

LOYOLA COLLEGE

1.BRIEF HISTORY



## FOUNDATION

Loyola College, Chennai, established and owned by the Loyola College Society, is registered under the Society Registration Act of 1860 No. S.228/1973 and has its office in Chennai.

It was founded by Rev. Fr. Francis Bertram and a band of dedicated Jesuits who came over to Chennai at the invitation of the Most Rev. Dr. J. Aelen, Archbishop of Chennai to open a Catholic College for young men in the State Capital. The foundation stone was laid on 10th March 1924 and the college started functioning in July of the following year (1925) with 75 students on the rolls in the undergraduate courses of Mathematics, History and Economics.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The primary aim of Loyola College is to provide University education in a Christian atmosphere to deserving students, especially those belonging to the Catholic Christian Community. Although this college is meant primarily for Catholics, it does admit other students irrespective of caste and creed.

The college aims at the training of young men and women of quality to be leaders in all walks of life and to serve their fellowmen in justice, truth and love. It is expected that this training will play a vital role in bringing about the desired change for the betterment of the people of our country, more particularly the poorer and marginalized sections of society and Dalits. Further it will foster an atmosphere of intellectual vigour and moral rectitude in which the young men and women of our country may find their fulfillment and achieve greatness as eminent men and women for others.

## AUTONOMY

Loyola became an autonomous college in 1978. However, it continues to be an affiliated college of the University of Madras and is autonomous in the sense that it is free to frame its own courses of studies and to adopt innovative methods of teaching and evaluation. The degrees are conferred by the University on the students passing the examinations held by the college and the name of the college will be indicated in the degrees by the University of Madras.

## THE COAT OF ARMS

The coat of arms of the college consists of a shield divided into four quarters with a torch and an open book motif. The crest is the monogram and seal of the Society of Jesus: IHS, being the first three letters in Greek of the name, JESUS. The open book and the burning torch stand for the education imparted in this college, which challenges the students to live up to the college motto : LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE (Matthew:5.16) by their learning and good example so that they may become beacon-lights of hope and liberation to others.

## THE NAME LOYOLA

The name Loyola comes from the ancestral castle that was the family home where Saint Ignatius was born in 1491, the last of a large Basque family of Spain. Pursuing a worldly career in the service of the king, he was wounded in the defence of Pamplona and was taken as prisoner. While convalescing, he was converted and turned from the service of an earthly ruler to that of his divine Master, **Jesus Christ**. He took a life of prayer, penance and serious study and recorded his experience in the

book "The Spiritual Exercises", which became the source of inspiration for all his followers. He gathered around him like-minded and motivated university men like St. Francis Xavier, who came to India to establish the Society of Jesus in 1540.

#### THE JESUITS

The members of the Society of Jesus are popularly known as Jesuits. The Society of Jesus is a world-wide organization of religious men, numbering about 19,673 spread all over the world, of whom nearly 4,000 are working in the 18 provinces of India. In Tamil Nadu alone there are 480 Jesuits working in schools and colleges, youth services and social work centres, in parishes and in mission outreach programmes, and in almost every form of service and ministry of the Church.

#### JESUIT EDUCATION - NEW ORIENTATIONS

Jesuit Education in the Madurai Province (Tamil Nadu) today draws its inspiration from the two epoch making statements: Vision Statement and Preamble to Jesuit Higher Education that originated in the Madurai Province Meet of 1985.

#### Excerpts From the vision Statement

*The political freedom of our country achieved in 1947 has failed to break the bondage of our people over the years... Today about 60% of our people have been made poor and kept illiterate. They are deprived of the basic necessities of life and education, of human dignity and the power to decide their own future. There is a degrading inequality caused primarily by caste discrimination*  
.....

*We understand that the contemporary equivalent of the mission of salvation is the integral liberation of man...which is crystallised for us today in an ardent desire to work TOWARDS LIBERATION - TOGETHER WITH THE POOR.*

*The preferential option for the poor means that we cast our lot with them through concerted social action. Our love is, indeed for all human beings, but assumes different forms. We love the oppressed by espousing their cause and we love the oppressor by emancipating him from his greed and domination which dehumanize him.*

#### EXCERPTS FROM THE PREAMBLE TO HIGHER EDUCATION

*Our educational institutions will shape our students into agents of social change, preparing them for concerted social action and thus paving the way to mass movements which will bring about the desired liberation. They will, in their admission policies actualize our preferential option for the poor, by "giving a privileged place to the weak" who are poor, economically and academically and form them "as men for others, stamped with the Ignatian hallmark of excellence and relevance"; they will challenge the existing educational system into reorienting itself in order to respond to the crying needs of today's society. They will also promote research in those branches of arts, sciences and relevant pedagogy which would help build a just social order.*

*Aware as we are of the great structural constraints we work under, we have real apprehensions as to how effective our educational institutions could be in bringing about the desired social change through social action. Yet, responding to the greater call to be pioneers and prophets, we engage ourselves in the momentous task of liberation with a readiness to pay the price the kingdom demands.*

### SUCCESSION-LIST OF RECTORS AND PRINCIPALS

	Rector	Principal
❖ Fr. C. Foreau, S.J.	1925-26	
❖ Fr. Bertram, S.J.	1926-35	1925-35
❖ Fr. E. Charoin, S.J.	1935-37	
❖ Fr. L. Vion, S.J.		1935-38
❖ Fr. L.D. Murphy, S.J.	1937-42	1938-42
❖ Fr. Jerome D'Souza, S.J.	1942-50	1942-50
❖ Fr. Gordon, S.J.	1950-53	1950-53
❖ Fr. J. Kalathil, S.J.	1953-59	
❖ Fr. T. Mathias, S.J.		1953-54
❖ Fr. S. Arulsamy, S.J.		1954-58
❖ Fr. L. Sundaram, S.J.		1958-61
❖ Fr. Yedanapalli, S.J.	1959-62	
❖ Fr. T.N. Siqueira, S.J.		1961-64
❖ Fr. A.M. Varaprasadam, S.J.	1962-64	
❖ Fr. G. Francis, S.J.		1964-70
❖ Fr. A. Devasia, S.J.	1964-70	
❖ Fr. J. Kuriakose, S.J.		1970-83
❖ Fr. C.K. Swamy, S.J.	1970-73	
❖ Fr. A. Machado, S.J.	1973-74	
❖ Fr. Leo Correya, S.J.	1974-80	1986-90
❖ Fr. N. Casimir Raj, S.J.	1980-83	1983-86
❖ Fr. A.J. Thamburaj, S.J.	1983-89	1995-97
❖ Fr. James Rodrigues, S.J.	1989-95	
❖ Fr. J. Inchakal, S.J.		1990-92
❖ Fr. S. Xavier Alphone, S.J.		1992-95
❖ Fr. John Lourdu, S.J.	1995-98	
❖ Fr. S. Ignacimuthu S.J.		1997-00
❖ Fr. L.X. Jerome, S.J.	1998-01	
❖ Fr. V. Joseph Xavier, S.J.		2000-04
❖ Fr. Boniface Jeyaraj, S.J.	2001-07	
❖ Fr. A. Albert Muthumalai, S.J.		2004
❖ Fr. Amal Kulandaisamy, S.J.	2007	

❖ Deceased

### CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1912	Request of Archbishop Aelen to open a College in Madras in February.
1924	Foundation stone laid by His Excellency Willington, Governor of Madras on 10 <sup>th</sup> March.
1925	Beginning of the College with 75 students enrolled in the first year B.A. in English, Economics, History and Mathematics. 3 blocks of hostel were constructed. Inauguration of the College by Sir A.P. Patro, Minister of Education.
1926	Establishment of Departments of Physics and Chemistry. Number of students increased to 300.
1927	Commencement of the First year Honours in Mathematics and Economics. Enrollement of students went up to 503. Closure of B.A. History.
1929	Eleven hostel blocks came into existence.
1930	Construction of the College Church.
1932	Blessing of the College Church by Most Rev.E.Mederlet, D.D.,S.C., Archbishop.
1933	Annexes were built for the Physics Department.
1937	Introduction of Oriental Languages (Hindi, Telugu, Sanskrit).
1942	The strength of the College increased to 1387. Introduction of Hindi, French in Part III of the B.A. Re-introduction of Latin, Botany and Zoology in the B.Sc., B.Com.(Honours) & B.Sc.(Honours) in Chemistry. A storey was added to the Jesuit Residence. Two hostel blocks each of 3 storeys completed. Construction of the Chemistry Block.

1945 Establishment of B.Com.

1948 Establishment of Department of Natural Sciences.

1949 Establishment of Department of Botany. Department of Publication of the First Research Paper in Zoology division of Department of Natural Sciences. Starting of B.A. French.

1950 Commencement of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations on 27th October.

1950 Inauguration of the Bertram Hall.

1951 The student body numbered 1800.

1952 Two Hostel Blocks, new mess-rooms, a store cum dispensary and a temporary indoor games building were put up. Construction of 40 houses in two quarters at the corners of the College for the non-teaching staff.

1954 Establishment of the Institute of Social Science offering Diploma in Social Work. Cardinal Gracias presided over College Day.

1956 Introduction of PUC after an initial hesitancy. Celebration of the 400th anniversary of the death of St. Ignatius. Addition of a Block of 15 rooms to the Jesuit Residence. Construction of the Teaching Staff quarters. Shedding of Intermediate in Arts & Sciences.

1957 Establishment of B.Sc. Zoology. Revival of B.A. History.

1958 Starting of new two year PG courses.

1959 Establishment of B.Sc. Statistics. Visit of Cardinal Agagianian accompanied by Archbishop Knox.

1963 Introduction of M.A. Social Work. Establishment of Entomology Research Institute.

1967 Visit of Rev. Fr. Pedro Arrupe, Superior General of the Society of Jesus on 20th June.

1968 Introduction of German Language.

1969 Introduction of B.A. Tamil.

1970 Opening of Sauliere Hall for Hostelites on 31st July.

1971 Starting of Loyola College (Evening). The Strength of the College stood 2500. A floor was added to the Day Scholar's Centre.

1972 Appointment of a full time Counsellor.

1973 Establishment of Ignatian Institute for Career Development.

1975 Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

1978 The granting of Autonomy to the College.

1979 Establishment of Loyola Institute of Business Administration (LIBA)

1980 Visit of Rev. Fr. Pedro Arrupe, Superior General of the Society of Jesus.

1981 Establishment of M.Phil. Economics. Introduction of Dept. of Foreign Languages (French & German).

1982 Starting of M.Sc. Statistics.

1983 Establishment of Loyola Institute of Visual Communication and B.A. Sociology.

1984 Introduction of M.Phil. in Chemistry and Mathematics.

1985 Establishment of M.Sc. Physics and M.Sc. Zoology.

1986 Celebration of the Diamond Jubilee on 9th October.

1987 Establishment of M.Phil. Commerce & Statistics. Upgradation of Dept. of English as a PG Dept.

1988 Establishment of M.Phil. Zoology. Most Rev. G. Casimir, S.J., D.D., blessed Jerome D'souza Administrative Block.

1989 Starting of B.Sc. Visual Communication. Establishment of Ph.D. in Statistics, M.Phil. in Physics, Economics & Social Work.

1990 Construction of the New Physics Dept. building and Computer Centre.

1991 Establishment of the New Racine Research Centre in Mathematics.

1992 Inauguration of the New Physics Block. Establishment of Ph.D. in Physics. Launching of Loyola Extension & Awareness Programme for PG students (LEAP).

1993 Starting of M.A. Applied History and B.Sc. Computer Science.

1995 Establishment of Loyola Institute of Frontier Energy (LIFE). Hosting of the First National Jesuit Alumni Congress.

1996 Inauguration of the New LIBA building in September. Visit of Cardinal Lourdusamy. Commerce became research department.

1997 Celebration of the birth Centenary of Fr. Jerome D'Souza, S.J.

1998 Establishment of Loyola Institute for Industrial and Social Science Research. Introduction of M.A. Philosophy. Re-introduction of B.A. French. Silver Jubilee Celebration of the Evening College in March. Inauguration of the Platinum Jubilee Building by Rev.Fr. Peter Hans Kolvenbach, SJ.

1999 Introduction of M.C.A., M.Sc. Biotechnology and B.B.A. Accredited at 5 Star Level by NAAC. Introduction of M.Sc., International Business (L.S.B.U.)

2000 Dept. of Botany renamed as the Dept of Plant Biology and Biotechnology. Introduction of B.C.A., B.A (Corp.), M.Sc. (Computer Science).

2001 Restructuring of the Syllabi - Choice Based Credit System introduced for UG.

2002 Inauguration of the LIFE Building

2003 Introduction of M.Sc. Medical Laboratory Technology & M.Sc. Visual Communication.

2004 Restructuring of the Syllabi - Choice Based Credit System introduced for PG. Introduction of M.A. Medical Sociology, Biomedical Instrumentation Science. College with Potential for Excellence conferred by UGC.

2005 Dept. of Zoology renamed as the Dept. of Advanced Zoology and Biotechnology. Blessing of new buildings "School of Media Studies" and additional floor in J.D.Block.  
Inauguration of Loyola - Kovalam Tsunami Rehabilitation Project and Kovalam community College, assisted by TATA Relief Committee - Introduction of MSW (SF). Evening College becoming Autonomous. Introduction of M.Sc. Corporate Governance, L.S.B.U.

2006 M.C.A. becoming Autonomous. Restructuring phase - II for UG implemented. Introduction of M.A. Media Arts & M.Phil History  
Inauguration of :  
- Resource Center for Differently Abled Students  
- School of Physical Sciences  
Introduction of M.Sc. Industrial Biotechnology Management and B.B.A., Lille Catholic University, France.  
Reaccredited at A+ Level by NAAC

2007 Renovation of the 75 years old College Church Guest Rooms & IOB, Loyola Branch in New Premises - M.Phil Courses restructured - Introduction of M.Phil., & Ph.D., in Plantbiology and Biotechnology and in English - M.A., Med. Sociology changed to M.Sc., Med. Sociology.

2008 Introduction of M.Sc., Food Chemistry and Food Processing.