



## **Kadambini Ganguly (Nee Bose)** **(1861-1923)**

Doctor

Dr. Kadambini Ganguly was the first lady Doctor of western medicine from Bengal. She is one of the first two female graduates of the British Colonial Empire. After passing the entrance examination with flying colours Kadambini Bose continued her graduation level studies in Bethune College and received her degree in 1883 along with Chandramukhi Bose. Her success encouraged Bethune College to introduce F.A. (First Arts) and graduation courses for women heralding a new era of Women's education not only in India but also in the entire British Empire Kadambini also became the first woman to get admission in Bengal Medical College (later renamed as Calcutta Medical College) in 1884. Next year i.e in 1885 British Government offered her a scholarship of Rs.20 per month with retrospective effect. As Kadambini completed her medical course she was awarded a GBMC (Graduate of Bengal Medical College) degree which gave her the right to practice. In 1888 Kadambini was appointed as a Doctor at the Lady Duffrin Women's Hospital at a decent salary of Rs.300 per month. In 1893, She went to England and acquired triple degree in Paediatrics, Gynaecology and Surgery from London and Scotland . After her eloquent speaking in the Medical Conference in 1915 at Calcutta Medical College, the institute revised the policies to open the doors for female students. Kadambini was included among the six women in the 1889 Annual Session of Indian National Congress where She moved a vote of thanks in English and was hailed by Annie Besant as being 'A symbol that India's freedom will uplift India's womenhood'. Kadambini Ganguly remained a very active medical practitioner till the last day of her life. Achievements of Kadambini Ganguly and Chandramukhi Basu continue to inspire generations of students of Bethune College.