

Best Practices

1. Gyansatra

"There is nothing more pious than Knowledge" -Bhagwad Gita.

The basic objective of any educational institute is to produce the citizens with great character. Good citizens will create good society. The principal and the staff members of Shri S.K. Shah and Shri Krishna O.M. Arts College are always active to engage in such activities. The management of the college also provides patronage to such activities. We always do innovative experiments to do such activities so that the students are encouraged to activities for the benefit of the society.

Modasa is situated in the tribal districts. Most of the students of our college come from the remote areas of the tribal villages. We are always enthusiastic to do the activities to uplift the thinking of such students. Former professor of this college, Prof. N. G. Shah initiated the idea of arranging Gyansatra. The then I/c. Principal, Prof. J. C. Desai appreciated the idea and started Gyansatra in 2001. Under this programme, scholars from different fields were invited, and they enlightened the students with their knowledge.

Impressed by this activity, former President of the M.L. Gandhi Higher Education Society; Dr.Arunbhai Shah put the proposal to associate his father's name with Gyansatra. From then onwards, Gyansatra is known as "Dr.Nathalal J Shah Gyansatra"

In 2020, covid-19 pandemic made the whole world frightened. This pandemic created fear, worry. The mindset of the people became full of stress, and also many people lost their lives because of the physical or the mental effects of Covid-19. It was necessary to bring the things to normalcy. The principal and the staff members of this college are always sensitive about what can be done for the welfare of the society.

Nothing is impossible for those who possess education, logic, scientific approach, good memory, readiness and commitment. In this respect, during 2022-23, we launched a mission with Gyansatra to uplift the society with a better mindset. This is how Gyansatra became a major part of Our Best Practices during the academic year 2022-23. Under the activity of Gyansatra, the college decided to invite scholars who can enlighten the students in different spheres of life. In this way, we tried to convert Gyansatra into a life-enhancing activity.

Bhagwad Gita is a book that has solutions of every problem in our life. It provides the answer of any question in the life of a human-being. On this subject, we invited an

eminent scholar do. Dr. Hemrajbhai Patel to deliver his speech. He showed the art of living life. Along with the students, the staff of this college as well as that of the sister-institutions participated in this lecture, and were benefitted by this Scholarly speech. The Office-bearers of the management also took active part in the discussion on the tea-table after the speech. Every member shared his/her views about how to live life, and what Bhagwad Giita teaches us.

Under this best practice, we invite scholars from different spheres. Music is a therapy. Music has great significance in our culture. Music plays a great role in relieving human beings from hectic life and stress. Folk music provides exuberance to the mind. It has the power to connect us to our roots, our culture. For this purpose, we arranged a lecture by Dr. Mansukh Patoliya, who not only made the audience aware about Gujarati folk music but also sang some Gujarati folk songs. The purpose of this lecture was to spread awareness regarding power of folk music, and the role it plays in our life. Along with the students, guests we were also invited from the town with a view to benefitting the society. All the guests and the staff shared their views with Dr. Mansukh Patoliya regarding the benefits of Folk Music.

Like Music, laughter is also a therapy. It is said that you can make people weep very easily but it is very difficult to make them laugh. This is quite relevant in the present scenario of our life-style. Laughter relieves people of the stress of the hectic life. It provides peace of mind. Laughter purgates tiredness, laziness. It brings the mind back to normal. With this purpose; we arranged a speech of a humorist so that the students feel unstressed. We also invited guests from the town so that they are also benefitted, and get rid of the stress and unrest in life. We had also invited alumni of this college to hear this speech.

Gyansatra also touches the spiritual aspect of life. A good society is one that is also spiritually high. Religion sets the conduct of life. True knowledge of religion empowers human beings and helps building character. In this respect, we arranged a speech by a religious leader in which along with the students, members from the society also participated and

Literature expresses the cultural traditions of the country. Literature and society are supplementary to each other. Literature is a mirror to society. The eminent scholar and Padmashree Dr. Pravin Darji mesmerized the students and the guests with his speech. Best literature creates the best society. On this occasion, the students took the oath of reading good books of literature.

2. SHRI RAMANLAL SONI LITERARY RESEARCH CENTRE

Ramanlal Pitambardas Soni (25 January 1908 – 20 September 2006) is also known by his pen name **Sudamo**, was a children's writer, translator, and social worker from Gujarat, India. He wrote primarily in Gujarati language.

He was born on 25 January 1908 in Kokapur near Modasa in north Gujarat. He completed his school education in Modasa. In 1940, he completed BA from Agra University. He came back to Modasa and joined Modasa high school as a principal. He left a job in 1945 to be involved in social work. He went to Yerwada Central Jail during satyagraha movement in 1932 where he learnt Bengali language. Later, he served as a member of the legislative assembly of Bombay state from 1952 to 1957. He was married to Rasikbala Soni and had three children. Dr Shriram, Jay ram and Pratima. Doctor by profession, his eldest son Shriram is married to anesthesiologist and renowned Gujarati-Odiya translator Dr Renuka Soni. He died on 20th September, 2006 at Ahmedabad.

He wrote original as well as translated and adapted children's literature. He wrote stories, poems, rhymes, plays, and biographies for them. Many of his stories and poems were published in the *Zagmag* column of Gujarat Samachar in the 1990s. His autobiography titled *Rakh nu Pankhi* was published in 1999. He translated Bengali literature into Gujarati. Some notable works include *Gora*, *Chokher Bali*, *Rajarshi* by Rabindranath Tagore; *Shrikant* by Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay. He also translated works of Tarashankar Bandopadhyay and Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar.

Shri Ramanlal Soni Literary Centre is a precious gift of Arts College Modasa. It was established in 2005 under the patronage of Ramanlal Soni in order to the students of Aravalli and Sabarkantha remain under the patronage of the author. On 23rd February, 2005, Shri Dilip Soni, Architect, put the first brick for the establishment of the Research Centre. On 1st October, 2005, Shri Ramanlal Soni himself inaugurated the Research Centre. This Research centre aims to motivate the students to study the books of Ramanlal Soni and go ahead in life.

Fellowship is provided to the Professors who are pursuing Ph.D. degree or any other research work under the Collaborative effort of Shri Ramanlal Soni Literary Centre and Shri Dhirubhai Thaker, the first principal of Arts College.

Advantages :

1. The centre is useful for conducting literary research to the students as well as professors.
2. Translated works of other authors are also available in mother tongue.
3. Monetary support is provided to the researchers.