

Guide to the Bhatt Family Papers

MS 1705



compiled by Pravin Bhatt, Richard Richie, and William Landis

October 2009

Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
(203) 432-1735
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
(203) 432-1735
(203) 432-7441
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

CALL NUMBER: MS 1705

TITLE: Bhatt family papers

DATES: 1941-1988

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.79 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: The materials are in Gujarati and English.

SUMMARY: The collection includes correspondence and other materials, primarily written by Nanabhai K. Bhatt to his son Pravin N. Bhatt. The materials document the political and social climate in India from the late 1940s through the early 1960s. In addition, collection materials provide background information on Pravin Bhatt's career as a scientist at Yale University and internationally.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1705>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1705>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Pravin N. Bhatt, 1999.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Original audiovisual materials, as well as preservation and duplicating masters, may not be played. Researchers must consult use copies, or if none exist must pay for a use copy, which is retained by the repository. Researchers wishing to obtain an additional copy for their personal use should consult Copying Services information on the Manuscripts and Archives web site.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Bhatt Family Papers (MS 1705). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Processing Information

Identification of materials in this collection for the purposes of this description was made by Pravin N. Bhatt in discussions with Richard Richie and William Landis over the course of several months in 2008-2009.

Associated Materials

Pancholi Collection of Gandhi Letters (MS 1483). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Separated Materials

Approximately 34 publications (books, pamphlets, and magazines) were removed from the Bhatt Family Papers and given to the Southeast Asia Collection curator in the Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Nanabhai K. Bhatt was an Indian educator and colleague of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr. Pravin Bhatt, his son, is a researcher at the Yale School of Medicine.

Scope and Contents

The collection includes correspondence and other materials, primarily written by Nanabhai K. Bhatt to his son Pravin N. Bhatt. The materials document the political and social climate in India from the late 1940s through the early 1960s. In addition, collection materials provide background information on Pravin Bhatt's career as a scientist at Yale University and internationally.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged by type of material.

Collection Contents

Correspondence

Correspondence, unless otherwise noted, is from Nanabhai K. Bhatt to his son Pravin N. Bhatt and family. It frequently includes information about general family matters, including celebrations, traditions, travel, and health issues.

| | | |
|----------------|---|-----------|
| b. 1, f. 1-7 | 1941-1949 | 1941-1949 |
| b. 1, f. 8 | From Pancholi family to Pravin N. Bhatt | 1943 |
| b. 1, f. 9 | From Nanabhai K. Bhatt to Haribhai Pathak, father of Indu Bhatt Nanabhai Bhatt wrote these letters from prison following his arrest by the British authorities for pro-Indian activities. | 1943 |
| b. 1, f. 10 | From Nanabhai K. Bhatt to his sons Pravin and Batuk Written while Nanabhai Bhatt was in prison following his arrest by the British authorities for his pro-Indian political activities. His family did not know where he was for a month following his arrest. | 1943 |
| b. 1, f. 11 | From Nanabhai K. Bhatt to Haribhai Pathak and Indu Bhatt | 1944 |
| b. 1, f. 12 | From Sarabhai family to Pravin N. Bhatt | 1946 |
| b. 1, f. 13 | From Pandit Sukhalalji to Nanabhai K. Bhatt | 1946 |
| b. 1, f. 14 | From Nanabhai K. Bhatt to Indu Bhatt, his daughter-in-law | 1947 |
| b. 1, f. 15 | From Nanabhai K. Bhatt to Pravin and Indu Bhatt and others in Calcutta Pravin Bhatt was studying at the School of Tropical Medicine in Calcutta at the time, and became ill. | 1948 |
| b. 1, f. 16-17 | 1949 Includes letter in English to Secretary of Health for the Indian government. | 1949 |
| b. 1, f. 18 | 1949-1950 | 1949-1950 |
| b. 1, f. 19 | 1950 | 1950 |
| b. 1, f. 20 | 1952 To Indu Bhatt and friends about going to the United States and to Pravin Bhatt about his wife joining him in the U.S. | 1952 |
| b. 1, f. 21 | From Jivraj Mehta to Pravin Bhatt regarding job difficulties and from Nanabhai K. Bhatt to Pravin and Indu Bhatt regarding their return to the United States | 1953 |
| b. 1, f. 22 | 1954 | 1954 |
| b. 1, f. 23 | 1955 Some letters written from Delhi, where Nanabhai Bhatt served as a member of the upper house of the Indian Parliament. Documents discussions with high-level government officials regarding potential jobs for Pravin Bhatt that might utilize his medical training in the U.S and possible living arrangements in Mumbai. | 1955 |

| | | |
|---------------|--|------------------------|
| b. 1, f. 24 | 1956 Letters document Nanabhai Bhatt's work in Delhi and at the Lok Bharati (People's College), and his various travels. | 1956 |
| b. 1, f. 25 | 1957 Includes details concerning a visit to the house of Swami Anand, a follower of Gandhi, near Bombay. Also includes information about attendance at UNESCO conference. | 1957 |
| b. 1, f. 26 | 1958 | 1958 |
| b. 1, f. 27 | 1959 Some correspondence relates to Pravin Bhatt's trip to Russia for research consultations. | 1959 |
| b. 1, f. 28 | 1960 | 1960 |
| b. 1, f. 29 | 1961 | 1961 |
| b. 1, f. 30 | To Pravin N. Bhatt from Manubhai Pancholi Correspondence concerns political and social topics of the day. Pancholi, a protege of Gandhi's, taught at Lok Bharati. | 1942-1968 |
| b. 1, f. 31 | To Pravin N. Bhatt, condolences on the death of his father, Nanabhai K. Bhatt In English. | 1962 |
| b. 2, f. 1 | To Pravin N. Bhatt from Swami Anand Includes correspondence on Bhatt's brother's sudden death while working in labor relations in an Indian textile factory. | 1960-1968 |
| b. 2, f. 2 | Pravin N. Bhatt, "Report of European Tour," typescript In English. | 1958 September-October |
| b. 2, f. 3 | 1952-1961 | 1952-1961 |
| b. 2, f. 4 | Passports and passport photograph | 1966-1967 |
| b. 2, f. 5 | Yale University Biological Safety Advisory Committee | 1976-1978 |
| b. 2, f. 6 | Clippings and notes regarding Pravin Bhatt's time at Tulane University | 1950 |
| b. 2, f. 7 | Awards | 1954-1964 |
| b. 2, f. 8 | Griffin Award (American Association of Laboratory Animal Science) | 1988 |
| b. 2, f. 9-10 | Slides and photographs of Lok Bharati, high school for Indian teenagers Nanabhai Bhatt was the founder of Lok Bharati (People's College). | Circa 1965-1970 |
| b. 2, f. 11 | Slides of Gandhi, including the salt march Slides were given to Pravin Bhatt and were produced in circa 1970s. | Before 1950 |
| b. 3 | Mr. Pancholi's lecture at Yale on the donation of the Gandhi letters <i>1 Audiocassette</i> Lecture is in English. | 1988 October 29 |

- b. 4 Gandhi's salt march in 1928 Circa 1970-1979
 1 Videocassette (VHS)
- Original compilation of film clips, in chronological order, documenting the salt march. Compiled by Mohan Parikh, not commercially produced.
- As a preservation measure, original materials, as well as preservation and duplicating masters, may not be used. Digital access copies must be provided for use. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access.
- A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives.
- b. 4U Use copy
 1 Optical Disc (DVD)
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Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Geographic Names

India -- Politics and government

India -- Social life and customs

Names

Bhaṭṭa, Nānābhāī, 1882-1961

Bhaṭṭa, Pravīna Nā. (Pravīṇa Nānābhāī)

Gandhi, Mahatma, 1869-1948