## INDIA ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

## **ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

The India Association of Minnesota was formed in 1973 as the India Club of Minnesota. It seeks to build a sense of identity and community among people of Indian origin and those who have an interest in India. The IAM also works to represent the Indian community to the population at large, and to serve as a focal point for advancing the educational, cultural, and charitable interests of the community. The organization is statewide, though the largest number of its members live within the Minneapolis and St. Paul metropolitan area.

People of Indian origin and ancestry represent a significant part of the population of Minnesota, and their number has been growing steadily. The Minnesota Indian community is also notable because its members have generally achieved a relatively high level of socio-economic and educational importance.

The oral history project includes interviews with a succession of leaders who have worked to further the goals of the India Association of Minnesota and to ensure its continuing relevance and its adaptation to changing political and economic realties. The interviews in the project join those in several other oral history projects that document the important contributions of the Indian community to the state of Minnesota