



## STATE LEVEL SEMINAR

On

### HISTORICAL POLITICAL & ECONOMICAL CONTRIBUTION OF MAHARASHTRIAN REFORMERS IN INDIAN FREEDOM MOVEMENTS

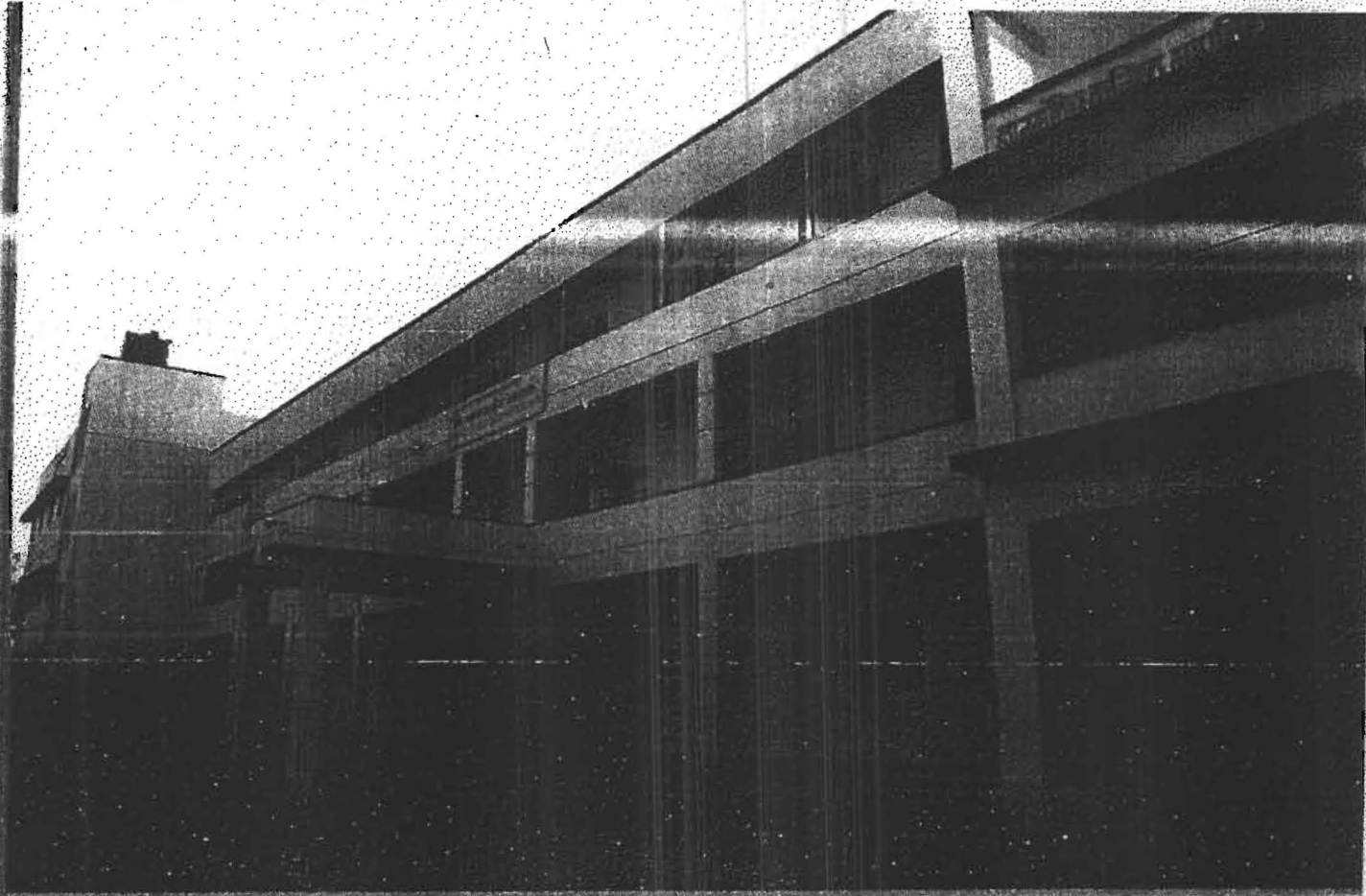
(Department of Social Sciences)  
on 17th & 18th JANUARY 2017

Organised by

Dnyaneshwar Gramannati Mandals'

Hon. Balasaheb Jadhav Arts, Commerce & Science College,  
Ale, Tal - Junnar, Dist-Pune 412411  
(NAAC Re-Accredited with "B" Grade)

Sponsored by  
BCUD, SAVITRIBAI PHULE PUNE UNIVERSITY, PUNE



### About Ale :

Ale - renowned village of Junnar Taluka. Ale is connected with Kalyan by 140km. Ahmednagar district place is connected to Ale only by 80 km. It's only 90 km away from Pune and 130km from Nashik. These district places are used as traveling link to Ale Village. It is holy place and pilgrim-village. Sant Dnyaneshwar's Reda Samadhi is in Ale. The birth place of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is in Junnar at Shivneri Fort. Two Ashtavinayak Ganesh Temples viz. Lonyadi and Ozar are just 20 km away from Ale. Beside this C.M.R.T. the largest telescope of world is located at 15 km from Ale. Now Ale village has become an important Educational Hub in Junnar Taluka because of Educational Institute Dnyaneshwar Grammat Mandai.

### About Institution :

"Tamo Ma Jyotirmay" is the motto of our Institute. It was established in 1959. The main objective of the Institute to spread the education among the society irrespective of caste, sex and religion. Institute started Dnyanmandir High School in 1959, Junior College in 1975 and in 1998 Senior Colleges was opened. Institute becomes one of the well-recognized pioneer educational institutions in Maharashtra by providing quality education in various streams such as arts, commerce, science and computer application at UG and PG level. Distance Education facility is also available recognized by YCMOU. Institute is committed to provide all types of education to students under one roof and always available for the guidance in various fields of education as well as to shape and change their life standard.

### About College :

Hon. Balesahab Jadhav Arts, Commerce & Science College, Ale was established in 1993. The college was reaccredited by NAAC with grade "B" in September 2012. Mission statement of our college is "Come In to Learn, Go out to Serve." Since our college students are from economically back word class and mainly girl students have the opportunity to get higher education in various streams such as arts, commerce, science and computer application as per his/her interest. Our college changes the total educational, social, economic and political picture of the eastern belt of Junnar Taluka. The College is providing quality education. It is committed to intellectual, moral, social and esthetical development of our college students. Its proud to mention that our passed students have progressed and created an image identity in various fields and have become successful in their life. Extracurricular activities such as NSS, NCC (for girls & boys) Sports etc. are in practice enthusiastically. Our College is well recognized for its discipline and the quality of education.

### संलग्न विद्यालय विभाग

- 1) ज्ञानमंदिर हायस्कूल, आले
- 2) ज्ञानमंदिर जूनियर महाविद्यालय, आले (बिस्को, बॉयस् अॅन्ड गिर्ल्स)
- 3) मा. बाळसाहेब ज्ञानमंदिर हायस्कूल व विद्यालय महाविद्यालय, आले
- 4) संपन्न व साहित्यिक विभाग (अ, ए बी, ए सी, ए डी, ए एच, ए एच बी)
- 5) ज्ञानमंदिर प्रमाणिक व महादल, घनशिव जी जी ए (बोर्डीची आधिकारिक संस्था)
- 6) एम. ए. एच. सी. पदव्युत्तर अभ्यासक्रम
- 7) व्यवसायिक प्रवेशन महादल मुक्त विद्यापीठ - नाशिक, अंतराष्ट्रीय अर्थशास्त्र
- 8) एम. पी. ए. पदव्युत्तर अभ्यासक्रम
- 9) बी. बी. एच. पदवी अभ्यासक्रम
- 10) पदव्युत्तर प्रवेशन, टॅक्नोलॉजी, मार्केटिंग विद्यालय
- 11) ज्ञानमंदिर प्रमाणिक व महादल, घनशिव जी जी ए (बोर्डीची आधिकारिक संस्था)
- 12) विद्यालय प्रवेशन केंद्र, आले
- 13) ज्ञानमंदिर खाजगी प्रवेशन केंद्र (सब्सिडी) प्रस्तावित.

MAHARSHI DHONDO KESHAV KARVE: WOMEN  
EDUCATION & STRUGGLE FOR *Independence*

Dr. Swarali Kulkarni

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Department of History, Pune.

**Independent.**

Bharatratna Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve was a great social reformer and pioneer of women's education. In the period, in which he started the work of women's education, that was the period of fight for independence and social reforms. But even in that period he continued his work of women's education, because he firmly believed that education is the only way to make women independent and change their status in the society.

After the death of his first wife, he had decided to marry a widow and married Godu Joshi from Sharada sadan.

He is recognized as a person who showed women a way towards independence through education. He started an Ashram in Pune on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1896 for destitute girls. Today it has become a famous Maharshi Karve Stree Shikshan Samstha.

The money needed to establish such an institution is generated by him from the rich as well as common people in the society. The transparent audit of that is still available for anyone who wishes to see it.

He also wanted to establish a special university for women on the basis of Japanese women's university. Accordingly he established the women's university on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1916. Dr. Vitthaldas Thakarsi donated large amount for this university, therefore it was named as "Shrimati Nathibai Damodar Thakarsi women's university", popularly known as SNTU University for women. In this university especially those subjects are taught that are useful to women in their day to day life e. g. Home science, Child psychology, Health science, Physiology etc.

On 18<sup>th</sup> April 1958 on the centenary birthday of Maharshi Karve, he was felicitated by Pandit Nehru for his contribution to women's education and other important work he has done.

On 19<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1958 President Dr. Rajendra Prasad conferred upon him the highest honor of Bharatratna. The work he has done in the field of women's education deserves such an honor.

He was an active social reformer, was an idealist and brought new trends in the field of education. Through education he made women self-reliant. This is the greatest contribution he has made to the society in general and to women in particular.



## Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve: Women Education & Struggle for Independent.

Bharatratna Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve was a great social reformer and pioneer of women's education. In the period, in which he started the work of women's education, that was the period of fight for independence and social reforms. But even in that period he continued his work of women's education, because he firmly believed that education is the only way to make women independent and change their status in the society. Therefore he has prominent position in history. (1)

He was born on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1858 in Murud (Konkan). He took his primary education in Murud itself. His teacher in the school Mr. Soman had a great impact on him (2). After his graduation from Elphinston College, Mumbai, he could have got a government job very easily, but he decided not to take up a government job and decided to enter in the field of education, particularly teaching. Actually British needed educated people to work for them. But Karve decided not to do it. In the beginning he taught Manakabai, a daughter of Dadabhai Nawaraji. He also taught Mathematics in Alexandra Girls School and Maratha school. In 1891 he joined Fergusson College Pune, as Mathematic's professor. He was socially conscious and his forward thinking friends and literature of western thinkers influenced his mind.

During this period after the death of his first wife, he had decided to marry a widow and married Godu Joshi from Sharada sadan, started by Pandita Ramabai, who was the first student of this institute for widows. Who later became famous as Anandibai or Baya Karve. He had to face social indignity because he married a widow. Society ostracized him (3).

They had face many difficulties during this time. But they did not turned away from their goal. He is recognized as a person who showed women a way towards independence through education. He started Mahila Ashram in Pune on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1896 for destitute girls with the support from R. C. Bhandarkar and other social reformers. Initially it was started as an educational institute for girls who had become widows in their childhood. Today it has become a famous Maharshi Karve Stree Shikshan Sanstha.

He was of the opinion that women should take education to become independent. They should become self-reliant and help their families. This inspiration from Maharshi Karve became a guiding principle for future women in India.

Women's education started with the student Kamalabai Garud. In 1897 there was a plague epidemic in Pune, so the school was shifted to Hingne near Pune (4). From this onwards the work of women's education really started. The money needed for such a work was generated by him from the rich as well as common people in the society. He also went to Europe (5) to get money. The transparent audit of that is still available for anyone who wishes to see it. (6)

He also wanted to establish a special university for women on the basis of Japanese women's university. Accordingly he established the women's university on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1916. (7). Ravindranath Tagor, N. C. Kelkar and Annie Bezzant supported

this move. Dr. Viuthaldas Thakarsi donated large amount for this university, therefore it was named as "Shrinati Nathibai Damodar Thakarsi women's university", popularly known as SNTU University for women. Pramila Thakar was the first Vice Chancellor of the university. In this university especially those subjects are taught that are useful to women in their day to day life e. g. Home science, Child psychology, Health science, Physiology etc.

Since 1936 this university is working independently of the original institute. Today there are several branches of this university in various parts of India and several thousand girls are studying in them. They are becoming independent and transforming the dream of Maharshi Karve into reality. The work Maharshi Karve did in the field of women's education is priceless.

He worked for this cause like a Rishi does penance in the forest. Therefore he was bestowed upon with an appropriate title "Maharshi". His place in the social and educational field is steadfast in the history of India.

On 18<sup>th</sup> April 1958 on the centenary birthday of Maharshi Karve, he was felicitated by Pandit Nehru for his contribution to women's education and other important work he has done. On 19<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1958 President Dr. Rajendra Prasad conferred upon him the highest honor of Bharatratna (8).

The work he has done in the field of women's education deserves such an honor. He was an active social reformer, was an idealist and brought new trends in the field of education. Through education he made women self-reliant. This is the greatest contribution he has made to the society in general and to women in particular.

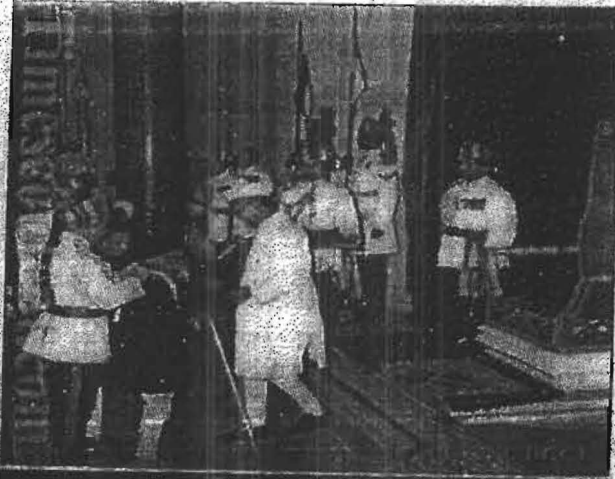
#### Conclusion :

Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve who started giving education to helpless women due to which many women became independent living their life with pride.

#### Reference :

- Samajkarya kosh, Dr. Nilima Tatke, page 193
- Maharshi Karve, Ganesh Chandavarkar, Page 15
- Majhe Puran, Anandibai Karve, page 55-56
- Autobiography of Dhondo Keshav Karve 1928-1958, Narayan Patwardhan, Page 429
- Diamond Samajik Dnyakosh, Part 2, Page 1147
- Autobiography of Dhondo Keshav Karve, 1858-1928, Page 237
- Autobiography of Dhondo Keshav Karve, 1928-1958, Narayan Patwardhan, Page 427
- See plate No. 1

Plate No.1



विश्वविख्यात शास्त्रज्ञ अल्बर्ट आइन्स्टाईन  
सांठ्यां समवेत महर्षी धोंडो केशव कर्वे.