

Profile

Recipient of:

- D.Litt. (Honoris Causa)
- President's Police Medal for Distinguished Services
- Sher-e-Kashmir Police Medal for Distinguished services (Maiden Recipient)
- Police Medal for Meritorious Services
- The ANN Kashmir Images Excellence Award (2007-2008) As Institution Builder.
- Ambedkar Award by Bahujan Kalyan Parishad, Jammu

Former Vice Chancellor
BGSB University (J&K)

Addl. Director General of Police
Jammu & Kashmir (Retd.)

Member
J&K State Advisory Council
for Higher Education

Member
Local Adhoc Task Force (LATF)
for implementation of
Result Framework Document (RFD),
J&K Government

Patron-in-Chief
Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust,
Jammu

Patron
Jammu Civil Society for
Art & Literature

Chairman
Foundation for Social Security
& Sustainable Development, Jammu

Life Member:
Indian Islamic Cultural Centre,
New Delhi

Civil Services Officer Institute,
New Delhi

Indian Institute of Public Administration
New Delhi

Epithets Bestowed:

- Fakhar-e-Quom' by Adabi Sangat
Kashmir 1999
Fakhar-e-Jammu & Kashmir by
Citizens forum J&K Jammu 2004



Masud A. Chaudhary

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Mr Masud Chaudhary is an epitome of selfless service and sacrifice. Head and shoulders above every thing else, he has been a creative and innovative mind devoted to the well being of fellow human beings. His contribution to the Gujjar community (a nomadic tribe in J&K) and their most outstanding concerns has simply been superb and brooks no comparison. His accomplishments, as a moving spirit, behind the organizations working for socio-economic welfare of tribal's and propagation of education as a primary need in far flung and forsaken places, have been unique and spectacular.

This is what some leading lights of the time have to say about him.

1. "I cannot believe what I see!! Hats off to your illustrious father figure founder, Chaudhary Masud Ahmed Sahib". Nothing great is born without **LOVE and DEVOTION!!** We are all blessed and lucky that people of Masud Sahib's Caliber and enthusiasm are still around. And I pray this venture to become one of the best in the country"

---Dr. Aga Ashraf Ali
(An eminent educationist).

2. ".....He has lived life at his own terms. He is silently doing as a matter of faith what other of his species may die to flaunt"

-----M.Y. Taing, Padma Shree Awardee
(an eminent linguist & historian)

3. “.....One of the most significant developments after the start of the movement for Gujjar renaissance was the setting up the Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust, which has made monumental achievements under the able stewardship of Masud A. Chaudhary. It is not only a very rich repository of material on all aspects of the community, including its history, culture, literature, rich folk lore etc. it started many activities in fields like education which serve other communities also.”

-----**Balraj Puri, Padma Bhushan Awardee**
(An eminent scholar, historian and Journalist)

4. “GDCT has all along done a commendable job under visionary leadership of Shri Masud A Chaudhary during decade and a half of its meaningful contribution towards the cause of Gujjars in Jammu & Kashmir. Through his exemplary deftness in visualizing the existing as well as future needs of the community and by sweating out on several progressive programmes and policies of GDCT, he has symbolically been the most powerful ideological pillar of strength behind the achievements of this NGO”.

----- **Mufti Mohammad Sayeed**
(former Chief Minister, J&K)

5. “I have known Shri Masud A. Chaudhary for years now and his active role in the Trust has brought it where it is. One can hardly imagine miracles happening but he is the man who can perhaps make the impossible happen, barriers fall and road to progress smoothed by the sheer determination and unwillingness to give up under even the most unfavorable conditions”

---- **Dr Farooq Abdullah**
(Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy).

6. “Had Mr Masud Chaudhary decided not to do anything more in academics, his achievements at this university would remain spectacular. He will be remembered long for his achievements at this university”

-----**Prof Saif-ud-Din Soz**
(JKPCC Chief and former Union Minister)

7. “Endowed with vision and armed with untiring spirit to work selflessly for fellow human beings is his outstanding attribute”.

---- **Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad**
(Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare).

Brief Background:

Born (10-04-1944) in a Gujjar (ST) family in a remote village of Kalaban which is just proximal to LoC in Mendhar tehsil of Poonch district, got his schooling in the village school, whereafter received college education at Jammu and University education at Aligarh Muslim University (1964-66) as a Law Graduate. Then he started his long and meaningful innings as police officer starting as Deputy Superintendent of Police. In police he distinguished himself as an able officer endowed with amicableness and

modesty fully backed up by professional competence in superlative degree that brought him key postings one after the other.

Superannuated as ADGP, J&K after rendering nearly 04 decades of highly decorated service.

Again, perhaps he is the only Gujjar-tribal to have received higher education at a time when the state was reeling under the turbulence of 1965 war that compounded the miseries of the tribals in no small measure.

All this while, his deep concern for the OBCs, SCs, STs and other weaker sections of the society remained uppermost in the list of his priorities. During his services as an outshining police officer or his career as a young lawyer or his innings as the founder Vice Chancellor of BGSB University, he has outrightly been a bitter critic of violence and bloodshed in any of its manifestations. He has continually been moving forward in the service of fellow human beings through several projects which he has successfully led through the NGOs he has the distinction of having raised. It is just amazing to find a brilliant and busy police officer finding out time from his ever-demanding schedules to jump to the service of the needy and the vulnerable. This has created a rich fund of goodwill for him and this is the reason why even today one will find him engrossed in one or the other job mainly riveted on welfare of fellow human beings.

It as by way of acknowledgement of his involvement in social uplift of fellow human beings and capacity to lead and deliver that after his superannuation as ADGP in 2004, he became the founder Vice Chancellor of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri. The assignment was challenging and daunting as such dampeners as geographical isolation of the locale, contiguity of the campus with a place of Hill Kaka notoriety (place famous for operation Sarpvinash), the continuing unrest along the entire border region of Poonch and Rajouri districts where the university is nestled amidst bewitching natural landscape but where even basic amenities like electricity, water supply and road connectivity had to be created- all from nowhere. Prominent among other factors that came in the way of smooth setting up of the campus was fragile funding. However, with sheer resolve and determination he led this university to its successful establishment. BGSBU today has the singular distinction of being a university in the whole country to have been made operational within an incredible timeframe of barely 08 months. After serving for seven eventful years as VC of this University, he has recently relinquished his office.

This university, as rightly acknowledged by Mrs Sonia Gandhi at Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust (GDCT) Jammu on 29th May, 2010, in her Inaugural address on the occasion of unveiling of its Centre for Culture & Heritage, has fast emerged as a centre of excellence in higher technical education serving the cause of the poor and the marginalized fringe of the society. Incidentally, Shri Masud A Chaudhary is Life Time Patron-in-Chief of GDCT.

Cultural Ambassador

He has been instrumental in waking up his tribal community as well all other to the winds of social change and transformation. The platform form which he launched (about 18 years back) this awareness campaign is today an outstanding NGO of J&K.

Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust of which he happens to be the moving spirit, has adopted multipronged approaches aimed at the welfare of Gurjar community.

Recording her impressions about and understandably the people responsible for making it a hub of social, educational and cultural transformation, Mrs Sonia Gandhi said, "I extend my good wishes to the Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust for its endeavor to work and dedicate itself to the upliftment of the community and the preservation of the culture and heritage of the Gurjar population". Earlier in the day (Inaugural Function of GDCT's Centre for Culture & Heritage on 29th May, 2010) Madam Gandhi showered all praise for GDCT and its laudable initiatives in the field of education and socio-cultural transformation of Gurjar community. She alluded to the role of the entire Gurjar community as fully dedicated community of nationalist having behind them a history of supreme sacrifices for the nation in 1947, 1965, 1971, 1999 and all through the turbulence of militancy that has continued to rock this state since 1989. This, she remarked happened owing to enlightened leadership evolving from within the community from time to time.

So intense has been the involvement of Masud Chaudhary with the overall welfare and development of tribals that he has emerged as Messiah of these hapless communities over the years. His presence at every forum pertaining to tribal welfare makes him the most sought after and reverend leader of the masses which includes not only Scheduled Tribes but the entire gamut of weaker and down-trodden sections of the society. Moreover, he doesn't believe in narrow parochial considerations and has a wider national outlook.

Besides, he has been proactive in the matter of prodding the government for devising comprehensive rehabilitation schemes for all the nomadic communities living in the state. The establishment of a Tribal University in J&K, is also on his active agenda. The issue is having the support of all Political Parties in the state and is still pending with Gol.

In order to broaden the base of this socially oriented services to the entire society, he has simultaneously been looking after the activities of many other non-governmental organizations; and one of them is Foundation for Social Security & Sustainable Development (SS&SD). This NGO seeks to identify numerous infirmities and disabilities that continue to bog us down as a progressive society. Development is the antidote to all kinds of social disgruntlement and unrest. A sense of insecurity prevails only in the societies which are deprived of development and which get sucked into the vortex of violence & unrest. So, in a wider sense, Mr Masud Chaudhary is not only a reformist and social activist, he is also an active player in the maintenance of peace and order in the society ridden with numerous conflicts and shadowed by a cobweb of radically opposed interests.

He is most deservedly held in very high esteem and commands unparalleled love from people (specially Gurjar community) who are socially disadvantaged and are hapless residing in other states i.e. Punjab, Himachal, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttrakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Utter Pradesh where he received highest honour and applause on a number of formal occasions. His stature as a veteran Gurjar personality goes several notches higher with his being honoured as the Chief Guest at such functions of National prominence as the unveiling of the statue of Late Shri Rajesh Pilot at Gurjar

Kalayan Parishad, Chandigarh in 2002 and his Presence as Chief Guest at the function of Inauguration of Gujjar Bhawan at Panchkula in 2008.

Other Interests

He is, symbolically speaking, source-material and fountainhead of inspiration for all those interested in research in tribal studies in Jammu & Kashmir and elsewhere. Right at the moment he is heading two institutions namely Gojri Research Institute and Begum Akbar Jahan Foundation & Research Library as Honorary Director for last 15 years. These are prominent and biggest centres for research and studies relating to Tribal's Language, Culture and Heritage. The Centre have a rich Library, Museum and a publishing house.

Widely read-----in particular, loves reading Books on culture & history. Avid reader of contemporary writers--- both English, Urdu and Gojari.

A keen nature lover and an activist for environmental and ecological conservation, he is the man responsible for the establishment of Biodiversity Park at BGSBU which has attracted the attention and appreciation of Department of Biotechnology, Gol and the Department of Science & Technology, Gol. The Biodiversity Park of BGSBU has scored the distinction of being the lead Botanical Garden of northern India and it is hailed as major initiative at conserving the fragile ecology o the entire area. As Vice Chancellor, BGSBU he had been the Vice Chairman of BGSBU Centre for Biodiversity Studies the othe Vice Chairman of the Biodiversity Centre has been Shri Omar Abdullah who is also the Hon'ble Chancellor of the young university. His Excellency, the Governor J&K is the Chairman of this Centre.

Loves light & Classical Music

A diehard secularist

Concluding Word:

Masud Chaudhary is always in a state of preparedness, or more fittingly eagerness, for doing anything aimed at the service of the society. A strong advocate and fierce worker for having weaker and downtrodden sections of the society delivered from the fetters of their woes, in Mr Masud A. Chaudhary one finds a committed social activists, an institution builder, a passionate environmentalist, a missionary, an administrator and a cultural ambassador all gelled firmly together. It is pretty hard to tell one from the other, he has rightly been ranked in the front row of doers and achievers by the authors of Falcons of Kashmir, a best selling recent publication from Kashmir.

*(Extracts from Rising Kashmir (English Daily)
Article: **Pioneers of Change**
October 11, 2008*

He has been recently conferred D.Litt. (Honoris Causa) by BGSB University in its first convocation for his outstanding contribution as institution builder, environmentalist and social activist.