



Jesuit Higher Education in South Asia (JHEASA)

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Right from its inception Jesuits have been involved in the ministry of Education. The first Jesuit College was established in Rome in 1551 by St Ignatius of Loyola. The first Jesuit College in India was St Joseph's college, Trichy, established in 1844. With the advent of changes in the educational sectors vis-à-vis a globalizing world, a spurt in new higher educational institutions was seen in this century in South Asia. With this, the need to establish an Association for Higher Education was expressed, and the Jesuit Conference of South Asia (JCSA) held in October 2008 in Patna approved the setting up of a New Secretariat for Higher Education.

Intellectual Apostolate influenced and enhanced our capability to serve the Church and secular culture. Serious intellectual work and reflection will impact on our global capacity, to give the level of excellence that evangelization needs today. Hence JHEASA will comprise all Jesuit Higher Education Institutions in South Asia. That will include the Graduate, Post Graduate Colleges and

Research Centres, Colleges of Education, Management and Business Administration Institutes, Engineering, Law and other Professional Institutions, Theologates and Philosophates.

Right now, there are 61 members in JHEASA. Among these 61 Jesuit Higher Education Institutions (JHEIs), 25 are Government aided colleges and 36 are self-financing. According to the statistics of last academic year, there are 243 Jesuits and 6820 teaching and non-teaching are working, and 124177 students are studying in these JHEIs. Annual Conference of Principals and Directors of Jesuits Higher Education Institutions is held every year to deliberate on the current issues of Higher Education in South Asia as well as the priorities of International Association of Jesuit Universities (IAJU). Last annual Conference of JHEASA was held at St Xavier's College, Kolkata on October 6-7, 2019. Due to the pandemic, we could not hold the annual conference in 2020.