



# GOLDEN LINK COLLEGE FOUNDATION

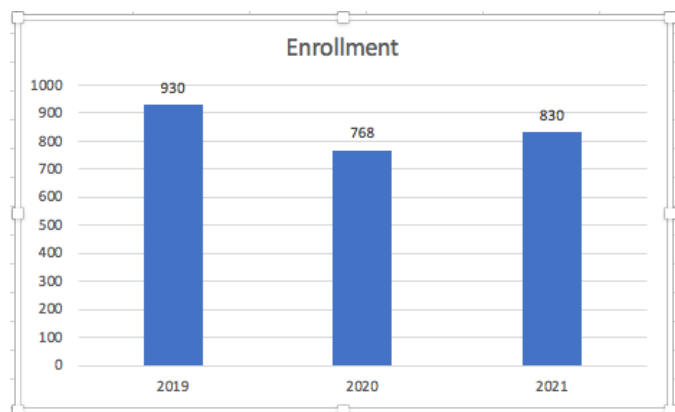
## 2021 Update

*Dear friends of Golden Link,*

It's been one and a half years since physical classes in the Philippines were suspended. We would like to share with you this update about Golden Link College Foundation.



1. Last school year, 2020-2021, Golden Link had no physical face-to-face classes but conducted all its classes online, from nursery level to collegiate level.
2. In 2020, more than 800 private schools in the Philippines closed, and this school year, it is estimated that the number has increased to more than 1,000. Many students either transferred to the free public schools or did not enroll their children.
3. The public school system is not doing very well under lockdown. Most of the schools don't have online classes. They just distribute printed modules or booklets with questions that the students are supposed to answer and send back at the end of each week. This has caused the deterioration of the academic standards of the entire system. Schools lack the facilities to do online classes, and many families could not afford the needed gadgets or to subscribe to internet services.
4. On the first year of the Covid lockdown, the Golden Link main campus enrollment went down (school year 2020-21) to 768 students from a previous level of 930 students. This school year (2021-22), we are expecting an increase compared to last year. Enrollment is still going on, but as of now, GLC main campus has at least 830 students enrolled.



- Golden Link was granted a license by Google to make use of Google Suite for Education, which enabled GLC to make use of the Gmeet app, Google Classroom, institutional email accounts for all our faculty and students, almost unlimited cloud storage, and many other digital tools available under Google Suite for Education. This has played a significant role in GLC's effectiveness in conducting online classes.

Google  
for Education



- Last 2020, GLC finished the construction of a new four-story building with new classrooms. This was in anticipation that GLC enrollment would exceed 1,000 students in 2020. This did not happen because of the Covid lockdown. But it is expected that these new classrooms will be needed once the Covid crisis passes away. A private corporation in the Philippines donated the cost of the building.



- During the past school year, GLC offered free seminars on various subjects to the public: such as "Seminar on English Proficiency," "Keys to Effective Parenting," "How to Earn Online," etc. In some of the sessions, the speakers were the college students of Golden Link.



8. A Free Summer Class on Personality Development and English Proficiency was offered to the public online last May and June 2021. This has been a yearly public service of GLC since its inception except for 2020 when the lockdown was suddenly imposed.



9. The government has expanded its subsidy for private schools by granting scholarships to college students. This has helped Golden Link very much because almost all of its college students were scholars coming from low-income families. However, not all students are qualified for the subsidy, and even those who are qualified may not be approved for subsidy for unstated reasons. The subsidy is only released a year after its approval. It is not sure whether the government would be able to sustain this helpful subsidy due to the instability of the government budget.



10. In 2020, Golden Link set up an online library for preschool, primary, secondary, and college levels. Students are able to download the books so they can read the books offline.



11. The Golden Link Theosophical Lodge also held online lectures twice a month, one of which is meant for the public. In the past months, the members' meeting devoted itself to the study of the Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett.



12. The branches and affiliate schools of Golden Link had also suffered a drop in enrollment last year, but it is expected that by this year, this trend will be reversed.

13. In Chennai, India, the Adyar Theosophical Academy, which Golden Link has helped establish, is doing very well, with more than 120 students up to the Grade 3 level just on its second year.



14. The revised edition of the book *On Education* published by Golden Link has been released and translated to Russian and Ukrainian. It is currently being translated into several other languages. There is a continuing interest in several countries in planning to establish similar theosophical schools in their respective areas.



Overall, the Golden Link schools have fared well during these Covid times. Many new parents have enrolled their children in Golden Link based on word-of-mouth recommendations by other parents. The school is quite optimistic about the coming years even under trying circumstances.

We are extremely grateful for the continued support and encouragement of theosophists and friends worldwide, particularly to the Kern Foundation and the Theosophical Order of Service USA for their continuing matching grant that has helped stabilize the financial position of Golden Link. The various TOS groups in many countries continue to include Golden Link in their annual donations.

*To all of you and the many individual donors who spontaneously send their assistance, we convey our deep gratitude and warm fraternal hugs to you!*

Vicente Hao Chin Jr.  
President, Golden Link College

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