

Status of Higher Education During Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar's Period

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Abstract—Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar, the 25th and last Maharaja of Mysore, ruled the princely state from 1940 to 1950. During his reign, Mysore witnessed significant advancements in various sectors, including education. This paper aims to explore the education status in Jayachamarajendra's region during the year 1945.

Index Terms—Sudras, Higher Education, Diwan, Milestone

I. INTRODUCTION

Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, ruled for 7 years. He was the 25th and last ruler of Yadu dynasty (1940-1947). Sir M. Miraja Ismail one of illustrious Dewans of Mysore was the classmate of Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV who obtained his degree from the central college of Bangalore which was then affiliated to Madras University. While Krishnaraja Wadiyar obtained his degree from Madras University, Jayachamaraja Wadiyar graduated from Mysore University in 1938 as an alumnus of Maharaja's College.

The Princely State of Mysore witnessed remarkable developments in key fields during 20th Century, thanks to visionary kings and talented administrators. Infact, the rule of Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV saw phenomenal developments in education, health, industry, commerce, art and literature. Similarly, higher education also prospered leading to social changes.

The establishment of Mysore University in 1916 is considered to be a milestone in the educational activities pertaining to the period of Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV. Till then the colleges of Mysore State had been affiliated to Madras University. With the establishment of a separate University, Mysore State became the first ever princely State to establish a University in the pre-independent non-British dominions.

The Mysore Wadiyars emphasized for the development of education from the beginning. Primary, Technical and Vocational education received priority. The situation continued more or less same even during 50 years of commissioner's rule. The Kings and Dewans who came to power subsequently also encouraged education by opening schools. The establishment of Raja's free school by Krishnaraja Wadiyar III in 1833 opened up new vistas for English education. Similarly, the Christian missionary also contributed is mite to the field of education.

With the increase in the number of schools, the student strength also increased. Women's education also received a boost. As the days passed, the exploited people of Sudras, community also received better educational opportunities. Initially there was a practice to teach to life skills along with education. Later on, with the increase in awareness the demand for higher education also increased.

II. OBJECTIVES

To analyze the Impact of Miller Report & Cost of Higher Education

To examine the Encouragement to Women's Education & Adult Education and Special Lectures

To evaluate the Private Initiatives and New Courses.

III. IMPACT OF MILLER REPORT

Thanks to the political will and commitment towards social justice by Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV, the people belonging the backward and depressed classes started getting opportunities in education and political field on par with the upper caste people. The Government order issued in 1821 following the report submitted by the Miller committee paved way for opportunity in education and political fields.

As a result of this, a large number of Panchamas and backward class people became educated and occupied important posts. Among them R. Chenningaramaiah (First Minister), S.M. Siddaiah (Ex M.P), B. Basavalingappa (Ex. Minister) Dr. D. Rudraiah (Veterinary Doctor) , Sosalae B Rachappa (1st B.A. Graduate) R. Bharanaiah (1st I.A.S officer), B.Rachaiah (Ex. Governor), N. Rachaiah (Ex.Minister), K. Beemaiah (1st Judge), G. Dugappa (Ex. Chairman K.P.S.C), S.N. Gangadaraiah (Educationist) and others, who belonged to Panchama community contributed immensely for the progress of community.

Jayachamaraja Wadiyar was himself a great scholar who was well versed in literature and music. The University of Mysore celebrated its silver Jubilee during his period. To commemorate this in 1941 the King who was the Chancellor of the University delivered convocational address. In the same year D.lit, D.Sc, D.E, LL.D and Doctorate degrees were started in humanity, science, engineering and law department and thereby encouraged higher education. (see: order No. E.1107-uni, 27-40-58, dt. Bangalore, the 19th September 1941). In order to encourage technical education, the all India convention of technical education council was held in Bangalore in 1946. Sir, N.R. Sirkar of Bengal presided over the convention. Dewan Sir. Ramaswamy Mudaliyar inaugurated youth convention on the occasion.

Though we may not come across any major developments in education during Jayachamaraja Wadiyar time the usual progress continued. The reason being second world war and the Indian freedom struggle which almost reached final stage. It is against this background Jayachamaraja Wadiyars rule witnessed intense political and economical activities. In a way the internal and external pressures prevented from bringing changes in higher education policy.

IV. COST OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Some interesting development, can be seen in higher education during Jayachamaraja Wadiyar period. The cost of higher education recorded considerable increase every year. following table gives details about year wise expenditure on higher education.

YEAR	DIRECT EXPENITURE (IN RUPEES)	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (IN PERCENTAGE)
1939-40	8,57,430-00	11.97
1940-41	9,60,936-00	12.92
1941-42	10,79,051-00	14.12
1944-45	11,61,445-00	11.16
1946-47	16,39,232-00	10.12
1947-48	19,71,181-00	9.17

Separate grants were sanctioned to oriental colleges also apart from university colleges.

YEAR	DIRECT EXPENITURE (IN RUPEES)	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (IN PERCENTAGE)
1939-40	58,296-00	0.81
1940-41	59,102-00	0.80
1941-42	63,943-00	0.84
1944-45	86,972-00	0.83
1946-47	91,844-00	0.59
1947-48	1,18,097-00	0.55

The above details throw light on the considerable Grant - In - Aid sanctioned by the Mysore State for the development of University of Mysore.

V. ENCOURAGEMENT TO WOMEN'S EDUCATION:

Higher education during this period comprised commerce, technical and medical education apart from humanities. Besides arts, literature, language and education the number of students studying science, technology, law and medical education increased considerably. Similarly, the number of women seeking higher education also increased

YEAR	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL STUDENTS
1939-40	3969	340	4239
1940-41	4477	429	4906
1941-42	4814	479	5293
1943-44	4936	669	5605
1944-45	5682	732	6414
1945-46	6103	939	7042
1946-47	6609	1022	7631
1947-48	7135	1177	8312

There were 4239 students studying in Mysore University in 1940, and it increased to 8653 in 1947.

Of them 7631 were boys and 1022 girls. Of 340 girl students who were studying in Mysore University during 1939-40, 120 students passed in different examination and only 27 of them received degrees. Similarly, of 1177 girl students, 147 students were successful in getting degrees during 1947-48. This speaks of the popularity and significance of higher education.

VI. ADULT EDUCATION AND SPECIAL LECTURES

Adult education received good support. The State Literacy Council was established with the support of non-government organization. Literacy committees came to be established in Bangalore and Mysore in 1941 and a grant of Rs. 7000/- was sanctioned to each committee. An amount of Rs. 20,000/- was provided in the budget. In order to improve literacy rate, the University of Mysore established 50 such centers in one year in Mysore city and neighbouring villages. In the same year about 400 students of the university receive military education.

Another important feature of higher education was the conduct of special lectures. Noted historian Dr.R.K. Mukherjee and Sir. T. Raghavachariyar, Sir. Valter Moberly, Chairman UGC, England and Sir.Cyril Norwood, president St. Johns College Oxford delivered special lectures in 1940 and 1945 respectively.

VII. ENDOWMENT PRIZE AND GOLD MEDALS

Higher education was encouraged by instituting endowment prizes and gold medals. A gold medal in the name of Krishnaraja Wadiyar III and a scholarship in the name of Smt. Dwaraka Bai Vedhantamma were started in 1941. Jayachamaraja Wadiyar himself donated Rs. 12,000/- to institute 3 gold medals. These medals were to be awarded to the students who secure highest marks in history and chemistry and another in the name of princess Kempa Chaluva Rajammani for the best outgoing student. Similarly, the State government also gave scholarship in 1943 for a meritorious women doctor in the name of the Princes (see: GO No. E 3015-17-uni. 50-44-5, dated 15th December 1944)

Col. W.L. Crawford and C.S Crawford gave Rs.50,000/- to distribute scholarship to 14 poor and

meritorious students of Chikkamagalore and Hassan. Out of these scholarships, 5 were meant for girl students every year. Another scholarship was instituted for a student securing highest marks in and Kannada by Dharmaprakash L.S. Venkogy Rao, who donated an amount of Rs.5000/-.

The University of Mysore started 3 endowment prizes in 1945. Nanjappa Shetti of Kananur I gave Rs.10,000/- as donation in order to give scholarship to the students of Kuruhina Shetti community pursuing higher studies. Reverend D John Lazarus gave Rs.3000/- for promoting medical education among girl students. Similarly, M. Gopalaswamy started another scholarship in central college Bangalore in order to encourage the study of Mathematics.

In 1946 G.R. Ameer Khan donated Rs.1,00,000/- to promote education among Muslim among Muslim women. Similarly, Aihesha Bibi endowment scholarship of Rs.3800/- to promote medical education among muslim women and Srowty Savitramma memorial gold medal of Rs.2000/- to promote Sanskrit education and lady Mirza endowment prize of or Rs.1000/- to encourage women's education were instituted.

VIII. PRIVATE INITIATIVES AND NEW COURSES

A large number of scholarships were instituted during Jayachamaraja Wadiyar period, especially to promote women's and Muslim women's education. However, it is unfortunate that not a single endowment or scholarship was started for the educational development of Dalits. An important feature of higher education was the interest shown by eminent private people. Infact, donors and philanthropists contributed immensely for the development of educational by donating liberally. Even today we find the tradition being continued in various universities.

A number of new courses were started both at degree and post graduate level. B.com degree was started in a college in Bangalore in June 1944. The Syllabus and the examination system at the degree level came to be revised through a committee appointed by the government. In order to help students to take up competitive examination and to get proper employment, an employment centre was started. In 1945 the syllabus of BE degree and post graduation was revised. Chemical engineering course was also

started for the first time. A post graduate diploma in tuberculosis was started in the medical college. For the first time mentor system was introduced to supervise the activities of the students.

IX. CONCLUSION

The regime of Jayachamaraja Wadiyar saw important developments the field of higher education. The University of Mysore marched ahead thanks to the encouragement given by the Wadiyars. Besides encouraging technical and medical education, people belonging to backward class and Panchma community were able to join mainstream because of newer opportunities in higher education. In spite of political instability at the national and international level, higher education did record a commendable progress during this period.

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