

Women Education in Mysore State by Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar

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Abstract

The Mysore state one of the famous states which was developed the education systematically. The women education was well developed by the Mysore state in the state till middle of 19th century, the beginnings were made by London Mission which was in 1840 established the first Kannada school for girls. Very soon a girl's school was opened by the Hindu at Bengaluru, for some time girls were obliged to study in boy's schools, for want of separate institutions. Social prejudices were largely responsible for the slow growth of institutions, which numbered only 12 at the close of 1879-80. In the first year of the rendition, the Maharani's girls school at Mysore was established, which remained under private management till 1891, when it was taken over by Government. It soon developed into a second grade college and was affiliated to the Madras University.

KEYWORD:

The progress in other directions was also marked and the number of girls institutions, both government and aided, which stood at 33 in 1869-70, with a strength of 2071 pupils, increased to 294 with a total strength of 17093 at the close of 1910-11 and showed a further increase to 530 schools and 41035 pupils including those studying in boy's schools, at the close of the ending with 1915-16. The number of pupils in the several grades of public institutions at the beginning of 1915-16 was

1. College -----13
2. Secondary -----11059
3. Primary -----28430
4. Special Institutions ----- 329

The numbers of public institutions for girls has since showed a steady increase rising from 525 schools with a strength of 27959 in 1915-16 to 727 schools with a strength of 36866 at the close of 1921-22 some girls also attended boys school wherever there were no facilities by way of separate school for them either because their strength did not justify the opening of a school or for other reasons. The total number of girls under instruction in all kinds of schools was 41035 in 1915-16 which rose to 53741 at the end of 1921-22. Of the 727 girls schools during 1921-22, 3 were English High Schools with the strength of 106 pupils, 1 Kannada High school with the strength of 19 pupils, 13 Anglo – Vernacular School with the strength of 2205 pupils, 94 vernacular middle schools with a strength of 10651 pupils and 566 primary schools with a strength of 22451 pupils. The percentage of girls under instructions to the female population of school going age was 9.7 in 1915-16 and it rose to 12.46 in 1921-22.

HIGH SCHOOLS

The three high schools at the end of 1921-22 are the Maharani's High School, Mysore, the Vani Vilas Institution Bengaluru and the London Mission Girl's High School Bengaluru. The Maharani's High School at Mysore maintains the High School Classes both in English and Kannada, the Anglo-Vernacular and kannada Middle School classes besides normal and industrial sections. The vanivilas institute contains the High School classes in English and Middle School classes in both English and vernacular. It has further developed by the opening of the Entrance class in science from 1922-23. The London Mission Girl's school is an aided institutions with a strength of 40 in the High school classes and 163 in the middle school section.

Excluding the kannada High School Sections of the Maharani's College two schools had been raised to the status of vernacular high schools, the empress Girl's school at tumkur and the Government Girl's school at Bengaluru by way of providing facilities for higher education of pupils who passed the vernacular lower Secondary examinations in center other than mysore. The liberal scholarship awarded did not induce a large number of pupils to join them and so the classes in the vanivilas institute and the empress Girl's school were closed from july 1920 and arrangements made to strengthen the upper secondary classes at the Maharani's High School is the only kannada school existing at present so as to meet effectively the altered requirements.

MIDDLE SCHOOLS:

During 1915-16 there were excluding the Anglo Vernacular Sections of the Maharani's College and the London Mission Girl's High Schools, 12 Girl's Middle Schools in which English was taught, with a strength of 1357, but at the close of the period of review there were only 13 institutions with a total strength of 2205. Through there was a reduction in the number of institutions by one there was a slight increase in the total number of pupils attending the same

VERNACULAR MIDDLE SCHOOL:

The number of vernacular Middle school stood at 85 with a strength of 9381 at the close of the year 1915-16 of which 60 were departmental, 24 aided and 1 unaided. The number steadily decreased and stood at 108 at the close of 1919-20 with a strength of 11952. Since then for reason similar to those given in the case of boys Schools, there has been a decrease, both in number of institutions and their strength which were 94 and 10651 respectively at the close of 1921-22.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS:

There were 566 Primary Schools with 22451 pupils attending the same during the year 1921-22, working out to a proportion of 1 to 11 as compared to Boy's Primary schools. In order to reduce gradually this disparity in educational facilities, it has been laid down in the orders on the Education Memorandum that 500 new primary schools for girls should be established in the course of 5 years at the rate of 100 per annum, in places where a sufficiently large number of pupils are available financial considerations have not made it possible to give early effect to these orders, but with funds becoming available, it is hoped that earnest attempts would be made at increasing the number of institutions which would help to solve slowly but steadily the problems of female elementary education in the state.

TRAINING SCHOOLS:

With the object of getting as many mistresses as possible available for efficient teaching, a normal school for Hindu mistresses at Mysore and 2 more schools for others, Maharani's High School and Wesleyan Mission Normal School have been opened. The upper Secondary classes in the Vani Vilas Institute and Empress Girl's School which were in existence for a short time were closed on account of their poor strength. To induce educated ladies to take to teaching in larger number, stipends for private candidates have been increased from Rs. 8 to Rs 12 for Upper Secondary training and to Rs 10 for lower secondary training.

HOSTELS FACILITIES:

The difficulty experienced by girls from the mofussil who come to prosecute their studies in the Maharani's college was recognized by Government and a hostel was therefore, established and attached to the institutions. The 'Widow Home' started by the late Rao Bahadur A. Narasimha Iyengar from Devaraja Bahadur Charity fund was taken over under Government management and made part of the hostel to lodge and board free of charge the poor students. To meet similar difficulties a hostel was also opened in connection with the Vani Vilas Institute which also accommodated mistress undergoing industrial training. At the close of the year 1921-22 the hostel and the Home attached to the Vani Vilas Institute had 11. The latter Institution is located in a rented building plans and estimates for a building for the hostel close to the school with quarters for the Superintendent are stated to be ready, but the work has been put off for want of funds.

CONCLUSION:

I would like to conclude this saying that Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar well developed education during his administration and he thought Education is key to success which helps to eradicate the social, economical and gender discriminations in the princely Mysore state.

References

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