

## Doctoral Dissertations in English Subject Awarded by the Universities of Maharashtra: A Bibliographic Study

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### Abstract:

*The paper focuses on doctoral dissertation in the English subject awarded by the universities of Maharashtra. It is a kind of bibliographic study of the same. It aims to bring in light the valuable doctoral research work carried out in the subject of English. It studies bibliography of the Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English of different universities and compare them. It tries to find out which university has more numbers of awarded Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English. It tries to find out which university has more numbers of Doctoral guides in the subject of English. It tries to find out the number of Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English awarded by the universities. It tries to find out which academic year was the most fruitful for the research in the subject of English. It will provide a status of doctoral researches in English subject in Maharashtra.*

**Key words:** Bibliographic Study, Doctoral Dissertations in English, Researches in English, Ph.D. Thesis in English, Researches in Maharashtra.

### Introduction

Research is the foundation of the treasure of knowledge. Research as a word has got currency in the modern time but it is very old in terms of practice. The inquisitiveness of man has

motivated him to acquire new knowledge, tools, techniques and procedure. Quest of knowledge has played an important role in the advancement of human civilization. The journey from the Stone Age to Space Age bears testimony to untiring and continuous efforts for revealing the unknown mysteries of nature and human life. Broadly the activity undertaken with the object of seeking the truth is known as research. The present research is about researches carried out in English as a partial fulfillment of doctoral degree in Maharashtra.

### **Interdisciplinary relevance:**

The subject is interdisciplinary in nature. It is a bibliographic study of the doctoral dissertations in English subject awarded by the universities of Maharashtra. It systematically studies doctoral researches in English and it uses methodology of library science. Thus, it is related to two disciplines library and information science and English.

### **Review of Research and Development in the Subject:**

Researcher finds that some attempts to conduct such bibliographic studies were made in other subjects but she is unable to find any such studies of the doctoral dissertations in English subject awarded by the universities of Maharashtra.

#### **- International status**

There are number of annotated bibliographies available like:

An Annotated Bibliography of Chickpea Disease by Book.

An Annotated Bibliography of European Anglicisms by David E. Blatner.

An Annotated Bibliography of Inuit Art by Richard C. Crandall.

An Annotated Critical Bibliography of George Eliot by George Lewis Levine.

Detrimental Effects of Abortion: An Annotated Bibliography

with Commentary by Thomas W. Strahan.

IDI Amin and Uganda: An Annotated Bibliography by Martin Jamison.

Resources for Nursing Research: an Annotated Bibliography by Stephen Gough.

Tabloid Journalism: An Annotated Bibliography of English-Language Sources by Gerald S. Greenberg.

Such bibliographies are available but the researcher does not find the same study carried out earlier.

### **– National Status**

There are number of annotated bibliographies available like:

An Annotated Bibliography of Indian English Fiction by V. Indira Sambamurthy.

An Annotated Bibliography of Pigeonpea by Dahiya, B.S.

An annotated bibliography of research in parallel computing at the Indian Institute of Science by Ghoshal, SK and Rajaraman.

An Annotated Bibliography on Zoroastrian Studies by Asha Gupta.

Association of Indian Universities also published some bibliographies of doctoral dissertations like:

Earth System Sciences 1994 & 1995. (Environmental Sciences, Geology and Geophysics)

Humanities (Group A) – 1994 & 1995. (Fine Arts, Geography, History, Philosophy & Religion)

Physical Sciences – 1994 & 1995. (Chemistry & Physics)

Social Sciences (Group A) – 1994 & 1995. (Anthropology, Law, Military Studies, Political Science, Public Administration and Sociology)

Social Sciences (Group B) – 1994 & 1995. (Commerce, Economics & Management)

It also publishes thesis of the month in their University News but they are scattered.

The researcher compiled such a bibliography as a part of her UGC sponsored major research project. Such bibliographies are available but the researcher does not find any same study carried out earlier.

### **Significance of the study:**

The bibliographic study will be useful to new entrants as well as experienced researchers in English. It will become runway for new researchers in the subject of English. It provides detailed information about the doctoral researches awarded in the subject of English by the universities of Maharashtra. The study has come up with a present status of doctoral researches in Maharashtra. The study will be useful to UGC, Universities, college and university teachers, research supervisors and research scholars etc.

### **Its potential contribution to knowledge in the field of social relevance or national importance:**

Quality in research is one of the crucial issues. The study contributes to the knowledge in the way that it has come out with systematic and up to dated bibliography of the doctoral dissertations in English awarded by the universities of Maharashtra. It will be useful to scholars not only in India but worldwide. People across the globe will come to know about researches carried out in India.

### **Objectives:**

The objectives of the present study are as follows:

- To collect the information about the Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English awarded by the universities of Maharashtra and conduct a bibliographic study.
- To bring in light the valuable doctoral research

work carried out in the subject of English.

- To collect the information about the Doctoral guides in the subject of English recognized by the universities of Maharashtra.
- To Study bibliography of the Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English of different universities and compare them.
- To find out, which university has more numbers of awarded Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English?
- To find out, which university has more numbers of Doctoral guides in the subject of English?
- To find out the number of Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English awarded by the universities.
- To find out which academic year was the most fruitful for the research (Doctoral dissertations) in the subject of English.
- To collect information about the contribution of the researchers in the subject of English to the universities.

### **Research Methodology:**

The selection of research methodology is mainly based on the nature of the study. It is necessary to adopt and follow some particular research methodology to fulfill the objectives of research and collect proper information. Looking at the need of the present study, researcher followed a survey method. The researcher prepared an annotated bibliography of the Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English awarded by the universities of Maharashtra. She visited all the universities of the states, so the population of the research is hundred percent. There is no need to delimit the population of the study or take samples. She prepared a survey form and thus prepared a tool

of the research. She collected the data from University P.G. Departments, BUTR, Administrative Office of the universities, and University libraries. Where ever it was needed, she met the recognized Ph.D. supervisors of the respected universities or research scholars and collected necessary data. The researcher spend about 30 months in conducting the research. The data is analyzed and tabulated using Microsoft Excel. Data analyses is followed by finding and suggestions.

### **Data Analysis:**

The research reveals the variety of the subjects touched by the Ph. D. scholars. There are about 909 Ph.D. degrees in the subject of English awarded by the universities situated in Maharashtra till 2012. The data is analyzed and tabulated to learn interesting facts.

- There are twelve universities awarding Ph. D. in the subject of English in Maharashtra.
- Twelve universities of Maharashtra has awarded total Nine Hundred Nine Ph.D.s in English till 2012.

The following table indicates the number of Ph. D.s. awarded by the universities situated in Maharashtra:

University	Number of Ph. D. Theses
Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University	63
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University	140
Mumbai University	135
IIT Bombay	21
North Maharashtra University	49
Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University	191
Swami Ramnand Teerth Marathwada University	52
Yashwantrao Chavan Maharatsra Open University	13
University of Pune	120
Shivaji University	80
Smt. Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University	26
Solapur University	19

**Table: 1**

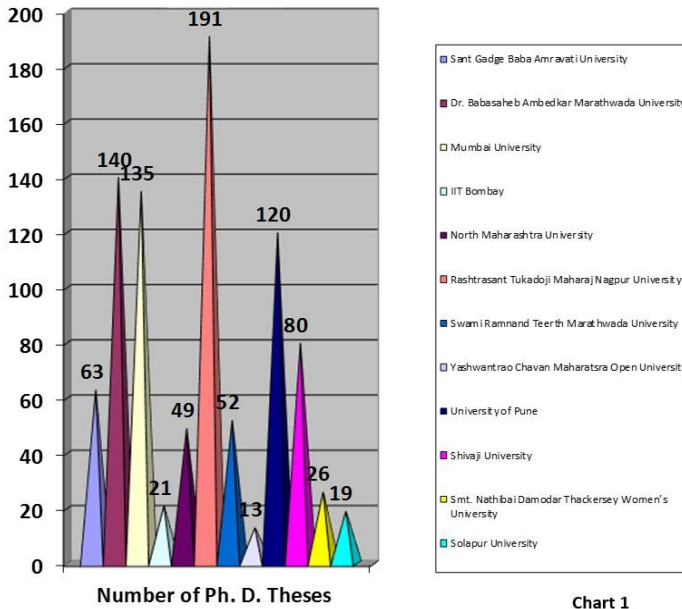


Chart 1

The Chart 1 clearly reveals the following facts:

- Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University has awarded the maximum number of Ph. D.s in the subject of English.
- Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University has awarded the minimum number of Ph. D.s in the subject of English.
- Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Mumbai University, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University and University of Pune are leading with more than hundred Ph.D.s.
- IIT Bombay, Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University, Smt. Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University and Solapur University are falling back with less than thirty Ph. D.s.

The following table indicates the number of experts/teachers served as Ph.D. Supervisors/guides in the universities situated

in Maharashtra:

Universities of Maharashtra	Number of Guides
Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University	17
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University	29
Mumbai University	14
IIT Bombay	8
North Maharashtra University	17
Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University	46
Swami Ramnand Teerth Marathwada University	16
Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University	11
University of Pune	30
Shivaji University	22
Smt. Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University	10
Solapur University	4

Table 2

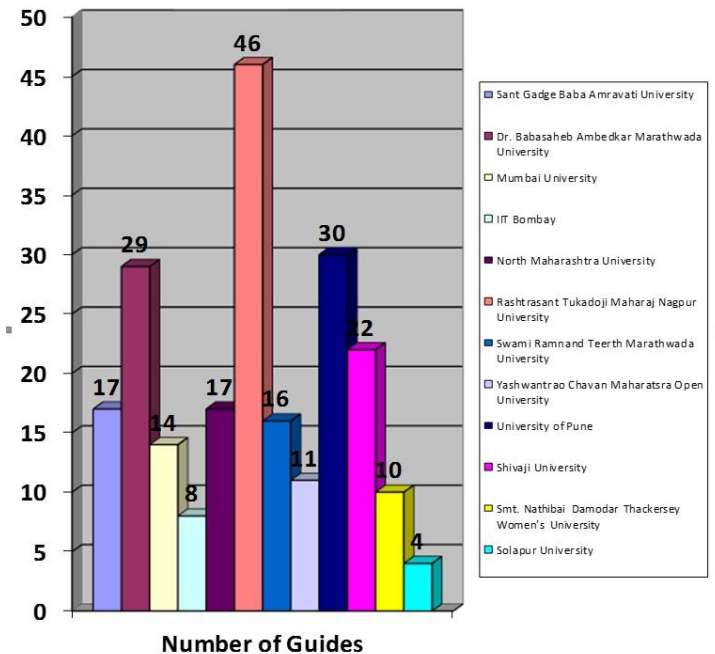


Chart 2

The Chart 2 clearly reveals the following facts:

- Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University has the maximum number of Ph. D. Supervisors/guides in the subject of English.



- Solapur University has the minimum number of Ph. D. Supervisors/guides in the subject of English.
- Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University and University of Pune are leading with about thirty Ph.D. Supervisors/guides in the subject of English.
- IIT Bombay and Solapur University are falling back with less than ten Ph. D. Supervisors/guides in the subject of English.

The following table indicates the number of Guides in each university and numbers of Ph. D.'s awarded by respective university:

Universities of Gujarat	Number of Guides	Number of Ph. D. researchers guided
Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University	17	63
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University	29	140
Mumbai University	14	135
IIT Bombay	8	21
North Maharashtra University	17	49
Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University	46	191
Swami Ramnand Teerth Marathwada University	16	52
Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University	11	13
University of Pune	30	120
Shivaji University	22	80
Smt. Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University	10	26
Solapur University	4	19

**Table: 03**

The table 03 clearly shows:

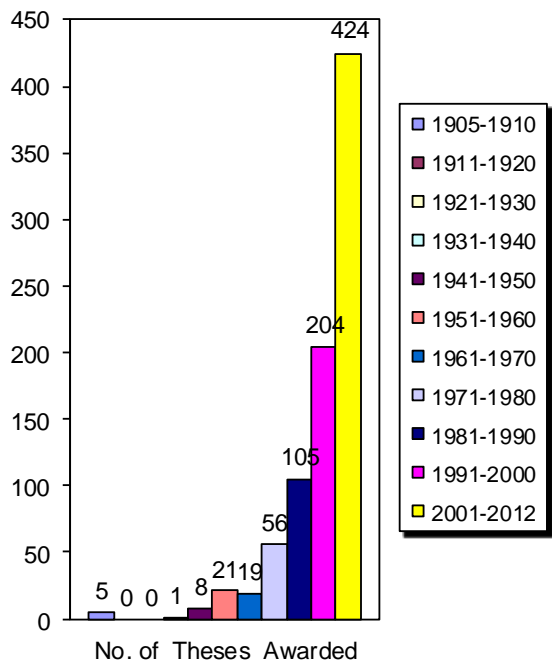
- Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University has the maximum number of guides and Ph. D.s awarded.
- Solapur has the minimum number of guides and Ph. D.s awarded.

The following table indicates the number of Ph. D.s awarded

during different periods of time:

Year	No. of Theses Awarded
1905-1910	005
1911-1920	000
1921-1930	000
1931-1940	001
1941-1950	008
1951-1960	021
1961-1970	019
1971-1980	056
1981-1990	105
1991-2000	204
2001-2012	424

**Table:04**



**Chart 3**

The Chart 3 clearly shows:

- The first Ph.D. degree was awarded in 1905.
- Only fourteen Ph. D.s were awarded in the subject of English till year 1950.
- The period from 2001 to 2012 was the most fruitful period in terms of awarding of Ph.D.s, there were four hundred twenty four Ph. D.s during this period.
- The period from 1911 to 1930 was the driest period in terms of awarding of Ph.D., there was no Ph. D.s awarded during these years.

## **Findings:**

- There are more than fifty universities in Maharashtra, but only twelve universities give an opportunity to work for doctoral research in English and were able to award degree of Ph.D. in the Subject of English.
- Total number of Ph.D. degrees awarded by the universities of western region of India till 2012 is 909 (Nine hundred nine).
- Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University has the maximum number of guides and Ph. D.s awarded.
- Solapur university has the minimum number of guides and Ph. D.s awarded.
- The first Ph.D. degree was awarded in 1905.
- Only fourteen Ph. D.s were awarded in the subject of English till year 1950.
- The period from 2001 to 2012 was the most fruitful period in terms of awarding of Ph.D.s, there were four hundred twenty four Ph. D.s during this period.
- The period from 1911 to 1930 was the driest period in terms of awarding of Ph.D., there was no Ph. D.s awarded during these years.

## **Suggestions and Conclusion:**

Research is near and dear work of a scholar of literature. There are about nine hundred Ph.D. degree holders in the region. While carrying out the research, researchers come to know many facts about the researches and it is their humble endeavor to propose a few suggestions and conclusion:

The scholars should be provided with good ambiance to understand and begin research. The scholars should be motivated for research work. There are some guides who does not produced single Ph.D., some steps should be taken so that they motivate the scholars. The maximum limit to complete

one's doctoral research should be fixed. Some financial assistance from universities or institutions should be provided to the Ph.D.scholars. Self-guide concept should be promoted. The Ph.D. theses are not easily available after the degree is awarded, they should be properly arranged in some special department. University must publish the Ph.D. theses after award of the degree or at least the abstract of them should be published on their respective website. The area covered by the researchers of western is very small and they are working on traditional subjects. Some new theories and trends of literature should be taken for the research. Fiction is the most popular area of research and very few are working on Autobiography/Biography, Epic, Drama, Poetry, Letter and Short Story. Scanty efforts were made to work on forms like Essay, Ballad, and Sonnet, comparative of English and Hindi and Gujarati, E.L.T., Dalit, Black, Canadian, Ahimsa, Folk and tribal, Jain Tradition, Nationalism This dry area should be taken. Universities should make compulsory for its teachers to publish some definite number of research papers and books to get promotion. Any research including Ph.D. are for the use of scholars and society. It is not confidential, rather should be given free access. This idea should be properly instructed to universities and particularly to the university librarians by UGC. Sorry to keep it here, but the experience to get data regarding Ph.D. was very bitter at many places. There is lot of room for research in the field of E.L.T, Folk, Tribal, comparative, nationalistic, Diaspora, de-colonization etc. Seminars, workshops, meeting etc. should be arranged to make the scholars aware about research and its methodology. Researchers must be trained to operate computers and they should be enlightened about the advantages of the use of computers and ICT in carrying out researchers and Ph.D. Researchers should use internet to get necessary data. Electronic media like e-mails, e-books, C.D ROM, and encyclopaedias on CD ROM should be available to the

researchers.

According to UGC, there are about 33023 colleges and 634 universities in India (UGC). Among them 2500 colleges and 50 universities are there in Maharashtra. There are about 816966 college or university teachers in India. Among them, there are about twenty five thousand college teachers in Maharashtra. The number of researches, scholars and students in the subject of English may be too big but we have only 909 Ph. D degree holders in Maharashtra. The number is not satisfactory. The researcher appreciates UGCs initiative to create a space in INFLIBNET for systematic record keeping of doctoral researches.

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