

Autobiography of Our Founder's



Shri. Chintamani



Smt. Nirmal Devi

The Story of Great Legends Begins...

Every year we gather to celebrate the annual day of the Nirmal Chintamani School, in the memory of late Shri Chintamani, whose birth anniversary falls on 7th October. Shri. Chintamani was a noble person with a pure soul. It is said that such a soul takes form of a human being once in 1000 years. He was a gentle soul, who was selfless and was dedicated towards betterment of the society, spending his entire life time in creating assets and establishments for the upliftment of Barotiwala with his hard earned money. It was his belief that he must raise the standards of his roots, from where he grew up into an established Industrialist.

To understand the history of this school, we must go back to early 1900s when the Mahajan family were well established traders in Old Himachal. Shri Chintamani was the fourth son of late Shri Nathumal. The other four brothers were Durga Das, Hira Lal, Munshi Ram and Jia Lal. The family has always had a very futuristic outlook as a result of which the present Senior Secondary Government School in Barotiwala was started sometime between 1910 and 1920 in an outhouse of the family. As the school grew a small part of the family land in front of their house was built upon and the school started to grow. The government took over the school sometime before independence and made it into a middle school.

The history of The Government School now a Senior Secondary School with a strength of over 2,0000 students is in government records.

The brothers of Shri Chintamani ensured that he studied beyond Middle School and was sent to Kotkhai which was the only town where you could study upto High School. By the virtue of his brothers' support and his hardwork he was the first person in entire Himachal to have earned Master's Degree in Economics from Lahore.

Post independence in 1947, Shri Chintamani got married to Nirmal Devi, daughter of an army officer and moved to Delhi to establish a successful business. It was always his desire to bring up the standards of lives in Barotiwala. His effort to bring relief was for all the area which fell into the catchment area between Nalagarh and Kalka.

The list is long but we mention a few here:

1959-61: First borewell in Himachal Pradesh was successfully dug by Shri. Chintamani to provide water to all surrounding areas.

1962-1984: He established a brick kiln which gave the impetus to the present Industrial Areas of BBNP and Parwanoo.

1963: Electrification of Barotiwala and surrounding areas, where Shri Chitamani personally guaranteed minimum consumption.

1963: Himachal Pradesh declares Barotiwala as Industrial and plots were made for allotments to industrialists.

It would not be wrong to say here that, Shri Chintamani was the founder of the Industrial Himachal Pradesh.

Shri Chintamani was born on Oct 07, 1918 and we have gathered here in his memory to celebrate the Founders Day today.

Shri Chintamani passed away on April, 14, 1978. His wife Smt Nirmal Devi, then took upon herself to perpetuate the good work that her husband was doing. To ensure that there is continuity in all development work she initiated a trust by the name of Chintamani Foundation.

She brought under the Trust's banner, all the activities which were incomplete dreams of her husband.

A cremation ground where the dead could be given respectful cremation. The cremation ground exists in Buranwala Village and the Trust is maintaining the same to the best of their ability.

An Arts and Crafts Centre which has been in existence since 1980 in the heart of Barotiwala. Annually about 50 young girls/women complete a six month course in Sewing, Stitching and Crafts work

Shri. Chintamani had a dream that a hospital should exist in Barotiwala. The Foundation started a health centre in 1980-81 on land belonging to Shri. Chintamani opposite the family house in Barotiwala by employing a full time doctor. Since the doctor did not stay for long, Smt. Nirmal Devi got the HP Health Services to open a Primary Health Centre, which is currently functional with a full time doctor and dentist in attendance. The Foundation conducts Dental and Eye Camps by bringing in specialists from Delhi.

We come to the major dream of both Smt. Nirmal Devi and Shri. Chintamani which was to provide a small school to children of brick kiln workers, who were reluctant to send the wards to Barotiwala. Initially the school with about 20 children was started with one teacher by converting the store room of the kiln. In early 1984, the kiln was closed due to losses made in running the same and Chintamani School came into existence where the kiln was.

Since the kiln had a large area under its control, the School's expansion was planned along with development of a Stadium for sports. Former Chief Minister Late Shri. Virbhadra Singh during the year 1984, laid the foundation stone of Chintamani School and Stadium.

Thus begins the history of the School where we proudly stand today.

As a primary school from 1984 to 2007 it has grown from 20 students to over 300 students ranging from class I to Class X. In near future the School hopes to add Class XI and XII.

The School will be divided into separate buildings with Primary Section separate from the main building and a separate building for Class XI and XII, ensuring all modern facilities that any Himachali will be proud of. The School is meant for the economic weaker section of the society where caste or religion has no place. The Chintamani Foundation subsidizes the education and meets all expenses which fall short in the School's budget.

On June 13, 2011, Smt. Nirmal Devi Chintmani passed away and in her memory the Foundation moved the Education Department to rename the School to "Nirmal Chintmani School".

Today we are proud to be part of this ever growing family of Nirmal Chintamani School and look forward to becoming one of the best School in all of Himachal Pradesh.