

**From :** "Chaman Kashkari" [chaman@uakron.edu](mailto:chaman@uakron.edu)

**To :** "Banarsi lal Chawla" <[blehawla2000@yahoo.com](mailto:blehawla2000@yahoo.com)>

**Subject:** Homage to Kalpana Chawla

**Date:** Fri, 31 Dec 2004 12:16:51 -0500

Dear Chawla Family:

On this New Year Eve, we members of Indian community, remember your daughter Kalpana with fond memories. She lifted humanity up through her miraculous accomplishments. She gave us all Hope for a better future. Having been born in Jammu, I am attached to Goddess Vaishnav Devi. Perhaps, Kalpana was truly the daughter of Vaishnav Devi. Future generations may wonder whether Kalpana Chawla story is a fairy tale or did it really happen.

At this very moment, when the New Year is ringing in, we all bow to the great spirit that was KalPana Chawla.

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an Kashkari" [chaman@uakron.edu](mailto:chaman@uakron.edu)

'Banarsi lal Chawla" <blehawla2000@yahoo.com>

Date: Thu, 23 Dec 2004 14:53:57 -0500

Dear Mr. Chawla:

Thank you for your kind words. I had sent copies of my article to Indian newspapers, to Chandigarh Engineering College and many other places. Since I did not have your address, I could not sent to you. I am glad that you got the opportunity of reading it .

Although, I never met Kalpana in person, I had watched her accomplishments through newspapers and television. While she was a source of pride to all Indians, I always felt that she was not an ordinary human being. What she accomplished in a small span of nine years was not humanly possible. It was clear that God Himself was guiding her every moment. She had Confidence, Power and Grace which were signs of spirit: strength - some Super Power was working through her. Kalpana knew that her Maker had sent her on an Important Mission and she had to fulfil that Mission.

Since 1990, India's image in this country has received a new shine. Indians are held in very high esteem. WM it is true that the credit goes to Indians who are basically very smart. But they have been here since 1960s. Why this sudden awareness that Indians are smart. I believe that the reason is your Kalpana. She came on the scene like a Shining Star, a Meteor or a Comet. Americans asked who was this young woman? When they found that she was from India, her shine rubbed on all Indians. Chawla Sahib, your daughter has lifted up our country and put it on the global map of Science and Technology. Swami Vivekanda had done exactly th same, one hundred years ago. He had put India on the Spiritual map.

What Kalpana did will have positive effect over hundreds of years. Marie Curie discovered radio activity in 190 and entire humanity is reaping the fruits of her work. Kalpana has opened the doors of opportunity for thousands of women allover the world. Men and women like Kalpana are born once in a century.

You were Kalpana's father. The cruel Destiny snatched her away from you. She was the star shining in you s\_ and she would have been the proverbial "walking stick" in your old age. Alas - it was not to be. Who can chang

the Fate! My heart cries for you and no words can express my anguish.

may visit India within next few months. While there, I would like to meet you. Would you kindly send me your postal address and phone number. f will appreciate it.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

With Best Regards,

Dr. Chaman Kashkari

Professor of Electrical Engineering (Retd)

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