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Udayan Sammelan at the Wonder School celebrates Young Changemakers

— June 29, 2025 in School Edu

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The Wonder School, Pune, in [collaboration](#) with Chiranjeev Gurukul, successfully hosted the Annual Udayan Sammelan recently at its campus. This gathering marked the culmination of the six-week

aged 14 to 23, rooted in ancient Indian wisdom and modern leadership tools.

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In a world where [education](#) often feels fragmented and disconnected from real life, the Udayan Sammelan offered a glimpse into an alternative – where learning is driven by purpose, rooted in values, and shaped by real-world engagement.

Fifteen young Udayan’s spent the past six weeks immersing themselves in community engagement and reflective leadership, guided by principles from the Arthashastra and Design Thinking. They stepped into slums, markets, and neighbourhoods, identified issues that mattered to them, and presented the solutions they co-created.

Education

From reducing screen addiction in early childhood through “Parivaarik Play Communities,” to reshaping traffic mindsets via “Traffic Mindfulness Workshops,” and building intergenerational well-being through “Pune Goldies Micro-Communities” to address elder isolation. These powerful ideas were shared with an audience of parents, mentors, community leaders and changemakers – all of whom were invited not just to observe, but to participate in the growing Udayan Movement.

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Speaking about the event, Anamika Dasgupta, Founder & Principal of The Wonder School, said, “With Udayan Bhaarat, we are building more than a program. We are crafting a new blueprint for education itself. An education that doesn’t isolate the learner, but weaves them into the fabric of the community. Co-created by The Wonder School and Chiranieev Gurukul. Udayan Bhaarat merges eternal wisdom

The event also hosted a thought-provoking panel discussion on shifting education from rote learning to real-world leadership. The panel explored why ancient Indian frameworks like Ekatram and Arthashastra are increasingly relevant, and how design thinking and safe, inclusive learning spaces can empower every child – neurodiverse or neurotypical – to discover their purpose and voice. Moiz Adtani, Learning and Development Facilitator, said, “When we equip young minds with the courage to question and the tools to build, we see real transformation. The Udayan Movement brings together shastra and karma – knowledge and action, in a way that empowers learners to design solutions that are as empathetic as they are effective.”

Saurabh Sharma, Founder, Potters Earth Foundation – a foundation which has incubated and nurtured The Wonder School with its commitment to build meaningful learning ecosystems, said, “In a country with so many young people, we urgently need spaces that build not just skills, but a sense of citizenship. The Udayan Movement helps students step out of their silos and start seeing themselves as contributors to the community. That’s the future we must all invest in.”

The day featured participation from notable guests including Pankaj Mathur, MD of Aster Technologies; Jayesh Shah, Founder of Swatantra Housing; and Praful Chandawarkar, Founder of Malaka Spice and Head of NRAI Pune Chapter – each of whom interacted deeply with the young Udayans.

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Praful Chandawarkar, Head of NRAI, Pune, said, “As entrepreneurs, we are constantly looking for ideas. But this movement reminded me that what we also need are idealists – young people who are connected to their roots and willing to solve problems without shortcuts. Mentorship isn’t just about giving advice; it’s about walking with them.”

[Management](#)

Pankaj Mathur, MD, Aster Technologies said, “The Mitracharya model is one of the most unique aspects of this initiative. It builds an ecosystem where generations listen to one another. I am honoured to be part of a movement where collaboration replaces hierarchy and learning is mutual.”

Guests also included the Mitracharyas – patrons and mentors who will accompany the Udayans over the coming months. Not just funders or well-wishers, these Mitracharyas are [collaborators](#), walking alongside the students as they take their ideas into the real world. The Sammelan concluded with a symbolic ritual – every guest added a piece to a communal puzzle, reinforcing the belief that this

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“I saw my daughter present with confidence, and I saw a community cheer her on. As a parent, I was deeply moved. This is the kind of [education](#) I had always wished for her — one that is not just about marks, but about meaning,” said a parent of an Udayan participant.

The Udayan Movement is more than a program. It is a civilizational response, a reminder that in a world fragmented by competition and anxiety, we can return to a model of education rooted in belonging, shaped by inquiry, and designed to cultivate leaders who serve their communities.

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technologies for defence purposes and research "unconstrained".
The French Minister stressed that this framework is working with an approach of development that is different, open, transparent and collaborative. She said, "We are working to make him a 'Global Buyer' by 2017. For achieving that goal, we need to improve people's capability and empower them".

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