



The Abstract Proceedings

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**SHRI SHIKSHAYATAN COLLEGE, Kolkata**

&

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**INDIAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**

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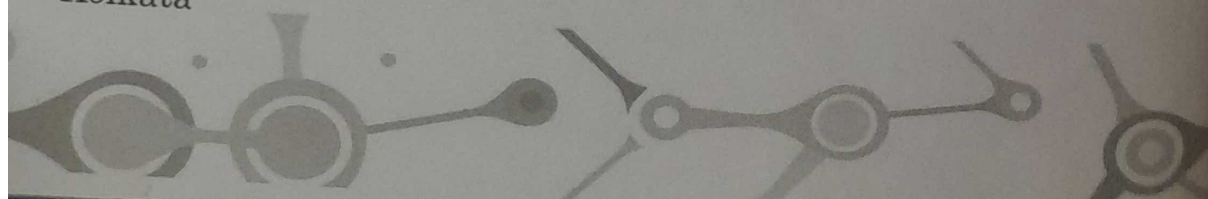
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## 'Lilavati's Daughters- The Women Scientists of India': A Book Review

Madhulika Ghose<sup>†</sup>

### ABSTRACT

History, according to the preface of the Persian translation of 'Lilavati' by Akbars poet laureate Shaikh Ábdul Faizi Faizi in 1587, says that the 'Lilavati', a book in poetic verse on arithmetic, was written by Bhaskara II in the 12th century to console his young widowed daughter of the same name. The book 'Lilavati's Daughters- The Women Scientists of India' edited by Rohini Godbole and Ram Ramaswamy, published in 2008 by the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, India [ISBN 978-81-8456-005-1] provides some inspiring biographies of women who have carried forward the scientific legacy of Lilavati. It outlines the struggles and achievements of Indian women scientists from as early as Dr. Anandi Gopal (born in 1865) to the more recent luminaries. This book illustrates the substantial contribution of these women to the holistic development of Science in India. True path breakers, they have paved the way for many scientific discoveries and the assimilation of its benefits in Indian society. This book instils hope and courage to prefer unbiased scientific truth over popular truth, just as these great women have, making way for a society which is equal for all.

*Keywords:* Lilavati's Daughters, women scientists of India, struggle, achievement, history, book review.

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