



St. Xavier's College (Autonomous)
Magazine 2015 - 2016



**BEST WISHES
FROM**

**THE ALUMNI OF
ST. XAVIERS COLLEGE
BATCH OF 1986
ARTS & SCIENCE**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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EDITORIAL

It has been one more year of intensive academics, relentless conferences, enlightening seminars, and exciting industry interactions sprinkled with indulgent linguistic events and expressions at St. Xavier's College. The autonomous status has brought with it structures and systems that have catapulted the learning environment to constant engagement in building competitive knowledge.

Student's pursuits are spread between earning rights of passage to foreign exchange programs to entrepreneurial ventures to discussing with feverish passion- ideas of liberal thought and empowerment to securing placements with strategic consultants.

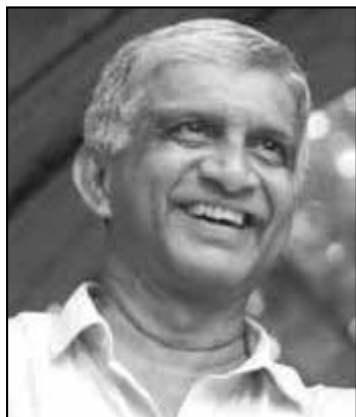
The following pages try to capture this constant named evolution.

The magazine Committee

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



A College Magazine has to capture not only the Institute's moments but also its movements. This has always been the hallmark of the annual magazines of St Xavier's College – Autonomous, Mumbai. This magazine highlights not only the various college events (joyful or otherwise) of the year it covers but also shows how these contemporary moments gel into the broader perspective of the college's long-standing pedagogical traditions.

This year the magazine has once again remained true to this moment-movement tradition. It has brought to the fore various departmental achievements (receiving grants from UGC, DST and DBT), faculty accomplishments (conferment of doctoral degrees, obtaining major / minor research grants) and student triumphs (winning at intercollegiate events covering academic, cultural and sports). It has been a linguistically varied platform for student writers on different issues and literary forms. It has highlighted our global connect with some of the top universities in the world as well as our local contributions through the social outreach programmes. By reminiscing about our retired as well as departed teaching and non-teaching staff members and narrating the success stories of alumni, this issue chronicles the timeline of Xavier's journey. If one joins these literary scatter points, the Xavier's research, social and all round development trajectory emerges.

I profusely thank the college magazine committee (Staff and Students) as well as contributors and sponsors for collaboratively bringing out this issue. I am sure that this magazine would imprint in our minds indelible memories of Xavier's Mission and Vision.

Readers, this delectable treat, with its appealing layout design, captivating visuals and relevant compilation, would convince you that 'Xavier's is not just a College but a way of life' with its splendid moments and movements.

*Dr. Agnelo Menezes.
Principal*

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PROVOST/VICE PRINCIPAL-ACADEMICS!

Three activity-filled years at the Office of the Vice Principal – Academics have been packed with schedules, meetings, seminars, tough decisions, proud moments, happiness and above all much cherished support from the faculty and students' of St. Xavier's College! As I take a year's leave for my post-doc, there are many to thank and much to be grateful for. A big word of thanks to the support and effort of the Academic Council which met nearly every week, Principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes, Vice-Principal (Science) Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Vice-Principal (Arts) Dr. Asha Naithani Dayama, Vice-Principal (Junior College) Ms. Vaishali Mohoni. Thanks also to the Rector, Dr. Fr. Anthony J. Dsouza whose presence brought an external perspective to all our deliberations. And special thanks to Profs. Pushpa Sinkar, Madhuri Rajjada (incoming Vice Principal Arts) and Gulshan Shaikh (incoming Vice Principal Academics) who were always available to help.

As the Honours Programme falls under my purview, it gives me great privilege to see the increase in number of students qualifying for the Honours Certificate. This year the Honours Convocation was held along with the Graduation Ceremony where students qualifying for the programme were awarded the Honours Certificate along with their Consolidated Marksheets and passing certificates. A big thanks to Dr. Gulshan Shaikh for her work in the Honours Programme. A total of approximately 250 students registered for the Honours Programme Certificate for the year 2015-16 and 70 students received their Honours Certificates at their Graduation Ceremony held faculty wise. The departments offered a variety of activities that included lecture series, workshops, research projects, review of research articles, literature survey, book reviews, Summer School and even Khandala seminars where papers were presented. The objective of involvement in the subject beyond the regular curriculum was definitely met. A big thank you to all the Honours Coordinators from the various Departments, Mr. Joseph

Aloysius and Mr. Subhash Kumar for the software work, layouts and printing of certificates. The Honours Programme has been in existence for the last thirty years here at Xavier's. More recently, after Xavier's got Autonomy many of the courses offered in the Honours Programme moved to mainstream classes. This took the overall academics of the College to a higher level. However, there is always that segment of students who can handle bigger challenges. Hence, the Honours Programme continued to be offered by a few faculty stalwarts. Over a period of time more departments are rejoining the Honours Programme and this year we also had students from AIC, Life Science, Zoology and Physics receiving their certificates. The programmes provides for five core credits offered by the department, two transfer credits and one Social Involvement Programme credit which is strongly encouraged. The departments that offer transfer credits include the Council of International Programmes (CIP), French, Psychology, Indian Music Group (IMG), Heras Institute, Department of Inter- religious studies (DIRS), the Language Lab and XIC. Next year we anticipate a huge number of students availing of the prestigious Honours Certificate.

Department	Honours Coordinator
Botany	Prof. Alok Gude
Chemistry	Prof. Surabhi Potnis
Life Science	Prof. Seema Das
Microbiology	Prof. Sangeeta Chavan
Physics	Prof. K. Vedesankari
Zoology	Prof. Pushpa Sinkar
Economics	Prof. Aditi Sawant
AIC	Prof. Radha Kumar
English	Prof. Pearl Pastakia
French	Prof. Alana Palkhiwale
Psychology	Prof. Ruby Pavri
Sociology	Prof. Pranoti Chirmuley
BMM	Prof. Akshara Jadhav
BMS	Prof. Pritesh Arte
Bsc IT	Prof. Subhash Kumar
Interreligious Studies	Fr. Prashant Olalekar
SIP	Prin. Agnelo Menezes
Heras	Prof. Joan Dias

The Teacher Assessment Questionnaire (TAQ) was instituted at Xavier's in 1969 before it became mandatory for an educational institution. For the academic year 2015-16, the total number of courses which were administered were 221. The teaching assessment of 94 unconfirmed Arts and Science Faculty was conducted. 2 Science courses of the confirmed Science Faculty were done. We also administered 116 Arts Courses of the Confirmed faculty which includes the self financing courses of Management and Mass Media Studies. A big thank you to the Committee for their painstaking work- Prof. Pushpa Sinkar, Prof. Dionysia Coutinho, Prof. Seema Das, Prof. Sangeeta Chavan and Prof. Saju George.

A sincere appreciation to all the faculty who participated in the seminars organized as part of human resource development. We conducted four New Teachers' Seminars during the academic year. On 10th August, 2015 a seminar on *Ethos and Teaching-Learning Experience in Xavier's* was conducted and talks were given by Dr. (Fr) Arun Desouza, S.J, Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta, Prof. Madhuri Rajjada and Dr. Hoshang Master. On 9th September, 2015, Dr. Elaine Charles, the former Principal of St. Xavier's Institute of Education conducted a seminar on *5 habits of highly successful teachers* for our young teachers. As we moved into the second half of the Academic year, we invited Fr Gordon Daniels, S.J, the Deputy Director of the Xavier's Institute of Communications, to conduct a seminar on *Effective Communication* on 9th December, 2015. On 27th January, 2016, the fourth New Teachers Seminar, *Educational Pedagogies: Experiments in inquiry based learning* was conducted by Prof.





Marazban Kotwal of the Chemistry Department at St. Xavier's College. IQAC Xaviers helped IQAC Nirmala Niketan to organize a New teachers' Seminar *Educational Paradigms in a Globalized world* at Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science for South Mumbai colleges. Dr.(Fr.) Roy Pereira, S.J., Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta and Prof. Marazban Kotwal were the resource persons.

Two faculty seminars, one in each semester was conducted. On 1st October, 2015, Mr. Suresh Lulla engaged the faculty on the topic *Quality Enhancement*. He is the founder of Qimpro Consultants Pvt. Ltd. which is a focused quality management consultancy based on The Juran Trilogy: quality planning, quality control, and quality improvement. We are grateful to Dr. Rajendra Shinde. On 13th January, 2016, the college staff got together under the direction of the Principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes and held discussions and debates on *Autonomy*

in Review. We were divided into different groups and each department had to write their review of the past 6 years of autonomy.

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the College, aimed at fostering academic and all round development of the staff and students conducted workshops and programmes during the year. The IQAC conducted a workshop on 10th February, 2016 on *Soft Skills and Curriculum Building* for the second and third year students. The resource person was Dr. Pankaj Chipalkatti, Liaison Officer, Mumbai International School of Business (MISB) and Bocconi University, Italy. On 20th and 22nd January, 2016, a Twin Lecture series was organized. *Be Well, Lead Well* by Dr. Luce De Buitelir Andrews, Director - The Academy Western Sydney University, Australia and *Mental Health* by Dr. Ajlina Karamelic-Muratovic, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Saint Louis University, USA. These were in collaboration with Dr. Radiya Pacha- Gupta, Director of the Council for International Programmes. Dr.(Fr.) Roy Pereira, S.J and Prof. Marazban Kotwal were the principal resource persons at the IQAC Seminar on *Strategies for change in the new Teaching Learning environment* organized by The Parvatibai Chowgule College, Goa on 7th April, 2016 for all

South Goa colleges.

In June 2016, the third autonomous batch was treated to a grand Graduation Ceremony spread over three days. A big word of thanks to Dr. Rajendra Shinde and Dr. Gulshan Shaikh who took complete charge. We had one from Science receiving their Doctorate in Philosophy (Ph.D.) from the College. We had the B.Sc. I.T graduating along with the Commerce, B.M.M., B.M.S. on 16th June. On 17th June, we had the B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. Graduation Ceremony and on 18th June, the B.A. and M.A. students receiving their certificates. Thanks to the dedication, time and hard work put in by the Faculty on the respective days, the Head of Departments, Dr. Geeta and the Scholarship committee, Bipin, Anand, Shiny, Shefali, Maria and the General Office, Dr. Hoshang, Fiona, Lenox and the Exam Committee, Dr.(Fr.) Pessa, Rocky and the Treasurer's Office, George, Norbert, Shemaine, Sunita, the Karmacharis and the Administrative office, Das, Francis, Dinesh and Prof. Kevin, Neelam, Swapnil, Yogi for the sound and live screening, Profs. Perrie, Joseph, Noreen and many others who all ensured a smooth functioning of the event and made it a memorable day for the students and parents.

Dr. Fr. Roy Pereira, S.J.

THE VALEDICTORY SPEECH

Respected Fr. Rector, Principal Dr. Menezes, vice-principals, Vice-principal Science dept, Dr Shinde, HOD Microbiology Vivian Mm, HOD BIO-Chem Nandita Mme, other respected HOD's, esteemed members of the St Xavier's faculty, distinguished guests, parents and my fellow graduates, a very good evening to everyone assembled here.

This is the Palacios Hall where it all began. A three year blink -of -an eye ago ,we were all scribbling away furiously filling in our three preferred subject combinations on yellow sheets and waiting patiently for the interview which would hand us the key to Hogwarts, I mean St Xavier's College Mumbai. At first look, the college's

edifice seemed surreal. It was as if I had walked into a live scene from a Harry Potter Movie. As I stepped on the stairs I half-expected them to start revolving and take me to the potions class or the defence against the dark magic class.

It has taken us three years to reach this hall once again with our parents. As we all stand /sit here today that sense of awe which we had experienced on the first day is not there anymore. It has been replaced by a deep and abiding love for our alma mater -a love that can only be experienced by living through all the innumerable days as a Xavierite.

It is said that we look before and after and pine for what is not. As the graduating batch of 2016 we have

earned the right to take a walk down memory lane. Science is known for its crispness, precision, logic and systematic approach. The pining/ reminiscing that I will be indulging in now will therefore come to you in steps.

Step 1: Open your eyes to find your mother/roommate shaking you awake! You've overslept completing that last assignment which you creatively entitled Counter Strike to ward off suspicion. With sandwich and notebook in one hand, rail pass/bus pass/ hostel key in the other you make a beeline for your first lecture of the day.

Step 2: Lectures vary. Some border on the soporific, while others can tell you jokes involving Newton and

Einstein playing hide and seek. A few might even involve a still from Sholay to demonstrate an engine's working. The scenes in the classroom vary even more. One can find crossword puzzles, noughts and crosses and bingo in the back of any self-respecting Xavierite's notebook. It should also contain incomprehensible squiggles which masquerade as notes.

Step 3: The Practical lectures. As the clock strikes 12:10 and the rest of the college marches off home, or towards the latest festival meeting, Science students settle down for practical lectures. Ranging from 30 minutes to 3 hours and more, these sessions are delightful and mark our struggle between beating the urge for an afternoon siesta and our vigour to learn the Kirby-Bauer method for Antibiotic Resistance or the latest way in which we can mix a concoction of chemicals to yield the correct salt formula.

Step 4: Around noon- we march off for a quick bite to eat Anna's Special Maggie and head off for our various extra-curriculars. This could be as mainstream as a college festival (yes, indeed for the normal Xavierite a college festival is mainstream), dance lessons, football practice, debating sessions in the Woods, while some even head out for a brisk walk into the sunlight or go to the foyer to play a game of Mafia.

Step 5: The day concludes with a

travel up the steps/train tracks, body groaning-but mind eagerly anticipating yet another day at Xavier's. And let me assure you as will all my batch mates that no two days seem alike.

As a college, Xavier's functions flawlessly because of the seamless integration between the teaching and non-teaching staff. From ensuring that the labs are spick and span before the 8:00 AM bell rings, to answering numerous questions regarding conversion formulae, re-CIA's as well as what is the easiest time to meet the Principal for his signature on an MOU- they do it all. The library deserves a special mention as they could not have been more supportive while helping us figure the indexing system whose logic always seems to elude us at that crucial juncture called exam week. The teachers lend their aid in answering all manners of doubts which arise on perusing course material(mostly before exams), which handy books can be picked up in the library for cracking competitive exams and even telling us some things which go off the page and into the real world.

A big thank you and round of applause for the faculty and staff of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

A special mention must be made about our college motto *Provocans Ad Volandum*-which means encourage to fly. If we try and delve deeper into those words, we see a message engraved

for all who are a part of this hallowed institution. St Xavier's Mumbai has always stood for quality and excellence since 1869. We have been encouraged to fly and create our own destinies. Also, in keeping with the true Jesuit spirit of education we have also been taught about the concept of giving back. Giving back need not necessarily be monetary, it involves something far more valuable-Time. Xavier's has ensured that we do not merely connect with the other persons, but also find our own true selves. As members of the privileged class of India, this was perhaps the most valuable lesson that all Xavierites have imbibed during their stay here.

They say charity begins at home. Let us begin by giving back to our alma mater a robust and healthy Alumni Association who will carry the Xaverite flame to all corners of this planet and be a source of inspiration to all the neophytes yet to come.

To conclude, I would like to quote Ralph Waldo Emerson- "Tread not the path which has been carved-rather set off to create a new path for one's destiny." This ambitious spirit heralds us-the batch of 2016 onto a glorious and bright new future!

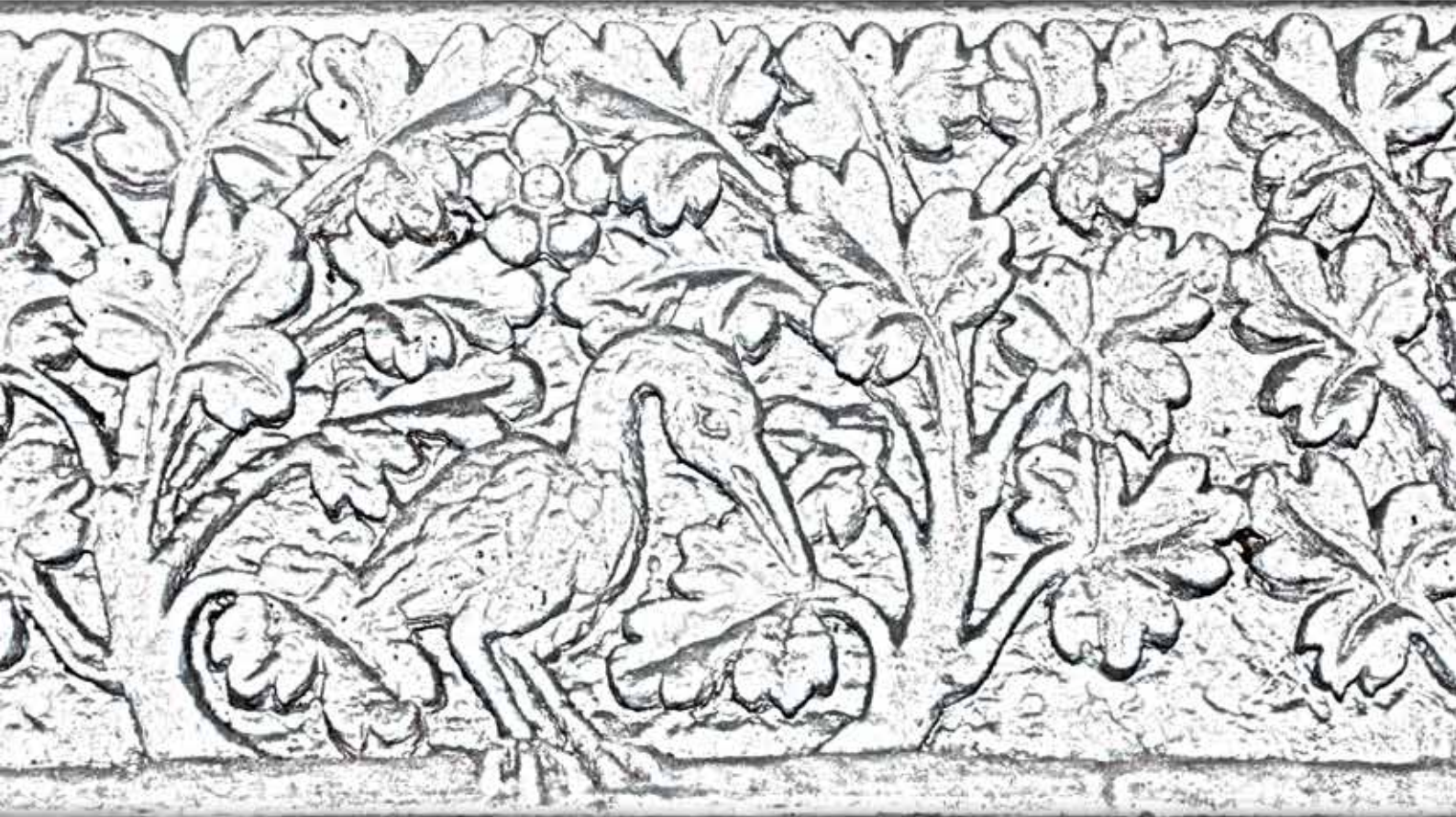
Thank you and have a wonderful evening ahead.

Adityesh Mitra

Microbiology Biochemistry student
Ashok Kamte awardee



OUR HALL OF FAME



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING FACULTY MEMBERS ON BEING APPOINTED AS PROFESSORS



DR. VIVIEN AMONKAR
Head, Department of MICROBIOLOGY



DR. UJWALA BAPAT
Head, Department of BOTANY



DR. MANGALA GURJAR
Head, Department of MATHEMATICS



DR. FREDDY HAVALDAR
Head, Department of chemistry



Our hearty congratulations to **Dr. (Fr.) Conrad Pessa, S.J.** on his being awarded a PhD in Finance by XLRI, Jamshedpur. The topic of his thesis was “Corporate Governance Influence on Earnings Management in Indian firms—a study on 3000 companies listed on the BSE”.

- **Pearl Pastakia** has received a Ph.D. in English for her thesis entitled "The Evolution of the Soul in Selected Twentieth Century Autobiographical Writings" at a Convocation held by the University of Mumbai in January 2016. The thesis was guided by Dr. Coomi S. Vevaina, Professor, Dept. of English, University of Mumbai.
- **Dr. (Ms.) Abhilasha Jain**, Department of Chemistry has got recognition as a Guide for the Doctoral Research and Masters courses at Pacific University (Paher), Udaipur.
- **Ph.D. Awarded: Ms. Rashmi Sharma** was awarded Ph.D. in Botany for her thesis entitled, “Taxonomic Study of Flora of Vasai Taluka with focus on Vegetation of Tungreshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, Thane District, Maharashtra”, under the guidance of Dr. Mrs. Ujwala Bapat.
- **Linda Dhakul, Psychology Department** Presented a paper titled 'Art based therapy for dealing with trauma in children', at the catholic psychologist conference in Bangalore.

Department of Chemistry

Sr. No.	Nature of publication (Book Review Research Paper etc.)	List of author/s as it appear in the publication	Name of the Book & the publishers / Journal, Issue no. and year of publication, page nos.	ISSN/ISBN number	Impact factor (in case of journal)
1	Research Paper: An experiment in Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge: Effect of online video support on student comprehension and critical thinking in chemistry.	Marazban Kotwal	Journal of Applicable Chemistry. (An International Online Peer reviewed Journal) 27th July 2015, Vol. 4 (4): Pg. 1017-1023	2278-1862	0.325
2	Research Paper: A Novel Route for the Degradation of dye Methylene Blue by Photo – fenton process catalysed by organic additive: a wastewater treatment technique.	Dr.Abhilasha Jain Dr.Ashma Aggarwal Marazban Kotwal	International Journal of Chemistry International Book House Pvt. Ltd. Vol4(4) Oct-December 2015	2249 2119	1.038
3	Research Paper: Implementing Process-Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning in an Undergraduate Physical Chemistry Class: A Survey of Student Perception and Attitudes.	Marazban Kotwal Dr.Abhilasha Jain	Journal of Applicable Chemistry. (An International Online Peer reviewed Journal) 27th November 2015, Vol. 4 (6): Pg. 1584-1591	2278-1862	0.325
4	Use of Google Education tools in Effective Teaching, Enhanced Evaluation, Improved Content Dissemination and Superior Communication in a Tertiary Education Environment: A cost effective and efficient approach towards optimising use of ICT in education	Marazban Kotwal Dr.Abhilasha Jain Saima Khan	Proceedings of National Seminar on Innovation in Teaching Learning and Evaluation in Higher Education conducted by SIES College National Seminar on Innovation in Teaching Learning and Evaluation in Higher Education conducted by SIES College	-	-

Geeta Kotian

- **Research Publications:** Ionic liquid as Green solvent for a-alkylation of Active methylene compounds, Research Journal of Chemical Sciences, 2015, Vol. 5(5), 1-5, ISSN 2231-606X, Peer reviewed. Review paper titled: Ionic liquids and Nanomaterials a perfect Synergy, Xplore-The Xavier's Research Journal, 2015, Vol. 6(1), 78-93, ISSN 2249-1878

Dr. (Fr.) Roy Pereira, S.J.

Publications

- “Mirror Neurons: Neurological Appraisal of the Other as Other” in *Befriending the Other: Sixty Years of JDV in Pune*, Published by JDV, Pune, 2015 ISBN: 0978-81-88864-3-9
- Pereira R. & Gupta R.P. “Technology and Brain: Will technology evolve a new way of thinking?” in A. Pamplany (Ed), *Mastery Meets Mystery: Intersecting Science, Philosophy, Religion and Culture* (pp. 275-287). New Delhi: Serials Publications Pvt. Ltd., 2015. ISBN:978-81-8387-762-6

International Presentations and Conferences

- Presented a paper on “Will Technology evolve a New Way of Thinking?” at an International Symposium held to pay a tribute to Fr. Job Kozhamthadam, S.J., a pioneer in the field of Science and Religion at Delhi from 11th -13th December, 2015.
- Presented on “The Effects of Technology on the Brain” at the International Conference on *Cognition, Brain and Computation* at IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 5th to 7th December, 2015.
- Attended and Presented a talk on “Mirror Neurons: Neurological appraisal of the other as other” at the International conference *Befriending the Other* on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth (JDV) in Pune from 24th to 28th November, 2015.
- Invited to talk on ‘Neuroscience and the Placebo effect’ at **University of Western Sydney, Australia** on 2nd October, 2015

- Presented a talk on the “Sustainability in Education” at the International Conference on *The Paradigm on Triple Bottom Line-Risk, Ethics, Governance, Sustainability*, at St. Joseph’s College of Commerce (Autonomous), Bangalore in association with the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and International Skill Development Corporation (ISDC) on 31st August and 1st September, 2015,

Ancient Indian Culture Department

Dr. Anita Rane Kothare paper on Mamledarwadi was published in the BLHS Explorer.

- She was a recipient of the best paper award for the 7th Mani Kamerkar Memorial Seminar.
- Received a Tata Fellowship grant and is currently working on a project titled ‘Game Grafitti’.

Botany Department

Research Papers

- Cerejo-Shivkar, Sweedle & R. D. Shinde, 2015. A brief account of Orchidaceae in Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai, India in *Journal of Threatened Taxa* / www.threatenedtaxa.org / 26th May 7(6) : 7287-7295. ISSN: 0974-7907 (Online) 0974-7893 (Print).
- Smita Henry Gaurea, Ujwala Chintamani Bapat, Study of antibacterial activity of resins of *Boswelliaserrata* Roxb Ex Colebr., *Commiphoramukul* (Hooks Ex- stocks) Engl., *Gardeniariesinifera* Roth., and *Shorearobusta* Gaertn., *International Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences*, vol 8, Suppl 1, p29-31, 2016.
- Vijaya Lobo et al 2016. Isolation and evaluation of isolated bacteria as potential biofertilizer, *International Journal of Applied Research* 2016; 2(2): 429-435.

Papers presented:

- Mr. Alok Gude presented a paper on topic, ‘*Conservation and Exploitation of medicinal plants in forests of Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh, India*’ in the UGC sponsored National Seminar on “Management of Bio-resources in Western Ghats- A Technological Approach” organized by the Postgraduate Department of Biotechnology, SAS SINDP Yogam College, Konni on 17th and 18th September 2015. He also presented a poster on topic, ‘*Heavy metal detection from sewage irrigated soil beside railway tracks in Mumbai*’ in the same Seminar.

BSc-IT Department

Paper Presentations

- Professor Roy Thomas presented a paper in an international conference organized by Vikas College of Arts and Science, Mumbai on “The Comparative study of Bayesian Classification and Decision Tree based Algorithms using Weka,” which is related to the concept of Machine learning.
- Prof.Subhash Kumar, presented a paper at an international conference at IIT Chennai related to “Big Data”.

Biotechnology Department

Research Journal

- Warke M. A., Cardoz L. P., **Amonkar V.**, Odaneth A.A. & Lali A. L. Profiling of Conjugated Linoleic Acid Produced by Probiotic Lactic Acid Bacteria Isolated from Dairy Products *International Journal of Current Research* Vol. 8, Issue 1: 25126-25131 2016, ISSN: 0975-833X SJIF 2015 6.226

Conference Proceedings

- Shiney Peter, Vivien Amonkar *et al.*, (2015) Evaluation of Anthocyanins from Croton spp. for their applications in Food Industry, *Proceedings of National seminar on Recent Developments in Biotechnology (ISBN:978-93-84298-28-9) pg:62-71*
- Norine D’Souza, Vivien Amonkar *et al.*, (2015) Bioremediation of cadmium: implication in pollution control, *Proceedings of National seminar on Recent Developments in Biotechnology (ISBN:978-93-84298-28-9) pg:34-47*
- B P Chatterji, Vivien Amonkar *et al.*, (2015) *Proceedings of National seminar on Recent Developments in Biotechnology (ISBN:978-93-84298-28-9) pg:21-33*

Oral Presentation:

- Dr. BiswaPrasun Chatterji won a 2nd Prize for an Oral Presentation in Waste to Wealth section of India International Science Festival (IISF) 2015 at IIT Delhi between 4th and 8th Dec 2015 on “Utility of Xanthan Gum from Agro Food Waste”
- Dr. Biswa Prasun Chatterji** was awarded the Second prize in its category of the Young Scientists’ Conference as part of India International Science Festival organized at IIT Delhi from 4th- 8th December, 2015.
- Ms. Norine D’Souza** presented a paper in National Level Competition on Innovative Models for Effective Teaching, conducted by National Academy of Sciences, India (Pune Chapter) and Pune University in February 2016

Geology Department

Research Publications and Conference presentations

- Farjana Birajdar, G. Venkataramanand **Hrishikesh Samant**. (2015):
Bhaga Basin Glacier Changes in the Western Himalaya Derived from Remote Sensing and GIS Techniques, Jourl. Ind. Geol. Cong., Vol 7 (1), pp 75 - 78 [ISSN 2229-435X](#)
- Farjana Birajdar, G. Venkataramanand **Hrishikesh Samant**. (2015):
Frontal Recession Of Glacier And Proglacial Lake Expansion In The Western Himalaya Over The Past Half-Century, Jourl. Envr. Resch And Devl (JERAD), Vol 9(4):1234 – 1239. [ISSN 0973-6921](#)
- Bobby Mathew and **Hrishikesh Samant** (2015):
A Multi-Criteria Decision Making (MCDM) Approach to Demarcating Potential Groundwater Zones Around Nandurbar City, Maharashtra, India, Xplore - The Xavier's Research Journal, Vol 6, Issue 1.(Science Ed) pp. 30-39, December 2015. [ISSN 2249 – 1878](#)
- Goutam Bandyopadhyay (2015):
Gold Mineralisation Associated with Saccaroidal and Brecciated Facies of a Gossan in and around Shulai Region, North East Sudan, Conference presentation – VIth National Symposium on Gems and Gemstones, 28th November 2015, Gwalior, India.

Maths Department

Prof. Ashok Bingi

- Submitted his thesis to the Shivaji University of Kolhapur. He presented a paper titled “On classical prime elements in lattice modules” in International Conference on Mathematical Sciences-2015 (MSC-2015) organized by the Department of Mathematics & Statistics of Sadguru Gadage Maharaj College, Karad, on 15th and 16th September, 2015.
- Presented a paper entitled “Weekly 2-absorbing primary elements in multiplicative lattices” in a UGC sponsored national seminar on “Recent Trends in Differential Equations and its Applications” organized and held by Changu Kana Thakur arts, commerce & science College, New Panvel, on 30th and 31st January, 2016.

Physics Department

- Mr. Rajesh Singh published a research paper on “video analysis of a projectile” in Xplore, volume 6, Issue 1, Dec 2015.
- Dr. Radhekrishna Dubey attended and presented a research paper in International Conference ICPMCSC 2015, during 4th to 5th December 2015, at Ratnam College, Mumbai, India. He also attended and presented a research paper in International Conference on Condensed Matter & Applied Physics (ICC 2015), during 30th to 31st October 2015 at Govt. Engineering College, Bikaner, Rajasthan, India.

Sociology Department

Dr Sam Taraporevala

- Dr Sam Taraporevala participated as a resource person in the library conference at JNU, New Delhi to create awareness about accessibility issues concerning electronic databases. The subject of this special session was “Reaching the Unreached through Electronics, Theses and Dissertations (ETDs): Research Support Services for Persons with Disabilities”.
- Dr Sam Taraporevala delivered the keynote address in the 3rd International Workshop on “Digitization and E-Inclusion in Mathematics and Science 2016” (DIEMS2016) in Tokyo, Japan. The title of the talk was “STEM Education for Blind and Low Vision Students: The Socio-Technical Challenge: The Indian Perspective”.

Dr Fr Arun DeSouza

- In January 2016, Dr Fr. Arun DeSouza presented a paper titled, “Variegated Dryland Ecologies and their Transformation into Productive Watersheds” at the National Sociology Seminar organised by the Department of Sociology at Mumbai University.

History Department

Dr. Fleur D'Souza

- **Seminar Paper Presentations:** July 24, 2015: Council for International Programmes, St. Xavier's College talk to the students of the University of California Berkeley on the Politics of Displacement: a case study of Dharavi Island under the seminar “Globalization, Capital Flow and Development”
- January 23, 2016 Oral Narratives: Seminar at Sophia College for Women: Oral History and the Subaltern Space : The Pawaras of Shirpur

- **Paper Publication** : “Towards Social Commitment: Building Social Consciousness in Catholic Colleges of Mumbai” *Salesian Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, Christian Education and Modern India vol. VI no. 2, December 2015

Life Science and Biochemistry Department

Publications

Peer-reviewed Journals

- Michelsen KA, Acosta-Verdugo S, Benoit-Marand M, Espuny-Camacho I, Gaspard N, **Saha Bhaskar**, Gaillard A and Vanderhaeghen P. (2015) Area-specific reestablishment of damaged neuronal pathways in the adult cerebral cortex following grafting of cortical neurons derived from mouse embryonic stem cells. *Neuron*. 2015. 85(5):982-997. **Impact Factor: 16.485.**
- Nadaf R, **Kutty Binoj**, Narayanan J, RamagiriSV, Kumar S, Aswal VK, BellareJR, Goyal PS. (2015) Flocculation of SDS micelles with Al³⁺: SANS, SAXS and TEM study. AIP Conf. Proc. 1665, 040013-1-040013-3. Doi: 10.1063/1.4917626.
- **Ratnaparkhi Prashant S**, Shevade S, Jalan M. (2015) Bioremediation of Laundry Ink using Soil Microflora. *International Journal of Scientific Research and Engineering Studies*. 2(8): 87-90. ISSN: 2349-8862.
- **Ratnaparkhi Prashant S**, D’Mello J, Rebeiro L, **Tendulkar Radhika**. (2015) Effect of an External Magnetic Field on Regeneration in *Hydra vulgaris Ind Pune*. *International Journal of Applied Research*. 1(11):192-197. ISSN: 2394-5869.
- **Tendulkar Radhika**, Chaudhari Karina, Fernandes Andrea, **Ratnaparkhi Prashant**. (2015) An Evaluation of Lead (Pb) Toxicity in Developing Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) Embryos. *International Journal of Advanced Research*. 3(12):498-504 ISSN 2320-5407
- **Sundarrajan Priya**, Elango EM, Maya Sundari S. (2015) Carrier Detection of Mucopolysaccharidosis I by Assay A-L-Iduronidase: A Report in South Indian Populations. *Xplore – The Xavier’s Research Journal (Science Edition)*. 6(1):23-29. ISSN 2249-1878.
- **Shetty Sangeeta**, **Sundarrajan Priya**, Arora A. (2015) Isolation and Study of Cellulolytic Alkalophiles from Soil. *Xplore – The Xavier’s Research Journal (Science Edition)*. 6(1):40-46. ISSN 2249-1878.
- **Murdeshwar Maya**. (2015) Nutritional Status of Undergraduate Students – A Case Study. *Xplore – The Xavier’s Research Journal (Science Edition)*. 6(1):47-52. ISSN 2249-1878.
- **Pacha-Gupta R**, **Sundarrajan P**, DeSouza F, Nagrath K, Tauro L, Krishnakumar P, Srivastava R, Sinha S. (2016) Isolation and Partial Characterization of Lectins from Indian Varieties of Leguminous Plants. *International Journal of Advanced Research*. 4(5):1827-1834. ISSN 2320-5407.
- Sode K, Gupta P, **Pacha-Gupta R**, **Das S**. (2016) Cadmium-induced Developmental Defects in Chick Embryos and Antioxidant Effects of Green Tea. *International Journal of Applied Research*. 2(5):558-562. ISSN Print: 2394-7500. ISSN Online: 2394-5869.

Book Chapter

- Pereira Roy and **Pacha-Gupta Radiya** (2015) Will Technology Evolve a New Way of Thinking? Book Chapter: *Mastery Meets Mystery-Intersecting Science, Philosophy, Religion and Culture*. pp:275-287, Editor: Augustine Pamplany.

Popular Science Articles

- Sundarrajan Priya. (2015) Your Genes and Your Environment. *Lignum Vitae*. 4:6-7.
- Sundarrajan Priya. (2016) Living Light. *Imprint*. 1:17-18.

CONTINUATION OF STAR COLLEGE STATUS

Botany, Microbiology, Life Science, Zoology, Chemistry, and Physics are six departments in the Star College scheme since 2012. After three years, they have been awarded star status. Under this programme, each department was given 5 lakhs non-recurring (instruments) as one-time grant and 2 Lakhs / department / year for three years. All together we got 66 Lakhs for this department in Phase I.

In Phase II (2016-19) after successful completion of the programme, the report was presented to the Evaluation committee at Delhi and then these departments were awarded STAR STATUS. In this phase, we will get Rs. 10/ lakhs per department as one time grant for equipment and 3 lakhs per year per department as recurring. Total 1,14,00,000/-.

In addition, last year Department of Maths has been selected by DBT for Phase 1 star scheme and will get Rs. 11 Lakhs in next three years (2016-19).

STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENT

- Mr. Aditya Chalishazar & Mr. Rajath Krishna of SYBSc class of 2015-2016, have secured an Internship Summer Programme at 'Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research' Bangalore.

Chemistry Department

- The Department Of Chemistry is proud to announce the awarding of the Ph.D. degree to Mr. Bhushan V. Dabholkar by the University of Mumbai. He worked under the guidance of Dr. Freddy H. Havaladar.
- Eight students participated and seven of them made it to the MERIT LIST during 2015-2016 in the Aptitude Test- 2015 conducted by the Indian Chemical Society. One of them, Mr. Aditya Chalishazar stood Third in the MERIT LIST and was also awarded a cash prize along with a Certificate of Merit.

Geology Department

- Our graduating batch had a record number of students securing admissions for their postgraduate studies in the IITs based, on their brilliant performance in the national entrance examination – JAM. Listed below are the students and the institutes they have secured admissions to.
 - (AIR – All India Rank for admission into the IITs)
- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Meghomita Das JAM AIR 2 – IIT Bombay | 2. Troy Lobo JAM AIR 3 – IIT Bombay |
| 3. Neena Picardo JAM AIR 10 – IIT Bombay | 4. Aditya Patkar JAM AIR 44 – IIT Roorkee |
| 5. Gandhar Nigudkar – IIT Kharagpur | 6. Ayush Dhar – IIT Kharagpur |
| 7. Nikhil Jacob – IIT Kharagpur | 8. Srikant Singh – IIT Kharagpur |
| 9. Suraj Vichi – IIT Bhubaneswar | 10. Robin Prince – IIT Bhubaneswar |

- **In Indian School of Mines**

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Sanket Tiwlekar | 2. Robin Prince |
|--------------------|-----------------|

Life Science and Biochemistry Department

University Toppers (2014-15)

- Ms. Janhavi Damani stood 1st and Ms. Trisha Roy stood 3rd in the BSc (Life Sciences) examination conducted by the University of Mumbai. They are currently 1st year MSc (Life Science) students in the Dept.

National Level Scholarships - Sir Dorabji Tata Trust Scholarships

- Mr. Shravan Ram and Ms. Roshni de Souza (TYBSc)
- Ms. Keya Kulkarni, Ms. Janhavi Rathi, Ms. Prachi Salankhe (MSc Part II)

National Entrance Exams Qualified

- Ms. Aishwarya Acharya, Ms. Sakshi Negi (2014-15), and Mr. Janakraj Bhattraai and Ms. Roshni D'Souza (2015-16) cleared the All India entrance test and interviews at TIFR, Mumbai and are selected for the MSc by research course in the Department of Biological Sciences.
- Mr. Archit Sunat (MSc Cognitive Science) and Ms. Aashka Shinde (MA Society and Culture) cleared the All India Entrance Test for IIT and are pursuing MSc at IIT-Gandhinagar.
- Mr. Devashish Pande cleared the IISER-Kolkata entrance exam and interview and has been selected for the MSc programme.
- Ms. Aishwarya Mandya cleared the entrance exam at the Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology (IBAB), Bangalore and has joined for MSc.
- As per available data: 3 students qualified the UGC-CSIR-NET examination in Dec. 2015, 5 cleared GATE and 1 cleared CAT.

Masters in Public Policy Department

- Paper presentation on 'Making Education Inclusive in Rural India.' - Bhakti won the 1st prize and Surbhi Bhatia won the 2nd prize.
- Serena Fernando's paper on 'Representation of women in Tamil songs : Creativity or Misogyny' selected for

publication in the Social Surfing journal of Centre for Social Research.

- Surbhi Bhatia's paper on 'Getting Back to the Road through Disinvestment' selected for publication in Athena, the journal of the Madras School of Economics.
- Students participated in a debate on Morals and Ethics at the BSE. Harnidh Kaur was chosen as the Best Speaker and Serena Fernando as the second Best Speaker on October 30th, 2015.
- Harnidh Kaur gave a TEDx talk at Kalyani Nagar, Pune, on creativity and healing. 9th August 2015 (<https://www.ted.com/tedx/events/15128>)
- Harnidh Kaur: A book of poems, 'The Inability of Words', published by Writer's Workshop, Kolkata. 5 poems were accepted for publication in (E)razed Histories, under the Central University of Gujarat.
- Harnidh's poem, 'It Is Not A Love Poem', was published in EPW, Vol. 51, Issue No. 22, 28 May, 2016.
- Surbhi Bhatia presented a paper titled 'The Right of Citizens for Time Bound Delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of their grievances Bill, 2011' at the TISS, Hyderabad Second Graduate Seminar on 'Democracy, Development and Re(Distribution)' held on 28th April-30th April 2016. Her article, 'Getting Back to the Road through Disinvestment' has been selected for publication in Athena, the journal of the Madras School of Economics.
- Serena Fernando presented a paper titled 'The Curious Case of Unspent Social Sector Scheme Funds' at the TISS, Hyderabad Second Graduate Seminar on 'Democracy, Development and Re(Distribution)' held on 28th April-30th April 2016.
- Smriti Khera presented a paper titled 'Public Action and Welfare Policies: The Tamil Nadu Experience' at the TISS, Hyderabad Second Graduate Seminar on 'Democracy, Development and Re(Distribution)' held on 28th April-30th April 2016
- Danica Sequeira presented a paper titled 'Reintegration of Ex-Prisoners into the Labour Market' at a competition named VIASHAVIK organised by the Labour Studies Department of TISS, Mumbai on 4th March, 2016.
- Hussain Sayyed has been given the Best Initiative Award, 2016 by Piramal Foundation for the exceptional work done with volunteers in painting government schools in Mumbai.

Zoology Department

- **Mr. Pratik Gupte** a student of the department was awarded the Erasmus Mundus scholarship for Evolutionary Ecology.
- Ms Parmeshwari Chandok of T.Y.B.Sc received Sir Dorabji Tata fellowship for year 2015-16.
- Ms Sanuli Paralkar student of department went to Canada on Ontario Maharashtra Goa exchange program.



Geology seminar in progress at the SCAVI

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS 2014 - 2015

SR.	Group	A	POST FYJC	NAME OF AWARDEE
1	A.	1	the Cursetjee Framjee Wadia , Sir Sassoon J. David,Bai Rattanbai Bomanji Wadia and the Cowasji Jehangir Readymoney Scholarship for highest in FYJC Arts	Anant Venkatesh
2	A.	2	the Printer,Lukhansi Nappo, Edwin and Edith Noronha and Munshi Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.J. C. Science	Shebani Bhargava
3	A.	3	the Mrs. Amba C.P. Wadia Scholarship for a deserving Parsi boy highest at the FYJC examination.	Raymond Mistry
4	A.	4	the Pragji Purshottam Bhatia and Vurdhman Jetsey Scholarship for a Hindu student with the highest average in FYJC (Arts or Science).	Shebani Bhargava
5	A.	5	The Neena Nigam Memorial Scholarship for higher learning	Clerean Estan Pereira
		B	POST SYJC	
6	B.	1	the Fr.Dreckman,Rev. Frs. Boese, Usteri, Degan, Walrath, Boswin and Mrs. Hermina Miranda Scholarship for highest at the HSC examination (Science)	Aishwarya Aiyar
7	B.	2	the Prof. Abbas,Ardeshir Dhunjishaw Lalkaka and Maneckjee Framjee Hormusjee Sethna Scholarship for highest aggregate at the HSC examination and continuing with FYBA.	Monica Moses
8	B.	3	the P. A. Hormasjee Wadia Scholarship to a Parsi lady student for highest in French at the HSC examination.	Niyosha Gandhi
9	B.	4	the Fr.Sacasa's, Nadkarny-Kothare, Prof. R.N. Bhagwat and the Meenal Dinkar Rao Mugve Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the H.S.C. examination.	Betsy Grace Varghese
10	B.	5	the Parimal K. Shroff Prize for highest marks in Political Science at the HSC examination.	Flavia Lopes
11	B.	6	the Mrs. Cyrilla Juliana D'Souza , Late Joseph Manuel D'Souza and John Damascene D'Almeida Scholarship for a deserving Catholic student in FYBA /BSc.	Betsy Grace Varghese
12	B.	7	the Khan Bahadur Burjorjie D. Patel, Sir Dinshaw M. Petit , and Ardeshir Hormasjee Wadia Fund Scholarship for a deserving Parsi student with the best aggregate at HSC examination	Niyosha Gandhi
13	B.	8	The Late Anirudha Jayprakash Bhogle Scholarship for a deserving student with the highest marks in Biology at the HSC examination.	Sayma Khan
		C	POST FYBA/FYBSc	
14	C.	1	the Jehangir Bomanji ,Tullakchand Maneckchand , Vijbhukhandas Atmaram Mehta and the Caius Scholarship for highest aggregate at the FYBA.	Bandhuli Chattopadhyay
15	C.	2	the Prof. C. D. Pinto , and Fr. Hamilton Scholarship for the highest in English Literature at the FYBA examination.	Raina Bhagat
16	C.	3	the Hindi Sahitya Mandal Scholarship for highest in Hindi (Ancillary) at the FYBA examination	Priya Baid
17	C.	4	the Fr. Sierp, Prof. S.K. Chhapgar and Meenal Dinkar Rao Mugve Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the FYBSc examination and continuing with Chemistry in SYBSc.	Aditya Chalishazar
18	C.	5	the College Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.B.Sc.- IT examination	Mohit Agrawal
19	C.	6	the College Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.B.M.M examination	Rutwij Nakhwa
20	C.	7	the College Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.B.M.S examination	Harshita Rathi
21	C.	8	the Burjor Kaikobad Doctor, Khan Bahadur Hormusji Kharshedji Bhabha, and Dinshaw Shavakshaw Adenwalla Scholarship for a Parsi student highest in FYBA/FYBSc examination.	Shalome Palkhivala
22	C.	9	the Dr. Lewis Gomes and the Parsi Association, D.K.Kamdin and R.C Chanrai Scholarship for a deserving student in SYBSc/SYBA	Alisha D'Souza
23	C.	10	the Watumull Foundation Scholarship for highest in Accounts at the FYBCom examination.	Aravind Pandi
24	C.	11	the Armand Francis Sequeira and the Ignatius Loyola Scholarship for highest in Economics at the FYBCom examination.	Kumari Anchal
25	C.	12	the Late Squadron Leader O. J. D'Sena and the Late Mansoor Awan Scholarship for highest in Business Communication at the FYBCom examination..	Rohith Gonsalves
26	C.	13	Fredie A Mehta Scholarship for highest in Economics at the FYBA examination.	Tarini Luniya
27	C.	14	the A.V. Krishnamurti Scholarship for highest in Physics at FYBSc examination and continuing with Physics in SYBSc.	Aditya Chalishazar

28	C	15	the Dattatraya and Meera Mugve Scholarship for the highest aggregate at the FYBSc examination	Aditya Chalishazar
		D	POST SYBA/SYBSc	
29	D.	1	the Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim, Jamsetji Ardeshir Wadia and Joseph Manuel D'Souza Scholarship for highest at the SYBA examination.	Aashima Singla
30	D.	2	the Dr. Shashishekhar Naithani Scholarship for highest in SYBA Hindi (Ancillary).	Radhika Iyer
31	D.	3	the Fr. Bochum, Rev. Fr. H. Heras, S.J. and Prof. N. N. Lala History Scholarship for highest in History at FY & SYBA and continuing with History at TYBA (8 papers).	Sachet Mantra
32	D.	4	the Mr. Erasmus F.C. Sequeira, and Principal Mafatlal Vadilal Naik Scholarship for Highest in English at SYBA examination and continuing with English at TYBA	Shauna Irani
33	D.	5	the M. A. Bomanji Dubash and Fr. Gisbert Sociology Academy Scholarship for a student highest in Sociology or Anthropology at the FY & SYBA examination and continuing with Socio/ Socio-Anthro in TYBA.	Deanne Fernandes
34	D.	6	the Late Prof. Anthony Monteiro Scholarship for highest in SYBSc Chemistry and continuing with Chemistry in TYBSc.	Anuja Sharma
35	D.	7	the Mr. Shahrukh B. Paymaster Memorial and Mr. Ashok Sumanlal Patel Memorial Prize for highest in Microbiology at the FY & SY and continuing with Chemistry or Microbiology in TYBSc.	Yagya Chadha
36	D.	8	the Prof. R. V. Kamat, Mrs. Allan Asphandiar Dadachanji, Miss Sudha Prabhudesai and Janardhan Dayanand Bhatt Prize for highest in Physics at the SYBSc and continuing with Physics in TYBSc	Ali Mohammed Kanchwala
37	D.	9	the Prof. Dara M. Munshi and M. Krishnan Memorial Scholarship for highest in Zoology at SYBSc and continuing with Zoology in TYBSc.	Parmeshwari Chandak
38	D.	10	the College Scholarship for highest at the S.Y.B.M.S examination	Bianca Menezes
39	D.	11	the College Scholarship for highest at the S.Y.B.M.M examination	Archita Mitra
40	D.	12	the Dr. Lewis Gomes, Parsi Association, D.K. Kamdin, R.C. Chanrai and Late Mr. Leslie Rebello Scholarship for a deserving Catholic student in the TYBA / BSc.	Precious Jacob
41	D.	13	the Watumull Foundation and the Edmund Campion Scholarship for a needy and outstanding student in present TYBCom	Surya Pratap Singh Mehta
42	D.	14	the Mrs. Kathleen Pereira, Ignatius Loyola Scholarship for a deserving student with the best attendance in SYBCom.	Christina Francis
43	D.	15	the Khushalchand Charity Trust and the Late Aritha Alva Scholarship for a needy and outstanding student in TYBCom.	Delna
44	D.	16	the College Scholarship for highest at the S.Y.B.Sc - IT examination.	Gauri Singh
45	D.	17	Fredie A. Mehta Scholarship for highest in Economics at FY & SYBA and continuing with Economics at TYBA (6 papers)	Yash Mimani
		E	POST TYBA/BSc	
46	E.	1	the Mr. Hadi C. Tyabjee, J. J. & G. J. Lalwani and Hilloo Scholarship for highest aggregate at the TYBA examination.	Vatsal Khandelwal
47	E.	2	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for girl student highest in AIC at the TYBA examination.	Mehvish Shaikh
48	E.	3	The Shodhan Prasad Dave Memorial Prize for highest in Economics (3 Unit) at the TYBA examination.	Shiksha Gupta
49	E.	4	the Dewan R.N. Saigal Scholarship for the best Economics Honours Programme student.	Raadhika Vishvesh
50	E.	4	the Dewan R.N. Saigal Scholarship for the best Economics Honours Programme student.	Aditya Sreenivas
51	E.	5	the Carmelita and Charles Nazareth Scholarship for highest in English at the TYBA examination.	Sharvari Joshi
52	E.	6	the Fr. Edward D'Cruz Political Science Scholarship for highest aggregate in entire Political Science (8 papers) at the TYBA examination.	Parizad Irani
53	E.	7	the Parimal K. Shroff Prize for highest marks in Political Science at the TYBA examination	Parizad Irani
54	E.	8	the Late Mrs. Kaushalya Sethi Scholarship for highest in Psychology (Major) at the TYBA examination.	Tanvi Sambrani
55	E.	9	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for Catholic girl student highest at the TYBA examination.	Rianne Sharon Gomes

56	E.	10	the Mr. Hadi C. Tyabjee and the Pragji Purshottam Bhatia Scholarship for highest at the TYBSc examination.	Sanuli Paralkar
57	E.	10	the Mr. Hadi C. Tyabjee and the Pragji Purshottam Bhatia Scholarship for highest at the TYBSc examination.	Mahikansh Reddy
58	E.	11	the D.L. Modi Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the TYBSc examination.	Prasenjit Srivastava
59	E.	12	Dr. M.P. Sujayakumari and the Department of Life Sciences Scholarship for highest in FY, SY & TYBSc (3 units) Life Science.	Aishwarya Acharya
60	E.	13	the Department of Life Sciences Scholarship for highest in FY, SY & TYBSc (6 units) Life Science.	Sakshi Negi
61	E.	14	the Minoo H. Matbar, Burjor Kaikobad Doctor Memorial, and Sarabhai Dipchand Shah Scholarship for highest in Mathematics at the TYBSc examination.	Sheen Francis
62	E.	15	the Prof. Joseph Selwyn Dias, Malcolm Pereira and Prof. Sam J. Khambatta Scholarship for highest in Physics at the TYBSc examination.	Munnawar Khanduwala
63	E.	16	the Almeidas' Botany Scholarship for highest in Botany at the TYBSc examination	Monisha Uchil
64	E.	17	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for a girl student highest in Statistics at the TYBSc.	Arpita Shah
65	E.	18	the Prof. J.V.Bhat Memorial Scholarship for second highest in Microbiology at the TYBSc examination	Fleur Fernandes
66	E.	19	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for Catholic girl student highest at the TYBSc examination.	Aditi Karmarkar
67	E.	20	the College Scholarship for Ranking First in T.Y.B.M.S	Sarona D'Silva
68	E.	21	the Late Mr. Abdul Hameed Ansari Scholarship for Ranking First in T.Y.B.M.M (Advertising)	Duana D'Silva
69	E.	21	the Late Mr. Abdul Hameed Ansari Scholarship for Ranking First in T.Y.B.M.M (Advertising)	Amanda Monteiro
70	E.	22	the Late Mr. Abdul Hameed Ansari Scholarship for Ranking First in T.Y.B.M.M (Journalism)	Pranav Kuttaiah
71	E.	23	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate at TYBCom examination.	Aaditya Paul Bardhan
72	E.	24	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate in Financial Accounting - Paper I at the TYBCom examination.	Roy Dias
73	E.	25	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate in Financial Accounting - Paper II at the TYBCom examination.	Aaditya Paul Bardhan
74	E.	26	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate in Financial Accounting - Paper III at the TYBCom examination.	Roy Dias
75	E.	27	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest attendance in the TYBCom.	Gauthami Rai
76	E.	28	the Pedro Arrupe, the Late Mr. Alphonsus Stanislaus Saldanha & Late Fr. Charles Saldanha, S.J. Scholarship for a student with all round performance at the TYBCom.	Puneet Acharya
77	E.	29	the Dr. Mohamed Bazlur Rehman Scholarship for Catholic student highest in English (8 papers) and pursuing post graduation studies	Amanda D'souza
78	E.	30	the Khan Bahadur Hormasji Kharshedji Bhabha and Rev. Fr. Heras, S. J. Scholarship for highest in History at FY, SY & TYBA examination and continuing with MA in History.	to be announced
79	E.	31	the Sociology Academy Scholarship for highest in Sociology at the TYBA examination, excellence in other activities of College and continuing with Post Graduation	Gauri Naik
80	E.	32	the Dr. N.A. Irani Memorial Scholarship for best aggregate in Botany at the TYBSc and continuing with MSc in Plant Taxonomy.	N.A.
81	E.	33	the Late Noshirwan H. Sethna Geology Scholarship for highest in Geology at the TYBSc examination and continuing with Geology .	Ananya Mukherjee
82	E.	34	the Sheila M. Joseph Memorial Fund Scholarship for highest in Zoology at the TYBSc and continuing with MSc in Zoology.	Sanuli Paralkar
83	E.	35	the Sir Dinshaw M. Petit Post Graduate Scholarship and the Ardeshir Hormasjee Wadia Fund for Parsi student of TYBSc continuing with post graduation studies.	N.A.
84	E.	36	the Prof. Saroj Hazari Scholarship for highest marks in 19th Century English Literature at the TYBA examination.	Shruti Iyer

85	E.	37	Fredie A. Mehta Scholarship for best aggregate in Economics of the TYBA exam and continuing with post graduation studies in Economics	
86	E.	38	the Dr. R.K.Hazari Memorial Prize for second highest marks in Economics at the TYBA examination	Lisa Collaco
87	E.	39	Fredie A. Mehta Scholarship for deserving student with best aggregate in Economics of the TYBA exam and continuing with post graduation studies in Economics	
88	E.	40	the College scholarship for ranking first in T.Y.B.Sc.IT.	Rishabh Tiwari
89	E.	41	Mrs. Kalpana Hansraj Chaudhuri Scholarship for a deserving girl student continuing post graduation in Science	Prachi Anand
90	E.	42	Mukul Singhal Scholarship for the highest aggregate at the TYBSc examination	Sanuli Paralkar
91	E.	42	Mukul Singhal Scholarship for the highest aggregate at the TYBSc examination	Mahikansh Reddy
92	E.	43	the Late Prof. Cavas J. Shroff Scholarship for the highest marks in Statistics at the TYBSc examination	Arpita Shah
93	E.	44	the Ms. Baktawar Sam Sethna Scholarship for a female student securing highest in Geology at the TYBSc exam & continuing with MSc in Geology	Ananya Mukherjee
		F	SENIOR MA & MSc	
94	F.	1	the Dr. Ratan Nadirshaw Sureshwala and Dr. Dayanand Dattatraya Yellur Scholarship for highest in Geology at MSc Part I.	Anushka Lobo
95	F.	2	the Dr. Ratan Nadirshaw Sureshwala and Dr. Dayanand Dattatraya Yellur Scholarship for highest in Geology at MSc Part II	Delora Perreira
96	F.	3	the College scholarship for highest in Biotechnology at the M.Sc. Examination	Keerthana Srinivasan
97	F.	4	the Late Shri R. R. Subramanian Scholarship for a student ranking first in the MA autonomous course in Ancient Indian History, Culture & Archaeology.	Neesha Nair
		G	GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP	
98	G.	1	Prof. Edward Mendonca and Ashok Kamte Memorial Award for the Student of the Year.	Hailey Turakhia
99	G.	2	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the F.Y.B.A. examination.	Bandhuli Chattopadhyay
100	G.	3	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the F.Y.B.Sc. examination.	Aditya Chalishazar
101	G.	4	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the F.Y.B.Com. examination.	Sharmistha Singh
102	G.	5	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the S.Y.B.A. examination.	Aashima Singla
103	G.	6	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the S.Y.B.Sc. examination.	Gauri Kamat
104	G.	7	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the S.Y.B.Com. examination.	Celeste Pais
105	G.	8	Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship for the most promising student of the Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC)	Shiksha Gupta
106	G.	9	the St. Xavier's College Association Golden Jubilee Scholarship for excellence in academics, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.	Shreya Mathur
107	G.	10	the St.Xavier's College Association Fr.Balaguer Scholarship for a Senior College student who is outstanding in social work .	Ganeshri Khare
108	G.	10	the St.Xavier's College Association Fr.Balaguer Scholarship for a Senior College student who is outstanding in social work .	Kyle James Meyers
109	G.	11	the Fr. M.M. Balaguer, S.J. Scholarship for hardworking Senior College Catholic student.	
110	G.	12	the Sabate-Freitas Memorial Fund, Shri & Smt. P. B. Fernandes-Veloz and the Ardeshir Rustomiji Thanawala Scholarship for a student who is outstanding in Social Work.	Sacha Baptista
111	G.	12	the Sabate-Freitas Memorial Fund, Shri & Smt. P. B. Fernandes-Veloz and the Ardeshir Rustomiji Thanawala Scholarship for a student who is outstanding in Social Work.	Raina Bhagat
112	G.	13	the Fenelon Bossuet Godinho Hindi Paritoshik and the Kamla Hindi Paritoshik	Querobina Bawale
113		14	the Prof. Khalil Dehdashti Memorial Persian Scholarship for highest in Islamic Culture Studies	N.A.

114	G.	15	the Hostelite Welfare and Shastri Scholarship for a deserving hostelite	Shekhar Manjulkar
115	G.	16	the Hostelite Welfare and Shastri Scholarship for a Meritorious hostelite	
116	G.	17	the Vinod Mehra Scholarship for the best cultural talent	Vatsal Khandelwal
117	G.	18	the Late Gurcharan Kaur, Amrik Singh, Surender Jeet Singh & Varalakshimi P. Singh Scholarship for a deserving student	Ravi Kiran
118	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Sajid Maulvi
119	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Priyanka Pitlekar
120	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Renita Saldanha
121	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Lynette Rodrigues
122	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Rajendra Chawre
123	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Mala Varma
124	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Paul D'Souza
125	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Sweta Mainkar
126	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	S Abbas
127	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Rexon Pinto
128	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	AliMohammed Kanchwala
129	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Ankit Kumar Gajra
130	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Santosh Arer
131	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Tushar Parab
132	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Simran Galipathu
133	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Mamta Sonawane
134	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Smitha Ganguly
135	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Tushar Valand
136	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Aishwarya Mane
137	G.	19	S. N. Iyer Q.C. & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student	Deepak kumar Jaiswal
138	G.	20	the Gurudas Bailur Scholarship for a deserving student	Harshad Parekar
139	G.	21	Scholarship for a Deserving Catholic Student	Vanessa Dsouza
140			Mrs Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic student	Troy Lobo
141	G.	22	Mrs Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic student	Rhea Tauro
142			Mrs Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic student	Darren Henriques
143	G.	23	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for an outstanding student of the college.	Stutee Agarwal
144	G.	24	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for the most helpful student of the college.	
145	G.	25	the Prema Arya Memorial Scholarship to a deserving student.	Cianna D'souza
146	G.	26	Sheila & Ben Jacob Memorial Arts Prize for a deserving girl student	Rohit Khatokar
147				Sharon Robert
148	G.	27	Dr.Edgar DaSilva Memorial prize for the highest in Microbiology at the T.Y.B.Sc. Exam.	Deepanjali Francis
149	G.	28	Dr.Edgar DaSilva Memorial prize for the highest aggregate at the T.Y.B.A. Exam.	Vatsal Khandelwal
150	G.	29	Chandrakant Gupta Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Felita Viegas
151	G.	30	O.A. Mathen Memorial Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Merlyn Anthony
152	G.	31	Vibha & Bhalchandra Dave Trust Fund Scholarship for a deserving post graduate student of Microbiology	to be announced
153				to be announced
154	G.	32	Late.Smt Kaushalya Nayar and Late Shri. Kahan Chand Nayar Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Chrislynn Gonsalves
155	G.			Priyanka Bandivadekar
156	G.	33	the Dr. Yvonne Mae Freitas Scholarship for highest in Microbiology at the M.Sc. exam	Anushree Sawant
157				Fatema Bharmal
158				Priya Fernandes
159	G.	34	the Late Prof. Cavas J. Shroff Scholarship for deserving girl student pursuing B.Sc.	Priithika Mhatre
160				Gauri Kamat
161	G.	35	the Shreevrat Goenka Scholarship for a meritorius Post graduate student of Life Sciences	Janice Maria D'Mello
162	G.	36	the Anjaneer Jon Scholaship for deserving student to pursue the Master's Programme in Biotechnology	to be announced
163	G.	37	the Late Mr.Manu Vasudeva and Mrs. Prabha Vasudeva 'Nishtha' Scholarship for a deserving girl student in B.A.	Sharon Lobo

164	G.	37	the Late Mr.Manu Vasudeva and Mrs. Prabha Vasudeva 'Nishtha' Scholarship for a deserving girl student in B.Sc.	Farah Siddiqua
165	G.	38	Dr. M.A. Eswaran Scholarship for a deserving student of MSc Life Sciences	Payal Gupta
166	G.	38	Dr. M.A. Eswaran Scholarship for a deserving student of MSc Life Sciences	Keya Kulkarni
		H	SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS	
167	H.	1	the Valerian F.X. Pais Scholarship for excelling in academics and representing College in various sports events.	Kimberly Fernandez
168	H.	2	the Late John C. Pinto Scholarship for an outstanding sportsman (preferably in Hockey / Football).	Denise D'Mello
169	H.	3	the Mr. Hadi C. Tyabjee , Prof. Godfrey G. D'Souza Scholarship for a student with the best record at inter-collegiate or inter-university events.	Melissa Luiz
170	H.	4	the Mrs. Meherbai Dorabji Hilloo ,Desai , Joseph Manuel and Prof. Godfrey D'Souza Scholarship for the best male athlete.	Seltzer Menezes
171	H.	5	the Joseph Manuel ,Prof. Godfrey D'Souza, Jehangir Rustomji Dhabher, Mrs. M. R. de Souza ,Sir Ness N. Wadia Scholarship and Willie Fernandes Scholarship for excellence in Football.	Sephra Abraham
172	H.	6	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for excellence in Basket Ball	Israel Fernando
173	H.	7	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for Best female athlete.	Nicole Coutinho
174	H.	8	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for a student who has distinguished himself / herself in an individual sport.	Nikita Chatterjee
175	H.	9	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for excellence in academics and representing college in various sports event (Senior College)	Stutee Agarwal
176	H.	10	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for outstanding sportsman in Hockey (Junior College)	Ashutosh Shinde
177	H.	11	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for outstanding sportsman in Football (Junior College)	Anoushka Fernandes



Graduation Day Buzz in the first quad

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YOUNG ACHIEVERS !!!
RESULTS OF ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE-AUTONOMOUS MARCH 2015

	T.Y.B.A	T.Y.B.Sc	T.Y.B.Com	T.Y.B.M.S	T.Y.B.M.M	T.Y.B.Sc (IT)
College Pass %	93.00%	75.56%	41.25%	90.16%	60.94%	81.13%

COLLEGE RANKERS

NAME OF STUDENTS		C.G.P.A	RANK
Mr. Vatsal Pankaj Khandelwal	T.Y.B.A	3.85	1st
Ms. Shiksha Rajiv Gupta		3.82	2nd
Ms. Mehr Jagmohan Kaur		3.82	2nd
Ms. Tanvi Dhananjay Sambrani		3.82	2nd
	T.Y.B.Sc		
Mr. Mahikaansh Sanjay Reddy Tekulapalli		3.95	1st
Ms. Sanuli Ranjan Paralkar		3.95	1st
Ms. Arpita Arvind Shah		3.90	2nd
	T.Y.B.Com		
Mr. Paul Aaditya K Bardhan		3.46	1st
Mr. Roy A Dias		3.39	2nd
Mr. Puneet K Acharya		3.32	3rd
	T.Y.B.M.S		
Ms. Sarona Alex D'Silva		3.75	1st
Ms. Shivani Yadav Dayyala		3.71	2nd
	T.Y.B.M.M		
Mr. Pranav Kuttaiah		3.74	1st in Journalism
Ms. Duana D'silva		3.64	1st in Advertising
	T.Y.B.Sc - I.T		
Mr. Rishabh Tiwari		3.68	1st
Ms. Saima Saboowala		3.67	2nd

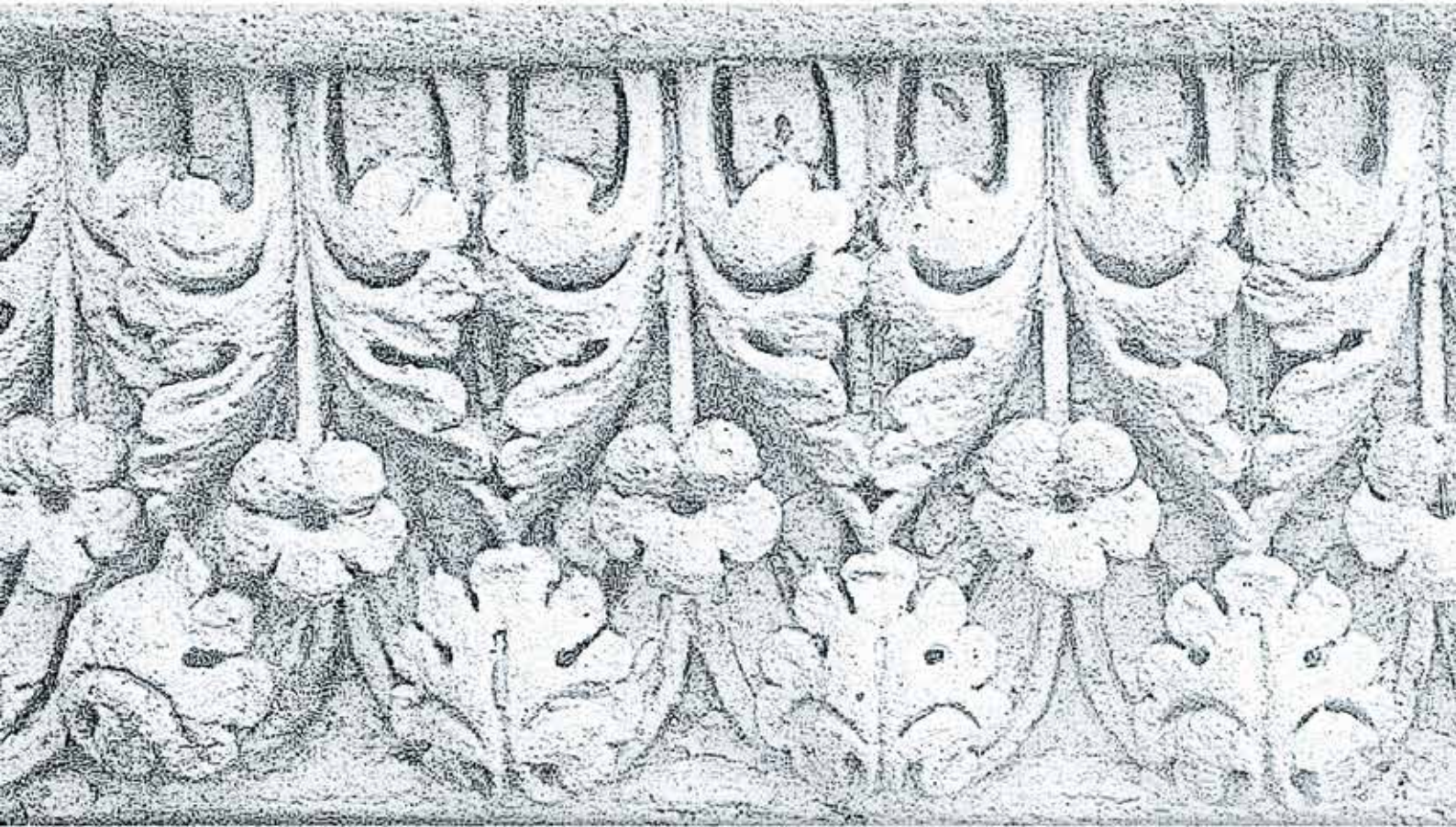
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YOUNG ACHIEVERS !!!
RESULTS OF ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE-AUTONOMOUS MARCH 2015

	M.A. (AIC)	M.Sc. (Bot)	M.Sc. (Geo)	M.Sc. (LSc)	M.Sc. (Mic)	M.Sc. (Biotech)
College Pass %	68.18%	66.67%	94.74%	76.47%	83.33%	89.29%

COLLEGE RANKERS

NAME OF STUDENTS	C.G.P.A	RANK
M.A. (Ancient Indian History, Culture & Archaeology)		
Ms. Nisha Satheesh Nair	3.61	1st
Ms. Mallika Ravikumar Iyer	3.52	2nd
Mr. Johns Jason	3.52	2nd
M.A. (PUBLIC POLICY)		
Ms. Shivaneer Agrawal	3.73	1st
Ms. Mukta Sunil Gawde	3.73	1st
Ms. Shama Yashwant Chalke	3.63	2nd
M.SC. (BOTANY)		
Ms. Aishwarya Gurung	3.50	1st
Ms. Priya Srishty	3.46	2nd
Mr. Subrata Shyamal Jana	3.35	3rd
M. SC. (GEOLOGY)		
Ms. Delora Richard Pereira	3.72	1st
Mr. Darryl Felix D'sa	3.56	2nd
Ms. Plancy Josemaria Pereira	3.54	3rd
M.SC. (LIFE SCIENCE)		
Ms. Janice Maria D'mello	3.68	1st
Ms. Payal Mohan Gupta	3.65	2nd
Ms. Leora Robert D'souza	3.61	3rd
M.SC. (MICROBIOLOGY)		
Ms. Fatema Mohammed Bharmal	3.90	1st
Ms. Erica Sheryl Fernandes	3.82	2nd
Ms. Sherin	3.77	3rd
M.SC. (BIOTECHNOLOGY)		
Ms. Srinivasan Keerthana	3.99	1st
Ms. Priya Achhelal Upadhyay	3.77	2nd
Ms. Durmi Ketan Shah	3.73	3rd

CONVERSATION WITH GLOBALISATION



COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

“We live in a world that is full of beauty, charm and adventure. There is no end to the adventures we can have if only we seek them with our eyes open.” These words rightly said by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru shed light on the beauty of travel which can be further enriched when done in the educational context. As one of the premier institutes in the nation, St. Xavier’s firmly stands for this postulate. Providing exposure to education in a foreign land has not only significantly contributed to the academic development of students, but also has given impetus to overall intellectual progression and has fostered interpersonal and leadership skills in our students. The Council for International Programmes plays an active role in providing students with an opportunity to experience education and culture at institutes around the globe in nations displaying cultural diversity. Furthermore, the CIP also facilitates students from international institutes to have a pleasant feel of Indian culture and to our advanced education system.

Read on to learn about the various programmes organized by the CIP at St. Xavier’s in the academic year 2015 – 2016:

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR STUDENTS OF ST. XAVIER’S:

There are a variety of programmes organized for the students of St. Xavier’s by the Council for International Programmes. These range from short-term programmes of a week to two months, to long-term programmes of one semester to one year. This year, forty four Xavier’s students took the opportunity to study abroad and experience varied cultures. These were:

University of California, Berkeley, USA: Six of our students enrolled in various courses offered by the University of California, Berkeley, USA, in their summer programme from May to June 2016. In reciprocity, eighteen students of Berkeley visited St. Xavier’s for two months from June to August 2015 to study courses in Globalization and Economics.

Ecole de Management de Normandie, France: Nezhat Fouzdar was selected to go to E.M. Normandie, France for a year to study Management Studies. In reciprocity, two students from E.M. Normandie visited St. Xavier’s for one semester from June to October 2015 in the BMM department.

Comillas Pontifical University, Spain: Maria Kuriakose, Rhea Naik and Sephra Abraham were selected to study for a year at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration with a full tuition waiver at Comillas Pontifical University, Spain. In reciprocity, one student of Comillas visited St. Xavier’s for one semester from June to October 2015 in the BMM department.

IESEG School of Management, France: Shalmali Ghaisas and Hana Ali enrolled at the IESEG School of Management, France, with a full tuition waiver. In reciprocity, three students from IESEG visited St. Xavier’s for a year to study in the BMM department.

Sciences Po, France: Andrea D’Souza, Samyukta Venkatraman and Pranav Kuttaiah were selected to study for a year at Sciences Po, France. Andrea D’Souza was awarded the prestigious Charpak Scholarship from the French Embassy to cover her tuition fees at Sciences Po. Three students from Sciences Po visited St. Xavier’s to study courses in Management Studies.

Harvard University, USA: The ‘Harvard College in Asia Programme’ (HCAP) is one of the most competitive and sought after programmes for students of St. Xavier’s. This year, eight students were selected to participate in a nine-day conference themed “Equality, Tolerance and Freedom: The Effect of Culture and Policy on a Globalized World”, at Harvard University, USA from 15th to 24th January 2016. Ten students from Harvard University did the honors by selecting St. Xavier’s College as their school of choice.

University of Stuttgart, St. Louis University, Stellenbosch University and St. Xavier’s College Department of English Collaborative Programme:

The Indian chapter of the online course - In Conversation with Globalization, was held from 17th to 24th January 2016. There were 24 students from participating foreign universities. Several Xavier’s students also participated in the course.

St. Louis University, USA: Anand Padmanabhan and Saloni Bhatia proudly made their way to St. Louis University, USA for a year. As stated in the MOU between the two institutes, they received a full tuition waiver.

Universities in Ontario, Canada: Zahra Mitra, Sanuli Parulkar and Fatema Kakal were selected to study in Ontario, Canada, for a year, with a full



Intensive English Language course students from Soka Univ Japan

tuition waiver, as part of the Ontario-Maharashtra-Goa (OMG) programme.

Yale University: Varada Shrotri was selected to study various courses at Yale University, USA, for two months as part of their summer programme, May-June 2016.

University of Dundee, Scotland: Rajas Shinde availed of the opportunity to pursue a two-month research internship under the supervision of Dr. Gordon Simpson, at the College of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Scotland from 23rd April to 19th June 2016.

St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford, UK: Shubham Pansare was selected to study at St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford, UK, for their Trinity term, for a period of two months, May-June 2016. He was awarded the prestigious Betty and Donald Keating scholarship to cover for his tuition as well as accommodation, travel and stipend in UK.

Scottsdale Community College, USA: Ishita Bhawe was awarded a full scholarship from the US Consulate to study at Scottsdale Community College, USA, for 10 months.

The University of Tokyo, Japan: Zoe Daruwalla and Gaurishankar Gupta attended the 'Global Next Leaders Forum 2015' (GNLF) Conference at the University of Tokyo, Japan for one week. They were accompanied by Dr. Pearl Pastakia.

PROGRAMMES FOR INCOMING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: These range from short term programmes of two weeks to two months or for one to two semesters. During the year we hosted on our campus 103 foreign students from countries such as Japan, USA, Australia, Spain and France.

Intensive English Language Course: For the third consecutive year we had students from Soka University, Japan, participating in the specialized, intensive short term English language course. Nine students accompanied by their professor were on our campus from 9th to 20th February, 2016. At the end of the course the students in

groups of two and three performed an oral presentation for their evaluation. A certificate of participation was given to all the students.

India Studies Programme: Twelve students from Western Sydney University, Australia, visited St. Xavier's for a short programme on "Art, History, and Culture of India" between June and July 2015. The programme was offered for 2 credits with ten Xavier's faculty and four guest lecturers conducting the course. Students of Xavier's College also participated in this programme. The programme had an eclectic mix of lectures, heritage walk, museum and Mani Bhavan visits. This programme was conducted once again for nine students from Western Sydney University, Australia, from 8th January to 5th February 2016.

Xavier's - Berkeley Summer Programme: For the third consecutive year we organized a programme for students from the University of California, Berkeley, USA. This two credit course "Globalization, Capital Flows and Development" was fully developed and hosted by St. Xavier's College. Eighteen students from the UC Berkeley participated in this course. The Berkeley students also interned with various NGOs as a service-learning component, followed by a reflection at the end of the program. The students were also taken on a field visit to gentrified spaces.

Semester / One year Programmes: Eleven students from Soka University, Japan enrolled for courses in SYBA for one semester. International students from Universities with which Xavier's has an MOUs signed enrolled in Xavier's for a semester or one year, with a full tuition waiver. Six French students from IESEG and Science Po, along with one Spanish student from Comillas availed of this exchange. In addition, two French students from E.M. Normandie spent the third semester at St. Xavier's.

Memoranda of Understanding signed in the academic year 2015 - 2016:

Memoranda of Understanding was signed with eight new universities to encourage the development of

visits and informal exchanges of faculty, scholars and administrators in education, research and outreach, to organize joint conferences, to develop joint research programs and exchange of students during the academic year or summer terms. These institutes include: (1) Trinity Western University, Canada, (2) EDHEC Business School, France, (3) Daegu Haany University, South Korea, (4) St. John's College, University of Cambridge, UK, (5) University of California, Berkeley, USA, (6) Harvard University, USA (signed every year in renewal of the HCAP agreement), (7) Regents of the University of California, USA (for their Education Abroad Programme), and (8) University of Sydney, Australia (for the Offshore Programme). Currently Xavier's has a total of twenty seven MOUs signed with various international universities which are valid and functional.

New initiatives of the CIP: The academic year 2015 - 2016 brought forward some new beginnings. Three new endeavours were initiated by the Council for International Programmes. These were: (1) St. John's College, University of Cambridge, UK a 2 week short-term exchange programme between the two institutes on a full scholarship given by Cambridge Univ, (2) University of Sydney, Australia, the Sydney Offshore Programme entailing a new course on the History of India developed by St. Xavier's College and (3) Regents of the University of California for lectures conducted by the members of faculty of both, the University of California as well as St. Xavier's College.

Visits by International Institutes in 2015 - 2016: Numerous representatives and members of faculty from reputed foreign universities visited St. Xavier's College in the academic year 2015 - 2016 and interacted with our students and faculty members. These were:

1. *Dr. Pamela Dembla* from *Kennesaw University, USA* visited St. Xavier's on 13th June 2015 to discuss the possibility of St. Xavier's students to visit Kennesaw University, as also to involve students of Kennesaw in the India Studies Programme.

2. The honourable *Mr. Steven Chebo, Parliament Secretary (Australia)* and *Mr. Mark Pierce, Australian Consulate General* visited St. Xavier's on 26th June 2015 to discuss various educational opportunities in Australia under the New Colombo Plan.
3. *Mr. James Arvanitakis* and *Ms. Joanna Lind* from *Western Sydney University, Australia*, visited St. Xavier's on 8th July 2015 to deliver a seminar on "Innovative teaching in a Disrupted World".
4. *Mr. Rory McDiarmid* and *Ms. Rachel Sandison* from the *University of Glasgow, UK* visited St. Xavier's on 23rd July 2015 to discuss prospects for collaborative research in the life sciences between the two institutes.
5. *Mr. Priyesh Thar*, a representative of *Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK*, visited St. Xavier's on 28th August 2015 to discuss Master's programmes in the health sciences and management, and possibilities for setting up an exchange programme between the two institutes.
6. *Ms. Julia Shelley, Mr. Kevin Dunn* and *Dr. Karl Roberts* from *Western Sydney University, Australia*, visited St. Xavier's on 10th September 2015 to discuss long-term exchange programmes in the social sciences and psychology.
7. *Dr. Allaine Cerwonka, Dean of Social Sciences, University of East London*, visited St. Xavier's on 16th September 2015 to discuss short-term courses with regards to their Going Global Programme.
8. *Ms. Tamara Cunningham* from *New Jersey City University, USA*, visited St. Xavier's on 27th October 2015 to discuss short-term exchange programmes for faculty members and one-semester exchange programmes for students in the fields of business studies and the humanities.
9. *Mr. Mark Coddling* from the *School of African Studies (SOAS), University of London, UK*, visited St. Xavier's on 23rd November 2015 to discuss one-semester exchange programmes for the students of St. Xavier's.
10. *Dr. Mishka Sinha* from *St. John's College, University of Cambridge, UK*, visited St. Xavier's on 28th November 2015 to discuss the possibility of a short-term exchange programme for students of the two institutes, which led to an MOU.
11. *Ms. Ainslie Bulmer, Prof. Barbara Caine* and *Dr. Alana Mann* from the *University of Sydney, Australia*, visited St. Xavier's on 2nd December 2015 to discuss the possibility of setting up an Offshore Programme for the students of the University of Sydney on the History of India.
12. *Dr. William Cushley, Director (Life Sciences), Dr. Sam Guild, Head (Life Sciences)* and *Ms. Sonya Taylor* from the *University of Glasgow, UK*, visited St. Xavier's on 12th January 2016 to discuss short-term research internships for students of the two institutes in the fields of life sciences and social sciences.
13. *Mr. David Borgmeyer* from *St. Louis University, USA*, visited St. Xavier's on 13th January 2016 to discuss the possibility of a short-term exchange programme for students of the two institutes in the Faculty of Arts.
14. *Dr. Luce de Buitler Andrews* from *Western Sydney University, Australia*, visited St. Xavier's on 16th January 2016 to discuss their Leadership Programme.
15. *Dr. John Sanders* and *Dr. Richard Follett* from the *University of Sussex, UK*, visited St. Xavier's on 15th February 2016 to discuss summer scholarships for students of St. Xavier's.
16. *Dr. Philip Laird* and *Dr. Jonathan Michael* from *Trinity Western University, Canada*, visited St. Xavier's on 22nd February 2016 to discuss short-term summer programmes as well as their Comparative Leadership Personalities Programme.
17. *Mr. Ameir Jillab* and *Mr. Ronald Freytag* from *HMKW, Germany*, and *Mr. Martin Aichmayr* from *DeutschFeEd, Germany*, visited St. Xavier's on 29th February 2016 to discuss short-term undergraduate and postgraduate programmes for students in the fields of Journalism and Corporate Communication.
18. *Mr. Abizer Merchant, Prof. Martina Mollering* and *Prof. Julian Knowles* from *Macquarie University, Australia*, visited St. Xavier's on 1st March 2016 to discuss exchange programmes to deliver short-term courses in International Relations, Classical Humanities, Politics, Communication, Music, Media and Culture Studies.
19. A delegation of 9 members of faculty from different universities in the USA visited St. Xavier's on 12th March 2016 to learn about the education system and various programmes and collaborations at St. Xavier's.
20. *Dr. Jonathan Noble, Assistant Provost for Asia, Prof. Ken Henderson, Head (Chemistry), Prof. Elliot Visconsi, Chief Academic Digital Officer*, and *Mr. Dhiraj Mehra, Director for Initiatives in India*, from the *University of Notre Dame, USA*, visited St. Xavier's on 29th April 2016 to discuss the possibility of short-term summer exchange programmes for students of the two institutes.

Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta
Director,

Council for International Programmes

STUTTGART

“That is the magic of travel. You leave your home secure in your own knowledge and identity. But as you travel, the world in all its richness intervenes. You meet people you could not invent; you see scenes you could not imagine. You return a different person.”

- Kent Nerburn

In this global village, the eternal quest for one’s identity often takes people to foreign lands. It’s frequently during these journeys that one finds bits and pieces of one’s soul in territories previously unexplored and people formerly strangers. Our 10 day trip to Mumbai’s sister-city Stuttgart in Germany, a result of our participation in the online course “In Conversation with Globalization”, allowed us to experience a culture very different from our own.

Our journey to Stuttgart began from Mumbai. After almost a day in various flights and airports, we reached the city on Sunday morning only to find it eerily quiet. For us, the fact that everything from banks and offices to shopping malls and grocery stores remains shut on Sundays was difficult to grasp due to the stark contrast with India. Since we were invited by the University of Stuttgart, the students who had taken the course offered to host us in home stays. This arrangement, according to us, was instrumental in making the visit an extremely enjoyable one since we were treated to the absolute best of German hospitality. Not only did we get to spend more time with our fellow students, the stay also offered us insights into aspects of German culture and lifestyle – a fitting conclusion to the course. The rest of our first day was spent in settling in, catching up and taking a short tour around the city’s bustling main street. We were lucky to catch the last event of the international film festival taking place on the open green lawns of the Schlossplatz (Palace Square) which also offered us a glimpse into the vibrant community life in Stuttgart.

The beautiful weather allowed us to walk around the city for hours, exploring



St. Xavier's College students in Stuttgart

the various buildings, monuments and churches. We had the opportunity to stroll through the Markthalle, Stuttgart’s 100 year old market that even houses an Indian section! The city’s old and new castles, despite being located in the city Centre, managed to take us back to another century, with their intricate architecture and beautiful gardens. Stuttgart’s famous “White Library” another architectural marvel, was where we spent hours flipping through the various books in different languages.

After having sauntered on the cobbled streets about the city, we stepped on to the smooth pathways of the University of Stuttgart. The pleasant campus greeted us with luscious green lawns where students sprawled in the sun. On our first visit to the university, the students showed us around. We were taken to the library where there was a distinction prevalent between the noisy and the very quiet section, much similar to our reference and honor’s sections in the library. Following our exploration of the university we assembled for Professor Wolfgang Holtkamp’s lecture wherein he provided a short introduction to American literature. His students presented on the topic of architecture and design which flowed into a fruitful discussion about the elements of space and social class that managed to engage the entire class. A succeeding seminar, equally interesting, took place in an underground auditorium. Dr Priewe took us through the developments

of Modernism, Bergson’s Creative Evolution, Picasso’s Cubism and Einstein’s theory of Relativity.

On our second visit to the University, we had Dr. Wolfgang illustrate to us the differences encountered in Hawthorne’s, Irwin’s and Poe’s style of writing. Subsequently, we were allowed to showcase our own short video and a presentation on St. Xavier’s college and Mumbai. We also had the chance to listen to Mr. Powers, considered to be the favorite among all the professors. He had us hooked onto Modern poetry with his enthusiasm and anecdotes from Eliot’s life. We were fortunate enough to attend a Poetry Slam organized by the University. Seeing so much of young talent, including some Indian voices, thriving in such a welcoming and positive atmosphere was extremely inspiring.

Our schedule had been very precisely planned out, giving us an immense amount of time to explore the city as well as its neighbouring sites. We spent an entire day at the magnificent Ludwigsburg Castle, with its fairytale gardens and grand palace rooms. Our German hosts also arranged to take us to the Mercedes Benz Museum. We journeyed back in time as we walked around the museum, following a perfectly presented timeline of the automobile sector, along with its historical, economic and social significance. We were fortunate enough to visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Maulbronn Monastery that

reminded us of a quaint German village of the past. We got a taste of a very important piece of German culture, their spring festivals, when we visited a very vibrant one near Stuttgart.

Most of the evenings were spent in visiting one of the many cafes and eateries in the city centre or preparing food at one of the students' houses. The culinary experience was very enriching and we got to try various authentic German dishes. Thanks to the expertise of the German students, we could eat at many lesser known but excellent restaurants not usually featured on tourist itineraries. Using the public transport for going about the city, we realized the true meaning of 'German Time'. Being used to the jostling of Mumbai locals, the convenience and comfort of buses and trains was a pleasant surprise.

The city, very well planned and green, presented to us a perfect blend of modern knowledge used to enhance well preserved history and balanced with environment friendly technology. We were just in time to catch the first summer days of the season. A week before our arrival, Stuttgart was experiencing snowfall and rain. Thus, according to our German friends, we brought in some of the sun from Mumbai. After a long winter, we saw people rush to nearby lakes and parks to soak in all the sun they could get – a stark contrast from India where summers tend to be unwelcome and tedious.

In Stuttgart, we saw a city trying very hard to come to terms with the inevitable burden history has placed upon it. From heritage buildings like the Old Castle being rebuilt after the

war to names of the people who were sent to extermination camps being carved into bronze plaques or fitted into the cobblestones in front of their erstwhile residences, we saw a city that pulled itself through despite the odds and emerged successful. Thus, this trip gave us memories that will definitely last a lifetime. We met some amazing people whom we will stay in touch with for a long time. Moreover, we got to experience a different approach to education at the University of Stuttgart. Leaving Stuttgart was an incredibly hard thing to do, since the city had come to become our second home in the matter of a few days.

Maitreyee Shilpa Kishor
Shalmali Sankpal
Neeti Yellurkar
SYBA

NO EXIT: THE WORLD'S MY OYSTER!

The Shakespearean saying '...whole world's my oyster, Which I with a sword will open' has undergone radical transformation. Today, you merely need the internet to open the oyster. The ninth online course '*In Conversation with Globalization*' was held from November to March 2015-16. With the addition of St. Petersburg Polytechnic University, Russia into the existing group comprising the University of Stuttgart, Germany, St. Louis University, USA, Stellenbosch University, South Africa and St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai, the online course expanded to illuminate the globalization spirit. Seven faculty members and 24 students from the foreign universities engaged with the students of St. Xavier's College thus enlivening the concept of education transcending borders. The four modules of the course consisted of online assignments and programmes revolving around the current year's sub-theme *Globalization and Identity*.

Dr Wolfgang Holtkamp from the University of Stuttgart spearheaded the course with two online modules. The third module called the Project Week was held from 15th to 24th January 2016 in St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

In continuance with the legacy of the past, a treat abundant with cultural and academic activities greeted the participants. Guided tours of Mumbai city with Alisha Sadikot, Banganga with (Dr. Shefali Balsari-Shah); field trips to Elephanta Island with Dr. Anita Rane (Head, Department of Ancient Indian Culture), Nalla Sopara and Bassien Fort (with Mr. Andre J. Baptista) combined with a series of lectures maintained the balance between delightful explorations and earnest academics. The lecture series explored the following: *Introduction to Research Methods and Field Work Techniques*;

Diaspora and Identity: The case of Bosnians by Dr. Ajlina Karamelic-Muratovic (Saint Louis University, USA); *Globalisation of Identity Politics* by Dr. Namrata Ganneri (Department of History, SNTD College of Arts & SCB College of Commerce & Science for Women, SNTD Women's University), *Adaptation of Shakespeare in Vishal Bharadwaj's Films* (Dr. Shefali Balsari – Shah (Former Head, Department of English(Retired) , St.Xavier's College (Autonomous), "What to be – what not to be...that is the question!" by Dr.Pranoti Chirmuley (Department of Sociology and Anthropology,St.



Stuttgart Students in India

Xavier's College (Autonomous). Subsequent to the lecture series, the participants made group presentations on the following issues: *Politics, Society and Identity; Culture and Identity, Diaspora and Identity; Education and Identity; Environment and Identity; Privilege and Identity*. Dr. David

Borgmeyer, Saint Louis University, USA rang the curtain down with the online literature-assignment on Salman Rushdie's *Shalimar the Clown*.

I am extremely thankful to Dr. Agnelo Menezes, Principal and Dr. Radiya Pacha-Gupta, Director, CIP for their unwavering support during the course.

Ms.Kavya Menon (TYBA, Psychology-Anthropology) and Mr.Sarthak Karkare (TYBA, English) deserve special mention and thanks for the valuable roles they played during the entire programme.

Ms.Rashmi Lee George
Assistant Professor of English

STUTT GART

Novel experiences are always welcome, but what we make of these experiences, how we imbibe them and assimilate them into a cohesive whole, ultimately defines the worthiness of the journey.

Our visit to Stuttgart in Germany, as part of a cultural exchange program will always be something we will fondly cherish for the rest of our lives. Not only did we openly engage with a culture that was astonishingly novel to our own, but we were also fortunate enough to meet a host of other individuals from diverse backgrounds and exciting experiences.

Our little coterie of friends became an ever widening cultural magnet, pulling in Bolivians, South Africans, Indians, Turkish, Vietnamese and American individuals alike. Truly, with the overarching theme of Human Rights, transcending borders was not such a distant dream anymore. In lieu of this fact, the assimilative value of these diverse cultures cannot be understated.

There was also a lot to imbibe and ponder over, given the stark differences that exist between our countries and cities. Despite the fact that Mumbai and Stuttgart are sister cities, we could not help but marvel at the range of their expertise and awareness as citizens of a city that was ravaged during the Second World War.

Of the places we visited, some of the most memorable were the Mercedes Benz Museum, the Hohenzollern Castle and the Ludwigsburg Castle. The Benz Museum not only had models of iconic cars that they have produced since the company's conception, but a history of the development of cars, and socio-political events that dominated Europe since the early 1900s.

The Hohenzollern Castle was a long trek up a mountain, which left most of us breathless- but not just because we weren't as fit as we thought. The view from up there was stunning. The students themselves had organized these visits, so they were always with us, providing us with detailed explanations of the history behind the Castle.

The Ludwigsburg Castle was magnificent. It had gardens which stretched for miles, which were three times larger when the Castle was originally built. It also had a theme park, which was designed along the lines of European fairy tales, including structures like Rapunzel's tower and Red Riding Hood's grandmother's house. It was like stepping into a book by the Brothers Grimm.

No trip to Germany is complete without the delicious Swabian food we sampled. We were staying with German students so we often ate lunch at home-things like spaetzle, schnitzel, and of course, sausages. The Wasen, their beer festival was another once in a lifetime experience, filled with people singing and dancing on benches as one large group.

The open fields, pastures and vineyards harmoniously co-exist with the bustling hub of the city downtown, boasting of crowded student pubs, universities, cafes, shopping malls, theatres, museums and castles (with more castles). The infrastructure allows one to commute swiftly via bus, road or train. This amazing syncretism of natural beauty and urban busyness was something that compelled us to reflect on the state of our own city.

Our visit to the rural areas of Germany just outside of Stuttgart was an

experience in itself. Beyond the bucolic setting of animal rearing, historical mills and cozy cottages, one could detect the hint of a population that was hard at work but at peace with itself, unlike the rural population in most other developing countries. Of course, with charmingly wondrous weather and a light breeze caressing the hand that holds your glass of wine/beer, the villagers have little to complain about.

Beautiful barbecues, impromptu adventures, long, purposeless walks and remarkable encounters with vivacious souls are what characterized our visit to Stuttgart.

All in all, it was a rather fulfilling cultural exchange, leading us to push the boundaries of what we know and to think globally. We will always be indebted to the Literature Department, and to our German hosts for having been so incredibly hospitable and accommodating. We can only hope that we did justice to this valuable program as students and look forward to hosting more friends from across the globe again.

Prost!



Foreign Students on a field visit

AT THE CITY OF DREAMING SPIRES

Education has the power to break social barriers and shake the social strata by providing access to various opportunities. However, there are times when this very education is a dream too sweet to be true and thus it itself forms a social barrier between haves and have-nots. Just like many other students, I too could not apply for big universities abroad for undergraduate courses as the expenses are impossible or infeasible to meet. Short term courses are often even more expensive and thus inaccessible to most students in India.

However, I consider myself lucky to have been awarded an opportunity to study Economics and Philosophy at Oxford University for a term through Betty and Donald Keating Scholarship. Sponsored by benevolent Mr. Giles Keating, provided through St. Catherine's College to visiting students at Oxford University, this was a once in a lifetime opportunity which helped me live my dream of studying abroad in a premiere university. Being a Keating scholar I could live the life of an Oxford student without sharing a financial load of even a pence on my pocket.

After going through a compelling selection process which involved application and then two rounds of online interviews; Oxford makes sure that they select not only financially deserving and academically bright students but also an overall outgoing student, which from my experience was very crucial to survive in Oxford. Despite my CGPA being comparatively just okay in front of the other shortlisted applicants' CGPA, surprisingly I was the only one who got selected. I believe the two most important things which helped me get an edge over the other applicants were my academic assignment and my overall performance in extra-curricular activities. Now, after my stay at Oxford, I know that these two things are essentially the determinants for how one will live at Oxford later on.

This being my first time travelling abroad, the experience was a complete eye opener for me. There was certainly a culture shock which made me a bit

uncomfortable at start but Oxford is such a diverse place that no matter from where you are, you soon find yourself at home. My stay there can be summarised as a continuous active effort to seamlessly gel into a foreign culture which has actually taught me more about "What is culture?" than all my CIA's on Culture in Sociology Course. Oxford University to start with, functions really different than the Universities I have seen in India. While the University deals with all the Academic matters like lectures, exams, submissions etc, College looks after your accommodation, food, welfare and other Activities. Lectures were not compulsory and often used as only a supplementary aide for which lecture notes and few recorded lectures are available on online resource centre. As it was non-restrictive, all the students attending lectures were very attentive and interested in it. Apart from economics, I would often go sit for random lectures I found interest in. Tutorials was the most academically intense part of the Oxford and also it is what makes it stand out. In my term of 8 weeks I had 8 tutorials of 'Behavioural Economics' with Dr. Silvia Palano and 4 tutorials of 'Knowledge and Reality' with Dr. Andrea Christofidou, both of them are very well renowned in their field of work. A tutorial was a 1 hour one-on-one interaction with the tutor. At every tutorial I would present an essay based on the topic & the reading list given to me and the tutors would discuss it with me. These discussions were very interesting and often involved all colours of assertion, negation, arguments and talks about recent happenings. The tutors were really supportive and were determined to ensure I had a holistic and critical understanding of the topic. Post the tutorial, the rest of the week was typically spent in grabbing the books from various historic and magnificent libraries of Oxford and trying to break through the technical language of readings to write my next tutorial. Surrounded by millions of books, tall carved ceilings and smell of ageing old paper, studying in these gigantic libraries was a different experience



Standing next to the Iconic Bodleian Library after a formal dinner in college

in itself. Oxford focusses a lot on self-learning and then reflecting on whatever is learnt. Being critical is the most essential part of academics.

Just as academics; extra and co-curricular activities are equally important. Even with all the essays everyone usually has a lot of free time through the day which is spent in playing various sports, music, other hobbies and seminars, all accessible within the campus. I played badminton and squash frequently. I also played for the First Cricket team of St. Catherine's College during which we reached the semi-finals of university tournament. I associated myself with the Oxford Union Dance Society and attended hip-hop sessions. Later, I learnt Cha-Cha-Cha and participated in the Oxford University Ball dance tournament in which I reached semi-finals which was personally quite a big feat for me. I tried my hand at writing and got my article published in the literary magazine of the college. Participating in so many activities was crucial as I got to interact with lot of people with various interests. Busy with activities throughout the day I did not have even a single moment when I felt isolated or uncomfortable.

The student body in the college i.e. the JCR (Junior Common Room) was a tight knit community led by its president and other council members. Every issue was dealt with democratically. The JCR is itself so lively that just walking down to it every evening helped me make

new friends and learn new things by discussing various interesting topics with people in the college bar and table pool room, which often led to debates and discussions. As a way to give back all the love and care that the and Rahul (another visiting student from HR college) received, we organised a Bollywood movie night in JCR where everyone enjoyed a Bollywood movie with Samosas and Chai. It was a tremendous success as everyone loved it.

Oxford is aptly called the city of dreaming spires due to all the majestic colleges, chapels and libraries of which some even belong to medieval ages. It has been widely used for shooting movies with the most famous being the Harry Potter series. I often visited friends from other colleges and would attend their formal hall dinner as it was the best way to experience all the colleges in the most Oxfordian way i.e.

wearing a Black-tie & a commoner's gown, just one of the perks of studying in Oxford.

Often in the UK, sighting the large number of businessmen and bureaucrats, it is argued by some that Oxford is merely a setup of rich & powerful people which is used to preserve and pass on their legacy. However I disagree, I believe Oxford is a cultural and social hotpot which is helping all sections of society, in a way more so to the neglected sections by giving them various opportunities, knowledge and power to change their lives. I feel, it nurtures a new found interest in the subjects among the students and helps you push yourself to new limits you never thought you could reach.

Oxford has already changed my life in just two months. On returning back, after a self-reflection on what I have experienced in last two months I feel

that I have received an immense boost to my confidence and streamlined my decisions on what do I have to do next. There is clarity in my thoughts, supported by not just intuitions but also reasoning. Obviously, this scholarship is not a golden ticket to fortune, but this experience has reassured me that I can dream, work hard and achieve it. I am humbled by this opportunity, and would be forever grateful to Mr. Keating, Oxford University and St. Xavier's College without whom this would not have been possible. During the application process a year back I had many queries and wished somebody could help me and thus I would like to help the CIP centre in college by providing assistance to Keating Scholarship Applicants by solving their queries, helping out in interviews and post selection process.

Shubham S. Pansare
TYBA- Economics

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP - UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

A summer course Creative Writing Workshop, led by the University of Iowa's International Writing Program (IWP) delegates, organized by the U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai and the Department of English, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, was held on the 31st of March 2016. The workshop was conducted by professor Lincoln Paine, professor Sandra A., professor Sandra L. and Ms. Rochelle. Ms. Kelly and Ms. Ashima Chakravorty, working for the Cultural Affairs office of the U.S. Consulate in Mumbai, were among the others who were part of the team.

Prof. Pearl Pastakia, head of the Department of English, St. Xavier's College, introduced the professors who were going to conduct the respective workshops followed by a short reading of their published work, respectively. The entire workshop included creative writing in Non-fiction, Fiction, Poetry and Screenplay. The students were allowed to choose the area of their liking in order to develop their skills and learn the various technicalities of creative writing.

After the brief introductions the

students were asked to segregate themselves into their respective groups. Prof. Sandra L., conducted the creative writing in Screenplay workshop, an area she is known for. She spoke to the students about how one must write; to not follow a particular structure at the very beginning itself, but to put down whatever comes to one's mind at the moment and at the end gather all the pieces together, putting them into a well established structure. She spoke about the importance of having a good knowledge of our basics, that could be being well versed with our classics because it does play a significant role in what we choose to write, that one should draw from one's day to day experiences. She gave the students a writing assignment, asking each one to put down an experience which changed their life entirely, after which everyone could share it with the rest of the group. She did give her suggestions as to how one should present their story on screen and highlighted on how it's always easy to write down the workings of a character's mind, but while on screen it could be shown through the character's behaviour. Prof. Sandra.

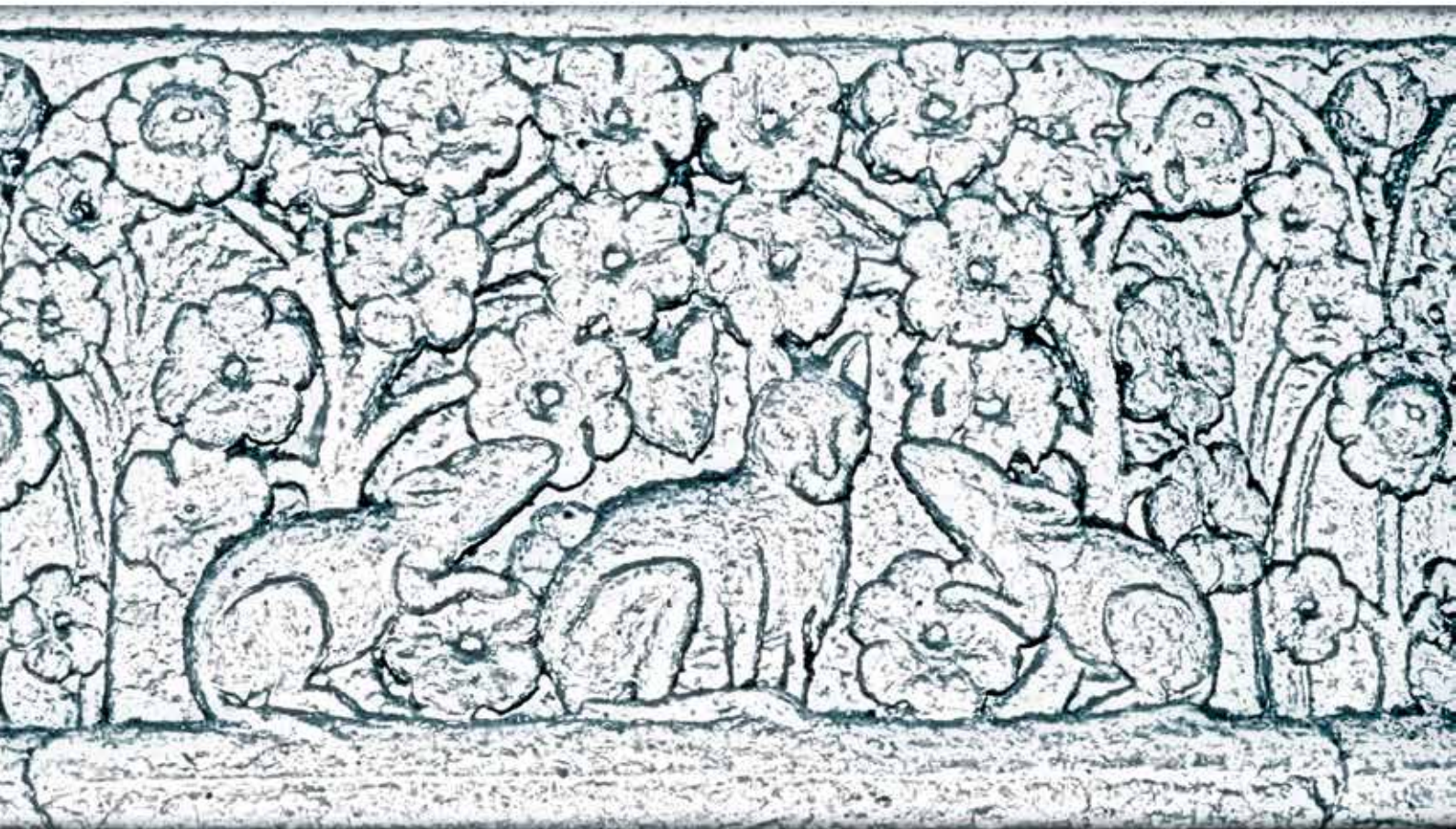
A., who took the creative writing in poetry workshop, asked her students a writing assignment on gestures, about concentrating on a particular gesture or a number of gestures in their poem. It was beautiful with what the students created.

At the end of each of the workshops, all the groups came together and shared with every individual present, their writing assignments and about what they took from their respective workshops.

Having just completed their exams, every student present there had a refreshing start to their summer holidays. The entire workshop was very interactive and there was so much to take not only from the professors who conducted these workshops but from other students, even. It was a learning experience all the budding writers present there, will always keep with them.

Annabel George

CAMPUS DYNAMISM



AIC SEMINAR



The department in collaboration with Deccan College of Archaeology, Pune and The Museum Society of Bombay organised a Site Seminar at Jogeshwari, Mandapeshwar and Elephanta Caves by Prof. Walter M. Spink, Professor

Emeritus, History of Art, University of Michigan. The seminar was conducted by Emeritus Prof. Dr. Walter Spink with inputs from Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare, HOD, Deccan College and Dr. Saryu Doshi, Art Historian. The students

got a good exposure in the areas of Art and Architecture, Cave Architecture, Geology and India through the Ages as they went through each site and examined the minute details.

“Befriending Museums”, an activity in collaboration with the Department of Ancient Indian Culture and Archaeology, St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), Mumbai, within the Tabiyat Exhibition and Lakshmi Gallery, CSMVS, was conducted for 60 students from the college by Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare and assisted by Mr. Jason Johns. The Department in collaboration with MSB organised a lecture by Dr. Tushar Hande on ‘Past life Regression’ in March, the speaker made a connection between the mind and karma for the enthusiastic audience at the Seminar Room.

XAVIERS’ ASSOCIATION OF CHEMISTRY

Xaviers’ Association Of Chemistry (XAC) is an active students association of the Department of Chemistry. It has worked hard in enhancing students’ interest for Chemistry. Recently it had organized its fest titled “*Alchémia*”. The fest was over three days, 11th, 12th and 13th January. The fest commenced on the 11th of January with an opening talk by the Head of the Chemistry Department, Dr. Freddy H. Havaladar, who declared the fest open. On the first day we had **Aqua Regency (Quiz)** and the **Spell – C** event. Day 2, was **Snakes and Ladders** and the **Chem Housie**. Day 3 was the main event “**The**

Treasure Hunt”. A record number of 175 students, excluding the Xavierites, participated from different colleges in Mumbai. “The Treasure Hunt” was won by Jaihind College. The “Highest Participation Trophy” was won by Ratnam College. The highest points were bagged by Wilson College for which they were awarded the Rolling Trophy.

The Head of the Chemistry Department, Dr. Freddy H. Havaladar, congratulates the faculty organizing team, Dr. Gulshan Shaikh, Prof. Marazban Kotwal and Dr. Pralhad Rege and the student team, Rishad Ghiara,

Kyle Meyers, Neha Kapadia, Anuja



Sharma, Aditiya Chalishazar, Mylin Dantas and Vagmi Gupta for the grand success of this Inter-Collegiate Fest “*Alchémia*-2016”.

LIFE SCIENCE AND BIOCHEMISTRY - NATIONAL LEVEL CONFERENCE

- ‘Behaviour and the Brain: A Cognitive Perspective’ organized by the Dept. Of Life Science and Biochemistry in collaboration with the Depts. Of Chemistry & NS Research Lab, Psychology and Zoology, on 23rd Jan. 2016. Funding: DBT (30 years). Speakers:
 1. Dr. Sheela Donde, Ex-Head, Dept. of Life Science and Biochemistry, St. Xavier’s College, Mumbai. “*Dreams, Sleep... Consciousness*”.
 2. Dr. Urvashi Shah, Consultant Neuropsychologist, KEM Hospital,

Mumbai.

“*The Brain-Behaviour Relationship in Traumatic Brain Injury: A Neuropsychology Perspective*”.

3. Dr. Kavita Isvaran, Asst. Professor, CES, IISc-Bangalore. “*Mating Systems and Mate Choice in Mammals*”.
4. Hands-on practical sessions in Cognitive Neuroscience:
 - a) COG LAB session – Fr. Dr. Roy Pereira, Dept. of Chemistry and the NS Research Lab, St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), Mumbai.

- b) Cognitive Testing – Dr. Radhika Tendulkar and Dr. Bhaskar Saha, Dept. of Life Science and Biochemistry, St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), Mumbai.

Staff and students from colleges all over Mumbai participated.

The e-version of 4th volume of *Lignum Vitae* was released on the occasion and is accessible from the link on the Life Science Department homepage on the college website.

MICROBIOLOGY - CONSORTIUM 2016

An Environmental Microbial Biotechnology Meet, organised by the MSc Part I students of the department on 20th January, 2016. It was organized in two sessions- the Morning Session involved a Primary Research Poster Competition and the Afternoon Session had a Lecture Series by two Eminent Scientists.

Sixty four students from various

colleges and different departments participated in the poster competition and presented their Primary Research on the theme.

The event was supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) as part of its 30 years celebrations and Novozymes South Asia Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore. The speakers were:

o Dr. Prashant Phale, Professor and

Researcher, School of Biosciences and Bioengineering, IIT Bombay spoke on "Microbial degradation of aromatic compounds"

o Dr. Partha P. Chakrabarti Scientist, Protein Engineering & Diversity, Novozymes South Asia Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore spoke on "Microbial biotechnology for environmental sustainability."

THE XAVIER'S POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

Like every year was active and organized a variety of programmes and events. Over the two semesters we have conducted various events ranging from Workshops, National Seminar, and even Field visits.

1) Talk on Greece Crisis- Prof. Irfan Nooruddin

Prof. Irfan Nooruddin from Georgetown University, Washington, gave a talk on 'The Economic Greece Crisis in Greece', tracing the foundations of European Union and their economy and the Greek Crisis.

2) Research Paper Writing Workshop- Dr. Kanchana Mahadevan

Dr. Kanchana Mahadevan, Head of Department- Philosophy, Mumbai University conducted a workshop on writing research paper and assignment. She gave insights into the various tools that are required to write effective papers. The workshop was participated by 200 students.

3) Talk by I.A.S. Ms. Namrata Gandhi-

An alumna of the Dept. of Political Science, now a Dy. Collector, Raipur, Chhateesgarh, was invited for an interaction with the students. She was the 23rd rank holder in the UPSC exam in 2012. As a civil servant she shared her interesting journey from a student of St. Xavier's to Indian Civil Services. Not only did Namrata inspire the students to join the civil service she also gave valuable suggestions on how to prepare for the exam.

4) Visit to Vidhan Sabha, interaction with Education Minister, Mr. Vinod

Tawde and MLC Vidhyatai Chavan

Third Year Students of Political Science had the unique opportunity to visit the Vidhan Sabha and Vidhan Parishad and witness the monsoon session in the month of July, for an entire day. The students also had the chance to explore the various libraries and the Pandora of knowledge and history that it held. The icing on the cake was their interaction with **Education Minister, Mr. Vinod Tawde and MLC Vidya Chavan**. It is in the interaction with **MLC Vidya tai Chavan**, that the students found the inspiration to get involved in the issues of Farmer plights, which is prevalent dominantly in Maharashtra.

5) How to prepare for the UPSC- Talk by Ms. Petal Ghalot-

Another very bright student and alumna of the Political Science Dept Ms. Petal was 96th rank holder in the UPSC exams in 2015. She was invited to guide the students on preparation and difficulties in the clearing of the UPSC exam. Since Petal had just cleared the exams her inputs and guidance was very valuable for the students.

6) "State and Power" National

Seminar on Political Thinkers-

The Xavier's Political Science Association, in association with Canara bank organized "State and Power" a National Seminar on Political thinkers. The seminar conducted on 3rd August 2015 received an enthusiastic participation of around 250 students from various respected institutions.

The Seminar got some of the finest intellectuals in their respective fields to the college; The Keynote speaker was Dr. Usha Thakkar (President, Mani Bhavan Gandhi Sangrahalaya, Mumbai). The seminar was graced by a mixed palette of speakers. Prof. Rakesh Mishra (Dept. of Political Science, Lucknow University) who presented on Political Ideas of Hegel, Prof. Kannamma S. Raman (Dept. of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai) who explored the Political Theory of John Rawls, Prof. Sunanda Shastri (Dept of Sanskrit, Gujarat University) on Kautilya's Arthashastra, Dr. Radha Kumar (Dept. of Ancient Indian Culture, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous)) Exploring the Ethical foundation- A holistic view of Gautama Buddha and Dr. Pratiba Naitthani



(Dept. of Political Science, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous)) presented on Dr Ram Manohar Lohia on Socialism and State.

The theme, "State and Power", addressed the universal debate on the authority

of the state, since its inception. The seminar, through its engaging speakers fulfilled its aim in tracing the past to see how the Indian and Western philosophers perceived state power, and connected these philosophies to the

current political scenario. It appealed to the students across Political Science, Philosophy, History, Economics and Ancient Indian Culture.

SOCIOLOGY SEMINAR

The Annual Department Seminar was held from 26th- 28th November, 2015. Students presented papers on the topic "Human Flows: Global, Local, Virtual..."

The Honours program, under the charge of Prof Pranoti Chirmuley, also conducted a variety of workshops and

events. They had four courses, which gave students a wide range of issues to focus on and critically explore.

- Sustainability of Product Life Cycle and Supply Chain Management, conducted by Denise Fernandes.
- Death Penalty, Free Speech, Godmen and Religious Strife-

a look at contemporary legal problems through a sociological lens, conducted by Karan Tyagi.

- Understanding the Environment, conducted by Sunetro Ghoshal.
- Forced Migration- focus on the refugee crisis in Europe, conducted by Aurina Chatterji.

BUSINESS CONFERENCE (BMS)

Zephyrus 2016

Zephyrus, the official management festival of St Xavier's College, was conducted by the department of BMS on 21st, 22nd and 23rd January, 2016. The theme for the same was 'Dare to Innovate' which aptly fits the current scenario wherein innovation is the key to success and taking risks is the norm. Through Zephyrus, we intended to foster the spirit of novelty and facilitate effective participation. The first day of Zephyrus was marked by a day long '**Business and Management Conference**' and the next two days were dedicated to business and management

related events wherein several colleges from across had participated.

Business and Management Conference

Evolution has proved time and again that adherence to the tried and tested norm is seldom rewarded and only those who seek to defy the status quo make it ahead. Innovation is no stranger to the corporate world, however only those who dare to explore uncharted terrain are bountifully rewarded. This justified the theme adopted by the second edition of the 'Business and Management Conference': *Terra*

Incognita. Centered around the theme were a number of talks, including a keynote speech, a panel discussion and interactive sessions.

The speakers were:

Ms. Ashu Suyash CEO CRISIL

Mr. Ashish Chauhan CEO & MD BSE

Mr. Ashok Bhattacharya Editor Business Standard

The Panel Discussion focused on the entrepreneurial environment in India

STUDENT INTERACTION WITH MEDIA

The ZG Media Conference

- **Kaartikeya Bajpai-Editor in chief, The Bombay Review; Fahad Shah: Editor in chief, The Kashmir Walla.** A panel discussion with Kaartikeya Bajpai and Fahad Shah on youth-oriented media entrepreneurship. Kaartikeya provided insights on public relations and social media outreach to build a loyal readership. Fahad spoke about his insights as a young journalist in the conflict zone of Kashmir.

- **Ishita Anand:Founder- BitGiving** Ishita Anand provided insights on the nuances of digital media entrepreneurship and how BitGiving makes use of digital media for crowd funding.
- **Sudhir Sharma:Founder- INDI Design** delved into the concept of user centered design and talk about the aesthetics of design for branding.
- **Samar Sing Jodha: Social Activist, Photo Journalist** discussed his art for activism and an alternative

media for marginalized voices.

- **Lynn de Souza: Founder, Social Access explained** her work despite being aimed towards social development in the clutter of ad campaigns that focus on merely profits
- **Nakul Singh Sawhney, Shaunak Sen- Documentary Filmmakers** focussed on how and why has he undertaken bold ventures that seek unbiased representation of people.
- **Shaunak Sen** discussed in depth

about the alternative genres of film making that portray ground realities, the importance of investigating realities and subcultures.

- **Lakshmi Sharma: Journalist, Khabar Lahariya** explained in depth about the inception, working and discoveries of the organization and how they ventured into groundbreaking avenues of journalism.
- **Sajan Raj Kurup: Founder Creativeland Asia** provided insights regarding the concept of brand-oriented promotion and marketing strategies.
- **Ashwani Singla: Founder-Astrum** - India's first science based reputation management, explained the various aspects of communication consultancy.

GIZ Environment and Mainstream Media

A group of six students from TYBMM participated in the workshop conducted by GIZ. In the workshop titled Marketplace of Ideas students brainstormed for the media products that could be used to create awareness on marine biodiversity. Five of the students came up with idea of making a documentary that can be used as a media product. This involved conducting recce of 'Koliwadass', interviewing various administrative officials and common man, fisher folks compiled together in a documentary 'From Net to Plate'. One student has

done an individual media product. This is a flip book of interesting illustrations and dialogues among the sea characters that share their plight in a humorous manner. Both the media products have been submitted to GIZ in March 2015.

CG Net SWARA

CG Net Swara is an experiment for Democratization of media and governance. A group of inspiring young citizens visited Mumbai, to connect with people and express their views through a small presentation. The title of the presentation was:

A call a day keeps problems away!

How urban India can help tribal India

The second year students assisted the CG NET SWARA team by taking them to different educational institutes across the city and conduct these presentations. The presentation was an opportunity to connect with the city people and communicate the problems of tribal areas, where Maoists are making huge inroads and taking over governance.

PUKAR

This year- long research project was meant to expose students to crucial concepts and skills for working with Self, Team and with community. It was designed in a manner where the sessions conducted were interactive and involved field work. They also had workshop/sessions that involved senior facilitator and media expert as resource person. Students undertook research

in:

- a) Ragpickers
- b) Kabaddiwalas
- c) Street children and educational opportunities

SGNP Communication Activity

The first year BMM students of St. Xavier's College were exposed to a critical concern of man-animal conflict reportage in the mainstream media with a special focus on the issue of leopard attacks. Mr. Nikit Surve, a wildlife researcher associated with the Sanjay Gandhi National Park and an alumnus gave the students insight to understanding the wildlife and the reasons for why the animal attack happens. Along with a series of lectures on wild life the students were also exposed to the mainstream media coverage by Mr. Virat Singh, DNA, and environmental journalist. The students were also taken to the national park for a field visit. Based on these lessons, the students were asked to design and execute ideas to generate awareness programs using various media platforms. The groups came up with interesting concepts - earnest blogs were written, creative info graphics were made, informative newsletters got generated, This paved the way for a two day exhibition and street play in the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali on the 9th and 10th April 2016. A program was designed to campaign in the form of posters and a street play 'Jungle Ki Jung' was performed over two days with an overwhelming response of the visitors and staff in charge of SGNP.



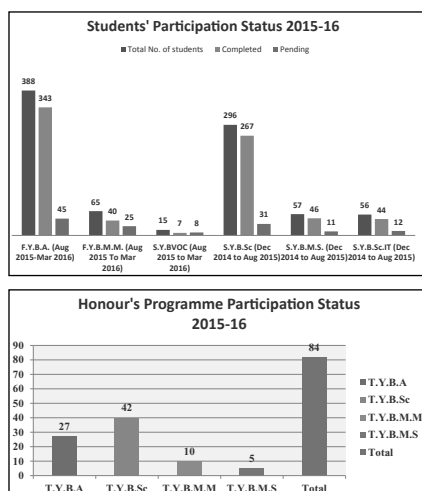
International Yoga Day Celebration in the college hall

SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMME

St. Xavier's College- Autonomous, Mumbai has always endeavored to change the paradigms of education. Since 1996 it has been providing students with beyond the classroom and campus learning opportunities through the **Social Involvement Programme (S.I.P.)** This programme fundamentally aspires towards a holistic education by focusing on:

1. The creation of social awareness and sensitization, both among students and citizens at large.
2. The motivation of students to explore and engage with India's socio-economic realities to raise vital questions and make meaningful interventions.

In the academic year 2015-16, 877 students participated in the obligatory component and 84 students participated in the voluntary Honors Programme component of the S.I.P. The classwise distribution is shown in the following figure.



Activities in the following genres were undertaken by the students for the completion of SIP credit.

I) HEALTH

a. Medical Camp: Students participated in the free medical health camp organized by the Inter-Religious Department. Prior to the Health Camp students were asked to mobilize and motivate the underprivileged sections of the society especially women and

children residing on the pavement in and around the Churchgate and Reay Road area. On the day of the medical camp the volunteer's role was to scrutinize the medicines and provide it to the patients under the guidance of the doctors. They also had to keep the children engaged by playing games.

b. Genetic Disorder: Students volunteered to create awareness about genetic disorders among the general public. As part of this programme, students were asked to visit special schools to introduce the organisation and their work in the area of facilitating children who are suffering from genetic disorder. Some students also participated in the NGO's "Medical Community Survey" with an aim to understand the current status of genetic disorders in different parts of Mumbai. In addition to this, students interviewed doctors to collate their opinions about genetic disorders.

c. Hospital Intervention: Students worked in the area of health. The work involved visiting patients suffering from the Parkinson Disease, engaging with health



issues in slums and interacting with patients in hospitals. They also participated in the cleanliness drive at Mulund Municipal Maternity Ward.

II) LITERACY AND LIVELIHOOD



a. School Interventions: Student-volunteers assisted the educational efforts of economically vulnerable children by helping in both informal schools and formal schools. Some volunteers conducted language enhancement classes for underprivileged vernacular medium students in the college itself.

b. Work with Destitutes: Students volunteered with the NGO "Pehchan" which works for the rights and identity of homeless people. The students work involved conducting income generation activities for women. Here they taught women how to prepare





coasters as well as bows for hair bands. They also conducted drawing competitions among children and taught them basic English.

c. Generating Educational Databases: Students volunteered at 'Freakademics', an online facility for generating academic material for school children. It involved selecting relevant videos related to the Maharashtra Board syllabus and uploading them on Freakademics website. This material was used by organisations working with underprivileged children.

III) DIFFERENTLY-ABLED:

Students assisted the visually challenged and those with physical and intellectual disabilities by being 'shadow-teachers' and interacting with them. They also participated in the 'Safety walk' organized by Point of View to create disability awareness and sensitivity.

IV) ELDERLY: Students worked with



the elderly wherein they spent time with them and conducted indoor activities for them.

V) WOMEN: The students work involved creating awareness about dowry deaths in local communities and ensuring the smooth functioning of SHGs.

It is with activities like the above, that Xavierites' hearts are touched by direct experiences, thus compelling their minds to be challenged to change.

SIP Team

SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE



"That there's some good in this world, Mr. Frodo... and it's worth fighting for."

- Sam, Lord of The Rings

Each year, we at the SSL try to change something about ourselves- how we work, the projects we work with or even doing what we've been doing, better. And in terms of all this, 2015-16 was a spectacular year. We managed to add not one but two new projects, took in a bigger team, collaborated with several NGOs and even had an SSL alumni event.

The year started off with a Project Paint visit, one of the new projects we took up. Project Paint involved painting walls of municipality schools to make them look less washed out and drab, using colours, cartoons and

learning aids. A few of our visits were done in collaboration with the Gandhi Fellowship, and as the year went by, our artworks grew better and so did the way we organized it. One of the most popular projects in the SSL, it left all those who volunteered for it with painted pants and, warm hearts. Bloomerang, the other new initiative we took up was the brainchild of a student who decided to combine her two passions- dancing

and teaching, and came up with a novel idea. Bloomerang worked in collaboration with the NGO Apne Aap, wherein we conducted weekly visits and taught the girls the centre worked with, Bharatnatyam. Apne Aap is an NGO based in Kamathipura that works with the children of sex workers and working with them was a truly moving experience for us.

Blood Drive, one of our longest



running projects hit a new donor count milestone last year, with us reaching 430 donors, indicating a greater awareness and a greater willingness to donate. Each pint of blood goes to 3 people with most of it going to Thalassaemic children, definitely not a contribution that can be ignored!

Rural Camp is the 10 days that most of us wait for throughout the year. Last year was quite different from the previous camps. We worked on chilli fields, learned to pick weeds, dug pits, and even learnt a bit about farming techniques. Armed with guitars, playing cards and tools, sans our phones and consuming a daily diet of daal-rice, rural camp left an indelible mark upon us.

January was a busy month with another Blood Drive, an Exhibition and Project Care Mela. Project Care Mela is a two day event organised in college wherein we get the children from our centres in Byculla and Mahalakshmi. These centres are located in slums where we work throughout the year. The team went big this year with a bouncy castle and the usual games, dancing and children full of laughter. Exhibition too, decided to focus on children last year. It chose to collaborate with two NGOs; Bookwallahs and St. Jude's (a centre for children with cancer) and even with the Hindi Theatre Society in college. It garnered a lot of positive response and was the result of immense hard work by the volunteers as well as the project secretaries.

Apart from this, we continued to have weekly Project Care visits; we also had an E-Waste and a Book collection drive. While some of our risks paid off, some didn't go off as well as we expected them too; like our initiative to change how plates in the foyer are segregated.

All in all, it was an eventful year and we didn't shy away from doing new things, learnt from our mistakes and met a lot of wonderful volunteers who were the reason why we ultimately managed to get all of it done! Here's to hoping that this year too, will be just as exciting and eventful.

-Kavya Ravindranath

Treasurer 2015-16

General Secretary 2016-17

DEPARTMENT OF INTER-RELIGIOUS STUDIES

1. Minorities and Civil Society: Understanding and Responding to the Socio-Political Situation

The DIRS collaborated with XISR in organizing Minorities and Civil Society: Understanding and Responding to the Socio-Political Situation at XIMR on 29th August 2015 from 2 to 6 pm. The main speakers Irfan Engineer and Teesta Setalvad, who are committed activists, shared their unique perspectives based on their struggles. 10 participants volunteered to be on a Core Committee to draw up an action plans. As a follow up there have been regular Core Committee meetings once a month.

2. International Yoga Day



The DIRS organised the International Yoga Day celebration for the college on Wed. 24 June from 3 to 5 pm. A sizeable number of staff and students thoroughly enjoyed this session led by Frs. Roy and Prashant.

3. Honours Courses

a. JOY of SELF DISCOVERY by Prashant

There was a series of meditation workshops for those doing the Honours course on 'Joy in Self Discovery' from 7-9 Sept. from 2 to 5 pm. The participants appreciated the healthy integration of eastern and western forms of meditation.

b. AWAKENING to COSMIC COMPASSION by Dr. Orla Hazra, Prashant and Candice Menezes



The FY BA 'A' students were fortunate to have the team of Dr. Orla Hazra and Prashant, assisted by Ms Candice Menezes to teach the SPC courses on Environment and Giving Voice to Values. They tried various creative initiatives to provide an integrated perspective based on the overarching context of the universe story and the universal values of the Earth Charter.

The team also co-facilitated a weekend retreat at St. Xavier's villa, Khandala from 11-13 Sept. 2016 for selected Honours students of the FYBA 'A' SPC Environment class. The methodology of the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm (IPP) was conducive to explore creative forms of art, music, movement and meditation thus giving a new flavour to the theme: Awakening to Cosmic Compassion. The culmination of the retreat was a meditative cosmic walk pausing at the 8 thresholds of the 13.8 billion year universe story.

To foster an integral ecological approach the students were first given an exposure on 31 August to the Pardhi tribe at the Reay Rd. slum, where the XISR has an ongoing social project. They were struck by the environmental garbage dumped in front of the Pardhi huts and also witnessed how the Pardhis are considered as human garbage.

c. HINDUISM - HONOURS COURSE by Dr. Noel Sheth

The DIRS organized an Honours Course on 'Hinduism' from 30th November to 8th December, 2015. This course facilitated by Dr. Noel

Sheth SJ. It was quite enlightening and well appreciated.

4. Film Discussion – PK

On 14 Sept. from 2 to 5 pm there was a film screening of the controversial film 'PK' and a stimulating discussion on 'Commercialisation of Religion.'

5. Creativity Workshop

On 16th Sept from 2.30 to 5.30 pm there was a highly appreciated 'Creativity Workshop' facilitated by Terry Q SJ in his own inimitable style.

6. Integral Ecology: CRY of the EARTH, CRY of the POOR

a. CRY of the EARTH: Triple C to Celebrate Care for the Cosmos

Inspired by the message of Pope Francis to have special prayers to foster 'Care for Creation', three groups namely Department of Interreligious Studies (DIRS), Marathi Vangmay Mandal (MVM) and United Religions Initiative (URI) collaborated to organize TRIPLE C to Celebrate Care for the Cosmos. It was held on 16th Sept from 1 to 1.50 pm in the Multimedia Room.

After an Indian creation of dance and interreligious prayers for peace and creation several enlightening insights on the ecological significance of Ganapati (18 Sept) and Bakri Id (25 Sept.) were shared. There was also a brief presentation on the global events connected with International Peace Day (21 Sept.) by a representative of the URI, an international NGO. This was followed by a procession to the DIRS office where we had the blessing of the herbal garden followed by the installation of Ganapati. At the Visarjan (return to Mother Earth) on 18 Sept. the statue made from clay was immersed in water and will eventually be used for the herbal garden thus providing healing for humans and the planet. In the spirit of Lokmanya Tilak who popularized this festival by using it as a public protest against British rule we hope to promote advocates for communal harmony, ecological concern and world peace. Dr. Rajendra Shinde, the Vice-Principal, in his brief

message encouraged the students to have similar interreligious and eco-friendly festivals that avoid noise, air and water pollution.

b. CRY of the POOR: MEDICAL CAMP for the MARGINALISED



The DIRS in its attempt to foster an integral ecology besides listening to the cry of the earth is also listening to the cry of the poor. On Sunday, 20 Sept from 10 am to 3 pm the DIRS collaborated with XISR to host a Medical Camp in the foyer at Xavier's. The doctors of St. Elizabeth's hospital and GT hospital as well as more than 50 DIRS volunteers were given this opportunity to connect with the poor. This was a small attempt to get students of all faiths to reach out to the marginalized groups like the Pardhis from Reay Rd and street dwellers in the vicinity.

7. National Tribal Festival at Ranchi – 21-28 Oct. 2015



9 of us from Xaviers were the only non-tribals who were privileged to attend the JEMAI Jesuit national tribal festival at Ranchi from 23-27 October and participate in the soul stirring, communitarian dances of a variety of tribes from all over India. Their interconnection with each other and creation was symbolized in their dances.

The topic of the festival was "Promoting Livelihood of Tribals in India." There were animated discussions on how the tribal resources of land, forest, water, food, labour are being exploited in the

name of development.

The visit to a nearby village gave us a glimpse of the empowerment of women through projects of organic farming, poultry, and fishing. The meditation with the Ranchi Jesuit novices was quite refreshing.

What struck us most was the trip to the coal mine and the cost that the tribals are paying to provide electricity for urban areas. What was even more shocking was the discovery that the same corporates that fund our prestigious institutions are the ones that are raping Mother Earth and the tribals.

This experience made us more passionate about taking a stand on climate change and being a voice for the voiceless.

8. Digital Morcha for Climate Justice

We are delighted to report that the Mumbai's Digital Climate March has made a significant difference! With an outreach of more than 6 lakh digital marchers from Mumbai, we, along with other marchers worldwide, have succeeded in convincing leaders of nations who had gathered for the COP21 Paris talks (30 Nov -12 Dec) to take concrete steps towards climate justice.

St. Xavier's College, Mumbai was privileged to be a pocket for the Digital Climate Morcha on Nov. 29 from 5 to 7.30 pm. We felt connected through the online live streaming with worldwide protest marches taking place on that day. The enterprising compere, Anoushka Dutta, enthused the crowd by getting them to join in the video "Sing for the Climate". The input by alumna Rashida Atthar, an environmental researcher and activist, focused on the impact of Climate Change on Mumbai. The AICUF choir presented 'Be The Change' a moving song composed by Rachel D'Souza. Rev. Matt Cobb from Kansas, a committed collaborator and frequent visitor to Xaviers, while sharing his indigenous wisdom through a recorded interview pleaded that we beg for pardon from the land, air, water and fire for the abuse of these natural resources. Fr. Prashant in

his presentation on the National Jesuit Tribal Festival at Ranchi spoke about the exposure trip to a coal mine which was a living hell. The brief meditation stirred up pangs of conscience as the energy and resources in places like Xavier's are being consumed at the cost of the lives of poor tribals and the rape of Mother Earth. Students of the FYBA staged a lively street play on Waste Management. Labdhi Vora and Anushka Hirvani presented an Indian fusion dance on climate change and finally Janhvi Pandya (Indian Music Group) accompanied by Karan D'Silva enthralled the crowd with the popular "Heal the World."

9. Interfaith Meditation

a. InterFaith Prayer Service: Be the Voice of Mother Earth

For the first time a new tradition was set by holding an InterFaith Prayer service at 9 am on 3 December 2015, the feast of St. Francis Xavier, the patron of our college.

Both Fr. Prashant, who gave a brief background to the theme: Be The Voice of Mother Earth as well as Fr. Tony J. D'Souza, the rector, challenged us to explore new frontiers following in the footsteps of Xavier and the contemporary Jesuit mission. The intercessory prayers on the burning issues of communal harmony and climate change, both new frontiers, were led by Gulshan Shaikh. The hall was enthralled by the evocative 'Heal the World' sung by Frs. Terry and Roy and an enchanting fusion Indian dance on climate change by Labdhi and Anoushka. The provocative youtube 'BOI' by the Sufi Gospel singer, Sonam Kalra, encouraged us to speak out on issues at a time when prophetic voices are being silenced. Susanne Rodrigues shared her heart-rending experience of the visit to the coal mines at Ranchi as part of the National Jesuit Tribal festival. This raised questions about India's insistence at the Paris talks on continuing with use of coal for energy. After the Prayers for Creation' from various faith traditions the AICUF choir created a devotional mood of interfaith harmony and peace by singing "Be Faithful".

Anoushka Dutta, the spirited compere, enthused the crowd and got all of us moving together to "Sing for the Climate." This new venture was highly appreciated by those staff and students who actively participated in it.

b. We had brief interfaith meditation services on the first Wednesdays of July and August during the breaks at 8.50, 9.40, 10.30, 11.20, 12.10 and 1 pm to cater to various streams. Those who attended found them helpful to foster communal harmony.

c. Instead of having the interfaith service for January in the college on 23 January we visited Niramay Niketan, a leprosy cum AIDS rehabilitation centre at Trombay. The service began with a classical Indian prayer dance by Labdhi and Anoushka. The action songs helped to create an atmosphere of joy and peace. The special blessing prayer was very moving for all of us. One of the inmates shared that he saw Durga ma in the dance. Another shared that he is usually preoccupied with anxieties about his health but the prayer session gave him an hour of peace.

Lay collaborators Brinelle D'Souza and Candice Menezes joined us for this venture. Clare Menezes celebrated her birthday by distributing snacks for all.

10. Cosmic Crib

In keeping with the "Out of the Box" programmes held in 2015 we hit upon the idea of having a Cosmic Crib. The Paris COP 21 international conference on Climate Change and the Pope's Encyclical 'Laudato Si' offering a challenge to the leaders of nations gathered there prompted us to widen our horizons.

At the centre of the Cosmic Crib is the earth which is plagued by climate change, communal violence etc. Visitors pinned their stars on the cosmic backdrop with the awareness that they too are STARS.

Where is Christ in all this? Those familiar with the Jesuit mantra of "finding God in all things" will be struck with awe and reverence at contemplating God who has been labouring from the Big Bang onwards and invites us to be cocreators today

The quotes that form part of the backdrop are quite appropriate

1. "Someday, after mastering the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness for God the energies of love, and then, for a second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire." (Pierre Teilhard de Chardin)

2. Stop acting so small. You are the universe in ecstatic motion. (Rumi)

11. RELIGIONS: Liberative or Oppressive for LGBT?

The noted transgender activist, Laxmi Narayan Tripathi, who had represented Asia-Pacific at the UN, kept the Xavier's college staff and students enthralled for more than two hours with her lively stories and unique insights on Religions: Liberative or Oppressive for LGBT? Her liberal interpretation of the scriptures of various faiths is a challenge to religious leaders and believers to widen their limited horizons and become more inclusive in the spirit of their founders Prof. Ms Pranoti Chirmuley skilfully facilitated the session held on 15 February 2016 from 2 to 4 pm.

While some were not so comfortable with her atypical style and controversial remarks, which ranged from the personal to the political, quite a few were touched by her free, frank and fearless sharing at a time when respectable people dare not speak out. This novel programme was an apt culmination to the various "out of the box" activities organised by the DIRS during the academic year. The first ever DIRS magazine was inaugurated by the Principal, Dr. Agnelo Menezes, on this auspicious occasion.

12. SAMANVAYA: Collaboration For Communal Harmony

SAMANVAYA, the recently formed group to foster Communal Harmony, had its inaugural workshop on

31 March 2016 from 3.30 to 6.30 pm at the XIMR Assembly hall, St. Xavier's college. Ashokji of Lok Raj Sanghatan made an enlightening presentation on "Building Grassroots Democracy for Communal Harmony"

which highlighted the strategic policy of “divide and rule” employed by all those who have governed the country for the last 300 years. Irfan Engineer in his brief response complemented this perspective by demonstrating the steps taken in recent times to foster communal violence. There was a growing awareness that the appropriate answer lies in empowering people at the grassroots and uniting for change. Attempts to network with progressive groups striving for communal harmony and the fruitful collaboration of XIC, XISR, XIMR, SXC and DIRS were distinctive features of this workshop.

13. Other Highlights

1. 12 June 2015: Prashant facilitated “Universal Meditation” for Berkeley exchange students from 2 to 5 pm.
2. 10 August: Brief Meditation for Malhar volunteers
3. 12 August: Presentation to the S. Bombay Jesuits on Laudato Si, the recent Encyclical of Pope Francis on Integral Ecology.
4. 25 December: Prashant and Prof. Brinelle D’Souza (TISS)

co-facilitated an Interfaith prayer service at Navjeevan, a rehabilitation centre for rescued sex workers and survivors of human trafficking.

5. 7 November: Prashant gave a talk on Laudato Si to the Maharashtra state AICUFers at the YES camp in Lonavla.
6. 9-13 November: Prashant directed a retreat on “Integral Ecology” for the diocesan priests of Amravati.
7. 11-12 November: Dr. Orla Hazra presented the following papers at a conference in Seoul, Korea.
 - i. Keynote address: “Radical Education: Evoking Integral Character Formation and Practice”
 - ii. “Integral Education: Languages of Lineages and their Educational Forms”
 - iii. Also a lecture at Yonsei University on “Integral Education: Teaching and Religious Education in the light of Cosmogogenesis”
8. 1 January 2016: Prashant, Bernadette Pimenta and her co-workers from Seva Dham led an Interfaith service at the Alibag jail.

9. 8 January: The exchange students from Sydney were delighted by the joy and peace they experienced at a Universal Meditation workshop from 1 to 5 pm.

10. 4-7 February: Prashant facilitated Interfaith Meditation sessions at the annual international February Dialogues held at Fireflies ashram, Bangalore on the theme of Sustainable Futures.

1 December 2015: DIRS played a supportive role in the “Celebrating India: Hum Panchi Ek Dal Ke” organised by Zeenat Shaukat Ali of the Wisdom Foundation, India from 5 to 8 pm.

The eminent religious leaders on the panel shared their views on the current national scenario freely and frankly.

Fr. Prashant Olalekar, S.J.
Director, DIRS

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CREDIT COMMITTEE

A. Hindi Theatre Society(Fitoor)

Structure: The society modified the hierarchy structure this year by forming 4 departments- Events, Management, Creatives and Publicity.

Events: The events conducted this year included a crowd-pleasing event called Dubmaster, which witnessed 25 participating teams and an audience of 20 people. Jashn-E-Fitoor, at the Carnival, attracted an audience of around 150 people, apart from giving a platform to the talent discovered in the past year. The 4 plays presented included actors, directors and musicians across all streams.

Outside College: The society also participated in various intercollegiate theatre events this year such as Kaleidoscope and Kshitij. We also put up street plays-at The Hive(Bandra)

and in college as an awareness initiative in collaboration with SSL. These events attracted loads of new artists who were given an opportunity to take part in these events.

B. English Theatre Society:

Activities and events: The main activity of the society was regular meetings on Mondays. This happened almost every Monday of the first semester. The attendance fizzled out after the first two meetings to just one four or five participants. The events that did get participants were the workshops, those conducted by professionals as well as the ones conducted by me. It might be better to replace regular meetings with regular workshops, mostly with professionals, as they attract a lot more crowd.

Contingent: None of the contingents besides Malhar came from this society, because people just didn’t turn up

regularly enough to be considered permanent members. It might be better just to conduct auditions and announce them publicly than to expect in house actors to turn up.

C. Film Society(Film Countdown)

Objectives and initiatives:

1. To show cinema that is not popular but still worthy of recognition
2. To inculcate an appreciation of cinema that goes beyond viewing
3. To discuss why classics are considered so - more film theory based sessions
4. To gain insights from people in the industry and organise workshops by the same
5. To set up a blog that would not only provide insight into the FC’s yearly activities but also invite members to write reviews/express opinions.

Events: Screenings thrice a month, sometimes twice. Screenings for international indie films that won awards seem to be most popular. Indian cinema and classics suffered, the main reasons for which were easy availability online or a bias against content. I would suggest that the future team pander to the choices of its audience and conduct more feedback sessions to ensure that both parties are satisfied with the choice of films.

D. Debate Society:

Events conducted and response

Intra collegiate events:

- i. 6 weekly debates
- ii. 1 themed weekly content session
- iii. Orientation to society
- iv. ECC Carnival: MUN and Public Speaking Workshop
- v. Workshops with AmilBhatnagar and HarnidhKaur

Inter collegiate events (debates in collaboration with):

- i. Econundrum
- ii. Xstatic
- iii. Paradigm
- iv. Axiom
- v. Social Innovation Summit (in collaboration with Student Council)
- vi. United Nations Association, Maharashtra

Members and Contingents:

Members: ~250 members registered in the database. 50-100 remained active

Contingents were sent for the following National tournaments:

MSRIT, RV COLLEGE, IIT BOMBAY, PUNJAB ENGINEERING COLLEGE, SYMBIOSIS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, IIT DELHI, GANDHINAGARNATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, GOVERNMENT LAW COLLEGE,HR COLLEGE, INTERGALACTIC SPACE CONFERENCE, MALHAR.

II. THE FORUMS

A. Indian Performing Arts(Ipa):

The India Performing Arts forum has under it two societies, The Dance Troupe and Swaranjali, representing Indian classical dance and music respectively.

The Dance Troupe: The events

conducted by our society this year were: A workshop on the Maharashtrian folk dance- Lavni, conducted by Chetan Shigwan. We got a good response for this, 20 participants.

Nrityangan is St. Xavier's College's classical dance competition, under the ECC Carnival. We received 12 participants for this competition and the winners were awarded with trophies as well as cash prizes. The judges for this event were Tina Tambe and Shashi Ramesh.

B. Western Performing Arts(Wpa):

Unlike past years, the WPA forum initiated the formation of a new society called the International Dance Society (IDS).

C. FINE ARTS(FA):

The Fine Arts forum actively helped with the art and decor of the various ECC activities, as well as publicity (both online and on-campus) for the same. The two sub-departments of FA viz. Creatives and Documentation, with their respective heads were quite efficient throughout the year; especially during Carnival.

The FA forum also conducted a Charcoal Painting workshop which received great participation and feedback. It also helped in sending a good-quality contingent to college festivals. It held a relay painting event during the Carnival.

D. Literary Arts(LA):

The LA forum is in-charge of promoting the talent in Literary Arts in the college. Accordingly the English Theatre Society (ETS), Hindi Theatre Society (Fitoor) and the Debate Society (Deb Soc) come under the LA forum. There were no volunteers selected for the forum.

Activities by the Forum: The LA forum conducted the first workshop of the academic year. On 7th July 2015, Sherna Khambatta conducted a Creative Writing Workshop. The few attendees gave mixed reviews but were happy for the platform to have a discussion with a professional book agent. On the 10th of July 2015, Thespo, the youth theatre initiative conducted their orientation meeting, giving insight into their work and prospects for young theatre aspirants. This was followed

by a workshop on Improv Comedy by Shaun Williams. The workshop was fun and enriching and led to a contented group of participants. The forum aided the CLs of Vaayu and Kshitij to send contingents for the same. During the ECC Carnival, the forum conducted a Taboo Tournament named Guess What!

E. Administration And Logistics:

Administration and Logistics efficiently ran a lot of errands for the entire committee- from the booking of rooms to arranging the venue. As such, recruitment of volunteers to do the same, year-round proves beneficial.

III. OUTSIDE COLLEGE PARTICIPATION

We sent contingents to Malhar 2015, where we won the runners-up trophy and the Conclave trophy. In Kshitij 2015(Mithibai), we won the Fine Arts trophy. We also sent a good number of participants to Vaayu 2015(NMIMS), Kaleidoscope 2015(Sophia's) and UA 2016(Ruia). Media and management festivals like Cutting Chai and Panaah also saw great participation from Xavier's, and Xavier's placed second in the latter.

Besides, solo participants were encouraged and a fruitful result was seen in the case of MS. Sharlene Lobo '16, who won the national finale of the talent hunt conducted JOSH(NAEMD).

IV. CARNIVAL

ECC Carnival in its second year was a far better feature than in the first year. Organised efforts on part of the forums, and the societies as well as an added team of volunteers led to better publicity and creative events and workshops. Departments and sub-departments were formed to deal with the demands of the event- Publicity, Finance, Marketing, Administration, Logistics and Creatives, headed by either the forum coordinators or the heads of the society or the Cultural Secretary directly. This year Carnival had a total of 9 events, with moderate to fair participation in these. Cash prizes were given to winners, and the judges were felicitated with a token of gratitude each.

Pritesh Arte
Faculty Incharge

LANGUAGE LAB

St. Xavier's Language Laboratory: Language Lab is equipped with the latest in Language Acquisition Technology. It caters to both new learners of a language and those doing advanced courses in English, Hindi, French and Marathi. Students get the freedom to learn at their own pace with the help of language learning software installed on 25 computers in the spacious air conditioned lab and the most recent books on soft skills. Instructional assistance is provided to the students individually and collectively based on the required area of improvement. The sessions focus on modeled strategies for students with a holistic bank of skills to draw upon. This includes group reading sessions where students choose from an exciting array of reading material: newspapers, classic texts and reference books from the college library as well as their own write ups. This extends into speech activities and vocabulary exercises closing with peer and self assessment. Additionally, grammar and punctuation rules and techniques are drawn from the above shared texts. We believe that students begin to understand grammar concepts, and start to apply them in their own writing, when they start to read with a writer's mind.

English Language Courses for a Semester

The first year students from B.A., B.Sc. and IT were shortlisted post the diverse diagnostic tests and registered for a special course in Language Lab for one semester. The course for science streams included reading and writing skills for CIA I focusing on descriptive and opinion writing style. CIA II covered listening and speaking skills with an essential focus on PowerPoint presentation skills. The course for FYBA included critical reading thinking and writing for CIA I and interview skills for CIA II. The interview modules were customized per each student's tentative career road map which included Civil Services, Actuarial Science, Animation, Business Administration, Teaching and college admission for Masters Degree.

Additionally, three students from Soka

University, J a p a n enrolled for a 4 month course in the English Language through CIP. The

course objective was to help them with expressing themselves and their knowledge efficiently through spoken English practice along the lines of neutral accent.

English Language Courses for a Year

Modified tutorials were conducted at the Language Lab parallel to Business Communication lectures for students of Vocational courses of Tourism and Software Development all through the academic year. The sessions comprised of interactive components based on the syllabus of Business Communication Skills prescribed for F.Y.B.VOC. The diverse strategies of office communication were shared as a lecture session, and the same was assessed in guided reading and listening activities in the Language Lab tutorials.

Short Term Courses

For the third consecutive year Language Lab had students from Soka University, Japan, participating in the specialized, intensive short term English Language Course in the month of February. The course modules included lectures, role plays, group activities and individual power point presentations by the participants. The vastly interactive audio visual sessions held in the Language Lab also provided a platform to the participants for interacting with St. Xavier's students from Arts, Science and Management faculties.

Ongoing Remedial Sessions

The academic year 2015-16 saw a remarkable rise in students voluntarily walking into the Language Lab for enhancing their communication skills. Groups were formed based on common areas of language improvement and sessions were scheduled per the



student's available hours in his or her timetable. The sessions were modeled around listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Special Hindi Sessions

In addition to regular courses in English language and soft skills, Language Lab has been conducting short term Conversational Hindi classes for our outstationed and visiting students who attend regular classes. Many thanks to Dr. Asha Dayama Naithani, Head of the Hindi Department for her unconditional support and valuable inputs that helped us in shaping up the course that covered useful built-in situational conversations.

Looking Forward

Year 2015-16 has been exceptionally amazing at the Language Lab. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes whose orientation to the college freshers invariably calls attention to his belief in the potential of Language Lab in making our students industry ready by incorporating the necessary skills besides acquiring subject knowledge. Special thanks to all the professors who motivated our students to walk into the Language Lab for consultation, most of which extended into ongoing remedial sessions. We acknowledge that in our endeavor to equip the students with relevant communication skills for their growth, we have ourselves been enriched and updated with the latest innovations in language learning. Language Lab is looking forward to its educational, co-curricular and extra curricular activities as we enter the new academic year 2016-17.

Ms. Jyoti Pradeep More
Instructor, Language Lab

LIBRARY

Highlights of the year: A renovated library, A New Faster Server

The Lending Library underwent major repairs and renovation in the summer of 2015. The renovation process delayed the opening of the Lending Library services, which were started on 16th July 2015.

A new Library automation server was installed in June 2016. With this the speed of data entry and retrieval and OPAC search have increased immensely.

The Digitisation of old books project started in Sept. 2015. We began with the College Magazines, starting with 2014, we reached 1972, total of 143.

Working Hours

Library was kept open for extended hours from 9.00a.m. - 9p.m. with the cooperation of the Commerce Library attendants.

Acquisitions and Gift Books

The general budget of the Library is supplemented by UGC Grants for various specific subjects. This year we continued spending UGC-PG grants for purchase of books in the Post-Graduate Depts. of Botany, Geology, Life-Sciences and Biochemistry, and Microbiology.

Books purchased	1085
Gift Books	270
Journals subscribed	94
(Indian 77, Foreign 17)	
Gift Journals	25
Magazines Subscribed	06

New Journal subscribed from this year: The Quest: A journal of Indian literature in English published from Ranchi

Gift Books:

270 Gift books were received, among the donors were Fr. Frazer Mascarenhas, S.J., Dr. Hoshang Master, Ms. Kusum Jagtiani and Centre for International Programme of the College.

Library Automation and Software SLIM

The Library Automation server broke

down in July and it was repaired in Sept 2015. We lost almost 45 days of work in June-July when the Server was down.

We got a new server installed in February 2016 and made operational in June 2016. With this the speed of data entry and retrieval and OPAC search have increased immensely. A Display List/ list of Additions was revived this year after a gap of 10 years, The list of books newly added to the Library is e-mailed to the teachers and displayed on the Notice-Board

The total no. of records in the SLIM database exceeds 1,06,901 including the records for Heras Institute Library books.

Books 95394, Bound volumes of Journals, 8565. CDs, DVDs VCDs 600

LIBRARY STATISTICS

Library Membership

Arts	
Sr. College :-	491
Junior College:-	103
Science	
Sr. College :-	441
Junior College:-	27
M.A :-	35
Ph.D.(Sc.) :-	00
Ph.D.(Arts) :-	00
B.Voc (Software Development):-	11
B.Voc (Tourism) :-	18
Paperback Section :-	49
Self Financing Courses :	
BMS:-	44,
BMM :-	78,
B.Sc (IT):	94,
Forensic Science:	00,
M.Sc:-	75,
M.Sc. (Biotech):-	16,
M.A (Public Policy) :-	37
Staff:-	
Teaching	93;
Non Teaching	20;
Visitors :	12
Total :-	1644 users were issued Library Cards.

Letters issued for Library Visit to other institutional, University Libraries:-13

Total No of Books referred in the Library :- 18459

No of Books issued from Lending Library :- 9819

No of Books issued from Reference Library :- 4151

No of Books issued from Honours Library :- 4489

Total No of CD/DVDs issued from Multimedia Library :- 23

Total No of CDs issued from Lending Library :- 21

Library Displays: A special Display of books by and on

Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhimrao Raoji Ambedkar was held between 25th January 2016 and 23rd March 2016.

Library Committee: The Library Committee was headed by Dr. Smita Krishnan. The new Library Committee from April 2015 is headed by Dr. Freddie Havaladar, The Librarian Ms. Medha Taskar is appointed on the Committee after a gap of twelve years.

Library Education, Orientation, Library tours

Ms. Sonali Paradkar continued teaching a course in Library Science for F.Y.B.A. students with learning disability. (Six students) She conducted lectures, practicals, set papers and evaluated the same.

Department of Chemistry invited us for a library orientation lecture under the Science Communication course, for S.Y.B.Sc. Students. The Librarian Ms. Medha Taskar delivered the lecture followed by Library tour for the students.

Staff Activities/ Achievements

Ms. Medha Taskar and Ms. Sonali Paradkar were appointed on the ERP/ Enterprise Resourcer Planning Committee. Ms. Medha Taskar also served on the Magazine Committee.

Vivek Deoram Tambe, Asstt. Librarian :-

Participated in the Two Day International Conference on Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's Thoughts organized by the Ministry of Social Justice and Special Assistance, Government of Maharashtra on the occasion of the 125th Birth Anniversary Year of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar

held on 14th and 15th April, 2016 at Convocation Hall, University of Mumbai, India

Jay Thorat, Library Asstt. :-

1. Attended a one day “ BOSLA-TIFR Annual Lecture on Copyright and the public domain: Rethinking the library role” at TIFR jointly organized by Bombay Science Librarians Association (BOSLA), Mumbai and Scientific Information Resource Center (SIRC) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research , Mumbai on 8th August, 2015.

2. Attended One day Seminar on “Advance Koha Open Source Software” on 25th August, 2015 at Sir Dorabji Tata Memorial Library, Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS), Mumbai, jointly organized by TISS and Informatics Publishing Ltd., Bangalore.
3. Attended Two days “TIFR-BOSLA National Conference on Future Librarianship Innovation for Excellence” 22-23 April, 2016, organized by Scientific Information Resource Center, TIFR Mumbai and Bombay Science Librarian’s

- Association (BOSLA), Mumbai.
4. Attended One day National Workshop on “Open Source Software and Content Management System- Joomla” at Hind Seva Parishad Public Night Degree College, Santacruz(E), Mumbai held on 30th April, 2016. Cleared State Eligibility Test (SET) Exam held on 6th Sep, 2015 in Library and Information Science scoring 64.57%. CONGRATULATIONS!!

Medha B. Taskar
Librarian

KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED

Knowledge Centre conducted Staff Training Workshops on 1st July, 4th July & 12th August 2015 for the Senior College Teaching Staff.

The topics covered were:

Xaviers.edu:

- 1) Staff email login
- 2) Google drive
- 3) Uploading – pdf and ppt

Moodle:

- 1) Login, uploading (Moodle resources) i.e. Syllabus, pdf, ppt, weblink
- 2) Enrollment key i.e. key as course number , verifying students

Inflibnet:

- 1) Logging in & browsing of resources via inflibnet username & password
- 2) Access a resource link and integrate with moodle course.

iPad:

- 1) Introduction to a wide range of teaching apps available for iPad
- 2) Using iPad as an effective aid to teach difficult topics with ease make online presentations, mark attendance for students etc.

Google Drive:

- 1) Google drive collaboration
- 2) Accessing xaviers.edu mail on PDA
- 3) Queries & Evaluation

ACTIVITIES IN 2015-16 AT THE KNOWLEDGE CENTRE:

- 1) Knowledge centre organized live broadcasting of Graduation ceremony 2015 and 2016.
- 2) Arranged video conference organized by History department with Saint Francis University, USA on 4th Dec, 2015.
- 3) Set up of CCTV cameras with networking in college campus.
- 4) Classrooms are digitally upgraded by ultra short throw projectors and ceramic boards.
- 5) Digital Signage installed in college reception and canteen.
- 6) Arranged lab facilities for following workshops & events:

No.	Topics/ Subject	Organized by	Date/ Month
1.	IPR Management in Biological Sciences	Biotechnology	April, 2015
2.	Research Capacity Building Workshop	Psychology	June, 2015
3.	Dissertation Seminar	MPP	July & August, 2015
4.	Online Salary Scheme (Joint Director)	Treasure’s Office	August, 2015
5.	Workshop on Social Media	BMM	September, 2015
6.	Sevaarathi Online Salary training to all colleges clerks	Treasure’s Office	October, 2015
7.	Nasscom Assessments	BVOC	November, 2015
8.	Diploma in Clinical Research	Clinical Research	November 2015
9.	Basic Computer training workshop	BSC IT	January, 2016
10	Palindrome Programme (Bioinformatics Workshop)	Biotechnology	February, 2016
11.	Diploma in Forensic Science (Cyber Forensic)	Zoology	March 2016

Mr. Kevin D’Cruz
Director

PLACEMENT CELL



In the academic year 2015-16, the placement cell activities started with the Placement Orientation. For Arts, B.M.M. and B.M.S. students, the Orientation was conducted on 3rd July 2016. The Principal, Dr. Agnelo Menezes, addressed the students emphasising on the need to develop employability among students. Dr. Shiney Peter spoke to the students regarding the rules and policies of the placement cell. Fr. Terry spoke about the dilemma among students with regard to the choice between higher studies and placement. Former placement advisor, Mr. Fidelis Mascarenhas shared his experience with students.

For B.Sc, B.Sc (I.T) and for P.G. students, the Orientation was held on 10th July 2016. Dr. Agnelo Menezes

addressed the students. Prof. Saima Shaikh spoke to students regarding the rules and policies of the placement cell. Prof. Ruby spoke about the psychological aspects of the students towards placement and higher studies. Dr. Vivien Amonkar spoke about the different job opportunities available to Science students.

419 students registered with the placement cell, out of which 135 were placed in various companies of high repute, the average Salary being Rs 5.25 lakhs approximately. The highest salary package was Rs 14 Lakhs per annum.

Registration composition: stream wise:

No. of placement : Streamwise

The Companies that visited our campus during the academic year 2015-2016

were McKinsey & Co., Google, Bain Capability Center, Citi Bank, Axis Bank, Aon Hewitt, Arete Advisors, Ernst & Young, KPMG, Zilingo, L&T infotech, Atos, Wipro, P3 Architectural Solution, Reliance Jio, Tata Capital, Vuclip India Pvt Ltd, Accenture, Star India, Teach for India, ICICI Prudential, ICICI Securities, Tata Capital, Dalberg, Bennett Coleman & Co. Ltd., Red Polka, Wipro, Ithaka Travel, Cognolink, Superscribe, Fountainhead Entertainment Pvt. Ltd., SMG Convonix, Nearby, Aufklaren, Directi, Red Polka, Tridat Technologies, The Blueberry Trails, H.T. Media, Godrej Communication Media, Great Place to work etc.

The great achievement of placement cell was possible because of the cooperation of all the members of placement cell and hard work of our placement officer, Mr. Dominic Fernandes. Following were the members of placement cell: Dr. Shiney Peter, Prof. Saima Shaikh, Prof. Joseph Aloysius R, Prof. Conrad Cabral, Prof. Ajay Yadav, Prof. Radakrishna Dubey, Prof. Piyali Unnikrishnan, Ms. Suvarna Gupta, Ms. Vandana T.R., Ms. Sasha Gonsalves, Ms. Sweedel Pinto, Ms. Shivam Agrawal, Ms. Shreya Bose, Mr. Tejas Mayekar and Ms. Gauri Singh.

Prof. Roy Thomas
Placement Cell Coordinator



Students participating in enabling the disabled on the World Disability Day

FARE FORWARD

The college extends its heartfelt gratitude to the following staff who retired after decades of meritorious service. The student over the year have been enriched because of their dedicated services. We wish them the very best to continue making a positive defference to society and the generations of their time.



Ms. Vidya Hegde,
Department of Economics,
Jr. College retired on 29 February,
2016 after 27 years of service.

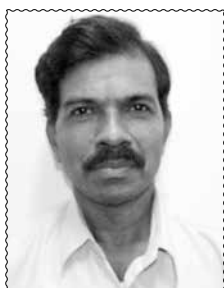


Dr. (Ms.) Ujwala Bapat,
retired on 30 April, 2016 after 30
years of service. She has been on
various faculty committees and her
contribution to research has been
noteworthy.

Ms. Vinita Bhatia,
retired on 31st August 2015, after
two decades of significant service
to the college and her students.



Dr. (Ms.) Fleur D'Souza,
retired on 31 May, 2016 after
32 years of long, dedicated and
unstinted service. She has served
as Vice- Principal (Arts) and has
contributed to various activities on
campus.



Mr. Atmaram Shinde,
Lab attendant, Department of
Geology.



Mr. Anant Chowgule,
Lab Attendant, Chemistry

Mr. Hari Rambade,
Lab Attendant, Department of Life Science

Graduation Ceremony 2016



Dr. S Parsuraman, Director TISS at the Arts graduation ceremony



Dr. Shankar Jadhav, DM, BSE at the commerce and self financing courses graduation ceremony



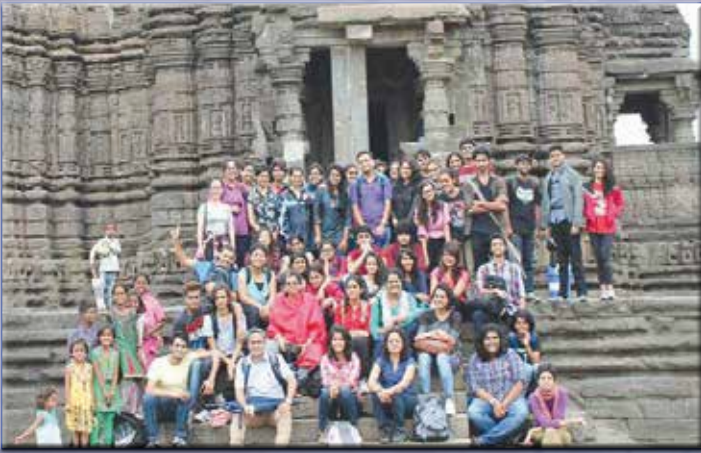
The chief guest addressing the graduates



Dr. Sanjay Deshmukh, Vice Chancellor Mumbai University at the Science Graduation ceremony



Student of the year awardee Yash Mimani(TYBA)



Dr. Rishi & Dr. Anita with students at Gondeshwar temple, Nashik



Dr. Anitha with students at Pangong Lake, Ladakh, May 2016



Janfest 2016



Malhar2015



Ganpati Celebrations in Campus by Marathi Association



Zeitgiest- Mass Media Conference, January 2016



Zephyrus - BMS department conference, Contingent leaders meet, January 2016



Visiting faculty from Univ of Notre Dame, USA



Anthropology Exhibition



Creative writing Workshop - Literature Department



Digital Morcha for Climate Justice - DIRS



Stuttgart students at Vasai fort



The I for inclusion workshop for teachers in Kendriya Vidyalaya, conducted by XRCVC



Xenith - BScIT festival



GIZ - Caius Laboratory Inter faculty Research Seminar



Ithaka - Theatre festival of the Litterature department



Birthday Concert - IMG foundation day celebration



French University delegates in conversation



Geology Department Seminar proceedings

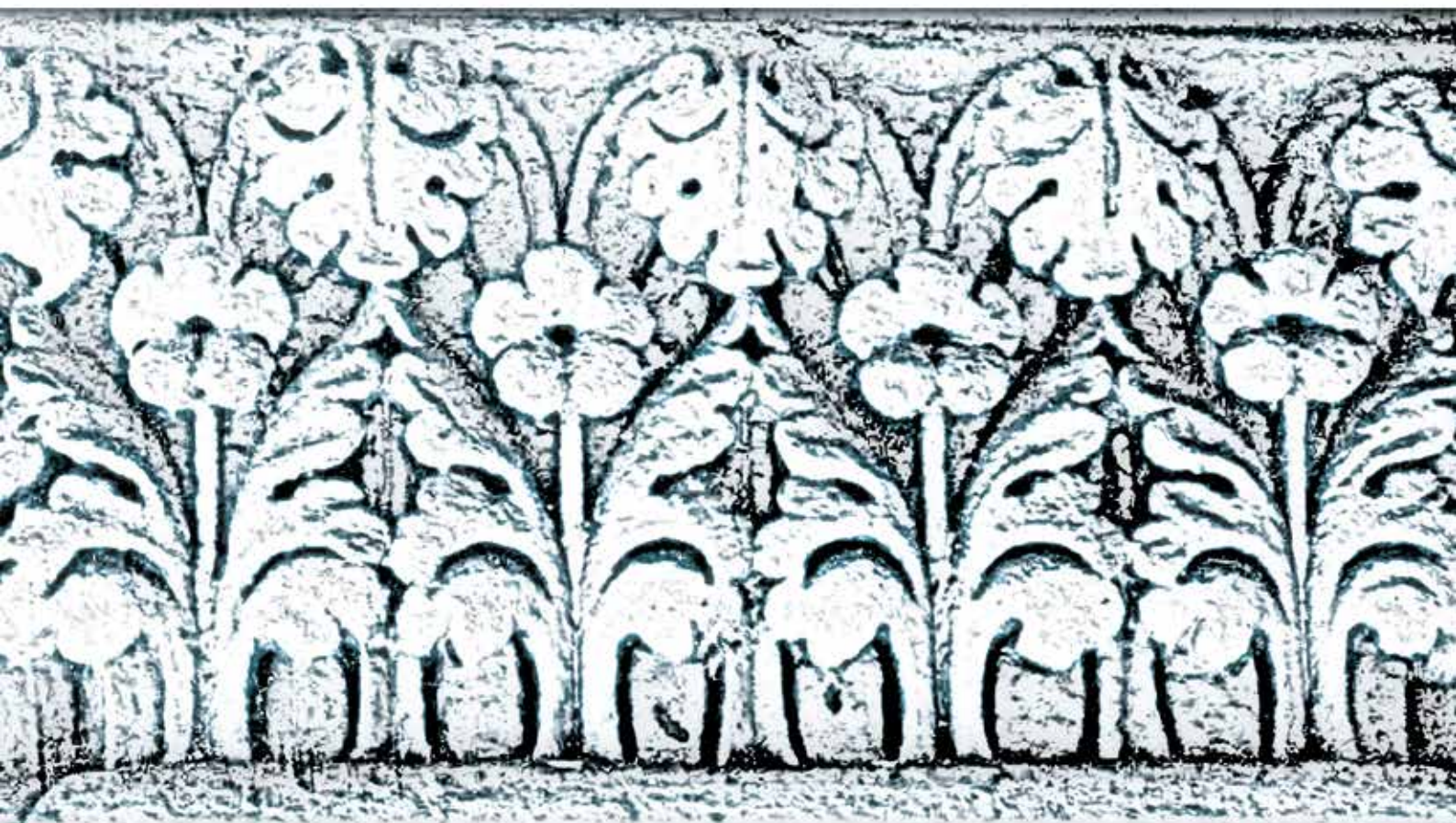


Vividha - AIC Department



National Seminar of Political Thinkers - titled "State and Power"

OUR ALUMNI



TO FORM OR BE FORMED: THAT IS THE QUESTION



Ameya Pratap Singh

To form or be formed: that is the question.

“I’m sure we all have great ideas, but no medium to fructify them”, quips Ameya.

Haunted with revolutionary questions, his mind abuzz with a myriad of innovative ideas, the Political Science student could hardly contain his restlessness. After all, he had answers to be acquired, goals to be met, dreams to be fulfilled. Like many young graduates, Ameya Pratap Singh was bursting with a long-developed enthusiasm towards making a difference, bringing change in the society’s status quo.

Of course one could ask what fuelled his hunger. Well, it was nothing but his belief in the youth’s capacity to make a mark that kept him motivated. “We’re about 65% of India’s population. But where is our voice?” he asks. “If there is one demographical sect that has the ability to exercise the power of democracy in India; it is the youth.

His greatest weapon, one he recommends to this generation as well, is the evergreen concept of putting pen to paper. People today opine as effortlessly as they form them. They write about trivia and then they write about watershed moments in national and global politics, society etc. Ameya stresses upon the importance of written expression for he is of the strong conviction that a student is at his relevant best when he is participating in dialogue.

His undergraduate years as a Political Science student pushed him in the natural direction of research study, policy making etc. In the quest of experience, the spirited young man applied to several Think tanks.

And that’s where he hit the brick wall. “We don’t take undergraduates”, they said. “How was I to put all my textual understanding into practice? How was I to learn without interaction? The broader question was, how was anyone to do so?”

And that’s why ‘Young Bhartiya’ came into being. More than the need to stand out, it was the urgency of what was necessary. Some of its major objectives were (and remain to be so) providing a platform for students to write, participate in dialogue and in the process grow an affinity to learning. It also aims at encouraging students to be more research-oriented and through it, shed the conditioning of conformism and attempt uninhibited innovations.

Regardless of their field of geneses, it is only through research that an opportunity to create may emerge. He explains, “We have a section on our website that allows students to come and start movements, for any cause of their choice. It’s essentially to create social entrepreneurship. By the time we were done conceptualizing, we had perhaps moved away from the Idea of a think tank to something more tailor made for our needs.”

Following is the transcript of an interview with Ameya:

1) How challenging was it to put together thoughts, find people who actually believed in them and finally bring the initiative to palpable reality?

It took me about three months to get the organization off the ground. The eventual structure that we came to was a culmination of numerous brainstorming sessions that I had with my peers. The journey was great fun. It

was tough to have a permanent set of people working with me as most of my friends were leaving after graduation. But we pulled through it. The most important aspect of a start up is that you understand the entire of chain things; from the ground up. Although at times inexperience is time consuming, you’re constantly learning.

2) How important do you think it is for today’s youth to be aware, alert and writing?

I can’t stress the importance of that enough. Our education system doesn’t challenge us. It caters to the masses. If we want to push ourselves into productivity the greatest medium we have as students is writing. Plus once you write, you question and you find answers. A great part of the youth today supplements its information base to hearsay. Writing gives you an opportunity to understand, and more importantly it gives you an opportunity to apply yourself to that understanding. And I think it’s this power of analysis that helps you in the larger picture, in making the right life decisions. Also, from a career standpoint, literary work plays a fundamental work for college applications, Internship opportunities and jobs.

3) ‘Young Bhartiya’ is raw and new. Do you plan to expand it in any way in the near future?

We’ve just started with Mumbai. So right now our main focus is to try and expand our base to as many colleges here. Once we’ve made considerable strides with social change or academic innovation it will attract more students. We want to then expand to cities with larger student populations. In the long term I also want to expand to the rural sections of our country. The urban model that we currently use would have to change, but it’s important to provide a voice to them. In all honesty, no body has a more accurate understanding of the grassroot problems of India

then they do. If we can get them to perhaps raise the more pertinent issues impeding our growth then it can help generate a popular movement for their cause.

4) Has it received the necessary attraction with the student body you aim to address and empower?

I've honestly been overwhelmed by the response students have given. We already had about a 100 articles before our launch. And this is only going to grow. At face value the organization seems quite academic in nature, but its really not. It's a forum for dialogue for the things that interest you. Once students see this side to it, Things will be getting even better.

5) Deviating a little, I'm sure you're a well-read person. What readings would you recommend for hungry minds?

I used to hate reading. I think most students would understand where I'm coming from. I just saw no end product to it. Then I started with things that interested me, that played a more dominant role in my everyday life. Books on politics, diplomacy, travel, sports etc. I think it's a gradual process. We all eventually learn to fall in love with books, some sooner than

others. For people that like reading, I'd recommend the works of Henry Kissinger or Noam Chomsky or even William Darlymple. Their analytical skills are exceptional. Some of the books I've read recently are 'Alibaba', 'Black swan', 'Turn of the tortoise' and 'the man who knew infinity'. There's always so much great literature being written, you can pick and choose for things that grab your imagination. But the one thing id recommend for everyone would be reading the newspaper.

6) How did you come to be an intern at the Hon'ble President's office?

It's not an everyday opportunity is it? I think all the research, internships, and academic repertoire that I had played a part in me getting this opportunity. But most of it was just dumb luck. I happened to apply to the presidential secretariat and I was called for an interview. I can't thank Mrs. Omita Paul (Secretary to the president) Mr. Ashok Mehta (Private secretary to the president) and Dr. Thomas Mathew (Additional secretary to the president) for deeming me worthy of such an honor. I'm a national athlete, I faired reasonably well in academics, I'm the founder of a think tank, and I've worked in the offices of Leader of oppositions and state commissions before. But this

has been the most challenging affair I've ever been party to. The exposure and the responsibilities have almost been over-whelming at times. My essential job profile here is research. I was initially helping with a section of the Hon'ble President's autobiography. Now I'm working with a smart village initiative that is being formulated for 5 villages in Haryana.

7) Lastly, what are your plans for the future?

I'm going to be pursuing my masters in International relations from LSE this year. Thanks to the great support and guidance I received from Pratibhama'am and Shazia ma'am during my final year I was successful in my applications to every university I applied to, including Oxford. After my masters I expect to complete my MPhil and Phd. As a career path I most definitely want to be an entrepreneur. I'm greatly inspired by the work that Elon Musk has carried out. I believe that entrepreneurship is the ideal avenue to create something and revolutionize society along with it. And I hope more and more people do the same so we can transform ourselves from being conformists of global practices and constructs to innovators and contributors.

Interview by: Asmita Kuvalekar

OF DELICACIES AND MORE...



Siddharth Sarpate at the My Mithaiwala Team

He didn't care for the studies. A student he undeniably was, in the city's most acclaimed college at that, but there was something in him that made him stand out from the crowd of academics-

oriented youngsters. People pointed him out to his juniors, "that's Siddharth, head of..." because he always headed something or the other. Enthusiastic and a natural leader, Siddharth Sarpate

took St. Xavier's extra-curricular arena by storm. What he looked for, says he, was exposure, ability to make tough decisions; something books cannot offer. "But, we always managed to do fairly well in academics too", quips the founder-CEO of My Mithaiwala- an online shopping portal for a variety of Indian sweetmeats.

Predictably, Siddharth and his friends wanted to give the 9-5 job profile a miss and yearned to live out of the box. Always an active part of organisations and fests, be it Malhar, Marathi Vangmay Mandal, ECC etc, the nagging idea of an independent venture

had enraptured them irrevocably. Ideas led to discussions and it was in one such brainstorming session that the young 20-year old hit gold. He wanted to do something in the food industry, specifically Indian sweets, since it hadn't been tapped as a niche market yet.

Working only over weekends with new-found jobs to keep them busy, gradually a list of potential business partners (read: sweetmeat shops) was formed. The difficult part was not getting their attention but rather harnessing it into an affirmative for the enterprise. While some joined hands, others ridiculed on the basis of doubt. Taking the rejection in its stride, the group motored on with their initial posse of supporters and it was that moment when Siddharth realised he had something real on his hands. Not only was he going to own and direct something, employing himself in the process, he was going to create jobs for others while at it.

It took gumption to quit hard-earned jobs but as he puts it, My Mithaiwala "was more than just an idea on paper". Knowing it demanded undivided dedication, it was only a matter of time till the website was created. An innovative, mouth-watering enterprise was born.

Here is a written account of a tête à tête with Siddharth and his team:

1) What kind of preparation and logistical support went into this venture?

There was a lot of research and preparation required before we launched our website. None of us had any work experience in the sweets industry. So we had to ensure that every process was well-defined. We had to make the website and logistics flow, get the marketing and promotional aspect in place. We had to set up a system with the sweet shops which we'd follow every time we got an order from the shops. We had to make sure that the entire process, from the time we received an

order up to the time it was delivered to the customer(s) was smooth and well set.

2) Who did the groundwork for putting 'My Mithaiwala' together? We are talking choosing of sweetmeat shops, delivery areas, logo and website creation?

Setting up My Mithaiwala was a team effort. We've distributed work amongst ourselves; everyone has been allotted specific roles in the company. Naresh, BSc IT graduate handles the website and the entire technical side of the company. Deepak, again a BSc IT graduate, looks after sales which include choosing sweet shops, approaching them and getting them onboard. Ajinkya, who has completed double graduation in Maths and Statistics from Xavier's and MSc in Statistics from Mumbai University, looks after the operations which involves the delivery process once an order is received. Om, a BMM (Advertising) graduate manages Marketing and Communications for the company. Siddhant, who has completed his B.A. (AIC), looks after the overall business development and expansion of the company. As everyone knows their role and duties, work becomes easier and faster, since everyone has some experience in the jobs that are assigned to them. We are glad to inform everyone that the My Mithaiwala logo is designed by yet another Xavierite, Dushyant Chogle who is also a BScIT graduate.

3) Did you worry about the service not being conventionally utilitarian? In other words, fear of failure because of inadequate demand?

The idea that we are working on is quite unique. No one has sold or bought sweets online till now as a real-time, hyper local, on-demand service and so both, the shops as well as the customers are not accustomed to this concept of e-commerce in the traditional sweets sector. Hence, making the customers and the shop owners believe that something like this is really possible

was our biggest challenge. Our general tendency as Indians while buying sweets is to first see, feel and taste them before buying in larger quantities. And of course that makes it a little difficult for us to sell Indian traditional sweets online. But, with internet and e-commerce markets growing up in full swing, many people are now getting habituated to online shopping. However, the positive here is that we have all known and famous shops on the website and people trust the quality of their products or have already tried their products before. So people would not worry about those aspects while buying sweets from these shops. Also, we try to provide as much information about the product possible along with their images so that the customer gets all the knowledge about the products they're buying. Since the concept is new, in the initial span, there is a fear of insufficient demand, but we're trying to promote our product to as widely as possible.

4) The major selling point of online sites for any commodity is lower prices. Do we get to see the same with 'My Mithaiwala'?

My Mithaiwala does not want to be a discount hub and provide sweets at lesser prices. My Mithaiwala wants to be a marketplace for all sweet shops where the customers can get a large variety to choose and buy products of their choice from the shops they like. So, the focus is more on giving more options to the customers than giving choices. Although we might give some coupons and discounts in the early days to acquire customers, we are not going to be a portal offering huge discounts and cheap prices in the longer run.

5) Who are the delivery personnel and what is their mode of transport?

We five founders ourselves deliver the sweets as of now. First of all because we want to study the process of order and delivery minutely. As they say, practical aids better comprehension. We plan to have our own team of delivery boys

at a later stage, but to train them, we need first need to know the process and where things can go wrong and where we need to be extra careful. Also, since we are completely bootstrapped right now, we do not have the budget to hire delivery boys at this stage. We mostly use public transport for delivery and we also have a scooter which we use in case if the delivery has to be done at a short notice.

6) Did the concerned sweetmeat shops require any sort of incentive to come onboard?

The biggest incentive for the sweet shops was the increased reach and customer base which they would get in the market. Their products could now reach customers who were far away from the shop. They did not need any added efforts to serve these customers. Also, an online presence and the opportunity to showcase all their products to people across the city. That was also a major incentive for them to join us at My Mithaiwala.

7) Lastly, is 'My Mithaiwala' a fulltime engagement or just a step forward to

newer business ventures?

Yes, My Mithaiwala is a full time commitment for all five of us. We're working on getting investment right now and once we get our first round of funding, we plan to expand our business to other parts of the city. We also plan to come with other ventures like My Mithaiwala under our company Dream Realities Pvt. Ltd. after My Mithaiwala becomes a stable and successful brand.

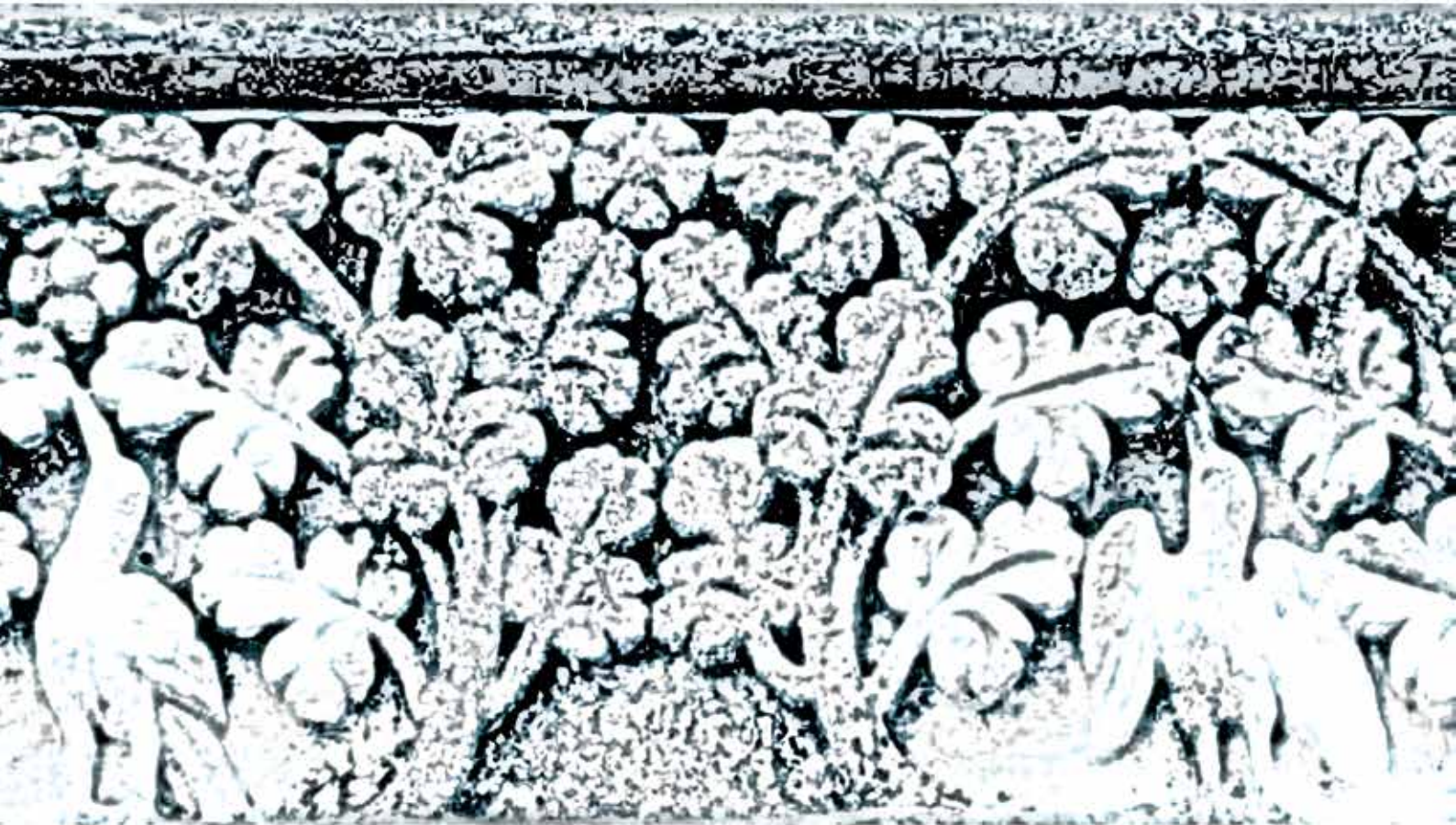
Interview by: Asmita Kuvalekar

A WORDY REVOLUTION.

Once upon a time,
A voracious quill seduces a hungry parchment; a sacred union indeed,
For their offspring brings with it, pleasure and wonder,
To colour a very vacant world; a world with no stories.
Tasteful words create wondrous worlds,
Realms filled with riches, mighty Gods and powerful kings,
Magnificent heroes swinging bloodthirsty swords,
To rescue their golden haired maidens from the clutches of thrilling atrocities.
Tales flow far and wide, embellished with magnanimous vocabulary,
Beautified by imperfect characters and perfect syntax.
Sentiments inked over many pages, thoughts and secrets tumbling out
From a thousand crafty words, masterfully strung together.
Now the words lessen themselves, the length grows smaller,
But isn't the essence strangely magnified, amazingly sharpened?
For though quills and pens are no longer wielded, the most profound thoughts are,
To create stories diminutive in size but prodigious in meaning.
For they are free; free from the rules of elaboration and ornamentation.
Nano-tales, micro-tales, mini-tales, they go by numerous names,
Penned in a few minutes, but influence many a million,
Read in a few seconds, but retained for a lifetime,
Their smallness does not tamper with their lustre, their brilliance, their magnificence,
For they define a new era, a new beginning for stories,
They are a revolution.
- Amruta Khandekar



REFLECTIONS



MUMBAI LOCAL: THE STORY OF DC-AC CONVERSION

Alarm rings... Snooze... Alarm rings again...

Force yourself out of bed and groggily walk to the bathroom.

Brush, bathe, dress up, grab a bite, and leave the house.

Go to the nearest railway station and board the train.

That is the cycle that greets most Xavierites each morning. In all this has anyone ever stopped to consider **the train**, without which the daily commute would've been impossible?

Well, let me now take you on a different journey, a journey through journeys, because there are certain things you need to know, or let's say - should know.

Speaking of local trains, each train is called an **'Electric Multiple Unit'** or in short, **EMU**. The word 'Electric' because the trains run on electric power from the overhead wires, and 'multiple unit' because unlike long distance express trains, where one locomotive in the front hauls the dead weight of some twenty coaches, here each local train has multiple power cars. There is one power car for every three coaches. For example, a 9 coach train will have 3 power cars, a 12 coach train has 4, and so on. So however long the train is, the power to weight ratio will remain

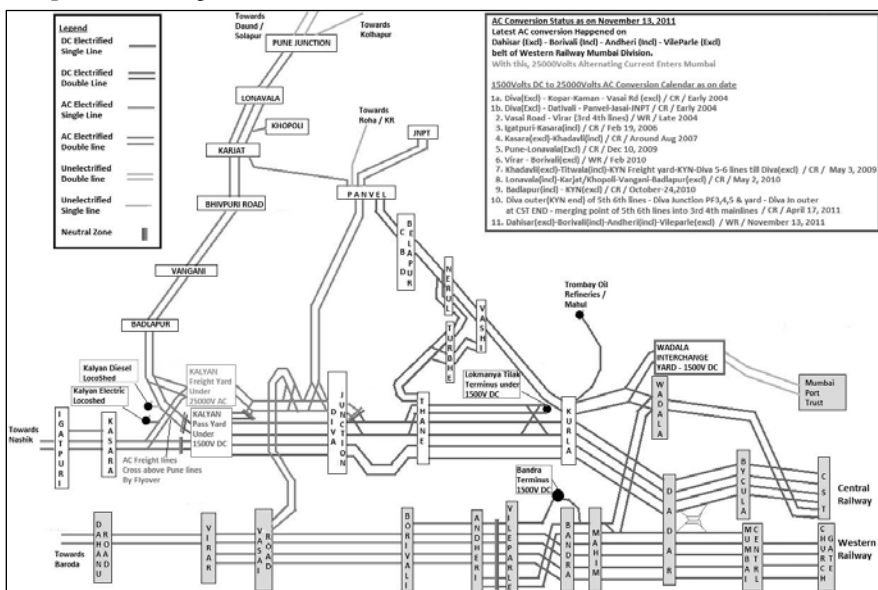
constant. This improves acceleration and braking capacity, which is why EMU trains are preferred in cities and for suburban routes which have frequent starts and stops.

About fifteen to twenty years ago, the iconic symbol of the Mumbai local trains used to be those quaint looking, box shaped, brown and yellow trains. These trains were mostly manufactured by 'Jessop'. They were used extensively on all three lines of Mumbai, i.e. the Western Railway (WR), the Central Railway (CR) and the Harbour Line, which is also a part of the Central Railway. They used to run on 1,500 volts Direct Current (DC) power supply and were thus also known as DC EMUs or DC locals. Their maximum speed was 80 km/hr and the ride was quite bouncy at that speed due to poor suspension. However, they still served Mumbai faithfully for many long years. And well, we have evolved a lot since then...

While the rest of Indian Railways was running on 25,000 volts Alternating Current (AC), the Mumbai division was still working on 1,500 volts DC, which was leading to many technical issues. So slowly, Mumbai started converting its network to 25,000 volts AC. The conversion would be done in various phases, not all at once, and since the power was changing, the

trains also would have to be changed. Mumbai needed trains which would be able to run on both DC as well as AC power. So companies like 'Alstom' and 'BHEL' started manufacturing such motors for local trains. These trains were also known as AC/DC EMUs and a few of them are still running today on both the Western and Central Railway.

The conversion from DC to AC was started from the extreme suburbs and slowly worked its way towards south Mumbai. The Western Railway started with the Virar - Borivali stretch and the Central Railway started with the Kasara - Kalyan and Karjat - Kalyan sections. Thus the DC EMUs could still be used till Borivali and Kalyan on the Western and Central Railways respectively, but only the AC/DC EMUs could ply beyond. The few AC/DC locals were not enough to run the services so Western Railway sent a request to the German company 'Siemens' asking them to manufacture EMUs, which were suitable to run both on DC as well as AC. The trains arrived, many trials were conducted and in 2007, the first Siemens EMU was inaugurated on the Western Railway. These trains gave a whole new outlook to the 'Mumbai local'. Painted white with a purple band near the bottom, and the interiors made of stainless steel, these new generation EMUs created an impact on the Mumbaikars and were an immediate success. They have a top speed of 100 km/hr, they're rugged, work without many breakdowns, their acceleration is just superb, they have newer features like streamlined bodies, regenerative braking to save power, as well as GPS system with live announcements and LED indicators in each coach, and most importantly, the ride for the commuters became smoother. All these features made the Siemens EMUs a big hit and they still form a vast majority of the current day fleet of Mumbai local trains. Nine years into service, and they are still going very strong, on all the three lines of Mumbai.



A map showing the DC and AC territories of Mumbai as of November, 2011
 Red = DC ; Green = Converted to AC

The DC - AC conversion on Western Railway had progressed to Ville Parle, and finally on 5th February, 2012 the last stretch from Churchgate to Ville Parle was converted to 25,000 volts AC, thereby making Western Railway the first branch of the Mumbai network to convert fully to Alternating Current. In order to meet the demand for more trains which could run on AC, the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai started manufacturing EMUs with pure AC motors. Painted similar to the Siemens locals, these trains are also very sturdy, however their performance is not as good as their Siemens counterparts, where acceleration and braking is concerned. Also, all the DC locals on the Western Railway had to be phased out. Some were given to Central Railway and the Harbour Line (which was still fully under DC at that time), while a few others were taken to the factory, and their motors were replaced with pure AC motors. These sort of trains are known as retrofitted EMUs, but their performance is again quite poor, since after all, they were old trains, without great suspension and other systems.

In the meantime, the Central Railway had converted the Kalyan to Thane section to AC, limiting the use of the old DC locals to the CST - Thane stretch. This called for more EMUs which were compatible with both AC and DC. So Central Railway also

started retrofitting its old trains but the difference was that instead of installing new pure AC motors, they installed dual current AC/DC motors. They also procured some Siemens EMUs to run especially on the long services to Karjat and Kasara. And this continued till 8th June, 2015 when the final stretch from Mumbai CST to Thane was converted to 25,000 volts and entire Central Railway came under AC power. The only line left in Mumbai under wires carrying DC was the Harbour line.

In the last two years, two significant steps have been taken towards a better future. The Western Railway has received new EMUs made by 'Bombardier', which run purely on AC. These are similar to the Siemens EMUs with certain upgradations like a higher maximum speed of 120 km/hr. An order for 72 such trains has been given, many of which are already running on the Western Railway. They're also painted white with a bright pink band which makes them look more appealing. As a result Western Railway is giving many of its Siemens EMUs to Central Railway and Harbour Line, which in turn are phasing out their age old EMUs. The second important thing happened very recently, on the night between 9th and 10th April, 2016. The last remaining segment in entire India which was running on 1,500 volts DC, i.e. the Harbour

Line was converted to 25,000 volts AC. The last ever DC EMU made its final voyage from Kurla to Mumbai CST on the Harbour Line. This was a very significant and historic moment for Mumbaikars. A great crowd of media and rail enthusiasts gathered there to witness the emotional moment as these EMUs that served Mumbai for 30 years or more, would never ever be seen again. It was time to bid goodbye to these trains forever...

We have arrived at our destination, and the journey has ended, but in reality the journey is never going to end. Progress and evolution are an integral part of everything in life. The local train reaches Virar, terminates and come back to Churchgate, but in a deeper sense, the train will keep moving in one direction. Newer, faster, smoother, better trains are definitely going to keep coming. Brown and yellow DC locals have given way to Siemens and Bombardier locals. After some years it maybe some other company, one cannot predict from now. But the one thing that will remain constant in life is change. Change for the better, evolution towards a greater future, the journey which does not have an end. It will just go on endlessly, the one and only journey with an unknown destination...

- Rishad Ghiara

FRINGE OBSERVATIONS

A train rushes past the platform, leaving a blast of humid air to ruffle the mop around her head. Sighing, she adjusts the bag-strap cutting into her shoulder and squints balefully at the sign above her.

S07 shines bleakly at her, looking as tired as she feels.

Her train is still 7 minutes away.

'Slow trains at night,' she thinks sourly, 'are an unfair trial.'

The platform is emptier than the usual mass of humanity that graces the cement in the legendary (and incorrectly named) rush 'hour'. The

typical night crowd greet her (though not really, because who has the energy after a long day to make friends with strangers? Not a Bombay-ite, never a Bombay-ite); the other 20-somethings returning home from heavy work days, the much older Uncle-Aunties with their families on their minds (and probably their dinners), the odd group of excited teens thrilled about 'hanging out' around midnight, and the tired-looking constable sadly flicking through an oversaturated music playlist.

(She catches a glimpse of the songs he's dully flicking through every now and then, and smiles.)

She doesn't fit into any of these little categories, because a lone college graduate who's spent the day doing who-knows-what doesn't particularly fit in anywhere. Tilting her head slightly to the right, she contemplates the meagre crowd in front of her eyes.

It's like she can see her future and bygone past before her.

Someday, probably in the near future (if that one job interview goes well), she'll likely become one of the 20-somethings wearing 'office casual' and bearing laptops. She eyes the women's hands to see if she can spot engagement rings; when do the urban

working girls begin to get hitched now anyway? She tries to imagine an equally-tired fiancé or husband, but can't quite fathom how old she'd have to be for that to come to pass. The women in front of her don't seem a day older than 25, which seems far too early for her newly-minted adult self to recognize as an age to tie the knot.

Shaking her head, she turns to the middle-aged uncle standing a little farther down the platform, his beer belly straining the buttons of his shirt a little bit. He is clearly on the phone with a spouse, talking about an offspring. It might be social conditioning, but it's easier to imagine being in his place. Distasteful though, considering that children seem a sticky and avoidable nuisance to lay claim to. His shoulders slump soon after ending the call, and she feels a pang of pity for the man so clearly eager to get home and put his feet on a soft pillow. (Or watch a match, is there one on? She's never sure anymore, every sport and tournament just melds into one colourful Sports section in a news daily now.) The forties, if she's being honest, actually could be anything, and therefore the most terrifying.

A loud laugh breaks her attention, and she turns in time to see the group of teens shushing a particularly happy-looking girl throwing painfully obvious glances at a friend. She smells the alcohol reeking off them and wonders idly if she should warn them about a

parent's innate sense to smell alcohol and smoke off a kid. She discards the idea almost immediately. It's midnight and they're all waiting for (possibly) the last train of the night; she has no interest in being friends with intoxicated adolescents.

The train finally chugs into the station, and she walks sedately into FirstClassGeneral with her companions. Eyeing the old couple seated in the corner and forbidding teacherly woman with a sleepy child and bag, she shakes herself. 'This is shaping up to look like an enactment of the Seven Ages of Man,' she thinks dryly. 'The Six Ages of Mumbaikars.'

The idea interests her, so she seats herself and contemplates her new targets properly.

What must it be like, then, to be a young mother? She appreciates the lines on the woman's face with some respect – it can't be easy. The kid shuffles closer to his mom, tiny hands grasping at her sensible kurta, eyes wide and staring out the window. Vaguely, she recalls doing the same with her mother, though she had been more of a whining brat. Soon enough, even the rapid-pace of the Railways won't surprise the kid. 'Such is the fate of a Mumbai-baby,' she thinks cynically. After a point, he won't be surprised by anything, let alone trains. In her mind, the woman is a hard-working fifth grade teacher with

sixty additional kids to mother every day, dispensing knowledge and justice.

The withered couple looks vastly more interesting, engrossed in quiet conversation. She notes their grey hair and sleepy eyes. They're tired, but a spark in their expressions betray their true age. Some people never grow up, she supposes. They animatedly whisper to each other as the sound of masala ads filter through the Western Railway speakers, clearly making jokes about the new soundtrack to the journey. She's tempted to ask them if they're like the sleepy child near them – born in the city, and seemingly destined to die in it as well.

The morbid thought distracts her for a while, until the cop at the compartment door coughs and shuffles.

"Jealous in honour, sudden, and quick in quarrel," she mutters under her breath.

No, she really doesn't fit into any of the categories. Maybe that's the real beauty of being 20 – you're just someone waiting on the fringes of another age.

As the train passes Bandra creek, she changes her mental list once more to Eight.

Who knows what's floating in the murky water?

Sroojana Iyer

RECREATING D-DAY

They both hate first days. Always arduous from evisceratingly ensuring everything is in place, on time and at the ready to actually meeting, being judged and facing up new almost alien entities. Few things are worse, but recreating such a D-day definitely makes the deplorable dirtlist. It matters little that while one of them is a 147 year old institution, the other is a teenager in his first – they both hate first days.

Employing every element of the eccentric Travel Murphy; from erratic buses rerouted trains and sleek

monsoon roads, the college hopes to delay the arrival of its quarry at all costs. It works – the boy is stuck at the wrong station lumberously late. It seems as if he won't make it.

The college heaves a heavy sigh of relict relief, all too soon. Minutes later, the boy sprints through the gates having swiftly despatched the security guards flashing a soaked fee receipt and a helpless grin. The college groans, but there is little time to grumble.

As the boy runs up the first flight of stairs, the college puffs indignantly – in his tearing hurry, the former misses

the latter's magnificent façade. At the top of the stairs, the boy stops short. He turns right, then left and then finally right with resignation. The college smirks slyly.

The boy reaches the General Office. A helpful receptionist directs him to the first floor. "LR27", the boy is off. As he moves past the first floor balcony, in his watch he catches a fleeting reflection of the college shyly peering at him. He half smiles and turns the corner.

LR27, the number plate creaking in the unearthly wind obliges. The boy

walks slower now, gradually relaxing. He almost freezes when he sees the unending rows of desks and chairs filled with students all poised over their question papers furiously scribbling away. As the invigilator looks at him quizzically, a bell rings and the boy realises he has been tricked again. He determinedly asks for directions and is doggedly directed to the office again, with a breveloquent explanation apropos the classroom being switched for exams. Elsewhere, the college giggles.

Hastily, but graciously the boy barrels into the general office where he is directed to LR44. As he hastens down the stairs, the college is barely able to stifle a guffaw.

At the bottom of the stairs, the boy reaches the Physics Lab, even though he is hopelessly lost, he can't help but admire the awesomely attractive force of this magnetic main building. The college blushes.

Drawn inside, he marches meaningfully towards the gentleman behind the third desk. He thanks him profusely and moments later he is on the first flight of steps again. Back

to square one except this time, the journey is faster.

It is almost as if the college guides his tired limbs. The boy flies up the second staircase marvelling at its remarkable resemblance to that of a certain magical castle school. The third is a blur taken two at a time. At the top of the stairs, the boy pauses, for more breathtaking than the climb, is the view. The mosaic-tiled flooring and the steeped roof tiles are equally nostalgic. As the sun emerges imperiously, both boy and college find themselves dry, hesitantly approaching each other.

The air is thick with trepidation, each awaiting the inevitable- an embrace encompassing or a rejection rude.

Then, as it often does on creatures wary of each other, a slow realisation dawns upon them both - fear cuts both ways. The college notices for the first time, the boy trembling. The boy acknowledges, no less astonished, the college nervously shaking. 41, 42, 43 - finally - 44.

As the boy stands at the door of LR44, the students pay little attention to him;

the professor has just asked them a question of preponderous proportions.

Shifting his weight uncomfortably, the boy wonders whether he should answer. Stony yet strangely warm hand resting on his shoulder, the college eggs him on gently - he speaks, his voice rings out, carried by his hewn benefactor.

The professor surprised, spins around. His words have found their mark. The succeeding silence is broken by the pleasantly stunned listener.

"Yes, that is correct. Who are you?"

"I am a late admission, Professor."

"Welcome to St.Xaviers"

The boy walks in. All eyes rest on him momentarily. He humbly sweeps past the professor and slides onto the first bench to the left. The last place in class is filled. He fits right in.

The boy smiles to himself and somewhere on the horizon, the college beams back.

- Swagat Siby

RATIONALISING THE COINCIDENT ESCALATION OF HUMANITARIANISM AND RADICALISM

The year 2015 saw two very startling trends, both evoking a feeling of solace and disgust among different segments of the world's population. In a world with a population of nearly seven and a half billion, these trends have the ability to strongly divide the population, both within countries and the world over. These trends have evolved to become complementary and have the uncanny feature of simultaneously being mutually exclusive and concordant. They are the constantly evolving trends of humanitarianism and radicalism.

Fear of particular segments of society and subtle ostracizing based on religion, caste, gender etc., has existed for longer than most of us would care to admit. But with the advent of

various terrorist groups and multiple terrorist attacks around the world, this ostracizing has now taken centre stage, bringing forward the question, what really are the grounds for this kind of segmenting of society and how do we as rational human beings, accept this kind of generalization. The Syrian refugee crisis saw numerous countries around the world pledge their support to these refugees offering

them shelter in their respective countries. Countries like Germany, Lebanon, Greece, Spain, Turkey and France have extended support to these refugees, offering them a home in their country. Taking course of the situation, it became evident that pure monetary help to these refugees would not be of much help to these refugees as with the level of destruction in their homeland, they have no home to return to. Humanitarian aid now began evolving with a whole new aspect added to it, apart from funds, countries began providing the physical space of their country as well as its resources for the benefit of a people who were ethnically foreign. This response was lauded by many as for its sensitivity to the less fortunate and was viewed as the ethically rational



response.

However, this world wasn't at a consensus on this. Many residents of these countries were cynical about this move. The primary cause of concern being that Many European countries, ones part of the once prosperous European Union, now struggle with high rates of unemployment and debt. Accommodating these additional citizens would mean having to give them job opportunities to enable them to enjoy a fair standard of life. In countries like Greece and Spain already plagued by financial difficulties, the prospect of having to provide employment which they believe is rightfully theirs. However, another major concern which was looming over the acceptance of refugees all along was terrorism and elevated crime rates. Post 9/11, it is a widely accepted fact that Muslims around the world are dealt with suspiciously. As per a YouGov poll conducted in Britain, Muslims were most commonly associated with the word 'terrorist' and 'terrorism' with 12% of those interviewed responded in this manner. The fears of these countries regarding this seemed to prove itself on the ill-fated day of 13th November 2015, when a series of attacks in Paris led to the death toll of 130. The perpetrators of this attack were found to have been radicalised in Syria and took advantage of the flow of migrants to enter the country and carry

out the attacks. The suspicions and reservations held by various Europeans about the danger of enabling migrants to enter the country which at one point seemed unwarranted and based on stereotyping now suddenly seemed rational. A number of the citizens of the EU began demanding their borders be closed to migrants. Germany in particular was asked to revise its stance as the spearhead of propagating providing refuge to these migrants. At the World Economic Forum in Davos, French Prime Minister Manuel Valls claimed that the refugee crisis was destabilising Europe, and the very idea of it being one unit. His concerns are justified, with Brexit now being a very possible outcome of this destabilization. It is not to say that the refugee crisis is the sole cause of this destabilization but the barriers in the open border policy imposed after the Paris and Brussels attacks have indeed brought into question the open border policy and the relevance of the Schengen agreement.

According to RT News, a startling 64% of the French believe that the refugees are a major source of crime in the country. Hence as the world seeks an evolved form of humanitarianism, another segment of the world's population sees itself becoming more radical, both ideologically and in its actions. One man has managed to take advantage of this situation and has evolved the once tabooed

radicalism to a more accepted form of it. Donald Trump with his host of anti – Islam statements among other slews against migrants has managed to use his radical ideas to his advantage, becoming the first candidate to secure his position in the 2016 US elections. In a world that looks at the dissolution of boundaries, Trump speaks of building a wall between the US and Mexico and 'bringing jobs back to the United States'. However, what would once have been discredited as radicalism with a negative connotation is now being supported by millions of Americans. Radicalism has now evolved from being shunned to being seen as the right to protect and preserve oneself and one's community and to the countless individuals fearing attacks like 9/11 and the Paris attacks it seems like the only rational choice.

However, these contradictory ideas are in fact complementary and lead to the evolution of the other as stated above. One evolves because the other seemingly gets out of hand a section of society becomes disillusioned with the existing state of affairs. Where this constant evolution will take the world is unpredictable, but the world and everything in it is in a constant state of flux and evolution is an essential process so that we may evolve into beings that can withstand the survival of the fittest.

- Michele Bernadine

SOCCER IN STEEL



With diligence embodied in steel, the aspirants of the Robocup 2016 are ready to kick-start their distinctive soccer tournament at Leipzig, Germany. Its battleground will galvanize 500 teams from more than 40

countries to the ultimate showdown of artificial intelligence and automation. The idea behind this was to use a game of skill and coordination to discover developments in robots as the game proceeds. Soccer indeed met the brief and initiated applications to real-time and concurrent programming. The Robocup thus incorporated humanoid robotics into the domain of sports, creating watersheds for both, science and soccer. It has evolved from a mere soccer league to a tournament with approximately twenty varied contests, ranging from identifying victims in disasters to communicating

with people in ordinary circumstances. This year, the robots will also compete in events like the Amazon Picking challenge, the Steam exhibition, the Robocamp and the most sought, The Standard League.

There are rules that limit excess development of one's hardware for these competitions, so as to maintain a standard level of contention. Intelligent strategies are encouraged instead of physical force. Every team sends in their methodology after the finals so that the teams of the following year know the expected level of performance and seek new paths to

victory. These competitions will be held from 30th June to 3rd July followed by the symposium on 4th July 2016. The Robocup is both, a source of entertainment for about 40,000 visitors and its Youtube viewers, as well as a scientific advancement.

Currently, the soccer tournament consists of four leagues. In 2015, 'TechUnited' from China won the Middle Size League, the 'Brain Kids' from Japan won the Small Size League, while 'Parand' from Iran won the Teen Size League. However, the Robocup champions were the ones that won the Standard League, the Australian team with a score of 3-1 against Germany's 'B-Human' team. Although Australia hasn't scored the winning goal with its all human football team in recent years, it definitely did with its humanoid soccer team this time.

The concept of an all robotic soccer league was incepted by Professor Alan Mackworth from the University of British Columbia, Canada in his paper, 'On Seeing Robots' in 1992. Later in October, a team of Japanese researchers

twitched this concept into a series of prototypes, financial and technology feasibility studies and rules to test its application. The results shone green lights and Hiroaki Kitano, Minoru Asada, Yasuo Kuniyoshi and few others launched the Robot J-League in 1993. When other countries wanted a piece of the action, an international joint venture was formed, 'the Robot World Cup Initiative' known widely as the 'Robocup'.

Hiroaki noted in his work, 'RoboCup-97: Robot Soccer World Cup I' that the ultimate goal was to "develop a robot soccer team which beats Brazil world cup team". Robocup 2050 is to be the year when this vision will plunge into reality. In 1997, researchers foresaw the attainment of this goal in decades if not centuries. However, as technology began to pace up, the goal drew closer and the vision grew clearer. In 2050, if the robots prove victorious, it would validate existing automation ventures and encourage more projects in the future.

Many are unaware of this soccer

advancement and while the purpose of this article is to enlighten the highbrow, it is also an eye opener in perceiving the technology industry. It has been stepping up its game and will continue to do so in the future. While it promotes research in unstructured automation, it strives to challenge the human intellectual and physical capacity and I think this is important as it sets the pace for other fields like agriculture, sports, commerce and economics that depend on it. On one hand, the Robocup will stimulate science and on the other, it will challenge traditional game players. Darwin's survival theory will be observed yet again as the Robocup will emerge with its strongest team to fight its human counterpart. Will humanoids be fitter than their creators? Only its man versus manmade future proposition shall answer this question. Until then, as Robocup 2016 unveils its participants, you must root for your favourite and maybe they'd be the one benchmarking history, the first to defeat an all human soccer team.

- Andrea Rodrigues

THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE MIND AND THE BODY

I've been involved in matters relating to the transgender population of the world, i've been doing my own research for a year or so now. It started with an article, leading to me writing one of my own on this topic. The research once begun, never stopped.

As said by Agnostic Zetetic - No one has the right to demand that your body be anything different from what it truly is. Strangely, i grew up to witness otherwise.

Somewhere along the way, the skin on our bodies, the difference in our voices and the direction our heart takes us in, decided whether or not we should be given human rights.

We are defined by our thoughts, choices and decisions that we follow, through our toughest times. However, our identification lies in aspects distinct from the ones mentioned above. Imagine being born to fly but

being placed in a cage where you could barely stretch your wings - that feeling is precisely the emotional stigma of a transgender person.

Most of the people still struggle with an exact definition of transgender. Being transgender has nothing to do with one's "confused" state of mind, sex, genitalia or sexual orientation. Transgender is an umbrella term for several kinds of gender dysphoria - a conflict between someone's internal sense of gender and their biological sex at birth, it is strictly directed towards self gender identification. Being transgender today is entirely unreasonable and unnecessarily hard. But, far from hopeless. The tide is shifting but maybe, a tad bit too slowly while lives hang in the balance.

The Struggle

From a very early age, people with the gender dysphoria confess to having a

compelling conviction of something being wrong.

Robert Ludwig, having grown up on long island, New York, knew he wanted to be a girl and often sneaked into his mother's closet to try on her dresses. But he tamped down his emotions by playing basketball, joining the Navy, getting married and becoming a father. "It was horrible," Ludwig said. "Everyday i was reminded of pretentious life, everyday i was reminded of how i couldn't be myself. You look in the mirror and you see something where your body does not match your spirit. That's an inexpressible degree of private grief." In his 40s, Ludwig got a divorce, went through a sex reassignment surgery, and is now Gabrielle. This is just one of the thousand similar stories every transgender person confesses to.

For years transgender people have struggled with protection, visibility

and acceptance even among other minorities. With a list of states legalizing gay marriage and broadening their take on gay and lesbian rights, transgender individuals continue to be neglected. The numbers are one reason. In the United States there are about 8 million who identify themselves as gay, lesbian or bisexual. According to the Williams institute of UCLA's law school, only 700,000 identify themselves as transgenders.

At least 200 cities and countries, including small towns like Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Atlanta and many more, have banned gender identity discrimination. Yet, we find a staggering 64% of the transgender population being sexually assaulted, 55% losing their jobs due to their identity and 41% attempting suicide compared to the 1.6% of the general population. I wonder, where our world's going wrong.

A major contributing factor could be the something to do with what social and religious conservatives have to say (but of course!). To them, recognizing transgender rights is a bridge too high to overcome. "In reality, humans are born as males or females", says Jeff Johnston of the group Focus on the Family. His organization opposes law that legitimize what he calls "gender confusion", saying that such laws encourage impressionable young people to believe that they can be whatever they want to be. It is not just such societal groups that go by this reasoning but also, a large majority of the public which is somehow under the impression that being transgender is a choice made by a person to escape routine difficulties faced by people all over the world. Some even go as far as blaming the parents for not implicating enough boundaries into their children's youth. Many parents of transgender children are subjected to ramifications of the decision to support their children. What you and I are unaware of, is the intensity of it all.

Another brave example would be the famous Bruce Jenner, a former track and field athlete and current television personality, who also won

the gold medal in decathlon at the 1976 summer Olympics held in Montreal. He confirmed that he is in process of transitioning to a woman in his interview with Diane Sawyer on the 24th of April. "For all intents and purposes, I am woman."

He began taking female hormones during the 1980s after feeling "uncomfortable in my own skin" for a very long time. However, he stopped, afraid of disappointing people.

He's been back on female hormones since the past year and half.

"I lived a lie my whole life and I can't do that any longer," Jenner said. "Let's take the damn ponytail out," Transgender people not only suffer through discrimination at workplaces, schools and other public podiums but are also, sometimes, rejected by their own families and friends. The allocation of friends through a tough such as this, must surely be the most painful.

I recently watched a movie called The Danish Girl that awoke my sense of humanity in ways more than one. It's a movie I wouldn't want interpret for you, I'd rather have you learn through your own experience. I do know now that I will never try contemplating another's struggle, because you possibly can't. You possibly can't "step into another one's shoes". Honestly, I was left speechless throughout the movie and after too, give your mind and soul a chance to profound thinking and feelings, go watch the movie. Also, the movie is based on the true story of Einar Wegener, or as he truly was, Lili Elbe.

Our country's take on the issue

Courts have struggled with how to protect and support the transgender community. However difficult may it be, our country is among the only few countries to recognize a third gender by introducing a gender neutral title - "Mx". Tamil Nadu was the first state to introduce a transgender welfare policy. The Tamil Nadu state in India was the first state to introduce a transgender welfare policy. According

to this policy, transgender people can avail free Sex Reassignment Surgery (SRS) in the Government Hospital (only for MTF), free housing program, various citizenship documents, admission in government colleges with full scholarship for higher studies, alternative sources of livelihood through formation of self-help groups (for savings) and initiating income-generation programs (IGP). Tamil Nadu was also the first state to form a Transgender Welfare Board with representatives from the transgender community.

The All India Hijra Kalyan Sabha fought for over a decade to achieve voting rights, which they finally did in 1994. Due to alleged legal ambiguity of the procedure, Indian transgender individuals do not have access to safe medical facilities for SRS. On 15 April 2014, Supreme court of India declared transgender people as a socially and economically backward class entitled to reservations in Education and Job. On 4th January 2015, independent candidate Madhu Bai Kinnar was elected as the Mayor of Raigarh, Chattisgarh becoming India's first openly transgender mayor. Of course we still have fights to overcome regarding social acceptance and emotional support offered by people, friends and family (for some cases), but the developing sensitivity towards the transgenders legally does ensure us to keep our hopes, of eradicating the whole "issue" eventually.

Looking ahead.

What are we aiming for?

These beautiful people deserve to come out in a nation where stories of support and compassion vastly outnumber those which end with suicide notes. Let's make sure we achieve that in not more than very few years, if not before.

As for Families, who have a transgender child? I don't have much to say, the picture should suffice.

- Aarukshita Kaushal

PULSES, PATENTS AND BIO PIRACY

About 74% of the world's pulses production can be attributed to developing countries. India (with relative share of 25%) is one of the major pulse producing countries in the world, alongside China, Brazil, Canada, Myanmar and Australia. However, India's yield per hectare is less than the global average and so is the per capita availability (per day). (Martolia, Singh & Kumar, 2015, p.661) Thus, there is an urgent need to increase production and yield of pulses in order to bridge the gap between demand and supply in the domestic market and achieve self-sufficiency. Therefore, it is at an opportune moment that 2016 has been declared as the International Year of Pulses by the 68th UN General Assembly. The International Year of Pulses 2016 aims to highlight the importance of pulses in achieving sustainability in food production and food and nutritional security.

Pulses play an important role in the Indian diet as they are a vital source of proteins and amino acids, especially for vegetarians. Inclusion of pulses in everyday diet has been proven to be effective against diabetes, obesity, coronary conditions and other chronic illnesses. In addition to this, pulses increase soil fertility through crop rotation practices and are environment-friendly in nature. Therefore, they are said to act as a "panacea for problems such as unavailability of food and nutritional insecurity" and will contribute to sustainable agricultural growth in India as well as the world. (Shalendra, Gummagolmath, Sharma & Patil, 2013, p.124-129) Thus, the International Year of Pulses will mobilize governments, agricultural bodies, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders in order to increase the global production and consumption of pulses under the leadership of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

The International Year of Pulses 2016 can provide a platform to discuss one of the major issues in the

agricultural domain- the implications of the interplay between indigenous knowledge, intellectual property rights and agricultural research. Let us first answer the question "What is indigenous knowledge?" According to Warren and McKiernan (1995), "Indigenous Knowledge is local knowledge- knowledge that is unique to a given culture or society". This local knowledge acquired by residents through experience helps us understand the dynamic relationship between locals and their natural environment. Indigenous knowledge



is important in maintaining biological diversity and achieving sustainable development. However, there have been several cases where indigenous knowledge (seeds and genetic material) has been patented by multinational companies. American company RiceTec's patent on Basmati rice which was challenged by the Indian government is one such example. Such instances of bio piracy (i.e. "the illegal appropriation of biological or genetic resources through the use of intellectual property systems") are a threat to most developing countries including India. In *Poverty and Globalization* (2000), Vandana Shiva points out the irony of the situation when she writes, "Patents and intellectual property rights are supposed to prevent piracy. Instead they are becoming the instruments of pirating the common traditional knowledge from the poor of the Third

World and making it the exclusive "property" of western scientists and corporations." The use of genetically modified (GM) and high yielding variety (HYV) of seeds can affect indigenous farmers varieties of pulses such as moong, tur, gahat, narrangi, rajma, urad and masur. Bio piracy is not only disadvantageous to the traditional owners of the indigenous knowledge (traditional or local variety of seeds) but also adversely affects biological diversity. (Gutierrez-Montes & Fernández-Baca, 2002) This form of 'Scientific and technological colonialism' of developing countries has led to the monopolisation of traditional knowledge and seeds. This monopolisation has threatened farmers' rights over the use of traditional seeds and methods such as seed saving and seed exchange. The monopoly control of the food system by multinational companies is not just relevant to the farming community but also affects consumers and their food and nutritional security. (Shiva, 2005)

Thus, we can see how the use of intellectual property rights in food systems endangers farmers' rights, indigenous knowledge and also harms food security and sustainability.

The International Year of Pulses 2016 will help in tackling these problems as it aims to address issues related to the international trade of pulses such as the use of indigenous knowledge, intellectual property rights and bio piracy. It will facilitate the use and protection of indigenous pulses in order to preserve indigenous knowledge and attain food sustainability. India being a germplasm owning country with a strong indigenous knowledge background should attempt to make advances in the field of biotechnology. Furthermore, with the help of biotechnology and indigenous knowledge, India can bring about major improvements in pulses where merely the use of traditional breeding methods hasn't proven to be very beneficial.

- Kate Cardoz

WHY WHAT HAPPENS IN COLLEGE, PROBABLY WON'T STAY IN COLLEGE - AN ILLUSTRATIVE INFOGRAPHIC.

College can be a scare.

Especially on the first day, when you realize you don't know anybody, that you're in a room full of strangers, and that you're not comfortable being there. This goes on until you realize nobody knows anybody, and everybody is sailing in the same boat. My point is, it's a completely new sea for all you fishes to explore, and sometimes some take longer to adjust to the waters than others. That's actually why I'm writing and illustrating this, so sit back and pay attention a little.

Number One.



You're going to feel small on your first day. You're going to see corridors twisting and turning into impossible by-corridors and you're going to see huge doors looming over you not knowing where they lead to. You're going to be confused and confounded, disoriented and distraught, flabbergasted and probably a little frantic, and that's okay. That's what new places do. This is what happens in college, and what you're supposed to take away from it, is that new places can be overcome. The strange is not always the scary, a known devil is worse than an unexplored possibility. You're going to adapt and grow, and know at the end of two years that you've adapted and grown and nothing is too big for you anymore.

Number Two



Sometimes, you're going to feel like a number. Like a prisoner, having no identity other than the fact that you live and study in the college. You may feel average, as if you have no personality, and there's nothing unique about you. You'll probably feel as if you're just next in line to someone just like you and there's a hundred people just like you in line after you. This is what happens in college, and what you should take away from this, is that it's not true. You're going to feel average and you're going to slowly realize you're not. You're going to see opportunity, and you may be scared to take it by the horns and first but one day you will, and you'll learn something about yourself in the process. It'll be like you're opening a little box, but that box is you.

Number Three



Then, when you've found yourself and there's responsibility being thrust on you, sometimes you may lose your way again. There's be roads leading everywhere, choices and decisions you'll never know where they lead, and you're going to be as lost as you were on the day you first came. Then you're going to have to stop, and just continue your journey upwards. You haven't lost yourself, you've just hit a roadblock. You shouldn't let that stop you.

My point is, college is going to build you up like nothing ever has. It's going to stack brick after brick onto your personality. In the beginning it may feel too heavy and you may feel crushed, and halfway through you may feel wobbly like everything is going to come crashing down, but you're growing, and changing, and adapting, and becoming more you.

And that's always a good thing.

Just make sure what happens to you in college, doesn't stay in college.

- Farah Maneckshaw

FADED

I get on my knees,
Like a soldier after a won battle,
Camouflaged with the
blood on the field
I pull out the ring,
a ruby,
Her eyes nod,
My lady says yes.
Years wither,
it's our anniversary
The ruby like
my bruised knees,
Like the blood
dried up on the field.
Now I kneel by her grave,
The ruby yet on her finger,
Lying with the rocks
on the ground

-Andrea Rodrigues

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THE PLAY OF A CRIME

Grace and Poise were my second names,
My eyes told stories my red-coloured lips couldn't.
My saree was a covering for my body
The Protector of my Dignity
People think Ghungru is just a part of my apparel,
They forget that it is my fiercest weapon.
But they used it against me,
Took away my Ghungru and threw it away
Silenced it;
My eyes were filled with kajal and tears.
Screams of agony escaped my eyes
And this time, my mouth couldn't remain silent.
Indeed, it was a different crowd,
Not the kind anyone would settle for
For once, the audience didn't clap or weep along.
Well-draped saree was torn apart
The shield was taken away
To reveal my body
To leave my dignity feel irrelevant.
All they did was laugh at my agony,
Take pleasure in my terror-filled eyes.
"Dance your way out of this,"
They jeered.
I was left, helpless. Alta wasn't the only reason
I was covered in red. But as every play staged
There were flaws. Their mistake?
They thought I was just a dancer.
My mistake?
I didn't leave the stage As the curtains closed.
I didn't dance away from their lives.
I don't voice out on a stage.
But I speak across to people
In loud volumes, through my actions.
They paid for what they did.
Did I use a knife? Oh no.
It's too simple and clichéd.
Did I run to the law? No.
Their own weapons were used against them.
I was called a coward by them.
By those who chose the easy way out -
Death,
When they were surrounded with guilt.
Karma takes her time
But never forgets.
She danced by my side, And we made the audience
Who once laughed at me And showed no remorse,
Weep out loud for justice And
For the curtains to close.

- Rachel Johnson

DEBATES IN DARWINIAN

Does a complex creation
Imply a sentient designer?
Necessary nuts and bolts,
Rods and cones,
Skin and bones.
Cosmic architects
Who lovingly carved us,
To build and create,
To destroy and annihilate.

History is a set of falling dominoes
that someone must have put into motion

An uncaused causer caused
This cataclysmic colossus,
Which some consider a mere collateral
of a chance collision.

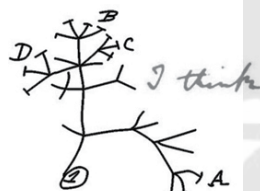
Stars flare and subside,
Populations copulate and thrive,
Galaxies sprawl but not all survive,
Beginnings, middles, and ends,
We map out Time as it bends.

Licking our fingers and holding it to the winds,
Smoke is thick but fire always wins,
Swirling a thermometer in lava,
Toeing the waters and swept with the nucleotide
Learning and changing in this planetary petri dish,
Sweet discovery, blinding terror-
The origin of species is in trial and error.

If this was one probability,
Out of, say, infinity,
Unprovoked and unintelligent
Would it still be a miracle?
Or am I just being cynical?
Listen when the cosmos creaks,
This science is the poem-
Through which the universe speaks

Except, you know, it doesn't like
to talk about its parents.
So we continue to argue about
two different sets of events.

- Nayanika Nambiar



Les Mots Français

Le procès du singe - Une lutte cérébrale

Il était professeur de biologie depuis 24 ans à une école publique de Dayton, Tennessee. L'année est 1925, et John Thomas Scopes est incarcéré pour l'apprentissage de la théorie d'évolution humaine. Le procès suivant serait une lutte entre la religion traditionnelle et l'évolution.

Le but de ce drame était de capturer le regard d'une société. Pour représenter l'état de Tennessee et pour juger l'inculpe, la prospection appelle le candidat présidentiel de trois essais, William Jennings Bryan – un ancien ministre et un politicien formidable. La défense a un avocat fameux de gauche qui s'appelle Clarence Darrow. La défense cherchait à démontrer que l'évolution ne contredit pas les doctrines de la Bible; elle a été cependant affrontée par une dénégation de leurs témoins scientifiques. Elle avait le bon sens d'attaquer la Bible elle-même, de souligner les contradictions dans les écritures – et dans un coup de théâtre, Darrow a appelé Bryan, un spécialiste autoproclame dans les études bibliques, pour témoigner pour la défense; Bryan a accepté le défi. Dans une série de questions perçantes, Darrow a obligé

Bryan d'admettre une variété des inconstances, des invraisemblances et des erreurs de logique décrites dans les tomes chrétiens. Par exemple, comment était-il possible de mesurer les jours de 24 heures avant que le soleil soit créé le quatrième jour de la Création?

En dépit de tous ces efforts, Scopes a été déclaré coupable par la cour, et condamné à payer une amende minuscule de cent dollars. Le jugement était annulé par la Cour suprême de Tennessee pour un détail technique, et le cas était rapidement perdu dans la mémoire collective de la media. Le «Butler Act» restait en vigueur pour quatre décennies de plus.

Le contraire de l'évolution est en effet l'ignorance. M. Scopes a osé défier une telle loi pour enseigner une vérité à ses étudiants. Mais pour quel but? Afin que les élèves comprennent la progression d'une espèce vers une espèce rationnelle d'intelligence supérieure.

Au 21^e siècle, est-ce que nous nous trouvons dans un âge de rationalité?

Est-ce que nous évoluons en êtres intellectuels et progressifs ou est-ce que nous régressons à devenir des créatures mesquines et intolérantes? L'évidence est ambiguë – d'une part, on a effectué des pas extraordinaires dans les domaines de sciences, de technologie et d'art. D'autre part on se perd devant les écrans, dans les ombres d'un gratte-ciel et au centre d'une foule, une foule qui se précipite – sur le quai, dans le métro, à travers le trottoir, vers un but lointain, vague et toujours incertain.

L'humanité a évolué, nous avons un esprit élevé qui nous permet d'apprécier la nature qui nous entoure, d'établir les relations intimes et de disséminer la connaissance de la vie à nos concitoyens mondiaux. L'évolution déifiée par Williams Jennings Bryan, répandue par John Scopes et défendue par Clarence Darrow, dépasse les bornes de la Création physiologique et les doutes religieuses – on parle d'une évolution intellectuelle, qui devient enfin un procès spirituel.

Raina Bhagat
TYBA

L'évolution culinaire

Depuis des siècles l'art de cuisiner était pratiqué par les êtres humains. Autrefois il n'y avait pas d'appareils modernes pour faire la cuisine. La plupart des plats étaient préparés sans appareils modernes. Dans l'époque préhistorique, les gens avaient les méthodes rudimentaires pour préparer des plats. La découverte du feu était une grande étape, parce qu'elle marque le commencement de l'évolution dans l'art culinaire. Après la découverte du sel, les gens peuvent conserver les plats ainsi que la viande. En Égypte et en Grèce, cet art se trouvait en formes variés. Les égyptiens préparaient les plats différents pour leurs pharaons.

Aujourd'hui, les gens n'ont pas de temps pour préparer les repas. Donc dans les supermarchés, on trouve les

légumes et la viande prêts à cuire! Tout est prêt à manger. Mais je pense que ces produits n'ont pas de bonne qualité. Les gens ne savent pas si les légumes sont frais. Donc il y a des problèmes de la santé.

Au même temps, une révolution se passe dans l'industrie de la cuisine. Les restaurateurs découvrent les nouveaux aliments pour goûter; comme les insectes! Il y a des restaurants partout dans le monde qui font des plats des insectes. On peut aussi les trouver dans les bonbons, les chocolats etc.

Il ya un débat à propos de ce sujet : manger les insectes. Les avantages sont que les insectes sont pleins de protéine et peuvent remplacer la viande mais tout le monde ne s'intéresse pas à

goûter quelque chose si bizarre.

On aperçoit que les chefs d'aujourd'hui utilisent les chimiques pour faire la cuisine. C'est la cuisine moléculaire. Ce n'est pas très célèbre mais peu à peu, sa popularité s'augmente. Dans ce genre de cuisine, les chefs sont chimistes. Alors, ils expérimentent avec plusieurs chimiques et font des plats délicieux. Les glaces de nitrogène sont très célèbres. À Mumbai, il y a des restaurants qui font des glaces de nitrogène. Mais on est un peu sceptique de goûter les chimiques en citant les problèmes de la santé.

Je pense que ce domaine de l'évolution culinaire est une partie très intégrale de notre vie.

Priya Pillai

Une machine peut remplacer tout ?

Un robot religieux c'est quoi ?

Avez-vous travaillé avec un robot qui vous donne les conseils à propos de votre mariage, de vos investissements, de la maison que vous allez acheter et même de votre vie ?

C'est très fascinant, n'est-ce pas ?

Une machine qui est capable de comprendre nos besoins, nos aspirations etc. C'est l'avenir! Ces robots seraient aussi intelligents que nous. Peut-être plus intelligents que nous! Ce domaine s'appelle « l'intelligence artificielle ». Découvert par M. Alan Turing, un mathématicien anglais, cette machine intelligente est notre avenir. Dans un examen, il y a une séquence des questions que la machine doit répondre dans une manière humaine. Si la machine réussissait de convaincre un être-humain avec ses réponses, elle serait 'intelligente'.

La machine de Turing semble très efficace, mais il y a un seul problème. Ce n'est pas possible pour la machine de comprendre nos émotions, nos situations et des références culturelles. Davantage, il ne peut pas analyser les informations implicites.

Par exemple: FRUMP est un programme d'analyser l'actualité et d'imprimer un article pour les journaux. Sa première tâche était d'analyser un accident majeur d'un bus. Il a examiné chaque détail et il a imprimé le gros titre pour l'article « une personne morte dans un grand accident ». Le gros titre était parfait mais FRUMP a raté de comprendre une information implicite: bien que un accident majeur ait lieu, il y avait seulement une personne morte.

C'est évident que les robots n'ont pas d'émotions. Ils ne sentent rien. Par exemple, en Chine, il y a un robot spirituel qui s'appelle Xian'er. Les

moines bouddhistes l'ont créé pour propager les principes de Bouddhisme. Mais il y a des réactions variées. Pour la plupart des gens, c'est trop difficile de partager les appréhensions avec un robot. La raison « Il ne réagit pas émotionnellement ».

Pour résoudre ce problème, les scientifiques essaient de créer un robot avec des émotions. Il pourrait sentir le bonheur, la peur et la fatigue. Mais cet effort n'arrête pas le débat. Selon des psychologues, on peut installer les émotions précises dans un robot mais il est impossible de créer les réactions physiologiques et psychologiques qui doivent accompagner ces émotions.

Personne ne sait pas le résultat de ce débat, mais c'est certain que nous aurons un avenir plein de surprises.

- Prashanti Ganesh

Le franchissement du seuil

Tout dans la nature s'évolue. La technologie, l'économie, le niveau de vie, la transportation, la mode, tout change et s'évolue. Mais est-ce que l'être humain doit rester stagnant? Évidemment, non. Avec chaque expérience de la vie notre personnalité s'évolue. L'éducation et l'atmosphère scolaire sont responsables de l'évolution d'un étudiant. Nous sommes exposés aux événements différents qui modèlent notre vie personnelle, notre perception et nos pensées.

C'était une transformation totale ou un grand changement qui fait une partie énorme de ma personnalité. Le franchissement de l'école à l'université autonome, un passage long et difficile. Quand j'ai franchi le seuil de St Xavier, j'étais timide et introvertie mais c'était un voyage à travers le monde de défis, de diversité et d'opportunités qui m'a fait plus forte et déterminée. Au lieu de l'apprentissage par cœur, St. Xavier encourage les étudiants de développer un esprit critique. Je n'avais jamais été exposée à de nouvelles idées avant d'entrer dans l'université, mais tout est

possible ici. C'est un campus pour tout le monde pour projeter leurs talents et leurs capacités. St. Xavier est un véritable 'melting pot' où je me trouve entourée de cultures diverses et de gens variés. Il me prépare à adapter à n'importe quelle situation dans ma vie. Si vous êtes timide ou si vous avez peur de vous présenter en public, ici vous aurez une chance de vous découvrir. C'est la première leçon que j'ai apprise dans cette institution <être confortable et confiant de soi>. A l'école l'environnement était clos et restreint. On suivait aveuglément sans réfléchir. Mais avec mon premier pas dans cet environnement j'ai appris à faire les choix et à agir librement. J'ai la liberté d'exprimer mes pensées, mes idées et mes talents. Tous seront respectés. L'atmosphère est libérale, dynamique et vibrante. Je peux m'engager avec passion. Je peux travailler en équipe, pour les projets et les exposés. Il y a une métamorphose du 'je' vers 'nous'. Maintenant je suis en train de développer mes qualités d'être un meneur.

Nous nous appelons <Xavierites>, un

mot qui évoque le sentiment de fierté. J'apprends à travailler dur et avec sincérité. Personnellement, St Xavier m'a complètement transformée, c'est possible de devenir plus sociale, amicale, serviable, responsable et reconnaissante. Nous apprenons à donner à la société, ce que nous avons reçu. L'interaction avec les enfants sans privilèges grâce à l'intervention sociale m'a fait plus sensible et compréhensive. Il me fait capable de prendre des décisions quand je suis au carrefour. Ce voyage ne terminera jamais. C'est ma compréhension d'évolution. Le voyage va continuer. Je dois évoluer ma personnalité à chaque étape de ma vie pour confronter le monde et pour surmonter les difficultés. Selon moi, cette transition de l'école au lycée, c'est une période importante dans la vie des jeunes. On fait les erreurs, on a des défauts mais on les accepte et la vie s'épanouit. Xavier évoque le meilleur en moi et me pousse vers l'évolution personnelle.

- Rachel D'lima

L'évolution

L'évolution, c'est quoi ?

Est-ce que c'est la croissance d'une espèce? Ou est-ce que c'est plutôt être heureux, content dans la vie? Est-ce que ce terme veut dire la survivance des espèces fortes et la mort des faibles? Ou est-ce que ce terme veut dire garder la paix en famille, entre les voisins, entre les pays et même parmi les inconnus? Donc, je vais vous poser une question : aujourd'hui est-ce que nous réussissons à atteindre au moins une des critères écrites au dessus?

Dans un monde aussi globalisé et mondialisé que le nôtre, on voit que la société ne reste ni simple ni facile. La vie est devenue dure et assez compliquée. Personne n'est content de tout ce qu'il possède dans la vie. On est attrapé dans le piège de métro boulot dodo. On a coupé des millions des arbres et on a détruit les habitats des espèces qui ne nous ont donné que le bonheur

et les produits de la nature. À cause de notre avidité et égoïsme, on a renversé l'équilibre entre les êtres humains et la nature en interdisant la croissance des autres espèces et même la nôtre. Dans les villes, on voit que l'épanouissement du soi est rare. Dans l'environnement urbain, on se trouve au milieu d'un concours où tout le monde se hâtent, mais personne n'arrive à l'heure; un concours où tout le monde se trompent et sourient impoliment. Dans cette lutte entre notre travail et notre besoin d'être le meilleur, on oublie la famille, les liens sociaux, et la santé. Notre vie se dégrade, parce qu'on n'est jamais content de tout ce qu'on a accompli et on n'est jamais au courant de la vraie valeur de la vie.

Avec le progrès de la technologie, on trouve rarement les familles qui s'asseyaient ensemble pour les repas. Les enfants mangent quand ils veulent. L'usage des portables est un spectacle

très commun aux tables à manger, qui détruit cette atmosphère sacrée. Même les adultes, en découvrant les technologies, sont pour la plupart de temps, malheureusement accrochés aux appareils. Au niveau global, on peut comprendre les défis et les enjeux graves de la corruption, du terrorisme, des maladies, de la pauvreté, de la violence qui sont la racine de notre malheur. La paix, dans son vrai sens, n'existe nulle-part. Tout le monde semble en tourment et en souffrance.

Alors, comme une espèce, on recule vers une vie très déprimée et motivée par l'égoïsme. En revanche, nos anciens ont mené une vie plus agréable et heureuse.

L'évolution, est-ce que cela existe toujours ?

Anant Venkatesh
FYBA

Un piège des publicités

Les publicités sont une stratégie de marketing. C'est un appel aux consommateurs d'acheter un produit. Les pubes sont très efficaces parce qu'elles attirent l'attention des gens vers les produits différents. Elles rendent leur produit populaire. Le but d'une publicité est de mettre en valeur, ce que vend l'entreprise. Généralement, on est habitué à voir les pubes à la télévision pendant la pause. Quand on regarde une émission, il ya une pause publicitaire chaque 10 minutes. De plus, on voit les pubes dans les journaux.

Dans chaque journal, il y a une partie réservée pour une pube. Autrefois, c'étaient les deux seuls moyens de faire la publicité des produits. C'était assez en modération et absolument normal parce que souvent, ces entreprises sont les sponsors pour une émission ou un journal. Donc, cette méthode de marketing ne posait pas de problème

dans la vie quotidienne des gens.

Graduellement, les publicités s'augmentaient. Aujourd'hui, il ya un matraquage publicitaire. N'importe où que l'on voit, il y en a. Nous sommes entourés des annonces. Les entreprises essaient de toucher notre psychologie. Pour vérifier cela, je vous donne un exercice. Sortez de votre maison et marchez pour cinq minutes. Notez les nombres de panneaux ou des espaces publicitaires que vous voyez. Vous allez, donc, comprendre la gravité de cette folie. C'est incroyable!

On affiche les slogans sur les arbres et sur les murs. Il y en a sur les autobus. Je suis sûre que vous avez tous lu les affiches de 'Singhal' ou de 'Pan masala' sur les autobus, et les pubes aux lycées pendant les fêtes culturelles.

En 2016, on a introduit une nouvelle type de publicité-audio. Dans les trains, on entend les chansons ridicules

de 'Badshah masala' et 'Rin detergent'. C'est intrusif. C'est impossible de s'enfuir. Vous pensez qu'on peut l'écouter pour dix minutes et puis, on va l'oublier. Mais ce n'est pas si simple. Je peux énumérer encore plus de lieux où on trouve les publicités mais je le laisse à vous.

Il faut comprendre que même si on pense qu'on peut ignorer ces publicités et continuer notre vie, je vous assure que c'est trop difficile. Elles ont un effet psychologique. Elles sont envahissantes et il n'y a pas de solution. Le monde de marketing a dépassé la limite logique. Cette évolution des publicités n'est pas seulement numérique. C'est aussi de logique vers l'illogique, de créativité vers la compétition, d'un type de marketing vers une partie inséparable de la vie et enfin, de l'attraction vers l'ennui.

Kinjal Bhansali
SYBA

L'évolution de la langue française

Toujours, on pense que les mots anglais sont venus du français. Comment les mots français se sont-ils évolués ?

Le français a évolué du latin. Avant que les romains aient conquis la Gaule, les citoyens de la Gaule ont parlé le gaulois. Le français que l'on parle aujourd'hui a hérité plusieurs mots celtiques et allemands, parce que les allemands ont envahi la Gaule pendant le 5^e siècle. Mais la syntaxe et la plupart des mots sont du latin.

Au 9^e siècle, le français que l'on parlait en France était très différent du latin et alors elle est devenue une langue

séparée. C'est le français vieux, qui était utilisé du 9^e au 13^e siècle. Le plus vieux texte en français est 'Les Serments de Strasbourg' de l'année 842. Il y avait plusieurs dialectes de l'ancien français. D'une part le francien que l'on parlait à Paris. Il est devenu la forme standard en augmentant l'importance politique et culturelle de Paris. La période du 14^e au 16^e siècle est connue pour la langue 'le moyen français'. Pendant cette période plusieurs mots et expressions étaient empruntés de l'allemand, du latin et de l'italien. Les poètes encourageaient ce français comme la langue de la

littérature.

La période du français moderne commence pendant le 17^e siècle. En 1635 Cardinal Richelieu a établi l'Académie française pour maintenir la pureté de la langue et de son emploi. La langue moderne est différente du moyen français. La forme standard de la langue est plus utilitaire parce que c'est la langue de l'éducation, de la communication de la technologie et de la culture.

- Keya Sampat

On Parle de St. Xavier

L'équipe Malhar

L'évolution de soi à St. Xavier Mumbai, c'est fortement à travers les fêtes que les étudiants organisent. Par exemple, Malhar est sans doute le déclencheur qui aide à l'épanouissement personnel des étudiants. Il est très intéressant de noter l'existence d'un lien entre cette fête et les élèves. Les deux se mélangent et deviennent la course primordiale de la fête, ainsi les élèves deviennent les 'Malharites'.

La partie la plus importante de la fête de 'Malhar', c'est l'opportunité de s'exprimer. On ne sait jamais comment

on s'est mis à respirer Malhar depuis l'heure du réveil jusqu'à celle de dormir. Malhar renforce fortement la confiance en soi et devient une source d'inspiration pour chaque individu qui fait partie de cette fête. C'est la qualité de Malhar qui aide à s'évoluer.

L'épanouissement personnel est une partie intégrale de la fête de Malhar. On apprend comment on peut travailler en groupe. On se rend compte de comment on peut atteindre l'équilibre entre la formation et les activités dehors du curriculum. Malhar, c'est une fête qui contribue à l'évolution de

tout ce qui y participe.

Raul, l'Espagne:

La vie dans ce collège est vraiment une expérience fantastique. St. Xavier possède une essence antique qui le fait unique. Les gens sont bien amicaux et je trouve qu'on peut avoir confiance en eux, ils sont prêts à vous aider. Je suis à St. Xavier depuis 2 ans et j'anticipe avec enthousiasme le troisième.

Sophie, l'Allemagne:

J'aime étudier à St. Xavier. Toutefois, la théorique doit être améliorée et un peu plus approfondie.

La façon de la lumière

La lumière et l'obscurité ne sont
que les deux faces d'une même pièce de monnaie,

La lumière vous montre le
chemin dans la vie,

Alors que l'obscurité vous montre le chemin à la lumière,

Nous sommes des gens
qui sont comme des
morceaux de vitraux,

Nous brillons quand les rayons de lumière sont en dehors,

Mais quand les ombres

d'obscurité y entrent ,

La vraie beauté est révélée,

La beauté de la lumière de

l'intérieur.

- Alisha D'souz

L'instruction moderne

M. Robin décide d'être instruit,
A 65 ans, il revient au lycée gratuit;
Il a dû jeter ses livres pendant l'enfance,
"L'instruction moderne sera parfaite", il pense.

Il porte son sac sur le dos,
Excité d'apprendre comment payer les taux;
Il apporte du pain dans la gamelle,
Enfin il va pouvoir envoyer un mél.

Il est prêt avec son livre et ses crayons,
Il a mis plusieurs cahiers dedans;
Et quand le maître entre dans la classe,
Les élèves arrêtent de faire la menace.

« Aujourd'hui on apprend les mathématiques, leçon trois,

Répétez-vous ces formules avec moi »;
Quand pauvre Robin lui dit que ce système l'ennui,
Le maître répond que l'école n'est pas pour les hommes
comme lui.

Il ya 50 ans, quand il allait à l'école,
Il ressemblait à un oiseau libre qui vole;
Il apprenait les choses qui l'aident dans la vie,
Il se souvient toujours de ce qu'il a appris.

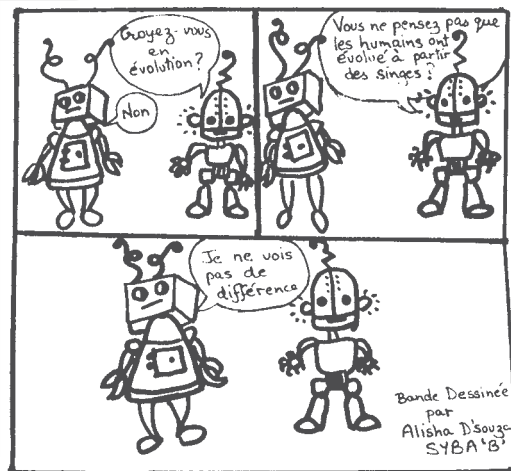
Mais aujourd'hui on n'a pas cette valeur,
Tout ce qu'on apprend c'est surtout par cœur;
Et si quelqu'un révolte contre cette idée,
On se moque de lui pour sa stupidité!

- Kinjal Bhansali

L'évolution

Et puis, quelque chose est arrivée lente et sûre,
Un des défis de la Terre et révolution de nature.
Évolution de la théorie de Darwin
La survie du plus fort est la solution ultime.
Quelle est la meilleure solution?
Dieu d'un côté et la théorie de l'évolution de l'autre.
Le débat se poursuit,
Comme le début de la vie sur la Terre est un mystère
Perdu dans l'oubli
La Terre reste sombre, silencieuse et complète.
Et le mystère de la vie sur la Terre se déroule toujours.

- Alisha Dsouza,



L'amour Robotique

Je pense à vous chaque jour,
J'ai envie de vous voir chaque jour,
Votre présence est mon essence.
Comment c'est fou !
La colère me balaie,
Vous voir là-bas.
Perdu dans votre propre esprit mécanicien
Est-ce l'absence de votre cerveau,
Ou c'est votre âme qui est absent ?
Qui me fait me demander,
« Qu'est-ce que je l'ai fait ? »
Je vous ai créée pour m'en rappeler
Mais êtes-vous la même, pouvez-vous l'être ?
Vous êtes seulement comme elle !
Mais vous êtes son clone.

Vous êtes son image mais pas ce que je voulais.
Votre peau ressemble à la sienne;
Mais elle est froide et parfaite
C'est incroyablement réelle !
Vous pouvez faire tout !
Mais pas tout ce que je veux.
Mon esprit vagabonde à la journée,
Quand je vous ai créée
Ce jour- là mon âme
Grelottait avec enthousiasme
Que je vous ai créé pour être la mienne.
Mais vous ne serez jamais vraiment la mienne ?

- Karen Dsouza

Le point d'évolution

Il y avait une fois un point.
Ce point, il est petit. Très, très petit.
Toutes les autres figures géométriques, elles sont grandes.
Donc, il se considère insignifiant.
Donc, il est bien triste.
Un jour, il se lasse de sa minuscule taille.
Ensuite, il s'attache à un arbre et il se tend.
Et voilà ! Il devient une ligne !
Pour quelques jours, il est joyeux.
« Je suis long ! Oh là là ! »
Mais, quand il voit les autres figures, il est mécontent.
Les autres figures, elles s'étendent d'un côté à l'autre.
Ainsi, il marche tristement sur la rue.
Parce qu'il est malheureux, il ne fait pas l'attention à la circulation.
Un compacteur-routier l'aplatit.
En se regardant, il remarque « Quelle surprise - J'ai quatre belles côtés ! »
Et voilà ! Il devient un carré !
Il est extatique !
Mais puis, il est encore triste. Tout est le même. Tout est ennuyeux.
La vie d'un carré, ce n'est pas simple.
Toujours il faut être prudent. Les autres figures ont peur de lui.
Il ne peut pas jouer avec les autres figures parce que sa taille est grande.
Alors, il pleure.
Il regrette ses nombreuses transformations.
Et alors qu'il pleure, il se rétrécit, jusqu'à ce qu'il se transforme finalement.
Et voilà – un petit point !
Et le point, il est content de lui-même.
Enfin, il est heureux.
Mesdames et messieurs – Vous êtes très intelligents.
Et ici, je viens de raconter une histoire bête d'un petit point stupide.
Pardonnez-moi, s'il vous plaît.
Mais, à mon avis, c'est l'histoire de l'évolution.
L'évolution, ce n'est pas seulement le changement.
Ce n'est pas seulement la transformation d'une forme à l'autre.
Ce n'est pas seulement l'amélioration extensive ou l'élévation extravagante.
Non, l'évolution, c'est la croissance d'esprit.
C'est être satisfait, comme le petit point, enfin.
C'est l'acceptation pure, de soi-même.
Et cela, mesdames et messieurs est le point de l'évolution vraie !

- Swagat Siby

Le colloque d'évolution

Quiconque
le silence
brise les espaces
de ta maison
que t'as construite
des échelons et des serpents
(pour celle qui t'attend)

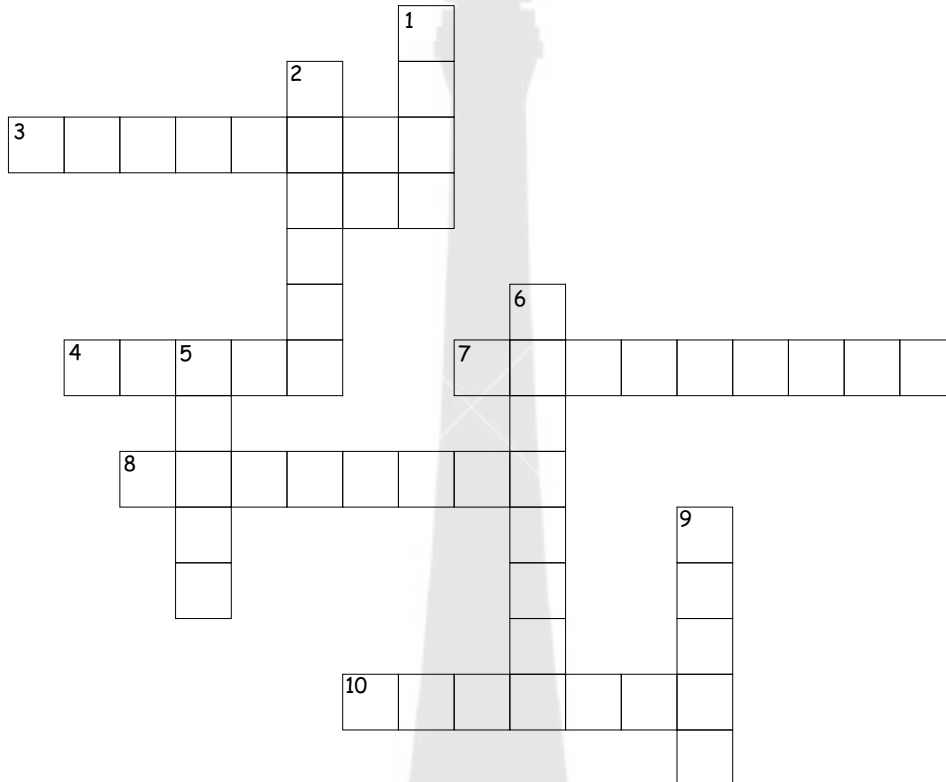
Ta maison ne voit rien
n'entend rien
ne dit rien
elle réfléchit
(à celle qui t'attend)
dans les plus jamais des toujours

Et toi, tu t'es soumise
à la porte
t'as acheté les fenêtres
en vendant les promesses
puisque la liberté t'a rendue esclave
tu t'es échappée
(à celle qui t'attend)

Ta maison qui
ne soupire pas tes tristesses
ne fête pas tes joies
existe
dans le silence
qu' elle (celle qui t'attend)
a créé pour
toi.

- Udity Paralikar

MOTS CROISÉS



'L'évolution de la décennie'. Comment les applications facilitent la communication quotidienne?

Horizontalement:

- 3) La Révolution Bleue qui changea tout. Tout le monde l'utilise pour rester en contact avec leurs amis leurs collègues et leurs parents
- 4) Cela facilite une conversation, et la distance n'importe plus grâce à cette application.
- 7) Une application utilisée surtout pour poster les photos. On peut taper pour donner un 'like' à ces photos.
- 8) Tout le monde commence la journée avec cette application. C'est comme un journal pour cette génération, pour chatter, partager facilement les informations et les textes.
- 10) Le contenu limité, mais une atteinte vaste. Grâce à cette application, on peut partager nos opinions et nos pensées avec un grand public.

Verticalement:

- 1) C'est une amélioration d'un Messenger, parce qu'on peut envoyer les textes gratuitement.
- 2) Le site le plus efficace qui a réduit l'emploi des encyclopédies et des dictionnaires. Notre génération est handicapée sans ce site.
- 5) Un des premiers sites qui lie le public partout dans le monde et rend la communication virtuelle plus facile.
- 6) On communique en utilisant les photos qui durent seulement 5 ou 10 secondes.
- 9) C'est la meilleure réponse à toutes vos questions. Une application des intellectuels pour partager leurs opinions et leur connaissance.

- Pratiksha Kaserwal
- Kinjal Bhansali

6. Snapchat	7. Instagram	8. Whatsapp	9. Quora	10. Twitter
1. Like	2. Google	3. Face book	4. Skype	5. Yahoo

Section Student Co-ordination : Asmita Kuvalekar

दादी और नानी

मुझे किसी ने कहा था कि सारे बूढ़े लोग एक जैसे होते हैं। पर मेरे साथ दिक्कत यह है कि मैं आसानी से किसी की बातें मानती नहीं हूँ। जब तक मुझे कुछ पूरी तरह से ठीक नहीं लगता मैं उस बात पर यकीन नहीं करती और इस बात पर यकीन न करने की मेरे पास बहुत ठोस वजह है। मेरी दादी और मेरी नानी।



जब से मैं समझदार हुई तब से ही मेरी दादी और नानी दोनों ने ही हमेशा मुझे आश्चर्यचकित किया है। दोनों राजस्थान में बिकानेर में रहती हैं। दोनों लगभग एक उम्र की हैं। पर दोनों अपने आप में अनोखी हैं। और दोनों ही बहुत ही प्यारी हैं। एक दिन कुछ ऐसा संयोग हुआ कि आधा दिन हम नानी के घर पर थे और आधा दिन दादी के साथ। कितनी मज़ेदार है यह बात, क्या बताऊँ! नानी हमेशा से ही थोड़ी सी सख्त मिज़ाज़ की थी और जो बात उन्हें पसंद नहीं आती है उसे वह बड़े ही अनोखे तरीके से घुमा देती हैं। पर कभी भी खुद की बात मनवाए बिना वह शांति से नहीं बैठती। इस बार भी कुछ ऐसा ही हुआ। पहुँचते ही नानी ने खाने-पीने की वस्तुओं की सूची को पुनः पुनः दोहराना आरंभ कर दिया। फिर नाश्ते का समय होने के कारण उनकी सुई दूध और डबल रोटी पर आकर अटक गई। अब बचने का केवल एक ही रास्ता था जिस पर मैं निकल पड़ी। रास्ता कठिन था पर मंज़िल प्राप्त होती नजर आ रही थी। मैंने अपनी बहन को आँख मारी (नानी ने चश्मा नहीं लगा रखा था।) और नानी से कहा नानी मैं ले लेती हूँ न दूध और डबल रोटी। आप बैठिये जीजी के साथ बातें कीजिए। हम कभी कभी तो आतें हैं।

धक-धक करते मेरे दिल को तब संतुष्टि हुई जब दो मिनट तक मेरी बात को टटोलकर नानी ने मुझपर विश्वास कर लिया। मैं मैदान में युद्ध जीतकर आए योद्धा की तरह छलांगे मारते हुए रसोई में गई और अपने मिशन को

अंजाम दिया। मुझे अपने आप पर गर्व था। नानी के दूध के ग्लास कम से कम आधे लीटर के तो पक्के थे और इतना दूध पचाने की हमारी क्षमता थी नहीं। मैंने दूध में झाग चढ़ाकर आधा ग्लास भर लिया और डबलरोटी सेक कर बाहर ले आई। इस बार बला टल गई। पर मैं गलत थी, नानी माँ इस खेल की पुरानी खिलाड़ी थी। उन्होंने मेरी बहन के हाथ से ग्लास ले लिया और अपनी प्यारी सी मुस्कान चेहरे पर लाकर बोली क्या डावड़ी नानी माँ ने चुनो मारे तु बता! मेरी प्यारी सी भैंस गई पानी में। और आधा लीटर दूध गया हमारे पेट में। नानी की नज़रों और तजूर्बे से बचना आसान नहीं है, इस बात पर अब मुझे कोई शक नहीं था।

बातें करते-करते, किस्से सुनते-सुनते दोपहर के खाने का समय हो गया। माँ भी सभी रिश्तेदारोंसे मिलकर खाने के लिये आने वाली थी। नानी को कमजोरी लग रही थी तो मैंने सोचा कि मैं ही अपने कुकिंग स्किल्स दिखा दूँ। मैं रसोई में गई और धमाकेदार फ़िल्मी गाने लगाकर काम पर लग गई। मुझे पता ही नहीं चला कब नानी अपना टेबल फ़ैन और अपनी कुर्सी लेकर रसोई में आई और अपनी पारखी नज़रों से मेरी कुकिंग स्किल्स तराशने लगी। मैंने जो खिड़की खोली थी वह वाली नहीं थी जो वह हमेशा खोलती थी। उन्होंने उसे बंद कर दिया। मैं भी थोड़ी सी संभल गई और गाने बंद कर देवदास की पारो या यूँ कहूँ मुगले आजम की अनारकली की तरह नज़ाकत से खाना बनाने लगी। नानी बार बार

कहती, चम्मच वहाँ हैं, मसाला यहाँ है। आटा ऐसे मलो, सब्जियाँ ऐसे सुधारो इतनी हिदायतें सुन-सुनकर मैं हँस भी रही थी और रो भी रही थी। अब मुझे पता चला कि मम्मी अक्सर ऐसा क्यों कहती थी कि, मैं तो कुछ भी नहीं तुम्हारी नानी जैसी माँ हर किसी को मिलनी चाहिए। हर काम में ऐक्सपर्ट है नानी माँ! हम सब उनके फ़ैन हैं। जी करता है कि उनके गाल खींचू पर अफसोस मन मसोसकर ही रहना पड़ता है क्योंकि नानी थोड़ी सख्त हैं न।

दिन ढलते-ढलते दादी के घर हमारी सवारी निकल पड़ी। दादी भी बहुत प्यारी हैं पर वो अलग ही प्रकार का रवैया रखती हैं। जहाँ नानी माँ सख्त मिज़ाज़ की थी। दादी माँ बड़ी ही मस्तमौला किस्म की है। दादी माँ और दादाजी सूर्यास्त से पहले ही भोजन कर लेते थे। इसलिए हमने सोचा कि हम अपना रात का भोजन स्वयं ही तैयार कर लेंगे। मैं जानती थी कि अब मैदाने जंग की तैयारी करने की मुझे कोई आवश्यकता नहीं थी। दादी ने पूरी रसोई मेरे हाथों में सौंप दी। पर अब दिक्कत यह थी कि मुझे मार्गदर्शन देने वाला कोई नहीं था।

मैं सामान खोजते-खोजते पागल हो गई। जब खाना बन गया तब मैं इतनी थक कर चूर हो गई थी कि मेरा मन किया आँख मीचकर सो जाऊँ। यहाँ भी मैं मन ही मन हँसती और रोती रही। एक दिन में दुनिया के दो अलग-अलग रूपों को मैंने इतने बेहतरीन तरीकेसे महसूस भी किया और समझा भी। हम युवाओं की यही खासियत है और बुराई भी, हम बदलाव को अपनाते तो हैं पर एक साँचे में खुद को पूरी तरह से ढाल नहीं पाते। आज्ञादी भी चाहते हैं और मार्गदर्शन भी। बदलाव के चक्रव्यूह में हमारे लिये किसी आधार को, स्थिरता को, पाना कठिन होता जा रहा है।

प्रिया वैद
द्वितीय वर्ष - कला

एक माँ की तमन्ना

हाय राम! पता नहीं ये लड़का कहाँ रह गया? आज फिर घर में देर से आएगा, आज फिर न जाने कितनी बद्दुआएँ लाएगा।

शराब में क्या रखा है?

रोज़ नशे की हालत में किसी सड़क पर चलते इंसान को गालियाँ देता है, मार-पीट करता है,

शायद, पैसे भी चुरा लेता है।

फिर कोई दोस्त या पड़ोसी उसे घर छोड़ जाता है। अपने आपको स्वयं संभाल नहीं पाता।

उस नशे में रोज मर रहा है, पता है उसे फिर भी ये आदत नहीं है छूटी; लत लग गई है उसे- उस शैतान की, उस नशे की उस शराब की!

माँ हूँ.....

उसे रोकने का हक है मेरा कितनी बार समझाया पर नहीं, मेरी कहाँ सुनेगा?

दिल सहमजाता है उसे ऐसी हालत में देखकर रुह काँप जाती है। हाथ थारथारा उठते हैं।

इन ही हाथों से तो बड़ा किया था उसे इन ही हाथों से मार देने का जी करता है।

पर क्या करूँ?.....माँ हूँ.....

उसे रोकने का हक्क था मेरा उसकी साँसें नहीं आदतें रोकनी थीं पर ये समझ कर भी कभी उसे समझा नहीं पाई प्यार जो करती थी उससे!

मैंने सोचा अगर कुछ कहूँगी तो वह खुद को कुछ कर न दे। तंग आकर, घबरा कर उसे जो करना था करने दिया।

एक सवाल था जो नहीं पूछा कि बेटा इतने पैसे कहाँ से आए? क्या काम कर रहे हो?

विश्वास जो था उस पर, इसी विश्वास और प्यार ने अंधा बना दिया था मुझे। देख ही नहीं पाई कि कब मेरा लाडला इस शैतान की चपेट में आकर इस लत का शिकार बन गया और मैं उसे रोक भी न सकी!

काश ! उसे इस दलदल से निकाल पाती। काश! एक अच्छी माँ बन पाती!

मंडलिन डिसिल्वा

अर्ज किया है.... लोग आखिर अपनों से ही क्यों गिला करते हैं? लेकर माथे पर शिकन रोज़ मिला करते हैं।

बेवकूफी जमाने को कहूँ तो क्या कहूँ, दर्द जाने बिना ही लोग दवा करते हैं।

हमको तकदीर के तूफानों का डर क्यों होगा, अपने ख्वाबों के महल रोज़ बना करते हैं।

शाम ढलते ही मेरी थकी सी पलकों के तले, तेरी यादों के चिराग़ अब भी जला करते हैं।

तल्हा अंसारी
एस. वाय. बी. ए.

हिंदी-मिट्टी की तरह है.....



हिंदी-मिट्टी की तरह है, कई कदम उस पर रख दिए गये हैं।

तो कई हाथों ने उसे मिट्टी में लेकर माथे पर लगा दिया है, कोई उसकी महक से संतुष्ट है तो कोई उसकी मिलावट में।

हिंदी-मिट्टी की तरह है,

बरसात के मौसम में कीचड़ की तरह जिसमें कमल खिल जाते हैं।

गर्मी की धूप में फटी ज़मीन की तरह जिसमें पैर फट जाते हैं

बदलती ऋतु के साथ बदलती है उसकी भी चाल

पर इसके साथ का कुछ ऐसा है कमाल,

जिसमें एक बार पा लिया साथ उसका

ज़िंदगी में कई फूल खिले उसके

भले ही कुछ में खुशबू थी मनमोहक

तो कुछ पर काँटे थे नुकीले

हिंदी जरूर मिट्टी तरह है

वह देश की मिट्टी जहाँ बचपन गुज़रा था,

वह मिट्टी जिसके साथ हम खेला करते थे,

वह मिट्टी जो आकार बदलकर भी नहीं बदलती,

वह मिट्टी जो मेरा, आपका हम सभी का हिस्सा है

हिंदी-मिट्टी की तरह है

विशेषिका बेहती

प्रथम वर्ष - कला

दूरियाँ - नजदीकियाँ

जब पास थे,

तब दूरियाँ थीं

जब दूर गए

तब नजदीकियाँ बढ़ गईं।

जब पास थे,

तब दूरियाँ मिटा न सके

जब दूर गए

तब नजदीकियाँ बढ़ा न सके।

शायद तुम्हारे होने की कद्र,

हम न कर पाए

पर क्या पता अब ये जानकर

किसी दिन नजदीक तुम्हारे हम आ पाएँ।

विदिता सवे

हाय! तुम्हारे जोक्स

हाय! तुम्हारे जोक्स,

अक्सर याद आते हैं।

कुछ हँसाते हैं बहुत,

कुछ आँखों में पानी छोड़ जाते हैं।

ज़िंदगी के इस सफ़र में

एक चटपटा सा स्वाद दे जाते हैं।

बस डर है तो सिर्फ़ इतना कि किसी दिन

धूल की तरह ये जोक्स

मन के किसी कोने में न जम जाएँ,

ज़िंदगी का ये चटपटा स्वाद

कड़वाहट में न बदल जाए।

जेनिफर फर्नांडस

बदलाव

साथ बनाई टीम हमने,
मार्गदर्शन दिया था आपने,
आज दे दिया हमको किसी और का साथ
पराई अमानत थे हम न था हममें कुछ खास ।
अब होगा बड़ा बदलाव ।
कभी हँस देते तो कभी साथ रो लेते,
दामन पर दाग लगे तो धो लेते,
पर दो टुकड़ों में बाँट दिया आपने,
अब होगा आगे बड़ा बदलाव ।
कई सपने थे कई दिलों में
जैसे कई रंग होते हैं बगीचे के सब फूलों में
बँटवारा ही क्या एक रास्ता था ?
तोड़ दिया एक लंबा सफ़र जिसे जाना था मीलों में,
देखते ही देखते आगे होगा बड़ा बदलाव ।
बदल जाएगा संग, बदल जाएगा रंग,
और चंद पलों में बदल जाएगा ढंग,
कोई नहीं चलेगा आपके नेतृत्व के संग,
प्रवेश करेगा टुकड़ों में बदलाव ।
आप जा रहे हैं आगे बड़े ख़्वाब लेकर
पर लौटकर आएँगे आप टूटी तस्वीरें लेकर,
तब चले जाएँगे सभी अपनी राह पर,
कोई नहीं साथ देने वाला होगा भले ही
आपको साथ की चाह हो पर,
नहीं बचेगा कुछ भी, आ जाएगा बदलाव
तब न पूछना अपने आप से कि क्या
बँटवारे से चल सकती है एक नाव!
लौटकर आ गई हूँ मैं
आपके साथ आई थी मैं आँखों में थे सपने कई,
चिल्ला - चिल्लाकर छोड़ दिया, आखिर मैं विद्यार्थी नई,
शब्दों से किया प्रहार था वह बड़ा जोरदार
दिल पर सीधे जो लगा उसका वार
टूटी बिखरी पड़ी रही मैं कई दिन
सोचा क्या करूँगी अपने उस विषय के बिन ?
पर वक्त ने भर दिए सारे घाव
तपती धूप मिल गई है छाँव
लौटकर आई हूँ मैं ।
कड़ी लगन और मेहनत के साथ
बनेगी कुछ नई बात
एक नया रूप और मजबूत स्वाभिमान लेकर,
सभी को ढेर सारा प्यार देकर
आपकी उस घटना से सीखकर
आया है मुझ में बदलाव,
लौट आई हूँ मैं, लेकर नए ख़्वाब!

रश्मि सुब्रमनियन
द्वितीय वर्ष - कला

देखो सखी

अजनबी से, हम मिले
अजनबीसे हम दोस्त बने
दुनिया की इस भाग-दौड़ भरी जिंदगी से दोनों
साथ जूझते रहे।
गिरते-संभलते, एक दूसरे को संभालते,
देखो सखी! कहाँ आ गए हम!
अनकही, ना जाने कितनी बातें रह गईं!
अनसुनी कितनी कहानियाँ हमने साथ सुनाई,
जिंदगी के हसीन सफ़र को खूबसूरती से देखा-परखा,
इसी सफ़र में न जाने हमने कितनी यादें संजोकर रख लीं।
बस यूँही चलते-चलते, देखो सखी! कहाँ आ गए हम!
उस चलती रेल के डिब्बे में ना जाने क्या जादू था ?
साथ निभाने का जो वादा हम ने किया, आज तक कायम है।
सुनो, मुझे बताओ, कितनी ऐसी कहानियाँ सुनीं तुमने ?
दो सहलियों की, दो अजनबियों की ?
इस बेरहम दुनिया में आजकल कौन साथ निभाता है ?
और हमें देखो, एक-दूसरे के बिना कहाँ चैन आता है,
साथ रहने की दिल की ख्वाहिशों को पूरा करते-करते,
देखो सखी! कहाँ आ गए हम!
सखी नहीं प्यार हो तुम!
मेरे जिगर का टुकड़ा हो तुम!
एक-दूजे के साथ कब तक रहेंगे
यह तो बता न पाई मैं
पर जब तक साँसे चलती रहेंगी, तब तक तुम्हारे पास रहूँगी मैं!
कभी अपने पास न पाओ, तो आँखें बंद कर लेना,
जैसे चाहो वैसे पुकार लेना !
आ जाऊँगी मैं, तुम्हारे लिए
और अगर कभी न आ पाई
तो भूल समझकर माफ़ कर देना, और दिल में बसा लेना ।
माँगती हूँ रब से बस एक ही दुआ, कभी न हों हम जुदा ।
पर जिंदगी का खेल तो तुम भी जानती हो और मैं भी-
वह जिंदगी ही क्या जिसमें दर्द न हो ?
वह प्यार ही क्या जिसमें जुदाई न हो ?
दूर रहकर भी, हमेशा पास रहेंगे,
जुदा होकर भी, साथ रहेंगे ।
बस, यूँही चलते चलते,
उस पहली मुलाकात में साथ रहने का वादा किया था।
उसी कसम को निभाते - निभाते
देखो सखी! आज कहाँ आ गए हम !
देखो सखी ! यहाँ आ गए हम!

मैडलिन डिशीलवा

Section Student Co-ordination : Priya Baid

मराठी विभाग

मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ ही झेवियर्समधली खास मराठमोळी चळवळ. अगदी अमराठी मुलांनाही सामावून घेणारी. या मंडळाचे कार्यक्रम अतिशय उत्साहाने, झोकात साजरे केले जातात. नटूनथटून मिरवायला, मैत्र वाढवायला, selfiel/s काढण्याला पुरेपूर संधी असते ! त्याबरोबरीने मुलमुली जबाबदाऱ्याही उचलतात

आणि अनुभवांची शिदोरी गाठीला बांधून भरल्या अंतःकरणाने कॉलेजचा निरोप घेतात तो पदवी प्राप्त केल्यावर! कॉलेज सुटलं, तरी मंडळाचे दिवस मनात राहतात, त्यातून मिळवलेलं संचित पुढच्या आयुष्यात साथ देतं...

या मंडळाच्या मांडवाखालून गेलेल्या सभासदांना त्यांच्या या अनुभवांवद्दल लिहितं करण्याची

कल्पना प्रा. पेरी (संपादक) यांची आणि ती मुलांपर्यंत पोचवून त्यांचे प्रतिसाद मिळवण्याचं श्रेय उपप्राचार्य डॉ.राजेंद्र शिंदे यांचं.....!

म्हणून या वर्षीचा मराठी विभाग अगदी खास "मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ" विशेष!

मेधा तासकर
संपादक, मराठी विभाग

मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ - अनुभव

तो झेवियर्स मधला माझा दुसरा आठवडा होता. मित्र-मैत्रिणी तर भरपूर बनवून झाले होते आणि आता वेळ होती ती वेगवेगळ्या activities मध्ये सहभागी होण्याची. पुढे फॉर मधून जाताना मला MVM चा डेस्क दिसला. झेव्हिअर्स सारख्या महाविद्यालयात हे पाहून मी चकितच झाले, उत्सुकतेने त्यापाशी गेले. त्या क्षणापासून माझे कॉलेज मधील जीवन अजून सुंदर झाले. मंडळातील बहुतेक सर्वांचा प्रचंड उत्साह पाहून मला देखील हुरूप आला. Orientation च्या दिवसापासूनच मंडळातील Senior मंडळींनी आम्हा सर्व रल्हग्दद्दुछ ना आपलेसे करून घेतले होते. इंग्रजी माध्यमाची विद्यार्थिनी असल्याने घरचा संवाद आणि आजी च्या गोष्टीपर्यंतच माझा मराठीशी परिचय होता. पण मंडळाने



आयोजित केलेल्या वेगवेगळ्या स्पर्धा, कार्यक्रम आणि योजनांमुळे माझ्या समोर अजून एक अनोखे विश्व उघडले. मला मातृभाषेत स्वतःची मते व विचार मांडण्यासाठी एक platform मिळाला. मंडळाच्या प्रोत्साहनामुळे वक्तृत्व स्पर्धा, निबंध स्पर्धा, एकांकिका, नवनवीन चित्रपट, लघुपट, लेझीम, आमोद उत्सव.... ह्या आणि

अशा अनेक गोष्टींमध्ये माझा सहभाग वाढला. त्यासोबत स्वतःवरचा विश्वास देखील वाढला. विविध कार्यक्रम आयोजित करताना येणाऱ्या अडचणी, आपापसात होणारे मतभेद, अभ्यास, हे सर्व सांभाळून कार्यक्रम कसा यशस्वी होऊ शकतो हे जवळून पाहायला मिळाले. दोन वर्षे कशी उलटली हे समजलेच नाही. ह्या काळात बनलेली अतूट नाती आता जणू माझ्या आयुष्याचा एक अविभाज्य घटक बनली आहेत. ह्या आणि अशा अनेक गोष्टींसाठी मी मंडळाची आभारी आहे. यंदा सीनियर कॉलेज मधले माझे पहिले वर्ष आहे. येणारी पुढची तीन वर्षे मंडळासाठी खूप काही करायची इच्छा आहे.

प्रचिती म्हात्रे
एफ. वाय. बी. ए.

आठवणीतलं मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ

झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयामध्ये मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ आहे हे कळताच प्रथम वर्षात मी मंडळाचा सदस्य झालो. मार्केटिंग विभागामध्ये एक मेम्बर म्हणून सुरु झालेला हा प्रवास मंडळाच्या ९२ व्या वर्षाचा मुख्य सचिव इथपर्यंत कधी येऊन पोहोचला कळलंच नाही. ह्या आमच्या मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाची ओढच अशी न्यारी, एकदा का मंडळात सामील झालात की ह्या मंडळींच्या आपुलकीने तुम्ही कायमस्वरूपी ह्या कुटुंबाचे भाग होऊन जाता. तसंच हे कुटुंब माझ्याही झेवियरार्ईट लाईफमधलं एक अविभाज्य घटक होऊन गेलं.

मुंबई विद्यापीठामधील सर्वात जुने मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ अशी ख्याती असणाऱ्या संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयाच्या मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाची स्थापना १९२३ साली झाली. पाश्चिमात्य संस्कृतीचा पगडा असणाऱ्या झेवियर्समध्ये मराठी ज्योत अखंड तेवत ठेवण्याचं काम हे आमचं मंडळ करत असतं. महाविद्यालयातील मराठी

भाषिक युवकांना मराठी भाषेची गोडी निर्माण व्हावी आणि त्यांच्या कलागुणांना मातृभाषेमध्ये सादर करण्यासाठी व्यासपीठ मिळावं, तसंच अमराठींना महाराष्ट्राच्या समृद्ध संस्कृतीची, परंपरांची ओळख व्हावी यासाठी आमची मंडळी कार्यरत असतात. १९२३ साली स्थापना केलेल्या ह्या मंडळाचा सगळा इतिहास जरी ज्ञात नसला तरी दर वर्षी काही ना काही नवीन उपक्रम करून आम्ही या इतिहासात भर घालत असतो.

अशा या मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाच्या ९२ वर्ष परंपरेचा मी भाग होऊ शकलो हे माझं भाग्य समजतो. आजच्या तरुण पिढीमध्ये आपली मराठी संस्कृती टिकवून ठेवण्यासाठी थोडाफार हातभार लावू शकलो याचा मला अभिमान आहे. झेवियर्स कॉलेज नेहमीच विद्यार्थ्यांच्या सर्वांगीण विकासावर भर देत आलं आहे. आणि ते माझ्यासाठी शक्य करण्यात म.वा.मं.चा सर्वात मोठा वाटा आहे असं मी मानतो. मंडळासाठी काम केलेल्या ३ वर्षांच्या काळामध्ये झालेल्या



व्यक्तिमत्त्व विकासाने मला नवीन आत्मविश्वास दिला आहे. मला खात्री आहे की भविष्यात कोणत्याही क्षेत्रामध्ये काम करताना म.वा.मं मध्ये मिळालेले अनुभव नक्कीच कामी येतील. असं हे आमचं जिवाळ्याचं मंडळ आयुष्यभर मनात घर करून राहिल यात शंका नाही. यापुढेही मंडळाची अशीच प्रगती होत राहो आणि मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ विद्यार्थ्यांच्या विकासाचे आणि मराठी संस्कृती जोपासण्याचे काम यशस्वीपणे पार पाडत राहो हीच सदिच्छा.

राजस शिंदे
(मुख्य सचिव ; २०१५-१६)

मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ - कृतज्ञता

मराठी पाऊल पडते पुढे म्हणत नेहमीच कुतूहल असणाऱ्या संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयात २०१० साली विज्ञानाच्या प्रथम वर्षात मी पाऊल टाकले. विविध तऱ्हेने नटलेल्या आणि विविध कलागुणांनी संपन्न असलेल्या ह्या महाविद्यालयात माझी ओळख झाली ती मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाशी. पाश्चिमात्य वळणाच्या कॉलेज संस्कृतीमध्ये देखील मराठी संस्कृती जोपासली जाते हे समीकरण माझ्यासाठी प्रथम आश्चर्यकारकच होतं. लहानपणापासूनच अभ्यासाबरोबर इतर कलागुणांची आवड असल्यामुळे मला महाविद्यालयातील extra curricular activities मधून भरपूर प्रोत्साहन मिळत गेले आणि त्यातील महत्वाचा घटक म्हणजे मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ.

मी मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाच्या इतका प्रेमात पडलो की २०१३ साली संख्याशास्त्र (statistics) विषयात पदवी शिक्षण पूर्ण करून देखील पुन्हा मी गणित (mathematics) विषयासाठी प्रवेश घेतला आणि त्यास कारण म्हणजे छोट्यानी असलेले मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ हे फक्त आपल्या विद्यार्थ्यांपर्यंत मर्यादित न राहता त्याचा इतर लोकांपर्यंत प्रसार करणे होय. १९२३ सालापासून कार्यरत असलेल्या आणि ९० व्या वर्षात पदार्पण केलेल्या मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचा मुख्य सचिव म्हणून २०१३-१४ वर्षासाठी कार्यभार सांभाळण्याची जबाबदारी महाविद्यालयाने माझ्यावर सोपवली. मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचा मूळ उद्देश हा मराठी संस्कृती आणि अस्मिता जोपासणे व प्रसार करणे होय.

मंडळाच्या कार्यकारिणीने सुरवात केली ती आरंभोत्सव कार्यक्रमाने आणि त्यापुढे "क्लीक बाप्पा आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन छायाचित्रिकरण स्पर्धा, लघुचित्रपट प्रदर्शन, चालू घडामोडींवरील चर्चासत्रे, सलाम बॉम्बे फौंडेशनच्या सौजन्याने सामाजिक बांधिलकी जोपासण्यास आली. १४४ वर्षे जुनं असलेल्या संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयाच्या इतिहासात प्रथमच मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचा "तेजोमय" नावाचा दिवाळी अंक प्रकाशित करण्यात आला. मुंबई



विद्यापीठातील हा पहिला दिवाळी अंक जो विद्यार्थ्यांनी पुढाकार घेऊन प्रकाशित केला आणि ह्यासाठी आमच्या कार्यकारिणीचे भरपूर कौतुक देखील करण्यात आले. मंडळाचा वार्षिक महोत्सव "आमोद १४-मराठमोळा आनंद प्रथमच आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन स्पर्धा म्हाणून घोषित केला गेला. २० हून अधिक महाविद्यालयातील विद्यार्थ्यांनी सहभाग घेतला तसेच साहित्याचा वारसा जपणारा वार्षिक अंक पखरण देखील प्रकाशित करण्यात आला. स्वरधारा ही संस्था गेली कित्येक वर्षे ट्रेनमध्ये ज्या अंध व्यक्ति गाणी गातात त्यांना प्रशिक्षण देण्याचे काम करित आहे. त्यांच्या सौजन्याने मंडळाने आयोजित केलेला ऑर्केस्ट्रा आमोद १४ चे खास आकर्षण ठरण्यात आला, ज्याला लोकांचा उदंड प्रतिसाद मिळाला. प्रत्येक महिन्यात विविध कार्यक्रम आयोजित करण्यात आले आणि ह्याचा फायदा असा झाला की अवध्या २०-२५ सभासद असलेल्या मंडळात १७५ हून अधिक सभासद दाखल झाले. वाङ्मय मंडळाच्या प्रत्येक यशात मंडळाच्या कार्यकारिणीचा भरपूर मोलाचा वाटा आहे. प्रत्येकाची मेहनत ही त्यांच्या कामात दिसत होती आणि हीच मंडळाची खरी ओळख असे मला वाटते.

मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचे माझ्या आयुष्यात खूप महात्वपूर्ण स्थान आहे. आई बाबांच्या संस्काराबरोबर मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाने दिलेली शिकवण नेहमीच प्रेरणादायक आहे. कितीही उंच झेप घेतली तरी आपले पाय जमिनीवरच आहेत याची जाणीव मंडळाने करून दिली. आयुष्यात कितीही संकटे आले तरी त्यांना आनंदाने सामोरे जाण्याची ताकद मंडळाने दिली. "What'sup dude" पेक्षा "नमस्कार मित्रा" बोलण्यातच खरी

मज्जा आहे ह्याचा अनुभव मंडळाने दिला. एकत्र काम करता करता आपली संस्कृती कशी जपता येऊ शकते आणि कठीण गोष्टी प्रत्यक्षात अमलात कशा आणता येतील ह्यासाठी प्रयत्न करायला शिकवले. आयुष्यात कितीही उतारचढ आले तरी न डगमगता आपले ध्येय साधावे इतकेच नव्हे तर मैत्रीची नवी व्याख्या मंडळाने मनात रुजवली. नात्यांचे आणि मैत्रीचे महत्व मंडळाने जोपासायला शिकवले. माझ्यातील कलागुणांना आणि नेतृत्त्व गुणांना पुढे येण्याची संधी मंडळाने दिली ह्याचे ज्वलंत उदाहरण म्हणजे आज तरुण मराठी उद्योजक म्हणून स्टार्टअपच्या विश्वात एक पाऊल पुढे टाकत आम्ही झेवियर्सच्या ५ माजी विद्यार्थ्यांनी "Dream Realities Pvt Ltd." नावाच्या कंपनी अंतर्गत "www.mymithaiwala.com" वेबसाइट सुरु करून लोकांची सेवा करित आहोत आणि खर्च खूप छान वाटतंय. संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालय आणि मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ माझ्या आयुष्यातील अविभाज्य घटक आहेत. आमच्या मंडळाच्या यशाबद्दल मी देवाचे, आमच्या सभासदांचे, कार्यकारिणीचे, पालकांचे, शिक्षकांचे, चाहत्यांचे आभार मानतो.

१४६ वर्षे पूर्ण केलेल्या संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयाच्या ऐतिहासिक वास्तूत ९३ व्या वर्षात पदार्पण केलेले मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ हे फक्त मराठी लोकांकरिता नसून सर्वांसाठी आहे. मंडळाची कार्यकारिणी आणि सभासद मराठी संस्कृती आणि अस्मिता जोपासण्यासाठी नेहमीच प्रयत्नशील राहतील अशी मला खात्री आहे. मराठीचे शिलेदार मराठी वाङ्मयाची ढाल हाती घेऊन मराठीचा झेंडा सदैव फडकत ठेवतील हीच सदिक्षा.

आता ओढ शतकमहोत्सवी वर्षाची. पुढील वाटचालीसाठी शुभेच्छा.

जय हिंद ! जय महाराष्ट्र !

अजिंक्य शिंदे
मुख्या सचिव (२०१३-२०१४)

मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ-एक प्रवास !

बारावी नंतर झेवियर्स कॉलेज मध्ये प्रवेश घेताना मी जरा अनिश्चित होतो ! याच कारण म्हणजे अनेक लोकांकडून या कॉलेज बद्दल ऐकलेल्या अनेक गोष्टी ! पाश्चिमात्य कॉलेज, फाड-फाड इंग्लिश, हाय-क्लास लोक आणि त्यांच्या हाय

क्लास सवयी अशी एक इमेज माझ्या मनात होती, पण BMM साठी मुंबईतील सर्वोत्कृष्ट कॉलेज म्हणून प्रसिध्द असल्यामुळे मी झेवियर्स मध्ये प्रवेश घेतला. आणि एका वेगळ्या विश्वाशी माझी ओळख झाली, आणि काही दिवसात झेवियर्सनी

मला आपलंसं केलं. नवीन कॉलेज, नवीन मित्र, नवीन अभ्यासक्रम यात मी रमू लागलो.

त्यातच काही दिवसात माझी भेट मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाच्या काही कार्यकर्त्यांशी झाली. होस्टेल स्टेप्स किंवा फोयर बेंचेस किंवा वूड्स हा त्यांचा

अड्डा होता. BMM चा विद्यार्थी असल्यामुळे त्यांनी मला मंडळासाठी व्हिडीओ बनवशील का असे विचारले. मला विडीओ मेकिंग फारसं जमत नसूनसुद्धा, मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचा एक भाग होता येईल म्हणुन मी लगेच हो म्हटलं. आणि अशाप्रकारे माझा आनंददायक प्रवास सुरु झाला.

सुरवात केली तेव्हा काहीच माहीत नव्हतं, फक्त उत्साह होता मंडळासाठी काम करण्याचा. काय कार्यक्रम करायचे, त्यांची तयारी कशी करायची, खर्च कसे manage करायचे याबद्दल काहीच अंदाज नव्हता, पण शिकण्याची इच्छा होती. हळुहळू मंडळाच्या मिटींग्साचा भाग होऊ लागलो तेव्हा समजू लागलं की झेवियर्समध्ये मराठी विभाग नसल्यामुळे वाङ्मय मंडळ इतकं सक्रिय नव्हतं, मंडळात फारसे सभासद नव्हते आणि फारसे कार्यक्रमही होत नव्हते. पण मंडळातले काही हौशी कलाकार झेवियर्समध्ये मराठी झेंडा फडकवण्यासाठी प्रयत्न करू पाहत होते. आपलाही ह्या प्रवासात खारीचा वाटा असावा असं तेव्हा मला वाटलं, आणि मी देखील बघता बघता मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचा एक सक्रिय सदस्य झालो.

आमोद २०१३ ह्या मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाच्या वार्षिक सोहळ्याची तयारी सुरु झाली.त्या वर्षी वेळ कमी आणि बजेट थोडकेच असल्यामुळे आम्ही नेमक्याच कार्यक्रमांचे आयोजन करायचे ठरवले. तीन दिवस तीन कार्यक्रम असा आमोद रंगणार होता. ब. न. पुरंदरे वक्तृत्व स्पर्धा, लोकनृत्य स्पर्धा आणि बालगंधर्व या चित्रपटांचे चित्रीकरण हे कार्यक्रम ठरवण्यात आले.आणि अवघ्या १५ दिवसात या कार्यक्रमांची तयारी करण्यात आली. शून्यातून एक अखंड कार्यक्रम उभा करण्याची ही माझी पहिलीच वेळ होती अर्थातच मला फारसा अनुभव नसल्यामुळे मला कुठल्याही मोठ्या जबाबदाऱ्या दिल्या नव्हत्या. पण मला भारी वाटत होतं, नकळत मी खूप काही शिकत होतो आणि वाङ्मय मंडळ माझ्या महाविद्यालयीन आयुष्यातला एक अविभाज्य घटक बनत होतं. काही दिवसात आमोद संपला, पण ही माझ्यासाठी एक नवीन सुरवात होती.अगदी थोड्या दिवसात घेतलेल्या मेहनतीला अपेक्षेपेक्षा जास्त यश मिळालं. मनात आलं तर आपण मंडळाला एका मोठ्या उंचीवर नेऊ शकतो याची खऱ्या अर्थाने खात्री पटली.

मात्र आता जबाबदारी वाढली होती. झेवियर्समध्ये मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचं अस्तित्व सर्वांपर्यंत पोहचवायचं होतं. माझं झेवियर्समध्ये दुसरं वर्ष आणि मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचा मुख्य सचिव म्हणून अजिंक्य शिंदे याची निवड झाली. मी मंडळाचा उपसचिव झालो आणि आम्ही मिळून १७



सदस्यांची कार्यकारिणी उभारली. ही कार्यकारिणी वर्षभर मंडळाचे कार्यक्रम सांभाळणार होती. मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचा खऱ्या अर्थाने आरंभोत्सव झाला.मागील वर्षी पर्यंत वर्षात फक्त एक सोहळा करत असलेलं वाङ्मय मंडळ, मराठी अस्मिता आणि परंपरा जपण्याकरता आता दर महिन्याला काही ना काहीतरी कार्यक्रम राबवण्याचा प्रयत्न करू पाहत होतं. मंडळाच्या व झेवियर्स कॉलेजच्या इतिहासात प्रथमच तेजोमय नामक दिवाळी अंक प्रकाशित करण्यात आला दरम्यानच्या काळात अनेक मराठी व अमराठी विद्यार्थीदेखील मंडळाचे सदस्य होऊन मंडळाच्या कार्यक्रमात सामील होते. गेल्यावर्षी पर्यंत जेमतेम २०-२५ सदस्य असणाऱ्या मंडळाला आता १५० हून अधिक सदस्य मिळाले होते ह्या वर्षी पासून "आमोद-मराठमोळा आनंद हा वार्षिक सोहळा आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन पातळीवर करण्याचे मंडळाने ठरवले.तीन दिवसांत आठ कार्यक्रम करण्याचे योजले होते. मंडळाच्या कार्यकारिणीच्या अथक प्रयत्नांचे सार्थक झाले!

पुढच्यावर्षी मंडळाचा मुख्य सचिव म्हणून माझी निवड झाली झेवियर्स मध्ये मराठी अस्मितेची मशाल तेवत ठेवण्याची आता माझ्यावर जबाबदारी होती. अपेक्षा वाढल्या होत्या. मंडळ अजून जास्तीत जास्त विद्यार्थीपर्यंत पोहचवायचे होते. नव्या वर्षात पुन्हा नव्या जोमाने काम सुरु केलं आणि एका संवागीण कार्यकारिणीची मला साथ मिळाली अधिकाधिक उपक्रम राबवत मराठी संस्कृती, रूढी परंपरा जोपासण्याचा प्रामाणिक प्रयत्न आम्ही सुरुच ठेवला. मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाला आता कॉलेजमधली बरीचशी मंडळी ओळखू लागली होती ह्या वर्षात सुद्धा मंडळाने छायाचित्रीकरण स्पर्धा, लघुपट प्रदर्शन, दिवाळी अंक पखरण, झिंदाबाद-हा शाहिरांच्या पद्यांवर आधारित कार्यक्रम, असे अनेक कार्यक्रम राबवले. ह्या वर्षी देखील आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन स्पर्धांचा सामावेश असणारा वार्षिक सोहळा "आमोद-सोहळा आनंदाचा हा अगदी दिमाखदार पध्दतीने साकारण्यात आला. आमोदच्या शेवटच्या दिवशी डोक्यात आलेल्या आनंदाश्रूंनी मंडळासाठी आपण काहीतरी सकारात्मक बदल घडवून आणू शकलो याची खात्री पटवली. झेवियर्स च्या मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाबद्दल फक्त झेवियर्स मध्ये नव्हे

तर इतर महाविद्यालयांमध्ये कौतुक होऊ लागलं ही आमच्या मेहनतीची सर्वात मोठी पावती होती असं मला वाटलं.

कॉलेजची तीन वर्षे संपली, पण मनात अजूनही मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचं तितकचं मोलाचं स्थान रुजवुन ठेवलंय आणि ते कायमचं राहिल. मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाने मला खूप काही दिलं आहे, खूप काही शिकवलं आहे. कधीही विसरता येणार नाहीत असे मित्र दिले, नाती दिली, कॉलेज लाईफ मधल्या अमूल्य आठवणी दिल्या अडचणींना समोर जाण्याचं धाडस दिलं, निर्णय घेण्याचं बळ दिलं, कठीण प्रसंगातही योग्य मार्ग शोधण्याची दिशा दिली. वेळ आल्यास एकट्याने परिस्थितींना समोर जाण्याचा आत्मविश्वास दिला. यश मिळेपर्यंत प्रयत्न करण्याची जिद्द दिली. माझ्यातील कलागुणांना आणि नेतृत्वक्षमतेला मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाने एक मोलाची संधी दिली. अशी संधी, जिच्यामुळे माझा आत्मविश्वास द्विगुणीत झाला.

आणि या सर्व शिकवणीमुळेच स्टार्टअप च्या विश्वात पाऊल टाकण्याच धाडस मी करू शकलो. नुकतंच आम्ही पाच झेवियराइट्सनी मिळुन स्वतःचा व्यवसाय सुरु केला आहे ह्या व्यवसायात लागणाऱ्या प्रत्येक कौशल्याचे प्रशिक्षण मला कळत नकळत मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाने दिलं आहे. माझं व्यक्तिमत्व घडवण्यात आणि माझ्या सर्वांगीण विकासात झेवियर्स आणि मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचा मोलाचा वाटा आहे आणि मी त्यांचा नेहमीच शतशः ऋणी राहीन

अशा ह्या १३ वर्षे जुन्या परंपरेचा मी एक भाग होऊ शकलो याचा मला अभिमान आहे. ह्या पुढील सर्व कार्यकारिणींना आणि मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाच्या सर्व सभासदांना झेवियर्स मध्ये मराठी संस्कृतीचा झेंडा फडकवण्यासाठी माझ्या मनःपूर्वक शुभेच्छा! हे मंडळ वर्षानुवर्षे अशीच प्रगती करत राहील.सुवर्ण शंभरी गाठेल आणि झेवियर्स पाश्चिमात्य संस्कृतीत आपला मराठमोळा वारसा असाच पुढे चालवत राहील हीच ईश्वर चरणी सदृच्छा

ओम पाथरे
मुख्य सचिव (२०१४-१५)

जाता जाता

जाता जाता आता फक्त एवढंच राहिलंय,
डोळ्यात पाणी होतंच ओघळायचं राहिलंय.

हात होते हातात इतके दिवस तरी,
सुटताना नवीन गाठ बांधायचं राहिलंय.

दिलखुलास झालंय जगणं सुख आहे भरभरुन,
आता मात्र मनात काहूर माजायचं राहिलंय.

जाता जाता आता फक्त एवढंच राहिलंय,
सूर्योदय पाहिलेत भरपूर सूर्यास्त बघायचं राहिलंय.

फुलताना मोगरा एकत्र पाहिला आहे आपण,
एक फुल खुडून तुझ्यासाठी आणायचं राहिलंय.

पाहिलेली सारी स्वप्ने सत्यात येताना पाहिली,
नवी पाहिलेली स्वप्ने तुला सांगायचं राहिलंय.

जाता जाता आता फक्त एवढंच राहिलंय,
आहे मनात खूप काही तुला सांगायचं राहिलंय.

थरथरत असताना तुझा हात हातात धरला जरा,
खंबीर असताना हात धरायचं राहिलंय.

चालताफिरताना मला अडखळायला झालं जरी,
काठीपेक्षाही तुझाच आधार, कळायचं राहिलंय.

जाता जाता आता फक्त एवढंच राहिलंय,
चेहरा वाचलाय खूप, तुझं मन वाचायचं राहिलंय.

हसण्याला तुझ्या दाद दिली मात्र,
डोळ्यातलं पाणी तुझ्या पुसायचं राहिलंय.

तरुणपणी तुझं रूप पाहून झालंय खूप,
आता तुला डोळे भरुन बघायचं राहिलंय.

जाता जाता आता फक्त एवढंच राहिलंय,
झालंय खूप काही तरी काहीतरी राहिलंय.

देवाकडे गाऱ्हाणी घालून झाली खूप,

तुझ्याआधी मला ने सांगायचं राहिलंय.

निरोपाच्या भेटीगाठी झाल्या किती आता,
पुढील जन्मीही परत भेटूया म्हणायचं राहिलंय.

जाता जाता आता फक्त एवढंच राहिलंय,
मिठी घट्ट मारुन सांत्वन करायचं राहिलंय.

जाइन जरी तुझ्या आधी दुज्या जगात मी,
आठवण नक्कीच येइल तुझी म्हणायचं राहिलंय.

जाता जाता आता फक्त एवढंच राहिलंय,
जाताना पुढे तुला बरोबर घ्यायचं राहिलंय.

हात जरी सुटेल हातातून माझ्या कधी,
मन मात्र तुझ्यापाशीच तेवढंच राहिलंय.

प्रणिता काटधरे

TYBA

मानवी जन्म

तुझ्यासाठीच आहे रे निसर्ग
हाच खरा आहे स्वर्ग

नको ठेवू मानव जन्माचा गर्व
स्वार्थासाठी आयुष्य गेले सर्व

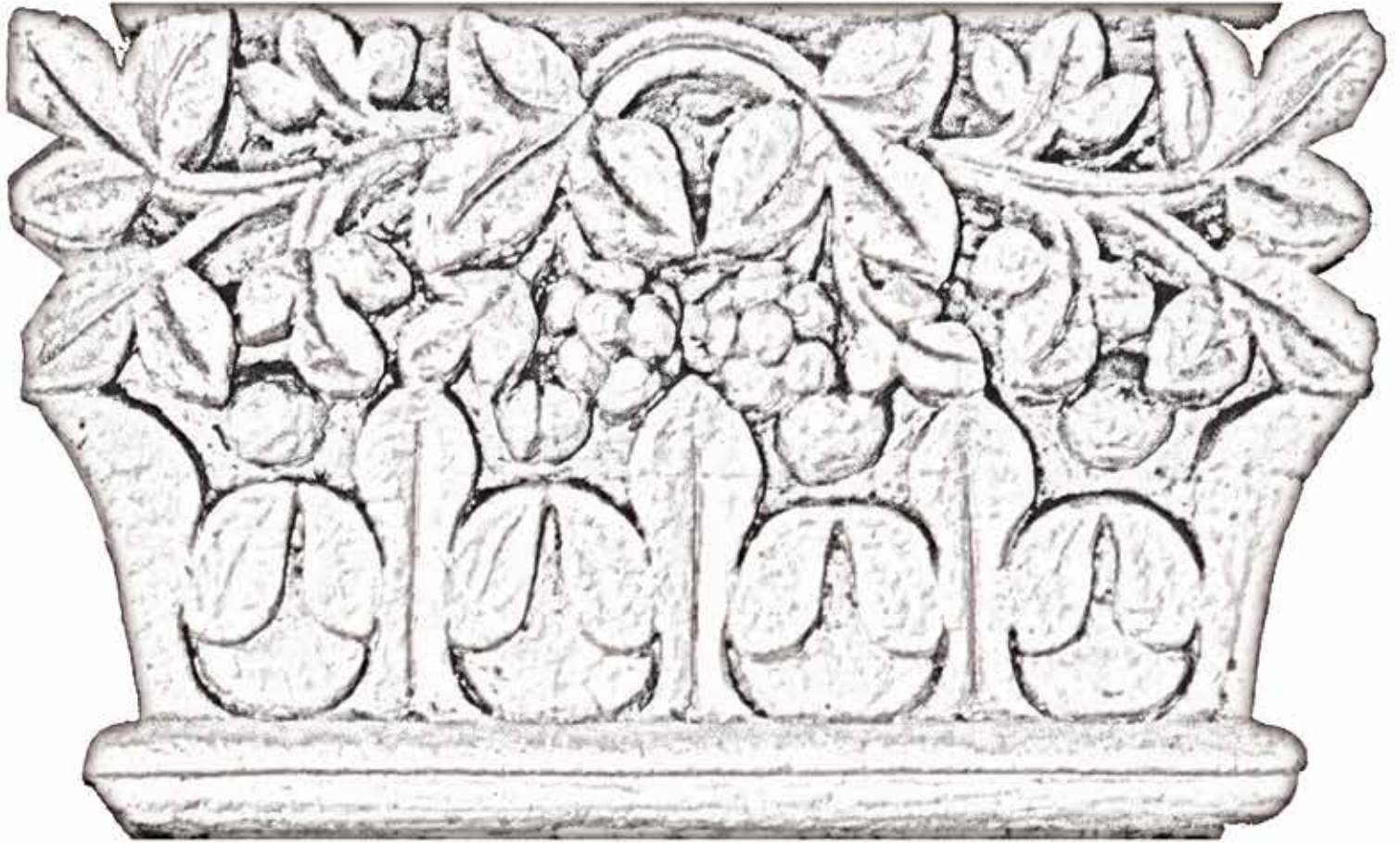
किती करशील रे पापकर्म
निरुपयोगी मानवा तुझे चर्म

ग्रहण कर पुण्याचा अर्क
अन्यथा तुला मिळेल नर्क

आता शोध जीवनाचा अर्थ
संपून जाईल आयुष्य व्यर्थ

महादेव सोनुले
(जनरल ऑफिस)

CHRONICLES



ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY CULTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Departmental Activities for the year 2015.

Looking back at another eventful year (2015) which flew by so fast, was filled with opportunities for undergraduate as well as post-graduate students. Be it climbing the high mountains, digging out ancient remains, going into the darkest crevices, exploring the most exquisitely carved temples in Karnataka and even having a ride in a coracle on the Tungabhadra, our trips have been exciting as well as an academic experience for us.

The academic year began with students from M.A .A.I.C selected to deliver research papers in the month of June, at the Bombay Local History Seminar. This included Mr. Jason Johns: 'The Pakvasa Family', Ms. Ornella Dsouza : 'Undertakers in Mumbai', etc . Dr. Anita took a fieldtrip for students of IIT, Powai with their professor Dr. Kavi Arya to Kanheri Caves, Borivali on 14th June. This was followed by a half-day exploratory session around South Bombay and the CSMVS on 21st June 2015. The M.A. students successfully conducted Surface Exploration on the Local History of Bombay, the research of which has been published in the Bombay Explorers.

The 9th Mani Kamerkar Memorial State Level Seminar was held on 1st August by the department in collaboration with the Heras Institute of Indian

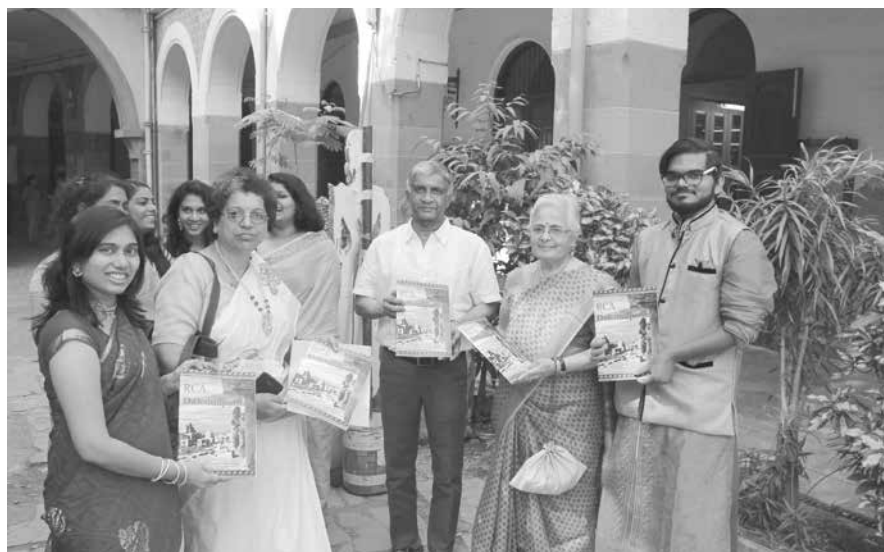
History and Culture and the Museum Society of Bombay. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Ruchira Banerjee on the theme of the seminar- 'Maritime Heritage'. A total of 77 persons presented research papers and more than 110 persons attended the seminar. The faculty and students of the department also presented papers on Maritime heritage which included Dr. Anita Rane Kothare on 'Hera - the Missing link', Dr Radha Kumar on 'Literary sources in the study of Maritime', Dr. Dileep Balsekar & Ms. Siddhi Deshpande: 'Reconstructing Maritime History through Coins', Mr. Jason Johns: 'Nestorian Monastery at Sir Bani Yas', Mrs. Vasudha Deshmukh : 'Cheul', etc.

The students of S.Y.B.A under the guidance of Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare and Dr. Hrishikesh Samant went on a field trip to Sinnar, Nasik. It included visits to Gargoti Mineral Museum, Infant Jesus Church and Gondeshwar Temple as part of their syllabus covering Museology, Tourism and Heritage Management. Another group of students from S.Y.B.A and T.Y.B.A attended the N.G.M.A workshops on "Jamini Roy" and "Clay Ganesha". The T.Y.B.A students undertook an internship at the J.B. Petit Hall, Nariman Point, wherein they received training and carried out conservation under the guidance of Mr. Anupam Sah. The students of T.Y.B.A. attended

the certificate course on Hinduism in the month of December conducted by the Inter-Religious Department, St. Xavier's College.

'The Brazilian Film week' was held in collaboration with the Consulate General of Brazil in Mumbai and the Department of English in which students submitted reviews which were judged and prizes were given to the winners. Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare conducted a 'Befriending History' workshop for teachers at St. Columba High School on 13th September, assisted by Mr. Jason Johns. On 15th September, the department in collaboration with 'MSB' and 'Times Green Ganesha' conducted an eco-friendly Ganesha workshop for the NGO children which was conducted by Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare assisted by Mr. Jason Johns, Ms. Siddhi Deshpande and team. Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare along with Mr. Jason Johns also conducted a "Befriending Coat of Arms" for the M.A. A.I.C. students, in association with the Museum Society of Bombay in the 'Indian Coat of Arms Exhibition', CSMVS which was curated by the collector, Mr. Anuj Pakvasa. It included a Curator's Walk followed by a quiz whose winners were awarded prizes in the gallery itself by Dr. Pheroza Godrej.

Students of the department attended lectures by Dr. Irving Finkel, Asst. Keeper of Mesopotamian Script, British Museum in September. Dr. Anita assisted Dr. Finkel in studying Mesopotamian seal at the Heras institute, followed by a visit to Elephanta caves. The department conducted two Paramparik Karigar Workshops from 19th -20th October wherein the artisans came and taught the students how to make leather puppets and palm leaf etchings. This served not only as a boost for the dying crafts but also as an exposure for the students to traditional arts and crafts. The department in collaboration with the Museum Society of Bombay went on a field trip to Bijapur, Aihole, Pattadakal, Badami and Hampi in the state of Karnataka which was an exciting as well as an academic delight.



Release of RCA at Vividha - Dakshinapatha, January 2016.

Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare, Mr. Jason Johns and a group of students from T.Y.B.A. and S.Y.B.A. A.I.C. attended an Art Management Workshop at Piramal Foundation, Parel in November and “Technical Meeting on Conservation Treatments” held in collaboration by the CSMVS and CTS at the CSMVS from 30th November -2nd December 2015.

Department festival :-

“Vividha 2016 – Dakshinapatha (Karnataka)”, the annual departmental festival and exhibition of the Department of Ancient Indian Culture and Archaeology, St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), Mumbai, was held in collaboration with the Museum Society of Bombay. The two- day festival included an exhibition of charts and models prepared by the students and stalls by various groups, students, etc. The festival was inaugurated by Mrs. Arti Mehta, Chairperson Emeritus of Museum Society of Bombay in the presence of Dr. Agnelo Menezes, Principal and the staff and students. This was followed by the release of RCA the departmental magazine which featured articles on the theme written by students. The exhibition which showcased the various natural and cultural heritage of Karnataka giving the visitors a glimpse of the state and its invaluable heritage which has to be conserved for future generations. As part of this festival Paramparik Karigar workshops on Leheriya by national award winner Mr. Badshah Miya and Pattachitra were also held.

The Department of Ancient Indian History Culture and Archaeology, St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), Mumbai, in collaboration with the MSB went on a cultural tour to Ladakh for Members. The group led by Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare visited the Sulabh Toilet Museum, Delhi , Domkhar Petroglyphs, Alchi and many other monasteries in Ladakh.

Staff Engagement and Research:-

Anita Rane- Kothare:-

- She was invited to deliver guest lectures at Somaiya College on

Buddhist art, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya on Heritage Laws and Antiquarian Acts, H.R College on Indian Culture and Art and a lecture on Museology at S.N.D.T College Matunga and J.J. School of Art for a lecture on Temple Architecture.

- She was invited to deliver a lecture on “Comparative Mythology” for Honours Programme- Mythology Workshop at St. Xavier’s College.
- She was invited to deliver a guest lecture at Jai Hind College for a lecture on Water Management systems in Ancient India followed by a fieldtrip to Mahakali Caves.
- Dr. Kothare was the Convenor of the 9th Mani- Kamerkar Memorial Seminar, held at the college on 1st August 2016 .She presented a paper titled ‘Hera: The Missing Link’.
- She was invited as a Chairperson and Keynote speaker at a Conference on ‘Applied History: Inter Disciplinary Approaches and Contemporary Relevance’ at Aurangabad on 27th August 2015. Her address paper was titled ‘Construction and Application of History with an Interdisciplinary Approach’.
- She was elected as Vice Chairperson of the Museum Society of Bombay in November 2015.
- She was featured in the programme “Samrachna” EPIC Channel.
- Dr. Kothare was also invited to be a participant at a week-long workshop at Ahmedabad on Heritage Management and Conservation in February, 2016.
- Recipient of the Vidhyeshwari award for twenty five years of service in education by Prabhu Prabhat on 1st May 2016.
- She conducted heritage walks for Hindustan Times and was covered by the press.

Dr. Radha Kumar

- Delivered a lecture “Whispering Stones” on the hidden myths

behind the sculptures behind the Pallava period under Katha project.

- Was invited as a speaker for Panel discussion on the theme “Challenges of Women in achieving Professional Competencies”. Delivered a lecture on the sub theme “Women through the ages- special references to Ancient India “ at Hansraj Jivandas College of Education.
- Was invited as a speaker at the 50th Golden Jubilee year at Nalanda Dance Research centre of Nalanda Nrityakala Mahavidyalaya- Juhu on the theme “How to synergise Education and Culture. “
- Was invited as a Chief Examiner for Senior students to certify their overall Bharatanatyam repertoire by Geeta Nirthyia Vidyalaya, Mulund.
- An article in Speaking Tree (Times of India) was published “The Saundraya Lahiri of Adi Shankaracharya”.
- Was invited to deliver a Lecture by the Sanskrit Department, University of Mumbai. The topic: ‘ role of Mythology in the tradition of Performing arts’.
- Was invited as a Guest of honour in Sishuvan school- Matunga, to preside on play session to stage stories on Historical themes, staged by 6th and 7th standard students.
- Was invited as Resource person for Seminar/ Workshop on Drama and Art in Education, by Bombay Teachers Training College; Delivered a lecture on Drama and Art for social intervention.
- Was invited as a Resource person for the International Dutch programme at Hiranandani Foundation School. Topic of the lecture- ‘Indian Culture and the Philosophy within’.
- Was invited as Resource person and conducted a workshop on “Art and Drama in Education” by Hansraj Jivandas college of Education .
- Delivered a lecture on the

multidimensional aspect of Indian Culture at the FEM Executive Management Programme.

- Was invited for the Expert Talk on the topic “ Art as A peacemaker” at the Education for Peace conference at KJ Somaiya Comprehensive College of Education ,Training and Research. Also, Chaired the paper presentations thereafter on the subtheme- Striving for Harmony within.
- Was invited to deliver a lecture at the Thakur Shyamanarayan College of Education and Research for the regional level seminar and workshop . The topic was: Understanding Forms of Art and Drama.”
- Was invited to deliver a lecture and conduct a session at the Somaiya Center of life long learning on “An Aesthetic confluence- When the chisel and bells spoke in the same

rhythm.”

- Was invited to deliver a lecture at the National seminar on Indian Aesthetics organised by the Indian council of Philosophical Research- New Delhi. Presented a paper titled “When the chisel and the bells spoke in the same rhythm –an aesthetic Confluence. “
- Was invited to deliver a lecture on “Indian Culture: A spectrum for the International Seminar, Globalization, capital flow and Development.” This was organised by the Council of International Programmes, St Xavier’s College.
- Invited to present a paper and deliver a lecture at the National Seminar organised by the Department Of Political Science- St Xavier’s College on Political Thinkers and on the theme State is Power. The topic of her lecture “ State is Power- Exploring the

Ethical Foundation- A Holistic view of Gautama Buddha. “

- Presented a paper at the 9th Mani Kamekar Memorial State level Seminar on Maritime Heritage of India, with the joint collaboration of the Museum Society, Heras Institute and Dept of Ancient Indian Culture,. Title of her paper, “ Literary sources in the study of Maritime History.”
- Received a Tata Fellowship grant for research on Dancing sculptures in Alampur temples.
- Was an in house faculty for the TYBMS paper on Indian thought Management and Practices
- Was the Faculty convenor of Malhar 2015.

Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare,
Head of Department

BIOTECHNOLOGY

“Yesterday is but today’s memory and tomorrow is today’s dream”

-Khalil Gibran

A fulfilling academic year filled with several curricular and co curricular activities.

Highlights of the MSc-II 2015 Batch

Distinction: 17, First Class: 10

Department activities:

- **Faculty workshops:**
 - 2- Day Faculty workshop in Bioinformatics conducted by Ms. Norine D’Souza in June 2015 for faculty of biosciences from University of Mumbai
 - 2- day Faculty workshop in IPR conducted by Dr. Biswaprasun Chatterji in June 2015 for faculty of biosciences from University of Mumbai
- **Voice for BT**
 - Collaborated with Novozyme South Asia Pvt Ltd, Bangalore ,

India , a leading biotechnology company, in organizing national level intercollegiate debate competition, for UG Biotechnology students of Western India region.

- **Industrial visit**
 - The Department of Biotechnology at St. Xavier’s College - Autonomous, Mumbai organized an Industrial Visit to Goa from Monday, 30th November 2015 to Saturday, 5th December 2015 for the students of M.Sc.Part I (Biotechnology). The industries covered were National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCAOR), Monginis Foods, Coca-Cola Company and Goa Dairy. Two faculty members, Dr. Shiney Peter and Mrs. Norine D’Souza, accompanied the students.
- **Palindrome 2016**

Palindrome, the annual intercollegiate festival, held by Post Graduate Department of Biotechnology is solely an event

‘by the students for the students’. The student team tried their best to place Palindrome 2016 to the next level of imbibing scientific approach in a fun loving way through different interactive workshops and events. Dr. Rustom Mody, Senior Vice President and Head, R&D, Lupin Ltd was the Chief guest of the event. Lupin Ltd was the chief sponsor. Around 20 colleges from Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Thane participated in this annual event.

30th January, 2016: Workshops

- Workshop on Basic Bioinformatics conducted by Ms. Norine D’Souza for UG and PG Biotechnology students from various colleges in Mumbai
- Workshop on Bioentrepreneurship conducted by Mr. George Tharakan, MD, Alltrack Tracking solutions Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai for UG and PG Biotechnology students from various colleges in Mumbai

- Workshop on Forensic science, The Forensic Factor, conducted by Ms. Rive Pocha, Partner, FACTS for UG and PG Biotechnology students from various colleges in Mumbai.

3rd February, 2016: events.

- ✓ Adrenaline Rush - mixed pack of bioscience based rounds that tested the knowledge, memory and lab skills
- ✓ How I Met My Neuron! – Quiz
- ✓ Thea-tickle - skits based on bioscience topics
- ✓ Shades of Love- a painting event in support of the social cause 'Reach to Teach'
- ✓ Wolf of Wall Street & Master of Coins: Bioentrepreneurship based competition

The participants' energy was infectious and there was neck to neck competition in order to bag the final trophy. Scientific approaches were portrayed in creative ideologies pitched by the participants in different events.

As the department advocates at all times the need to help the underprivileged the students have always been eager to extend their hands for the social cause. This year our social outreach 'Reach to Teach' was associated with an organization 'REAP'. The students went to different schools under the aegis of REAP and taught the students using the teaching aids prepared by the participants and volunteers during the event.

- Palindrome Magazine:

The 5th issue of the annual magazine, Palindrome was released in October 2015. MSc (Semester IV) students were the editors and content providers for the same. The magazine theme was based on Careers and Future in the field of Biotechnology.

- **Poster Presentation**

- Matilda D'Souza, Joshabel Stira, Lareina George, Namrata Kamble

and B P Chatterji presented a Poster entitled "Upstream Processing Of Xanthan Gum Using *Artocarpus heterophyllus* and *Punica granatum* Peels" in One day Research Meet (The Sajjan Gupta-Konark Memorial award 2016) in Wilson College on January 15, 2016

Student Research Projects:

- In the third semester, students completed in house group projects on various aspects of biotechnology guided by the faculty. A few project titles:
 - Extraction of pectin from different fruit wastes and screening of pectinase producing organism
 - Upstream processing of Xanthan gum using *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (jackfruit) and *Punica granatum* (pomegranate) peels
 - Comparative study of the cytotoxic effect of carmouisine and Tartazine on 3T3 cell line
 - Evaluation of *in vitro* cytotoxicity of natural anthocyanin, pectin and modified pectin for use as food additives.
- Semester IV students completed external projects at IIT, CMLE, Kochi, NIO, ACTREC, TIFR, BARC.

Student participation in seminars:

- Environmental Microbial Biotechnology conference 'Consortium', organized by the Department of Microbiology, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai in January 2016
- Targeted Proteomics organized by Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering, IIT, Mumbai in December 2015
- Lecture on Antibody engineering by Prof. Ross Bernard, Director, Biotechnology programme, University of Queensland, Australia in September 2015

Additional Faculty Activities:

All Faculty attended the College Faculty

seminars on Quality Enhancement in October 2015 and Autonomy in Review in January 2016

➤ Ms. Norine D'Souza

- Participated in DBT workshop on Applications in Bioinformatics conducted by DBT, Govt. of India at ACTREC, Kharghar, Navi Mumbai in March 2016
- Participated in Knowledge Café on Trends and opportunities for multidisciplinary and cross sector research in coastal and marine ecosystems organized by CMPA project, GIZ, India and Caius Research Laboratory, St. Xavier's College in March 2016
- Participated in Training of Trainers: E- Learning for Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Conservation and Management organized by CMPA, GIZ, India and AIZ, GIZ Germany in Delhi in February 2016
- Participated in Training of Trainers on communicating Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Conservation and Management through media using participatory methods of training for effective content delivery organized by CMPA, GIZ, India and AIZ, GIZ Germany in Mumbai in June 2015

➤ Dr. Shiney Peter

- Attended the Workshop on Biostatistics conducted by Department of Life Sciences and Biochemistry, St Xavier's College-Autonomous, Mumbai in March 2016
- Participated in Knowledge Café on Trends and opportunities for multidisciplinary and cross sector research in coastal and marine ecosystems organized by CMPA project, GIZ, India and Caius Research Laboratory, St. Xavier's College in March 2016
- Participated in Training of Trainers: E- Learning for Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Conservation and Management organized by CMPA, GIZ, India and AIZ, GIZ Germany in Delhi in February 2016

- Participated in Training of Trainers on communicating Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Conservation and Management through media using participatory methods of training for effective content delivery organized by CMPA, GIZ,

India and AIZ , GIZ Germany in Mumbai in June 2015

➤ **Dr. B P Chatterji**

- Participated in India International Science Festival (IISF) 2015 at IIT Delhi in December 2015

- Judged in 8th research Scholars Meet at KC College Mumbai on 9th February 2016

Dr. Vivien Amonkar
Head of Department

BACHELOR OF MASS MEDIA

Aligning with the College's vision to achieve excellence in academics with engagement in society, students are prodded to move beyond the confines of the syllabus.

Student Industry connect

The department has arranged a series of lectures on various topics such as – Ideation in Copywriting by Ms. Meenakshi Acchan, (Senior Creative Director), Corporate Social Responsibility by Ms. Kasturi Bose (RPG Group), opportunities in Financial Journalism by Ms. Shreetama Bose (Cogensis), Media Ethics by Mr. Allan Collaco (ASCII), aspects of Digital marketing by Mr. Kushal Kaushik (GREY Advertising), challenges and opportunities in Broadcast Journalism by Ms. Raksha Shetty (Ex-Senior AE, TV 18 Network) to mention a few. Inputs from these lecture series has helped the department incorporate new pedagogies appropriate to the course and enhance it with the recent trends.

Apart lecture series and workshops the department has been actively involved in live projects with media associations. Being conducted for varied time spans- a week, month and even year long, these activities have managed to achieve a sense of balance between general education and professional engagement.

The lecture series, workshops and field survey as an activity was initiated from 28th June 2015 to 25th April 2016.

Mock RJ Audition

Resource person: Ms. Ujwala Srinivas, AIR FM Gold

Students did script writing and mock compeering for a radio show on the

topic of their interest. The resource person judged the student presentations followed by a feedback session.

Honours and Summer School

The department organized two Honours programme of one credit each and three courses during Summer School of one credit. The Summer School was for Honours students and students who were interested in doing a certificate programme.

1. City Stories

Resource person: Mr. Chaitanya Marpakwar, Journalist, Mumbai Mirror.

The course was meant to inculcate observation technique and presentation skills among the students from a journalistic point of view. Keeping in mind the various aspects of Mumbai city the students explored some significant subjects about the vibrant, dynamic life and present it in a crisp way. As part of the issues covered a series of lectures was arranged for the students. This included Mr. Vasant Dhoble, Retd. Additional Police Commissioner-Importance of filing FIR and Women Safety Law, Mr. Rajendra Aklekar, Author & Senior Journalist who gave an insightful lecture on the historical past and current challenges of the local train network in Mumbai and Mr. Sunil Baghel, Senior Legal reporter who shared the experience of legal proceedings and court matters.

2. From Pencil to Pixel

Resource Person: Mr. Siddharth Bhatia

The course was meant to communicate ideas through the use of Illustrator and make it effective. The primary aim was to convey that anyone could who can think and wants to express can learn Illustrator and communicate with the

audience.

Summer School April 2016

Anthropology and Media

Resource person: Prof. Vinita Bhatia

The course was meant to give students a brief understanding about the anthropological approach and its impact on media representations.

Right the Write

Resource person: Mr. Krishna Warriier

The course was designed to hone writing skills and sharpen self-editing skills while writing for media.

Media Semiotics

Resource person: Ms. Harsha Bhat

The course was to understand the significance and power of signs and symbols that impact everyday life of human beings.

Industrial Visits

Delhi-Dehradoon-Saharanpur

The TYBMM students on a 7 day tour visited as part of understanding policy frameworks and nation building the following organisations, Navdhanya Seed Research Institute, The National Defence Academy, The Forest research Institute.

The Pune Hyderabad Visit

The SYBMM students on a 7 day tour discovered the diverse range of issues outside the comfort zone and walled classrooms.

The department looks forward to strike a balance between academics and field exposure thereby incorporating good pedagogical practices for the enhancement of the students.

22/10/15 to 28/10/15	SYBMM Industrial visit to Pune and Hyderabad	Mr. John Kurien	Grassroots Foundation, Pune, development and innovative practices in primary education.
		Ms. Minal	Animal Angel Foundation- Pet therapy practice: significance and career option. Pune
		Mr Ankit	TERRE, Pune Lecture by Aseem Sarode senior advocate and activist on water conservation: challenges and threats
		Mr. Milind Chavan	MASUM, Saswad, Pune, Session with women activists working towards gender sensitization and women empowerment
		Mukti Mission	Pandita Ramabai Centre, Kedgaon
	Hyderabad	Mr. Suryakant	Heritage walk to the city and Gowalkonda fort
		Ms. Madhu Vottera, Architect and Art Historian	Tracing the development and growth of the city through the historical invasions on the city of Hyderabad. Developmental threats and challenges in the current context.
		Ms. Gauri Young Film-maker	A visit to Annapurna studio to understand the film techniques in India.
		Mr. Nikhil Graphic novelist	To understand how hidden talent can be infused with things happening around you and develop media product out of the same

Akshara Jhadav
Full time faculty

BACHELOR OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

This report gives a brief overview about the activities of the department in the academic year 2015-16

We strongly believe that the students should have a good understanding of the concepts and only then can they apply it in a practical scenario in a way that suits the situation best. In order to achieve this we have brought about changes in the course structure by adding new courses and have also constantly worked on the syllabus to make it more relevant. Our workshops and guest speakers have also given the students an insight into the practical problems and challenges faced by the companies and these sessions have been a great forum to enhance the teaching learning experience. A few of the workshops are listed below:

Workshops

Mr. Jay Shah, Associate at Deutsche Bank provided insights into the role of financial statement and the financial position in order to decide the credit

rating of the company.

Fr Terrence Quadros sj. Director of the counselling centre also conducted a course on creativity in class.

Dr. Alan Josin Dsouza (former Policy Analyst Director for the office of Special Programs, Division of student affairs at Wichita State University) shared his knowledge on the CSR activities undertaken by firms in the West.

Managerial Skills by Fr Gordon Daniels: Almost everything we experience in life comes to us through relations with others. "People who need people" describes us all. Working together is an important part of life. Keeping this in mind, Fr Gordon Daniels, faculty of Xavier Institute of Communications conducted a workshop on 'Managerial Skills'. This workshop was divided into 8 sessions, i.e., 2 sessions a day for 3 hours. The course contained essential managerial skills required not only for our corporate life, but also for our personal life as well.

Industrial Visit

We took the second and third year students for an industrial visit to Dalhousie- Dharamshala-Amritsar in the month of October with a view to give them an insight into the production facilities of factories and to give the students a better understanding of the quality and safety mechanisms undertaken by companies at the assembly line level. The industrial visit organized was for 8 days which began on the 19th of October, 2015 and concluded on the 26th of October 2015. Prof. Pritesh Arte was the accompanying faculty member from the BMS department on the trip. The visit to the Coca Cola factory in Amritsar was a great learning experience as the students were encouraged to ask questions about the processes of the plant. The theoretical aspects of the BMS course were brought alive during the factory visit. This was especially useful as the conceptual learning in the course 'Production and Materials

Management' was understood from a practical viewpoint.

Research based projects and Department Research Journal: INSIGHT

As part of the curriculum, students worked on various research based products. Following are the few listed topics:

- Indian Shipping Industry: A catalyst for growth.
- Sports Marketing- its scope, reach and impact
- Employee Loyalty in Bahrain's Hotel Industry
- Women and financial Literacy
- Finance Resource raising for non-profit organizations

HONOURS PROGRAM

The honours program for the First and Second year students included a programme on Corporate Social Responsibility which was conducted by Ms. Kasturi Bose (senior project leader at the RPG Foundation). Mr Purv Shah conducted a programme on the Technical Analysis of stocks and the aim was to educate the students about the ways to eliminate and mitigate the risks involved with investments in the stock market. Both the programmes were very well received by the students

Most of the students interned in various organizations during their Diwali, Christmas and summer break and shared their experiences with the class. Internship not only helps to bridge

The gap with the industry but also builds the confidence of the students.

The use of the anti-plagiarism software **Turnitin** has made sure that all assignments and projects are true and original. The students have been guided by the teachers to inculcate a spirit of research and the end result has been worth the effort. Their projects were commended by not just the external academic experts who had come to evaluate them but also by industry experts as well.

The **Management Blog** that was started in the academic year 2014-15 highlighted a wide range of thought



Panel Discussion by Mr Ajay Ramsubramanian (Zone Startups), Ms. Naiyya Saggi (babychakra.com) & Mr. Nilesh Shah (MD Kotak Securities). The discussion was moderated by Mr. Kishu Daswani.

provoking articles from the students this year as well and we plan to scale to a new level with reference to both the content and the readership. The Blog gives the students a platform to voice their opinions on various management and social issues.

Under the Cross Faculty paper the department offers a paper in the field of Financial Management: "**Management Accounting and Investment & Portfolio Management**" This course is open to the Science students of the college.

International Programmes

Harshita Rathi and Ashwiin Sharma (SY BMS) had participated in HCAP (Harvard College in Asia Programme) and were also involved hosting the exchange students from Harvard in India. Four of our Second year students had also gone for a six week Berkeley Summer School in the month of May.

Out of the 75% of students who had opted to work after their graduation approximately 65% got placed by June 2016. The remaining students have secured admission in some of the leading management colleges in India and abroad for a post graduate degree.

The Board of Studies met in the month of February this year and made a few changes in the course structure. We combined the two separate papers of Computers into one more comprehensive course in

the first semester. We have moved Marketing Management from Semester III to Semester II. The content of every course is constantly modified and updated to suit the ever changing dynamic business environment.

It's been a great year for us at the department and we were able to learn a lot from the workshops and seminars organized at St. Xavier's College for the teaching faculty. Prof Pritesh attended a research conference in Poddar College and it was an enriching experience for the department as whole. We also had the privilege to be invited as external examiners for the final year dissertation viva (BMS) in some of the leading colleges in the city.

I would like to conclude by saying that it was by the grace of God that all our efforts and endeavours were successful and we will strive to raise the bar higher in the coming academic year.

Soni George Tharakan

Department of Management Studies
BMS

BOTANY



Ph. D. Degree Awarded:

Ms. Rashmi S. Sharma, student of Guide Dr. Mrs. Ujwala. C. Bapat was awarded Ph.D degree this year (May 2016) by Mumbai University for her doctoral work on thesis entitled 'Taxonomic study of Flora of Vasai taluka, with focus on Vegetation of Tungreshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, Thane District, Maharashtra State'.

Articles in News paper:

Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde's four articles were published in Marathi Newspaper Loksatta For Marathi Vidyan Parishad on (a) 25.01.2016- Vanaspatinche Sankalan and Sanvardhan; (b) 26.01.2016 - Vanaspatinche Sankalan and Jatan; (c) 28.01.2016 - Sapushpa Vanaspatinche Jatan; and (d) 01.02.2016- Vanaspatinche Sankalan aani Jatan 2;

Visiting Faculty

Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde Conducted a Biodiversity course B503 at Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences, DAE & University of Mumbai in August-November 2015. He also took M.Sc. Taxonomy Lectures at the University of Mumbai and M.Sc Taxonomy Lectures at Dapoli Urban Bank's College of Art and Science, Dapoli in Sept 2015 and march 2016. He was also a visiting faculty for B.Voc. and lectured on Biodiversity in Travel and Tourism, & Databases in Biodiversity for Web designing.

DBT Star College

Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde is the DBT Star College Coordinator for the college. He presented 3 years consolidated review report at Review committee, DBT, New Delhi on 2 July 2015. He presented a proposal for Maths Department at DBT, New Delhi on 17 Nov 2015. He is the member of the DBT panel for scrutiny of the SOP and Lab Manuals for western region. August 2015. He is also a member of the Expert Committee appointed by the University of Mumbai to inspect the facilities of the college to start a new PG course in Botany in March 2016. He was also a Member of DBT Panel for selection of students under BITP/BCIL programme during September 2015.

Professional Training:

- Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde attended 12 days laboratory training in Phylogeny at Nees Institute of Biodiversity of Plants, University of Bonn, Germany on 11 May 2015 to 23 May 2015. He also participated in the Six days Workshop in Biostatistics organized by St. Xavier's College, Mumbai on 14 March 2016 to 19 March 2016.
- Dr. Vijaya Lobo attended an Orientation Course of one month duration at Goa University from 29th February to 30th March 2016.
- Mr. Alok Gude attended UGC

sponsored one week workshop on 'Gender Sensitization and Women Empowerment (all levels) form 02/11/2015 to 07/11/2015 at UGC HRDC Guru Jambheshwar University of Science & Technology, Hisar 125001, Haryana.

External Examination Work

Mr. Alok Gude was invited as External Examiner for T.Y.BSc Botany Semester-V University of Mumbai Practical Exam on 22nd September 2015 at Wilson College, Chowpatty, Mumbai.

Field Excursions and Industrial visits.

- Dr. Mrs. U.C. Bapat and Dr. Manek Mistry accompanied students of MSc-II for a visit at Pune Agriculture University on 11th February 2016.
- Dr. Manek Mistry and Mr. Alok Gude conducted a field visit of MSc-II students at Dapoli, Konkan Krishi Vidhyapeeth for the studies on Plant Pathology and Horticulture from 31st July to 2 August 2015. Mr. Rajdeo Singh also accompanied the students and showed many plants in medicinal plants garden and spice garden located in the University.
- Dr. R.D. Shinde accompanied students of MSc-II to Plant Quarantine Centre and Patent Office to explain them the Plant Quarantine procedure and Patent filing procedure.
- Dr. R.D. Shinde headed local excursions for TYBSc students to Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali for the study of seasonal flora during Janaury 2015. He also took Nature trail for Friends of Trees at Jijamata Udyan on 28/02/2016.

Talks delivered

Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde was resource person for 2015-16 Fulbright- Nehru International Education Administrators

Seminar on 12/03/2016 and he presented on "Role of Government: Planning and Funding Issues, Research and Industrial Tie-Ups".

Conferences, Seminars, workshops and other Courses attended:

Dr. Rajendra Shinde attended the following conference and seminars:

- International Meeting on "Boraginales" at the Nees Institute of Biodiversity for Plants, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany on 7-8/05/2015.
- Five Habits of Highly Successful Teachers: Young Teachers Seminar organized by St. Xavier's College 09/09/2015.
- Elsevier Connect Seminar on 28/10/2015 on Elsevier database at Mumbai.
- International Paris Summit - Climate Change Programme COP

21, January 2016.

- Behavior and the Brain: A cognitive Perspective Held on 23/01/2016 St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.
- National Seminar on Conservation of Trees - Perspectives and Strategies - Bhavan's College and National Society of the Friends of the Trees 02/02/2016.
- Global Biotechnology Summit - DBT, New Delhi 5-6/02/2016.
- National Workshop on the National Institutional Ranking Framework - Eloit Innovations - 09/2/2016.
- Harvard Colleges in Asia - HCAP Mumbai Conference on March 2016 at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.
- Six days workshop on Biostatistics - conducted by the Department of Life Science and Biochemistry, from 14-19/04/2016.

Dr. Vijaya Lobo attended the 8th

Norkett, Chopra, Gangulee and Udar Memorial lecture delivered by Prof. Sanjay Deshmukh, Hon'ble Vice-chancellor, University of Mumbai, on 29/04/2016 at Birla College.

Dr. Vijaya Lobo and Mr. Alok Gude attended a workshop on Biostatistics held on 1-5/12/2015 at department of Zoology, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai.

New Leaders of Botany Department

- Mr. Kevin J. Dacruz became the New Head of Department from June 2016 as the tenure previous Head Dr. Mrs. Ujwala C. Bapat ended. She was the Head of Department of Botany for last 16 years i.e. from March 2000 till April 2016.
- Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde became the New Director of Blatter herbarium on 1st May 2016.

Dr. Ujwala Bapat
Head of Department

BSC-IT

B.Sc (I.T) has successfully completed 9 years of its journey with a number of achievements. Most of the credit goes to our coordinator Dr. Jyoti Singh. Her contribution to our department is unforgettable especially during the initial stages of Autonomy. Her main contribution to I.T department is the Research Lab. We express our sincere gratitude towards her and wish her success in her new responsibility as well as her future endeavours.

IT Society

The IT Society generated a variety of events lead by Faculty-in-Charge Professor Shivaranjani P. Gudibanda and the Student-in-Charge Ms. Shruti Nair for the IT Students to enlighten from. All the Events are briefly described below.

Seminar on Robotics

The IT Society of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, organized a seminar on Robotics on the 10th of September 2015. This seminar sought to enhance the knowledge and provided first-



hand experience to the students who had Embedded Systems as a subject. It was conducted by Mr. M.G. Bhatia who is the director of Ameya Group for Robotics and Embedded Technology (ACRET).

Workshop on Unity Game

The IT Society organized its first



workshop for the year; A workshop on Unity Game engines on 16th



September 2015. The workshop saw a large audience, all of whom were keen to learn the basics of the Game Engine: Unity-3d. The workshop instructor was Mayank Kumar, a student of the SYBSC (IT), ST. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

A second workshop on Unity on the 18th January, 2016. After the positive



feedback from the session on 16th September, another workshop was conducted for a class full of enthusiastic



students. The instructors for the session were Soham Rane and Vikram Pawar from TYIT St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. Students were taught how to add different objects to the game and add physics to it.

Another workshop for the game designing was conducted on 23rd January 2016. The speaker was Mr. Anmol Mahatpurkar, alumnus of our college. The workshops were free and interactive during which the participants were taught to make a bouncing ball game to collect coins and the famous Air hockey game using the Game Designing Engine-Unity

Workshop on Self-Defence

I.T. Society along with the Women's Development Cell organised a workshop on self-defence for girls on 7th December 2015. The need of self-defence in today's scenario was a reason to take such an initiative. The instructor for the workshop was



Team building Games

Master Yogesh Joshi a 4th Dan Black belt in Taekwondo. Nagesh Dubey from TYBSc(IT) was present as a junior instructor.

Placements and Internships

In the academic year 2015-16, 23 students were placed from the campus including on campus and off campus placements. Companies like Google, Wipro, Infosys, Great Place to Work, PWC, L&T Infotech hired students. Highest salary package for BSc.IT, was around 7 lakhs. 12 students completed summer internships from different organizations

Industrial Visits for FY students

Industrial visit is an opportunity for the students to have an interaction with industry professionals. BSc.IT students accompanied by the staff are taken to select IT industries. Visits like these to the corporate sector which includes a group interaction with company individuals at various posts does help students gauge what the industry is like, what the work environment is all about.

84 F.Y.BSc.IT. students, accompanied by the teaching faculty of the information technology Dept, Ms.



Lydia Fernandes, Ms. Simi Cyriac and Mr. Floyd Gracias, visited Pune on the 20th and 21st of October 2015, as a part of their mandatory industrial visit. The BSc.IT Dept does not just push for technical skills but soft skills as well, through the subject of "Professional Communication Skills". The second continuous internal assessment, CIA2 of the same course, has been integrated with this visit and is conducted through innovative events by the faculty in charge. The industrial visit also helps chalking out their well defined individual goals to achieve ahead.

This year, the FY students visited 4 companies: Zensar Technologies, Extentia Information Technology, IKF Pvt. Ltd. (I Knowledge Factory) and CloudCodes.

Khandala Seminar for TY students

The objective of the khandala seminar this year was the development of soft skills in a stress free environment, encourage participation in activities that involve team work in both academic as well as non-academic.

On the 29th, 30th and 31st of January 2015, 54 students (25 girls and 29 boys) of the TYBSc.IT, out of the total class strength of 59, were accompanied by Professors, Mr. Roy Thomas and Ms. Lydia Fernandes, to Khandala for a 2 night and 3 day stay at St. Xavier's Villa, as part of their CIA2 evaluation, which is conducted across the 2 ½ days stay.

Presentations and assignments, for this year were done in two courses of **Enterprise Resource Planning** and **Data Warehouse and Mining**. Though many students came prepared with powerpoint presentations, **Chalk and talk** strategy was also encouraged by the faculty which the students took up as a challenge. **Role play** was also used as a tool of demonstration in both

courses.

Apart from academics, a short session on conflict management was conducted by Fr. Gordon of the Xavier's Institute of communication. Being a practical session, it gave an idea to the students on how one must put their views across while working in a team in the most appropriate way.

Xenith

Xenith'16, the official department festival of The Department of Information Technology St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, was held on February 8th and 9th 2016. The theme of this edition was 'Threading the Web'. Under the Guidance and Leadership of the Co-Ordinator Dr.Jyoti Singh and Faculty-in-Charge of the Festival Asst. Prof.Shivaranjani P. Gudibanda and Student-in- Charge Cum Chairperson Ms SumedhaRani(TYBSc.IT).

The events scheduled panned across the different aspects of the field of Information Technology. There were publicity stunts organized which included old PC games like Road Rash, Pacmanetc being played in the college foyer. There was an online photography competition, 'Xen Click' also organized with the themes 'Technology Then and Now' and 'Technology in Everyday

Life'. The flagship event was Codeathon which was a website design and development competition.

The theme given to the participants was to develop a website for adoption of stray animals. The event was judged by professionals. CybEdge and officials from the online portal Coveritup.

Participants were overwhelmed and excited to use the new app designed by Mayank Kumar (SYBSc(IT) (2015-16)). 'Mix it or Jinx it' was a workshop cum competition conducted by students from our own college, Christy Johnson and Harshit Singh. The attendees of the workshop were given basic insight and knowledge about the various aspects in movie making. This workshop culminated into a competition where the participants had to make a small video clip using the information shared in the workshop. It was judged by a professional from the industry Mr. Manish Kushalani. Xenith'16 also hosted two talks on the most recent issues.

One of the talks was on the much popular topic these days - Net Neutrality. The Speaker for this talk -Mr.AbhinShreshtha gave an unbiased insight on this topic. He laid out the pros and cons of Net Neutrality in a very simplified way.

The other talk was held on the topic of Social Media. The speaker, Mr.Vasishtpalka,well-known for his prominent work in Offline Marketing and Digital Media, highlighted the importance of Social Media, it's various aspects and also it's potential in terms of creating social awareness.

One of the most sought after event of the festival was the gaming lounge titled 'Lounge of Legends'. This was a complete treat to the gamers since they could compete with each other on some of the most popular games including FIFA 16, NFS, not to forget, using the PS4s.

The social cause event organized by the team was a special workshop held for the non-teaching staff of the college, imparting them knowledge about the various softwares that might be useful for them including Microsoft Word, Excel; teaching them about email and the various facilities available online as well.

The festival turned out to be a success with a positive response for all events and successfully achieved the vision it set out to achieve.

Prof. Roy Thomas
Head of Department

BACHELOR OF VOCATIONAL STUDIES

St. Xavier's College - Autonomous was granted the Bachelor of Vocation Program in two streams, SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT and TOURISM starting from the academic year 2014-15 by UGC.

B.Voc (Software Development) Department Report for 2015-2016

In its second year, the student enrolment improved dramatically as the awareness of the program increased. We now believe that the program has stabilized and will achieve the set goal of training students in their chosen vocation and be ready to work in the IT industry.

The high light of this academic year was that our first batch of students have

undergone the assessment conducted by NASSCOM. All the students were successful and hence were awarded the NSQF level 5 certificates.

With the experience of this assessment we have now aligned the syllabus even better with the Qualification Packs selected from the list given by the sector skill council, NASSCOM. We have selected the career paths of Junior Software Developer, Web Developer and Junior Data Associates.

During the academic year, the students took part in various activities organized in the college. They are now better assimilated with the student community. In particular Software Development students participated very actively in the IT fest, XENITH.

Many of our senior batch students and some of the junior batch students undertook a summer internship in April - May 2016. Most of them worked in companies doing website development and marketing. We believe that in a program such as B. Voc., internships are very important. This work experience will build their vocational skills even further.

Jyoti Singh
Coordinator,

B. Voc. (Software Development)

B.Voc (Tourism) Department Report for 2015-2016

The number of students admitted into the B.Voc (Tourism) course nationwide from different cultural and state



backgrounds made for a full and diverse class in the new batch for 2015-16. The Orientation was held on June 26, 2015.

In keeping with the vocational nature of the course and the emphasis on training for job roles and Qualification Packs (QPs) as specified by the Skill Sector Council for Tourism and Hospitality, students were given trainings and talks by people in industry alongside their course work for the degree.

We began the year on a high note when along with the Department of History; students of the SYB Voc Tourism class Zayceann Alvares, Nivedita Roy, Faizal Khan and Tanya Mhatre were given the opportunity to guide the volunteers of the Physics Olympiad around the galleries of the CSMVS (formerly Prince of Wales museum).

CHEMISTRY

The Chemistry Department is exceptionally pleased to announce that the Third T.Y.B.Sc. batch under the Autonomous system have cleared their examination with flying colours.

Extension programme

The Department of Chemistry, St. Xavier's College- Autonomous, Mumbai tied up for an **EXTENSION PROGRAMME** in Chemistry for T.Y.B.Sc students (Semester VI Chemistry Practicals) with Undre Degree College of Science for Women, Shriwardhan, Raigad. A week-long practical sessions were conducted in Organic, Inorganic, Physical and Analytical Chemistry with two sessions per day for the students from 15th to 19th December 2015.

The faculty involved were Dr. Freddy H. Havaladar, Head, Department of

Lectures from specialists followed: Ruth Lobo, a documentary film maker introduced the students to her film *Amchem Cantar* on the musical Culture of Goa. A few days later Museum specialist and successful heritage guide Alisha Sadikot spoke on Heritage walks as a prelude to her vacation course that trained students to design and conduct heritage walks. Ms. Navaz Karanjia spoke on Tourism Marketing and Ms. Mashanta Romani introduced the class to Travel Circuits of North India. They are both well known teachers in Travel courses in Mumbai.

Ms. Niyati Mehta spoke on Culture Tourism. During the Diwali vacation a few students of the tourism class trained to prepare tours and be guides to heritage walks around Mumbai. "walking though time" the course designed by Alisha Sadikot

In December Mr. Tim Rudling - Regional Manager, Swiss Education Group (SEG) gave a guest lecture on Current Trends in the Global Hospitality Industry and Dr. Sudhakar Solomon spoke on Contemporary Issues and Geopolitics (SY B voc)

A much awaited field trip to Elephanta

with 98 students (B.Voc Tourism, TYBA, FYBA and students from University of Western Sydney Australia) was the high point of the Semester. A few students joined History students for a walk around the Heritage precinct of Khotachiwadi with Andre Baptista. Others explored Banganga.

Prity Jariwala Tour manager Thomas Cook introduced the class to popular circuits and emerging destinations in Asia /Australia while Mr. Aloke Bajpai, CEO Explorers spoke about popular circuits and emerging destinations in South and West India. To match the Job Roles and QPs of the Skill Sector Council, a special session with experienced heritage site guide Nandini Joshi was held entitled "What it means to be a good tour guide"

With the Board of Studies meetings the syllabi for Semesters III & IV were discussed and approved.

Our grateful thanks to Dr. Jyoti Sood, who resigned in August 2015 due to family commitments. We wish her well.

Dr. Fleur D'Souza
Coordinator,
B. Voc. (Tourism)

Chemistry, Prof. Marazban Kotwal, Dr. Geeta Kotian, Prof. Saima Khan and Dr. Pralhad Rege.

The focus of the sessions was to expose the students to newer techniques in all the branches of Chemistry.

Academic And Industrial Visits

- Ms Surabhi Potnis was part of the team that went to South Korea for the Junior International Olympiad in Chemistry and has brought back laurels to the country.
- Fr Roy Pereira and Mr Marazban Kotwal were resource persons at a Seminar for College Teachers on "Participatory Learning" December, 2015, at Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science, Mumbai.

- Dr Gulshan Shaikh and Mr Marazban Kotwal had been invited by H.B.C.S.E., TIFR, Mumbai, to be part of the RGC-2015.
- Dr. Geeta Kotain and Dr Abhilasha Jain attended a Refresher Course in Chemistry- ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, conducted by the Academic Staff College, University of Mumbai.
- Dr Geeta Kotian attended a Short Term Course in 'SOFT SKILLS', whereas Ms Saima Khan attended a short term course in "MENTORING". Both were at MUMBAI UNIVERSITY.
- The Department of Chemistry organized a 12 day Industrial Visit for FY, SY and TY students to Shimla, Dalhousie and Amritsar



The Chemistry Department Faculty And Under graduate Students

during the Diwali vacations of 2015. The visit was a grand success with 40 students and 3 Department faculties participating in this visit.

- A two-day workshop on 'Instrumentation in Analytical Chemistry' was arranged for our 23 Chemistry Honours students at P.S.Ramanathan Instrumentation Laboratory, Ruia College by Dr. Pralhad Rege on 4th and 5th April 2016. The students were acquainted with the working of various sophisticated Analytical Instruments and were each awarded a Certificate of Participation.
- Dr. Gulshan Shaikh and Mr. Marazban Kotwal conducted an Honours Programme for FY, SY and TY students in Library Assignment and Book Review.
- Mr. Marazban Kotwal conducted a Research Project, 'Biosynthesis of nano particles and their stabilization using various surfactants and capping agents' with FY and SY Chemistry Honours students.
- Dr. Pralhad Rege was actively involved with the SY and TY Chemistry Honours students in conducting a Research Project, 'Development and Validation of anti-microbial agent/s from a combined pharmaceutical drug formulation using Spectrophotometry'.
- The Inter-Collegiate Festival 'Al Chemia- 2016' organized by the Xaviers Association of Chemistry, XAC, on 11th, 12th and 13th January 2016 was a stupendous success with record participation of students

from various Colleges in Mumbai and also active participation of our Chemistry students ably guided by Dr. Gulshan Shaikh, Chairperson, Mr. Marazban Kotwal, Secretary and Dr. Pralhad Rege Joint Secretary and Treasurer.

- Our FY, SY and TY Chemistry students were taken for an educational tour cum seminar to Khandala on the 23rd, 24th and 25th January 2016.

Dr. (Fr.) Roy Pereira and Mr. Marazban Kotwal conducted academic

and innovative sessions on Personality Development.

Dr. (Fr.) Roy Pereira

- **Dr. (Fr.) Roy Pereira** gave a lecture to the students of the **University of California, Berkeley** on "Brain and Mind" on 24th July, 2015.

Workshop and Lectures

- Conducted a three day workshop on "Neuroscience and its applications" for the first and second year students at St. Ignatius College, Rachol, Goa from 11th to 13th April, 2016.

- Planned the IQAC Seminar with Prof. Marazban Kotwal on *Strategies for change in the new Teaching Learning environment* and delivered a lecture therein on at "Edu'care'tion: All round development of the teacher and the student" at The Parvatibai Chowgule College, Goa on 7th April, 2016
- Gave a talk on "Neuroplasticity: The Power of New" to The South Bombay Jesuit Communities on 31st March, 2016.
- Gave a talk on "Courage to Change: The Neuroscience of Behaviour Modification" to The North Bombay Jesuit Communities on 10th March, 2016.
- Attended and presented a paper at the National Conference, *Science, Society and Ethics* at The Parvatibai Chowgule College, Goa on 9th March, 2016
- Attended a Round Table conference on "Science and Knowledge" held at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune from 26th-28th February, 2016.
- Delivered a talk, "From Pieces to Peace: The Nobel Peace Prize" at the Noble Lecture Series held by Sophia College, Mumbai on 2nd February, 2016.
- Delivered a talk on "Meaning to Meaningfulness: Manifestations of Quality in a Good College" at the National Conference on *College IQAC: Meaning & Manifestations*, organized by the IQAC, Kirti M. Doongursee College, Mumbai on 30th January, 2016.



The XAC Committee - Faculty and Students

- Conducted a workshop on “Cognitive Neuroscience” on the occasion of the National Symposium on *Behaviour and the Brain: A Cognitive Perspective* at St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), Mumbai on 23rd January, 2016.
 - IQAC Xaviers helped organize a New Teachers’ Seminar for South Mumbai colleges on *Participatory Learning* at Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science, Mumbai and Presented on “Educational Paradigms in a Globalized world” on 7st December, 2015.
 - Attended and Presented at the AICUF 27th National Council Meeting as the Maharashtra State Advisor held at AICUF National Secretariat, Chennai from 13th to 15th August, 2015.
 - Was the Chief Instructor for the International Yoga Day function held on 24th June at St. Xavier’s College Hall, Mumbai
 - Addressed the First Year Arts, Science, B.Sc. IT, B.M.M and B.M.S Students of St. Xavier’s College at the orientations in the month of June/July 2015 on “Academics at Xaviers”.
- **Four TY students qualified for the Honours Certificate in Chemistry in the Academic Year 2015-2016.**

Dr. Freddy H. Havaladar
Head of Department

ECONOMICS-COMMERCE

The department of Economics has organised and conducted many activities during the academic year 2015-2016. These activities have benefitted the students also the faculties in terms of their academic excellence. The details of those activities are given below:

1. Industrial visit was organised on 9th October, 2015 to Vigyan ashram, Lavasa lake city and Avanti kalagram and 75 students have participated.
2. Economics festival- Econundrum- It is an intercollegiate national level program conducted by department of Economics every year wherein students from all over India participated in this 3 day program in 3rd week of December, 2015.
3. Khandala seminar on interdisciplinary approach in research was held in 2nd week of January 2016. Almost 25 research papers presented by the students.
4. Guest lecture series organised throughout the year and the department has invited well known personalities at national and international level.
5. Lalit Doshi memorial lecture was delivered on 12th February 2016 by Dr. Prachi Mishra, Specialist Advisor, RBI’s Monetary Policy.

Dr. Aditi Sawant
Head of Department

ENGLISH

At the start of the year, 60 graduates from the Department stepped out of College to pursue their dreams for higher education and a fruitful career. We are sure that their academic and extra-curricular engagements in the years spent at St. Xavier’s will not merely suit them to realize their personal goals but shape them to become men and women for others, in the Jesuit tradition.

The new batch of students, as usual, took a lively interest in their course-work and extra-curricular openings offered to them. In September this year, our alumna from 1998, Ms. Karishma Attari (nee Hussain) did, exclusively for our College, her workshop titled, “Shakespeare for Dummies”.

In February, Omar Moosa, a visiting Australian writer, performed his poetry and spoke about his work before a very appreciative audience in the

Department.

Just as the Academic Year was coming to a close, some writers touring the country as part of the Iowa University’s International Writing Program held a Summer Course on Creative Writing for interested students.

Ithaka, the Department Festival, took place soon after the Diwali break. The theme was “Cue Lunacy” and the highlights included plays directed and performed by our students. *Catalina*, was written by Alaric Moras, himself one of the Festival Heads. Other dramatic performances included Yasmina Reza’s *Art* and *Penthouse Legend*, adapted from Ayn Rand’s *The Night of January 16th*. Four short sketches written by our students were staged during the Festival as well.

This year, the Honours Program featured the Brazilian Film Week (with the Department of Ancient Indian

Culture), a series of lectures by Prof. Vishant Ramteke on The Origin of English, a workshop by Ms. Minal Ruhela, our alumna, a consultant for Social Media, titled *Social Media ad Hypertext Narratives* and an on-line course on Nadine Gordimer, conducted by Dr. Gargi Talpatra.

Dr. Pearl Pastakia attended the Global Next Leaders Forum Conference on “Peace” at Hiroshima and Tokyo, Japan. 8th to 15th August 2015. Prof. Rashmi Lee George continues to carry out research under the UGC sponsored Faculty Improvement Program. The Department is thankful to the faculty and students who made the year “full of adventure, full of instruction”.

Dr. Pearl Pastakia
Head of Department

FORENSIC SCIENCE

In the academic year 2015-16, the Diploma in Forensic Science and Criminal Law course had 25 fresh enrollments for the program. Students' background ranged from professionals in fields of Law, Commerce, and the IT industry.

The department facilitated lectures by practicing professionals in the fields of Cyber Crime Investigation (Mr. Sachin Dedhia - Founder of Skynet Secure, Mumbai), Mr. Ashish Chavan (Advocate), Mr. Kishu Daswani (Professor of Law- St. Xavier's College & Government Law College) and Mr. D. Sivanandan (Retired Director General of Police, Maharashtra).

The students, over the course of the program, were exposed to different areas of relevant forensic practice. Equipped with basic knowledge in the field and practical exposure, they researched and prepared extensive Crime Scene Reports in the form of 'Mock Charge-Sheets'. These were presented before professionals in the field in the form of a 'Moot Court'. This experience gave the students an overview of the process of the Indian justice delivery system from 'crime scene to courtroom'.

FRENCH

The Department of French was fraught with various activities to help the students appreciate the French - language and culture. The year began with the 14th of July celebration. It commemorated the storming of the Bastille with a Quiz on France,

The Qualifying Round of 'Idole Indienne' organised by IATF Indian Association for French Teachers was organised in September 2015. It brought out music talent of our students. The qualifiers went ahead to participate in the Zonal Round. Ms. Michele Goveia, SYBA qualified in the Western Zone Round and represented our college at the National Round held in November 2015 in Bangalore. A workshop was organised in December 2015 on 'Comment lire un conte?'

Some students of the program attended the 'Intelligent Intelligence' Forensic Seminar Series conducted by the Life Sciences Department of Jai Hind College on the 15th-16th of December, 2015. They also participated in a one-day symposium on 'Advances in Crime Scene Investigation' at the Institute of Forensic Science, Mumbai on the 12th of March, 2016.

In August 2015, Ms. Alethea Vaz, Ms. Aoki Doshi, Ms. Zareen Sheikh and Ms. Havovi Hyderabadwalla, on behalf of the department, conducted a competitive one-day workshop during Malhar 2015. The 75 intercollegiate participants solved a Forensic Crime Scene using analytical techniques taught during the workshop. In February 2016, the M. Sc students organized a Forensic workshop at Palindrome- annual departmental festival St. Xavier's College. The workshop was attended by students from all over Mumbai. It gave the participants an opportunity to get a hands-on feel of various analyses done in a forensic lab.

In September 2015, Ms. Riva Pocha collaborated with the Pravin Gandhi College of Law, Mithibai College, in drafting the Trial Advocacy Problem

where students were taught how to analyse various stages of narration in a short story.

In November 2015 a two day International Forum was organised in collaboration with the French Embassy in Delhi and Institut de Frncais en Inde. The theme of this two day Forum was 'French Language in Professional Domains : Towards French language teaching adapted to the professional world' The Forum was attended by delegates from the French Embassy, French Trade Commission, Indo French Chamber of Commerce as well as from banking, corporate and industrial sectors. The Inauguration was attended by Mr François Vandeville, Director, Institut Français en Inde (IFI), Cultural Counsellor, Embassy



Forensic science crime scene

for a National Level Trial Advocacy Competition. The problem was designed to be contemporary keeping in mind the changing face of crime in the country today.

In January 2016, Ms. Havovi Hyderabadwalla and Ms. Alethea Vaz, on behalf of the department, judged the moot court of the 'Optimus Crime' Event at the Paradigm Science Festival.

In January 2016, Ms. Riva Pocha and Ms. Sejal Gupta conducted a series of forensic lectures for the M.Sc Applied Medical Sciences program.

Dr. Pushpa Sinkar

Co-ordinator
Forensic Science Program

of France in India, Ms. Marita Maier, Member of the Governing Council, Indo-French Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IFCCI), Mr. Alexandre Holle, Head of Educational Design & Innovation, Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Paris -Ile de France (CCIP).Mr. Christophe Chaillot, Head of Educational Cooperation, Institut Français, Paris and Mr. Jean-Yves Gillon, Attaché for Cooperation in Education, Embassy of France in India The Forum was a great success, it also had sessions specially for our students on Higher studies in France, Job prospects connected to learning of French.

Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale attended an International Conference on 'The Other in Translation' organised by

the Department of French, Mumbai University in January 2016. She also successfully attended the various pedagogical workshops organised every

month by the Attaché de Cooperation for French, French Consulate in Mumbai. Thus, this year we had events which helped our students to express

their creativity and enhance their language skills.

Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale
(Professor in charge)

GEOLOGY



The laurels received by its students gauge the success of any academic program.

Our graduate students successfully completed internships at, ONGC, NIO, and ACC.

The department also bagged the 'Nebula' Intercollegiate Geology Festival Trophy 2015 held in Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts & Science, Gogol-Margao, Goa.

The 3rd TERRA Festival: The National Intercollegiate Geology Festival - TERRA was held between the 5th and 6th of December and five institutions from across the country - IIT Bombay, Pune University, Wadia College - Pune, K.J. Somaiya College- Mumbai, participated. The overall best trophy was bagged by: the St. Xavier's College team..

On the occasion of TERRA, lectures were delivered by :Mr. Deepal Bagai (IPS) Asiatic Centre of Gemological Services, Mumbai, and Ms. Vidhya Mazumdar, Gemmological Science International, Mumbai.

The annual Journal of the Department of Geology 'TERRA' - was also released on this occasion. The theme of this technical publication was 'Gemmology'. This issue of the Journal was a tribute to the founders of the subject in St. Xavier's College, where more than

four decades ago, when in the early 1970s' Mr. H.R. Bana an alumnus of the department, started training geologists and hobbyist.

Earlier in the year, on 17th July 2015, Dr. Raja Sengupta, Associate Professor, Geography and School of Environment, McGill University, Canada and also an alumnus of the department, delivered a popular geospatial science lecture titled - 'Adding Time To Space: Models and GIS' as a part of the terra™ lecture series.

The annual Prof. R.N. Sukheswala Memorial - TERRA™ Lecture:

Dr. Meenakshi Wadhwa, Director, Center for Meteorite Studies, Professor, School of Earth and Space Exploration, Arizona State University, USA, delivered the annual Dr. R.N Sukheswala Memorial - TERRA Lecture on Friday, 5th February 2016. Her talk titled - 'Rocks from Space: Tales of Creation and Destruction in our Solar System' focused on the various space missions that have helped sample meteorites, the collection of meteorites and the importance of meteorites in understanding our existence on earth and why life evolved.

Winter School in Petroleum Geology:

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), as a part of their CSR - Industry to Academia Program (ITAP), conducted

a one week winter school in petroleum geology from 23rd to 27th November 2015, for our post graduate students. Professionals from RIL conducted lecture and practical sessions on topics ranging from Well logging, seismic interpretation to shale gas exploration. This winter school was attended by all the MSc students. The students were evaluated at the end of the session and were presented with a certificate.

Field Workshop on Coastal Sedimentation Processes:

Our faculty members, Ashwin Pundalik and Dr. Samant were invited by ONGC to conduct a two day field workshop on coastal sedimentation processes. The field workshop was held on 1st and 2nd of April 2016 and attended by more than forty professionals from the oil and gas exploration industry. The field workshop was conducted at Kashid and Nandgaon near Alibaug along the Maharashtra coast.

Faculty Member achievements:

The department faculty members along with their regular teaching have also been active in the field of research and consultancy.

Dr. Pravin Henriques continues to conduct the diploma courses in Gemmology. Dr. Henriques was honoured by the South Asian Association of Economic Geologists (SAAEG) for "Outstanding Contribution Towards Capacity Building in Gemmology" with a citation. He received this honour during the 6th National Symposium on Gems & Gemstones held in Gwalior on 28th November 2015.

Dr. Goutam Bandyopadhyay has continued to be a consultant for the Godrej industries and the department generates revenue through this activity.

Dr. Bobby Mathew has successfully

bagged a research project funded by the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and the Heras Institute of Indian History and Culture. His work includes investigating the coastal forts of Maharashtra and documenting the ground water conditions in them.

Dr. Hrishikesh Samant continues to be a resource person with the UGC – Human Resource Development Centre, University of Mumbai and also the

HISTORY

History never looks like history when you are living through it

John W. Gardner

What will historians write about these tumultuous times the World lives in? How will History interpret the second decade of the new millennium?

All we can attempt to feature here is a report of the Department of History for the academic year gone by and highlight some of its memorable events.

With an enthusiastic bunch of students, the year 2015-2016 began with congratulations to the History toppers for the graduating batch of 2015 – Joynel Fernandes (History) and Anusha D'Souza (part majors)

The Museum studies class for semester five took in visits to the Heras Institute, the Reserve Bank of India Monetary Museum in June itself. Our study of the CSMVS (formerly Prince of Wales Museum) was made special this year as our very own students Sonali Peres, Nicola Pereira, Sneha Fernandes, Vanessa D'Souza, Stacy D'Mello, Ann Peters acted as guides to the museum galleries. On July 7, 2015, these very student docents took around 100 volunteers of the Physics Olympiad on guided tours of the CSMVS. The class also visited the newly opened gallery on the History of the Mazagoan Dock thanks to the facilitation by Mr. Ninad Phaterphekar, the Bhau Daji Lad Museum (thank you Alisha Sadikot and Syamoylee) and the Archdiocesan Museum at Goregoan that now has Joynel Fernandes as Assistant Director. Fr. Warner D'Souza, Director introduced the group to the special

Editor – Mining & Geology (honorary) – Geospatial World Magazine.

The department also welcomed three of its former students as teachers in a temporary capacity. Ms. Elrida Dsouza, Ms. TejalKadam and Mr. Carlton Nazareth served as members of the staff.

Infrastructure Upgradation

As a part of the infrastructure up-

features of the Museum.

The Department of History of Sophia College invited us to a special lecture by Sr. Anila Verghese on Vijaynagagr Art on September 10, 2015. The very next day, Dr. Usha Iyer Chief Archivist of Cipla Archives talked on Institutional Archives. Our former student Amruta Nemivant gave us a special introduction to the installation of Amar Kanwar's Sovereign Forest at the Max Muller Bhavan in December.

An interesting project this year was initiated by former student Dr. Aniruddha Bose now at St. Francis University, Loretto, PA.U.S.A the purpose of this group was to initiate dialogue between Indian students studying World History at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, and American students studying Indian history at St. Francis. Each week, the groups alternatively would pose a question on social media and respond to it in turns. A face to face dialogue via Skype in the Knowledge centre video lab on December 4, 2015 left students on both continents equally excited. Our thanks to the Knowledge Centre technicians Swapnil and to Prof Tejas who supported this effort.

Mr. Avkash Jadhav was granted leave under the UGC 's Faculty Improvement Programme and Ms. Kaizeen Jehangir took up the teaching workload in his absence. Thanks to her efforts and meticulous planning, a field trip to Elephanta with 98 students (B.Voc Tourism, TYBA, FYBA and students from University of Western Sydney Australia) with SYBA History students acting as guides was carried out. Joachim dos Santos a visiting

graduation, the old under graduate laboratory was renovated and now boasts of two separate laboratories. A separate section for petrological microscopy work with a seating capacity of 25 students was constructed. The research grade petrological microscopes procured from the SRTT grant are being installed in this lab.

Dr. Hrishikesh Samant

Head of Department

Portuguese scholar, talked to the TYBA class on some issues connected with Heritage and Conservation of monuments. On January 30, 2016, the TYBA class fulfilled requirements for the Continuous Internal Assessment in Medieval India under the guidance of Dr. Fleur D'Souza and presented seminar papers at the St. Mary's Villa Khandala.

Feb 29, turned out to be an exciting day in our calendar as we navigated the Neighbourhood of Kalbadevi, Midday photographer in tow... What follows is TY student Sachaet Geeta Mantra Raj's report which featured in the MIDDAY

On Monday morning, while most classrooms in our college were filling up, our class was emptying ours. Today, the streets of Kalbadevi were to be our classroom, its sights and sounds our audio visual aids, its rich heritage and historical past the subjects of our study.

Walking through the bustling streets of Kalbadevi, on our way college every day, we slowly realised that this neighbourhood had a wealth of untold stories that were waiting to be told. Egged on by our professor Dr Fleur D'Souza, the class took up a research project that attempted to excavate some of this history.

As we began to chip away, little nuggets of the neighbourhood's history began to fall in our laps. Kalbadevi was part of the "Native Town", as it was called by the British, the unplanned settlement outside the walls of the fortified colonial city. After the fire that ravaged the fort in 1803, the colonial authorities "encouraged" the proliferation of native tenements outside the fort

walls, and the neighbourhood grew, becoming in the 19th century a collage of architectural styles, and social and ethnic groups. Peopled largely by merchants and businessmen – Parsis, as well as the Hindu and Muslim trading castes – Kalbadevi became the site of a unique, composite culture that gave it an identity distinct from the rest of the colonial city.

Having successfully completed our research, composed of oral histories, primary data collection and extensive reading, we took the streets to share with each other the fruits of our labour. But before this, Jibran Setalvad-Anand gave us a comprehensive overview of the history of the Kalbadevi in the context of the neighbourhood to augment our understanding of the walk, and Sakina Mamuwala told us about the history of one of the communities that played such an indispensable part in the development of the neighbourhood and the city as a whole, the Bohras. Leo Kallery and Omprasad Mahapatra, who studied the sports and trophy shops that litter the area, gave us a rather counterintuitive reason for their proliferation: the complete and utter absence of any such shops in the Presidency in the mid 19th century.

Stop 1: We began at Metro cinema, which, as our classmate Sneha Rego told us, was built by Metro Goldwyn Mayer in 1938 and constructed in the Art Deco style, becoming a landmark for not just luxury but for the city's urban geography.

Stop 2: Taking the subway to the Framji Cowasji Institute, Sachaet told the class about the distinct features of the building that confirmed its classical revival style. The institute stands atop what once was the famous Dhobi Talao that gives the area its name, as is commemorated by a plaque on the southern wall.

Stop 3: We took a break for tea at Kyani's, the century old Irani cafe opposite Framji Cowasji. We used the quaint, unchanged premises to discuss the history of some the neighborhood's other iconic institutions, like Furtados, studied by Sonali Peres and Living Kashugnao, St Xavier's School (Abhilasha Singh) and Kyani's itself (Simran Galipothu and Aroma Khan), whose conversations with the owner

revealed his understanding for the decline of Irani cafes: the rise of beer bars.

Stop 4: Crossing the ride in search of some shade, we settled under a tree, taking up a vantage point that allowed us to marvel at the building that housed Kyani's. Jer Mahal, an exemplar of what is called the "Vernacular" style of architecture, forms with the Framji Cowasji Institute and Metro Cinema a unique triangle: buildings poles apart in style, but almost adjacent physically.

Jer Mahal, as Naomi Fernandes and Vanessa D'Souza found, is home to a unique socio-cultural arrangement: the Goan residential club or Kudd. These clubs provide cheap accommodation to Goan men, but what really makes them unique is their organisational structure, each kudd caters specifically to a particular village in Goa, for example, villages of Assanora and Karnala have clubs in the Mahal, each with its own patron saint, with St Lawrence for Karnala. Only male inhabitants of that village can take up residence in the corresponding kudd.

Stop 5: Priya Beck and Stacey D'Mello took us to a few shops on Dawa Bazaar, one of the first markets of medicine, both homeopathic and allopathic, and traditional, unani and ayurveda, as well as medical equipment. This antiquarian market runs the length of Princess Street, with shops right from Marine Lines to Crawford Market. On the way, Nicola Perreira had us stop at David and Company, the invitation card makers and stockists of religious goods that has draws custom from across the city.

Stop 6: The 99 year old Indian Art Studio stands at the intersection of Princess Street (now Shamaldas Gandhi Marg) and Kalbadevi Road, and is a veritable time machine, with old black and white photos, antique furniture, and a basement photo studio that brings into the same room the newest studio equipment with some of the oldest forms of lighting that are in working and workable condition.

While walking around, Prachi Bhagwat and Shaun D'Souza talked to us about the history of the streets that we tread on, some named after martyrs of the freedom movement like Babu Genu,

others after British Princesses (Princess Street), renamed later after leaders of the struggle in Junagadh (Shamaldas Gandhi).

The building in which Indian Art House stands also has an interesting story to tell, closely linked to the street on which it stands the neighbourhood it inhabits. The plague of 1803 was connected, according to the colonial administration, to the unhygienic, congested living conditions in parts of city, in which Kalbadevi fell. The City Improvement Trust, to decongest the area, demolished the first row of buildings to widen what was to be called Princess Street, constructing a building in the Gothic style to serve as a visual marker, so that future construction would not go further onto the road than the building did. This is perhaps why it stands out so much in the neighbourhood, otherwise dominated by buildings in the vernacular style. However, it would seem as though the directives of the Trust were slowly disregarded over the years, since present day buildings do in fact exceed the limits delineated by the old Gothic construction.

Stop 7: We walked down Kalbadevi road now, stopping periodically at Bhangwadi and Bhatia Mahajanwady (sic) to admire their architectural features, and then at Swadeshi Market, which Deepti Anand and Ann Peter had studied, among the other cotton textile markets in Kalbadevi, namely Mangaldas and Mulji Jetha markets. On the way, we passed the almost indistinct temple that gives Kalbadevi its name and the larger, more architecturally striking, but lesser known Dwarkadhish temple. As Ann was giving us a little lecture on Swadeshi market, she was rudely interrupted by a honking double decker bus, almost tripping over the bales of Surat cloth, cutting short both her presentation and our walkabout.

The state of repair and conservation of the built heritage of the neighbourhood surprised us sometimes, in the case of buildings like the Dwarkadhish temple and the Framji Cowasji Institute, but was quite a rude awakening in some cases, especially Jer Mahal. Some of the most intricately carved wooden balconies and railings on the front face of the building have been taken down,

making most of us fearful for the future survival of the iconic structure.

Kalbadevi, a residential, commercial and cultural hub, is in many ways, the city in microcosm.

The last neighbourhood to be studied was the heritage precinct of Khotachiwadi with Andre Baptista.

Awards: On Oct 1, 2015 Dr. D' Souza was presented with the Thane Gunijan

Award by the Thane Municipal Corporation.

Dr. Fleur D'Souza
Head, Department of History.

LIFE SCIENCE AND BIOCHEMISTRY

The year 2015-16 proved to be eventful for the Department:

Departmental Activities

- A Board of Studies meeting was convened in June 2015. Mr. Shravan Ram and Ms. Lakshmi Hiranandani represented the Life Science-Biochemistry students (3U) while Mr. Aditya Sarma and Ms. Kaveri Vaidya represented the Life Science students (6U).
- Science Orientation for FYBSc Life Science students on 16th July 2015. It was managed by the SY and TYBSc students. Dr. Manasi Kanuga, Dr. Maya Murdeshwar and Dr. Bhaskar Saha were in charge of organization and arrangements.
- TYBSc and MSc farewell was held on 28th Feb. 2016 in the College Hall.
- A small get-together was held on 28th Apr. 2016 for Mr. Haribhau Rambade, who served the Dept. in the capacity of Lab Attendant for 33 years. Mr. Rambade superannuated in April 2016.

Inter-Institutional Collaboration

- Dr. Radhika Tendulkar and Dr. Bhaskar Saha conducted a course on 'Neuro-psychiatric Epidemiology and Developmental Neurobiology' for students from the Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences (CBS), Kalina Campus, Mumbai, Academic Year 2015-16. The course was conducted in the St. Xavier's College premises.

Workshops (for students/teaching faculty/ non-teaching staff)

- DBT-Star College sponsored 'Workshop for Lab Assistants and Lab Attendants' organized jointly with the Department of Microbiology on 24th - 25th June, 2015. The session on 'Handling

and Maintenance of Instruments' was conducted by Mr. Prashant Ratnaparkhi and Ms. Sangeeta Shetty. Dr. Radhika Tendulkar and Dr. Binoj Kutty assisted.

- Young Teachers' Seminar on 'Novel Teaching-Evaluation Strategies' held on 10th Aug. 2015, at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai. Resource persons:
 1. Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta - 'Coloured Sheet Activity' to evaluate students.
 2. Dr. Maya Murdeshwar - 'Kagan Co-operative Learning Techniques'.
- On occasion of 'National Mathematics Day' on 22nd Dec. 2015, a one day workshop on 'Mathematics for Biologists' was organized by Dr. Maya Murdeshwar for post-graduate students of the biology departments of the College. Dr. Shailesh Goregaonkar conducted the workshop which was also attended by students from the Biochemistry Dept. of Sophia College for Women.
- Dr. Manasi Kanuga conducted a 5-day 'Workshop on Biostatistics for faculty' from Biological Sciences between 14th - 19th Mar. 2016 at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai. Faculty from Science Colleges across Mumbai participated in the workshop. Dr. Nandita Mangalore, Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta, Dr. Maya Murdeshwar and Dr. Bhaskar Saha attended the workshop.
- Faculty members / Resource persons on the 'Seminar on Biosafety Measures' conducted jointly by the Department of Microbiology and Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC) on 5th Oct. 2015, at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai:

2. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan - 'Biosafety levels of micro organisms'.
2. Ms. Sangeeta Shetty - 'Safe use of Biological Safety Cabinets'.
3. Dr. Bhaskar Saha - 'Disinfection of Working Space'.
4. Dr. Radiya-Pacha Gupta - 'Microbial Discard and Waste'.

Lectures by External Experts

- Ms. Priyanka Sarcar from Sampurna(E)arth, an NGO working in the field of Solid Waste Management delivered a lecture to TY Environmental Science students (Life Science, Microbiology, Botany, Zoology, Geology) on 4th Jan. 2016. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan organized the lecture.
- Ms. Ishika Ramakrishna, ex-student of the Dept., with wide ranging experience in wildlife biology and conservation delivered lectures to TYBSc 6U students on 'In situ and ex situ conservation' on 7th and 8th Jan, 2016. Dr. Manasi Kanuga coordinated the talks.
- Dr. Jyoti Vora, Head, Dept. of Biochemistry and Food Science & Quality Control, Consultant on Nutraceuticals for Indian and international companies, delivered a lecture on "Nutraceuticals" for MSc (Life Science) students on 18th Jan. 2016. The lecture was organized by Dr. Nandita Mangalore and Dr. Maya Murdeshwar.
- Dr. Rca Godbolé, Director, Medhavin Corporate Consultants, Mumbai, delivered a lecture on 'Intellectual Property Rights and Patent Law' for TYBSc 6U students on 26th Feb. 2016. Dr. Manasi Kanuga organized the talk.

Special Lectures for Awareness amongst Youth [Extension Activities]

- Dr. Radhika Tendulkar coordinated the ICMR-funded

survey on 'Reproductive Health Issues Among Unmarried Youth in Mumbai', conducted by the National Institute for Research In Reproductive Health (NIRRH), Mumbai (Aug.- Dec., 2015). Dr. Manasi Kanuga assisted in the endeavour.

- A lecture by eminent nutritionist and fitness expert Ms. Rujuta Diwekar, was organized on 14th Sep., 2015, in collaboration with the Women's Development Cell, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai. The lecture was attended by over 150 student and staff participants from colleges across Mumbai. It was specially targeted at youth and young ladies following a hectic, unhealthy life to raise awareness of good eating habits and regular exercise in building good health. Dr. Maya Murdeshwar along with Dr. Dionysia Coutinho, Chief Coordinator, WDC, managed the event.
- As part of the TYBSc Environmental Science Applied Component course, a talk on the 'Snowglobe' installation, part of 'The Width of Air' series by artists Dr. Kat F Austen and Dr. Tom O'Dea was organized on 24th Feb. 2016. Dr. Manasi Kanuga and Dr. Binoj Kutty along with Dr. Fleur D'Souza from the Department of History coordinated the event. Students from the Dept. of Life Science and Biochemistry, Botany, Zoology, Physics, Chemistry and Geology attended the lecture. This lecture was conducted to generate awareness and start meaningful discussions about the environment and the changing climatic conditions amongst the young students of the College.

Educational trips

1. Malpani Fertility Clinic, Mumbai, for MSc (Life Sciences) students in June 2015. Dr. Nandita Mangalore accompanied the students.
2. For SY and TYBSc students to Khandala and for MSc students to Nagaon near Alibaug on 10th -11th Jan. 2016.

Sessions conducted at Khandala:

- i. Trekking the Himalayas [Mr. Bhushan Bhagwat]
- ii. Effective Communication [Dr. Bhaskar Saha, Dr. Binoj Kutty]
- iii. Dilemma in Life [Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta, Dr. Priya Sundarrajan]
- iv. Creativity [Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta]

Sessions conducted at Alibaug:

- i. Reef walk – Alibaug beach [Dr. Smita Krishnan]
- ii. Night walk – Nagaon beach [Dr. Smita Krishnan]
- iii. Effective Communication [Dr. Maya Murdeshwar]

Department Magazine

The 4th volume of the Department magazine 'Lignum Vitae' was released in Dec. 2015. The Editorial team comprised of 8 students from the FY, SY and TYBSc. Dr. Maya Murdeshwar and Ms. Sangeeta Shetty were the staff coordinators of the magazine for 2015-16.

Student Achievements

Department Toppers (2014-15)

- BSc 6U Life Science
Ms. Sakshi Negi
- BSc 3U Life Science - Biochemistry
Ms. Aishwarya Acharya
- MSc Life Science (Applied Biomedical Sciences) Ms. Janice D'mello

Awards at Conferences & Seminars

- MSc (2014-15) student Mr. Kshiteej Sode presented the poster at ACTREC, Mumbai on 18th Dec. 2015. He was the only MSc student amongst PhD students at the conference and his work was appreciated and specially mentioned by the keynote speaker Dr. Arnab Ghosh from IISER-Pune. Poster details: Kshiteej Sode, Payal Gupta, Radiya Pacha-Gupta and Seema Das. 'Cadmium-induced Developmental Defects in Chick Embryos and Antioxidant Effects of Green Tea'.

- Mr. Aditya Sarma and Mr. Janakraj Bhattraai won the 1st prize in Science Quiz 'Q & A', and Mr. Shravan Ram and Ms. Samruddhi Chavan won the 2nd prize in 'Water: Elixir of Life – Chai Dhaba' tea-making contest at 'Luminescence', the inter-collegiate festival at Mithibai College, Mumbai on 31st July, 2015.
- MSc –II students participated in "Intelligent Intelligence...?" 2-day lecture series on Forensics Sciences at Jai Hind College, Mumbai, on 16th – 17th Dec. 2015.
- Mr. Aditya Sarma, Ms. Janice Fernandes, Ms. Sue Vanne D'Gama and Ms. Danica Pereira won the 2nd prize at the "Students' Paper Presentation" held at Wilson College, Mumbai, on 16th Feb. 2016, for their research paper titled 'Isolation of magnetotactic bacteria and generation of electricity'.
- Mr. Janakraj Bhattraai presented a paper titled 'Study of circadian rhythm and heavy metal toxicity on *Allium cepa*' at the same event.

Internships

- FYBSc student Mr. Karl Poncha cleared the entrance test and interview and secured a seat Biology Education Programme (Summer Internship Programme) at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bangalore. He is one among only 10 students selected from all over India for the esteemed internship.
- SYBSc students Ms. Judith Evangeline and Ms. Amritha Kalathil secured internships at Lupin Pharmaceuticals and GC Chemie Pharmie Ltd respectively.

International Studies/ Exchange Programmes

- Ms. Nehal Johri was selected for MSc Neuroscience at the International Max Planck Research School, University of Gottingen, Germany.
- Ms. Sanjna Malpani was selected for a MS in Environment Management course at Yale University, USA.
- Ms. Ishika Ramakrishna joined

Kent University, UK for MS in Environment Conservation course.

- Mr. Shravan Ram (TYBSc 3U) selected for a 1 year program with full scholarship at Carlton University, Canada.
- Mr. Rajas Shinde (TYBSc 6U) selected for a 2 month internship at the University of Dundee, Scotland.
- Ms. Ananya Agnihotri (SYBSc) selected for a 1 year program with tuition waiver at St. Louis University, USA.
- Ms. Mallica Pandya (SYBSc) selected for a 1 year program with tuition waiver at Daegu Haany, South Korea.

Student Research Projects - UG

- SYBSc, S.LSC.4.02, Molecular Biology, 38 students
- TYBSc, S.LSC.5.02, Developmental Biology, 41 students
- TYBSc, S.LSC.6.04 Environmental Biology 19 students
- TYBSc, S.BCH.6.01 & 6.02 Biochemistry 70 students
- FYBSc, Honours projects 29 students
- SYBSc, Honours projects 22 students

Student Research Projects - PG

MSc Research projects 13 students

Extra-curricular and Extension Activities

Several undergraduate formed part of the organizing committee of Malhar, Indian Music Group, Antarchakshu, Ithaka, Antas, Paradigm. All undergraduate students of the department were involved in the Social Involvement Programme of the college.

Faculty Achievements

- Mr. Prashant Ratnaparkhi was promoted to Associate Professor (Stage 4) from Asst. Professor (Stage 3).

Awards

- **International Level:** Ms. Sangeeta Shetty was awarded

the Best Oral Presentation award for the talk on 'Study of Cellulolytic Extremophiles' at the 3rd International Conference on Biotechnology & Bioinformatics (ICBB-2016) organized by ICSCCB between 5th – 7th Feb. 2016, at Pune.

- **State Level:** Mr. Prashant Ratnaparkhi won the 1st Runner Up award at the 9th Annual Conference of the Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India (RSSDI), Maharashtra Chapter, between 1st – 3rd May 2015 at Pune. His award-winning poster was titled: 'Important Biomolecular Markers for Type2 Diabetes Patients in Western Region of India.'

Conferences & Seminars

Oral Presentations

- Ratnaparkhi Prashant S., on 'A Small Step... but surely a Big Leap!' at the Two day National Conference on "Energy Audit in Educational Institutions" organized by the Dept. of Life Sciences, KC College, Mumbai on 7th – 8th Jan. 2016.

Poster Presentations

- Fr. Dr. Roy Pereira and Dr Radiya Pacha Gupta. 'Will Technology Evolve a New Way of Thinking' at the 3rd International Conference on "Cognition, Brain and Computation", IIT Gandhinagar, Dec 5- 7th, 2015.
- Sundarrajan Priya, Shetty Sangeeta and Shigvan A. 'Screening and Characterization of Bioethanol Producing Yeast' at the International Conference on Climate Change and Sustainability, 2015' at Thakur College of Science and Commerce, Mumbai, 21st – 23rd Dec. 2015.

Participation

- Dr. Priya Sundarrajan and Ms. Sangeeta Shetty participated in the 'Training of Trainers on Communicating Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Conservation and Management through Media using Participatory Methods of Training for Effective Content Delivery' conducted by GIZ, held at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous),

Mumbai between 16th – 17th June, 2015.

- Dr. Priya Sundarrajan and Dr. Binoj Kutty participated in the one day conference on 'Biomarkers for Radiation Exposure & Cancer' held on 1st Aug., 2015, organized by Department of Biotechnology, University of Mumbai in association with Biomarkers International Group.
- Dr. Bhaskar Saha and Dr. Maya Murdeshwar attended the 'National Conference on Creative Writing in Science for Children' organized by the National Centre for Science Communicators (NCSC) and Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE) held between 3rd – 4th Oct., 2015, at Mumbai.
- Dr. Nandita Mangalore, Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta, Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Dr. Manasi Kanuga and Dr. Binoj Kutty participated in the Knowledge Café on 'Trends and opportunities for multidisciplinary and cross-sector research in Coastal and Marine Ecosystems' jointly organized by GIZ, Germany and the Caius Research Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Research, on 12th Mar. 2016, at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai.
- Ms. Sangeeta Shetty was nominated to attend the "Newton Bhabha STEM Teacher Training Workshops" at IISER, Pune held between 10th – 12th March, 2016.
- Dr. Seema Das and Dr. Priya Sundarrajan attended the Harvard College in Asia Program (HCAP) held between 14th -16th Mar. 2016 at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai. Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta is the Convenor.
- All faculty members participated in the 'Seminar on Biosafety Measures' conducted by the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC) and the Caius research laboratory for Interdisciplinary Research on 5th Oct. 2015, at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai.
- Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta participated in the Mr.X lecture sessions at Paradigm 2016.

Grants

Name of Investigator	Title of the project	Amount sanctioned	Funding agencies
Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta	Conservation Biology: A Study of the Microbial Biomass on the Heritage Buildings of South Mumbai and the Heras Museum artifacts of St. Xavier's College	Rs.1,00,000/-	Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (Heras-Tata one-year Postdoctoral Fellowship)
Dr. Seema Das	Effect of bioaccumulation of heavy metals on growth, oxidative stress and DNA damage in Zebra fish	Rs.4,20,000/-	UGC – Minor Research Grant
Dr. Priya Sundarrajan	Isolation and screening for novel ethanol producers from various sources and their characterization	Rs.4,80,000/-	UGC – Minor Research Grant
Ms. Sangeeta Shetty	Potential of soil microbes to inhibit biofilm formation in plant pathogens.	Rs.28,000/-	Mumbai University Teacher's Grant
Dr. Radhika Tendulkar	Morphometric and electrophoretic evaluation of lead (Pb) toxicity in embryonic zebrafish.	Rs.26,000/-	Mumbai University Teacher's Grant

Faculty Development Programmes

- Orientation Programme - Dr. Radhika Tendulkar, Dr. Maya Murdeshwar.
- Refresher Course - Dr. Seema Das.
- Short Term Course - Dr. Seema Das, Ms. Sangeeta Shetty.
- St. Xavier's College 'Young Teacher's Seminars' - Dr. Manasi Kanuga, Dr. Maya Murdeshwar, Dr. Binoj Kutty, and Dr. Bhaskar Saha, Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta.
- All staff members attended Faculty Improvement Programmes conducted by the College, including the session on 'Critical Thinking and Enquiry-based Education Pedagogy' by Prof. Mohanan K. P., IISER-Pune, on 17th Mar. 2016.

Faculty as Coordinators

- Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta continued as Director of the Council of International Programs and as Coordinator for Diploma in Clinical Research.
- Dr. Priya Sundarrajan continued as Director, Caius Research Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Research.
- Mr. Prashant Ratnaparkhi continued as Chairman of the Staff Council.

Faculty as Guest Lecturers/ Visiting Faculty/ Resource Persons/ Judges

- Dr. Nandita Mangalore. Resource person for lectures on 'Student Evaluation Strategies' at the Orientation Programmes held in Aug. and Nov. 2015 at the UGC-HRDC, University of Mumbai, Mumbai.
- Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta. Resource person for lecture 'From Chalk and Talk to Engaged Learning' for the IQAC Seminar on 'Participatory Learning' at College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai, on 21st Dec. 2015.
- Dr. Seema Das. Judge for the 8th Inter Collegiate Research Scholars Meet – 'Jigyasa' - organized by K. C. College, Mumbai, on 9th Jan., 2016.
- Dr. Priya Sundarrajan: 1. Judge for the poster competition at the 6th Konark Research meet organized by the Department of Microbiology and Biotechnology, Wilson College, Mumbai, on 15th Jan., 2016.
- Resource person for lecture on 'Principles and techniques of different analytical methods used for research purpose' for PG students of Foods, Nutrition and Dietetics students at Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science, Mumbai on 1st Feb. 2016.
- 3. Resource person for lecture on

'Qualitative Research' for PG and PhD students of Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science, Mumbai on 25th Apr. 2016.

- Dr. Radhika Tendulkar. 1. Visiting Faculty, Dept of Life Sciences, Sophia College, MSc Neurobiology. 2. Resource person for 'Jigyasa' Honours Programme students from Life Sciences, Chemistry and Physics disciplines on 'How to Write a Research Paper' on 23rd Dec. 2015, at KC College, Mumbai.
- Dr. Manasi Kanuga. Resource person for the short course on 'Biostatistics' for PG students at NIRRH, Mumbai, and at Ramnarain Ruia College, Mumbai.
- Dr. Maya Murdeshwar. 1. Resource person for 'Jigyasa' Honours Programme students from Life Sciences, Chemistry and Physics disciplines on 'How to Write a Research Paper' on 23rd Dec. 2015, at KC College, Mumbai.
- Resource person for lecture on 'Research Writing' for PG and PhD students of Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science, Mumbai on 25th Apr. 2016.
- Dr. Binoj Kutty. Guest lecturer – 1. 'Protein Secondary Structure' for MSc Biotechnology Sem-I, 2. 'Bioprocess and Applied Biotechnology' for MSc Biotechnology Sem-III from June to Sep., 2015,

- 'X-ray crystallography' for MSc Biotechnology, Sem II students at Pillai College of Arts, Commerce and Science, New Panvel, Navi Mumbai, in Jan 2016.
- Invited speaker for a seminar on the topic "Antibiotic production" organized as a part of intercollegiate department festival "EMINANCE 2016" of Kirti M Doongursee College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai on 19th Jan. 2016
- Judge for 'Consortia', a one day intercollegiate Biotechnology festival organized by Department of Biotechnology, Pillai College of Arts, Commerce and Science, New

Panvel on 16th Jan, 2016.

- Dr. Bhaskar Saha. 1. Invited lecture on 'Adult Neurogenesis and Neurodegeneration: Is Our Brain Self Sufficient?' at the Department of Computational Biology, Institute of Mathematical Science, Chennai on Sep. 2015 ,15.
- Taught the Developmental Biology course to 7th semester students at Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences (UM-DAE), Kalina between Aug. to Nov., 2015.
- Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Dr. Radhika Tendulkar, Dr. Manasi Kanuga and Dr. Maya Murdeshwar were invited to deliver lectures on

Environmental Science, Hormones and Health and Innovations in Life Sciences to the BMS and BVoc students in the College.

Alumni Achievements

- Dr. Vidita Vaidya, Associate Professor, TIFR, Mumbai and Senior Overseas Research Fellow of the Wellcome Trust was awarded the prestigious Shantiswaroop Bhatnagar Award 2015 for Science and Technology for Medical Sciences. She is an alumnus of the BSc Life Science –Biochemistry programme of the Department.

Dr. Nandita Mangalore
Head of Department

MATHEMATICS



The year 2015-16 was a very successful academic year full of achievements for the Mathematics department. Also, the department got a big blow when, in the month of October, prof. Aditya Garg had to undergo an emergency brain surgery to remove a blood clot. He has recovered remarkably since then.

Número Uno, a well known Mathematics festival of H. R College was conducted on the 21st and 22nd of August this year. Our college team consisting two TYBSc. students, Taher Habib and Shivam Agarwal, got the first position in the Classic Quiz

competition and got a Trophy for the same. The team from SYBSc. consisting of Devanshi Mittal and Sulaiman Qizilbash stood second in the event Monopolium Mathematica. Adway Gupta from SYBSc. were selected for a 4 week summer school MTTTS to be conducted in May - June 2016.

Prof. Aditya Garg conducted a "Problem of the Week" activity, in which he proposed new problems on the Mathematics notice board and gave prize for the best solution. This activity received enthusiastic response from the students. He also conducted classes for

improving Mathematical aptitude of the students and to help them perform well at various entrance examinations.

Prof. Bingi Participated in a 6-day workshop, titled "Basic Course in Algebra & Analysis" conducted and held by the Department of Mathematics, University of Mumbai, during the 14th and 19th of December-2015. He gave a guest lecture on "Linear Transformations and its Applications" in Changu Kana Thakur arts, commerce and science College, New Panvel, for celebration of National Mathematics Day on 22nd December 2015.

On 29th August 2015 Prof. Mangala Gurjar was invited by the Mathematics department of S. P. College, Pune as a chief guest for prize distribution and to deliver the Hardikar Memorial lecture titled "Mathematics, Useful and Delightful". On 6th January 2016 she was invited to Pillai College, Panvel to give a lecture on "Applications of Mathematics". On 9th January 2016 Prof. Mangala Gurjar was invited as a resource person in a state level seminar on "Exploring Effective Pedagogies in Mathematics" by Modern College, Ganeshkhind, Pune.

Prof. Mangala Gurjar continued to work as coordinator for the Madhava Mathematics competition in its 6th year. It is a national level competition funded



by NBHM. This year, it was conducted in HBCSE on 13th December. Many of our students participated in it.

The Mathematics department got a grant of Rs. 11 lakhs from DST for starting a separate computer laboratory equipped with Mathematical software.

On 12th and 13th Feb. Mathematics department celebrated its first ever Mathematics festival, "Axiom". It started with a session on fast computation

using "Vedic Mathematics" by Mr. Tekadiwal. This was followed by a panel discussion at 2.30 by some eminent professors of TIFR; Prof. Nitin Nitsure from the Mathematics Department, Prof. Gautam Mandal from the Physics Department and prof. Paritosh Pandya from the Computer Science Department. The topic was "Effectiveness of Mathematics in different fields". It was a very nice event giving the students deeper insight about the study of Mathematics by scientists in diverse fields.

On 13th Feb, there were lectures by Prof. Anish Ghosh of TIFR and Professor Jayadev Athreya from the University of Washington followed by the release of our Department Magazine "Proof". Same day Prof. Sharada Devi staged a play "Crest of Peacock" in the hall. There were also games, quizzes and workshops on Origami by Mimansa Vahia. Mathematics Festival "Axiom" was an enjoyable as well as academically enriching experience for the students.

On 9th March, Mangala Gurjar, Simi Cyriac and Ashok Bingi took the TY

students to TIFR for a visit. Prof. Ravi Rao of TIFR was very kind to spend his time to show them around and answer their questions.

During 10th and 16th April, Prof. Mangala Gurjar went as Observer with a team of two Indian girls for the European Girls' Mathematical Olympiad (EGMO) held in Busteni, Romania. In all, 119 girls from 39 countries participated in this prestigious world event. Ms. Uma Tirunellai from Coimbatore and Ms. Haimoshri Das from West Bengal represented our country. Ms. Uma Tirunellai received a Bronze medal. Participation in EGMO, we hope, would provide some motivation and encouragement to girls for participating in Olympiad competitions. In last 25 years only four girls represented India in IMO.

We thank prof. Dhvanita Rao for teaching Algebra to our T.Y. students during prof. Meenal's leave. We wish a speedy recovery for Prof. Aditya Garg and hope that he will be back soon.

Dr. Mangla Gujar
Head of Department

MICROBIOLOGY

The academic year started with the Graduation Ceremony where all our high performing MSc and BSc students received their certificates. Fatema Bharmal was the topper amongst our MSc students and Deepanjali Francis amongst our TY students.

Dr. Ms. Aparna Talekar delivered a healthy baby girl in January and Ms. Ruchi Nauwar was her leave replacement in the department. Our faculty Ms. Karuna Gokarn continued her FIP leave.

The department staff and students followed Mahatma Gandhi's quote, 'Be the change you want to see' and engaged themselves in several activities.

Department Activities

A. **Water Potability** SY students analysed the potability of drinking water of the college on a monthly basis (Microbiological analysis)

B. **Industrial Visits** to Research Institutes and Microbiology related industries and Units

- o ACTREC: TY students: 4th December
- o Bhandup Water Purification Plant : SY students :20th January, 2016
- o Green Gold Seeds, Grainotch Brewery, Fortune Pharma Aurangabad: MSc students: 15th -18th February, 2016

C. **Student External Projects/ Internships/ Summer Programmes**

- o Our MSc II Students completed four month external projects in renowned institutes like BARC, NIRRH, ACTREC, NIO
- o Approximately two thirds of the Third Year students

completed their summer programmes between their SY and TY, egs. Charpak Research Internship Scholar Program, France, VSRP: TIFR, IIT, Serum Institute of India, Ltd, Pune, Bacteriology Lab, AIMS, Delhi, Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Nashik, Quality Assurance Lab, TAJ SATS Air Catering

- o 10% of the Second Year students also completed various external Microbiology related programmes in the summer between their First and Second year.

D. **Honour's Programme**

The department programme was co-ordinated by Ms. Sangeetha Chavan

E. **Annual Department Exhibition** 'MICRO STREET 27'

CLASS	ACTIVITY	GUIDING TEACHER
FYBSc.	<p>1. Workshop on Plasmid isolation Students were given hands on training in basic techniques in molecular biology-Isolation of plasmids and agarose gel electrophoresis</p> <p>2. Workshop on Antibacterial effects of plants, herbs and spices Students studied the antibacterial effects of aloe vera, clove, onion, garlic, ginger, pepper, cumin, turmeric, capsicum, fennel, cinnamon using ditch plate , agar cup , disc plate technique</p>	Sangeetha Chavan Miriam Stewart
SYBSc	<p>Workshop- Animal tissue culture Students were trained in basic animal tissue culture technique. Students were taught maintenance of cell cultures, viability staining, propidium iodide staining and MTT assay.</p>	Dr.Pampi Chakraborty
TYBSc	<p>1. Project- Students learnt the PCR technique and used it to identify bacterial cultures using 16SrRNA gene amplification</p> <p>2. Lecture series-IPR</p>	Sangeetha Chavan Dr.Biswa Prasun Chatterjee

Second Year Student groups exhibited microbial Biotechnology aspects in various fields on 7th and 8th of July, 2015. The target audience was the Incoming FY batch and as usual served as both, an introduction to the varied advances in Microbiology, and a welcome into the Microbiology department. A new feature - students of Class X of the neighbouring St. Xavier's School also visited the exhibition

F. **UMAX** (Undergraduate Microbiology Association of Xavier's) organized :

- o **Khandala Seminar:** Annual seminar at the Human Resource centre of the college where SY and TY students presented their student research 14th & 15th Feb, 2016
- o **MICRO DAY:** An annual Academic celebration held on 16th September with the release of the Department magazine Michronicle
- o **MSc and TY farewell**

G. **Guest Lectures**

- o Dr. James Jenkins, Associate Dean, School of Medical Sciences, University of Hertfordshire, UK 'Understanding Government Responses to Water Problems' 13th July, 2015
- o Dr. Ross Barnard, Biotechnology Program

Director, University of Queensland, Australia 'Research in Antibody Engineering', 28th August 2015

Additional Faculty Achievements

The entire faculty attended the college faculty seminars on "Quality Enhancement" on 1st October, 2015 and "Autonomy in Review" on 13th January, 2016.

A. **Biosafety** : The Department of Microbiology conducted a number of activities to increase the awareness of Biosafety practices in the college

- o The Departments of Microbiology and Life Science & Biochemistry jointly organized a workshop for the lab assistants and lab attendants of all the Bioscience departments of our college. The workshop was held in two halves:

- Wednesday, 24th June – Biosafety practices, Dept. of Microbiology 1.30 – 3.30pm
- Thursday, 25th June – Handling and Maintenance of Instruments, Dept. of Life Science & Biochemistry 1.30 – 3.30pm

The workshop was sponsored by the DBT Star College programme

- o A sharing session was organized

by the department where all the faculty members of the college who had submitted proposals involving work with microorganisms made short presentations on different aspects of Biosafety practices. Nine presentations were made. This session was conducted on 5th October, 2015 from 2pm to 4.30pm in SCAVI.

The department faculty who made presentations were:

- Working with the autoclave: Ms. Sangeetha Chavan
- Working with pathogens: Ms. Karuna Gokarn.

- o A draft of a manual of Biosafety rules was prepared by the joint efforts of all the members of the department. This was passed by the Institutional Biosafety Committee of the college.

B. **Dr. Ms. Vivien Amonkar**

- o Resource Person
 - 2 sessions 'Curriculum design and development' and 'Innovative Evaluation methods' 'Faculty Development Programme' organized by the IQAC, VVM's Shree Damodar College of Commerce and Economics, Margao -Goa, 7th October, 2015
 - 'Autonomy' Teacher's Academic Forum' Jai Hind College 21st January, 2016
 - 'Best Practices in Curricular

Aspects', NAAC Sponsored National Seminar on 'Best Practices in College and academic administration' Dapoli Urban Bank Senior Science College, Dapoli 22nd -23rd April 2016.

- Session on Autonomy at the college faculty seminar "Autonomy in Review" on 13th January, 2016.
- 'Review of how St. Xavier's College achieved the Autonomous Status' 2015-2016 Fulbright – Nehru International Education Administrators Seminar organized by St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai 12th March 2016
- o Member of the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Journal of Microbiology & Biology Education (JMBE) Editorial Board as reviewer
- o Member of the LCRD (Loyola Centre for Research and Development) Research Advisory Board, Ahmedabad
- o Member of the IQAC of College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai
- o Participated in Knowledge Café on Trends and opportunities for multidisciplinary and cross sector research in coastal and marine ecosystems organized by CMPA project, GIZ, India and Caius Research Laboratory, St. Xavier's College in March 2016
- o Member of the Management Board and Academic Council of St. Xavier's College Autonomous
- o Member of the College Faculty Committees: Custodians of Question Papers and the Institutional Biosafety Committee.
- o Guided an M.Sc student project (Home Science) in Food Processing and Preservation, College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan

C. Ms. Miriam Stewart

- o Attended
 - Workshop on ISO 22000:2005 for the "Bakery and Confectionery Sector" organized by TUV INDIA –

TUV NORD GROUP on 27th-28th May 2015

- 'Workshop on *Biostatistics*' held by Dept. of Life Sciences and Biochemistry, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai on 14th to 19th March, 2016
- Two day National conference organized by Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science and Commerce, GTB Nagar, Mumbai, on 'Fungal Diversity and their Applications' in association with Mycological Society of India, on December 11th and 12th, 2015
- Multi-Disciplinary International Conference on "Science, Sustainability And Society In The Current Scenario: Challenges And Opportunities" organized by Vikas College of Arts, Science & Commerce on 20th February, 2016
- Short term course Teachers on Research Methodology in Basic Sciences conducted for the UGC HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, University of Mumbai -by Ramniranjan Jhunjhunwala College, Ghatkopar -West from December 14 -19, 2015.
- o Convener of Infrastructure Committee of the College

D. Ms. Sangeetha Chavan

- o Attended
 - 'Workshop on *Biostatistics*' held by Dept. of Life Sciences and Biochemistry, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai on 14th to 19th March, 2016.
 - Workshop on "Biosafety Regulations in Laboratory and Research" organized by the Caius Research Laboratory on the 5th of October, 2015.
- o Member of the College Library Advisory Committee

E. Dr. Ms. Aparna Talekar

- o Attended
 - Young Teacher's seminar on "Ethos and Teaching- Learning Experience in Xavier's on 10th

August, 2015.

- Young Teacher's seminar on "5 Habits of Highly Successful Teachers" in Xavier's on 9th September, 2015.
- Young Teacher's seminar on "Effective Communication" in Xavier's on 9th December, 2015.

F. Dr. Ms. Pampi Chakraborty

- o Attended
 - 'Workshop on *Biostatistics*' held by Dept. of Life Sciences and Biochemistry, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai on 14th to 19th March, 2016.
 - Conference on "New frontiers in Microbiology and Applied Biology" organized by Department of Microbiology, St. Xaviers college, Mapusa, Goa, on 7th and 8th January, 2016.
 - Young Teacher's seminar on "Ethos and Teaching- Learning Experience in Xavier's on 10th August, 2015.
 - Young Teacher's seminar on "5 Habits of Highly Successful Teachers" in Xavier's on 9th September, 2015.
 - Young Teacher's seminar on "Effective Communication" in Xavier's on 9th December, 2015.
 - Young Teacher's seminar on "Educational Pedagogies: Experiments in inquiry based learning" Xavier's on 27th January, 2016.

G. Shilpa Verekar

- o Attended
 - Faculty Workshop on "Application of Bioinformatics in Biological Sciences" at P.G. Department of Biotechnology, St. Xavier's College from 10-11th July 2015.
 - Asian Mycological Congress 2015, Department of Botany, Goa University, 7 – 10th October 2015.
 - National Conference on "Fungal Diversity and their

Applications” in Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai on 11th and 12th December 2015.

- Young Teacher’s seminar on “Ethos and Teaching- Learning Experience in Xavier’s on 10th August, 2015.

- Young Teacher’s seminar on “5 Habits of Highly Successful Teachers” in Xavier’s on 9th September, 2015.
- Young Teacher’s seminar on “Effective Communication” in Xavier’s on 9th December, 2015.

- Young Teacher’s seminar on “Educational Pedagogies: Experiments in inquiry based learning” Xavier’s on 27th January, 2016.

All’s well that ends well!

Dr. Ms. Vivien Amonkar
Head of Department

MASTERS IN PUBLIC POLICY

The Masters in Public Policy program aims to create public policy analysts trained to solve real world problems. It’s a constant endeavour of the department to get external experts from the field of academics, government and NGOs. We also have a program where students can earn a certificate on attending extra elective courses and presenting a written paper.

Some examples of the student enrichment programs conducted in college:

A lecture by Dr Vivek Srinivasan of Stanford University on ‘Combating Corruption with Mobile Phones’.

A lecture by Dr. Jagadeesh Gokhale of the Wharton School Public Policy Initiative on ‘Social Security Benefits’.

A lecture by Environmentalist Mr. Rishi Agarwal on Climate Change.

A seminar by Dr. Keerti Nakray of the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy on ‘Social Science Research Ethics’.

A lecture by Mr. Mahendra Birhade from Indian Railways on ‘Urban Transportation’.

Workshop on Narratives of Conflict conducted by ‘Lit Live’.

Workshop on ‘Access is Empowerment’ conducted by CSR in association with Facebook.

Visit to the Canadian Consulate as part of a project on Foreign Policy.

Interaction of students with Debi Goenka of CAT, Stalin of Vanashakti and Sumaira Abdulali of Avaz Foundation as a part of a study of the role played by NGOs in influencing



A lecture by Dr. Jagadeesh Gokhale of the Wharton School Public Policy Initiative on ‘Social Security, Benefits’. Head- Department of Public Policy

Public Policy.

Student Activities

Centre for Social Research, an organisation working on women’s issues selected Ms Hammah Mistry to represent the youth of India at a conference on ‘Ensuring Women’s Equal Participation in the Cyber Revolution’ during the 60th Commission on the Status of Women in New York on 15th March, 2016 at the UN headquarters.

Students attended Policy Conclave 2015 on September 19, 2015 at the Convocation Hall of the University of Mumbai, organised by The Debating and Literary Society, Government Law College.

Students participated in a debate competition on ‘Should Skill training be mandatory at school level?’, on September 22, 2015 at Bombay Stock Exchange Institute Limited, Mumbai. Aprajita Sharma and Harnidh Kaur from MPP won this debate.

Students attended BSE Institute Conclave 2016 on January 06 and 07, 2016, at the Bombay Stock Exchange Institute Limited, Mumbai. The following students bagged various positions

Students participated in Paradigm 2016 organised by the Science Department at St. Xavier’s College, Surbhi Bhatia and Nishant Gilatar won 1st prize in the event ‘Optimus Crime’.

Achievements

Harnidh Kaur gave a Talk at Social Responsibility Forum, NMIMS, on LGBTQ rights. 16th October 2015

Harnidh Kaur : Won 25 Under 25 organized by Campus Diaries, and attended a weekend of networking and workshops by industry experts, under the Writing Category from 12-14 March, 2016.

Manasi Koshyari is teaching English and Social Science to 50 eighth graders in Dharavi Transit Camp English Medium School, Mumbai as a part of the Teach for India Fellowship.

Purnima Khandelwal has been selected for The Legislative Assistants to Members of Parliament (LAMP) Fellowship. The LAMP Fellows work full time with the assigned MP, from the beginning of the Monsoon session to the end of the Budget session of Parliament.

The students of the batch 2015-17 interned at NABARD, NIPFP Delhi,

Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, TISS, Gateway House, North East Initiative, Rescue Foundation, State Commission for Women, Jharkhand etc.

We are proud of the fact that a majority of our alumni are either working or continuing their education after two years of constructive engagement in class as well as internships. We look forward to strengthening the program with the cooperation of our students, alumni and other departments of the College.

Dr. (Fr) Arun D'Souza S.J.
Head of Department



Student's interaction with Mr. Stalin of Vanashakti.

PHYSICS



The year 2015-16 started with a great surprise and hence more enthusiasm for all the teachers of the department. This is because compared to previous year the enrollment in SY and TY classes had gone to much higher level. As our regular custom, we started the year with an exhibition displaying demonstration based on Physics concepts. Mr. Rajesh Singh managed the exhibition with the help of SY and TY students. This year for the first time we used the corridor along with the physics labs to display the exhibition.

We introduced new methods of learning for students where in, for all the theory courses from FY to TY as soon as teacher started with a specific unit in a class, students were given a set of problems/questions as take home assignments based on that unit. A deadline was given for the submission

of each assignment. All those who submitted assignments on time were given two marks per assignment in CIA-2. CIA-1 and CIA-2 exams were partially based on the assignments. It was observed in ESE that student's ability for solving problems and tackling application based questions was greatly improved. This also improved the passing percentage of students in CIA as well as ESE. At TY level, all the students were given a list of concepts to verify/learn through designing and performing home experiments with kit provided by us. This work was examined as a part of practical CIA.

Dr. Bodhane was a member of the experimental board for 46th International Physics Olympiad held in Mumbai during July 05-12, 2015. Dr. Vedesankari worked as a visiting faculty for PG courses in B. N. Bandodkar

college, Thane. Mr. Ajay Yadav and Dr. Radhekrishna Dubey attended Physics Exposure Camp, during 30th November to 3rd December 2015 at Homi Bhabha Center for Science Education (TIFR), Mumbai. The department magazine 'Celeritas' was published under the guidance of Mr. Rajesh Singh.

A One day Seminar cum workshop 'Drishyam' based on 'Digital Image Processing' was arranged by the department which was coordinated by Mr. Rajesh Singh.

Forty students of Physics were sent to attend a two day residential workshop on astronomy organized by TIFR. SY students participated in a one day workshop on Thermodynamics at HBCSE. Twenty FY students were taken to BARC as a part of international science day celebrations. TY students were taken to Khandala for two day workshop. The year ended with a live video conference with Dr. Paul Steinhardt, the Albert Einstein professor of Theoretical Physics at Princeton University, organized by 'physics circle' where students asked questions related to their understanding of 'Eternal Inflation and its merits'.

Dr. Shyamala Bodhane
Head of Department

POLITICAL SCIENCE

1) Khandala Seminar – Presentations

The Third Year CIA 2 on Issues in Indian Politics, was conducted between 20th -22nd August 2015 at the Xavier's Villa in Khandala. The class of 53 students was accompanied by Dr. Pratiba Naitthani and Prof. Shazia Sheikh.

The Class presented on various issues right from Rights of Marginalized sections of the Indian society; women, children, tribal's, Dalits to Right to Education. The time at Khandala not only made the presentations more efficient and detailed due to the abundance of time on hand but also facilitated class bonding amongst students.

2) United Nations: An Insider's Perspective- Mr Kishore Mandhyan

Mr Kishore Mandhyan former Deputy Director in the cabinet and Political Advisor to the United Nations' Secretary General, delivered a talk on 4th September 2015 on "United Nations: An Insider's Perspective", with a participation of over a 120 students.

Mr. Mandhyan engaged the students in the depths of the structure and actual functioning of the United Nations. He also gave personal anecdotes of his journey to the United Nations and was inspiring for many students hoping to pursue their career in International Relations.

3) India and the United Nations Security Council

The Xavier's Political Science Association in partnership with

Gateway House conducted a discussion on 'India and the United Nations Security Council' by the Executive Director of Gateway House Ms. Neelam Deo, former diplomat and Ambassador.

The discussion explored the future potential of India's desire for a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council. At the same time talked about the need for structural changes that were needed in the Security Council and the rise of parallel regional organizations as a result.

4) Field Visit to Drought affected Latur, Marathwada

Following the discussion with MLC Vidya tai Chavan at the Vidhan Sabha, 14 students from TYBA along with Dr. Pratiba Naitthani visited the villages of Latur, Marathwada on 12-13th September 2015. The students were exposed to the ground realities of absolute poverty and unemployment of the farmers. By visiting various villages the students got firsthand information on the problems of acute water scarcity and the drought in Marathwada. Besides water scarcity, lack of employment and failure of government schemes and initiatives also were clear to the students.

To take further action the students have decided to help raise funds for the building of Percolation Tanks which could be a scientific and efficient solution to water depletion, attempt to initiate setup of small scale businesses and industries, to generate employment and independence in the landless laborers and to take some action by

filing reports and petition regarding the ill effects of growing sugarcane, sugarcane factories lobbies and the recognition of drought prone status, to the concerned ministries.

5) Participant college to organize lecture series

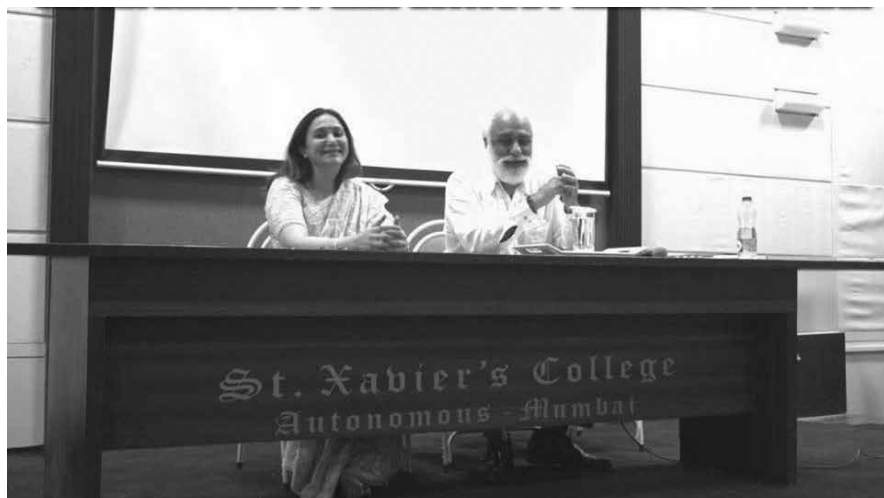
The Department of Philosophy in collaboration with the Max Mueller Bhavan organised a Lecture Series on the German Intellectual Tradition from August 22, 2015 onwards till end of the academic year. The Department of Political Science is one of the participant colleges sending the students regularly to attend the lecture series.

6) Goolam Essaji Vahanvati Annual Memorial Lecture Series by Zia Modi

From this year the department started the Goolam Essaji Vahanvati Annual Memorial Lecture Series, in memory of the former Attorney General of India, Mr Goolam Vahanvati, an alumnus of St Xavier's College, Dept of Political Science. The inaugural lecture was by Ms. Zia Mody, Advocate and Managing Partner of India's Largest Law firm, AZB & Partners, was held on 27th November 2015. She spoke on 'The Protection of the Constitution and the Qualities of a Young Professional'. The inspirational talk was attended by students from various departments in the college Hall.

7) Inter-College Youth Parliament 2016

The Inter-College Youth Parliament was our flagship event, bigger than ever, as it saw the participation of over 10 colleges across Mumbai. It was held on 9th and 10th February 2016. It emulated the functioning of the Indian Parliament and gave the participants a unique chance to be able to empower themselves and present their views on pressing matters. The Agenda 'National Security: Terrorism and Cyber Security' allowed participants to even present creative legislative solutions on matters of national importance like Terrorism. It saw the engaging participation of students across various faculties and was graced by Mr. Kishor Mandhyan (Former Political Advisor to the





Committee members with Prakash Ambedkar

Secretary General of United Nations), as the speaker for the two days.

8) Essay writing competition

The department organized a National level essay writing competition with the theme; "World Peace- A Dream?" This nationwide competition for college students across all streams received very good essays from about 40 participants, cash prizes and certificates of merit were awarded to the winners.

9) 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar- Advocate Prakash Ambedkar

To commemorate the 125th Birth Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. B R

Ambedkar, we were honored to have a talk in his memory by none other than his grandson, Advocate Prakash Ambedkar. This event was held on 25th February 2016. The talk received overwhelming response from the students. Mr. Ambedkar explored the political and sociological views of Dr. B R Ambedkar, followed by which he engaged the crowd in a discussion on the same.

This was one of the highlights of our activities in the academic year 2015-2016. We were happy to end our activities for the year, with such a wide and overwhelming participation from the Xaviers student body and an

enthusiastic participation from various other Mumbai colleges.

The department also had a very successful publication of the magazine "Samvad". The theme of **Samvad** for this year was "State of the State". There were a significant number of articles and research papers submitted by the students of a very good quality. The highlight of the magazine was the interviews of three very prominent personalities, namely Mr Gopal Subramaniam- former Solicitor General of India, Dr. Ranjana Kumari-Director- Centre for Social Research, New Delhi and Dr. Suman Sahai-Founding Director of Gene Campaign, New Delhi. The interviews of these three personalities were inspiring and thought provoking.

It has been a fruitful year for the Political Science Dept. and this would not have been possible without the ever enthusiastic and hard working team of the XPSA and Samvad supported by the committee members from TY, SY and FY BA and Ms Shazia Sheikh who has been very actively involved in our activities. The department is grateful for the arching support of our principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes and looks forward to another fruitful year.

Dr. Pratiba Naitthani
Head- Dept of Political Science

PSYCHOLOGY

The Psychology department has had an eventful year of academic achievements and co-curricular activities (2015-16), and we have chosen to associate them to some aspects of Erik Erikson's (1992-1994) psychosocial theory for this report. *Erikson had proposed that all humans confront distinct challenges at each of the eight stages of the lifespan. The crisis at each stage is represented by positive and negative components that need to be addressed. Ego development proceeds, as conflicts are resolved and virtues are incorporated into one's sense of self.* Our report unfolds along with the virtues of each stage and acknowledges the efforts of all those who have worked with and for our department (students, staff and alumni) to maintain the legacy of academic excellence, intrapersonal

insight and interpersonal growth.

Stage 1 (infancy): Basic Trust v/s Mistrust
Virtue: HOPE serves to maintain the person's belief in the meaning and trustworthiness of a common cultural world.

We began the year with a **Team Building** session for our TYBA students conducted by Fr. Tony D'Souza, which set the stage for a work culture characterized by *trust*, responsibility and accountability to the group. The TY students also attended a **Research Capacity Building** training session conducted by resource persons from Monk Prayogshala, which we hope gave them the skills and confidence to write good reports for their practical work journals.

Stage 2 (early childhood) Autonomy v/s Shame & Doubt

Virtue: WILL is the unbroken determination to exercise free choice as well as self restraint, in spite of the unavoidable experience of shame and doubt.

A range of workshops (conducted mostly by our alumni) were offered over several weekends throughout the year. Those who freely chose to participate in them, were exposed to topics and skills beyond the syllabus. Some students from other departments and disciplines were also determined to use these learning experiences as transfer credits for their honours program. **Workshops** held were:

- Qualitative Market Research by Trusha Dalal
- Gestalt Approach to self awareness by Tarana Pithawalla
- Art based Therapy by Aakriti Aggarwal
- Holistic Child Development by Deepika Aggarwal
- Quantitative Research (highlighting the use of Surveys) by Rupa Kalahasthi
- Interpersonal Communication by Anuja Deodhar, Shruti Murali, Rupa Kalahasthi
- Dance movement Psychotherapy by Devika Mehta
- Rational Emotive Therapy by Shama Shah
- Forensic Psychology by Jhanavi Doshi
- Sports Psychology by Vardayini Chitale

Stage 3 (play age) Initiative v/s Guilt

Virtue: PURPOSE is the courage to establish and pursue tangible goals.

One of the most challenging tasks for a psychology student is the writing and presentation of a seminar paper at the **annual departmental seminar** held in Khandala. It takes courage, passion and persistence to pursue this goal. This year we had 76 students in attendance, of which 30 students presented papers on various aspects of the **theme 'Learning and Memory'**. This experience was enriching not just for presenters (who had to hold the audience's attention without using PPTs) but also for the audience who learned about the topics, presentation skills as well as how to give constructive feedback. It was also one of the activities that brought together students of psychology from FY, SY and TY, giving an opportunity for bonding, mentoring, interaction and inspiration.

Stage 4 (school age) Industry v/s Inferiority

Virtue: COMPETENCE is the confidence that one can exert positive influence on the social world in quest of meaningful individual and social goals.

Another avenue for the development of knowledge, confidence and *competence*

is through **lectures by guest speakers**. As students listen to and interact with guest speakers they get different perspectives, ideas and even the opportunity to disagree with or debate what is being discussed, which helps in their *quest* for growth. Talks held through the course of this year were:

- Diversity & Inclusion (in the context of Gender & Leadership) by Dr. Aarti Shyamsumder, (Director Research, CATALYST)
- 'Educate to Eradicate' a talk on value based, culture specific, age appropriate sex education by Dr. Rajan Bhonsale (founder of Heart to Heart counselling centre)
- Interdisciplinary session organized by the CIP on "Psychology and Criminal Investigations" . Guest Speaker was Prof. Karl Roberts, Forensic Psychologist, Professor and Chair of Policing and Criminal Justice University of Western Sydney, Australia. (It was attended by PG students of Life Science, students of Forensic Psychology and TYBA psychology students.)

Stage 5 (adolescence) Ego identity v/s Role confusion

Virtue: FIDELITY is the adolescent's ability to sustain loyalties in spite of inevitable contradictions of value systems and the young person's capacity to perceive & abide by social mores, ethics and ideologies of society.

A core team of SYBA students was selected to take charge of the **annual department magazine 'Uncommon Sense'**. Their role in the magazine team thus became part of their identity. There were inevitable contradictions as they debated on various ideas for a theme, sources of sponsorship, design, layout etc. They chose to work with the theme **'Psychology of Food'** and ultimately published the magazine with a range of articles that were insightful, well researched and made for an enjoyable read.

Stage 6 (young adulthood) Intimacy v/s Isolation

Virtue LOVE: love is the ability to commit oneself to others and abide by

such commitments, even though they may require self-denial and compromise. It shows an attitude of care, respect & responsibility towards another.

Erikson believed that "Life does not make sense without interdependence. We need each other and the sooner we learn that, the better for us all."

In support of an **interdisciplinary** educational environment, our department offered a **Cross Faculty Course** for SYBSc students this year on the *'Psychology of Relationships'*. This helped students gain insight into areas of interpersonal communication, friendship, love and intimate relationships.

We also **collaborated with** the departments of Life Science, Zoology and Chemistry to organize a **one day symposium** on 'Behaviour and the Brain: a cognitive perspective'. The guest speaker from the psychology field, Dr. Urvasi Shah spoke about the impact of traumatic brain injury.

Stage 7 (middle adulthood) Generativity v/s Stagnation

Virtue: CARE stems from the feeling that something or someone matters (it is the opposite of apathy). It is a widening commitment to take care of the persons, products and ideas that one has learned to care for.

In order for our students to engage with the society and *care* for people, we attempted to devise **projects** that were experiential as well as academic. Some of these experiences were:

- The counselling psychology class conducted **mini-workshops** for students of Std VI at the N. M. Joshi municipal school on a specific theme of mental well being. This was also an **extension activity** supported by the SIP department of our college in collaboration with the NGO LIFE trust. The learning objectives were linked to soft skills of conducting workshops, geared towards an understanding of the population (characteristic of children as clients). It involved the identification / creation of appropriate resources and structured exercises to help

children gain insight on a specific theme for better emotional, social, personal adjustment. The four themes selected by the groups of students for their workshops were: Healthy expression of Anger, Prevention of Bullying (with emphasis on the role of the bystander), Working together as a Team, Positive Affectivity.

- For the Abnormal Psychology class, a field report was linked to a **visit to Dilkhush special school** the objective being awareness and sensitization of TY students to working with the mentally challenged.
- The Industrial-Organizational Psychology class conducted a qualitative study exploring the perceived causes and effects of **work stress** experienced in autonomous and non autonomous colleges by interviewing students, teaching staff, nonteaching staff and ex-students from St. Xavier's

and other colleges.

- Students of Social Psychology formed groups of four and undertook an **observational study** on interpersonal attraction.

Stage 8 (late adulthood) Ego integrity v/s Despair

Virtue: WISDOM is an informed & detached concern with life itself, in the face of death itself.

As we came to the end of the academic year, we arranged a special series of talks for our TY students who were reflecting on the end of their journey at Xavier's and the potential direction for their future. The resource persons who were invited, shared their insight and *wisdom* on post graduate options for students after TY psychology. The following speakers were invited for this **series of lectures titled 'The Next Step'**:

Ms. Danielle Periera (IIT)
The path to PhD

Ms. Priyanka Moses
BEd course (and special education)
Dr. Anuradha Bakshi
Human Development, Nirmala Niketan
Dr. SatishKumar
Mumbai University
Dr. Hemal Shroff
TISS courses (social work, counseling etc)
Dr. Mrinalini Purandhare
SNDT University
Ms. Priyanka Bajaj
Montessori course
Mr. Ninad Patwardhan & Neha Shah
Christ College, Bangalore
Mr. Devendra Palaw
from Dow Corning Pvt. Ltd. On HRM
Dr. Sanaya Pardiwala
Studying in the UK
Dr. Jehangir Mistry
Media and Communication

Ms. Ruby Pavri
Head of Department

SOCIOLOGY



The previous academic year was an active one for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, with events being organised almost every month. These were organised with the help of the Academy of Sociology and Anthropology. A few of these include:

- A lecture by Sunetro Ghoshal on academic writing.
- A talk by Neha Sethi on Gender

and Sexuality.

- A lecture by Fr. Anthony Dias called "Dispossessed by Development".
- A lecture by Prof. Ravindra Dey on Stress Management.
- A talk by Proshant Chakraborty on Ethics in Anthropology.
- An industrial visit to Ahmedabad, SEWA, NID, IRMA, Amul and

Sabarmati Ashram.

- A play by Metamorphosis Theatre Inc. titled "Arcadia- A Promised Land".
- A three-day long Career Fair organised for students of all years.

The Department faculty have engaged in a variety of Academic and Co-curricular activities:

Dr. Sam Taraporevala (HoD)

Dr. Taraporevala conducted a sensitisation workshop for members of Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) on the theme of understanding and contextualising the representation of disability in advertising, and also a sensitisation workshop in NCR focusing on building inclusive systems for banking and financial inclusion. He was invited as a resource person in the library conference at JNU, New Delhi, to create awareness about accessibility issues concerning electronic databases. The subject of this special session was

“Reaching the Unreached through Electronics, Theses and Dissertations (ETDs): Research Support Services for Persons with Disabilities”. He conducted two sensitisation workshops in Pune for the Society for Technical Communication (STC) on the theme of sensitising design professionals and content writers to the principles of universal design. He also conducted a sensitisation workshop in Deloitte USA’s Powai office on the theme of creating workplace solutions in corporate settings. He was invited by IDC IIT Mumbai as an external examiner for a student project using universal design principles, and as a guest lecturer on the theme “Introduction to the world of the blind- Some Principles for Design Professionals”. He delivered the keynote address in the 3rd International Workshop on “Digitization and E-Inclusion in Mathematics and Science 2016” (DIEMS2016) in Tokyo, Japan. The title of the talk was “STEM Education for Blind and Low Vision Students: The Socio-Technical Challenge: The Indian Perspective”. He conducted a Sensitization workshop for Microsoft at its annual diversity an Inclusion event “Confluence” in Hyderabad on the theme of people working with persons with disability. During the same event he also participated as a panelist in a panel discussion on making Microsoft a more inclusive work place.

Prof. Madhuri Raijada

Prof. Raijada conducted a lecture in July for an International Seminar held for students of St. Xavier’s College and U.C. Berkeley. Prof. Madhuri was a resource person for the Young Teachers Seminar, held on 10th August. She contributed a chapter titled “Middle Class Historical Moorings: Continuities and Discontinuities” in *The Trajectory of India’s Middle Class* published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Dr. (Fr.) Arun De Souza

In July, Fr. Arun, presented a lecture titled, “Popular Imaginaries of the Development Discourse” at the International Seminar, “Globalization, Capital Flow and Development” for students of St. Xavier’s College and U. C. Berkeley. In August, he delivered a lecture titled “Ethnography as a Technique of Qualitative Research” at the Sophia Centre for Women’s Studies. For the Young Teachers’ Seminar at St Xavier’s College, he delivered a lecture on “Jesuit History and Tradition.” He also participated in a short term course at the Academic Staff College, Kalina, on “Contemporary Strategies for Teaching and Evaluation.” On 9th Nov. 2015, at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune, he presented a lecture titled, “Inter-Culturality and Life and Mission of the Society in South Asia: Challenges and Concerns.” At the “2015-16 Fulbright-

Nehru International Education Seminary,” he delivered a presentation titled, “Education: The Jesuit Cultural Paradigm.” At the Harvard College in Asia Programme (March 2016), he made a presentation titled, “Education Inequality: Reservations, Globalization & Democratization.” He has also been awarded the Heras-Tata Institutional Fellowship grant for a “Three Generational Study of Rural Tribal Children.”

Dr. Pranoti Chirmuley

In August, Dr. Chirmuley interviewed Narayan Murthy at a pre-Conclave talk. She delivered a lecture on “Social and Technology Change” for the Harvard College in Asia Program at St. Xavier’s College. She delivered a presentation titled “To be and What to be” on Globalisation and Identity for “In Conversation with Globalisation”, an online course with the University of Stuttgart, Germany and St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), Mumbai. She has also been awarded the Heras-Tata Institutional Heritage Conservation Fellowship.

This year also marked the retirement of our faculty members: Dr. Fr. Frazer Mascarenhas and Prof. Vinita Bhatia. A new faculty member, Prof. Radhika Rani, joined us.

Dr. Sam Taraporevala
Head of Department

STATISTICS

The academic year 2015–2016 began on a happy note with the teachers and students enthusiastically immersing themselves into the teaching and learning process and many add-on courses.

The results of our Final Year students both in Arts and Science were excellent.

Mr. Mahikaansh Reddy of TYBSc topped Statistics with the highest CGPA.

In the sixth semester examinations, Ms Arpita Shah topped the TYBSc (Statistics) and

Ms. Shiksha Gupta topped the TYBA (Economics- Statistics) in the college.

This academic year, a Post Graduate Diploma in Data Science (PGDDS), was introduced in collaboration with Industry partner ‘Sankhya Analytical & Research Pvt. Ltd’.

The Head of the Department, Prof. Pooja Ochaney, coordinated the activities of the course.

We are happy to report that this programme had an encouraging response and was well appreciated by the participants.

Prof. Myrtle Fernandes was in-charge of the department when Prof. Pooja Ochaney was on leave.

The professors of the Department, apart from their regular teaching, participated in the various activities. Ms. Myrtle Fernandes was invited as a subject expert to conduct an interview at Sophia college. Ms. S. Annapurna attended a one-day a workshop on CAS awareness organized by IQAC at Birla College of Arts, Science and Commerce. Mr. Saju V. George has attended a one day workshop conducted by NIRF (National Institute of Ranking Framework) for ranking of colleges. Ms.

Piyali Unnikrishnan attended a two day seminar at Rizvi College and presented a paper 'Juvenile Crimes - an Economic perspective' Ms. S. Annapurna and Ms. Piyali Unnikrishnan attended a workshop on 'Recent Techniques in Applied Statistics' at the Statistics Department, University of Mumbai. All the professors have been examiners for the University Statistics Examination.

Mr. Saju V. George conducted a course on Statistical Software for Social Sciences (SPSS) for students of the Sociology department and a course on Excel for students of Wilson College.

Ms. S. Annapurna conducted a 'Basic Course in SPSS' for the SYBA students and along with Ms. Vidhi Mehta conducted a 'Basic Course in Excel' for the SYBA students

Ms. Piyali Unnikrishnan conducted a basic course in R for TYBA students.

The Department has, as every year, reached out beyond academics and involved students in various extra and co-curricular activities. Experts from

the industry were invited to introduce students to the applications of Statistics in various fields.

A Market Research Programme was conducted for the FYBA students during the course of the academic year by Ms. Maria Peres (Freelancer in the field of Market Research). The Department in collaboration with FinStat academy conducted a course on Data Science for the undergraduate science students. The Department also conducted guest lectures by various organizations to familiarize students with different options for their future careers. Mr. Brian Almeida (MD Strategic Caravan) addressed FY and SY students on 'Career options in Statistics'.

The Stats Society, a student representative body of the Department, under the able guidance of the teacher Coordinator Prof Saju .V. George, organized and conducted various events for the entire year. The students very enthusiastically arranged a variety of educational programmes. The Stats-Society also organized X-Statistic, an

inter-collegiate festival on 27th and 28th November, 2015 in which various interesting events such as Smart Shopping, IPL, etc. were held. This activity gave students an opportunity to think out of the box.

The Stats Society also organized the annual Statistics seminar at St. Xavier's Villa, Khandala which was held on 23rd and 24th of January 2016. Prof(s) Myrtle Fernandes, Ayesha Dias and Saju George accompanied a group of 60 students.

It was a platform for students to present papers on diverse topics that discussed the application of Statistics in the real world.

Finally, the year ended with the launching of the much awaited annual magazine of the Department – The Plot. The Department has had a hectic but enriching year, and as this academic year comes to a close, we look forward to the challenges in the year to come.

Prof. Pooja Ochaney
Head of Department

ZOOLOGY

The zoology department has 130 students. No of students in FY- 70, SY- 26, TY -34

Courses offered

The department runs several popular courses like Cross Faculty course 'Secret lives of animals' (offered to students of S.Y.BA, S.Y.BMM and S.Y.BMS), Applied Component course in 'Economic Entomology' (offered to T.Y.B.Sc. students of Life Sciences, Botany and Microbiology) for the past three years. It also runs a **Diploma in Forensic Science** (offered to students of any stream of Science and students from Sociology, Psychology, Law and Medicine).

Infrastructure development

Wi-Fi connection has been made available for both staff and students in the Zoology Laboratory.

Recognitions

Department of Zoology has a research laboratory with life time recognition for

PhD from the University of Mumbai. It also has recognition for Ph.D. in Zoology from University of Mumbai. The department has an Animal house facility registered with the CPCSEA.

Dr. Madhuri Hambarde is the **Chairman** and **Dr Sujata Deshpande** is **Member Secretary** of IAEC of St. Xavier's College. **Dr. Pushpa Sinkar** is **Chairman** of Board of studies Zoology of SNDT University.

Ms. Madhuri Padaya PhD a student of Dr. Madhuri Hambarde was awarded best trainee award at National Training Programme on "Conducting Research on Wildlife and Habitats" at Gujarat Forest Rangers College, Rajpipla during November 21-27, 2015.

Committees

Dr. Smita Krishnan was convenor of Unfair means committee

Dr. Pushpa Sinkar was convenor of TAQ committee.

Dr. Madhuri Hambarde was member of staff placement committee

Dr. Sujata Deshpande was a member of Examination committee

Mr. Conrad Cabral was member of Student placement committee

Activities

The department started Xavier's Zoology Association from this year which was inaugurated by Mr. Bittu Sehgal (Founding editor of Sanctuary Asia) on July 15, 2015. The association organized treks to Ovalekar wadi Butterfly Park at thane, Silonda Sanjay Gandhi National park and Kune mission. The association also held a quiz called "survival of the fittest" open to all students of the college.

The Zoology Department organized a workshop on Biostatistics, conducted by Dr. Y.V. Jhala, (Scientist E – WII Dehradun) from 1st to 5th December 2015.



The Department of Zoology in collaboration with the Department of Life Science organized a one day symposium on 'Behaviour and the Brain – A Cognitive Perspective', as part of the 30 years celebration of DBT, on 23rd January 2016.

The Zoology Department in collaboration with Nature Conservation Foundation, organized a workshop on the 'Identification of sharks and the importance of shark fishery' on 21st February 2016. It was conducted by Mr Mayuresh Gaggal, a Research Fellow at NCF.

TY students carried out small group research projects (6) which were assessed for Practical CIA 5.02

20% of students went for internships at national laboratories and industry.

Field trips

In collaboration with Khagol Mandal, the Honours students went for an overnight sky observation trip to Neral on 6th Feb 2016, as part of the Astrobiology Course.

The students for an honours field excursion to Khandala and Manor.

The department took SYBSc. and TYBSc. students to Gulf of Kachchh from 24th October to 1st November 2015.

Faculty Development

Sujata Deshpande completed an 'Orientation Programme' organized by the University of Mumbai from 18th Nov to 15th Dec 2015.

On 1st and 2nd Apr 2016, she attended the workshop on 'Biostatistics:

Introduction to R' organized by Department of Animal Sciences, Central University of Kerala

Mr. Conrad Cabral, Dr. Pushpa Sinkar and Dr. Madhuri Hambarde

attended a workshop on Biostatistics, from 1st to 5th December 2015 at St. Xavier's College

Dr. Sujata Deshpande, Mr. Conrad Cabral, Dr. Madhuri Hambarde, Dr. Pushpa Sinkar and Dr. Smita Krishnan attended faculty seminars organized by the college on 'Quality Enhancement' and 'Autonomy in Review' on 1st Oct 2015 and 13th Jan 2016 respectively. They also attended the DBT sponsored symposium on 'Behaviour and the Brain' on 23rd Jan 2016.

Dr. Smita Krishnan attended an interdisciplinary workshop on Biostatistics from 14th to 19th March 2016, organized by the Life Science Department, St. Xavier's College.

Faculty as Resource person

A faculty member, **Mr. Conrad Cabral** was invited to deliver a lecture titled 'Gender discrimination in animals' for the students of HCAP on 16th March 2016. He delivered lectures on Genetics and Developmental Biology - Semester I - MSc Zoology at K.J. Somaiya College - July to October 2015 Bioinformatics lectures - Diploma in Bioinformatics - Sophia College - November 2015 to April 2016 Bioinformatics lectures - Semester III - MSc Life Science - Sophia College - November 2015 to March 2016

Dr. Sujata Deshpande was invited by the department of Extra Mural Studies to deliver a talk on 'Astrobiology' for the students attending the course on 'Astronomy', on 31st Jan 2016. **Dr. Sujata Deshpande** was invited to give a plenary talk on 'Parasitoids as Plant Protectors'

in the conference on 'Insect Biodiversity Studies: Where Does India Stand in Global Map', organized by Department of Animal Sciences, Central University of Kerala in association with Zoological Survey of India and Association for Advancement of Entomology, from 29th to 31st March 2016.

Dr. Sujata Deshpande was invited by 'Akashvani, Mumbai, to give talks in the Marathi programme 'Parisar', in the section of 'Jeevanche Jeevan'. She delivered talks on 'Wasps' on 14th, 15th and 16th Feb 2016 and on 'Termites' on 25th, 26th and 27th April 2016.

Dr. Smita Krishnan was involved in taking lectures for B.Voc (Wildlife Tourism

The following activities were conducted as part of the **Honours Program:**

1. A 2-credit interdisciplinary lecture course along with a field visit was conducted on '**Basic Astrobiology**' by Dr. Sujata Deshpande. Students of FY, SY, and TY students of BA, BSc, BSc- IT, BMM and BMS. The following were the topics: Origin of Earth, Origin of life on Earth, Evolution of life, Habitable zones in the solar system and Universe, Detection of exoplanets.
2. An interdisciplinary lecture course on Molecular Biology for 2 credits titled, "**DNA: Damage and Repair**" was conducted by Mr. Conrad Cabral.
3. A 1 credit program on **Dissection of invertebrate specimens** was conducted by Dr. Smita Krishnan for the SYBSc and TYBSc Zoology students.
4. A 2 credit lecture course cum field visit for SY and TYBSc Zoology students was conducted on "**Ornithology and Herpetology**" by Dr. Leon Pereira.
5. A 1 credit program on **Documentation of Museum specimens** was conducted for SYBSc Zoology by Dr. Smita Krishnan.

Dr. Smita Krishnan
Head of Department

COMMERCE

The Commerce section in the evening began in year 1988 entered its 28th of imparting education especially to those students who wish to pursue their degrees while working, it is a special enterprise to encourage working men and women by offering not only quality education but a provide a fare share of co and extracurricular activities to contribute to all-round-development. The Commerce section of St. Xavier's College conducted an organized various activities during the academic year 2015-16.

All Faith Prayer Service: An Inter-religious prayer service is conducted every year on the first day of the Academic year for the students of the first year. In the Academic year 2015-16, it was organized on 27th June 2015, where students from FY, SY and TY offered prayers to God and sought God's blessing. The prayer service was followed by the address of our Principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes who welcomed the first years and briefed them on the great legacy of st. Xavier's College and the commerce section in particular.

Orientation: In the Academic year 2015-16, the Orientation of the first year students was organized on 27th and 28th of June. Various activities were conducted by the senior students and Prof. Jotiram Gaikwad who handpicked the organizers, to familiarize the first years with their classmates and the layout of the college. Father Errol Fernandes, the vice principal and all other professors of the Commerce section welcomed the students through their motivational speeches and words of encouragement. Later, various participative games had also been organized by Prof. Gaikwad and his troupe of senior students for the newly admitted ones.

Graduation Day: Students who were in T.Y. and who had passed their final year in the session 2015-16 were felicitated and had been given their B.Com degree mark sheet and Passing certificate by the chief guest who wished the fresh graduates not only with good luck and success but also with words of encouragement.

Cultural Programme: Feast was organized in honour of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of Society of Jesus, a play was also enacted by a small troupe of students who briefed us about the life of st. Ignatius on 23rd of July and on 3rd of December St. Xavier's feast was organized and celebrated by all.

Sports: The Commerce section had organized various inter-collegiate events. These included a number of sports like football, basket ball, volley ball, badminton, etc. The students of evening section did their best in most of the events and brought home a few trophies. A cricket match was also organized between the students and the professors of the commerce section, a showcase of unity and bonding among the same, is an integral part of the commerce section.

Lonavla/ Khandala Study Tour: A study had been organized by Dr. Arvind Dhond for the T.Y. students in the month of January in which almost all of the T.Y. came, an approach to impart knowledge which goes beyond classroom, several lectures were conducted by different professors of the commerce in order to impart a few lessons about life and what they are going to achieve and get in life outside and after the college, the session was extremely interactive and thoroughly enjoyed by the both students and teachers.

English Classes: Kings learning institute conducted lectures for all the first year students of commerce section, since there are some students who come from a non-english background and hence find difficulty in expression of it, and not only they are taught to master verbal and written word but these classes also helped them to overcome fear of public speaking. These lecture are held throughout the year providing great opportunity to students in the process of learning and developing their language skills.

Information and Technology workshop: Since some of the students are also not computer friendly the lectures provide great exposure to

such students by conducting special workshops and seminars on Tuesdays. The lectures equip students with skills and knowledge in various related work like Accountancy, Tally, etc.

Student Exchange programme: As a part of students exchange programme, in academic year 2015-16 Ms. Shweta Mainkar of T.Y. Bcom was sent to Harvard University for a week long programme.

SUC day celebration: SUC day was organized and celebrated on 19th January 2016 by organisein inter-class competition for various events like best out of waste, handwriting, beautification (make up), Antique collection, poetry writing, speech writing, greeting preparation, hair styling, housie, instrumental performance, love letter writing and many more competitions in which the students participated and enjoyed it thoroughly. The event was organized by Dr. Arvind Dhond which provided the students a platform to display their wide variety of talents.

Participation in Inter-collegiate events: Students participated in various inter-collegiate events /competitions held at innumerable colleges in Mumbai, thane and navi Mumbai had displayed their exceptional talents in these events. The following are is the list of college in which they have participated.

- a) Rizvi College
- b) S.M. Shetty College
- c) RUIA college
- d) Ratnam College
- e) Bharat College
- f) CKT college

Our students had performed in an exceptional way, scored various trophies and secure first, second and third position in a number of events like singing, acting, dancing, debate, elocution, best out of waste, etc.

Vishant Ramteke.
Commerce Section.

RESEARCH DEPARTMENTS



BLATTER HERBARIUM

Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde authenticated plant specimens in Blatter Herbarium and during this academic year 60 plant samples were authenticated and amount Rs. 15,000/- generated through this activity for the college.

Research Papers Published:

- Rajendra Shinde and Ranee Prakash, 2015. Phenological and

Ethnobotanical data extraction from herbarium specimens: A case study on Mumbai and Thane using Blatter Herbarium in Xplore-The Xavier's Research Journal 6 (1): 1-22. Mumbai. ISSN 2249-1878.

Book Published:

- Rajendra D. Shinde & Kalpit Mhatre. 2016. Ethno Medicinal Plants of Raigad District, Maharashtra. Dattson Publishers,

Nagpur. ISBN: 978-81-7192-123-2.

Consultancy:

- Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde authenticated plant specimens in Blatter Herbarium and during this academic year 60 plant samples were authenticated and amount Rs. 15,000/- generated through this activity for the college.

- **Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde**
Director of Blatter Herbarium

CAIUS RESEARCH LABORATORY

Research work:

There are currently five faculty members from the various Biology departments carrying out research leading towards their PhD degrees: Ms. Miriam Stewart, Ms. Sangeetha Chavan and Ms. Karuna Gokarn, Department of Microbiology, Ms. Sangeeta Shetty, Department of Life Science and Biochemistry, Mr. Conrad Cabral, Department of Zoology and Ms. Neha Gupte, Department of Botany, Student of Dr. Rajendra Shinde. Dr. Vishwas Sarangdhar is the research consultant for the laboratory. Mr. Valentine Borges, student of Dr. Pushpa Sinkar and Dr. Madhuri Hambarde, Department of Zoology carries out his research work in the laboratory.

On-going research in the laboratory:

1. Ms. Sangeetha Chavan, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology.
"Effects of silver, zinc oxide and titania nanoparticles on nitrogen fixing, phosphate solubilizing and biofilm forming bacteria found in soil ecosystems".
2. Ms. Karuna Gokarn, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology "Isolation and evaluation of *Mycobacterium smegmatis* siderophores as novel therapeutic agents".
3. Ms. Sangeeta Shetty, Assistant Professor, Department of Life Science and Biochemistry.
"Isolation of novel cellulases from extremophiles and other sources".
4. Mr. Conrad Cabral, Assistant

Professor, Department of Zoology.

"Regulation of *var* gene in *Plasmodium falciparum*".

5. Dr. Ms. Maya Murdeshwar, Assistant Professor, Department of Life Science and Biochemistry. "Generation of vectors for Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria".
6. Mr. Valentine Borges, Dr. Mrs. Pushpa Sinkar, Prof. C. V. Rao (*Collaborator*). "Green-synthesis and characterization of multi-functional silver nanoparticles".
7. Valentine Borges and Dr. Mrs. Madhuri Hambarde. "Antioxidant effects of commercial black, green and white tea samples commonly available in Mumbai". University of Mumbai, Minor Research Grant.
8. Ms. Neha Gupte, Department of Botany, PhD Student of Dr. Rajendra Shinde.
"Phylogenetic analysis of Boraginaceae of North - West Maharashtra".

PhD Degree registration:

- Ms. Miriam Stewart, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, applied for PhD registration and the topic "Studies on the Feasibility of Electron Beam Irradiation to Improve the Microbiological Safety of Minimally Processed Foods" which was approved by RRC in October, 2016. Registration formalities have been completed on Jan 5th, 2016



and awaiting Registration No.

- Ms. Neha Gupte, student of Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Department of Botany, registered for her PhD in June, 2015, on the topic "Phylogenetic analysis of Boraginaceae of North - West Maharashtra".

Major/Minor Projects granted:

The following faculty received the UGC/ University minor research grant:

1. Ms. Sangeeta Chavan, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, was sanctioned a UGC Minor Research Project for her Proposal: "Effect of silver and Titania nanoparticles on soil microbial diversity". Amount sanctioned - Rs.3,47,000/-. She has completed one year of project work.
2. Ms. Karuna Gokarn, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, was sanctioned a UGC Minor Research Project: "Cloning of genes involved in the biosynthesis of exochelin MS from *Mycobacterium smegmatis*". Amount sanctioned - Rs.2,82,000/.

She has completed one year of project work.

3. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Associate Professor, Department of Life Science and Biochemistry and Director, Caius Research Laboratory was sanctioned a UGC minor project entitled: "Isolation and screening for novel ethanol producers from various sources and their characterization". Amount sanctioned: Rs.4,80,000/-

Poster/Oral Presentation in conferences:

Sundarrajan Priya, Shetty Sangeeta and Shigvan A. 'Screening and Characterization of Bioethanol Producing Yeast' at the International Conference on Climate Change and Sustainability, 2015' at Thakur College of Science and Commerce, Mumbai, 21st – 23rd Dec. 2015.

Ms. Sangeeta Shetty was awarded the Best Oral Presentation award for the talk on 'Study of Cellulolytic Extremophiles' at the 3rd International Conference on Biotechnology & Bioinformatics (ICBB-2016) organized by ICSCCB between 5th – 7th Feb. 2016, at Pune.

Student Visit to CIF:
A tour of the CIF was organized for was organized for MSc Part I students of Nirmala Niketan college.

Workshop/ Seminars conducted:

A Knowledge Café was organised by GIZ's CMPA project in collaboration with Caius Research laboratory, St Xavier's College, Mumbai, on 11th March, 2016, which provided a multi-disciplinary and cross sectoral platform to discuss future research and networking possibilities in coastal and marine biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management. The experts who shared their ideas and inputs with the participants were Mr. N. Vasudevan (Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of the Mangrove Cell, Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra), Dr. Pradeep Mehta from the Earthwatch Institute India, Dr Aeshita Mukherjee (Technical Expert, GIZ's CMPA project) and Dr Neeraj Khera (Senior Technical Expert, GIZ's CMPA project).

Twenty three faculty members from various disciplines namely science, media, arts from in house and various colleges of Mumbai, participated in the knowledge cafe. It resulted in several research ideas developed by multi-disciplinary teams of experts, which addressed the pressing issues and challenges in managing coastal and marine ecosystems, and biodiversity management. The CMPA project will facilitate further development of the research ideas by the faculty members and its application on the field. The participants found the knowledge café very innovative and enriching, and something to be carried out more often at their institutes. The ideas put forward by faculty members were truly diverse and multidisciplinary. A reference to this event has been made in the GIZ website as well as German ministry's twitter page.

The Institutional Biosafety Committee:

As per Govt. of India regulations, organizations handling genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and recombinant DNA materials for research or production should constitute an IBSC with the DBT approval. In the regulatory framework, IBSC is one of the statutory bodies which operates directly from the premises of the institution and is responsible for proper implementation of biosafety rules, regulations and guidelines. The college IBSC, constituted in 2003, approved by DBT, Govt. of India, convenes regular meetings to monitor the GMO and recombinant DNA activities of the various on-going research projects. Dr. Shobhona Sharma, Head, Department of Biological Sciences, TIFR, is the DBT nominee for the committee and Dr. Ameeta Joshi, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, JJ Hospital is the Biosafety Officer. Two meetings of the committee were held on 15th October 2015 and 28th March, 2016 respectively. The research projects discussed in the previous year were reviewed by the committee. A total of 3 new research projects by the various investigators of Biology departments were reviewed and two proposals were passed in the two meetings.

An in-house program was held by Department of Microbiology and IBSC on "Faculty sharing on biosafety regulations in laboratory and research". Presentations were made by investigators who had submitted their proposals to the IBSC. The session was attended by faculty from various biology departments and chemistry department.

The following were the speakers and the topics covered:

1. Biosafety levels of microorganisms: Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Dept. of Life Science and Biochemistry
2. Biosafety Cabinets: Ms. Sangeeta Shetty, Dept. of Life Science and Biochemistry
3. Aseptic techniques: Mr. Conrad Cabral, Dept. of Zoology
4. Sterilization and disinfection: Dr. Pushpa Sinkar, Dept. of Zoology, and Mr. Marazaban Kotwal, Dept. of Chemistry
5. Disinfection of working space; Dr. Bhaskar Saha, Dept. of Life Science and Biochemistry
6. Working with autoclave: Ms. Sangeeta Chavan, Department of Microbiology
7. Dealing with Discard and waste: Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta, Dept. of Life Science and Biochemistry
8. Working with pathogens: Ms. Karuna Gokarn, Department of Microbiology
9. Working with Plant pathogens: Ms. Smita Gaurea, Junior College, Biology, PhD student, Department of Botany.

Central Instrumentation Facility

The fully air-conditioned state of the art Central Instrumentation Facility of the laboratory currently houses equipment that the college had obtained through the DST – FIST grant of the Govt. Of India, and two instruments obtained from the UGC grant. The Equipment includes the Gel Documentation system, two UV-Visible spectrophotometers, Thermal cycler, CO₂ incubator, Ultrasonicator, Lyophilizer, BOD incubator, Electroporator, Gas chromatography,

HPTLC applicator, two-dimensional gel electrophoresis system, Laminar air flow, Biosafety cabinet Class AII, Orion pH meter, Eppendorf cold centrifuge and microcentrifuge, Olympus bright field, pulse field and polarising microscope and -80° Deep freezer. An ELISA reader and a fluorescent

attachment obtained through the Lady Tata workshop grant is also housed in the CIF. A fully functional Animal Tissue Culture facility is available, where research using animal cell lines is being carried out.

The above instruments and facilities have been used by the faculty, doctoral,

post graduate and undergraduate students of Chemistry and all the Biological Sciences departments of St. Xavier's College for regular practicals, research and Honours Program work.

Dr. Priya Sundarajan,

Director,

Caius Research Laboratory and CIF

HERAS INSTITUTE OF INDIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

Heras Research Methodology

During this academic year 20 T.Y.B.A. (Ancient Indian Culture students) of St. Xavier's College and other colleges affiliated to University of Mumbai participated in this course conducted from June to July 2014.

The Modi Script Course

8 students participated in the annual Modi Script course held during July-September 2014.

The Siddham Script Course

This course was conducted by Mr. Jayant Silva for 20 participants from November 2014 to January 2015.

Oral History Workshop

On 2nd December 2014 a workshop, conducted by Dr. C. S. Lakshmi and Ms. Meena Menon was attended by 118 students of various colleges of Mumbai.

The Heras Memorial Lectures

51st series of Heras Memorial Lectures was delivered by eminent Art Historian Dr. Anila Verghese on 11th December 2014 on the theme, "Sculptures and Paintings of Vijayanagara".

Oral History Workshop

This workshop was conducted by Dr. Indira Choudhury on the 7th February 2015. There were 30 postgraduates and a few undergraduates as participants.

Maritime History Post-Graduate Diploma

A collaborative programme with Vasant Sheth Foundation and the Department of Ancient Indian Culture, St. Xavier's College, was conducted from January to June 2015. The students had to present a project in Maritime History.

Historian's Workshop

Prof. Raja Dikshit, University of Pune, conducted a one day workshop on Research Methodology on 20th February 2015 which 92 students attended.

Renovation of Heras Museum

The Heras Museum was renovated with the benefice of Sir Dorabji Tata Trust. It was inaugurated on 31st May 2015 by Mr. S. Mukherjee, Director General, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalay, Mumbai and Dr. Frazer Mascarenhas S.J., Principal, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

BOMBAY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY (BLHS)

ACTIVITIES HELD IN 2014-2015

1. BLHS Annual Seminar on Novels of Bombay by Ms. Shanta Gokhale, Mr. Kiran Nagarkar and Jerry Pinto was organized on Saturday, 3rd August 2014, 2.00-6.00 p.m.

2. BLHS AGM – Our Ph.D. student Ms. Rashna Poncha (Lecturer at Sophia College) presented a paper "The Beginning of Transport In Bombay – Road and Rail and Tramway" on Saturday 13th September 2014.
3. A film show "Rafting to Bombay" prepared by an Israeli at which were present Fr. Dr. Frazer Mascarenhas S.J. and the Israeli Consul General on Wednesday 28th January 2014, 6.00 p.m. in St Xavier's College.
4. Walk to Horniman circle-
 - a) St. Thomas Cathedral – talk by Prof. Fleur D'souza.
 - b) Rendition of the first pipe organ in Bombay by Fr. Roy Pereira at the Scots Kirk on Saturday 31st January 2015.
5. Walk to Thakurdwar, Bhuleshwar and visit to a Jain Mandir on Saturday, 21st February 2015.
6. A visit to the Museum of the Mumbai High Courts on Saturday, 11th April 2015. BLHS member Solicitor Rajan Jaykar curated the museum and guided the group through the museum.

Dr. Joan Dias

Director, Heras Institute of Indian Culture and History



NADKARNI - SACASA RESEARCH LABORATORY (NSRL)

The history of NSRL dates back to 1932 when Dr. V. V. Nadkarni, an organic chemistry teacher started guiding research students. Fr. F. J. Sacasa, S.J. was an important part of this endeavor as philosopher and guide to Dr. Nadkarni. Hence, in later years the research laboratory was named after these two pioneering spirits. During this period of about forty years over 100 M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees were awarded. The main work was on natural products, heterocyclic and synthetic organic chemistry. A second renaissance of the laboratory was ushered in by Dr. Hoshang Master, who redesigned the laboratory in 1972. In this period, on an average, 10-12 papers were published in international and national journals every year. The current guides are Dr. Hoshang Master, Dr. Zoeb Filmwala, Dr. Freddy Havaldar and Dr. Dionysia Coutinho and the Director is Dr. Roy Pereira, S.J. Today, the NSRL has also opened up to undergraduate students seeking to do research projects.

Doctorates awarded

Three NSRL students were awarded their Ph.D. degrees from the University of Mumbai. Dr. Hoshang Master guided the Ph.D thesis of Prof. Gulshan Shaikh on the topic, "A study of Nitrogen Heterocycles derived from 5-ACETAMIDO-2-HYDROXYACETOPHENONE". Dr. Shaikh received her degree this year

along with the Convocation students in June, 2015.

Dr. Freddy Havaldar guided the Ph.D thesis of Prin. Ashok Kumar Upadhyaya. Dr. Zoeb Filmwala guided the thesis of Mr. K. Venkatesh titled "Synthesis of five and six membered heterocyclic compounds and study their microbiological activity and reaction rates using microwave techniques."

Research Projects- International

Thanks to the initiative of Dr. Freddy Havaldar, we received a grant of USD 12,000/- through our alumnus Dr. Bomi Framroze, Chief Scientific Officer of Hofseth Biocare for the project "Teaching scientific skills and imparting research skills to students using Peptide Fractionation of SPH."

Research Projects- National

Prof. Ashima Aggarwal along with Prof. Gulshan Shaikh worked with a couple of students on the project, "Photocatalytic action of doped transition metal oxide nano particles on the degradation of dyes particularly textile effluents and their effect on biological system."

Profs. Abhilasha Jain, Marazban Kotwal and Pralhad Rege did a project with 6 students on "Catalytic effect of Nanoparticles on certain organic reaction using Microwave radiations".

The director, Dr. Roy, along with Dr.

Gulshan Shaikh presented a session on "Comprehending the Teaching-Learning Environment" at a one day seminar at Kalsekar College, Mumbra on 23rd June, 2014. He was a part of the team that welcomed the Deputy Prime Minister of the U.K., Nick Clegg and Mr. Ed Davey, Minister for Energy and Climate change on 26th September, 2014. He chaired the session of Mr. Ed Davey on the topic "Tackling Climate Change and Driving Growth" at St. Xavier's College, SCAVI. Dr. Roy was also the Co- Convener of the seminar organised by the Department of Chemistry in collaboration with the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) on "Sustainable Energy: Crisis and Management" at St Xavier's College Hall, Mumbai on 5th December, 2014. He attended the Indian Science Congress held at Mumbai University from the 3rd to 7th January, 2015. Dr. Roy also looks after the Neuroscience Programme in the college begun by him three years ago. The Neuroscience lab besides being used for the "Introduction to Neuroscience" course offered across the science disciplines is now also used for M.Sc. practicals.

The NSRL will always be happy to welcome enthusiastic teachers and students for research projects as well as M.Sc. (Research) and Ph.D. students.

Dr. Fr. Roy Pereira, S.J.
(Director, NSRL & Vice Principal)



Navalband performing in the first quad

हिंदी विभाग



Students presentation at the annual Khandala Seminar

हिंदी विभाग अपने आप को समय की माँग के अनुकूल ढालकर विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों में जुटा हुआ है। हिंदी विभाग की गतिविधियों में कई वर्षों से खंडाला सेमिनार का विशेष स्थान रहा है। सारे छात्र इस सेमिनार की प्रतीक्षा करते हैं। हर वर्ष की तरह इस वर्ष भी जनवरी में हिंदी विभाग के प्रथम और द्वितीय वर्ष के छात्र द्विदिवसीय सेमिनार के लिए संत जेवियर्स विला, खंडाला गए थे। प्रथम वर्ष के छात्रों ने साहित्य के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर जैसे कहानियाँ, कविताएँ आदि पर अभिपत्र प्रस्तुत किए। गुलज़ार, साहिर लुधयानवी, गोपालदास, नीरज, सूर्यकांत त्रिपाठी, 'निराला' पर अभिपत्र प्रस्तुत किए। द्वितीय वर्ष के छात्रों ने धारावाहिकों, फिल्मों के संवाद, कथा, पटकथा, गीत आदि पर अभिपत्र प्रस्तुत किए।

अभिपत्र दिलचस्प इसलिए थे क्योंकि छात्रों ने बहुत ही बारीकी से हर पहलू का निरीक्षण कर अभिपत्र प्रस्तुत किए थे। सेमिनार के विभिन्न सत्रों की अध्यक्षता तथा संचालन स्वयं विद्यार्थियों ने किया।

इसके अलावा, श्री मनीष गुप्ता जी ने सभी छात्रों को अपने अनोखे प्रयोग से अवगत करवाया। हिंदी कविताओं के प्रति उनका प्रेम देखकर सभी छात्रों को काफ़ी प्रेरणा प्राप्त हुई। और

उस दिशा में कई प्रयास आरंभ हुए।

इस वर्ष संत जेवियर्स कॉलेज में 'लिटो फ़ेस्ट का' भी आयोजन हुआ जहाँ साहित्य और फिल्म जगत से जुड़ी कई हस्तियों ने सभी मौजूद लोगों को मंत्रमुग्ध कर दिया। इर्षाद कामील, नरेंद्र कोहली, मनोज बाजपाई जैसे दिग्गजों ने अपने ज्ञान से सभी का मन मोह लिया।

इस प्रकार पूरे दिल से आयोजित कई अनोखे कार्यक्रमों के चलते, हिंदी विभाग का यह साल भी ईश्वर के आशिर्वाद से अत्यंत सफल रहा।

डॉ. आशा नैथानी दायमा हिंदी विभाग अपने आप को समय की माँग के अनुकूल ढालकर विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों में जुटा हुआ है। हिंदी विभाग की गतिविधियों में कई वर्षों से खंडाला सेमिनार का विशेष स्थान रहा है। सारे छात्र इस सेमिनार की प्रतीक्षा करते हैं। हर वर्ष की तरह इस वर्ष भी जनवरी में हिंदी विभाग के प्रथम और द्वितीय वर्ष के छात्र द्विदिवसीय सेमिनार के लिए संत जेवियर्स विला, खंडाला गए थे। प्रथम वर्ष के छात्रों ने साहित्य के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर जैसे कहानियाँ, कविताएँ आदि पर अभिपत्र प्रस्तुत किए। गुलज़ार, साहिर लुधयानवी, गोपालदास, नीरज, सूर्यकांत त्रिपाठी, 'निराला' पर अभिपत्र प्रस्तुत किए। द्वितीय वर्ष के छात्रों ने धारावाहिकों,



Staging of the CIA play Ankhae.

फिल्मों के संवाद, कथा, पटकथा, गीत आदि पर अभिपत्र प्रस्तुत किए।

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इस वर्ष संत जेवियर्स कॉलेज में 'लिटो फ़ेस्ट का' भी आयोजन हुआ जहाँ साहित्य और फिल्म जगत से जुड़ी कई हस्तियों ने सभी मौजूद लोगों को मंत्रमुग्ध कर दिया। इर्षाद कामील, नरेंद्र कोहली, मनोज बाजपाई जैसे दिग्गजों ने अपने ज्ञान से सभी का मन मोह लिया।

इस प्रकार पूरे दिल से आयोजित कई अनोखे कार्यक्रमों के चलते, हिंदी विभाग का यह साल भी ईश्वर के आशिर्वाद से अत्यंत सफल रहा।

डॉ. आशा नैथानी दायमा

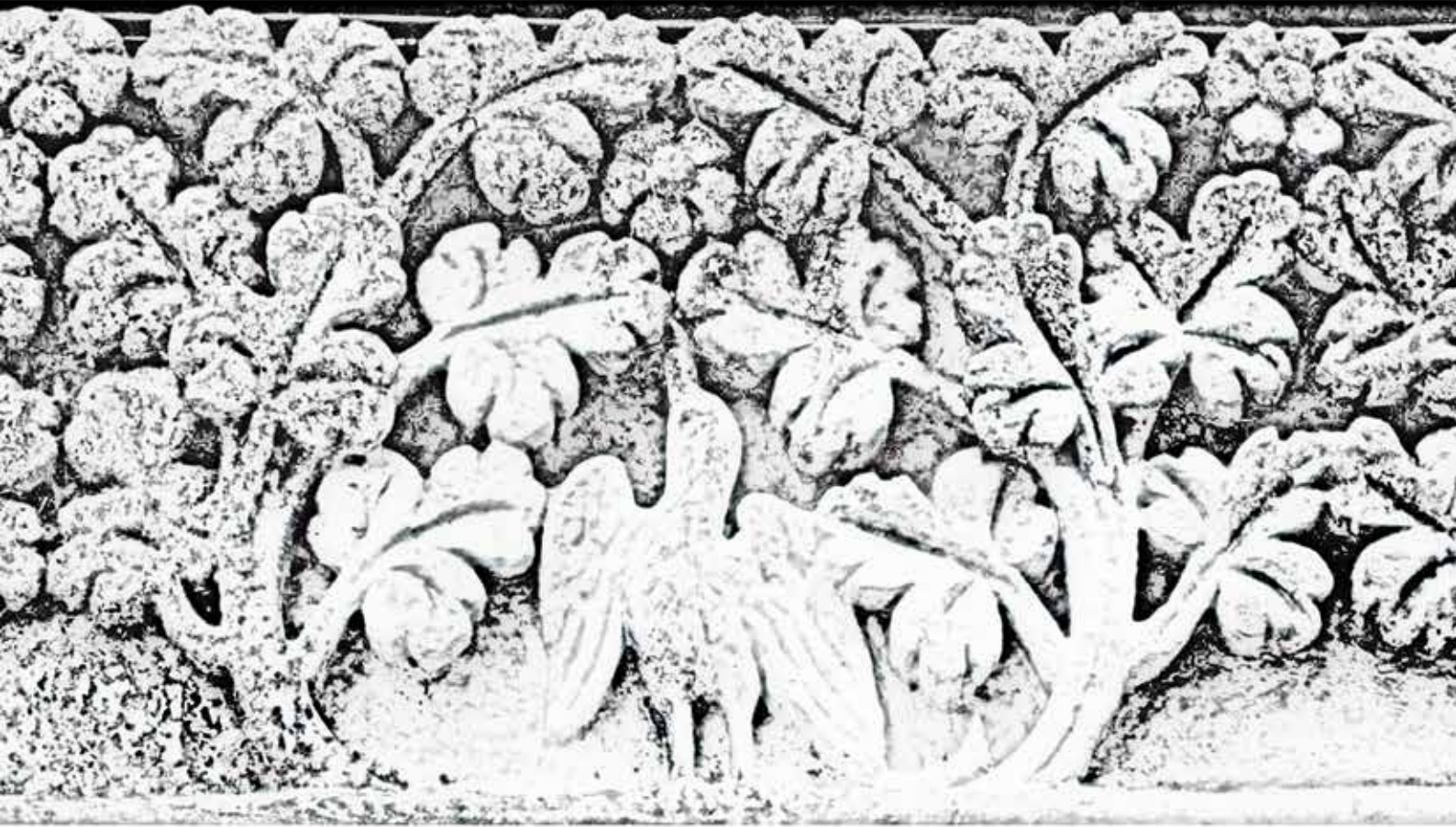


SYBA at the Khandala Seminar



Shri Narendra Kohli gracing the occasion at Lit-o-Fest

ASSOCIATIONS



INDIAN MUSIC GROUP

The experience of being a part of the IMG, was by far one of the most fulfilling experiences of college. If I begin, I can ceaselessly rant about my emotions attached to this place. There are various things I felt and thought in this period, some of the most important of which I have penned down.

What we did this year:

1. The IMG this year has managed to work under very tight budgetary constraints, at times transforming these constraints into small budgeted new endeavours. Hence, as most of my committee members would agree, the most challenging yet fruitful deed of ours, was the launch of 2 new concerts- Aaroh and Viraasat.
2. Considering the constraints, the committee still managed to have 5 concerts (besides Janfest) viz. Aaroh, Malhar Ke Prakaar, Music Appreciation Course, Viraasat and Birthday Concert. All of these events were smoothly organised, without any hitches or flaws.
3. Our invites (something that members always complained of) were posted on time to an manually updated dataset. It reached pretty much on time too. To cut costs, like previous years, we used the post service instead of couriers. This may have led to delays, errors of sorts, but otherwise, it was very flawless.
4. The committee did its best to rectify problems that had emerged earlier. For eg: records regarding the audio CDs, data regarding membership, renewal of the library such as new carpet, new mirror, new cash box etc.
5. The committee did a commendable job in terms of getting an appreciative audience for each of its event. In fact, the introduction through Aaroh (an event that staged classical musicians of Xavier's itself) even resulted in a larger student audience for the concerts thereafter.

6. The committee made sure that all its finances were tabulated and tallied concert wise. The bills and purposes for everything was carefully monitored.
7. I think our timeline for Janfest this year was perfect. The volunteer force should be announced just before first semester exams. The work for Janfest should begin post Diwali vacations only (except marketing). There should preferably be no work given to volunteers for most of the Christmas vacation too.
8. The ticket sales method was very full proof this year. The error percentage was considerably less. The basic feature of ours was that we used stickers to keep a tally of the seats sold, to avoid double counting. If ticket sales is to be done manually, I recommend our method to all the committees.
9. Though the committee was very novice, it worked with utmost passion and love for the institution. The only strength of ours, I believe was that each of us really felt about what we were doing, enabling us to give in our best towards it.
10. We generated a full house in the quad, and created record breaking revenue from ticket sales.
11. The most fulfilling addition that our committee made to Janfest was the Exhibition. The exhibition consisted of paintings made by Xavierites, after listening to a particular Raag, and drawing their perceptions from it. It was received beautifully by the audience and the press. Also, it musically educated the young painters and got them exposed to classical music.
12. I think the committee's biggest achievement was when 65 of its volunteer force, came to witness a Sarod concert by Ayaan and Amaan Ali Khan at NCPA a month after Janfest. This just goes to show that they truly enjoyed their association with the IMG and also took with them some Classical music.

Things to improve on:

1. The Cassette book and other administrative aspects that are still done manually should be should be digitalized and consolidated.
2. The committee should be formed earlier to give it more time to settle down (atleast by the 1st week of July).
3. During the selection of the committee, there should be equal weightage given to passion for the institution, and specific skills/ experience in a particular area. A bias towards either of thee in the selection process will lead to problems in work culture and ethics.
4. Specific care should be taken for furniture and property of the library. The committee as to take responsibility whatsoever to any damage, if any.
5. Unlike other organisations like the SSL, I think the IMG looks to be a little intimidating to college students. This can be attributed even to the behaviour of the committee. The committee thinks that IMG is their home, which is a good thing, but in the process ends up getting too possessive about it. This attitude may lead to outcast the students of college. This 'homely' feeling should be transferred to IMG's non-volunteer and volunteer forces alike, and the committee should take special steps towards this.

Shyama's Takeaway:

When I was told that I was selected for this post, I was just plain nervous. I had no idea about how things had to be worked upon. It was just the love for the art, and the institution that helped me strive and sustain all through. This 43 year old institution, has a streamlined way of working. This year though, we had to abort 3 concerts from our repertoire due to lack of funds. My committee and I made sure that we have as good alternatives to them, but

with a lower cost. The introduction of Aaroh and Viraasat, was our impetus to IMG's cause of promoting classical music.

I cannot not mention the things I learnt while being in touch with Asha ma'am. I think she is a wonderful person, and there is a lot one can gather from her. She really groomed us, all around the year and got us ready for Janfest.

When it comes to Janfest, I sometimes feel that we did not do anything that make it happen. Janfest just happened because it was meant to be. The months of planning and stress is forgotten when the stage goes up and the quad rejuvenates with music. Be it mailing the artists, ideating for the exhibition (personally I think the most novel thing we did this year), corresponding

with contractors, counting ticket sales money, getting features in newspapers, dealing with sponsors etc, it taught me so many things that college lectures would never impart.

Muktai Kuwalekar

Shyama Balachandran

Treasurer and General Secretary

हिंदी साहित्य, संगीत तथा नाट्य अकादमी

अकादमी ने कॉलेज में अपना वार्षिक कार्यक्रम अंतस इस वर्ष ४ से १० दिसंबर को आयोजित किया। इस कार्यक्रम के आयोजन के पीछे तीन विभाग हैं। संगीत, साहित्य व नाट्य। इन तीनों विभागों ने अपने अनोखे अंदाज़ में संस्था के उभरते कलाकारों को एक मंच प्रदान किया। कार्यक्रम के आयोजन में व्यवस्था लाने के लिए मार्केटिंग व प्रचार-प्रसार टीम ने अपना योगदान दिया।

अंतस की शुरुवात हुई ४ दिसंबर को जब साहित्य विभाग द्वारा अंतर-महाविद्यालयीन आशुभाषण प्रतियोगिता आयोजित की गई। इस प्रतियोगिता के लिये शहर के २५ महाविद्यालयों को आमंत्रित किया गया। प्रतियोगिता में छात्रों के साहित्यिक ज्ञान, मीडिया से जुड़े ज्ञान तथा सामान्य ज्ञान को परखा गया। इसके अलावा छात्रों को "गाँधी के देश में खादी" विषय पर भाषण प्रस्तुत करना था। इस प्रतियोगिता में पहला पुरस्कार संत जेवियर्स कॉलेज की छात्रा ने हासिल किया और दूसरा स्थान विल्सन कॉलेज ने पाया।

५ दिसंबर को संगीत विभाग द्वारा आयोजित अंताक्षरी ने सभी प्रतियोगियों को मोहित कर दिया। ३० से अधिक छात्रों ने इस प्रतियोगिता में हिस्सा लिया। उनके फिल्मों व फिल्मी गीतों के ज्ञान को परखा गया।

७ दिसंबर को साहित्य विभाग द्वारा आयोजित कवि सम्मेलन ने कॉलेज के उभरते कवि व कवयित्रियों को अपनी रचनाएँ प्रस्तुत करने का अवसर प्रदान किया। ५० से अधिक कवि व श्रोता इस सम्मेलन में उपस्थित थे, जिनमें कई प्राध्यापक भी शामिल थे। कविताओं के शब्दों की सुंदरता में सभी श्रोता मग्न थे।

८ और ९ दिसंबर को नाट्य विभाग द्वारा आयोजित एकांकी, में ६ नाटकों का मंचन किया गया। अलग मूल्यों व विचारों पर आधारित इन नाटकों ने कॉलेज के लेखकों, निर्देशकों व अभिनेताओं को अपनी कला प्रदर्शित करने के लिये एक मंच प्रदान किया। इन दो दिनों में ८०० से भी अधिक दर्शकों ने कलाकारों को बढ़ावा दिया। एकांकी में के. वी. आई.

सी. के उच्चाधिकारी, टीवी कलाकार श्री इमरान हसनी और स्टार टीवी से श्री अनिरुध पाठक भी मौजूद थे। अंतस के आखरी दिन, १० दिसंबर को संगीत विभाग ने कॉलेज का सबसे चहीता कार्यक्रम बॉलीवुड ऑर्केस्ट्रा का आयोजन किया। कॉलेज के २० विद्यार्थियों ने २ महिनों की कड़ी मेहनत के बाद इस शो को मंच पर प्रस्तुत कर सभी का मन मोह लिया। कॉलेज हॉल लोगों से खचाखच भरा था। कॉलेज के कुछ प्राध्यापकों ने भी एक गीत प्रस्तुत किया। २०१५ के सबसे लोक-प्रिय गानों की धुन पर लोगों के पैर पूरे दो घंटों तक थिरक रहे थे।

हम के.वी.आई सी. व ई.एक्स.एम. का आभार प्रकट करना चाहते हैं, जिनके सहयोग से अंतस सफल रहा। हम सभी प्रतियोगियों, कलाकारों व दर्शकों का दिल से शुक्रिया अदा करना चाहते हैं।

शिवानी पाटेकर

द्वितीय वर्ष - कला

WDC ACTIVITIES

- 6th August 2015 : Orientation for FYBA, FYBMM & FYBMS students on "Sexual Harassment on the Campus" – Chief Speaker : Mr. Parag Manere, DCP Crime, Thane
- 2nd September 2015 : Orientation for FYBSc & FYBSc (IT) students on "Online Sexual Harassment" – Chief Speaker: Journalist, Ms. Geeta Seshu, Mumbai.
- 12th September 2015 : Self Defence Workshop – Instructor Elroy Vaz, of Krav Maga Global.
- 14th September 2015 : "The Fads & Fallacies of Dieting and Indian Food Wisdom" – talk by Nutritionist, Ms. Rujuta Diwekar. This talk was conducted by the WDC in collaboration with the department of Life Science & Biochemistry
- December 2015 : Sanitary Napkin Vending Machine was installed in the Lady Students washroom, an initiative by the Students Council and the WDC. We are among the first few Colleges in Mumbai to install this amenity.
- 8th February 2016 : "Walk" – a presentation by theater artist Ms. Maya Krishna Rao, sponsored by One Billion Rising.

ITHAKA



Each year, Ithaka, theatre festival hosted by the English Literature department with a workforce consisting of students from multiple streams, aims at providing a platform to budding theatrical talent within our

prestigious institution. Last year, our theme-“Cue Lunacy” represented our attempt to encourage our audience to let go of their inhibitions and embrace the madness within.

In 2016, Ithaka will perform at Zest!, a youth theatre festival held at the NCPA. This will take place on the 12th of January.

Heads of Ithaka

मराठी वाड.मय मंडळ

मुंबई विद्यापीठातील सर्वात जुने आणि सक्रिय अशी ख्याती असलेले संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयातील मराठी वाड.मय मंडळ ही महाविद्यालयातील विद्यालयातील विद्यार्थ्यांमार्फत चालवली जाणारी संघटना आहे. १९२३ साली स्थापना झालेल्या या मंडळाने ह्या वर्षी वैभवशाली ९२ वर्षे पूर्ण केली. जागतिकीकरणाच्या वलयात असलेल्या झेवियर्समध्ये मराठी संस्कृती जोपासण्याचा मोलाचा प्रयत्न मंडळ करत आहे. मराठी संस्कृती आणि परंपरांबद्दल जागरूकता निर्माण करणे हा मंडळाचा प्राथमिक हेतू आहे. आणि म्हणूनच निरनिराळे कार्यक्रम, उपक्रम आयोजित करण्यात मंडळाची कार्यकारिणी प्रयत्नशील असते.

या वर्षी महाविद्यालयात मराठी भाषा गौरव दिन २७ फेब्रुवारी रोजी साजरा करण्यात आला. संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयातील मराठी वाड.मय मंडळाचा शैक्षणिक वर्षातला अखेरचा कार्यक्रम म्हणजे मराठी भाषा दिन. साहजिकच हा कार्यक्रम मोठ्या उत्साहात पार पडला. मराठी भाषा दिनाच्या या कार्यक्रमात मराठी भाषेतील अतिशय बुजुर्ग अशा साहित्यिकांना अभिवादन करण्याच्या हेतूने त्यांच्या कलाकृती सादर करण्यात आल्या. कुसुमग्रजांना जन्मदिन म्हणून साजरा करण्यात येणाऱ्या या दिवशी त्यांना अभिवादन करून त्यांच्या निवडक कवितांचे वाचन करण्यात आले. मंगशे पाडगावकर यांच्या स्मृतीप्रीत्यर्थ त्यांचे विविध किस्से आणि कविता यांचे सादरीकरण करण्यात आले. उपस्थितांनी टाळ्यांच्या गजरात या कवितांना मनापासून दाद दिली. याचबरोबर या कार्यक्रमात पु. ल.देशपांडे यांच्या तीन चित्रफितींचे स्क्रीनिंग केले गेले. ल्हमुंबईकर, पुणेकर की नागपूरकर ह्या पाहताना प्रेक्षकांमध्ये चांगलाच

हशा पिकला तर ”पेस्तन काकाळ ऐकताना प्रेक्षक भावुक झाले. या कार्यक्रमाला प्राध्यापक आणि विद्यार्थी यांची मोठ्या प्रमाणावर उपस्थिती लाभली होती.

वर्षभरात मंडळाने विविध उपक्रम केले. २०१५-१६ वर्षात मंडळाच्या प्रवासाची सुरुवात गुरुपौर्णिमा साजरी करून झाली. गुरुपौर्णिमेच्या दिवशी कॉलेज डे ला महाविद्यालयातील सर्व शिक्षकांना अभिवादन करून गुरुपौर्णिमेबद्दल विद्यार्थ्यांना माहिती देण्यात आली.

या वर्षीचा उद्घाटन सोहळा ”मधली सुट्टी सप्टेंबरमध्ये पार पडला. या कार्यक्रमात शाळेच्या आठवणी ही थीम घेऊन नाटय, साहित्य, संगीत, काव्यवाचन यांचे सादरीकरण विद्यार्थ्यांनी केले. या सोहळ्याला प्रमुख म्हणून लाभलेल्या सुप्रसिध्द गायिका देवकी पंडित यांच्याबरोबरच्या गप्पांतून त्यांच्या महाविद्यालयीन आठवणी ताज्या झाल्या.

या वर्षी मंडळाने डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इंटर रिलीजियस स्टडीज बरोबर झेवियर्स मध्ये प्रथमच गणपतीची स्थापना केली होती. इको फ्रेंडली असा हा दीड दिवसाचा गणेशोत्सव विद्यार्थी आणि प्राध्यापक यांच्या प्रोत्साहनाने पार पडला. या उपक्रमाचे विशेष गणपती, बकरी ईद आणि वर्ल्ड पीस डे एकत्र साजरे करण्यात आले.

तेजोमय या मंडळाच्या दिवाळी अंकाच्या तिसऱ्या आवृत्तीचे अनावरण नोव्हेंबर महिन्यात करण्यात आले. या वर्षी ऋणानुबंध या थीम वरील लेख प्रकाशित करण्यात आले. या अनावरणाच्या वेळी हिन्दू मुस्लिम दंगली, लैंगिक शिक्षण, अवयवदान अशा विषयांवरील लघुपटांचे प्रस्तुतीकरण करण्यात

आले. त्यानंतर या लघुपटांच्या दिग्दर्शकांशी गप्पाही झाल्या. झेवियरार्ईट्सना मराठी चित्रसृष्टी आणि भाषेचा आस्वाद घेता यावा, त्याचबरोबर काही सामाजिक संदेशही मिळावा हा शॉर्टफिल्म स्क्रीनिंगचा मूळ उद्देश होता .

डिसेंबर महिन्यामध्ये महाविद्यालयातील सांस्कृतिक दिवशी मंडळाने फोटो बूथचे आयोजन केले होते. यात मंडळाने मुंबई विविध रंग (फिचर्स) दर्शवणारी एक फ्रेम तयार केली होती. त्याबरोबर फोटो काढण्याचा मनमुताद आनंद विद्यार्थ्यांनी घेतला. त्याच बरोबर झेवियर्समध्ये पहिल्यांदाच लेझीम चे सादरीकरण ही करण्यात आले होते.

सांस्कृतिक वारसा जोपासण्याच्या कार्याबरोबरच मंडळाने सामाजिक भानही राखले आहे. जानेवारी महिन्यामध्ये ग्रीन सिटी या संस्थेच्या सहयोगाने वृक्षारोपण मोहीम हाती घेतली. त्या निमित्ताने विक्रोळी जवळ ४० झाडे लावण्यात आली.

पखरण या मंडळाच्या वार्षिक अंकाचे प्रकाशन आमोद च्या पहिल्या दिवशी करण्यात आले. या अंकात केवळ विद्यार्थ्यांनीच नव्हे तर शिक्षकांनीही आपले विचार मांडले.

मराठी वाड.मय मंडळामार्फत मराठी संस्कृतीचा वारसा पुढे चालवत ठेवण्याचे हे प्रामाणिक प्रयत्न सर्वांना रुचतील आणि जास्तीत जास्त मराठी व अमराठी विद्यार्थी ह्या मंडळाचा भाग होऊन आपल्या परीने योगदान करतील आणि आपल्या ह्या मंडळाचा प्रवास असाच वर्षानुवर्ष चालत राहील हीच सदिच्छा!

कार्यकारिणी २०१५-१६

राजस शिंदे	मुख्यसचिव	ऋचा देवाराचेटी	संगीत विभागप्रमुख
वैदेही राऊळ	उपसचिव	प्रणीता काटदरे	साहित्य विभागप्रमुख
वेधश्री आगाशे	उपसचिव	सुमेधा कुकडे	नाटय विभागप्रमुख
सिध्देश सुर्वे	समन्वयक	आशुमी मेहता	कला विभागप्रमुख
प्राजक्ता सावंत	समन्वयक	मोहक केसर	जनसंपर्क विभागप्रमुख
दिपज्ञा वाळंज	खजिनदार	अबोली इंगळे	जनसंपर्क विभागप्रमुख
हर्षद पारेकर	संपादक	मनोज्ञा तुरुमेल्ला	मार्केटिंग विभागप्रमुख
गार्गी देशमुख	सहसंपादक	अंतरा मोने	मार्केटिंग विभागप्रमुख

दिनांक	कार्यक्रम	तप्शिल
२० ऑगस्ट २०१५	वार्षिक परिचय सत्र	कार्यकारिणीचा आणि मंडळातील विविध विभागांचा परिचय
०८ सप्टेंबर २०१५	मधली सुट्टी	शालेय जीवनातील सोनेरी आठवणींचा एक गोफ. विशेष अतिथी-देवकी पंडित
१६ सप्टेंबर २०१५	गणेश चतुर्थी	DIRS च्या संगतीने गणपती बाप्पा चे आगमन St Xavier's च्या प्रांगणात झाले.
२४ नोव्हेंबर २०१५	दिवाळी अंकाचे प्रकाशन	लघुपटांचे Screening आणि दिवाळी अंक तेजोमय याचे प्रकाशन
०३ डिसेंबर २०१५	Traditional Day	लेझिम नृत्याचे सादरीकरण आणि एक फोटोबूथ जिथे मराठी पारंपारिक साहित्य जसे तलवार, इत्यादी सोबत विद्यार्थी फोटो काढत होते.
०४ डिसेंबर २०१५	आमोद परिचय सत्र	आमोद-मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाच्या वार्षिक महोत्सवाविषयी माहिती.
०१ जानेवारी २०१६	Radiance	छायाचित्रण सपर्धा
२४ जानेवारी २०१६	वृक्षा रोपण	पर्यावरणाच्या सुरक्षेसाठी योगदान म्हणून ठाणे - विक्रोळी महामार्गावर वृक्षारोपण
२७-२८-२९ जानेवारी	आमोद-सोहळा मराठी अस्मितेचा	साहित्यविभाग-ब.न. पुरंदरे वक्तृत्व स्पर्धा, वादविवाद (Debate), माझ्या लेखणीतून (लेखन -स्पर्धा) संगीत विभाग-सूरसंगम (Duet Singing) ताक धिना धीन् (अंताक्षरी), महाराष्ट्राची लोकधारा (नृत्य स्पर्धा). नाटय विभाग - बहुरुपी (एकपात्री अभिनय), शब्दांच्या पलीकडले (Miming competition) कला विभाग (Fine Arts) - वास्तुरंग (Object Painting), काव्यचित्र (Poetry + Painting)
२७ फेब्रुवारी २०१६	मराठी भाषा दिवस	बुजुर्ग मराठी साहित्यिकांचे किस्से आणि त्यांच्या कवितांचे वाचन केले गेले.



SPORTS

SENIOR COLLEGE

ACHIEVEMENTS IN SPORT (ACADEMIC YEAR 2015-2016)

Our Senior College teams participated at several tournaments organized by the University of Mumbai.

The following are the results:

TEAM ACHIEVEMENTS

SPORT	WOMEN	MEN
FOOTBALL	1 st Runners-up	Participated
BASKETBALL	Winners	Quarter-finalists
HANDBALL	2nd Runners-up	-----
HOCKEY	Semi-finalists	Quarter-finalists
VOLLEYBALL	Quarter-finalists	Participated
CRICKET	-----	Participated
TABLE TENNIS	Quarter-finalists	Participated
BADMINTON	Quarter-finalists	Participated
CHESS	Participated	Participated

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

The following students participated at the Inter College Tournament held by the University of Mumbai.

GYMNASTICS: Gandhi Aditi – SYBA (Rank 7th)
Naik Niharika – SYBA (Rank 8th)

ATHLETICS:

- 110m Hurdles: Agnel Dominic – SYBSc (Placed 5th)
- 400m: Chantelle Mascarenhas - SYBA (Placed 2nd)
- Discuss Throw: Vora Shruti- FYBA (Placed 1st)
- 4 x 400 meters relay: Varada Shrotri (SYBA), Kimberly Fernandez (SYBMS), Chantelle Mascarenhas (FYBA), Aashumi Mehta (TYBSC) (Placed 5th)

BADMINTON: Pitre Sai (SYBA) - (Placed 5th)

CHESS: Karen Henriques (FYBSc-IT) - (Placed 5th)

JUDO (Upto 57kg): Chatterjee Nikita (FYBA) (Placed 3rd)

POWER LIFTING (Upto 74 kg): Cassius Castellino (MA-I) (Placed 7th)

TENNIS: Rao Tanmay (FYBA), Mendonsa Jai (FYBA) – Men's Doubles (Placed 5th)

ASHWAMEDH / ALL- INDIA UNIVERSITY / NATIONAL GAMES

FOOTBALL: Kimberly Fernandez (SYBMS)

BASKETBALL: Kimberly Fernandez (SYBMS)

HANDBALL: Melissa Luiz (SYBA), Khyati Bohra (SYBMM)

VOLLEYBALL: Kavinaya Mohandas (FYBA)

GYMNASTICS: Gandhi Aditi – (SYBA)

HOCKEY: Mahek Mann (TYBA)

WATER POLO: Singh Amey (TYBA) Monica Moses (FYBA) at the Senior Aquatic National Championship

**ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM**



**WINNERS- MUMBAI UNIVERSITY INTER-COLLEGE
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

Top row (L to R):

*Iada Shisha Shanpru, Rhea Tharakan, Aniya Oberoi, Kylynn Bhatena,
Dr. Thomas Pires (Sports Director), Shruti Nair, Arantxa Cardozo,
Gloria Hauzel, Akshara Parul.*

Bottom row (L to R):

*Anushka Hirwani, Aashumi Mehta, Kimberly Fernandez,
Nidhi Meppadan.*

**ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE
WOMEN'S HANDBALL TEAM**



**2ND RUNNERS UP- MUMBAI UNIVERSITY INTER-
COLLEGE HANDBALL TOURNAMENT**

Bottom row (L to R):

*Kavinaya Mohandas, Sai Pitre, Keya Matthews, Kimberly Fernandez,
Apurva Kothare, Khyati Bohra, Melissa Luiz.*

**ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE
WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM**



**1ST RUNNERS UP - MUMBAI UNIVERSITY INTER-
COLLEGE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT**

(Top row L to R):

*Rea Vaz, Priya Ketan, Giselle D'silva, Swetha Shirodkar,
Jeffery Campus (Coach), Dr. Thomas Pires (Sports
Director), Tarun Kalathil (Asst. Coach), Chaitali Mendon,
Mehak Mann, Gabriella Castillo, Marika Menezes*

(Bottom row L to R):

*Cliantha Crasto, Clarisse Rodrigues, Kimberly Fernandez,
Shruti Narkar, Chantelle Mascarenhas, Aarohi Sanghavi*

**ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE ANNUAL ATHLETIC MEET
2015-2016**



**INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS AND
INTER-FACULTY WINNERS**

*From L to R: Senior College Inter Faculty Champions- Kevin
Abraham (SYBMS), Alan Joseph (FYBMS), Junior College Boys
Individual Champion -Bhagyesh Anvekar (FYJC Science), Dr.
Thomas Pires (Sports Director), Dr. Baptist Agnel Menezes
(Principal), Senior College Women's Individual Champion- Chantelle
Mascarenhas (FYBA), Junior College Girls Individual Champion
Advika Agrawal (SYJC Arts), Senior College Men's Individual
Champion - Praful Kumar (FYBSc),
Junior College Inter Faculty Champions - Natasha Martis (FYJC
Science), Floyd Dias (SYJC Science).*

SENIOR COLLEGE SPORT DAY RESULTS

The Annual Athletic Meet for the academic year 2015-2016 was held on the 22nd and 24th of November 2015, at the University Sports Ground, Marine Lines. Faculty and students in large numbers cheered the participants. All the winners were presented with medals and certificates by members of the college faculty.

SPORT DAY RESULTS 2015-2016			
EVENT: 1500mts.		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	HARROLD BARRETTO	BSc	5.33 min
II	AARON CRASTO	BSc	5.35 min
III	ALAN JOSEPH	BMS	5.44 min
EVENT: 1500mts.		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	6.23 min
II	KAVINAYA MOHANDAS	BA	7.38 min
III	-	-	-
EVENT: 800 mts.		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	PRAFUL KUMAR	BSc	2.17 min
II	HARROLD BARRETTO	BSc	2.22 min
II	DANIEL ARAMBUR	BSc	2.27 min
EVENT: 800mts.		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	2.46 min
II	KAVINAYA MOHANDAS	BA	3.17 min
III	SAVITRI SAHNI	BSc	3.36 min
EVENT: 400mts.		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	PRAFUL KUMAR	BSc	57.50 s
II	HARROLD BARRETTO	BSc	1:01:07
III	SHUBHAM CHARAN	BSc	1:02
EVENT: 400mts.		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	1.67.87
II	KAVINAYA MOHANDAS	BA	1.15.13
III	PRIYANKA DHAL	BSc	1.15.68
EVENT: 200mts.		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	KEVIN ABRAHAM	BMS	23.71 s
II	ALAN JOSEPH	BMS	24.55 s
III	HARROLD BARRETTO	BSc	24.84 s
EVENT: 200mts.		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	29.25 s
II	KAVINAYA MOHANDAS	BA	32.07 s
III	PRIYANKA DHAL	BSc	32.67 s

EVENT: 100mts.		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	KEVIN ABRAHAM	BMS	12.24 s
II	ALAN JOSEPH	BMS	12.47 s
III	PRAFUL KUMAR	BSc	12.66 s
EVENT: 100mts.		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	13.56 s
II	KIMBERLY FERNANDEZ	BMS	14.64 s
III	KAVINYA MOHANDAS	BA	14.81 s
EVENT: LONG JUMP		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	DISTANCE
I	PRAFUL KUMAR	BSc	5.87 m
II	KEVIN ABRAHAM	BMS	5.33 m
III	ALAN FERNANDES	BMS	5.25 m
EVENT: LONG JUMP		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	DISTANCE
I	KIMBERLY FERNANDEZ	BMS	3.47 m
II	KAVINYA MOHANDAS	BA	3.41 m
III	ABHA PHILIP	BMS	3.26 m
EVENT: HIGH JUMP		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	HEIGHT
I	RAVIRAJ CHANDAN	BCom	1.60 m
II	KEVIN ABRAHAM	BMS	1.55 m
III	HUZEFA ROVNAQ	BCom	1.50 m
EVENT: HIGH JUMP		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	HEIGHT
I	KIMBERLY FERNANDEZ	BMS	1.30 m
II	ABHA PHILIP	BMS	1.20 m
III	KAVINYA MOHANDAS	BA	1.15 m
EVENT: DISCUS THROW		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	DISTANCE
I	THEJANGUZO TERHUJA	BMS	28.63 m
II	SHIVAM DURAI	BSc-IT	12.43 m
III	RAHUL PUSAL	BSc	5.00 m
EVENT: SHOT PUT		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	DISTANCE
I	AARON CRASTO	BSc	9.73 m
II	JOSHUA KEVIN RAJAN	BSc	9.04 m
III	UTKARSH SINGH	BSc	8.53 m
EVENT: SHOT PUT		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	DISTANCE
I	PRIYANKA DHAL	BSc	7.50 m
II	KIMBERLY FERNANDEZ	BMS	7.47 m
III	RACHEL SALVE	BA	5.18 m

EVENT: JAVELIN THROW		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	DISTANCE
I	THEJANGUZO TERHUJA	BMS	30.09 m
II	RAVIRAJ CHANDAN	BCom	29.22 m
III	GIRISH SHETTY	BCom	22.33 m

INTER-CLASS RESULTS

The annual inter class tournaments were held through the course of the academic year. An array of tournaments were held and contested, right from individual sports like chess and table tennis to various team games like rink football and hockey. The tournaments saw a huge number of entries from enthusiastic participants in all the different faculties of the undergraduate and postgraduate courses of college. Throughout the tournaments, participants displayed sportsmanship, passion and great talent which gathered several onlookers including both faculty and students.

WINNERS

SPORT	SENIOR GIRLS	SENIOR BOYS
BADMINTON	Sai Pitre (SYBA)	Soham Daruwala (FYBA)
CARROM	Crescenta Colaco (TYBSc)	Rahul Pusal (FYBSc)
CHESS	Karen Henriques (FYBSc-IT)	Darren Henriques (TYBSc-IT)
BASKETBALL	SYBMS	TYBA
RINK FOOTBALL	Combined Tournament for Junior Senior College	SYBSc
RINK HOCKEY	Combined Tournament for Junior Senior College	FYBA
VOLLEYBALL	Combined Tournament for Junior Senior College	FYBSc-IT
THROWBALL	SYBA	
TABLE TENNIS (SINGLES)	Yagya Chadha (TYBSc)	Manas Gubbi (SYBA)
TABLE TENNIS (DOUBLES)	Yagya Chadha, Amanda Cairo (TYBSc)	Shane Paes, Yohaán Pavri (FYBSc)
TABLE TENNIS (MIXED DOUBLES)	Radha Joshi, Manas Gubbi (SYBA)	

INTER CLASS TEAM WINNERS



**Girls Basketball Winners
(SYBMS)**



**Senior Boys Basketball Winners
(TYBA)**



**Senior Boys Hockey Winners
(FYBA)**

INTER CLASS TEAM WINNERS



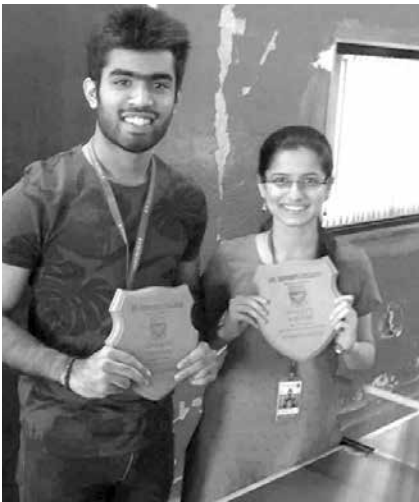
**Senior Boys Volleyball Winners
(FYBCIT)**



**Senior Boys Football Winners
(SYBSc)**



**Senior Girls Badminton Winner
(SYBA)**



**Girls Basketball Winners
(SYBMS)**



**Senior Girls Doubles TT Winners
(TYBSc)**



**Senior Boys Doubles TT Winners
(FYBSc)**



XRCVC

The Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC) (www.xrcvc.org) is, arguably, one of India's best resource and advocacy centres for visually challenged persons.



A truly inclusive society is one which ensures that every member gets an opportunity to become all that they can be. Once we start seeing the real person within, ignoring perceived abilities and disabilities, ignoring all the biases and prejudices, we become better human beings and end up making the world better.

With the unstinted support of the staff and students of St Xavier's College and a small but committed team of 12 professionals, we work to empower visually impaired persons all over the country.



(Pic 1 and 2) Inauguration of XRCVC Viviana Extension at Thane by Dr Fr Frazer Mascarenhas; (Pic 3) Pranjal Patil being felicitated by Dr Agnelo Menezes

The year began on an auspicious note as XRCVC branched out into the suburbs of Mumbai. The XRCVC-Viviana Extension, located in Thane, was inaugurated on June 27 by Dr Fr Frazer Mascarenhas SJ, former principal of St Xavier's College. The widely-publicised event was attended by around 70 guests. The extension centre's activities got off to a rousing start with a workshop on social media for visually impaired persons, which specially focused on Twitter.

The year ended on a very promising note as well, with news filtering in that our member Pranjal Patil had cleared the prestigious UPSC exam at the first attempt and is set to join the Indian Civil Service.

During the year, we had the pleasure of welcoming on board Aurealia D'Mello, who joined as Consultant (Special Education) in July 2016.

Our membership base stood at 508 during the year. We were also able to touch—and hopefully transform—thousands of lives across the country through our advocacy work, particularly in the areas of education access, financial access, print access, and independent living (see section sub-titled 'Advocacy').

Having revamped our website (www.xrcvc.org) during the previous year and also established a robust presence on the social media with a Facebook page (XRCVC—Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged) and Twitter handle (@XRCVC) we were able to disseminate information about our activities to members and other stakeholders on an almost real-time basis. Shriram Parthasarathy, a social media professional, continues to helm this initiative in a voluntary capacity.

Like in the previous academic year, our activities through the year were channelised through our restructured triad of work:

- Direct Support Services
- Advocacy
- Awareness

Given below is a summary of our activities in 2015-16 under each head.

Direct Support Services

The XRCVC offers a range of direct support and training services to persons with vision impairment, caregivers, educators and institutions.

1. **Volunteer Support:** Despite all the technology and advancements, human assistance cannot be eliminated completely. The XRCVC provides volunteer services for:

- Reading
- Making material into accessible formats – through typing, scanning, editing, recording
- Examination taking – scribe facilities
- Teaching – for any subject

Depending on a person's needs and requirements, XRCVC provides volunteers on an annual basis for regular support or on a one-off basis for short-term periods.

Around 80 volunteers worked with us through the year, a majority of whom were sourced from the Social Involvement Programme (SIP) of St Xavier's College (Autonomous).

Technologies

The XRCVC houses the latest and the most exhaustive list of assistive technologies (AT) to be explored by visually challenged persons as also employers, government bodies and any other group that would like to know more about AT. Anyone is welcome at XRCVC, preferably with prior appointment, to explore our full range of assistive technologies and their use.

Like every year, we procured a wide range of new technologies in 2015-16. Some of these include a handheld book reader and OCR device Blaze multiplayer, equipment for accessible science experiments such as drop counter, automatic stir station, motion detector, a special tactile graphics creation thermoforming machine imported from American Printing House for the Blind, low vision aids such as the Clearview and camera mouse. We also replaced a large number of older laptops and desktops with newer machines.

Training

The XRCVC imparts training in computers, the use of specific assistive devices, Braille, Orientation & Mobility, Maths & Science, English language and Life skills through various training programmes. These are available for diverse learner groups – visually challenged, special educators, teacher trainers and caregivers. The XRCVC offers volunteer support services for reading, making material accessible (through typing, scanning, editing, and recording) and assisting as a writer/ scribe during college/ competitive examinations. With the right skills and know-how, independent living and working is an increasing reality for persons with vision impairment.

Our comprehensive and revamped training schedule in 2015-16 ensured that our Special Educators and trainers had their hands full throughout the year. The training sessions during the year included customised workshops by various members of the XRCVC team including

Calveena D'Sylva, Rebecca Carvalho, Mimansa Vahia, Aurealia D'Mello, Vikas Dabholkar, Sushil Pandit, and Keshavan Nadar. These training sessions were held at schools as well as at XRCVC and XRCVC-Viviana Extension.

Personal and Career Guidance

Guidance services were provided to members and their families to identify needs, interests and aptitudes as also troubleshoot and cope with concerns.

Scholarships

Recognising the high costs for higher education and assistive technologies, the XRCVC provides scholarship and access technology lending schemes to deserving students. New higher education avenues have been pursued by the visually



Various training sessions in progress at XRCVC and XRCVC Viviana Extension, Thane

challenged over the last decade. Along with new opportunities come new costs of higher education courses. Similarly, whilst assistive technologies and computers have provided immense aid to the visually challenged, what is often considered a luxury for sighted students is a necessity for a student with visual impairment.

The Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship for the year was awarded to our member Shiksha Gupta, for being the most deserving visually impaired student graduating from St Xavier's College, Mumbai.

Distribution of devices

Laptops were distributed to visually challenged students under the XRCVC - Rotary Club of Bombay Hanging Garden Laptop Loan Scheme during the year. Like last year, the laptops were sponsored by Rotary Club as part of their programme titled Project Xcessworld - District Grant No 1516291, A Project to Empower the Visually Challenged.

A number of Plectalk Vachaks (a Digital Talking Book Player and Recorder) were also distributed to various visually impaired persons during the year under the Govt of India's Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/ Appliances (ADIP Scheme).

Sports and Recreation

Oftentimes, recreation and sports get left out in discussions on lives of persons with disabilities. However, these are as integral a part of life for persons with disabilities as for the non-disabled.

Recognising the value of sports and recreation, the XRCVC works on creating innovative opportunities and events. The XRCVC Recreation Club was launched during the year with continuous fitness and training sessions being held under the supervision of Dr Thomas Pires, Sports Director, St Xavier's College.

Besides, the XRCVC team organised and participated in many sports activities during the year.

These included:

- An Invitation Cricket tournament for the Visually Impaired in Mumbai
- An exhibition match of blind football in Mumbai organised by Youth United Foundation
- An All-India Invitational Blind Football Tournament in Kerala, organised by Society for Rehabilitation of the Visually Challenged.



Sporting activities for the visually challenged being conducted at St Xavier's College

XRCVC also collaborated with The Cubing Club of Xavier's Institute of Engineering (XIE) to conduct a Cubing workshop for its members in January.

Advocacy

Ensuring environmental access is a key factor in determining that vision loss does not result in a disability. XRCVC's advocacy initiatives work in four main areas of print access, financial access, education access and independent living to create accessible environments.

Print Access

The access to printed works for the visually challenged depends on its availability in accessible formats and the permissibility of the legal systems to convert material to accessible formats. XRCVC has been working relentlessly to overcome these challenges.

During this period, the XRCVC produced 39 DAISY books in full-text-full-audio format (comprising 8,200 pages with an audio run time of 271 hours, 50 minutes, 32 seconds. The XRCVC is preparing all its accessible DAISY titles to be ready for uploading onto a national accessible online library which it is working to roll out alongwith the Daisy Forum of India (DFI).

Some of the events that took place or were conducted under the Print Access initiative during the year are appended below.

- Dr Sam Taraporevala and Aniket Gupta participated in the Daisy Forum of India's (DFI) meeting in Patiala, Braille Council of India's meeting in Guwahati.
- During the year, XRCVC worked closely with Benetech, a global non-profit social entrepreneurial venture harnessing the power of technology for social benefit on many print access-related initiatives.
- Worked with BSE Institute Ltd in making books accessible.
- Initiated discussions to set up the online portal for the CTM library.
- Assisted a retired professor at Swami Vivekanand College, Mumbai in planning a resource centre Daisy library
- Assisted a retired judge from the Constitutional bench of South Africa, regarding designing a course in India. Being visually challenged, the judge needed help with a Hindi-English dictionary in Braille.
- XRCVC's Daisy specialist, Sushil Pandit, conducted a special DAISY training workshop in Nairobi (Kenya) in November, under the aegis of UNESCO.
- Dr Sam Taraporevala participated as a resource person in a library conference at JNU to create awareness about DFI and the online library. The subject of the special session was "Reaching the Unreached through ETDs: Research Support Services for persons with disabilities".
- Conducted regular discussions with Assistech, IIT Delhi team to evaluate the work on the Refreshable Braille Display.

Reading Without Seeing

The XRCVC had launched an extremely effective national-level awareness programme in 2012 under the banner of 'Reading Without Seeing', which takes access technologies to blind and low-vision users across locations, and ignites in its audiences the curiosity and basic knowledge to begin their journey of accessing the printed word independently. The programme equips participants with the basic knowhow of a host of assistive technologies.

The programme gained added momentum this year with 15 workshops reaching out to 321 persons (see Table 2). These workshops were conducted by the XRCVC team comprising Sushil Pandit, Keshavan Nadar, Aniket Gupta, Vikas Dabholkar and Shizanne D'Mello, along with volunteers Rajesh Mehta, Hetal Shah, Rajni Pandit and Jatin Shah.

Financial Access

The ability to independently manage, operate and execute one's financial transactions is key to independent living. Lack of effective guidelines and lack of optimum use of technology in financial instruments had traditionally denied financial access to the blind and low vision. The XRCVC has been striving to change this reality. Some of the activities under the Financial Access initiative are appended below.

- XRCVC has been working closely with a global organization, G3ict, to help promote financial inclusion in India. As part of this, an interactive meeting was organized in April in St Xavier's College between Mr James Thurston, G3ict Vice President for Global Strategy and Development, Indian Bank Association (IBA) officials and other stakeholders. Earlier, G3ict had facilitated a one-day seminar in Paris on new developments in financial services accessibility compliance and technologies for executives of international banks.
- XRCVC regularly participated in meetings organised by IBA's Working Group on Banking Facilities for Persons with Special Needs.
- Discussions were conducted with State Bank of India officials to ascertain how the bank could enhance the skills of their visually impaired employees and bring them into the mainstream.
- As part of XRCVC's ongoing work with accessible ATMs, a team from XRCVC visited the NCR office in Mumbai and shared feedback about accessibility features to be incorporated in their new cloud-based ATM. The system works on the principle that there should be minimal burden at the terminal. Since most of the intelligence remains at the central server hosted at the data centre of the respective bank, NCR believes this will offer more secure transactions. In the next phase, NCR plans to replace the physical PINPAD with a next generation encrypted touchscreen.
- Provided feedback to Reserve Bank of India on accessible currency notes.

Education Access

While Right to Education has become a fundamental right in India, for persons with disabilities, this right is far from being



(Pic 1) Dr Sam Taraporevala at the 3rd International Workshop on 'Digitization and E-Inclusion in Mathematics and Science 2016' (DEIMS2016);
 (Pic 2) an intern from IIT Mumbai working on the newly acquired special tactile graphics creation thermoforming machine imported from American Printing House for the Blind

actualised. During the year, XRCVC continued its work towards inclusive education practices and services at school, college and higher education levels. A series of activities were conducted during the year in this connection, which are appended below.

- Dr Sam Taraporevala and Aniket Gupta visited Tokyo from February 2 to 8 to participate in The 3rd International Workshop on "Digitization and E-Inclusion in Mathematics and Science 2016" (DEIMS2016). During the workshop, Dr Taraporevala delivered a keynote lecture on "STEM Education for Blind and Low Vision Students - The Socio-Technical Challenge: The Indian Perspective". They also paid a visit to the Japan Braille library.
- XRCVC through this year accomplished pioneering work in the area of mathematics and science education. Students were provided direct support services. XRCVC created accessible electronic textbooks, teaching learning aids (TLA), and provided conceptual training to these students. In addition XRCVC has started creating a TLA resource library for mathematics and science education, starting Std 1 onwards.
- XRCVC's team on inclusive education comprising Neha Trivedi, Calveena D'Sylva, Rebecca Carvalho, Mimansa Vahia and Aurealia D'Mello continued work on the Concept Teaching Manuals (CTMs), which have been designed for use by teachers working with blind or low vision students. Special educators or parents working on a one-on-one basis, as well as classroom teachers and tuition teachers in an inclusive classroom can incorporate the information and ideas from these manuals. These CTMs cover interactive ways to teach concepts to blind or low vision students including the use of Teaching-Learning Aids (TLAs) in the form of activities, real objects, 3D educational toys and models, 2D tactile diagrams, etc.
- XRCVC's special educators paid bi-weekly visits to Prime Academy School as part of the Individualised Education Plan (IEP) process that has been taken up for two of its primary students. We also invited the principal of the school to our centre to show her our work on Education Access, and regularly conducted training and sensitization sessions at this school, and others like Beacon High School, St John's Universal ICSE School, and Besant Montessori School.
- Worked closely with Gopi Birla School on the rules for conduct of CBSE computer – based examinations for a visually impaired student.
- Worked closely with the British Council during the year to create an accessible version of the IELTS examination.
- Worked with the NGO Masoom to help visually impaired students enrolled in night schools.
- Conducted a workshop at NAB, Worli on Accessible Technology for maths (writing and solving) beyond primary level classes.
- Offered assistance to physiotherapy student Kritika Purohit in completing her internship at KEM Hospital
- Worked closely with a team from TCS on the course content for a proposed Basic Computer training course at NAB.
- Conducted a detailed teacher's training programme 'I For Inclusion' for teachers from 6 institutes.
- Worked closely with Kendriya Vidyalaya officials on making the KV schools more inclusive and collaborated with Zonal Institute of Education and Training (ZIET), Kanjurmarg on creating a training workshop for Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers
- Dr Sam Taraporevala delivered a lecture at IDC, IIT Mumbai to design students on "Introduction to the world of blind". The subjects covered were how VIs visualize and what mental models are built when a concept has to be understood, how

do they comprehend and how comprehension differs based on age and experience of the blind person, which is the most effective medium to send messages for such an audience, and currently how do they build concepts and learn new things.

- Worked closely with the Examinations Dept of St Xavier's College to help a visually impaired SYBA student and MPP student answer his examination papers using a laptop.
- Our Coordinator, Special Education attended a workshop on "Design & Production of Perceivable & Affordable Tactile Diagrams" at IIT Delhi, and also conducted sessions on 'Simplistic Solutions for Tactile Graphics', 'Use of Alt Text for Accessible Images in MS Word', and 'Creation of Accessible MathType MS Word files'.
- Worked closely with international experts like Prof Volker Sorge from the University of Birmingham on thermoforming tactile graphics.
- XRCVC is also working closely with officials from Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) to take forward the mandate of RUSA in ensuring quality in higher education and achieving excellence. Equity through inclusion in higher education is one of the key components under RUSA.
- Dr Taraporevala participated in a meeting convened by the Government of Maharashtra in December to discuss how Technical Devices & Software could be disseminated to disabled persons.
- Worked with the Joint secretary, UGC to further push forward the HEPSN (Higher Education for Persons With Special Needs) scheme for various colleges and universities. This will help in capacity building so that resource centres can be widely available.

Independent Living

Each of us, as we pass through our day, interact with a range of products, environments and services from transport services, to kitchen appliances, and entertainment products. How accessible are these daily living services and products for the visually challenged? XRCVC's Independent Living initiative questions and works towards rectifying these areas. Some of the activities covered under this initiative during the year are appended below.

- Worked closely with the Government of India on its Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan). Regular meetings were held with senior officials in Delhi in this connection, including the Joint Secretary, Dept of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- Worked with Mumbai Transformation Support Unit (MTSU) to give inputs in the Draft Development Control Rules (DCR) and Development Plan (DP) for Bombay prepared by MCGM.
- Worked with an entrepreneur from Bangalore to provide inputs for a mobility device
- Worked with an entrepreneur from Tech Mahindra, who aims to design an ultrasound-based Smart Goggle for VI Navigation
- Continuing discussions with Assistech, IIT Delhi about OnBoard, the accessible announcement system that will help Visually Impaired persons board buses.
- Worked closely with UMOJA, a hospitality company and travel portal, on making the hotel experience accessible for visually impaired persons. XRCVC also facilitated a focus group discussion on accessibility in hotels for UMOJA.
- Worked with Zomato, the Association of Hotels and Restaurants (AHAR), and Samsung India on making the offerings of these organisations accessible.
- Worked on pilot testing of location identification signages called Beacons. The plan is to have a Mobile Application in place for indoor navigation and identification for blind users. Also coordinating with a firm called NWBT on installing Beacons at Mumbai airport. Also worked with a few engineering students on the Beacon project.
- Worked with IBM Research India on a navigation project they are promoting called NavC7og.
- Helped prepare an Access audit tool for the Accessible India Campaign
- Worked with Jet Airways to help make their website accessible.
- Worked with Lemon Tree Hotels on offering accessible services
- Collaborated with an international project, Goodfood Talks (www.goodfoodtalks.com), which is an accessible menu library for blind and low-vision persons
- Worked on the prototype design of a unique Braille identity card at the request of the Ministry of Social Justice and

Empowerment, Delhi.

- Submitted suggestions to the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) on Harmonized Guidelines and Space Standards for Barrier Free built environment for persons with disability and elderly persons. For this purpose, XRCVC coordinated with Mr Mukesh Jain from the ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Anjalee Agarwal of Samarthyam in order to integrate the VI Perspective
- Helped guide two filmmakers—one in Hindi and the other in Marathi—to incorporate visually impaired characters in their films, and provided training to the actors as well.
- Hosted a team from Shinano Kenshi Co Ltd, Japan at the centre and discussed potential areas of collaboration
- Worked with LEAF Design Pvt Ltd on accessibility initiatives with design students.
- Continued ongoing research and development work on visual / auditory / tactile teaching-learning aids and other independent living aids. We worked on integrating diverse technologies which could create a composite system to read through fingers, see through eyes, or hear through ears. This has led to the prototype of an audio / tactile / visual map of India and audio / tactile / visual menu, which found a mention in the Limca Book of Records. The research also has immense potential for the teaching-learning process as it can promote paired reading and can assist a non-Braille literate person to also function effectively.
- Worked with officials from Reliance Energy to make the company's services and billing, etc. accessible

Awareness

Creating awareness about the lives and capabilities of visually impaired persons is one of the key areas that will open doors for them in a world where the rules are made for and by sighted people. XRCVC has been working on a number of such initiatives through its awareness and sensitization workshop 'Antarchakshu' —The Eye Within. The title 'Antarchakshu' has been successfully registered as a trademark on behalf of the Bombay St Xavier's College Society.

In May 2016, XRCVC launched a comic strip series titled 'You & Eye' as a sensitisation and awareness initiative. Probably India's first comic strip on the lives of visually impaired persons, 'You & Eye' is a collaborative effort between XRCVC, Jagran Group publication Mid-day, and Pune-based cartoonist, Nala Ponnappa. Starting May 1, the comic strip will be published every week in the Sunday edition of Mid-day for 52 weeks.

In addition, we conducted our mega sensitisation and awareness event 'Antarchakshu' twice this year, the first time in St Xavier's College, and subsequently in Gurgaon. The theme at both events was "Creating An accessible World" and the events saw a combined footfall of approximately 3500 participants.

These events focused on the following six principles of accessibility:

1. Universal Design: Usable By all
2. Accepting Differences & Sensory Substitution: Different ways of reaching the same goal
3. Multi-Sensory Approach: Enriches Experiences
4. No Clutter, Clutter confuses: Clean and non-cluttered layouts aid everyone
5. No half-baked cookie: Accessibility present from beginning to end and not only in parts
6. Nothing for us without us: User inputs and feedback taken during development



Images from Antarchakshu®—The Eye Within at Mumbai and Gurgaon

During the year sit-down versions of Antarchakshu were conducted at many places and for a variety of target groups, including members of the Advertising Agencies Association of India, the Thane Ophthalmic Association, content writers in Pune, mid and senior-level managers in Deloitte, design students of IDC, IIT Mumbai, students of the IITB-Monash Research Academy, and a number of corporates in Gurgaon, including TCS, ISDI-Leaf, Pernod-Ricard, Oracle, UST Global, Capgemini, People Matters, and Agrasar (See Table 2).

A special sit-down version was also conducted in Hyderabad for the employees of Microsoft as part of Confluence, which is the company's annual Disability & Inclusion event. The event had outlined three key objectives, a) to help employees uncover unconscious bias w.r.t. to working with People with Disability, b) to educate employees about creating an environment – both physical and inter-personal where People with Disability can attain their potential and perform, and c) to share the importance of creating and supporting an inclusive workplace where everyone thrives. After the workshop, Dr Taraporevala participated in a panel discussion organised by Microsoft on how to promote inclusion, with specific reference to disability. XRCVC also put up an exhibition of access technology devices at the venue.

Dr Sam Taraporevala also addressed members of the Rotary Club of Bombay at Taj hotel on Disability and Inclusion.



(Pic 1) An awareness and sensitisation workshop; (Pic 2) distribution of assistive devices

Awards

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Sion presented an award to Dr Sam Taraporevala as part of its Vocational Excellence Awards. The award was presented by Dattajirao Desai, a former municipal official.

Dr Sam Taraporevala was awarded the Louis Braille Award 2015 by the Pragyachakshu Mahila Sewa Kunj, Surendranagar, Gujarat.

Conclusion

We would like to extend our gratitude to our funders, partners, and sponsors without whom we would not have been able to come this far. We would like to specially thank Great Eastern CSR Foundation, Tata Capital Housing Finance Limited, Sightsavers, Dhun Pestonji Parakh Discretionary Trust, Tech Mahindra Foundation, Samruddha Resources Ltd, a contribution by Armaity Keki Namver in memory of her brother late Hoshang Keki Namver, Johnson and Johnson Ltd, Godrej, State Bank of India, SBI Funds Management Pvt Ltd, Dept of Disability Affairs (Govt of India), Microsoft Corporation (India) Pvt Ltd, NCR Corporation India Pvt Ltd, Union Bank of India, and Lions Club of East Bombay for supporting our various projects.

A big thank you to our large pool of volunteers as well. Their commitment ensures that a small organisation like the XRCVC is able to touch the lives of countless people all over the country.

In conclusion, we would like to place on record our deep appreciation to St. Xavier's College— the management, staff members and students, for demonstrating to educational institutes all over the country how a centre of learning can be truly inclusive to persons with disabilities, particularly blind and low-vision persons. Special thanks to Dr Agnelo Menezes, the principal, whose continued support and guidance has helped the XRCVC continue as a centre of excellence of national repute.

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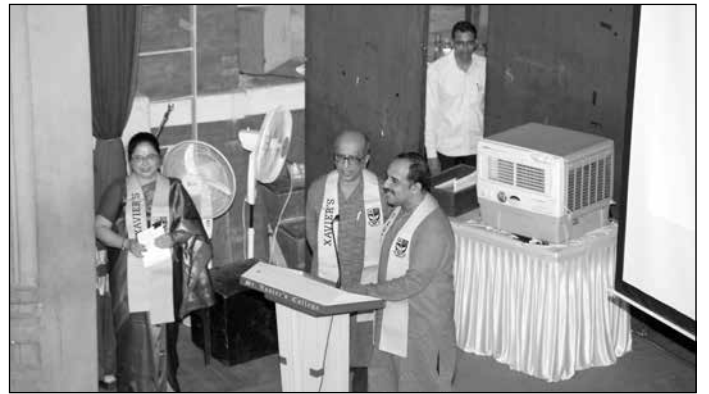
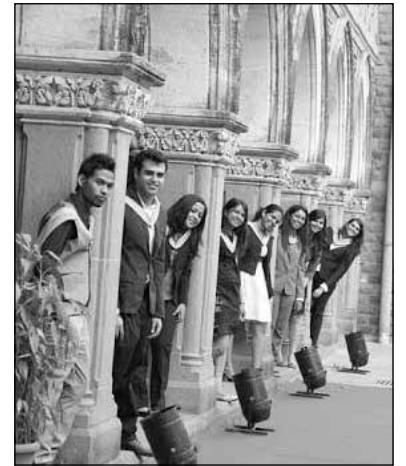
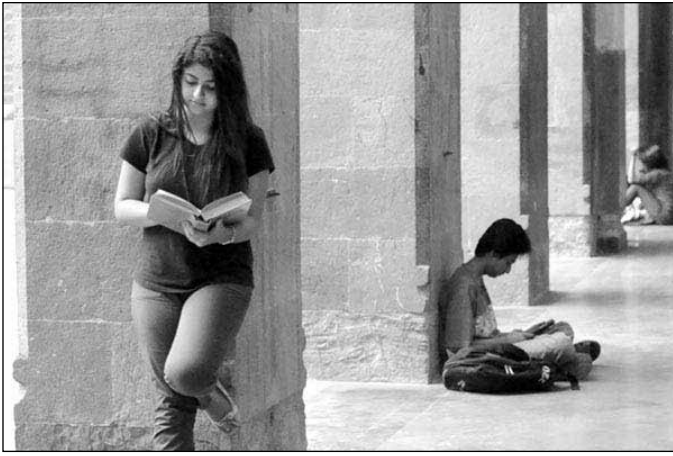
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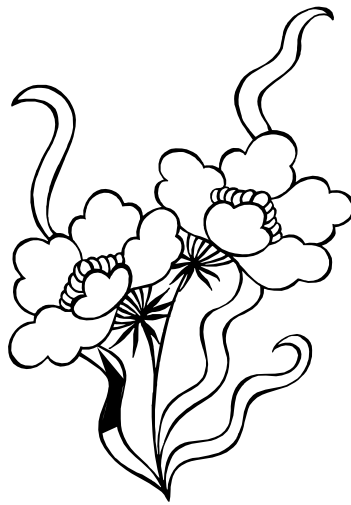
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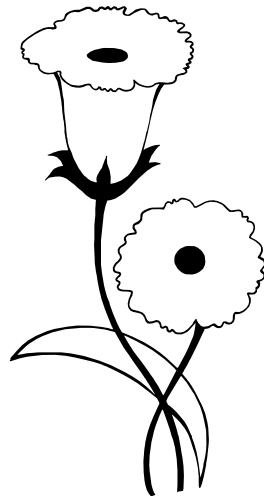
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Miss Sonal Natwarbhai, from the Virpura Village in Sanand, Gujarat. Sonal used to sit on the floor and study. Today she and more than 250 other students benefit from the classroom facility upgradation initiative of Tata Motors. The Company has a holistic approach to improving the access to and quality of education. The company supplements its infrastructural support to schools with training of teachers and extra-curricular activities or students.

Mr. Sujit Soren of Gopalpur village in East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. He was the first in the village to adopt water conservation techniques of the Gram Vikas Kendra society of Tata Motors. Today, the village boasts of perennial irrigation for about 100 acres and about 10,000 fruit and timber generating trees.

Mrs. Rohini Bhanudas Wadekar of Pune in Maharashtra. A widow with three children, she was trained to become self-dependent with technical skills by Tata Motors' Grihini Social Welfare Society.

Mr. Jowahar Ram Paswan of Baranindih Mohalla of Chaibasa district in Jharkhand. Today, he is an employee of Nav Jagrat Manav Samaj. It became possible when the Nav Jagrat Manav Samaj, supported by Tata Motors, intervened to manage his leprosy and found him a job with a permanent income. Today, Mr. Paswan intervenes to bring comfort to others.

Mr. Man Singh Murmu of Bajinathdih village in East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. With mostly infertile land holdings, Mr. Murmu and other residents found meeting both ends difficult. Tata Motors helped him lead change by beginning a tree plantation drive. Today, Bajinathdih has a forest of income-generating trees, and a Forest Protection Group to nurture its economic turnaround.

Mr. Vinod Pachpute of Vasuli village in Pune district of Maharashtra. A diploma holder in mechanical engineering, he is also a trustee and an alumni of the Bhamchandra High School in the village – the only one in the vicinity covering seven villages. Tata Motors helped set up the school and continues to support it. About 600 students have passed through its portals till date.

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Nanhi Kali³
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