



**Dr Sunita Gandhi**  
Educator

## Contact



**Phone**

+91 94 150 150 31  
+91 70 816 003 93



**Email**

sunitag@globaleducation.org  
sunitag@dignityeducation.org



**Website**

[www.sunitagandhi.org](http://www.sunitagandhi.org)

**Other Links**

[www.dignityeducation.org](http://www.dignityeducation.org)  
[www.globaleducation.org](http://www.globaleducation.org)



**Address**

12 Statioan Road,  
Lucknow 226001, UP, India

## AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- 2020** Shining World Caring Award, [Ching Hai International Association](#), Taiwan\*
- 2019** Best Woman Start-up Entrepreneur, [IIM Lucknow](#)
- 2017** [Visionary of Uttar Pradesh Award\\*\\*](#)
- 2015** Honorary Doctorate, [University of Vietnam](#)
- 2014** Educator of the Year, [India Book of Records](#)
- 1996** [Most Outstanding Contribution to Development Award, World Bank\\*\\*\\*](#)

\*With a gift of USD 15,000 (donated the entire amount to DEVI Sansthan from source)

\*\*Given by the two Deputy Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, organized by DainikBhaskar.com, along with Visionaries of Uttar Pradesh Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DO2NiScsSMO>

\*\*\*Given for Project in Morocco on Participation of Women was showcased as one of top three from the World Bank at the UN Summit, Copenhagen in 1996

## > ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- 2015** B.Ed. Lucknow University, India
- 1987** Ph.D. in Physics, Trinity College, Cambridge University, UK\*
- 1983** B.Sc. (Hons.) in Physics, Imperial College, London University, UK
- 1980** A-Levels, Peterborough Technical College, UK
- 1975-1978** Middle & High School, St. Agnes' Loreto, Lucknow, India
- 1965-1974** Primary School, City Montessori School, Lucknow, India

\*She received three merit scholarships to study Physics at Cambridge: Trinity College Scholarship, Overseas Student Award, and the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Scholarship

## > CAREER SUMMARY

- 2014-Present** Founder-CEO, Dignity Education Vision International ([DEVI Sansthan](#)), India\*
- 2000-2007** President, Islensku menntasamtokin ses, Hafnarfjordur, [Iceland](#)
- 1998-Present** President, [Council for Global Education, USA](#)
- 1988-1998** Economist, [The World Bank, Washington](#), DC, USA\*\*
- 1987-1988** Research Scientist, [Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories](#), Berkeley University, USA

\*Founded by Sunita Gandhi in 1992 on a visit to India; became its CEO in 2014; started the [Global Dream](#) Leave No One Behind Campaign for Literacy in 2014, which formed the basis of the [ALfA, Accelerating Learning for All](#) Pedagogy rolled out in 2022.

\*\*Selected in the highly competitive [Young Professionals Program \(YPP\)](#) at the World Bank.

## > OTHER AFFILIATIONS

- 2016-Present** Director, Global Education & Training Institute ([GETI](#)), India
- 2016-2019** Member, [Confederation of Indian Industries, National Committee on Education](#)
- 2007-Present** Chief Academic Advisor, [City Montessori School, Lucknow](#), India
- 2007-Present** Director, [City International Schools](#), India
- 2006-Present** Director, [Global Classroom Pvt. Ltd.](#), Lucknow, India\*
- 2002** Founder [Aslandsskoli](#) and [Tjarnaras](#) (Iceland's first two charter schools)
- 2001** Founder, Islensku menntasamtokin SES (Education Society of Iceland)
- 1994** Founder, [Global Concepts International School](#), Praha, The Czech Republic
- 1975** Founder, Little Flower School (for out-of-school-children)

\* These schools have served as laboratory for experimental work in education. She has established or given franchise to 26 schools across India and is incubating an education based on the Ipsative principle of '[Compete with Yourself!](#)' and ALfA: Accelerating Learning for All.

## INTERNATIONAL VISITS & WORK

Dr. Gandhi has travelled to 50 countries and studied education systems of many of these:



Australia



Austria



Azerbaijan



Bangladesh



Belgium



Canada



China



Czech Republic



Denmark



Finland



France



Germany



Hong Kong



Hungary



Iceland



India



Iran



Ireland



Israel



Italy



Jamaica



Japan



Jordan



Karakalpak Stan



Kazakhstan



Kenya



Kyrgyzstan



Malaysia



Maldives



Mexico



Morocco



Nepal



Netherlands



New Zealand



Norway



Poland



S. Korea



Singapore



Sweden



Switzerland



Tajikistan



Tanzania



Thailand



The Philippines



Turkey



Uganda



UK



USA



Uzbekistan



Zimbabwe

## PUBLICATIONS

Books:

[Gandhi S., et.al. \(2024\) ALfA: A Groundbreaking Pedagogy to Transform Education](#). Bloomsbury, India.

[Gandhi S., et.al. \(2022\), Disruptive Literacy: A Roadmap for Immediate Global Action](#). Bloomsbury, India.

Book Chapter:

[Gandhi S. \(2017\) Compete With Yourself \(CWY\): Maximising Learning Gain in Schools](#). In: Hughes G. (eds) Ipsative Assessment and Personal Learning Gain. Palgrave Macmillan, London.

Research Papers:

[The Inconvenient Truth of Indian Illiteracy Inequality: Intersectional Socio-Demographic Disadvantage As A Climate Change Vulnerability Multiplier](#), Sunita Gandhi, Kaaren Mathias, Linda Seefeldt, Thomas Delaney, Journal of New Economics, Centre for Development, Glasgow University, UK, November 2021

[Intersectionality of Socio-demographic Disadvantage. The Inconvenient Truth of Illiteracy Inequality](#), Sunita Gandhi, Kaaren Mathias, Linda Seefeldt, Thomas Delaney, Economic & Political Weekly, August 2021

Reports\*:

- Gandhi, S. [Why Cant the Children Read \(2019\)](#)
- Gandhi, S. [Accelerating Adult Literacy \(2019\)](#)

\*Based on first-hand literacy survey of 1.5 million individuals 6-60 years of age in 396,000 households undertaken by Dr. Sunita Gandhi with the help of nearly 4000 government teachers of Lucknow

World Bank Reports & Papers

[Morocco: Enhancing the Participation of Women in Development](#), Chapter 2, The Participation Sourcebook, World Bank, 1996, ISBN 0-82113-3558

[World Bank Policy Paper: Energy Efficiency and Conservation in the Developing World](#), The World Bank's Role, 1993, ISBN 0-8213-2317-2, Robert J. Saunders & Sunita Gandhi

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES & WORK TRAVELS

- **2022** Chief Guest, [6th International Teachers Conference, Maldives](#)
- **2018** Keynote, [BETT ASIA, Malaysia](#)
- **2017** Keynote, [International Education Conference, Thailand](#)
- **2013** Keynote, [Annual Conference, Finnish National Board of Education, Finland](#)
- **2009** Keynote, [Australian Montessori Education Conference, Australia](#)
- **2000** Keynote, [International Education Conference, Hawaii](#)
- **2000** Keynote and Roundtable Host, [State-of-the-World-Forum](#), Ireland
- **1999** Keynote and Roundtable Host, [State-of-the-World-Forum](#), USA
- **1996** Keynote, [UN Summit, Copenhagen, Denmark](#)
- **1993** Keynote, [UN Womens Conference, Jordan](#)
- **1992** Keynote, A New Framework for Education, Finland

Speaker and participant in many conferences in several countries on issues of literacy, education, a new framework for education, and education policy, among others

- **2008-Present** Convenor, [Ed Leadership International Roundtable Conferences\\*](#)

\*In 2021, the 13th Ed Leadership Conference was on the theme as an Online Event: The Power of Change, Inspiring the Teacher Within. This was India's biggest education conference of India with 85 speakers from 37 countries, with over 19,000 educators from 50 countries participating

\*In 2022, the 14th Ed Leadership Conference, 4-6 August, 2022 will be on the theme Disruptive Education

\*In 2022, First Synergy Summit for CSR Heads, July 9-11

\*In 2023, First Policy Makers Conclave (online) and Roll-out of MOOTs: Massive Open Online Trainings

\*In 2024, Second Synergy Summit for CSR Heads, January 11-12