



Kannada University, Hampi
Internal Quality Assurance Cell
Vidyaranya

Institutional Distinctiveness

Introduction

Brief Historical background of Kannada University, Hampi located at Vidyaranya campus, Taluk Hosapete, District Ballari – 583 276.

In the month of September 1985 World Kannada Conference was held. During this conference Kannada writers and activists requested the Hon'ble Chief Minister Mr. Ramakrishna Hegde to establish the Separate Kannada University at Hampi. Hence Government of Karnataka on 31st December 1985 decided to establish One Man Commission under the Chairmanship of Mr. S.S. Wodeyar, the then Vice-Chancellor of Karnataka University. An order to this effect was issued on 25th January 1986 by the Government of Karnataka. Mr. S.S.Wodeyar commenced the preliminary works on 2nd Febraury 1986. Ultimately final report was submitted by Mr.S.S. Wodeyar on 20th May 1986.

Kannada Language has rich cultural heritage and historical background. The first literary work in Kannada language was produced during 5th century. This part of the territory of Karnataka was reigned by indigneous rulers of Karnataka. They were known as Mourya's and Shatavahana King's – Kadamba's of Banavasi – Ganga's of Talakadu – Chalukya's of Badami – Rastrakuta's of Malakheda's – Chalukya's and Kalachuri's of Kalyana – Hoysala's of Dorasamudra – The kings of Vijayanaga dynasty – The kings of Coorg – Wodeyar's of old Mysore State had contributed to the rich heritage of Kannada language and literature.

In the light of significant contributions by various Rulers to Kannada language, the necessity of establishing Kannada University was felt. Hampi was

selected as Campus since Vijayanagara rulers had ruled over the vast territory of Karnataka. At last Kannada University came into existence in the year 1992. It is a unique University with multi disciplinary approach. Most of the Universities in the State of Karnataka are multi faculty Universities. Much of the time of these multi Faculty Universities is spent in imparting instructions to the students of under graduate and post graduate courses. These Universities will not get much time for research output. Hence Kannada University was established for the sake of promoting Art, Culture, Music, Dance, Drama, Painting, Architecture, Sculpture, Literature, Grammer, Linguistics, History, Religion, Philosophy, Astronomy, Astrology, Geography, Geology, Medicine, Ayurveda and Yoga.

Thus Kannada University is totally different from all other traditional Universities. In order to achieve these objectives this University has been making best endeavours.

(On the basis of S.S. Wodeyar Report)

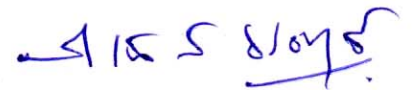
The objects of the University


“The University shall have the following objects, namely:- (1) to function ‘as a high-level research centre in Kannada language and literature; (2) to impart training to those residing within and beyond India who desire to study Kannada language and literature; (3) to facilitate and regulate advanced study and research in fields like Art, Culture, Music, Stage-plays, Painting, Sculpture, Folk Arts, Archaeology, Architecture, Literature, Grammar, Linguistics, History, Religion, Philosophy, Geography, Soil Sciences, Astronomy, Navigation and Shipping, Astrology, Siddha Medicine, Engineering Science and Handicrafts that have developed on the basis of the Kannada language and literature; (4) to translate books in other languages into Kannada according to the needs in consonance with the objectives of the University, and also to translate books in Kannada into other languages; (5) to preserve and publish palm leaf manuscripts and rare ancient books; (6) to search for and

compile epigraphs relating to Kannada language and literature, Kannada Culture and History of the Kannadigas and publish them with its findings based on research; (7) to compile and publish Kannada words, expressions, colloquial terms, words peculiar to industries and agriculture, which are used by the Kannadigas in Karnataka and in other countries where the Kannadigas live; (8) to provide for research in Kannada language and literature in the ancient times with an eye on future scientific developments; (9) to provide for research and determine the procedure regarding development of Kannada language and literature embodying in itself all the educational fields existing in the developing world and evolving suitable approach therefor; (10) to institute studies in Kannada language and literature in relation to other Indian culture;

(11) to organise advanced studies and research programme based in a deep understanding of the trends in Kannada language and literature; (12) to promote archaeology in all its varied aspects with a view to resurrecting and re-discovering the ancient Kannada culture; (13) to document the monuments in the State so as to facilitate future research; (14) to project Kannada culture, expressed through art, architecture, sculptures, paintings, iconography, epigraphy, theatre, dance, music, tribal-art, religion, philosophy of life, social movement; etc; (15) to document, analyse and preserve traditional, tribal folk-art forms and performing arts; (16) to develop Kannada as a medium of instruction in relation to modern advances in sciences and technology; (17) to foster comparative studies of Kannada with other dravidian and aryan languages; (18) to build a museum that would store classic objects and artefacts of Karnataka”.

(Quoted from Kannada University Act 1991-Karnataka Gazette part 4 section 2B, dated 20.6.1991)



Director
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