



THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS
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Recipients of Rhodes Scholarships for India 2015 announced

New Delhi, November 24, 2014: The five Rhodes Scholars-elect for India 2015 were selected over the weekend, marking the culmination of a rigorous national selection process. The selection committee was chaired by noted industrialist **Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla** and included the Warden of Rhodes House **Mr. Charles Conn** and notable Indian Rhodes Scholar Alumni - **Ms. Rukmini Banerji, Mr. Mahesh Rangarajan, Ms. Sagarika Ghose, Mr. Nandan Kamath and Mr. Prashant Sarin.**

After a highly-competitive application and selection process, the eighteen shortlisted finalists were interviewed by the selection panel and quizzed individually on their interests, achievements and goals. The process culminated with the announcement of the five Scholars who would be given the opportunity to pursue their academic interests at the University of Oxford. The five Rhodes Scholars-elect for India 2015 are **Ms. Sanya Samtani, Ms. Sonali Chowdhry, Ms. Mayanka Mukherji, Ms. Mansi Sood and Mr. Carl Britto.** A brief profile of each of the five winners is provided below.

Delighted at the prospect of announcing another batch of Rhodes Scholars-elect from India, Prof. Virander S. Chauhan, The Secretary, The Rhodes Scholarships in India, said "It is always a challenging prospect choosing the five best candidates given the high quality of applications we receive year-after-year. I am very grateful for the rigour and dedication of the selection panel headed by Mr. Birla and am confident that all the five Rhodes Scholars-elect are exceptionally bright and are truly capable of making the most of the time they will spend at the University of Oxford."

The Rhodes Trust provides the Rhodes Scholarships in partnership with the Second Century Founder, John McCall MacBain and other generous benefactors. The Rhodes Scholarships are postgraduate awards supporting outstanding all-round students and enable two to three years (depending on the academic route taken) of study at the University of Oxford, the oldest and amongst the most prestigious universities in the world. The Rhodes Scholarships aspire to create 'leaders for the world's future' and are achievement-based awards open to students with proven intellectual and academic attainment of a high standard who show exceptional character, leadership, achievement in extra-curricular activities and a commitment to service in the public good. Since Independence, there have been 202 Rhodes Scholars from India. This illustrious list includes prominent personalities such as Olympian Ranjit Bhatia, playwright Girish Karnad, and economist Montek Singh Ahluwalia.

Each year, five Indian Scholars are selected on the basis of their intellect, character, leadership, and commitment to service, to join 78 other Rhodes Scholars from around the world at the University of Oxford. The Rhodes Scholarships, which were instituted under the will of Cecil Rhodes in 1902, include all university and college fees for two to three years (depending on the academic route taken), an annual stipend of approximately £13,390,

health insurance and travel expenses to the University of Oxford before the start of the programme and a return ticket following the course of study. Studying at the University of Oxford will give the chosen Scholars access to world class academics in their field as well as an international alumni network that includes heads of state, Pulitzer Prize winning authors, Nobel Prize winners and Olympians.

More information about the Rhodes Scholarships and the Rhodes Scholarships for India 2015 can be found at <http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/india>

Brief profiles of the Rhodes Scholars-elect from India 2015:

Ms. Sanya Samtani is a final year law student at the **NALSAR University of Law, Bangalore**. She intends to read for a B.C.L. at the University of Oxford.

Ms. Sonali Chowdhry is an economics graduate from **Miranda House, University of Delhi** and is currently on a Young India Fellowship at Ashoka University. She intends to study economics for development at the University of Oxford.

Ms. Mayanka Mukherji is a final year sociology student at **Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi**. She intends to read for an M.Phil in Visual, Material and Museum Anthropology at the University of Oxford.

Ms. Mansi Sood is a final year law student at the **National Law School of India University, Bangalore**. She intends to read for a B.C.L. at the University of Oxford.

Mr. Carl Britto is a final year medical student at **St. John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore**. He intends to pursue a D. Phil in Primary Health at the University of Oxford.

For More Information:

Professor Virander Chauhan
The Secretary
The Rhodes Scholarships in India