

## **Institutional Distinctiveness**

Baselius College was established in 1964 in the hallowed name of a great visionary, His Holiness Baselios Geevarghese II, who pioneered the dissemination of knowledge by founding several education institutions in the then under developed parts of Kerala. The college, founded to perpetuate the noble vision and mission of His Holiness, aims to inculcate a sense of discipline, social responsibility and community service in the youth. The college undertakes various activities on the campus in accordance with its objective to empower, enlighten and steer the students to become intellectually mature, morally upright, socially committed and spiritually inspired men and women. The rich diversity of the scholastic community reflects the heterogeneity of the geographical, cultural and socio-economic atmosphere maintained on the campus. The college has been discharging its social obligations ever since its inception. With the prime objective of reaching out to the society, the college hosts various events to instill in students a sense of social responsibility and community well-being.

The **diverse clubs and subject associations** operating under the aegis of IQAC have been formed for instilling a sense of commitment in students towards the society wherein they are trained to take

leadership roles with their active involvement in various issues. It has provided strong support to district administration in times of social distress like the flood or the pandemic and has undertaken **relief work** most effectively and has often served as relief camp involving student volunteers.

The college has an effective Blood Donor's Forum since 1990, now known as 'Red Ribbon Club' which takes initiatives for blood donation and organizes Blood Donation camps in association with Medical College, District Hospital and organisations like Rotary Club. In addition to the blood donation camps, routine health and medical camps are arranged on the campus and outside for the benefit of the public.

Village adoption is another social responsibility initiative by the institution. It aims at the development of the adopted village by cleaning, cultivating and by constructing library and toilet facilities. It involves surveys, awareness class to the residents, building houses for the poor by raising fund and doing physical labour. It was a moment of pride to observe our students shouldering the responsibility of building a house for a family in destitution, under the project title 'Snehaveedu', building the house in one and half cent

of land at Vadavathoor, Kottayam. The college has also played an active role in the reconstruction of many houses after the flood.

Conscientization through the observance of events and days of national and ethical significance has been another instance of its social responsibility. It has organised several awareness programmes on Autism and World Mental Health and a blind walk to bolster up the community. The college in association with 'NGOs and other orgainsations like Rotary Club, Navajeevan Trust, Mother Palliative Care has conducted camps and awareness sessions for patients, providing relief and reassurance for them. As part of the Vayomithram project initiated by the Department of Social Justice and Department of Social Welfare, Government of Kerala, the college takes initiatives to observe World Elders' Day. Students from various departments make it a habit visiting old age homes, orphanages and schools for the mentally challenged to share moments of their joy and celebration. Apart from providing financial support and material assistance, students spend the days with the inmates, perform cultural activities to entertain the inmates and also become part of the celebrations of the inmates, thereby providing a moral support to the inmates. All such initiatives usually come under the title of 'Santhwanam' which means solace. Pothichoru, Fast a Day, Feast a Friend etc. are initiatives for providing food for the needy

within and outside the campus. Food packets are distributed to the needy at various places including Medical College.

The college prioritizes to maintain a safe and green environment and envisages a better future for our planet by contributing in best possible ways for the same. Environment sensitization programmes are conducted in the college not only for the students, but also for general public, emphasizing on awareness as well as action in collaboration with agencies like District Suchitwa Mission, District Administration etc. Arogyapacha, one-month a management campaign was conducted under the aegis of NSS. Awareness programmes include seminars and exhibitions while the action phase called *Pachamashi* encouraged and distributed paper pens to students of the college and urged them to reduce the use of plastic pens. Punarjani and Art Splash were the green initiatives of the college conducted as sequels to impart awareness about plastic pollution.

The college undertakes initiatives to promote and provide **skill training and social awareness to school children**. Numerical Training, Namasthe English, Legal Awareness etc. are initiatives undertaken on a routine basis.

Extension activities lay emphasis on social responsibility and commitment. Awareness classes have been organised for Kudumbasree members, auto drivers and farmers on diverse subjects including organic farming and GST workshops for industrialists have also been arranged. Efforts have also been made to address issues like drug addiction prevalent among youngsters by way of awareness campaigns and activities.

The college has also been active promoter and participant of the government schemes like Swachch Bharath Abhiyaan, Open Defecation Free Initiative, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan etc.

Committed to creating **disciplined citizens** of tomorrow and to promote the feeling of democracy, the college, in association with the Election Commission, organized SVEEP campaigns, flash mobs, electoral awareness programmes, setting upof model polling booths and familiarization of EVM at the time of elections to Parliament, Legislative Assembly and Local Self Government. In collaboration with Kerala Police Department students were assigned the duty of a S.P.O. (Special Police Officer) in connection with the Panchayat election. The efforts of the college in discharging its social responsibility have been appreciated by the District Administration and the media.

Baselius college holds to its heart the well-being and prosperity of each of its students through upholding the importance of its motto 'Learn, Labour and Love' and its manifestation through social responsibility that sums up its distinctiveness in the society.





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