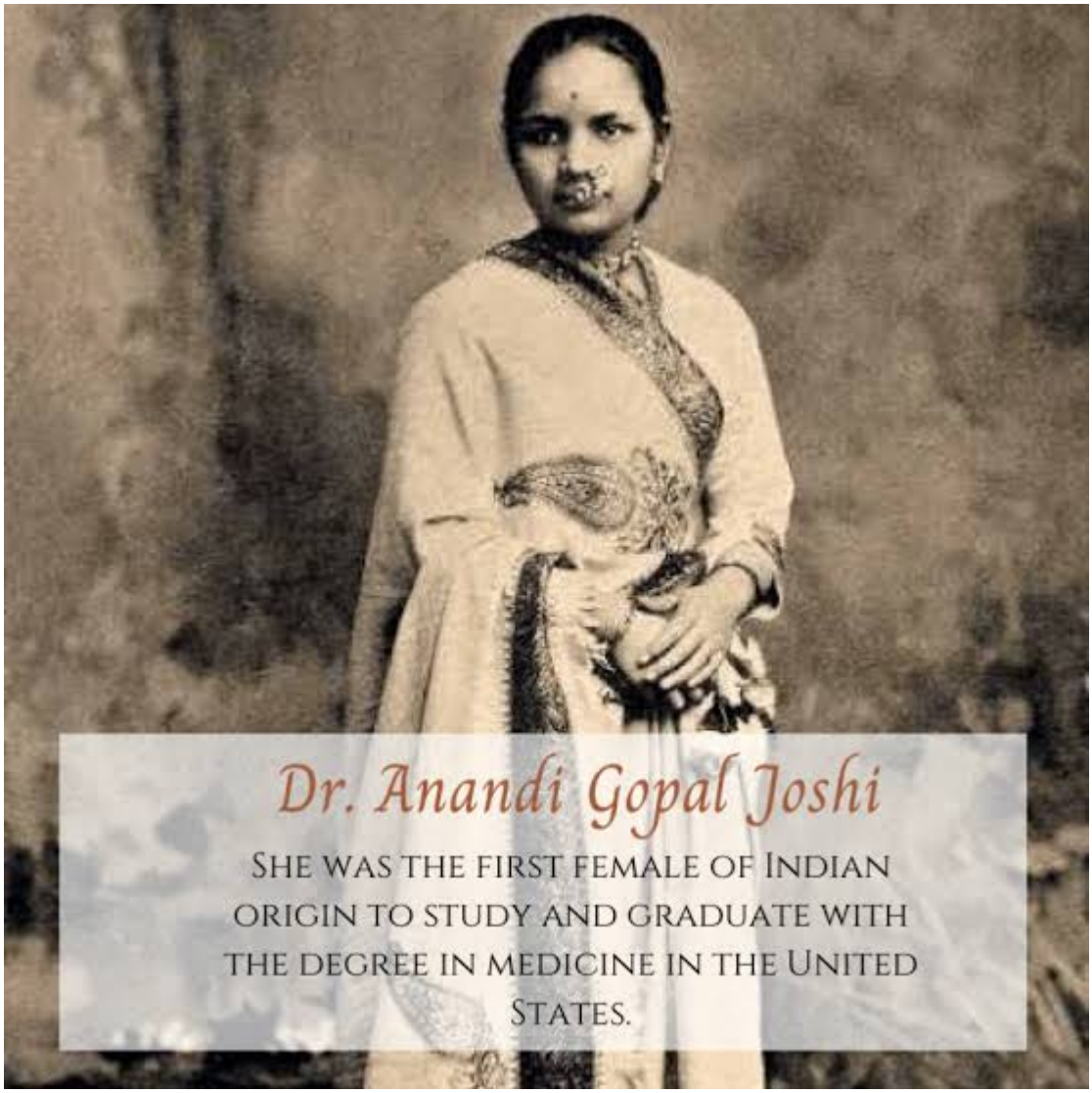
Twitter Thread by ■yudhika

■yudhika
@Satyamev1310

Dr. Anandibai Joshi

Upon her birth on 31 March 1865 she was named Yamuna, after the holy river. Her parents Gunputrao Amritaswar Joshee & Gungabai Joshee came from a long lineage of wealthy landlord family in Kalyan of Bombay Presidency, whose wealth was now waning.



Anandi was the sixth of 10 children, & had 4 brothers (only two of which survived) & five sisters. Her father was particularly fond of her, as she was a bright child with an inquisitive mind. Being an educated man himself, Ganpatrao assured that his daughter was taught Marathi.

As was common practice she was married at a tender age of 9, to Gopalrao Joshi, a 29 year old widower who worked as a postal clerk in the same city. After marriage her husband named her ‘Anandibai’ (which means ‘Joy of my heart’).

Gopalrao was man ahead of his times with reformist ideas & had married Anandibai on the condition that he would be allowed to educate his wife.

He even tried to enroll Anandi in a missionary school, but did not succeed. Despite being the supportive husband, Gopalrao had his flaws.

He was a strict teacher & would sometimes resort to beating if Anandi slacked in her studies.

When Anandi was 14 years old, she gave birth to a son. Sadly, the baby did not survive beyond ten days. Anandi realized that she was not comfortable around the attending male physician, & she suffered more during pregnancy because there were no native female doctors.

In 1879, Anandibai’s husband Gopalrao wrote a letter that was published in the Christian journal “The Missionary review of the World” His community in India, Gopalrao wrote, had condemned his idea of social reform and opposed his wife’s education.

metic up to decimal fractions, and can point out all the countries on the map. She reads English, third book, and translates Marathi, second book, into English. Marathi grammar she has nearly finished. I should like to see her follow any profession, namely, medicine or education, so that she may be of immense use to her country sisters.

I had better finish, as I have said more than enough.

I remain, sir, yours obediently,

G. V. JOSHEE.

KOLAPOOR, September 4th, 1878.

MY DEAR MR. WILDER:—The enclosed letter may be somewhat of a surprise to you, so I will endeavor to say a few words concerning it. Mr. Joshee has been P. M. here for more than a year, and during that time has been much interested in the subject he here mentions, viz., the education of his wife. He came at once to ask us what we could do for him. Miss McGinnes took up the work, and has ever since done all she could, but, of course, has not been able to teach her as she would like, having herself the language to study—the girls' school, &c. She tells me his wife is bright, and quick to take up anything, and thinks she would be capable of acquiring a first class education, if she had an opportunity to do so. The object he has at heart is certainly one that has been sadly neglected among the Brahmins.

As he says, he has little hopes of being able to carry out his aims among his own people, and would, therefore, like to go to America to do so. He has for some time past talked to me and asked me to advise and help him all I could. He says he is willing to undergo all that such a task will involve, and that he would be able to pay his passage, but not to support him while there, unless he could get employment of some kind. I mentioned Princeton to him—told him of its educational advantages, &c., but could not assure him of any employment. And told him also of your being in India 30 years, and I knew would be able to advise him far better than I could; also told him to think over the matter carefully, and then if he thought best, to write out his mind on the matter, and I would write you and enclose his letter; so this morning he sent me the letter. I have great hopes that he will first of all give his heart to God, and then his own, as well as his wife's influence would be a great blessing to their fellow men. I have had many talks with him, and he seems anxious to talk and learn our religion. He has no faith in idolatry. I have also thought if he were to go to our country, he might there be led to renounce all and follow Christ, and I know if such should be the case, there are many persons who would be willing to educate both him and his wife, and send them back to labor among their own people. I never told him this, but I can't help but hope that such would be the case.

I have never known of any one going from this country to America on such a mission, and yet, judging from the results that have followed from such a mission to other countries, Japan, *e. g.*, surely we might hope for good. I

Gopalrao wanted the letter to facilitate an arrangement for his 14-yr-old wife to study medicine in the US, and he explicitly asked for assistance in doing so. Gopalrao’s letter eventually came into the hands of a Presbyterian minister stationed in India.

and love thee." "And yet virtue did come in human form, in the very perfection of beauty, purity and loveliness, and men condemned and crucified Him."

ONE BIBLE AND ITS EFFECT.—In the town of Corato, Italy, a Bible-reading community of 80 is traceable to a Bible given to an image-maker. Converted by its perusal himself, he read it to others, and this is the result.

X.--LETTERS FROM MISSIONARIES AND NATIVE FRIENDS.

KOLAPOOR POST OFFICE, September 4th, 1878.

SIR:—I am a Koknath Brahmin. I was born at Sangamner, in Amed, Nagar District. My name is Gopal, father's, Venayak, and surname, Joshee. I was educated first at Nasik and then at Bombay. My education, though very poor, has formed me to suffer rather than enjoy.

Ever since I began to think independently for myself, female education has been my favorite subject. I keenly felt the growing want of it to raise the nation to eminence among civilized countries. It is the source of happiness in a family. As every reform must begin at home, I considered it my duty to give my wife a thorough education, that she might be able to impart it to her sisters, but customs and manners and caste prejudices have been a strong barrier to my views being prosecuted. Besides, our attempts have been regarded with suspicion by foreigners. On the other hand, female education is much looked down upon among all Brahmins, the highest class of people in India. My attempts have been frustrated, my object universally condemned by my own people. I have difficulties to encounter, and no hopes to entertain in India, and yet I cannot give up the point. I will try to the last, there being nothing so important as female education for our elevation, morally and spiritually.

I should, therefore, if it please God, like to take my wife to America for her being thoroughly educated. I am not in a position to undertake the journey, and to defray my expenses of settling down in America without assistance. I should, therefore, like to know if I can get a footing in any department in America, so that I can go and stay there for some years. I don't want to live on charity, but I am very much in need of assistance in securing a place suitable to me. I beg of you to help me by inquiring and ascertaining if I can get a chance of fulfilling my object.

I am at present in the postal department, and can produce certificates of qualifications.

My wife is fourteen, quite in age for education. She reads and writes both Modi and Balbodha. She writes a pretty good English hand. She has arith-

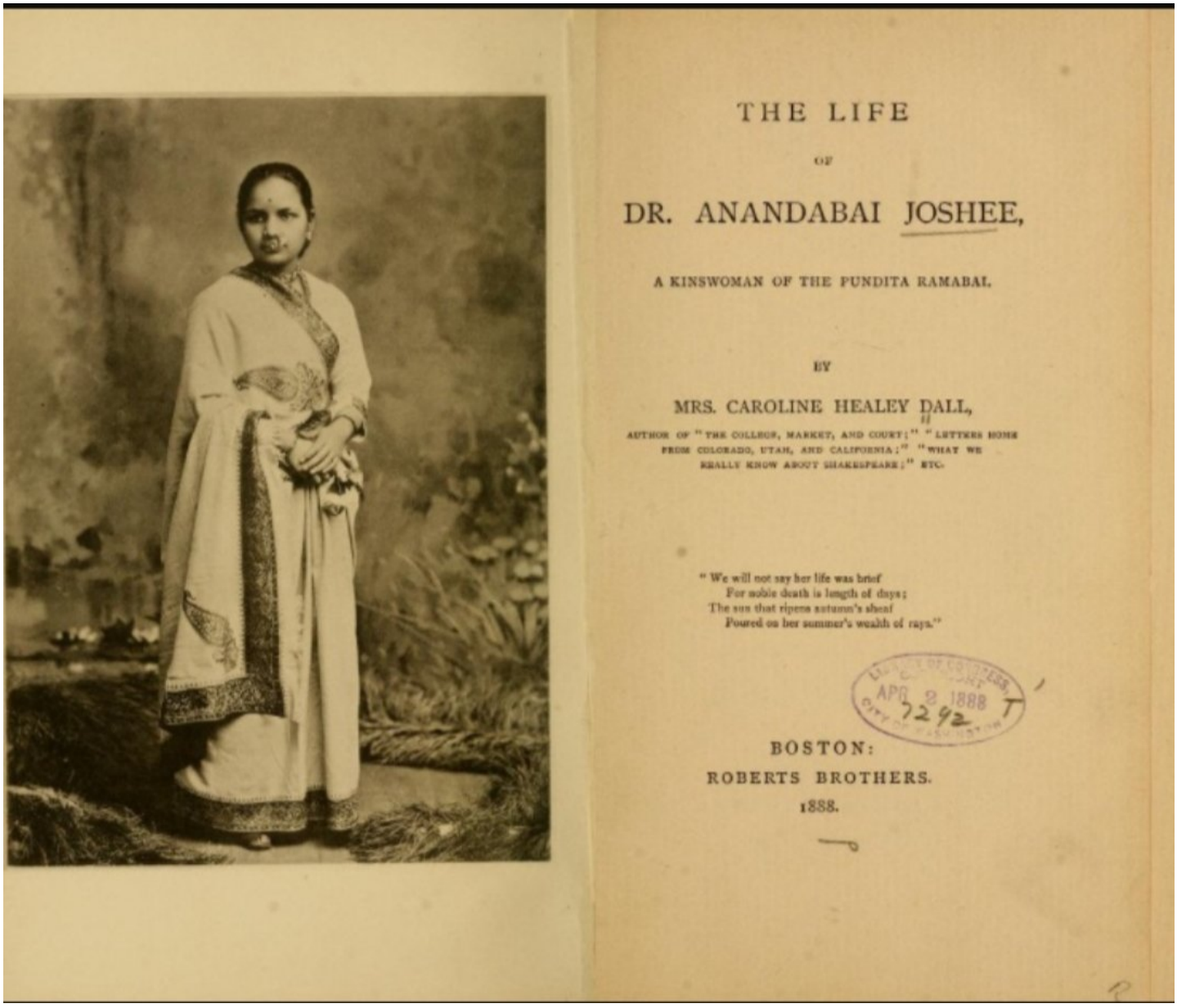
This minister forwarded the letter to the editor of "The Missionary Review".

The replies, both of which were published in the journal's same volume after Gopalrao's letter, reflect their hope that the Joshis will first convert to Christianity.

Wilder's reply further discourages the idea of Anandibai coming to the US, arguing that the couple should remain in India and preach the gospel there.

Nonetheless, it was a particular reader, who played a major part in Anandibai's life, namely, Ms. Carpenter of New Jersey.

Through correspondence, Joshi and Carpenter struck up a friendship with discussions of family, religion, and the news of the day. Joshi even addressed Carpenter as "my dear aunt".



THE LIFE

OF

DR. ANANDABAI JOSHEE,

A KINSWOMAN OF THE PUNDITA RAMABAI.

BY

MRS. CAROLINE HEALEY DALL,

AUTHOR OF "THE COLLEGE, MARKET, AND COURT;" "LETTERS HOME FROM COLORADO, UTAH, AND CALIFORNIA;" "WHAT WE REALLY KNOW ABOUT SHAKESPEARE;" ETC.

"We will not say her life was brief
For noble death is length of days;
The sun that ripens autumn's sheaf
Poured on her summer's wealth of rays."

APR 2 1888
3292

BOSTON:
ROBERTS BROTHERS.
1888.

Their correspondence culminated in a plan in 1883 for Joshi's travel to the United States, where she would stay with Carpenter and enroll in an American medical school. Her husband Gopalrao, meanwhile, remained in India to take care of family members.

Before leaving India, Joshee gave a public speech in February 1883 in the eastern town of Serampore where Gopalrao was posted. The aim of the speech was to state her reasons for the journey to the United States and address the questions and oppositions she has received.

She spoke about the unfriendly stares and stones thrown at her for defying social norms, and she promised to face difficulties with greater courage. With regard to people's suspicions of her faith, SHE PLEDGED TO LEAVE AS A HINDU, AND TO RETURN AS A HINDU.

In 1883, Joshee joined the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, now known as the Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia. She graduated in 1886 with her degree in medicine; her M.D. thesis focused on Hindu obstetrics.

Word of her achievement soon reached India, where she received a job offer not long after graduation. The government of the princely state of Kolhapur, wanted to appoint her "Lady Doctor of Kolhapur" at the Albert Edward Hospital.

Her ship arrived in India in November 1886, but by this time, she was seriously ill. After a prolonged illness, she passed away on February 26, 1887 only one month before her 22nd birthday. Her ashes were sent to Ms. Carpenter, who buried them in a family cemetery in New York.



One can read about her in the book available below:

https://t.co/b1r2uJvJhG

@ragiing_bull @AadhySanatani @Anaamikaa9999