

2024 VOLUME 1



# Teacher

CONNECTION

## ONE YEAR OF TEACHER CONNECTION

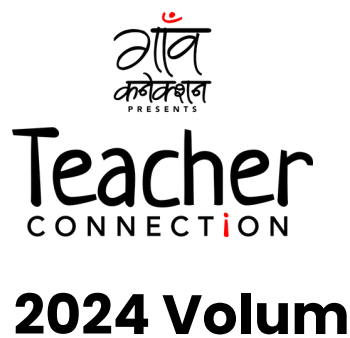


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# Editorial



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The Bible contains a story in which Jesus tells his disciples: “Individuals should be like a mustard seed. Though smaller than all other seeds, when it falls on the Earth, it grows into a large plant. Some seeds even give birth to trees that provide shelter for birds.”

Throughout history, great personalities have imparted this wisdom. Today’s exemplary gurus strive to convey the same message: irrespective of time and place, the first step to becoming a good and enlightened individual is to cultivate the knowledge - like seeds - in the soil of one’s mind. Our country has had a great tradition of the guru-shishya (teacher-student) relationship. While it may have evolved from Vedic times, its essence remains unchanged—an unbroken chain of mentorship and sharing knowledge.

This issue features true stories that offer valuable lessons for other teachers and gurus. On January 3, 2023, the Teacher Connection project was launched on the occasion of Savitribai Phule’s birthday. Over the past year, it has brought forth narratives of teachers from every corner of the country—be it the teachers from Kashmir and Tamil Nadu or those teaching in tribal schools nestled in the jungles of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand.

These teachers, who once documented their experiences in diaries, are now actively participating in the Teacher Connection initiative to share their experiences, aiming to inspire other educators. Regardless of the location, the need for good teachers and positive thinking is universal.

An ideal guru is not merely an instructor but also a companion who guides us on the path to becoming our best selves. This issue of Teacher Connection is dedicated to such educators.



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Dear Diary





## Naming the Library after Savitribai Phule in My Village Wasn't Easy

**The library in the village hosts books from renowned authors and poets, as well as those from new writers. That's why during summer vacations, monsoons, or the biting cold of December-January, children come here after school.**

**Manvendra Singh**

Every day, after returning from school, 12-year-old Muskaan Bano rides her bicycle about one and a half kilometers from her home through fields and rough paths to reach the library. She spends two to three hours reading there.

In this library, Muskaan isn't the only one; children from several nearby villages come daily to read poetry and stories alongside their school books. Muskaan Bano, studying in the seventh grade, says, "I enjoy reading poetry along with my textbooks. Nowadays, I'm reading a book of ghazals called 'Harf-e-Awara.'"

The library Muskaan visits is the Savitribai Phule Pustakalaya in Agresen village of Amethi district, Uttar Pradesh. Its inception was initiated by the principal of Upper Primary School, Narayanpur, Amethi, Mamta Singh. However, when she started it on January 3, 2018, she faced opposition.

It started with the name. Reflecting on the inauguration of her library in the village on January 30, 2018, Mamta Singh recalls how she faced objections after she decided to name it after the great social reformer and India's first female teacher, Savitribai Phule. Despite resistance from villagers and her family, she stood firm.





"There was talk in the village about why name the library after Savitribai. They suggested naming it after my mother or something else. But I'm a bit stubborn. So, without listening to anyone, the library was inaugurated very successfully on January 3, 2018," shared Mamta Singh, the principal of Upper Primary School, Narayanpur, Amethi.

**You might wonder why a principal of a government school felt the need to open a library in the village, curate books, and manage it, especially one that remains open 24 hours and is entirely free.**

Mamta Singh always had a keen interest in education from childhood, growing up in a progressive family environment that valued education and studying at home. Her parents were both teachers. Reminiscing about those days, she says, "I always dreamt of having a room filled with books from top to bottom. But I never knew that could also be a library."

She emphasizes the support she received from her brothers, who consistently encouraged her. Mamta Singh pursued private education, completed graduation and post-graduation, and even qualified for competitive exams like the UPSC preliminaries, all due to her brothers' support.

Soon after her marriage, at her brother's insistence, she appeared for the BTC exam, got selected, and in 2002, began her teaching career. However, she never imagined becoming a teacher. Reminiscing about those days, Mamta says, "To be honest, becoming a teacher was not my plan. I got married right after graduation, and my brother filled the BTC form for me because it was considered a good job for girls, compared to making them doctors or engineers, which were costly and time-consuming."



Mamta Singh was well aware of the importance of education and books. That's why her village is different today, with people here having developed a liking for visiting the library and reading good books.

She proudly tells Teacher Connection magazine, "People here stay updated; when they hold a book that's in the news or discussed in newspapers, they feel they're reading something significant."





## Your classmate could be 5 years, or 80, in this music class



The echo of classical music resonates from a distance. On the wall of a room, there are pictures of musical stalwarts such as Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, Pandit Rajan Sajan Mishra, Hariprasad Chaurasia, Bismillah Khan, Pandit Ganesh Prasad Mishra, and others.

This is 'Omkaar' Pandit Ganesh Prasad Mishra Music Academy located in Hazratganj, the capital of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow. Here, Varun Mishra, a guru from the Banaras Gharana, teaches classical music to his disciples. There is no age limit here; that's why people from 5-year-old kids to 80-year-old elders come to learn music.

**It is said that knowledge cannot be obtained without a guru, and there is no age for learning. This is why at Varun Mishra's music class, students come to learn from 5-year-old children to 80-year-old elders.**

On his musical journey, Varun Mishra says, "Music is something to be shared. If you learn music for years and then don't share it with anyone, it will fade away. Today I am here, tomorrow I may not be, but someone will sing my music. In this way, my music will become immortal."

Varun Mishra received his musical education from his grandfather and father. Just as the propagation of music has occurred from one generation to another in their family, Varun also teaches others. Surrounded by his disciples, Varun asserts, "I was exposed to music from a very young age. I belong to a gharana, the Banaras Gharana, from where great maestros have emerged."

"My first guru was my grandfather, Pandit Neelesh Prasad Mishra. He was the principal of Bhatkhande Music University, which was initially a college. My father, Pandit Vidyadhar Mishra, was a senior professor at Allahabad University," continued Varun.

With pride, Varun talks about the pictures of musical legends on the walls of his home, saying, "I received musical training from my grandfather and father, but I have hung pictures of those from whom I have learned a lot."



"Firstly, my grandfather, Pandit Rajan Sajan Mishra, was my idol. I learned a lot from him. Then there are Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, Pandit Rashid Khan, whom I have been listening to since childhood. I kept learning from them and tried to absorb their essence. With the blessings of such individuals, we started and are working hard. We are still learning today," Varun further explained.

Varun says, "Whatever we have learned in music, our endeavor is to disseminate it across the country and abroad, especially classical music, which is our heritage and culture. That's why I started 'Omkaar' Pandit Ganesh Prasad Mishra Music Academy in my grandfather's name. I run it both online and offline, with two branches of offline classes operating in Lucknow."

In Varun's online class, students from countries like America and Australia, besides London and Dubai, participate. He states, "I haven't defined any age limit; people ranging from 5 to 80 years old learn from me. It's the blessings of gurus that the academy started, and students kept coming." When Varun sees his students progressing, he feels a different kind of joy. He shares, "I am most pleased when I teach someone something, and they sing it in a well-balanced manner. They start receiving appreciation from others, and they start getting work. That's when I feel my hard work gave results."





# *Hola!* Children in this UP village speak Spanish as well



**In a village in Uttar Pradesh, children are now mastering Spanish alongside basic arithmetic—counting one-two-three and uno, dos, tres. This unique addition is turning the village into a sought-after destination for tourists.**

When asked her name, Sejal Sahu confidently responds in Hindi, English, and Spanish, "*Mi nombre es Sejal Sahu*," translating to 'My name is Sejal Sahu.' You might wonder where the children are acquiring their Spanish skills.

Located about 30 kilometers from Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh, Rizwan Khan conducts classes teaching Hindi, English, and Spanish to children. Enthusiastic learners like Sejal flock here daily after their regular school hours to immerse themselves in the Spanish language.

Rizwan, an LLB graduate, explained his motivation to Gaon Connection, saying, "I aimed to build a career in Hindi. So, I decided to create my platform using the internet. That's when I began teaching Hindi. However, when I checked YouTube, there were many channels teaching English to Hindi speakers, but none for Spanish."







Consequently, Rizwan chose the unconventional route of teaching Hindi through Spanish, but first, he had to embark on his own Spanish learning journey to effectively impart this knowledge.

Initiating his Spanish education online, he expanded his network, making friends worldwide. His teaching journey commenced during the COVID era. Recalling those times, Rizwan shared, "During COVID, I used to take a laptop outside and teach the kids. Some children would come and watch, trying to decipher the language we were conversing in. Gradually, more children started joining in."

Following the pandemic, tourists began frequenting the area. Some visitors do not speak English, yet they express immense delight when children converse with them in Spanish, their native tongue. Rizwan pioneered rural tourism, attracting visitors from diverse countries to experience the culture and vibrancy of the locale. He remarked, "People seek a different perspective in tourism. Before COVID, the world was different, and now it's different. During COVID, vlogs mainly showcased India in Delhi, Jaipur, Agra, and I thought everyone is offering the same; why not showcase something distinct?"

Continuing, he added, "My presence during COVID allowed me to showcase my village's lifestyle, traditions, and festivities on YouTube. As it reached a global audience, they appreciated this unique way of life, distinct eating habits, and the overall contentment here."







## *Aajibaichi Shala: A school for grannies is letting women live their dream*

**The school was founded in 2016 in Fangane village in Maharashtra by Yogendra Bangar. These 'students' wear their bright pink saree-uniforms and come to school**

“The idea for Ajjibainchi Shaala came to me in February 2016, when we were celebrating Shivaji Jayanti,” says the founder Yogendra Bangar, when asked about how the idea for a grandmothers’ school came about. His voice is warm at the other end of the phone, his tone earnest.

He goes on to say: “The ladies in the village were reading out of a paath , and I heard the senior women say that they wished they, too, could read the text. That’s when I suggested the idea of a school for them, and the whole village rallied behind me.” It is clear he is excited at the memory of their eagerness years later. The simplicity of his idea and his earnestness is striking.



Ajjibainchi Shaala, the only school to be named after its students, was founded on March 8, 2016; on International Women's Day in Fangane village in Maharashtra. Bangar, an activist and the zila parishad teacher of the Motiram Dalal Charitable Trust, was the brains behind the initiative. The school had a simple name, it was set up by a simple man, and the idea was also simple. However, the simplest of ideas are somehow always the most life-changing. This was a school set up solely for elderly women of Fangane, who wished to be able to pick up pencils as their children and grandchildren did and sign their names.

**This was a school set up solely for elderly women of Fangane, who wished to be able to pick up pencils as their children and grandchildren did and sign their names**

The Ajjibainchi Shaala is one of a kind school. It makes a lifelong dream come true for the ajjis (grandmothers). "Now when I'm asked in heaven what I did with my life, I'll say I learnt to sign my name," says one of the ajjis (grandmothers) with a proud smile as she looks straight into the camera, unafraid. And, why not? After all, she is now a lettered woman. Only a few women living in rural India, and of her age, can boast of the same. She has overcome. She has triumphed over society, circumstance. She has the glance of a woman who has achieved her dream, the one who can say "Yes, I did it!"

Bangar, who garnered great encouragement from families across Fangane, first took up the task of setting up the school in two living rooms in a house in the village, which remains open for only two hours a day — from 2 pm to 4 pm. His efforts have brought alive the wish that the village ajjis had thought impossible.

Today, they wear bright pink saree-uniforms and head to school together to learn their rhymes, math, alphabet, and art — and like any other students, complain about homework and tests. They are living a life they never had access to. Pretty in pink, sprightly of step and wide toothy and toothless smiles are what their Sundays are about now.

The Ajjibainchi Shaala broke the mould and sent a shockwave of hope through not just Fangane, but all of India. It sparked inspiration in a number of other communities across the country and has given a generation who would never normally have had access to crucial knowledge of letters, numbers, hygiene, sanitation and basic rights.

The ajjis today walk proudly; they answer the phone, speak up at village meetings, understand the papers that they sign and perhaps, most important of all, push the inkpads away, pick up a pen and sign their names. It's a kind of respect and dignity that rises above age, gender and status, and makes them equals. Ajjibainchi Shala is a Maharashtrian grandmother's lesson to all of India, and it's one of India's proudest stories.





When his younger sister was forced to drop out of school, Arvind Oraon set up a school in his remote tribal village in Jharkhand. The Kartioraon Adivasi Kurukh School has been a game changer in preserving indigenous languages.

## A village school where students learn science and math in their tribal Kurukh language

**Pratyaksh Srivastava**

The prospect of his younger sister having to drop out of school after class five, pushed a young man, Arvind Oraon, to set up the Kartioraon Adivasi Kurukh School in his village Manglo in Garhwa district in Jharkhand.

Arvind Oraon was only 20 years old when he set up the school in 2008. Today, about 300 tribal children study here. Along with subjects like Mathematics, English and Hindi, the children also study their mother tongue, Kurukh. The school has been built on about 4,000 square feet of land that was collectively donated by the local villagers. It is a living example of the will of a young man to keep his community's tribal language alive. Kurukh language is spoken by the Oraon tribe people who are spread across Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, West Bengal, and parts of Assam, Bihar, and Tripura. Kurukh, also known as Kurux, Oraon or Uranw, is an endangered tribal language of the Dravidian family.

The script of Kurukh is Tolong Siki. The word 'tolong' refers to a traditional garment worn by men from Adivasi communities, meanwhile 'siki' is a modification of the Kurukh word 'sika', a traditional practice where a piece of red-hot wood is used to mark the inside of men's wrists to test their endurance.

Kartioraon Adivasi Kurukh School, located about 200 kilometres from the state capital Ranchi has eight classrooms for the students from classes one to eight. Eight teachers take care of educating the 300 adivasi students, with monthly fees ranging from Rs 300 to Rs 400 depending on which class they are studying in.





Narrating the incident which led to Arvind Oraon setting up a school in his village, the 35-year-old said: “My little sister Anjali was forced to drop out of school after class five, which was a catalyst to set up the school. If she had to continue after class five, Anjali would have to go to another school eight kilometres away, for which she would have to cross a river.”

Arvind Oraon felt deeply for his sister and decided to spend some time teaching her.

“I taught her at home but she needed a classroom atmosphere to learn so I encouraged more children from the village to take my tuition classes. That’s how the idea of setting up an elementary school in the village occurred to me. I also made sure I taught the children in the Kurukh language,” he said.



Arvind Oraon recently came to Jamshedpur to attend a tribal conclave, Samvaad, organised by Tata Steel Foundation, where he spoke about the need to preserve indigenous languages. At present, he is pursuing his postgraduate studies in Geography and hopes to qualify as a lecturer.

Students at the Kartioraon Adivasi Kurukh School enjoy the experience of learning in their mother tongue. “I like to read the language that’s spoken in my home. There are very few schools that actually teach Kurukh as a subject. I want to grow up to become a lecturer in the Kurukh language,” Neha Bara, a 15-year-old student in the school, told Gaon Connection.

**Narayan Oraon, a Ranchi-based paediatrician, has been encouraging and guiding Arvind Oraon in his journey of promoting and preserving the Kurukh language of the Oraon tribe.**

“Sadly, we don’t have much published writings in Kurukh which makes it difficult to promote the language. I have launched a website named Kurukh Times which is like an online magazine. People like Arvind are doing a great job at preserving our language which is crucial for our Adivasi identity,” the paediatrician and scholar of Kurukh language told Gaon Connection.

He pointed out how the National Education Policy introduced by the Union Education Ministry in 2020 also advocates teaching students in the vernacular language.

“It is known that children learn better when they are taught in a language they speak at home. I hope more schools such as Kartioraon Adivasi Kurukh School will be set up not only by individuals but also by the government,” he said.





## “My name is Purni Devi”: At this evening school in Bihar, a buzz of hope

**Bihar is one of the poorest performing states in India when it comes to literacy rate. At such a time, an evening school in Bairstachhi village is educating underprivileged women and becoming a ray of hope.**



“My name is Purni Devi,” the 45-year-old woman said, proudly introducing herself in English. Devi has been a regular student of the evening school in Bairstachhi village of Bihar’s Purnia district for the past six months. During the day, she works as an agricultural labourer. “I could not even identify the letters when I joined. Now I can tell my name and also sign in English,” Purni told Teacher Connection, talking about her progress. Her children attend regular school.

Many women belonging to economically and socially backward communities of this large village in Baisi block of Purnia, about 450 kilometers from the state capital Patna, have similar stories to tell. These women of Bairstachhi, lately, finish all their domestic chores by sunset and rush to attend the evening school. The village has 414 families and a population of around 2,300 people.

Shashi Ranjan, an engineer by profession and the founder of the evening school, began the initiative to educate the underprivileged women of Bairstachhi who could not study in their childhood. Women of all ages happily attend this evening school, new brides, and elderly women alike.



“We focus on women who have not been able to access education. Some people, however, are still unaware of our school,” he told Gaon Connection.

“These women used to work in the fields all day long and did not bother about schooling. In the evening, they would gather in groups to talk. Instead of that, we tried to put them together under the setting of the evening school,” Ranjan said. He proudly informed that women from every age group attend the evening school, even women of 60 and 80 years of age. “Moreover, girls from 22 to 28 years of age, who are married, also come to study with us,” he added.



The evening school is like a new dawn in the lives of these poor rural women. Before joining the school, they used to be busy working for wages or busy with domestic chores. Now, they have taken up reading books and are learning to write.

Tetri Devi is another evening school attendee. She also works on the fields to earn a living and provides for her children’s formal education. After she’s done with a day’s work, Tetri makes time to study “At first, I did not know anything at all, but gradually, everything is changing. We are also briefed on health, in addition to studies,” she told Gaon Connection.

Interestingly, Gudiya, former Bihar Chief Minister Bhola Paswan Shastri’s daughter-in-law, is also a teacher at this evening school. “Women come here to try to read, which they could not so far, and learn more about the world around them,” said Gudiya. “The very concept of the evening school is — work during the day and learn to read in the evening,” she added.







## An agent of change for tribal youth in Maharashtra

**Akash Pawar runs a unique movement – Samvidhan Prachar Lok Sarvad – to teach school children about the Constitution of India and make them aware of their fundamental rights and duties.**

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The school has been built on about 4,000 square feet of land that was collectively donated by the local villagers. It is a living example of the will of a young man to keep his community's tribal language alive.

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“I taught her at home but she needed a classroom atmosphere to learn so I encouraged more children from the village to take my tuition classes. That’s how the idea of setting up an elementary school in the village occurred to me. I also made sure I taught the children in the Kurukh language,” he said.

Students at the Kartioraon Adivasi Kurukh School enjoy the experience of learning in their mother tongue. “I like to read the language that’s spoken in my home. There are very few schools that actually teach Kurukh as a subject. I want to grow up to become a lecturer in the Kurukh language,” Neha Bara, a 15-year-old student in the school, told Gaon Connection.

“We speak Kurukh at home. But outside, we are required to speak in Hindi to interact with people. Then there is English too. The students learn quicker when things are explained and taught in their indigenous language,” said the founder of the school.

Narayan Oraon, a Ranchi-based paediatrician, has been encouraging and guiding Arvind Oraon in his journey of promoting and preserving the Kurukh language of the Oraon tribe. It was Narayan Oraon, a medical doctor by profession, who came up with a written script for the Kurukh language in 1999 — the Tolong Siki script.



**Arvind Oraon also pointed out that sometimes using their mother tongue to teach complex concepts helped the students understand and grasp the subjects better.**





“Sadly, we don’t have much published writings in Kurukh which makes it difficult to promote the language. I have launched a website named Kurukh Times which is like an online magazine. People like Arvind are doing a great job at preserving our language which is crucial for our Adivasi identity,” the paediatrician and scholar of Kurukh language told Gaon Connection.

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“It is known that children learn better when they are taught in a language they speak at home. I hope more schools such as Kartioraon Adivasi Kurukh School will be set up not only by individuals but also by the government,” he said.



Science teacher Vishwnath Oraon has been teaching at the Kartioraon Adivasi Kurukh School for the last 10 years. He told Gaon Connection that sometimes he found it much easier to introduce scientific concepts to the students in Kurukh language.

“If I teach them in English or Hindi, they do understand, but they grasp it much better when the conversation is in Kurukh,” the 30-year-old said.

It was gratifying, Viswanath said, how many of his students want to go deeper into the Kurukh language and make a career of it. “Many of them are doing their research in the language and are about to be appointed as lecturers,” said the proud teacher.

There are only two other schools 10 kilometres away that teach the Kurukh language. One is located in Shivanthapur and the other is in the Sisayi village.

Meanwhile, Tata Steel Foundation is working with the local tribal communities to preserve and popularise their languages and the respective scripts.

“We are running over 610 language centres in various local schools in Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal where students are taught tribal languages of Ho, Santal, Munda, Oraon and Bhumij communities. These classes are held on Saturdays and Sundays,” said Jiren Xavier Topno.





## DEAR DIARY

"Many discussions have taken place regarding rural environments, agricultural fields, and people have understood the education system through agricultural practices. However, what rural education truly is and how it evolves in such an environment is only shown and explained accurately by the team of Gaon Connection, especially through Teacher Connection.

For the past year, consistently, members of Gaon Connection have engaged us in conversations. We have seen numerous stories, heard many, and learned a lot. I believe that within these stories, there's a lot for everyone to learn. As rural educators, we are committed to changing the situation, and your support is instrumental when we achieve something.

Certainly, Gaon Connection has done a remarkable job. Congratulations to the entire team, every individual involved, and I hope that Teacher Connection grows bigger. When millions of teachers gather, the talk should solely be about Teacher Connection. Much gratitude to Gaon Connection."



**Shivendra Singh**

**Primary School Faizullapur  
Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh**



**Sanjeev Sharma**

**Upper Primary School, Rajmargpur  
Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh**

"Teachers are dedicated to their mission, shaping the lives of students. Their work gets recognized when a child grows up and becomes something in society.

The initiative taken by Gaon Connection, starting Teacher Connection, connecting teachers with each other, deserves immense congratulations for highlighting the work of teachers.

Personally, I have had the opportunity to know how teachers are teaching children in unique ways. The work that the Gaon Connection has done in the world of learning and teaching is praiseworthy.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire Gaon Connection team for successfully completing one year of Teacher Connection."

"This initiative began on January 3, 2023. At that time, we did not anticipate that the caravan would progress so far, and it is heartening to see that we are approaching the completion of one year.

It's crucial to note that while teachers carry out their work diligently, without community support and recognition from people, it feels as if their work goes unnoticed, failing to catch the attention of the public.

Whether it's government teachers or those working in remote rural areas, portraying their excellent image, documenting their work, creating videos along with documentation, conducting their interviews – these are not easy tasks. My salute, sincere congratulations, and heartfelt thanks to the entire team of Gaon Connection, who are working tirelessly.

This initiative acquainted me with numerous teachers across India whom I hadn't previously encountered."



**Snehil Pandey**  
Composite School Sohramau  
Unnao, Uttar Pradesh



**Shivani Singh**  
Primary School Bhiamau  
Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh

"Teacher Connection has completed a year. As a teacher, we face several challenges such as minimal resources, low student enrollment, inadequate staffing, insufficient financial support, lack of school infrastructure, and waterlogging, among others.

However, it is also true that despite these circumstances, teachers are utilizing various technological skills and improving teaching methods.

Some are delivering better education even with minimal resources, while some lone teachers skillfully manage different classes.

Therefore, there is a need to create a chain of teachers' efforts and struggles to spread positive messages in society and encourage teachers. Such efforts also provide opportunities for teachers to learn from each other."



## DEAR DIARY

"I didn't have information about Teacher Connection initially, but one day I received a call where the Teacher Connection team asked me about my entire journey from being a student to becoming a teacher. They inquired about what motivated me to become a teacher and if I wanted to be something else. I shared with them my efforts in trying new things in my school, how I motivate children to come to school, and all the information they asked for. I felt really good connecting with Teacher Connection.

They sent this story to me through the Teacher Connection's page, and I was very happy after reading it. I just want to say that it's been a year since I've been associated with Gaon Connection, and I really enjoy being part of Teacher Connection.

Through Teacher Connection, we get an opportunity to learn about teachers working in rural areas and read their stories.

Thank you so much to the entire Teacher Connection team, best wishes!"



**Kumaru Upasna**

**Primary School Mahi  
Hathras, Uttar Pradesh**



**Kumud Singh**

**Sarokar, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**

"Teachers are not merely individuals who complete the syllabus within a timeframe and then disappear when the students are left stranded at the crossroads, unsure of where to go.

They are the ones who, alongside academic knowledge, instill self-respect and confidence in students, showing them how they can become beautiful and better individuals, contributing to making the country and the world a better place.

Many such teachers are working diligently in the remote areas of our country.

The Teacher's Connection initiative has introduced us to many such teachers over the past year. The accolades for Teacher Connection fall short for the commendable work they are doing.

Heartfelt gratitude to Gaon Connection, Teacher's Connection, and I am very proud to be a part of this series."

# DEAR DIARY

"I am delighted to say that Teacher Connection is completing its one year, congratulations to the entire team!"

Establishing a new milestone in limited resources is a big deal. Showcasing the stories of the best teachers, conducting their interviews, running the Teacher Connection campaign, and publishing English and Hindi magazines together raise awareness among people. It proves that when any effort is made with a good heart, the whole society comes forward to support it.

My story was published in Gaon Connection and people liked it a lot. I am very thankful for that. All the best to their entire team and the entire Gaon Connection team from me. I hope that their campaign goes a long way."



**Asiya Farooqui**

Primary School Asti  
Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh

"The initiative run by Gaon Connection, Teacher Connection, has proven to be a blessing for us teachers. I am Abhishek Shukla, working as an assistant teacher at Sahjapur Primary School in Sitapur district. The monthly publications in both English and Hindi by Teacher Connection, featuring stories of teachers, are quite inspirational.

I am fortunate that Teacher connection has published my stories twice. This has boosted the morale of the children in my school and generated a new energy to earn the trust of parents. Thank you!"



**Vipin Upadhyay**

Primary School Amkheda  
Jalaun, Uttar Pradesh

"Teacher Connection has not only provided unlimited encouragement to teachers but has also introduced them to various educators across the country. This has enabled them to become familiar with each other's teaching methods and innovations.

Additionally, Teacher Connection's magazine has portrayed the roles of various educators working in remote areas of the country, placing teachers on the national platform and sharing their stories. I hope this connection continues to strengthen and grow day and night. I wish for its continual progress. Thank you."



**Abhishek Shukla**

Primary School Sahjapur  
Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh



## DEAR DIARY

"Gaon Connection is bridging the gap between villages and cities. It has initiated the Teacher Connection campaign for teachers who are doing well in both villages and cities.

Bringing the stories of those teachers to people is crucial because stories become a medium for change. Your story might inspire someone else, and someone else's story might inspire you, and these stories bring about change. A big thank you to the Gaon Connection team!"



**Rajesh Mishra**  
**AIM International School**  
**Gonda, Uttar Pradesh**



**Rakesh Vishwakarma**  
**Upper Primary School, Sanaiya Jat**  
**Rampur, Uttar Pradesh**

"Our school is ahead in everything from sports to education. Children work hard, but if they get a platform, it would be great for them.

People have started to recognize their talent and hard work, and for this, I want to thank the Gaon Connection team. They have provided a platform for our children and school, through which not just the state but the whole of India recognizes their skills and acknowledges them.

I hope that Gaon Connection continues to stay connected with us and keeps supporting us. I wish that the Teacher Connection campaign of Gaon Connection keeps progressing, grows, and supports teachers like us."

"Hearty congratulations and best wishes to the Teacher Connection campaign of Gaon Connection on completing one year, presenting the changing landscape in the state.

The Teacher Connection initiative by Gaon Connection has provided a platform for teachers and students. Congratulations for instilling new energy in teachers, boosting their self-confidence, and significantly altering the image of teachers in schools.

From my side, heartfelt congratulations to the Teacher Connection campaign of Gaon Connection for completing one successful year.

With new enthusiasm, new energy, and new connections, Village Connection will embark on the New Year."



**Pooja Shukla**  
**Primary School Manpur**  
**Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh**



MARCH 2023 Gaon CONNECTION PRESENTS

**Teacher CONNECTION**  
CELEBRATING TEACHERS EVERY DAY

**A MONTHLY E-MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO TEACHERS.**

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**A MONTHLY E-MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO TEACHERS.**

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**A MONTHLY E-MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO TEACHERS.**

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**Teacher CONNECTION**  
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**A MONTHLY E-MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO TEACHERS.**

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**Teacher CONNECTION**  
CELEBRATING TEACHERS EVERY DAY

**A MONTHLY E-MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO TEACHERS.**

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**Teacher CONNECTION**  
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**A MONTHLY E-MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO TEACHERS.**

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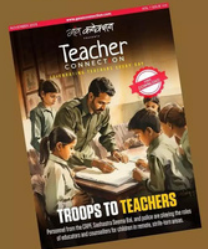


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# The Change makers Project

A NATIONAL REGISTRY BY **Gaon**  
CONNECTION

