

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

BEFORE becoming a part of the old Mysore territory also, the district had an illustrious history and a proud socio-political heritage. It was ruled by a line of benevolent kings and queens of the Keladi dynasty, who had their capitals in the district and were natives of the district. The princely State of Mysore, of which this district became a part, had also enlightened rulers, and eminent Dewans after the rendition in 1881. A Representative Assembly mainly consisting of predominant land-holders and merchants from all over the State, was established at Mysore as early as in 1881. It was the first representative body of its kind in the whole of India at that time. Later, in 1907, was established the Mysore Legislative Council. The institution of these two bodies helped, to some extent, to develop a political consciousness among the people.

The Shimoga district was represented by about 25 members in the Representative Assembly besides one or two members in the Legislative Council in the third decade of this century. There were representatives from all the taluks at the rate of two to three members, besides five to six members representing the rural population, the minority communities and the like. The democratic aspects of the progressively developed local self-government institutions, and the socio-political events that were taking place in the neighbouring British-governed districts of North Kanara and South Kanara and Dharwar had their impact on the public life in the district.

There has been a perceptible political and social consciousness among the people of the district, as elsewhere in the State in the recent decades. With the achievement of independence and the establishment of popular Government, the people have had more and better opportunities to assess, influence and shape the policies and programmes of the Government. They participate in the various developmental efforts and also lend their hand in building schools, dispensaries, roads and the like. After the foreign

aggressions on our country in 1962, 1965 and 1971, the people of the district contributed considerable amounts to the National Defence Fund (by the year 1973-74, the total cash contributions of the people of the district towards this Fund stood at Rs. 6,79,580). They also liberally contribute to the various efforts being made by public-spirited persons for educational and cultural development and socio-economic betterment.

After the introduction of adult franchise, the general elections to the Parliament and the State Legislature are very keenly contested by various political parties and individuals. With the decentralisation of administration brought about by the enactments of the Karnataka Village Panchayats and Local Boards Act, 1959, and the Municipalities Act, 1961, a large number of persons vie with one another to get elected to the taluk development boards, town municipal councils and village *panchayats*. Elections to the co-operative institutions and all other elective posts in the district are fervently contested. There is a new awareness among the people about their rights and privileges and the spirit of democracy pervades both the rural and urban areas to a considerable extent.

General elections were conducted for the first time after the attainment of independence, in the year 1952. The district of Shimoga formed a single-member constituency for election to the Lok Sabha. For the purpose of election to the State Legislative Assembly, it was divided into five constituencies. One of them, *i.e.*, Sorab-Shikaripur was a double-member constituency. The Indian National Congress contested all the six Assembly seats and the one Parliamentary seat in the district and emerged successful in five of the constituencies including the Parliamentary constituency. One each of the other two seats of the Assembly went to the Kisan-Mazdoor Party and the Socialist Party. The detailed results of the general elections of 1952 were as under:—

General
Elections, 1952

Sl. Name of	Names of	Votes	Percentage	Successful
1	2	3	4	5
No. constituency	contesting parties	secured	of votes polled	party
				6

Lok Sabha

Shimoga ..	(1) Congress	1,08,990	46.25	Congress
	(2) Socialist Party	53,719	22.80	
	(3) Kisan-Mazdoor Party	42,308	17.95	
	(4) Jana Sangh	30,642	13.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Legislative Assembly</i>					
1	Shimoga ..	(1) Congress	10,069	46.38	Congress
		(2) Socialist Party	4,203	19.36	
		(3) Jana Sangh	3,957	18.22	
		(4) Kisan-Mazdoor Party	3,482	16.04	
2	Channagiri	(1) Kisan-Mazdoor Party	17,297	51.29	Kisan-Maz-
		(2) Congress	16,430	48.71	door Party
3	Honnali ..	(1) Congress	16,848	58.07	Congress
		(2) Independent	12,164	41.93	
4	Sorab-Shi-	(1) Congress	20,737	21.37	Congress
	karipur (Two-	(2) Congress	19,519	20.12	Congress
	member	(3) Socialist Party	12,938	13.33	
	constituency),	(4) Socialist Party	12,846	13.24	
		(5) Kisan-Mazdoor	12,652	13.04	
		Party.			
		(6) Independent	9,490	9.78	
		(7) Jana Sangh	6,598	6.80	
		(8) Independent	2,255	2.32	
5	Sagar-Hosa-	(1) Socialist Party	13,722	54.44	Socialist Party
	nagar	(2) Congress	11,485	45.56	

According to the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1956, also, the Shimoga district continued to be a single-member Parliamentary constituency. The district was allotted seven seats in the State Legislative Assembly, six being single-constituencies and one a double-member constituency in which a seat was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The Indian National Congress swept the polls in these general elections of 1957. The other parties did not win any seat. The tables given below show the territorial extent of the constituencies and the results of general elections of 1957 :—

**General
Elections, 1957**

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Extent of constituency	No. of seats
1	2	3	4

Lok Sabha

Shimoga	Shimoga, Honnali, Shikaripur, Hosanagar, and Tirthahalli taluks ; Anandapuram <i>hobli</i> of Sagar taluk and Anavatti and Jade <i>hobli</i> s of Sorab taluk of Shimoga district and Chikmagalur district excluding Kadur taluk except Sakrepatna <i>hobli</i>	1
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1	2	3	4
<i>Legislative Assembly</i>			
1	Channagiri ..	Channagiri taluk excluding Ubrani <i>hobli</i> ..	1
2	Bhadravati ..	Bhadravati taluk and Ubrani <i>hobli</i> in Channagiri taluk	1
3	Shimoga ..	Shimoga taluk	1
4	Honnali ..	Honnali and Shikaripur taluks and Jade and Anavatti <i>hoblis</i> in Sorab taluk	2
5	Sagar ..	Sagar taluk excluding Anandapuram <i>hobli</i> and Sorab taluk excluding Jade and Anavatti <i>hoblis</i>	1
6	Tirthahalli ..	Hosanagar taluk and Tirthahalli taluk excluding Mandagadde and Mathur <i>hoblis</i> and Anandapuram <i>hobli</i> of Sagar taluk.	1

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Name of contesting parties	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of votes polled	Successful party
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Lok Sabha

Shimoga ..	(1) Praja Socialist Party	73,158	34.63	
	(2) Congress	1,38,046	65.37	Congress

Legislative Assembly

1	Channagiri ..	Congress			Congress candidate elected uncontested.
2	Bhadravati ..	(1) Praja Socialist Party	9,056	30.69	
		(2) Jana Sangh	912	3.08	
		(3) Independent	4,553	15.44	
		(4) Congress	15,002	50.81	Congress
3	Shimoga ..	(1) Independent	5,595	22.68	
		(2) Congress	12,223	53.60	Congress
		(3) Jana Sangh	5,849	23.72	
4	Honnali ..	(1) Congress	32,014	27.86	Congress
	Double-member Constituency.	(2) Praja Socialist Party	16,704	14.53	
		(3) Independent	3,409	2.96	
	One reserved for Sodeduled	(4) Independent	3,603	3.15	
		(5) Independent	4,250	3.69	
	Castes and another	(6) Congress	38,042	33.12	Congress
		(7) Independent	5,111	4.46	
	General	(8) Praja Socialist Party	11,763	10.23	
5	Sagar ..	(1) Praja Socialist Party	2,858	9.46	
		(2) Independent	10,911	36.07	
		(3) Congress	16,473	54.47	Congress
6	Tirthahalli	(1) Independent	14,557	38.63	
		(2) Congress	23,131	61.37	Congress

In 1962, the two-member constituencies were split up into single-member constituencies. The reserved seat for the Scheduled Castes, which was in Honnali taluk, was now shifted to Shikaripur. The Indian National Congress secured five seats out of the seven contested by it in all the Assembly constituencies in the general elections of 1962. The party was successful in Channagiri, Bhadravati, Shimoga, Shikaripur and Sagar constituencies. It also won the Lok Sabha seat allotted to the district. Apart from the Congress, the Praja Socialist Party candidate and the Socialist Party candidate came out successful in Honnali and Tirthahalli constituencies. Candidates of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh and the Communist Party of India and Independents, who also contested the elections, were not successful in any of them. The following two tables show the names of the constituencies and their extent and the detailed results of the general elections of 1962 :—

General
Elections, 1962

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Extent of constituency
<i>Lok Sabha</i>		
Shimoga	..	Shimoga, Honnali, Shikaripur and Tirthahalli taluks of Shimoga district and Sringeri, Tarikere, Chikmagalur and Mudigere taluks of Chikmagalur district
<i>Legislative Assembly</i>		
1	Channagiri	.. Channagiri taluk excluding Ubrani <i>hobli</i>
2	Bhadravati	.. Bhadravati taluk and Ubrani <i>hobli</i> of Channagiri taluk
3	Shimoga	.. Shimoga taluk
4	Honnali	.. Honnali taluk
5	Shikaripur (Scheduled Castes constituency)	Shikaripur taluk, and Jade and Anavatti <i>hoblis</i> of Sorab taluk
6	Sagar	.. Sagar taluk excluding Anandapuram <i>hobli</i> and Sorab taluk excluding Jade and Anavatti <i>hoblis</i> .
7	Tirthahalli	.. Hosanagar taluk, Tirthahalli taluk excluding Mandagadde and Mathur <i>hoblis</i> and Anandapuram <i>hobli</i> of Sagar taluk.

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Party affiliations of the contesting candidates	No. of valid votes polled	Successful Party
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Lok Sabha</i>				
Shimoga	..	(1) Congress	1,19,250	Congress
		(2) P.S.P.	1,05,553	
		(3) Jana Sangh	17,596	
		(4) Ind.	14,469	

1	2	3	4	5
<i>Legislative Assembly</i>				
1	Channagiri	.. (1) Congress ..	21,368	Congress
		(2) Socialist Party ..	14,041	
		(3) Jana Sangh ..	1,196	
2	Bhadravati	.. (1) Congress ..	19,604	Congress
		(2) P.S.P. ..	15,256	
		(3) Jana Sangh ..	2,051	
		(4) C.P.I. ..	1,104	
3	Shimoga	.. (1) Congress ..	14,087	Congress
		(2) P.S.P. ..	9,011	
		(3) Jana Sangh ..	8,602	
4	Honnali	.. (1) P.S.P. ..	20,192	P.S.P.
		(2) Congress ..	14,475	
		(3) Jana Sangh ..	2,181	
5	Shikaripur (Scheduled Castes constituency).	(1) Congress ..	17,313	Congress
		(2) P.S.P. ..	12,385	
		(3) Ind. ..	1,077	
		(4) Jana Sangh ..	758	
6	Sagar	.. (1) Congress ..	20,854	Congress
		(2) Socialist Party ..	17,555	
		(3) P.S.P. ..	1,824	
7	Tirthahalli	.. (1) Socialist Party ..	18,649	Socialist Party
		(2) Congress ..	6,085	
		(3) Ind. ..	3,685	
		(4) Ind. ..	1,751	
		(5) Ind. ..	1,645	
		(6) Jana Sangh ..	1,338	

N.B.— P.S.P. = Praja—Socialist Party

Ind. = Independent

C.P.I. = Communist Party of India

General
Elections, 1967

The Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1966, increased the number of the Assembly constituencies in the district from seven to nine. The Shikaripur Assembly Constituency continued to be reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The particulars of the Constituencies were as follows for the fourth general elections held in the district in 1967 :—

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Extent of constituency
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Lok Sabha

Shimoga	..	Channagiri, Bhadravati, Honnali, Shimoga, Hosanagar, Sagar, Sorab and Shikaripur Assembly constituencies (the Tirthahalli Assembly constituency was included in Chikmagalur Parliamentary constituency).
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Legislative Assembly

1	Channagiri	..	Channagiri taluk excluding Basavapatna <i>hobli</i> but including 13 villages of Basavapatna <i>hobli</i> specified.
2	Bhadravati	..	Bhadravati taluk excluding 39 specified villages in Bhadravati <i>hobli</i> .
3	Honnali	..	Honnali taluk excluding 13 specified villages in Belagutti <i>hobli</i> and Basavapatna <i>hobli</i> excluding 13 villages specified.
4	Shimoga	..	Shimoga, Nidige and Holalur <i>hoblis</i> in Shimoga taluk, and 39 specified villages in Bhadravati <i>hobli</i> .
5	Tirthahalli	..	Tirthahalli taluk and Nagar <i>hobli</i> in Hosanagar taluk.
6	Hosanagar	..	Hosanagar taluk excluding Nagar <i>hobli</i> , Anandapuram <i>hobli</i> in Sagar taluk, and Kumsi and Harnahalli <i>hoblis</i> in Shimoga taluk, and 13 villages in Belagutti <i>hobli</i> of Honnali taluk.
7	Sagar	..	Sagar taluk excluding Anandapuram <i>hobli</i> and Sagar <i>hobli</i> but including Sagar town and four specified villages in Sagar <i>hobli</i> .
8	Sorab	..	Sagar <i>hobli</i> excluding Sagar town and four specified villages in Sagar taluk, and Sorab taluk.
9	Shikaripur (Scheduled Castes constituency)		Shikaripur taluk.

In the general elections of 1967, the Samyukta Socialist Party secured the Lok Sabha seat and four Assembly seats. While the Indian National Congress won four Assembly seats, the P.S.P. was successful in one Assembly constituency. Candidates of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh and Independents, who also contested, did not win any seat. The detailed results of these elections were as given below :—

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Party affiliations of contesting candidates	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of votes polled	Successful Party	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
<i>Lok Sabha</i>						
Shimoga	..	(1) S.S.P.	..	1,61,262	54.39	S.S.P.
		(2) I.N.C.	..	1,35,208	45.61	

1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Legislative Assembly</i>					
1	Channagiri ..	(1) S.S.P. ..	27,077	62.68	S.S.P.
		(2) I.N.C. ..	16,122	37.32	
2	Bhadravati ..	(1) P.S.P. ..	15,862	39.95	P.S.P.
		(2) I.N.C. ..	15,380	38.73	
		(3) Independent ..	5,450	13.73	
		(4) Independent ..	2,216	5.58	
		(5) Independent ..	800	2.01	
3	Honnali ..	(1) I.N.C. ..	19,045	48.53	I.N.C.
		(2) Independent ..	14,960	38.12	
		(3) S.S.P. ..	5,240	13.35	
4	Shimoga ..	(1) I.N.C. ..	18,695	47.54	I.N.C.
		(2) S.S.P. ..	11,598	29.50	
		(3) B.J.S. ..	7,753	19.72	
		(4) Independent ..	1,275	3.24	
5	Tirthahalli ..	(1) S.S.P. ..	21,963	57.46	S.S.P.
		(2) I.N.C. ..	16,262	42.54	
6	Hosanagar ..	(1) I.N.C. ..	14,535	46.41	I.N.C.
		(2) S.S.P. ..	12,400	39.60	
		(3) Independent ..	2,613	8.34	
		(4) B.J.S. ..	1,271	4.06	
		(5) Independent ..	219	0.70	
		(6) P.S.P. ..	179	0.57	
		(7) Independent ..	100	0.32	
7	Sagar ..	(1) I.N.C. ..	11,860	47.88	I.N.C.
		(2) S.S.P. ..	11,111	44.86	
		(3) B.J.S. ..	1,797	7.26	
8	Sorab ..	(1) S.S.P. ..	25,724	62.31	S.S.P.
		(2) I.N.C. ..	14,990	36.31	
		(3) Independent ..	569	1.38	
9	Shikaripur	(1) S.S.P. ..	21,241	69.72	S.S.P.
	(Scheduled Castes constituency)	(2) I.N.C. ..	9,227	30.28	

N.B. : I.N.C. = Indian National Congress

S.S.P. = Samyukta Socialist Party

P.S.P. = Praja Socialist Party

B.J.S. = Bharatiya Jana Sangh

Consequent on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha early in 1971, a mid-term poll was conducted for the Shimoga Parliamentary Constituency seat in March 1971. There were totally three contestants, one each from the Indian National Congress Party then presided over by Shri Jagjivan Ram and the Samyukta Socialist Party and an Independent. Out of a total electorate of 5,35,265 in the Shimoga Parliamentary constituency, 3,05,202 electors exercised their franchise. The candidate of the Indian National Congress Party then presided over by Shri Jagjivan Ram emerged successful getting 2,11,553 (71.84 per cent) of the votes polled, while the votes polled by his nearest rival of the Samyukta-Socialist Party was 79,111 (26.86 per cent).

Mid-term Poll
to Lok Sabha

The Indian National Congress, the Indian National Congress (Organisation), the Socialist Party, the Bharatiya Jana Sangh and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and some Independents contested in the fifth general elections held in March 1972. As the mid-term poll for the Lok Sabha had been held earlier in March 1971, the general elections this time were only for the State Legislative Assembly. The two Congress parties as well as the other political parties mentioned above fielded their candidates for the Assembly constituencies in the district, out of which six seats were secured by the Indian National Congress and three by the Socialists. There were in all 1,071 polling stations set up for the Legislative Assembly constituencies. The sub-joined table gives detailed results of the fifth general elections held in the district in 1972 :—

General
Elections, 1972

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Party affiliations of contesting candidates	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of votes polled	Successful party
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Channagiri	(1) I.N.C. ..	27,097	54.5	I.N.C.
		(2) Independent	18,677	37.5	
		(3) I.N.C. (O) ..	3,979	8.00	
2	Bhadravati	(1) I.N.C. ..	23,527	42.7	I.N.C.
		(2) Independent	2,985	5.4	
		(3) I.N.C. (O) ..	21,987	40.3	
		(4) B.J.S. ..	6,487	11.6	
3	Honnali	(1) I.N.C. ..	34,803	69.3	I.N.C.
		(2) I.N.C. (O) ..	15,423	30.7	
4	Shimoga	(1) S.P. ..	12,630	24.2	I.N.C.
		(2) I.N.C. ..	30,889	58.8	
		(3) Independent	2,062	4.0	
		(4) B.J.S. ..	6,930	13.0	

1	2	3	4	5	6
5	Tirthahalli	.. (1) C.P.I. (M) ..	12,243	29.12	
		(2) S.P. ..	15,425	36.71	S.P.
		(3) I.N.C. ..	12,859	30.66	
		(4) I.N.C. (O) ..	1,483	3.51	
6	Hosanagar	.. (1) I.N.C. (O) ..	8,952	21.75	
		(2) I.N.C. ..	17,158	41.66	I.N.C.
		(3) S.P. ..	15,043	36.59	
7	Sagar	.. (1) S.P. ..	16,694	57.74	S.P.
		(2) I.N.C. ..	11,477	39.70	
		(3) Independent	472	1.63	
		(4) Independent	267	0.93	
8	Sorab	.. (1) I.N.C. ..	15,243	31.16	
		(2) S.P. ..	22,537	46.08	S.P.
		(3) I.N.C. (O) ..	11,133	22.76	
9	Shikaripur	.. (1) I.N.C. (O) ..	8,092	21.5	
	(Scheduled Castes	(2) I.N.C. ..	26,156	69.3	I.N.C.
	constituency)	(3) S. P. ..	1,492	3.9	
		(4) B.J.S. ..	2,004	5.3	

N.B. : I.N.C. = Indian National Congress
 I.N.C. (O) = Indian National Congress (Organisation)
 S.P. = Socialist Party
 B.J.S. = Bharatiya Jana Sangh
 C.P.I. (M) = Communist Party of India (Marxist)
 Ind. = Independent

A Constituency-wise statement showing the number of electors, number of persons who voted, and the percentage of voting in the five general elections of 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967 and 1972 for the State Legislative Assembly, and another Constituency-wise statement indicating the number of electors, number of persons who voted and the percentage of voting in the general elections of 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967 and 1971 for the Lok Sabha are given below :—

Legislative Assembly-1952

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of constituency</i>	<i>No. of electors</i>	<i>No. of persons who voted</i>	<i>Percentage of voting</i>
1	Channagiri	42,991	33,727	78.46
2	Honnali	39,175	29,012	74.06
3	Sagar-Hosanagar	38,527	25,207	65.43
4	Shimoga	40,541	21,711	53.55
5	Sorab-Shikaripur (Double-Member constituency)	1,48,628	97,035	65.29

1957

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	No. of electors	No. of persons who voted	Percentage of voting
1	Bhadravati ..	53,817	29,523	54.85
2	Channagiri ..	49,062	Congress candidate elected uncontested.	
3	Honnali (Double-Member Constituency).	2,02,202	1,14,896	56.76
4	Sagar ..	55,909	30,242	54.08
5	Shimoga ..	50,755	24,667	48.60
6	Tirthahalli ..	51,034	37,688	73.85

1962

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	No. of electors	No. of persons who voted	Percentage of voting
1	Bhadravati ..	70,714	40,311	57.01
2	Channagiri ..	59,935	39,409	65.75
3	Honnali ..	55,123	39,591	72.82
4	Hosanagar*
5	Sagar ..	79,194	43,699	55.18
6	Shikaripur ..	66,518	34,241	51.48
7	Shimoga ..	62,931	34,047	54.10
8	Sorab**
9	Tirthahalli ..	59,133	36,812	62.25

1967

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	No. of electors	No. of persons who voted	Percentage of voting
1	Bhadravati ..	67,245	42,762	63.59
2	Channagiri ..	65,400	45,878	70.15
3	Honnali ..	62,457	43,097	69.00
4	Hosanagar ..	50,613	33,582	66.35
5	Sagar ..	39,647	25,990	65.55
6	Shikaripur ..	52,730	32,240	61.14
7	Shimoga ..	72,172	42,889	59.43
8	Sorab ..	55,798	42,952	76.98
9	Tirthahalli ..	53,686	40,105	74.70

N.B. : *In 1962, Hosanagar taluk was a part of the Tirthahalli constituency.

**In 1962, Jade and Anavatti *hoblis* of Sorab taluk had been joined with Shikaripur constituency and the remaining part of Sorab taluk had been joined with Sagar constituency.

1972

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of constituency</i>	<i>No. of electors</i>	<i>No. of persons who voted</i>	<i>Percentage of voting</i>
1	Bhadravati ..	84,355	56,839	67.7
2	Channagiri ..	82,916	51,093	61.5
3	Honnali ..	78,890	51,841	66.24
4	Hosanagar ..	61,525	42,218	68.6
5	Sagar ..	42,279	29,660	70.09
6	Shikaripur ..	65,608	38,608	59.2
7	Shimoga ..	88,906	54,871	61.6
8	Sorab ..	64,628	50,239	77.8
9	Tirthahalli ..	63,606	43,101	67.8

Lok Sabha (Shimoga Constituency)

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of electors</i>	<i>No. of persons who voted</i>	<i>Percentages of voting</i>
1952 ..	3,13,647	2,35,659	75.14
1957 ..	3,91,924	2,11,204	53.89
1962 ..	4,74,616	2,70,552	57.00
1967 ..	4,66,047	3,09,326	66.37
1971 (Mid-term Poll)	5,35,265	3,05,202	57.02

Newspapers and periodicals

Journalism has not made much headway in the Shimoga district, although many attempts were made by enthusiastic persons having interest in the line to publish newspapers and periodicals, especially after the achievement of Independence. The first known journal of the district was "Jnanodaya", a monthly, which was published from Shimoga in 1897 by Shri Byadigi Sheshagiri Rao. There were "Shivamogga Vrittanta" and "Malenadu Samachara" for some time in the second decade of the present century. Names of their editors are not known. Later, there were two monthlies devoted to Ayurveda, in 1925 and 1935. There was also an astrological magazine in 1932. A substantial literary monthly was published from Tirthahalli for some time from 1939 by Shri Kudali Chidambaram. There were several other journals also which were appearing and ceased publication. A list showing

the names of such newspapers and periodicals is given below, though it cannot be said that it is exhaustive or perfect.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of newspaper or periodical</i>	<i>Name of Editor</i>	<i>Place of publication</i>	<i>Year of publication</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1	Jnanodaya	.. Byadigi Sheshagiri Rao	Shimoga	1897
2	Vrittanta Manjari	.. Byadigi Sheshagiri Rao	Shimoga	1898
3	Shivamogga Vrittanta	.. N.A.	Shimoga	1917
4	Malenadu Samachara	.. N.A.	Shimoga	1917
5	Ayurveda	.. Suryanarayana Sastry	Tirthahalli	1925
6	Jyotishya Vichara Sagara	C. Linga Jois	Shimoga	1932
7	Ayurveda Marthanda	.. Dr. Y. Parthanasarayana Pandit	Shimoga	1935
8	Vichara Vahini	.. Kudali Chidambaram	Tirthahalli	1939
9	Prabodha	.. Gudmi Mahabala Bhatta	Tirthahalli	1944
10	Prajahita	.. Mahendranath Patil	Shimoga	1947
11	Navajyoti	.. Brahmavar Antaiah Shetty	N.A.	1949
12	Vaidika Sanatana Dharma	Vidwan S. Subramanya Jois	Shimoga	1951
13	Nandini	.. G. R. Subba Rao and Keshavamurthy	N.A.	1953
14	Navachetana	.. Valagalli	Sagar	1953
15	Nyayavani	.. A. V. Kadam	Sorab	1953
16	Shivamogga Gazette	.. Ramakrishna Rao	N.A.	1954
17	Udayaraga	.. Ulluru Subba Rao	Sagar	1957
18	Minchu	.. A. V. Shrinivas	Shimoga	1957
19	Margadarshi	.. G. Sadashiva Rao	Shimoga	1961
20	Swatantra	.. Shrinivasa Iyengar	Shimoga	1961
21	Jagruti	.. N. K. Sitarama Iyengar	Shimoga	1962
22	Taluku Varta	.. G. Subramanya	Channagiri	1962
23	Vikasavani	.. G. K. Channabasappa	Shimoga	1963
24	Kannada Sandesha	.. Devendra Ajayakumar	Shimoga	1964
25	Suddi	.. K. S. Ranganatha Iyer	Shimoga & Sagar	1966

1	2	3	4	5
26	Janma Bhumi	.. Chinabhandar Subba Rao	Tirthahalli	N.A.
27	Sidlamari	.. A. V. Krishnappa	Bhadravati	1972
28	Mukti	.. B. K. Srinivasa Murthy	Shimoga	1973
29	Sarvabhuma	.. H. C. Jayaram	Shimoga	1974

N.B. : N.A. — Not available.

Source : "Avalokana" Souvenir, 1971 (Shri B. V. Murthy's article).

At present (1975) there are 20 newspapers and periodicals in the district. However, the circulation of most of these is not much and some of them are also reported to be irregular in publication. A list of the existing journals is given below :—

Sl. No.	Name of Journal	Name of Editor	Place of Publication	Periodicity	Date of starting
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Gurudeva	Shri Devendra-keerthi Swamiji	Humcha	Monthly	24-9-1956
2	Malenadu Vartha	Bhoopalam R. Chandrashekharaiiah	Shimoga	Weekly	5-10-1959
3	Sahyadri	K. Srinivasa Iyengar	Shimoga	Daily	5-9-1962
4	Sharavati	H. R. Mallaradhya	Shimoga	Weekly	18-12-1963
5	Yechcharike	M. Nagendra Rao	Shimoga	Daily	5-5-1967
6	Shridhara Sandesha.	K. V. Shankaranarayana Rao,	Sagar	Monthly	1-8-1967
7	Sanathana Sarathy	H. M. Shivaram	Shimoga	Monthly	10-12-1971
8	Manobhumi	H. Ramachandra Setty	Sagar	Daily	1-8-1972
9	Shanku	N. K. Maruthy	Shimoga	Weekly	25-10-1972
10	Kantheerava	N. Muniswamappa	Shimoga	Daily	27-11-1972
11	Karmachari	T. D. K. Pandit	Sagar	Daily	19-2-1973
12	Nudigida	N. Krishnaji Rao	Shimoga	Daily	23-2-1973
13	Anugraha	B. G. Chhabbi	Basavapatna	Monthly	6-3-1973
14	Chavati	S. R. Mahantesh	Shimoga	Daily	29-3-1973
15	Tulu	H. M. Dattatreya Adiga	Hosanagar	Weekly	15-5-1973

1	2	3	4	5	6
16	Shimoga Times	K. B. Ramappa	Shimoga	Daily	22-8-1974
17	Shanku	N. K. Maruthy	Shimoga	Daily	22-8-1974
18	Sakshi	K. V. Subbanna	Sagar	Quarterly	12-9-1974
19	Chhalagara	A. S. Ganapathy	Sagar	Fortnightly	15-10-1974
20	Havana	K. M. Sreenivasa-murthy	Bhadravati	Weekly	28-6-1975

Source : (1) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Shimoga District, Shimoga.

(2) The District Information Officer, Shimoga.

There are several veteran journalists hailing from this district, like Shriyuts T. S. Ramachander Rao, Nadiga Krishna Murthy, P. V. K. Murthy, Nanjunda Shastri and others. Shri B. V. Murthy, a journalist of this district, has organised an exhibition of old and new newspapers of Karnataka, India and some other countries which were displayed by him at some places.

Some of the newspapers and periodicals published outside the district, especially from Bangalore, Hubli and Mangalore have a good circulation in the district. Several of the daily newspapers published in those places have their correspondents in the district. They have made arrangements to send their morning editions in motor vans, etc., to reach Shimoga and a few other places in the district fairly early. This has helped to increase their circulation.

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Organised social activities form a particular feature of the non-official endeavour. There are voluntary organisations doing good work in catering to the social needs of the community in a variety of ways. They cover several fields of ameliorative service which Government agencies alone cannot fulfil. Many of these organisations have been accorded official recognition and are getting assistance from the State Government.

The existence of such voluntary social service organisations in an area gives a richness to its institutional life. Many public spirited persons of the district have organised social service bodies which are carrying on useful programmes. Provision of educational facilities and promotion of welfare of women and youth are some of the important objectives to which particular attention is being paid by these institutions. The following is a brief account of some of the social service organisations in the district whose activities are given in a nut-shell so as to indicate the types of work being done

by the various categories of such institutions. These particulars are of interest also as regards the pattern they represent. It has not been feasible to obtain details of all the institutions functioning in the district, but efforts have been made to include some typical institutions.

**National
Education
Society, Shimoga**

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION SOCIETY, Shimoga, was founded in March 1946 by a few citizens of Shimoga who were interested in promoting education, and it was registered under the Mysore Societies Registration Act. The aims of the Society are to establish educational institutions in Shimoga district on national lines, to introduce new and improved methods of instruction and to focus public opinion on educational problems. The first achievement of the Society was the opening of the National High School as a co-educational institution in Shimoga city in 1946. In 1954, the Society started a girls' high school at Shimoga. In 1956, the National Middle School was opened as a feeder to the two high schools. From 1960 onwards, the Society established several high schools at different places in various taluks of the district. There are now 12 high schools under its management. The Society founded the National College of Education at Shimoga in 1963, the Kamala Nehru Memorial National College of Arts at Shimoga in 1965, the National College of Commerce, the National College of Law and the D. Pharma Institute at Shimoga in 1966, the First Grade College of Arts, Science and Commerce at Tirthahalli in 1967, the National Evening College of Commerce at Shimoga in 1969, and the National Junior College for Boys and the Kasturba Junior College for Girls at Shimoga in 1972.

An auditorium-cum-recreation hall and an open-air theatre have been constructed with the financial assistance of the Central Government and the State Government respectively. The Society receives grant-in-aid from the State Government, local bodies and the University Grants Commission. Donations and subscriptions are collected from the members of the Society and from the public and the parents of the students. With the assistance of the State Khadi and Village Industries Board and the Central Khadi and Village Industries Commission, the Society has set up and is managing eight industrial units. The Society has 135 life members and is managed by a committee (*see* also Chapter XV).

**Desheeya
Vidya Shala,
Shimoga**

THE DESHEEYA VIDYA SHALA, SHIMOGA, was founded during the year 1943-44 and was registered in 1953-54 with the aim of spreading general education. It is imparting education from the primary to the degree levels to about 4,000 students in all. The Desheeya Vidya Shala College of Arts and Science was started in 1966-67. The affairs of the organisation are managed by a committee with the help of donations, contributions, etc. (*see* also Chapter XV).

THE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION SOCIETY, a registered association was started in Shimoga town in 1967, with a view to establishing and running schools and colleges for promoting education in the districts of Shimoga, Chitradurga, Chikmagalur and Hassan and to train teachers for such institutions. The Society is running two training institutions—one is a women's primary teachers' training institution with a two years' course, while the other is a nursery teachers' training institution with one year's course. There is a nursery school and a primary school and a hostel attached to these training institutions. The organisation is managed by a governing body of twenty one members, with the help of funds raised by donations from the public (*see* also Chapter XV).

**Children's
Education
Society, Shimoga**

THE MILLATH EDUCATION SOCIETY, SHIMOGA was registered in 1972-73 with the aim of promoting education among the Muslims. It is running an Urdu-medium pre-primary teachers' training institute for women with hostel facilities. There are four teachers and seventy trainees. The work of the Society is financed by donations, membership subscription, and fees from the students. The Society is managed by a committee of eleven members (*see* also Chapter XV).

**Millath
Education
Society, Shimoga**

THE SAGAR-PRANTYA VIDYAVARDHAKA SANGHA, a registered organisation, was founded in October 1963 at Sagar by some public-spirited citizens of Sagar area. The main aims of the Sangha are to promote higher education in arts, science and commerce and to foster the growth of literary, scientific, cultural, sports and allied activities. It is running a college of Arts, Science and Commerce at Sagar since the year 1964 (*see* Chapter XV). The affairs of the Sangha are administered by a committee with the help of donations from the philanthropic public and from local bodies like the municipality and taluk development board. Recently, the nomenclature of the Sangha has been changed to Malnad Development Foundation, Sagar.

**Sagar-
prantya Vidya-
vardhaka Sangha**

THE TUNGA VIDYAVARDHAKA SANGHA (REGD.), TIRTHAHALLI, was founded in 1967 with the object of establishing schools and colleges for the benefit of all sections of the people of the area and to improve the standard of education. At present, the Sangha is running a First Grade College of Arts, Science and Commerce at Tirthahalli with the help of the National Education Society, Shimoga (*see* also Chapter XV).

**Tunga
Vidyavardhaka
Sangha,
Tirthahalli**

THE BHADRA EDUCATION SOCIETY, BHADRAVATI, was started in 1968 with the objects of founding and running educational institutions, hostels and the like. It has established the Bhadra College and the Bhadra Evening College at Bhadravati. The Society is managed by a governing council with the help of donations from the public and subscriptions from members (*see* also Chapter XV).

**Bhadra
Education
Society,
Bhadravati**

Shri
Raghavendra
Gurukula
Vidyapeetha,
Basavapatna

SHRI RAGHAVENDRA GURUKULA VIDYAPEETHA was started at Basavapatna in 1971 by Shri Raghavendra Guruji of Basavapatna. The objects of the organisation are: (1) to promote through education, the spiritual as well as the material advancement of the younger generation and (2) to establish educational and other institutions to achieve the above-said objective. It publishes a monthly magazine called "Anugraha", runs nursery and primary schools, Sanskrit classes and a physical education college and conducts sports and physical efficiency tests and stages dramas for the general public. The work of the institution is managed by a committee consisting of nine members headed by the founder-president, with the help of subscriptions and donations (*see also Chapter XV*).

Bapuji Harijana
Seva Sangha,
Bhadravati

THE BAPUJI HARIJANA SEVA SANGHA was started in 1972-73 in Hutha colony of Bhadravati, as a registered body with the objects of promoting emotional integration, better knowledge, better living and better understanding among the people and to establish physical education and recreation units, community centres, reading rooms, libraries, *shishuviharas*, schools, handicraft centres, etc. The Sangha has 300 members. A beginning has been made by starting a kindergarten school and efforts are being made to organise other programmes.

Christa
Krupashrama,
Mandagadde

THE CHRISTA KRUPASHRAMA, MANDAGADDE, in Tirthahalil taluk, was started at first as a dispensary in 1912. By 1926, a mission hospital was being run which was, however, closed in 1939. Later in 1947, a home was started for crippled men and women and aged people and it had a few children also. From the year 1971, it was made an orphanage for pre-school children from birth to five years old. It admits those children who are orphans, semi-orphans, destitutes and from very poor families. There is a nursery school for them. After completion of five years, the children are sent to Government Primary School. After they complete the first year, they are admitted to the mission boarding home. The children are given over to Christian families for adoption. The intake capacity is 36 children. This institution is being run by the Church of South India Mission and its administration is looked after by a managing committee of six members.

Sisters of St.
Charles
Orphanage,
Shimoga

THE SISTERS OF ST. CHARLES ORPHANAGE, SHIMOGA, was started in 1933, with the object of taking care of orphans and giving them education to become good citizens. The number of inmates as in 1975 was stated to be 47. They are taught also needlework as a craft. The orphanage helps the girls to settle in life after marriage when they come of age.

ROTARY CLUBS

Rotary Clubs

THE ROTARY CLUB, SHIMOGA which was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Bangalore, was inaugurated in 1958. The club is

engaged usually in three forms of service, *viz.*, community service, vocational service and international service. It provides scholarships to deserving students. It has conducted health service camps like a free eye camp, a dental camp and a mass sterilisation camp. It helped in the construction of an eye-ward in the District Hospital and contributed a sum of Rs. 25,000 towards the construction of a children's ward in the hospital. It has also conducted a youth camp, and a refresher course for students and has sponsored youth clubs in high schools. Water supply was provided in an adopted village by name Byadarahosahalli in Shimoga taluk at a cost of Rs. 40,000. The club has promoted a scheme for training students in traffic control in close co-operation with the police and has supplied artificial limbs to several deserving persons. The affairs of the club are managed by a governing body. In 1974, it had 69 members.

THE ROTARY CLUB, TIRTHAHALLI, was started in 1967. In 1974, it had 31 members, and has rendered service to the community in various ways such as: (1) D.P.T. inoculation to children below the age of five in the Tirthahalli taluk, (2) polio immunisation to about seven hundred children below the age of five years in the Tirthahalli town, (3) running of a book bank in the local college, and (4) awarding of shield and a cup to the local high school, and two gold medals—one for the best girl student of the pre-university course and another for the best student of the local first-grade college. It is helping the construction of a building for the local first-grade college.

LIONS CLUBS ✓

THE LIONS CLUB OF SHIMOGA, which was sponsored by the Hubli Lions Club, was inaugurated in November 1964. It had 25 members in the beginning and 48 members in 1974. It has adopted Holebenavalli village in order to develop that place as a model village. This club has given priority to the service of the blind. Starting of a young farmers' club, opening of an adult-education centre (both at Chatnahalli), giving of triple vaccine and polio drops to children of three villages and distribution of medicines and tonics to some patients were some important activities of this institution. The club has two kinds of accounts. Amounts collected from the public are deposited in the charity account to be spent for charity purposes, while collections made from the members is put in an administration account for meeting the routine expenses of the club. The activities of the club are managed by a board of directors.

THE LIONS CLUB OF BHADRAVATI, which was sponsored by the Lions Club of Shimoga, was inaugurated and chartered in 1967. The number of members, which was 25 in the beginning, rose to 68 by 1974. Some of the activities undertaken by the club were

organisation of free eye-camps during 1968-69, 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74, observing of national days, U.N.O. Day, Hellen Keller Day, etc., free distribution of fruits and bread to in-patients of the hospital on some festival days, free medical and dental check-up of more than 300 persons in a camp in rural areas. Every year, the club conducts also elocution competitions for high school students and awards shields and prizes and a healthy baby contest on Children's Day. It distributes *phala-tambula* to teachers on the Teachers' Day, arranges immunisation for polio and triple antigen to about 500 children, distributes clothes to Harijans on 2nd October of every year and extends help to poor students to pay school fees and to purchase books. It conducts also taluk-level sports for high school students.

THE LIONS CLUB, SAGAR, was started in February 1973. Donation of rice to a drought-hit places in Bijapur district in 1973, running of a book bank at the local college, holding of free film shows and opening of a blood-bank in the local hospital have been some of the activities of the club.

THE LIONS CLUB, SORAB, was established in April 1972. In 1974, it had 30 members. It has constructed a park and two classrooms for the Government Junior College, and arranged food for students who came to Sorab for appearing at a public examination.

THE LIONS CLUB, SHIKARIPUR, was inaugurated in March 1973. There were 44 members in this club in 1974. Supply of free food to nearly 350 fire victims of the town, presentation of a wheeled chair to the hospital of the town, participation in anti-cholera and anti-tuberculosis campaigns, conducting of a dental camp, providing of triple antigen for 300 school-going children and encouragement to sports were the items of social work carried out by this club.

Family and Child
Welfare Project,
Hosanagar

THE FAMILY AND CHILD WELFARE PROJECT, HOSANAGAR, was started in 1968 by the Karnataka State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bangalore, with the object of improving the conditions of rural women and children. The affairs of the project are managed by a committee, the chairman and the members of which are nominated by the State Social Welfare Advisory Board. It is running six *balawadis*, young mothers' training camps and craft classes where about 150 girls and women are trained every year. The handicrafts taught are tailoring, knitting, making of plastic wire-bags, etc. It is extending some medical help to women in the rural areas.

Karnataka Rajya
Shri Shahji
Yuvajana
Mandali

KARNATAKA RAJYA SHRI SHAHJI YUVAJANA MANDALI, was started at Channagiri in March 1973. The objects of the association are to promote education and to improve social and economic conditions among the members of the Hindu society in general and among the Marathas in particular and to promote goodwill,

understanding and a spirit of mutual help and respect and discipline. The *Mandali* celebrates the birth-days of national heroes.

Attempts have been made in recent years to harness the energy of youths in the districts for constructive activities through the organisation of youth clubs (*Yuvaka Sanghas*). Shimoga is one of the districts which have a good number of youth clubs in the State. Through these clubs, the youths of the places help developmental activities such as formation of roads, cleaning campaign, running of adult literacy classes, libraries, reading rooms, etc., conducting of recreational and cultural programmes, assisting the farmers in modern methods of agriculture and the like. These institutions have adopted activities suitable to their environment and resources. While some clubs have undertaken literacy work, some others assist the authorities concerned in implementing the mid-day meal scheme and the applied nutrition programme. They also educate the people on the need for better sanitation and healthy surroundings. The youth clubs also organise centres to educate the farmers on the production of compost and green manures, on poultry-farming, vegetable cultivations, and rearing of improved breeds of cattle, sheep and goats. Games and sports are the common activities of all the clubs which hold competitions at the local-level and encourage youth to participate in body-building activities. Recreational and cultural programmes like dramas, *kavyavachanas*, *bhajans*, *harikathas*, etc. are also organised by several of the clubs. The active youth clubs are assisted by Government with an annual monetary grant. Besides, prizes ranging from Rs. 400 to Rs. 1,000 each are also awarded to the clubs which turn out good work.

A 20-member District Youth Service Board was constituted by the Government in 1970 with the Deputy Commissioner of the district as its chairman and the Deputy Director of Public Instruction as its secretary. The District Planning Officer, who has now been designated as the District Planning and Youth Service Officer, functions as the joint secretary of the Board. It is mainly an advisory body and its functions include formulation of specific programmes for the promotion of welfare of both the student and non-student youths in the district, mobilisation of resources from local bodies and other agencies for youth welfare programmes, advising the authorities concerned on the steps to be taken for intensifying extra-curricular activities, including sports in schools and colleges and reviewing the progress of work done under the youth service programme in the district periodically.

According to the latest rules regarding organisation of youth clubs, every youth club desirous of recognition and financial assistance from the Government is required to be affiliated to the District Youth Service Board. To qualify for such affiliation, a

**Yuvaka Sanghas
(Youth Clubs)**

club should have atleast 15 members in the age-group of 15-30. The sub-joined statement gives the taluk-wise number of youth clubs in Shimoga district as on 31st May 1974 :

Sl No.	Name of taluk	No. of youth clubs
1	Bhadravati ..	59
2	Channagiri ..	64
3	Honnali ..	52
4	Hosanagar ..	31
5	Sagar ..	52
6	Shikaripur ..	34
7	Shimoga ..	57
8	Sorab ..	60
9	Tirthahalli ..	41

A brief account of the activities of a few of the youth clubs is given by way of illustration, as it is not possible nor is it necessary to deal with all of them individually.

Shri Banashankari Yuvaka Seva Sangha

SHRI BANASHANKARI YUVAKA SEVA SANGHA, SHIMOGA, is a registered association. It was formed in 1969. The main objectives of the Sangha are : (1) promotion of child welfare and child health, (2) popularising family-planning, (3) running of adult literacy classes, (4) upliftment of Harijans, (5) *shramadan* and (6) organising recreational, cultural and social programmes. It arranges *bhajans*, film shows, *kavyavachana*, etc. It runs a *shishuvihara* and adult literacy, Hindi and tailoring classes. It is distributing CARE food and milk in several centres of Shimoga city. With the help of the local Junior Chamber of Commerce and the staff of the McGann Hospital, nearly a thousand children have been inoculated against diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus in Shimoga town. Prizes are being given to the students of various schools of the town who win in sports and literary competitions. The affairs of the Sangha are managed by a committee of members with the help of contributions from the members and donations from the public and grants given by the local bodies.

Shri Balaka Rama Seva Sangha

SHRI BALAKA RAMA SEVA SANGHA, KEDIGGERE, Tirthahalli taluk, was revived in January 1960 with the new name as Yuvaka Sangha. It was registered in 1973. Rendering of *Shramadan*, arranging of recreational and cultural programmes, encouragement to basket and mat-making, upliftment of Harijans and improvement of the villages are the objectives of the Sangha. It is assisting the farmers in agricultural activities like compost-making and fencing. It is participating in youth conferences and won the first prize of Rs. 1,000 in 1972-73 for being the best Sangha of the year in the district. In 1974, the institution had 30 members.

Youth Club, Tirthamathur

THE YOUTH CLUB, TIRTHAMATHUR, was founded in 1957-58. The aims of the club are : (1) to train the youths for democracy.

(2) to encourage group-living and group activities for the development of the village, (3) to provide leadership chances to able youths and (4) to provide recreational and cultural programmes to the public. It conducts annual exhibitions of arts and agriculture. The club has a building of its own. It won the incentive award from the Directorate of Youth Services in the year 1972-73. It is maintaining a fish pond. As a part of the applied nutrition programme, the club is running a poultry-farm on a small scale. In 1974, it had 45 members.

THE YOUTH CLUB, BASAVANI, in Tirthahalli taluk, was formed in 1958-59. It is conducting various activities including a women and child health programme, adult literacy class, etc. It has won incentive awards twice and has utilised the grants for promoting fishery in the village. It has constructed a small building of its own. It arranges music competitions every year.

**Youth Club
Basavani**

THE MARIKAMBA YOUTH CLUB, SORAB, was formed in 1972-73 with the objects of doing voluntary agricultural work, promoting adult literacy and sanitation and conducting recreational and cultural activities. The members of the institution help the farmers in compost-making, fencing, etc. It has provided reading room and library facilities for adult literates. It has taken up staging of dramas, recitation of folk-songs and *bhajans* and sports activities. In 1974, there were 32 members in the club.

**Marikamba
Youth Club**

THE BEERESHWARA YUVAKARA SANGHA, Shikaripur, was founded in 1965. The aims of the Sangha are promotion of flok-arts like *Dollu Kunita*, *kolata*, *Lavani*-singing, *Bailata*, etc. It gives performances of these folk-arts at Shikaripur and other places. Handicrafts are being taught. The Sangha stages also dramas. In 1974 there were about 40 members in the Sangha.

**Bheereswara
Yuvakara
Sangha**

THE SHIVAPPA NAIKA MITRA VRINDA, at Sagar is a registered society started in 1972. Its main objectives are: promotion of education, of study of science, literature and fine arts, encouragement to sports, home industries and fair price shops and foundation and maintenance of libraries. It is now running a *balavadi* for the benefit of the children of the locality and a sports unit. It is encouraging the youths of the place to do social service. In 1974, it has 30 members. The work of the association is carried on with the help of public donations and membership fees.

**Shivappa Naika
Mitra Vrinda,
Sagar**

THE AKKA-MAHADEVI SAMITI, Shiralkoppa was started and registered in 1965-66. Some of the aims of the Samiti are: to adopt measures to develop the birth-place of the celebrated saint Akka-Mahadevi, as a tourist centre, to promote understanding and amity among various communities by expounding her humanitarian teachings, to undertake research on the social, economic and other

**Akka-Mahadevi
Samiti,
Shiralkoppa**

conditions of her period, and to make arrangements for the preservation of ancient monuments, inscriptions, etc., which may throw light on her life. In 1973, a shrine was constructed at Udugani in the fort area granted by the Government. Every year, functions are held in the fort area of the Udugani village to enlighten the public about the teachings of Akka-Mahadevi. The work of the Samiti is managed by a committee of ten members with the help of subscriptions from the members and contributions and donations from the public.

MAHILA MANDALS

THE MAHILA MANDALS OR MAHILA SAMAJAS play a useful role in the betterment of the socio-economic conditions of the women-folk to a certain extent. As in June 1974, there were about 120 such institutions in Shimoga district. Their programme of work by and large is the same all over the district. They included running of nursery schools for little children and conducting of classes in Hindi, music and dance and providing of training in tailoring, knitting, embroidery and such other crafts for the benefit of women and girls of their respective places. Several of these institutions have received recognition and financial support from the Government and local bodies. In the following paragraphs is given a brief account of the activities of a few of the *mahila mandals* in the district as it is not possible, nor is it necessary to deal with all of them individually.

THE LADIES CLUB, NEW TOWN, BHADRAVATI, was founded in 1945. In 1974, it had 85 members. The main objects of the club are: (1) to bring about social contact among ladies, (2) to run *shishuviharas* and music, Hindi, tailoring and other classes and (3) to organise social and cultural programmes. The club has conducted handicrafts exhibitions and sports competitions. It is running a *shishuvihar* and is teaching tailoring and fret-work.

THE MAHILA SAMAJ, OLD TOWN, BHADRAVATI, was established in 1961, by a group of enthusiastic women of the locality. The aims of the institution are: (1) to create mutual contact and co-operation among the women of the town, (2) to arrange debates and sports competitions, (3) to promote social and cultural activities by women through music, dance, etc., (4) to help cottage industries and (5) to spread adult literacy and give training to women in house-hold matters. The Samaj is running embroidery and tailoring classes for needy women so as to enable them to supplement their family income. Provision has also been made to teach Hindi and music to interested women and girls. The activities of the Samaj are financed by subscriptions from its members and contributions from the public.

THE MAHILA SAMAJ, SAGAR, was started in 1940. Its main objects are: (1) to organise activities for promoting the general

welfare of women and children, (2) to do cultural and educational activities and (3) to run Hindi, handicrafts and fine arts classes. Sewing, doll-making, paper-modelling and bakery work are being taught, and a *shishuvihar* and a reading room are being run by the Samaja. The institution arranges also lectures on topics of interest to women and cultural functions periodically.

SHRI PADMAVATI MAHILA SAMAJ, HUMCHA, in Hosanagar taluk was registered in 1963-64 by the local women with the aims of training needy women in tailoring, knitting, bead work, etc., and to arrange social and cultural programmes. It is running a *shishuvihar* and a tailoring class. A monthly grant of Rs. 25 is being received from the Taluk Development Board which has also supplied Rs. 700 worth of materials under the Applied Nutrition Programme and two sewing machines.

THE MAHILA MANDAL, SANTHEBENNUR, in Channagiri taluk was formed in 1969 for promoting the welfare of the women folk of the place by providing them training in various crafts such as tailoring and embroidery and to create in them interest in public activities. In 1974 there were about 45 members. It supplies free food to needy pregnant women and helps in nursing of mothers and in child-care. Basket-making and garment-making are taught in the institution.

THE KASTURBA MAHILA SAMAJ, BELAGUTTI, in Honnali taluk, was started in 1973. The Samaja has carried out a cleaning programme in the village, has tried to popularise family-planning and has held a cooking demonstration. It is conducting a tailoring class and a *balawadi* and is encouraging kitchen-gardening.

THE MAHILA SAMAJ, BASAVANI, in Tirthahalli taluk commenced working in 1955. Its main objects are : (1) to run craft classes like basket-making, knitting and tailoring for the benefit of needy women of the place, (2) to protect child health and to popularise family-planning programme, (3) to run *balawadi* classes for the children who are left uncared for and (4) to arrange social, cultural and recreational programmes. At present it is running tailoring and knitting classes and a *balawadi*.

There are many other voluntary social service associations spread over the various parts of the district, mostly in towns and bigger villages, which are striving for the social, cultural, educational and economic betterment of the various sections of the society in their own humble way. There are also *Mathas* belonging to different religious groups which, *inter-alia*, also seek to promote social service activities. The number of such voluntary social service organisations, have increased in recent years, thus adding lustre and strength to the social fabric of the district (see also Chapter XV).