

Safarnama

March - April - May, 2017

Theater For Democracy

Sambhaavnaa Karyakram...



In collaboration with **Janasanskriti** organised a workshop titled 'Theatre for Democracy' for community mobilisers and activists. This 5 day workshop held at Sambhaavnaa Institute (Himachal) from 8th to 12th March 2017. The workshop will be facilitated by **Sanjoy Ganguly & Seema Ganguly**, who have several years of experience working with "Theatre of the Oppressed" amongst communities and activists.



This time we had 35 participants from Teach For India, Jan Jagriti Shakti Sangathan, Handimachal. We discussed Theatre For The Oppressed, still images, audience-intervension, spectators and understand the basics of oppressor and oppressed.



For over 30 years Jana Sanskriti has been using Theatre of the Oppressed as a tool for social change with communities across West Bengal and India. They have over 30 teams, including 10 womens teams, with over 10,000 members. Made up of local people in each area, they continue to spread their work, passing on the tools for change to more and more people.

Troubled Waters

Sambhaavnaa Karyakram...



The workshop included overarching topics like overview of water resources in India, key dimensions of water crisis in the country, equity and justice issues in water (includes caste, gender, other related issues), water conflicts, emerging developments in water policy, law and regulation, detailed discussions on selected issues like dams, irrigation and hydro power, water, irrigation and food security, water pollution, privatization and commodification in water.



Facilitators **Ravi Chopra, Chicu, Joy, Manshi and Shripad** discussed:
Overview of Water Resources in India, and Key issues, Socio-cultural and bio-physical dimensions of water & Equity Dimensions in Water (Gender, Class, Caste).



Water Conflicts in India.

Hydropower in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand: Impacts, Community Responses, Assessing Cumulative Impacts of Himalayan Dams (Discussion Based on Ravi Chopra Committee Ordered by Supreme Court).

Climate Change and Water – Impacts, Mitigation, Adaptation.

Politics of Health

Sambhaavnaa Karyakram...



We began the workshop with 24 participants mostly from medical background. Facilitators, **Ritu Priya and Rakhal Gaitonde** discussed: Diverse approaches, Health and Health Indicators, defining Health-diverse perspectives. Health status and health care indicators, including comparisons for disparities. The perception of problems, programme/solution theory—medicalisation, intended and unintended consequences.



What is health technology and its role?
The political economy of pharma and access to medicines (by Gopal Dabade),
Right to Health Care (by Abhay Shukla),
Health systems as Public+Pvt.



The Politics of Knowledge.

The broad parameters of the politics of knowledge in health: debates in epistemology, state, market, civil society.

Dimensions of the state, market and civil society.

Reading two policy documents, of the national and international level, to uncover the politics in these: Policy, Law, Rules. Politics of the market : Production, Pricing, Positioning.

India Youth Jam

Sambhaavnaa Karyakram...



India Youth Jam is an annual gathering of 30 diverse young change makers from across the country for a powerful week of deep listening, sharing, self-discovery, systemic inquiry and community building. It is a transformative experience; an opportunity to engage deeply with the world and our place in it, apt for those who are working for a thriving, just and balanced way of life for all.

This year we brought together 30 diverse young people for a time of deep listening, sharing, self-discovery, community building, and renewal in our work towards exploring meaningful change both personally and socially. The program incorporates facilitated dialogue, sharing circles, inspiring guest speakers, organized networking, ceremony, live music, artistic expression, games, movement, participant-led workshops, and free time for participants to enjoy each other and the beautiful environment surrounding them. They would jam to get support, share life stories, be inspired and challenged, make new friends, create new collaborations, and most importantly get a chance to step back and reflect on lives and work in the presence of friends on a similar journey.

Thought For Food



In this 6 day workshop, we attempted to deal with some of these questions tracing the complex relationships that constitute food in the contemporary world and in our lives, from the micro-level of individual, everyday experiences and choices to the macro-level of global food politics.

Sumi and Kruna discussed following things:
What is food? What is good food? Why bother?
tradition, nutritionism, media etc.



tradition, nutritionism, media etc. “Western diet” and chronic malnutrition, “Stuffed and Starved”; Processed foods vs. industrially engineered, refined foods.

What the World Eats: Major ideologies of ‘diet’
Food and cultural meaning practices of eating, community, gratitude. Why it matters, Review of recipes, methods etc. Healthy baking, ingredients and methods, Millets and other whole food ingredients; Organizing in the kitchen, menu-planning etc. **Understanding human-nature relationship and interventions between farm and plate, alternative models & challenges.**



Jeevan Vidya



Jeevan Vidya workshop is an intensive 40-hour learning experience that seeks to bring one's attention to neglected and subtle facets of life; issues related to interpersonal relations, education, society, environment, aspirations, success are discussed and participants are provided critical tools to help them explore the rich web of connections between seemingly disparate aspects of life.

This workshop was facilitated by Vinish Gupta, who heads the Centre for Holistic Learning. He has been involved with various social and environmental movements in the past.



In his youth he spent over a decade as a Buddhist monk, exploring traditional Indian systems of thought and living.

This year we had 34 participants from various backgrounds and states. We discussed value and price, the balance of wisdom-happiness-luxury, the value of agriculture in life, relationships and Nature. Participants had amazing learning experience in their afternoon sessions called experience sharing.



Nayi Dishayein, 6 weeks, summer school

Sambhaavnaa Institute, has for the last five years been organizing a participatory, reflective and experiential schools series, called Nayi Dishayein.

Praveen Singh, raised questions, what is the current notion of 'Development'? Where has it come from?

Is there a huge gulf between what it promises and what it delivers? If so, why?

Nityanand Jayaraman discussed, history of capitalist and neo-liberal development.

Case Study:

Koodankulum,
farmers suicide,
labour issues.



Himanshu Kumar spoke about state repression at Chattisgarh, Bastar and Dantewada and rise of communalism politics and Nationalism.

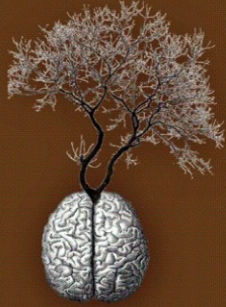
Manshi and Arundathi discussed caste and gender with some exercises of Theatre of the Oppressed.

Prakash Bhandari facilitated the session of Environment, Energy and shared his experience on Forest Right Act and Dams.
Arundathi and Manshi also facilitated the sessions of Patriarchy and Gender.

Upcoming Programs...

Farm to Plate...

NAYI DISHAYEIN : Summer school for
Deconstructing Development




DECONSTRUCT, i.e. critically examine the notion of **DEVELOPMENT**

RE-EXAMINE our belief systems, worldviews & privileges around
power structures of **CASTE, GENDER, RELIGION, CLASS**

Assess possibilities of **CHANGE** through exposure to a range of
CONTEMPORARY INTERVENTIONS/INITIATIVES/MOVEMENTS
towards a **JUST SOCIETY**

Two Programs: 12 day[classroom only] & 6 week[classroom + internship]

Sambhaavna Institute
Palampur, Himachal Pradesh
www.sambhaavnaa.org



Development Financing in India Understanding Trends, Implications and Accountability Mechanisms

JUNE 6-9, 2017

Sambhaavna Institute
Palampur, Himachal Pradesh

CFA



“The ultimate goal of farming is not the growing of crops, but the cultivation and perfection of human beings” - *Masanobu Fukuoka*.

Farm staff is busy with the maintenance of square feet gardens. They are filling the frames with cow manure and sowing seeds of beans, pumpkin, potatoes, onion and garlic.

Camps & Activities @ Udaan

Udaan Ke Parinde...



Udaan hosted a camp for **Shibumi School(Bangalore)**.

Sharing our learning experiences and understanding on education was our primary goal from this, as Shibumi is a successful model of alternative education.

Talk and hands on experience on **sustainable architecture, exploring Tibetan culture and political situation, a nature walk** around Sambhaavnnaa were some of the activities within 3 days of their stay.

Clown Show at Udaan

We have had some strange red-nosed visitors at Udaan recently. They have been clowning around and making us laugh with their wild antics.



Activities @ Udaan

Udaan Ke Parinde...



The children of Upper KG have been observing the construction work happening in our area. This morning two of them built a house which they have named the Mugbug house. The unique feature of this house is that you can use a 'fisl patti', that is a slide, to come down from the 1st floor. It also has several water tanks, 1 big one for rainwater collection, and one each for the kitchen, the solar heated water, the toilet and bathroom.

These days Udaan has been observing caterpillars, and butterflies that emerge fresh from their pupae. Such a big butterfly coming out from this tiny pupa? "The butterfly must be lying with its wings folded like this inside it," demonstrates a child.



building a sandpit. Children are enjoying participating in the process.



Learning by doing.

Activities @ Udaan

Udaan Ke Parinde...



Building with sand at the farm



Self-learning



Observing caterpillars, and butterflies



Learning to water the plants



Working with papers and colors



Rough and tough tumbling and sliding together is fun!



Lesson on snakes



Observing caterpillars



Learning about colors, patterns, and designs



Potatoes harvesting



Science toy making with Manish Jain.



Children lent a hand with harvesting garlic



exploring various ways of cooking the potatoes



Trip to the Awa khud



Self Learning.

Gup-Shup Chabootra



Arundathi, joined programs team recently and she is co-facilitating the sessions on Power, Privilege and Social Justice as well as Transformative Politics and People's Movements. She focuses on enabling the participants to link the theories that they are learning with real life experiences and encourage them to inculcate a habit of reflection and activism in their daily interactions using participatory theatre methods.



Having a pet is one of life's greatest pleasures. A pet gives us love and affection that we so deeply desire in our lives.

We are introducing **Chulbuli**, a new pet at Sambhaavnaa. Her presence adds dogieetarian value to our lives. She grew in confidence and came to be a part of our family. The very sight of it's bright eyes and wagging tail brightens up everyday.