

## XAVIER BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

NEWS LETTER
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## **Upcoming events**

- National Workshops for Faculty on 'Problem Based Learning (PBL) Strategies and Aspects of Curriculum Development' at Christ University, Bangalore July 11-12, 2018 Time: 9.30 a.m. 5.30. p.m. by Prof. Anantanarayanan RAMAN, PhD, DSc., Charles Sturt University, Australia. (Program for Autonomous Colleges only)
- Training Programme for Principals & IQAC Coordinators on XBHEI's 'Academic & Administrative Audit (AAA) for Colleges', August 2018, (tentative), Venue: Christ University, Bangalore.
- Annual Board Meeting Friday, September 21, 2018 at Christ University, Bangalore.
- National Conference & Annual General Body Meeting for Principals / Managers / Faculty – Saturday & Sunday, September 22-23, 2018 at Christ University, Bangalore.
- National Workshop for Young Faculty at St. Albert's College, Ernakulam, Kerala October 2018. Resource Persons: Mr. Ian Faria and team.

- General Assembly of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU), Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland 23-27 July 2018.
- ❖ Xavier Board of Higher Education in India is collaborating with Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram & Christ University (Golden Jubilee (1969 − 2019) in organizing an International Conference − 'Harmony (Harmonia), Interface of Cosmic, Ethical and Religious Orders',

January 09-12, 2019.

XBHEI is one of the event partners. Conference website www.harmony2019.in

- **❖** Triennial Conference
  - September, 2019 North East Region exact venue to be confirmed at the Board meeting, September 2018.

#### SPIRITUAL FEST - 'YOUTH AWAKE'

Sr. Monica Kamei, BS, Dept. of Sociology, Holy Cross College, Agartala



The long awaited 'spiritual fest' was organized by Holy Cross College, Xavier Board Unit and was conducted by Jesus Youth Team. Shillong, Meghalaya, in our college auditorium on January 26-28, 2018. Fr. Emmanuel, Principal of HCC, Agartala, welcomed he six resource persons from Shillong allowed them to introduce themselves to the gathering. There were over 100 participants including the students from St. Andre Secondary School and the Department of Teacher Education from Durjoynagar campus.

It was amazing to see everyone zealous and enthusiastic and actively participating. Indeed, it was a memorable and a joyful time for all of us. During these three spirit filled days we felt God's love in the depths of our hearts. There were moments of grace and blessing when we prayed, shared and learnt together, read the Bible together, laughed, sang and danced together for the glory of God, as King David danced in praise of God. These days enabled us to have an introspection of our own lives, how much God loves us and blesses us.

This ignited our hearts and minds to love God and to be a blessing to everyone.

During the programme each one shared their personal experiences of God's love in their lives. The resource persons prepared our hearts and minds to have a meaningful penitential service where we all experienced the merciful love of God. The qualities of leadership presented by our friends from Shillong thoroughly challenged us.



Each one felt the powerful presence of God and our hearts were like sponge in the water, we absorbed everything which enabled us to experience God's love personally. Recharged, revived and filled with the Holy Spirit all returned home praising God for He had done marvels in our lives.

We thank Fr. Emmanuel, our Principal, Fr. Shaji, Vice-Pincipal and Fr. Sijo, the Administrator for all the opportunities provided for our growth especially for organizing the spiritual fest. We also thank Sr. Marina, BS, Sr. Mariette and Sr. Sheela who helped us and accompanied us. We express our gratitude to Miss Bijimol and the Xavier Board Unit of our college who organized these three days successfully. Lastly, we thank Jesus Youth Team namely, Rapbor, Shembha, Arnelius, Badahun, Twincey Mary and Andriana. May God bless all and reward them bountifully.

## National seminar on: 'Conflicts in South Asia: It's Consequences and Implications'

16-17, March 2018.

At Don Bosco College, Golaghat, Assam in collaboration with Salesian College, Sonada, Darjeeling



The National Seminar was jointly organised by the Departments of Political Science and Sociology, Don Bosco College, Golaghat, Assam and Salesian College, Sonada, Darjeeling, WB. Peace activist and socio-cultural academician Prof. Fr. Thomas Menamparampil graced the event as chief guest. He spoke on a need to build up a 'Thought Bank' that will lead to Dialogue and a sense of Co-Belonging - Working for Peace.

He emphasised the need to promote inter culture communication in which one is able to understand the other and come together through culture translators.

He also said that is was importan to gather people together around great values and high ideals. He invited every community to contribute from its own resources "as we are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny".

Dr. Pius V Thomas, from Dept. of Philosophy, Assam University, Silchar delivering the key note address spoke on 'Conflicting Communities to Conversing Cosmo-polities: Counterfactual Ideals against Conflicts' and invited the participants to talk seriously about peace and real conflict resolution where the strangest of strangers are welcomed.

Principal Fr. Dr. Jose Palely, sdb, informed that 37 institutions and universities across the country took part and 67 abstract papers were received for the seminar. There were five presentations from SCS. President of the inaugural session Provincial of Salesian Province of Dimapur, Fr. Nestor Guria, sdb, spoke on the need to understand the conflict situation and intervene meaningfully by focusing on peace and peace education. Asst. Prof Aparna Borchetia and Asst. Prof Lily Toppo from the Department of Sociology compered the inaugural session.

Soon after the inaugural programme, the participants went to three parallel technical sessions chaired by Dr. Pius V Thomas, Dr. Tarun Gogoi and Principal of Salesian College Sonada Fr. Dr. George Thadathil, sdb.



Each paper presenter was allotted 7 minutes for presentation and the participants were given 3 minutes for interaction. The Seminar was Coordinated by Dr. Konsam Jenny.

Guests of honor included Principal Debraj Roy College, Golaghat, Dr. Putul Saikia, and Fr. Nebu Mathew Palackal who gave fresh insights in conflict resolution.

### Xavier Board of Higher Education in India promotes 'Sustainable Water Diplomacy - Need of the Hour'

The 'Sustainable Water Diplomacy' event marking International World Water Day 2018 (March 22<sup>nd</sup>) saw water activists and nature conservationists across Karnataka and foreign diplomats come together to discuss nature based solutions for existing water challenges.

Set under the theme 'Nature for Water', this year explores nature-based solutions to the water challenges we face in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The conference joined the global community of people who strive to make a difference and is officially registered under the UN World Water Day.



At the inaugural function lighting the Kuthu Vilakku(lamp) was replaced by watering the pottery plant.



Releasing the UN World Water day fact sheet

Dr. Sr. Annamma Philip, Secretary General - Xavier Board for High Education, Bangalore released the UN World Water Day fact sheet with other dignitaries. "The sustainable and equitable management of shared resources is currently lacking and hence, it is time for countries to come together for a common purpose combining diplomacy, innovation, participation and new funding mechanisms" she commented.

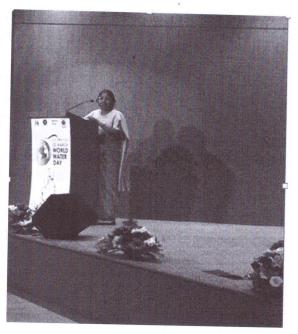
"Through intercultural dialogue, we need innovative forms of water diplomacy - to integrate multiple perspectives and resolve problems in ways that are informed by science and technology to solve Namma Bengaluru's current water challenges.

After all, let's remember that it is our water and it belongs to the people", she added.

Dr. Sr. Annamma Philip also stated that "As the world faces growing water shortages, let us commit ourselves to educate and make current generations aware of the importance of water conservation, good practices of reducing consumption, effective utilization of waste water and so on".

Also present were Dana Kursh, Consulate General of Israel in Bengaluru and His Excellency Francois Gautier, Consul General of France.

Dana Kursh, Consulate General of Israel in Bengaluru, said that: "We are here today to partner with India and see how best we can collaborate in the field of Gal-Mobiles which is an independent, integrated water purification vehicle, designed to produce high-quality drinking water.



She also stated that it could be useful in natural disasters like floods, earthquakes, military use in difficult terrain and rural areas to provide potable water. Initiatives such as these would enhance water diplomacy between India and Israel", she added.

His Excellency Francois Gautier, Consul General of France stated, "In water lies the opportunity to generate and wield soft power while collaborating to enable equitable and sustainable development. During the recent meeting of French President, Mr. Macron with Indian PM Modi, stability in the Indian Ocean region was highlighted as being very important for the stability of the entire region, and we are with India for freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific".

Fr. Manoj D'Souza, SJ, Executive Director - St. Joseph's Institute of Management (SJIM) Bangalore, stated: "Nature-based solutions have the potential to solve many of our water challenges. We need to do so much more with 'green' infrastructure and harmonize it with 'grey' infrastructure wherever possible. Imparting education and awareness through events such as these on nature and environmental conservation takes prominence in our academic curriculum".

# Congratulations to Fr. Vineeth George, CMF....

#### Claretian priest bags Rashtriya Gaurav award

Published on: 9:04 pm, March 30, 2018 by: mattersindia.com



Bengaluru: Father Vineeth George, CMF, a priest belonging to the Claretian Province of Bangalore, received the Rashtriya Gaurav Puraskar 2018 from Lt Gen K.M. Seth PVSM, the former Governor of Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Tripura, at the India International Centre, New Delhi on March 26.

The award consisted of a citation and a Certificate of Excellence for Outstanding Leadership in the Field of Higher Education, exceptional performance of high order and service to the society.

The award jury consisted of experts in diverse fields, such as economists, journalists, social activists, industrialists, educationists, technocrats, politicians and retired defence officers. Fr Vineeth is one of the youngest recipients of this prestigious award.

The past recipients of this award include Mother Teresa, Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, G.V.G. Krishnamuthy, Justice P.N. Bhagwati, Dr. Naresh Trehan, and Air Chief Marshal N.C. Suri in their respective fields.

Earlier too, Fr. Vineeth has bagged such laurels both as a student and as a professional. During his post-graduation, Fr. Vineeth was conferred with the coveted Dr. Subbirami Reddi Gold Medal by virtue of being the university topper. Later, during his career as a Public Relations professional, he was inducted as a Graduate Member of the Indian Management Association by its Director General, as a testimony of his managerial excellence.

Fr Vineeth had worked with reputed MNCs such as Dell and GE, before joining Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, a Navratna category Public Sector Undertaking under the Union Ministry of Power.

At the prime of his career, Fr Vineeth responded to the call to priesthood and joined the Claretian Congregation in 2006.

He currently serves as the Vice-Principal of St Claret College, Bengaluru, where he also lectures in diverse management topics ranging from Business Ethics to Strategic Management. He is renowned for his expertise and experience in the areas of Public Relations and Human Resource Management.

## IN MEMORIAM.....



(Late) Prof. Dr. Newman Fernandes

Prof. Dr. Newman Fernandes passed away on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018 while he was convalescing after a cardiac surgery. Rev. Fr. Dr. Walter de Sa from St. Joseph Vaz College, Cortalim, Goa, represented both AIACHE and Xavier Board at the funeral service on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June.

Dr. Newman was the former Vice-President (National Level), Regional President (Goa-Western Region) and Executive Board member of Xavier Board of Higher Education in India. He also served as the President of AIACHE. Recently, he has been functioning as the Director, DDE, SHUATS- Deemed University, Allahabad.

Xavier Board would like to place on record his commitment, dedicated services and passionate involvement in the field of Higher Education in India.

May his soul Rest in Peace.

#### A Reminder.....

- It is time to organize Regional Meetings especially those regions where such meetings were not held during the past few months. Each region is required to prepare a report of the activities / programs organized in the region and present it at the Annual Board meeting to be held in September 2018.
- We would like to invite Colleges who are not yet Life Members of Xavier Board to enroll as Life Members, preferably before the Annual Board Meeting, 2018.
- Those who would love to organize the National Youth Camp 2018-19, kindly volunteer (Could be Region / Institution).

Regards and Best Wishes,

Dr. Sr. Annamma Philip, FMM, Secretary General,

Rev. Fr. Leslie Moras President,

Xavier Board of Higher Education in India

