

## **Editor's Note**

**If women are expected to do the same work as men, we must teach them the same things.**

**- Plato**

Since its inception, Akademos has evolved many times over to strive towards excellence in research. This year was no exception with the inclusion of Akademos in the UGC list of approved journals, making it one of the few journals in the University of Delhi to receive this status. This inclusion marks another milestone in the long journey that the journal has taken. Beginning as an academic endeavour that gave the faculty members of Kamala Nehru College the opportunity to disseminate their work in 2006, we have come a long way. We received our ISSN number in 2010 and in 2015, we became a peer-reviewed journal before receiving recognition from the UGC in 2017.

It is particularly significant that the research journal of a women's college has received this recognition because it represents the progress made by women in research. Often the profession of teaching is associated with women because women are stereotyped as 'nurturing' in traditional patriarchal societies. Research is seen as belonging to a masculine realm, an area where women cannot flourish so the existence of a reputed research journal in a women's college becomes the evidence that can challenge stereotypes. Equally significant is the fact that the journal welcomes contributions from researchers irrespective of gender and all the research that is published goes through a rigorous process of reviewing and editing to ensure high standards of

quality. This combination of the journals origin in a women's college with its non-discriminatory publication policies is truly unique. We provide a research space that actively strives towards gender equality by giving everyone a fair opportunity. It might seem like a simple task, but it requires us to be conscious and aware of inequality and how it might affect our choices.

Our work as researchers needs to address issues of inequality because it feeds into our work as teachers. As teachers we have taken on the task of educating the next generation and ensuring that they carry forward progressive ideas of equality with them. Therefore, our work as researchers should go beyond academic knowledge to bring about real change and inform debates regarding equality in civil society. Our students must become the real beneficiaries of the knowledge that we generate to ensure that the knowledge survives long after we are gone.

– Namita Paul