



Dr.Kusuma Bhatta Ph.D

- ❖ **M.Sc.** (Speech Pathology and Audiology), from All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore. Mysore University. AIISH.
- ❖ **M.S.** Neuropsychiatric Institute, University of California, Los Angeles. USA.
- ❖ **Ph.D.** National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, (NIMHANS) Bengaluru, Deemed University.

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Dr. Kusuma Bhatta, a speech pathologist audiologist by profession is the **founder and project director of Manonandana Centre.**

She has 40 years of experience (including 22 years at Manonandana Centre) working with communication disorders in children and adults: - hearing impairment; specific speech – language disorders; mental retardation, cerebral palsy, Autism; attention deficit – hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); stuttering and aphasia.

She has experience of working in both rural and urban areas, under UNICEF funded project she has trained gross root level field workers in rehabilitation methods to deal with various disorders in children and developed material in Kannada language.

She has International, National and State awards to her credits for her services to the special children and in improving the quality of lives of the families.

She has focused on many innovative works for the development of various skills in special children. Development of low cost electronic equipment's, Modification of traditional games, Bringing out audio music CD “Kaliyona banni” in Kannada language as an educational tool to develop language speech & cognitive skills in children based on her Ph.D. thesis.

Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Clinical experience of 42 years - worked with children with hearing impairment, mental retardation, Cerebral Palsy, Autism, ADHD.▪ Established a 3-year diploma course in Speech and Hearing Science on invitation from Govt of Indonesia.▪ Rotary International Scholarship – M.S. Degree at University of California – Las Angeles.
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Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rajyothsava – Karnataka State Award ▪ From Dept.of Welfare of disabled, Govt. of Karnataka. ▪ National Award – R.K. Oza Oration Award by Indian Speech & Hearing Association – describing Dr.Kusuma as Living Legend Lady. ▪ Kempegowda Award from BBMP ▪ Awards from various organisations totalling to 8.
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Innovative Works

1. Kaliyona Banni – Audio Music CD was brought out as a tool to use for development of language in children. This is based on Dr.Kusuma's Ph.D. thesis.
2. Initiated – modification of traditional games to be used as educational tool to learn many concepts to special children.
Eg. Pagade, Chowkabhara, Chess etc.
3. Brought out low cost electronic equipment (3 in number) as tool to develop cognitive, speech-language skills and also as Alternate & Augmentative tool for special children.
4. Took initiative in planning a behaviour technique – Auditory – Yoga – Visual Stimulation in combination for children with ADHD disorders – Experimented nearly for 3 ½ years and found useful as a behaviour tool in reducing hyperactivity and increasing concentration in special children.
5. Co-ordinator for conducting 4 Interactive Seminars in the year 2016-17.
6. For the year 2016-17, Govt.of Karnataka selected 5 women achievers and made documentary film of 17 minutes duration.
Dr.Kusuma is one among the 5 women.