

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata

LEXAVERIAN

Bi-Annual Newsletter

XAVIER LAW SCHOOL



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Xavier Law School is proud to unveil the 12th edition of its biannual newsletter *Lexaverian* which chronicles a period of significant growth and academic excellence. This term featured several milestone events, including the annual Xavier Intra-XLS Trial and Advocacy Competition 2025 and Ignatius National Trial and Advocacy Competition 2025, both hosted by Xavier Society of Law and Justice to provide students with vital practical experience while drawing participation from several prestigious institutions from across the country. The Moot Court Society, Xavier Law School further expanded the school's reach by organizing XavJudice'25 and the Juris Talks series. Coupled with special seminars and lectures focusing on pressing topics, this issue of *Lexaverian* serves to honor these institutional milestones and the commendable successes of our student community.

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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



It gives me immense pleasure to present the 12th edition of Lexaverian, the bi-annual newsletter of Xavier Law School. This issue stands as a testament to the vibrant academic culture, intellectual rigor, and holistic development that characterize our institution.

Over the past few months, Xavier Law School has continued its remarkable journey of excellence through a series of significant academic, co-curricular, and outreach initiatives. From the successful organization of flagship events such as the Xavier Intra-XLS Trial and Advocacy Competition (XITAC'25), Ignatius National Trial and Advocacy Competition

(IGNITAC'25), and XavJudice'25, to thought-provoking seminars, panel discussions, and the International Conference on Human Rights, our students and faculty have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to legal scholarship and experiential learning.

The School's dedication to fostering socially conscious legal professionals is reflected in programmes such as Udgam: Chapter One, discussions on correctional justice, human rights, competition law, and digital forensics. These engagements have provided our students with opportunities to critically examine contemporary legal challenges while strengthening their professional competencies.

The initiatives highlighted in this issue demonstrate the School's commitment to nurturing legal professionals who are not only academically proficient but also socially responsible, ethically grounded, and equipped to address the emerging demands of the justice system. Through a blend of rigorous classroom learning and practical exposure, we continue to prepare our students for meaningful engagement with the legal profession and society at large.

As Xavier Law School progresses on its journey of growth and excellence, it continues to embody the Jesuit ideals of cura personalis and service to others. The celebration of its Foundation Day and the success of its academic societies underscore the vibrant spirit of the institution. I am particularly delighted to note the outstanding achievements of our students in academic competitions, research publications, conferences, and other national-level platforms. Their accomplishments bring pride not only to Xavier Law School but also to the entire St. Xavier's University community. Such successes are the result of the collective efforts of our students, faculty members, administrative staff, alumni, and well-wishers, whose dedication continues to elevate the institution to greater heights.

As we celebrate the milestones chronicled in this issue, I encourage our students to continue pursuing excellence with integrity, compassion, and a commitment to justice. In the true spirit of Jesuit education, may they strive to become competent professionals and responsible citizens who contribute meaningfully to society.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Editorial Team for their efforts in bringing out this edition of *Lexaverian*. I hope that this newsletter inspires reflection on our achievements and motivates us to pursue even greater accomplishments in the years ahead.

With my best wishes to the entire Xavier Law School fraternity.

Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, SJ

Vice-Chancellor

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

It gives me great joy to present the 12th issue of *Lexaverian*. This edition beautifully captures the energy, creativity, and commitment of our students and faculty members. I sincerely appreciate the efforts of the editorial team and hope this issue inspires continued curiosity, reflection, and excellence within our academic community.

Dr. Ranjeeta Mukherjee

Dean

Xavier Law School

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata



XAVJUDICE' 25



The XLS-Intra Moot Court Competition, XavJudice'25, organized by the Moot Court Society of Xavier Law School, was held on July 25 and 26, 2025. Conducted in collaboration with The Verdict Today, India Law, Serena Publications, and Ammi Jaan, the event saw participation from over 54 teams and 162 students across semesters. The competition focused on the intricate domain of intellectual property rights, specifically addressing contemporary challenges

and jurisprudential developments in trademark law. The moot proposition was crafted to mirror real-world legal conflicts, requiring participants to demonstrate a deep understanding of statutory interpretation, judicial precedents, and nuanced legal argumentation while simulating fundamental court dynamics.

Throughout the event, the judges engaged closely with the participants, guiding them through the complexities of trademark law and refining their research and oratory skills. The final bouts were followed by insightful remarks from the bench, which helped in clarifying the subject matter and resolve ambiguities in the teams' arguments. The competition concluded with a valedictory session where trophies were awarded to the top-performing teams and individuals. The event's success

was attributed to the coordinated efforts of the Core and Working Committee members of the Moot Court Society, under the leadership of the Convenor, Dr. Rajrupa Sinha Roy, and the Dean of Xavier Law School, Dr. Ranjeeta Mukherjee.



7TH FOUNDATION DAY OF XAVIER LAW SCHOOL

Xavier Law School celebrated its 6th Foundation Day on August 20, 2025, at Fr. Albert Huart Hall, commemorating the institution's remarkable journey since its establishment on August 3, 2019. The event commenced with a musical presentation of vocal and instrumental melodies performed by the students of XLS to welcome an audience of faculty, staff, and dignitaries. Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, SJ, the Honourable Vice-Chancellor, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, delivered the Foundation Day address, where he congratulated the academic community of the School on their illustrious progress and briefed them on upcoming institutional initiatives. Following his address, the Vice-Chancellor felicitated the members of the Editorial Board of Legal Insight, the School's wall magazine, and proceeded to christen a ceremonial cake alongside other attending dignitaries.



The cultural highlight of the afternoon was the enactment of 'Tamasha-e-Qanoon', an original theatrical adaptation of Sadat Hasan Manto's renowned short story 'Naya Qanoon'. The play was a testament to the collaborative creative efforts of the School and was written by Mr. Ratul Das (Convenor of the event and Assistant Professor of Law) and 7th Semester B.A.LL.B. (Hons.) students Samraggi Dutta and Muhammad Aditya Rashmi Rahman. This performance was preceded and succeeded by choreographed dance presentations by students, showcasing a diverse range of artistic talent. The half-day programme reached its formal conclusion with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Mr. Ratul Das, marking a successful milestone for the School.

BEYOND THE FIREWALL: LEGAL DIMENSIONS OF DIGITAL FORENSICS AND TRACING THE DIGITAL TRAIL



On August 9, 2025, Xavier Law School hosted a special lecture titled "Beyond the Firewall: Legal Dimensions of Digital Forensics and Tracing the Digital Trail," delivered by Mr. Soumyajit Raha, Special Public Prosecutor for the Crime Investigation Department, West Bengal. The session, coordinated by Dr. Ankita Chakraborty, provided a comprehensive overview of the three stages of digital investigation—identification, collection, and preservation of evidence—while emphasizing the critical concept of chain of custody.

Through practical demonstrations and real-world case studies and jurisdictional complexities under the Foreigners Act, 1946. Mr. Raha highlighted the emerging trends like cryptocurrency offenses and the limitations of the Information Technology Act, 2000. The event concluded with an interactive Q&A session covering topics such as phishing and the concept of cyber rape, offering students across various academic levels deep insights into the evolving landscape of cyber law and digital forensics.

AN OVERVIEW OF COMPETITION LAW IN INDIA



On August 22, 2025, the Moot Court Society of Xavier Law School organized a seminar titled "An Overview of Competition Law in India," featuring Mr. Pradeep Kumar Meel, IRS, Advisor, Competition Commission of India (CCI). The session provided students pursuing Honours specialization in Business Law with a deep dive into the evolution of Indian competition law, tracing the shift from the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Policies Act, 1969, to the Competition Act, 2002. Key highlights included a discussion on the 2023 Amendment, which introduced "green channel" approvals and settlement mechanisms, and a dedicated segment on the digital economy. Using the Google Android and WhatsApp cases as examples, Mr. Meel explained the unique challenges Big Tech poses to consumer welfare and data control.

The deliberation was followed by an interactive Q&A session addressing artificial intelligence, jurisdictional overlaps with other regulators like SEBI and TRAI, and emerging career opportunities within the CCI. The seminar concluded on an inspiring note, highlighting how recent legal amendments and the rise of the digital economy have made competition law a dynamic and essential field for future legal practitioners.



PANEL DISCUSSION ON JAIL TO CORRECTIONAL HOME: A JOURNEY YET UNDEFINED

On August 23, 2025, Xavier Law School organized a panel discussion titled “Jail to Correctional Homes: A journey yet undefined.” The event featured legal experts like Prof. (Dr.) Sarfaraz Ahmed Khan (Professor of Law, The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences) and renowned advocate Mr. Jayanta Narayan Chatterjee, who discussed the transition of the Indian prison system under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, and the harsh realities of judicial delays and denial of prisoner voting rights.

The session also featured testimonials from Ms. Aparajita Bose, who shared her experience of 13 years of imprisonment at the Alipore Women’s Correctional Home and Sk. Eklash, a former inmate at the Dum Dum Central Correctional Home, who highlighted the challenges of social reintegration and the urgent need for a more reformatory approach to the Indian penal system.





The 4th edition of the XLS-Intra Trial and Advocacy Competition (XITAC) took place on August 28 and 29, 2025, organized by Xavier Society of Law and Justice (XSLAJ). The event was designed to provide students with a rigorous practical platform to master courtroom procedures, specifically focusing on opening statements, examination-in-chief, cross-examination, and closing arguments. The competition's unique structure required high-level performance from both the trial teams and the student witnesses, ensuring a comprehensive simulation of real-world litigation.

Following two intense preliminary rounds, the top eight teams and sixteen witnesses advanced through the Quarterfinals and Semifinals. The competition culminated in a prestigious final round presided over by the Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) Jyotirmoy Bhattacharya (Former Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court) and the Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) Tapash Mookherjee (Former Judge, Calcutta High Court), whose presence offered participants invaluable feedback on judicial expectations. The event was supported by an extensive list of sponsors and partners, including MCO Legal, Manupatra, Asian Paints, LiveLaw, Law Foyer, LawBhoomi, Legal Bites, DesiKanoon, and Coal India Limited. The winning team earned the opportunity to represent the university at the Ignatius Trial and Advocacy Competition 2025 (IGNITAC'25), cementing XITAC'25 as a benchmark for experiential legal education at the institution.



The Second Ignatius Trial and Advocacy Competition (IGNITAC'25), the national flagship event of Xavier Society of Law and Justice, was held from October 9 to 11, 2025, at Xavier Law School, Kolkata. Convened by Dr. Siddhant Chandra and Dr. Subhajit Chakraborty, the competition brought together 28 teams from leading law colleges across India to simulate real-world trial advocacy, evidence handling, and courtroom procedures. The event was supported by a prominent lineup of partners, including Coal India Limited (Presenting Partner), MCO Legals (Title Partner), and Asian Paints (Event Partner), along with knowledge and media partners like Manupatra, LiveLaw, and Legal Bites.

The three-day competition began with a Researcher's Test and memorial exchange, followed by intense preliminary rounds focusing on examination-in-chief and cross-examination. The final day featured advanced knockout rounds judged by a panel of judicial and legal luminaries, culminating in a Valedictory Ceremony. The competition offered a total prize pool of ₹2.4 lakhs, with the winning team receiving ₹1,00,000, and individual awards presented for Best Memorial, Speaker, Researcher, and Witness.



IGNITAC 2025

SECOND IGNATIUS TRIAL AND ADVOCACY COMPETITION 2025

UDGAM: CHAPTER ONE

TWO-DAY NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON HONOUR CULTURE AND CRIMES



The inaugural chapter of Udgam, a two-day socio-legal workshop organized by Xavier Law School, featured a powerful exploration of the themes of honour culture, morality, and justice. The event commenced with a ceremonial lamp lighting by dignitaries including Rev. Dr. Xavier Jeyaraj, SJ (Registrar, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata) and Dr. Ranjeeta Mukherjee (Dean, Xavier Law School). Day One featured the launch of the annual memoir 'Manthan', a keynote presentation on "Honour vs. Morality", and an insightful symposium with panelists from Child Rights and You and Sanjog. Day Two began with the Panchajanya Quiz, featuring student teams from law universities and colleges across the country, and included evocative artistic performances such as an adaptation of 'Bismil' (from the film *Haider*) as a presentation on transgender persecution and the dance drama "Bekas Beeti". This was followed by a plenary presentation and a panel discussion among renowned journalists, activists and film personalities on the popular culture discourse on honour culture. The valedictory ceremony was graced by actor Sabyasachi Chakraborty, and prizes were awarded to the winners of the quiz, and for top contributions and best insights in Manthan.



JURIS TALKS



On October 30, 2025, the Moot Court Society of Xavier Law School organized "Juris Talks: Interdisciplinary Panel Discussion," an event designed to provide students with a holistic understanding of law through the lens of real-world legal conflicts. The discussion featured a distinguished panel of renowned legal professionals, including Mr. Chandril Chattopadhyay, Mr. Supriyo Singh, Mr. Swapan Nath, Mr. Soumyajit Raha, Mr. Debashis Chakroborty and Mr. Saugata Chakraborty. Moderated by Mr. Yuvraj Chatterjee, Mr. Sagar Dutta, and Ms. Aahana Bhattacharya, budding advocates and alumni of Xavier Law School, the session engaged student participants in complex issues involving statutory interpretation and judicial precedents.

The event focused on sharpening the participants' legal acumen, research skills, and capacity for nuanced argumentation by bridging the gap between legal doctrine and practical application across various domains. Under the guidance of Dr. Rajrupa Sinha Roy, Convenor for the event, and Dr. Ranjeeta Mukherjee, the Dean of Xavier Law School, the program successfully fostered an environment for budding legal minds to develop professional finesse and academic excellence.

The panel discussion served as a vital interdisciplinary platform, reinforcing the importance of a multifaceted approach to legal education and practice. This collaborative effort by the Moot Court Society successfully equipped attendees with the analytical tools necessary to navigate the increasingly complex intersection between law and society.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHALLENGES, PROSPECTS AND EMERGING DIMENSIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS LAW



On December 12 and 13, 2025, Xavier Law School, in collaboration with the West Bengal State Human Rights Commission and the Indian Social Institute, hosted a two-day International Conference on Challenges, Prospects and Emerging Dimensions of Human Rights. The inaugural session featured addresses by Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, who emphasized the principle of *Cura personalis*, alongside Mr. Basudeb Banerjee and Dr. Anthony Cyril, SJ, who focused on youth mobilization and social reform.

The conference served as a global platform for scholars and activists to address urgent issues such as climate-induced migration, artificial intelligence governance, and structural inequalities affecting marginalized communities. Key speakers, including Mr. Paul Divakar and Ms. Amaya Valcarcel advocated for compassion-centered, bottom-up community strengthening to navigate a "borderless crisis demanding borderless solidarity." The event concluded with a strong commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration and collective human rights movements.

STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS



Ms. Tehzeeb Umaiya Alim of B.A.LL.B. (Hons.) secured the 1st position in a Speech Competition organized by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India in November, 2025. She also authored an article titled "The Devious Cloak of Honour", published in *Manthan*, the annual Memoir of Xavier Law School published as part of Udgam: Chapter One in October 2025, and presented a paper titled "From Algorithm to Altruism" at the International Conference on Challenges, Prospects and Emerging Dimensions of Human Rights in December 2025.

Ms. Shreya Ghosal of B.Com.LL.B. (Hons.) secured the 3rd position in the People Elements 2025 Treasure Hunt organized by Xavier Business School in September 2025. She also won the Best Manager competition at X-verse, organized by Xavier Commerce and Management Society in November 2025.



Mr. Ritam Bhattacharya participated in the Know Your Leader Programme commemorating the birth anniversaries of Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Madan Mohan Malviya, organized by PRIDE, Lok Sabha in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Department of Youth Affairs in December 2025, where he represented the State of West Bengal at the Central Hall of the Old Parliament House (Samvidhan Sadan) in December 2025. He also authored an article titled "Census 2027: Paving the Way to Viksit Governance", published in *Voices of Tomorrow: Youth Vision from West Bengal* (Volume I), an edited volume published by Anuvuti Prakashan, in November 2025.



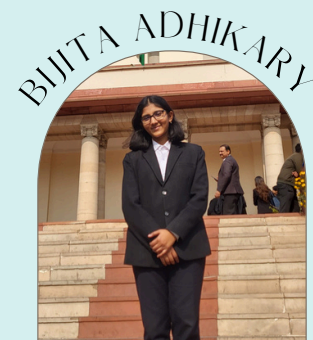
Ms. Rashi Agarwal emerged as the Best Speaker (Petitioner) at XavJudice'25 in July 2025.

Ms. Sarjana Biswas was invited as a Guest Speaker at Kalinagar High School (Sandeshkhali I) and Rajlakshmi High School, contributing to the development discourse of the Sundarbans. Additionally, she authored an article titled "Legal Aid", published in *Akti Kore Shiri*, a Bengali literary periodical published by Parimal Dey, in September 2025.



Ms. Hiya Chatterjee emerged as the Best Witness at XITAC'25 in August 2025. She also authored an article titled "इज्जत vs. Justice: Whose Verdict Counts?", published in *Manthan* in October 2025.

Ms. Bijita Adhikary presented a paper titled "Widening the Scope: Addressing Underserved Areas of Legal Aid Clinics in Indian Law Schools" at the 3rd Pro Bono National Conference organized by Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur in November 2025.



Ms. Ritika Pal secured the Runner-Up position at the National Legal Entrepreneurship Challenge 2025 organised by Your Legal Career Coach in October 2025. She also authored articles titled "Rewriting Criminal Procedure: A Deep Dive into the Shift from Section 41A CrPC to Section 35 BNSS," "The Bahraich Verdict: When Justice Spoke Against the Flames of Violence," and "Rewriting Lineage: The Supreme Court's Shift on Determining a Child's Caste through the Mother," which were published in *Jus Corpus* in December 2025.



Ms. Aditi Roy Chowdhury emerged as the Best Presenter at the 14th International Conference on Human Rights & Gender Justice organized by Knowledge Steez Eduhub LLP in collaboration with multiple international institutions like with the Centre for Advanced Study in International Humanitarian Law, Rajiv Gandhi National Law University, Patiala, University of Malaga, Spain and Nelson Mandela University, South Africa in September 2025 for presenting her paper titled “Ageing with Dignity: Safeguarding the Rights and Dignity of Elderly People”. She also authored an article titled “Cyberbullying: A Hidden Danger for the People of India”, published in *The Indian Journal for Research in Law and Management* in August 2025.

Ms. Suneeti Saraf of B.A.LL.B. (Hons.) emerged as the winner of XavJudice’25 in July 2025.

