

ABS CHENNAI

The year that was – 2012 – 2013

Welcome to the AGM – 2013

Welcome to ABS Chennai

The Association of British Scholars (ABS) is a national forum to facilitate the networking of Indians who have studied or trained in the UK. ABS India aims to strengthen the Indo-UK relationship by harnessing the resources, expertise and potential of every ABS chapter through networking, sharing information and hosting social, cultural and intellectual activities. We constantly engage in [projects and programmes](#) that are of relevance to the community, by tapping the multidimensional skills of members. ABS is today one of the India's largest alumni networks.

The Chennai chapter is one of the most active chapters under the able leadership of its President, [A. V. Illango](#). To find out how to become a member please visit our [Membership Page](#). To find out about the various scholarships we have our [Scholarships Page](#). To find out more about our forthcoming events please visit our [Events Page](#).

Founded in 1985 in Chennai, The Association of British Scholars (ABS) came into existence by the voluntary amalgamation of a few UK returned scholars to enhance British culture, lifestyle and education with a point of view of helping anyone wanting to go to the UK by sharing their knowledge, expertise and experience. An independent non-profit organization ABS was encouraged by the British Council and the British High Commission in aspects of finance, space, logistics and any other support that they could offer to help in some way of overall development of society. This hand-holding aided in the ABS expansion, today there being 22 chapters throughout India their main goal always maintained at enhancing Indo-UK relations.



Reaching out into the public space



In Dialogue with the Youth

[About Us](#) [Shortlisted Teams](#) [Event](#) [Motions](#) [Press](#) [Contact Us](#)



The Dialogue Foundation

The Dialogue Foundation is a not-for-profit organization deeply committed to offer a platform to promote the youth of the country to engage in events that give them the opportunity to make a change. It is an initiative started by two university students from Chennai. The Dialogue Foundation in association with the IIT Madras Debating Society, presents 'Dialogue', an inter-collegiate debating championship aiming to promote exchange of ideas and opinions through meaningful deliberations.

The world can change. Do you have what it takes?



Next Round

Did you make it to the next round? Click to find out!

RESULTS



A timeless classic, now in English



Association of British Scholars Chennai

December 17, 2012 *

On 12th Dec, ABS Chennai launched Usha Rajagopalan's book *Panchali's Pledge*, a translation of Subramania Bharati's epic *Panchali Sabadham*. Ms. Usha Rajagopalan, is a Charles Wallace India Trust Translation Fellow and worked on her translation of Tamil poet Subramania Bharati's *Panchali's Pledge* while in residence at British Centre for Literary Translation in 2011.



TOPICS

arts, culture and entertainment

arts (general)

books and literature

Tamil literature

classic books

literary greats

Poet Bharati's classic Panchali Sabatham gets translated into English as Panchali's Pledge

On the 130th birth anniversary of Subramanya Bharati, *Panchali's Pledge* — an English language translation of the poet's classic *Panchali Sabatham* — by Usha Rajagopalan was launched by the Chennai Chapter of the Association of British Scholars (ABS).

The book attempts to translate the many poems that culminate in Panchali's pledge when she was disrobed at the Kaurava court. "I grew up listening to Bharati's songs in films and kutcheries, and always went into a trance. I couldn't understand the songs, and I decided I would learn enough Tamil to translate this book into English," says the author. "I had earlier translated a few of Bharati's poems. I began with four or five that I really liked, and as I dug deeper, I discovered more gems. Then, for a few years, I was obsessed with Bharati. The translations of 52 of his select poems were published as a book a while ago."

Panchali's Pledge keeps shifting between the two main characters, says Usha. "Most parts of the book are about Duryodhana, even though its essence is Panchali. When Duryodhana is vocal, Draupadi is nowhere in the picture, and the other way around. But this book is for not just people who don't know the source language, but also for those who do. I has taken me eight years to finish this book," she says.

A timeless classic

The author's biggest challenge was to not stray from the original composition. "When we launched it during the Bharathi festival, people who had read the book told me there were parts that fit the original exactly. There cannot be a bigger compliment," says Usha. "Bharati is a classic and he will live as long as his characters remain poignant in society."

Translation becomes necessary as society evolves, she says. "Even though Bharati wrote his poems for the common man, his writing has now become difficult because language and people have evolved over time. With my other book, I had a neighbour who was a Tamil writer and who helped me analyse the poems. But for this book I had to read a lot, analyse the poems, meet his granddaughter and bring about my translation. It took time to understand some of his more abstract poems."

(*Panchali's Pledge* is available at leading bookstores for Rs. 350)

Keywords: *Panchali Sabatham*, english translation, *Panchali's pledge*, Subramanya Bharati work



English Training for Artists – assessing the need



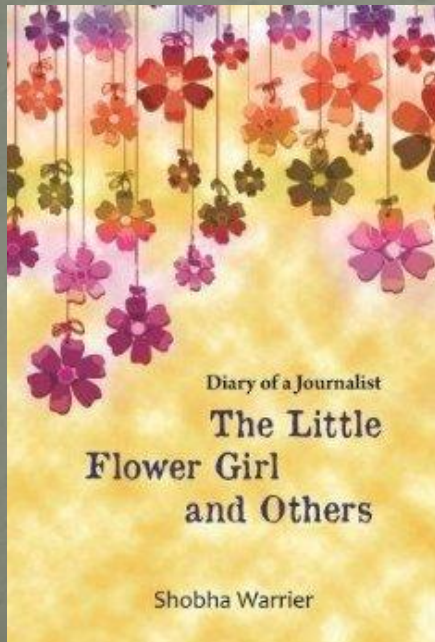
Showing an eagerness to learn English



The History of temples a priest will not tell you...



Equal Opportunity and Diversity



How Madras served its society



Vanishing Wildlife of Chennai



Making Music in the lives of the less-privileged



Cricket, Carnatic Music and Coffee



Pictorial Quiz on heritage institutions in Madras



Artist's Grant - 2013



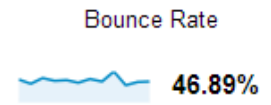
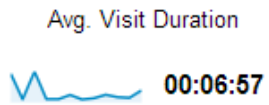
Overview

Visits vs. Select a metric

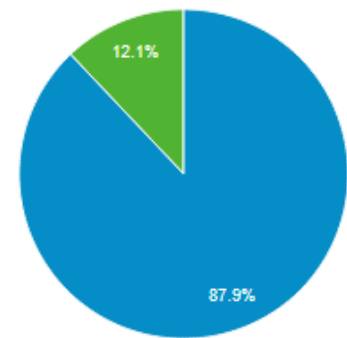
Hourly Day Week Month



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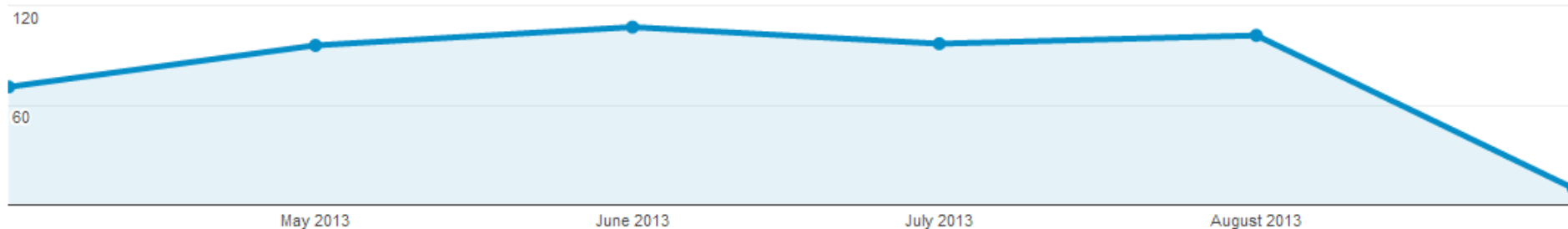


Overview

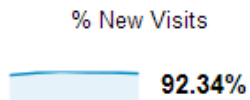
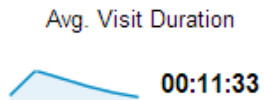
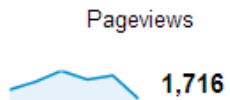
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Hourly Day Week Month

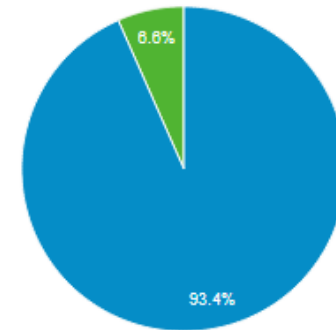
Visits



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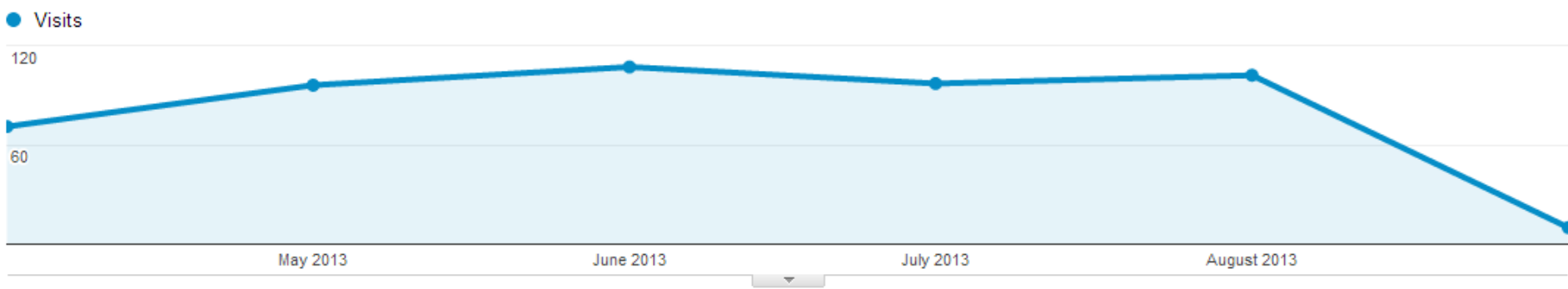
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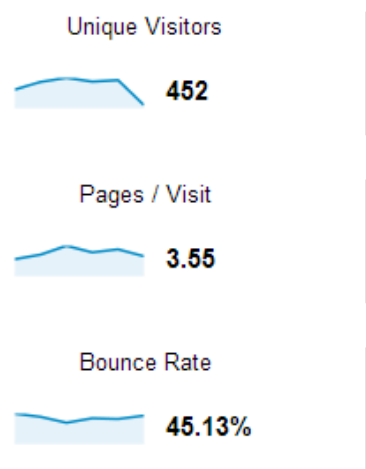
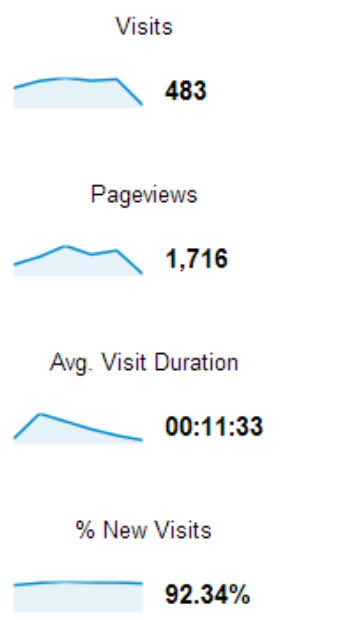
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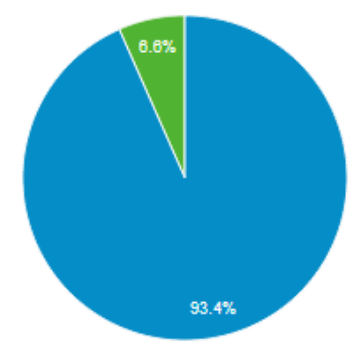
Hourly Day Week Month



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New Visitor Returning Visitor





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Latest News

Aug 1, 2013
ABS Chennai
launches courses for
[Communication Skills
in English for Artists](#)

June 21, 2013
ABS Chennai
Gazetter Lecture
Series: [Chennai's
diverse habitat
sustained variety of
wildlife](#)

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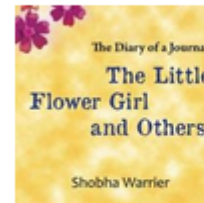


Association of British Scholars Chennai
August 16 ✨

Gazetteer Lecture Series with Professor Vidhya Srinivasan on the topic "Social Service, Social Welfare and Social Work" along with Dr. Muthiah



Association of British Scholars Chennai created an event.
May 7 🌐



Celebration of Equal Opportunity and Diversity

May 10 at 5:45pm

British Council Library in Chennai, Tamil Nadu

📅 Join ·

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25 people saw this post

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Association of British Scholars Chennai shared a link.
April 15 ✨

See the coverage in The Hindu for the travel grant. More Details at <http://www.abschennai.org/travel-grants-artists.html>



Travel grant for artists

www.thehindu.com

Talented artists who are waiting for that crucial international exposure to reach out to a wider audience, may find just that through the "ABS Chennai Artists' Travel Grant 2013".

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