

2020-21 OMGMT ANNUAL REPORT



Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust

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Message from our Chief Trustee



Dear Family and Friends of OMGMT,

We wish to thank you for your generous support of OMGMT over the past years. This past year has been challenging, worldwide, due to the pandemic and lockdown. During these months of lockdown, the guiding directors and advisors had time to consider its goals and strategies. After working in tandem with Shri Nityananda Education Trust for several years, on November 1, 2020, the directors of both trusts decided to divide their projects between them. OMGMT chose to continue its rural development projects of (1) Natural Farming Education and Plantation Project; (2) Awakening the Spiritual Self, (3) Health is Wealth Initiative, (4) Social Entrepreneurship- Padukas Women's Workshop, (5) Vocational Training & Girls Scholarships, and (6) Preservation of Tribal Culture. (SNET continues to run Fire Mountain Retreat.)

OMGMT reflected upon the guidance of the original Trust documents to align with the inspiration of the founders. As such, we committed afresh to the trust's stated purpose:

- **to spread love, kindness, and non-violence to the society.**
- **to weave spirituality into the fabric of everyday life through education and activities.**
- **to improve living standards by skill training and education, particularly for women & children.**
- **to protect the environment and animals.**
- **to provide assistance in a natural disaster.**
- **to construct buildings for religious purposes.**

Networking is a strong thrust of our staff. Although our own budget is somewhat limited, we offer other organizations to be the "boots on the ground" and organize various activities that they can provide supplies. For example, we have worked with Nalu of Bali for six years organizing their uniform give-a-way project in India. We identify tribal girls who need financial help for their education and connect them directly with donors.

On January 1, 2021, OMGMT held a puja on its office grounds to bring the entire staff of 65 together in dedication and re-commitment to our trust's goals. The staff was invited to participate in a gesture of Spiritual Fasting for seven days to further potentize our request for spiritual help.

Within two months, OMGMT discovered a gorgeous acre of land at the foothills of Mandagni, well within the trust's budget. A deposit was made and we are happily engaged in envisioning and planning for having a permanent home for OMGMT from where we can offer our continued support to the community. We envision a home for an Empowerment and Innovation Center that sponsors spiritual, educational, and vocational education and training, as well as spearheads social enterprises in the community. Specifically, we plan to build a meditation hall, a vocational training center, the Padukas Artisans workshop, an outdoor demonstration center for natural farming, and offices for OMGMT. We will happily receive donations to create this dream.

Sincerely
Vijay H. Honkalaskar, Ph.D.
(IIT MUMBAI)

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OM GAGANGIRI MAHARAJ ASHIRWADIT TRUST

Our journey would not have been possible without our valued volunteers, dedicated donors, and the many professionals who helped our efforts in 2020-21. Together we have coordinated a number of projects and events, raised awareness, and inspired change in hundreds of individuals and families. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve mankind together as One Family.

OM GAGANGIRI MAHARAJ ASHIRWADIT TRUST



GMT



"Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust (OMGMT) is a Mumbai-based registered NGO working in the tribal area of Wada Taluka, Palgher District, Maharashtra since 2006. OMGMT, as it is called, is guided by a board of trustees that includes three engineers (from IIT), two Adivasi social workers, and two non-Adivasi social workers.

Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust is committed to developing the human potential of the impoverished communities in the outback of Mumbai. The overall mission is to encourage & support individuals and groups to become self-sustaining. The general target communities are the Adivasi tribal populations and other unorganized peoples of India, especially farmers, women, and children.

Specifically, OMGMT establishes rural development through education, training, livelihood generation, spiritual practices, interventions of health practices, appropriate technologies, self-help groups, and watershed development.

OMGMT has 12A and 80G with the Indian government and is ready to issue tax certificates to Indian donors.

Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust

OMGMT

**INR 11,68,334 rupees raised in 2021
compared to INR 8,65,568 in 2020**

(funds raised annually 2020 from 2019)

**7000 people served even through
the pandemic lockdown.**

(people served in Covid Lockdown)



MORINGA AND FRUIT TREE DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM



OMGMT FOOD GRAINS & ESSENTIALS DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM



TEACHING SPRITUAL PRACTICES IN THE COMMUNITY



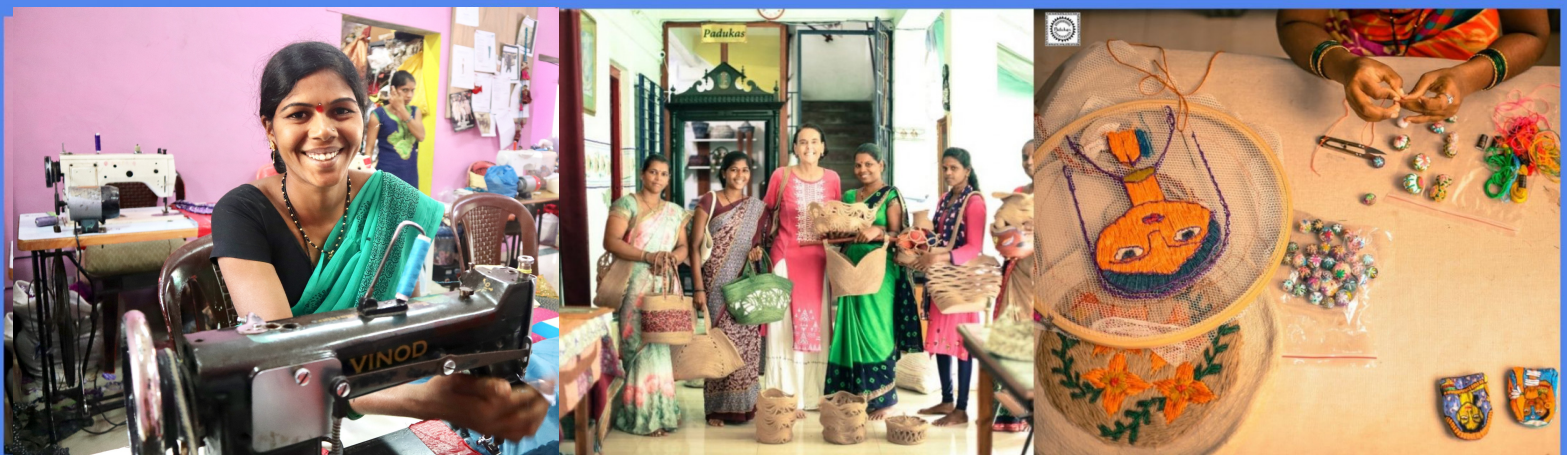
BOKSHI CONSTRUCTION ON SMALL RIVER



MAKING NATURAL AND CHEMICAL FREE PRODUCE FOR NATURAL FARMING



CULTURAL PRESERVATION



EMPOWERING WOMEN AND BUILDING THEIR SKILL & CRAFT

Poverty is the Everyday Crisis

Life in the outback of rural India is a daily crisis unimaginable to inhabitants of modern cities. Because of the level of poverty and little infrastructure available, daily life is grueling, unforgiving, and literally life-threatening. Hauling water 5-8 times a day for family use, fetching firewood for cooking on wood stoves, and lack of consistent electricity are just a few of the daily challenges of living in the Forest area of Tansa River Valley. In recent years, OMGMT carried out participatory studies in two representative villages and learned of the major problems faced: lack of livelihood alternatives, lack of higher education, poor infrastructure, domestic water impurity and scarcity, poor nutrition, lack of healthcare. It is OMGMT's expressed goal to address these challenges and improve the lifestyles of these people forgotten by modern India.



The chart below categorizes the problems into five areas:

✓ **Table 1: List of the problems perceived by the villagers near Ganeshpuri region in Wada block**

Drudgery	Health	Knowledge, mind-sets, behavior, and practices	Infrastructure	Livelihood
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drudgery in firewood fetching• Drudgery in domestic water fetching	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1Personal hygiene• Impure drinking water• Scarcity of milk• Malnutrition• Increasing trend of health problems• Lack of knowledge of suitable diet• Lack of healthcare service in the village	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Liquor addiction• Lack of higher education• Early marriages of girls• Reducing cattle population• Lack of knowledge about suitable agricultural practices• Lack of planning for monetary expenses• Lack of social capital to carry out a number of village-level activities• Lack of sanitation in the village	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of transport services to reach educational institutions and nearby marketplaces• Lack of road network• Sporadic power cuts during monsoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seasonal migration to earn a livelihood• Lack of livelihood alternatives• Lack of skills and capabilities required to earn a livelihood

AWAKENING THE SPIRITUAL SELF



“Giving food is Seva (service), but helping people earn their own livelihood is a greater Seva. And alongside, if you can help them lift their minds, then that is the greatest Seva.

All these are different levels of Seva. I think the greatest service any person can do in the world is to bring about a transformation with oneself.”

@Swami Chinmayananda



” Knowing about the world is important, knowing about oneself is vital.”

@Swami Tejomayananda



SPRITUALIZING CONTEMPORARY LIFE

OMGMT's trust deed defines its primary goal as to spiritualize the contemporary life of our community by fostering love, kindness, and non-violence. Thus, we want to expose our entire staff to a positive and spiritually uplifting atmosphere as we attend to our trust duties. Every day, aarti (waving of lights to saints and deities) and prayers are offered at OMGMT's office and workshops. Meditation sessions in the Marathi language are conducted for our staff five days a week.

We teach yoga, shlokas, and the practice of homa (fire ceremony) to our staff throughout the year. We encourage discussion of spiritual ideas. We draw upon holy scriptures and couple that with a sensitivity towards the tribal culture and their age-old practices of worshipping the Divine. In particular, Parusharam is a beloved deity among our local Adivasi people and we honor their devotion to this aspect of the Supreme Power.

We wish to build faith and devotion in those who choose to work with the trust. We believe as this becomes a habit, families and community members will also become inspired. Eventually, this beautiful spiritual ideology, self-control, and self-discipline will reveal the beauty of one's inner being throughout the larger community.

NEW YEAR DEDICATION EVENT

On December 31, 2020, OMGMT held a yagna for its entire staff to welcome the new year after a challenging year of dealing with the Covid pandemic and lockdown. The focus was on bringing more spiritual awareness into our lives and how our staff can become instruments for awakening into higher consciousness. The staff was asked to dedicate seven days of spiritual fasting towards the manifestation of OMGMT's goals for 2021. We teach our staff to be responsible for the success of OMGMT's efforts by purposefully using their minds to conquer doubt, access love, brightness, and inner wisdom to pursue seva in the villages.

GOW SEVA

Many villages ask OMGMT for financial support to build their village temple or spiritual gathering place. We believe this is part of OMGMT's mission as well as to protect all kinds of animals, particularly cows. OMGMT has taken on the care of ten cows that were needing a home. We have placed them with our organic farmers. During the lockdown, we were unable to teach yoga to 2500 students in the thirteen schools as we did the previous years. So we discovered places during lockdown where people were still converging such as the two local hospitals, and school grounds.

NATURAL FARMING PROJECTS



Project Description

OMGMT has been teaching and training the farmers in various natural farming practices for the last 5 years. Our trained farmers can make natural fertilizers and pest deterrents from available materials from nearby jungles. OMGMT focuses on the cultivation of vegetable crops either during the monsoon or during the winter seasons. This has been found to be an impressive livelihood alternative once the villagers earn the skillset of carrying out vegetable cultivation and natural farming practices. This addresses the problem of depleting agro-ecology and increasing investment in agriculture.

If the tribal could carry out the intensification of the farming, problems would also get addressed:

- Reducing Malnutrition by increasing availability of vegetables & milk.
- Improving the nature of Soil by increasing the number of cattle.
- Reducing the chemical contaminants in the water due to the spraying of synthetic pesticides.



OMGMT disseminates the natural farming practices to over 300 farmers in over 30 villages throughout the year. Each of OMGMT's eight field workers educates and trains a set of 3-5 villages in a village cluster. The training activities include soil testing, farmers' workshops, village level meetings, individual meetings with farmers, carrying out farm visits, working with farmers on their farms, making agricultural inputs with farmers, supplying the inputs and materials to make the inputs to the farmers, documentation of the cultivation practices of the farmers. A worker will oversee the manufacturing of the inputs.

Produce Distribution to Greater Mumbai

This year, post-monsoon, OMGMT worked with 50 of its most dedicated natural farmers to develop a produce distribution to nearby major cities. Several distributors were identified who put in orders for over 100 kg produce. Our team discovered a system of delivery that utilized overnight bus lines that passed nearby our distributors. We were able to deliver these packages of over 100 kg in record time for a few rupees. The distributors were very pleased and expressed interest to repeat again next year.

OMGMT FARMING PROJECTS



Seeds Distribution Program during Pandemic Lockdown.

The Government of India announced the lockdown in the entire country on 24 March 2020. Soon, it started affecting the economy and thus affecting the lives of poor farmers and laborers. Lockdown closed all possible income sources for farmers and they had to use their hard-earned minimal savings for buying food. When the Monsoon started, farmers began to complain they had no money to buy seeds. Therefore, OMGMT decided to distribute different types of seeds to farmers. We distributed good-quality hybrid seeds like Cucumber, Pumpkin, Ladyfinger, Dangle, Bottle gourd, and Ghosala. We distributed seeds to over 320 farmers in the nearby villages of Ganeshpuri. We responded quickly to their distress because seeds are needed at beginning of the rainy season, the ideal time to plant the seeds. We received a very huge positive response from farmers. Later we observed that many farmers made good income by selling these products to local markets or door-to-door basis. They use these vegetables for feeding their own family also.



Moringa and Fruit Tree Distribution project

In an effort to support environmental sustainability, OMGMT educates forest residents about their rights over natural resources and forest regeneration. Tree Planting is one such activity whereby the environment is protected by community forest management and environmental education. Our local farmers were educated about the effect on the environment of having more trees on their "wasteland" such as improving the soil, preventing erosion, filtering pollution from the air, recharging the aquifer, providing firewood, creating shade from tropical sunlight, giving shelter from wind and rain, and making food for humans and animals.

Each year for the past three years, OMGMT has subsidized the planting of quality fruit trees to local farmers to add to their long-term income by providing a high-cash crop. In addition to distributing 1000 typical fruit tree seedlings, OMGMT distributed Moringa seedlings, a fast-growing, highly beneficial plant that gives fruit early. Moringa pods are in high demand and very nutritious. Leaves also rival other vegetables for high nutrition. The project aims to provide farmers with a continuous income source through growing Moringa plantations and raising their living standards. OMGMT grew the plants from seeds in its own nursery to the age of 4 to 7 months. Then, we distributed more than 3000 plants to more than 150 farmers. We selected a highly adaptable and yielding PKM1 Moringa variety for distribution.

Bokshi construction on small rivers

The bhokshi dam is being developed from the people's traditional fishing technology. Two to three farming households (or even a single household) can come together to build the bhokshi dam without a need to seek intervention from external agencies.

We use naturally available materials such as stone and wood to build a Bokshi. and make the water-conserving structure. We put a wall of stone to create a barrier in the river's natural flow. Site selection is an important part of bokshi construction. We select suitable sites so that more water can be conserved and more water available for vegetable farming.

In the last year, we built one new bokshi and repaired six old bokshi. Bokshi is useful to farmers and the environment by increasing the groundwater levels, providing easy fishing sites.& more water is available for vegetable planting.

To enhance community spirit we seek to involve villagers in Bokshi constructions

Cultural Preservation



Adivasi: the Indigenous People of India

Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust is located among the indigenous people of India known as the Adivasi (first inhabitants), or Vanvasi (forest dwellers). They live surrounded by nature, historically living off what they could forage from the forest and later, learning to grow rice during monsoon. The Adivasi in our neighborhood of Wada, Palghar Maharashtra fare better than many of those farther into the forest, but still, they are the forgotten and ignored people of the Indian government. They have very limited access to infrastructures that are commonplace in the city, such as running water, transportation, sewage systems, adequate schools, and health systems..

OMGMT's intent is to support the Adivasis' identity and pass on their traditional wisdom, values, knowledge, traditional medicine, and culture. Warli art has an honored place in the homes and community and many children learn Warli art from their elders. The trust encourages this artistic tradition by employing several Warli tribal members to paint traditional Warli art and contemporary interpretations.

Our Warli Art Earns Craftmark Certification

In April 2020, OMGMT was verified and certified by Craftmark India (AIACA, All India Artisans & Craftworkers Welfare Association) that our Padukas Artisans are producing quality "Warli Art" painted by Indian artisans. More significantly, our Warli Art is produced by authentic Warli tribal members. Padukas Artisans workshop markets this art to a wide range of domestic and international buyers. Padukas Artisans developed a new product synthesizing some of the methods used in the workshop: a jute basket covered with paper mache and then painted with Warli art. It has been a great success for our team. During the months of Lockdown, AIACA brought donations to ten of our most needy artisans to supplement the lack of livelihood.

Preservation of Traditional Instrument: Tarpa Horn

OMGMT helps to preserve the traditional tribal music of the unique Tarpa Horn and dance. For the past two years, several Tarpa Horn players were hired to teach the younger generation how to play the Tarpa Horn. OMGMT purchased several horns for the young people to borrow. The OMGMT staff learned the art of making the Tarpa horn of local natural materials. Bees' wax was gathered from the forest to be used as glue. Gourds and bamboo were used to make the body of the horn. After completion, the homemade horn was painted with Warli art. In October 2020, during a brief reprieve from the pandemic lockdown, a Warli elder, Bhiklya Ladkya Dhinda, and dancers from a northern Warli tribe in Jawhar were brought to Nimboli for a Tarpa horn concert that was streamed live on Facebook. The event inspired pride among those tribal people who attended.

Preserving Traditional Dance, Song, and Holiday Rituals

OMGMT promotes cultural events within the community to validate the Adivasi culture, traditional unity, tribal festivals, and indigenous wisdom. During these gatherings, traditional music, folk dance, and humorous skits and dramas are showcased. But during the pandemic lockdown, there have been almost no opportunities. Hence, our staff, Ms. Mohini Rao has been extremely creative in inserting cultural programs into any gathering the trust sponsors. During a distribution of school uniforms, she organizes entertainment of folk dancing and singing performed by local talent. When Ms. Rao conducts coordinates an educational skills class, she invites the students to sing their own local songs or to teach the others a local folk dance. She inquires how they celebrate their holidays, what foods do they cook, what decorations they put up. In this way, she is encouraging our tribal women to honor their culture by continuing their heritage and rituals. This kind of discussion also teaches the community to value each other, to celebrate the differences between each village, and to learn from one another.



Vocational Training, Employment, and Scholarships

Creating Transformation through Vocational Training

OMGMT believes in creating sacred and respectful learning spaces for individual and collective transformation within the context of vocational training. Starting each class with chanting of a sacred hymn and a small fire ceremony sets the stage for successful learning. After the class has been completed, the students might sing a local song, or join in a regional dance. These additional social activities foster ties between community members to create a sense of family, develop lifelong friendships, and create important support groups. Often these small groups lead to camaraderie and friendship that allows the students to share deepest concerns with each other in hopes of getting clarity.

1. Computer Classes and Girls' Scholarships

Although our area was in lockdown through much of the year, OMGMT was able to continue some of its vocational training. When the schools closed, our students reduced their demand for computer classes. We daily provided computer teachers for eight of the twelve months, but at reduced hours. Our scholarship program that benefits disadvantaged girls saw a drop in enrollment to 30 girls from our past year average of 100. These thirty girls were able to continue their studies online, especially nursing classes, even though local schools were in government lockdown.



Vocational Training and Social Enterprises

For four months, OMGMT taught Beginning and Intermediate Tailoring classes to 20 women in Gorard, and an embroidery class in Bhoraepada for 15 women. As we have done for the last ten years, Jan Shikshan Sanstha provided the sewing machines, the class syllabus, and the teacher salary, when we provided 15 to 20 students. At the completion of the class, and successful passing of a written and oral exam, the students each received a government certificate verifying their attendance and sufficient mastery of the subject.

In October 2020 and February 2021, Sonal Dalvi, proprietor of Glasikacraft, conducted two pieces of training at Padukas Artisans in unique colorful Meenakari style glass painting. Ms. Dalvi has created a thriving business making the most beautiful puja-ware by painting on Borosilicate glass. Borosilicate glass has a melting point of 850 degrees Celsius and is highly heat resistant making it perfect for puja ware. Ms. Dalvi has trained 7 of our Padukas artisans to produce her glassware here in India as she was moving to the states to further her study of Entrepreneurship.

During the 2020 lockdown, OMGMT was able to keep 50 Padukas Artisans (www.padukasartisans.com) working at halftime after the initial panic subsided. Even though most stores were also experiencing a great reduction in sales, Padukas was able to secure a few orders that made it possible to pay the staff at half time. By fall 2020, we were able to start to give piece embroidery work to our latest batch of women who completed our last embroidery class just prior to lockdown.



HEALTH & WELLBEING PROJECT

HEALTH & WELLBEING PROJECT INITIATED.

In the winter of 2020, two vastly experienced and competent Health Program Administrators visited OMGMT, Ms. Liz Stafford of the UK and Louis Niessen, MD, of the Netherlands. Because of their love for India, and passion for sharing their health knowledge, they offered to spearhead a health project to promote health and well-being for the local community, especially where people have little access to health services. Phase One began in April 2020 with the selection of a Health Project Coordinator, Ms. Mohini Rao.

Ms. Rao collected data of the geographical area, the recognized health problems, local health services, village leaders, committed organizations, and other existing resources. The local and international health and wellbeing targets were identified. Health offices were visited and working relationships were initiated. Ms. Rao reviewed OMGMT's earlier projects: water purification and water hygiene education, distribution of a cookstove device that reduced smoke inhalants, women's hygiene, malnutrition prevention, cooking for good nutrition, and yoga in the villages.

Ms. Rao held a community meeting with local leaders and health professionals to discuss her findings and get input and advice. These leaders and professionals were thus involved from the start in a continuous and open dialogue with the OMGMT. The goal is to facilitate collaboration with all parties in meeting the health needs of the community.

Pandemic Lockdown Creates Food Shortages

The extended lockdown was extremely difficult for our local families. Sources of income dried up. Existing savings were used for purchasing food and supplies. We identified about 150 families who were without food and brought food packages to them. A Mumbai NGO asked us to coordinate the dispensing of soaps and sanitizer for them. Our staff became trained in Covid Awareness and could reach out to those communities who were unaware of how to minimize exposure.



Nimboli Hospital Remodeled to Instill Confidence in Community

Ms. Rao worked closely with the two local hospital administrators, Nimboli and Vajreshwari, learning first-hand the hospital's challenges and needs of the community. The Nimboli Hospital Medical Director, Dr. Jadhav revealed that the government awards each hospital 20,000 rupees (about \$300 USD) for yearly maintenance. OMGMT decided to address some of the equipment needs, medicine shortfalls, and cosmetic issues of the hospital. We felt that the hospital must present itself as a professional office and instill greater confidence in those who seek help. OMGMT found donors to contribute resources to provide medical equipment, monthly medicine, paint walls, doors, and furniture, fix broken fixtures, install mosquito netting on windows, provide cleaning materials, teach staff how to do deep cleaning, and attend to the landscaping.

Health and Yoga Classes taught in Hospitals, Schools, and Self Help Groups.

Our yoga teachers taught daily yoga classes in the hospital for staff, local adults, and children. Yoga was taught monthly at women's self-help group meetings in several villages. OMGMT yoga staff were asked to conduct yoga classes for S. N. Khalsa College of Arts, Science, and Commerce on International Yoga Day (online) and again at the Vajreshwari Hospital (in person). A form of Hands-on Healing, Jin Shin Jitsu, classes were taught at the hospital weekly. OMGMT Health educators were asked to speak about women's hygiene and distribute pads for Mumbai NGOs needing help with coordination and speaking in the local language. During this year, over 1000 women were given pads.

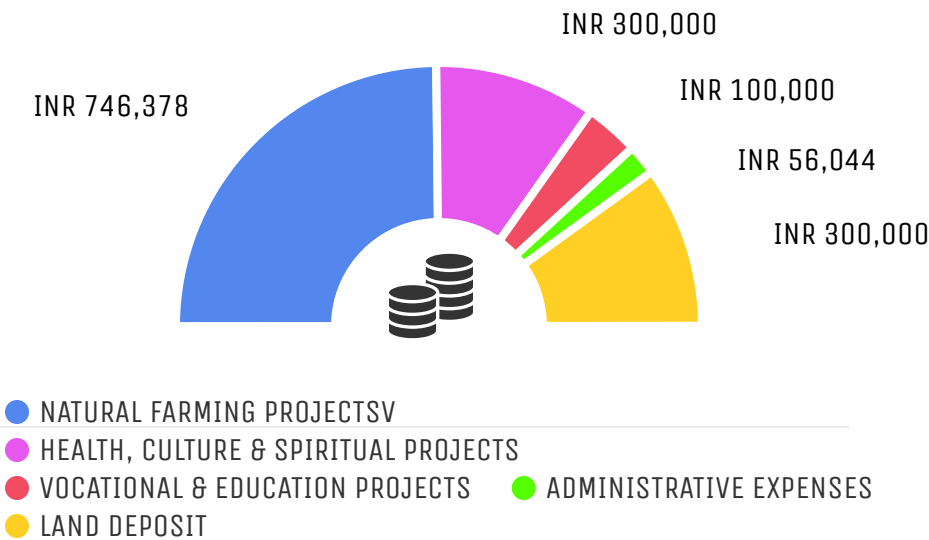


FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fiscal Year April 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021

For every ₹100 you gave, ₹76 was invested in community building, spiritual training, health education, and skills/vocational training. ₹20 was deposited to purchase land for OMGMT's future Natural Farming Demonstration Center, Padukas Artisans Workshop, and Meditation Hall. ₹4 rupees were spent on administrative costs.

PROGRAMS AND OPERATING EXPENSES



REVENUE AND SUPPORT (INR)

- Contributions **INR 11,63,850**
- Interest **INR 4,484**
- TOTAL REVENUE **INR 11,68,334**

PROGRAMS AND OPERATING EXPENSES

- NATURAL FARMING PROJECTS **INR 7,46,378**
- HEALTH, CULTURE & SPIRITUAL PROJECTS **INR 3,00,000**
- VOCATIONAL & EDUCATION PROJECTS **INR 1,00,000**
- ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES **INR 56,044**
- LAND DEPOSIT **INR 3,00,000**
- TOTAL EXPENSES **INR 15,22,422**

NET ASSETS (INR)

BEGINNING OF THE FISCAL YEAR
INR 4,20,554

CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
INR 65,912

TOTAL NET ASSETS
INR 4,86,465

Looking forward to 2021-22

Thank you for joining OMGMT in our journey to address the needs of those who live outside India's modern infrastructure and have been particularly impacted by the Covid Pandemic. Even with the lockdown, OMGMT was able to bring benefits to hundreds of people due to your help. We are immensely grateful for your participation in our ongoing efforts.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS NOW MORE THAN EVER.

The biggest dream for OMGMT in 2021 is to complete the purchase of a beautiful acre of land in Vadpada, at the base of Mount Mandagni. We envision this gorgeous acre as a home for an Empowerment and Innovation Center that sponsors spiritual, educational, and vocational education and training, as well as spearheads social enterprises in the community.

The meditation hall will be the heart of the Empowerment and Innovation Center from which attendants, students, and staff will perform spiritual practices such as yoga, agnihotra, Homa, pujas, meditation classes, and various healing sessions. A second building will wrap around the center building and courtyard and provide classrooms for our vocational training and education seminars. Various social enterprises, such as Padukas Artisans Workshop can have their organizing offices in these buildings. A third building will be the home of the trust's administrative offices as well as provide a commercial kitchen and lodging for volunteers, visiting presenters, and trainers. The surrounding land will be used for a natural farming demonstration center, year-long natural food production, and outdoor classroom for agriculture and handicraft training.

In the year to come, OMGMT will continue its intention to bring more and more awareness to the spiritual development of the community. Our staff plans to bring teach more yoga, more meditation classes, more spiritual fasting sessions, and Homa practices to our staff and surrounding villages. We plan to use existing structures, such as the Gau Devi Mandirs, for various spiritual practices during holy days.

OMGMT Natural Farming Project now focuses more intently on establishing a year-long market for its participating farmers to sell their naturally grown vegetables. Based on the input from several distributors, we realize that it is mandatory that we be able to provide vegetables year long.

Our team is creating a system with our farmers to produce the necessary vegetables to serve this year-long market. Our farming project has taken on rent a small stall in Nimboli to organize our natural farmers' produce, sell locally, make value-added products, and establish a food brand. We will be purchasing refrigerators to store vegetables and other products for daily purchase. Again, our natural farming project will provide 30-50 high-quality fruit trees to our most committed natural farmers, thus turning them into plantation farmers as well as vegetable second cropping.

Our Health and Well Being project plans to expand its outreach to more schools and women's groups, providing health education and prevention. We are fortunate enough to rehire one of our original health educators, Lalita Kale, to reinstate our full health education program: Personal Hygiene, Feminine Hygiene, Malnutrition Prevention, Cooking for Good Nutrition, Psychology of Health and Yoga and Stress Reduction. When schools reopen from pandemic lockdown, we plan to bring our Yoga in the Schools back to the thirteen schools where we taught 2500 students weekly pre lockdown.

OMGMT will continue to take skills training to more and more villages. OMGMT has developed a practice to only teach a new skill to villagers when there is a known market. Otherwise, the women are disappointed to learn new skills but have nowhere to translate them into income. In the past year, OMGMT was approached by two established businesses looking for a production unit: a hand-rolled incense distributor and a hand-painted Meenakari glassware distributor. Both companies provided training in their crafts to a team of women, and when their skills were sufficient for production, they gave OMGMT a contract to produce products for them.

Due to the pandemic and lockdown, the lack of food continues to be an ongoing challenge. In the new year, OMGMT will pick a new village each month to distribute food packages to 20-30 widows and handicapped. OMGMT will look for donors to provide one month's food to a village. We envision that with time, we will be able to bring food to the elders of 2-3 villages each month.

Given the lockdown of society, not just in India, but worldwide, our NGO has been affected by rising costs of expenses. We deeply appreciate your past participation in our activities and request that you please involve yourselves again this coming year. We look forward to seeing your kind faces at our offices and in the field as we introduce you to our various projects and our beneficiaries. We are always available to answer questions, share our accounting and paperwork, and introduce you to our trustees.

We are deeply grateful to each of you. May the Grace of the Divine always be a Kind Wind beneath your wings.

Sincerely,
Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust
Board of Trustees

