

Report: IAHV Read Library Project – 27th February 2018 - 3 libraries in a day – Shahapur, Maharashtra, India (Three Tribal Schools – 400 Books each)

IAHV Read Library Project is an initiative of the International Association of Human Values (IAHV) U.K., a registered charity. Its purpose is to add value to the educational environment by promoting reading habits in children through the provision of libraries or reading rooms in schools for underprivileged children in India. So far, over 94 libraries have been set up across different schools in India with over 31,000 books circulated.

On 27th February, 2018 - IAHV UK in collaboration with volunteers of Art of Living Shahapur, Maharashtra and Kunbi Samajonnati Sangh installed and opened libraries in 3 schools in the tribal interiors of Shahapur district - gifting 400 books to each school. The three schools are:

1. Adivasi Ashram School - Gandulwadi, Shahapur District, Maharashtra
2. Freedom Fighter Rajguru School – Sakadbaod, Maharashtra
3. Zila Parishad school – Lenad, Maharashtra

All 3 libraries were inaugurated on the same day, one after the another.

The inauguration events were graced by the president of the Kunbi Samajonnati Sangh, Mr. Kishore Kudav, Mr. Prakash Bhangrath from SMS and Mr. Rahul Laud, Mr. Vaibhav Sawant, Ms. Dipti Deshpande, Mr. Sweekar Patil and Mr. Shashank Kabadi from the Art of Living Foundation and IAHV. Also present at the events were the former Dy. of the Thoone Gram Panchayat, Mr. Nitin Vekhande.



Figure 1: Welcome by school children

At each school, the Principal, teachers and students participated with enthusiasm and positivity.

The day culminated in the planting of a sapling by a nominated school student to encourage tree plantation and the connection to the environment amongst the school children.



Figure 2: Tree sapling plantation at the inauguration.

Print and Social Media played an important role to ensure this message reached the Shahapur community and that the maximum students can benefit from these books and bring difference into their lives.

This occasion was well covered by the local newspapers – **PunyaNagri** and **Sakaal** – both well-known reputed **Marathi newspapers** in the region.



Figure 3: Coverage in the Punya Nagri Newspaper



Figure 4: Coverage in Saakal Newspaper

More pictures from the inauguration event:





Figure 5 Rahul Laud encouraging kids to read books



Figure 6: The IAHV UK and AOL Shahapur Project Team

Thank you to everybody involved with this beautiful Service activity.