AKAASH DAS

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EDUCATION

Dhirubhai Ambani International School, Mumbai, India; 2013 – Present
– International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, Grade 12; Predicted Score: 45/45 2025 – Present
*– Cambridge IGCSE Board Examinations, Grade 10; 9/10 A*s, Distinction* 2023 – 2025

STANDARDISED TESTS

- **SAT: Total – 1570; Evidence-Based Reading and Writing – 770; Math – 800**

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONOURS

School:

- Subject Achievement Award in Theory of Knowledge in Grade 11, for outstanding attainment 2025 – 2026
- Subject Effort Awards in Mathematics, Physics and Economics in Grade 11, for sustained effort 2025 – 2026
- Topped the school in the Cambridge IGCSE Board Examinations 2025
- Achievement Awards in Grades 9–10: English, Chemistry, Physics, French, Business, Maths, Geography 2023 – 2025

International:

- Gold Award, The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2026
- Silver Medal, Harvard International Review Academic Writing Competition 2026
- Commendation, John Locke Institute Essay Competition 2025

PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERIENCES AND RESEARCH

Research:

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Pune, India 2026
Its India office works with governments to strengthen public health systems and disease surveillance.
Research Project under Dr. Rajani R. Ved, Director, Health, India; with Dr. Samadhan Debaje, WHO

- Authored "Barriers in Malaria Data Flow and Treatment Processes in Pune: A Descriptive Analytical Study."
- Designed the study protocol and questionnaire, and interviewed 50 public health staff in Pune district.
- Found same-day case reporting but delayed digital entry, driven by poor connectivity and staff shortages.

The Antara Foundation, Madhya Pradesh, India 2025 – 2026
Antara works with state governments and communities to improve maternal and child health in rural India.
Independent Researcher under Ms. Chandrika Bahadur

- Argued that preventive maternal and newborn care costs Madhya Pradesh less than treating complications.
- Modelled a per-beneficiary cost of USD 1.41 and a break-even point of 282 prevented complications.
- Revised the paper after review by the Foundation's Head of Data Systems; submitted for internal review.

AI in Healthcare, Independent Research Paper 2025

- Wrote a 10-page secondary-research paper on how AI diagnostics and predictive analytics could close gaps in healthcare.

Internships:

Columbia Global Center, Mumbai, India 2024 – Present
One of Columbia University's Global Centers, linking Columbia faculty and students with partners in South Asia.
Research Intern; worked on 8 projects across public health, education and climate over three years, selected few as follows:

- Curated a directory of 77 public datasets across 10 research pillars for Columbia faculty working on India.
- Researched Indian artists and studios to adapt Dr. Olajide Williams' Hip-Hop Public Health nutrition programme.
- Designed pre-application questionnaires to assess the candidacy of prospective Fulbright Scholarship applicants.
- Organised fellowship data and conducted an impact analysis of the Yusuf Hamied Fellowship.
- Developed video concepts on colon cancer awareness and preventive health for a physician.

Academic Enrichment Program:

Yale Young Global Scholars, Solving Global Challenges, Yale University, New Haven, USA 2026

- Attended seminars including "Will AI Solve Global Poverty?" and "Why Do People Beef in YouTube Comment Sections?", and lectures by former FBI agents on disinformation and by lawyers on the overuse of AI.
- Led a team of 6 in the education domain of the "Designing Healthier Futures" capstone, designing B3, a simulated NGO to prevent snakebite deaths in rural Bihar through school education and first-response training.
- Won USD 45,000 of a USD 100,000 funding pool, the highest award among the 4 capstone teams.

CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), New Delhi, India 2026 – Present
One of Asia's leading not-for-profit policy research institutions, working on energy, environment and water.
Gen Z Consultant under Ms. Archana Chandrashekar

- Developed a classroom engagement strategy for What On Earth!®, CEEW's climate cartoon series, with 75-minute sessions and a student ambassador programme for 300+ students at 3 Mumbai schools.

- Created 10 climate-challenge cartoon concepts, each paired with solutions and a policy recommendation.

IB Extended Essay, Global Politics, DAIS 2026
- Investigated: "To what extent has India's participation in the Paris Agreement (2015–2022) eroded its sovereignty over climate policymaking?"
- Argued that Paris reshaped rather than constrained India's sovereignty, using its NDCs and the COP26 coal phase-down.

Inspirit AI, AI and Sustainability Course
- Studied how artificial intelligence can be applied to sustainability and environmental challenges.

LEADERSHIP

President, DAIS Music Club 2025 – 2026
- Led 10–15 members and mentored 10 on song selection and delivery for 5 school performances, including the Fete.

Master of Ceremonies, DAIS School Fete 2026
- Announced activities and performers through the day for an event attended by about 1,000 people.

Master of Ceremonies, Senior Farewell, DAIS 2024, 2026
- Scripted and hosted the awards show for an audience of 300–350 students, parents and faculty.

Lead Actor, DAIS Annual Day and Inter-House Dramatics 2025 – 2026
- Played Kansa in a 20-minute Annual Day mythology adaptation; performed for Jaguar House in inter-house dramatics.

MUSIC PURSUITS

School Assemblies and Performances 2022 – Present
- Performed solos and duets at the Fete, Annual Day and Language Day (in 4 languages) for audiences of about 300.
- Performed 2 duets at G5A, Mumbai, and a solo at Yale Young Global Scholars.

DAIS Annual Day Choir 2025
- Sang with the school choir at the DAIS Annual Day.
- Performed for a school-wide audience of students, parents and staff.

"Fly Me to the Moon", Jazz Album (Instagram: @akaashdas_music) 2025 – 2026
- Recorded covers of 7 jazz standards by Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, Louis Armstrong and others, with original backing tracks, over 5 sessions at Glam Slam Studio.
- Released the album across 32 streaming platforms.

Teaching Music, Pratham, Aurangabad and Mumbai 2024 – Present
- Taught children in Gadana, Aurangabad, to sing "Wavin' Flag" in parts with a makeshift orchestra.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS ACHIEVEMENTS

- Deputy President, Human Rights Council, DAIMUN; wrote the Study Report on Rohingya statelessness 2026
- Head Chair, Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), ASBMUN 2026
- Delegate, Environmental Committee, THIMUN, The Hague, Netherlands 2026
- Delegate, Security Council, DAIMUN; Verbal Mention 2025
- Delegate, Human Rights Council, DAIMUN; Verbal Mention 2024
- Delegate, Human Rights Council, DAIMUN 2023
- Delegate, Human Rights Council, DAIMUN 2022

BUSINESS, FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

Introduction to Business, Finance and Economics, Columbia University 2025
- Studied firm behaviour, financial markets and the valuation of stocks and bonds through case studies.
- Applied microeconomic models to evaluate investment strategies.

Introduction to Finance and Investment Management, Columbia University 2024
- Studied the time value of money, risk–return trade-offs and the structure of global financial markets.
- Built and managed a simulated investment portfolio.

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Pratham USA Youth Summer Fellowship, Gadana, Aurangabad, India 2024
- Taught English to 30 learners from local communities preparing for jobs in hospitality.

Pratham Centre, Mumbai, India 2025 – Present
- Teach English literacy and art to 30–40 children in Grades 5–6 for an hour every week.
- Compiled 2 case studies on the centre's work for donor outreach.

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Languages: English, Hindi, French
- Skills: Leadership, public speaking, research and survey design, data analysis, cost-benefit modelling, stock and bond valuation, portfolio management
- Interests: Jazz singing and piano, theatre, climate policy, tennis, weightlifting, creative writing