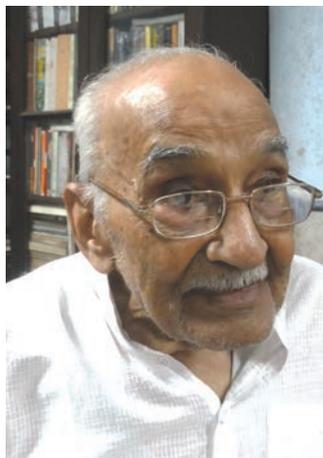


At 90, a Chartered Accountant Champions the Cause of Women's Education and ICAI's Accountancy Museum¹

One among the senior-most members of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, CA. Narain Prasad is also a great educationist and philanthropist. His distinct contribution to accountancy profession and education in general, especially women's education, and to the Accountancy Museum of the ICAI, is exemplary.



Son of Shri Jagdish Prasad, who himself was a well-known auditor from Delhi of his times and who contributed immensely to *Indian Accountancy Board* as its member during 1935-39, CA. Narain Prasad received his education from Commercial School and Shri Ram College of Commerce, and

the Quest for Women's Education in Delhi since 1900 and Saga of Indraprastha College for Women. His biography found place in various publications including *Dilli Jan Parichay* and *Famous India*. In July 2013, the national news weekly, Outlook, published a story *Go with the Swing* on select active 90-plus achievers of India, where CA. Narain Prasad's story was covered along with the likes of Ms. Mrinalini Sarabhai (dancer), S. H. Raza (artist), K. G. Subramanyan (artist), M. G. Vaidya (political ideologue), Madhav Vittal Kamath (columnist), and Capt. Krishnan Nair (hotelier).

later from the ICAI since he cleared his CA final examinations in 1949. He joined his father's firm that still exists in the Chandni Chowk area of old Delhi.

However, to his *alma mater* ICAI, CA. Narain Prasad has made the most notable contributions by donating rare and important historical documents (including photographs), while its Accountancy Museum was being set up during 2008-09. Rare historical items from his archives that found place in the Museum include first issues of bulletin and journal of ICAI, GDA certificate, rare photograph of Indian Accountancy Board, etc. Recently, he inspired the setting up of an archive at *Indraprastha College for Women*, Delhi, under his vision. His efforts in preserving records are exemplary and publicly acknowledged on many occasions.

With a belief in *charity begins at home*, CA. Narain Prasad, before starting his campaign for women's education, encouraged his own newly-wed wife, who was just a matriculate to study further, which led her to complete her PhD eventually and join a prominent University of Delhi college as faculty. He got support for this from his grandfather, Lala Jugal Kishore, who stood like a wall behind his decision. Lala Jugal Kishore had founded Indraprastha Girls' Senior Secondary School and Indraprastha College for Women (of University of Delhi) in 1904 and 1924 respectively, and he believed that women's emancipation would come only with education.

In photography, his another passion, CA. Prasad has got *Artist FIAP Distinction* award of France and a Bronze Plaque from *National Association of Swedish Photography* through Swedish Legation in India. His photographs have been published in national/international publications (e.g. *Commonwealth Today (British Government)*, *Illustrated Weekly of India*, *Hindustan Times Weekly*, *Dharmyug*, *Navbharat Times*, *Yojna*, *Sarita*, *Bal Bharti* and *Parag*) and in government and semi-government illustrated diaries and calendars. He has participated in many exhibitions including *Richmond London* of Twickenham Photographic Society, *Pakistan First International Photographic Salon* and *Images of India*.

CA. Prasad's zest for educational reforms inspired him to join the governing team of his *alma mater*, *Commercial School*, soon after he graduated in Commerce from *Shri Ram College of Commerce* in 1946. Later, he joined governing bodies of other prominent institutions too including Shri Ram College of Commerce, Miranda House and Lady Shri Ram College for Women. Today, he is the Chairman of both Indraprastha Girls' Secondary School and Indraprastha College for Women of Delhi.

Even at 90, CA. Narain Prasad visits his office and his clients. He possesses the same zeal and commitment to his profession. He prefers wearing Khadi and leading a plain and simple life. ■

CA. Narain Prasad had published books in history of women's education which included *Indraprastha-*

¹ Contributed by the Editorial Board Secretariat. Comments can be sent to eboard@icai.in