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Volume 4, 2015-2016



Gargi on the progress track....Gone a long way ahead!

Dear Alumni

Here we are with the fourth volume of our alumni e-newsletter eManaswini.

The highlight of this year is acquisition of **GRADE A from NAAC**, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council.

It simply implies that Gargi College meets the standards of quality as set by the Accreditation Agency, in terms of its performance, related to the educational processes and outcomes, covering the curriculum, teaching-learning, evaluation, faculty, research, infrastructure, learning resources, organisation, governance, financial well being and student services.



\Rightarrow Principal's Note

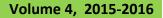
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Editorial Board

Editor : Dr. Gita Mathur Joint Editor : Ms. Seema Sirpal Reporter : Ms. Rajni Athwal

Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter





Principal's Note

Dr. Shashi Tyagi



It gives me great pleasure that Alumni Association of Gargi College is bringing out next issue of its newsletter e-Manaswini. Alumni build the reputation and prestige of the college. Alumni can also help the students in internships and placement by providing them guidance and telling them their experiences. We at Gargi hope to tap the vast potential of our Alumni and I am sure you all will help us in taking the college up.

I congratulate the entire editorial team and the contributors. I look forward to read the next issue of e-Manaswini.

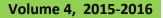
Dr. Shashi Tyagi Principal Officiating





Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter





Editor's Note Dr. Gita Mathur



eManaswini volume 4 is here with the latest on curricular and extra-curricular news of Gargi College for the alumni.

This newsletter, 'eManaswini' of Gargi College Alumni Association called 'Manaswini', was published for the first time in April, 2013 on the College Annual Day. Volume 2 and volume 3 have since been published. eManaswini volumes have been sent by email to a long list and also emailed to many alumni who sent a request at <u>gargialumni@gmail.com</u>. The link to the newsletter was also put on Facebook pages 'Gargi College' and 'Gargi Manaswini'. The request for contributions to the next volume was also sent around and the response is very heartening.

This issue brings to you a glimpse into the college through its various sections. This newsletter reports activities held in Gargi College during the last academic session. Departmental news helps you update about your own departments where you studied. 'Gargi views' takes you to your college days showing what they look like now....the lecture rooms, the playground, the science labs, the canteen and so on.

We understand that our alumni are very busy with their current tasks-at-hand and hence find it difficult to visit Gargi, let us meet in cyberspace. This newsletter is one step in this direction. This will be sent to alumni by email and they can further mail it to all their Gargi contacts. The very idea of this eNewsletter is to build-up a network of alumni and to suggest various options to them regarding their involvement in college life. Here are some suggestions:

- Adopt a student for financial support.
- Give scholarships to meritorious students.
- Mentor students; help selected individuals.
- Generally come & talk to students about enhancement of skills.



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Editor's Note contd.

- Achievements of alumni could be included in the Principal's annual report and the college prospectus.
- Student research projects are now being encouraged by every department. Alumni are welcome to guide students in their areas of interest.

I hope you can select what suits you the most and enjoy keeping the link with your alma mater.

I am grateful to Ms. Seems Sirpal for volunteering to help me with bringing out this Volume 4 of the newsletter as the joint editor and to Ms Rajni Athwal for collecting information about all the events of different departments as the reporter of eManaswini.

It is very heartening to get your emails saying how far this Newsletter is reaching. Dr. Maya Thangavelu whose write-up is published in this volume under the section "Our Alumni Write Back" sent an email saying that she is contacting college after 1974 due to our last volume of eManaswini. Reading about her achievements we at Gargi are proud of her. Dear Alumni you are requested to send your write-ups for the next volume.

Your comments and suggestions about this newsletter eManaswini are most welcome. An email ID, a Facebook page and a Google group should help us build an interactive alumni association. You may send me a few lines about your achievements to be included in the next issue of eManaswini.

Dr. Gita Mathur

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President, Alumni Association of Gargi College and Editor, eManaswini

Editorial team: eManaswini 2016 Vol.4 Editor: Dr. Gita Mathur Joint Editor: Ms. Seema Sirpal Reporter: Ms. Rajni Athwal





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NAAC accreditation

NAAC is an autonomous body established by the University Grants Commission (UGC) of India to assess and accredit institutions of higher education in the country. It is an outcome of the recommendations of the National Policy in Education (1986) which laid special emphasis on upholding the quality of higher education in India.

Read more about NAAC at the following link. <u>http://www.naac.gov.in/vision_mission.asp</u>

Now Gargi College has well developed infrastructure in the form of state of the art lecture rooms with audio-visual facilities, well equipped science labs, with added facilities for research for both faculty and students, our internal network as well as connectivity to Delhi University system. Our Auditorium and seminar hall add to the beautiful red brick building complex.

Reverie, our inter-college cultural festival also has come up a long way from the humble version a decade back to a much advanced, sought after Delhi University college festival. Every department has its own inter-college fest too!

Read more in this volume.



Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter



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Our Alumni Write Back

From fruit to seed: One step forward in the life cycle

'There, I've finished' I say as I add the final touches to this article making sure everything ties-up together and the spell-checker hasn't missed anything. The nice thing about writing is that it has a start and a finish- not something you find in scientific research! Research is like an infinite space which expands at the same rate as the number of confounding questions that arise as you uncover more about the research problem you set yourself at the start. The only constraint here is - your CV. At the end of the 3-4 years of your PhD you must establish that you knew what you were doing all along and you know pretty much about what needs to be known about your field of study. The truth is, nobody really knows what they are doing and at the end of your PhD you'll realize how little you actually know!

Before you begin to take my words literally, let me elaborate a bit. During your PhD you acquire a repository of knowledge that qualifies you as a mini expert in the area you are cultivating and grants you exclusive membership to a club of like-minded people who are fascinated by the same research that excites you. The tentacles of knowledge arising from these research communities seem to move in unimaginable directions and you realize that we are just at the tip of the iceberg when it comes to understanding the biological world, the possibilities are endless. Which is why I said- we really don't know that much! What follows from this is that we can never assume something as being absolute, and so your questions and hypotheses will take you into territories which haven't been explored or might be contrary to pre-existing understanding. You never really know where you'll end up- although the trick is to say you knew it all along!

To summarize, knowledge is limitless but fragile and biology is beautiful but bewildering, at least that's what I learnt from my PhD studying gynoecium and fruit development. The fruits of my (and others) labor resulted in us discovering a potentially new mechanism by which the hormone auxin develops tissues, unlike what has been discovered so far. This finding has now opened up entirely new avenues of research which are being studied by colleagues in my former lab. During this time I became well acquainted to the role of plant hormones in tissue patterning and also to mechanistic aspects of how transcription factors work.





Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter



Contd.....

Although I enjoyed exploring developmental biology, after my PhD, I decided to return to the area which got me hooked on to a career in plant research in the first place- discovering how plants sense temperature. A couple of months into my postdoctoral research, I am now studying how different temperature regimes experienced by the mother plant affect the future generation- the seed. I am learning new things, seed biology for a start, epigenetics and being reintroduced to old friends I encountered during my Masters degree- light and temperature responses of plants.

If you had asked me at the start of my PhD if I knew what I'd be doing after, I wouldn't have been able to tell you. I kept an open mind and followed my interests, and at the end I had a fair idea of what excited me the most. I can now bring my past knowledge of tissue development into my current research which makes me appreciate plants even more! So in hindsight, perhaps research and a career as a researcher are much like writing- you start off not knowing where it takes you and for all you know, it might take you in a completely different direction; but during that time you have a vague idea of how you would like to conclude. Follow that idea!

Joyita Deb

B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany Batch of 2005-2008 Currently a Post-Doctoral Researcher at the John Innes Centre, UK Email: joyitadeb@live.com



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Forty Exciting Years in the Field of Clinical Genetics

Since graduating from Gargi College in 1974, I have spent my time in the field of Clinical Genetics. In 1976 I joined the Institute of Human Genetics in Aarhus, Denmark. There I gained my early training in human Cytogenetics. In 1977, I started on a Master's program in Genetic Counseling at Sarah Lawrence College in New York. During this program I was extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with Dr. Dorothy Warburton of Columbia University Medical Center in New York. I was able to use my training and knowledge in human Cytogenetics in the study on the etiology of spontaneous abortions.

After completing my studies in 1979, I returned to India and worked in Chennai, where I helped set up a Cytogenetics Laboratory and also provided Genetic Counseling. In 1983 I started my Ph.D. program at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada. My thesis project was on the "Effects of Paracentric Inversion on Meiosis and Reproduction" under the guidance of Dr. Clarke Fraser and Dr. Penelope Allderdice. Dr. Fraser's contribution to genetics is in the field of multifactorial inheritance. Dr. Allderdice's work is on studying cytogenetic abnormalities in the population in Newfoundland, where she identified and studied a number of large families with cytogenetic abnormalities.

In 1987, after completing my Ph.D., I joined for Post-Doctoral Fellowship training at the University of Chicago in the laboratory of Dr. Janet Rowley and Dr. Michelle LeBeau. Dr. Rowley was a pioneer in the field of Cancer Cytogenetics. I obtained Board certification in Clinical Cytogenetics from the American Board of Medical Genetics in 1990.

From 1991 to 1997 I was Director of the Clinical Cytogenetics Laboratory at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago and also faculty at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Northwestern University.

In 1998 I joined as Director of Cytogenetics at Genzyme Genetics in California. Since 2012 I have been Director of Cytogenetics at NeoGenomics Laboratories in Irvine, California. Since 2000, I am also faculty in the Department of Pediatrics (Division of Genetic and Genomic Medicine) at the University of California, Irvine.

There is need for trained individuals, in India, who can help patients and families understand the genetic basis of inherited disorders, empowering them to make informed decisions. Towards this objective, in recent years, I have been collaborating with geneticists in India in developing programs to train Genetic Counselors.

It has been an exciting forty years! I have been immensely fortunate to witness tremendous developments in the field of Clinical Genetics. It all started with the Genetics course in the lecture hall in Gargi College!

Dr. Maya Thangavelu

B.Sc. Gargi College 1974.







Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter



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Gargi Days

Time flies so fast!! It's easy to move ahead leaving things behind but there are some moments that stay with us forever. I am proud to be a part of Gargi College Family. I'm glad that I had the opportunity to learn and grow under the guidance of such eminent professors. They gave us the best possible foundation and I'm still using Dr Gita Mathur and Dr Shashi Tyagi's notes in my research!! Dr Priyanka Pandey's guidance during my M.Sc dissertation has helped me a lot. I never thought I would get such an immense level of cooperation from all the faculties of this department even after completing my graduation. Their teachings had molded me altogether to a new horizon and that has been helping me to come up with very innovative ideas in my Cell Biology research at Dabur Research Foundation.

The constant support from our all lab staff especially Pancham Sir and Rajni ma'am motivated us a lot. Gargi College blessed me with best-friends for a lifetime and I shall always cherish those memories. I miss the Nescafe and the playground field, our favorite hanging zone where we had unlimited fun, our whisperings at the library, those pretty scolding from mam after bunking classes!! Life at Gargi College follows me relentlessly wherever I go. All those memories will forever remain as a beautiful nostalgia in my mind.

Kimi Bhuyan

Researcher Dabur Research Foundation





Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter



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Back to Gargi as Faculty

S. No.	Name	Department	Designation
1.	Dr. Sheela Kumari	Physical Education	Associate Professor
2.	Dr. Kavita Vasudev	Microbiology	Associate Professor
3.	Dr. Mudita Mohile	English	Assistant Professor
4.	Ms. Smita Chaudhary	Zoology	Assistant Professor
5.	Dr. Poonam Phogat	Psychology	Assistant Professor
6.	Dr. Renu Mundhara	Botany	Assistant Professor
7.	Ms. Sumant Meena	Commerce	Assistant Professor
8.	Ms. Aakriti Chaudhary	Commerce	Assistant Professor
9.	Ms. Jyotika Bahl	Commerce	Assistant Professor
10.	Dr. Suchitra Bharti	Sanskrit	Assistant Professor
11.	Dr. Neha Sharma	Chemistry	Assistant Professor
12.	Dr. Beena Negi	Chemistry	Assistant Professor
13.	Dr. Manju Saroj	Chemistry	Assistant Professor
14.	Nirmala Shah	History	Assistant Professor
15.	Dr. Shivani	Psychology	Assistant Professor
16.	Ms. Gayatri Mehra	English	Assistant Professor
17.	Ms. Shailly	B. El. Ed.	Assistant Professor
18.	Ms. Rajni Athwal	Botany	Assistant
19.	Ms. Madhu Kumar	Administration	S.O. (Accounts)
20.	Ms.Nileema Mathur	Administration	S.O. (Administration)



Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter





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Gargi College: My Second Home

Although it has been Twelve years yet it seems like yesterday when I joined Gargi College as an undergraduate student. I used to live in east Delhi and travel time to Gargi was slightly more than two hours in multiple overcrowded buses with dust and smoke as my co-traveler yet my spirit to take admission in this college did not die. During school times, the word "College" used to ring the fun bell in my mind, bunking classes, fests, fashion, freedom and what not.

However Alice couldn't stay in her wonderland and real life began. From dawn to dusk we had theory and practical classes. Teachers were so dedicated towards teaching that we never had any free classes. Sometimes when any teacher took leave, the classes were taken by some other teacher. Three years I didn't just learn Physics, Chemistry and Math but was able to acquire the Knowledge in its true form.

Although I studied B.Sc. General, but the knowledge provided to us by our teachers was so immense that I got a strong craving for knowledge which in turn paved my way to pursue M.Sc. in Chemistry from University of Delhi. The thirst for knowledge, encouragement and dedication gained during my days in Gargi did not conclude here. I further decided to pursue Ph.D. in Chemistry and achieved the title Dr. Today I can proudly dedicate the stepping stone of my title to Gargi college and my teachers back then.

Call it coincidence or destiny but my bond with this College called me back. On my first day in Gargi as a teacher, I was very nervous, nervous of working with the teachers who once had taught me, nervous of committing mistakes, nervous of standing on the other side of the classroom in which once I sat as student. But one more time, my teachers, my Gurus, supported me and showed faith in me. I was their student once again and received guidance at every step. In my three and a half years in Gargi, I have fallen in love with this College all over again. I always feel that this place belongs to me and I belong to it and that is why this is my second home.

Dr. Neha Sharma

Assistant Professor Chemistry Department





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From Class Room to Staff Room

I am a Botany Hons. 1997 batch graduate from Gargi College. I have done my M.Sc, M.Phil and Ph.D from Botany Department, North Campus, Delhi University. It gives me immense pleasure to write for Manaswani. Three years of my graduation are unforgettable moments of my life. This was a stepping stone of my life.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my advisor Prof. Abdur Rashid for the continuous support of my Ph.D study and related research, for his patience, motivation, and immense knowledge. Besides my advisor, I would also like to thank the rest of my dedicated, experienced and supportive Professors - Dr. Ahalya Chintamani, Dr. Lalita Seghal, Dr. Krishna Kumar, Dr. Bharti Bhattacharya, Dr. Shashi Tyagi, Dr. Usha Prasad, Dr. Gita Mathur, Dr. Kiran Prabha and Dr. Geeta Mehta for their insightful comments, inspiring guidance and encouragement, which incented me to widen my knowledge about the subject. Informative lectures along with practical's sessions set the basis for pursuing higher education. It acts as base for learning. Excursion trips organised by the department which enhanced my knowledge of biodiversity.

My sincere thanks also go to Non teaching staff of botany department, who gave full support for access to the laboratory. The college provided ample opportunities to indulge in various extra-curricular activities. I really groomed well. I was very much inspired by my professors. After doing Ph.D. I had joined Delhi University Colleges as an assistant professor. I have joined Gargi College in the year 2008. Now I am proud to be part of Botany Department of Gargi College as a permanent faculty member.

I achieved it because of precious knowledge and experience which I got at Gargi College during the journey as a student to an assistant professor.

Dr. Renu Mundhara Soni

Assistant Professor Botany Department





Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter



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Gargi to Gargi

Today, I am formally known as Dr Manju K. Saroj. But way back in 2002 when I enrolled in Gargi College, I was a girl next door, simply known as Manju. I distinctly recall my first day on college premises. My father accompanied me for taking admission. We asked for directions to the way to office and a volunteer guided me upstairs. "She will find her way," she told my father.

The three years I spent in Gargi were truly formative years in more than one sense. When I entered I thought of becoming a school chemistry teacher. But one of the teachers from Department of Chemistry motivated me for higher studies, especially research. The teacher used to exhort us in class to go for research studies. Yes, at that time, it was just a bud of a thought, but it was enough to inspire me to go for higher education in Chemistry.

That bud bloomed into a full blossom flower. In 2007, I completed M.Sc. Chemistry from the University of Delhi. The appetite to learn more about my subject drove me to pursue M. Phil instead of B.Ed., usually considered a more viable option for the "future" of girls in India. From M. Phil, Ph.D. was a natural next step in pursuit of research. It is suffice to say that the graduation years spent in Gargi College were life changing for me in absolute terms. What I had wanted to become and what I eventually achieved was all part of those three years.

Even before my Ph.D. completed, I started to teach in Hansraj College as Assistant Professor from August 2012. But nothing beats the feeling of coming back to Gargi College again. And this time, as a teaching faculty in January 2015. That first week in Gargi I felt like I'm dreaming. Fortunately, it was not the dream but a dream come true. Lady luck shone on me again and I joined Gargi College as a permanent faculty in October 2015. Life has come a full circle for me. Gargi College changed the trajectory of my life 14 years ago. I am here again and hopefully I will give my best to the institution that gave me its best.

It was 2002 when I joined Gargi as a student, and now it's 2016. Fourteen years have elapsed since but I fondly remember bitter-sweet memories of my life in Gargi as if it was only yesterday. Still I have all those glimpses of theory classes; practicals; exam time; long hours of chatting with friends; sitting in the canteen and eating samosas; Gargi fest; student skirmishes on thoughts of bunking classes besides the ever-present social and financial heterogeneity in college run like a movie in my mind.





Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter



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Contd.

My dearest friend Beena has been a constant companion throughout my journey since the first day. I can confidently say that without her all these years would have meant less in every sense of the word. We met at Gargi College, we graduated together in 2005 and joined Gargi as Assistant Professors on the same day. Should I ask for more? I don't think so.

Above all, I am in deep gratitude to my Alma Mater for giving me so very much. A sense of good life, a solid direction to a niche future, a meaningful and useful knowledge base, an attitude to compete and a loveable friend circle. In all, my pursuit of happiness isn't complete yet but I feel it is in the correct direction.

Dr. Manju Saroj

Assistant Professor, Chemistry Department

Gargi just not made me graduate in 2005, it also molded me as a responsible, confident and independent human being. My stay for three years at Gargi was pleasant. I realized my dream and capabilities here. My knowledge was enlightened here by the well qualified Professors. I sincerely attended all the lectures and practical and learned many things.

After Gargi, I did M.Sc. in Chemistry and Ph.D. in Medicinal Chemistry from University of Delhi. I have co-authored a book entitled 'chemistry of heterocyclic compounds' and have '12 International publications'.

I worked in various Colleges of DU as a faculty after completing my Ph.D. In 2015, I joined Gargi as an Assistant Professor, together with my college friend Dr. Manju Saroj. It gives me immense pleasure to be a part of this college again as a faculty.

Dr. Beena Negi

Assistant Professor, Chemistry Department





Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter



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Reverie 2016: Kaleidoscope of Possibilities

Gargi College hosted its annual cultural fest, Reverie'16 with a theme of "Kaleidoscope of Possibilities" from 24th to 26th February 2016. It was a three days celebration of talent in theatre, dance, music, photography, debate and creative writing. With lots of fun, food, dance and stalls Reverie had something for everyone. EDM Night and the Celeb night by MJ5 Dance group and Bollywood singer Keerthi Sagathia provided enough beats at the end of each day for everyone to have fun and enjoy.

Decked up with colourful decorations the first day opened with an inauguration ceremony and was followed by plethora of vibrant events like Nivacanna: stage theatre event, hosted by the stage play society, Upstage; Abhaas: street theatre event, organized by the street play society of the college, Kshitij; battle of bands and Zenith: western dance competition took place in the evening witnessing a jam-packed auditorium.

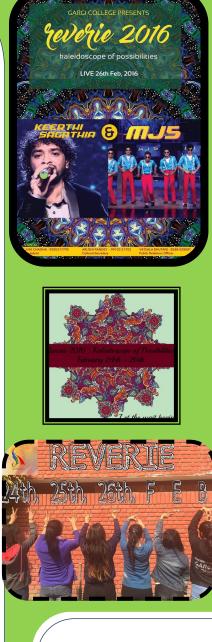
The second day at Reverie was full of music with western solo and group singing competitions organized by Euphony, the western music society of Gargi College. The Indian group singing competition, Sangam organized by Samranjini, the Indian music society of Gargi College. Cursiv-iti, the choreography competition organized by Sparx, the choreography society of Gargi College saw 10 teams showcasing their productions. The day of music ended with everyone on their toes dancing to the tunes of EDM music.

The third and final day at Reverie'16 the day of dance was filled with cultural dance events organized by Nazaakat, the folk dance society of Gargi College. Alaap, the folk dance solo event saw 12 artists from around the University performing major Indian dance forms like Kathak, Kuchipudi and Bharatnatyam. The event was followed by Thumka, the group folk dance competition which saw participation from 8 teams around the University who showcased a variety of dance forms like Bhangra, Gidda, Bihu, Lavni and more.

The much awaited star night opened with the performance of MJ5 Dance group, who showed their impressive moves on many dance numbers and fusions. The night came to an end with Bollywood singer Keerthi Sagathia who enthralled the audiences with his soulful music, performing on songs 'Teri Deewani', 'Lungi Dance' and 'Tera Pyaar Chahida' and many more.

Besides this all the three days were full of myriad competitions by fine arts society, creative writing society, photography society, debate societies and quiz society. These three days were the celebration of multiple shades of talent and new possibilities with lots of fun.

T. Ramya Union Member B.Sc. Hons. Botany III year





Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter





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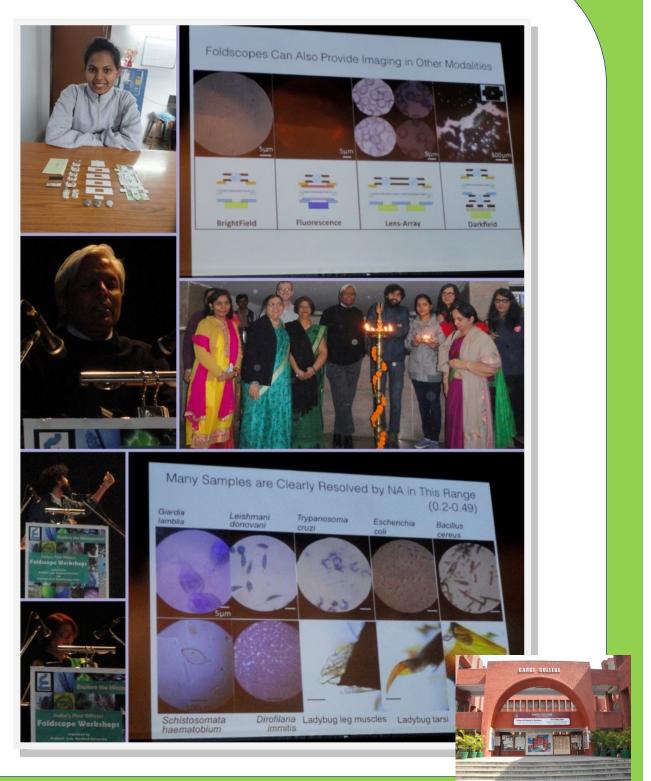
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Foldscope Workshop





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DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS 2015-16

BOTANY DEPARTMENT

The Gargi College Botanical Society "TARU" started its activities for the session with a lecture by Prof. Arun K. Sharma of the Department of Plant Molecular Biology, Delhi University, South Campus on 11th September 2015. The lecture was entitled "Genetic Manipulation for improving the Fruit Quality".

Botany department also organized a workshop for students "Plant Tissue Culture: Technique & Applications" (16 June, 2015) under star college scheme.



Students of Botany department celebrated teacher's day with great fun and frolic by organizing a surprise for teachers.

This year TARU organized various events like poster making, Waste-o- mania and slogan writing competition, where students from various other departments also made their active participation.

A trip to Aravalli biodiversity park was organized by Botany Department on 18th March 2016 for Botany (H) I year students to familiarize them with fauna and flora around them. This trip promoted nature-education among students and created environmental awareness. <section-header>

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CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

This year was started with inaugural lecture by Dr. V.C Kalia, scientist in CSIR lab. The department organized an educational trip to Orchha and Panna and an industrial visit of sugar mill.

Department also organized rangoli and poster making competitions. Lecture by Dr. Sanchita Jindal who is the Director of Ministry of Environment was organized. During the science fest the Chemistry department organized Fun-in-lab and debate competitions.





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COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

On 21st August, 2015 the Commerce Association successfully conducted its first event, the Business Quiz for the third year students.

The Comascent team organized the Cover Page Design Competition for the Commerce and BBE students on 9th September, 2015 on the topic, "Startup India: Empowering Entrepreneurship".

Comascent team conducted a Business Plan Orientation on 14th September to equip the students with the basic knowledge about Business Plan, its preparation and other contents like executive summary, marketing strategies and target groups. This was followed by a Business plan competition on 16th September, 2015 wherein 35 teams participated



The first "Panorama" lecture for the current session was presented by Ms. Aakriti Chaudhry on the topic 'Basics of Research: Research Problem and Research Design' on 28th September' 2015.

On 12th October, 2015, Commerce Department had its annual departmental fest "Cascade"on the theme "Startup India: Empowering Entrepreneurship". The event began with the Lighting of Lamp by the Chief Guest Mr. Manish Sisodia (Deputy Chief Minister, Delhi) Guest of Honour, Mr. Saurabh Bhardwaj, (MLA Delhi). Other speakers at the event included Mr. Atul Kotra, (Governing body, Gargi College), Prof. Kavita Sharma, (HOD, Deptt. Of Commerce, DU) and Mr. Piyush Paul,(CEO Unlockar Apps Pvt Ltd). The informal session of the festival had four competitions including Tag of War, Corporate Roadies, Digi-Psych Symposium, It happens only in India. Students across DU participated in these competitions with full zest and zeal. Consilium, The Business Society of Gargi College was launched on the same day.



On 20th October, 2015 Ms. Rupal Arora gave the second "Panorama" lecture on "Role of credit rating agencies in corporate governance in an effort to make interchange of knowledge on latest IT based presentation skills a workshop was organized on "Enhancing Presentation Skills: Upgrading to the next level" on 14th

December, 2015. Two presentations were delivered by Ms. Niharika (on Movie maker software) and Ms. Priyanka (On Prezi software) in the workshop.



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ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT

"Enlightening, Educating, Encouraging." These words rightly justify the year that has gone by for the economics department for the session that is going by. The department kick started the year



phenomenally successful annual fest that is "Econovation 2015". The event which was every economics aficionado's dream come true was a platform for debate, discussion and deliberation on the theme "21st Century, Challenges and Opportunities". The fest also saw fervent participation in the Paper Presentation Competition, Poster Mash, Beg Borrow Deal and Quiz bola.

with the Induction Ceremony where the students from the first year of the B.A Program, Economics Elective were welcomed and briefed about the functioning of the department.

Logo Designing Competition was the first online competition of the year and saw the enthusiastic participation of all economics students. Following which, the Ecomantra Union organized the



It was an extremely proud moment for Ecomantra when the economics delegation from the college represented the department at the Economics Conclave 2015 which had eminent speakers like PM Narendra Modi and Raghuram Rajan.

Some of the seminars organized by Ecomantra include Career Awareness Seminar on Management by IMS, Seminar on LSE Courses by ISBF, Seminar on the Tribal World by Dr Felix Padel. These were just a few of the initiatives and achievements. In the coming year, department aims to strive harder for success and glory of students and make institution proud.





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ELEMENTARY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Being a 4-year integrated program, the department of elementary education conducts various workshops, field trips for its students. This year the first years went on a slum visit to one of the slums of Delhi to understand their lifestyle; national craft museum as part of their craft practicum. They also went on Delhi Darshan to understand the diversity and the prevailing contexts of various monuments built in their respective eras and their significance. As part of their Story Telling practicum, various workshops were done with the second years with story tellers such as Kamal Pruthi and Indira Mukherjee. Various workshops on material development practicum were conducted with the students of third year. These workshops mainly included resource persons such as Ghazala Siddigi from Jamia Milia Islamia, resource person from Jodo Gyan, etc. These workshops helped in honing students' skills in the respective areas. A symposium titled ' Classroom Management- Envisioning Teaching-Learning Possibilities' was also held where all the four years endeavored to explore the various dimensions of classroom management such as learning outside the classroom, humanistic approach to class room management etc. The third years also went to an innovative school visit to Bodhshala, Alwar District, Rajasthan to explore various teaching learning methods applied in innovative schools of Bodh Shikhsa Samiti, where the whole community was very passionately putting in efforts to educate the children of the village even though the schools were 3-5 km away from their houses and the children had to walk over to the school. All this has been a great leaning and enriching experience for the students of the department and of immense use for them.

Besides all this, the department celebrated teacher's day, organized leisure trip to khajuraho-Orchha-Panna, M.P. for the department students. Department released its first ever departmental magazine 'Sanchayan-Nurturing The Being' on the occasion of its departmental fest 'Edufest 2016', the theme for which this year was 'Creating Green Learning Communities' which was held on 30th March 2016.



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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

English Literary Society, Department of English, Gargi College organized a series of formal academic events and several non-literary activities throughout the year.

A trip was arranged for the students to attend a Brain Storming Session on 'Translating India' Project organized by Katha at their office on September 21, 2015. 22 students, accompanied by two teachers, attended the workshop. It was a great learning experience for the students.

On October 13, 2015, Upstage, the Dramatics Society of Gargi College, in collaboration with the English Literary Society and the cooperation of the Students' Union organized a dramatic performance in Urdu of Ismat Chugtai's story "Bichoo Phupi" (Aunty Scorpion). The performance was enacted by Mr. Vikram Singh Thakur (Ambedkar University) and his team.

A poetry reading session – "Reading Poetry: An Interaction with Sudeep Sen" was hosted on October 15, 2015, in the college Seminar Hall. Sudeep Sen, an eminent poet who has several volumes of poetry to his credit and the recipient of several prestigious awards for his poetry, read selections from his poetry and interacted with our students. The event witnessed a huge participation from the students and faculty of the college. Dr. Anjana N. Dev chaired the session.

A Creative Writing Workshop was conducted on February 8 and 11, 2016, focusing on the art of writing poetry. The workshop, conducted by Mr. Aditya Mohan Bahl, witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of English honors.

The Department of English organized film screenings for our students, encouraging crossgeneric engagements with literary texts. Around 6 film screenings have taken place so far in this academic year.

The most significant event of the society was the Annual Literature Festival, Literati. This year Literati 2016 centered around the theme of folktales and folklore, titled "(Re) Imagining the 'Literary': The Aesthetics and Politics of Folktales" on March 16, 2016, in the college Seminar Hall. The Panel Discussion had Dr. Gitanjali Chawla, Associate Professor, Department of English, Maharaja Agrasen College, Ms. Arunima Das, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Gargi College, Dr. Sangeeta Dutta, Archivist at Archives and Research Centre for Ethnomusicology, AIIS, and Mr. Shankhajeet De, Filmmaker and Independent Researcher, as our distinguished panelists. Ms. Nzanmongi Patton moderated the session.

The day's activities began with the Principal's opening remarks on the changing politics of folktales in India, followed by a folk dance performance by our students. The Panel Discussion

was followed by Student Paper Presentations. The other events included literary quiz, creative writing and comic strip making competitions. Students from several colleges participated. Consequent to the immense dedication and hard work put in by our students, this festival was a huge success. As part of the festival, English Literary Society took the initiative to promote folk artists, and had invited some artisans and folk artists to showcase their art and display their crafts.



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HINDI DEPARTMENT



हिन्दी साहित्य परिषद् ने शैक्षिक वर्ष2015-16के आरम्भ में 5-08-16 को परिषद् का चुनाव किया।तत्पश्चात परिषद् ने 'सृजनात्मक लेखन' प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया जिसमे विभाग की छात्राओं ने शब्दों के माध्यम से सृजनात्मकता के चित्र उकेरें। 20-01-16 को परिषद् ने कविता पाठ प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया जिसमें महाविद्यालय की छात्राओं ने अपनी कल्पना और शब्दों के जादू से सबका मन मोह लिया।

गतिविधियों के सिलसिले को बरकरार रखते हुए परिषद ने 'एकल व्याख्यानमाला' के अन्तर्गत 'व्याखयानमाला२' का आयोजन किया जिसका विषय 'उपन्यास और लोकतन्त्र' रखा गया, हिन्दी साहित्य जगत में विगत तीन वर्षों से कार्यरत प्रसिद्ध आलोचक डा॰मैनेजर पाण्डेय ने अपने विचारों से सबको लाभान्वित किया।दिनांक 15-03-16 को 'यूरोप मे हिन्दी का वर्तमान और भविष्य' विषय पर व्याख्यान का आयोजन किया जिसकी वक्ता इटली से आई शोधार्थी 'वेरोनिका' रही।विभाग इस वर्ष पहली बार विभागीय पत्रिका का आरम्भ भी कर रहा है।



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HISTORY DEPARTMENT





Academy Award winning musical drama "The Sound of Music" (1965) was screened for the students and teachers of History Department on September 19th. The movie depicts the historical escape of the von Trapp family from Nazi encroachment at the dawn of World War II.

Eminent historian Prof. Farhat Hasan gave an insightful discourse on 'State and Social Change in South Asian History' on September 23rd. His informative and enriching views and theories on state determinism in history writing were well received by a packed audience in Seminar Hall of the college.

The History department attended a two-day workshop organized by INTACH from 8th October to 9th October. The students were introduced to the various initiatives taken by Delhi Chapter, INTACH- an organization dedicated to the cause of preserving the country's heritage. Heritage issues of Delhi and the concepts of Material, Cultural and Architectural Heritage were also discussed in great detail. Talk by renowned historian Dr Narayani Gupta, visit to INTACH Material Heritage Laboratory, and Heritage Walk to Safdarjang's Tomb were some of the high points of the highly informative and engaging workshop.





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MATHAMETICS DEPARTMENT

Navdrishti, the student union of B.A Program and Mathematics department kicked off this year's session in April 2015 with a nostalgic farewell to their seniors. Soon, it was the time to welcome fresher's for the new academic session of 2015-2016.

The orientation saw enthusiastic participation from the new batch of B.A. Program. Student's hearts were filled with gratitude and reverence for their teachers and they displayed the same on teacher's day by presenting poems, flowers and a cake cutting.

Next up was the most awaited event of the year, Epiphany 2015 Fun, food, events, guests and their inspirational talks were the highlights of the day.

Apart from this, Navdrishti keeps on conducting competition all-round the year like photography, hand printing, creative writing and others. The department is always present to help and uplifting College and always strive to perform better.

MICROBIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

On 1st October 2015, the third years of Microbiology had an industrial visit to see and learn about the Technology Based Incubator (TBI) in University of Delhi South Campus (UDSC). It was a good learning experience, with a lecture given by Dr R.K Saxena on the research work done in UDSC. He briefed on the enzymes formulated for the leather industry and demonstrated on cellulose production by microorganisms in the TBI facility. Students meet a number of people working in different projects giving a brief idea about what goes on in the research field.

On 27th October 2015, the Department of Microbiology society, GERMS conducted a lecture on "Gut epithelium and its surrounding microbiota: Two important players in health and disease" given by Dr. Sarita Ahlawat, Ph.D., fellow BIRAC_BIG. She is currently working independently in University of Delhi South campus, working on the research project of early detection method for Breast and Cervical Cancer. She is also a founding member of Living Science. It was an interactive session between all the students and teachers where Dr. Ahlawat took up topic of gut microbiota and proceeded on the topic of Indian Science and interviewing Indian scientists in the web channel LIVING SCIENCE. The entire event was a success and later she gave an interview to Gargi's Science Magazine Eureka, which will be featured in the next issue of Eureka.



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PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

On 18th January 2016, the department of Philosophy organized its annual fest based on the theme of "Marital Rape: Philosophical issues in violence", which sought to enquire as to what does it mean when our legal and social structures make the claim that sexual assault cannot be recognized within the institution of marriage? This question raises a wide range of issues pertinent to philosophical investigation and a re-examination of the distinction between the private and public spheres, the roles that institutions like marriage and family play. Our honourable panellists, Dr. Mrinal Satish (Associate Professor of Law at National Law University, Delhi), Dr. Manohar Kumar (Postdoctoral Fellow at IIT Delhi) and Ms. Vani Subramaniam (Saheli, Autonomous Feminist Collective) addressed these issues as well as other fundamental questions surrounding violence itself and how we think about it – how do some forms of violence come to be considered more 'legitimate' than others? Competition such as less is more (creative writing), Picture speaks and debate provided a platform for students across various disciplines to express their perspectives.

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

Department organized lectures on various topics delivered by educationists from prestigious institutes. Dr. SANJAY JHINGAN (CENTRE OF THEORETICAL PHYSICS, JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA) delivered lecture on "Space and Time-From myths to reality". Department also had UKERI program wherein professionals from UK and India collaborated a series of lectures and paper presentation on the topic "SENSORS". The event saw enthusiasm among students who also gave a folk performance.

Lecture was delivered by Dr. MANU PRAKASH from STANFORD UNIVERSITY in the campus who introduced us to FOLDSCOPE. Students and teachers participated in the workshop and assembled FOLDSCOPE.

OWN-A-MUG competition was organized wherein students from all colleges participated and proposed their mugs – the event drove people to use these mugs in daily lives which would save a huge amount of disposal waste.

The department organized various events during the session, listing, EBIN Drive -students collected E-Waste in separate bins and disposed it to the authorized team; PHYSIQUIZ- a general quiz was conducted; CARIKEDA-caricature making completions was organized wherein students and teachers of the department participated and had fun drawing cartoons of their favourite character!

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Political Science department organized a talk on "Reservation as a means of nation- Building" by Prof. Dr. Vivek Kumar of Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Gandhi Study circle organized a talk by Prof. Ravinder Kumar on "Gandhiwadi Aastha aur Vartaman Bhartiya Paridrishya" on 30th Sept' 2015. Gandhi Study circle celebrated Gandhi fest on 17th March 2016. A lecture by Prof. Shashi Upadhyay on Mahatma Gandhi and Indian Nationalism was



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PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Gargi Psychology Department organized seminars, field trips and activities to enhance the learning experience of students. Department started the year by welcoming new batch of 2015-2018, followed by which they organized a session for students of UK Exchange Programme.



The biggest event for the year, annual psychology festival – PsyFiesta'15 was organized with theme "Towards a Positive Self: Promoting Good Mental Health", eminent Psychologists Dr. Jitender Nagpal and Mr. Pulkit Sharma were keynote speakers for the day.

Field trip to Thakran Farms, seminar by Dr. Swati Kedia and Dr. Manveer Bhatia are among other events for the year. To mark the end of academic year and with the aim to mainstream issues pertaining to mental health to the public forum, increase awareness, fight stigma attached to mental illness and moreover initiate dialogue and discussion on the policy-making front pertaining to Mental Health, this initiative for Mental Health Awareness India (IMHAI) is the brainchild of Dr. Nagpal and is being taken forward by Gargi Psychology Association.





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SANSKRIT DEPARTMENT

Sanskrit department organised an educational trip to Nanitaal, Bhimtaal & Ranikhet on 24-27 October, 2015. The trip was a great success due to enthusiasm showed by the students.

"SWATI" the Sanskrit Association organised a lecture on 6th November, 2015 on the topic "Veda hi Ishwar hai" Prof. Laxmishwar Jha ex Prof. at Lal Bahadur Sanskrit Vidyapeeth was the eminent speaker of the lecture. An Intra college competition Sanskrit Recitation & Sanskrit Paper Reading was organized by the department. On 26th February Natyabhivyakti was performed by the students.

ZOOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Albatross, the Zoology Society inaugurated its first event with a lecture on "Genomic and Human Health" by Dr. Sher Ali Prof. at N.I.I Delhi held on 9th September, 2015.

Under DBT Star College Scheme, Zoology Department organized summer workshop on Immunology and Molecular Biology by the faculty members.

Abhilasha Mathur, Christina Barla, Neha Bhagat and Ishani Bhardwaj from the final year were selected for internships at the National Institute of Immunology under the Science Setu Programme. These students were exposed to various research facilities and also participated in various research projects.





Two final year students Abhilasha Mathur and Dashleen Kaur went to Australia for Oral presentation at Australasian HIV & AIDS Conference and for Poster presentation at World STI & HIV Congress, respectively.

Students are currently working on an Innovation Project on 'Eco-biotechnological approaches for Bio-waste Utilization: Biopolymer and Biofuel' under the supervision of Dr. Shashi Tyagi, Dr. Shivani Tyagi and Dr. Mamtesh.

A very informative lecture by Prof. K.J. Mukherjee from the school of Biotechnology, JNU on the topic 'Recombinant DNA Overexpression' was also organized in the department on 16th March, 2016.

Faculty members arranged an educational tour for the students to Aravalli Biodiversity Park and National Zoological Park to create awareness on environment.



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PHYSICSAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The year began with the active participation of the students in their respective coaching programmes under professional coaches. Throughout the year, the students have brought laurels to the college by winning medals in various National, All India/North Zone Inter University and Intercollege tournaments in 11 different sports.

- In **cricket**, we obtained the **1**st **position** in intercollege competition.
- Chess and Judo team secured **3rd position** in intercollege competition.
- Tennis and Ball Badminton teams finished with **4**th **position** in intercollege competition.
- In athletics, we obtained 5th position with 6 medals (Gold-2, Silver-2, and Bronze-2) among 39 women colleges of Delhi University.
- Ms. Shubh Gulati Applied Psychology, 2nd Yr student represented India in Soft Tennis World Championship, Delhi 2015.
- Ms. **Dolly Sharma** Hindi (H), 3rd Yr student attended India Camp for SAF Games 2016.
- All the other teams too have performed in other competitions.

Gargi College is proud of the sportspersons who have kept the flag of the college flying high especially the following: Neha Bisht, Dolly Sharma,; Laxmi Kumari, Priyanka, Manya, Laxmi Gurjar, Dipti Rana; Sadhvi Bhadauria, Neha Dubran, Nazma, Neha Rajawat, Aarti Dhama, Anjali Sharma, Sakshi Yadav, Monika; Kritika Sharma; these sportspersons have represented the university in their respective interuniversity competitions of Judo, Ball Badminton, Cricket and Volleyball. Richa Nakoti and Dolly Sharma have represented the Delhi State in junior national and senior national Judo competition respectively. Tanushri Khandelwal, Jyoti Sanghwan, Ravina; Sonal Mudgal, Shivali and Garima Godara have always been amongst the medal tally in Athletics and Judo in all competitions.



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NCC Activities in Gargi

The NCC wing of Gargi College is attached to 4 Delhi Girls Battalion to army wing. In the academic year 2015-2016, 60 cadets were enrolled to NCC in addition to 40 cadets in second year and 29 cadets in third year.

The Year started with CATC camp (15th June – 24th June) in which 57 cadets participated and everyone got the golden opportunity to be a part of International Yoga Day on Rajpath, learnt self-defense techniques, firing etc.

Cadets were interviewed by A.N.O. ma'am and ranks were allotted 12 cadets i.e., S.U.O. (Ankesh Meena), J.U.O. (Monu, Prerna Sehrawat, Shweta, Vaishali), Sergeant (Arti, Dishu, Nisha, Nishu, Pallavi, Pooja, Savita). Cadets actively participated in various camps. Four cadets (Arti, Pallavi, Shivangi, Sushma) got selected for pre Thal Sainik Camp (24th July - 2nd August). Two cadets (JUO Monu & JUO Prerna) were selected for Chief Minister's Rally (28th July – 15th August) which was held in Chattarsaal stadium.

P. Susma was selected for OTA (Chennai) camp which was held from 17th Aug – 28th Aug. There was a knowledgeable and motivational lecture by an eminent retired officer from BSF DIG K.S. Sood in the college auditorium in the month of August.

Ten cadets from our college went to vigyaan bhawan on the prestigious occasion of Limca Guinness book of world records where defence minister and DG NCC came to address NCC cadets on 24th September.

Ten cadets visited Sadhana old age home on 26th September. NCC Cadets also associated themselves with the nationwide campaign and organized cleanliness as well as a plantation drive in the college premises. Six cadets also went for a National Integration Camp, UDAIPUR (25th Oct-6th Nov).

Cadet Kavita Rajpoot went for Army Attachment, Meerut (28thOct-6th Nov). Sgt. Nishu was selected for Ajmer Trekking Camp (17th Nov-26th Nov). Manisha Rani went for OTA, Gwalior (16th Nov-25th Nov). Five cadets (SUO Ankesh Meena, JUO Monu, JUO Prerna, Cdt Jyoti Rani, Cdt Asha) were selected for Amar Jawaan Jyoti.

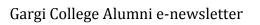
A number of cadets were also selected for pre republic day camp where JUO Monu brought laurels to the college as she was selected for 4 consecutive PRE RDC Caters and also being selected for the marchpast of NCC Contigent on Rajpath.

19 cadets were part of yoga and mass PT in Prime Minister's Rally held on 28th January 2016. The Cadets won several prizes in Inter-College NCC fest in various colleges such as 1st position in solo singing by JUO Monu in Dyal Singh College; 1st position in Rangoli competition by Radha, Shalu, Nidhi in Shivaji College; runner up in best cadet competition by JUO Monu in Kirori Mal College; 2nd position in drill competition in Deshbandhu college; 2nd position in debating competition by Cdt. Yashi in Miranda College; 1st position in guard competition,2nd position in poster making competition by shalu, 2nd position in solo dance by Swati Mittal in Shaheed Bhagat Singh College; 2nd position in group song in Delhi College Of Arts & Commerce and many more positions in various other colleges.

NCC festival of Gargi College was held on 29th March 2016. A vibrant array of activities was enjoyed by NCC cadets.









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NCC In Action











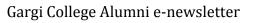














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Gargi Students' Union 2015-16







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Alumni Achievers



Dr. Krishna Mahapatra Consultant, Development Communications, Formerly UN



Ms. Jyotsna Doordarshan



Ms. Huma Qureshi Bollywood Actress



Dr. Ragini Rai Post-Doctoral Fellow, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore



Dr. Suman Govil Adviser, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India



Dr. Lipi Saxena Assistant Professor, Philosophy at LSR



Dr. Ratna Silchar Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry ZUCKER HILLSIDE HOSPITAL New York



Ms Monika Sood Co founder and Partner Arete Advisors



Dr. (Mrs.) Gurpreet Mahajan Professor, Centre for Political Studies, School of Life Sciences, JNU



Dr. Anjali Sahay Assistant Professor International Relations and Political Science, Gannon University, Erie, PA



Dr. (Mrs.) Mrinal R Pai Chemistry division Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai



Sheeja Gopalan BCIL, OncQuest Laboratories Pvt Ltd





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Alumni Achievers



Sonam Stretegic Planner, Panache International, UAE



Rafat **Teach for India**



Nupur Sarda Wealth Manager, **ICICI Bank**



Dr. Arpita Baisantry Max Planck Institute of **Stem Cells and Ageing**



Himani Keswani **Consultant, Absolute Data Research & Analytics, Philippines**



Ms. Rekha Badsiwal Assistant Professor, **Elementry Education**, Miranda House



Yamini Panchaksharam **National History Museum**





Sneha Balani Ph.D. Student, University of British, Columbia, USA



Disha Pannu IPS, Civil Servant Dept. of Post

Dr. Shashi Verma Faculty, Department of **Physics & Astrophysics**



Anupam Chaudhary Flight Lieutenant Indian Air Force

Dr. Indra Scientist (Inter University Accelerator Center)



Deepika Sharma Captain in Indian Army

Dr. Arti Anand Clinical Psychologist Sir Ganga Ram Hospital



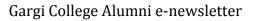
Dr. Jyoti Dalal

Faculty at Institute of Home Economics (IHE), University of Delhi

Dr. Madhavi Menon **Associate Professor Nove Southeastern University** Florida, USA









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eManaswini: Journey so Far

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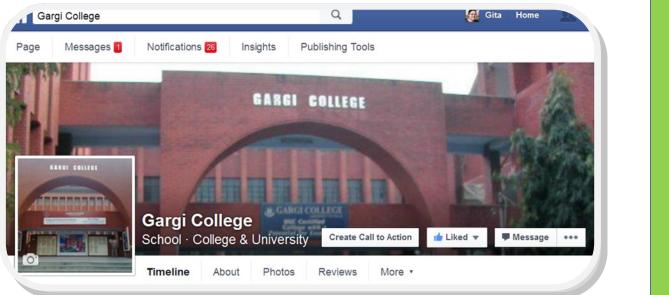


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Editorial Team:

Editor : Dr. Gita Mathur Joint Editor: Ms. Seema Sirpal Reporter : Ms. Rajni Athwal

Alumni can Contact us:

- Facebook Gargi College Gargi Manaswini
 - Gita Mathur
- Google Group
 gargicollegealumni@googlegroups.com
- Email ID gargialumni@gmail.com gita.mathur@gmail.com





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Gargi Views

