**DR MRUNAL CHAVDA**

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| **226 GHB Sahakar Colony Sector 25, Gandhinagar, GUJRAT 382024 | (Mobile) 00916352877174 | mrunalchavdaiima@gmail.com** |

**Experience**

**Assistant Professor in Drama (Contract),**

**Indian Institute of Teacher Education, Gandhinagar (India)** January 2019-

Teaching Indian and Western Theatrical practices to undergraduate teacher trainees

(Designed Theatre Syllabi for Teacher Trainees)

**Visiting Assistant Professor in English,**

**Gujarat Vidyapeeth, (India)**

Teaching MA (Major English) courses:

Gandhian Influence on Indian Literature in English,

Translation Studies and Latin American Literature December 2018-

**Post Doctoral Research Fellow** 01/2017 to 22/2/2019

**University of Cape Town** – Cape Town, WC

Project Title: Sociocultural Documentation of Gujarati in South Africa: Literary Perspectives

Principal Investigator: Professor Rajend Mesthrie, University of Cape Town, South Africa

* Conduct research to gather information about Gujarati literature and language in South Africa.
* Collaborate with other researchers in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of surveys of Gujarati language and literature in South Africa.
* Present research findings at national and international conferences.
* Provide assistance with the preparation of project-related reports, manuscripts, and presentations for South African Funding agencies i.e. National Research Foundation and National Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences, South Africa and Indian Council for Culture and Social Sciences Research (India).

**Research Assistant** 01/2015 to 3/2016

**University of Exeter** **– Exeter, Devon**

Understanding Everyday Participation: Articulating Cultural Values, Department of Drama, University of Exeter

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** 09/2012 to 06/2014

**University of Exeter, Devon**

* Teaching, marking and evaluating Students oral and written work in Graduate and Post Graduate Modules at the Department of Drama such Cultural Adaptation and Theatrical Interpretations: Directors

**Content Developer**  03/2016 to 12/2016

**Shreyas Foundation, Ahmedabad Gujarat**

* Develop teaching content by incorporating teaching philosophies by Gandhi, Tagore and Ms Leena Sarabhai
* Coordinated with the School Principal and School Management on implementing Smart Class room Technology
* Develop teacher training module for Smart Classroom teaching content and pedagogy
* Designed and established a Media Learning centre for Underprivileged Children by raising funds from Bosch (India) and Dell (India) by procuring 32 pieces of Dell All-in-One Desktops.

**Freelance Gujarati Language Consultant** 02/2017 to 03/2018

**Shree Bharat Sharda Mandir School and Cape Hindu Cultural Society** – Johannesburg and Cape Town, GP

* Analyze training needs to develop new training programs or modify and improve existing programs for teachers of Gujarati language.
* Plan, develop, and provide training and staff development programs, using knowledge of the effectiveness of methods such as classroom training, demonstrations, on-the-job training, meetings, conferences, and workshops for Gujarati language teachers.
* Manage and create an archival facility for the Gujarati Literature produced in South Africa available at the Cape Hindu Cultural Society

**Lecturer in English and Communication Skills** 11/2009 to 09/2011

**Government Polytechnic** – Himmatnagar, Gujarat

* Prepare and deliver lectures to undergraduate or graduate students on topics such as research design methods, aesthetics and English language, and Gujarati culture.
* Initiate, facilitate, and moderate classroom discussions on topics such as globalization, its impact on Literature and society and culture.
* Prepare course materials such as syllabi, homework assignments, and handouts.

**Translator Freelance** 01/2010 till date

* Translated ‘Majdoor Sandesh’ Gujarati Newspaper select editions into English for Prof Abigail McGowan, Professor of History, the University of Vermont.
* Ghost Translator for Yahoo India WebPages and Microsoft Windows Vista Edition
* Translator for Oxford Living Dictionary (Gujarati Language)

**Academic Associate** 10/2008 to 10/2009

**Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad** – Ahmedabad, Gujarat

* Evaluate and grade examinations, assignments, or papers and record grades for Post Graduate Students in Management
* Develop teaching materials, such as syllabi, visual aids, answer keys, supplementary notes, or course Web sites for courses such as Spoken Business Communication, Written Analysis and Communication and Organizational Communication and Building and Managing Corporate Reputation
* Return assignments to students in accordance with established deadlines.
* Provide assistance to faculty members or staff with laboratory or field research such as Professor Asha Kaul, Communication Area.
* Copy and distribute classroom materials.

**Lecturer in English and Communication Skills** 10/2007 to 10/2008

**S. K. Patel Institute of Management & Computer Studies (MCA)** – Gandhinagar, Gujarat

* Teach writing classes for Management Students.
* Supervise undergraduate or graduate teaching, internship, and research work in Marketing communication and Advertising in Indian markets
* Participate in campus and community events.
* Prepare and administer written, oral, and performance tests, and issue grades in accordance with performance.
* Conduct classes, workshops, and demonstrations to teach principles, techniques, or methods in subjects such as Basic English language skills, life skills, and workforce entry skills.

**Lecturer in English and Communication Skill** 06/2006 to 08/2007

**SEMCOM** – Anand, Gujarat

* Evaluate and grade students' class work, assignments, and papers for Graduate and Undergraduate students in Management and Commerce Faculty.
* Maintain student attendance records, grades, and other required records as per the Sardar Patel University and the college Policies.
* Participate in student recruitment, registration, and placement activities.
* Participate in campus and community events.
* Act as advisers to student organizations and perform as a mentor and providing pastoral care to out station students.

**Education**

**Ph.D.**: Drama Feb 2015

**University of Exeter** - Devon, England

Awarded International Doctoral Studentship.

Thesis Title: Bharata’s *Natyashastra*-based Theatre Analysis Model: An experiment on British South Asian and contemporary Indian theatre in English

Supervisors: Dr Jerri Daboo, Associate Professor, and Dr Catherine Turner, Senior Lecturer, University of Exeter

**Advanced Certificate** inLearning and Teaching in Higher Education Nov 2014

**University of Exeter** - Devon, England

**Master of Philosophy**: Drama Dec 2005

**Gujarat University** - Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Graduated with distinction.

Dissertation Title: ‘A Journey Towards Fulfillment: A Comparative Study of Shakespeare’s *A Winter’s Tale* and Bhavabhuti’s *Uttarramcharita*’.

**Bachelor of Education**: Language Education (English and Gujarati) Dec 2004

**Gujarat University** - Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Graduated with distinction.

**Master of Arts**: English Literature (specialization: Indian Literature in English and Indian Literature in Translation) Dec 2002

**Gujarat University** - Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Graduated with honors.

**Bachelor of Arts**: English Literature Dec 2000

**Gujarat University** - Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Graduated with honors.

**Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults**

University of Cambridge and British Council, New Delhi. May 2013

**Publications**

**Monographs in Progress**

Chavda, Mrunal. Natyashastra and Performance Analysis: An Investigation of Global Theatre

Productions. (in preparation)

Chavda, Mrunal. South African Gujarati Literature: An Erasure of Literary Culture. (in preparation)

**Book Chapters**

Chavda, M. (2015). ‘Chutnification of Asian ‘masala’ of British Asian Diaspora and the myth

of Trishanku. In Tine Vekemans, ed. Discovering Diaspora – A Multidisciplinary Approach.

Oxford: Interdisciplinarity Press.

Chavda, M. (2009). *Rhetoric of marginal identities: A comparative study of Sharankumar*

*Limbale’s The Outcaste and Malcom X’s The Autobiography*. In Raja Shekhar ed. ‘Exploring

Fourth World Literature: Tribals, Adivasiss, Dalits’ Prestige Books, New Delhi 2009, pp.

214-228. ISBN: 9788178510828.

**Publication Research Articles**

Chavda, M. (2019) Performing Garba (the clap dance): Performing Garba (the clap dance):

Choreographic and Commercial Changes, *Dance Chronicle*. 42(1), pp. 78-101.

Chavda, M. (2018). *Dakshin Africana Gujartiono Bhartiya Rashtravaad: Ek Zalak* [Indian Nationalism in South African Gujarati Poets: A Perspective].*Sabdasrushti 421* (10) pp.87-96. ISSN: 2319-3220.

Chavda, M (2017). Reconceptualising witches as Hijras in *Macbeth:* Tara Arts’ Adaptation.

*The Journal of Teaching and Research in English Literature*, Vol 8 (2), ISSN: 0975-8828.

<https://sites.google.com/site/journalofenglishliterature/>

Chavda, M. (2015). If Only Bollywood…the case of British Asian theatre. *South Asian*

*Popular Culture* 13 (3) pp.235-250.

**Work in Progress**

Chavda, M. South African Gujarati Literature: literatures that Gujarat Ignored. *South Asian Review* (in preparation).

Chavda, M. South African Gujarati Poets: A critical inventory. *Postcolonial Studies* (in preparation).

**Book Reviews Published**

Chavda, M (2015). Review of Rachel Dwyer’s *Bollywood’s India*. South Asian Popular

Culture, 13 (1), pp. 103-105.

Chavda, M (2015). Review of Graham *Ley 'Ancient Greek and Contemporary Performance:*

*Collected Essays’.* New Theatre Quarterly, 31 (4), pp 399-400.

Chavda, M (2016). Review of Royona Mitra’s *Akram Khan: Dancing New Interculturalism*.

Asian Theatre Journal 33(2), pp. 525-528.

Chavda, Mrunal (2016). Review of Sreenath Nair’s *The Natyashastra and the Body in*

*Performance: Essays on Indian Theories of Dance and Drama*. Contemporary Theatre

Review 26 (3), pp. 377-378.

**Miscellaneous and Creative Writing**

Chavda, M P (2017), Navaratri: the longest dance festival; Gender in Gujarati language; and Types of sentence in Gujarati available on <https://gu.oxforddictionaries.com>

Chavda, M. (2013). Exeter celebrates theatre this January The Tab Exeter January 15, 2013

[Online (newspaper)]

Chavda, M. (2012). My Journey into Research…Beginnings: Issues Involved in Working

with Human Subjects to Capture and Document Emotional Response University of Exeter August 15, 2012.

Chavda, Mrunal (2012) Four Poems published in an anthology published by Brian Wrixon, Canada <http://www.blurb.com/books/3822960-in-praise-in-memory-in-ink>

**Conference Presentations**

Chavda, M. (2018) Gandhi’s writing Style. International Congress of Linguistics, Cape

Town, South Africa.

Chavda, Mrunal. (2018) South African Gujarati Literature: An Erasure of Literary Culture, South Asian Literary Association, New York.

Chavda, M. (2017). Gujarati in Cape Town: A Preliminary Socio-cultural and literary

analysis. One-Day workshop jointly organized by National Institute for Humanities and

Social Sciences Research (South Africa) and Indian Council for Social Sciences Research

(India). 12 May 2017. Paper Presented.

Chavda, M. Reconceptualising witches as *Hijras* in *Macbeth*: Tara Arts’ Adaptation. ELTAI, Jaipur. 2016. (Awarded the best Paper Presentation 1st Cash Prize)

Chavda, M. Locating Intra / Inter / Cross cultural ‘Asian’ Performances in the UK. Half day

Symposium at the University of East London organized by Asian Performance Group, Tapra,

UK. 2016.

Chavda, M. Performing Garba (the clapping dance): Some Reflections on recent adaptations. One day conference on Dance and Adaptation at De Monte Ford University, Leicester. 2016.

Chavda, M. Analysing performer’s micro gestures using the *Natyashastra*. Post Graduate Humanities Conference, 2015, University of Exeter. Presented Paper.

Chavda, M. Performance Analysis of *Where Did I Leave My Purdah*. Theatre and Stratification. International Federation of Theatre Research, University of Warwick. 2014. Presented Paper.

Chavda, M. Practicing Comparative Literature in British Asian Theatre and Contemporary

Indian Theatre in XIth CLAI Biennial International Conference 2013 entitled “The Journey and Scope of Comparative Literature: India and Beyond” organised by the Department of Comparative Literature at Jadavpur University, Kolkata. 2013. Presented Paper.

Chavda, M. Tara Arts’ Samudramanthan in the Oceans of Multiculturalism. Post Graduate Humanities Conference, 2012, University of Exeter. Presented Paper.

Chavda, M. Interactive Media and ELT Practice at Sheetal Academy. International conference on Interactive Media in Pedagogy: Learning English In & Beyond Classrooms in

H. M. Patel in January 2010. Presented Paper.

Chavda, Vinu; Chavda, M. Mother Tongue Teaching and Language Policy, a national conference on ‘Mother Tongue Teaching and Language Policy’, Ahmedabad, February 2010. Presented Paper.

Chavda, M. The Impact of Advertisement on Rural Consumer: A Study. A national

Conference on ‘Indian Conference on Management: Innovations for Growth in India -

Opportunities and Challenges’, Gandhinagar, December 2007.

Chavda, M. Development through Newly Evolved Technology in Open and Distance Education. International conference on ‘Open and Distance Education: Frontiers, Challenges and Strategies’, Hyderabad in August 2007.

**Performances**

**Lead Role: Vichitrasen**, Ashwamegh, by Shree Chinu Modi sponsored by Gujarat Sangeet Natak Akademi, Gandhinagar, director: Shree Rahul Gumane. Feb-March 2019

**Performed ‘Hu Pan Manas chu’ [I Am Human Too]**

Written and directed by Shankar Gumane on the World AIDS DayDecember 2018

**Performed Sage Durvasa and Fisherman** **in Sanskrit** October 2018

Playwright: Kalidasa’s *Abhijnanshakuntala*

Director: Mr. Shankar Gumane and Mr. Bimal Parmar (Patil)

**Associate Artistic Director (Maari Bhasha/My Language)** 03/2016 to 02/2017

**Matrubhasha Abhiyaan** – Ahmedabad, GU

* Directed street plays for children ‘Dada Dadi no Otlo’ [Grand Parents’ Platform]
* Select different themes for different venues in Ahmedabad and recruit actors.
* Coordinate with Producers (Charitable organizations) and liaison with Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation.

**Radio Jockey** 08/2015 to 03/2016

**Phoenix Community Radio Station** – Exeter, UK, Devon

* Announce musical selections, station breaks, commercials, or public service information, and accept requests from listening audience.
* Comment on Bollywood music and other matters, such as weather or traffic conditions often comparing Indian cities and Exeter
* Select program content, in conjunction with producers and assistants, based on factors such as program specialties, audience tastes, or requests from the public.

**Artistic Director (Jaati: The Caste)** 09/2012 to 03/2016

**Freelance Artistic Director** – Exeter, UK

* Direct rehearsals to instruct actors in how to act, and in techniques to achieve desired effects for Indian community in Exeter
* Identify and recruit potential volunteer actors from the Community
* Publicize programs through sources such as newsletters, bulletins, or mailings for Indian audiences
* Participate in campus and community events in Exeter, Plymouth and elsewhere in Devon.

**Assistant Director and Writer** 01/2008 to 12/2009

**Praudh Sikhsha or Adult Education**

**Aman: Education for all** – Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, Gujarat

* Confer with technical directors, managers, crew members, and writers to discuss details of production, such as photography, script, music, sets, and costumes.
* Compile cue words and phrases, and cue announcers, cast members, and technicians during performances related to the importance of adult education in rural regions in Gujarat

**Assistant Director and Writer** 01/2006 to 12/2007

**AIDS mane na thay (or AIDS! Not me)**

**Aman: Education for All** – Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, Gujarat

* Direct activities of professional and technical staff members and volunteers to raise awareness about AIDS in Gujarat.
* Prepare and maintain records and reports, such as budgets, personnel records, or training manuals.
* Develop and present health education and promotion programs, such as training workshops, conferences, and school or community presentations.
* **Actor and Writer (Mane Pehro Hu Condom chu or I am condom, wear me!)** Toured across Gujarat (India) 01/2002 to 12/2006
* **Aman: Education for All** – Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India
* 2005 Mime ‘Shakti’ (Female Power) as a director, Gandhinagar
* 2004 Mime ‘Shakti’ (Female Power) as an actor, Ahmedabad
* 2003 Play ‘Teed’ [Grasshopper] as an actor and Director in Satish Vyas’ Gujarati play.

**Invited Talk (s)/Workshops**

* Delivered a guest talk on ‘Learning and Teaching in Higher Education: A teacher’s perspective’ at A G Teachers’ College, Ahmedabad University, January 2019.
* Conducted teachers’ workshop on ‘Identifying and writing learning objectives for enhancing effective learning’ at Shreyas Foundation, Ahmedabad. 2016.
* Delivered a talk on ‘Hinduism: Encouraging Tolerance and Understanding in a Multifaith Society’ on 18th June 2015 at Hockworthy Village Hall, Devon (England).
* I was invited on Phonic FM Community Radio (106.8), Exeter to talk about Nine Nights Dance Festival in Exeter on 15th October 2015.

**Administrative and Academic Positions**

* Post Graduate Student Representative for Drama in the College of Humanities and

Postgraduate Student-Staff Liaison forum

* Organising committee member, Humanities Post Graduate Research Conference 2012
* Facilitator for Grand Challenges 2014 on the theme ‘Re-orienting education: What might education look like if designed by learners’
* Administrator and Organizer for an international conference on ‘The Gender, Equity,

Diversity and Inclusivity Dialogue’ at Indian Institute of Management (Ahmedabad supported by United National Development Program.

**Grants, Awards and Funding**

* Post Doctoral Research Fellowship Travel Grant, University of Cape Town (19823 ZAR)
* International Doctoral Studentship (Drama) 2011-2014, College of Humanities,

University of Exeter

* Open Exeter Project Funding for writing a case study
* Teaching Bursary Department of Drama, 2010-2011
* Travel and research grant in 2009 from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
* National Eligibility Test Award by University Grants Commission, New Delhi in 2005

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS and Positions**

* South Asian Literary Association, Ordinary Member
* Life Time Member of Comparative Literature Association of India;
* Student Member of International Federation of Theatre Research;
* Theatre and Performance Research Association.
* BAFTASS – Euro-Bollywood Special Interest Group Member
* ELTAI (INDIA) – Ordinary member
* Gujarati Studies Association (UK) – Ordinary Member
* Student Staff Liaison Committee Member, University of Exeter (2011-2013)
* Oxford Living Gujarati Dictionaries, co-editor and contributor (Online blog)
* Project Leader (Theatre Festival) at the Indian Institute of Teacher Education, Gandhinagar

**Volunteering**

* Actor and director for Matrubhasha Abhiyaan (Mother Tongue Project) from April 2016 to December 2016
* Language Champion and Blogger at Oxford Living Dictionaries (Gujarati) with Oxford Dictionaries (online) from July 2017