

ANNUAL REPORT

2019 - 2020



HOLY CROSS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

(Affiliated to M.S. University, Tirunelveli)

Accredited with A+ Grade (CGPA 3.35 - 4th Cycle) by NAAC

Nagercoil - 629 004, Tamil Nadu, India

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), NAGERCOIL

Holy Cross College, the first women's college in Kanyakumari district, was inaugurated on 2nd August 1965 at the request of Most Rev. Dr. Agni Samy, the then Bishop of Kottar, to provide higher education for young women in the region. Over the years, the commitment, dedication, and teamwork of the "Crossian family" have propelled the institution to new heights. This was exemplified when the college was accredited with a CGPA of 3.35 at an A+ grade during its 4th cycle of NAAC accreditation on 1st and 2nd August, 2019.

The college offers a comprehensive range of academic programs under its autonomous status, including 12 undergraduate (UG), 10 postgraduate (PG), 4 M.Phil., and 9 doctoral programs. Beyond core and elective courses in their respective disciplines, UG departments provide non-major elective courses for students of other disciplines. The curriculum also includes Ability Enhancement Courses like Environmental Studies and English Communication, Skill Enhancement Courses such as Meditation and Exercise, and Computer Literacy. Additionally, Foundation Courses in Human Rights, Women's Studies, and Value Education are offered to further enhance the holistic development of students.

The 2019-2020 academic year began on 17th June for UG and II PG students and on 1st July for IPG and M.Phil. students, with a total enrollment of 2,509 students. The teaching staff consists of 152 dedicated faculty members, supported by 59 non-teaching staff. Throughout the year, eight faculty members completed Orientation programs, while others have been actively engaged in academic service,

including 10 as members of the Board of Studies in various universities and colleges, 7 as subject experts, 22 as resource persons, and 30 as members of doctoral committees.

Holy Cross College also focuses on skill development through Holy Cross Academy, offering courses in Tailoring, Hand Embroidery, Aari Work, Jewelry Making, Painting, Web Design, Western Music, Spoken Hindi, Catering, Doll Making, Tally, Beauty and Hair Styling, and Basic Beauty and Hair Dressing. Moreover, the extension activity “Reaching the Unreached Neighbourhood” (RUN), initiated in 2008, serves as a Service-Learning Program integrated into the UG curriculum.

To promote entrepreneurship, the college organizes value-added courses in collaboration with other institutions. Summer training programs have benefited 137 students, while 322 students have visited industries relevant to their fields. Sixteen students have also undergone in-plant training to enhance their practical skills.

Research is a key focus at the college, with 45 faculty members guiding 108 research scholars. Ten faculty members and seven scholars were awarded Ph.Ds., while 13 faculty and nine scholars submitted their theses. Additionally, 27 faculty members are actively pursuing doctoral research. The scholarly output has been impressive, with 56 research articles published in international journals, 41 in national journals, 22 in books with ISBN, 35 in proceedings, and 38 as abstracts. Faculty participation in academic forums has been notable, with representation at 38 state-level, 100 national, and 24 international seminars. Six faculty members have received national and state-level awards for their contributions.

To enrich students' educational experience, nine endowment lectures and 11 departmental seminars were organized. Research presentations were made by 86 scholars and 144 students, with 10 scholars and 15 students receiving Best Paper/Poster awards. Two research scholars from the Zoology department presented their work at a research organization in Thailand on 11th and 12th November, 2019.

In terms of competitive exams, five students cleared the National Eligibility Test (NET), two passed the Bank Examination, and three cleared the TNPSC Group IV examination. The Employment Information and Career Guidance Cell organized three placement drives, resulting in the recruitment of 17 students.

The college's Entrepreneurship Development Cell has been instrumental in promoting organic farming and training students to set up kitchen and terrace gardens. Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), a national program initiated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Holy Cross College adopted five villages in the district and conducted household surveys to contribute to sustainable rural development.

The Institution Innovation Council has actively trained students in various entrepreneurial skills, including solid waste management, soap and washing powder preparation, mushroom culture, ornamental fish culture, vermicomposting, sericulture, and apiculture. The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) plays a pivotal role in maintaining the academic quality of the institution. Together with the Examination Cell, the IQAC organized workshops on Outcome-Based Education

and curriculum revision aimed at sustainable and societal development on August 13th and November 25th and 26th respectively.

Holy Cross College has received several accolades, including the “Best Rotaract Club” award of the year 2018-2019 from the Rotary Club of Nagercoil and the Shakespeare Award for performance in the Talent Examination from the Shakespeare Institute in Chennai. The college also received the Best College Award from Arise and Shine Social Service Foundation, Thirithuvapuram.

The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit organized multiple events, including meetings on International Yoga Day and World Addiction Day, along with initiatives like Swachh Bharat and Rashtriya Poshan Maha-2019. A solid waste management training session was conducted for the local community, and a district-level Declamation Contest was held in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra. Additionally, NSS, YRC, and RRC jointly organized a blood donation camp on 12th December 2019, in which 33 members of the institution participated.

The Research Committee of the college continues to publish the biannual multidisciplinary journal, *Crossian Resonance*. In terms of academic competitions, the Quiz Club organized the interschool and intercollegiate competition “CROSSINGS 2019” in collaboration with SIOL Quiz Club, Pondicherry. Students have also excelled in academic and cultural competitions, winning 21 prizes and participating in 15 intercollegiate quiz competitions, where they secured 15 prizes.

In sports, Holy Cross College has made its mark in intercollegiate tournaments. The college secured overall championships in weightlifting and emerged winners in ball badminton, football, and basketball. Individual students have

achieved remarkable success, such as Ms. R. Arockia Alish from I B.A. Economics, who won 2nd place in the Junior Commonwealth Weightlifting Competition (76 kgs category) held in Samoa, Australia. Several other students have also garnered awards in weightlifting, archery, athletics, and yoga. from 9th - 14th July, 2019. Ms. F. T. Fratha, II B.A. English won first place in 9th State Level Open Archery Championship held at Kanyakumari. Ms. K. Priyadharshini, Ms. P. Akila and Ms. T. Dhanija of I B.A. Economics won the 1st place in 55 kg category, 2nd place in 49 kgs category and 2nd place in 64 kgs category respectively in 24th Junior Tamilnadu State Weightlifting Championship held at Kovilpatt.

Ms. Gracena G. Merly, II B.A. English won the 1st place in Athletic championship meet held at Chennai, Triuvannamalai, Erode and Trichy respectively. She is selected for MIMS, by Sport Authority Development of Tamilnadu for an award of rupees ten lakhs per year, as scholarship for a period of 2 years training. Ms. A. Arthi of II B.A. English Literature won the 2nd place in District level Yoga Competition both in Artistic Single and Yogasana held at Anna Stadium, Nagercoil. Our College Football team won the 1st place at the District Level Football Tournament held at Anna Stadium, Nagercoil.

The college actively promotes the spiritual development of students through the Campus Animation Team, which organizes value education classes and various spiritual activities throughout the year, including Eucharistic celebrations and renewal programs. Legal literacy and gender sensitization initiatives were undertaken through the Women's Cell, which also organized a rally on World Mother's Day and a National Conference on Human Rights.

Environmental awareness is a key focus, with the Centre for Environmental Education leading efforts to promote a plastic-free environment, tree planting initiatives, and e-waste management. Awareness campaigns on global warming and water conservation were organized, including a signature campaign on “Save Water.”

Library resources include 49,343 books, 53 journals, 7,064 back volumes, and 374 new books added this year. The college librarian was honoured with the Best Librarian award by the Kanyakumari District Librarians Federation. Library day was celebrated on August 5th August, 2019 to promote the culture of reading, reflection assimilation, understanding and expression.

Support for economically disadvantaged students remains a priority. The “H. Share” initiative helps local communities, while the Student Welfare Fund, contributed by staff, assists 70 students in paying tuition and examination fees. Additionally, 1,088 students benefit from various scholarships.

The English daily *Hindu* is provided to all the classes. Remedial classes and training on spoken English are conducted during the hour of blossoming by all the course teachers. There are 306 computers connected to the broadband. To enhance the online utilization of e-resources, we have installed Wi-Fi facility in the campus. The college’s infrastructure supports educational excellence with 306 computers connected to broadband and campus-wide Wi-Fi for enhanced access to online resources. Counselling is given to students in need. 39 of our staff have undergone training in counselling. The college hostel, home to 200 students, continues to provide a nurturing environment under the guidance of dedicated wardens.

Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) meetings and Alumnae gatherings were regularly held throughout the year, fostering community engagement. The college received Rs. 16 lakhs under the autonomy grant for 2019 - 2020 and an additional Rs. 4 lakhs as the balance grant for 2018 - 2019.

CHILDLINE nodal organization jointly with the Centre of Kottar Social Service Society, Nagercoil has created awareness on child helpline 1098, POCSO Act 2012 and Child Marriage focusing on religious leaders, school teachers, Mukkeya Sevakkar and Grama Sevakkar, District Social Welfare Board, police force, media personnel, college students, tourists, Rural Mission Managers from Mahalir Tittam and the public through meetings, awareness programmes, rally and sticker campaigns. In collaboration with the District Administration, they have organized the International Missing Children's Day, International Child Helpline Day, World Day against Child Labour, International Girl Child Day and National Children's Day.

Holy Cross College is committed to academic progress, intellectual growth, and the promotion of human and spiritual values. The institution remains a beacon of higher education for women, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and character needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world. With a firm commitment to holistic development, Holy Cross College continues to inspire and prepare women to make meaningful contributions to society, ensuring they are well-prepared to navigate and thrive in the challenges of the future.