



Gargi College
Annual Report
1979-80

*See
the changes*

Gargi College Annual Day

Thursday, 6th March 1980

Chief Guest : Prof. V. V. John

Mr. Chairman, Hon'ble Chief Guest, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Gargi College will complete the thirteenth year of its existence with the closing of the current academic year 1979-80. The college was instituted by the Delhi Administration in July 1967 to cater to the increasing number of women students seeking university education in the ever expanding city of Delhi. The college carries the name given to it with some pride. Gargi figures in one of our very ancient scriptures, the *Brhad-Aranyaka Upanishad*. She figures there as a keen thinker and a scholarly student. The most significant and penetrating philosophical questions discussed in that Upanishad regarding the nature of the Ultimate Reality were posed by Gargi in her discourse with her guru, the great Sage *Yagnyavalkya*. The guru had no answer to offer to some of the questions raised by her. The intellectual vigour and persistence with which she went on questioning the guru, symbolises the human yearning for knowledge, the endless spirit of enquiry, and the quest for truth. It is our hope and endeavour that the young women who come to this college learn to value and cherish these.]

The present Governing Body of the college was initially constituted in September, 1977. The members were re-appointed in September 1978 for the term of one more year. They were re-appointed once again for the periods from (i) 5.9.79. to 31.12.79. and (ii) 1.1.80 to 31.3.80. Mr. Kuldip Nayar was elected as the Chairman on each occasion; so was Mr. Inder Mohan Sehgal, as the treasurer. The other members who have served on the Governing Body during the aforesaid period are Mrs. Archana Kumar, Mrs. Kailash Rekhi, Mr. Jittender Kapoor, Mrs. Sheila Ghatate, Mr. Om. Prakash Shastri, Mr. S. K. Aggarwal, Mr. Swarup Chand Rajan, Mr. S. N. Tiwari (Representatives : Delhi Administration), Prof. K.N. Saxena and Dr. Yudhishter (University Representatives), Dr. (Mrs.) V. B. Rastogi and Dr. (Mrs.) Sharda Sachdeva (Teacher Representatives), Dr. (Miss) Shanta Kadambi was appointed as the University Representative in place

of Dr. Yudhishter on 10th February, 1980. One of the forward steps taken by the present Governing Body in 1977-78 was to associate the President of the Students' Union with it. Miss Minnoo Sastry, the present Student President, therefore, was regularly invited to attend the meetings of the Governing Body this year.

The College has 1102 students on its rolls at present:—387 in B. A. (Pass); 247 in B. Com. (Pass); 154 in B. Sc. (General); 171 in B. A. (Hons.); and 143 in B. S. (Hons.) The total number of admissions made this year were 447 :- 137 in B.A. (Pass); 97 in B. Com. (Pass); 81 in B. Sc. (General); 46 in B. A. (Hons.) and 86 in B. Sc. (Hons.)

The results of the final examination in the year under review have been quite satisfactory. B. Sc. (General) : 95% with 11 First divisions; B. Sc. (Hons.) : 89% with 15 First divisions; B. A. (Hons.) : 80% with 1 First division; B. Com. (Pass) with 1 First division; B. A. (Pass) 58%. We could do better of course.

The new admissions made this year constitute the first batch of students coming to us after completing their 10+2 Schooling. The 10+2 School system has brought about a major change in this college. Namely, the discontinuation of the pre-medical course here. Gargi College had been the only Women's college in South Delhi that offered the pre-medical course. It therefore attracted some of the best students preparing to go into the medical profession, although they could be here for one year only. To a certain extent, the growth of some of the Science Departments had got initially linked with this factor. There has been a quicker and greater development of the Life Sciences therefore, as compared to the others. In fact, some of the good students admitted in Zoology and Botany Honours this year are also those who are to appear in the Medical Entrance Examination either for the first or a second time. We wish them well and hope their one year with us will help them to achieve their objective. But we will miss all those who succeed. Although we suffer a sense of loss of good students in the college on account of the discontinuation of the pre-medical course, we do accept it as an inevitability. Hopefully, this loss will be compensated if we develop the departments of Chemistry and Physics, which do not offer Honours courses at present, with greater speed. Efforts in that direction are already afoot.

As far as the courses offered by the college are concerned, our

major achievement this year has been to procure sanction for the B. Sc. (General) Group 'A'. Had we not succeeded in this effort, and had we not received the necessary grant from the U. G. C. to implement it, our Department of Physics would have had only teachers, but no students. In view of the numerous changes made this year in the subjects in the university syllabi on account of the 10+2 system, it is significant that ours is the only college that has been allowed to offer Group 'A' of the B. Sc. (General) Course.

We have already applied for the introduction of Chemistry Honours and Economics Honours. We plan to make similar efforts for Honours Courses in Psychology and Physics. Our proposals to the University for the introduction of M. A. courses in Political Science, History, Hindi and Sanskrit are under consideration at present.

1,620 books were added to the library during the year 1979-'80, bringing the total number of volumes in our collection to 31,438 (28,686 in the main collection, 1,166 in the text book collection, and 1,586 in the Book Bank collection). About 150 new volumes are processed every fortnight. The new lists drawn are regularly sent to the Staff Room and the Students Common Room, and the library continues to provide bibliographical services to both students and teachers.

The U.G.C. gives us an annual recurring grant of Rs. 15,000/- for the library. We ourselves collect Rs. 40/- per annum from our students as the Library and Reading Room Fee. The total collection from the Students has been Rs. 44,080/- This year, the college received a non-recurring grant of Rs. 2,000/- also from the U.G.C. for the purchase of books in English Literature. We are awaiting the non-recurring grant of Rs. 50,000/- for the B. Sc. (General) Group 'A' from the U.G.C.. Part of this grant, when received, will go to the library to strengthen the relevant sections. The total expenditure incurred by the library during the year 1979-80 for purchase of books and journals, and on binding equipment and other accessories, was Rs. 61,000/-.

We have 84 permanent lecturers on our staff now. Four appointments were made this year against permanent vacancies; those of Mrs. Neeta Mathur and Mrs. Gita Seshamani in the Department of English, and of Dr. (Mrs.) Neelam Sachdeva and Dr. (Mrs.) Veena Bharati in that of Zoology.

Besides these four, as many as 27 lecturers* were appointed this year against different kind of leave vacancies; some for a year or more, and others, for part of the year only. Quite a number of our teachers are seriously engaged in research work and some of them have new publications to their credit for the year 1979-80.

[*Miss Madhavi Anand, Dr. (Mrs.) Asha B. Tacker, Mrs. Sharada Jayagovind, Miss Lalita Subbu, Late Miss Preeti Soni, Miss Roopa Dhawan in the English Department; Miss Saroj Rana in the Hindi Department; Miss Sadhana Varma, Mrs. Sushma Khatri, Miss Nandini Mongia, Miss Poonam Sahai, Miss Nisha Agarwal in Economics Department; Mrs. Sudha Pai in the Political Science Department; Miss Vrinda Sarup, Miss Shanti Sri, Miss Gazala Amin, Miss Amarjeet Kaur in the History Department; Miss Madhu Jain in the Commerce Department; Dr. (Miss) P. Jain, Miss Shashi Bajaj in the Chemistry Department; Dr. (Mrs.) A. Salpekar, Miss K. Diwan in the Botany Department; Miss Paramjeet Arora, Miss Anita Grover, Miss Sukhvinder Kaur, Miss Nita Aeron in the Zoology Department and Miss Kamakshi Trehan in the Mathematics Department.]

Miss Bhanumati (Department of Chemistry) was awarded the Ph.D. degree this year for her thesis on "Some New Polyhydroxy Flavonoids and Quinones from Leguminous Crops and Synthesis of Related Compounds." Miss Manju Avinashi of the same Department who had been working in Molecular Biology has submitted her thesis "Studies in R N A and Protein Synthesis during barley embryo germination" for the Ph. D. degree and is waiting for her Viva-Voce.

At present, the following teachers are on study leave working towards their Ph. D. degrees on the topics mentioned against their names :-

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Mrs. Renu Sethi,
(Department of Pol. Sc.) | —Women in Lok Sabha |
| 2. Mrs. Santosh Luthra,
(Department of Hindi) | —Prem Chand : Kal-Chetna Aur Abhivyakti |
| 3. Mrs. K. Malhotra,
(Department of Psychology) | —Internal Representations in Reasoning in Children of Different Age Levels. |
| 4. Mrs. R. Guha,
(Department of History) | —Land Revenue and Government Policy towards Land Lord and Tenant in Bengal |
| 5. Mrs. R. Maira
(Department of History) | —The Black Muslims in America—
A Study of the role of Elijah Mohammed and Wallace D. Mohammed |

- | | |
|--|---|
| 6. Miss Manju Shree
(Department of History) | —Agrarian Problems and the Congress Attitude towards them in U.P.(1931-39). |
| 7. Mrs. Ranjit Bhalla,
(Department of Pol. Sc.) | —Political Ideas of the Sikh Gurus. |
| 8. Mrs. Pushp Lata Kapur,
(Department of Hindi) | —Gunibhuta Vyangya |

Those on extraordinary leave, doing research in various fields are as follows :-

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Mrs. Jogesh Chadha,
(Department of English) | —Concept of the Hero in American Drama. (for Ph. D.) |
| 2. Miss Vijaya Ramaswamy,
(Department of History) | —The Weaving Communities in South India. (for Ph.D.) |
| 3. Mrs. Amrit Pritam,
(Department of Zoology) | —Para-cytology (for Ph. D.)
reciepent of the U.G.C. fellow-ship. |
| 4. Dr. (Miss) Indu Tucker,
Department of Chemistry) | —Complexes of Organo-Metallic Compunds. (post doctoral work) |

Dr. (Miss) Indu Tucker is doing her work at the University of Regina, Canada.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 5. Mrs. Kanchan Manaktola,
(Department of Mathematics) | —Multiplicative Ideals theory of Commutative Rings. |
|---|---|

Mrs. Manaktola is working with Prof. Nagota of Kyoto University, Japan.

Mrs. Kirin Whig and Mrs. Manju Dhawan have also started their research work this year for the Ph.D. degree. Mrs. Kirin Whig is working on the American Poetess, Anias Nin; and Mrs. Dhawan, on "Bhakti Kalein Sufi Kavya Mein Shad Ritu Evam Barahamassa Varnana."

The teachers working towards M. Phil. degrees in different subjects are as follows :-

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Miss Meenakshi Jain (History) | —The Role of the Mirzas during the reigns of Babar and Humayun. |
| 2. Miss Vrinda Swarup (History) | —Gandhi and Village Reconstruction. |

3. Miss Shanti Sri (History) —Brahmanical Settlements in Andhra Pradesh 300 A.D.-1000 A.D.
4. Mrs. Sharada Jayagovind (English) —Whitman and After.
5. Mrs. Ravinder S. Singh, (English) —A Comparative Study of Nineteenth Century American and English Fiction.
6. Miss Kiran Chugh (Commerce) —Consumer Behaviour in Relation to Reference Groups.
7. Miss Raj Kumari (Commerce) —Financial Performance of a Few Selected Manufacturing Companies.

The academic achievements of the teaching staff during the past one year can be stated as follows. Dr. (Miss) Asha Goswami attended the Fourth World Sanskrit Conference held this year at Weimer, East Germany. The paper she read at its concluding plenary session on "Patanjal Yoga-Sutra and the Psychic Science" was much appreciated. Dr. (Miss) Kanti Tripathi (Department of Hindi) has published a new collection of her poems under the title *Ooshma*. Dr. (Miss) Shiva Mahapatra of the same department has had the honour of making a contribution (*Ahiadi Pradeshon Mein Hindi Ka Prachar aur Prasar*) to the XVIII volume of *Hindi Sahitya Ka Brihat Itihasa*, a prestigious publication of the Nagari Pracharani Sabha. She also contributed an article, "*Oddissi Krishna Kavya aur Sur Sarovar*", to the commemoration volume published on the eve of the 5th centenary of the medieval poet, Surdas.

Dr. (Mrs.) Aruna Mohan (Department of Zoology) presented a research paper "Effect of Gonadectomy on Hypothalmo/Hypophysical Neurosecretory System of Musk Shrew" at the Indian Science Congress Association this year. She has also been carrying on with her post-doctoral —"research on "Neurosecretion in Mammals" for which she has received a special grant from the U. G. C.. Dr. (Mrs.) K. B. Walia (Department of Botany) published the paper "Diffuse and lampbrush State in Human Spermatoocytes" in the Indian Journal of Experimental Biology. Dr. (Mrs.) A. Chintamani's (Department of Botany) paper" "A New Species of Blue

Green Algae" was published in Current Science. Another paper "Spontaneous Mutations in Blue Green Algae" was presented by her at the Seminar held at Jawaharlal University on Man and His Environment. Dr. (Miss) Bhanumati (Department of Chemistry) published more than 10 papers in one year in various Science Journals including 4 in *Phytochemistry*— a Journal of international repute published from England. She also presented a paper at the Annual Convention of Chemists held at Waltair. Dr. (Mrs.) Lalita Sehgal (Department of Botany) contributed the Section on Biology in the book published by U. D. H. Publishers for National Talent Search Examination. Dr. V. B. Rastogi (Department of Zoology) continues to be a member of the Text Book Evaluation Committee of N.C.E.R.T. for the different States.

Besides teaching, research and writing, a few members of the academic staff have been active in other fields as well during the year under review. Mrs. Aruna Mohan delivered a number of informative talks related with her discipline on Radio and Television. Mrs. Minoti Chatterjee has been active in the theatre world. She acted in four plays staged at the AIFCS theatre last year. Besides, she participated in three All India Play Competitions held at Allahabad, Lucknow and Patna, and was awarded the first prize in each one of those competitions. Mrs. Parthana Saran has played the leading role in the first full length feature film produced by the Satellite Television. The film, which is to be released soon is based on the well known novel, *Ap. ka Bunti*, of the eminent Hindi writer Mrs. mannu Bhandari.

The students remained active in all Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities throughout the year. An Inter College Sports Festival was organized in the college for the first time during this year. The college made yet another debut by entering the Inter-College Swimming Competition held at the National Stadium. Another new venture has been the introduction of classes in Yoga and Judo. The college has entered the World of Judo in a big way. Our team won the championship in the inter-college competition held at St. Stephen's College, in which one of our students was given the first individual position also.

The college Volley Ball Team won the championship in the Nehru Yuva Kendra Tournament. In the Punjab Sports and Athletic Meet, our students

won the 3rd position in Javalian Throw as well as the Relay Race. In the Delhi State Atheletic Meet, we won the 4th position in the 100 & 200 Meters Race. Students of Gargi College represented Delhi State in various National events also. In cricket, at Lucknow & Dehradun; in Hockey, at Mysore; and in Kabaddi and Kho-Kho, at Delhi and Jabalpur respectively. Representing Delhi State, Miss Kalpana Joshi was declared the outstanding player in the XXXIst Womens Nationals held at Jabalpur. Manju Tiwari, Poonam and Madhu Kanojia represented Delhi State in the contest for the National Kho-Kho Championship held in Tamil Nadu.

Our N.C.C. cadets attended The All India Camps held at Shillong, Ranikhet and Kandaghat (Simla). Two of our cadets were selected for the Basic Leadership training course, and two others, for training in Advanced Leadership. Besides, four have been selected for horse riding. The two cadets of the college who are in the Air Wing have made 100 gliding launches and 4 solos. The participation of the college in the N.C.C. inter-college competitions has also been gratifying. The college secured the second position in firing, drill, and signals. One of our cadets, Miss Minoo Sastry, stood first in the inter-collegiate Quiz competition. While reporting on the N.C.C. activities, I am happy to announce that an Archery Club for the whole of South Campus has been established at Gargi College this year. Regular classes were held by the club which were attended by cadets from other colleges as well.

Three hundred students were enrolled in the college under the National Service Scheme. The N.S.S. Unit of Gargi College continued with its activities in Khirki Village this year also. At present, a long term programme has been worked out in collaboration with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences to accelerate the social welfare work at Khirki. It plans to undertake similar work, along with the students of the Medical Institute, near Malviya Nagar also. During the past year, our students have been working for the Cheshire Home for the Retarded and Handicapped Children as well. Mr. Jones, the Head of the Children's Block of Cheshire Home has written to say the "young girls from your college have endeared themselves" to the children of the Cheshire Home, and are a "credit to your teaching and college". Also, that they "possess the high spirit to remain dedicated and devoted to the cause of serving the underprivileged". Besides, our students have been participating in all

the inter collegiate N.S.S. activities. They also attended three camps organized by the Central Committee of the University in the year 1979-80.

In the camp held at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, one of our students had the honour of acting as the representative for all the N.S.S. Volunteers that came from different colleges to attend that camp. The general report of the camp was also prepared and read out by her. The work done by the N.S.S. Volunteers of the college has been highly commended by the Co-ordinators of the N.S.S. Central Committee and Gargi College was picked up as a sample this year, in the Sample Survey conducted by them. The Self-Employment Scheme of the N.S.S. Unit of the college has also been worked out successfully. The Unit continues to run the Gargi Stores in the college in which the needy students can seek employment. This opportunity is open to the old students also.

Maintaining the link with its old students not only lends a special character to an educational institution, it also gives the sense of a growing community to those who leave its portals to enter the arena of life. One of the major events of the year has been the formal establishment of the old Students Union of Gargi College. A reunion of the alumnae was organized for that purpose on 8-12-79. Not many could come on that day; but those who did, showed a great enthusiasm and determination to organize and strengthen the newly formed union. Some of them expressed a keen desire to associate themselves with the college activities. We plan to compile a proper Directory of the old students and find the ways and means of keeping in touch with them.

The other extra and co-curricular activities were also carried out successfully. The cultural winter festival was organized by the Students Union with great enthusiasm and efficiency. At the same, our students made full use of almost every opportunity to participate in various inter-college competitions in general knowledge, elocution, debating, music and fine arts etc. They seldom came back without bagging some prize or the other. One of our Students won the 2nd prize in the P.Maheshwari Memorial Herbarium competition. Besides winning individual prizes, they won the running trophy of Miranda House in the inter-college Biophilic Competition, and that of Vanketshwara College, in debating. I leave the task of giving a fuller account of the student activities to the President of the Students

Union, Miss Minnoo Sastry. I must congratulate her for the efficient manner in which she has shouldered her responsibilities. I must also congratulate the Student Adviser, Miss Shashi Mutatkar (Department of English) for her able guidance and co-ordination of all student activities.

I regret to report that the college building and the development of the campus is still not complete. Ever since I assumed charge as the Principal in May '79, I have been struggling to ensure that these tasks do not remain unfinished any longer. The building work had started in 1973. The college had moved from its older location to the new site in different stages; the Science Section in 1976, the Arts Section and College office in 1977. We have been functioning since then as a full fledged college here, carrying on normal academic as well as extra curricular activities. But there is an unsettled feeling on many counts. The electric and sanitary fittings in the building are still not complete. The boundary wall stands in an unfinished state with the result that the rearside of the college stands totally unguarded against all kinds of trespassers. The college grounds continue to remain uneven and barren. We do not have permanent sewage and electric connections.

No doubt bricks and mortar alone do not make an institution. It is the people who constitute it, and what they do, that matters. Nevertheless, the importance of the physical surroundings cannot be ignored beyond a point. What might appear to be of minor importance can easily turn into major irritants which can affect the general tone and normal functioning of the institution. For example, the students and teachers have bravely weathered the winter breeze and the summer winds for more than two seasons because of the broken or missing window panes in many class rooms and the library. I am thankful to them for their forbearance for they have not complained too much about it. In short, the present state of affairs on the building front needs immediate correction. It can be corrected only if the U.G.C. and the Delhi Administration releases the adequate amount of funds for the completion of the Building Project of Gargi College. I may mention here, we were able to procure an ad-hoc grant of Rs.5 lacs from Delhi Administration this year. This gain however is negated by the fact that the outstanding amount of the pending bills to be paid to the various contractors was almost double of that.

Ours is a growing institution. We have a long way to go. There is great scope for both improvement and development in many spheres, and we are fully aware of this. As long as we have this sense of awareness amongst us, we can hope to make this college one of the prestigious institutions affiliated to the University of Delhi. Despite all our limitations, we strive to meet the needs of our students to the best of our ability. This has been possible because of the spirit of dedication of our academic and non-academic staff. I thank them all for the work they have done throughout the year for the smooth functioning of the college. Members of the teaching staff have invariably come forward to work and help for the betterment of the institution. Those on the non-academic staff, have fulfilled their obligations with care.

Lastly, I wish to convey on this occasion my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Chairman and the members of the Governing Body for their guidance and cooperation. May I also take this opportunity on behalf of all connected with Gargi College, to express our deep sense of appreciation of the unfailing involvement of Mr. Kuldip Nayar with all matters connected with the college during his chairmanship of the Governing Body.

Dr. (Miss) Krishna Sharma.

(Principal.)