

## Voices from New York, New Jersey

### Alumni Reflections from Across Continents

The New York and New Jersey reunion stood as a testament to the enduring strength of the Somaiya community, one that stretches far beyond Mumbai yet remains deeply connected to its roots. Whether as volunteers, organisers, or attendees, alumni came together to engage with the institution's evolving vision and carry it forward. In the heart of Manhattan, across batches and backgrounds, what was most evident was this: the Somaiya bond does not fade with distance - it only finds new cities to call home.

**Durga Rani Sinha**

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#### **Manasi Paradkar**

*“Saturday's Somaiya NYC Alumni meetup felt too special to let pass without sharing. I got to reconnect with my Mumbai college community all the way here in New York, and honestly, the energy was something else. When I volunteered to help arrange this event, I had no idea there were over 300 Somaiyans in the New York/New Jersey area. Reaching out to them and hearing their surprise upon learning about the meetup was heartwarming. Greeting them in person added even more to the joy of the experience.*



*Sharing our favorite college memories highlighted how different our journeys have been, yet how closely they're tied together by shared roots and our time at Somaiya. It was great to receive all the exciting updates about new Somaiya initiatives from Siddharth Somaiya. A special mention to Dr. Abhishek Ghosh who envisioned activating this incredible alumni network, and whose work on the Centre of Dharma Studies at the Somaiya campus is truly inspiring.*

*A heartfelt thank you to Durga Rani Sinha and Aarti Singh for allowing me to be a part of this, my co-volunteers Sukhdev, Aditya and Suchit who were on their toes throughout the event (the post-event leg cramps were real!), and everyone who showed up with such warmth!”*

## **Aditya Chaudhari**

*"I had a wonderful time at the Somaiya Alumni Reunion – New York and New Jersey today. It was truly inspiring to connect with fellow Somaiyans here in the US and feel that sense of community far from campus.*

*It was an honour to listen to Dr. Abhishek Ghosh and Siddharth Somaiya share more about the Somaiya Foundation and the vision behind Dharma studies, and how the work being done continues to shape lives globally.*



*I also had the opportunity to volunteer at the event, which made the experience even more special - from coordinating on the ground to making so many new connections with our people abroad. A special shoutout to Durga Rani Sinha and Aarti Singh for their incredible efforts in organizing this event from overseas - your dedication made it all possible! Grateful to everyone who joined, supported, and helped make this reunion memorable."*

## **Sukhdev Singh Saini**

*"I want to sincerely thank everyone who made the Somaiya Alumni Reunion lunch in Manhattan possible. Special appreciation goes to Durga Rani Sinha, Aarti Singh and Shaheen Mashraqui for their incredible work in planning the reunion and motivating our alumni members to attend. I would also like to recognize my co-volunteers Manasi Paradkar, Aditya Chaudhari, Suchit Apage, and others for the high energy and enthusiasm they brought both before and during the event.*



*It was truly a wonderful opportunity for alumni across various programs, institutions, and professional backgrounds to reconnect. The atmosphere was relaxed and engaging, allowing us to learn from one another while hearing directly from the Somaiya leadership regarding current and future initiatives. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to such a successful and meaningful gathering."*