

## **Annual Report of Parcham 2015 - 2016**

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**“Parcham”, the name inspired by the poetry of Majaaz is a group in Mumbra committed to protecting and preserving the secular values in the Constitution of India.**

### **Parcham’s Vision is**

A just and equal society respectful of diversity, celebrating difference and interdependence.

### **Our Mission is**

To empower marginalized communities to access their fundamental rights, creating spaces for dialogue among diverse sections in society, and collaborating with government and civil society towards justice and equity.

### **Our Work this year...**

### **Parcham Football Initiative**

Parcham’s football initiative engages young girls in football towards their empowerment. Apart from building their football skills, participation in the sports also builds their confidence which impacts their performance in other areas including education. From a team of 50 girls, our outreach expanded to 500 girls in this year.

### **Tournaments**

This year the Parcham team participated in a number of tournaments over the year. We won the Leher tournament and the Runner’s Up at the Oscar Tournament.



**With the trophy at the Leher Tournament**



Oscar Tournament

A great opportunity for the girls was participating in the **Mumbai Mirror Football Festival** in October, an initiative of Mumbai Mirror to encourage the sport among girls. The girls from Parcham who have practiced without a coach played against professionally trained girls on the Cooperage Ground, the first time they played on a professional football pitch.



The participation in the football tournaments was a great opportunity for the girls from Mumbra to show their skills and play competitively.

## **Partnership with the Thane Municipal Corporation**

The Parcham football initiative reached a milestone this year as the Thane Municipal Corporation partnered with Parcham to introduce football in the Municipal Schools in Mumbra. Our volunteer trained the students over the year reaching out to the 13 schools in the school complex at Kausa Talav.



**TMC school students at the Municipal Corporation after winning a tournament**

Along with football, we initiated Rugby training with the children of the TMC schools in collaboration with Ace Foundation.



The training was conducted weekly by volunteers from Ace foundation along with volunteers of Parcham reaching out to nearly 100 children.

## Parcham Diary 2016

Parcham's first Diary was a tribute to some of the pioneering women social reformers who made an invaluable contribution to society. This diary is a celebration of their work which is an inspiration to us. As is the case with the documentation of history, the role of women and of the marginalized is often omitted, either erased completely or simply not found worth the mention. This diary was an attempt to bring back the memory of the forgotten women who we are indebted to for our own liberation and feminist thought. Though this book is a compilation of Muslim women who shaped history, we cannot not mention Savitribai Phule, whose struggle for women's right to education has made a diary such as this possible.

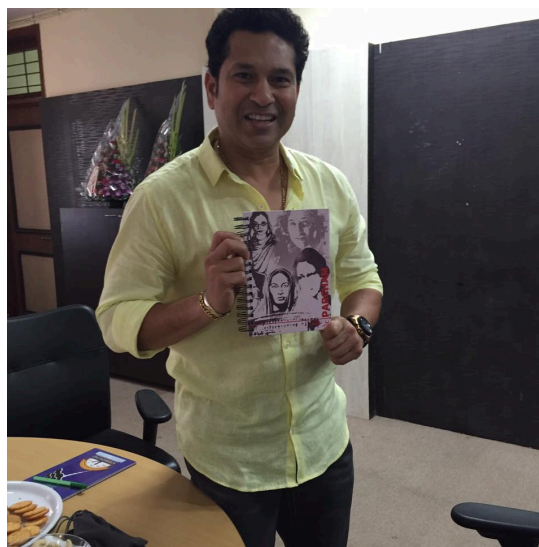



### Bequm Qudsia Aizaz Rasool (1908-2001)

was an Indian politician and the only Muslim woman to be a member of the Constituent Assembly of India where she made a number of significant contributions. Despite her family background, she was known for her strong support for the abolition of zamindari.

She contributed her full might to spread education particularly among girls. She was the president of Karamat Hussain Muslim Girls' Degree College Lucknow, IR College Sandila and Aizaz Rasool Degree College, Sandila. She was fond of sports and did her best to popularize it among women. She organized hockey tournaments amongst girls all over India and was the President of the All India Women's Hockey Association. The Indian Women's Hockey Cup is named after her. Maintaining a keen interest in sports, she even donned men's whites to bat for the President's XI vs, the Prime Minister's XI, goodwill cricket match in 1952.

In 2000, she was awarded the Padma Shri for her contribution to social work. Her autobiography is titled from 'Purdah to Parliament: A Muslim Woman in Indian Politics.'



The diary was gifted to Sachin Tendulkar!

## **Celebrating Republic Day**

Parcham's work is aimed at creating responsible and informed citizens. Parcham celebrated Republic Day with a drawing competition on the Constitution. Students from the Thane Municipal School participated in the event. Children drew the image of Dr. Babasahed Ambedkar, the fundamental rights of citizens, and symbols of freedom and unity among all citizens that is promoted and protected by the Constitution. This was followed by the distribution of the Preamble to the children. The intent was to familiarize children with the Constitution of the Country and understand the importance of the document to every citizen of the country. The DMC, Education, Mr. Manish Joshi was the Chief Guest at the event.



## **Celebrating Women's Day : the Fatima Bi Savitri Bai Football Tournament**

For us Women's Day was an opportunity to celebrate the unity between women who when they come together can create social change. Women's Day was celebrated by Parcham with the Fatima Bi Savitri Bai Football Tournament. The tournament celebrated the solidarity between these important women who worked together towards a common cause irrespective of their religious difference. Fatima Bi and Savitri bai together endured humiliation as they went about imparting education to girls. The tournament was a celebration of solidarity between two pioneering women whose friendship and dedication to social justice transcended their religious identity.

The tournament was jointly organized with the Thane Municipal Corporation with MLA Jitendra Awhad as the chief guest.



The Parcham team with Chief Guest, M.L.A Jitendra Awhad



The tournament was covered in the press .

<http://www.pressreader.com/india/hindustan-times-st-mumbai/20160307/281749858448594>

## **Our work in the media**

### **Print Media**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/for-mumbra-girls-its-f-for-football-f-for-freedom/> Written by Tabassum Barnagarwala | Mumbai | Updated: August 15, 2015 3:42:54 am

<https://www.indiatoday.in/sports/football/story/mumbra-girls-love-for-football-breaks-barriers-and-taboos-325318-2016-05-24>

An article on the Parcham Diary was written about in Indian Express

<https://indianexpress.com/article/lifestyle/books/the-subaltern-speak/>

### **Online**

Students of Sophia College made a short film on Parcham

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-cfZn\\_LS8M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-cfZn_LS8M)

## **Thank You!**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our many supporters who helped us in kind and with monetary help.

No work of Parcham would be possible without the many many volunteers who make up Parcham. Thank you to all of them!

