

Innovation in Language Learning Conference

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**English Language class as a Space for Students from
Indigenous Community**

**Falguni Bharateeya
Nalini-Arvind Arts College
Vallabh Vidyanagar
Gujarat-India**



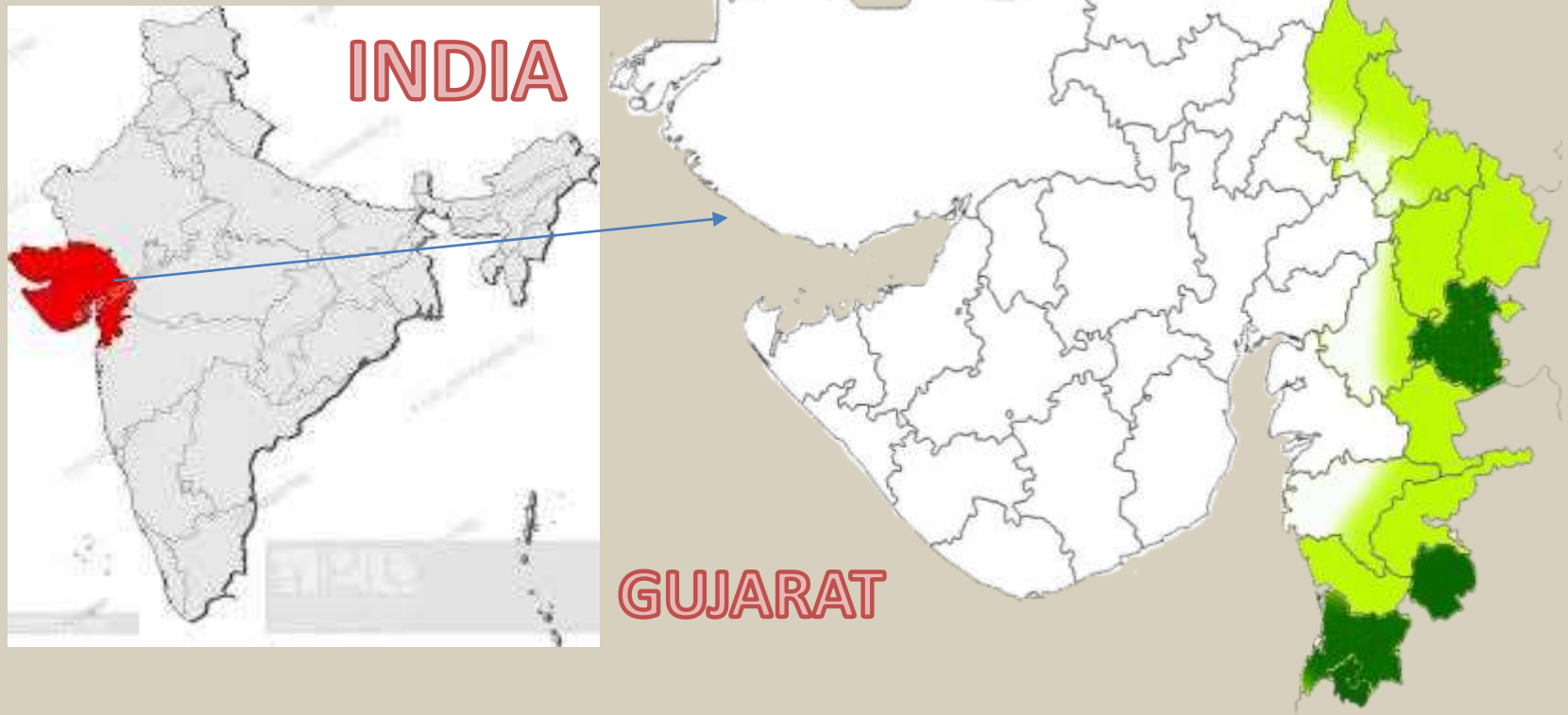
Pithora Painting

Highly rich in folk culture.

Prepared by the indigenous peoples in the central Gujarat, India.

A ritual of showing gratitude to the Almighty.

Central and southern part of Gujarat



- Inhabited by Indigenous tribes (the Bhils, the Rathvas, the Warli, the Dhodiya, the Kukna)
- Hilly area with forest
- Small tribal villages

Tribal community life

- **Respect for Nature**
- **Rich Customs and Traditions**
- **Oral culture**
- **Rooted in dialects**
- **Absence of script**





Painted words
by
Elementary
school
students of
Tamchhadi and
Vaghval
villages





NGO's involvement in Language Learning

Dictionary work in a High school in Fanaswada





A Research Scholar of
Tejgadh Academy
With tribal students



Rajesh Rathva(standing), Ganesh Devy (left)the
Founder of Tribal Academy , Surekha Devy and the
presenter



An Elementary/Primary
school in
Tejgadh

Prof. Yuval Noah **Harari** is a historian, philosopher and best-selling author of '*Sapiens*'



- All our old stories are crumbling, and no new story has so far emerged to replace them.
- Skills needed in the 22nd century
- Are old stories crumbling in the indigenous community?

Lokbharati, a university with difference



A message about Residential Institute of Rural Higher Education ,Gujarat

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12Og4YjZiqnw1MG5sOfQ4zd6UaeqVGiAa/view?usp=sharing>

Experiences about the **Space** in English teaching-learning language of empowerment and exchange of knowledge.

- Linking Survival skills of tribal students with Language Learning
- Making community life the content
- Visiting tribal residential schools and working with teachers
- Interacting with and learning from NGOs working in tribal area

Sharing knowledge at Adivasi /Tribal Academy,Tejgadh



Peer learning - teaching



Visually Impaired Students



Group presentation



English Language class : (Top),
Bottom (left)- (right)-

Sharing with peers



Sharing with peers



Reading one's own creation



Extension by Sister Institute



Alumni of the college where the presenter teaches:

Babu Baria, DISTRICT ELEMENTARY(PRIMARY) EDUCATION OFFICER,
Chhota Udepur

Pradip Patel, Principal of a High school, Fanaswada

Rajesh Rathva, Research scholar from Tejgadh

Yogesh Thakre, pursuing Masters in English, Sardar Patel University
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11UbJhy7IJgQRN5UTkvMOzgDRmB3ZKOyd/view?usp=sharing>

Challenges and Limitations

- Hostel as a space for learning
- Thinking environment in hostel
- Teacher's availability after college hours
- Planning teaching-learning for visually impaired in a heterogeneous class

CONCLUSION

LANGUAGE IS ITS CONTENT

- Exploring the background of students
- Potential of painted words and survival skills
- Support from other institutes (apart from school) providing very good support
- Models for better teaching and learning in society
- Exploring the SPACE of classroom
- Peer and group learning-teaching
- Celebrating qualities of indigenous people



**Thank
You**

