

Dehalvi Wikimedia User Group

Annual Report

(July 2019 – July 2020)

INTRODUCTION

Recognized as a Wikimedia User Group on 15 July 2019, the Dehalvi Wikimedia User Group completed its one year of being affiliated with the Wikimedia Foundation on 15 July 2020. In the first year of our affiliation, we organized some meet up programs, and a workshop in Deoband, reaching as much editors as we could. We participated in edit-a-thons, including, Wikipedia Loves Women South Asia, where our editors wrote 285 articles, out of which 150 articles were written by members of our User Group. In the Project Tiger 2.0, a number of 1377 articles were created on the Urdu Wikipedia.

Meetups

Dehalvi Wikimedia User Group has had three meetups involving the members to discuss the activities of the group and also to expand them. All meetings were held in Hyderabad. They involved users from Hyderabad, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Kerala. The meetings were held on 19 July 2019, 1 January 2020 and 15 February 2020.



File:Urdu Wikipedians meet up at Iqbal Academy, Hyderabad.jpg by User:Hindustanilanguage under CC BY-SA 4.0

These meetups were a result of the personal efforts and resources of the Urdu Wikipedians. During these meetups, many editing issues, editathons, and other Urdu Wikipedia issues were discussed. During the meetup held on February 15, 2020, the issue of Urdu Wikipedians participation in the South India Urdu Conference in Calicut during April 2020 was also discussed. The conference has also been put on hold due to the COVID19 pandemic.

Swastha Meetup December 2019



File:WikiSWASTHA Mumbai 2019 Event Collage.png by User:AbhiSuryawanshi under CC BY-SA 4.0

Special Wikipedia Awareness Scheme for The Healthcare Affiliates (SWASTHA) organized first in-person dedicated min-conference in Mumbai from 27th to 30th December 2019 involving many linguistic Wikipedians. *User:Faismeen* attended the event from the Urdu Wikipedia. The participants exchanged views on creating and expanding health related content in all Indian language Wikipedias including Urdu Wikipedia.

Workshops

The Deoband workshop

On February 26, 2020, *User:TheAafi* organized a one day workshop in Deoband, a historical place in India where the Darul Uloom Deoband is located. It was done in collaboration with “Fida-e-Millat Library, Deoband” and several Islamic scholars from local seminaries attended the workshop.



File:Deoband Workshop 2.jpg by User:TheAafi under CC BY-SA 4.0

Attendees were taught how to edit and contribute to the Urdu Wikipedia and what would be its benefits. The workshop focussed on two aspects, the Islamic scholarship related to the Deoband seminary and medicine, as it was sponsored by the SWASTHA.



File:Audience Deoband 1.jpg by User:TheAafi under CC BY-SA 4.0

Two medical science students and practitioners spoke on the medical perspective and how it was necessary to update and publish such information on the Urdu Wikipedia. Regarding the other perspective, a focus was laid on how information about scholars and people associated with the Deoband area or the seminary needs to be updated. A numbers of editors registered on the Urdu Wikipedia during the workshop.

The workshop although sponsored by the SWASTHA did not receive any monetary help from them. It was all done with the personal efforts of *User:Aafi* and the Fida-e-Millat Library.

Workshop post Deoband workshop

The workshop in Deoband was first of its kind and it necessarily missed a lot which shall not be missed in our upcoming workshops. The authorities of the Fida-e-Millat Library said that they would conduct more such workshops in the future for the benefit of the students of the Deoband seminary and others associated with it. We managed to meet the administrator of Jamia Tibbiya College (Unani Medicine and Surgery College) in Deoband, Akhtar Saeed, who gave us the good news that he would allow us to organize a medical science oriented program in the college, which, so far, remains pending and postponed due to the COVID19 pandemic.

Editathons

Project Tiger 2.0 Urdu

Urdu Wikipedia also participated in the Project Tiger 2.0 which was organized between October 2019 and January 2020. *User:Faismeen* from the Dehalvi Wikimedia User Group was a jury member of this editathon. 1377 articles were written by 25 different users.

Wiki Loves Women South Asia 2020

Urdu Wikipedia also participated in The Wiki Loves Women South Asia 2020 editathon which was organised during 1 February 2020 to 31 March 2020. 21 editors participated in this and 285 articles were created on the Urdu Wikipedia.