

Jawaharlal Nehru
Jawaharlal Nehru
1955



Nehru was born into a prominent Kashmiri Pandit family. His father was Motilal Nehru and his mother was Swaruparani Nehru. He had two younger sisters who were named Vijaya Lakshmi and Krishna. Nehru grew up in his birthplace in Allahabad. His father owned a wealthy estate in Allahabad which was called Anand Bhavan. Nehru spent his childhood in the company of many illustrious people who visited the estate to call upon his father, a wealthy barrister and influential nationalist politician with the Indian National Congress.

Nehru was educated by a series of British governesses and tutors until he was sixteen. He joined the Theosophical Society in India at age thirteen. He had Indian tutors who taught him Hindi and Sanskrit. Nehru returned to India in 1912. His mother arranged his marriage with Kamala Kaul, a girl from a conservative middle-class Kashmiri Brahman family in 1912. Kaul was the grand-daughter of Kishanlal Atal, who had been prime minister of Jaipur, so the match was acceptable to the aristocratic Motilal Nehru. The marriage ceremony finally took place in 1916, when Kamala had attained the age of seventeen years. Nehru and Kaul had a daughter in 1917, who was named Indira Priyadarshini.

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