

## Chairperson's Message

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I am glad that Maitreyi College is excelling in various academic endeavors. The Internal Complaints Committee not only addresses issues on the campus, but has set its unique stride in bringing out an e-magazine which stands out for quality and varied themes on gender discrimination. The magazine sure portrays the spectrum of gender bias with all its shades and complexities that exist in the contemporary world. Institutions are responsible for developing ethics, values and proper behaviour on their premises. The way these values are promoted and developed has a major impact on the organizational culture. It is this cultural environment that prevents the occurrence of any form of harassment. Maitreyi college is not only advocating and nourishing such an environment and culture, but is also deliberating on the related issues and concepts through Samvedana.



While addressing the pertinent issues on all forms of harassment, I am sure the magazine would create a good platform for debates on Gender bias and establish its own place in the academic realm.

I congratulate the editorial team and the Principal for their untiring efforts in bringing awareness on the issues of gender discrimination to the stakeholders of educational institutions at large.

**Balaganapathi Devarakonda**

*Professor & Head*

*Department of Philosophy*

*University of Delhi, Delhi - 110007*

# Principal's Message

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The cultivation of civilisation, its accomplishments and its limitations can best be understood by studying the position and status of women in it.

Historical studies and scriptures indicate that Indian women enjoyed high status during the early Vedic period surpassing contemporary civilisation in Ancient Greece and Rome.



The Rigveda provides ample evidence to reflect the concept of equality of women with men. Women's freedom to participate in war, in sports such as gymnastics, archery, horse riding, in acquiring education, in decision making and in the selection of male partner through Swayamvera, has portrayed the nature of women's status in the social canvas of the Rig Vedic period.

But due to differences in socio-cultural traditions and practices, the influence of gender on Indian society has varied widely. The status of women fell in the later Vedic and subsequent periods. Ironically, the participation of women was confined to a role as a silent observer and not an active participant. A number of problems started to creep in when women's desire to acquire education was quenched.

It is true that every cloud has a silver lining. The changes into the status of women were first observed in 15th century. Over the past few decades, many initiatives have been undertaken to bring back the past glory of womanhood — the most effective one is to sensitize the society by promoting education for one and all.

To redefine the identity of a woman not only as a mother, a daughter, a wife, a sister but also as a struggler, a fighter, and a leader, we are presenting to our avid readers the first anniversary issue of half yearly e-magazine "Samvedana".

*Nothing is stronger than a woman who is fighting for what she believes in.....*

**Dr. Haritma Chopra**

*Officiating Principal*

*Maitreyi College , University of Delhi*



**FIRST ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES**

प्रो. अंजिला गुप्ता  
कुलपति  
Prof. Anjila Gupta  
Vice-Chancellor



गुरु घासीदास विश्वविद्यालय  
बिलासपुर-495009, छत्तीसगढ़ (भारत)  
**Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya**  
(A Central University)  
Bilaspur - 495009, Chhattisgarh (India)

**Message**

Congratulations. It is great to see Maitreyi College publishing the first anniversary issue of Samvedana. I have read prior issues with tremendous interest and found the articles to be bold, unbiased and thought provoking. To me, this magazine is the beginning of a new era in which educators and thinkers of our universities will go beyond the class rooms, and directly take their message to the society. This non-commercial magazine is truly one of a kind and provides a perfect platform to foster dialogue on social issues. This is a changing time for Indian society and there needs to be an open discussion on important issues such as social justice, equality and role of women in our society. Putting together such a high quality magazine requires hard work, dedication and a higher purpose. However, such forums can one day become the engine of social reform, where all views are heard, ideas exchanged and opposing views respected. I am certain that this effort will inspire others to put together similar publications from other universities. I congratulate the editors and support staff of Samvedana for taking the lead in this regard. I commend them for their hard work and commitment and wish them success in their future endeavors.

Prof. Anjila Gupta  
Vice-Chancellor  
Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya Bilaspur  
(A Central University)



I applaud the publication of your wonderful e-magazine "Samvedana" on women issues. The entire magazine is full of thought-provoking articles on women with practical, insights. I liked the article on "Gender Equality in India- A viewpoint".

I wish you continued success in bringing such a beautiful and informative magazine to life for so many people who love and appreciate to read the women issues from a wider perspective.

I look forward to reading your Anniversary issue.

**Ms. Ashwini Lal**

*Director*

*Department of Economic Affairs,  
Ministry of Finance*



My heartfelt congratulations on the first anniversary issue of the e-magazine, Samvedana. It was an enriching experience going through this impressively designed magazine. Best wishes to the creative team and all the contributors who are shining a light on issues Indian women have to face.

**Prof.(Dr.) Anoop Misra**

*Executive Chairman Fortis C -DOC Hospital*

*Editor-in-Chief, Diabetes & Metabolic Syndrome: Clinical Research & Reviews*

*Padma Shree & Dr. B.C. Roy awardee*

Team Samvedana is proud to present the first anniversary issue of our e-magazine. We would like to express our gratitude towards the authors who have so graciously contributed original material, our editorial staff for getting our issues ready for presentation, and all our readers for such a warm reception and kind feedback. We hope to continue to highlight issues affecting women and with your collective help raise awareness about issues that are too often accepted as facts of life.

**Team Samvedana**



## EDITOR'S NOTE

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Home signifies love, bonding and feeling of being there for each other. A structure called house becomes a home with people living therein and it is the affection and cooperation among them that makes it a home. Things like respect for differing roles, sharing, helping each other, keeping place tidy and magic words like 'thank you', 'sorry', 'please' contribute to happiness and harmony.



Sometimes issues like sibling rivalry, gender and same sex discrimination, bullying destroy peace and bring bitterness in relationships. Such things can leave life long scars on the tender minds of the aggrieved. Are pressures in the external environment like competition, jealousy, back stabbing not enough that one may have to face bad environment even at home?

Society is alive to heinous crimes, gender based issues, dowry, domestic violence, harassment at work place but congeniality at home is also a matter that needs attention. There can not be laws to solve 'within boundary of home' issues. The solution most likely lies in cultivating the right attitude for which the parents have to play a major role. Right parenting, cheerful disposition, checking and correcting inappropriate behaviour among children, and 'then and there' approach can go a long way in solving the issues and not letting them emerge in the first place.

**Dr. Prachi Bagla**

*Chief Editor*

The views expressed in the write ups are those of the authors concerned.  
The editors are not responsible for them.