

and is now settled in Jabalpur. He has built a unique temple of Sai Baba of Shridhi. Pt. Madan Mohan Kitchlu retired from the police department of Madhya Pradesh as an Inspector. He now lives in Gwalior. Pt. Brij Mohan Kitchlu was in Bharat Heavy Electricals. He now lives in Bhopal after retirement from the government service.

Pt. Kamta Prasad Kitchlu's third and youngest son Pt. Ladli Prasad Kitchlu retired as the Agent of the Imperial Bank of India during the British period from Howrah. He subsequently settled down in Calcutta. He then started working with the Stock Exchange there. When he died in Calcutta the Stock Exchange was closed that day to honour "Kitchlu Seth". He was married with Dhanraj who was the daughter of Rai Bahadur Pt. Raj Krishna Kaul the Dewan of Selana state in Madhya Pradesh. He had a son Tej Bahadur and a daughter Rupan married to Pt. Parmeshwar Nath Kaul of Lahore.

Tej Bahadur Kitchlu was born in 1921. He was an engineer based in Bomaby (Mumbai). He died quite young in 1960s. He was married with Roop Tankha of Delhi. He was a Table Tennis champion of West Bengal and the London County Council. He was also a very good Hockey and Tennis player. His only daughter Toni is now well settled in Newziland.

Pt. Kamta Prasad Kitchlu was a very simple person with down to earth qualities. He was soft spoken and highly cultured person. He was a man with certain convictions. He never compromised with his basic values of life and always tried to be impartial and judicious while taking crucial decisions. He never believed in pomp and show and always preferred a simple life. Being a poet he had a very good power of imagination and a knack of analysing things very minutely. He did a lot of work for the welfare of the community in Gwalior and solved many disputes of the members of the biradari there. His noble deeds and selfless work will always be a source of inspiration for the younger generation. The feelings of the noted Hindi poet Radhe Krishna Sharma "Bandhu" expressed in the following words convey a

lot of meaning in this respect.

"Tum yadi nij karm ko Bhagwan samiho.
Tum yadiiman ko iman samjho
Kaun sa sukh is dhara par aaj durlabh
Tum agar insan ko insan samjho."



First Kashmiri World Class Ophthalmologist

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul

Though we generally trace the history of medicine from the mythological period in our country, when we had Avuids like Dhanwantari who treated Lord Lakshaman when the latter became unconscious in a battle field in Sri Lanka due to a missile attack by Meghnath and though we had the repositories of medical knowledge like Shrushtu who developed the system of surgery in 2000 B.C. to



cure diseases and Charak who wrote a comprehensive treatise on the system of medicine known as "Charak Samhita", but the modern system of medicine was developed in our country by the British when they took over the administration of this country in 1858 from the East India Company, which was originally established in London around 1600 during the reign of Queen Elizabeth-I (1553-1603) to develop the trade links between England and India through the sea route.

The British then to start the teaching of the medical science in the country on proper lines established King Edward Medical College in Lahore and later on King George Medical College in Lucknow in 1905 to produce well trained and qualified doctors and surgeons to treat the patients. With the advancement of science and technology in our country these qualified doctors and surgeons then started taking specialised training in various disciplines of medicine and surgery and even some of them started going to different foreign countries to have such an

expertise which were more advanced in those respective fields to acquire the latest knowledge in their subject to become an expert in their branch of medicine and surgery. One such outstanding expert in his branch was Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul, who was the first Kashmiri Pandit to become a world renowned Ophthalmologist and Otolaryngologist in the country.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul's ancestors were basically the residents of the Sopore town of the Kashmir Valley where they had a business of making carpets and Silk items. His grandfather Pt. Dwarika Nath Kaul just to expand his business came out from the Kashmir Valley and landed in Lahore around 1875 after the annexation of the Punjab kingdom by the British and started living with his family members in Vachchuwali Gali which was having a big concentration of Kashmiri Pandits' population then. Pt. Dwarika Nath Kaul had five sons Radhey Nath, Manmohan Nath, Iqbal Nath, Onkar Nath and Shivraj Nath besides three daughters Ratan Rani, who was married with Pt. Har Narain Haksar of Gwalior, Saubhagya Rani who was married with Pt. Iqbal Narain Channa, the Tehsildar of Sialkot and Gulshan Rani who was married with Pt. Manohar Lal Kitchlu of Amritsar.

Pt. Dwarika Nath Kaul's eldest son. Pt. Radhey Nath Kaul was born around 1866 in Sopore town of the Kashmir Valley. He was married with Vishsho, who was the daughter of Pt. Amar Nath Zutshi of the Ratlam state. He had two sons Sidh Nath and Parmeshwar Nath. He died quite young around, 1896 at the age of about 30 years.

Pt. Dwarika Nath Kaul's second son Pt. Manmohan Nath Kaul after completing his education in Lahore first became a Wazir-e-Wazarat in Kashmir and then a minister in the court of Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh (1885-1925) of the J&K State. He was married with Lado Rani Ganjoo of Bazaar Sita Ram, Delhi.

Pt. Dwarika Nath Kaul's third son, Pt. Iqbal Nath Kaul and the fourth son Pt. Onkar Nath Kaul were twins. Pt. Onkar Nath Kaul was adopted by his maternal uncle whereas Pt. Iqbal Nath Kaul after completing his education in Lahore started the family

business of manufacturing carpets and silk goods. He married twice. His first wife was Kalyani who was the daughter of Pt. Jagan Nath Kunzru of Agra. His second wife was Daya Rani who was the daughter of Pt. Ayodhya Prasad Taimni of Hardoi. He then after his second marriage started living in Hardoi with his father in law Pt. Ayodhya Prasad Taimni who had no other issue. Pt. Iqbal Nath Kaul had a son Pt. Ishwar Nath Kaul who died quite young besides a daughter Chanda who was married with Capt. Anand Swaroop Pandit.

Pt. Dwarika Nath Kaul's fifth and youngest son migrated from Lahore to Benaras being of religious bent of mind. He also married twice. His second wife Susheela was a K.P. girl of Lahore. He had no issue. He and his wife both died in Benaras at a very old age.

Pt. Radhey Nath Kaul had two sons Sidh Nath and Parmeshwar Nath. His eldest son Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul was born on 5th November 1890 at a place known as Gujrat in Punjab now in Pakistan. His father died when he was hardly six years old. So he was brought up under the guardianship of his uncle Pt. Manmohan Nath Kaul who was a minister in the J&K State. Therefore he had his early schooling in Srinagar, Kashmir. He did his matriculation from the State High School, Srinagar, Kashmir around 1907. Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul then came from Srinagar to Lahore for his higher studies and took admission in Government College Lahore from where he did his F.Sc. in 1911.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul then to pursue the medical studies left the country and went to Europe where he took the admission in the University of Edinburgh in Scotland and did his M.B.Ch.B. from the same university in 1916 with 2nd class honours. Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul then for practical training in the medical profession took up house surgeon job in various county hospitals in England like at Bedford and Gloucester. He then became the Chief Medical Officer of the hospital at Birmingham. At this hospital he specialised in treating the diseases of eye, ear, nose

and throat.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul after taking all this exhaustive training at the various prestigious hospitals in U.K. for about five years then came back to India as a eye, ear, nose and throat specialist in 1921 and started his private practice in Lahore. In the meanwhile Sir Ganga Ram Hospital was established in Lahore in 1921 in the historic haveli of Lala Hardayal in Vachchuwali Gali and Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul was appointed as the honorary Ophthalmologist & Otolaryngologist in this hospital. Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul then shifted his residence from the historic Vachchuwali Gali and started living in a better area at 9, Nishat Road, Lahore.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul due to his hard work and his sound knowledge in his profession soon became a very popular medical doctor of Lahore with roaring practice. He was then appointed as the Professor of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology in the famous Balak Ram Medical College which was established under the aegis of Sir Ganga Ram Trust in 1946 on Ferozpur Road.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul was then elected as the president of the Indian Ophthalmological Society during the British period in 1940 and was awarded the Adranwala Gold Medal for his original thesis on Tuberculosis of the eye. Due to his outstanding and pathbreaking work in this specific field of the medical science the British conferred upon him the title of Rai Sahab.

In 1943 Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul was elected as the President of the Indian Medical Association before the partition of the country. He continued the membership of this association even after the partition of the country in 1947 till his death in 1980.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul generally used to publish his research papers of high academic value on different diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat and their treatment in the "Indian Journal of Ophthalmology", "The Journal of the Indian Medical Association" and the "Journal of Otolaryngology."

In 1947 India was divided on communal lines and a new

nation Pakistan was born followed by communal riots on a very big scale leading to a large scale migration of the population between the two dominions. Here the learned readers should keep in mind that the partition was entirely a proposal of the Muslim League. In the elections of the Constituent Assembly held in 1946-47 on over whelming majority of the Muslim voters supported this idea. Frankly speaking the vivisection of the country was the price that the Hindus paid to placate the Muslims. Though the actual demand of the Muslim League was not only the division of the territory but also total exchange of population between the two dominions which was not done for the reasons known to Mahatma Gandhi and Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru who were deciding the destiny of the country then. It would not be out of place to mention here that well educated Muslims like Sir Feroz Khan Noon who later on became the Prime Minister of Pakistan, while addressing the M.L.A.s at Patna on 16th April 1946 even threatened to re-enact the origies of Changiz Khan and Halaqu Khan if the Hindu leaders did not concede the demand for the total exchange of population.

Under such surcharged atmosphere and pent up emotions Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul somehow managed his great escape from Lahore with his family and fafully landed in Delhi. He then started living with his family at 23, Ashoka Road with his cousin brother Pt. Maheshwar Nath Kaul who was secretary of the Lok Sabha at that time and was as such very close to the then Prime Minister of the country Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru. Due to the efforts of Pt. M.N. Kaul the government allotted Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul an accomodation in an evacuee property bungalow on Curzon Road. Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul then converted this bungalow into his clinic cum residence. He then again started his medical practice from a scratch in a completely new environment. In 1948 he was appointed as the honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon in the Eye Hospital of Delhi.

He continued on this post for about five years upto 1954. In the mean while the new Constitution for the country was

enforced on 26th January 1950 and Dr. Rajendra Prasad became the first President of the Indian republic who then appointed Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul around 1953 as his personal honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon. The civilian title of Padma Shree was conferred upon him by the then President of India Dr. Rajendra Prasad in 1955.

To perpetuate the loving memory of Sir Ganga Ram who was born on 14th April, 1851 and was a great public figure of Lahore, some prominent people of Delhi under the leadership of Padma Vishushan Dharam Vira I.C.S., then took a historic decision to establish Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in Delhi. They formed a Trust for the same. The government then allotted a big plot of land near Sarojini Nagar for the construction of this hospital under the supervision of Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul who was a strict disciplinarian and very hard task master. This hospital made its humble beginning in 1954 with 100 beds. Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul then became its first medical superintendent. He used to command such an aura around his personality that the entire staff of Sir Ganga Ram Hospital used to tremble by simply mentioning his name. He then started living in the official bungalow of the medical superintendent inside the premises of this hospital. He continued his service in this hospital upto 1974 and then left his job due to old age. He then again shifted back to his old residence on Curzon Road.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul was the Vice-President of the Ophthalmological Society of India's reception committee in its 1972 session held at Delhi, which was inaugurated in Vigyan Bhawan by the then Central Health Minister Dr. Susheela Nayyar under the aegis of the International Society of Ophthalmology and presided over by Sir Stewart Duke an eminent Ophthalmologist of Europe.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul was the President of the National Society for Prevention of Blindness. He was a Trustee of the Churamani & Vaishno Devi Trust Hospital Committee in the Hissar district of the Haryana state. He was president of the Delhi

Ophthalmological Society. He was Chairman of the All India Ophthalmological Society xxx, conference held in Delhi in 1971. He was chairman of the Laxmi Devi Kanya Pathshala till 1970. He was awarded a gold medal and a scroll of honour for his long meritorious service by the Indian Medical Association in 1975. He died in 1980 at the ripe age of 90 years.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul's first marriage was fixed with Leela Wattal who was the daughter of Pt. Jagannath Sahai Wattal of Narsinghpur State, but this marriage could not be solemnised as Leela Wattal died ten days before her marriage in a tragic fire accident while preparing the breakfast. Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul was then married around 1923 with Ram Kumari who was the daughter of Rai Bahadur Pandit Shyam Manohar Nath Sharga of Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow. He had a son Ravindra Nath and a daughter Kishan Kumari (b-1924) who is married with Pt. Autar Narain Bakshi the son of Pt. Omkar Narain Bakshi of Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow. She now lives in Mumbai with her family at Colaba. She has two sons Sumant and Jayant besides a daughter Meera who is a senior officer in Air India. Sumant Bakshi is married with Jaya who is the daughter of Ashok Dar of NOIDA. Jayant Bakshi is married to Suman who is the daughter of Mr. Hattikudur of A.C.C. Mumbai.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul's only son Ravindra Nath Kaul was born in 1926 in Lahore. He had his education in Government College, Lahore. After the partition of the country he became a senior officer in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi. He got married with Dr. Saroj Hukku in 1953 who was the daughter of Rai Sahab Pt. Brij Mohan Nath Hukku of Gwalior and grand daughter of Pt. Jagan Nath Hukku of Jodhpur. Ravindra Nath Kaul died quite young in 1962 at the age of about 36 years. His wife Dr. Saroj Kaul died in 2002 in Delhi. Their son Siddhartha is now well settled in America. Their daughter Meenakshi is married with Mr. Subbu who is at present the president of Hyandai Motors in India.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul's wife Mrs. Ram Kumari Kaul died

around 1928. Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul's younger brother Pt. Parmeshwar Nath Kaul also had his education in Government College, Lahore. He then went to England to study law. He came back to India as a barrister and started his legal practice in Lahore Chief Court. He was married with Kamla Dar who was the daughter of Pt. Dharam Narain Dar of Srinagar, Kashmir. His only daughter Vimla was married with Naval Commander Mukut Lal Kimma Kaul. Mrs. Vimla Kaul has two daughters Arti and Urvashi. Her elder daughter Arti is married with R.C. Sharma who was the director of Intelligence Bureau. Her younger daughter Urvashi is married in the family of Dr. Bharat Ram who is the Chairman of Sir Ganga Ram Hospital Trust New Delhi.

Dr. Sidh Nath Kaul was a soft spoken person with a charming personality. He was a great believer in the philosophy of simple living and high thinking and so he used to admire the people with down to earth qualities. Though he was highly placed in the society with good political connections being the personal physician of the President of India but he never trusted his position on others. He was a man of few words who did always his best for the betterment of the humanity. He was connected with many social and charitable organisations and always helped the people in distress. He never liked egoistic persons and posers in his life who practice some thing different than what they generally preach to others. He was a straightforward person and a god fearing man whose main aim of life was to provide solace to the suffering masses. For him his work was like worshipping the god. Though both his wife Mrs. Ram Kumari Kaul and his only son Ravindra Nath Kaul died quite young before him but he took both these personal tragedies with great courage, patience and fortitude like a real Karmayogi as a will of god. He was really a saintly person who followed very high ideals in life. Such great people always leave their foot prints on the sands of time to guide the future generations. They make history by their hard work and noble deeds. The noted Hindi poet Laxmi Shanker

Mitra 'Nishaak' has very rightly said the following lines in this respect.

*"Bhram hai jeevan mein dekhte kya ho.
Mad bhare man mein dekhte kya ho.
Roop apna na dekh yadi paye.
Nitya darpan mein dehte kya ho".*



A Kashmiri founder of Kila Darpan state

Raja Gopi Nath Sutthoo

Hinduism unlike other major religions of the world is not confined to any particular book or any specific doctrine. It has a very vast horizon and is open to reasoning and arguments. It has the power to assimilate different views and ideologies into its fold. It is actually a way of life evolved by our learned saints and sages over the years, who were actually the great philosophers and scientists of their times. Hinduism is therefore based on a most scientific approach



towards everything for the over all healthy development and especially for the betterment of mankind. Hinduism therefore has that power and potential in it which even gives due importance to the elements of nature by worshipping them as gods and goddesses so that its proper ecological balance could be maintained for human survival. Unlike other religions there is no code of conduct in Hinduism to be adhered to strictly just to keep ones identity intact. Hinduism believes in developing the mental state of a person to such a spiritual level where he could himself be able to differentiate very easily as to what is right and what is wrong for him. At such a high level of understanding a person becomes one with God and develops the spiritual power to concretise any thing. He then enjoys an eternal bliss by becoming one with the Supreme Being.

Every religion of the world gives due importance to pilgrimage and Hinduism is no exception. The pilgrimage of

the holy places of the country is one of the important ingredients of Hinduism. In ancient times the pilgrimage was considered to be the most important aspect of one's life and the people generally used to undertake it in the legend of their life after performing all their duties towards their family members. They used to go to distant holy places to seek salvation in a peaceful atmosphere far away from these worldly affairs. In ancient Kashmir its original inhabitants, the Kashmiri Pandits being a highly orthodox and religious community generally used to go on pilgrimages to the distant holy places in the country and some time even they used to settle down at such places, to avoid the strain of the backward journey as the proper communication and transport system was practically nonexistent at that time in the country. One such Kashmiri Pandit family was of "Sutthoos" who made Cuttack in Orissa as their permanent abode far away from the land of their birth i.e. Kashmir.

There was one Pandit Gulab Rai Tikku who used to live in Pūrushyar mohalla near the bank of the Jhelum river in the Srinagar district of the Kashmir Valley. He was a highly orthodox and superstitious person. Since he was God fearing man, so he used to perform his daily prayers and other religious rituals with great sincerity and devotion to have the blessings of Ma Bhagwati. One night while he was having a sound sleep he saw Devi Ragyan Bhagwati in his dream who instructed him to construct an embankment on the bank of the Jhelum river to protect his house from floods. The very next day being an ardent disciple of Devi Ragyan Bhagwati he started the construction work as per her instructions to protect his house from the fury of the floods in the Jhelum river. He became so much fascinated with this phenomenon of Devi Ragyan Bhagwati appearing in his dream that he changed his original surname Tikku and in its place started writing Sutthoo as his new surname which means, an embankment in the Kashmiri language.

Pt. Gulab Rai Sutthoo had four sons. His two sons Pandit Mehtab Rai Sutthoo who was born around 1784 and Pandit Aftab

Ram Sutthoo who was born around 1786 then came out from the Kashmir Valley on a pilgrimage in the beginning of the 19th century. After covering the troublesome journey through thick forests and mountains they finally landed in the imperial capital Delhi around 1804 during the rule of the Mughal emperor Shah Alam II (1759-1806) and started living in Bazaar Sita Ram with their family.

After some time finding the conditions in Delhi not to their satisfaction both Pandit Mehtab Rai Sutthoo and his younger brother Pt. Aftab Ram Sutthoo then started their onward journey and went to the holy city, Mathura near Delhi for pilgrimage. They paid their obeisance at different temples in that city and fully enjoyed its religious ambience and also took an active part in the various religious festivals and congregations for which this city is famous all over the country.

From Mathura both these brothers went to another holy city Hardwar to take a holy dip in the river Ganges there which is considered to be a must for every devout Hindu to attain salvation. Both Pandit Mehtab Rai Sutthoo and his younger brother Pt. Aftab Ram Sutthoo stayed in Hardwar for few years and visited different places of religious importance around this city. Then from Hardwar both these brothers went to Faizabad to pay a visit to the Ram Janma Bhoomi site at Ayodhya. They also stayed in this holy city for sometime and paid visits to different shrines of historical and religious importance like Hanuman Garhi, Chandrahari Mahadev, Sankat Mochan, Swarg Dwar, Janki Mahal and Sita Rasoi, etc.

Pandit Mehtab Rai Sutthoo and his younger brother Pt. Aftab Ram Sutthoo then came to Lucknow from Faizabad around 1810 during the rule of Nawab Saadat Ali Khan (1798-1814) and started living with their family members in Kashmiri Mohalla which was the biggest centre of the Kashmiri Pandits population then outside the Kashmir Valley.

Around 1820 Pandit Shiv Prasad Ghaugai, who was the father of Justice Shambhu Nath Pandit, the first Indian judge of the

Calcutta High Court, migrated from Kashmiri Mohalla Lucknow to Calcutta after becoming a 'Sharistedar' in the 'Sadre Dewani Adalat there. It is generally presumed that probably at the same time Pandit Mehtab Rai Sutthoo and his younger brother Pandit Aftab Ram Sutthoo also migrated from Kashmiri Mohalla Lucknow to Calcutta which was the headquarter of the East India Company then to try their luck there under the British dispensation.

Here it must be kept in mind that the firm foundation of the British empire in India was laid by Lord Robert Clive who became the first governor of British India. Lord Clive was initially the Charge-de-Affairs of the East India Company at Calcutta during the rule of Nawab Siraj-ud-Daulah over Bengal. But after the defeat of Nawab Siraj-ud-Daulah in the battle of Plassey in 1757 the political scene in the country suddenly changed in favour of the British and the East India Company became a major political player. This victory of the British for Bengal in particular and for India in general not only laid the foundation stone of future British interests in the country but also it opened the orient to the new lights of Occidental civilization.

Lord Clive then acquired a huge house around 1757 on a sprawling 74 Bigha table shaped mound in the Dum Dum area in which the Treaty of Alinagar was signed previously between Siraj-ud-Daulah and Lord Clive after the first war between the army of the Nawab and the forces of the East India Company in 1751 for his living. Lord Clive then added an imposing two storeyed structure to this historic mansion befitting his status. It is also said that the famous black hole tragedy of Calcutta in which many Englishmen died due to suffocation when they were bundled together like Sardines in a very small room by Nawab Siraj-ud-Daulah also took place in the same house. This was a major turning point in our history.

Both Pt. Mehtab Rai Sutthoo and his brother Pt. Aftab Ram Sutthoo after coming to Calcutta (Kolkata) from Lucknow then

decided to go on a pilgrimage to Puri in Orissa which was a part of Bengal Presidency then to pay their obeisance to Lord Jagannath there. As the proper transport system between Calcutta and Puri was not developed by that time so they decided to perform this journey by boat. They took a boat from Calcutta and landed on a small place known as Baripeda on the seashore in Orissa which was a backward area then with no facilities. From Baripeda they went to Puri on bullock carts as they were the only means of transport available then in that backward tribal region. They somehow completed this arduous journey and finally reached the temple town of Puri and paid their obeisance to Lord Jagannath. They became so much impressed by its religious ambience that they dropped the idea of going back from this place and instead decided to settle down there permanently with their family members.

Both Pt. Mehtab Rai Sutthoo and Pt. Aftab Ram Sutthoo had a good command over Sanskrit and Persian language. So to earn their livelihood they adopted the profession of writing the petitions in the lower Dewani Adalat which was a sort of subordinate court of the higher Court at Fort Williams in Calcutta and was established there to decide petty crimes and small land disputes.

Pt. Mehtab Rai Sutthoo after earning sufficient amount of money as a petition writer then purchased landed property for better living. The local Oriya people gradually started respecting him for his various acts of public utility and charity and for his profound knowledge of the Sanskrit language and sacred Hindu texts. He built a huge haveli in Chandni Chowk, Cuttack for the proper living of this joint family of Sutthoos. Pt. Mehtab Rai Sutthoo had a son whose name was Pt. Gopi Nath Sutthoo and his younger brother Pt. Aftab Ram Sutthoo also had a son Pt. Durga Prasad Sutthoo who died quite young in 1841 at the age of about 31 years.

So when Pt. Mehtab Rai Sutthoo died around 1842 at the age of about 56 years his son Pt. Gopi Nath Sutthoo became the

head of this joint family who was born in 1815 at Lucknow in the historic Kashmiri Mohalla. He was a man of vision and had a quality of assessing things in their correct perspective. He had the ability to take right decisions at the right time to improve his future prospects. In short he was a most practical man with a lot of guts in him.

The ruler of the Kila Darpan state in Orissa somehow became a pauper due to which he could not pay his share of the land revenue as per agreed terms and conditions to the British who then confiscated his state and put it on auction. Pt. Gopi Nath Sutthoo considered it as a God sent opportunity for him to improve his financial and social status. He bought this Kila Darpan state on 27th March 1843 and entered into an agreement with the British to pay the same, "Push Cash" of tribute of Rs. seven thousand three hundred and ten, with ten annas and two pies on the due date as the former Raja of this state used to do previously. In this way he succeeded in acquiring all the powers and privileges of the earthwile ruler, a son of the Tributary Chieftain. Thus Pandit Gopi Nath Sutthoo became the first Kashmiri ruler of a state in Orissa far away from Kashmir which no doubt was a remarkable feat on his part.

This princely Kila Darpan state in Orissa at that time was spread in an area of 606 square miles with a population of about 50,000 people with an annual income of about 44,000 rupees in the form of land revenue. This Kila Darpan state has several hills, the highest peak being Barona Bander on which two ancient temples are located. These historic temples of great religious significance are known as Mahabhinayak Shambhu which is basically a temple of lord Ganesh and Hari Shanker Shambhu which has the idols of lord Vishnu and lord Shiva. There is also a famous holy spot for pilgrimage known as Ambaramati Nagar measuring three feet only besides seven other ancient temples with idols of different Hindu gods and goddesses.

When Pt. Gopi Nath Sutthoo purchased this vast Kila Darpan state it was a backward region of Orissa with no infrastructure

for basic civic amenities. Pt. Gopi Nath Sutthoo then opened three main markets in his state known as Chutia Bazaar, Barchhna Bazaar and Nawal pur Bazaar where the local population could buy the items of their daily use easily instead of going to far off places to purchase them. To provide potable water for drinking he constructed huge tanks to store rainwater and also built a number of wells so that there may not be any shortage of drinking water in his state. He also opened charitable dispensaries for providing medical aid free of cost to the needy persons.

In the Mutiny of 1857 Raja Gopi Nath Sutthoo provided a lot of help to the British in the form of both men and material to quell the disturbances at Sambalpur and to restore law and order there. He recruited a number of men from his state as soldiers for the British and also provided them a number of elephants to reinforce their army. Raja Gopi Nath Sutthoo died in 1859 at the age of about 44 years.

Raja Gopi Nath Sutthoo was then succeeded by his minor son Raja Baij Nath Sutthoo, who was born in 1850 in Cuttack and was only 9 years old when his father died. His uncle Pt. Durga Prasad Sutthoo who died in 1841 also had a son Pt. Kanhaiyya Lal Sutthoo who in turn had a son Behari Lal. Pt. Behari Lal Sutthoo was a well known Oriya scholar. He wrote Hindu "Karmakand" in Oriya language besides many other books due to which the local people started addressing him as Panditji. He subsequently dropped his surname Sutthoo and in its place started writing Pandit as his new surname Babu Behari Lal Pandit had three daughters Mohan Rani, Beno Rani and Munni Rani. He had no son. So to maintain his family lineage he adopted a son Ganeshi Lal from Kashmir in 1891 who was hardly 2 years old at that time. Babu Behari Lal Pandit died in 1911 at Cuttack in his ancestral haveli in Chandni Chowk.

Raja Baij Nath Sutthoo who was a minor at the time of his father's death subsequently had his education at Calcutta Ward's Institution and on his attaining majority in 1868 he not only

took the reins of the administration of his state into his firm hands but was also entrusted with the task by the British to provide proper help to the police force so that it may be able to cross the Brahmani region of his state which was then inundated due to heavy floods.

Then in 1870 Raja Baij Nath Sutthoo donated about Rs. 9,000/= to the British for building up proper infrastructure to provide irrigation facilities to the farmers of his Kila Darpan state so that they may be able to produce better crops with greater yields. This scheme was started for the first time in his Kila Darpan state in Orissa in the 19th century. Prior to this Utkal Gaurav Madhusudan Das another important figure of Orissa established Ravenshaw Girls School in 1869 in Cuttack to provide women's education in the state. It is the oldest girls institution in Orissa which is now under renovation after the devastating super cyclone of 2001 which badly damaged this historic structure.

Raja Baij Nath Sutthoo then in 1875 opened a charitable hospital and dispensary at Dharam Shala on G.T. Road to provide medical aid to the needy persons. He also established a school in Chutia Bazaar. He also used to donate quite a big amount of money annually to Cuttack College for providing proper educational facilities to its students. He also built a new market and a medical school with a dispensary.

Due to all these philanthropic acts of Raja Baij Nath Sutthoo the then Maharaja of Puri then conferred upon him the title of Rajyashree Vedmurat Pandit Devta Saman Bhopendra Bahadur which was generally given in that period to the Hindu sovereign kings. The British on their part conferred upon him the title of Rai Bahadur on 17 January 1877. He lived a king size royal life with all the pleasures at his command.

Raja Baij Nath Sutthoo was a multifaceted person. He was a real connoisseur of art and culture. He also did a lot of work in preserving the richness of the tribal culture of Orissa especially the art of Saura paintings for their fascination. These Saura tribes are spread over the hilly tracts of Kosuput Rajagida, Ganjam

and Gajpati. They make these paintings with great passion to please spirits and supernatural entities.

Raja Baij Nath Sutthoo married twice. He had a son Harihar Nath and two daughters Champa Rani and Padma Rani. He died around 1908 at the age of about 58 years. After his death his son Harihar Nath became the ruler of this Kila Darpan state. Raja Harihar Nath Sutthoo gradually cultivated all those qualities in him for which Rajas, Maharajas and Nawabs are generally known. His relatives allege that he was a replica of Maharaja Patiala Sir Bhupendra Singh having a great weakness for both wine and women. It is alleged that he used to keep many local Oriya girls for his service like a monarch. He died quite young due to all this. As he had no issue of his own so to maintain the pedigree of his family he adopted Rajendra Lal Raina who was the son of Pt. Behari Lal Raina of Rani Katra, Lucknow in 1905 and made him as his legal heir after changing his name to Shyam Sunder Nath Sutthoo.

Raja Shyam Sunder Nath Sutthoo was born in Rani Katra Lucknow in 1903. He got married with Umavati around 1922 who is the daughter of Raja Gyan Nath Madan. After these adoptions in the joint family of Sutthoos some differences cropped up over the division of the assets of the state between different descendants. Babu Ganeshi Lal Pandit one of the heir then filed a civil suit in 1933 in the court of the subordinate judge Cuttack to claim his share. This litigation then divided the family assets between Sutthoos and Pandits. In 1947 India became free after a very long spell of British rule. Due to the efforts of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel then all the princely states of the country got merged with the Indian Union thus making their rulers mere decorative heads with certain privileges. This step actually reduced their position and status to a great extent. The Zamindari Abolition Act of 1952 further gave them a big jolt when vast landed properties of these earthy rulers were taken over by the government. Then the much publicised socialism had its own negative impact on the respectable

families. All these developments in the contemporary society had its telling effect on the health of Raja Shyam Sunder Nath Sutthoo; who eventually died on 27th May 1957 at the age of about 54 years in his hisotric haveli in Chandni Chowk, Cuttack.

Raja Shyam Sunder Nath Sutthoo had a son Rameshwar Nath besides two daughters Kamini married to Pt. Shiv Nath Kaul and Kamla married to Pt. Vivek Narain Channa. Pt. Rameshwar Nath Suttho is married with Bharti who is the daughter of Lt. Col. Swaroop Nath Wanchoo. At present Rani Umavati Sutthoo who is about 98 years old is living with her son in Gurgaon, Haryana. Her eldest daughter Mrs. Kamini Kaul is now looking after the affairs of the Kila Darpan state. She now lives in the historic haveli in Chandni Chowk, Cuttack. In the words of Hindi poet Kalyan Kumar Jain "Shashi"

*"Jeet hi unko mili, jo haar se jamkar lade hain.
Haar ke bhaiye se digejo, ve dharashayi pade hain,
Har vijay san kalp ke pad poojitki dekhi gayi hai,
Ve kinare hi bache jo sindhu ko bandhe kharehain."*



A world class surgeon with a difference Dr. Suraj Prakash Wanchoo

The system of medicine was known to Indians even in prehistoric times. There is a complete Veda about the science of healing known as Ayurveda. We had vairs like Dhanwantari in the Mythological era who treated Lord Lakshmana, when the latter became unconscious in the battle field in Sri Lanka. Charak muni wrote a comprehensive treatise on the system of medicine known as "Charak Samhita" as early as 2000 B.C. to treat incurable diseases.



The modern Allopathic system of medicine was introduced in this country by the British in the 19th century. They established various medical colleges in the country, the oldest being at Calcutta (Kolkata) during their rule to teach modern system of medicine to the native students, as prior to that we had Ayurvedic and Unani system of medicine and Vairs and Hakims used to treat the patients. These Medical Colleges, which were established by the British during their rule produced a number of competent doctors both physicians and surgeons who earned both name and fame in their professional career and won laurels for their extraordinary achievements and competence in their respective fields. One such outstanding surgeon was Dr. Suraj Prakash Wanchoo, whose contributions in different fields apart from his medical profession in the Ajmer state can never

be forgotten.

Dr. Suraj Prakash Wanchoo's ancestors were originally the residents of Tankipora in the Srinagar district of the Kashmir Valley and they used to write 'Pandit' as their surname. One of his ancestor was a very strong headed person so he was nicknamed as Wanchoo, which later on was adopted as the new surname by his descendants. Dr. Suraj Prakash Wanchoo's ancestor Pandit Govind Ram Wanchoo came to the imperial capital Delhi from the Kashmir Valley during the rule of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb. (1658-1707). Pandit Govind Ram Wanchoo had a son Lal Chand and three grandsons Jai Ram, Budh Ram and Mukund Ram. This Wanchoo family used to live in Bazaar Sita Ram Delhi during the Mughal period. Not much is known as to what they used to do at Delhi at that time to earn their livelihood. Pt. Budh Ram Wanchoo had a son whose name was Thakur Prasad, who in turn had two sons Kalka Prasad and Durga Prasad.

According to reliable information collected from various sources about this family Pt. Kalka Prasad Wanchoo was born around 1820 in his ancestral house in Bazaar Sita Ram, Delhi. After completing his traditional education in Urdu and Persian language in a Maktab near to his house he came to Lucknow around 1840 during the rule of Nawab Mohammad Ali Shah. (1837-1842) and started living with his family in Kashmiri Mohalla, which used to be a big centre of Kashmiri Pandits outside the Kashmir Valley during the Nawabi period. In due course of time he got a job in the court of Nawab and was made a 'Daroga' of some department. He built a house for his family in Kashmiri Mohalla and a temple of Lord Shiva to carry out religious rituals. He used to go to attend the court on a horse driven carriage in a traditional dress with a monacle on his face made of gold. He had a son Ladli Prasad.

Pt. Ladli Prasad Wanchoo was born in 1856 in Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow. He had his traditional education in Urdu

and Persian under the guidance of learned Maulvis. As the Nawabi rule came to an end in 1856 in Oudh and the British took over its administration after dethroning the last Nawab King Wajid Ali Shah (1847-1856) Pt. Ladli Prasad Wanchoo thought it prudent to take admission in Government Jubilee Middle School at Deorhi Agha Mir to get a good job in the new dispensation. He passed his middle examination from this institution around 1875. The British then appointed him as a 'Kanoongo' and he then migrated from Lucknow to Punjab around 1876 and finally settled down with his family in Qila Sheikhpura.

Pt. Ladli Prasad Wanchoo married twice. From his first wife he had two sons Rajendra Prasad and Shiv Shanker Prasad and from his second wife he had three sons Kunwar Prasad, Brijendra Prasad and Harihar Prasad. Pt. Ladli Prasad Wanchoo's eldest son Rajendra Prasad Wanchoo was born in 1877 in Sheikhpura. He did his B.A. and LL.B. from the Government College Lahore affiliated with the Punjab University. He then started his legal practice as a criminal lawyer in Muzaffargarh. He was married with Kishan who was the daughter of Pt. Mohan Krishna Gurtu of Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow. He had a son Ram Prasad and two daughters Raj Kumari who was married to Pt. Roop Narain Shivpuri of Allahabad and Kamal Kumari who was married to Pt. Chain Narain Shivpuri of the Alwar state.

Pt. Ram Prasad Wanchoo was born in 1903 in Sheikhpura. He did his B. A. and LL.B. from the Government College, Lahore. He initially did his legal practice for a few years, but later on became the divisional accounts officer in the Central railways. After his retirement from active service around 1958, he settled down with his family in 34, Kallan Ki Laat, Aminabad, Lucknow. He was a staunch nationalist and a follower of Mahatma Gandhi. He used to wear Khadi. He was a great Philanthropist and used to donate a lot of money to voluntary and charitable organisations. He donated about Rs. 50,000/= to

Brahma Vidya Mandir, Panwar and Bhonsli Ashram Tukli. He was very close to the Bhoodan leader Acharya Vinoba Bhawe and used to visit his Ashram in Vardha regularly. He died of Cancer on 30th August 1981 at Lucknow at the age of 77 years. He was married with Vidya Kak. He had a son Chandra Prakash and a daughter Malti, Chandra Prakash Wanchoo was an Indian Audit and Accounts' Service officer. He was married with Indu Channa, He died quite young at the age of 45 years due to heart failure. Malti got married with Rajeshwar Nath Takru son of Pt. Harihar Nath Takru of Naryalwali gali, Aminabad, Lucknow.

Pt. Ladli Prasad Wanchoo's second son Pt. Shivshankar Prasad Wanchoo was born in 1880. He did his B.A. from the Punjab University of Lahore and became an Assistant Accountant General in the Jammu and Kashmir Riyasat during the rule of Maharaja Pratap Singh (1885-1925). He also married twice. His first wife was Bishan, who was the daughter of Pt. Mohan Krishna Gurtu of Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow. He had a son Dr. Suraj Prakash Wanchoo from his first wife. He also had a son Pt. Som Prakash Wanchoo from his second wife.

Pt. Ladli Prasad Wanchoo's third son Pt. Kunwar Prasad Wanchoo was born in 1890. He was simply a matriculate and was employed as a clerk in the office of the Post Master General in Lahore. He was married with Subhagya Rani who was the daughter of Pt. Mohan Krishna Mushran. He had three sons Anand Kumar, Ratan Kumar and Raj Kumar besides four daughters, Swaroop Kumari, Chand Kumari, Manmohan Kumari and Baby. Pt. Ladli Prasad Wanchoo's fourth son Brijendra Prasad Wanchoo was born in 1893. After doing his graduation from the Government College, Lahore he got a job in the Railways. Pt. Ladli Prasad Wanchoo's fifth and last son, Pt. Harihar Prasad Wanchoo was born in 1897 in Qila Sheikhupura. He did his B.A. and LL.B. from the Punjab University, Lahore and became an advocate in Sheikhupura. He was married with Mohini who was the daughter of Rai Sahab

Pt. Prem Nath Tikku of Kota.

Dr. Suraj Prakash Wanchoo was born on 15th May 1907 in Baramulla, district of the Kashmir Valley where his father Pt. Shivshanker Prasad Wanchoo was posted as an Assistant Accountant General at that time, during the rule of Maharaja Pratap Singh. He had his early education in Baramulla and then migrated from Kashmir to Lahore for higher studies. He did his matriculation from D.A.V. High School, Lahore in 1923 in first division. He then joined the Government College, Lahore and passed his F.Sc. examination in First division securing third position in the whole Punjab University of Lahore. To pursue medical studies he then took admission in King Edward Medical College of Lahore and did his M.B.B.S. from this prestigious institution in 1930 with flying colours.

After becoming a qualified medical practitioner he went to England in 1931 for higher studies and training. He also visited Dublin and Viena during this period just to make him familiar with the latest techniques developed in this field at these places for the treatment of the patients. He did his M.R.C.S. (Eng.) and L.R.C.P. (London) in 1932 and then L.M. from Dublin in 1933. After doing all this exhaustive training in medical profession in England, he returned back to India in 1933, and started his private medical practice in Lahore which he continued upto 1935.

Dr. Suraj Prakash Wanchoo then joined the Indian Medical Services during the British period as a Kings Commission Officer in 1935 and got his first posting as an assistant civil surgeon, in a hospital in Peshawar in the then North West Frontier province now in Pakistan. After serving in Peshawar for about two years, he was sent to Singapore by the British around 1939. While he was doing his job in Singapore the Second World War broke out in 1939 and the British then called him back to India and he was posted then as the Civil Surgeon of the Alexandria Hospital in the Alwar state of Rajputana in

1940. He remained on this post all through this period of Second World War and discharged his duties very conscientiously. For his meritorious work in N.W.F.P. his name was mentioned in the despatches of the then commander in chief of the British Indian Army.

On 15th August 1947 India became a free country after a very long spell of the British rule. Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru became its first Prime Minister and the British left this country lock, stock and barrel for their homeland. Dr. Wanchoo then thought it to be a god sent golden opportunity to have further higher training in his medical profession for better future prospects as all the top ranking British officers in the Medical Services at that time had left for their country and so there was an ample scope for quick promotions in the department on the posts left by the British. Keeping all these factors in mind and after properly assessing the prevailing conditions in the country at that time, he left for Edinburg for higher studies in 1948 from the Alexandria Hospital of the Alwar state.

Dr. Wanchoo remained in Edinburg for about two years pursuing his higher studies in the medical science and did his F.R.C.S. (Edin). After completing his studies he came back to India in 1950 and was made the Chief Medical Officer of Alwar. He functioned on this post for about two years upto 1952. He was then made the Chief Medical Officer of Bharatpur in 1952. He then became Civil Surgeon of Ajmer in 1952 and remained on this post till 1961, during which period he toned up the medical services in the entire city by providing better medical facilities to the patients for their proper diagnosis and treatment. Appreciating his hard work and valuable contribution in the field of public health and hygiene, the government then made him, the Director of Medical and Health Department of Rajasthan in 1961. He functioned as the Director for about one year upto 1962 doing mostly the official work and deciding the policy matters of the department for providing better health services

to the people of the state.

Dr. Wanchoo then became the Principal of the Bikaner Medical College in 1962. He was then appointed as the professor of surgery by the government in Sawai Madho Singh Medical College, Jaipur in 1963 and was also given the task to establish a full fledged medical college in Ajmer from a scratch. He took this assignment in 1965 as a challenge and worked day and night to complete this project in a record time. Taking great pains he himself planned the whole infrastructure of this proposed medical college by discussing the minutest details with the architects and engineers for the various buildings like lecture halls, operation theatres, library, hostels for both boys and girls, Nurses quarters, staff quarters, canteen, pantry doctors', residences etc. in this medical college. He also paid a number of visits to the east while East Germany and some other countries during this period to procure scientific equipments and machines for this medical college. Due to his untiring efforts and dedicated work round the clock, that this medical college came into existence in Ajmer in record time and he was made the founder Principal of this institution in 1965 by the Rajasthan Government. After serving as Principal of this medical college for two years he retired from the active government service on 15th May 1967 after attaining the age of super annuation.

To provide proper education and vocational training to deaf children Dr. Wanchoo opened a school in 1961 in Ajmer in a rented room with one teacher and two boys, which was then duly recognised by the Rajasthan Government in 1964. For the proper growth and development of this unique institution of its own kind in Rajasthan and to run its day to day affairs effectively Dr. Wanchoo then formed a Badhir Bal Vikas Samiti with himself as its chairman, S.P. Singh Bhandari and Mrs. Pushpa Toshnival as vice presidents and Mrs. Sudha Srivastava, Principal of the Savitri Girls College Ajmer as its secretary. Raj Kumar Verma was then appointed as the Head Master of this

school by Dr. Wanchoo.

Under Dr. Wanchoo's guidance and supervision this school for the deaf children made a rapid progress in all the directions. In 1967 a big chunk of land was purchased in Vaishali Vihar locality for the construction of the building of this school. In 1980 a workshop and a hostel for boys was constructed on another adjoining piece of land. In 1988 a hostel for girls was built along with the residence for its Lady warden. Then in 1989 a showroom was built to display the articles made by the deaf children along with a workshop for imparting training in tailoring. Now this school has about 92 students on its rolls and a staff of 12 teachers and instructors, who take special classes in carpentry, tailoring, sheet metal works, scenery, sign board painting, caning, typing and screen printing etc. just to make the deaf children self reliant. This is Dr. Wanchoo's greatest contribution to the society especially to the physically disabled children.

Dr. Wanchoo was also actively involved with various other social and voluntary organisations of Ajmer and Jaipur being a very well known and popular person of these cities, because of his medical profession. He used to command a great respect from the people, who used to love him for his simplicity and down to earth human qualities. He was also a managing Trustee of the Ajmer Medical Association Trust and the Executive Director of the Vijay Polyclinic Hospital, Ajmer.

Dr. Wanchoo got married in 1936 with Gyanwati Nagu, who was the daughter of Pt. Kailas Nath Nagu of Chatai Mohal, Kanpur. His marriage took place in the famous Dharamshala of that locality which was near the house of Pt. Sri Krishna Tikku, who was the government pleader of Kanpur then. Dr. Wanchoo has only one issue a son. The name of his son is Dr. Pramod Kumar Wanchoo, who himself is a qualified medical doctor from America. He is married with Preeti Kaul the daughter of Pt. Bal Krishna Kaul of Ajmer, who was a minister in the

Rajasthan government. Dr. P.K. Wanchoo has a son Sandeep and a daughter Shivani. Sandeep is married with Dr. Jaya Kak the daughter of Dr. Vijay Kumar Kak of Chandigarh and Shivani is married with Vivek Hazari of New Delhi. Dr. P.K. Wanchoo now lives in 26, Uniara Gardens, Jaipur.

Dr. Suraj Prakash Wanchoo was a very humble and soft spoken person with pleasing manners. He was very straight forward man in his dealings and a very hard task master with impeccable integrity. He always helped the people in distress. Once a man brought his son in a critical condition to Dr Wanchoo's residence early in the morning when he was taking a stroll on the lawn in sleeping suit. Without wasting a single minute, he immediately took that boy to the hospital in his car in the same condition for quick medical aid and thus saved the life of that boy. This incident clearly reflects that how much devotion he had towards his profession. Though he occupied very high positions and had good connections in the society but he never built a house for his family and always lived in a rented government accommodation. Going on long drives with his family members was his greatest passion. Reading books and magazines was his main hobby. He also had interest in games and sports. He was really a wonderful person.

Dr. S.P. Wanchoo under the magic spell of his cousin brother Pt. Ram Prasad Wanchoo who was a nationalist to the core of his heart, not only developed proficiency in the Hindi language but also studied its literature thoroughly. He compiled the teachings of great saints and sages and got them published in the form of a booklet in 1986.

Dr. S.P. Wanchoo was very much attached with his pet dog and used to play with his pet dog almost daily. On 19th July 1992 in the evening hours as usual he was playing with his pet dog sitting on the bed when all of a sudden the back portion of his head banged against the wall of the room and he became unconscious due to this impact. He was then immediately rushed

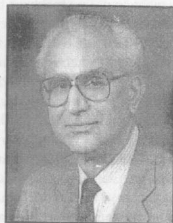
to the Jaipur Medical College from Ajmer for treatment under expert guidance. But inspite of best medical aid his precious life could not be saved. He slipped into coma and subsequently died on 20th July 1992 at the age of 85 years. His last rites were performed at Pushkar by his close relatives. Now his son Dr. Pramood Kumar Wanchoo is carrying on the legacy left by him. In the words of Hindi poet Malkhan Singh Sisodia.

*"Amar banna hai agar to mrityu jeeta chal.
Raag banna hai agar dukh dard peeta chal.
Jhijhakta kyon gural pyala dekh dewane
Ghoont bhar ke zindagi ke zakhm seeta chal"*



A world renowned environmentalist
Dr. Triloki Nath Khoshoo

The people have started now realizing the fact that the environment plays a key role in maintaining the good health of any nation. The different forms of pollution not only shorten ones life span, but also bring various dreadful diseases with them creating havoc at times for the entire humanity. That is why now various governments and other non-governmental and voluntary



agencies are striving hard to educate the people, about the importance of maintaining a proper ecological balance in nature which is so very important for the survival of the mankind on this mother planet. The various scientists all over the world are now working hard to derive ways and means for the qualitative improvement in the environment around us by making it free from all sorts of pollution. Even various courts of late have become active in this direction and have issued certain guidelines to be followed strictly in this regard to check the abnormal rise in the level of pollution in the atmosphere so that it may not become a health hazard for the citizens of this country. One such outstanding environmental scientist, who did an exhaustive research work in this field and had won various prestigious awards for that, was Dr. Triloki Nath Khoshoo whose excellent contribution in this newly developed discipline will always be remembered for all times to come.

Dr. T.N. Khoshoo's ancestors were originally the inhabitants

of the Sopore town of the Kashmir Valley and therefore used to write Sopory as their surname. One of his ancestor became a Mint Officer during the rule of Mughal emperor Shahjahan (1627-1658) when Ali Mardan Khan was the governor of Kashmir. Some "Shohdah" poisoned the ears of Ali Mardan Khan by telling him that "the Mint Officer is minting under weight coins thus making a big fortune". There upon Ali Mardan Khan called the Mint Officer to his court to know the truth and asked the Mint Officer to weigh the coins before his eyes. It was found that the weight of the coins was accurate as queried and the allegations levelled against the Mint Officer were totally malafide and baseless. Ali Mardan Khan then honoured him with a royal "Khilat" for his honesty and sincerity. Since he used to do everything very quickly by his left hand so he was nicknamed as Khoshoo which means a left hander in the Kashmiri language. Subsequently his family adopted Khoshoo as the new surname in place of the original surname Sopory after migrating from Sopore to Srinagar and settling down in Ali Kadal mohalla there.

Dr. T.N. Khoshoo's another ancestor Rishipeer the son of Pandit Govind Joo Khoshoo of Ali Kadal became a saint of very high spiritual order during the rule of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb (1658-1707). Rishipeer was born in 1637 in a boat when his mother was going from Ali Kadal to their ancestral town Sopore through the Jhelum river. It is said that once a big fire broke out in Ali Kadal and engulfed the entire area in which a number of houses were burnt down. When it became impossible to control the leaping flames the people in utter panic approached Rishipeer for some solution. Rishipeer then asked them to throw his one sandal into the fire and lo behold it was extinguished. Because of his super natural powers even Aurangzeb who was a bigot Muslim had to give him the epitaph. Peer Pandit Padshah Hardul Jahan Mushkil Asan". Rishipeer left his mortal frame in 1697 at the age of 60 years. His shrine is still there at his birth place in Sopore on the bank of the Jhelum

river. His another shrine was in Ali Kadal where his one sandal was kept. It is now shifted to Jammu.

After the fire incident the ancestors of Dr. T.N. Khoshoo changed their residence and shifted from Ali Kadal to Chalpan Kocha near Zainakadal. The ancestors of Dr. Khoshoo were all highly cultured, learned and deeply religious people and so used to command a great respect from the biradari. They were all very learned people well versed in Sharda, Sanskrit, Kashmiri, Hindi, Urdu, English, Persian and Arabic language. The name of Dr. Khoshoo's great grand father was Pandit Birbal Khoshoo who was a widely respected person in the entire Kashmir Valley. Dr. Khoshoo's grand father Pandit Sridhar Khoshoo and great grandfather Pandit Kashmiri Khoshoo were an expert calligraphers and the employee's of the grazing department of the Jammu & Kashmir government. They wrote Ramayan and Mahabharat in Urdu and Persian language in their beautiful hand writing.

Dr. Khoshoo's father Pandit Samsar Chand Khoshoo was an employee in the Customs Department of the Riyasat during the rule of Maharaja Pratap Singh (1885-1925). Pandit Samsar Chand Khoshoo was married with Vanamala Khosa who was from a trading family of Kashmir. This couple had in all eight children five sons and three daughters.

Pandit Samsar Chand Khoshoo's eldest son Pandit Jialal Khoshoo did his B.A. from the Punjab University, Lahore and won a gold medal for securing the highest percentage of marks in the examination. He was especially rewarded by Maharaja Hari Singh (1925-1947) for unearthing illegal deforestation after joining the service in the Forest Department of the Riyasat. He retired as the conservator of the forest department of the Jammu & Kashmir government.

Pandit Samsar Chand Khoshoo's second son Pandit Raghu Nath Khoshoo retired as the deputy conservator of forests of the Jammu & Kashmir government. His third son Dr. Prithvi Nath Khoshoo after completing his medical education became

the deputy director general of the health department (Leprosy) of the government of India. The civilian title "Padma Shree" was conferred upon him for his outstanding services in the health sector especially for his efforts in controlling the Leprosy in the country by launching various awareness drives in the country against this dreadful disease, besides other national and international honours and awards for his outstanding work in this field.

Pandit Samsar Chand Khoshoo's fourth son Pt. Dina Nath Khoshoo was an officer in the food department of the Jammu & Kashmir state. His fifth and the last son Dr. Triloki Nath Khoshoo was born on 7th April 1927 in his ancestral house in Chalpan Kocha near Zaina Kadal (fourth bridge) in Srinagar district of the Kashmir Valley. He had his early schooling in Baramulla, under the guidance of his eldest brother Pt. Jialal Khoshoo who was posted there at that time, in the National School of the city. After completing his early education in Baramulla he came back to Srinagar and took admission first in Sri Pratap Middle School and then in S.P. College from where he did his matriculation in 1940 in first division. Prior to this in 1938 his parents shifted from Chalpan Kocha to the posh civil lines area of the city. He then did his intermediate with Biology, Physics and Chemistry as subjects in 1942 and secured the highest percentage of marks in Biology in the whole Punjab University, Lahore which conducted this examination and got the Prince of Wales gold medal for this achievement.

He then went from Srinagar to Lahore for higher studies and did his B.Sc. (Hons.) in 1944 and M.Sc. (Hons.) in Botany in 1946 from the Punjab University (Lahore) in first division.

In his B.Sc. (Hons.) citation Prof. P.N. Mehra of the Punjab University (Lahore) remarked that Dr. Khoshoo was one of the best products of this laboratory during the recent years and could be trusted with investigations of high order. In Dr. Khoshoo's M.Sc. (Hons.) thesis Prof. C.D. Darlington, FRS of the Oxford University London remarked in his report that Dr. Khoshoo's

interpretation showed a thorough knowledge of the subject and convincing interpretation showed.

The government of Jammu & Kashmir then selected him for an advanced training course in forestry at Edinburg which was the main profession of his family. But due to the partition of India in 1947 purely on communal lines and subsequent merger of the Jammu & Kashmir state with the Indian Union this programme could not materialise as the new government of the state under the leadership of the then Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah cancelled that scheme.

After the partition of the country in 1947 Dr. T.N. Khoshoo joined the Punjab University (Chandigarh) as a lecturer in its Botany Department. After a year in 1948 he was made a senior lecturer in the Botany Department of the Punjab University (Chandigarh). He worked on this post till 1962.

In the meantime he did his Ph.D. from the same University in 1952 as a faculty member. His examiner of the thesis Prof. G.L. Stebbins of the Genetics Department of the California University of America wrote that it was an excellent work which was truly exceptional in originality, thoroughness of execution and with minor exceptions entirely accurate.

When Jammu & Kashmir University was established in Srinagar, Kashmir in 1962 Dr. T.N. Khoshoo became Head of its Post Graduate Botany Department. He functioned on this post till 1964. He then came to Lucknow from Srinagar and joined the National Botanic Gardens as The Assistant Director, which was established by Dr. Kailas Nath Kaul who was the brother in law of the then Prime Minister of India Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru in 1952 in the premises of the historic Sikandar Bagh of the Nawabi period.

In 1974 Dr. T.N. Khoshoo became the Deputy Director of this prestigious Botanic garden of the country and in 1976 he became the full fledged director of this institution. Due to his untiring efforts the status of this institution was raised and it became the National Botanical Research Institute in 1978. He

worked on this post till 1982. He used to live in Mahanagar where he built a house for his family members.

Dr. T.N. Khoshoo then became the secretary of the newly created Department of Environment of the Central Government at New Delhi and he then started living there in 103-H, Sarita Vihar with his family members. He worked on this post till 1985. After that he was made a distinguished scientist of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (C.S.I.R.), New Delhi.

In 1991, Dr. T.N. Khoshoo became an international fellow of the World Institute of Washington and Jawahar Lal Nehru Fellow; Nehru Memorial Fund New Delhi. He then became a distinguished Fellow (Honorary) of the Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi in 1993 and worked very actively on this post till his death in 2002.

Dr. T.N. Khoshoo started his career in plant genetics and through his pioneering research work in this field became an international authority on plant genetics. His breadth of vision and depth of knowledge coupled with his broad humanism made him a unique figure and a dedicated strategist for human survival. His work both in high office and outside in the field relating to the management of the available resources and the proper utilization of the biodiversity emphasizing the need to develop the forest cover in the country for a long range ecological security was really path breaking.

Dr. Khoshoo's concern and understanding of the issues focusing on sustainable development in the Indian context on the ethical aspects of resource consumption and on environment friendly technology along with the bio-industrial development of rural India and other developing countries of the world contributed greatly to the integration of environmental considerations into out developmental imperatives which was widely applauded and recognised by every one.

Dr. Khoshoo had also made significant contributions to the genetic evolutionary understanding of several non-agricultural economic plants (including ornamentals). He applied this

knowledge for their improvement and had evolved over 30 cultivars of ornamentals many of which are now in the nursery trade thus helping to beautify the environment. He also made original contributions towards elucidating the genetic system of gymnosperms (soft woods in particular). Many of the basic concepts developed by him are known for their originality and have stood the test of the time. His work has considerable practical implications for tree breeding and genetics and is mainly aimed in making forestry in India sustainable for proper ecological balance of the environment.

Dr. Khoshoo has published 253 research papers of a very high academic standard in reputed international scientific journals dealing with genetics as related to plant evolution and breeding, biomass energy, forestry, bio diversity (conservation and utilization) and management of natural resources and environment. He authored 7 books on botanical research and sustainable management of geosphere, and environment besides editing other 11 books of equal importance. His book "Mahatma Gandhi. An apostle of Applied Human Ecology" (1996) won him the Gandhi Medal of UNESCO.

Dr. T.N. Khoshoo was a fellow of the Indian Science Academy New Delhi, Indian Academy of Science, Bangalore, the Third World Academy of Sciences, Trieste Italy, National Academy of Sciences Allahabad, Institution of Engineers India, Indian Society of Genetics and plant breeding New Delhi and Indian Botanical society, Indian Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi.

Dr. Khoshoo was the President of the Botany section of the Indian science Congress in 1982 and was General President of the Indian Science Congress in its 1985-86 session. He was the President of the Bio-energy Society of India in 1985-86, President of the National Academy of Sciences 1985-86, President of the Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding in 1986 and President of the Indian Society of Tree Scientists from 1988 to 1991.

Dr. T.N. Khoshoo had won various awards and medals in his long meritorious career like Rafi Ahmad Kidwai Medal and Prize of C.S.I.R. in 1977, Birabal Sahni Gold Medal of the Indian Botanical Society in 1982, Seth Memorial Medal of the Indian Society of Tree Scientists in 1983, Ram Deo Misra Medal of the Indian Environmental Society in 1984, Dayavati Vira Medal in 1985, Sanjay Gandhi Award in 1986, Distinguished Service Award in 1998, Om Prakash Bhasin Foundation Award in 1989, The Award of Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding in 1991, Indira Gandhi Environment prize in 1993 and Centurian Prize of Indian Science Congress in 1999.

Dr. T.N. Khoshoo functioned as the National Chairman of the scientific committee on Problems of Environment (SCOPE) New Delhi from 1988 to 1991. He was also a member of the national committee on International Biosphere Geosphere Programme of the Indian National Science Academy New Delhi during this period. He was a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the department of Bio technology of the central government from 1989 upto 1996, and Chairman of the Task Force on Biomass production and Bio diversity of the department of Biotechnology of the central government from 1989 upto 1992.

Dr. Khoshoo had also delivered important lectures from time to time on important topics during his long service period like the National Lecture of the University Grants Commission in 1981, Guru Prasad Chatterjee Award lecture in 1985, Dr. A.C. Joshi memorial lecture in the Punjab University in 1986, Guru Prasad Chatterjee Award lecture of the Indian Science Congress in 1989, Govind Ballabh Pant Award lecture of the G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development in 1992, Dr. Hussain Zaheer memorial lecture of the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology Hyderabad in 1992, Jawahar Lal Nehru birth centenary Award Lecture of the Indian Science Congress Association in 1999, and Dr. B.P. Pal Memorial lecture of the National Academy of Sciences in 2000. He was a widely

travelled person and in all had delivered over 200 lectures in Indian, British, French, German, Russian, Hungarian, Canadian and American Universities and Institutes and during international conferences all over the world.

He was deputy chairman of the Working Group on Cytogenetics of International Forestry Research Organisation, Washington from 1964 upto 1967; Vice Chairman of the Governing Council of the United Nations, environment programme in Nairobi in 1982; member Scientific Advisory Committee of the union cabinet from 1982 to 1985; member Indian Wildlife Board under Mrs. Indira Gandhi as Chairperson from 1982 to 1985; Member International Task Force on Tropical Forestry, World Resources Institute, Washington in 1984; member Advisory Board of the World's Resources Report from 1989 upto 1998; member Plant Advisory Group of International Union for conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, Switzerland from 1988 to 1990; member Scientific Committee of the International Lake Environment Committee; Tokyo from 1988 to 1990; member National Environmental Council with Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi as Chairperson from 1993 to 1995; Trustee, Centre for Research in environment; Ecology and development (CREED) 1995-2002 and Trustee of World Wide Fund Nature, New Delhi from 1996 to 2002.

Dr. Khoshoo was co-editor of "Silvae Genetic" an International journal of forest genetics and tree breeding of Germany from 1960 to 1984, he was on the editorial board of "Plant Systematics and Evolution" Springer Verlag Vienna, New York from 1978 to 1993 member of the Advisory Board of another prestigious journal "Lakes and Reservoirs" of the Research and Management of the International Lake Environment Committee Foundation, Shiga, Japan from 1994 to 2002 and member of the editorial board of the "Environment, Development and Sustainability", Kluwer Academic Publishers of Netherland from 1998 to 2002.

After 1980, Dr. Khoshoo mainly focussed his attention on

the biomass production on the degraded lands of the country, because of its socio-economic, importance. This work has led to the ecological revival of the derelict lands with a new state of human made biodiversity in natural locations. The knowledge thus gained was ably used in developing various ecological programmes to improve the quality of environment around us. This also formed the basis for standing world's first Eco Task Force involving Indian armed forces for the ecodevelopment of Massoorie Hills.

During this period he was also involved in paraphrasing sustainable development in the Indian context and spearheaded science and technology based environmentalism. He was the principal architect of some major environmental initiatives which were taken up in the country like Ganga Action Plan, Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Centres of Excellence in Environment, Eco-development of degraded lands, conservation and utilization of bio-diversity on a holistic basis in the country, etc.

For all this outstanding work in the field of bio-diversity and its proper management he was honoured with the UNEP Sasakawa Environment Prize in 1996 and the then President of India Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma conferred upon him the civilian title Padma Bhushan in 1992 in Rashpath Bhawan for his valuable research in this field.

Dr. T.N. Khoshoo was married in 1946 in Srinagar, Kashmir with Arundati Ganjoo the daughter of Mrs. Prabhawati and Pandit Janaki Nath Ganjoo. Mrs. Prabhawati Ganjoo was the only sister of Pandit Balkak Dhar who was a highly respected person of the community in the Valley at that time. Arundati Ganjoo has become famous as Mrs. Mohini Khoshoo after her marriage with Dr. Khoshoo. This couple has two sons Rajiv Khoshoo and Dr. Vikram Khoshoo. Rajiv Khoshoo is married with Priti the daughter of Mrs. Kaushaliya and Pandit Janki Nath Chaku. He has a son Siddhartha and a daughter Amrita.

Dr. Vikram Khoshoo is married with Dr. Monica who is the

daughter of Mrs. Krishna and Dr. Makhan Lal Dhar. He has only one son Tushar.

Dr. T.N. Khoshoo was a person of very sharp intellect with pleasing manners. He was quite unassuming person who never tried to throw his position on others. He was always humble and polite in his dealings with his subordinates. His superiors always respected his ideas and suggestions. He had a very charming personality with an electrifying effect. He used to tackle even the most difficult problems with ease and confidence. Apart from a scientist of international repute he was also a very good administrator and above all a very good human being having a great regard for human dignity. He was a highly sophisticated person with a difference. He was the only Pandit from the valley who got the civilian title "Padma Bhushan". He breathed his last after a protracted illness at the age of 75 years on 10th June 2002 at his residence 103-H, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi - 110044. He will always be remembered for his fondness, respect, affection and devotion to duty by all those who had the proud privilege to work with him. The reputed Hindi poet Jai Narayan "Arun" has expressed the philosophy of life in his own words in the following lines :-

*"Kalika ne jam liya, Dhul mein badalne ko,
Suraj ka yauvan ha, Sandhya ban dhal neko,
Sanso ka kya hai phir, Lauten ya na lauten,
Sansen hain mrityu, ki god mein palne ko."*



First Kashmiri Chief Engineer

Pandit Sri Krishna Gurtu

In India there are many historical buildings and monuments which reflect the superb craftsmanship of those artisans who built them and that too in that period of time when there was no provision of imparting any training to engineers and architects in any recognised institute or university to build them. These architectural wonders actually represent the skill which was evolved and developed by those craftsmen through indigenous means to create such artistic marvels without any diploma or degree of a recognised institution. They built these majestic structures simply on the basis of their imagination on the direction of their masters to create something new and awe inspiring and even at times they had to sacrifice their lives for their creations so that the duplication of such monumental treasures may not be possible in future. The person who took his creative lessons from these magnificent architectural edifices and structures to develop his own methodology to create something new and unique in the field of civil engineering was Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu who not only propounded new theories in this highly technical field but also developed a unique flood absorption technique for the first time in the country.

According to the information collected from his relatives and other reliable sources. Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu's ancestors used to write Raina as their surname in the Kashmir Valley but as they were highly religious and orthodox people, they subsequently



started writing Raina Gurtu as their new surname. His ancestor Pt. Narain Das Raina Gurtu was basically a resident of Habba Kadal in the Kashmir Valley, who after completing his traditional education in Urdu and Persian language there came to Oudh during the rule of Nawab Asaf-ud-Daula (1775-1797) probably in the fag end of the 18th century. He built a big 'haveli' in Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow and started living there with his family members. He got some good job in the court and became so much fascinated with the affluence of the Nawab that he started writing his own name as Nawab Narain Das. Some people say that he went to Calcutta along with the last Nawab of Oudh King Wajid Ali Shah when the latter was dethroned by the British in 1856, but there is no documentary evidence to substantiate this claim.

Pt. Narain Das Gurtu had a son Pt. Gulab Rai Gurtu and a grandson Pt. Mehtab Rai Gurtu "Miskeen" who was an Urdu poet. It is generally said that this Gurtu family after the Mutiny of 1857 migrated from Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow to Delhi for better future prospects there under the British dispensation and started living in Bazaar Sita Ram which was a big centre of the Kashmiri Pandits' population at that time.

Pt. Mehtab Rai Gurtu "Miskeen" had four sons. They were Nand Kishore, Karta Krishna, Suraj Nath and Ayodhya Nath. Pt. Mahtab Rai Gurtu's second son Pt. Karta Krishna Gurtu was a noted scholar of Urdu and Persian language of Delhi. He was also a poet of repute like his father. Some of his poetic compositions have been published in Bahar-e-Gulshan-e-Kashmir. He had three sons Amar Krishna, Maharaj Krishna and Prem Krishna.

Pt. Karta Krishna Gurtu's second son Pt. Maharaj Krishna Gurtu had his traditional education in Urdu and Persian language in Delhi College. He was married with the daughter of Pt. Swaroop Narain Haksar. Pt. Maharaj Krishna Gurtu then, on the suggestion of his father in law Pt. Swaroop Narain Haksar whose brother Pt. Dharam Narain Haksar was the tutor of

Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia of the Gwalior state and who was having a great influence over the administration of the state, migrated from Delhi to Gwalior for better future prospects under the patronage of Pt. Dharam Narain Haksar there. Pt. Maharaj Krishna Gurtu was subsequently got a job in the Gwalior state service on the recommendation of Pt. Dharam Narain Haksar.

The history of the ancestors of the ruling Scindia dynasty of Gwalior is very interesting. It starts from carrying the slippers of the mighty Peshwas to become the rulers of the Gwalior state.

This Rajput-Maratha clan used to live in Kanner Khera a small village about 22 miles from Satara in Maharashtra. During the rule of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb (1658-1707) the head of this family received a "Mansab" from the emperor, who arranged the marriage of a daughter of this Scindia family with a Maratha Chieftain Sambhaji. But later on the founder of this Scindia dynasty Ranoji Scindia became a pauper and a personal attendant of Peshwa Balaji Rao.

Ranoji Scindi, along with his master Peshwa Balaji Rao-I and his army then came from Maharashtra to win the Malwa region to expand their territory. They were accompanied by the armies of Maharaja Yashwant Rao Holkar of Indore, Maharaja Bhonsele of Nagpur and Maharaja Gaekwad of Baroda. After winning this battle Peshwa Balaji Rao-I asked his commanders to stay back in the Malwa region to look after the administration of the captured territory properly, whereas the armies of Holkar, Bhonsele and Gaekwad returned back to Indore, Nagpur and Baroda respectively.

Ranoji Scindia ruled over this Malwa region from 1725 to 1745 from Ujjain as a military commander. Not much is known about him except the fact that all his legitimate sons were killed in different battles and finally by Ahmad Shah Abdali after the battle of Panipat which took place in 1761. He was succeeded by his adopted son Mahadji Scindia who also ruled over Malwa from Ujjain from 1765 upto 1780. He employed a French commander Benoit de Boigne who won many celebrated battles,

to train the troops of the state.

Between 1765 and 1780 the Gwalior Fort changed hands between Mahadji Scindia and the Gohad Rana, Lokendra Singh. In 1780 Lokendra Singh sought the British help in capturing this fort. The British officer Captain Pophan then devised an ingenious plan. He banded together a gang of thieves who knew the fort area very well. In the dead of night these 20 thieves led by Captain Pophan wearing cotton padded wollen shoes stealthily scaled the walls of the fort through ladders and captured it without losing a single man. The fort was then again recaptured by Mahadji Scindia a year later.

Mahadji Scindia was succeeded by his adopted son Daulat Rao Scindia who then shifted the capital from Ujjain to Gwalior around 1810. The spot where his army took the night halt on way to Gwalior is still known as Lashker. He was a great warrior. He got some early successes in his campaigns against the Nizam of Hyderabad. But he suffered a humiliating defeat in his conflict against the British in the second Maratha war of 1803-1805 at the hands of Lord Lake. He was left with no choice except to accept the Treaty of Subsidiary Alliance offered to him by the Duke of Wellington recognising the supremacy of the British power.

Daulat Rao Scindia was succeeded by Jayaji Rao Scindia. During the Mutiny of 1857 his army revolted against him considering him to be a British stooge. There was so much anger against the British in the Maratha contingents of the Gwalior state force that they shot their British officers including Major Blake and Lt. Stewart. Jayaji Rao Scindia then fled from Gwalior to Agra to save his skin which was the headquarter of the British Political Agent to Malwa then. He kept the mutinous contingents within Gwalior away from the hot spots of Lucknow and Delhi by deluding them with a battle against the British. Meanwhile the leaders of this uprising against the British Tatiya Tope, Rani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi and Rao Sahab captured the Gwalior Fort as the state forces deserted their posts.

Jayaji Rao Scindia with the help of Sir Hugh Rose then regrouped his forces and stormed the fort to recapture it from the control of the rebels. In this fierce battle Rani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi was killed and was immediately cremated on the bank of Sonerekha river. Jayaji Rao Scindia's revenge was swift and savage. He slaughtered the mutinous Purabiyas and hanged many of them from a Neem tree in Sarafa Bazaar. He thus became a blue eyed boy of the British who then decorated him with many titles and medals. He died in 1886.

Jayaji Rao Scindia was succeeded by his ten year old son. Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia Pt Dharam Narain Haksar was then appointed as a tutor of this young Maharaja who was born around 1876. So when Pt. Maharaj Krishna Gurtu migrated to Gwalior from Delhi around 1864 it was more or less a village with no infrastructure for basic civic amenities. The first building in the Gwalior city was erected by Daulat Rao Scindia in 1810 known as Maharaj Vadhe. The second palace was built by Jayaji Rao Scindia in 1865 which now houses the Kamla Raje University. It was in 1874 when the Prince of Wales was to visit the Gwalior state on the invitation of Jayaji Rao Scindia that the main Scindia Palace was built in Gwalior which is now known as Jaivilas Palace. The famous Victoria College was established in 1877.

Pt. Maharaj Krishna Gurtu after coming to the Gwalior state, then started living with his family members in Morar. He had three sons and three daughters. The names of his three sons were Sri Krishna, Hari Krishna and Raj Krishna besides three daughters Shivwanti who was married with Pt. Onkar Nath Dar of the Jaora state, Premwanti who was married with Pt. Prem Narain Taimni and Jaywanti who was married with Pt. Kali Sahai Sharga of Lucknow.

Pt. Maharaj Krishna Gurtu's eldest son Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu was born in the month of May in 1872 in Morar in the Gwalior state during the rule of Jayaji Rao Scindia. He had his traditional education in Urdu and Persian in the Gwalior state under the

supervision and guidance of learned Maulvis there. He then did his matriculation from the Victoria College around 1890. He then went to Delhi from Gwalior for higher studies and took admission in St. Stephens College which was affiliated with the Punjab University of Lahore then. He did his F.A. in 1892 and B.A. in 1894 from this institution.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu was a keen sportsman during his college days. He used to make very good drawings and sketches. He made a beautiful drawing of a parrot and got the job of a drawing master in a college in Indore on Rs. 60/- per month. He later on put up the painting of that parrot in his house "La Makan" which he built in Gwalior with the words "Anna Data" inscribed below that painting. He did this job of a drawing Master for about a year.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu then started some business in Indore which he continued for about two to three years and simultaneously studied for the M.A. examination. He did his M.A. in English literature as a private candidate from Indore in 1897. He had some god gifted qualities. Although he was never a science student in his academic career, but he wrote some original books on engineering which took every one by surprise. He passed the engineering examination of the Punjab University, Lahore as a private candidate in 1899 without going to any college or attending any class and obtained M.I.C. degree from it.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu then went to Gwalior from Indore where he got a job in the Gwalior state service and had his practical training under Khan Bahadur Syed Jaffar Hussain who was the divisional engineer of the irrigation department then for about two years from 1900 to 1901. Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu after completing this training period was made a member of board of revenue. Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu due to his hard work and devotion to duty got quick promotions in service and became a right hand man of Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia. Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu then succeeded Sidney Preston C.I.E., C.B.E., M.I.C. to become

the chief engineer and member board of revenue for irrigation around 1908.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu executed a number of important civil engineering projects in the Gwalior state. He then performed many engineering feats. He constructed the Water Works of Gwalior, Lashkar and Morar. He built a number of roads, bridges and important buildings for schools and hospitals. He executed the project of laying the railway line in the state. His main expertise was in the field of dam construction and for developing flood protection schemes and in training the rivers for irrigation and hydro electric projects to generate power.

In 1917 Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu published an original research paper on the theory of flood absorption in tanks which was widely appreciated by the experts of this field. He high lighted in this paper how the big dams were built by the ancient rulers for the proper management of natural water resources without any knowledge of hydraulic engineering and the builders of that period tried their "prentice" hand in the construction of canals.

Being highly impressed by the original theory propounded by Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu regarding the flood absorption technique, F.C. Rose a British expert then proposed the name of Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu on 3rd March, 1919 for the membership of the Institution of Civil Engineers, London, which was then duly accepted by the executive body and Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu got that honour to become its member.

Prior to this in 1916 Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu took up the Parbati river project which was originally taken up in 1906 by his predecessor Sidney Preston a British engineer but later on abandoned by him due to difficult terrain. Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu's main contention was that this river which flows near Mohna if trained properly could do a lot of irrigation besides generating the electricity for the state though it would no doubt involve a heavy expenditure. The river could be carried straight to Karaira through the hills where reservoirs could be built to generate electricity. He mentioned in his note that "if this scheme is carried

out properly then it will be possible to supply water, power and light to Lashkar, Morar and Gwalior in the 6th year after starting the work".

But later on some basic differences cropped up between him and Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia over the implementation of this scheme Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu who was a man of principles then in utter disgust submitted his resignation and left his 20 years long state service in 1920. He then went to Madras from Gwalior and was made an engineer by the British on Rs. 1200/- per month He was subsequently promoted by the British and was made a Chief Engineer with a salary of Rs. 2000/- per month.

In 1924 Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu went to Ratlam from Madras to execute the Ratlam Water Supply and Irrigation Scheme there. He also submitted his report on the feasibility of Giri river hydro-electric and irrigation project for Sirmoor state of Punjab in 1924 and executed this work.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu also made a thorough inspection of the working of the Water Works of Bombay, Poona, Delhi, Kanpur and Madras to acquire first hand knowledge of their functioning. He then around 1926 became the Chief Engineer of P.W.D. in the Baroda state where he used to live in Anand Villa with his family members. In Baroda he mainly developed the scheme for collecting run off water and its storage for its proper utilization apart from other important civil engineering works.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu in the fag end of his life was serving in the Kutch. Riyasat in Gujrat as the Chief Engineer where he fixed the marriage of his third son Pt. Ram Krishna Gurtu with Bulbul the daughter of Pt. Arjun Nath Takru a leading businessman of Agra in 1934. In April 1935 he went to Agra along with his family members from Kutch to perform the marriage of his son. The Barat party stayed there in a big bunglow which had a haunted room. The caretaker of the premises then advised Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu not to open that room to avoid the ill effect of the evil spirit. But Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu turned down his request and got that room opened. He then occupied it and

said that he did not believe in such superstitions and ghost stories.

After the lunch when the members of the marriage party were having a nice time and were busy in chatting in the verandah they saw an English lady with a parasole on the road coming towards the bungalow. They thought her to be the land lady of the bungalow. But instead of entering through the gate she came inside the compound through the wall with out any obstruction as if the wall was not there for her. This phenomenon stunned everybody present there. That lady then quietly entered into the room in which Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu was relaxing. The people then heard a loud noise of gun fire, but when they entered into the room they found Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu in a terrible condition, who subsequently died after vomiting blood before any medical aid could be given to him at the age of 63 years.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu was married in 1888 with Brijpati, who was the daughter of Pt. Bishambhar Nath Bakaya of Multan. He had five sons Kunwar Krishna, Praduman Krishna, Ram Krishna, Pratap Krishna and Brij Krishna besides four daughters Kishanpati (b. 1901) who was married with Pt. Trijugi Narain Sapru of Allahabad, Bishanpati (b. 1907) who was married with Dewan Sumer Nath Madan of Lahore, Dhanrajpati (b. 1909) who was married with Pt. Gyan Nath Raina of Kanpur and Munishwari (b. 1915) whose marriage was arranged with Pt. Kishan Mohan Nath Raina but who died before her marriage could be performed.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu's eldest son Pt. Kunwar Krishna Gurtu was born in 1893. He did his B.Sc. LL.B. and became a lawyer. He used to do his legal practice in Kanpur. He was married with Janak Dulari who was the daughter of Rai Bahadur Pt. Shyam Manohar Nath Sharga of Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow. He had three sons Swaroop Krishna, Tej Krishna and Autar Krishna.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu's second son Pt. Praduman Krishna Gurtu was born around 1895. He died quite young. He was married with Kishan who was the daughter of Pt. Sangam Lal Chak of Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow. He had a daughter

Swaroop Kumari who was married with Pt. Parmeshwar Nath Tikku of Ajmer.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu's third son Pt. Ram Krishna Gurtu was born in 1905. He was a qualified engineer in Bombay. He was married with Balbul who was the daughter of Pt. Arjun Nath Takru of Agra. He has seven sons Narendra Krishna, Ravindra Krishna, Virendra Krishna, Surendra Krishna, Bhupendra Krishna, Jeetendra Krishna and Shri Krishna besides a daughter Rita who is married with Mohan Razdan.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu's fourth son Pt. Pratap Krishna Gurtu was born in 1911. He married an Anglo Indian lady who was then named as Indira. He has a son Kuldeep Gurtu.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu's fifth and youngest son Pt. Pratap Krishna Gurtu was born in 1913. He did B.Sc. (Ag.) and got employment in the Agriculture department of the U.P. government at Kanpur. He was married with Shyama who is the daughter of Pt. Kishori Lal Takru of Lahore. He has a son Mahendra Krishna. Pt. Maharaj Krishna Gurtu's second son Pt. Hari Krishna Gurtu was born in 1882. He was married with Shivanti (b. 1885) who was the daughter of Pt. Kanhaiyya Lal Munshi. He had a son Pt. Autar Krishna Gurtu, who was born in 1905. He was a divisional engineer in the revenue department of the Gwalior state posted at Ujjain. He was married with Jwala who was the daughter of Pt. Suraj Krishna Ganju.

Pt. Maharaj Krishna Gurtu's third son Pt. Raj Krishna Gurtu was married with Leelawati who was the daughter of Pt. Behari Lal Nehru of Allahabad.

Pt. Sri Krishna Gurtu had a British temperament. He was a great disciplinarian and a very hard task master. He was always true to his words and never believed in loose talks. He was a very good tennis player and found of hunting. He used to love classical Indian music and was a very good Sitar player. His greatest passion was photography. He had a lab in his house for developing, printing and colour painting of photographs. He was a widely travelled person. He always did his job on his

own terms and conditions and never entertained the interference of others in his work. He was quite social and frank in his dealings with others. He always commanded a great respect and regard from his junior officers for his originality and for his deep knowledge about his subject. Some of his original research papers are well preserved in the archives of Institution of Civil Engineers on Great George Street, Westminster, London. He was a man of certain firm convictions and never compromised with his set principles even under adverse circumstances and difficult conditions. Such people create the history and become the pathfinders for others. Their saga of life is always written in the letters of gold. The words of noted Hindi poet Dr. Suresh convey a lot in this respect.

"Ek saadgi bheetar sau sau rang bhar gayi
Bhole bhale man par jadu sa kar gayi."



Prime Minister of Udaipur State

Pandit Dharam Narain Kak

India as we all know is a multi racial and multireligious country. Its different regions have different climates and food habits. These regions have their own distinct culture and language which do not match with each other. We call this as unity in diversity. Then there are innumerable sects which have their own customs, beliefs and traditions. Some of its cities have more population than the population of many countries of the world. So in a sense it is a most unique country in the world which had about 565 princely states prior to its independence in 1947 after a very long spell of British rule.



These princely states in the country after its take over by the British in 1858 from the East India Company were being ruled by different Rajas, Maharajas and Nawabs on certain terms and conditions, which were formulated by the British from time to time to suit their interests. The rulers of these princely states had their own powers and privileges and they used to employ the competent people of their choice with administrative acumen to run the administration of these princely states properly and effectively. Quite a good number of Kashmiri Pandits because of their intellect, integrity, unflinching honesty, impartial attitude and above all a great administrative ability were occupying key positions in the administrative set-up of these princely states. One such outstanding Kashmiri Pandit figure was Pt. Dharam Narain Kak who got the honour to become

the Prime Minister of the Udaipur state in 1935 during the rule of Maharaja Bhopal Singh.

According to the reliable information collected from his close blood relations and from other important sources, the ancestors of Pt. Dharam Narain Kak were basically the residents of the Kulgam tehsil of the Anantnag district in the Kashmir Valley. Since they were dark complexioned Pandits, so they started writing Kak as their surname. Pt. Dharam Narain Kak's ancestor Pt. Mehtab Rai Kak came to the imperial capital Delhi from Kashmir around 1806 during the rule of the Mughal emperor Shah Alam-II (1759-1806) and started living in Bazaar Sita Ram along with his family members which was the main centre of Kashmiri Pandits then.

Pt. Mehtab Rai Kak had two sons Bhola Nath and Bhawani Prasad. Pt. Bhawani Prasad Kak after completing his education at Delhi went to the Bhopal state for a job. Bhopal was the only state in the country then to have women of Afghan descent as its rulers. The Begum of Bhopal became very much pleased with the work of Pt. Bhawani Prasad Kak and gave him two villages as 'jagir' but with a condition that if his descendants would migrate to some other place from the Bhopal state then this jagir would be forefieted by the government.

Pt. Bhawani Prasad Kak had no issue of his own. His brother Pt. Bhola Nath Kak had two sons. Shiv Narain and Shiv Prasad. Pt. Bhawani Prasad Kak adopted his brother's son Shiv Narain just to maintain his family lineage.

Both Pt. Shiv Narain Kak and his brother Pt. Shiv Prasad Kak had their education in Delhi College. The British then sent Pt. Shiv Narain Kak as an English teacher to the Jodhpur state in 1846 during the rule of Maharaja Takht Singh (1843-1873) which was the biggest state in Rajputana then.

Pt. Shiv Prasad Kak after completing his education got a job around the sametime in the Ajmer state in the office of the Superintendent as a clerk. The Superintendent was functioning in Ajmer as the Political Agent of the Governor General of India since 1832 in Rajputana. When the Council of Regency was set

up by the British Agent in 1853 in the Bharatpur state to look after its administration during the minority of its ruler Maharaja Jaswant Singh, the British sent Pt. Shiv Prasad Kak from Ajmer to Bharatpur as Mir Munshi to the British Political Agent there.

Pt. Shiv Narain Kak due to his hard work and devotion to duty soon became very close to Maharaja Takht Singh. When a council was formed for the first time in 1868 in the Jodhpur state to assist the Maharaja to run its administration properly, Pt. Shiv Narain Kak was made its judicial member. The other important members of this council were Dewan Hansraj Joshi, Vijay Singh Mehta, and Harjeevan Mehta.

After the death of Maharaja Takht Singh in 1873, Maharaja Jaswant Singh became the new ruler of the state who then constituted a new foreign department for the first time in the state in 1878 and made Pt. Shiv Narain Kak incharge of this department. Pt. Shiv Narain Kak in the fag end of his life became the director of the salt and excise department of the state. He died in 1892 at the age of about 70 years.

Pt. Shiv Narain Kak was married with Rukma Gurtu, who was the daughter of Pt. Birbal Sahai Gurtu Razdan of Jodhpur. He used to live with his family members in Chandpole locality where he built a big haveli for his living. He had three sons. Dina Nath, Sukhdeo Prasad and Lasso Prasad besides four daughters Sukhbai who was married with Pt. Suraj Prakash Watal, Girvar bai who was married with Pt. Mohan Krishna Bakshi, Mansarovar bai who was married with Pt. Niranjan Nath Kaul and Kalabai who was married with Pt. Radhey Nath Kaul.

Pt. Shiv Narain Kak's eldest son Pt. Dina Nath Kak after completing his education became the suprintendent of the foreign department of the state. He was married with Kulwanti Madan. He had two sons Shyam Nath Kak who was married with Lado Rani Kaul and Som Nath Kak who was married with Janakwanti Thullal.

Pt. Shiv Narain Kak's second son Pt. Sukhdeo Prasad Kak was born in 1862 in his ancestral haveli in Chand pole locality of the Jodhpur city. He had his early schooling in Jaswant Singh

College, Jodhpur. He then did his B. A. in 1884 from the Calcutta University. After getting the required training for maintaining the revenue records under British Officers in Punjab Maharaja Jaswant Singh deputed him for demarcating the boundaries of the Jodhpur state in 1886. He was made the superintendent of this newly constituted department in the state. In 1887 he became the private secretary of the British Political Agent of the state Col. Powlett, who was deputed by the British government to look after the work for the demarcation of the boundaries of the Jodhpur state.

After sometime Pt. Sukhdeo Prasad Kak became the judicial secretary of Sir Pratap Singh, who was the Prime Minister of Maharaja Jaswant Singh-II In 1888 Pt. Sukhdeo Prasad Kak became the superintendent of Press and the Central Jail of the state. In 1889 he was nominated by Maharaja Jaswant Singh to become the member of the governing council which was the supreme body at that time to run the administration of the state. The title of Rai Bahadur was conferred upon him by the British in 1895. The title of C.I.E. was conferred upon him in 1903 by the then Viceroy and Government General of India Lord Curzon.

Pt. Sukhdeo Prasad Kak became a Political and Judicial member of the Regency Council of the Jodhpur state in 1902 during the rule of Maharaja Umed Singh (1918-1947). The British then conferred knighthood upon him in 1921. He became later on the Prime Minister of the Jodhpur state in 1923 and retired from this post on 19th December 1926. After his retirement he became the Prime Minister of the Udaipur state during the rule of Maharana Bhopal Singh. He died in Udaipur in October 1935 at the age of about 73 years.

Sir Sukhdeo Prasad Kak was married around 1880 with Rajpati (b. 1863) who was the daughter of Pt. Pran Nath Hukku of Jodhpur. He had three sons Dharam Narain, Kripa Narain and Jai Nath besides two daughters Roop Kumari who was married with Pt. Man Mohan Nath Chak and Sukhraj who was married with Pt. Maheshwar Nath Kaul the son of Pt. Manmohan Nath Kaul the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir state

during the rule of Maharaja Pratap Singh (1885-1925).

Sir Sukhdeo Prasad Kak's second son Pt. Kripa Narain Kak was born on 10th October, 1896. After completing his initial education in Jaswant Singh College, Jodhpur, he went to Europe for higher studies. He took his admission in the Edinburg University in Scotland and did his M. Sc. (Ag.) from there. After his return from Europe Maharaja Umed Singh of Jodhpur appointed him in the Agriculture department of the state as the superintendent. He served on this post for some years. He then became a Agriculture officer in the Udaipur state in 1930s. He was married with Kailashwati who was the daughter of Dewan Jai Nath Atal of the Jaipur state. He had two sons Pt. Brijendra Narain Kak (b. 1920) who was married with Shyama Kaul and Pt. Hari Narain Kak (b. 1930) who is married with Indu the daughter of Justice Kailas Nath Wanchoo the former Chief Justice of India.

Sir Sukhdeo Prasad Kak's third and youngest son Dr. Jai Nath Kak was born in 1902. He had his early schooling in Jaswant Singh College, Jodhpur and did his matriculation around 1918 and then F. Sc. around 1920. His father then sent him to England for higher studies. He did his M.A.Ch.B. from the University of Leeds and came back to India around 1925 as a well qualified medical doctor. He was married with Kamla who was the daughter of Maj (Dr.) Pyarey Lal Atal. His three sons are Sukh Kumar Kak who is married with Maya the daughter of Pt. Rameshwar Nath Muttoo of Lucknow, Sidhharth Kumar Kak married with Manju Kaul and Tilak Kumar Kak who is married with Kanak the daughter of Pt. Amar Nath Wanchoo of Gurgaon Haryana.

Sir Sukhdeo Prasad Kak's eldest son Pt. Dharam Narain Kak was born on 20th November 1888 in Jodhpur. He had his early education in Jaswant Singh College, Jodhpur from where he did his matriculation in 1904. His father then sent him to London for higher studies. He spent about a year in London in mentally preparing himself to take admission in some college to continue his studies in an entirely new atmosphere. He then took

admission in Downing College of the Cambridge University and did his matriculation on 22nd October 1905. He then did his Part I of the Natural Sciences Tripos and got B.A. degree on 22nd June 1909.

While Pt. Dharam Narain Kak was studying in Downing College, the great Indian revolutionary Vinayak Damodar Sarvarkar who was born on 28th May, 1883 in Bhagpur village near Nasik in a Brahmin family and did his graduation from Fergusson College, Pune in 1906 came to England to study law at Greys Inn in 1906. He created a great sensation by celebrating the 50th anniversary of India's first war of independence (1857) in London in 1907. He then published a book entitled "The First War of Independence" in 1908 in which he interpreted the events of 1857 for the first time as a struggle for freedom. The British then became alarmed and arrested Sarvarkar on the charge of sedition. His most daring escape from captivity by slipping through a hole of the ship and then crossing the British Channel at Marseilles in 1911 made Sarvarkar a national hero almost overnight. He was subsequently rearrested by the British and was brought as a prisoner to India in 1911. He was then deported to the Andamans for life imprisonment. All these events greatly perturbed the mind of young Pt. Dharam Narain Kak and he could not concentrate much on his studies under such surcharged atmosphere and so he was placed in the third class in the examination and was not able to get the B.A. (Hons) degree.

Pt. Dharam Narain Kak then did his M.A. from the Cambridge University and got his degree on 17th October, 1913. He took admission in Middle Temple on 22nd January 1907 to study law. Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru and Pt. Kailas Nath Chak the son of Pt. Prithvi Nath Chak of Kanpur were his classmates. Pt. Dharam Narain Kak did his Bar-at-Law from Middle Temple in 1909 and was called at the Bar of England and Wales on 8th June 1910. He left for India from London as a barrister around 1913.

Pt. Dharam Narain Kak after coming back to the Jodhpur state from London in 1913 was made a sub-judge by Maharaja Sumer Singh (1911-1918). He functioned as sub judge in

Jodhpur for about a year with great ability and command over law. He made the judicial system in the state more effective and purposeful so that justice should not be denied to anybody and at the same time there should not be any discrimination while administering justice. His view was that justice should be impartial and transparent so that the faith of the people in the judicial system should be maintained.

Pt. Dharam Narain Kak on the invitation of Marahana Fateh Singh of the Udaipur state then went from Jodhpur to Udaipur and became a senior minister there around 1915.

The Udaipur city in the Mewar region was founded by Maharana Udai Singh around a big Pichola Lake which has many majestic palaces and gardens. The two main island palaces in this lake are Jagmandir palace whose construction was started in 1620 A.D. and the other one is Jagnivas palace whose construction was started about 100 years later in 1720 A.D. It is said that Maharana Pratap Singh (1572-1597) who was the son of Maharana Udai Singh took refuge in the majestic Jagmandir Palace, while waiting to replenish his arms and troops to fight against the armies of the Mughal emperor Akbar (1556-1605). Later on Maharana Pratap's son Amar Singh signed a treaty with the Mughals which ended all the hostilities between the Rajputs and the Mughals.

As a mark of this friendship young prince Khurram who later on became emperor Shahjahan laid the foundation of Gol Mahal in the Jag mandir palace island in 1620 A.D. He soon rebelled against his father emperor Jahangir (1605-1627) and sought refuge from the then Mewar King Maharana Karan Singh (1620-1628). A quirky twist of fate and Mewari hospitality brought Shahjahan to the same Gol Mahal the foundation of which he laid long back. He stayed in this palace with his wife Mumtaz Mahal till he again became the emperor of India. It is widely believed that the Taj Mahal at Agra owed its conceptualisation to the silent grandeur of the Gole Mahal of Udaipur.

Pt. Dharam Narain Kak after becoming a senior minister in the Udaipur state during the rule of Maharana Fateh Singh then

focussed his attention in toning up the administrative structure of the state which was in complete disarray at that time. There was no set rules and regulations. All the decisions generally used to be taken on the whims and fancies of Maharana Fateh Singh. There was also no system for maintaining the revenue records properly in the state. Pt. Dharam Narain Kak took affective steps to streamline the revenue collection in the state and its proper accounting. He enforced financial discipline by curtailing unproductive expenditures and made financial dealings more pragmatic and rational.

Pt. Dharam Narain Kak also took keen interest in developing the sports facilities in the state. He took lot of pains in building up an infrastructure for providing basic civic amenities to the citizens. He paid an equal attention on the education of the children as well so that they could become good citizens in future. Due to all this good work done by him, in the state he was given the Jagir of Soniara by the Maharana and the British conferred upon him the title of Dewan Bahadur.

When Sir Sukhdeo Prasad Kak died in October 1935 the then ruler of the Udaipur state Maharana Bhopal Singh made. Pt. Dharam Narain Kak as the Prime Minister in place of his father. Pt. Dharam Narain Kak then to tone up the judicial system requested the British government to send some competent judge for this job. The British then sent my grandfather Rai Bahadur Pt. Shyam Manohar Nath Sharga, who retired as district and sessions judge Gonda in 1934 to take up this responsibility. Rai Bahadur Pt. Shyam Manohar Nath Sharga then took up this challenge with great writ and determination and cleared the huge back log of cases in record time. He soon became famous as a very strict and convicting judge in the entire state. He used to give very harsh punishments. to the hardened criminals due to which the crimerate came down to an all time low in the state.

Maharana Bhopal Singh became so much pleased with his work that the former presented an imported Fiat car, a sword of honour and a "havadar" to the latter in recognition of Chief Judge Sharga's extraordinary services to the state. Chief Judge Pt.

S.M.N. Sharga after completing his assignment came back to Kashmiri Mohalla, Lucknow in 1937.

Being highly impressed by the over all performance of Pt. Dharam Narain Kak as the Prime Minister of the Udaipur state the British then conferred the title C.I.E. upon him with a permission to sit with the Viceroy and Governor General of India. He also inherited the jagir of Rani Gaon in the Jodhpur state after the death of his father.

Pt. Dharam Narain Kak then on the invitation of Maharaja Ummad Singh (1918-1947) of the Jodhpur state then around 1938 went from Udaipur to Jodhpur and became the deputy Prime Minister of the state. The Prime Minister at that time was a British Sir Donald Field. Pt. Dharam Narain Kak then started living with his family members in a locality on the Chandpole Road. He retired from active service around 1943. He represented Indian Princely states in the League of Nations' Conference held in London, which was formed after the First World War (1914-1918). When Sir Donald Feild left the state during the second World War around 1945 Pt. Dharam Narain Kak became the acting Prime Minister of the Jodhpur state. He presided over the golden jubilee celebrations of the Jaswant Singh College which were organised on a very grand scale in 1946. He also had a big ChunK of land in the Jodhpur city known as Dharam Narainji ki Bagiya which was later on sold out by his descendants.

Pt. Dharam Narain Kak was married around 1904 with Susheela (b-1888) who was the sister of the famous film actor of yesteryears Chandra Mohan Watal and the daughter of Pt. Jagan Nath Sahai Watal of the Narsinghpur state in central India. He had three sons Kishan Prasad, Ravindra Nath and Kapil Deo besides six daughters. Chandra Mohini (b - 1907) married to Pt. Niranjnan Nath Wanchoo ICS, Shakuntala (b - 1909) married to Pt. Maheshwar Nath Zutshi, Krishnawati (b - 1915) married to Pt. Mankameshwar Nath Zutshi, Padmawati (b - 1925) married to Pt. Satendra Nath Kaul, Sulakshana (b - 1927) married to Pt. Kapil Narain Raina, and Kamlawati (b- 1932) married to Pt.