

Deep Griha Society (DGS)

Pune, Maharashtra, India

Placement Pack 2013



“Empowerment of the marginalised through capacity building and sustainable urban and rural development programmes”

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Introduction

Deep Griha (meaning 'Light House') is an independent charitable organisation that is working to improve the lives of people living in the slum and rural areas of Pune. Registered in 1975,

the organisation was started by Reverend Bhaskar Onawale and his wife Dr. Neela Onawale, a medical practitioner. Dr. Neela opened a one room medical clinic from their home and within two years one hundred patients were receiving medical care.

A nutrition program was also created, providing free food and health education, to address the causes of ill health being presented. In the following years Deep Griha began undertaking community development activities with the aim of empowering the slum communities.

Over the last 3 decades Deep Griha has helped hundreds of thousands of people through a range of education, self-help, nutrition and health programmes. Today the organisation employs over one hundred and forty staff, and serves over 80 000 of the local population.

Deep Griha Society has had the privilege of receiving volunteers since 1981 and is grateful for the impact they have on the diverse programmes we run. We have worked hard to present all information relevant to your time here in this induction pack but should you have experiences of information that you feel will help future volunteers please do not hesitate to let us know and we will try to include it in revised editions of this pack.

Areas of Work

Deep Griha Society operates in 5 main sites:

- Tadiwala Road slum (where the main office is located)
- Ramtekedai slum
- Bibvewadi slum
- City of Child (1 ½ hours drive from Pune)
- City of Knowledge (1 ½ hours drive from Pune)

Jargon Buster

Abbreviations are often used at Deep Griha Society. Being familiar with them will make reading this document a lot easier and will ease you in to life as a Deep Griha volunteer.

- DGS - Deep Griha Society
- CoC - City of Child
- CoK - City of Knowledge (Vidyanagari)
- PLHIV - People Living with HIV/AIDS
- WUP - Wake Up Pune
- DISHA - Deep Griha's Integrated Service for HIV & AIDS
- DIYA - Deep Griha's Integrated Youth Resource and Activity Centre

Programmes

The following is a brief summary of the areas of work carried out by Deep Griha and how past volunteers have been able to get involved. Further information about each programme is available on the DGS website, on our Facebook page and via our twitter feed.

CHILDCARE

Deep Griha promotes the health and education of children living within the slum communities of Pune through various family support programmes which target the pressures placed on local families.

- Crèches - providing full-day childcare for children aged six months to two years
- Balwadis (pre-schools) - for children aged three to five years
- DIYA - After school activities, homework clubs, IT, English & Music classes
- Aadhar Kendra - Child Sponsorship Program
- Special Nutrition Centres - providing one free meal for children suffering from malnutrition or with chronic ill health (e.g. TB, pneumonia etc.)

By providing educational full-day and after school programmes, both parents are able to work so that a higher income and better living conditions become possible. All children attending a crèche or a Balwadi class receive pre-school education, periodical medical check-ups, free medical treatment, immunisation and one meal a day.

Volunteers often support the teachers in the creches and balwadis by spending mornings playing with the children. You can also run your own after-school youth group at the Ramtekesdi centre either in the afternoons or evenings.

City of Child

Founded in 2000, DGS' residential project in Kasurdi village, 45km from Pune is currently home to over 30 boys. The project targets those children in the Aadhar Kendra scheme who are identified by our fieldworkers as the most vulnerable. The children are all either orphans or come from single-parent families, unable to provide sufficient care for them. They are provided with a safe home, where they can study, play and develop away from the particularly difficult circumstances they faced in the slums.

Those volunteering at CoC stay at the project for a number of days at a time coming back to Pune every second weekend with DGS transport. Previous volunteers have helped with gardening and maintenance during the daytime and/or spent time with the children, helping with homework and playing with them after they finish school at around 4pm.

EDUCATION

Coaching Classes

Extra tuition for school children from deprived families in the first to seventh standards is an important task with attention given to literacy and numeracy so they are able to catch up with other students in their class. The goal is for all children to sit their Secondary School Certificate exam (tenth standard) after which, entry into employment or technical training courses becomes easier.

School Dropout Program

These classes provide structured play and recreation as well as formal education for children aged eight to fourteen years who were never enrolled in school or had to drop out because of family problems. All children in the school dropout program receive education materials, medical care, counselling and one basic meal per day.

Youth Development Programmes

These focus on all children (either attending school or working) aged twelve to eighteen years, they provide formal and informal education with an overall aim of increasing the child's self-confidence, knowledge and future employment prospects. Seminars are held on a wide range of relevant topics to improving quality of life. The programs are often separate for girls and boys with the Girl Child program giving special attention to girls who otherwise might receive no education at all.

In the past volunteers with specific experience have been able to set up workshops tackling specific issues including sex education and boosting self-esteem as well as personal health.

Technical Training Courses

For older students who discontinue their studies after the seventh standard. This covers a range of topics including Yuvi Spurti Kendra's IT school, mheni design classes and tailoring lessons.

If volunteers have a specific skill set to offer they are encouraged to make proposals for new classes which could help DGS beneficiaries and/or staff gain new skills and increase employability.

Adult Education

Consists of literacy classes and informal education, with an emphasis on health, hygiene and women's rights. The program seeks to raise the literacy level of the community members, and students as old as seventy-one have passed the fourth standard exam.

Volunteers are encouraged to seek out if there is a current need for these classes both in the local community and with Deep Griha's staff. Many of the staff are local women who would benefit from learning more English.

Vidyanagari ('City of Knowledge')

Currently an English Medium School up to 5th standard. This is DGS' most recent project aiming to bring more opportunities for education, development and training through environmental sustainability and an agri-curriculum to the rural population on the outskirts of Pune. This project is being developed to provide:

- English Medium School: Deep Griha Academy

- Vocational Training Centre

- Community Health Awareness & Education

- Agricultural & Development Training Facility

Previous volunteers have helped to decorate the nursery classrooms, teach action songs to pre-primary classes and run gender equality workshops for the teachers. As the school continues to develop and grow in the coming years we will continue explore a number of ways to utilise volunteers interested in a rural placement.

MEDICAL AND HEALTHCARE

Tadiwala Road Clinic

Deep Griha runs a medical clinic daily at the Family Welfare Centre, Tadiwala Road. The clinic is open until 8pm, enabling people to visit after work.

In the past medical volunteers have helped Dr. Prakash with the day to day running of the clinic and on research projects.

Health & Eye Camps

Camps are organised for both adults and children featuring a wide range of health issues. Dermatology, dental, cardiac, paediatric and gynaecological camps have been run in recent years. The camps are run in both urban and rural settings, and provide opportunities for our target communities to have access to specialist care which would otherwise be prohibitively expensive.

Medical volunteers have run their own camps and information days including an initiative to increase awareness of teeth health in creche children.

HIV & AIDS

DISHA (Deep Griha's Integrated Service for HIV/AIDS)

This program provides medical treatment, education, nutrition, and also raises awareness and understanding within the slum areas in order to reduce the stigma surrounding the disease. The fieldworkers have been employed from the local community and all staff have received training on HIV/AIDS and basic counselling techniques to support those living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

Previous volunteers have supported DISHA staff as they conduct their work in the community, documenting on our website and social networking sites their many and varied activities and events including Melava (our annual matrimonial event) and the truckers programme to name but a few.

Wake Up Pune Initiative

Wake Up Pune is DISHA's English speaking outreach programme, focusing on increasing awareness about HIV/AIDS in Pune more widely.

It is entirely volunteer led with support from the DISHA team leader and therefore there is a large scope for getting involved in event planning and management, fundraising and design.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Adult Education

Deep Griha provides literacy classes from basic (covering 1st to 4th Standards) to post-literacy classes (5th to 7th Standard). Basic literacy classes give a measure of confidence to previously illiterate women. Many of the women attending these classes choose to continue with the post-literacy classes, after which they can sit for their school certificate. This qualification

gives them the opportunity to enter into a working environment and earn money.

Previous volunteers with a qualification or interest in teaching English have been able to support and run these classes. Having some knowledge of Hindi or Marathi is a big help.

Self-Help Groups

These programs enable women to come together to discuss problems, exchange ideas, and learn about personal/household financial management. The groups also run credit co-operatives enabling women to source finance either for emergency expenditure or to set up their own small businesses. Deep Griha is responsible for motivation, organization, training and supervision of these groups but the women largely run the groups themselves.

- A registered co-operative specialising in catering for functions
- Women's development seminars with a view to increasing awareness and confidence on a wide range of topics such as education, the woman's role within the family, personal development and health/hygiene.
- Courses aimed to improve the employment opportunities and pay-scale for women within the community in skills such as housekeeping, rangoli, henna and home nursing.
- DGS works with the Legal Aid Centre of Pune and ILS Law College to provide legal aid and advice. They run awareness sessions in our urban centres, encouraging women to learn about their rights and seek advice if necessary.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

DIYA Youth Resource & Activity Centre (Ramtekadi)

Aims to empower young people by providing access to a wide range of opportunities. DIYA provides:

- Recreation facilities (including dance, theatre and fine arts workshops, board games)
- Skills development (including English classes, computer courses, and tailoring courses)
- Awareness sessions (on topics such as sex and sexuality, drug abuse, personality development and domestic violence)
- Counselling facilities

Past volunteers have worked at the centre in the afternoons and evenings between 1pm-8pm, undertaking activities such as teaching English and music, giving computer classes and playing games with the young people. They have also organised day trips with the young people.

Yuva Sphurti Kendra IT School

Launched in 2007, the project aims to provide up to 1,000 young people from the slums with the skills needed to enter into Pune's booming IT industry. Open to young men and women aged 18-30. The two-month courses are run throughout the year at the Family Welfare Centre, Tadiwala Road, six days a week

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Do I need a visa to volunteer with Deep Griha Society?

Yes, you need a visa to travel to India .You should check with the company who runs this in your country for more information about the application process and timing. Obtaining a *tourist visa* is straightforward and is valid for 6 months (180 days) after which you must leave the country for at least 2 months.

Q: What is the best way to reach Pune?

Pune has its own airport and it is possible to fly directly there from Europe. From there you can take a rickshaw (100 - 150 Rs on meter to the CC). However there are more direct flights to Mumbai and this may be easier.From there,we can organise a taxi pickup which takes around 4 hours and costs 800 RS/person or 2500/car. Alternatively you can catch a train from Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus or a bus either directly from the airport or from Dardar station. These are both cheaper options but may be more complicated if you've never visited Mumbai before and may actually take longer than the taxi door-to-door.

Q: What will I be doing?

This depends on a lot of things; your skills, your interests, what projects are running and most importantly, where DGS needs the most help. There is scope to support the work DGS is already doing but also for initiating new and sustainable projects from within existing programs.

One of the best things about volunteering with Deep Griha Society is its flexibility. You can and probably will get involved with everything at one point or another. A volunteer may spend the majority of their time focusing on events and fundraising but may also spend time teaching English or working with the children in the creches.

Q: What type of person would suit this placement?

Since 1981 volunteers of many ages, backgrounds and cultures have volunteered with us. We have found those who have enjoyed and benefited most from the experience are confident, self-actuating individuals with a high degree of personal initiative. Ideally we aim to recruit graduate level volunteers with proven analytical abilities and some developmental exposure, though we judge each individual application on its own merits.

As should be obvious from the outline of some of our activities, this is a mature NGO with considerable organisational depth, and one which offers a range of opportunities at a variety of levels to any prospective volunteer. The organisation has a great deal of experience with foreign volunteers, having received them for over three decades.

Q: What have past volunteers done?

Volunteers have been able to get involved in every programme Deep Griha runs depending on their skills and experience. Being able to speak Hindi or Marathi certainly makes getting involved directly with programme beneficiaries much easier. For example the Women's Empowerment Programme is better suited for people with Marathi-speaking experience but it may still be possible for you to help in a more administrative capacity.

Q: When is the best time to visit?

You will of course note your preferred dates on your application. However it may be useful to note the following weather information:

- November to February are the coolest months (25°C - 30°C during the day and 10°C-18°C at night)
- March to April is getting hotter (30°C - 35°C during the day)
- May is the hottest month (can be 40°C plus during the day)
- June to September is the monsoon (very hot (up to 40°C) and very wet)
- October the rains stop and it begins to get cooler (30°C during the day)

Q: What are my working hours?

Generally volunteers work 5 days a week 10 until 5/5.30pm. Depending on your work you may be in the office all of this time or part of the time. A bus leaves the Cultural Centre - the volunteer accommodation - at around 9.30 each weekday morning and returns once again in the evening. The Tadiwala Road opening hours are actually from 9am until 5.30pm

Q: Where will I be living?

Most volunteers stay in the Cultural Centre, a guesthouse owned by DGS in Fatima Nagar, approximately 20 minutes drive from the main office. Arrangements to stay at the Cultural Centre need to be made at least two weeks in advance to ensure that a room is available. On the ground floor there is the kitchen and dining room, a general sitting/waiting area and a utility room with a washing machine and iron, which are for general use (but do buy your own washing powder). Also in the utility room is the water filter/cooler from which you can help yourself to safe drinking water. On the first floor is a common sitting room with cable TV and a DVD player. There is a garden area behind the kitchen on the ground floor, the lounge and first floor bedrooms have balconies and you can also go up on the flat roof.

Rooms are furnished with single beds, a table/desk with chairs and a wardrobe for clothes and personal belonging. They are often shared between 2-3 people and have either an attached bathroom or a bathroom just outside the room with western style toilets and showers with hot water. All bed linen, mosquito nets and towels are provided.

The communal areas are cleaned daily (except Sunday). Your room will be cleaned about once a week on when you will also be given fresh towels and bed linen. You are responsible for keeping your belongings safe, therefore ensure you lock valuables away and bolt your door at night. The house is staffed 24 hours a day and has a night watchman out front at night. Please see the "Volunteer Policy & Agreement" document for the rules of living at the Cultural Centre.

Q: What will I eat?

Three meals a day will be provided for all volunteers at the Cultural Centre. During the week lunch will be provided at the Tadiwala and Ramtekadi DGS offices. At the CC, there is a blackboard with everyone's names written on it; please be sure to tick which meals you will be eating so that no food goes to waste. With prior arrangement, it is also possible to use the kitchen to cook your own meals. For breakfast, bread, butter, jam, bananas, hot water for

tea, chai and hard boiled eggs are provided. Cereals, juices, yogurt, coffee or anything else you may want for breakfast can be purchased at the local supermarket. Lunch and dinner are usually rice, dal, sabzi (vegetable) and chapati (Indian bread). Dinner is ready around 6 pm. Please wash up after yourself and at the Tadiwala office, be sure to return your plates to the ground floor.

There is a water filter in the utility room that provides clean safe drinking water. There is no filter at any of the projects so please take bottled water with you in the morning if this is an issue. If you prefer, you can buy treated or mineral water in bottles. We do not advise you to drink the tap water. Volunteers do however tend to brush their teeth with tap water and any salad/fruit served with meals is washed in tap water

Q: What is the dress code?

As a representative of DGS you are expected to adhere to local dress code at all times when working. For females a salwar kameez or equivalent should be worn. For males a shirt and trousers should be worn.

Pune is a large city near Mumbai and therefore outside of working hours dress code is not as strict as in other areas in India. However it is suggested that you maintain a relatively conservative manner of dress outside of the office to avoid unwanted attention.

Q: How much do I need to pay?

Everyone staying at the Cultural Centre needs to pay 500 Rupees per person per day. (Please note that the prices are subject to change so please check before you arrive.) Your contributions will cover the cost of your accommodation and food. Payment is collected bi-weekly by the house manager at the Cultural Centre. If you prefer you can pay for a longer duration however it is not possible to give refunds for any reason. You will be given a receipt for your payment. If you would like to make a bank transfer then please email deepgriha.eft@gmail.com to obtain the relevant details. Please inform house in-charge that this will be your method of payment and show her your payment receipt.

Q: How will I travel to and from work?

A mini-bus leaves the Cultural Centre (the volunteer accommodation) at 9.30am. A bus will take you back at around 5-5:30pm. If you are not ready to leave with the bus in the morning or wish to go back to the Cultural Centre early you will have to travel by rickshaw (about 60/70 Rupees each way).

Behaviour & Conduct

As everyone in the local community will recognize you as a Deep Griha volunteer it is important volunteers are mindful that they are representatives of the organisation at all times.

Volunteers should abide by the rules of the guesthouse (as outlined in New Volunteer Policy & Agreement 2011) including not drinking, smoking, abiding by the curfew (11:30pm) and not inviting anybody back to the house.

Take heed of advice that is given to you by staff at Deep Griha, particularly in regards to your safety and wellbeing.

Health

- Please see www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk
- Please note that Pune is in a low to no risk area for malaria. For malaria map see [http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/destinations/asia-\(east\)/india/india-malaria-map.aspx](http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/destinations/asia-(east)/india/india-malaria-map.aspx)

A GUIDE TO PUNE

DGS is based in Pune, a student city with a lot to do and see. Here is a rough guide to what there is in the city...

Your local area, FATIMA NAGAR

Groceries

There are plenty of small markets and shops on the main street, as well as the Reliance supermarket, with all the Western amenities you could ever want. There are also a few nice bakeries, e.g. the *Diamond Bakery* at the entrance to Fatima Nagar.

SIM cards/Mobile Internet- Money Exchange Store, Buy 'n' Sell,

For a SIM card/phone - the *Currency Exchange* shop offers great help in setting yourself up with an Indian number. It's a bit closer to the CC than Reliance and they're generally really helpful.

Internet

There are many internet cafes close to the CC- two on the Fatima Nagar strip and one called *Zoom In Café* if you turn left from the CC and walk about 5 minutes. All charge approx. Rs20 per hour.

Travel Agent

Yash n Jui Enterprises, 1 Floor, Flat no. 4, Silver Heights (on the walk between CC and the main road) 020 26813285 - a lovely man who will welcome you into his home and help you with all your travel needs!

Bank/ATM

The *Bank of Maharashtra* on the corner is the closest to the cultural centre. If you have problems here there are at least 3 others further down the main street on the way to Big Bazaar.

Tailor

There are two in vert close proximity to the CC. One can be found on the street where the *Diamond Bakery* is about 15 minutes walk away. The other slightly cheaper option is on the right when you take a right out of the CC. Bring the material, and they will measure and tailor it for you. (Ladies & Gents).

Cinema

The cinema *Fame* is located right next to Big Bazaar. 150 rupees a ticket (up to 220 rupees at weekends) for Hindi and English movies. Other large cinemas can be found at the large malls around the city.

Restaurants

Café Coffee Day is just opposite Reliance with an amazing selection of cold coffees perfect for a drink and a snack.

Sai Sagar is along the main road in the opposite direction to Big Bazaar and just past the park it offers great Indian food.

The Tandoor is a fantastic dive bar not far from Big Bazaar. Great food, great drinks and great staff.

If you tire of Indian food there is always *fast food*. You can find Pizza Hut on the main street near Big Bazaar and a McDonalds, KFC and Dominos in the opposite direction.

There lot's of cheap local eateries on the main strip to choose from. It's usually a safe bet to eat at the busiest places - locals know where serves the best and safest local food.

CAMP/MG ROAD

About 15 minutes from the CC.

MG Road is one of the major shopping streets in the city. You can pick up touristy items for the family, decently priced salwaar sets in *Clover Centre* and your more Western shops such as Levis and United Colors of Benetton in *SGS Mall* just a few minutes away. Craving cheese? Dorabjees has a huge selection of European cheeses and other home comforts you may be missing.

Juice World is the best option for snack food and a fix of vitamins from their seasonal fruit juices. Pav Bhaji comes highly recommended.

1000 Oaks is a good option for both food and drinks with a nice selection of bar snacks and drinks inside and a good atmospheric garden outside.

Burger is one of the cheapest (and widest if you choose 'king') options for a beefburger. There is another branch located in ABC farms but this one is a little closer to the CC and a short walk from 1000 Oaks.

Blue Nile , a short walk from Dorabjees near MG Road does great tandoori and very fast service! Worth a visit.

LAXMI ROAD

The old heart of the city. Close to *Shaniwarwada Fort* and Lal Mahal, you'll find many sari shops and market stalls here selling nice and inexpensive jewellery, shoes, food. You name it, you'll find it.

Street food from the stalls around here are a very good bet so take the plunge and try something you don't know the name of!

KOREAGON PARK

This is the area where you'll find most the foreign tourists and ex-pats. The *Osho Ashram* is located here as is the peaceful *Osho Zen Garden*.

ABC Farms is a collection of restaurants including:

High Spirits Cafe which hosts karaoke nights every Tuesday, gigs on Fridays and all you can eat BBQs on Sunday afternoons.

Shisha Cafe has great decor, an even better atmosphere, good Iranian food and live jazz on a Thursday.

Other nice restaurants in Koregon Park include:

- *Malaka Spice* serves a variety of SE Asian food with a bit of a twist and often has offers either on food or drinks on weekday evenings.
- *Prem's* has a nice atmosphere set back from North Main Road in a garden area.

TOURISTY THINGS TO SEE AND DO.

Parvati Hill has beautiful temples and great views of the city from the top!

Aga Khan Palace is where Mahatma Gandhi was kept under house arrest during the 1940s. A beautiful building with a nice garden area. (100 rupees for foreigners)

Shaniwarwada Palace was once a stunning palace fort, now only the foundations and one entrance side remain. Has some great 16th century wood carving. (100 rupees entrance for foreigners).

Pune is ideally located to take day or weekend trips to the many *hill station towns* around the area. Best seen towards the end of the monsoon when everything is lush and the mist has settled it makes a nice change to the hustle and bustle of the city. Lonavla, Matheran, Mahalbewshwar to name but a few.

LOCATIONS

Office

The main office is located on Tadiwala Road in central Pune, not far from the railway station.

Deep Griha Society Family Welfare Centre

13 Tadiwala Road

Pune 411 001

Maharashtra

INDIA

Phone: 0091-20-26124382

Email: deepgriha@gmail.com

Cultural Centre

The Cultural Centre, where most volunteers live, is located in the Tatya Tope Housing Society in an area of the city called Fatima Nagar or Wanowrie. Many stores and restaurants are located nearby.

Deep Griha Society Cultural Centre

A-8 K Tatya Tope Housing Society

Wanowrie, Pune 411 040

Maharashtra
INDIA

Phone: 00-91-202-6875673

Key Contacts

If you encounter any problems during your placement at DGS you should contact the team leader you work with or the DGS volunteer coordinator.

Isobel Wilson-Cleary
dgsvolunteercoordinator@gmail.com

Dr Neela Onawale (Director)
(0091) 9881 549545
nonawale@yahoo.com

Auntie (Cultural Centre)
(0091) 020 26875673

Emergency contacts:
Police 100
Fire 101
Ambulance 101
Ruby Hall Hospital 26123391

SHORT EXPRESSIONS & WORDS

English	Marathi	Hindi	English	Kaa?	Q?
Good	Changala	Aacha / Aachi	Why?	Kaa?	Q?
Bad	Vaiet	Bura / Buri	One	Ek	Ek
So-so	Theek-thak	Theek-thak	Two	doan	Do
Today	Aaj	Aaj	Three	Teen	Teen
Now	Atta	Abhi	Four	Char	Char
Tomorrow	Udya	Kal	Five	Pach	Panch
Yesterday	Kal	Kal	Six	Saha	Che
Yes	Ho	Ha	Seven	Saat	Saat
No	Nahi	Nahi	Eight	Aat	Aat
Come	Ye	Aao	Nine	Nau	Nau
Go	Za	Jao	Ten	Daha	Das
Hot	Garam	Garam	Twenty	Vees	Bees
Cold	Gaar	Thanda/Thandi	Thirty	Tees	Tees
Here	k de	Yahaan	Forty	Chaaless	Chalees
There	Tikde	Vahaan	Fifty	Pannaar	Pachaar
What?	Kaay?	Kya?	One Hundred	Shambar	Ek So
Where?	Kutthe?	Kaha?	Two Hundred	Doanshe	Doh So
Who?	Kon?	Kon?	One Thousand	Bk Haazar	Ek Hajaar
How?	Kasa?	Kese?	Two Thousand	Doan Haazar	Doh Hajaar
When?	Kevha?	Kab?	Ten Thousand	Dhah Haazar	Das Hajaar

USEFUL PHRASES

English	Marathi	Hindi
H / Hello / Greeting!	Namaskar	Namaste
How are you?	Tu kasa / Kashi ahes? (M / F)	Aap kaise / kaisi hai?
I'm fine, thank you!	Me theek ahe, dhanyavad	Mai theek hu, shukria
What's your name?	Toojha nav kay ahe?	Aapka namm kya hai?
My name is....	Mazha nav.... ahe	Mera naam.... hai
Where are you from?	Aapan kuthoon aahat?	Aap kahaan se hai?
I'm from.....	M.... hoon aahe (M / F)	Mai... se hu
Do you speak (English / Mar / Hin)?	Tumhala Marathi / English yeta ka?	Aap English / Hindi bolte / bolti hai?
Just a little	Tho de se	Thoda sa
How old are you?	Tumche vai kay ahe?	Aapka umar kya hai?
I'm.... years old	Me.... varshacha ahe	Mai.... sal ka / ki hoon
I don't understand!	Mala samajath nahi	Mai nahi samajha / samajhi
What's that called in Marathi / Hindi?	Tyala Marathi kay mhantat?	Use Hindi me kya lehte hai?
What does this mean?	Hyaha kay mhanna ahe?	Kya yaha matlab hai?
How do you say "thank you" in Marathi / Hindi?	Marathi madhye "thank you" kasa bolat? - dhanyavad	Hindi me "thank you" kaisa kahate hai. - shukriya
What is this?	He kay ahe?	Ye kya hai?