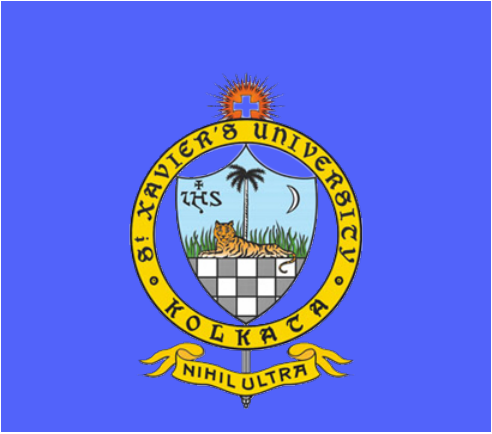


St. Xavier's University, Kolkata

A Jesuit University: A fire that kindles other fires

THE XAVERIAN TIMES



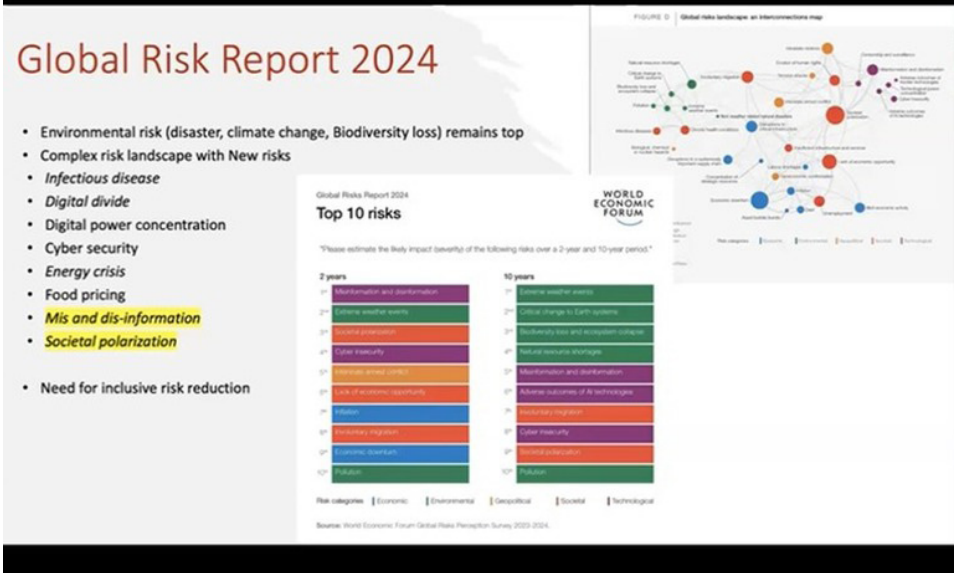
Newsletter of St. Xavier's University

Vol. 1, No. 3 (October - December)



Xavier Law School – 2-Day International Conference

Xavier Law School (XLS), St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, organised a two-day International Conference on “Challenges, Prospects and Emerging Dimensions of Human Rights” in collaboration with the West Bengal State Human Rights Commission and the Indian Social Institute, New Delhi. Scholars, practitioners, and policymakers deliberated on climate justice, technological disruption, migration, and socio-economic inequalities. The sessions underscored justice, dignity, and inclusive rights-based frameworks. The conference concluded with a shared resolve to foster sustained academic collaboration and socially responsive legal engagement.



Online Certificate Course on Disaster Risk Reduction Management

The Father Lafont Centre for Excellence in Research and Innovation (LCERI), in collaboration with the India Japan Laboratory of Keio University, Japan, conducted the second batch of its Certificate Course on Disaster Risk Reduction Management. The two-credit programme engaged 29 participants through structured modules, case studies, and assessments aimed at strengthening preparedness and applied disaster management competencies.

XBS International Conference 2025

Xavier Business School hosted its First International Conference on “Transforming Business, Economy, and Society through Innovation and Sustainable Practices.” Organised in collaboration with the University of Sussex, UK, and Singapore Management University, Singapore, the conference initiated two days of discussions on innovation, sustainability, and responsible economic transformation, bringing together scholars and professionals from diverse institutions.



Shishu Mela 2025

The Centre for Social Outreach Programme (CSOP) organised Shishu Mela 2025, welcoming children from adopted villages and partner organisations. The event was inaugurated by Vice-Chancellor Rev. Fr. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J. Cultural performances, games, and festive activities marked the celebration, reaffirming the University's outreach commitment.



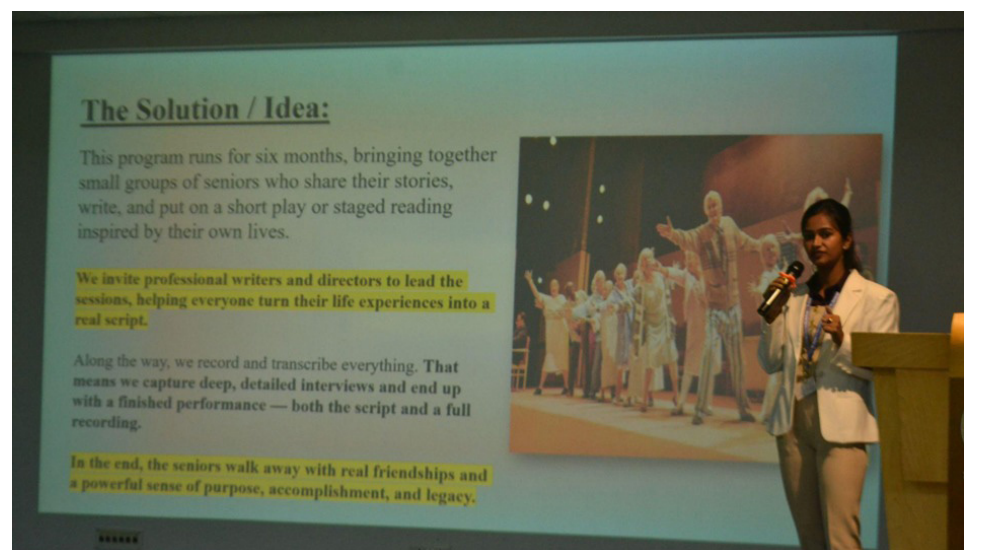
Collaborations and Partnerships

Udgam – Two-Day National Workshop organised by Xavier Law School
Xavier Law School organised the inaugural edition of Udgam, a two-day socio-legal workshop exploring themes of honour, morality, and justice. The programme commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp in the presence of Registrar Rev. Fr. Dr. Xavier Jeyaraj, S.J., and the Dean, Dr. Ranjeeta Mukherjee. The workshop featured the release of the annual memoir *Manthan*, a keynote address on “Honour vs. Morality,” and a symposium with representatives from civil society organisations. The second day included the Panchajanya Quiz with participation from law institutions across the country, alongside theatre and dance performances addressing transgender rights and honour-based violence. A panel discussion examined media representations of honour culture. The valedictory session was graced by actor Sabyasachi Chakraborty, followed by prize distribution.



Startup Premier League

The Institutional Innovation Council (IIC) and CICE, in association with the Techaarohan Bharat Foundation, organised the Startup Premier League on campus. The programme opened with an address by Vice-Chancellor Rev. Fr. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J. The keynote was delivered by Dr. Debasish Ghosh, Indian Statistical Institute. Student teams presented innovative ideas before an expert panel, reinforcing the University’s growing entrepreneurial ecosystem.



Department of Economics – Five-Day National Workshop

The Department of Economics, in collaboration with ICSSR–Eastern Regional Centre, organised a national workshop on NSSO, NFHS, and IHDS Data Analysis. Researchers from leading institutions received hands-on training in Stata and R, strengthening empirical research capacity and data-driven scholarship.



Life at Campus

Fr. P.C. Matthew Memorial Friendly Cricket Match

XUSS organised a friendly cricket match between Faculty & Officers and Support Staff in memory of Fr. P.C. Matthew, S.J. The Support Staff Team secured victory. The Vice-Chancellor presented the trophy and medals to participants.



SXUKAA Christmas Gathering

SXUKAA organised a Christmas programme for faculty and staff, featuring cultural performances and a Christmas message by the Vice-Chancellor. The celebration concluded with a festive gathering attended by members of the University community.



Student Achievement



Procheta Bhattacharjee
Secured 1st Runner-Up position in theme walk in ripples at THK Jain



Manya Chitlangia
Secured 2nd position in Theatre at JD Birla Invictus'26



Piyasha Paul
Secured 2nd position in Shot Put at Ranaghat Zonal Sports Association



Shalini Podder
Secured 1st Runner-Up position in Kaleidoscope Theme Walk at Lady Brabourne College

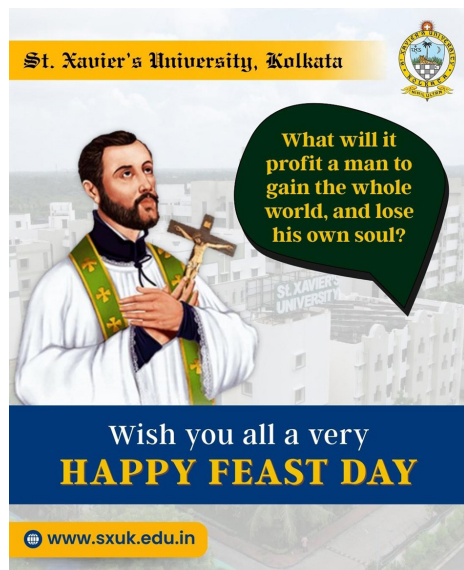


Trisha Dutta Choudhury
Secured 1st Runner-Up position in 2nd runner up in stage play theatreomania & 2nd for theme walk in ripples at THK Jain

Celebrations, Meetings, Invited Talks

Feast of St. Francis Xavier

The University observed the Feast of its patron, St. Francis Xavier, reaffirming its Jesuit commitment to service and academic excellence.



Fifth Annual Christmas Lecture

The Fifth Annual Christmas Lecture was organised at Parasmani, the University's social outreach centre in Bolpur, Santiniketan.

The lecture was delivered by Rev. Fr. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., Vice-Chancellor, on the theme "Mother Teresa: A Hymn of Compassion and Love." Faculty members, officers, Fathers and Sisters, research scholars, and invited dignitaries attended the programme. In his address, the Vice-Chancellor reflected on Mother Teresa's life of service, drawing upon personal encounters and historical accounts to highlight her message of compassion, peace, and unwavering commitment to the marginalised. The lecture underscored the enduring relevance of her mission in contemporary society.

Psysphere'25 – Interdepartmental Psychology Event

The Department of Psychology commemorated World Mental Health Day by organising Psysphere'25, aligned with the World Health Organization's theme, "Access to Services – Mental Health in Catastrophes and Emergencies." The event foregrounded resilience, psychological first aid, and community support during crises. The programme began with a street play (Nukkad Natak), followed by "Canvas of Coping," an expressive art initiative, and "Turncoat: Ctrl + Alt + Heal," a dialogue session on responsible digital engagement. The concluding segment, "Live Minds: Voices of Psyche," featured a street play competition promoting empathy and mental health awareness. The event encouraged reflective engagement on mental well-being within academic spaces.



Department of Social Work – Special Lecture

The Department of Social Work organised a special lecture on "Public Action for Social Security and Economic Democracy," delivered by Prof. Jean Drèze, eminent development economist and social activist. The programme witnessed wide participation from students, research scholars, academicians, and development practitioners. Rev. Fr. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., Vice-Chancellor, felicitated the speaker, acknowledging his contributions to public policy and welfare rights. In his address, Prof. Drèze examined the relationship between democratic values and economic life, emphasising the role of public action, collective responsibility, and community participation in strengthening social security frameworks. The session concluded with an engaging interaction between the speaker and participants.



Extension Lecture – "Mother Teresa: Instrument for Peace"

An extension lecture titled "Mother Teresa: Instrument for Peace" was organised by the Father Lafont Centre for Excellence in Research and Innovation (LCERI) and the Mother Teresa Chair for Peace. Delivered by Rev. Fr. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., the lecture reflected on Mother Teresa's life as a testament to peace-building through compassion and service. Addressing faculty members, officers, and invited guests, he highlighted her dedication to the poor and her contribution to social harmony. The session concluded with an interactive discussion and a vote of thanks by Prof. Gautam Dutta, Chair-Professor, Mother Teresa Chair for Peace.



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