

# Department of Sanskrit Miranda House

स्वाध्यायान्न प्रमदितव्यम्

*Never stop learning*



ज्ञानं परमं बलम्

*Knowledge is the supreme strength*

**The Department of Sanskrit** was started in 1948 along with the establishment of the college. Mrs. Sanyukta Chaudhri of Sanskrit Department was one of the founding faculty members of the college. It offers under-graduate and post-graduate courses in Sanskrit. It gradually developed with the rise in the number of students and consequent joining of Dr. Kaushalya Gupta, Dr. Aruna Verma, Dr. U.B. Gupta, Dr. Ratnamayi Dixit, Dr. Sudesh Narang, Dr. Urmil Rustagi and Dr. Deepti Tripathi.



The present faculty members of the department are Dr. Shraddha Shukla, Dr. Rekha Arora, Dr. Meena Kumari, Ms. Madhu Bala Singh and Ms. Seema Rani. There are also two ad hoc and five guest lecturers who are part of the teaching faculty. The entire faculty is dedicated towards holistic growth of the department.



### **Result computation and analysis of the previous academic year 2015-16**

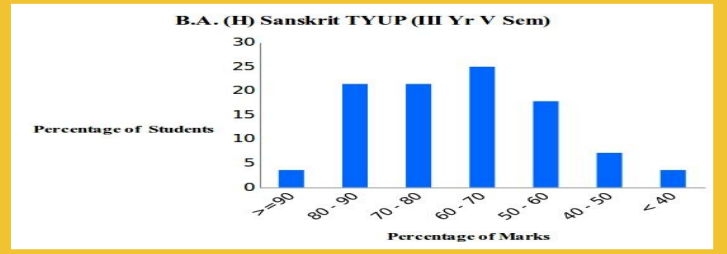
Over the years, students of the department have consistently excelled both in academics and co-curricular activities. There has been a keen desire among students to get admission in our college for both B.A. and M.A. courses in Sanskrit. In the academic year 2016-17, our B.A. final year student Smriti Bala secured second position and our second year student, Lakshmi secured third position in the university exams. There has been an increase in the number of students securing first division.

College	Total Students	Students in I Division
Miranda	24	20 (83%)
Hindu	30	23 (76%)
Hans Raj	41	24 (58.6%)
Kirori Mal	20	11 (55%)
IP	25	11 (44%)

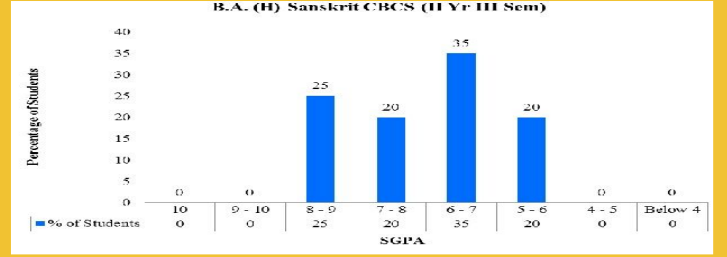
It is seen above that the students of our college have excelled more in comparison to the

premier colleges of North Campus. More than 83% of our students have passed with first division.

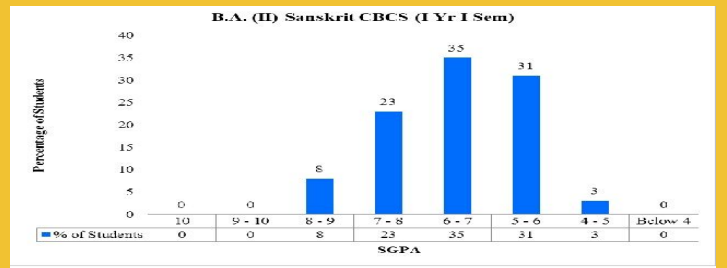
- **B.A.-Third year (TYUP Odd Sem.):** 4% secured 92% marks, 20% got above 80%, 20% got above 70%, 25% got above 60%.



- **B.A. Second Year:** 5 students secured “A+”, 4 students got “A”, 7 students got “B+”, 4 students got “B” grade.



- **B.A. First Year:** 8% students secured “A+”, 23% students got “A”, 35% students got “B+”, 31% students got “B” grade.



### Teaching and Remedial process for underperformers.

The motto of our college, a wise saying from Taittiriya Upanishad, says: स्वाध्यायान्न प्रमदितव्यम् । - “Don’t abstain from self-studying”. Only through studies one brightens one's life. All students taking admission in Sanskrit are initiated with this zeal – the thirst for learning and excellence. General counselling is given to all students at the beginning of the semester. Depending on the requirement, continued counselling is arranged throughout the semester. A pithy saying in Sanskrit says: आचार्यात् पादमादत्ते पादं शिष्यः स्वमेधया । पादं सब्रह्मचारिभ्यः पादः कालेन पच्यते ॥ “From the preceptor, only a quarter part of knowledge does a student receive. A quarter from his own intellect, another quarter from his batchmates, through discussions and the remaining quarter fruitens over time”. This awareness of self-study and group study enhances the teaching imparted by the teacher and opens the minds for practical applications of whatever they learn.

Under performers are given special attention and they are given a scheduled tutorial for the betterment. They are boosted with enthusiasm and self-confidence so that they can excel as everyone. This individual counselling and constant encouragement is given till the performance improves by doing repeated tutorial assignments and tests.

Much attention is given for improving writing skills and time management. Main problem with students is to manage time properly and complete the exam paper in time. Therefore during the tutorial hours special attention is given in this regard and students are made to attempt full length paper.

### Activities

Sanskrit Sangam is a society of the Sanskrit Department. It is active round the year doing various academic, cultural and extracurricular activities such as arranging lectures, staging dramas and holding inter-college competitions. All these activities are a means to make students more confident of their abilities and tolerant of others' achievements.

### Academic and extracurricular activities:

- Academic lectures, seminars and various inter-college competitions such as Shlokaavritti, debate, Sanskrit text reading, Shloka-Sangeetakam, Chitrakarma Pratiyogita are arranged time to time by the Department. In the previous semester two competitions were held – Shlokaavritti – recitation of verses from Meghadutam and Chitrakarma – Poem sketching. Students from various colleges participated and made the event successful.



- The department organises Shloka Sangeetakam, Ekala Shloka Gaayana, Kaavyaali, Natya Manchan and other programmes in collaboration with Delhi Sanskrit Academy every year. The Academy has shown keen interest in promoting Sanskrit events through Miranda House. Sanskrit plays or Rupakas are the most entertaining among the Kavyas. The department has been arranging and enacting Sanskrit plays. Students enacted “Vikramorvashiyam” in 1997, “Yautukam” in 2003, and “Svapnavasavadattam” in 2006.



- Since 2011, a competition is organised by the department in which the students of B.A. Final and M.A. have to present research papers. This is to enhance the analytical approach of students. This is financed by Dr. Urmil Rustagi. This year this competition will be held in the month of April.
- 14-15 February 2017, we organised a workshop on “Epigraphy and Sanskrit in World Literature”. This workshop was organised on the drop back of the new papers that are introduced by University of Delhi for the B.A. courses. Renowned experts in the field were invited to elucidate in the concerned subjects. Students and teachers from various colleges participated and got enriched from the workshop.



- The department in association with Sanskrit Bharati organises Sanskrit Sambhashan Shivir time to time to make the students excel in Sanskrit speaking.



Various fellowships and awards have been instituted by the retired teachers of the department.

Memorial Lectures:-

- Sanyukta Chaudhri memorial lecture is arranged every year in the month of October since 1997. So far nineteen lectures by renowned scholars have been arranged on various topics highlighting the importance of Sanskrit.

In this session, Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak, Founder and CEO of Sulabh International Social Service Organisation delivered a talk on “Service to Suffering Humanity Through Inventions” on 10 November 2016.



- M.L. Gupta memorial lecture had been instituted by Dr. Kaushalya Gupta in the memory of her father. It covers various fields of Sanskrit which are helpful for students.

Dr. Ranjan Kumar Tripathi, Associate Professor, Sanskrit Department, University of Delhi delivered a talk on “Tradition of Poetics and Acharya Mammata” on 22nd February 2017.





## Student Achievements

We are proud to recount the achievements of our students in various inter-college competitions round the year: Vandana won a second prize for Stotra Patha and Shiveti bagged third prize in Ekala Shloka Sangita Pratiyogita held by Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan. Our Team won third prize for Saraswati Vandana at Sanskrit Academy and the same at Satyawati College for Group Shlokasangeetkam Pratiyogita. Also our students got Protsahana Puraskar in Kavyali at Kamala Nehru College. Students who have excelled in the studies have been getting scholarships from various fora. With the hard work of students and valuable guidance by the faculty, the department has always strived to achieve excellence.

## Alumnae

With pride we can reckon many alumnae of our department who have excelled in various walks of life. Prof. T.S. Rukmani (1949-51), an eminent academic, held various posts in the Delhi university, was principal of our college, and later joined and adorned the Hindu Studies Chair, Concordia University and presently she is Professor Emeritus of that University. Prof. Malti Auckle (1982-85) is a professor at Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Mauritius. Subhadra Desai (1989-91) is an internationally renowned Hindustani musician. Dr. Pankaja Ghai (1988-91) is an Assistant Professor at Lady Shri Ram College. Richa Sharma (2007-2012) is a Doordarshan news reader. Shiksha (2010-2012) is a volunteer guide at National Museum.

## Best Practices:

Teachers in the department are very hard working and always setting higher standards. Kalidasa says: "Some exhibit acting very well in their own person, while others show greater skill in imparting that art to others; he who excels in both these qualities deserves a pre-eminent place among the teachers." Such is the higher standard that the teachers of the department set for themselves.

They try to impart just not the textual knowledge but also they try to throw light on the deep thoughts that are embedded in the Sanskrit texts. Imparting Sanskrit knowledge makes one aware of not only the deeper sense of one's language but also throws light into cognitive links in other languages as well.

While teaching, teachers use innovative methods like e-learning, multimedia, live demonstrations of theatre and music, educational excursions, etc. This semester students were taken to Mehrauli Iron pillar and Ashokan Pillar to examine the Brahmi script text. Online demonstrations of Swapnavasavadattam play were also made. Teachers also bring samples and pictures of the flowers and fruits mentioned in the texts.



**Flora in Sanskrit**



**Educational Trip**

Teachers in the department are highly qualified and acclaimed as experts in the academic circle. They do research and take various projects. Ms. Madhu Bala Singh has successfully completed a project on Bhagavadgita and got special certification. Dr. Rekha Arora has presented a research paper at the International seminar held at Kalindi college in the month of February. There are few national and international workshops/seminars planned: Sharada Script Workshop with Millennium India Education Foundation, International Seminars with WAVES and Delhi Sanskrit Academy etc.

