

DR. B. R. AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI
M. A. GENDER STUDIES, SCHOOL OF HUMAN STUDIES

Programme Co-ordinator: Professor Krishna Menon

Class Representatives: Garima Joshi & Rangita Das

DISSERTATION WORKSHOP EVENT:
'MY RESEARCH JOURNEY'

Course Supervisor: Professor Krishna Menon

Batch 2023-25



Introduction to Professor Shashi Motilal

Professor Shashi Motilal's distinguished academic career spans from 1982 to 2020 and beyond, showcasing a deep commitment to philosophy. She began with an M.Phil at Jadavpur University (1980-1982) and pursued a Ph.D. at SUNY Buffalo, NY, USA (1982-1986). After teaching in Pittsburgh, she returned to India in 1991, where she became an Assistant Professor at Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University in 1993. From 2004 to 2020, she served as an Associate Professor at Delhi University, engaging in extensive teaching and research, and collaborating with institutions worldwide. Even post-retirement, Professor Motilal remains active, contributing through a co-authored book on governance ethics, innovative teaching methods, poetry, and socio-political op-eds.

Insights Shared During the Event

During her recent talk to the MA Gender Studies students in their third semester, Professor Motilal offered valuable advice and motivation. She encouraged us to face the challenges of our research journey with hope and courage, stressing the importance of maintaining a clear goal and not giving up. She acknowledged that the research process can be demanding both professionally and personally, and highlighted the significance of receiving feedback—whether positive or critical—as it helps steer our research in the right direction.

Professor Motilal emphasized the need for conceptual clarity in research. Instead of attempting to cover every interesting topic, she advised focusing on one specific area, delving deeply into it, and gaining thorough knowledge. She shared a personal anecdote about teaching a class of students who seemed more senior, which initially intimidated her. This experience served as a reminder to keep learning and growing, as each challenge contributes to our development. Additionally, Professor Motilal stressed the importance of well-organized research reports. A clear connection between the beginning and the end of the report is essential for its effectiveness. Overall, her talk was inspiring and offered practical guidance for navigating the research journey. At the end of her talk, Professor Motilal inspired and moved us deeply with a poem from her book, *Ek Chuski Chai Ki, Puri Pyaali Pyaar Ki*. The poem conveyed powerful emotions and left us feeling both motivated and uplifted.

We extend our sincere thanks to Professor Krishna Menon for providing us with this valuable opportunity. Special thanks to the students of MA Gender Studies: Samadrita Sarkar for introducing the speaker, Sandipan Das for handling refreshments, and Prashanti for delivering the thank you speech and capturing geo-tagged photos. Their contributions were essential to the event's success.

