

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata

A Jesuit University: A fire that kindles other fires

THE XAVERIAN TIMES

Newsletter of St. Xavier's University, Vol. 2, No. 1 (January - June), 2026



7th Convocation Ceremony of SXUK

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, held its Seventh Convocation Ceremony at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, New Town, on 21st February 2026. Degrees were awarded to 1,052 undergraduate and postgraduate students, while 25 scholars received doctoral degrees. Rev. Dr. Arturo Sosa, S.J., Superior General of the Society of Jesus, attended as Chief Guest. The University conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) upon Dr. Shashi Tharoor. During the ceremony, Vice-Chancellor Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., announced the introduction of the B.Tech programme from the 2026 academic session and outlined several forthcoming academic initiatives.



Republic Day Celebration

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, observed the 77th Republic Day on 26 January 2026 with a flag-hoisting ceremony led by Rev. Dr. Xavier Jeyaraj, S.J., Registrar of the University. Faculty members, officers, support staff, students, Jesuit Fathers, and Sisters participated in the programme, which also featured the University's NCC Unit. In his address, Fr. Jeyaraj reflected on India's economic progress while emphasising the continued importance of constitutional values, social justice, equality, and inclusive development. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr Mario Martin Louis, Campus Minister and Communication and Protocol Officer.



A Decade of Growth & Excellence: SXUK's 10th Foundation Day

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, celebrated its Tenth Foundation Day on 8 and 9 February 2026, marking a decade of academic growth and institutional development. The programme brought together students, faculty members, administrators, alumni, and invited guests. Addressing the gathering, chief guest Roopen Roy reflected on the importance of stronger collaboration between higher education and industry. The occasion also reaffirmed the University's commitment to academic excellence, social responsibility, and the values of Jesuit education.



NCC Unit at SXUK: Where Duty Meets Discipline

St. Xavier's University inaugurated its National Cadet Corps (NCC) Unit on 20 January 2026. The programme introduced students to the objectives and activities of the NCC, including leadership training, community service, adventure programmes, and career opportunities. University authorities and NCC officials encouraged students to participate actively and uphold the values of discipline, responsibility, teamwork, and service. The initiative marks an important step in strengthening opportunities for student leadership and civic engagement on campus.



SXUK's Technology Law Moot Court Competition

Held from 16–18 April 2026, the Technology Law Moot Court Competition organised by Xavier Law School brought together 20 teams comprising 60 students from institutions across India. Conducted in collaboration with Surana & Surana International Attorneys and Surana & Surana Academic Initiatives, the competition centred on legal issues relating to technology law, data privacy, and digital ethics. Participants demonstrated advocacy, research, and analytical skills before a distinguished panel of academicians, senior advocates, and retired judicial officers. The valedictory session was graced by Hon'ble Justice I. P. Mukerji, Chairperson of the West Bengal Human Rights Commission.

SOCIAL IMPACT



Workers' Day Celebrations

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, observed Workers' Day on 30 April 2026 to acknowledge the contributions of its support staff and construction workers. Organised by the Alumni Association, the programme brought together more than 300 members of the University community. Vice-Chancellor Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., expressed appreciation for their dedication and service. Three retiring employees were felicitated, and tokens of appreciation were distributed to all participants. The event concluded with a gathering over refreshments.



Plantation Drive in Collaboration with Rotary Club of Calcutta

To mark Earth Day, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, organised a plantation drive in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Calcutta and Gift a Garden on 22 April 2026. The initiative brought together students, faculty members, and university officials to plant medicinal and fruit-bearing saplings across the campus. Inaugurated by Vice-Chancellor Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., the programme highlighted the importance of environmental stewardship and sustainable campus practices.

INSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVES



International Talk Series with KPMG

Xavier Business School, in collaboration with KPMG Global Services Pvt. Ltd., organised an International Talk Series on 22 January 2026 featuring Ms. Rema Serafi, Vice Chair-Tax, KPMG US. Drawing on her professional journey, Ms. Serafi spoke about leadership, resilience, adaptability, and the evolving role of Artificial Intelligence in the workplace. The session offered students valuable insights into global business environments and contemporary professional challenges.



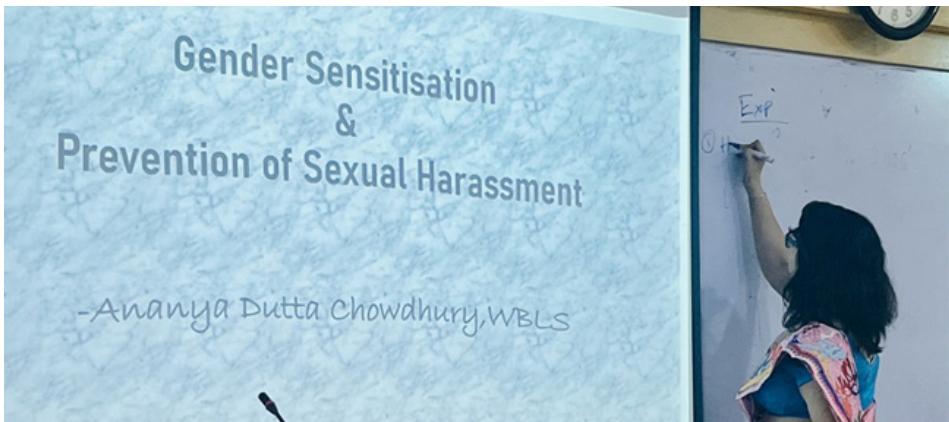
Second Peace Lecture Series on Ethical Leadership in Public Governance

St. Xavier's University hosted the second lecture in its Peace Lecture Series on 23 March 2026. Delivered by Dr. Suman Chakraborty, Director of IIT Kharagpur, the lecture explored the theme "Ethical Leadership in Public Governance". Discussions focused on the role of ethics, public responsibility, and technological change in contemporary governance. The programme also included the felicitation of departmental rank holders.



Walkathon: Xaverian Walk for Peace

As part of the University's Tenth Foundation Day celebrations, the St. Xavier's University Kolkata Alumni Association organised the "Xaverian Walk for Peace" on 7 February 2026. More than 1,000 students, alumni, faculty members, staff, and Jesuit Fathers participated in the walk from the University campus to Biswa Bangla Gate and back. Flagged off by Vice-Chancellor Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., the event promoted the values of peace, harmony, and non-violence.



International Women's Day: Workshop on PoSH and Financial Empowerment

The Women and Gender Development Cell, in collaboration with IQAC, organised a workshop on Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) and Financial Empowerment on 6 March 2026 to mark International Women's Day. The programme addressed workplace dignity, legal safeguards against harassment, and financial literacy. Through expert-led sessions and discussions, participants engaged with issues relating to gender equality, safety, and empowerment in academic and professional spaces.

PLACEMENTS



Arafin Mallick



Deloitte.



Bagmita Biswas



Debayan Ghosh Chowdhury



Khushboo Surana



uti
UTI International



Ankur Singha



Dalmia
Bharat Cement



Aman Ali



Esha Mahto



Gaurab Ghosh



SIGMA

INSTITUTIONAL UPDATES



Xavrang 2026

Xavrang’26, the annual festival organised by the Xavier’s Student Board Association, was held on 16–17 January 2026. Centred on the theme “The Indian Mosaic: Traditions and Tales,” the festival celebrated India’s cultural diversity, heritage, and artistic traditions. More than 60 colleges and universities participated in a wide range of cultural, sporting, and business events, fostering creativity, competition, and collaboration among students. The programme was inaugurated and concluded in the presence of Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., Vice-Chancellor of St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata. A special musical performance by playback singer Asees Kaur marked the culmination of the festivities.



Workshop on Website Development

St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata, in collaboration with the WordPress Community Kolkata, organised a hands-on workshop on website development using WordPress. Conducted by the Xavier’s Society for Science and Innovation (XSSI) and the Department of Computer Science and Statistics, the programme was attended by around 40 students from the Faculty of Science. Participants were introduced to WordPress, web design principles, and mobile application development through interactive sessions led by industry professionals. A panel discussion on emerging trends in web and mobile technologies provided additional insights into contemporary career opportunities in the field.



Innovation and US–India Collaboration

The Department of English, in collaboration with the Centre for Global Networking Initiative (CGNI) and the American Center, Kolkata, organised “America 250: A Legacy in Innovation” on 7 April 2026. The programme featured a conversation between Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., Vice-Chancellor, and Ms Elizabeth Lee, Director of the American Center, Kolkata, on diplomacy, cultural exchange, and India–US relations. A panel discussion on the future of US–India collaboration in artificial intelligence and entrepreneurship brought together representatives from academia, industry, media, and the start-up sector. The event encouraged interdisciplinary engagement and discussions on emerging opportunities for global cooperation.



4th Xavier Mediation Competition

Xavier Society of Law and Justice (XSLAJ), Xavier Law School, St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata, organised the 4th Xavier Mediation Competition (XMC’26) from 26–28 March 2026. The competition attracted 32 teams from law institutions across India and was supported by legal partners including Fox & Mandal, Khaitan & Co., R. L. Dutt & Co., Guha & Co., and VV Law Chambers. Through a series of negotiation and mediation rounds, participants demonstrated advocacy, communication, and dispute-resolution skills. The competition concluded with a final round adjudicated by distinguished legal practitioners, senior advocates, and law firm partners.



Workshop on “Making Systems Responsive to Adolescents: Law, Media, and Governance”

Xavier Law School, St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata, organised a workshop on “Making Systems Responsive to Adolescents: Law, Media, and Governance” on 30 March 2026 in collaboration with Child Rights and You (CRY). The inaugural session featured addresses by Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., and Ms Trina Chakrabarti, who highlighted the importance of creating institutions and policies responsive to the needs of adolescents. An expert panel explored issues relating to adolescent rights, media ethics, child protection, and governance, emphasising the need for empathetic and supportive approaches.



Legal Awareness Programme

The Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Legal Aid Clinic, St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata, organised a Legal Awareness Programme on 11 April 2026 for support staff and tenth-semester law students. The programme sought to enhance legal awareness while encouraging students to engage with the social dimensions of legal aid. Prof. Cheryl Francis led an interactive session on empathy, self-reflection, and community engagement, complemented by discussions with security personnel on everyday social challenges. Representatives from the NGO Be and Make also shared their work in education, healthcare, sanitation, and community development initiatives.



Xaviesta

Xavier Business School, St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata, organised Xaviesta 4.0, its annual cultural festival, on 9–10 January 2026. Inaugurated by Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., Vice-Chancellor, the festival brought together over 1,100 participants from 53 institutions, including IIM Rohtak, IIM Bodh Gaya, WeSchool, and IIT Kharagpur. Mr Anirban Banerjee, CEO of Eveready Industries India Ltd., attended as Chief Guest. The two-day event featured 24 competitions spanning business, sports, and cultural categories, providing students with opportunities to showcase their talents and engage with industry professionals.



Management Development Programme (VIVO West Bengal)

Xavier Business School conducted a six-month Leadership Excellence Programme for senior managers of Yingjia Communication Private Limited (VIVO West Bengal). The programme addressed areas such as strategic thinking, leadership development, business strategy, project management, finance, innovation, sustainability, and corporate governance. Through a combination of interactive sessions and collaborative activities, participants explored contemporary management challenges and approaches to organisational decision-making. The programme also provided opportunities for professional exchange and leadership development in a dynamic business environment.

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