



## K. K. Wagh Institute of Engineering Education & Research

### LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

As the Vice Principal of K. K. Wagh Institute and the Head of the Computer Engineering department, where I have taught for over 30 years, I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Shreyas Kalvankar, who aspires to pursue his Ph.D. in Computer Science at your university. Over the years that I have worked with Shreyas, he has demonstrated all the qualities necessary to be successful in a demanding academic atmosphere, and his academic achievements are a testament to that. I have taught him several courses throughout his undergraduate program, and he has come forth as a brilliant student with an immense passion for Computer Science and Mathematics.

Academically, he is a strong student and has always been in the top 1% of the department. He had the highest overall GPA throughout and obtained 1<sup>st</sup> rank. I have taught Shreyas for three semesters in Software Modelling and Design, Data Mining and Warehousing, and Compiler Design. Shreyas had planned to opt for the Compiler Design course, which I offered, well ahead of time. He started reading The Principles of Compiler Design by Jeffery Ullman a semester earlier, and when his course began, he would actively interact in class. I observed his enthusiasm for every lecture, careful reading of the books, and probing curiosity while approaching a topic. He showcased an excellent understanding of the topics at hand and had a good grasp of the fundamentals of Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science which was reflected in his assignments and mini-projects in Compiler Design and Data Mining.

He consistently exhibits unparalleled ardor in other activities. He was a committee head in our institute's Computer Society of India branch and an integral part of the college robotics club. While I did not supervise him personally, I am told he demonstrated commendable dexterity in fields like mechanics and electronics. Shreyas has organized lectures for his peers and juniors on topics such as Neural Networks and High-Performance Computing and delineated excellent teaching skills.

One of the most prominent characteristics of Shreyas is his strength of conviction. He will argue on any topic that contradicts his beliefs. He will not hold back his thoughts and present them in a respectful but firm manner until he is convinced otherwise. His independence of thought has always enabled him to transcend conforming to public opinion and voice questions. He is incredibly soft-spoken and honest and always relies on his knowledge, intelligence, and wit to persuade. Teachers enjoy having him in their classes. Taking all of this into account, it is not surprising to know that he received the Best Outgoing Student award in the Computer Department for his batch.

I recognize Shreyas' potential as a researcher, and I am sure he will make good contributions to any field he studies. I strongly recommend him with no hesitation. He will surely prosper and make his mark at your university.

**Prof. Dr. Shirish S. Sane,**  
**M.Tech (IIT Bombay), Ph. D (University of Pune)**  
**Professor, Vice-Principal, Head of Dept. of Computer Engineering**  
**K.K. Wagh Institute of Engineering Education and Research, Nashik,**  
**Email: [sssane@kkwagh.edu.in](mailto:sssane@kkwagh.edu.in), +912532221231**

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Hirabai Haridas Vidyanagari, Amrutdham, Panchavati, NASHIK - 422 003. (Maharashtra) INDIA.

☎ 0253 - 2512876, 2518864, 2516671 📠 0253 - 2511962 🌐 [www.engg.kkwagh.edu.in](http://www.engg.kkwagh.edu.in)

✉ [kkwieer@kkwagh.edu.in](mailto:kkwieer@kkwagh.edu.in) / [kkwieer@gmail.com](mailto:kkwieer@gmail.com)