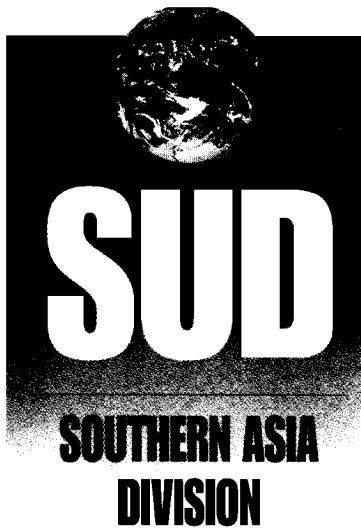


A CENTURY OF GROWTH AND COMMITMENT 1995-2000 REPORT



Adventist education in the Southern Asia Division (SUD) is more than 100 years old! It began in 1895 with a small school for girls in Calcutta, and today boasts more than 300 elementary, high (grades K-10), and higher (grades K-12) secondary schools, four senior colleges, three schools of nursing, and a school of laboratory technology. Each institution is the story of a vision, determination, and commitment to the educational philosophy and goals of the church. Operating in different cultural milieus, these schools strive to provide quality education along with the message of a loving Saviour.

Looking Back

During the past quinquennium, we have had significant growth in our educational system. A number of schools have been upgraded to high and higher secondary levels. The division's premier training institution, Spicer Memorial College, has served the church well during the past 84 years. However, because of the growing number of students seeking collegiate and postgraduate training, two secondary schools have recently been

upgraded to college status. Lowry Memorial College in Bangalore, South India, caters to students pursuing a degree in science and computers, while the College of Professional Studies (CPS) at Surat offers undergraduate and graduate programs in business administration and commerce. Both Spicer Memorial College and CPS are affiliated with Southern Adventist University in Tennessee, U.S.A., for the B.B.A. and M.B.A. programs, and presently have more than 200 students enrolled. A third senior college has been started at Jowai in the Northeast India Union. All of this development has meant better opportunities for Adventist young people to receive state-recognized degrees and find desired employment.

In 1998, the division modified its structure by appointing a vice-president for educational administration. Boards of education were

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Environmental Emphasis Day at Spicer College (Pune, India), part of the work-education program.

best, and with God's help, we plan to have an Adventist school in every city of Southern Asia to redeem His children. ✍

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formed in the unions. The new system ensures better planning and allocation of resources, as well as more efficient monitoring of school activities and development programs.

Looking Forward

Plans are underway for a fifth college at Narsapur, Andhra Pradesh, that will offer computer studies. A systematic upgrading program is helping the schools attain high and higher secondary status. A number of new school buildings and facilities are attracting a larger number of local students. Schools affiliated with the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi, are able to avoid Sabbath examinations for their high and higher secondary school certificates.

Our boarding schools continue to be effective avenues of soul-winning. The day schools, which have a total enrollment of 100,000, cater to non-Christian students, and thereby witness to students and parents. The students cannot take their stand for Christ due to family and community pressure, but in time, we hope to see results from the witness of these schools.

The three schools of nursing prepare students for the certificate examination. The graduates serve with dedication and efficiency in the 11 hospitals of the division and elsewhere. A degree program in nursing will soon be available in Surat.

Though they serve under conditions that usually are not supportive of Christian enterprises, our schools in Southern Asia continue to influence their communities, offering a faith-enriched quality education to thousands of students. Opportunities and challenges only inspire us to do our

A temperance poster contest at Madurai Central Higher Secondary School.

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The Spicer College administration building.

Lower-level students work in a modern computer lab at the Adventist college in Bangalore.

Week of Prayer at the Adventist college in Bangalore.

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Future computer wizards at work at an Adventist higher secondary school.

A cultural dance at a youth congress.

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Nursery students at the Adventist high school in Hapur, North India.

Students solve math problems at an Adventist higher secondary school in Madurai.

Graduation, 1999, at Helen Lowry School, Nisarihtlang, Aizawl, Mizoram.

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The Spicer Memorial College Board in session.

An annual sports meet at the Adventist higher secondary school in Pondicherry, India.