

Indian Women's University.

History of its origin and  
early growth.

# Indian Women's University

(History of its Origin and early Growth.)

dent of the Widows' Home School, it being the amount of the fund raised in memory of the late Mr. B. G. Godbole of Bombay. Encouraged by these offers, the Life-workers of the Hindu Widows' Home Association approached the Managing Committee of the Association and the Committee enthusiastically supported the Life-workers, and authorised Prof. Karve to announce at the Conference that the Hindu Widows' Home Association was going to make a practical move in the matter. The Committee of the Association framed a scheme, circulated it among the members of the General Body and secured the formal consent of the General Meeting of the Association on the 13th of February 1916.

The approved scheme was put into the hands of a

### **Provisional Committee**

consisting of Prof. D. K. Karve B. A., (Chairman); Prof. G. C. Bhate, M. A.; Prof. H. G. Limaye, M. A.; Prof. K. R. Kanitkar, M. A. B. sc.; Mr. N. C. Kelkar, B. A. LL. B.; Miss Krishnabai Thakur, M. A.; and Mr. M. K. Gadgil, B. A., (Secretary). The Committee was authorised to bring the Indian Women's University into existence on the lines laid down in the Scheme, and when that was done, to hand over charge of their work to the properly constituted authorities of the University.

### **The Outstanding Features**

of the University are: First, that the University should be a wholly representative body subject to no outside control; secondly, that the institutions affiliated to it must introduce the Vernaculars of the Province as the media of instruction and must have English as a compulsory subject of study; and thirdly, the courses of study should be laid down with a view to the

special needs of women. As a direct consequence of the change in the medium of instruction, it has become possible to shorten the period of study without lowering the standard, so that a girl of average intelligence may begin at the age of 6, and after a primary course of four years, a secondary course of five years, and a college course of three years, may graduate at the age of 18. This is eminently suitable to our social conditions and at the age of 15, which is coming to be the general standard of marriageable age, a girl can finish her secondary education.

The Provisional Committee vigorously commenced the work of organisation and asked the Widows' Home Association to lend, for a short time, the services of Miss Krishnabai Thakur, Mrs. Venubai Namjoshi, and Mrs. Parvatibai Athavale to secure electors. Prof. Karve's services were required for an indefinite period. No time was to be lost. June was approaching. If a beginning were not then made, a year's delay would have been caused. Electorates were to be organized and the members of the Senate were to be properly elected. For this purpose different Provinces in India had to be reached. Miss. Krishnabai Thakur worked at Bombay and its suburbs, Burhanpore, Khandwa, Indore, Dewas and Gondal; Mrs. Venubai Namjoshi went to Akola, Amraoti, Nagpur, and Bhandara; and Mrs. Parvatibai Athavale to Belgaum, Dharwar, Hubli, Gadag, Bellary and Bijapur. Prof. Karve visited Madras, Tanjore, Kumbhakonam, Madura, Trichinapoly, Salem, Bangalore, Vizagapatam, Rajahmundry, Berhampore, Calcutta, Allahabad, Lahore, Jullunder, Delhi, Ahmedabad and Bombay. The result was exceedingly gratifying. In all 760 people were registered on the electoral roll for Graduates and 500 on that of the General Electorate. All the persons eligible for

election as Fellows were consulted as to their wish to serve on the senate. The names of 264 persons who expressed their willingness to do so, were sent to all the voters. The result of the voting was declared in the first week of May. The necessary syllabuses were drafted and were sent along with the Agenda paper to the Fellows. Everything was ready in time and the formal

### Inauguration

of the Indian Women's University took place at the first meeting of its Senate on the 3rd June 1916. Three sittings were required to go through the whole business. Forty-three out of sixty members were present and 15 of them had travelled long distances to attend the meeting.

The dignity and the status of this Body, in which is vested the final authority in all matters connected with the Indian Women's University, can be realised very well by going over the names of fellows given in the subjoined list. The University has been very fortunate in securing Dr. Sir R. G. Bhandarkar and The Hon'ble Principal R. P. Paranjpye, as the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor respectively. The names of the sixty fellows elected are as follows:—

- 1 Dr. Sir R. G. Bhandarkar, M. A. Ph. D. C. I. E. Poona.
- 2 The Hon'ble Mr. R. P. Paranjpye, Principal, Fergusson College, Poona.
- 3 Prof. D. K. Karve, B. A., Life-worker, H. W. Home Association, Poona.
- 4 *Mrs. Saralabai Naik, M.A. Inspectress of Girls's Schools, Indore.*
- 5 Mr. M. K. Gadgil, B. A., Life-worker, H. W. Home Association, Poona.
- 6 Mr. N. C. Kelkar, B. A. LL. B., Editor, the *Kesari* and the *Maratha*, Poona.

- 7 Prof. G. C. Bhate, M. A., Fergusson College, Poona.
- 8 Prof. V. K. Rajawade, M. A., Retired Professor, Fergusson College, Poona.
- 9 Mrs. Saraladevi R. Chaudhari, B. A., Lahore.
- 10 Prof. W. B. Patwardhan, B. A., Vice-Principal, Fergusson College, Poona.
- 11 Prof. H. G. Limaye, M. A., Fergusson College, Poona.
- 12 Prof. K. R. Kanitkar, M. A., B. Sc., Fergusson College, Poona.
- 13 Mr. H. R. Divekar, M. A., Life-worker, H. W. Home Association, Poona.
- 14 The Hon'ble Sir M. B. Chaubal, B. A. LL. B., C. S. I., Member, Executive Council, Bombay Government, Bombay.
- 15 Mrs. Vidyagauri Ramanbhai M. Nilkantha, B. A., Ahmedabad,
- 16 Mr. P. K. Telang, M. A. LL. B., Editor 'New India' Madras.
- 17 Mr. H. N. Apte, Author of Marathi novels, Editor "Karmanuk" and sometime Fellow, Bombay University, Poona.
- 18 The Hon'ble Mr. C. H. Setalwad, B. A. LL. B., Advocate, Member of the Imperial Legislative Council, Vice-Chancellor, University of Bombay.
- 19 Rao Bahadur Wamanrao M. Kolhatkar, Retired District Judge, Fellow, Allahabad University, Nagpur.
- 20 Prof. C. G. Bhanu, B.A., Retired Professor, Fergusson College, Poona.
- 21 Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta, M. D., M. R. C. P., M. R. C. S., L. M. & S., Bombay.
- 22 Dr. H. S. Deva, L.M. & S., Member, Servants of India Society, Poona.
- 23 Rao Bahadur S. V. Patwardhan, B. A., Retired Director of Public Instruction, Berars, Poona. (deceased)

- 24 *Mrs. Srirangamma, Head-Mistress, Government Girls High School, Bangalore.*
- 25 The Hon'ble Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, B. A. L. T. President, Servants of India Society, Madras.
- 26 Dr. M. G. Deshmukh, M. A., B. Sc., M. D., Bombay.
- 27 Prof. D. L. Sahasrabudde, L. Ag. B. Sc., Agricultural College, Poona.
- 28 Mr. N. M. Joshi, B. A., Servants of India Society, Bombay.
- 29 *Mrs. Margaret E. Cousins, Bachelor of Music, Theosophical College, Madanpalle.*
- 30 The Hon'ble Mr. B. S. Kamat, B. A., Trustee, H. W. Home Association, Member, Legislative Council, Bombay, Poona.
- 31 Rao Bahadur Dr. P. V. Shikhare, L. M. & S., Assistant Civil Surgeon, Sassoon Hospital, Poona.
- 32 The Hon'ble Mr. Ramanbhai M. Nilkanth, B.A.LL.B., Pleader, Ahmedabad.
- 33 Mr. S. G. Deodhar, B. A., Superintendent, New English School, Satara.
- 34 Dr. K. K. Joshi, M. A., Ph. D., Fergusson College, Poona.
- 35 Mr. N. K. Dixit, B. A., M. C. P., ( London ) Diploma in Pedagogy, ( London ), Principal, Male Training College, Baroda.
- 36 The Hon'ble Mr. D. V. Belvi, B. A., LL. B., Pleader, Belgaum.
- 37 Mr. G. A. Natesan, B. A., Fellow, Madras University, Madras.
- 38 Prof. A. B. Dhruva, M. A., LL. B., Professor, Gujrat College, Ahmedabad.
- 39 Pandit Shivanath Shastri, M. A., Calcutta.
- 40 Prof. C. R. Reddy, M. A., ( Cantab. ), Mysore.
- 41 Mr. Justice T. V. Seshagiri Aiyer, B. A., B. L., Judge, High Court, Madras.

- 42 Rao Bahadur R. P, Godbole, B. A., Retired Educational Inspector, Poona.
- 43 Mr. B. Sanjiva Rao, M. A., ( Cantab. ), Principal Kayastha Pathashala College, Allahabad.
- 44 Dr. V. A. Sukhtankar, Ph. D., ( Bonn-Germany ), Indore.
- 45 Dr. Y. G. Nadgir, M. S. ( Bomb. ) Professor Grant Medical College, Bombay.
- 46 Mr. G. S. Sardesai, B. A., Author of Indian History. Baroda.
- 47 Dr. V. C. Gokhale, L. M. & S., Private practitioner, Poona.
- 48 Mr. R. G. Pradhan, B. A., LL. B., Pleader, Editor " *Bharat Sevak*, " Nasik.
- 49 Prof. S. L. Ajrekar, B.A., Agricultural College, Poona,
- 50 Mr. J. R. Gharpure, B. A., LL. B., Pleader, Bombay.
- 51 Dr. R. V. Khedkar, M. D., F. R. C. S., D.Ph., L. R. C. P. & S. I. M., Poona.
- 52 Mr. D. G. Dalvi, M. A., LL. B., Secretary, Indian National Social Conference, Bombay.
- 53 Prof. N. S. Panse, B. A., Retired Professor, Fergusson College, Poona.
- 54 Prof. S. G. Sathe, M. A., Deccan College, Poona.
- 55 Rao Bahadur G. K. Chitale, President, Municipality, Ahmednagar.
- 56 Mr. P. T. Shrinivasa Aiyengar, M. A., Principal, A. V. N. College, Vizagapatam.
- 57 Mr. V. T. Agashe, L. C. E. Retired Superintending Engineer, Poona.
- 58 Mr. A. S. Dalvi, M. A., Retired Head-Master, Poona High School, Poona.
- 59 Mr. R. Venkata Ratnam Naidu, M. A., Principal, Pitapur Raja's College, Cocanada.
- 60 Dr. Y. G. Apte, B. A., L. M. & S., Gwalior.



The second meeting of the Senate was held on the 9th and the 10th June 1917. Thirty-three out of the sixty members of the Senate were present at the meeting and ten of them came from distant places for the meeting. Among the items of business, was included the presentation of certificates to the candidates, successful in the Indian Women's University Examinations held in April last. Four candidates appeared for the First Year Examination from the Mahila-Patha-Shala and they all passed, while at the Entrance Examination ten out of thirteen candidates were successful. In his general remarks, Dr. Sir R. G. Bhandarkar said that he had gone through the papers that were set at the Examinations and that he was satisfied that the proper standard had been kept up.

#### **Recognized and Affiliated Institutions.**

At present, Mahilashrama is the only Girls' High School, recognized by this University, for the Entrance Examination and the Mahila-Patha-Shala, the only Women's College, affiliated to the University for the purposes of higher education. Both these Institutions are conducted by the Hindu Widows' Home Association, which has been working in the cause of Women's Education for the last twenty-one years. The Association has got buildings, worth a hundred and forty thousand rupees and has seven graduate Life-workers, of whom three are M. A's. These devoted workers are a source of great strength both to these Institutions and to the University. In fact it is these Institutions which made the idea of the University practicable. It is hoped that patient work for a few years will produce confidence in the public mind and more institutions will come to be recognized and affiliated.

The following summary of the studies for the several Examinations will give an idea as to the kind of education that is being given in this University.

The college course is to extend over three years with an examination at the end of each year.

Admission to the college is to be made on the results of the Entrance Examination. The amount and quality of knowledge required, shall be generally equivalent to that at the Bombay University Matriculation Examination.

### Syllabus.

#### *Entrance Examination.*

**Necessary subjects:—**English, Vernacular, History, and Domestic economy and Hygiene.

**Optional subjects, of which any two are to be chosen:—**A Classical language (higher course), Physical Sciences, Mathematics (Algebra and Geometry), Hindi, Geography, Drawing (higher course), Music (higher course), and Needle Work (higher course).

The following are some of the text books prescribed by the Syndicate for the entrance Examination of 1918.

English Prose—A book of Golden deeds.

English Poetry—Cowper's Task canto VI and Macaulay's Lays of Ancient Rome.

( This course is the same as at the Bombay University Matriculation Examination ).

Marathi Prose—राजाराममोहनराय. पणलक्षांत कोण घेतो ?

Marathi Poetry—काव्यामोद ( वेचे ).

Sanskrit—वाल्मीकि रामायण ( सुंदर काण्ड ) चतुर्थी सुबोधपाठावली.

Domestic Economy and Hygiene—रा. लक्ष्मणकृष्ण यांचे प्रपञ्चशास्त्र, डॉ. गोखले यांचे गृहपरिचर्या आणि रा. मोडक यांचे आरोग्यमार्ग.

Elementary History of England and of India commencing respectively from the Tudor and the Maurya periods.

**Certificate subjects:—**A Classical language (elementary course), Arithmetic, Drawing or Music (elementary course), Needle Work (elementary course).

*First year Examination.*

## NECESSARY SUBJECTS.

English, Vernacular, History of India and Administration of British India, and Hygiene and Elements of Biology.

The following are some of the text books prescribed by the Syndicate for the first year's Examination to be held in April 1918.

English Prose—Goldsmith's 'The Good-natured Man' and Addison's essays.

English Poetry—Lyric Selections and Loane's Longer Narrative Poems.

Marathi Prose—भयंकर दिव्य. शिवाजीचे सप्तप्रकरणात्मक चरित्र.

Marathi Poetry—अभिनव काव्यमाला भाग १ ला; रामदास, तुकाराम व मोरोपंतांच्या काव्यांतील वेंचे.

Administration of British India:—

Home Government, Supreme Government, Provincial Government, District Administration, Legislative Councils, Education and Justice, as treated in Prof. Kale's book.

*Second year Examination.*

## NECESSARY SUBJECTS.

English, Vernacular, History of the British Empire and British constitution, Hygiene (higher course) and Human Physiology.

The following are some of the text-books prescribed by the Syndicate for the Second Year's Examination to be held in April 1918.

English Prose—Silas Marner.

English Poetry—Byron's 'the Prisoner of Chillon' and Selections from Tennyson.

Marathi Prose—आगळाचे निबंध. राजारामाची कैफियत.

Marathi Poetry—अभिनव काव्यमाला भाग २ रा. मुक्तेश्वर-नलो-  
पाख्यान, एकनाथ-भक्तियोग, वामन-भरतभाव.

History—इंग्लंड देशाचा विस्तार-गो. स. सरदेसाईकृत. इंग्लंडातील  
राज्यकारभार व्यवस्थेची मूलतत्त्वे-शि. गो. फाळकेकृत.

*Third year Examination.*

NECESSARY SUBJECTS.

English, Vernacular, Sociology and Psychology  
( Study of the Child-mind. )

OPTIONAL SUBJECT FOR ALL YEARS.

One of the following optional subjects is to be studied continuously for three years: A Classical Language, Ethics and Philosophy, Mathematics, Drawing and Painting, Music, Physical Sciences, Natural Sciences, English, Education, Comparative Religion, History and Economics.

**Constitution.**

The following Constitution was approved unani-  
mously at the last Meeting of the Senate.

1. The University shall be called "*The Indian  
Name: Women's University*" or "*Bharat-  
rarshiga Mahila Vidya Pitha.*"

2. The aims and objects of the University shall be :

(a) To make provision for the higher education of  
Aims and objects. women through Indian Vernaculars as  
the media of instruction;

(b) To regulate pre-university education and to  
formulate courses of study, specially suited to the needs  
and requirements of women ;

(c) To make provision for the training of teachers  
for primary and secondary schools ;

(d) To institute and confer such degrees and  
grant such diplomas, titles, certificates and marks of

honor, in respect of degrees and examinations, as may be prescribed by the regulations; and

(e) Such other objects, not inconsistent with these, as may be added from time to time by the Senate.

3. The University shall consist of

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Constitution.</b> | (1) The Chancellor,       |
|                      | (2) The Vice-Chancellor,  |
|                      | (3) Ordinary Fellows, and |
|                      | (4) Ex-officio Fellows.   |

4. No person can become an ordinary Fellow, unless he

(a) holds a master's or a doctor's degree of any Indian University or a foreign University recognised for this purpose by the Syndicate; or

(b) is a graduate of more than ten years standing of any Indian University or a foreign University recognised for this purpose by the Syndicate; or

(c) is one who is or has been an Ordinary Fellow of any Indian University; or

(d) is a person of special distinction and recommended for the purpose by the Syndicate of this University;

provided that no one shall be elected a Fellow by Electorates Nos. (2), (3), (4), and (5) unless he is a member of one of these Electorates.

5. There shall be five electorates for the election of fellows:—

<b>Electorates.</b>	(1) The Electorate of Associations:—This shall consist of the Hindu Widows' Home Association and such other associations as (a) are registered under Act XXI of 1860; (b)
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have their aims and objects identical with or similar to those of the Indian Women's University; (c) have under their control schools or Colleges or both, affiliated to the Indian Women's University; and (d) are recognised for this purpose by the Senate of the Indian Women's University. The election of Fellows assigned to these associations shall be left to them severally.

(3) Patrons' Electorate:—This shall consist of persons to be called Patrons, who contribute or promised to contribute a life subscription of not less than Rs. 1000 (one thousand) in one lump sum or by instalments extending over a period not exceeding six years. The right of voting shall be forfeited by failure to pay two instalments.

(3) Graduates' Electorate:—This shall consist of graduates of any Indian University or a foreign University recognised for the purpose by the Syndicate, who contribute not less than Rs. 10 annually or who give a life subscription of Rs. 300, in one lump sum or by instalments extending over a period not exceeding six years.

(4) Educated Ladies' Electorate:—This shall consist of ladies who have passed the Matriculation or Entrance examination of any Indian University or a foreign University recognised for the purpose by the Syndicate and who contribute not less than Rs. 5 annually or who give a life subscription of Rs. 150, in one lump sum or by instalments extending over a period not exceeding six years.

(5) General Electorate:—This shall consist of persons who contribute not less than Rs. 5 annually or who give a life subscription of Rs. 150, in one lump sum.

or by instalments extending over a period not exceeding six years.

6. The number of Ordinary Fellows shall be *sixty*.

7. Seats shall be allotted to different electorates as under.

Distribution of Fellows.	Electorate of Associations	...	15
	Patrons' and Graduates'		
	Electorates ( together )	...	25
	Educated Ladies' & General		
	Electorates ( together )	...	15
			—
		Total	55

The remaining five seats shall be filled by the Senate at its annual meeting.

*Note (1)* The Hindu Widows' Home Association shall elect fifteen Fellows, until other associations are recognised for the purpose according to the provisions of the Electorate of Associations.

*Note (2)* The Patrons' Electorate shall have a representation of one seat for every ten members until the number of Patrons reaches one hundred. The maximum number of Fellows elected by this Electorate shall be *ten*. The maximum number of seats for the Graduates' Electorate shall be *fifteen*. But this Electorate shall elect such additional number of Fellows as may be necessary to bring the total number of the representatives of the Patrons' and the Graduates' Electorates together up to *twenty five*.

*Note (3)* The Educated Ladies' Electorate shall have a representation of one seat for every ten members until the number of Educated Ladies on the Electoral roll reaches one hundred. The maximum number of Fellows elected by this Electorate shall be *ten*. The minimum

number of seats for the General Electorate shall be *five*; but this Electorate shall elect such additional number of Fellows as may be necessary to bring the total number of the representatives of the Educated Ladies' and of the General Electorates together up to *fifteen*.

8. No change shall be made in the above rules **Power of changing the constitution.** except with the consent of three-fourths of the total number of fellows forming the Senate.

### Financial Condition.

The Indian Women's University is perhaps the poorest in the World. Probably it is a unique instance of a University, starting its work without a rupee in its treasury. With unbounded confidence in the educated middle class, a beginning was made by the promoters of the scheme. Great was the anxiety on the part of the many good people who sympathised with the movement but who had grave doubts about the success of the scheme, on the score of financial and other difficulties. Thanks however, to the enthusiastic response given by the educated middle class and to the sympathetic attitude of the public in general, the days of acute anxiety are over. A stage has now been reached when the workers may look forward to the future with feelings of hope and confidence.

It is intended to put all donations into the Permanent Fund, and to meet current expenditure from annual subscriptions and the interest on the Permanent Fund. The total amount of promised donations is Rs. 75,000. The realised portion out of this is already invested and the University has to-day a Permanent Fund of Rs. 45,000 in the form of the 3½ p. c. Government Promissory Notes. During the year 1916, the income from



annual subscriptions came to be Rs. 9,000. But this income will be subject to fluctuations, and, especially in these hard times, cannot be regarded as absolutely certain. The workers hope, however, to secure enough from subscriptions for the present needs.

### Public Opinion.

Educated public opinion is decidedly in favour of the movement. The following tables prove the fact. The first table shows that the total receipts of Rs. 28,081-4-0 in the year 1916 were made up of 1324 contributions, most of them being small ones. The second table gives the number of persons, who got themselves registered in the Graduates' and the General Electorates. That so many people should have contributed their mite to help the cause, is a clear evidence of the favourable character of public opinion. These tables are intended merely to show how many were approached and how this movement was hailed with enthusiasm by the general public. But it must not be understood from this that they are a permanent source of annual income to the University. For several of them promised to contribute even beyond their means, only to mark their appreciation of the cause and readiness to help it, if and when their means permitted. This fact makes it incumbent on the workers to move about every year, secure fresh subscribers and keep on the old ones. Many more also were approached and they had their full sympathy, but were deterred from joining the electorates simply on prudential considerations. In the register of Graduates' Electorate there are 1016 names and in the General Electorate 829; about one-fourth of this number consists of Graduates. A glance at the second table shows how people in different parts of the country, appreciate the principles, underlying the experiment and are ready to help it.

TABLE No. 1.

Showing the number of contributions and the amount of each, which went to make up the total collection in 1916.

No. of Contributions.	Amount of each Contribution.	Total amount of Contributions.
	Rs.	Rs.
6	500	3000
4	400	1600
19	300	5700
4	200 to 300	878
12	150	1800
20	100	2000
47	50 to 100	2527-8
82	10 to 50	1492
706	10	7060
390	5	1950
34	less than 5	73-12
1324	.....	28081-4

TABLE No. 2.

Showing the number of Members enlisted in the Graduates' and General electorates and distributed according to the places.

Name of place.	No. of Members in Graduates' electorate.	No. of Members in General electorate	Total.
Bombay proper ...	147	61	208
Poona City. ...	129	29	158
Ahmedabad ...	60	21	81
Gujarat and Kathiawar ...	117	152	269
Maharashtra ...	67	106	173
Karnatic ...	61	169	230
Madras City ...	76	19	95
Madras Presidency ...	126	114	240
Mysore State ...	45	21	66
Central Provinces ...	47	19	66
Berars ...	7	5	12
Central India ...	70	80	150
United Provinces ...	19	12	31
Bengal ...	10	5	15
Punjab ...	35	16	51
Total ...	1016	829	1845

### Extension Work.

After the University had been established, it was thought desirable to entrust some one with the work of extending the circle of sympathisers and constituents of the University. For this purpose it is necessary to acquaint the general public with what is being done and the best way of achieving this end is to reach them personally. Professor Karve offered to undertake this work and the offer was readily accepted. He was asked to go on this mission being at once relieved from his duties as Registrar of the University, in September last. Since then he has been devoting himself to this work and an idea of the work he has done can be had from the following list of places he has since visited:—

Bombay and its suburbs; Nasik, Sinnar, Malegam, Pimpalgam-Basvant; Jalgaon, Bhusawal, Yawal, and Satara in the Deccan; Dohad, Godhra, Anand, Nadiad, Broach, Surat, Baroda, Ahmedabad, Petlad, Palanpur, Sidhpur, Mehsana, Visnagar, Vadnagar and Patan in Gujarat; Dharwar, Hubli, Kundgol, Karwar and Belgaum in the Karnatik; Limbdi, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Vadia, Jetpur, Junagad, Gondal, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Vankaner, and Dhrangadhra in Kathiawar; and Ali-bag and Thana in Konkan.

### Appeal.

The foregoing pages give a short account of the organisation and working of the Indian Women's University and the results achieved during the short time it has been in existence. There are six ladies studying in the Second Year Class and ten in the First Year Class. Four students passed the First Year Examination and these would have been the only students in

Second Year Class. But two ladies who had passed the Previous Examination of the Bombay University sought admission into the Second Year Class which has thus six students reading in it. The first batch of graduates, it is hoped, will be sent out in June 1919. The University will then see the first fruits of its work. The Indian Women's University is trying to solve the problem of the education of women on its own lines. It is an experiment involving far reaching consequences. Its success will ensure the rapid advance of higher education among the women of India. Its failure may do immense harm to the cause. The promoters of the movement fully recognise their own responsibility. But they must, and do with confidence, count upon the support of sympathisers to make the University a complete success.

This short report may, therefore, be appropriately concluded with the following appeal taken from the first leaflet issued by the Provisional Committee:—

“ We welcome help from every quarter and feel grateful for whatever help is given to us. But our main reliance, for the success of our enterprize, is upon the educated middle class which bears the burden of all public work and all public activities, in all parts of the world. We start our University without practically a single rupee to our credit. But we are strong in workers and stronger in the faith, that the educated middle class will not fail us in the hour of need. We therefore appeal to them to come forward with their offers of help, join the University in their hundreds and thousands as members and sympathisers, and create so many centres for the University movement all over the country. It will not be possible to see people individually. Whosoever receives this appeal, whosoever is a friend of the cause, whosoever believes in the higher education of

women as an indispensable factor in the uplifting of the nation, let him send his own contribution, let him work for securing the sympathy and support of his friends. This appeal is sent round in the hope that it will evoke a liberal response and we trust that the appeal will not be addressed in vain."

Indian Women's  
University,  
(Hingne Budruk),  
POONA CITY.  
*15th July 1917.*

H. R. DIWEKAR  
*Registrar,*  
Indian Women's University.

