



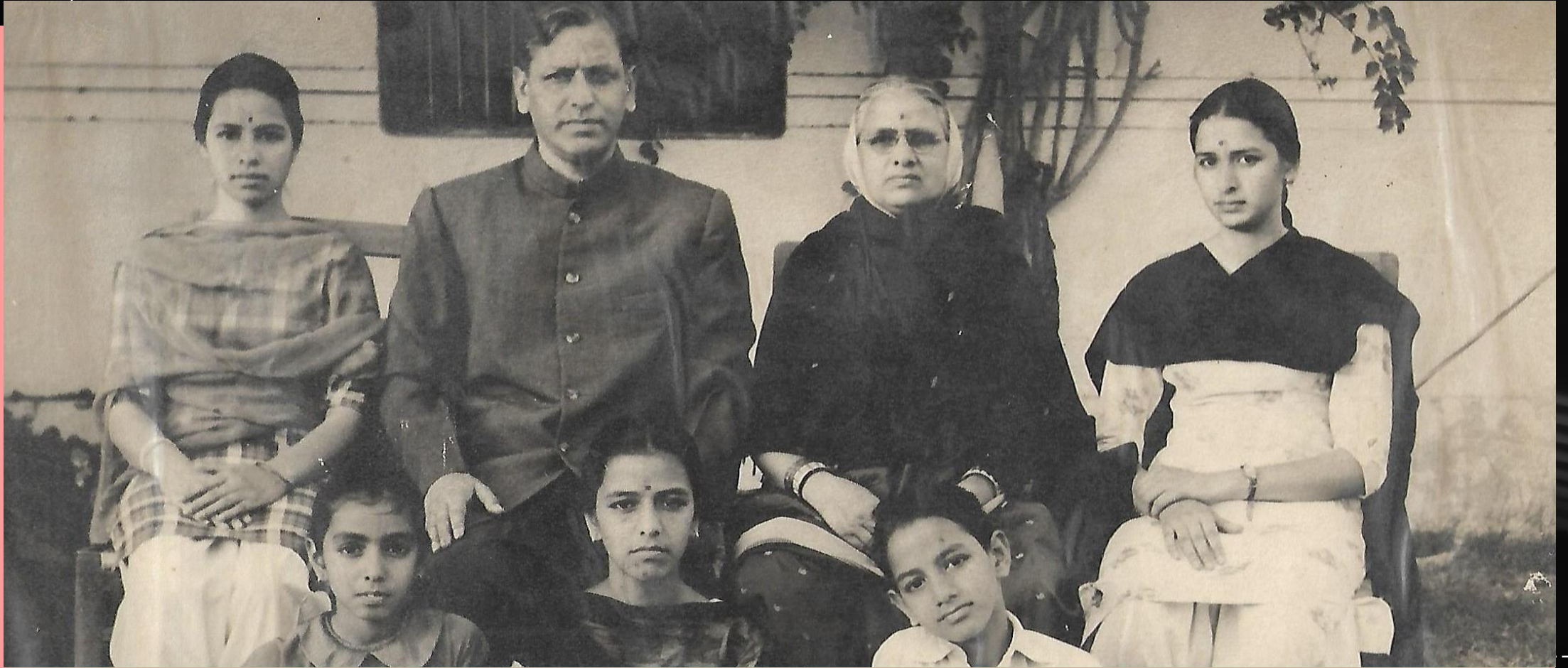
Sudha Joshi

Happy 75th birthday



Mummy, Basu, Ma'm, Dadi, Nani, Didi, Phuphu,
Mausi, Chachi.....

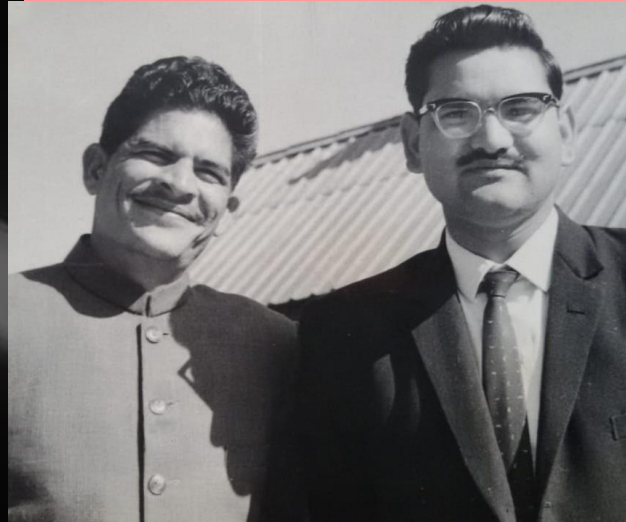
Mrs. Joshi



Basu



Aeons ago, In the black & white days !



It is very difficult to try & compress in a few words for somebody who is such an exceptional human being.

My sister, Sudha (Bassu), whose early memories are of constant fights between the two of us, till she got married and I went to join D.M.E.T. in 1971. After that I visited her for a few days on leave when she was in Aligarh.

Fate gave her a huge blow in very early in life, when Joshiji passed away leaving behind 2 small children. From then on life was a constant struggle, which she dealt with great fortitude & courage. Any less mortal would have found the task very daunting, but she not only stood on her own feet but also brought up her children to be very successful in life, which, as a single parent, is no mean task.

Besides these personal problems, the other great quality that she has is that she has always been there for me and rest of the family in all sorts of crises. I could always depend on her. Not only that, I think she was always there for Papaji & Maji, during their last few years, more than anybody else.

I think we have been very fortunate to have her in our lives, & I pray to God that she lives with us for many years more with good health & happiness that she richly deserves.

[Virendra Dhasmana](#)





Salt & Pepper, & beyond...





मेरी प्यारी बहन,

हुम् लोगों का जीवन बहुत संघर्षमय था लेकिन हमने बहुत बहादुरी से अपना जीवन जी लिया । ईशवर हुम् पर हमेशा ऐसी ही कृपा बनाये रखें ।
मेरी तरफ से बहुत प्यार और आशीर्वाद ।

तुम्हारी बडी दीदी



Dearest Su,
Many Many Happy Returns of the Day !
May God bless you with Good Health & Happiness, Always.

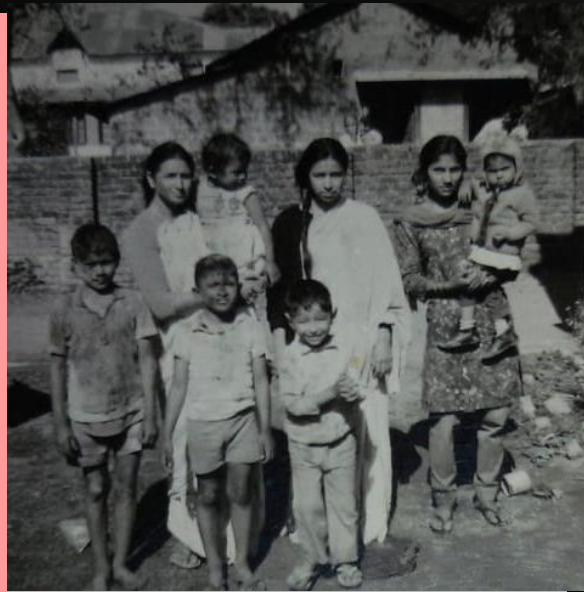
Kantu



Always around

With, & for, family





Dear Basu,
Wish you a very healthy, happy and long life !
Shaku

Dear Basudi,
Wishing you a Very Happy Birthday and a healthy
life, with your near and dear family members.
All the good wishes from the Pokhriyal family.

Prabha





From the time I have known Sudha Didi, I have always seen her smiling. Even in most difficult times, she looks at everything optimistically & never makes a mountain out of a mole hill. I have great respect for the way she took responsibility of her family singly & brought up and settled her children so nicely.

Even now she is busy doing the same for her grandchildren. Keep up your spirit and be a source of inspiration for others.

ALWAYS BE HAPPY, SUDHA DIDI.

From an admirer,
[Shalini](#)

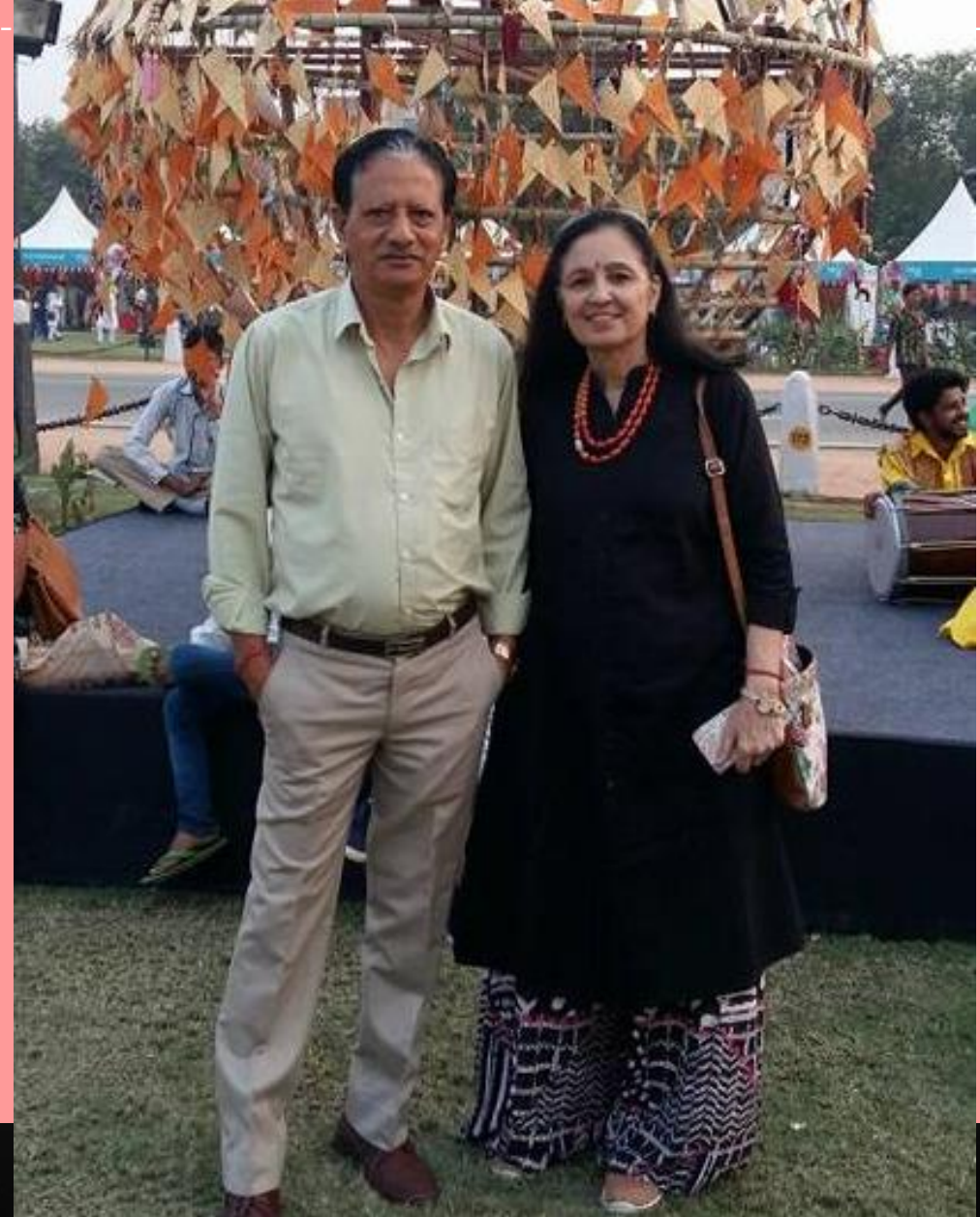




मन के भाव ... दीदी के लिए...

नया शहर, नया परिवेश
नये रिश्ते में बंध कर जब आई इस देश,
मायके का न कोई दिखता था दूर दराज,
खग भी न दिखे वहां का मन होता उदास,
तब आपसे पाया अपनेपन का अहसास,
सुख-दुख में पाया आपको अपने साथ,
तब लगा अरे मायका तो है बस हाथ भर दूर,
हर मुश्किल आसां हो जाए जब जाऊं आपके द्वार,
कर्मयोगी बन कर गीता को समझाया आपने,
निर्लिप्त रह कर भी सबको अपना बनाया आपने,
खुशकिस्मत हूं कि सिर पर है आपका हाथ,
सलामत रहे आप हमेशा मिले आपका साथ।
सादर नमन।।

Neera Dhasmana





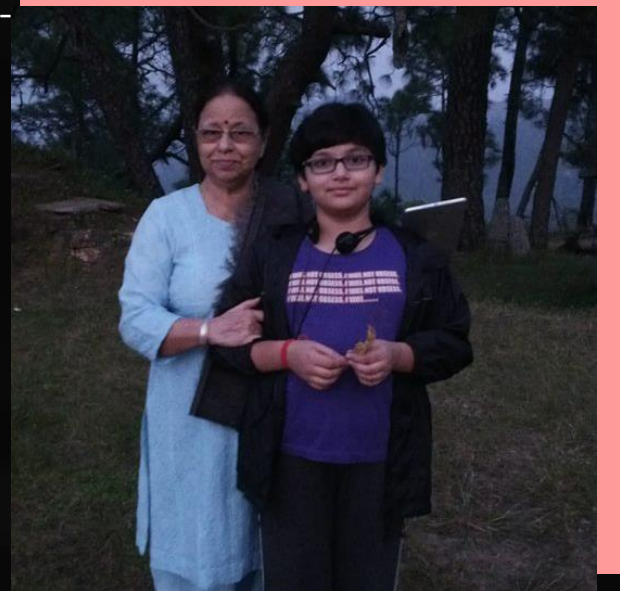
Mausi, Phuphu

Basu Mausi is very special to me. Among the cousins, she had the reputation of being a strict and a 'no-nonsense person'. When I joined LSR, she became my local guardian, which meant she accompanied me for the hostel interview & came to the hostel to pick me up in the first year, every time I wanted to come home. She did not particularly enjoy that, but never cribbed about it.

Over the years, we became quite close. At one level, I was close to Rina who in those days was quite engaged with her young neighbour. At another level I was close to Mausi, who I gradually realised was a very warm and affectionate person. She loved chatting and I would share hostel gossip with her. For me and all my other cousins, I am sure she is an epitome of strength, dignity and steely resolve. Her example is always cited when it comes toiling her life with grace and dignity. Love you, Mausi! Have a wonderful year ahead.

Disha





I feel so happy to have got this opportunity to write about this beautiful, graceful, elegant, golden hearted Iron lady - Mrs.Sudha Joshi.

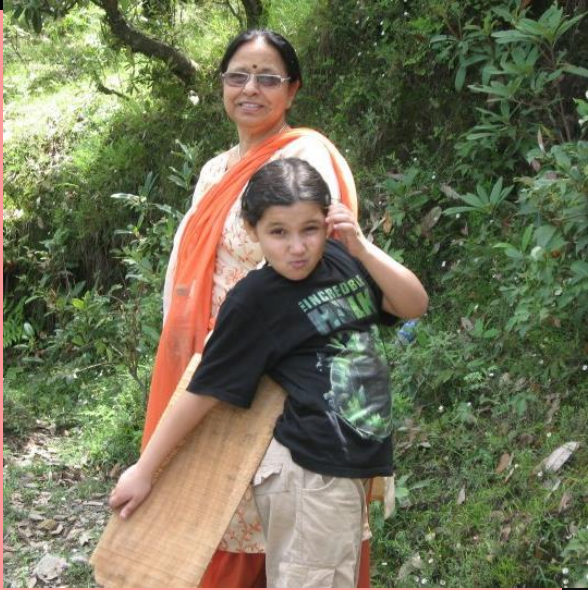
I thank her for giving me my name 'Ranjana'. I love it! It means 'one who brings happiness/ light to life ' and I have always tried to live up to it. I would love to know what Basu Mausi has to say about it.

The memory associated with Basu Mausi that I vividly recall, dates back to 1969. Yes, that long back when Mausi was a young beautiful lady, glowing with happiness as wife of a bright young civil servant Sh. I.P.Joshi, the ADM of Aligarh, then. They had bought a blue coloured Ambassador and used to drive to Delhi in it. That particular instance Mausi had come to Delhi and wanted to take us to the movies. The movie she took us to was 'Ek Phool Do Maali' in Kamal theatre in Green Park. It was running packed and balcony tickets were not available for all of us. But it didn't matter to Mausiji, she bought tickets for the Box for so many of us. That was her style. It was the first time I saw a movie seated in the Box. It was so elitist. I remembered it for a long time and told all my friends in school about it. What a thing it was.

My best love & regards for my very dear Basu Mausi.

Ranjana







Dear Sudha Phuphu,
Here is wishing you a very happy 75th birthday - May this year bring you lots of good health, happiness and new experiences!
I will always remember those study weekends at Sarvodaya Enclave. The simplicity and ease with which you would explain 'tough Sanskrit concepts' helped me scrape through those tests and exams with a smile! Although I don't remember much Sanskrit now but surely remember the taste of all the nice meals and snacks we had during those study weekends! Thank you very much for that :)
Hope you have a wonderful celebration!

Madhav Dhasmana



Dearest Phuphuji,

You have played many roles in my life – a teacher, a mentor, a loving aunt, a guide, a disciplinarian, a friend & even a mother. I am grateful that you played such pivotal roles in my life & shaped what I am today. Thank you for everything & I hope you have a wonderful 75th birthday. See you in December.

With lots of love ,

Aditi





I would like to share an anecdote. This is a real story, and is etched, as my fondest memory, of the beautiful relationship I shared with Basu fufu, that of student - teacher!

I was her student in Class 6-A in MIS. Basu fufu used to teach us Hindi. One day during her class, I was playing around with my eraser. Well, actually I had poked my pencil inside it, and was twisting the pencil from one side to another! Just then, Fufuji caught me in the act, and promptly asked me aloud in the class - " Swati, kya tum Makkhan (butter) nikal rahi ho???" The class laughed, and so did I (but I dared not to let it show on my face!).

With Basu fufu, I share a very special relationship, she is practically my third parent. Thanks for always being there Fufuji, in more ways than anyone can think of :) Love you always ♡

Swati





Dear Phuphu

You are a blessing to all of us. I've heard a lot about your struggles and your achievements, & how you've redefined your life after the difficult situations you've been through. You are an inspiration for many women like me and I so look up to you. You are a kind soul, always encouraging and loving. I love the way you always give me strength through your motivating and kind words. Thanks for all your love and blessings Phuphu. A big salute to you for all you've accomplished so far. Wish you good health and happiness always.

Love and best wishes

Ambika, Mayank & your grandsons (Amogh & Raghav)



Mrs. Joshi

KNOWING MRS SUDHA JOSHI

Always immaculately dressed.

I worked with her for the longest time, about three decades.

She was known for a number of things that made her stand out as an inspiration.

She was very disciplined and a strict teacher even with her own kids.

Her work was neat and always up to date.

You could find her in the corridors of the school busy correcting notebooks, when not in a class teaching.

She was in charge of the co-curricular activities in school and singlehandedly discharged her duties which included every aspect of it right from planning to execution. It meant inviting judges making lists of participants, selecting the right student to compete it and so on.

The Annual function saw her making quick visits to SABDA during her free periods to pick up gifts and prizes.

A very organised person. I have a lot of regard for her.

WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MRS JOSHI !

Neena Sethi



A walk down the memory lane.....

It seems so distant today that it is difficult to imagine that there was a time when I went to school. Some 4 decades ago I completed my primary school and it was time to move to senior school (class 6). We had been forewarned that it is going to be a difficult time. There was going to be a Shekhar sir in senior school and an immediate source of terror was a very strict disciplinarian in Joshi ma'am in Class 6 and that she was going to teach us two subjects Hindi and Sanskrit! Heaven has no mercy.

A new session began and we had our first encounter. Mrs. Joshi, as we knew her at that time (it was much later that I came to know about her initials and then her first name) was a stickler for rules and discipline. She followed it herself and expected you to follow them and that is that, no exceptions. In fact, her daughter Rina who was with me in the same section bore the extra brunt of her zealousness. This was her way of instilling in us that rules are for everybody. But outside this seemingly strict personality was a very warm person which I discovered much later. She was extremely good in what she taught and even today I remember the way she taught Hindi poems, Laxman Parushram Sanwaad from Ramayana and Sanskrit shlokas. Years later when I taught the same thing to my daughters, I understood the meaning of Henry Adams quote "A teacher affects eternity, you can never tell where the influence stops"

Teaching Hindi and Sanskrit was only a part of her personality. She was actively engaged in co-curricular activities, sports, dramatics and that is where for many years after class 6 we continued to encounter her. Many of my school certificates has her signature as the Activity In charge. She was responsible for the school's yearly prize distribution which later became the Accolades Day. Years later when I went back to school to conduct some classes, she was still doing the same thing. Generations of school students would have passed with her signature on their certificates and she still occupies that little space in their memorabilia. I think she then handed that activity over to Mrs. Lata Srinivasan.

We knew early on that Rina had lost her father when she was very young but what it means to be a single parent bringing up two kids was beyond us at that time and only years later, we realised how difficult it would have been for her. The way her kids, Rina and Sandeep have shaped up must be a source of great pride to her.

For her I was one of her many students but for me she will always be my only "JOSHI MA'AM". She will always be amongst the persons who created a great impression on my impressionable mind.

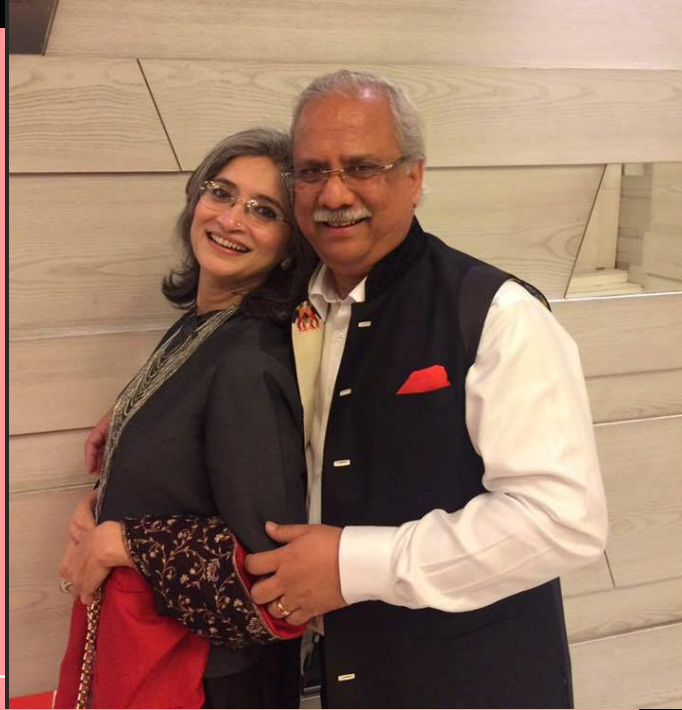
Dear Ma'am,

As you celebrate another landmark birthday, I wish you good health and great happiness. I was fortunate that I had you...

Warm regards

[Pankaj Vajpayee](#)





My first ever Slap ever from a Teacher in School,
Joshi Mam - A strict disciplinarian.

A crystal clear picture memory of mine, with Sudha Joshi Mam.

It was in the year 1977, I was in Class V B and Joshi Mam was our Class teacher,
Her period had just got over as the bell for recess had just rung, we use to play "Statue" as this was one of the most common games in those days.

We always use to look for the first opportunity to say "Statue" to our friends and that was the day for me to be.
I said 'Statue' to a friend and before even I could realize I got a tight slap, from somewhere even before I could gather my senses. I then realised it was Joshi Mam, who had blessed me with the very first "Slap" from a teacher in school.
Despite my being the Prefect for the Primary Section in that year, her action made me realize that, being the Prefect, one cannot take things for granted and has to maintain decorum.

Mam, we love you, in grooming us, you have a big hand in making us, what we are today.

Neeraj Kodesia Class V B

A BIG THANK YOU - IN A SMALL WAY

FOR ALL THAT YOU DID IN OUR CLASSROOMS

FOR PUTTING YOUR NEEDS ON HOLD AND KEEPING THE FOCUS on your day, looking after all of us.

FOR PLANNING for US, LONG before TODAY, even got rolling.

FOR SMILING & LAUGHING with US, when (now we can understand) you must have had your own challenges.

FOR PLACING your hand on a shoulder, that was exactly what we needed THEN, because YOU knew that THIS IS WHAT we needed at that moment.

THANK YOU for THINKING of NEW WAYS to TEACH, when someone WAS NOT GETTING IT.

THANK YOU MA'AM !, YES !

A BIG THANK YOU in a small way !!

Preeti Kodesia





I frankly do not have any old memories with madam. I only remember one recent incident when I had left Sandy twice in happy state to your home. Later when Sandy introduced me to Madam, saying that this is Rakesh, she said "Ok, this is the culprit"!

Rakesh Aggarwal

Dear Sudha mam,

Wishing you a great birthday. May the Almighty bless you with sound health and happiness in abundance.

Your student

Radhika Menon





Namaste Sudha Ma'am,

I am Ranjini, an alumna from the 1989 batch from MIS. It was a great privilege to have studied Hindi under your tutelage in class six. I remember you as a composed, confident and extremely graceful teacher who could inspire children to be disciplined and go-getters in life.

Heartiest congratulations for completing 75 beautiful years of your life. Wishing you a very blessed birthday ma'am. May you live to celebrate many more years of good health and happiness in your life and inspire the younger generations to come.

My elder sister Renu Kaushal (nee Renu Pillai) and younger sister Radhika Menon (nee Radhika Pillai) also your students from the same school join me in sharing their birthday wishes for you.

Love and regards,

Ranjini Muralidhar (nee Ranjini Pillai)

Dear Ma'am,

Wish you a Happy Birthday. May God keep you happy and healthy. It has been so many years, 1974-75, I think when you were my class-teacher in Grade 5. You were the right blend of warmth and firmness and it was great to be tutored by you. The best part about you was that you were so fair, you would scold your children Sandeep and Rina, if I am not mistaken, the same way you would scold us.

There were many lessons I learnt from you and today, as I am in the same profession they come in handy. Thank you for all the lessons and all the guidance.

God Bless you.

Renu Kaushal (nee Renu Pillai passed out in 1982)





I joined the Mother's School in Class 3 and my first impression of Joshi Ma'm was of a well dressed, disciplined lady with an aura around her. I used to think she was the Principal of the school for the first few months.

During later years, I came to know her children, Rina & Sandy. Rina was a friend & class mate, full of energy & enthusiasm and a haazir jawab. Sandy was a senior, a bit aloof and austere. Joshi ma'm was, and still is, a classic example of a strong woman and parent, who single handedly brought up her children so beautifully.

I raise a toast to you, M'am and wish you the very best of health. I wish we could all have the strength you have. The Mother's International school, and its stature, was totally because of teachers like Joshi Mam who contributed to the culture of the school and shaped its students in the formative years with their firm and yet, understanding handling.

Ajay Aggarwal



It's Not About Information, But Inspiration - Mrs. Joshi

Thirty-three years after graduating from school, as a teacher today, I fondly remember my teachers who inspired me. Now I understand what an anonymous writer wrote about how "it takes a big heart to help shape little minds." Mrs. Joshi has just that kind of a heart. All teachers, including her played an important role in who I am today. I strongly believe that teaching is really not about information, but inspiration.

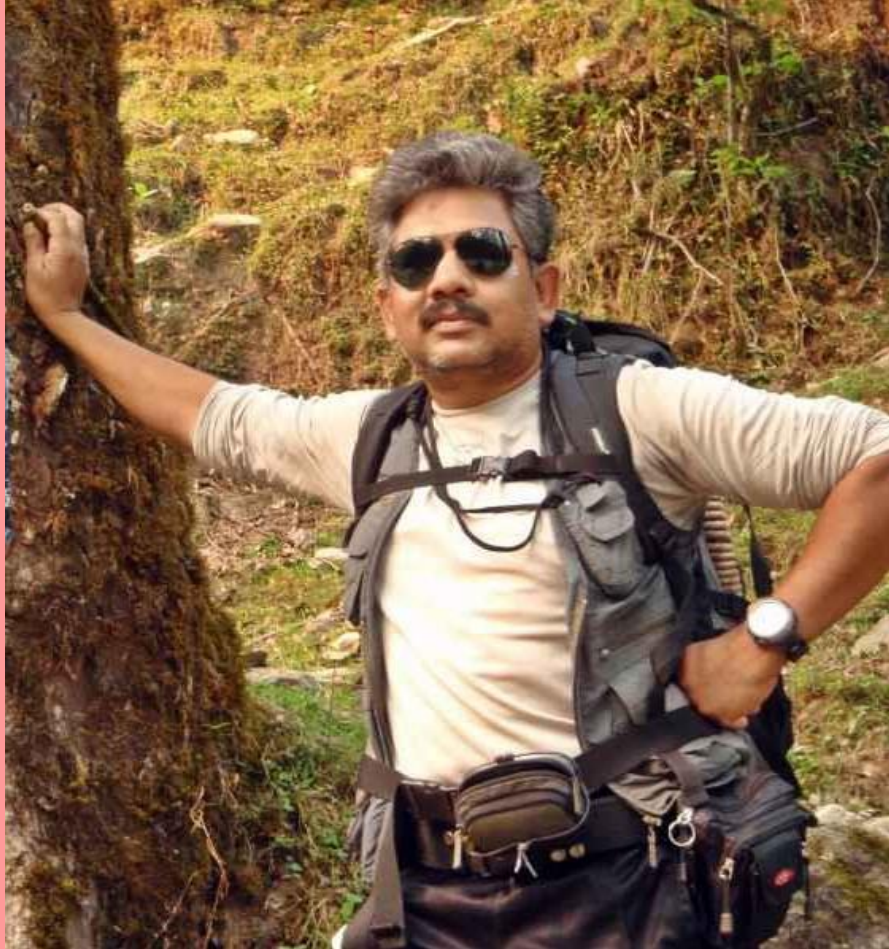
Even though, Mrs. Joshi did not teach me in a classroom, her mere presence in school had a lasting impact on me. She found a way to connect to our lives, with a friendly smile or a casual remark. Her positive interactions with her daughter, Rina Joshi, who was my classmate also spoke volumes of her self-esteem and confidence. Reflecting on my childhood days, gives me a visceral memory of Mrs. Joshi's work ethic, achievement, and her elegant dress code. Above all, as she has prepared so many young people with skills for success, she has modelled for us the courage to stand up for what is right and to live with integrity. Teachers like Mrs. Joshi give through sharing with students; this is such an impactful way to give because it has the potential to change lives for the better.

This quote by David S. Viscott truly captures the life of a teacher-
"The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away."

Congratulations Ma'm on your 75th birthday. I wish you happy, healthy, and joyful years ahead ♡

Monica (Lamba) Bajaj, MIS, Batch 1986





With all honesty, all I wish to say is that I just don't have any words powerful enough in my Dictionary to describe Ma'am's role in my life as a child.

Most people, even among my friends, do not know about my troubled childhood and she was one of those Angels in my life who stood for me and by me at those times, when my life was turning into a mess. Even though she was never one of my direct teachers, but her soft words and an occasional warm hand over my head took away all the pain that I was going through growing up.

To a large extent, I owe my sanity to her.

I may not be able to meet her more often nowadays, but she is as much a part of me as both my sisters and my parents.

Thank you Ma'am, for all your unconditional blessings. You will always occupy a special place in my life.

Today, I wish you all the health and happiness from the bottom of my heart.

सादर चरण स्पर्श।

Prabhaker



मैं संदीप बुधिराजा श्री मती सुधा जोशी मैडम को उनके डायमंड जन्मदिवस पर हार्दिक बाधाई देता हूँ ।
मैडम मेरी हिन्दी टीचर थीं । उनके पढ़ाने की विधि इतनी रोचक थी की हिन्दी मेरा प्रिय विषय बन गया । वे एक कुशल और प्रतिभाशाली अध्यापिका थीं । उनका अनुशासन बड़ा कड़ा था । वे बाहर से जितनी कठोर लगती थीं अन्दर से उतनी ही नरम थीं । उन्होंने हमें यह बताया कि जीवन एक संघर्ष है ऊससे लड़ना सीखो । कभी भी हार न मानो, लक्ष तक पहुँचने के लिये अन्धक प्रयास करते रहो क्योंकि मेहनत करने वालों की कभी हार नहीं होती । उनकी बताई हुई एक एक बात मेरे मानस पटल पर अंकित हो गई । मैं भगवान से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वे धीर्घायु हों । मेरी माँ भी मदर स्कूल में अध्यापिका रह चुकी हैं । इस कारण मेरा मैडम के साथ दोहरा रिश्ता बन जाता है । उनकी और से भी मैं मैडम की लम्बी आयु के लिये प्रार्थना करता हूँ ।

धन्यवाद

संदीप बुधिराजा

We had many teachers during our childhood days of frolic and fun;
they were mostly sweet, and smiling, and kindly, and affectionate ones.
In our young minds, one made an indelible mark -
she was impeccable, a perfectionist, precise, and stark,
And in her own demanding way, taught us to toil, and strive, and reach for the sun.

Wishing you happiness and good health for your diamond jubilee,
From Seema, Sangeeta, Rashmee, and Kavita, dear Mrs. Joshi.



Respected Joshi mam,

Wishing you a long healthy and peaceful life ahead on your 75th Birthday. You are still full of energy and enthusiasm and we all love it.

I have always known you as a strong principled woman who taught us values of integrity and hard work and have inspired us to be the best versions of ourselves.

Ma'am you would agree that I was probably one of the worst students in Hindi in class. To top it, I never completed my home work either and always used to get scolded. As we know life takes a full circle. Who knew that even after growing up, I will continue to be reminded of my poor academic performance, this time as a parent instead of a student. My daughter Mahak who was also your student, excelled in Hindi and every time in PTMs, you would always jokingly pull my leg for having terrible Hindi while praising my daughter.

In the initial years of schooling we were all scared of you. But that said, we saw a different and super fun side of you during our school trips wherein you became more of a friend than a teacher and let us goof around and have a gala time, though within limits.

Having you as our teacher has been incredible and it still feels very heart-warming to get your blessings at every alumni meet.

Wishing you again a very happy 75th birthday!

Loads of love and respect,

Darshan Chhajer





My mother, Mrs. Sudha Kapoor, recalls that in 1975, when she had first joined MIS, Mr. Bhola, who was the Headmaster had told Mrs. Sudha Joshi to help Mrs. Sudha Kapoor to compute the monthly attendance register. 😊
Since I had joined school in grade 8, Mrs. Joshi for me was only Sandeep's mom. I had heard tales that she was a very strict teacher and would not spare even her son. But I had no such experiences. 😊

I was very comforted seeing her presence at my father's prayer ceremony. I always found her very forthright and clear in her thought and articulation. On her 75th birthday, we wish her a long and very healthy life.

Shruti Sood

Before I knew Joshi Ma'am I knew of Rina's mother. At the age of 6, whenever I would visit Rina at her home, her mother would invariably be sitting at a desk facing the window, her long black hair open, checking school copies. Those were the only times I saw her with her hair open.

When older, in school I came to know Joshi Ma'am. The name conjured up a picture of a lady in crisp cotton sarees with a black bindi, her hair tied in a neat tight bun and a strict demeanour. She had a no-nonsense air about her and her tight slaps were reputed! To send a message across to other students, Rina and Sandy suffered much at her hands, to avoid even a hint of nepotism!!

The mere mention of her name got lackadaisical students sitting upright and minding themselves. Though I never had a chance to be taught by her, we kept interacting due to her active involvement in her School Annual Day functions and other activities. She was always very spirited, good humoured, efficient and moved sprightly. Things ran smoothly in school with her around.

Today, her hair may be shorter and whiter and the bindi may be smaller but she is still warm, affectionate, quick witted and lively.

I have immense respect and affection for Joshi Ma'am and wish her a fabulous 75th year of being wonderful.

With love and regards,

Vinita Misra





She has the aura, the motherly touch and the demeanor of a God Mother, always neatly adorned in sarees as per the season, crease intact and pleated beautifully .

I had felt the closeness, warmth in her words and the drive to learn and make myself worthwhile, such was her charm. Being a student from the Non-Hindi belt of India, I had to struggle to adapt myself to the new set up. She was there to help me sail through the sea and safely harbor, all the while enjoying life, embracing all fronts - be it personal, intellect or mental needs. The same experience was true with the other students from the same belt and we are truly grateful for all the support she extended to us.

I even had the opportunity to visit her Abode at Sarvodaya Enclave and appreciate the feeling of "Home away from Home". I also experienced the warmth and hospitality of Rina and Sandeep Bhaiya.

As a Hosteler, whenever I felt Homesick I could approach and freely share my concerns, always assured, she would be the one who would ease me out of any fear and anxiety.

As a teacher she is meticulous and devoted and always had time for the weaker students and helped them to move up. She is diligent and wears an Authority hat while in class, which disappears as she moves out of the classroom arena, whereby she adorns the charismatic fervor of a humble being.

She is none other than Sudha Joshi Madam, my favorite teacher and mentor, during my school days at MIS. I love her smile which is contagious and never give up attitude.

Thank you with deep gratitude for those wonderful days.

Regards,
Dineswori Ramesh





I came in contact with Sudha Joshi Mam after completing my grade IV from Sardar Patel Vidyalaya at Lodi Estate. My family was shifting from Lodi Colony to our own house in Sarvodaya Enclave during the emergency era of 1975-76 and my father was looking for an admission to the Mother's International School for me. But there was a seemingly unsurmountable problem! Sardar Patel used to teach all its subjects in Hindi medium (save the English language subject) and I had to understand and answer the subject admission papers in English. No prizes for guessing who was the coach! But for Mam, I would have been living across the road to Mother's school, and daily boarding a school bus to another. Her guidance ensured that I would be her student in Grade V. Small, but everlasting memories of my association with Joshi Mam, filled with gratitude.

Wishing you decades of healthy living, M'am.
Respectfully, [Deepak Gupta](#)



Ma



My dearest Mom,
I love you.

You have been like a rock in my life.

Always there - loving, supporting, comforting, guiding, correcting, teaching the virtuous path and values to follow.

If you had not filled my head with so many good values and live honestly notions growing up; I'd probably have used my intelligence in other ways and may be very rich as a successful businessman, corrupt bureaucrat or even a criminal, perhaps. But it's not been too bad having lived an 'imandar' and scrupulous life of a hard working, always learning employee; though not as simple as yours has been. You have led a tough and austere life and I picked up some austerity from you. Being debt free and moderately well off, I now realize that having the time to meet you everyday, eat meals with you, go for a walk with you is more precious than a lot of success and wealth.

Mom, I shall keep needing regular meals of dal, sabzi, salad, dahi and hot chapatis cooked by you, so please keep up your practice, as nothing else satisfies like 'Mummy ke haath ka khana'. And do not give away all your old soft dhoti's. I still like my soft coverlet when I nap. We have still a lot to do together. Travel to more parts of the world and make pleasant memories. Celebrate your grandchildren's adulthood. Maybe even reconstruct the house so that you can experience building a house twice in your life and I can go completely bald.

You are only 75 and far healthier than I am. That's the way it needs to be. So resolve to stay around till I go bald, while I'll quietly get a hair weave.

Love you Mom

Sandy





Dearest Mom,

Wishing you the happiest 75th birthday!

We've been through a lot together, and may still have a lot more to come, but on this milestone, I just want to pause and let you know that your courage and resilience are truly inspirational and help me greatly as I work towards forging a new path ahead in life as an individual, not just a mother and wife.

You've been a rock to all of us for so many years, and hopefully will be for many more to come. Here's to growing older together, and to supporting each other through many more moments ahead.

Thank you for being more of a friend than a mother in law. I have learnt a lot from observing you. The way you cook so patiently even the simplest of lauki sabzis but with so much love that it tastes delicious. I will never forget the innumerable torai sabzis you made for me when I did not feel like eating anything else when I was expecting Kaavya. Your indirect way of teaching us something through stories of your students, friends or relatives. Your attention to detail and unhurried manner and approach to things. The one thing though I haven't been able to learn well enough though is Hindi. You still (wincing inwardly am sure) patiently correct my 'ling' when I speak.

I do not have enough words to show my affection, but I wish you good health and happiness forever.

Thank you for always being there and for the many things you do which show how much you care for us.

Happy Happy Birthday!! Have a wonderful day and year surrounded by family and love. May your blessings be with us always.

Lots of love

Lekha



मेरी प्यारी दादी,

75वि वर्षगाँठ की आपको हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ। कहने को आप 75 वर्ष की हैं किंतु आपका दिल और मिज़ाज अब भी जवान है। आपने बहुत प्रेम से मुझे पढ़ाया है, मेरे हिंदी भाषा के प्रति संकोच को दूर किया है, मेरे रचनात्मक प्रयासों को सराहा है, मुझे विनम्रता एवं दृढ़ता से अभिव्यक्ति सिखायी है, स्वादिष्ट पकवान खिलाए हैं और मुझे अनेक आत्म-संदेह दूर करने वाले परामर्श दिए हैं।

ज्ञान प्राप्त करने की रुचि मुझ में हमेशा रही है, परंतु ज्ञान बाँटने की प्रेरणा आप ही से मिली है- क्योंकि बचपन से आपको अध्यापिका के रूप में देखा है। रिटायरमेंट के बाद भी आपने लोगों को शिक्षा प्रदान करना नहीं छोड़ा, और इसी से मुझे एहसास हुआ की सर्वोच्च सेवा धन नहीं, समय और श्रम बाँट कर करी जाती है। आपके अनेकों शिष्यों से आपकी 'स्टिक्टनेस' की कहानियाँ सुनी हैं, और स्वयं भी थोड़ा अनुभव किया है, पर मेरे लिए आप हमेशा मेरी प्यारी, घर में हमेशा मिठाई और फ्रिज में हमेशा आइस क्रीम रखने वाली दादी रहेंगी।

आपने जीवन में बहुत कठिनाइयाँ अनुभव की हैं, पर हमेशा साहस और दृढ़ता से उनका सामना किया है, और इस से मुझे बहुत प्रेरणा मिली है। आशा है कि मैं भी अपने जीवन के कठिनाइयों का इसी हिम्मत से सामना कर पाऊँ।

दादी, इस खास मौके पर आपको बहुत सारा प्यार भेज रही हूँ और जब मैं वापस आऊँगी साथ में एक और केक काट कर चाय पर लम्बी चर्चा करेंगे। आशा है आपका दिन सुखद गुज़रे और आपको सब परिवारजनों से खूब लाड और दुलार मिले।

Dearest Dadi,
Here's wishing you the Happiest 75th Birthday!!!
Lots and lots of Love,

Kaajal



To the person who taught me Hindi with the utmost patience
To the person who pushed me to pursue my music and supported me, every step of the way
To the person who made me khichdi every time I fell sick (which was too often)
To the person who always keeps trying to feed me new things and hasn't given up till date
To the person who doted on me from the day I was born
To the loveliest grandmother I could have ever asked for-
Dearest Dadi,
Happy birthday! You're (officially) 75 today! I really really wish I was there to celebrate this day with you, but I know that you're going to have the most amazing time watching the Taj by Moonlight!

I wanted to write down all the memories I have made with you over the years in this message, but I'd rather just write down the most recent one which has stayed with me even after coming here, to London. The day I was leaving, I didn't expect anyone to cry because I just thought that everyone would just be happy. I especially did not expect to see you cry. But, when you did, I realized how loved I am- not just by you, but by everyone back home. That realization, honestly, gave me the courage to come here on my own and is still giving me the courage I need to survive here on my own.

So, thank you Dadi- not just for taking care of me and loving me unconditionally but also for showing me that even if I come away from home, I am not all alone, and I need not be scared because I will always have a loving family to turn to. Have an absolutely amazing day!

Lots and Lots of love

[Kaablu](#)



Let me briefly tell you about the teacher who taught teachers how to teach, taught students how to study, while also being a parent to some very loud kids.

This is the tale of Sudha Joshi, a very cute, smart but most importantly, a sensitive human being. The only person who was able to teach not just school subjects but actually guide some very misdirectioned kids onto a path of their choice. Nani has managed to provide for me not just as a grandmother, but as a friend. Being able to talk to her about issues has usually led to me feeling a lot better about life/situations.

I think above all, however, the thing I love the most, is the way Nani tells a story. Her ability to boil stories down, but not lose the charm of the story is the most memorable aspect to my childhood (that and insane amounts of being fed by her).

However, you might ask what this tale is eventually about, to which, I guess you could say this tale has just begun, because Sudha Joshi is a story that hasn't finished, because she continues to be the person she was, an unstoppable force of pure wholesomeness.

I love u big time, Nani. Happy Birthday !





Dear Mummy,

I have enjoyed the many conversations we have had over ~25 years (the first ~8/9 years were mostly on "scolding terms!"

You're an inspiration, Mummy. Happy 75th!

Warm wishes,

Dhiraj

Dearest Nani,
Thanks for supporting me when I needed the help. You're a great person and have impacted so many people in many great ways. You are a gem of a person. Thank you for being there and Happy Birthday!!!!!!!!!!

Tussar



As per Frank Zappa "A mind is like a parachute, it doesn't work if it's not open"

Ma, thanks for tugging mine free and making my mind, my horizon billow out, such that till today, there is no thought of containment in my spirit. It's your birthday & I have so many thoughts blitzing through my head with no ending point – I just don't know how to put it all together in one message!

Ma/Pa, the differentiation does not exist for me. You are both & much bigger than the sum of both. Yours was the hand that was gentle on the head & stinging on the cheek as you sustained, encouraged, moderated, restricted, provided for – one source, zero complications!

But what I am most thankful for is the continuous encouragement you gave to me to study more, learn more – goading me on, taking away the "What ifs" & the obstacles in my mind. Thanks, Ma, for never giving up on me – not when I was an infant & not when I am an adult, and for being there for me at all times!
I love you lots!

Rina

P.S. & thanks for Sandy! He'll do 😊





Bhabhi, Taiji, Chachi



HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!