

Bhaktivedanta Research Center

Preserving Intangible Cultural Heritage



MANUSCRIPT MISSION

- ✦ Locate
- ✦ Preserve
- ✦ Educate

Conserving
the Past for
the Future

For an Inclusive and
Sustainable Planet





+ Manuscripts are commonly discovered in fragile, deteriorated, or damaged conditions

96.7%*

of over 10M+ manuscripts across India are on the verge of extinction

*Source-National Mission for Manuscripts, Government of India

SCHEDULE VII

- (ii) Promoting education, including special education and employment enhancing vocation skills especially among children, women, elderly and the differently abled and livelihood enhancement projects.
- (v) Protection of national heritage, art and culture including restoration of buildings and sites of historical importance and works of art; setting up public libraries; promotion and development of traditional arts and handicrafts
- (x) Rural development projects



MINISTRY OF
CORPORATE
AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Progress at a Glance

Manuscript Mission



Locate



Raise Awareness

50+

programs

100K+

people reached



Field Visits

100+

Field Visits

200K+

manuscripts and rare books
to be inspected



Cataloging

70K+

rare books and
manuscripts catalogued

5

languages



Preserve



Conservation

250K+

pages of rare manuscripts
and books conserved



Digitization

450K+

pages of rare manuscripts
and books digitized



Public Libraries

5

physical public
libraries setup

4

digital public libraries
setup



Educate



Research

50+

Research projects



Publications

20

Publications

6

Languages



Academics

17

MoUs with esteemed
national and international
academic institutions

15+

15+ Online and Offline
courses for upskilling



LOCATE

BRC team travels across the Indian subcontinent locating and documenting national literary heritage from ancient libraries temples and remote villages

Challenge

Manuscripts suffer neglect, secrecy from owners and lack of training and onsite cataloguing

Partners

40+ partners such as



Asiatic Society, Kolkata



Howrah Sanskrit Samaj

Raise Awareness

BRC promotes India's literary heritage through lectures, seminars, exhibitions, museums, and workshops

Impact

Current

- 50+ programs
- 100K+ people reached

Vision 2030

- 200+ programs
- 500K+ people reached



+ BRC team exhibiting rare literary artifacts and publications in Belagavi, Karnataka

Field Visit

The BRC field team collaborates with the community to uncover manuscripts in various repositories - villages, private collections, temples, libraries, and institutions



+ Bada Akhada, Nadia, West Bengal



+ Odiya Math, Puri, Odisha

Impact

Current

- 100+ Field Visits
- 200K+ manuscripts and rare books to be inspected

Vision 2030

- 200+ Field Visits
- 1M+ manuscripts and rare books to be inspected

Cataloging

BRC's experts document each manuscript's origins, language, and connections, referencing historical and cultural details for significance

Impact

Current

- 70K+ rare books and manuscripts catalogued
- 5 languages

Vision 2030

- 300K+ rare books and manuscripts to be catalogued
- 8 languages



+ BRC experts cataloging a "*Skanda Purana*" palm leaf manuscript dated 1755 A.D. at Sadharan Granth Mandir, Nabadwip, West Bengal



PRESERVE

BRC restores public access to Indian Knowledge Systems by conserving and digitizing manuscripts, creating public and digital libraries

Challenges

Fragile manuscripts, limited trained manpower, and limitations of OCR technology for regional Indian languages

Conservation

The BRC team restores manuscripts and rare books, following standards set by the National Manuscripts Mission and the National Archives of India

Impact

Current

250K+
pages of rare manuscripts
and books conserved

Vision 2030

650K+
pages of rare manuscripts
and books to be conserved

Partners



Oxford
Centre for
Hindu
Studies



School of
Cultural Text
& Records,
Jadavpur
University



Scottish
Church
College,
Kolkata



Gaudiya
Mission,
Kolkata



+

Lamination & Binding of
40K+ pages of "Dainik
Nadia Prakash", a daily
periodical published
from 1927-1947, with
Japanese tissue paper
technology

Digitization

BRC uses high-resolution scanning to preserve manuscripts for the long-term future

Impact

Current

450K+
pages of rare manuscripts
and books digitized

Vision 2030

1.5M+
pages of rare
manuscripts and
books to be digitized



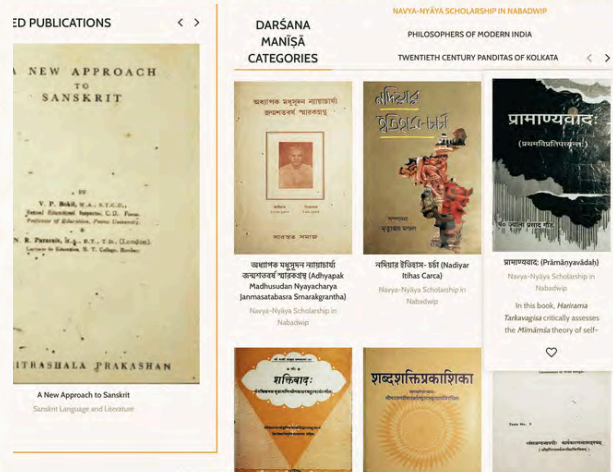
+ Scanning a copy of the "Gaudiya" weekly periodical published in the 1920's with Bookeye 4 scanner

Public Libraries

BRC provides global, free, democratic access to preserved manuscripts and rare books via public libraries, both physical and digital



+ 25K+ manuscripts and rare books preserved at BRC Kolkata Library



+ Darshan Manisha digital library (<http://darshanmanisha.org>) developed by BRC

Impact

Current

5 physical public
libraries setup

4 digital public
libraries setup

Vision 2030

20+ physical public
libraries

30+ digital public
libraries



EDUCATE

BRC conducts research, publications, and educational programs in Indian Knowledge Systems with top universities and scholars worldwide

Challenge

Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) are not well integrated into mainstream education and research



+ Dr. David Haberman, Professor and former Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at Indiana University, USA, conducting the course on 'Lived Religion' at BRC Mumbai

Publication Partners



Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group



OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS



Harvard
University
Press



MANDALA
PUBLISHING



UNIVERSAL
PUBLISHING



Dev Publishers
& Distributors

Research

BRC researches Indian Knowledge Systems, guided by esteemed scholars from the global academic community

Impact

Current

→ 50+ Research projects

Vision 2030

→ 150+ Research projects



+ BRC Research Room

Publications

BRC publications provide wide access to scholarly works on Indian Knowledge Systems, including annotated translations and their contemporary applications

Impact

Current

→ 20 Publications

→ 6 Languages

Vision 2030

→ 100+ Publications

→ 10+ Languages



Academics

BRC offers Masters' and PhD programs with Mumbai University and is a specialized study center of Savitribai Phule Pune University, providing certificate courses online and in person

Impact

Current

→ 17 MoUs with esteemed national and international academic institutions.

→ 15+ Online and Offline courses for upskilling

Vision 2030

→ 30 MoUs with esteemed national and international academic institutions.

→ 40+ Online and Offline courses for upskilling

Academic Partners



University of Mumbai



Savitri Bai Phule
Pune University



Stockholm
University



St Xavier's Kolkata

Vision, Mission, and Core Values

To be a leading global institution serving India's literary heritage by collecting, preserving, researching and teaching its ancient wisdom through state of the art means for the welfare of the society at large

● ● ● ● ●

Strategic Planning

We have set targets, timelines, and metrics to enhance research impact, global presence, innovation, sustainability, and community engagement for practical applications

● ● ● ●

Leadership

Guided by visionary leaders, BRC drives research excellence, fosters global collaborations, champions innovation, and promotes sustainable, impactful community engagement for organizational success

● ● ● ● ●

Organizational Structure and Governance

We have over 100 people in defined roles, including management, scholars, advisors, and volunteers, many serving honorarily

● ● ● ● ●

Monitoring and Evaluation

BRC's monitoring and evaluation ensure research quality, track progress, assess impact, and drive continuous improvement for effective outcomes and strategic goals

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Technology and Innovations

BRC uses advanced preservation technologies, physical and digital, driving innovation and forming global partnerships with leading academic institutions to widely share ancient knowledge through public libraries worldwide

● ● ● ●

Funding

We have worked with several corporations, foundations and individuals to create a robust fundraising framework

● ● ●

Collaboration

BRC partners with diverse organizations globally, creating impactful collaborations that enhance research quality and drive collective success and innovation

● ● ● ●

Sustainable and Replicable Model

BRC has created sustainable models for reviving ancient heritage, replicable across locations and communities to enhance impact and effectiveness

● ● ●

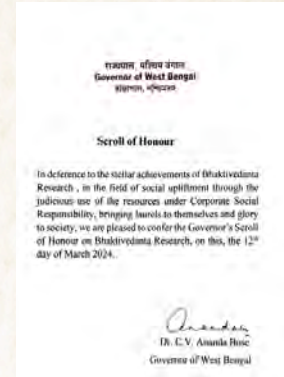
Awards & Recognitions



The Honorable Governor of West Bengal Dr. C.V. Ananda Bose confers the Jury Choice Award for "Pioneering work in Preserving Cultural Heritage" to BRC at the 6th Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Social Impact Awards 2024



Letter of Recognition from the Honorable Governor of Maharashtra



Letter of Recognition from the Honorable Governor of West Bengal

SDG Linkage



BRC Manuscript Mission conserves cultural heritage, spreads awareness, and preserves indigenous knowledge, aligning with SDG 4's education goals. (Target 4.7)



BRC contributes to SDG 8 (Target 8.5) as it promotes inclusive economic growth. BRC provides employment opportunities for researchers and educators in the cultural preservation of manuscripts process.



Preserving cultural and natural heritage requires protecting ancient scriptures, celebrating diversity, and adopting sustainable practices. (Target 11.4)



Through preserving and digitizing Indian ancient manuscripts, BRC is making these resources widely accessible to communities. This promotes the protection of historical information and supports the right to knowledge, contributing to SDG 16 (Target 16.10)

Affiliations



Certification



Member



NGO Grading

4 Star ★★★★★

CSR Supporters

Sri Chaitanya Seva Trust

WORLDWIDE SAFETY
— PVT LTD —



UBUNTU AT WORK TRUST





Be A Part Of The Manuscript Mission



Fund



Partner



Volunteer



Your donations are tax-exempted under 80G of the Indian Income Tax Act

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