



AKSHAR TRUST

Akshar Centre for Hearing Impaired Children and Teacher Training



Overview

Deafness makes the acquisition of language and speech, a task of great difficulty. A development that most of us take for granted, becomes one which requires skilled intervention at the right time. If that does not happen, the person is left with a bleak future. This is so because without language and communication, no academics is possible.

Education is not only a vital component but also a Right under the Constitution of India. The new Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act guarantees education to all children in India from 6 to 14 years. Children with disability should not be left out of its ambit. India is also a signatory to the UN Convention for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2006.

Galbraith's famous observation notes, "There is in our time, no well-educated literate population that is poor, and there is no illiterate population that is other than poor".

It has been a long journey, but one which has also seen many well-wishers sweep away the obstacles in the path and offer us funding, space and moral support. The underlying thinking in our work is that children are children first. Whether the children are tribal, migrant or those with disabilities, they all deserve a chance, an opportunity to be educated. As the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan's (SSA) motto ensures, "No Child Left Behind" it must apply to those with disability as well.

Akshar Trust is a non-profit, voluntary and secular organisation.

About Us

Akshar Trust was set up to address these concerns. It began its work with 5 hearing impaired/deaf children on 18th July 1988 in a small, rented shed in Fatehsinghrao Gymkhana. It is today educating 151 children with a staff of nearly 18 teachers, an audiologist, a speech teacher, teachers' aides and other staff. The Teacher Training was started 13 years ago and has trained 185 teachers till date. As a not-for-profit, secular, charitable trust it has endeavoured to provide hearing impaired children an opportunity to be educated and thus get employed and become independent.

The new 'Free and Compulsory Education' Act has strengthened the move in India towards Inclusive Education. This follows a world wide trend of educating Children with disabilities in regular schools. Akshar, besides integrating 50 children since 1988, has been consistently interacting with Regular schools for visits, lectures and conferences. A national conference of the National Convention of Educators of the Deaf (NCED) was organised by the Trust in 2005.

- Registered as a charitable Trust under the Bombay Public Trust Act 1950 under Sub Section, No. E/4063/Vadodara dated 29-03-1989
- Registered under section 52 of the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 No. Gujarat/38 dated 01-08-1997
- All donations are 50% exempted under section 80G (5) Of the Income Tax Act 1961
- FCRA No. 041960087 dated 06-06-2003 (For Foreign Contribution)
- 100% Exemption under section 35AC of the Income Tax Act 1961: F. No. 270/236/2004-NC for Building Fund Vide Notification No. S.O. No. 871 (E) dated 27/04/2011
- Registered Under Section 12 (A) (a) of the Income Tax act 1961, Dated: 13/04/1989. No. BRD/SIB/110-8-A/88-89

Dear Friends,



Children with disability in India appear to have fallen off the map. Data on disability from Census 2011 has not been released yet but some figures which are available indicate that employment among the disabled is 0.4% in private jobs and 0.5% in government jobs.

Nearly 23,000 children are born with deafness in India only 2/3 of these children get a chance to be educated. Many times being in school does not even ensure literacy. They could finish school and have nothing in hand, neither a school leaving certificate nor vocational skills.

Akshar Trust has been working for 24 years to provide opportunities such as are provided to hearing children. Over the years the work has been made possible only because of the support provided by the community. This is what has sustained Akshar. We have also had an overwhelming response to the appeal for funds for the construction of the new building. The response has come both from India and from abroad. This support and the confidence it has inspired has encouraged us to strive for higher and better goals. We believe that the deaf can do everything except hear.

Ms. Nisha Grover
Honorary Principal & Managing Trustee



Coverage



Children have been coming to Akshar for education over the years from different places in and outside Vadodara. They have come in Gujarat from Chhota Udaipur, Anand, Kalol, Bharuch, Halol, Dabhoi, etc. Some come from Rajasthan.

Vision Statement

To make an individual with deafness lead a useful, happy and fulfilling life is the endeavour of Akshar Trust. Children with deafness deserve a viable academic environment which will prove to be their opportunity, perhaps the only one, towards a life of self-reliance and dignity.

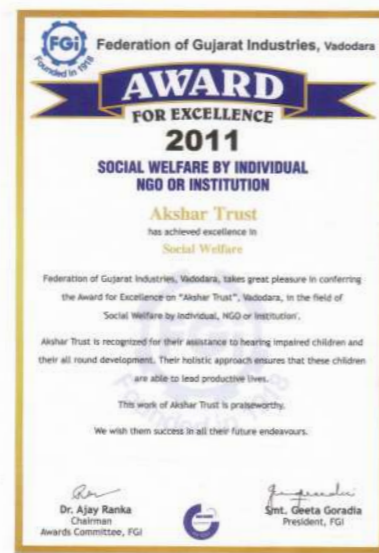
Salient Features

- 👉 No deaf child is refused admission
- 👉 Students come from every background
- 👉 Children with problems additional to deafness are also admitted
- 👉 100% of the students are subsidised. Not even one student pays the required fees
- 👉 Older deaf children are admitted
- 👉 Admissions are open through the year
- 👉 Akshar is the only one of two Centres, for the deaf in Gujarat, which is preparing students for Std. 12th Gujarat State board exams
- 👉 Till date, 26 deaf students have completed Std. 10th & 19 have completed 12th Gujarat State board exams
- 👉 The bus is subsidised

Educational Programmes at Akshar

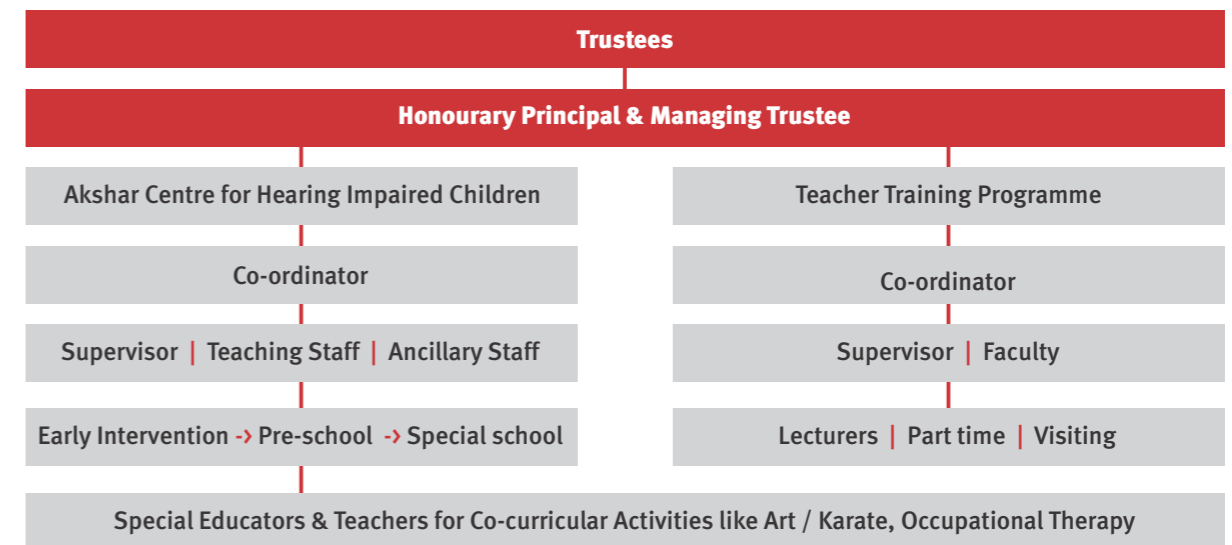
- 👉 Early intervention
- 👉 Pre-school
- 👉 Classes from 1 to 12

Akshar Trust in Vadodara, Gujarat, is a charitable trust which has been working for the education of the deaf child for the past 24 years. The school is recognised by the State Government.



Akshar Trust has received an 'Award for Excellence 2011 for Social Welfare by Individual NGO or Institution' from the Federation of Gujarat Industries on September 10, 2012. Akshar Trust has also been provisionally empanelled with the National CSR Hub of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences.

Organisational Structure



Trustee Profile

Name & Designation	Occupation	Educational Qualification	Experience	Key Associations
Mr. Karan Grover Chairman	Architect Proprietor Karan Grover Associates, Architectural firm	B.Arch-1974 M.Arch-1975	Professional architectural firm since 1975	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winner of several All India Competitions including the Vidhan Sabha of Goa • Founder trustee Heritage Trust • Instrumental in UNESCO's World Heritage Site status for Champaner • 1st architect in the world to win USGBC 'Platinum' Award for greenest building in the world
Ms. Nisha Grover Managing Trustee	Hon. Principal	B.A. History (Hons)1972 Certificate-Teacher of the Deaf Education Audiology & Research Centre, Mumbai 1974 RCI-AO1563		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustee- Heritage Trust • Trustee - Bhasha Trust • President - National Convention of Educators of the Deaf (NCED), India, 2010-2013 • Hon. Principal - Akshar Centre since 1988 & Teacher Training since 1999 • Governing Council Member - V-One Society
Mr. Jal Patel Trustee	Consultant	B.Com 1956 A.C.A 1961 A.C.S 1977	Managing Director & Chairman, FAG Bearings India Ltd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President - Parsi Panchayat • President - V-One Society • Trustee - Shram Mandir Trust • Trustee - Heritage Trust
Mr. Hasmukhbhai Shah Trustee	Professional	B.A. (Hons) M.A.	Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister, Government of India in Prime Minister's office, Ministry of Finance, P&T Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President and Trustee - Shram Mandir (leprosy eradication) Chairman • Kachnar Trust (public service) Trustee • Bharatiya Agro- Industries Foundation (BAIF) (rural development)

Effective Educational Activities

Early Intervention



A hearing child develops speech and forms basic language concepts in the first 3 years. For any deaf child the training process should start immediately upon diagnosis.

Akshar Centre is the first in Gujarat to have started an Early Intervention Programme in 1978 before the formal Centre took shape. The youngest child has been 12 months old. It is a specially designed programme that aims to make the child acquire language and speech skills so that she/he is a part of the community and can get access to education.

Working with Amplification Devices



- An audiologist and a **speech teacher** work with the students regularly.
- An **ENT surgeon** visits every week.
- **Audiograms** are done free.
- Parents are taught **how to use and maintain the hearing aids**.
- All the equipment required for amplification is on the premises. This includes **Group Hearing Aids, Speech Trainers, Audiometers including a digital one, Induction Loops, etc.**
- Free hearing aids are distributed to the more needy students. Support has been extended by Siemens and Samaj Kalyan Trust, Vadodara. **130 students have been fitted with effective individual hearing aids.**

Two mediums, Gujarati and Hindi

Akshar is the only school, out of 40 for the deaf in Gujarat, which also offers Hindi as a separate medium of instruction apart from Gujarati.

Mainstreaming

Over 50 students have been completely integrated into hearing schools over the years.

These schools are

- Sunflower School
- Sayaji High School
- Sunrise School
- Navyug School
- Auxilium Convent
- Vidyut board School
- Shreyas Vidhyalaya
- Prerna
- Little Flower School
- Convent of Jesus & Mary
- Mother's School
- P.M. Yadav School
- Urmi School
- R.U. Pandya High School
- Ambe Vidyalaya
- Anand Balwadi
- Bright Child Play School
- Shaishav School
- Basil School
- Baroda High School
- Krishna Hindi Vidhyalaya
- Stepping Stones

Adaptation

Adaptation of Curriculum and Textbooks is a recognised practice all across the world for the child with disability. Adapted matter makes it easier to understand the text book. Adaptation is done of the textbooks of Gujarat State Board. This has been done since 2005. Akshar is one of the very few schools for the deaf in Gujarat which are adapting textbooks.

Videography & Film



Akshar periodically makes videos of classroom teaching for discussion and constructive feedback on improvement of teaching methodology.

A film on Total Communication was produced by Akshar for the RCI. A presentation of this was made at a Workshop on 'Communication Options and Course Coordinator's Meet' organised by RCI from November 28 to December 2, 2011 at Chennai.

Technology

Paul Mason & Company (PMC) has designed 'Student Management System' software for Akshar students. This assists in administration, a student's history, admission and time-tables more effectively.

Power Point Presentations are used for teaching the teacher trainees.

State-of-the-Art Equipment is used in the school

- Edusat - 1
- Tata Sky - 1
- Colour T.V. - 2
- LED & LCD with CPU - 3
- LCD Projector - 1
- DVD player - 1
- Music System - 1
- Digital Camera - 1
- Digital Handicam - 1
- Computers - 17
- Software 'Linux' - 1
- A Special Software for speech called 'Waghmi' - 1
- Students Management System Software designed by PMC - 1



On going Programmes and Plans

Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE)

Akshar has conducted 9 CRE programmes till date. These are sponsored by the RCI. Special educators, including principals and vice-principals from Gujarat and Mumbai, have been attending lectures on deafness and teaching methodology.

Akshar is in the process of developing facilities at the new building site. This will extend our work to rural areas where the need is most acute. This would include identification of deafness, fitting of hearing aids, and the training of mothers with deaf children.

The building includes

Spaces for the Infant-Parent Programme and Counselling	Classrooms for the Special School	An Audiology and Speech Wing	Lecture rooms for the Teacher Training programme
A space for Conferences / School Programmes	A Computer Laboratory and a Science Laboratory	Proper Games facilities	A Library

The Trust is also planning to set up a Cell to expedite the work on the use of solar powered low-cost batteries for hearing aids, so that these become affordable to even the economically weak. A low-cost mould-making facility is also planned.

A dialogue has been initiated for working towards Universal Screening of newborns in partnership with a local hospital. This will be a step towards effective Early Intervention.

We are in communication with other Special Education (HI) Schools in Gujarat who want us to assist them in their programmes.

The Right to Education Act 2009 makes provision for 25% of seats in schools to be made available for 'disadvantaged' children, which includes children with disability.

Akshar Trust is working on being a resource centre by organising conferences and workshops for regular schools.

A dialogue has been initiated with SSA for the creation of audio-visual and printed material for them. Conducting some of their training programmes by Akshar for inservice training has already begun.

We have proposed a series of talks/ conversations on radio on various aspects related to deafness. A talk on 'Deaf Education' was given by Ms. N. Grover on World Deaf Day September 26, 2012.

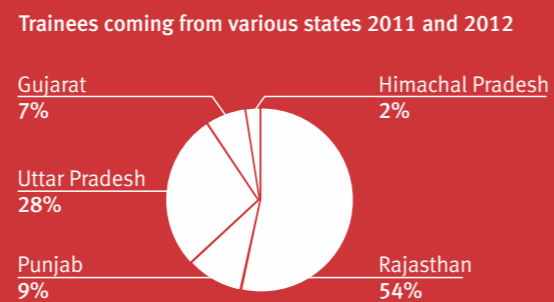
Deafness is an invisible handicap and the implications of deafness are not easily understood. With Early Detection and Early Intervention many problems can be mitigated. Towards this end small publications in Gujarati / Hindi are planned for the following groups.

- Primary health care doctors / workers, anganwadi workers, nursery schools
- Regular schools, centres of higher learning such as institutes & colleges
- Employers



Teacher Training

Akshar started the Teacher Training Programme in 1993. This was recognised by the RCI in 1999. The RCI is a statutory body governed by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India. 185 teachers have been trained and 43 are completing their Course. The training is conducted in both Hindi and Gujarati. It is in the last 2 years that trainees have been coming from states other than Gujarat. Akshar is affiliated with Baba Saheb Ambedkar Open University (BAOU) for a 2 Year Distance Mode B.Ed programme.



Parents

- Parents of Early Intervention students are given guidance and counselling
- Parents attend Early Intervention classes where they observe the teachers working
- Language and Speech therapy, Cognitive and Motor Co-ordination Development along with Auditory Training is demonstrated to the parents
- Finger-spelling chart is given which helps them to communicate with their children

Cost Effectiveness

- Free accommodation in school buildings without paying rent since 1989
- Intermittent Grant from Central Government
- Free lunch from Jalaram Temple for students
- Recycling of paper and cards - All rough work in school is done on used paper collected from offices and homes
- Donations in kind like computers, furniture, hearing aids, etc. have been a regular practice
- Get donations from individual and corporate companies
- Akshar arranges to get scholarships from the Govt. of Gujarat for students coming from a poor economic background. This year scholarships for 46 students were organised

Awards and Certifications

The Nalanda Knowledge Foundation presented the Institution Building Award in 2007 to Ms. Nisha Grover, for her efforts over the past 19 years for Akshar Trust.



M.C. Sen Award for Best Theme Paper was presented to Ms. Nisha Grover and The Kadar Khan Award for Best Innovative Paper was presented to Ms. Kavita Thakkar, and Ms. Hema Kale at the National Convention of Educators of the Deaf (NCED), a National Conference organised by Akshar Trust in February 2005.

Ms. Sweta Khare getting an award from the Rotary Club of Baroda in 2007

Accreditation Certificate

The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) has given 'Permanent Recognition' to the Teacher Training programme. Akshar was given Accredited Status by the RCI for 'Very Good Performance' in 2009.



Annual Report 2011-12

Ms. K. Thakkar went to Nari Suraksha Kendra as an interpreter for two deaf girls who were having problems, on June 21 & July 5, 2011

Ms. G. Parmar went to Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University as an interpreter for one of our alumni for the final submission presentation, on November 22, 2011

Many parents whose children are not deaf, come to Akshar. We refer them to other centres. Nearly 25 have been referred till date

Students from various schools of Vadodara also visit Akshar

125 students from Sant Kabir School interacted with Akshar students, on August 25, 2011

The Interact Club, Billabong High International School celebrated Children's Day with Akshar students. Games were played and Akshar students taught them finger spelling, on November 14, 2011



Activities

Student Activities

Students learn computers from Std. 5 using software, such as 'Linux'

50 students have received individual / small group speech therapy for the development of speech

Individual counselling of students is done and Behavior Modification Awards are given

Parent counselling was organised as part of the 'Disability Week' in December



Medical

Guided by Dr. A. Kuruvilla, a student identified many children as 'anaemic'. Akshar procured Iron and Folic Acid tablets from the Corporation for distribution

Two Medical Interns, Dr. G. Sherathiya & Dr. M. Nagdia, examined the students



Interesting Activities

A group of young mothers visited and donated drawing material, on June 22, 2011

90 Municipal Corporation school teachers (Vadodara urban) with the IED Coordinator, SSA, Mr. K. Joshi visited on September 28, 2011 and 80 Special Educators of SSA (Vadodara District) visited on January 21, 2012



Amway Opportunity Foundation



Has been supporting some activities at Akshar. They took 83 students to 'Fun Time Arena', besides providing transport and lunch | **June 28, 2011**

Organised a **Medial Check-up Camp** for 75 students Medicines & vitamins were given | **July 18, 2011**

Mr. Jignesh Mehta, Amway Metro, Mumbai, visited the Centre with two officers from Vadodara | **August 30, 2011**

A **Magic Show** was organised and the students were given snacks | **November 24, 2011**

A **Drawing Competition** was organised in which 17 students of Akshar and 35 students of other schools, took part. Gifts and snacks were distributed | **March 25, 2012**

Administrative Activities

Date	Person	Programme	Organised by	Comments
June 18, 2011	Ms. K. Thakkar	Meeting of Affiliated NGOs	United Way of Baroda	Project submission and formulation
March 01, 2012	Ms. K. Thakkar	Training Programme for Top Level Management	United Way of Baroda	Conducted by Mr. B.N. Dastoor, Trainer & Management Consultant
March 23, 2012	Mr. D. Jani	Charitable Clinic for Trustees of NGO	Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (Vadodara) supported by United Way of Baroda	Formation of trusts, accounting, taxation and FCRA

Teacher Training Activities

The Teacher Training entered the 13th year in 2011-12. **Two new faculty members have been appointed**, Mr. Rajendra Pandya, M.Ed. and Mr. Premal Desai, M.Ed.

Results for the year 2009-11 batch

Total Students	First Class	Second Class
13	11	2

Dr. K.B. Sharma & Dr. Shradhha came to approve the proposal made by Akshar for B.Ed SEDE (HI) from Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University on September 19, 2011.

7th Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) programme was conducted. This five-day programme was on 'Development of Literacy', sponsored by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), from December 12 to 16, 2011. Visits were made by trainees to Kamlaben Vidyalaya, K.G.P. Children's Hospital, Spandan School for MR students & Aurobindo Ashram, in Vadodara.

Faculty Activities

Date	Faculty	Organised by	Subject
May 2 - 13, 2011	Ms. G. Parmar	AYJNIHH, Mumbai	An Introductory Indian Sign Language Course
July 26 - 27, 2011	Ms. H. Kale	RCI, New Delhi	'Quality Awareness & Promotion of Special Education through Distance Mode' and Coordinator's Meet
November 28 to December 2, 2011	Mr. R. Pandya	RCI, Chennai	National workshop on Communication Options to Teach the Deaf. (RCI & Balavidyalaya), Chennai
February 5 - 7, 2012	Ms. N. Grover Ms. H. Kale Ms. G. Parmar Mr. R. Pandya Ms. K. Thakkar	NCED-India, Bareilly	77th NCED Annual National Conference on Inclusive Education
February, 2012	Mr. R. Pandya	ISHA, Nadiad	Seminar on RCI Act, PWD Act and Auditory Verbal Therapy
March, 2012	Mr. R. Pandya	M. P. Bhoj Open University, Indore	External Examiner for B.Ed. examination
March 17 - 19, 2012	Ms. H. Kale	International Conference, IARP, New Delhi	Global Commitments towards Inclusive Development of Persons with Disabilities
March 23, 2012	Mr. P. Desai	M. P. Bhoj Open University, Indore	External Examiner for B.Ed. examination

Ms. N. Grover was a resource person at the workshop on 'Communication Options' and Course Coordinators Meet organised by RCI from November 28 to December 2, 2011 at Chennai. She made a presentation on 'Total Communication' and showed the film on it, produced by Akshar Trust and sponsored by RCI.

Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter of NCED India organised the 77th National Conference at Bareilly, from February 5 to 7, 2012. Ms. N. Grover, now President of NCED India, was one of the keynote speakers at the conference. Nearly 300 delegates attended. Three faculty members of 'Teacher Training' and Four Special Educators from the Centre were present.

The Teacher Training faculty has also started a project, 'Investigating the Status of Hearing Impaired children under Inclusive Education in Vadodara District'. This is an on-going project. Responses from 214 schools in the rural areas and 71 schools in the urban area have been complied. A preliminary report was presented at the National Conference at Bareilly in February 2012.

Annual Events

Picnics

65 students, of Std. 1st to 5th, went to **Ajwa-Nimeta**, on December 26, 2011.

On January 12, 2011, 44 students, of Std. 6th to 12th, went to '**Gamthi Resort**' on Orsang River. They trekked in the jungle, saw the Green House and walked across the Orsang River. It was a memorable day.

Sports Day

On Wednesday, February 22, 2012, Akshar celebrated its 16th Sports Day at E.M.E. School. **Mr. Vinod Rao, Collector and District Magistrate**, was the Chief Guest. There was a display of various drills, including dumb-bells, lazim and karate. Nehru House won the House Trophy, second time in a row.



Dates of Interest

Date	No. of Students	Event	Organised by	Activities																
31/07/11	33	'Prerna' - The Emancipation	Faculty of Technology & Engineering, M.S. University	Students took part in competitions like carrom, rangoli, pot-design and drawing																
12/08/11	110	Rakshabandhan Celebration	Akshar Trust	Chocolates to children																
25/08/10	125	Student Elections	Akshar Trust	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Head Boy</td> <td>Head Girl</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rashid Kadri</td> <td>Mahin Sayyad</td> </tr> <tr> <td>House</td> <td>Captain</td> <td>Vice-captain</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nehru</td> <td>- Nimesh Aggrawal</td> <td>- Dhiraj Suthar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tagore</td> <td>- Tushar Sadhu</td> <td>- Sakshi Sharma</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gandhi</td> <td>- Nishang Panchal</td> <td>- Dishant Machhi</td> </tr> </table>	Head Boy	Head Girl	Rashid Kadri	Mahin Sayyad	House	Captain	Vice-captain	Nehru	- Nimesh Aggrawal	- Dhiraj Suthar	Tagore	- Tushar Sadhu	- Sakshi Sharma	Gandhi	- Nishang Panchal	- Dishant Machhi
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05/09/11	145	Teacher's Day	Akshar Trust	Senior students took over the teaching																
03/10/11	155	Garba Celebration	Akshar Trust	Students came in traditional garba dress																
21/11/11	150	The Last Working Day of First-term	Akshar Trust	Students came in colourful dresses and took part in rangoli, painting & mehndi. They also played throw ball																
03/12/11	7	World Disability Day - Rally	United Way of Baroda																	
04/12/11	9	World Disability Day	V-One Society	Painting competition. Students got snacks & three students got prizes																
20/01/12	37	Awareness of Water Conservation	Heritage Trust	Students painted as well as made clay and thermocol models of Navlaxhi stepwell																
07/03/12	140	Holi-Dhuleti Celebration	Akshar Trust	Celebrated																



Field Trips



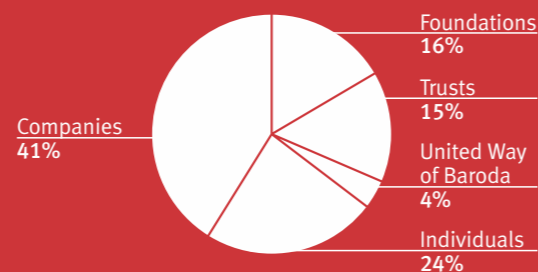
Date	No. of Children	Location
08/09/11	17	Visited Ganpati Idols
04/10/11	10	Kamati Baug
02/03/12	25	Kamati Baug

Fund Raising | May 2011- April 2012

Break up of Donations

Name of Donor	INR	Name of Donor	INR
Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.,Vadodara	360,000	Mr. & Mrs. Ashok Nehru, New Delhi	10,000
Pirojsha Godrej Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. Jamshyd Godrej, Mumbai	200,000	Ms. Chaula Jain and Mr. Jitendra Jain, U.S.A.	8,000
Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, New Delhi (2nd Installment 2010-11)	166,725	Ms. Pritika Parikh, Vadodara	7,000
United Phosphorous Ltd., Mr. & Mrs. Rajju Shroff, Mumbai	125,000	Mr. & Mrs. Rustom Ginwalla, Vadodara	5,000
G.H. Patel Charitable Trust, Vadodara	100,000	Ms. Roshan B. Cama, Vadodara	5,000
Munjal Auto Ind. Ltd. Mr. & Mrs. Sudhir Munjal, Vadodara	100,000	Ms. Hemlata K. Chavan, Vadodara	5,000
Mr. & Mrs. Piyush Shah, Vadodara	100,000	Mr. Ravi Kapoor, Vadodara	3,330
Standard Radiators, Mr. & Mrs. Praveen Singh, Vadodara	100,000	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, IED Unit, Vadodara	2,500
Mr. Vijay Chowgule, Goa	100,000	Mr. Deep Pandya, Vadodara	2,000
United Way of Baroda, Vadodara	90,000	H.F. Patel Memorial Trust, Mr. & Mrs. Atul Patel, Vadodara	25,000
Blue Star Foundation, Ms. Sushila Ochani, Mumbai	50,000	Leherchand Uttamchand Trust Fund, Mr. & Mrs. Nirmal Bhogilal, Mumbai	25,000
Shroff Family Charitable Trust, Mr. & Mrs. Atul Shroff, Mumbai	50,000	Mr. & Mrs. Gulammohammed Sheikh, Vadodara	25,000
Mr. & Mrs. Nandkishore Dalmia, Vadodara	50,000	Mr. & Mrs. Hector Patel, Vadodara	25,000
Mr. Mahesh Patel, U.K.	50,000	Tristar International, Mr. & Mrs. Jagdeep Buddhiraaja, Vadodara	25,000
Thackersey Moolji Charity Trust, Mr. & Mrs. Chandrahas Thackersey, Mumbai	50,000	Ms. Rachna Patel, Vadodara	21,000
Uday Education Society, Mr. & Mrs. Chirayu Amin, Vadodara	50,000	Mr. Rustomji (Rusi) F. Patel, Vadodara	20,000
Alembic Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Mr. & Mrs. Chirayu Amin, Vadodara	50,000	Mr. & Mrs. K.G. Ramanathan, Mumbai	15,000
Kachnar Trust, Mr. & Mrs. Hasmukh Shah, Vadodara	45,000	Equip Engineers India Pvt. Ltd., Mr. & Mrs. Kamal Sawhney & Mr. & Mrs. Arun Sawhney, Mumbai	15,000
Banco Products (India) Ltd., Mr. & Mrs. Vimal Patel, Vadodara	40,000	Mr. Dibendu Bose, Kolkata	2,000
M/S. F.P. Patel & Co. (Vendors),Vadodara	15,000	Ms. Nirali Shah, Vadodara	2,000
M/S. F.P. Patel & Co. (Trade & Import), Vadodara	15,000	Ms. Dhvani Mehta, Vadodara	2,000
Mr. Jal R. Patel, Vadodara	15,000	Paul Mason Consulting staff, Vadodara	1,850
Mr. Shirish R. Beri, Nashik	15,000	Mr. & Mrs. Kunal Patel, Vadodara	1,000
K.K. Patel Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. Vimal Patel, Vadodara	11,000	Ms. Raxa Shah, U.K.	600
Mr. & Mrs. Ruhshad Boman Rustom Cama, Vadodara	11,000	Ms. Sakuben Desai, Vadodara	500
Blue Star Foundation, Mr. B. Thiagarajan, Mumbai	10,000	Mrs. Rita K. Shah, Mumbai	500
Lion's Club of Baroda - Taramandal, Vadodara	10,000		
Ms. Rashmi Manu Shroff, Vadodara	10,000		
Ms. Amarben Patel, Vadodara	10,000		

Break up of Donations



Donations for FCRA Account | May 2011- April 2012

Name of Donor	INR
United Technologies Corporation • Mr. Andrew Olivastro, USA (125,000 USD)	6,476,369
Vidya Vikas Charitable Trust • Mr. Ashok Mehta, USA (5,000 USD)	241,148
Rathbone Investment Management Ltd. • Mr. Chris Andre, London (500 GBP)	37,670
Prosea International Ltd. • Mr. James Fitzgerald, South Africa (200 USD)	10,460

Donations in Kind | May 2011- April 2012

Name of Donors	Item
Samaj Kalyan Trust, Vadodara	29 BTE & 6 Pocket Hearing Aids
V-One Society, Vadodara	23 BTE Hearing Aids
Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Vadodara	Two BTE & 22 Pocket Hearing Aids
Ms. Tinno Chawla, Vadodara	62 small button cells
Mr. & Mrs. Kunal Patel, Vadodara	Hearing Aids ancillaries
Mr. Sundara Raman R., Vadodara	One computer set with UPS (used)
Ms. Kusum Patel, Vadodara	14 dozen stainless spoons, two big mats & two small mats
Paul Mason Consulting staff, Vadodara	Kites for children

The following people distributed pastries and snacks

- Mr. & Mrs. Karan Grover
- Ms. Roopa Soni
- Mr. Pradip Pathak
- Mr. Kanubhai Patel
- Ms. Kanchan Soni
- Mr. Maganlal Soni
- Mr. Raju Soni
- Mr. Chirag Borkar
- Ms. Sharda Patel
- Mr. & Mrs. Pratik S. Desai
- Mr. Satish Mandovara
- Ms. Tejal Amin
- Ms. Gauri Sarwaiya
- Mr. Sandeep Kothi
- Maj. Gen. & Mrs. Rajesh Datta
- United Way of Baroda
- Amway Opportunity Foundation

The following people distributed stationery items

- Ms. Minal Patel
- The Nielsen Company
- Mr. Dhirubhai Mistry
- Ms. Shakuntala Desai
- Mr. S.M. Jhala
- Ms. Nita Wig
- Ms. Nirali Shah
- Ms. Kavita Thakkar
- Mr. Pranav Mistry
- Ms. Sheena & Mr. Rishi Patel
- Mr. Tushar Damani
- Dr. Bharti Pandey

The following friends gave Akshar a discount on building materials

- Mr. Atul Shroff
- Mr. Shivinder Chawla
- Mr. Rustom Ginwala



Further information:

Till April 2012, we have not received 50% grant-in-aid from Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India for the year 2009-10. No grant has been received for 2010-11 and 2011-12 till date.

ONGC, India has been supporting the education of 30 hearing impaired girl students since 2003. This assistance has helped the trust to provide quality education & training. The ONGC Officers Mahila Samiti donated 900 notebooks for the students.

United Way of Baroda has been helping Akshar Trust for many years and was the first to fund the activities in 1989. It has given a grant-in-aid for 1 LED with CPU, portable hard disk & educational software in 2011-12.

Pirojsha Godrej Foundation, Mumbai, has generously supported the activities of the Trust for the past 4 years.

Mr. Dhirubhai Mistry, President, Lions Club of Baroda (Main), Vadodara donated stationery items for the entire year.

The Rajiv Gandhi Foundation has been largely supporting the Early Intervention Programme of Akshar Trust since October, 2004.

Paul Mason Consulting staff, Ms. Shaili Jain, Ms. Sejal and others are helping in developing a website for Akshar Trust. They are also helping in adaptation of text. An alumnus is working with the company and they have offered to take more students from Akshar.

Teacher Training Staff

Core and Part Time Faculty

- | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Ms. Nisha Grover | 2. Ms. Hema Kale | 3. Ms. Geeta Parmar | 4. Mr. Rajendra Pandya |
| 5. Mr. Premal Desai | 6. Ms. Falguni Shah | 7. Ms. Pubali Basu | |

Visiting Faculty

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Dr. Bharati Modi | 2. Dr. P.N. Saini | 3. Ms. Rohini Haldankar | 4. Ms. Kavita Thakkar |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|

Consultants



Speech Pathologist and Audiologist

Ms. Falguni Shah

Clinical Psychologist

Ms. Pubali Basu

Occupational Therapist

Ms. Unnati Patel

ENT Surgeon

Dr. P.N. Saini

Karate Teacher

Mr. James George

Voluntary Work

Dr. Bharatiben Modi has been actively involved with the Centre since 1993.

Mr. Kavirath Jain had volunteered to teach maths to Std. 10th students from July to August, 2011.

Visitors

Mr. Shetti
Akshayapatra Foundation
Vadodara
September 2, 2011

Mr. Shashi Prasad and Mr. Curran Prasad
USA
November 22, 2011

Ms. Gyan Dalmiya
Vadodara
January 20, 2012

Ms. Mamta Prasad
Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.
Mumbai
September 15, 2011

Mr. Thomas Parr
England
December 5, 2011

Ms. Tejal Amin
Vadodara
January 24, 2012

Mr. Sanjeev Gandhi
'Reach To Teach'
London
October 11, 2011

Mr. Dhiru Mistry
President, Lions Club of Baroda (Main), Vadodara
January 17, 2012

Maj. Gen. & Mrs. Rajesh Datta
Commandant, EME School
Vadodara
April 18, 2012

Ms. Sadhna Sapre
Mookdhvani Vidyalyaya
Mumbai
November 9, 2011

Ms. Aruna Lakhani & Mr. Atul Patel
Federation of Samaj Kalyan Trust
Vadodara
January 19, 2012

Dr. Bharti Pande
President, Mahila Samiti, ONGC
Vadodara
April 19, 2012



Our Special Gratitude to

- Shikshan Samiti (School Board) and the Municipal Corporation of Vadodara, for giving us temporary accommodation in a corporation school building in the old city area
- The EME School for giving us the Eugene Stadium to hold our Sports Day year after year
- Mr. Manishi Bhatt of Manishi Enterprise for all the building activities
- Jalaram Temple for the mid day meal for the past 18 years
- The staff of Karan Grover & Associates, Mr. Mihir Ashara, Mr. Bhupendra Patel, Mr. Mukesh Patel, Mr. Jojo Jacob, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Kishor Mohite and Mr. Umesh Mistry
- Mr. Alkesh Shah, Chartered Accountant, for auditing the accounts of Akshar Trust since 1988 in an honorary capacity
- Mr. Jatin Vakil for helping Akshar in land related issues for the new school building
- Mr. Rajesh Parikh for his continuous and wholehearted support to all the activities for the past many years
- Cognito for designing the Annual Report 2011-12
- The Chairman, Mr. Karan Grover, Trustees Mr. Jal Patel and Mr. Hasmukh Shah

Parent's Profile and Occupation

Occupation	Percentage	Occupation	Percentage
Vegetable vendors	3.00	Small Business	11.54
Garage workers	3.00	Jobs in small Companies	33.97
Peons	0.64	Lawyers, Teachers, LIC agents, Accountants	4.49
Labourers	9.61	Government jobs	7.69
Domestic workers	1.28	Unemployed	3.20
Drivers	8.33	Parent deceased	1.92
Shopkeepers	10.90		

Academic Background of Students

Kanaka Bhat M.Com, M.S. University	Dhara Panchamiya B.Com., 3rd year, M.S. University	Swetal Parekh B.A., Fine Arts, M.S. University	Parth Shah Computer Designing, Nadiad
Manisha Sindkar M.Com, M.S. University	Pratik Shah B.Com., 3rd year, Gujarat University	Teena Thomas B.Sc., Home Science, M.S. University	Ankit Simlote Cisco Certification, Online Certificate Course
Shrenik Shah B.Com, Sardar Patel University	Vishal Badgular, B.Com., 3rd year, Gujarat University	Pinal Pilojpara Computer Application, ITI, Vadodara	Vibhav Simlote English Language, Gallaudet University, USA
Ruchit Shitole B.Com., M.S. University	Aditya Bhalerao, B.A., Fine Arts, M.S. University	Anshu Jha Computer Application, ITI, Vadodara	

Placement / Employment

Fenil Parekh Graphic and Web Designer	Manisha Sindkar Accountant, ONGC	Reema Chokshi Beauty Salon	* Vandana Rohra has cleared ISTQB Exam with 65% and is a certified Software Analyst at Paul Mason Consulting.
Teena Thomas Trainee Designer	Pradeep Kashyap Railways	Akshita Bhrahambhatt Beauty Salon	
Vandana Rohra* Test Analyst, Paul Mason Consulting	Gayatri Prasad Transpek Silox	Vivek Vadhera Tailoring	Almost all these children have been with us since their childhood. They have all been through the Early Intervention Programme.
Ruchit Shitole Trainee, Paul Mason Consulting	Amit Jha Storekeeper, Polymer Technology International Co.	Mohammad Pathan Electrician	
Sonu Shukla Telecom Mechanical Engineer, Army	Leena Bendade Data Designer, Pvt. Software Co.	Nilesh Pillai Salesman, Grocery store	
Dhrupa Patel Asst. Teacher (Sp. Ed.), Akshar	Jaya Chaudhary Toothpaste Company	Sunil Damor Packaging, GIDC	
Payal Kayasth Asst. Teacher (Sp. Ed.), Umang	Rushibha Patel Data Entry Operator	Anshu Jha Computer Operator, I.T.I.	
	Zainab Lokhanwala Beauty Salon		

The following students from the above table are pursuing further studies along with their jobs

Fenil Parekh B.C.A. IGNOU, Distance Mode	Vandana Rohra B.C.A. IGNOU, Distance Mode	Amit Jha B.C.A. IGNOU, Distance Mode
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Major Donors since the beginning

Name of Donors

• Mr. Karan Grover, Vadodara	• Mr. & Mrs. Jitendra Jain, UK	• Dr. R.D. Pandit, Mumbai
• Mr. Jal Patel, Vadodara	• Mr. & Mrs. Boman Cama, Vadodara	• Ms. Jyoti Patel, Vadodara
• Mr. & Mrs. Hasmukh Shah, Vadodara	• Mr. & Mrs. Ashok Krishnadas, Vadodara	• Ms. Trupti Singh, Vadodara
• Mr. Indubhai Patel, Vadodara	• Mr. & Mrs. Phiroz Patel, Vadodara	• Ms. Amar Patel Amin, Vadodara
• Mr. K. K. Grover, Mumbai	• Mr. & Mrs. Shivinder Chawla, Vadodara	• Ms. Malini Bhatt, Vadodara
• Mr. & Mrs. Jagdeep Buddhiraja, Vadodara	• Mr. & Mrs. Hector Patel, UAE	• Ms. Anjali Ela Menon, New Delhi
• Mr. & Mrs. Chirayu Amin, Vadodara	• Mr. & Mrs. K.G. Ramanathan, Mumbai	• Ms. Priya Paul, New Delhi
• Mr. & Mrs. Girish Mehta, USA	• Mr. & Mrs. Jyoti Bhatt, Vadodara	• Mrs. K.R. Dorabji, Vadodara
• Mr. & Mrs. Percy Muncherji, Singapore	• Mr. & Mrs. Essam Al Tamimi, UAE	• Mrs. Nargis Katpitia, Vadodara
• Mr. & Mrs. Tushar Dayal, Vadodara	• Mr. & Mrs. Arun Sawhney, Mumbai	• Mrs. Jill Beckingham, Mumbai
• Mr. & Mrs. Rajju Shroff, Mumbai	• Mr. & Mrs. Nirmal Bhogilal, Mumbai	• Ms. Karishma Grover, Mumbai
• Mr. & Mrs. Jamshyd Godrej, Mumbai	• Mr. & Mrs. Kamal Sawhney, Mumbai	• Ms. Neha Grover, Mumbai
• Mr. & Mrs. Chandrahas Thackersey, Mumbai	• Mr. & Mrs. E.J. Paul, New Delhi	• Ms. Neela Desai, Vadodara
• Mr. & Mrs. Atul Patel, Vadodara	• Mr. & Mrs. Kapil Grover, Mumbai	• Ms. Daksha J. Vyas, Vadodara
• Mr. & Mrs. Paresh Saraiya, Vadodara	• Mr. Piyush Shah, Vadodara	• Ms. Rini Dhuma, Vadodara
• Mr. & Mrs. Atul Dalmia, Vadodara	• Mr. Dalbir Kapur, New Delhi	• Mr. & Mrs. Gulam Sheikh, Vadodara
• Mr. & Mrs. Sudhir Munjal, Vadodara	• Mr. Baljit Kapur, New Delhi	
• Mr. & Mrs. Atul Shroff, Mumbai	• Mr. Vijay Chowgule, Goa	
• Mr. & Mrs. Vimal Patel, Vadodara	• Mr. Rumi Verjee, London	
• Mr. & Mrs. Nandkishore Dalmia, Vadodara	• Mr. Greg Romine, China	
• Mr. & Mrs. D. Patel & Manan Patel, USA	• Mr. Chris Andre, London	
• Mr. & Mrs. Ashok Nehru, Gurgaon	• Mr. Parth Amin, Bangalore	

Trusts, Foundations & Corporates which have donated

- United Technologies Corporation, USA
- Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., Vadodara
- Vidya Vikas Charitable Trust
Mr. Ashok Mehta, USA
- HNG Float Glass Ltd.
Mr. Kailash Jain, Mumbai
- United Way of Baroda, Vadodara
- Shapoorji Pallonji Charity Trust, Mumbai
- Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, New Delhi
- Blue Star Foundation, Mumbai
- Share & Care Foundation, USA
- Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Mumbai
- Amway Opportunity Foundation, Vadodara

- Samaj Kalyan Trust, Vadodara
- G.H. Patel Charitable Trust, Vadodara
- Sanskruti Foundation, Porbandar
- Paul Mason Consulting (India) Pvt. Ltd.
Mr. Paul Mason, UK
- Sterling Biotech Ltd.
Sandesra Group, Vadodara
- Conmat Systems Pvt. Ltd.,
Mr. Premraj, Vadodara
- Prosea International Ltd.
Mr. James Fitzgerald, South Africa
- Mehta Charitable Trust, Mumbai
Mr. & Mrs. Jitendra Mehta



Donation Options

(INR)

Adopt education of a child for 1 year	20,000	Annual Maintenance cost for Computer Laboratory	15,000
Adopt education of a child for half year	10,000	Batteries and cord of hearing aids for poor children for 1 year (20 students x INR 1,000 per child)	20,000
Adopt education of a class (10 students) for 1 year	200,000	Moulds of hearing aids for poor children for 1 year (20 students x INR 1,100 per child)	22,000
Hot Mid-Day Meal for 151 children	270,000	Photocopying of 'Adapted Text'* (Text Book)	
Adopt the School Bus Programme (Expenses for regular running and Maintenance)	216,000 Per year	Per child	175
Adopt the School Bus Programme (Expenses for regular running and Maintenance)	18,000 Per month	12 children x INR 175 (per class)	2,100
		150 children x INR 175 (for all children)	26,250

* Gujarat State Board Text books are adapted (re-written) by skilled persons as per the needs of the children to make learning easy, interesting and possible. It is then photocopied and given to all the students.

Office Bearers

Chairman
Mr. Karan Grover

Trustees
Mr. Jal Patel, Mr. Hasmukhbhai Shah

Honourary Principal / Managing Trustee
Ms. Nisha Grover

Mr. Dhirubhai Mistry's Musings

વડોદરા ના સૌથી કોલાહલ ભર્યા મંગળબજાર વિસ્તારમાં એકસો પચાસ (૧૫૦) થી વધારે વિદ્યાર્થી - વિદ્યાર્થીનીઓની શાળામાં એકદમ નીરવ શાંતિ હતી. આ બાળકો બોલવા માટે પ્રયત્ન કરી રહ્યા હતા. પોતે કંઈ કહેવા માંગે છે. પણ કુદરતે તેઓની બોલવા-સાંભળવાની ગ્રંથી વગર જ જન્મ આપ્યો છે. પણ એમ હારવાથી બેસી રહેવું આ બાળકોને પાલવે તેમ નથી. તેઓ પ્રયત્ન કરી રહ્યા છે. આ ભગીરથ પ્રયત્ન કરાવી રહ્યા છે અક્ષર શાળા ના સંચાલકો.

"ખુદ હી કો કર બુલંદ ઇતના..... ના જગ્યા ને આત્મસાત કરી રહ્યા છે. આ અક્ષર શાળાના બાળકો અને ગુરુજનોની સમસ્યા ગંભીર છે. પણ ઇરાદો અડગ છે. આ બાળકોને સમાજના મુખ્ય પ્રવાહમાં લાવવા છે. અંધ વ્યક્તિમાં જો એકાદ કિરણની રોશની આવે તો તેનું જીવન પ્રકાશમય બની શકે છે. એજ રીતે આ મુક બધીર બાળકો થોડા શબ્દો કે સ્વર બોલી શકે, તો વિચારો કે કેટલો આનંદ તેઓ પામી શકે.

આ યજ્ઞમાં આપણે સૌ જોડાઈ શકીએ છીએ, વિવિધ પ્રકારે થોડો સમય સમર્પિત કરીને આર્થિક સહયોગ આપીને અને સૌથી વિશેષ પ્રેમ આપીને.

- ધીરુ મિસ્ત્રી, પ્રમુખ, લાયન કલબ ઓફ બરોડા (મેઈન)

Guests' Comments

Akshar trust has always a fantastic work out here. Our best wishes to all of them. Lots of love to Mr kids!

20/04/11 Ajayesh Mehta
Ajayesh Mehta
Mumbai

A very well conducted visit. The children are really very well trained & motivated. A great effort! I wish you all the best in all your endeavours.

28/9/2011 Kamalrajul. Joshi
FED. CO-ordinator
Vadodary Corporation

18 April Maj Gen R Datta

स्वास्थ्य विभाग द्वारा आयोजित कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया। सर्व शिक्षा अभियान विभाग (आर.डी.ए.) मुंबई संस्थान द्वारा आयोजित कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया। मुंबई नगरपालिका द्वारा आयोजित कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया। सर्व शिक्षा अभियान विभाग (आर.डी.ए.) मुंबई संस्थान द्वारा आयोजित कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया।

स्कूल में आने बहुत अच्छा लगा। विद्यार्थी उत्साहित हैं। शिक्षकों के लिए Sing Language के लिए जो प्रयास प्रशंसनीय है। Best of Luck.

9/11/2012 Sadhana Saxe
Mookdhwan Vidyapeeth
Vileparle Mumbai





AKSHAR TRUST

**Akshar Centre for Hearing Impaired Children
and Teacher Training**

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