

# Usha Sharma

## Teacher Educator

### BIOGRAPHY



Hardworking teacher. Committed soul. A believer in the quote that there is no elevator to success you have to take the stairs. With this thought I took all my experience with zeal and made my students work hard even though there may be many hurdles. Before beginning my teaching career in Higher Education I worked in elementary schools having children who were first generation learners. My passion for teaching enabled me to motivate my students at all levels be it primary, secondary or college level.

Throughout my career I saw students with learning difficulties developing a fixed mindset towards learning .At Primary level they faced difficulties in different subjects with no support at homes. Even at Teacher Education level I came across students anxious to face Maths classrooms. Since Mathematics Education bought fear and anxiety among my pre service teachers, my aim was to create growth mindset among my students and enable them to believe that nothing is impossible. My role as a teacher educator became to provide a *positive push*. A smile. A word of optimism and hope. And that you can do it when things are tough. Everything then fell in the right place.

My research area of interest is Inclusive Education .I am particularly interested in Gender studies, Multicultural education, Mathematics Education and Peace Education. I always wanted to prepare teachers for the global era. My major research project focused on Infusion of Multicultural elements into the curriculum to develop social adjustment among students of minority schools. My aim was to enable teachers of minority schools to develop and implement instructional material so that their students are prepared to co exist in diverse classrooms and live in a peaceful society. Currently, my research focus is related to LGBT inclusion. I am open to have collaborative researches with faculty of other institutions in India as well as abroad.



## PERSONAL INFO

K J Somaiya College of Education,  
Somaiya Vidyavihar University,  
Mumbai 400077, Maharashtra,  
India  
email: [usha@somaiya.edu](mailto:usha@somaiya.edu)



## EDUCATION

- 2014 Masters of Arts in Sociology  
From Indira Gandhi National  
Open University, India
- 1998 Masters in Education from  
University of Mumbai
- 1998 State Eligibility Test for  
University of Pune lecturership
- 1997 Bachelors in Education  
University of Mumbai
- 1993 Bachelors in Statistics  
University of Mumbai



## WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2009 –till date, Asst Professor at  
K J Somaiya College of Education
- 2005-2007 Visiting faculty at  
R R Singh College of Education
- 2000-2009-Asst Teacher at  
Lokmanya Tilak High School



## SKILLS

- Enthusiasm
- Patience
- Encouraging
- Initiativity
- Approachableness

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Multicultural Education  
Gender Equality  
Constructivist Approach in Mathematics  
Female Foeticide  
Sexualities

## SUBJECTS TAUGHT

Gender, Society and Education  
Learning & Teaching  
Sociology of Education,  
Mathematics Education,  
Guidance & Counseling,  
Psychology of Development and learning

## LINKAGES WITH OPEN UNIVERSITY

Associated with Indira Gandhi National Open University as Counselor for Masters of Arts in Education Program. For Social context of Education

## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

National duty of election polls -worked as a polling officer in two elections

National duty of making Election Photo Identity Card in the year 2007.

National duty towards achieving Universalization of Education (*Sarva Shikshan Abhiyan*)

## AWARDS

Bagged Minor Research Project grant of Rs 5000 by University Of Mumbai (India) on the topic 'A Study of Impact of Use of Manipulative on the Conceptual Clarity of Mathematical Concepts for Middle School Students' (2010)

Bagged Major Research Project grant of 4, 50,000/- by ICSSR for the research project titled "*Infusing Multicultural Content into the Curriculum for Enhancing Social Adjustment among the Students of Minority Run Schools in Mumbai* (2017)

## HONOURS

*Chairperson* for first National Student Inter-disciplinary conference on '*Contemporary Social Issues*' conducted on February 10, 2016 hosted by The Sociology Department and the Social Science Association of the S.K Somaiya College of Arts, Science and Commerce

*Convenor* for the Orientation of Course 9: Gender, School & Society conducted at K J Somaiya Comprehensive College of Education, Training & Research, and June 24, 2016

Best research paper award for research paper titled '*Paryawaran Mitra Shikshakon ka Nirman: Ek Prayas*' Jul 2015 at Indo--Canadian International Conference of Business and Behavioral Sciences (ICICBBS -2015), Goa

## CONSULTANCY

Training the in service teachers of Manohar Kotwal Trust Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Vikhroli in the '*Identification of Learning styles of students*' " on Feb 16, 2016

Conducted a one day workshop for college teachers on the themes- *Preparing a Research Proposal, Orientation to NAAC, Orientation to 'Teaching Skills* 'at S K College Of Science & Commerce, Nerul, Navi Mumbai On August 7,2016

Conducted a one day Faculty Development Program for the teachers of S.K. Somaiya Vinay Mandir High School on the topic of '*Innovative Teaching Methods in Mathematics*' on Feb 3, 2017

## SYLLABUS REVISION COMMITTEE MEMBER

Member of Syllabus Revision Committee for developing the Syllabus for Gender, School and Society on 13 February, 2015 at K J Somaiya Comprehensive College of Education, Training and Research

Teaching of Mathematics on 14 February, 2015 & 26 March, 2015 at H J College of Education, Santa Cruz

Learning and Teaching on 23 March, 2015 at Bombay Teachers' Training College, Colaba

Preparing curriculum for Pedagogy of Mathematics, Guidance and Counseling, Sociology of Education, Psychology of Development and learning after being an autonomous institution.

## PERSONAL DETAILS

**Date of Birth**  
18 August, 1973

**Phone**  
9372262726

**E-mail**  
usha@somaiya.edu

**Web**  
www.somaiya.edu

## ORIENTATION COURSE

Participated in Orientation Program for Teacher Educators organized by UGC Academic Staff College, University of Mumbai. (3rd August to 31st August 2011)

## REFRESHER COURSE

Refresher Course organised by Human Resource Development Centre, Academic Staff College, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar from June 9 to June 29, 2015 on the theme 'Environmental Studies'

Two Week Online refresher Course on-"Advanced Research Methodology " by the Ministry of Education sponsored Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching scheme by TLC Ramanujan college, University of Delhi (Aug 20 to Sep 3, 2021) with A+ grade .

Online Inter-Disciplinary Two-Week Refresher Course On "Managing Online Classes & Co-creating MOOCs 18.0" by TLC Ramanujan college University of Delhi In collaboration with Nagarjuna Government College (Autonomous) Nalgonda Telangana 07 - 21 September, 2022 and obtained Grade A.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Generated lesson plans infusing Multicultural elements into Maths curriculum

Prepared Innovative lesson plans for Mathematics Class VII (CBSE) for Tata Interactive Systems.

Generated learning resources in the form of lesson plans (Mathematics) for secondary level topics based on Constructivist Approach.

Developed a Personality Development Module for the Visually Challenged Students of Ruia College.

Providing personal counseling for the students opting for Bachelor of Education

## RECOGNITION

Recognized as a Lecturer at University of Mumbai for the Master Degree (By Papers) in Education with effect from 2013.

Recognized as a Reviewer for a Web of Science group journal from Jan 2022.

## INTERNATIONAL LINKAGES

Organizing a Webinar on Safe and Inclusive Learning Environment for the LGBTQ by Dr Kendrea Hart, adjunct lecturer North Carolina State University. Dr. Sarah Kiperman Assistant Professor at Wayne State University in Detroit Michigan, Gabriel DeLong Project manager, Wayne State University on 27 May, 2021.

Organizing a webinar on Creating LGBTQ Curriculum by Mark Vicars, Associate Professor, Victoria University, Sydney ,Australia on 20 Dec ,2021

## INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH LINKAGES

Reviewed a Qualitative paper for Emerald Publishing Qualitative Research Journal – Scholar One Manuscripts site Jan 2022.

## EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

A Peer Reviewed Conference Proceedings of the National Seminar 25th in Series of Senior Scholar Seminars titled Creating Culturally Congruent, ISBN: 978-81-7039-287-3 in 2018.

## PAPER PRESENTATIONS

*Sweeping cobwebs off young minds: An attempt towards Gender Sensitization* at National Seminar on 'Women Entrepreneurship Empowerment & Development' organized by Bharati Vidyapeeth University Institute of Management & Research (BVIMR) on 4th-5th March, 2014 at New Delhi, India

Presented a paper titled „*An Expedition towards Inner Peace: Community Service by the Pre service Teachers*’ at the International Seminar on Non-Violence and Peace Education Organized by Shridhar University in Collaboration with The Learning Community (TLC), The World Peace Movement Trust (TWPMPT) at Rajasthan, India , September 7-8, 2013

Presented a paper at UGC sponsored Two Day National Seminar on ‘*Building Asynchronous Learning Environments: Opportunities and Challenges*’ held at K.J. Somaiya Comprehensive College of Education, Training and Research, Mumbai, India on 11th March, 2012.

Presented a paper at 46th Annual Conference sponsored by Association of Mathematics Teachers of India held at Vidya Pratishthan, Baramati, and Maharashtra, India on the theme of „*Constructivism in Mathematics*”-„*How we Teach and what they Learn: Resolving the Disparity by Scaffolding*” on 28th Dec, 2011.

Presented a paper at National Seminar based on the theme Smart Technology for 21st Century Education „*Breaking the Boundaries of Classrooms: Do we need Classrooms*” (18th February, 2011) at K.J.Somaiya Comprehensive College of Education, Training and Research, Mumbai, India.

Presented a paper at National Seminar based on ‘*A Study of Perceptions of School Teachers about Their Principal as a Transformational Leader*’ (25th February, 2010) at K. J. Somaiya Comprehensive College of Education, Training and Research, Mumbai, India.

Presented a paper titled ‘*Embracing Diversities by Pre-Service Teacher: Infusion of Multicultural Elements into the Mathematics Curriculum*’ at the Anglo-American Conference for Academic Disciplines at the University of London , United Kingdom from 4th Nov to 7th Nov,2014.

## PAPER PRESENTATIONS (CONTD.)

Presented a joint paper with Ms Rupal Thakkar titled '***Promoting Servant Leadership through Service Learning: A Case Study***' at National Seminar at K J Somaiya Comprehensive College of Education, Training & Research

Presented a paper titled "***Paryawaran Mitra Shikshakon ka Nirman: Ek Prayas***" at Indo-Canadian International Conference of Business and Behavioural Sciences (ICICBBS -2015), Goa (July 3-4, 2015)

Presented a paper titled '***Cries from the womb- An attempt to fight Female Foeticide***' at the 'International Conference for Gender Equality-1' conducted by the Gender Park, Kerala in association with the United Nations, women & UNDP from November 12-14, 2015

Presented a paper titled '***Exploring Multiple Intelligences in a Maths class: Perception of Pre service teachers***' at 7th National Conference on Mathematics at Vidya Pratishthan College of Engineering Baramati in association with IIT Mumbai from Dec 4 - 7, 2015

Presented a paper titled '***Looking behind & beyond Selfie***' at National Seminar on the theme 'Education for Peace' at K J Somaiya College of Education, Training & Research on March 9-10, 2016

Presented a paper titled '***LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum: Are The Teachers Ready?***' at International Conference on the theme "Being me –Understanding LGBTQ+ inclusive community" organized by Satish Pradhan Dyan Sadhna College, Thane in association with ICSSR in Sept 2022

Presented a joint paper with Dr Rupal Thakkar titled '***Innovative Pedagogy To Create Engaging And Enjoyable Classroom Ecology***' at the International Conference On Recent Trends of Commerce, Arts, Science, Education, Management and Humanities in Present Scenario organized by Research Forum of India New Delhi, 27 September 2022



## PUBLICATIONS

***'Moving beyond: Learning together Anytime Anywhere'*** with Ms Rupal Thakkar, Research Paper, Proceedings of 19th in Senior scholar Seminar Series (March 10-11, 2012), of UGC sponsored Two day National Seminar, Building Asynchronous Learning Environments: Opportunities and Challenges, 2013, Volume 1 , Pg. 79- 84, ISBN: 978-81-7039-287-3

***'Sweeping cobwebs off young minds: An attempt towards gender sensitisation'*** Research paper proceedings in Women Entrepreneurship Empowerment & Development BIVIMAR New Delhi ,First Impression 2014 Pg no 214 to 217 ISBN:978-03-83842-23-0

***'How we teach and What they learn: Resolving the Disparity by Scaffolding'*** with Ms. Sunita Britto, Research Article , Pillai Journal of Educational Research And Technology (PJERT), July –September 2012,Volume 01, No 3, ISSN 2249-4367

***'Hidden Cultural and Historical Variables to Promote Mathematics and Mathematics Education – Are There Royal Roads?'*** Proceedings of National Initiative on Mathematics Education (NIME2011-12) National Conference on Mathematics Education by Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Pg. 99, Jan 2012

***'The Name sake: A Book review'*** Jhumpa Lahiri, Harper Collins Publisher Limited 2003 ISBN: 13:978-0-00-725891-8 in International Journal *Transacademia*, ISSN: 2319-3492, Vol 4 No.:1, Pg. 6-13, July –Dec 2014.

***'An Expedition towards Inner Peace: Community service by Pre-service Teachers.'*** Research Paper, Global Peace Journal ISSN-0976-8009 RNI NO UPENG/2001/5079, Volume 14, No 1, Pg. 10-15, September 2014.

Paper titled ***'Exploring Multiple Intelligences in a Maths class: Perception of Pre service teachers'*** in the Proceedings of 7th National Conference on Mathematics at Vidya Pratishthan College of Engineering Baramati in association with IIT Mumbai in Dec 2015.

***'Embracing Diversities by Pre service Teacher: Infusion of Multicultural Elements into Mathematics Curriculum'***, International Journal of Multidisciplinary Thought, CD - ROM ISSN: 2156-6992, University Publications.net; Volume 05, Number 01

***'Promoting Servant Leadership through Service Learning-A Case Study'*** with Ms Rupal Thakkar, Research Paper, and Leadership in Educational Institutions: Opportunities & Challenges -Guiding the way to 21st century, April 29-30, 2016, Pg 125-131, ISBN-978-81-7039-287-3.

## PUBLICATIONS

**'Looking Behind and Beyond Selfie'** with Ms Rupal Thakkar, Research paper proceedings, National Seminar on the theme 'Education For Peace' ISBN -978-81-7039-287- 3, Pg 5 March 9-10, 2016

**'Paryawaran Mitra Shikshakon ka Nirman: Ek Prayas'** in the Conference Proceedings of Indo-Canadian International Conference of Business and Behavioral Sciences, July 2015, Vol:6-7 Pg. No. 20-22, ISSN: 2278-5671

**'A dip into animated societies: Is it worth teaching values?'** International Journal of Research in Social Sciences, Vol 9 Issue 2(1), ISSN: 2249-2496, Impact factor 7.081, Feb 2019

**'A Glimpse through your lens -using Photo narration and Photo elicitation'** International Journal of Research in Engineering IT and Social Sciences, Vol 9 Issue 2, ISSN: 2250-0588, Impact factor 6.565, Feb 2019

**On Innovative Pedagogy To Create Engaging And Enjoyable Classroom Ecology** Joint paper with Dr. Rupal Thakkar In Accent Journal Of Economics Ecology & Engineering in Peer Reviewed and Refereed Journal, UGC Approved No. 48767 International Journal IF: 7.98, ELJIF: 6.194(10/2018), ISSN: 2456-1037 Sept 2022

SEMRS, CONFERENCES

AND WORKSHOP ATTENDED:

## SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

Attended a Two Day National Workshop on 'Training of Trainers: Becoming Effective Teachers and Trainers' organized by Web Enhancement and Public Relations Office (WEPRO Loyola College, Chennai on 20, 21 April, 2018

Attended the workshop on *Education for Peace* organized by K J Somaiya College of Education, Training & Research in collaboration with Global foundations from 25-28 August, 2015

Attended '*Project Muktangan*' at N M Joshi Municipal Shala, Lower Parel on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2015

Participated in the workshop on '*Emotional Intelligence for Teachers*' at the Centre for Child Development, Mahalaxmi conducted by Disha Counseling on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2013

Participated in a workshop conducted on '*Peer Enrichment Program Series on Practical Approach to Tool-Preparation*' organised by IQAC –Gokhale Education Society's College of Education and Research, Parel, on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.

Attended the workshop conducted by *Muktangan Paragon Charitable Trust* at S.K.Somaiya Junior College of Education based on the '*Constructivism and Active Learning Strategies*' on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

Attended a three day workshop titled '*A Collaborative Approach to Developing Science Teaching Methods suitable for addressing Diversity in Classrooms*' at HBCSE conducted by researchers from HBCSE and Curtin University, Perth, Australia ( 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> Jan,2012).

Attended the seminar based on '*Human Excellence beyond Academic Excellence*' organized at Ramakrishna Math, Khar (17<sup>th</sup> September 2011)

Attended the workshop on '*Design and Technology for Education*' -- David Barlex, Brunel University, UK -- at *Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education* (10<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2011).

Attended the workshop on '*Madhava Mathematics Competition*' organized for degree level Mathematics Enrichment Program at *Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education* (24<sup>th</sup> November,10).

Attended Discussion seminar on Mathematics Education at *Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (TIFR)* on the theme '*Teacher Education and Professional Development*' & '*Mathematics Education and Equity Issues*'(23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> August,2010).

## SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS ATTENDED (contd.)

Participated in the workshop on '**Research Methodology in Social & Behavioral Sciences**' in the Department of Education, University of Mumbai (from 28<sup>th</sup> June to 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2010).

Attended seminar on **Women Development Cell at S.K. Somaiya College** (15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2010).

Attended workshop based on **Preparation of Mathematical Teaching Aids** at Homi Bhabha Science Centre.

Attended seminar by Dr. V. Srinivas on '**Role of Teachers in developing Citizen Leaders**' at Ramakrishna Math, Khar (8<sup>th</sup> August, 2009)

Attended an International Workshop by Prof. Mohan Chinnappan on '**New Paths in Maths teaching & Teaching Disadvantaged Students**' organized by St Xavier Institute of Education in collaboration with University of South Australia (17<sup>th</sup> October, 2012)

Attended a One Day Workshop on **Role of Academic Audit & Documentation for NAAC, organised** by IQAC, K J Somaiya Arts & Commerce College, on 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2014.

Attended Higher Education Forum, 6th Annual Convention, 2015 on the theme '**Excellence in Higher Education**' on 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 at SIMSR, Vidyavihar

Attended National Seminar on '**Educational & Employment Opportunities in UK and India**' organized by Bombay Chamber of Commerce & Industry & UKIERI ( UK India Education & Research Initiative ) on February 11, 2016 held at The Leela , Airport Road.

Attended the two day International Seminar on '**Reducing Inequality and Inter- Religious Cooperation: Education, Healthcare, Economics and Cultural difference**' by K. J. Somaiya Bharatiya Sanskriti Peetham on 30-31 January 2017

Attended an ICSSR Sponsored 6 Days' Workshop on **Research Methodology and Data Analysis Using Excel for Social Sciences** from May 15 – 20, 2017 organised by K J Somaiya College of Education, Training & Research

## WEBINARS ATTENDED :

**“Stress Management during and Post Covid-19”** organized by Wholistic care. Centre on 9 May, 2020

**“E mask –Protecting yourself online”** organized by Department of Chemistry and N.S.S. cell of Sophia College held on 3rd June 2020

**“Strategies and Solutions for Boosting Mathematics Learning-Series 2”** organised by St. Xavier’s Institute Of Education on 25th July, 2020.

**“Towards Joyful and Meaningful Learning “** organized by K J Somaiya College of Education, Somaiya Vidyavihar University, Mumbai on 17th June 2020.

**E-Panel Discussion on “Involvement of Higher Education Institutions in Community Service”** organised by K. J. Somaiya College of Education (S.V.U.) jointly with Collaboration for Academic Research & Development, Mumbai on June 12, 2020

**‘Post Pandemic Perspectives on Higher Education’** organised by K. J. Somaiya College of Education, SVU Mumbai on 11th June, 2020.

## SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES ORGANISED

Organized a workshop on **‘Learning Difficulties of the Visually Impaired students’** of Ruia College, Matunga (30th July, 2010).

Organized the workshop for Indira Gandhi National Open University M.Ed first year on **‘Preparation , Administration and Interpretation of Attitude Scale’** (12th November, 2010)

Organised a two day training workshop **Innovative methods in Mathematics** for Mathematics teachers at K J Somaiya English Medium School (CBSE School), Sameerwadi, India (17th & 18th August, 2014)

Organized a Seminar in collaboration with Rotary Club, Ghatkopar, India on the theme **‘Issues & Challenges in Teaching of Maths at School Level’** (27th Sept., 2014)

Organized a four day teacher training workshop on **“Infusion of Multicultural elements in the school curriculum”** for in-service teachers of minority schools at K J Somaiya College of Education, Training & Research August 2018

## RESOURCE PERSON

Invited as a resource person to speak on the theme “**Creating Safe and Inclusive classrooms**” on 16 Jan 2022 for Sophia College of Education ,Mumbai

## FACULTY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Online one week Faculty Development Programme on “Academic Administration” from 06 - 12 August, 2022 and obtained Grade A+.