

Abhay B. Joshi

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Overview

I presently wear multiple hats: of CS instructor, writer, business consultant, and personal coach.

I have been teaching computer programming and computational thinking since 2007 to middle and high school students, college students, as well as working professionals. Besides teaching, my work includes writing books, articles, help guides, course material, sample programs, etc., and most of it is available free of cost on the website of "SPARK Institute and Publications". Currently, we use the programming languages Scratch, Snap, and Python.

I work as a professional coach/mentor and help small business owners, NGOs, and freelancers as well as students and working professionals in addressing their current challenges and opening up future opportunities through dialog and team-work.

As a writer, I write non-fiction pieces about programming, education, personal philosophy, and professional development. In addition, I also like to write stories and poetry that touch upon philosophical and emotional aspects of the life of today's global professional. I offer help to students and professionals improve their written English through personal coaching and reviewing.

Career highlights

- ▶ Started a teaching and publication activity (SPARK Institute) in the field of "learning computational thinking". Designed and taught courses, wrote and published several books. (Aug 2007 – till date)
- ▶ Executive VP at Aztecsoft: Headed the iTest independent test practice (which was formed through the acquisition of Disha Technologies), and was responsible for R&D, Training, Process, Sales support, and Delivery Excellence activities related to Software Testing. (3 years)

- ▶ Co-founder and CEO of Disha Technologies – a company co-located in Bellevue USA and Pune India, which specialized in independent software testing for ISVs. (7 years)
- ▶ Consulting work for Motorola, Microsoft, and Palindrome in requirements analysis, software development, and testing. (3 years)
- ▶ Unix kernel/application development: enhancement of TCP/IP network protocols, and security product development (4 years)

Business positions held

- ▶ Director, InPods Private Limited, Pune (Sep 2008 – till date)
- ▶ Executive Vice President, Aztecsoft Limited, Pune (Dec 2004 – Mar 2008)
- ▶ CEO and Co-founder, Disha Technologies (offices in Seattle and Pune) (Dec 1994 – Nov 2004)
- ▶ Software Developer, Addamax Corporation, Champaign (Dec 90 – Nov 94)
- ▶ Software Developer, Interactive Systems Corporation, Santa Monica (Jan 1988 – Nov 1990)
- ▶ Application Engineer, Datapro Electronics, Pune (Nov 1985 – Jul 1986)
- ▶ Research Scientist, DEBEL, Bangalore (Oct 1984 – Oct 1985)

Academic record

- ▶ **Several online courses on Computational Thinking**
- ▶ **Master of Science in Computer Engineering** (Dec 1988)
Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244
- ▶ **Bachelor of Engineering in Instrumentation** (Jun 1984)
College of Engineering, University of Poona, Pune, India
- ▶ Ranked 6th overall in the Merit list of HSC (Higher Secondary Certificate) examination conducted by the Pune-Mumbai divisional board (1980).
- ▶ Ranked 15th overall in the Merit list of SSC (Secondary School Certificate) examination conducted by the Pune-Mumbai divisional board (1978). First place in English and Sanskrit.

Miscellaneous

Interests include music (playing violin and keyboard), literature, philosophy, computer programming, education, and professional helping.

Last updated: 28 November 2019