

## Curriculum Vitae – Ms. Lakshmi Kumar

**Name:**

Ms. Lakshmi Kumar



**Address: Work**

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**Website:**

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

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

**Current work positions:**

1. Director,  
The Orchid School
2. International Coordinator  
Sweden-India Project

**Pioneering work done:**

1. In the field of promoting International understanding and cultural communication.
2. Setting up schools including The Orchid School that promote social development and sensitization for learners through meaningful curriculum and delivery systems
3. Training for culture workers-teachers, social workers, doctors, nurses, lawyers, and business professionals to work with other cultures effectively.
4. Work through training teachers, parents and

communities for helping children with special needs integrated into main stream education systems

5. Initiated Teacher Exchange program between Donner Gymnassiet and The orchid school.

6. Introduced school based counseling services in 1984 in Pune that became a model program for other schools.

**Key Skills and competencies:**

1. Training and Facilitation
2. Organization management
3. Leadership and mentoring
4. Strategic planning for Educational management
5. Social work in global context
6. Critical Pedagogy
7. Life Skill Education
8. Culture Studies.
8. Counseling

**Other work Experience:**

1. Certified cross cultural Training Consultant for Cartus, Intercultural Services and Language Culture Worldwide (LCW).

2. Faculty member for Soft Bridge Solutions, training the Japanese clients of the programme J2I in cross cultural competence, communication and business processes.

3. Visiting lecturer to Universities in Sweden- Orebro, Lund, Mid-Sweden Universities on comparative family structures, ethnicity and migration and trans cultural sensitivity for global social work.

4. Lecturing International Social work to Undergraduate students of Social work at Orebro university

5. Set up two educational institution –in Pune, India. With innovative and path breaking philosophical and ideological approach to education.

6. Consultant to new school projects in Mumbai, Beed District in Maharashtra- two different regional contexts.

7. Been a research consultant for scholars from U.S.A

and U.K. doing research in India and main focus was to help in cultural interpretation of participants' responses for the study

8. Worked as an International coordinator for world famous Philosopher and academician Prof. Roy Bhaskar and visited London to work with him

9. Guide and contact person for MFS scholars of Swedish International Development Agency

10. Guest faculty for Bharatiya Vidya Peeth, Symbiosis Law School, Pune.

**Professional Association:**

1. Board member of the Society For Intercultural Education and Research (SIETAR) India Chapter

2. Member, Education committee, Maratha Chamber of commerce, Industries and Agriculture.

3. Advisory member for Academic Advisors

4. Executive committee member for a youth organization called Centre for Youth Development and Activities.

**Publications & Seminar Presentations:**

1. Written a chapter for a book on effective parenting of young adults.

2. Free lance columnist for gen Next, a youth magazine and local newspapers mainly on her intercultural experiences with Swedish students

3. Editor –in-chief for Orchid Samachar, in house publication for The orchid School.

4. Role of Media in shaping Democracy

5. Beyond Holy Cow-Understanding Indian Social work as

a frame work for International social work

6. Why cultural understanding to run business processes in India?
7. Effective parenting and challenges for a changing world
8. Behavior management in class room settings
9. Fathering – a partnership in bringing up children.
10. Helping our young adults grow up gracefully
11. Sex Education – Why debate the obvious?
12. Role of Education in understanding and training for Democracy.
13. Effective leadership
14. Culturally Relevant Leadership –Concepts and practices for multi –cultural teams
15. Invited for the Workshop on Diversity and Global Understanding (Vienna, Austria) to read a paper and participate at the Workshop on Diversity and Global Understanding, at the University of Vienna.

**Educational Qualifications:**

1. Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management  
Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune.  
Passed First Class with Distinction  
Thesis: Cross cultural understanding and Business Practices In Tata Consultancy Services
2. M.A. in Social Work  
Tata Institute of Social Sciences  
Mumbai  
Area of Specialization: Medical and Psychiatric Social Work  
Thesis: Single women and adjustment process in changing roles and context

3. B.Sc. Home Science  
S.N.D.T. Women's University  
Mumbai  
Area of Specialization: Foods and Nutrition

**Awards:**

Topped the Department of Foods & Nutrition  
S.N.D.T University  
Rank Holder, S.N.D.T. University  
National Merit Scholarship  
Title winner -Miss. Home Science  
Dynamic Woman of the Year (2002)  
British Chevning Gurukul Leader Scholarship –Finalist  
Swedish Institute- Scholarship

**Languages known:**

English, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Malayalam, Swedish  
(functional level)

**Special interests:**

Meeting people, Reading, writing poetry, travelling,  
listening to music, collecting bells from all over the  
world,