A Legacy Beyond a Lifetime

'In Quest of Knowledge' launched in London celebrates the extraordinary life, values and enduring legacy of Dr Vibha Dineshkumar Shah...



Book Launch Ceremony. Left to right: Shail Shah, Ashok Kumar Chauhan (British Army), Dineshkumar Shah, H.H. Rajrajeshwar Guruji, Deputy Mayor of Harrow Cllr Mina Parmar, Anju Shah, Trusha Shah and Preksha Shah. Second row: Nishay and Prakash Shah.

SOME books tell a story. Others preserve history. *In* ***Quest of Knowledge*** does both.

The inspiring biography of **Late Dr Vibha Dineshkumar Shah** was formally launched in London on 21 June 2026, in a heartfelt ceremony attended by distinguished academicians, community leaders, spiritual personalities, civic representatives, family members and friends. More than a book launch, the event became a celebration of a life dedicated to learning, family, service and the timeless pursuit of knowledge.

The book was officially inaugurated by **His Holiness Shri Rajrajeshwar Guruji**, Founder and Global Spiritual Leader of the International Siddhashram Shakti Centre; **Deputy Mayor of Harrow, Cllr Mina Parmar; Warrant Officer Ashok Kumar Chauhan** of the British Army; and members of Dr Vibha Shah's family.

Compèred with warmth and grace by **Preksha Dineshkumar Shah**, the programme reflected the very values that shaped Dr Vibha's remarkable journey-from Nairobi to Cardiff, from pharmacy to accountancy, from motherhood to lifelong scholarship.

A Daughter's Tribute: Learning Never Stops

Opening the event, Preksha delivered an emotional tribute to her mother while acknowledging that the launch coincided with Father's Day.

She described her parents as lifelong role models whose love for education shaped both her and her brother Shail.



Professor Atul Shah, Professor Tine Vekemans, Prakash Shah and Neera Shah.

'My mother believed knowledge is a lifelong companion,' she said. 'She pursued accountancy in her forties, completed her MBA in her fifties and began her doctorate in her sixties. She always taught us that learning never stops. If you truly want something and give it your best, the universe will help make it happen.'

Her words perfectly set the tone for an afternoon dedicated to celebrating curiosity, resilience and continuous self-improvement.

A Sister Remembered

Dr Vibha's brother Prakash Shah **shared heartfelt memories from** childhood, describing his sister as someone whose determination, humility and relentless desire to learn inspired everyone around her.

'Every achievement in Vibha's life reflected her commitment to growth,' he said. 'Her story reminds us that success is never defined by a single achievement but by the courage to keep learning, embrace change and believe in our own potential.'

He added that although Vibha was no longer physically present, her experiences, wisdom and values would continue to inspire generations through the pages of the book.

Fifty Years of Friendship

One of the most touching moments came when **Neera Shah**, who first met Vibha during their university days in Cardiff, reflected on over five decades of friendship.

She remembered Vibha as disciplined, focused and quietly exceptional.

'Learning wasn't simply something Vibha did - it was her way of life,' she recalled. 'She travelled with a notebook, always writing down ideas, observations and lessons. Her achievements extended far beyond qualifications. She excelled as a pharmacist, accountant, teacher, wife, mother and above all, a lifelong learner.'

A Landmark for Jain History

Delivering a thought-provoking address, **Professor Atul Shah** of City St George's, University of London described the publication as a milestone for both the Jain community and migration history.

'This is not merely a biography,' he observed. 'It is one of the finest documented life stories of a Jain woman.'

Reflecting on Jain philosophy, he explained how the three jewels of Jainism - Samyak Darshan (Right Faith), **Samyak Gyan (Right Knowledge) and Samyak Charitra (Right Conduct)** - were beautifully reflected throughout Vibha's life.

He also connected the family's accountancy tradition with the historic role of Jain entrepreneurs, financiers and business leaders over two millennia, emphasising that knowledge and disciplined record-keeping have always been