

= The Doon School =

The Doon School ( informally Doon ) is a boys @-@ only independent boarding school in Dehradun , Uttarakhand , India . It was founded in 1935 by Satish Ranjan Das , a Kolkata lawyer . He prevised a school modelled on the British public school , but alive to Indian ambitions and desires . The school 's first headmaster was an Englishman , Arthur E. Foot , who had spent nine years as a science master at Eton College , England before coming to Doon , and returned to England right after India 's independence . The present headmaster is Peter McLaughlin , who has occupied the post since 2009 and is the ninth headmaster of the school . He is a member of Headmasters ' and Headmistresses ' Conference .

The school is a member of G20 Schools and Round Square group . Doon houses roughly 500 pupils aged 13 to 18 . Admission to the school is based on a competitive entrance examination and an interview . Every year in January and April , the school admits pupils aged 13 in Grade 7 ( known as D @-@ form ) and aged 14 in Grade 8 ( C @-@ form ) respectively . Doon pupils take the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education in tenth grade and are thereafter offered two strands for the final two years : International Baccalaureate ( IB ) or Indian School Certificate ( ISC ) . The school began offering the IB curriculum only in 2006 , before which all pupils had to sit the ISC examinations in twelfth grade .

Doon has consistently been ranked the best residential school of India by media such as BBC , The Times of India and Outlook . Although the school has often been cited as ' Eton of India ' by media outlets such as the BBC , The Guardian , Financial Times , The Economist , The Daily Telegraph and Forbes , it strongly eschews the label . Doon remains a boys @-@ only school despite continued pressure from political leaders , including President Pratibha Patil , to become coeducational . Old boys of the school are commonly known as DoscOs . Although the total number of DoscOs is relatively small ( estimated at 5 @,@ 000 since the school 's founding ) , they include some of India 's most prominent politicians , government officials and business leaders . The best known alumnus is former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi .

= = History = =

= = = Origins = = =

Doon was founded by Satish Ranjan Das , a lawyer from Calcutta and advocate @-@ general of Bengal , who in 1927 became a member of the Viceroy 's Executive Council of Lord Irwin on the condition that he would use the prestige of this position to raise funds for a new type of school in India . He decided to name the new school " Doon " , as it was situated in the Doon Valley . He travelled widely in India with the goal of collecting ? 4 millions , but at the time of his death had raised only ? 1 million in cash and a further ? 1 million in promises . With the money , Das formed the Indian Public Schools ' Society ( IPSS ) , which had the objective of founding new public schools in India that would admit students regardless of caste , creed or social status . Under the IPSS , a Board of Governors supervises all matters of Doon . Jawaharlal Nehru encouraged a move towards establishing the school , but Mahatma Gandhi " would have nothing to do with it " .

After the death of Das in 1928 , the IPSS accomplished little , and by 1934 some of the original presenter had begun to inquire about the return of their money . To solve this problem , Sir Joseph Bore , then Railway Minister of Lord Willingdon 's Council , became IPSS chairman and , with Sir Akbar Hydari as secretary , worked to obtain the former estate of the Forest Research Institute in Dehra Dun on favourable terms . Sir Frank Noyce also joined the team . Lord Halifax , then President of the British Board of Education , led a selection committee that nominated Arthur E. Foot , a science teacher at Eton College , to be the first headmaster . On 27 October 1935 , the Viceroy , Lord Willingdon , presided over the formal opening of the school . Seventy boys enrolled in the first term , and 110 more signed up for the second .

The houses at the new school were originally named after their respective housemasters , but later

renamed in honour of the largest presenter to the IPSS : Hyderabad House was named after Sir Akbar Hydari secured a contribution of ? 200 @,@ 000 from the Nizam of Hyderabad 's government ; . Kashmir House , after Maharajah Hari Singh , then ruler of Jammu and Kashmir , promised a contribution of ? 100 @,@ 000 ( 100 @,@ 000 rupees ) , which was delivered in 1935 ; . Tata House , after the Tata and Wadia Trusts promised ? 150 @,@ 000 , half of which was delivered in 1935 ; . Jaipur House , after Rai Bahadur Amarnath Atal arranged for contributions of ? 100 @,@ 000 from the Durbar of Jaipur . No building was named after Rai Bahadur Rameshwar Nathany , since his donation of ? 100 @,@ 000 was initially anonymous .

= = = Founding ethos = = =

Arthur Foot had never visited India before accepting the position of headmaster , and knew little of Dehradun beyond what he learned by consulting an atlas . He noted that it appeared to be surrounded by forests and close to mountains , and the possibilities of outdoor recreation and mountaineering seem to have influenced his decision as much as the chance to create a completely new type of school in India . Foot 's first action upon being offered the position was to recruit J.A.K. ( John ) Martyn from Harrow School as his deputy . Doon 's ethos and guiding principles were determined early in its life by Foot , Martyn , R.L. Holdsworth and Jack Gibson , who went on to become Principal of Mayo College . While these masters all came from very traditional British schools , they were determined to create a uniquely Indian public school rather than a transplanted British institution , and they were soon joined in their efforts by equally influential Indians such as Sudhir Khastgir ( the school 's first art teacher , who had trained previously in Santiniketan ) and Gurdial Singh , a pioneering mountaineer who taught at Doon for several decades .

In an essay entitled The Objects of Education published in the school magazine , Foot offered a template for a complete education for boys , which included teaching them to distinguish clearly between good and evil , form a habit of choosing good over evil , think logically , express their thoughts and views clearly , and maintain a healthy body . In other essays , Foot identified the milestones in the development of each student :

By 14 he should have learnt all the ordinary principles of social behaviour . He should know how to stand up and speak to a variety of different types of people ? to his own mother , to someone else 's mother , to his father , to his schoolmasters , to servants , to Mahatma Gandhi or to the Viceroy , and to do this without any self @-@ consciousness ... At fourteen a boy should have constructed a framework of competence in language , in mathematical ability , and in social behaviour . After that age he is , as it were , filling in a design on to the framework . In short he is learning to exercise taste ... At 16 , he acquired taste , a sense of the beautiful and the ugly , of the strong and the weak , of good and evil ... At 17 must come another quality , less instinctive and requiring a maturer mind : he must acquire a capacity of judgement .

Martyn , who was involved with Doon for several decades and became its second headmaster , acknowledged the influence of the very remarkable German man , Kurt Hahn , in the development of the school 's ethos . Although Martyn had not visited India before , he immediately accepted Foot 's offer because of the opportunity it afforded to implement Hahn 's ideas , which he had not been able to do at Harrow . Martyn acknowledged Foot 's leadership in the development of the school , but added that they both had similar ideas : " I would not have been as bold as he was in trying to eliminate punishments , but we were equally keen on providing as wide a range as possible of activities that were creative and challenging ... The problem , as we saw it , was to create an atmosphere in which boys would learn the importance of public spirit at the same time as they acquired self @-@ confidence and initiative . "

= = = Headmasters = = =

Foot and Martyn , the first two headmasters at Doon , were both from elite British institutions ? Eton College and Harrow School . They were determined to model Doon on those two schools , but both agreed that it should cater primarily for Indian boys rather than the sons of British expatriates . The

public school jargon introduced by these headmasters is still in use . For example , the weekly masters ' meeting , started by Foot , is called Chambers , a term taken from Eton , and evening " prep " ( the boarding @-@ school equivalent of homework ) is called Toye @-@ time , a term taken from Winchester College .

Though Foot modelled Doon on Eton and Harrow ( and the school is often called the " Eton of India " by various press agencies ) , he did not want Doon to be considered elitist . Foot once said , " our boys will join an aristocracy , but it ? s an aristocracy of service , not one of wealth , privilege or position " . The school 's first Indian headmaster was Eric Simeon appointed in 1970 . He came from a military background and laid great emphasis on disciplined living . The next headmaster , Gulab Ramchandani , was the first alumnus to become headmaster . Ramchandani 's successor Shomie Das , another alumnus , was the grandson of school founder Satish Ranjan Das . During his tenure , the Oberoi house was added to the original four houses .

The main emphasis of the next headmaster , John Mason , was to make Doon affordable for school pupils ; Doon did not raise its fees during his tenure . Kanti Bajpai became the third old boy to become headmaster . He oversaw the introduction of numerous punishments , notably " yellow cards " , to control an outburst of bullying at Doon . Peter McLaughlin , a member of the Headmasters ' and Headmistresses ' Conference ( HMC ) , became the first non @-@ Indian headmaster for almost four decades when he was appointed in 2009 . Shortly before taking up his appointment he said , " We will be adhering to the school credo of engaging individuals in socially productive work , at the same time delivering on quality education . "

In June 2016 the school announced the appointment of Matthew Raggett , principal of the Leipzig International School 's secondary department , to succeed Peter McLaughlin from the end of the summer term .

= = = DS @-@ 75 celebrations = = =

The annual Founder 's Day celebration of the school is an event of three or four @-@ days in the Autumn Term , usually in the last week of October . Many ex @-@ pupils come from all parts of the world to celebrate the event . Security on campus is tight , since alumni attending the event often include senior politicians and government officials , and the chief guest is usually a very prominent person . The event includes productions of English dramas followed by an orchestral concert given by members of the school 's Music Society .

Doon celebrated its 75th Founder 's Day ( Platinum Jubilee ) in October 2010 with an event christened DS @-@ 75 . Among the chief guests were the then President Pratibha Patil of India , King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck of Bhutan and Kapil Sibal , ( then Union Minister for Human Resource Development ) . Pratibha Patil , in her address , urged the school authorities to make Doon a co @-@ educational institution . Rahul Gandhi , General Secretary of the Indian National Congress , who studied at Doon for two years , stayed away for security reasons . One of the main attractions was a discussion ( dubbed the " Chandbagh Debate " ) held between alumni including Vikram Seth , Kamal Nath , Manpreet Singh Badal , Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia and retired headmaster Kanti Bajpai , on the topic Can India lead ? . It was moderated by television commentator Karan Thapar , an alumnus of the school .

Ashvin Kumar made the film Dazed in Doon for the celebrations , using pupils for the cast and crew . Most of it was shot in June and July during the summer break , and those scenes which required the entire student body were filmed after the school reopened in August . The Doon School , however , objected to the film and its distribution , obtaining a court order to delay its release and labelling it " defamatory " . Shayan Italia , another alumnus , composed and gave a live performance of the song " Doscors Forever , Brothers for Life " to mark the event . On 22 October 2010 , a commemorative postage stamp depicting the school 's main building was released by the Indian Postal Service to mark the occasion of the 75th Founder 's Day .

= = Campus = =

The school occupies a single campus covering approximately 72 acres ( 290 @, @ 000 m2 ) flanked by Chakrata Road and Mall Road in the Dehradun Cantonment area of Dehradun city , Uttarakhand , India . To house the school , the IPSS acquired Chandbagh Estate in Dehradun from the Forest Research Institute . Part of the estate was once a deer park . The IPSS also acquired an adjoining estate , now known as Skinner 's Field , from the descendants of James Skinner . At the time of acquisition it was overgrown and somewhat neglected , its most prominent features being two sheds formerly used to house elephants . The new Art and Media School , located on the site of the old Music School and inaugurated in October 2010 by Kapil Sibal , was shortlisted for the 2010 World Architecture News Education Award . The school 's South Garden has been mentioned in Inside Outside Magazine 's Annual Awards for its green principles and GRIHA standards of environmental compatibility .

The Chandbagh estate is located in a green part of Dehradun and a wide variety of flora and fauna are found on the estate , including many rare trees that date back to the days of the Forest Research Institute . The school has over 150 species of trees on its campus , and the formal gardens attract a variety of birds . In 1996 , a book titled Trees of Chandbagh was released which provided a comprehensive account of vegetation found on Doon 's campus , known as Chandbagh .

= = = Houses = = =

Doon follows the house system . When the school opened in 1935 , there were only three houses . Today there are five main houses ( Hyderabad , Jaipur , Kashmir , Tata and Oberoi ) and two holding houses ( Foot and Martyn , named after former headmasters ) , where new students live for a year before moving to one of the main houses .

Each house is run by a housemaster , who is also an active member of the teaching staff . The housemaster is assisted by a senior boy known as the house captain . One senior boy serves as school captain and is assisted by prefects from each house . Boys are assigned to houses at the time of admission and develop great loyalty to them , since all intramural sports involve fierce competition between houses . For some alumni , inter @-@ house rivalry continues well into middle @-@ age . Boys with even the most distant family connections to a particular house are invariably assigned to that house .

For many decades , housemasters were always men , but now there are housemistresses as well . Each housemaster and housemistress is assisted by a matron known as " The Dame " , who provides pastoral care for pupils , some of whom take several terms to adjust fully to life in a boarding school , particularly given Doon 's monastic lifestyle and strict routine . The homes of housemasters and housemistresses are adjacent or physically attached to their houses to enable close supervision and support .

= = Academic life = =

The school follows flexible modular scheduling to educate the pupils . The school practices a five @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half @-@ day week consisting of 40 periods ( or " schools " ) , each of 40 minutes . The school day begins with " first bell " soon after 6 : 15 am . The boys have chhota haazri before doing calisthenics outdoors on the playing fields . There are eight classes in total with a 20 @-@ minute break and lunch in between . All meals are served in a central dining hall , and boys from each table take turns acting as waiters for their table @-@ mates .

The academic year has always consisted of two terms : the Spring Term and the Autumn Term . In the early decades , the academic year followed the calendar year . This changed in the late 1970s so that the Spring Term now runs from February to the end of May . New pupils ( " D @-@ Formers " ) join Doon at the beginning of April . The Autumn Term runs from August to the year @-@ end examinations in November after which the boys are promoted to the new class beginning in February . These internal examinations are known as " trials " , while examinations leading to certificates such as the Indian School Certificate are known as " finals " .

Social work , known formally as " Socially Useful Productive Work " , is also part of school life . All boys of the school must complete a mandatory quota of social service hours every term . Pupils and alumni have frequently organised efforts across India to assist people affected by natural disasters . During the 1991 Uttarkashi earthquake the school 's amateur radio club was used by the government for communication purposes . Doon also oversees a Panchayat Ghar teaching impoverished children , and many building projects and workshops for the local community . Discipline has always been strict , and the school has expelled children from well @-@ known families . In the 1950s , Martyn 's suggestion that Sanjay Gandhi finish his senior year elsewhere was accepted without question by his mother , Indira Gandhi . In contrast , Doon 's decision to expel a ward of Chief Minister Nityanand Swami of Uttarakhand in 2000 led to allegations of threats to disrupt power and water supplies ; the difficulty was overcome by the prime minister 's intervention .

= = = Pupils = = =

Pupils are known as " Doscors " , a contraction of " Doon " and " school " . The press often calls alumni Doscors , but in Doon itself they are called ex @-@ Doscors , or simply Old Boys . The vast majority of alumni are Indians , but a dwindling number are from Pakistan having studied at Doon before the Partition of India forced them to leave in 1947 . Relations between Indian and Pakistani alumni have remained warm over the years , despite the long history of conflict between the two countries . Boys from Bangladesh and Nepal continue to study at Doon . Doon remains a boys @-@ only school despite continued pressure from political leaders , including President Pratibha Patil , to become coeducational .

= = School activities = =

= = = Sports = = =

Sports are compulsory at the school . It has over 30 acres ( 120 @,@ 000 m<sup>2</sup> ) of playing fields , the largest of which are Skinner 's Field and the Main Field . Cricket , hockey , athletics , boxing and association football are played seasonally . Tennis , table tennis , badminton , squash , basketball , swimming and gymnastics tournaments are also available . Sport is dominated by cricket and hockey during the spring term and by football , athletics and boxing in the autumn term . Inter @-@ house matches are played in cricket , hockey and football . Sports facilities include a 25 @-@ metre swimming pool , a boxing ring and a multi @-@ purpose hall with a gymnasium and facilities for indoor badminton , basketball and table tennis . There are two artificial turf cricket pitches , five basketball courts , six tennis courts , four squash courts , ten cricket nets , seven fields for hockey and football ( which can be converted to four cricket pitches to accommodate seasonal sports ) , a modern cricket pavilion and two 400 @-@ metre athletics tracks .

Doon hosts the annual Afzal Khan Memorial Basketball Tournament , an inter @-@ school basketball tournament .

= = = Clubs and societies = = =

Extracurricular activities are also a compulsory element of school life , and magazines are published in English and Hindi . There are around 23 clubs and societies , including politics , drama , photography , aeromodelling , first @-@ aid , dramatics , painting , sculpture , carpentry , amateur radio , music ( including Trinity Guildhall music examinations ) , senior and junior English debating societies , Model United Nations , chess and astronomy . In many societies pupils come together to discuss a particular topic , presided over by a schoolmaster and often including a guest speaker . The school has often invited prominent figures to give speeches and talks to the students ; these have included heads of state , politicians , ornithologists , naturalists , artists , writers , economists , diplomats and industrialists .

The Doon School Weekly is the official school newspaper , distributed every Saturday morning . It chronicles school activities and is a platform for creative and political writing . It was founded in 1936 and is edited by pupils . Although it is subject to censorship , satire and criticism of school policies have been published in the past . More subversive publications , far more critical of teachers and the school establishment , have occasionally been produced without official sponsorship . Other school magazines include The Yearbook and The Doon School Information Review . Publications by academic departments include Echo ( Science ) , The Econocrat ( Economics ) , Infinity ( Mathematics ) , Grand Slam ( Sports ) and The Circle ( History and Political Science ) .

= = = Mountaineering = = =

Halfway through each term , the boys take a one @-@ week " midterm " ? a rugged trip , often through the Siwalik Hills or Himalayas . Senior boys make treks of up to five days , unaccompanied by teachers , camping out in tents , cooking their own food and hiking . They plan these trips themselves . Alumni have credited these midterms as being among their most formative and character @-@ building experiences .

Doon has been credited with pioneering mountaineering in India , due to the accomplishments of masters such as R.L. Holdsworth , Jack Gibson and Gurdial Singh and alumni such as Nandu Jayal . Notable climbs by staff and alumni include Bandarpunch ( 6 @,@ 316 m ) in 1950 , Kala Nag ( 6 @,@ 387 m ) in 1956 , Trisul ( 7 @,@ 120 m ) in 1951 , Kamet ( 7 @,@ 756 m ) in 1955 , Abi Gamin ( 7 @,@ 355 m ) in 1953 and 1955 , Mrigthuni ( 6 @,@ 855 m ) in 1958 and Jaonli ( 6 @,@ 632 metres ) in 1964 .

Some of these expeditions have had their idiosyncrasies . After Gurudial Singh led a successful climb of Trisul , he performed a headstand asana on the summit as a tribute to the Hindu god Shiva , who is said to abide there . Holdsworth has been claimed to hold the high @-@ altitude record for smoking a pipe , which he did on the summit of Kamet after the first ascent in 1931 . Two Doon pupils climbed the Matterhorn in 1951 wearing cricket boots .

= = = Theatre and music = = =

An amphitheatre known as the Rose Bowl was built largely by pupils in two years during the 1930s and underwent a major structural change in 2009 . It can seat up to 1 @,@ 000 people and has been the setting for numerous Shakespeare plays and other classics of western theatre , as well as musical performances and speeches during school ceremonies such as Founder 's Day . The Multi @-@ Purpose Hall is a more modern indoor theatre that can accommodate approximately 2 @,@ 000 people . Plays are regularly staged in English and Hindi , with 8 ? 9 productions each year including 2 major productions as part of the Founder 's Day celebrations . The Inter House Once @-@ Act Play competition is held each year , alternatively in English and Hindi . Many of the plays historically have been joint productions with the Welham Girls ' School in Dehradun .

In 2001 a new music school was built beside the Rose Bowl . It houses a music library , a concert hall and several practice and teaching rooms where students learn various western and Indian instruments . Pupils of the school have an option to appear for the Trinity Guildhall music examinations , conducted by Trinity College London , in piano , violin , drums and classical guitar . In 2002 the school choir raised ? 2 million for victims of the 2001 Gujarat earthquake by organising a charity concert with the title Concerto 2000 , in which drummer Sivamani also took part . To commemorate its Platinum Jubilee , the school launched a music album called Spirit of Doon in collaboration with EMI . The school choir sang two songs ( " Lab pe Aati Hai Dua " and " Anand Loke " ) for the project but only the former was included in the final recording . The tracks were written by the lyricist Gulzar and were sung by Sonu Nigam , Shayan Italia and Bhajan Sopori .

= = School songs = =

Attendance at the morning assembly is required of all pupils and teachers . It traditionally begins

with a song from the school 's Song Book :

Song No. 1 ? " Jana Gana Mana " by Rabindranath Tagore

Song No. 2 ? " Chisti Ne Jis Zamin Mein " by Muhammad Iqbal

Song No. 3 ? " Anand Loke " by Rabindranath Tagore

Song No. 4 ? " Saare Jahan Se Achcha " by Muhammad Iqbal

Song No. 5 ? " Lab Pe Aati Hai Dua " by Muhammad Iqbal

Song No. 6 ? " Vandana Ke in Swaron Mein " ( a Bhajan )

Song No. 7 ? " Ghungat Ke Pat Khol Re " ( attributed to Meerabai )

Song No. 8 ? " He Jagtrata Vishv Vidhata "

Song No. 9 ? " Pitu Matu Sahayak " ( a Bhajan )

Song No. 10 ? " Vande Mataram " ( from a poem by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay )

Although Jana Gana Mana is India 's National anthem , it is traditionally referred to as " Song No. 1 " at Doon since it was adopted as the School Song in 1935 , fifteen years before it was adopted as India 's national anthem . The school songs were deliberately chosen to include both Urdu poetry and Hindu bhajans as a way of emphasising Doon 's secular ethos ; similarly , the school prayers include a mix of Anglican hymns and Indian poetry .

= = Affiliations = =

= = = Ties with other schools = = =

From its foundation in 1937 until the early 1980s , Welham Boys ' School was a feeder school for Doon School and Mayo College . This ended when Surendra Kandhari , an old boy and former housemaster at Doon , became Principal of Welham and transformed it into a high school . Several families who send their sons to Doon send their daughters to Welham Girls ' School , and many Doon alumni have married alumnae of Welham . The two schools hold an annual " dance social " , and their alumni sometimes collaborate in organising events . Pakistani ex @-@ pupils from Doon established the Chand Bagh School 40 km north of Lahore , Pakistan , in 1998 , modelling it on the general structure of Doon . Doon also has exchange programmes with a number of overseas schools . As of September 2011 , a small number of Doon students were attending Eton College , Harrow School , Millfield , Schule Schloss Salem , The Armidale School , Bridge House School , Deerfield Academy , King 's Academy , Stowe School , Scotch College , Melbourne and St. Mark 's School ( Texas ) . In 2011 Doon twinned with The Thomas Hardy School , Dorchester , England , through a cultural exchange project organised by the BBC and British Council in light of the 2012 Summer Olympic Games held in the UK .

= = = Schools with similar names = = =

As private schools became more widespread in India , several other schools used " Doon " as part of their names , causing some confusion . Among them are Doon Global School , Doon Presidency School , Doon International School , Doon Preparatory School , Doon Cambridge School , Doon Girls School , Doon Public School ( in West Delhi , not the Doon Valley ) and the Doon College of Spoken English . None of them is related to The Doon School .

= = = Memberships = = =

The Doon School is a member of following organisations : G20 Schools , Round Square , Rotary International 's Interact Club , Headmasters ' and Headmistresses ' Conference , International Boys ' Schools Coalition , Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations , International Baccalaureate Organization ( IBO ) , Indian Public Schools ' Conference , Rashtriya Life Saving Society ( India ) , International Award Association

The school is the regional test centre for University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations and SAT

Tests .

= = Public image = =

#### Doon in films & television

The film *Dazed in Doon* , which was commissioned by the School on the occasion of its 75th anniversary and produced by old boy Ashvin Kumar , was banned by the school authorities because it " doesn 't give the school a good name " . The dispute remains unresolved .

In September 2010 , BBC Sport made a documentary on the Doon School for the World Olympic Dreams Project . The documentary was produced in association with the British Council . Its main purpose was to show the school where Abhinav Bindra , the first Indian individual Olympic gold medallist , spent his formative years .

In the 2010 Bollywood film *Aisha* , the character Randhir Gambhir is a Doon School alumnus .

#### Doon in literature

Vikram Seth used his own experiences of being bullied at Doon to model the character of Tapan in *A Suitable Boy* .

In Salman Rushdie 's short @-@ story anthology *East , West* , the protagonists Zulu and Chekhov are Doscovs .

In Tenzing Norgay 's autobiography *Man of Everest* , he refers to Bandarpunch as " The Doon School mountain " due to the fact that the mountain was frequented by two Doon School teachers Jack Gibson and John Martyn .

#### Doon in research

*Doon School Chronicles* is the first of five ethnographic films called the *Doon School Quintet* , made by David MacDougall between 1997 and 2000 about the culture of the School . Macdougall has written of a tendency of some alumni to idealise a Golden Age set in the first decade of the school 's life , which sometimes makes them resistant to change .

*Constructing Post @-@ Colonial India : National Character and the Doon School* by Sanjay Srivastva is a detailed sociological study of the school 's culture and how it has influenced India 's national character .

'Poor ' Children in ' Rich ' Schools , a 2005 report by the Institute of Social Studies Trust , discusses why the Doon School has no reservations ( quotas for specific social groups ) in its admissions process . The post quotes an unnamed student who explains , " passing the Doon School entrance exam means that you have proved yourself worthy of the school . Reserving seats for students seems to imply that the school must prove itself worthy of you . "

In 1969 , *Asian Survey* ( then *Asian Review* ) - an Asian studies academic journal of University of California , Berkeley - produced a report on The Doon School as a part of their project which documented Indian history after the entry of East India Company .

In *Indian Tales of the Raj* , Zareer Masani studies how Doon School 's alumni affected the Indian political scene in the ' 60s .

= = Notable people = =

= = = Alumni = = =

Pupils of Doon have gone on to achieve prominence in politics , government service , the armed forces of India and Pakistan , commerce , journalism , the arts and literature . They include nine Cabinet Ministers , two chief ministers , several members of the Indian Parliament and state Legislative Assemblies ; a Naxalite , nineteen generals , two admirals , former heads of the Indian and Pakistani Air Forces and twenty @-@ four ambassadors , including those from India , Pakistan , Nepal and the United Kingdom . The best @-@ known alumnus is former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi , who appointed so many old boys to his administration that his inner circle was called a " Doon cabinet " . Gandhi 's reliance on Doon alumni for political advice was criticised in the media ,



and they seldom held public office for some time afterward . Though this has changed with the political ascendance of Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia , Kamal Nath and Rahul Gandhi .

Notable Doon alumni to have held senior positions in Indian and Pakistani politics include the former Indian diplomat turned politician Mani Shankar Aiyar , currently a Rajya Sabha nominee , the former Defence Secretary of Pakistan Ghulam Jilani Khan , Kamal Nath ( Politician , class of 1964 ) , Rahul Gandhi ( Congress Politician , class of 1986 ) , Sanjay Gandhi ( Congress Politician , class of 1964 ) , Naveen Patnaik ( Politician , class of 1964 ) , Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia ( Politician , class of 1989 ) , Dr. Karan Singh ( Politician , class of 1948 ) In the field of Literature and Poetry , Doon alumni include Amitav Ghosh ( class of 1972 ) , Ramachandra Guha ( class of 1973 ) , Vikram Seth ( class of 1970 ) , Ardashir Vakil .

Doon alumni in Journalism include Prannoy Roy ( class of 1965 ) , Aroon Purie ( class of 1962 ) , Karan Thapar , Virendra Prabhakar and Vikram Chandra . The first Indian Rhodes scholar was a Doon School alumni - Lovraj Kumar . Doon is also the alma mater of the first Indian individual Olympic gold medallist , Abhinav Bindra ( class of 1999 ) and the mountaineering pioneer Nandu Jayal . In the field of Arts and Entertainment , Doon 's alumni include Roshan Seth ( Class of 1960 ) , Himani Shivpuri ( class of 1971 ) , Chandrachur Singh and Abhishek Poddar , a prominent art collector . The sculptor Anish Kapoor ( class of 1970 ) also attended Doon .

In Business , the Doon alumni included Anil Kumar , former senior partner at McKinsey & Company and co @-@ founder of the Indian School of Business , Gautam Thapar , founder and chairman of the Avantha Group , Malvinder Mohan Singh and Shivinder Mohan Singh , former owners of Ranbaxy Laboratories and presently owning Fortis Healthcare .

= = = Faculty = = =

Doon has benefited from the services of the following academics in the past :

Peter Lawrence

Jack Gibson

J. A. K. Martyn

Sheel Vohra

R. L. Holdsworth

Gurdial Singh

Sudhir Khastgir

Chetan Anand

Simon Singh

Vikram Seth

Satendra Nandan