



HISTORY OF KANYAKUBJ COLLEGE, LUCKNOW

Kanyakubj College had its origin as **Sanskrit Anglo Mahajani Pathshala** in the Pandeyganj locality of Lucknow in 1917. With time, it was shifted to the house of Pt. Sukhdev Prasad Tiwari and was renamed as **Kanyakubj Anglo Mahajani Sanskrit Pathshala**. In 1918, this Pathshala or Primary school was upgraded to Middle School. It was then shifted to the house of Pt. Laxmi Prasad Pandey in Ganeshganj. Pt. Sukhdev Prasad Tiwari was the then Inspector of Schools, and it were his efforts that the school got the recognition to run classes up to 8th standard. At that time, Ganeshganj was the hub of Kanyakubj Brahmins, where, in an Annual Meet of Kanyakubj Brahmins, presided by Raja Kalicharan Mishra of Bareilly, a decision to establish an Institution was taken that may provide education to the youth in the society. It was the time when the British administration had consented to open Private colleges. The reason behind this was that though there were government High School and Intermediate School in every district, only the children of the rich families could receive education in them. Taking the advantage of Government's policy, many educationists came forward to open new educational institutions. Kashi Hindu Viswavidyalaya, Aligarh Muslim University, Christian Colleges by English Missionaries, and DAV Colleges by Arya Samajees, in the memory of Swami Dayanand, were established in the state. In the same tradition, Kanyakubj College was also established. In the month of July 1920, this school got shifted to Hewett Road where we now have the Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya.

In those days, Pt. Gokaran Nath Misra was the President of Management Committee of the College and Shri Raghuvanshi Das Trivedi, Pt. Sri Narain Misra, Pt. Jai Narain Misra, Rao Raja Dr Shyam Bihari Misra, Pt. Ganesh Bihari Misra, Pt. Shukdev Bihari Misra, Pt. Harkaran Nath Misra, Sir Sheetla Prasad Bajpai, Pt. Ram Narain Misra 'Vaidya', Pt. Chintamani Pandey, Shri Raj Krishna Dutt Dubey etc. were other members in the Managing Committee. It was the result of their devotion and incessant efforts that the school got recognition to be a High School by the government in 1921 and as a result, it was rechristened as Kanyakubj High School. Rai Saheb Pt. Jai Narain Misra was made Assistant Manager in the Management Committee. It was sheer luck and coincidence that Padam Bhushan Rai Bahadur Pt. Shri Narain Chaturvedi became its first Principal. He had been the favourite student of Mr Mechenzi, the then Director of Education. With the cooperation of Management Committee and Shri Chaturvediji, it was decided to make provision of land for the construction of new building to be built according to Hindu architecture. So the land on which the college is presently situated was finalized and its 'Vastu Pujan' was duly performed by Pt. Teekaram Shastri with all ritualistic fanfare.

The members of the Managing Committee and the Principal Shri Chaturvedi had the desire to get the recognition from Education Department to run Intermediate classes as soon as possible. The government had some rules without their compliance, this work was not possible. Pt Gokaran Nath Misra, the President of managing committee, solicited financial support from many affluent personalities of the society to construct the building of the college and assured them the amount of money received, would be returned when the college receives government grant or donation. But unfortunately he could not get success in his efforts. At that time, Pt Jai Narain Misra, who was experienced in getting construction of buildings done, was requested by the President and other members of the managing committee to take up the construction work of the college. Pt Jai Narain Misra not only gave consent to get the construction of college building done but performed this arduous task at his own expense. For this noble deed, he spent around Rs.60,000 at that time, and donated this amount to the cause of education. As a result of this, the magnificent building of Kanyakubj College was constructed which still stands in all its grandeur. For the same purpose, Pt Deen Dayal Misra also gave the financial aid of approximately Rs.50,000.

The then Principal of the college, Pt Shri Narain Chaturvedi informed Mr Mechenzi, the Director, Education Department, about the construction of requisite class rooms, and on his insistence, Mr Mechenzi himself came to inspect the newly constructed building of the college. On seeing the newly constructed building of



the college, he was deeply impressed with Rai Saheb Pt Jai Narain Misra's dedication and love for education, and within a year Mechenzi Saheb, using his special powers, granted permission to the college to run classes up to Intermediate level. In this way, college upgraded from a Middle School to an Intermediate College in a short span of five years. For this achievement the credit goes to the then office bearers of management committee such as Pt. Gokaran Nath Misra, Pt. Sri Narain Misra, Rai Saheb, Pt. Jai Narain Misra and Padmabhushan Rai Bahadur, Principal Pt. Sri Narain Chaturvedi.

On the request of Pt. Gokaran Nath Misra, Rani Sahiba of Kardaha State, district Unnao, donated money for the building of a grand auditorium hall which was constructed in 1923 and came to be known as the Kardaha Hall. In 1925, Pt. Sri Narain Chaturvedi left the college and went to England for higher studies. After him Pt. Sukhdev Prasad Tewari was appointed Principal without salary. In his tenure a hostel was constructed. For the construction of different classes in the building of Kanya Kubj College, many philanthropists gave donations in the memory of their dear ones. Among them were Pt. Ganesh Bihari Misra, Lucknow, Pt. Surya Prasad Misra, Barabanki, Pt. Raghuvar Dayal Ji, Pt. Gokaran Nath Misra, Pt. Chandrashekhar Misra, Rai Bahadur Pt. Surajdeen Bajpai, Pt. Deen Dayal Misra, Pt. Shivdeen Misra, Pt. Ganesh Narayan Shukla, Pt. Shekhar Bihari Misra, Pt. Rao Dev Misra and Hazari Saheb. The Raja of Sisendi Estate Shri Vijaykumar Tripathi got constructed five rooms in the college. Dr. J.K. Dubey of Mussoori got some other rooms constructed in the college. As a result of the donation given by Srimati Sharda Devi some rooms were constructed in the year 1923. After this, in the year 1933, Pt. Sri Narain Misra of Bhagwant Nagar (Hardoi) and Rao Raja Shyam Bihari Misra and Sri Guru Baksh Singh of Lucknow got a few rooms constructed. In the same manner Mrs. Indrani Devi got a room constructed in the memory of her husband, Pt. Bhairav Prasad Bajpai. In 1939 Pt. Surya Prakash Shukla, Pt. Ramdev Ji Misra (Ganj Moradabad, Unnao) and Pt. Shiv Shankar Shukla of Sourikh district Farukkahbad, got some rooms constructed. In this way rooms kept adding slowly and Kanya Kubj College kept on moving on the path of development.

Kanya Kubj College, at that time, was one of the very few colleges of Lucknow to offer education in all the three streams - arts, science and commerce at Intermediate level. In July 1930, Pt. Bal Krishna Pandey was appointed principal of Kanya Kubj College. He was well versed in English, Hindi, Sanskrit and Bangla. Since the time, he took over as principal of the college, a new chapter commenced in the history of the college and college was adjudged as the best college of the city by the Academia.

In 1946, the college made the giant leap into becoming a Degree college under the associateship of the University of Lucknow which granted permission to run B.Sc. classes. In the year 1954-55, permission was granted to run B.A. and B.Com. classes. This fortunate moment came during the Principalship of Pt. Madan Gopal Misra. On 22nd March 1963, Pt. Madan Gopal Misra, Principal of Kanya Kubj College left this world for his heavenly abode. In 1963, the Government passed orders for creation separate posts of principals for Inter and Degree section of the college. After this, appointment of separate principals for Intermediate college and Degree college were done. The responsibility of principalship of Inter college was given to Sri Kanti Mohan Awasthi while Pt. Vidyaram Misra was appointed the Principal of Degree College.

The Renaming of the College

The government of Uttar Pradesh passed an order to change the names of all educational institutions which were running with caste names. Taking cognizance of this order, on 2nd July 1967 in the general body meeting of the management committee, the renaming of the college was discussed extensively and a proposal was passed unanimously to rename it as Shri Jai Narain College. This was a commemoration of Rai Sahab Pt. Jai Narain Misra for his life-long self-less service, loyalty and dedication to the college. Rai Sahab Pt. Jai Narain Misra vowed to donate 10,000 rupees per annum to the college. He laid down his entire life and assets for the development of the college.



The Management Committee of the College

Since the beginning, the gentlemen who loved education had been the key figures in the founding of the college, among them the prominent ones were Pt. Gokaran Nath Misra, Pt. Raghuvanshi Lal Trivedi, Pt. Ramapati Bajpai 'Rajvaidya', Pt. Ram Ashrey Misra, Pt. Ganesh Bihari Misra, Rao Raja Pt. Shyam Bihari Misra, Pt. Sri Narain Misra, Pt. Raghuvar Dayal Misra, Rai Sahab Pt. Jai Narain Misra etc. President of the management committee of the college was always chosen from the very respectable and esteemed members of the society. Pt. Gokaran Nath Misra being the first President, Dr Shyam Bihari Misra, famous learned man of Hindi, Pt. Jai Karan Nath Misra, an expert of legal matters, Pt. Suraj Deen Bajpai, a top bureaucrat, Rai sahib Pt. Jai Narain Misra, eminent Builder, Pt. Omkar Nath Misra, an IAS Officer, Prof. R.N. Misra, a reputed physician, Sri Kedarnath Misra, Top Town Planner, and presently Sri V.N. Misra, an IPS Officer and Ex-DGP in UP Government, have graced the post of President of the management committee of Inter and Degree colleges.

The management of the college has always been in the hands of able and learned gentlemen. Rai Sahab Pt. Jai Narain Misra had been the manager since the inception of the college and it was his Herculean efforts that resulted in the present stature of the college. In the gradual development of the college, special contribution was made by the Secretary/Managers of the Management Committee, namely Sri Raghuvvar Dayal Trivedi, Pt. Sri Narain Misra, Pt. Omkar Nath Misra, Prof. Ravindra Nath Misra, Sri Kamta Nath Pandey, Sri Kedarnath Misra, Dr Viswa Nath Misra and Sri S.C. Dixit. At present Sri GC Shukla (retired Director, Bureau of Public Enterprises, Govt. of UP) and Sri Anil Kumar Shukla are the Managers of Degree and Inter colleges respectively. Under their able guidance, the college is moving ahead on the path of development. Sri Girish Chandra Shukla, the current Secretary/Manager, has been rendering his services to the college for more than twenty-four years now.

It is a great achievement of Kanya Kuber College that many high-profile personalities including kings of the various estates of the country and abroad visited it as guests. Among them prominent names include - His Highness the king of Nepal, Sri Mohan Shamsheer Jung Bahadur 'Rana', His Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, Sri Nawab Chhatari, His Highness the King of Alwar, Colonel Sir Tej Singh Prabhakar, Her Highness the queen of Kardaha Estate, His Highness the Maharaja of Sisendi, Sri Vijay Kumar Tripathi etc. Among the political leaders and statesmen, the names of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Smt. Vijaylaxmi Pandit, Sir Maharaj Singh, Rajarshi Puroshottam Das Tandon, Babu Sampurnanand, Pt. Keshavdev Malviya, Pt. Uma Shankar Dixit, Pt. Dwarka Prasad Misra, Dr. Kailash Nath Kathju, Sri Chandra Bhanu Gupta, Sri Raj Nath Singh, Sri Akhilesh Yadav etc are most important names which added to the glory of the college. In the field of music, great personalities like Sri Omkar Nath Thakur, Raja Bhaiya Poochwale of Gwalior gharana, Allaudin Khan Saheb of Meher, Bal Gandharv, Patavardhan and Anup Jalota are significant names who obliged the college with their visits. In the field of literature, this college always stood ahead, Pt. Suryakant Tripathi Nirala, Pt. Jai Shankar Prasad, Pt. Ram Naresh Tripathi, Sri Ram Shankar Shukla 'Rasaal', Sri Ram Kumar Verma, Babu Bhagwati Charan Verma, Sri Amrit Lal Nagar, Sri Gopal Das 'Neeraj' and Dr Doodh Nath Singh etc visited this college and added to its prestige. Before independence, college had the tradition of organising a 'Kavi Darbar' in which eminent literary personalities participated and enthralled the audience every year.

Acting as the Captains of the ship, Principals of this college have also contributed, in a very significant way, to the upliftment and development of the college. If we list the prominent names among them then foremost would be Rai Bahadur Shri Narain Chaturvedi, Pt. Bal Krishna Pandey and Pt Madan Mohan Mishra under whose leadership and guidance college progressed from a Pathshala to a Degree college and earned the reputation of the best academic institution of the city. Shri Kanti Mohan Awasthi contributed meaningfully to the advancement of the Inter College, as its Principal. Among the principals of Degree College, the contribution of Shri Ramesh Chandra Dixit, Dr. Gorakh Nath Dwivedi, Dr. Harihar Nath Dwivedi and Prof. Sunil Dutt Sharma are the most notable ones. Shri Ramesh Chandra Dixit gave a democratic set up for the collaboration of all teachers and non-teaching staff of the college and fought for a strong footing of the teaching fraternity, at the



government level. It was in his tenure as Principal that college got recognition for running LL.B. classes from the session 1972-73, and for B. Ed. in the year 1973-74. During the Principalship of Dr. Harihar Nath Dwivedi, the first study centre of Indira Gandhi National Open University in the whole North Zone, was opened in the college. He also got recognitions for running the classes of B.P.Ed in 1993. With the recognition for M.A. in Hindi in 1994 Shri Jai Narain Degree College stepped up to become a Post Graduate college. Classes of M.Com.(Applied Economics) were also started in the college in the year 2001.

The next step of college development when the College touched its heights of prestige and honour, was during the tenure of Prof. S. D. Sharma, as Principal (2003-2020). It was in his regime that the U.P. Government introduced the policy of allowing self-financed colleges as well as non-government aided colleges to run Self-financing courses in order to increase their income. This was appropriately used by the college to commence Self-Financed courses like M.Com.(Pure Commerce) in 2005, B.B.A.(IB) in 2006, M.Sc.(Chemistry) in 2017, M.Sc. (Botany) in 2017, M.Sc.(Physics) in 2017, B.Sc.(Computer Science) in 2017. In the same year three M.A. classes were started in Sociology, English and Economics. B.Com.(Honors) and B.Sc. with Statistics were also started in the same year. In Prof Sharma's tenure, the college got equipped with computerized H.R. system and set up two modern Computer Labs which are capable of accommodating more than 150 students at a time. 9 Smart Rooms for ICT supported teaching facilities were also developed to cater to the changing teaching methodology.

Single-Window System was introduced for all college-works and all the Departments were provided with computers systems having attached printers. The entire campus was facilitated with free Internet connectivity by WI-FI. In order to ensure surveillance of students' activities, more than 100 CCTV cameras were installed in class rooms and important places in the college premises. The Central library of the college Smt. Kamla Devi Misra Pustakalaya was computerized and upgraded to include 83,000 books and 6000 journals in digital format besides books and journal in physical form. The Gymnasium of the college was renovated and a Cafeteria was also opened. It was in the tenure of Prof Sharma that college was accredited Grade A by NAAC on 25th June, 2015. It is notable that there are about 34,000 recognized colleges and 575 universities in the country, among them, only 815 institutions have been accredited Grade A by NAAC so far.

In the sphere of Infrastructure, a new Commerce and Management Block comprising 32 lecture halls is under construction. At present, Inter and Degree colleges have more than 100 rooms and 20 laboratories along with two large play grounds. There are many programmes being run in the college for the overall development of the students, among them are 9 Add-on Courses run by the Departments of English, BBA, Computer Science, Commerce, Physics and Mathematics. Prof. S. D. Sharma's contribution is more significant since it massively improved the financial health of the college by introducing new self-finance courses. The making of a new academic environment by ever increasing qualitative teaching and students results, following newer technologies of teaching, introducing new Add-on courses to organizing of mega cultural events and Sport Activities on a regular basis were some major achievement of Prof. Sharma.

The Sports have been a major priority of the college. The college has a Gymnasium Hall where all the modern equipment for sports, fitness and physical education are available. Many sportspersons of the college have earned great name and fame on national and international level in the world of sports and thus carved a niche for themselves and the college, in the sports world. In the year 1952, former student of this college, Sri KD Singh 'Babu' won Helsinki Trophy in the Helsinki Olympics. In the Moscow Olympics in 1980, Mohd. Shahid Ali, Jasbinder Singh and Ravindra Pal participated and in the year 1976, Sayyad Ali represented Indian Hockey Team in Montreal Olympics. In the year 2015, in All India Inter-University Tournament, Ms. Vijay Laxmi bagged two Gold Medals and Mr. Udit Mishra won Bronze Medal. In the year 2016, in All India Inter-University tournament, Mr. Udit Mishra got two Gold Medals in Swimming and Ms. Vijay Laxmi received Bronze Medal in Cross Country.



For the overall development of the students, 4 cultural programmes viz. Abhinav, Medha Samvardhan, and Divyankur are organised every year by the College. In these programmes, the students of different colleges in Lucknow and nearby districts participate in more than twenty competitions and win prizes. The college organizes Sport Meet every year, in which the students of the college participate in various Sports activities. Intercollegiate Sports Meets are also regularly held. The college also felicitates its Students for achievements in Academics on the occasion of Founder's Day during which 46 Medals are given away to the students of the college every year.

College also has the unique credit of publishing magazines and 4 research journals viz. 'Vichaar', 'Commerce Today', 'Law Review' and 'Revelation' as well as 3 Magazines viz. 'Jyoti Kiran', 'News Bulletin' and 'Torch Bearer-IQAC Newsletter' regularly.

Inter and Post-Graduate College have their separate units of NCC and NSS and they have been adjudged the best units owing to their achievements. NCC Cadet Major Amarjeet Singh has had the honour of receiving Shaurya Chakrya, three NSS Volunteers-Mr Ajeet Kushwaha, Mr Harshit Singh and Mr. Shubham Mishra have the honour of receiving President's Award for their services to humanity.

There are many distinguished Alumni of this college who have earned National and International fame and added to the glory of the college. Among them notable dignitaries are- Sri RK Trivedi (ex-Election Commissioner and Governor), Justice UK Dhawan, Justice Abdul Mateen, Prof. DN Misra (Ex Vice Chancellor Banaras Hindu University), Prof.(Dr) Ravindra Nath Misra (KGMC,Lucknow), Sri Mahendra Nath Misra (Executive Director, State Trading Cooperation of India), Prof. Rakesh Chandra Sharma(Ex Vice Chancellor Kashi Vidyapeeth, Banaras), Dr. Ram Vilash Misra (Ex Vice Chancellor, Awadh Vishwavidyalaya, Faizabad), Dr. Ratnshankar Misra (Ex Vice Chancellor, Kanpur and Lucknow University) etc. This institution established a very strong tradition of literary personalities, the names of Pt. Sri Narain Chaturvedi, Dr. Laxmishankar Misra 'Nishank', who was awarded with 'Bharat Bharti', Dr Zakir Ali 'Rajneesh', artist and children litterateur, Mr. Pankaj Prasoon, Hindi poet and satirist, Ms. Kavita Tiwari, Poetess and Anchor etc, are a few to mention. Famous Bhajan singer Anup Jalota, famous theatre artist, Sri Vishwanath Misra have also been the alumni of this prestigious institution.

At present, more than 10,000 boys and girls are receiving education in different disciplines and college is being run by more than 400 dedicated teaching and non-teaching employees. In order to accommodate the ever increasing number of learners, a new block of 34 large rooms including seminar halls and common rooms etc, is being constructed which is almost nearing completion. For conduct of cultural events and other functions like seminars etc, the old building of Chandra Shekhar Auditorium has been demolished to give way to a swanky new auditorium having state of Art features. A new complex, housing the guest house, Principal's Residence and a seminar hall, is also underway and will be completed soon. Besides these, the special achievement of this institution has been collaborative and emotional bonding between its managing committee, principal, teaching and non-teaching employees and the students. Their mutual understanding and coordination have always paved the way for the college touching newer heights each day. As its Motto "*Vidyaamrut mashnate*" suggests, the college is always on the path of multi-faceted development of the students through academic excellence.

(This history of the college was originally written by Dr. Laxmishakar 'Nishank', it was updated by Sri Anil Kumar Shukla, former teacher of Sri JNPG College and presently Manager, Sri Jai Narain Inter College, Lucknow. It was translated into English from Hindi by Dr. S.C. Hajela, In-charge Dept. of English, Sri JNPG College, Lucknow.)