

2019

TMNP

EUROPE TOUR

tribal mensa
nurturing program

TMNP Europe Tour 2019

Pioneer trip by TMNP with two underprivileged graduate students

TMNP's Research Presentation at ECHA 2019 Conference, Croatia



mensa india

ETSN | European Talent Support Network

tribal mensa nurturing program

Our TMNP team had two underprivileged students who were a part of our Youth program and later joined our office to assist us in nurturing programs. The students were able to participate and assisted in several workshops which lead them to write research projects which were pioneer work for TMNP.

Chinmayee Kulkarni, a mass media final year student, Mayuri Lokhande an economics final year master student wrote two different topics to be presented at the European Council for High Ability (ECHA) conference later in 2019. They received an acceptance of the research abstract which lead us to attending the conference at Dubrovnik in Croatia organized by ECHA.

The TMNP team of six members planned to attend ECHA and participate and present our work. One of the members couldn't attend for her presentation inspite of being accepted because of not getting her visa in time.

Germany and Croatia were the two countries which was in our agenda to visit from 4th October to 25th October 2019. The aim of the visit was to share the recent work of Tribal Mensa, the research conducted and the success stories by TMNP on a global platform. Specifically, the objectives of the visit were: Research paper presentation, Research and gifted training programs collaborations with universities and giftedness programs, Interaction and Interviews with giftedness experts.

Type to enter text





TMNP Team Members:

The TMNP team consisted of Dr. Narayan Desai, who is the founder director of TMNP, Dr. Devasena Desai, our senior Psychologist and Gifted Educator, Mr. Akshay Kulkarni, the principal investigator for TMNP, and research students were, Ms. Chinmayee Kulkarni and Ms. Mayuri Lokhande. Dr. Narayan Desai was in charge of networking and collaborations. Dr. Devasena Desai was in charge of research collaborations and academic collaborations. Mr. Akshay Kulkarni was in charge of documentation and networking. Ms. Chinmayee Kulkarni and Ms. Mayuri Lokhande were to present their research papers at the 1st Thematic Conference on Creativity organized by the European Council for High Ability (ECHA). As both of them were eligible for the youth congress organized by ECHA they were able to represent India through TMNP.



The Learning and Collaborative Journey:

The TMNP team departed for Frankfurt, Germany on 4th October 2019 Dr. Rohan Shetti and Mrs. Priyanka Shetti who are the apex body members of TMNP reside in Mannheim, Germany. They graciously hosted and supported us during our stay. The team stayed two days in Frankfurt to acclimatize and familiarize the Underprivileged girls to the foreign country. We alighted from Frankfurt and departed to Nürmberg University to meet Prof. Dr. Albert Ziegler (Chair Professor of Educational Psychology and Research on Excellence, Department of Psychology, University of Erlangen, Nürmberg) and his team. We heard that Prof. Dr. Ziegler would not be available due to health issues but his senior most research and colleague will be able to spend time.

In Nuremberg, we met Dr. Bettina Harder and her Colleagues. Dr. Harder currently works as the Chair of Educational Psychology and Research on Excellence, Friedrich-Alexander-University of Erlangen-Nürnberg. She carries out research in Quantitative Psychology, Educational Psychology and Teacher Education. Dr. Devasena Desai and Dr. Narayan Desai discussed the avenues of research collaborations In addition, Dr. Devasena Desai discussed specific counselling issues , and strategies that would be beneficial for TMNP's underprivileged giftedness nurturing program. Dr. Harder elaborated about the process of counseling in Nurmberg, how students visit the university with their parents and seek guidance about handling gifted students in school and at home. The assessments done and how the ENTER program helps work with gifted designed by Ziegler. The team heard about nurturing programs conducted by us in India and what motivates our team and our strategies in nurturing programs. Both were able to see a few unique ideas that were exhibited while working with gifted students.
The team spent about four days in Nuremberg if Dr. Ziegler would have been presented we could have had more elaborated meeting. Apart from the day of the meeting, the rest of the days were spent exploring the historical and cultural aspects of the city and preparing for the upcoming presentation.
On 11th October 2019, we returned to Mannheim to spend a few days with both our apex members and also could get together and have wholesome home cooked food for the duration of our stay. As for accommodation, we rented a service apartment nearby for everyone's convenience. During the four day stay we explored Mannheim, Heidelberg and Worms simultaneously recorded the group interaction videos about giftedness, and what it means for Rohan, Priyanka and Devasena on the subject of giftedness and its challenges. We also visited a town named Worms that is rich in culture and heritage, with cathedrals and museums.
On 15th October, we travelled from Mannheim to Frankfurt and further took a flight to Dubrovnik, Croatia for ECHA conference. Rohan and Priyanka also accompanied us to ensure we were familiar and comfortable and continue discussion about TMNP and for a short holiday of their own. The inaugural for the conference was on16th October with various educationists, psychologists, and counsellors visiting from all over the world. This was the opportunity for TMNP to do our networking with several members of ECHA and participants. Both Dr. Narayan Desai and Dr. Devasena Desai attended the ECHA board meeting.

Over the course of three days, the following interviews and interactions were conducted and documented on video:
Interview of Dr. Lianne Hoogeven , program director of RITHA and ECHA training for specialist in Gifted Education at Radboud University in Nijmegen, Netherlands.: In this interview Dr. Devasena interviewed Dr. Hoogeven about teacher training in Netherlands, the topics covered and the accessibility for outside members and its necessity for nurturing gifted children. She also talked about the applicability of the RITHA teacher training program for India.

Interaction with Prof. Heidrun Stoeger, Chair for school research, School development and Evaluation, University of Regensburg, Germany: In this interaction, with Dr. Devasena Desai and Dr. Narayan Desai and Prof. Heidrun Stoeger discussed the methodology of research in gifted programs, it's importance and relevance from the nurturing viewpoint. Prof. Heidrun narrated her main research on gifted mentoring 8th graders using qualitative methods. Their current interest in online mentoring, funds from Gulf to choose from few countries in the world, two gifted students and mentors from each country to facilitate their students. Opportunities for intercountry exchange programs and collaboration for mentoring and research was further discussed.

Interaction with Dr. Julia Link Roberts, President of the World Council of Gifted and Talented Children: In this interaction, Dr. Julia Link Roberts and Dr. Narayan Desai discussed the importance of nurturing giftedness and the role that India can play as a gifted population on the global scene.

Interaction with Prof. Dr. Heiner Gembris, Chair, Institute for Research on Musical Ability, University of Paderborn, Germany: In this interaction, Prof. Dr. Heiner Gembris and Mr. Akshay Kulkarni discussed the importance and methodology of nurturing musical giftedness, and its role in the development of a gifted child.

Interaction with Prof.Peter Csermely, President of the European Council for High Ability and Dr. Narayan Desai: In this interaction, Prof. Peter Csermely and Dr. Narayan Desai discussed the relevance of contemporary science and its correlation to ancient Vedic practices included Ayurveda, Yoga and Suryanamaskaras.

Chinmayee Kulkarni and Mayuri Lokhande both presented their individual research papers on 18th October, titled 'Designing a tool to assess indigenously developed non-academic nurturing program for underprivileged gifted adolescents of rural India' and 'New Outlook of Nurturing Program for underprivileged gifted: Design and its Impact'.

Both of them received a standing ovation, not just for their flawless presentation, but also for their unique research work and presentations. The fact that they have been a part of TMNP's nurturing program and are currently contributing back to society through it, was appreciated by one and all.

On 20th October 2019, we departed from Dubrovnik, Croatia to Frankfurt, Germany. We further travelled to Berlin were Rohan had a small apartment in Spandau and we took accommodation at a youth hostel called Heart of Gold, which is operated by college students for travelers. It was a very dynamic place with people from all around the world meeting and exchanging their stories. We spent the remaining days of our stay to explore Berlin, buy souvenirs and chocolates for our gifted underprivileged girls who are a part of our nurturing program in India.

Mr. Akshay Kulkarni, Ms. Chinmayee Kulkarni and Ms. Mayuri Lokhande departed Frankfurt, to head back to Mumbai, India on 25th October.

Dr. Narayan Desai and Dr. Devasena Desai travelled further for academic and research collaborations with Prof. Bronė Narkevičienė, Dean of Math Department, of Kaunas Technical University, Lithuania. Prof. Bronė Narkevičienė shared about their undergraduate and Masters course in pure Math and Physics and possibilities of students who want to pursue the same from India. She also in her discussion group had faculty from Student international studies who elaborated about research projects and doctoral programs. Dr. Narayan Desai presented our Tribal Nurturing program to a group of students and faculty of Math department. The group asked several pertinent questions about the culture and the gifted behaviour in rural India and the similarity and differences that existed. Dr. Narayan Desai discussed that two of our members were eligible for doctoral programs.

The journey concluded with having visited the ECHA conference for research presentation, networking and sharing of TMNP work. Two University visits (Nürnberg and Kaunas) and meeting several eminent gifted educators and practitioners and researchers.

tribal mensa
nurturing program

Contact: Dr. Narayan R. Desai

TMNP, Mensa India
510 Sadashiv Peth, Vinayak Bhavan
Pune 411030

Email: narayan@tribalmensa,org
www.tribalmensa.org

