



AGURCHAND MANMULL JAIN COLLEGE

(A Unit of Sri. S. S. Jain Educational Society)

Affiliated to the University of Madras | A Jain Minority Institution

Re-Accredited by NAAC

Meenambakkam, Chennai – 600 061

Best Practice 1 - 'THADAM' - THE PROJECT DAY

'Thadam' - The Project Day is a unique initiative where students exhibit their projects, encompassing working models, still models, posters, and role plays. The Tamil word "Thadam" means track or space, symbolizing a platform for students to showcase their talents across various fields. This event encourages the entire student community to participate.

I. Objectives of the Practice:

- **Instilling Innovative Thinking:** Encourage students to think creatively, critically, and work collaboratively.
- **Showcase Talents:** Provide a platform for students to exhibit their innovative projects.
- **Expert Interaction:** Facilitate interactions between students and experts.
- **Inspire Future Generations:** Offer children of the neighbouring schools with insights into the prospects and opportunities of higher education.

II. The Context

- **Beyond Curriculum:** Students need to transcend the curriculum to seize opportunities beyond the campus.
- **Practical Application:** Applying learned knowledge in practical settings is crucial.
- **Skill Development:** Developing skills such as project management, teamwork, communication, and problem-solving is essential.
- **Career Preparation:** Gaining practical experience enhances resumes and prepares students for future careers.
- **Networking:** Providing networking and mentoring opportunities motivates students.
- **Interdisciplinary Learning:** Promoting collaborative learning prepares students for future challenges.



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- **Inclusive Education:** Introducing various disciplines available in higher educational institutions to school children, especially from rural areas, to motivate and guide them towards higher education.

III. The Practice

- **Project Integration and Departmental Exhibition:** As part of the curriculum, some programs require students to submit a project to fulfil their degree requirements. However, not all programs mandate projects. In the 2021-22 academic year, departments like Criminology and Tourism and Travel Management encouraged students to create projects beyond the curriculum requirements as part of project-based learning. These projects were exhibited within their departments. By the end of the year, three departments had organized project days, displaying 20 projects by groups of students.
- **Centralized Exhibition:** In 2022-23, a centralized 'Project Day' was announced, and saw a participation from 12 departments and 40 projects exhibited.
- **Expanded Event:** In 2023-24, the event was titled "*Thadam* - The Project Day." All departments and clubs participated, exhibiting 150 projects.
- **Management Support:** The management provided monetary assistance to organize the event, funding the students' project preparation in advance. This support encouraged maximum participation by alleviating the financial burden on students, allowing their creativity and enthusiasm for learning to flourish.
- **Structured Exhibition:** Specific rooms and areas were allocated for each department as per their requirements. A route map was provided for guiding the visitors through all the exhibits.
- **School Children Engagement:** Children from nearby schools were invited to witness the project exhibits. The management arranged safe transportation for the children and their accompanying staff from their school campus to our college campus, provided refreshments and lunch, and created a platform for them to interact with our students. The project participants presented and explained their projects and areas of study, offering an enriching experience for the school



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children. Meanwhile, other student volunteers supported the arrangement of the exhibition, guided the children through the various areas of the exhibition, and assisted in the distribution of refreshments and lunch, ensuring the transportation and safety of the children during their visit to our institution. 'Thadam' the Project Day showcased not only the projects of our students but also their talents in leadership, collaboration, and teamwork, effectively guiding the next generation.

IV. Evidence of Success

- **Growth in Participation:** The event expanded from a few departments and projects to a mega event with over 150 projects from all departments.
- **Enthusiastic Participation:** 600 students participated in the project preparation and displayed their exhibits with great enthusiasm. All the departments of the college participated actively in the event.
- **School Children Visit:** Children from 5 neighbouring schools, totalling 951 school children, visited the exhibition.
- **College Student Engagement:** 6432 students from the institution attended the exhibition.
- **Government Recognition:** Following the 2023-24 event, government officials requested an additional exhibition for children from other government schools, showcasing selected projects.

V. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- **Increased Student Involvement:** Greater student participation in contributing to projects is necessary.
- **Training Needs:** Specific training for project preparation and execution should be provided.
- **Extended Time Frame:** Students could be given more time for project development.
- **Expert Guidance:** Continuous mentoring and training from experts are essential and may be provided.



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- **Extended Event Duration:** Conducting the Project Day as a two-day event would allow more school children to visit.
- **External Evaluation:** Involve external experts to evaluate projects and deserving projects could be provided with awards, gifts, or certificates.

Conclusion:

'Thadam' - The Project Day' stands as a testament to the vibrant creativity and innovative spirit within the student community at Agurchand Manmull Jain College. By providing a dynamic platform for students to exhibit their talents through working models, still models, posters, and role plays, 'Thadam' encapsulates the essence of holistic education. The event not only provides a collaborative and engaging learning environment but also emphasizes the importance of practical application and interdisciplinary exploration. As 'Thadam' continues to thrive, it will undoubtedly inspire and empower students to track their passions and carve their own paths in the vast space of knowledge and innovation.



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PHOTOS FROM THE EXHIBITIONS





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