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**THE  
BEST COLLEGE  
IN  
MUMBAI**



**Newsletter**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the first issue of the Newsletter for the year 2008 and it feels great to interact with you once again! In December 2007, we had a wonderful time, presenting the Jewel of Ruia award to the two dignitaries – the highly renowned – Dr. K. Kasturirangan and the Ace Badminton player – Shri Nandu Natekar. In a sense, I was their contemporary and so became quite nostalgic, when they reminisced about their student days at Ruia College. I wish more alumni had attended this well organized function.

I am now happy to tell you that more and more ex-students are joining the RCAA family. The current TYBA / TYBSc and M.Sc students, who will soon become alumni, have also agreed to become members, and since they are young and enthusiastic, we hope to rejuvenate the alumni association. We are planning a Fund Raising programme, on a big scale – some time this year and we are going to need your assistance. Please contact us on ruiacollege alumni@gmail.com or call on us to let us know, along what lines you could help e.g. securing advertisements or sponsorships or by sale of tickets, preparing of posters or by contacting the print media / electronic media for publicity etc.

Remember friends, Ruia has made us what we are today. Now let us see, what we – together – can do for Ruia!



Mr. Lalit Chadha

(LEFT TO RIGHT)

Mr. D. Sukumar (Member M.C.),

Mr. Lalit Chadha (President-RCAA),

Prof. J.B. Joshi (Director-UICT) - Chief Guest

Dr. Sulhas Pednekar (Prin. Ruia College),

Dr. Kasturirangan - Jewel of Ruia - 2007,

Mr. Nandu Natekar - Jewel of Ruia - 2007,

Mr. Kulin Marek (Vice Presidency - RCAA),

Prof. D. Ramkrishna - Jewel of Ruia-2006



**Response from our Former Principal about the Jewel of Ruia Function**  
8th Dec - 07

It is believed that one's memory becomes weak due to ageing but there is one date which, I shall not forget and that is 8th December 2007. It was on this day that RCAA conferred the Jewel of Ruia title on Shri. Nandu Natekar and Dr. K. Kasturirangan, both Ruitates of international repute. Very rarely, are you presented a function where all those attending, are happy, involved and emotionally charged and also feel completely at home. This is what happens when you enter the portals of Ruia. The older you grow as a Ruitate, the greater the attachment. Ruia College Alumni Association deserves to be awarded the title of 'Heart of Ruia'!

**Prof. K. N. Valsangkar**  
Faculty: 1959 – 1990  
Principal: 1979 – 1990

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Dear Ruitates,

Back again to update you with what has happened, and what is in store in the coming months: The Jewel of Ruia' function held on 8th December 2007 was an unforgettable experience. The two awardees -Dr. K. Kasturirangan and Mr. Nandu Natekar regaled us with their anecdotes and memories of their Ruia days and covered every aspect of Ruia College from the classroom to the laboratory to Mani's and of course the Katta! Their messages regarding the function is published in this issue. For the first time in 71 years, a common farewell function was arranged for the final year students on 27th February 2008. A turnover of 700 students from both Arts and Science, more than 75 members from the teaching faculty ensured the success of the event. Highlights of the evening were music and dance performances by students and staff(!) and once again the ever popular 'Fish Pond' programme. As the programme ended with refreshments and mementos to every student, the air was filled with nostalgia, a sense of sadness- of leaving the portals of Ruia College. But then why are we here? To welcome you students as the alumni of this great Institution.

It is with extreme pride, that I wish to share with each one of you this wonderful news-the University of Mumbai has conferred on 'Ramnarain Ruia College' the title of 'BEST COLLEGE' for the last academic year. The University is also considering giving an autonomous status to Ruia College and that, I am sure will, spur us on to be on the National and International Map too. But again -for all this we NEED YOU all and once again I appeal to each and every one of you to take a solemn pledge to strengthen the RCAA. This is possible by enrolling your friends as Ruia College Alumni Association members and thereby strengthening our hands. We together can make a difference and lets make all our Dreams of Ruia become a Reality.

Do keep in touch with us, till we meet again, Good bye and have a great vacation!

*Kalpagan Raghuraman*  
Kalpagam Raghuraman



The RCAA Newsletter being released by the Chief Guest Prof. J. B. Joshi, Director- U.I.C.T.

**Responses from the audience at the Functions.**

The Function was well organized. Choice of Ruia Jewels was apt. As a teacher of Ruia, I was really proud of the Ruia Alumni. It is an example for the present Ruitates, as to what heights a Ruitate can achieve!"

**Dr. Ms. Pratibha Borwankar**  
Faculty 1962 – 1997  
V. P. 1993 – 1997

'This programme 'Jewel of Ruia' made us proud that we also belong to a great Institution which has produced such illustrious persons'

**Prof. S. N. Joshi**  
Student: 1962 – 1966  
Faculty: 1971 – 2005

# GLIMPSES OF

**Jewel Of Ruia 2007**  
- 8TH Dec 2007



- Have I really achieved so much? Wonders Dr. K. Kasturirangan.

**FAREWELL FUNCTION TO FINAL YEAR STUDENTS**  
- 27th Feb 2008



- Farewell Function - takes off Ms. K. Raghuraman - Convener - welcoming the gathering



- 'Colorful' gathering at the Farewell Function.



- 'A well deserved award' Chief Guest Prof. J. B. Joshi seems to convey to Dr. K. Kasturirangan & Mr. Nandu Natekar. Principal Dr. Suhas Pednekar & President Lalit Chadha applaud.



- The two jewels Mr. Nandu Natekar & Dr. K. Kasturirangan proudly display their 'Jewel of Ruia' awards, while Principal Dr. Pednekar and Principal Dr. Geetha Mohan (also the compère) smile approvingly

- A section of the audience listening with rapt attention.

**Farewell Function**  
The management, Principal and the Staff of Kannarain Ruia College  
Along with Ruia College Alumni Association  
Takes pleasure in inviting you to the  
**Farewell Function For the Final year students**  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008 At 5:00 pm. In the College Quadrangle  
Revisit the memorable Journey through your days at Ruia College



- Jhalak Dikhla Ja



- Dhoom Machale Dhoom

**We asked our Final year students: What were your expectations when you joined Ruia? How far have they been met? Here are two responses.**

A bit apprehensive, about what 'being in College' would be like, since I had come from a Junior College that had 'school' culture. I entered Ruia in 2005 as a student of FYBSc. As the days passed by, I realized that I was indeed very fortunate to have come to an institute that not only offered so many platforms and opportunities, but where the teachers and the staff were so warm, friendly and welcoming, and where there was constant love, support and encouragement. The three years I have spent in Ruia have been the most memorable ones, and crucial in giving me a chance to discover myself. Today I take great pride in calling myself 'Ruiate' and Ruia, my second home. And though I formally pass out this year, 'leaving Ruia' is unthinkable, for with me, I carry it, in my heart. Hats off to my Alma mater! & thank God that we have the RCAA to help us keep in touch with our College!



**Shivangi Bal**  
T.Y.B.Sc - Zoology



I was like a bud awaiting to protuberate. Ruia showered upon me its enlightened rays, watered its erudition and nourished me in the soil of perspicacity. Ruia – the name that epitomizes values, ethics, integrity, warm culture and grandeur attracted me like a honey thirsty bee. I have always had ample expectations from Ruia for it is an institution to reckon with. I expected it to act like a burning torch to free me from the path of obscurity, imbibe in me the ethos which would help discover myself, make me foresighted so that I can think of the society at large, be people-centered, nation-centered and not self-centered. Ruia not only imbibed in me all these qualities but also gave me the opportunity to hone my skills, gain an enviable position by allowing me to be a part of it. I realized the importance of classroom teaching, competent faculty, excellent infrastructure which my college never compromised on. My teachers were the greatest pillars of strength for they supported, encouraged me to the hilt. I made the finest friends and witnessed, applauded and learnt their creative pursuits. It gives me immense pride in stating that it was because of this great temple of wisdom that I could develop my personality, polish my intellect and stand apart from the rest. My expectations are fulfilled and I have been granted much more than I could have ever imagined. Ruia is undoubtedly the most Radiant, Unique, Impressive & Alluring institute ever formed.

**Neha Punetha**  
TYBA – Philosophy

### Excerpts from letters of 'Jewels of Ruia-2007'

*The entire programme was very enjoyable and it appeared that it was well conceived and executed. I was touched at the contents of the Citation and very rarely have my achievements been so well covered. The slide presentation was a pleasure to the eyes and Mrs. Deshpande needs to be complimented.*

*It was a memorable evening and I am grateful to the Ruia College Alumni Association.*

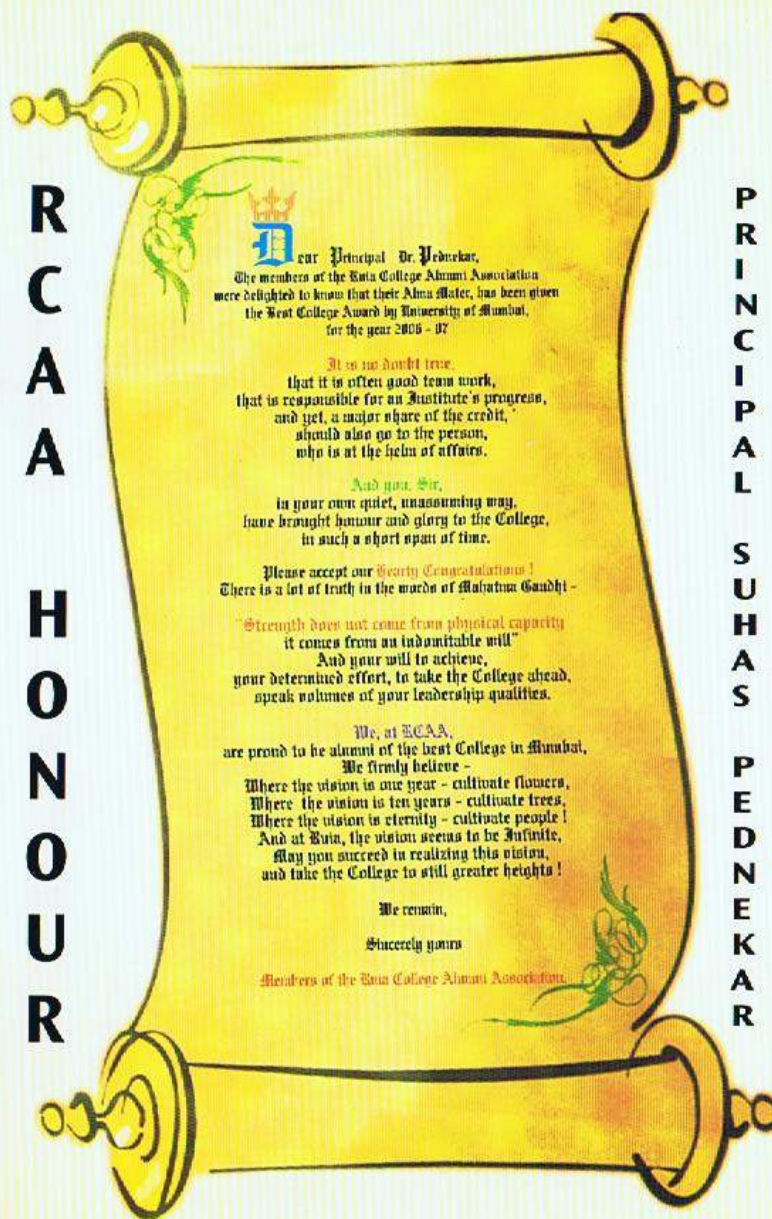
*-Mr. Nandu Nateskar*

*For me this return to alma mater not only proved to be nostalgic but also gave a renewed sense of pride after seeing that the Institution continues to have a sustained history of excellence and erudition. I am also deeply touched by the gesture by the Alumni Association in selecting me for conferring on me the very prestigious Jewel of Ruia. I deem it as a special honour bestowed on me and my future task will be to behold the values that stem from such recognition.*

*I assure you and all others, to do my best. I take this opportunity to once again wish you and all other colleagues as well as the students of Ruia the very best and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.*

*-Dr. K. Kasturirangan*

## Scroll Of Honour



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**D**ear Principal Dr. Pednekar,  
The members of the Ruia College Alumni Association were delighted to know that their Alma Mater, has been given the Best College Award by University of Mumbai, for the year 2006 - 07

*It is no doubt true  
that it is often good team work,  
that is responsible for an Institute's progress,  
and yet, a major share of the credit,  
should also go to the person,  
who is at the helm of affairs.*

*And you, Sir,  
in your own quiet, unassuming way,  
have brought honour and glory to the College,  
in such a short span of time.*

*Please accept our hearty Congratulations!  
There is a lot of truth in the words of Mahatma Gandhi-*

*"Strength does not come from physical capacity  
it comes from an indomitable will"  
And your will is achieve,  
your determined effort, to take the College ahead,  
speak volumes of your leadership qualities.*

*We, at RCAA,  
are proud to be alumni of the best College in Mumbai.  
We firmly believe -  
Where the vision is one year - cultivate flowers,  
Where the vision is ten years - cultivate trees,  
Where the vision is eternity - cultivate people!  
And at Ruia, the vision seems to be infinite,  
May you succeed in realizing this vision,  
and take the College to still greater heights!*

*We remain,  
Sincerely yours*

*Members of the Ruia College Alumni Association*