

ALUMNI --- MEMORABILIA

A COLLEGE PAR EXCELLENCE

Mr. Sarosh Baria
B.Ed. Batch of 2009-10

When I was around 21 years old, I finished with Degree College in the stream of Commerce. At that point of time I wanted them to be the last years of formal education. I suddenly felt the need to be free from textbooks, choose a career and start working.

10 years passed between my graduation and my entry into BTTC in the year 2009. During this duration, I did everything as I had planned. I pursued my hobbies, gave tuitions and did my B.A in English. They truly were wonderful years of achievement. But as time went by I felt that I needed to do something more. Something that would combine my abilities to teach, explore the world of knowledge and help others to explore it in return. Before long, I applied for my B.Ed course... and after much effort, I discovered BTTC. All I can say, that it was a find of a lifetime.

The thought of going back to college felt strange. When I entered BTTC's main lecture room I suddenly realized that I was one of the older students. Others were just freshers out of college- barely over 21. Well, age is just a number! I met and interacted with students from other states, speaking varying languages, from different age groups and educational backgrounds. The wonderful part was that BTTC gave me the opportunity to feel like a college student once again. Jeans, t-shirt, a bag full of books and morning musing. Our professors too were so vibrant and unique. I sat on the first bench (something I had never done in my life) through their lectures, and took part with great enthusiasm. I had many questions. What struck me was their open-mindedness towards allowing their students to ask questions, express opinions and ponder over and challenge fixed perceptions and norms. When the day was over, I spent several long minutes gazing at the stunning view of the city skyline through the windows of the college.

They say that we learn by doing. BTTC provided those learning experiences that brought this motto to life. It was not a senseless stream of back-to-back lectures, heartless assignments and gruesome tests. Events like Atarchakshu, BTTC week, Annual Day, dance competitions, cultural celebrations, dramas, social service, blood donation drive, inter-collegiate events, marches for the awareness for animal rights, sports day, poster-making competitions, intra and inter-collegiate events, world environment day, micro-teaching and practice teaching modules allowed me to spread the wings of imagination and growth. It showed me that education is multi-faceted process. What amazed me so much was that we conceptualized, planned, organized, implemented and controlled these programmes on our own. We felt a sense of pride and ownership when the programme went off well. BTTC taught us that the fruit of hard work is sweet... and that the processes involved in our tasks can be fun, engaging and fruitful.

I can say that keeping up with all these programmes along was quite a challenge. Some of my friends wept. I at times, grumbled for I had only heard of the term, 'multi-tasking'. BTTC however, threw us into the lake of multi-tasking and said, "Now swim! We are there for you. We are there to guide you". I can confidently say that the college endowed me with a survival skill. I enjoyed being a part of their lectures, taking notes, maintaining subject files, making lesson plans, taking feedback from them and then getting them approved. I enjoyed that they were both friendly, yet were particular about receiving assignment on time...especially during research projects.

As one professor said to us, that the B.Ed course has stages; namely-crawling, walking, jogging, running, sprinting and flying... where each successive stage being tougher than the previous one. But I can say that I cherished each stage. I yet cherish those bonds and keep them alive.

Our teachers were always there for us. Under the unwavering leadership of Dr. Mintu Sinha, they taught us how to fish rather than give us a fish to eat. They were approachable, patient listeners, humorous, witty, open-minded communicators and invaluable mentors. They figured out our strengths and areas that required close attention. They forced us to wonder, question, discover and learn about the seamless oceans of

knowledge and education. They too were advancing themselves by pursuing their doctorate degrees. It truly proved to me that people are 'life-long learners.' My batch-mates studied hard, celebrated each day, pulled each other's leg, laughed, paid attention in class, worked with each other and supported each other in times of need. I felt that I had done and achieved so much in the ten month course. And this bore fruit. I was selected as the 'Most Enthusiastic Student of the Year' and 'Best Teacher in Geography'. I forged strong bonds with teachers, batch-mates and even the support staff and administrative staff, who are fabulous. I still cherish them today.

I admit that I now only visit BTTC a couple of times a year- sometimes to meet my teachers while at other times as a guest speaker. But the collective warmth with which everyone receives me every time I show up makes me feel like a college student again, who would give anything to go through the journey of education and rediscover the wonders of learning. To say that I am indebted to Bombay Teachers' Training College and its faculty is an understatement. I congratulate the college on completing 50 years towards being a centre for excellence in education.

Dr. Deepti Mankad

I feel nostalgic as I pen down a few lines about BTTC. I started my journey with BTTC as an intern and to my good fortune I got an opportunity to join the college as a Lecturer for B.Ed.

Working for more than 4 ½ years with BTTC gave me an exposure to teach different subjects at different levels. I feel fortunate to have met few lecturers like Dr. Balani & Dr. Meenakshi Lath from whom I learnt to be selfless at work especially for students. Also Dr. Mandeep and Dr. Lubna for being supportive and encouraging and Dr. Neelu who so gracefully joined the gang after I left. The college became by second home and I got a chance to interact with wonderful students. I also was a Phd student with BTTC under the guidance of Dr. Mintu Sinha. The short journey was full of

knowledge, skills, dance, art and creative work. One of the best days of my life was the one I spent in BTTC as a lecturer and as a learner.

I hope BTTC reaches more new heights by making a mark through quality education and churning out the best teachers.

Anisa Ladak

B.Ed. Batch: 2010-2011

BTTC was not just a college but like a second home for me. The teachers and their strong support helped me traverse this journey and build my career. My best experience was during practice teaching where I experienced teaching students for the very first time. This would not have been possible without the immense support and guidance from the staff at BTTC. It is a journey that helped me realize my true potential and taught me to face challenges head on. It has helped me to grow and made me what I am today. I shall cherish these memories for the rest of my life.

Dr. Shahana Pathan

Counseling Psychologist

B.Ed. Batch: 2011-12

Unforgettable moments- BTTC Poem

Years have passed. Yet feels like yesterday

Where the journey began and

BTTC made possible the way.

Scared was I, on my first day.

But it wasn't the same on my last day.

So what happened is quite a story!

Which in my life bought, confidence and glory.

The troop of teachers like battalion they appear

Hard from out, but soft and supportive from near.

The challenges and pressure of work to complete.

All made me tough and capable to compete.

BTTC brings about a transition in you

And it transforms you into someone new

I owe my gratitude to this place

A heaven for learning and imparting knowledge to human race.

Love and luck to all at BTTC.

Binita Miyani

B.Ed. Batch: 2012-13

I was very fortunate to do my B.Ed. from BTTC and on the occasion of 50th golden jubilee year, I would like to extend my gratitude to the entire faculty for shaping me into an able teacher. The teachers at BTTC are dedicated, approachable whose constant guidance and encouragement helped me to flourish as a confident teacher. I am also thankful to BTTC for the lifelong friends I made during the course.

Here's wishing BTTC many more glorious years and success in all its endeavors.

Ruchira Chatterjee

B.Ed. Batch: 2013-14

My memories start with the name BTTC itself. It's rare to have so many wonderful people under the same roof. I am blessed to have received the precious guidance of the esteemed Professors of the college. Every lecture, every hurdle, every event at the college has given me a chance to learn and unlearn at the same time. There is no better grind to undergo than the one at BTTC, if you wish to shine as a diamond!

Amina Lokhandwala
B.Ed. Batch: 2013-14

I consider myself fortunate to be a part of the most coveted teachers training institute in Mumbai and I say this because I have experienced this when applying to schools for a teacher's position. It is due to BTTC that I secured a job in one of the best schools in the city. It is commendable to mention that BTTC has an association with some of the most recognized educational institutions for "practice teaching" and "campus recruitment". The courses at BTTC are designed in such a way that they prepared me to utilize my skills to create a holistic learning environment for my students. The professors at BTTC have always strived to strike a balance between curriculum and fun activities. Their relentless guidance and confidence in each of their students inspired me to work hard and be a teacher who is remembered by all. I will always be indebted to BTTC and its professors who have been a pillar in helping me reach my goals.

Ghazala Mansuri
D.Ed & B.Ed. Batch: 2013-14

My career journey started with BTTC. It helped me not only to sharpen all my skills well but also enriched my creativity. The friendly teachers groomed and prepared us so well that we are now spontaneous confident teachers ready to share and teach the world. I am a proud student of BTTC who is and always will be grateful to the college. BTTC not only made us the best teachers but also blessed us with beautiful staff like family. May the college always prosper and reach new heights every year.

Thank you!

Aesha Shah Jhaveri

B.Ed. Batch: 2013-2014

It was a great experience and learning to be a part of this esteemed institution. The educators and the help provided by each one of them were commendable. They made everything seem easy, reaching heights didn't look like a task. Here I'm teaching in an international school for past 3 years, and everyday spent at BTTC counts in each in my school too.

Ms Neha Kharbanda

B.Ed. Batch: 2013-2014

Bombay Teachers' Training College (BTTC) has been a home to me for that one year of my B.Ed. in 2013-14. With a plethora of eminent Professors, it has been the smoothest journey for me. With several challenges that we have to face throughout the course period, it was my teachers who never said a "No" to help us. Their guidance, the teaching methods, that immense knowledge and expertise in their fields has brought me to this stand where I am today. Well, I am a "Cambridge English Teacher" with one of the excellent schools in the city. The facilities provided to us, the extreme detailed knowledge, even if it meant repeating them to *make us* understand, was all always provided by BTTC. The staff here at BTTC office have always been very kind in making this journey a fruitful one. The college provides with a vast range of resources and guides to help you work on your assignments. The schools, in which we went for our practice, teaching lessons gave us a platform to explore our skills, build up the knowledge and expand our thinking.

It is pride to be associated with this institution and be one of the many in these 50 years!!

Karishma Talreja

B.Ed. Batch: 2013-14

“Where Dreams Come True”-- ‘It’s a beautiful thing when a career and a passion come together.’

I have always been passionate about teaching. Teaching is my life source. Bombay Teachers’ Training College (BTTC), my alma mater, has been instrumental in helping me convert my passion into a career.

My beliefs about teaching, and my ideas about what kind of a teacher I wished to be, were solidified during my training at BTTC. By observing my professors, I learnt the importance of developing the love of learning within students.

BTTC embodies an institution that firmly believes in providing a stimulating educational environment to all students so that they can reach their full potential. As a student teacher, I too imbibed this desire of creating a warm and caring environment for all my students. BTTC understands the importance of providing opportunities for students to be involved in the decision-making process and execution of various events. Being a member of the student council strengthened my leadership and problem-solving skills. The early morning assemblies conducted at BTTC built a culture of togetherness and fostered a feeling of ‘community’ within each of us. College Magazines have great educative value and as a core member of the Editorial team for our college magazine ‘Metamorphosis,’ I developed a sense of responsibility and gained confidence about my writing skills. It was a platform for all students to showcase their talents and express themselves in a distinct way.

I shall always be thankful to my alma mater for all of the above, but most of all, I shall be thankful because it taught me that “Teachers who love teaching, teach children to love learning”.

Hinal Vakharia

B.Ed. Batch: 2014-2015

I passed out from BTTC in 2015 but the learning & memories are still fresh. In BTTC, the learning was not restricted to lectures, there were outings, activities, special guests, interactive discussions, and celebrations that helped us connect with our fellow classmates & develop individually. The faculty was approachable & the infrastructure was very well equipped with technology to enhance our learning experience. I'm glad I was a part of the BTTC family!

Samina Agwan

B.Ed. Batch: 2015-17

BTTC taught me how to learn and not just learn ,rather learn for life. The innumerable times that I found myself on the stage at BTTC, be it for dance, drama or elocutions I grew more confident. Being a part of the Student Council and the Magazine Committee was the cherry on top of the cake! Each moment spent at BTTC was grueling, and absolutely worth it.

Arva Mithaiwala

B.Ed. Batch: 2015-17

An institution excels because of its faculty. Likewise what make Bombay Teachers' Training College stand as an epitome in the field of Teachers' Training is its unmatched faculty. Unknowingly, our day-to-day activities are derived from the lessons learnt in the spacious 9th floor classroom. They are handy tools always at our dispersal. Our professors while guiding us through the B.Ed. Curriculum silently imbued in us the quality of being a good human. We did feel the pressure as the training was too rigorous. But, in present times I am able to shoulder all responsibilities assigned to me effortlessly. Silently, we learnt to overcome constraint. When I reflect on myself 4 years ago and now, I find a lot of improvement within me, a person who is more compassionate and diligent.

With heaps of gratitude, I wish to thank BTTC and my dear professors for bringing out teacher in me. Your guidance and support will stay with me forever.

Avni Lilani

B.Ed. Batch: 2016-18

"The institution is a small building of numerous experiences and valuable lessons".

The lessons taught where for school, but they didn't ended there. They helped me in journey called life. The class, the professors, infrastructure, office bearers and all those who helped me through the special and precious part of absorbing the knowledge.

An extended thanks to the BTTC family for the self-confidence you engrained in me and making me believe in me once more.

Arsheen

B.Ed. Batch: 2016-18

BTTC has undoubtedly taught me great lessons in life. The biggest of them is learning to be patient and striving till my level best, it's been a tough journey but with the Friends and amazing teachers it passed away soon.

All depends on how positive you take life!-