



2022-23 OMGMT ANNUAL REPORT



Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust



OM GAGANGIRI MAHARAJ ASHIRWADIT TRUST

Reg.No E-4042/05 Thane(Registered U/S 80-G (S)of I.T Act.1961)
Reg. Off At.Nimboli, Post. Kelthan, Near Ganeshpuri, Tal-Wada,
Dist- Palghar, Pin-401204

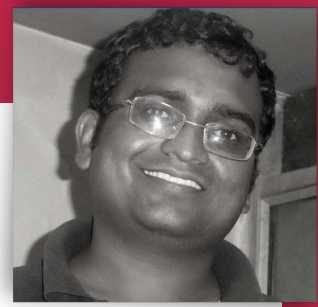
Contact us on **+91 8329786196**
Visit our website on **omgmt.org**
Mail us at **info@omgmt.org**

Our Bank Details
Om Gagangiri M A Trust
Bank Account - 21230100029295
IFSC-FDRL0002123
(Federal Bank)



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“MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF TRUSTEE



Dear Family and Friends of Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust (OMGMT),

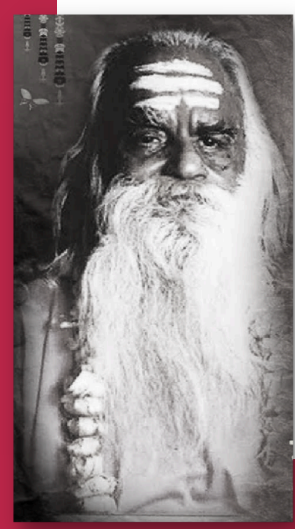
In Palghar, tribal communities often endure social exclusion, limited education, and financial insecurity due to various factors like restricted land ownership, historical marginalization, and geographical isolation. These challenges, compounded by cultural differences and non-viable farming practices, perpetuate a cycle of poverty and hinder their overall well-being. With the pandemic finally behind us, OMGMT can now fully focus on its seva projects to address these issues. Our initiatives include providing scholarships, establishing computer labs, and offering vocational training to empower individuals. We also aim to disseminate profitable, low-cost, high-yield natural farming techniques and promote fruit tree plantation drives. Additionally, we offer yoga classes, healthcare support, and food donations to improve the health and mental well-being of these communities. Our efforts also extend to livelihood generation through women's handicraft workshops and entrepreneurship to enhance their quality of life.

As you will see in the following pages, OMGMT has made significant progress in its seva, benefiting thousands of tribal and non-tribal individuals by improving their education, skills, health, mental well-being, and economic opportunities. We are deeply grateful to all the organizations that have partnered with us in our efforts to make a difference in the tribal area of Palghar. Thanks to the generosity of the **Godrej Foundation**, we were able to provide scholarships to 25 tribal girls for various school fees. **Svaroopaa Vidya Ashram** supported us in resuming yoga classes for our students. **Ammucare** Charitable Trust provided monthly food bags for distribution to needy families in our area. **Nalu** assisted us in identifying 800 children to receive school uniforms and supported distribution. The **Lions Club of Juhu** facilitated the distribution of 10,000 trees to our neighbors. **Jan Shikshan Sansthan** contributed to salaries for teachers to train women in embroidery, food processing, and jute bag making. **Sulokchetna Pratishthan** provided farming expertise to our natural farming team. **Shanti Mandir** graciously allowed us to use their Great Hall for various functions, including weekly yoga classes.

OMGMT has made strides in developing its Natural Farming Demonstration Center and Vocational Training Institute on a beautiful acre of land in Vadpada. We have drilled a well and begun leveling the land for a small structure. We have also begun fostering positive relationships with our neighbors. The OMGMT farming team planted rice paddy for the first time. We welcome others to join us in expanding our Vocational Training Center and contributing to the economic development of Palghar District. As we embark on the new year, we do so with vision, courage, and love in our hearts.

Sincerely,

Vijay H. Honkalaskar, Ph. D
(IIT Mumbai)



SWAMI GAGANGIRI MAHARAJ

He was a widely revered Indian Hindu saint and influential Guru of the Nath Sampradaya. Born in 1906, Gagangiri Maharaj was a rare combination of Yogi, statesman, social reformer, personal counselor, and shaman. His vision initiated a breed of self-reliant, industrious, brave, cadre of young people dedicated to creating a harmonious material world based on spiritual values. He asked his followers to be a model of social transformation by practicing spiritual values and creating a new society based on conservation and protection of the environment. His teachings emphasized living in a harmonious relationship with nature and preserving it. OMGMT humbly accepts his vision and guidance for their seva in the outback of rural India.

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OM GAGANGIRI MAHARAJ ASHIRWADIT TRUST

1. Established in 2006, Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust (OMGMT) is a Mumbai-based NGO dedicated to uplifting the tribal communities in Wada Taluka, Palghar District, Maharashtra.
2. Guided by a diverse board of trustees, including engineers from IIT and Adivasi social workers, OMGMT focuses on empowering marginalized populations, particularly Adivasi tribes, farmers, women, and children, towards self-sustainability.
3. Through education, training, livelihood generation, and spiritual and health interventions, OMGMT fosters rural development and community empowerment, employing appropriate technologies and watershed development strategies.
4. Recognized by the Indian government with 12A and 80G status, OMGMT provides tax benefits to Indian donors, reinforcing its commitment to transparent and accountable operations.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

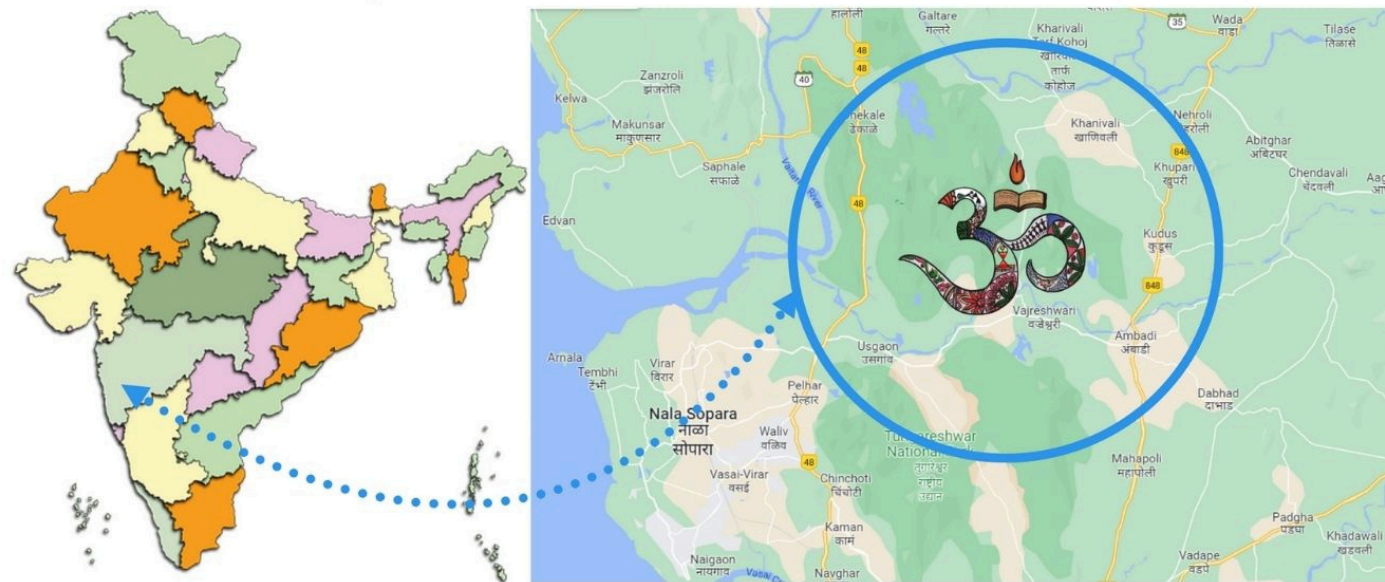
- 1. Naresh Pandurang Mali
- 2. Vijay H Honkalaskar
- 3. Gangu Prakash Garel
- 4. Akshayrao Gopichand K
- 5. Aniket Deo
- 6. Ashok Nana Churi

POVERTY IS THE EVERYDAY CRISIS

Life in the rural outback of India presents daily challenges that urban dwellers may find hard to fathom. With poverty entrenched and infrastructure scant, existence becomes a relentless struggle, even a matter of survival. Tasks like fetching water multiple times a day, gathering firewood for cooking, and enduring erratic electricity underscore the harsh reality in the Forest area of Tansa River Valley.

In the approximately 50 km radius surrounding Ganeshpuri, Thane District, Maharashtra, India, dwells roughly 100,000 families, totaling 600,000 individuals. Despite being just 100 km from Mumbai, the nation's financial hub, this region remains underdeveloped, lacking in employment, education, transport, and government support. Nearly half of these families grapple with illiteracy, poverty, and basic needs insecurity, facing preventable diseases and food shortages. Hamlets are often secluded, devoid of utilities like electricity and clean water, with residents reliant on menial jobs, notably brickmaking, for sustenance.

Figure 1: Location of the work area of OMGMT



Livelihoods here hinge on seasonal agriculture, manual labor, and sporadic industrial employment, primarily targeting youth. Land ownership averages a mere acre per family, mostly marginal farmers, some cultivating additional plots along stream basins. Educational attainment is dismal, with less than 10% completing high school.

Insecure livelihoods stem from limited farming knowledge, skill shortages, remote markets, absent transport links, and poor financial planning. Healthcare access is hindered by distance, exacerbating health issues stemming from strenuous daily chores, waterborne illnesses, and dietary shifts. Social cohesion wanes, hindering community initiatives, exacerbated by alcoholism-induced conflicts.

Current livelihood options encompass farming, livestock rearing, manual labor, and forest product trade, though the latter dwindles with forest depletion. Employment prospects are sporadic and uncertain, often entailing grueling commutes and harsh working conditions.

This encapsulates the arduous reality faced by rural communities, where every day is a battle for survival against poverty, ignorance, and inadequate resources.



YOGA & HEALTH



INPUT:

Invested 2,94,930 rupees in staff, transport, banners, books, food bags, yoga attire, and menstrual pads.

OUTPUT:

Weekly yoga classes are conducted in 13 schools, benefitting 2800 students. 4 tribal youth are empowered as yoga teachers reaching hundreds of students and adults weekly. Education on feminine hygiene, nutrition, and cooking is provided, and 31 needy families receive food bags. 35 staff members of OMGMT are trained in emotional self-regulation through meditation and yoga.

OUTCOME:

Yoga sessions improved the physical fitness, flexibility, and mental well-being of students, women's groups, educators, and caregivers. Families received education on nutrition and cooking for health. Feminine hygiene management empowered young women to stay in school and helped to destigmatize menstruation. 31 needy tribal families received good nutrition.

IMPACT:

Yoga sessions aided participants in stress management, enhancing concentration, and cultivating a positive life perspective. A sense of unity and collaboration among students, teachers, and families was bolstered. Menstrual education coupled with the provision of menstrual pads offered essential support to girls, curbing school dropout rates and fostering confidence and self-expression. Empowering young families with nutritional guidance laid the foundation for raising healthy children, ensuring their overall wellbeing.



NATURAL FARMING & FRUIT TREE PLANTATION



Input:
Invested INR 3,32,005 in staff, transportation, natural farming extracts, supplies, fruit trees, seeds, educational tools, water catchment supplies, and marketing materials for holistic agricultural development.

Output:
42 villages received natural farming training, benefiting 310 farmers in producing 16 extracts. 560 farmers processed seeds. Satara farming advisors provided advanced training in farming and marketing. Nimboli village pioneered model farms. Consultations, pest control, and market sales followed. Co-ordinated the distribution of 10,000 fruit trees provided by the Lions Club of Juhu.

Outcome:
Forty-two villages are transitioning to sustainable farming, increasing yields and soil health without pesticides. Soil experienced less mineral buildup and contamination. Adding organic matter and microorganisms provided more nutrients for the plants. Decreased chemical reliance improved community well-being. A model farm by OMGMT trained farmers in advanced techniques demonstrated better financial results. Innovative remedies boosted production by 50%. Repaired watershed structures benefitted 10 families for vegetable cultivation and replenished 100,000 liters of water.

Impact:
The embrace of natural farming prompts farmers to convert 60 hectares of tribal land into a vibrant eco habitat. Biodiversity thrives amid fruit tree groves. Natural farming builds healthy and strong soil and erosion naturally diminishes. The water supply is clean and natural and not contaminated by harmful chemicals. Healthier yields promote community wellness, diminishing pesticide hazards. Family bonds strengthen, preserving tradition, while affordable solutions increase farming income and rural resilience.



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT



INPUT:
Investment of ₹7,94,900 spans staff, fabrics, machinery, marketing, workshop, electricity, and internet expenses.

OUTPUT:
Over 100 women are engaged in either full-time or part-time roles in handcrafting, textile production, hospitality, or agriculture. Skills training programs have equipped 60 women in embroidery, 20 in jute bag production, and 20 in food processing. While working in the sewing workshop, Padukas Artisans, 45 women handle diverse tasks like design, marketing, and retail sales, and collaborate with global buyers, designers, and retailers.



OUTCOME:
The artisans grew in confidence, embraced creativity, and mastered new crafts. They collaborated with and navigated personality differences, fostering teamwork. They learned to meet deadlines and deliver quality goods. With improved finances, mothers provided better lives for their families, affording quality education for their children, a first for many.

IMPACT:
Empowered by economic progress, the women embraced independent, dignified lives, elevating their status in homes, neighborhoods, and communities. Community life blossomed. Visions of brighter futures inspired dreams for their families, especially their children. These women, now artisans, emerged as beacons of inspiration, encouraging more girls to pursue education and delay marriage. They served as agents of transformation for the entire community.





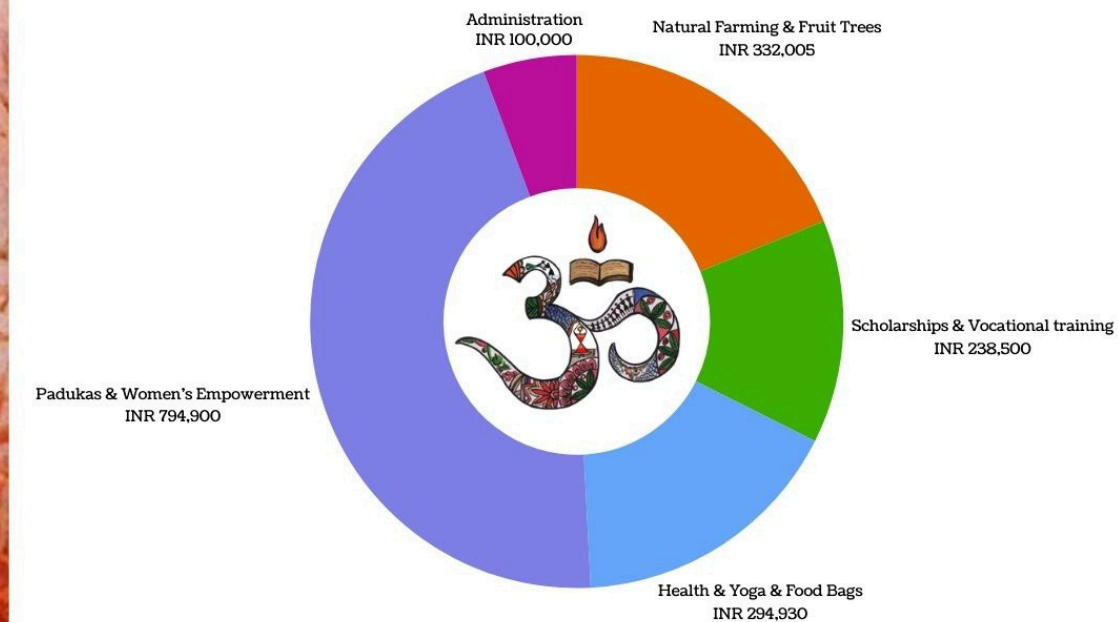
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fiscal Year April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023

FOR EVERY ₹100, YOU GAVE...

- ₹19 IN NATURAL FARMING AND TREE PLANTATIONS
- ₹17 SPENT ON HEALTH, YOGA & FOOD BAGS
- ₹13.5 SPENT ON SCHOLARSHIPS, COMPUTER LAB & VOCATIONAL TRAINING
- ₹45 SPENT ON PADUKAS SALARIES, MATERIALS, MARKETING
- ₹6 SPENT ON ADMINISTRATION.

PROGRAMS AND OPERATING EXPENSES



EDUCATION, SCHOLARSHIPS, COMPUTER LAB

Input:

Investment of 2,38,500 rupees encompasses scholarships, staff, transport, computers, class space, electricity, internet, and cooking essentials.

Output:

OMGMT extended financial support with the help of the Godrej Foundation to 25 girls covering tuition, fees, books, uniforms, and transportation, coupled with personality enhancement programs. Monthly tracking ensured their educational progress. A computer lab of 10 computers and a full-time teacher narrowed the digital gap for over 30 underprivileged children monthly. Courses encompassed basic computer literacy, information technology, and hands-on training.

Outcome:

Girls facing financial hardship overcame obstacles to high-quality education and pursuit of academic aspirations. These ambitious girls experienced a significant boost in self-esteem and confidence. Computer students expanded their career opportunities, increased self-assurance, and gained proficiency in technical knowledge. These empowerments foster a more confident and capable generation poised to excel in their chosen paths.

Impact:

Higher education and computer classes have empowered students to navigate the modern world, fostering socio-economic growth and enhancing overall well-being. Through this transformation, the shackles of poverty are broken. These educational attainments impact their future and their families and communities. Many scholarship recipients have pursued diverse fields such as medicine, pharmacy, agriculture, mass communication, nursing, and education, further illustrating the profound impact of education on individual lives and societal progress.



REVENUE AND SUPPORT (INR)

- Contributions
INR 9,76,187
- Padukas Sales
INR 10,65,417
- Interest
INR 705
- TOTAL REVENUE
INR 20,42,309

PROGRAMS AND OPERATING EXPENSES

- NATURAL FARMING PROJECTS
INR 3,32,005
- SCHOLARSHIP
INR 2,38,500
- Health & Yoga, lab
INR 2,94,930
- PADUKAS
INR 7,94,900
- Administration
INR 1,00,000

TOTAL SPENT
INR 17,60,335

NET ASSETS (INR)

BEGINNING OF THE FISCAL YEAR

INR 31,18,127

CHANGES IN CASH ASSETS

INR 20,090

LAND VALUE

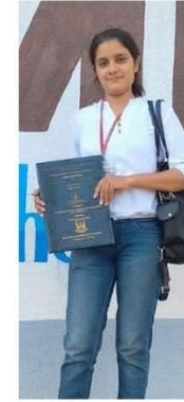
INR 50,00,000

TOTAL NET ASSETS
INR 81,38,217

PHOTO GALLERY



TESTIMONIALS



I am a last-year engineering student. Thanks to Mohini & Jeneta madam for helping me secure a scholarship from OM Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust. With my father as the sole breadwinner and eight siblings, finances were tight, hindering my education. Mohini Madam not only provided financial assistance but also offered invaluable support. I'm grateful for their kindness and pledge to pay it forward by supporting others in need in the future. Thank you to all who helped me.

Priti Yadav
Student



Working with OMGMT for five years, I transitioned from educating village women on health to becoming a yoga teacher. Inspired by a basic course at Kaivalya Dham, Lonavala, I delved deeper into yoga through online courses. The transformation has been remarkable—enhanced. Now, I'm passionate about sharing yoga's benefits. Currently, I'm guiding schoolchildren and village women, expanding yoga's reach. Grateful for the opportunity to make a difference in the world of yoga.

Pooja Kuwara
Yoga Teacher



Living in Pendhripada (Akaloli) at 60, I struggled with wrist pain despite trying Tiger Balm and medical treatment. Attending a yoga class by Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust Nimbavali and Swaroopa Vidya Adhram relieved my pain. Grateful to Manager Mohini Rao and the yoga teachers, my wrist pain vanished with daily practice. Heartfelt thanks to the trust and yoga ashram for their invaluable help.

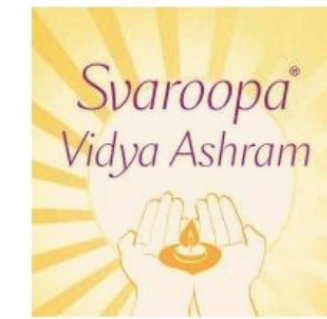
Jayavanti Jagan
Localite



I am a Katkari tribal from Pendripada, I faced financial struggles with my husband's job and alcohol addiction. Thanks to OMGMT & Ammucare Charitable Trust, we receive a food grain bag monthly. This support ensures I can adequately feed my seven children with pulses and vegetables. Grateful for their assistance in nurturing my family's physical well-being.

Baby Navso Bhoir
Localite

OUR PARTNERS



SULOKCHETNA
PRATISHTAN

