



(Jesuit Initiatives Seminar) "National Seminar on Jesuit Initiatives In Higher Education In South Asia" on 20th / 21st November 2019



Dr. Suvarnalatha Rao delivering Heras Memorial Lectures 2019



Research report on Accessible Geometry Construction Kits for students with blindness, was released in January 2020 by Mr K. M. Sheth, the patriarch of Great Eastern Shipping-XRCVC Initiative.



"Japanese Festival" A singing Workshop organised by SOKA University students



Fr. Francis Demello, Director - Wellness Centre in a Kimono at the "Japanese Festival"



Annual Sports Day @ Mumbai University Ground on 6th December 2019



The AICUF Annual YES Camp Shirpur, Pune, October 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*Dr. Rajendra Shinde
Principal*

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Editorial

The academic year 2019-2020 has been an eventful one. The sesquicentennial celebration of our institute continued, where the gargoyles and arches witnessed legendary talks, enthused academic dynamism balanced with festive zeal, ending on a high note with a seminar on initiatives in higher education and education policy, much in keeping with the legacy of our institute. Just when everything seemed to end on the normal note of yearly exams, results and summer school exchange programs, a sudden jolt brought everything to a halt. It was posing challenges not only to us but to the entire human race. Stepping aside, trying to make sense of the situation, we realized that life has to move on. Our race with time and pace eased to an extent by means of adapting to remote working,

Times of crisis open up new avenues, they say. Sensing the need of the hour in an optimistic way led us to make the transition to online teaching. Numerous training sessions introducing the new methods and techniques in online teaching helped the faculty to adopt the new mode of communication. This continued in fostering the spirit of interaction, although virtual! Adhering to our prime value of Integration, Innovation and Inclusion, we have tried to uphold the teaching-learning process, administration and mitigating the concerns of our student community in this trying time, thus echoing the vision of our founder members of taking the difficulties in our stride and scale new height of excellence.

The annual college magazine encompasses the spirit and diverse engagements on the campus. This edition is perhaps a reflection of 'The New Normal', an endeavor of support and coordination of all the staff and student committee members in putting together creative offerings and yearly chronicle through remote working. We hope to overcome this crisis soon and move back to our world strengthening the spirit of human connectedness.

Akshara Pathak-Jadhav

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From the Rector - Reinventing the Wheel



A young lad was zooming down the highway when his friend said to him, "I hope we are moving in the right direction." Said the lad in response: "Doesn't matter. As long as we are making great speed".

It is time to reinvent the wheels of life which have moved us swiftly forward without ensuring that we are moving in the right direction. Our three primary values at Xavier's are professional innovation, personal integration and social inclusion. The present pandemic has provided us with a rare opportunity to reorient our lives in keeping with these values.

In terms of professional innovation, the key questions we now need to ask are: in what ways do innovative ideas and projects add integral value to personal and social life, which persons and sections of society benefit from human inventiveness and discovery, what is the collateral damage done to humans and the environment as a result of developmental projects? Creativity and novelty need to be measured in the light of such questions. Else we will continue living in a stressfully competitive and achievement-oriented world producing mindless consumables, blissfully unaware of the damage that human productivity has bequeathed upon the environment. The old insular benchmarks of novelty, efficiency, bureaucratic organization and profit margins need to be checked and balanced by socially accountable measures such as maximum social utility, environmental sustainability, and integral and inclusive development of human potential.

In terms of personal integration, we need to ask whether school and college education is making us more honest, responsible, balanced, centered and wise persons. Whether we are emotionally and socially intelligent, and team players rather than solo and lonely achievers, whether we have learned to live joyful and peaceful lives, coming to terms with our limitations and vulnerabilities. Models of heroic achievement and privileged social location, as well as toxic addiction towards power, wealth and superficial thrills will only contribute towards growing anxiety disorders both personally and collectively. These ideals and goals need to be replaced with models of authentic and joyful living based on the valuing of substance over style and hype, uniqueness over conformity, measured over frenzied living and collaboration over competition.

In terms of social inclusion, it is time we break down distinctions between "us" and "them", and embrace a larger world of co-belonging, where no one is a stranger or feels inadequate because of some limitation or incapacity. In a closely connected world of political, economic and cultural engagement, we will need to learn how to live collaboratively and productively together as a human family. Political and economic wellbeing is intrinsically related to social harmony. Social inclusion also necessarily includes environmental concern. If two thirds of non-human populations have been wiped out in the last fifty years—according to the latest Living Planet Report—then the human race is culpable of non-human genocide to a scale hitherto unimaginable.

We have begun to use the expression "the new normal". However, we need to ask how radically new our life will be in terms of creating a wholesome and sustainable life for all. Otherwise one type of dysfunctional normal life will simply be replaced by another.

Fr. Keith D'Souza, SJ
Rector

From the Principal's Desk



Our founders built St. Xavier's College on the strong values of reverence for human rights and respect for diversity, tolerance, and culture. Its three primary institutional values are professional innovation, personal integration, and social inclusion. Our college uniquely and thoughtfully invests in creating meaningful programs that sensitize students towards social inclusion and prepares them to work towards it.

To celebrate our 150th year, several activities and programs across areas, i.e., academic, social, cultural, and sports, were organized. The first event held was the Leadership Summit to commemorate the college's sesquicentennial anniversary during the 2019-20 academic year.

The keynote address was delivered by none other than our alumnus and industrialist, Mr. Adi Godrej. Students also had the opportunity to listen to stalwarts like Mr. Narayan Murthy, Smt. Sudha Murthy, Dr. Anu Aga, Ms. Shaheen Mistry, Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Mr. Ashish Basin, and many others. Mr. Murthy's comments urging the country's youth to stand up and speak against "what is happening in different parts of the country" left a long-lasting mark on many young students who attended this Summit.

St. Xavier's is known for its various events that foster students' academic excellence and build multiple soft skills. On 14th and 15th August, 'Malhar - The Multiverse' was one such event, successfully managed by a team of more than 1000 students under the supervision of dedicated and passionate faculty members.

Additionally, a national seminar titled "Jesuit Initiatives in Higher Education in South Asia" was organized as a part of the sesquicentennial celebrations on 20th and 21st November. Fourteen papers were presented, highlighting the contribution of Jesuits to higher education since the 16th century in the subcontinent.

We also had some fun during the Heritage Hunt organized on December 1st by our faculty. The concluding ceremony of this Sesquicentennial was held on December 7th, with several alumni visiting the college and their old departments. It was quite a nostalgic evening for all the alumni who attended the program.

On the research front, ten of our faculty received the University Teachers grant. Dr. Avkash Jadhav received Rs. 400,000/- (for 2019-21) from the Indian Council of Historical Research for the project "Jobbers - The Transitional and Intermediary Component of the Textile Mills in Bombay in Pre-Independent India." In June 2020, a DBT Builder grant of approximately Rs. 3 crore was awarded to our postgraduate departments in Science (Botany, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Life Science, Physics, and IT) for research and infrastructure development. Furthermore, 25 of our undergraduate students are involved in Collaborative Undergraduate Biology Education (CUBE) under the guidance of Dr. Seema Das.

Both faculty and students have won several awards for their projects in various national level competitions organized by CUBE & Homi Bhabha Center for Science Education (HBCSE). Our faculty members have published several research papers in national and international journals. Since 2010, the college publishes a research journal with ISSN No. 2249-1878. The journal is listed in the UGC-CARE group D list. This year, we published two volumes - Vol. 10, Issue 1, Dec 2019 ISSN 2249 - 1878 and Vol. 11, Issue 1, March

2020 ISSN 2249 - 1878. Vol. 11 was dedicated to DISHA 2020. These issues are now available on our college website.

Internationalization has been a part of St. Xavier's since 1869. It has grown over the years and continues to manifest itself in the seamless collaborations forged over time. The Council of International Programs (CIP) started in 2005, has been steadily providing new opportunities to our students through our international exchange programs. In the last academic year (2019-2020), we observed 66 students from universities abroad entering St. Xavier's portals for educational interventions of varying durations, and 31 Xavierites successfully participating in a variety of foreign programs in different capacities. In January 2020, ten Xavierites participated in the Leadership Conference called 'Breaking Boundaries: Tech and Media' held at Harvard University, USA, under the aegis of the Harvard College in Asia Program (HCAP). The Mumbai chapter of HCAP, scheduled in March 2020, was canceled due to the pandemic. St. Xavier's College is the only institution from India participating in HCAP for the last 16 years.

Our newly started E-Cell organized various programs to train students in entrepreneurship. 209 students benefited from these training sessions. The placement cell on campus has successfully placed 133 students out of the 439 who registered with the placement cell. A.T. Kearney offered the highest package of ₹.15.7L/annum.

In sports, our Senior College students participated in various team and individual tournaments organized by the University of Mumbai. At the state and national level, our students represented the college in Hockey (Women): Kelley John (TYBA) (Kheelo India); Table Tennis (Women): Sumer Misbah (TYBA); Football (Women): Florian Pereira (FYBA); Air Rifle Shooting: Sukhman Bewli (SYBA).

Our social involvement program (SIP) has been one of our best practices. Since 1996, it has been providing students with learning opportunities beyond the classroom and campus.

It aims at:

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

In all, 869 students participated in our SIP program this year.

In 2020, the months of January, February, and March witnessed many national and international conferences and seminars. Although I could write about all of them, DISHA 2020 deserves a special mention here. DISHA - International Conference on Evolving Trends in Higher Education, was successfully organized by our dedicated faculty on 12th and 13th March 2020. The reason for this special mention is that it was the second edition of this conference, organized after 14 years since the first conference in 2006. DISHA also successfully adopted all the physical distancing and sanitation rules as it coincided with the onset of the pandemic in Mumbai and India. The challenges it had to face while ensuring success made it a noteworthy event.

On March 17th, 2020, we were asked by the government authorities to postpone the final examinations for the academic year, which had begun the previous day. The national lockdown implemented on March 22nd, 2020, made us retreat to our respective homes for the next few months. Though the pandemic put the entire world on a standstill, Xavierites converted this national challenge into opportunities. Under normal circumstances, it

would have taken us at least two years to adopt the online approach for teaching and learning but COVID-19 allowed us to adapt to the situation. It is commendable how our entire faculty took responsibility and trained for this new venture of online teaching. Several webinars were organized by the management and faculty to understand and learn these new norms. The training was so effective that we did not have any difficulty beginning our new academic year in July 2020. Our students and faculty also registered for the online courses offered by Coursera for Campus. 1484 students registered for free Coursera courses. About 600 students registered for Swayam Courses.

To help students frazzled by being stuck at home, confused about when exams may be conducted, and how the admission process would be carried out, SXC started a Corona Helpline with 35 members ready to guide and provide counselling by phone. The guiding staff included six professional counsellors, 23 faculty, and six Jesuits from SXC and outside. The Times of India (dated April 15th) highlighted this, including information on how to access the helpline (visit wellness.xaviers.edu and click on "Corona HELPLINE").

St Xavier's is also known for its work with marginalized people. The outbreak of COVID-19 witnessed many people migrating to their hometowns barefoot and without any financial resources. The college management helped these people in need by providing them with food, groceries, and medicine. We also donated a day's salary to the CM Fund and the PM Care Fund. The college hall and the canteen area have been converted and are still being used by the BMC as a COVID center. Many of our students and faculty members volunteered to help the authorities fight the war against COVID-19. Though we could not participate physically in this fight against COVID-19, we are proud that we did our bit and worked towards the Jesuits principles.

Dr. Rajendra Shinde
Principal

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRINCIPAL (ACADEMICS)



We must let go of the life we have planned, to accept the one that is waiting for us. Opportunities to find deeper powers within us come when life seems most challenging.

Joseph Campbell American Professor of Literature.

This quote summarises the current year hit by the CoVID-19 pandemic. The year 2019-20 has been an eventful and extended one (June 2019 - June 2020).

Congratulations to the batch of 2019-20 for their achievement. I wish them all the best for their future endeavours.

I express my sincere gratitude to the Principal and the Management for their trust and confidence in my abilities to assume the office of Vice-Principal (Academics) from January 2020 onwards. I look forward to the continued encouragement and cooperation from all my teaching and non-teaching colleagues.

Honours Programme

I would like to acknowledge the tireless hard work put-in by the Faculty Coordinator: Dr. Radha Kumar, Hub- Coordinators: Dr. Abhilasha Jain and Dr. Piyali Unnikrishnan (Physical Sciences), Dr. Pearl Pastakia and Manali Pawar (Lingua), Dr. Priya

Sundarrajan (Bio-Sciences), all the Honours coordinators from the various departments and the assistance of Ms. Jemima Almeida.

In 2019-20, 566 students registered for the programme distributed across the three hubs viz Lingua Humanities hub (373 Students), Biological Sciences hub (105 Students), and the Physical Sciences hub (88 Students.) 157 students from the graduating batch would be receiving the Honours Certificate. With a group of 27 Faculty members from across departments actively involved, we hope to take this unique endeavour of academic excellence ahead and scale new heights.

The Honours Programme faculty hosted a unique webinar on the present COVID crisis titled- COVID-19 PAN(ACA)DEMIC- A *Multidisciplinary Approach to the Impact of Coronavirus.*

Over three days, 30th April, 1st, and 2nd May 2020, 12 faculty members from the Departments of Science, Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences presented well-researched data on how their discipline addresses the pandemic crisis. The webinar was attended by 250 participants (Undergraduate, Postgraduate, Ph.D. students as well as faculty from Mumbai, and different parts of India viz Ahmedabad, Chandigarh, Ajmer, Madurai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kerala and two participants from the United Kingdom.) The online transition helped us to reach out to a larger number of enthusiasts across the globe.

Teacher Assessment Questionnaire (TAQ)

I take this opportunity to appreciate the efforts of Dr. Pushpa Sinkar and her TAQ team members. The TAQ administration process for the academic year 2019-20, was executed

by using the Management Information System (MIS). Online TAQ's were administered for all the undergraduate courses and every faculty of Arts, Science, and self-financing courses. It was a unique process where students could give their feedback at their convenience over an assigned period. The technical support team helped in streamlining the process on the go. Around 200 TAQs were administered online, processed, reports discussed, and handed over to the teachers by the Vice-Principal Academics. The process was incomplete in the even semester due to the COVID-triggered lockdown in the city.

Exhibitions

Our institution is well known for its innovative practices that inspire learners to become holistic individuals. In an attempt to reach out to future learners and showcase the highlights of the various programmes offered by the college, two exhibitions sponsored by national agencies, were organised through a collaborative effort of all the Humanities, Science Departments, and Associations.

“Popularization of Science” - an outreach to inspire young minds was held on 29th November 2019 (sponsored by DBT-CTEP) to present various fields of Sciences to school/college students and the public. The exhibition featured stalls by all the science departments of the college. The exhibition, “Xynergy 2019”- A *Spectrum of Opportunities* (sponsored by RUSA) was held on 30th November 2019 to showcase varied aspects of the Arts and Humanities. The exhibition featured stalls by various Arts and Humanities departments and the XRCVC.

Students and teachers from schools and junior colleges attended the exhibition. Some students came along with their parents to experience the event.

St. Xavier's College (junior/senior) students from Science, as well as Arts, took the benefit of the exhibitions. The footfall on each day was about 500.

The student volunteers, instrumental in the exhibit, researched beyond their curriculum and helped young school students understand the subjects in a creative manner. The team had the opportunity to play the role of torchbearers and help the young minds navigate their way.

Feedback from all the visitors who attended the event was very encouraging. The visitors found the exhibition informative and appreciated the efforts and the presentation skills of the volunteers. This exhibition would not have been possible without the relentless efforts of the students and the staff members of each department. We look ahead to having such events and exhibitions in the future that will kindle interest in the subject for better learning.

I would like to end by sharing the good news that in July 2020, the postgraduate science departments of our college were sanctioned a grant of Rs. 3 crore under the "Boost to University Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Department for Education and Research (BUILDER)" program of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under the Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, for a period of five years.

God bless us all!

Dr. Karuna Gokarn
VP Academics

Whosoever has no faith in the future of India, no trust in the youth of this ancient, wistful, inexhaustible land, should for conscience sake withdraw from education and leave the field free for others.

But we who have a boundless confidence in our students, believe in them, love them, how can we help giving them the best!

Why not offer them during the momentous years of their education, buildings noble and inspiring, shrines of learning like those which shelter the studious youth of every great country, as an everlasting symbol of our revering, heartfelt esteem and respect.

Architect of the first quadrangle – Fr. Gonzalo Palacios de Borao S.J., Principal 1933-1940

IQAC

The year began with the graduation ceremony being conducted in June for the UG - Science, Arts, Self-Financing programmes and all PG courses. An orientation to college for the new entrants was held between 26th and 29th of June for the first year UG students and at the end of July for the PG students.

The theme of the year was 'Holistic Integration'.

Activities:

1. **Conferences / seminars / workshops/webinars** for the staff : Although the initial plan was to have just 2 per semester with the international conference DISHA as the fifth activity, in actual fact a total of 20 such activities were held, 10 of which were webinars during the period of the lockdown. These activities were conducted by the IQAC in collaboration with various resource persons / departments / institutes. In addition 6 activities were conducted for the non teaching staff, 5 of which were webinars during the period of the lockdown.
2. **Teaching Plans** for all courses were collected
3. **Feedback and surveys:**
 - Feedback from Students on the course content of all their odd and even semester courses was completed by March 2020
 - Teaching Assessment feedback via the online TAQ was collated and analyzed for every faculty member, each semester. The analysis of the TAQ was shared with the faculty by the Principal/ Vice-principal (Academics)
 - A questionnaire for feedback on general student satisfaction was sent by email to all students of the first & second

year UG and first year PG during the lockdown period in April 2020. The analysis of the Course and general feedback was completed and shared with the faculty.

- Questionnaires for feedback from other stake holders were also sent out. These included parents of students, alumni and a section for employers. The analysis was shared with the IQAC.
 - The student council, at the request of the IQAC, conducted a survey on: student enrolment and satisfaction with the online course that they have registered for, with Swayam.
4. **Online teaching:** During the lockdown period, through webinars, faculty were trained to teach online in the academic year 2020-21, making them more confident of starting additional programmes online. Platforms to be used for conducting online lectures in the next academic year were finalized and training conducted in the usage of the platforms and other tools.
 5. **Programme Specific Outcomes and Course Outcomes** – The teaching faculty were requested to create the PSOs and COs for all the courses that were offered in 2019-20, with an analysis of the COs with respect to Bloom's taxonomy incorporated. These are put up on the website.
 6. **Policy documents and SOPs**– the process of creating a compendium of the policies and SOPs of all committees and administrative bodies on campus was initiated. Several existing policy documents were revisited and changes incorporated.

7. **Audits:** The audits initiated were: Structural, Environmental, Electrical, Fire, Finance and Administrative. The audits completed were administrative and electrical safety. The preliminary survey for the fire and environmental audits was completed, however due to the lockdown, they are still pending. An MOU was signed for the environmental audit with the non-profit organization Centre for Environmental Research and Education (CERE) dated the 19th of March, 2020.

In addition the report by the peer team on the Academic Audit conducted in Feb 2019, was shared with the IQAC committee members.

8. **Website:** The college website is to be revamped with each department being given a link to their own site
9. **Academic programs**
10. Seven new **Academic programs** were launched in 2019-20 (M.A in Psychology, M.Sc. in Physics, M.Sc. in Big Data Analytics, Diploma in Expressive Arts therapy, Certificate in Personal Counseling, Diploma in AIC and Heritage, Certificate Course on Applied Philosophy and Ethics) and several **New Academic programs** were **approved** by the IQAC for launch in June 2020-21 or 2021-22
11. **Several New Academic programs** were **approved** by the IQAC for launch in June 2020-21 or 2021-22
12. Four IQAC meetings were conducted on 28.06.2019, 16.10.2019, 17.02.2020, 14.05.2020

IQAC Coordinator

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS 2019 - 2020

Department	Title of the paper	Name of the author	Journal
Ancient Indian History, Culture & Archaeology	Ethics, Myths and Sculptures - A case study of Siva Sculptures of Kambatthadi Mandapa.	Radha Kumar	St. Xavier's Research Journal Xplore, Vol. 10, Issue 1 2019.
Ancient Indian History, Culture & Archaeology	Cult of Mahesha during the Rashtrakuta Era in Maharashtra.	Anita Rane-Kothare	St. Xavier's Research Journal Xplore, Vol. 10, Issue 1 2019.
Blatter Herbarium	A new species of Parahyparrhenia (Poaceae: Andropogoneae) from India, Phytotaxa 446 (1): 055-060.	Arjun Prasad Tiwari, Alok R. Chorghe, Shahid Nawaz Landge & Shaikh Mujaffar,	Zhi-Qiang Zhang, Magnolia Press, https://www.mapress.com/j/pt/ Auckland, New Zealand.
Botany	New addition to the flora of Goa, Phytotaxonomy.	Anil Rajbhar, Ujwala Bapat	Phytotaxonomy, Vol.18: 62-64, October 2019.
Botany	Ethnobotanical Studies on Kokni Tribe of Maharashtra. Journal of Global Biosciences.	Kuvar S. D., Rajendra Shinde	Journal of Global Biosciences, 8(3), 2019: pp 6034-6042.
Botany	Plants used by Kokni Tribe as Antidote for snake bite and scorpion sting from Nasik and Dhule Districts of Maharashtra.	Kuvar S. D., Rajendra Shinde	Journal of Global Biosciences, 8(3), 2019: pp 6043-6050.
Botany	Wild Edible Plants Used by Kokni Tribe of Nasik District, Maharashtra.	Kuvar S. D., Rajendra Shinde	Journal of Global Biosciences, 8(2), 2019: pp 5936-5945.
Botany	A new distributional record <i>Solanum erianthum</i> D. Don from family Solanaceae to the flora of Nasik District (Maharashtra) India.	Kuvar S. D., Rajendra Shinde	Annals of Plant Sciences, 8.6, 2019: 3563-3566.
Chemistry	Inverted Undergraduate Physical Chemistry Class: A Survey of Attitudes of Student Groups at Different Levels of Commitment towards Chemistry.	Marazban S. Kotwal, Saima Khan and Abhilasha Jain	St. Xavier's Research Journal Xplore, Vol. 11, Issue 1, Page no. 80-90.
Chemistry	Contextualising Chemistry for Non-Science majors at St. Xavier's College.	Saima Khan	St. Xavier's Research Journal Xplore, Vol. 11, Issue 1, Page no. 96-106.
Chemistry	Simultaneous Determination of Norfloxacin and Metronidazole from combined tablet dosage formulation by spectrophotometry.	Pralhad Rege, Kyle Meyers and Neha Kapadia	The Pharma Innovation Journal 8(6).
Chemistry	Design, synthesis, in vitro evaluation and molecular docking studies of novel indole derivatives as inhibitors of SIRT1 and SIRT2.	Ramu Manjula, Nikhila Gokhale, Udayakumar Dalimba, Balasundaram Padmanabhan, et.al.	Bioorganic Chemistry (Elsevier) Volume 92, November.
Chemistry	Novel Way to Harness Solar Energy: Photo-Redox Catalysis in Organic Synthesis.	Abhilasha Jain and Chetna Ameta	Kinetics and Catalysis, 2020, Vol. 61, No. 2, pp. 242-268. Springer Publication.

Department	Title of the paper	Name of the author	Journal
Commerce	'Goods and Service Tax Networking' at the National Level Conference on 'Intellectual Property Right and GST'.	Suvaiba Pirani	Aarhat Multidisciplinary International Education Research Journal (AMIERJ) Peer Reviewed Journal Volume - IX, Special Issue - I.
English	The Theme of Benevolence in Two Zoroastrian Daily Prayers.	Pearl Pastakia	St. Xavier's Research Journal Xplore, 2019.
Geology	'Fluvial facies and Petrography of Late Pleistocene Baneta sediments, Central Narmada Basin, Hoshangabad District, Madhya Pradesh'.	Kale M.G, Ashwin Pundalik and Devender Kumar	Journal of Earth System Sciences, 2020, 129, 61-85.
Geology	Depositional environment and Provenance of Pilikarar Formation, Central Narmada basin, Hoshangabad District, Madhya Pradesh, India'.	Kale, M. G. and Ashwin Pundalik	Journal of Indian Association of Sedimentologists, 2019, 36, 19-50.
Geology	40Ar/39Ar dating of tholeiitic flows and dykes of Elephanta Island, Panvel flexure zone, western Deccan Traps: A five-million-year record of magmatism preceding India-Laxmi Ridge-Seychelles breakup'.	Hrishikesh Samant, Vanit Patel, Kanchan Pande, Hetu Sheth and K.C. Jagadeesan	Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research, 2019, 379:12-22. DOI: 10.1016/j.jvolgeores.2019.05.004.
Geology	Formanifera-walled Schaubcylindrichnus coronus Frey and Howard, 1981, from the Middle Eocene, Kachchh, Western India'.	Shweta S. Gurav & Kantimati G. Kulkarni	Ichnos, 26 (2), 134-140. DOI: 10.1080/10420940.2018.1532897, 2019.
History	The Spectrum of suffering and its Pragmatic resolution in Buddhism.	Avkash Jadhav	Global Impact of Buddhism and Neo Buddhism Edited by Archana Goure., pp. 147-158.
History	The Role of the British Legislations and the working class movement in Bombay: A historical study of the Factory Acts of 1881 and 1891 in India.	Avkash Jadhav	The International Journal of Social Sciences Review, Global Knowledge Academia, First Issue 1(1), pp. 1-10.
History	Buddhism: The Super mundane philosophy transcending across the centuries.	Avkash Jadhav	Journal Bodhi Path, New Delhi, pp. 17-28.
Life Science & Biochemistry	'Paper Microscope Foldscope – An Affordable Means to View the Microscopic World'.	Murdeshwar Maya and Deshpande S.	Xplore – The Xavier's Research Journal. Special Issue: Trends in Higher Education. UGC Care Journal, 2020, 11(1): 91-95.
Life Science & Biochemistry	'Microbial Biotechnology Approach to Preserve Cultural Heritage: Evaluation of Microbiological Flora on cultural Artefacts'.	Sundarrajan Priya, Dcunha Nythan and Cherusserikkaran Merlyn.	Indica. Volume 56: 25-36.
Life Science & Biochemistry	Nutraceutical Potential and Antipsychotic Activity of Local Dry Fruit Waste – Juglans Regia.	Rachna Jadhav, Shanooba Palamthodi and Bhaskar Saha	European Journal of Medicinal Plants. 29 (2): 1-7. Article No. EJMP.51354.

Department	Title of the paper	Name of the author	Journal
Life Science & Biochemistry	Serotonin regulates mitochondrial biogenesis and function in rodent cortical neurons via the 5-HT _{2A} receptor and SIRT1-PGC-1 alpha axis.	Fanibunda SE, Deb S, Maniyadath B, Tiwari P, Ghai U, Gupta S, Dwight Figueiredo, Weisstaub N, Gingrich JA, Vaidya ADB, Kolthur-Seetharam U, Vaidya VA.	PNAS USA. 116 (22):11028-11037.
Life Science & Biochemistry	Juglandaceae Family – Role of Bioactive Components and Secondary Metabolite in Ancient and Modern Therapeutic Applications in Plant Secondary Metabolites for Human Health. Ed. Dr. MM Abid Ali Khan et al.	Rachna Jadhav and Bhaskar Saha	Discovery Publishing House, New Delhi.
Life Science & Biochemistry	Mapping Microscopic Biodiversity in Aquatic Ecosystems using Paper Microscope ‘Foldscope’ in Foldscope and Its Applications. Ed. Sharma AD.	Murdeswar Maya, Deshpande S, Parab S, Tellis J.	National Press Associates, New Delhi, pp. 238-251.
Management Studies	Potential Geoheritage and Geotourism sites in India.	Soni George Tharakan	International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications June 2019, Edition Print Version Volume 9, Issue 6. Pg. No. 91-96.
Microbiology	Antioxidant and Antibacterial properties of wine prepared from bananas.	Panchal Durva, Ansari Aakifa, Pawar Apoorva, George Anila, Fernandes Neil, Pote Pooja, Stewart Miriam and Chakraborty Pampi	Research Journal of Biotechnology. Vol. 15 (6).
Microbiology	Shifts in metabolic patterns of soil bacterial communities on exposure to metal engineered nanomaterials.	Sangeeta Chavan, Vigneshwaran Nandanathangam	<i>Ecotoxicol Environ Saf.</i> 2020 Feb; 189:110012. DOI: 10.1016/j.ecoenv.2019.110012, Impact factor: 4.527.
Microbiology	Toxicological effects of TiO ₂ nanoparticles on plant growth-promoting soil bacteria.	Sangeeta Chavan, Vishwas Sarangdhar, Vigneshwaran Nandanathangam	<i>Emerging Contaminants</i> , Volume 6, 87 – 92. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.emcon.2020.01.003 .
Microbiology	Effects of Nanoparticles on Plant Growth-Promoting Bacteria in Indian Agricultural Soil.	Sangeeta Chavan and Vigneshwaran Nandanathangam	<i>Agronomy</i> , Volume 9, Issue 3 - 140, Impact factor: 2.259.
Microbiology	A student-centric approach for developing scientific communication skills in undergraduate microbiology students.	Talekar A, Amonkar V, Gokarn K	Proceedings - <i>epiSTEME 8</i> : Eighth (2020) International Conference to Review Research on Science, Technology and Mathematics Education, Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education, Mumbai.
Microbiology	Microbial Biotechnology approach to preserve cultural heritage: Evaluation of microbiological flora on cultural artefacts.	Priya Sundarrajan, Nythan Dcunha and Merlyn Cherusserikkaran	<i>Indica</i> , Mumbai, Heras Institute, 2019, Volume 56,
Physics	Rotational Dynamics.	Rajesh Singh	St. Xavier’s Research Journal Xplore, 2019, 10(1), 22-25.

Department	Title of the paper	Name of the author	Journal
Physics	Effects of silicon negative ion implantation in semi-insulating gallium arsenide.	A Yadav, SK Dubey, V Bambole, RL Dubey, I Sulania, D Kanjilal	Radiation Effects and Defects in Solids, 2019, 174 (7-8), 636-646.
Physics	Study of Low Energy (50 keV) Silicon Negative ion Implantation in GaAs.	A Yadav, S Dubey, R Dubey, N Subramanyam, I Sulania	Materials Today: Proceedings 23, 309-316, 2020.
Physics	Intersubband Absorption in Gallium Arsenide Implanted with Silicon Negative Ions.	AR Yadav, SK Dubey, RL Dubey, N Subramanyam, I Sulania	International Journal of Nanoscience 19 (03), 1950019, 2020.
Physics	Modification of semi insulating GaAs sample implanted with silicon negative ion.	AR Yadav, SK Dubey, RL Dubey, V Bambole, I Sulania	AIP Conference Proceedings 2220 (1), 040028, 2020.
Physics	Silicon negative ion implantation induced vacancy defects in thermally grown SiO ₂ thin films.	SB Vishwakarma, SK Dubey, RL Dubey, A Yadav, V Jadhav, V Bambole	Radiation Effects and Defects in Solids, 1-9, 2020.
Physics	Studies of SiO ₂ thin films implanted with 100keV silicon ions	SB Vishwakarma, SK Dubey, RL Dubey, V Bambole, I Sulania, D Kanjilal	Materials Today: Proceedings 23, 345-351, 2020.
Physics	Structural and Optical Investigations of SiO ₂ Layers Implanted with 100 keV Silicon Negative Ions	SB Vishwakarma, SK Dubey, RL Dubey	JETIR June 2019, Volume 6, Issue 6.
Physics	Characterization of 100 keV silicon negative ion implanted SiO ₂ thin films.	SB Vishwakarma, SK Dubey, RL Dubey, I Sulania, D Kanjilal, KD Devi	AIP Conference Proceedings 2220 (1), 020180, 2020.
Political Science	"A matter of Rights amid Wrongs: A case study of Valmikis of Jammu & Kashmir", in Sial P and Biswas B. B. (Eds) 'Indian Democracy at 70- Challenges Ahead'.	Naitthani Pratiba	Mark Books, New Delhi, pp. 283-304.
Political Science	"Forest Policies in Ancient India".	Naitthani Pratiba	Xplore, The St. Xavier's Research Journal, Volume 10, Issue 1, (Humanities and Social Sciences Edition) Dec 2019.
Sociology and Anthropology	Language and Game Play in Teaching Theory: A synthesis of tools from the Communicative Approach of the CEFR in conjunction with Bloom's Taxonomy to ensure better acquisition of theoretical concepts in the Humanities.	Ankita Gujar	Xplore, Vol. 11, Issue 1, March 2020: Special Issue: Trends in Higher Education.

Department	Title of the paper	Name of the author	Journal
Sociology and Anthropology	The Sand is slipping out: The Crises in the Parsi Zoroastrian Identity- Narrations from Kanpur and Bombay.	Pranoti Chirmuley	Indica, Vol. 56, September 2019.
Zoology	Water quality and chemical analysis of Marine cultured Pearl and its Oyster shell.	Athavale, S. A., Hambarde, M. S. & Parab S. S.	International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology, 07(03), 4989-4994.
Zoology	Medial regeneration in earthworm (Eisenia foetida): Preference in segmental regenerative growth.	Ray, S., Carvalho, S., Shaikh, H., Tade, K. & Hambarde, M.	International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts (IJCRT), 8(05), 359-368.
Zoology	RAMAN Scattering: Fingerprint for Identification of nature and color origin of Pearls.	Athavale, S. A. & Hambarde, M. S.	International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology, 07(04), 2065-2078.
Zoology	The law of Homologous series in Variation by Nikolai Vavilov.	Deshpande, S.	Resonance, 24,1475-1476.
Zoology	Science versus Ideology.	Deshpande, S	Resonance, 24,1355-1373.

It must have been noticed by the observant, that even under heavy provocation from amateur critics, the real educationist, rather than react at once, prefers to continue with the serious work, which does not admit delay, of educating youth, with his eyes wide open to objective reality, and not be led astray by mere academic discussions. His is too serious a work to be at the mercy of visionaries.

On The Old Path – Fr. Gonzalo Palacios de Borao S.J., Principal 1933-1940

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP - 2018 - 2019

Sr.No.	SR		Name of the Scholarship	Name of the Awardee
		A	POST FYJC	
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	Sukrut Khandekar
2	A	2	the Printer, Lukhansi Nappo, Edwin and Edith Noronha and Munshi Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.J. C. Science	Motiwala Adnan
3	A	3	the Mrs. Amba C.P. Wadia Scholarship for a deserving Parsi boy highest at the FYJC examination.	Irani Raudmaan Cyrus
4	A	4	the Pragji Purshottam Bhatia and Vurdhman Jetsey Scholarship for a Hindu student in FYJC (Arts or Science).	Sukrut Khandekar
		B	POST SYJC	
5	B	1	the Fr. Dreckman, Rev. Frs. Boese, Usteri, Degan, Walrath, Boswin and Mrs. Hermina Miranda Scholarship for highest at the HSC examination (Science)	Martires Henriques
6	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.	Rhea Banerjee
7	B	3	the P. A. Hormasjee Wadia Scholarship to a Parsi lady student for highest in French at the HSC examination.	Farishta Malcolm Anjirbag
8	B	4	the Meenal Dinkar Rao Mugve Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the H.S.C. examination.	Durwesh Insha Muhammad Ali
9		5		Martires Henriques
10	B	6	the Fr. Sacasa's, Nadkarny-Kothare, Prof. R.N. Bhagwat for highest in Chemistry at the H.S.C. examination.	Durwesh Insha Muhammad Ali
11		7		Martires Henriques
12	B	8	the Parimal K. Shroff Prize for highest marks in Political Science at the HSC examination.	Barot Pratham Vikram
13		9		Chhavi Kapoor
14		10		Dhwani Shah
15	B	11	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.	Maria Misquitta
16	B	12	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	Irani Kaizad Ratan
17	B	13	The Late Anirudha Jayprakash Bhogle Scholarship for a deserving student with the highest marks in Biology at the HSC examination.	Harsh Daware
18	B	14	Joel Boaz D'souza Memorial Scholarship for deserving student of FY	Ayush Soni
19	B	15	the Neena Nigam Memorial Scholarship for higher learning	Bipasha Kulkarni
		C	POST FYBA/FYBSc	
20	C	1	the Jehangir Bomanji, Tullakchand Maneckchand Vijbhukhandas Atmaram Mehta and the Caius Scholarship for highest aggregate at the FYBA Examination	Ruhi Jain
21	C	2	the Prof. C. D. Pinto, and Fr. Hamilton Scholarship for the highest in English Literature at the FYBA examination.	Xavier Oswald Menezes
22	C	3	the Hindi Sahitya Mandal Scholarship for highest in Hindi (Ancillary) at the FYBA examination.	Meral Manoj Das
23		4		Sanorita Sunil Pereira
24	C	5	Meenal Dinkar Rao Mugve Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the FYBSc examination and continuing with Chemistry in SYBSc.	Geetansh Gupta
25	C	6	the Fr. Sierp, Prof. S. K. Chhappgar for highest in Chemistry at the FYBSc examination and continuing with Chemistry in SYBSc.	Geetansh Gupta
26	C	7	the College Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.B.Sc. - IT examination	Anand Prasoon
27	C	8	the College Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.B.M.M examination	Simran Vikrant Raikar
28	C	9	the College Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.B.M.S examination	Shreya Vishwanath
29	C	10	the Burjor Kaikobad Doctor, Khan Bahadur Hormusji Kharshedji Bhabha, and Dinshaw Shavakshaw Adenwalla Scholarship for a Parsi student highest in FYBA/FYBSc examination.	Anosh Rustom Billimoria
30	C	11	the Dr. Lewis Gomes and the Parsi Association, D. K Kamdin and R. C. Chanrai Scholarship for a deserving student in SYBSc/SYBA	Priti Chandane

Sr.No.	SR		Name of the Scholarship	Name of the Awardee
31	C	12	the Watumull Foundation Scholarship for highest in Accounts at the FYBCom examination.	Gonsalves Jesan
32	C	13	the Armand Francis Sequeira and the Ignatius Loyola Scholarship for highest in Economics at the FYBCom examination.	Dawrung Rutik
33	C	14	the Late Squadron Leader O. J. D'sena and the Late Mansoor Awan Scholarship for highest in Business Communication at the FYBCom examination.	Dias Shaneika
34	C	15	Fredie A Mehta Scholarship for highest in Economics at the FYBA examination.	Harneet Singh
35	C	16	the A. V. Krishnamurti Scholarship for highest in Physics at FYBSc examination and continuing with Physics	Bonobithi Biswas
36	C	17	the Dattatraya and Meera Mugve Scholarship for the highest aggregate at the FYBSc examination	Jui Sadanand Wakade
		D	POST SYBA/SYBSc	
37	D	1	the Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim, Jamsetji Ardeshir Wadia and Joseph Manuel D'souza Scholarship for highest at the SYBA examination.	Saniya A. Pathare
38	D	2	the Dr. Shashishekar Naithani Scholarship for highest in SYBA Hindi (Ancillary).	Monali R. Gupta
39	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).	Charuta Ghadyalpatil
40	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	Joanna Georgeson
41	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.	Sanchi Mehra
42	D	6	the Late Prof. Anthony Monteiro Scholarship for highest in SYBSc Chemistry and continuing with Chemistry in TYBSc.	Anushka Roy
43	D	7	the Mr. Shahrukh B. Paymaster and Mr. Ashok Sumanlal Patel Memorial Prize for highest in Microbiology at the FY & SY and continuing with Chemistry or Microbiology in TYBSc.	Mathew Salazar
44	D	8	the Shreevrat Goenka Scholarship for a student of SYBSc highset in Life Science	Riyansha Arora
45	D	9	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	Sudina S.
46	D	10	the Prof. Dara M. Munshi and M.Krishnan Memorial Scholarship for highest in Zoology at SYBSc and continuing with Zoology in TYBSc.	Tanaya Nair
47	D	11	the College Scholarship for highest at the S.Y.B.M.S examination	Ayush Khanna
48	D	12	the College Scholarship for highest at the S.Y.B.M.M examination	Amanda S. James
49	D	13	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.	Digogarcia Noronha
50	D	14	the Watumull Foundation and the Edmund Campion Scholarship for a needy and outstanding student in TYBCom	Ratate Bhavesh
51	D	15	the Mrs. Kathleen Pereira, Ignatius Loyola Scholarship for a deserving student with the best attendance in SYBCom.	Manohar
52	D	16	the Khushalchand Charity Trust and the Late Aritha Alva Scholarship for a needy and outstanding student in TYBCom.	Gilroy D'souza
53	D	17	the College Scholarship for highest at the S.Y.BSc - IT examination.	Chirag Manoj Jain
54	D	18	Fredie A. Mehta Scholarship for highest in Economics at FY & SYBA and continuing with Economics at TYBA (6 papers)	Harnoor Arora
		E	POST TYBA/BSc	
55	E	1	the Mr. Hadi C. Tyabjee, J. J. & G. J. Lalwani and Hilloo Scholarship for highest aggregate at the at the BA examinations.	Valmik Rege
56	E	2	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for girl student highest in AIC at the BA examinatio.	Bernadine Vaz
57	E	3	The Shodhan Prasad Dave Memorial Prize for highest in Economics (3 Unit) at the BA examinations.	Tanvi Rege
58	E	4	the Dewan R.N. Saigal Scholarship for the best Economics Honours Programme student.	Naomi Satam
59	E	5	the Carmelita and Charles Nazareth Scholarship for highest in English at the BA examinations.	Simran Vijan
60	E	6	the Dr. Mohamed Bazlur Rehman Scholarship for Catholic student highest in English (6 papers) and pursuing post graduation studies	Nikita John Nadar

Sr.No.	SR		Name of the Scholarship	Name of the Awardee
61	E	7	the Fr. Edward D'Cruz Political Science Scholarship for highest aggregate in entire Political Science (8 papers) at the BA examinations.	Supriya Ravishankar
62	E	8	the Parimal K. Shroff Prize for highest marks in Political Science at the BA examinations	Supriya Ravishankar
63	E	9	the Late Mrs. Kaushalya Sethi Scholarship for highest in Psychology (Major) at the BA examinations.	Deborah Yazhini Charles
64	E	10	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for Catholic girl student highest at the BA examinations.	Deborah Yazhini Charles
65	E	11	the Mr. Hadi C. Tyabjee and the Pragji Purshottam Bhatia Scholarship for highest at the BSc examinations.	Shimontika Gupta
66	E	12	the D.L. Modi Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the BSc examinations.	Rimjhim Bali
67	E	13	Dr. M.P. Sujayakumari and the Department of Life Sciences Scholarship for highest in BSc (3 units) Life Science.	Judith Fernando
68	E	14	the Department of Life Sciences Scholarship for highest in BSc (6 units) Life Science.	Spandan Gite
69	E	15	the Minoo H. Matbar, Burjor Kaikobad Doctor Memorial, and Sarabhai Dipchand Shah Scholarship for highest in Mathematics at the BSc examinations.	Shanea Sebastian
70	E	16	the Prof. Joseph Selwyn Dias, Malcolm Pereira and Prof. Sam J. Khambatta Scholarship for highest in Physics at the BSc examinations.	Sreerag Sundaram
71	E	17	Mukul Singhal Scholarship for highest aggregate at the highest aggregate at the BSc examinations in Physics	Sreerag Sundaram
72	E	18	the Almeidas' Botany Scholarship for highest in Botany at the BSc examinations.	Vidisha Bansal
73	E	19	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for a girl student highest in Statistics at the BSc examinations	Saania Shaikh
74	E	20	Dr. Edgar DaSilva Memorial prize	Larissa Gomes
75	E	21	Dr. Edgar DaSilva Memorial prize for the highest in Microbiology at the T.Y.B.Sc. Examination for the highest aggregate at the T.Y.B.A Exam.	Valmik Rege
76	E	22	Dr. Edgar DaSilva Memorial prize for the second highest in Microbiology at the T.Y.B.Sc. Examination	NA
77	E	23	the Prof. J.V. Bhat Memorial Scholarship for second highest in Microbiology at the BSc examinations	Aradhya Kapoor
78	E	24	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for Catholic girl student highest at the BSc examinations.	Judith Fenando
79	E	25	the College Scholarship for Ranking First in B.M.S	Adele Xavier Dmello
80	E	26	the Late Mr. Abdul Hameed Ansari Scholarship for Ranking First in B.M.M (Advertising)	Jaif Ahana
81	E	27	the Late Mr. Abdul Hameed Ansari Scholarship for Ranking First in B.M.M (Journalism)	Sinchita Prantik Mitra
82	E	28	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate at TYBCom examination.	Srivastava Aaraadhya
83	E	29	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate in Financial Accounting - Paper I at the TYBCom examination.	Valliaveetil Sweezel
84	E	30	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate in Financial Accounting - Paper II at the BCom examinations.	Srivastava Aaraadhya
85	E	31	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate in Financial Accounting - Paper III at the BCom examinations.	Srivastava Aaraadhya
86	E	32	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest attendance in the BCom.	Kharva Arjun
87	E	33	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 BCom.	Faizan Shaikh
88	E	34	the Khan Bahadur Hormasji Kharshedji Bhabha and Rev. Fr. Heras, S. J. Scholarship for highest in History at BA examinations and continuing with MA in History.	Aditya Sah
89	E	35	the Sociology Academy Scholarship for highest in Sociology at the BA examinations excellence in other activities of College and continuing with Post Graduation	Shruti Krishnan
90	E	36	the Dr. N.A. Irani Memorial Scholarship for best aggregate in Botany at the BSc and continuing with MSc. In Plant Taxonomy	Shyla Shyamsunder
91	E	37	the Late Noshirwan H. Sethna Geology Scholarship for highest in Geology at the BSc examinations and continuing with Geology.	Riya Bidaye
92	E	38	the Sheila M. Joseph Memorial Fund Scholarship for highest in Zoology at the BSc and continuing with MSc in Zoology.	Vidisha Bansal
93	E	39	the Sir Dinshaw M. Petit Post Graduate Scholarship and the Ardeshir Hormasjee Wadia Fund for Parsi student of BSc continuing with post graduation studies.	Karishma Katpitia

Sr.No.	SR		Name of the Scholarship	Name of the Awardee
94	E	40	the Prof. Saroj Hazari Scholarship for highest marks in 19th Century English Literature at the TYBA examination.	Simran Vijan
95	E	41	Fredie A. Mehta Scholarship for best aggregate in Economics of the BA exams and continuing with post graduation studies in Economics.	Gitali Rodrigues
96	E	42	the Dr. R.K. Hazari Memorial Prize for second highest marks in Economics at the BA examinations.	Advika Agarwal
97	E	43	Fredie A. Mehta Scholarship for deserving student with best aggregate in Economics of the BA examination and continuing with post graduation studies in Economics.	Palak Agarwal
98	E	44	the College scholarship for Ranking First in B.Sc.IT.	Sarah Correia
99	E	45	Mrs. Kalpana Hansraj Chaudhuri Scholarship for deserving girl student continuing post graduate in Science	Relestina Lopes
100	E	46	Mukul Singhal Scholarship for highest aggregate at the highest aggregate at the BSC examinations	Shimontika Gupta
101	E	47	Late Prof. M.V. Bhagwat Scholarship for highest in Physics in T.Y.B.Sc. Examination	Abhilash Cheekoti
102	E	48	the Late Prof. Cavas J. Shroff Scholarship for highest marks in Statistics at the BSc examinations.	Shaun Savio Fernandes
103	E	49	the Ms. Baktawar Sam Sethna Scholarship for female student securing highest in Geology at the BSC examinations	Riya Bidaye
104	E	50	Ayan Dixit Memorial Award for best creative literary pursuit	Diya Parakh
105	E	51	Ayan Dixit Memorial Award for second best creative literary pursuit	Nicole Mehta
		F	SENIOR MA & MSc	
106	F	1	the Dr. Ratan Nadirshaw Sukheswala and Dr. Dayanand Dattatraya Yellur Scholarship for highest in Geology at MSc Part I.	Rithika Zeineiya D'souza
107	F	2	the Dr. Ratan Nadirshaw Sukeshwala and Dr. Dayanand Dattatraya Yellur Scholarship for highest in Geology at MSc Part II.	Arnav Samant
108	F	3	the College scholarship for highest in Biotechnology at the M.Sc. Examination	Shalini Roy Chowdhury
109	F	4	the Late Shri R.R. Subramanian Scholarship for a student ranking first in the MA autonomous course in Ancient Indian History Culture & Archeology	Zarin Abdul Mohammed
110	F	5	the Dr. Yvonne Mae Freitas Scholarship for highest in Microbiology at the M.Sc. Examination	Shivali Patkar
111	F	6		Juili Ekanath Mirgule
112	F	7		Snovia Nixon
113	F	8	the Shreevrat Goenka Scholarship for a meritorious Post graduate student of Life Science	Reanne Fronteiro
114	F	9	the Anjaneer Jon Sclarship for deserving student to pursue the master's programme in Biotechnology	Arshi Shaikh
115	F	10	Dr. M.A. Eswaran Scholarship for a deserving student of M.Sc. Life Science	Annabelle Jose
116	F	11		Misbah Shaikh
117	F	12	Gracie Borges Prizes in Botany for two best dissertations in M.Sc.Part II	Trupti Tiwari
118	F	13		Anwasha Dutta
		G	GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP	
119	G	1	Prof. Edward Mendonca and Ashok Kamte Memorial Award for the Student of the Year	Bhuvan Mazumdar
120	G	2	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the F.Y.B.A. examination.	Ruhi Jain
121	G	3	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the F.Y.B.Sc. examination.	Jui Sadanand Wakade
122	G	4	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the F.Y.B.Com. examination.	NA
123	G	5	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the S.Y.B.A. examination.	Saniya Pathare
124	G	6	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the S.Y.B.Sc. examination.	Neha Goregaonkar
125	G	7	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the S.Y.B.Com. examination.	NA

Sr.No.	SR		Name of the Scholarship	Name of the Awardee
126	G	8	Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship for the most promising student of the Xavier's Resource Centre for Visually Challenged (XRCVC)	Babita Saroj
127	G	9	the St. Xavier's College Association Golden Jubilee Scholarship for excellence in academics, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.	Tanaya Nair
128	G	10		Yashashree Uchil
129	G	11	the St.Xavier's College Association Fr.Balaguer Scholarship for a Senior College student who is outstanding in social work.	Durga Shirsat
130	G	12	the Fr. M.M. Balaguer, S.J. Scholarship for hardworking Senior College Catholic student.	Dominic D'souza
131	G	13	the Sabate-Freitas Memorial Fund, Shri & Smt. P. B. Fernandes-Veloz and the Ardeshir Rustomji Thanawala Scholarship for a student who is outstanding in Social Work.	Shah Veer
132	G	14	the Sabate-Freitas Memorial Fund, Shri & Smt. P. B. Fernandes-Veloz and the Ardeshir Rustomji Thanawala Scholarship for a student who is outstanding in Social Work.	Cardoza Seychelle
133	G	15	the Fenelon Bossuet Godinho Hindi Paritoshik and the Kamla Hindi Paritoshik	Monali Gupta
134	G	16	the Prof. Khalil Dehdashti Memorial Persian Scholarship for highest in Islamic Culture Studies.	NA
135	G	17	the Hostelite Welfare and Shastri Scholarship for a deserving hostelite.	NA
136	G	18	the Hostelite Welfare and Shastri Scholarship for a Meritorious hostelite.	NA
137	G	19	the Vinod Mehra Scholarship for the best cultural talent.	Ritika Mahadevan
138	G	20	the Late Gurcharan Kaur, Amrik Singh, Surender Jeet Singh & Varalakshimi P. Singh Scholarship for a deserving student.	Deepanshu Choudhary
139	G	21	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Surabhi Mende
140	G	22	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Digogarcia Noronha
141	G	23	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Rimjhim Kumari
142	G	24	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Badavate Jayesh
143	G	25	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Abhishek Peje
144	G	26	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Shubham Gupta
145	G	27	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Suryakant Patil
146	G	28	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Mohit Kumar
147	G	29	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Dipanshu Chaudhari
148	G	30	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Tanmay Mirgal
149	G	31	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Sagar More
150	G	32	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Xena Luis
151	G	33	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Clarissa Kittykal
152	G	34	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Melroy D'souza
153	G	35	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Batin Savio
154	G	36	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Parab Bhakti
155	G	37	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Sutar Kajal
156	G	38	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Parmar Ryan
157	G	39	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Mandal Dinabandhu
158	G	40	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Jawale Janardhan
159	G	41	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Rathod Lalu
160	G	42	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Soni Vishnu
161	G	43	the Gurudas Bailur Scholarship for a deserving student.	Rebecca Coutinho
162	G	44		Shirley Fernandes
163	G	45	Scholarship for a deserving Catholic Student.	Rebecca Coutinho
164	G	46		Shirley Fernandes
165	G	47	Mrs. Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic Student.	Grace Sebastian
166	G	48		Maria Misquitta
167	G	49		Josephine Gaikwad

Sr.No.	SR		Name of the Scholarship	Name of the Awardee
168	G	50	Mrs. Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic Student.	
169	G	51	Mrs. Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic Student.	
170	G	52	Mrs. Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic Student.	
171	G	53	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for an outstanding student of the college.	Anant Venkatesh
172	G	54	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for the most helpful student of the college	Swati Anwasha
173	G	55	the Prema Arya Memorial Scholarship to a deserving student of Microbiology	Kreena Nagda
174	G	56		Jenif Leo
175	G	57	Sheila & Ben Jacob Memorial Arts Prize for a deserving girl student.	Janice Lobo
176	G	58	Chandrakant Gupta Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Sajiya Hassan
177	G	59	O.A. Mathen Memorial Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Xena Luis
178	G	60	Dr. Yvonne Mae Freitas Scholarship for a deserving student of Microbiology	Jardin Rebello
179	G	61	Vibha & Bhalchandra Dave Trust Fund Scholarship for a deserving post graduate student of Microbiology	Princita Peter Fernandes
180	G	62		Shraddha Vinayak Gore
181	G	63		Vandana Gunda
182	G	64	Late. Smt Kaushalya Nayar and Late Shri. Kahan Chand Nayar Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Neha Chandrakumar
183	G	65		Neha Dubey
184	G	66		Pratiksha Kavade
185	G	67	the Late Prof. Cavas J. Shroff Scholarship for a deserving girl student pursuing B.Sc	Sudina S.
186	G	68		Priti Chandane
187	G	69		Samiksha Magar
188	G	70	the Late Mr. Manu Vasudeva and Mrs. Prabha Vasudeva "Nishtha" Scholarship for a deserving girl student in B.A.	Shalini Dubey
189	G	71	the Late Mr. Manu Vasudeva and Mrs. Prabha Vasudeva "Nishtha" Scholarship for a deserving girl student in B.Sc.	Aishwarya Babu
190	G	72	the Late Mr. Manu Vasudeva and Mrs. Prabha Vasudeva "Nishtha" Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Sana Boblai
191	G	73		Preeti Jadhav
192	G	74		Aishwarya Chavan
		H	SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS	
182	H	1	the Valerian F.X. Pais Scholarship for excelling in academics and representing College in various sports events.	Vidhi Maheshwari
183	H	2	the Late John C. Pinto Scholarship for an outstanding sportsman (preferably in Hockey / Football).	Kelley John
184	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.	Rosalin Lewis
185	H	4	the Mrs. Meherbai Dorabji Hilloo Desai, Joseph Manuel and Prof. Godfrey D'souza Scholarship for the best male athlete.	Peters Denzil
186	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.	Sanath Valladares
187	H	6	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for excellence in Basket Ball	Menezes Carina
188	H	7	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for Best female athlete.	Isika Pinto
189	H	8	the Ashok Kamte Memorial scholarship for a student who has distinguished himself in an individual sport.	Misbah Sumar
190	H	9	the Ashok Kamte Memorial scholarship for excellence in Academics and representing college in various sports events (Senior College)	Rachel Michael
191	H	10	the Ashok Kamte Memorial scholarship for outstanding sportsman in Hockey (Junior College)	Ryan Nayak
192	H	11	the Ashok Kamte Memorial scholarship for outstanding sportsman in Football (Junior College)	Cornelius Rodrigues

RESULTS

UNDER-GRADUATE STUDENT TOPPERS ON THE BASIS OF CGPA

CLASS	NAME OF STUDENT	CGPA
TYBA	Pathare Saniya Ajay	3.92
	Kavungal Divya Dinesh	3.90
	Sruthi Venkateswaran	3.90
	Solanki Kashish Yudhviram	3.89
	Sonavane Siddhita Surendra	3.89
TYBSc	Makani Zeheb Ahmad	3.96
	Gupta Disha Rahul	3.95
	Goregaokar Neha Shailesh	3.95
	Arora Riyansha Anil	3.95
	Johri Tanishka Rakesh	3.93
TYBMM	James Amanda Seraphina	3.80
	Sharan Anushka	3.77
	Kaur Guneet	3.75
TYBMS	Khanna Aayush	3.96
	Vig Rishabh	3.85
	Florence Alphonso	3.79
TYBSc-IT	Sharma Akshay	3.94
	Jain Chirag Manoj	3.94
	Patil Rohan Vishnu	3.89
	Mansury Mahjabin	3.88
TYBVOC- SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT	Khan Sikander Shakil	3.76
	Malkapurwala Rukaiya Juzer	3.73
	Barkat Sania Aftab	3.68
TYBVOC- TOURISM	Rodricks Rhea Maria	3.72
	Fernandes Drisya Remy	3.72
	Saluja Chirag	3.71
	Shinde Gargi Avinash	3.66

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON JESUIT INITIATIVES IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN SOUTH ASIA

A research seminar entitled “Jesuit Initiatives in Higher Education in South Asia” was organized as part of the sesquicentennial celebrations on 20th and 21st November, 2019. It was felt appropriate that such a seminar be held, as this is a theme closely associated with the college anniversary.

From the moment of its inception, the Jesuit Order found that education was one of the best means to impart wholesome values to whole masses of people. In the remote past the Order to a large extent focused on educating the wealthy and the powerful, as it was felt that these values would trickle down to the masses. In recent times, however, Jesuits the world over have modified this strategy in favour of a

more comprehensive and equitable approach to education in general and higher education in particular. Jesuits wish to offer good quality education to people of diverse classes, races, genders, cultures, nations, etc.

The seminar was intended to highlight efforts of Jesuits from the 16th century till today in imparting quality formation at the highest levels of institutionalized or formal education. The presentations were divided into three components: general and historical themes; initiatives in higher education in four primary missions of the Society of Jesus: the Bengal Mission, Madura Mission, Malabar Mission and Bombay Mission; and finally, more recent developments in higher

education, including educational work in non-urban areas and for marginalized communities, social science research, media education, technical education, management education and the movement towards academic autonomy in many Jesuit institutions.

Fourteen papers were presented in all, which will soon be published in a volume which will also include a general article on the vision of Jesuit higher education, as well as an article describing the stellar contributions by several Jesuit luminaries and scholars who have built up this institution over 150 years.

Fr. Keith D’Souza, S.J.

In the words of His Grace Dr. Thomas Roberts S.J., 19th March 1941 An Introduction to the Jesuits

For upwards of 60 years, generations of Fathers had come out to India, chiefly from Germany and, during the last 20 years from Spain. All were animated by the spirit of the kingdom of Christ; they had learnt at their mother’s knee that the purpose of man’s life was to return God’s gift to Him. Thus, they had given up family, country, language, all that human nature hold dear, and had raised lasting monuments of devotion and sacrifice, such as St. Xavier’s College and their other fine colleges and schools throughout India.

Knowing too that the best form of education is by example, they were themselves living examples of giving to God everything that is best.



*In
Conversation
with
Globalisation*

COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES (CIP)

Council for International Programmes in the *Time of COVID-19

(With profuse apologies to Gabriel Garcia Marquez's **Love in the Time of Cholera*)

The international footprint of Xavier's has been embossed on the globe since 1869. CIP has merely institutionalized it. It envisions a world without borders through academic and cultural exchanges. While offering a glimpse of the internationalization amidst the threat of xenophobia and a pandemic, it strives to prove that celebration of education and culture is the only recourse to a just society. The following is a succinct report of the activities held through the CIP in 2019-2020.

Outgoing students (31 students)

Sr. No	Name of the University	Particulars	No of Students	Duration
1	University of California, Berkeley, USA	Summer School	12	6 Weeks
2	Sciences Po, France	Exchange Program	03	One Year
3	Saint Louis University, USA	Exchange Program	01	One Year
4	Harvard College in Asia Program, USA (HCAP)**	Leadership Conference	10	One Week
5	University of Stuttgart, Germany	Online Course "In Conversation with Globalization"	05	4 Months

**The Mumbai chapter of HCAP to be held in March 2020 was cancelled due to the pandemic.

Incoming students (65 students)

Sr. No	Name of the University	Particulars	No of Students	Duration
1	University of California, Berkeley, USA	Summer School	08	8 Weeks
2	Sciences Po, France	Exchange Program	01	One Year
3	IESEG School of Management, France	Exchange Program	04	One Year
4	University of Sydney	Summer School	08	6 Weeks
5	The Steinhardt Institute for Higher Education Policy, New York University, USA	Lecture Series	23	One Day
6	University of Stuttgart, Germany; Stellenbosch University, South Africa; University of Bergamo, Italy	Online Course 'In Conversation with Globalization'	02 - Stuttgart	4 Months
			04 - Stellenbosch	
			02 - Bergamo	
7	SOKA University, Japan	Exchange Program	05	1 Sem
			02	2 Sem
		Intensive English Language Course	06	2 Weeks

Foreign Scholars Visiting St. Xavier's through CIP

Name	Parent University	Dates	Details of Engagement
Prof. Annamarie Jagose, Dr. Cindy McCreery Dr. Buntly Avieson	University of Sydney, Australia	19 th November 2019	Lecture (s)
Dr. Seema Freer	Temple University, USA	2 nd December 2019	Lecture
Dr. Gregory Booth, Dr. Simon Holdaway	University of Auckland, New Zealand	27 th & 28 th January 2020	Lecture(s)
Dr. Sukriti Issar	Sciences Po, France	11 th January 2020	Lecture
Dr. Ann Marcus, Dr. Teboho Moja	The Steinhardt Institute for Higher Education Policy, New York University, USA	13 th January 2020	Lectures by Xavier's Faculty members
Dr. Alexandra Sussmann, Mayor of Social Issues and Social Integration, City of Stuttgart	University of Stuttgart, Germany	8 th February 2020	Interaction with students 'In Conversation with Globalization.'

Prestigious Scholarships : At Sciences Po, Ms. Archana Iyer and Mr. Raghav Mittal were awarded the Erasmus Scholarship. Mr. Mohit Kumar and Ms. Rimjhim Kumari were selected for the Betty-Keating scholarship which enables deserving students to spend two months at Oxford. Due to COVID-19, this selection has been deferred to the following year. Ms Jiya Nair from University of Massachusetts Amherst worked with Dr. Awanish Kumar, Assistant Professor in the Postgraduate Department of Public Policy her Project Guide under the Fulbright Nehru fellowship. She joined in August 2019 and was researching how NGOs develop strategies and implement them in the urban slums of Bombay. Her fieldwork was stalled and she had to return mid-March 2020 because of the pandemic.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) : MOUs were signed with Temple University, Philadelphia, USA; Creighton University, Omaha, USA and with International Association of Jesuit Universities. MOUs with Notre Dame University, USA and the University of Sydney were renewed.

Japanese Cultural Festival : On 12th February and 4th March 2020, the enthusiastic students of SOKA University organized the following programs: the Art of Shodo (Calligraphy), Fukuwarai, a traditional Japanese game, Japanese toys: Kendama, (a skill toy), Koma (Spinning toy), hands-on with chopstick, preparation of Japanese Green Tea and a workshop on singing a Japanese song.



The Core Committee of Japanese festival: Exchange Students of SOKA University

In Gratitude : The CIP is indebted to the Management, the Principal, all the three Vice-Principals, the General Office, the Treasurer's Office and the Administrator's office for their unflinching support and encouragement. A special note of thanks to Dr. Fr. Roy Pereira for his valuable guidance; to Ms. Medha Taskar our Librarian who has always welcomed foreign guests to our spectacular library; to Dr. Joan Dias for presenting the Heras Museum to every foreign contingent; to every single resource person who enriched the CIP through their academic acumen and to Ms. Gayatri Karnik (TYBA, History) who led the buddy-team of St. Xavier's. To the effervescent Mr. Clyde Curry of XIMR who crossed over to the other world – Clyde your place will remain a permanent void in our hearts. You mattered a lot, you gave immensely! A big thank you to everyone on behalf of the CIP committee. A warm thank-you to the members of the CIP committee for their steadfast support always.

Dr. Rashmi Lee George
Director, CIP

NEW INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION EMLYON BUSINESS SCHOOL

New International Initiative: Urban India: Challenges & Opportunities for Emlyon Business School Students in Collaboration with St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai (24 February – 14 March 2020)

The “Emlyon Business School” (now ranked by the FT in the top twenty of European B-Schools) in Lyon had proposed a staff/student collaboration/exchange programme adopting an interdisciplinary approach, involving the College, XIMR, XIC, and XIE (Xavier Institute of Engineering, Mahim). Along with this was also the possibility of an offer by the same school to set up and help us run an innovation hub and fabrication lab. This fits well with one of the goals stated in the college vision statement, namely, “Instituting a Research and Incubation Center: developing research skills, creating an entrepreneurship hub”.

The objectives of the collaborative programme:

- The structuring of dual/double programmes at the undergraduate, graduate, and executive levels.
- A hybridization or cross fertilization of cultural values and business processes, along with practical experience.
- The visit of Emlyon business school students to St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, for this collaborative program could serve as a “proof of concept” for future

collaboration. The first batch of ten French students would be matched with a similar number from different Jesuit institutions. The French students will be taught subjects related to the Indian environment, philosophy, culture, and business issues for one month.

- After this, all students would typically begin work on projects in collaboration with the Makers' Asylum in Andheri, for a month.
- The investment in a makers/incubator space at St. Xavier's College could be a platform for future programmes such as common research and faculty interaction between the two institutions.

The actual programme:

- Sixteen students registered for this programme (ten students from Emlyon, four from XIC and two from XIMR).
- The syllabus was designed as per the theme of the programme: “Urban India: Challenges and Opportunities”, to show the scope for intervention in different fields (CSR/Innovation/Start-Ups/Job creation/socioeconomic & cultural intervention, etc.).
- The resource persons were Dr. Agnelo Menezes, Dr. Fleur D'Souza and Dr. Radha Kumar – each of them sharing the history

and culture of Mumbai and its urban development. Dr. Rahul Nabar explained the differences between a corporate firm and an SME – their unique challenges and opportunities. The students also designed a business plan in groups of four. Ms. Shweta Damle spoke about social entrepreneurship and Ms. Neha Trivedi from XRCVC organized a workshop in college.

- Visits to Muktangan and Dilkush were organized along with a heritage walk, city tour, and walk through informal places in Mumbai. They also visited the Famous Studio to see the functioning of an SME. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the corporate visit to Mahindra and Mahindra had to be canceled. Students visited the Heras museum and the library of our college; they also attended a Baithak hosted by IMG of our college.
- The joint project at the Maker's Asylum in Andheri did not materialize, on account of the lockdown which started in late March, 2020.

Oral as well as written feedback was taken from time-to-time. The programme was well appreciated overall.

Dr. Karuna Gokarn
Vice-Principal (Academics) &
Programme Co-ordinator

Campus Dynamism



“XYNERGY 2019”

(A SPECTRUM OF OPPORTUNITIES)

As an institution, we believe in pursuing innovative practices that inculcates holistic learning, fostering the spirit of creativity and nurturing a healthy mind. One such attempt was to reach out to future learners and showcase, the nuances of the various programmes offered by the college across different faculties. Two exhibitions, sponsored by national agencies, were organized through a collaborative effort of all the Humanities, Science Departments, and Associations existing on the campus.

The event began with a welcome address by our Rector Dr. Fr. Keith D’Souza, followed by an interactive session with Dr. Jehangir Mistry, Dean of Xavier’s Institute

of Communications. He spoke on practical solutions to several environmental issues, which were inspiring and thought provoking. All the school students present at the inaugural session appreciated their interaction with Dr. Mistry.

The exhibition featured stalls by various Science, Arts and Humanities departments, and Xavier’s Resource Centre for Visually Challenged. The exhibits put up by each department consisted of educational games, quizzes, career opportunities, and many other attractions. Students and teachers from many schools and colleges attended the exhibition. Parents accompanied students as visitors to the event. The volunteer

team of students enhanced their learning curve by making the exhibit in various forms. There were games, quizzes, paintings, model display, interviews that engaged the visitors and encouraged them to participate in the exhibition. The team got an opportunity to play the role of torchbearers and help the young minds navigate their way.

A positive feedback from all the visitors appreciating the enthusiasm, efforts and communication skills of the volunteers reflected the success of the exhibition.

Dr. Karuna Gokarn
VP Academics

DISHA – INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EVOLVING TRENDS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

In view of the proposed National Education Policy (NEP) and with the rapidly changing millennial learner, we saw a need to improve digital fluency, promote new forms of interdisciplinary studies, understand relevance of value education, encourage inclusive education, foster authentic learning and work on curriculum design. As an extension of St. Xavier’s College’s commitment to the dissemination of quality education, DISHA- International Conference on Evolving Trends in Higher Education was organized in March 12-13, 2020. This was an IQAC initiative of St. Xavier’s College

This conference brought together educators from different streams and representing various institutes from different parts of our country to discuss the various aspects of education. The conference aimed at creating a platform for the exchange of ideas and practices with national and international experts in the aforementioned areas.

The objective of this conference was fivefold:

- Empowering educators with pedagogical techniques available for the education of Students with Disabilities (SWD)
- Bridging the gap between Academia and Industry
- Exposing participants to ICT available for facilitation of teaching & learning
- Examining interdisciplinary approaches in learning
- Addressing the social and affective challenges of the millennial learner

The International Conference began on March 12th 2020 with the lighting of the lamp by the Chief-Guest Dr. Bartholomew Mcgettrick, Guest speaker Prof. Avijit Pathak, Dr. Wendy Bignold, Fr. Rector Dr. Keith D’Souza and Principal Dr. Rajendra Shinde.

The registered delegates were given a welcome kit – a customized cloth bag especially for Disha, a pen and the proceedings of the conference. Abstracts of workshops and oral presentations were published in the proceedings.

Inauguration was followed by the Keynote address by our chief guest Dr. Bartholomew Mcgettrick (Emeritus professor of education and dean emeritus faculty of education, University of Glasgow). The theme of his presentation was on ‘Global perspective in value education in Higher educational Institutions’. He highlighted the importance of three key points in higher education, ‘Sense of Hope, Professional Love and to impart Justice’. According to him, values are carried in relationships and education is developing a way of living life. Education should be in the hearts and minds and not necessarily in the books and documents. He classified three trends in modern

institutional development, first the need for Academic and professional Laissez-faire second the period of measured outcomes and third the period of values, he concluded with the following quote 'footsteps are more important than the signpost'.

Prof. Avijith Pathak, School of Social Science, JNU was the guest speaker of the day. He spoke on 'The art of teaching and the spirit of being a wanderer'. He began his speech by quoting Jiddu Krishnamurthy, "*Truth is a pathless land. Man cannot come to it through any organization, through any creed, through any dogma, priest or ritual, not through any philosophical knowledge or psychological technique.*" This set the theme that began with sharing his learnings as a teacher for the last thirty years. Prof. Pathak emphasized on how a teacher is a wanderer whose ceaseless walk is full of rising and failure and is a complex question of paradoxes. According to Prof. Pathak, University should not be reduced to a factory and the goal should be higher enough to transcend the boundary of a nation. A teacher's role is not just to cater to the student as one would to a consumer. Prof. Pathak also emphasized that this being an age of market entering education, teachers, and students turning into products and consumers, the university needs to be a place of gentle anarchy and madness where the spirit of wanderers charges the teachers and they reclaim themselves as explorers. Such teachers sow seeds in the students' mind that questions our consciousness, self and world, science and ethics, politics and morality and questions self and reflexivity.

First session concluded with the official release of the special issue of 'Xplore' Xavier's Research Journal (ISSN: 2249- 1878, listed among the UGC-CARE journals) by the Guests along with the Principal, Dr. Bobby Mathew (Convenor) and the Editors Dr. Hrishikesh Samant and Dr. Pratiba Naitthani. This issue consists of the peer-reviewed papers written by the presenters. The peer review team consisted of Dr. Geeta Shetty (Associate Prof – St. Xavier's Institute of Education), Dr. Sugra Chunawala (Dean & Prof – HBCSE TIFR), Dr.

Agnes D'Costa (Associate Professor, Pushpanjali College of Education), and Dr. Usha Borkar (Associate Professor, H.J College of Education).

A group photograph of all the delegates was taken in the first quadrangle – the basketball court. The total number of delegates were one hundred and sixty-five.

Post tea break, in the morning session presentation of select papers was held at two separate venues. One of the objectives of the DISHA 2020 International Conference was to provide a platform for the exchange of ideas and practices followed by facilitators and educators for effective teaching and learning. Oral presentations of research work done by educators from different faculties helped in accomplishing this objective largely. Dr. Fleur D'Souza (Retd. Associate Professor and Head, Department of History, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai) and Dr. Geeta Shetty ((Associate Prof – St. Xavier's Institute of Education) chaired the sessions and moderated the question and answer session for each of the presentations.

During the DISHA 2020, five workshops were arranged for all delegates covering various topics in tandem with the objectives of the conference. This was a unique approach where participants and delegates could experience the best practices. Resource persons for these workshops were experts in their own field. Voice Modulation workshop conducted by the communication coach, live show host, and voice-over artist Mr. Craig Travasso was well received by the participants of Disha Conference from across different colleges of India.

Ms. Jyothi D Tommaar, conducted the 'dance to de-stress' workshop. An accomplished Kathak dancer and assistant director of the Gangaur Ghoomar Dance Academy, she kept the participants enthused throughout the session encouraging everyone to participate. The idea that dance is inherent within us, brings in joy and happiness and can be used as an expression to reduce work pressures was instilled through actual performances. Around 30 participants

attended this session.

The workshop on 'MOOC- Designing an online course' started with an introduction to E-learning, Web-based learning, Synchronous, and Asynchronous learning. Elements of E-learning such as E-text, self-learning, self-assessment were discussed. The participants were given a brief idea about learning management systems. Mr. Abhishek Kumar, Scientist D (Computer Science) at INFLIBNET center, Ahmedabad was the resource person for this session.

Ms. Neha Trivedi from Xavier's Resource Center conducted the workshop on 'Inclusive education - Train the trainer (for educators in science) for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC). The session was quite interesting as she explained the objectives with various activities. It was also a very good platform for the participants to understand the best practices adopted in the XRCVC at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. A quick mention of how legal regulations were adapted to acquaint legal systems and rules available to students/individuals with disability was included in the session.

Mr. Kaushik Biswas from Microsoft (India) was the resource person for the workshop on 'ICT Tools for Teaching and Learning'. With their unique login ID-password for accessing the Microsoft portal for Office 365 the participants could engage in activities as instructed by the resource person. Various features that an educator could use such as co-authoring and sharing documents, 1-1 communication, editing & formatting of documents, video voice-overs, use of SWAY for document sharing and MS Teams were demonstrated.

Day two of the conference started with the talk by Mr. Srinivas Garimella, Director – Education, Microsoft Inc (India) on 'Impact of Disruption in Higher Education'. Mr. Srinivas emphasized on the paradigm shift in the job scenario, workplace environment, and outcome-based approach of the industry. The Five Cs expected from the young graduates today are creativity, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and

computational thinking. He touched upon the role of Microsoft as an institution working towards knowledge creation through integrating modern learning pedagogies and tools.

Due to unavoidable circumstances Professor Gwen van der Velden, University of Warwick could not be present personally for the talk thus Dr. Bartholomew McGettrick graciously stepped in to read out the talk transcribed by Professor Gwen for the audience. The topic of her talk was on 'Interdisciplinary learning and the transition of millennial learners to Generation Z'. The core theme of the talk was to give a flavor to the requirements of generation Z as learners and the importance of interdisciplinary learning. Phenomenal technology changes are defining our current reality, impacting on our approach to society, to planning and breaking new ground in terms of education. She also highlighted that it is a huge challenge for the educator today to educate a group of learners (Gen Z) which is very diverse, learns by observation, practices limited critical evaluation of information and expects instant gratification. The requirement to teach learners to look deeper and wider can be supplemented with an interdisciplinary approach. Learning through interdisciplinary pedagogy will help the external stakeholders and the students to tread forward at an equal pace. Professor Gwen concluded that an interdisciplinary learning approach would be a way forward to instilling the values of love,

hope, and justice among Generation Z learners.

This talk was followed by a poster presentation and two oral presentation sessions at two different venues. The paper presentations on the second day of the conference was chaired by Dr. Wendy Bignold, (Associate Dean (International) & Head of Residential Life, Liverpool Hope University) and Dr. Vivien Amonkar (Retd Professor, Department of Microbiology, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai).

Two Panel discussions were organized on the second day as post-lunch sessions.

1. **The first-panel discussion was on 'National Education Policy of India' moderated by Dr. Jehangir Mistry (Moderator), Dean, Xavier's Institute of Communication with four panelists (Dr. Vasudha Kamat, Former VC, SNDT University, Dr. Amol Dighe, Professor TIFR, Adv. Kishu Daswani, Professor, Government Law College, Churchgate, and Dr. B N Jagtap, Professor, Dept.of Physics, IIT Bombay).**
2. **The second-panel discussion was on 'The Relevance of Value Education in Higher Educational Institutions'. This was moderated by Dr. Bartholomew McGettrick, Emeritus Professor of education and Dean Emeritus faculty of Education, University of Glasgow,**

along with four panelists (Dr. Agnelo B Menezes (Former principal, St Xavier's College), Dr. Geeta Shetty (Associate Professor, St Xavier's Institute of Education), Dr. Sahana Murthy (Professor, Educational technology, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay) and Dr. Romit Roy (Associate Professor, Visva-Bharati, Shantiniketan)

Overall, both panel discussions were engaging, with several important comments and observations made by the panelists, which all teachers need to reflect upon.

The Conference concluded on day 2 with a Valedictory function. Dr. Wendy Bignold Associate Dean (International) & Head of Residential Life, Liverpool Hope University was the chief guest who very diligently gave an overview of the conference. The Valedictory Function concluded with Dr. Bobby Mathew, the Convenor extending gratitude to all the speakers, the delegates, the management, the helping staff, and the technical staff.

We extend our special thanks to all sponsors and collaborators (RUSA, DBT-CTEP, MICROSOFT and BRITISH COUNCIL) for their support to make this conference a grand success.

Dr. Bobby P. Mathew
Convenor
DISHA-2020

ECC REPORT

The Extra-Curricular and Cultural Committee (ECC) is the primary body responsible for all extra-curricular activities within our college. This includes organising many events, workshops, seminars and life skill programmes, participating in intra-college and inter-college festivals, and recording and monitoring the ECC hours and points of students. This year, the Committee was divided into the

following forums, namely, World Performing Arts (Dance), World Performing Arts (Music), Indian Performing Arts (Dance), Indian Performing Arts (Music), Fine Arts, the Theatre Society, the Debating and Quizzing Society, the Xavier's Press and Learning for Life. These forums were supported by the Photography and Public Relations departments.

The activities of the sub-departments were:

FINE ARTS

HEAD - JAHNAVI JESWANI & ALEEN ABLE

The FA forum organised several workshops this year, venturing away from conventional sketching, drawing and painting towards diverse, interesting and less-explored

arts like Mandala and Candle-making.

Our first workshop, Basics of Caricature Making, took place on the 29th of August, wherein our resource-person Mr. Navin gave students a deeper insight on how to visualize human faces in a quirky, artsy and fun way. On 30th August, we organised a workshop on the Basics of Mandala Making, conducted by our own student Akansha Mishra. This workshop was a fun experience for participants to peep into the amazing world of circular symmetrical patterns, reflected in everything around us- from a grain of sand to the entire universe.

Our candle-making workshop on 12th December received great response and with the direction of Mr. Kevin Nadar, our alumnus, all the participants made their beautiful candles and surely cultivated a new hobby! Mr. Dinesh Mohite, our beloved staff member conducted a Paper Art workshop on the 11th January, wherein he taught students the art of paper cutting.

Our next workshop was on Pen Sketching, conducted by FYJC student Akshita Makhija on the 15th of January, where participants learned different ways to sketch and shade with a Pen.

We all use several fonts and lettering styles on a daily basis. Our next workshop on January 22nd threw more light on this art by teaching students Brush Pen Lettering.

WORLD PERFORMING ARTS & INDIAN PERFORMING ARTS MUSIC

HEAD - JERUSHA MENDES & YASHASHREE UCHIL

The theme decided by the head of WPA & IPA Music this year was "Inclusivity". The main goal of hosting various jam sessions and music competitions was to have at least a minor impact of bringing people from different departments together. Being a professional Violinist and Guitarist, performance has always been the forte of our heads but it was great being a musician, to be with other

musicians and learn from each other. Our workshops and competitions this year endeavoured to reflect this motive.

The first workshop, was the Group Jam fest workshop. This workshop was a great icebreaker for musicians who did not know other musicians in college. As the workshop was open for all, we had students come in from a variety of departments. It brought us great joy to discern their exuberance to learn and get acquainted with each other. This further incentivized us to go ahead and divide students into cell groups where they could jam and create music. They were also encouraged to make music videos and upload them on YouTube and other social media sites.

The main event of this year was the ECC Carnival, where WPA & IPA Music organized a music competition, judged by Mr. Tejbhir, a professional pianist. The key highlight of the competition was when the participants, after the competition, asked the judges questions about their performance and how they could better themselves. It was a great learning experience for them, and we got very positive feedback. Further, we had an interactive discussion with Mr. Raman Iyer, co-founder of Neeraj Arya's Kabir Cafe Band.

INDIAN PERFORMING ARTS DANCE

HEAD-MALLIKA RAHANE

IPA Dance focuses on the devotion and curation of Indian classical and folk dances in all their glory. Throughout the year, it organised workshops, sessions and events to keep the spirit of Indian dance alive in St. Xavier's College. Our first workshop was taught the Garba dance form in the light of the upcoming Navratri festival. The workshop was conducted by Guru Smita Shah, a renowned Bharatnatyam and folk dancer with an experience in the field of over 3 decades. She first taught the basic garba steps to the enthusiastic participants, and then the group gathered to enjoy this colourful dance form in its traditional style.

Our second workshop called Abhinaya focused on expression through dance, conveying stories through hand gestures, understanding various moods and impromptu choreography. The key highlights were Mudras and the four types of Abhinaya as Anvil Abhinaya, Vachik Abhinaya, Satvik Abhinaya and Aharya Abhinaya. The workshop was conducted by Aishwarya Harish, an award-winning Bharatnatyam dancer.

We conducted a Navratri folk dance competition on the first day of Navratri so that the students feel the heritage of Indian dances marked by the commemoration of our Indian festival of Navratri. It was a group folk dance competition with dance styles Ghumar, Dandiya and Garba. Not only the participants, but the audience was also kept engaged by giving the dance floor to an Open Garba so that everyone feels alive in the festival.

Our next workshop focused on the Navrasas Shringar, Hasya, Raudrya, Shanta, Veer, Adbhuta, Bhayanak, Bibhitsu and Karun; and also taught Shirobhed, Grivabhed, Drishtibhed and Bhrigudi movements. It also featured a dance Choreography on description of Ganpati. The workshop was conducted by Ramya Jagdish, Founder and Director of Nupura Fine Arts Academy. We also conducted Nrityangan, our annual Classical Dance Competition. This year's Nrityangan invited contestants to perform any of the classical dances from Kathak, Bharatnatyam, Kathakali, Mohiniyattam, Odissi, Kuchipudi, Manipuri, Chahu and Satriya so that all classical dances are given the stage and opportunity without any bias.

The IPA dancers presented a wide assortment of classical and folk dances to showcase Indian diversity and heritage to our foreign guests from Sydney University Australia. The event comprised of Kathak, Ghumar, Lavni, Bharatnatyam, and Bihu. We organised an Indian lunch for the Australian students and our IPA dancers to have in an Indian style to ensure cross cultural interactions and bonding.

WORLD PERFORMING ARTS DANCE

HEAD- SANIKA KADAM

“The job of the feet is walking, but its hobby is dancing.”

The vision of WPA Dance this year was to encourage dancers of all levels to participate and explore different western dance forms. Our workshops and competitions this year tried to reflect this motive.

Our first workshop, conducted by the Head, Sanika Kadam, was the Urban dance workshop. This workshop was well received and we were excited at the keen interest and great enthusiasm of all the participants! Our next workshop was on a comparatively unexplored style- Jazz Funk, conducted by Shayanne Hill. Dancing to the grooves of Michael Jackson, all our participants were surprised that this seemingly tough dance form is so groovy and fun!

As a part of the ECC Carnival, we organised an intra-college dance competition.

The last workshop, conducted by Muktansh Bari, was a Bollywood workshop, which had all our participants dancing their feet off! Through a mixture of two popular styles, the workshop saw the participants freestyling and showing of their moves in cypher rounds. Though it was conducted towards the end of the academic year, there was good attendance by participants.

LEARNING FOR LIFE

HEAD - MONALI GUPTA



A total of 5 workshops were conducted under the LFL forum of the ECC during the academic session 2019-20.

We started our year with a workshop titled “Discovery of Core Competence” on the 20th of July, 2019, which was conducted by Mr. Amrut Bang from NIRMAN Youth Leadership Development Program. The aim of the workshop was to inculcate habits and ideas of social change through enabling one to discover their core competence.

Our next workshop was an essential for every college student.

Conducted by Red Pen on 8th August, it taught students how to successfully write a resume. This activity provided a practical guidance on how a resume should be made and students were also given the opportunity to discuss the drawbacks/corrections (if any) in their own resumes personally with the resource team.

The growing environment degradation problem and the insensitive people towards causing pollution led us to conduct a workshop on waste management on the 25th September. Our resource institution, Stree Mukti Sangathan, imparted the best possible methods of waste management by encouraging students to debate on the different viewpoints they held on the situations posed by the resource person. Students were also introduced to an invention of the organisation that helps decompose waste at home and does not require an open pit for the same.

On 16th January, we screened Ken Loach’s film *I, Daniel Blake* that depicts the current socio-political issues being observed all over the world which provided a basis for an intense discussion on the current economic, social and political issues. Our resource institution for the workshop was ‘Students for Liberty’.

Our last workshop for the year titled “I, Me and Myself: A Self Awareness Workshop” was conducted by Ms. Sukhmani Kaur, a clinical psychologist

from Prism Brain Map on 16th January 2020. The workshop aimed at making students more aware about themselves, their surroundings and thus their thinking and approach. It also taught confidence-building techniques and basic meditation that can help us students relieve stress.

FITTOOR - THE THEATRE SOCIETY

HEAD - TIRUPATIBALA VAISHNAV

This year the goal of the theatre society was to reignite the spirit of theatre and performing arts among students of the college. The idea was to keep bringing opportunities to the students for them to engage more and more with different forms of theatre and to explore themselves in the realm of acting, writing, direction, stage management, production etc. We kick-started the year with an all students’ orientation of the theatre society, where the students were introduced to the heads, the committee members and the aims and planned activities of the society for the academic year.

The first session of the year where the participants broke the ice with a few name games, collaborative exercises like zip zap zoom and improv comedy scenes. The purpose of the session was to open the like-minded people to each other and create new friendships, conversations and collaboration with each other. We were happy to receive a great response and feedback from the participants especially the first-year students.

Thespo the youth theatre movement every year puts together a festival at Prithvi theatre where young artists under 25 years of age showcase their plays, manage the festival, work backstage, make props, raise funds, organise and execute. We invited two Thespo fellows Preethi Kashyap and Anushka Ghose to introduce Xavierites to the world of Thespo and join them as interns and volunteers.

Our next workshop ‘The Art of Fooling Around with Alistar Bennis’ was one of the best masterclasses of

the year. The workshop introduced students to the tricks of performance, improvisation, object work and how to respond in a performance rather than just reciting learned dialogues. Our next workshop was 'Exploring Performing Arts through literature with Shivani Patekar'. This session with Ms. Shivani Patekar explored the importance of the written text and literature in the process of theatre making. The students were paired up and given a text of hindi literature to explore its meaning and to imagine it as a performance. Ms. Shivani took the students through a magical journey where they learn to embody poetry into a theatrical performance. The workshop ended with the students doing a final performance of their studied literature and written dialogues.

ECC Carnival, the best time of the year, is when Jahn-e-Fitoor returns with its yearly play productions, where we open the stage for students who write, direct and perform. This year Jashn-e-Fitoor staged plays in three languages- The Will (English), RunanuBandh (Hindi) and Baba (Marathi). From a satirical comedy, an existential quest of words and bonds and a play that explored and asked whether morality stands before rationality or the other way round. The idea behind Jashn-e-Fitoor is to celebrate our theatre society at Xavier's and the power of theatre irrespective of the language.

This year we meet three weeks and read short stories by Saddat Hassan Manto, Hari Shankar Parsai etc and did explore the basic rules, forms and games of improv comedy by actually doing it.

We also bagged the 1st prize in the theatre event that entailed filming a short dramatic video on climate change with pop-culture characters. This year we collaborated with another department of the college, the DIRS, where professional artists of playback theatre introduced us to the art form with their beautiful performance followed by a Q & A session.

THE QUIZZING SOCIETY

HEAD - SHRISTI KHEMKA

The quizzing society, a fairly newer addition to the Extra Curricular Committee, managed to establish good business in the academic year 2019-2020. The society organised 4 quizzes between August to February.

This started in August with the first quiz conducted in association with 'The Stats Society' on the 31st of August. The Quiz was a standard elimination and finals quiz with general knowledge rounds and riddles. Ishaan Kothiyal and Akshay Dhamange, FY BSc won the quiz.

The next quiz was 'Commercium - The Commerce Society'. This quiz, called "Monster Heights" was an off-beat quiz requiring each team to answer the right question to climb up the ladder. For each wrong answer, there was an even bigger penalty. This quiz was again won by - Ishaan Kothiyal and Akshay Dhamange.

The next quiz was as part of the ECC Carnival. This quiz attended by almost 50 students was a big hit. The winners were given Amazon vouchers. In the first place stood - V. Atishay Somayaji and Siddharth Khosla from FYBMS and in the second place Trevor Baretto from TYBSC IT and Mrinal Walavalkar from FYBA.

The final quiz for the year was a Friends Theme based quiz conducted in February. This quiz marked the last event of ECC and was well-received by all the "friends fanatics." We're looking forward to more fun and innovative quizzes that can excite the rather dull life of Xavierites and charm them with basic knowledge.

THE XAVIER'S DEBATING SOCIETY

HEAD - RITABARATA MITRA

The Xavier's Debating Society channelizes and entrenches the avenue to effective deliberation and discourse. In status quo, our thoughts and opinions do not have a substantial tangible impact on society unless we

vehemently express them. This Society helps individuals to collectivize and structure their arguments in a coherent manner to create maximum impact.

The Debating season for this academic year went as follows:

National Debates:

1. Symbiosis Law School Parliamentary Debate, 2019: Rutvik Chhibber and Simran Nahata acquired the position of Pre-Quarter Finalists in the Open category, Surabhi Chavan and Joanne Johnson were awarded Finalists in the Novice Category.
2. Gujrat National Law University Parliamentary Debate, 2019: Ritabrata Mitra, Rutvik Chhibber, Nabilah Noorani and Bhumika Ahuja were Quarter Finalists in the Open Category.
3. NALSAR University of Law organized their Parliamentary Debate: Ritabrata Mitra and Bhumika Ahuja finished as Quarter Finalists and Surabhi Chavan and Joanne Johnson finished as Pre-Quarter Finalists
4. IIM Ahmedabad Parliamentary Debate, 2020: Surabhi Chavan, Paarth Pande and Ishwari Sonawane emerged Winners followed by Vansh Chowdhury, Akshat Sharma and Vaishnavi Lingayat as Runner's Up in the tournament.
5. The COEP Parliamentary Debate, 2020 witnessed exceptional performance by Rufus Massey who was a Novice Final Panelist.
6. Ram Manohar Lohia National Law University Parliamentary Debate, 2020: Mrigank Mohan, Surabhi Chavan and Simran Nahata were declared Finalists and Ritabrata Mitra, Rutvik Chhibber and Bhumika Ahuja were Semi Finalists.
7. Government Law College, Mumbai Parliamentary Debate, 2020: Ritabrata Mitra and

Bhumika Ahuja secured the position of Quarter Finalists.

Intra-College events and workshops:

1. Suman Mitra, distinguished adjudicator and a student of GLC, Mumbai, conducted a workshop on the Principles of Debating and Structuring Arguments.
2. Intra-College Debate- Winners: Bhumika Ahuja, Joanne Johnson and Vritti Shah.

Runner's up: Ishwari Sonawane, Vaishnavi Lingayat and Yashvi Bharot.

Best Speaker: Bhumika Ahuja

3. Student Faculty Debate: Teacher panel (Runner's up): Agnelo Menezes, Ankita Gujar and Conrad Cabral; Student panel (Winners): Ritabrata Mitra, Mrigank Mohan and Surabhi Chavan.

THE XAVIER'S PRESS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: SRUTHI VENKATESWARAN

The Xavier's Press is the student-run college newsletter, that was revived this academic year. The XPress, as it is commonly referred to, generally publishes articles on happenings in and around college. This year, thus far, we have released two issues of the XPress, and a third issue in the first week of March. The first issue was published in September 2019, with 60 physical copies printed, which were distributed to the management, departments, sources from faculty, and editors. The rest of the student body could access the e-copy of the same. The key feature of this issue was an interview with the Principal of the college. Other articles included reminiscences with faculty who once studied in the college, and articles on the Wellness Centre, associations on campus, the Council of International Programmes, N-List, the Grievance Redressal Cell, the various libraries on campus, SWAYAM, and a couple of light articles.

The second issue was published in February 2020, with 80 physical copies printed. Articles published in this issue included those on inclusion on campus, the WDC, the Language Lab, the woes and joys of being an outstation student, on how non-Xavierites perceive the college, and conversations with some stalwarts of the college. We also had certain other light, humorous articles, again, centred around life on campus.

The third issue released in March 2020, will have articles on the canteen, CFCs, commuting woes, students and stress, and other creative topics. We hope and believe that the XPress has achieved its intended goal of informing and entertaining the student body.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & PHOTOGRAPHY

HEADS - ABRAHAM LEITAO & BHAVINI BANSAL

This year, ECC introduced a new department for Public Relations which is responsible for disseminating information and spreading awareness about various college activities like workshops, seminars, releases. Our aim for this year was to increase participation in workshops and inter-college events. We are happy to report that we received tremendous response in our activities with an average strength of 50-60 people per workshop with exceptions like Fine Arts due to logistical reasons. We also sent complete college contingents to several festivals. Besides that, we expanded our social media outreach through Instagram and other channels.

Our photography department has been responsible for recording all the memories made in the various activities, workshops and events. With a dedicated team of photographers and editors, they have been at the forefront, ensuring documentation and recognition to all our participants! Some of their work has been presented in this report.

KEY COLLEGE EVENTS

Besides the work of our forums, the ECC also organised and conducted integral college events like the Graduation Ceremony, College Day,

Independence Day, Traditional Day, Republic Day and the Farewell.

SOCIAL OUTREACH

Giving back to the community is a part of the fabric of Xavier's and also for the ECC. Similar to last year, we organised a social outreach programme wherein 9th and 10th grade students from the Robinhood Army and Banganga NGO were taken for a college tour along with various fun activities. Through this, we tried to motivate students to continue higher education.

INTER-COLLEGE EVENTS AND EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION

The ECC has sent college contingents to various inter-college festivals and competitions. We notably won second place in Malhar 2019, Kaleidoscope 2019 and Kshitij 2019 besides participating in Vaayu. Our college student Ronojit Bhuyan also won first prize in the solo instrumental event at Mood Indigo 2019.

The feather in the cap for ECC turned out to be the opportunity to represent India at the Sunburst South-Asian Cultural Exchange youth camp held in Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore. Eight students under the leadership of Dr. Ashma Aggarwal participated in a week-long camp, learning about different cultures and gaining international exposure. We also had the honour to perform an Indian classical dance and music fusion act "MayurBhanj" in the closing ceremony of the camp.

2019-2020 has been an enriching year for the Extra-Curricular and Cultural Committee and we look forward to more achievements and participation in the following years. Above all, we thank the management, faculty (Dr. Ashma Aggarwal, Dr. Radha Kumar, Prof. Piyali Unnikrishnan, Prof. Saima Khan, Dr. Ashwin Pundalik, Dr. Rachna Pandey, Dr. Prasita Mukherji, Dr. Leena Joshi, Fr. Dean), technical support staff of college and students for their constant support in our activities.

Sudhanshu Agarwal
Cultural Secretary,
Extra-Curricular and
Cultural Committee, 2019-20

SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE (SSL)

Founded in the year 1951, The Social Service League is a student organization involving student members who work towards socially relevant issues. Progressing towards the direction of our motto, “Where Goodwill meets Opportunity”, the small but homely office on the ground floor under the staircase near the basketball court is open to anyone and everyone.

Students volunteer under various projects of the SSL which is led by 20 members composing our core committee. Throughout the years, the SSL has built on the following projects:

- a) Project Care Kids, which consists of weekly visits to socially disadvantaged children, aims towards having creative sessions to improve social awareness on topics that aren't covered in the usual syllabi. This ends with a two-day fair for around 60 kids that we reach out to in the course of the year.
- b) Rural Camp: A ten-day camp held in a village with 50 volunteers who engage in manual work depending on the need of the place. Over the years, we have levelled fields, built embankments, dug foundations etc. Other activities of the camp include interaction with the villagers through entertainment programmes and organizing a

“mela” for the children of the village.

- c) Project Paint: This project targets dilapidated or rundown schools, orphanages, old age homes and jails to brighten the interiors for a fun and educational space.

Along with these projects we have

- d) Blood Donation Drives twice a year with more than 400 donors each drive.
- e) Project Sustain which aims to make the SSL and various college activities sustainable and
- f) Workshops that get in a variety of resource individuals to conduct knowledge enhancing sessions. Projects are modified depending on the needs for the year.

This year, with the unfortunate onslaught of Covid-19, The SSL has had to modify its modus operandi.

We conduct various online workshops and webinars some of the most recent ones being a yoga workshop a webinar on The Butterflies of India SSL hopes to continue events as such every week

We have mobilised our community and reached out directly to the vulnerable through collaborations with various NGOs that help provide for them.

Our initial collaboration with SRLC (Shri Rajchandra Love and Care)

where we got around 30 households to donate food for migrant workers. With the urgent necessity for blood, we are currently in collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi Blood Bank working towards reaching out to volunteer donors for blood donations through a mobile blood bank. Our current campaign in collaboration with UNICEF aims to reduce the stigma of the virus by making people more aware of the existence of this stigma. We are putting this aim into action through the following projects

- a) Mission Gratitude, where we hope to spread messages of gratitude and encouragement to front lines workers who face the virus on a daily basis.
- b) Testimonials, reaching out to these front line workers and victims of the covid stigma to get their testimony on the issue.
- c) Creatives, keeping individuals aware and up to date with the situation at hand throughout social media handles and creatives.

We also aim towards providing underprivileged children who due to this situation are missing out on education.

The SSL continues to put in its best efforts to tackle this crisis creatively.

The Executive Committee, SSL



A group picture of PC KIDS MELA 2020. Includes all the volunteers the children (60 each) along with the team.

SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMME (SIP)

The world today is fraught with inequalities and other pressing social challenges. In such times, education can make a difference, if and only if the education providers leverage mere erudition towards conscientized and thus holistic learning. The Social Involvement Programme (SIP) of the College serves as that lever by linking the classroom and campus with social reality and all sorts of deprivations. The main objectives of the SIP Department are:

a. Generating Social Awareness for Sensitization: Our FY students got involved with Non-Government Organizations (NGOs). With these NGOs, the student-volunteers committed themselves to reducing vulnerability among children, elderly, differently-abled and women.

b. Motivating students to engage with India's socio-economic realities: Through their involvement, students raised crucial questions and made meaningful interventions in gender, public health, poverty, illiteracy and undignified livelihood issues.

The following is a summary of the SIP Department's contributions for 2019-20:

1. Participation Data:

In the 2019-20 academic year, 869 students had completed the obligatory component of the S.I.P, with the class-wise distribution shown in Figure 1.

2. Data on Social issues involved with:

Figure 2 shows that a majority of the students were immersed

in education of children (71%), including Students With Disability (16%). The other relevant issues included: Women (1%), Elderly (3%), Health (3%) and Spreading Social Awareness (6%).

3. Other SIP Department Initiated Activities:

a. Examination support to Students With Disabilities (SWDs): Through the mediation of the SIP Department, student examination-writers were made available to SWDs.

b. Gifted-Stationery Assistance: Throughout the year various donated stationery materials were gathered and given to NGOs in the urban and rural areas by the SIP Department.

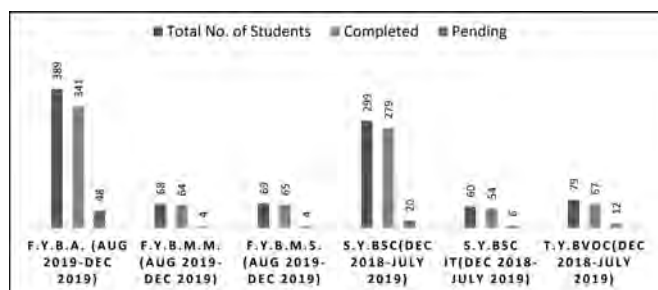


Figure 1: SIP Completion Status



Figure 2: Status of Social Issues Involvement

Dr. Agnelo Menezes
Head, Social Involvement Programme

MALHAR 2019: THE MULTIVERSE - A NEXUS OF POSSIBILITIES

In 2019, as the college resonated to all that it has accomplished in the rapturous 150 years, Malhar heart-warmingly completed 40 glorious years. As it unfolded on the 15th, 16th and 17th of August, Malhar proudly presented "Malhar 2019: The Multiverse- A Nexus of Possibilities" that epitomised the existence of unconventional possibilities. The theme portrayed Malhar to be reality where many diverse functions, ideas,

concepts, and above all possibilities co-existed and converged. Malhar 2019, along with being a platform for students to showcase their talents through its events, also served as an impetus to the academic as well as social ethos of St. Xavier's. On the academic front, the first day of Malhar, called the Malhar Conclave, was an opportunity for young minds to reorient and recreate, adapt and amend.

Conclave 2019: Since 2009, Malhar Conclave has been an apex where ideas originate and are given new directions. True to its tradition, Malhar Conclave 2019 held on the 73rd Independence Day of the Nation, was a host to eminent speakers and several intellectually stimulating sessions that ignited young minds.

The day began with the first Keynote address by Sir William Mark Tully,

the former bureau chief of BBC, New Delhi. In his address 'India's Past, Present and Future. He repeatedly emphasised the essential nature of autonomous institutions in the smooth functioning of a democracy.

Dr. Srinath Raghavan, a historian and a strategic affairs analyst dwelled on 'The Relevance of Military and Strategic History in Contemporary Times'.

The most significant highlight of Malhar Conclave 2019 was the second Keynote session 'From Criminal to Citizen- LGBT+ rights in India' by Ms. Arundhati Katju, the lead advocate in the decriminalisation of Section 377.

Coincident with the announcement of the Jal Jeevan Mission by the Hon. Prime Minister of India in New Delhi; Malhar conclave 2019 hosted a panel discussion on the water crisis in India. The esteemed panel for 'The War Over Water: India's Worrisome Future' included Dr. Jayanta Bandyopadhyay, researcher, author and analyst, Mr. Shripad Dharmadhikary, a full-time activist for Narmada Bachao Andholan, Mr. Chandra Bhushan, an environmentalist and prolific researcher, Mr. Samrat Basak, a Hydrogeologist. The debate was moderated by Ms. Keya Acharya, the President of the Forum of Environmental Journalists in India.

The second panel discussion focussed on 'Women in Sports - Levelling the Playing Field'. It consisted of Pinki Jangra, a fly weight boxer from Haryana who secured the bronze at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games; Vaidehi Vaidya, an engineer by profession and a sports enthusiast who founded the Forum of Women In Sports; Aparna Popat, a national badminton champion for 9 years straight; and Sanika Divekar, a national table tennis player and sports psychologist. K Shriniwas Rao, sports

editor of The Times of India was the moderator for this panel.

On the occasion of Independence Day, Malhar Conclave 2019 hosted an interactive session with the crew of INSV Tarini, the first Indian all women team to circumnavigate the Earth. The crew headed by Lt. Cdr. Vartika Joshi consisted of Lt. Cdr. Pratika Jamwal, Lt. Cdr. Vijaya Devi and Lt. Cdr. Payal Gupta.

Social Cause: Malhar, inaugurated its operations with a Tree Plantation Drive at Vikhroli along the Eastern Express Highway in collaboration with the NGO Green Umbrella on the 9th of June 2019.

The Mini Malhar Day, an annual affair wherein the organizing committee celebrates a whole day with underprivileged children was held on 23rd June, in collaboration with NGOs Ichchaa and Mukti Foundation. An engaging educational session on 'Puberty and its outcomes' was organised for the guests followed by a fun-filled afternoon.

Adding to its policy of social responsibility, Malhar also organised one of its traditional events called 'Yardsale' an annual donation and sale drive organised at the glorious St. Peter's Church, Bandra on 3rd and 4th August. The proceeds of the same were donated to Jeevandhara Kanya Ashram School and Shantivan Shetkari Seva Mandal.

Pre-Events: 'Malhar By The Bay' an external publicity event was organized at the Bandra Fort Amphitheatre on the bright Saturday afternoon of 10th August. The main purpose of this evening was to promote Malhar among the diverse crowd and serve as a platform to display the intricate talent of Xavierites through pre-registered

and open mic performances.

The annual press conference was graced by our eminent alumnus Mr. Rajdeep Sardesai. The Conclave 2019 line-up and the Malhar app was unveiled by him on this occasion.

Two training sessions namely 'Fire Safety Norms and Use of Fire Extinguishers' and 'First aid and Emergency Medical Response' were conducted for the student workforce to enable them to organise the festival safely. These workshops were conducted by the 'Mumbai Fire Brigade' and 'Dr. Gautam Bhansali's Golden Hour Foundation' respectively.

Malhar: The two days of Malhar boasted of a total 47 events, participation from around 40 colleges and a plethora of talent on display with performances wide ranging from Indian and Western band events, solo classical and contemporary music, dance routines to freestyle and rap. Another successful event was the Malhar Concert which hosted rap artists like Kaam Bhaari, Spitfire and Slow Cheeta.

In all, Malhar 2019 truly diverged into an iconic platform where art was rediscovered and cherished, thereby adding to the 150 years' spirit of the college.



Aayush Khanna, TYBMS
Akshada Shrotri, TYBA

LANGUAGE LAB

St. Xavier's Language Laboratory is aimed at helping students acquire proficiency in language and soft skills necessary for effective communication. Students get the freedom to learn at their own pace with the help of language learning software installed on 25 computers in this spacious air

conditioned lab and the most recent books on soft skills. The infrastructure of the lab makes it possible for the instructor to provide assistance individually and collectively.

The Language Lab is open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The instructor, Ms.

Jyoti More, a *British Council* certified IELTS trainer, is available for ongoing courses and for student consultation. She joined as the new full-time instructor in the academic year 2013-14. She brings along the professional expertise required for computerized and audio visually aided Language

Lab due to her prior association with organizations like Google Inc. and All India Radio.

The year commenced with a diagnostic test administered across all divisions of FYBA. Students for the special course in Language Lab for the first semester were selected based on their performance in the test. The second semester had special course for the students of FYBSc, who were selected through a diagnostic test conducted in coordination with the SPC teacher's team. This course included essential soft skills, phonetics and vocabulary.

International Programme

Language Lab was instrumental in organizing an *Intensive English Language Course* for the students of Soka University, Tokyo as a part of the International Programme in February, 2020. The interactive audio visual sessions held in the Language Lab provided a platform to the participants for interacting with St.

Xaviers' students from Arts, Science and Management faculties.

Ongoing Activities

In addition to regular courses in English language and soft skills, Language Lab conducted group discussion, story-telling, Interview Skills practice and presentation skills sessions post lunch hours. These sessions aimed at confidence building. Students got a chance to practise fielding conference questions in a setting that is more like real life. Also, senior students volunteered to mentor the freshers with valuable guidance and timely feedback on public speaking skills and built-in situational conversations based on parameters recommended by the Language Lab. Writing Skills practice included books and movie review writing and collocations based article drafting.

Students in '*audio-video interpretation*' listened to radio talks, watched short videos on Language Lab PCs

followed by review writing/presenting or practice speaking language by interacting with students from different streams on select topics. Reading Club comprising of students from Arts and Science discussed favourite aspects of books they read in the Language Lab and the characters they liked. Students realized that their speech partners require them to speak more clearly and listen more carefully. Hence, the fundamentals of communication were practically simplified. The first activity for new comers included *Introduce your Partner, Pick and Speak* and *Tongue Twisters*.

The SIP department also provided volunteers for content creation and mentoring for vernacular medium students on campus so that these otherwise bright students cope up with their academia on St. Xavier's campus.

Ms. Jyoti P More
Coordinator, Language Lab

WELLNESS CENTRE

Jesuit education aims at creating men and women who live in a state of high physical, mental, and social well-being. Helping students to rise to what they can be doesn't just happen. Growth requires an active process of becoming aware of and making choices toward a healthy and fulfilling life.

This is what the Wellness Centre aims at. Hence the WelCen offered life coaching workshops to help students understand what has made them slowly lower their self image, and hence created their low expectation of what they can be and achieve. They then needed to be helped to rise slowly to more and more of their true levels. "**Unleash Your Potential**" workshops were conducted on 26, 28, 30 August 2019, and repeated again because of demand on 23, 25, 27 September 2019. This included designing inspirational material

(posters, videos, PPT's) to create an ambience of vibrant living instead of dull mediocrity.

WelCen's other main work throughout the year was **professional counselling** available for students with psychological problems like depression, anxiety attacks, etc. We also offer **career counselling** for students who need help in choosing their career path. Two professionally trained counsellors are available for students who need help. Many students use this facility.

This year WelCen added a variety of activities to showcase student talents: "**Open Music Evening**" where students can present their singing or instrumental skills; "Slam Poetry" for budding poets to present theirs; and a "**Theory Club**" to feel the power of ideas to change the world.

Also to help new students the WelCen has a **Student Support Group** that organises college tours to get to know the complex campus, and "Talk it out" sessions to meet new friends and interact with people.

In this year's special crisis due to Covid-19, the Wellness Centre started a phone-based **Corona Helpline** for our students who feel distressed by the uncertainties of these corona times. It provided counsellors and teachers who were ready to talk to them and help them change from feelings of confusion and helplessness to a positive way of handling the situation. The Helpline had 6 professional counsellors, 23 SXC faculty and 6 Jesuit Fathers who were available to do this. The Times of India of 15 April 2020 highlighted this offering of St. Xavier's College.

Fr. Francis de Melo, S.J.
Director

STUDENT INCLUSION CELL

The Student Inclusion Cell (SIC) is a student body formed in 2018 under the guidance and support of Dr. Sam Taraporevala and Ms. Neha Trivedi. SIC aims to foster inclusion by organizing events and projects that aim at universal design and accessibility within the college campus. Inclusion for the team means enabling, more than helping. In 2019-20, the team moved beyond the idea of inclusion with respect to physical or mental disabilities, to embracing our linguistic, cultural diversity along with promoting mental health awareness and gender equality.

The SIC team has four departments namely Public Relations and Administration, the Awareness Events, the Writers' Pool and the Accessibility Notice Boards. While the PR/Admin team works to engage people with the SIC and to promote the concept of inclusion and accessibility, the others take on specific roles.

The Writers' Pool was responsible for catering the needs of students with disabilities to recruit readers and writers for their exams. The team was successful in fulfilling the requirements for all our students for both the semesters. They also successfully collaborated with the Rotaract Club of K.C. College and Cathedral and John Connon School.

The Accessible Notice Boards team created a website to turn the physical notice boards into an accessible format with the help of Mr. Kevin DCruz and Ms. Khyati Bhora from the Knowledge Centre. While the set-up was made, it was important to make the staff in the general office to be acquainted with the structure of the same. SIC hopes that the website is up and running soon. A QR code based notice board for SIC was also set-up. Student bodies were informed how to make dissemination of PR messages using image descriptions. The team further wishes to create an Accessible Map for college.

The Events team took on the idea of embracing diversity in its different forms through their programmes.

On June 28th, 2019 keeping in mind the **International Pride Month a documentary** was screened in the MMR. Students watched Purple Skies by Sridhar Rangayan, a filmmaker and festival director of Kashish Film Festival. It was followed by an interactive session moderated by Sanyukta Singh (TYBA). The aim of which was to start a dialogue among students about the conditions of the LGBTQ+ community in the country and around the world.

On 7th August 2019, an **orientation** was conducted for students with disabilities of Senior College. The main objective was to acquaint the newly arrived SwDs with each other, their seniors as well as the SIC. Considering that such socializing needs an informal environment, we arranged for some fun activities/games and served refreshments, thereafter. A discussion encouraged them to share grievances and suggestions on what the SIC as a student organization could do about it. The SIC, also took this opportunity to put across the message that several other student organizations are trying to make themselves more inclusive and accessible. For this, they're looking forward to an increased involvement on part of the SwDs.

On 31st August 2019, **The Student Inclusion Cell (SIC) and XRCVC** partnered to conduct a very interesting and critical visit to the **Chhatrapati Shivaji maharaj Vastu Sangharalaya**.

The Mumbai museum was keen to make its infrastructure accessible to all visitors including people with disabilities. Students of History and AIC from Senior College acted as the sighted participants for the event and were paired with students with visual impairment. The objective was to navigate through the museum and learn more about their collection. It was followed by a detailed group

discussion to get feedback from all regarding the challenges of accessibility encountered and suggestions for building the same.

We organized a Braille workshop on 11th September, a session meant to acquaint students with the basics of Braille in order to kindle curiosity and instil empathy towards alternatives to sighted reading and writing. It was hosted by Mrs. Calveena D'Souza from the XRCVC.

We also organized a group of events under the Mosaic fest banner highlighting different aspects of diversity. The first one was an interactive session with Ms. Nirmala Almeida, our college counsellor, on the topic of stigma around mental health on 25th November, 2019. It did facilitate the participants into becoming more aware and acquainted about mental health and overall well-being.

SIC collaborated with the Student Support Group to organize an event on Culture Shock: 'Getting past the transition phase'. The panel discussion was the second event of the Mosaic fest. Our panellists were Prof. Linda Dhakul (Dept of Psychology), Prof. Pampi Chakraborty (Dept of Microbiology), Prof. Simi Cyriac (Dept of Mathematics), Advait (M.Sc.), Infant (TY B.Sc.) and Sakshi (B.Com.- Night College). Infant was from Xavier's hostel and the session was moderated by an alumna of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology- Nivea Shetty.

The final event was called Do-you-lingo focusing on appreciating the linguistic diversity that exists in college, in the country, understanding the status-quo of English and understanding the interesting elements of language. This event was also a collaboration between the SIC and SSG. The SIC in its third year hopes to make the college a more accessible and inclusive space for all.

Ms. Neha Trivedi
Coordinator, SIC



Fare Forward

DR SAM TARAPOREVALA



K: If you add up your years in SXC – first as a student, then as a member of the faculty, and further as executive director of the Xavier’s Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC) – how long has your association with this institution been?

S: In all, about 35 years. Three years from 1978-81 as a student, and then from 1988 onwards, non-stop.

K: Which role do you cherish the most – student, faculty member, or the one with XRCVC?

S: I cherish being a Xavierite. Just being part of Xavier’s has been a privilege, so every role has been memorable.

K: How did the idea of setting up a resource centre for blind students (XRCVC) come to you?

S: Purely by accident. It just happened that the number of visually challenged students on campus from the year 2000 had dwindled to zero, which was quite contrary to the spirit of Xavier’s. I tried to find out what had caused this, and the answer was that visually impaired students were preferring Ruia College, which had set up a small technology access centre in its campus. So I suggested to the management that we should start a centre here. They said yes, if you’re willing to take responsibility we are happy to give permission. So that’s how XRCVC was set up.

K: What challenges did you face? How did you raise funds?

S: Finance was definitely an issue since college was strapped for cash and was unable to put in any money into the facility. Besides, I had zero experience in resource mobilization. But then I said to myself, look, nothing is rocket science, and I applied my mind and that’s how the first grant came through. Another big challenge was space. Obtaining space in the campus is always an issue because so many valid demands are made by different departments for space. The third challenge was maintaining quality in the work, which is an ongoing issue. Being quality-conscious is very, very important.

K: Where was XRCVC first located?

S: XRCVC started its work from the Sociology Department on the ground floor. When the first software came in, which was a virtual software, we tested it there. Later, space was allotted to us under the Reference Library staircase, and we got our first computer there in September 2003. When the number of students increased, we were allotted the room that we currently use on the ground floor, which was originally a godown next to the Corporation Bank adjoining the chemistry laboratory.

K: Were you alone when you started XRCVC?

S: Yes, because the initial idea was to open a facility for students for maybe an hour or two each day. But as the number of students went up more people joined me. There was one casual worker who came in initially. Then, Aniket Gupta joined us in April 2004. After that, as we got into our advocacy initiative, Neha Trivedi joined in April 2006. Then came Prashant Naik, who is now at Union Bank, but in those days played a key role as the computer

trainer at XRCVC, among other things. Today our staff strength is more than 10 with facilities at St Xavier’s College and the XRCVC Extension Centre at Viviana Mall in Thane.

K: What kind of support have you received from St Xavier’s over the years?

S: Our biggest support was Fr. Frazer. He entrusted the whole job to me saying I envision XRCVC as a resource centre, not as a talking cyber cafe. And I took those words very seriously. The entire management of St Xavier’s has been extremely supportive. They never meddled in terms of the day-to-day functioning, and that has given the centre freedom to grow. The element of trust was crucial. I always used to tell Fr. Frazer that if we have grown it has been thanks to you. And he always used to reply, as long as it follows your vision, I have no questions to ask.

K: XRCVC has become a national level organization today, building credibility all over the country and even beyond. How would you suggest credibility can be built?

S: The Xavier’s brand itself has the trust element built into it. To build credibility you need to concentrate on quality consciousness, focusing on core issues, and delivering on those. You don’t want to make false claims, you don’t want to play numbers games typically. We have taken up key advocacy issues which have been effectively dealt with, and again, bring about their own dividend. So credibility has been built up on the premise that our stakeholders know that we usually deliver more than what we have promised. Also, building trust with the funders is critical, because funds are always an issue. To have funders who value and respect you and stand by your side is a big relief.

K: XRCVC has notched up many successes spanning varied fields — whether it's financial access, print access, or education access for those with visual impairment. Which of these achievements gives you the greatest personal satisfaction?

S: Each of our battles has had its own trials and tribulations. Some things have come easy; some have taken much more time. For example the Copyright Law amendment issue started in 2006, and we got the resolution by law six years later in 2012. We are still working towards print access. So, it gives a lot of excitement and that is one of our battles. On getting financial access, again we're making progress, but also hitting roadblocks sometimes. Knowing that without much technical knowledge, a centre could actually set up functional accessible ATMs and tell the vendor exactly how to design them gave us a lot of satisfaction. In terms of opening up opportunities to visually impaired students — whether it is psychology or physiotherapy again gives us a lot of satisfaction. More importantly, beyond advocacy, when we see visually impaired students who have graduated from St Xavier's going out into the world and getting jobs — whether it is in management, social work or the civil services, that is when we think it has been worthwhile spending that time, money and energy in ensuring people develop and start achieving their own life goals.

K: I would like to steer the conversation into the direction of your role in St Xavier's as a teacher. Let us start at the beginning. Going back many years, what was the reaction of your first batch of students when they saw a visually impaired professor enter the classroom?

S: You would have to ask them that!

K: That is true, but were you nervous the first time you entered the classroom?

S: I was not nervous. One has to win the students over, and I will not say I never had an issue with that, because every teacher does. But, over time, I could win them over and I could connect with every single batch. So it was fun, and for St Xavier's it was a new experiment. In 1988, the college took the decision to employ someone with blindness and there was no such law on the ground, no mandatory reservation, and again, I give full credit to Fr. John Misquitta who then was responsible for taking very important decisions, saying, I want to employ somebody who I believe in and who delivers.

K: Many students speak about your instant wit and humour, and how you employ these techniques very effectively in the classroom. Any particular workarounds that you would like to share that you used in the classroom?

S: Well, I imagine myself as a student. That is not difficult because I have been a student. And I still consider myself more of a student than a teacher. I know what a student will be up to, and while I will not say that I know all the tricks of the trade, once you build a rapport with the class and treat every student as a person and as a human being, it becomes easy. It is important to make students realize that they have a certain freedom, but with freedom comes responsibility, which if they try pushing around, then sorry, they will end up having to pay for that.

K: Do you miss teaching?

S: Not directly, simply because I have been so busy with other things that there is no time to miss teaching. Frankly, the last few years had become extremely hectic with full-time teaching and full-time looking into XRCVC's work. In a sense, not having to

teach comes as a relief in terms of the pressure going marginally down.

K: What changes have you observed over the years in our education system, whether it's with methodology or student expectations or classroom etiquette?

S: Technology has opened things up in a very, very, very big way. And that was something I had to deal with. And technology is going to play a key role with online teaching as well. But, ultimately, the most important thing is to build a heart-to-heart connect with students. Which perhaps could get lost in the online mode, and that is a cause for concern. One should never assume that teaching can be done using technology alone. Because then you could just put YouTube in a classroom and leave the teacher out. That will not work. And I have seen the change, out of all the changes it is interesting to see how some people think they can put everything in the computer. Or that you can put everything into quantifiable bits, which is again a problem. Quality does not render itself so easily to quantification.

K: St Xavier's is an inclusive institution, it has always welcomed everybody with open arms, especially those on the margins. Today the college has over 100 students with different types of disabilities on its rolls. What message would you give to a teacher who is just starting out on how to interact with a disabled student in his or her classroom?

S: Well, number one, don't get overwhelmed. Two, don't get into sympathy mode. Three, always remember that all students want to learn. The mode of learning may vary. They may access information differently but they're going to process the same information in the same place. So make sure that what you deliver is available in a manner that every student in your class can

imbibe. The simplest way to do that is by following the principle of accessibility and designing your content as universal. So whether I use hard copy books or whether I use soft copy books, whether I use audio or some other means to read, I should be able to get my communication across, and today technology exists to provide that.

K: Tell us a little bit about your love for gadgets.

S: Ever since I was young I used to tinker around with anything and everything I could lay my hands

on. And I was never interested in knowing what was outside, I wanted to break in. I remember as a kid having a lot of toy cars and taking a hammer and slamming them to see what two pieces were stuck together. So I always loved to get into how things work. Today, in the digital world and the electronic world, I am not able to break things up, but thankfully, I am able to tinker with them. So technology provided me that opportunity to get into technology and it is great fun.

K: In conclusion, as a Xavierite, what would you like to share with fellow Xavierites, be they students, faculty or the management?

S: Being at St Xavier's has given me a lot of fulfillment, satisfaction and joy. Thank you to students, teaching and non-teaching staff, the management, and everybody I interacted with. Xavier's did actually give me wings, so thank you Xavier's!

Mr. Krishna Warriar

DR. BHAGAVAT D. BONDE



Dr. Bhagavat D. Bonde retired on superannuation, on 31st May 2020, after serving at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous) for twenty

two years as an Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry. Prior to joining St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), he worked at M. J. College, Jalgaon, for ten years. One of the senior-most faculty members in the department, he is best known as a 'timekeeper' because of his adherence

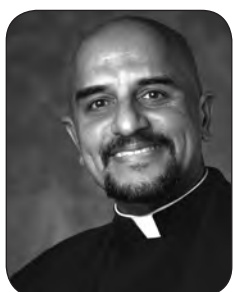
to time and punctuality. Belonging to a small town, Khanapur, in Jalgaon district, Dr. Bonde chose a modest way of living. There has been an aura of serenity and simplicity in his conduct. Dr. Bonde is a hard working individual and this has been seen in every responsibility he has partaken. Perhaps, his sense of belonging has always kept him attached to nature. His passion and dedication to the subject and his work has been inspiring to peers and associates and appreciated by the department. Through his journey of over two decades, he has hardly missed a lecture or any deadline. Honest and a strong

believer in meting out just treatment to all, he cannot tolerate dishonesty or injustice to anyone. His health issues never deterred him and he has always been the most active person in the department. Dr. Bonde has sincerely and earnestly served in many committees like The University Exam Committee, Discipline Committee, CIA Examination Committee.

We take this opportunity to pray for Dr. Bonde and wish him a happy and healthy retired life. Our best wishes will always be with him.

Dr. Abhilasha Jain,
Assistant Professor
Department of Chemistry

FR. ROY PEREIRA



It is rather a challenging task for me to list out all the multiple hats that Fr. Roy has donned in the college, right from 1993, when he joined the faculty in

the Department of Chemistry, till about a few months ago. When Fr. Roy joined the department as a young and

enthusiastic Jesuit brother, I happened to be his student. We were a huge batch of 130 students learning inorganic chemistry with the young Jesuit Brother. My first one on one interaction with Fr. Roy was on a hike, as a part of the amateur mountaineering club run by Dr. Hoshang, where Fr. Roy unleashed his musical skills and energised the whole group to climb with magical ease and lots of zest.

Later Fr. Roy went to complete his theology and other requisites of Jesuit

training before he came back to the college in 1998 as a fully ordained priest. Coincidentally, I happened to join as a faculty in the same year. Then, Fr. Roy, with a great vision to achieve a PhD in Neuroscience, left for Boston College. He accomplished it by earning appreciation from the panel and the audience during the open defence. His PhD in Neuroscience was cutting edge, with a good balance between Chemistry and Psychology and spelt encouragement to all Indians to delve

in interdisciplinary fields, in view of the need across the world.

On his return, Fr. Roy immediately took charge of the Council of International Programs. He paved a successful path for several tie ups with Universities such as Harvard, NYU Stern, Oxford, Deakin, to name a few. He also offered a new course in Neuroscience as an applied component in Chemistry and this earned accolades for the college in the previous NAAC accreditation. With an aim to gain a global perspective, in the year 2010, he led a 10 faculty delegation to Boston College that included academic and administrative interactions.

From CIP, he moved over to the office of the Vice Principal (Academics), where he played a key role in organising the graduation ceremony every year. He revamped the Honours Program, encouraging staff members to have multi-disciplinary programmes, presiding over academic board meetings and compiling important information for NAAC.

During the past two years, he put his heart and soul in coordinating the sesquicentennial celebrations of the college. He kicked off the celebrations with a grand dinner, which did manage to bring in a fairly decent financial support to the college. The next on

the list was the International Science Conference, in collaboration with Creighton University, Omaha, USA. The conference had 10 International speakers, right from the US to Hungary. The cherry on the cake was the Leadership Summit, well received by participants and highlighting the college for its insightful effort.

Fr. Roy has been instrumental in conducting three International Conferences on the college campus—the first being a Chemistry Conference titled Chemistry Cutting Edge: Nano Green and beyond, way back in 2014, with several International speakers like Dr. Paul Jellis from St. Louis University, Chicago, Dr. V. S. Ramachandran of UCLA and Dr. Wolfgang Kaim from Germany. The second one was a conference in Science and Religion and the third one focusing on the utility of Fundamental Sciences in Health and well being, was a part of the sesquicentennial celebration.

Obviously, not all this could have been possible without Fr. Roy's charismatic personality. Fr. Roy is a true epitome of the three C's of the Jesuit ethos: Competence with Compassion and Conscience. In fact, Fr. Roy has added 3 more C's to these through his persona: Charisma with Creativity and Connect. His creativity has inspired all the department members and is a standard

to emulate. His association with faculty members, non teaching faculty and students is almost inimitable.

When it comes to teaching, he is a teacher not just by profession, but by passion. Along with Chemistry, he has been equally enthusiastic in teaching life skills, singing, dancing and even English to the students. It is indeed delightful to hear him give instructions to the students.

Fr. Roy is the most philanthropic person I have come across in college. He always shared all his gifts on an immediate basis with others. No department meetings were complete without him bringing in chocolates or sweets for all members.

One of the greatest attributes of Fr. Roy is his belief that an 'attitude of gratitude' is the best attitude one can ever have, a great ability to selflessly love and help others all the time, independent of his own state and his ability to laugh off things which he could not control.

For me, it marks a legendary era, the 25 years of association with Fr. Roy. We wish him luck and success for his future endeavors.

Mr. Marazban Kotwal
Head, Department of Chemistry

PROF. VAISHALI MOHONI



Prof. Vaishali: Before we start, I would really like to express my gratitude to all the Principals, under whom I have worked at St. Xavier's

College. They were all inspirational mentors to me. Fr. John Misquitta who appointed me in the year 1985, Father Emil D'Cruz, Father Joe, Father Simon, Father Frazer, Dr. Agnelo and Dr. Rajendra Shinde were responsible in some way or the other in making

me the person I am. I would also like to thank our rector Fr. Keith D'souza and Fr. Conrad Pessa, who have made my journey at St. Xavier's pleasant with their constant support and guidance.

Q: How did you find your flair for the subject of economics and what inspired your love for it?

Prof. Vaishali: Economics has been a part of my life since a very young age. My father was very interested in the subject and was himself a student of economics and statistics. Right from my school days, we have discussed various

issues every now and then at the dinner table. When in college, economics was one subject that I really looked forward to.

Q: As a student what were your extracurricular interests and passions?

Prof. Vaishali: As a student I participated in several extracurricular activities. I have also acted in Marathi theatre. One of our plays did over 100 shows and was a popular play in its times. I was awarded a gold medal for the best actress from the Bombay University as it was called

then. I have learnt Kathak under Padma Shri Damyanti Joshi. I have also given a number of public performances.

Q: When did you join St. Xavier's and what were your aspirations as a budding educator?

Prof. Vaishali: I joined St. Xavier's in July 1985, with great enthusiasm which lasted till the day I retired. When I started teaching there were around 60 students in a class and now we have 130. Even at that time, it was counted amongst the best colleges in the country and my aspiration at the time of joining was that I should be able to live up to these high ideals and expectations. I'm really happy that though many things changed along the way, St. Xavier's even today is counted amongst the top colleges in the country. St. Xavier's has only gone from strength to strength and never changed where it matters. The students and teachers will attest to it.

Q: What were some of your difficulties and what inspired you to be this amazing professor despite all the hurdles?

Prof. Vaishali: As in any pursuit, I too had some difficulties

along the way, but they were negligible. I think it is because of the wonderful and enthusiastic students that we have. In fact that is the only reason why I have gone on and on and of course the support from management and colleagues. It is a very nice place to work. For me it was never a job, it was always my passion.

Q: As the Vice Principal of Xavier's Junior College, what do you consider to be some of your greatest accomplishments and what was the most exciting part of being the Vice Principal?

Prof. Vaishali: First and foremost, it was very important to maintain high academic standards. We reintroduced the subject of Marathi. Then along with a couple of my colleagues, we started the Junior College festival, Volantus. We also introduced the participation of our non-teaching staff in our exchange programmes.

Q: What are some of the highlights of your time at Xavier's with your colleagues, friends or students?

Prof. Vaishali: Our Khandala seminars were a constant source of learning, bonding and fun. Our overseas

exchange programmes with the students as well as Volantus were great occasions of bonding with them.

Q: How has Xavier's shaped your life? How did it help you find your wings?

Prof. Vaishali: Being in Xavier's, I've grown not only as a teacher but also as a colleague, a mentor and a friend. By giving me the opportunity of being a Vice Principal, Xavier's has given me a very responsible position in our society.

Q: What do you think the new normal for education would look like?

Prof. Vaishali: Technology will be the key to education during this pandemic and possibly, after it.

Q: What final message do you have for your family here at Xavier's?

Prof. Vaishali: 35 years have gone by in a blink. So, I think you should cherish your time here in college and keep the wings of Xavier's flying high.

Pulakita Mayekar, SYBMM & Malvika Pillai, SYBA

PROF. MS SHAKTI KAUL



Professor (MS) Shakti Kaul retired on superannuation on 30th April 2020. Professor Shakti joined St. Xavier's College in 2016 under government

orders. Previously, she was with MP Shah College in Malad. Though she worked with us only for four years, her association and connection with the students, college, and the entire staff was deep-rooted.

Shakti perfectly balanced not just her teaching career but also her family life. She always came well prepared for her lectures - a fact that her knowledge and expertise could fully testify. Shakti not only counselled students but also helped faculty members on Anger Control and Stress Management. Being cooperative, helpful, kind-hearted, diligent, simple and respectful to everyone are a few qualities intrinsic to Professor Shakti.

Shakti Professor extended her help by taking online lectures for 12th standard students during the pandemic while

single-handedly running her home. This shows her dedication and loyalty towards the profession, institution and students.

On behalf of the teaching staff, the college management and students I take this opportunity to thank Professor Shakti for all she has done, wish her the very best for her future projects, family time, and pray to God for her good health.

Pravin A. Salunkhe
Junior College
Arts & Language Coordinator

THE HOSHANG I KNOW...



I vividly remember the day I entered the 'Interview room' I had applied for the post of Lecturer. The panelist seated in the middle of the

row appeared quite intimidating and authoritative. We all introduced ourselves. I wondered what kind of name I just heard. I felt may be my ears were ringing out of nervousness. Luckily for me, the interview went quite well, and then this gentleman, sitting in the centre, who called himself Hoshang mentioned that I would be informed about the result in a day or two. I went home and told my husband that the Chemistry Department of St. Xavier's College has an HOD by name, Dr. Hoshang Master. We tried to find out through the dictionary the meaning of this name and we figured, during our discussion on Dinner Table that the title 'Master' is a token of respect, the way some teachers are addressed 'Masterji'.

After 2 days I was informed about the interview result and asked to report on a particular day. The first day of college went like any first day in any new institution. But that same day, my elder son became extremely unwell and had to be hospitalized. I decided that I would just call and inform that I would not be able to take up this job. I somehow managed to contact and inform him about my decision. Pat came the response... **'Don't be a fool and stop crying, for God's sake! Go get yourself admitted and show your face when he gets well'**. Bang went the receiver. I was quite perplexed, trying to figure out the curt yet caring and assuring answer. That was and has always been Hoshang Sir for me, seemingly curt and blunt but in fact extremely kind, supportive and caring, always there to help everyone without letting them know. He just hated

flowery language. In fact he used to laugh at everything pompous. On the professional front, he refused to give unnecessary guidance yet used to show the way to figure out things on our own. On my first Khandala trip (an annual affair with almost all departments), I attended his session on 'Lateral Thinking' and I must say it really broadened my outlook. Unfortunately, I could not see his hiking bit as by then he had hung his hiking boots. There is so much more to share and yes, on that note, I literally used to take a bite of his peanut butter jam sandwiches, paranthas and of course chicken and I took it as my right to take sweets from his box even when he was reluctant. Every time I think of Hoshang Sir or hear his name, a smiling face appears before me which always fills me with happiness and gratitude. That is Hoshang Sir for me.

Dr. Ashma Aggarwal

HOSHANG – GUIDE, MENTOR, TEACHER, FRIEND... LEGEND, AND MUCH MORE!

Throughout his decades-long tenure in Xavier's, countless students and colleagues have been touched by his warm nature. In the late 70s, many students of Xavier's discovered their passion for hiking, thanks to Hoshang, and the opportunities he offered through the aegis of the AMC (Amateur Mountaineers Club). Through the club and its leader, students came to fall in love with nature and experience the unique feeling of spirituality and bonding that accompanies such congregations. The memories made and shared on these hikes remain in the minds of many till date. At times, the thrills of mountaineering was, in a small way, demonstrated by rappelling down (under expert guidance) the college wall between LR 20G and LR 20A. Students would eventually gather in the quadrangle and watch amazed, and often, a few would even dare to participate in this thrilling event.

But students' memories of Hoshang were by no means limited to his hiking or rappelling skills. Chemistry students remember Hoshang as a meticulous teacher in the classroom, with explanations that were easy to understand as well as remember. In the laboratory, the "Master" would be in full charge, keeping students enthusiastically engaged in the work assigned. As a teacher, I too have personally benefitted from these methods as a teacher. Many of us would listen attentively as Hoshang demonstrated his special skill of teaching beyond the book and revealing minute details that one could not find in any laboratory manual. By organizing industrial visits for the students, Hoshang promoted the approach of linking classroom and laboratory knowledge to experiences in industry. I am quite confident that, during his teaching days, Hoshang sowed the seeds of critical thinking and questioning in many minds, much before the Autonomous system was even envisioned or implemented.

Having been recognized as a research guide affiliated to the NSRL (Nadkarny Sacassa Research Laboratory), Hoshang mentored numerous research students at the MSc and PhD level. His guru, Prof. V. V. Nadkarny, who used to fondly call him "my man", had full confidence in him, and he inculcated in Hoshang the love for research. In turn, Hoshang offered his research students guidance not just by listening, but also by giving them full freedom to work the way they wished. Having had the honor of being his last registered PhD student, I have honestly observed and personally experienced how he often worked in the laboratory with the student, employing very helpful strategies, even in challenging situations.

Mentoring came naturally to Hoshang. Numerous people, students, colleagues or non-teaching staff, facing troubled times, personal, professional or

otherwise, found comfort and solace simply by chatting with Hoshang. Once one took the time and effort to really get to know Hoshang, the initial impression of an intimidating person with a loud, booming voice was soon replaced by that of a gentle, concerned human being who came to care about one within a short time!! Though it was never a case of hand-holding, one always got a sense of direction and comfort after these interactions with him.

Hoshang loved operating from the Physical Chemistry Laboratory, where he was often visited by alumni, students and others. In a cozy room tucked away at the end of the laboratory, he and his visitors would discuss at length and plan in detail a number of events, seminars, hikes, treks or any other activity on the agenda! At times, this laboratory would be as busy as a beehive (or, if I were to put it bluntly, a crowded railway station!). The fact was, that there was a sense of achievement and satisfaction in these activities.

As Head of the biggest department in college, Hoshang effortlessly managed all Chemistry faculty members (both teaching and non-teaching), while giving each one of us sufficient opportunities to grow personally. The 'XAC' (Xavier's Association of Chemistry), which was the first ever departmental association of students and staff of the college, came into existence during his tenure. Hoshang would patiently listen to the plans of these enthusiastic, at times overambitious students, and then gear them towards a more feasible and practical outcome.

His passion for the college, also his alma mater, led Hoshang to involve himself in several areas. He did not care much for designations and lofty titles, but when it came to offering help, Hoshang was always ready--- be it the 'K- series' (the memorable Khandala Seminars for faculty), the 'Xavierite Nite' (the annual event

organized by the St Xavier's Alumni Association) or the several Committees that he belonged to. Finding solutions to logistics, planning, implementing and managing last minute situations were Hoshang's great strengths. This was probably the reason why he was the ideal choice to be invited (post-retirement) to take up the designation of Controller of Examinations when the college switched to the autonomous system.

Hoshang is undoubtedly a friendly person, but few of us are privileged to have had a great relationship with him as close friends, which is maintained even today, even if communication is not on a regular basis. Late Fr Bulchand S.J. recognized in Hoshang a potential which was untapped, and he convinced Hoshang to work with him for several seminars. Later, he asked him to help with the administration of the XIM (Xavier's Institute of Management). This meant staying in college for longer hours, which actually never bothered Hoshang and speaks volumes of his love for this institution! During his involvement with the XIM, Hoshang gave his best as expected, something not many people are aware of.

Hoshang was an ardent stamp collector. He would often talk about his hobby and his collection with pride, ultimately enthraling his audience by using the stamps to give a historical background and much more valuable information. His style of narration was unique and he often extended this signature style of delivery when he would explain the history of Xavier's or the old Xavier's Villa. Many are still not sure what the real truth behind these anecdotes was, because he would generally end his stories with his typical loud laughter and a mischievous grin on his face!

There is much more that can be said about this legend, but not all of it is possible to pen down. However, I have to put on record the innumerable young adults, whose personalities Hoshang transformed, including myself, from a shy, pigtailed girl,

over time into a mature, responsible human being.

If the walls of St Xavier's College could talk — especially those of the Physical Chemistry Laboratory and the NSRL — there would be volumes to say about a man who cannot be easily described...

Dr. Gulshan Shaikh

DR. HOSHANG- THE TRUE MASTER

My first encounter with Dr. Hoshang E. Master was as a F.Y.B.Sc student, when he led his first hike to Garbot point, Matheran, in 1993-1994 under the banner of the Amateur Mountaineering Club (AMC). He seemed nothing less than a magician, managing almost 500 students single-handed. Sometimes I would find him leading the group about a kilometre ahead of me and sometimes right at the tail end, pushing the slow walkers about three-fourth of a kilometre behind me. Through the Amateur Mountaineering Club—also a Learning for Life experience—Dr. Hoshang has instilled important value systems like discipline, resilience, perseverance, love for nature, and dedication. Above all, under the able leadership of The Master we all developed the skill of being good team players—something that we require in both our personal and professional spaces of life. He used to ask students to connect with their inner selves and reflect while hiking, as a mode of meditation. For over two decades, he has enriched the lives of many students through this experience, which provided education 'Beyond the Classroom walls'. During break-time, one would find the Physical Chemistry Laboratory constantly abuzz with students from all departments who were regulars at the hiking expeditions of the AMC approaching him for advice and counselling.

As a faculty member in the Chemistry Department, as well as one of the longest-serving Heads of the department, Dr. Hoshang taught

students to think through his inquiry-based teaching style thereby bringing out the relevance of Chemistry in their daily lives. He helped the students to 'bond' with the subject to the extent that they continued with their post-graduate and doctoral studies. There were a large number of students pursuing PhD under his guidance in the Nadkarny Sarcasa Research Laboratory of which he was the Director for several years. He used to spend almost all his evenings either solving problems or typing and correcting the manuscripts of his research scholars.

As Head of the Department, his legacy would be the motivation and the bug of creativity which he lent to the TY students of the academic year 2003-2004 by creating the Xavier's Association of Chemistry (XAC), with the support of Dr. (Fr.) Roy Pereira and Dr. Gulshan Shaikh. XAC has flourished since then and grown to be an academic club popular amongst Chemistry students of all South Mumbai Colleges. Since its inception, Dr. Hoshang organised the annual Khandala Seminar for XAC every year and fulfilled its goal of holistic

education through his sessions on lateral thinking, brainstorming, and time management.

There is hardly an administrative domain in the college that Dr. Hoshang has not been part of and reformed. Right from running the University Exams for years, to juggling with finances in Malhar, to establishing effective administrative practices in the Knowledge Centre to being in-charge of the Exam Centre when academic autonomy was granted to the college. Dr. Hoshang has donned all hats with equal ease and grace. He was entrusted with the responsibility of a massive space audit of the campus by the Jesuit management of the college in the early 2000s. His audit report optimised the space usage amongst various units on the campus.

Dr. Hoshang was the engine behind running the St. Xavier's College Alumni Association for years together as the Honorary Treasurer. With the support from other officials of the association, he conducted a large number of Association Dinners and 'Xavierite Nights' which were highly successful and appreciated.

Another interesting facet of Dr. Hoshang is that he is an avid philatelist and held various Learning for Life courses for college students on philately. Recently the History department collaborated with him in their pursuit to teach History via the stamps collected by him from the World War era. There was also a stamp exhibition of his collection organised by the History Department, which was thrown open to students of several schools to arouse their interest in History and expose them to the forgotten art and hobby of philately.

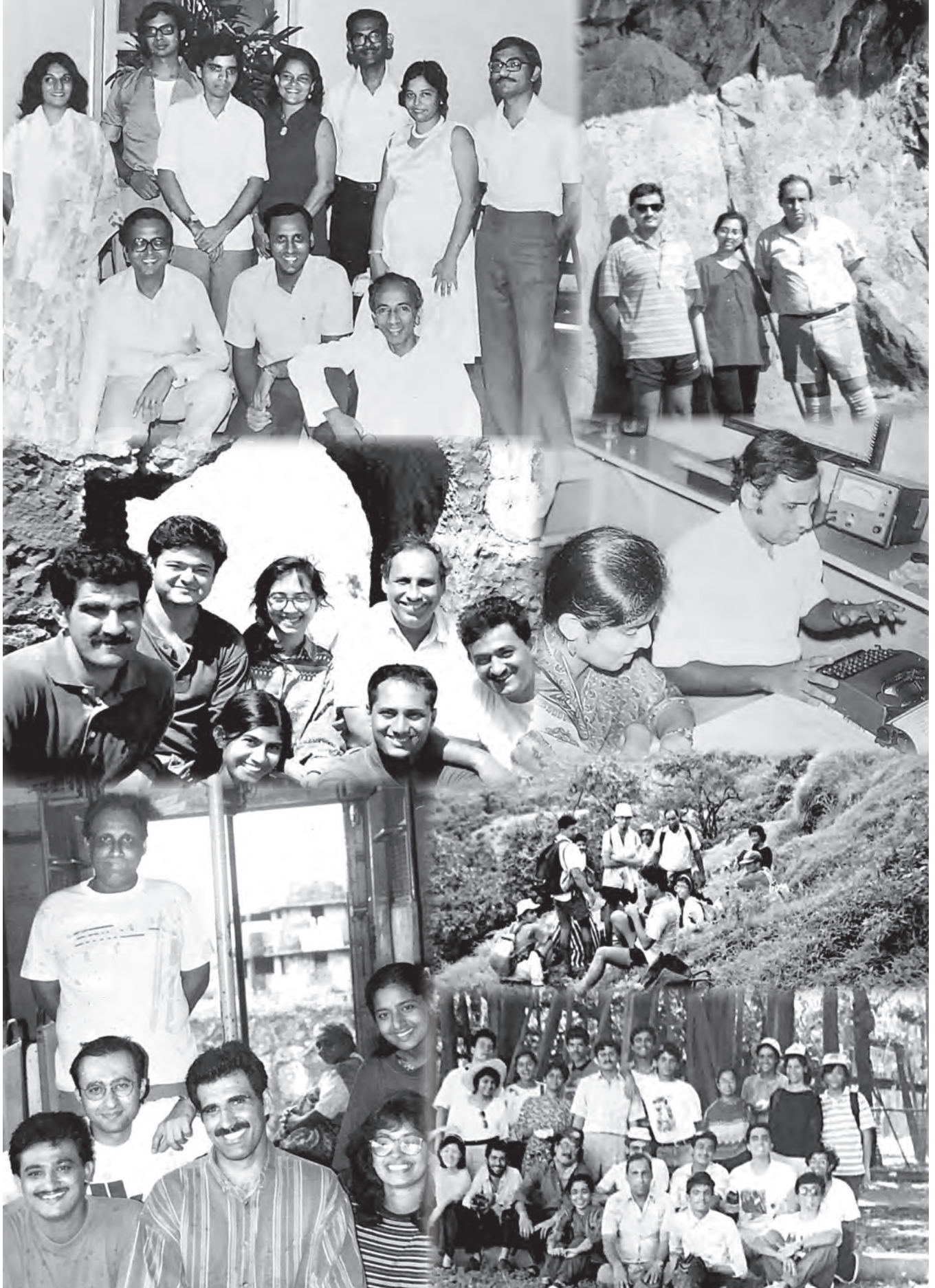
More than half a century of contribution as an accomplished researcher, an administrator with acumen, a teacher who inspires awe, and as a mentor who has transformed the lives of several students as well as colleagues, Dr. Hoshang has been Jack of all trades and Master of them too - a feat which is almost impossible to emulate. The sky-soaring benchmark that he has set makes him an unparalleled legend in the annals of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

Marazban Kotwal
Head, Department of Chemistry

But, as regards children, we have the conviction that while they develop the complicated system of reactions which we term education and refinement, even in this imperfect world, they should have only the best. To that end everyone must contribute his own little bit of sacrifice. This is the hallmark and quality test of a civilized community and country.

For the Young Only the Best – Fr. Gonzalo Palacios de Borao S.J., Principal 1933-1940

Reminiscing Yesteryears with The MASTER



MEDHA TASKAR



Ms. Medha Taskar, the Librarian was the first human interface between the library and my foray into the reading space (s) in Xavier's. Dr. Shefali Balsari -

Shah, the then Head of the English Department introduced me to Medha, who acknowledged me with her musical nod. Apart from unravelling the library and its many cabinets of curiosities, Medha revealed what a wonderful resource she herself is.

Calling oneself self-made is a badge of honor most people would like to adorn. Medha had a self-made career - from being a science graduate, Medha metamorphosed into someone who had a sense of awareness about every subject. She collaborated with diverse faculty members to foster the library holding of books. Her passion for the library exuded in all her interactions with the foreign visitors or officials from University Grants Commission who would make a mandatory stop at the library and admire not only the books but also the architecture. In 2013, the visiting-NAAC team singularly praised Medha in glowing words because they were convinced of her expertise. She has ardently nurtured that which Fr. Palacios belaboured to create for generations of students and faculty. Be it preserving the cubicles in the Honors Library or sending the new additions' list diligently or training the library staff - she did it like a true maestro. She heralded the computerization of the library in 1998 and the digitization in 2015-16.

While the library remained her home at Xavier's she would come to the staffroom for lunch and bond with the staff. A polyglot - she is fluent in many Indian languages - Bengali being one of them. She has translated some of Rabindranath Tagore's literary works in Marathi. Her *Puneri* Marathi laced with its proverbs and beautiful turn of phraseology is a pleasure to listen to. Marathi *naatak* is one of her fond indulgences. Her love for Marathi literature is legendary. Being

a connoisseur of cinema, Medha can regale anyone with her knowledge of cinema. It was Medha's brainwave to create a DVD collection of feature films.

An avid traveller, Medha has traversed the length and breadth of India. Her candor remains unique to her. A disciplinarian everywhere, she never missed her local trains in the morning or evening. Her expression of affection was as unique as her candor. If you have not been called *buddhu* or *khadoos*, or have not received a chiding, then Medha does not love you. She was christened Megha. A spelling error in the SSC certificate transformed her into Medha. As she charts a new course post-retirement, let me wish, Medha... er..Megha the very best in life. I am certain Medha will be planning on new ventures. She would not merely plan, she will implement. All the best Megha. Au revoir.

Dr. Rashmi Lee George
Department of English

मेधा तासकर

काही वास्तूचे वेगळेपण सांगावे लागत नाही. ते अनुभवयाचे असते. दीडशे वर्ष पाय रोवून दिमाखात उभी राहिलेली दगडी इमारत. या वास्तूचे arches, gargoyles, विशिष्ट काळा रंग, आपल्या सर्वांच्या परिचयाचे. हे आहे आपले संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालय. तसेच यातले ग्रंथालय आणि तिथे असलेली पुस्तके हे त्या वास्तूचे वैभव. महाविद्यालय आणि ग्रंथालय यांचे अतूट असे नाते असते. संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयाच्या पहिल्या मजल्यावरच्या ग्रंथालयात प्रवेश करताच आपली भेट होते ती ग्रंथपाल मेधा तासकर यांच्याशी. प्रथम दर्शनी काहीशा कठोर शिस्तीच्या वाटणाऱ्या मेधा, थोडा परिचय झाल्यावर मात्र कीर्ती ज्ञानी, विचारवंत आहेत याची प्रचिती येते. सखोल अभ्यास, संदर्भसेवा, अफाट वाचन, अनेक भाषांवर प्रभुत्व असे विविधांगी व्यक्तीमत्व असणाऱ्या ग्रंथपालांची वानवा असताना आमच्या महाविद्यालयला मेधा तासकर यांच्या रूपाने बहुआयामी ग्रंथपाल लाभली आहे. झेवियर्स ग्रंथालयाच्या या प्रथम महिला ग्रंथपाल गेली २३ वर्षे अविरत कार्य करत आहेत.

अनेक भाषांची आवड असणाऱ्या मेधा, उर्दू, बंगाली भाषेत पारंगत आहेत. त्यांनी गुरुदेव रवींद्रनाथ टागोर यांच्या बहूठाकुरनी हाठ या बंगाली कादंबरीचे मराठीत भाषांतर केले आहे. त्यांच्या या २०११ साली प्रसिद्ध झालेल्या पुस्तकाला उदंड प्रतिसाद मिळाला व ते २०१७ साली पुनः प्रकाशित झाले. साहित्य, सिनेमा, मराठी नाटकं, कविता, वेगवेगळ्या विषयांवरचे लिखाण, याची आवड असणाऱ्या मेधा, आपल्या खास शैलीतून बोलण्यासाठी (मान डोलावून, मध्येच डोळे मोठे करत) ओळखल्या जातात. नवीन प्राध्यापकांसाठी, कुठले पुस्तक कसे शोधलं पाहिजे, किंवा नवीन काही आलेले, कुठे सापडेल, DVD असो किंवा Journal ची पुरेपूर ओळख करून देताना त्यांचे पुस्तकांवरचे प्रेम सहज डोकावते. मघाशी म्हंटल्याप्रमाणे, जुन्या जाणत्या वास्तूचे वैभव पुढच्या पीढीसाठी जतन करणे आणि ते त्याच्यापर्यंत पोहचवणे यासाठी मेधा यांनी सतत प्रयत्न केले. म्हणूनच की काय २९ जून २०२०ला झालेल्या स्टाफ meeting मध्ये आपले मनोगत मांडताना, सगळे digitize झाले आहे, ठीक आहे, पण काही शे वर्षांपासून प्रयत्नपूर्वक जमवलेलं दुर्मिळ ग्रंथ, खंड, पुस्तके लगेच काढून टाकु नका, असा खास मेधा शैलीतला प्रेमळ सल्ला दिला.

बदलत्या काळाची गरज ओळखून ते अंमलात आणायचे, हा दृष्टिकोन मेधा यांनी कायम ठेवला. त्यानुसार नवीन तंत्रज्ञानाची माहिती करून घेऊन, त्याची ग्रंथालयात अंमलबजावणी त्यांनी नेहमीच केली. ग्रंथालयात सुरु करण्यात आलेले digitization हे त्यांचेच प्रतीक आहे.

सडेतोडव्यक्तीमत्व, स्पष्टवक्तेपणा, लांगुलचालन न करणे, आपल्या मतावर ठाम राहणे या त्यांच्या स्वभावामुळे त्यांना अनेकदा टीकेला सामोरे जावे लागले. प्रतिकूल परिस्थितीत सुद्धा त्या एकांड्या शिलेदारा प्रमाणे लढल्या. एक समुपदेशक, मित्र, तत्वज्ञ, ज्ञानाची खाण, अशी ही ठाण्याची मुलगी खऱ्या अर्थाने आमच्या महाविद्यालयाला लाभलेला दागिना आहे. आपल्या सेवानिवृत्ती नंतर सुद्धा त्या ग्रंथप्रेमींच्या कायम लक्षात राहतील यात तिळमात्र शंका नाही.

सोनाली पराडकर
प्रभारी ग्रंथपाल

Angels Sent From Above
An Ode to our warriors



SARIKA PANDIT



1. The Open Mind website states that 'A life empowered is a life well lived'. We would love to know how you define empowerment and what does it mean to you, personally?

A: Empowerment to me, is the ability to make a choice. We work heavily in the space of prevention of child abuse, both physical and sexual. Often, these children find themselves stripped of a sense of control, and of the ability to make a choice. Our challenge is to try and restore that sense of control and ensure safety for the child in general. The safety to make choices, the safety that comes with support – that is the sort of empowerment we are focussing on.

2. You state that empowerment comes through three pillars - Self Awareness, Safety, Strength and Support. Do you think these are enough to root the cause of empowerment?

A: No, they definitely aren't enough. Empowerment is a complex concept. It can mean different things to different people. For some, it might mean financial freedom, for some it might mean more choices through education or legal support. But for us as an NGO we have limitations and these are the three with which we can easily work.

3. What are the difficulties faced while trying to foster an open dialogue around Self Awareness, Safety, Strength and Support?

A: As an NGO, we faced the issue of funding and similar others. But the major challenges we faced are related to parents and

teachers. For instance, when we conduct workshops on Child Physical/Sexual abuse prevention; safe touch and unsafe touch, we insist on the parents and teachers being part of these workshops, for the burden of prevention cannot fall on the tiny shoulders of the child alone. Corporal punishment is banned and yet teachers, especially in Municipal schools still hit children. Parents physically abuse children too. Yet the turnout of parents at workshops especially in these municipal schools is poor. Even in private schools, this is a challenge. Denial does exist. The 'this is not happening to me/my child' attitude has posed a challenge. There should be acknowledgement. Respecting a child's body is what we are trying to teach the teachers and parents. If parents and teachers don't respect a child's body, how can we expect the child to respect his / her own body?

4. You are a student of Statistics, what made you change the direction of your career?

A: During my time of school 'Science' as a stream was sadly the more socially acceptable field. I was good at both Science and Arts, thus I ended up choosing Science. But I always had a strong love for Psychology as a subject. As I entered into the corporate world and worked for a few years in Consumer research (understanding why consumers behaved the way they do), I realised that I had a more broad based fascination for understanding why people in general behave the way they do. So I simultaneously pursued Masters in Psychology and PG in counselling. By the 30s I realised the need to give back to society and I was increasingly disillusioned by the corporate world - it was my turning point.

5. How has your knowledge of statistics helped you ease the ideations at Open Mind?

A: Statistics has proven useful everywhere. Statistics is a core paper in Psychology, it was thus quite easy for me. I am also planning to get a PhD in Psychology. Statistics also plays an important role in assessing the impact of the interventions that we dole out at Open Minds. Whether these are workshops on Safe Touch- Unsafe Touch or Gender Sensitisation or Sex Education, it's important to understand their impact on the target group.

6. We would love to hear from you about health and how a layman can aid in spreading awareness.

A: There exists a lot of taboo around discussing mental health. India ranks among the depressed countries in the world. At workplaces, around 35% employees suffer from depression but are either unaware of it or are afraid to voice this out. In order to spread awareness, schools and colleges should teach coping and managing emotions, stress, etc. Going to a mental health professional should be as normal as going to any other health professional. We should keep having dialogues and discussions about mental health, invite speakers and try and normalise this issue. Along with that, reading books around mental health can also be helpful in gaining an understanding of the complexity and nuances of this issue and developing compassion for those suffering from mental health issues.

7. Also, as a mental health professional, have you seen a rise in the number of cases ever since the lockdown has been enforced?

A: The environment today holds a lot of uncertainty. There's loss

faced by everyone in some way or the other – the loss of life as one knew it, the loss of people, the loss of certainty. This does tend to create a lot of anxiety, fear and also cause grief. Yes, the situation has affected a lot of people. I have been working as a Counsellor with a Covid Helpline and there have been several calls coming in reporting anxiety, abuse and depression.

8. Would you like to share your experiences or the challenges faced while working through ‘WeSurvive’?

A: Through WeSurvive, we reach out to the adult survivors of child sexual abuse. We provide a safe physical space to share or simply listen to each other. Spreading awareness has been a challenge. Sexual abuse is not easy to talk about – so sometimes people struggle to come forward and talk about it. Also, due to the current times, it has been a challenge for us to continue with our workshops being pushed online. However, we are working on it.

9. While the world today is trying to survive adhering to hope and faith, how far and in which way do you believe these two elements help in bringing about the essence of empowerment?

A: Hope and faith are indeed very important in these uncertain

times as they foster a sense that things will fall into place, a sense that this is a transitory phase and things will get better. Faith in oneself and knowing that I can rise over this is very essential. Along with hope and faith, embracing the uncertain quality of life is very important. We never really had a lot of control over our lives. We were living in a bubble if we thought we could completely control our lives. These Covid times have acted as a reminder of that.

10. Do you believe that the Covid situation has been a setback when it comes to the NGO’s goal of empowering?

A: Yes, it is a setback in a way to see so many children and adults helpless due to the rising cases of physical and sexual abuse. But at the same time, we look at it also as an opportunity to figure out how we can reach out to those who need help.

11. If there is anything that you miss from your days of being a Xavierite, what is it?

A: I have many fond memories of the Hostel, Foyer and the Woods. I miss the architecture of the college, classes on the terrace, the beautiful library, my Statistics professors. Those were carefree times. I have lovely memories of Jan Fest

– I used to be a volunteer and those three nights of great music used to be magical. What I love about St. Xavier’s was the fact that students from completely different walks of life come together and find their own special place in the college. St. Xavier’s has been very welcoming and accommodative. It makes room for diverse people. In the field I’m working, the spirit of acceptance is critical and St. Xavier’s has laid the foundation of imbibing acceptance and inclusion.

12. If there is any piece of advice that you could give to the current students, what would it be, and why?

A: The only advice would be what I wished was given to me. “Do not do things as per the timelines that society lays down – getting a job by a certain age, getting promoted by a certain age, getting married by a certain age, getting children by a certain age. It puts a lot of unnecessary pressure. Do things when you feel it is the right time for you to do them.”

**Krishna Sawant &
Teertha Samant,
SYBA**

ARINJAY BANERJEE



1. Dr. Arinjay, you passed out of St. Xaviers over a decade ago,

but we’re sure that you’ve held onto the memories you made at this college. What are some of your fondest memories?

A: My fondest memory at Xavier’s was of the boys hostel. I made some of my best friends there. Being from Calcutta, and staying so far away from home, my friends were my only support system at Xavier’s and in some ways they were my family.

2. We wanted to know what sparked your interest in zoonotic diseases, because you eventually did your PhD research on MERS coronavirus. Did you always know that was something you wanted to do?

A: While I was pursuing my Masters in Pune at NIV, I went to Germany for a research internship. As part of that internship I was sitting at my former PhD supervisor’s

talk. He spoke about bats and ebolavirus. Canada didn't have bat science six years ago. So, when I approached him and said, "I want to do bats and science." He asked me a simple question, "How would you study bat viruses?" And I was an excited Xavier's student, always had great ideas but not the ways to test them. I said, "I'll take cells and infect them. It's easy." Vikram replied, "Yeah, it's easy, but we don't have bat cells". That's what got me very interested, trying to develop a new field of science that would lead me ahead. I wanted to create a niche for myself and this is the advice I have for you: if you want to be independent scientists, you have to be able to create a niche for yourself. When you join a new big lab you'll do projects that are part of the lab and then when you want to branch off and start your own lab you need to be able to sell yourself. I told Vikram, "I'll start this field of science and together we'll build it and we'll lead the country in this science". That was a very ambitious goal, I think, and we're still trying to do it.

3. **How did you and your team decide to isolate this novel coronavirus back when the pandemic began to pick up speed? Could you share with us the incredible process of this isolation and some striking observations that you made along the way?**

A: I did a seminar here in Canada in the first week of January and we talked about the coronavirus outbreak in China. It wasn't called coronavirus yet; it was called 'unknown pneumonia outbreak'. As part of that seminar I showed one slide where we speculated that it might be a coronavirus. This was the sixth of January, and China hadn't yet announced that they have a coronavirus outbreak. The following week China made it clear that it's a coronavirus. When that happened I connected with physicians at Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto, and I spoke with Dr. Samira Mubareka. I told her that I had worked with coronaviruses and if the situation turned out

to be a pandemic then the virus would likely arrive in Canada on a plane. That's how zoonotic viruses spread. Bats don't do that. It's humans who spread it, because we like travelling and globalisation.

We got lucky that some of us had worked with coronaviruses and my PhD was in coronaviruses. We assembled a team because this is a highly pathogenic virus. You cannot work with this in a regular lab. It takes an average six to eight months to train to even work on this virus, but we didn't have the time to train. So we only collected people who had prior training, fast-tracking the entire process. We were ready when the first few cases arrived in Canada. We collected samples from three patients and two of them grew and one didn't.

4. **What does being a scientist teach you that you wouldn't have otherwise learned, that has added on to your character and your life?**

A: The way I look at science is, it pays you for your hobby. Science for me is a hobby. Someone once asked, "Why is the sky blue?" and found out why. That wasn't a job. No one was going to pay him for it. You're not going to be paid to figure out what a protein in a coronavirus does. I want to find it out because it's my question. In a way you are not working for anybody; you're working for yourself. I like the independence of being a scientist.

I do not have to worry about having to show up for a boss who's waiting for me. I don't have to time-in and time-out. But the other thing is, being a scientist is a lot more than working in a lab. If I'm at home after a sixteen hour day, I'm still writing grants, catching up on emails, or talking with journalists. So the work hours never end.

5. **You mentioned that Science is your hobby. What are your other activities?**

A: I do a lot of Science Communication. I sit on the Board of Directors of national

organisations. We do country wide conferences. We fund students and I also do talks at high schools because I think those kids are the smartest. I've also done talks in elementary schools. They ask questions that you wouldn't have thought of as a scientist. We need to help these kids and keep their curiosity alive. If I wake up in the morning and I know everything then what's the point!

6. **Can you tell us something about a project that you're currently working on or projects that you have in mind?**

A: There are so many. We're looking at how viruses modulate our immune response. When coronavirus affects your cells, your body has an immune response. What I do is comparative immunology between bats and humans. We're looking at how this virus tries to shut a human's immune response. But the good thing is, that, the virus is not able to shut the immune response down. MERS coronavirus shuts down your immune response a 100%, which is why its mortality rate is so high. But the SARS coronavirus is very sensitive to our immune response. That is why people with a good immune system will survive this pandemic.

7. **What has it been like, to be a first generation immigrant in Canada? What advice would you like to share with us?**

A: Xavier's adequately preps you for this experience because you meet people from different ethnicities and on exchange programmes. We had people from the UK and the United States so we knew what to expect. My advice would be to step out of that comfort zone and meet people of different ethnicities. You'll learn so much!

Being with my wife, who is a fifth generation German, I've learned that we all have our differences. None of us are alike. We need to respect that and not criticise each other for being different.

You must stand up for yourself. If you believe in something. The more you progress in life the more people are going to talk about

you. Hold on to your friends and family, because they really wish the best for you. When I was younger, I would be bothered by every small comment. Now if I face detractors while raising money for my science, I thank them for their opinion and move on with my life.

8. What do you think our collective future looks like in the aftermath of the pandemic?

A: This is very relative. What's happening in Mumbai and India is very different to what's happening in Canada. In Canada, there's a lot of mutual respect. Everybody is wearing face masks not because we're sick, but because we respect the person that's standing next to us. We know young people are less likely to die of the virus. I've watched interviews from the United States, and there are young people who say, "My body, my right and I'm not wearing a mask," so in the States, the cases are skyrocketing.

My parents in India are worried about the lockdown and people not wearing masks. Many Indians will not have the money to purchase a face mask.

For India, Covid-19 is not the biggest problem. It's difficult what's going to happen there after the pandemic. I'm hoping the virus goes over the population and you have immunity and you're done. But unfortunately, in

that process a lot of people are going to die. The promising thing is that I saw India is working on a vaccine. I think there are five good vaccine trials going on so I'm hoping one of them will work.

9. What are your words of wisdom for our students?

A: Just do what makes you happy. It has taken me a long time to learn this. I've always been chasing the shiny pebbles and the high dreams and the high hopes, but all of this comes at the cost of your personal life, your friends, and the relationships that you've built your entire lives.

Keep working hard. Remind yourselves why you came to Xavier's. Of course, there is the fun, Malhar, and all of that. But you also came here to become great microbiologists or great biotechnologists.

Fast five questions:

a. What was one of your favourite hideout spots on campus?

My favourite hideout was the boys' hostel!

b. Favourite food from the canteen?

My favourite food was Anna's food. There was an old guy called Anna who never wore sandals. He always walked barefoot because he worshipped

the place where he served his food. I really like Anna. He was a man of great perspective and great advice.

c. Complete the sentence, "You're not a Xavierite if you haven't _____."

If you haven't been a part of Malhar! I remember one time I was doing something for Malhar and Dr. Amonkar caught me bunking class.

d. Which department were you a part of?

I was OG for Security.

e. One thing you miss the most about St. Xavier's.

When you step into Xavier's, it's like a planet in itself. You can have any friends, you can have friends across genders, you can have any gender identity you like inside of Xavier's, so I think Xavier's protects you. You can be who you want to be inside of Xavier's. You have to fit in once you're outside. At Xavier's you can not fit in and still have friends. I think most of my friends agree with this. We really liked that about Xavier's.

Payal Karnik,
MSc Biotechnology-I
Halaah Shaikh &
Simran Nahata,
SYBsc

KIRAN DIGHAVKAR



1. How has the ethos of St. Xavier's shaped your views on life?

A: St. Xavier's is not just a college but an institution of values. Having

seen the campus in movies and hearing so much about the college even before you join draws you towards Xavier's and energises you.

Xavier's taught me focus and passion.

When I was the Assistant Commissioner of 'A' Ward, Xavier's was under my jurisdiction. One of my colleagues requested help with her son's

admission, for which I met the principal, Dr. Agnelo Menezes. Aggie was surprised that I was only 35 and already an Assistant Commissioner. We discussed my education, and he convinced me to join the Master's in Public Policy Program! This is how my journey at St. Xavier's started, and this is what college is all about. Every professor instils the value in you to pursue something and leave a mark in the world.

2. What inspired you to take up public service as a career?

A: I was inspired by my father and my uncle, who are in public service. Secondly, I am inspired by the idea that one generous act can change people's lives. It has always been my dream to make a difference.

3. What change do you wish to bring about?

A: I am a Ward Officer and then, I'll be a Deputy Commissioner. I want to make this city a better place for everyone, including 60% of the population that stays in slums.

The city has excellent heritage, economy, infrastructure, and more, but every Ward has its challenges. 'A' Ward has heritage structures that need to be preserved. I was in charge of the Selfie Gallery in front of the MCGM Head Office. Two foreigners requested for some trees in front of CST so that they could take better photos, and I saw people standing in the middle of the road! It then clicked that we should have a gallery there, and now everyone who visits Mumbai stands at the Gallery to take a photo. At the selfie point, everything moves around you, but you feel rooted.

I feel fortunate that in my tenure, I was in charge of the Marine Drive toilets, popularly known as the Five Star Toilets, costing 90 lakhs, and the exclusive women's toilet at Gateway of India. After noticing how most public spaces in the city were male-dominated with barely any consideration given to amenities catering to women, I decided to convert a BMC chowki into a ladies' toilet to make them feel more comfortable in public spaces. These small things make a difference, and this inspires me to keep working for the city.

4. What is your motto?

A: I give priority to making people smile as a result of my actions.

5. How did you ensure community participation in an area like Dharavi?

A: Mission Dharavi's success can be credited more to community participation than any other agencies like the BMC or the police. In Mission Dharavi, we didn't wait for people to come to us with symptoms. We focused on screening people in the area, identifying the suspected cases, and quarantining them in government institutions. We made schools and colleges into quarantine centres and provided those quarantined with free food, medicine, testing, and doctor's consultation.

Initially, community cooperation was difficult as no slum community likes working with government authorities because they worry about their illegality and similar issues. We tackled this by taking help from private medical facilities that operated in Dharavi.

We trust our doctors immensely, so we requested them to convince people to cooperate.

We then got the local MP, MLA, and Corporator to talk to the people about how quarantining will be beneficial for their family and Dharavi.

Finally, I took the help of NGOs in the area. The NGOs helped provide one-month rations to 75,000 families, and also donated PPE kits, clothes, masks, and even oxygen supplies!

6. What were the challenges you faced while implementing the Dharavi model?

A: Initially, community participation, and then dealing with the demography of Dharavi was challenging. The beauty of

Dharavi lies in its people; it is a mini India; it has people from all over the country. The biggest problem was that 70% of the community depends on common toilets. With a population of almost a million people, with an average of 8-10 people living in 15x15ft rooms, options like social distancing and home quarantine did not exist for an area like Dharavi. This is why Dharavi required a plan other than the prescribed plan of contact tracing.

7. Is there anything you would have done differently if given a chance?

A: I would like to redesign the city's infrastructure. I would turn my attention to the way the slums have been handled. Looking back at the Britishers and how beautifully they have designed South Mumbai, 'A' Ward is surrounded by sea on three sides, but I have yet to see those areas flood. It's a system that has existed for over 100 years and finds itself useful to date. I would also like to redesign the sewage system of the suburbs and focus on low-cost housing.

In the case of Dharavi, I don't think we would have done anything differently.

8. How did you deal with the pressure of a situation that was virtually impossible?

A: In such situations, transparency is key. You have to reduce your consumption of media and other distractions and believe that you are doing the right thing. Being in the field allowed me to gauge the situation better than most people. Since the first case leading up to today, we haven't hidden any figures or data concerning Dharavi. This helps the media and the public believe in us and our actions.

9. How important do you think soft power is when it comes to Mumbai?

A: Mumbai is a cosmopolitan and unique city because of its location and culture. For example, the Swathantra Sawarkar Marg, formerly known as Cadel Road, falls right in the middle of Mumbai city; it divides South Bombay from the rest of Mumbai. One can find structures of all religions on that road; there's the Mahim Darga, Mahim Church, Siddhivinayak Temple, Shivaji Park, Balasaheb Tahakrey Marg, Swatantra Veer Sawarkar Marg. We wanted to draw attention to the beauty and culture of the road.

Pedestrianisation is an international phenomenon. Everybody wants better footpaths. Giving them a cultural aspect makes them more attractive. We also did the same in Fort with 17 dilapidated heritage structures from British times. We partnered with NGOs such as the Kala Ghoda Association and revived places such as Flora Fountain, the fountain at the Horniman Circle area, and even Wellington fountain. I believe this is how we should touch Mumbaikars' hearts because we are very emotional when it comes to the city.

10. How different was it to first work for the most affluent areas of Mumbai and then work for the poorest?

A: This is the reality of life- its dynamic! It gave me insight into the lives of someone living in Nariman Point and Dharavi. When working in Nariman Point, there's one particular type of crowd that I found. However, Dharavi being the hub of small businesses varying from garments, pottery, plastic recycling, leather recycling, etc. makes it stand apart. There are around 5000 GST

businesses in Dharavi and about 15,000 single-room factories. Every area has its unique charm, and we must work to increase the beauty of that area.

11. How has your time at St. Xavier's shaped your leadership?

A: I was a student for the best two years of my life. A few professors who have played an essential role in my life would be "Aggie"- Dr. Agnelo Menezes, Avnish Kumar, Kishu Daswani, and Nandini Naik. These people have had a significant impact on my profession with their teachings, and I am very fortunate to have studied under them. They taught me how to think globally. Aggie taught me not only to relish the beauty of Mumbai but to compare it to international cities. Avnish Kumar has a beautiful sense of equality and showed me how to think about the poorest in our city and inspired me to pursue my PhD. Kishu taught me how beautiful life is, and he has a different way of teaching; he's like a life coach to me. These are things that have played a significant role in shaping my profession.

12. What advice would you give to the current Xavierites?

A: They should learn how to focus. Be passionate. You should put your heart in everything you do regardless of how small the act is. Every day you should move towards adding something substantial towards your final goal. That's my advice.

Fast five questions:

a. One of your favourite spots inside the campus?

A: Of course, the canteen. I remember I used to take leave from office, just to sit in the foyer and prepare for my upcoming exams.

b. Your favourite food from the canteen?

A: Out of the plethora of choices, I remember the Maggi and the Fried Rice.

c. Complete the following sentence, "You are not a Xavierite if you haven't -----"

A: If you haven't clicked a photo in the quad. Or if you haven't eaten Maggi from the canteen sitting there until you're asked to leave.

d. One of your favourite memories from your time at St. Xavier's?

A: Back during my first semester, my job caused me to miss most of my classes. I was worried about economics. One day, Aggie sat with me in the canteen, and taught me the entire portion within a span of 3 hours. He ordered and paid for the food too! He sat there without hesitation, teaching, and helping me learn and giving me concepts. It was one of the best things that happened to me.

e. One thing you miss the most from your college days?

A: I miss being a student at Xavier's on the whole. Sitting in the canteen or the library and studying. I was employed as Assistant Commissioner while pursuing my Masters in Public Policy, but St. Xavier's was the place I'd become a student and forget all my stress. I never felt like an old Commissioner among young people; they treated me as a friend. In today's times, when I hold a lot of responsibility on my shoulders, I sometimes wish I could be a student at St.Xavier's again.

**Simran Raikar &
Rachel Mathew,
TYBMM**

DR. AMRUTA GADGE



Bijin: How much of a role has this pandemic played in aiding your research on the Bose-Einstein Condensate?

Dr. Gadge: I have to say that the Pandemic has put some challenges in continuing our research, but we have already been aiming towards this goal of achieving the Bose-Einstein Condensate in our lab. I was quite disappointed that I couldn't go to the lab now because we had waited a long time and we were almost there. Luckily we had managed to make preparations and we could start running the experiment from home, remotely. The way the pandemic pushed us was to get the remote control and monitoring technology working. So we had bits and pieces of it already in operation but no motivation to set up all remote controlled software. Because of the pandemic, we were forced to do it.

Hetanshu: As children, we were all asked to name the 3 states of matter, but remember there was always that enthusiastic chap who brought up plasma and Bose-Einstein condensate as answers in the most layman terms. Could you please explain what Bose-Einstein condensate means and what you did in your experiment?

Dr. Gadge: Let me run you down through the brief history of the Bose-Einstein condensate. It was first predicted in 1925 by Satyendra Nath Bose and Albert Einstein. Hence the name, Bose-Einstein condensate. The first-ever condensate was created in 1995 at the University of Colorado. It's a state of matter, created in laboratories at extremely low

temperatures, where atoms start occupying their lowest quantum states, as the quantum effects and wave nature start dominating at such low temperatures. The condensate is formed by cooling an extremely low-density gas, to ultra-low temperatures, in the range of micro and nanokelvin. As for the experiment, we have a lot of lasers and structures that carry currents and generate magnetic fields. So all the timings of these components need to be matched exactly. There's a specific sequence that we have to follow, and several steps of cooling these atoms, that need optimising. I did all that, taken care of home.

Bijin: Your mother is a physics teacher. How much of an impact has she had in shaping your interest in the field of physics, and who else has been an inspiration for you?

Dr. Gadge: She's been a huge inspiration for me. She has always pushed me to excel in everything that I do. I mean it's not like we used to discuss physics with each other, but the environment I grew up in had a significant impact. My whole family has been an inspiration, especially my grandfather.

Hetanshu: For how long have you been working on this project?

Dr. Gadge: In this particular lab, it's almost been two years. These experiments are quite complicated and take a good couple of yours to build. I was doing my PhD in the University of Nottingham, and I actually started building this setup there, but when I was about to finish the whole lab moved to the University of Sussex, so we had to transfer the entire setup to this new place, and start from scratch. We also improved a bit on it. I did my Master's project in TIFR, and that was the first time I was introduced to this field.

Bijin: So this work of yours, what does it mean for the future of the field?

Dr. Gadge: Bose-Einstein condensate is just the first step of a bigger project, so the actual physics experiment we want to develop is based on the condensate. The more interesting stuff comes now. In terms of science, it's not a breakthrough, but it is an important step into the future of quantum technology, knowing that we can make these quantum sensors and use them in inaccessible areas like space or deep underground. It has more of an impact in technology than it does on fundamental science.

Hetanshu: Being able to achieve this feat via remote access, do you think laboratories and institutes should dive deeper into this practice?

Dr. Gadge: In terms of remotely working, I have advantages in terms of flexible working hours, and this will encourage more women into science as well. We never imagined we'd be running our experiment completely from home. I think it's a nice practice. But on the other hand, I feel, science is a creative field, and nothing is a substitute for the interaction between PhD students, post-docs, and researchers in general. It is something I miss. That human element can't be substituted. Social interaction is really important from a creative perspective. So partial remote working is the way to go I guess. It depends on the kind of research.

Bijin: There's a notion among many that the field of physics lacks job opportunities in India. Would you agree?

Dr. Gadge: I agree with that notion to an extent. It depends on the country you're working in. About jobs in India, it's not a myth, unfortunately. After spending quite a few years in the UK, what I have noticed is, here there's a lot more respect for the degree in

any field. If say you're a physics PhD, they know that you've gained a lot of transferable skills. In India, you're placed a few steps back. On the other hand, there are a lot of colleges in India, so getting a job in academia is not entirely difficult. Saying that it's not particularly easy in Europe either. Academia everywhere is becoming difficult. See the trends right now, because, by the time you finish your PhD, the scene might have changed quite a bit. Multidisciplinary fields are quite upcoming now.

Bijin: So, let's go 11 years back, tell us more about how life at Xavier's was back then!

Dr. Gadge: It was quite nice! Most of my memories were all third-year memories. I guess there were a lot of professors who are still there like Bodhane ma'am, Veda ma'am, Jyoti ma'am, Rajesh sir. We were around 20 I think. Which is why I remember a lot of the third year. I did electronics instrumentation as my applied component and most of the lab work involved graphing on physical graphs and having a practical logbook as opposed to the coding you guys do now. Labwork was always more fun than attending lectures.

Hetanshu: In what ways has Xavier's enabled you to achieve your goals?

Dr. Gadge: I have to say it's the honours program that was quite good. The program exposed you to various fields. I remember this module on vacuum technology by Bodhane ma'am, and the things I learnt were helpful for our

experiments now because ultra-high vacuum technology is really important in this field. We went through a lot of such modules. Some image processing, some optics with Veda ma'am, some cosmology stuff with Jyoti ma'am. It was all out of curriculum but so much fun, just a few students interacting with the teachers. It exposed us to a lot of different fields and trained us to search, find materials, find books, and back then research papers weren't as readily available and all that guidance was very important.

Bijin: Did you ever participate in the various college festivals, especially Malhar?

Dr. Gadge: I never actively participated in college festivals, it was quite hectic managing the curriculum, the honours program, everything. I did participate in various exhibitions and quizzes. We who started this physics quiz called Spectaculum with Rajesh sir. We organised this inter-college quiz competition. It was a big success and Rajesh sir was an active part of it. I remember participating in a certain exhibition in Malhar which involved breaking down the science in certain scenes from movies. That was a lot of fun.

Hetanshu: Now we have this round of quick-fire questions. Favourite spot in Xavier's?

Dr. Gadge: Woods! It was just nice to hide from everyone. I spent many evenings sipping Anna's Chai.

Bijin: How often would you bunk lectures?

Dr. Gadge: Well, honestly, I loved going to college, attending labs, and that kept my attendance pretty good. It was best in the third year.

Bijin: Complete the sentence: "You're not a Xavierite if you haven't _____."

Dr. Gadge: "You're not a Xavierite if you haven't had Anna's Chai and Maggi!" I still remember to this day, the canteen food. Sitting in the Woods, having the food. The variety, iced-teas, cold-coffees, the different types of dosas, everything.

Hetanshu: On a closing note, we'd like to say that you are a woman in the field of science. A field still dominated by men. What would you like to say to all those young, bright minds, who are hopeful, yet afraid of what the future would hold for them?

Dr. Gadge: Fortunately, I was never in a situation where I faced gender biases or felt like I was a woman in a male-dominated classroom. There are a lot more female professors than male in Xavier's. Women should just have to stand up for themselves. They have equal rights and deserve equal opportunities to succeed. Be curious Passionate. That's the key, never give up curiosity. In this pandemic, a delay of a year might seem a lot to you, but in the long run, it wouldn't matter. Figuring out what you want and take some time for yourself, it's crucial.

**Hetanshu Bharadiya &
Bijin Joseph**
TYBSc Physics



Lest we Forget...



DR. ABAN DARUWALLA (1931-2019)



Dr. Aban Ratan Daruwalla (nee A. J. Randeria) of the Botany Department passed away peacefully at her residence in Mumbai on 21st September

2019, aged 88.

Having done her graduation and post-graduation from St. Xavier's College, she went to Michigan University for her PhD. On returning to India, following a stint in the industry, she

returned to her passion for teaching in 1966. Pleasant, affectionate yet stern, Dr. Daruwala taught at the Botany department of her alma mater till her retirement in 1993.

Through the course of her career, Dr. Daruwala did her MSc by research under the legendary taxonomist Rev. Fr. H. Santapau S. J. She also worked on the flora of what is now SGNP, Borivali. Her thesis, 'Studies on the Gamopetalous Phanerogams of Krishnagiri National Park' (1954), along with that of her colleague R. R. Fernandes was the base work for

the 'Flora of Sanjay Gandhi National Park'.

Dr. Daruwala was happily married to Ratan Daruwalla and passed away just months after his demise. They leave behind their son Sarosh, younger daughter Rashna and two grandchildren. Dr. Daruwala was, without a doubt, a brilliant teacher, exceptional wife and devoted mother.

Mr. Alok Gude

In-charge Head, Department of Botany

FAREWELL ELROY VAZ



The Women's Development Cell of the college has organized self-defense training for several years for the female students of the college. The

resource person for over eight years was none other than Mr. Elroy Vaz, an alumnus of the college of the batch of 1986, the master trainer who graciously accepted to come year after year with his team. He stayed throughout the session, involved all participants and trained them personally. His cheerful disposition and the ability to talk to a large group of students sharing his passion and enthusiasm of what he taught will always be cherished. As the years went by St. Xavier's adopted Inclusion as one of its themes, Elroy was able to extend this training and accepted individuals with visual challenges and extended the help required. We are grateful and feel blessed to have the opportunity to get the best trainer and a wonderful human being in Elroy to help us reach our goal. He will be missed.

I Share a poem written by his batchmates of 1986, as it echoes our feelings.

Farewell Elroy Vaz !

The classroom is unusually quiet,
The chalk has stopped squealing it's
way across the blackboard,
The intercom crackles and subsides.
Time has frozen all motion.
Your bench is empty now.
Your books lie open mid chapter.
Words etched deep in the wood,
Stare back with countless stories in
each groove.
Stories of the years gone by,
And the ones to come.
Who knew this would have so
much to tell,
Of a challenging journey of joy,
love, success, suffering and above
all, grit, courage, resilience and
perseverance through searing pain.
Echoes of laughter and mirth peal
down the corridors of our minds,
The clinking cheer of crystal as we
paused to savor and celebrate the
sweetness of life,
Lingers on tenaciously.
Fare thee well good soldier Elroy
Vaz,
A warrior so fierce not one of us
have known,
Your life was lived No Holds
Barred,
And life returned that challenge,
Full measure and more.
Stand up you did and face the

tempest's wrath,
The Big C churned its waves to
smash your ship,
But this time the boat was a
warship, a destroyer,

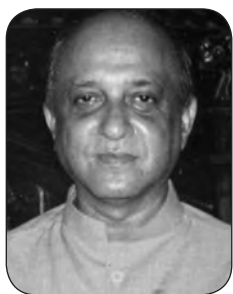
The Elroy Vaz !
The War is done. You've fired every
canon. Every torpedo spent.
It's time to go home now, Elroy
Vaz.
Victorious and proud.
Your crew is cheering.
Blast your horn,
Blow the Bugle,
Fire the guns.
The Elroy Vaz has docked.
At the Father's Port.
This Decorated Warrior,
Is back home.

Rest in Eternal Peace dear Elroy.
Our deepest condolences, our heartfelt
sympathies and prayers are with
Dipika, Rachel, Rhys & Archana

Ms Linda Dhakul

Member of WDC
Department of Psychology

DOMINIC FERNANDES



Dominic left for his heavenly abode on 3rd January 2020, but he has left behind a legacy that has enriched St. Xavier's College, Mumbai as well

as many individuals. He was the first professional qualified Librarian of the college, having served from 16th June 1961 to 31st August 1997. Apart from being well-versed in legal knowledge, he was also adept in oration, drafting, public relations and networking. His interest in various kinds of art must also be appreciated.

Dominic built up the library collection(s), which included numerous books on paintings and painters. He created the 'Centralised Science Library' by merging the book collection of departments (many of these books were fondly collected by our College Jesuit priests). Dominic started the Paperback Library in 1972, for light reading, as a self-financed collection. It was very popular and grew up to almost 7,500 books. In 1977, he added the Photocopying Facility in the Library. Through the Library Development Project (1976-77), he established the Open Access

Lending Library. Later, in 1993, when the Honours Room was rearranged, open access was applied there too. Through the open access principle, every reader, from freshman to teacher, is treated as equal. Our teachers and students benefit immensely from the classified open access in the library. The "Print Library", of beautifully framed paintings, was started in 1982. Today, these frames adorn the walls of college, from ground floor to top. Playing western classical instrumental music in the Lending Library, to soothe music lovers and lower stress of all library visitors, was his idea too. For getting UGC Funds, he did all the paperwork and even visited the UGC in Delhi.

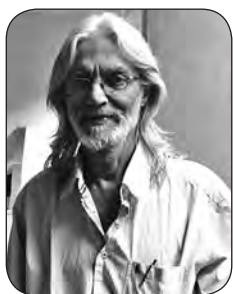
Apart from being the College Librarian, Dominic served the College in other ways too. His Public Speaking Course under the 'Learning for Life Programme' was very popular. He edited the college magazine for a number of years. He started the Library Magazine, called Bibliodelic, at a time when the College Magazine was the only platform for students, and Departmental Magazines were not yet born. When Dominic managed the college canteen for some years, tasty yet affordable dishes attracted food-connoisseurs from far and near.

He began the 'Library Cultural Week', in which different country's books, dresses, food, flag and music were collectively celebrated in collaboration with the respective country's Consulate. Students organised these celebrations under the guidance of a committee of teachers, with Dominic at the helm. There were American, Russian, German, French, Italian, Australian and Iberian (Spanish) weeks. These 'Weeks' sowed the seeds of Malhar and other festivals in the later years. Dominic also managed the Xavier's Institute of Management [XIM] Library. Through the Xavier's Development Programme (XDP) he raise funds for the college from alumni. His inspirational sway extended even beyond the Xavier's campus - as President of the Bombay University College Librarians' Association [BUCLA] he had organised seminars for its members in Khandala.

Dominic exuded a multifaceted and versatile personality. Thanks to his innovative drive, jovial spirit, helping nature and friendly disposition, the College Library has developed an aura, which will be Dominic's lasting legacy.

Ms. Medha Taskar
(Inputs from Xavier's retired colleagues & Ex-Xavierites)

MR. CLYDE CURRY (1956 – 2020)



Mr. Clyde Curry, 64, passed on to his Maker on 29 May 2020 of a heart attack.

He was the Administrator of Xavier Institute of Management and Research. He had been with XIMR for 15 years but had always been available to all of

St. Xavier's College and XIC with his unbelievable range of expertise.

Clyde lived up to his life's motto "Happy to Help" with his constant "Don't worry, I will take care of it". Very rarely does one come across such a genuine, unassuming and lovable person who found happiness in rendering high-quality service with a warm smile. He was strikingly a simple person, down to earth in his work, but with a boundless imagination for creative presentation. Very many

events on the campus owed much to his creativity.

Many persons from professional colleagues to students have written in to say that Clyde was a gem of a person who endeared himself to all.

All who knew him were shocked at his sudden going and will miss his cheery smile very much. May God grant him eternal joy and peace.

Fr. Conrad Pesso, S.J.

DR. ZOEB FILMWALA



Dr. Zoeb Filmwala had a long and distinguished career as an Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai (1983-2011). From (2011 – 2016) he served as the Principal of A.E. Kalsekar Degree College, Mumbra. He joined St. Xavier's College in 1983 as a lecturer in the Department of Chemistry. He did his M.Phil and subsequently completed his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry under the guidance of Dr. Peter Fernandes at the Nadkarny-Sacasa Research Lab

(NSRL), St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. He was appointed as the Director of the Nadkarny- Sacasa Research Lab (NSRL) for two years. He was a recognised postgraduate teacher and Ph.D. guide.

Passionate and well versed with his subject, he could teach Physical, Industrial and Analytical Chemistry with equal ease. As an active member of the teaching faculty, he served the college in different capacity, such as the University Exam Committee and Staff Council.

He remained an integral part of St. Xavier's College for more than twenty years, be it through college sports, staff verses students events or the popular

Antakshari programme. Dr. Filmwala was a simple man, down-to-earth, soft-spoken, patient and helpful.

He continued his association with St. Xavier's College even after his retirement and regularly visited the department and guided his research students.

On his sudden death on 22nd April 2020, we have lost an esteemed colleague and a wonderful human being. The department and college will always remember Dr. Filmwala for his association with us.

Dr. Geeta Kotian
Associate Professor
Department of Chemistry

रामदास यशवंत गावडे



मृत्यु गुरुवार,
१४-५-२०२०

अशा अनेक आठवणीचा संच असतो प्रत्येकाच्या आयुष्यात कटू आठवणीनी रडू

येते. तांदूळ निवडताना खडे बाजूला सारल्यावर ज्या प्रमाणे मऊ भात तयार होतो. त्याप्रमाणे आयुष्यातील दुःखाचे खडे बाजूला सारल्यावर उरतात गोड सुखावह आठवणी. तेव्हा त्यांची माळ विणताना मन प्रफुल्लित होते आणि अशा गोष्टी आठवतात तेव्हा चेहऱ्यावर आपसूकच हास्याची कळी फुलते. अशी ही व्यक्ति रामदास यशवंत गावडे होती.

त्यांच्या बदल बोलण्यासारखं पुष्कळ काही आहे. ते एकाएकी आपल्या मधून निघून गेले. त्यांच्या बाबतीत फारच दुःखद घटना घडली. त्यांच्या मृत्यूची बातमी समजताच पायाखालची वाळू सरकली. त्यांच्या मृत्युची

घटना घडली तेव्हा कोणाचाच विश्वास बसत नव्हता. जो-तो-एकमेकांना कन्फर्म करून विचारत होते. त्यांच्या बदल कोणालाच खरं वाटत नव्हतं. त्यांच्या पत्नी कडून समजल्यानंतर मी फार हादरून गेलो. मला H.O.D. नी प्राध्यापक ह्यांनी विचारलं तेव्हा डीपार्टमेंट मधील सर्व प्राध्यापक हळहळ करत होते. त्यांच्या आत्म्यास शांति लाभो अशी आम्ही फीजीक्स डीपार्टमेंट मधील सर्व कर्मचारी व सर्व प्राध्यापकगण परमेश्वराजवळ प्रार्थना करतो.

रामदास गावडे अशी व्यक्ति होती की ते सर्व कॉलेजमधील कर्मचारी, प्राध्यापक मध्ये सर्वांचे सुपरिचीत होते. ते हसतमुख व मनमिळाऊ होते. त्यांचे कॉलेज मध्ये सर्वासोबत मैत्रीचे नाते होते. कोणाही सोबत बोलताना ते प्रथम हसूनच बोलायचे. त्यांचा स्वभाव बोलका होता. डीपार्टमेंटच्या कामासाठी त्यांचा प्रथम पुढाकार असायचा. डीपार्टमेंट मध्ये प्रॅक्टिकलच्या वेळेस ते स्वतः विचारायचे. लॅब सेटींग करण्यात

एक्सपर्ट होते. एकदा का त्यांना सांगितलं ही प्रॅक्टिकल आहे, एक्सपेरीमेंट लावायचे तेव्हा ते स्वतः बिनचूक ईन्स्ट्रुमेंट, कोणत्या प्रॅक्टिकलला काय सामान लागते ते बरोबर, न विचारता लावत. प्रॅक्टिकल परीक्षेच्या वेळेस परीक्षासाठी विद्यार्थ्यांना मदत करायचे; जे जे साहित्य लागते ते-ते अगोदरच टेबलवर ठेवून द्यायचे. विद्यार्थ्यांच्या सेवेसाठी आपली नेमणूक आहे. कर्तव्य आहे अशी त्यांची धारणा, विचारशक्ति होती.

कामामध्ये त्यांनी कधीच आळस केला नाही. फारच हरहुन्नरी होते. त्यांच्या जाण्यामुळे लॅब ही पंगू झाली. त्यांची जागा, त्यांची उणीव सतत आम्हाला वाटणार आहे. त्यांचे लॅब मध्ये फार खेळीमेळीचे वातावरण असायचे. काही झाले तरी ते हसूनच निभावून न्यायचे असा हा आमचा चांगला सहकारी-कर्मचारी आपल्या विभागामधून गेल्याची, सर्वांच्या

मनाला दुःख झाल्याचे शल्य मनामधून
कधीच जाऊ शकत नाही.

रामदास गावडे, एक चांगले व्यक्तिमत्व
आमच्यामधून लुप्त झाले. देव त्यांच्या

आत्म्यास शांती देवो. अशी आराधना,
हीच आमची त्यांना विभागातर्फे
श्रद्धांजली.....

त्यांच्या कुटुंबीयांना सुख-शांती लाभो.
त्यांच्या दुःखात आम्ही सर्व सहभागी
आहोत.

राजू दाभाडे
भौतिकशास्त्र विभाग

SPARSH KUMAR



Mr. Sparsh Kumar (UID 172319, a student of T Y B S c - Geology, passed away on 4th March 2020. Sparsh was a hardworking and enthusiastic student who showed a great interest in the subject since

joining the department. He was inquisitive and interactive in class and he always helped his peers and juniors in study. Despite his medical condition, he participated and completed the rigorous geological fieldwork at Malvan in TYBSc. His presence on field and his dedication motivated all the students. His passion for learning, understanding and interest in the subject, and meticulousness was inspiring not only for his peers

but for the teachers also. His courage and determination will always be remembered by his friends and the department faculty.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family for their loss. May the departed soul rest in peace.

Department of Geology

NEHA VAZIRANI



One of our TY students, Neha Vazirani passed away on 25th January 2020. We held a condolence meeting on 1st Feb 2020. The

overflowing number of students in the MMR that day was a testament to the numerous lives that Neha has touched, across diverse classes and departments. We shall always miss this 'Curious Being' who led a life filled with friends, travel, activities and enthusiasm. Her genuinely altruistic nature, beaming smile and 'lean forward' presence in

our classes made our experiences all the more meaningful. We choose to be grateful for the privilege of having had Neha in our classes.

Department of Psychology



Inaugural of International Conference DISHA, March 2020 by Chief-Guest Dr. Bartholomew Mcgettrick, Guest speaker Prof. Avijit Pathak, Dr. Wendy Bignold, Fr. Rector Dr. Keith D'Souza and Principal Dr. Rajendra Shinde.



Panel discussion on 'The Relevance of Value Education in Higher Educational Institutions' @ DISHA 2020



Valedictory Function - Chief Guest Dr. Wendy Bignold Associate Dean (International) Head of Residential Life, Liverpool Hope University @ DISHA 2020



Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Principal with Mr. Ranjan Bandyopadhyay, Global Vice President, Human Resources, TCS @ the signing of MOU for MSc Big Data Analytics



CP Goyal, Joint Secretary, Dept. of Biotechnology, Dr. Garima Gupta, Scientist E, Dept. of Biotechnology, Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt of India, New Delhi, VP Academics Dr. Karuna Gokarn at "Popularization of Science" exhibition - 29th Nov'19 (sponsored by DBT-CTEP)



Dr. Jehangir Mistry, Dean, Xavier's Institute of Communication delivering inaugural speech at "Xynergy 2019"- A Spectrum of Opportunities (sponsored by RUSA), 30th November 2019



Dr. Alexandra Sussmann, Mayor of Social Issues and Social Integration, City of Stuttgart addressing the students of In Conversation with Globalization



Dr. Wolfgang Holtkamp, University of Stuttgart with Medha Taskar, Librarian



Renewal of MOU with University of Sydney represented by Dr. Annamarie Jagose with Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Principal @ SXC, Mumbai



Students representing India at the Sunburst South-Asian Culture Exchange Youth Camp held in Nanyan Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore through the ECC



Sir William Mark Tully @ The Conclave, Malhaar'19 with Principal Dr. Rajendra Shinde



Arundhati Katju speaking on Criminal to Citizen - LGBT+ rights in India @ Malhaar'19



Grand Finale at the Janfest 2020



Sneha Aunty's Mystery Man performed at Ithaka'19



Performance at Marathi Rajbhasha Divas 27th February'20



Students performing at Sitare'19, National level Inter collegiate competition held by the Commerce Section



French Day celebration at St. Xavier's College graced by Consul General of France, Ms. Sonia Barbry, July 2019



Krav Maga Global Self-Défense Workshop by the Women's Development Cell



Open Music Evenings with teachers by the Wellness Centre



DIRS visit to Behrampada, Mumbai for a community interaction



Dr. Sam Taraporevala as the Chief Guest at the 13th Convocation Ceremony of Tanya Computer Centre in Andheri



Antarchakshu 2.0 Season 2 conducted and venues across Mumbai



SSL members @ the rural camp'2019



Exhibition in collaboration with Salaam Bombay by BMM department students celebrating International Education Day, Jan 2020



Social Outreach, "Science Awareness Sessions" by students of Life Sciences Dept in BMC Schools



Math student winners at Intercollegiate exhibition competition



Inauguration of AICHA department's cultural fest Vividha'20



Plant Identification Workshop by the Botany Department'19



Expert speakers at the RUSA - Sponsored National Conference by the Political Science Department



RUSA sponsored Workshop on Spectroscopic Techniques by Chemistry Department, Nov 2019



7th National Convention of Right to Food and work attended by MPP students from 20th to 22nd September'19 at Raipur

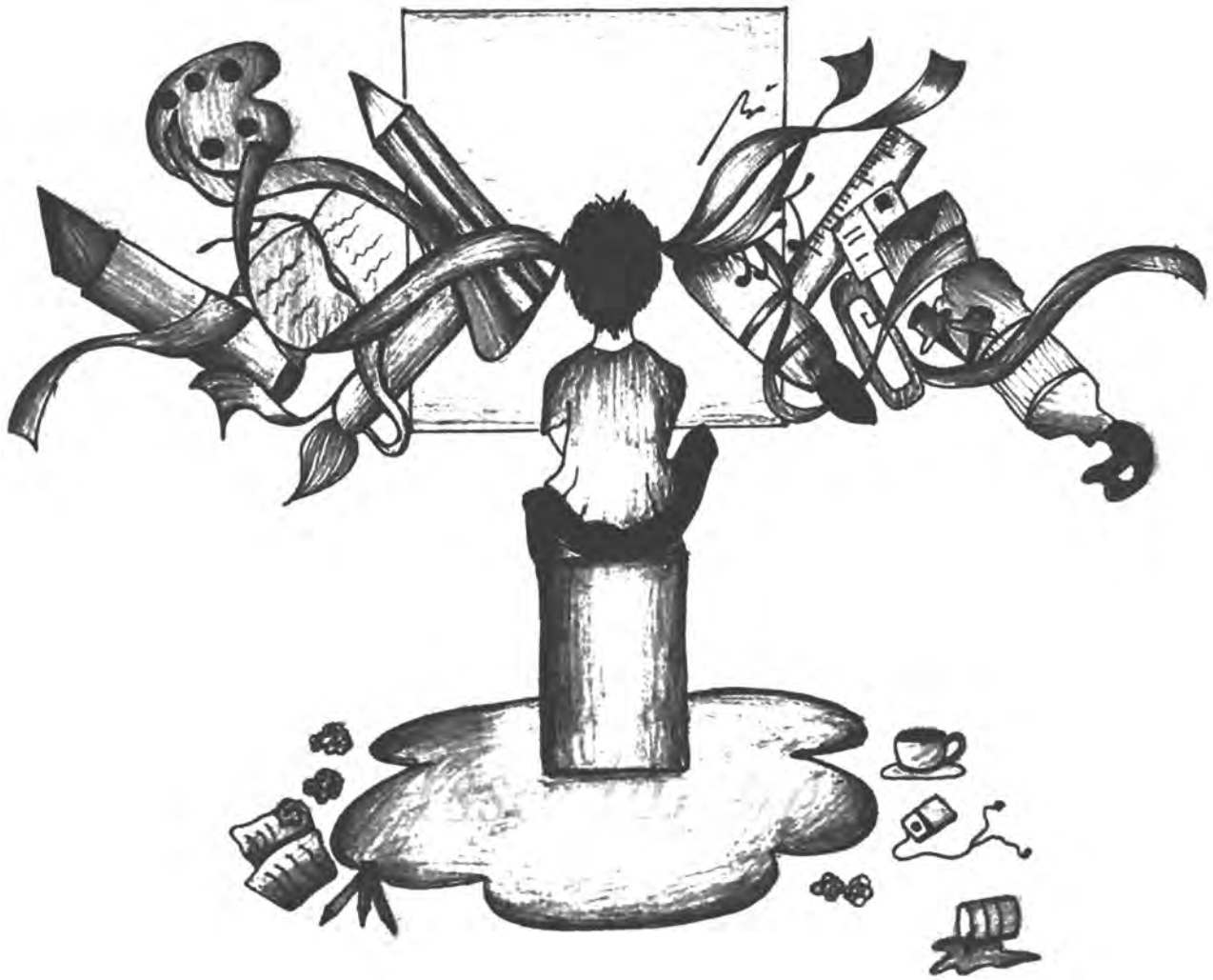


F.Y.BSc students during their field visit to Elephanta Island



"Jigyasa", the Physics Department Exhibition inaugurated by Rev Fr Keith Dsouza, S.J. Rector

Creative Musings



QUARANTINE COOKING – A DISASTER RECIPE FOR PASTA

We've all gone through a phase where an inexplicable desire to cook something fancy overpowers our senses. By this, I not only mean the act of scouring through every recipe on YouTube, but also going out to buy just the right ingredients and tools. Even you know you will never need the exorbitantly expensive wooden ladle you bought just for today. But, at this moment you're so far up in your bubble of excitement, that you've already started picturing hosting your very own cooking show even while standing in line for the groceries.

On the menu, tonight, you have decided upon a tasty, creamy preparation of pasta in white sauce. The underlying reason is obviously that the dish is extremely easy to make, while still holding up the standards of a fairly decent dish. So, here it is: An Honest Disaster Recipe for Pasta

First, pick the largest pan you have to boil the pasta. A pan so large that when you finally pick it up with a set of tongs to drain it, your hands cannot possibly handle the weight of the water. This is the only way for an amateur such as yourself to make sure the pasta doesn't break.

If you can even dare, try cooking your sauce alongside the boiling pasta.

Wow, that's one step ahead in a good direction already! Take a dollop of butter, and it is advised at this point to push back all thoughts of just how many days of workout this butter will cost you. (The cheese hasn't even come up in the conversation yet.)

Now take some flour and add it to the butter. The flour will mix with the butter and start forming lumps even before you are done adding all of it. Make sure you stir the mixture well enough to smoothen out all the lumps. This is the most challenging part of the whole recipe (and honestly, the only challenge you have to overcome).

Now, it's time to drain the boiling pasta. While carrying the said heavy pan and draining the pasta in the sink, feel the tension in your biceps and pray to all the lords whose names you can fathom to not let your pasta fall and (literally) go down the drain. Sure, you've been ignorant of God your whole life by being a borderline atheist, but here, even you know, only She can save you.

Surprisingly, the sauce feels normal now, in spite of the lumps. Only when you stir the sauce and reach the bottom of it do you realize that the lumps that have come to be your worst enemies have settled comfortably

at the bottom of the pan. Who knew one tablespoon of *maida* could prove so dangerous to your recipe?

Now that the sauce is getting thicker, it's time to bring out the big guns- the cheese. But please, for God's sake, remember to turn the gas on slow flame this time. Finally, bring it home with the heroes of your recipe - the herbs! These are the life-savers your recipe so desperately needs. Think the sauce has a pungent smell of milk? Sprinkle some herbs! Think the cheese is too salty? Sprinkle some more! Think the overall recipe needs some more taste? That's right, sprinkle away!

Finally, take your pasta and start mixing it with the sauce. At this point, feel the 30 minutes of staying without a fan acting up. As the beads of sweat start forming on your temple and your upper lip, think of all those chefs looking glamorous while cooking and make a mental note to never fall for it again. Now that you feel the pasta has mixed substantially with the sauce, thank God this nightmare is over and turn the gas off. Garnish with some basil leaves. Serve cold and dry.

Hazel Gandhi
TYBMM

THE NEW REALM OF COMMUNICATION

It is an old adage that change is the only constant; everything else is transient. Change results in various modifications and adaptations in human life. In the realm of communication, the pandemic wasn't just a game changer but also a catalyst in the already transforming field. While the content consumption on over-the-top (OTT) platforms was already soaring, the incidence of a nation-wide lockdown just exacerbated it. People across the

world have now subscribed to digital platforms, increasing their demand manifold. A total denunciation of conventional television may become a reality. Gone are the days when parents touted T.V. as an 'idiot box' and a 'supreme killer of time' because there are bigger demons to be fought against now!

Talking about another conventional means of communication i.e. radio, it

is highly unlikely that it will disappear soon. The popular presence of radio in rural areas combined with radio frequencies serving as a major means of new communication in the remotest of areas, we may conclude that it has passed the test of the pandemic.

As far as the internet is concerned, the pandemic has rendered it indispensable. The increasing dependence on social media, which

too, has shot up due to the pandemic has consolidated its presence as an important medium. However, to ensure healthy engagement with social media, lines must be drawn between fruitful use and an almost lethal addiction. Only after drawing these lines become the new normal. If not, due to the growing consciousness amongst people about mental well-being and productivity, the bubble of social media is likely to burst.

Delving into personal means of communication, telephonic calls and video calls have significantly increased during the lockdown period. Conference calls, which were once only used for professional

purposes have now become commonplace for other activities too. Nevertheless, despite its surge, video calls may soon become unpopular, given the issue of crosstalk and the necessity of fool proof internet connectivity all the time. Voice calls, however, are here to stay and will continue to be relevant in the post-pandemic picture.

But there is indeed one type, which I am missing out on that is, LETTERS! Letters which have almost become redundant, might soon make a revival. It answers all challenges posed by the pandemic. Once the lockdown is lifted, it will be boosting the economy while increasing employment and it is

one medium where maximum social distancing norms can be observed. Additionally, the unmatched charm of letters amid all borderline toxic means of communication will be a welcome change. Letters are heartfelt, nostalgic, and candid. It will be a spirit of old-school bliss crashing the walls of detachedness. And that is the positivity needed in this almost-apocalyptic world.

To conclude, it can be said that the primitive means of communication including OTT platforms of course, will become the New Normal. However, only time will tell the infallibility of this claim.

Mrinal Walawalkar
SYBA

MY SAFE JOURNEY DURING COVID LOCKDOWN

Exam preparations were in full swing: after all, our final exams were nearing. At that time, there were discussions about a new virus, namely coronavirus. When the first COVID positive case was found in Mumbai on the 11th of March 2020, it came as a shock to everyone. I started hearing some rumours like the postponement of our end semester exams and the country's lockdown to prevent the spread of the infection. It really perplexed me but despite that, I moved ahead with my exam preparation. On the 16th of March, I appeared for my first exam, and decided to take a nap after coming home.

I started dreaming about the notice of the postponement of the exam being declared by the principal. One of my friends tried to wake me up to convey that it had actually happened, but I thought it was a joke until reality sank in. When I woke up, each and every one was frantically booking tickets to get back home, as we had clear instructions to vacate the hostel. I hurriedly called my father to know about my travel, which was impossible without an escort due to

my poor mobility skills and visual impairment. My father called one of our acquaintances, Sumit Redekar, who is from our town, and had helped me a couple of times previously. My native place is called Halkarni Tal-Gadhinglaj, Dist. Kolhapur in Maharashtra.

He immediately booked a bus for me and asked me to reach the bus stop by 7 a.m. Since he had already left for his town in the morning, he was unable to come to my hostel to pick me up. I had to look for a friend, who would escort me till the bus stop. I thought of asking some of my friends who had helped me board the bus last time, but they were also busy making travel arrangements for themselves. I waited for a while before calling a friend named Prathamesh Vazat. Fortunately, he agreed to escort me. He was truly a blessing.

At the bus stop, he waited very patiently and helped me step into the bus safely. Later, I never felt alone in the bus, as my mother's calls kept me company till I reached my town's bus stand, where my father was waiting to pick me up and take me home. Thus, I

had a very safe and secure journey from the college hostel to my home. I believe this was made successful because of the blessings of my favourite Goddess, Shri Shirasangi Kalikamba Mata, my neighbours, my friend and my parents to whom I shall always remain grateful.

Now, I am safely at home attending a lot of online webinars to upskill myself. As XRCVC [Xavier's Resource Centre for Visually Challenged] has provided me with a laptop, I am able to access all kinds of technological resources, which has helped me learn with my classmates on an equal footing, regardless of my disability. I heartily thank XRCVC for providing me with the laptop, which has enabled me to virtually travel the entire globe. I hope to explore a lot more online to broaden my horizons. I am also hopeful about the future and I feel that this difficult time shall pass very soon. Till then, I would urge everyone to make best use of the resources they have.

Nagaraj Sutar
SYBA

REMINISCING

The sound of huge crowds trying to get into that one train compartment in the 6 p.m. local at Churchgate station. The stink of sweat surrounding you as you try to keep your balance in the BEST bus you take on the way home. The sound and smell of a rickshaw's engine and its smoke while you try to look for that last Rs.2 coin you had somewhere in your wallet. Remember those things?

These were the things that annoyed us, and made us wish we could afford just sitting in a car or cab to reach college or just take a break from it all to sit back at home and watch the latest episode of *Modern Family*, but couldn't, because, well, we had to put in attendance. But now, we are dying to be back in those hustling crowds at the station waiting for the train to come, so we can be the first person to jump in and get the window seat,

to get into that smelly BEST bus filled with different people all united by the common thread of "can't keep our balance" or to sit back in that rickshaw with its *paan*-eating driver who starts telling you his entire life story.

We are remembering. We are reminiscing. We are trying to make sense of this new normal. This new normal is where we don't hear the rickshaw motors from the window of our house or even the occasional *morchas* and marathons happening on early Sunday mornings that would wake us up from our lazy slumbers. This new normal is where going out even in our own car is scary to some. This new normal is where so many of us are trying to be productive, and, while some are successful, others are not. This new normal is where people are trying their best to be activists, accountants, chefs, gardeners, painters, filmmakers, procrastinators, etc. from home.

But it's not all that bad. This new normal is also where we reconnected with our families, ate that amazing *dal-rice* that *mamma* makes, played that absolutely "unfair" game of cards with dad and listened to *nanaji's* stories of his 50 years old version of Bombay, where he ate "that tasty *bhel*" which makes our generation's pasta go bland. Moreover, this new normal is also where we reconnected with ourselves, trying to get rid of all the unnecessary baggage, deleted many words in our room or phone or mind and in the process ended up finding that old picture of ourselves as 5-year olds hugging a teddy bear, smiling as brightly as the sun and as if we had no other care in the world.

This is remembering. This is reminiscing. This is the new normal.

Helee Pandya
SYBMM

THE UNPOSTED LETTER

Knock-knock. "Who's there?" "Ayesh here, Mom."

"Oh baby! Just a second, welcome! It's so early. Don't you have your school today? And who gave a call to your warden to allow you to step out?"

"Dad gave, Mamma."

"I knew that man would remain irresponsible. Made you miss your school!"

"Yes, his irresponsibility remembers that today's my birthday and I never go to school on my birthday."

"Oh gosh! How could I forget this? I'm sorry, baby. Really sorry. Happy birthday, my darling! Come inside, I'll prepare your favourite *chola puri* for you."

"No, Mamma! We always used to go to the hilltop and then for dinner. Can we do that again?"

"Shalini! Shalini! Who's there?" "Oh it's Ayesh!"

"Mamma, how's Showmik uncle?" "Uncle? Won't you call him your dad?" "No, Mamma! He isn't my dad."

Showmik heard this conversation, standing a few steps away on the staircase. Meanwhile, his expression remained unchanged.

"Hey, Showmik uncle. Good morning."

"Good morning Ayesh darling. Happy birthday! Come, let's go out for a drive today, what say?"

"Yeah, sure, but I'll go with my mom and dad." "Ayesh! You dare not talk to him this way."

"Bye, Mamma! Hope to see you at the hilltop at one o'clock." Ayesh proceeded towards her father's house.

Standing outside his house for a while, strangely, rather than going inside, she texted him to meet her at the hilltop.

At the decided time, at the entry of the hilltop, her parents had a fight and both of them returned to their respective homes.

The dove-white mountains soared into the sky, kissing the winds and cuddling the snow. Everything appeared seamlessly beautiful. But to Ayesh, who stood alone in the midst of the land, the same mountains appeared to be full of thorns, cutting and piercing her heart deep, deep into pieces as the place echoed those past memories.

She went back to her hostel. Moonlight shone on her innocent face, the stars twinkled, fairy lights on the wall glimmered, her lips stretched across in a smile.

She drank her milk and slept forever.
The smile on her face remained.

The shine in her eyes stayed.

The warden called up her parents after
the mishap.

Shalini and Anurag ran to the hostel,
saw their child's last smile and burst
into tears. Soon after their departure
came Showmik.

He was sweating, his heart
throbbing.

Storming in, to search for the glass
of milk, instead found a letter for
him. It said -

Dear Showmik uncle and Mamma,

For me to accept you and Mamma
was a bit hard until my way back to
the hostel from the hilltop today. On a
wall, I saw a beautiful message which
stated - "But of all I could name, verily
love is the highest. Love and devotion
that makes one forgetful of everything
else, love that unites the lover with
me." After this, all the grudges, the
fall out, all the hatred was gone. Love
is a divine feeling and how does it
matter with whom and what form
it takes when everywhere it is the
eternal who manifests. So, cheers and
toast to your love. My today's 11:11

wish was that may your love remain
forever and eternal.

Okay, bye for now. It's 11:12 and I've
to take my milk. Yours lovingly

Ayesh

This letter broke Showmik into pieces
and the cyanide which he had mixed
in her milk was suffocating and stifling
him.

THE END

Ronak Tiwari
SYBMM

WATER

Water awoke to little birds perched
on its bank and pecking into it ever
so slightly. It had travelled for miles
and was now gentler and sounded
softer than before. The rocks it left
impressions on when it gushed past
them, it now neatly parted its ways
for.

The heat was scorching and felt even
more intense as the sun moved directly
overhead, glittering across the babbling
brook. Water was beginning to feel its
existence futile against the wrath of the
blazing sun. Then there was a buzzing
sensation. Water began to lose itself
bit by bit, disintegrating into the air.
It rose upwards and the singing birds,
still perched on the banks, seemed to
see it off on a long voyage.

Water kept rising until it could not
comprehend what was up and what
was down. There were no more rocks
in its path; not even pebbles skipping
across its surface. Water was flying! It
was floating alongside a million parts of
itself it had never met before. It was as
if one could see their entire self – the
whole essence of their existence – laid

out in front of their very eyes. The
realms of idealism and reality were
colliding. It was terrifying, humbling
and absolutely beautiful. Some of them
even joined hands and floated together,
almost like a synchronised dance.
Water had never felt less like itself,
yet somehow it felt like this was all
meant to be.

Water almost didn't notice that it was
becoming tense and heavy. It couldn't
see colours anymore across the expanse
of grey. Suddenly, a fierce thunder tore
through and there were flashing lights.
Everything grew darker.

Water raged. Down it hurtled at
an impossible speed. It had lost all
consciousness of where it had begun
and where it had ended. The rain
poured with reckless abandon. It was
as if the ocean below put up all its
defences against an invasion by these
unknown intruders trying to penetrate
its borders and fought back with all
its might.

Water could not feel anything anymore
and gave in. The sky and the sea became
one; indistinguishable from each other.

Day and night ceased to exist. Time
felt like a cruel illusion. Chaos and
calm were one and the same.

Water awoke to be cradled gently in
a moving wave. The sky had regained
its colour and there was a softness
in the great crashing of the waves
around it. Water began to swell and
curl over, feeling tired and old, and
ready to go to sleep.

Water realised in that moment as
its lips met the sea, that it was but
a curve in the tides across the vast
expanse of sea and yet it contained
all the immensity of the ocean in its
crashing crescendo. It was practically
nothing, nothing like anything, and
everything, all at the same time. There
was a delightful meaningfulness in the
meaninglessness of its being.

Ah, the simple paradox of its journey
which had now ceased to exist. Water
glided across the waves, wondering if
it would be reunited with the brook
again someday.

Shirin Kumar
TYBMM

TILL TODAY, FROM TODAY...

*An amazing thing happens when
you get honest with yourself and
start doing what you love, what
makes you happy.*

*You stop wishing for the weekend.
You stop merely looking forward to
special events.*

*You begin to live in each moment
and you start feeling like
a human being.*

— Poet Unknown

Life is like a journey. Everyone has their foot on the accelerator, progressing towards their destinations, stopping only for filling up gas or changing a tyre on the way. Recently, all of a sudden on this highway of life came a diabolical pandemic crashing through like a truck out of control, disrupting everyone's smooth, maybe even monotonous, drive to work. People who sat at home watching and listening to the news of this life-altering rumpus, might have thought to themselves, "That will never be us!" In usual circumstances, this would probably be true, but the Corona outbreak proved to the people

that, "It can always be you!"

The definition of 'normal' for humans all over the world was plunging themselves headlong into the race to the top, not sparing a moment to think about their families and friends. The only 'normal' that was cared about, was leading a charted-out, robotic life with very little space for emotion. The only 'normal' that was expected, was going about life fitted into a tightly wound time-frame. The only 'normal' that was thought about, was to trace the same path as millions of other people, convincing the mind along the way that that was indeed the fool-proof plan. The only 'normal' that had been accepted, was living a straightforward and black-and-white life, as all the colour had been sucked out of people's hearts.

Mankind has gone through devastating changes ever since the beginning of life on earth, but each time equilibrium was restored, human beings adjusted to the new 'normal' as time demanded. During the spell of confinement every human relation got stronger, people

realised that all kinds of work are demanding and crucial for society. The local community workers who were taken for granted proved to be among the most significant helpers in this time of crisis. The lessons on cleanliness taught to us in primary school were given a huge emphasis through this virus outbreak. Consequently, humans will now learn to prioritize the right things. Instead of running after monetary victories, people will strive to keep safe their own health and safeguard their families. Economically the whole world has suffered an enormous setback, but we know better than to follow the old ways and once again jeopardize our future.

We did it before, we can do it again, we can do it better. We can learn to respect everyone around us. We can extend a helping hand, take a step together, stand shoulder-to-shoulder and fight through this, together. The wheel of the New Normal is in our hands, and we can steer it well.

Tania Karmokar
SYBA

WORK IN PROGRESS

The new normal is a work in progress. I do not know what it is. But I muse about what it is not.

It is not firm handshakes or carefree hugs. Rather, it is kind smiles and radiant eyes.

It is not regret over the lost time.

Rather, it is shared laughs over the amusing past.

It is not the dread I feel, when I step out of the house.

Rather, it is the awe that fills me when I take in the sights before me.

The new normal is not a dystopian science fiction novel, the la la land or the normal 'normal'.

It is imperfect fragments of all three.

It is not this piece either.

It is not this piece either, because it is not what I say it is, or what I think it should be.

It is the questions I ask, the layers you shed and the discoveries we make,

that make the New Normal.

Shreya Singh
SYBA

THE MIGRANT WORKERS

I plant myself upon my windowsill,
watching a flock of birds
chaperoning the dissipating rays
of the sun to rest,
before I hear your clarion call
rumble across the skyline, and
I feel something distorting
your attempts
at offering yourself as a
cautionary tale to me.

You see,
in the twenty summers I've lived,
I've learned that we've all
lost more battles than
we've had the chance to fight
The only difference between
you and I is my privilege:
it fosters nomadic traits-
it lets me burrow out of traps,
ensconce myself in a cavern,
and escape streets that threaten
to blister my feet.

So, when I hear about a sea of you,
Lacerated and chastised
for coalescing into tributaries
to flow back to your rural roots
whilst carrying your mothers,
your children, your pets,
and the weight of your brethren
on your shoulders,
I can't help but feel that
you will wind up
missing a few from your clan.

New cremation spots
will scatter themselves across
lone maps promising of a
successful journey,
in resting spaces sheltering
breathless murmurs,
inside train compartments
masquerading as mirages,
and along railway tracks
substituted for warm cots.

And I wonder
if the hope with which you,
farewelled the streets
that mothered you,
has been able to shadow
your trails back home, or
remains mangled
in the cold clutches of
those left behind.

Urvi Shah
TYBMM

NANOMETERS OF ANXIETY

Stepping out of the house feels like a luxury,
Not only do I carry a mask and a sanitizer
But also this feeling of anxiety.
Dubious while shaking a hand and hugging a friend,
A 3 feet distance is now like an unspoken rule.

Zoom calls are no less than boardroom meetings,
Former blackboard and benches are
Now confined to a 15 inch screen.
'Work from Home' has made me sluggish,
But saves me from those dreary local rides.

International travel seems like a distant dream,
Contactless payment options make up a new routine,
In-person events are replaced by webinars, Gathering
in large crowds has become a taboo,
And, if you are sniffing
There are chances it is not just a flu.

With all the virtual meetings and social distancing,
We, the social beings, are lacking the human
touch - a pat on the back or a slight nudge,
Embracing your loved one, or holding hands.
This physical touch now comes with this feeling of anxiety,
Which I can't seem to hide,
And it grows with every minor sneeze- irrespective of whether or not it's mine.

Prachi Ghiya
TYBA

IRIDESCENCE

The mellow streetlight that opened my eyes
Was the last sight for my mother
I saw it reflected the tear soaked faces of the others
And for me this was only the first of many cries

A sorry imitation of the sun
It highlighted the sunken face of my father
Failing to bring warmth to his feeble frame
In a house that barely held one

Early I learnt I had no rights
And could only afford what's free
So under this light I had many fights
Leftovers of the bourgeoisie
I felt the fury of the yellow hue

When I was made to thief against my will
Fearful was I,
Of the blinkers and sirens shrill
That came and chained the young hands of the unfortunate few
When the shouting and shackles came to an end

I was a lonely soul in this spotlight,
Under the glaring watch of my enemy
I was nearly driven round the bend

So I ran from the sinister shade
In a desperate attempt to become self made
And soon came the happiest day of my life
When under a tinted flicker I met my future wife
Now still many a burden I bear but slacking off I will not dare
All to keep my house illumined white
For I never wish that my daughter should see the wicked yellow light.

Chiara Salazar
SYBMM

Les Mots Français

Une Histoire du confinement

En ce moment, tout le monde écoute tant d'histoires à propos du Coronavirus que l'on est tout à fait las de les écouter. Mon histoire est aussi comme les autres - c'est un peu effrayante et déboussolée. Cependant, j'ai appris quelques choses pendant le confinement et c'est pourquoi j'écris cet article. C'est la raison que je veux raconter mon histoire à tout le monde.

Le 2 mai 2020, c'était un jour très normal. J'étais vraiment heureuse ce jour-là grâce aux nombreuses raisons. Je ne savais pas que ce serait suivi d'un cauchemar. Le lendemain c'était le jour quand mon oncle, qui est un fonctionnaire du gouvernement, avait testé positif pour le virus. Quand j'ai entendu cette nouvelle, j'étais vraiment étonnée et j'avais une peur bleue. J'habite dans une famille élargie donc, on vit ensemble. Par conséquent, toute ma famille avait le risque d'avoir le virus. Il y a 14 membres dans ma famille parmi lesquels ma grand-mère a 85 ans et d'autre part ma très jeune cousine a 2 ans. Toute ma famille avait le cafard. On savait qu'on devait bientôt aller au centre du confinement. Mon oncle avait été admis dans l'hôpital du coronavirus. Tout cela s'est passé l'après-midi.

Le soir, quelques fonctionnaires du gouvernement sont venus chez nous afin de nous informer qu'on devait être confiné au centre du confinement. J'étais abattue et je ne voudrais pas y aller parce que j'ai entendu que les centres du confinement étaient terribles, sans bonnes facilités, sans l'espace privé et beaucoup d'autres choses mais on n'avait pas de choix. Finalement ma famille et moi, nous sommes partis de chez nous. Il y avait une ambulance qui était venue nous chercher. En outre, j'habite dans un village et tous les villageois se sont rassemblés près de ma maison pour nous <regarder> parce que le cas de mon oncle était le premier cas dans mon village et on était la première famille qui était confinée.

Revenons à l'histoire, on est entré dans l'ambulance et on est parti. Dans l'ambulance je ne pouvais pas croire que tout cela était la réalité. Malheureusement, c'était la réalité. On a voyagé dans l'ambulance pour 45 minutes et finalement, on est arrivé au centre du confinement. C'était un grand immeuble de 22 étages plein de gens qui avaient le risque du coronavirus comme nous. On attendait au rez-de-chaussée pour remplir toutes les fiches. Après avoir complété les formalités les responsables nous ont donné l'information à propos de notre étage et nos numéros de chambres.

On était au 21^{ème} étage et quand j'y suis arrivée j'étais choquée parce que ce lieu n'était pas comme j'avais imaginé. C'était très propre et il y avait toutes les facilités pour nous. Les chambres étaient assez commodes et seulement deux personnes étaient permises dans une chambre. Moi et ma mère, nous étions dans une chambre et comme cela tout le monde s'est installé. Puis, on s'était un peu calmé. C'était trop tard la nuit alors il n'y avait rien à manger. Par conséquent on a dormi sans manger. Le jour suivant était trop différent, chaque moment on avait peur qu'on ne soit positif, que ma grand-mère de 85 ans ne soit positive. Et qu'est-ce que se passerait si ma grand-mère testait positif. C'était terrifiant.

Au début, cela a vraiment affecté ma santé mentale. Le problème n'était pas seulement la peur du virus. Il y avait des autres problèmes aussi, il n'y avait pas de lit dans les chambres et c'était vraiment difficile pour ma grand-mère, elle est tombée malade, on s'est beaucoup inquiété, on était pétrifié. Les premiers trois jours étaient vraiment difficiles. Tout le monde était déprimé ainsi que ce lieu était très déprimant parce qu'on habitait dans un immeuble plein de gens qui avaient la trouille du virus, qu'ils ne savaient pas qu'ils allaient vivre ou non. La région autour de cet immeuble était déserte, il n'y avait personne dans la région. À cause de cela ma santé

mentale s'était extrêmement détériorée et j'ai consulté immédiatement une amie qui est une conseillère et après avoir parlé avec elle je me suis un peu calmée. Puis je me suis occupée de la lecture. Comme cela, j'ai ignoré toutes les mauvaises pensées.

Après deux jours, ma grand-mère avait une bonne santé. Cependant elle avait encore les problèmes parce qu'elle n'était pas confortable sans un lit. Finalement, on a décidé de demander un lit pour ma grand-mère. Les fonctionnaires là-bas ne pouvaient rien faire. Alors, mon père a appelé une personne d'autorité et dans 2 heures ils ont apporté un lit pour ma grand-mère. Tout cela était possible car mon père avait des contacts avec les personnes d'autorités. À ce moment là, je me suis rendu compte que même dans le confinement, j'étais hyper privilégiée. Si mon père n'avait pas de contact, on ferait face à beaucoup plus de problèmes. Peut être il y avait des autres gens qui avaient les mêmes problèmes pourtant ils ne pouvaient rien faire puisqu'ils n'avaient pas de contacts comme nous. Grâce à cet incident j'ai compris mes privilèges.

Après cet incident, tout était normal. On avait encore la peur parce que tous les jours il y avait au moins un nouveau cas du coronavirus dans l'immeuble. Malgré la peur qui nous hantait, ma famille était forte. Personnellement, j'étais prête pour le pire. Le cinquième jour, ils nous ont testés dans un hôpital qui était 30 minutes loin de notre immeuble. Après deux jours, les résultats de six membres sont venus et tous ces résultats étaient négatifs mais les résultats des autres huit membres n'étaient pas là. Mes résultats aussi n'étaient pas là. On a pensé que l'on était positif et c'était la raison que nos résultats n'étaient pas encore arrivés. Ce jour là les six personnes de ma famille sont rentrées chez nous mais les autres étaient toujours au centre du confinement. Ma grand-mère était aussi avec nous. Quand les autres membres se sont partis, j'ai beaucoup

pleuré. Je ne savais pas qu'est-ce qui arriverait ?

Le jour suivant ils nous ont informé que l'on ne pouvait pas trouver nos résultats, on s'est inquiété mais heureusement la nuit ils les ont trouvés et tous les résultats étaient négatifs. On était très content. Immédiatement ils nous ont dit de revenir chez nous. Encore une fois il y avait une ambulance, néanmoins cette fois c'était pour nous déposer chez nous. Nos résultats étaient négatifs parce que le virus qui était dans mon oncle était léger et il était testé au bon moment. S'il n'avait pas testé au

bon moment, peut-être nos résultats auraient été différents.

Voilà, quelques choses que j'ai apprises pendant cette période du confinement – d'abord, je me suis rendu compte de mes privilèges et j'ai compris que tout le monde n'était pas privilégié comme moi. Puis j'ai appris que le luxe n'est pas nécessaire dans la vie et on peut survivre sans luxe parce qu'il n'y avait ni climatiseur, ni le wifi ni la télé là-bas mais je pouvais survivre. Je me suis rendu compte que je peux mener une vie minimale. Enfin, j'ai compris

l'importance de la santé mentale et l'importance de parler avec quelqu'un. Cette pandémie est difficile pour tout le monde et cela a affecté la santé mentale de beaucoup de gens mais la solution est aussi simple: parler avec quelqu'un, soit un ami, soit un parent, soit un conseiller ou n'importe quelle personne parce que c'est mieux de parler avec quelqu'un que de trop réfléchir et de se noyer dans les pensées toxiques, non?

Flavia Gonsalves
TYBA

Le Virus COVID 19: Un Nouveau Communiqué

Une lettre ouverte du virus Corona au chef d'une organisation d'étudiants

Chers jeunes Padawans,

Ce qui suit c'est une collection de mes perles de sagesse, ramassées par mon discours mouvementé avec l'humanité. Nous travaillons sur deux extrémités différentes du spectre. Malgré tout, ce qui est remarquable, c'est que nous sommes tous deux très résistants sous la pression. Donc, je voudrais que vous me combattiez comme je suis un examen: être évité jusqu'à ce que l'engagement devienne inévitable. C'est si étonnant, le chaos que j'ai créé! Je n'ai jamais compris que j'avais un grand pouvoir; j'étais une crise pour les gens partout. Cette crise mondiale était un défi apparemment gigantesque qui a rendu votre monde tout dispersé. Toutes les institutions humaines, tous les édifices du fondement de la civilisation- étaient mises en état de l'impasse, à cause d'une créature si minuscule qu'elle ne peut être perçue à l'œil nu! La leçon, le mérite de l'humanité ne garantit ni la vie ni le succès.

En dépit de tout, j'ai aperçu que l'instinct humain pour survivre est très fort. Comme l'araignée rampant le long du mur, vous êtes trop tenaces, à mon grand regret. J'ai multiplié à un rythme exemplaire; eh bien j'ai remarqué, votre

compétence d'adaptation. Vos wagons de train transformés en installations anti-intrusion! Quelle sera la prochaine étape, les lieux de loisirs transformés en champs de bataille contre moi? Attendez ! je pense que cela aussi a été mis en œuvre. Canalisez cela à votre avantage.

Maintenant, ce monde 'humain' est comme mon terreau. Si vous voulez, vous pouvez le réclamer comme votre terrain de jeux, mais vous devez offrir la résistance. Votre contrôle de cette pandémie est comme celui d'un cerf-volant dans le ciel; vous pouvez pousser et reculer à différents points selon votre discrétion. Parallèlement à la résilience, la propension humaine d'échanger des informations erronées est également ingénue. Une simple permutation dans l'utilisation de plusieurs boutons a un impact généralisé sur les allers-retours mondiaux. Ces lignes de faille créent un tourbillon de division dans un monde déjà fragmenté, avec une pandémie parallèle. C'est un domaine où vous pouvez retirer les cordes, freiner la «distanciation» et créer des structures de soutien simples pour tous. À présent, l'envie humaine de l'épanouissement dans le collectif est devenue évidente pour moi.

Une question de quelques mois sans rencontrer d'autres indigènes, et un réseau de communication germant pour

l'aide! Votre monde dystocique est un lieu de chaos ordonné que je ne peux pas comprendre. C'est ce qui vous remettra sur pied, malgré mes efforts les plus courageux. Bah, le chagrin! Finalement, j'ai aperçu que les grandes personnes sont trop contradictoires. Il y a une grande dichotomie entre la vie et les activités mondiales. C'est à dire, il y a une grande dissonance à propos de l'information publiée par les autorités et les mesures prises pour la santé publique. Fondamentalement, il s'agit d'un fardeau insurmontable imposé par des personnes qui sont en fin des mortels, naviguant dans les mêmes eaux troublées que tout le monde. Personne ne peut tout savoir et remorquer les autres vers des pâturages plus verts. C'est votre devoir de trouver une valence symbiotique entre tous les avis «d'experts» et faire ce que le bon sens dicte.

Mon conseil, suivez la leçon la plus sage s'il vous plaît: celle apprise de mon copain de 800 ans - la mort noire. "Utilisez un masque et restez à l'intérieur." C'est ce que j'aime souligner dans ma brève interaction avec votre espèce; mais qu'est ce que je sais, je ne suis qu'un virus maléfique qui veut éviscérer toutes les souches d'extraterrestres.

Reeti Rai
TYBA

Que fait-on du présent ?

Depuis nombreuses années, nous voyageons dans un monde de choix. Nous étions dans une course vers un avenir et vers une version plus réussie de nous-mêmes. Nous optimisons le temps, en tirant le meilleur. Cependant, le temps est maintenant au point mort, nous attendons qu'il révèle notre avenir. Cette pandémie mondiale représente un risque imminent pour décennies, COVID-19 est venu comme un choc pour la société, affectant la santé, les économies et les gouvernements du monde entier. Les défis posés par le virus sont immenses, en particulier pour les soins primaires mondiaux. Les défis pour le secteur de l'éducation sont les décisions concernant les examens, les classes, les notes, les programmes, etc. Les économies des pays sont bloquées, avec des problèmes comme le chômage, le ralentissement de la croissance économique, la pénurie alimentaire, etc. L'isolement social et ces temps incertains ont créé des problèmes de santé mentale comme l'inquiétude et la dépression.

Cet arrêt soudain nous a fait sentir impuissants, ne révélant que notre passé, les disparités et les distances entre nous et en nous. Mais, avec ces limites, les êtres humains, ont également des puissances

contrairement à toutes les autres créatures. Nous, les êtres humains, nous avons le pouvoir de nous adapter, de continuer dans n'importe quelle situation. Cela est évident dans les nombreuses façons où les gens ont fait face à la crise. Ils se sont lancés dans les activités diverses comme la tenue et la participation à des webinaires, la réalisation des cours en ligne, l'élaboration de CV, etc. Nous ne nous sommes pas arrêtés, en faisant simplement de notre mieux pour utiliser ce que nous avons. Comme toujours, les humains ont transformé la crise en opportunité valable.

Les gens avant cette pandémie étaient habitués à être productifs, dans un sens capitaliste, c'est-à-dire à faire des choses qui augmentent leur commercialisation dans l'économie. Bien que ce ne soit pas nécessairement une mauvaise chose, cela réduit leur niveau de productivité. Mais cette pandémie est plus qu'un concours de productivité. C'est une chance de ralentir, de faire une pause dans notre vie trépidante. Les gens se sont tellement occupés à courir après le succès qu'ils ne s'arrêtent pas pour profiter de leur situation actuelle. COVID-19 c'est une occasion de faire exactement cela pour que l'humanité guérisse et apprécie tout ce qui nous entoure. Il est important de ne pas

céder à la pression de créer un nouveau blog ou de cuisiner un nouveau plat à partir de rien, simplement parce que tout le monde semble le faire. C'est bon de se détendre, de profiter de ce temps et de récupérer, de prendre un répit de notre vie stressante. C'est l'occasion de renouer avec de vieux amis, de se connecter avec les gens qui nous entourent.

C'est le moment de réévaluer les choses importantes de la vie et de réaliser à quel point il est dangereux de ne poursuivre que le succès, sans évaluer ce qui se trouve juste devant nous. Les humains sont avides et égoïstes, mais en ces temps difficiles, nous pouvons se redéfinir. Tout le monde fait face à des difficultés et c'est l'occasion pour nous de tendre la main à ceux qui ont besoin de l'aide. Dans la guerre entre l'argent et le capital, les besoins humains ont été laissés de côté, mais il est possible que nous puissions changer cela avec nos efforts. À l'heure actuelle, tout est imprévisible. Mais, si nous le voulons, nous pourrions transformer ces défis en véritables opportunités pour l'humanité. Le temps sourit à soi-même, refusant d'être planifié, nous fait comprendre sa valeur.

Akanksha Bapat
TYBA

Covid – Un Portail

Une pandémie expose des lignes de fracture (fault lines) dans la société. Les photos des ouvriers migrants qui ont dû entreprendre les voyages très durs en supportant la chaleur, la faim et la discrimination sont gravés dans nos souvenirs. Biologiquement, l'impact de Covid-19 est égal pour tout le monde. Mais comme des êtres sociaux son impact est très variable sur chacun de nous. En Inde, pour la plupart de la population, la faim est un problème plus grave que le virus.

En considérant cette inégalité, le Covid est une opportunité pour l'humanité. C'est une opportunité de réorganiser les systèmes sociaux. Comme Arundhati Roy décrit, cette

pandémie est comme un <portail>. C'est une opportunité de redresser les problèmes sociaux qui tourmentent la société aujourd'hui. Nous pouvons entreprendre des démarches que nous considérons très idéalistes. Mais, quand nous aurons pris ces mesures, un nouvel ordre mondial sera établi. Ce sera le nouveau <normal>. Donc, on doit faire comprendre tous les gens à propos de ce dialogue sur la voie à suivre.

En ce qui concerne l'éducation, nous devons faire un bilan des avantages et des inconvénients de devenir numérique. En Inde, presque 70% de la population n'a pas d'accès aux logiciels numériques. Donc, on doit se

demander – si l'éducation numérique est possible en Inde? Pour quelle classe de la société serait-il possible? Il est primordial que l'éducation, qui est un outil de responsabilisation, soit également accessible à tout le monde. Pourtant, l'éducation en ligne ne satisfait pas cette exigence. Le vrai changement est possible avec des changements politiques.

Une pandémie peut faire ressortir le pire chez les gens mais il peut aussi faire ressortir le meilleur chez les gens. C'est bien sûr une opportunité pour l'humanité d'établir une société plus égale et plus juste qu'autrefois.

Nisha Gokhale
SYBA

L'Impact à Long Terme de Covid-19

Selon l'Organisation Internationale du Travail, autour de 630 million ouvriers mènent leur vie dans la pauvreté extrême. Après la propagation de la pandémie de Covid-19, la situation s'est aggravée. Pendant que les personnes riches ont l'accès à la sécurité de l'emploi et de la santé, les personnes pauvres ne l'ont pas. Cela suggère que la pandémie de Covid-19 aggrandira l'inégalité entre les riches et les pauvres dans le long terme.

Cette pandémie est une Catastrophe Économique. La pandémie de Covid-19 a déclenché une récession, pire que la Grande Dépression de 1929. La production mondiale est prévue diminuer par -4.9%, selon la Fonde Monétaire Internationale. À cause de ce déclin, le taux de chômage s'augmente dans le monde. L'Organisation

Internationale du Travail a prédit que la pandémie de Covid-19 résulterait la perte d'environ 195 millions d'emploi. Cela pose des implications sévères pour le monde.

Pour les sections vulnérables les statistiques représentent des possibilités encore plus sombres. Des études montrent que les pandémies laissent les pauvres dans un état encore plus misérable. Le "Gini Coefficient", couramment utilisé pour mesurer la pauvreté, s'est augmenté dans le passé à la suite des pandémies. Si les pandémies comme Ebola et Zika sont un guide, le statut des pauvres dans la société serait pire après la pandémie de Covid-19.

C'est parce que les personnes pauvres étaient employés dans le secteur non-

organisé. Ce secteur a largement souffert en raison de la pandémie de Covid-19. Ainsi la pandémie augmentera l'inégalité des revenus et endommagera l'avenir de ceux qui n'ont pas de bon niveau d'éducation.

Il faut se souvenir que cette crise n'est pas le résultat de défaillance dans l'économie mondiale. Plutôt, cet effet durable sur l'inégalité est à cause de pertes des emplois. Les pays pourraient recourir à des mesures telles que la redistribution des revenus ou la création de demande dans l'économie pour atténuer l'impact sur l'inégalité. Avec beaucoup de diligence et d'efficacité, les pays peuvent sortir victorieux de cette pandémie.

Shreya Singh
SYBA

Le confinement – la libération de mon esprit

Maison...train...lycée. Puis, lycée... train...maison. C'était ma vie quotidienne. Les jours passaient avec une grande vitesse. Mais cette pandémie a tout changé et m'a rendue heureuse. Quand le confinement a commencé, je me ressentais le « Burnout ». **J'étais absolument fatiguée.** Je n'avais aucune motivation d'agir. Alors, en mars je n'ai rien fait que manger et me coucher.

Mais en avril, ma vie était un peu différente.

Je me suis bien reposée. Je mangeais à l'heure. **Je n'étais plus fatiguée.** Alors, je regardais la télé. Je lisais des romans. Mais toutes mes activités étaient passives. Je ne faisais rien de

productif. Donc, après quelque temps, j'ai décidé de cuire. En général, je cuisine de temps en temps, mais je n'avais jamais préparé de gâteau. Alors, je me suis déterminée à préparer un gâteau au chocolat. Pendant le confinement, j'ai préparé trois gâteaux au chocolat. Le premier était délicieux mais pas joli. Le deuxième, n'était pas assez sucré. Mais le troisième gâteau était délicieux et parfait. C'était super! **J'allais bien.**

Vers le 10 mai, j'ai fait quelque chose incroyable. J'ai fini une pièce d'art après quatre ans. Normalement, je commençais une pièce d'art et je la quittais avant de la finir. Je ne savais jamais quoi faire de ce problème. Mais, pour la première fois en quatre ans, je

n'ai pas quitté. J'ai complété la pièce. **J'étais heureuse.**

Il y a beaucoup de choses que je voudrais faire pendant le confinement. Et j'ai compris que plusieurs fois pour bien faire quelque chose, on n'a besoin de rien. *Le zéro c'est une bonne place à commencer des choses.* Alors, j'ai fait plus pendant le confinement qu'autrefois. Et, c'était possible parce que j'ai ralenti la vitesse de la vie et je me suis bien reposée. C'est bizarre mais être heureuse est mon « new normal ». *Mon corps est en confinement mais mon esprit est libéré*

Pulakita Mayekar
SYBMM

COVID19: Une nouvelle norme de vie

La nouvelle pandémie de Corona Virus s'est avérée être un défi énorme pour l'humanité. Chaque sphère de la vie humaine s'est transformée depuis la pandémie. COVID19 est comme un mystère raconté dans une langue qui n'a pas encore été traduite. Le virus a provoqué un taux élevé de décès, de douleur et de stress chez les civils. Des normes telles que «rester dans la maison», «rester en sécurité» et «maintenir la distance sociale» sont désormais devenues une partie de notre vocabulaire. Il y a eu un changement dans notre approche et dans notre mode de vie. Les derniers six mois de couverture médiatique et médicale ont été fortement virés vers le virus. Cette situation a montré que les pays devraient plutôt investir leur argent dans de nouveaux laboratoires et médicaments plutôt que dans la guerre et l'armement. La contagion du virus et l'idée de rester en sécurité ont conduit à une inquiétude constante, entraînant également des traumatismes.

Un mois après le verrouillage, on a vu un changement dans les différents modèles d'exploitation. Le mouvement

humain a témoigné des masques, des gants, la désinfection. Nous avons également remarqué des cas de guérison de l'environnement – les eaux devenaient claires et différentes espèces de faune repérées.

Le verrouillage a également aidé les humains sur le plan professionnel. Le «travail à domicile» a contribué à maintenir la sécurité personnelle pendant la période de pandémie. Être à la maison, avoir son propre espace a également entraîné une augmentation de la productivité. Il y a une baisse des dépenses de voyage suivant également d'un ciel plus clair et une baisse des niveaux de pollution. Presque tout est désormais numérisé. Nos écoles et collèges ont commencé à organiser des sessions de cours sur des plateformes telles que Zoom, WebEx, Google Meets, etc. Les programmes de certifications en ligne ont connu une forte demande. Il y a eu un apprentissage de nouvelles compétences, la lecture de nouveaux livres.

Aujourd'hui, nous voyons une innovation de nouvelles applications.

Des services de livraison en ligne de produits d'épicerie, d'articles de toilette et de produits sanitaires ont également été mis à disposition. En plus de cela, la pandémie nous a également rendus plus sensibles dans notre approche vis-à-vis des autres. Le domaine numérique n'est pas accessible dans toutes les professions. Pour faire le travail ménager, la présence de personnel est essentielle. Je fais également référence aux travailleurs de première ligne qui seront toujours les héros extraordinaires de cette pandémie.

Je voudrais conclure en disant que la pandémie a, en effet, changé notre mode de vie et de communication. Il y a eu un changement soudain dans notre façon de vivre. Mais ces défis nous aideront à nous adapter au nouvel avenir. Cette situation nous a montré que la vie peut toujours continuer sans dépenses inutiles et nous a rendus plus sensibles aux besoins simples de la vie.

Samantha Ferreira
SYBA

COVID-19: Un Défi ou Une Opportunité Pour l'Humanité?

Selon les internautes, l'année 2020 sera inoubliable pour toutes les mauvaises raisons. Cette année a commencé par une crise environnementale en Australie et nous luttons contre un virus depuis presque 4 mois. COVID-19 a vraiment secoué le monde. COVID-19 est certainement une crise d'humanité. C'est ironique qu'une pandémie nous ait fait se rendre compte que la santé est la première priorité.

Avant la pandémie, nous étions tellement occupés que nous ne nous sommes pas concentrés sur les problèmes de la société. Mais maintenant, 4 mois après le début de la pandémie de nombreux problèmes se jaillissent. Les gens ont commencé à parler de questions importantes comme le sexisme, le racisme, les

migrants, la pauvreté, la santé mentale et bien d'autres. Cette année nous avons l'opportunité de remettre en question nos préjugés, notre comportement vers les non-privilegiés. COVID-19 est donc une opportunité pour les gens d'exposer les défauts du système et pour prendre conscience. En outre, l'inégalité dans la distribution des marchandises a approfondi le creux entre les riches et les pauvres. Les riches deviennent plus riches et les pauvres deviennent plus pauvres. Par exemple, l'émergence des cours en ligne nous montre que la plupart des étudiants du pays n'ont pas accès aux outils technologiques.

Selon moi, COVID-19 est une opportunité pour l'humanité mais c'est une question de perspective. Le virus met en évidence les domaines dans lesquels le monde doit s'améliorer.

En plus, nous avons réalisé que nous devons valoriser les travailleurs de première ligne, les gens qui luttent cette bataille afin que nous puissions respirer paisiblement. On peut dire que ce virus nous a fait apprendre à être plus empathique. De plus, n'est-ce pas formidable que l'environnement ait obtenu un repos bien nécessaire, grâce au confinement?

Covid-19 est une pandémie qui a dérangé notre vie quotidienne. Mais nous pouvons le traiter comme un bouton de pause et nous pouvons faire une introspection. Espérons qu'un nouveau monde émergera, plus fort qu'avant. À la fin, 'après la pluie, le beau temps.'

Aishwarya Iyengar
SYBA

Pourquoi une pandémie doit-elle être dangereuse?

'Apna time àyega' (Notre temps viendra)

Cette chanson de Bollywood se répète constamment dans mon esprit depuis que j'ai appris que mon université poursuivra des cours en ligne. Cela non seulement m'a fait me rappeler mes jours d'école, mais a également développé le souhait de visiter le collège qui est maintenant devenu ma deuxième maison. Cependant, la situation avait déjà réservé quelque chose de différent pour moi. Elle ne permet pas aux gens de se déplacer et elle a imposé de nombreuses restrictions. Depuis 4 mois, j'écoute des médias qui montrent des commentaires mitigés sur cette actualité.

Je suis sûr que maintenant les lecteurs auraient deviné de quoi je parle. En mars, j'ai commencé les derniers préparatifs pour les examens car il ne me restait qu'une semaine. J'avais peur ; non pas à cause des examens, mais à cause du danger qui attendait hors de la maison – un virus nouvellement découvert. Pour la première fois mes parents étaient anxieux à propos de mon trajet en train. Je craignais de

voyager dans le même train qui m'avait appris les leçons de vie.

C'est vrai qu'on ne peut pas contrôler l'esprit. Je l'ai expérimenté dans ces 4 mois. Ma routine quotidienne a complètement changé. Mais j'ai aussi appris qu'un changement de routine ne signifie pas de vie ratée. Selon un proverbe anglais, « Change is the need of the hour » (le changement c'est la nécessité d'un moment donné). Il apporte la nouveauté et la fraîcheur dans la vie. Au cours de cette pandémie, tout le monde a compris la nécessité du changement. Dans l'ère d'Internet où nous sommes impliqués dans l'augmentation des followers sur les réseaux sociaux, nous avons besoin d'une pause de ce monde virtuel pour rajeunir.

À mon avis, cette circonstance incertaine nous a donné le temps de prendre soin de nous-mêmes et de nos proches. Comme dit le proverbe français « après la pluie, le beau temps », je pense que cette pandémie désastreuse nous a appris de trouver de bons moments même dans les

situations effrayantes. Nous sommes éloignés des horaires chargés. Par conséquent, cela nous a permis de ressentir le plaisir de la vie, en nous donnant l'occasion de découvrir nous-mêmes et créer de nouveaux souvenirs avec nos familles.

Donc d'après moi, exactement comme une pièce, cette pandémie a deux faces. Il y a une menace ainsi qu'un espoir pour une nouvelle vie où les gens comprendraient l'importance de la discipline et des valeurs pour mener une bonne vie. À cause de cette pandémie, nous trouvons une distance physique entre les gens. Il y a toujours des doutes et de la peur parmi nous. Mais trouver une solution et progresser est notre responsabilité. Pour conclure, je voudrais dire que nous nous préparons à vivre dans le nouveau monde où la positivité sera un signe de croissance avec des précautions. Pourquoi une pandémie doit-elle être dangereuse?

Kartiki Arakal
SYBA

L'avenir à venir:

Le monde s'est arrêté alors qu'une maladie diabolique resserre son emprise autour de lui. Pour commencer cette maladie s'est propagée comme un feu, de plus, le taux de mortalité a atteint un niveau record et finalement l'économie mondiale s'est effondrée. Bien que désastreuse dans ses effets, cette pandémie nous ait permis de faire une pause pour réfléchir et redémarrer. Je me retrouve souvent perdue dans mes pensées, qu'est-ce qui se passera

ensuite? Comment sortirons-nous de cette situation? Notre manque de préparation nous a bousculés et dans ce processus il a mis en évidence une multitude de problèmes sociaux. Cette situation exige la nécessité d'un changement sans précédent. Cette pause nous donne la chance de percevoir et préparer pour un futur ancré dans le développement de tous. Elle nous permet de se reconstruire plus fort. La pandémie a montré la

valeur de la vie symbiotique. Donc, on sait qu'il y a un avenir, c'est celui d'un avenir symbiotique. Donc, nous devons endosser le besoin de servir le présent en préservant le futur pour effectuer une société unie. C'est mon espoir pour l'avenir à venir, un avenir bâti sur l'effort de collaboration avec la capacité à embrasser la nouvelle normalité.

Malvika Pillai
SYBA

Les Pensées Intimes Pendant le ‘Lockdown’

Voici quelques pensées communes qui existeraient dans les pensées privées et publiques de tous les étudiants de St. Xavier (j'accepte que les pensées mutuelles sont juste une possibilité) –

Le 15 mars 2020, dimanche (17h45) –

J'ai un examen demain et je ne sais pas s'il se passera! Je dois beaucoup étudier mais il y a beaucoup de messages sur mon Whatsapp à propos de la situation actuelle. Le Corona Virus est le sujet brûlant. Les examens pour tout le monde commencent le mardi mais pour les étudiants de la psychologie et de la science politique, cela commence demain. Moi et mes amis, nous ne savons pas quoi faire. Qu'est-ce qu'on va faire? Il y a la possibilité de l'annulation de l'examen mais on ne sait jamais! Les étudiants qui n'ont pas d'examen demain crient dans les groupes de Whatsapp et ils maudissent les autorités du collège comme s'ils n'ont pas d'autorités supérieures. De toute façon, je dois étudier; je dois mémoriser à propos des parties politiques et les événements importants politiques de l'Inde. À bientôt!

Le 16 mars 2020, lundi (14h30) –

Je viens de compléter mon examen de la science politique. La condition dehors est très étrange. La plupart des personnes portent les masques. Il y a beaucoup de femmes qui ont noué les écharpes sur leurs visages. Les hommes ont les mouchoirs noués sur leurs bouches et leurs nez. Beaucoup de mes amis pensent que c'est dangereux de voyager dans le train à ce moment quand la maladie se diffuse. Quelle horreur! Mais moi, j'ai voyagé par le train. Le train n'était pas peuplé parce qu'il y a assez de peur qui existe au sein de la population. La gare de CST, qui est toujours bruyante, était silencieuse aujourd'hui. Il y avait beaucoup de vendeurs des masques partout. Personne n'a pas osé de toucher à l'autre personne. Mais, il y avait aussi les personnes qui n'avaient pas compris l'urgence de la situation – ils marchaient dans la rue sans aucun souci. Un homme inconnu m'a poussé.

Normalement, c'est okay. Mais quand c'est le temps d'une maladie sociale, il faut se distancer!

(16h30)

J'ai un examen demain. Mais, mes amis d'autre collège m'ont dit que leurs examens sont annulés. Encore une fois, je ne sais pas si je dois étudier ou je peux dormir. Tout le temps, j'attends un message officiel par le collège. Les dirigeants politiques disent qu'il faut reporter les examens et ils doivent arrêter prendre les cours réguliers mais notre collège ne nous a pas envoyé le message officiel! C'est tout. L'examen ou pas d'examen – je dois continuer d'étudier.

(17h20)

Les examens sont reportés! (Je venais de commencer à étudier). Les groupes de WhatsApp sont pleins de messages. Tout le monde a envoyé les captures d'écrans de l'annonce postée sur le site du collège. Il y a le contentement dans les voix de mes amis qui sont finalement détendus parce qu'on a beaucoup de temps pour se reposer – on n'aura pas d'examens reportés avant 31 mars 2020. Donc, il faut que je dorme!

Le 19 mars 2020, jeudi (19h) –

Le Premier Ministre vient d'annoncer le Janta Curfew dont on doit suivre les règles le 22 mars. Il faut qu'on ne sorte pas de la maison pour toute la journée (de 7h à 21h). Au niveau scientifique, cela serait le mieux temps pour la multiplication et la transfusion de virus et donc, il faut que chacun suive les règles et reste à la maison, surtout le 22 mars. Le Premier Ministre a aussi prié tout le monde de venir aux fenêtres ou dans les balcons à 17h et frapper les mains pour remercier les personnes qui travaillent pendant cette pandémie. On peut aussi frapper les ustensiles l'un sur l'autre et créer le bruit fort pour annoncer notre solidarité pour tous les médecins, les journalistes et tous les civils qui assurent que tous les services essentiels ne s'arrêtent pas. Le public avait les opinions différentes – quelques personnes pensent que c'est une action politique et les autres pensent qu'il faut

honorer les personnes qui travaillent pendant la situation de Corona Virus. Il y a aussi les personnes qui déclarent que l'action sonore aurait un effet scientifique sur le virus.

Le 22 mars 2020, dimanche (17h30) –

On venait de frapper les mains et les ustensiles. C'était une expérience très touchante. Je ne sais pas comment expliquer. Je n'ai jamais vu les personnes qui habitent dans les bungalows en face de mon bâtiment. Mais aujourd'hui, je les ai vues et nous avons souri. L'effet sonore était étrange. C'était incroyable de voir et d'écouter beaucoup de personnes autour de nous. Il y avait les sons des applaudissements, des vaisseaux, de la musique et aussi des cloches. Les petits enfants crient 'Bharat Mata Ki...' et tout le monde répondait '... Jai' par leurs propres fenêtres. À ce moment, j'ai eu la chaire de poule. Je ne peux pas expliquer cette expérience. L'unité de notre pays était remontrée aujourd'hui. Aussi, tout le monde poste les vidéos de leurs quartiers qui montrent le même événement qui s'est passé dans les styles différents!

Le 24 mars 2020, mardi –

Aujourd'hui le Premier Ministre a annoncé le 'Lockdown' dès minuit le Lockdown allait commencer et celui-ci allait continuer pour vingt-un jours jusqu'au 16 avril. Ayant entendu le discours du Premier Ministre, tout le monde est sorti pour acheter les choses essentielles. Quelle absurdité! Avec le Lockdown dans les pensées, les personnes ont oublié la règle de se distancer ou quoi?

Le 3 avril 2020, vendredi –

Les services essentiels sont disponibles dans les villes mais il y a un Lockdown complet dans les villages et les petites villes. Aujourd'hui, le Premier Ministre est venu à 9h du matin. Il a annoncé une autre tâche pour les gens. Une tâche d'illumination! Le 5 avril, il a prié tous les indiens d'allumer les bougies, les lampes à huile ou les lampes de poches à 21h pour neuf minutes. En le faisant, il faut aussi éteindre toutes les

autres lampes dans la maison. Encore une fois, il y a beaucoup d'opinions à propos de cette sollicitation du Premier Ministre.

Le 5 avril 2020, dimanche (19h) –

Une fois de plus, il y a plusieurs justifications données par les personnes différentes. Il y a beaucoup de blagues qui circulaient. La froideur existe dans les têtes des civils. Mais, je crois que cette tâche d'illumination allait

aussi fondre les cœurs surgelés des personnes.

(21h15) –

Encore une fois, j'ai vu mes voisins inconnus. Il y avait les hymnes en Sanskrit qui jouaient et les enfants criaient Bharat Mata Ki Jai. Sérieusement, c'était une expérience inoubliable. J'ai eu la chaire de poule sur ma peau une nouvelle fois. Cette expérience est suivie des vidéos

drôles des personnes qui n'avaient pas compris les instructions simples et qui sortaient avec les torches allumées. Honnêtement, je ne sais pas quand le Lockdown va finir. Mais, j'espère que toutes les personnes restent en sûreté.

Freya Moses K
TYBA

La Journée Française!

Le 06 juillet 2019, pour fêter les 150 ans de notre lycée prestigieux on a organisé "La journée française" en collaboration avec l'Ambassade de la France en Inde et l'Institut français en Inde. On a l'honneur d'avoir parmi nous le Consul General de la France à Mumbai Mme. Sonia Barbry aussi M. Philippe Guillien Attaché Linguistique au Consulat de la France à Mumbai., et le Directeur de notre lycée Dr Rajendra Shinde On a organisé plusieurs événements pour les étudiants ainsi que pour les profs de français. Pour cet événement, les étudiants de la littérature française, étaient les volontaires. Tôt le matin, on a écrit "La Journée Française" à l'entrée comme une invitation à tout le monde à notre lycée.

Après l'ouverture formelle de cette journée, on a assisté à une séance

'Comment poursuivre les études supérieures en France' organisé par les représentants de Campus France qui ont donné beaucoup d'information et ont parlé de plusieurs choix possibles à propos des études et des carrières diverses en France. Puis, il y avait une séance pour les professeurs de français par M. Frédéric Simon, Directeur, Alliance française de Bombay. C'était une bonne expérience parce qu'il a introduit un nouveau moyen d'enseigner à travers des contes, et comment utiliser la narration des contes dans une classe de FLE.

Une communication scientifique par Dr. Adrien Selles de Indo French Centre for Groundwater Research Hyderabad était bien appréciée par les étudiants de la Géologie.

L'après-midi, c'était la célébration de la richesse de la langue française à travers les spectacles variés. Il y avait la récitation d'une poésie, accompagnée d'une danse contemporaine 'Poésie en mouvement' par le groupe de Saint Andrews. Le spectacle de Smriti Minocha était merveilleux car elle a chanté les chansons de Bollywood et aussi les chansons françaises comme "La Vie en Rose" et "La Dernière Danse". Mme. Sonia Barbry, le Consul Général de la France à Mumbai a raconté son histoire, ses expériences en Inde et son amour pour ce pays. Ensuite, elle a parlé avec les étudiants de français et on a pris les photos!

Enfin, tout le monde a chanté "Aux Champs Élysées".

Vanessa Joseph
TYBA

Les Pensées dans la Tête

Les gens n'ont pensé,
De rester si longtemps chez eux,
Jamais on n'a rêvé,
D'être en temps douloureux

Un cauchemar qui s'appelle le coronavirus,
A frappé à la porte de chaque milieu,
La guerre entre l'espèce humaine et le virus,
A rendu le monde silencieux

L'environnement a respiré encore une fois,
Avec les rues sans circulation,
Avec des gens qui vagabondent quelquefois,
En pensant de la situation

Le confinement a changé notre vie,
Mais on a reçu beaucoup de temps,
Pour faire les choses de notre envie,
Qui nous rendent contents

Quelqu'un danse, quelqu'un chante,
Quelqu'un cuisine, quelqu'un dessine,
Mais on n'oublie jamais les choses touchantes,
Faites par des médecins et la police qui nous fascinent.

Tout le monde se souvient d'une part de la vie,
Mais dans le cœur de chacun
Il y a seulement une envie,
Que cette pandémie n'attaque plus
Et que le bonheur existe partout!

Yashvi Furia
SYBA

L'Infini Confiné

Tu me manques beaucoup
Quand même ta voix vient de mon portable
Interrompue par les cris de ta mère.
Tes messages que je ne verrai pas jusqu'au matin
Qui me font sourire doucement
Juste comme nos souvenirs
Que j'ai capturés dans mon journal.
Les photos que tu m'envoies
Semblent comme les moments figés
Je sens qu'ils disparaîtront si je les touche
Comme les étoiles brillantes qui illuminent la nuit.

Mais comme toujours
Tu me confortes
Tu me rassures
Tu me dis que tout va être bien
Si je tiens ta main à la mienne

De maintenant à l'infini...

Juie Gune
TYBA

Le monde dans les (en)fers!

Le monde souffre
Le virus nous engouffre
Toutes les vies sont en danger...
On est au bord du gouffre.

Tout est vu en noir.
Même les superpuissances perdent leurs pouvoirs.
Les économies s'effondrent, les personnes meurent...
Notre âme pleure, saigne notre cœur...

Certains n'ont pas les moyens de se nourrir.
À cause de la faim, ils vont mourir...
Milliers de kilomètres certains marchent...
Le lieu où ils grandissaient, ils le lâchent...

Cette crise nous brise chaque jour.
Ce sont nos péchés qui retournent...
L'avidité et l'égoïsme, on adore ces jumeaux.
Malheureusement, on est pourri jusqu'à l'os...

On est rendu désarmé...
Tout est sombre et déprimé.
Ni le travail ni l'espoir.
Notre avenir, on ne peut pas le prévoir...

Chaque jour, une nouvelle peur est née...
Chaque jour, notre esprit est gêné...
Chaque jour, l'humanité est attaquée...
Mais chaque jour, rien n'est fait...

On a besoin de l'unité pour vaincre ce diable...
Pour ramener à la vie notre monde formidable.
On a besoin des mesures incroyables.
Sinon, le monde restera toujours incapable.

N'oubliez pas de respecter la nature qui va nous sauver...
Il faut être toujours reconnaissant de ce que vous avez...
En se rendant compte que notre Solidarité est notre meilleure puissance.
On peut offrir à nos martyrs nos plus sincères condoléances!

Pratham Barot
SYBA

COVID-19 – un défi ou une opportunité pour l'humanité

Espérez

L'ère cynique
L'air malade.
Le début de la fin
Ou un changement en nouveauté?

Il amène une camarade chez lui,
Le médecin qui guérit tout.
Entouré de l'ennui ;
Sommes-nous tous
au bout de la nuit?

Le policier?
Il est incapable d'arrêter ce voleur
Qui a volé notre liberté, nos métiers
et notre bonheur.

Notre peur est en nous.
La mort, autour de nous.
Nos calendriers vides.
Notre destination – la maison.
Un exode, nous renvoyant
à nos racines.

Ce virus omniprésent et invisible,
Semble comme un dieu
Avec sa couronne,
Il gouverne le monde.

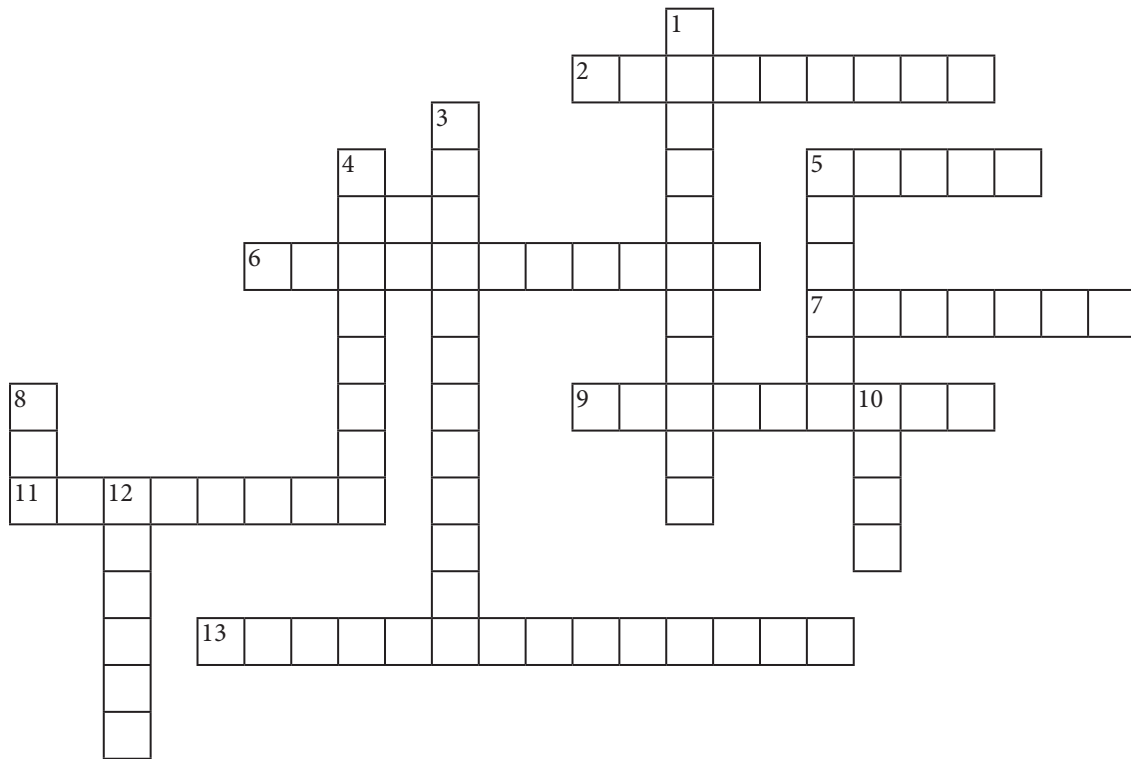
Dans cette guerre
Entre humains et virus
C'est la terre
Qui a commencé à guérir.

Ce n'est pas une catastrophe.
C'est une opportunité
de muer la vieille peau
et d'atteindre le beau.

Nous sommes sortis de nos ombres
Nous sommes près de la lumière.
Vers un autre mode d'apprendre,
Vers un autre mode de vie.

Jenis Rumao
TYBA

(Mots-croisés)



Across

- 2 Une loi qui demande aux gens de rester à l'intérieur de leurs maisons
- 5 Un agent infectieux qui pénètre dans le corps et provoque une maladie
- 6 L'action de rester, d'enfermer à la maison pendant un certain temps
- 7 Une grande maladie mondiale au présent
- 9 La zone la plus affectée par une maladie ou une catastrophe
- 11 Une sensation de maladie causée par une maladie
- 13 Une maladie ou une maladie suspectée sans symptômes

Down

- 1 Une période d'isolement
- 3 Un produit chimique qui tue ou fait inactive des agents infectieux sur les surfaces
- 4 Une épidémie qui s'étend à la totalité d'une population d'un continent ou de plusieurs continents
- 5 Un substance pour d'immuniser l'organisme contre des maladies infectieuses
- 8 Une agence d'ONU chargée de coordonner les activités internationales de santé
- 10 Un symptôme du virus qui provoque l'irritation des voies respiratoires
- 12 Un objet utilisé pour couvrir notre visage, surtout quand nous sortons de notre maison

1. quarantaine 3. désinfectant 4. pandémie 5. Virus 6. confinement 7. covid-19 9. épicentre 11. symptôme 13. asymptomatique

Verticalement

2. couvre-feu 5. Virus 6. confinement 7. covid-19 9. épicentre 11. symptôme 13. asymptomatique

Horizontalement

Aishwarya Iyengar
Gayatri Oke
Yashvi Furia
SYBA

मैं और मेरा फ़िल्मी कॉलेज

शाम को जब कैम्पस शांत हो जाएगा और तुम बैठोगे इसके विशाल और ऐतिहासिक आर्किटेक्चर के बीच, मायूस होकर, तुम्हारे कानों में गूँजेगा, 'कभी कभी अधूरी ज़िन्दगी में यूँही कोई अपना लगता है....'। याद आएगी ध्वनि भानुशाली का exactly at 10 am वाला ब्रेक अप और फेस्ट वाला लव। बैठोगे जब लाइब्रेरी में, देखोगे मोटी किताबों के पीछे मेक-आऊट करते हुए क्लास के सबसे कमतर माने जानेवाले लोगों को। सोमवार को दोपहर की भीड़ में कैम्पस की, चहल-पहल को ध्यान से देखोगे, तो नज़र आएगा, 'कोई जाने तू या जाने ना' वाला जय सिंह राठौड़ बास्केट बॉल कोर्ट में बाहें खोलकर अपनी अदिति को मनाने की कोशिश में। पर वो अदिति भी तो ज़ेवियराइट ठहरी, वो ऐसे कैसे मानेगी? जय बजाएगा कैंटीन के बाहर गिटार उसके लिए, पर अदिति नहीं मानेगी, जय लगाएगा प्रॉक्सी अदिति के दो लेक्सर्स के लिए पर अदिति ठीठ, फिर भी नहीं मानेगी, फिर जय भी ठहरा

सच्चा आशिक, एक वीर योद्धा की तरह जाएगा, ज़ेरॉक्स सेंटर रिसेस के वक्त और बदबूदार कंधों को चीरकर, बैल की तरह घुसाएगा सिर, जान की बाज़ी खेलकर लेकर आएगा अदिति के लिए उसके सोशियोलॉजी नोट्स। और अदिति उसके हाथ में नोट्स और बदन पर फटा हुआ शर्ट देखकर झट से गले लगेगी और जय खुशी में नाचने की कोशिश करेगा; लेकिन पप्पू कांट डांस साला....! खैर इन सब के बीच आप भी ख्याली पुलाव बनाने लगोगे। अगले दिन आप भी कुल २० मिनट जल्दी उठोगे, आईने में देख कर खुद को सजाओगे और जब तक ट्रेन स्टेशन तक ना पहुँचे, खुद को सेल्फीवाले कैमरे में निहारते रहोगे। आप स्लो मोशन में कॉलेज गेट से ऐंट्री मारोगे, लेकिन वॉचमैन कान में आय-डी, आय-डी चिल्लाकर मूड खराब कर देंगे। पर आप गहरी साँस लोगे और फिर से स्लो मोशन में अपनी जुल्फें पीछे करोगे। फिर? फिर वही होगा जो आपने

सोचा था, एक क्यूट सा दिखनेवाला लड़का आपकी ओर आएगा धीरे-धीरे, आपकी धड़कने तेज़ होगी, वो मुस्कुराते हुए और पास आएगा, आप होश खोने ही वाले होंगे कि वो मेंढक सी शक्ल बनाकर कहेगा, "हमारा XYZ fest है, please buy passes and tell your friends too" यार ये पी. आर. वाले भी ना... खैर।

ऐसी घटनाएँ घटने के बाद आप कसम खा लोगे ३६५ दिन पायजामे में कॉलेज जाने की। किसी दिन जब आप फिर बैठोगे शाम को कैम्पस के विशाल आर्किटेक्चर के बीच, मायूस होकर तब सुनाई देगी कॉलेज की दीवारों से वही पुरानी धुन, "अदिति हँस दे, हँस दे, हँस दे तू जरा। नहीं तो बस थोड़ा-थोड़ा मुस्कुरा..." तब समझ आएगा कि आपका असली जय तो ये कैम्पस ही है और आप सचमुच मुस्कुरा दोगे।

मैं और मेरा फ़िल्मी कॉलेज।

- अनाम

मैं और मेरी दोपहर

सुबह काम में निकल जाती है, रात थकान में निकल जाती है। ये दोपहर है एक जो निकलने में अरसा लगाती है।

हर चीज़ की गति मंद हो जाती है। फोन, फिल्में, गाने बेरस से लगने लगते हैं। बस एक दीवार के सामने बैठ जाती हूँ, चुपचाप और इंतज़ार करती हूँ - सूरज के ढलने का।

ऐसा पहले नहीं हुआ कभी, मुझे सही मायने में पता ही नहीं था - इंतज़ार क्या होता है?

मुझे लगता है इंतज़ार करना एवेरेस्ट चढ़ने के समान होता है, 'पीक' तो दिखाई देती है, लेकिन जितनी सीढ़ियाँ चढ़ो उतनी सीढ़ियाँ और बढ़ने लगती हैं। तुम बेशक वक्त-दर-वक्त फोन पे मैसेज तो कर लेते हो, लेकिन इसमें तुम्हारे होने की अनुभूति बहुत सूक्ष्म है। एक ये दोपहर है - शांत, इतनी शांत की दो की गति में चलने वाले पंखे की आवाज़ भी चुभने लगी है और एक तन्हा कौआ कब से खिड़की पर बस काँव, काँव किए जा रहा है

जैसे बावरा हो गया हो वो भी, किसी के इंतज़ार में।

एक वो दोपहर थी - जब हम पिछली बार मिले थे। उस भीड़-भाड़ वाली विरार लोकर में बेशक कान बहरे कर देनेवाला शोर तो था, लेकिन जो सुकून तुम्हारे कंधे पे सर रख के सोने में मिला था उसकी रिक्तता अब महसूस हो रही है। मुझे वो दोपहर फिर चाहिए, हाथों में हाथ कसके फिर से चढ़ना है, किसी विरार लोकल में, पार करना है फिर से मरीन ड्राईववाला रास्ता। फिर बैठना

है वहाँ, घंटों तक सुननी हैं - तुम्हारी वो सारी बातें, जिन्हें कहते वक्त तुम्हारी आँखों में एक अनमोल सा नूर दिखता था, जिसके अंत में तुम हर बार मासूमी से कह देते थे, 'पता नहीं, मैं पागल हो गया हूँ यार' और हँसने लगते दिल खोलकर बच्चों की तरह।

कंधे से भारी बस्ता उतारकर खानी है - तुम्हारे साथ फिर से चौपाटी की कुल्फी और बहस करनी है - वही

पुरानी बात पर की मेरा शहर ज्यादा खूबसूरत है या तुम्हारा.... बातें करते-करते कब शाम हो जाएगी! पता ही नहीं चलेगा। हवाएँ दीवानी हो जाएगी और खेलने लगेगी तुम्हारे बालों के साथ। सूरज ढलने लगेगा समंदर में और छोड़ जाएगा आसमान में नीले, पीले, गुलाबी रंग इश्क के। हम ट्रैफिक वाले मुंबई को पीठ दिखाकर समंदर वाले मुंबई को देखेंगे और डूब जाएंगे सूरज के साथ

एक दूसरे की आँखों में। तुम्हारा होना क्या था, तुम्हारे ना होने पर महसूस हो रहा है। बस उम्मीद है इस एवेरेस्ट की 'पीक' पर जल्द-से-जल्द पहुँच जाऊँ, तब तक मैं और मेरी दोपहर इंतजार की सीढ़ियाँ चढ़ते रहेंगे।

फिलहाल के लिए एक सेल्फी भेज दो मुस्कराते हुए...!

तुम्हारी प्रेयसी,
प्रिंसी

नाबालवी

“हाय राम, तेरे शरीर पर बाल उगते हैं? अब कौन करेगा तुझसे शादी? कैसे मिलेगी तुझे कोई जॉब? जितना हो सके, ये क्रीम लगाया कर चमड़ी पर, इससे तेरे बाल अदृश्य हो जाएँगे कुछ देर के लिए। तुझे जो करना है कर, बस ये बालों से छुटकारा पाले साल २०६०, लोगों में कुछ साल से एक नए प्रकार का भय छाया हुआ है कि कहीं उनके शरीर पर बाल ना उग जाए। बाल वाला पुरुष या औरत होना आधुनिक श्राप माना जाता है। गालियों के ग्रंथ में एक नए शब्द की वृद्धि हुई है 'बालवे' अर्थात् जिसके शरीर पर बाल हो, 'बालवे कहीं के...' फ़िल्मों के गानों में प्रेमिका की तारीफ़ में उसे पतली कमरवाली, गोरे गाल वाली के साथ साथ 'नाबालवी' भी कहा जाता है। नाबालवी यानी जिसके शरीर पर सर के अलावा और कहीं पर भी बाल ना उगते हो। आपके चेहरे पर ये जो हैरानी है! मैं समझ सकती हूँ। आपके दिमाग में यही

चल रहा होगा। शरीर पर बाल उगना कब से श्राप हो गया, यह तो कुदरती है, नेचुरल है, इसमें बुराई क्या है? यह सब कैसा पागलपन है? पागलपन? धंधा कहते हैं इसे। हमारे दादाजी गोरपन पाने की क्रीम बेचते, बेचते, मल्टी बिलियनेयर बन गए। हमारे पिताजी चेहरे की जुर्रियाँ छुपाने की क्रीम बेचते बेचते मल्टी बिलियनेयर बन गए।

अब काला होना या चेहरे पर एक उम्र के बाद जुर्रियाँ आना भी तो शरीर पर बाल उगने के समान कुदरती है, नेचुरल है और जायज़ है। आप जैसे समझदार लोग ऐसी चीजें खरीदने वालों को पागल ही समझेंगे। इसीलिए मुझे तुम जैसे लोगों से नफ़रत है, तुम जो सवाल पूछते हो, तुम जो 'सोचते' हो। ये लो पैसा और सोने का ताला लगा लो अपने मुँह पर। लोग डरेंगे नहीं, अपने रंग रूप को आसानी से स्वीकार लेंगे तो हमारा धंधा कैसे होगा? देखना फिर से कुछ सालों के बाद एक नया

डर फैलाया जाएगा किसी नए प्रोडक्ट के लिए। लोग थोड़ी और नफ़रत करेंगे खुद से, थोड़े और तन्हा हो जाएँगे, थोड़ा और ढकने लगेंगे अपने आप को अलग अलग प्रॉडक्ट के तले और हम थोड़े और पैसे कमाकर, थोड़ी और कंपनियाँ बनाएँगे, गाँवों में थोड़ी और फैक्टरियाँ लगाएँगे। इन प्रॉडक्ट्स की तारीफ़ में और चिल्ला-चिल्ला कर बोलेंगे सबको, 'देखो देखो विकास हुआ है?'

साल २०६० है, खिड़की के बाहर तो तुम्हें दिख रही होंगी, ऊँची-ऊँची इमारतें और दौड़ती हुई मेट्रो पर जरा खोलकर तो देखो अखबार का 'मैट्रिमोनीवाला' पन्ना और उठा लो कोई भी एक कॉलम। लिखा होगा अब भी वहाँ, 'पूत्रवधू चाहिए: उँचे गोत्र, गोरी काया, पढ़ी-लिखी, अंग्रेज़ी बोलने वाली और? और....

'नाबालवी।'

प्रिंसी पारीख,
तृतीय वर्ष, मास मिडीया

जिसने कर डाला सर्वनाश

घुटने पर है संपूर्ण सृष्टि, सारे विज्ञानी फेल हुए।
बन गया आदमी कठपुतली, कुदरत के ऐसे खेल हुए।
परमाणु भी कर नहीं पाया, सूक्ष्म विषाणु का विनाश।
जिसने कर डाला सर्वनाश।
कर डाला जिसने सर्वनाश?

वायुपथ पर भरते कुलांच, ध्वनि वेग संग उड़ने वाले,
नभ चीर लाँघ पृथ्वी सीमा, सूरज से भी लड़ने वाले,
था अहंकार जिनको-दुनिया उनके संकेतों से चलती,
क्षणभंगुर बिखर गए सारे ईश्वर से छल करने वाले।
लगते कितने असहाय आज।
हो बेवस अरु निरुपाय आज।

हारे योद्धा से खड़े हुए, अदृश्य शत्रु सम्मुख हताश।
जिसने कर डाला सर्वनाश।
कर डाला जिसने सर्वनाश?

न्यूटन, एडीसन, गैलीलियो, सब हाँफ रहे लेकर साँसें,
मज़बूर बने सब देख रहे, गिरती हुई लाशों पर लाशों,
सारी प्रयोगशालाएँ उनकी बनी गई - सूखा महासिंधु,
जिनके तटबन्धों पर दम तोड़ रही, मानवता की साँसें।
हो गए कौन हालात आज।
चल गई पता औकात आज।

एक महाविनाशी के समक्ष, बैठे हैं - सब होकर निराश।
जिसने कर डाला सर्वनाश।
कर डाला जिसने सर्वनाश?

वेदांत शुक्ला
बी.ए. तृतीय वर्ष

मोबाइल

खो गए वो हसीन लम्हे
दे गया वक्त हमें कई सदमे
किंतु क्या हुई हमें उसकी अनुभूति!
कहाँ खो गयी थी हमारी बुद्धि?
माता-पिता से सीधे, मोबाइल को भगवान मान लिया
उसको ही अपना जन्म-जन्मांतर का साथी चुन लिया।
हर समस्या का था - हमारे पास एक ही निवारण-
बच्चा रोए तो मोबाइल थमा दो,
किसी से बात करनी हो तो मोबाइल उठा लो।
मोबाइल ने ज़िंदगी सवार ली या बिगाड़ दी नहीं खबर,
कैमरे के फोकस के चक्कर में असली खुशियों से हुए
हम बेखबर।
उसने कब रिश्तेदारों के बीच कर दी पारदर्शक दीवार खड़ी
सच उसकी सज़ा हमें ही भुगतनी पड़ी।

त्रिशा धारणे

एक नवी वाटचाल

शेवटी कॉलेज सुरु झाले. आता कुठे माझ्या ३-४ महिने निश्चल पडलेल्या जीवनाची गाडी पूर्वपदावर येणार होती. आजची सकाळ नव्या उमेदीने भरून गेली आणि याच सकारात्मकतेची सोबत घेऊन भी घराबाहेर पडले. स्टेशनवर पोहोचल्यावर माझी मैत्रीण दिसली. आपला आनंद व्यक्त करण्यासाठी आम्ही एकमेकींना बिलगलो.

अचानक माझे डोळे उघडले. काळीज धस्स झालं होतं. मनात भीतीचे ठोके धडाधड वाजत होते. काहीच सुचेनासे झाले. भानावर आले तेव्हा समजलं, मी स्वप्न बघत होते.

या स्वप्नाची भीती का वाटावी याचं आश्चर्य वाचकांना नक्कीच वाटणार नाही. कारण संपूर्ण जग आज अशा परिस्थितीच्या विळख्यात सापडले आहे ज्यातून बाहेर पडण्यासाठी आपल्याला सामाजिक अंतरीकरणाचे धडे गिरवावे लागत आहेत.

हा विळखा म्हणजे कोरोना नामक विषाणूचा संसर्ग, ज्याच्यापुढे अमेरिकेसारख्या महासत्तेसह संपूर्ण जग थांबले आहे. यावर उपाय म्हणून लॉकडाऊन नावाच्या बाणावर सोसायटीला लावलेल्या कुलूपाची प्रत्यंचा चढवली. कदाचित हा नेम चुकला! कुलूप शोपीस बनले आणि आपल्यासाठी असलेल्या नियमांची आपल्यातील काही घटकांनी खिल्ली उडविली.

याचेच उत्तर म्हणून माणसाने स्वतःला चार भितीमध्ये बंदिस्त ठेवण्यात समाधान मानले. या कोषातून कधीतरी बाहेर पडायचेच आहे. सध्याचा अंशात्मक अनलॉक आणि त्याच्या समर्थनार्थ महाराष्ट्राचे 'मिशन बिगिन अगेन' हा याच अनावरणाचा टप्पा आहे. जेव्हा आपण या विषाणूवर

मात करुन घराबाहेर पडू तेव्हा जीवनाची नवी वाटचाल सुरु होईल. ध्येयपूर्तीच्या मार्गावर स्वसंरक्षणानिमित्त सोबत घेतलेली ढाल आपले रक्षाकवच बनेल.

चेहऱ्याचे रक्षण करण्यासाठी तोंडभरून मास्क बांधून फिरणाऱ्या ज्या मुलींना आपण आतंकवादी म्हणून हिणवायचो, त्यांची हीच सवय काळाची गरज बनेल. आई-वडिलांनी शिकवलेले स्वयंशिस्तीचे धडे आपलेसे वाटू लागतील. घराबाहेर माणूस माणसापासून दुरावेल; परंतु माया, कठोरता, जिद्दाला आणि प्रेम या चार भितींवर भक्कमपणे उभे असलेले घर आपुलकीची ऊब मिळवून देईल.

'कितीही संकटे आली, आभाळ जरी कोसळले तरी त्यावर पाय ठेवून उभा राहीन!' या टिळकांच्या गर्जनेप्रमाणे कोरोनावर मात करण्यासाठी व नव्या जगात प्रवेश करण्यासाठी आपण सज्ज झालो आहोत. हीच टप्प्याटप्प्याने होणारी सज्जता भविष्यात आपले रक्षण करेल.

आजच्या स्पर्धात्मक जगात विदेशभ्रमंती करुनही माणसाला मानसिक शांतीची गरज होती. आत्ताची अनिश्चित सुट्टी यावर रामबाण उपाय ठरली. या काळात आपल्या माणसांच्या सहवासात, स्वतःकडे जाताने लक्ष देत माणसाने मिळालेल्या संधीचे सोने केले. याच्या उत्तरार्थ आज कोरोना रुग्णसंख्या वाढत असतानाही आपण तंदुरुस्त लोकसंख्येचा पाया रोवला. आर्थिक महामारीच्या संकटसमयी हीच लोकसंख्या 'Made in India' द्वारे नवभारत निर्माणाकडे कूच करेल आणि भारताच्या प्रगतीपथावर आपले योगदान देईल.

अर्थकारणाचे चक्र चलन नावाच्या इंधनासोबतच कर्तृत्ववान मनुष्यबळाच्या पाठिंब्यावर चालते. हा गाडा असाच

फिरता राहावा यासाठी सज्ज पिढी निर्माण होणे गरजेचे आहे. म्हणूनच ऑनलाईन शिक्षणाद्वारे आपली शिक्षण पद्धती भक्कम बनवणे काळाची गरज बनली आहे. उद्या उचित नियोजनातून ऑनलाईन शिक्षण अमलात येईल. यात शैक्षणिक संस्थांप्रमाणेच समाजमाध्यमांवर फॉलोअर्स वाढवण्यासाठी दिसणारी चढाओढ आणि आंतरजालावर उपलब्ध असलेली ज्ञानाची कवाडे यांच्यात योग्य निवड करू इच्छिणाऱ्या विद्यार्थीवर्गाचा प्रयत्न स्वागतार्ह असेल,

'न भूतो न भविष्यति' असा नवा अनुभव प्रयत्नांनी साध्य होईल पण माणसामाणसांतील अंतर वाढेल. आपल्या आजूबाजूच्या व्यक्तिकडे प्रत्येकजण संशयात्मक नजरेने बघेल. मनात भीती आणि शंकेची पाल कायम चुकचुकणार या परिस्थितीतूनही मार्ग शोधून प्रगतीच्या दिशेने पाऊल उचलण्याची जबाबदारी आपणा सर्वांचीच असेल. उद्याच्या नवीन जगात शासन आणि जनता यांच्या परस्पर सहकार्याची आवश्यकता भासेल. हे घटक एकत्र आले की संकटाची वाटदेखील आपण यशस्वीरीत्या पार करू शकू.

'तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय' या उक्तीप्रमाणे कोरोनाच्या अंधारातून उद्याच्या तेजस्वी प्रकाशाकडे नेणारी ही नवकिरणे म्हणजे आपल्यासाठी एक नवे पर्व असेल. यातील काही गोष्टी आपल्याला हव्या असतील तर काही गोष्टी नकोशा वाटतील. परंतु या सर्वांचा समतोल साधत २१वे शतक नवी वाटचाल सुरु करेल ज्याचे आपण सर्वच सहभागी आणि साक्षीदार असू. चला तर मग साक्षीदार बनूया या नवक्षितीजाचे!

कु. कार्तिकी अरकल
प्रथम वर्ष, कला शाखा.

न्यू नॉर्मल - पंचाहत्तर हजार वर्षापूर्वी!

१० डिसेंबर २०१९ रोजी चीनमधल्या वूहान येथील मासळीबाजारात श्रिम्प विकणाऱ्या एका महिलेला संध्याकाळच्या वेळी थंडी वाजून ताप आला. ताप लवकर उतरेना म्हणून १६ डिसेंबरला ही महिला वुहान युनियन हॉस्पिटलमध्ये गेली. साधारण याच सुमारास अनेक पेशंट हॉस्पिटलमध्ये ताप, कोरडा खोकला ही लक्षणे घेऊन दाखल होऊ लागले. इथून सुरुवात झाली ती नॉर्वेल कोरोनाव्हायरस या विषाणूने होणाऱ्या कोविड १९ या आजाराची. ११ जानेवारी २०२० रोजी कोविड १९ ने पहिला पेशंट मृत्यू पावला. फेब्रुवारीमध्ये इटली आणि इराणमध्ये कोविड १९ची साथ सुरु झाली. १२ मार्च २०२० यादिवशी भारतात कोविड १९ मुळे पहिला मृत्यू झाला. पाहता पाहता हा आजार सर्व जगात पसरला आणि जगाची घडीच विस्कटून जायला सुरुवात झाली. लॉकडाऊन, कारंटाईन, डिस्टेंसिंग हे शब्द काही महिन्यातच आपल्या सवयीचे झाले. बघता बघता नेहमीच्या कपड्यांसोबत मास्कचीही आपल्याला सवय झाली. ऑनलाईन शिक्षण, ऑनलाईन मिटींग्स, ऑनलाईन काम आणि अभ्यास यांनी आपल्या नेहमीच्या कामाची जागा घेतली. २००९ मधला स्वाईन फ्लू आणि २०१४ मधला इबोला यानंतर आलेली ही मोठी रोगराई अजूनही जगभरात बळी घेतेच आहे, अजूनही या विषाणूने संसर्ग झालेल्या लोकांचा आकडा वाढतोच आहे. यापुढे काय होणार हे कोणालाच माहित नाही, सांगताही येणार नाही. आपल्या घरात बसून काम करणे, ट्रेन्स बंद, कुठल्या मार्गाने हा आजार आपल्या दारात येऊन उभा राहिल याची खात्री नाही. अनेक गोष्टी आज न्यू नॉर्मल म्हणून आपण स्वीकारतो आहोत खरे, पण आपलं आयुष्य

नॉर्मल आहे का? ते नॉर्मल राहणार आहे का? या नवीन बदलांना आपण कशा पद्धतीने स्वीकारणार आहोत यावर बरेच काही अवलंबून असेल. माणसाच्या इतिहासात नॉर्वेल कोरोनाव्हायरसपेक्षा अनेक मोठी संकटे येऊन गेली आणि त्यानंतर आयुष्यात झालेल्या बदलांना माणसाने स्वीकारले त्यामुळेच आज पूर्ण मानवजात जिवंत आहे. आता कोविड १९च्या निमित्ताने आणि त्याच्या पार्श्वभूमीवर आपण सुमारे ७५००० वर्षापूर्वी आलेल्या भीषण संकटाला मानव कसा सामोरा गेला आणि कशी त्याने या संकटावर मात केली हे बघणार आहोत.

सुमारे ७४००० वर्षापूर्वी इंडोनेशियामधील टोबा या ज्वालामुखीचा उद्रेक झाला. गेल्या वीस लाख वर्षांतल्या सर्वात मोठ्या अशा या उद्रेकामुळे एक हजार घन मैल एवढी धूळ, राख, सल्फर वातावरणात फेकली गेली. इंडोनेशियात सुमारे साठ मैल रुंदीचा “टोबा लेक” या उद्रेकामुळेच तयार झाला. हा विस्फोट एवढा प्रचंड होता की त्यातून बाहेर पडलेल्या राखेचा ढग पूर्व आफ्रिकेपर्यंत विस्तारला होता. यामुळे सूर्यकिरण वातावरणातच अडवले गेले आणि त्यामुळे पृथ्वीचे तापमान झपाट्याने कमी व्हायला सुरुवात झाली. हा “ज्वालामुखीजन्य हिवाळा” आल्याने तापमानात सुमारे १४ अंशांची घट झाली. आणि हा हिवाळा कित्येक वर्षे (सुमारे दहा वर्षे) टिकून होता. यामुळे पुढची हजार वर्षे ‘ग्लोबल कूलिंग’ देखील झाले होते. काही संशोधकांचे असे मत आहे की या संकटामुळे मानवी लोकसंख्यादेखील कमी झाली होती. मध्य भारतात, आफ्रिकेत याच सुमारास होमो सेपियन्स सर्वत्र वस्ती करत होते आणि त्यांचे जीवाष्म आणि

दगडी हत्यारे अजूनही मध्य भारतात सापडतात, आश्चर्याची गोष्ट अशी की या भयंकर संकटानंतरही मानवी वस्त्या, त्यांची हत्यारे बनवण्याची पद्धती, हे टिकून राहिलेले दिसतात आणि एकाएकी आलेल्या या संकटाला आदिम मानवांनी चांगल्या प्रकारे तोंड दिलं हे दिसून येते. मध्य प्रदेशात ‘ढाबा’ इथे सापडलेल्या जीवाष्म आणि अश्मयुगीन हत्यारांवरून दिसून येते की त्याकाळी पूर्णपणे शिकारीवर अवलंबून असलेल्या मानवाला या उद्रेकामुळे अनेक वर्षे अनेक अडचणी आल्या, पण त्याने त्यांच्यावर मात केली. काही संशोधकांच्या मते आफ्रिकेतील आदिम मानव टोबा उद्रेकानंतर दक्षिण आफ्रिकेच्या समुद्रकिनार्याच्या दिशेने जाऊन तिथे मोठ्या प्रमाणावर राहू लागले. कारण काहीही असेल, जागेत बदल असेल, राहण्याच्या पद्धतीत बदल असेल किंवा अजून किंवा अजून काही कारण असेल, पण आलेल्या नैसर्गिक संकटाचा आणि त्यातून जीवनशैलीत झालेल्या बदलांचा आपल्या पूर्वजांनी योग्य तऱ्हेने स्वीकार केला आणि त्यामुळेच मानवजाती जिवंत राहू शकली हे लक्षात घेतले पाहिजे.

साथीचे रोग, नैसर्गिक संकटे येतच असतात. आपल्या आयुष्याचा तो एक भाग आहे. त्यातून मार्ग काढता येत नसेल तरी त्यामुळे झालेल्या बदलांना आपण स्वीकारून पुढे गेले पाहिजे. ७५००० वर्षापूर्वी आफ्रिका आणि आशियात राहणाऱ्या आपल्या आदिमानव पूर्वजांपासून आपण हेच करत आलो आहोत म्हणूनच मनुष्यजाती म्हणून आपण आज अस्तित्वात आहोत.

डॉ. अश्विन पुंडलिक
भूशास्त्र विभाग

राष्ट्रवादावर लस तयार?

बाबांच्या माहितीप्रमाणे माझ्या आयुष्याच्या विसाव्या दिवशीच माझा 'जन्म दाखला' तयार झाला. त्यात काय नवल, तुमचा ही झाला असेल. यंदाच मी तो दाखला पाहत होतो. "ए आई, तू मला न विचारता माझं नाव का गं ठेवलेस?" अशी तक्रार मी नेहमीच करतो पण त्या जन्मदाखल्यात बरंच काही दडलंय हो! त्यात मी महाराष्ट्रात राहणारा 'भारतीय' असे नमूद केले आहे. त्यामुळे मला भारतपण जपणं अनिवार्य, मग त्यात पाकिस्तानचा द्वेष, आपल्या संस्कृतीचा मान आणि जवानांची शान ही राखलीच पाहिजे. तुमच्यापेक्षा थोडा वेगळा विचार करतो म्हणून मी देशद्रोही असे मला वाटत नाही. पण आपल्या सर्वांची प्रथम ओळख एवढी संकुचित का? पण देशाबद्दल असे प्रश्न विचारणे योग्य नाही असे बाळकडू आपल्याला नेहमीच दिले जाते.

नसते विचार गुंडाळून माझ्या 'new normal' दिनक्रमास लागलो. आज कोविडने काय घुमाकूळ घातलाय हे पाहण्यास टीव्ही समोर बसलो. 'ट्रम्पने केले कोरोनाचे नामकरण, आजपासून हा 'चायनीज वायरस'. 'नेपाळने केला आपला नवा नकाशा जाहीर, भारताच्या भूभागावर दावा'. 'गलवान खोऱ्यात भारत-चीन संघर्ष' अशा ठळक बातम्या मला भयंकर कोड्यात पाडू लागल्या.

काही देशांनी तर लसीचे राजकारणही सुरु केले. प्रचंड पैसा कंपनीच्या खात्यात ओतून तयार होणारी लस आमच्याच

देशाला प्रथम मिळावी अशी त्यांची मागणी. आत्मनिर्भरतेचा विपर्यास करत चायना विघातक वातावरण देशात पसरत आहे. त्यांच्या राष्ट्राध्यक्षाचा फोटो तुडवणं काय आणि आपल्या नेत्यांचे गुणगान काय! त्यात सीमेवरही तणाव वाढले. कितीही मनोरंजक वाटलं तरी घातक आहे हे सगळं. आपल्या 'new normal' ची लक्षणं बरी दिसत नाहीत. विचार केल्यास उमजतं की ह्या साऱ्याने मूळ राष्ट्रवादच!

राष्ट्रवादाचे बालपण युरोपात गेले. कुटुंबातील सर्वात लहान बदमाश मुलाप्रमाणे राष्ट्रवादने इतिहासात अमानव का होईना पण उल्लेखनीय पराक्रम गाजवले आहेत. दोन महायुद्धे, दहशतवादी गट, काही नरसंहार, शीतयुद्ध, दुबळ्या देशांची गळचेपी असे सारे प्रताप राष्ट्रवादाचेच. अर्नेस्ट गेलनर ह्या ब्रिटिश तज्ज्ञाची 'राष्ट्रवाद-उगम-साखळी' मला पटली. भांडवलशाहीमुळे औद्योगिकीकरण आणि औद्योगिकीकरणामुळे वसाहतवाद. या साऱ्याची रासायनिक प्रतिक्रिया राष्ट्रवाद. ह्यावर अनेक मंडळींनी चर्चा केली. पोलिश असणाऱ्या रोजा लक्सेमबर्ग ह्यांनी 'पर्टिक्युलरिजम' हे मूल्य मांडिले. देशाचा राष्ट्रवाद काय हे कोण ठरवणार? ह्या राष्ट्रावादात हित कोणाचे? अशा राष्ट्रावादात अल्पसंख्याक गटांचं काय? ह्या प्रश्नांची उत्तरे आजही आपल्याकडे नाहीत.

काय चूक काय बरोबर कोणास ठाऊक? आपली मनं एका अनोख्या पद्धतीने रचलेली

आहेत. प्रथमतः समविचारकांबरोबर आपण गटात सामील होतो. पुढे काही गटांबरोबर आपला गट झगडत असतो. पण ह्यामुळे सत्य आपल्यापासून दूरच राहते. म्हणूनच ह्या नीती साच्यातून बाहेर पडणे गरजेचे आहे. हीच विनवणी मी तुमच्यापाशी करायला आलोय.

आपली बुद्धी भ्रष्ट झाली आहे. आंबेडकरांचा 'विवेकनिष्ठ राष्ट्रवाद' आणि फुले ह्यांचे 'एकमय लोकांचे राष्ट्र' हरवलेच आहे. "राष्ट्र ही वस्तुनिष्ठ समूहभावना व सदसद्विवेकशक्तीची भावना आहे", असे बाबासाहेब म्हणत. त्यांची 'महापुरुषांपासून सावधान' ही सूचना विसरता कामा नये.

आपल्या पिढीवर एक मोठी जबाबदारी काळाने लादली आहे. गेल्या शतकातील कलुषित राष्ट्रवाद खोडून एक वैश्विक संस्कृती निर्माण करायची आहे. आपली मुळं न विसरता इतरांबद्दल सहिष्णुता एवढेच अपेक्षित आहे. गांधी व ज्ञानेश्वरांनी 'दुरितांचे तिमीर जावो' ह्याचाच प्रसार केला. 'पृथिव्यै समुद्रपर्यंतायाम् एकराळिति' वेदकाळातील हा मंत्र सर्व पृथ्वीचे एक राष्ट्र होवो हीच आशा करतो. राष्ट्रवादावर लस आपल्या अंतरंगातच आहे. ती असल्याची जाणीव करून देणे गरजेचे. 'मानवतावाद' हीच ती लस.

शौमिक सतीश रहाटे

द्वितीय वर्ष, कला

करोना, परिस्थितिकी आणि उत्क्रांती

सध्या या करोनाच्या अतिसूक्ष्म विषाणूने आपला, मनुष्यजातीचा, इतिहास घडवायला घेतला आहे - जेव्हा केव्हा ही साथ ओसरेल, तेव्हा आपली एक नवीन सुरुवात असेल. अजून काही वर्षांनी इतिहासाच्या पुस्तकात करोनाच्या साथीचा उल्लेख असेल, या साथीने कसा हाहाकार माजवला याची सविस्तर वर्णन असतील, सखोल विश्लेषण असतील. साथीचे रोग आपल्यासाठी नवीन नाहीत. गेल्या दोन हजारपेक्षा जास्त वर्षात, साथीच्या रोगांच्या अनेक नोंदी इतिहासात उपलब्ध आहेत. मात्र गेल्या काही वर्षात नवनवीन साथीच्या रोगांचे (Emerging Infectious Diseases) प्रमाण वाढत आहे असे या विषयातील संशोधकांचा अभ्यास सांगत आहे - इबोला, सार्स, मर्स, स्वाईन फ्लू, बर्ड फ्लू आणि नविन करोना विषाणूची सध्याची साथ ही त्याची काही उदाहरणे, साहजिकच प्रश्न आहे की का असे होत आहे?

साथीचे रोग हे काही विशिष्ट प्रकारच्या जंतुंमुळे; जसे की विषाणू, बुरशी, कृमि, आदिजीव (Protozoa) किंवा प्रिऑन (Prion) सारख्या प्रथिनांमुळे होतात. कुठून येतात हे रोगजंतू आणि का ते आपल्याला सतावतात? पृथ्वीवरील जीवसृष्टिचा आपण, मनुष्यजात, केवळ एक भाग आहोत आणि परिस्थितिकीच्या (Ecology) व उत्क्रांतीच्या (Evolution) धाग्यांनी इतर अनेक जीवांशी जोडले गेले आहोत. यातील काही जीव आपले अन्न आहेत, काही जीव आपल्याला अनेक उपयुक्त गोष्टी पुरवतात (जसे की पोटातील काही 'चांगले' जीवाणू आपल्याला अन्नपचनात मदत करतात, जीवनसत्त्वे पुरवतात, रोगप्रतिकारशक्ति देतात), तर काही जीव हे आपल्या शरीराला घातक असतात. उत्क्रांतीच्या पक्रियेत जो जीव आपल्या जनुकाच्या जितक्या जास्त प्रती पुढच्या पिढीत पाठवतो तो तितका यशस्वी जीव! रोगजंतू हे काम करण्यासाठी

माणसाच्या (आणि इतर जीवांच्या) शरीराचा वापर करतात.

रोग आल्यानंतर, तो आपल्या शरीरावर कुठे, कसा हल्ला करतो? त्याची लक्षणं काय? लागण झालेले रोगी कसे ओळखायचे? रोगावर औषधउपचार व लस शोधणे, साथ पसरू नये म्हणून काय काळजी घ्यायची याबद्दलच्या संशोधनाची मालिका सुरु होते. आज आपण नवीन करोनाबाबत बघत आहोत की जगभरातील डॉक्टर्स, संशोधक यात गुंतले आहेत. त्याचबरोबर हाही प्रश्न आहे की हा 'नवीन' करोना विषाणू आला कुठून?

असे दिसून आले आहे की या नवनवीन साथीच्या रोगांपैकी जवळपास ६० टक्के रोगांचे जंतू हे इतर प्राण्यांकडून आपल्याकडे संक्रमित होतात. अशा रोगांना Zoonotic diseases म्हणतात. का हे रोग आपल्या पर्यन्त येतात? कोणत्या प्राण्यांकडून येतात? हे संक्रमण रोखण्याचा उपाय काय? ह्यासारखे अनेक प्रश्न डोक्यात येतात. आणि यावर आज जगभर संशोधन सुरु आहे. परिस्थितिकी (Ecology) आणि उत्क्रांती (Evolution) ह्या विषयातील अभ्यास अजून वाढला पाहिजे.

ह्या Zoonotic diseases संदर्भात उपस्थित केलेल्या विविध प्रश्नांची उत्तरे कशी शोधली जातात याचे एक उदाहरण घेऊ या - निपाह विषाणूचे. माणसात ह्या विषाणूमुळे मेंदूज्वर होतो. ह्या विषाणूची पहिली साथ मलेशियात १९९९ साली आली होती. कुठल्यातरी प्राण्यांकडून या विषाणूचे संक्रमण मनुष्यजातीत झाल्याचा संशय होता. संशोधकांनी त्या रोग्यांच्या संपर्कात येऊ शकणाऱ्या अनेक प्राण्यांची छाननी केली. एक लक्षात घ्या, हे काम सोपे नाही, गवतात सुई शोधण्यासारखे आहे. हे प्राणी पाळीव असू शकतात. वन्यप्राणीदेखील असू शकतात. या प्राण्यांमध्ये या विषाणू शोधण्यासाठी या

प्राण्यांचे मल, मूत्र, रक्त, लाळ व इतर अनेक पेशी आणि ऊती यांचे नमुने गोळा करून तपासणी करावी लागते! ह्या अवघड संशोधनानंतर हा विषाणू नैसर्गिकरीत्या वटवाघळामधे आढळतो असे दिसले. वटवाघळाला येथे Reservoir Host (मराठीमध्ये संचय आश्रयदाता?) असे म्हटले जाते. वटवाघळे ताडीच्या झाडांवर येतात, ताडी गोळा करण्यासाठी लावलेल्या भांड्यात त्यांचे मलमूत्र व लाळ डुकरांवर, त्यांच्या आसपास पडते, त्यातून डुकरांना विषाणूची लागण होते व डुकरांकडून माणसाला लागण होते. विषाणू कुठून व कसा येतो हे कळलं. आता त्याला रोखायचं कसं? तर, ताडी गोळा करायच्या भांड्याला विशिष्ट प्रकारचं पसरट टोपीसारखं झाकण लावायचं, डुकरांसाठी छत असलेले तबेले बांधायचे, हे तबेले वटवाघळांची वस्ती असलेल्या झाडांखाली बांधायचे नाहीत, मनुष्यवस्तीपासून दूर वटवाघळांसाठी त्यांच्या आवडीची झाडे लावायची. हे असे उपाय करून निपाह विषाणूचे संक्रमण रोखले गेले. यात वटवाघळांना मारून टाका असा अघोरी उपाय योजला नाही कारण परागीभवनाचे महत्वाचे काम ही वटवाघळे करतात. हे उपाय मिळले ते परिस्थितिकीच्या अभ्यासातून. निपाह विषाणू माणसाला खूप घातक आहे मात्र वटवाघळांना नाही (सर्वसाधारणपणे रोगजंतू त्यांच्या Reservoir Host ला त्रास देत नाहीत), असे का? या उत्क्रांतीच्या अखत्यारीत असलेल्या प्रश्नाचे नेमके उत्तर मात्र अजूनही मिळलेलले नाही.

परिस्थितिकी आणि उत्क्रांती ह्या विषयातील अभ्यासातून अनेक Zoonotic diseases च्या संक्रमणाची, जसे की, इबोला, सार्स, मर्स, स्वाईन फ्लू, बर्ड फ्लू, Lyme disease, एड्स यांची उकल झाली आहे. नवीन करोनाच्या - कोविड १९ च्या - संक्रमणाची देखील

उकल होईल, त्यावर औषधे मिळतील, लसदेखील मिळेल आणि आपण या विषाणूबरोबर राहायला शिकू. पण हे परिस्थितिकी आणि उत्क्रांतीचे धडे विसरायचे नाहीत जेणेकरून साथीच्या रोगांना थोपवायला, त्यांच्याबरोबर

लढायला, जगायला आपल्याला जमेल. नवीन करोनाच्या साथीनंतरच्या 'नवीन' सुरुवातीत अजून जोमाने या विषयांचा अभ्यास करायचा.

डॉ. सुजाता देशपांडे
प्राणीशास्त्र विभाग

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“आई कुठे काय करते”

“आई कुठे काय करते” हे एका मराठी मालिकेचे नाव आहे पण आजच्या प्रत्येक स्त्रीची तर हीच कहाणी किंवा व्यथा आहे. अजूनही ते जुने धडे गिरवले जात आहेत स्त्रियांसाठी. कुठले धडे? अहो हे काय विचारताय! समाज विसरला नाही; तुम्ही कसे विसरलात? स्त्रियांच्या हक्कांसाठीची चळवळ अठराशे सालापासून चालली आहे. जी आज पोस्ट कोविड युगात एका नव्या वळणावर येऊन ठेपली आहे. टाळेबंदी जाहीर झाली आणि स्त्रियांसाठी एक मोठे रणांगण समोर आले. एक वर्किंग वुमन आज घरी काय काय करते यावर चर्चा होऊ लागली. त्यावर अनंत विनोद पण लिहिले गेले पण तोच भयानक जुना धडा परत ठळक गिरवला गेला. “चूल आणि मूल” मग बाकी सर्व. घरकामांना स्त्रियांनी दुसऱ्या स्त्रियांना काम देऊ केले पण या टाळेबंदी मध्ये ती सर्व कामे आता घरातल्या बाईची जबाबदारी म्हणून परत एकदा नक्की झाले. ती नाराजी व्यक्त करणे हे चुकीचे धरले जाऊ लागले. झूम मिटींग्स, वेबिनार वर्क, व्हिडिओ कॉल्स या सर्वांना हजर राहायच्याआधी घरातली सर्व कामे पार किंवा मार्गी

लावून बसणे हे जणू गृहीत धरले जाऊ लागले. एरियलनी “शेअर द लोड” ही संकल्पना पुढे आणली.... उत्तम विचार होता पण त्याच्यात पुरुष कसा एखाद्या राजकुमारासारखा त्या स्त्रीला वाचवतो असे जाणवायला लागले. ह्या टाळेबंदीनी पुन्हा तर बाईला मल्टिटार्किंग आले पाहिजे याचे तर समीकरण पुढे केले नव्हते ना? या सर्व प्रश्नांमधून मला एक अतिशय महत्त्वाची पण अगदी छोटी गोष्ट मांडायची आहे.... ती म्हणजे “मी टाईम”.

प्रत्येक स्त्रीच्या विकासाचा आराखडा संस्कारांच्या कित्यावर लिहून ठेवलेला असतो. तो कित्ता कधी उपदेश करू लागतो हे समजण्या आधीच ती साचेबद्ध जगू लागते. तिच्या या प्रगतीचे मापन हे तिची शैक्षणिक किंवा करिअरची कामगिरी नसते. तर ती किती उत्तम आणि अचूक रितीने घर आणि करिअर यांच्यात समतोल ठेवते याच्यातच असते. पण तिला या काळात हवा आहे तो म्हणजे “मी टाईम”. हे नक्की काय असते असा प्रश्न पडला असेल तुम्हाला. काही विशेष नाही. उदाहरणार्थ एखादा

कप चहा फक्त तिच्या एकटीसाठी ती बनवू शकते, जास्त वेळ अंधोळीसाठी, एखादा पदार्थ तिच्या आवडीचा, घरातल्या कामाची मोठी यादी बाजूला ठेवून एखादी मालिका पाहिली. “मी टाईम” तेव्हाच जेव्हा मानसिक आणि सामाजिक ताण नसेल. तिला कुठला सण, वार किंवा डे हवाच असे नाही पण हा वेळ म्हणजे, “मी टाईम” तिच्या मानसिक स्वास्थ्यासाठी रामबाण उपाय आहे. मुलगी शिकली प्रगती झाली या बरोबर मी टाईम ही तितकीच मोठी गरज आहे असे मला वाटते. ती स्वतःला वेळ देऊ शकली तर ती जगू शकली हे आता शिक्षणा इतकेच गरजेचे आहे.

उद्या परत कुणी असे म्हणू नये आई कुठे काय करते! अनंत अडचणीतून ती उभी आहे स्वतःचा ताण विसरून दुसऱ्यांना उभारी देते; पण मग तिच्या वेळेचं काय? तिला हा मी टाईम नक्की मिळावा.

डॉ. प्रणोती चिरमुले
समाजशास्त्र विभाग

शिक्षणाच्या नवीन वळणावरील प्रवास...

काही दिवसांपासून कुजबुज सुरु होती की आता विद्यार्थ्यांना सर्व माहिती, विविध अभ्यासाचे वर्ग इंटरनेटवर सहज उपलब्ध असल्याने, शिक्षकांची व शाळा-कॉलेजची गरज उरलेली नाही. आम्हा शिक्षकांची मात्र ठाम समजूत होती की आमच्या शिवाय विद्यार्थ्यांचे शिक्षण होणे शक्य नाही.

२०२०च्या मार्च महिन्यात कोरोना - कोविड-१९ या आजाराने आपल्या देशात हातपाय पसरायला सुरुवात केली. शाळा-कॉलेजेस तातडीने बंद करण्यात आली. साधारण दोन आठवडे परिस्थिती समजण्यात गेले. आपल्या देशातील-शहरातील परिस्थितीची इतर देशांशी तुलना करता लक्षात येऊ लागले की यापुढे कित्येक महिने सर्वांना एकमेकांपासून दूर राहूनच व्यवहार चालू ठेवावे लागतील.

अचानक 'शिक्षण पद्धतीत करावे लागणारे बदल' यावर वेबीनारसंचे पेव फुटले. परिस्थितीचा पूर्ण अंदाज येत नसला तरी, आपणही येणाऱ्या नवीन पर्वाला सामोरे जाण्यास तयार असावे म्हणून शिक्षकांनी अद्ययावत पण पूर्णतः अनभिज्ञ अशा टेक्नॉलॉजीची माहिती करून घेण्यास सुरुवात केली. 'तरुणांनी' हे सहज आत्मसात केले व त्यात नवनवीन प्रयोग करू लागले. माझ्यासारखे 'म्हातारे' पडत-धडपडत थोडे हातपाय हलवून दमछाक करून आपल्या मेंदूला ताण देऊ लागले.

एकदाचे हे नक्की झाले की विद्यार्थ्यांना शाळा-कॉलेजच्या वर्गात बसवून खडू-फळा वापरून शिकवता येणे दुरापास्त आहे. इंटरनेटच्या माध्यमातून शिकवण्यासाठी लागणारे साहित्य, सॉफ्टवेअर जमवून ते वापरण्याचे धडे घेण्यास सुरुवात झाली. जो विषय इतकी वर्षे खडू-फळा वापरून सहज शिकवला, तोच आता नवीन पद्धतीत कसा मांडायचा यावर डोके लढवण्यात काही दिवस घालवले. त्यानंतर विषयाच्या एकेक छोट्या तुकड्यावर काम करायला सुरुवात झाली आणि लक्षात आले की जो भाग वर्गात एका 'तासात' शिकवून होतो, त्याला 'व्हिडिओ' मध्ये रुपांतरीत करण्यास २ ते ४ दिवस लागतात.

माझ्या घराजवळील परिसरात भरपूर प्रमाणात झाडे आहेत त्यामुळे विविध पक्षी स्वच्छंदपणे विहार करत असतात. इतकी वर्षे त्यांच्या गाण्यांचे, भांडणांचे कौतुक करून आम्ही स्वतःला भाग्यवान समजत आलो. आता लेक्चर्स रेकॉर्ड करताना त्यांचा त्रास जाणवू लागला. आपण सकाळी कितीही लवकर उठलो तरी हे आपल्या सर्वांच्यासाठी गाणी म्हणण्यास आधीच तयार होऊन बसलेले असतात. लॉकडाऊनमुळे सर्वजण घरातच अडकल्याने जवळ जवळ दिवसाचे १६-१८ तास प्रत्येक घरी मनोरंजनाचे कार्यक्रम, समाजसेवा करण्याइतपत मोठ्याने, चालू असतात. या सर्वांचा तोल सांभाळत

कामास सुरुवात झाली. सुरुवातीला आपण बनवलेला व्हिडिओ पाहताना आपल्यालाच शिक्षा झाल्यासारखे वाटू लागले पण प्रयत्नांती थोडी सुधारणा होऊ लागली. आपले विद्यार्थी आपल्याला समजून घेतील आणि सवयीने सुधारणा होईल या आशेवर पुढे जात रहाणे हाच एक पर्याय शिल्लक राहिला.

विद्यार्थी प्रत्यक्षपणे समोर दिसले, भेटले नाहीत तर आपण मांडलेला विषय त्यांच्यापर्यंत पोहोचला किंवा नाही हे कसे समजणार ही चिंता तर आहेच, त्याबरोबर त्यांच्या समस्या कशा जाणून घेणार हाही प्रश्न आहे. गणित, संख्याशास्त्र, पदार्थविज्ञान यासारखे जे विषय समजण्यासाठी प्रमेय किंवा गणितं सोडवायची गरज असते, तिथे विद्यार्थ्यांच्या प्रत्यक्ष समोर राहून शिकवणे जास्त गरजेचे वाटते. ज्यांच्या करीअरची सुरुवातच नवीन 'ऑनलाईन' पद्धतीने शिकवण्याने होईल त्यांना समूहापुढे बोलण्याची, प्रत्यक्षात दुसऱ्याला समजून घेऊन त्यांच्या अडचणी सोडवण्याची सवय लागेल का? प्रत्यक्ष शिकवताना आलेल्या अनुभवातून विषय मांडण्यात करावे लागणारे बदल त्यांच्या लक्षात कसे येणार? हे व यासारखे इतरही काही प्रश्न भेडसावत आहेत.

'केल्याने होत आहे रे आधी केलेची पाहिजे' या उक्तीप्रमाणे वाटचाल करत रहावी हेच बरे....

डॉ. श्यामला बोधणे
भौतिकशास्त्र विभाग

लायब्ररी

कसं बरं असेल हे लायब्ररीतलं 'न्यू नॉर्मल'? लायब्ररी टिकेल, की बदलेल की नष्ट होईल? बदल हा आयुष्याचा शाश्वत भाग आहे, पण या कोविड-१९ महामारी मुळे तो असा काही अंगावर आदळलाय।

तास ऑनलाइन व्हायला लागले की लायब्ररीतला फूटफॉल आपोआप कमी होईल. वाचक येणार कसे? मग १०० वर्षांपासून निगुतीने जपलेल्या पुस्तका-नियतकालिकांचं करायचं काय?

आपण फक्त इ-बुक्स वापरणार का? छापील पुस्तकाची प्रत एकदा पैसे मोजले की आपल्या मालकीची होते. वाचायला, देवाणघेवाण करायला ती वर्षानुवर्ष वापरता येते. इ-बुक्सचं तसं नाही बरं का! त्यांचं लायसन्स असतं, मुदत संपली की संपला access! मग पुन्हा पैसे भरावे लागतात. वेगवेगळ्या प्रकाशकांची पुस्तक अभ्यासाला लावण्याचं जे स्वातंत्र्य शिक्षकांना छापील पुस्तकांमध्ये आहे ते इ-बुक्स मध्ये असणार नाही. 'अबक' किंवा 'क्षळज्ञ' या एकाच प्रकाशकाची पुस्तकं वाचून होईल का हो ज्ञानार्जन? पुन्हा शाळेत गेल्यासारखं होईल ना ते!

भारतीय पुस्तकांचं digitisation अजून जास्त प्रमाणात झालं नाहीये. कॉपीराईट बाद झालेली पुस्तकं खुशाल वापरा उपलब्ध असली तर! आणि आपल्याकडे असतील ती शेयर करा इ-बुक्सच्या स्वरूपात. यासाठी छापील पुस्तकं सांभाळून ठेवावी लागतील आणि digitisation प्रकल्पाला चालना द्यावी लागेल.

जुनी पुस्तकं आणि जर्नल्स ही कॉलेज पुरती मर्यादित नसतात. निधी सरकारने दिलेला असतो. त्यामुळे ती सरकारने तुमच्याकडे सांभाळायला दिलेली ठेव असते. बाहेरून देश-विदेशातून वाचक येतात ही ठेव अभ्यासायला. ही ठेव रद्दीत काढायचा करंटेपणा करू नये.

इ-बुक्सशी हळूहळू जमवून घ्यावं लागेल. आजच आपल्याला कितीतरी इ-साधनं उपलब्ध आहेत. सरकारने स्वस्त दरात दिलेली. किंवा काही फुकट सुद्धा.

लायसेन्स साधनांच्या access च्या अटी तपासाव्या लागतील. नवीन पुस्तकं प्रकाशित होतच आहेत. मग ती घ्यायची की नाहीत? थांबा, थांबा! घाईघाईनं 'जुने जाऊ द्या मरणालागुनी' वगैरे करू नका! महामारी संपेल, गाड्या सुरु होतील, पुन्हा

कॉलेजमध्ये प्रत्यक्ष (ऑनलाइन नव्हे) जाता येईल. ही आस प्रत्येकाच्या मनात आहे. किती virtual केलं तरी प्रत्यक्षाची सर येईल का मन्डळी! सध्यापुरतं 'प्रत्यक्षाहुनि प्रतिमा सुन्दर' म्हणा, पण हे सारं संपेल तेव्हाच या बदलातले काय टिकतील हे कळेल, काही नक्की रहातील पण सगळेच नाही!

पुस्तकं हातात घेऊन वाचण्याचा आनंद, लायब्ररीतला टाईमपास हे सगळं थोडीच सोडून देणार आपण? वाट पहा थोडीशी! माझ्या शुभेच्छा!!!

ताजा कलम : हा लेख लिहून सहा महिने झाले आहेत. महामारीचा शेवट अजून दिसत नाहीये. ऑनलाइनच्या खिडकीचा महादरवाजा झाला आहे आणि लायब्ररीचं दार उघडं असूनही वाचकांच्या प्रतिकेत! येणारी काही वर्ष या ऑनलाइनच्या माध्यमातूनच सेवा पुरवावी लागणार असं दिसतयं!

मेधा तासकर

ग्रंथपाल (१९९७-२०२०)

प्रिय दुर्गा

प्रिय दुर्गा,

हे पत्र जरी तुला उद्देशून लिहिलं असलं, तरीही ते तुझ्यापर्यंत त्यावेळेस पोहोचणं हे वास्तवात शक्य नाही, याची मला जाणीव आहे. समजा ते शक्य झालंच, तर आपल्याला भविष्यातून पत्र येण्यासारखं काय अकथित घडलय असं तुला वाटणं सहाजिकच आहे. थोड्या वेळासाठी कां होईना तुझ्या त्या फोन मधून आणि व्यस्त कॉलेज लाईफमधून या पत्राला वेळ दे. पत्रास कारण असं, की येत्या वर्षात तुझ्या आणि तुझ्या आसपासच्या सर्वांच्याच आयुष्याला एक अजस्र कलाटणी मिळणार आहे आणि त्याचीच वार्ता तुझ्या कानावर घालायची आहे.

माझ्याकडे दोन बातम्या आहेत. एक चांगली आणि दुसरी अर्थातच वाईट. तुझ्या स्वभावानुसार आधी वाईट बातमी देते. नवीन वर्षाचे पहिले दोन महिने सोडले तर उर्वरित वर्ष तुझ्या प्लॅनिंगनुसार अजिबात जाणार नाहीये. मग ते सुट्टीत एकदाचं कॅम्पिंगला जाण असो किंवा नवीन वाद्य शिकणं असो. वर्षभर ज्या घराला आश्रमासारखी बागवत होतीस, त्याच घरात घरकोंबडी बनवून रहावं लागेल. आणि मला हे पक्कं ठाऊक आहे की तुझ्यासारख्या पंचक्रोशीत हिंडणाऱ्या मुलांचं सर्वात वाईट स्वप्न कोणतं असेल, तर ते सुट्ट्यांमध्ये घरी बसणं.

सुट्टीवरून आठवलं, या हव्याहव्याशा वाटणाऱ्या सुट्ट्या नकोशा होतील. बरं, तुला झूम ऑप माहित आहे का गं? आताच्या आता त्याबद्दल माहिती करून घे, माझे आभार मानशील बघ. त्यामुळे

नंतर होणारा ताप वाचेल.

तापाचा विषय निघाला आहे म्हणून सांगते. तब्येतीची काळजी घ्यायला सुरुवात कर. नवीन वर्षाच्या संकल्पानिमित्ताने का होईना, एकदाचा योगा सुरू केलास, तर बाबांनासुद्धा खूप बरं वाटेल आणि भविष्यासाठी चांगली गुंतवणूक होईल. तुला आठवतंय, पहिलीत असताना शाळेत चांगल्या सवयी शिकवायचे ते? हो, त्यातल्याच हात धुण्याच्या सवयीचा जप करायला तयार रहा. मी ज्या काळातून लिहितेय, तिथे 'द न्यू नॉर्मल' या भानगडीचा बोलबोला सुरू आहे. त्याच 'न्यू नॉर्मल' साठी तुला तयार व्हायचंय. तुझ्या यादीत असलेली सगळी पुस्तकं एकदाची घेऊन ये, खूप टाळाटाळ झाली. एवढंच काय, यापुढे घराबाहेर पडण्याच्या, मित्रमंडळींना कडकडून मिठ्या मारण्याच्या जेवढ्या संधी मिळतील त्या अजिबात दवडू नकोस. आमच्या नॉर्मलमध्ये प्रियजनांना साधं आलिंगन देणंसुद्धा पाप बनलंय. आभासाचे मुखवटे बाजूला ठेवून आता खरेखुरे मास्क घालण्याची तयारी ठेव. मनामनातील अंतरामध्ये शारीरिक आणि सामाजिक अंतराची भर पडेल.

वाईट बातम्यांची मालिका इथे संपत नाही. पण तुझ्या भविष्याबद्दल सगळं सांगून मला नियतीच्या चक्रात ढवळाढवळ करायची नाही. येत्या महिन्यांमध्ये विरहाचा त्रास होईल पण त्यामुळे मैत्रीची किंमतदेखील कळेल. व्यक्तिशः न भेटता सुद्धा प्रेम व्यक्त करता येतं, नवनवीन गोष्टी शिकता येतात हे तुला चांगल्या प्रकारे कळेल. अगं हो, सर्वात महत्वाची गोष्ट सांगायची राहिलीच. तुझ्या शहराचे किनारे, आकाश

आणि एकंदर निसर्गच तात्पुरता का होईना, प्रदूषणविरहित होईल. गाड्यांच्या कर्कश्य हॉर्नऐवजी पक्ष्यांच्या किलबिलाटाने सकाळ होईल. पण तो आनंदसुद्धा दोन घटकांचा असेल. एक छान बातमी म्हणजे येणारं वर्ष तुला विचार करायला बकळ वेळ देईल. तेव्हा एकदा निवांत बसून स्वतःचा, आसपासच्या लोकांचा आणि येत्या भविष्याचा विचार कर.

आता इतकी उलथापालथ होण्यासारखं नेमकं काय होणार हे तुला काही दिवसात कळेलच. बहुतेक सुरुवातीला तुला परिस्थितीची गंभीरतासुद्धा उमगणार नाही. तुझ्या आयुष्यावर लोंबणाऱ्या अनिश्चिततेपेक्षा कितीतरी पटीने वाईट अशी परिस्थिती लोकांवर ओढवणार आहे याची जाणीव असू दे. तुला आता नॉर्मल वाटणाऱ्या गोष्टी कायमच्या बदलतील. तसं म्हटलं तर आपल्या मानवजातीबद्दलची कोणतीच गोष्ट नॉर्मल नाही. पण येता काळ परीक्षेचा आहे. या परीक्षेला कसं सामोरं जायचं हे तुला आणि अख्या मानवजातीला ठरवायचंय.

काय मग तयारी आहे ना न्यू नॉर्मलची? होशीलच तू नक्कीच तयार, नाही तर हे कसं पत्र लिहिलं असतं तुला? जा आता, नाहीतर आठ वाजताचं लेक्चर पुन्हा चुकवशील. माझ्यासुद्धा ऑनलाइन लेक्चरची वेळ झालीये. आणि एक महत्वाचं म्हणजे, काळजी घे.

तुझीच,
दुर्गा.

२८ जून २०२०.

दुर्गा रामचंद्र येसादे
प्रथम वर्ष, कला

“कोरोनानंतरचे साधारण जीवन”

“सर्व दैव्यै नमोस्तुते”

प्रथम आपण ईश्वराच्या चरणी प्रार्थना करुया

ह्या कोरोनाचा नाश होऊन सर्वांचे जीवन पूर्ववत होऊ दे।

दे भिरकावून देवा कोरोनाची भीती, तूच असे सदैव आमुच्या साथी।।

ज्ञान शिकविते काय बोलावे
कौशल्य शिकविते कसे बोलावे
वागणूक शिकविते किती बोलावे
परंतु अनुभव काय शिकवितो?... तर
कोरोना नंतरचे जीवन कसे असेल.

सर्वसाधारणपणे समाजाची प्रतिक्रिया अत्यंत क्लेशकारक असेल. जवळचे नातेवाईक गमावल्यामुळे, उदासीनतेमुळे आणि औषधांच्या दुष्परिणामांमुळे मानसिक आरोग्य धोक्यात येईल. कुपोषणामुळे परिस्थिती आणखी बिघडू शकते. साथीचा हा रोग संपल्यानंतर सर्व लोक घाबरलेले असतील. कौटुंबिक कार्ये, धार्मिक कार्ये यासारख्या सामाजिक मेळाव्यांना जाणे टाळतील. या सामाजिक अंतराची व्याप्ती प्रत्येक व्यक्तीमध्ये भिन्न असू शकते. कोरोना व्हायरसच्या पुनर्प्रादुर्भावाच्या भीतीमुळे लोक सिनेमा हॉल, मॉल, रेस्टॉरंटस् देखील टाळण्याचा प्रयत्न करतील. साथीच्या या आजारामुळे जगभरातील अर्थव्यवस्था मोडकळीस आलेली असेल. पेट्रोल व डिझेलच्या किमतीत वाढ झालेली दिसेल. बेरोजगारी, मंदी, कमी खरेदी क्षमता यामुळे किरकोळ व्यवसाय नष्ट होऊ शकतील.

आयात-निर्यात, आंतरराष्ट्रीय करार, परदेशी गुंतवणूक यावर खूप मोठा परिणाम दिसून येईल. यामध्ये औषध कंपन्या नक्कीच प्रचंड नफा कमावतील.

कोव्हिड १९ च्या या विषाणूनं संपूर्ण जगात थैमान घातलंय. या विषाणूच्या फैलावाला आटोक्यात आणण्यासाठी अनेक प्रकारच्या उपाय योजना केल्या जात आहेत. सध्या शिकण्याची व सरावाची नवीन कौशल्ये आत्मसात केली जात आहेत. लोकांचा स्वच्छतेकडे अधिकाधिक जाण्याचा प्रयत्न नक्कीच दिसून येईल. रस्त्यावर खाताना, फिरताना, थुंकताना लोक जास्तीत जास्त विचार करतील यात शंका नाही. त्यामुळे आपल्याला कधीही पाहिली नसेल इतकी स्वच्छता बघायला मिळेल. कोरोना जरी नष्ट झाला तरी लोकांना मास्क वापरायची, सतत हात धुवायची सवय आता कायमचीच लागून राहिल.

एकंदरीत परिस्थितीचा विचार करता एक गोष्ट सहज लक्षात येईल, ती म्हणजे कोरोना विरुद्धच्या लढ्यात कोणकोणत्या उपाययोजना केल्या जात आहेत व त्या कशा केल्या जात आहेत. यावरच नवे जग कसे वाटचाल करणार हे ठरणार आहे. कोरोनाच्या साथीमुळे होणाऱ्या विविध परिणामांना तोंड देण्यासाठी भविष्यात जे जे उपाय पुढे येतील, ते नुकसानांची तीव्रता नक्कीच कमी करतील. सध्या अनेक कंपन्या, शाळा, कॉलेजेस आपापल्या कर्मचाऱ्यांना “घरातून काम” करण्यास मुभा व प्रोत्साहन देत आहेत.

यामुळे पुढे आपल्याला “घरातून कामा”चे प्रमाण नक्कीच वाढलेले दिसेल. डिजीटल कॉन्फरन्स वाढतील, मिटींग्स्च्या ऐवजी व्हिडीओ कॉन्फरन्स होतील व वाहतूकही कमी होईल, ज्यामुळे प्रदूषणाची पातळी कमी होईल.

कोव्हिड १९च्या नंतर जगातील बहुसंख्य लोकांच्या वर्तनामध्ये दिसणारा बदल वैश्विक पातळीवर विविध क्षेत्रांचे नियम बदलणारा ठरेल. लोकं नात्यांना नीट ओळखायला शिकतील. पैसा काही कामाचा नाही हे लोकांना कळून चुकेल. गरीब श्रीमंत यात काही फरक नाही हे आपल्याला कोरोनाने दाखवून दिले. माणूस आता पर्यंत निसर्गावर प्रेम करत नव्हता. या पुढे निसर्गावर अधिकाधिक प्रेम करून सर्वजण निसर्गाला महत्त्व देतील. जगाला कळून चुकले की निसर्गापुढे मानवाचे काही चालत नाही.

कोरोना नंतरच्या काळात लोकांना ही सतत जाणीव राहिल की पैशा पेक्षा माणसाचे मोल जास्तच आहे.

सर्व देशभर या साथीच्यानंतर मानवेचे नेमके भविष्य काय असेल हे कोणीही जाणू शकणार नाही. पृथ्वीच्या हवामान व वातावरणाला फायदा होणार हे निश्चित.

कोरोनानंतरचे येणारे दिवस हे सर्वांना सुखसमृद्धिचे, आनंदाचे व भरभराटीचे जावोत हीच ईश्वर चरणी “सदिच्छा”!!

डॉ. पुष्पा सिनकर
प्राणीशास्त्र विभाग



Chronicles



ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY, CULTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

In the year 2020, the department conducted various activities to enrich the students' learning quotient. The department organized educational activities that brought opportunities of internship for all the 5 batches, (both undergraduate and postgraduate) students, in collaboration with the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya. Our field activities in-house activity explored the facets of our cultural heritage in heritage management, tourism, museology and archaeology. These activities were possible with the collaboration of the Museum Society of Mumbai (MSM), the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS), the Consulate General and Promotion Centre of the Argentine Republic in Mumbai, Consulate General of Brazil in Mumbai, the Archaeological Survey of India and, our own college.

In June 2019, the department opened its new one-year diploma course titled "Diploma in Ancient Indian Culture and Heritage". On June 21st 2019, Dr. Radha Kumar along with the students of the department participated in the International Yoga Day celebration of the college. As part of the outreach activities, Dr. Radha Kumar conducted the Teachers Training programme at Kendriya Vidyalaya on 22nd June 2020. Between 5th and 9th August 2019 Mr. Jason Johns conducted the Honours lecture series titled 'Mytho is Lit' which was attended by an enthusiastic audience. On 6th August 2019, the department had a lecture by Tom Mayes, a Conservationist, on 'Old things matter' and the session was well attended. Between 20th - 27th August 2019 the department as part of its endeavour to save heritage, conducted Paramparik Karigar workshops on traditional crafts like leather jewellery, Gond art, hand block painting and phad painting. On 20th August 2019, the department organised a lecture by Ms. Aishwaraya Harish (an expert of Bharatanrithyam) to deliver a guest lecture titled 'The Essence Of Nritya In Sculptures And Literature' for the MA Performing Arts students. The lecture was facilitated by Dr. Radha Kumar. The department in collaboration

with the Marathi Vangmay Mandal, Museum Society of Mumbai conducted its annual Eco-Friendly Clay Ganesha activity with NGOs and the visually challenged students of the college on 31st August 2019, the event comprised of a lecture by Dr. Kothare followed by modelling clay Ganeshas, the aarti and immersion at the Gateway of India. During the months of August to October, Mr. Jason Johns conducted a series of activities with NIFT, Mumbai which consisted of lectures at the institute and field visits to Kanheri Caves, South Mumbai, Khotachiwadi, Elephanta Caves and Worli Fort.

Between 14th and 18th September 2019, the department in collaboration with the Museum Society of Mumbai along with Mr. Kishore Jhunjunwala organised an exhibition titled 'Mahatma the Legacy' on the life of Gandhiji and to commemorate his 150th birth anniversary. The exhibition consisted of original Gandhi memorabilia and also his relics; the exhibition was inaugurated by officials from the Consulate of South Africa and saw a footfall of 2000 individuals. A workshop was conducted by Mrs Marina Dutta on "Mahatma beyond the textbook" for teachers and students.

As part of the alumni connect, the department organised a curated walk at Piramal Museum of Art, Parel by Ms. Tejaswi Mehta, Alumna Dept. of AIHCA and Manager - Education & Outreach, Piramal Museum for the SYBA and TYBA students of the department. On 1st October the department organised a lecture by Ms. Candida Remedios, Archivist, Cipla Archives & Alumna, Dept. of AIHCA on the topic "Business Archiving" for the students of SYBA and TYBA to further their interests in museology, archiving and documentation. Between 26th-29th November 2019, the department in collaboration with the Consulate General of Spain conducted the Cine De Espanol - Spanish Film Week as part of ECC and Honours activities. The department participated in an event along with Dr. Rajendra Yadav, Superintendent Archaeologist ASI, Mumbai circle at Mahakali

caves, Andheri. The ASI exhibition was inaugurated by Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare. This event was held to commemorate the World Heritage Week that is observed from 19-25 November every year. On behalf of the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Mr. Jason Johns conducted a heritage walk for Belgian exchange programme students and professors on 17th Nov 2019. On 30th November, Mr. Jason Johns conducted a 'Befriending museum' activity and quiz in the Pre-Proto History gallery and sculpture gallery of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya for TYBA, Diploma and Cross Faculty students. He participated in the XYNERGY exhibition that was organised in college from 29th to 30th November 2019 to familiarise school students with the courses offered by the department. On the occasion of World Archaeology Day, the TYBA AIHCA students, under the guidance of our professor Mr. Jason Johns, had a guest lecture by Mr. Anupam Sah, Chief Conservator, MACC, CSMVS followed by a visit to the lab. The students were given a firsthand experience of how a conservation lab functions and were made familiar to the different tools used and tasks carried in the lab.

The department began the new year 2020 with our annual festival cum exhibition Vividha 2020 on the theme Chapplankruti: The Footwear Of The Ancients. The exhibition was held on 9th and 10th of January in the Woods and was inaugurated by Dr. Jehangir Mistry, Director XIC, in the presence of Dr. Shinde, Principal, Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare, HOD and Vice-Chairperson, MSM, Dr. Radha Kumar, Associate Professor, Mr. Jason Johns, Visiting Prof. and Jt. Hon. Secretary, MSM and students. The exhibition consisted of stalls, exhibits and models based on the theme. Along with this, RCA, the departmental magazine on the theme 'Vastralamkar: Clothing of the Ancients' was also released. On Sunday 12th January,

Mr. Jason Johns took the SYBSc cross-faculty, MA AIHCA and Diploma students on a field visit to Elephanta Caves where the students studied

the evolution of Brahmanical Cave Architecture and Iconography on site.

From the 16th to 19th January of 2020 the department organised the Ajanta-Ellora site seminar at the caves. A group of 24 students visited the caves under the guidance of Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare, Dr. Shreekant Jadhav and Mr. Jason Johns who provided enlightening explanations for the same. In commemoration of 'The International Holocaust Day' on January 29th, 2020 the department in collaboration with the Consulate General of Israel in Mumbai & The Consulate General of Switzerland in Mumbai organised an exhibition titled "Beyond Duty" and held the film screening 'Carl Lutz - The Forgotten Hero'. The event was well attended by several Consul Generals.

The students of the department went on a field visit to Gujarat. Under the guidance of Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare and Mr. Jason Johns, they explored the sites of Adalajki Vav, Rani ki Vav, Lothal, Modhera Sun Temple, Sastraling Talav, etc. from the 13th to 16th February, 2020 and it was an enriching experience for all who attended. Rejuvenating ourselves on Sunday morning, 65 students from FYBA went for a field visit to Kanheri Caves on 2nd March, 2020. Under the guidance of Mr. Jason Johns, they explored the concepts of Buddhist Rock-cut Caves, Buddhism, Epigraphy and dynastic details of Satavahanas, Kshatrapas, etc.

Despite the lockdown, the faculty prepared themselves for conducting various activities online in the near future.

Staff Engagement:

Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare

- She was invited to deliver guest lectures at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya on Heritage Laws and Antiquarian Acts, H.R College on Indian Culture and Art, at S.N.D.T College Matunga on Museology, J.J. School of Art for a lecture on Temple Architecture, Epic Channel etc. She conducted heritage walks

for Hindustan Times and was covered by the press.

- She was invited to deliver a lecture at Ajanta Caves for J.J. School of Arts' students as a part of the Ajanta week in December 2019. A research paper was published in their journal.
- She was re-elected as the Vice-Chairperson of the Museum Society of Mumbai for the period 2018-2021.
- She delivered a lecture titled "Petroglyphs in South West Maharashtra" at the event organised by the Museum Society of Mumbai and CSMVS on 7th August 2019, 6:00 pm at Visitors Centre, CSMVS.
- She was invited by Prabhodhan Vidyaniketan School as a chief guest for Marathi Rajbhasha Din on 27th February 2020.
- She was invited as a referee for PhD Thesis at Deccan college Pune.
- She was invited to participate in the exhibition on "Small things matter" at the CSMVS.
- She attended multiple webinars and online sessions.

Dr. Radha Kumar

- She was invited as a resource person to deliver a lecture at the Executive training programme of the Stockholm School of Economics' delegates.
- She was the resource person for Television Series: Epic channel. Episode 1- Auspicious Beginning and Episode 6 - Shringar.
- On 13th January 2020, she conducted a workshop and delivered a lecture on Philosophy and Teachings of Mahatma Gandhi for the Faculty and Students at the International Symposium in Hiranandani Foundation School.
- She was bestowed with the Nupura Kala Shrestha Puraskar 2020 in the Field of Art and Education.

- She organised the lecture series on COVID-19: Pan(aca)demia for the Honours students from 30th April to 1st May 2020 and presented a paper titled "Relevance and Incorporating the concepts of RTA and Sadhana in today's life."
- She delivered a lecture on the Philosophy Of Gandhi to the faculty and students from the Dutch Conglomerate Academic Institutions at Hiranandani Foundation School on January 13th 2020.
- During the Honours course conducted by DIRS, St Xavier's College- Samvaad Exploring The Major World Religions, she was invited to deliver a Lecture on Hinduism on 5th February 2020.
- She was invited as a Chief Guest at the Annual cultural programme Vasai Fine Arts Festival on 10th February 2020.
- She presented a paper and performed for the Socio Academy of St Xavier's College. "Finding Mothers" Lasya Rudri Stri and used the method of dance where the aspects of 'woman' were explored on 13th February 2020.
- She was invited to deliver a lecture and was a panellist for Career Paathshhala - A National symposium for career counsellors conducted by SNDDT on 7th March 2020.
- She was a resource person for delivering a lecture on Hinduism in the Applied Philosophy And Ethics on the online course in Business on 30th May 2020.
- She conducted a webinar on the Position of Women in Ancient India, Shades And Shadows on 7th and 8th May 2020.
- She conducted a webinar on the topic 'Varnashrama' and its relevance in social history at the Leo International School on 4th May 2020.
- She conducted a webinar at Leo International School on Education

in Ancient India on 14th May 2020.

- The Role of Ayurveda in Health Sciences on 22nd May 2020.
- She presented the concept of Katha to construct history and Folk traditions for Emylon Business school on 25th February 2020.

Mr. Jason Johns:

- He successfully completed the first annual Dr. Devangana Desai Junior Research Endowment for the Year 2018-2019. He was re-elected as the Jt. Honorary Secretary of the Museum Society of Mumbai for the period 2018-2021
- He was invited to J.J School of Architecture as a part of the Built Heritage Studies in Conservation Course to deliver a lecture on “Intangible Heritage in Built Structures” in February 2020 as the Department of AIHCA deals with training students in Heritage Management and Conservation.
- He was the moderator of the Dept. of History papers at Jai Hind College (Autonomous), Mumbai.

- He was a guest lecturer at NIFT, Mumbai

He presented a paper titled ‘Deities and Disease management - 2 case studies from mythology and literature’ at the series titled ”COVID-19: PAN (ACA)DEMIC for the Honours students of the college from 30th April to 1st May 2020.

He completed Certificate Course in Ancient Egypt, University of Oxford, Department for Continuing Education, April- July 2020.

He completed a Certificate Course in Christianity through its scriptures from (HarvardX) Harvard University via EdX in May 2020.

He completed a Certificate Course in Big History: Connecting Knowledge by Macquarie University via Coursera in May 2020.

He completed a Certificate Course in Archaeoastronomy from Politecnico di Milano via Coursera in May 2020.

He completed a one-week Certificate Course in Gender Sensitisation & Prevention of

Sexual Harassment from One Future Collective from the 11th to 17th of May 2020.

He completed a one-week Certificate Course in Queer Rights & Allyship from One Future Collective from 25th May to 31st May 2020.

He completed a certificate course on Queering the Schoolhouse: LGBTQ+ Inclusion for Educators from University of Colorado System via Coursera in May 2020.

He completed a certificate course in Alternative Intelligence from Microsoft via EdX in May 2020.

He completed a certificate course in Cyber security and Mobility by University System of Georgia via Coursera in May 2020.

He completed a certificate course on MOOC: How to make a MOOC? by Novosibirsk State University via Coursera in June 2020.

He attended multiple webinars and online sessions.

By Dr. Anita Rane Kothare,
Head, Department of Ancient
Indian History, Culture
and Archaeology

BIOTECHNOLOGY

“It is change, continuing change, inevitable change, that is the dominant factor in society today. No sensible decision can be made any longer without considering not only the world as it is but the world as it will be.”

Isaac Asimov, Biochemist and Fiction Writer, 1920-1992

Keeping with the mission of the department to become a leading centre in education, research and entrepreneurship in Biotechnology, guided by sound scientific and ethical principles, and committed to the virtues of quality and relevance, this year we introduced the **Diploma**

Course in Bioinformatics for Final Year Undergraduate and Post Graduate Biosciences students.

Several activities were conducted to enhance student learning and engagement with research and industry needs.

Seminars and Workshops Conducted:

1. **Pre-conference symposium** ‘Sequence to Drugs’- A 2019 NextGen Genomics, Biology, Bioinformatics and Technologies in collaboration with SciGenom Research Foundation (SGRF), India on 28th September 2019.

Speakers and Talks

- Dr. Sekar Seshagiri, ModMab Therapeutics, USA- Genomics landscape overview.
- Dr. Kushal Suryamohan, MedGenome Inc, USA- Bioinformatics analysis overview.
- Dr. Sameer Phalke, MedGenome Labs, India- Genomics applications in clinics in India.
- Dr. Mallika Singh, Revolution Medicines, USA- How drugs are made.

- Dr. Zoltan Takacs, Toxin Tech, USA- Nature's gift - venom to drugs.
 - Dr. Sekar Seshagiri Dr. Zoltan Takacs.
2. Seminar on 'Translating Cancer Genomics to medicine' by Dr. Amit Dutt on 5th October 2019.
 3. 'Biotuning Possibilities'- a one-day seminar organized on 12th October 2019.
 - Mr. Nikhil T., Alumnus-Reviewer (Medicine), Cactus Communications- 'Edit the Write Way'.
 - Dr. Hrishikesh Pandit, Alumnus-Post doctoral fellow, NIH, USA- Current Status and future advancements in HIV/ AIDS therapy; Career prospects in Biological Sciences: Making the best choice.
 - Dr. Rukmini Govekar PI, ACTREC- 'Advances in Proteomics'.
 - Dr. Ashok Verma, P I & Scientific Officer 'E', ACTREC- 'Unravelling the protein structure: X-ray Crystallography'.
 4. 'Trends in Immunodiagnosics- From Detection to Diagnosis and Beyond', a one-day symposium and workshop on Immunoinformatics under the aegis of RUSA, held on 6th February 2020.
 - Dr. B R Das, Clinical Advisor & Mentor, R & D Development, SRL diagnostics Pvt. Ltd.- Precision Medicine: A Paradigm shift in diagnostics.
 - Dr. Taruna Madan, Scientist F, Head Department of Innate Immunity, ICMR-NIRRH -Evaluation of innate immune molecules as microbicides for the prevention of STIs including HIV.
 - Dr. Bhavani Shankar, Scientist, Radiation Biology and Health Sciences, BARC- Immunotherapeutics in cancer treatment.
 - Dr. Ikram Khatkhatay, Scientist, NIRRH, Mumbai- Current Trends in Immunodiagnosics.
 - Mr. Badri Narayan, Applications Specialist, Thermo Fischer Scientific Pvt Ltd.- Immunobiology and diagnostics: Available tools and techniques: Where we are and what we can do?"
 - Immunoinformatics Workshop – Resource Person- Ms. Norine D'Souza and team.
 5. Roadmap: To a Post CoVID 19 Era: A Two-day International Webinar held on 23rd and 24th May 2020. Highlights of the Webinar-
 - Dr. Sekar Seshagiri (Science Genome Research Foundation (SGRF), India and ModMab Therapeutics, USA) - 'SARS CoV-2: A beautiful, deadly and an invisible killer- can science help defeat it?'
 - Dr. Salil Shinde, Pfizer Biopharmaceuticals, Hong Kong SAR 'Pharmaceutical Industry and COVID 19 - short- and long-term implications'.
 - Dr. Elvis Martis, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Bombay College of Pharmacy, India.- How good are Drug Re-purposing Strategies to tackle SARS-CoV-2?
 - Dr. Sandeepan Mukherjee, Scientist, Haffkine's Research Institute- Diagnosing CoVID 19 - Where is the Bottle-Neck?
 - Dr. Caroline Mathen, CEO & founder of OCT Therapies & Research Private Ltd.-The Potential of Stem Cells Based Therapies for COVID 19.
- Dr. Krishna Iyer, Head, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry Bombay College of Pharmacy (Autonomous)- Vaccination and Viral Vaccines- Considerations and Status of COVID-19 Vaccine.
 - Dr. Subhrojyoti Bhowmick, Clinical Director, Peerless Hospital, Kolkata- CoVID19 and health comorbidities: Does it affect the outcome?
 - Dr. Hrishikesh Pandit, Post Doctor Fellow National Cancer Institute of Health, Maryland, USA- Immunotherapy for CoVID19 – Global Perspective and Opportunities.
- * **Palindrome Magazine:** The 9th issue of Palindrome Magazine, published in February 2020, revolved around the theme 'Biotechnology in Everyday Life'.
- * **Staff and Student Research Activities:**
- Research Projects 2019-20:**
- Dr. Karuna Gokarn and Ms. Norine D'Souza guided a project for MSc dissertation titled "*Impact of point mutations on the structural stability of rpoB and katG proteins of M. tuberculosis: A computational approach*".
 - Semester 3 students completed 18 group projects on various aspects of Bioinformatics, Animal cell culture and Environment Biotechnology.



Dr. Sekar Seshagiri

Research Grants awarded in 2019-20

- Ms. Norine D'Souza and Dr. Shiney Peter have received a grant of Rs. 70,000/- each for the University of Mumbai- Minor Research Project.

Poster Presentations:

- 'Adsorption of an Azo dye using Chitosan and spent Tea Powder' in 8th Indian Chitin Chitosan Society Symposium held on 19th and 20th September 2019 at Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai Authors: Divya B. Gaud, Nikita N. Pinto, Priyanshi V. Suvasia, Khushboo R. Kothari, Savio J. Miranda, Jayant P. Rathod. **Won the first prize in the creative corner section.**
- "A student-centric approach for developing scientific communication skills in undergraduate microbiology students", Authors: Talekar A, Amonkar V, Gokarn K., at *epiSTEME 8*: Eighth International Conference to Review Research on Science, Technology and Mathematics Education. HBCSE, Mumbai from 3rd-6th Jan 2020.
- At "International Conference on Biotechnology: Perspective and Challenges" held on 14th and 15th February 2020 at Modern College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Ganeshkhind, Pune.
 - ◆ Impact of point Mutations on the structural stability of *rpoB* - A computational Approach Authors: Khushboo Kothari, Norine Dsouza & Karuna Gokarn - **Won the consolation Prize.**
 - ◆ A comparative study on growth kinetics of microbes in response to different carbon substrates Authors: Jhelum Chaulbal, Nihira Deollikar, Bushra Khan, Drishya Unnithan, Prashant Suvasia and Norine Dsouza.
 - ◆ 'Utilization of Pineapple Pomace for extraction of a

bioactive corrosion inhibitor' Authors: Kush Gudka, Neha Kumari, Bayaan Sarang, Jheel Kavedia, Simran Thakur, Shiney Peter.

- 'Exploration of *Calotropis* species extracts as alternate anti-proliferative agents using human cell line models' at the International Conference on Natural Products- Quality, Safety and Efficacy' held on 6th and 7th March 2020 at SIES College of Arts, Science and Commerce (Autonomous), Mumbai. Authors: Tejas Suryawanshi, Rutuja Yelmar, Conceetha Sequiera, Shiney Peter **Won the 2nd Prize for the Poster.**
- *Integration of Bioinformatics Tools for Biomolecular studies: An Impact Analysis of Blended Learning Approach*, International Conference on Evolving Trends in Higher education organized by the IQAC, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai from 12th - 13th March 2020 Authors - Norine D'Souza and Shiney Peter.

Student participation in seminars/workshops/conferences:

- **Popular Science Lecture Series 2018-19** Organized by IWAS Association, Vashi, Navi Mumbai Supported by BRNS-DAE on Genomics Landscapes of Tumours by Dr. Manoj Mahimkar, Scientist, ACTREC, on 13th August 2019.
- Represented PGDBT with an exhibit titled, 'The Biotech Express' and posters on various fields namely pharmaceutical biotechnology, stem cell therapy, bioinformatics, origin and development of vaccines, genetically modified organisms at the DBT- CTEP sponsored Science Fair "Popularization of Science" (An outreach to inspire young minds) on 29th November 2019 and **Xynergy 2019** (A Spectrum of Opportunities) on 30th November 2019, held at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

- Two-day Workshop on International Auditing System and Process- FSMS conducted by ONECERT International (P) Ltd. Audit and Training Dept on 11th and 12th December 2019.
- One day Symposium 'Biowaves 2020' on upholding the spirit of sustainability organized by Department of Life Sciences and Biochemistry, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai on 18th January 2020.
- Participated in Youth Against Organ Trafficking Conclave organized by Harmony Foundation on 31st January 2020.
- MSc-I students participated in the self-defense workshop organized by Women's Development Cell on 13th February 2020.
- Attended a lecture on Human Coronaviruses from SARS to CoViD by Dr. Sandipan Mukherjee, Scientific Officer, Haffkine's Institute for Training Research and Testing, Mumbai on 19th February 2020.
- Attended the One-day training program on FSSAI - FSSAI-National Food Safety Regulations-Manufacturing Sector- schedule 4 for manufacturing units and its Importance conducted by ONECERT International (P) Ltd. Audit and Training Dept on 23rd February 2020.
- Participated in the NextGen Genomics, Biology, Bioinformatics and Technologies (NGBT) Conference 2019 hosted by SGRF Conferences, SciGenom Research Foundation (SGRF), Taj Lands' End, Mumbai from 30th Sept to 2nd Oct 2019.
- MSc-II students volunteered as supporting executives in various departments of the organization of the event.

Faculty Members,
Department of Biotechnology

BOTANY

Dr. Rajdeo Singh joined the Department of Botany as Assistant Professor from December 2nd, 2019.

Seminar and Workshop

The department organized two workshops and one national seminar this year.

The Botany Department and The National Society of the Friends of the Trees under the aegis of RUSA, organized a National seminar on '**Tree Ecology and Urban Forest Management**' on February, 13th 2020. Dr. Rajendra Shinde and Dr. Ashok Kothari, President of The National Society of the Friends of the Trees inaugurated the seminar. Dr. B. Nagarajan, Scientist G, Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding, Coimbatore gave the keynote address on 'Making Trees in India: Addressing Conservation Solutions and Industrial Needs'. Other renowned speakers included Professor Amit Lahiri, Chief Sustainability Officer, O. P. Jindal Global University, Delhi. He spoke on 'Ecologies, Communities & Markets: A Tale of Two Trees in the Western Ghats'. Dr. Mandar Datar, Scientist C, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune; spoke on 'Forests of Northern Western Ghats: New Insights from Old Habitat'. Dr. H. S. Singh, Ex- Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Gujarat State; gave an illustrated talk on 'Urban Forestry'. Dr. Advait Edgaonkar, Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal; gave a talk on 'Valuation of Ecosystem Services'.

Under the guidance of Dr. Vijaya Lobo, inspired by the theme of 'reuse, recycle and innovate', the Msc-I students Ms. Shirin Khan and Ms. Saloni Kothari put up an exhibition of natural dyed cloth. Continuing the theme further, Ms. Jidnyasa Tare assisted by Ms. Aditi Nimbalkar exhibited 'Biojewellery', made out of waste.

Mr. Praveen Kale, Asst. Curator Blatter Herbarium exhibited herbarium

specimens and publications of Blatter Herbarium.

The First Botany Department student's association called the '**Botany Association of Xaviers**' was inaugurated during the seminar. More than 200 participants from various colleges, institutes, and NGOs including students, teachers, researchers, and activists attended the seminar. The Committee members included General Secretary Mr. Harsh Pant of Msc-I, Assistant General Secretary Ms. Anushka Agarwal of SYBsc, Treasurer Ms. Aditi Nimbalkar of Msc-I and Events Head Ms. Shirin Khan.

One-day workshop on '**Plant Identification Methods: Current and Future Trends**' was organised on 5th October, 2019. Dr. Manek Mistry, Mr. Kevin D'cruz and Ms. Rene Vyas were the key speakers. Dr. Manek Mistry & Ms. Rene Vyas arranged a campus field visit for the participants to explore the plants. The teaching faculty of various disciplines across the colleges attended the workshop.

A half-day workshop on '**Plant nomenclature**' was organized on January 2nd 2020. **Dr. Kanchi Gandhi**, Senior Nomenclatural Registrar, Harvard University Herbaria, USA; explained the basic and important rules of plant nomenclature. MSc, PhD students and faculty attended the workshop from other colleges.

Research Projects

The following minor research projects have been sanctioned by the University of Mumbai MRP grant.

- (a) **Dr. Vijaya Lobo**, 'Taxonomic studies of Genus Zingiber from Northern Western Ghats'. University of Mumbai Minor Research Project of Rs. 35,000/- of one year.
- (b) **Mr. Alok Gude**, 'Revision of the genus Dactyloctenium and discourse on the dubious occurrence of Dactyloctenium

scindicum Boiss, from Maharashtra'. University of Mumbai Minor Research Project of Rs. 30,000/- of one year.

Guest Lectures organized:

- 1) Dr. Mark Carine, Principal Curator in Charge of the Algae, Fungi and Plants Division, Department of Life Sciences, The Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom delivered a lecture on February 10th 2020. He spoke on taxonomic problems and understanding phylogenetic relationships in a number of taxa and island systems in the Atlantic.
- 2) Ms. Raneem Om Prakash, Curator of Flowering Plants –General Herbarium, Department of Life Sciences, The Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom spoke about 'Samuel Browne – A cross-cultural study of medicinal plant use from India' on 10th February, 2020.
- 3) Dr. Sudhir Khodwekar, Senior Consultant and Head at SAFE (Seed Academy of Foreign Education), Thane, Maharashtra, India; gave a talk on 5th December, 2019 about the opportunities available for biology students to study abroad. He guided them on the different universities offering different programs, loan facilities available with the banks, travel, and the opportunities, which lie ahead after doing these courses.

Alumni Meet

An Alumni meet was held on January 25th 2020 for the TYBSc and MSc students. The alumni shared their experiences and expertise giving students a glimpse of the real world.

Ms. Aishwarya Mehendale, Ms. Pratiksha Patil, Mr. Chintan Bhatt, Mr. Rushabh Chaudhari, Ms. Varsha

Giri, Mr. Maniruddin Dhabak, Mr. Subrata Jana, Mr. Pratik Sinalkar, Mr. Janhavi Jadhav, Ms. Sneha Nikam & Ms. Avinash Gangurde participated in the meet.

BAX Activities



BAX Team with Faculty and Principal

Under the Botany Association of Xaviers (BAX), 'Shove it in your coconut', an activity was held in the woods on December, 9th 2019 for interested FY, SY and TY students. It involved designing a sustainable non-plastic pot for your saplings. The committee members of the BAX distributed half cut coconuts to the participants and asked them to add soil and saplings in it, decorate and carve it giving a Halloween look.

Ms. Swapnaja Shinde (Founder and MD- Clinical Nutrition Pvt Ltd) delivered a talk on 'Innovation & Entrepreneurship in Nutrition' on January 27th, 2020. She explained the significance of adequate nutrition in curing health issues.

Students Initiative

In the lieu of consistent rape incidents in the country and extremely low conviction rate, MSc students staged a protest against rape and sexual harassment from December 10 - December 12th 2019 on the college campus. The initiative garnered support from students and staff members who not only joined the protest but also shared their views on the issue.

Faculty development

Dr. Vijaya Lobo completed a Refresher Course on 'Drug and Drug Delivery Research: A Recent Advancement' organized by the UGC- Human Resource Development Centre, JNT

University Hyderabad from December 5th to December 18th, 2019.

Non-teaching staff training programmes

Mr. Sandip Patil (Lab Attendant), Mr. Uddhav Patole (Field Collector) and Mr. Gleeson Dias (Lab Assistant) attended 'Xaviers Online Connect Vyakhyanmala' from May 27th-29th May, 2020 and 'Kovid Chya Kalat Shikshan' on 10th June, 2020 as a part of the above Vyakhyanmala organized by IQAC, Department of Life-Sciences and Biochemistry, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

Mr. Gleeson Dias attended a webinar titled 'Laboratory Safety Practices' held on May 31st 2020 hosted by Department of Chemistry, SIES College of Arts, Science and Commerce (Autonomous), Sion (W), Mumbai. He also attended a one-day state level workshop on 'Shikshaketar Karmacharyanche Vividh Prashn va Samasya' held on June 10th 2020 organized by IQAC of Late Dattatrya Pusadkar Arts College, Nandangao Peth, Amravati, Maharashtra.

Field / Industry Visits

As a part of the curriculum, the Department organized various field trips:

- (a) The students of SYBSc were taken to BPT Garden, Colaba in the morning to see and study the vegetation growing there on January 17th 2020 by Dr. Rajdeo Singh.
- (b) A field trip of MSc II and TYBSc to Matheran, Neral was organised on January 11th 2020 by Dr. Rajdeo Singh and Mr. Alok Gude.
- (c) The students of FYBSc and MSc-I were taken to Veer Jijamata Udyan, Byculla to see the different varieties of plant species growing there on January 13th - 14th January 2020 by Dr. Rajdeo Singh and Mr. Alok Gude.
- (d) Dr. Vijaya Lobo took MSc-II students to see the working of mineral water distillation plant

at a factory called Ashok Stove Pvt. Ltd. TTC Industrial area, MIDC Turbhe, Navi Mumbai on November 30th, 2019. Mr. Bhavesh Barchha, the owner of the factory and other three staff members accompanied our students and explained the setup, process, handling and working of machines in the factory.

- (e) The MSc I students went to Khandala, Pune for a botanical field study tour from August 27th to 29th August, 2019. Dr. Rajdeo Singh and Mr. Alok Gude accompanied them. The places visited were Bhoma hill, old St. Xavier's Villa, Kune plateau and the area beside the St. Mary's Villa where the students were staying.
- (f) Another field visit was organized for MSc I & II students from March 1st to 4th March, 2020 to Pachmari, Madhya Pradesh. Dr. Rajdeo Singh, Dr. Vijaya Lobo, Dr. Manek Mistry and Mr. Uddhav Patole accompanied the group and studied the vegetation of places near Duchess Falls, Bison lodge, Pandav caves, Jata Shankar temple, Dhupgar, Handikho, and Pachmari lake.
- (g) The MSc- II students were taken to Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli by Mr. Alok Gude and Dr. Manek Mistry from 21st to 23rd August, 2019 to study about the diseases of plants.

Department SIP

The Department SIP involved FY and SY students who made soft copy of the Blatter library literature reprints, cleaning the herbarium books, cleaning and arranging the specimens in the Botany store room.

Mr. Alok Gude
In-charge Head, Department of
Botany

CHEMISTRY

The Department welcomed the academic year with a series of workshops for the students and the faculty, on Chem-Draw, Math Type and Laboratory safety procedures to enhance their ICT skills under the guidance of Mr. Marazban Kotwal who took over as the in-charge head in place of Fr (Dr) Roy Pereira who proceeded on leave till the end of December 2019 to perform his duties as the Director of XDP leading the college in its sesquicentennial celebrations, and then resigned and moved to Creighton University, USA to pursue his passion of teaching Neuroscience. Dr. Bonde retired from the Department on 31st May on superannuation.

The Department conducted a spectroscopy workshop titled 'Signatures of Molecules' which was open to the students and faculty of all the colleges under Mumbai University in collaboration with RUSA and ISMAS with Dr. Rajesh Vatsa being the main resource person and Padmashree Dr. J.P. Mittal delivering the keynote address.

The Department conducted two faculty development programmes: one titled 'Contemporary ICT Tools in Chemical Education', inaugurated by Dr. Ravi

Deshmukh and conducted by Prof. Saima Khan & Prof. Kyle Meyers and alumnus Mr. Aditya Chalishazar and the other titled 'Percolating Newer Teaching Trends to Classrooms', in collaboration with Sophia College and Jai Hind College, where Prof. Marazban Kotwal and Prof. Saima Khan served as resource persons. Both were open to the faculty of all the colleges under Mumbai University.

The Department continued its research-oriented Honours Programme trend with the newest being 'Inquiry-based Practicals for Organic Chemistry' by Dr. Pralhad Rege and Dr. Nikhila Bhat and a workshop 'Chemistry in Context' by Dr. Geeta Kotian and Ms Saima Khan.

On the research front, the Department published 5 papers with 8 of the faculty members involved in the research work.

Dr. Abhilasha Jain attended a course in Chemistry titled 'Recent Development in Applied Chemistry'. Dr. Nikhila Bhat attended a workshop on 'Cheminformatics for Chemistry Teachers Bioinformatics Centre' by Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune.

Dr. Ashma Aggarwal attended a cultural exchange programme in collaboration with Sunburst Youth Camp, Singapore Government and Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts.

Department alumnus, Ms Nikita Braganza and Ms Deepika Yadav cleared NET exams and Ms Anuja Sharma, Ms Trisha Bhagde and Mr. Aditya Chalishazar joined for a PhD programme at the University of Arizona, University of Pennsylvania and IIT, Mumbai respectively.

Under lockdown, due to the SARS-COV-2 pandemic, the Chemistry Department conducted webinars and training workshops for teachers. Mr Marazban Kotwal and Kyle Meyers conducted multiple workshops in the use of LMS, online pedagogical tools and Conferencing Apps. Dr. Pralhad Rege was instrumental in conducting 2 webinars by Dr. Ajit Datar of Shimadzu and Dr. Vishwanath Patil, an associate professor from the University Chemistry Department which was open to all the students of Mumbai University.

Prof. Marzban Kotwal,
Head, Department of Chemistry

COMMERCE (ARTS)

The following is list of the research and the co-curricular activities carried out this year:

Faculty Research :

This year Dr. Suvaiba Pirani presented and published an academic paper titled 'Goods and Service tax Networking', at the one day National Level Conference on Intellectual Property Rights and GST. The conference was conducted at Siddharth College of Commerce and Economics on 22nd February, 2020.

Students' Co-curricular Activity :

The Department organized an Honours Programme from on "Problem Solving

at Workplace". It was conducted by Mr. Furqan Shaikh, the head of Self-financing courses at Rizvi College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai.

Social work by the Department :

The Department also organized a Social Involvement Programme (S.I.P).

6 students from F.Y.B.A. helped the NGO: Indian Development Foundation, by preparing Rakhis to support underprivileged children in IDF Gurukul across India.

13 students from F.Y.B.A. volunteered in 'Buddy System'. The students with

an experience in commerce, taught Book-keeping and Accountancy to the F.Y.B.A. Non-Commerce Students.

Placement before Graduation in 2019-20

Four Eco-Commerce students got **campus placement** from the college in 2019-20.

01	Rebekah Patrigere	Purplle.com
02	Ayushi Shah	Savage and Palmer
03	Sneha Agrawal	ICICI Bank

About Commercium

Considering the relevance of Commerce in today's world and the need of spreading knowledge about this field, our student Mr. Vedant Shukla founded 'Commercium'. Throughout the year, the society aimed at developing the students' interest in the real world applicability of the subject. The students conducted research, organized events, visits to various institutions and invited guest speakers to share their experiences. They were a confidence booster for the soon to be commerce professionals.

It all started with the birth of a Commerce Blog: *Thinkbizz*, led by Ananya Acharya. Informative articles on subjects of Investment, Entrepreneurship and Commercial Applications demystified commerce and business by making it accessible to everyone.

The Xynergy Exhibition was an informative display of charts,

PowerPoint presentations and fun & informative quizzes. The students who participated were Vedant Shukla, Ananya Acharya, Veer Shah, Jessica Singh, Aangi Desai, Pratham Barot, Samrudha Surana and Ameya Sanzgiri. Numerous specialization courses presented were a learning curve for the society members as well as the onlookers.

The Monster Heights Quiz, arranged in collaboration with the Quizzing Society was an exciting combination of varied arenas of quizzing, several rounds and different tasks. We believe such insightful quizzes will pave the way for an exciting & positive interest in the field of Commerce.

A visit to the RBI Monetary Museum was enlightening, especially regarding the evolution of money. From the history of currency in India to the way forward in the money market, it was truly a successful visit.

The year ended with a talk on the Stock Market by the Stock Wizard Academy. By dwelling on different aspects of the stock exchange, they enriched us with insights into dealing with stocks in real life with ease.

We are extremely proud to have carried out the Department work effectively and are eagerly looking forward to the following year.



The Xynergy Exhibition

Dr. Suvaiba Pirani

Assistant Professor In charge,
Department of Commerce
(Arts Section)

COMMERCE (B.COM)

Though the academic year 2019-2020 was governed with uncertainty and insecurity towards the end, it has been an action-packed year for the Commerce Section. A number of academic and extracurricular activities were organised with overwhelming response from the students though most of the students of the commerce section work during the day time. The highlights of the academic year 2019-2020 are as stated.

- Staff meeting held on Monday, 10th June 2019 to pass the minutes of the meeting held on 30th April and to discuss the academic time-table for odd semester, preparation for the meeting of the Board of Studies, and the activities to be conducted for the odd semester.
- Inter-religious prayer service for the FY, SY and TY students as well as farewell to Maria Carrasco was organised on 29th June 2019.
- Maria Carrasco, Office Superintendent retired on superannuation on 31st March 2019 after giving 31 years dedicated service to the Commerce Section, St. Xavier's College.
- Orientation was conducted on 30th June 2019 for newly admitted FY students to make them free and open.
- The meeting of the Board of Studies of the Commerce Section was held on Monday, 1st July 2019.
- The farewell to Prof. Rajesh Vora was organised on 1st July 2019 who retired on superannuation on 30th June 2019 dedicating 21 years teaching at St. Xavier's College.
- Fr. Ambrose Machado S.J. joined as a faculty member in the Commerce Section in place of Prof. Rajesh Vora.
- Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated on 31st July 2019 with the cultural programme.
- Inter-class poster making competition was organised on 31st August 2019 on the theme - 'Environment'.
- Cleanliness Drive was organised on 14th September at Girgaum Chowpatty with the support of BMC wherein 267 students of the Commerce Section participated.
- **Sitare** - 2019, a national level inter-collegiate competition for the night college students was organised successfully on 21st September. The events were - PowerPoint Presentation, Elocution, Quiz, Essay Writing, Dance (Folk/Traditional), Singing (Bollywood), Chess and Carrom. The working undergraduate students of 21 degree night colleges from various parts of the country -

Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Pune, Nagpur, Ahmednagar, Kolhapur, Solapur, Nasik, Malegaon, Latur, Ichalkaranji, Sangli along with the students of Mumbai region participated in senior category and 76 junior colleges of Mumbai region participated in junior category. Winners of all events of both the categories were felicitated at the hands of the judges with Trophy, Certificate and Cash Prize (Rs. 5000 for First, Rs. 3500 for Second, and Rs. 2000 for Third).



Fr. Errol addressing the students at Sitaré'19, National level Inter-collegiate competition held by the Commerce Section

- Dr. Parag Sanghvi, certified health and wellness coach conducted interactive session on Friday, 4th October 2019 on the theme

- "Discipline, dedication leads to success along with the tips for preparing for examination" wherein 120 students of TYBCOM participated.
- Feast of St. Francis Xavier was celebrated on 3rd December 2019 organising traditional dances and bollywood singing.
- Christmas was celebrated on 23rd December 2019 by organising a cultural programme – carol singing.
- Ankur, TYBCOM student visited Harward University, USA in January 2020, as a part of the students exchange programme.
- Coaching classes for the aspirants of the competitive examinations such as UPSC and MPSC were conducted once in a week throughout the year. Classes were conducted by Dr. Jotiram Gaikwad, and Dr. Joseph Rodericks, who passed Civil Service Examination in 2009 and was selected for the Indian Defence Estate Service.
- Mr. Akshay Shetty, alumnus of the Commerce Section conducted

a workshop on EXCEL for the selected students on Sundays.

- Certificate course on Mutual Funds was conducted for the students of SYBCOM and TYBCOM on weekend days in February and March 2020 wherein 32 students participated.
- The students of the Commerce Section participated in different inter-collegiate festivals and won prizes.

The academic year 2019-2020 was full of activity and excitement and we look forward to the academic year 2020-2021 with the same passion. May God continue to bless our efforts.



Poster Making Competition

Dr. Jotiram Gaikwad
Faculty, Commerce

ECONOMICS

Programs organized:

Workshops were conducted on Analysis of Economic Survey 2018-19 by the department, in collaboration with Ms. Rutuja Pangoankar, Chief Minister fellow, government of Maharashtra. She is a proud alumna of the Department of Economics.

Date: 7th-19th August, 2019 (2 weeks)



A lecture on financial literacy was conducted by Mr. Pradeep Chandrasekaran, Co-Founder & Director, Finmark Trainers India Pvt Ltd.

Date: 21st-23rd August, 2019

A Tribute to Late Dr. Subir Gokarn-alumnus of Department of Economics was conducted by the department along with Mr. Dharmkirti Joshi, Economist CRISIL. The event garnered attention from the press and was written about in The Times of India the next day.

Date: 30th August 2019

The Department also conducted a panel discussion called "The Reality of Reality," to discuss the future of the real estate sector.

The esteemed panelists included:

- Mr. Rajendra Mirgane Joint Chairman (Minister Status), Maharashtra Housing Development Corporation.
- Mr Ram Yadav, CEO, Real Estate Advisory Practice at Edelweiss Financial Services Ltd.
- Smt Tara Subramaniam, Board Member of JM Financial Home Loans Ltd.
- Mr Manish Kothary, Senior Vice President, SBI Capital Markets Ltd. 5. Mr. Shirish Sukhatme, Architect, Former President at PEATA

- Mr Harshul Savla, Managing Director, MRealty
- Mr Rahul Chawan, Director Anuwrita Realty Pvt Ltd.

Date: 30th August, 2019

The department also conducted a Lecture on “Transforming Systems: Why The World needs a New Ethical Toolkit” along with the expert guidance of Mr. Arun Maira, a member Planning Commission of India and advisor to PM Manmohan Singh.

Date: 16th November, 2019.

An interesting debate took place on ‘Economic Slowdown - A Trade-off between Economics and Politics’. Members who participated included our very own Prof. Agnelo Menezes and Prof. Shazia Shaikh.

Date: 3rd December, 2019

A tribute was paid to Late Dr. Prof. Sapna Newar, Head, Department of Economics, St. Xavier’s College, Jaipur by the entire department of economics.

Date: 3rd December 2019

The department of Economics was proud to host a Aadhar Card, Pan Card and Election ID- Card, India Post Bank Registration Camp in collaboration with the India Post and the Government of India.

Date: 9th December - 14th December, 2019

Guest Lectures on Valuation and algorithmic trading was conducted by Mr. Darshan Surana Senior Partner, Zادن & Associates and Mr. Sudipto Mitra Senior Quantitative Researcher, World Quant respectively.

Date: 11th December, 2019

We participated in the 7th Annual Academic Exchange Program with St Xavier’s College, Jaipur. The students were also taken on an informative visit the Bombay Stock Exchange and the SEBI along with the faculty member Mrs. Aparna Kulkarni.

Date: 2nd-9th January, 2020

The former Finance Minister, Government of India, Honorable Shri Yashwant Sinha conducted a key note lecture on the “Current State of the Economy and the Way Forward”

Date: 3rd January, 2020

The department was proud to conduct “Econundrum”- Fest of Department of Economics, St Xavier’s College.

Prof. Sarthak Gaurav from IIT Bombay conducted a guest lecture on Behavioral Economics which was warmly received by both students and faculty.

Date: 5th January, 2020



We were proud to receive Prof. Cynthia Oakenfull, from Farmers Business school in Miami in a Two weeks Faculty Exchange program between Farmer Business School, University of Miami, Oxford, USA and St Xaviers College Mumbai. She also visited Dharavi in order to understand the booming leather industry in Mumbai.

Date: 12th January, 2020 - 24th January, 2020

Mr. Kabira Namit, an Alumni and Economist at the world bank conducted a A Guest Lecture on ‘Randomized Controlled Trials: Cross Country Analysis’.

Date: 14th January, 2020

Like every other year the Annual Khandala Seminar of Department of Economics and the Annual Lalit Doshi Memorial Lecture was a success. Persons who were a part of this included esteemed Dr.Rajan Sudesh Ratna, former Civil servant, Government of India, presently

working as an Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations ESCAP Office of South and South-West Asia, New Delhi.

Date: 29th January, 2020

Community outreaching Activity: Women Self Help Group

Formation of Women Self Help Group of Low income category under Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal, Maharashtra State in June 2019 by Dr. Aditi Sawant, Head Department of Economics.

Opening of First Poli-Bhaji Centre named ‘Sugaran’ at Srinagar, Thane of Women Self Help Group. This has provided them a source of regular income and status in the society. The name of the Women Self Help Group is ‘Shree Samarth’, at present 7 ladies run this SHG.

The Poli-Bhaji Centre was inaugurated on November 14th, 2019 by Honorable Minister Status, Smt. Jyoti Thakre, Chairperson, MAVIM Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal, and Maharashtra State. And, Mr. Abhijeet Chawan, Vice President, Samarth Bhandar.

Field Visit to Baramati Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pune by Dr. Aditi Sawant and her research team to study the extent of technology use among farmers on 21st-23rd February, 2020.

Gender Sensitization Activities Organized by the Department of Economics 2019-20

The department of economics also hosted a session on the Effects of Sanitary Napkin on woman health and Environment along with Ms Pooja Damodia, Journalist and Entrepreneur.

Date: 11th February, 2020

Dr. Ketan Paditpautra, Gynecologist, Fortis Hospital, Mumbai conducted a session on Women Health and Environment: Issues Concerns and Remedies.

Date: 12th February, 2020

- A panel discussion on Gender induced Wage gap included the voices of esteemed personal such as - Ms Kiran Somvanshi, Journalist Economics Times.

Mr Harish Iyer, LGBT Activist.

Ms Anupama Kapoor, Founder of Reboot.

Ms Neera Saggi, Board Chair of Care India.

Dr. Agnelo Menezes, Former Principal and Faculty, Department of Economics.

Date: 5th January, 2020

Students' Achievements of Department of Economics 2019-20

1. **Ms. Jhanvi Patel (TYBA)** - 1st Place- Mumbai Suburban District State Level Power lifting (57 KG-junior category).
2. **Ms. Pritika Nayak (SYBA), Ms. Smriti Natarajan (TYBA)** - 1st Place National Level Young Economist Research Competition organized by Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics - Mumbai.

3. **Mr. Vansh Chaudhary (FYBA), Ms. Shreya Singh (FYBA), Ms. Rhea Banerjee (FYBA)** - 3rd Place National Level Research Paper Writing Competition, NMIMS, Vile Parle.

4. **Ms. Rhea Banerjee (FYBA)** - 2nd Place National Level Young Economist Research Competition organized by Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics- Mumbai.

Dr. Aditi Sawant,
Head, Department of Economics

ENGLISH

The year which ended on a note of dismallness and uncertainty certainly hadn't started out that way. It was like any other, its routine flow of lectures, assignments and presentations punctuated by creative engagements, festival gala and, this year, even a Two-Day Conference.

The guests who came to address our students did so on a variety of topics. In June, team Thespo presented before us their rich scope for those who choose to make a career in theatre. Likewise, in September, Ms. Aishwarya Singh took our students on a tour of how they could enrich themselves and others by joining the Teach for India programme.

In July was hosted yet another memorial meeting in honour of our beloved Dr. Eunice de Souza. In August, there were lectures by Dr. Craig Brandist of the University of Sheffield, who spoke on postcolonial literature. Dr. Rochelle Almeida, a Fulbright-Nehru scholar had made her home in the Department for over two years while she researched on the Contribution of the Indian Minorities to Drama and the Performing Arts. She made before us an interesting study of

Anglo-Indian fiction and films based on some well-loved classics in that genre. In September, Colonel Ajay Singh spoke on Partition Literature and read from his historical novel, *Through Orphaned Eyes*.

In December, Ithaka ran as usual, a full repertoire with workshops, events, skits and literary games. The grand plays included Sneha Aunty's *Mystery Man*, *The Utopia?*, Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Black Coffee* (adapted from Agatha Christie).

January 8 and 9, were the days of the RUSA supported two-day National Conference 'Celebrating Indigenous Literature(s)'. It certainly lived up to its name as a celebration of literature and the arts. The Summer School on Creative Writing was held on May 6 and 8, 2020 and will be continued in the coming semester. The Honours Program this year featured a course on Sri Aurobindo's 'Savitri' and a two-part workshop on Women Pioneers in the History of Early World Cinema.

The Mumbai counterpart of our Annual Stuttgart Program took place in

early February. We barely had time to wind up the term's activities when the titter about corona become a murmur. Before we knew it, that turned into a rumble and finally thundered in upon us, an unwelcome reality.

At the end of the year, not one of the final exams had been conducted for us, as corona had taken us by storm. Like seeds lying in wait for a fresh arrival, lie our plans. We are reminded of the poet Shelley's words to the west wind, "the winged seeds...lie cold and low, until thine azure sister of the spring shall blow her clarion over the dreaming earth, and fill...with living hues and odours plain and hill."



'Importance of Being Earnest'
performed at Ithaka 2019

Dr. Pearl Pastakia
Head, Department of English

FRENCH

On the occasion of 150 years of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, the Consulate General of France in Mumbai, Alliance Française de Bombay, French Institute in India, Campus France India and the Indian Association of Teachers of French (IATF) organised "French Day" in our prestigious institution on 6th July 2019. The event was graced by the Consul General of France in Mumbai, Ms. Sonia Barbry. Various events were organised for students as also for teachers of French. A presentation on 'Higher studies in France' by the Campus France representative in Mumbai familiarised our students with the opportunities for higher education in France in different fields ranging from management to medicine to hospitality industry.

A training session for French teachers on the 'Use of storytelling in French as a Foreign Language class' was conducted by Mr. Frédéric Simon, Director, Alliance Française, Bombay. This was attended by teachers of French from the University as also from various colleges and schools.

A scientific lecture was delivered by Dr. Adrien Selles, from the Indo French Centre for Ground Water Research of Hyderabad, on "Groundwater study in India: 20 years of Indo-French collaboration"

There was also a cultural event organized: 'French love poems in motion' by the St Andrew's Center for Philosophy and Performing Arts, followed by French songs by Ms. Smriti Monocha. The Consul General of France in Bombay, Ms. Sonia Barbry, spoke of her experiences and connect with India and Indian culture, the Principal of St. Xavier's College, Dr. Rajendra Shinde and Mr. Philippe Guillien, Attaché Linguistique at the French Consulate in Mumbai shared a few words with our students.

On 30th November 2019, the French Department participated in 'Xynergy' an event to showcase the different departments of Humanities and Languages in the college hall. Students of the department showcased the theme of Gastronomy, explored the applicability of French language in

Tourism and Hospitality industry, represented the francophone countries and the geographical composition of France through various interactive games and an aesthetic collage of the 18 regions of France, also posters of French classics adapted to movies were on display along with famous French quotes.

In February 2020 the students of the department put up a skit and penned poems in French on cleanliness as a part of the 'National Swachhata Pakhwarā', a fortnight dedicated to cleanliness. Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale attended the 3rd European Congress of Teachers of French in Athens, Greece from 4th September to 8th September 2019, where she presented a paper on '*Le français comme la langue d'expression pour les migrants de l'origine indienne à l'île Maurice*'.

Thus this year the Department of French organised various activities to help students appreciate French language and culture.

Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale
Head, Department of French

GEOLOGY

During the academic year 2019-20, the Department of Geology continued in its endeavour to train their students through actual field exposure in various geological setups as fieldwork is a fundamental aspect of Geology and it also forms an integral part of their curriculum and internal assessment.

Starting with first-year students, we train them to observe the various aspects of field geology along with skills to communicate these observations in the form of a scientific report. This year day-long field visits were organised for the first-year students to two field locations, one in each semester, to teach them local geology where various volcanic features were explained to them along with some concepts of

geomorphology, the first in an area around Uttan and Gorai in August and the second to Elephanta island in January. The field party consisted of 89 students and were guided by Dr. Hrishikesh Samant, Dr. Shweta Patil and Mr. John D'Souza.

For the second-year student's 3-day geological fieldwork was conducted at Nagpur, was organized in January. The field party consisted of 44 students accompanied by Dr. Goutam Bandyopadhyay, Dr. Bobby Mathew and Dr. Shweta Patil, aimed at training students to incorporate some of the concepts related to geology, stratigraphy, economic geology and identification of rocks and minerals. Part of their itinerary included a visit to the museum and drill core

repository of Geological Survey of India, where students studied the various rocks, minerals and fossils, including a special display on human fossil skulls, dinosaur's eggs as well as a visit to an underground manganese mine operated by Manganese Ore India Limited (MOIL) at Munsar. They were also able to see and study the coal deposit in an open cast mine operated by Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) located at Bhanegaon. In both, the mines specimen were collected by the students. They also carried out outcrop studies in and around Nagpur city where inter-trappean rocks and exposures of metamorphic origin ranging in age 2300 to 2100 million years were studied.

The annual field camp for third-



Participants during a one-day workshop on 'Selected problems and solutions in Structural Geology'

year students took place in Malvan, Maharashtra, where students were trained rigorously in geological mapping techniques using both traditional Plane Table survey and also using high precision instruments like Total Station, for ten days by Dr. Hrishikesh Samant and Dr. Ashwin Pundalik. This field training included an in-depth study of the geological features and structures, as well as collecting samples to study the petrological characteristics of the rocks exposed in the area. The students were taught aerial photography of terrain features using a drone and interpretation of such drone photos helped students in understanding the geological structure of the area. Apart from detailed geological mapping, the students also carried out beach profiling, rock strain analysis, and large-scale structural mapping. They visited areas around the Gad river in Kankavli where some of the oldest rocks in peninsular India are exposed.

The first-year post-graduate students visited Kachchh to study the Tertiary rocks. A twelve days geological fieldwork consisting of 17 students and guided by Dr. Shweta Patil and Mr. John D'Souza, aimed at training students in some of the concepts related to stratigraphy, sedimentology and palaeontology, mainly in Tertiary rocks. Five formations of Palaeogene age were studied in detail along with a visit to the limestone mine of UltraTech Cement in Harudi-Kharai villages and their cement plant at Sevagram.

Internships by Students

Our M.Sc. part II student Mr. Santapriya Mukherjee completed an internship in Divecha Climate Center

for Change (DCCC), IISc, Bangalore on the topic "Training on Glacier studies and Remote Sensing". Five of our postgraduate students got selected under CSIR-Summer Research Training Programme-2020.

A 3-day national workshop comprising of 8 lecture sessions delivered by eminent personnel from reputed institutes and organizations was organized on Sedimentology and Palaeontology for the postgraduate and research students, where Dr. R. Nigam, former deputy director and scientist at N.I.O, Goa delivered the keynote address. A post-workshop field visit was also organised for participants to demonstrate the principles of the same, covered in lecture sessions. A 1-day workshop on 'Selected problems and solutions in Structural Geology', was organized for our postgraduate students, Prof. Soumyajit Mukherjee from the Department of Earth Sciences, IIT Bombay was the resource person for this workshop.

The TERRA lecture on 'First formed Solids: Records from the earliest times in the Solar System' was by our alumnus Dr. Prajka Mane, a postdoctoral Fellow at the Lunar & Planetary Institute, NASA.

As a part of our annual Prof. R. N. Sukheswala Memorial Lecture Series, a lecture was delivered by Prof. Peter Molnar from the Department of Geological Sciences, the University of Colorado on "The gradual closing of the Indonesian seaway, and the onset of Northern Hemisphere Ice ages" and another on 'Tectonic Unrest in Himalaya and Sahyadri-West Coast Belt' by Padma Bhusan Prof. K.S. Valdiya who is a renowned geologist and an authority for Himalayan geology.

Dr. Ashwin Pundalik conducted an online course on "Story of India-Evolution of Indian continent" for students from across India and abroad.

The Department of Geology participated in an exhibition organised by the college as a part of the popularization of Science event and Xynergy 2019. During the two days of the exhibition, rare specimens of fossils and meteorite samples were displayed.

Besides teaching, department faculty members have been active in the field of research and consultancy.

Dr. Pravin Henriques attended a webinar on Revised NAAC assessment and accreditation: Nurturing quality culture organised by IQAC cluster India in association with Yogeshwari Mahavidyalaya, Ambajogai and participated in a webinar on Cyber awareness and security for academics in the new normal.

Dr. Bobby P Mathew participated in the National Field workshop on 'Iron Ore Deposits of Hosapete-Sandur at Hosapette, Bellari District, Karnataka by Geological Society of India, Bengaluru and presented a poster in the Mumbai University Minor Research Project presentation titled 'Morphometric analysis and Hydrogeological investigation of a sub-watershed of Vaitarna River, Palghar district, Maharashtra'. Mr John D'Souza attended a workshop on "Geoinformatics for Earth Sciences and Natural Resource Management" at Department of Geography, University of Mumbai and attended an online course on 'Revised NAAC Assessment & Accreditation: Challenging and the path to move ahead' organized by IQAC-Wilson College and IQAC Cluster India as well as an online course on 'Research Methods and Techniques' organised by Ramanand Arya D.A.V. College. Dr. Bobby Mathew and Mr. John Dsouza also attended an International Online Colloquium on "Recent Trends in Geology (RTG-2020)" organised by Department of Geology, Periyar University PG Extension Centre.

Dr. Ashwin Pundalik delivered two guest lectures, one organized by Himalayan Society for Heritage and Art Conservation (HIMSHACO) and TATA Trust, at Ranibagh, Nainital, titled "Stone deterioration and conservation" and the second titled "Material technology and deterioration of stone" organized under the Capacity Development Programme in Built Heritage Studies & Conservation, by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalay and Sir J. J. College of Architecture.

Dr. Pravin Henriques continues as the Chairman Board of Studies for Geology

of Mumbai University and Dr. Bobby P. Mathew and Dr. Ashwin Pundalik are the other members. Dr. Pravin J. Henriques and Dr. Bobby P. Mathew were also invited to join the Board of Studies of the Department of Geology, K.J Somaiya College of Science & Commerce, Vidyavihar.

Dr. Ashwin Pundalik and Mr. John D'Souza have been instrumental in generating revenue for the department and college through their consultancy in petrography.

Dr. Samant was invited to be a member of the Maharashtra State Bureau of Textbook Production & Curriculum

Research, 'Balbharati' - Geology Board.

This academic year Ms Akshya Deshpande and Ms Nishka Vaz, both alumni, joined the department as ad hoc teaching faculty. Ms Akshya later joined Shell India as a Scientist, whereas Ms Nishka joined GIA India Laboratory Private Limited. Mr. Tarang Sarin, MSc part II student secured 44th rank in the CSIR-UGC (JRF & NET) exam.

Dr. Shweta Patil
Assistant Professor,
Department of Geology

हिंदी विभाग - शैक्षणिक गतिविधियाँ

अतिथि व्याख्यान (Guest Lecture) :

हिंदी-विभाग द्वारा दि. ११-०१-२०१९ को बी.ए. (द्वितीय वर्ष) के विद्यार्थियों के लिए अतिथि व्याख्यान का आयोजन किया गया। अतिथि व्याख्यान के दौरान हिंदुस्तानी प्रचार सभा के कार्यक्रम अधिकारी श्री संजीव निगम ने हमारे विद्यार्थियों को 'टेलीविज़न, फ़िल्म तथा विज्ञापन लेखन' संबंधी जानकारी प्रदान की।

हिंदी-विभाग द्वारा दि. १८-१-२०१९ को बी.ए. (द्वितीय वर्ष) के विद्यार्थियों के लिए टेलीविज़न पटकथा एवं संवाद लेखन शीर्षक पर एक अतिथि व्याख्यान का आयोजन किया गया। 'अरविंद बब्ल टेलीविज़न प्रॉडक्शन प्राइवेट लिमिटेड' की निर्देशक श्रीमती रेखा बब्ल ने हमारे विद्यार्थियों का मार्गदर्शन किया।

दि. ११-१२-२०१९ को हिन्दी-विभाग तथा राजनीति शास्त्र विभाग के विद्यार्थियों के लिए कथा-कथन कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में डॉ. आशा नैथानी दायमा ने अपनी पुस्तक 'सच तो यही है' कहानी संग्रह की कुछ कहानियों का पाठ किया।

शब्द-कोश निर्माण :

हिंदी-विभाग के मार्गदर्शन में बी.ए. (प्रथम वर्ष) के विद्यार्थियों ने Discipline Centric SIP के अंतर्गत सामाजिक-आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर विद्यार्थियों के लिए हिंदी-हिंदी शब्दकोश का निर्माण कार्य संपन्न किया। इस कार्य में बी.ए. (प्रथम वर्ष) हिंदी कमपल्सरी के ५५ विद्यार्थियोंने भाग लिया।

कार्यशाला का आयोजन (Workshop Organized) :

हिंदी-विभाग के डॉ. भगवतीप्रसाद उपाध्याय ने दि. ७-०१-२०१९ को बी.ए. (प्रथम वर्ष) के विद्यार्थियों के लिए 'परीक्षा का तनाव कैसे कम करें?' शीर्षक पर एक कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया। इस कार्यशाला में डॉ. भगवतीप्रसाद उपाध्यायने विद्यार्थियों को परीक्षा के दौरान तनाव एवं दबाव कम करने के लिए कुछ टिप्स दिए। भगवती द्वारा विद्यार्थियों को एकाग्रता, संयोजन तथा संतुलन आदि विकसित करने के उपाय भी बताए गए। छात्रों को परीक्षा सामग्री संबंधी जानकारी भी दी गई, ताकि वे

परीक्षा में अधिक-से-अधिक अंक प्राप्त कर सकें।

वृक्षारोपण/पौधारोपण कार्य :

हिंदी-विभाग के द्वारा दि. ३१-०८-२०१९ को वृक्षारोपण कार्य किया गया। यह कार्य हिन्दी-विभाग तथा वनशक्ति एन.जी. ओ. के संयुक्त तत्वाधान में गोवंडी के समीप संपन्न किया गया। इस वृक्षारोपण अभियान में हिन्दी-विभाग के २७ तथा फ्रेंच विभाग के दो विद्यार्थियों ने भाग लिया।

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान :

हिंदी-विभाग तथा Citizens' Forum के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में दि. २२-०९-२०१९ को एक स्वच्छता संबंधी कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। इस दल में हिंदी के ३५ और फ्रेंच के १५ छात्र-छात्राओंने स्वच्छता संबंधी कार्य किया।

ऑनर्स प्रोग्राम :

हिंदी-विभाग द्वारा 'सोशल मीडिया - कितना सोशल?' शीर्षक पर दि. ११-१२ जनवरी, २०२० को १५ घंटे का 'ऑनर्स प्रोग्राम' आयोजित किया गया।

इस अवसर पर डॉ. सतीश पाण्डेय, डॉ. मनीष मिश्रा तथा श्री सूरज प्रकाशने विद्यार्थियों का मार्गदर्शन किया।

ऑस्ट्रेलिया के विद्यार्थियों हेतु हिंदी अध्यापन :

हिंदी-विभाग के डॉ. भगवतीप्रसाद उपाध्याय ने सांस्कृतिक विनिमय कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत सिडनी विश्वविद्यालय, ऑस्ट्रेलिया से आए हुए विद्यार्थियों के लिए दि. ६-१-२०२० से १२-२-२०२० तक हिंदी भाषा तथा भारतीय संस्कृति संबंधी अध्यापन कार्य सम्पन्न किया।

राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी - टेलीविज़न एवं फ़िल्म-लेखक प्रक्रिया :

हिंदी-विभाग तथा राष्ट्रीय उच्चतर शिक्षा अभियान के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में २५ जनवरी, २०२० को 'टेलीविज़न एवं फ़िल्म-लेखन प्रक्रिया' शीर्षक पर एकदिवसीय राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया गया। इस संगोष्ठी के प्रमुख अतिथि टेलीविज़न जगत के सुप्रसिद्ध लेखक एवं अभिनेता श्री उत्कर्ष नैथानीजी उपस्थित थे। संगोष्ठी का प्रथम सत्र 'टेलीविज़न लेखन कौशल' से संबंधित था। इस सत्र के अध्यक्ष एफ. टी.आई.आई. पुणे के (लेक्चरर, टी.वी. एवं वेब पटकथाकार) श्री विनोद रंगनाथ थे। विशिष्ट अतिथि मेजर (डॉ.) रेखा सिन्हा (निदेशक, मानविकी एवं सामाजिक विज्ञान संकाय, जैन विश्वविद्यालय, बंगलूरु) थीं। उन्होंने हिंदी धारावाहिकों के स्त्री पात्रों के चरित्र-चित्रण पर प्रकाश डाला। इस सत्र के मुख्य वक्ता श्री अंशुमाली झा ने टेलीविज़न धारावाहिकों में संवाद लेखन प्रक्रिया को रेखांकित किया। इस सत्र के मुख्य वक्ता श्री कामाख्या नारायण सिंह ने पटकथा लेखन पर अपने विस्तृत विचार प्रस्तुत किए थे। डॉक्टर रवीन्द्र कात्यायन (हिंदी-विभाग, प्रमुख, एम. पी. शाह महिला महाविद्यालय, विले पार्ले, मुंबई) ने धारावाहिक पटकथा एवं संवाद लेखन पर अपना प्रपत्र प्रस्तुत किया।

इस सत्र के संचालन एवं आभार प्रकट करने की भूमिका डॉक्टर प्रवीण बिष्ट, हिंदी-विभाग, प्रमुख, श्री रामनारायण रुईया स्वायन्त महाविद्यालय, माटुंगा, मुंबई) द्वारा निभाई गई। संगोष्ठी का द्वितीय सत्र 'फ़िल्म लेखन कौशल' से संबंधित था। सत्र के अध्यक्ष जाने-माने फ़िल्म निर्माता, निर्देशक एवं लेखक श्री रॉबिन भट्ट थे। भट्ट जी ने विद्यार्थियों के साथ अपने फ़िल्मी सफर के अनुभव साझा करते हुए, 'फ़िल्म निर्माण प्रक्रिया' पर ज्ञानवर्धक वक्तव्य दिया। मुख्य वक्ता सुश्री मेधा जाधव ने कथा तथा पटकथा का अंतर स्पष्ट करते हुए ओजस्वी वक्तव्य दिया। उन्होंने कहानी के किरदारों तथा धारावाहिक के किरदारों के चरित्र-चित्रण पर विस्तारपूर्वक अपने विचार प्रस्तुत किए। इस सत्र में डॉ. दिनेश पाठक (हिंदी-विभाग, प्रमुख), एस.आई.ई.एस. कॉलेज, सायन, मुंबई द्वारा फ़िल्म, पटकथा एवं संवाद-लेखन पर एक प्रपत्र प्रस्तुत किया गया। इस सत्र का सूत्र संचालन आर. जे. कॉलेज की हिंदी-विभाग अध्यक्षा डॉ. मिथिलेश शर्मा ने किया।

संगोष्ठी के समापन सत्र की अध्यक्षता वरिष्ठ लेखिका एवं हिंदी-विभाग की पूर्व अध्यक्षा डॉ. आशा नैथानी दायमा द्वारा की गयी। अध्यक्षीय वक्तव्य में उन्होंने संगोष्ठी का सारांश प्रस्तुत किया। इस सत्र में उनसे पहले विज्ञापन विशेषज्ञ श्री जयकृत रावत ने विज्ञापन प्रक्रिया पर एक सुंदर 'पावर पॉइंट प्रेजेंटेशन' से विद्यार्थियों का मार्गदर्शन किया। प्राचार्य डॉ. राजेंद्रजी शिंदे ने NAAC के Administrative Audit के व्यस्त कार्यक्रम से समय निकालकर अपनी उपस्थिति से हिंदी-विभाग के विद्यार्थियों का मनोबल बढ़ाया।

विशेष उपलब्धि

१) कु. मोनाली वीना राजेश गुप्ता (बी.ए. तृतीय वर्ष) को हिंदी भाषा तथा

साहित्य में उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन के लिए महाराष्ट्र के राज्यपाल आदरणीय श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारीजी के करकमलों से दि. १०-०१-२०२० को सम्मानित किया गया था। इस कार्यक्रम का आयोजन 'सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया' के मुख्य प्रबंधक श्री सुधीर पाठक द्वारा किया गया था।

२) कु. साक्षी चौहान (बी.एस.सी, तृतीय वर्ष) तथा शुभम् गुप्ता (बी.ए. तृतीय वर्ष) द्वारा दि. २-१-२०२० को एस.आई.ई.एस. महाविद्यालय द्वारा आयोजित अंतर-महाविद्यालयीन कविता पाठ प्रतियोगिता में रोलिंग ट्रॉफी प्राप्त की गयी थी।

३) कु. यश्वी बरोट तथा कु. तितिक्षा रोशन (बी.ए. प्रथम वर्ष) ने दि. १४-९-२०१९ को बी.एम. रुईया गर्ल्स कॉलेज द्वारा आयोजित अंतर-महाविद्यालयीन वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता में "रोलिंग ट्रॉफी" प्राप्त की थी।



कथा कथन

वक्ता : डॉ. आशा नैथानी दायमा

Dr. Bhagwati Upadhyay
Head, Department of Hindi

HISTORY

The Department of History welcomed Arun Singh who is presently pursuing his PhD from the University of Mumbai. The department, continued to evolve and engage in various activities to generate interest among the students to study the subject beyond theories.

1. Achievements of the students:

The students were encouraged to participate in various competitions to sharpen their skills and represent the department. Our TY students participated in Sir Rustom P. Masani Elocution Competition held on 8th September 2019. Aradhana Choudhury of TYBA History won a consolation prize for her speech on the topic- 'The ban on beef and its problems for farmers'.

They also participated in Mudra 2019-20, the annual fest of Ramnarian Ruia Autonomous College on 3rd January 2020. The theme for this year was - Siyasat: The Power Play. Participants from the Senior college, as well as Junior college, actively participated in all the events and won various competitions. Prajakta Kasoti from TYBA History bagged the first prize in Carigiri: A caricature making competition. Durga Yesade from FYBA also secured the first position in the

creative writing competition - Patras Karan ki. Drashti Shah from TYBA History and her team won second prize in the competition- Zero to Zenith: Build your Empire.

2. Activities:

Guest Lectures:

Letters: The Fragments of Lives: Guest lecture on the "**Intimate voices of Empire: Marathi Women's Letter-Writing in 18th century India**" for the students on 24th January 2020. The guest speaker for the lecture was **Prof. Rosalind O'Hanlon**, Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford.

The Department organized a guest lecture for the Third-Year students of History on Heritage walks: their planning and execution under the paper- Urban Heritage of Mumbai on 4th January 2020 by Mr. Sandeep Dahisarkar, research scholar and an expert. Mr. Dahisarkar acquainted the students with the methods and procedure of conducting heritage walks. He also shared his on-field experiences, especially from his Vile Parle and Karauli heritage walks, with the students. The students were then encouraged to explore the college campus and

the Heras Institute and conduct heritage walks themselves.

3. Xynergy 2019

The primary objective of the exhibition was to elucidate various career opportunities available to History graduates. The volunteers made various charts and posters showing the different conventional and non-conventional career paths one can take. Various exhibits were displayed to provide better exposure to the subject and explaining how objects could be interpreted.

4. Faculty Engagement:

The faculty has represented the History Department of St. Xavier's College at various State, National and International level.

Arun Singh

Guest Lecture:

Invited for a guest lecture on Heritage Tourism at M.D. College, Parel on July 7 & August 5, 2019.

Seminars / Conferences

- Part of the organizing committee for the RUSA sponsored National-level seminar on Cinema and History held on 18th January 2020.
- Part of the organizing committee for the RUSA sponsored International multidisciplinary conference Disha organized under the aegis of IQAC of our college, held on 13th and 14th March 2020.

Dr. Avkash Jadhav

Awards:

- National Award:** Swami Vivekanand Award of Excellence for 2019, in the category of Social Work by SEVA, Youth Guild, Dakshini Kalikata Krira O Sanskriti Parishad.



Launch of Department Magazine Aitihāsik 2019

- ii. **International Award:** Received the prestigious REX Fellowship **Gold Medal** of “**Karamveer Chakra**” by **International Confederation of N.G.Os (ICONGO)** an allied body of the **United Nations**, November 2019 in the category of Environment and Heritage activism.

Fellowships:

- i. The **Ministry of External Affairs of India**, New Delhi recommended Dr. Avkash Jadhav to represent India in the **SAARC Conference** at Kabul Afghanistan, on ‘Islamic Cultural Trails: Journey Through Time and Space of Merchants, Monks and Pilgrims from 28th to 30th August 2019. The Special Grant was approved by the **Qutub Jubilee Foundation**, Mumbai.
- ii. **Major Research Project** Grant from **Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)** for 2020 -2022 to work on the **Jobbers - The Transitional and Intermediary component of the Textile Mills in Bombay in pre-independent India**. January 2020.

Appointments:

- On the **Peer Review Committee** and Editorial Board of Three International Journals, Madrid Spain.,
 - ◆ International Community of Visual Culture,
 - ◆ International Community of Social Sciences,
 - ◆ International Community of Human Sciences.

Seminars and Conferences:

- Conducted a workshop for the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) and the N.G.O Indian Association for Promotion of Adoption and Child Care (IAPA) at Khetwadi school for foster children on the topic of **Understanding your Sexuality for the teenagers of the slums**, on 23rd February 2019.

- Invited to participate and present a research paper on ‘**Disability and the policy of Inclusion: An introspection through the Survey**’ at the two day National conference on Disability, Gender and Violence: Issues and Challenges organized by the Centre for Women’s Development Studies (CWDS) at New Delhi on 25th - 26th April 2019.

- Policy-Making Convention, at Azad Maidan, Mumbai on 27th June 2019.

- Participated and presented a paper ‘**The idiosyncratic Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi towards Embodied Empiricism; An Analysis**’ at the Three days National Conference organised on the theme Gandhi Aur unki Samsamyik Prasangigta: Samaj Sanskriti Aur Swaraj, organised by Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) and Mahatma Gandhi Antarashtriy Hindi Vishwavidyalaya as part of 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi at Wardha, Maharashtra on 20 – 22 August 2019.

- Presented a research paper ‘**Cultural Synthesis of Islam in India and its impact on the Art, Literature and the religious ideas**’ at the South Asian Association of Regional Countries (SAARC) Conference on the theme of Islamic Cultural Trails at Kabul, Afghanistan on 28-30 August 2019.

- Participated and presented a paper on **Anna Bhau Sathe: A literary voice of the Marginalized in Independent India**, at the National conference organised by Department of English, University of Mumbai, Mumbai on 23rd October 2019.

- Invited as Keynote Speaker and presented a paper on **Heritage Indispensable Asset of Mankind**, at the International Conference on Heritage and Ongoing Innovations: The magic of achieving unrealistic heights organised by K.B. College of Arts and Commerce for Women,

Thane on 23rd November 2019.

- Invited as a subject expert in History by the NCERT for the Three-day Paper Review Workshop on the PAC approved programme **Pre-1857 Major Anti-colonial Armed Uprising in India**, New Delhi, 10-12, December 2019.

- Invited as a Resource Person for the Orientation Program organised by the UGC HRDC, University of Mumbai on 19th December 2019 to conduct a session on ‘**Teacher Beyond the Classroom**’ at Kalina Campus University of Mumbai.

- Invited to present a research paper on **Gandhi and the message to the Youth of India** at the State Level Seminar at V.K. Menon College, Bhandup, Mumbai on 21st January 2020.

- Convenor of the National Seminar on the theme, **Cinema through the Lens of History**, Department of History, St. Xavier’s College, Mumbai under Rashtriy Uchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), 11th February 2020.

Outreach Activities:

The department engaged in a number of activities for the students with an objective of understanding social issues, environmental conflicts and cast discrimination to name a few. The students conducted interviews, collated survey, made documentary, thus giving hands on experience of the real world.

The process of learning in the department has seen variations and application of various pedagogical patterns. The students were given opportunities not only to excel but also to explore their inner potential. They were given insights about the subjects as well as some learnings for life skills.

Dr. Avkash Jadhav
Head and Associate Professor
Department of History

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

During the academic year 2019-20, the Department of Information technology achieved another milestone by starting the post graduate programme M.Sc in Big Data Analytics. The Launch of this Post graduate (PG) programme in collaboration with Dept. of Statistics, St. Xavier's College and **Tata consultancy services (TCS)** in affiliation to Mumbai university, took place with the signing of a **MoU** between TCS and St. Xavier's College-Autonomous, Mumbai. The Latin motto *Provocans Ad Volandum*, "Provoke to Fly", that is central to the ethos of the college, takes inspiration from the eagle that encourages its young to fly, has in some way been the motivation for the undergraduate programme to see its logical progression in the form of a full time, 2 year degree PG course, M.Sc. in Big Data Analytics.

The faculty for this MSc. Program consists of both in-house and visiting subject experts. Experienced professors from departments like Mathematics, Statistics, English and Information Technology make this program a unique one. A dedicated M.Sc (Big Data Analytics) laboratory with state of the art technology, was inaugurated by the Principal and the Rector on July 25th, 2019. All the computers in the lab have been procured by using RUSA grant.

The two IT staff members who visited ISI, Kolkata as part of the TCS, Train the Trainer Program (TTP) were Prof. Lydia Fernandes and Prof. Rachana Pandey. Apart from this, timely interactions between TCS, ISI faculty with MSc. BDA staff and students have taken place on a regular basis both via online (VCON sessions) and offline modes. A Big data case study was conducted via VCON by Mr. Sandeep Dey, from TCS, on September 27th, 2019. Dr. Balanarayan G, Head, Academia Interface Program Tata Consultancy Services, conducted a video conference session on October 1st, 2019. A VCON session on Application of Java was conducted by Mr. Prathap Kolla, TCS, on November

26th, 2019. Padmashree Dr. Bimal Roy, former Director Indian Statistical institute, Kolkata conducted an interactive session with M.Sc (BDA) students on September 16th, 2019. Dr. Pinakpani Pal and Dr. Samarjit Das from Indian Statistical Institute conducted a session on Case study based approach on statistical data and data modeling in computer science on January 23rd, 2020. A session on AI case studies was conducted by Dr. Santhosh Mohanty, Vice President, TCS on February 22nd, 2020.

Dr. Bimal Roy, former Director Indian Statistical institute, Kolkata, conducted a video conference session with M.Sc (BDA) Faculty on January 14th, 2020. Dr. Pinakpani Pal and Dr. Samarjit Das conducted an interactive session with the, faculty of M.Sc(BDA) on January 23rd, 2020 as a part of "Train the Trainer programme".

IT Tech Festival:

The theme for Xenith 2020 was **Glitches to Perfection**, and it was organised over two days - January 17th and 18th, 2020. During the course of these two days, several events were organised by Ms. Rachana Pandey, Staff-In-Charge of Xenith '20, Mr. Chirag Jain (TYIT-20), the Chairperson and by student volunteers.

Exhibition:

Xenith 2020 marked its beginning by inaugurating the exhibition titled **A Glitch in Time** by respectable Principal Dr. Rajendra Shinde. An exhibition showcasing the project work of the students was open to everyone for the entire day. The projects displayed included: A Dancing Robot, unity based games, a model Rocket, gesture recognition sensors, a 3D printer and much more. It was received with much appreciation from students as well as teachers from the entire college.

Talks:

The first talk was conducted by Dr. Paritosh K. Pandya, an Indian Computer Scientist and a Researcher

at TIFR, on the topic '**Intelligent Processing of Indian Music: where technology meets music**'. This highly interesting and well received session witnessed a discussion about applying computational learning and DSP techniques to Indian classical music.

Dr. Subhasis Chaudhuri, the director of IIT Bombay, delivered his talk on the topic: '**Higher Education: perspective of an Administrator**', giving a broader and better perspective on pursuing higher studies as a college graduate and attracted an audience in large numbers.

The last engaging talk of Xenith was '**Mapping Perfection: A Journey Through 3 Case Studies**' by Mr. Aashish Sharma, Co-Founder of 'Enliten IT India' defined the journey of Glitches to Perfection through three case studies including his own journey as a successful entrepreneur.

Workshops & Events:

Apart from these educational and insightful talks, Day 1 also included innovative and challenging events where students from different colleges of Mumbai participated. **Bot The Builder**, a gameshow event was held to challenge players' with, logical skills and teamwork. It included teams of two building their own robot, metaphorically, with the help of challenging clues, solving demanding tasks, coming up with creative ideas, great team spirit and enthusiasm.

A Treasure Hunt named **Glitch Don't Hitch and Laser Tag** were some of the other events.

A workshop was conducted by GreyAtom titled '**Kung Fu Data With Pandas**' which was a workshop on *Pandas* or Panel Data - a high performance, easy to use data analysis tool in Python used by Data Scientists and Analysts for a range of tasks that include cleaning, pre-processing and crunching data, digging deep and extracting insights from data.



Workshop on pandas as a foundation for data science, using python, being conducted in the computer lab.

Seminar and Conference

Prof Subhash Kumar, Prof. Roy Thomas and Prof. Lydia Fernandes attended the international conference DISHA: International Conference on Evolving Trends in Higher Education from 12-03-2019 to 13-03-2019.

Prof. Roy Thomas and Prof. Lydia Fernandes attended a 4 day national level webinar on Revised NAAC Assessment and Accreditation: Nurturing Quality Culture.

Prof. Roy Thomas attended an International workshop on Big Data Analytics from 28th to 30th May, 2020.

Prof. Lydia Fernandes attended a National workshop on Python with data science organized by Xavier's Institute of Engineering.

Prof. Roy Thomas participated in a 5-Day Online Faculty Development Programme on "Data Visualization using Tableau" from June 8th-12th, 2020.

Department of Information technology in collaboration with Xavier's Institute

of Engineering organized a certificate program on Python for data science from May 12th to July 18th 2020.

Placements and Internships

In the academic year 2019-20, 32 students of TY.IT were placed from the campus including on campus and off campus placements. Students were placed in companies like Zilingo, Times Internet Ltd, Deloitte, PWC, Ugam Solutions, Media.net, L&T infotech, Quantum Data Engines, Zeus Learning, Quantum Analytics Solution Pvt Ltd, Coviam Technologies Pvt Ltd, Savage & Palmer and Quantum Data Engines. Fifteen students completed summer internships at different organizations.

Mr. Roy Thomas

Head, Department of Information and Technology

LIBRARY

This year saw a sea change. At home it witnessed the exit of two former librarians. Dominic Fernandes left for his heavenly abode on January 3rd, 2020 and Medha Taskar retired on June 30th, 2020.

Highlights

Eunice de Souza Corner in the Honours Room: The XDP event in memory of our beloved poet teacher Eunice was held in the Library on July 26th, 2019. Her personal collection of books, classified and catalogued, has found a home in a cubicle in the library. This was thrown open to scholars by Dr. Pearl Pastakia, Head of the department of English. Many enthusiastic students of the enigmatic professor Eunice D'Souza attended the event and shared anecdotes, reminiscences.

Best user award from Algorithms, our library management software company, was awarded to us for the second time. Ms. Medha Taskar, was invited to the SLIM user meet as one of the chief guests. This event was held on November 22nd, 2019 in Mumbai.

A team of experts visited the library for administrative audit on January 25th, 2020. They appreciated our rare books collection.

Dr. Alexandra Sussmann, Mayor of Social Issues and Social Integration, City of Stuttgart and Prof. Wolfgang Holtkamp visited the library on February 8th, 2020.

Ms. Medha Taskar **retired** on June 30th, 2020 after serving as college Librarian for 23 years. (1997-2020) Ms. Sonali Paradkar has been **appointed** as the in-charge Librarian. A combined farewell and welcome was held in the library, handing over charge in the presence of the Rector, Principal and ex-Principal.

Acquisitions

No of total books: 103185

Number of books purchased: 1260: Senior College: 740 Junior College: 520

Number of gift books: 355 Books donated by Dr. Eunice D'Souza, Lindsay Pereira, Firadaus

Gandavia were added to the database this year.

Number of journals and Magazines subscribed: 93 (Indian 80, Foreign 13)

Number of Gift Journals: 21

Library Binding: No Journal Volumes were bound.

LIBRARY STATISTICS

Library Membership

Arts:

Senior College: 500

Junior College: 161

Science:

Senior College: 410

Junior College: 64

M.A: 55

M.Sc.: 72

Ph.D. (Arts/Science): 0

Paperback: 5

Self-Financing Courses:

BMS: 68

BMM: 97

B.Sc. (IT): 75

Forensic Science: 4

M.Sc. (Biotech): 43
M.A (Public Policy): 34
B. Voc: 09
Student exchange programme: 05
Diploma in Counselling: 8
MA Life Span Counselling: 21
MSc Astrophysics: 19
MSc Big Data Analysis: 19
PG Diploma in Expressive Art
Therapy: 13

Staff:

Teaching: 85
Non-Teaching: 02

Visiting faculties: 21
Inter Library Loan: 01

Total 1790 library cards were issued to users.

Total No of Books referred in the Library: 14338

No of Books issued from Lending Library: 9517

No of Books issued from Reference Library: 2173

No of Books issued from Honours Library: 2648

Total No of CD/DVDs issued from Multimedia Library: 15

Total No of CDs issued from Lending Library: 17

No of CDs issued from film collection: 00

Bound volumes of Journals: 10087

Library Education

Departmental SIP in the Library was completed by 50 students.

No of displays: 21 Special displays of books acquired under RUSA were held on July 11th, 2019 and November 14th, 2019.

Mr Suraj Maddy from University of Mumbai, Department of Library and information science, completed his internship from January 6th to February 6th, 2020.

Library tours conducted: 18

ICT Development

To keep count of library footfall;

A trial of LibVisLog for SLIM 21 and a demonstration of the user's barcode scanner were conducted in the library.

Staff Activities / Achievements

- Sonali Paradkar Continued Teaching Library science for F.Y.B.A. students with learning disabilities. (07 Students). A library tour of F.Y.B.A. Library science students was conducted at the Jawaharlal Nehru Library, University of Mumbai, Kalina campus.

- Mr. Adinath Raut attended the SLIM workshop mentioned above.
- Sonali Paradkar attended a workshop on NDLI Club held at SGPC's GNIMS Business School on July 5th, 2019 organized by the National Digital library of India.
- Ms. Sonali moderated a webinar session organised for the non-teaching staff by IQAC and Dept. of Life Science.
- Jay Thorat attended a workshop "National Digital Library of India" on August 22nd, 2019 at Shree L.R. Tiwari Degree College of Arts, Commerce, Science.
- Medha, Sonali, Vivek, Bharat, Adinath and Jay, attended many national, international and local webinars during the lockdown period.
- During COVID-19, when no students and teachers visited the campus, the library was open, the staff worked in rotation from March 17th - 21st, 2020 and then, June 9th onwards.

Ms. Medha Taskar
Librarian

LIFE SCIENCE AND BIOCHEMISTRY

The Department of Life Science and Biochemistry had an exciting and enriching academic year for the students and faculty members. A glimpse of our activities through the year is presented here.

Co Curricular Activities

- SY and TY students organised an **orientation** to the Department using subject specific live stations for FYBSc students.
- '**Biowaves-2020**', the annual symposium was held on 18th January 2020 on the theme 'Upholding the Spirit of Sustainability'. The sessions included talks by 5 speakers and poster presentation by LSD - UG

and PG students on their research work.

Highlights of the symposium were:

- ◆ Climate change by Dr. Murtugudde Raghu (Professor ESSIC University Maryland USA).
- ◆ Practicing Environmental Sustainability by Dr. Rashneh Pardiwala, (NGO_CERE).
- ◆ Resources, Livelihood and Spatial Control-Case of Coastal road Project by Dr. Shweta Wagh and Mr. Hussain Indorewala, Kamala Raheja School of Architecture.

- ◆ What Acoustics can teach us about tropical bird and bat communities by Dr. Anand Krishnan, IISER Pune.

The department magazine '**Lignum Vitae**' Vol 8, with the theme 'From Disorder to Order' created by the FY SYBSc students, was released at 'Biowaves-2020'.

TYBSc Environmental Science students exhibited working models on conservation, renewal, and recycling of resources in the College Foyer in Feb. 2020.

- Sixty-six students were guided by the faculty for the **Honour's** programme

- The annual Khandala Seminar, Career guidance sessions, Field trip to Mahim Nature Park and Open-House visit to ACTREC were well received by students.
- A *farewell* was organised by the SYs to bid adieu to the TY and MScII students

Guest Lectures

The Department organised a number of talks by eminent resource persons from academic institutes for the UG and PG students.

- Mr Rishi Agarwal (NGO- Safai Bank) acquainted the students with the aspects of MLP collection and processing on 29th August 2019
- Dr. Sreelaja Nair (DBS- TIFR) spoke about Shaping a Cell mass into an embryo on 30th August 2019
- Katy Rustam, Activist Dahanu Movement shared his experiences through an Account of Social Justice in our Backyard on 26th Nov 2019.
- Dr. Aamir Shaikh (Founder Assansa) and Dr. Shehnaz Vakharia engaged the students in aspects of Clinical Research through lectures between January and February 2020
- Dr. Rushikesh Patil, ACTREC gave enriching insights about Cancer Biology and Stem Cell Biology to the students on 6th March 2020
- Dr. Shubha Tole, TIFR engaged with the science and non-science background students about how Evolution Shaped the Brain on 20th & 22nd June 2020

Alumni Interactions

To strengthen the student-alumni interactions, a number of events were organised.

- Mustafa Motiwala, Technosource, spoke about Entrepreneurship on 13th September 2019
- Eureka Dias gave insights about Regulatory Affairs in

Pharmaceutical Industry on 4th January 2020

- Amit Panariya shared about Options in Tourism industry via Experiential Learning on 4th January 2020
- Amrita Sadarangani, Sharon Lobo and Roopa Nath counselled about various Career options on 3rd February 2020
- Pratik Nazareth spoke about Careers in Pharmaceutical Industry on 17th February 2020
- Subarna Ray gave a talk on Targeted Drug Delivery using Nanoparticles on 17th February 2020
- Reanne Fronteiro, Lizanne Oliviera and Esha Shanbhag held a session on Preparation for NET examination on 7th April 2020

Extension Activities

- SYBSc students conducted Science and Health Awareness Workshops for students of Stds 9th/10th at the BMC School, Worli Sea Face, in collaboration with Teach for India.
- An MLP awareness and collection drive was started in college in tandem with the department of Zoology.
- UG and PG students exhibited live stations of core Life science concepts in the DBT-CTEP sponsored **Science Fair** "Popularization of Science" in Nov 2019 at SXC.

Student Achievements

Research

- Bivas Nag, SYBSc was awarded the D.D. Kosambi Young Scientist (National) award.

Poster Presentation:

- Study of Butterfly Biodiversity and Their Interactions in the Environment in Butterfly Hotspots across Mumbai: Kenneth Castelino, Mohit Apurwa, Muskan Mishra, Riway Ghimire,

Siena D'Souza, Upasana Shah, Dr. Seema, Won **3rd Prize at 'Nurturing UG and PG Research in Biological Sciences'**, NES Ratnam College, Mumbai:

Oral Presentations

- **Research Convention on 'Nurturing UG and PG Research in Biological Sciences'** held at NES Ratnam College, Mumbai

◆ *'Isolation and Biochemical Characterization of Betalain Pigments from Beet Root (Beta vulgaris)'*, Alicia Dias, Dr. Maya, Dr. Prashant, and Dr. Nandita **1st Prize**

◆ *'Semi-purification of Chicken Egg Lysozyme and its Detection Through Antimicrobial and Spectrophotometric Assays'*, Merlin Johns, Dr. Maya, Dr. Prashant and Dr. Nandita **2nd Prize**

- ◆ *'Variation in the Production and Activity of Salivary Amylase based on gender and Diet in Indian Population'*, Aradhya Kapoor, Dr. Maya, Dr. Prashant, and Dr. Nandita **Consolation Prize**
- **Awareness and Action Research for Youth Awakening (AARYA) Intercollegiate Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Competition held at** College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan on 28th and 29th February 2020

◆ *'Chick Embryo Retina as a Model to Study Vertebrate Neurogenesis'*, Arjun Udapa, Pooja Mehta, and Dr. Radhika... **1st Prize**.

◆ *'Effect of Estradiol on Retinal Neurogenesis in Chick Embryo'*, Althea Martis, Kenneth Pinto, Rhea Garg, and Dr. Radhika... **2nd Prize**.

Cocurricular

- Zubia Shaikh and Karishma Katpitia awarded USD 4500 for 'Grey-water treatment' by the US Consulate General and Ekonnnect Foundation.

- **'Health Fest'**, Somaiya College: Sanskriti Agarwal, Yash Bhandare, Kevin Abraham, Sanskriti Agarwal and Yash Bhandare (all FYBSc), and Bivas Nag (SYBSc), won prizes in various events.
- **'Primers Biotechnology Fest'**, Elphinstone College: Bivas Nag (SYBSc), Kevin Abraham, Sanskriti Agarwal, Khyatee Shah (FYBSc) won prizes in various events. **The Students won the Rolling Trophy for the 2nd consecutive year!**
- **'Olive-Riddle-Me'**, Dept of Zoology, SXC, Bivas Nag won 3rd prize
- **'Pragati 2020'** - E-Cell SFIT, Mira-Bhayandar, Kevin Abraham won the 3rd prize
- **'Youth for Green'** Fest - Wilson College, Mumbai, Alicia Dias won the 2nd prize.

Sports

- Neel Ujrekar (FYBSc) - **Senior Boys Overall Individual Sports Champions award** in College sports.

Staff Achievements

- Dr. Seema - 'D. D. Kosambi Teacher-Mentor Award- 2019' for exemplary contributions to collaborative research by the Collaborative Understanding Biology Education(CUBE), HBCSE.
- Dr. Priya S - 1st Prize for 'Biotechnology-based Novel Approach towards Sustainable Preservation and Conservation of Cultural Heritage using Enzymes as Bio-cleaning Agents', Institution's Innovation Council, College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan.

- Dr. Binoj Kutty: Mentor and guide for Installation of a Grey-water treatment plant in the college campus through the 'Youth Mentorship Programme for Environment Conservation' by the US Consulate General, Mumbai and Ekonnnect Foundation.

Non-Teaching Staff Achievements

- Mr Sudhakar Kolge, Mr. Kishore Sonawane, Mr. Sandeep Pawar and Mr. Awinash Agre won the team 1st prize in the Inter-Collegiate Cricket tournament held on 20th Dec 2019.
- Mr Sudhakar Kolge won the 1st prize in the College sports event.

Faculty
Department of Life Science and
Biochemistry



Live stations in the Life Science Lab

MANAGEMENT STUDIES - BMS

The academic year 2019-20 was perfectly knit together with exemplary events and new beginnings. Here is a brief report of the activities of the department.

XYNERGY'19 (30th November 2019)

Xynergy'19 was an excellent platform for sharing knowledge about the BMS course as most of the school graduates are not aware about the various options available for higher studies. The entire concept of the event was to eliminate such confusion from the minds of the students.

The students organised a variety of activities for the visiting school students and the objective was to answer the queries about course and placements after graduation.

ZEPHYRUS 2020: "Dawn of the Decade"

Zephyrus is the official business festival of St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai and it is conducted annually by the Department of Management Studies.

The festival this year consisted of a Conference conducted on January 17, 2020 and a series of competitions conducted on 17th and 18th January of 2020.

The theme for 2019-2020 was "Dawn of the Decade", with the aim of helping students to understand the dynamism of the business world.



Inauguration of Businessence by the Principal, Dr. Rajendra Shinde

The Conference conducted on 17th January was divided into 4 sessions with an array of distinguished personalities gracing the occasion. The Conference was inaugurated by the Principal, Dr. Rajendra Shinde by unveiling 'BUSINESSENCE' - the official magazine of Zephyrus.

The keynote session was a panel discussion on the Indian Banking System and the way forward.

The panel consisted of:

- Prof Errol D'Souza: Director, IIM Ahmedabad
- Ms. Anjana Dube: Deputy Director General, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance
- Dr. Soumya Kanti Ghosh: Group Chief Economic Advisor at SBI
- Mr. Jaspal Bindra: CEO of the Centrum Group.

The session was moderated by Dr. Agnelo Menezes and it explored the issues in the current banking system.

This was followed by a 13 year old entrepreneur, Mr. Tilak Mehta, who took the audience through his journey from a regular school student to the founder of Paper n Parcels - a logistics firm based in Mumbai.

The third session explored the potential of Artificial Intelligence and

Behavioural Economics in changing the phase of business and the society at large.

This session was conducted by Mr. Biju Dominic, CEO of Finalmile Consulting.

The final session of the day was an interactive session with the following eminent personalities from the field of business:

- Mr. Hemant Jain: Co-founder and CTO of Tavaga Financial Enterprises
- Mr. Naveen Bachwani: Group Head for Customer Experience at Edelweiss
- Ms. Anuja Shukla: Senior Vice President, Engineering and Advanced Technology, Bank of America

The session hovered mainly over three spheres of Cloud Computing, Data Science and Customer experience and their potential to play a greater role in the business world.

Day 2 and Day 3 had participants from across colleges in India participating in various business related events.

The highlight of the event was the Goodwill Flea, which is Zephyrus' way of giving back to the society. Participant colleges raised funds for NGOs that were working for different causes.

Guest Speakers:

Speaker	Date	Session Details
1. Kuntal Joisher	February 25 th , 2020	Mr. Joisher is a mountaineer who is the first one to have climbed Mount Everest on a plant-based diet
2. Ms. Anuja Shukla, SR Vice President, Cloud and Advanced Technology, Bank of America)	May 23 rd , 2020	Cloud Services and its Importance Post the Pandemic
3. Mr. Jatin Paranjpe (Former Indian Cricketer and Founder of Khelomore)	June 2 nd , 2020	The Role of Digital Media in Sports Management

Speaker	Date	Session Details
4. Dr. Deepali Pant Joshi (Economist and Former Executive Director of RBI)	June 6 th , 2020	Implications of the 2020 Financial Package on Business and The Economy
5. Mr. Kishu Daswani (Professor Government College) and Ms. Ragini Shah (Founding Partner at Literati Juris)	June 20 th , 2020	The Significance of Intellectual Property Rights for Small and Medium Enterprises
6. Dr. Collin Higgins (Director, MBA at Deakin University)	September 18 th , 2019	Post Graduate education in Australia.
7. Dr. Radha Kumar	August 7 th , 2019	Buddhist Philosophy in Management Education
8. Connel Coelho, Alisha Ajit, Alan Joseph, Jeremiah Andrews, Nikitha George, Crystal D'Souza, Nihal Saldanah and Shashwat Narayan	June 2019 - February 2020	Alumni interaction

Certificate Courses

1. Social Media Marketing (under the aegis of RUSA 2.0)
31 students from FYBMS took a 15 hour certificate course on Social Media Marketing in collaboration with India's leading institute in Digital Education: IIIDE
2. Basic and Advanced Excel
14 students of SYBMS took a course on both Basic and Advanced Excel conducted by the Department of Statistics.

Industrial Visit

The visit organized by Professor Yogesh Zaveri to the John Galt International factory as a part of the Operations Management course, enabled the students to understand the complexities of quality management of quality and operations at the factory level.

The First Year students also visited the Heras Institute and Museum and got a good understanding of the Indian Culture through the archaeological collections displayed at the Institute.

Faculty Enrichment

The staff members actively participated in the various Faculty development programmes to enhance their skills. The LMS training sessions, research methodology seminar, NAAC assessment, and impact of the Pandemic on the placement process to name a few.

Social Work

The Department has signed an MoU with CSA (Centre For Social Action) to collaborate with them in helping the people from the villages of the district of Raigad.

- Visit to the Kalote village in Kelavali was an initiative by CSA as a part of its pilot project to promote rural tourism. CSA will be working in collaboration with the students of the Department of Management Studies in setting up the villages as a hub for budding social entrepreneurs.

Student Achievements

Name	Event / Achievement	Place
1. Sonali Das and Shameek D'Silva (SYBMS)	Consulting Club (First Runner Up)	IIT Bombay
	Only undergraduate team to be in Top 7 teams in the final round	Retailersbook Pvt. Ltd.
	Annual Business Ideation Competition- Mission Innovation	Jai Hind College, Mumbai
	First Runner Up	E-Summit 2021
	Business essay writing national competition (2 nd Place)	E-Cell of Manav Rachna University
2. Nathan D'Souza, Rishabh Vig, Divyam Dewan and Raj Sharman (TYBMS)	International Case Study competition	Milgrad School of Business, University of Washington Tacoma, USA
3. Vansh Gupta (SYBMS)	1 st at State and Zonal Levels; 3 rd at National Level; Selected for international	Association of Indian Universities' World Debating Championship.
4. Antara Ghosh (SYBMS)	Performer	International Odissi Dance Festival 2019 (Bhubaneswar, Odisha)
5. Vansh Gupta and Jainam Mehta (SYBMS)	Winners, Niti Charcha	Annual Event of the Department of Public Policy
6. Stesha Mathews, Miza Ali, Stina Wilson, Mohini Jakkar, Sana Sangal (SYBMS)	Winners, Fashion Event	NMIMS Festival- Vaayu.
7. Esha Malhotra and Merrick Fernandes (SYBMS)	Winners, Gaming Event	NMIMS Festival- Vaayu
8. Esha Malhotra (SYBMS)	Delegate	HCAP (Harvard College in Asia Program)
9. Shameek D'Silva, Merrick Fernandes, Jude Bosco, Elton Rodrigues, Anusheel Gupta, Yashwanth.C and Austin Paul (SYBMS)	Winners	Interclass Basketball Tournament

Name	Event / Achievement	Place
10. Divanshi Rawat, Bhoomika Chawla, Dayle, Miza Ali, Aishani Choksi and Snehal (SYBMS)	Winners	Interclass Garba Competition
11. Sonali Das, Ayurvi Pensalwar, Yohan D'Souza and Shameek D'Silva (SYBMS)	Course on Leadership, Entrepreneurship and Public Policy	IIM Raipur.
12. Sonali Das (SYBMS)	Winner, Flagship Personality Contest	Kaleidoscope
	Represented India	International Classical Dance Youth festival at Singapore
	Performer	Mumbai International Film Festival 2020
13. Aadit Nair	Winner, Quarter Final	Table Tennis Tournament, University Level

Dr. Neelam Shetty completed her PhD in Commerce and Management and was awarded the Doctorate Degree from the University of Mumbai. We congratulate her and wish her the very best.

To conclude, we can say that we are in the process of preparing ourselves to navigate through these unprecedented times due to the pandemic. It has been an incredible academic year and we hope to raise the bar even higher in the future.

Ms. Soni George Tharakan
Head, Department of Management Studies

MASS MEDIA

The department facilitated curriculum enhancement through industry collaborations. While also designing and implementing student enrichment programs through the year 2019-20.

MOU with Soliya for the Erasmus + Virtual Exchange, Connect Program

A MOU was signed forming a partnership between Soliya and St. Xavier's College Autonomous, Mumbai, India to offer the Connect Program to its students. 23 TYBMM students completed the program in March 2020.

The objective of the Connect Program is to offer opportunities for young people to connect together in safe online facilitated dialogue to discuss current issues that matter to them, develop a better understanding of each other, build meaningful relationships across borders and cultures, and practice important employability skills.

Zeitgeist 2020

Zeitgeist, the media students organised annual media conference, saw a variety

of debates and discussions in 2020, with the theme 'The Game Changers'. Professionals from the field of Travel and Lifestyle, Technology in Sports, and Experiential Marketing discussed the contemporary developments in these fields. The conference brought together different voices from the industry and placed them in conversation with students to help them gain a deeper understanding of the industry they will step in.



Quest for Excellence (Honours) Programme

This year the department organised courses covering cinema, fiction and non-fiction writing.

1. Devdutt Trivedi, film theoretician and critic, taught the course 'The Cinematograph - constructing the real', which focused on exploring

the construction of image and sound as a way of writing, and its role in the film.

2. Arun Sukumar, filmmaker, script writer, director and faculty XIC conducted 'Storytelling', giving students insight into narrative fiction writing, and the various elements of a story.
3. Nikhil Mudaliar, Mass Media alumnus and content specialist at The Red Pen, Mumbai, conducted a course on non-fiction writing 'Right the Write' focused on personal essays and SOPs required for international higher education.

Panel Discussion: Traditional Media in the age of Twitter

BMM department in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Journalism and New Media (IINJM), Bangalore, held a one day seminar and panel discussion featured eminent journalists Mr. Pankaj Upadhyay (Resident Editor - Mumbai Mirror), Dakshina Murthy (Independent Journalist), Ms. Hemali Chappia (Sr. Assistant Editor - TOI), Mr. Krishnakumar (Deputy Editor-

Middy) & Mr. Chaitanya Marpakwar (Principal Correspondent - Mumbai Mirror). The panellists spoke about the waves of change in traditional media, brought about by digital media, in terms of business model and editorial policies.

BARC 4 day workshop on Data Collection, Processing and Analysing for Television Audience

Mr. Roy Solomon, Senior Manager - West & South India - BARC India, gave a detailed background into the workings of the Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) over four interactive sessions. Incorporating facts, figures, activities and quizzes, this workshop educated students about BARC and its functions. It introduced them to a lucrative and key field in the media industry.

Panel Discussion: The Changing Arctic- The New Epicentre of Geopolitics

Polar Research and Policy Initiative hosted a dialogue The Changing Arctic: The New Epicentre of Geopolitics, Geoeconomics and Geoscience in the 21st Century on 12 December 2019. The event included the India book launch of The North American Arctic: Themes in Regional Security (London: UCL Press, 2019), edited by Dr. Dwayne Ryan Menezes and Prof Heather Nicol.

Visit to Barefoot College, Tilonia and Jaipur Foot - Rajasthan



Founded by Bunker Roy in 1972, Barefoot College, located in the village of Tilonia, Rajasthan, is a grassroots organisation working in the fields of education and skill development. This

three- day visit included interactions with the students, and social activist Mrs. Aruna Roy, helped to gain insights and perspectives on education and labour rights.

We interacted with the founder Mr. Padma Bhushan Devendra Raj Mehta, Founder and Chief Patron, retired Indian Administrative Service officer and former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India. He has also held the position of Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. Jaipur foot is the WORLD'S LARGEST ORGANISATION FOR DISABLED, with a Clear Social Vision And Commitment To Help The Disabled Regain Mobility And Dignity By Fitting High-Quality, Durable Artificial Limbs And Other Aids And Appliances — All Free Of Charge.

National Exhibition in Collaboration with Salaam Bombay Foundation

Salaam Bombay Foundation, an NGO works for the education and development of vulnerable children between the ages seven and 11. Held in collaboration with the Foundation was an exhibition, where kids from across Mumbai displayed their talents and capabilities through a range of media-centric projects from photography and film to radio and television. Students from the department worked closely with the kids, mentored and monitored their work.

2 day Outdoor Drone Photography Workshop

Students from the department went for a two-day, off-site photography session in Boscowadi, Uttan, led by Ronit Sarkar to understand various facets of natural light photography, as well as using drones. The session covered day- and night-light photography, camera angles to strengthen their skills.

12 week Radio Production Workshop

All India Radio's RJ Fali Singara held a series of workshops on the

theoretical and practical aspects of running a radio show. Students worked hands on with every aspect of production using professional equipment.

“4-Day training course on “Engaging media for effective and efficient Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation” organised jointly by GIZ and BMM Department, St Xavier’s College under the Indo-German HWC Project, at St Xavier’s College - Mumbai during July 22 - 25, 2019.

GIZ is a German development agency, which works for international development cooperation. The four-day workshop involved a range of workshops and activities, aimed at highlighting the media's role in mitigation of human and wildlife conflict. TYBMM students worked closely with journalists and zoologists, understanding the nuances of conflict, and reflecting on the role they might play as future media persons.

Sh. Ramesh Menon (media expert), Sh. Ananda Banerjee (Award-winning Environmental Journalist, Author, Graphic Artist and Communications Specialist), Sh. Ajay Desai (Wildlife Management Consultant of WWF India), Dr. Vidya Athreya (Ecologist working extensively in India on the human leopard conflict issue).

Dr. Neeraj Khera (Biodiversity Programme, Team Leader, Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation (HWC) Project), Mr. Nikit Surve (Zoologist and Researcher), Mr. Virat Singh (Journalist), Ms. Swagatama Mukherjee.

Experiential workshop to build self- leadership

An experiential workshop that build on Somatic practices, using (Yoga, Tai Chi, Martial Arts, dance) to compliment cognitive understanding of concepts like Self, Wellbeing, Purpose, Resilience using a variety of

frameworks to align Mind, Body and Soul was conducted for mass media students. The workshop conducted by Ms. Bhavana Issar, and Ashu Kumud Kalia. Founder & CEO and co-founder respectively of a business consulting firm, Sambhaavna (www.sambhaavna.com), and a social venture Caregiver Saathi™ (www.caregiver.co.in). Bhavana is a passionate person with diverse interests.

Interactive session with Mr. Sashi Kumar, founder and Director, Asian College of Journalism, Chennai



With the coronavirus pandemic taking hold of the globe, many industries saw demand for their products fall drastically. Among the worst hit is journalism, which has already been reeling with economic pressures and job cuts. Mr. Sashi Kumar, founder and director of ACJ, Chennai interacted with students, showing them the way forward and reflecting on the current state of journalism in India and abroad.

Ms. Perrie Subramaniam
Head, Department of Mass Media

MATHEMATICS

This year the Mathematics department organized various activities for students. At the beginning of the year, the Mathematics department conducted a Bridge Course for FY students followed by a talk on 'Linear Algebraic methods in Combinatorics' by Prof. Sivaramakrishnan Sivasubramanian from IIT Bombay. There were workshops on 'Mathematics and Origami' conducted by our ex-student, Ms. Mimansa Vahia, and on 'Introduction to Programming in MATLAB' conducted by Dr. V. Divya from ICT Mumbai for our TY students in September and repeated in February for our SY students. In the Even semester, there were guest lectures by: Prof. Akshay Rane, ICT Mumbai, he talked about 'Riemann-Stieltjes Integral and Research Methodology' and our ex-student, Mr. Aryaman Jal gave a talk on 'Uniform continuity'.

The department also organized an intercollegiate Exhibition and Quiz competition with cash prizes for the winners. For the exhibition, students had to present a mathematical topic using charts and models. Prof. Akshay Rane and Dr. Dhvanita Rao judged the exhibition event. The quiz consisted

of a combination of written and interactive rounds. Prof. Meenal Kolkar coordinated all these activities.

The students from FYJC to TYBSc visited the Mathematics Laboratory at the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education. They experienced many innovative applications and methods of learning Mathematics. The TY students went to Khandala for the annual seminar accompanied by Prof. Simi Cyriac, Prof. Ashok Bingi, and Prof. Rahul Katkam.

Many of our FY and SY students participated in the intercollegiate festivals colleges and won top ranks. In the Mathematics festival of HR College and Poddar College, they achieved a podium in multiple competitions and won the second and first contingent prize respectively. They also secured second prize in an event at Khalsa College.

The staff members have been active in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Prof. Meenal Kolkar judged the inter-collegiate Mathematics poster/seminar competition held at KC College. She was appointed as a paper setter

for the End Semester Examination of TY and FY by Patkar College. Prof. Ashok Bingi completed a refreshers course from Mumbai University, did a presentation on star status evaluation of the mathematics department, held at Pondicherry University, and presented a paper at the National Seminar on Algebra at Shivaji University, Kolhapur. Prof. Ashok and Prof. Rahul Katkam also attended a workshop on 'Innovative Teaching Methods in Mathematics and Statistics' held at National College, Bandra.

Prof. Simi Cyriac conducted a course in Scientific Communication Skills for SY students. Prof. Rahul Katkam coordinated the department centric SIP. All department members attended the Disha International Conference organized at our college.

Apart from this, the entire faculty of the Mathematics Department participated in many online webinars and workshops during the lockdown period. Prof. Meenal Kolkar participated in a national level webinar on NAAC Assessment and Accreditation arranged by KC College. She also attended a Faculty

Development Programme arranged by Somaiya College in association with IIDE. Prof. Ashok Bingi completed faculty development programs on 'Open Source Tools for Research' arranged by Ramanujan College, Delhi University, and on 'Modern educational tools and Pedagogical Practices for online teaching' arranged by Vidyalankar Institute of Technology. Additionally, one of his papers got accepted in the Thailand Journal of Mathematics. Prof. Ashok, Prof. Simi, and Prof. Rahul attended a workshop on MATLAB arranged by Mathworks. Prof. Rahul Katkam completed a course in Programming with PYTHON by Michigan University and another course in MATLAB software by Vanderbilt University offered through Coursera. He also completed a course in Sagemath Software. Prof. Simi conducted a bridge course in Pascal Programming for SY students. Also, she served as an examiner for the M.Sc. Project presentation at ICT, Mumbai. Prof. Aditya Garg attended a Faculty Orientation Program organized by Ramanujan College, Delhi University. Our junior college mathematics

teachers also actively participated in extracurricular activities conducted. Prof. Sandhya Gupte was appointed by the higher secondary board as a resource person for teacher's training on the topic 'Changes In Evaluation Pattern'. Prof. Jincy George and Prof. Rubina Khan contributed to writing Reliable Series books for Junior college syllabus.

Some of our TY students got good placements such as Ms. Ritu Maurya: job placement with ICICI Bank, Ms. Aleya Dutta Choudhury: job placement with Zilingo for the role of a Business Analyst, Ms. Nancy Jindal: job placement with Deloitte USI Consulting for the role of an Associate Analyst.

Two of our TY students, Ms. Neha Gorgaokar and Ms. Mansi Mahajan, cleared JAM, an entrance test for postgraduate studies at IIT. Neha secured the All India Rank 52.

At the end of this academic year, TIFR started the Mumbai Maths Circle in collaboration with St. Xavier's College.

It is a platform to discuss mathematics without being limited for any particular exam purpose. St. Xavier's college is the host institute where these sessions will be conducted. Prof. Meenal Kolkar is one of the coordinators for this circle.

To end this report with a special quote by Albert Einstein 'One reason why mathematics enjoys special esteem, above all other sciences, is that its laws are certain and indisputable, while those of all other sciences are to some extent debatable and in constant danger of being overthrown by newly discovered ideas.'



Maths Faculty Visit at HBSCE

Ms. Meenal Kolkar
Head, Department of Mathematics

MICROBIOLOGY

The events of 2019-2020 began as we proudly looked on as all our high performing Microbiology MSc and BSc achievers of 2018-2019 received their certificates at the Graduation Ceremonies. **Ms. Larissa Gomes ranked 1st** among all our graduates with a CGPA of 3.83 of 4 and **Ms. Shivani Patkar** amongst all our postgraduates with a CGPA of 3.91 of 4.

To start the year's activities, the department was happy to welcome Dr. Vindhu A. Sane, the Senior Principal Scientist, PGEL, CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow on the 21st of June to talk about 'NAC transcription factor *GhNAC2* affects root growth in cotton through a complex regulation by different hormones' to all Biology students. The Department was proud to have an opportunity to host an engaging

talk by Dr. Sriti Burman on 18th of July on her research, Human Microbiome. In collaboration with IITB, the department hosted a two-day Problem Solving and Process skills course in Genetics using Geneticus Investigation. We are grateful to DBT STAR for sponsoring 100 UG students. Taking a trip down memory lane, our alumni batch of 1977 interacted with our students; talking about where their career paths led them and other career options. Dr. Mukund Nori from the Batch of 77 spoke on Scientific Communications Skills. Our students participated in the DBT-CTEP sponsored science fair - Popularization of Science (*An outreach to inspire young minds*) held on 29th November 2019 and RUSA sponsored exhibition Xynergy 2019 (*A Spectrum of Opportunities*) held on 30th November 2019. We extend a grateful thank you

to RUSA for sponsoring a two-day workshop, conducted by Ms. Namrata Dayal from OneCert International who spoke on Food Safety and Management Systems and International auditing system. The same was conducted on 9th & 10th and 11th & 12th of December 2019 for 180 students. We conducted a successful annual Khandala seminar on the 11th and 12th of January, in Khandala. 50 students enthusiastically prepared and participated in the 19th National Level pre- MicrobiOlympiad Quiz held in Jan 2020 in our college. Sarah Thomas and D. Rachana won the first prize at the National finals in February 2020. DBT STAR was also the proud sponsor of 50 students for a one day inter-collegiate workshop on FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) conducted by Ms. Namrata Dayal in Jan 2020. We are immensely grateful to Dr. Parul

Anup for conducting two 'Be Smart' Webinars on Soft skills on the 22nd and 23rd of June, 2020 for 170 students of our college.

Our faculty have always been keen to push the boundaries of the study of Microbiology and constantly look for ways to take the field to the next level. Dr. Karuna Gokarn presented her project titled "Repurposing of over-the-counter drugs and testing antibacterial activity of an iron-chelator" at the University of Mumbai for the Minor research grant (project no 361) in December 2019. Drs Pampi and Aparna too presented their research project work at the same meet. Ms. Sangeetha Chavan was the proud recipient of the Mumbai University grant for teachers for a project on **"Optimization of parameters for improved productivity in hydroponics systems using plant growth-promoting bacteria"**. The sanctioned amount is Rs. 50,000/-.

We are proud of our motivated students who take the initiative to explore the field more. Our batch of SYBSc students organised a Microbiology exhibition called **XnS- Into the Microverse-** which was held on the 8th and 9th of July 2019. They hosted a group of 25 students from a Municipal School who learnt about Microbiology from them. The Undergraduate Microbiology Associations of Xaviers (UMAX) hosted a debate titled- 'Device the Decision', based on ethics behind the use of GMO crop seeds. The debate proved to be an eye opener as both sides argued for and against the motion. The debate held on the 28th of August, 2019 was attended in huge numbers. As part of their college curriculum all our MSc part 2 students completed their external projects during a four month duration (May 2019-September 2019) at various esteemed research institutes in the country and an Internal project guided by the department faculty. We are proud to mention that thirty-one of our TYBSc students completed their Summer Internships at various institutes like research

institutes, hospitals, food analysis labs that helped broaden their horizons about the applications of Microbiology. All our 34 SYBSc and 31 TYBSc students successfully completed group research projects during the year. UMAX organized MicroDay, a fun-filled and educational event. The committee organized the much awaited Farewell for the outgoing TYBSc and MSc students. The Michronicle 18-19, the annual department magazine was released at the farewell.

Faculty engagement:

Our faculty also shared the enthusiasm of our students. Dr. Pampi Chakraborty, Sangeetha Chavan participated in a lecture series on Fundamentals of Immunology organized by Mumbai Immunology Group on 13th November 2019. They also attended a teachers training programme organized by the department of Microbiology, Jai Hind College from 16th - 18th January 2020 on the topic "Exploring microbial diversity using metagenomics-an introductory workshop. Ms. Miriam Stewart attended a 2-day National Conference on "Innovative Approaches and Issues in Food and Pharmaceutical Microbiology "on the 2nd and 3rd of March 2020 at Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College, Vashi. Dr. Karuna Gokarn attended - Regional Summit of Principals on Principal-Teacher Relationship in Changing times organized by Institute of Counsellor Training Research and Consultancy in December 2019. She also attended "The New Age Education Symposium," hosted by the Economic times on the 25th & 26th Feb 2020. Dr. Karuna Gokarn, Miriam Stewart and Sangeetha Chavan attended the Faculty Development program under Human Research and Development Khandala Seminar on Aspects of Development: institutional, communitarian and personal at Loyola Social Welfare Centre, Kune in Feb 2020. Dr. Gokarn attended the National Workshop on "Leadership Development for Senior Mid-Level Faculty" which was held at AIACHE Secretariat in New Delhi in March

2020. Dr. Pradnya Gogte attended a Young Teachers seminar on 'Paper setting- Expectations and Outcomes' on 10th July 2019. She also attended a workshop on 'Gender Sensitization' on the 31st of January 2020. Ms. Sangeeta C, Dr. Pradnya Gogte attended a workshop on 'Orientation to Apple Apps' on 5th February 2020.

Our faculty members put in hours to prepare, equip, and update themselves to adapt to the changing educational norms during the pandemic. They each attended at least 20 Webinars to train themselves for online teaching which included Faculty Development Programs. Through the year they contributed to a number of college committees in different capacities- Infrastructure, Research. Magazine, IBSC, WDC, Environment, Additional examination, to name a few. Miriam Stewart and Dr. Gokarn were appointed Subject experts for Faculty CAS interviews in a few Mumbai colleges.

The department faculty have conducted Honours programme courses for students and faculty. Dr. Pampi Chakraborty organized a lecture series on Intellectual property rights (IPR) on 28th and 29th of September 2019. Dr. Aparna Talekar conducted an online lecture series on 'Introduction to Biostatistics' on 28th March to 8th April. Dr. Pampi Chakraborty was a resource person in a lecture series on 'COVID-19: PAN(ACA)DEMIC-A multi-disciplinary approach to the coronavirus' organized by the PG Biotechnology Department of the College on 30th April to 2nd May 2020.

This report wouldn't be complete without us extending a hearty congratulations to Dr. Karuna Gokarn, Associate Professor from our Department of Microbiology who was appointed the Vice Principal of Academics in January, 2020 by the Management of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. We wish her all success in her new role.

Ms. Miriam Stewart
HOD, Microbiology

PHYSICS

The academic year 2019-2020 marked the beginning of a new phase in the department with the launch of **MSc (Physics) with Astrophysics** as specialization as one of the new self-financing programmes of the college. The curriculum of the course is designed based on project-based learning pedagogy with emphasis on analysis and applications of concepts. The selection of candidates, from a pool of applicants across the country, was done through a rigorous interview process.

Keeping with the core vision of the department to enhance Physics learning among the undergraduates, a number of activities were organised.

- **Annual Exhibition – Jigyasa – August 2019**

The theme for our inter-collegiate annual exhibition 'Jigyasa', was "Yantra: the joy of making instruments", and Dr. R. Dubey was the convenor. The inaugural talk was delivered by Prof. A. R. Rao of TIFR on "ASTROSAT- India's Satellite for X-Ray Astronomy". Students of SY, TY BSc and MSc of our college took part and grasped the importance of perfectly accurate measurements in every branch of science.

- **Inter-collegiate student research seminar 'PROBE'-January 2020**

Every year, the department organizes this event to give our students an experience of a science conference and a lesson in science communication. Dr. Rohan Jadhav was the convenor this year. The event was organised under the aegis of DBT-STAR Grant.

A pre-PROBE seminar on 'how to make a good poster presentation' for all SY and TY BSc students was conducted by Dr. J.B. Mistry.

The inaugural lecture of 'PROBE' was delivered by Prof.

Manoj Purvankara, TIFR, on "Exoplanetary systems: what have we learned so far?". Eighty-one groups of students of SY, TY and MSc made oral and poster presentations which were judged by faculty of the Mumbai university involved in research and our department faculty.



'PROBE'- Prize Distribution

- **Seminars, Workshops and Visits:**

RUSA sponsored science experiment workshop, "WONDERS OF PHYSICS" was conducted by Prof. B. Chakradeo, a retired physics professor of CHM college, Kalyan, for FY BSc Physics students in November 2019. It consisted of demonstrations of many Physics laws using experimental set up and gadgets used in day-to-day life.

- A seminar on "Mysterious workings of the Super God-Particle: The Glue that Binds Us All" was given by Prof. Abhay Deshpande, the Director of Science for the Electron Ion Collider (EIC), at Brookhaven National Laboratory and the founding Director of the Center for Frontiers in Nuclear Science (CFNS) at Stony Brook University, USA in January 2020

- A DBT-STAR Grant sponsored workshop on 'Monte Carlo Simulations'. A technique used in Statistical Mechanics for Data Analysis by Dr. Kiran Kolwankar from R. J. college, Mumbai, and Dr. Mahendra Khandkar from Pillai college. was organised for the TYBSc and MSc

- Cama & Alless Hospital – NMR facility

- ♦ All students of TY and MSc class visited the facility, where they were demonstrated the working of NMR machine and other nuclear radiation techniques used in the Radiology department.

- Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences, UM-DAE, Mumbai University Campus

- ♦ TY and MSc students visited the centre to study some Nuclear physics experiments.

- TIFR Mumbai

- ♦ TY students visited the department of Physics, where they were given a demonstration of a few experiments of Atomic & Molecular Physics.

- **Department Extension Activity for Social Involvement Programme: December 2019**

About 30 FY students worked in pairs on topics based on Junior college physics syllabus and prepared demonstration experiments and Charts for ease of learning for students. In December 2019, these demonstrations were put up for display for the SYJC students of our college.

- **Honours Program on Research paper writing** - Sudina.S. of TY registered and completed under the guidance of Prof. Shyamala Bodhane.

- All the department faculty members attended the International Conference on Evolving Trends in Higher Education, DISHA-2020, during 12-13, March 2020 organised by our college.

- **Online Teaching and Learning during COVID19 Lockdown period:**

Post lockdown due to the CoVID 19 Pandemic, MSc 2nd Semester teaching and project evaluation was shifted to online mode & was completed by June 2020.

All faculty members attended several workshops / webinars and FDPs during the lockdown:

- ◆ Dr. Shyamala Bodhane and Dr. Radhekrishna Dubey attended FDP on 'A Primer on Quantum Computing', Dr. Rohan Jadhav and Dr. Leena Joshi attended an FDP on "Managing online classes and co-creating MOOCs: 2.0", (MHRD sponsored).
- ◆ Drs. Shyamala Bodhane, Rohan Jadhav, Leena Joshi and Radhekrishna Dubey completed a course on "Basic Python" at Coursera.
- ◆ Dr. Vedaankari and Dr. Jyoti Singh attended a NAAC related 3-day

webinar "Assessment and Accreditation: A revised accreditation framework for affiliated colleges".

- ◆ Dr. Jyoti Singh attended a 3-day webinar conducted by Ashoka University and Harappa Education, "The Republic of Letter".
- ◆ Dr. Ajay Yadav attended workshops on "Applications of Geogebra" and "Moodle learning management system".
- ◆ Dr. R. Dubey attended an online IIT Kanpur course on "Advanced course on Special Theory of Relativity" and an FDP on "ICT tools in online learning".

- ◆ Resource creation for students: Prof. Rajesh published videos on foundations of physics for the first physics course on his YouTube channel. Dr. Leena published videos on optics and digital image processing on her YouTube channel.
- ◆ Prof. Katherine Rawlins completed several courses from Coursera in Astronomy such as "Data driven Astronomy", "Archeoastronomy" etc. and in addition attended international webinar series on "Astrochemistry".

Dr. Jyoti Singh
Head, Department of Physics

POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Political Science turned sixty-five this year. To make it special the department conducted numerous activities, engaging students from our college and other colleges as well. The Xavier's Political Science Association (XPSA) took it as a challenge to make this year memorable. After much discussion and deliberation, it was decided that the theme for the year will be 'Environment'. The XPSA committee unanimously agreed that one of the biggest problems for human species was the mindless use and abuse of natural resources which resulted in severe environmental damage and now the challenge is to protect all that can be protected for future generations. So, with the aim to focus on environmental issues, to create awareness among the students and to find some viable solutions we started the activities of the department.

The first activity organised by the XPSA in July was the **Annual Parimal K. Shroff National Essay Writing Competition**. Open to undergraduate students from all streams, across the country. The theme selected was **Environmental Changes: Man as a Constant**. It is a matter of pride for the department that we received entries

from colleges from across India and the winners were from three different colleges in three different cities.

Mr. Vishal Tibrewala from 'My Green Society' visited the College on 19th August 2019 for a two-hour session on **Waste Management**. He highlighted the benefits of waste segregation and explained how local government officials had started taking a more proactive role in the same. He stressed on the importance of grassroots level involvement and made a passionate appeal to the students to take up this cause. Mr. Tibrewala suggested setting up a herbal garden and connected us with an expert on the same.

The **Annual Ghoolam Vahanvati Lecture Series** was conducted on 14th September 2019, on the overarching theme 'Human and Nature - Is Gandhi Relevant Today?' Prof. Aparna Phadke from Mumbai University and environment activist Mr. Nishant Bangera were invited to talk about Mahatma Gandhi's focus on the environment, and its significance in today's times.

From 30th October - 7th November 2019, some students from TYBA visited Uttarkashi district, Uttarakhand with

me for data collection and as a field visit for their dissertations. The experience of visiting the remote mountain villages was a life-changing experience for the students. Their study and findings are very significant.

26th November 2019 was the **70th Constitution Day**, wherein the department organised a campaign to raise awareness about the Preamble to the Constitution. Dr. Hrishikesh Samant (Vice-Principal, Science) read out the Preamble and Dr. Pratiba Naitthani (Head of Department of Political Science) explained its relevance to the students gathered in the Multi-Media Room. The TYBA students made placards on each of the nine principles enshrined in the Constitution of India and displayed them in the lobby near the college gate, MMR and the Foyer.

In the month of December, the XPSA organised two important, relevant and special events. The first event was organised on the 11th of December 2019, in collaboration with the Hindi Department, **Story-Reading Session** by **Dr. Asha Naitthani-Dayama** from her new book - '**Sach Toh Yahi Hai**' containing stories about the victims of Article 35-A from different sections of

society in Jammu Kashmir. Dr. Asha read a story from her book, explained to the audience the severity of the issue, and engaged in a question-answer session with them. Needless to say, the students were moved by the eloquence and emotion of her words.

The second event, held on 13th December 2019, was a talk by **Dr. Venkat Iyer** from The Round Table: Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs, Ireland, on the all-pervading issue of Brexit. Titled '**Brexit: What Next?**' to complement the open-ended nature of the issue, the talk commenced a few hours after the results of the UK Snap Election, thus adding an element of dynamism and suspense to the event. Dr. Iyer gave a comprehensive run-down and the pros and cons of Brexit and provided the students with a perspective on the manner in which the issue was perceived by the Europeans.

The last three months were most eventful for the XPSA, with two of its annual flagships being conducted with great gusto. The **Annual Inter-Collegiate Youth Parliament**, a two-day affair open to Undergraduate Students across the city and the country, was held on the 9th and the 10th January 2020 which witnessed fiery participation and detailed discussions. The agenda for this year's Youth Parliament was *Switching to 50% Renewable Energy by 2050* and *Implementing Carbon Tax*; this somewhat unexplored arc did not deter the participants from preparing thoroughly for the event and putting forth concrete suggestions that could well go on to become policies in the future.

On 29th January 2020, a **RUSA-Sponsored National Conference** was organised by the XPSA on ***The Politics of Environment in Asia: People, Policies and Development***, with the keynote speech by Amb. Ashok Sajjanhar. The sessions included experts like Prof. Narottam Gaan, (HOD- Political Science & Human Rights, Amarantak Central University, Capt. Alok Bansal (Director- India Foundation), Cmde. Srikant Kesnur, Prof. Dhruv Sen Singh (Dept of Geology, Lucknow University), Mr. C. R. Neelakandan (Activist, Kerala), Dr. Anish Andheria (Wildlife Photographer and Conservationist), Shri Dhan Singh Rana (Ex Gram

Pradhan, Sarpanch and Activist, Uttarakhand), Smt. Shakuntala Devi (Community Representative from Indo Tibetan Border Region, Uttarakhand) and Dr. Pratiba Naitthani. The conference gave the students a 360 degree understanding of the significance of the environment and different facets of the environment.

On the same day, i.e. the 29th of January 2020, the department also set up a small Herbal Garden with each guest, who came for the National Conference. They all planted a sapling. This activity was part of the Swachhh Bharat campaign.



Current students of the department along with ex-students and current industry professionals

The department for the first time, organised an event, '**Evolve**', a platform where the former student achievers, who have gone on to scale new heights and carved a niche for themselves in their respective fields, were invited for an informal interaction with the current students of Political Science. The ex-students who participated in Evolve were Ms. Pranjal Patil (the first Visually Challenged IAS), Ms. Namrata Gandhi (IAS), Ms. Petal Gehlot (IFS), Mr. Punit J Pathak (Dancer, Choreographer, & Actor), Ms. Fatema Pittalwala (Art Curator), Major Aditya Katdare, Ms. Naressa Coutinho (Consulate of Argentina), Mr. Prabuddha Dayama, (Actor & Director), Mr. Manan Shah (Music Composer), Mr. Manas Shashidharan Jacob (Director), Ms. Aishwariya Dongre (IPS), Ms. Yashaswini Dayama (Singer and Actress), Ms. Aishwarya Kalpathi (Founder of start-up for youth) and Mr. Akshay Gudinho (Advocate). This event was extremely successful and inspired students and gave them an opportunity to get direct guidance from achievers from such varied fields.

The Department Magazine '**Samvad**' was released during Evolve. The theme

of Samvad this year was '**People and the Planet: Saving the Symbiosis**' containing research papers and articles contributed by students from different streams. All the research papers were written on the theme of 'Environment'. It was heart-warming to see the overwhelming response of our students to write for the magazine on such a serious and important topic.

On 14th Feb 2020 a **Round Table Discussion** in association with Symbiosis, Pune was organised by the XPSA on '**The Emerging Global Landscape: Opportunities and Challenges for India**', presentations were made by Amb. (Retd.) Talmiz Ahmad and Prof. Shivali Lawale, the Director of Institute of International Studies, Symbiosis, Pune. With this, the XPSA accomplished the task of making this academic year memorable through organizing special events and activities.

From 14th to 16th February 2020, the TYBA students with the faculty went to Khandala to present papers on their Dissertations. This was the last activity of the department.

I would like to offer my heartfelt gratitude to our Principal Dr. Rajendra Shinde for his constant support my colleague Ms. Shazia Shaikh, for her unconditional support and constant inputs which have greatly helped in the organisation and execution of the activities of the department.

My heartfelt thanks to Abhishek Krishnamurthy, the Chairperson of XPSA. My special thanks to Joshua Crasto, Jovin D'Costa, Vrushali Kamble, Aldrich Fernandes, C'mran Arora, Nachita Patil, Khushaali Chouhan of TYBA, Aastik Agarwal, Schwn Sabu and Nabilah Noorani of SYBA, Ishwari Sonawane and Gary Godinho of FYBA, and all the Volunteers who have worked so diligently for different activities of the Department.

I hope that the department will keep growing and will keep organizing meaningful activities and contribute constructively in shaping up the future of its students.

Dr. Pratiba Naitthani
Head, Department of Political
Science

PSYCHOLOGY

Dear Diary,

As I look back at the year gone by (both before and after lockdown) I am reminded of how many wonderful experiences we have had.

To begin with this year, we have added 2 PG courses to our department. They are:

MA Psychology: Lifespan Counselling

- Dr. Danielle Pereira (course director and faculty)
- Ms. Ruchi Brahmachari (faculty and resource person for FDPs in Xavier's)

PG diploma in Expressive Arts Therapy

- Ms. Devika Mehta (course director)
- Ms. Anupriya Banerjee (assistant program coordinator)

Guest Lectures:

Theme	Conducted by	Date	For..
Group Identities	Prof. Nick Hopkins (Univ. of Dundee, UK)	23 Aug 2019	TY students
Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (RUSA supported Interactive Session)	Dr. Mrinalini Purandhare (Clinical Psychologist)	25 Sept 2019	MA students
Teach for India (interaction & focus group discussion)	Teach for India representatives	15 Nov 2019 15 Jan 2020	Psychology & other students
Creative Interventions with school children	Ms. Desiree Dias (School Counsellor)	14 Dec 2019	Counselling Psychology
Suicide Prevention	Ms. Khushnam Engineer & Mr. Farrokh Buchia (Vahishta Foundation)	29 Feb 2020	Psychology of Adjustment

Career guidance through 'The Next Step' (February 15, 2020)

THEMES for potential paths after Graduation	SPEAKERS
Teaching: School and College	Ms. Saindhavi Venkatraman
Human Development as a Course and Career: Nirmala Niketan	Dr. Noellene Fialho
Living the Dream: Breathing life in your startup	Ms. Sweta Ravi
Diploma in Expressive Arts Therapy at Xavier's	Ms. Devika Mehta
TFI: As a fellow and KER a TFI initiative	Ms. Shivani Patekar
SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education	Ms. Rupal Vora
SNDT Juhu Special Education	Prof. Apurva Panshikar
Applications of Social Sciences in AI	Mr. Darshil Shah
Caregiver Saathi Foundation	Ms. Seema
Illumine Foundation & Illumine Knowledge Resources	Ms. Maurvika Patnekar
Social Media Awareness	Ms. Mrunmayee Pathare
Therapy practice in Urban Setup	Ms. Snehajanaki Ramesh
MA in Lifespan Counselling (St. Xavier's)	Ms. Ruchi Brahmachari
Prafulta and XICP Counselling Courses	Prof. Linda Dhakul
MA in SNDT University	Ms. Praneeta Katdare
Forensic Psychology	Ms. Krupa Nishar
MA at Mumbai University	Ms. Aishwarya Bellam

Exhibitions

Volunteers set up a Psychology Stall at the XYNERGY exhibition on 30th Nov 2019. Our students interacted with the visitors and gave them a feel of the courses, potential career paths, and research in the field of psychology.

This year the TYBA Industrial Organizational students displayed their posters on INNOVATIVE IDEAS FOR COMMUNITY GAIN on February 17, 2020. They gave feedback to their peers and received feedback on their entrepreneurship ideas from invited guests Dr. Aarti Shyamsunder, Ms. Jincy Varghese, Ms. Shweta Ravi, and Dr. Jehangir Mistry.

Field Visit

Twenty-four of the TY counselling psychology class along with Ms. Ruby Pavri, visited the organization DRISHTI at Andheri on 18th Jan 2020. We interacted with the psychologists, special educators and administrators there. Students got a 'realistic job preview' with respect to the feel of the work done and the environment.

Annual Khandala Seminar

The overall theme was perception "In the Eye of the Beholder". We all went to Khandala (three staff members, our TA Priya Baid and an invited resource person Sailee Biwalkar) along with around 100 students from FY, SY and TY psychology. Over two days, 10th to 12th Jan 2020, across parallel sessions, 28 papers were presented. There were ice breaker games, skits and campfire session at the end of the day as well.

The Uncommon Sense 2019-20

This year, the SY core team for the department magazine chose the theme 'Psychology of Choices'. These students worked together from July to January. They succeeded in publishing the magazine that was an enjoyable and insightful read.

Extension Work

THEME	Coordinated by/with	Participants
Mentoring & Befriending outstation students	Department centric 5 hours SIP guided by Ms. Linda Dhakul	31 FY students
Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Gham	Ms. Linda Dhakul with NGO PRAFULTA	17 students
Designing and conducting a workshop on self-growth themes (part of CIA 2 for APSY0606)	Groups of students	TY counselling psychology class (32 students)
Team building & self-awareness workshops	Fr. Dean Fernandes	Students across departments
Gender sensitization session	Ms. Linda Dhakul, through the WDC	Non-teaching staff
Gender sensitization & awareness session	Ms. Linda Dhakul, through the SPC classes	Approximately 900 students across
Ripple Effects Online Pilot Program (May 17, 2020 to August 9, 2020)	Fr. Dean Fernandes	16 Afghan teachers, trainees and psychological workers.

Symposium

The MA Psychology: Lifespan Counselling faculty and students organized The Xavier's Psychology Symposium 2020 on 'School Counselling: Perspectives from the Field'. There were 40 participants (17 internal & 23 external) and this activity was supported by RUSA. The four expert panellists each shared insights from their work and experiences in the area of school-based mental health.

- Ms. Desiré Dias: A Day In The Life Of A School Counsellor: Roles And Responsibilities.
- Ms. Benaaz Irani: The Rise in Childhood Anxiety: Links To Depression And Self-Harm.
- Dr. Trinjhna Khattar: Parents in the Process: Meeting Demands and Clarifying Questions.
- Ms. Lamia Bagasrawala: Prevention Over Intervention: Whole School Mental Health Programs.

This was followed by an open forum where the panel addressed issues and questions from the moderator, Dr. Danielle Pereira, as well as the audience.

Workshop and Lecture Series

The department organised a series of workshop on topics like Team Building Emotional Intelligence and a Lecture series on Behavioral Economics to name a few. These workshops and lecture series have been attended by Honours students under the Lingua Hub.

PG Courses & Fieldwork

The new PG diploma in Expressive Arts Therapy began with 13 students and several visiting faculty meeting in the Seminar Room every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 2-8pm, to engage in a variety of learning experiences. During the lockdown, our faculty took the initiative of signing an MOU with Beit Berl College, Israel for research collaboration and also managed to convert the fieldwork component to online expressive art therapy.

The MA Psychology: Lifespan Counselling began with 30 students and two in-house faculty. Students underwent personal therapy & group therapy experiences and the visiting faculty comprising therapists allowed them to learn from practitioners. The dissertation work guidance and field work (at 10 Akanksha schools) required even more collaboration.

Faculty Development Programmes

We have been home since the lockdown was initiated in March, but we have been working and training ourselves for this 'new normal' of online education. We have been attending FDPs and participating as resource persons to help in the understanding of 'Mental Health Implications of Lockdown'. We presented in the Pan(aca)demic Lecture Series (organized by the Honours Program) and conducted a session for Virus Vaccine & WE Lecture series (organized by Mr. Conrad Cabral of the Zoology department). Ms. Linda Dhakul conducted a session for youth through the Yuvadashan Diocesan Youth Commission on 'Dealing with anxiety and fear during the lockdown'. Ms. Linda also discussed aspects of the mental health of the individual in 'Mind, Mental Health the Individual vs Society and a reading of Emile Durheim's work on suicide' in collaboration with the Sociology department.

Ms. Ruby Pavri conducted a training workshop for faculty on 'Creative Thinking for Educators' organized by the IQAC on 13th & 15th April 2020. Ms. Ruchi Brahmachari conducted a week long training (from 15th to 19th June 2020) for 14 staff members on 'Getting your G-suite on'. This hands-on step by step process allowed us to navigate the LMS Google Classroom more efficiently.

Dear Diary... it is raining outside my window... I miss looking at the gargoyles and arches. I miss connecting with my friends and colleagues in the staff room. I miss face to face encounters with students in class and activities beyond class. But I am still thankful about a lot of things that we have accomplished and learned about ourselves and our work.

Ms. Ruby Pavri
Head, Department of Psychology

PUBLIC POLICY

The program is based on the need of the hour to provide multi-disciplinary skills to understand, analyze and evaluate the ever-expanding role of the government in the economy, polity and society. The program aims to create public policy analysts trained to solve real-world problems affecting the lives of large groups of citizens. It is a constant endeavour of the department to get external experts from the field of academics, government and NGOs.

The following are some instances of the **student enrichment programs** conducted by the Department during the academic year 20-19-20:

• **Talks, Discussions and Deliberations, Conventions:**

- ◆ Talk by Dr. Rahul Verma (Centre for Policy Research) on his book “Ideology and Identity: The Changing Party Systems of India” on 23rd July 2019.
- ◆ RTI Workshop by Shailesh Gandhi (RTI Activist) on 6th August 2019.
- ◆ 7th National Convention of Right to Food and Work attended by students from 20th to 22nd September at Raipur.
- ◆ Talk by Ashley Tellis on Geopolitical Underpinnings of US-India Relations on 10th October 2019.
- ◆ Talk by Dr. Silva Lieberherr (Agricultural Economist, Bread for All) on “Land Grabbing: How Corporations Steal Peasants’ Land – An Example from Sierra Leone” on 13th November 2019.
- ◆ Panel discussion on Women and Work in India. Speakers: Prof. Vibuti Patel, Advanced Centre for Women Studies (ACWS), School of Development Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai & Ms Mariam Dhawale, General Secretary, All India Democratic Women’s Association on 20th December 2019.

- ◆ Gandhi Lecture by Lord Bhikhu Parekh (Member of British Parliament, House of Lords) on 17th January 2020.
- ◆ Lecture on Feminist Legal Theory by Ira Chaddha Sridhar, Senior Research Associate O.P. Jindal University on 22nd January 2020.
- ◆ Lecture on Citizen Amendment Act 2019 by Prof. Kishu Daswani from GLC on 24th January 2020.
- **Workshops:**
 - ◆ Introductory R for Public Policy and Data Analysis Course conducted from 4th July to 3rd August 2019.
 - ◆ Gender and Development by Dr. Radhika Desai on 29th Feb 2020, 2nd & 3rd March 2020.
- **Field Visit:**
 - ◆ Visit to the Nava Raipur Smart City and interaction with the Chief Engineer and Urban Planners on 20th September 2019 at the office of Nava Raipur Development Authority.
- **Niti Samvaad:** Theme: ‘India on the World Stage: Geopolitics to Economics,’
 - ◆ Pre-Event
 - The Inter-Departmental Debate Competition” on 6th of December 2019 in collaboration with Econundrum on the motion, “The replication of the Gujarat model across India will make the country become a 5 trillion economy by 2024.”
 - ◆ The Main Event (14th and 15th February 2020):
 - Published the 4th Volume of the Department’s journal Niti-Samvaad, which is a compilation of the Research Papers submitted on ‘Geo-Politics of South-South Cooperation: India as an Emerging Donor.’
 - ◆ The Annual Conference:

- Keynote Address: ‘Decoding the Indian Geopolitical Dogma,’ by Bharat Karnad.
- Panel Discussion – “The Indian Military- A Regional Satrap or a Global Player” [National Security] Amb. Neelam Deo, Vice Admiral Anil Chopra, Aijaz Wani.
- Panel Discussion- ‘India’s domestic political quagmire’s impact on its global economic front.’[Geo-economics] Dr. Rahul Menon, Akshay Mathur, Yazad Jal
- Public Lecture- Data Protection and Privacy in the Digital Age by Justice B.N. Srikrishna.

Student Achievements

• **Kasturi Gandhi:**

- ◆ Conducted a study of India’s Coastal Regulation Zone Notification (1991), under the Azim Premji Urban Governance & Sustainability Grant (to be published in October 2020).
- ◆ Documented role of flawed coastal use maps, inaccurate government data, and regulatory authorities in the loss of coastal habitats in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) since 1991 via archival research + GIS + ground-truthing.
- ◆ Represented Conservation Action Trust at Public Hearings regarding the Mumbai Metro and the Draft CZMPs under CRZ 2019 by the environment ministries in Mumbai and Raigad.

• **Rochana Kammowanee:**

- ◆ Co-authored an article on housing and sanitation in slums which was published in The Citizen.

(Link: <https://www.thecitizen.in/index.php/en/NewsDetail/index/15/18612/Covid-19-Housing-and-Sanitation-in-Slums-a-Collective-Concern>)

- ◆ Engaged as a volunteer with the Stranded Workers Action Network (SWAN) that provided relief to migrant workers during the lockdown. She handled distress calls from the Raigad region including Panvel and Karjat Talukas and communicated with District Authorities (Collector office) and non-governmental organisations (YUVA) to provide necessary relief. (Twitter: @StrandedWorkers)
- **Simran Massey**
 - ◆ Conferred the Women Economic Forum (WEF) Award of 'Young Leaders Creating a Better World for All' among global achievers and young entrepreneurs, a network of 50,000+ members across 150 countries. Awardee and Co-Lead Speaker on "The Power of Education to make a Positive Change in the World". (Dec 2019).
 - ◆ Awarded the 'Think Swiss Scholarship Asia-Pacific 2020' among international researchers, which is funded by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) and supported by Swissnex India and the Embassies of Switzerland in Singapore and Australia. Upcoming research program (starting end of the year) at the Institute of Economics and Econometrics, Geneva School of Economics and Management, Université de Genève, Switzerland.
 - ◆ Selected for the prestigious 'Commonwealth Young Researchers Project 2020' (June-July 2020) from India, organized by the Commonwealth Secretariat in collaboration with Jet Education Services, South Africa. As part of the month-long 'Pan-Commonwealth Researchers' boot camp, selected researchers from Commonwealth countries would aim to look at the Macro, Meso and Micro level implications of COVID-19 on Education systems using an evidence-based approach.
 - ◆ Appointed as the Editor-In-Chief (Social Sciences) of the 'Journal of Intersectional Analysis' with core responsibilities comprising Writing, Editorial and Management tasks. JIA is an international journal which has been launched to provide expression to the complex categories of class, gender, nationality, disability, and other identities through the means of legal, sociological, economic, and other social dimensions (June 2020 onwards).
 - ◆ Presented a paper titled 'Smart Education and Future of Work in the Era of Globalisation and Artificial Intelligence', at the 61st Annual Labour Economics Conference of the Institute for Human Development (IHD) in Patiala under the presidency of Dr. Gerry Rodgers, former ILO Director.
 - ◆ Presented a paper on 'Gandhian and Tolstoians Philosophy: A Humanistic Approach to Education' at the international conference 2019, organised by Delhi University in collaboration with the Embassy of the Russian Federation in New Delhi and Leo-Tolstoy Estate Museum 'Yasnaya Polyana', Russia.
 - ◆ Panellist and Paper Presenter at the India Public Policy Network (IPPN 2019)-Econometric research paper presented among international participants on 'Decent Work in Global Supply Chains amidst Politics of Globalization' under Chairperson: Professor Sunil Choudhary in the Employment Policy Panel of 2nd Annual International Conference in collaboration with WaterAid India and Department of Political Science, Delhi University.
- ◆ Presented a research paper on "Suicide: A Silent Preventable Epidemic" at the '5th Annual World Suicide Prevention Day Conference 2019', organised by Sisters Living Works, Maryland based Non-Profit Organisation working on Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness in Mumbai.
- ◆ Presented a research paper, titled "Decent Employment, Financial Inclusion and Future of Work for Street Vendors" at the Annual Labour Conclave - 'VAISHVIK 2020: Imaging the New World of Work', organised by the Centre of Labour Studies, TISS Mumbai.
- ◆ Presented a research paper on - 'Adopting Frugal Innovation in Education: Inclusive Technology for Social Development' at the 8th Annual International Conference hosted by FORE School of Management, New Delhi.
- **Zubia Shaikh**
 - ◆ Social Entrepreneurship project idea awarded at 'Youth Mentorship Program for Environment Conservation' by US Consulate General and Eknnect Foundation. A grant offered to implement the Electrocoagulation recycling plant. Project executed at Hostel Building, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.
 - ◆ Secured 2nd Prize for Survey-cum-Report on Climate Change, at the Let's Research Competition organised by Youth for Green Fest, Wilson College.
 - ◆ Presented a Research Paper on 'Grey Water utility through decentralisation'. National Conference on Water Resources: Remediation & Rejuvenation, Mumbai University.

Dr. Agnelo Menezes
Head, Public Policy Department

SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology held many activities for the academic year 2019-20. The official student body of the Department—The Academy of Sociology and Anthropology had a successful and lively year. A summary of the activities held are listed here:

The Mentor-Mentee Program - This program maintains an interdisciplinary approach as students of all ages interact with each other. Third-year students are allotted as mentors to help younger students as they study the discipline. The mentors explain new ideas and complex theories, facilitating interactions between students across the three years. Mentors also help first-year students get acquainted with academic writing styles and exam preparations. The Academy conducts feedback regarding the program to obtain a clearer view of the mentor-mentee relationship.

A Movie Screening - The Academy held its launch event as a screening of the Marathi movie *Natrang* on 19th September 2019. The highlight of the event was the illuminating discussion conducted by the director of *Natrang*, Mr. Ravi Jadhav.

Xynergy 2019 - the exhibition held by college to help HSC students to better understand scope of graduate studies; our students organised information charts, interactive games and activities to better understand the disciplines of Sociology and Anthropology.

Annual Seminar - In this edition of the Academic seminar was held on 11th and 12th December in Vasai. The theme was *Azadi Modi-fied*. Students presenting papers are given a certificate or the choice to take an Honors credit. A student panel moderated and streamlined the discussions.

An **Industrial Visit** for TYBA Sociology students to Nashik was organized on January 12-13, 2020. The students and faculty visited Sahyadri Farms, Sula Vineyards and MPSM.

Career fair - This is an initiative run by the Academy where professionals from different fields of media, management, research, copy editing, journalists, etc. who have had training in sociology or

anthropology are invited to interact with our students who are majoring in either of the disciplines at the department. This helps them get exposure to different career options after they graduate with either of the disciplines being part of their final year graduation. get students graduating within either of the disciplines The career fair was organised on the 27th and 28th of January 2020.

FMC - The Finding Mothers Conference (sponsored by RUSA) was held on the 12th and 13th of February 2020. To make this unique inter collegiate conference value and knowledge driven, students from across colleges in Mumbai were invited to present their papers on the theme, using an art form of their choice. Eg. poetry, dance, etc. There were keynote sessions with actors Ms Rathna Pathak Shah and Ms Vidya Balan. Other leading academics invited as panellists were (Dr. Leena Abraham, Dr. Gita Chadha and Dr. Joseph M.T.) and industry personnel (Ms Meenakshi Menon and Ms Sucharita Tyagi). The conference closed with a lecture presentation-cum-classical dance performance by Dr. Radha Kumar.

Department SIP - Under the guidance of the XRCVC, our students summarized key points, summarise, explain and illustrate notes or journal articles, to make them more accessible for students with disability. Each student three such articles to create a knowledge repository.

Guest Speakers - delivered lectures engaged with students, and have even advised students regarding their dissertations. Some of the guest speakers we had this year are as follows:

- Shivali Bhagayatkar spoke about the career prospects one can have in the field of Social Research.
- Ketaki Hate delivered a lecture on dissertation writing and explained the various steps of the process with regards to the topic formulation and structure. This was of great help to third-year students who are currently in the process of writing their undergraduate dissertations.

- Rukmini Datta gave a talk about the trajectories after graduating with a major in Sociology and Anthropology.
- Rahela Khorakiwala delivered a lecture on personal laws and the gender conundrum within the legal field.
- Erin Joseph came in to talk about the feminist re-telling of the Bible to look at the Biblical narrative from a different perspective.
- Saachi D'Souza conducted a lecture on water scarcity and the implications it has for gender and community.
- Suveera Venkatesh spoke about data analysis and shared pro tips about the dissertation writing process.

Faculty activities throughout the year:

This year we bid adieu to our beloved Head of the Department, Dr. Sam Taraporewala. For his retirement, a farewell get-together was held; the staff and people close to him made it a memorable last day for him. We wish him good luck and good health. Dr. Pranoti Chirmuley took over as the new Head of Department. We welcomed our newest teacher, Professor Sahana, who has taken up the courses that Dr. Taraporewala had previously been teaching.

Dr. Pranoti Chirmuley was invited to conduct a two hours session on "**Nature and Significance of Qualitative Research**" for the students of the SCWSD certified 'Social Research Methods' course on the 6th of August 2019. She is also the faculty coordinator for TedxStXaviers.

Ms Ankita Gujar has been appointed as an Assistant Professor from December 2019. She conducted the Privilege Walk for second-year Sociology students in September 2019. She is the faculty coordinator for *Eidos*, the annual student journal for the department.

Faculty Members
Department of Sociology &
Anthropology

STATISTICS

This year has been unusual, it started out as any other year with hopeful plans and their subsequent challenges, but ended abruptly with the nationwide lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I would like to thank all the staff members of the department for their contribution throughout the year and for facing the new challenges

at the end with the same commitment and creativity.

A plethora of activities (curricular and co-curricular) were conducted this year. National Statistics Day (29th June) was celebrated by our students at two venues, in College as well as at Khandala. Prof Pooja Ochaney

organised two sessions in the College premises, 'Demystifying Exit Opinion Polls- A statistical perspective' and 'Surveys - Creation, Implementation and Analysis', by Ms. Geeta Zankar (VP – Karvy Insights Ltd)

Prof. Piyali the Department coordinator for DBT and Honours Programme organised several activities as listed below throughout the year:

Date	Topic	Conducted By	Attended By
28 th - 30 th June, 2019	Soft Skills (Under DBT Star Scheme)	Mr. Jiggar Rambhia (Consumer Insight & Market Research Professional - Nielson), Mr. Soumyadut Nag (Consumer Insight – Unilever Ltd), Mr. Tushar Paharia (Sr. Consumer Insight Manager – Firmenich)	TYBSc
13 th - 20 th June, 2019	Giving Voice to Values	Mr. Aspi Shroff (former Teacher of Physics, New Era High School, Panchgani)	
16 th November, 2019	Overview of Biostatistics	Dr. Rita Abbi (Prof. of BioStatistics, MGM College, Navi Mumbai)	TYBSc
22 nd November, 2019	Interclass Debate	Dr. Pallavi Chavan and Dr. Agnelo Menezes	FY/SY & TYBA
25 th January, 2020	Decoding Sampling techniques	Mr. Tushar Paharia and Mr. Jiggar Rambhia. Assisted by Prof Myrtle	SYBSc
10 th February, 2020	Application of Time-Series Analysis	Mr. Vinayak Deshpande (CMD-Director, Sankhya Analytical Research Pvt. Ltd)	SY/TYBSc
13 th February, 2020	Binary Logistic Regression & Data Cleaning	Ms. Sheetal Joshi (Director, Sankhya Analytical Research Pvt. Ltd)	TYBSc/BA
	Confluence 20 (in collaboration with CAIUS Research Laboratory). The theme was 'Ignite & Innovate – Techniques in Research'	Prof(s) Myrtle, Pooja and Ayesha	SY/TYBSc
	Market Research Programme	Mr. Tushar Paharia, Mr. Jiggar Rambhia	FYBSc/FYBA
First two weeks of odd semester	Six Sigma	Prof. N. R. Hegde (Retd. Prof of Statistics, SIES College, Sion)	TYBSc
24 th & 25 th August, 2019	Marketing Using Digital Media	Mr. Soumyadut Nag	TY/SYBA
14 th -21 st November, 2019	OR in EXCEL	Prof. N. R. Hegde	SYBSc
5 th - 6 th semester respectively	Data Analysis using R and Machine Learning in R	Mr. Rohit Bhattacharjee	TYBA
Through July and August	A basic course in Excel, An Advanced course in Excel	Prof. N. R. Hegde. Organised by Prof. Pooja, Prof. Myrtle, Prof. Ayesha	FYBSc
4 th July, 2019	Statistics – An Industry Perspective	Mr. Brian Almeida	FYBSc
7 th August, 2019	Interactive welcome session to The Stats Society	Prof. Myrtle	FYBSc
29 th August, 2019	Screening of 'The Man Who Knew Infinity' by The Stats Society		FYBSc
	Group Projects on Primary Market Research	Ms. Payal Sadarangani	TYBSc
10 th - 13 th January, 2020	Application of Distributions in Industry	Ms. Moumita Sarker	TYBSc
	Excel Course	Prof. Mayur	TYBSc
	Drafting a Questionnaire	Prof. Ayesha	SYBA Psychology, Microbiology



Khandala Seminar - Soft Skills



National Statistics Day

The Department members wholeheartedly contributed to various activities that they were requested to assist in and diligently participated in several programmes to enhance their academic growth.

- Prof Myrtle was the Vice Chancellor's nominee to conduct interviews for the post of lecturer in the Department of Statistics at Ruia College, Matunga (E).
- Prof. Pooja conducted interviews for admission to the MSc programme at NMIMS, Vile Parle (W).
- Prof. S. Annapurna was the Subject Expert for the selection process of Assistant Professor at Sathaye College, Andheri (E).
- All the Department members assisted in the exam work of autonomous colleges and the University of Mumbai as paper setters and/or examiners and/or moderators as per the appointment they received.
- Prof(s) Myrtle, Piyali and Mayur organised and attended a soft skills workshop as an outreach programme for students of IY College, Jogeshwari (E).
- Prof. S. Annapurna attended the 'Leadership Summit '19- The

Inflexion Point' conducted by our College.

She also participated in a workshop on 'Gender Equity and Inclusion: Transformative Pathways in Higher Education' organised by WISCOMP and Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts.

Prof. S. Annapurna also participated in the programme: Urban Thinkers Campus – Safe Public Spaces.

- Prof. Saju conducted a course on 'Testing of Hypothesis using EXCEL' for students of Wilson College, Mumbai.
- Prof(s) Saju and Mayur attended a Faculty Development Programme on 'Aspects of Development: Institutional, Communitarian and Personal' organised by the college at the Loyola Social Welfare Centre, Kune.

They also attended the 'New Teacher's Training & Orientation Program' on 'The Use of iPad and Apple Apps' held on the college premises.

- On International Yoga Day (25th June), Prof. Piyali organised a yoga session for the staff and students of our college.
- Prof(s) Piyali and Mayur attended a training program at the Kolkata Indian Statistical Institute for MSc Big Data Analysis.

They also attended a Faculty Development Program on 'Shaping a Data Science Curriculum: Unleashing Potential of IoT, Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligences' organised by the Department of Statistics, K.C. College, Churchgate, in collaboration with SAS Institute (India) Pvt. Ltd.

- Prof. Mayur attended the Faculty Development Programme on 'NET & SET Examination Preparation (Mathematical Sciences)' at K.C. College, Churchgate.

- All members of the department assisted in the organisation of the International Conference 'Disha -2' hosted by our College on 12th & 13th March.

The closing of the co-curricular activities of the department was celebrated with 'Xavier's Statistics Day - An Exhibition and Games', on 24th January. This event was a first-of-its-kind for our department with plans to continue it annually in the years ahead. The event exhibited posters of 52 student group projects done during the year and was interspersed with interactive games. Prof (Dr.) Jehangir Mistry inaugurated the exhibition & Prof (Dr.) Hoshang Master released this year's edition of 'The Plot', the department's annual magazine on this occasion.

In spite of the challenging academic schedule many of our students participated in and won at various intercollegiate Sports events as well as intercollegiate cultural festivals. The department congratulates all our winners and is very proud of them.

The report of the Department would be incomplete without thanking

- Prof Pooja, for being in charge of the add-on courses conducted for non-statistics students of the college, for her role as Staff-in-charge of the Alumni Liaison, and for conducting activities under RUSA.
- Prof. Ayesha, for being the Staff-in-charge of the Stats Society (the student body of the Department), Student Internships and Documentation work (for NAAC, IQAC etc) of the department.
- Prof. Piyali for being the Department coordinator for DBT and Honours Programme.
- Prof. S. Annapurna for her valuable inputs in college related matters and Prof. Saju George, for his helpful inputs for all the department programmes.
- Prof. Mayur, for the technical assistance he extended enthusiastically for all the Department programmes.

- Mr. Kishor Arbune, our Lab Attendant, who carried out all his duties with sincerity and cheerfulness.
- The Stats Society, headed by Chairperson Ms. Tanishka Johri (TYBSc), Vice Chairperson Mr. Priyank Daxini (TYBA Eco-Stats) and Treasurer Ms. Tanushka Nemani (TYBA), and their dedicated team of class representatives for assisting the department wholeheartedly in all its activities.
- The student editorial team headed by Ms. Shrushti Dhoot (TYBA Eco-Stats), for the work done to release this year's issue of our department magazine, 'The Plot'.
- Ms. Nikky Thomas (TYBSc) and Mr. Aaryan Moorthy (SYBSc), the Joint Editors in chief of Statisquo, our department blog, who worked actively with their team.
- Ms. Anvita Rastogi (TYBSc), the Student in charge of the Alumni Liaison and her team members for the tremendous work done to create and organise the alumni database for the Statistics Department.

Though the Department members (staff and students) have not met in a physical space due to the sudden lockdown, the staff has actively engaged with the students through online platforms, encouraging and motivating them through chat sessions and academic activity.

We hope and pray for the end of the pandemic and are confident that we will soon be able to interact with each other and our students in a more personal and fulfilling way.

Prof Myrtle C. Fernandes
Head, Department of Statistics

VOCATIONAL STUDIES: TOURISM AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Student Engagement and Activities

As part of the course on Event Management, various enriching activities were effectively.

Flash Mob: "Saffar ya Suffer", an expressive flash mob based on the Theme of railway safety and sanitation, was conducted by the BVoc tourism students, on Friday, 2nd August 2019, at the CSMT railway station in Mumbai.

Street Play: "Barbaadi ka Aaina", a street play, was performed by the BVoc tourism students at Churchgate railway station, on 2nd August 2019, to raise awareness on the issues of Alcoholism and Domestic Violence.

Kondane Caves Trek: On 31st August 2019, the BVoc tourism students, under the supervision of Mr. Benoj Mathews, organised a night's stay at Karjat Farms, followed by a visit to Kondane caves that included group activities like indoor games and plogging on the site.

Mahuli Fort Trek: On 14th September 2019, an overnight stay at Mahuli Farms was organised by the BVoc tourism students, under the guidance of Mr. Benoj Mathews. They then

proceeded to Mahuli Fort, where group activities like tree plantation kept the students engaged.

Visit to an NGO

Navodaya Movement, Kalyan: BVoc tourism students organise educational and recreational activities for the school children. As part of a pre-event, the students also conducted a donation drive on 31st August and 14th September respectively.

As part of the **Synergy Art Expo** held on 30th November 2019, the students of BVoc tourism set up an informative stall exhibiting the educational scope and career opportunities in the field of Travel and Tourism.

The annual tourism exhibition titled '**Pack & Go - Around the world in 46 Tables**' was organised on 8th February 2020. All 46 students of Tourism exhibited individual countries from continents including Australia, Europe and Asia. Under the guidance of Ms. Uma Ranade, the students presented various itineraries and travel options that were examined by Mr. Pritesh Prabhu.

Ms. Yuganti Tandel and Ms. Sanika Kulkarni represented the *Shailendra*

Publications Stall, at the **Times Travel Show** that was organized at BKC, on 23rd and 24th February 2020, with the support of Ms. Zeena Cooper.

Six BVoc Tourism students representing the college did the ground handling and customer management for the **Sula Wine Fest**, held on 1st and 2nd February 2020. Ms. Vinisha Mathias, Ms. Gargi Shinde, Ms. Carol D'Souza, Ms. Shivangi Khanna, Mr. Kunal Kate and Mr. Allson Patilby skillfully assisted the travel and event company, Event Traveler Pvt Ltd, guided by Ms. Zeena Cooper.

The students pursuing BVoc software development did their discipline centric SIP with the Caius laboratory. They conducted a **survey regarding the noise levels** of public transport, under the instructions of Dr. Priya and Dr. Vishwas, supervised by Professor Aaron. The operation and events were photographed by Jay Sahastrabudhe.

Brett Miranda along with his teammates Deveney and Gayle Dweltz (BVoc Software development) **converted an old Intel QX3 Microscope** into a smart one, using a Raspberry Pi 4. The three along with Jonathan Pereira helped in

creating the Heras, Caius and CIF websites.

Rukaiya Malkapurwala and Sania Barkat built **Smart Home**, a mockup of a toy smart home which could be controlled with a Raspberry Pi 3 using the Google Assistant.

Sikander Khan and Cyrus Gracias built a **module for an ERP system.**

Workshops and Seminars



Students at the selfie point of CSMT railway station on their heritage walk

A workshop on planning and organising heritage walks, which included offsite training, was conducted for students of TYBVoc Tourism between 6th - 10th January. An on-site presentation by students was held on 19th January 2020, in collaboration with **The InHeritage Project** by Ms. Alisha Sadikot and Ms. Tamara Rasquinha, where three groups conducted compelling heritage walks on topics such as public spaces, statues, street storytellers and a food history walk in Mumbai's precinct area.

A two-day visit to the new **Khandala Villa** was organized for and by the students of TY BVoc tourism, from 14th to 16th February 2019. Right from planning the itinerary, organising the seminar and conducting heritage trail to Bedsa caves, everything was carried out under the guidance of Dr. Siddhi Bhatgara. It was supplemented by a small series of handling events, dealing with customers and even fun group activities such as tug of war, under the guidance of Mr. Benoj Mathews. Ms. Zeena Cooper, Ms. Shruti Thakkar and Mr. Chirag Thakkar were other faculty members

who were also actively involved in the seminar that was attended by around 30 students.

A guest lecture was organised on **Emotional Intelligence and its relevance to the Tourism and Software Industry** for students of Third Year BVoc Travel & Tourism and Software Development, as part of an Applied Psychology course on Thursday, 13th June 2019.

A Guest lecture was conducted on **Entrepreneurship in Hospitality and Tourism with highlights on the Software industry**, by Ms. Jyoti Ghildiyal, Senior Country Manager, Swiss Education Group (SEG), Switzerland, on 13th September 2019.

The students were introduced to **DevOps** and an increase in fieldwork was encouraged as part of the revised Software Testing syllabus. They conducted surveys and tested various mobile and wifi networks on campus as part of their practical assessment, in collaboration with the Knowledge Center and under the guidance of Professor Aaron Johns.

Ex-students (BVoc Software development), **Noah Sebastian**, a freelancer and **Franky Crasto**, currently working at Endurance, were invited to give a pep talk in college on the principles of making a lucrative project.

Student Achievements



Ms. Drisya Fernandes and Ms. Jahnvi Sharma at the 'Travel Quiz'

On the occasion of World Tourism Day, two TY BVoc Tourism students, Ms. Drisya Fernandes and Ms. Jahnvi Sharma qualified as **top finalists in the**

Travel Quiz, a collaborative event by India Tourism- Incredible India, School of Excellence and BCD Travels.

Christopher Mascarenhas (BVoc Software development) was the Organizer in Charge of Logistics for Malhar 2019, ensuring the well organized infrastructural setup for Malhar.

Twin models, **Deveney and Gayle Dweltz**, (BVoc Software development) actively participated in photoshoots and were featured in the Kadhi story of Vogue magazine's May 2019 edition.

Honours Courses

Experience India through its Heritage

Resource Person: Dr. Siddhi Bhatgara

Brief: 5 structures - Forts, Temples, Churches, Mosques and Caves were chosen and a brief overview of the entire timeline of Indian history was given to the students.

Itinerary Planning and Costing

Resource Person: Mr. Pritesh Prabhu

Brief: Students were introduced to the nuances of making an appropriate itinerary, its types and mechanism of deriving costs to make a thorough package for oneself or others.

COVID-19 Pan(aca)demic: 'Reimagining tourism post covid-19: Alternative Perspectives'

Resource Person: Dr. Siddhi Bhatgara

Brief: The session divulged in re-imagining tourism through the methods that were previously set aside or less explored. The idea was to look at possible ways of rethinking tourism during and post the Covid-19 situation.

BVoc Tourism - Dr. Siddhi Bhatgara

BVoc Software Development - Mr. Aaron Johns

ZOOLOGY

Students Activities

- 100% of students did projects as part of their curriculum for 6 PR and were evaluated for their practical ESE.
- Two of our students; Aashra Iype and Rayhaan Pais; presented a musical Hanswadhani at step SYC 2019.
- In collaboration with the E-cell, two job-oriented courses were conducted; one on Taxidermy by Dr. Santosh Gaikwad and a Dog Training course by Ms. Shirin Merchant called 'Train the Trainer'.

Staff Activities

- The teaching faculty of the department participated in all the seminars conducted by the college.
- Dr. Sujata Deshpande, Dr. Smita Krishan, Dr. Pushpa Sinakar and Mr. Conrad Cabral attended the workshop on Revised NAAC Assessment & Accreditation.

- Dr. Smita Krishnan:

- Online teaching Masterclass - Teachers Exclusive conducted by Mr. Karan Shah, IIDE, Andheri.
- Creation of MOOCs - National Online Seminar at Kirti College.
- Faculty Development Program at Lala Lajpatrai College.
- International FDP on How to train Media Students to handle Pandemics like COVID-19 at Nirmala MF College & Griffith College, Australia.
- E-Mask: Protect yourself Online organized by BMN College of Home Science.
- Convenor of Unfair Means Committee and Custodian Committee.

- Dr. Sujata Deshpande:

- Palaeontology: A window to the ancient environment and

life by Agharkar Research Institute, Pune.

- Creative Thinking for Educators by Microsoft and St. Xavier's College.
 - Remote Proctored Assessments: Fortified with Microsoft AI Capabilities organized by Stanford University.
 - The Sixth Mass Extinction - A Geologic Perspective
 - COVID-19: PAN(ACA) DEMIC-A multi-disciplinary approach to the spread and impact of coronavirus organized by St. Xavier's College.
 - Zoonoses and Anthroponosis - diseases transmitted among non-human animals and humans by St. Xavier's College.
 - Member of the Laboratory Safety Committee.
- ### - Dr. Pushpa Sinkar:
- E-mask: Protect yourself online - BMN College of Home Science.
 - Coordinator of Forensic Science course and Chairperson of BOS Zoology SNTD university.
 - Concepts in Developmental Biology -Department of Zoology (SXC).
 - Seminar on Gender Sensitization -WDC (SXC) & Red Dot.
 - Confluence 20- Ignite and Innovate Techniques in Research at CAIUS Lab & Department of Statistics (SXC).
 - Workshop on Evolution and Molecular Phylogenetics by Department of Zoology (SXC).
 - National Seminar on Tree Ecology and Urban Foresting

Management at Department of Botany (SXC) & Friends of Trees.

- Khandala Seminar on Jesuit Education, Self-Leadership, and Stress Management at St. Xavier's College.
 - International Seminar "DISHA" at St. Xavier's College.
 - Transition to Online Teaching at St. Xavier's College.
 - Online workshop on Creative Thinking for Educator by the Department of Psychology (SXC).
 - Workshop on How safe and secure are your Online Exams - powered by Microsoft and Wheelbox.
 - Online Teaching Master class/ Teachers Exclusive by IIDE.
 - Webinar on 'Creation of MOOC' by Kirti College.
 - Webinar on Microsoft Teams for Education by Microsoft teams & SXC.
 - Webinar on Introduction to Research Designs/From Theory to Practices conducted by Elphinston College.
 - Convenor of TAQ.
 - Member of WDC
 - Member of Environmental Committee.
- ### - Mr. Conrad Cabral:
- Diksha course: Infection Prevention and control organized by Department of Personnel & Training, Govt. of India.
 - Diksha course: Management of COVID-19 cases organized by Ministry of Personnel & Training, Govt. of India.
 - Seminar on E-content Development and IPR organized by Regional Joint

director, Konkan region & Sonopant Dandekar College.

- Workshop on Learning Flow Cytometry online organized by Flowcytometry Solutions.
- Online learning workshop for Faculty QASPIR.
- Online course on 'Virus, Vaccine & WE' by Department of Zoology (SXC).
- Resource person for virus vaccine band and quality enhancement in teaching and learning organised by APC College and East Calcutta Girls College.
- Workshop on e-content development at K J Somaiya College.
- Ujali - A panel discussion on breaking the glass ceiling as a moderator.
- Member of ERP committee.

Dr. Madhuri Hambarde:

- Coordinator for additional credit course on Science communication skills.
- Faculty in-charge of Xavier's Zoology Association.
- Member of IQAC.
- Member of E- cell.
- Member of Laboratory safety committee.

- Member of Institutional Biosafety Committee.
- Elected staff representative on Governing Body.
- Elected staff representative on College Development Cell.

Department Trips

1. SY.B.Sc and TY.B.Sc Zoology students visited Dandeli N.P.,

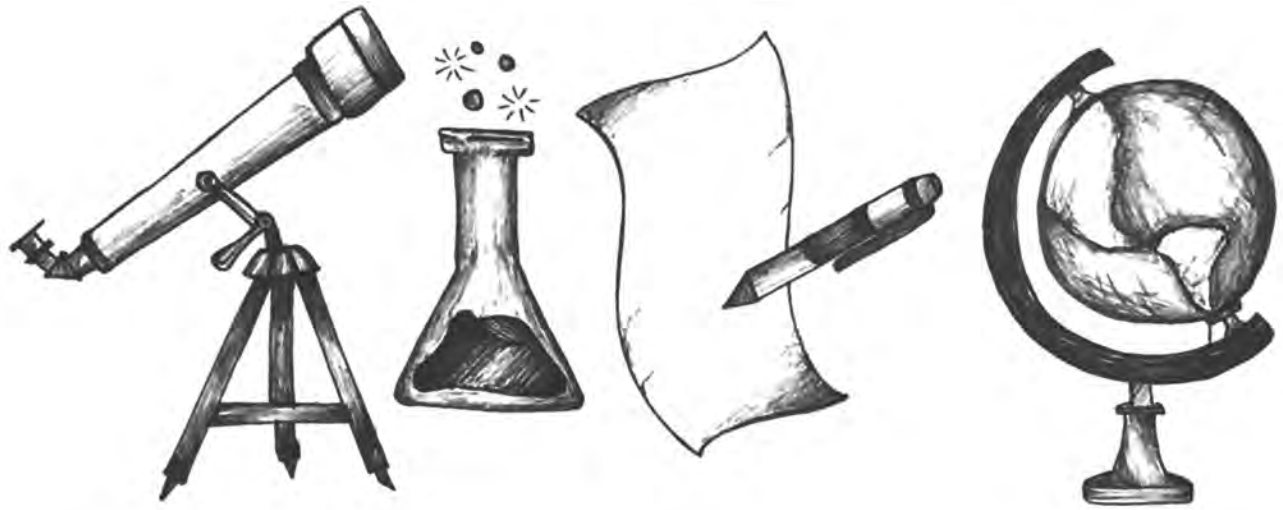
Karnataka, from 3rd November to 8th November 2019.

2. TY.B.Sc. Entomology students visited Vengurla fruit research station from 19th to 21st January 2020.
3. SY.B.Sc Zoology students visited Gowardhan factory, Mancher on 21st February 2020.

Guest Lectures

Name	Position	Organisation	Topic	Date
Ms. Sonal	Associate	Welfare of Stray Dogs	Care and rescue of Stray Dogs	13 th December, 2019
Mr. Shantanu	Research Associate	NCBS Odonates	Damselflies and Dragonflies	9 th January, 2020
Ms. Anuja Mittal	Research Associate	FWTT Freshwater Turtles	Distribution and Conservation	9 th January, 2020
Mr. Steven Salazar	Research Associate	University of Bielefeld	Aggression in Blue Tits	10 th January, 2020
Dr. Surendra Ghaskadbi and Ms Rohini Londhe	Professor Emeritus and Technical Officer	Agharkar Research Institute	Concepts in Developmental Biology	14 th and 15 th January, 2020
Dr. Sutirth Dey and Dr. Nilesh Dahanukar	Professors	ISSER, Pune	Evolution and Molecular Phylogenetics	7 th February, 2020

Dr. Madhuri Hambarde,
Associate Professor, Department of Zoology



Research



BLATTER HERBARIUM

Plant authentication and herbarium specimen mounting-

As a routine work of the herbarium, 92 Plant specimens were authenticated, 544 new herbarium sheets were registered and incorporated in the herbarium collection; 1246 new herbarium specimens were mounted on herbarium sheets with the help Botany M.Sc. Part-II students (500 Sheets/batch); 138 Herbarium specimens were repaired and remounted on new herbarium sheets and 176 damaged herbarium folders were changed and renamed. Herbarium premises was fumigated during Diwali and Christmas vacations.

Herbarium Scanning

By the end of academic year 2019-20, under the "Digitization and Conservation of Blatter Herbarium and Library" Project, a total of 6,557 herbarium sheets were scanned and the data on 9741 Herbarium sheets was updated by Ms. Janhavi Jadhav and Ms. Varada Chachad.

SIP Activity

As a part of the Botany Department SIP activity, our college students, cleaned, rearranged the books and made the computer entries of reprints of the research articles available at the Blatter Herbarium library.

Blatter Herbarium Exhibits

- (a) The exhibits of Blatter Herbarium were kept for display and sale in a provided stall at the two day annual 'Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Show' on 9th -10th February 2020 organized by 'The National Society of the Friends of the Trees' Mumbai at D. G. Ruparel College, Mumbai. During the show, first prize was awarded to the Blatter Herbarium stall for participating in competition organized for intercollegiate displays exhibited there.
- (b) Old plant literature, old herbarium specimens from Blatter Herbarium collections and Blatter Herbarium publications were

kept for display and sale at the national seminar organized by the Department of Botany in association with The National Society of the Friends of the Trees organized in college hall on 13th February 2020.

Visitors to the Herbarium

- (a) During the academic year, 157 visitors including 10 foreign visitors visited Herbarium for various purposes. They were guided and briefly introduced about the Blatter Herbarium by the Assistant Curator Mr. Praveen Kale.
- (b) Apart from inhouse undergraduate students, postgraduate students, Ph.D. research scholars, research assistants, twelve researchers from various educational institutes visited Blatter Herbarium for their research purpose.
- (c) Twenty participants belonging to a course conducted by The Bombay Natural History Society on 'Conservation' visited the herbarium on 7th December 2019.
- (d) A total of 234 undergraduate and postgraduate students visited the herbarium from Mumbai University affiliated colleges as visit to a herbarium is a part of the syllabus of the undergraduate course of Botany of Mumbai University. The number of students, date of visit, and name of college is given as follows: (i) 43 students visited on 27th June 2019, 47 students on 11th July 2019, and 8 students on 3rd December 2019 from Mithibai College, Ville Parle. (ii) 21 students on 9th July 2019 from Guru Nanak College, Sion. (iii) 26 students on 13th July 2019 from K. J. Somaiya College of Science and Commerce, Vidyavihar. (iv) 26 students on 22nd July 2019 from R. Ruia College, Matunga. (v) 14 students on 18th September 2019 from Dr. Ambedkar College, Wadala. (vi) 30 students on

22nd November 2019 from G. M. Momin College, Bhiwandi. (vii) 12 students on 14th January 2020 from NES Ratnam College, Bhandup. (viii) 72 students from 7th to 10th class belonging to Don Bosco International School, Matunga also visited Blatter Herbarium.

New Research Assistants

On 1st September 2019, Mr. Rushabh Choudhari and Mr. Shahid Nawaz joined the Blatter Herbarium as of Research Assistants.

Both the research assistants made frequent field visits to the localities of respective plant species complex, various parts of India, consulted various Indian as well as international herbaria, referred, scrutinized plant literature and submitted the research report to Dr. Rajendra Shinde. Mr. Rushabh Chaudhari during his tenure undertook plant taxonomic studies of *Zingiber neesatum* complex and *Zingiber nimmonii-cernuum*. Mr. Shahid Nawaz undertook identification of 80-100 years old unidentified grass collections by Blatter & McCann from Mesopotamia, Greece, Baghdad, Arabia, Waziristan, Pakistan, Sindh and India and made interesting variations notes on the same. He critically studied the grass genus *Dactyloctenium* for the whole India. He rediscovered an extremely rare grass species after 184 years which is submitted for publication in Phytotaxa as 'A rediscovery of *Parahyparrhenia bellariensis*'.

Birth Anniversary of Fr. H. Santapau, S. J.

On 5th December 2019, on the occasion Birth anniversary of Reverend Father Hermenegild Santapau, S. J., Mr. Rushabh Chaudhari, organized a display of book collection authored by Fr. H. Santapau and an explanatory lecture on Fr. H. Santapau and his contribution to the Plant Taxonomic work in India for all the students of Botany department.

Mr. Praveen Kale
Assistant Curator,
Blatter Herbarium,

CAIUS RESEARCH LABORATORY

Faculty/ Students working in Caius Research Laboratory and ongoing projects

Name	Department	Ph.D./Project	Title of Project
Ms. Sangeetha Chavan	Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology	Ph.D.	Effects of silver, zinc oxide and titania nanoparticles on nitrogen-fixing, phosphate solubilizing and biofilm-forming bacteria found in the soil ecosystem
Ms. Neha Gupte	Ph.D. Student, Department of Botany. Guide: Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Associate Professor, Department of Botany	Ph.D.	Phylogenetic analysis of Boraginaceae of North – West Maharashtra
Ms Mubasshira Mazharul Haque	Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science. Guide: Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Co-Guide Dr. Geeta Ibrahim, Principal, Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science	M.Sc Project	Utilization of potato peels as a source of natural antioxidant and incorporation into the value-added products.
Ms. Drashti Shah	Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science. Guide: Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Co-Guide – Dr. Geeta Ibrahim, Principal, Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science	M.Sc Project	Effect of Food Safety and Nutrition Awareness Training at the Household Level and Prevalence of Adulteration

Ph.D. Degree Award:

The viva voce of Ms. Sangeeta Shetty, Associate Professor, Department of Life Science and Biochemistry, was held on 30th May 2019 for the thesis submitted entitled “**Characterization of Cellulases from Extremophiles and their Application in Biofuel Production**”. The degree was awarded in October 2019 at the Convocation held at the University.

Internships and Project training for students:

Intern students in the laboratory:

- Ms. Priya Khetan: BSc Microbiology-Biochemistry student from St. Xavier’s College, carried out her internship from 1st November 2018 to 30th July 2019. Her work involved “Development of antibiotic sensitive strains of yeast by UV mutagenesis and transformation of yeast”.
- Ms. Lekha Bhagtaney, SYBSc student at school of Biosciences,

NMIMS, carried out her internship between 10th June to 6th July. She worked on the project “Determination of lipase activity in *Serratia marcescens*”.

Extension Activity:

- A tour of the Central Instrumentation Facility and introduction to Biosafety was carried out for the MSc part I and II students of Botany, Biotechnology, Life Science and Microbiology. The use and the safety measures to be followed during the use of the various instruments in the CIF were explained and an introduction to biosafety was carried out. This activity would help the students for their project work, and it helped many students to choose their project topic and plan their experiments.
- As a part of the professional development activity, a workshop on DNA extraction and Kryotyping was carried out

on October 24th, 2019 for 24 BMC school teachers associated with the NGO Mukhtangan. The teachers were given hands-on training on DNA extraction from onion and analysis by electrophoresis. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan was the resource person for the workshop.

- A workshop on “Techniques in Molecular Biology” was organized for the students of MPharm part I students of K.M. Kundnani College of Pharmacy on 26th and 27th November 2019. Five students, Mr. Swapnil Pund, Aditya Pandey, Waseem Ahmed, Ms. Ankita Vyas and Prajakta Patil participated in the workshop. The students were given hands-on training on DNA isolation and analysis and protein separation techniques. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan was the resource person.

Multidisciplinary approach:

The instruments in the CIF are being used not only by all biology

departments but also by students and faculty from Physics, Chemistry, and Geology. The lab and the instruments are used for UG and PG practical, research projects, Honour's program, industry projects and doctoral studies by faculty and students from the various science departments namely, Botany, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Life Science and Biochemistry, Microbiology and Zoology.

Honour's Program:

An Honour's Program of two credits was conducted by the laboratory on "Analytical Techniques in Research" between 30th October to 6th November 2019. Five FYBSc students from Departments Life Science and Microbiology participated in the program. Dr. Vishwas Sarangdhar and Dr. Priya Sundarrajan were the resource persons.

Workshops and Seminars organized under the aegis of RUSA:

1. Caius Research laboratory and Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), St. Xavier's College organized an informative seminar on "**Intellectual property- a broad overview**" on 3rd August 2019. The seminar was organized under the aegis of RUSA for faculty students. The session was conducted by three advocates of the High Court namely, Mr. Man Mohan Amonkar, Mr. Raj Mohan Amonkar, and Mr. Jacob Kadantot. A total of 34 students, both UG and PG and faculty attended the seminar.

Techniques in Molecular Biology

2. The Caius Research Laboratory organized a faculty development program for faculty from various colleges of Mumbai, supported by the RUSA grant between 4th to 6th Sep 2019. The program focused on hands-on workshops on "**Techniques in Molecular Biology**". Five faculty from VES college of Pharmacy and two in-house faculty participated in the program. Dr. Santosh Noronha, Professor, Chemical Engineering Department, IIT Bombay,

delivered the keynote address. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Director, Caius Research Laboratory organized the workshop and was a resource person. Dr. Vishwas Sarangdhar, Consultant, Caius Research Laboratory was another resource person. The workshop was well-received by the participants. Dr. Rajendra Shinde, the Principal, distributed the certificates to the participants.

3. The Caius Research Laboratory in collaboration with the Department of Statistics organized a one-day seminar **Confluence 2020: "Ignite and innovate - Techniques in research"** for in-house students and faculty as well as from various colleges of Mumbai, supported by RUSA grant on 4th Feb 2020. The focus of the seminar was to ignite the minds of young students into thinking innovative ideas and research.

The three resource persons who were invited were Mr. Sushil Mungekar, CEO, Enlearning Skill Development, who spoke on Design Thinking: A Framework for Innovation; Dr. Rahul Nabar, Engineering Consultant and Adjunct Professor, IIT B, who spoke on Converting Research to Practice: Tools, Tips, Opportunities and Pitfalls, and Ms. Anagha Bhatkande - Director, Statistical Program, IQVIA Statistical Program whose talk focused on Hi-Tech Clinical Research. A total of 59 students and faculty attended the seminar.

Popular Lectures:

The following popular lecture was organized for the students and faculty of colleges in Mumbai:

A popular lecture was organized on 13th August 2019, **in Collaboration with Indian Women Scientists' Association supported by DAE -BRNS. Dr. Manoj Mahimkar** from ACTREC gave a talk titled "Genomic Landscape of Tumours". About 70 FY, SY, TY and MSc students attended the talk.

Work presented in workshop/conference and prize won:

1. Ms. Mubasshira Haque (MSc project student) presented the

work carried out by her entitled "**Utilization of Potato peels as a Source of Natural Antioxidant and incorporated into value-added products**" in Agriculture and animal husbandry category, PG level, obtained the Third Rank in the Final round (University Level) of Intercollegiate Avishkar Research Convention held at KC College, Churchgate, Mumbai on January 4th, 2020. Her work was being guided by Dr. Priya Sundarrajan.

2. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan participated in the Innovate to Inspire competition and presented a sustainable and scalable solution titled "**Biotechnology based novel approach towards sustainable preservation and conservation of cultural heritage using enzymes as bio-cleaning agents**". She **ranked first** in the competition organized by the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) of College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science, held on Saturday, 8th February 2020.
3. Ms. Emome Thingujam, Shruti S, Meghana Vinodan, Yash Bhandare and Hiltine Furtado (FYBSc) won Consolation prize at Awareness and Action research for Youth Awakening (AARYA) Intercollegiate Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Competition organized by College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai, on 28th Feb 2020. They presented the work carried out as part of the Honours project in Caius Research Laboratory entitled "**Effect of Metal Ions on the Activity of Succinate Dehydrogenase extracted from Mung bean *Vigna radiata***". Dr. Vishwas Sarangdhar and Dr. Priya Sundarrajan were the guides for the students.

Online Course:

The Caius Research Laboratory organized a four-week online course (15 hours) on "**Introduction to Intellectual Property Rights**" between 14th June to 8th July 2020. A total of 44 participants registered for the course,

13 students of St. Xavier's College and 31 participants from other colleges of Mumbai and different parts of India. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan was the course co-coordinator and Advocates Rajmohan Amonkar, Manmohav Amonkar and Jacob Kadantot, practising lawyers, Bombay High court were the resource persons. The course was conducted completely on an online mode using zoom platform for lectures and Google classroom for evaluation.

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. Two meetings of the committee were held on 16th October 2019 and 16th March 2020. The minutes of the meetings and form C1 were forwarded to RCGM, DBT, New Delhi.

Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF)

The full air-conditioned state of the art, CIF 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 Shimadzu 1700 and 2700, Thermal cycler, CO2 incubator, Ultra-sonicator, 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 by faculty and students is being carried out.



Dr. Priya Sundarrajan,
Director,
Caius Research Laboratory and CIF

DEPARTMENT OF INTER-RELIGIOUS STUDIES (DIRS)

The DIRS started off the academic year 2019-20 with the Interfaith Service on 11th June, 2019. A collaborative effort with the AICUF, this service called on the attendees to look beyond social frontiers and realize their potential as cosmic citizens. The department held its first independent event of the year with an interactive session with the Traveler's University. Various themes ranging from education to ecology were discussed. The month of July saw the advent of "Brush it Off" – an art session for DIRS members to paint without brushes, and unleash their creative instinct!

In August, the DIRS held one of its largest events of the year: the World Indigenous Peoples' Day celebration. Commencing on August 6 with a tribal painting workshop, it culminated in a *Warli* art exhibition and a panel discussion on 9th August, 2019. Focused on tribal culture and rights, the discussion was between

Pradip Prabhu and Indra Munshi – an activist and an academician who have worked extensively with indigenous populations. The celebration as a whole highlighted tribal culture, tradition, society, and politics.

On the ecological side, a Zero Waste Workshop was conducted on 14th September, leading to many inspired resolves among attendees to become more conscious consumers. On 21st September, the DIRS kept up its tradition of celebrating the International Day of Peace. 'Listening Café', an activity for people in the Woods invited passers-by to come together and listen to each other's experiences in an attentive and empathetic manner.

'Gift Week' was celebrated from 25th to 30th November. Two tables set up in the open air became a hotspot for students and staff to share Post-Its with the offerings of simple gifts to

strangers. Among these were free music lessons, conversations over tea, and walks across town. Participants reconnected the joy of giving without expecting anything in return, and the values of sharing and empathy. The Gift Week concluded with an interactive discussion on the concept and meaning of a gift by Fr. Francis de Melo on 29th November.

The new year featured a lecture on "Mahatma Gandhi's Exemplary Advocacy for Peace", delivered by Lord Bhikhu Parekh – member of the British Parliament and alumnus of St. Xavier's – on 17th January, 2020. It called upon the audience to creatively interpret Gandhi and apply his teachings in public spaces. On 22nd January a Playback Theatre workshop, hosted by the Mumbai Playbackers group, created a safe space for participants to share their feelings and watch them come alive as the actors artfully enacted them.



Besides this wide range of activities and events, the DIRS also conducted four unique Honours courses over the year. The first was the Diversity Exposure Course, held during the Diwali break in October and November. This was a collaboration between the DIRS and the Centre for the Study of Society and Secularism (CSSS). It sought to highlight the diverse range of communities and cultures within Mumbai through lectures and field visits.

The second course – the “Joy of Self-Discovery” – was held from 29th to 31st November 2019. In this, students learned to explore their inner selves through dance, music, art, and play. An exposure visit to the Behrampada slum helped them gain perspective of their surroundings.

“Word and Voice”, held between 2nd and 6th December 2019, was an intensive workshop on dramatic reading. The facilitator, Nikhil Katara, founder of “Readings in the Shed”, a performative reading initiative that seeks to revive the culture of community storytelling engaged participants closely with literary texts and presented them in a creative and engaging fashion.

The last Honours course of the year, ‘Samvaad’, was conducted from 3rd to 7th February, 2020. It created a dialogue between the three major world religions: Christianity, Islam, and Hinduism. Facilitated by Dr. Radha Kumar, Adv.

Irfan Engineer, and Fr. Joshan Rodrigues, the programme comprised lectures, field visits, and a panel discussion centered around the interconnectedness of the three faiths.

In addition to all the aforementioned initiatives, the DIRS conducted 15-minute sessions called “Art of Peace”, on a weekly basis. These sessions combined activities, exercises, and games with conscious breathing and meditation. Looking inward, pausing, and reflecting helped the students rejuvenate and return, energized, to their classes.

The DIRS blog, “The Laughing Hippo” was launched this year as a platform to promote free expression among the student community. Finally, the certificate course on “Applied Philosophy and Ethics” was also conducted under the aegis of the DIRS—once on campus and the second time online, during the lockdown.

Fr. Keith D’Souza, S.J.
and the **DIRS Team**

HERAS

The Heras Institute of Indian History and Culture organized the annual Heras Memorial Lectures on 6th December 2019, at St. Xavier’s College Mumbai from 5.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. The lectures were delivered by Dr. Suvarnalata Rao, Head – Programming (Indian Music) of the National Centre of the Performing Art (NCPA), Mumbai. Dr. Rao is a Senior Musician and Musicologist working in the field of Computational Musicology.

The theme, “The Aesthetics of Indian Music with special reference to Art Music”, was presented with audio/video excerpts. She commenced the lecture by explaining about the different Indian musical traditions from art (classical) and semi-classical music, to devotional, folk/regional, light and contemporary music. She also mentioned about the features that are common to all types of music in India, art or classical music. The talk focused on music as an artform, ingredients of music, characteristics of Indian art music, genesis of melodic (*raga*) and rhythmic (*tala*) aspects, their integration into composition (*bandish*), and their aesthetical significance. The

audience was enthralled with Dr. Rao’s esteemed lectures. This was very evidently indicated by the numerous questions at the end of the session.

A course on Conservation and Preservation of Material Culture was organised from June to December 2019, in which 12 students participated. The aim of the course was to teach the basic concepts of preservation and conservation along with practical training. The course dealt with on-hands training in the conservation of metals, paintings, micro organisms, paper, plants and animal. Dr. Ashma Aggarwal, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, St. Xavier’s College, took a session on Chemical Conservation of metals. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Associate Professor, Department of Life Science, St. Xavier’s College and Ms. Miriam Stewart, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, St. Xavier’s College, taught the conservation of micro organisms. Ms. Kritika Ware conducted a session on conservation and preservation of paintings. The session on Paper conservation was taken by Ms. Neha Mhatre and

Mr. Sagar Mundhe took a session on Animal Conservation. A session on Plant Preservation was conducted at Blatter Herbarium, St. Xavier’s College. The participants enjoyed the practical training of conserving the artefacts of Heras Museum.

By way of collaboration between Heras and the Department of Interreligious Studies (DIRS), Ms. Shilpa Chheda of Heras has been coordinating the DIRS Diploma course in “Interreligious Traditions”, with the help of a few DIRS students. This is a new course, and is being run entirely online. Lectures were initially scheduled to be held at the Heras Mezzanine classroom, but the Covid-19 situation has presented an opportunity for the course to be held online, which has enabled people from all across the country to participate. Ms. Chheda will also be coordinating the DIRS Certificate course in “Applied Philosophy and Ethics”, which will also be an online course during this academic year. She will likewise be assisted by a few DIRS students in the promotion and running of this course.

Dr. Joan Dias
Director, HERAS



Associations

ALL INDIA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY FEDERATION (AICUF)

The St. Xavier's unit of the AICUF chose as its theme for the year 2019-20 the following: Embrace, Enhance and Enable. The theme served as the impetus for the various activities that were organized in the academic year. The objectives of the AICUF are threefold – spiritual empowerment, personality enhancement and social justice & reconciliation.

The inaugural mass of the year was organized on June 28th, 2019, in collaboration with the DIRS. An orientation to the AICUF and its activities was held on July 13th, 2019, for the first year students. The first major project was the collection drive for the Maharashtra Flood Relief Campaign. AICUF collaborated with MUSE Foundation in channelizing donations in kind to those who were affected.

'Music in the Dark', a special musical meditation session was organized on August 10th, 2019. Two of the three musicians who performed are visually impaired and they encouraged the participants to become part of the music they created. On August 22nd, 2019 the first official social outreach session was held at Garden school in

Colaba. On September 21st, 2019, the AICUF conducted a treasure hunt in the college campus.

The annual Youth Encounter Sessions (Y.E.S.) camp was held in Shirpur, Maharashtra from October 22nd to 26th, 2019. Vishwa Mandal Sevashram, a Jesuit socio-educational venture in Shirpur played host. 25 Xavierites were involved in organizing sessions for the boarding students as well as gaining a first-hand rural living experience. *Ujali* is an annual AICUF initiative dedicated to the empowerment and celebration of women. The theme 'Fifty shades of women' sought to highlight the lives of women. 'Monochromatic Lensation' – an event wherein participants sent in monochromatic pictures of women who inspire them, be they well known or personally known - got an excellent response. Open Mic, Expressive art, a series of monologues – these were some of the other Pre-Ujali events. On the first day of Ujali, a panel discussion entitled 'Breaking the Glass ceiling and the Glass elevator' was a glimpse into the world of work and the challenges faced by women in this space. The second day was an interactive session on menstrual taboos and environmental sustainability.

On the final day, a debate, "Has Feminism failed women?" enthralled the audience.

On the occasion of the Feast of St. Francis Xavier (December 3rd, 2019) as well the closing ceremony of the Sesquicentennial celebrations (December 7th, 2019), the AICUF took charge of the liturgy and choir. The choir was well appreciated as they led the congregation in song. On December 12th, 2019, the AICUF organized a Christmas Carol event and a number of groups participated and carols in various languages were sung.

Besides the various programmes and activities, AICUF also provides a platform for Xavierites to express themselves through the monthly newsletter entitled The Phoenix. We give thanks to the Almighty for all that we could do this year and we look forward to being of continual service to the College and to society, especially to those who are marginalized and discriminated against.

Fr. Dean Fernandes S.J.
Xavier's AICUF Advisor

ENTREPRENEUR CELL AND SKILL HUB

To foster the spirit of entrepreneurship various workshops and events were organized in the academic year 2019-20. The collaborative effort of the staff and student committee members reflects in the events organized by the Cell. Keeping in mind the need of the hour, interests of the participants, the Cell has tried to organize various skill based programs and events throughout the year.

Following programs were organized in the academic year 2019-2020.

1. Artificial intelligence workshop with Retail, Marketing, and

HR analytics by Stratahive, Mumbai.

2. Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence, by aCubeIT Mumbai

3. Internet of Things, by Xavier's Institute of Technology.

4. Any Body Can Do Entrepreneurship (ABCDE) series of workshops by NAVYUVAK.

5. Train the trainer course on dog trainers by Canines Can Care.

6. Taxidermy is the preservation of an animal's by Wildlife Taxidermist.

7. Workshop on how to start business and approach Funding agencies by Chatur Ideas.

Approximately 500 students have gained from these activities. The efforts taken by the student committee members in implementation of the ideas helps us to provide quality programs to our students.

Mr. Pritesh Arte
Convenor

FORENSIC SCIENCE AND CRIMINAL LAW MOCK CRIME SCENE TESTING FOR BLOOD

The 2019 – 2020 Diploma in Forensic Science and Criminal Law program commenced in July, with students from diverse backgrounds, eager to understand this multi-faceted field and apply it their daily lives and careers.

The primary focus of the program is learning that is experiential and engaging and this is achieved through workshops and seminars conducted by eminent experts from the law enforcement and scientific community.

- Cyber Crime Investigation – Mr. Sachin Dedhia (Founder, Skynet Secure - Mumbai)
- Cyber Crime Investigation – Mr. Tapan Mehta (Co-founder, Indian Cyber Institute)
- Law - Adv. Ashish Chavan (High Court Advocate)
- Law – Adv. Smeet Contractor
- Statistics – Dr. Manasi Kanuga (Assistant Professor, Department of Life Sciences and Biochemistry - St. Xavier's College).
- Forensic Psychology – Ms. Havovi Hyderabadwalla (Clinical and Forensic Psychologist and Partner, Mind Mandala)

- Forensic Psychology – Ms. Krupa Nishar (Assistant Professor, Gujarat Forensic Science University-Gandhinagar)
- Forensic Psychology – Dr. Avinash De Sousa (Consultant Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist and Founder, De Sousa Foundation)
- Wildlife Forensics – Ms. C. Samyukta (Head of Wildlife Forensics, Wildlife Conservation Trust)

Equipped with theoretical knowledge coupled with hands-on practice, the students researched and prepared extensive Crime Scene Reports in the form of 'Mock Charge-Sheets' which were then presented before professionals in the field in the form of a 'Moot Court'. With an overview exercise presented students an overview, of the process of the Indian justice delivery system from 'crime scene to courtroom'.

From December 2019 – February 2020, Ms. Riva Pocha and Ms. Alethea Vaz conducted a one credit Wildlife Forensics Honours Program for the Department of Zoology.

The 3-month Online Certificate Program in Forensic Science started

by Dr. Pushpa Sinkar, Ms. Riva Pocha, Ms. Sejal Gupta and Ms. Alethea Vaz has successfully completed 7 batches and graduated 20 students since its inception in January 2017. The primary objective of the program is to make quality forensic education easily accessible by facilitating distance learning for students in all parts of India.

Two faculty members – Ms. Riva Pocha and Ms. Sejal Gupta accompanied by 20 students attended a Forensic Awareness Program at the Directorate of Forensic Science Laboratories, Mumbai on 22nd of January 2020. The faculty members and students interacted with the presenters at various stalls – each one representing research poster presentations from the various fields of forensic science. The exhibition was a revelation as students witnessed the most recent research trends in India, with novel insights on the latest in forensic DNA and fingerprinting.

Dr. Pushpa Sinkar

Co-ordinator

Diploma in Forensic Science and Criminal Law & Online Certificate Program in Forensic Science

हिंदी साहित्य, संगीत एवं नाट्य - अंतस

अंतस - 'जश्न हुनर का' हिंदी-विभाग का दो दिवसीय अंतर-महाविद्यालयीन त्योहार था। यह २७ और २८ नवंबर, २०१९ को आयोजित किया गया था, जिसमें लगभग १००० से अधिक लोगों की उपस्थिति दर्ज की गयी थी। उल्लेखित दो दिनों में आयोजित साहित्य, संगीत एवं नाट्य गतिविधियों के अलावा अन्य कई अंतस पूर्व गतिविधियाँ जैसे - डांडिया नाइट, हिंदी कविता लेखन प्रतियोगिता,

बॉलीवुड डांस वर्कशॉप (अजिंक्य ठाकुर द्वारा संचालित - स्थापित कोरियोग्राफर, MMA फाइटर और उद्यमी), नौटंकी चौक, ओपन माइक, ट्रेजर हंट और वॉइस मॉड्यूलेशन वर्कशॉप (माय वॉयस अकादमी से श्री संदीप कार्णिक द्वारा संचालित) कार्यक्रम से पंद्रह दिन पहले अकादमी द्वारा आयोजित की गयी थीं। इसी समय, सभी नवोदित कलाकारों (महाविद्यालय के बाहर और भीतर) को

एक मंच प्रदान करने के हेतु 'किस्सा-ए-अंतस' नामक एक ब्लॉग भी शुरू किया गया था। इन कार्यक्रमों में कुछ विशिष्ट अतिथियों को आमंत्रित किया गया था, जैसे- प्रसिद्ध कवि गौरव त्रिपाठी और दर्शन राजपुरोहित।

पहला दिन : २७ नवंबर, २०१९

अंतस का पहला दिन दोपहर २-३० बजे "संवाद लेखन प्रतियोगिता" के

साथ शुरु हुआ, जिसमें ८ टीमों ने भाग लिया। इसके अलावा उस दिन तीन नाटकों, 'बेरंग', 'कांदा' और 'अघासुर' का कॉलेज हॉल में अपराह्न २-४० बजे से मंचन किया गया। सभी नाटकों का लेखन, निर्देशन एवं अभिनय कॉलेज के छात्रों द्वारा किया गया।

'बेरंग' एक नाटक था जो हमारे समाज के इर्द-गिर्द घूमता है, वह समाज जहाँ हम रहते हैं, एक ऐसा समाज जिसकी हम कल्पना करते हैं, जो कि है तो महत्वपूर्ण परंतु उसका कोई मूल्य नहीं। कांदा, काशी राव की कहानी थी जिसे २०१७ में महाराष्ट्र के मुख्यमंत्री द्वारा 'प्रगतिशील किसान ऑफ द ईयर' पुरस्कार के साथ सम्मानित किया जाता है। अंत में, अघासुर, एक आदमी के डांसर के रूप में अपने सपनों को हासिल करने के लिए उसका संघर्ष और उसकी जीवन यात्रा के बारे में एक सस्पेंस ड्रामा था।

श्रीमती ज्योति तोमर (प्रसिद्ध कोरियोग्राफर) को नाटकों के मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में आमंत्रित किया गया था। SCAVI में

एक 'स्टैंडअप कॉमेडी इवेंट' आयोजित किया गया, जहाँ सुश्री मोनिका (You Tuber) और श्री पार्थ गढ़वी (स्टैंडअप कॉमेडियन) को इस कार्यक्रम के मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में आमंत्रित किया गया था।

दूसरा दिन : २८ नवंबर, २०१९

अंतस के दूसरे दिन कॉलेज हॉल में दोपहर २-३० बजे से नाटकों और बॉलीवुड ऑर्केस्ट्रा की शुरुआत की गई। पहले नाटक, मुंबई ६६-ए में ६ लोगों की जीवन कथाओं को दर्शाया जाता है, जो 'सपनों के शहर' में रहते हैं, एक ऐसा शहर जो कभी नहीं सोता है। इस नाटकमें मुंबई की आत्मा और सपनों के इस शहर में आकांक्षाओं और महत्वाकांक्षाओं के बारे में एक गहरी सामाजिक कॉमेडी थी। नाटक देवदास शरतचंद्र चट्टोपाध्याय की उत्कृष्ट कृति की एक शानदार रिटेलिंग थी, यह लालसा, प्रेम और दिल टूटने की कहानी थी। बिमल रॉय और संजय लीला भंसाली की पसंद से कई बार सिल्वर स्क्रीन पर लायी गयी यह कहानी, ज़ेवियर के

मंच को रोशन करने के लिए बदल दी गयी थीं।

अंतस-२०१९ अपने प्रमुख कार्यक्रम बॉलीवुड ऑर्केस्ट्रा के साथ संपन्न हुआ। यह एक समूह है - ज़ेवियर के सभी धाराओं और वर्षों के प्रतिभाशाली नाइटिंगेल्स का।

दो प्रसिद्ध अतिथियों, श्री विशाल मिश्रा और सुश्री रॉकिनी गुप्ता ने अपनी हालिया बॉलीवुड हिट गानों से कुछ पंक्तियाँ पेश करके दर्शकों को मंत्रमुग्ध कर दिया और कार्यक्रम की रौनक बढ़ा दी।

अंततः अंतस 'जश्न हुनर का', सफलतापूर्वक अपनी समृद्ध विरासत को आगे बढ़ाते हुए, संत ज़ेवियर (स्वायत्त) महाविद्यालय के इस सुप्रसिद्ध कार्यक्रम को सार्थकता प्रदान की।

इस वर्ष अंतस कार्यक्रम अपने मानदण्डों पर खरा उतरा। अंतस भविष्य में और बेहतर प्रदर्शन के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है।

डॉ. भगवती प्रसाद उपाध्याय
हिंदी विभाग

INDIAN MUSIC GROUP

The Indian Music Group has been striving to spread the love for Indian classical music among people of all age groups, especially the youth, since early 1970s. The IMG organizes various concerts by students and Indian classical musicians, informal *baithaks*, and informative sessions. At IMG, we try to bring in new ideas every year to reach out to the youth. This year, IMG has organized the following concerts:

Aaroh: (9th August)

Aaroh was the first concert wherein our college students showcased their talents in classical music. Performances by Aashra Iype (Odissi dance), Megh

Kanvinde (Flute), Joshua Khristi (Harmonium), Ruchi Fonseca (Vocals) and Mrunmay Chavan (Tabla) made us realize that our students are not only good in academics, but also has an immense talents in performing arts. Each of them made a mark through their excellent performances.

Besides Aaroh, IMG also offered a one-credit transfer honours program, the **Music Appreciation Course**. This year, it was conducted over two days (28th and 29th August):

a) Pillars of Indian Classical Music: Raag and Taal: A two-session lecture demonstration conducted by Smt Amruta Kale (Vocals) and

Ishaan Ghosh (Tabla). Smt Kale discussed about the intricacies of various Hindustani *raag*, While Ishaan gave an excellent description of the evolution of Tabla and the concept of *Gharanas*.

b) Rabindranath Tagore and Rabindra Sangeet: This session was conducted by Dr. Bhaskar Saha, who explained various aspects of Rabindra Sangeet (songs by Rabindranath Tagore) through an enchanting lecture demonstration. He explained about different segments (*parjaay*) the songs are categorized in and the impacts of Tagore's songs.

Malhar Ke Prakaar: (15th September)

We greeted monsoon with Raag Malhar, and *Malhar Ke Prakaar* is the best way to celebrate the rains. The occasion was graced by Smt Sayani Shende Sathaye, whose vocal renditions mesmerised the audience, followed by Shri Takahiro Arai (disciple of Pt. Shiv Kumar Sharma ji), who brought out the perfect mood of rains in monsoon. The two artists left the crowds craving for more and delighted the audience with their synchronising and harmonious performance.

Viraasat: (23rd November)

Viraasat is a concert devoted to providing a platform for young talented artists and honouring the legacy of Indian classical music. To boost the interest in budding artists, who want to take their talent to a professional level, IMG has started a competition since last two years, and winners are invited to perform at Viraasat. This year, the winners are Krutika Janginnath (flute) and Jayashree Patil (vocals), who enchanted the audience with their excellent performance. This was followed by an instrumental ensemble by Shikhar Naad Qureshi (Djambe and percussion), Sudhanshu

Gharpure (Harmonium) and Hari Bhusal (Percussion).

Birthday Concert: (5th January, 2020)

The Indian Music Group celebrated its 47th anniversary this year. To celebrate this long legacy, we organized 'Birthday Concert', which is also the curtain raiser to the much awaited Janfest. The concert started with a striking performance by Shri Sarang Kulkarni on the Sarod. It was followed by a melodious Hindustani classical vocal performance by Pandita Shubhada Paradkar ji who enchanted the audience. The concert ended with the release of the much awaited Janfest 2020 line-up.

Janfest: (25th and 26th January, 2020)

The year-long activities of IMG culminate in Janfest, the flagship two-day event, where stalwarts of Indian classical music are invited to perform. This year, we have introduced a segment of 'upcoming artists' to give young artists a platform and exposure. On 25th, the program started with an instrumental ensemble featuring Shri Purbayan Chatterjee (Sitar), Shri Satyajit Talwalkar (Tabla), Shri

Sridhar Parthasarathi (Mrudangam), Shri Abhay Nayampally (guitar) and Shri Farooq Latif Khan (Sarangi). It was followed by a vocal performance by Kumari Nirali Karthik. The evening ended with an enchanting *Jasrangi Jugalbandi* performance by Vidushi Dr. Ashwani Bhide Deshpande and Pt. Sanjeev Abhyankar. On 26th morning, the audience was enthralled by the violin performance of mother-daughter duo Padmabhushan Smt N Rajam ji and Dr. Sangeetha Shankar ji. On 26th evening, Shri Smit Tiwari gave an excellent sarod performance. Next, Pt Rakesh Chaurasia mesmerised the audience with his flute recital. The event concluded with the Grand Finale concert by Padmabhushan Begum Parween Sultana ji. Like every year, the audience experienced an unmatched musical extravaganza. The ambiance was further boosted by the art and craft work of our superlatively talented students. The entire event was sponsored by Taj Tea (Hindustan Uniliver) and State Bank of India, and Lokmat was our media partner.

Dr. Bhaskar Saha
Convenor

LAB SAFETY COMMITTEE

The committee for the year 2019-2020 includes the following members:

Member	Department
Dr. Rajendra Shinde (Chairman)	Principal, St. Xavier's College. Head, Department of Botany
Dr. Priya Sundarrajan	Director, Caius Research Laboratory, Convenor
Dr. Karuna Gokarn	Vice Principal Academics
Dr. Shyamala Bhodhane	Associate Professor, Department of Physics
Dr. Madhuri Hambarde	Associate Professor, Department of Zoology
Dr. Sangeeta Shetty	Associate Professor, Department of Life Science and Biochemistry
Dr. Geeta Kotian	Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry
Dr. Vijaya Lobo	Assistant Professor, Department of Botany
Dr. Sujata Deshpande	Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology
Dr. Aparna Talekar	Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology
Dr. Ashwin Pundalik	Assistant Professor, Department of Geology

The first meeting of the committee was held on 17th September 2019 with members and follow up meetings were held on the 10th of January 2020, and the final meeting, in an online mode via zoom platform, on the 26th of June 2020.

Regarding lab safety, it was suggested that:

- A list of all chemicals and biological samples in use for experiments be made and validated by respective science HODs.
- All chemicals and reagents should bear proper labels and safety symbols.
- Wherever possible, the use of non-toxic alternatives was recommended.

- d. The need to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was also underscored.
- e. The need for a first aid training and fire drill was seen as a must in the coming years.
- f. The committee prepared a laboratory manual for the Science Departments of the college.
- g. The committee also made suggestions and recommendations to the college for post COVID-19 practices to be followed during practical sessions by the Science Departments.

The lab safety committee organized the following activities during the year:

- Recognizing the need for awareness about fire safety, the committee organized a fire safety training and drill through Rarico Fire Services on 27th February 2020. The event was attended by 107 participants (68 non-teaching, 18 teaching and 21 students) from the college including the principal Dr. Rajendra Shinde. The session covered a detailed explanation about fire safety equipment and how to extinguish various types of fires, followed by a mock drill for the participants.

- To gain awareness about the pandemic COVID 19, the committee organized an online awareness lecture on ‘COVID-19: Fear or Fight’ on 16th April, 2020 for the faculty of the college. The resource person was Dr. Gautam Bhanushali, Consultant Physician, Bombay Hospital and BMC Task Force Committee Member for COVID, who explained the coronavirus, symptoms and safety precautions to be taken to safeguard ourselves against the virus.
- An online session was organized by the committee on 11th July 2020, for the faculty, industry professionals and students. About 220 participants all over India attended the session on “Safety practices in academic and industrial laboratories”. The resource person was Dr. Rahul Nabar, Chemical engineering consultant, who explained about various physical, chemical and electrical hazards encountered as part of day-to-day working in the laboratories and ways to prevent them. The lecture aimed at creating awareness about various safety-related issues in the laboratory.

The Institutional Biosafety Committee:

- As per Govt. of India regulations, organisations 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. Two meetings of the committee were held on the 16th of October 2019 and, in an online mode, on the 16th of May 2020 respectively. From the year 2020 all submissions are to be carried out on an online mode in the IBKP (India Biosafety Knowledge Portal). A total of eight proposals were screened between the two meetings and the minutes of the meetings and form C1 were forwarded to RCGM, DBT, New Delhi.

Dr. Priya Sundarrajan
Convenor

मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ

संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयात माठी वाङ्मय मंडळाची स्थापना १९२३ साली झाली. या वर्षी मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाने ९६व्या वर्षी पदार्पण केले.

उद्घाटन सोहळा

या वर्षीचा उद्घाटन सोहळा ३० ऑगस्ट २०१९ रोजी संत झेवियर्स इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ कम्युनिकेशन्सच्या ‘मॅक फार्लड हॉल येथे पार पाडला. या सोहळ्याला श्रीयुत भरत जाधव हे प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून लाभले. या सोहळ्यास प्राचार्य डॉ. राजेंद्र शिंदे,

डॉ. ऋषिकेश सामंत, डॉ. पुष्पा सिनकर, डॉ. प्रशांत रत्नपारखी, श्रीमती सना शेख आणि मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाच्या अध्यक्ष डॉ. अनिता राणे-कोठारे हे मान्यवर उपस्थित होते. ह्यांच्या हस्ते दीपप्रज्वलनाने सोहळ्याची सुरुवात झाली.

या कार्यक्रमाची संकल्पना ‘ज्योत-प्रकाश उज्ज्वल भविष्याकडे वाटचाल’ ही होती. या संकल्पनेला मूर्त स्वरूप देताना नाट्य, नृत्य, साहित्य, कला व संगीत या पाचही विभागांनी एकत्र सहकार्याने ‘पलाशी’ या नाटिकेचे सादरीकरण केले.

मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाची कार्यकारिणीची व त्यांच्या कामाची ओळख चित्रफितीने करण्यात आली. याचे लेखन, संगीत, दृश्य मिश्रण, संकलन मंडळातील विभाग प्रमुखांनी केले. या नंतर माननीय भरत जाधव ह्यांचा सत्कार करण्यात आला. त्यांचे अध्यक्षीय भाषण झाले. त्यानंतर आभार प्रदर्शन झाले. मराठी अभिमान गीताने कार्यक्रमाची सांगता झाली.

अभिरुची... कार्यशाळा श्रृंखला...

२४ सप्टेंबर ते २६ सप्टेंबर या दिवसांत अभिरुची ही कार्यशाळेची श्रृंखला आयोजित

करण्यात आली. मराठी संस्कृती आणि बदलते विश्व यांच्यामधील परस्पर संबंधांवर मंथन करणे हे या कार्यशाळेचे प्रमुख उद्दिष्ट होते.

२४ सप्टेंबर रोजी 'सिच्युएशन अवेरनेस अँड सेल्फ डिफेन्स' या संदर्भात 'शिवगर्जना प्रतिष्ठान'चे संस्थापक श्रीयुत प्रणय शेलार यांनी विद्यार्थ्यांना मार्गदर्शन केले.

याच दिवशी आयोजित करण्यात आलेल्या व्यंगचित्र शाळेत 'चित्रसूत्र अकॅडमी ऑफ ड्रॉइंग अँड पेंटिंग' संस्थेचे संस्थापक श्री हिमालय पाटकर यांनी व्यंगचित्र रेखाटनाची प्रात्यक्षिके देताना त्यातील बारकावेही समजावून सांगितले. याप्रसंगी उपस्थित विद्यार्थ्यांनी यात उत्स्फूर्त सहभाग घेतला.

२५ सप्टेंबर रोजी लोककला प्रशिक्षित कु. देवश्री सावंत यांनी लावणी नृत्याची कार्यशाळा घेतली. मोठ्या संख्येने मुलीच नव्हे तर मुलांनी देखील त्यात भाग घेतला. लावणी नृत्य आणि लावणी कलाकार यांच्यासंबंधी समाजात प्रचलित असलेल्या गैरसमजांवर ताशेरे ओढत, विद्यार्थ्यांना त्यांनी वस्तुस्थितिशी अवगत करविले. याच कार्यशाळेत दोन लावण्यांवर नृत्य ही शिकवण्यात आले.

'वर्सेटायल अँड सस्टेनेबल फॅशन वर्कशॉप' या कार्यक्रमात पारंपारिक व आधुनिक पाश्चात्य वेशभूषेची, मुले-मुली अभयतांसाठी असलेल्या सर्व पर्यायांची प्रात्यक्षिके सादर केली.

२६ सप्टेंबर - नवरस कार्यशाळा.... प्रसिद्ध सिने व नाट्य अभिनेत्री ऋतुजा बागवे यांच्या उपस्थित ही कार्यशाळा संपन्न झाली. विद्यार्थ्यांच्या सहभागाने अभिनयातील नवरसाच्या सादरीकरणाचे प्रात्यक्षिक त्यांनी दिले. एखादी भूमिका वठवताना करावयाची पूर्वतयारी आणि त्यानंतर त्या भूमिकेचे सादरीकरण याबद्दलचे मौल्यवान मार्गदर्शन त्यांनी केले.

'लेझिम' हा महाराष्ट्रातील लोकनृत्याचा अत्यंत लोकप्रिय असा प्रकार... लेझिम प्रशिक्षक श्रीमती सिद्धी वैद्य यांनी लेझिम नृत्यातील बारकावे आणि सादरीकरणातील शिस्त याची महत्त्वपूर्ण माहिती विद्यार्थ्यांना दिली.

तीन दिवस आयोजित करण्यात आलेल्या या कार्यशाळांना विद्यार्थ्यांचा उदंड प्रतिसाद लाभला.

“संस्कृती unplugged”

२५ व २६ नोव्हेंबर या दोन दिवसांत संस्कृती unplugged हा कार्यक्रम आयोजित करण्यात आला होता.

२५ नोव्हेंबर

“कला, साहित्य व युवा” या विषयावर मराठी सिने व नाट्य सृष्टीतील प्रसिद्ध कलाकार श्रीयुत सुबोध भावे यांनी विद्यार्थ्यांशी संवाद साधला. या संवादात त्यांनी मराठी रंगभूमी व प्रसार माध्यमांचे बदलते रूप, तसेच नवोदित कलाकार व साहित्यिक यांसाठी नवनवीन व्यासपीठांची गरज यावर भाष्य केले.

त्यानंतर 'मॉडर्न सरस्वती कशी असावी?' या विषयावर चर्चा सत्र आयोजित करण्यात आले. शिक्षणतज्ञ श्री प्रमोद निगुडकर, आय. पी. एस. अधिकारी श्री कृष्णाप्रकाश, अभिनेते श्री सुयश टिळक व श्री गणेश अचवल यात सहभागी झाले.

याच व्यासपीठावर 'तेजोमय २०१९ - मुंबई - Bombay - बंबई' या दिवाळी अंकाचे अनावरण करण्यात आले.

२६ नोव्हेंबर

मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाने प्रथमच स्वलिखित, स्वदिग्दर्शित व एकांकिका 'प्रिय - एक पत्र, पाच पात्र' सादर केली.

मानवी सहसंबंध, त्यातील क्लिष्टता पण आपुलकी, जिव्हाळा यांना उलगडताना विद्यार्थी कलाकरांची सहजता हे या नाटकाचे खास वैशिष्ट्य ठरले. या कार्यक्रमाला अनेक मान्यवरांनी उपस्थिती

होती. श्री प्राजक्त देशमुख हे प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून लाभले. श्री उदय सबनीस, श्रीमती स्निग्धा सबनीस, श्री विवेक लागू, श्री मनोज कोल्हटकर, श्री शौनील येलातीकर व श्री सौमित्र कुलकर्णी या मान्यवरांनी कार्यक्रमाची शोभा वाढवली.

या वर्षीच्या 'संस्कृती unplugged' या कार्यक्रमाचे आणखीन एक वैशिष्ट्य म्हणजे 'online लघु चित्रपट स्पर्धा.' 'तो दिवस' ह्या संकल्पनेवर ही स्पर्धा आयोजित करण्यात आली. केवळ मुंबई नव्हे तर नाशिक, पुणे या शहरातील विद्यापीठातील विद्यार्थ्यांनी देखील आपल्या प्रवेशिका पाठवल्या.

आमोद '२०!

ह्या वर्षी आमोद हा महोत्सव २०, २१, २२ जानेवारी २०२० ह्या ३ दिवसात संपन्न झाला. संगीत, नृत्य, साहित्य, कला, नाट्य ह्या विविध कला विभागांच्या स्पर्धा ह्या महोत्सवात पार पडल्या.

पहिल्या दिवशी 'बहुरूपी' ह्या एकपात्री प्रयोगाची स्पर्धा झाली. सौ. स्वप्ना जोशी ह्यांनी ह्या स्पर्धेचे परीक्षण केले. तसेच, 'पडद्या पलीकडे' व 'व्यंगकरण' ह्या दोन स्पर्धा घेण्यात आल्या... वेगवेगळ्या दोन चित्रपटातील, किंवा नाटकातील पात्रे एकमेकांसमोर आली तर त्यांच्यातील संवाद ही 'पडद्या पलीकडे' या स्पर्धेची संकल्पना होती तर 'व्यंगकरण' या स्पर्धेद्वारे राजकारणातील व्यक्तिमत्त्वांची व्यंगचित्रे रेखाटण्याची संधी स्पर्धकांना मिळाली. श्रीमती अर्चना थावरे शहा यांनी पडद्या पलीकडेचे या स्पर्धेचे तर श्री हिमालय पाटकर यांनी व्यंगकरण या स्पर्धेचे परीक्षण केले. त्यानंतर मराठी मालिकांमधील शीर्षकगीतांची 'शीर्षक गीतमाला' व शास्त्रीय गायनावर आधारित 'तराणा' ह्या स्पर्धा झाल्या. श्रीमती मधुरा कुंभार व श्री श्रीरंग भावे यांनी शीर्षकगीतमाला तर स्वरांगी मराठे व प्राजक्ता काकतकर यांनी शास्त्रीय गाण्याचे परीक्षण केले.

दिवस दुसरा - 'आठवले ते साठवले' या स्पर्धेमध्ये विसाव्या दशका अगोदर असलेल्या नायक-नायिकांवर चित्रित झालेल्या गाण्यांवर नृत्य सादरीकरण करण्यात आले यांचे परीक्षण सौ मेघा धाडे यांनी केले. त्याचबरोबर शब्दांत हीच समूह नाटुकली स्पर्धा पार पडली व त्याचे परीक्षण सौ. स्निग्धा सबनीस यांनी केले. ब. न. पुरंदरे वक्तृत्व स्पर्धा त्यानंतर झाली. त्या स्पर्धेसाठी आपल्याला परीक्षक म्हणून लाभले होते श्री करण सोनवणे आणि श्री नील सालेकर. आकृतीबंध ही रांगोळी स्पर्धा व वनवासी कलांगण ही वारली चित्राची स्पर्धायांचाही समावेश या दुसऱ्या दिवशीच्या कार्यक्रमात होता. जितेंद्र वैष्णव व कल्याणी नेरुरकरयांनी या स्पर्धेचे उत्तम परीक्षण केले! त्याचबरोबर 'अस्मिता परंपरेची' ही लोकसंगीतावर आधारित समूहगीतगायन स्पर्धा घेण्यात आली. ह्या स्पर्धेला प्रमुख परीक्षक म्हणून लाभले होते माननीय नंदेश उमपजी.

'महाराष्ट्राची लोकधारा' म्हणजेच लोकनृत्याच्या स्पर्धेचे परीक्षक अनुजा भिडे व त्रीचा कुमार होते! त्याचबरोबर 'जोडी तुझी-माझी' ही दुहेरी पात्र नृत्य स्पर्धा संपन्न झाली, त्याचे परीक्षण साहिबा सोहनी यांनी केले होते.

दिवस तिसरा - 'बहुरूपी' या पहिल्या दिवशी झालेल्या स्पर्धेची अंतिम फेरी या शेवटच्या दिवशी पार पडली, माननीय श्री विवेक लागू यांनी याचे परीक्षण केले. 'हिले डुले हास्य फुले' या स्पर्धेचे परीक्षण ज्ञानेश भालेकर व महेंद्र कदमयांनी केले. 'रंग सारे रंगले' ही चित्रकला स्पर्धा सुद्धा संपन्न झाली. या स्पर्धेचे परीक्षण श्री विक्रांत शितोळे यांनी केले. 'खेळ मांडला' हा शब्द खेळ खेळण्यात आला त्यात मराठी व्याकरणा संबंधित अनेकविध खेळ घेण्यात आले. शास्त्रीय गायनाच्या 'तराणा' ह्या स्पर्धेची अंतिम फेरी पार पडली. त्यां अंतिम फेरीसाठी आपल्याला परीक्षक म्हणून लाभले होते सन्माननीय श्री कौशल इनामदार व सौ. आशा खाडिलकर

त्याचबरोबर 'वाद्य संगम' ही युगल वाद्य वादन स्पर्धा ही घेण्यात आली. त्यासाठी आपले परीक्षक होते, युवक संगीत संयोजक आदिनाथ पातकर व त्याचबरोबर अभंग रिपोस्टच्या बँड मधील प्रसिद्ध वादक श्री विराज आचार्य.

सौ. सोनिया परचुरे व वैदेही रेळे या मान्यवरांच्या उपस्थितीत एकेरी शास्त्रीय नृत्य स्पर्धा संपन्न झाली.

आमोद या महोत्सवाचा पारितोषिक वितरण सोहळा संत झेवियर्स शाळेमध्ये अगदी दणक्यात पार पडला! या महोत्सवात प्रथम पारितोषिक पटकावले ते एच. आर. महाविद्यालय, चर्चगेट यांनी तर द्वितीय पारितोषिक विजेते म्हणून ठरले संत झेवियर्स महाविद्यालय!

**मराठी राजभाषा दिवस -
२७ फेब्रुवारी २०२०**

दिनांक २७ फेब्रुवारी २०२० रोजी मराठी राजभाषा दिवस साजरा केला.

सर्वप्रथम आम्ही मुलांनी कॉलेजच्या स्वागतकक्षात कुसुमाग्रज ह्यांच्या फोटोला हार व फुलांनी सजवून, मराठी अभिमान गीत गाऊन आमचा आदर व्यक्त केला. त्याबरोबर फोटो जवळ रांगोळी व फुलांची सजावट करून 'मराठी राजभाषा दिन' असे लिहिले.

त्यानंतर 'गूँज बुलंद आवाजो की', हे एक पथ नाट्य सादर करून 'सेफ कॅम्पस' प्रोग्रामचा प्रचार केला.

**"ChaloDonateKarteHain उपक्रम ८
एप्रिल २०२०"**

कोविड-१९च्या साथीच्या पार्श्वभूमीवर मदतीचा हात पुढे करत मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाने माजी विद्यार्थी अजिंक्य शिंदे यांच्या संयोगाने ChaloDonateKarteHain या उपक्रमाचे आयोजन केले. या उपक्रमांतर्गत विद्यार्थ्यांना PM Cares Fund आणि CM Relief Fund यांकरिता केवळ एख रुपयाचे योगदान देण्याचे

आवाहन केले गेले. याबद्दल जागृती निर्माण करण्यासाठी समाजमाध्यमांचा मोठ्या प्रमाणावर वापर झाला आणि विद्यार्थ्यांना योगदान देण्यासाठी प्रोत्साहित केले. यासोबतच विद्यार्थ्यांना त्यांच्या मित्रमंडळींना उपक्रमाबद्दल माहिती होण्यासाठी आपले पेमेंट स्क्रीनशॉट शेअर करण्यासाठी सुद्धा उद्युक्त केले. योगदानाची रक्कम रास्त असल्यामुळे उपक्रमाला मोठ्या प्रमाणात प्रतिसाद मिळाला. या यशामुळे महाविद्यालयाच्या स्टुडन्ट कौन्सिलने या उपक्रमात सामील होण्यासाठी पुढाकार घेतला. ChaloDonateKarteHain च्या निमित्ताने विद्यार्थ्यांना लहानातील लहान मदत कितपत मोठा बदल घडवू शकते याची जाणीव झाली असेच असं म्हटलं तर वावगं ठरणार नाही.

**"MADE IN महाराष्ट्र - १ मे
२०२०"**

दि. १ मे २०२०, शुक्रवार रोजी महाराष्ट्र दिन ऑनलाईन साजरा केला. सध्याच्या लॉकडाऊन मुळे सर्वांनी एकत्र येऊन हा दिवस साजरा करणे शक्य नव्हते पण तरीही ह्या काळात कलाकारांना त्यांच्या कला सादर करण्यासाठी व्यासपीठ मिळवून दिले ते ह्या अभिनव कल्पनेने! ज्या मध्ये, कलाकारांनी आपली व्हीडीयो पाठवून, त्यांचे संकलन करून आपल्या कलेचे सादरीकरण केले. "MADE IN महाराष्ट्र" या थीम वर ह्या कार्यक्रमातील कलाविष्कार आधारित होते. महाराष्ट्र राज्य स्थापित होऊन ६० वर्षे पूर्ण झाली असल्याने गेल्या साठ वर्षांत महाराष्ट्रात झालेल्या सांस्कृतिक व सामाजिक बदलांची दखल घेत विविध नृत्य, नाट्य, संगीत, कला आणि साहित्याचे प्रदर्शन करण्यात आले. त्याचबरोबर प्रसिद्ध युवा गायिका शरयू दाते देखील आपल्या सुरेल सादरीकरणातून ह्या कार्यक्रमाच्या मुख्य अतिथी होत्या! अशाप्रकारे कलाकारांचा आणि प्रेक्षकांचा उत्साह कायम राखण्यात ही कल्पना यशस्वी ठरली.

“दस्तूर-ए-कॉरन्टीन - २२ जून २०२०”

२२ जून २०२० रोजी मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ आणि पिकारट्झो नामक मुंबई स्थित आर्टिस्ट मॅनेजमेंट कंपनीच्या सहयोगाने दस्तूर-ए-कॉरन्टीन या ओपन माईक इवेंटचे आयोजन केले गेले. लॉकडाउनच्या काळात विद्यार्थ्यांच्या कलागुणांना वाव देणे आणि एक मनोरंजक संध्याकाळचा आस्वाद घरबसल्या घेता यावा ही कार्यक्रमांमागची कल्पना. कार्यक्रमात सहभागी झालेल्या

कलाकारांना मराठी, हिंदी किंवा इंग्रजीतून आपली कविता कथा किंवा स्टँड-अप कॉमेडी सादर करण्याची मुभा होती. कार्यक्रमाची मध्यवर्ती संकल्पना म्हणजेच थीम “जर-तर च्या गोष्टी” ही होती. दस्तूर-ए-कॉरन्टीन गुगल मीट या ऑनलाईन ओपन माईक इव्हेंटला तब्बल ९० लोकांनी उपस्थित राहून आपल्या कलाकारांना प्रोत्साहित केले. कलाकारांच्या सादरीकरणांना उत्तम प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त करण्यासाठी फीडबॅक फॉर्म भरण्याची विनंती केली गेली. त्याच्या जोडीला त्यांनी

सादरीकरणांना रेटिंग देऊन कार्यक्रमाच्या बेस्ट परफॉर्मरचा किताब शौमिक रहाटे याला दिला गेला.

आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन स्पर्धातील मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाचे यश.

विविध आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन स्पर्धांमध्ये भाग घेऊन म. वा. मंच्या सभासदांनी अनेक बक्षिसे मिळवली.

संजना रत्नपारखी, शौमिक रहाटे, ऋचा दिवेकर, मानसी पंडित
द्वितीय वर्ष, कला शाखा



PLACEMENT CELL

Despite the slowdown in recruitments that we have seen over the last few years, the placements for the academic 2019-2020 is definitely worth a mention as we had many reputed companies coming on campus for hiring our final year students.

For the academic year 2019-20, the Placement Cell activities began in the 1st week of August 2019.

439 students registered with the Placement Cell, out of which 132 are placed in various companies/ organizations. The highest salary package was **Rs 15.7 Lakhs per annum** and the average was in the range of **5.50 to 5.60 lakhs per annum**.

The stream wise registration and final placement is given below in the table and an analysis of the same is given in Figure 1

Registration composition:

Stream	Number of Students
B.A.	185
B.Sc.	61
B.Com	38
B.M.M.	37
B.M.S.	46
B.Sc. (IT)	46
B.Voc (Tourism)	06
B.Voc (Software)	06
P.G.	14
TOTAL	439

Placement composition:

Stream	Number of Students
B.A.	61
B.Sc.	15
B.Com	Nil
B.M.M.	05
B.M.S.	23
B.Sc. (IT)	26
B.Voc (Tourism)	Nil
B.Voc (Software)	Nil
P.G.	03
TOTAL	133

During the academic year 2019-2020, the following Recruiters held their Pre-Placement Talk and hiring process either on Campus or at their Office Premises:

All the companies listed below have recruited students from the college

- A.T. Kearney, Accenture, Alka Lifestyle Pvt. Ltd -Kwick Living (I) Pvt. Ltd., Aon, Bain Capability Center, CBRE South Asia Pvt. Ltd.,
- Citibank, Coviam Technologies Pvt. Ltd.,
- Crimson Interactive Pvt. Ltd., Dalberg, Deloitte – India,
- Deloitte Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. – Hyderabad,
- E & Y India, GoComet, ICICI Bank - Ascend Program,
- J.P. Morgan, Katalyst, Lynk, Maersk Tankers India,

- Media.net, MSL – India, Purple.com, PwC,
- Quantiphi Analytical Solutions Pvt. Ltd.,
- Quantum Data Engines, Savage & Palmer, SmartCirqls Infotech Pvt. Ltd.
- Social Beat, Sportz Interactive, Talerang,
- Tata Strategic Management Group, TopHire, Times Internet,
- Tranzlease (TZL), Zeus Learning,
- Zilingo, ZS Associates India Pvt. Ltd.
- Pool Campus: Capgemini & L & T InfoTech.

The following companies connected with the cell and had one or more of their placement processes for the students:

- Radio Mirchi, Repro India, Rubicon Skill Development Pvt. Ltd.,
- Teach for India Fellowship, The RASICH Group,
- Federation of Indian Export Organisations, Fujitsu, Gandhi Fellowship Program,
- Cactus Communications, Carwale.com.,
- IKS Health, Institutional Shareholder Services India Pvt. Ltd.,

The job profiles were largely in the field of Consultancy, Risk advisory, Media and Management. Companies that are operating in the field of Social work and Social Entrepreneurship also visited the campus.

The main aim of the Placement cell is to be inclusive in its approach in placing the students of not only different streams but different capabilities and interests as well. We will be consolidating our efforts in the next academic year as well.

The placement cell has a team of both the faculty and the students who work together with the Placement Convenor and the Placement Officer.

Faculty members on the Placement Cell

- Ms. Aparna Kulkarni : Department of Economics
- Dr. Vijaya Lobo : Department of Botany
- Ms. Rachana Pandey : Department of Information Technology
- Ms. Siddhi Bhatgara : Department of B. Voc
- Dr. Ashwin Pundalik, and Mr. John D'Souza. : Department of Geology

Placement Convenor:

- Ms. Soni George Tharakan : Head, Department of Management Studies

Placement Officer

- Mr. Dominic C. Fernandes

I would like to thank our Placement Officer **Mr. Dominic C. Fernandes**, who has worked tirelessly to coordinate with the companies and the students from start to finish with respect to the placement related activities. Our sincere and heartfelt gratitude to him.

Our Student Team has been of tremendous support and they have helped the cell in ensuring that the on campus process of recruiting is conducted in a smooth and systematic manner. I would like to thank each and every member of the student team without whose help, the whole process would not have been as organised and systematic as it has been during the placement season.

Students Team

- Annie George Tharakan (TY BA ECO-STATS)
- Simran Moraes (TY BA ECO-SOC), Tanya Shankar (TY BA POL Sc), Vishal Ghuge (TY BA ECO).
- Mohit Kumar (TY B.Sc. STATS)
- Nathan D'Souza (TY BMS), Arjun Paliwal (TY BMS), Divyam Deewan (TY BMS),
- Neeva Phatarphekar (TY BMM), Calvin D'Cunha (TY BMM)
- Anisha D'Souza (TY B.Sc. IT), Sumit Sonagra (TY B.Sc. IT), Nigel Pereira (TY B.Sc. IT)

The cell had also conducted a session on resume writing and case study solving techniques. In addition to this, the students also had a training session on the Importance of Goal Setting

Both these sessions were only for the students who had registered with the placement cell.

It is indeed worth a mention that our placements have been comparable with some of the best under graduate colleges in the country. The data on the progression of the students placed through the placement cell is also very positive, as most of them are in top managerial positions and have also completed their Post Graduate studies.

The unprecedented conditions due to the pandemic has posed new challenges for the cell and now the initial placement process for the new academic year 2020-2021 will have to be conducted online. I am positive that the entire team will take up the challenge and we will continue our efforts to raise the bar even higher in the future.

Ms. Soni George Tharakan
Convenor – Placement Cell

SPORTS

Our Senior College Students participated in various Team and Individual tournaments organized by University of Mumbai. The results were as follows:

ACHIEVEMENTS IN TEAM GAMES

Our College Teams Results are as follows:

Performance in Team Championships Academic Year 2019-2020		
SPORT	WOMEN	MEN
Football	Sixth	Pre Quarter Finalist (Knock Out Stage)
Basketball	2 nd Runners-up	Pre Quarter Finalist
Hockey	1 st Runners-up	D.N.P
Volleyball	Pre Quarter Finalist	Participated
Table Tennis	1 st Runners-up	Sixth
Chess	2 nd Runners-up	D.N.P
Badminton	Pre Quarter Finalist	Pre Quarter Finalist

ACHIEVEMENTS IN INDIVIDUAL GAMES



Our College Individual Results are as follows:

Performance in Individual Championships Academic Year 2019-2020	
<i>Mumbai University Inter Collegiate Representation</i>	
Table Tennis	Sumer Misbah (MA-I) Placed 6 th
Athletics	Rosalin Lewis (SYBA) 400 meters - (SILVER)
Shooting	Bewli Sukhman (SYBA) Peep Sight Air Rifle - (GOLD)

The following students participated at various Inter University / State / National level competitions:

<i>Inter University Representation</i>	<i>Open State / National Representation</i>
Athletics : Rosalin Lewis (SYBA).	Hockey (Women) : Kelley John (TYBA) (Khelo India)
Hockey : Kelley John (TYBA).	Table Tennis : (Women) Sumer Misbah (TYBA).
Air Rifle Shooting : Sukhman Bewli (SYBA).	Football : (Women) Florian Pereira (FYBA).
Football : Florian Pereira (FYBA).	Air Rifle Shooting : Sukhman Bewli (SYBA).

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE – WOMEN'S TABLE TENNIS TEAM	ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE – WOMEN'S CHESS TEAM
	
<p>1st Runners-Up Mumbai University Inter-College Table Tennis Tournament 2019-20120 L-R Agarwal Aakanksha, Mandrekar Toral, Sumar Misbah, Misquitta Maria.</p>	<p>2nd Runners-Up Mumbai University Inter-College Chess Tournament 2019-20120 L-R Sandhu Anahat, Doshi Hetvi, Nishar Drumi, Patel Reha.</p>

<p align="center">ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE – WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM</p>	<p align="center">ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE – WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM</p>
	
<p align="center">1st Runners-Up Mumbai University Inter-College Hockey Tournament 2019-20120 <i>Top row L-R</i> – Tiann D'souza, Shanaia Carvalho, Deborah Thomas, Florian Pereira, Malaika Dias, Tricia Fernandes, Shelilah Rosario. <i>Bottom row L-R</i> – Mehekla Uchil, Ancy George, Ashelle Pereira, Megan Almeida, Kelley John, Lynette Lobo, Kiara Alves.</p>	<p align="center">2nd Runners-Up Mumbai University Inter-College Basketball Tournament 2019-20120 <i>Top row L-R</i> – Gayatri, Tricia Fernandes, (Coach) Sayed Rasool, Merlyn, Bhumika Singh. <i>Bottom row L-R</i> –Rhiya Nanaiah, Mekhela Uchil, Mohini Jakhar, Simran Fernandes.</p>

OUR NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

		
<p align="center">Kelley John</p> <p>Represented Mumbai University at the West-Zone Inter-University Tournament held at Rajasthan in November 2019.</p> <p>Represented The Mumbai Hockey Association Ltd. at the 10th Hockey India Senior National Championship held at Kerala in January - February 2020.</p> <p>Represented Maharashtra at the U21 Khelo India Hockey Tournament held at Assam in January 2020.</p>	<p align="center">Sukhman Bewli</p> <p>Represented Mumbai University at the All India Inter-University Shooting Championship held at Delhi in November 2019.</p> <p>Participated in the 63rd National Shooting Championship held at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh in December 2019 and was selected for the ISSF trials for the Indian team held in Kerala.</p> <p>Participated in the Maharashtra State Shooting Championship held at Mumbai in October 2019.</p>	<p align="center">Florian Pereira</p> <p>Represented Mumbai University at the All India Inter-Zonal Inter-University Football Tournament held at Jalgaon, Madhya Pradesh in June 2019.</p> <p>Represented Mumbai District at the Inter District Football Championship of Maharashtra for Women (Open) held at Jalgaon, Maharashtra in December 2019.</p>

2019-2020 INTER CLASS TOURNAMENT WINNERS

SPORT	SENIOR GIRLS	SENIOR BOYS
Badminton	Mahika Mehta (MPP I)	Thomas Abhay (SYBSc)
Chess	Reha Patel (SYBA)	Saneet Tomar (SYBSc)
Table Tennis	Sumar Misbah (MA I)	Malu Kanak (FYBMS)
Rink Football		TYBSc
Volleyball		SYBSc
Basketball		FYBSc IT

Interclass Rink Football
Senior Boys - TYBSc Winners

Interclass Basketball
Senior Boys - FYBSc IT Winners

Interclass Volleyball SENIOR BOYS - SYBSc WINNERS

ANNUAL SPORTS DAY 2019-2020

Our Annual Sports Day was conducted on 5th and 6th of December 2019 at the Mumbai University Grounds.

Rolling Trophies were awarded to the following students *L-R*

Junior College Inter-Faculty Rolling Trophy: Science
Jason D'souza (SYJC Sc) and Quaine D'souza (FYJC Sc).

Junior College Boy's Individual Championship
Victor Swamy (SYJC Sc)

Junior College Girl's Individual Championship
Siya Dawoor (SYJC Sc)

Senior College Men's Individual Championship
Neele Ujerekar (FYBSc)

Senior College Women's Individual Championship
Florian Pereira (FYBA)

Senior College Inter-Faculty Rolling Trophy: Bachelors in Arts
Tian D'souza (TYBA) and Jay Rao (SYBA).

Final Result

Position	Name	Faculty	Distance
EVENT : SHOT PUT		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Diya Iravane	FYBA	6.54 M
II	Radhika Dikay	FYBA	6.15 M
III	Rita Kombinavaru	SY BCOM	4.82 M
EVENT : SHOT PUT		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Joel Alexander	SYBA	9.22 M
II	Alexsan Kujuri	FY BCOM	8.67 M
III	Dinabandhu Mandal	TYBCOM	8.58 M
EVENT : DISCUS THROW		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Florian Pereira	FYBA	14.26 M
II	Diya Iravane	FYBA	12.50 M
III	Madhunitha Bhoomi	BCOM	12.02 M

Position	Name	Faculty	Distance
EVENT : DISCUS THROW		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Alexsan Kujuri	FYBCOM	18.48 M
II	Prashant Subramanian	SY BSC	18.32 M
III	Tanay Hemant Naik	FY BSC	17.88 M
EVENT : JAVELIN THROW		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Florian Pereira	FYBA	13.53 M
II	Diya Iravane	FYBA	11.08 M
III	Mitali Hadle	FY BCOM	10.88 M
EVENT : JAVELIN THROW		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Tanay Naik	FY BSC	25.84 M
II	Hamza Ajmeri	SY BSC	21.45 M
III	Sachin P Chandan	SYBCOM	18.68 M
EVENT : LONG JUMP		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Florian Pereira	FYBA C	3.73 M
II	Phyllisa Joseph	TYBA	3.48 M
III	Melisa Andrades	FYBSC IT	3.45 M
EVENT : LONG JUMP		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Neele Ujerekar	FY BSC	6.13 M
II	Akash Kispotta	FY BCOM	5.84 M
III	Sachin P Chandan	SY BCOM	5.77 M
EVENT : HIGH JUMP		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Radhika Dikay	FYBA	-
II	Mekhela Uchil	TYBA	-
III	madhunitha Bhoomi	SYBCOM	-
EVENT : HIGH JUMP		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Sachin P Chandan	SYBCOM	-
II	Clyde Pereira	FYBMS	-
III	Joel Anchan	FYBCOM	-
EVENT : 100 M		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Tiann D'souza	TYBA	15.62 s
II	Florian Pereira	FYBA C	15.94 s
III	Diya Iravane	FYBA	16.30 s
EVENT : 100 M		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Neele Ujerekar	FY BSC	11.94 s
II	Jayesh Sutar	TYBVOC	12.26 s
III	Akash Kispotta	FY BCOM	12.52 s

Position	Name	Faculty	Distance
EVENT : 200 M		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Tiann D'souza	TYBA	32.85 s
II	Florian Pereira	FYBA C	33.40 s
III	Akshada Shrotri	TYBA	35.10 s
EVENT : 200 M		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Neele Ujrekar	FY BSC	24.24 s
II	Jayesh Sutar	TYBVOC	24.76 s
III	Akash Kispotta	FY BCOM	26.09 s
EVENT : 400 M		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Tiann D'souza	TYBA	80.02 s
II	Florian Pereira	FYBA C	80.35 s
III	Kelley John	TYBA	84.36 s
EVENT : 400 M		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Jay Rao	SYBA	61.08 s
II	Neele Ujrekar	FYBSC	63.48 s
III	Nigel Lobo	FYBCOM	63.99 s
EVENT : 800 M		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Florian Pereira	FYBA	3:08 s
II	Kelley John	TYBA	3:12 s
III	Tiann D'souza	TYBA	3:16 s
EVENT : 800 M		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Jayesh Sutar	TYBVOC	2:20 s
II	Jay Rao	SYBA	2:22 s
III	Neele Ujrekar	FYBSC	2:27 s
EVENT : 1500 M		GROUP : SENIOR GIRLS	
I	Florian Pereira	FYBA	-
II	Kelley John	TYBA	-
III	Mekhela Uchil	TYBA	-
EVENT : 1500 M		GROUP : SENIOR BOYS	
I	Jayesh Sutar	TYBVOC	-
II	Jay Rao	SYBA	-
III	Priyanshu Saqxena	TYBCOM	-

Dr. Thomas Pires,
Sports Director

WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT CELL

The Women's Development Cell (WDC), St. Xavier's College, works to promote women's empowerment and gender equality. To accomplish this goal the WDC conducts diverse activities on campus. We present to you glimpses of activities conducted by the WDC in the year gone by.

Gender sensitization was conducted for around nine hundred first-year degree students under the guidance of Prof. Linda Dhakul. The resource person was Ms. Prageeya Khanna, lawyer, mediator and gender advocate based in Mumbai. Her areas of expertise include gender sensitization, workplace harassment and discrimination, sexual harassment, domestic violence and gender advocacy. The interactive sessions organized during the "Giving Voice to Values", special course class, were appreciated by students.

A session on gender sensitization in Marathi was also conducted for all non-teaching staff of college - office staff and cleaning and security personnel. Alumna, Renuka Mukadam, with her long-term engagement and experience with the issues of sexual harassment at workplace in both public and private sector, was very effective in generating interest. With the help of short films

and a very engaging talk she managed to put across issues related to gender equality in a sensitive manner.

Malaika Joshi, Team Leader, Krav Maga Global assisted by a student, Rachel Vaz, Team Member, Krav Maga Global, conducted a self-defense workshop for girl students of the college on 13th February.

Dr. Sangeeta Shetty, WDC member, attended the Zonal Training Workshop for IC and WDC for Central Zone and Navi Mumbai Colleges, hosted by Gurukul College of Commerce, Ghatkopar. The sessions included "Role and Challenges of the UWDC at Mumbai University", "Sexual harassment at workplace, Women's movements and the law", Role of IC: Internal Committee, "Notable features of Posh Act, Redressal Mechanism and case studies".

The highlight of this year's activities was the Women's Day celebration, "Utsav...celebrating life". The program started with an introduction to the role of WDC on campus. Recorded messages from Fr. Keith D'Souza, Rector, St. Xavier's College and Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Principal, St. Xavier's College were then screened.

True to its tradition of foregrounding women's empowerment, the women-staff of the college met together for a time of bonding and fellowship. The teaching and non-teaching women-staff from the Xavier's Institute of Communication, Xavier's Institute of Management and Research and St. Xavier's College participated in this program. Concerted efforts were made to bring in every woman-staff-member of the college. It was a moment of sharing camaraderie and to know each other. Further it was a tacit way of extending support and empowering each other. Games were organized to enable involvement, participation and keep up the spirit of good cheer. Besides the entertaining games, the women-staff were excited to showcase their talents - some sang, some danced, some even performed the *Lavani*.

Members of the WDC for the year were Dr. Annapurna S, Ms. Sangeetha Chavan, Dr. Pushpa Sinkar, Dr. Sangeeta Shetty, Ms. Linda Dhakul, Ms. Akshara Jadhav and Fr. Savio Abreu.

Prof. Sangeetha Chavan
Convenor, WDC

XAVIER'S ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

In today's era, it has become absolutely vital that all stakeholders of an institution be ecologically responsible. There was a need for a central body that would work towards ensuring that the environmental impact of college activities be kept to a minimum. Thus, the Xavier's Environmental Committee (XEC) was set up in November 2019. XEC is a staff-student initiative that aims to make the campus more sustainable as well as to maintain a healthy and productive atmosphere for everyone.

To this end, the XEC's major task in its first year was to conduct an assessment of the college campus. It conducted

student-led Environmental Audits in the areas of Waste Management, Energy, Sanitation and Health, Water Management and Botany. The findings and analysis of the results were compiled in a comprehensive Audit Report that will serve as an important reference point for future improvements.

The XEC also organised events and campaigns to raise environmental awareness. A Panel Discussion on 'Careers in Environmental and Social Development' was arranged on December 11, 2019. The objective was to encourage students to follow less common career paths and be

inspired by the remarkable work done in environmental/social activism by the panellists - Dr. Agnelo Menezes, Dr. Binoj Kutty, Mr. Sunetro Ghosal, Dr. Manasi Kanuga and Mr. Rishi Agarwal.

In December 2019, the XEC organised a clean-up drive. A group of 10 student volunteers along with the XEC team did a thorough cleaning of the tables, desks and the floor of the foyer using industrial cleaners. Several staff members also pitched in.

Throughout the year, the Committee put up posters in most frequented places to inform the campus population

about waste segregation and sanitation etiquette. These were also displayed as digital signages. Once, during a bake sale, the XEC also hosted a ring toss game in the foyer based on the rules for waste segregation. Additionally, an E-waste bin was set up to further optimize waste management in college.

XEC conducted a series of meetings with the representatives of festivals and college student organisations,

to develop protocols for the future. While planning 'fests' a crucial element is often overlooked - sustainability. Thus, a detailed document was created, containing guidelines and recommendations regarding waste management and reduction, energy usage, sanitation and the division of responsibility. XEC also made Janfest 2020 a successful trial run for a 'Zero Waste' fest. Almost all the waste generated over the two days

was recyclable, made possible by an intensive segregation plan. This was the first time such an initiative has been taken up on campus.

The XEC hopes to expand its scale of activities and awareness from next year. It looks forward to including more persons in championing this cause for a greener and socially sensitive society.

Committee Members,
XEC

XRCVC

XRCVC believes that the quality of life of disabled persons can be bettered simply by providing them equal opportunities and effective access to rehabilitation measures. It was initially set up as a resource and advocacy center for persons with visual impairment. However, it has expanded its offering last year to include services to students with hearing / speech impairment, autism, learning disabilities, and those with orthopedic disabilities as well.

The XRCVC endeavors to transform lives for persons with disability both at the micro and macro levels. Along with providing direct and indirect support at the micro level, it works closely with government agencies, corporates, researchers and educational institutions at the macro level on advocacy and sensitization initiatives — particularly in the areas of education access, financial access, print access, and independent living.

The XRCVC disseminates information about its work to members and other stakeholders on an almost real-time basis through its website (www.xrcvc.org) and on social media through its Facebook page (XRCVC—Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged) and Twitter handle (@XRCVC).

In the academic year 2019-20, St Xavier's College (Autonomous) had 117 students with disability on its rolls (Junior College, Senior College and Masters combined).

The Enabling Committee of the college — a staff-cum-student representative committee that looks into all inclusion and accessibility needs on campus ensured that each of these students had an enriching curricular and extra-curricular experience. In addition to meeting requirements of students on campus, the XRCVC is also actively involved in promoting inclusion and access across the country through its range of training, advocacy and awareness programs.

Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC), took the COVID 19 challenge head on — by hunkering down and renewing efforts to foster inclusion, in good times and bad.

The XRCVC team changed its mode of functioning to work-from-home approach. This shift meant that our face-to-face interaction with our stakeholders was replaced by a virtual interaction. However, the center's training programs, content-creation and other activities continued with renewed vigor.

Among the first initiatives, a document titled 'Recreational Resources and Safety Guidelines for Persons with Blindness and Low Vision during the Lockdown' was compiled. This was circulated widely across the country and proved to be a key resource guide for visually impaired persons all over the country during this difficult time.

Membership base

In 2019-20, the XRCVC's membership base expanded to 693 persons. But the center does not restrict its offerings solely to its members and offers a range of direct support and training services to persons with disabilities, caregivers, educators, and institutions.

Direct support provided included scanning, demonstration of and training in the usage of assistive devices, career advice, basic computer training, software assistance, mobile phone usage training, smart cane usage training, Braille printing, follow-up with publishers for accessible copies of books, coordinating with educational institutions, banks and other financial bodies, etc.

Volunteer support

Despite all the technology and advancements, human assistance cannot be eliminated completely for persons with disability. The XRCVC provides volunteer services for:

- Reading
- Converting material into accessible formats for people with visual impairment - through typing, scanning, editing, recording
- Teaching - for any subject
- Examination taking - scribe facilities (this service is provided in collaboration with the Student Inclusion Cell of St Xavier's College)
- Any other requirement on a need basis

Depending on the member's needs and requirements, the XRCVC provides volunteers both for short- and long-term needs. Around 120 volunteers and 7 interns worked with the center during the year, sourced mainly from the Social Involvement Programme (SIP) and ECC programme of St Xavier's College (Autonomous).

Assistive technologies

The XRCVC houses an exhaustive list of assistive technologies (AT) that can be explored by visually challenged persons, employers, government bodies, and any other group. Anyone is welcome to drop in at the XRCVC, with prior appointment, to explore the full range of assistive technologies and their use.

The Centre procured a wide range of new technologies in 2019-20. Some of these include a special wheelchair (SEEDEE) with stair climb assist for people with orthopedic challenges, Kibo XS devices and Kibo credit packs, Tactograph, Evo E10 Daisy Text Players and Tactile view Graphic software. The E-waste generated every year is handed over to an organization that is committed to recycling and disposing end-of-life electronic products in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Focused work areas

During the year, the Centre's activities were channelized through three main focus areas:

- a. Education & Learning (KG to PG)
- b. Accessibility Solutions and Inclusive Services
- c. Awareness

Given below is a summary of the Centre's activities in 2019-20 under each head.

A. Education & Learning (KG to PG)

Pursuing the Right to Education as a fundamental right in India is actualized for persons with disabilities, XRCVC continued its work towards inclusive education practices and services at school, college and higher education levels.

- *Degrees of Accessibility*, the XRCVC's pioneering 360° User Perspective Report on Existing Accessible Geometry Construction Kits for students with blindness, was released in January 2020 by Mr. K M Sheth, the patriarch of Great Eastern Shipping, which had funded the research project.

The report is the culmination of two years of painstaking research. We hope that the report will be useful to anyone interested in working with or designing universally accessible geometry construction kits for all students, including students with blindness and low vision. And we hope that this report may inspire someone to create the next generation of accessible geometry construction kits for the community at large.

- The XRCVC provided all the resources and manpower to St Xavier's College that was required to ensure the smooth conduct of the Enabling Committee's activities during the year.
- Ongoing work continued with students who are part of the XRCVC's comprehensive educational offering. During the year, the Centre also regularly conducted training and sensitization sessions at Prime Academy (Andheri), Sacred Heart School (Kalyan) and other institutions.
- Book content creation and accessible study material creation continued through the year. Both staff and volunteers are engaged in this work.
- The Centre continued to collaborate with Inclusive Stem (I-Stem), comprising a group of young persons who are blind or visually impaired from India pursuing science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education and careers. The group organized its third hackathon in Bangalore in January 2020. The aim was to bust myths about blind programmers and

start the process of making the tech industry in India accessible. The hackathon brought blind and visually impaired developers, industry professionals and sighted computer science students together to work on exciting and challenging projects for 24 hours. Participants learnt technical skills from the hackathon and also developed a better understanding of each other's strengths and weaknesses.

- The Centre created accessible electronic textbooks, Teaching-Learning Aids (TLAs), and provided conceptual training to math and science students. It continued to build Teaching-Learning-Aids (TLA) resource library for mathematics and science education, starting Std 1 onwards.
- Production of Concept Teaching Manuals (CTMs) in the form of activities, real objects, 3D educational toys and models, 2D tactile diagrams, etc. continued. 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 use these manuals.
- Inclusion training sessions were conducted by the XRCVC during the year for numerous stakeholders.
- XRCVC continued to give critical inputs to the Bangalore-based company Tactopus, which creates tactile graphics, and also has an interactive audio companion through a smartphone app, that makes it possible for blind children to learn independently.
- XRCVC provided strategic support to the Andrew's Vision Centre, a resource Centre for visually impaired students at Wilson College, during the year.
- Inputs were given to Point of View on a Sex Education course for students with blindness.

- In September 2019, Dr. Sam Taraporevala was invited as a panelist for the Inclusion Huddle 2019 on the subject, 'Path for Inclusive education' jointly hosted by Youth4Jobs, CII and Mumbai University.
- In February 2020, the XRCVC made a presentation on Facilitating the Inclusion of Students with SLD in Higher Education at the Maharashtra Dyslexic Association's National Conclave.
- The Centre also coordinated with officials from Skill Shakti for possible collaborations for students with SLD and ASD.
- The XRCVC team had conversations with Curry College to understand their framework for inclusion
- The XRCVC coordinated with NAB and other organizations during the year to make SSC books accessible.
- In March 2020, the XRCVC conducted a session on Inclusion in Higher Education at a seminar organized by DISHA.
- The XRCVC played a catalytic role in the formation and launch of Inclusive University Alliance (IUA). This is a collective of institutes of higher education in India that have come together to promote inclusion within higher education. The collaborating institutions along with St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, are Ashoka University, Sonapat, IIT-Kanpur, IIT-Delhi, IIT-Madras, IIM-Bangalore, IIIT-Bangalore, Inclusive Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Foundation (I-STEM), Vision Empower, Bengaluru.

Personal and Career Guidance

Guidance was also provided to members and their families across disabilities to identify needs, interests and aptitudes as also troubleshoot and cope with concerns.

Scholarships

Recognizing the high costs for higher education and assistive technologies, the XRCVC provides scholarship and access technology lending schemes to deserving students. Laptops and talking calculators were handed over to four students under these schemes during the year. The Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship for the year was awarded to Babita Saroj for being the most deserving visually impaired student graduating from St Xavier's College, Mumbai during the year.

Training

The XRCVC imparts training in Computers, the use of specific assistive devices, Braille, Orientation & Mobility, Maths & Science, English language, and Life skills through training programs for disabled persons, special educators, teacher trainers, and other stakeholders. Training sessions and customized workshops are conducted by the XRCVC team; Calveena D'Sylva, Poonam Deokar, Rebecca Carvalho, Vikas Dabholkar, Neha Trivedi, Sushil Pandit, Keshavan Nadar, Krishna Warriar, Nevila Vaz, Aniket Gupta, and Elisha Lopez. These training sessions were held at XRCVC and XRCVC-Viviana Extension as well as at other locations across the country. During the lockdown in early 2020, many of the training sessions were held online.

Table 1: Training Services June 2019 – May 2020

Training Activity	No of Beneficiaries
Direct Training: Computer & Assistive Technology (AT)	497
Direct Training: Education Support (Including Mathematics & Maths for Competitive Exams, Science, Concept Enrichment, English, Braille, Orientation & Mobility, Activities of Daily Living, Life Skills, Remediation Support for Students With Learning Disabilities)	47
Direct Training: Guidance Support (including Phone Support and Maths Support)	176
Direct Training: Inclusion Cell	117
Indirect Stakeholder Training	452
Total	1289

B. Accessibility Solutions and Inclusion Services

Alongside Education Access, XRCVC's initiatives include three main areas, Print Access, Financial Access, and Independent Living.

Print Access

During the academic year 2019-20, the XRCVC produced 50 accessible books (totaling 7110 pages) in addition to 1023 Word pages of class notes. All accessible titles are uploaded onto a national accessible online library (sugamyapustakalaya.in).

Some of the activities conducted under the Print Access initiative:

- Accessible Book Production Standards training sessions for numerous stakeholders.
- The XRCVC hosted the two-day DFI board meeting in February 2020 at St Xavier's College.
- Dr. Taraporevala regularly participated in con-calls for various committees of the DFI, including the publisher committee, higher education committee, and periodicals committee.
- In February, Dr. Sam Taraporevala was a domain expert for development of Indian Standard for Accessibility requirements for ICT (Information & Communication Technology) Products and Services by CDAC.

Reading Without Seeing

'Reading Without Seeing' gained added momentum this year with 3 workshops reaching out to 110 persons (see Table 2). These workshops were conducted by the XRCVC team comprising Sushil Pandit, Keshavan Nadar, Laxmisagar Samai, Tushar Valand and Vikas Dabholkar.

Table 2: Reading Without Seeing (RWS) Workshops (June 2019 – May 2020)

No.	Date	Organisation Name / Venue	Participants
1	01-06-19	NAB India, Mumbai	30
2	25-01-20	Brahma Ashram, Ratnagiri	52
3	13-02-20	Rizvi College, Mumbai	28
Total			110

Testing and Research

XRCVC tested the following devices / software for accessibility: M Indicator at MI Mix 2, Redmi 6 Pro, Moto E 4g, Oakter, Google calendar, XIC website, E notice Board, Narrator with Windows 10, Realme 3, Google Maps with Talkback, CSMVS website, S3 frontier smartwatch, Sound amplifier for hearing impaired, Microsoft Edge, Kibo App, Mumbai Weather Live, Skymet Weather, M-Indicator, Mumbai police website, Libre 6.2, web NCERT, Balbharti, NROER, CBSE and App Epathshala, Diksha, FB reader android app, BEST Bus indicator App, Samsung A70, UTS App, VU TV, UPI App, Money Manager, MiTV, Redmi 8, Saktek website, Audacity, Ola App, Envision Smart Glass, EV0 E10 Daisy Player, Google Assistant, Envision, XL Cinema, Onida Fire TV, Moto G, Samsung M10, Supersense App, BEST Prawas App, Kindle for PC

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 has traditionally denied financial access to blind and low vision persons. The XRCVC has been striving to change this reality.

- Dr. Sam Taraporevala provided strategic inputs to Mr. Sisay Mammo and his team from Incudovate to discuss accessible ATMs for Ethiopia.
- XRCVC worked with a number of App makers to make their Financial Apps accessible.
- XRCVC collaborated closely with the State Bank of India's Centre of Excellence (CoE), providing inputs for its various projects and program and attending the advisory board meeting of the CoE. The Centre of Excellence for PwDs is one of the SBI Foundation's flagship program to make significant and measurable improvement that enables individuals to enjoy a

more productive and satisfying life by optimising their cognitive, physical, social and vocational functioning.

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? The XRCVC's Independent Living initiative questions and works towards rectifying shortcomings in these areas.

- XRCVC signed an MoU with the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, to make the museum experience accessible for visually impaired visitors.
- Ongoing work continue with Saksham, Enable India and Bookshare for the See A Million program, a unique time-bound outcome-based mission focusing on digital empowerment of one million persons with vision impairment by 2025.
- The Centre worked closely with the makers of the XL App to make movie-watching accessible for those with visual impairment.
- The XRCVC helped organize a cricket match for the blind at Viviana Mall in February 2020.
- The XRCVC team participated in an event organized at Café Arpan with Accenture on building accessibility.
- The Centre XRCVC held discussions with Radio Udaan to broadcast the activities of the Centre.

In November 2019, XRCVC participated in the LEARN workshop in collaboration with HomeNet South Asia. The objective was to localize a 'policy brief on urban livelihoods' in Maharashtra, developed by the national platform INCLUDE (www.include.org.in)

In January 2020, the XRCVC participated in a Consultation on VNR

2020 (Voluntary National Review) for the UN High-Level Political Forum organised by NCPEDP and Sightsavers India in Delhi.

- XRCVC team provided inputs to a student from Dhirubhai Ambani International School who is developing an accessible board game.
- The Centre also provided inputs to Cathay Pacific on braille printing.
- In January 2020, XRCVC showcased a short film on its work at the Great Eastern CSR partners meet.
- In February, Dr. Sam was invited as the Chief Guest at the 13th Convocation Ceremony of Tanya Computer Centre in Andheri.
- XRCVC continued ongoing research and development work on visual / auditory / tactile teaching-learning aids and other independent living aids. Worked on integrating diverse technologies which could create a composite system to read through fingers, see through eyes, or hear through ears. 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 function effectively.

C. Awareness

Creating awareness about the lives and capabilities of visually impaired persons and those with other disabilities is one of the key areas that will open doors for them in a world where the rules are made for and by persons without disabilities.

The XRCVC has been working on a number of such initiatives through its mega awareness and sensitization event Antarchakshu® — The Eye Within. Last year, Antarchakshu® had taken on a new avatar — Antarchakshu® 2.0. This year, the same continued as Antarchakshu® 2.0 Season 2

Antarchakshu® 2.0 combines the power of bespoke workshops in a marathon run reaching out to larger

numbers at the location of participants. Under this initiative 53 need-based sensitization and awareness workshops were conducted between September 2019 and February 2020, reaching out to 1706 diverse stakeholders such as college students, corporates, professionals and the public at large.

This approach ensured that the session reached the participant, reducing the need for participants to commute, thus making available flexible and customized workshops for target audiences, all leading to a basic premise of how every individual can contribute towards #CreatingAnAccessibleWorld.

A total of 90 awareness events (including Antarchakshu® workshops Awareness Exhibitions and the Diversity Discourse course) were conducted at a variety of places and for a variety of target groups, covering 3477 beneficiaries. This included a special awareness workshop conducted for Special Education Teacher Trainees at PH University Ludwigsburg (Germany) as well — the first time that Antarchakshu® was being conducted outside India.

Conclusion

We would like to extend our gratitude to our funders, partners, and sponsors who have played a major role in making us what we are today.

We would like to specially thank Great Eastern CSR Foundation, Dhun Pestonji Parakh Discretionary

Trust, State Bank of India and SBI Foundation, Godrej Industries Ltd, Tech Mahindra Foundation, Union Bank of India, SBI Mutual Fund, Hindustan Unilever Limited, Tata Sons Ltd, Bharat Petroleum, Sheth Developers & Realtors (India) Limited, Dow Chemical International Pvt Ltd, Tritan Tradex LLP, Lions Club of East Bombay, Inner Wheel Charity Trust Thane, Mr. Sharan Haresh Jagtiani, Ms Rashna Tehmuras Doongaji, Ms. Vabhiz Pestonjamasp, Ms. Persis Pestonjamasp, Mr. Mikhail Behl, Mr. Prashant Lindait, Dr. Kamlesh Desai, Ms. Kavitta Desai and Ms. Tanisha M Luthria.

A big thank you to our large pool of volunteers as well our deep appreciation goes out to St. Xavier's College — the management, staff members and students, Special thanks to our Rector, Fr. Dr. Keith D'Souza S.J. and Dr. Rajendra Shinde, the principal, whose ongoing support and guidance has helped the XRCVC continue as a centre of excellence of national repute.

We are also very grateful to Dr. (Fr.) Conrad Pessa S.J. Treasurer, St. Xavier's college and his accounting team.

Dr. Sam Taraporewala
Executive Director, XRCVC



The Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship for this year was awarded to Babita Saroj for being the most deserving visually impaired student

ZOOLOGY ASSOCIATION

The Xavier's Zoology Association (XZA) is an association under the Department of Zoology at St. Xavier's College Autonomous, Mumbai consisting of a group of enthusiastic students and aspiring zoologists, the association organizes various events and activities pertaining to the field of zoology for academicians and laymen alike. Over the past year, with the support and guidance of the Zoology Department professors,

the XZA has hosted a wide range of talks, quizzes, debates and exhibitions. We would especially like to thank Dr. Madhuri Hambarde for her support and management that strengthened our ability to host successful events. This report aims to chronologically outline the events of the academic year 2019-2020.

On the 3rd of July, 2019, the Xavier's Zoology Association began the new

academic year by hosting a talk on red fox ecology by Mr. Hussain Reshamwala, a PhD scholar from the Wildlife Institute of India. Mr. Reshamwala shed light on how red foxes have adapted themselves around human settlements and the conflicts that arise from this close interaction. We were given a glimpse into his research which presently involves trying to decipher patterns in red fox movements across the Ladakh

landscape. The talk ended with a question and answer session which allowed students to learn more about red fox behaviour and what life is like as a researcher.

'Lessons with the Leopard Man': Mr. Nikit Surve, an alumnus of St. Xavier's College was interviewed by Kabeer Nadkeerani, XZA Events Head on the 31st of July, 2019. A research consultant at the Wildlife Conservation Society, India, he has been studying leopards at the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai for the past few years. Right from attending the SCCS conference in Bangalore on wildlife conservation which inspired him to pursue research, up until completing his dissertation in human-wildlife conflict for his master's degree, the session covered the path he took to become a wildlife researcher. It was followed by an interactive session with the audience where he answered all the questions pertaining to research as a potential career field.

Walk of Life: The annual zoology exhibition, Walk of Life organized by the association was held on 31st of August, 2019. The theme for this year's exhibition was called 'The Chase' which focused on prey - predator dynamics observed in different habitats. It showcased our very own specimens from the Zoology Laboratory, ranging from invertebrates to mammals and depicted the predatory behavior and the survival strategies of the same. Our volunteers spoke about the various specimens and how they interact with one another. The event was attended by more than 300 students studying across various faculties in college as well as students from other colleges.

'Standing Tall: A Giraffe's Perspective': A talk was held on the 11th of September, 2019 by Mr. Tushar Kulkarni, an alumnus of Mumbai University. Mr. Kulkarni is associated with the Giraffe Conservation Foundation(GCF), Namibia where he aided in research projects focused on population estimation and monitoring

skin disease among giraffe populations. Beginning from evolution and classification, up until measures taken to save these endangered creatures, the audience gained insight about their feeding, mating patterns and behaviour as well as the threats the species faces. He induced a spark in the students to take up work in wildlife conservation. At the end of this talk, the audience was left with an appreciation of the ecological importance of the watchtowers of the savannah and a better understanding of the numerous threats to their survival.

'A Conversation about Conservation with Dr. Anish Andheria': On the 20th of November 2019, Head of Events Mr. Kabeer Nadkarni interviewed Dr. Anish Andheria. Dr. Andheria is the President of the Wildlife Conservation Trust, India, a non-profit organisation set up to preserve, protect and conserve India's forest and wildlife. Winner of the prestigious Carl Zeiss Conservation Award, Dr. Andheria spoke about his journey with wildlife photography and his work on predator- prey relationships. He tackled the intricacies of what it is like to work in the field of research and stressed on the importance of collaboration with communities and the government when implementing conservation measures. The interview concluded with a question and answer session where the audience had the opportunity to interact with him and raise questions.

'Olive Riddle-Me': On the 24th of January, the XZA hosted our annual quiz that invited teams from different colleges to participate and win prizes. At this gripping session, teams were asked to complete a variety of challenges such as identifying sounds of animals, animal parts from photos, fill in the blanks and general knowledge questions from the field of zoology. It was an incredibly interactive session that gave everybody a chance to learn and share knowledge as well as delve into the spirit of competition.

Throughout these events, our souvenir department, consisting of a team of almost 10 students, consistently provided a myriad of hand-made, zoology themed souvenirs such as paper quill magnets of animals, journals, bookmarks and badges along with heading the sale of our Imprint magazine to college students. Their huge success also led to a build-up of orders from teachers and students alike, that the souvenir team successfully completed.

The academic year ended with the publishing of our annual magazine, Imprint under the guidance of Dr. Sujata Deshpande, a professor of the Zoology Department. In its past four editions, the magazine has explored various themes representing our natural world such as bioluminescence, animal communication and migration in the animal kingdom. This year, the magazine sheds light on the intriguing phenomenon of climate change and its impact on our ecosystems. The Imprint team not only sources a range of articles from expert researchers from around the globe and students but also conducts an interview with a researcher. Furthermore, the magazine hosts a photography competition called, 'Shutterbug' that allows individuals from around the world to post their photos and get a chance to be featured in the magazine. In addition, much of the artwork is drawn up originally by Imprint team members.

This academic year has indeed, been a successful one for the Xavier's Zoology Association team, owing to the guidance of Dr. Madhuri Hambarde, the Head of the Association, Dr. Sujata Deshpande, the Editor-in-Chief of Imprint magazine and the association's teamwork and enthusiasm of the departments: Events, Logistics, Administration, Public Relations, Marketing, Souvenirs and Imprint. We look forward to the coming year with great excitement for what is in store.

Dr. Madhuri Hambarde
Associate Professor
Department of Zoology

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Bombay @ Zenith'20 sessions of the
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BVoc Tourism performs Flash Mob at CSMT



*Connel Coelho - Assistant Vice President,
Tresvista Financial Services, Alumnus (BMS)*



*Beyond Picture Perfect, panelists Saumya Ancheri,
Sona Banadur, Debashree Banerjee, Salil Deshpande,
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