

## PREFACE

The present work entitled "The Educational Institutions Established by Roman Catholics in Vizagapatam District, 1845 - 1947" is a micro - level study. I have chosen this topic as it is altogether a new subject which no historian has ever touched. There are several books on education but a very few are on regional study such as "*Education and Learning in Andhra during the East India Company*" by Y. Vittal Rao, "*Education and Social Change in South India, Andhra, 1880 - 1920*" by Prof. Y. Vaikuntham and "*Education and Social Change in India, Vizagapatam District, 1854 - 1900*" by Associate Prof. Fathima Kutty Kapil. Dr. Fathima had concentrated on education in Vizagapatam District in general, starting from 1854 to 1900. I have made a micro - level study on only Roman Catholic Educational Institutions pertaining to Vizagapatam District. But my period of study is from 1845 to 1947. I have made a detailed study in this particular area of the missionary schools which were under progress in the district during the period.

The areas I have chosen for my research are Vizagapatam Town, Vizianagaram Division and Parvathipuram Division in which the missionaries widely spread their educational institutions. Vizagapatam District was educationally very backward and after the arrival of the M.S.F.S missionaries in Vizagapatam, they opened a number of schools in remote areas. The missionaries also opened schools for the children, hailing from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes when the casteism was rigidly practised in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. But the schools opened by the missionaries were not only for these children but also for the children of other castes, irrespective of colour or creed.

The period of my research covers from 1845 to 1947. 1845 was a landmark because it was in this year that Vizagapatam was created as a separate vicariate and was given to the spiritual care of M.S.F.S. missionaries. Ever since

they took up Vizagapatam, the missionaries did yeomen service in establishing schools. I end the period of my study in 1947 because of the completion a century of M.S.F.S. missionaries' contribution in the field of education and also India attained independence.

The work contains ten chapters. The first Chapter "The Advent of the Catholic Missionaries in India, Andhra and Vizagapatam" deals with the meaning of Catholicism, the command of Jesus Christ to spread Christianity, the arrival of St. Thomas, one of the apostles, the arrival of the Portuguese, the spread of Catholicism in Andhra by Franciscan, Jesuit, Augustinian, Theatine and capuchian missionaries, the formation of Vizagapatam Vicariate and the arrival of M.S.F.S.priests in Vizagapatam. It deals with the settlement of missionaries in Vizagapatam District.

"Education in India" is the second chapter that deals about the Indigenous patshala system, the introduction of western education in India, expansion of primary , higher and university education. It abridges the Gurukula system with that of the Western education. There were no wide range schools for the neglected sections of Indian Society. These people were denied the educational opportunities due to caste prejudices. The western education started by the East India Company was not accessible to all.

The third chapter deals about the Government and Private Educational Institutions in Vizagapatam District. It deals with the standard of education in Vizagapatam District, in its hill areas, the schools patronaged by the Rajahs of Vizianagaram, Bobbili and Parlakhemundi. These schools existed only for a few sections of the society namely Brahmins and Kshatriyas. This chapter describes about the schools started by the Government and the Rajahs.

The fourth chapter "The Roman Catholic Schools for boys in Vizagapatam Town" deals with the origin, progress and development of St. Aloysius' School,

St. Antony's School, St. Peter's School, St. Mary's School at Kondadaba. It also deals about the boarding homes attached to them and their role to bring out good discipline among the students. The poor children from the rural areas were given opportunity to study in the boarding homes free of cost.

The fifth chapter describes of "The Roman Catholic Schools for Girls in Vizagapatam Town". St. Joseph's School, Sacred Heart School, Fort Catholic School and R.C.M. Cathedral School are dealt in detail with their origin, progress, curricular and co-curricular activities. The establishing of boarding homes are also discussed here. Education for women was made available to all.

The Sixth chapter "The Roman Catholic Schools in Vizianagaram Division" deals about the Rajput's School, Vizianagaram, St. Antony's School, Vizianagaram, St. Joseph's School, Palakonda, St. Anne's School for Girls, Bheemilipatam. The chapter also deals with the village schools in Palakonda taluk and Veeraghattam mission. Their origin and developmental activities are portrayed here.

"The Roman Catholic Schools in Parvathipuram Division" is the seventh chapter which deals with St. John's School, Parvathipuram, St. Joseph's School for Girls, Parvathipuram, St. Thomas' School, Bobbili and St. Theresa's School, Salur. The aim of starting these schools, their curriculum, development etc. with boarding homes are narrated.

The eighth chapter under the title "Technical Education", the origin of St. Aloysius' Industrial School, Lace - work school in Vizagapatam, training schools for catechist cum teachers at Kondadaba, Palakonda and Vizianagaram, Female adult schools both in Vizagapatam and in Vizianagaram are explained. These special schools were started in order to improve the plight of the weaker students and mothers without any work.

Ninth chapter deals about "The Social Change". The outcome of the introduction of western education in Vizagapatam District which resulted in new political, social and educational system are discussed. There were a number of outstanding pupils who reaped the fruits of education and changed their social position.

In the last chapter, I have analysed and arrived at a conclusion that the Catholic missionaries marked a new era in the District of Vizagapatam by introducing a number of catholic schools. The education gave rise to new thoughts and new doubts about the old social evils, beliefs, traditions and practices and started to change the society. Many of their alumni well settled in various walks of life and some even settled in abroad with good positions. The churches and their construction contributed art and architecture to the cultural history of India.

The core of this thesis rests on an examination of Administrative Manuals of Madras Presidency and Vizagapatam District, The Educational Reports, The Annals of St. Joseph's Sisters, Visakhapatnam, Salur and Palakonda, The Ecclesiastical Records of Visakhapatnam Diocese, The Ecclesiastical Records of St. Peter's School, St. Joseph's School, Visakhapatnam, The Ecclesiastical Records of Palakonda, Parvathipuram, Veeraghattam, Bobbili and Vizianagaram, Manuscripts, The Inspection Registers of St. Anthony's School, Vizianagaram, St. John's School, Parvathipuram, Letters and Indo - European Correspondence, Proceedings of Public Instructions, Directories, Encyclopaedias, Gazetteers, Newspapers and a number of secondary sources pertaining to Vizagapatam District such as Education and Learning in Andhra under the East India Company by Y. Vittal Rao, Education and Social Change in South India, Andhra, by Y. Vaikuntham, The Structures of the Church in Andhra by T. Solomon, 150 years M.S.F.S. by Anthony Kolencherry and others are hereto untapped source material consulted from 1845 to 1947. The study is mainly based on Archival material. Finally a Glossary is included.

