

Institutional Distinctiveness:

This college was established in the year 1983 under S.V.E.Society. The S.V.E.Society's founder, Late Shri B.R.Darur was a <u>philanthrope</u> and a man with a great vision for the advancement of knowledge for the rural youth. To this end, in the year 1981, this society was established with a motto "*Life is education*", highlighting the importance paid to the acquisition of knowledge for a better and fruitful life.

In fulfilment of this motto, the college had aspired to undertake research activities on a host of topics on lives and culture of the people (in the district and surrounding areas) as these research issues were un-explored and these history and cultural aspects had not attracted due importance for research.

It was decided in the year 2006 that a conducive atmosphere is necessary in terms of creating research activity among the faculty. It was realized that a host of topics are available for research projects. Thus a proposal was sent to Kannada University (State University) Hampi: a university that undertakes research. We feel happy that our proposal for seeking the establishment of a research centre was accepted (letter uploaded) and after a due course of administrative clearance, approval for the establishment was received in the year 2007. From its inception, a total of 21 Ph.D and 83 M.Phil degrees have been awarded. The topics for the research for PhD & M.Phil have covered a wide range of subjects. These are listed below

- 1. Kannada Literature
- 2. History & Epigraphy
- 3. Sociology
- 4. Political Science
- 5. Commerce
- 6. Economics
- 7. Biography of Notable Personalities

Between 2015 to 2020, a total of 11 Ph.D and 03 M.Phil degrees have been completed through the portals of this research centre.

It is noteworthy that four faculty members of our college are research guides. Apart from this, the research centre is continually attracting research scholars for their studies. Currently, there are 21 research scholars at present who have enrolled for research.

Thus, the establishment of a research centre in this area has not only ushered an ambience of research culture but also as a consequence has brought out original information about many topics hitherto unknown.

For instance, over the last five years, there have been "three" Ph.D degrees awarded in Kannada literature, "two" in Sociology, "three" in Commerce and "three" in History. It is noteworthy that the topics chosen are relevant to local situations.

Outlines of research activity undertaken are mentioned below

- a) A study of "Folk Artists of Bagenadu". This research threw light on this vibrant community and their present living conditions. It highlighted how in the bygone era they staged open-air dramas and especially, "Shri Krishna Parijata" plays. Important to note is the fact that "Lord Krishna's" part was played by a Muslim Nadaf Community. And the society respected and revered them irrespective of their religious background.
- b) Study on the philosopher-poet "Alabhairi" of the 19th century. This poet belonged to Harugeri and his poetry is of immense importance and relevance. However, his contribution in the field of mysticism and poetry did not see the limelight during his life. He was illiterate, but his associates wrote his sayings. It is interesting to note that the college has approached the present university to include his poems in the syllabus of basic Kannada for the first semester.
- c) Unearthing epigraphical evidence of "Kuhundi" the previous name of present-day Raibag tehsil in Belagavi District.

Research has been going on many other topics.

This college invites these scholars to annual gatherings. On these occasions, they speak briefly about their research. It is pertinent to note that our college alumni who are doing research have expressed their gratitude about our research centre.

This research centre because of its vibrant activities has 21 research scholars enrolled for research.

Thus it can be said that the establishment of a research centre under Kannada University, Hampi is a matter of pride. It also marks a distinctive attribute of this college for creating a research culture in this part of rural Karnataka, which is unique.

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