

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts Regional Centre Vadodara

Workshop Dates: 2nd – 12th November 2020

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:00 (daily)

Event Type: Webinar

Title: ‘Ten Day Online Workshop on Modi Script’

Resource Person: Mr. Mandar Lawate

Conducted by: National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM), Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), IGNCA Regional Centre – Vadodara in collaboration with The Maharaja Sayajirao Oriental Institute, (Prachyavidya Mandir), Vadodara.

The National Mission for Manuscripts, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Regional Centre, Vadodara, in collaboration with the Oriental Institute, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, conducted a ‘Ten Day Online Workshop on Modi Script’. The workshop was conducted by Shri Mandar Lawate, an expert faculty for Modi script since 2008. Mr. Lawate has authored many books and several articles on the subject and is also the Trustee of Bharat Itihas Samshodhak Mandal (BISM), Pune.

The Modi alphabet was invented during the 17th century to write the Marathi language. It is a variant of the Devanāgarī alphabet. The Modi alphabet was used until 1950 when it was replaced by the Devanāgarī alphabet. However, presently there is a movement to revive the use of the Modi script as a lot of historical Indian legal documents are found to be written in this script. The idea to conduct this workshop came up when the Oriental Institute, MSU, Baroda (workshop collaborator) shared that a lot of legal documents of the Gaekwads (in Gujarat) are found to be written in this script and are incomprehensible. As the script is not much known to people now, this workshop aimed to disseminate knowledge and skills of deciphering this script. Being conducted online, it aimed at presenting an opportunity to people outside Maharashtra to learn the script. Fifty two participants participated in the workshop including people from California (USA), Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kolkata, Gujarat and Maharashtra. Knowledge of Marathi language (spoken/ written) was mandatory for anybody aspiring to learn this script since the alphabets are based on the Marathi language.

The workshop began on 2nd November and continued till 12th November 2020. The inaugural session was held on 2nd November 2020 on Zoom platform with the following speakers:

1. Inaugural address by Prof. Pratapanand Jha, Director, NMM and CIL, IGNCA, New Delhi.
2. Talk on ‘History and Importance of Modi Script’ by Dr. Sweta Prajapati, (I/C) Director, Oriental Institute, MSU, Baroda.
3. Talk on ‘Modi Script outside Maharashtra’ by Shri Mandar Lawate, resource person for the workshop.

This session was attended by forty five participants on Zoom and thirteen participants on IGNCA’s Face book page where it was streamed live.

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Each day, the classes were scheduled for one hour. The curriculum of the workshop included: First 3 days - teaching of alphabets of Modi script, day 4 and 5 - teaching of how to convert Arabic/ Muslim calendar in today's Julian calendar, and day 6 to 9 - reading easy books and some documents written in Modi script from the Peshwa Era. The classes began on 3rd November and continued till 11th November 2020. On each day the participants were given assignments to write and practice based on the topics covered during the class.

The valedictory session was held on the last day of the workshop on 12th November. It included:

1. Welcome address by Dr. Ayswaria Wariar, Regional Director, IGNCA, RC Vadodara.
2. Feedback was shared by 6 participants including:
 - Dr. Deepak Kannal, an eminent Art Historian and Ex- Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, MSU, Baroda.
 - Prof. Adhya Saxena, HOD, Department of History, The MSU, Baroda.
 - Dr. Shweta Prajapati, I/C Director, Oriental Institute, MSU, Baroda.
 - Ankur Kane, a student and active volunteer for the workshop.
 - Dr. Niladri Das, Ex Librarian, Shri Hansa Mehta Library, MSU, Baroda.
 - Ms. Niraja Joshi, an academician from Pune.

Shri Mandar Lawate, the resource person also shared his experience and thanked all the participants. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Kanika Mondal, Project Associate, IGNCA, RC Vadodara. Forty people attended the valedictory session including members of the organizing team and the workshop participants. Some participants even shared a written feedback and conveyed words of appreciation for the workshop in the whats' app group. Participants with 65% and above attendance were given certificates of participation at the end.

Mr. Mandar Lawate's teaching strategy of narrating stories of the Maratha rulers and writers intermittently gradually was liked by everyone. He also shared a number of books, links of online learning resources including websites and articles available on Modi script. Below are a few images of the work submitted by some of participants (images 1 and 2). Two participants also posted Diwali messages in Modi Script (images 3 and 4):

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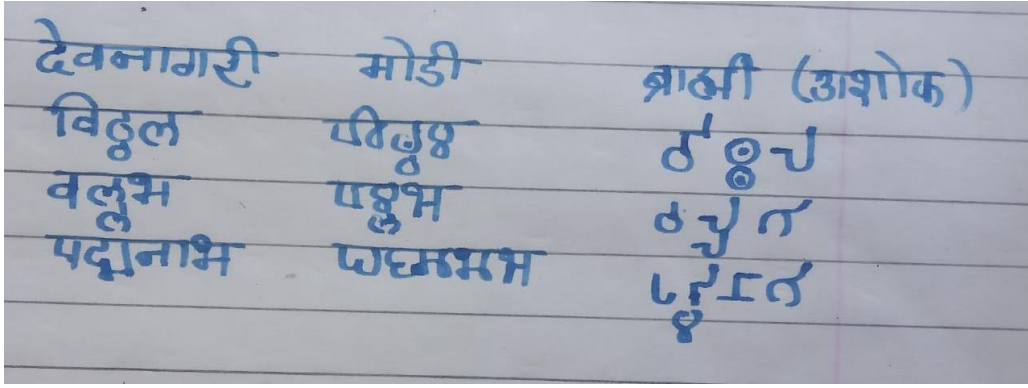


Image 1

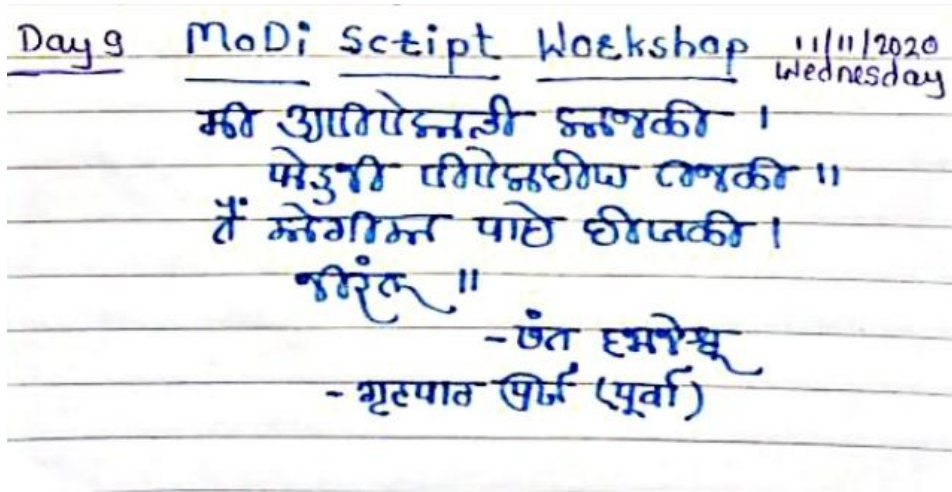


Image 2

હુમં પ્રયોતુ મદ્દનં
પયોમં ઇજપંદદ
દાત્તદ્દિધી પીમદાઇ
દીયજમેતી જમેપ્પુતે
હુમ દીમાપડુ ॥

Image 3

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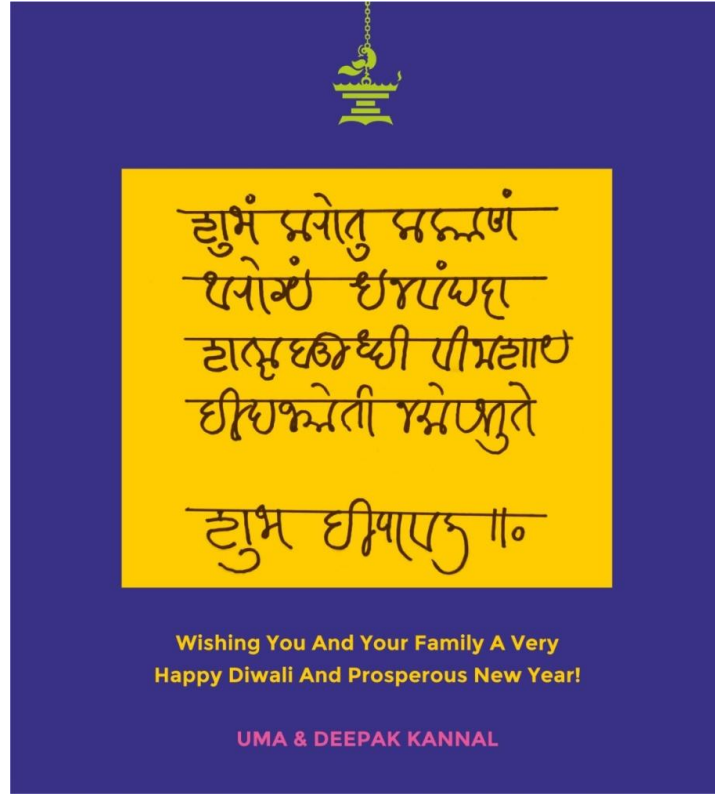



Image 4



Image 5: Inaugural day of the workshop: Prof. Pratapanand Jha, Director, NMM and CIL, IGNCA, New Delhi; Dr. Ayswaria Wariar, Regional Director, RC Vadodara; Mr. Mandar Lawate, resource person; Dr. Sweta Prajapati, (I/C) Director, Oriental Institute, MSU, Baroda; Dr. Kanika Mondal, RC Vadodara (clockwise from top left)

Dr.

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Regional Centre Vadodara**



National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM)
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)
Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India,
Regional Centre - Vadodara
In collaboration with
Oriental Institute
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara
Is conducting a

10 DAY ONLINE WORKSHOP ON MODI SCRIPT

By
Shri. Mandar Lawate - Trustee, Bharat Itihas Samshodhak Mandal (BISM), Pune & Expert Faculty for Modi Script in BISM (since 2008)

The Modi alphabet was invented during the 17th century to write the Marathi language of Maharashtra. It is a variant of the Devanāgarī alphabet and was used until 1950. Presently there is a need to revive the use of the Modi script, as a lot of historical legal documents are found to be written in this script. This workshop will enable one to decipher the script. The workshop being online is a good opportunity for people outside Maharashtra to learn the Modi alphabets. Please note, basic knowledge of Marathi language (spoken/ written) is desirable for anybody aspiring to join this workshop.

Workshop Dates: 2nd – 12th November 2020; Time: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm (daily)

Note: The workshop is FREE. However, prior registration is COMPULSORY. Certificates shall be given to all participants on completion of the workshop.

To attend this workshop, kindly register using the Google form link given below;
<https://forms.gle/W1YZmVNM57UwyxaQ6>

Limited Seats available, so hurry, register now!

For any queries, please email us at: igncavrc@gmail.com





 igncavrc@gmail.com www.ignca.gov.in [ignca](https://www.facebook.com/ignca) [ignca_delhi](https://www.instagram.com/ignca_delhi)

Image 6: Flyer for the Workshop

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Constitution of India, Article 51 A (f)
To value and preserve the rich heritage
of our composite culture



सत्यं विद्महे सन्तमः
Established 1948
Accredited Grade 'A' by NAAC



सत्यं विद्महे सन्तमः
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



सत्यं विद्महे सन्तमः
॥ विद्यानन्दनम् ॥
National Mission for Manuscripts

National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM)
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)
Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India,
Regional Centre - Vadodara
In collaboration with
Oriental Institute
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara
Invites you to the Inaugural & Orientation of the
10 day ONLINE Workshop on Modi Script
Date: 2nd November 2020 Time: 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Program Details:

1. Welcome Note: Dr. Ayswaria Wariar, Regional Director, IGNCA, R.C.Vadodara
2. Inaugural Address: Prof. Pratapanand Jha, Director, National Mission For Manuscripts, IGNCA, New Delhi
3. Talk on, "History and Importance of Modi Script" - Dr. Sweta Prajapati, Director (I/C), Oriental Institute, The M.S.University of Baroda, Vadodara
4. Talk on, "Modi Script outside Maharashtra" – Shri. Mandar Lawate, Expert Faculty Modi Script and Trustee Bharat Itihas Samshodhak Mandal, Pune
5. Vote of Thanks: Dr. Kanika Mondal, Project Associate, IGNCA, R.C.Vadodara

Webinar link to join and register: https://uso2web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fNQFu7wvT1e224lvRJDt9A

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar

 igncavrc@gmail.com

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Image 7: Invitation for the Inaugural session on 2nd November 2020