



I-House Alumni Spotlight: Sandeep Pandey (IH 1988-90)

Social activist and co-founder of Asha for Education

January 24th is
International Day of Education



About Pandey:

While working on his doctorate in control theory at Berkeley in 1991, Pandey co-founded Asha for Education, a nonprofit dedicated to bringing about socioeconomic change in India through the education of underprivileged children. After completing his education, Pandey moved back to India and taught at the Indian Institute of Technology until 1993. Pandey then fully dedicated himself to social activism, making headlines by walking about 1,500 kilometers in a nuclear disarmament peace march. Pandey also led a peace march from Delhi, India, to Multan, Pakistan to initiate peace discussions between local villages in the two countries. In 2002, he was awarded the Ramon Magsaysay Award, often called the “Asian Nobel Prize,” for his leadership.

Years at I-House: 1988-90

Country of Origin: India



Education:

- Indian Institute of Technology (BHU) Varanasi
- Master’s in Manufacturing and Computer Science, Syracuse University
- Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering, UC Berkeley

Current Roles:

- Co-founder of Asha for Education
- General Secretary of the Socialist Party of India
- Leader of the National Alliance of People’s Movement

Honors & Awards:

- Ramon Magsaysay Award for Emergent Leadership



Asha for Education

Since its inception, Asha for Education has disbursed \$57 million towards its projects supporting educational development in India. Today, it has 46 chapters worldwide across the U.S., India, Europe, and Canada with over 1,500 active volunteers.



Learn More:

ashanet.org

berkeley.ashanet.org

ihouse.berkeley.edu/notable