

CHAPTER-V I

CONCLUSION

## CHAPTER - VI

### C O N C L U S I O N

The Karnatak Liberal Education Society was founded with the intension of spread of education among the poor and educationally backward people of Bombay-Karnatak. During 19th century efforts were made to open the primary educational institutions for educating the people in this area and both the government of Bombay Presidency and the missionaries worked for the opening of educational institutions in the districts of Belgaum, Dharwar and Bijapur. It must be noted that during the 19th century mainly the primary schools and some high schools were opened, but there was no provision for the higher education in the regions of Bombay-Karnatak. The students of this area went to the places like Kolhapur where Rajaram College was established in 1880 and Poona and Bombay where the provision for higher education was made. Naturally, in the beginning of 20th century, the people of Bombay-Karnatak were in need of the educational institutions imparting higher education, because to go to Kolhapur, Poona, or Bombay and acquire higher education was quite expensive and the people found it difficult to send their children to the colleges at those places. It's true that some primary schools and few high schools were opened during the 19th century, however, those were not adequate enough in number to make provision of the primary and secondary education of

the people of Bombay-Karnatak. Thus, in the beginning of the 20th century, there was a great need of the network of educational institutions imparting primary, secondary, as well as the education in the vigorous of Bombay-Karnataka.

Veershaiva Lingayat Community had settled in large number in the regions of Bombay-Karnatak as well as in some other districts of Bombay Presidency such as Solapur, Sangli and Kolhapur. Some eminent social workers of the Veershaiva Lingayat Community such as Shri Chennabasappa, Shri Gilganchi Gurusiddappa and Shri R.C.Artal, who were well educated, realised this need to make provision for the education of the people, not only of the Lingayat Community but also of the people of other communities of Bombay-Karnatak. With this intention, the some efforts for the spread of education were made and the result was the establishment of the Lingayat Education Association in the year 1883.

With the financial support of Lingayat Education Association, the students from Lingayat Community such as Shri S.S.Basavnal, Shri M.R.Sakhare, Shri B.B.Mamadapur, Shri B.S.Hanchinal, Shri H.F.Kattimani, Shri P.R.Chikodi and Shri V.V.Patil completed their higher education and afterwards came together and decided to establish a society for the spread of education among their fellow countrymen. It must be noted that during those days, the highly educated people could obtain the services in the government departments and could lead a life of luxury. But the founders of

the K.L.E.Society decided to devote themselves for the upliftment of the poor masses, because education was the best means to uplift socially and economically backward people.

The above mentioned veteran social workers established the Karnatak Lingayat Education Society in the year 1916 which was later named as The Karnatak Liberal Education Society in the year 1949. The role of Karnatak Liberal Education Society in the spread of education in North Karnataka in particular and in Karnataka and India in general can well be understood by the spread of its twenty three educational institutions, not only North Karnataka, but also in the districts of Maharashtra and South Karnatak. In the beginning of the 20th century, there was only one college i.e. Karnatak College at Dharwar, which was established in the year 1917, a year after the establishment of K.L.E. Society. It was the K.L.E.Society which was responsible for the establishment of about fourteen colleges during the period of fifty years from 1916 to 1965. The main contribution of the K.L.E. Society was that there was not a single college in the district of Belgaum and this need was fulfilled in the year 1933 by the establishment of Lingraj College at Belgaum. It was the second college in the whole of Bombay-Karnataka. By the establishment of this college the provision for the higher education not only of the students of Belgaum district, but also from the districts of Dharwar, Karwar, and Bijapur and other parts of Karnatak was made.

Another noteworthy contribution of the K.L.E.Society to the spread of education was, the establishment of Science Institute at Belgaum in 1944. Prior to the establishment of this college there was not a single college imparting education in Science courses in the whole of Bombay-Karnatak. Hence, the establishment of Raja Lakhamgouda Science Institute was another noteworthy contribution of the K.L.E. Society to the spread of education. The education in Science courses was of utmost importance in the 20th century and naturally, the students were greatly in need of the college providing instruction in the Science courses. This Science Institute produced eminent scientists and scholars like Shri I.M.Magdum, Dr.K.C.Wali and Shri V.M. Sakhare (Mathematician).

The next noteworthy contribution of the K.L.E.Society was the establishment of the educational institutions at Hubli. In the city of Hubli there was not any college instructing courses in Commerce which were acquiring greater importance during those days. Hence, the K.L.E. Society established J.G.College of Commerce at Hubli in the year 1947. The year 1947-48 was really another landmark in history of education in Karnataka because in the same year Bhoomraddi Engineering College was started at Hubli. Establishment of the Engineering College was a notable attempt by the K.L.E. Society for the spread of education. In fact, establishing professional colleges was not an easy task because it involved heavy financial investments and

well equipped laboratories and libraries, but the challenge was accepted by K.L.E.Society. There was not any engineering college in Bombay-Karnataka and hence Bhoomraddi College of Engineering was founded at Hubli in 1947. The students not only from North Karnataka but also from other parts of Karnataka and India had the opportunity to complete their courses in engineering in this college.

Besides the Commerce College and the Engineering College, the K.L.E.Society founded Arts College and Science College in the city of Hubli. Thus, the K.L.E. Society founded Engineering, Arts, Commerce and Science Colleges at Hubli which fulfilled the educational need of the students from different parts of Karnataka. In the district of Dharwar two more colleges of Arts and Science courses were started at Gadag and Haveri.

Establishment of the Medical College at Belgaum was the crowing achievement of the K.L.E. Society. There was not a medical college in Belgaum district prior to 1963. There was only one Government Medical College at Hubli. A need of a Medical College at Belgaum was felt even by the government of Bombay Presidency in the beginning of the 20th century. Some efforts were made to open a medical college in the first half of the 20th century, but there attempts failed because it was a great challenge involving high financial investments and well qualified staff and hospital facilities. However, the K.L.E.Society was

successful in this arduous task. With the support of Belgaum Municipality and Government of Karnatak it founded Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College at Belgaum in 1963. This institution soon acquired the reputation as one of the leading medical colleges in the country which attracted the students not only from India but also from other countries. It was a major contribution of the K.L.E.Society to the spread of education.

Another notable contribution of the K.L.E.Society was the establishment of educational institutions in the areas of Maharashtra where Kannada speaking people of Veershaiv Lingayat Community had settled in considerable number. Kannada speaking people of the Solapur district were need of the high schools and college where instruction was given in Kannada medium. This need of the people was also fulfilled by the Society.

The K.L.E. Society not only paid attention to the growth of higher education but by establishing pre-primary school, primary school, high schools at various places it contributed to the growth of primary and secondary education particularly in the districts of Belgaum, Dharwar and Solapur.

The K.L.E. Society, by establishing many high schools and colleges in the districts of Belgaum and Dharwar, hastened the process of establishment of Karnatak University

at Dharwar in 1950. Two life members of the K.L.E.Society were appointed by the Government of Bombay on Karnatak University Committee. Thus K.L.E. Society was indirectly responsible for the foundation of Karnatak University.

Thus, the Karnatak Liberal Education Society studied the educational needs of the people of Karnatak and during the period of fifty years it continuously worked to fulfil the aspirations and needs of the people. The humble beginning was made in the year 1916 and during the period of fifty years remarkable work was done by the K.L.E. Society by establishing twenty-three educational institutions and thus it emerged as one of the prominent educational institutions in India.