

## Report of The Event

ASYLUM : the battle for mental healthcare in India.

Department of Psychology with IQAC of Mata Sundri College for Women organised the last event of the mental health awareness month on 11th november 2021. The event took place on zoom from 4:30pm to 5:30 pm. The event was a conversation with Ms. Daman Singh, the author of the book- ASYLUM : the battle for mental healthcare in India.

Daman Singh talked about various chapters in her book. She talked about how and when asylums were started in India by the British and what people thought about mental illness before the 19th century and how this thinking reformed after that. The asylums in British India were looked after by the British in 1900 and the conditions were bad as they were usually neglected.

The British tried to change the condition of the hospitals and advance many rules. She also talked about the chapter named Lahore in her book which is close to her heart. In the chapter she talks about the India-Pakistan partition where the people present in the asylums, which consisted of a large number of patients on both sides, were stuck and after three years they could get back to the place they belonged to. The second part of her book which discusses what happened after independence and laws regarding mental illness like setting up of The Human Rights Commission, 1990.

There was a question answer round where the audience could interact with her.

A vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Lokesh Kumar Gupta and the audience were very appreciative of the event.