

Daan utsav - an event by the SXUK hostelites

Ankita Chakrabarty (BA, Sem 4)

Kolkata: The hostel residents of St. Xavier's University, Kolkata hosted 'Daan Utsav'; a show of community gathering and social service on 19th April 2026. The objective of the event was "joy of giving week, spreading smiles".

The eventful day started with welcoming children in the Aruppe Hall of the University. The inauguration was led by Reverend Dr. Mourlin K, S.J, the hostel director of the University. The programme was graced with the presence of Reverend Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J, Vice Chancellor of the University, who offered his blessings for the event and expressed his contentment for the University's devotion to social empowerment.

The cultural segment of the programme commenced after the "Lighting of the Lamp" by Rever-

end Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J, Reverend Dr. Mourlin K, S.J, Sr. Kroline Fernando J.M.J., Sr. Thilaga Mary J.M.J., and all the Jesuit members. The session was a complete package of entertainment, showcasing

talent filled with joy and love. The performances ranged from energetic Bollywood dances to a delightful performance put up by the children. Another fun segment organized by the students allowed the children

to participate in a 'Musical Chair' game. This energy was later taken outdoors where the children engaged in a football game.

The children were showered with love and care as they were given a bag of essentials. The hostel residents came together and donated ₹180 each to arrange such wonderful presents and make this day a memorable experience for them. A lunch was arranged for them in the University mess followed by an afternoon excursion. At 1:45 pm, the children were escorted to Nicco Park which provided them access to the amusement park's facilities till 5:00 pm. They enjoyed the rides, marking the end of an eventful day in high spirits. Through Daan Utsav, the hostel residents successfully transformed a day of celebration into an occasion of empathy, joy, social outreach, and collective compassion.



SXUK celebrated Daan Utsav (Source: Deepika Kedia)

SXUK celebrates AICUF Day 2026



Inaugural speech by Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, Vice-Chancellor (Source : Kyilin William)

Rooprekha Ghosh (BA, Sem 4)

Kolkata: The two-day programme titled AICUF DAY 2026 organised by the All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF) at St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, was celebrated as a dynamic and engaging event on 18th and 19th April 2026 in the Amphitheatre of the Academic Building at SXUK. This year, the focus of the day was "From Gen Alpha to Zen Alpha: Ctrl + Alt + Shift in the Age of AI." This was an excellent opportunity for all faculty members, students and participants from different institutes who came to witness the spirit of innovation

at the event. The opening ceremony started with the welcome speech of the emcees, Anubhav Sarkar and Maithilee Paul, which was followed by the lighting of the lamp and a prayer by Rev. Fr. Jesu Benjamine, S.J. The felicitation of the dignitaries was performed by Rev. Fr. Dr. Maria Joseph Israel, S.J. A reel showing the efforts of the SXUK AICUF Unit since last year was projected to mark the start of the two-day celebration. The first day of the workshop was "Understanding Digital Behaviour and Attention" where the combination of introspection and interactive activities helped participants explore digital

behavior. After the opening session by Rooprekha Ghosh about logistics of the workshop, participants were engaged in exciting ice-breaking activities and exercises by Fr. Nithin Monteiro, S.J. The sessions made participants reflect on their leadership experiences and engage in stimulating dialogues about people who inspired social change. The most memorable session of the day was undoubtedly the session about "Algorithms, AI and the Attention Economy" facilitated by Fr. Maria Joseph Israel where the group dealt with case studies, developing critical and team-building skills. This day ended with a truly unique session, where the groups created proposals of social change initiatives in various areas like social justice and education. Some of them were considered particularly promising and received seed funding which was certainly inspiring. Finally, the closing ceremony was held by Lorraine M. Regi and a fascinating cultural program and dinner followed. The second day took a turn towards "Advanced AI Skills & Innovation for Self/Social Good," providing the participants an opportunity to go beyond learning theoretical skills to applying them. In addition to Lorraine M. Regi and Arya Ghosh taking charge of kick-starting the proceedings, the

day witnessed an interesting session on prompt engineering called "The Art of Asking AI," along with the enlightening topic of Servant Leadership by Fr. Maria Joseph Israel, stressing the importance of collective efforts and community impact. The participants presented their socially evolved projects and were benefited by the comments provided by the panelists. To end on a great note, there was a session of valediction by the Vice Chancellor & Registrar, followed by a well-deserved prize distribution ceremony for the best projects. The program came to an end after a vote of thanks from Fr. Maria Joseph Israel, after which we had the delightful experience of enjoying a farewell lunch. AICUF Day 2026 was an eventful experience for all the participants, making them feel more inspired, connected, and equipped with knowledge about creating social impact through AI technology. The programme successfully highlighted the growing relevance of ethical leadership and technological awareness among today's youth in an increasingly AI-driven world. It also encouraged participants to think critically about the role of innovation in building a more socially responsible, inclusive, collaborative, and future-oriented society.

UNIVERSITY EVENT & FEATURE

Folklore to Fashion: Xavkala 2026 turns Kahini into a campus festival

Srija Muherjee (BA, Sem 4)

Kolkata: Narratives breathed fire and life at St. Xavier's University as the cultural society XUCAS hosted Xavkala 2026. The intra-college fest, with the theme "Kahini: The Tales of Bengal," turned the campus into a hub for rapidly evolving innovation with a dash of tradition. Around 180 students participated in this event to celebrate Bengal's cultural treasury in the myriad forms of art. Prominent among these was actor Riddhi Sen, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Speaking at the meeting Sen referred to the enduring power of storytelling in shaping cultural identity. He called on the students to re-read Bengal's stories and reimagine new ways of telling it to the audiences of today. His message gave life to the

subsequent performances and electrified everyone. The fest had a unique combination with different acts representing the major theme in their own way. A visually spectacular event was "Raj Rekha," a clothing walk around the theme." Participants dramatized stories from Bengali folklore, history, and literature with costumes, styling, and presentations. Runway shows became storylines where each strut represented more than just looks. The dancing of "Moshpit er Mudra" captured the stage perfectly. The dance teams showed compelling pieces fusing traditional dance with contemporary choreography styles. Through their dance, the dancers are turning stories into lively performances and can capture the audience. Music was an essential part of the fest ambiance. "Raga Rooh" presented different soloists playing a

range of contemporary and classical pieces. Influenced by Bengal's legacy music deep feeling which was adopted new ideas and yet retained the essence of Bengal's traditional music in every stage performance. "Ekla Cholo Re" a "two minutes to fame" slot that allowed people to display their skills, was another interesting feature. The participants demonstrated creativity, but still embedded the wider premise of storytelling into everything from singing and poetry performances to experimental performance art. "Xavkala Street" transformed the whole campus into an open gallery rather than just being confined to the stage. The Process Viewers could see artists at work, out of their creations in real time. "The audience was really stimulated by it, because so many aspects of Bengali culture were available to explore."

A closing ceremony celebrating participation and success capped off the tournament. The achievements of competitors, both organisers and volunteers, as well as the winners, were acknowledged. The ceremony, in the spirit of the fest's ethos of collaboration, proved a charming way to bring the day to a close. Xavkala 2026 was, at the end of the day, a well-balanced celebration of tradition and contemporary expression. It was festive, it was fun, and it demonstrated the importance of safeguarding Bengal's tradition of storytellers even as it reimaged those cultural narratives through an array of artistic forms. Beyond competitions and performances, Xavkala 2026 became a vibrant reminder of how Bengal's stories continue to inspire younger generations through art, music, and creative expression.



Riddhi Sen (Source: Xposure)



Raj Rekha - Theme walk (Source: Xposure)

A beacon of contrast: Shashant Shah's 'Chiraiya' challenges domestic norms



Chiraiya webseries poster (Source: Google Images)

Swastika Dasgupta (BA, Sem 4)

The premiere of Chiraiya on JioHotstar has emerged as a significant cultural catalyst in 2026, forcing a rigorous national conversation on the often-ignored reality of marital rape across the country. Directed by Shashant Shah and written by Divy Nidhi Sharma, the six-episode drama serves as a clinical dissection of the "myth of implied consent" within the traditional Indian household. The narrative centres on a seemingly perfect Lucknow family whose stability is shattered when a new bride, Pooja (Prasanna Bisht), reveals she is being sexually abused by her husband, Arun (Siddharth Shaw). The emotional core of the series is Kamlesh (Divya Dutta), the eldest daughter-in-law, who undergoes a transformative "unlearning" of her own generational

conditioning to stand in solidarity with Pooja. Shah's directorial vision intentionally avoids statistics until the final frame, revealing that 5.6% of married women report forced sex, to focus instead on the visceral, lived experience of the victims. The series has faced a polarised reception, with critics praising the "restrained and deeply affecting" performances of the lead cast, including Sanjay Mishra as the performative patriarch. However, it has also sparked intense social media debate, with some segments labelling it "anti-male propaganda". Shah defends the work as a 'litmus test' for modern India, highlighting the legal vacuum where marital rape remains unrecognised by law. Ultimately, this film demonstrates the power of digital media to spark overdue conversations on autonomy and human dignity.

FEATURE

First taste of free and fair: West Bengal's phase one voting sets the tone for the Bidhan Sabha election

Sharmistha Yadav (BA, Sem 4)

The first phase of voting in West Bengal has finally unfolded, and for many, it carried a different kind of weight this time. From the early morning queues outside polling booths to the steady flow of voters throughout the day, there was a visible sense of participation that felt both routine and quietly significant. While elections in the state are nothing new, the conversations around this phase have largely revolved around one idea, whether this could truly be called a "free and fair" exercise. Young people, who were voting for the first time were curious and determined. For them this was not another election. It was a chance to vote without being scared or pressured. This is something that people often talk about in West Bengal. What really stood out was that ordinary people were thinking differently. Near the voting booths people were talking more about the voting process than about which party they supported. People were starting to realize that it is not about who wins the election but also about how the election is held. This change in thinking even if it is small shows that voters are becoming more

mature. Compared to past elections this phase was relatively calm. Whether this will continue in the phases we will have to wait and see. Elections in West Bengal are always hard to predict. One phase does not determine the election. For now, the first phase has given people a sense of hope. If the next phases are also fair and safe it could be a step forward for elections in West Bengal. This election is not about politics it is also about trust between the system and the people. There were not many big problems and even though some people had small complaints these complaints did not take over everything. In the end the thing that really matters is not just who gets to be the winner. Whether the people who voted actually felt like they got to make their own choice. For a lot of people, in this first part the election finally felt like their own decision. One significant development during the first phase was the special focus on vulnerable and remote polling areas. Election authorities identified booths that had a history of tension and ensured additional security and monitoring there. In some locations, polling timings were closely supervised, and move-

ment around booths was restricted to avoid any kind of intimidation. This targeted approach helped create a more controlled environment, especially in regions that have previously seen disturbances. Another important aspect was the inclusion measures taken for elderly and differently-abled voters. Facilities like ramps, wheelchairs, and priority queues were made available in many polling stations. Volunteers and officials were seen assisting voters who needed support, making

the process more accessible. These steps, although basic, contributed to making the election feel more inclusive and respectful towards every voter's participation. The arrangements made during the first phase also reflected a stronger emphasis on maintaining order, accountability, and voter confidence throughout the electoral process. For many citizens, these measures represented a positive step towards strengthening democratic participation in the state.

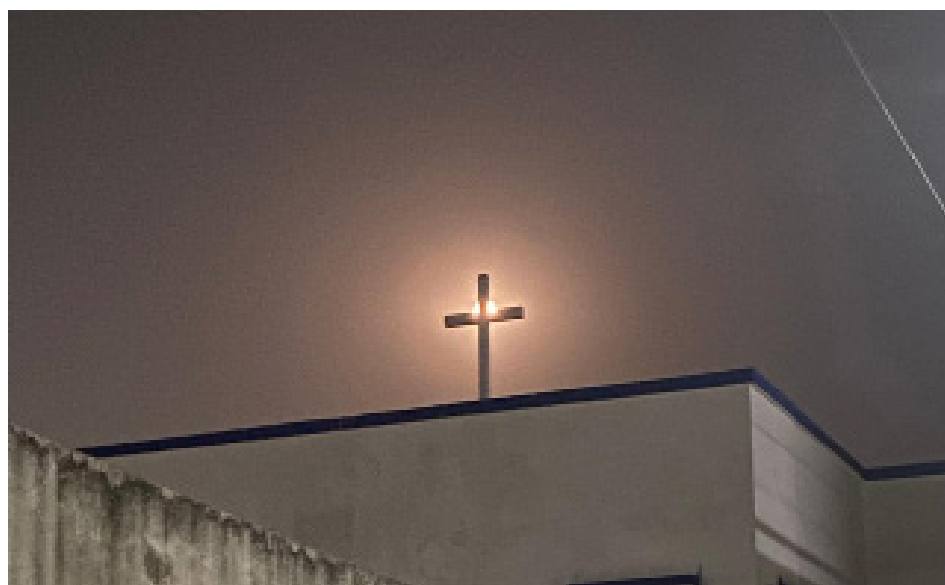


Election Commission Office of West Bengal (Source: Google Images)

Bible quotes that have become relevant in the present

Shalini Podder (BA, Sem 4)

Kolkata: Change has become inevitable in the contemporary world. But, there are certain aspects of life which still retain their significance. The Bible is one such example. It is an age-old scripture that still holds great value. It has much to offer to individuals in general and students in particular. For instance, the Bible teaches us about how important it is to love others. "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31) suggests that it is necessary to be empathic towards others. College is a place where students from different backgrounds meet. They learn to appreciate the importance of living in harmony with each other. Students may come across situations which seem very difficult to handle at first. However, in times like those, one feels strengthened by the saying, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). With this thought in mind, students develop hope to overcome



Faith shining through the darkest night. (Source : Ankita Chakrabarty)

any challenge that comes their way. Humility and self-awareness are also emphasized in the Bible. "Pride comes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18) is a subtle reminder about the dangers of arrogance and complacency. At the same time, for college students working hard to develop academically,

the quote suggests remaining humble and focused on their growth. Another important component of emotional health is forgiveness, expressed through "Forgive, and you will be forgiven" (Luke 6:37). College life tends to bring up conflicts between people, but such a teaching helps to overcome negative experiences and

nurture better interpersonal relations. The concepts of hope and meaning are very relevant within biblical teachings. "For I know the plans I have for you... plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11) provides hope to students as it emphasizes that their hardships and endeavors are all a part of something bigger. To conclude, Bible verses are not merely expressions of spirituality but are also life lessons that remain relevant for all time. They offer advice on how to develop ourselves into better individuals, how to handle difficult situations, and how to forge relationships with others. As we progress through school, we should remember to be gentle, strong, and optimistic about the future.

"Do everything in love."

— 1 CORINTHIANS 16:14

Bible Quote (Source: Google)

FEATURE

Kolkata Comic Con draws record 30,000 fans attendance

Anweshan Ghosh (BA, Sem 4)

Kolkata, the cultural capital of India hosted its second Comic Con edition on April 11 and 12 at New Town's Biswa Bangla Exhibition centre. Just like the previous edition, the city's people showcased their cosplay creativity with fans, cosplay artists and even little children brought their favourite fictional characters to life. One of the notable cosplays which mesmerized everyone was by A Nath who portrayed Orihime from Bleach while Shreyartha Nandy stole the show with his stellar Denji cosplay from the Chainsaw Man. Cosplayer Puia R. Siakeng travelled all the way from Mizoram to contribute to this festival of fiction lovers as he donned the Green Ranger from Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. For the early 90s and early 2000s kids, Power Rangers is something nostalgic and it delighted everyone present there. Souvik Mitra pulled off a stellar cosplay of Noob Saibot from the Mortal Kombat series. The peak detailing in his costume and on point pose made the fans of the franchise fall in love with the display. Apart from the grown ups, a little girl won hearts as she portrayed Kiki from Kiki's Delivery Service and it was by

far the cutest moment at the Comic Con. Kolkata is known for its deep rooted love for art, literature, theatre and cinema. However, the City of Joy has openly embraced the fictional world of comics, anime, gaming and cosplay turning Comic Con into a huge hub to showcase creativity and a meet up spot for this community to embrace each other. The Kolkata Comic Con is a part of the larger Comic Con circuit which is hosted globally and originally started in the United States of America. From there it has spread to the cities of India like Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore and have seen huge success.

Be it die hard Marvel fans, DC fans, anime fans and even gaming fans it's a platform to endorse their favourite characters which are icons globally at a platform. Beyond just cosplay, it encourages a culture to promote Indian writers developing their own stories and comics and Kolkata being the epicenter serves right as it has always been the literary hub of India. Merchandise stalls also gain a massive platform to profit from their businesses while the attendees can try to get their favourite fictional merch which is not usually available everywhere.

The standout highlight of this year's

Comic Con was its record breaking turnout, with over 30,000 geeks crowding the venue making it the most successful edition till date. This just highlights the growing popularity of this pop culture where it's mainstream and no longer something niche. It is

expected that the Kolkata Comic Con will take place again next year as the city's success has made it one of the top destinations to host the event in India. It's more than just an event, it's Kolkata's new cultural identity and highlights the city's cultural evolution.



Comic Con Kolkata: Where fandom meets culture (Source: Instagram)

From cancellation to comeback: the resilience of Samay Raina

Koushiki Kundu (BA, Sem 4)

Samay Raina is an Indian stand-up comedian who has made a name for himself as one of the most discussed digital performers in recent times. However, there is much more to this stand-up comedian beyond his witty sense of humour and viral videos. Besides showcasing his razor-sharp, and sometimes even offensive, humour, the story of this digital performer is a personal one that depicts the struggles of an artist when his creation faces public criticism. As a performer who was known for mixing

the aggressive nature of roasting with the conventional talent show format, Raina's immensely popular YouTube series "India's Got Latent" became the subject of controversy across the country.

This incident first came into being during the year 2025 as part of yet another energetic session on a podcast. What started out as another entertaining podcast became a matter of concern following an extremely offensive statement made by the podcast's anchor named Ranveer Allahbadia. The podcast session in question also had other important names, such

as Apoorva Mukhija and Ashish Chanchlani. The controversy sparked on social media platforms soon made its way towards becoming a matter of legal concern, with many FIRs being filed in relation to this particular show. This was further exacerbated by the intervention of high political figures in the country, namely Devendra Fadnavis and Himanta Biswa Sarma, who called for stronger censorship laws.

The backlash that followed was quite serious, especially on a personal level. With episodes being removed from the internet and legal charges being filed against them, they felt that they could not cope with the immense pressure. It was not just another news item that people talked about; it was a moment where their lives were under threat. For people like Mukhija, the backlash included intimidating messages online. For Allahbadia, it meant dealing with the law and the court system. He addressed the abrupt termination of contracts with brands, the spectre of economic insecurity, and the anxiety surrounding bankruptcy. He admitted to being utterly devastated throughout his hiatus, adding further insight into the situation by acknowledging that the provocative question was asked multiple times during the shooting of the video. What made the comeback

of Raina unique, however, was the strength with which he came back after experiencing such a controversy. Rather than letting the drama stop him from continuing his career, Raina has used it as a springboard for recovery. Writing and singing Still Alive was, in fact, both cathartic and defiant, and proved that despite the threat of cancellation, art and creativity could still thrive. The comeback has especially touched younger artists who live their lives under constant threat of public scrutiny, and has reaffirmed the concept that personal failure can become a comeback victory with perseverance. In today's day and age, not only is Samay Raina a comedian, but he has also come to represent tenacity in the constantly changing environment of the modern internet era. Raina's career can be seen as the reflection of the ever-changing scope of freedom of expression and personal accountability in India's digital landscape. However, regardless of the legal troubles, harassment, and the backlash he received in response to his show, he has formally announced that he will bring back India's Got Latent in its second season. The controversy also reignited a nationwide debate about the boundaries of comedy, artistic freedom, and the responsibility of creators in the digital age.



Samay Raina in his latest youtube video (Source: Youtube)

WITHIN CAMPUS

Taking care of your mind and heart

Student wellness at St. Xavier's University, Kolkata



St. Xaviers University Kolkata Campus (Source: Google Image)

Angelina Anusha Gomes
(BA, Sem 4)

University is a wild ride-new friends, late-night conversations, massive aspirations, and “aha!” moments in class. Yet, let's be honest, it can also involve stress, exhaustion, and days when you feel like it's all a little much. At St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, we recognize that your well-being is just as vital as your academic achievements. This newsletter is your reminder that it's perfectly fine to hit pause, breathe, and prioritize self-care. You Are Not Alone – Reach Out for Support. If you're feeling overwhelmed, be it by academic pressure, family matters, relationship struggles, or just a general sense of gloom, know that you don't have to shoulder it all alone. The Counselling

Centre is a safe, confidential space where trained counsellors are available to listen and guide you towards finding your path. You'll find them in Room No. 309 on the 3rd floor of the Loyola Tirtha (Administrative Block). The sooner you seek support, the easier it will be to navigate your challenges. Throughout the year, the Department of Psychology also hosts beneficial workshops and talks that help foster stronger minds and more effective coping skills among students.

Ways to Cope with Stress-

Campus can be a daunting experience but simple, every-day rituals may aid your wellbeing. For example: Breathe deeply and slowly during breaks between studies. Maintain a steady routine with sleep and food. Have a short walk around campus or play your favourite

songs. Journal your experiences. See friends who make you laugh.

Achieving a Healthy Balance-

The key to excelling academically without experiencing burnout is finding balance. Develop a realistic daily schedule that incorporates sufficient time for rest and relaxation. Don't feel guilty about taking breaks or socializing with friends. Recognize when you're feeling tired and step away from your tasks instead of pushing yourself. Remember that seeking help is a sign of strength, not a weakness. Looking Towards Your Future The Placement Cell wants to fulfil your ambitions. They provide workshops such as Resume Writing, Group Discussions, Interview Techniques and other programs like Career development. They arrange company

visits for placement drives regularly. We believe that in this critical present you should concentrate in building you, so you are self-confident in your career, so you may always be welcomed to the Placement Cell. A Supportive Community. At St. Xavier's, we are genuinely invested in the well-being of every student. If you are facing difficulties, please don't hesitate to speak up. Reach out to a counselor, a trusted faculty member, or a senior student; a simple conversation can make a world of difference. For further assistance, visit the Counselling Centre or explore the university website: www.sxuk.edu.in.

Nihil Ultra – Nothing Beyond. Let us continue to learn, grow, and support one another-in our studies, our health, and our acts of kindness.

Debating society successfully hosts XAVORATE 2026

Anumita Chatterjee (BA, Sem 4)

Kolkata: XUDS (Debating society) of St. Xavier's University organised an event, i.e., XAVORATE 2026, on 24th & 25 of April 2026. The event allowed cross-college participation, making it a huge success with 14 teams from various colleges taking part in it, including colleges like Loreto College, Sister Nivedita University, St Xavier's College, Jogesh Chandra Chaudhuri Law College, Heritage Law College, KIIT University, and University of Calcutta. This event was organised by

the motivation of Rev. Father Dr John Felix Raj, under the supervision of Dr Indira Chakraborty Bhattacharya. This event was organised to have an inter-college Oxford-style debate. The motion/s chosen for the finale of debate were - The use state-backed IT cells to shape political narratives on digital platforms undermines the democratic discourse, for the semi-final and The Development of alternative currencies to the US (United States) dollar in global markets for the finals; for which Hifza Shahnawaz and Gauri Vedula from

loreto were awarded as the best team, and Pragya Lamha from SNU and Shubham Gulati from Heritage Law College were awarded as the runner up team, where as Hifza Shahnawaz (Loret) was also awarded as the best speaker in for the motion, and Saswata Chowdhury (SXUK) wss awared as the best speaker against the motion. The motions where nicely planned according to the potential liability under the Information Technology Act 2000, the Indian Penal Code, 1860, and other related statutes, and that the context of India's polarised national politics,

particularly in the state of West Bengal, any attempt to restrict such political narratives on social media risks either failing to curb digital misinformation or becoming an unjustified restriction on the freedom of speech guaranteed under Article 19(1)A read with Article 19(2) and pursued beautifully by the student committee members Purbali Sengupta as Secretary, Kashaff Salim as Assistant Secretary, Sayeed Batla as the Treasurer, Anitej Mukhopadhyay and Mehuli as Core members of the committee.

Entertainment

Coachella 2026: landmark celebration of global pop and cultural evolution

Procheta Bhattacharjee
(BA, Sem 4)

The 2026 edition of the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival unfolded as a vibrant celebration of music, culture, and spectacle, etching a significant milestone as the festival completed 25 years. Staged in the California desert, this year's event reflected not just the massive scale Coachella is known for, but also a noticeable shift in the mainstream global music landscape. It brought together traditional pop dominance, cross-cultural collaborations, and moments that quickly captured worldwide attention.

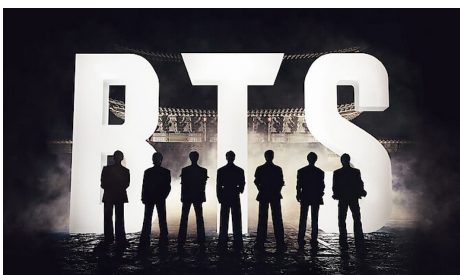
Headlining the festival were Justin Bieber, Sabrina Carpenter, and Karol G, each representing a different facet of trending pop culture. Their presence spiralled a deliberate move towards a more commercially influential and globally appealing lineup. Bieber's anticipated return to the Coachella stage

was hailed as one of the most anticipated moments. This performance was emotional and nostalgic at the same time, reconnecting with Bieber's fan base and showing the audience the significant impact Bieber has in pop music. Sabrina Carpenter delivered a visually rich and theatrically engaging set that resonated strongly with younger audiences. The overall presentation of the event was characterised by a high level of creativity in performance narration as well as enhanced production quality, making it one of the best performances during the festival. Karol G's appearance carried historic significance as she brought Latin music to the forefront as a headliner. Her set was energetic and celebratory, highlighting the growing global impact of reggaeton and Latin pop in the global music scenario. Coachella this year showcased artist diversity and provided some unexpected surprises! Diversity was evident in the range of artists performing (from EDM to indie music), and every

type of attendee got an unexpected surprise from their experience. A number of surprise guests and unexpected collaborations were present, and many went viral across various social media platforms throughout the festival. Collectively, they created a remarkable environment at Coachella, and those who attended had a memorable experience regardless of the manner in which they engaged with the event (whether they were there in person or virtually). Coachella attracted millions of international visitors due to its strong digital presence. Through live streaming, audiences in the U.S. and around the world engaged with the experience in real-time by participating in both local and global/cultural events. Social media platforms also contributed to the overall presence of Coachella by allowing individuals to share their experiences with one another and to promote the event as a trend-setting venue in the music industry. The overall size and scope of the festival are indicative

of modern-day events being serious. The large number of attendees puts an increased amount of pressure on those artists who are performing, and whether or not that artist is capable of delivering powerful performances to a multitude of fans. The energy and overall intensity of the environment were transmitted to all in attendance, not only through music but also through creative expression (either through their art form). Coachella 2026 ultimately stood as more than just a festival. It reflected the direction in which global music is heading, where genres blend, cultures intersect, and audiences seek both familiarity and innovation. By presenting a balance between high-profile stars and rising artists, it was able to capture the essence of a generation that appreciates connectivity, experimentation and evolution in equal measures. The festival also reinforced Coachella's reputation as a cultural phenomenon that extends far beyond music and entertainment.

A wild return



BTS comeback cover (Source: Google)

Umika Neogy (BA, Sem 4)

After completing their mandatory military service, the global K-pop sensation made a powerful comeback at Gwanghwamun Square in Seoul, putting an end to fans' long-term anticipatory waiting and patience, through their electrifying performance on Netflix's global live broadcasts. Their latest released album, ARIRANG, marked a significant, powerful comeback, showcasing their growth, resilience, and maturity. This return amplifies a stronger, more evolved version of BTS 2.0, proving that their break was not only necessary but truly worthwhile. The event became a memorable and cherished moment with a huge audience worldwide. The close attachment between the group and the fans felt in the atmosphere was emotional, intense and nostalgic. The energy, cheers and the excitement of the fans indicate the volume of the impact of their performance. Social media was filled with reactions, trends, and messages of unwavering support from fans around the world. Their historic comeback sparks a new chapter in their career, evoking the nature of gravity of the magnetic charisma they hold as they dominate at the top of the global music industry.

Cinemuse 2026: spotlighting emerging regional stories in student-led cinema

Shaunak Chakraborty
(BA, Sem 4)

On April 17 and 18 CineMuse 2026 happened at St. Xavier's University. This was not like any event. It was made possible by people who love film. The festival was also called XUFS, which is often referred to as Xinephile. Students came together inside the university to create a space where movies were more important than tradition. Even though it was small the event had an impact that lasted after it was over. Across the "Regional Tapestry" section movies showed customs, ways of speaking and clothes. All of these things were shown together in one place. The event did not have special effects but it focused on showing different kinds of people and their stories. It showed accents, ideas and perspectives from around the country.

Day 1:

A seminar took place in the Fr. Albert Huart Hall. It started with a purpose. To bring together ideas from school and real-life movie making. There were pictures taken of the event. They showed three people on stage. Atanu Ghosh was one of them. He is a known movie director who won a National Award. Premendra Mazumdar was also there. He is the Vice President of the Federation of Film Societies of India. He helped guide the conversation. Mita Chakraborty was also a guest. She works with Roopkala Kendro. She was welcomed to the event.

Day 2:

The open areas of the university were used in ways. Even though they were made for routines people used them to try new things. As things got more challenging people showed what they could do. When competition came in everything changed. What people liked most was Choloচিত্রা. It was a show of movies where the creators showed their new work. In Kontho Canvas, sound was more important than pictures. It was a competition where people told stories using their voices. Without pictures to help people understand the listeners paid attention to the sound and the way the stories were told. Cinema Ka Muqabla was about looking closely at movies. Of just watching people treated movies like books.

They asked questions. Tried to understand the stories better. This process was about thinking deeply about movies not just watching them.

Screenings Through Eyes

The event changed when it became "Now Showing." The organizers worked with FFSI to show chosen short movies. Inside the university movies were made under the name Nazariyan Productions. The first movies shown were "Dhrubotara" and "Daakghor." Each showing was a place where learning and creating met. After thinking about it CineMuse 2026 showed that it was not about looking at pictures. Each picture was like a line, in a book waiting to be read. Understanding came later. It was built through patience not just given freely.



Atanu Ghosh, Premendra Mazumdar & Mita Chakraborty (from left) sharing their experience with the students (Source: Xinephile)

PHOTO GALLERY



Sagarnil Ganguly (BA, Sem 4)



Koushiki Kundu (BA, Sem 4)



Anweshan Ghosh (BA, Sem 4)



Rudraksha Laha (BA, Sem 4)



Sagarnil Ganguly (BA, Sem 4)



Aryan Thomas (BA, Sem 4)

PHOTO GALLERY



Sharmistha Yadav (BA, Sem 4)



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