CHAPTER – IV

THE GENESIS AND GROWTH DIMENSION OF KARNATAK UNIVERSITY - A PROFILE

For a proper study of the University development, it becomes necessary that a brief historical narration of the origin and development of the University. It is in this context that a profile of the Karnataka University is provided here, as it is the study unit for the present research work.

4.0 About Dharwad

Dharwad city is located in the northern part of Karnataka State. It has a distinct geographical climatic conditions and cultural features. Dharwad city lies on East Longitude 75° 15 to 75° 36’ and North Latitude 15° 19’ to 15° 41’. The city is located at 696-697 meters above the sea level.

Dharwad, the seat of the Karnataka University was a great intellectual and cultural centre even before India became independent. In the early 19th century, the British operated from Dharwad which was by then a district headquarters. During this period, scholars and artist from neighbourhood came and settled at Dharwad. Dharwad distinguished itself as a centre of national movement. It began to hum with activities of nationalist, reformers, educationists, artists, musicians, poets and literati. These events promoted the growth of Dharwad as the foremost educational and cultural centre.
4.1 Origin of Karnataka University, Dharwad

The idea of establishing a university for north Karnataka was conceived as early as 1924. In November 1925, the Kannada Sahitya Parishat constituted a sub-committee to formulate proposals for establishing a separate university for north Karnataka which was hitherto a part of Bombay. The 12th session of Kannada Sahitya Sammelana which met at Bellary in May 1926, decided to constitute Karnataka Vishwavidyala Samsthe. The proposal, however, could not gain momentum until the 1940s owing to political uncertainties during the last decade of the British rule. In the month of May 1942, Karnataka University Conference was convened at Belgaum that resolved to establish Karnatak Vidyapeeth. In the meanwhile, the Karnatak Vidyavardhak Sangah, the premier cultural forum also convened a meeting of the leading Kannadigas at Dharwad. This meeting also endorsed the earlier resolution of Kannada Sahitya Parishat to establish the Karnataka Vishwavidyala Samsthe. Yet another organization called Kannada Literary Conference that met at Shimoga in 1943 devoted one full session to deliberate on this subject and reiterated the need for a separate university in the region. In 1944, Karnatak Vidyavardhak Sangh, initiated the unification of Karnatak Vidyapeeth and the Karnatak Vishwavidhyala Samsthe and subsequently organized a discussion meeting and sent a delegation to Bombay in 1946. 28th September, 1946 was declared as Karnatak University Day. Following this, the then Bombay Government constituted the Karnatak University Committee in April 1947 with Sri
N.S. Lokur as chairman. The Committee collected evidence, negotiated with Madras Government and finally submitted its report to the Bombay Government in June 1948. Based on this report, the Karnataka University Bill was passed by Bombay Legislature in 1949 ushering the establishment of Karnataka University during same year. The University was established initially at Mumbai in 1949, the location was shifted to Dharwad in March 1950 (Shollapur, 2006).

The task of framing the ordinances and the regulations was soon completed and the University was incorporated on 1st March 1950. The University which started functioning mainly as an affiliating and examining university gradually assumed more and more responsibilities of teaching postgraduate courses and promoting research.

4.2 The Vision Statement of the University:

“The University aims to be socially inclusive temple of learning by leveraging and integrating its productive scientific research, humanistic approach and rich cultural heritage, besides strengthening the knowledge based civil society”.

4.3 The Mission Statements of the University:

- To design new generation multidisciplinary courses reflecting the current needs of the nation and industry.
- To encourage extensive use of digital technologies to access information through the Internet by achieving complete automation and campus networking.
• To introduce online examinations in certain departments along with online course structure—thus bringing in use most of modern technology.

• To facilitate lateral movement for all Post Graduate students across departments by introducing Choice Based Credit System (CBCS).

• To ensure uniform quality of higher education in all colleges by using modular approaches in syllabus through semester scheme of all UGC courses.

• To bring in more accountability in the delivery of these courses by having half of the examinations evaluated by the college teachers.

• To encourage competition, flexibility and better updating of courses by more incentives for autonomous courses and colleges.

Symbolic of the University’s vision and mission, the emblem of the University consists of a papal tree at the centre, an open book, figures of a bull, a rising sun and the legend Arive Guru i.e., Wisdom is Guru, implying that both wisdom and knowledge should be all pervading like the ramifying papal tree and light up the world with knowledge and eradicate illiteracy.

4.4 Organizational Structure, Governance and Management in Karnatak University

The organizational structure, governance and management in Karnatak University, Dharwad covering the different Officers and Authorities of the University are discussed in this part. The organizational structure, governance and management in Karnatak University can be studied under three main sub-systems.
a. Administrative System

The administrative system consists of various mechanisms used by the University for policy making and university administration. This is the strategic level where the objectives and policies of the University are decided. This sub-system of the University includes syndicate, academic council, board of studies and other sub-committees.

b. Governance System

The policies and activities determined by the Administrative System are to be implemented by the Governance system. The Governance system consists of the Registrar, Deputy Registrars, Assistant Registrars, Registrar (Evaluation), Deputy Registrar (Evaluation), Assistant Registrars (Evaluation), Finance Officer, Director of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Engineers and Other Administrative staff.

c. Academic System

This sub-system of the University consists of Deans, Head or Chairman of Departments, Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, etc.

The organization structure of the University is shown in the given below chart.
Chart 4.1
Organizational Structure of Karnatak University, Dharwad

Chancellor
  ↓
Pro-Chancellor
  ↓
Vice-Chancellor

Policy Making bodies
  ↓
The Syndicate
  ↓
Academic Council
  ↓
Finance Committee

Academic Heads
  ↓
Registrar
  ↓
Registrar (Evaluation)
  ↓
Finance Officer
  ↓
Director of Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation
  ↓
University Engineer

Administrative Officers
  ↓
Director of Student Welfare
  ↓
Director of College Development
  ↓
Director of Physical Education
  ↓
University Librarian

Dean
  ↓
Dean of Arts Faculty
  ↓
Dean of Social Science Faculty
  ↓
Dean of Management Faculty
  ↓
Dean of Education Faculty
  ↓
Dean of Law Faculty
  ↓
Dean of Commerce Faculty
  ↓
Dean of Science & Technology Faculty
4.5 Officers of the University

The officers of Karnataka University, Dharwad are the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Registrar (Evaluation), Finance Officer, Deans, Director of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Board, Director of Students Welfare, Director of College Development Council, Resident Engineer, Librarian, Heads of Departments and such other officers of the University as the Chancellor may, on the recommendation of the State Government from time to time, designate.

The Governor of the State shall by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the Head of the University and shall when present, preside at any convocation of the University.

The Minister in-charge of Higher Education in Karnataka shall, by virtue of his office be the Pro-Chancellor of the University. He shall, in the absence of the Chancellor, preside at any Convocation of the University.

The Vice-Chancellor shall be a whole time officer of the University appointed by the Chancellor with the concurrence of the State Government. The Vice-Chancellor shall be the principal executive and academic officer of the University and shall exercise general control over the affairs of the University. He shall exercise all powers necessary for maintenance of discipline in the University. He shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Academic Council and the Syndicate and the Finance Committee. He shall preside over in the absence of the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor, at the convocations. He
shall preside over the meetings of the authorities or bodies of the Universities, and shall be entitled to vote. He shall ensure that all the provisions of this Act, the Statutes, the Ordinances, and the Regulations are observed and shall have all the powers necessary for that purpose. He may either himself or through any officer of the University authorised in writing by him, convene the meetings of the Academic Council, the Syndicate and the Finance Committee and shall perform all such acts as may be necessary to carry out and give effect to the decisions of these authorities. In case of emergency which, in his opinion, requires immediate action, the Vice-Chancellor shall take such action as he deems necessary and shall at the earliest opportunity thereafter report the action taken to such authority or body which in the ordinary course would have dealt with the matter. The Vice-Chancellor shall exercise such other powers as may be prescribed by the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.

The Registrar shall be a whole time officer of the University. The Registrar shall be ex-officio Member-Secretary of the Academic Council and the Syndicate and member of the Finance Committee. It shall be the duty of the Registrar:

- to be the custodian of the records, the common seal and such other property of the University as the Vice-Chancellor, or the Syndicate shall commit to his charge;
- to issue notices convening the meetings of the Syndicate Academic Council or the Faculties, the Board of Studies, and of any authority of the University and to keep minutes of all such meetings;
• to conduct the official correspondence of the authorities of which he shall be the Member-Secretary.
• to supply to the Chancellor and to the State Government copies of the agenda of the meetings of the authorities of the University as soon as they are issued and the minutes of the meeting within a month of holding of the meeting.

The Registrar shall exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Statutes, Ordinances or Regulations and as may be allocated to him from time to time by the Vice-Chancellor. The Registrar may be assisted by one or more Deputy Registrars and Assistant Registrars.

The Registrar (Evaluation) shall be a whole time officer of the University. The Registrar (Evaluation) shall be a Member of the Syndicate, the Academic Council, Finance Committee and all the Faculties. He shall be in-charge of the conduct of examinations and all other matters incidental thereto and ancillary therewith and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Statutes or Ordinances, or as may be allocated to him by the Vice-Chancellor. He may be assisted by one or more Deputy Registrars (Evaluation) and Assistant Registrars (Evaluation).

The Finance Officer shall be a whole time officer of the University appointed by the Vice-Chancellor with the approval of the Syndicate. The Finance Officer shall, subject to the control of the Finance Committee, exercise such powers and perform such functions as may be prescribed by the Statutes, the Ordinances and the
Regulations or as may be required from time to time by the Vice-Chancellor or the Registrar. He shall be ex-officio Member of the Academic Council, and the ex-officio Member-Secretary of the Finance Committee.

A Professor in each faculty according to seniority shall by rotation, act as Dean of faculty for a period of two years. The Dean of each faculty shall be the Executive Officer of the Faculty and shall preside over the meetings of the Faculty. The Dean shall exercise such other powers and discharge such other functions as may be prescribed by the Statutes or Ordinances.

4.6 Authorities of the University

The authorities of Karnatak University are the Syndicate, the Academic Council, the Finance Committee, the Faculties, the Board of Studies, the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Board, such other bodies as may by statutes be declared.

The Syndicate is the highest authority of the University. It is both an executive as well as a legislative body. All policy decisions and statutes are required to be approved by the Syndicate. It has the powers to manage and administer the affairs of the University and its properties. It has the power to regulate and control all the affairs of the University in accordance with the provisions of section 28 of Karnataka State Universities Act, 2000 and the statutes made there under. The Syndicate shall consist of the Vice-Chancellor, Commissioner for Collegiate Education, Director of Technical Education, One Dean nominated by
the Vice-Chancellor, Two members nominated by the Chancellor from among eminent educationists, or persons from Commerce, Banking, Industry or other professions, Four Principals of affiliated colleges nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, Six persons nominated by the State Government from amongst eminent educationists, One person who is a Professor of Post-Graduate Studies nominated by the Vice Chancellor, Director of Medical Education, Commissioner for Public Instruction, and the Director of Pre-University Education.

The Academic Council shall be the academic body of the University and shall subject to the provisions of Karnataka State Universities Act, the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations, have the control and general regulation of, and be responsible for the maintenance of, the standards of instruction, education and examination of the University. The Academic Council shall consist of the Vice-Chancellor; Commissioner for Collegiate Education; Director of Technical Education; One Member of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly in respect of each district falling within the University area, nominated by the Speaker Karnataka Legislative Assembly; Two Members of the Karnataka Legislative Council nominated by the Chairman, Karnataka Legislative Council; Ten Principals of affiliated colleges nominated by the Vice-Chancellor; Three eminent persons representing industry, commerce, banking or any other profession nominated by the State Government; Five Professors of the Department of the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor; Five Deans of the Faculties nominated by the Vice-Chancellor; Six students
to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor; Six persons nominated by the State Government from amongst eminent educationists; The Librarian; The Director of Students Welfare; The Director of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Board; The Director of the College Development Council; The Director of Physical Education; The Registrar (Evaluation); and The Registrar as Member Secretary.

The Finance Committee, which is a statutory authority, comprising representatives of the Academic Council, Syndicate, Secretaries to Government in charge of Finance Department/Higher Education/Planning Department, Registrar, Registrar (Evaluation), Finance Officer and works under the Chairmanship of the Vice-Chancellor. The Finance Committee is vested with the powers to monitor the financial accounts of the University. It also reviews the audit reports, organises verification of budget estimates and such other financial matters as may be prescribed by the statutes. No expenditure other than provided in the budget is incurred by the University without the approval of the Finance Committee. Never the less in some matters i.e. if the incurring of expenditure by Vice-Chancellor is not satisfactory; the finance committee may refer it to the Chancellor, whose decision in the matter shall be final. Its formidable task is mobilizing sufficient resources for the University and in this way, it has key role to play.

The Faculty of the University is headed by the Deans. There may as many Faculties as decided by the University. The Faculties have such powers and perform such duties as are assigned to them by
the statutes, the ordinances of the University. The Faculties consider and make recommendations to the Academic Council on any question pertaining to their spheres of work and may appear to them necessary or any matter referred to them by the Academic Council. Launching of new courses, revision of syllabus and course of contents, appointment of examiners, coordination between department in respect of teaching and research are generally the agenda of Faculty Meetings. Each faculty shall consist of such number of departments as may be assigned to it by the ordinance. The faculty deliberate on the academic matters of the discipline and does not deliberate on the financial matters of the University.

There shall be a Board of Studies for every subject or group of subjects may be prescribed by the ordinances.

Planning, monitoring and evaluation board plans the academic courses, research programmes, inter-disciplinary activities, interact with outside agencies for training, extension and research, and monitor from time to time and implement the programmes and activities formulated by it. The Board consists of the Vice-Chancellor, as its Chairman, the Registrar, the Registrar (Evaluation), two Deans, two Professors, one Educationist, one Officer of State Government, two Representatives from Trade and Industry nominated by the State Government. The Planning, monitoring and evaluation board shall meet at least once in three months. Every resolution of the Board shall be placed before the Academic Council and Syndicate for consideration and taking action.
4.7 Present Status of Karnataka University, Dharwad

Karnatak University, Dharwad, one of the premier University of India, is the second oldest State University in the state of Karnataka. The University has celebrated its Diamond Jubilee Year in 2009-10. At the end of the academic year 2010-11 the University had 7 faculties, 5 constituent colleges, 6 Post Graduate centres, around 460 affiliated colleges, where in more than 1,00,000 students pursue higher studies, under the core and supervision of teaching and supporting staff members. It houses around 50 Post Graduate departments spread over 5 campuses covering more than 1000 acre of land. There are 23 hostels in all including a working women’s hostel (17 boys and 6 girls) which accommodate about 3000 students. There are 276 residential quarters too for teaching and non teaching staff. The University offers a wide range of courses, giving opportunity for education from early childhood to Ph.D. It is one of the rare Universities in the country, where there is an amalgamation of the one at school with higher education. The jurisdiction of the University covers Bagalkot, Belgaum, Bijapur, Dharwad, Gadag, Haveri and Uttar Kannada districts of Karnataka. After the establishment of Rani Chennamma University at Belgaum in the year 2010, the jurisdiction of Karnataka University is restricted to the four districts of North Karnataka viz. Dharwad, Gadag, Haveri and Uttar Kannada.

The Faculty of Science in the University is having 15 departments; Faculty of Arts is having 9 departments; Social Science 13; Law 01; Education 02; Commerce 01 department. All these
faculties are offering M.Phil and Ph.D courses along with Master Degree. The Faculty of Management Studies offers MBA, MTA, BBA, BHM with Ph.D programmes.

As many as 43 P.G. courses, 7 Under Graduate courses, 42 Ph.D programs, 26 M.Phil programs, 4 advanced diploma courses, 17 P.G Diploma courses, and 11 Certification courses are offered by the University at present. Most of the Departments, on priority basis, incorporate interdisciplinary components in designing their curricula keeping in view the emerging thrust areas. During the last five years new state of the art technical courses have been introduced to compensate the loss of medical and engineering faculties and the consequent loss of revenue to the University. The University identifies the regional needs and overall development of students of this backward region of North Karnataka. Those who are not able to pursue regular UG and PG courses are given an opportunity of higher education through correspondence mode in the Faculties of Arts, Commerce and Social Sciences. The University has been attracting students from various countries like UAE, Nigeria, South Africa, Bangladesh, Iran, etc.

The existing as well as the new courses are designed in line with the latest theoretical developments; healthy practices on the campus to promote gender and environmental sensitivity, encourage and address specific needs of the society, economically and educationally disadvantaged groups, and they also provide a greater compatibility. Besides nurturing an outlook of excellence, the curriculum
contributes to an all-round development of the students which is also aimed at imparting critical skills and knowledge to meet the requirements of the 21st century world. Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) signed with reputed educational and non-educational institutes like with Infosys, Bangalore for training of Under Graduate students, with National Institute of Oceanography, Goa for co-operation in research and training and many others have paved the way for giving a global orientation to the higher education system of the university. Execution of cutting edge courses in the emerging areas and in diverse fields has given the University a sense of satisfactor, in being able to contribute justifiably to the development of the nation.

The admission process is centralized at the state level for MBA and MCA courses. Students are filled for these courses through Karnataka State Post Graduate Common Entrance Test which is currently being administered by Karnataka Examination Authority, Bangalore. Admissions to other P.G. courses are centralized at the University having a separate Admission Committees for Science, Social science, Arts, Law, Education and Commerce faculties. Apart from lower cut off marks for admissions, the reservation criteria as stipulated by the government for the disadvantaged communities are strictly followed.

Research is a significant activity of this University. Currently 122 candidates are pursuing Ph.D programmes and 921 students were awarded Ph.D during the last 5 years and 3294 students during
the last 60 years. Recognition of teachers as Ph.D guides, extending fellowship for selected students, promoting teachers to take up projects, providing facilities of computation, deputing teachers to attend conferences in India and abroad, provision of research budget to undertake research projects are some of the major activities undertaken by the University to promote research. University teachers publish a large number of research papers and many of the publications have high citation index. Some of the teachers have filed patents. Award and rewards has been regular feature for various University teachers.

Every year almost all the teachers participate in various conferences/seminars/symposia/workshop, etc. Visiting laboratories within India and abroad for the research work is also very common. Many faculty members are also engaged in consultancy work.

The University has been involved in outreach and community oriented programmes for mass education, bringing awareness for the community in areas like health, society, education, sanitation, public awareness, and social evils. Community development programmes especially for under privileged sections and special programmes for women and children are also under taken by the University through NCC and NSS activities.

Recently the NAAC has awarded the University an ‘A’ grade which is commendable. The National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies announced the top 35 productive Science and Technology institutions in India based on Scopus International
Data base. It is very creditable to find Karnatak University as 30 in the rank and first rank based on the growth rate of the number of publications. Teaching members of the faculty have been honoured with the awards, fellowships of various Science and Literature Academics of the country. The University has also been able to institute a series of Chairs to promote studies and research on regional thinkers and reformers. Research in some departments is a strong point of the University. Several projects have been granted to the various departments from funding agencies. MoUs have been signed with many National and International institutions. Science departments have received grants under FIST, SAP, COSIST, etc. The faculty members have published many research articles in referred journals. The University has committed faculty who are genuinely interested in teaching and research (KUD, 2010).
REFERENCES:
