

## **KALIYUVA MANE** [meaning 'Home for learning' in Kannada]

**Philosophy :** 'School for CHILDREN' rather than 'Children for SCHOOL'

**Inspiration :** Ideals of Sri Aurobindo & Swami Vivekananda

**Driving force:** Compassion, Patriotism & Spirituality

**Run by:** Divya Deepa Charitable Trust, a registered 'Not for profit' organization with 12A, 80G & FCRA registrations

**Funds:** From large hearted individuals, Organizations & work of the volunteers

**Strong beliefs :**

- Natural Resources & Human resources are two vital ingredients needed for development of any country.
- Education is the tool to transform ordinary human beings into human resource.
- Every educated person with values is an asset to his country in particular and to the world at large.
- Children are NOT machines with equal learning efficiency who can learn a pre determined textual input within a pre determined time in a pre determined way.

**Present Rural/Urban Educational Scenario:**

- As per Annual Status of Education Report 2014, 51.2% of 5th standard rural children cannot read standard II level text book of their mother tongue and only 26.1% can solve a 3 digit by one digit division problem.
- In rural India, only ten children complete college education out of 100 children who enrol in primary schools.
- 68.84% of Indians live in villages.
- There are many children in urban educated families also, who need an innovative education system. Children with learning difficulties have only a film(Tare Zameen Par), but no school.

**Beneficiaries of Kaliyuva Mane:**

- First Generation school-goers from rural BPL families, who cannot afford a good school.
- Any Mentally normal child who is unable to adjust to the strict regimen of regular schools. (including urban children from economically comfort families)
- School dropouts.
- Child labourers.
- Orphans or children from difficult family backgrounds.
- Dyslexic children. (Children with learning difficulty)
- Children with IQ:100, but suffering from an academic lag of minimum 3 years in regular schools.
- Physically disabled children [except blind, deaf & dumb]
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**Kaliyuva Mane campus:**

The home-cum-school is located on the outskirts of Mysore city off Manandavadi Road, around 15 kilometres from railway station. [2.5 Km from Chitravana resorts, Near Mount Litera Zee School,] It is located in a plot of almost 3 acres. The school is in a rustic area, away from the hustle and bustle of the

city, which stimulates the children to think freely and in tune with nature. More than 300 trees of different species like coconut, teak, and silver oak sway and keep the land green, clean and cool. The land is completely fenced with barbed wire. The school, which has adopted a very practical approach to education, is surrounded by a cluster of villages and is located just half a kilometre from Kenchalagudu village. Most of the inhabitants here belong to the socially, educationally and economically backward strata of society. However due to the recent real estate boom, many RCC houses have sprung up.

#### **Evolution of Kaliyuva Mane:**

- From August 1992 to May 2004: Beginning of free supplementary classes for rural children in Srirampura village. [ From 6 am to 8 am & 7pm to 8 pm]. The Government school authorities were kind enough to provide the School building for this purpose. Children either used to drop out of the school or fail to reach the grades due to acute poverty, lack of conducive environment at home, non-cordial family relationships at home and the rote teaching methods adopted at conventional schools. This grassroots level experience helped us to conceptualize Kaliyuva Mane.
- On 12-01-1999, Divyadeepa received first public contribution and hence was registered as 'Divya Deepa Charitable Trust' under Indian Trust Act on 04-03-1999.
- In 2003, the founder's ex-employer donated funds to the founder to buy land to start 'Kaliyuva Mane'
- In June 2005, Kaliyuva Mane was started literally in a hut with 14 children, 4 resident scholars and 10 day scholars.

#### **Current Facilities at Kaliyuva Mane:**

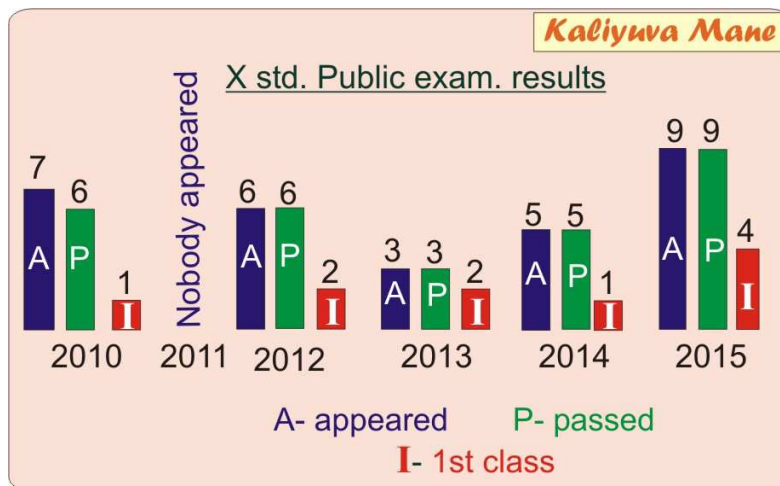
- A spacious play ground
- An Office
- 5 Nos. Non-conventional learning areas
- 3 Nos. Conventional learning areas with solar lights
- Aravinda - A Multi-purpose hall with projector
- 'Sadhana' - A Science laboratory
- 'Sheetal' - Library
- 'Ganaka' – Solar powered Computer Laboratory
- RO drinking water facility (Solar powered)
- Own Bore well
- Bus facility for ferrying day scholars (from rural children only) / Free bus pass facility
- 15 KVA, 3 phase Diesel Generator set
- Separate dormitories for boys and girls (for children from difficult families)
- Kitchen
- Dining area
- Bio mass boiler for hot water
- 5 No. solar digital smart classes ( 4 Nos. 18" TV and one solar projector)

### **Fees paid by the children:**

- For below poverty line families, accommodation, food, medical support are provided free of cost in an atmosphere charged with Love, Care & Empathy.
- However fee structure for economically comfortable families can be discussed at the time of admission.
- For day scholars bag, school uniform, text books, transport, stationery are provided free of cost.
- Post matric educational support is being provided for a few deserving students free of cost [college fees, uniform, Shoe, bus pass, text books, stationery and pocket money]

### **Reaching out to more children & SSLC Results**

Year	Day scholars	Resident scholars	Post matric support	Total
2005	10	4	Nil	14
2015	66	39	9	114



### **UNIQUE Features of Kaliyuva Mane:**

- Abolishing the grade system: At Kaliyuva Mane, children are not classified into 1st, 2nd, 3rd standards based on predetermined notions. A 12 year old child at an academic level of 3<sup>rd</sup> standard cannot be integrated with age appropriate 7<sup>th</sup> standard. If this child is integrated with knowledge appropriate 3<sup>rd</sup> standard, it will be a humiliation for the child. But such a child finds place at Kaliyuva Mane.
- Dynamic teams: Children are divided into meaningful teams such as Chilipili, Chiguru, Chethana, Poorna, Prajna, Shradha, Mythri etc. based on children's age, current knowledge, learning capacity etc.
- Abolishing the annual exams: Frequent informal tests are conducted to assess the child, revise the curriculum and to devise new methods of teaching. Movement of children from one team to another is highly individualistic and can happen several times in a year if necessary.

- A fine emotional ambience: An uncluttered mind is a pre-requisite for learning. Love, Care & Empathy are the ingredients for an uncluttered mind. So children have plenty of freedom at Kaliyuva Mane. No child is labeled as slow learner. In fact, extra attention is paid to such children.
- Teacher to student ratio: 1:1 to 1:15
- Medium of instruction: Core subjects are taught in both the mediums for all the children. Children are appearing for 10th standard examinations in English medium. Children are studying Kannada as 1<sup>st</sup> Language, English as 2<sup>nd</sup> language and Sanskrit as 3<sup>rd</sup> language.
- Enough time to adjust to the school environment: At Kaliyuva Mane, a new child is given enough time to build an emotional rapport with the school. During this time, teachers just observe the child's attitude. They will not try to correct the child. During this period, the child need not attend the classes regularly.
- Teachers: Requisite knowledge, Passion to teach, Patience, Skill to transfer knowledge, Willingness to learn are the necessary qualifications required for a teacher. Formal degrees are unimportant. On-the-job teachers' training is an ongoing process at Kaliyuva Mane.
- Innovative Learning: Kids' bank is a unique concept to teach children, value of money and materials, their limitations, banking transactions, arithmetical skills. Children's disputes are being settled at Kids' court which was inaugurated by Principal district judge Smt. K.S. Mudgal on June 4th 2015.
- An eco-conscious solar school: Kaliyuva Mane is an eco-conscious school. Solar powered LED automatic campus lights, Solar CFL/LED indoor lights, Solar powered Computer laboratory. Solar digital smart classes (5 no.) Solar support for Kitchen refrigerator and Grinder, Solar water heaters, Organic farming, Eco friendly Ganesha made by kids, Hand-made greeting card unit, Dairy, Eco toilet, Eco chip boards in place of wood, Astra stove and Gobar gas stove, Rain water harvesting, Bio mass boiler, Bath water harvesting Plant are some of the environment friendly facilities created at Kaliyuva Mane.

#### **Registration of Kaliyuva Mane as a 'school':**

Kaliyuva Mane is registered with Department of 'Women and Child Development', Govt. of Karnataka as a 'children home'. Hon'ble Education Minister has instructed in writing to give approval to Kaliyuva Mane as a school. Currently children are appearing for 10<sup>th</sup> standard board examinations through another recognized school. BEO has written to us regarding this provision. Children are getting Transfer Certificate and SSLC certificate from the recognized school. Till now, two children are studying PUC (science) course, one has completed BBM course, 3 boys are pursuing B.Com course, One is pursuing B.Sc. Nursing course at Mysore Medical College, One is pursuing Diploma in Engineering course, 3 have passed ITI course. Some are already employed.