

SPEECH OF 10TH JULY, 2012
DISTRICT ASSEMBLY “AMANTARAN”

Respected Chief Guest, The Association President Sarita Lunaniji, Past International Presidents Minnaji & Anitaji, Past District Chairmen of District 301, My Inner Wheel Sisters, Rotary Governor Rameshji, Fellow Rotarians, Friends, my Family Members and everybody present here.

I feel greatly honoured and immensely pleased to wear this Chairman’s Collar. I extend my heartiest gratitude to all concern for reposing their faith in me for providing me a chance to become the District Chairman of this prestigious and renowned District 301 which has many feathers in its cap. It has provided two International Inner Wheel President, One International Inner Wheel Representative, Two International Inner Wheel Board Director, Eight Association President, Five Association Secretary and Six Association Treasurer.

Therefore, the expectations from me become very high because of the bench mark set out by them and the achievement they have made. Though, it is a Herculean Task, however, I assure you that I along with my Team Members will leave no stone unturned to achieve the impossible and prove myself up to your expectations.

My mind goes back the day in 2001, when I became the Active Member of Inner Wheel. Through this movement I made so many friends world wide and shared warm relations with all of them. Through this Association, I came to know the real meaning of life which means not only to look after ourselves and our family but to serve the mankind as it is truly said, “Service to mankind is service to God”. I also became aware of the ancient Indian dictum, “*Vasudhev Kutumbakam*” (*The whole earth is my home and the whole world is my family*).

Friends, we are lucky to be a part of this prestigious organisation which gives us a platform to render our services for the upliftment of the humanity and also groom our own personality. In 1923, Mrs. Oliver Golding (nee Margrette Owen) had formed this organisation by constituting her First Inner Wheel Club in Manchester. This was, perhaps, the first organized women association in the world. The primary objectives of this organisation were –

- (a) To Promote True Friendship
- (b) To Encourage the Ideals of Personal Service
- (c) To Foster International Understanding

Since then, the Inner Wheel has voyaged a long way to achieve these end and develop mutual trust and understanding, friendship and fellowship among the people all over the world.

The world has undergone a rapid change especially in the field of economy, education, science and culture. The developed means of transportation and communication have reduced the distances and have changed this world into a small International Society. At the same time, this development has also created vast economic gaps among people and nations. The whole world has been divided into 'haves' and 'have nots'. The 'have's' are those sections and nations which have a strong economic base, well developed systems and are very prosperous. On the other side the 'have's not' faction is striving hard to break the shackles of its backwardness, poverty, diseases, illiteracy and most of all, the exploitation of the 'have's'.

Dear Friends, God has bestowed on us all the facilities and amenities of life and it becomes our duty to repay His debts by serving the needy and underprivileged section of society and bring a smile on those faces which are even bereft of the bare necessities of life.

Dear Friends, the theme of Inner Wheel, every year gives us a new message and are the apostles of inspiration. This year's theme "***Be A Friend***" urges and pursuits us to extend our arena of friendship and to bring more and more people under this umbrella. We should extend our hand of friendship to those who have potential to benefit this moment. So, my very first endeavour as a District Chairman will be to bring them to our fold by making friends both within the country and abroad. "Friendship is a strong and habitual inclination to promote the good and happiness to one another. Through this virtue of friendship we can dream of making our life a celebration".

I feel delighted that our Association President Sarita Lunaniji is here with us. I am a great fan of her and of her personality and her dedication for Inner Wheel have always been a source of

inspiration for me. She has set out certain goals for the year 2012-2013 and I assure her that we will work diligently to achieve those goals by following her guidelines.

Saritaji, I assure you and all others present here that we will do our best to go beyond your expectation.

I have taken up 3 special projects in collaboration with PHD Rural Foundation –

1. To take care of the home for sick and destitute which I have already setup. This project is providing health care - a nutritional support - to 16 sick and destitute patients who are mentally and physically challenged and abundant by their family members. All these patients are the dictum of road accidents and were treated in AIIMS Trama Centre. This project has been setup at Alawar, Rajasthan.
2. **AZMAT** – This project is setup to rehabilitate those women who were engaged in scavenging. In this project 20 such women are provided with some professional training and are provided financial help to setup their own work. They will also be given training to take up handicraft and home products as micro enterprises to earn their livelihood. This project will be located at Nekpur, Ghaziabad.
3. **Health Care intervention** - This project will be established in 12 slums of Delhi-NCR with 24 free general health camps. In each camp approximately 100 patients will be given free treatment, medicine and health education for making them aware of their better health care.
4. Apart from this, my other fields of thrust would be as given in the District Directory 2012-13
 1. Women Empowerment
 2. Girl Education
 3. Environment
 4. Publicise Inner Wheel, etc.

Friends, for the fulfillment of these objectives, I would like to have your positive and constructive cooperation without which I can do nothing. As it is said

“Alone we can do a little, together we can do so much.”

Before I conclude, I would again express my heartiest gratitude to all the Members and Clubs of District 301. I am also thankful to my PDCs and elders who have been my true guide, mentors and *gurus*. It was due to their love, affection and blessing that I have reached to this level. I am also grateful to my family, especially to my husband Mr. Suman Jyoti Khaitan, who wholeheartedly supports me in all my endeavours and my dear-dear daughter, Nitika, for without their consent, help and cooperation, it was impossible for me to achieve this status. I would also like to thank my Babuji – Nil Ratan Khaitan, who gives me encouragement, my father, Jugal Kishore ji Khetawat - who has come here from Kolkata and is always backing-me up. Thank you papa, for I know how busy you are with your work but you still came to support me. At this point of time, I deeply miss my mother, who had in fact taught me many important lessons of life. Her blessings are always with me. I also thank my dear brother Anil Khetawat, Ram Maamaa ji, Binod bhaiya and Chandrakala bhabi who had come here to cheer me up.

I am also very grateful to Inner Wheel Club of Delhi North - for extending such warm reception and the excellent arrangements they have made for making this day so special for me.

In the end I bow my head in the feet of Almighty God and pray.

“Give me oil in my lamp

And keep it burning

Give me oil in my lamp, I pray,

To keep it burning

Till the break of the day!

Thank you,

Before I introduce my Executive Team for the coming year, I would like to congratulate Ranjanaji for completing her year so successfully. I look forward for your support and cooperation throughout the year.

Friends, it is my pleasure to introduce the District Executive Committee Members for the year 2012-13.

Ranjana Mohan ji, AC Member

Sangeeta Bharti ji, District Vice-Chairman

Neelu Khanna ji, District Secretary

Asha Walia ji, District Treasurer

Abha Gupta ji, District E.S.O

Renu Gupta ji, District I.S.O

Gita Dhawan ji, District Editor

Now, I would like to call on stage our Respected Minna ji to release the NGO book.

May, I present the first copy to our Respected Association President, Saritaji.

Thank you, Minna ji for your never-ending support and guidance.

Thank you all.