India has produced many fine educationists and administrators. Among them, Dr. D.C. Pavate occupies a prominent place as one who held high posts such as the Director of Public Instruction in the erstwhile Bombay Presidency, Vice-Chancellor of Karnataka University, Dharwad, and Governor of Punjab. This chapter is a study of his life and career, which is certainly a source of strength, inspiration and guidance to all.

He belonged to a very poor family with none to support him or to give him any useful recommendation to persons who mattered. "He worked very hard, even without caring for his own health. Many post-independence educational schemes of far reaching importance went through his hands, and his name will go down in history as the most successful Director of Public Instruction."\(^1\) Thus by dint of hard work right from his school days he rose to eminence. He was thorough and systematic in his work and life qualities, which proved to be great assets. All through his career, Dr. Pavate promoted and upheld the cause of education and educational institutions. Though a Wrangler of great reputation his simplicity, sincerity and dedication to a cause made him
remarkable. No one dared to question his integrity. It was admitted and admired by even those who opposed him. It was accepted that he had a dynamic and multifaceted personality.

"Not too tall and not too stately, [he was endowed] with a broad forehead, bright eyes, well-cut features and a pointed nose. Wrangler Dr. Pavate was pre-eminently rational and practical, discrete and dispassionate in his estimate and acceptance of life, masking behind his dignity and reserve rare humanitarian feelings to a great measure. His sanity, serenity and worldly wisdom disguised an idealism which is of the very essence of man giving him his place of pride amidst educationists, administrators and patriotic sons of the country."² His looks added even more attraction to his personality. He was humane as well as highly disciplined. In short, he possessed all virtues of an ideal and dynamic personality, which made him genuinely great in the real sense of the term. "He has sparkling eyes. The biographer of Lord Rutherford has written about the piercing eyes of the eighteen year old Rutherford and perhaps it was those eyes that enabled him to peer through the atom. To me, Wrangler Pavate's eyes look like the Rutherford type. They are intelligent, decisive, sympathetic and friendly to man."³

According to the late Dr. D.M. Nanjundappa, "I found a role model in Dr. Pavate who practised service with sacrifice,
the two noble needs of the nation at any point of its history of development. For him work was worship and for those who had the opportunity of working in Karnataka University where he was the Vice-chancellor for an unbroken period and record tenure of fourteen years, he was an inspiring leader and a visionary. That I was attracted by his magnetism to Dharwad is itself a thrilling divine incident."4 Dr. Pavate was unique in terms of following rules and procedures in letter and spirit. He knew very well the ins and outs of politics but never did practise politics. He was not a politician, but an academician and educationist through and through.

"One great quality in Dr. Pavate, which has always excited my admiration, is his bold independence and complete freedom from party-politics. Nevertheless, he received support from all sides, whenever he stood for election to any of the academic bodies, because everyone knew that he would not swerve, even by a hair's breadth, from what he considered to be the right decision, no matter what outside influence was brought to bear on him."5

B. D. Jatti, a former Chief Minister of Karnataka and a former Vice-President of India, in his message sent on the eve of Dr. Pavate's Centenary Celebrations, 1999 said, "I had the pleasure of knowing Dr. D. C. Pavate from my school days. He was known for his academic record from Bombay to
Cambridge, rising from the background of a small village. His life was dedicated to the cause of education in the country in general and that of Karnataka in particular. Among his many achievements are: the successful introduction of compulsory primary education in the old Bombay State and the building of the Karnataka University. He rightly deserves full credit for these achievements.\(^6\) Pavate was a scholar, a thinker and a visionary. His contributions to society, of which education was only a part, were monumental.

Dr. Pavate thus belongs to a very rare category of human beings who show the right path to fellow-beings in their march towards attaining their goals. "He has the knack of encouraging others and making them works for a cause. He has a sense of humour, which stands him in good stead in difficult situation. He has qualities that one may not realize at first sight. The more you know him, the more you will like him and appreciate him."\(^7\) The more carefully his life is studied the more unique features of his personality do appear.

"Dr. Pavate had two sons, viz., Kashinath and Ashok and one daughter Medha. Kashinath, the eldest son worked as Director of Scientific Research, Department of Electronics, Government of India and now leading retired life at Bangalore. Ashok, the youngest son worked as Managing
Director, SEMAC, Bangalore and after retirement he settled in Bangalore. Medha is the only daughter, graduated from K.L.E. Society's Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Belgaum has been working as medical practitioner at New York. Dr. V.V. Pavate, the nephew of Dr. Pavate is now the elderly person in Pavate family. Even the leaders of those days like Smt. Indira Gandhi, B.D. Jatti, S. Nijalingappa and others recognised the valuable services rendered by Dr. Pavate.

**Background of Dr. Pavate Family**

We learn from Dr. Pavate's autobiography that his forefathers migrated from Sholapur district to Mamdapur about three hundred years ago. His father was a simple and hardworking farmer. Thus, roots of Shri Pavate's ancestors are from the state of Maharashtra. He belongs to an agricultural family in the Lingayat community. This family, which is even today an ideal family, came to Mamadapur, as early as in 1890. It is a small village, fifteen kilometres from Gokak, a taluka place in Belgaum district. Historically speaking, Mamadapur, the birthplace of Dr. Pavate has its own unique history. Originally, it was called as Mahamadpur as a Muslim king Mohamadshah, who was a Sardar under the rulers of Bijapur in the fifteenth century, ruled it. Before the Muslim rule, the villagers called it Gachhinkurbet.
The original records are available with Dr. V. V. Pavate, nephew of Dr. D. C. Pavate. He is Medical Practitioner residing in U.B. Hill, Dharwad.
In recent times, most people call it Mamdapur. Even today, a great fort on western side of the village, stands as evidence. The population of Mamdapur consisted of Muslims, Lingayats, Bedas, Kurubas and others. They lived like brothers and sisters mixing and meeting with all when public fairs and functions held. There has been communal harmony among Hindus and Muslims. They have been living as brothers and sisters, rarely found in modern times. The Hindus participated in Muslim festivals and likewise Muslims too participated enthusiastically in Hindu festivals and rituals. Moreover, this is an indicator of the living reality of secularism. Therefore, there was social harmony. They led happy and contented life despite utter poverty. They had no desire to grow rich at the cost of others. The outstanding feature of Mamadapur village has been practice of secular principles even today.

“Dr. Pavate family was very rich at heart. The poor but god-fearing couple, Chintappa Pavate and Shantaveeramma, lived an exemplary life. Both of them worked from dawn to dust in the fields earned their livelihood. They strictly adhered to moral values and ethical standards of society. They were Karmayogis. They led ideal and contented life. Dr.
Pavate family was a role model for others in the village. Thus, this was an ideal family in all respects.

"Once at lunch time, Pavate's mother, Shantaveeramma, was sitting in front of the house with the vibhuti mark on her forehead. A passer-by casually inquired whether she had her food. She with a smile said at once that she had taken her food just then. Nevertheless, the reality was that there was not a morsel of food in the house. All she had was a cup of buttermilk."

Hard times fell on most of the villagers and Dr. Pavate's parents too did not escape the dire circumstances. However, what set them apart from the hoi polloi was their unstinted generosity and piety to the sages and saints.

The father of Dr. D. C. Pavate, Chintappa Pavate, invited the His Holiness Shivayogishwar Swamiji of Gachchinmath of Athani for Paada Pooja*. The swamiji accepted their humble invitation and came to Mamadapur. Before the Pooja, as usual, Swamiji was taking his bath in Chintappa's house. At that time, one small lizard jumped from the sidewall on the right hand of Swamiji and ran fast upward. The Swamiji and Chintappa watched this incident curiously and Chintappa

* It means worshipping the holy feet of great saints and sages with all devotion.
asked Swamiji to take his bath once again as his body had become impure, which he refused. Instead, Swamiji said to Chintappa that from then his family would climb upward like the lizard and attain prosperity, and he blessed his family."\(^{11}\)

Thus, the belief that future events cast their shadows came true subsequently as the Dr. Pavate family attained prosperity.

"The date of my birth, according to official records is 2\(^{nd}\) August, 1899. So I belong to the nineteenth century."\(^{12}\) "'Dada', as he was addressed during his infancy, lost his mother when he was one and half years old. She died of the severe, contagious disease of plague. All that parents had was a small house and five acres of land. When his mother Shantveeramma was on her deathbed, asked Dadanna, with motherly love, to drink her own breast milk for the last time; but the innocent child could not. Probably the child did not want to bother his dying mother."\(^{13}\)

"In the cattle-shed my father used to milk the cow every morning and gave me a cup of fresh milk to drink."\(^{14}\) He took all care and caution and nourished his son very well. Besides, by the promise he had made to his wife, his father Chintappa never remarried in his life and brought up his
children by working in his small patch of land. The neighbours of the Dr. Pavate family were shepherds. He had affectionate relations with them. He considered them as his relatives. His neighbours played their part in the upbringing of Dr. Pavate. The primary schools, in those days, charged a monthly fee of only one Anna (about a cent or penny) and to save even this, his eldest brother Veerabhadrappa taught him at home. The primary school course consisted of the years I to VII. Since there were only three teachers in the school, the Headmaster often did not care much to run the upper primary classes i.e., standards V to VII. Thus, Dr. Pavate did the first two years at home. Thus, the poor conditions of the family did not permit him to study in schools initially. His childhood was happy and simple. His interest in mathematics began at the age of eight, when his eldest brother started teaching him. This interest increased with age and remained all through. His record as a student in those early days was spotless. His devotion to study, cleanliness and the obedience to teachers are outstanding.

**Dr. Pavate's Primary and High School Education**

Dr. Pavate went to school in 1907. He studied at home and appeared for I Standard annual examination. There used
to be an external examination in those days even for primary school. V. B. Joshi, the then Deputy Educational Inspector of Belgaum district, had come to the village to conduct the examination. The performance of Dadappa impressed him very much. He was the only boy in the class who answered all the questions asked by the Inspector of Schools. Looking at the performance of this boy, he gave him a prize, a book on mathematics written by the Late Deputy Channabasappa, which laid solid foundation of mathematics in Dr. Pavate’s mind. Thus as a student he exhibited phenomenal memory power, which he developed and kept active throughout his life. He was a generous lad giving all help to the needy at the schools.

Dr. Pavate's childhood and student life are quite interesting. "My eldest brother Sangappa had discontinued his education and taken a job as accountant for a merchant in Rabkavi. So in June, 1912, I joined the English School at Rabkavi." Dadappa went to that small town Rabkavi in the Jamkhandi taluka, the present Bagalkot District, to learn English as his brother Sangappa was working as an accountant. He quickly learnt English under the able guidance of Murigeppa Swami Bagoji. Early in the morning,
he used to go with him to the nearby public well to take his bath. This shows that right from his childhood he was hard working and had inherent urge to learn and to acquire knowledge of English as he felt its necessity during those pre-independence days of British Rule.

Rabkavi was a small town in the old Sangli district. Dr. Pavate studied there for a period of one and half years. The school, in which he studied, was housed in Shankarling Temple. It is situated in the middle of the town. He led a simple life. He had only two meals a day. He never heard of such thing as afternoon tea or coffee. By hard work, he stood first in the class in all subjects. Every now and then, he used to assist the Head Master of the School. Here it is obvious that he inculcated leadership qualities right from his school days.

In 1914, Dr. Pavate's eldest brother Sangappa came to Gokak to take up a job. He came along with his brother, took admission in the first grade Anglo-Vernacular School, and passed the IV Standard examination in April 1916. He did well. He used to do promptly homework given by his teachers. He was in fact an outstanding student. He studied every subject with utmost devotion. "Panditappa Chikkodi
was the Head Master of the School at Gokak and was its only graduate teacher. He was so strict a disciplinarian that the students used to tremble at the mere sight of him. He used to come down seriously upon anybody who did not do his homework. But he was interested in the welfare of his students, and many owed their later success to the habits of industry and discipline, which he inculcated in them at their most impressionable age." Therefore, Dr. Pavate learnt the lessons of discipline, regularity and sincerity under the guidance of the Head Master. Moreover, the hard life itself was a school to him, which taught him the lesson of personal discipline, which he strictly adhered to throughout his life.

Turning points are quite common in the lives of great men. One such turning point in Dr. Pavate's life was his decision to join the Rajaram High School, Kolhapur. "At this time, I took the decision which was a turning point in my life. I had heard of this High School and the tradition of scholarship it had maintained. Many Karnataka students went to Rajaram College, which then taught up to the Intermediate Class and a few had even ventured to go to Kolhapur for secondary education. I had heard that the Rajaram High School had four scholarships varied from four
rupees to five per month for the best four students in each standard.”

This event is important because it brought changes in his life. M.C. Katti helped him in getting free accommodation at Kolhapur. Dr. Pavate was confident of getting half-free studentship. This made him to think that he can be self-supporting. Despite these difficulties, he went to Kolhapur in 1916 for getting education. He got the scholarship and thus continued his High School education. In Kolhapur, he joined a Boarding House for Lingayat students. It was ordinarily meant for college students. The practice was to take a few meritorious school children.

It is quite interesting to note that theoretically, the medium of instruction was English but actually, it was Marathi, the regional language of Maharashtra. All the questions in the examination were to be answered in English, but the instruction in the classroom was in Marathi. English, Sanskrit, Mathematics and History were the subjects prescribed for the Matriculation Examination. In those days, the syllabi of various subjects was prescribed and the University of Bombay conducted examinations.

“Rajaram High School enjoyed a great reputation. It had produced men of the stature of Justice Govind Ranade
and Gopal Krishna Gokhale who were national leaders of high repute. In scholarship matters, it was one of the best in the Bombay presidency, its students often topping the list of successful candidates in the matriculation examination."18

Thus, Dr. Pavate was quite fortunate to study in this High School. As an ideal student, he knew the benefit of rising early in the morning. It is said that early to bed and early to rise is the way. Right from his student days and throughout his life Dr. Pavate strictly cultivated and followed this habit. He used to go to bed at 9.30 p.m. and get up at 4.00 a.m. He said, "The keen competition among the pupils to win a scholarship every six months was a great boon to me. It made me work harder than I would have done otherwise. Actually, until I went to Kolhapur, I did not know the meaning of concentrated work, but took my studies lightly, as no hard work was required to stand first at Mamdapur, Rabakavi or Gokak. Here, I had to compete with Konkanastha or Karhad Brahmin boys."19

Dr. Pavate's school days at Kolhapur were highly fruitful and meaningful. Because it was here that he developed the qualities of life like hard work, competitive spirit, rising early in the morning and seriously studying the
subjects, which helped him in his subsequent life to make name as a remarkable educational administrator.

He was able to complete his secondary education fairly and comfortably without being a burden to his family. He had not the only advantage that he had from going to Kolhapur instead of joining a school at Belgaum or at Dharwad. It goes to show that a man with strong will and firm determination finds the available opportunities and goes ahead with all confidence to achieve whatever he wants in his life.

He participated in curricular and extracurricular activities at Rajaram High School. He was interested in playing cricket, hockey and football. He passed the VI (Secondary) standard examination at the age of nineteen. During the summer vacation of that year, his marriage was arranged without his consent. The girl he was to marry was, Girija Naik. Then she was only eight years old. His early marriage did not come in the way of his studies. Those were the days when child marriages were quite rampant. The approval of neither the boy nor the girl was taken up. As regards marriage elders used to decide everything. Moreover, the youngsters did not question the decision. He had no
alternative but to marry as per the desire of his parents and prevailing traditions. Hence, like Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation, Dr. Pavate's parents arranged his marriage. This marriage was quite fruitful, as both of them led a praiseworthy and exemplary life. It is told that one must be very fortunate to get good wife and friends. Dr. Pavate was very lucky to get both.

Dr. Pavate in his autobiography said, "One great benefit derived by me from my high school education at Kolhapur was that I developed such qualities as initiative, self-reliance and self-confidence. All education is after all self-education. In addition, the spirit of competition aroused by the four scholarships awarded to the best boys of each standard, made me work hard. These advantages would have denied me had I joined a secondary school in Karnataka. Poverty too, it would seem, has its blessings." As a student of Rajaram High School, he also inculcated the unique qualities like initiative, self-reliance and self-confidence. He held the view that poverty will not be an obstacle in the way of making outstanding achievements in one's life.

He remained in Kolhapur for three years. In March 1919, he appeared for the Matriculation Examination at
Dharwad and stood first to the centre. In all five thousand candidates appeared for examinations in five centres, namely, Dharwad, Poona, Bombay, Ahmadabad and Karachi. The examiners in those days used to value the answer scripts very strictly. Out of five thousand candidates, two thousand candidates passed. Dr. Pavate stood first to the centre. It was a record in the history of Rajaram High School. Looking at his school days it is clear that he was the best in every curricular and extra-curricular activity. After successfully completing matriculation, he took the firm decision of seeking higher education at the Karnataka College, Dharwad.

**Dr. Pavate’s Higher Education**

He joined the famous Karnataka College on 20th June 1919. Since he was first at the Dharwad centre, he was automatically the first scholar in his class. H. G. Rawlinson, IES, was the first principal of the college. The teaching-staff was good. It was the only intermediate college in this area. He was accommodated in the small club for Belgaum Lingayat students. Most of the members of this club were from Gokak taluka. Everyday he walked two kilometres from the club to the college and back. It was difficult for him to go to the college by walk, particularly during rainy season.
Subsequently, Karnataka College was moved to the M. S. M. Railway Office from Teachers Training College. It was inaugurated by the then Governor of the Bombay Presidency, Sir George Lloyd, during July 1920. On this auspicious occasion, the Principal, H. G. Rawlinson, spoke focusing more on aims and objectives of higher education in India. His speech influenced Dr. Pavate immensely. He had more chances to hear thought provoking speeches made by scholars, Indian and British. All these inspired Dr. Pavate to think of serving the cause of higher education in the country.

On the next day of the inauguration of the college building, the Principal invited the Governor to the college. Both of them went round the college premises. They visited Dr. Pavate’s class. The principal introduced him with pride considering him the most promising student. “The Governor asked him what he proposed to do in life. The National Movement was in full swing. Dr. Pavate promptly replied that he wanted to serve the country. The Governor further asked him how he proposed to serve his country. Dr. Pavate’s reply was, ‘By educating the people’. The governor smiled at his reply, shook hands with him wishing him all good luck.”

Karnataka College, Dharwad was the first college started
in this northern part of Karnataka. Its academic credibility was high in those days since the faculty members were scholars in their fields. Therefore, Dr. Pavate joined this college. “The first year course consisted of English (two papers), mathematics (two papers) physics (one paper) and a classical language (one paper). These subjects were compulsory for students of Arts and Science. The Intermediate Arts course also comprised four subjects namely English, mathematics or logic, Indian history and administration and a classical language.”

A. B. Gajendragadakar and C. P. Saldana were teachers of Sanskrit and Mathematics respectively. Saldana was successful in making the study of mathematics interesting. He was the Head of the Department. He was an extremely good and inspiring teacher. The other teachers who taught mathematics were B. B. Bagi and T. M. Patil. C. J. Sission who taught English was a well-known Shakespearean scholar, H. V. Hampton, also taught English was most a most popular English teacher. The first year examination was held in February 1920. Dr. Pavate passed in First class, as he did throughout his college career. He completed his degree with the help of scholarship. In the Intermediate class, the
difference in the total marks between Dr. Pavate and the second scholar was high. Therefore, the principal of the college sanctioned two scholarships, the value of fifteen rupees per month each. It shows that Dr. Pavate was extraordinarily brilliant and an ideal student. Besides this, the Sirasangi Trust had sanctioned him a scholarship of fifteen per month. In all, he used to get Rs.45 per month in the form of scholarships which was quite sufficient. It is quite surprising to note that he led a simple life at Dharwad. Dr. Pavate as a student used to save about ten rupees per month from his scholarships, and sent to his brother Veerabhadrappa who was pursing his education at Poona. This shows that he followed the principle of earning while learning. Moreover, he did not depend either on his parents or on relatives for financial help to continue his education. Thus, the scholarship amount was a great help to him and his brother.

Dr. Pavate decided to study mathematics for his B.A. (Honours) degree. The good results at the intermediate examination encouraged him to select this subject. Personal attention of teachers and hard work enabled him to get First Class in mathematics in the entire University of Bombay.
The mathematics teachers, viz., Charles Saldanha, B. B. Bagi, and T. M. Patil inspired him in all respects. Teachers used to pay personal attention to students since they were interested in getting good results. Karnatak College was very keen to establish its credibility since it was the first college in this region. Dr. Pavate obtained a First Class at B. A. (Honours) examination in 1923. He was the first student to get a First Class in a university examination. Therefore it was regarded an achievement for the college. Principal Rawlinson was pleased with Dr. Pavate's success. He got the Daxina Fellowship. Each month the office clerk handed over a princely sum of fifty rupees to him. Dr. Pavate's success was a matter of great pride for the principal and the faculty members.

**Dr. Pavate's Education in the University of Cambridge**

Dr. Pavate planned to pursue his higher education at University of Cambridge, as he was aware of the academic standing of that university. Accordingly, he sent an application to study advance mathematics. It was accepted by the university. In January 1924, Dr. Pavate received intimation from the High Commissioner for India that he was admitted to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. The Sirasangi
Trust had sanctioned a scholarship of Rs. 400 p.m. on the condition that he will return the amount at ten percent of his pay or accept a job under the KLE Society. He agreed. Thus the saying "God helps those who help themselves" came true in his case. "The trust was generous and offered father [him] a handsome amount of Rs.400 per month for his studies at Cambridge for a period of three years. And that is how father who as a little toddler wore nothing more than a torn shirt over his body found himself entering the portals of a university which had been founded at about the same time as when Lord Basaveshwara was composing the vachanas and preaching in Karnataka."22 Dr. Pavate's urge to get higher education made him to put hard work and as a result, he got the seat at Cambridge University.

"He accepted to the condition laid down by the Trust and sailed to England towards the end of August, 1924. He was given a warm send off at the Bombay harbour by B. B. Mamdapur, one of the founder members of KLE society and a host of his kith and kin and friends."23 Thus, Dr. Pavate went to England for getting higher education and his joy knew no bounds.

At Cambridge, he enjoyed the academic atmosphere of
the university. The first term commenced from 10th October 1924. The college and the university buildings surrounded by their gardens were beautiful. He enjoyed their scenic beauty. The river Cam was like a canal flowing right through the gardens of some of the colleges. He was surprised by the manner students were treated. In those days, the college servants used to address the students as 'Sir'. "One feature of Cambridge life, may be of other universities too in Great Britain is that the college authorities are extremely polite, helpful and kind to their students. At the same time, they are strict in making admissions, though once the students are admitted to the college, they are treated as gentlemen."24 Thus, the atmosphere in the university impressed Dr. Pavate, as it was very different from that of Indian Universities.

He used to offer prayers everyday while going to bed without any expectations, which is 'nishkamabhakti' according to Indian philosophy. "If I pray God to see that a certain thing happens and if it does not actually happen, my faith in God is shaken. I have been taught from my childhood to love all human beings as we are the sons and daughters of the same God."25 It shows that he loved humankind as a whole and daily-prayed God for its
betterment. He was selfless in this regard since his prayer was for the happiness of all.

Dr. Pavate stayed with the family of Mr. and Mrs. Brown. "He lived with an elderly family at some distance from his college. The Brown family adopted him as one of their own and treated him kindly. He was happy living with them." All academic work was under the guidance of his tutor Knox Shaw. Shaw guided him with regard to norms and practices of Cambridge University. Mr. and Mrs. Brown considered Pavate as their Indian son.

Dr. Pavate's supervisor was R.H.D. Mayall at Cambridge. He had friends both Indian and British. Ram Behari, Allen and Dr. Pavate were students working under Mayall. We learn from his autobiography that Allen influenced him much in habits of study as well as in social life, as he spent more time with him than anybody else. "It took a while for father [Dr. D.C. Pavate] to realise that there was no point in 'Swotting' up the contents of text books, as one does in India. That just does not help in the examinations. All questions set at the Cambridge examinations are new and original and certainly not picked up from any particular book." He realised too that unless
one has properly understood the subject, it is difficult to do well at such examinations. His hard work at Cambridge enabled him to get many awards in the form of books. He attended the lectures, tutorials and the library work with all devotion and perfect attention. During the vacation after the close of terms, he used to go to seaside places and there he reviewed the work done in the previous term. This helped him a lot for the ensuing term. The last Easter term generally used to be a very short one, not exceeding five weeks. At the end of last term, examinations were conducted and the results were announced a few weeks later.

Dr. Pavate, as a student at Cambridge, led an ideal life. It was most fruitful because of his hard work, which was his only weapon to achieve commendable success throughout his career. Once the term commenced it was hard for the following eight weeks. Lectures, tutorials and the library alone mattered. After that, there was a vacation, for about five to six weeks.

He was interested in reading books of general interest. He studied British politics and civilization. In the meantime, scholarship given to him by Shirasangi Trust ended. However, it was extended for a period of another six months.
This helped Dr. Pavate to undertake research. He started doing research on 'Function Theory' under the guidance of Pollard. During the last term at Cambridge, his guide advised him to read German books and journals. This made him to think of visiting Germany during vacation. While going he went to Worcester to participate in the celebration of 21st birthday of Allen. After this, he left for Gottingen University.

"Towards the end of his stay at Cambridge, father [Dr. D. C. Pavate] spent a few months in the Gottingen University, which was then considered the Mecca for Mathematics in Germany. He learnt a bit of the Garman language but spent most of his time reading by himself in the university library. He received good training on how to do research in an abstract subject like mathematics." Gottingen is quite an interesting place even for holiday makers. He was an ardent lover of nature. Along with his study he had sight-seeing tour of important towns in Germany and Switzerland. He visited Berlin, Munich, Berne, Zurich and Geneva. He returned to Cambridge on 10 October 1927.

During the course of three years stay at Cambridge, he had developed a sentimental attachment for the Brown family. He considered Mrs. Brown his mother as she had
shown such motherly love for him. She wept at the time of his departure from Cambridge. Mr. Brown had joined the London School of Economics, and he arrived at the time of his departure. Dr. Pavate himself narrates the last moments of his stay at Cambridge in his autobiography. “At the end of the term, I left Cambridge for good and was to take an Italian steamer at Naples after a month’s holiday in Italy. Mrs. Brown, my landlady, who had looked after me like a mother for seven terms, burst into tears and Mr. Brown said, 'Men must work and women must weep.’”

He returned to India in January 1928 as Wrangler Dr. Pavate after achieving great success. His well-wishers, old friends and relatives at Bombay harbour welcomed him. He brought name and fame not only to people of the small village of Mamdapur and but also to the state of Karnataka and India as well.

Soon after his return from England, the University of Bombay appointed him as examiner in mathematics. Generally, nobody is been appointed examiner by a university without teaching experience. However, Dr. Pavate had the unique privilege of working as examiner along with four other examiners. There were about four Wranglers in the jurisdiction of University of Bombay and they contributed to
maintain the standard for all mathematics examinations. There were four examiners for the Intermediate Arts and Science examinations. They were jointly responsible for setting the papers in the four branches of mathematics prescribed in those days, viz., analytical geometry, solid geometry, trigonometry and calculus. He convinced two examiners who were somewhat old fashioned the need to change the questions in the light of developments in the study of a difficult subject like mathematics. In May 1928, all the four examiners finalised the results of examinations as per the regulations of the university.

Looking at his achievements right from the beginning of his brilliant career it is been rightly said that one can attain any height with patience, perseverance and commitment. Dr. Pavate's background taught him a number of lessons of life. This contributed to achieving crowning success in his career.

Dr. Pavate as Professor of Mathematics at the Banaras Hindu University (1928-1930)

Dr. Pavate joined the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) as a Professor of Mathematics. This young university was then under the leadership of Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya. He was a great academician with leadership qualities.
Pavate's experience at BHU enabled him to understand the functioning of a university. Subsequently, this helped him in running Karnataka University efficiently. He was appointed as Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematics, at BHU. He reported for duty on 15th July, 1928. He was not bothered much about the salary. He was interested in teaching and gaining administrative experience. He did all the teaching work from the first year of the college to M. A. and M. Sc. with his colleagues S. D. Pande and Jugul Kishore. They worked as a team. In those days, there were no standard books on mathematics. The then existing text books in mathematics were not up to the mark in terms of quality. In view of this the students of BHU requested Dr. Pavate to write a text book, since it was quite necessary for them. Thus, it was under these conditions in the interest of the students that Dr. Pavate published his first book, *An Elementary Textbook on Calculus for beginners.* "Father [Dr. D.C.Pavate] thoroughly enjoyed his stay at this university and his book was used by students in many universities for a period spread over the next forty years." It is quite significant to note that he wrote this book within six months. He had an inner urge and zeal to do something substantial.
as a teacher of mathematics. Moreover, it shows his commitment to his profession. Some professors of mathematics at other universities expressed their opinion that a book of that kind was a long-felt need in India. This book by Dr. Pavate has seen fifteen editions in forty years. Pandit Malaviyaji, was immensely pleased with Dr. Pavate for bringing out a book. He had deep concern for students. He guided them in all respects for their all round development. Respect, it is told, is a thing to be commanded but not demanded. Within a short time, he commanded the respect of his colleagues and students. The Vice-Chancellor and the Pro Vice-Chancellor of BHU became admirers of Pavate.

Dr. Pavate remarks in his autobiography that, "The University [BHU] was indeed beautiful and lovely. The white clothes of its Vice-Chancellor, immaculate from head to foot, were not only a symbol of purity, beauty and spotlessness of the University, but also of the Hindu culture." The teachers and students of BHU were from different parts of India. Thus BHU was, in a way, a centre for Hindu culture and traditions. However, it is Engineering College and the departments of Pure and Applied Science intended to meet the demands of modern India. There used to be two Englishmen on the staff.
of the Engineering College. Pandit Malaviyaji had appointed them with the sole purpose of maintaining standard, like the University of London. He was a true patron of learning. Like Sir Asutosh Mukharjee, he identified talented scholars from all parts of India irrespective of their caste, creed or language. In fact, the best men in the intellectual field used to visit BHU in order to strengthen the hands of Malaviyaji. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Dr. C. V. Raman, Dr. Meghnath Shah and Dr. S. S. Bhatnagar frequently visited BHU. Dr. Pavate met them. Raman and Shah were members of the Mathematics Board. The convenor of the Board was Dr. Pavate. These factors and circumstances which prevailed in BHU at the time that influenced Dr. Pavate and subsequently helped him a lot to build the Karnataka University on strong and solid foundation. Thus, he did commendable academic work at BHU. It is no exaggeration if we say that he contributed enormously for promoting academic excellence in higher education.

**Dr. Pavate as an Educational Inspector**

“He was persuaded by the Selection Committee to take on the position of an Educational Inspector (E I) of Schools. The committee (which included his former Principal H. G.
Rawlinson) was interested in selecting some good candidates with high academic achievements, to form the administrative backbone of the Education Department. Though my father (D. C. Pavate) had studied English literature, Sanskrit and Mathematics and had even taught at a university, he had no hands on experience in teaching at the school level and neither had he studied education as an academic subject."32 Thus, Dr. Pavate’s appointment for the post of Educational Inspector of Bombay Division in June 1930 with the confidence that he was suitable and competent for the post. It is another significant turning point in his life, which later on made him one of the greatest educational administrators.

For Dr. Pavate, it was an unexpected appointment. Ewbank, the Chairman of the Selection Committee found Dr. Pavate a competent person for the post of Educational Inspector of Schools. He predicted a bright career for him [Pavate]. In those days, it was really a Herculean task, which impressed the British officials. In fact, the academic and administrative talent of Dr. Pavate influenced them. They wanted to avail the services of him to the cause of educational administration. He was motivated and convinced to accept that post on rational criteria. Thus, Dr. Pavate
moved from teaching to administration, which is another
turning point in his life.

Dr. Pavate received the appointment on 16th June
1930. "I did not know what the new job was like. Therefore, I
went to Dharwad, the nearest headquarters of a Divisional
Inspector of Schools. K. S. Vakil, IES, who was an
Educational Inspector of the Southern Division, was pleased
to see me and congratulated me. He gave me some idea of
the duties and responsibilities attached to the post."33
Rawlinson was proud of Dr. Pavate and had written some
letters to Beckett, in which he had stated, "Mr. Pavate is one
in a thousand. Do not lose him. He is one of the greatest
mathematicians of our time."34 Such a remark made by a
British official shows Dr. Pavate's potential.

Beckett, the then DPI, strongly believed that the
services of intellectuals like Dr. Pavate were needed for
bringing necessary changes in the Education Department. "I
learnt that many senior Head Masters of Government
Secondary Schools had complained to the DPI, that, by my
appointment as Educational Inspector, he had deprived them
of a legitimate chance of promotion. To that, Beckett reported
to have said, 'Do you know his qualifications? Do you know
what prizes and scholarships he has won in India and Cambridge? I want men of intellectual eminence for these administrative posts." Beckett, the DPI, felt efforts of such persons like Dr. Pavate would contribute to nation building. Gradually he realised not to rely on the subordinates, though he was new to the job. The first thing that he did was appointing the necessary office staff. The DPI readily agreed with him for making new appointments. Necessary staff was appointed to manage departmental administration. Dr. Pavate took personal interest in inspecting schools meant for physically and socially handicapped children. He maintained the reputation of his office by furnishing information with statistical data to his higher officials. Besides, within no time, he learnt Marathi, which was quite essential to work in the Bombay Presidency.

The British officials recognized the dedicated work of Dr Pavate and hence, his appointment was confirmed. He treated even the menial staff with respect. He had no ego. He proved to be an efficient and disciplined Educational Inspector, during the British rule in India. He devoted his time and effort for the all-round development of the Education Department. Beckett realised that Dr. Pavate was
not a “yes” man. In fact, the Inspector’s post was important for nation building, as he had to play decisive role.

As an Educational Inspector, Dr. Pavate twice inspected English Teaching Schools in Bombay. In secondary schools, the quality of English was high. Importance to pronunciation and fluency was preferred. As per the syllabus of the secondary school, English was a significant subject. In this respect, science, mathematics and geography were regarded as equally important subjects.

Dr. Pavate found that most of the schools were unaided. He studied the conditions of those schools. He brought about radical changes in the educational system. He was largely responsible for formulation of the educational policy. He introduced vocational courses such as carpentry. He brought reforms in secondary schools under his guidance. As an Educational Inspector of Schools, he made the primary schools and secondary schools to work smoothly and efficiently.

Carrying out teachers duties will enable them to get respect in the society. Here in this context, he strongly advocated that teachers should not involve in politics. He always attached much importance to quality of work. So he
used to give lessons to teachers on difficult topics of mathematics. He had a firsthand knowledge of how the schools in England functioned and how were they maintained. During that time, most of the private schools had some political and non-educational motive in one or the other form. He handled the problems of the unaided schools. He brought large number of unaided schools to aid category. He gave priority to education related to industry, commerce and agriculture. As an Educational Inspector, he did commendable work like providing of qualified staff, setting up of secondary education board, raising the salaries of teachers and so on.

Dr. Pavate made sincere efforts to overcome the problems of primary education. He made an important contribution to Bombay Presidency Education Act of 1923. It is been regarded as a milestone in the history of primary education.

**Dr. Pavate as Deputy Director of Public Instructions**

Dr. Pavate as the Deputy Director of Public Instructions (DDPI) was able to understand the financial constraints of the Department of Education. He brought this matter to the notice of the then Chief Minister of Bombay Presidency, B. G.
Kher. He insisted that compulsory education was very significant in the prevailing situation. A number of unaided schools were not paying minimum salaries to the teachers. The then Chief Minister responded and promised helping hand. In view of all these considerations, he pleaded for sufficient funds for imparting education. Even today in Karnataka as well as in other states the salary given to the teachers is not adequate in unaided schools. All these will have adverse effects on quality of education. Dr. Pavate wondered how the government could not realise the difficulties of the teachers. Thus, it was with the initiation of Dr. Pavate that provision to encourage private citizens to undertake the work of spreading literacy among the illiterate people in urban and rural areas was taken-up. Dr. Pavate as a DDPI never hesitated to take action on the erratic staff. He had reduced the salary of an officer from Rs. 400 to Rs. 250, as he was easy-going.

Dr. Pavate with the support to Kher tried his level best to bring about radical changes. As an educational administrator, he held that unless we have quality teaching, basic education could not be strengthened. This could be regarded as part of proposed reform.
Dr. Pavate as Deputy Director of Public Instruction appealed to local people to support his efforts to improve infrastructural facilities in the schools. In this regard, he recommended the names of those who came forward to help the British Government for confirming titles. In this context, he admired those who were running private educational institutions. He recognised the good work done Bhaurao Patil. Throughout his career as an educational administrator, he did his best for spreading education among the rural masses. The unique feature of his administration was that he maintained political neutrality.

**Dr. Pavate as Director of Public Instructions (1947-1954)**

The Government recognised his calibre and the valuable service he rendered. He was promoted to the post of DPI though the practice in those days was giving such posts to the ICS officers. "Dr. Pavate became Director of Education in January 1947, a few months before the advent of Independence. The Education Department had to meet the challenge of the revolutionary changes taking place."36

*Samyukta Karnataka*, Hubli, was the first newspapers to publish the news of his appointment as DPI. This was a fine opportunity to continue his valuable service in the
Department of Education. So before, it could appear in the official gazette, it had appeared in newspapers. *Sakal* from Poona, wrote an editorial congratulating the Government for appointing him as DPI. The then Chief Minister had great concern for education and his expectation from the officials was high. Therefore, Dr. Pavate advised his subordinate officials to work hard in order to come to the expectation of the Chief Minister.

Dr. Pavate as Director of Public Instruction was an ex-officio member of the Syndicate of the University of Bombay. He used to make important contribution to the deliberations of the syndicate. He worked for ensuring efficiency in his department. He did not tolerate delay in the context of any problem. In this respect, he did not like government interference. Besides, he gave priority to sending proposals, with justification, which might convince the government to accept them. He believed in boosting morale in educational administration.

Dr. Pavate as a DPI was largely responsible for a number of major reforms in the Department of Education. During his tenure, there was great discipline in the Department. The departmental staff loved and respected him.
This is because he appreciated their work irrespective of caste, colour, creed and religion. He took initiative for concrete action with regard to compulsory education, which ultimately resulted in passing the Compulsory Primary Education Act of 1948. This became a foundation for the formulation of primary education policy. The main objective of this policy was to provide compulsory education. He personally went to each district of the state and guided the district officers to make compulsory education a success. Under this education policy, impartial selection of primary school teachers was made. This played an important role in improving the quality of education. As a result, implementation of Compulsory Education Act of 1948, the problem of funding to the institution was raised to a considerable extent.

The actual enforcement of compulsory primary education was a Herculean task. The object was to bring children to school. For this purpose, decision to provide mid-day meals, free textbooks, writing materials, clothes, etc were emphasised. What the Karnataka Government and other state Governments are doing today has implemented by Dr. Pavate during pre-independence period. He was a man of
broad vision and foresight. The aim was to bring equality in the society. He was in favour of English education in schools and colleges.

The Secondary School Certificate Examination was the new name given to the secondary education. He introduced grant-in-aid to all schools and thereby offered attractive salaries for the teaching community. The responsibilities and the work of the Director of Public Instructions were many. He used to dispose off nearly hundred and fifty files every day. He had to be in touch with all offices in the state.

Dr. Pavate was generally kind to officers who did their job honestly and efficiently. He was confident, straightforward and bold enough to present his views in important meetings. As Director of Public Instruction, he played vital advisory role in preparing the budgets of education department. His seven years of service as Director of Public Instructions constitute a valuable service to the society. Here it is pertinent to note that one of the principles of his administration was to constantly maintain neutrality in politics.
Dr. Pavate as a Vice-Chancellor of Karnataka University
(1954-1967)

Dr. Pavate was the third vice-chancellor of Karnataka University. "He was elected Vice-Chancellor of Karnataka University at the annual meeting of the senate held on 26th June 1954. He secured sixty-three votes against twenty-two votes secured by his rival, K. B. Bhadrapur."37 His election as Vice-Chancellor of Karnataka University by such margin obviously shows his popularity as an educational administrator.

Dr. G. Parameshwar, Former Minister of State for Higher Education, states, "It was Dr. Pavate's vast educational and administrative experience in the field in the erstwhile State of Bombay state as a Director of Public Instructions and his grand vision that enabled him as a Vice-Chancellor to build the University bringing men and material from all parts of the country."38 Dr. Pavate being an educational administrator of vision developed the Karnataka University on solid foundation. His tenure from 1954 to 1967 can be aptly termed as Golden era.

Dr. Pavate assumed charge of the university when it was just five years old. He was associated with university right from its initial stage. He played decisive role in building
the Karnataka University. The university witnessed phenomenal growth during his tenure. He met a good number of scholars such as the late Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar, M.R. Jayakar, Ashutosh Mukerjee, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, etc. His greatness lies in making the Karnataka University great in terms of enabling the teachers to achieve great heights based on their contribution to research output. He was interested in the development of the university library and laid strong foundation to it.

"The Karnataka University reached its zenith during long and uninterrupted period regime of Dr. Pavate. He brought with him rich and varied experience as administrator and educationist."39 His rich experience as an educational administrator enabled him to take the university to its highest peak.

The infrastructure and all the Postgraduate Departments point to his personality. His statue in front of the Main Building is a testimony for his contribution to build the University. He placed it on the world map, as he was builder of the institutions. In fact, his name is synonymous with Karnataka University. It was his dynamism and vigour which contributed much towards its all round development.
It excelled other universities in terms of both infrastructural and academic excellence.

He got the support of scholars like V. K. Gokak and S. C. Nandimath. The teaching-staff was quite content with their salary, library, research facilities and a decent treatment. He was successful in completing the main building and in housing all the PG Departments. Under his able guidance, the main building was economically constructed. Every building, every department, every park, garden, roadside tree bears the stamp of his love. Karnataka University nourished by him has been playing a significant role in building up an integrated personality of students and inculcating a sense of discipline among the students. "Dr. Pavate has been greatly responsible for the phenomenal growth of Karnataka University." The University College of Education and the University Law College also started during his time.

Throughout his life, we come to know that Dr. Pavate was well versed in time management. "Once as a V. C., Dr. Pavate invited a minister for lunch. As it is usual for politicians, the Minister was late. Dr. Pavate had waited for him but he was not on time. Therefore, he had his lunch on
time and was on his way to attend his duty when the minister came and met him on the way. Dr. Pavate told him that he had his own schedule to attend to and asked him to go to his quarters for lunch. Thus, he never tolerated any delay in doing things. He was all the while conscious about time."41 He was serious as well as humorous in his style of functioning. He used to test the candidates in all respects and for selection of any posts.

Looking to Pavate's fruitful life it is clear that he and his wife were religious and God-fearing. "Every Monday, Dr. Pavate used to go to Muraghamath with his family to get the blessings of His Holiness Mrithyunjaya Swamiji. Immediately he paid for the petrol used as it was a university car used for privately."42 He was a role model for all administrators. Recognising his services he was conferred 'Padmabushan'. "It was a proud day to him and the university when the Government of India honoured him with Padmabushan in 1967."43

**Dr. Pavate as a Governor of Punjab**

The people of Punjab were quite fortunate in having Dr. Pavate as Governor. He is one of the best Governors that Punjab had after independence. He did a lot for its progress
and prosperity. M. S. Gill was associated with him. "He came to Punjab, with rich experience, as an educational administrator. He is been remembered for his sincerity and transparency in his tenure as a Governor. Accepted and respected by all sections of society, and political parties, he brought dignity to the office of Governor, while serving for the longest period." By his integrity, transparency and impartiality dealing with public affairs, Dr. Pavate was non-partisan.

"He is remembered as a distinguished Governor of Punjab. His record as an educational administrator and a Vice-Chancellor who brought about order, discipline and high sense of duty to Karnataka University led to his choice as Governor. Straightforward, amicable, scholarly and friendly, he endeared himself to different sections of society during his stay for more than five years." Dr. Pavate as Governor of Punjab state demonstrated that he was a good administrator. He had all the qualities needed. This is evident under the President's rule. According to him, the governor has more freedom to exercise his discretionary powers during President's rule in order to promote the well-being of the people. From August 1968 to
February 1969 and from June 1971 to February 1972, the President's rule in Punjab was imposed. He exercised his discretionary powers to promote the welfare of the people. "During these two hectic periods, I was associated with him as Secretary, and had the opportunity of watching the keen and sharp intellect, a firm and decisive mind, a compassionate human being in him. It was the period when he actively participated in the decision-making process of the government and overseeing the implementation of policies and projects."\(^4\) Therefore, he was successful during the days of political turmoil.

Dr. Pavate's speeches delivered on different occasions have been published by the Department of Publicity, Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Punjab. This has enabled him to publish his speeches in chronological order. Based on this we can understand his views on education, educational administration, coalition, politics, democracy, political parties, etc.

"In Punjab, he met many scholars and administrators, and he brushed up his knowledge of local history. He gave sound advice when the bills to create two universities at Patiala and Amritsar were being drafted by the
Dr. Pavate’s life-sketch will not be complete without reference to his beloved wife Smt. Girijadevi Pavate and the members of his family. She was a source of strength and support to him throughout his career. She used to manage all the domestic affairs of the family. “His wife is a great lady and I have never seen a more affectionate and understanding woman. She has had to look after her husband’s comforts and see that he keeps fit to carry out the arduous duties of his high offices. She has had also to look after her nephews and nieces (V. C. Pavate’s children) and her own children. In addition she was always an admirable hostess to all who visited their home. She maintained the same dignity, cordiality and grace, no matter whether the guests were high officers of the Government or ordinary village folk. In fact this is a characteristic of Dr. Pavate family.” It shows her contribution in making his career successful. As a result, he concentrated all his time and energy to his official duties which he discharged. Smt. Girijadevi successfully played the role of a gracious hostess, whether it was the DPI’s quarters in Pune, the Vice-Chancellor’s residence in Dharwad or the Raj Bhavan in Chandigarh. He was fortunate enough to have
such an ideal and devoted wife. Thus the statement “there is a woman behind every successful man” is true in the case of this great man.

Dr. Pavate brought fame, success and glory to himself, to his family, society and to the nation. The region to which he belonged is proud of his achievements. The importance of a man may be measured by the way he is remembered by the future generation. The people of north Karnataka eternally remember his achievements as an educational administrator and governor. Padmabhushan Wrangler Dr. D.C. Pavate passed away on 17th January 1979. The then President of India, prominent leaders and eminent scholars, paid rich tributes to the departed soul. All remember the selfless service rendered by him even today. In fact, Dr. Pavate has left footprints and made a name in the history of educational administration of India.

“As per his last wish, Dr. Pavate was buried in his native place Mamadapur on the premises of Chintamani Pavate High School built in the name of his father. This was done by his eldest brother V. C. Pavate. Dr. Pavate’s desire was that even after his demise he should live by the side of his students. Accordingly, his body was taken to Vara
Basaveshwara Temple behind Chintamani Pavate High School at Mamdapur where he used to sit and study during his student days and only then the last rites were performed.  

His Samadhi has become a great source of inspiration to future generations.

**Dr. Pavate Foundation**

Sarat Javali, grandson of Dr. Pavate, made efforts with support of others for paying tribute to his grandfather in a befitting manner. As a part of this, he was successful in establishing Dr. Pavate Foundation. This foundation has been the source of inspiration for the research aspirants to get Dr. Pavate fellowships for doing research at Cambridge University on a subject of contemporary relevance.
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