

# **BLDE UNIVERSITY**

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The State of Karnataka, where education and enlightenment have always been a culture, is among the front line states of the country known for providing quality education. It is no wonder that Karnataka has carved a niche in the educational map of India. Bijapur, the city of magnanimous history and historical monuments, has since long, been a great seat of learning. If Salotagi a small hamlet of the District, was the most renowned centre of knowledge a few centuries ago, the BLDE Association, founded in 1910, is the hope of the new generation of academic aspirants.

BLDE Association an educational institution par excellence forged out of the noble concerns of late Dr. P.G. Halakatti, late His Holiness Shri Banthanal Swamiji, the far sighted visionary, late Sri B.M. Patil and a galaxy of the most dedicated, duty minded board of directors, offers practically all kinds of courses under the sun.

The very fact that the B.M. Patil Medical College Hospital and Research Center, which is one of the very few institutions in India having 1000 bed hospital since its inception is just a little more than two decades old and has attained the status of deemed to be University echoes the melodies of quality medical education it is providing.

BLDE Association which is involved in providing education and inculcating knowledge from primary education to professional education. This great and mighty Association is celebrating its centenary year. The centenary celebration renews its committed goal towards enhancing quality education by adding new institutions and new education programmes in the existing institutions.

The BLDE Association propagating education in Bijapur and Bagalkot districts, which are recognized as socially, economically and educationally backward areas by then British Government and by present UGC, State Government and Central Government. Dr. P.G. Halakatti with other philanthropists of Bijapur founded a co-operative bank and this association with primary objective of propagation of education. Thus, Bijapur Lingayat Development Education Association (BLDEA) took birth on 23-10-1910. The Association made a humble beginning by accepting to run a High School handed over by a German Mission, who was returning to Germany because of World War-I. Thus, the journey towards imparting of education start.