

Development of School Education in District Shopian: A Case Study of Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom

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ABSTRACT

*Community institutions play an important role in the development of individuals and society at large. The present study has been undertaken on one such community institution popularly named as **Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom** located in the district Shopian of Jammu and Kashmir. The institute is the only science-cum-religious institute in the district Shopian, where modern education is being imparted along with moral & religious education. The present research work adopted the in-depth case study to explore the institute's present status, historical development and its relationship and contribution towards the community. Data was collected through observation, interview and by analyzing the official documents/records of the institution. The results revealed that **Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom** Institute Shopian, which was established in the year 2000 and is affiliated to Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. The institution has so far produced number of social workers who are working in various government and private sectors. Besides, the institution has the distinction of producing number of students as doctors, engineers, lawyers and even bureaucrats. Keeping in view the moral deterioration, the institution has remained quite responsive to the value addition and development of ethical standards among its students.*

Key words: Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom, Education, Development.

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INTRODUCTION

Education is a systematic process of acquisition of knowledge, experience, skill and good attitude which bring a positive change in human behavior. It makes an individual civilized, refined, cultured and educated. For a civilized and socialized society, education is the fundamental aim. Its goal is to make an individual perfect and fit for the society.

To live in the society man needs to follow some norm of the society and its education which inculcates those norms in man. Every society gives importance to education because it is a panacea for all evils. It is the key to solve the various problems of life. Education aims at the reformation and redirection of attitudes wrongly developed among the children like hatred, anger, pessimism, hypocrisy, jealousy, prejudice etc. These are to be reformed and it is education which reforms and modifies the child's mind. (Sayeed, M. 2013). Education is the foundation stone of a nation's intellectual power. It shapes the image of a nation in the community of world nations. The progress of a country depends upon the quality of it is education, and for this reason, teaching is the noblest among all professions. A sound education system plays a significant role in the development and progress of the nation. Walia, J. S. (2010). As man without education is just like an animal, man's physical resemblance is similar to an animal and it is Education which sublimates the animal instincts (fear, hunger, lust, greed) of a man towards the socially acceptable channels. Hiba A. (2008); "Education inculcates the moral values in a man and makes him the conscience being i.e., the one who can differentiate between legitimate

and illegitimate which is the unique attribute of humans". It is education, which transforms man from a mere 'two-legged animal' into perfect human being. Education to the man does not begin at school, it begins at birth. The concept of education is still in the process of evolution and this process will never come to an end.

Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom: Evolution and Establishment

Jamia is an "Arabic" word means "gathering" and "Siraj" is also an Arabic word means "Lamp", Uloom also an Arabic word means "Education", collectively it means the "Gathering under the Light of Education". In order to dispel the social, political, educational and religious oblivion of the valley, some philanthropists recognized the call of the hour and established an educational institute by the name of **Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom** at Immamsahib, Shopian. The foundation of **Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom** was laid in 1998 at Hillow, Immamsahib Shopian. Immamsahib is one of the tehsil of Shopian, which is located in between Shopian and Zainapora and is 10Kms away from the district Shopian. **The Jamia-Siraj-Ul-Uloom** was cherished by great ascetic **Hazrat-Al-Haj-Peer-Gul-Mohammad-Sofi (R.A)**. He has spent a large span of life in acquiring the land for establishing his dream university where the modern scientific knowledge could be provided along with moral and ethical Islamic education. Later **Peer Gul Mohammad** donated his life earned land spanning on 121 kanals to **Jamia-Siral-ul-Uloom** Educational society. **Peer Gul Mohammad** is laid to rest outside the institute and a shrine was established on his grave. The

institute is one of the popular the popular in Jammu & Kashmir and also in India. The institute is listed among the top rated institute in Jammu & Kashmir wherein students from various districts of Jammu & Kashmir has achieved their education and some are currently enrolled. The institute is autonomous recognized by JKBOSE and is affiliated with University of Kashmir. It serves both scientific and Islamic education besides Hindi and computer science is being taught. The institute consists of Grades from class 5th to Graduation. The institute enrolls boys only. English and Urdu is the medium of instruction. The institute is approachable by all the weather road despite the harsh winter. The institute has a private building. The establishment of **Jamia-Siraj-Ul-Uloom** is the response to the call of an hour to meet the challenges of the modern scientific era.

Need and Importance of the Study

The researcher tries to highlight the importance of community institutions for the development of education system. The researcher works to explore the interrelationship between the community institutions and the educational system. This study may help understand how the community is involved in the school system and does much to ensure that their children are getting a better education than they might otherwise be. The researcher attempts to highlight that community participation which helps in bringing different stakeholders together for problem-solving and decision making. Community participation is considered necessary to get community support for

educational planning and development.

Objectives of the Study

The following objectives have been formulated for the present study:

- 1) To Study the emergence and development of JAMIA SIRAJ UL ULOOM.
- 2) To Study the objectives of establishment and functions of JAMIA SIRAJ UL ULOOM.
- 3) To Study the present status of JAMIA SIRAJ UL ULOOM with special reference to:
 - *Availability of Physical and Digital Infrastructure*
 - *Enrollment of Students*
 - *Number of Teachers*
 - *Provision of Smart Class-room facilities*
 - *Provision of various labs*
 - *Provision of recreation and co-curricular activities operational in the institute*
 - *Provision of assistive aids for disabled students*
- 4) To examine the progression and employability of Alumni of JAMIA SIRAJ UL ULOOM.
- 5) To examine the role of JAMIA SIRAJ UL ULOOM IN Providing Quality Education in District Shopian.

Research Design and Instrumentation

The present study was accomplished through descriptive method of research. An attempt has been made to study the present status of the sample

institution. Besides, the contribution and evolution of the sample institution was examined through case study approach. Every important aspect of the institution was intensively examined. Both primary and secondary sources of data were collected to realize the objectives of the study. Interview schedule, information blanks, checklists, observation and other similar techniques were used to collect the primary data. The official documents and papers were also used as secondary sources of data. These official documents and papers were thoroughly verified in order to ascertain their genuineness and originality.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

In the present investigation, the data was analyzed and interpreted in the light of research objectives. The investigators intensively evaluated the sample institution in the light of following components:

A. History and development of the Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom Educational Institute:

Originally designated as Darasgah, it started with religious education. With time, it developed into the Educational Institute and started imparting modern education to the masses. In 1992, the founder of the institute **Peer Gul-Mohammad Sofi (R.A)** founded a trust by the name of ‘Siraj-ul-Uloom Educational Society’ under the registration no “**3706-S-2001**” in collaboration with some Islamic thinkers and scholars. This trust then becomes the base for the establishment of Jamia Siraj-Uloom educational institute in 1994 at the village of ‘**NAGISHARAN**’, It was then shifted to ‘**NOWPORA**

BASKUCHHAN SHOPIAN' On 25th June 1998, the foundation was laid at Immamsahib, and from March 2000, the institute restarted its function with religious preaching. From October 2002, the institute started its academic classes by providing admissions in the class 6th till March 2012 and the class work remained only up-to 10th standard. By March 2012 the Aalmiyat classes started. Institute is headed by the **Farooq Ahmad Bhat**, who is the principal of the institute.

B. Objectives of Establishment and daily functions

Objectives are the end products that are framed keeping in view the individual and social need and aspirations. Without an objective all the efforts are futile. Objective brings direction to the process.

The Aims and Objectives of establishment set by the institute are as:

- 1) To create a class of people who are ready to serve the people, community and would be devoid of any social, communal and racial prejudice.
- 2) To design such an educational framework that will break the barriers between religious and scientific knowledge (education). Thus making knowledge a single unit.
- 3) To design educational framework on the basis of professional and technical grounds which wouldn't defame the fundamentals of the institute.

- 4) To put forth such an educational material for the service of humanity that would meet the modern trends-techniques and demands of humanity.
- 5) To inculcate the moral, aesthetic and etiquette manners of life.
- 6) To create a class of people have the authentic and refined knowledge of Quran and sunnah.
- 7) To create the social-political-economic scientists of the individuals along with the sense of morality.

C. Working and Functions of Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom

Functions are the daily routines performed by the institute under the set of rules and regulations. Throughout the day various curricular and co-curricular activities are being performed by the students under the supervision of teachers and guides. The institute functions for the development of individuality and for the welfare of society.

- 1) 1 hour before sunrise students get up for prayer.
- 2) After prayer the students get involved on physical exercise in presence of a physical teacher for about 1 hour and do their breakfast.
- 3) Now the students make preparation for morning assembly and report the assembly at 9A.M.
- 4) In the morning assembly from 9 A.M to 10 A.M students pray jointly, their health related care is looked and necessary instructions for developing good habits.

- 5) From 10 A.M to 4 P.M classroom activities with Recess break for lunch and prayer from 1 P.M to 2 P.M.
- 6) Sports activities and recreation from 4 P.M up-to 1 hour.
- 7) 1 hour before sunset boarding students are engaged in home task completion.
- 8) After sunset students as well as warden offer Magrib prayer.
- 9) After prayer lower classes from 5th to 8th sit jointly in a hall and study in supervision of their warden. The higher class students sit in their respective residential rooms and remain busy their books and the warden of the hostel keeps their watch for 1 and half hour.
- 10) The students then go for Isha prayer and dinner.
- 11) After dinner lower class students are allowed to sleep and the higher class students are allowed to go to library or study in their rooms for 1 hour and are then directed to sleep.
- 12) 1 hour before sunrise students get up for Morning Prayer.
- 13) After prayer the students get involved on physical exercise in presence of a physical teacher for about 1 hour and do their breakfast.
- 14) Now the students make preparation for morning assembly and report the assembly at 9 am.
- 15) Besides this Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom is organizing weekly programs like “An-Nadi” to bring out the

innate ability and creativity of students under the supervision of teachers.

NOTE: all the above mentioned activities are followed in the normal days.

D. Present Status of Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom

Keeping in view the above mentioned objective the investigator collected the data form the primary sources to describe the present status of the Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom with regarding to enrollment of teachers and students, curricular and co-curricular activities, infrastructure, smart-classes, laboratory and library, sports and facilities for disabled students.

Enrollment of Students in different classes since 2000:

CLASS	YEAR	NO. OF STUDENTS
5 TH (HEFIZ)	2000-2020	1276
6 TH -8 TH	2002-2020	1426
9 TH -10 TH	2005-2020	900
11 TH -12 TH	2013-2020	303
COLLEGE	2016-2020	69
TOTAL		3974
PRESENT ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS		602
NO OF STUDENTS COMPLETED EDUCATION		3372

Staff strength: The institute has total of 80 staff members in which 15 are teaching members and rest are the non-teaching staff members. All of the staff members are male.

Library: Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom has a rich library named 'Ahrar-Library'. The library is having 50,000 books on different subjects. An adequate amount of books, magazines and journals are available for students and teachers with proper catalog facilities. Also, newspaper reading is much stressed upon.

Laboratory: Separate and well-advanced, the institute maintains two well equipped laboratories for each - physics, chemistry and biology departments. Sufficient and necessary equipment are available in the institution's science laboratory to augment the diverse thinking and impart practical knowledge.

Computer lab: Information technology is a significant component of modern education. Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom is well equipped with a modern computer lab with a capacity of 100 students at a time. It consists of many good functioning computers and well-trained teachers who impart computer education among students. It is designed to cater the technical requirements of the staff and students.

Administrative and Academic buildings: Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom has seven attractive buildings where the institution's administration and academics take place. These buildings have almost thirty-four classrooms, the Principal's Office and Staffroom, besides the library and laboratories. Two building are functioning for academic purpose.

Sports: Besides formal and curricular instruction, a big playground for sports activities and physical education is available in the institution where students of this institution play games such as cricket, volleyball, football

Transport facility: Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom doesn't provide any

transport facility to its students and staff members are using their private transport.

Smart class: The Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom has established one smart class facility.

Health Supervision: The Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom has a first aid facility, in case of any emergency patients are referred to nearest hospital. Institute has its own ambulance and is planning to setup a medical unit in near future.

Drinking water facility: The institution has a Tap water facility available inside the premises. And separately pure drinking water to maintain good health among students.

E. Progression and Employability of Alumni of JAMIA SIRAJ UL ULOOM

The aim of every educational setup is to create the people of advanced class. Who can think and act differently, have the distinguished attitude from the common people, who can make changes in the socio-cultural patterns to uplift their society and the nation. Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom known for its religious-cum-scientific educational institute have produced a number of social worker and scholars who are serving humanity in the various realms.

S.No	Name of Student	Parentage	Residence	Proffession
1	Tariq Ah Baht	Gh. Hassan Reshi	Sugoo	Doctor
2	Ab Bari Bhat	Wali Mohd Bhat	Barbugh	Social Welfare Officer
3	Masood Bilal Dar	Ab Gani Dar	Malangpora	Doctor
4	Juniad Ali	Ali Mohammad	Midoora Tral	Doctor
5	Juniad Yousuf Malik	Mohd Yousuf Malik	Badimarg	Doctor
6	Farooq Ah Bhat	Gh Hassan Bhat	Woyen Pampore	Engineer
7	Qasim Bashir Bhat	Bashir Ahmad Bhat	Woyen Pampore	Engineer
8	Aamir Hussian Check	Mubarak Ah Check	Nowgam Shopian	Civil Engineer
9	Nazrullah Hamid	Ab Hamid Bhat	Tachloo	Civil Engineer
10	Ishfaq Ahmad Bhat	Gul Mohd Bhat	Tachloo	Mechanical Engineer
11	Tawseef Ah Bhat	Gh Mohi Ud Din	Qail	Computer Engineer
12	Mushtaq Ah Dar	Gh Hassan Dar	Sangam	Chemical Engiineer
13	Dawood Ah itoo	Reyaz Ah Itoo	Palhalan	Doctor
14	Irfan ul Hassan	Gh Hassan Bhat	Sugoo	Horticulture
15	Zahid Ashraf Challa	Mohd Ashraf Challa	D.K Pora	Doctor
16	Sahil Manzoor	Manzoor Ahmad	Mohanpora shopian	Doctor
17	Masiullah Malik	Mohammad Ayoub Malik	Palpora Shopian	Doctor
18	Nasir Ahmad Najar	Mohd Yousuf Najar	Abhama	Doctor
19	Umar Mukhtar	Mukhtar Ah bhat	Charsoo	Lab Technecian
20	Shaheen Nazir	Nazir Ahmad	Partapora	Engineer
21	Farzan Majeed	Ab Majeed Dar	Ganderbal	Lab Technecian
22	Zahid Majeed	Ab Majeed Lone	Aahgama Shopain	Sports
23	Amir Amin Shah	Mohd Amin Shah	Baskuchan	Sheep & Animal Husbandry
24	Aamir Suhail	Abdul Qayoom Dar	Wopzan	Vipro Mumbai

25	Mohd Nafi Bhat	Mohd Ashraf Baht	Soura Srinagar	M.phill Physical Education(Gold Medalist in skin and cycling)
26	Waseem Ah Malik	Mohammad Ayoub Malik	Palpora Shopian	PHd in Bio-chemistry(AMU)
27	Tahir Bashir	Bashir Ahmad	Ganderbal	Advocate
28	Umar Ashraf Bhat	Mohd Ashraf Bhat	Warnoo (Iolab)	Doctor
29	Mohd Asif		Naina Sangam	Gold Medalist Karate
30	Zubair Qayoom Dar	Abdul Qayoom	Pattan	Doctor
31	Tajalla Fayaz	Fayaz Ahmad	Udoora	M.sc Physics
32	Umair Bashir	Bashir Ah Najar	D.H Pora Kukgam	Engineer
33	Shahid Amin Malik	Mohd Amin Malik	Nagam Kulgam	International Relations/Sotware Designing Seneca.
34	Zaid Javaid	Javeed Ah Dar	Anantnag	Lab Technician
35	Waseem Ah Itoo	Gh Ahmad Itoo	Yadipora Pattan	BVSC Doctor
36	Shahid Qadoos	Ab Qadoos Mir	Watoo	Engineer
37	Umar Yaseen	Mohd Yaseen Sheikh	Yamrach	Food Department
38	Malik Mehraj	Mohd Yousuf Malik	Badimarg	B.sc Agriculture
39	Zahid Iqbal	Mohd Iqbal Ganie	Chansar Kulgam	B.sc OT
40	Waseem Sheeraz	Sheeraz Ah Itoo	Sehpora	BUMS

Source: *jamia Siraj ul Uloom documentation.*

F. Role of Jamia Siraj Ul Uloom in providing Quality Education in District Shopian

District Shopian is one of least developed district in Jammu and Kashmir. Along with other developments the district lacks the educational facilities. As discussed already above it have very few educational institutions. Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom was the call of the hour to counter the growing social, political, religious and economic

issues. This single religious cum scientific institute in the district strived from the two decades to create the class of moral educationists who can serve the society patiently, this was done by linking modern knowledge with the religious knowledge. This parallel education protects individuals from conservatism and hypocrisy.

After analyzing the data collected through primary sources it is clear that the institute has played a positive role in the development of education in the district Shopian. The Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom provides all the modern pedagogical resources to achieve better efficiency. The institute makes use of latest teaching learning techniques for the qualitative improvement of students. The institute makes use of the rational methods to disseminate knowledge for that laboratory and other techniques are available in the institute. The Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom has produced number of alumni who are employed in various Government posts. The institute has also produced Hafiz-e-Quran and Islamic scholars through its Aalimiyat and Fazeelat course. The quality comes by adhering to the rule. The students in the institute are educated under the strict rules and regulations that makes them qualitative socially, morally, physically, intellectually.

CONCLUSION

The present research work is being completed in the light of the preset objectives to trace the origin of formal education institution and its growth in different phases, to classify the institution based on management, working and courses offered, to analyze the population served by it. The study also analyses the present pattern of physical

facilities, their impact on education, and the educational structure of the institute. Finally, an attempt has been made to examine the existing network and project a more rational future pattern.

Since from its inception, it has persistently attained its objective of spreading the light of knowledge and wisdom in diverse strata of academics. One can obtain the ideal picture of a classic progressive educational set-up from Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom Institute. Whether it is a matter of establishment, quality, excellence, results, or achievements, Jamia-Siraj-ul-Uloom Institute has it all. There is scope to gain a lot by doing a research studies on such institutes.

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