

IQAC Criteria 7.2.1

Best Practice - 1

Title of the Practice:

Bhashadan: Promoting Multilingualism through Translation and Cultural Preservation

Objectives of the Practice:

- To promote multilingual competence among students through structured translation activities.
- To preserve and disseminate regional Indian languages, literature, and folklore.
- To provide experiential learning in translation and cross-cultural communication.
- To enhance students' analytical, linguistic, and creative skills.
- To align academic practice with the vision of the National Education Policy 2020, particularly its emphasis on multilingualism and cultural preservation.

The Context:

India's vast linguistic diversity presents both an opportunity and a challenge in higher education. Many regional narratives and cultural expressions remain inaccessible due to language barriers, leading to the gradual erosion of linguistic heritage. At the same time, there is an increasing demand for professionals skilled in translation and intercultural communication.

In this context, the Department of English and Cultural Studies initiated Bhashadan in collaboration with Bhashini to create a structured platform for students to engage with regional languages through translation. The initiative responds to the academic need for skill-based learning while contributing to cultural sustainability.

The Practice:

Bhashadan is an innovative, student-centric initiative that integrates translation practice into the academic framework. Under this programme:

- Students select texts from regional Indian languages, including folklore, short stories, oral narratives, and literary excerpts.



- They translate these texts into English or other languages, ensuring accuracy while preserving cultural context.
- Faculty mentors guide students in addressing linguistic challenges such as idiomatic expressions, syntax, and cultural nuances.
- The translated works are documented and curated as part of a growing departmental repository.

Uniqueness of the Practice:

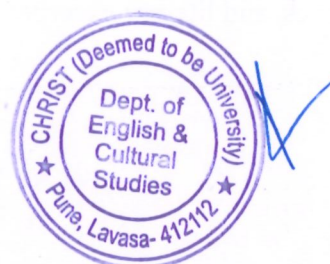
- Combines cultural preservation with skill-based learning.
- Encourages engagement with lesser-known regional languages.
- Provides real-world application of translation studies within an academic setting.

Evidence of Success:

- Increased student participation in translation-based activities and projects.
- Development of a repository of translated regional texts.
- Positive feedback from students regarding experiential learning and skill development.
- Contribution to preserving regional narratives and promoting cultural inclusivity.

Impact:

- Students developed practical translation, multilingual communication, and cultural mediation skills that enhanced their employability and were applied in professional and internship settings.
- The initiative strengthened awareness of India's linguistic diversity while fostering greater appreciation for regional languages and cultural heritage among students.
- The experiential nature of the programme encouraged students to pursue translation, localization, and digital language projects beyond the classroom, bridging academic learning with industry-relevant practice.





Krishna Pillai · 1st

Archives Intern at Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM Ahmedab...

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It has been a little over a month of archiving at IIM Ahmedabad!

The past month has been full of opportunities to go through lots and lots of material collected and loved over a lifetime, wandering quaint places around Ahmedabad in search of stories, and connecting with people.

Looking back, the 'Mapping Lavasa' initiative that I was a part of during my MAEDH degree, helped me learn loads about archiving!

Thinking about place through stories, photographs, maps, and other forms of documentation taught me that archives are not just about preserving records—they're about preserving context.

It's rewarding to see those lessons continue to inform the way I work with historical materials and family collections today.

Dr. Rimi Nandy

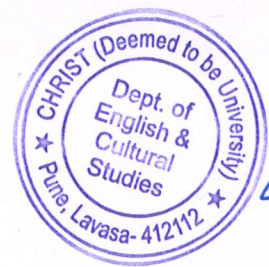
Richa Srishti (Ph.D.)

@Department of English and Cultural Studies



Ritu Vaswani and 17 others

1 comment





Catherine S Zacharia - 2nd

Student at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata

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Connect

My first internship experience could not have been any better.

Fresh out of my internship at CHRIST University, Pune - Lavasa in the Department of English and Cultural Studies- Christ University Lavasa, I can confidently say that this experience has helped me grow from a student to an aspiring professional. I was given the role of Project Assistant, which sounded quite intimidating owing to this being my very first internship. However, all members of faculty at Christ have been extremely welcoming and patient with me. I was to work on an archive of Lavasa, in the field of digital humanities, a field I have no prior experience in. From teaching me the very basics to letting me make decisions on my own, the faculty here, especially Dr. Rimi Nandy, Richa Srishti (Ph.D.) and Mr John Steward Raj have been thoroughly accommodating. I was able to gain knowledge on new tools while also improving my previously existing skills. Overall, my time at Lavasa was productive, fun and a great learning experience where I could bridge the gap between academic learning and field-based digital humanities research.

Check out our work [we're constantly updating]: <https://lavasaarchive.in>

Looking forward to more such opportunities!



Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

Problems Encountered:

- Difficulty in accessing authentic regional texts and reliable source materials.
- Challenges in maintaining accuracy while translating culturally nuanced expressions.
- Time constraints within the academic schedule.

Resources Required:

- Technological support for documentation and dissemination.
- Continued partnership with organizations like Bhashini.

