

# Educational Contribution in Malabar Through Christian Missionaries- A Literature Review

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## Abstract

*Missionaries undertook educational activities as a necessary part of their work in India. The first and fundamental objective of the Missionaries was once to convert human beings to Christianity. "The early Missionaries took instructional organisation because they noticed it as one among the many of the possible potential of evangelism. In fact, there was once a time in early Missionary history when the Home Authorities of Missions revised to help educational institutions and opined that the priests had no commercial enterprise to determined schools. But the practical trip of the early Missionaries quickly convinced them that they had to start colleges as a necessary means of proselytization. They also wanted to increase the have an effect on of the Missionaries on the people, by using communicating the sensible perception of its doctrines which contains reason for the overall performance of all its duties. The other factor for such an education is in its procuring means and opening approaches of access to the people, and providing opportunities of preaching to them. One exceptional problem which Missionaries often experience, is in acquiring get right of entry to the people. In such circumstances, schools end up very important, as a capacity of conversation with different instructions of people.*

## Keywords

*Education in Malabar; Christian Missionaries, Kerala Education, Social improvement*

## Introduction

Education is the harmonious and built-in improvement of total personality of an individual. It is an ability to increase hidden potentialities which prepares him to research to adopt himself to his physical, social and spiritual environment (Marcuse, 2013). Educated man is supposed to behave true with others and endeavours closer to institution of peace in individual, social and global life. Right and wrong can without problems be wonderful through an educated character and he can modify himself with the changing conditions of time. Education preserves the primary values and transmits them from one era to another. Education is the milestone of the development of civilization and necessary to uplift the society. Every education system that has been in used in each civilization in the different parts of the world were having definite aim that has to be accomplished which can be seen that to the significant development. Education is having a primitive role in molding a society's aim. Social objective, cultural acts, physical up gradation and life style.

It is through centuries that India has earned its growth and development. During ancient times itself India was having a popular education system which has been transferred from one generation to another and helped to build up a very unique civilization. So dues to that reasons itself Indian education history and India's history is one and the same Education is the core of all religions, because it is the basis of supremacy on different creations. It has been emphasized with the aid of all the religions since it enables a individual to suppose in totality. Christianity, too, emphasizes education, as it believes that it helps for the attainment of salvation. The importance of training in Christianity can be understood by way of the following verses from the Bible 'In Matt 9.35-38, it examines "And Jesus went about all cities and villages educating preaching and healing." The above verse of the Bible certainly shows the importance of education in Christianity. The Mission of the prophet of Christianity, Jesus Christ, used to be to educate his people about the tenets of Christianity and the mystery of creation of the Universe, which would lead them to understand the authentic mild of the truth. Apart from this, with his spiritual power of miracle, he healed the ailments of the people.

Thus, "it became the obligation of every Christian, to symbolize himself as the ambassador of Christ and to lead the non-Christians lower back to innocence, i.e. to show them the light of God through Christianity."

Now the query arises, that why the Missionaries undertook educational activities as a necessary part of their work in India. The first and fundamental objective of the Missionaries was once to convert human beings to Christianity. "The early Missionaries took instructional organisation because they noticed it as one among the many of the possible potential of evangelism." "In fact, there was once a time in early Missionary history when the Home Authorities of Missions revised to help educational institutions and opined that the priests had no commercial enterprise to determined schools. But the practical trip of the early Missionaries quickly convinced them that they had to start colleges as a necessary means of proselytization." As Reverend Dr. D.O. Allen, an eminent Missionary of the American Board, observed: "In lead-off their operations. Missionaries have typically considered the propriety and significance of establishing schools. One of the reasons for them is to teach the minds of the people, so that they may additionally be extra successful of perception and appreciating the statistics and evidences, the doctrines and duties of the Scriptures. Another cause for them is to increase the have an effect on of the Missionaries on the people, by using communicating the sensible perception of its doctrines which contains reason for the overall performance of all its duties. The other factor for such an education is in its procuring means and opening approaches of access to the people, and providing opportunities of preaching to them. One exceptional problem which Missionaries often experience, is in acquiring get right of entry to the people. In such circumstances, schools end up very important, as a capacity of conversation with different instructions of people. The school- homes also emerge as essential as places for becoming acquainted with humans for social intercourse and religious worship. School-houses become Chapels below the manager of Missionaries. Their use for this cause is frequently greater vital than for education." In the same way, it soon became equally necessary for the Missions to establish faculties for the converted

population. "The early converts to Christianity got here by and large from the lowest rung of the Hindu society. They were typically illiterate, and as reading the Bible was held to be critical for salvation, the Missionaries were required to establish schools in order to train new converts to read and write. For the same reason, they had been additionally compelled to introduce the printing press and to print the Bible in the Indian languages." The Portuguese Missionaries can nicely be considered as the founders of modern machine of training in India. "Among the earliest Missionaries to arrive, and the fantastic regarded among them, was St. Francis Xavier, who arrived India in 1542." In 1575, he based a University i.e., St. Anne University, at Bandra, near Bombay and mounted a press at Cochin." Another religious Missionary used to be Robert De Nobili, whose offerings in the reason of Christianity used to be remarkable." With the coming of the English, the Protestant entered the field. Soon after establishing factories at Surat (1612) and Masulipatam (1623), the East India Company began to ship out Protestant Chaplains to India, in as early as 1614. Soon they took steps to recruit Indians for the propagation of the Gospel among their countrymen and to provide them such education at the Company's expense as would allow them to carry out correctly the motive for which they were enlisted. "They also sent an Indian childhood to England for Missionary training. He used to be Christened 'Peter' via King James I himself, and was trained there at the Company's expense." In 1638, a publish of Professor of Arabic was once created at the University of Oxford via Archbishop Laud with the object of giving exceptional training to Missionaries to work in India. "In 1659, the Court of Directors of the East India Company declared their earnest wish through all feasible capacity to propagate the Gospel, and allowed Missionaries to embark on their ships." In 1670, they made inquiries about the schooling of adolescents of Fort. St. George at Madras and in 1673, appointed a Scotch preacher named Pringle to teach the adolescents of Portuguese and British Eurasians." The above dialogue throws mild on the preliminary levels of Missionary's educational business enterprise in India. In the beginning, the Missionaries had to ignore through a range of degrees of ups and downs and gradually their educational institutions unfold all over the country.

Among many other states in India, Kerala is the only state which secures the first place in the field of social and as well as education. Kerala's cultural history had a very important role in framing India's cultural and educational outlook. The education system and other social aspects had an unforgettable influence in framing the scenario that is now present in Kerala. But before 19th century Kerala's social and education history was very backward. The social evils like racial and caste discrimination, various religious disbeliefs and superstitious and as well educational backwardness were the main causes for such a history. Hence, due to this reason there was stagnancy in the social renaissance. But due to the coming of foreign missionaries there were a new renaissance effect in every aspects of the society. Though their main aim was religious conversion, but seeing the pathetic condition of the keralites they started a revolutionary religious conversion as a solution and implemented it. Once, Gandhi said only in the front of a hungry man God appears as Bread, the same sense taking into consideration the thirst of Kerala people towards freedom, equality and education they provided them with all their needs and brought them in the front row and class of the society (Rowland, 2009). Due to this same reason they accepted towards conversion religion

and as a result missionaries were able to implement their main aim that made them to come to India. Keeping this in their mind in the society they started their movement by building a casteless society. In those days education was only reserved to the people of upper class society, this privilege was taken away from them and the missionaries provided education to every people without consideration their caste. Women in the society were prohibited from going to educational institutions' and from acquiring knowledge this system was broken and the missionaries started girls and school and took effort to bring them to the enlighten of development. B.E.M missionaries were concentrated in Malabar region of the state and the other two groups i.e CMS Missionaries and LMS in Cochin and Travancore respectively. They started their functioning in all these regions very actively bring under the same roof of Knowledge every person of the society. Basel Evangelical Missionaries had a very dedicative activity which helped to bring and make a new and developed Malabar (Sebastian, 2013). There was a strategic development in the field of social, cultural, Industrial and as well as in education which can be traced out in the history of Kerala. The milestone which was laid in the sail of Malabar was by B.E.M missionaries whose contribution and activities cannot be forgotten. Especially the contribution done by the BEM missionaries in the field of education that changed the entire outlook of Malabar. They introduced a new theme of providing education without discrimination and opened several girls schools as they were always made set aside from the society and from the world of knowledge. To attain development through English they started several English based schools. In these schools the students were people of different classes of the society who joined over there to acquire knowledge as they were abstained from it and later on this attempt formed as a new beginning of revolution. The knowledge earned through these institutions made more people to join this revolution and later on a large number of new thoughts and ideas were emerged which led for the formation of the Malabar that we see today. So due to this reason itself the protestant revolution lead by the BEM missionaries towards the education sector and various other contribution made an appreciable change in the scenario.

### **Need and Significance of The Study**

By studying the historical events that led the society towards upliftment we are able to find out our ancient society, civilization and legacy. A person who knows about the past and historical events can only work actively in today's society actively and creatively and expect a better future. Hence through this research it would be very clear to find out or trace out the root cause through which Malabar has received such uplift and development and the various contributions made by German missionaries i.e. the Basel Evangelical Missionaries towards the Malabar region. The importance of this study mainly rely on the fact that, what the education sector of Malabar was in the 19<sup>th</sup> cent and later the entrance of missionaries after this period and the introduction of various educational activities. During those times education and knowledge were only given on the basis of caste and wealth and in that scenario the missionaries started schools for girls where they were always kept aside. Through this study we can portrait a clear picture how English education made development in the society and became a main reason for the educational revolution. The main aspect of this study is to initiate research in the contributions and sacrifices made by the missionaries towards the society, culture and education of Malabar consists of Calicut, Palghat, Cannanore.

Various primary schools were started in these places and the effects or outcome through these institutions is to be found out from this study or research also increases the importance of this findings. The focus of the research find out about was to discover the effect of culture on the instructional activities in the Malabar region. In the absence of extant research on non secular corporations or social mission corporations extra generally—researcher positioned what Creswell (2014) refers to as a revelatory case. A revelatory case is a single case where a researcher has get admission to to a state of affairs before unobserved. Not only is the case of religious businesses in developing international locations and colonised unobserved (exceptions with some lookup on western Churches) however additionally educational activities inside an moral agency is lacking in administration research. Single case research have wealthy heritage in organisational lookup and can be viewed to be tremendously nice in revealing in the past regarded dynamics and processes.

### **Justification For The Selected Problem**

Education is supposed to be the most important stage of education due to the fact a correct satisfactory of education at the secondary level will help to raise the standards of greater education. It was once the Christian Missionaries, who took the initiative for establishment of modern secondary faculties in India in the later part of 18<sup>th</sup> century. In Malabar, too, the Christian Missionaries did great work in the field of Higher Education through their well prepared chain of Missionary faculties in every nook and corner of the state. In the post Independence period, there was mushrooming of Missionary colleges in Kerala and maintenance of good first-rate therein assumed integral significance, as it provided real boost to the enhancement of complete of the instructional machine in the state, and greater in particular the primary and higher education. The investigator of the present find out about went through different research studies in the vicinity of Missionary education. He consulted a number of 'books', 'journals', 'encyclopedias' and 'surveys on education' associated to Christian Missionary education. He found that there is a dearth of researches in the field of Missionary education, specially, in Malabar. The above referred to lookup studies indicate that there has not been any effort to undertake studies bearing on to the contribution of Missionary's training to the improvement of secondary schooling in Malabar due to the fact Indian independence. Therefore, the investigator feels that, the find out about the history of Missionary training in Malabar and the present state of affairs related to the infrastructural facilities, educational programs, monetary pattern, etc. of the Missionary colleges of Malabar will be of wonderful help towards the development of secondary education in the state. Moreover, the existing learn about will set an example for the Government and different non-public businesses to undertake such research to develop and improve the higher education training in Malabar. This justifies the selection of the problem.

### **Conclusion**

The purpose of this study was to initiate more studies in the field of education provided by the Basel Missionaries in Malabar. Although, there are several studies conducted in the Industrialization initiated by the Basel Missionaries, there is research gap in regards to the factors leading missionaries to invest in educational activities in the Malabar region. The given research has provided relevant literature related to the proposed research.

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