

Document of the Month:

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The connection of Parsis and Paris goes almost 100 years back. Business opportunities attracted many young Parsis to the city of Paris and at the turn of the last century many Parsis started arriving in Paris. Munchersha Godrej, younger brother of Founder Ardeshir Godrej was one of them. Mr. M. B. Godrej spent most of his life in the city of Paris where he set up his business - dealing with automobiles and accessories. Here he came to associate with Madame Bhikaji Cama and Singh Rewabhai Rana and they together founded the India Paris Society - an extension to Indian Home Rule Society founded by Shyamji Krishna Verma in London in 1905.

The Paris Indian Society saw active participation from Indian nationalists like Lala Har Dayal, MPT Acharya and Vinayak Damodar Savarkar who at various times were associated with the India House during its short existence. In Paris, the Indian Society held regular meetings and a Dinner get-together during Diwali was one such occasion where Indians residing in or traveling through Paris would come together to celebrate the festival of lights.

This month Godrej Archives brings to you a most intriguing photograph from a Diwali Dinner Party held in Paris in the year 1927. The gathering that year was attended by influential political leaders of Indian National Movement like Jawaharlal Nehru, Kriplani....



Mr. M. B.
Godrej

Pandit
Jawaharlal Nehru