



LOOKING BACK,  
WITHIN AND AHEAD  
Celebrating Indigenous Wisdom

OE2307

## DANTKATHA: THE TRADITION OF ORAL STORYTELLING



### INSTRUCTOR

#### HITESH CHAURASIA

Sound Designer, Filmmaker and educator with a collective experience of more than 16 years. Hitesh Chaurasia is the Lead film and video communication discipline and head of the sound design lab at NID Ahmedabad. Pursuing part time PhD from the department of Design at IIT Guwahati.

*[nid.edu/people/detail/hitesh-chaurasia](http://nid.edu/people/detail/hitesh-chaurasia)*



### INSTRUCTOR

#### VIDYA SHAH

A singer and musician initially trained in Carnatic music and later Khayal, Thumri Dadra and Ghazal. Vidya has performed at the Tansen Samaroh in Gwalior, and The Kennedy Centre in Washington D.C, She Recipient of the Charles Wallace Award and a Senior Fellowship from the Government of India.

*Blog: [www.vidyashah-music.blogspot.com/](http://www.vidyashah-music.blogspot.com/)*

### OVERVIEW

Songs are a popular form of oral storytelling across the world. In India, there is a rich tradition of songs for festivals/rituals/occasions, songs of farmers/labours, songs of devotion/protest, to more personal songs such as lullabies. Mostly in the realm of folk music, these songs are rich repositories of aboriginal knowledge and collective wisdom. This knowledge about ecology, human-nature-animal relationships, morality, politics, cultural practices, and processes travel across generations through songs. With time, some of these songs are slowly fading away. The aim of the workshop is to re-visit, re-connect, re-discover, re-record and re-contextualize the knowledge embedded in these songs.

### METHODOLOGY

Text analysis, ethnography, and group discussion will unbox various possibilities while the hands-on practice to record audio and video shall equip participants with basic skills to document. The course outcome will be as diverse as the nature of songs from podcasts, audio tracks, films, and visual mapping to live performances. Participants would be encouraged to identify traditional songs of the diverse communities living in Ahmedabad.

### KEY WORDS

Ethnomusicology, Ecology, Folk songs, Culture, Tradition

### AVAILABILITY

15 Seats