and school education, in partnership with under-served communities, demonstrating ways of overcoming identified disconnects in the mainstream system.



7 Muktangan schools



18 years in education



3,700+ current students

## UK TRUST FUNDRAISING ACHIEVEMENTS

# £283,000

raised since our inception in 2011

# £34,330

raised in 2021





# 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's G-South ward and caters for 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 to students.

The primary challenge for Muktangan in the era of COVID was to ensure that every child continued to have access to education. Access to technology was a challenge for many families in the Muktangan community. Muktangan raised funds to provide smartphones for students and teachers and also assisted the

MCGM in distributing textbooks and food grains to ensure that the nutritional needs of the students' families were met. Muktangan adopted 'Distance Learning Methodologies', engaged with students through interactive platforms and staff were able to stay connected with 87% of the students and their families. Learning from home required a huge adjustment for the children, and Muktangan staff channelled their efforts to help them cope with the uncertainty and handle the situation with resilience.

3,376 children attended Muktangan's online school and 259 students appeared for the Secondary School Certificate exam in 2021, of whom 11 were students with special needs. Muktangan's students secured a 100% pass rate. In addition, 69.4% of the students were awarded a First Class or above and three students scored 92% or above.

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 and over 1,100 former students are part of the alumni network.

In collaboration with programme partners, Muktangan provides a structured engagement programme for its young graduates through a 'Career Ready' programme. This is a 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.

## **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

Through outreach initiatives and partnerships with State and local government, NGOs and academic institutions, both local and international, Mukangan has reached out to 72,000+ children and 5,000+ teachers and teacher educators across India.

### Partnership with ECHO India

Exchange of knowledge has helped Mukangan address educational issues at grassroots level. It was a huge transition for students to adapt to digital learning and interacting virtually with their teachers and peers. It was vital to ensure that students were motivated and felt supported during this process. Mukangan partnered with ECHO India, a non-profit which works to help build capacity and bridge gaps in under-served communities in a number of sectors including education, and collaboratively launched a project on student engagement strategies for Grade 5 and 6 teachers across all seven Mukangan schools.



## **School Transformation Project with MCGM**

In the year 2020-21, Muktangan partnered with the MCGM under the Darjaonnati project to extend support to the staff of 18 MCGM schools from kindergarten to 4th Grade. Muktangan actively participated in the teaching process in these MCGM schools and offered support to design teaching-learning strategies in the classroom. Muktangan also encouraged partnership with parents in the education process. This led to a significant improvement in the MCGM teachers' lesson planning strategies, use of Teaching-Learning Materials (TLM) and student engagement activities.

## **G-South Unique Schools Project**

The G-South Unique Schools Project involved 19 MCGM schools in the G-South ward of Mumbai with a total of 1,500 students. The MCGM teachers benefitted through sharing of learning resources and enhanced their knowledge on teacher perceptions, 21st-century skills, parent and child engagement, assessment, planning and organization, subject-specific pedagogy and educational theories. The teachers were then able to transfer their learnings to their own classrooms.

## **Innovation Through Research**

Muktangan has been recognized for its knowledge and expertise in the field of Early Childhood Care and has received numerous opportunities to present at National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conferences. Muktangan has presented at NCERT on its innovative processes in Early Childhood Education. Muktangan's ECD leaders have worked in collaboration with NCERT to develop activities and worksheets for Foundational Stage 1 (pre-Year 1) under India's New Education Policy, which was adopted in 2020, and the 3-month preparatory modules for Goal 1 which is centred on children's wellbeing and health.

In addition, members of Muktangan's research team presented a paper on "DiCOT- A Tool for Implementation of Differential Learning Strategies in Indian Middle-School Classrooms" at the international conference organized by the Regional Institute of Education in Bhopal in collaboration with NCERT.

For more information about Muktangan in India and its work, see [www.muktanganedu.org](http://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 continued to benefit from inputs from Michael Cutts as a volunteer. Michael has previously worked at Mukhtangan in Mumbai.

## VOLUNTEERING IN INDIA

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



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Years to 31 December

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
Monthly donors	2,008	2,876	2,988	3,490	4,049
Other donations/ Gift Aid	32,318	94,203	58,124	25,486	467
Fundraising events	-	-	1,240	9,470	14,103
Card sales	-	5	425	545	640
Other income	4	9	12	6	7
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>34,330</b>	<b>97,093</b>	<b>62,789</b>	<b>38,996</b>	<b>19,266</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Charitable activities (Muktangan India)	30,048	69,985	70,000	20,000 <sup>1</sup>	- <sup>2</sup>
Fundraising and cost of events	-	-	1,040	4,384	4,151
Governance costs	1,833	1,544	1,432	1,261	681
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>31,881</b>	<b>71,529</b>	<b>72,472</b>	<b>25,645</b>	<b>4,832</b>
<b>Net incoming/ (Outgoing) resources</b>	<b>2,449</b>	<b>25,564</b>	<b>(9,683)</b>	<b>13,351</b>	<b>14,434</b>
Total funds b/forward	48,938	23,374	33,057	19,706	5,272
Total funds c/forward	51,387	48,938	23,374	33,057	19,706
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>51,387</b>	<b>48,938</b>	<b>23,374</b>	<b>33,057</b>	<b>19,706</b>

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](http://WWW.MUKTANGANEDUCATIONALTRUST.CO.UK)



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