

CHAPTER 13

EDUCATION AND SPORTS

Bjapur district has a rich educational, cultural and sports heritage from the ancient times. From the Vedic times, education was passed on from father to son. All Gurukulas were education centres and here the teacher was revered and he was the guardian also. Students resided here and served the teachers. Hence the relationship between teachers and students was very cordial. People believed that imparting education was the best of all services and all donations. Therefore when donations were made to temples, a portion of it was kept for education.

Ancient Education Centres

During the ancient and Medieval period, Agraharas, village temples or Mathas were the centres of learning. According to a Sanskrit inscription of Rashtrakuta Krishna III, among the schools attached to temples in Bijapur district, the Tripurusha temple of Salotagi in Indi taluk was the most famous and ancient. Here, Sandhivigrahi Narayana, the Prime Minister of Krishna erected the statues of the Trimurthis and started a school. There were 27 rooms for students who came from different parts of the country. Here 12 Nivartanas of land for lighting facilities, 500 Nivartanas for the school and 50 Nivartanas of land for the teachers (one Nivartana was equal to about 5 acres) were given. Scholars opine that this was one of the biggest Vedic schools. Apart from this, inscriptions say that Shivalinga Devara Degulamatha of Mutagi in Bagewadi taluk, Siddalinga Kalideveshwara Matha of Managuli, Saraswathi temple of Hebbala, Marasingeshwara temple of Devuru in Sindagi Taluk, Chandeeshwara Devaramatha of Kulekumatagi, Kali Devesthna park in Hipparige, Nagareshwara temple of Rugi in Indi taluk, Siddeshwara temple at Bijapur, Tripurusha Temple at Tumbagi of Mudebikala taluk were some of the ancient education centers. Among them

Muttagi Bijapur, Kadlevada and Rugi Mathas were education centers with a glorious teaching heritage. Kondaguli School of Sindagi taluk, Chandra school of Konnuru in Beelagi Taluk, Kibbareshwara temple of Hegguru were direct education centres according to inscriptions. Sri Svayambhu Somanatha temple at Kadlevada in Sindagi taluk was a famous Ghatikasthan.

There were choultries for feeding students. When land was donated to temples, some portions were given for choultries. According to inscriptions, Hirebevinura, Kulekumatagi, Alamela Salotagi, Tumbagi, Arasibeedi in Hunagunda taluk, Banashankari in Badami taluk, Koppa in Beelagi taluk, Ingaleshwara in Bagevadi taluk, Yaravala and other villages had choultries for students. Some of them were called Vidya Satras.

Education was imparted from primary to higher level in these centers. In the Divakareshwara temple of Malaghana, Purana, Balashikeshe and discourse on Nyasa were imparted. Balashikshe was the primary level and Nyasa was related to higher education.. In the Balashikshe, alphabet and grammar were taught. Boys used to start their education at the age of 5 or 7 after their Upanayana. During the Upanayana ceremony, they were expected to give Gurudakshina to the teacher. According to an inscription, Kalyani Chalukyan ruler Sathayshrayadeva gave Muttagi village in Bagevadi taluk to Vidyanidhi Vishnubhatta, who was the teacher of his son Vikramanka.

Students who got higher education were called Chaatras. Inscriptions of Muttagi in Bagevadi taluk say that donations were given to schools in Rugi in Indi taluk, Devura and Alamela in Sindagi taluk, for the Boarding, lodging and medical facilities of these students. All these were centers of higher learning.

Kalakeri inscription gives us information about the division of land for teachers teaching different subjects. Parts of Purana recited everyday was called Khandikas and Ingaleshwara and Salotagi inscriptions tell us about the donation made to Kahandikas. Astrology was one of the important subjects in ancient Karnataka. An inscription of Huvina Hipparagi tells us about the donation of the Hipparagi village to Goveyabhatta by Rashtrakuta Nrupatunga. Nalatavada inscription tells us about the donation of four Mattars of land to Jois Govinda.

Jain Education Centres

Ingaleshwara in Bagevadi taluk was an important Jain education center of the Kalyani Chalukyan period. From the Badami Chalukyan period, Aihole was an education center and Jain sculptors had education here, according to inscriptions. Also during the 10th century, there was a Jain Matha at Jamakhandi and here education was given to the Shravakas. According to inscriptions, the Somanatha Jinalaya of Teradala was an important education center. Mudhol, the birth place of poet Ranna, Bijapur, Badami and Patṭadakal also were Jain education centres.

Education during the muslim period

Muslim rulers gave as much importance to education as to their religion. Education was out of reach for common people. Only the rich could get educated. Munshis and Moulvis imparted education in Madrasas housed in Mosques. Village schools were run with the help of donations from other local people and education centers with the help of royal donations. Though rich muslims made arrangements for education to their children in their houses, Maktabas for primary education and Madrasas for higher education were established. During the Bahamani period, the Khanakas of Shaik Sirajuddin Junedi and Khwaja Bande Nawaz were the learning centres of religion and philosophy.

The rule of Mohammad Adil Shah was an important period for the development of education. He established Madrasas and free educational institutions for the spread of education. He gave all facilities for students. He appointed capable teachers to teach the Arabic and the Persian languages. He even appointed award winning teachers in his administration. He established an Arabic school at Bijapur and a Persian school at Jumma Masjid. Poor children not only got free education but also one 'Han' (coin) every month for educational expenditure. Those who passed in the annual examinations were given prizes. Educated people were given jobs in the government according to their capabilities.

Shahpura, to the west of Bijapur (present Darga area) was a Sufi education center and had its influence on the non-muslims also. It was called Khwaja Animuddin Darga. About 5500 students received education here. Syed Ali Mohammad was a prominent Sufi Teacher and Shahabudamuddin Alvi (1674), Mohammad Mudaris (1674) and Khaji Ibrahim Junaidi (1683) were some of his students. Hazarath Shaik Ilamulla came to Bijapur from Burana on invitation from Adil Shah II and established a school at Abutarab Mohalla near Jumma Masjid and gave religious and secular education to people. Later Aurangzeb recognized his scholarship and invited him to his court. Another famous teacher who was invited to Bijapur was Syed Asadulla Gujarati. He also established a school near Jumma Masjid. His son Syed Ali Mohammad was also a famous teacher and had the title 'Ustad-e-Shahar-e-Apuliya'.

Literacy

like other districts in the state, the literacy percentage has increased in the district from decade to decade. The four decades following 1960 have seen considerable progress from 24% to 45% in literacy.

According to the census of 1961, out of 1,660,178 people, 4,05,892 were literates and the percentage of literacy in the district was 24.4. Among them 86,270 were women and they had the knowledge of reading. The progress of literacy in the district from 1970 to 1990 is given in the table 13.1. The talukwise literacy details of 1971, 1981 and 1991 are given in table 2 to 5.

Table 13.1 : Talukwise progress of literacy between 1970 and 1990

| Taluk | 1970 | | | 1980 | | | 1990 | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------------------|---------------|------------|------------------------|---------------|------------|------------------------|---------------|
| | Population | No. of Literate People | % of Literacy | Population | No. of Literate People | % of Literacy | Population | No. of Literate People | % of Literacy |
| Badami | 1,84,052 | 54,290 | 29.49 | 2,14,746 | 71,658 | 33.38 | 2,56,285 | 1,23,603 | 48.22 |
| Bagalkot | 1,49,491 | 51,992 | 34.73 | 1,82,457 | 73,144 | 40.09 | 2,08,414 | 1,04,649 | 50.21 |
| Basavana Bagewadi | 1,85,695 | 46,365 | 24.96 | 2,20,020 | 70,804 | 32.18 | 2,59,328 | 1,19,608 | 46.01 |
| Bijapur | 3,06,106 | 98,103 | 32.04 | 3,78,910 | 1,40,989 | 37.21 | 4,72,478 | 2,26,407 | 47.91 |
| Bilgi | 82,601 | 20,146 | 24.38 | 98,251 | 27,142 | 27.63 | 1,18,810 | 46,508 | 39.14 |
| Hunagund | 1,86,022 | 58,343 | 31.36 | 2,20,207 | 76,353 | 34.67 | 2,45,076 | 1,15,218 | 47.01 |
| Indi | 2,12,040 | 47,468 | 22.38 | 2,44,279 | 65,531 | 26.83 | 3,01,658 | 1,55,250 | 51.46 |
| Jamakhandi | 2,06,982 | 54,432 | 26.29 | 2,70,955 | 97,107 | 29.20 | 3,35,507 | 1,28,613 | 38.33 |
| Muddebihal | 1,58,995 | 44,184 | 27.78 | 1,84,856 | 59,515 | 32.20 | 2,18,837 | 94,990 | 43.40 |
| Mudhola | 1,22,503 | 27,463 | 22.41 | 1,64,389 | 41,856 | 25.46 | 2,20,340 | 88,403 | 40.12 |
| Sindgi | 1,91,104 | 43,017 | 22.50 | 2,22,712 | 61,414 | 27.58 | 2,77,934 | 1,33,536 | 48.04 |
| Total | 19,85,591 | 5,45,733 | 27.48 | 24,01,782 | 7,67,540 | 31.96 | 29,14,667 | 13,29,194 | 45.60 |

Table 13.2 : 1971

| Taluk | Population | Literates | Percentage |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Badami | 1,84,052 | 54,290 | 29.49 |
| Bagalakot | 1,49,491 | 51,422 | 34.73 |
| Basavana Bagewadi | 1,85,695 | 96,365 | 24.96 |
| Bijapur | 3,06,106 | 98,103 | 32.04 |
| Beelgi | 82,601 | 20,146 | 24.38 |
| Hunagund | 1,86,022 | 58,343 | 31.36 |
| Indi | 2,13,040 | 47,468 | 22.38 |
| Jamakhandi | 2,05,982 | 54,432 | 16.29 |
| Muddebihal | 1,58,995 | 44,184 | 27.78 |
| Mudhol | 1,22,503 | 27,463 | 22.91 |
| Sindgi | 1,91,104 | 43,017 | 22.50 |
| Total | 14,85,591 | 5,45,733 | 27.48 |

Table 13.3 : 1981

| Taluk | Population | No. of Literates | Percentage |
|-------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| Badami | 2,14,746 | 71,658 | 33.38 |
| Bagalakot | 1,82,457 | 73,144 | 40.09 |
| Basavana Bagewadi | 2,20,020 | 70,804 | 32.18 |
| Bijapur | 3,78,910 | 1,40,989 | 37.21 |
| Beelgi | 98,251 | 27,142 | 27.63 |
| Hunagund | 2,20,207 | 76,353 | 34.67 |
| Indi | 2,44,279 | 65,531 | 26.83 |
| Jamakhandi | 2,70,955 | 97,107 | 29.20 |
| Muddebihala | 1,84,856 | 59,515 | 32.20 |
| Mudhola | 1,64,389 | 41,856 | 25.46 |
| Sindgi | 2,22,712 | 61,414 | 27.38 |
| Total | 14,85,591 | 5,45,733 | 27.48 |

Table 13.4 - 1991

| Taluk | Population | No. of Literates | Percentage |
|-------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| Badami | 2,56,285 | 1,23,603 | 48.22 |
| Bagalakot | 2,08,414 | 1,04,649 | 50.21 |
| Basavana Bagewadi | 2,59,328 | 1,19,608 | 46.01 |
| Bijapur | 4,72,478 | 2,26,407 | 47.91 |
| Beelagi | 1,18,810 | 46,508 | 39.14 |
| Hunagund | 2,45,076 | 1,15,218 | 47.01 |
| Indi | 3,01,658 | 1,55,250 | 51.46 |
| Jamakhandi | 3,35,507 | 1,28,613 | 38.33 |
| Muddebihala | 2,18,837 | 94,990 | 43.40 |
| Mudhola | 2,20,340 | 88,403 | 40.12 |
| Sindgi | 2,77,934 | 1,33,536 | 48.04 |
| Total | 29,14,667 | 13,29,194 | 45.60 |

PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION

This stage of education that gives physical, social, emotional, intellectual and moral training is necessary for the development of a child, before it starts going to school regularly. This stage of education fulfills the educational needs of the children between the age group of two and six. Pre-primary education is basically a western concept. The man who started this system was Gene Fredrik Babaralyn (1750) of France. After him Fredrik Probels (1775) started the 'Kinder Garten' system. In India when Dr. Maris Montessory propounded the self education in 1939, Montessory schools were started and these schools also functioned like Kinder garten schools. The Sargeant Report published in 1944 recommended a scientific beginning of pre-primary education. The Indian Education Commission established in 1964 had the goal of giving pre-primary education to children between the ages of three and six years.

Pre-primary education has an important place in Karnataka. The then Maharaja of Mysore, by his special efforts had started the Kindergarten system of education in 1906. This system got a new lease of life in 1930 and in 1936 the education department organized a committee. Till 1940, such schools were established only in the urban areas. To extend this to the rural areas, necessary amendments were made in the grant-in-aid code. J.B.Mallaradhya committee gave its report on the different problems of Pre-Primary education in 1961. After this the number of Pre-Primary schools increased in 1966.

Though pre-primary schools were there in North Karnataka from the beginning of the 19th century, they did not have a scientific framework. The then government of Mumbai had issued a booklet on the syllabus of this stage.

Pre-primary classes were called children's classes. It was equivalent to the present day nursery class and was followed by the first standard. But between these two Bhinna Eyatte classes were conducted. These classes went on even in some government schools. Kotegode school of Tasabavadi in Bijapur has been giving this education since 1950 in both Kannada and Marathi mediums. Children were taught numbers, tables, kannada alphabet and pronunciation in this stage. They were taught the names of rings and precious stones by exhibiting them physically. Such schools were started in Balgalkot, Muddebihala, Jamakhandi in the district. By 1970 there were 100 pre-primary schools in the district. More than 5000 children were studying in these schools. By 1900 the number of schools increased to 260 and the number of children to 13,168. The number of trained teachers in these schools was 260. There were untrained teachers also. The details of such schools and the number of children as in 1997-98 were as follows.

Table 13.5

| Taluk | Total No. Of Schools | Total No. Of Children |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Badami | 22 | 1356 |
| Bagalkote | 22 | 706 |
| Bagewadi | 17 | 2683 |
| Bijapur City | 72 | 710 |
| Bijapur Taluk | 21 | 888 |
| Beelagi | 12 | 534 |
| Hunagund | 20 | 800 |
| Indi | 24 | 1038 |
| Jamakhandi | 12 | 587 |
| Muddebihala | 31 | 1511 |
| Mudhola | 13 | 667 |
| Sindgi | 23 | 1688 |
| Total | 260 | 13168 |

In recent times, Pre-primary education is being imported by private institutions. Among them the Ramakrishna Mission and the Arabindo Samagra Vikasa Sangha are important. People realize the importance of this stage of education and select the best schools. The already existing primary schools have not only started Pre-primary classes but new schools have been opened only for this purpose. The number of Pre-primary schools in the district was 90 in 1975 and 188 in 1985, 270 in 1995 and increased to 227 in 1996-97. The number of children also was 362, 9727, 14457 and 9718 respectively for the above years and the teaching staff was 07, 196, 260 and 217 respectively.

Gavathi schools

The 'Ayyanavara Shale (schools run by Ayyas) played an important role in importing

Pre-primary education in the district. These schools were also called Gavathi Schools. These schools were usually run in temples, Mathas and big lanes and except lunch hour they were run from morning till evening. People sent their children to these schools, as they did not want them to waste their leisure time. The teachers of these schools were generally those who had passed third or fourth standard in Kannada medium. Because of the influence of Marathi, the medium of instruction in these schools was Marathi and even tables were taught in Marathi. These schools got grant from the government according to rules. Since these schools were under the control of district boards, the district board gave an order in 1930 that tables should be taught in Kannada. These schools taught the children reading, writing and arithmetic, which were the basic necessities. Apart from the grant amount, the teachers also were paid in kind by the children.

Later, the government passed brought an order that only those with a pass in the Mulki were eligible to teach in these Gavathi schools. Therefore such trained teachers were appointed in these schools and they also started following the syllabus and the time table of the Government schools. Hence the Gavathi schools lost their popularity and slowly the District Board took over these schools.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

Prior to the British administration, four types of schools were functioning in the district. The 'Maktabs' and the Madrasas were run in mosques imported religious education and the teachers in them were called Fazil, Aleem or Pandit. After the course, a function was organized when a Turban called 'Dastarabandi' and a cloak given to the students, ordained them into the religion..

2. In the Vedic Sanskrit schools, Vedas, Shastras, Purana, Logic and Law were taught along with Astrology and medical science.

3. In the Marathi schools started during the period of the Peshwas education was imparted in the Marathi medium.

4. In the rural areas, Mathas, taught reading, writing, numbers, tables, arithmetic, reading of family letters etc. Apart from these, Bhajans, Drama, poetry recital and other cultural programmes also existed. The villagers patronized these schools run by the Mathas. Parents provided food items and milk. Students served their teachers with devotion by washing their clothes, bringing water, cutting firewood etc. They were not public institutions. No prescribed syllabus or timetable existed here. There were no trained teachers also.

Public Instruction system irrespective of race or sex started only after the British administration began. In Bijapur there were no government schools or schools run by the government till 1833. The officials of the East India Company established the Bombay Education Society to educate their children. Its services spread to the whole of Mumbai province and in 1840 the Bombay Board of Education was started. Such English schools existed in the Kannada areas of the then Shollapur district, like Chadachana, Managuli, Bagewadi, Muddebihal, Hipparagi,

Sindgi, Alamela, Indi, Talikot and Bijapur. There were a total of about 454 boy and girl students studying in these schools.

According to the Wood's Despatch, when formal education started in India in 1854, the Bijapur district had not been formed. It was under the Maratha Sardars. The government school started in 1853 at Bijapur called the Anglo-Vernacular (AV) School had classes up to the third standard where English was taught. In the same year, a Second Grade AV school was started here. The Municipal Council started at Bijapur in 1854 took these schools under its control. Kaladagi district was formed in 1865 and there were 46 primary schools by 1866 and a total of about 3477 children were studying here. By 1883 there were 156 schools, out of which 141 were Boys' Kannada schools, one Girls School, one Kannada and English medium girls school, three Marathi schools, four Urdu schools and six AV schools. Apart from these, 25 private aided schools were functioning. Among them one girl's school was included. 16 of these schools were recognized as good schools and only in these schools the sixth standard was permitted. After this, a 'Vernacular Final Exam' was conducted. This was also called 'Mulki' examination.

Kannada boys' school started at Hunnur for Muslim children in 1876, became a Basic Education School in 1957. Here a government aided girls school was started in 1958 and it came under the school management in 1964. In the same year a high school under the Taluk development authority with 106 children and four teaching staff was started. The Kannada primary school started at Tidagundi in Bijapur taluk in 1939 with 40 students had classes from the first to sixth. In the beginning, it was a 'Mobile school' working at Tidagundi and Mukhanapura. In 1960 it was made to work at the Hanuman Temple in Tidagundi.

General education was promoted after the Hunter Commission Report of 1882 and imparting of general primary education started. New schools were established in educationally backward areas. The famine of 1897 in the district had its effect on education field also. By 1900, 207 primary schools were working in Bijapur district (193 boys Kannada schools, 07 Kannada girls schools, 06 Urdu and one Marathi school). There were corporation schools in Bagalkote and Bijapur. By 1910 the number of these schools was 342 and in a decade 135 new schools were established in the educationally backward areas.

The then Mumbai government formed the Chandavarkar committee in 1921 with the intension of bringing primary education under management of the natives. According to the recommendation of the committee, except Bagalkote and Bijapur municipality limits, administration of all the primary schools in the district was taken over by the local board from 1.1.1927. The School Board came into existence on the same day. To spread education to backward class people, this board established schools called 'Dheda' schools in the backward class areas at Indi, Atharga, Babaleshwara, Toravi, Bijjaragi, Honavada, Kanamadi, Kakhandaki, Talikote and other places in 1931. Primary Education Act of Mumbai, aiming at a 7-year compulsory primary education for all the children of above 6

years, was implemented in the district in 1947. Schools recognized by the government, but not under the administration city corporation were under the district boards. This board consisted of members belonging to official, non-official, Taluk board and SC/ST categories.

As per the act, the District Boards and Municipalities had provision to start schools with the mother tongue of students if their number was not less than 40. Between 1950-1970, new primary schools with new buildings were started in almost all villages of the district. The person who was mainly responsible for this was P.M.Nadagowda who was then the president of the school board. When Mumbai Karnataka region were acceded to Mysore State in 1956, the local boards lost their identity. The School Boards which were a part of them worked till 1969 when they were brought under the government administration.

There were 1932 primary schools in the district, of which 54 were municipal, 1820 district board, four Municipal aided and 54 District Board aided schools. Of the 2,33,843 children studying in these schools, 39,587 were girls. The number of primary schools in the district in 1975 was 984 and 2,79,773 children were studying in these schools. The number of teaching staff was 6,955.

By 1985 the number of schools in the district increased to 2141 and the number of children to 3,64,056. the number teaching staff was 7,791 and by 1995 in 2,591 schools a total of 5,56,069 children and 11,102 teachers were there. In 1996-97, the number of primary schools was 2,709 and 5,56,191 children were studying in these schools. 11,433 teachers were working in these schools. It was in the ratio of 1:50.

Compulsory Primary Education

The Compulsory Primary Education Act started by the Mumbai government in 1947 for children between the age group of 6 and 11 years was brought into effect in Bijapur district in the year 1962. In this plan, 1,00,268 boys and 76,345 girls were recognized as school going children in 1964. Among them 94,611 and 70,756 respectively were admitted to schools.

Table 13.6 : Details of children in government and aided schools as on 31st March 1954 under Municipal School Board, Bijapur

| Government | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|
| Total no.of schools | | Total no. of children | | Total no. of Teachers | | Total no.of Teachers | |
| | | Boys | Girls | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Boys Schools | 20 | 4166 | 352 | 120 | 02 | 97 | 02 |
| Girls Schools | 13 | 96 | 2868 | 12 | 68 | 10 | 46 |
| Aided | | | | | | | |
| Boys Schools | 07 | 1456 | 596 | 45 | 11 | 32 | 02 |
| Girls Schools | 02 | 78 | 145 | 04 | 06 | 03 | |

Primary education included standards one to seven and while the schools with first to fourth standards were called Lower Primary Schools, the fifth to the seventh standards were called Higher Primary Schools.

**Table 13.7 : Details of children studying from
1st to 7th standards in the district during the year 1998-99:**

| Class | 1st Std | 2 nd Std | 3 rd Std | 4 th Std | 5 th Std | 6 th Std | 7 th Std |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Boys | 44693 | 33298 | 23581 | 17750 | 10295 | 9148 | 6892 |
| Girls | 36765 | 23735 | 13751 | 7797 | 3316 | 2405 | 1818 |
| Total | 81458 | 57033 | 37332 | 25147 | 13611 | 10552 | 8710 |

The growth in the number of Kannada primary schools in the district was as follows: 1855 schools-09, children 395; 1865 schools-46, children-2877; 1875 schools-1156, children-7680; 1980 schools-1715, children-2,76,097 and 1990 schools-1926 and children-4,08,628.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Basel Mission of Germany made Mangalore the center of their religious propaganda in 1835 and as a part of it established schools at Dharwad, Hubli, Gadag and Bijapur. The government, with the idea of starting Model High Schools in the educationally backward areas, one in each district, started a school at Kaladagi in 1866. In 1885, Bijapur was transformed into a district center, and then this school was transferred to Bijappur and was named 'Bijapur Agricultural High School'. It is presently the Government Pre-University College near Bijapur. This school was earlier situated at Afzal Khan vade near Tasabavadi. Till 1891, education was given only upto 5th standard. In the same year, it became a full-fledged middle school and later the only High School giving metric education. B.D.Jatti, India's Vice-president, R.V.Jagirdar, the first vice chancellor of Karnataka university, famous play wright Sri Ranga, V.K.Gokak, educationist Rohidekar and many eminent persolanaties were the students of this school. The present building was inaugurated in 1900 and the school started working in the same building from 1905. The pre-university college, which gives job oriented training in Agriculture and Sericulture, had more than 2000 students and 70 teachers in the year 1997-98. Krishna, Srinivasa, Hunagunda, Sheshagiri Janardhana Kolluru, Hanumantha Rao Sagara and others who were teaching here in 1898 started a monthly magazine called 'Bhasha Sevaka'. The school, which was giving co-education, became a girls high school known as "Anglo Canaries Girls High School" in 1922 and now is a pre-university college for girls. In 1997-98 the number of students in this college was 1,199 and the number teachers 38. Prior to 1960 higher education was imparted in different ways in different parts of the state. From that year a uniform system of higher education throughout the state was implemented. The first public examination at the end of 10th standard was conducted in April 1963. There were 70 high schools in the district during the year 1965-66. Of them three were boys government schools, four girls government schools, two T.D.B, two Municipal and 59 private High Schools. There were no Higher Secondary

Schools in the district before 1965. In this year, two private schools at Bijapur and Bagalkote and a Municipal school at Guledagudda were converted to Higher Secondary schools. 29909 boys and 4027 girls were studying in these schools.

By 1975, there were 119 high schools in the district. with 33,796 children 2,199 teaching staff. The number of schools rose to 257 by 1985 and the number of students to 70,549 and the staff to 2,800. In 1995 the number of schools was 530, children 1,00,820 and teachers 3,068. During the academic year 1996-97, there were 535 schools and 82,222 students. The number of teachers was 3,095. Details of the oldest schools of the district and the managements running them are discussed further.

TEACHERS' TRAINING

For the training of teachers at the pre-primary level a number of pre-primary Teachers' training centers function in major taluks and towns of the district. Basaveshwara teachers training Institute started in 1942 to train teachers is the oldest in this region. It started with a strength of 35 students and now has trained more than 7000 students. It has a teaching strength of 130 to teach both first and second year and has a separate hostel for girls as also free boarding facility. Though TCH classes were started at Bijapur Darbar Institution in 1948, they were closed in 1955.

The Siddeshwara Teachers' Training Institute started by the BLDE Management at Lachanya in 1950 was the second in the district and the first for the rural area. Till now this institute has trained more than 6000 students. The Government Teachers Training Institute was started at Hungund in 1963. Infact it was started at Talikota in 1945 and was shifted to Jamakhandi the next year and later established at Hunagund in 1963. The Government Teachers Training Institute started at Ilkal by this time was the only Women's Training Institute. It has a good building, a library and a hostel.

To train Urdu teachers for the upliftment of the minorities, Government Urdu Teachers, Training Centre of Bijapur and Anjuman Urdu Girls Teachers' Training Institutes were started.

The Teachers' Training Institutions which were functioning in the district by the end of 1998 were Government Teacher's Training College, Jamakhandi, BLDE Jnanayogi Teachers' Training College, Bijapur (Aided), Government District Women's Primary Teachers' Training Centre, Ilkal, Government District Primary Teachers' Training Centre, Hunagund, Basaveshwara Primary Teachers Training Centre., Bagalakote (Aided), Government Urdu Primary Teachers' Training center, Bijapur, Anjuman Urdu Primary Tachers' Training center, Indi (Aided), and S.S.Primary Teachers' Training Centre, Lachyana (Aided).

Role of Private Managements in the field of Education

Swami Vivekananda Educational Institution established at Jamakhandi in 1979, Poornapragna Education Society of Rabakavi, Mathrushri Gurusangamma Kori Educational Institution of Muddebihal, the Sanskrit Boarding School run by Kumareshwara Prachya Vidya Pracharaka Samithi of Badami, Gurudeva Ranade Jnana Dhama High school (1966) on the way

to Sonnupura, Ashrama School established by Dr.Akki at Alamatti, Ashrama school established by Sri Shambhulinga Shastri at Hulyala, Totada Ashrama school started by Girijemma at Hirerugi Jolegaon are not only serving the educational needs but also have played an important role in shaping the moral personalities of the students.

BLDE Institution, Bijapur

BLDE Institution was established in the year 1910 by Rao Bahadur F.G. Halkatti, Rao Saheb Alamala Deshmukh, Deputy Director G.A.Deshmukh, Sangappa Sardesai Rakkasagi, Gangappa Desai Sonna and others. To provide food, shelter and freeship to the talented poor students of the District, they collected a fund of Rs.15,000. When the German Basel Mission members went back to their country after the First World War, they sold their Institution to BLDE Institution for Rs.1000. The BLDE New English School started with eight teachers and 83 students. This school was recognized by the Mumbai University in 1917 as a full fledged Middle school. Since the Siddeshwara Gudi Institute gave financial aid to the BLDE building, it was renamed as Sri Siddeshwara High School in 1924. Vijaya College was started in 1945 under the auspices of this Institution. Schools and Colleges run by this Institution in different parts of the district are as follows:

S.S.Highschool, Bijapur, 1917; S.B.Arts and K.P.Science College, Bijapur, 1945; S.S.Teachers Training Institute, Lachyana, 1950; S.S.Okkalutana Primary school, Lachyana, 1955; A.S.P. Commerce College, Bijapur, 1961; S.D.S.T.Composite P.U.College, Savalagi, 1962; P.U.College, Devara Hipparagi, 1963; Gajanana P.U.College, Tikota, 1963 BHS Arts and T.B.P. Science and Commerce Collee, Jamakhandi, 1963; S.B.P.U.College, Teradala, 1965; S.S.B.High School, Bijapur, 1967; N.E.High School, Ukkali, 1968, Girls High School, Bijapur, 1969; New Arts College, Bijapur, 1969; School of Business Management, Bijapur, 1977; Siddeshwara Arts Institute, Bijapur, 1979; C.P.E.D.College, Bijapur, 1980; School of Pharmacy, Bijapur, 1982, Women's Arts and Commerce College, Bijapur, 1983; Basaveshwara Arts and Commerce College, Bagevadi, 1982; Teachers Training College, Bijapur, 1980; Technical Engineering College, Bijapur, 1980; Medical College, Bijapur, 1986; Polytechnic College, Bijapur, 1986; School of Nursing, Bijapur, 1990; and Indira Gandhi Open University Centre, Bijapur, 1992.

Schools and Colleges run by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes: 1. Sri Sharana Basaveshwara High School (1983) of Harijana Girijana Seva Sangha. Bagalakote (2) Mathrushri Ramabai Ambedkar High School run by Dr.Ambedkar Education Society, Bijapur, (1985) (3)Sharana Basaveshwara High School at Nagavi (1985) and Ambedkar High School at Sindagi of Gautama Buddha Institution, Sindagi (4) Adarsha High School at Bagalkot of Sri.Haralaiah V.N.Sangha (1984) (5) Raddera Thimmapura High School of Harijana Girijana Samaja Unnatha Mandali of Badami (1984) (6) Mallikarjuna High School at Bennuri run by Ambedkar V.A.Samithi

(1984) (7) High Schools at Muddebihal an Indi of District Dalita Hitavardhaka Seva Sangha (8) High Schools at Muddebihala and Indi of Sudugadu Sidda Shaikshanika Seva Sangha (9) Highschools at Bagevadi and Talikota run by Adijambava Education Society (10) Mahatma Gandhi High School at Bijapur run by Kakkaiah Education Society and (11) Kesiraja High school at Kondaguli run by Bijapur District Adijambava Social, Economic, Cultural Association.

Apart from these, District Upparara Sangha, Sajjana Ganigara Sangha and Panchalara Sangha are rendering yeoman service in the educational field. Also, the Government of Karnataka has started a Residential High School for merited girl students of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Sri Basaveshwara Viyavardhaka Sangha, Bagalkot

This Institution was started with the efforts of Sri Gurubasava Ajja in 1906. Ghatabasappa Motagi, Rudrappa Gongavada, Shivappa palleda, Veerasangappa Guddada and Murigeyya Jangina have worked for the all round development of this institution. It started first as a Sanskrit school. There was a free boarding home and Gurubasava library also. Since students were not getting seats easily in the A.V. School run by the city corporation, the Sangha started Basaveshwara Middle School in 1917 with 25 children. It became a full-fledged Middle School in 1923 and a High School building was constructed in 1930.

Even before the Siddeshwara High School started, the south Maharashtra Education Institution had started an A.V. School in Bijapur. Gangacharya Jahagirdar and R.P Kulkarni started the Sri Krishna School (High School) with two teachers and three students in 1909 in the same place. After Sri Hanumantharao Kunnur became the Head Master in 1916 it was made a High School. The next year, Pandurangarao Desai donated Rs. 15,000 to the school. After it got a strong financial foundation the school was named as PDJ High School.

The V.B. HighSchool was started as the ancient Brahmapuri in the Estate House of R.V. Hirekerur Godbole. In 1928 it was named as Sri Krishnaraja High School in the name of Hirekerur's son. Because of financial constraints this school was taken over by Arya Samaj and named as Krishnaraja Arya Samaj High School and later as Vidyaranya High School after R.H. Konnur became the Head Master. The Bagalkot coorporation was running an A.V. School from 1881. It was closed in 1935 because of financial constraints.

The local Muslims started the Anjuman-e-Islam institution in 1942 for the development of minorities. From 1943 they started classes both in Kannada and Urdu medium. The institution is running many higher educational institutions. In 1915, Raghavendra Desai Vakil, Krishnarao Deshpande, Rangappa and others established a taluk educational committee at Hunagunda and it started an A.V. School. It continued to be an A.V. School till 1944 and became a High School in the same year. At Guledagudda in Badami taluk, the Oppothina Swamy A.V. School (O.S.A.V) was started in 1921. The corporation took over the management of the school in 1931. It became a High School in 1944.

The A.V. School started by Chennagirishwara Vidyavardhaka Trust at Mahalingapura in Mudhol province in 1914 became a High School in 1941. Janata Education Society was started in 1929 at Banahatti in Chikkodi Taluk under the guidance and in the house of Chikkodi Thammanappa. This society started an A.V. School with the 4000 Rupees fund donated by Babu Rao Moole. It got permission to start a High School in 1935. This school got a donation of Rs.15000 from the prince of Jamakhandi Province. Then it came to be called S.R. High School.

Khasgatesha English School was started at Talikote in 1938 with a strength of 11 students. It was later shifted to the Mutt in 1941. Kasgatesha Vidyavardhaka Snagha was registered in 1943. It became a full-fledged High School in 1945.

The Taluk Shikshana Pracharaka Mandali was started at Sindgi under the guidance of V.R. Dalavi in 1944. Huchchappa Sangappa Bada donated Rs.15000 to this institution. A High School was started in his name.

There were 20 High Schools in the district by 1947, of which were, two government, one for boys and one for girls, five under the management of Mudhol Province and 10 under private managements.

Post-Independence

V.C. Motagi not only established the Veerashiva Vidyavardhaka Sangha at Muddebihal in 1951 but also the Modern High School. Neelakantha Rao, a rich man of Balidinni donated the land and Gangamma donated funds and thus was established Chinivara high school.

Veerapulakeshi Vidyavardhaka Sangha high school was established at Hanagal in 1956 under the guidance of K.M. Puttannasetty. It received a donation of Rs.1,11,000 in the name of Gurupadappa Mahantappa Kalyana Setty. S.S. Hiremath established the Siddeshwara high school at Indi in 1952.

In 1956 A.R. Hiremath Middle School was established at Kerur. This school received a donation of Rs.50,000 from Vastrada Rachaiah. The girls high school started in the same year here received a donation of Rs.1,00,001 from Adivemma. When linguistic states were formed, special encouragement was given to start a Multipurpose High Schools and the BLDE institution of Bijapur started the Shetty Multipurpose high school at Lachchya in 1955. Between 1947 and 1956, the number of high schools in the district rose from 20 to 30.

After the reorganization of the State

The following private institutions were established- Veerashiva Educational Institution at Nalatvada in 1961, Someshwara V.A. Sangha (high school) at Yalavara in 1967, a high school at Moratagi in 1966 (presently Junior College), Sangameshwara Sarvodaya Institution at Seevaragi in Indi Taluk in 1965, a High school at Tangadagi in 1964 and in the same year the Shivayogeshwara High school at Salotgi under the leadership of N.G. Kerur. The number of such institutions increased as follows: from 1854 – 1854 to 1900, 3; 1900 to 1947, 20; 1947 to 1956, 30; 1957 to 1970, 101 and 1971 to 1990, 200.

Influence of Urdu and Marathi languages on the Education system in the district

After the fall of the Vijayanagar Empire, the influence of the Marathas in the district increased and it had its effect on the education system. Because of the administration of non-kannadigas in this part of Karnataka, Marathi became popular as a subject and as the medium of instruction. Marathi became the state language under the administration of the Marathas, which was evident in Bijapur district, as it was under the administration of the collectorate of Kollahpur. Marathi took the place of Kannada in the local educational institutions. These kinds of changes were seen in places which were under the administration of the Muslims. It was inevitable for the people to learn the language of their administrators, for a peaceful co-existence and to get into government jobs. Though the government had declared Kannada as the official language in 1836 itself, the position of Kannada was pathetic. Balagangadhara Shastri, who was the Education Commissioner in the Southern Maratha region, had made a mention of this in his report to the government in 1841.

After the fall of Tippu (1799) and Peshwas (1818), Bijapur, Dharwad, Belgaum and North Canara districts came under the administration of the British. The Board of Education was established in 1840 to look after the administration of education in the above said districts and schools were also established. Most parts of the present Bijapur were under the collectorate of Sholapur. After the establishment of the southern collectorate, many parts of the district, including Bijapur came under the Satara collectorate. According to the educational report of 1846, the position of Kannada language improved after the establishment of the Board of Education. This board existed till the 30th of April 1855 when it was brought under the direct administration of the Director of Public Instruction from 1.5.1855.

Compared to the other areas of the Mumbai Province where Marathi and Gujarathi languages dominated. Karnataka lagged behind educationally. Though people realized the importance of education and forced the establishment of schools, they never realized the usefulness of getting educated in the mother tongue. The administration also did not have interest in this issue. Lack of efficient teachers trained in Kannada language and non-availability of Kannada books were the problems in bringing Kannada medium into force. Though books were translated from English, they were not translated to Kannada. Venkata Rango Katti was the first Director of the Kannada Translations Department established in 1867 at Dharwad. In the same year, translation of Marathi book of fifth standard to Kannada was completed and translation of sixth standard book started. The first Kannada book for this province was written by him.

Apart from this, European officers like Worth who knew Kannada worked for the propagation of Kannada literature and encouraged the Kannada movement. Government also recognized people like Chennabasappa, Venkata Rango Katti, Bhujangarao Huyilagol, S.K. Rodda and R.V. Savanur and made them lead the movement. Karnataka Vidyavardhaka Sangha established at Dharwad in 1890 unified the Kannadigas and established Kannada libraries and reading rooms, to help the implementation of Kannada language. Even the book committee recognized good Kannada books and helped their writers win laurels from the government. The movement thus started helped in creating an awareness among the Kannadigas about their mother tongue.

A few old Important Educational Institutions of the district

Government Model Kannada Boys Primary School, Sarwadam Bijapur : This school was started in 1864 with 30 children and one teacher. Permission was granted in 1891 for starting the fifth standard and the number of students increased to 50 and the number of teachers to two. When the sixth standard was started in 1899, there were three teachers and 80 students in the school. The Seventh standard which was started in 1911 had six students. Then the total number of students was 110. A separate school for girls was established in 1930, which was transformed into Jeevana Shikshana school in 1946 and a Model School in 1972.

Kannada Boys Model School, Kannura, Bijapur Taluk : Though this school started as a private voluntary school in 1864, it was taken over by the government the very next year. It became a full-fledged primary school in 1896 and celebrated its golden and diamond jubilee in 1915 and 1940 respectively. It became a school in 1945 and a model school in 1969. Its centenary celebration was held in 1978.

Kannassda Boys School , Hittanahalli Taluk, Bijapur : This school started in 1882 and celebrated its centenary in 1982.

Boys Government (Agricultural) Primary School, Bijapur : This institution was established as an A.V. School in 1866 at the then district head quarters of Kaladagi. After the district headquarters was shifted to Bijapur in 1885, it was shifted to Afzal Khan Vada in Tajabavadi and in 1891 it became a full-fledged High school. The present building was constructed in 1900. It occupies a two-acre area and contains 13 rooms, library, drawing room, laboratory, gallery, gym and hostel. The house of the commissioner (the principal lives at present) and the guard's house are in the compound of the school. It was converted to Job oriented Agricultural School in 1939. At present, 1600 students are studying in this institution.

Government Girls' Pre-University College, Bijapur : This school was established for the development of women in 1921 as an Anglo-Canarese Girls High School. This was the first and only High School for the girls established by the Government. It became a full fledged High School in 1943. Separate classes were held for Marathi, Kannada and Urdu children. At present, this Institution has a Pre-university college and has about 1400 children. Radio repair and Embroidery subjects are included in the Job-oriented education wing.

A list of some important institutions and the date of their establishment in the district are given here under: Mahathma Gandhi Government Boys Model School, Indi, 1842; Kannada Boys School, Nidagundi, Bagewadi Taluk, 1862; Kannada Boys Government Model Primary School, Halasagi, Indi Taluk, 1862; A.V.School, Bagalakot, 1865; Model School, Kolhara, 1866; Government Model Kannada Primary School, Gudura, Hunagund Taluk, 1867; Model Primary School, Galagali, Bilagi Taluk, 1871; Kannada Boys School, Musabinala, Bagewadi Taluk, 1872; Model Primary School, Kaundaragi,, Bilgi Taluk, 1885; A.V.School, Rabakavi, 1885; Kannada Boys Upper Primary School, Binjalabhavi, Sindgi Taluk, 1886; Government Model Primary School, Nagura, Hunagund Taluk, 1887; Urdu Boys Government Primary School, Indi, 1904; Kannada Model Primary School, Lachchyana, Indi Taluk, 1905; Basaveshwara Sanskrit School, Bagalakot, 1906; Kannada Primary

School, Mahalingapur, Mudhol Taluk, 1914; Vijaya Mahantesha A.V.School, Hunagunda, 1915; Janata Education Society, A,V,School, Banahatti, 1929; Vijaya Mahantesha Government Upper Primary Central School, Ilakal, 1929; and Khaskatesha A,V,School, Talikote, Muddebihal Taluk, 1938.

COMMERCE EDUCATION

An awareness about Commerce Education was created when Bagalakot's Jangina Marugaiah became the President of Hubli's Karnataka Chamber of Commerce (North) in 1935. During those days, people had to go to Poona for learning typing and those who passed this were given G.C.D.(Government Commerce Diploma) degree. The two important parts of commerce education-Typing and Shorthand developed in the district in the 1940's. Before that, except Bijapur city, this type of education was not given in any other part of the district.

The first typewriting Institute in Bijapur city was established by C.K. Dixit in 1937. The second school was established by P.N.Deshpande and the next by the brother-in-law of C.K.Dixit, Mr.M.A.Kakhandi. In the above said schools, only typing was taught. S.K.Dharmadhikari started the 'Dharmadhikari Shorthand and Typewriting Institute' at Bijapur in 1944. This was the first English Shorthand Institute. Vishwas Commerce School, an important Commerce Institute of the district was started by V.G.Nitsure in 1960 and it is rendering yeomen service even to this day. Since most of the Commerce Institutes at present are run by people who were students in the Dharmadhikari Institute, this Institute can be called the mother institute of Commerce Education in the district.

Till 1960, none of the Commerce Institutes in the district was recognized either by the Mumbai or the Mysore government. Between 1960 and 1980's Institutes like Gurunatha Commerce Institute, Vishwas Commerce Institute, Hanuman Commerce Institute, Lakshmi Commerce Institute (all at Bijapur), Padaki Commerce Institute, Vidya Commerce Institute, Padmaraja Commerce Institute (at Bagalakot and Sindgi) and Jamakhandi Lakshmi Commerce Institute and such other 58 Institutes had been established. By 1963 only the Dharmadhikari and Gurunath Commerce Institutes had been recognized by the state Government. Prior to recognition, the students of these Institutes had to go to Kolhapur to appear for the commerce examination. Some Institutes took typewriters to the examination centers for the benefit of students. After being recognized by the Government, Bijapur became the examination center. At present, along with Bijapur, Bagalkot, Jamakhandi, Muddebihal and Ilakal are also recognised centers of this examination. Every year during May and November around 2,500 students appear for different Commerce examinations. By 1998 December, a total of 59 commerce institutes were functioning in the district.

URDU EDUCATION

When the British started Urdu schools in Bijapur district, they called them 'Hindustani Schools'. Urdu and Hindustani are the same with a different script. Sufi saints, who spread Bhakti path used Urdu more than Arabic or Persian languages. It was the language of the common

people. Hence it gained entry into the mosques also. Even the religious teachers explained the religious ideas of the Quran in Urdu. That is how like in other places Urdu became the spoken and religious language in Bijapur province also. Ibrahim Adil Shah who himself was an authority on Urdu language encouraged the development of this language. He brought families from Iran and developed this language.

Urdu schools started functioning in mosques. According to educational reports, during 1881-82, Urdu Primary Schools were started at Bijapur, Bagalkot, Talikot, and Golasangi in the district. The educational administration of the district came under the Local Board and Municipal School Board after 1882. This paved the way for the rapid development of Urdu education in the urban areas. By that time, in Bijapur city itself there were 24 Urdu schools with 2000 children and 171 teachers. Urdu Education developed in stages in rural areas. Between 1885 and 1900 five Urdu schools were started one each at Badami, Kerura, Kaladagi, Honavada and Muddebihal. Later, between 1911 and 1924, 21 schools were started Chalachagudda, Beelgi, Indi, Galagali, Shirur, Bagewadi, Kolhara, Shivanagi, Saravada, Ameenagad, Goodura, Hunagunda, Kamatagi, Chadachana, Indi (Girls) Nalatvaada, Alameela, Devara Hipparagi, Jalavadi and Maratagi. Between 1925 and 1940, ten more Urdu schools were established at places like Koodagi, Honaganahalli, Soolibhavi, Salotagi, Thamba, Kalikeri, Mannura, Kakhandaki, Tenahalli and Honnura. After independence, Urdu schools were established at places where Muslim population was more to help the children of minorities to get educated. By December 1998, there were 274 Urdu schools in the district with a total of 991 teachers and 29,901 children.

Higher Urdu Education

There were no Urdu High schools in the district before 1942. Urdu teachers had been appointed in Government High School for Boys, Siddeshwara High School and V.B.Darbara High School at Bijapur and Basaveshwara High School at Bagalakot. There were separate sections for children whose mother tongue was Urdu.

Anjuman Institution was started at Bijapur in 1928. This Institution started a Urdu library in 1942. An Anglo-Urdu school was started in 1943 with only three students. Ganapathi Puranik was the first Head Master of this school. The Anjuman Institution started a separate Urdu High School for girls in 1962. The same institution started a degree college in 1970. The Royal Education Society was started at Bijapur in 1968 and it is running a Balavadi, Primary and High schools. 'Sikyab Education Society' is also running Nursery, Primary and High schools not only at Bijapur but also at Thikota, Mudhol and Kolhara. At present Arabi and Persian classes are being run in most of the mosques. Husen Saheb Bangaragund, a teacher in Anjuman High school at Bijapur has started a free Boarding Home for the poor students of villages. Urdu and Kannada schools are working complementary to each other. Shivanagi High School, V.P.High School and Government High Schools of Badami, Basavana Bagewadi, Jamakhandi as well as Guledagudda Anjuman High Schools at Bijapur and Sindgi are examples for this.

ADULT EDUCATION

Night schools, an important part of Adult Education were first started in Europe after the Industrial Revolution. When need arose for educating teachers for professional skill, such schools were started in 1730. When the English rule was started in India, the native youth started learning English in Night Schools. The Hunter Commission of 1830 recommended a Basic Literacy Scheme. In Mumbai province, Adult Education obtained new dimension in 1937-38. The Divisional Social Educational Conference of Belgaum was held at Basavana Bagewadi in 1948.

The students of Girl School II at Bagalkot started 'Learn and Teach' movement to make the women of their neighbours literates. The illiterate youth of Harijan colony in Ingalageri of Muddebihal taluk learnt reading and writing in only one month, as they wanted to enact a street play for which they wanted to memorise the dialogues. Sir M. Vishveshwaraiah who was the Dewan of Mysore between 1912 and 1918 started 7000 Night Schools in the state. Several such schools had been established at Bijapur district at that time. But the progress of adult education in the district between 1971 and 1981 was lower than the state progress. The literacy percentage here was 27.48 (state level 31.5) in 1971 and 31.85 (state level 31.41) in 1981. Adult education system was introduced scientifically on the second October 1978 and the 'Anthyodaya' and 'Aksharasena' schemes aimed at uplifting five very poor families in the village came into force.

As part of the International Literacy Year, mass literacy movement started with the help of central government in Bijapur district in 1990. The first experimental programme was held at Muddebihal taluk. A voluntary association called Saksharata Sadana was established in 1991. This association, which is in Bijapur city, guides all literacy programme. With the chief Secretary of Zillaparishat as the president of this association and the district commissioner as the Vice President and there will be 11 members of the working committee while the taluk Saksharatha Sadan at the taluk level, the Mandal executive Literacy Committee functions at the Mandal levels started functioning.

Fine Art Education

Fine arts and fine art education have an important role in the north Karnataka area. The inclination of the public about fine arts in the district is noteworthy. The first fine art institute of the district, Siddeshwara Kala Mandira was established at Bijapur in 1979. In 1983, Mahesha School of Art under the auspices of the Jayavijaya Vividdodhesha Shikshana Samsthe was established at Mudhol and in 1984 Chitrakala Vidyalaya under the auspices of the Revana Siddeshwara Vidyavardhaka Sangha was established at Huvinahipparagi. In 1986, a fine art school was established at Indi by Rural Development Education Association and in 1990 Allamaprabhu Chitrakala Vidyalaya was established at Ameenagad as also fine art schools at Bagalakot and Muddebihal.

The students of the leading Fine Art schools of the district, Siddeshwara Chitrakala Mandir arrange many exhibitions and take part in competitions at Mysore Dasara and Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations and have won many prizes. Under the auspices of this institution, painting competitions for children, graphic camp, painting exhibition, seminars on fine arts, Art Camps and Art exhibitions

have been organized and many famous artists of the state have been honoured. There is not only a graphic studio but also an art gallery, which helps in fine arts exhibitions.

Marathi Education

The influence of Marathi language was more in the Bijapur area, which is the border of Karnataka and Maharashtra states. Their relationship was cordial in the religious, literary and educational fields also. During the rule of the Peshwas, Marathi was the official language of this area. Though Kaladagi and later Bijapur were the district headquarters till 1885, Poona was the center of higher education. Therefore, the Marathi language was inevitable in this area. Even merchants used Marathi in their business letters and income and expenditure statements.

By the efforts of Krishnarao Ajarekar the present Jijamatha Marathi Girls School was established in 1886 as 'Radhabai School'. This was taken over by the government in 1969. The present 'Shivaji Marathi Boys School' was established at Bijapur in 1886 as 'Municipal Marathi Jubilee School'. When the government took over the school in 1969, it was called Marathi Boys school No. 1. But even to-day it is famous as Shivaji School. Of the four Marathi Schools that functioned at Bijapur during 1881 – 82, there were 123 students in the Anglo – Vernacular schools, 99 children (20 girls among them) were studying in the Kannada primary schools, 125 children (with 24 girls) in the Hindustani Urdu Schools and 129 (24 girls) in the Marathi primary schools. In the figures shown above it can be noticed that the number of children who went to Marathi schools was more. Till today, Marathi words and numbers are used effortlessly in the spoken language daily.

Both Kannada and Marathi girl students got admission in the school established in the centre of Bijapur City in honour of Queen Victoria in 1901 – 02. In 1911, two full-fledged Marathi Jubilee schools (one for boys and one for girls) were constructed in the city. Even to this day, classes from first to seventh standards are being conducted here. There were 363 boys and 210 girls respectively in these schools during 1933 – 34. In December 1908, Hanumantha Rao Halasangi, Bidukasar Masthar, Manku Devarkar, Rajput Masthar and Akshanthi Masthar together started 'Panchmithra Marathi School' at Bijapur. This School was taken over by Shikshana Prasarak Mandali in 1940 and by the Government in 1969. Tilaka Mahila Samaja started in 1921 opened Tilaka Kanya Shale. Darbara Marathi primary school under the auspices of Vidya Vardhaka Sangha was established by Vithaldas Sarbari in 1937. This was taken over by the Government in 1969. Marathi Education was given not only in Marathi schools but also in different primary schools. Though linguistic states came into existence after independence, Kannada- Marathi co-existence has continued in this area. In the 1990's there were five Marathi Primary Schools at Bijapur with 1249 children and 47 teachers, three at Bagalakot with 302 children and 16 teachers, three at Jamakhandi with 620 children and 42 teachers, two at Mudhol with 208 children and 13 teachers. There were no separate Marathi Middle Schools at Bijapur before 1945. Separate Marathi classes were held at Government High schools. In 1866 a Marathi High School was started at Kaladagi and it was shifted to Bijapur in 1885. The A.V.School started here in 1890 became a full fledged Middle School later. Education till Matric was given here. Government High School for Girls was

separated in 1921. There were separate sections for Marathi students in both these schools. High schools were started at Mudhol in 1887 and Jamakhandi in 1888. Marathi education was encouraged by the Ghorpade Government of Mudhol and Parashuram Bhavu Patavardhan Government of Jamakhandi. At present separate Marathi medium classes are going on in Patavardhan P.B.High School (presently government) of Jamakhandi. The famous philosopher and former Vice-Chancellor of Allahabad university, R.D.Ranade was a student of this school. Bijapur Shikshana Pracharaka Mandali started Marathi Middle School at Bijapur in 1945.

There are no separate Marathi Institutions at the Pre-university and College level. There is provision for giving education for students who have opted for Marathi as a subject at the BLDE College in Bijapur and Jamakhandi as also at Anjuman and Sikyab College at Bijapur and the Darbar Pre-university College. At the BLDE teachers college in Bijapur, education is given in Marathi and the Marathi school is being used as the Practising School for training teachers.

SCOUTS AND GUIDES

The Scouts and Guides movement was started by Dewan Bahadur S.G.Deshmukh in the district after the unification of the state. He was the first Scouts Commissioner and under his guidance a firm foundation was laid by H.T.Sasanura, K.S.Kaujajagi, Susheela bai Kodekal for Scouts and Guides which resulted in the construction of a building in 1962. With the enormous growth of the activities of the organisation, a new building was constructed and inaugurated in 1991 with the assistance of the Zilla Parishat and from the public donations. Prior to 1978, officers from the state headquarters were deputed to train the teachers in Scouts and Guides. At present the Institute has trained Leader Trainers and Assistant Leader Trainers to train teachers in Scouting and Guiding. Among them all 24 have won Himalaya Medals.

Activities : In the Scouts and Guides conference held by the organisation in 1985, 116 scouts and 63 guides took part. At the Bulbul festival held at Bijapur in the same year 800 cubs and 400 Bulbuls participated. At the divisional level seminar held in 1987, 168 Scouts and 85 Guides took part. Between 1988 and 1993 several programmes were held exclusively for teachers and students. 120 people participated in the Woodbands. Graduates conference was held in 1994. Under the leadership of Guides Commissioner of Belguam Division the President, Vice-president, Scouts and Guides get the guidance. Under the Scouts division of the district in 1985, 10 cub packs with 240 cubs, 35 scouts troops with 1120 scouts were working. Their number increased to 1304 cubs (51cubs pack) 3558 Scouts (132 scouts troop) in 1995 and 2692 cubs (108 cub packs) 4224 Scouts (132 Scout troops) in 1998 respectively.

Under the Guides Division, 15 packs with 360 Bulbuls, 35 companies with 1120 Guides in 1985, 35 packs with 840 Bulbuls and 108 companies with 3450 Guides in 1995, 40 packs with 960Bulbuls and 120 companies with 3640 Guides in 1998 were working in different parts of the district.

NATIONAL CADET CORPSE

The Delta Company of the Fifth Bombay NCC Battalion started at Dharwad in 1948 was functioning at Bijapur. It was renamed as 75th Mysore NCC Rifles on the 19th July 1963. There were 12 Senior Division Companies under it. It came to be called 26th Mysore Battalion in 1964 and five Senior Division and five Junior Division Troops were working under it. It was named 26th Karnataka Battalion on June 1st, 1973 and 36th Karnataka Battalion on 23rd February 1978. More than 12 cadets have become commissioned officers in the Indian army from the district NCC division, which is under a Commanding Officer of the grade of a Lieutenant Colonel.

Junior and Senior Divisions of NCC are working in different schools and colleges of the district. One among the teaching staff of such institutions will be the NCC officer of the respective Institutions.

The Statistical details of the NCC activities of the district are given in the tables that follow:

**Table 13.8 : Details of Junior and Senior Division NCC activities in the district:
Junior Division**

| Name of the Institution | No. of cadets |
|---|---------------|
| Anjuman Higher Secondary School, Bijapur | 100 |
| SS Higher Secondary School, Bijapur | 100 |
| H.G Higher Secondary School, Bijapur | 50 |
| S.S. P.U. College, Indi | 50 |
| P.D.J. Higher Secondary school, Bijapur | 100 |
| S.S. School, Chadachana | 100 |
| Government Higher Secondary School, Bijapur | 100 |
| RMG P.U. College, Mudhol | 100 |
| Total | 700 |

Table 13.8A : Senior Division

| Name of the company | Name of the Institution | No. of cadets |
|---------------------|--|---------------|
| A Company | New Arts College, Bijapur | 80 |
| | Anjuman Degree College, Bijapur | 60 |
| B Company | SB Arts and KCP Science College, Bijapur | 100 |
| | Government Arts College, Bijapur | 60 |
| C Company | SP Commerce College, Bijapur | 60 |
| | SS Pre-University College, Bijapur | 80 |
| D Company | Arts and Science College, Jamakhandi | 80 |
| | G.P. Porvad College, Sindgi | 60 |
| E Company | M.B.V.T Arts, college, Muddebihal | 80 |
| | SK Arts and Commerce College, Talikot | 60 |
| | SS Arts and Commerce College, Chadachana | 60 |
| Total | | 780 |

PRE-UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

The two year intermediate course, which was in vogue in the state, was withdrawn in 1956 and a one-year PUC education came into effect. This education was imparted in some independent intermediate colleges and some first grade colleges that were there in different places. Also some selected high schools were upgraded to Higher Secondary schools and one-year PUC education was imparted in these schools. They were under the administration of the Director of Public Instruction. According to the New National Education Policy, 10+2+3 scheme of education system came into force in the entire state in 1971-72. According to this, after 10 years of school education, two year PUC and three year degree education followed. The Pre-university Education Board (presently a Department) was established in 1970. This department looks after the administration and conduct of examination of the two year PU education throughout the state.

At the end of 1998 there were 128 Pre-University colleges in Bijapur district, of which, 27 were Government Composite PU colleges, 76 were private composite PU colleges and 25 were Private Independent PU colleges. In all these institutions a total of 15, 675 children (11,356 boys and 4319 girls) were studying for the above mentioned year. Details of the number of children who appeared for pre-university examination and the number of children who passed between 1995 April and 1998 September are given in table 13.9.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Passes April 1997 | 34.49 | 62.50 | 34.45 | 33.38 | 37.99 | 31.47 | 32.62 | 33.59 | 19.05 |
| No. Attended | 18237 | 13199 | 5038 | 13753 | 4884 | 2538 | 484 | 242 | 69 |
| No. Passed | 3064 | 3015 | 849 | 2496 | 1368 | 278 | 82 | 54 | 18 |
| % Of Passes September 1997 | 21.19 | 22.84 | 16.85 | 18.15 | 30.51 | 11.79 | 16.94 | 12.74 | 26.09 |
| No. Attended | 8600 | 05 | 8595 | 6717 | 1883 | 1235 | 242 | 207 | 27 |
| No. Passed | 1946 | 00 | 1946 | 1472 | 468 | 248 | 48 | 41 | 04 |
| % Of Passes April 1998 | 22.63 | 00 | 22.64 | 22.00 | 24.85 | 20.08 | 19.83 | 19.81 | 14.81 |
| No. Attended | 13250 | 9294 | 2956 | 9526 | 3424 | - | 2558 | - | 261 |
| No. Passed | 2425 | 1878 | 547 | 1530 | 895 | - | 288 | - | 33 |
| % Of Passes September 1998 | 18.30 | 20.21 | 13.83 | 15.57 | 26.14 | - | 11.26 | - | 12.64 |
| No. Attended | 7297 | 00 | 7297 | 7071 | 226 | - | 1484 | - | 150 |
| No. Passed | 1573 | 00 | 1573 | 1522 | 51 | - | 276 | - | 34 |
| % Of Pass | 21.56 | 00 | 21.56 | 21.52 | 22.57 | - | 18.60 | - | 19.54 |

COLLEGEATE EDUCATION

Modern Education system came into force in India only after the Wood's Despatch of 1854. The University Act came into force in 1857. Karnatak University was established in 1950 and encompassed the districts of Bijapur, Belgaum, Dharwad and Karwar which were then under the Mumbai province. But before Independence the First Grade colleges in the district were-Basaveshwara College of Bagalkot (1944) and Vijaya College of Bijapur(1945). Before this, students were going mostly to Poona, Sangli and Kolhapur for higher education. The reason was the availability of free or cheaper Boarding and lodging facilities. The First Grade Colleges that were started in the district in the 1960's decade were -ASP Commèrce College, Bijapur (1961), BHS Arts, TCB Science and Arts College , Jamakhandi (1963) SVM Arts, Science and Commerce College, Ilkal(1964), Basaveshwara Science and Arts College, Bagalkot (1967), SVMRSR Vasthrada Arts, Commerece and Science College, Hunagund (1967), MBVC Arts, Science and Commerce College, Muddebihal(1968), New Arts College, Bijapur (1969), SM Bhandari Arts, Commerece and Rathi Science College, Guledagudda (1969), Basaveshwara Commerce College, Bagalkot (1970), B.P.Poravala Arts, Science and Commerce College, Sindgi (1972), Anjuman Arts, Commerce and Science College, Bijapur (1972), S.S.Arts and Commerce College, Chadachana (1973) Sikyab Womens'Arts and Science College, Bijapur(1974), JSS Arts and Commerce College, Banahatti (1975), Khasgatesha Commerce College, Talikote(1977), G.R.Gandhi Arts and Y.S.Patil Commerce College, Indi (1979), Arts and Commerce College, Mudhol (1982), Basaveshwara Arts and Commerce College, Basavana Bagewadi (1982), SVPVV Committee's Arts, Commerce and Science College, Badami (1982) BLDE Arts, Commerce Womens' College, Bijapur,(1983), New Arts College, Sindgi (1984), SRS Arts and MBS Commerce College, Bagalakot (1984), Arts and Commerce College, Babaleshwara (1987), SCP Arts and Commerce College, Mahalingapur (1987), SVM Women's' Arts and Commerce College, Ilkal (1989), GDPH Arts and Commerce College, Bijapur (1990), Government Arts College, Beelagi (1991), Arts College, Alamela (1991), and Indira Gandhi Open University Center, Bijapur.

First Grade Colleges that were opened in the district after 1990 were-Government College, Jamakhandi, (1993), BDPHMV College, Bijapur (1991), Renukacharya Arts College, Horatti ((1992), SVVV New Arts College, Tamba (1992), Jagadamba Arts College, Hittanahalli (1992), TMVV Rural Arts College, Hirerugi (1992), SBBS Sri.M.V.Vagatanasatta College, Nidagundi (1994), S.K.Patil Institutions First Grade College, BKVV Arts College, Bijapur (1994), VV Arts College, Bijapur, (1994), BLDE First Grade College, Tikota (1996), BLDE Institutes's ASI Commerce College, Bijapur (1996), BLDE Insstitute's EV Fine Arts College, Bijapur (1997), Veereshwara VVS Institute's Veereshwara Arts College, Nalatavada (1997), Belur Jalihal VVS First Grade College, Belur (1992), Adarsha Arts College, Bevuru (1992), Basaveshwara Vidyavardhaka Sangha First Grade College, Bagalakot (1993), Huchcheshwara Vidyavardhaka Sangha Arts College, Kammatagi (1994), Kalidasa Trust BSW College, Badami (1996), Kalidasa Trust Arts College, Kerur (1996) and Basaveshwara Commerce College, Bagalakot (1996).

MEDICAL EDUCATION

The establishment of the Ayurvedic College at Bijapur in 1955 can be considered the first step in the Medical Education field in the district. After this, Al-Ameen Charitable Trust of Bangalore established the Al-Ameen Medical College at Bijapur in 1984. In 1986, another Medical College was established by the BLDE Institute at Bijapur in 1986.

Bijapur Ayurvedic College was recognized by the Mumbai Government and DSAC and DAM Diploma courses were conducted here. A five year BAMS Degree course was started here in 1977 and was recognized by the Karnatak University. It gets financial aid from the central and state governments. For the practicals of the students there is a well equipped hospital here and patients get free food and medical facilities.

Apart from this, during 1997-98, two Medical Colleges (BLDE Medical College, Bijapur, Al-Ameen Medical College, Bijapur), two Dental Colleges, (Al-Ameen Dental College, Bijapur, I.M.Nadagowda Dental College, Bijapur) and two Pharmacy Colleges (Basaveshwara Pharmacy College, Bagalkot, BLDEA Pharmacy College, Bijapur) are functioning in the District and a total of 430 students are studying in these Institutions.

Karnatak University's Post-Graduate Centre

The center was started at the BLDE Institution's JSS Teachers College premises of Bijapur on the 23rd September 1993. A one year PG Diploma course in Tourism and Art History was started in July 1994. Six and seven students respectively graduated for the said year in the above said courses. After that on an average 20 students are passing out every year through this center in both the subjects. BLDE Institution has donated Rs.20,000 for the development of the center. The center will have its own building shortly in the 200 acre land near Toravi, five kms from Bijapur.

HOSTELS

The role of Free Boarding Homes in the history of education in the district is noteworthy. Since pre-independence, these have helped in the spread of education. Many institutions have achieved fame by providing basic necessity like food. They were called Free Boarding Homes because the students considered the food given here as Prasada. After Independence, Government also realized the importance of hostels and opened many hostels throughout the district for minorities, backward classes and scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Apart from these, different groups have opened free Boarding Lodging buildings for people of their castes. These hostels, which do not get government assistance, function with the help of the local people. Some of them get local help as well as financial help from the government. There are also hostels run by the Social Welfare Department. Hostels for the Backward Classes and Minorities run by the Government are also working in the district. Free Boarding Homes like Vijaya Mahantesha at Hunagunda, Basaveshwara Vidya Vardhaka at Bagalakot, Siddeshwara at Bijapur, Adarsha Brahmana Nilaya at Bijapur, Eramma Nandi and Sarangamatha at Sindgi, Khasgatsha at Talikot, Free Boarding

Home at Mahalingapura, Vijaya Mahantesha Matha at Ilkal, Free Boarding Home at Lachchyana and Jnana Yogashrama's Free Boarding Home at Bijapur are providing boarding facilities to the students and thus serving the cause of education. These hostels are not getting any aid from the government, but getting donations and provisions from the public and are using them for the welfare of the people, which makes them very popular. There are more than 300 such Boarding Homes through out the district.

Sainik School, Bijapur

The Defence Ministry of the Central Government planned the establishment of Sainik Schools in all the states in 1961. Under this plan, the then Government of Mysore started the 13th Sainik school of the country in the premises of Vijaya college at Bijapur on the 16th September 1963 with 67 students. In this school, which provides hostel facilities, children of Defence staff transferred to Karnataka, between the age of 10 and 11 and 13 and 14 can get admissions to the 6th and the 9th standards respectively, passing the entrance test held at Bijapur, Gulbarga, Belgaum and Bangalore centers every year. Of the available seats, 15% been reserved for Scheduled Castes, 3% for Scheduled Tribes and 25% for the Defence staff. Every year 60 children to 6th standard and three children to 9th standard can be admitted. CBSE syllabus is followed till the 10th standard. Those who pass the 12th standard get eligibility to join the Indian Army through the National Defence Academy by passing an entrance test conducted by the UPSC, twice a year-once in September and the second time in April.

The school situated in a plot of 405 acres of land at Bijapur has all the facilities and is the third biggest Sainik School in the country. These schools work under the Managements, which have the Central Defence Minister as the President and Chief Ministers and Education Ministers of the respective states as members. The Bijapur school, which has classes from the 6th to 12th standards, had 630 students during 1996-97 with 33 teachers including two women.

LIBRARIES

The public reading room started at Mudhol in 1870 can be considered the first library of the district. After this, a public library was established at Bijapur in 1885, Ramabai Saheb library at Jamakhandi in 1902 and Shankaralinga Library at Rabakavi in 1902. Later public reading rooms were established at Indi in 1905, Hunagund and Sindgi in 1926 and Talikote in 1930. Pulakeshi reading room at Badami in 1937, Balachandra library at Banhatti in 1940 and corporation reading room at Mahalingapura in Mudhol taluk in 1942 were opened. All these reading rooms are at present libraries and working under the district central library department. Ananda Teertha Vaidika Dharma Library was established at Bijapur in 1941 by Raghavendra Rao Kembhavi. There were lectures on religious issues every evening in this library which had religious and philosophical books. This heritage is continued by Pandit Trivikramachar Umarji at present. Maruthi reading room was started at Tidagundi in Bijapur taluk in 1959 with 20 members. There were 27 libraries and 713 rural reading rooms in the district by 1965.

The government started the Central Library Scheme in the district in 1972. Though the

City Central Library plan was started in 1980, systematic library work began only in 1985. Mandal libraries were established throughout the district in 1987 and are at present working under the administration of the Zilla Parishat. Their number was 80 by December 1997. Besides, 23 branch libraries and 17 book distribution centers are functioning in the district.

The number of City Central Libraries at the end of 1997 in the district was seven with a total of 9,000 members and 70,000 books. Jagajyothi Mobil Library started in 1992 had 7,000 books. During the same time, the number of District Central Libraries was 120, the number of books was 3,00,000 and the number of members - 25,000.

SPORTS

Children and youth play Atya-Patya, Kabaddi, Kho - Kho, Saragari, Top, Goli, Langadi, Jhad-Mangya and other games during their leisure time. Apart from these *Huli-akala and chaka* are also played. Elders play dice during Navaratri and Deepavali. Karu Hunnime, which is celebrated on the full moon day of Jeesthamasa is a special festival of this area. During this time Okalikambadata is colourfully conducted. Wrestling houses or Garadimane are found throughout the district. Polo and Horse Riding were also popular once. Body building and wrestling are also popular. During Karuhunnime and Age Hunnime many inter village games are played but because of the popularity of modern games, their number has decreased.

Kabaddi was a popular local sport in the district from the beginning. Basaweshwara Tarun Sangha of Hunnuru (Jamakhandi Taluk) had a good Kabaddi team. In the 1945, Hukkeri brothers, later Pote from Jamakhandi, Annappa and Ambli were the prominent Kabaddi players.

Volleyball

Modern games like Volleyball and Badminton are seen in urban areas. Volleyball became popular after 1940 and the famous players of this game at that time were Gejji and Khilledar and R. Kulakarni and B.M. Kokare.

Kho - Kho

Kho - Kho became popular in the district after independence. Between 1950 - 60, Pote, Kankanavagi, Bagayath, Mokashi, R.R. Toravi and Bobby were the prominent Kho-Kho players in the district. PDJ High school of Bijapur, Parashurama High school of Jamakhandi, King George high school of Mudhol, Sakri High School of Bagalkot had good Kho-Kho teams.

Hockey

This game became popular in the decade following 1940 and at Bijapur many national level hockey competitions like Karandikar competition have been held. The national level hockey players of this decade were Mukunda Bhide, Mohammad Hussain, Sanglikar, J.S. Deshmukh Razak Sollarpurkar and others. The most popular police hockey team of the Bijapur city has popular players like Sattar, Khader, Basheer and Hameed. Another popular team, the Vijaya College team had

C.R. Patil, Dubala Gundi, P.V. Kamgaji, M.S. Patil, B.S. Pyati, S.J. Ijeri and other famous players. Other important players who represented the university and the state were Ambulal Athar, Iqbal Mirdhe and M.K. Kattimani.

Tennis

This sport was popular even before independence. Rama Rao Kunnur and Ganapatha Rao Desai were Tennis champions who were famous even in foreign countries. In the 1940s, Govindarao Kembhavi, Col. Kanabaragimath, V.H. Kambhagi, Sugandhi Brothers, Shamarao Desai, V.R. Kembhavi were famous Tennis players. In the 1950s Prof. M.A. Bhandari and Prof. B.T. Sasanur worked for the popularity of this sport in several colleges. In the same decade, S.V. Kembhavi, Bhandari Brothers, Kaujalagi brothers, P.V. Kambagi, B.K. Beelgi, Dr. M.V. Kulakarni, Dhanu Runaval, S.S. Deshmukh were not only good Tennis players but also had represented the district and the state in many state and national level competitions. The former minister of the state, Sri. K.S. Beelagi was a Tennis player of Vijaya College, during this decade and he was good in hammer Throw, Javelin and Shotput also.

Table Tennis

This sport is popular since 1940. S.V. Kembhavi and S.M. Sugandhi, the former players and Arun Kembhavi who represented the state in many competitions and the recent players Ashok Parvathikar and Ashok Siriguppi have brought laurels to the district in the table tennis game.

Cricket

This is the most popular game among the youth. This game became famous in the district in the 1930s. Prominent cricketers of those days, G.P. Desai, Baburao Desai, V.H. Kambagi, C.P. Halakatti laid the foundation for the popularity of cricket. In the 1940s, J.H. Kambagi played in the Quadrangular and Pentangular matches under the leadership of the famous Deodhar. All-rounders J.H. Gulbarga, Guru Halakatti and B.T. Sasanur in the 1940s, C.M. Kori, Prabhu Vasantha Kembhavi in the 1950s, Kambagi, M.S. Patil, S.M. Sugandhi, M.V. Kulakarni, Vilas Nayak, N.T. Jagadale, Padatara, former minister, J.S. Deshmukh, Mahatungade and Krishna Desai and in the 1960s, Suhas Joshi, Vilas Nayak (both university players), Vijaydev and Dr. Katti were good cricket players.

Between 1970 and 80, cricket activities in the district slowed down but after 1980 with the establishment of KSCA and Brothers Cricket Club established by Vijaya Katti, there was a renewal of cricket activities. At present, Sanjaya Ghatage, Prasad Patil, Prashanth Hajeri, Veda Narayana and Sardeshpande are famous cricketers.

Cricket Clubs

Bijapur City 11 started at Bijapur in 1930 was the only cricket club in those days. Later, cricket clubs established at S.S. High School and Government High School had good players. The

clubs working actively in the district by 1950 were - Bijapur boys cricket club, Young Men's Cricket Club, Friends Cricket Club, KSRTC Cricket Club, Modern Cricket Club and Vijaya College Cricket Club. The Brother's Cricket Club started in 1957 (later called BBCC) hosted four Ranji matches. At present there are six cricket clubs in the district affiliated to the KSCA and are working for the development of the game.

Cycling

The district is so famous in cycling that it can be said that almost all Karnataka's cycling champions are all from Bijapur district. C.M. Kurni of Jamakhandi can be called the father of cycling in the district. It is to be noted that 90% of the cycling players are from Jamakhandi and neighboring places. As the local people say, milk vendors of Jamakhandi and neighbouring places, while going on their cycles for milk vending developed competitive spirit and converted their cycling skills into a sport. They have participated at the state and national cycling competitions and have won many laurels. Chandru Kurni of Kumbara Halli in Jamakhandi taluk was an Internationally acclaimed cyclist and is now a coach. Raja Saheb Athal of railways is an internationally famous cycling player. Renuka Padatara of Bijapur is another famous person and at present is the cycling coach at Dharwad. In the Fourth National Cycling Competition held at Bijapur in 1998, cyclists of Bijapur won four gold medals. The Government of Karnataka has started a separate hostel for cyclists at Bijapur. Chandrashekara Kinnala of Bijapur from this hostel, an internationally acclaimed cyclist died in a road accident recently.

Vjayantha Omkarappa Samagunda of Nagathana village in Indi taluk who got the first place in the 25km Marathon running held at Mumbai in 1965 is a senior athlete of the district and has won the Bravery award also.

The Department of Youth Service and Sports extended its services to the district in 1976 and appointed a District Sports Officer at Bijapur. It has constructed Dr. Ambedkar Stadium at Bijapur with a seating capacity of 15000 people at a cost of one crore. Also the department has established stadia at Hunagund, Mudhol and Jamakhandi. Another stadium is under construction at Bagalkot. An indoor stadium of international standards is under construction at Bijapur. At the Ambedkar stadium here, there is a Multi gym and a flood lit court. There is another flood lit court at Jamakhandi. There are coaches for Volleyball, Gymnasium, Cycling, Wrestling, Basketball, Hockey and Bodybuilding at Bijapur. Under the joint venture of youth services and sports department and district administration of Bijapur, the 19th women's sports meet was held at Bijapur in November 1995. Sportsmen from all the districts of the state took part in Swimming, Gymnastics, Shuttle Badminton, Basketball, Hockey, Handball, Volleyball, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Lawn Tennis, Table Tennis and other games held here. The national and international level players who participated in this meet were Alakaphadatare, Renuka S. Kambara, Fazarana Shaik, Sheel S. Patil, Savithri S. Patil, Chetana G., Angadi and Shameena Shaik. B.I. Patil, a police inspector at Mulavada in Basavana Bagewadi taluk got the Rajyothsava award and the president's medal in 1999.