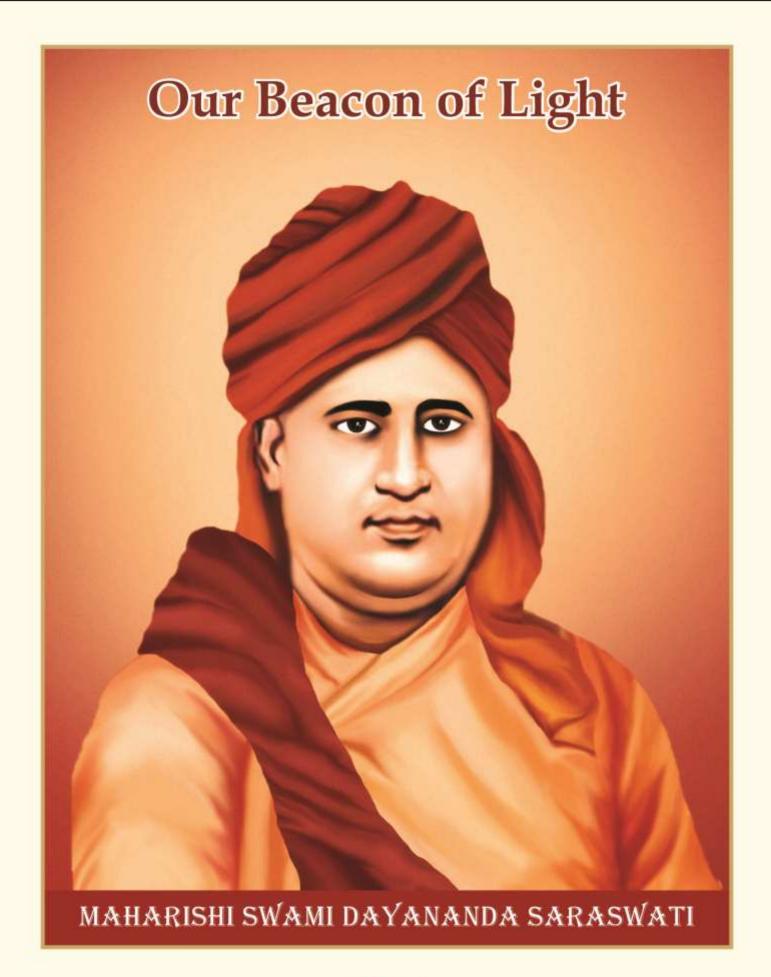
SOUVENIR

50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



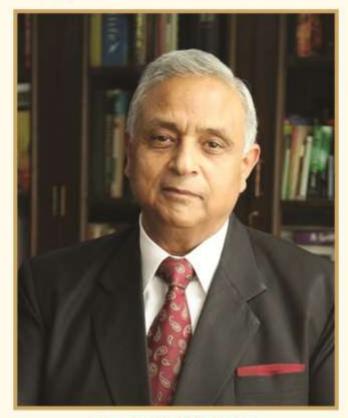
MEHR CHAND MAHAJAN

DAV College for Women, Sector 36-A, Chandigarh





Our Guide and Mentor



Dr. PUNAM SURI
Padma Shri Awardee
Hon'ble President
DAV College Managing Committee, New Delhi

I am glad to know that Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh (Pb.), is going to celebrate its Golden Jubilee on the successful completion of 50 years in the field of education by publishing a Golden Jubilee Souvenir. Kindly accept my heartiest congratulations on the auspicious occasion. I believe that this special issue not only provides an outlet to the latent creative potential of the students but also proudly showcases the milestones the college has achieved in the field of education.

Achievement without happiness is no success at all. And hence, it is again very important to look within and realize as to what it is that one wants. Education helps one in forging one's own path and also in introspection. It becomes the responsibility of education system to instil in our students those values which help them to create stability in every stage of life. I am happy to note that in DAV we lay equal emphasis on training students in vital aspects of life like anger management, anxiety control, meditation, yoga, etc. along with academics.

I convey my best wishes to the Principal, Staff and Students for the coming session and appreciate their efforts towards providing holistic education to their students.

With best wishes

(Punam Suri)



From the Principal's Desk



It gives me great pleasure to share that MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, a premier educational institution for women, is celebrating its Golden Jubilee year. Established in 1968 in the memory of the great legal luminary Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan, the institution has traversed a glorious journey studded with numerous landmark achievements in the fields of academics, cultural activities and sports. Inspired by the teachings of Swami Dayananda Saraswati, the college has, since its inception, aimed at imparting holistic education to young women, wherein modernity and Vedic values are harmoniously blended.

The Souvenir, being brought out on the occasion, captures the magnificent moments and outstanding achievements of the college during this odyssey. It is also a tribute to all those members of the MCM DAV family who have contributed to the growth and glory of the institution over the years. Their singular commitment and untiring efforts have not only established an enviable reputation of the institution, but also serve as a constant source of inspiration for us to carry its rich legacy forward.

Dr. (Mrs) Nisha Bhargava

Principal



M. Venkajah Najdu



भारत के उपराष्ट्रपति Vice - President of India



Message

I convey my best wishes to the staff and non-teaching staff of Mehr Chand Mahajan D.A.V. College for Women, Chandigarh on the occasion of its Golden Jubilee celebrations.

Completion of five decades is a major landmark in the odyssey of an educational institution. I am sure that the College will continue to strive for imparting quality education and all-round development of students.

My best wishes for future endeavours.

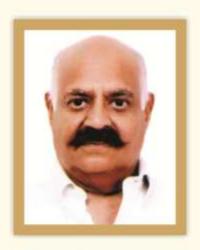
(M. Venkaiah Naidu)

Meraidy.

V. P. Singh Badnore



Governor of Punjab and Administrator Union Territory, Chandigarh



Message

I am very glad to know that the Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, intends to bring out a Souvenir in connection with its Golden Jubilee. The institution has been rendering yeoman service in the education of women enabling them to take lead role in the society and family.

Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women is an iconic name in the field of higher education in North India. I hope that the Golden Jubilee celebrations would elevate the hopes and spirits of teachers, students and management and inspire them to strive for excellence in the overall activities of the college. I also hope that the collective efforts of all associated with the college would enable it to scale greater heights in the future.

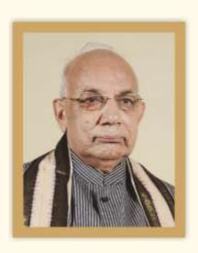
I compliment the College on this auspicious occasion and wish the commemorative volume all success.

(V. P. Singh Badnore)

Villa.



राज्यपाल, हरियाणा Governor of Haryana



Message

It is a matter of immense pleasure that Mehr Chand Mahajan D.A.V. College for Women, Chandigarh has entered into its Golden Jubilee year. To commemorate the occasion the college is bringing out its Golden Jubilee Souvenir.

D.A.V. Educational Institutions have been playing an important role in imparting education. They have been making a significant contribution in educating students as well as awaking them against social evils. They are matrix of the Dayanand Anglo Vedic renaissance which played a stellar role in rejuvenating the society - intellectually, emotionally, socially and spiritually. In this respect Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh has also been accoladed and honoured as a signifier of the core ideology of the DAV macrocosm. It has been imparting education by fusing ancient Indian values with modern, western and scientific outlook since its inception in 1968.

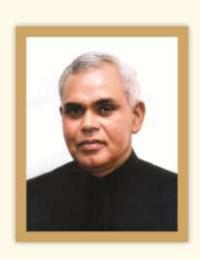
While celebrating its Golden Jubilee Year the college is proud of its achievements that brought laurels for this educational institution. It has proved its worth in every sphere of life. I congratulate the management, staff and students of the college on the Golden Jubilee of its formation and wish them a bright future. I also convey my best wishes for the successful publication of Golden Jubilee souvenir which would highlight the achievements of the college achieved in the period of 50 years.

(Prof. Kaptaň Singh Solanki)

आचार्य देवव्रत Acharya Devvrat



राज्यपाल, हिमाचल प्रदेश Governor, Himachal Pradesh



संदेश

मुझे यह जानकर हार्दिक प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि मेहर चन्द महाजन डी ए वी कन्या महाविद्यालय, चण्डीगढ़ इस साल अपनी स्थापना के 50 वर्ष पूरे करने पर स्वर्ण जयन्ती समारोह का आयोजन कर रहा है। इस मौके को अविस्मरणीय बनाने के लिए एक स्मारिका का प्रकाशन भी किया जा रहा है।

मेहर चन्द महाजन डी ए वी कन्या महाविद्यालय, चण्डीगढ़ को स्वर्णिम सफर की बहुत—बहुत बधाई। भारत के पूर्व मुख्य न्यायाधीश न्यायमूर्ति मेहर चन्द महाजन जी की स्मृति में 50 वर्ष पूर्व महाविद्यालय के रूप में जो पौधा लगाया गया था, आज वह वृक्ष बनकर हमारी बेटियों को शिक्षा व हुनर की छाँव दे रहा है। महाविद्यालय का सफर स्वर्णिम रहा है और आज यह देश के प्रमुख शिक्षा संस्थानों में से एक बनकर उभरा है। यहां शिक्षारत छात्राएं देश—विदेश में नाम रौशन कर रही हैं।

मैं आशा करता हूं कि <mark>आधुनिकता की चकाचौंध के विपरीत यह महाविद्यालय</mark> अपने उद्देश्य में इसी प्रकार आगे बढ़ता रहेगा और भारतीय मूल्यों पर आधारित शिक्षा की लो को जलाए रखेगा।

स्वर्ण जयन्ती समारोह तथा स्मारिका के सफल प्रकाशन की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं।

(देवव्रत)

किरण खेर Kirron Kher





संसद के सदस्य (लोकसभा) Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Chandigarh

Member:-

- · Standing Committee on Home Affairs
- · Consultative Committee on Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- · ICWA (Indian Council of World Affairs)



Message

I write this message with a lot of happiness and satisfaction. This is because I am writing these words for Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh which is a prestigious institution of my constituency. I am extremely happy to note that college is in its Golden Jubliee Year. To commemorate this historic landmark MCM DAV college is bringing out a Souvenir on this occasion which will contain brief history of the college and its major achievements.

I extend my heartiest congratulations to the Management, Principal and Staff members for their relentless efforts in bringing their college to greater heights. With all sincerity and gratitude, I wish MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh more fame and fortune in the years to come.

> pourror other (Kirron Kher)

Amarinder Singh



ਮੁੱਖ ਮੰਤਰੀ, ਪੰਜਾਬ Chief Minister, Punjab



Message

I am glad to learn that Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh is commemorating its Golden Jubilee year and bringing out a Souvenir to mark this historic occasion.

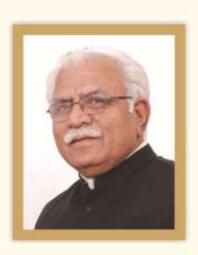
MCM DAV College is a prestigious educational institution which has created a niche amongst some of the leading centres of higher learning in the region. I hope that the souvenir being released on the occasion would refresh memories of the students, who have passed out from this college besides highlighting its glorious achievements in the field of academics, sports and extra-curricular activities.

I convey my best wishes to the management, teaching and non-teaching staff as well as the students on this momentous occasion.

(Amarinder Singh)



मुख्य मन्त्री, हरियाणा, चण्डीगढ़ Chief Minister, Haryana Chandigarh



Message

It gives me immense pleasure to know that Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh has decided to bring out a Souvenir to mark its Golden Jubilee year.

I congratulate the management, teachers and students of the MCM DAV College for Women on this historic occasion.

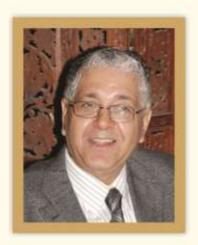
It is equally heartening that the college has been placed among top 75 institutions in the National Institutional Ranking Framework-2017, an initiative of MHRD, Government of India. I hope, this prestigious college of the region which has, over the years, emerged as a great centre of learning would continue to provide quality education to the students so as to enable them to compete with the emerging challenges of life with an added zeal and enthusiasm.

I am sure, the souvenir would aptly reflect the 50 years of accomplishment of the college. Also, it would provide an opportunity to the students to express and share their views on various aspects of life and broaden their horizon.

I wish the publication all success and a bright future to the students of the college.

(Manohar Lal)





It is a pleasure to congratulate one of the reputed Colleges of the Northern region on the historic occasion of the completion of fifty glorious years. Living up to the legacy of Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan, the College has built an irrefutable reputation of excellence. I have had the privilege of witnessing the exponential growth of this glorious institution and have a strong personal bond with it, and I am positive that the College will scale unprecedented heights with its innovative and able leadership. It is heartening to witness this institution setting newer benchmarks in the field of women education.

I wish the Management, Principal, staff and students of the College the best for their future endeavour.

(Arun K. Grover)





I am delighted to learn that Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women is celebrating Golden Jubilee of its foundation and bringing out a souvenir to catalogue the highlights of glorious 50 years.

Such occasions evoke fond memories and make one look back with gratitude and plan ahead with enthusiasm and confidence. It is also an opportunity for the institution to reconnect with some of those people who were among the first students to join the college and look back with pride and satisfaction that they were the flag bearers of the fledgling institution.

The growth of the college has been organic and the institution is now well known as a centre of excellence. It is due to the strong foundation laid by founders of the DAV Movement including Mahatma Hans Raj Ji and their vision propagated by the faculty and administration of the college with utmost dedication.

Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women will continue to flourish and prosper in the years to come, and the students who emerge from the august portals will hold their heads high.

I congratulate Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women for completing 50 glorious years and wish a bright future to everyone associated with the institution.

Per Mahajan (Prof (Dr) Rakesh Kumar Mahajan)





I am glad to know that Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh will be completing its 50 Years of establishment and is celebrating its Golden Jubilee Year in 2018. It is a moment of pride for the DAV Managing Committee with whose efforts the college was established nearly 50 years back.

MCM DAV College is one of the leading Educational Institutions for Women Education in the region. The students and alumni of the college are bringing laurels to the college. It has produced many renowned personalities/academicians in various fields, who are serving the society. I observe that MCM DAV College provides best opportunities to its students for their intellectual and professional growth in a congenial environment.

I congratulate the Principal and her entire team on this occasion, and for their hard work and tireless efforts in making MCM DAV College for Women a shining star of the region.

(Paramjit S. Jaswal)







I am pleased to know that Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women has entered into its Golden Jubilee Year. My felicitations to the staff, students and alumni of the College on reaching this golden milestone.

This college has played a commendable role in empowering women students with high quality education, best of faculty and enriched curriculum, making it a premier institution in North India. Every student who passes out from such prestigious institution will surely leave an eternal mark of success in whichever sphere of life she chooses to work.

I convey best wishes to all those associated with the college. I am sure that this institution will continue to maintain its excellence and character with great distinction.

(Parimal Rai)





Message

I congratulate the management, staff and students of MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh on celebrating the Golden Jubilee this year. It is a matter of great pride that all these years, the College has done commendable work in providing all round educational excellence to thousands of children.

In the span of fifty years, the college has supported its pupils by providing them opportunities and challenges that have enabled them to inculcate values of concern, commitment and service, together with a sharp intellect honed with knowledge and understanding.

I hope that MCM DAV College for Women will continue to flourish and prosper in the years to come, and the students who emerge from the august portals, will also hold their heads high.

(Anurag Agarwal)





I extend my heartiest felicitations to the management, staff and students of MCM DAV College, Chandigarh on the completion of 49 glorious years of academic and cultural excellence.

Ever since its inception, MCM DAV College, Chandigarh has focused on providing higher quality education to students in general, and ensured that the students imbibe healthy moral and social values so that they leave the portals of this college as responsible, well groomed citizens, ready to achieve excellence in varied fields of life.

I am certain that the publication of this souvenir will highlight the glorious history and major milestones of the college during the last 49 years. My compliments to all those associated in bringing out this souvenir.

(Ajoy Kumar Sinha)



Miame





Message

I am glad to know that Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh is bringing out a Souvenir to commemorate its glorious 50" year. A Golden Jubilee is an occasion to take stock of the institution's achievements as also to set new goals for the future. The college has carved a niche for itself in the field of women's education in terms of academic excellence and cultural achievement.

I am quite sure that Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women will continue to strive hard to achieve excellence in academics, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and sports in the years to come. My best wishes for the success of the entire endeavour.





I am happy to learn that MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh is celebrating its Golden Jubilee and publishing a commemorative Souvenir to mark the momentous occasion.

The college is one of the pioneer institutions in women's education in the country. I take this opportunity to congratulate the Principal, Staff and Students of this esteemed College for completing glorious 50 years.

I extend my wishes to the institution for a very bright future ahead.

(Ajit Balaji Joshi)



It gives me immense pleasure that Mehr Chand Mahajan, DAV College for Women, Sector-36, Chandigarh is celebrating its Golden Jubilee Year in 2018 and is releasing a Souvenir on this occasion. MCM College is one of the outstanding colleges of the region due to its dedicated teachers, staff, bright students and outstanding alumni. The college flourishes on an exceptional blend of retaining moral values and incorporating technological advancements as well as creating a consciousness about rights and duties towards the nation. These have fully been internalized by all the stakeholders.

I congratulate the organizers and other members of the college on this occasion and wish them success in their mission of promoting value-based holistic education in our society.

Refugni (Rakesh K Popli)

Prof. Parvinder Singh



Controller of Examinations Dean, College Development Council Panjab University, Chandigarh



Message

It is heartening to note that the MCM DAV College, established in the year 1968, will be entering its Golden Jubilee Year in 2018. For the last 49 years, the college has been imparting quality education to girl students in the region and producing enlightened and potential women, the future decision and policy makers, who would repay the society through maximum utilization of their educational input.

The college thrives on a unique blend of retaining traditional values and incorporating technological advancements as well as creating a consciousness about rights and duties towards the nation and stands fully prepared to meet the challenges of the changing times. MCM DAV College is rapidly heading towards absolute professionalism at global level.

The college strives towards excellence in every sphere and keeps on creating and recreating its own benchmarks.

I congratulate the Management, Principal, Faculty members and students of the College for bringing out this Souvenir.

(Parvinder Singh)





I am glad to learn that the most coveted seat of learning in the field of women's education: Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College has entered into Golden Jubilee year of its existence. The college has contributed tremendously in the field of not only women education but also women empowerment as the illustrious alumna of the college is scaling great heights. The college remains a perfect blend of tradition and modernity and stands a beacon of light to many students hailing form various parts of the country.

I hope that the college will continue enabling and empowering its students to meet life's challenges with knowledge supported by wisdom, ethical values, good decision making skills and respect for all. I convey my good wishes for the success of the Golden Jubilee celebrations being carried out by the college.

(Col. G.S. Chadha (Retd.))

Prabodh Mahajan





Message

I am very proud that Mehr Chand Mahajan College for Women, Chandigarh is in its Golden Jubilee Year. This is indeed a milestone achievement for all concerned to celebrate. I have an emotional attachment to this college as it was founded in the memory of my father Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan and on this occasion I am sharing his message with you all:

"Be happy and cheerful. Never lose hope and courage in the battle of life.

Never stoop low; learn to stand on your own feet, root out fraud,
deceit and hypocrisy from our social and political life.

I want the students and staff of DAV to work as crusaders
and build nobler and healthier traditions for the country
and then will our hard-won freedom be secure."

I give my blessings and good wishes to all the staff members; to the young ladies, to be strong and channelise your energy in the right direction to attain balance in all aspects of your life, practice yoga and meditation by the invocation of the Gayatri Mantra. This is a very powerful hymn that makes one a magnetic personality and helps in noble deeds and corrective action.

Let's take this opportunity to reflect, celebrate, inspire and make MCM DAV College a World-Class Institution.

(Prabodh Mahajan)





The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of any temple of learning is a moment to rejoice. I am happy to know that the Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh is celebrating its Golden Jubilee Celebrations this year.

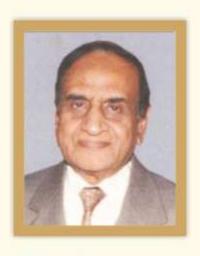
During the last five decades of its existence, the College has provided quality education to thousands of students. I am sure while the celebrations will be a joyous occasion; it also gives opportunity for introspection with a view to have well conceived plans for future so that the tempo of progress is maintained.

The phenomenon of globalization has brought about tremendous changes in the educational thought and practices. I am glad you have modernized the curriculum as well as the pedagogy and given dimensions for holistic education so that the students may actualize their potential and institution may attain unprecedented heights.

I congratulate the Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College, Chandigarh on this momentous occasion of its Golden Jubilee and convey my best wishes to the Principal, teaching and non-teaching staff and students of the College.

(T. R. Gupta)





MCM DAV College for Women is a renowned institution and bears the name of a great man. Your institution is one of the brightest feathers in the Crown of DAV College Managing Committee.

Students who have passed through MCM College have proved to be a great asset for the society. That is the reason that your institution is the first choice of the bright students in this area.

With this I congratulate all the staff members who are working under the leadership of the worthy principal.

May God keep showering his blessings on the staff and students of this great institution.

(Rajinder Nath)



Message

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that MCM DAV College for Women, Sector-36 A, Chandigarh is going to complete 50 years of its outstanding service to the humanity in the field of education and to mark this happy occasion a Souvenir is being brought out to highlight the achievements of the college over the past 5 glorious decades.

MCM DAV College, one of the premier institutions of North India, has rendered excellent service to the people of locality, catering to the intellectual development of the girls as well as helping in the formation of their character by inculcating sound moral and spiritual values. MCM stands tall as the epitome of the philosophy and principles of its founder, Swami Dayanand, and his message to the contemporary world that education should help form young girls as persons of character, competence, conscience, compassion and commitment. MCM continuously strives to focus on these 5 C's in shaping the young girls who pass through the portals of this college. The college has maintained a very good track record in the field of academic and non academic fields. It has been focusing on the development of mind, soul and body together in true spirit.

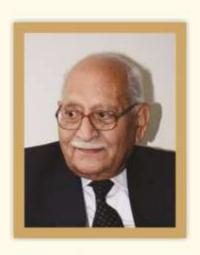
Above all, the college wouldn't have reached this unfathomable height, had it not been the consistent involvement and perseverance of the students, staff, management and principal particularly the present Principal Mrs. Nisha Bhargava, under whose leadership the college has shown immense quality improvement. Her active, energetic cheerful disposition with a mind of self-discipline, has been able to guide her institution to the best of her capabilities to produce women of substance in her college.

I am sure that the college will continue to impart quality education to its students in future also.

Estd. 1968 (Justice Amarjeet Chaudhary)

R. S. Sharma





Message

I am happy to learn that the Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh which has done exemplary work in the service of the nation, has completed half a century of its existence. The institution is celebrating with justified pride, its Golden Jubilee, an important milestone in the life of an institution dedicated to the education of women. Ever since its inception, this College has been striving to uphold high standards of education while maintaining a blend of tradition and modernity. 50 years is a good span of life for an institution to take stock of its performance and to reflect upon its contribution to the furtherance of Education.

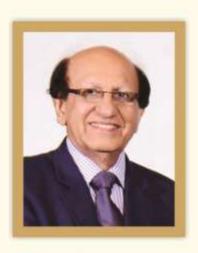
On this auspicious and historic occasion, I wish the institution all glory and prosperity in the years to come. I congratulate everyone who is connected with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh and wish the college all the very best in future.

(R. S. Sharma)

H. R. Gandhar



Advisor to the President DAV College Managing Committee New Delhi



Message

It is a matter of sheer exhilaration and pride for everyone associated with MCM DAV College for Women that it has completed 50 stupendous years of its existence. An occasion as remarkable as Golden Jubilee is an opportunity to not only reminisce but also to reflect. Great institutions are not built overnight; the pioneering vision of the administrator, translated into reality by the incessant efforts of the team, illuminates the path of success. Shining bright in the firmament of Indian skies as one of the top 75 colleges in the country, MCM has contributed immensely to the society by illuminating young minds to be responsible citizens. It has produced women of substance in various fields who have played a crucial role in taking the nation forward.

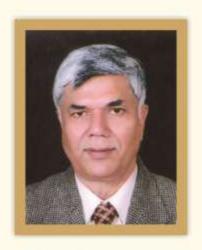
It is continuously striving to develop a system of conscious, constant and catalytic action to improve academics, administration and research performance. The institution is providing an environment to the students for study, learning and growth in a graceful way. Overall campus life is very exciting and vibrant where students develop all their faculties in a harmonious way.

It is extremely gratifying to see the college rising from strength to strength and striving to remain contextual with the changing times.

Here's wishing more honour, in the years to come, to an institution par excellence that is symbolic of highest standards in teaching and research. I extend my heartiest congratulations to the Principal and staff of the college on this historic event and wish that the future brings even greater glory and achievements for this prestigious institution.

(H. R. Gandhar)

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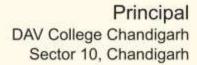


I am extremely pleased to pen the following few lines by way of a message to the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh.

Started in 1968, the College has grown by leaps and bounds to occupy a place among the top ranking Colleges in the country. The work done by this College during all these years in the field of Women education is praiseworthy. During the last 50 years of its illustrious existence, the college has produced thousands of graduates and postgraduate degree and diploma holders in a wide array of disciplines. These graduates are serving with distinction in diverse professions in all parts of the globe.

I extend my warm greetings and felicitations to all those associated with the College and wish the Golden Jubilee celebrations all success.

(Dr. Satish K. Sharma)







It is a matter of utmost pride for everyone associated with the illustrious institution-MCM DAV College for Women that the college is entering its 50° year of working in the field of the quality women education. For any organization, Golden Jubilee is a momentous occasion that is marked with an overwhelming sense of accomplishment coupled with an increased sense of responsibility to carry forward the legacy of excellence.

The college has carved a niche for itself and grown from strength to strength, earning the irrefutable reputation of an institution par excellence.

My heartiest congratulations to everyone associated with this great temple of learning on this occasion.

(Dr. B. C. Josan)





It is with immense pleasure and satisfaction that I congratulate the Principal, Staff and Students of MCM DAV College, Chandigarh on the momentous occasion of its Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

Ever since its inception, the college has consistently made its mark in every field - academics, sports and extra-curricular activities. These achievements, accolades and laurels have been attained with persistent and collective efforts, but they must not make us complacent. Therefore, reaching the significant milestone of 50 years of this glorious journey calls not only for celebration but also reflection and introspection.

I am sure, the Principal, Staff and Students of the college would aim even higher and scale greater heights in the years to come, and prove themselves worthy of the noble ideals and principles on which the foundation of this institution rests.

My good wishes for all future endeavours.

(Sneh Mahajan)



It gives me immense pleasure to know that MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh is celebrating its Golden Jubilee Year in 2018. This great institution has been carrying forward the glorious mission of education for women for the past 50 years with the avowed aim of forming a strong national identity and infusion of a justifiable pride in the rich cultural legacy of India. Keeping itself in tune with the emerging challenges of the 21st Century in the field, it has continuously assimilated fresh perspectives and current global trends in dissemination of knowledge. Its record of achievements in academics, sports and co-curricular activities is spectacular. MCM pass outs are informed, strongly motivated women and stand tall as role models in all walks of life.

I congratulate the entire MCM family – the Principal, staff and students on this momentous occasion. Their tireless efforts have made the institution earn a place of honour in the topmost echelons of education.

May MCM DAV College for Women continue to be a trailblazer in the pursuit of excellence. May it grow in strength to emerge as an avant-garde and unparalleled temple of learning!

(Dr. Puneet Bedi)

The Man, Mission and Milestones



Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan (1889-1967)



The Man, Mission and Milestones - Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan

"Lives of great men all remind us, we can make our lives sublime, and, departing, leave behind us, footprints on the sands of time."

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, a premier institution of education for girls, was established in the memory of Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan, the third Chief Justice of India and former Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. A proud nationalist and an exemplary statesman, Justice Mahajan was a legal luminary, a rare visionary, an able administrator, a committed social reformer and a leading educationist who played a pivotal role in resuscitating and strengthening the DAV movement in the post partition era. He was, indeed, a man of an indomitable spirit and strength of character who served his motherland in numerous ways and left behind a rich legacy for the posterity to emulate.

Born on December 23, 1889 in Tikka Nagrota village of Kangra in Himachal Pradesh, the new born was, quite ironically, declared inauspicious by the family Pundits for his father Babu Brij Lal. Consequently, he was pulled away from his mother's lap and handed over to a Rajput family. He returned home after 12 years of separation on the day fixed by the astrologers. Belying the ominous prophecy, this precocious child went on to prove his mettle in the field of judiciary, and went on to make his parents and nation extremely proud.

Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan, after acquiring his degree in Law from the Panjab University, Lahore, started his initial legal practice at Dharamshala, but soon shifted to Gurdaspur and then to the Lahore High Court where, with his unflinching confidence, sharp intellect and innate wisdom, he established himself as an accomplished lawyer. In fact, his industriousness, keen knowledge of law and powerful presentation in the court won him wide acclaim and he was elevated, quite deservingly, to the bench in 1943. As a Jurist, he handled and resolved many complicated issues with great sagacity and élan. In fact, his role as the head of various commissions also merited high commendation. His appointment as a member of The Royal Navy Mutiny Commission in 1946 and the Radcliffe Boundary Commission in 1947 testifies the trust imposed even by the British government in his calibre. He was a rare statesman, endowed with a dynamic personality, unwavering determination and an extra-ordinary clarity of mind. However, what made him stand apart amidst the galaxy of national leaders of the times was his disarming simplicity and nobility of character. No wonder, he was highly esteemed by eminent political figures such as Sardar Patel, Dr. S Radhakrishnan, Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri and Dr. Zakir Hussain to name just a few.

Sh. Mahajan's political maturity, intellectual brilliance and farsightedness so impressed the Maharaja of Kashmir, Sh. Hari Singh, that he appointed him as the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir on 15 October, 1947 at a time when Kashmir was passing through a tumultuous phase. After assuming the office, Sh. Mahajan played a stellar role in ensuring the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India by prevailing upon the Maharaja's wavering mind to sign the accord with India. Even during the ensuing communal frenzy that engulfed the entire state, he maintained law and order with a minimal police force, and tried to restore the confidence of the masses.



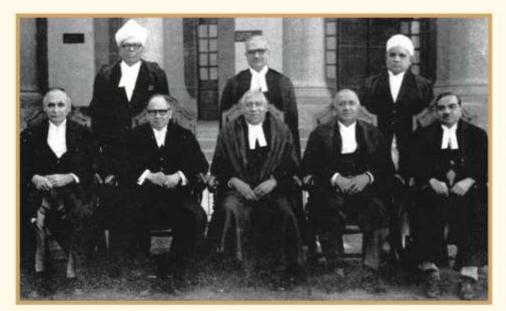


The Federal Court of India (1 October 1948)

The Oath

Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan being administered the oath of Chief Justice of India by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, President of India (4 January 1954)





Supreme Court Bench

(4 January 1954)

Sitting: Justice Vivian Bose, Justice B. K. Mukherjee, Chief Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan, Justice Sudhi Ranjan Das, Justice N. H. Bhagwati

Standing:

Justice T. L. Venkatarama Aiyar, Justice B. P. Sinha, Justice B. Jagannadhadas



His critical contribution to the accession of Kashmir to India and his singular effort to retain the strategically crucial district of Gurdaspur within the boundary of India are brilliant examples of his statesmanship and prudence.

Another feather in Justice Mahajan's cap was added on 1 October 1948, when he was appointed a judge of the Federal Court. After the enforcement of the Constitution of India on 26 January 1950, he was the obvious choice as one of the six judges of the Supreme Court of India. During his tenure, he exhibited a keen insight, depth of knowledge and great astuteness in handling disputatious and controversial cases. Within a short span of four years, Justice Mahajan was elevated to the most prestigious office of the Chief Justice of India on 4 January 1954 following the retirement of Justice Patanjali Shastri. His fearless, righteous and sagacious judgements along with a secular, broadminded and pragmatic approach won him not only personal acclaim but also strengthened the faith of the common Indians in the judicial system.

Justice Mahajan's personality was profoundly influenced by the views and lives of eminent Nationalists and Arya Samajists such as Lala Lajpat Rai, Swami Dayanand, Mahatma Hansraj, Prince Dewan Chand, Lala Sain Dass, Swami Shraddhanand, and Dr. Gokul Chand Narang. Their simple living and high ideals had left an indelible imprint on his mind as a young man. In fact, from them he imbibed an uncompromising intellectual integrity that adorned his character throughout his life. Their discourses on religious subjects transformed him from an orthodox Hindu to a zealous Arya Samajist. His life-long association with Arya Samaj and its crusade for education shaped his outstanding role in the DAV movement.

"A dream does not become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work," Colin Powell had rightly said and the same is true in the case of Justice Mahajan. His long-standing and steadfast association with the Arya Samaj Committee and DAV Movement may be attributed to his belief that education is the panacea for all socio-cultural ills. It was owing to his persistent efforts in resurrecting the DAV institutions in the post-partition era that Justice Mahajan could fulfil Swami Dayanand Saraswati's dream of making Vedic knowledge available to the common man. His singular contribution to the gigantic task of rehabilitating, rejuvenating and strengthening of DAV institutions uprooted from West Punjab, and thereafter reviving their glorious reputation is unparalleled. During his tenure, he not only upgraded the salaries of all the employees of DAV institutions by bringing them at par with those in Government colleges, but was also one of the chief architects of Service and Conduct Rules of employees in private colleges, which were later adopted by the Panjab University, Chandigarh. As the head of the DAV family, Justice Mahajan led from the front – firm in his decisions, helpful in the time of need, and appreciative of those who served the organization with zeal and dedication.

Regarded as one of the most distinguished alumnus of its Law College, Lahore, Justice Mahajan was awarded 'Doctor of Laws' (Honoris Causa) along with Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel in the first Convocation of the reestablished Panjab University on March 5, 1949. All along his highly successful professional and personal life, he never forgot the vital contribution of his alma mater, and made an equally valuable contribution to the Panjab University in various capacities - as Dean of Law Faculty, a Senator and a Syndic. He strove continuously to maintain high standards of academics, teaching and governance. The deliberations in the meetings of Senate and Syndicate of Panjab University were abundantly enriched by his incisive interventions. A fervent guardian of





Royal Indian Navy Commission (April 1946)

Sitting: Admiral Patterson, Sh. Mehr Chand Mahajan, Sir Fazal Ali, Chairman, Sh. K. S. Krishnaswami Aiyangar and General Rees

Boundary Commission (July 1947)

Mr. Justice Munir,
Justice Din Mohammad,
Lord Radcliffe, Chairman,
Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan
and
Justice Teja Singh





Dr. S. Radhakrishnan,
President of India,
Sh. Mehr Chand Mahajan with
Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri,
Prime Minister of India and
Dr. Zakir Hussain,
Vice President of India
at a family function



its dignity and autonomy, Justice Mahajan stood steadfast as a rock to defend the teaching fraternity from any kind of politically motivated criticism, and established a healthy, academic and non-political atmosphere in the University. Forthright, firm and positive in his approach, he was a mentor to many public men in authority. Needless to say, till the last day of his life (9 December 1967), Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan stood tall like the 'Godfather' of Panjab University in the true sense his colossal presence ensured equity, fair-play, objectivity and justice in all its constituent bodies.

A multi-faceted personality, Justice Mahajan was also a social revolutionary and reformer whose tireless and unflinching efforts in eradicating evil social customs can never be overlooked. Like a crusader, he strove unflinchingly to debunk and eradicate regressive social practices that plagued the Indian society. He campaigned relentlessly against child marriage, dowry system, misdemeanour and extravagant expenditure during marriages. He fought adroitly against blind faith, casteism and ritualism. Being a true son of the soil, Justice Mahajan was deeply attached to his roots. He not only maintained a close connect with his native village by visiting it on a regular basis and entertaining guests of significance there, but also served the people of the area through numerous philanthropic activities. Gifted with a kind and compassionate heart which beat for his people, he helped numerous villagers get free education and also extended liberal financial support to put them on the road to economic independence and prosperity.

Another aspect of Justice Mahajan's vibrant personality which must be mentioned is that despite being a very popular public figure, he was also a devoted family man who loved to spend quality time at his home and farms with his children, relatives and friends. His house was perpetually abuzz with guests, relatives and friends who loved and admired his warm hospitality. His official assignments didn't deter him from sparing time to accompany his children to long walks, excursions, swimming and picnics on a regular basis. He made them follow a life style which was a perfect blend of tradition and modernity, education and religion, Vedic values and scientific temper. While ensuring their active participation in Havans, discourses on religious scriptures and activities of Arya Samaj, he also imbibed in them principles of honesty, industriousness and sense of social responsibility. The success and glory garnered by his children in their respective lives and professions are a testimony to his greatness as a father figure.

Justice Mahajan is still fondly remembered as a generous, warm-hearted and caring host, a committed educationist and an inspiring achiever who was a constant source of reassurance and strength. Blessed with a sharp memory, he could recall important facts and figures effortlessly. This made him a strong, formidable and invincible opponent in the courtroom, though outside the precincts of the court, he was always a genial and spirited colleague.

Evidently, Justice Mahajan left an indelible imprint of his unique personality on every office he held and every man he met. It goes without saying that his life, like a beacon of light, guided and transformed many lives around him, and continues to be a perennial source of motivation for the future generations till date.

Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh has been a living tribute to Justice Mahajan's lofty principles and his unparalleled contribution to the nation, education and DAV movement for five decades.

May it continue to carry this rich legacy forward for all times to come!

Dr. Bindu Sharma (Associate Professor) and Dr. Sunaina Jain (Assistant Professor), PG Dept. of English





Annual Convocation DAV College, Jalandhar

Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan with Dr. Zakir Hussain, President of India, Lala Suraj Bhan, VC, Panjab University, Principal B. S. Bahl and Pt. Mohan Lal, former Home Minister, Punjab

Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan addressing the graduates during Convocation at Hans Raj College, Delhi (1964)





Sh. Mehr Chand Mahajan with his family



Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan

Recollections...

Prof. Ved Vyasa President DAV College Managing Committee

"Dr. Mehr Chand Mahajan was an eminent lawyer and a great judge, who rose to be the Chief Justice of India. Above all, he was most generous to the young lawyers who had the good fortune to be his junior colleagues."

Sardar Swaran Singh Ex-Union Cabinet Minister, Government of India

"There have been many judges in our country but there are some names which outshine others and Mehr Chand Mahajan is one such name. He was not only a great jurist, a great statesman but in many ways a very wise person – a person who could be depended upon to sort out and resolve complicated problems. It is a tribute to his capacity in this respect that he was generally sought after to head several commissions and his work on various commissions merits highest commendation."

Sh. Jaswant Singh Retired Judge, Supreme Court of India

"His (Justice Mahajan's) brilliance, ability, integrity and fine qualities of head and heart attracted the notice of the British sovereign who appointed him as a Judge of the Punjab High Court at Lahore on September 27, 1943. During the tenure of his office as Judge of the Punjab High Court, Shri Mahajan made great name and fame. In 1945, he was appointed as a member of the Royal Navy Mutiny Commission and in 1947, as a member of the Punjab Boundary Commission. He filled both these assignments with great dignity and distinction."

Sh. Tek Chand Retired Judge, Punjab and Haryana High Court

"He (Justice Mahajan) was a jewel among men though he was an uncut diamond, hard but lustrous. He was a highly respectable and reputable son of India, a pillar of society and a firm and forthright friend, forgiving and forgetting anything disagreeable said or done towards him."

Mr. Nani A Palkhivala Eminent Jurist

"He was a true patriot to the core and was passionately convinced that the unity and integrity of India counted above everything else. He had the grand vision of the different states of India living together in harmony and goodwill."



Sh. Virendra

Editor, Daily Pratap, Jalandhar, freedom fighter and Arya Samaj leader

"Shri Mehr Chand Mahajan was a great educationist. As the President of the DAV College Managing Committee, as a member of the Senate and Syndicate of the Panjab University, and because of his various activities connected with the educational set-up of our country, he was the pivot around whom various developments in our educational set-up would move."

Sh. D C Sharma

Former Member Parliament

"He (Justice Mahajan) would always take one out of the stifling air of old and rusty judgements and take one to those legal and judicial heights where great law-givers have found their abode. In this matter his independence of outlook matched with forthrightness of expression. All this stemmed from lack of fear of any kind."

Sh. P L Anand

Retired Principal, Panjab University Evening College, Chandigarh

"His contributions as a Fellow and a Syndic were perhaps far more valuable in laying down educational patterns and policies of the disseminating knowledge, conducting examinations, establishing appropriate channels of interaction with its affiliated colleges and providing for its developmental programmes. He was always free but frank, sincere but blunt, genial but out-spoken and was, therefore, both loved and admired."

Sh. Jiwan Tiwari Fellow, Panjab University, Chandigarh

"Highly gifted, a multi-faceted genius, versatile personality, former Prime Minister of J&K, Chief Justice of India, adviser, member of chairman of various national commissions and organizations, stabilizer of partitioned India, rejuvenator of Bhartiya culture, exponent of modern India, a true and devoted son of the motherland."

Sh. D P Verma

Retired Registrar, Panjab University, Chandigarh

"He created a niche for himself in the history of our country by the vital and steadfast role that he played at the time when Kashmir was in the grip of turmoil and events were unfolding at a very rapid pace. His calm and cool temperament paved the way for very important decisions that had a bearing on the shaping of the country's history."

(Source: Mehr Jyoti: Mehr Chand Mahajan Birth Centenary 23 December 1889-1989 Special Edition)



My Father and the Arya Samaj

My great grandfather, Chhaju Shah, and grandfather, Bau Brij Lal, an advocate, were God fearing pious persons who believed in the Puranic mode of worship. Yajnas, sacrifices, fasts, and shradhas were performed strictly as enjoined by the Puranas. No eatable was served to anyone in the house till it was first offered to the family goddess, Mahl Devi. In fact, our ancestral family home was no less than a fortress of orthodoxy.

My father, Late Mr. Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan, was the first person in our family to come under the influence of the Arya Samaj movement. As a student (1905 onwards), he heard Lala Lajpat Rai on the Lahore Arya Samaj platform and converted to his views. The speeches of Lala Lajpat Rai, Mahatma Hans Raj, Mahatma Munshi Ram, Swami Shradhanand, Principal Sain Dass, Dr. Gokul Chand Narang, Kali Babu (Editor of The Tribune), Principal Dewan Chand and others weaned him away from orthodox Hinduism and gradually converted him into a zealous Arya Samajist. In particular, the dedication of Mahatma Hans Raj, fearlessness and spirit of sacrifice of Lala Lajpat Rai as well as the teachings and life of Rishi Dayanad Saraswati influenced him deeply.

Right from the beginning, he was very regular in attending the weekly satsangs of Arya Samaj at Lahore, Delhi and elsewhere. He did not miss the meetings even as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India or as the Judge of Punjab High Court. This was appreciated even by Mahatma Hans Raj. My Father used to take all of us to the Samaj Satsangs every Sunday. A pundit always accompanied us during our vacations for daily havan and discourses on Vedas. Our houses at Delhi, Pathankot and the native village Bhadwar have regular Yajnashalas. Arya Samajists and preachers usually stayed at our house. We were required to memorize Sandhya and Havan mantras to attend Arya Samaj functions. All this helped us imbibe the Vedic culture. In fact, the credit goes to our father for whatsoever we know about Arya Samaj.

As a result of his love for Arya Samaj, Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan got interested in social reforms and spread of education. He worked against child marriage, dowry system, and entertainment of marriage parties by dancing girls, and the like. He was against vulgar display of wealth at betrothals and marriages, and insisted that only one rupee should be accepted at the time of betrothal. He discouraged 'barats' comprising more than fifty persons. These principles were strictly observed in the engagements/ marriages of all his children. In fact, all the marriages, sanskaras, and festivals in the family were observed strictly according to the Arya Samaj principles and practices.

In 1939, Arya Samaj was compelled to start an agitation against the Nizam of Hyderabad when he imposed various restrictions on the exercise of religious rights of Hindus in the state. About 14,000 Arya Samaj Satyagrahis from different parts of the country courted arrest. My father visited Hyderabad, Aurangabad and Gulberga Jails to meet Mahatama Narain Swami, Mahatma Khushal Chand (Anand Swami) of the Milap, Mahashya Krishan of the Pratap and other leaders and workers. He also met Sir Akbar Hyderi, the then Prime Minister of the State, and helped in hammering out an agreement granting unfettered religious freedom to the Arya Samajists and Hindus in the state, with Nizam government, in consultation with Deshbandu Gupta, Secretary of the movement at Delhi. It was at this time that my father thought of starting a DAV College at Sholapur which has now grown into a big centre of education in that area.

My father along with his friends from Gurdaspur visited Gurukul Kangri (Haridwar) in 1917 and was much impressed by the experiment being conducted by Swami Shradhanand on the bank of the river Ganges. He had a long association with DAV Movement which worked for cultural and social reformation. He was the first elected Secretary of DAV College Trust and Managing Society in 1919. Mahatma Hans Raj, who voluntarily relinquished the charge of Principal of DAV College, Lahore on March 28, 1912 was the President of the Committee. These were the days of Martial Law. The students of DAV College were considered rebels and were required to walk



twice daily in the sun to get their presence marked by the Martial Law administration. Several Arya Samaj Leaders were arrested. My father's house on the first and second floors of Bhalla Boot House in Anarkali was obviously the meeting place for all those who needed legal help.

My father served as General Secretary when Lala Durga Dass was the President. Nanak Chand Pundit was one of the office-bearers. He was elected President of the D.A.V. Managing Committee in 1936, with Bal Raj, son of Mahatma Hans Raj, as General Secretary. He served in this capacity till 1939 and was elevated to Lahore High Court.

The DAV organization suffered an incalculable loss due to the partition in 1947. The leading Arya Samaj lights like Principal Mehr Chand, Lala Bal Raj and Master Nand Lal who served as the president of the committee during the year 1945-54 did everything possible to rebuild the organization. Principal Mehr Chand brought the liquid assets of the society to India and shifted the office of the Committee to Jalandhar. Still there was complete disorganization. The rehabilitation grants were inadequate. There was no money even to pay the salaries of the teachers and other employees.

It was at such a critical time in the history of DAV Movement that my father agreed to take over as the President of the Committee. He had just retired as the Chief Justice of India and several assignments were offered to him by various agencies/governments. He declined all the offers and chose to serve a cause nearer to his heart. He shifted the office of the Managing Committee to Chitragupta Road, New Delhi. During his tenure as President (1955-1964), he worked for the resettlement and planned the growth of institutions. In October 1955, he started a rehabilitation fund for the financial assistance to the disrupted DAV institutions. He travelled far and wide to raise funds.

Several new institutions were also opened and a few Arya Samaj Mandirs built. The salaries of the employees were upgraded, and principals and teachers were brought at par with their counterparts in government colleges in many respects. It goes to the credit of the stalwarts of that time that this great nationalist movement is the largest non government educational organization in the country today. Mahatma Hans Raj was the founder of the DAV Movement and my father is said to be its rebuilder. Most of the people in the field rate his contribution to this cause as second only to Mahatma ji. I, being his daughter, hesitate to evaluate his contribution.

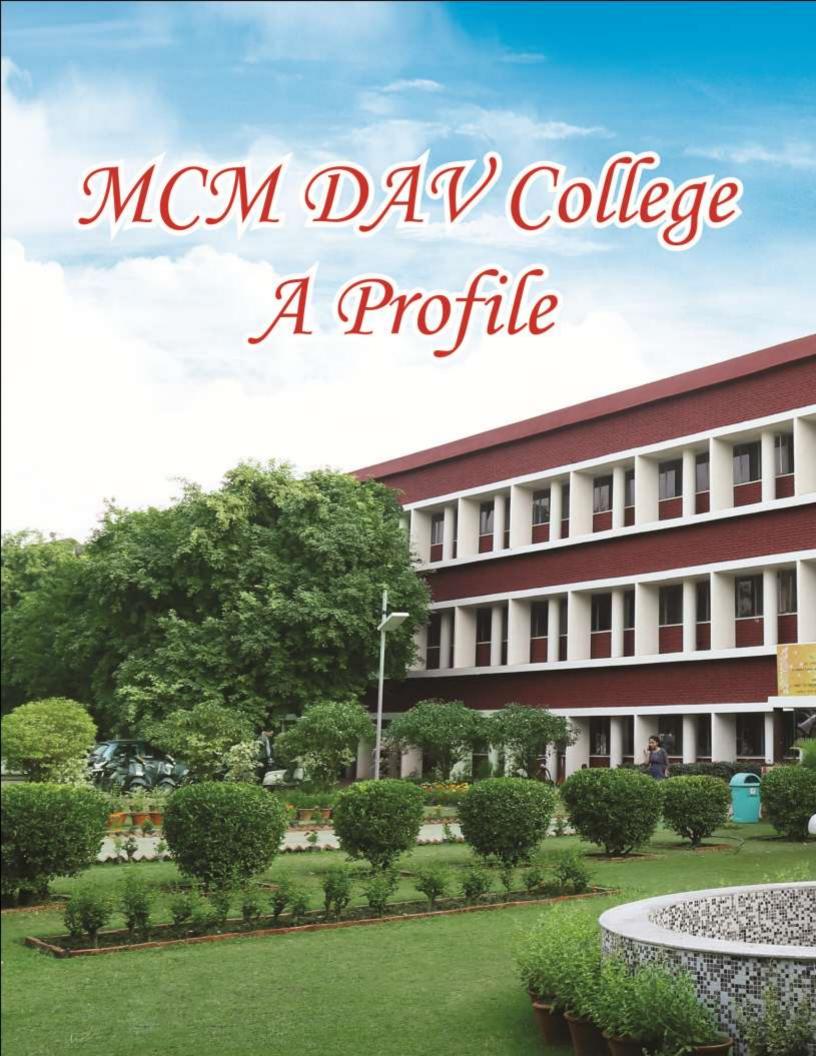
My father shouldered another responsibility in 1960. It was the presidentship of Dayanand memorial Trust, Tankara (Gujarat). The idea of raising a suitable memorial at Tankara (the birth place of Swamiji) originated at the time of Dayanand Birth Centenary celebrations held there under the chairmanship of Swami Shradhanand Saraswati. Once father accepted the responsibility, he worked hard till the last day to make the birth place of his guru a great seat of Vedic learning. For this purpose, the palace of Maharaja of Morvi in Tinkara in Saurashtra (now Gujarat) was purchased. Leading Arya Samajists like Swami Dhruvanand Saraswati, Swami Samarpanand Saraswati, Seth Nanji Bhai Kali Dass Mehta, Seth Pratap Singh Surji, Sh. Vallabh Dass, Pundit Thakur Dutt Amritdhara etc. were associated with the trust. Several institutions were started. Annual mela is held there from that time onwards. Father used to visit the place at least once a year in addition to collecting funds for it.

Justice Mahajan wanted to establish Dayanand University at Tankara by starting colleges of Sanskrit research, colleges of language and religion, and colleges that produce Vedic scholars and learned men. He aimed at collecting sum of Rupees one crore for this purpose. Sometimes he dreamt of having Dayanand University at Ajmer with all the DAV institutions affiliated to it. Some steps were taken by him in this direction but age failed him. However, his dream was fulfilled when the Rohtak University, Rohtak was renamed Maharishi Dayanand University.

Mrs. Sneh Mahajan

Principal (Retd.), MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh















he eighth principle of the Arya Samaj reads: Ignorance should be dispelled and knowledge infused. Stressing upon the importance of education, Swami Dayanand has written: "Blessed are those men and women whose mind is ever engaged in the pleasures of knowledge. It is the chief business of the parents, the preceptor and the relations that...they should decorate their children with the ornament of higher education." Education, for Swami Dayanand, was not an isolated thing but part of an organic whole called social activity. To him, a system of education that did not take into account the real state of the society was not true education. It was to commemorate the demise of this great uplifter of the people that the first DAV School became a reality in 1886, which was later turned into a college in 1889.

At a time when not one girl in a hundred had access to education, Swami Dayanand, the visionary said, "It is a proof of your ignorance, selfishness and stupidity that you prohibit women from studying." The Arya Samaj has been displaying commendable zeal in the direction of women education and has been the avant-coureur in establishing educational institutions for women for about 127 years. It was under the auspices of this mettlesome organization with a glorious history of crusade for women education that Mehr Chand Mahajan Dayanand Anglo Vedic College for Women, Chandigarh was established by the DAV College Managing Committee, New Delhi.

The inception of the institution was dedicated to the exemplary contribution of Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan, the former Chief Justice of India. Ever since its foundation stone was laid by Sh. V V Giri, the Vice-President of India, in 1968, the institution has covered an expansive journey and has set foot in the 50th year of its establishment. Committed towards its principal objective of empowering women, it provides an academically and ethically conducive environment replete with resourceful knowledge and a vision to lay the foundation of a future that embodies holistic growth.

A multi-facility postgraduate institution today, MCM DAV College has been lauded as one of the finest educational institutions of the country by reputed national periodicals like *India Today* and *The Week*.



It ranks third in Commerce among colleges in the northern region, is listed among top 28 colleges of the country in the Science stream, and has bagged the top position in Humanities. The Departments of Science Stream are proud recipients of a grant of Rs. 55 lakhs under the Star College Scheme of DBT and it has been recognized as a Model College in its postgrant audit. Owing to its consistency in maintaining standards of quality education and related facilities, the college has been re-accredited with grade 'A' by NAAC, Bangalore, and it ranks 74th in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of MHRD, Government of India. The college has also secured a position among the top 170 institutions in 'Swachhata Ranking' of Higher Education Institutions, 2017 by MHRD, Government of India.

Presently, the college boasts of 31 departments, and offers 8 postgraduate and 6 undergraduate degree courses, two postgraduate diplomas, 3 advanced diplomas and 5 certificate courses. The number of students is more than five thousand five hundred, and the hostel is a home away from home to more than a thousand residents from all over the country and overseas. Currently, the college has 15 students from 7 foreign countries.

Since the millenium shift, the institution has evolved exponentially and emerged as a trendsetter in the area of education. While the number of students has risen from 2,676 in the year 2002-03 to 4,900 in 2015-16, the number of teaching faculty has also increased proportionately from 83 to 163 (regular and contractual), and the non-teaching staff has grown from 65 to 100. Out of the total strength of 100 permanent faculty members, as many as 51 are Ph. D qualified, and 24 hold M. Phil. degrees. The energetic and progressive faculty keeps itself abreast of the emerging trends in pedagogy and research, and is ever committed to maintaining a dynamic teaching-learning environment in the college.

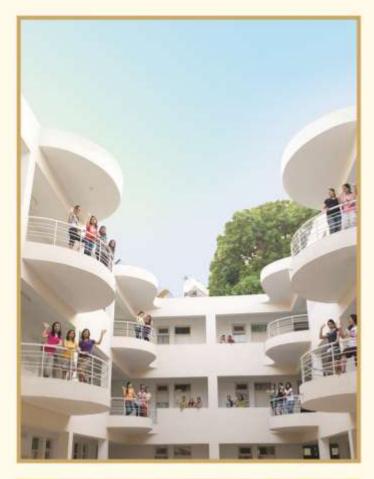
The college, to keep itself in sync with the changing times, has designed its curriculum and pedagogy to offer a perfect blend of academic acumen and value system to the students apart from enhancing their employability. To promote entrepreneurial skills in its stakeholders, Vocational and Career-oriented















courses are also offered in the college. PG Diploma courses, certificate courses and advanced courses in the fields of Interior Decoration and Design, Cosmetology and Beauty Care, and Mass Communication serve to widen the choice of careers available to women. To add to their employability quotient, the college has a Placement Cell which holds Annual Placement Drives and Maha Job Fests that offer a platform to both job seekers and job providers.

The state-of-the art infrastructure of the college stands on a firm footing of well equipped laboratories (sciences and languages) conference and multimedia halls, library, fine arts studio, air conditioned food plaza, health care centre, dental clinic, cyber café, rishi vatika, yagyashaala, meditation huts, open air theatres, and many sites for student interaction that are aesthetically invigorating, academically stimulating and spiritually elevating. Ours is the first and only college for women in the region to introduce the adventure sport of Rock Climbing. The artificial Rock, which meets international standards, is used for conducting National Championships. The college campus is also home to various environmentally sustainable practices namely, Rainwater Harvesting System, Grid Interactive Solar Photovoltic Power Plant, Bio-gas Plant and many more ventures of the sort.

MCM DAV College has always maintained a consistent and excellent performance index of achievement in the Panjab University Examination results. Our students bagged 71 top 10 positions this year. In the Panjab University Youth and Heritage Festivals, the college has achieved accolades by winning 13 first prizes, 16 second prizes and 8 third prizes. The Institution has also won the Panjab University Women's General Efficiency Sports' Shield for a record 37 times since its inception.

Participating in the nationwide revolution of Swatchh Bharat Abhiyan initiated by our Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi, the NSS Unit of the College launched extensive cleanliness drives throughout the city and conducted hygiene-associated activities as directed by the MHRD, Government of India.

High quality research initiative has always been the



bedrock of our College. It publishes a UGC approved, multi-disciplinary, double blind peer-reviewed research journal, *New Horizons*, which offers an excellent platform for competent research. Not only does the faculty publish and present papers at National and International journals and conferences, but students are also encouraged and guided to present papers at various avenues.

The college organizes a variety of academic lectures, seminars, workshops, book exhibitions, symposia and panel discussions to enhance the knowledge and skill quotient of its stakeholders. Scholars and resource persons from foreign universities are invited to keep the students abreast of latest trends. Many of our meritorious students have done the college proud by securing seats in the prestigious Universities like Oxford and Cambridge.

The belief in creating a positive change in the society has always been at the heart of MCM and it has grown stronger over the years. Values of social service, faith in humanity and compassion are instilled through a number of philanthropic and creative activities organized by various clubs and committees.

The legacy of MCM DAV has been carried far and wide by its illustrious alumni who have made their mark in varied fields such as Civil Services, Defence Services-Air Force and Army, Law, Academics, Music and Film Industry, Mass Media, Theatre, Visual and Creative Arts. They visit their alma-mater from time to time, and have been instrumental not only in mentoring and inspiring the younger students but have also been contributing to the progress of the college in numerous ways.

In the last half a century, MCM DAV College has been continually committed to upgrade its standards of instruction to meet the demands of the highly competitive global scenario, and at the same time, remain culturally rooted in the DAV tradition and philosophy. The institution is dedicated in every respect to its goal of imparting quality education and producing empowered women who are cognizant of their social responsibilities. In the coming decades too, it shall continue to scale the heights of academic and professional viability by grooming young women as the leaders of tomorrow.











A Tribute to my Mother Mrs. S. Roy



Mrs. S Roy (April 13, 1923 – Oct. 10, 2009)

My mother, Mrs. Shakuntala Roy, was born on 12 April 1923 in Mianwali (now in Pakistan). She did her schooling in Multan and Lahore. After finishing her 10th Class examination in 1939, she moved with her family to Quetta with only one school for girls, Arya Girls School which needed a teacher to teach Social Sciences to 8th Class. A born teacher, my mother who had just finished 10th, took the plunge and didn't find any difficulty in handling this challenge. A year later, she decided to shift to Lahore to do JBT (Junior Basic Training).

She got married on 13 July 1943 to Vaid Om Dutt Roy. After my birth in June 1946, my parents moved to Kota, Rajasthan when my father was offered the post of Vaid to the Royal Family. Mother took up a teaching job in Maharani Intermediate College and taught there from 1947 to 1950. After the birth of my brother, Pradeep in 1950, my mother decided to pursue BT (now B.Ed.)

In 1955, when my father moved to Jalandhar as Principal, Dayanand Ayurvedic College, mother joined him. On his suggestion and encouragement, she took admission in MA (Political Science) and joined evening classes in DAV College. She studied hard, and while raising her children, got a good second division in MA first year. However, calamity struck our family in April 1957 when my father met with a fatal accident. I never saw tears in my mother's eyes. She was a strong woman with a lot of inner strength, who didn't want to show her weakness to anyone. Her main concern at this stage was how to take care of the education and future of her young children. She resolved to continue with her studies and focus on the final examination scheduled in September 1957. My maternal grandparents moved in with us to take care of the house so that she could concentrate on her studies. Her examinations started and one day, I saw her crying for the first time in my life because, she felt, she had not done her paper well. Prof. R L Bhatia came to our house in the evening and asked her in detail about the answers. He encouraged her and advised her not to get disheartened but to concentrate on her next paper. She surprised everyone, including herself, by topping in MA Political Science in Panjab University.

Soon after, she was appointed a lecturer of Political Science in Hansraj Mahila Vidyalaya, Jalandhar on a temporary basis. That was the beginning of her career with DAV Managing Committee. In March 1958, she was selected on regular basis at HMV where she established herself as a conscientious worker, a dedicated teacher and an all rounder. She won the hearts of her Principal Ms. Vidyavati Anand and students alike. At this stage, my mother was called the 'Lady in White' by the staff and students, for she always wore crisp white sarees.

In 1964, after teaching at HMV for 7 years, Mrs. Roy joined Raghunath College for Girls, Meerut primarily because it provided career advancement as well as an opportunity to bring up her children under the watchful and caring eyes of her parents. When DAV Managing Committee planned to open a college for women in Batala in 1965, Ms. Anand persuaded my mother to apply for the post. Selected by the DAV Managing Committee on the basis of her meritorious work at HMV, she was appointed the Founder Principal of R R Bawa College for Women, Batala in June 1965, an assignment which she fulfilled with utmost dedication and devotion despite extreme paucity of funds except the sum donated by the family of Sh. R R Bawa. It was the enlightened figure of 'Mahashya ji' who had requested the DAV Managing Committee to open a girls' college in this town. Every Sunday, Mahashyaji along with some local members and my mother would visit well-to-do persons, businessmen and organizations to collect funds. She worked tirelessly from 5 am to 11 pm every day to establish the college on a firm footing.

After three years of her hard work and dedication with full support of her staff members and help from the locals, the first college building came up. Local residents used to take great pride in it. They called my mother 'Devi' because of her commitment to the cause of girls' education. I clearly remember how they cried when my mother was leaving Batala for her next mission.

In 1968, when Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan, a legal luminary, a selfless social worker and the President of DAV Managing Committee passed away, it was decided to dedicate a college for women in his name. The great educationist and philanthropist was given a befitting memorial in the form of MCM DAV College for Women in Chandigarh.

A dynamic, dedicated and selfless worker, Mrs. S Roy was the obvious choice as the Principal of the college. The college was started in four rooms in DAV Model School, Sector 15 in 1968, and shifted to its present location in 1969. In the initial years only the left over students of GCW (Govt. College for Women, Chandigarh) used to take admission in MCM. The infrastructural resources of the college were minimal. My mother would personally supervise every bit of construction of the building. She once said, "DAV made me a very calculative person as I was always calculating as to how to generate more funds and how to best utilize them." She opted for UGC funding of 75% for the hostel premises rather than 50% for the College building to draw in foreign students and generate more money for the construction of the College building. She was equally involved in developing Sports infrastructure and arboriculture in the campus. Numerous trees and roses planted by her still adorn the lush green campus.

In 1971 and 1972, when their student Madhu Raka topped in BA-II and III in Panjab University, it came as a big boost for the staff (lucky 13 she used to call them) and students. There was no looking back thereafter and the reputation of the college and hostel kept growing with each passing year. She gave equal importance to academics, sports and extracurricular activities of the college. She used to watch university matches in kho-kho, basket ball, soft ball etc enthusiastically, and cheer her teams like a young girl.

MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh made an enviable reputation within a short span because its Founder Principal Mrs. S Roy devoted herself completely to its service. The human touch, personal care and guidance she provided to her staff made them proud to be a part of MCM. She was like a mother to them. Her bonding with staff, especially in the formative years of the college was so strong that those ties still exist even with me. I feel strongly connected with them because even after so long, they continue to love and value my mother.



Mrs. Roy was one of the most admired and respected ladies in Chandigarh. She held many positions: President of Punjab University Sports Council (for more than a decade); nominated member of Chandigarh Advisory Committee; Honorary Secretary of Child Welfare Council, Chandigarh from 1977 to 1987; President of Arya Mahila Shiksha Sansthan, Sector 16, Chandigarh. Her oratory skills were legendary be it in English, Hindi or Punjabi. In January 1983, she was awarded by the International Biographical Centre, Cambridge, England for her distinguished achievements which are recorded in the International Who's Who of Intellectuals.

After her retirement from the college, Mrs. Roy became the Director of DAV Public Schools of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla. Two years later, she was appointed Regional Director of 35 upcoming DAV Public Schools in Uttar Pradesh, the post she held till the end. All these Institutions flourished as centres of learning under her. Undoubtedly, she left her indelible imprint on whatever projects she undertook.

My mother had varied interests like embroidery, knitting, crochet, tatting etc. She could never sit idle. Her staff members used to look forward to knitted baby sets from her for their newborns. Always eager to learn new things, she mastered the art of fabric tie and dye in the Home Science laboratory. I still have a few colourful dupattas which she had made then.

Simplicity was the hallmark of her personality. She used to commute for meetings to the University and other offices in a cycle rickshaw. She even travelled by ordinary buses to Delhi for meetings in initial years because she didn't want to waste college money. Much later in life she bought a car and learnt driving at the age of 52 years and started going for meetings in it.

In 1998, my mother was diagnosed with Non Hodgkins Lymphoma (Cancer) in her eye. She fought this dreaded disease with great will power and overcame it, continued doing her paper work, signing files and holding meetings with her Principals in our house. During our outings to DSOI, she would literally be mobbed by ex-students of MCM who were married to army officers. In 2004, the disease hit her again, this time it was in the nose. Again, she fought it and came out of it. She continued to maintain her routine of getting ready as always and wearing her crisp white cotton sarees even at home. She loved books and played scrabble with me and my husband, beating us repeatedly with her amazing vocabulary. In mid September, however, we realized that the recurrence of her disease had affected the whole body. We are thankful to God that she didn't suffer from any pain and on the morning of 10 October 2009, she left for her heavenly abode.

My mother's life is like a huge canvas with different colors and shades. I am thankful for having been given an opportunity to put down my thoughts and perception of my mother. When I started writing, I felt I could write a book on her. Led by her motto of 'Work is Worship,' she believed in Karma. Both my sons also follow their nani ma's belief. I would like to end by sharing a few lines which she recited on stage when she was just 17 years of age:

आशा का दीपक न बुझाओ लहरें उटी हों सागर में, बादल छाए हों अम्बर में आँथी चलती हो अन्तर में, पर तुम नौका खेते जाओ आशा का दीपक न बुझाओ।

I feel these lines sum up her life. I miss her a lot and more so after writing this. But she will always remain in my memory as a shining guiding star.

Mrs. Manju Gosain



From the College Archives

The Odyssey Begins



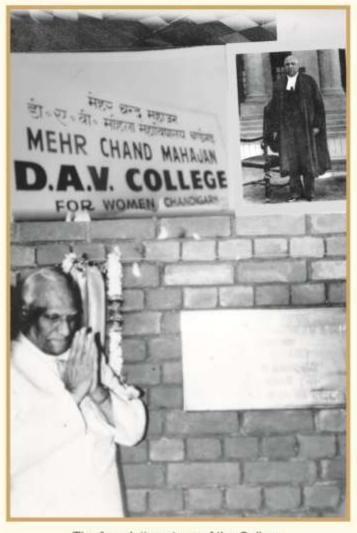
Sh. V V Giri, the Vice President of India, being received by Principal Mrs. S. Roy and Justice Tek Chand



Mrs. S. Roy, the Founder Principal, escorting Sh. V V Giri to the 'Shilanyasa' site



A 'Swasti Yajna' being performed during the 'Shilanyasa Samaroh'



The foundation stone of the College Building being laid on May 31, 1968



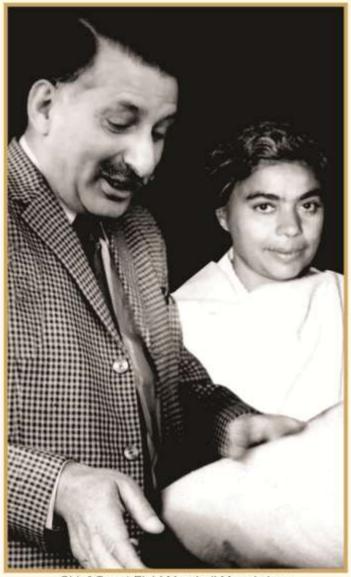
Mahatma Anand Swami Saraswati Ji on the way to perform 'Ved Sthapana' Ceremony



They Graced Our Precincts







Chief Guest Field Marshall Manekshaw with Principal Mrs. S Roy



Principal Mrs. S Roy welcoming Sh. Ramdarsh Mishra, a distinguished poet



Field Marshall Manekshaw at the Convocation



Mrs. S Roy escorting Sh. D C Pavate, Hon'ble Governor of Punjab



Mrs. S Roy inaugurating an exhibition of books





Hon'ble Governor Sh. M M Chaudhary being welcomed by the staff at the Convocation



Giani Zail Singh, Chief Minister, Punjab, addressing the distinguished gathering at the IV Annual Convocation



Eminent guests addressing young graduates of the College

Dr. P N Chuttani, Director, PGI, Chandigarh delivering Convocation Address at the XVIII Annual Convocation





Hon'ble Governor of Punjab Sh. S S Ray addressing the students at the Prize Distribution function





Mrs. Roy felicitating the winner of Sondhi Gold Medal at PU Athletic Meet



Principal Mrs. S Mahajan with Sh. Prithvi Singh Azad, a veteran freedom fighter, on the Annual Sports Day



Sh. Nirmal Mukherjee inaugurating Hostel Common Room



Seth Bhagirath Das at the inauguration of Gymnasium Hall

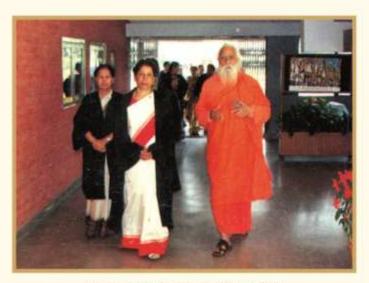


Sh. Ved Vyas, President, DAV College Managing Committee with Principal Mrs. Sneh Mahajan at the inauguration of the New Dining Hall of the College Hostel





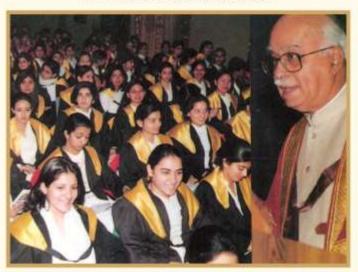
His Holiness, the Fourteenth Dalai Lama delivering the Convocation Address



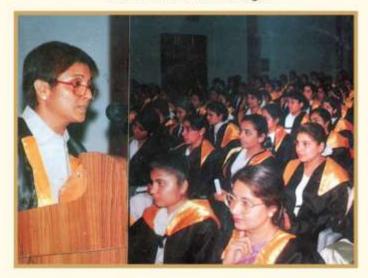
Swami Deekshanand Saraswati ji at the XXVI Annual Convocation



Swami Agnivesh graced the XXVII Convocation of the College



Sh. L K Advani, Union Home Minister, at the Annual Convocation



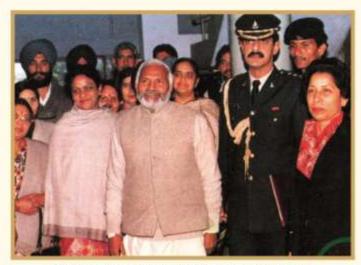
Dr. Kiran Bedi, IPS, addressing the graduates



Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, at the XXIX Convocation



They Graced Our Precincts



Sh. Dhanik Lal Mandal, Governor of Haryana



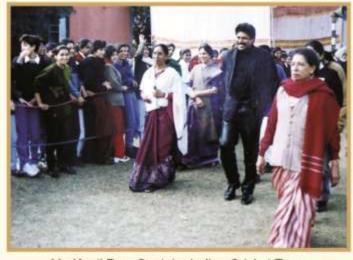
Lt. Gen. (Retd.) B K N Chibber, Governor of Punjab



Dr. R C Paul, Vice Chancellor, Panjab University, Chandigarh



Prof. Yash Pal, Chairman of AICTE



Mr. Kapil Dev, Captain, Indian Cricket Team

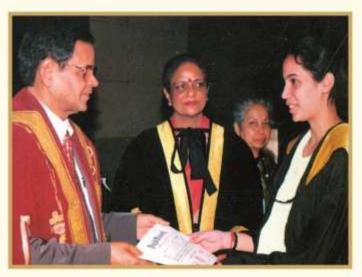


Sh. Jaspal Bhatti, noted TV Personality





Sh. Arun Jaitley, Union Minister of Law, arrives at the XXX Annual Convocation



Chief Guest Prof. K N Pathak, Vice Chancellor, Panjab University giving away degrees to graduates



The Principal and NSS Programme Officers receiving the Indira Gandhi National Award, 2001-2002



Founder Principal Mrs. S Roy lighting the lamp at a function held to launch the college website



S. Pargat Singh being welcomed by Mrs. Usha Gupta, Principal, at the Annual Sports Meet



Principal Usha Gupta & Ms. Jaggi receiving the Panjab University General Efficiency Women's Sports Shield from S. Milkha Singh





Padamshree G P Chopra Ji, President, DAV CMC, inaugurating the Multimedia Hall



Sh. Jagannath Pahadia, Hon'ble Governor of Haryana, at the Annual Prize Distribution Function



Sh. Shivraj Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Punjab & Administrator, UT at the XXXVIII Annual Convocation



Sh. Kapil Sibal, Union Minister of Communication and IT, giving away prizes to meritorious students



Sh. Upmanyu Basu, Secretary to Finance Advisor, UGC at the Annual Prize Prize Distribution Function



Justice A K Sikri, Chief Justice, Punjab and Haryana High Court being welcomed by the staff at the XLI Convocation





His Holiness Sri Sri Ravishankar Ji at a National Seminar on 'Global Environment Issues & Climate Change'



A Galaxy of Intellectuals at the International Seminar on 'Scholars in Shakespeare: A Postmodern Scrutiny'



Sh. Sandeep Hans, PCS, Director, HE at a Prize Distribution Function



Sh. Yash Chopra, noted Film Maker and Director, being welcomed at a Cultural Function



Prof. Arun K. Grover, Vice Chancellor, Panjab University with winners at the Prize Distribution Function



The Legacy Continues...



Smt. & Sh. Punam Suri, President, DAV CMC, and Sh. H R Gandhar at the inauguration of 'Anand Parva'



Principal Dr. Nisha Bhargava receiving the NAAC Report from the members of the Peer Team



Principal Dr. Nisha Bhargava welcoming Dr. Jaspal Sandhu, Secretary, UGC



Mrs. Kirron Kher, MP, Chandigarh being felicitated by the Principal at the inauguration of PU Inter-Zonal Youth and Heritage Festival



A jubilant college Giddha team poses with the distinguished guests after bagging the first place in PU Inter-Zonal Youth and Heritage Festival hosted by the college





Sh. Kalyan Singh, Hon'ble Governor of Rajasthan at the Annual Prize Distribution



Acharya Devvrat, Hon'ble Governor of Himachal Pradesh, being felicitated by the Principal at Convocation



Ms. Kirron Kher, MP; Mr. Ajoy Sinha, IAS (Fin. Secy.); Mr. A Balaji Joshi, IAS (DC, Chd.); Mr. BL Sharma, IAS (Edu. Secy.) & Mr. R K Popli, PCS (DHE); Principal Dr. Nisha Bhargava & Sh. H R Gandhar at the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas celebrations



Distinguished Guests at the UGC Sponsored National Seminar organized by the PG Department of Commerce



Prof. R K Gupta and Dr. Nisha Bhargava inaugurating a RUSA sponsored FDP on 'Capacity Building and Skill Enhancement in Higher Education'





Prof. Paramjit S. Jaswal, Vice Chancellor, RGN University of Law, Patiala being welcomed by the Principal



A galaxy of educationists at the inauguration of an FDP on 'Expanding Paradigms of Padagogy'



Eminent scholars at the National Seminar on 'Celebrating 220 years of Mirza Ghalib'



Prof. B S Dahiya, Former VC, KU, Kurukshetra being felicitated by Principal & Members of the Dept. of English



Principal Dr. Nisha Bhargava and members of Alumni Association, AMDA, donating food supplies to the underprivileged children



Sh. R K Popli, PCS, DHE and State Project Director RUSA, inaugurating the Bio Gas Plant in the College





The Principal with dignitaries at the 51 Kundiya Havan held to mark the beginning of Golden Jubilee Year



Prof. Hiroo Takahashi Hakuoh from Japan at the inauguration of International Conference-'The Soul in Symphony: Spiritual & Pragmatic Aspects of Happiness'



Principal Dr. Nisha Bhargava being honoured by Ms. Asha Jaswal, Mayor of Chandigarh, on International Women's Day



Mrs. Savita Bhatti, the brand ambassador for Swachhta Abhiyan (Chandigarh) being welcomed at the function of Swachhta Pakhwada 2017



Prof. Arun K Grover, Vice Chancellor, Panjab University releasing the IQAC Newsletter along with Mr. H R Gandhar, Advisor to President, DAV CMC, Principal Dr. Nisha Bhargava and the IQAC team



एम सी एम का सफर : ब्लैक एडं व्हाईट से डिजिटल युग तक

कॉलेज के बाहर लड़िक्यों की दूर तक लम्बी कार—पार्किंग की लाईन को देख कर सहसा मुझे सन् 1977 का वक्त याद हो आया। मैं इसी कॉलेज में पढ़िती थी। लाल रंग की साईकल पर लगी एम सी एम की मुहर देख कर ही गेटकीपर मुझे कॉलेज के अन्दर आने देता था। हमारे कलासरूम में पहुंचने से पहले ही हमारी टीचर्स कक्षा के अन्दर होती थी। देरी से आने पर हम लड़िक्यों को नीचे ही रोक लिया जाता था। बरसों से बजने वाली पीतल के घंटे पर लकड़ी के हथीड़े से पैदा होने वाली टन! टन! की गूंज आज भी सुरीली लगती है। आज कल कॉलेज में इलैक्ट्रिक घंटी बजने लगी है। उसकी ध्विन कुछ ऐसी है जैसे हज़ारों भिनभिनाती मधुमिक्खयों का झुंड चला आ रहा हो। कॉलेज के अहाते में टंगा पीतल का घंटा अब एंटीक हो गया है। उसके सामने स्थित ऐतिहासिक कुँआ पानी का फव्वारा बन गया है।

उस समय कॉलेज की प्रिन्सीपल श्रीमती शकुंतला राय थी। उनका निवास स्थान कॉलेज के हॉस्टल में था। वह हास्टल के गेट से अपने दफ़्तर तक पैदल चल कर आती थी। जहां अब लाइब्रेरी की सीढ़ियां हैं वहां उनका आफिस हुआ करता था। प्रिंसीपल वहां से गुजरती तो रास्ते में पड़े हुए कागज़ के टुकड़े या सूखे पत्तों को वहां से हटाने के लिए छात्राओं को उठाने का निर्देश देतीं। उनके चेहरे पर हमेशा मुस्कुराहट रहती। वह सबके अभिवादन का जवाब गर्दन हिला कर देती हुई आगे बढ़ जाती थी।

जहां आज स्टेट बैंक की ब्रांच है। वहीं कहीं एक इमली बेचने वाला बैठा करता था। उन दिनों लडिकयां इमली बहुत शौक से खाया करती थीं। अब जहां एडिमिनिस्ट्रेटिव बलॉक है उसके पीछे जो स्टाफ की कार पार्किंग है वहां खाली मैदान था। वहां चार—पांच चारपाईयां बिछी होती थी। जिस पर सैंकड़ों की तादाद में छात्राओं की ब्लैक एण्ड व्हाईट पॉसपोर्ट साईज़ फोटो सूख रहीं होती थी। छात्राएं अपनी तस्वीर पहचान कर आगे यूनिवर्सिटी की रिजस्ट्रेशन के लिए जमा करवाती थी।

यहीं एक लाइब्रेरी थी। जहां बैठकर मैनें शरतचन्द्र की जीवनी पर आधारित उपन्यास 'आवारा मसीहा' पढ़ना चाहा था। उन दिनों कोर्स की किताबों के अलावा अन्य किताबों को पढ़ने और घर ले जाने पर रोक थी। स्कूल से भी ज़्यादा कड़ा अनुशासन और पाबंदियां छात्राओं की बजाए उनके अभिभावकों को बहुत पसन्द आती थी। उन दिनों यह कॉलेज अनुशासन और सुशिक्षा के लिए जाना जाता था।

कुछ वर्षों बाद इस कॉलेज में अध्यापन का मेरा सपना साकार हुआ। उन दिनों कॉलेज की प्रिन्सीपल श्रीमती स्नेह महाजन थीं। जिनका रूतबा और रूआब अलग किस्म का था। वह प्रभावशाली व्यक्तित्व की धनी थीं। यह दौर प्रगतिशील सोच और संस्कारों का खूबसूरत संगम था। टीचर्स के लिए साड़ी पहननी अनिवार्य थी। प्रिन्सीपल कभी भी राऊडं पर हो सकती थी। दूर से ही ताली बजा कर छात्राओं का ध्यान अपनी ओर खींचती थी और उन्हें अनुशासन की डोर में बांधे रखती थी। उनकी इस अनूठी शैली का असर टीचर्स पर भी अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से रहता था। कई बार तो उनकी ताली की



आवाज़ से क्लास लेने जा रही प्राध्यापिकाओं तक के पाँव भी लड़खड़ा जाते थे। उस समय स्टाफ रूम भले ही छोटा था पर रिश्तों की गर्माहट से भरा हुआ था। अपनेपन की खुशबू रहती थी। प्रिन्सीपल स्नेह महाजन भी अक्सर स्टाफरूम में आ जाया करती थीं और माहौल में ठहाकों की गूंज भी सुनाई दिया करती थी।

.......और सर्दियों में गुनगुनी धूप सेंकने के लिए बेंतवाली आरामदायक कुर्सियां स्टाफ रूम के बाहर बिछ जाती थीं।

अब स्टाफरूम 21वीं सदी में प्रवेश कर गया है। नया वाला स्टाफरूम काफी बड़ा है। पहले यहाँ आपसी मेल—जोल काफी रहता था। अब स्टाफ रूम वाई—फाई है। पहले कॉलेज या व्यक्तिगत समस्याओं पर भी चर्चा हो जाती थी लेकिन आज शायद उस वक्त को मोबाइल ने चुरा लिया है। भले ही हम एक 'व्हट्सएप ग्रुप' के साथ सभी जुड़े हैं लेकिन पास बैठे भी दूरियों को महसूस किया जा सकता है। पहले स्टाफरूम में साड़ियाँ नज़र आती थी पर अब उस एकरूपता के ऊपर डिज़ाइन युग काफी हावी नज़र आता है। लोगों की सोच की तरह ड्रेस डिज़ाइनिंग में भी एक खुलापन नज़र आता है।

21वीं सदी ने जब हमारे कॉलेज में दस्तक दी तब हमारे कॉलेज की प्रिन्सीपल डॉ. पुनीत बेदी थीं। उनके दौर में तथाकथित आधुनिकता का स्वागत हुआ। भले ही यह सोच ऊपरी धरातल पर थी लेकिन इसने कॉलेज की संस्कृति को नया रूप दिया। लड़कियों के पहनावे के बदलाव को स्वीकार किया गया। सांस्कृतिक गतिविधियों के साथ—साथ सौंदर्य प्रतियोगितओं में तेज़ी आ गई।

इस दौर में मोबाइल क्रान्ति सर्वोपिर रही है। मोबाइल की आंधी के सामने एमसी एम की परम्पराओं की एक नहीं चली। शिकायतें हुई, कानून बने, ज़ब्ती और जुर्माने भी हुए। मां—बाप की पेशियां हुई लेकिन मोबाइल आखिरकार जीवन—शैली का हिस्सा बन ही गया। बेशक मोबाईल के माध्यम से सूचनाओं के भण्डार से तत्काल जुड़ा जा सकता है। जानकारियां और तथ्य खोजे और जाने जा सकते हैं। लेकिन मोबाइल ने बच्चों की एकाग्रता को छीन लिया है। अब टीचर्स के पास इसे नज़रअन्दाज़ करने के अलावा कोई चारा नहीं रहा।

रजतजयन्ती के दौर में जहां छात्राओं में सलवार कमीज़ या चूड़ीदार की पोशाकें कॉलेज की परिचायक थी, स्वर्णजयन्ती तक पहुंचते—पहुंचते उसका भी ग्लोबलाइज़ेशन हो गया। अब छात्राओं के पहनावे और सोच में आज़ादी को महसूस किया जा सकता है।

कॉलेज की वर्तमान प्रिन्सीपल डॉ. निशा भार्गव एक सुलझी हुई शख़्सियत हैं। आज यह कॉलेज लड़िकयों को आधुनिकता के साथ तालमेल बिठाने में सहयोग दे रहा है। कॉलेज को अन्तरराष्ट्रीय मंच पर ले जाने के सराहनीय प्रयास चल रहे हैं। उम्मीद है यह कॉलेज आने वाले समय में बेहद खूबसूरत बदलावों के साथ एक नए युग में प्रवेश करेगा।

MkW- euh"kk fiz;aonk

एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर एवं विभागाध्यक्ष हिन्दी विभाग



Our Pride MCM Alumni



Late Flt. Lt. Harita Kaur Deol Indian Air Force (First woman pilot to fly solo in the IAF)



Late Vandana Malik Indian Police Service (Gave up her life on call of duty)



Renu Phulia IAS



Madhvi Kataria IAS



Khushboo Goel IAS



Juhi Mukherjee IAS



Palka Sahini IAS



Sharandeep Brar IAS



Deepti Uppal IAS



Isha Kalia IAS





Manmeet Grewal IAS



Amarpreet Kaur Sandhu IAS



Sonia Narang IPS



Parul Kush IPS



Shaweta Dhankar IPS



Sunita Puri IRS



Garima Singh IRS



Manisha Bansal Badal IRS



Samriti Goel IRS



Jaishree Sharma IRS



Ritika Narula IES



Dilasha IES



Ruchi Sharma Indian Army



Suman Godara Indian Army



Vaishali Pathania Indian Army



Namrata & Suprita Indian Air Force





Kanupriya Karki IAF



Barjinder Bajwa PCS



Abha Beniwal PCS



Anju Dhankar PCS



Pankaj Chaudhary HCS



Nupur Bansal HPS



Dalvir Raj PCS



Shivani Gupta PCS



Nidhi PCS



Pooja Sayal PCS



Ramandeep Kaur PCS



Geetika Singh PCS



Prof. Neera Grover Educationist



Prof. Madhu Raaka Educationist



Dr. Pal Kaur Educationist



Prof. Parveen Sharda Educationist





Prof. Deepti Gupta Educationist



Prof. Rumina Sethi Educationist



Prof. Sonal Chawla Educationist



Prof. Yojana Rawat Educationist



Dr. Binu Dogra, Educationist



Prof. Divya Sharma Educationist



Prof. Promila Pathak Educationist



Dr Barinder Educationist



Anu Dhingra Educationist



Dr. Vineeta Arora Educationist



Rani Popli Educationist



Dr. Vibha Ray Educationist



Dr. Karamjit K. Malhotra Educationist



Dr. Namita Educationist



Kimmi Dhanoa Educationist



Dr. Renu Chakarbortiy Gynecologist





Dr. Pratima Duggal Dentist



Dr. Brahmjot Pathologist



Dr. Mamta Gupta Dermatologist



Rama Mehndiratta Public Sector



Neeru Chugh Public Sector



Raminder Bhatia Public Sector



Aarti Mehra Public Sector



Monita Mehta Judiciary



Simmi Hans Corporate Sector



Veena Malik Corporate Sector



Mansi World Bank



Sonaina Khehra Corporate Sector



Rohini Diwan Corporate Sector



Ankita Batish Corporate Sector



Sadhvi Dalal Banker



Guneet Bakshi Corporate Sector





Sarabdeep Kochchar Corporate Sector



Ruchi Singla Corporate Sector



Renuka Salwan Media



Nandita Singh Maan Footwear Designer



Shriya Gautam Archaeologist



Shraddha Singh Media



Bani Dhillon Director



Roopa Vohra Jewellery Designer



Anu Dogra Entrepreneur



Malkit Cultural Event Manager



Satwinder Bitti Singer



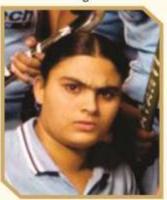
Rinku Kalia Singer



Mita Vashisht Actress



Khushboo Kochhar Actress



Tanya Abrol Actress



Yamini Singh Actress



My Font of Inspiration

"How could you leave such a warm place?" On a recent visit to MCM DAV, a friend asked me this question. I studied for my BA at MCM and after completing higher studies, I went back to teach at MCM DAV College. After a decade of teaching and learning at my alma mater, I moved on to my other alma mater, the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University. MCM is a rocking place, always full of activity. I am a frequent visitor there and always receive a warm welcome. Witnessing this warmth and affection, my friend posed this teaser. Much as I may cite research and learner autonomy as reasons for shifting to a university, I think in my heart of hearts, I know and accept the fact that MCM will always hold a special place.

My first visit to the college was at the age of seven, when my mother started teaching there. Those were the days when Saturdays were off in all schools and sometimes, mothers would take their children along to college if there was no baby-sitter at home. So, friends in the staff-room would decide to bring along kids and we were all mightily pampered. I think, my ease with spending money comes from those childhood days when we were treated like little princes and princesses in MCM and no one asked us for money. Kamal's book store, the Fruit shop and Satdev's canteen were like a paradise where no cash was required! The library was heaven for me because I could touch, feel and read all the books I wanted and there was Bhanwara Auntie to fetch us chocolate and candy. All the aunties and uncles were happy to indulge us in every way! Married into a Baniya household now, I think those childhood halcyon days laid the foundation of many a spendthrift versus money-saving encounter!

After completing schooling, MCM DAV was the natural choice for graduation. In that era, if your parents worked for DAV, you couldn't go and study anywhere else. You would be labeled a traitor and your parents would be asked all kinds of awkward questions. It was the norm that all children of DAV employees would get a fee concession and text books from the library. All DAV people are brand ambassadors because the ambience and interaction at these institutions instil a belief in all that is good and worthwhile, even in a crumbling world.

While I was in M Phil and thinking about entering the world of research, MCM DAV advertised a large number of vacant positions. Obviously, my little world of well-wishers was very excited. They couldn't imagine that I may have other plans. In no time at all, the form reached home and I sat down to fill it up, surrounded by a group of happy souls. It was my first serious job interview and the advice came in, pouring down on me in buckets. Many a time, students ask me questions on how to prepare for an interview and one of the most frequent questions is about the importance of knowing the right people. When I look back, I realize that not a single person said anything about 'putting in a word.' I'm sure, match fixing must have been a reality at interviews even way back in the 1980s, but it was not blatant at all. Every person around me encouraged me to prepare well and face the interview, all guns blazing.

Once I joined MCM DAV, a new kind of learning began. Today, whenever I organize something at the university, I know that people around me feel that I over-plan and over-think and very often, this comment can be expected: 'you can take the person out of MCM but you can't take MCM out of the person!' In retrospect, I feel that the sort of preparation you are put through prepares you for a different kind of perspective; a perspective that instills the belief that you are responsible for the success of the task you are a part of, even if it is in a small way. Many years ago, when Mrs. Sneh Mahajan was the Principal and a staff member was leaving to join the



university, she remarked in a light vein, 'I think MCM DAV is a nursery for preparing teachers for PU'. Looking back at the kind of professionals the institution has trained, the feeling is awesome. She may not have realized it at that moment but this statement sums up the very essence of the college. Not only PU, wherever the MCM people travel, they leave an imprint. I am aware that many times this training is felt to be too strict and regimented, as a young person I would also chafe at the restrictions once in a while but having seen the world and the process of achievement, I can safely advise my students to keep learning, whatever the cost it may demand.

Change is the law of nature and it is good to see the changes in MCM DAV. The institution has grown up very fast and is no longer grappling with any kind of shortage, whether of funds, man power or ideas. It feels good to see this growth. There are many new faces in the team now and I often miss the old but I guess this is life and one must accept the movement of time. Time flies and I, too will soon be just a name on the MCM student wall, but in my life and time, MCM DAV will always occupy a place of regard and respect.

Prof. Deepti Gupta nee Dhamija
Chairperson
Department of English and Cultural Studies
Panjab University, Chandigarh



A 'Loving' Legend

She is like a hard softball, hard from outside but soft within. I am talking about our dynamic, energetic Principal Mrs. Mahajan who guided the destiny of the college for around one and a half decade after the retirement of our beloved founder Principal Mrs. Roy. Any time I think of my early years in the college, I can't help remembering the two stalwarts - Mrs. Roy and Mrs. Mahajan under whom I had the privilege of working. Both the remarkable Principals were dedicated to the core, worked tirelessly with a missionary zeal for the college, and had their own unique personalities and styles of functioning.

Mrs. Mahajan, then known as Mrs. Gupta, was the Vice Principal of the college when I joined MCM DAV as a lecturer way back in 1980. We, the juniors were awestruck by her persona. Sometimes she would crack jokes, laugh freely with us but, at times, we felt overawed by her stern looks. These are my early recollections of Mrs. Mahajan during my first few years in the college.

When Mrs. Mahajan took the reins of the college in 1986, I had the opportunity to work under her entire tenure of 14 years. Even after she became the Principal of the college, she remained Sneh for her close friends in the college but for most of us, the junior staff-members, she was Mrs. Mahajan. I remember Mrs. Mahajan as a hard task-master, a strict disciplinarian who never minced words. She was a perfectionist; thorough and meticulous in her work. Her energy and level of commitment were amazing. I can't forget the way she would



move up and down the corridors, instructing the girls to vacate the verandah so as to ensure discipline. Even after assuming the chair of the principal, despite the peons around her, at times, she would run her own errands. I remember once she sprained her ankle but despite the discomfort, she would walk around wearing sports shoes, draped in her lovely saris. Truly, a woman of substance!

I can never forget her fetish for cleanliness, in fact, no one can. Whenever she found any wrapper or paper littered in the campus, she would pick it up herself so that we had no choice but to join her in her cleanliness drive. It is a fact that the campus looked absolutely spick and span during her tenure as the Principal. Her residence in the college premises was simple but tastefully done. Teji, a colleague and friend from the English department had an anecdote to share. Once Teji, a scholarly person, was sitting in her apartment, with books scattered all over the place. She wondered what if Mrs. Mahajan came and saw the mess. Suddenly, there was a knock at the door. There stood Mrs. Mahajan at her door. Imagine Teji's plight!

Mrs. Mahajan had her own inimitable style. I remember when my elder one was born, Mrs. Mahajan came to see him. Since it was quite cold, I had thoroughly clad the little one with a cap on his head and booties to cover his feet. She advised me not to cover both the head and the feet at the same time. Well, she believed in action, took no time in removing the cap from the baby's head and kept it aside. I followed her advice and never repeated the same. In fact, I am thankful to her as my children have never felt the need to cover their heads in cold till date. I would like to share another episode. When my second son was born, Mrs. Mahajan arrived in the nursing home with a lovely sleeping bag for the little one. My stay in the hospital got prolonged because of the caesarian delivery. I was pleasantly surprised when Mrs. Mahajan visited me again the next evening. Her concern touched me deeply.

Mrs. Mahajan was a hard task master but had a heart of gold. She was compassionate, always there for everyone in need. When a dear friend and colleague of mine lost her husband, Mrs. Mahajan stood by her like a pillar of strength, helping her in every possible way – physically, financially and emotionally. I do not think I have ever met anyone as generous as her. Once, on my way back from the college, I met with a minor accident and was injured. The first person I could think of in the hour of need was Mrs. Mahajan and actually she was there within no time at the accident site to take charge of the situation. In crisis, she would always be there, like a rock, to stand by one's side.

I regard myself fortunate to have worked under the stewardship of Mrs. Mahajan, whose enthusiasm and values I cherish and tend to imbibe.

Long live Mrs. Mahajan and her unfading spirit!

Mrs. Rama Kashyap (Retd.) Head, Department of Economics



Commendations

"Well disciplined, well taught children, good at studies and sports. This is as DAV tradition is to be."

Swami Chinmayananda

"When women take charge, development is bound to happen as they have a deeper influence on the society."

His Holiness Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Ji

"Discipline, dedication and a keen desire to learn are the hallmarks of the students of this institution. The credit goes to the Principal and faculty."

Giani Zail Singh, Chief Minister, Punjab

"The college is doing very well and has set high standards. A very fine institution!"

His Excellency Lt. Gen. (Retd.) J F R Jacob Governor, Punjab and Administrator, U.T. Chandigarh

"A fine institution, MCM has earned a name and a place of honour among the colleges of the region."

His Excellency Lt. Gen. B K N Chhibber Governor, Punjab and Administrator, U.T. Chandigarh

"Here girls are provided with quality education and good Arya Samaj sanskars. Girls from this institution have shown laudable results in academics, sports and cultural activities."

His Excellency Sh. Jagannath Pahadia, Governor of Haryana

"I had an occasion to deliver the Convocation Address today in this prestigious college of India. DAV institutions have their special place in the education map of the country but some of them have really excelled in this field. MCM DAV Girls' College is one such institution. Keep it up!"

Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India

"I was deeply impressed by the intelligence and commitment shown by the girls of this College and its principal. Together you can change the world for the better."

> Smt. Maneka Gandhi, Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of India

Commendations

"Wonderful to visit MCM again, and to meet the principal and participating students of so many colleges! Hope to come again and again. All the best!"

Ms. Kirron Kher, Member of Parliament, Chandigarh

"I congratulate the principal and teachers for brilliant results both in academic and sports field. I am impressed by the discipline and dedication of the students. Wish them great success in future!"

Sh. Hans Raj Sharma, Finance Minister, Punjab

"An Institution of which the whole nation can be well proud of. Credit goes to the Managing Committee, the Principal and her team."

> Chief Justice R S Narula, Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh

"I am really delighted and feel privileged to be here in this college on a convocation day. The contribution of this institution in women's education and women empowerment is unparalleled and unique. I wish all the best to you and am confident that the crusade shall continue with same zeal and vigour."

Chief Justice A K Sikri, Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh

"The College has everything one can ask for - Multimedia Hall, Photography Room, Health Care Room, Staff Quarters, Beauty Club in addition to all other infrastructure that a college requires I strongly congratulate the tireless and devoted Principal and her staff."

Sh. G P Chopra (Padma Shree Awardee)
President DAV College Managing Committee

"Every visit to this institution is a pleasure and an experience in itself. Creditable achievements during a short period! Staff deserves all commendation. Wish all the best for future!"

Sh. T N Chaturvedi, Chief Commissioner, Chandigarh

"Excellent progress! Congratulations to the principal and staff, Managing Committee and students."

Prof. R C Paul, VC, Panjab University, Chandigarh

"A forward looking institution with vision and mission for future education programme!"

Prof. R C Sobti (Padma Shree Awardee) VC, Panjab University, Chandigarh

"It was a pleasure to be with young girls, the youth of tomorrow. I came here as a duty to share with youth what I thought I must. It was an inspiring day for me too."

Dr. Kiran Bedi, IPS

Commendations

"It is great to visit this College where so many citizens of India and indeed of our shrinking world, are being given so splendid a start in life. May the good work go strongly forward into the fascinating world of tomorrow!"

Mr. John Coats, President, International Theosophical Society

"I was both humbled and honoured to visit this wonderful and historic institution. The faculty and students welcomed me with warmth and their questions were thought provoking and spirited. I deeply enjoyed my visit."

Ms. Shirley Wajda, American Studies Expert & Historian, US

"I enjoyed my visit to the campus. Students are eager to learn and very enthusiastic. I hope to visit this campus again in the near future. Best wishes to the faculty and students!"

Dr. Simon George, Dept. of Physics, California State University, Long Beach CA

"I find this a progressive college always ready for new initiatives."

Sh. Aditya Prakash, Chairman, Lalit Kala Academy, Chandigarh

"It was an exhilarating experience to see the blend of tradition and modernity depicted in every aspect of functioning of this institution."

Dr. Lata Pillai, Advisor NAAC (Bangalore)

"I am pleased to visit MCM College of Women today. DAV institutions have contributed a lot in every sphere whether education, sports or extra-curricular activities."

Sh. Milkha Singh, Former International Athlete

"MCM DAV is the place where my creative individual self was nurtured, developed and from where my journey began. I can only thank God and my parents for giving me the gift (of admission) here – my deepest regards, gratitude and ever-abiding love to my teachers at MCM DAV. Thank you for giving us the gift of your love, knowledge and concern."

Ms. Mita Vashisht, Film personality

"College of great reputation! This is the first time I am here but really enjoyed at the Annual Sports Function. It is my pleasure to be here with all the teachers and especially the students."

Sh. Dinesh Mongia, Cricketer

"It was a pleasure once again to be at MCM. I was very impressed by the talent which I noticed through the performances of the students. Keep it up!"

Sh. Harbhajan Mann, Punjabi Singer and Actor

Glory at Raj Path and Accolades beyond Shores



Priya Paudyal being awarded All-India Naval Best Cadet Prize in Republic Day Camp 2017 by Hon'ble Prime Minister.



Cadet Sazina Khan represented Haryana, Punjab, HP & Chd. in Republic Day Parade. She was selected for Youth Exchange Programme with foreign countries



Vasundhra Kumar represented Haryana, Punjab, HP & Chd. in Republic Day Parade. She was also declared the Best NSS Volunteer of the region



Cadet Sonia was selected by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports to represent Chandigarh in the Republic Day Parade. She was also declared the Best Cadet



Cadet Kiran Raghav was selected to participated in the Republic Day Parade. She acted as Pilot for the Vice-President of India and the Chiefs of Naval & Army Staff



Cadet Jasmine Mann being honoured by the Governor of Delhi for bagging the Best Cadet Award (Naval Unit) in the Republic Day Parade at Raj Path



Our International Stars



Late Dr. Gurpreet, Shooting



Irina Brar, Golf



Harveen, Shooting



Divya, Mountaineering



Jagwinder, Skiing



Shweta, Chess



Satinder, Hockey



Hema, Shooting

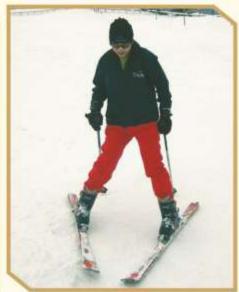




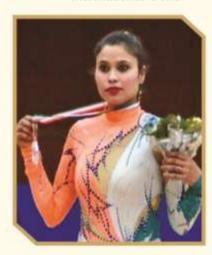
Tavleen Brar International Golfer



Kirti Gehlawat Yoga



Harmandeep Skiing



Mitali Gymnastics



Sabeeha Dhillon Shooting



Palak Gymnastics



Taniya Bhatia Cricket



Gurnoor Kang Rowing



Harleen Deol Cricket





NSS Volunteer Pamelpreet was selected by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, to represent Chandigarh at Republic Day Parade.



NSS Volunteer Ashima Sharma was selected for a Youth Delegation Programme to Russia organized by Ministry of Youth Affairs, Government of India.



Rotarians Srishti, Ashtha, Chandrika & Shipra participated in an International Exchange Event 'Rotasia Nepal' at Kathmandu



Aditi Bisht was selected as a member of an Indian Youth Delegation to China under Cultural Youth Exchange Programme



Yamini Gupta participated in the largest Taekwondo display at Hyderabad in September 2016 and created a Guinness World Record



Chahat Arora, an International swimmer, being awarded a cash prize of Rs.50,000 by Mrs. Kirron Kher at Rashtriya Ekta Diwas



एम सी एम - अप्रतिम, अविचल और अविराम

एम. सी. एम. की है पहचान सजग नारी का स्वाभिमान अप्रतिम, अविचल और अविराम। गति अनूठी, अद्भुत शान मेहरचंद महाजन का अवदान अप्रतिम, अविचल और अविराम।

आध्यात्मिकता का आधार आधुनिकता का आगार आत्मविश्वास का पारावार महिला शिक्षा हुई साकार अनुपम है हर कीर्तिमान अप्रतिम, अविचल और अविराम)

मेहरचंद महाजन का था सपना हर नारी को शिक्षित करना देश की आधारभूत नींव में एम.सी.एम. रत्नों की संरचना ये गौरव हैं, ये अभिमान अप्रतिम, अविचल और अविराम।

हर स्पर्छा में धाक है जमती इसकी ठाठ निराली ठनती, बेटी की आँखों में पलती सपनों की दुनिया को बदलती सच में, देती नई मुस्कान अप्रतिम, अविचल और अविराम। एम.सी.एम. की है पहचान।

> डॉ. प्रसून प्रसाद एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर, हिन्दी विभाग

























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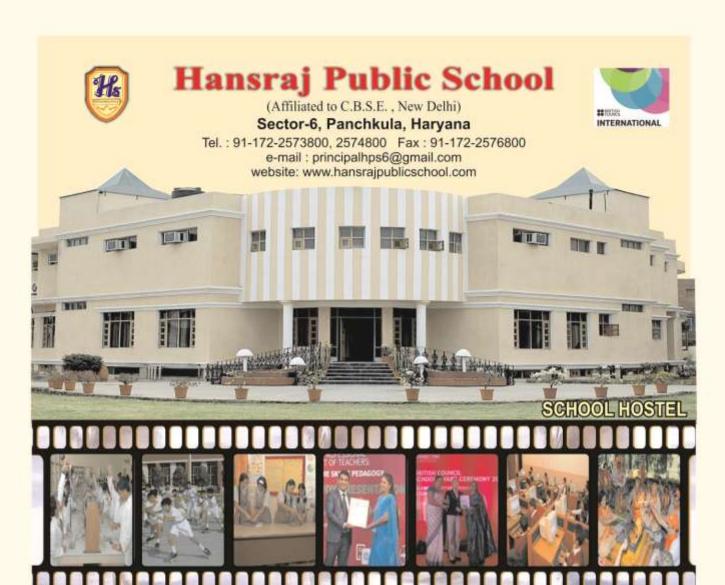
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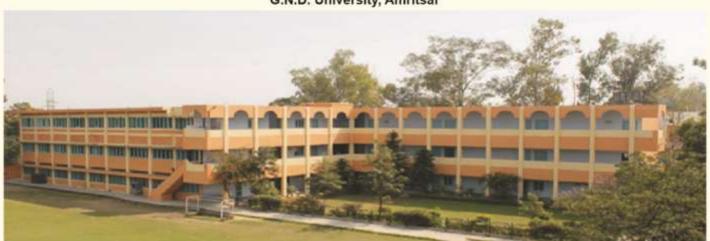
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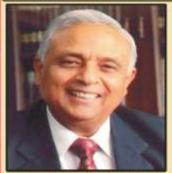




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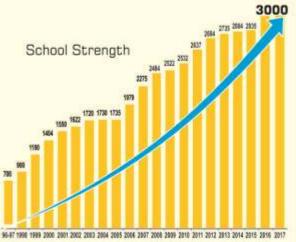


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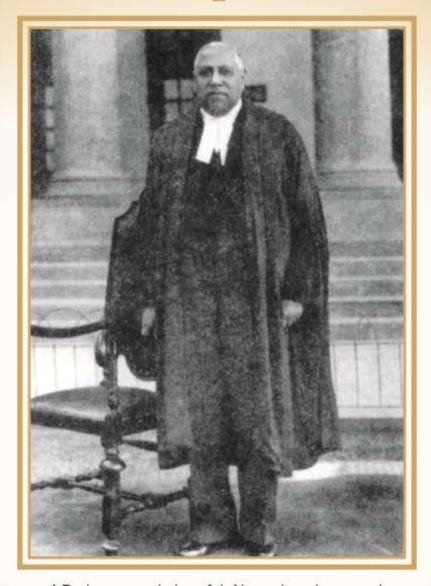




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(Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan)