

## **Vishnu Vardhan T**

#B-3, Asheerwad Colony, Horamavu, Kalyan Nagar Post, Bangalore - 560043

Mobile: + 91 - 9845207308

Email - vishnuviva@gmail.com

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### **EXECUTIVE PROFILE**

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- An astute Project Manager with 11 years experience in project planning and management, research and teaching fields, including 5 years as Senior Development Officer at Sir Ratan Tata Trust and 2 years as a Research Coordinator of online M.A. in Cultural Studies at Centre for the Study of Culture and Society.
  - Demonstrated ability in conceptualizing, managing and assessing quality and impact of projects in the not-for-profit sector. Managed more than 30 projects and funds to the tune of Rs. 160 million.
  - Have a wide network, which includes 20 Universities nationally, more than 30 GLAM and Research institutions, 6 key Donor Foundations, and a large number of NGOs, CBOs, academicians, researchers and professionals.
  - Sharp understanding of institution building and management processes.
  - Ability to work with diverse array of people cutting across different sectors and cadres.
  - Intermediate to advance exposure to various hardware and software tools, including operating systems and database soft-wares.
  - Exposed to discussions on FOSS, Digital Humanities and emerging trends in ICT.
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### **ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS**

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#### **Doctorate in Arts (Comparative Film Studies)**

Centre for Media Research, University Ulster, Coleraine Campus, UK (due for submission)

#### **Ph.D. Course Work (Cultural Studies)**

Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore, 2005

#### **Masters' Degree (Media and Cultural Studies)**

English and Foreign Languages University (formerly CIEFL), Hyderabad, 2002

#### **Bachelors' Degree (Sociology, Economics and Public Administration)**

Osmania University, Hyderabad, 2000

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### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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#### **Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT), Mumbai Senior Development Officer**

October 2007 – February 2013

**Role:** Management and Growth of Arts, Crafts and Culture (ACC) portfolio of SRTT and anchor Automation and Knowledge Management initiatives of the Trust.

#### Key Responsibilities (ACC):

- Development and evaluation of Project ideas from not-for-profit organizations, including appraisal of proposals/requests, review of annual and financial reports to identify grant making/management opportunities for the Trust in the field of Media, Arts, Crafts and Culture.
- Analysis and monitoring of the performance of projects across India funded by SRTT. This includes project quality audit and implementation monitoring, financial checks and assessment of project impact. Handled 30 projects, which involved a fund disbursement of about Rs. 160 million.
- Help build project and institutional sustainability through fund raising, networking, institutional partnerships and community mobilization. Mobilized about Rs. 90 million from other sources towards the projects seeded by SRTT.

## T. Vishnu Vardhan's resume

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- Analysis of grant making policies of the Trust in the field of Media, Arts and Culture, and contribute to the formulation of new focus areas and to the formulation of the first five year Strategy Plan of SRTT's Arts and Culture portfolio.
- Identifying areas of opportunity and conducting feasibility study for further development of all projects.
- Generating monthly, quarterly, six-monthly and annual reports and submitting the same for review to the senior management of the Trust.
- Clients/Benefactors include NGOs, Univ. Depts., GLAM institutions, schools, academicians, architects, artists, conservationists, craft/folk artisans, designers, researchers, students (school & college level) and teachers.

### Key Responsibilities (Automation & Knowledge Management):

- Overall anchor of the Trust's Automation and Knowledge Management activities.
- Identify the institutional and individual Business Requirement Specifications and help design relevant IT tools and web-architecture.
- Liaison with technical team from TCS on design development, testing and roll-out.
- Monitoring operational aspects and training to peers on Data Management and office automation processes at SRTT

**Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore** April 2004 – Jan 2007  
**Research Associate**

**Role:** Coordinator of 'MA Cultural Studies (Online)' – the first online humanities course in India and anchor Research/Teaching outreach work of CSCS.

### Key Responsibilities

- Part of the conceptual team of the online MA. Helped in designing the course modules and assessment online.
- Management of student community online as part of the online teaching activities and team of Faculty and Senior Researchers offline at CSCS in generating 8 high quality modules.
- Liaison with the Kuvempu Univ. Administration in successfully running the MA programme.
- Conceptualized and Coordinated national and international workshops and short-term courses in Media and Cultural Studies.
- Built academic partnerships with Christ College, St. Josephs' College, Mount Carmel College, Jyoti Nivas College and Bangalore University English Dept.
- Managed the Library Fellowship programme, which offered short-term fellowship support to under-graduate college teachers from across Karnataka in enhancing their research skills.

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### **PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENTS**

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**International Centre for Management and India Studies, Bangalore** (Jan – June 2007)  
Guest Faculty in Media and Film – Designed and taught the course 'The Film As Literature', to graduate students who will be transferred to universities in the U.S.A.

**Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore** (August 2003 – March 2004)  
Teaching Assistant – Compiled, coordinated and co-taught the Certificate Course 'Introduction to Film Studies' to Mass Communication and Journalism graduate students at Christ College, Bangalore.

**All India Radio, Yuva Vani Section, Hyderabad** (May 2001 – June 2002)  
Radio Comper – Compered many live and pre-recorded radio features, chat shows, music programme, talks and interviews. Co-produced a National Award winning radio-feature 'THAT'S THE MOMENT'.

**Educational and Media Research Centre, EFLU, Hyderabad** (Feb. 2001 – May 2001)  
Trainee Producer – For the documentary feature 'The Children of the Street'. Shot as a semi commercial film it gives a new outlook and insights into the problem of street children. The documentary was screened at Documentary Festival organized by Hyderabad Film Club and few times on Doordarshan's National Network.

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**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ACHIEVEMENTS**

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- ✓ Underwent Four Month long **Management Development Programme** on the basics of Management, conducted by Tata Group in collaboration with Symbiosis Institute of Management Studies, similar to the first year course of MBA degree, August 2010.
- ✓ Underwent 4 day intensive hands on training in using New Media technology for Community Radio organized by Maraa, Bangalore May 2010. Exposure on FOSS for Audio broadcasting and streaming, Wordpress, Rapid SMS, GRINS and Wi-Fi for audio broadcasting.
- ✓ Two day in-house training programme on Financial Management organized by Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Oct. 2009.
- ✓ Awarded meritorious SPUR fellowship for Research Students by University of Ulster 2005-10.
- ✓ Received Sir Ratan Tata Trust Fellowship for Humanities for the year 2002-2003 as part of CSCS (Bangalore) Ph.D. programme.
- ✓ National Award winner – Aakashvani National Awards 2001 for the feature "THAT'S THE MOMENT". As a co-producer I interviewed celebrities like V.V.S. Laxman, Nataraja Ramakrishna, Rahul Luther, etc.. Solely based on the interviews this feature triggers the spirit of success in youth.

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**PUBLICATIONS, PROJECTS AND STUDIES**

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- *Defreezing the Notions on the Telugu Mythological in Genre in Asian Film and Television: New Approches*, ed. Felica Chan et. al, Palgrave Macmillan 2011.
- Conducted a study (with Ms. Saritha Thomas) titled "Community Radio in India – Experiences and Potential: Possibilities for Sir Ratan Tata Trust", March 2011.
- *Rethinking Spectator(ship) and (Male)Gaze in the Context of Indian Cinema* published in the online journal Cerebrations [www.cerebration.org](http://www.cerebration.org) Vol. 3 September, 2005 issue.
- Independent Research Fellow at SARAI, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi and worked on the project *(Oral) Documenting the Death of a Genre: Mythologicals in Telugu Cinema* during December 2004 – August 2005.

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**ACADEMIC PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

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- *The Formation of Telugu regional cinema* at the conference Regional Film Industries: The Formative Years organized by English and Foreign Languages University November 2008.
- *After Godhood: The Political Career of NTR* at the international conference Asian Cinemas organized by CSCS, Bangalore in collaboration with INKO Centre, Chennai and Christ College, Bangalore during February 2 – 4, 2007 at Bangalore.

## T. Vishnu Vardhan's resume

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- *The Emergence of New Star Body and the Death of Mythologicals during the 1970s: Exploring the Film (and) History of Telugu Cinema*, at the 11<sup>th</sup> Cultural Studies Workshop organized by Centre for the Study of Social Sciences, Calcutta during January 23 – 26, 2006 at Goa.
- *Thinking of Cultural/Form and a History of Telugu Mythologicals: A Brief Critical Review of Perspectives on the Visual Representation of Indian 'Mythic Material'*, at the Second International Conference on Religions and Cultures in Indic Civilization, Delhi during 17 – 20 December 2005.
- *Why did the Mythologicals Die in Telugu Cinema?*, at the Sarai Independent Fellowship Workshop in New Delhi held during 24 – 27 August, 2005

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### WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

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- Panelist (with Shyam Benegal) 'Diversity, Mahabharatha and the Popular Imaginary' as part of *Chalchitra-the Mahabharatha Film Festival* organized by IGNCA, New Delhi in February 2011.
- Participated in the National Seminar '*Thinking Through Region*' organized by Dept. of Political Science, Kuvempu University and Centre for Local Knowledges, Kuvempu University in collaboration with Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore during July 2005.
- Attended a National Seminar on '*Women and Literature*' organized by English Dept. of Govt. College of Thrissur and funded by Govt. of Kerala during 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2005.
- Actively participated in all the three (Cultural Studies) Young Researchers' Workshop, an annual event organized by the students of CSCS, Bangalore 2003-07.
- Participated in a two-day workshop '*Cinema and Society: The Interplay of Contexts*' organised by FTII, Pune during 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2004.
- Coordinator of '*Inter Asia Cultural Studies Pre-Conference*' February 2004, organized by CSCS in collaboration with Japan Foundation and Asian Research Institute, Singapore at Christ College, Bangalore.
- Panelist on '*Interdisciplinarity and Cultural Studies*' which was part of the Young Researchers Workshop - 2003 on Interdisciplinarity and Methodology of research organized by CSCS, Bangalore.
- Participated in the workshop '*Articulating Undergraduate Spaces*' in August 2002 organized by CSCS in association with Christ College, Bangalore.
- Participated in the seminar '*Media in the age of Development*' organized by the Department of Media and Communications, CIEFL, Hyderabad in 2001.

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### FREELANCE TEACHING

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- Conducted workshops for MA students on Paper 1 of NET examination during May 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2006, 2005 and December 2005 at P.G. Centre, Thrissur. More than 30 students got JRF and about 20 students cleared NET in English.

## T. Vishnu Vardhan's resume

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- Part-time English instructor at Akshara Academy, Bangalore from Feb – October 2005.
- Conducted a daylong workshop on Media and Culture for MA English students at SJVP College, Harihara on 24 September 2005.
- Lectured on *Censorship and the State* to undergraduate students of the Sociology Dept. Christ College on 01/07/05.
- Lectured on Film Form to MA students at Department of Mass Communication, University of Hyderabad in October 2003.
- Taught Post Graduates at *Gender and Media Workshop I* on a range of issues including 'Gender analysis of Media texts', 'Gender and Community', 'Gender Violence' and 'Gender and Sexuality' organized by Dept. of English, Bangalore University on March 7 and 8, 2003.
- *Gender and Media Workshop II: Orientation to Gender and Media through Film Screening and Discussion*, at Jyothi Nivas College, Bangalore, March 14, 2003. Introduction to the film and filmmaker and moderation of debates and discussions on Deepa Mehta's *Fire*.
- Lectured on *Representation of Caste in Cinema* to under-graduate Journalism and Mass Communication students at Christ College, Bangalore as part of the Certificate Course in Cultural Analysis – 2003.
- English Instructor (August 2001 to July 2002) at Balaji Academy, Hyderabad. Taught Communication Skills and basic to advance level Grammar and the course material.

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### PERSONAL DETAILS

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**Nationality** : Indian  
**Gender** : Male  
**Languages** : Telugu (Native)  
English (Advanced)  
Hindi (Intermediate)  
Kannada (Intermediate)  
Malayalam (Basic)