

### 7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

PGDAV EVENING College is based on the philosophy of Dayanand Saraswati who believed that the true Indian culture was the perfect repository of human knowledge, however over time imperfections arose in the society that was reflected in the falling standards of science, technology and Indian knowledge. To offset these imperfections, he decided to introduce the best elements of modern western science and philosophy to Indian values and thereby, proposed a system that included the very best of Indian and western thoughts. In keeping with this view, he gave the slogan of “going back to the Vedas” which according to him was the epitome of Indian scientific thought and taught Vedic philosophy along with modern science and technology in schools and colleges affiliated to his principles. PGDAV Evening college derive their inspiration from the Vedas, one of the oldest sources of knowledge in the world. We start each new academic session with a yajna, seeking guidance in our journey towards self-discovery, maturity and learning. The process of personal transformation seldom happens by accident, it is the product of conscious choice. Yajna is our conscious choice in our pursuit of a more meaningful existence. Let the spirit of yajna prevail all around us:

सर्वभवन्तुसुखिनः सर्वसन्तुनिरामयाः ।  
सर्वभद्राणिपश्यन्तुमाकञ्चिद् दुःखमागं भवेत् ॥

Our college has stayed true to the beliefs of Swami Dayananad Saraswati and therefore, our focus is on imparting value-based knowledge that combines modern science with Indian values and helps our students to become a valuable member of the society. We have a Culture and Ethics Cell in the college that organises events based on value education and derives its strength from the cultural and moral traditions of India.

As an educational institution we have staff and students from diverse background with different orientations and capabilities. We have a demographic diversity as the students are hailing from different socio-economic background, come from diverse regions having own language preferences.

With respect to this ‘uniqueness’, we are trying to inculcate the value of ‘togetherness’ among all the members of this institution by giving space to each and every stakeholder to participate, explore, enhance and attain their full potential, ultimately making society more equitable.

To achieve this Vision as set by our Institution, every member is participating in its own capacity like:

- 1) Active counselling cell for all the stakeholders.
- 2) Mentor for every student.
- 3) Culture and Ethics Cell for celebrating the unique and diverse culture of India.

- 4) Special efforts are taken by the faculty members to make the class room more vibrant by promoting and encouraging dialogue and participation amongst the students.
- 5) Strong informal support group for the differently abled students.
- 6) North East Cell for helping in integrating and adjusting North Eastern students into a new environment.
- 7) Inclusive Classrooms (Group Activities small research projects, Film Clubs, Discussion Groups, Engagements with other Faculties, exploring new mediums for classroom teaching)
- 8) Remedial Classes
- 9) Value Education (National Youth Day, Yoga Day, Environment Day, Human Rights Day, Awareness Campaign, Community engagements involving other educational institutions working with elderly people, women, children)
- 10) Skill Development courses for the students.
- 11) Alumni Association.

There are unending and relentless efforts by the management and the staff of the institution to promote inclusiveness not only amongst the students but amongst all the stakeholders also. Thus, it can be said that we believe that a complete education cannot be imparted without moral education and we strive our best to inculcate these values in our students.