

# Femme Forward

Edition

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Voice Vista

Celebrating Women's Journey



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# Femme Forward

Celebrating Women's Journey



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND CONTINUED SUPPORT.

SINCERELY,

FEMME FORWARD EDITORIAL TEAM

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Dear Readers,

As we embark on this journey with our inaugural issue, it fills me with immense joy to introduce to you our magazine, a platform conceived with the noble intention of shining a spotlight on the extraordinary individuals who tirelessly contribute to society in various fields. Our mission is simple yet profound: to celebrate and appreciate the remarkable work being done by people from all walks of life. As March approaches, a month heralding the celebration of International Women's Day, we find ourselves in a position of privilege to showcase the talents and achievements of eleven remarkable women hailing from diverse sectors in Nashik. These women are not just emblematic of resilience and determination, but they also serve as beacons of inspiration for generations to come.



I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the entire team whose dedication and tireless efforts have brought this vision to fruition. Each member has played an integral role in shaping this platform into what it is today—a testament to our collective commitment to amplifying the voices of those who often go unheard.

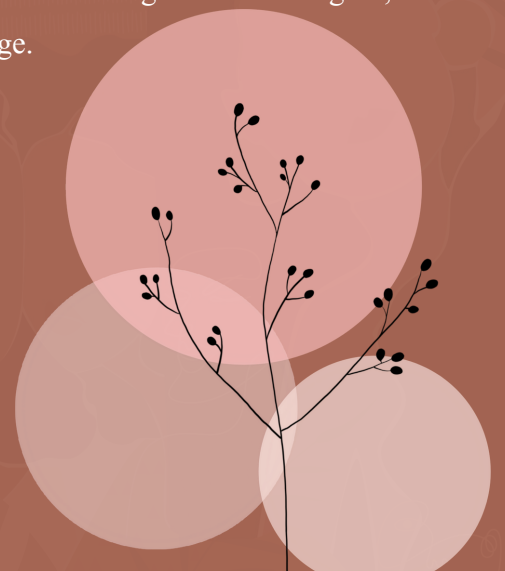
Moreover, I extend my sincerest appreciation to the interviewees who graciously shared their invaluable insights and experiences with us. Their willingness to open up and share their stories has enriched our magazine and will undoubtedly inspire countless individuals.

As we embark on this journey, let us remember that it is not merely about the stories we tell, but the lives we touch and the hearts we inspire. Together, let us continue to uplift and celebrate the unsung heroes among us, for it is through their stories that we find hope, courage, and the power to effect change.

With warm regards,

*Pooja Praasun*

Founder & Editor in Chief for Project  
Femme Forward





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Esteemed Readers,

As we stand on the brink of our magazine's debut edition, poised to launch on the auspicious occasion of International Women's Day, I am reminded of the immense power and potential encapsulated within each page. This edition is not just a collection of stories; it is a testament to the unyielding spirit of Nashik's women—a celebration of their triumphs, their resilience, and their unwavering commitment to shaping a better tomorrow.

Within these pages, you will find narratives that transcend the ordinary, offering glimpses into the extraordinary lives of eleven women who have left an indelible mark on our city and beyond. From breaking barriers in traditionally male-dominated fields to nurturing communities with compassion and grace, each story is a testament to the boundless possibilities that await when courage meets opportunity.

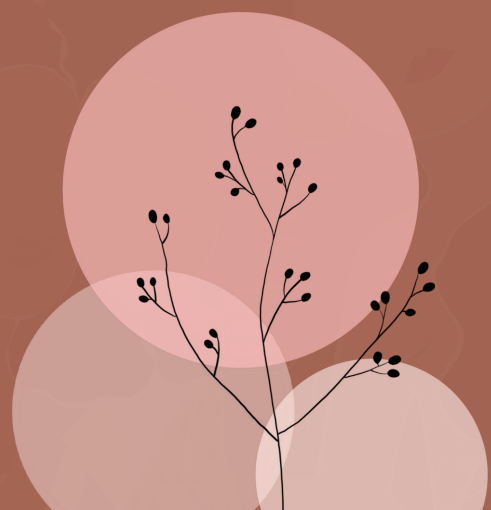
As we embark on this journey together, let us not only celebrate the achievements of these remarkable individuals but also reflect on the collective strides we have made towards a more equitable and inclusive society. May their stories inspire us to dream bigger, to reach higher, and to embrace the unique potential that lies within each of us.

With gratitude and anticipation,

Dr. Anagha Naik

Editor-in-Chief (English Edition)

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संपादकीय ..

पंचवटी पासून पॅन्टीयम पर्यंत प्रगती केलेली ही नाशिकनगरी ... मंत्रभूमीकडून तंत्रभूमीत परावर्तित झालेली नाशिकनगरी ... रुद्राक्षभूमीकडून द्राक्षभूमीकडे वाटचाल करणारी ही नाशिक नगरी... या नवशिखरांवर वसलेल्या नाशिकनगरीतील स्त्री शक्तीच्या भारावलेल्या पंखांनी साकारलेली 'अकरावी दिशा' म्हणजे 'Femme Forward' चा हा पहिला अंक चोखंदळ वाचकांच्या हाती देताना आम्हाला मनस्वी आनंद होत आहे.

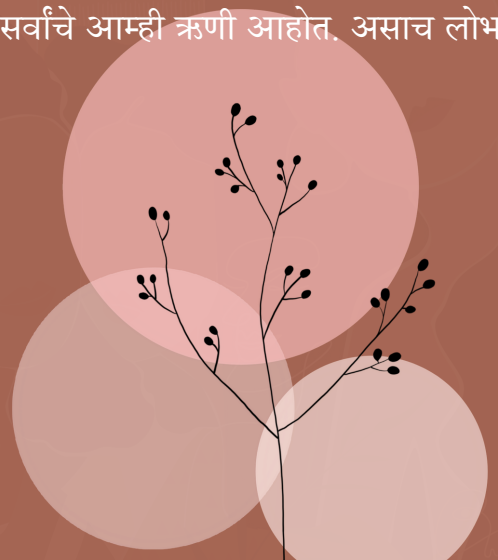
भारतीय संविधानाने बहाल केलेल्या स्वातंत्र्य - समतेचे अर्धे आकाश मिळवून स्वतःची क्षमता सिद्ध केलेल्या स्त्रीजीवनातील 'गृहिणी' पदासोबतच सखी, राज्ञी, सचिव, मार्गदर्शक अशा विविध भूमिका सक्षमपणे साकारणाऱ्या अकरा 'मातृकां' चा 'प्रज्ञाप्रवाह' च्या या अंकात आपणास परिचय होऊन प्रेरणेचा प्रकाश पसरेल अशी आम्हाला खात्री वाटते.

प्रज्ञा प्रवाहाच्या निमित्ताने दरमहा विविध संकल्पना - विषय घेऊन आम्ही नियमितपणे आपल्या भेटीस येणारच आहोत. आपले प्रेम आणि पाठबळ असू द्यावे ही नम्र विनंती. या प्रकल्पात आम्हाला मार्गदर्शन करणारे आमचे मार्गदर्शक, मदत करणारे सहकारी आणि तंत्रज्ञ या सर्वांचे आम्ही ऋणी आहोत. असाच लोभ असू द्या, धन्यवाद !

सुनिता चौहाण.

संपादक (मराठी अंक)

Femme Forward







## MAYURI SHUKLA NAVALE

### "Colors of Creativity - An Interview with a Rangoli Artist"

In this exclusive interview, we have the privilege of speaking with Mayuri Shukla Navale, an accomplished artist in the field of Rangoli. Her journey from being a commerce student and working in a corporate job to becoming a successful Rangoli artist is truly inspiring. Mayuri has not only mastered the art of Rangoli but has also used it as a medium to convey meaningful messages and promote women's empowerment. Let's dive into her incredible story, her passion for Rangoli, and the impact it has had on her life and those around her.

Q1: Could you tell us about your journey from a corporate job to pursuing Rangoli as a profession?

Ans1: I started my career in the corporate world after completing my commerce degree. However, my passion for Rangoli gradually grew stronger, and I began to dedicate more time to it. Eventually, I have decided to transition from my corporate job to pursue Rangoli full-time.

Q2: What drew you to Rangoli, and how did your interest in it develop over time?

Ans2: My fascination with Rangoli began during my early years, but it intensified during my college days when I actively participated in Rangoli competitions. I developed a deep love for the art form and started exploring different aspects of it.

Q3: Can you share a memorable moment or event related to your journey in Rangoli?

Ans3: One of the most memorable moments was when I was invited by the Chairman of my college to create a Rangoli during a significant event. The appreciation and encouragement I received on that day boosted my confidence, and it marked the beginning of my journey.



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Q4: What significance does Rangoli hold for you personally, and how has it influenced your life?

Ans4: Rangoli is not just an art form for me; it's a source of immense joy and a way to channel my creativity. It acts as a stress buster, and I find solace in creating beautiful designs. It's a way to express myself and connect with my cultural roots.

Q5: You mentioned promoting women's empowerment through Rangoli. Can you tell us more about how you achieve this?

Ans5: Rangoli holds a significant cultural and traditional value in India, especially during festivals and special occasions. I believe in empowering women by teaching them Rangoli. I have organized workshops and events where women from all walks of life come together to learn and create Rangoli. It's about fostering a sense of community and shared achievement.

Q6: How do you manage to balance traditional Rangoli designs with your creative expressions in your work?

Ans6: It's essential to maintain a balance between traditional and creative Rangoli designs. I incorporate traditional elements and motifs into my work while also adding a personal touch. This balance allows me to create unique and appealing designs.

Q7: Can you share an instance where your work brought joy and satisfaction to your clients?

Ans7: Once, I received an order for a baby welcome Rangoli. I combined flowers and Rangoli elements, and my client was delighted with the final result. The satisfaction of both the client and myself made it a memorable experience.

Q8: How do you stay motivated to create new and innovative Rangoli designs consistently?

Ans8: I find motivation in the desire to create something new each time. The challenge of coming up with fresh designs keeps me motivated. My commitment to preserving traditional Rangoli designs also plays a crucial role in my motivation.

Q9: What role do stencils play in contemporary Rangoli art, and do they impact the creativity of artists?

Ans9: Stencils have simplified the process of creating Rangoli designs. While they make the work easier, they can sometimes limit an artist's creativity. However, they can be a useful tool, especially for those new to Rangoli.

Q10: What message would you like to convey to aspiring Rangoli artists and art enthusiasts?

Ans10: I would like to encourage aspiring Rangoli artists and art enthusiasts to explore the beauty and significance of Rangoli. It's a form of art that connects with tradition, culture, and creativity. Keep practicing and developing your unique style.

Q11: Can you share your experience with participating in Rangoli competitions and events?

Ans11: Competing in Rangoli events and college competitions was a significant part of my journey. It allowed me to showcase my skills and gain recognition. These experiences helped me build my confidence and drive.

Q12: How do you see Rangoli as an essential cultural element, and what role does it play in festivals and celebrations?

Ans12: Rangoli is deeply intertwined with Indian culture. It adds a vibrant and artistic dimension to festivals and celebrations. It's not just an art form but also a symbol of joy and festivity.

Q13: What is your most cherished Rangoli project or design, and why is it special to you?



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Ans13: Every Rangoli I create holds a special place in my heart. However, I have a particular fondness for the Rangoli I designed for a temple during a significant festival. It was not just a Rangoli but a spiritual offering that holds immense significance for me.

Q14: How do you perceive the future of Rangoli art in the modern world?

Ans14: Rangoli has a bright future in the modern world. It has already evolved to include contemporary elements while preserving its traditional essence. It continues to captivate and inspire people of all ages.

Q15: What message or advice do you have for people looking to appreciate and understand the significance of Rangoli art?

Ans15: Rangoli is not merely a decorative art; it has a deeper significance. I encourage everyone to explore and understand the cultural and traditional importance of Rangoli. It can be a source of joy, creativity, and a way to connect with our heritage.

Mayuri Shukla Navale's journey as a Rangoli artist is a testament to her dedication, creativity, and passion for preserving and evolving this beautiful art form. Her commitment to empowering women through Rangoli and her ability to blend tradition with innovation make her a remarkable artist. We hope her story inspires others to appreciate and embrace the art of Rangoli in their lives.

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Introducing "Femme Forward," a captivating magazine celebrating the extraordinary journeys of 11 remarkable women, each shining brightly in their respective fields. From the intricate strokes of a Rangoli artist to the soul-stirring verses of a poet, from the nurturing guidance of a teacher to the captivating narratives spun by a writer, our pages are adorned with the diverse hues of talent and passion.

Within these pages, you'll meet a calligraphy artist whose ink flows with elegance, a fitness coach inspiring strength and vitality, and a compassionate social worker weaving threads of change in our communities. Venture further and discover the entrepreneurial spirits behind a kitchen of culinary delights and the aromatic spices that tantalize the senses.

Delve into the insightful wisdom of a counselor, guiding hearts towards healing, and the mesmerizing performances of a mono artist, captivating audiences with each word uttered. Through their stories, we illuminate not only their individual journeys but also their profound impact on society, weaving a tapestry of empowerment and inspiration for all who dare to dream.

"Femme Forward" is more than just a magazine; it's a beacon of empowerment, a celebration of diversity, and a testament to the boundless potential of women everywhere. Join us as we embark on a journey of discovery, illumination, and empowerment, one story at a time.