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**Batch: 1977**



Vidyapeeth literally translates into an institution of knowledge. As a young third grader starting school at Birla Balika Vidyapeeth nearly 59 years ago, I did not know this. I could have never imagined the degree to which BBVP would uphold its very own name. BBVP not only strived to provide each of us a fundamentally sound education, but also provided numerous extracurricular activities to build character, values and a sense of civic and cultural responsibility. Our curriculum was full of non-technical learning that included classes for yoga, classical and folk dance, music and arts and crafts.

To foster a sense of friendship and comradeship, we participated in NCC camps, Republic Day and Independence Day Parades, celebrated festivals like Krishna Janmashtami, Basant Panchami, Gandhi Jayanti, Ramayan path and school picnics. A sense of drive and a passion for success was instilled in us through various annual competitions. We not only learned about great forms of art and works, but also won numerous awards.

The faculty created an environment, where we could have fun while remaining respectful and compete with our colleagues without being disrespectful. I reminisce fondly my memories of Chemistry and Biology Labs, Hindi teacher Mrs. Gupta, Maths and Sitar Class. I can go on and on.....

Along the way, I was lucky enough to make some very deep friendships. We were mischievous like any other teenager, but studious too. Though I live thousands of miles away from them, we still keep in touch and laugh uncontrollably over the phone on the simplest things just as we did when we were young budding students.

BBVP nurtured me in so many facets that I cannot imagine the kind of person I would have been without its impact on my formative years. It is a top-notch institution. I looked forward to going to school not because I loved studying but because BBVP found a way to make learning interesting, offering a slew of activities that made the experience enjoyable. Accomplishing that for a student, is the best thing a school can do. Taking a chapter out of BBVP's philosophy, I tried to make learning exciting for my children (both of whom are now grown and successful).

Today, as I look back upon my time spent at BBVP, I am reminded of the song we sang each day *"Jayati Pilani Vidhyamandir Jaya Jaya Jaya Jaya he"*. I can't help but smile in appreciation of the truism contained in that song.