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Of the nineteen Teacher Training Colleges of Kerāla, Farook Training College is the youngest. Started in 1961, the college has just celebrated the Silver Jubilee, in 1987.

When this teacher-training institution was started it was considered the opening of at least a new phase, if not a new era, in the educational endeavours of the Farook College Managing Committee. The result of clearcut vision and double-distilled spirit of dedication of the Committee, this college can also be considered as a need of the then existing educational and socioeconomic infrastructure of the Muslim community of Kerala. In the twilight years of the formation of Kerala State, the Muslim community of Kerala, then not very enthusiastic about formal education, started shedding their inhibitions about education, at all levels. As part of its multitudinous manifestations, a number of schools and colleges were started by social institutions and individuals committed to the uplift of the Muslims. A great majority of these institutions rightly was in the Malabar area which was generally educationally backward, not to speak of the Muslim community.

FAROOK TRAINING COLLEGE

- A BRIEF HISTORY

Dr. C.P. Sreekantan Nair,

Consequent on the rapid expansion in the number of educational institutions, the dearth for teachers especially from the community was keenly felt. There was not even a single teacher-training institution of the graduate level run by the Muslim community till the Farook Training College was started. Of the then existing 18 Training Colleges 4 were Government colleges, 3 belonged to N.S.S., 2 to S.N.D.P. and 9 to Christian Management. When Farook Training College started functioning a large number of Muslim graduates started getting trained for the teaching profession.

The original sanctioned strength of the college was 100 in the five optional subjects: English, Malayalam, Physical Science, Social Studies and Mathematics. Later on Natural Science was also introduced. Though the student strength was gradually raised to 120, from 1971 onwards it was again reduced to 100. But in 1986 the sanctioned strength was raised to 120 and in 1987, to 150. With the marginal increase in the number of seats sanctioned, the college at present gives training to 180 students in various optional subjects. The College has also applied for starting 2 more optional subjects Hindi and Arabic and this request stands endorsed by the Calicut University and is pending approval by the Govt. This year the College has applied for the M.Ed. course. If M.Ed. is sanctioned this will be the first private training college in Kerala offering M.Ed. course.

The College presently has well-equipped Library and Laboratory. The library has a collection of more than 12,000 books with a good number of standard educational and general periodicals. The College laboratory facilities could be substantially improved with the aid from the U.G.C. and UNICEF.

The late Shri. T.K. Subramanian Iyer was the first Principal of the College. The late Prof. M.A. Shukoor succeeded him and guided the de-

stines of the college for almost a decade. Later Dr. V. Aiyappan Pillai took charge and continued as Principal till 1986. The author is the present Principal of the college.

The College building is named after the late Janab K.M. Seethi Sahèb. The first President of the Farook Training College Managing Committee was the late Janab A.K. Kunhi Mayan Hajee. Janab P.I. Ahamed Koya Hajee, Janab P.P. Hassan Koya, Janab S.A. Jiffri, Janab M.V. Hydross Sahib, Moulavi Abussabah Ahamed-ali Saheb, Janab Saleh Mohamed Ibrahim Sait and Janab K.P. Mohamed Saheb have served the committee at different times in various capacities. Prof. K.A. Jaleel, Prof. V. Muhamed Saheb, Prof. U. Mohammed Sahib, Sri. T.K. Subramanian, Prof. M.A. Shukoor and Dr. V. Aiyappan Pillai have worked as ex-officio members of the committee.

Janab A.K. Kader Kutty (President), Janab P.K. Ali (Vice-President), Janab V. Pakku Hajee (Secretary), Janab Syed Fazal Jiffri (Joint-Secretary), Janab Kunhi Mohamed Hajee (Treasurer), Janab K.G. Hassan Kutty (Correspondent), Janab V. Assan Koya (Member), Janab T.O. Abdulla (Member), Janab A. Abdurahiman (Member), Janab K.V. Moosa Koya Hajee (Member), Janab K. Kunhalavi (Member), Dr.

T.K. Mohamed, Principal, Farook College (Member, ex-officio), and Dr. C.P. Sreekantan Nair, Principal, Farook Training College (Member, ex-officio) constitute the present Managing Committee of the college.

The College will always remember with gratitude the stalwart patrons who departed from us. Their personalities and the message of their devoted life will remain ever fresh, a source of inspiration for everyone connected with this institution.

27 years is not a long period in the life of an educational institution. Yet during this small period the college has left an indelible mark in the educational sphere of Kerala. It has produced a galaxy of eminent teachers with broad experience, mature outlook and sound judgement. The silent but salient social revolution that this part of the country witnessed is rightly their contribution also. In the years to come the speed of social evolution will surely be accelerated by the products of this great teacher-training institution.

