

Scribbles

Bringing colour to your lives

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Issue No. 2

From the Editor's desk...

Dear colleagues,

The below is the theme of this issue of Scribbles. Our maiden attempt at a subject meant exclusively for women, celebrating womanhood for Scribbles. The team was excited, but at the same time worried. We were apprehensive! Will we generate enough interest? Will we get enough contributions? We asked potential contributors the question – tell us about the woman you admire the most, or a woman who has had a major impact in your life. The issue that we present to you is an outcome of this question. We were elated at the quality of the response. Thanks to all the contributors for making this issue special.

Many many years ago I was asked to talk about my experiences as a Woman in Management and I spoke about the Super Women Syndrome. I am sharing my thoughts on this in this editorial, and I hope, all readers of this issue, especially women, find the thoughts useful and reflective.

The challenges for me in Management began even before entering the portals of Management Education. The challenges that I had to face, were not necessarily from men alone.

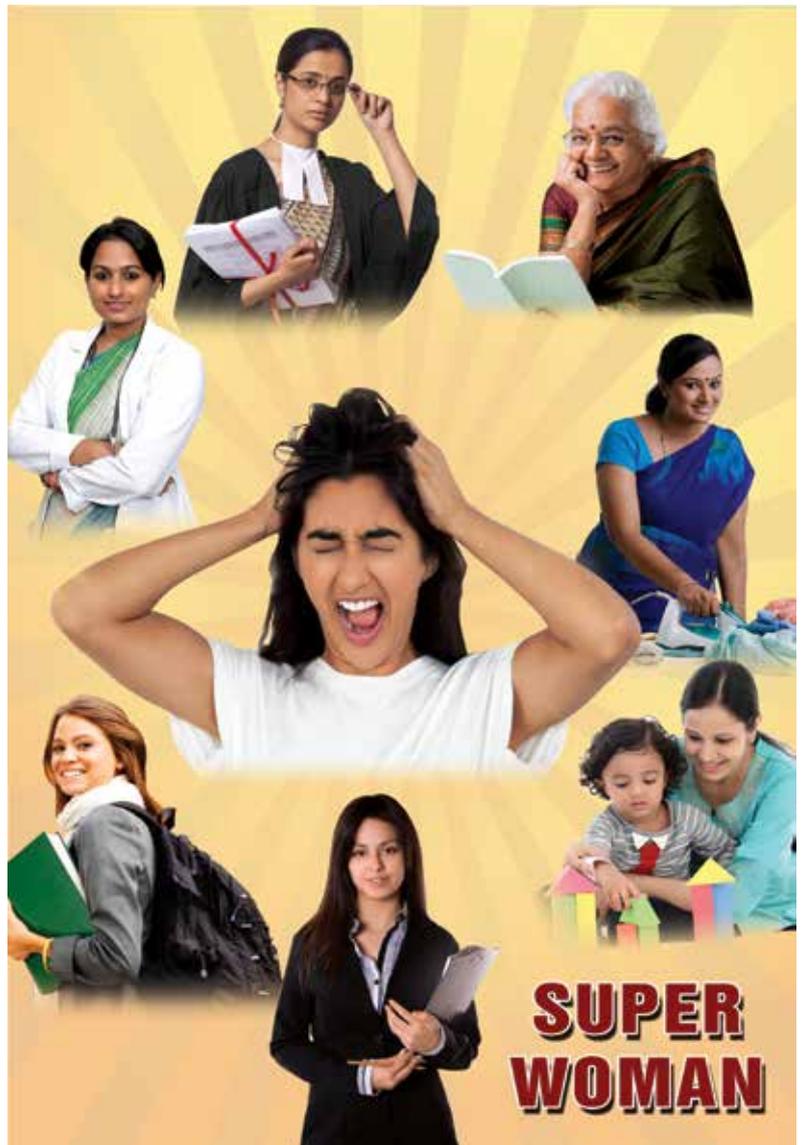
For women at work, one of the first decisions to make is whether she is opting for a “job” or a “career”. I feel that even today, many women use these two words interchangeably. The problems, dilemma or challenge that women face in their career depends on this choice.

And, in my case I would like to summarise this into what I call the **Super Woman Syndrome**. I believe that this is something that most women experience. In this syndrome we experience anxiety, stress and tension, which flows from a fundamental belief that expectations from us as a woman is higher than that from a man.



Celebrating Womanhood
– Maa Tujhe Salaam

There are different roles that we play in our lives – professional and personal – employee, manager / leader, wife, mother, sister, daughter, etc. We need to juggle with these roles every day – in one day there are atleast a few of these roles we play. The people for whom it is meant for are different. They are people who mean a lot to us and therefore, we do not want to be thought of as a failure. We do not want them to think that we did not give them our best, that they are not important to us, or that we failed them and so on. All these thoughts put us through a lot of pressure – pressure to be a good manager, a performing employee, an understanding mother, a supportive wife, a caring daughter and so on. Therefore, we want to be the best in all the roles that we play. The only way to do that is by being a **Super Woman**. But that is not possible, or practical. Hence, the pangs of guilt, the feeling of not being good enough and sometimes being useless. This is called the **Super Woman Syndrome**.



To amplify this, I would like to analyse this from two fronts :

- Professional
- Family

Professional front

Our socio-cultural framework lends itself to a gender bias and stereotyping. Value judgements are often passed on women coming late, leave taken, mistakes etc. Also, women are often accused of tackling anything on an emotional front and hence, being better at handling so called soft jobs, like HRD.

Hence, at work, women feel that there is a need to prove themselves as being equal to men.

There are four issues that need to be addressed on challenges in the professional front:

- Gender bias
- Technical competence
- Inter-personal skills
- Leadership

Family front

Studies on working couples in India report the following as key findings:

- Both work late almost every day and work in weekends also
- Children are taken care of by parents
- Both do not have time for household chores
- The tendency is to live for the day

- Many a time dinner is bought outside, as there is no time to cook
- The housework is still done mostly by the woman and not shared.

In our social set-up, the work for a woman extends to the home also. Even in homes where both the husband and wife are employed, the husband is still treated as the “head of the household”. The husband, children and parents in many homes still expect the woman to be a good home maker and take full responsibility for the house also.

All this results in the woman trying to be the Super Woman. In fact, very often we feel guilty about not spending enough time at home, to take of household chores. We get torn between being a good housewife and a good professional. But we are not Superwoman, are we? The only way to get out of this problem is to put things in perspective. To accept that we have to bring a balance between our professional and personal lives. This balance may not **maximise** our effectiveness on both the fronts, but provides an **optimal** answer.

It took many years for me to work out this balance. I don't know if I have succeeded in this! I still go through pangs of disloyalty to the family/ house. I feel upset when I need to neglect or give a low priority to family, especially during periods of peak workload at the office. When my grandmother or mother proudly share with their friends how well I manage both home and office, that only adds to my tension! See I have an image to live upto, leading to the Super Woman syndrome.

One solution that I found is to continuously dialogue and communicate with all family members about my other side – work front, and to be honest with my boss when I am troubled by issues on the family front. I definitely recommend that transparency and honesty help us balance and find solutions and there are people around you who volunteer to support/ help you!



Based on my experiences, I would like to summarise my learning as follows :

- Be clear of my choice – a job or a career
- Remove the gender awareness from my mind
- Take responsibility for what happens to me – not blame society, the environment or men
- Recognise the Super Woman syndrome in me and stop seeking approval in whatever I do.

My salutations to all women who have carved an identity for themselves, and to those who are in that journey please remember – “You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are, and change the ending” – CS Lewis.

Good luck and best wishes.

Ananda Jagan

Savitribai Phule: A woman ahead of her time



Indian history has innumerable women who have contributed to the society in an immensely positive way. One such great woman from the past and whom I greatly admire is Savitribai Phule. She is India's first female teacher and a social

reformer, who fought for the rights of the oppressed and the downtrodden women.

Savitribai Phule was born in Naigaon village in Satara district in Maharashtra on 3 January 1831. When she was just 9 years old, she was married to Jyotiba Phule. Her husband, Jyotiba Phule was a progressive man and taught Savitribai to read, write and become India's first female teacher. She opened her first school for girls in Bhide Wada, Pune.

She fought against child marriage and other social evils of that time like sati and caste discrimination. She opened a widow care centre in her own house. She gave access to her water-well inside her house, so that "untouchables" could come and draw water. During the pandemic of the Bubonic plague, she opened a shelter for the sick. In spite of facing a lot of hatred and abuse

from the orthodox society that she lived in, she died serving the people.

Savitribai Phule is truly an inspiration for living a meaningful life making a positive impact on the society then and also a motivator for generations to come. The path to change is never a bed of roses but one of thorns; but the undaunted spirit of people like Savitribai Phule will be remembered forever.

Savitribai Phule's Poem:

*If you have no knowledge, have no education,
And you yearn not for the same,
You possess intellect but work not on the same,
How then can you be called a human being?
Birds, animals, monkeys, human beings too,
All go through life and death
But if you gain no knowledge about this,
How then can you be called a human being?*

Dr Himangani Lakhera, w/o Neerav Lakhera,
BS&B Field Sales & Service Baroda



R Samhita d/o Rajesh Jagan, *Chemicals Global Sourcing & Strategy, Head Office*

Inspired to inspire

My wife Ms Thiraviyam was inspired by Dr Shanta, who dedicated her life for people living with cancer across the country. I am proud to say that my wife, who works for the government hospital as a nurse, ensured that life support aids like medicine, blood, etc., reaches the poor needy children through non government organisations, during the pandemic through Child Care Hospital, Chennai.

Dr Shanta served as a great inspiration to all those in the medical field. She always believed in the concept of 'no appointments required, walk in anytime'. Inspired by her idol my wife who worked as a frontline staff nurse, during the pandemic never got exhausted and tired, while serving children and people.

She was the first to take the corona vaccine in Tamil Nadu, so that she could motivate other people and create awareness among young mothers. She mobilised donors to donate blood and support people affected with the virus and worked with the state government health secretary. Ms Thiraviyam counseled young mothers to administer polio drops to their children.

Tamil Nadu Government's Women's Health department appreciated her efforts and services during the Republic Day function, which has encouraged her to run the extra mile to reach out to more people in need.

The lady of the house would always be the spearhead of every family. My wife has always pushed herself to accomplish more to help the people in need. I have never seen her tired or without motivation during the pandemic. With memories of her idol, Dr Shanta, I see her tread with a steadfast speed to stand afront to serve both the country and my family. Salutations to this great lady.

A Annadurai, *CCVL Public Relations, Cuddalore*

Mother Teresa

In 1950, Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity, a Roman Catholic religious congregation, with over 4,500 nuns and active in 133 countries. It manages homes for people who are dying of HIV/AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis, runs soup kitchens, dispensaries, mobile clinics, counseling programmes, orphanages and schools.

She visited India as an apprentice, when she heard the call of her inner conscience. She felt that she should serve the poor by staying with them. She adopted Indian citizenship, spent several months in Patna to receive basic medical training at Holy Family Hospital and ventured into the slums. With no income, she begged for food and supplies and experienced doubt, loneliness and the temptation to return to the comfort of convent life during her early months in India. But she continued her service until her last breath, making her an inspiration for all those who want to serve humanity.

Teresa was first recognised by the Indian government with the Padma Shri in 1962 and the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding in 1969. She later received other Indian awards, including the Bharat Ratna in 1980. She was canonised on 4 September 2016, and the anniversary of her death (5 September) is her feast day.

S Rajaram,
CSL KKL
Production Caustic,
Karaikal

S Sunilkumar,
BS&B Production,
Karapakkam



Service minded, pioneer in oncology

Simple, humble, approachable, compassionate, energetic, fighting spirit, listening ability, ever smiling, accessible - Dr V Shanta – Indian Oncologist and Ex Chairperson of Adyar Cancer Institute.

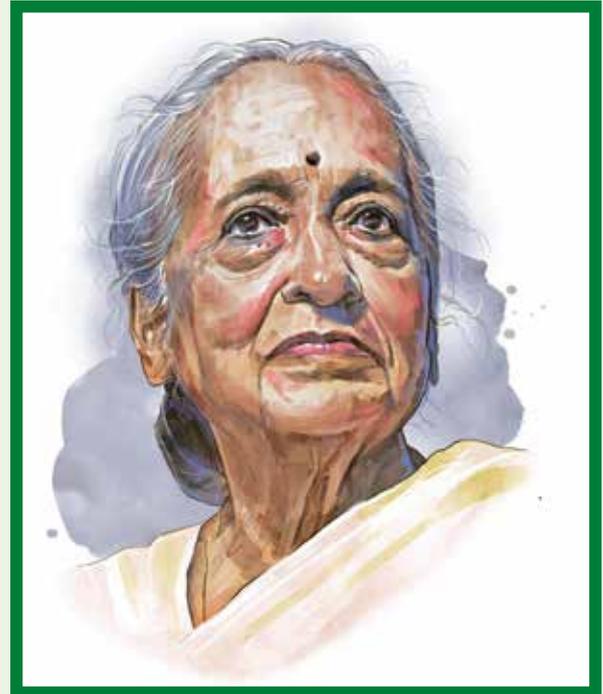
She is best known for her efforts towards making quality and affordable cancer treatment accessible to all patients across the country. She dedicated herself to the mission of organising care for cancer patients, study of the disease, research on its prevention and cure, spreading awareness about the disease and developing advanced treatments in oncology.

Awards aplenty sat lightly on her shoulders: Ramon Magsaysay, Padma Vibhushan – second highest civilian award given by the government of India, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri.

She served as a member of several national and international committees on health and medicine including the WHO's advisory committee on health. She contributed relentlessly for cancer cure and treatment for a span of over 65 years till the ripe old age of 94. She was on call twenty four hours a day even at that age. Adyar cancer institute remains true to its ethos, 'Service to all'. Its services are free or subsidised for 60 per cent of its annual patients.

She was a Karmayogi. She chose to live within the hospital campus till the end of her life. Life is to live, but to live to serve others is what everyone should learn from her. I admire her the most!

V Subramanian, *Central Accounting, Corporate, Head Office*



Dr Shantha was intelligent, good in her academics and excelled as a doctor throughout her life.

She dedicated her life to her patients and saved many from cancer which was once considered not curable. She was like 'God' to the patients.

The hospital which started with only 20 to 30 beds was expanded to more than 300 beds because of her continuous effort.

She was very humble, simple and down to earth person and was easily approached by one and all.

Till her death, she did enormous service to the poor and the sick. Her hard work, simplicity and sincerity are for us to learn and emulate.

C Sridhar, *CCVL Quality, Cuddalore*

Padma awardees

Krishnammal Jagannathan

She is a social service activist from Tamil Nadu. Along with her husband, Sankaralingam Jagannathan, protested against social injustice and they are Gandhian activists. Her work includes upliftment of the landless, and the poor; she has fought against governments as well as big industries. She was earlier involved in the Indian independence movement, along with her husband, and was also a close associate of Vinoba Bhave. In 2008 she received the Right Livelihood Award, which she shared with her husband. She received the Padma Shri in 1989 and the Padma Bhushan, India's third highest civilian award, in 2020.

Breaking the Barriers of Business

The Rigid Foundation

Indra Krishnamurthy Nooyi was born in a middle class family of Madras in 1955. Her father was a bank clerk and mother was a traditional housewife. Like every other middle class family, Indra was pushed to study hard and get good grades in school. However, the one thing that was unique in Indra's foundation was her mother. She always pushed Indra to do something extra like music, get involved in sports or even asked her to give speech like Prime Minister.

During the 1970s, girl children were usually sent to all girls' college for further studies but, her parents didn't want to compromise on her studies, therefore they sent her to a Co-ed college, The Madras Christian College, where she completed her Bachelors. She was sent to IIM-C to study finance, which was something unique in those days. After IIM, she joined Johnson & Johnson and moved on to other textile companies.

The Turning Point

In India, growth and learning was limited for her. Therefore, she convinced her parents to go abroad and study in Yale, where she got scholarship and also worked as a receptionist part-time to manage her expenses. Once she completed her business degree from Yale's, she joined Boston Consulting Group, as a strategy consultant, and then worked at Motorola as Vice President and Director of Corporate Strategy and Planning, followed by a stint at Asea Brown Boveri. In 1994, she joined PepsiCo and was named the CEO in 2006. Now, we know her as one of most powerful women in the world.

Indra Nooyi - a Role Model

Indra Nooyi had broken various barriers for women in business. The reason I personally admire her is being born in a middle class family, she climbed the ladder of business by continuous learning, improved



on her skills and considered work as her top most priority. All these things are very basic and can be accomplished by all, if they have that determination towards their goal in life.

Munish Harinkhede, *XSL Field Sales & Service*
Delhi

Do You Know her?

Lakshmi Sahgal

Lakshmi Sahgal was a former Indian Army officer called Captain Lakshmi. She picked up a Gun for Indian National Army (INA) founded by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and led it like a tigress in the struggle for Freedom. She was in charge of establishing and leading the Rani of Jhansi Regiment, comprising women soldiers. Also before joining INA, she had served a sentence in a Burma prison for her role in World War II.

The epitome of Love – Mother

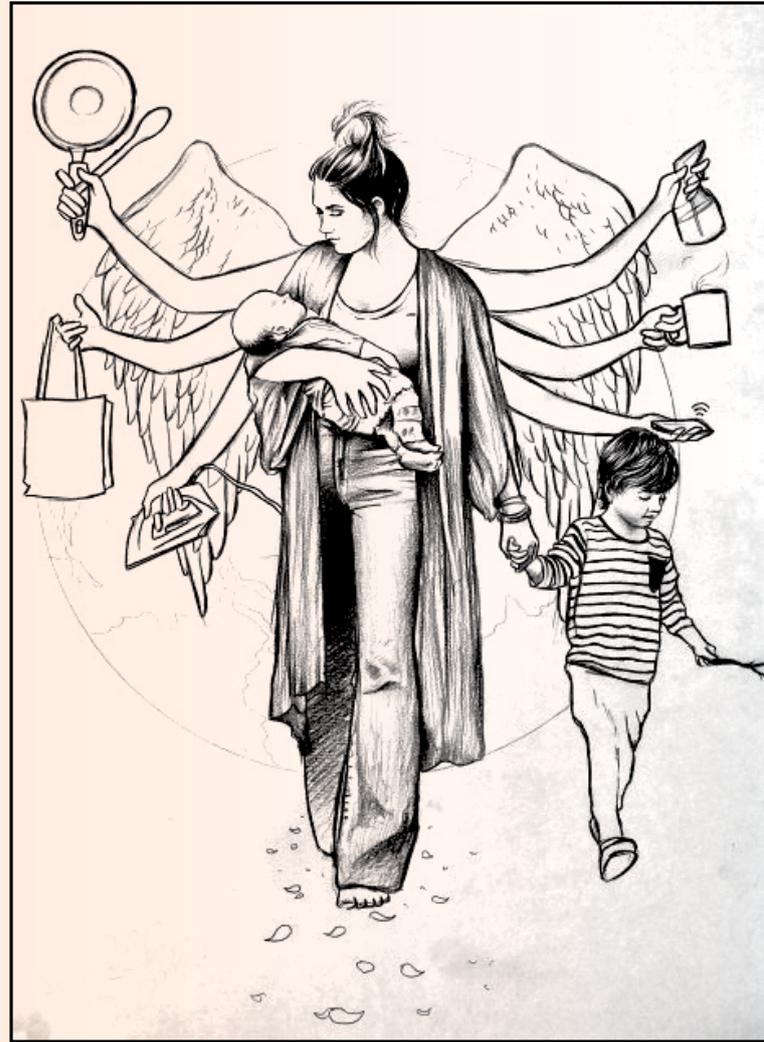
When I was asked to write about a woman whom we admire, I had millions of women in my mind from yesteryears till the present like Rani Lakshmi Bai, Indira Gandhi, Kalpana Chawla, Saina Nehwal, and many more.

All these women are not in our proximity for us to observe their struggle, but we gather information only from their real life stories. I would like to write about the one whom we have seen in every walk of our lives. Yes, it is the unmatched creation of God on Earth – Mother.

Maa/mummy/amma the word with which our day begins and ends. Mother's love cannot be compared with anyone. Just by lying down on her lap I forget all my work stress, and feel peaceful. There are no words to explain her love, efforts and struggles that she puts in for the betterment of her child. As a mother, her only goal in life is to keep her family healthy and happy.

She works 24/7 in any situation with no salary, not much of appreciation, neither sick leave nor casual leave and no holidays; in fact her work load would be more on holidays. Even during the pandemic lockdown, when the whole world went to a standby mode, there was one woman in every household working for her family in the kitchen, mother. Wakes up early in the morning, sleeps late at night, and works for the entire day but, with no complaints about her stressful life. She enjoys her life, work and responsibilities. When it comes to her family, she sacrifices her likes and dislikes, even hobbies and dreams, thinks only about her family.

We have to learn from every mother, to enjoy our work and responsibilities, to sacrifice, to love, to care, to respect everyone, to help everyone in need, and much more. This small article of mine is definitely insufficient to write about mother, because all the



words in the world can't express the love of a mother. Maa Tujhe Salaam... Love you Maa.

R Gotecha Chiragkumar, XSL Field Sales & Service
Surat

Do You Know her?

Atukuri Molla (1440–1530) was a Telugu poet who authored the Telugu-language Ramayana. Identified by her caste, she was popularly known as Kummara (potter) Molla.

Her work is known as Molla Ramayanam and is still one of the simplest of many Ramayans written in Telugu.

My mother and her sacrifice

My inspiration is my mother Ms Sharada Hunasimarad, who not only helped me but also sacrificed her life for educating me and made me stand on my feet. She has always been with me both in my successes and failures. I still remember during my exams, she would wake up early in the morning by 3 am and sit along with me, to keep me awake. She always tells me if we put in hard work as a student, then we can reap the benefits of it later. Whatever I am today it's all because of my mother, she took so much efforts for my betterment along with managing our family. So my request to all the readers is that, we should obey our parents and understand their hardships from our childhood so that, we can be good and successful in the future.

Vijaykumar S Hunashimarad, *FSL Field Sales & Service Jamnagar*



S Anbarasan, *CSL Plant 3 Production - Caustic, Mettur.*

Salute to all the mothers

'MAA TUJHE SALAAM' what a high phrase it is. Mother a different race all by herself. Few days before, I read an article in the news paper that a mother was trying to cook some pebbles, as there was no food to feed her children. That helpless mother who was broken but, full of hope, hope that she would be able to feed something to her children, I don't know her, but I can understand and feel her love. And that's the typical nature of a mother. Mother is one who never gives up hope for the well-being of her children.

Obviously there are many women who proved themselves in various fields. They have glorified themselves by their own light. But those Mothers, who work in fields, in Mills, in households for survival, to provide her children, for the well-being of her family, they may be unnamed but they stand tall in our society to proclaim their glory.

In this socio-economic condition it is not so easy to live by struggling. But they not only struggle but also educate

their children. It seems like their tiny slim hands with bangles, try to spin the cycle of the wheel of fate. From darkness to enlightenment, from poverty to an honourable social life, I have seen them every time in our surroundings, I have seen many of them, though I haven't met them all, wherever they are, I salute them, salute every mother who stand tall like Atlas, holding the adverse sky upon her, dreaming of a new era, SALAAM, to all the mothers on earth.



Pritam Bhattacharya, *CSL Plant 3 Production - Caustic, Mettur*

Amma - an emotion

For me, mother is a word and amma is an emotion. It's an emotion that I used to connect with my hunger, to be honest. But, that emotion has shifted into an admiration and inspiration. She is the pillar of my life, without her I am incomplete, a late realisation indeed.

My amma, Ms Kaladevi, was born and brought up in the rural parts of Tamil Nadu. She completed her Diploma in Architecture, at a time when only few women were allowed to even go out of their houses.

She could pursue her education only because of her amma, my grandmother, who fought for her daughter's education. My amma is one of the sharpest and intelligent women I have ever met.

My amma like most mothers play many roles in my family. She is the wife of a retired Air Warrior, mother of two children and grandmother to a naughty



grandson. Though qualified to go for a decent government job, she chose to stay back home and take care of us, her children. She had a choice and she chose her family. Many would say that she missed a good opportunity. But, according to me, if not for her, my soldier dad would not have been able to perform his duties for the country, without thinking about the safety of his family. And, she is the sole reason for grooming us

to be good citizens in the society.

The values I have inculcated are her gifts to me. People might say economic, cultural or societal achievements are only recognised. I differ. For me, a good and happy family is priceless, and my amma has achieved it. It took me so many years to realise what she has achieved, but, better late than never.

R Santosh Raja, *AGC Field Sales & Service Chennai*

Tsering Landol

Tsering Landol is an Indian gynaecologist and one of the pioneers of women's health in the Ladakh Union Territory of India. She served at the Sonam Norboo Memorial Government Hospital, Leh and is also associated with other educational institutions. The Government of India awarded her the fourth highest civilian honour of the Padma Shri in 2006, and Padma Bhushan in 2020 for her contributions to Indian medicine, making her one of the few women recipients of the award from Jammu and Kashmir and the first Ladakhi woman doctor to receive the honour. She is also featured on the 'Wall of Fame' which features those who have exhibited excellence throughout their career or have exemplified glory and greatness.

Padma awardees

The woman who sacrificed it all

It gives me great pleasure to write an article about my late mother Ms Meenakshi Srinivasan. She was very innocent and did not know the nitty-gritty of our society. She lived with my grandmother for few years. During those days she learnt to cook, in due course she was an expert in cooking all varieties of food. She had a great interest in Carnatic music. She never spoke much though we were a joint family. All the members of our family loved her.

I lost my father when I was just 4 years old; my mother struggled to bring us up, our large family of 7 siblings. She educated all of us, with the support of my elder brother. My mother brought up all of us well and got us all married according to our wishes. She enjoyed her last few years with her grandchildren and silently passed away one day in 2006.

We can learn a lot from the lives of our mothers. My mother sacrificed everything for the happiness of our family. She used to stay with each one of us in rotation, but the beauty of her was she never talked or gossiped about one sibling to the other. She used to be self sufficient and never depended on anyone for any of her needs. Her way of handling things between the siblings is still surprising for us, that kind of maturity, we are yet to get.

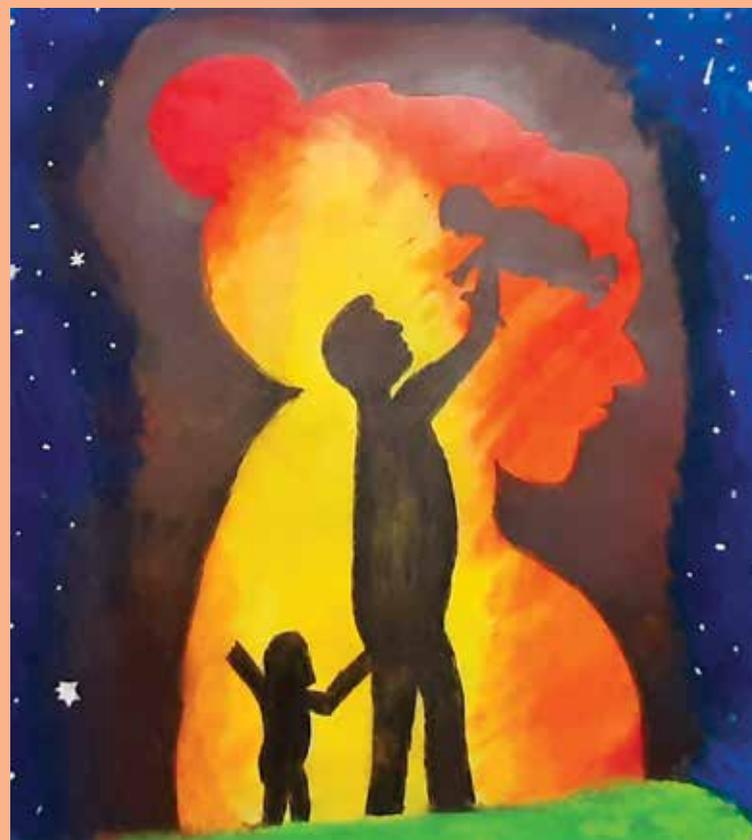
The quality that I still admire in my mother is that she ensured that all her children, never had any unnecessary problems because of her. She is and will always be a role model for us. I learnt from her life that once I retire I should live my life independently like my mother, taking good care of my health and run my family.

S Ramaprakash, *Central Accounting, Corporate, Head Office*

Love as pure as none other

My mother Vanitha is a very caring and loving mom. She is a very responsible woman. She has played a very important role in bringing up my sister and me. What a child becomes in future is completely dependent on his or her mother. Likewise my mother has taught us both so many things. My mom is my motivation. From the time I was in her womb till today, she has always cared for my safety. She taught me not to be over confident and never to give up; also to take both negative and positive things in the same platter. A mother is a precious gem in everyone's life; she is the ultimate source of happiness. Above all her love is pure and innocent as nobody else. To find a mother who does not love her child is something next to impossibility.

Roopa Dharshini MV, d/o J Murugesan,
SSC Maintenance Mechanical, Chemplast Sanmar, Berigai



Leena Bose, *Corporate Services, Head Office*

Women we admire

“Truly powerful women don’t explain why they want respect. They simply don’t engage with those who don’t give it to them.”

We all admire and praise the strong women who contributed in building of our nation historically, politically, scientifically, socially, in field of sports, in modern technology etc., having many inspiring qualities. We have read or heard about them and yes we do try to inculcate their characteristics to be better human beings.

We admire our mother and that’s natural. My mother is my world. I always admired her kindness, unconditional love and patience. She always puts herself last because she is the most caring one in the family. My mother was an excellent cook. I learnt from her to respect and love others without considering social ranks. She always remains in my heart.

Today I want to talk about my **mother-in-law**.

She has born before independent India in a small town of Gujarat. She witnessed the first independent day of our nation. She is the eldest daughter of a large family. She studied till metric with top ranks in an era where people were not aware and not much importance was given to education of the girl child.

She got married at a very young age and at all of 19, she became a mother. Real struggle started when she had to look after her child, do all household chores and she

was also trying for a government job to render financial support to family.

One fine day she got appointed in Posts and Telegraphs department in Ahmedabad. In the sixties, a young lady leaving her husband and her 3 year old son, she shifted to her work place from a small town to a big city. Transferring from comfort zone to struggle zone, one has to adjust a lot. In her journey she met with so many hurdles and came out as strong woman.

“A strong woman may remain silent when people talk behind her back, but that doesn’t mean she doesn’t notice, it simply means she chooses not to waste her energy on foolishness. She has more important things to do.”

Mothers are special because they work round the clock without any complaints to keep their family happy. They curb their desires to fulfil ours and do everything for their family and children. Being a working mom, she still managed the job, her house, and did all our work.

I entered her family in 1990 as the wife of her eldest son and in 1995 lost my father-in-law. She worked till 2002, retired as a senior clerk and is now enjoying her retired life.

She is caring and loving. No matter what the situation is, she always cares about her family.

She worked hard for uplifting her family without making any complaints. She tried to manage equilibrium between her work place, family and social life too. Her hardworking nature and devotion to family kept her active throughout. She follows, “Simple living and high thinking” which I really admire. Now she has diverted herself in ‘Prabhu seva’ and reading.

Mothers or mothers-in-law are probably the most special gifts a person can receive. They are there to nurture you and care for you when you need it the most. Respect her, love her, and be there for her the way she is there for you!

Dr Darshika Shah w/o Nayan M Shah,
FSL Field Sales & Service Baroda



Smile the life changing mantra

I would like to write about my 11-month-old beautiful daughter Josni Sasha.

Recently, I had to admit her in a hospital for Dengue. My wife and I could not fathom that our daughter had fever for a few days, as she was quite active as always and normal even with a high temperature. We thought it was her body heat.

But once the blood reports were out, we discovered that her platelets and blood count were alarmingly low. The doctors told me about this fever which could give her unbearable joint pains. At the hospital, she was administered IV fluids continuously, but still she had her trademark smile and was very playful. That is the power of being a girl child, who could face the pain with fortitude just as a new born too!

Everybody's life will have ups and downs. But, I learnt from my daughter that we need to take it all with a smile. We might have pain, struggle and sorrow in life but we should think that this moment too will pass on.



This February she turned one. I am looking forward to seeing her blossom into a child of strength and forbearance.

So, learn to keep smiling!

K Sathish Kumar, *CSL Plant 3 Mechanical Maintenance, Mettur*

Padma awardees

Rahibai Popere

Rahibai Soma Popere is an Indian farmer and a conservationist. She helps other farmers return to native varieties of crops, preparing hyacinth beans for self-help groups. She is among the three Indians on the BBC list of "100 Women 2018". Scientist Raghunath Mashelkar gave her the epithet "Seed Mother". Rahibai Soma Popere grows 17 different crops in her farmland. She was visited by the BAIF Development Research Foundation in 2017, who found the farm she supported had enough produce to meet the dietary requirements of a family for a whole year. She developed a series of hyacinth beans for self-help groups and families in nearby villages. She created her own methods to harvest water on farms and turn wasteland into productive space. She trains farmers and students on ways to select seeds, how to keep soil fertile and also to manage pests. She is skilled in four-step paddy cultivation. She has learned to rear poultry in her yard. She is the recipient of the Padma Shri award for the year 2020.



Hedy Lamarr



Arundhati Bhattacharya



Anshu Jamsenpa



Hima



Avani Chaturvedi



Reita Faria Powell



Kamala



Benazir Bhutto



Indira Gandhi



Maya Angelou



Mitha



PV Sindhu



Nirmala Sitharaman



Eleanor Roosevelt



Sakshi Malik



Renuka Jagtiani



Das



Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari



Kiran Mazumdar Shaw



Tsering Landol



Oprah Winfrey



Kalpana Chawla



Arundhati Roy



Harris



Krishnammal Jagannathan



Jane Austen



Vani Kola



Raj



Justice M Fathima Beevi



Malala Yousafzai



Hillary Clinton



Guess Who?! Clue No. 7: She worked on Expedia, which became one of the most popular travel-booking websites.

The Amma of state Tamil Nadu

Take me as talking feminism or otherwise, we do live in a male chauvinistic world, special mention India. Well when it comes to women whom I admire the most I have a handful, out of which Ms J Jayalalithaa tops the list. Why do I admire her so much? As a writer I admire JK Rowling, as a social activist I admire Kiran Bedi, as an actor who has achieved in India as well as in Hollywood I admire Priyanka Chopra, likewise in each field I admire someone. Why did the late chief minister of TN top my list of the women I admire most?

In a field where only men reigned, where men were the only be&all and end&all the entire Cabinet would fall in line and bow in front of the helicopter in which she was flying. Members of the party, at all levels never found it difficult to prostrate before her in full view of the public. She ruled them all, the 2nd female chief minister of TN, who won 6 times the post of the chief minister in a span of fourteen years between 1991 and 2016, the leader of the opposition and the first woman in the state to occupy that post, and also a recipient of innumerable awards.

Let's keep aside the legal cases, scams, the disproportionate asset, her association with Sasikala. Apart from these, the woman J Jayalalithaa, from a humble beginning to a place in the hearts of every Tamil woman, the journey has been phenomenal. I admire her for that reason. Though she was insulted repeatedly by her opposition party, she never gave up. Like gold, the more insults, the more polished and refined she turned out to be.

The young voracious reader, state first and a scholarship holder for her 10th exams, was forced to quit her education but, she never quit her interest to gain knowledge. It is said that she used to sit and indulge in reading her books even at the shooting spots. She was fluent in several languages. Jayalalithaa



was trained in Carnatic music, western classical piano and various forms of classical dance, including Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, Mohiniyattam, Manipuri, and Kathak. Even the late Prime Minister Ms Indira Gandhi and the Rajya Sabha member Khushwant Singh acclaimed her speech for its clarity of diction and elegant prose. In later stages it was Jayalalithaa who introduced 'Kutty Kadhaigal' into her speeches, which was acclaimed by her audience.

She was honoured with five honorary doctorates, Kalaimamani award from the governor; she was invited by the House of Lords, London, in 2004 to receive the "Woman Politician of the Decade" Award from the Asian Guild Awards and many more. From a mere small town girl to a proclaimed actor to the supreme power of the tenth largest state in India, is no mere joke, Ms J Jayalalithaa achieved it all and we have lots to learn from her life and I admire her for it.

Leena Bose, *Corporate Services,*
Head Office

The Rani of Jhansi

“Women must learn to play the game as men do.”

Rani Lakshmibai, the warrior queen is a solid benchmark of woman power and valour. She fought against the British fearlessly and did what no one can imagine a woman could ever do. Her patriotic zeal and sovereignty created a wave of bravery and feminism in Maharashtra.

Rani Lakshmibai, one of the warriors of India's struggle for Independence, was born as Manikarnika Tambe in 1828 in Varanasi. She lost her mother at the age of four and was raised in an unconventional way by her father who worked as an advisor in the court of Peshwa. He supported her in learning horsemanship, archery, self-defense, and shooting. She married Gangadhar Rao Newalkar, the Maharaja of Jhansi and got the name of Rani Lakshmibai. After her husband's passing, she ruled Jhansi, when the Britishers tried to usurp her kingdom, she fought bravely and became a martyr. Infact she was the first Indian rebel against the Britishers.

“The Indian Mutiny had produced but one man,” Sir Hugh Rose, the leader of the British troops, reportedly said when fighting ended, “and that man was a woman.” So wrote the British commanding officer about Rani of Jhansi.

The incredible inspiring qualities that she had are her deep sense of devotion, courage, and never-say-die attitude. Today, Queen Lakshmibai of Jhansi has been immortalised in India's nationalist narrative. There are movies, TV shows, books and even nursery rhymes about her. Streets, colleges and universities are named after her. Rani Lakshmi Bai Award is given every year to the best institution for research and development in the field of women empowerment.

In an age when women were treated as mere objects for procreation, Jhansi Rani proved to be one of a kind. On this occasion of International women's day,



it will be inappropriate if we don't salute this great woman.

Kiran K Sahu, *CCVL Accounts, Cuddalore*

Do You Know her?

Matangini Hazra was known as Gandhi Buri. She participated in the Quit India Movement and Non-Cooperation Movement. During one procession, she continued to lead with the Indian flag even after being shot thrice. She kept shouting “Vande Mataram”. The first statue of a woman was put up in Kolkata, in Independent India and that was Hazra's in 1977. The statue stands at the spot where she was killed in Tamruk. Hazra Road in Kolkata is also named after her.

Elizabeth I

Not everyone at a tender age of 3 would suffer the misfortune of losing her mother to executioner’s blade and ostracised by her father. Growing up surrounded by court intrigue and treachery, imprisoned by her half-sister (who aptly earned the sobriquet ‘Bloody Mary’) and almost meeting the same fate of her mother, Elizabeth had every reason to be consigned to either abrupt termination of her life or fade into anonymity. Instead providence propelled her to the throne of England. Her half brother Edward a sickly child, died young and half sister Mary, died childless. With Tudor tenacity for survival and penchant for power, she reigned over 50 years.

This was the period English bloomed as a language, a far cry from Geoffrey Chaucer’s days. This was the age of William Shakespeare, Francis Drake and Walter

Raleigh. It was also a time of deep religious divide in Christendom, fuelled by Reformation with Luther’s every step reverberating across Europe. King Philip II of Spain, exacerbated by Privateers and stung by Drake’s daring raids, vowed to bring England back to Catholicism and papacy. An Armada was despatched to bring the recalcitrant islanders to kneel.

Spain was the super power and England, a peasant nation. Liz had no standing army. But her ‘old sea dogs’ did the trick and Spanish armada was dispersed and destroyed. Thus began the decline of Spanish empire and England’s ascendancy. What does it signify? Empires rise and fall during the course of human history. This century will witness decline of the American empire and onset of Chinese’s. It is ironical that King Henry’s an unwanted, neglected girl child went on to lay the foundation of British Empire and in consequence you and I are now communicating in English, the lingua franca of the world. Salute to this exemplary woman.

R Ramesh, *Shipping Operations, Head Office*



Do You Know her?

Vasuki

Very little is known about the life of Vasuki other than her being the wife of Valluvar. Legend has it that Valluvar asked Vasuki to cook a handful of sand in order to test her before marriage, and Vasuki miraculously turned it to boiled rice and served him a sumptuous meal. She is widely known as a chaste and pious woman, an ideal Tamil housewife.

Dr Tessa Thomas: India's Missile Woman

Dr Tessa Thomas is currently the Director of Advanced Systems Laboratory (ASL) at Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Hyderabad. She is one of India's leading experts in ballistic missiles and was the Project Director for DRDO's Agni IV and V missiles, right from their inception. She was the first woman to lead missile teams in India. An expert on solid propellant systems, Dr Tessa's contributions were crucial in developing the Agni-V's multiple targetable re-entry vehicle. This was what helped the intercontinental ballistic missile withstand tremendous velocity and temperature of 3,000 degrees Celsius on re-entering the atmosphere.

After her PhD in Missile Guidance, Dr Tessa Thomas joined DRDO in 1988. Here she had an opportunity to work under Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.

Despite several failures that the Agni project faced and the media scrutiny, she and her team took it as a challenge and worked day and night to make it a success. Her work on Agni missiles earned her the moniker 'India's Missile Woman'. She has received several prestigious awards including the DRDO Scientist of the year in 2008, DRDO Performance Excellence Award for 2011 and 2012, and Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration in 2012.

In November 2017, she addressed the Global Entrepreneurship Summit-2017 in Hyderabad which was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and daughter of the United States President Donald Trump, Ivanka Trump. She spoke on how she mentored and nurtured scientists while ensuring a collective learning atmosphere and developing a knowledge-sharing platform in her institution.

When I read an article about Tessa Thomas, I was inspired by her transformation from a normal girl,



from a middle class family to a leading expert in Ballistic Missiles. She also took her failures as lessons and converted them into success. She is truly an inspiration for all of us.

S Sriraj, *CCVL Instrumentation Maintenance, Cuddalore*

Do You Know her?

Harriet Tubman was an American abolitionist and political activist. Born into slavery, Tubman escaped and subsequently made some 13 missions to rescue approximately 70 enslaved people, including family and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad.

Marie Curie

Marie Curie was a Polish and naturalized-French physicist and chemist who contributed to the research on radioactivity and to the discovery of Radium and Polonium. She was the first woman to earn a Nobel Prize, and the first person and the only woman to win the Nobel Prize twice.

Marie was not able to enrol in a regular university in Warsaw because she was a woman; she and her sister, Bronisława, fled to an underground Flying University an institution which admits women students. In 1890, Marie started her scientific training in a chemical laboratory at the Museum of Industry and Agriculture at Krakowskie Przedmie cie. In 1893, she earned her degree in physics and started working in the industrial laboratory of Professor Gabriel Lippmann.

Scientific Discoveries and Achievements

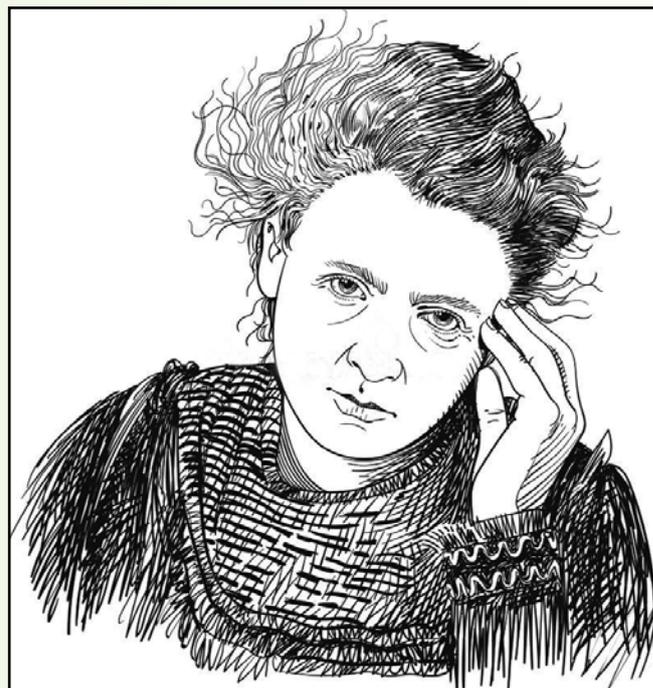
Marie decided that the importance of uranium (a chemical element) would be a good area to focus her research on. She began experiments in this field. With the help of her husband, Pierre, Marie spent lots of time investigating the properties of “pitchblende”, which is now referred to as uraninite, in their science labs. She discovered that radiation came from an atom, rather than the interaction between molecules. Pierre and Marie came up with the term “radioactivity”.

Inspiring qualities of Marie Curie

The Curie’s research was crucial in the development of x-rays in surgery. During World War I Curie helped equip ambulances with x-ray equipment, which she herself drove to the front lines. The International Red Cross made her head of its radiological service and she held training courses for medical orderlies and doctors in the new techniques.

Despite her success, Marie continued to face great opposition from male scientists in France, and she never received significant financial benefits for her work.

In spite of knowing the ill effects of Radiation, she kept working to help people. Marie Curie died on July 4, 1934 from overexposure to radiation. This



was not only a result from her repeated exposure to radiation from her experiments, but also from her work with X-ray machines.

Being a woman never was a limitation for making history and inspiring generations together.

We salute you.

Dr C Prakash, SSC Research & Development, Chemplast Sanmar, Berigai

Do You Know her?

Ada Lovelace

English mathematician and writer, known for her work on Charles Babbage’s proposed mechanical general-purpose computer, the Analytical Engine. She is believed by some to be the first to recognise that the machine had applications beyond pure calculation. She is said to have published the first algorithm intended to be carried out by such a machine. As a result, she is often regarded as the first to recognise the full potential of computers and as one of the first computer programmers.

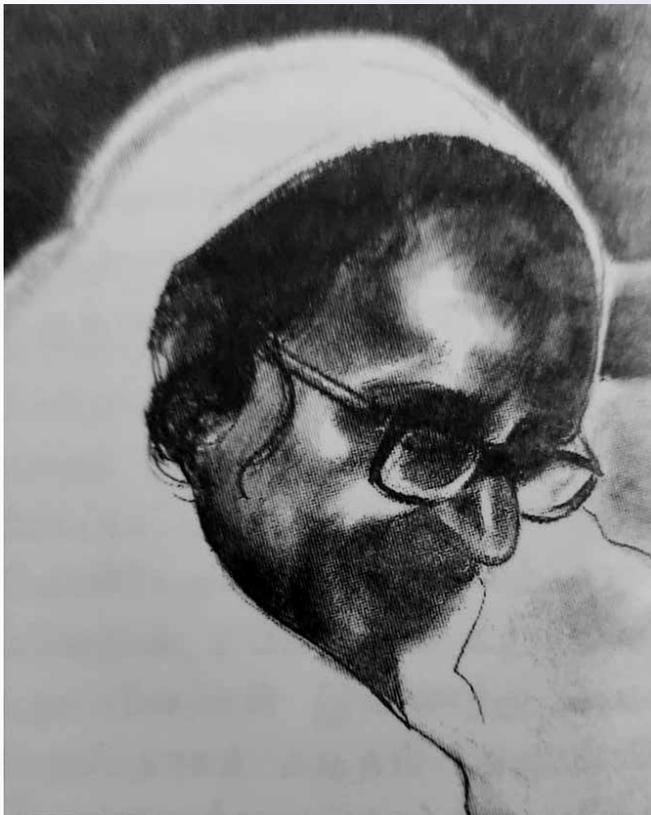
Ziddi Junaitha Begum - India's first Islamic female novelist

Don't live for yourselves. Live for your country, your people and your society. My advice to all is this - Live for others, not only for you.

Ziddi Junaitha Begum

In the year 1917, in a small town named Nagore near Nagapattinam, Ziddi Junaitha Begum was born to Shariffbeig and Muthukkannu. Nagore had no schools then and so she could only complete her primary education. To quench her thirst to educate herself, she moved to a nearby town Nagapattinam.

As per her family traditions, she was compelled to marry Fahir Malimar at the tender age of 12. Even after marriage, motivated by her aunt, she started writing. At the age of 18 she had published her writing in a magazine named Tarul Islam, for which she was admonished by her neighbours and family.



Soon seeking better employment, the couple flew to Malaysia. Unfortunately she had to return to Nagore for her children's education, as she lost her

husband due to the Pandemic during the World War II.

In the year 1938, aged 21, she published her first Tamil novel "Kadhala, Kadamaiya" with her name and photo printed on the book. It became a talk of the town, as in those days Muslim women would never do such thing as publishing their picture or write. But just to brush away her admonitions, the eminent Tamil scholar "Tamil thatha" UV Saminatha Iyer, appreciated her work through a letter. He expressed that he was happy to read a work with different thoughts written by a Muslim female writer.

Ziddi Junaitha Begum was a revolutionary writer. She advocated education for children above 5 years of age, equal employment opportunities for women to avoid social difference between the poor and rich, and land rights for the farmers.

Admiration for her writings poured in from different parts of Tamil Nadu, but her own sect saw her as an alien, a woman who was different. But Ziddi did not worry about it and concentrated on her writing. She published her second novel "Malai Nattu Mannan". Soon she was well recognised and people from all parts of Tamil Nadu invited her to hear her speeches. She released her third novel "Magizhampoo". She also published Nagore Andavar's history; apart from this she also wrote her autobiography.

In 1998, aged 81, she breathed her last, due to cancer. A Muslim woman from a very educationally backward area, she shone like a bright star when women preferred to stay back home. Her writings paved the way for women writers of that particular sect to come out and shine just like her. I admire her for this reason.

S Manavalan, *CSL KKL Production EDC, Karaikal*

Mary Kom: The woman of grit

I would like to write about a person who has motivated me to be strong willed over my passion and profession, Mary Kom. She is an amateur boxer and politician who started her career from a poor family background in Manipur. She has undergone several hardships throughout her life and has proved her potential to the world by overcoming all the obstacles that she came across. Out of all that she faced, one particular moment turned my attention towards her. I have read about the lives of many sports personalities making their hindrances as their stepping stone for success, but have never seen anyone making their comeback after going through motherhood for two children. No one would have imagined making such a bold decision. This stubborn heart of hers to make a bold move made her my inspiration and motivation. No matter what we face in our lives, where there is



a will there is a way, for them even the sky is not far away.

G Sivaram, *BS&B Engineering, Karapakkam*

Padma awardees

Tulsi Gowda & Padma Shri

Tulsi Gowda is an Indian environmentalist from Honnali Village, Ankola taluk in Karnataka state. She has planted more than 40,000 saplings and looks after the nurseries of the Forest Department. Despite having no formal education, she has made immense contributions towards preserving the environment. She was honoured with Padma Shri for the year 2020. This 72 year woman is determined to plant saplings and nurture them like her children, till they grow into trees. Tulsi has been doing this for the past six decades without any expectations. According to local residents, she was actively involved in the afforestation programme conducted by the forest department. Recognising her service, the department regularised her service. She has knowledge of the species of each sapling she has planted, the benefits of each plant and the quantum of water required to grow them. Her knowledge of plants is no less than any botanist. In spite of her poverty, becoming a widow at a very young age braving all odds in life, she led a life that turned out to be a model to the entire nation.

All these women have come from a very simple background and yet have done commendable work for us to emulate. Their lives are perfect examples for us to understand and learn to be humble and give back to the society we live in.

The Bold and the Beautiful - A glimpse of selected women characters in mythology

While Hindu mythology is full of strong male characters, women characters are either 'ideal' like Sita or 'evil' like Surpanakha. We have mothers, wives, daughters and vamps alike. But, a closer look at these women will reveal that they had a mind of their own, blessed with a sharp acumen and sound sensibilities. A glimpse of some notable women from mythology:

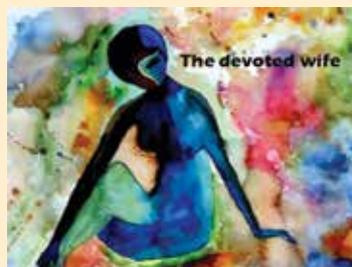
Born from fire-sacrifice, Draupadi is one of the most powerful and compassionate characters - intelligent, fearless, loyal, sacrificing, and the one who stood tall to protect her womanhood during the game of dice.



Surpanakha is mostly read in a negative light but she was a character ahead of her times. This woman had strong emotions and did not

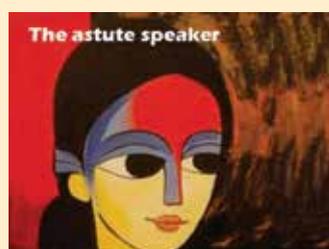
fray away from accepting her attraction towards men, something that was a taboo.

Urmila, wife of Lakshmana, kept herself composed all through the fourteen long years of exile when her husband stayed away from her and after the Lakshman's

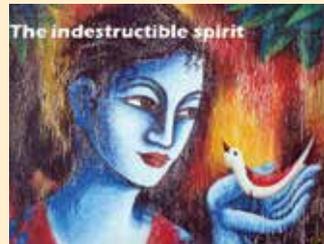


return, she fulfilled her duties of a devoted wife with compassion.

Extremely beautiful and intelligent Savithri, was an



astute speaker who saved her husband from Yama; and her words and wisdom impressed Yama and he granted Satyavan's life.



Mandodari, wife of Ravana was devoted and righteous. She did her best to make Ravana a better person and kept warning him about his wrong deeds that might

lead to a destructive future.

Known as the wife of Pandava Bheema, Hidimbi was the mother of Ghatotkach, who brought him up as a single mother as Bheema left her as soon as he was born.



A woman of great inner strength, Sita never resisted speaking up whenever the need arose. She brought up Luv and Kush as a single mother and finally took refuge in her mother Earth. During her exile with Lord Ram or when Ravana abducted her, the strength of character and mind she displayed are exemplary.



Bhanumathi, Duryodhan's wife was known for her immense beauty, kindness, devotion, intelligence and strength. She always saw the light and kindness in Duryodhan and when he died she jumped on his pyre.

Wife of the great Sage Vashishth, Arundhati was equally intelligent and a master of many skills and was no less than her husband's wisdom or knowledge. She loved her husband so much that fascinated by their love, Lord Shiva gave Arundhati an equal spot as her husband in the sky as a celestial body.

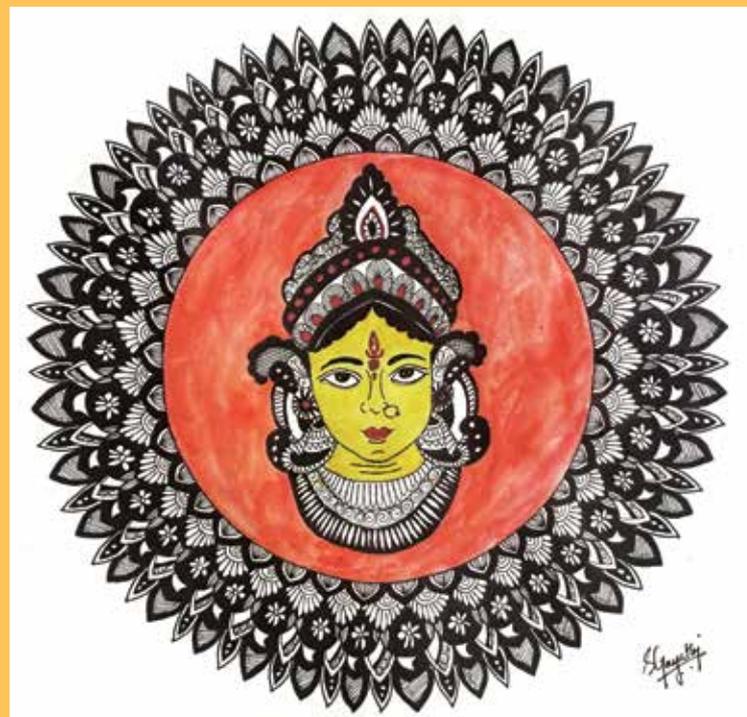
Source: timesofindia.indiatimes.com

Heart of darkness

In memory of billions of women who were murdered, burnt alive, raped and treated as chattel in the name of religion, ideology and social order, or by a man who 'just feels like it'.

*Through the miss of time
Unfettered by reason
were made these chains
By noxious, addled minds
More potent than any poison
are these abominations –
How it come to pass
the coup de grace for Man's downfall,
delivered by a serpent and a lass?
When flames consume me as a witch
Where have the warlocks gone, silly twit?
when I am stoned to death for adultery,
why do the menfolk go scot-free?
you go to heaven by killing who affront,
so as to have eternal virgins to mount?
Why do your 'honour' abound
in my body but not in my mind?
Where my laughing aloud is a vice
But crying aloud is an accepted grace;
Is frailty my name when I carry and nurture
and deliver you to fame?
from cradle to grave they haunt me, these chains
More potent than any poison
are these abominations.
O, Sabine women! O, Yazidi women!
who bear testimony to your suffering?
heed! heed! you foolish men!
from void to void, beginning to end,
don't you know that you and the rest
are nothing but mere stardust?*

R Ramesh, Shipping Operations, Head Office



Gayathri Subramanian, d/o V Subramanian,
Central Accounting, Corporate, Head Office

Padma awardees

Trinity Saioo

Trinity Saioo, the tribal farmer was honoured with the Padma Shri award for the year 2020. The 52-year-old from Meghalaya is credited with spearheading the women-led turmeric farming movement in the state. Her initiative has allowed women farmers to triple their income. Saioo has been leading 800 women in the hill state to cultivate Lakadong turmeric - which was not a traditional crop until the former schoolteacher helped increase its popularity. Up until then, the villagers had been growing a variety of turmeric called Lachein, which had less market demand and poor Curcumin content. In 2003, Saioo planted Lakadong turmeric and saw her earnings double. The next year, she convinced others to do as well. She is known as 'Turmeric Trinity' for her work.

The Resounding Anklet

*She takes the centerstage,
 Her gait as calm as a sage,
 Standing under the limelight,
 She begins the dance of the night;
 Welcoming the crowd,
 With the proverbial namaste,
 She started moving her slender arms,
 To the tune of lordly charms;
 She divides the electric air,
 In a graceful flair,
 Reverberating the silent hall,
 With the bell tied ankle,
 Matching the tune of carnatic jingle;
 Her dazzling eyes flit and flutter,
 To match the subtle Abhinaya,
 As her limber legs twist and turn,
 To the mellifluous Raaga;
 As the arc lights fade,
 She walks back into the shade,
 Her pirouettes still visible,
 To the audience now invisible;
 Elated of living one of her dreams,
 She smiles at her former comrade the wheelchair,
 A result of the night of screams,
 Staged by the men of despair;
 She rewinds to the night,
 As men disrobed her respect,
 Beating her black and blue,
 She was left alone without a clue;
 Cocooned in the darkness,
 She embraced society's verbal harshness,
 Breaking the shackles of stigmatic death,
 She fought it with her inner strength;
 Emboldened by the vivid present,
 She is proud of her ascent,
 From donning the Kanjeevaram silk,
 To dancing to the carnatic lilt.*

Kausikaraajan Varatharaajan, AGC Engineering,
Viralimalai



**Anirudh Raajan V b/o Kausikaraajan
 Varatharaajan**, AGC Engineering, Viralimalai

ABCI Award

'Scribbles' won two awards in the 59th Annual Awards Nite of the Association of Business Communicators of India (ABCI), under Newsletter and design categories. The awards were presented on 4 December 2020 at Mumbai.



Quiz on successful female personalities/ achievements

1. Name the first woman to swim across the English Channel.

- a. Arti Gupta
- b. Sneh Singh
- c. Ujwala Rai
- d. None of the above

2. Name the youngest woman to climb Mount Everest twice in India.

- a. Omana
- b. Dicky Dolma
- c. Faria
- d. None of the above

3. Name the first woman to pass MA in India.

- a. Leila Seth
- b. Kadambani Bose
- c. Thresia
- d. Kadambini Ganguly

4. Name the first woman who became a doctor in India.

- a. Kadambini Ganguli
- b. Cornelia Sorabji
- c. Ujwala Rai
- d. Anita Bose

5. First woman to circumnavigate or sail round the world?

- a. Anna George
- b. Sucheta Kriplani
- c. Ujwala Rai
- d. None of the above

6. First female president of India?

- a. Sarojini Naidu
- b. Shanno Devi
- c. Pratibha Patil
- d. Reita Faria

7. First woman who received a Sena Medal in India?

- a. Major Madhumita
- b. Santosh Yadav
- c. Bimla Devi
- d. Kiran Devi

8. First woman editor of English newspaper in India?

- a. P K Thresia
- b. Dina Vakil
- c. Anna Chandi
- d. None of the above

9. Name the first woman who became the advocate in India.

- a. Cornelia Sorabji
- b. Arti Shah
- c. Kamla Devi
- d. None of the above

10. The woman who became the first IAS officer in India?

- a. Anna Rajam Malhotra
- b. M. Fatima Biwi
- c. Kiran Bedi
- d. None of the above

11. Who is the first woman prime minister of India?

- a. Unnnati Sharma
- b. Indira Gandhi
- c. Sarojini Naidu
- d. Rekha Sain

12. Who is the first woman Chief Minister of a State?

- a. Ujwala Rai
- b. Sucheta Kripalani
- c. Razia Sultana
- d. Jayalalitha

13. Who is the first woman Minister?

- a. Ujwala Rai
- b. Vijaya Laxmi Pandit
- c. Leila Seth
- d. Amrit Kaur

14. Who is the first woman Speaker of Lok Sabha?

- a. Laxmi Devi
- b. Sushmita Sen
- c. Pratibha Patil
- d. Shanno Devi

15. Who is the first Governor of a State?

- a. Vijay Laxmi Pandit
- b. Pratibha Patil
- c. Sarojini Naidu
- d. Rajia Sultana

Send your entries to
scribbles@sanmargroup.com
The first three correct entries will receive prizes.



Sanmartini Shots

A cocktail of explosive games



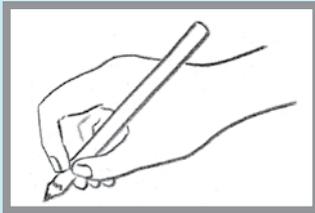
ROUND 1



While we may not be able to gather in auditoriums for Sanmartini, we are serving shots this year for you to get a taste of the fun. Participate in these contests and earn points for your Sanmartini team. The top 5 entries in each contest will earn 200, 150, 100, 75 and 50 points for their respective teams. The total points earned will earn Team Awards for the top 3 teams.

Shot 1 - Draw a personality

(For the children)



Draw and colour a picture of any famous woman personality that you admire. Competition is open to children of Sanmar employees in the age group of 8–14.



Shot 2 - Essay writing

(For the young adults)

Do we still live in a gender biased society?

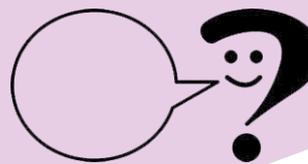
Write an essay on the given topic, with words not exceeding 300. Competition is open to children of Sanmar employees, in the age group of 15–18.

Shot 3 - Opinions Please...

(For the spouses)

Being a woman - Advantage or a disadvantage?

What is your opinion on this? Share an incident or an example in not more than 200 words. Contest is open to the spouses of Sanmar employees.



Shot 4 - Opinions Please...

(For the employees)

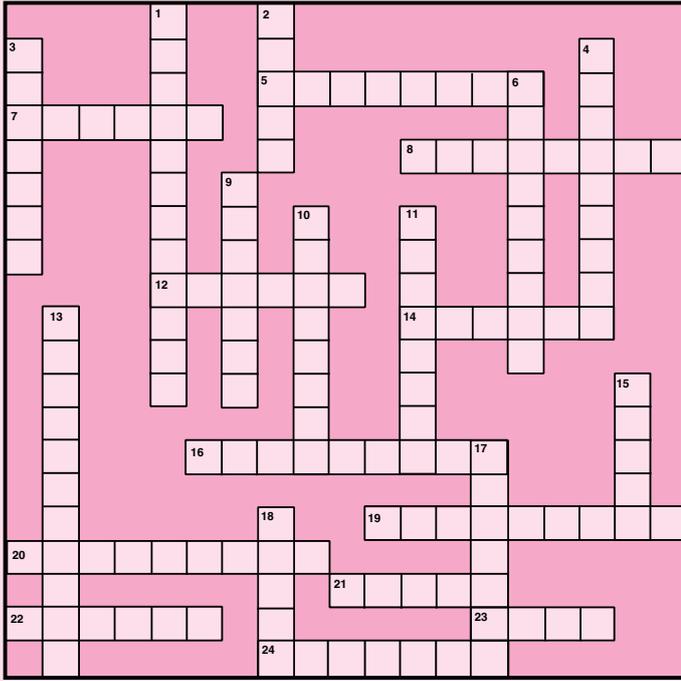
The glass ceiling debate: Women find it more difficult to succeed in their careers.

What is your opinion on this? Tell us in not more than 200 words. Contest is open to Sanmar employees.

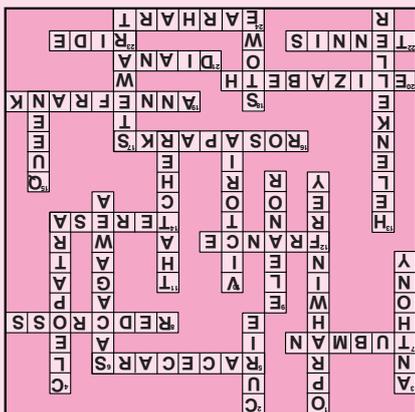
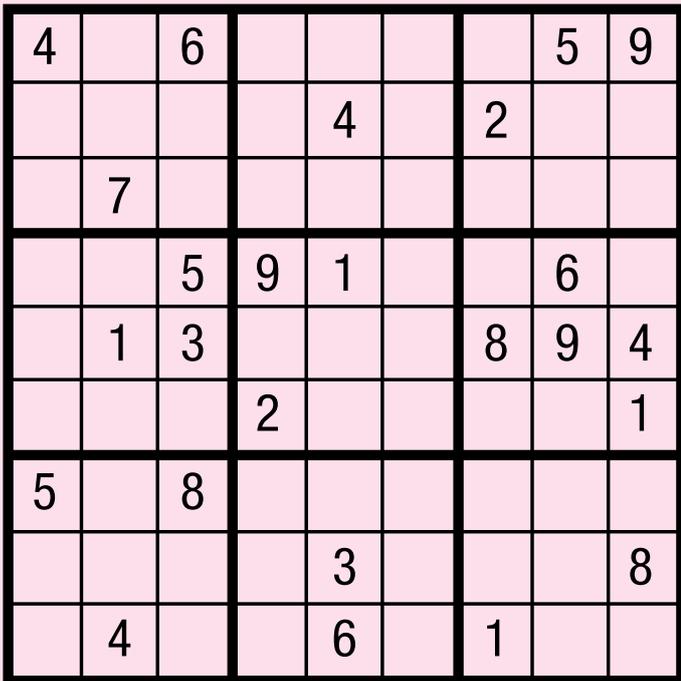
All entries should be submitted to scribbles@sanmargroup.com on or before **10 April 2021**

Till the next round is served...

Crossword



Sudoku



Across

5. Danica Patrick drives these
7. Harriet ____ was an escaped slave who helped other slaves escape through the Underground Railroad
8. Clara Barton founded this organization in 1881
12. Joan of Arc led this country to battle against the British during the Hundred Years War
14. Mother ____ spent her life helping the needy and sick in India
16. She didn't give her seat up on the bus in Alabama in order to fight segregation
19. She wrote about hiding from the Nazi's during World War II
20. Queen of England during the Elizabethan Era
21. Famous princess of Wales who died a tragic death in 1997
22. The Williams Sisters are two of the best athletes in this sport
23. Astronaut Sally ____ was the first American woman in space
24. Famous aviator Amelia ____ flew solo across the Atlantic Ocean

Down

1. This famous entrepreneur and talk show host is worth around \$3 billion
2. Marie ____ was a famous physicist who discovered the element radium
3. Susan B. ____ helped fight for women's right to vote
4. She was the last of the pharaohs of Egypt
6. This Native American guided Lewis and Clark on their exploration of the west
9. First Lady to President Franklin Roosevelt she helped fight for human rights around the world
10. She ruled England from 1837 to 1901
11. First woman prime minister of the United Kingdom
13. Born blind and deaf she learned to communicate and fight for the rights of the disabled
15. Not a King
17. Martha ____ created a large company around her cooking and home decorating books and shows
18. Harriet Beecher ____ wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin

Guess who?!



Melinda Gates is co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Along with Bill Gates, she shapes and approves the foundation's strategies, reviews results, and sets the overall direction of the organisation. Together, they meet with grantees and partners to further the foundation's goal of improving equity in the United States and around the world.

After joining Microsoft Corporation, she distinguished herself as a leader in the development of multimedia products and was later appointed Microsoft's general manager of Information Products. In 1996, Melinda left Microsoft to focus on her philanthropic work and family. Melinda lives with her husband and three children in Seattle, Washington.

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