

ROLE OF DEWAN VISHWESHWARIAH IN VISUALIZATION OF MYSORE UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the role of Dewan Vishweshwariah in conceiving the University of Mysore as an apex institution of higher education. He dreamt of making Mysore a place of educational & industrial growth. Mysore University was the seventh University to be established in India and the very first in any princely States of India. There were several deliberations towards establishing a university in Mysore because the permission of British Government in Madras has to be sought before going on with the project. With a strict mindset Dewan Vishweshwariah progressed with this project & was successful in making Princely state of Mysore, the first Princely state to own a University. The credit goes directly to Dewan Vishweshwariah for making a scholastic move entailing great perseverance & determination. This paper focuses on Dewan Vishweshwariah & his vision of Mysore university

Keywords: Dewan Vishweshwariah, Mysore University, phases of deliberative procedures

1. Introduction:

"Progress in every country depends mainly on the education of its people. Without education, we are a nation of children. The difference between one man and another, apart from birth and social position, consists in the extent of knowledge, general and practical, acquired by him. We may safely assume that man in all countries within certain limits start with the same degree of intelligence. A civilized nation is distinguished from an uncivilized one by the extent of its acquired intelligence and skill."

1.1 Dewan Vishweshwariah

Government resolution on Indian educational policy: The Government of India in a resolution on Indian educational policy issued in 1913 declared that there was the need for more

Universities in India (Sen. S.N. (1988). "Education in Ancient and Medieval India". Indian Journal of History of Science, 23#1 pp: 1-32, Indian National Science Academy). It dreamt of expanding university education through organization. The Government of India resolved that the affiliating universities have control by securing a separate university for each leading province and by creating new teaching and residential universities in harmony with the best compact local teaching modern opinion as to the right road to educational efficiency (Sen, S.N. (1988), "Education in Ancient and Medieval India", Indian Journal of History of Science, 23#1 pp:1-32, Indian National Science Academy). The establishment of the Mysore University was in accordance with the latter policy.

1.2 The beginning -

Mysore University was established through several academic deliberation on July 25th 1916. It was mooted by the visionary Dewan Vishweshwariah, and Highness the Yuvaraja Sir Sri Kantheerava Narasaraja Wodeyar, the pro-chancellor of the university, who nourished & encouraged this university with a serve the special educational needs of the Princely state of Mysore . (Suresh Chandra Ghosh, "Bentinck, Macaulay and the introduction of English education in India," History of Education, (March 1995).

2. The educational scenario by 1916

There were two colleges in the Princely state of Mysore ,the Central College in Bangalore and the Maharaja's college in Mysore. These were affiliated to the university of Madras. A strong public opinion in Mysore became strong about a separate university in Mysore with these two colleges as the nuclei. (Robert Eric Frykenberg, "Modern Education in South India, 1784-1854: Its Roots and Its Role as a Vehicle of Integration under Company Raj," American Historical Review, (Feb 1986), 91). Two educational experts were deputed abroad. to study the working of a University in a state with modest autonomy. C. R. Reddy toured the united states ,Japan and the Philippines & Mr. Thomas Denham toured Australia .Both these experts submitted valuable study reports which helped the conceiving of the University. (Suresh Chandra Ghosh, "Bentinck, Macaulay and the introduction of English education in India," History of Education, (March 1995)

2.1 The Phases of deliberation

A scheme for establishing a University in Princely state of Mysore was prepared in consultation with the educational experts of the Government of India, Mr. sharp who was the educational Adviser to the Government of India (Suresh Chandra Ghosh, "Bentinck, Macaulay and the introduction of English education in India," History of Education, March 1995). Overcoming the hurdles, a bill to establish and incorporate a university was introduced in the Mysore Legislative Council in June 1916. It was passed unanimously on July 17, 1916. It received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore on July 22, 1916. on July 25, 1916, the University of Mysore came in to existence by the promulgation with immediate effect, of the Mysore University Regulation 1916 (Regulation V of 1916), through an extraordinary issue of the Mysore Gazette. A scheme for establishing a University in Princely state of Mysore was prepared in consultation with the educational experts of the Government of India, Mr. sharp who was the educational Adviser to the Government of India (Suresh Chandra Ghosh, "Bentinck, Macaulay and the introduction of English education in India," History of Education, March 1995)/Overcoming the hurdles, a bill to establish and incorporate a introduced in the Mysore Legislative Council in June 1916. It unanimously on July 17, 1916. It received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore on July 22, 1916. on July 25, 1916, the University of Mysore came in to existence by the promulgation with immediate effect, of the Mysore University Regulation 1916 (Regulation V of 1916), through an extraordinary issue of the Mysore Gazette.

Mysore was the seventh University to be established in India and the very first in a princely State Mysore University made a humble beginning with only two faculties, Arts and Science and only two federated colleges one in Bangalore devoted to Science and the other in Mysore devoted to Humanities The engineering faculty was added in 1917 with the establishment of the University College of Engineering in Bangalore The Medical faculty was added in 1924 with the establishment of the Medical college in Bangalore, which shifted to Mysore in 1930. (Robert Eric Frykenberg, "Modern Education in South India, 1784-1854: Its Roots and Its Role as a Vehicle of Integration under Company Raj," American Historical Review, (Feb 1986), 91).

A Bill to amend the University Regulation of 1916 received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore on January 6, 1933. The Amended Act published as Act III of 1933. With this another authority of the University viz., the Academic council was constituted and it is this body which was responsible for the academic organization of the University It also paved the way for the enlargement of the Senate to make it more representative of popular interests. The present territorial jurisdiction of University of Mysore comprise the districts of Mysore, Chamarajanagara, Mandya and Hassan.

The first meeting of the Council was held on August 12, 1916 and that of the Senate on October 12. The first convocation was conducted in October 1918, where the first batch of 40 graduates passed out University of Mysore and they were addressed by Dr. Asuthosh Mukherjee, a prolific Bengali writer and second Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta.

2.2 The initial Vice chancellors

1. Nanjundaiah H. V. -1916-1920
2. Seal B.N. - 1921-1929
3. Metcalfe EP -1930 - 1937
4. Subbarao N S - 1937-1942

The first vice -chancellor : HV Najundaiah who was one of the key persons starting the university was elected as the first vice chancellor by The Maharaja of Mysore

Notable faculty: Notable faculty includes S. Srikantha, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Shivaramakrishna chanadrashekhar etc

Noted alumnus of the University- Noted alumnus of the University include K V Puttappa K Hanumanthaiah, Srikantha datta Wodeyar Jayachamaraja Wodeyar there were several great stalwarts who infused great scholastic support to this university were

3. Conclusion

Thus Mysore University was started in Mysore to link the educational support system of university education in Princely state of Mysore. The circumstances leading towards the establishment of a university in Princely Mysore was rigid & Torbidding but the determined Dewan Vishweshwariah reluctant to budge to any impediment, succeeded in making Princely state of Mysore the first ever Princely state to own a university. The culmination of the

university education which was started by this Dewan Vishweshwariah was like a dream come true because the very political situation Princely state of Mysore was not very encouraging. The strong determination of the visionary Dewan Vishweshwariah made Princely state of Mysore a progressive state & National leaders like Mahatma Gandhi applauded the Princely state of Mysore for its all round progressive policies & Mysore university was one such feather in the cap of Princely state of Mysore.

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