

Foundation of Lady Keane girls' school and college

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It is a historical fact that most of the educational institutions of Shillong set up during the British rule owed their origin to laudable missionary enterprise. But the Lady Keane Girl's School, and the College which grew out of it, to promote the cause of higher education for women, prove an exception. At a time when education in Shillong suffered from the constraint of theological burden and inaccessibility, and was limited in its scope and objectives, Lady Keane School, from the moment of its inception, began to foster secular and liberal education and was open for all categories of girl students—tribal, non-tribal, Hindus, Muslims and Christians. The Lady Keane College was the first women's college in the British Province of Assam and it earned unstinted reputation for its cosmopolitan atmosphere, drawing girl-students not only from the Surma Valley and Brahmaputra Valley of Assam but from Bengal and other distant parts of India. The history of the origin and growth of this institution makes a fascinating study offering us the unique example of a public enterprise in the Hills, nobly conceived, and receiving the immediate collaboration of the British Administration which it did not directly extend earlier to the field of higher education in North East India.

The Christian missionaries had fulfilled their historic mission in reaching education to the Khasi Villages. They had done a splendid job in spreading literacy among the Khasis and Jaintias. Thanks to the missionary efforts which was inadequately aided by the British Government, the percentage of literacy in the United K. & J. Hills District stood in 1931 as 10.94 which was second in the whole of Assam. Female literacy also began to grow and the report of 1931-1932 states that the Khasi woman occupied the first place in India in respect of female literacy. But a major weakness of Missionary educational scheme was the total neglect of higher education for the boys and girls. The standard of literacy aimed by the Missionaries

was of the Primary or M.E. level. This is evidenced by the fact that the Presbyterian Mission which received a total grant of Rs. 20,000.00 from the Assam Government for 1931-32 was maintaining only 6 middle and 347 primary schools. They had only one girls' High School at Jaiaw (Welsh Mission Girls' High School) and preferred Christian Girls for admission. It was affiliated to the Calcutta University. Non-Christians regarded its superficial pro-western bias as alien to Indian national character and mental frame.

Urge for a Cosmopolitan Institution

The question of the education of Indian women therefore received the engaging attention of thoughtful men, and public-spirited persons of Shillong. Some highly placed Government officers and retired personnels were seized with the problem of providing higher education to their daughters and wards. They wanted a separate institution for Indian girls under the jurisdiction of the Calcutta University where they would receive liberal education in an atmosphere that would retain and promote the rich cultural heritage of India while providing ample opportunities for the harmonious development of the young minds, but such an institution was not available in Shillong. The Welsh Mission Girls' High School at Jaiaw could not satisfy this need. The English and Anglo-Indian girls, daughters of English personnels had the opportunity of receiving education in the Pine Mount School and the Loreto Convent School which prepared them for Senior Cambridge Examination of London. There was no girls' college in the whole province of Assam, not to speak of Shillong, its capital. Even for the boys there was only one College, the St. Edmund's College (managed by Irish Christian Mission) which was in a lending stage and was preparing boys for the I.A. Examination of the Calcutta University. Under the circumstances, a student wanting to take a B.A. or B. Sc. Examination had no other alternative but to go from Shillong all the way to Calcutta for higher studies. Dr. Homiwell Lyngdoh (1877-1958) the first Medical graduate among the Khasis and a great name in Khasi literature had his higher education in Calcutta. Reverend James Joy Mohan Nichols Roy (1884-1959);

and Rai Bahadur Dohory Rapmay had their graduation from the Duff College (Scottish Church College), Calcutta. Rajen Rowland Thomas (1888-1959), the eminent Khasi Educationist and the only Premchand Roychand Scholar of North-Eastern India read in the Scottish Church College and the Calcutta University. Miss Mavis Dunn Lyngdoh (1906-1962), the first Lady M.L.A. and Lady Minister among the Khasis read for her B.A. in Diocesan College and took B.T. degree from Bethune College, Calcutta. For the Girls in those days it was all the more difficult to proceed to Calcutta and prosecute their higher studies staying alone in the metropolitan city. Hence the urge for starting a secular open institution of the girls for higher studies was keenly felt by the Shillong public. They wanted an ideal institution which will cater to the needs of not only girls of Shillong but also those of the Surma Valley and the Brahmaputra Valley. A few Brahmos first took the lead in this direction.

Foundation of Lady Keane Girls' School

Interestingly enough, those who wanted a new institution to meet the pressing demand of that age were all men of the administration, or persons who had unflinching faith in the efficacy of British rule. They belonged to the generation of English educated respectable middle class, known in the Colonial period, by the honorific titles of 'Sahib' or 'Babu'. They had closest link with the British administration and knew how to get works done by the Raj even if it went against its pronounced official policy. Their minds were again strongly ingrained in the new spirit that emanated from renaissant Bengal. Unlike the previous generation, the men of the thirties were stout champions of higher education for women. The wave of national movement in the rest of the Country also had something to do to create this urge.

Having felt the imperative need of providing liberal education suitable for the Indian girls, these men of unbounded enthusiasm made a door to door campaign for students, which led to a public meeting held on 20th February, 1932 at the premises of Govt Girl's M.E. School, Jail Road. In that meeting a provisional

Managing Committee was constituted for running high school classes with Sri Atulananda Das as the President and Mrs. Subarna Prabha Das as the Secretary. Babu Harendra Narayana Choudhry, Rai Saheb Dinesh Ch. Das, Rai Sahab D.C. Choudhry, Babu Suresh Ch. Mukherjee, Babu Anath Bandhu Dutta, Sm. Leela Roy, Hd. Mistress, Laban girl's M.E. School, Babu A.K. Bhattacharjya and Sm. Sushila Sen, Asst. Inspectress of Schools, figure in the list of the members of the Provisional Managing Committee. They along with Babu Atulananda Das and Sm. Subarna Prabha Das are to be regarded as the founders of the school.

These members resolved to start classes VIII, IX and X in the Jail Road Govt. Girl's M.E. School building from 22nd February with 18 pupils.

At the time of opening the classes, the enrolment number rose to 46, and the School was named as *Jail Road Girl's High School*. The initial difficulties faced by the Managing Committee were many and insurmountable. There was no fund. There was no teacher. But the Committee overcame these difficulties by their zeal and wide contact. They procured the services of Miss M.Majid B.A., Mrs. I. Chatterjee and Babu Atul Bhusan Sarkar who served as honorary teachers for a few days. Mrs. Subarna Prabha Das who was the Headmistress of Jail Road Govt. M.E. School also began to teach in the High School and she was entrusted with the responsibilities of the Hd. Mistress of the High School too. The members of the Managing Committee willingly extended donation to their best ability and the initial financial hurdle was crossed. Babu Nagendra Kishore Dutta, Babu Haripada Maullick, Babu Rashik Ch. Das, Babu J.C. Dasgupta, and Babu Gnanda Prasad Bhattacharjya, were appointed as teachers of the High School. Babu Nagendra Kishore Dutta was given the charge of the Head master.

The efforts of the Managing Committee were strengthened and attened by a great measure of success when the new venture was able to enlist the sympathy of the then D.P.I. of Assam, Mr. G.A. Small, who was undoubtedly seeking a way to break what he called "the stranglehold of the Christian Mission of Khasi

education". The D.P.I. Assam immediately sanctioned for this school a grant of Rs. 130.00 per mensem vide Govt. letter No. 1815 - 19 G, dt. 18th April, 1932. The grant being found inadequate was raised to Rs. 152.00 in the same year.

The Provisional Committee was replaced by a Permanent Managing Committee of 16 members constituted in a public meeting held on 24th October, 1932 at the Jail Road Girl's M.E. School premises. Babu Atulananda Das and Sm. Subarna Prava Das again became the President and Secretary respectively. Other members of the Permanent Managing Committee were Sm. Sushila Sen, Asst. Inspectress of Schools, Shillong, Sm. Lila Roy, the Hd. Mistress of the Laban Girl's M.E. School, Khan Bahadur Maulavi Aatur Rahaman, Babu Atul Krishna Bhattacharjya, a leading merchant and contractor, Rai Saheb Dinesh Ch. Das, Rai Sahib Devendra Chandra Choudhray, Babu Manindra Mn. Chatterjee, Babu Gureshwar Barkakati, Babu Bhairab Ch. Barua and Babu Anath Bandhu Dutta etc. The Permanent Managing Committee took upon itself the task of improving the financial position of the High School which was renamed as *Govt. Aided Girl's High School, Shillong*. Funds were raised by organising theatrical performances and public charity shows and by collection of donations and monthly subscriptions from the public. The Committee also took the decision to replace the male members of the Teaching staff by suitable lady teachers. The first fullfledged lady teacher was Miss Bela Das Gupta, B.A. Subsequently came Sm. Binapani Das Gupta, B.A. and Sm. Charulata Das Gupta, B.A.

In an age when there was no avenue for higher education for girls in Shillong and the conservative families by and large were against the idea of girls pursuing a separate profession either in public institutions or Govt. offices, the Committee found it extremely difficult to procure lady graduate teachers in Shillong. They therefore had to send advertisements in news papers like the *Amrita Bazar patrika*, the *Sylhet Chronicle* and the *Assam Times* in order to attract the notice of the lady graduates of Bengal and Assam including those from Sylhet.

From 1st April 1933 the High School began to receive a recurring grant of Rs. 40.00 per mensem from the Shillong Municipal Board. The original intention of the founding members was perhaps to upgrade the Jail Road Govt. Girl's M.E. School to the High School standard. But soon there was a change in this decision and the members decided to run the High School classes as a separate establishment. Thus at the second stage, the High School classes as a separate establishment. Thus at the second stage, the High School classes of VIII, IX and X were shifted from the Govt. Girl's M.E. School premises to the first floor of a two storied house belonging to Babu Dwizen Sen of Jail Road. The authorities paid rent of Rs. 30.00 per month for hiring three small rooms in the First floor of that house which was later purchased by late A.L. De and since known as A.L.Dey's compound. The new school house lay close to Jail Road Govt. Girl's M.E. School and Subarna Prabha Das, in view of the proximity of the high school classes from her own school, continued to render her services as the secretary. From June 1934 Rs. 50.00 was paid as the monthly rent of this school house,

Meanwhile, the Managing Committee was fortunate enough to establish contact with Lady Joycelline Keane, the wife of Sir Michael Keane, the then Governor of Assam, who took over the charge on 11 May, 1932. Lady Keane was well known for her keen interest in social work. The cause of promotion of higher education for girls soon received her engaging attention. Mrs. Desai, the wife of Mr. S.P.Desai, an I.C.S. Officer and Secretary to the Government of Assam in the Revenue Department, was all along a well wisher of the school. She was co-opted as the member of the Managing Committee. Mrs. S.P.Desai led a deputation of the school Committee to Lady Keane who personally paid a visit to the High School section in 1933 when it was located at Jail Road in the premises of the Government Girl's M.E. School. She then made high appreciative remarks about the education efforts and discipline of the school.

With a view to gaining further patronage from Lady Keane, the Managing Committee in its meeting held on 24.5.1933 decided to name the school after Lady Keane. It was a very wise decision. The association of Lady Keane with the school, the active sympathy, patronage, and solicitude of Lady Keane who took a keen personal interest in the initial stage of the institution proved a great asset and made a good augury for its success. Doubts as to its stability were set at rest; money flowed in from unexpected quarters and enrolment increased by leaps and bounds.

The Inspector of Schools of Surma Valley and Hills District Division vide his memo No. 16898 dt. 6th Dec. 1933, commended the teaching standard of the school and the Matriculation Result Analysis of the Director of Public Instruction, Assam, dt. 3.1.1934 also made appreciative remarks about the School's performance.

The first Head Mistress to take the permanent charge of the High School was Sm. Anukana Das Gupta, B.A. who relieved the Hd. Master Babu Nagendra Kishore Dutta on 31.5.1934. She was made Secretary of the Managing Committee from 18.7.34 after Sm. Subarna Prava Das made over the charges to her in accordance with D.P.I.'s order dt. 9.7.1934.

It may be recalled here that the Brahmo Connection of the school had enabled it to overcome the hurdle of dearth of lady-graduates in Shillong. Sm. Subarna Prava Das, the founder - Secretary, was the daughter-in-law of the eminent Brahmo leader Dr. Sundari Mohan Das of Sylhet. She was actively involved in the Shillong Brahma Samaj movement. Atulananda, the President of the School was also a Brahmo. It was Atulananda who brought his niece Sm. Anukana Das Gupta (now Khastagir) from Santiniketan. Anukana Das Gupta passed her B.A. from Diocessan College, Calcutta, and was studying fine-arts in Kalabhavan, Shantiniketan. With Anukana Das Gupta as the Hd. Mistress, the school became alive. She enforced discipline and inculcated a fine sense of taste and culture. The reputation of the school spread far and wide. Another illustrious teacher of this period was Sm. Priti Dutta,

the grand daughter of the eminent Civilian, Ramesh Ch. Dutta, I.C.S. After Anukana Das Gupta resigned on the ground of her marriage on 31.3.1940, Sm.Priti Dutta became the Hd. Mistress.

Foundation of the Lady Keane College

For the Managment, the year 1935 opened with a broader vision and greater responsibilities. The founding fathers regarded the school as the nucleus of the female education movement they had launched to promote the cause of higher education for girls in Shillong. Some girls from the school had passed the Matriculation Examination of the Calcutta University. Their parents wanted to put them in a college. The authorities, therefore, wanted to develop the High School into an Intermediate College. There was also the need for adding class VII to the existing school. Another immediate requirement was to find accommodation for a hostel as some parents of girls outside Shillong were found desirous to put their daughters in the new school. The existing school building at A.L.Dey's compound on Jail Road, unsuitable and inadequate for the growing needs, the school classes were shifted to 'Grove - Side Cottage' (lying at the extreme end of the Keating Road at the back of the Present State Central Library) hired at a rent of Rs. 100.00 per month.

On 23.5.35, the founding fathers and the guardians of the school students held a general meeting at 'Grove Side' school premises to consider the proposal for opening Intermediate classes for girls, being inspired by the success of the Girls' High School. Consequently a separate Managing Committee was formed for the College.

At this stage the Committee got the services of another promoter, Rai Bahadur Promode Ch. Dutt, C.I.E., Judicial and Revenue Member. Promode Chandra's wife Mrs. Charubala Dutt was made the president of the new Committee. The untiring Atulana-nda Das stepped down as the President of the School Committee and took over the charge of the Secretary of the Managing Committee of the College.

Upon the request of Sri Atulananda Das, his relative (the husband of his niece) Acharya Brajo Sundar Ray came to Shillong from Calcutta. He was appointed as the Principal of the College Section. With Brajo Sundar as the Principal, the College started functioning in the Grove Side Cottage from 16th July 1935 with 11 students in the First year and 3 students in the Second Year I.A. classes. It was now named as 'Shillong Girls' Intermediate College'. The teaching staff consisted, in the First year, of three lecturers. Besides Brojo Sundar who taught English, History, Philosophy, and Civics, there were Mrs. K.L.Y. Boulton, the wife of Reverend Boulton and Sm. Suprabha Dutta. Mrs. Boulton taught English and Sm. Suprabha Dutta both English and Bengali. The College classes at Grove Side used to be held in the morning, and school classes at day time from 11 A.M. The same year saw the opening of Class VII in the school Section. An arts and crafts class was introduced with painting, leather work, music and dancing on an experimental basis. The authorities also hired a house known as 'Sarat Kutir' at Laban main road near Assam Club for using it as hostel. In the first year there were 5 students in the hostel under the care of Sm. Suprabha Dutta. In 1936, two more lecturers were appointed, Sm. Sadhana Sen Gupta for Economics and Sm. Aparajita Ghosh for Philosophy. Both of them stayed at Sanat Kutir Hostel. Aparajita, however, was asked to leave at 24 hours' notice by the college authorities under instructions of the British Government as she was the younger sister of the revolutionary leader, Sm. Santi Sudha Ghosh, already put behind the bar.

Acquisition of land

Even before the formal opening of the I.A. classes at Grove Side organised efforts were made by the School authorities to acquire land for the school and the college. Both the Governor, Sir Michael Keane, and Lady Keane were contacted frequently by Rai Bahadur Promode Ch. Dutta and ladies like Mrs. Charubala Dutta and Mrs. S.P. Desai. An applica-

tion was submitted to the Commissioner, Surma Valley and Hill Division by Mrs. Charulata Dutta praying for settlements of land in the open space south of the Crinoline Falls Road near the Pine Mount School. Sir Micheal Keane visited the site but he found that a portion of the land was reserved for the future expansion of the Pine Mount Girls' School and another portion was being used as a play ground by the Children of laban. Only a small plot on the West near the Howell Road was available but that would not meet the aims of the Committee of the school who were looking forward to a Girls' College with a hostel and residences for the teaching staff. His excellency therefore rejected this site. On 10th June 1935, he visited another site lying between No.8 Cantonment and the Police Bazar, the spur running down towards the shops of Messers Sharif and the Shillong Tailoring. Finding the site suitable, His Excellency the Governor directed the Revenue Department to negotiate with the Cantonment Authority with a view to its transfer to the Civil Department, Assam.

The land formed part of a large area of tract leased out to Rai Bahadur Dohory Ropmay in 1917. It was decided to purchase the site from the Cantonment Authority and keep it as Sarkari land for handing it over to the Committee for construction of Lady Keane Girls' School and College building. Having been instructed by the Governor, the Government of Assam, approached the Government of India, Army Deptt., for the transfer of the land for which a plan with a map was prepared by the Director of Surveys, Assam. The selected site measured 7.9 acres. On demand by the Government of India, the Assam Government made a payment of Rs. 2604.00 for land and Rs. 1080.00 for 932 trees standing on the site. The Government of India, Defence Department consequently withdrew this land (site no. 8) from the management of the Cantonment Authority, Shillong vide their letter no 432/L.C./D.4 dt. 6.2.1936 and the Government of Assam took over its formal possess-

ion on 27th February, 1937. The Government of Assam also paid an amount of Rs. 780.00 to Rai Bahadur Dohory Ropmay as compensation for dismantling the block of 6 servants' quarters of his residence Bella Vista on the site marked for Lady Keane Girls' School and College.

Inspired by the procurement of land, the Committee set about collection of funds and preparation of plan and estimate for construction of the school, and college and attached Hostel building. Amidst much joy and jubilation, Lady Keane laid the foundation stone of the school and college building on 25th July, 1936, in presence of a large and distinguish gathering which included His Excellency the governor of Assam, Sir Michael Keane, Dr. H.L.Lyngdoh, Rev. J.J.M.Nichols Roy, Babu Chandra Nath Roy, Kumar Bhairabendra Narayan Deb, Bourani Sabita Devi of Bijni, Mr.K.Cantli, Dy. Commissioner, Mr.G.A. Small, the D.P.I. Assam, Rai Saheb Sibnath Dutta and many other high Government officials, journalists and educationists. Lady Keane was pleased to lend her name to the new Intermediate College and said in her address, "The women of this country have an abundance of natural gifts, and it is only the lack of facilities of proper education which has prevented them from taking their rightful place in society I am very proud to feel that this school and college is named after me and I hope to be more proud in the future when I shall hear of the achievements of its pupils in the world".

While addressing the gathering, Lady Keane made a fervent appeal to the public to contribute generously to the building funds of the College and school so that the great work undertaken by the founders could soon be completed. At the close of the ceremony the Hon'ble Maulavi Abdul Hamid, Minister of Education, Assam thanked His Excellency and Lady Keane for their kind patronage to the institution.

Construction of School and College buildings

In the mean time the Committee had been trying incessantly to collect funds for the construction of the school and college building. The nucleus of the fund was formed by public contributions collected by a vigorous door to door drive. From the Secretary's address at the Foundation Ceremony on 25.7.1936 it appears that the cost of construction of the proposed building with 12 class rooms was estimated at Rs. 17000.00. The plan and estimate of the building were prepared by Babu Debendra Chandra Gupta, a Draftsman of the Assam P.W. Department with the help of an S.D.O. Babu Hemendra Nath Das Gupta. It was through the influence of Babu Atulanandra Das, the Secy. and the efforts of Abinash Dutta, the then Commissioner of Income Tax that handsome donations were received towards the building fund. Rai Bahadur Nopat Rai Kedia of Dibrugarh donated Rs. 10,000.00, Maharani Sucharu Devi of Mayurbhanj Rs. 3000.00, and Rai Bahadur Saligram Chunilal a local businessman Rs. 2500.00, Besides, Babu Chandra-nath Roy, the Seng Khasi leader and Sri K.L. Bajoria some other local men also contributed substantially, The Construction work was entrusted to Sri A.K. Bhattacharyya, a local contractor and founder-member of the school, who did his job in a philanthropic spirit. Lady Keane herself kept a close watch over the progress of the construction work which was supervised by Babu Hemendra Nath Das Gupta.

As the College was attracting girl students from all parts of the province of Assam, it was felt necessary to provide residential facilities to mofussil girls in its own premises. The school and college teachers coming from other parts also needed accommodation. The hired house, 'Sanat Kutir', at Laban would not serve that purpose. Hence the authorities also undertook the project of a hostel at an estimated cost of Rs. 20,000.00. Mrs. Charubala Dutta, the President of the Committee, issued a private appeal to the public for further funds with an endorsement of Lady Keane.

Babu Atulanada Das, the retired conservator of Forest, the Chief architect of the school and College, from its inception, stepped down from the Secretaryship at the end of 1936, on health ground. Rai Sahib Dinesh Ch. Das, a ret'd. Under secretary, and a founder-member, remained in charge till 31st July 1937, when Rai Bahadur J.N.Chakravarty, the retired Director of Agriculture, was elected the Secretary of the School and College Managing Committee. Lady Keane wanted to see the Completion of the Construction work before her departure from Shillong. She wrote a letter on 21-1-1937, to the School Committee, commending the progress of the building and advanced an amount of Rs. 200.00 to start the Subscription list afresh. Many others followed suit. Rev. J.J.M. Nichols Roy also donated Rs. 200.00 to the building fund. Rai Bahadur Rameswarlal Saharia, the noted tea-planter of Dibrugarah and an M.L.C. gave a munificent donation of Rs.16,000/- for the construction of the Hostel. On being further approached he again paid Rs. 4000.00 making his total contribution as Rs. 20,000.00.

The construction of the School and College building was completed at a cost of Rs. 17,000.00 within a period of six months. The opening ceremony of the School and College building was held on 27.2.1937. It was Lady Keane again who formally inaugurated the new building in presence of Sir Michael keane, the Governor, Major General Lindsay and a host of distinguished persons. Rai Saheb, Dinesh Ch. Das gave the welcome address. The details of the inauguration were published in the Khasi Paper *U Lurshai* of March 1937. The foundation stone of the proposed Hostel building was also laid by Lady Keane on the same date after the opening ceremony. In her inaugural address, Her Excellency, expressed the hope that girls of all communities, Hindu, Muslim and Khasi etc. will benefit from the facilities offered by the institution. Major General Lindsay and Sir Michael Keane who were mainly instrumental in procuring the beautiful site in a "somewhat impregnable quarter"

also addressed the gathering on the occasion.

Sir Michael Keane continued in office upto 3rd March 1937. Lady Keane left for England leaving sweet memories. When Sir R.N.Reid took charge of the Governorship of Assam, his wife Lady Reid, following the great example of her predecessor, willingly became the patroness of the Institution. The construction of the hostel building was by this time completed by a local contractor U.Tima. In deference to the wishes of the donors, the hall of the school and College building was named as "Ganga Prasad Kedia Hall" after the name of the father of Rai Bahadur Nopat Rai Kedia, and the hostel was named as Mussammatt Chand Sahariani Hostel after the name of the mother of Rai Bahadur Rameswarlal Saharia. On 1.9.1937, the boarders moved to the new hostel, which was formally opened by Lady Reid. A grand function was arranged to mark the occasion. His Excellency Sir R.N.Reid and Lady Reid presented some valuable books, on this occasion, to the college and school library.

After the construction of the school and college building and the hostel, it was found that there was no approach road connecting the institution. The Committee discussed the matter with Lady Reid and on her advice, the Secretary, Rai Saheb Dinesh Ch.Das appealed to the local Government for an additional Strip of land and Lady Reid took up the matter with the G.O.C. Eastern Command. After negotiation between the local Government and the Director, Military lands and Cantonment, the Government of India sanctioned the resumption of the site measuring 6500 sq.ft. or, 0.151 acre of land out of Survey No.41 Shillong Cantonment and transferred it to the local Government, vide Defence Department letter no. 3585/L.C./D-4 dt. 9.10.1937. For this transaction also Assam Government paid Rs. 99.00 plus Rs. 10.00 for the 4 trees standing on the site, and took possession of this land on 23.3.1938. Thus the total land acquired for Lady Keane Girls' School and College came to measure 8.051 acres. By a Trust Deed executed in November 1938, the Government

of Assam, granted to the Governing Body of the Institution, a perpetual lease, conferring on it the right of use and occupation of the land for ever.

The School was affiliated to the Calcutta University with the permission to present candidates in Matriculation Examination in 1937. The College affiliation up to I.A. standard came in 1938. B.A. classes were opened in 1936. In the school section, classes III, IV, V, and VI were opened in 1938, and in the same year the first batch of students numbering 3 appeared for the B.A. Examination of the Calcutta University. All of them passed