

Best Practice 1

1. Title of the Practice: *Inclusive Education*

2. Objectives of the Practice

Providing higher education in the rural area and empowering rural youth towards mainstream has been practiced by the institution from the last four decades. Many families situated in this part of rural area have been poor and face financial crisis. As a result, the youth of such families are deprived from the opportunity of attaining higher education. The college was established basically with the main objective of providing higher education to rural youth who otherwise would have been deprived of higher education. Thus, empowering rural youth with comprehensive, selfemployment motif has been our prime objective. Rich diversity in terms of social, economic, cultural, ethnic, class, caste, religion and gender have been enriched by the ambience and activities of the college.

3. The Context

The institution was established in 1980 with a vision of providing higher education opportunity to rural and economically deprived youth. Enhancement of student employability is done to empower and cater to their needs in life. Low fee structure, providing scholarships, financial assistance, free mid day meals scheme are followed as regular practice in the institution. Funds generated through various philanthropic organisations, individual donors are utilized to provide quality education. Professional skills are instilled and empowered to meet employability needs. Since majority of students are from very poor economic background and not even capable of meeting their daily ends, raising funds for the purpose has been a very challenging task.

4. The Practice

Offering comparatively low fee structure, special scholarship facilities, midday meal and providing comprehensive higher education are the strategies practiced in the college to empower rural youth. Our college collects the lowest amount of total fee from the students in this region. This has enabled higher education opportunities to economically weak sections who would otherwise have been deprived. All the alumni of the college have similar poor background and hence comprehending the problem of others is all inclusive. The institution caters to the diverse needs of students. Boys and girls who take admission to the institution transform as responsible Ladies and Gentlemen undergoing various enriching activities of the college.

5. Evidence of Success:

Selfemployment has been a motivating issue of success. Many of our students are successful entrepreneurs, hoteliers, businessmen and motivating individuals. They have been successfully carving out their niche in various fields. Few have been excelle

nt employers giving livelihood to hundreds of youth. Alumni concern towards their alma mater is exemplary. They have been providing financial assistance to the institution regularly from the past one decade to meet the academic expenditure of several students. These results indicate values the institution has imparted to its students. The performance against targets is highly satisfactory keeping in mind the locational disadvantages.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

In spite of best efforts, it is difficult to convince the students that they need to overcome the barriers to learning. It is very challenging to make students acquire language and other skills required for their employability. There are limited placement opportunities after graduation. Lack of career goals makes students less focused and less interested.

Best Practice 2

1. Title of the Practice: *Archaeological Exploration, Documentation, Publication and Preservation of Antiquities.*

2. Objectives of the Practice

*Undertake intensive archaeological explorations in the West coast and Madhavadi regions of Karnataka and collect large quantities of antiquities.

* Protect cultural heritage of this region in particular and our country in general through archaeological museum

3. The Context:

The dearth of research on pre- and proto-history of the coastal region offers fertile research work for the department of Ancient History and Archaeology. In this context, the department of Ancient History and Archaeology has initiated vigorous archaeological explorations in this region from 2009 till date. Within a decade, the department has succeeded in discovering several rock art sites, pre- and proto-historic sites in this region and the students have got an opportunity to participate in the field and have also participated in national and international conferences.

4. The Practice:

Programmes are conducted in association with Directorate of Museums and Heritage and Forest Department, Government of Karnataka. With the help of NGOs and public financial support, the following important archaeological explorations have been conducted in the past 5 years:

*Archaeology of Siri was launched on 12/10/2017. Siri is the most popular legendary folk divine figure of coastal Karnataka. This project is intended to trace the historicity of Siri. Symbolic

evidence of burial of Abbaga-Daraga, daughters of Siri in the form of a dwarf dolmen atop a huge boulder, was rediscovered at Urkithottu.

*An inscription with great importance written in Tulu script and language was discovered at Kulas hekhara, Mangalore on 14/03/2020.

*A mega heritage walk was organized in association with Karnataka Itihasa Academy (R), Bangalore and different colleges of Mangalore University at the historical site of Barakuru on 09.09.2018.

*A Megalithic rock-cut-cave was discovered at Perampalli, a suburb of Udupi on 21/05/2018. These caves were also discovered in Kallembi and Atur-Kundaje of Dakshina Kannada district in 2022.

*On account of Alupotsava-2019, the Department conducted conservation work in the Barakuru fort at request of district administration from 13/01/2019 to 19/01/2019.

* A major rock art site was discovered on 17/02/2019 at Avalakki Pare in the Mookambika wildlife sanctuary with the help of Forest Department. A Megalithic menhir was discovered at Kolluru on 19/07/2020.

*An ancient masterpiece of Janardhana was discovered on 31/01/2021 at Badagabettu village.

5. Evidence of Success

The new discoveries uphold the prestige of the institution on national level and have attracted the students from distant regions to continue their higher studies in this college. They are trained in archaeology, epigraphy, iconography, art and architecture besides classroom teaching. An International Rock Art Fest was held on 26/12/2022 and 27/12/2022 which had participants from national and international levels. Alumni are pursuing PG and also working as independent researchers.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Lack of funds has been a major hurdle for field work projects. The museum needs to be upgraded to follow contemporary best practices.