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### **AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

I am a student of International Relations, Comparative Public Policy and Governance. Presently I am teaching these subjects at the Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. I have been working on the governance issues in India (especially the farmers' suicides), democratization in the post-Soviet states and theories of International Politics.

I was born and brought up in a smaller border town of northern Rajasthan, Mandi Goluwala (formerly in Sri Ganganagar district and now in Hanumangarh). Though small, but both towns matter a lot for India. Sri Ganganagar is the birth place of the Ghazal Maestro Jagjit Singh and also of the famous lovers Laila and Majnu. The historical town of Kalibangan is located in Hanumangarh district. After completing my schooling from the Bhopalwala Arya Senior Higher Secondary School (also known as DAV School) and graduation from S.G.N. Khalsa College, Sri Ganganagar, I came to Delhi. Delhi was a fear for me. A small town boy came to the capital with many questions and his desire to find the answers. I still remember my first encounter with the students union representatives at the JNU Administration block and my evening at the Old Delhi railway station, when I decided that come what may, I will not go back. I would say that was the beginning of my 'journey called life.'

I successfully (but with a lot of difficulties) completed my Masters' from the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Being a student of Hindi language (a *verni*, as some of my class mates used to address us), I used to face lot of problems in understanding the readings and the lectures. However, cooperation of my teachers and class mates made it easier for me. Later I also completed Masters of Philosophy and doctorate from the Center for Russian and Central Asian studies, JNU. For my M. Phil. dissertation I worked with Prof Nirmala Joshi. I wrote my Ph.D. dissertation on the nature of Russian state after the collapse of the former Soviet Union under the supervision of Prof Sanjay Pandey. I enjoy writing poems in Hindi. I also love travelling to different places, taking halts at the road side tea stalls and talking to people.

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For more details on the academic work see the link:

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