

## PROFILE

Professor Babli Moitra Saraf, Principal of the College since 1 July 2009, is in the Department of English and is also the Head of the Department of Multi - Media and Mass Communication. She has received her M.Phil degree in English and Ph.D in Sociology. She is fluent in several Indian and foreign languages. Her doctoral thesis studies language change in the advertising industry in India in the first phase of globalization (1984-94), and the emergence of the Indian urban middle class identity. Active as a teacher both within and outside her College, her teaching interests include Translation, Poetry, Modern Indian Literature in Translation, Classical Literature, Renaissance and Modern European Drama, Poetry, The Bible, Cultural Studies, Communication Studies, Literary Theory, Literature and the Arts and the Hindi Film Song. She presents her academic work regularly among national and international peers. Her ongoing research examines traditions of Orality, Embodied Languages and Performance in the context of Translation and Translation Studies.

Prof. Moitra Saraf taught in the Department of English in University of Delhi's Ramjas College for 29 years. She has studied the Corso Superiore at the Università per Stranieri at Perugia, Italy. She has taught Italian at the Istituto Di Cultura Dell'Ambasciata Italiana at New Delhi. She has a Diploma in Spanish from the Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, University of Delhi. She translates from several Indian languages as well as from Italian, into English and Hindi. Among others, she has translated the Bengali activist-novelist Mahasweta Devi's works into Italian in collaboration with Maria Federica Oddera. Her publications, *La Cattura* (Theoria, 1996) and *La Preda e altri Racconti* (Einaudi, 2004), are acclaimed translations. Her work *Rajouri Remembered* (2007), is a translation of a family narrative, from Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi and oral history, recounting the effects of the Partition of India in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. She has co-edited with Shormishtha Panja *Performing Shakespeare in India: Exploring Indianness, Literatures and Cultures* (New Delhi: Sage, 2016). Her publication *Hey Diddle Diddle: Tun-Tun Tara-Tara* (New Delhi: Vani Prakashan, 2017), contains Hindi adaptations/translations of popular nursery rhymes in English. In 2019, she published an edited volume of translations from Hindi to English, titled *Selected Hindi Short Stories*, published by Sahitya Akademi, which also contained among others her translation 'Alone' of Manu Bhandari's short story 'Akeli'. In 2022, her translation of 'Yaaron Ke Yaar' a short story by Krishna Sobti, was published in the volume *Krishna Sobti: A Counter Archive*, Routledge: London & New York.

She is on the editorial board of *Translation*: a transdisciplinary journal, and on the editorial board of *Saar Sansaar* (New Delhi) – a journal translating from original foreign writings into Hindi. She is a member on the Scientific Board of *In Other Wor(l)ds: Project Book Series on translations from Asia and North Africa*. Department of Asian and North African Studies, Ca'Foscari University, Venice, Italy. In 2021, she was invited to be a Member of the Research Board of FUSP- Nida Centre for Advanced Research on Translation. Fondazione and the Editorial Board of the Journal 'translation', of the FUSP - Nida Centre. She has served on various academic and administrative committees of the University of Delhi, and the Govt. of India.

Babli Moitra Saraf has been a scholar under the Indo-Italian Cultural Exchange Program, a Research Associate at the NIDA School of Translation Studies (NSTS), Misano, Italy in 2009 and Visiting Faculty at NSTS 2011. She received the Distinguished Teacher Award of the University of Delhi in 2009, the Amity Women Achiever in Education Award in 2010. In 2010 she was invited to be part of the first all-women, six-member Indian delegation to visit Saudi Arabia on a people to people contact program under the Delhi and Riyadh Declaration and represented the Education sector. She received the 27th Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Memorial National Award for Teachers in 2011, the Fulbright- Nehru International Education Administrator Seminar award in 2011. She also received the "C.F. Andrews Distinguished Alumnus Award for Lifelong Pursuit of Excellence" from St. Stephens College in 2015, the "Women of the Decade in Academia", Award of the Women Economic Forum in 2017 and the Certificate of Felicitation of the International Women's Club (Unit of UNF), for "Remarkable Contribution in the Field of Administration & Education for Girls", also in 2017. In 2018 she was felicitated with the "Girl Centric Tertiary Education and Training" award from the Women's Agency for Generating Employment (WAGE), New Delhi. She also received the Lifetime Achievement Award from TESTCOIN, CIU, NICER, and IIEE, on the occasion of United Nations World Teachers Day Celebration, 2018. She was felicitated as Principal, by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi and Gandhi Bhawan, on the occasion of *Gandhi 150* on 2 October 2019, for singular contribution to the promotion and dissemination of Gandhian thought. *Hamsa Animators: Nurturing Gender Just and Inclusive Campuses* has acknowledged Prof. Babli Moitra Saraf, Principal as a Women in Security Conflict Management and Peace (WISCOMP) Partner, who strives to make educational institutions inclusive and gender just. She has been featured in the Compendium Profiles of WISCOMP Partners.

As the 10th Principal of the historic Indraprastha College for Women, the oldest women's college of the University of Delhi, her professional experience of four decades with young adults as a teacher and education administrator, has enabled her to actively engage and make interventions in the particularities of the female experience. She has presented extensively on gender and institutional structure and processes. Prof. Moitra Saraf's constant effort is to blend tradition and modernity and preserve and promote the College's heritage and revolutionary legacy. She has made significant interventions in academic and co-curricular activities, created centres of research and training, augmented learning resources and introduced new courses of study. She has introduced and promoted innovative measures to preserve the historical legacy of the College and its natural green cover and environment. The crucial element of her vision is to mainstream the marginalized sections of students. She has introduced many empowering facilities for economically and socially weaker sections of girls, enabling measures for disability access including a barrier-free institution. I.P. College today boasts of global level infrastructure for a wide range of academic, outreach and extension programs. The College was accredited with A Grade by NAAC in 2016 and has gone on to win national and international awards.