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BESANT WOMEN'S COLLEGE

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(Sponsored by Women's National Education Society)
Re - Accredited by the NAAC with 'A' Grade

Criterion 7: Institutional Values and Best Practices

Key Indicator - 7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

7.3.1 performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust

Women's Education for Self-Reliance and Proficiency

Besant Women's College is one of the relatively few colleges in Mangaluru city's coastal educational cluster that focuses solely on teaching women. In 1977, with the farsightedness of the then President of Women's National Education Society, the Late Sri Manel Srinivas Nayak, the management took a significant decision – to open a degree college exclusively for women with special consideration for the academically average and the economically backward learners.

Since then, the College has geared all its initiatives towards empowering women, upholding the great principles and inspiration of Dr. Annie Besant, the illustrious Theosophist and social reformer.

In keeping with Annie Besant's quote - What, after all, is the object of education? To train the body in health, vigour and grace, so that it may express the emotions in beauty and the mind with accuracy and strength. The college's numerous academic programmes are carefully designed to connect education with economic and social empowerment.

Keeping the vision statement in mind to provide quality education for all women at affordable cost, the college does not discriminate and all students are admitted to the institution irrespective of their caste, creed, language, obtained marks etc. A large number of students hail from low socio-economic backgrounds and are first-generation learners. Their college fees are taken care of by a few teachers. The scholarships are given by the Management, Parent-Teacher Association, and the Alumni Association. Time to time instruction is given to the students to avail government scholarship facilities. Besides, mid-day meals are also provided to the deserving students.

In tune with the Mission of the college, a few courses prepare young learners for the two most important goals in their lives – taking care of their house and family and preparing for a job or vocation. Besantians undergo a transformation that prepares them to face the world head-on and serve as ambassadors for the ideals that our founder, Dr. Annie Besant, wanted every Indian woman to aspire for.

Dr. Annie Besant was a trailblazer in the field of skill education, ensuring employment, independence, and combating poverty in India. Likewise in college, skill education is promoted. Learning new skills boosts one's sense of self-worth, promotes the capacity for thoughtful decision-making, and opens doors to opportunities and resources that aid in developing one's independence. Students who acquire tailoring and other entrepreneurial skills have the chance to earn while they learn. The interactive sessions with successful entrepreneurs are held to motivate the budding entrepreneurs in the college.

Self-reliance is greatly enhanced through personal grooming sessions, cooking wholesome nutritious meals, preparation of widely marketed items like jewelry and learning life-saving skills like Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), which can be applied in an emergency. Future employability is provided by computer-based training. Several certificate courses and training programmes in glass painting, textile dyeing, and other entrepreneurship-related topics give women the knowledge they need to become self-sufficient. The Besant Skill Development Centre and few other cells work together to make Besantians employable and industry ready.

Personal competencies are developed in addition to professional competencies. Students are carefully coached through several sessions on communication skills and enrichment courses to support personality development. The yoga, meditation, motivational talks and value-education workshops assist to shape the participants' personalities as well as their mental and physical well-being. Spiritual enrichment initiatives and a wide spectrum of cultural activities among others continue to strengthen the Indian traditions and folk culture and immensely contribute to infusing cultural syncretism and vibrancy on the campus.

A visit to hamlets/villages fosters social inclusion and togetherness, boosting the empowerment of the local population. The college magazine offers a forum for students to express themselves and discover their latent literary and artistic talents. The College won second place in the category of colleges with more than 500 students in Mangalore University's annual magazine competition for the two consecutive years 2019 and 2020. Training courses that boost confidence provide students with the resources they require to thrive in placement interviews. With different initiatives launched by the Placement Cell and Career Guidance Cell as well as via competitions like the "Fastest Finger"-Typing Speed, they are given the self-confidence to face interviews, group discussions, and debates.

The institution has acted as a catalyst by providing its students with opportunities for meaningful learning that perfectly combines a fine blend of academic knowledge and a sense of communitarian spirit. A sense of civic duty and environmental sensitivity are fostered through the NSS, Youth Red Cross, and various cells and fora. Green efforts are carried out by students both on and off campus. They are provided ample opportunities to be more socially responsive, compassionate, tolerant and disciplined through participation in various camps. The institution takes up a variety of philanthropic activities to extend financial aid to orphanages, old age homes, rehabilitation center, homes for the differently abled and the like. Social responsibility is also depicted through distribution of books and uniforms to the Besant Primary students, Free eye camp, Testing of Hemoglobin for the residents of Naringana Panchayath and Blood donation camps organized by the various cells. The Outreach

Cell had organized a Community Service programme - “Prerana” a training on Self employability skills to the inmates of “LINK” Integrated Rehabilitation center for Addicts, Bajal.

HRD Cell conducts Training programme for the Student Union leaders to improve their leadership skills. Organizational skills are honed through active participation in cells, sports and career-oriented programmes besides organizing intercollegiate events and participation in such events off the campus. With the efforts of units like NSS, Rangers, Youth Red Cross, and others, students' sense of patriotism, self-discipline, and scientific temperament are nurtured. The college received the district level best performing YRC unit for the academic year 2021 - 2022. NSS Volunteer Ms. Thanushri was selected for RD parade held in New Delhi (2023)

The institution focuses on women's rights, quality education, and freedom of thought, thanks to its vision and commitment to nurturing young women. Every Besantian is distinct as she evolves towards being self-reliant and proficient.




Principal
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