

BEST PRACTICE 1

Title - *Archaeology Museum*

Goal: To preserve the riches of antiquity and inculcate a sense of responsibility amongst students

The Context: With the establishment of the Department of Ancient History and Archaeology in the year 1987, new ventures have been in place to discover varied possibilities of exploration in contributing newer knowledge. The surrounding areas of Western Ghats and coastal region abound in pre-historic and historical sites. Trained faculties along with students in collaboration with the local bodies visit the sites and carry out explorations. The findings are documented and preserved along with wide publicity in the media. This kind of enterprise has enriched the experience of students. The following are the major ventures taken up during the academic year 2019-20:

1. Archaeological conservation and renovation work at the fort of Barkuru was conducted from 13 January 2019 to 22 January 2019 at the request of Udupi district administration. Students were paid.
2. One day Epigraphical study camp at Udyavara on 7 February 2019
3. Epigraphical explorations at Veeranarayana temple, Kulashekhara on 10 February 2019, on request of Mujarai department.
4. Archaeological explorations at Avalakki Pare on 17 and 18 February 2019
5. Archaeological Explorations at Maranakatte on 24 February 2019
6. Further Archaeological explorations were conducted at Avalakki Pare on 11 and 12 August 2019

Evidence of Success:

1. Archaeological conservation and renovation work at the fort of Barkuru was conducted from 13 January 2019 to 22 January 2019 at the request of Udupi district administration. Students were paid: First district level Alupotsava was conducted in January 2019 in connection with that festival, conservation and renovation work in the fort was assigned to the department.

2. One day Epigraphical study camp at Udyavara on 7 February 2019: Hands on training was given to the students
3. Epigraphical explorations at Veeranarayana temple, Kulashekhara on 10 February 2019, on request of Mujarai department: Earliest Tulu inscription written in Tulu script and Tulu language belongs to Kulashekhara Alupendra I was discovered.
4. Archaeological explorations at Avalakki Pare on 17 and 18 February 2019: A major new rock art site of 10,000 BC old was discovered at Avalakki Pare near Kolluru about 55 km from the district head quarters, Udupi. Petroglyphs of this site belong to hunter gatherer period of Mesolithic age. Dr. Murugesha.T participated as resource person at Madras Christian college, Chennai on 14 March 2019. Visited Xavier Centre of Historical Research on their invitation in Goa on 12 June 2019.
5. Archaeological Explorations at Maranakatte on 24 February 2019: A unique 12 century sculpture of Umamaheshwara riding on bull was discovered and a new Vijayanagara inscription was discovered.
6. Further Archaeological explorations were conducted at Avalakki Pare on 11 and 12 August 2019: A rare type of cup marks found and equivalent or similar types found only in Africa.

Problems Encountered:

- Dearth of finance for the transportation of stone inscriptions and pottery antiquities.
- Monetary constraints for maintenance of the museum
- Lack of suitable infrastructure for upgrading the museum

Best Practice-2

Title – *Inclusive Education*

Goal: Higher education should aim to redefine an individual to be self reliant. It should elevate an individual to be selfless in his pursuit and develop concerns for the society he lives in. Thus the educational institution should provide the students appropriate learning experiences and inculcate desirable value systems. It should enable students understand the social, cultural, economic and environmental realities to become responsible citizens. But in our country access to higher education is beyond the reach of a large section of the society particularly in rural areas. Thus inclusive education is providing quality education to socially and economically backward students at affordable cost.

The Context: Ever since its inception in the year 1980, the college has been affirming to its vision - providing higher education to rural poor and backward class students at the lowest cost. As the college is set up in a rural area, major of the students are from poor background. Besides financial problems, they face lack of self confidence and skills required for employment. Rampant gender discrimination also has resulted in preventing girl students entering higher education. But, the institution has been keen on its policy of all inclusiveness. Every year more girls have been entering the threshold of our college.

The college organized career training programme. Unnathi Career Academy, Udupi conducted training programmes three days a week. It was 60 hours course. English Communication skills, interview skills and overall personality development training were conducted to facilitate employability. GST course was conducted to enhance self employment and entrepreneurial capabilities.

Evidences of Success: Large numbers of students who have studied in this college have been self reliant entrepreneurs. Some are leading business persons and professionalists.

Problems Encountered:

- In spite of best efforts, our students lack the needed English communication skills.
- Lack of motivation in the households of students to excel in academics.
Dearth of career oriented goals and aspirations