

Secretary's Report for the Year 2018-2019

Revered Father President and fellow Xaverians,

I would like to begin by offering my sincere and humble feelings of gratitude to the Almighty for his blessings, our most revered President Fr. Dr. Dominic Savio for his guidance and our very own Xaverian family for the help, which enabled me to steer the St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association through an eventful and joyous year of achievements.

Join me in a minute of silence as we pay tribute to the Jesuit Priests, our members, students, teachers, and the non-teaching staff who passed away during the course of the year and pray to the Almighty that their souls rest in everlasting peace.

Allow me Ladies and Gentlemen, to peruse through the various programme, events taken up by the SXCCAA and its wings, association and chapters during the year.

Everyone in the Xaverian Family is considered to be equal but it is our custom and tradition to always highlight the achievements of our Women members. So, I would like to begin with the achievements of the Women Forum:

A. Women's Forum:

- 1) Like every year, the calendar year of SXCCAA starts off with the Annual Tea Meet. The meet happened this year was on 8th December 2018, spearheaded by the Womens Forum. A group of four young Xaverian boys stormed the stage and entertained the 300 plus audience with their musical performance and none other than the very popular and our very own xaverian Devlina Kumar and her troupe left the audience mesmerized with their dance performance. The association got the opportunity to felicitate the Commonwealth Gold Winner and Arjuna Awardee Table tennis player from Bengal – Mouma Das. The women's forum is indebted to Father Dominic savio for all his motivation, inspiration and blessings. The joint convenors this year Ritu Buarua and Purnima Bothra worked tirelessly for making this event a grand success.
- 2) After a successful Tea Meet during the month of December, on the 11th of January 2019, the Women's Forum organized a seminar on the "Present and Future of the Digital World and Charms and Challenges of Journalism". The seminar was conducted by the Senior Editor of BBC News, Ms. Rebecca Skippage. She spoke at length about how digitalization has smoothened direct two-way communication, about global disinformation, false news platforms and how BBC crosschecks and verifies news. She even talked about the role of women in the field of journalism and the various challenges faced.
- 3) The members met again on the 18th of January, 2019 over coffee at the SALT HOUSE as they engaged in fun activities and discussed about the year long activities that lay ahead.
- 4) On the 17th of February, the forum members visited the Mahabir Seba Sadan, which is a pioneer institution when it comes to providing limbs to physically challenged people free of cost. Thus aiding various individuals in regaining their mobility, this in turn helps them to live a better life. The members of the forum extended a token of Rs. 10,000 to the institute as a humble philanthropic gesture from our side.
- 5) A workshop was held on the 4th of April 2019 on "Flower arrangement and decoration". The programme started with emcee Neelima Jhunhunwala welcoming the guests as Women's Forum convener Sujata Rampuria introduced speaker Mita Kanoria, an internationally recognized senior floral artist. She shared her expertise and her vast experience with everyone present there. It was followed by an interactive session. Renu Agarwal gave the vote of thanks on behalf of the Women's

Forum as the programme ended with High Tea and everyone leaving with a sense of satisfaction and fulfillment.

- 6) The Forum organized a workshop on an exclusive session on food preparations and seasonal eating on the 23rd of April 2019. Emcee Deepa Battoo welcomed the guests and introduced the speaker Abhilasha Chandak, an internationally recognized chef. She shared with everyone few of her recipes, talked about food preservation and presentation, and seasonal eating for a healthy life. Poonam Khattry gave the vote of thanks of behalf of the forum as the workshop ended with a High Tea.
- 7) On 10th May, 2019, SXCCAA Women's Forum organised a fellowship programme at THE MYX. The evening was full of fun, prizes and many more. Members of the Women's Forum and guests enjoyed an amazing evening with good food, music & a lovely photo session.
- 8) SXCCAA WOMEN'S FORUM in association with CREDO organised a workshop on Aroma Therapy on 30th June, 2019 with Blossom Kocher speaking on Aroma Magic on pigmentation and anti-ageing & Make-up artist Shree Ghatak along with Payel Majumdar and Ivy Mondol demonstrating elaborately about the healing through aroma therapy, and aroma oil. It was followed by an interactive session.
- 9) On 26th of July, 2019, The Women's Forum of SXCCAA had organised a cooking demonstration at Hotel Hindustan International with Three different chefs teaching culinary skills. The demonstration was followed by a food-tasting session & high tea.

We are extremely thankful to all the members of the forum ably lead by Advisor Sudeshna Roy Chowdhury, Co-Advisor Darshita Trivedi, Convenor Sujata Rampuria, Co-Convenor Priyanka Bajaj for their excellent achievements in this year as well. The forum has always worked hand in hand with the main body of the SXCCAA for making all our programmes a grand success. We salute the President's Women.

B. Philanthropic Activities.

- 1) With the gracious guidance of Fr. President a Health Camp was organized by SXCCAA at the Raghavpur Campus on the 20th of January 2019. The camp covered issues of eyes, blood profiling, child health, women health and hygiene along with a general health checkup. A total number of 617 patients registered for the camp. Glasses were provided to 125 patients while 65 cataract surgeries were performed with one surgery for squint. There were 16 RTC (Refer to Clinic Cases) which were critical ones which would be taken up after further diagnostic tests.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Philanthropy Conveners Yogesh Chopra & Deepak Gupta as well as other Alumni friends and family for their efforts and hard work in making this camp successful.
- 2) Similar to the previous years, SXCCAA has also supported the SISHU MELA this year, with a humble aid of Rs. 25000.
- 3) SXCCAA also supported a Blood Donation Camp held at the St. Paul's High School, Raghavpur on the 17th of March 2019.
- 4) SXCCAA joined the mission of Safe Drinking Water for All by installing 6 Drinking Water Purification & Cooling Machines out of which 5 are installed at the Park Street Campus & 1 at Raghavpur Campus. Additionally a RO Water Treatment Plant is installed at St. Paul's School, Raghavpur for providing safe drinking water to the students.
- 5) 23rd July 2019 had been a special day for SXCCAA when everyone joined in celebrating Philanthropy Day which coincided with the Birthday of Our Beloved President & Principal of our College Rev. Fr. Dominic Savio SJ at Xavier Hall of the College. On this day, the beneficiaries of the Philanthropic Activities of the College were invited & felicitated. SXCCAA

helped Pratap Sani, Sachi Rani Makal & Deepak Kumar Banerjee for their retina replacements & post operation medical treatments. SXCCAA also donated a sum of Rs. 10 Lacs towards the development works of the Raghampur Campus. The Association also donated Medical Equipments, Refrigerator & Mixer to Little Sisters of the Poor on this occasion. Also, The evening was made even colourful with the Birthday Cake which Father shared with all along with High Tea at the Big Parlour. The credit for success of this event goes to the Conveners Harish Agarwal, Dharmen Trivedi & Rajesh Agarwal.

- 6) SXCCAA contributes largely towards the Development of Paikhala Prathamik Vidyalay throughout the year, on account of the Study Materials, Copybooks, School Dress & Shoes for the Students as well as the Salary of the Teachers.
- 7) Inspired by the teachings of our President, SXCCAA is also bearing the expenses of education as well as Hostel stay of few first generation financially challenged students of our college, so that they can be awarded with a winning career.

C. Fellowship Activities:

- 1) Christmas is the Biggest Festival in any Jesuit Calender SXCCAA organized a Christmas Meet with its members, Fathers, Teaching & Non Teaching Staffs & other dignitaries along with Students of St. Xavier's College on 23rd December 2018 at Fr. Depelchin Auditorium. Like last few years, Ms. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal graced the celebrations along with Rev. Fr. Dominic Savio SJ & other Jesuit Fathers, Janab Firhad Hakim Hon'ble Mayor of Kolkata & the Commissioner of Kolkata Police. Also present were several State Ministers and other Parliamentarians. The auditorium was harmonized by the sweet tunes performed by the College's musical society XADAM. A special thanks to the Rajendra Agarwal, Pravin Baid & Manoj Jain for their efforts.
- 2) Like every year, Teachers' Day was celebrated on the 5th of September 2019 along with the Students' Council. Members of SXCCAA paid their respect and gratitude to the past and present teachers, professors and non teaching staff. The Keynote address was given by Dr. Fr. Dominic Savio SJ. The occasion was graced by Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar. The teaching & the non teaching staffs were invited for lunch to mark this occasion. A special thanks to the Conveners Shahid Ahmed Khan & Sushil Maheswari and their Advisors Arun Bhattar & Baldev Raj Sony.
- 3) This year SXCCAA Annual Reunion Dinner was held at the St. Xavier's College Grounds on the 29th of December 2018. The theme for the dinner this year was Rajasthan. The entire ambience comprised of Rajasthani elements. Around 800 people gathered together for this brilliant event as the 1994 Batch celebrated their Silver Jubilee Year. Respected Fathers, Teaching staff graced this occasion and gave their blessings. A special thanks to the Advisors & Conveners Atanu Malik, Rajesh Agarwal, Hemant Saraogi, Rajiev Buvaria & Pankaj Binani for their efforts.
- 4) On Fridays, we all meet together at Room No. 5 of the College to Thank God after every eventful week. The Friday Fellowships help us to re-invent & rejuvenate ourselves for the coming days.

D. Special Occasions:

- 1) A meeting was held on the 7th of December 2018, with Mr. Alapan Bandhopadhyay IAS, The Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Department of MSME and Textiles, Govt. of West Bengal. The meeting was graced with the presence of Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Dominic Savio, the Rector, Principal and President of SXCCAA. It was a packed room filled with people eager to listen and interact with the ACS. Mr. Bandhopadhyay spoke intimately about the department of MSME, its importance, relevance and requirement. An Alumni member Mr. Pradip Ray who is an entrepreneur himself had a lot of interesting facts to share, which even kept the ACS

mesmerized. To sum it up it was an extremely informative and enriching session that the Alumni members loved which simultaneously contributed to its success.

- 2) Sanyog 2019, was an International Torch Light Peace Rally to Commemorate Bhasa Dibas-International Mother Language Day was organized by SXCCAA with the student bodies of St. Xavier's College, Kolkata including the Bengali Literary Society. The torch light flame which signified worldwide fraternity and cultural bond began its auspicious journey on the 6th of February 2019 with the blessings from Rev. Fr. Dominic Savio S.J., Rev. Fr. Dr. Xavier Savarimuthu, Rev. Fr. Peter Arockiam, respective Deans, Professors and active participation of our fellow students. The delegation team carried the torch to the Dhaka University, Loyola College Chennai, Indian Embassy Bangkok, St. Xavier's School Burdwan, St. Xavier's College Raghavpur Campus and St. Xavier's University Rajarhat. A special thanks to the Advisors & Conveners Chandan Roy Chowdhury, Sujoy Saha, Manas Dev, Shubhechha Chowdhuri, Arijit Dey & Subhra Sankha Bose for their efforts.
- 3) The SXCCAA along with the Bengali Literary Society of St. Xavier's College had organized the 'Dashovuja Bangalee 2019' on the 22nd of February 2019 at the Fr. Depelchin Auditorium. This year's panel included 'Dada Saheb Phalke' and 'Legion of Honor' Awardee Shri Soumitra Chatterjee; National Award (Bangladesh) Winning Actress Shrimati Jaya Ahasan; Renowned poet Shri Joy Goswami; National Award Winning Singer (India) Shrimati Imon Chakraborty; Renowned Director from Bollywood Shri Shoojit Sircar; Eminent theatre artist cum politician Shri Bratya Basu; Chairman of Basundhara Group of Bangladesh Janab Ahmed Akbar Sobhan; Footballer Shri Surajit Sengupta; Nation Award winning film critic and journalist Shri Saibal Chatterjee and Dr. Sukumar Mukherjee.
- 4) The Annual Event of Xaverian Theatrical Society, TheaXav 2019 was organized in collaboration with SXCCAA on 27th & 28th March 2019 at Fr. Depelchin Auditorium. The enactment of the play 'Mir Zafar' by noted thespians of Bengal including Mr. Bratya Basu, Minister at Govt. of West Bengal had been the highlight of this event.

E. Fund Raising Programmes:

This year, Beyond Barriers XIX was livened with performance of two both sensational and popular presence in the Bollywood Singing Circle; Neha Kakkar and Armaan Malik on 26th January 2019 – India's Republic Day. No wonder we had a jam packed and enthralled record audience. More than 100 members comprised of Team Beyond Barriers in the specific fields of Sponsoring, Artist Coordination, Ground and Stage, Media and Publicity, Security, Reception, etc. It was an amazing experience in staging the show as well as the show itself. We put forward our heartfelt regards to all our sponsors, teaching and non-teaching staff, vendors, students, members of the SXCCAA, audience, Govt. of West Bengal along with a special gesture of gratitude for Rev. Fr. Dominic Savio who parental appreciation, encouragement and prayers helped us to live up to the motto – NIHIL ULTRA. We would also like to thank the fathers of St. Xavier's Community for their constant affection and support. We were able to make a humble contribution to our Alma Mater with a cheque of Rs. 10 lakhs from the proceedings for the development of the Raghavpur Campus. Special Thanks goes to the Conveners Vikas Khosla & Arvind Bubna & their Advisors Dharmen Trivedi, Pankaj Shah & Firdausul Hasan well as the Heads of other sub-committees for their tireless support & services towards making this event a successful one.

F. Activities in Association with the College:

- 1) The Feast of St. Francis Xavier was observed with due solemnity on 3rd December 2018 at the College Chapel. It was attended by a large number of SXCCAA members.
- 2) The 12th Convocation & Valedictory was a solemn occasion of celebration on 16th January, 2019 – the Foundation Day of St. Xavier's College Kolkata. Dr. Surajan Das, Vice Chancellor of Jadavpur University graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Rev. Fr. Dominic Savio, S.J. Principal in his address and Annual Report highlighted the salient achievements of the college

over the last one year. Nihil Ultra Award was conferred to Dr. Das for contribution to Higher Education & the Society.

- 3) The College Foundation Day on 16th January, 2019 was also celebrated with the ceremonial cake cutting and a special dinner hosted by the SXCCAA for all the Fathers at the College Refractory.
- 4) Xavotsav 2019, one of the most awaited events marked in the Xaverian Students Calendar, was organized on 22nd to 24th January 2019 amidst the usual fervor by the students' council who worked together with the Alumni.
- 5) A Picnic for all the Jesuit Fathers was organized by SXCCAA on 10th February 2019. Around 40 Fathers and 15 Alumni members participated at the picnic.
- 6) SXCCAA members actively participated in a silent prayerful candlelight procession on 19th February 2019 in memory of the Martyrs of the Pulwama Tragedy, led by our President Fr. Dominic Savio with active participation of other Jesuit Fathers, Teachers & Students of the College.
- 7) SXCCAA members also participated in Candle Light Prayer Service on 26th April 2019 to condemn the terrorist attack at a Church at Sri Lanka during the Easter Mass. The service has considerable participation from other Jesuit Fathers, Teachers & Students of the College.
- 8) Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola was observed with due solemnity in the College chapel on the 31 July, 2019.
- 9) SXCCAA regularly co-ordinates & assists the faculty & staff members of the College for attending the meetings & seminars with UGC, MHRD, and other such activities & events.

G. National Chapters:

- 1) SXCCAA organized its third National Convention, Looking Beyond III in New Delhi from the 16th to the 19th of November 2018 at Hotel Leela Ambience and Convention Hotel, Delhi. More than 200 Xaverians along with their spouses from across the globe attended the convention under the graceful umbrella of SXCCAA President Rev. Fr. Dominic Savio S.J. The meet began on the 16th with Welcome dinner along with musical performances. The highlights included interviews with eminent Bollywood Actress Ms. Zeenat Aman, the 83' Cricket World Cup Winning Captain Mr. Kapil Dev. Former Vice President of India Mr. Hamid Ansari was presented with the Global Xaverian Award by the SXCCAA. The convention ended with a harmonious musical performance presented by Mr. Babul Supriyo, a popular Bollywood Singer & Cabinet Minister in Govt. of India. The Association was able to contribute a sum raised through this event for the development of Raghampur Campus of the College. A special thanks to the Advisors & Conveners Firdausul Hasan, Srikant Jain, Umesh Goenka & Harish Agarwal for their efforts.
- 2) Our Alumni Connect got a big boost with the members getting together several times this year. SXCCAA organized its National Chapter Meets at Poona Club, Pune on 6th March 2019 at Country Club, Andheri West, Mumbai on 8th March 2019 to bring on better camaraderie amongst alumni members.
- 3) Inauguration of North Bengal Chapter as the 5th National Chapter of the Association was organized at Montana Vista Club, Siliguri on 6th April 2019. Fr. Dominic Savio SJ blessed the occasion along with other Jesuit Fathers in presence of Mr. Goutam Deb, Tourism Minister of Govt. of West Bengal.
- 4) SXCCAA South Zone Chapter in association with its parent body SXCCAA organized its decennial celebration namely Xaverians In Action (XIA) 2019 on 31st August 2019 at Taj West

End, Bengaluru. XIA 2019 had a host of eminent speakers & panelists from different industries sharing their industry experiences, perspective and business models. The Chapter also pledged to contribute a sum of Rs. 5 Lacs to SXCCAA towards the development of Raghbapur Campus. It's been a power packed day which ended with a musical night & networking dinner.

H. International Chapters:

SXCCAA had been able to outreach with its Expatriate members this year in a better way through International Chapter Meets – especially inclusion of South Africa Chapter as the 10th International Chapter has been a new feather on the hat of the Association. The International Chapter Meets were held on the following dates:

- 1) Bangladesh Chapter Meet from 21st September to 23rd September 2018 at Dhaka
- 2) Australia Chapter Meet on 5th November 2018 at Sydney
- 3) Singapore Chapter Meet on 10th November 2018 at Singapore
- 4) Dubai Chapter Meet on 29th November 2018 at Dubai
- 5) Inauguration of South Africa Chapter on 17th May 2019 at Johannesburg.
- 6) Thailand Chapter Meet on 3rd August 2019 at Bangkok.

All the International Chapter Meets became huge success with mass participation from local Chapter members, Jesuit Fathers as well as Governing Council members of SXCCAA attending the Meets in significant numbers. The President of SXCCAA, Fr. Dominic Savio shared his Vision on growth & expansion planning of the College to all the dignitaries at those meets & seek the support of all the members of the Association to take it forward.

Let me put on record our appreciation to all the Chapter coordinators of the International Chapters for their hardwork & dedication to take the movement forward.

I. Sports:

- 1) The St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association contingent took part in the Annual Sports Day of the college on 2nd February, 2019. The SXCCAA contingent comprising of old & new Alumni members who attended the March Past on the day. Members from the alumni also participated in the alumni flat race.
- 2) The sporting spirits ran high as alumni members took up a challenge against the teaching & non-teaching staff members of the college to play at the traditional Fr. Joe D'Souza Memorial Cricket Match on the college grounds on 16th March, 2019. It was a great match together & ended in true sportsman spirit – thanks to the coordinated & unstinted effort of Advisor & Convenors Pawan Dalmia, Arun Sultania & Sandeep Mundra.

J. Participation in JAAI & WUJA Activities:

SXCCAA organized the Province Level meeting of JAAI on 25th November 2018 at Press Club Kolkata, which was attended by Fr. President & some distinguished alumni members.

K. Financial Matters:

The St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association has clinched yet another financially satisfying year. All the programmes have successfully generated the resources required for their execution. The Alumni has also been able to post a healthy balance to the corpus through the various fundraisers. A special thanks to Anil Goenka and Manoj Mani Agarwal for guarding the treasury zealously and for their accounting excellence. We must also thank our Auditors M/S. Anurag Mathur and Company for their good work.

L. Growth and Expansion:

By the Grace of the Almighty and vision of our mentor Fr. President and Principal, the expansion programmes of our alma mater continued with great speed and vigor and SXCCAA had little its humble support and presence almost in every sphere of development.

M. Media Relations:

The college and alumni activities, needless to say the members were always on news this year as the alumni witnessed a new height of relationship of goodwill with the media. We are grateful to all our friends in the media for the excellent coverage they have given to us.

N. Conclusion:

The SXCCAA is today cited as an example, benchmark that all other alumni associations wish to attain, not only because we function as a family – as a team, but mainly because we have with us the blessings and guidance of our leader, our President Rev. Fr. Dr. Dominic Savio, S.J., whose dreams & also constant support to fulfill those dreams gives every alumni activity a different level altogether. I am grateful to him for giving the Alumni this stature, this position of pride and for his generous support. He invokes positive energy into the ‘Mass Movement’ called SXCCAA. Thank You Father.

Let me thank all the members of the Governing Council, the Advisors and Conveners, Sub-Committee Members for their excellent support and co-operation – without your selfless service, we would not have achieved this unprecedented success & glory as a team. Let me put on record our appreciation for the Editor Pawan Dalmia and the entire editorial team who have worked hard to bring out a very meaningful edition of our annual magazine “We Xaverian”.

Allow me, also to put on record our gratitude to all the sponsors who have continued to support our various activities around the year. Without their financial as well as manpower support, we would not have been able to organize so many events at such grand scale.

I also thank Dominic Anthony ably assisted by Tanima Ghosh – the last but not the least, for efficiently assisting us at all times & being key points of contact at Room No. 5.

Nihil Ultra

Xaverianly yours,

Sanjib Koner

Hony. Secretary

SXCCAA

2018-2019