

**21<sup>st</sup>**  
**CONVOCATION**

Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 11:15 AM

**COVOCATION ADDRESS**

by

***Smt. Mangala Mani***

**Scientist (Retd.), ISRO**



**SRI PADMAVATI MAHILA VISVAVIDYALAM**  
(WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY) since 1983  
Accredited with 'A+' Grade by the NAAC  
Tirupati, India



**SRI PADMAVATI MAHILA VISVAVIDYALAYAM**

**(WOMENS'S UNIVERSITY) since 1983**

**TIRUPATI**

**ANDHRA PRADESH**



**TWENTY-FIRST  
CONVOCATION**

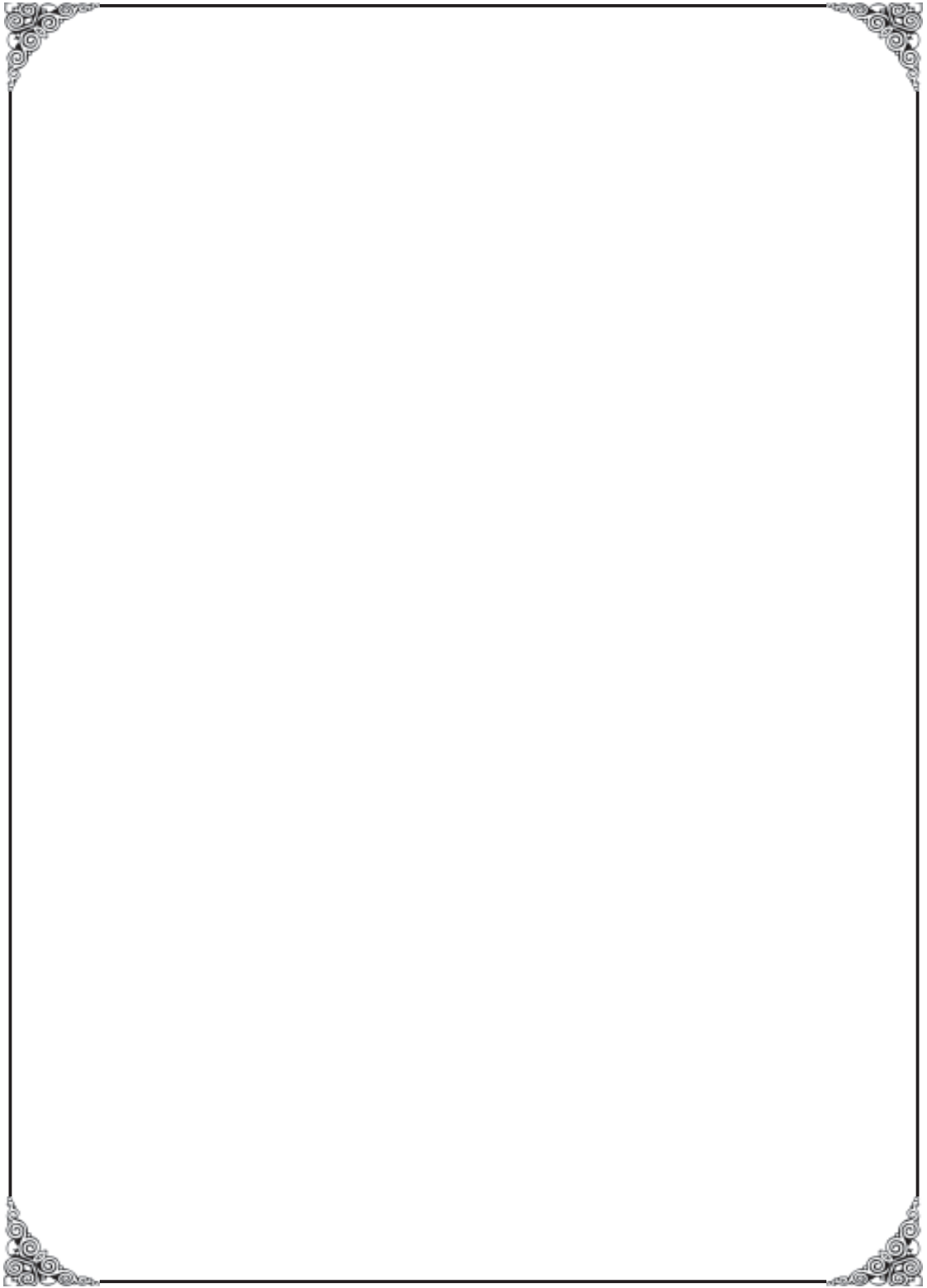
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**By**

**Smt. MANGALA MANI**

**07-03-2024 at 11:15 AM**

**Indira Priyadarshini Auditorium, SPMVV**



A very good Morning to all of you.

I stand before you today with deep gratitude and a sense of honor as the Chief Guest at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visva Vidyalayam. My sincere thanks to the Honorable Governor of Andhra Pradesh and Chancellor of this esteemed university, Sri S. Abdul Nazeer, for this opportunity to address such a distinguished gathering. I would also like to acknowledge the presence of our esteemed Vice Chancellor, Prof. D. Bharathi, and all the distinguished dignitaries both on and off the dais.

Before I proceed, let me take a moment to applaud the tireless efforts of the faculty and staff who have dedicated themselves to nurturing the minds of the exceptional young women we celebrate today. Your commitment to education and empowerment is commendable and your guidance and mentorship has undoubtedly played a significant role in the achievements of these students.

To the proud parents and families of the graduating students, your trust in this university for the education and nurturing of your daughters is truly appreciated. Your unwavering support has been a cornerstone in shaping the character and dreams of these young women. Today's success is not just theirs; it is a collective achievement reflecting the encouragement you provided.

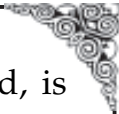

Now, let's turn our attention to the heart of today's celebration – the radiant and talented students of Sri Padmavati Mahila Visva Vidyalayam. Congratulations! Today marks not just the end of a chapter but the commencement of a journey filled with promise and excitement. It is an honor for me to share in the celebration of your accomplishments.

In reflecting on my own journey, the foundations of my dreams were laid in my childhood, thanks to the encouragement of my parents and the nurturing environment of my school. The moral values instilled in me became the guiding force behind my career choices. From being the only girl in a batch of 80 boys during my technical education to becoming a part of ISRO's historic Antarctic expedition for more than 400 days, my journey has been a blend of challenges and triumphs. People tend to ask me how I could stay there for so long and that too, as a sole woman. Let me tell you.

Trusting in the Love of Lord Jesus Christ, who loved every one of us to the point of laying down HIS life, and HIS assuring words, when HE said, Lo! I Am with you even to the ends of this world, I dared to venture into the coldest, windiest, driest and the most isolated place on this planet earth.

I want to emphasize a crucial point – your dreams, regardless of how audacious, are within your reach. My journey began with a fascination for geography and a dream sparked by NASA articles on Mars. Just like that, your interests and dreams can shape your destiny. When I joined ISRO, in 1982, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, our former President was the Project Director of the Satellite Launch Vehicle, and he was such an inspiration to me. I stand here as living proof that with determination and hard work, even the seemingly impossible can be achieved.

I share this experience not as a tale of personal triumph but as a source of inspiration for each one of you. Today, as you stand on the threshold of a new chapter in your lives, I encourage you to embrace the unknown, to venture beyond your comfort zones, and to face challenges with unwavering determination.



In the larger context, our nation, and indeed the world, is undergoing a transformative phase. Societal norms are shifting, breaking barriers that have hindered progress for far too long. As we witness this change, I believe that the women who have been the backbone of our society are uniquely positioned to lead this transformation.

As you embark on this new phase of your journey, let's not forget the importance of gratitude. It's crucial to remember the sacrifices made by your parents, the guidance of your professors, and the friendships that have shaped your college experience. Be grateful for the opportunities you have received, and strive to create opportunities for others.



In every sector – be it science, technology, arts, or social work – women are carving a niche for



themselves. Your dreams are not just aspirations confined within these college walls; they are the blueprints for a society that thrives on equality, justice, and inclusivity.

Embrace the challenges that lie ahead with confidence. Each obstacle is an opportunity to showcase your resilience and brilliance. Do not be afraid to speak up, to challenge the status quo, and to

dream big. Your voice matters, your ideas are valuable, and your presence is a force to be reckoned with.

In a world that sometimes seems to limit your potential, I urge you to be unapologetically ambitious. Look around – you are surrounded by a community of strong, like-minded women who are not just your peers but your allies. Support each other, uplift





one another, and together, you will create ripples of change that will resonate for generations.

Education is not just about acquiring knowledge; it is a tool for empowerment. It is the key that unlocks doors to a future of endless possibilities. As you step out of these college gates, remember that you carry not just a degree but the power to shape your destiny and the destiny of those around you.

In conclusion, let me leave you with a quote by the renowned poet and philosopher, Rabindranath Tagore, "You can't cross the sea merely by standing and staring at the water." Your journey is about action, about setting sail towards your goals with determination and courage.

Congratulations once again on reaching this milestone. I have full faith that the women of Sri Padmavati Mahila Visva Vidyalayam will go on to achieve great things and inspire others to follow in your footsteps. May you all continue to shine bright on the path of success and fulfillment in your future endeavors.

Thank you for having me here and I wish you all the Best! God Bless you all.

