

X-pressions

Annual College Magazine
2022-2023



North Bengal St. Xavier's College

A Jesuit Institution

Accredited with 'B+' by NAAC (1st Cycle)



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NORTH BENGAL ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE

A Jesuit Institution

A CO-EDUCATIONAL CATHOLIC MINORITY COLLEGE | AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL | INCLUDED UNDER 2(F) AND 12(B) OF UGC ACT 1956

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MESSAGE

I am glad to know that North Bengal St Xavier's College, Rajganj is bringing out the College Magazine "Xpressions" for the year 2022-2023.

The College Magazine is a forum which could aptly be used for recording events, fond memories and creative writing.

I am sure that this magazine will be informative and resourceful. The articles published in it, I hope, will be of contemporary relevance.

Today, the values of brotherhood, unity and justice in our present day society are slowly deteriorating. As a result great challenges are posed before our lives. I am sure the education rendered by North Bengal St Xavier's College will make our staff and students do the intellectual reading of the world and its challenges.

Humanity today has its good and bad points. It is the negative aspects that we need to worry about. The negative aspects such as growing inequity, polarization and conflict, ecological crisis, a digital culture and the weakening of politics show that we are in a crisis, in which social relationships, the economy and environment are all affected. The education rendered by the College must move the students forward with their imagination, critical analysis and creativity to enable education to transform them to build a just and humane society. The challenge before every staff and student is to engage the world fearlessly, honestly and intelligently, and in doing so, to discover who one is before God.

Congratulations to the editorial team for their determined efforts in bringing out this magazine. I hope the articles that will be published in this magazine will do the reading of the world today and address its challenges by understanding the reality better so that we can make a cultural shift from individualism to cooperation, from consumerism to environmentalism and from egoism to solidarity.

I convey my good wishes to the principal, students, faculty and staff of the college in their endeavors.

Place: Matigara
Date: 10 May 2023




Fr Wilfred Lobo, S.J.
Provincial
Darjeeling Jesuit Province



Date: 5th July, 2023

MESSAGE

It gives me great pleasure in conveying my best wishes to North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Rajganj for publishing its Annual College Magazine "*Xpressions*" for the academic session 2022-2023.

A magazine is an initiative by the College for its students and stakeholders. It is a platform for students to exhibit their talent and for the College to share its successes and best practices. The efforts of all those who are involved in publication of this magazine is highly commendable.

I congratulate everyone associated with the magazine on their successful endeavour and wish that it will prove to be an enlightening and intellectual treat to all readers.


Prof. Sanchari Roy Mukherjee
Vice-Chancellor

The Principal
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Message from the Principal

Our annual college magazine, *X-pressions*, is a treasure trove of thought-provoking ideas which have been skillfully presented through individual creative writings and artworks. Furthermore, it is a collection and chronicle of the myriad events and activities conducted all year round by the different departments, clubs, cells, and committees of North Bengal St. Xavier's College. That is why, every year, the release of the magazine is eagerly awaited by the college community as well as by our well-wishers, so as to relish these memories and preserve them for posterity.

We all know, behind every fruit there is hard work of some dedicated people. It is no different in producing this college magazine of such high quality, as behind this there is the presence of a dedicated editorial team that has worked painstakingly in compiling reports and other materials to form it into a yearly magazine.

I would like to sincerely appreciate and congratulate this year's new editorial team led by the chief-editor, Mr Rajarshi Bagchi, for the commendable efforts put forth in bringing out the college magazine on time. I also appreciate all those who contributed through some creative writings and those who reported various departmental and other co-curricular activities so that the magazine could take the shape it has today.

I wish a happy reading for all and wish that the coming years under the new education policy will witness contributions from many more students and staff to enrich this annual college magazine.


Fr (Dr) Lalit P. Tirkey, SJ
Principal



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From the Editor's Desk ...

In a way, a college magazine is like a family photo album. It binds us together with the strings of fond memories and shared experiences. Over the years, *X-pressions*, the annual college magazine of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, has been doing this, and more. Bringing together the entire spectrum of activities organised by the different departments, clubs, cells, and committees of the college over an entire academic year – be it the special lectures, seminars, workshops, field surveys, career-oriented events on the one hand, or health camps, cleanliness drives, women's empowerment programmes, cultural events, sports, or NCC training for girls on the other hand – *X-pressions* acts as a glowing testament to our commitment as a Jesuit institution towards holistic development at both the individual and collective levels. Furthermore, the magazine offers

a vibrant space in its pages to unfold the potential of our students in terms of creativity and critical thinking.

As the Chief Editor of *X-pressions* (2022-2023), I humbly thank our respected Principal, Fr. (Dr.) Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, for giving me this opportunity and responsibility to bring out our college magazine. I express my heartfelt gratitude to Rev. John Wilfred Lobo SJ, Provincial (Darjeeling Jesuit Province) and President of the Governing Body (NBSXC), and Fr. Xavier Alangaram SJ (Socius to the Provincial, Darjeeling Jesuit Province). I would also like to sincerely thank Fr. Bijay Kirti Kindo SJ (Vice-Principal, Administration), Dr. Aparna Chatterjee (Vice-Principal, Academics), Ms. Sanjukta Mitra (Vice-Principal, Siliguri Campus), other members of the college authority and administration, the esteemed Heads of the Departments, Conveners and Coordinators of the clubs, cells, and committees of the college, members of the Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff, and our printing partner (Agarwal Offset) for their support and cooperation. Last but not the least, I thank our dear students, without whose creative contributions this magazine would have remained incomplete and lacklustre.

For this year's magazine, we have added new sections in the Students' Corner segment in the form of Book Reviews, pieces on Popular Culture, theme-based Photo Collages, and so forth. We intend to introduce new segments in the future editions. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage our student-contributors – our budding poets, writers, reviewers, painters, and photographers – to come up with more submissions of various kinds and genres, so that they could add even more creative colours to the magazine.

I cannot conclude without a big shout-out to my wonderful editorial team-members. They have helped me every step of the way and made the entire experience of brainstorming, compiling, and shaping this edition of *X-pressions* such a memorable one.

Thank you all and happy reading!

- **Mr. Rajarshi Bagchi**
Chief Editor, *X-pressions*

Principal's Annual Report (July 2022- June 2023)

A very good morning and a hearty welcome to all of you on the 16th X-celence Day of North Bengal St. Xavier's College! To grace this occasion and make the day memorable for the achievers, we have two distinguished guests from the University of North Bengal. I really feel honoured to welcome in our midst the Chief Guest of the day, recently appointed Vice Chancellor of our university (NBU), Prof. (Dr) Sanchari Roy Mukherjee, and the Guest of Honour, Prof. (Dr) Zinia Mitra, who is the Head of the English Department at the University of North Bengal and also the University Nominee for our College Governing Board. We profusely thank both of them for sparing some of their precious time in order to be with us today.

I also take this opportunity to heartily welcome all the parents and guardians who have come from near and far to witness their wards being felicitated for their excellent performances.

Indeed, we are here today because we have with us our students and alumni, as well as our faculty members, who have done exceedingly well in academic or non-academic fields. And hence, at the outset, let me congratulate the toppers and achievers in studies and outstanding performers in non-academic fields.

On this wonderful day, I will try to mention some landmark events and achievements by our students and staff during the academic session 2022-23. I will also give an overview of the different activities/programs that were conducted at the institutional and departmental levels.

I. Academic Performance of our Students

I must admit that switching back from online mode of exams to conventional written exams was not very easy for many, something which was reflected in the relatively poor results in the first semester after the pandemic. But it was heartening to see how our students bounced back with much improved performances in the subsequent semester. Despite all odds there were some bright sparks like **Abhigya Chettri** from the **Dept. of Microbiology (NBSXC)**, who was **ranked 1st in the university**.

Below are the results of the **Graduating Batch 2022 (Rajganj Campus)**:

Course	Appeared for Exams	O	A+/A	B+/B	F	XX	Total
B.A (Hons)	147	0	109	35	02	01	147
B.Sc (Hons)	64	07	56	01	0	0	64
B.Com (Hons)	33	0	32	01	0	0	33
B.Com (P)	03	0	0	03	0	0	3
TOTAL	247	07	197	42	03	01	247

Graduating Batch 2022 (Siliguri Campus):

Course	Appeared for Exams	O	A+	A	B+/B	F	Total
B.Com (Hons)	23	0	15	08	0	0	23
B.Com (P)	05	0	0	05	0	0	05
B.B.A (Hons)	18	0	07	11	0	0	18
TOTAL	46	0	22	24	0	0	46

II. Achievements by Teaching Faculty

1. Awarded Doctoral Degrees (PhD):

Every year some of our teaching faculties are obtaining Doctoral Degrees. Once again in the academic session 2022-23, two of them, after having successfully defended their doctoral thesis, received the **Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D)**. They are:

Dr. Persis Mukhia (Dept of Sociology), whose thesis bearing the title, *Trafficking of Women in Darjeeling Hills: A Sociological Study*, was awarded doctoral degree from the University of North Bengal.

Dr. Saikat Roy (Dept of Political Science) whose thesis bearing the title, *Conflict Management in a Multicultural Society: A Study of Terai & Dooars Region in West Bengal*, was awarded doctoral degree from the University of North Bengal.

We congratulate both of them for achieving this feat!

2. **Our Teaching Faculties in Board of Studies (BoS):**

Board of Studies (BoS) is a very important forum that prepares or rectifies or improvises curriculum and syllabi of a particular department across the university. Normally, under any affiliating university which has highly experienced professors, it is rather rare for the undergraduate college teachers to be incorporated as members of Board of Studies. Therefore, it is a matter of great pride that three of our faculty members have been appointed as members of BoS in their respective departments for the academic session 2023-24:

- i. **Dr. Biprakash Kr. Tiwary** (2nd Term- BoS, Dept of Microbiology, NBU)
- ii. **Dr. Chandrani Choudhury** (BoS, Dept of Botany, NBU)
- iii. **Dr. Aparna Chatterjee** (BoS, Dept of Sociology, NBU)

3. **Awards and Recognitions for Faculty Members:**

The following faculty members of our college participated in seminars and conferences, and received awards/recognitions:

- **Dr Chandrani Choudhury** (Dept of Botany) received the ‘**Best Oral Presentation**’ Award in the International Conference on ‘Advances in Plants, Microbes and Agricultural Sciences (APMAS)’ 2023.
- She was also a **Co-Chairperson** in one of the scientific sessions in the International Conference APMAS-2023.
- **Dr Payel Paul** (Dept. of Botany) received the “**Young Scientist Award**” in the International Conference on ‘Advances in Plants, Microbes and Agricultural Science’, organised by the Department of Botany, NBU, from the 2nd to 4th of March, 2023.

4. **Publication in Journals/ Books/Book Chapters:**

The following faculty members published their research works:

Dr. Chandrani Choudhuri (Dept. of Botany, NBSXC) published three (03) research articles:

- “Application of nickel chitosan nanoconjugate as an antifungal agent for combating Fusarium rot of wheat” in *Scientific reports*, 2022.
- “Assessment of antifungal activity of nano-chitosan against mung bean seed borne pathogen *Aspergillus flavus* through solid matrix priming” in *South African Journal of Botany*, 2022.
- “Ethnomedicinal study on plant resources from sacred groves of Dakshin Dinajpur district, West Bengal, India” in *Ethnobotany Research and Applications*, 2023.

Published three (03) abstracts in *Abstract book of International Conference APMAS-2023*:

- “Determination of antifungal efficacy of silver nanochitosan on seed borne pathogens of wheat through nano-priming and its effect on nutritional status of seedlings”.
- “Assessment of antifungal activity of Nickel chitosan nanoconjugate against Fusarium rot of wheat”.
- “Assessment of antifungal activity of copper based nanochitosan on *Rhizopus stolonifer*, a virulent phytopathogen”.

Published one (01) book chapter titled, “Plant-Microbe Interaction and their role in mitigation of Heat Stress” in *Microbial Symbionts and Plant Health: Trends and application for changing climate*, published by Springer Publication, pp. 127-147.

Dr Aparna Chatterjee (Dept. of Sociology, NBSXC) published a monograph titled, *The Barua Buddhists: Lineage and Cultural Interface* (Shhalaj Publishing House, New Delhi, 2022).

Ms. Nitya Rai and **Dr Biprakash Kr. Tiwary** (Dept of Microbiology, NBSXC) have jointly published two (02) book chapters:

- “Oligotrophs: Microbes at low nutrient levels” in *Extremophiles: Diversity, Adaptation and Applications* (Bentham Science Publishers Pte. Ltd., 2022).

- “Natural Quorum Sensing Inhibitors: Potent Weapon to Control Bacterial Infections” in *Recent Trends and the future of Antimicrobial Agents* (Bentham Science Publishers Pte. Ltd., 2022).

Dr Haimanti Barman, teaching faculty (Bengali) at NBSXC, has two publications:

- A book chapter titled, “Bigyan Vabnay Teensongi” in *Rabindrachintachorcha*, edited by Dr. Utpal Mandal and Dr. Ashis Roy, published by the Dept. of Bengali, NBU, March 2023.
- An article titled, “BODHIRA: *Atmobikkhone Protibimbito Prokritichetona*”, in *SHRUTI* (A Peer Reviewed Refereed Journal), edited by Tapas Adhikary, published by Shruti Gobeshona Porishod, Dakshin Dinajpur (West Bengal, India), December 2022.

Dr Baidurya Biswas (Dept. of Geography, NBSXC) published the following research articles:

- “Analysis of geomorphic indices of longitudinal river profile of Sanka River and its tributaries of Chhota Nagpur Plateau, India” in Edited book. ISBN: 978-93-5704-498-1, pp. 120-129.
- “Assessing Vulnerability of groundwater resource in urban and sub-urban areas of Siliguri, North Bengal (India): A special reference to LULC alteration”. (2023), *Elsevier Inc.*, doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-99963-2.00006-7, pp. 249-273.

Dr . Asim Mitra (Dept. of Commerce, NBSXC) published a paper titled, “Subjective Knowledge, Perceived Ability, Motivation, and Age: A Mediated Moderation Model of Antecedents of Stock Market Investors’ Information Search”, in the online journal *Global Business Review*, published by SAGE JOURNALS.

Dr Jackson Gurung, teaching faculty (Chemistry) at NBSXC, has following collaborative publications in the 2022-23 session:

- Y. G. Devi, P. A. Koya & **J. Gurung**, “Research progress on the synthesis of different types of gemini surfactants with functionalized hydrophobic moiety and the space” in *Chemistry Select* 2022, 7, e202203485.
- J. Rozamliana, **J. Gurung** & P. A. Koya, “Interaction of metanil yellow dye with cationic surfactants: Conductometric and spectroscopic studies”, in *Journal of Molecular Liquids*, 2022, 368, 120653.
- D. Saha, **J. Gurung**, B. Roy, A. K. Pulikkal, A. Bhowmik & S. Pattanayak, “Optimizing pyrolysis process parameters of plastic grocery bag, with mass–energy assessment and characterization of oil at optimal condition” in, *Clean Technologies and Environmental Policy*, 2022, 24 (6), 1927-1944.
- J. Lalthlengliani, **J. Gurung** & A. K. Pulikkal, “Solubilization of aqueous-insoluble phenothiazine drug in TX-100 micellar solution and interactions of cationic/anionic surfactants with phenothiazine–TX-100 system”, in *Journal of Molecular Liquids*, 2022, 354, 118823.

III. Conferences/Seminars/Workshops:

- Dept. of Botany organised a One-Day Hands-On Training Programme on Digital Herbarium.
- Dept. of Computer Sc/BCA organised a One-Day Technical Workshop On ‘Cyber Security and Machine Learning’.
- A One-Day Workshop on ‘Cyber Security and Machine Learning’ was jointly organised by ISOEH Siliguri and Department of Computer Science and Application, North Bengal St Xavier’s College, on the 11th of November, 2022 wherein Mr. Somdeb Chakraborty, Information Security Analyst in the Indian School of Ethical Hacking, was the resource person.
- Dept. of Geography, in collaboration with the Integrated Institute for Advance Research and Information (IIARI), organised a Three-Day Workshop-Cum-Hands-on-Training Programme on Q-GIS: A Geospatial Technology’ from 23rd -24th and 26th September, 2022.
- Dept. of Microbiology (NBSXC), in association with MBSI (Microbiology Society of India), organised ‘*SCIENTIA: A Fermented Food Display Event*’ along with an inter-departmental science quiz. The students of the 3rd and 5th semesters, under the guidance of their professors, congregated to make this event a grand success. The event took place on the 26th of September, 2022.
- Dept. of Microbiology also organised an intra-departmental seminar on the theme, “Global Science for Global well-being”, which was the theme for National Science Day, 2023. Students from the 4th and 6th semesters were divided into seven groups (A to G) and were mentored in the session.

- Dept. of Sociology organised a departmental seminar on “Understanding the Youth Culture through Emerging Trends and Lifestyles: Its Impact and Challenges in the Contemporary Society” on the 19th of September, 2022.
- Dept. of Zoology organised a Webinar on the 25th of November, 2022, on ‘Drug Discovery and Development’. A total of 58 students from all the semesters (1st, 2nd and 3rd semesters) and faculty members of the department attended the webinar. The speaker of the webinar was Dr. Srikanta Kumar Rath, Chief Scientist and Principal Investigator of Toxicology and Experimental Medicine Division at CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, India.
- On the 27th of February, 2023, the Department of Zoology of North Bengal St. Xavier’s College organised an inter-departmental Model and Poster-making Competition on the theme, ‘Technology, Mankind & Nature’.
- On the 9th of September, 2022, the Life Coaching & Wellness Cell (NBSXC) organised a “One-Day Life Skills Training and Workshop”. The resource person was Dr. Prince C.P., Associate Professor, Salesian College, Siliguri.

IV. Invited/ Special Lectures:

- Dept. of English organised a Special Lecture on “Indian Cinema in the context of Ray Centenary”. The keynote speaker was Mr. Ashoke Viswanathan, National and International award-winning filmmaker & Professor and Dean, Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute, Kolkata.
- Dept. of History conducted a special lecture titled, “History of North Bengal”, on the 27th of September, 2022. The keynote speaker was Dr. Amrita Mandal, Professor of History, University of North Bengal.
- Dept of Pol. Sc also conducted special lectures by the faculty members on the Indian Constitution under the title ‘Know Your Constitution’.
- On the 26th of September, 2022, Saturday, the Department of Political Science, North Bengal St. Xavier’s College, Rajganj, organised a special lecture on the topic, “Changing Role of Civil Services in India”. Dr. Ranjita Chakraborty, a renowned Professor of the Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal, was the speaker and resource person.
- Dept. of Sociology organised a special lecture on “AM I NOT MY FIRST ‘OTHER’?: Relooking at Edward Said’s *Orientalism* with a Difference”. The speaker was Mr. Soumyadip Ghosh, Faculty and Head, Dept. of English, NBSXC.
- Dept. of English and Dept. of Sociology jointly organised a special Lecture on “Shangri-La to Kalimpong: The Transcultural ‘Patriotism’ of Ma Zhuchai”. The respected speaker was Prof. Prem Poddar, Honorary Professorial Fellow, University of Manchester, Great Britain.
- On the 25th of July, 2022, the Life Coaching & Wellness Cell (NBSXC) organised a Special Lecture on “Mental Health-Awareness (Academic Stress)”. Attended by about 50 students and faculty members the lecture was delivered by Ms. Anuja Tamang, who teaches Psychology at NBSXC.
- On the 10th of October, 2022, Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, the Coordinator of the Life Coaching & Wellness Cell, invited students to make videos on the topic, “Mental Health through Creativity” while organising a Special Lecture on “Wisdom from Across the World: Living a more meaningful life”.

V. Other Important Departmental Events and Activities:

- Dept. of Commerce and Management hosted the 1st edition of the **Xavier Annual Management Convention (XAMCon)** on January 13 and 14, 2023, at Siliguri campus. Apart from both campuses of our college, Salesian College, Siliguri College, Inspiria College, and ICFAI participated.
- An **industrial visit** was organised by the Department of Management (BBA), NBSXC, in collaboration with Young Indians Foundation, Siliguri for the students of BBA (H), on the 24th of September, 2022 to Gopal Dana LPG Factory- a manufacturing unit producing LPG cylinders that is located at Fulbari, Siliguri.
- On the 25th of November, 2022, Dept. of Pol. Sc. organised a **Youth Parliament** on ‘Recent Trends in Indian Politics’ by inviting different schools such as Techno India Group Public School, Darjeeling Public School, DAV School, Royal Academy & Nirmala Convent School.
- Dept. of Pol. Sc. also organised a **Poster-Making Competition** on ‘National Integration’.

- A team from the Dept. of Geography participated in an **Inter-College Quiz Competition** on Geography, organised by Salesian College (Siliguri), and secured the 2nd position.
- Dept. of Zoology organised a **Panel Discussion** on “Future of Humans and Humans of Future: A Case Study of Evolutionary Blackout” wherein the speaker was Dr. Tamal Mazumder, Teaching Faculty, Dept. of Zoology (NBSXC).
- On the 25th of March, 2023, the Dept of Sociology organised a **Reunion** of its Alumni/alumnae – ‘*XAVIERA: REUNION OF A FAMILY*’.

VI. Events/Activities by Clubs, Cells, & Committees of NBSXC:

- On the 24th of August, 2022, the Women’s Cell, NBSXC, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ‘MARG’ (Mankind in Action for Rural Growth), an NGO from Darjeeling. On the 30th of August, 2022, YATC (Youth Against Trafficking Club) was formed with the student members of the Women’s Cell in the NBSXC Rajganj campus under the auspices of ‘MARG’.
- A ‘Two-day Mega Health Camp’ was jointly organised by Women’s Cell and Social Service Cell of NBSXC, Rajganj, on the 10th and 11th of February, 2023, in collaboration with Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, Fulbari, and Lions Club, Siliguri.
- Social Service Cell, NBSXC also conducted social outreach programme and anti-human trafficking programme at Shikarpur Tea Garden.
- Women’s Cell and AICUF (NBSXC) jointly organised an event to pre-celebrate International Women’s Day on the 4th of March, 2023, at Shikarpur tea estate. The 4th of March is also observed as ‘National Safety Day’.
- On Saturday, the 24th of September, 2022, the National Service Scheme (NSS) Cell, NBSXC, celebrated the NSS Day and organised a ‘*Swachhata Abhiyan*’ campaign.
- On Monday, the 9th of January, 2023, the National Service Scheme (NSS) Cell organised a Blood Donation Camp. It was organised as part of ‘National Youth Week’ observation. A grand total of 55 units of blood were donated to the Jalpaiguri District Hospital Blood Bank.
- The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of the North Bengal St. Xavier’s College (Rajganj), in collaboration with The Nature & Trekkers’ Club of Jalpaiguri, took an initiative and brought to the students an opportunity to explore the vivid aspects of nature through an encouraging trek to a historically significant location - Dalim Lepcha Fort. It is located at a distance of 90 kms from Kalimpong.
- On the 17th of December, 2022, the members of the Social Service Cell of North Bengal St. Xavier’s College visited the Shikharpur Tea Estate for a Pre-Christmas celebration.
- On the 10th of November, 2022, the Quiz and Debate Club, NBSXC organised an Inter-School Debate Competition. Five schools participated in the competition including BSF Senior Secondary School, Nirmala Convent School, G.D. Goenka Public School, Birla Divya Jyoti School, and Delhi Public School. We had Mr. Siddhartha Gupta, Senior Intelligence Officer, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Govt. of India, as the esteemed judge.
- Over approximately 435 cadets appearing for the A/B/C certificate exams along with ANOs, CTOs and GCIs from all over the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri district falling under the 4 Bengal Girls’ Battalion NCC-Siliguri, participated in the Eight-Day (13th Jan-20th Jan) CATC organised by the NCC Camp Commandant Major Reena Goswami at Marvella College, Fulbari.
- The 4 Bengal Girls’ BN NCC unit of NBSXC, Rajganj, organised a small programme on the 13th of August, 2022, in the Rajganj college campus for celebrating 75 years of ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’. It is an initiative of Govt. of India to celebrate the 75th year of Independence.

VII. Celebration of Some Important Days:

- Every year on July 28, World Nature Conservation Day is celebrated to raise awareness about protecting and restoring all the natural resources.
- *X-istence*, the Nature Club of NBSXC, celebrated World Environment Day on the 6th of June, 2022, which was followed by tree plantation by administration, staff, and students.
- *X-istence*, the Nature Club of NBSXC, also celebrated ‘World Water Week, 2022’ on the 23rd of August and on the 1st of September, 2022. The theme for the year was - “Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water”.

VIII. Sports/Games Activities:

- NATIONAL SPORTS DAY was celebrated on the 3rd of September, 2022, with great enthusiasm. Kho-Kho and Kabaddi were the main sporting events for the day.
- Annual Sports Day of NBSXC, *X-uberance*, was held on the 4th of February, 2023, on the college campus ground. The event commenced with the arrival of the Chief Guest, Ms. Anushka Dutta. Cadet national champion, Ms. Dutta is a South Asian Champion in Table Tennis and Indian Open Gold Medallist in Singles in under-17 category.
- NBSXC also participated in various Inter-College Sports/games competitions. In football, badminton, and Kho-Kho, the college team reached quarter final stage.
- After participating in Cricket Inter-College Tournament, Samiyajeet Bose (2nd Year, Geography Hons..) was selected to represent North Bengal University Cricket Team for East Zone Cricket Tournament which was held in Orissa.
- The college also organised an Intra-College Tournament named 'Xavier Premier League (XPL)'. Apart from all these, treks and excursions were organised by the various departments.

IX. Infrastructural Development & Future Plans:

The ground floor and first floor of the 3rd Block are nearing completion, while new drainage ducts were dug up to drain out water sipping into the basement so that it could be converted into something useful. Moreover, another 10 KV On-Grid Rooftop Solar Panels were installed.

In a first of its kind, through the college initiative, the **Siliguri-Jalpaiguri Development Authority (SJDA)** is completing an alternative concrete road along the college wall. They will also repair and widen the existing approach road that is in quite bad shape. In recent months, a State Bus STOP too has been acquired, while a high mast is expected to be installed. Thanks to the relentless efforts of **Mr. Prasun Banerjee**, Teaching Faculty (Dept. of English) & Public Relations Officer of the college, these works were made possible and some more Govt. projects will be tapped.

X. Way Forward

We thank the Almighty God for all the blessings bestowed upon us year after year, especially during the academic year 2022-23. Our eyes are now gazing towards the next year when the college enters into the 17th year of its illustrious existence. With the introduction of the new **National Education Policy (NEP)-2020** from academic session 2023-24, the education system across India and West Bengal in particular is expected to witness significant changes. Whether that will bring more challenges or may prove to be a beacon of hope, only time will tell. Be that as it may, in coming days and months, we look forward to embracing those changes, navigating decisions with a steady hand, and focusing on our strengths. It's all part of our commitment to transform the way education is imparted while bringing innovative ways of teaching and learning. Let us continue our march towards the unknown future and achieve the goals set before us.

Thank you and God bless you all!



Rev. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey, SJ
Principal, NBSXC.

Special Lecture on “Indian Cinema in the context of Ray Centenary”

The Department of English, in collaboration with the Department of Sociology, North Bengal St. Xavier's College (Rajganj), organised a special lecture titled, “India Cinema in the context of Ray Centenary” on the 7th of September 2022. The keynote speaker was Mr. Ashoke Viswanathan, National and International award-winning filmmaker & Professor and Dean, Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute, Kolkata. The lecture commenced from 1 p.m. at the Conference Hall, NBSXC (Rajganj), and it was attended by a large throng of around 130 students. The objective of the lecture was to commemorate Satyajit Ray and his irreplaceable contribution to Indian Cinema on his birth centenary. Dr Pavanbir Kaur inaugurated the session, followed by an introductory speech by Dr Tamal Mazumder in which he welcomed Mr Viswanathan to NBSXC.

Mr Viswanathan started his lecture by describing what is meant by ‘cinema as an art form’. He reminded the audience that when mainstream Indian cinema was busy with commercially successful films - films filled with sensationalised songs and routine dance numbers - Satyajit Ray started a new movement in cinema. Ray not only

while working with an amateur cast with a very low budget. The film, as we all know, went on to become a cult classic, the only Indian movie to be included in the top 100 movies of all time.

Mr Viswanathan went on to discuss Ray's techniques of filmmaking, which included Italian Neorealism and its influences, the use of the “nonsensical”. He also spoke on the significance of nature and the use of varied symbolism in Ray's films. Some keen questions from the



audience were addressed and discussed in the Q&A session which followed the lecture. The session ended by screening some special clips on the techniques of filmmaking. The event was wrapped off by the vote of thanks given by Mr. Soumyadip Ghosh (Organising Secretary) and Dr. Aparna Chatterjee (Vice-Principal, Academics). It was a very engaging experience for all the students who were part of the audience for this thought-provoking special lecture from such a renowned academic and filmmaker like Mr. Viswanathan.



subsequently changed the course of filmmaking in India, but also inspired legendary filmmakers from around the world. Mr. Viswanathan very interestingly stated that with his directorial debut “Pather Panchali” in 1955, Ray proved his genius by making a film out of his drawings and notes,

- **Hritrisha Chowdhury**,
5th Semester, Department of English
NBSXC.

A Special Lecture on 'Modern Critical Theories and the Culture of Old English'



On the 29th of May, 2023, the Department of English (NBSXC) organised a special lecture on "Modern Critical Theories and the Culture of Old English". The esteemed speaker was Dr. Saunak Samajdar, Associate Professor, Department of English, Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University. The session was conducted from 12 noon at the Smart Classroom, NBSXC (Rajganj) with around eighty students present during the lecture.

The event started off by a welcome speech delivered by Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, a senior teaching faculty of the department. It was followed by a brief speech by our respected Principal, Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey, SJ. The IQAC Coordinator, Dr. Bipranch K. Tiwari and the Dean of Students, Mrs. Nitya Rai, were also present.



The objective of the lecture was to explore and make the students aware of the poetics and politics of Anglo-Saxon (Old English) culture and literature. Dr. Saunak Samajdar elaborately explained relevant facets of Modern Critical Theory and used them to focus on Old English Heroic Poetry. He highlighted the character of a "Tragic Hero" and showed how *hubris* and *hamartia* lead to the hero's inevitable downfall. The speaker clearly distinguished between a 'Humanist Hero' and a 'Hospitable Hero' with



suitable examples. Mr. Prasun Banerjee, Dr. Aparna Chatterjee, Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, and Dr. Tamal Mazumder also shared their thoughts on the topic in the Q&A session following the lecture. It was indeed a very interactive session with Dr.

Saunak Samajdar at the end. The successful event was wrapped off by the vote of thanks, which was delivered by Mr. Soumyadip Ghosh (HoD, Dept. of English, NBSXC).

- **Koyena Chowdhury**,
2nd Semester, Department of
English
NBSXC.

Departmental Seminar on “Understanding the Youth Culture through Emerging Trends and Lifestyles: Its Impact and Challenges in the Contemporary Society”

The youth can be said to have a culture of its own, which is marked by distinctive ways of dressing, using language, music preferences, engaging in sports and interests, with a typical behaviour and lifestyle. This collective expression of the social experiences of the youth characterises then as having a culture of their own. As consumer society spreads, changes are visible in lifestyles, cultural tastes, food habits, dress patterns and in modes of entertainment. These changes are more vividly witnessed among the youth, and these are rising in a highly technological and fast-paced world.

In this context, on the 19th of September, 2022, the Department of Sociology, North Bengal St. Xavier’s College, Rajganj, organised a Departmental Seminar on “**Understanding the Youth Culture through Emerging Trends and Lifestyles: Its Impact and Challenges in the Contemporary Society**”. The venue was the Conference Hall of the college and the seminar started at around 10:30 am.

The proceedings began with an introductory

speech by the Head of the department, Dr. Persis Mukhia, as she highlighted on the topic and its importance for students. Akshata Moktan from the 5th semester was the emcee for the programme. The participants were to deliberate on the given topic in the form of a power point presentation. The students from the 3rd and 5th semesters participated in this seminar. They were divided in groups consisting of 4 members in each group.

The topics of the seminar were -

- * Pop - Music and the emerging youth culture
- * Tiktok / Reels : its influence on the youth culture
- * Emerging café cultures : inspiring the youths for entrepreneurship
- * Social media influencers : its influence on the youth culture
- * YouTube / Twitch : the prospectus of new career opportunities for the youths today
- * Korean Culture and its impact on the youth culture today.

The seminar was conducted in a well-planned manner, one group after the other presenting in a systematic way according to the topics given. At the end of the seminar, Dr. Aparna Chatterjee gave some feedbacks and suggestions on the papers presented by the students. The programme ended with some interactive sessions and a vote of thanks.

The seminar was a successful one, with all the impactful and informative presentations by the students. The Department of Sociology is gearing up to organise more of such enlightening, enjoyable, and knowledgeable seminars in the near future.

- **Ongkit Lepcha**
3rd Semester,

Department Of Sociology (NBSXC)



SPECIAL LECTURE ON SHANGRI-LA TO KALIMPONG: THE TRANSCULTURAL 'PATRIOTISM' OF MA ZHUCAI

The Department of Sociology and Department of English, North Bengal St. Xavier's College, jointly organised a special lecture on the 11th of November, 2022, on the topic, "Shangri-La to Kalimpong: The Transcultural 'Patriotism' of Ma Zhuc'ai". The respected speaker was Prof. Prem Poddar, Honorary Professorial Fellow, University of Manchester, Great Britain. The lecture was conducted in the Conference Hall of the Rajganj Campus, with a participation of around 90 students, along with teachers from different departments. The lecture started with welcoming and felicitating of the guest by the respected Principal, Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, followed by the Principal's Address to the gathering.

In his lecture, Prof. Prem Poddar explored the fascinating life of a Chinese trader, Ma Zhuc'ai, and the latter's 41-year stay in Kalimpong. Prof. Poddar critically contextualised Chinese patriotism and nationalism in his account of Zhuc'ai's life. Prof. Poddar highlighted on the commercial trade relations between India, Tibet, and China in the period between 1920s and

late 1950s, where he talked about Gyalthang (Shangri-la in today's China), Kalimpong, their history of geopolitical struggles, and the issues of sovereignty, wars, and trade flows. He attempted to highlight a trans-cultural patriotism by articulating Chinese Communist Ma Zhuc'ai's times in Kalimpong. Through this lecture, Prof. Poddar attempted to focus on the border town of Kalimpong, a hub of trade centre back in the eastern Himalayas, and how the Chinese settled in that place. This phenomenon had deep impact



and influence in the cultural politics of the two nations of India and China during the period between the 1940s and 1960s.

The lecture imparted an insightful territorial, political, and cultural knowledge upon the audience, which was evident in the vibrant interactive session and discussions towards the end of the lecture. The students suggested organising more such interesting lectures in the coming future. The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Mr. Soumyadip Ghosh, HoD, Dept. of English.

- **Karma Diki Bhutia,**
Asst. Professor, Department of Sociology
NBSXC.

SPECIAL LECTURE on “AM I NOT MY FIRST ‘OTHER’?: Relooking at Edward Said’s *Orientalism* with a Difference.”

The Department of Sociology, North Bengal St. Xavier’s College, Rajganj, organised a special lecture titled, “AM I NOT MY FIRST ‘OTHER’?: Relooking at Edward Said’s *Orientalism* with a Difference.” The speaker for the lecture was Mr. Soumyadip Ghosh, Asst. Professor and Head of the Department of English (NBSXC). The program began with a welcome speech and the felicitation of the speaker by the Head of the Department of Sociology (NBSXC), Dr. Persis Mukhia.

The main objective of organising the lecture was to bring into light the nuances of the concept of ‘Orientalism’ for the benefit of the students, especially since Said’s *Orientalism* is included in their undergraduate syllabus. The speaker presented the concepts of ‘Orientalism’ and ‘Difference’ as a major theme of the lecture. As he highlighted it, before Edward Said published *Orientalism* in 1978, ‘orientalism’ was usually used to refer to an academic field of study and a generally positive attitude towards the culture and society of the East. Said argued that the term ‘orientalism’ was a European construction, used to represent and dominate the East, and academic oriental studies played a leading role in this construction. After Said, therefore, the

term takes on a pejorative meaning. Building on Said’s original analysis, later work in postcolonial studies has added historical depth and recognised cross-culture variations in the development of *Orientalism*.

The core of the lecture was focused on the western idea of domination and giving authority over ‘the Orient’ and its denizens. The lecture also highlighted the post-colonial law, which is the post-colonial legal criticism that looks at repercussion of colonialism and imperialism today.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks delivered by the Vice Principal (Academics), Dr. Arpana Chatterjee. A total of 29 students attended the lecture out of which 20 were from the department of Sociology and 09 were from the department of English. Overall, the programme was very much enlightening and thereby a great success. The students looked forward to more such informative and knowledgeable lectures in the future.

- Riya Subba & Sulakshana Rai
6th Semester, Department of Sociology
NBSXC.



A REPORT ON

XAVIERA: REUNION OF A FAMILY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY “Celebrate memories while building new ones”



As a milestone in the history of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, the Department of Sociology organised a reunion for its alumni graduates on the 25th of March 2023. As mentioned by Dr. Persis Mukhia, the Head of the Department, everybody who is the part of the sociology department is a family, hence the title of the event, 'XAVIERA: REUNION OF A FAMILY'. The event took place in the college auditorium at 1pm, where the alumni were welcomed with handmade flowers.

The event began with the College Prayer Song followed by the lighting of the lamp. The welcome address was given by Dr. Persis Mukhia, Head of the Department, followed by a short message by Ms. Nitya Rai, Dean of Students, NBSXC. The emcee of the reunion event was Sarada Das.

A power point presentation of the graduated students and the professors along with the display of the entire college was presented by Arya Chettri to the alumni, which brought beautiful memories afresh. The souvenir and khadas were presented to each one of the alumni by Dr. Aparna Chatterjee and Dr. Persis Mukhia. The opening song of the event was performed by Ongkit Lepcha followed by the cake-cutting ceremony. Pre-lunch break, there was the dance performance by Akshata Moktan, Yashaswini

Pradhan and Swarnalata Naubagh, followed by an enlightening message by Dr. Aparna Chatterjee, Vice Principal (Academics), NBSXC.

After the half-hour lunch break, the event continued with a duet song performed by Akshata Moktan and Swarnalata Naubagh, followed by a dance performance by Riya Subba. After that, the Boys' Group Song and Girls' Group Song wafted melodies and collection of songs which sent the alumni to a state of fond remembrance of things past. The event came to an end with an interactive session from the alumni, which included sharing of experiences along with enriching and motivating messages for the present batches.

It was the very first time in North Bengal St. Xavier's College that the Department of Sociology came up with such an initiative which was heart-warming, since the alumni had a lot of sentiment and good memories attached with their fellow classmates and the professors. This event created a form of culture for the department as it will be followed on by the later batches in the upcoming years.

- Akshata Moktan (6th Semester)
& Yashaswini Pradhan (4th Semester)
Department Of Sociology, NBSXC

REPORT ON EXCURSION TO BUXA TIGER RESERVE FOREST, RAJABHATKHAWA

The Department of Sociology, NBSXC, took students on an excursion to Buxa Tiger Reserve Forest, Rajabhatkhawa, on the 10th of March, 2023. A total of 17 students accompanied by 03 teachers went on this excursion. The main objective of the trip was to get to know about the history of the place, and about the locality and the communities residing there. Alongside this, the trip was also to explore the wildlife and forest cover of the place.

The students and teachers gathered at NJP railway station at 7:00 am and began the journey in a local tourist train which covers the Dooars, Mahananda Wildlife, Chapramari, and the Jaldapara range. They reached the venue at around 1 pm, and post lunch, they left for sightseeing and jeep-safari. The overnight stay was at Jayanti Riverside Camp.

It was exciting and interesting to know about Rajabhatkhawa, as in the 1800s the place was under Bhutan, a country sharing a close border with India. The king of Coochbehar (an Indian province), Maharaja Nipendra Narayan, wanted to dethrone the Bhutanese from the area. A fight took place between the two parties and during the combat the king of Coochbehar did not consume food for almost 3-4 months. After the battle was over, an agreement was done between India and

Bhutan, and the area was annexed with West Bengal (India). A lunch was arranged in this place for both the kings and they took rice ('bhat'), hence the place was named as 'Rajabhatkhawa'.

Buxa Tiger Reserve is a Tiger Reserve and a national park. This forest has a variety of flora and fauna, of which the students could explore many on their trip. The dominant residents of this area are Bihari, Nepali, Adivasi, and the Lepchas who earn their livelihood as homestay owners, safari



conductors, shop keepers, etc.

The trip ended on the 11th of March, 2023, and everyone immensely enjoyed their trip. It was an opportunity of coming together as a department, learning through interactions, and making many wonderful memories.



- **Binisha Singh**
2nd Semester,
Department of Sociology
NBSXC.

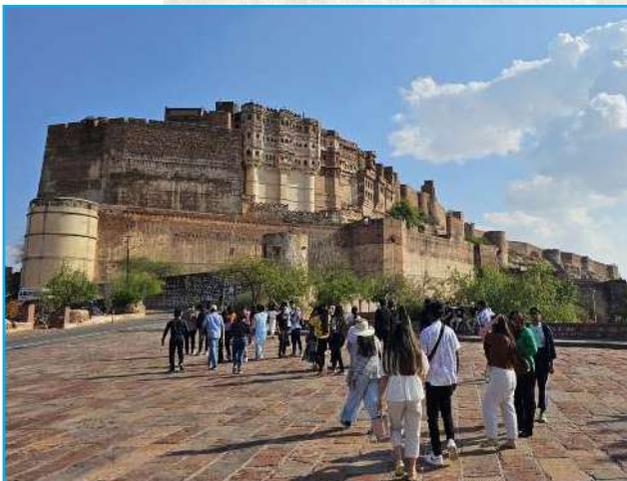
Report on Field Survey and Excursion in Rajasthan

Rajasthan is a state in the northern part of India, known for its rich culture, colourful traditions, and ancient heritage. The state is a popular tourist destination, offering a unique



blend of history, nature, and adventure. One of the best ways to experience the beauty of Rajasthan is through an excursion. Hence, the students of the 4th Semester, Dept. of Georgraphy (NBSXC), under the Supervision of Dr. Soumya Mitra and Mr. Subrata Roy, and with a total strength of 36 students, went to Rajasthan. The duration of this excursion was from 16th March to 25th March 2023. The main objective of this excursion was to conduct a socio-economic survey in the Kanoi village of Jaisalmer district in the state of Rajasthan to understand the social and economic conditions of the village and to identify the challenges faced by its inhabitants.

On 18th March we reached Jaisalmer via Barmer where we spent our day exploring the *havelis* and the fort. On 19th March we headed towards Kanoi Village located in Jaisalmer *tehsil*. It



is 35km away from the Jaisalmer city. The survey was conducted through a structured questionnaire and face-to-face interviews with the villagers. The questionnaire was designed to collect information on various aspects such as demographics, income, education, health, housing, and infrastructure. A total of 72 households were surveyed and the data collected.

The majority of the population in Kanoi village belonged to the Mewar caste. Agriculture is practised by the people of Kanoi where they grow crops like jowar and bajra, but unfortunately the people have to depend on the rain for the irrigation in their respective land. The majority of the children were found to be dropping out of school due to financial constraints. The people of the village earn their bread by working as labourers in mines and some are involved in the tourism industry. The



village has limited access to basic infrastructure such as drinking water. The roads were in mediocre condition, and there was no drainage system in the village, the villagers had to rely on the pond which is few kilometres away from the village for drinking water. The women of the village still practised the tradition of *ghunghat*. We had an interaction with the people around but because of the language barrier we weren't able to interact with them in a fluent manner. But still, all understood the conversations we had with them. After completing the survey we left the Kanoi village with the talks and conversation we had with the people. The rest of the days we spent exploring the cities of Jodhpur, Pushkar, Ajmer, and Jaipur.

Departmental Events & Activities

During our excursion, we engaged in various activities that gave us a glimpse into the rich culture and heritage of Rajasthan. We enjoyed a camel ride in the sand dunes of Jaisalmer, which was a thrilling experience and explored the beautiful *havelies* and the forts. We also watched a traditional Rajasthani folk dance performance, which was a treat to the eyes and ears. We also encountered some fossils displayed inside streets of golden fort as the Jaisalmer area was earlier under the Tethys Sea. In Jaipur, we visited a local market and shopped for traditional Rajasthani handicrafts and souvenirs. We also indulged in some local cuisine, which was a gastronomic delight.

Rajasthan was a truly memorable experience. The state's rich culture, colourful traditions, and historical heritage left a lasting impression on each of us, hence it was wonderful experience for us, the Geographers, to relate to the things which the books and articles mention. The time flies by and our excursion ended on 22nd March 2023. On 23rd

March 2023 we bid our farewell to Rajasthan, but we cherished the memories we have created and came back with loads of happiness and the most beautiful journey we have ever experienced.

The Department of Geography, NBSXC, promotes excellence not just in the sphere of teaching but also by imbibing and implementing new methods of academic interaction with the students. This field trip to Rajasthan gave us the opportunity to experience the real world, and develop our geographical thinking.

We are thankful to the Department of Geography for making our trip a successful one, and for adding a heart-warming and unforgettable memory to our lifetime.

- Tapaja Basu, Selin Kujur &
Abhinav Dhan

4th Semester, Department of Geography
NBSXC

Workshop-Cum-Hands-on-Training Programme on Q-GIS: A Geospatial Technology

In the modern world, where everything and everyone is centred on technology and technicalities, it is important for the students to

learn the technological applications of the subject and bring dynamism in their education apart from the traditional modes of study. Thus, realizing this, a three-day State Level 'Workshop-Cum-Hands-on-Training Programme on Q-GIS: A Geospatial Technology' was organized by the Department of Geography, North Bengal St. Xavier's College, in collaboration with the Integrated Institute for Advance Research and Information (IIARI), on 23rd, 24th and 26th September, 2022. A MoU was also signed between the two institutions after the successful completion of the workshop.

The workshop aimed at disseminating knowledge about the Q-GIS and providing hands-on training to the students to use the software. QGIS is a free and open-source GIS application enabling the user to visualize, manage, edit, analyse data, and compose printable maps. During the various sessions of the workshop, the students were given training on how to make thematic maps using software, digitization and make a Land use Landcover Changes Maps. The students were familiarized with GIS - RS Application in



different segments & its perspective.

Overall, the workshop helped the students in broadening their knowledge and skill set. The students understood the applicability of geographical knowledge through the software. The students also understood that use of technology (in this case, using a laptop and a

particular software) is not too complicated when a proper guidance is provided.

- Ms. Rosemary Subba
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Geography
NBSXC.

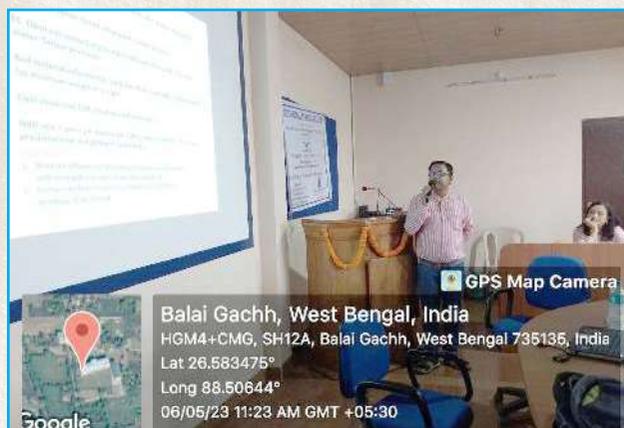
Special lectures on 'Field based approaches to study the hydrological parameters of degrading channels in view of Anthropogenic concerns: A Geographical Approach' & 'Global Climatic change with special reference to Anthropogenic Concerns'

North Bengal St. Xavier's College (Rajganj) organised a one-day seminar on the 6th of May, 2023, on two topics: 'Field based approaches to study the hydrological parameters of degrading channels in view of Anthropogenic Concerns : A Geographical Approach' & 'Global Climatic change with special reference to Anthropogenic Concerns'. The programme started at 11 am in the Conference Hall (NBSXC, Rajganj) with the welcome address by Marina George. The dignitaries present were Dr. Snehasish Saha, Assistant Professor of Geography & Applied Geography, North Bengal University, Father Kennedy (Jesuit Superior, NBSXC), Asst. Prof. Dr. Badurya Biswas (HoD, Dept. of Geography, NBSXC), and faculty members from the department - Asst.Prof. Dr.Soumiya Mitra, Asst.Prof. Subrata Roy, and Asst.Prof. Rosemary Subba.

The opening remarks and introduction of the programme were given by Father Kennedy. He highlighted the need for and importance of using various applications of water management. The esteemed speaker and subject expert, Dr. Snehasish Saha, shared his research work through power-point presentation, where he discussed about the degradation of dyes. He focussed on the hydrological parameters of degrading channels in view of anthropogenic concerns with geographical approach in the first lecture. He also discussed on

Global Climatic change with special reference to anthropogenic concerns in the second lecture.

In conclusion, the two lectures shed valuable light on the various hydrological and climatic changes that are occurring due to anthropogenic activities. The first lecture highlighted the importance of field-based approaches in studying



the hydrological parameters of degrading channels. It emphasised the need to consider the impact of human activities, such as urbanization and deforestation, on these channels, and the role they play in changing the hydrological cycle. The second lecture discussed global climatic change and its special reference to anthropogenic concerns. It emphasized the impact of human activities, such as the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation, on the environment and how it contributes to climate change.



Overall, these lectures provided valuable insights into the complex and interconnected issues surrounding anthropogenic impacts on the environment. They demonstrated the importance of adopting a holistic approach and working

collaboratively to mitigate the harmful effects of human activities on our planet.

- **Payal Hazra** (6th Semester) &
Rubina Rai (2nd Semester)

Department of Geography, NBSXC

Participation in Inter-College Quiz Competition on Geography, organised by Salesian College (Siliguri)

“Competition on anything is good, because it makes everybody better.” - Eddy Cue

(Siliguri), along with teachers and students of Geography departments of different colleges like Salesian College, Kalimpong College, Siliguri College, Munshi Premchand College, Suryasen College, North Bengal St. Xavier's College, and so forth. Dr. Debarshi Ghosh was the Chief Guest & Quiz Master. He is an Asst. Professor from Dhupguri Girls' College and has more than 10 years' experience in conducting quiz.



The Quiz Team of Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, organised an Inter-College Quiz Competition on Geography on the 24th of March, 2023, from 10am to 2 pm. The event aimed at encouraging students to gain more knowledge on their subject. The event was attended by the Principal and Vice Principal of Salesian College

There were in total five (05) rounds, including preliminary round, with '-5' marks for each wrong answer and '+10' marks for each right answer. There was also a direct 'pounce & bounce' option for the answers.

At the preliminary round, ten (10) teams were there, each team consisting of two (02) members. Questions of a mixed bag, but all from the discipline of Geography, were asked in the round.



Siliguri, West Bengal, India

Six (06) teams were there from 1st to 3rd round. In the fourth & fifth rounds, four (04) teams were there. 1st round was a 'Who Am I' on famous geographical personalities, 2nd round was a Map Quiz, round 3 was on Geographical Miracles followed by round 4: India & World

the importance of general knowledge and the need to strengthen mental ability for progressing in life.

- Payal Hazra

6th Semester, Department of Geography
NBSXC

Departmental Field Excursion to North Sikkim

The Department of Geography at our institution encourages and promotes educational tours to enhance our knowledge and skills beyond the classroom. This year, our department organised a field trip to North Sikkim from 24th May 2023 to 29th May 2023, where we focused on conducting a survey on landslides and socio-economic conditions. This report provides an overview of our trip to North Sikkim.

Our journey started from Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim, where we arrived on 24th May 2023. We stayed in Gangtok for one day and explored the city. We climbed a height of 9000 feet and enjoyed the cold and fine weather. We also visited some local markets and tried the local cuisine.

On the second day, we visited one of the highest lakes in the world, Gurudongmar Lake, situated at an altitude of 17,000 feet. The scenic beauty of the snow-covered mountains was mesmerising. We also visited Kala Patthar and enjoyed the snow-covered landscape. The view was breathtaking and worth the climb. After visiting Gurudongmar Lake and Kala Patthar, we proceeded towards Lachung, a beautiful town in North Sikkim. The temperature in Lachung was





quite low, but we were well-prepared for it. We stayed in Lachung for two days and conducted our survey on landslides and socio-economic conditions. The survey was an eye-opener for us, as we got to know about the challenges faced by the local people due to landslides and the measures taken by the government to tackle the issue.

From Lachung, we visited the famous Yumthang Valley and Zero Point, where we experienced snowfall and saw the most beautiful snow cover. The view was simply amazing, and we couldn't resist taking pictures and enjoying the moment. In conclusion, the field trip to North Sikkim was an excellent learning opportunity for us. We learned about the geographical, socio-economic, and environmental aspects of the region. We also got to know about the challenges faced by the local people and the measures taken by the government to address them.

The trip was well-organized, and we are grateful to our department for providing us with this opportunity. We returned to our institution on 29th May 2023, enriched with new knowledge and memories that will last a lifetime.

- Arnab Ghosh
6th Semester, Dept. of Geography,
NBSXC

POSTER-MAKING COMPETITION ON 'NATIONAL INTEGRATION'



The Department of Political Science, North Bengal St. Xavier's College, organised a poster-making competition for the 6th-semester students on the 5th of April 2023.

The main objective of this competition was to develop a better understanding of our society through the concept of 'national integration', and to motivate the students about maintaining the spirit of peace, unity, love and brotherhood as a citizen of India. Since India has diverse culture, language, food, tradition, religion, etc., each poster showcased it, thereby promoting national integrity and the significance of 'unity in diversity'.



The students were divided into 6 groups with 4 members in each group. Each group was given 5 minutes to present their poster followed by an interactive session where questions were asked by their fellow mates, juniors, and teachers.

Each poster had different perspectives throwing light on the aspect of national integration which made the competition a very successful one. The students from the 2nd and 4th semesters equally enjoyed and participated as an audience. The students also further suggested to organise such events in the near future.

- **Yochenlam Bhutia**

6th Semester,

Department of Political Science

NBSXC

Youth Parliament on 'Recent Trends in Indian Politics'

On the 25th of November, 2022, the Department of Political Science of North Bengal Saint Xavier's College, Rajganj campus, organised an Inter-Institutional Youth Parliament on the topic, "Recent Trends in Indian Politics". The event was planned to start from 10:00 am onwards and the venue was the Auditorium, NBSXC (Rajganj). All the schools invited to compete in the youth parliament - including Techno India Group Public School, Darjeeling Public School, DAV School and Royal Academy - were already sent a list of rules and regulations. The event was presided over by Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey, SJ, Principal (NBSXC).

The event started with the lighting of the lamp and the felicitating of the judges, which



included Dr. Saikat Roy, our HoD, and teachers across many social science departments. Before the presentation of the different groups started,



the guidelines and rules of the competition were read out. After this, we witnessed four very talented and well-prepared presentations from different schools. It was really exciting, intriguing and fun to see those students who showcased their talent and carried out their roles as noteworthy political dignitaries in the parliament. After the end of the groups' presentations, the results were announced. The team from DAV School emerged as the winner.

Throughout the whole event, all the departmental students actively participated in the fruitful execution of the programme. This event, which is just the beginning of many such upcoming events, ended with great success, and



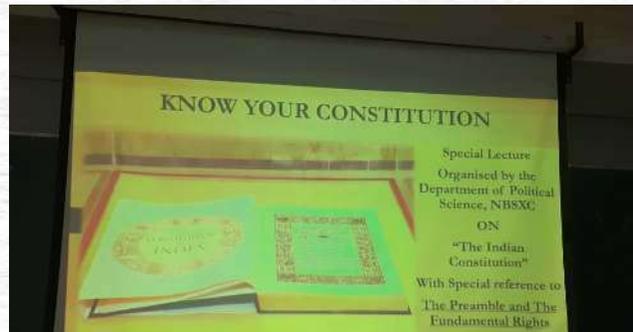
earned praise from Fr. Principal as well as from the other teachers.

- Pratik Sharma

4th Semester, Department of Political Science
NBSXC

'Know Your Constitution': Special Lectures on the Indian Constitution

The Department of Political Science conducted special lectures on "The Indian Constitution" on the 25th of July, 2022. Faculty members of the department – Ms. Ambika Chettri and Ms. Thinlay C. Bhutia – delivered the lectures. Mr. Rahul Sharma, a faculty of the same department, conducted the event. The chief objective behind this special session was to introduce the students from various departments of the college to the basic ideals of the Indian Constitution, to help them understand the nature of the Preamble, and to inform them about their fundamental rights as Indian citizens. The presentation by the faculty members of the department – aided by power point demonstrations – was appreciated by all, and the programme ended with an interactive Q&A session with the students. Overall, the event proved to be very informative and interesting for the learners.



- Ms. Thinlay C. Bhutia

Assistant Professor,
Department of Political Science
NBSXC

Field survey on 'Nature of Political Awareness and Political Participation'



A country like India, which is the largest democracy in the world, practices its politics within the context of a huge diversity. India has, nonetheless, evolved as one of the leading nations in the world in terms of economy, population, and development. Being politically aware and participating in the political arena should, therefore, be enhanced in each and every citizen of this largest democracy in the world. Political awareness is a part of Emotional Intelligence, which is being alert to political and social currents, and to power relationships in organisations. A survey consists of a predetermined set of given questions,

the latter constituting a 'sample'. By analysing the larger population in terms of interest, one can describe the attitudes of the population from which the sample was drawn. One can, thereby, compare the attitudes of different populations as well as look for changes in attitudes over time.

The Department of Political Science, North Bengal St. Xavier's College, organised a field survey on the 'Nature of Political awareness and Political Participation' on the 2nd of April 2023. The survey location was South Odlabari of Jalpaiguri district, West Bengal, India. There were a total of fifty (50) students who participated in the survey. Each student visited four (04) respondents, and the total number of respondents was two hundred (200). Through the survey, students tried to understand the political culture of the area and the level of participation in the political sphere.



- Priyoshi Das

6th Semester, Department of Political Science
NBSXC

SPECIAL LECTURE ON “Changing Role of Civil Services In India”



On the 26th of September, 2022, the Department of Political Science, North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Rajganj, organised a special lecture on the topic, “Changing Role of Civil Services in India”. Dr. Ranjita Chakraborty, a renowned Professor of the Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal, was the esteemed speaker and resource person. The organising secretary was Dr. Saikat Roy, Asst. Professor & HoD of Pol. Science, NBSXC, while the organising committee consisted of other faculty members of the department - Ms. Ambika Chettri, Ms. Thinlay C. Bhutia, and Mr. Rahul Sharma.

The lecture started with the history of Civil Services in India from ancient times all the way through British India to its current state. It was really fascinating to learn how big a role an individual's lineage and heredity played in ancient times and how gradually after the transfer of power over India to the crown after the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857, the role of civil service changed in India and how big a role an individual's merit started to play.

From here on, the lecture focused on the current state of civil services in India, the various

skill sets one has to master, the different areas one has to be knowledgeable of, and the importance of being focused and disciplined in one's studies and career. Highly relevant and filled with important insights, this special lecture was eye-opening for the aspirants of civil services among the students. It was also very useful for those students who do not particularly want to join the civil services and are more inclined to go for higher studies and contribute to the academic field.

As a student falling within this category, I can say that the way Ranjita Ma'am underlined the amount of determination and discipline one needs to inculcate and practise, made me realize how much effort I should be putting into my studies and the sacrifices I have to make. Each and every student who attended the lecture will agree that this was a really informative and highly motivating lecture for all of us.

The session ended with a Q&A segment. Two students, one of whom was an alumnus, asked two very relevant questions which aspirants always find questioning themselves about, namely, “How long should one take for preparations?” and, “Is coaching necessary for civil services?”. Ranjita Ma'am answered their questions by pointing out that the amount of time to give oneself before taking the exams depends on the level of preparation of the aspirant. She also mentioned that giving mock tests and appearing for the exams themselves are very good ways to assess oneself. Also coaching, she says, is not at all important if one studies well and puts in the effort which is needed. The event was the first special lecture organized by the Department of Political Science and it turned out to be a grand success. It was really heartening to notice that all the students of the department along with students from other departments enthusiastically turned up to attend the lecture.

- Pratik Sharma

4th Semester,

Department of Political Science

NBSXC.

Departmental Seminar on “State under Dilemma: Perspectives on New Social Movements”



Demonstrations, Rallies, Protests and Sit-ins have become part and parcel of the lives of people residing in the Modern State. Times have changed and so have the State and Society. The conceptions of what is just and fair, and what is acceptable are changing and New Social Movements are the most prominent indicators of the transition. New Social Movements act as a gateway for actors to articulate their collective demands and appeal to the State for action. These movements tend to put pressure on political institutions and hold them accountable. Most often, these movements bring to light the *modus operandi* of the State. How does the Government take a stand? How does it formulate its policies and treaties? What is its response to a demonstration or a protest? These are very important questions.

New Social Movements have enabled citizen participation in an otherwise unresponsive political spaces. Actors in these movements have found themselves enmeshed in redefining the role of citizens in the Modern State. In fact, they are the emissaries of social, cultural, political and economic change. What is so exceptional about New Social Movements is that they rarely stay confined to one place. They are influential globally and nationally, shaping both national and international political processes.

The Department of Political Science of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Rajganj, conducted a Departmental Seminar on “State under Dilemma: Perspectives on New Social Movements” on the 9th and 10th of November, 2022, in the Conference Hall. The seminar focused on bringing to light the various New Social Movements, their influences and impacts, and the emerging role of the State in modern times. Students had the freedom to choose their subject matter from a myriad of sub-topics such as Theories and Concepts of Social

Movements, Women's Movements, Working Class Movements, Tribal Movements, Ethnic Movements, Identity Movements, Animal Rights Movements, Ecological Rights Movements and Disability Rights Movements. The Seminar was presided over by the Head of the Department, Dr. Saikat Roy, and supervised by Asst. Professors Ms. Ambika Chettri, Ms. Thinlay Choden Bhutia and Mr. Rahul Sharma.

The Conference Hall was alive and brimming with eager, inquisitive students as the Head of the Department, Dr. Saikat Roy, initiated the Seminar with opening remarks and an introduction of the topic. The Seminar kicked off as students set forth demonstrating their insightful and engaging presentations. Students displayed their enthusiasm to learn, putting painstaking efforts in preparing PPTs for a better understanding of their presentation.

The participating students spoke confidently, adding charms of eloquence to their wonderful presentations. The audience voiced out their queries and questions after each presentation and the students answered with vigour. The audience was very interactive and this led to rounds of healthy debates. The discipline of Political Science is such, it encourages debating skills in students. To have opinions, to support your individual opinions with facts and conviction is a skill invaluable to students of this discipline. Students avidly placed their opinions, dissecting current issues and movements and diving in-depth into each topic. The Professors encouraged the students with kind words of appreciation, guiding them with keen observations.

The two-day Seminar was a very enjoyable and informative journey, but alas, all good things must come to an end. The Seminar was concluded by a vote of thanks by Dr. Saikat Roy. Seminars like these not only help students broaden their knowledge but also help with their confidence in navigating society and the modern world.

- Nilanjana Sinha Roy

2nd Semester, Department of Political Science
NBSXC.

LECTURE SERIES ON 'TRAVERSING THE REALM OF RIGHTS AND BEYOND'

The Department of Political Science (NBSXC) organised a thought-provoking lecture series titled 'Traversing the Realm of Rights and Beyond' in the 2022-'23 academic session. The lectures aimed to explore and delve into the intricate landscape of rights, highlighting their significance, and the interconnectedness between different categories of rights, limitations, and future prospects in an ever-changing global context. The objectives of the lecture series were to:

1. To foster a comprehensive understanding of rights and their evolution over time.
2. To critically explore emerging concepts and trends that extend beyond traditional notions of 'rights'.
3. To encourage interdisciplinary dialogue among the students.



The lecture series was organised in three phases. It commenced on the 24th March of 2023 with the welcoming of the speakers and the students, followed by a keynote address by Ms. Ambika Chettri, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Political Science (NBSXC), where she introduced the umbrella topic and its broad ramifications.

The first speaker was Fr. John Soosai Kennedy SJ, Jesuit Superior and Asst. Professor, Dept. of Sociology (NBSXC). He delivered an interesting and thought-provoking lecture on 'The Interface between Human Rights and Fundamental Rights', where he explored the relationship between human rights and fundamental rights, their points of intersection, and how they complement each other.

The second session was held on 31st March 2023, and Dr. Asim Mitra, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Commerce (NBSXC) was invited as the speaker. Dr. Mitra's topic was 'Intellectual Property Rights', where

he introduced the concept of Intellectual Property Rights, its various dimensions, and its importance. The lecture enlightened the students and attendees



on this very important and interesting topic.

The third session was held on the 25th of April 2023. Dr. Tamal Mazumdar, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Zoology (NBSXC) was invited as the speaker. Dr. Mazumdar's topic was 'Human's Animal Rights: Intellectual Fallacy of a Self-Glorified Animal' in which he delivered an interesting lecture on the relationship between human and animal rights, and why there needs to be a balance between the two.

The lecture series was opened to the students from all disciplines and attracted a huge number of



attendees from the departments of Political Science, English, Sociology, Zoology, and Commerce. In addition to the individual lectures, the series also incorporated discussions and interactive Q&A sessions. The sessions allowed the attendees to engage with the speakers, ask questions, and contribute to the interdisciplinary conversations. The diverse range of topics and the expertise of the speakers facilitated a comprehensive understanding of the complexities inherent in the realm of rights. The lecture series proved to be an enlightening and intellectually stimulating event.

- Ms. Ambika Chettri

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science,
NBSXC.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL DEBATE COMPETITION



The Department of Political Science (NBSXC) conducted an inter-departmental Debate Competition on the theme, “Nationalism and the Freedom of Speech and Expression: Can they co-exist?” on the 12th of May, 2023. Organising this event aimed to hone the students’ public speaking skills and train them to be articulate while expressing their thoughts and opinions. The question of nationalism along with the freedom of speech and expression presents a tough challenge for anyone who attempts to comment on this disputed area. The challenge before the participants was, therefore, to showcase their knowledge on the topic and to impress the judges with their argumentative skills, and emerge persuasive while debating over this difficult and disputed topic.

The competition was structured into two rounds – the Preliminary and the Final Round. The participants were pitted for and against the motion. Both sides presented equally strong arguments and the audience welcomed their points with appreciation and applause. The wide spectrum of contrasting views had everyone thinking about the sorry state we would end up being if we continue to take our freedom of speech and expression for granted.

The competition was judged by Ms. Priyanka Chakraborty, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology and Ms. Ambika Chettri, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, NBSXC. With great enthusiasm, 10 students from BCom, BA Political Science and BA English participated in the event and three participants bagged the following awards-

- Winner of the Competition: Kathryn Lama, 2nd Sem., Dept. of Political Science
- Best Speaker (For the Motion): Nitisha Pradhan, 2nd Sem., Dept. of Political Science
- Best Speaker (Against the Motion): Pratik Sharma, 4th Sem., Dept. of Political Science.

The event proved to be an intellectually stimulating and thought-provoking experience for all involved, and thereby proved to be a great success.

- **Ms. Thinlay C. Bhutia**
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science
NBSXC.

A Special Lecture on 'History of North Bengal'



The Department of History conducted a special lecture titled, 'History of North Bengal', on the 27th of September, 2022. The key speaker was Dr. Amrita Mandal, Professor of History, University of North Bengal. It was conducted in the Smart Classroom, Loyola Block, NBSXC (Rajganj) with around thirty students along with the departmental professors. The purpose of the event was to get to know about the historical background of North Bengal, more precisely in relation to the 'Anglo-Indian in the Darjeeling Hills (1900-1947)'. The teaching faculty from the Department of History, the students of 1st, 3rd and 5th Semester History Hons., as well as students from other departments attended the special lecture.

The event started at 11am and it began with the inaugural speech by Anurag Lakra from 5th semester and Selina Jarika from 3rd semester, introducing the Honourable Speaker. It was followed by the introductory speech given by the Head of the Department, Prof. Samar Chakrabarty. This was followed by the lighting of the lamp and thereafter the respected Principal of the College, Fr. Dr. Lalit. P. Tirkey SJ, delivered the welcome address. The speaker, Dr. Amrita Mandal, then proceeded to deliver her speech.

She discussed about how the Anglo-Indian groups started to appear in the social scenario of Bengal, who apparently faced problems both socially and economically. She also discussed

about the connection and relation between the Anglo-Indian communities and the Darjeeling Hills, which had developed as an educational hub as well as a centre for migration and tea plantation for the European and Anglo-Indians in the 1860s.

Dr. Mandal further talked about 'The Scottish Missionaries of Kalimpong' which was identified as the government initiative to improve the lives of the 'white-poor', especially the orphan Anglo-Indian children. She concluded her lecture by explaining how the area of Darjeeling became the educational hub of Bengal. This was followed by an interactive session where she answered the queries of the professors and the students. The event concluded with the vote of thanks presented by Manisha Minj, a student from the department.

We look forward to similar lectures by various esteemed guests in the near future as it will help the students understand the various facts regarding North Bengal.

- **Ripon Murmu** (6th Semester) &
Guntla Lavanya (1st Semester)
Dept. of History, NBSXC.



Educational tour to places of historical interest in KOLKATA

On the 3rd of March, 2023, the History Department of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, with the initiative and guidance of Asst. Prof. Samar Chakraborty (HOD), had organized an



educational tour to the city of Kolkata where the students visited sites such as The Indian Museum, The Victoria Memorial, St. Paul's Cathedral, Kalighat, The Writers' Building, and The Howrah Bridge. The students who participated in the trip belonged to the 1st, 4th, and 6th semesters. We were 20 members in all in this tour, including one teacher. The city of Kolkata, since the colonial times, has been a centre for administrative, economic as well as social heritage. In the late 17th century, three villages that predated Calcutta were ruled by the Nawab of Bengal Mughal Suzerainty. After the Nawab granted the East India Company a trading license in 1690, the area was developed by the company into an increasingly fortified trading post known as Fort William. Since then the city of Kolkata has become the primary business, commercial, financial, administrative as well as cultural hub of eastern as well as north eastern India.

The group of students from NBSXC



boarded the train at 08.30 pm from New Jalpaiguri Junction. The journey was a smooth sailing and the students arrived at Howrah at 7:00 in the morning. Thereafter the group moved to MLA Hostel, Kyd Street, which would act as accomodation for the group during the trip. The tour officially began at 10:00 am after a few hours of rest and replenishment.

On the first day (04/03/2023) of the tour, students visited the Indian Museum situated at Park Street, Kolkata. The museum was founded in 1814 at the cradle of Asiatic Society of Bengal. Indian Museum is the earliest and the largest multipurpose museum not only in the Indian subcontinent but also in the Asia-Pacific region of the world. The students visited various galleries of the Indian museum which included gallery for decorative arts, coin gallery, bronze gallery, Egyptian gallery, and botanical gallery.

The students then visited Victoria Memorial. The Victoria Memorial Hall is one the most magnificent monuments of not only the city of Kolkata but of our entire country. Representing the resplendent and majestic British architecture, Victoria Memorial Hall stands today as a veritable icon of the city of Kolkata. Located on Queen's way, the VMH was envisaged by Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of British India, as a memorial to the deceased Queen Victoria. The monument serves as the memorial to the Queen and secondarily as a national gallery of the Indian Empire. The students visited various sections such as Western paintings, Indian paintings, manuscript, documents, arms and armory, miniature paintings and so on. At present, a number of pictures have been added in the museum in memory of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

On the same day, the students also visited St. Paul's Cathedral. It was the first New Built Cathedral in overseas territory of the British Empire which was founded in 1839, and the building was completed in 1847. The church features "Indo-Gothic" architectural design to meet the climate of India. The cathedral also functions as a picture gallery which depicts various images from the colonial times. The cathedral also has a burial ground. Some notable

Departmental Events & Activities

tombs there include those of Bishop Daniel Wilson and Sir John Paxton Norman, the acting Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, who was assassinated in 1871.



The next day, that is, on March 5, 2023, the students visited Kalighat Mandir. Kalighat was a 'Ghat' (landing stage) sacred to Mother Goddess Kali on the old course (Adi Ganga) of the Hooghly river (Bhagirathi) in the city of Kolkata. The name 'Kolkata' is said to have been derived from the word 'Kali-kshetra'. The river, over a period of time, has moved away from the temple. The temple is now on the banks of a small canal called 'Adi Ganga', which connects



to the Hooghly. The Adi Ganga was the original course of the river Hooghly. Hence the name Adi (original) Ganga. People from different countries visit this socio-cultural as well as historical place. Devotees, those who come from very different states or countries, are given accommodation facilities. Students visited this historical temple which has traditional customs that are existing from the very earliest times.

On the final day (06/03/2023) of the trip, the students visited The Writers' Building. The building is the official secretariat building of the

state government of West Bengal. It originally served as the principal administrative office of 'writers' (junior clerks) of the British East India company. It was designed by Thomas Lyon in 1777. Since India's independence, it has been serving as the Office of the Chief Minister of West Bengal, and of the Cabinet Ministers and other senior officials.

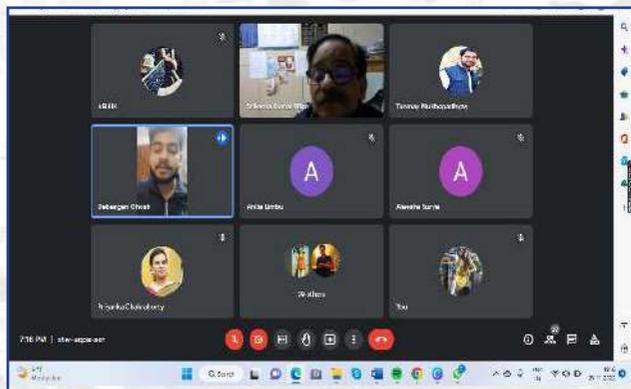
While returning, the students also visited The Howrah Bridge. In 1862, George Turnbull - the Chief Engineer of the East India Railway Company - was asked by the government of Bengal to study the feasibility of bridging the Hooghly river. The Calcutta Port Trust (founded in 1870), along with the legislative wing of the then Government of Bengal, passed the Howrah Bridge Act in the year 1871. When commissioned in 1943, Howrah was the third longest cantilever bridge in the world, with the central span of 1500 feet between centres of main towers, and a suspended span of 564 feet. The main towers are 280 feet high, the anchor arms are 325 feet each while the cantilever arms are 468 feet each.

After admiring and studying the architectural beauty of these monuments of the colonial period, we went back to Howrah JN and boarded the train to NJP JN, bidding farewell to the beautiful capital of our state of West Bengal. At 7:00 in the evening the students boarded the train back to New Jalpaiguri Station. The journey ended at 6:00 in the morning as students arrived at New Jalpaiguri.

We, the students of history, are looking forward to have more study tours like this to enhance our knowledge of history and to hone skills to collect and acquire information for our academic study.

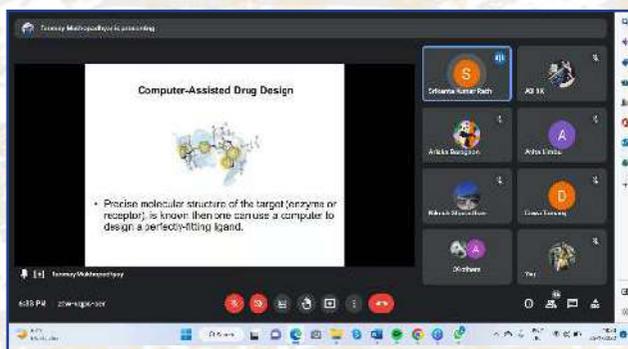
- **Ripon Murmu** and **Anurag Lakra**
6th Semester, Dept. of History, NBSXC.

WEBINAR on 'HOW DRUGS ARE DEVELOPED'



The Department of Zoology, North Bengal St. Xavier's College, organised a Webinar on the 25th of November, 2022 on 'Drug Discovery and Development'. A total of 58 students from all the semesters (1st, 2nd and 3rd semesters) and faculty members of the department attended the webinar. The speaker of the webinar was Dr. Srikanta Kumar Rath, Chief Scientist and Investigator of Toxicology and Experimental Medicine Division at CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, India.

The lecture shed light on the major phases of drug development: Early Drug Discovery, Pre-



Clinical Phase, Clinical Phases, and Regulatory Approval. These constitute the main hierarchy of the drug development process. The Early Drug Discovery process typically starts by screening for potentially active therapeutic compounds. In Pre-Clinical Phase, the compounds are refined, optimized, and extensively tested in a laboratory and in animal or alternative models. Clinical Trials are composed of four phases: Phase I, II, III,

and IV to check its tolerance and effectiveness. In the last phase doctors test the drug on thousands of patients to see whether the effectiveness and safety can be confirmed in many different patients. After completion of all the trails the drug is submitted to the appropriate authorities for review and patenting.

The whole lecture was very informative and lucid. Rigorous interaction and discussion took place after the end of the lecture. Every attendee got a clear idea about the drug discovery and development process. The webinar session lasted for more than two hours.

- Dr. Tanmay Mukherjee
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Zoology, NBSXC

PANEL DISCUSSION on "Future of Humans and Humans of Future: A Case Study of Evolutionary Blackout"

The Department of Zoology, North Bengal St. Xavier's College, organised a Panel Discussion on 26th September, 2022 on a very attention-grabbing topic about the evolution of humans. The speaker of the webinar was Dr. Tamal Mazumder, Asstt. Professor, Dept. of Zoology, NBSXC. Dr. Mazumder talked about the imperfect evolution of architectural design in human beings that took place in due course of phylogenetic history. The title of the lecture was, "Future of Humans and Humans of Future: A Case Study of Evolutionary Blackout".

The lecture shed light on the imperfection of human evolution that makes humans the most flawed creature on the planet. Besides several distinctive traits which make us a unique creature, we also attain some extra features morphologically, anatomically, genetically, and lose several genes or keep some genes in dormant condition. This evolutionary tendency makes us a 'faulty' animal on earth. Several case studies were

'SCIENCE DAY' Celebration at the Department of Zoology

Noble Laureate Sir C. V. Raman had once famously said, "The Science of today is the Technology of tomorrow." Ever since 1987, our country has been celebrating the National Science Day on the 28th of February to commemorate the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' by one of the renowned Physicist of India- Sir C.V. Raman. This year, on 27th of February, 2023, the Department of Zoology of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, organised an Inter-departmental model and



also discussed during the talk. A curved spine, an inflexible knee, too narrow pelvis, and mouth full of teeth, etc. are some examples which make us a malformed body architecture and make us impact. Ironically humans are the most successful creature on this planet which ultimately means that, 'evolution deceived us and now we are deceiving evolution'.

A total of 58 students from all the semesters (1st, 2nd and 3rd semesters) and faculty members attended the seminar. The seminar session lasted for about three hours and a thorough discussion took place after the end of the lecture. The whole lecture was very explanatory, thought-provoking, and comprehensive.

-Dr. Tanmay Mukherjee
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Zoology, NBSXC.



poster-making competition on the theme, 'Technology, Mankind & Nature'. It was part of a wide range of extra-curricular programmes and activities to sensitize the students on social, cultural, and ethical issues and marked the pre-Science Day celebration at NBSXC. Apart from the students of the science streams, students from different streams of humanities, like Political Science and History, also participated in the contest. Altogether seven posters and one model were presented by the different groups and almost 39 students participated actively for the presentations. The judges evaluated the presentation on the basis of its Creativity, Originality and the Overall Presentation, and the result was announced at the end of the programme.

- Ms. Priyanka Chakraborty
Asst. Professor, Department of Zoology, NBSXC.

STUDENTS' SEMINAR on "Evolution of Animal Morphology and Anatomy"

The Department of Zoology organised a students' seminar on 31st March, 2023. The theme for the students' seminar was, "Evolution of Animal Morphology and Anatomy".

A total of 79 students were divided into 4 groups. Each group was mentored by 4 faculty members of the department, and they selected the following sub-topics under the umbrella theme. The group-wise topics were as follows:

Group A: Bauplan of Invertebrates

Group B: Evolution of the central nervous system in animals

Group C: From light to sight: Visual senses throughout animal kingdom

Group D: Armour in disguise: Evolution of exoskeleton in coelomates.

The students were free to use their creativity along with meticulous research on the topics and prepare their PowerPoint presentation accordingly.

The seminar started at 10 am in the college Conference Hall. Each group submitted the abstract and delivered a PowerPoint presentation on their topic for 10 minutes and had a 05 minute Q&A session.

The seminar was a successful, fruitful, and very informative one.

- Ms. Ananya Das

Asst. Professor & HoD, Dept. of Zoology,
NBSXC



PANEL DISCUSSION BY THE ALUMNI OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY (NBSXC)

The Department of Zoology (NBSXC) took an initiative to organise a Panel Discussion or Special Talks by the alumni of the department, with the aim that they will inspire the current batch of students.



Accordingly, on the 19th of September, 2022, Mr. Sourav Karmakar (an alumnus who is pursuing M.Sc. from Banaras Hindu University) was invited to talk on a very interesting topic about the amalgamation of biological science and computer science: 'The brain computer interface (BCI) and its applications'. Students from all the semesters and faculty members attended the seminar in the conference hall. The lecture shed light on the development of artificial intelligence and its application on mankind. The 'BCI' is a computer-based system that acquires brain signals, analyses them, and translates them into commands that are relayed to an output device to carry out a desired action. The main goal of BCI is to replace or restore useful function to people disabled by neuromuscular disorders such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, cerebral palsy, stroke, or spinal cord injury. Brain-computer interfaces may prove useful for rehabilitation after stroke and for other disorders. In the future, they might also augment the performance of surgeons or other medical professionals. Brain-computer interface systems need to be validated in long-term studies of real-world use by people with severe disabilities, and effective and viable models for their widespread dissemination must be implemented.

On the 12th of September, 2022, Ms. Puja



Ghosh (an alumnus who is pursuing M.Sc. from University of North Bengal) talked on a very alarming topic about the health issue of Indian females, 'Decreasing age of menarche in Indian females'. She highlighted the issues regarding the gradual declining trend in the age of menarche in females of various countries. It was reported that in Europe, the age of menarche decreased from approximately 17 years to approximately 13 years, in China it was 12.76 years. The age of menarche is thought to be influenced by both genetic and non-genetic factors. Ms. Puja also talked about some necessary precautions for this critical concern of young females, such as decreased consumption of junk food, more physical activities and exercise, etc. Necessary awareness regarding this concern should be highlighted, especially in countries like India, where discussion on the topic of menstruation still remains a matter of taboo and disinterest.

On the 25th of April, 2023, Ms. Piuly Biswas (an alumnus who is pursuing M.Sc. from Panchanan Barma University) presented her talk on, 'Tetanus toxin and its mechanism of action'. Tetanus toxin is an extremely potent neurotoxin released by anaerobic bacterium, *Clostridium tetani*. It causes tetanospastic reactions in humans, cattle, goats, pigs, horses, etc. The bacteria or its spores enter our body through broken skin or injuries. The toxin released by the bacteria enters in the bloodstream and travels to the neuromuscular junctions, from where it is retrogradely transported from the motor nerve terminal to the cell body of the motor neuron. From there, the toxin is transcytosed into central nervous system interneurons, where its light chain is cleaved. The light chain is the toxic domain which targets vesicle associated membrane protein (VAMP) – synaptobrevin, essential for vesicular fusion of vesicles containing neurotransmitters. Cleavage of synaptobrevin inhibits the release of inhibitory neurotransmitters – gamma-amino butyric acid (GABA), glycine, etc. to the motor neuron. Inhibition of inhibitory neurotransmitters release results in continuous excitatory impulse transmission from the motor neuron to the associated muscles leading to continuous contraction of the muscles resulting in spastic paralysis.

Overall, the panel discussions proved to be a very stimulating and engaging experience for all involved.

- Ms. Ananya Das
Asst. Professor (HoD),
Department of Zoology,
NBSXC.

One Day Hands-On Training Programme on Digital Herbarium

The Department of Botany, along with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Rajganj, organised a 'One Day Hands-On Training Programme on Digital Herbarium' on the 9th of February, 2023. The students of Botany and Microbiology departments participated in the programme. Professor Monoranjan Chowdhury, Head, Department of Botany, University of North Bengal, graced the occasion as the resource person. Dr. Sujit Mondal and Mr. Aaratrik Paul of Taxonomy of Angiosperms and Biosystematics Laboratory, University of North Bengal were also present. In his vivid and informative keynote address, Dr. Chowdhury explained the fundamentals of herbarium techniques by showing some of the beautifully captured photographs of herbarium worldwide. He also mentioned the benefits of digitalized herbarium for the study of plant specimens for the students, researchers and scientists on global circle. Practical demonstration of making herbarium was critically explained by Dr. Sujit Mondal. Formation of barcode against each herbarium sheet in online and in offline mode was demonstrated by Mr. Aaratrik Paul. He also elucidated the ways to access Kew Digital Herbarium Catalogue online to gather detailed information of the specimens collected. Overall, this one-day training programme proved to be very helpful and a great learning experience for all the participants.

- **Christmine Khati,**
Semester 6, Department of Botany,
NBSXC



Seminar cum Workshop on 'Recent trends in Bioinformatics'

With an objective to acquaint the students of North Bengal), on the 11th of March, 2023, with the knowledge of Bioinformatics, a one-day at NBSXC (Rajganj). The students of Botany,



Zoology and Microbiology departments participated in the programme. Professor (Dr.) Arnab Sen, Department of Botany, University of North Bengal, graced the occasion as the resource person. In his vivid and informative keynote address, Prof. Sen explained the various concepts of bioinformatics, highlighting the importance of computational biology in different fields of biological sciences.

seminar cum workshop on 'Recent trends in Bioinformatics' was organised by the Department of Botany, in collaboration with IQAC (North Bengal St. Xavier's College) and Bioinformatics facility, Biswa Bangla Genome Center (University

of computational biology viz., multivariate analysis of codon and amino acid usage, DNA sequence homology testing, construction of phylogenetic trees, protein modelling, and drug designing by using various software and websites

like CODON-W, MEGA (Molecular Evolutionary Genetics Analysis), SWISS-MODEL, PDB (Protein Data Bank) and NCBI (National Centre for Biotechnology Information). The entire workshop proved to be immensely helpful and a great learning experience for all the participants.



- Ananya Acharya,
6th Semester,
Department of Botany
NBSXC

BOTANICAL STUDY TOUR 2023



A botanical study tour was conducted for the Botany honours students of 2nd, 4th and 6th semesters for the partial fulfilment of the UG CBCS honours programme course (NBU). A group of nineteen undergraduate students participated in the study tour (held on May 17-21, 2023) under the supervision of departmental faculties, Dr. Sourish Das Gupta and Dr. Payel Paul. The tour itinerary included a visit to different places of Meghalaya viz. Cherrapunji and Sohra hills, Shillong, Dawki in Jaintia hills, and Mawlynnong village. We started from NJP station on the 17th of May, 2023 evening and reached Cherrapunji next day (the 18th of May, 2023) at 11 am. Cherrapunji is the wettest place on earth with an average rainfall of 11,777 mm. We collected many ferns and mosses from the place. On the very day, we visited the Nohkalikai Waterfalls, Seven Sisters falls, Mawmai cave etc. Four different types of vegetations, viz., alluvial inundated grasslands, alluvial savana woodlands, tropical moist mixed deciduous forests, and tropical semi-evergreen forests were observed and different species of pteridophytes and bryophytes were collected. We stayed at Shillong, the capital of Meghalaya, for the night.

On the 19th of May, we went to Dawki in Jaintia hills and Mawlynnong village. On the way to Dawki, we collected diversified plant specimens (fungi, bryophytes, pteridophytes, angiosperms etc.). We visited the cleanest Ungut river and Tamibil Border (India – Bangladesh Border) in Dawki. The visit to Mawlynnong village was also of importance. The village was awarded the cleanest village in Asia in 2003 by 'Discover India'. Alongside cleanliness, the village has achieved a lot – be it 100% literacy rate, or a women empowerment scenario that the rest of the world can only dream of. The "Living Root Bridge"

in the village has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Hanging on a river, the bridge is made by connecting the aerial roots of one massive rubber tree with another. We collected a variety of lichens growing on tree trunks in the village. All our collections were carefully preserved for the preparation of a Herbarium in future.

On the 20th of May, while returning back to Guwahati, we visited the Don Bosco Centre for Indigenous Cultures (DBCIC) commonly known as 'Don Bosco Museum' (the largest cultural museum in Northeast India). It is situated at Mawlai in Shillong. The vision of DBCIC is to see a Northeast India enriched with the cultural heritage of all its tribes. In keeping with its vision, DBCIC functions as a catalyst for the cultural mosaic of Northeast and is aspiring to be a "Centre for Advanced Learning".

The entire team returned safely on the 21st of May, 2023. In a nutshell, the study tour left an indelible impression on our minds, enriched us with new ideas



and information, and helped us to encompass a better understanding about the course. We are truly grateful to the Department of Botany and to the college authorities for providing this golden opportunity to us. We strongly believe that this kind of exposure is what is needed to revitalise classical plant sciences.

- **Barnajit Ghosh**

2nd Semester, Department of Botany,
NBSXC.



SCIENTIA: A fermented food display & inter-departmental science quiz event

Do you have any idea how an Idli or Dosa batter is made? No, right? Well do not worry, the microbiologists have come to your rescue!

Idli, dosa, dhokla, gundruk - these are all examples of fermented foods which are prepared by fermentation process with the help of microorganisms. To spread awareness and usefulness of microbes in the food and dairy industry, the Microbiology Dept. of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, in association with MBSI (Microbiology Society of India), organized SCIENTIA: a fermented food display event along with an inter-departmental science quiz. The students of the 5th Semester and 3rd Semester, under the guidance of their professors, congregated to make this event a grand success. The event took place on the 26th of September, 2022.

Fermented foods are basically defined as foods or beverages produced through controlled microbial growth and the conversion of food components through enzymatic action. The students were segregated into 7 different groups with each group displaying two fermented foods each.

Here are the items presented :-

Group 1: Chhupri and Gundruk

Chhupri is a traditional cheese consumed in Tibet, it is also quite popular in the North Eastern Hills of India.

Gundruk is a fermented green leafy vegetable



that originated in Nepal. It is popular in Gorkhali or Nepalese diaspora households in India, Bhutan and Myanmar.

Group 2: Kinema and Dosa

Kinema is a fermented soybean food prepared by Nepali communities of the Eastern Himalayan region i.e. East Nepal, Darjeeling, Sikkim, etc.

Dosa is a thin pancake in South Indian Cuisine made from a fermented batter of ground black lentils and rice.

Group 3: Tama and Kimchi

Tama is a Nepali soup dish made from fermented bamboo shoots, potatoes and black eyed peas.

Kimchi is a traditional Korean side dish of salted and fermented vegetables such as napa cabbage and Korean radish.

Group 4: Dhokla and Uttapam

Dhokla is a savoury sponge dish that is native to the Indian state of Gujarat and parts of adjacent states.

Uttapam is a type of dosa from South India. An Uttapam is thicker than a dosa, with toppings.

Group 5: Idli and Kombucha

Idli is a type of savoury rice cake, originating from South India, popular as a breakfast food.

Kombucha is a fermented, lightly effervescent sweetened black tea drink commonly consumed for its purported health benefits.

Group 6: Beet Kvass and Sauerkraut

Beet Kvass is a fermented drink made by culturing beets in a slightly salty brine for a few days and up to a week. Its flavor tastes similar to beet juice - earthy, sour and slightly salty.

Sauerkraut is finely cut raw cabbage that has been fermented by various lactic acid bacteria.

It has a sour flavor.

Group 7: Taipo and Apple Cider Vinegar

Taipo is similar to a steamed momo or dumpling which originated in Tibet.

Apple Cider Vinegar is made from fermented apple juice and used in salad dressings marinates, vinaigrettes, and food preservatives.

Humongous knowledge could be shared amongst us by exchanging information about these foods. As the saying goes, "Knowledge opens the doors to opportunity, achievement and success". It was an honour and privilege to be able to learn something new and pass on that knowledge to our juniors.

After the fermented food display session, an inter-departmental quiz competition was also conducted between the departments of Microbiology, Zoology and Botany.

There were two groups from each department consisting of 03 participants each. The quiz was formulated with the help of our professors and it consisted of 4 different rounds which included general science questions, pictionary and identification questions.

The quiz session was so interactive that it produced a huge wave of enthusiasm among the students.

The winners of the quiz competition were



Eashan Paul, Abhinav Biswakarma, and Anushila Saraswati of the Department of Zoology, NBSXC.

The inter-departmental science quiz pushed the students out of their comfort zones and they gave it their best. It was a visual delight for the audience



to watch the students give it their all to bag a win for their department. It produced an adrenaline rush in all of us.

The entire day was a great learning experience and we thank our esteemed professors for providing us with this wonderful opportunity.

- **Namrta Das**, Semester VI
& **Mrs Nitya Rai**, Asst. Professor,
Department of Microbiology, NBSXC

Departmental Seminar on “Global Science for Global well-being” to celebrate ‘NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY



In India, ‘Nation Science Day’ is celebrated on the 28th of February, to honour the immense contributions of Dr. Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman in the field of science, specifically the discovery of ‘Raman Effect’. Dr C.V Raman discovered the Raman Effect on February 28, 1928, and was awarded Nobel Prize in Physics for it in 1930. In 1986, the National Council for Science and Technology Communication asked Govt. of India to designate February 28 as ‘National Science Day’.

To celebrate this day, the Department of Microbiology, NBSXC, organised an Intra-Departmental seminar on the theme, “Global Science

for Global well-being”, which was the theme for National Science Day, 2023. Students from semester VI and semester IV were divided into seven groups (A to G) and were mentored by Dr. Bipranch Kumar Tiwary, Mrs. Nitya Rai, Ms. Barsha Dey and Dr. Deepika Mazumdar. The respected Principal, Fr. (Dr.) Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, motivated and inspired the students before the start of the competition.

Students of the 1st semester were present to observe the intricacies of research paper presentation. Each of these groups presented research articles on recent topics in science. The Dept. of Microbiology (NBSXC) was honoured to have Dr. Anoop Kumar, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biotechnology (University of North Bengal), as the invited speaker and Judge for the event. The presence of Dr. Sourish Dasgupta as co-judge was also extremely motivating.

After a wonderful session of scientific discussion and tough competition, Group G secured the first place while Group B became second and Group C third. Dr. Bipranch Kumar Tiwary, HoD, Dept of Microbiology, NBSXC, looked elated while announcing the results of such a tough competition. The lecture by the esteemed invited speaker, and the detailed discussion on recent scientific discoveries increased the enthusiasm in students for research and development. Overall, the entire event was a very successful one.

- **Ms. Barsha Dey**
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Microbiology
NBSXC

ONE-DAY TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON 'CYBER SECURITY AND MACHINE LEARNING'



A one-day workshop on 'Cyber Security and Machine Learning' was jointly organised by ISOEH Siliguri and Department of Computer Science and Application, North Bengal St Xavier's College, on the 11th of November, 2022 at the Smart Classroom, Loyola Block, North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Rajganj.

The seminar proceedings began at 12 noon with a welcome speech by Srishty Banerjee, 1st Sem., BCA (Hons.). It was followed by the felicitation of the Guests of Honour. As our Guests of Honour, we had Mr. Somdeb Chakraborty, Mr. Chandan Roy and Mr. Partha Pratim Chakraborty. The technical session was then taken ahead by Mr. Somdeb Chakraborty, Information Security Analyst in the Indian School of Ethical Hacking. He inspired us with his wonderful words and gave a magnificent speech on Cyber Security.

The topics covered in the workshop were Cyber Security, Ethical Hacking,

Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI). The workshop used a combination of presentation and activity-based learning session to help the participants improve their knowledge on the topics and enhance their chances of making their career in the field of their choice. The seminar was totally interactive, with the participants interacting with the speaker, asking searching questions, and clarifying doubts.

Mr. Chakraborty delivered some summary remarks to synthesize the importance of Cyber Security and Machine Learning. The seminar ended at 1 PM with the vote of thanks by Mrs. Payel Saha, HoD, Dept. of Computer Science and Application (NBSXC). The panelists were thanked for their participation and hard work in connection with the workshop.

- **Srishty Banerjee**,
2nd Semester, Dept. of CSA, NBSXC

INDUSTRIAL VISIT BY DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT (BBA) AND COMMERCE TO CLEARSTONE GLASS PROCESSING FACTORY, FULBARI, SILIGURI

An industrial visit was organised by the Department of Management (BBA) and Commerce, NBSXC, in collaboration with Young Indians Foundation, Siliguri, for BBA and BCom 1st semester students on the 20th of January, 2023. Besides them, there were participating students from other different colleges. The students were accompanied by Mr. Khiraj Chettri (Assistant

founded by Mr. Anup Goyal and Mr. Jaydeep Agarwal.

The raw material for the processing of glass is supplied by Saint-Gobain. The glasses come in sheets after which these are transferred to the platform for the first process of cutting using EOT crane lift. The glass is cut into different sizes and shapes according to the order using the Auto CMC machine which is a totally automated machine.

edges are fine and even from all sides, the horizontal polishing is done. Marking of holes and drilling for fitting places are done manually using drill beads with diamond coat. Drilling is done from both sides to avoid chipping. Fabrication is also done if needed. The glass is then washed with ro or dm water to wash off any dirt or markings and to avoid any permanent marks which can be caused after toughening if the glass is dirty. Then it is dried for the process of toughening (In-built RO water plant of 4000-5000l).

The toughening plant used here is a European Technology. Inside this machine, there are heating coil chambers and fans to equalise the heat horizontally. The furnace gets heated up to 700 degrees Celsius, time and temperature being customised according to the thickness of the glass. Quenching rollers are used to transfer the glass. After the time of heating is over, it is cooled under a blower for 30 seconds per mm at 60 degrees



Professor & Head, Dept. of Management, Siliguri Campus, NBSXC) and Mr. Sagar Sharma (Assistant Professor and Head - Department of Commerce, Rajganj Campus, NBSXC) to Clearstone Glass Processing Factory located at Fulbari. This venture is one of the largest and most advanced glass processing units with a state-of-the-art technology. It is based in eastern India, manufacturing toughened, laminated, insulated and various other high-end glasses. Clearstone Glass Industry, LLP is a limited liability partnership firm incorporated on 9th January 2020. The company was

All the required measurements are entered into the machine and the output is perfectly cut, glass sheets. After this it goes for grinding and polishing. Diamond and resin wheels are used for grinding. After the



Celsius. Zebra board glass inspection is done to auto inspect for any manufacturing defects in the glass. The process of toughened glass is finished here. Few of the finished goods then are formed into insulated glass and laminated glass. Insulated



glass consists of two or more glass window panes separated by a space to reduce heat transfer across a part of the building envelope, silicon is filled in the edges to seal. Laminated glass is constructed of two piles of glass which are bonded together with inter-layers to form a permanent bond, unlike laminated glass there is no air gap between two toughened glasses. After the product is ready it undergoes various tests like human impact test, twin tyre test, etc.

Clearstone delivers exceptional quality glasses and offers a vast range of window and door designs as per customer specifications and solution windows with noise cancellation, thermal insulation and much more for architectural purpose. Clearstone Glass has today become the preferred suppliers for developers, architects and interior designers. The company has one of the largest processing plants in Eastern India and follows a transparent and committed customer-centric approach in all its services. Clearstone Glass is leading the Glass processing industry to achieve the idea of “making life safer, better and high performance!”. The students were given an advantageous opportunity to experience the procedure of glass processing closely and being part of such educational visit gave us enriching exposure to real business environment along with a practical perspective of a theoretical concept relevant to our domain.

- **Ms. Taniya Baraik**
1st Semester, BBA(H), NBSXC

WORKSHOP ON CV BUILDING ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT (BBA)

A Workshop on CV Building was organised by the Department of Management (BBA) in collaboration with Career and Placement Cell, NBSXC, for the students of B. Com and BBA (All Semesters) on the 19th of September, 2022. It was supported by Young Indians Foundation, Siliguri. A total of 61 students participated in this programme. The resource person for the same was Ms. Muskan Kandoi, Founder YourVoice and Certified NLP Coach. The resource person was welcomed by Mrs. Sanjukta Mitra (Vice Principal, Siliguri Campus), Mr. Khiraj Chhetri (Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Management) and Mr. Sekh Raunak Mondal (Convener, Career and Placement Cell). The session started at around 11:30am and concluded at 1:00pm.

The students had an astounding time during the resourceful session delivered by the resource person. The entire session was largely interactive and the students got to learn a lot many important things pertaining to CV writing viz., components of CV, strategies for building a winning CV and online application for job interviews etc. This programme was aimed at enhancing the CV building skills of the students so that they can appear before any interview board with full confidence.

- **Mr. Khiraj Chhetri**
Assistant Professor & Head
Department of Management,
NBSXC (Siliguri Campus)

Industrial visit by the Dept. of Management (BBA) to North East Cylinder Industries Gopal Dana LPG Factory At Fulbari, Siliguri



An industrial visit was organised by the Department of Management (BBA), NBSXC, in collaboration with Young Indians Foundation, Siliguri for the students of BBA (H), 1st and 3rd Semesters, on the 24th of September, 2022. A total of 24 students participated in this activity. The students were accompanied by Mr. Khiraj Chhetri (Assistant Professor & Head, Dept. of Management, NBSXC, Siliguri Campus) and Sekh Raunak Mondal (Assistant Professor and Coordinator, Career and Placement Cell, NBSXC) to the factory site (Gopal Dana LPG Factory) located at Fulbari, Siliguri. Gopal Dana LPG Factory is a manufacturing unit producing LPG cylinders. The students reached the factory premises at around 12:15 pm. The students were divided into two groups of 12 members each. They got the

opportunity to learn practically through interaction, working methods and employment practices.

North East Cylinder Industries (Gopal Dana LPG Factory), Fulbari is under a partnership firm. It operates through B2G (Business to Government) model and has an annual turnover to the tune of Rs. 180 lakhs. It employs 30 skilled workers. The working hours is from 10:00am to 05:00pm. It manufactures LPG cylinders for domestic use and empty cylinders for Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum.

M/s Gopal Dana Factory manufactures approximately 2500 empty cylinders daily or according to the orders placed. Every cylinder sold needs to be

recorded as no cylinder can be sold without a record. The cost of each cylinder is Rs 1300. Each cylinder takes approximately 4 hours to be produced. The height of a cylinder is 625-630 mm, weight 17 kg, diameter 330 mm, wall thickness 2.49 mm, working press 1.66MPa, test pressure 2.45 MPa and water capacity 37 litres. The cylinders which get destroyed or does not fall under the required criteria are recycled or sold as scrap along with the other waste iron materials.

The students had an enriching time during their visit as they got the opportunity to witness the complete manufacturing process involved in producing the LPG cylinders. They were able to relate the theoretical concepts, learned in the classroom, with the industrial practice.

- Mr. Khiraj Chhetri
Assistant Professor & Head,
Department of Management,
NBSXC (Siliguri Campus)



INDUSTRIAL VISIT TO 'GODHULI DAIRY FARM' (BIDHANNAGAR) ORGANISED BY YUVA FOR THE DEPT. OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, NBSXC (SILIGURI)

An industrial visit was organised by YUVA and Entrepreneurship Team for the BBA(H) students of all the semesters of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Siliguri Campus, along with few other colleges, on the 11th of March, 2023. The participants were accompanied by Mr. Khiraj Chhetri (Assistant Professor and Head, Dept. of Management, NBSXC) and Sekh Raunak Mondal (Assistant Professor and Coordinator, Career and Placement Cell, NBSXC) to Godhuli Dairy Farm located at Bidhannagar which is a business start-up promoted by Mr. Adhiraj Agarwal and Mr. Sahil Agarwal to provide high quality milk to customers with its automated solution. The farm was established in the year 2018 after Adhiraj, the co-founder, felt the need of retaining proper quality of milk production and supply, in view of the declining quality of milk in his hometown

Siliguri. The start-up is into cattle rearing, milking and distribution of unprocessed cow milk directly to customers, their by-products being milk and ghee. Their main product is 24-carat milk which is pure, unadulterated, unprocessed, untouched by hand and humans. It uses hi-tech equipment at the farm to ensure the milk remains untouched. The cows are milked in an automatic milking parlour, which harvests milk from the cows without hurting the udder.

The cows that are reared are Holstien and Friesian Cattle, which are European breed cattle known for producing high quality milk. The farm consists of three sheds out of which two are for the rearing of milking cattle and one for the calves and the breeding bulls. Each shed is divided into two alleys. The cattle have 24 hours' access to clean water and feed. They feed on a total mix grass comprised of fresh maize grass,

soya chunks, and other grains along with some supplements which are added to the feed periodically. The cows walk into the parlour through the alley when it's time for milking. The setup can milk 200 cows in around three hours. Each cow has its own cubicle with rubber mats laid below them to lie down and rest while they ingest on their feed. Large fans have been installed in the cow shed to ensure a cool environment for the cattle. Automatic swinging brushes have also been installed for massaging the cows.

Godhuli Dairy Farm is primarily focusing on being ethical and environment-friendly. They say "No" to plastic and uses glass bottles to package milk as they can be recycled. It also distributes milk to its customers using a fleet of electric vehicle and also providing employment to around 15 delivery boys. Users can place, manage, and track

their orders using the Godhuli Milk mobile app. Their motive is to provide excellent service and product to the people of Siliguri, their motto being 'farm fresh cow milk'. Godhuli Dairy Farm works on the principle of co-existence and respecting the cattle and ensuring their safety, security, and health. The farm animals are never

injected with any artificial hormones or drugs to maximise yield. Male calves or animals who have passed their fertility period are also reared and taken care of like other milk producing cows. At Godhuli Farm, the cows are never tied and have free access to feed and water whenever they want.

This visit gave us great knowledge and information about the various aspects of production, marketing and operation of the farm. It helped us to see that a company is not only about earning profits but also about ethical behaviour and the betterment of society along with that of people working in it.

- Muskaan Rai & Taniya Baraik
2nd Semester, BBA(H), NBSXC



Xavier Annual Management Convention (XAMCon), 2023

North Bengal St. Xavier's College hosted the first edition of the Xavier Annual Management Convention (XAMCon) on January 13 and 14, 2023, at its Siliguri campus. XAMCon, organised by the Department of Commerce and Management, NBSXC, consisted of events like Ad Mania, Ad Selfie, Mock Placement, and many more, in order to provide a platform for participants to explore

and showcase their creativity, leadership skills, management skills, and teamwork. The campus was elegantly decorated and a grand stage was set up for the event. From 10 a.m. on the scheduled day, the inauguration ceremony started with the college prayer song. Following a welcome dance, the lamp was lit, and the welcome speech was delivered by the respected Principal of NBSXC, Fr. Dr. Lalit

P. Tirkey, SJ. Approximately 50 students from 4-5 local colleges, including NBSXC, participated in the various events. The Chief Guest for the inaugural program was Mr. Anup Goyal, MD of ClearStone Glass Industry.

Soon after the inaugural program, the first two events of the day, 'Ad Mania' and 'Mock Placement', started simultaneously at 11 a.m. The idea behind conducting 'Ad



Departmental Events & Activities

Mania’ was to provide a platform for participants to explore and showcase their creativity and stage presence. This was a group event, and the participant groups presented their unique ads - created within a time limit of 1 hour - on the products given by the event coordinators. The ‘Mock Placement’ had an exciting blend of aptitude test, group discussion, and personal interview. It was an individual event with two elimination rounds. The basic theme of the ‘Ad Selfie’ event was to make the participants imagine themselves as brand ambassadors for the assigned products. The participants had to take a selfie with the product and come up with a brand name, tagline, and marketing strategy for the products, subsequently presenting these in front of the judge. ‘Best Out of Waste’ was also a group event

that evaluated the participant groups on the basis of their creativity, innovativeness, and how they used these in order to create useful products out of waste. The participants brought their own waste materials and created the products in front of the judges.

On the second day, January 14, 2023, ‘Rural to Global’ and ‘Logo Login’ events were conducted simultaneously, beginning at 11 a.m. ‘Rural to Global’ was a group event where the participant groups would present their business ideas and launch strategies in front of the judge. ‘Logo Login’ was again a group event where the participant groups were provided with some company logos and had to redesign them and provide a new tagline. They also had to give a small presentation on why they made the changes

and what their significance was for the company’s image and brand value. The last event, ‘Amphitheatre’, was also a group event where the participant groups had to present a skit on the theme of business and society in front of the audience and the judges. The participants were evaluated on their overall performance and skit content.

With this string of exciting events, XAMCon came to an end. The valedictory session started with prize distribution to the winners and runners-up, and certificates were given to all participants. Our college also performed well and won prizes in many events. The chief guest for the valedictory session was Mr. Dipojjal Choudhury, Senior Manager at Union Bank.

- Priyangshu Kumar
4th Semester, B.Com Program
NBSXC (Siliguri Campus)



ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (SESSION 2022-2023)

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
13/01/2023 - 14/01/2023	XAM-Con	SILIGURI CAMPUS
20/01/2023	INDUSTRIAL VISIT AT CLEARSTONE GLASS FACTORY FOR 1ST SEMESTER STUDENTS.	CLEARSTONE GLASS FACTORY, FULBARI
13/02/2023	ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARENESS SESSION	SMART ROOM, LOYOLA BLOCK, RAJGANJ CAMPUS
	BY MR. RAJESH AGARWAL, SECRETARY, LAGHU UDYOG BHARTI.	
22/03/2023	ONE DAY STUDENTS' WORKSHOP ON INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO & PLANNING BY MS. RICHUTA AGARWAL, FINANCIAL ADVISOR, SIMPLICITY INDIA FINANCE LTD.	SMART ROOM, LOYOLA BLOCK, RAJGANJ CAMPUS
01/04/2023- 12/04/23	STUDENTS' SEMINAR	ROOM 5, LOYOLA BLOCK, RAJGANJ CAMPUS



Students' Seminar, organized by the Dept. of Commerce, NBSXC (Rajganj)



Entrepreneurial Awareness Session, organized by the Dept. of Commerce
NBSXC (RAJGANJ CAMPUS)



Students' Workshop, organized by the Dept. of Commerce,
NBSXC (Rajganj)



YATC Formation

On the 30th of August, 2022, YATC (Youth Against Trafficking Club) was formed with the student members of the Women's Cell in the NBSXC campus under the auspices of 'MARG' NGO, Darjeeling. On this occasion, Mr. Pranim Moktan, an ex-student of NBSXC and an active member of MARG, gave a detailed presentation on 'Human Trafficking and Laws to Combat It'. He acquainted the audience with the objectives and goals of the YATC, and shared his profound knowledge on human trafficking. He also highlighted how important it is for us as a group to stand and fight against it. His words prompted the cell members to take the pledge of participating in different campaigns/programmes that will be organised by the club in future. The members committed themselves to this cause and pledged to bring about a change in the situation. The campaign ended with the distribution of badges among the members of the club. There was an atmosphere of learning and growing together. The programme also focussed on the roadmap for future campaigns and training programmes, and also laid a foundation for the election of President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the club.

- **Subekcha Sharma,**
5th Semester, Dept. of Sociology
NBSXC



Election of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer of YATC

The Women's Cell of NBSXC organised an election for the posts of President, Secretary and Treasurer of YATC on the 27th of September, 2022. This is the first time that the cell has conducted an election. Huge number of applicants applied for contesting the election and the nominations were conducted for one week. Based on regularity, code of conduct, and other selection criteria, candidates were nominated and declared for the final election. The candidates visited all the classrooms to influence the students to vote for them. The election recorded the active participation of many students from different streams and classes. Only the cell members could vote for the posts. The election started with a high number of students who voted in the college auditorium. Everyone voted for the nominated candidates. The process of casting of votes was completed and counting started. The Convener of the Women's Cell, Dr. Deepika Mazumdar, thereafter announced the result. The student who came up with the highest vote and was elected as the President was Anwasha Bhowmik from 5th Semester, B.Com, followed by second highest vote for Sayan Bose from 5th Semester, B.Com (Secretary) and third highest vote for Subekcha Sharma from 5th Semester, Sociology (Treasurer). At the end, the President, Secretary and Treasurer were felicitated with 'Stop Human Trafficking' T-shirts. The event was conducted with fairness and transparency. No kind of bias or irregularity was entertained throughout the electoral process.

- **Dr. Deepika Mazumdar**
Convener, Women's Cell
NBSXC

MoU signed between NBSXC & MARG

An event was organised on the 24th of August, 2022, by the Women's Cell, NBSXC, where the college signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with 'MARG' (Mankind in Action for Rural Growth), an NGO from Darjeeling. The programme started with the welcome speech by respected Father Principal, Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey SJ. An awareness session was conducted thereafter by Mr. Nirnay John Chettri (General Secretary, MARG) and Mr. Pranim Moktan, who is an ex-student of NBSXC and an active member of MARG. Through this session, the audience got to know that 'MARG' is working against Human Trafficking for a considerable period of time. The main motive of this session was to spread knowledge to combat trafficking through education and awareness, and also to provide full slate of recovery and support services to the victim which will help them to recuperate faster. The members were acquainted with different legal and other measures and backstops



that are available against human trafficking. The Women's Cell members were also enlightened about different activities and events that are currently undertaken by 'MARG' in different cities of India, and how these programmes are proving beneficial to the society. A cultural presentation in the form of a dramatic enactment by the students of NBSXC thereafter highlighted the horrendous crime of human trafficking as a direct violation of human rights. The event drew to a close with the 'vote of thanks' given by the Convener of the Women's Cell (NBSXC), Dr. Deepika Mazumdar.

- Anwasha Bhowmick
5th Semester, B.Com.



Mega Health Camp 2023



Like every year, this year also North Bengal St. Xavier's College has extended helping hands to the needy people and offered its contribution to society in the form of a health camp. A 'Two-day Mega Health Camp' was jointly organised by Women's Cell and Social Service Cell of North Bengal St. Xavier's College (NBSXC), Rajganj, with the support of Siliguri Lions Club and Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, on the 10th and 11th of February, 2023.

On the first day, a special lecture was delivered by Dr. Zakia Banu, Medical Officer, University of North Bengal on

the topic, 'Physical health and hygiene'. It was followed by Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, Assistant Professor, Department of English, NBSXC, Rajganj, delivering a lecture on the topic, 'Mental health and fitness'. In this session, the speakers focussed on the importance of mental and physical health, and ways to deal with physical and psychological distress. They dealt with issues of personal and social hygiene, anxiety, depressions and of ways to tackle them. This session proved very helpful and illuminating for the students.

On the second day, a

general address was given by Dr. Aparna Chatterjee, Vice Principal (Academics), NBSXC. Sri Keshab Chatterjee, Administrative Head, Maharaja Agrasen Hospital and Dr. Soumen Chakraborty, Ex-Principal, Dental college, NBMC & Hospital, were also present on this occasion. They also shared their experiences on this day and appreciated the efforts of the college. Experienced doctors from Maharaja Agrasen Hospital and Lions Club, Siliguri, visited the campus for free health checkups comprising eye check-ups, dental check-ups, pressure and sugar tests and general check-ups for the people from the neighbouring villages, students, and the staff. A blood donation camp was also organised as a part of the Mega Health Camp. More than 100 villagers enrolled for the free health check-up and around 25 students donated their blood.

- **Dr. Deepika Mazumdar**
Convener of Women's Cell,
NBSXC



Pre-Celebration of International Women's Day 2023



North Bengal St. Xavier's College has always tried its best to extend its helping hands to the needy people and contribute to the society. The respected Principal of the institution, Father Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, has always offered his leadership for doing something noble and encouraging everyone to do something for the villagers who live adjacent to the college campus at Rajganj (Jalpaiguri). Hence this year, Women's Cell and AICUF (NBSXC) jointly organised an event to pre-celebrate International Women's Day on 4th March, 2023 at Shikarpur tea estate. The 4th of March is also observed as 'National Safety Day'.

The event started with the welcome dance by the students of the primary school at Shikarpur. Then an inaugural speech was given by Dr. Deepika Mazumdar, Convener of Women's Cell, where she talked about the importance of education, women empowerment, and the serious issue of 'human trafficking'. Father Bijay Kirti Kindo SJ, Vice Principal (Administration) and Convener of AICUF, NBSXC, delivered his message to the villagers on the issue of 'girl safety and security'. A short message was given by Smt. Mitali Singha Mazumdar, Secretary to the Principal, NBSXC, where she talked about various vocational trainings for the women which can help them earn their livelihood. An awareness session was also conducted on 'Human Trafficking' by the General Secretary of MARG (NGO) Darjeeling, Mr. Nirnay John Chettri. Students of Women's Cell and AICUF, NBSXC, performed a skit and a street play to drive home important messages on Women Empowerment and Human Trafficking for the audience. The Conveners of Women's Cell and AICUF, along with all the members of both the cells thanked Shri Kaharu Kujur (Panchayat, Shikarpur) for his hospitality. The programme ended with distribution of stationery items and sanitary pads to the young girls and women by the members of the Women's Cell (NBSXC).

- **Dr. Deepika Mazumdar**
Convener of Women's Cell,
NBSXC.

Report for the Session 2022-'23

Serial No.	Date of Commencement	Programme Details
1.	30th July 2022	“Live your Dreams-Goal Setting” Life Style and Wellness Session by Mr. Rahul Kapoor Venue – GD Goenka School Total Participants - 30
2.	13th August 2022	Industrial Visit at Clearstone Glass Factory, BBA 5th Semester Total Visitors - 08
3.	20th August 2022	Career Counselling Session by Mr. Sanjay Paul, Senior Academic Consultant RICE Education Group “Job Opportunities available in Public Sector Undertakings” Total Participants - 35
4.	19th September 2022	CV Building Workshop by Ms. Muskan Kandoi for Commerce and Management Students Key Deliverables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the key components in a CV? How to prepare a winning CV? Concept of keywords in a CV CV writing tips How to apply for online applications? Total Attendees - 61
5.	24th September 2022	Industrial Visit at Gopal Dana (North East Cylinder Industries) LPG Factory Total Visitors - 24
6.	20th January 2023	Industrial Visit at Clearstone Glass Factory, Fulbari for Commerce and Management Students Total Visitors - 21
7.	5th February 2023	On campus placement drive by Prabin Agarwal Financial Investment Services, Siliguri Total No. of Candidates – 21 Shortlisted - 02
8.	11th March 2023	Industrial Visit at Godhuli Dairy Farm Visit, Bidhannagar Total Visitors - 23
9.	2nd May 2023	IDBI placement drive for Final Semester Students Total Applicants – 31 Shortlisted - 12 Selected - 05
10.	13th May 2023	Workshop on Design Thinking Total Participants - 49

- **Sekh Raunak Mondal**
Convener, Career and Placement Cell
NBSXC



NATIONAL SPORTS DAY

Sports is the celebration of the human spirit and youth; it not only inspires young minds but also teaches good values and ethics to young students. National Sports Day is an international event, which is celebrated in various countries to honour the national sports teams and sports traditions of those countries. The National Sports Day in India is celebrated on the 29th of August, on the birth anniversary of legendary hockey player, Major Dhyan Chand Singh, who won gold medals for India in Olympics in the years 1928, 1932 and 1936.

North Bengal St. Xavier's College celebrated National Sports Day on the 3rd of September, 2022, with great enthusiasm. Kho-Kho and Kabaddi were the major events for the day. The events were organised by our Sports Committee Convener, Mr. Tushar Das, and the Sports Teacher, Mr. Sambhu Saha, along with two District Officials (Kho-Kho) and other teachers. The event took place in the spacious front lawn of the college surrounded by non-participants cheering for their favored team. There was excitement in the air because of the fervor and charisma which radiated from the players' energy and determination to win the tournament. The tournament constituted a total of four teams for each event for men and women. A thrilling competition took place between the teams. All the players were in high spirit and enjoyed themselves an unforgettable match. The winning team members i.e., 3rd year in Kho-Kho and 1st year in Kabaddi both for men and women were appreciated for their hard-work and skills in their match.

The event came to an end with distribution of prizes, which were given away by our honorable Vice Principal (Administrative) Fr. Bijoy Kirti Kindo, SJ. All the players of the winning teams were awarded with medals, certificates and huge round of applause from the audience. The celebration of Sports Day at NBSXC turned out to be a noteworthy and unforgettable event.

- **Ankita Sarkar**

6th Semester, Dept. of English,
NBSXC





PARTICIPATION IN INTER-COLLEGE TOURNAMENT, 2022-'23

The University of North Bengal organised an Inter-College Tournament from October, 2022 onwards, where approximately 30 colleges affiliated under NBU participated. Various sports events were conducted for the college students to help them showcase their skills and strategies, and for the development of social qualities among students. All the team players from different colleges looked exuberant and participated with great enthusiasm in the various events.

North Bengal St. Xavier's College participated in numerous sports events for this Inter-College Tournament. Football, Badminton, Table Tennis, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi and Cricket were the foremost events. Both men and women actively participated in these sporting events.

• **FOOTBALL :**

Our boys participated in Inter-College Football Tournament which was held in October 2022. The men's football team of St. Xavier's College won the first match against the Salesian College, Sonada by 2-0 points and were qualified for the



Quarter Final.

All the players were in very high spirit and were applauded for their hard work and skill.

• **BADMINTON :**

The men's team of North Bengal St. Xavier's College qualified for the Quarter Final by



Clubs, Cells & Committee

defeating Surya Sen Mahavidyalaya College. In men's single round, Saurabh Subba played immaculately and defeated his opponent by 21-3. In men's double round, Anubhav Dutta and Lalit Gupta defeated their opponent by 21-13. The players were congratulated and awarded for their achievements.

• **TABLE TENNIS :**

A memorable game was held between North Bengal St. Xavier's College and Darjeeling Government College in S.P. Roy Memorial Inter-



College Table Tennis Tournament 2022-2023. Our college qualified for the Quarter Final round by defeating Darjeeling Government College with 3-0 points. The team players played a spotless match, Sudipta Dey with 2-0 points won both round 1 and 2, Tenzi Namgyal Bhutia won by 2-1 points, Dherendra Nath Dikshit won by 2-0 points.

• **KHO-KHO :**

Both men and women participated in the Inter-College Kho-Kho Tournament with great



enthusiasm and energy for their match. The match was held in Maynaguri college in a huge ground surrounded with all the other competing college teams. The women's team was qualified for the quarter final after defeating Munshi Prem Chand Mahavidyalaya with 17-05 points. The players were congratulated for their grit, team spirit, and hard work.

• **KABADDI :**



The Inter-College Kabaddi Tournament was played by both men and women participants of North Bengal St. Xavier's College with keen interest and high excitement. It was a very memorable day because of the remarkable match conduction in the NORTH BENGAL UNIVERSITY'S 'KHELA GHAR'.

The crowd cheered for their favourite teams and all the excitement and support from the crowd built a great spirit of team cohesion and positive attitude towards the match among the contestants.

• **CRICKET:**

The men's team for INTER-COLLEGE CRICKET TOURNAMENT had a total of 14 players. One of our students, Samiyajeet Bose (2nd Year, Geography Hons..) was selected in North Bengal University Cricket Team for East Zone Cricket Tournament which was held in Orissa.

- Ankita Sarkar

6th semester, Dept. of English, NBSXC



XAVIER'S PREMIER LEAGUE

NORTH BENGAL St. XAVIER'S COLLEGE celebrated XAVIER'S PREMIER LEAGUE with great enthusiasm and active participation from the students. The sport events were organised by our respected Sports Committee Convener, Mr. Tushar Das, Sports Teacher, Mr. Sambhu Saha, and other teachers of the college. The events were held to develop competitiveness, sportsmanship and team spirit among the students.



• **CRICKET :**

The Intra- College Cricket (Boys) match was held in between 20th January, 2023 to 30th January, 2023, where both Rajganj and Siliguri campus students played fascinating matches. The winning team i.e, 2nd year, Arts was congratulated for their excellent performance and awarded with trophies, certificates and medals.



• **FOOTBALL :**

The Intra-College Boys' Football match was a memorable event. The matches were held in the middle of January. The competition was held in between 8 teams. B. Com Juniors emerged as the champions of the event and were awarded with trophies, medals, and certificates.



• **KHO-KHO:**

The Kho-Kho event saw active participation from both boys and girls. The matches were held from the 7th of Jan., 2023 to the 11th of Jan., 2023. In the Kho-Kho tournaments for boys and girls, the 3rd year students emerged as the winners. Nisha Munda and Sourav Nair were praised for their excellent performance as they were the sportspersons of the match.



Clubs, Cells & Committee



• **KABADDI:**
Both boys and girls vigorously participated in the Intra- College Kabaddi Tournament, held from 7th Jan, 2023 to 11th Jan, 2023. 3rd year boys and 1st year girls emerged as the winners. Ankit Kharia and Simran Hembrom were announced as the sportspersons of the match.

• **BASKETBALL:**
There were 4 teams in both boys' & girls' Intra-College Tournament at NBSXC. In the boys' team, 3rd year (Lama Seven) was the winning team and in the girls' tournament, 2nd year (Truce) secured the 1st position. Sarandeep Lakra and Selin Kujur were very well appreciated for their excellent skills and spirit.



• **TABLE TENNIS:**
In the Table-Tennis tournament, Sudipta Dey (3rd year, English Department) procured the 1st position and Geetika Ghosh (B. Com- 1st year) procured the 2nd position. Both winners were appreciated for their exquisite performance.

• **BADMINTON:**
In the Intra- College Badminton Boys' and Girls' tournaments, Anubhav Dutta (B.Com-2nd year) & Bhumisha Rai, (Microbiology - 3rd year) obtained the 1st position and Saurabh Subba (B.Com- 3rd year) & Upasana Rai (B.Com-3rd year) obtained the 2nd position.



• **VOLLEYBALL**
In the Volleyball Tournament, 4 teams with a fusion of arts, science and commerce streams competed against each other on 4th & 5th January, 2023. In the boys' and girls' tournament, 3rd year & 2nd year obtained the winner's position respectively. Pema Wangchuk and Minju D. Sherpa were the sportspersons of the match.

- **Ankita Sarkar**
6th semester, Dept. of English, , NBSXC



'X-UBERANCE' 2023

“Gold medals aren’t made of gold. They’re made of sweat, determination, and a hard-to-find alloy called guts.”

~ Dan Gable

They say what can’t be taught in the class can be learned on the ground. Sports teach commitment, self-discipline, mental toughness, resilience, teamwork, and innumerable other qualities that are vital life lessons. It is an integral part of education and students can find a sense of belonging and accomplishment through individual sports and team dynamics.

North Bengal St Xavier’s College conducted its annual sports day, ‘X-uberance’, on the 4th of February, 2023, on the college campus ground. The event commenced with the arrival of the Chief Guest, Ms. Anushka Dutta. Cadet national champion, Ms. Dutta is a South Asian Champion in Table Tennis and Indian Open Gold Medalist in singles under 17. She has also represented India in various international events.

The sporting events followed the lighting ceremony of the X-uberance flame,



accompanied by the college prayer song and flag hoisting. This year X-uberance witnessed a special drill parade by the NCC cadets of our college. After the oath-taking ceremony of the athletes, the honourable Principal, Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Turkey SJ, ushered the event through the welcome speech and felicitated our chief guest with the traditional khada and college souvenir. With a wonderful motivational speech, Ms. Anushka Dutta addressed the value of physical fitness and its importance in terms of education and cognitive strength.

Our beloved Vice Principal (Academics), Dr. Aparna Chatterjee, was felicitated by our honourable Chief Guest for winning the 2nd position in the Women's Team 40+ category in the 28th National Masters Table Tennis Championship, 2021. It was a proud moment for the college and the Xaverian family was gleaming with joy. 'A winner is not a winner until participants don't participate' - Aparna ma'am reminded the student participants in her short, inspirational speech.

Finally, the events started at 11:30 AM, with a 400m race for boys and girls followed by other exciting events such as discus throw, shot-put, long jump, high jump, etc. A total of 20 events were conducted on that day. Throughout the events, athletes put on their best performances and displayed sportsmanship, resilience, and commitment which were admired by the audience. A tug-of-war match between the male staff faculties of the college left everyone entertained and marked a joyous end to the day's events.

The much-awaited part of the day, the prize distribution ceremony, was held at 4:00 PM. The respected Principal, Vice Principals, and Dean of Students distributed the awards and accolades to all the winning participants. The 1st semester raised the cup for gaining the maximum number of points among all the three semesters.

The event came to an end with a 'vote of thanks' by Dr. Tamal Mazumder, who praised everyone for their hard work throughout the month to make the event a successful one. The event concluded with the audience singing the National Anthem with vigour and vitality.

- **Soumili Sarkar**

6th Semester, Dept. of English, NBSXC

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME (NSS), NBSXC Swachhata Abhiyan Programme, 2022-'23



On Saturday, the 24th of September, 2022, the National Service Scheme (NSS) Cell, NBSXC, celebrated the NSS Day and organized



a 'Swachhata Abhiyan' campaign. The event started with a short video celebrating all the previous activities that the NSS Cell of North Bengal St. Xavier's College had conducted. The video greatly inspired all the students and made them aware of all the previous activities of the cell. Another PPT showed and focused on their goals and motives. Ms. Payel Dey, the Programme Officer, gave an introductory speech, making the students aware of the importance of a clean environment. She motivated them to participate in the cell activities, thus helping them contribute

towards the betterment of society. Mr. Aritra Kundu taught the students how to perform the NSS clap, talked about the importance of a clean environment, and made the students aware of dengue, ways to combat the disease, and how to make people around them aware of it. Students were provided with cleaning equipment, masks, hand gloves, and bleach to make the campus cleaner and greener campus. The students were then divided into two groups. One group helped clean the college campus and canteen along with two other teacher members of the Cell, Mr. Subham Mandal and Ms. Anuja Tamang. Another group of students were led by Ms. Payel Dey, Dr. Payel Paul, and Ms. Payel Mitra outside the college campus and in the neighbouring villages. The students helped clean the village areas, spread bleaching powder to help curb the spread of mosquito-breeding, and made the villagers aware of malaria and dengue, and how to deal with mosquito-breeding and the spread of diseases. The entire event was a grand success. The college campus looked cleaner and greener, the villagers were aware of their responsibilities, and the students were motivated and inspired.

- Mr. Subham Mandal
Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, NBSXC



Blood Donation Camp

On Monday, the 9th of January, 2023, the National Service Scheme (NSS) Cell organised a Blood Donation Camp. It was organized as part of 'National Youth Week' observation. The event started with an introductory speech given by Ms. Payel Dey, Programme Officer (NSS), on the importance, significance and motive behind organising the blood donation camp. The doctors were then introduced and felicitated. We had Dr. Sanchita Banerjee, Dr. Surojeet Biswas, Dr. Ajay Mandal and Dr. Ranjan Das gracing us with their esteemed presence. Dr. Sanchita Banerjee gave a very informative and detailed speech making the students aware of the importance and the procedure of blood donation. She motivated and brought awareness to many students. Dr. Ajay Mandal also spoke regarding the importance of blood donation.

Students were then led to Hall 1, NBSXC, Rajganj, where the blood donation camp was set. Many students, teachers and staff members volunteered to donate their blood for the noble cause. A total of 48 students and 07 staff members donated their blood. A grand total of 55 units of blood were donated to the Jalpaiguri District Hospital Blood Bank after the event. After the blood donation, the donors were given eggs, bananas, fruit juice, etc. They were also given certificates which would allow them to collect blood, if and when required, from any governmental blood bank for 1 year. The entire event was a grand success. Students were very motivated and inspired after performing this noble deed.



- Mr. Subham Mandal

Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, NBSXC



Nature-Awareness Drive through One-Day Trekking Adventure

The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of the North Bengal St. Xavier's College (Rajganj), in collaboration with The Nature & Trekkers' Club of Jalpaiguri, took an initiative and brought to the students an opportunity to explore the vivid aspects of nature through an encouraging trek to a historically significant location - Dalim Lepcha Fort. It is located at a distance of 90 kms from Kalimpong, situated at a height of 322 metres from sea level. The Nature & Trekkers' Club of Jalpaiguri (1988) is registered under Society Registration Act 1961, Govt. Of West Bengal and affiliated to Indian Mountaineering Foundation, New Delhi, West Bengal Mountaineering & Adventure Sports Foundation, Govt. of West Bengal and Nehru Yuva Kendra, Govt. of India.

The trek was planned and scheduled on the 12th of February, a Sunday, and it aimed at creating awareness about nature among us students, pushing the horizons of our physical capacity, contributing to our mental strength, and adding pieces of significant information to frame our ideas and knowledge. Beginning right from our main instructor, Mr. Bhaskar Das, assisted by Mr. Sujay Banik, to all the members of the Club who accompanied us in the trek - Mr. Sudarshon Roy, Mr. Biplab Basak, Mr. Jayanta Sarkar, Mr. Partha Sarathi Roy, Mr. Janak Koch, Mr. Soumyadip Das, Miss. Vishaka Sharma, Miss. Debasmita Samaddar, Miss. Deborupa Bhaduri and our esteemed teachers, Mrs. Payel Dey, Dr. Payel Paul, Mr. Subham Mandal, Mr. Aritra Kundu - all of them were constantly present for all of us, with their kind words of guidance, support, and encouragement. We explored the breathtaking scenes of nature, breathed in the fresh air, got introduced to the historical significance of the Dalim Fort and

its surroundings, and successfully completed the trek within the targeted three hours. The Club members not only urged us to take care of the basic cleanliness of the natural surroundings but were also hands on in collecting littered waste and ensuring its proper disposal in the Waste Management Sector of the city. The trek undoubtedly proved to be one of the most ethralling experiences for all of us, leaving us looking forward to more of such rich, diverse, and healthy opportunities in the near future.

- Aparajita Jha
4th Semester, English Department
NBSXC.



Dist. Level Camp 2.0

The District Nodal Officer, NSS Jalpaiguri, organised a two-day Dist. Level Youth Camp i.e., on 14th Feb 2023 and 15th Feb 2023 respectively at Surya Sen Mahavidyalaya in which around 13 Colleges of Jalpaiguri District participated. The main objective of the camp was self-awareness. Other than that, the camp also focused on the following :

- To nurture traditional values and support democratic ideas.
- To promote better understanding of disaster management.
- To develop better communication skills and public speaking.
- To bring a sense of togetherness.

DAY 01

The programme started with Babita Prasad, DNO, NSS Jalpaiguri, who welcomed us all with her thoughtful words and also gave us a brief description about the camp where she specified the objectives of the camp. Thereafter, a lecture session by Dr. Suphal Biswas, IQAC Member SSM, was held where he gave us an informative and impressive talk on Cancer awareness. Later on, after the lunch, there was a session by the fire fighters where we were taught about fire safety awareness along with some practical demonstrations by fire brigade authorities.



In the evening we observed 'Black Day', wearing all black, where the volunteers of Suryasen Mahavidyalaya performed a short dance drama which was then followed by declamation contest, fashion show and beautiful presentation of patriotic song, dance and speeches keeping in mind the main objective of the programme i.e., 'EK BHARAT SHRESHTA BHARAT'.

DAY 02

Day 02 started off with some physical exercises after which we all had breakfast and went straight off to Ananda Marg Siliguri for another informative session. There we learnt about how meditation can give us a sense of calm, peace and balance that could benefit both our emotional wellbeing and overall health. After having lunch at Ananda Marg, we went back to Surya Sen Mahavidyalaya, where we had our last session of prize distribution and valedictory session.

The overall programme infused everyone with a sense of responsibility, a responsibility of ours to work towards community welfare. At the end, the DNO Jalpaiguri, gave the vote of thanks where she thanked everyone for showing active participation and making the camp a great success. Soon after, we all sang the NSS song and the two-day camp came to an end.

- CDT Topi Sriram

6th Semester, Department of Commerce
NBSXC



‘Integration Fete 2023’ by NSS (NBSXC)

On the 17th of May, 2023, the NSS Unit organised an “Integration Fete” in collaboration with the Cultural Committee of NBSXC. It was organised to celebrate the spirit of ‘unity-in-diversity’ by observing “National Integration Day” & “World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development”. The Chief Guest of the event was Prof. Dr. Omprakash Mishra, former Vice Chancellor, University of North Bengal. The Integration Fete was conducted at the ground floor of Xavier’s Block of the Rajganj campus from 10 a.m., with the enthusiastic participation of students, staff, and administrative members of the college.

The chief objective of the event was to embrace and celebrate the diverse and rich culture of India. The event was aimed to develop among the students a sense of social and civic responsibility. One of the objectives of the Fete was to garner funds from the stalls which will be used for future social service activities conducted by the NSS Unit of NBSXC. Prof. Dr. Omprakash Mishra gave a very engaging speech on the beauty of cultural diversity. He elaborated on how the celebration of such diversity involves respect and acceptance of different cultures, replacing indifference and conflict. The Integration Fete

had around 21 stalls comprising of different games, crafts, and food stalls – all representing the diverse and rich culture of India. Game stalls included stalls like Mystery Box, Shot pong, etc. Food stalls included Bengali street foods, *momo*, *idli* and *meduvada* from South India, *amin* from Arunachal Pradesh, pastries and custard, *litti chokha* from Bihar, Bhutanese *laphing*, etc.

The Fete was a grand success with all the students and staff members relishing the mentioned delicacies from different corners of India. The students displayed their culinary and other co-curricular skills, and the event created a vibrant space of knowing, learning, relishing, and sharing for all.

- Mr. Subham Mandal

Asst. Professor, Dept. Of English,
NBSXC



A Short Report on the ‘Two Day Mega Health Camp’

A two-day ‘Mega Health Camp’ was jointly organised, as a part of the college community service, by the Social Service Cell and Women’s Cell of North Bengal St Xavier’s College (NBSXC), Rajganj, on the 10th and 11th of February, 2023. On the first day of the camp, two special lectures were delivered by Dr. Zakia Banu, Medical Officer,

physical health. The lectures were attended by members of both the cells, the IQAC Coordinator Dr. Bipranch K. Tiwary, students of different semesters, and teaching and non-teaching staff members of the college.

On the second day, the health camp was held with support from the Siliguri Lions Club and Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, Fulbari, for the nearby villagers. Dr. Keshab Chatterjee, Administrative Head, Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, and Dr. Soumen Chakraborty, Former Principal, North Bengal Dental College were present on the occasion and assured us that in future they will again collaborate with us with their full support. Experienced doctors from Maharaja Agrasen Hospital and Lions



University of North Bengal and Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, Assistant Professor, Department of English,

Club, Siliguri, visited the campus for free health checkups for people hailing from neighbouring villages and students. Blood donation camp, eye checkups, dental checkups, pressure and sugar tests and physical checkups were done as a part of the Mega Health Camp. More than 100 people enrolled themselves for the free health check-up camp. All the volunteers and students seemed very happy and satisfied with this social outreach programme. They sounded very hopeful and confident about organising more society-oriented programmes in the near future.



NBSXC, Rajganj. The lectures were on personal and social hygiene, anxiety, depression and ways to tackle them. The speakers delivered lectures on the importance and ways to deal with mental and

- **Ms. Sumita Roy Choudhury**
Convener, Social Service Cell,
NBSXC



PRE-CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION AT SHIKARPUR TEA ESTATE



On the 17th of December, 2022, the members of the Social Service Cell of North Bengal St. Xavier's College visited the Shikarpur Tea Estate for a Pre-Christmas celebration with the children and needy people there.

The area was chosen for sharing the Christmas spirit of hope, love, and happiness with the underprivileged section of the society. This celebration was hence to give the deprived children some fun and enjoyment through songs, dance, refreshments, and small gifts. We also distributed warm clothes to the needy inhabitants of the tea garden. There was also another objective: to make the children and their parents of this particular area aware about the dangers of human trafficking, which is becoming a menace in these deprived areas today.

The main outcome of this social work is that, not only did the students learn about bringing down the barriers with these sections of the society, but they also learnt to work in groups, to cooperate with each other. They have learnt to respect and give importance to the advices of each faculty joining the programme and it can be hoped that they do practise it in future for stretching out a helping hand to the needy people. This will surely help in their overall development in the years to come.

- **Ms. Sumita Roy Choudhury**
Convener,
Social Service Cell, NBSXC

ORIENTATION PROGRAMME for Social Service Cell



To inculcate a spirit of social responsibility among the students, the Social Service Cell of NBSXC conducted an orientation programme on the 8th of August, 2022, in the Rajganj Campus and on the 16th of August, 2022, in the Siliguri Campus of the college. As we know, due to the pandemic, the students did mostly everything online and didn't get a opportunity to get closer to the needy people. Keeping this in mind, the Social Service Cell took the initiative to inform students about different community services and dates of the various upcoming events and activities that the Cell plans for its members. During the orientation programme, enrolment forms were distributed among the interested students and a good response was received.

The programme was for the 3rd and 5th Semester students of all departments of both Rajganj and Siliguri Campus. On the 8th of August, the first Session was held for Arts and Science. It was held from 11 a.m. to 12p.m. where 50 students attended the programme. The second Session was held from 1 p.m. where 38 students attended the programme. On the

16th of August, Siliguri Campus organised its SSC orientation programme from 11a.m. onwards and a total of 25 students attended the programme and 12 students enrolled themselves as members of the Social Service Cell and the others were affirmative to join later.

Apart from the above mentioned points, the faculty members along with the Convener of the club, Ms. Sumita Roy Choudhury, imparted knowledge on personal growth and development with their own experience from the Social Service Cell.

Overall, the orientation programme was a great success.

- **Ms. Sumita Roy Choudhury**
Convener, Social Service Cell,



REPORT ON 'PLAY FOR CHARITY'

On the 9th of November 2022, the Social Service Cell of North Bengal St. Xavier's College organised a 'PLAY FOR CHARITY' event to raise funds for distributing warm clothes, stationeries, and food among the underprivileged people in the nearby tea garden areas and also to provide free health care services at their doorstep in future events like Christmas Celebration, Mega Health Camp etc.

At the fundraiser event in NBSXC, there were many stalls for food, games, and crafts. A separate dancing room was there whose activity was titled as 'Happy Feet'. Students, with the help of efficient faculty members, showed their enthusiasm by setting various stalls. They decorated the hall nicely by using colourful chart paper. The programme was inaugurated by Father

Principal Dr. Lalit. P. Tirkey SJ. The total invested amount for the programme yielded more than double in terms of raised funds. In Siliguri Campus, without practically investing anything, satisfactory returns were received by simply organising some charity games. It was indeed an overwhelming experience to receive such huge support from the students and the teaching and non-teaching staff. Last but not the least, without the active support of our cell members it would not have been possible to make the event a successful one.

- Ms. Sumita Roy Choudhury
Convener, Social Service Cell,
NBSXC



Inter-Departmental Quiz Competition, 2022-'23

On the 26th of July, 2022, the Quiz and Debate Club, NBSXC organised an Inter-Departmental Quiz Competition. The host for the competition was Ms. Payel Mitra, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Commerce, NBSXC (Rajganj). It was conducted from 11 am at the Conference Room, NBSXC, with around 75 students present during the competition.

The objective of the competition was to expand the knowledge of the students in various areas beyond their syllabus, to polish their public speaking skills and also to help promote healthy

competition among the students to enable them to learn from each other. The students were divided into 6 groups according to their departments. The questions were divided into many genres. The English Department students won the competition. The participating students and the audience were very excited and happy. The successful event was wrapped off by the vote of thanks delivered by the Convener, Quiz & Debate Club, NBSXC.

- Mr. Subham Mandal

Convener, Quiz and Debate Club, NBSXC



Inter-Departmental Quiz Competition

On the 1st of September, 2022, the Quiz and Debate Club, along with Nature Club, NBSXC, organised an Inter-Departmental Quiz Competition. The host of the competition was Mr. Subham Mandal, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English (NBSXC). The judges for the event were Dr. Pavanbir Kaur and Ms Persis Mukhia. It was conducted from 11 am at the Conference Room, NBSXC with around 80 students present during the competition.

The objective of the competition was to expand the knowledge of the students in various areas beyond their syllabus, help them in public speaking and also to help promote healthy competition among the students to enable them to learn from each other. It was also to provoke debate, discussion, and understanding surrounding the concept of 'nature'. The students were divided into 6 groups according to their departments. The questions were divided into many genres, 'Nature Round' being one of them. Microbiology Department students won the competition. Students and audiences participated wholeheartedly. The successful event was wrapped off by the vote of thanks delivered by Ms. Ambika Chettri, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pol Sc. (NBSXC).

- Mr. Subham Mandal

Convener, Quiz and Debate Club
NBSXC

Inter-School Debate Competition

On the 10th of November, 2022, the Quiz and Debate Club, NBSXC organized an Inter-School Debate Competition. Five schools participated in the competition including BSF Senior Secondary School, Nirmala Convent School, G.D. Goenka Public School, Birla Divya Jyoti School & Delhi Public School. We had Mr.

Siddhartha Gupta, Senior Intelligence Officer, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Govt. of India, as our esteemed judge. For our in-house judge, we had Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, Assistant Professor, Department of English, NBSXC. It was conducted from 11 am at the Smart Classroom, NBSXC with around 80 students present during the competition.



The objective of the competition was to expand the knowledge of the students in various areas beyond their syllabus, aid their public speaking skills and also to help promote healthy competition among the students to enable them to learn from each other. The students were divided into 5 groups, according to their schools. The event was started off by a speech delivered by Mr. Subham Mandal, Convener of the Quiz and Debate Club, NBSXC. A small speech was delivered by the respected Principal, Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey, SJ. The IQAC coordinator, Mr Bipransh Tiwari and the Dean of Students, Ms. Nitya Rai were also present. All the students from different schools and their teachers were felicitated. There were a total of 5 schools present and participating. All the students presented their arguments very eloquently. The students were really motivated and happy. The successful event was wrapped off by the vote of thanks delivered by Erica Tamang, 3rd Semester, English (Hons).

- Mr. Subham Mandal
Convener, Quiz and Debate Club
NBSXC

MUSIC CLUB

“Music is the closest means we have to time travel.... One piece of melody can get you reminiscing your past or dreaming up your future.”

The Music Club of North Bengal St. Xavier’s College has always played a crucial musical part in various events of the college. The members of the music club (which constitutes both the students and teachers) are always keen and active in spreading the melodies and symphonic airs in and around the campus. In the session 2022-2023, the music club members have actively participated in as well as organized various college events.

X- finity Music Fiesta

This event was organised on 05.11.2022. It is an annually organised ‘sing- song’ competition, which is open to all the students of the college. Certain genres are set for the competition and students, according to their suitability and preference, select the genres. This year the students were offered four (04) broad genres - Rock and Roll, Jazz, Rap, and Beat Boxing. Six students were selected for the competition. The selected students performed in the college auditorium. Their performances have been video-taped and uploaded in the YouTube channel- The Xaverian Symphony. The student receiving the maximum views was declared as the winner. This year the winner had achieved 743 views.



Xtravaganza & Xhilarate

Every year, the music club takes part in the college’s annual cultural events - Xtravaganza and Xhilarate. This year during the ‘Xtravaganza’ (14.03.2023), an all- female performance was presented, where songs like ‘Bohemian Rhapsody’ (Queen) and ‘Titanium’ (Sia) were performed. The female students proved through this performance that empowerment comes through courage, the courage to try things outside the comfort zone. Music club has always been responsible for looking after the college band. The club makes sure that the selected members are versatile and dynamic. This year, the club for the first time selected a female singer for the band along with the male singer. They gave a thrilling performance during the ‘Xhilarate’ (15.03.2023). They sang from a wide range of genre from Bollywood to English numbers, and songs in four different languages- English, Nepali, Hindi, and Bengali.

-Ms. Rosemary Subba
Coordinator, Music Club
NBSXC







Special Lecture on ‘Mental Health-Awareness (Academic Stress)’

On the 25th of July, 2022, the Life Coaching & Wellness Cell (NBSXC) organised a Special Lecture on “Mental Health-Awareness (Academic Stress)”. Around 50 students and faculty members including Ms. Karma Diki Bhutia and Dr. Persis Mukhia attended the special lecture. The lecture, delivered by Ms. Anuja Tamang, Asst. Professor (Psychology, NBSXC) - and introduced by Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, Asst. Professor (Dept. of English) and Student Counsellor on Mental Health Awareness (NBSXC) - was conducted via a Powerpoint presentation.

In the special lecture on Mental Health Awareness (Academic Stress), students could get an idea of what Academic Stress is, its impacts and effects, and how one can combat Academic Stress (majorly focusing on Resilience). Apart from the topics mentioned above, an interactive session was also included in the special lecture known as the



“Question Box”. The main aim of this interactive session was to give students an opportunity to share their grievances, issues, and thoughts with regards to Academic Stress and other personal or professional issues.

The session was very interactive and all the students participated equally in the interactive session and it ended with many students requesting for more such special lectures and sessions.

- **Ms. Anuja Tamang,**
Asst. Professor (Psychology), NBSXC

Report on “Mental Health through Creativity”



On the 10th of October, 2022, the Life Coaching & Wellness Cell (NBSXC), invited students to make videos on the topic, “Mental Health through Creativity”. It was organised to celebrate and observe World Mental Health Day. All the students of NBSXC were requested to submit a 2 to 3 minute-long video, discussing their perspective on mental health, creative ways to handle their emotional turmoil, etc.

The objective of this video-making event was to create awareness of the positive impact of creative pursuits on mental health. It was also to help the students increase their positive emotions like joy and optimism while lowering their anxiety and depressive thoughts. Around 20 students submitted videos discussing their thoughts on mental health, creative ways to get rid of their anger and stress, ways to deal with mental turmoil, etc. Students were very happy and intrigued by this innovative way of tackling mental health problems.

- **Dr. Pavanbir Kaur**
Coordinator,

Life Coaching and Wellness Cell, NBSXC



Special Lecture on “Wisdom from Across the World: Living a more meaningful life”

On the 9th of February, 2023, the Life Coaching & Wellness Cell, NBSXC, organised a Special Lecture on “Wisdom from Across the World: Living a more meaningful life”. The keynote speaker was Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, Assistant Professor (Dept. of English) and Coordinator, Life Coaching & Wellness Cell, NBSXC. It was conducted at the Smart Classroom (NBSXC, Rajganj) with around 60 students attending the lecture.

The objective of the special lecture was to acquaint students with certain terms from across cultures to lead a more holistic life. It was intended to make the students go deeper into these concepts and gain a better understanding of them, and to encourage them to incorporate these concepts into their everyday lives. Dr. Pavanbir Kaur spoke on famous concepts like Ikigai, Kaizen, Senpai - Kohai, Wabi Sabi etc. She handpicked many life-altering, habit-infusing concepts from across the



world to make the students understand how to live a better and fulfilling life. She incorporated Japanese, Italian, and Danish ways of living to help the students appreciate life even more. The students were truly fascinated by such new and interesting concepts. The successful event was wrapped off by the ‘vote of thanks’ delivered by Ms. Anuja Tamang (Asst. Professor, Psychology, NBSXC).

- **Hritrisha Chowdhury**
5th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

One-Day ‘Life Skills’ Training and Workshop

On the 9th of September, 2022, the Life Coaching & Wellness Cell organised a “One-Day Life Skills Training and Workshop”. The resource person was Dr. Prince C.P., Associate Professor, Salesian College, Siliguri. It was conducted at the Conference Hall (NBSXC, Rajganj) with around 85 students attending the workshop.



The objective of the workshop was to acquaint students with the detailed understanding of thinking skills with the help of discussions and presentations. It also aimed to provide an understanding of emotional and social skills through Role-Play and Group Discussions. Doctor Prince C.P. discussed various life skills through interactive talks and with audio-visual aids. He divided students into groups, giving each group case studies to solve through group discussions. He provided the students with situations to enact improving their emotional and social skills. The sessions were very interactive and fun for the students. The successful event was wrapped off by the ‘vote of thanks’ delivered by Ms Anuja Tamang (Asst. Professor, Psychology, NBSXC).

- **Mr. Subham Mandal**
Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, NBSXC

NCC (4 Bengal Girls' Battalion), NBSXC COMBINED ANNUAL TRAINING CAMP (CATC) 4 Bengal Girls BN NCC

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a voluntary organization engaged in grooming the youth of the country into disciplined and patriotic citizens. They recruit cadets from different schools and colleges across the country and give them basic military training in small arms and parades. Over approximately 435 cadets appearing for the A/B/C certificate exams along with ANO's, CTO's and GCI's from all over the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri district falling under the 4 Bengal Girls Battalion NCC-Siliguri, participated in the 8-days (13th Jan-20th Jan) CATC organized by the NCC Camp Commandant Major Reena Goswami at Marvella College, Fulbari.

The cadets from our College reached the venue around 10.00 am with our baggage and

after the completion of all the formalities for check in we were guided by GCI Yamuna ma'am to our room. All the institutions were to be categorized into four companies namely Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta.

Alpha consisted of all the school cadets appearing for A certificate examination, Bravo consisted of the cadets of 2nd year appearing for B certificate examination and Charlie and Delta consisted of cadets from 3rd year cadets appearing for C certificate examination. All the competitions, drill practices, P.T. classes, meals were to be followed separately according to the respective companies headed by 3 P.I. staff each. This idea was brilliant as it allowed oneself to socialize with other institutions rather than sticking by our own college mates.

During the camp, our routine was set for the rest of the days (14th Jan-19th Jan), and the schedule was stuck outside every room for all to follow. By 6.20am everyone was supposed to fall in with proper figure, with their hair tied, and in comfortable tracksuit and sports shoes, after which the roll call was recorded by the company senior before the P.T. After breakfast all the cadets dressed up smartly in the NCC uniform and lined up for the parade. Every day after 1½ hr. drill practice and a short tea break, classes on various topics such as Health & Hygiene, Field Craft & Battle Craft, Drill, Weapon Training, Map Reading, Communication etc. were organized by our P.I. staff. Evening session was meant for the games where we played volleyball, football, cricket, throwball and many more games along with the GCIs. For the night, each company were supposed to appoint 4 cadets from different Colleges for night guard (santri) duty for 2 hours each starting from 10.00 pm upto 4 am.

During the camp, Commanding Officer of NCC, West Bengal & Sikkim Directorate, Leu. General Jaydeep Yadav visited us and interacted with us. Three women military police, selected among the 110, posted at Bagdogra, came to visit



us and inspired all the cadets to join military police. All the 435 cadets were given 5 rounds of firing each with .22 rifle. The firer with the shortest distance on the target were selected. The best firers were grouped for the final firing competition.

On the last day of the camp i.e, on the 19th of January, the cultural ceremony was held in which the Director of the college and teachers from DPS, Fulbari attended. We clicked company-wise photo with all the dignitaries in the camp.

We were happy that the camp was successful and at the same time sad because we created strong bonds with friends from other institutions. Taking in all the commands, we packed our bags and left the campus the next day, all tanned, which showed our hardihood and dedication. This camp taught us discipline, infused courage and strength and motivated us to do something for our motherland and respect her. The camp ultimately transformed us into a better person. As we returned, we took a huge suitcase of memories, lessons, new friends and the challenges to develop ourselves. Camp certificates and TDA were given at the end of the camp to everyone. We left the campus at around 10.30 am on 20th January and traveled to our hostels and homes.

- **Christmine Khati**

College Senior, WB20SWA226681
6th Semester, Department of Botany (NBSXC).



North Bengal St. Xavier's College 4 Bengal Girls BN NCC

'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', 2023

'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' is an initiative of Govt. of India to celebrate the 75th year of Independence. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, inaugurated the celebration on the 12th of March, 2021, with a 'Padyatra' (march) at Sabarmati Ashram with a



75-week countdown to its 75th anniversary of independence that ended on 15th August 2023. It is being organised to commemorate the noble freedom fighters and martyrs who sacrificed everything 75 years ago, and it is because of them that we are celebrating this day. Not only that, it is also dedicated to the people of India who have not only been instrumental in bringing India thus far in its historical journey but who also hold within them the power and potential to enable Prime Minister Modi's vision of activating India 2.0, fuelled by the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat. The government of India also started a campaign, 'Har Ghar Tiranga', under the auspices of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to endorse people to bring the flag home and hoist it to mark the 75th year of India's independence.

The 4 Bengal Girls BN NCC unit of NBSXC, Rajganj organised a small programme on the 13th of August, 2022, in the college campus, to celebrate 75 years of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. A sense of pride and happiness could be seen on the faces of all the participants. The programme started at 11am with the lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guest, PI staff from NCC Unit, along with Fr. Principal Lalit P. Tirkey SJ and Prof. Nitya

Rai, CTO, 4 Bengal Girls BN NCC (NBSXC), after which Father Principal welcomed everyone with his thoughtful words. Thereafter there was a brief introduction of our Chief Guest, PI Sir, where he took the initiative of explaining to the attendees about the meaning and significance of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. After that he handed over flags to Fr. Principal and our CTO ma'am which was then distributed to all the participants of the Programme. The proceedings were followed by beautiful presentation of patriotic songs, dances, and speeches, where the students from various clubs along with the cadets showed enthusiasm and a spirit of active participation.

The overall programme inspired and gladdened the hearts of all the participants with a sense of pride and patriotism. The event



Balai Gachh, West Bengal, India
HGM4+CMG_SH12A_Balai Gachh, West Bengal 735135, India

drew to a close with singing of the national anthem, before which Prof. Nitya Rai delivered the 'vote of thanks', thanking each and everyone for their active participation in making the programme a grand success.

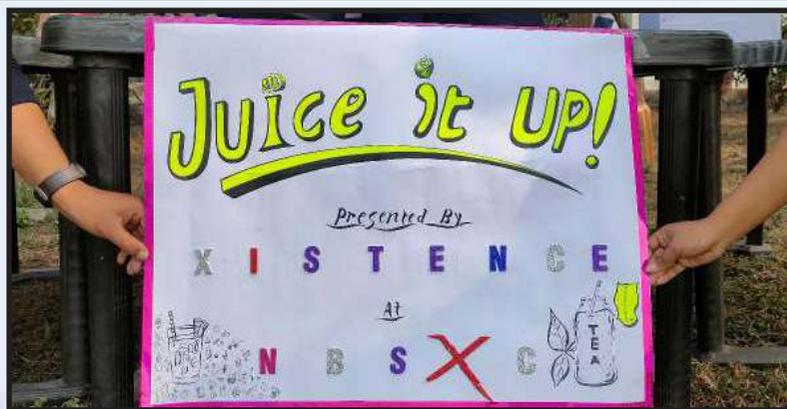
- CDT Topi Sriram
4 Bengal Girls BN NCC, NBSXC

Setting up a Beverage Stall at X-uberance

On the occasion of X-uberance, we the members of X-istence, set up a beverage stall, 'Juice it Up', at North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Rajganj Campus. The main aim of this stall was to provide differently flavoured refreshments to the audience and to the students who participated in the event. We used fresh natural products such as lemons, mint leaves, tea leaves, and sugar. Healthy herbs help improve attention, concentration, and boost performance.

We prepared Virgin Mojito, Masala Coke, and Iced Tea. Masala Coke offered a fresh treat to stop nausea and indigestion. Another herbal beverage, iced tea, offered best hydration and keeps the body calm. We invested nine hundred rupees (Rs. 900/-) and made a total sale of seventeen hundred rupees (Rs.1700/-). The net profit, eight hundred rupees (Rs. 800/-), was submitted to the Nature Club for future use.

The members who made this idea a successful one are: Anjani Singh, Arnab Ghosh, Kriti Roy, Ahana Dutta, Madhushree Guha, Debduut Chowdhury, Aadrity Chakraborty, Esha



Dey, and Shreya Das, all of whom worked under the supervision of Ms. Barsha Dey, Convener of X-istence.

- Anjani Singh
4th Semester, Dept. of Microbiology
NBSXC

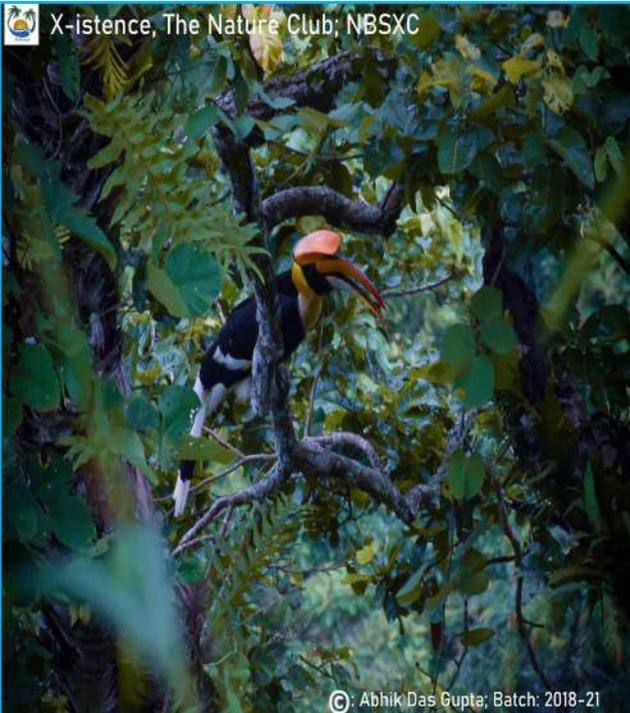
A combined celebration of World Nature Conservation Day & International Tiger Day

Every year on July 28, World Nature Conservation Day is celebrated to raise awareness about protecting and restoring all the natural resources and biodiversity for a better, healthy environment. Each year, this day is celebrated with a theme. The theme of 2022 was, 'Living Sustainably in Harmony with Nature'. On this day we introspect on our actions in terms of how they have impacted nature and what we could do to reverse their harmful effects.

The 29th of July is designated as Global Tiger Day or International Tiger Day in 2010, when 13 tiger range countries made a pact to achieve one global goal: To double the number of wild tigers by the end of 2022. Every year this day is celebrated as a platform to raise awareness about this critically endangered animal and promote and support tiger conservation issues.

To celebrate these two days together, X-istence, the nature club of NBSXC, organised an event where students could participate and learn about the biodiversity of their nearby areas as well as in the college campus.

The first event was aimed at launching an e-magazine, where photos of local animals



Did You Know?

Scientific Name: *Buceros bicornis*
 Local Name:
 Bengali: Dhanesh
 Nepali: Hongrayo; Dukpa: Ghora

- ❖ The rare **Great Indian Hornbill**, a.k.a **farmers of the forests** grow as long as up to 4.5 ft.
- ❖ Can commute over very long distances.
- ❖ Found in Buxa Tiger Reserve, Gorumara & Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary, and in the forests of Darjeeling and Kalimpong.



Did You Know?

Scientific Name: *Microcarbo niger*
 Local Name: Little cormorant

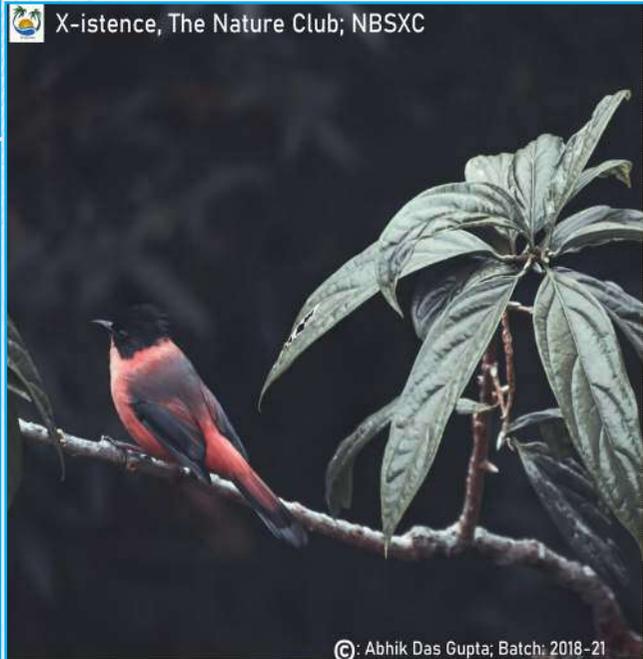
- ❖ The **Little cormorant** are seen in both inland and coastal water bodies.
- ❖ produce low roaring, grunting and groaning sounds. They also make a low pitched ah-ah-ah and kok-kok-kok calls.
- ❖ Found across India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Indonesia.



Did You Know?

Scientific Name: *Grammatoptila striata*
 Local Name:
 Striated Laughingthrush

- ❖ The **Striated Laughingthrush** are highly social and stays in flocks.
- ❖ Communicates through calling such as screeching and hooting.
- ❖ Getting decreased in numbers.
- ❖ Found in subtropical or tropical moist lowland forests and moist montane forests of Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, and Nepal.



Did You Know?

Scientific Name: *Heterophasia capistrata*
 Local Name:
 Rufous sibia, Black-capped sibia, chor-chore

- ❖ The **Rufous Sibia** is a vigorous and melodious singer.
- ❖ They are social, frequently foraging in groups. Feeds on berries and insects.
- ❖ Found in northern parts of Indian subcontinent, Nepal, and Bhutan.



© X-istence, The Nature Club; NBSXC

© Payel Mitra, Assistant Professor

Did You Know?

Scientific Name: *Lantana camara*
 Local Name:
 Lantana, Shrub Verbena, Red Sage, Yellow Sage

- ❖ Found in tropical climates across the globe & is known for its salt tolerance
- ❖ Comes in a colors from pink, white, yellow, orange red, and purple or mixed colors.
- ❖ It's leaves and unripe green berries causes minor skin irritation. It is toxic to livestock such as cattle, sheep, horses, and goats.



© X-istence, The Nature Club; NBSXC

© Barsha Dey, Assistant Professor

Did You Know?

Scientific Name: *Petrea volubilis*
 Local Name:
 Purple wreath, Queen's wreath, Sandpaper vine, and Nilmani

- ❖ The Purple wreath is Native to Central America.
- ❖ The true flower, which is purple, lasts a couple of days but the blue bracts remain much longer, slowly turning gray.
- ❖ Found in northern Mexico to Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay in the Antilles and in Venezuela.

and plants, taken by students and teachers were introduced. Each photo was informative as they contained the scientific name, local names as well as special features of these organisms. Each page of this magazine was also made into a flex and was put in various parts of the college for everyone to see.

The second one was an engaging event for the students as they explored the campus and clicked photos of a plant, animal, or any other organism that seemed interesting to them. Students were very active while clicking the photos and at the end of the event, all the photos were submitted to Ms. Barsha Dey, Convener of X-sitence. This exercise not only made students aware of the biodiversity of the college campus,

it also helped to document the biodiversity which will be needed for the construction of the biodiversity database.

The effort of all the faculty members, such as Mr. Rajarshi Bagchi, Ms. Payel Mitra, Mr. Aritra Kundu, Ms. Ananya Das, Mr. Rahul Kumar Sharma, Ms. Karma Diki Bhutia, Ms. Anuja Tamang, Ms. Rosemary Subba, Mr. Kamal K Prasad, and Mr. Tushar Das played a huge role in student management, guidance and to the success of such big event.

- Ms. Barsha Dey
 Convener, Nature Club (X-istence)
 NBSXC

Tree Plantation Programme on World Environment Day 2023



World Environment Day is celebrated every year on the 5th of June, which was celebrated by X-istence, the Nature Club (NBSXC), by organising various events. But taking care of the environment is not the task for a single day. To keep the enthusiasm strong and going, X-istence (NBSXC) collaborated with Sashastra Seema Bal and Purba Dhansara Jote Jan Kalyan Samiti to organise a tree plantation programme on the 28th of June, 2023. The event was inaugurated by respected Fr. Principal, Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, who welcomed our esteemed Chief Guest, Inspector General Sudhir Kumar from SSB frontier, and the Secretary of Purba Dhansara Jote Jan Kalyan Samiti, Mr. Khageshwar Singha. Huge number of students turned up for the event despite the drizzle since morning. Apart from the students, Fr. John Kennedy SJ (Jesuit Superior), Fr. Bijay Kirti Kindo SJ (Vice-Principal, Administration), Fr. Deven Damien Yonzon SJ (Bursar), Ms. Barsha Dey (Convener of X-istence), Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, Ms. Sumita Roychoudhury and others were present. More than 300 trees were planted by all present. Students were particularly elated to be in the presence of the SSB personnels, and were extremely motivated by their patriotic nature and dedication for a sustainable future.

- Ms. Barsha Dey
Convener, X-istence
NBSXC.



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2023



“Understand the worth of earth, treat it with care and give love it deserves.”

The 5th of June is globally recognised as ‘World Environment Day’ as a reminder to celebrate and cherish the blessings of Mother Earth every year. Each year is dedicated to focusing on the various ecological aspects through which we can enhance the survival of greenery throughout the world. The theme for 2023 was “BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION”.

Like every year, this year also North Bengal St. Xavier’s College had put effective efforts to celebrate World Environment Day in collaboration with The Nature Club, “X-ISTENCE”. The program was inaugurated by a speech delivered by our respected Vice-Principal (Administration), Fr. Bijay Kirti Kindo SJ. It was followed by a presentation on World Environment Day by a senior member of X-istence, Miss Nikita Singh. The crowd was then addressed by the respected Dean of Students, Mrs. Nitya Rai. A voice-over documentary on “EFFECT OF POLLUTION IN LAST 100 YEARS” was thereafter screened. It was made and presented by two very talented members of X-istence, Mr. Debdut Chowdhury and Mr. Khandakar Samiul Haque.

The program drew to a close with the ‘vote of thanks’ delivered by Miss Barsha Dey, Convener, X-ISTENCE, and with the pledge of putting up posters on energy conservation in every classroom taken up by respected faculty members – Ms. Karma Diki Bhutia, Mr. Tushar Das, Mr. Rahul Kumar Sharma, Ms. Ananya Das, and Dr. Chandrani Choudhury. These posters will serve as a reminder for us to be more mindful regarding the electricity we use. It will be a constant reminder for us to conserve energy and preserve the resources of nature.

The message of saving the earth was thereby again spread successfully amongst all.

- Shreya Das

4th Semester, Dept. of Microbiology
NBSXC.

Photography Competition for Students

“The souls you have got cast upon the screen of publicity appear like the horrid and writhing creatures enlarged from the insect world, and revealed to us by the cinematograph.”

- James Larkin

Insects have always been the tiny but mesmerising aspect of the beauty of nature. Their colours, wings, and physical variations during different stages of maturity and growth, display the magic of nature. Insects are found all around the world at different areas depending on their habitat. Surveys have stated that North Bengal is one of those places that can boast to be a favoured home and habitat for a wide variety of insect families.

To celebrate this special asset of ours, Nature Club of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Rajganj,



organised an open photography competition for all the students from different semesters and departments on the 5th of November 2022 in the college premises. This competition was with the intention to capture the beauty of those that added more colour and value to the nature - THE INSECTS.

We witnessed the captivating and fascinating pictures of insects belonging to

different species. A lot of enthusiastic participation was also seen among the students. This competition had fair judgement under our esteemed Guest Judge, renowned professional photographer as well as photography coach - Mr. Triptish Saha. He was joined by Mr. Abhik Dasgupta, alumni and renowned budding photographer, and by Dr. Chandrani Choudhury, Asst. Professor from the Department of Botany, NBSXC. Amongst all the amazing pictures clicked, they selected the three best ones and the winners were accordingly awarded and felicitated.

Overall, the event proved to be a wholesome experience of the true magic of nature. We are extremely thankful to the convener of X-istence, Ms. Barsha Dey, as well as acting convener, Ms. Payel Mitra, for giving us such platform to showcase our passion and to come closer to Mother Nature. The event was a very successful one and it left us with the hope of organising more such events in the near future.

-Shreya Das

4th Semester, Dept. of Microbiology
NBSXC



#OnlyOneEarth: Celebrating World Environment Day through Tree Plantation Drive

In 1972, the United Nations Conference on human environment organised the world's first environmental summit and designated the 5th of June as 'World Environment Day'. It was marked as a day to think and act on pressing environmental issues, a platform to witness positive changes, and to inspire to make the world a better place. The 5th of June, 2022, marks the 50th anniversary of the first summit, and this year the international slogan, "Only One Earth", discusses the emergency of protecting, restoring and nurturing our only home.

Like every year, X-istence, the Nature Club of NBSXC, celebrated World Environment Day in the Rajganj Campus. The celebration took place in the form of a tree plantation drive by students, teachers, and non-teaching staff all around the campus. The respected Principal, Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, enlightened the students about the historical importance of the day and encouraged them to protect and restore the environment by taking actions, no matter how small they are. The tree plantation programme was coordinated by the

Convener of X-istence, Ms. Barsha Dey. Respected Principal Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, Vice Principals - Fr. Bijoy Kirti Kindo SJ and Dr. Aparna Chatterjee, IQAC Coordinator Dr. Bipranch Kumar Tiwary, Dean of Student affairs Mrs. Nitya Rai, and other teaching faculties, non-teaching staff and all the present students took part in the tree plantation programme.



- Ms. Barsha Dey
Convener, Nature Club (X-istence)
NBSXC

X-ISTENCE-THE NATURE CLUB (NBSXC) CELEBRATES 'WORLD WATER WEEK', 2022



X-istence, the Nature Club of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, celebrated 'World Water Week, 2022' on the 23rd of August and on the 1st of September, 2022. The theme for the year was - "Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water". The theme highlights the value of water for survival and sustenance of life, for development, with respect to nature and climate change, as well as the economic and financial value of water. This event is observed every year in late August or early

September, and is taken as an opportunity to discuss and accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development goals, where one of the goals is about clean water and sanitation. This year World Water Week started on August 23rd and continued till September 1st, 2022.

Under the leadership of Ms. Barsha Dey (Convener), Nature Club of NBSXC successfully observed this event by organising two programmes. On the 23rd of August, the club organised the programme to generate awareness on the importance of water in the college campus. The programme began from 11 am where the convener of the club, Ms. Barsha Dey and two other club members, Ms. Anuja Tamang and Mr. Rajarshi Bagchi, spoke on the value and importance of celebrating this event, as they highlighted upon the importance of conservation of water in today's world.

It was followed by the plantation of medicinal plants around the campus. Placards made by student members of the club were carried out in order to display important messages regarding the importance of water conservation and the issue of water crisis.

Another programme was held on the 1st of September, 2022, in collaboration with the Quiz and Debate Club of the college. There was an inter-departmental Quiz and Flip-flop competition. The topics for the quiz included water conservation, geography, history, science, human anatomy, movie characters, food, sports, etc. and the topic for flip-flop was, 'Importance and Value of Water'. The students of the Nature Club presented a short documentary on the importance of saving water and a need for sensible utilization of the water.

The event successfully ended with an active participation of the students, club members and the vote of thanks was given to every participants and members by the Convener of the Club.



- Ms. Karma Diki Bhutia
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Sociology, NBSXC

XGT - Xavier's Got Talent

North Bengal St. Xavier's College conducted 'Xavier's Got Talent (XGT)' on the 22nd and 23rd of July, 2022. XGT is an impromptu event organised by the college to showcase a range of performances, including music, dance, comedy, spoken word, and other kinds of creative talent exhibited by the students. Throughout these two days, students from various departments and semesters put forward their talents and competed for prizes while entertaining the audience.

After the end of the exhilarating event, the judges announced the names of the best performers among all the talented Xaverians. Soumili Sarkar from the 6th semester, English Department, bagged the 1st position for solo song, followed by Sneha Das securing the 2nd position for solo dance. The third position was shared by Simran Singh and by Aakansha & Group for solo and group dance respectively.

-Soumili Sarkar
6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC.



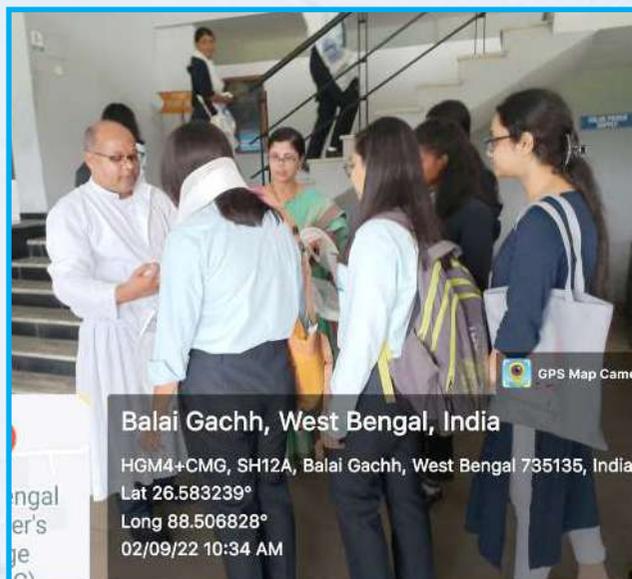
Orientation Day, 2022

North Bengal St. Xavier's College conducted its orientation program for the class of 2022-'25 on September 2nd, 2022. The college welcomed the freshers and provided them with a

foundation to prepare themselves to be a part of the Xaviers family.

The program started with the college prayer song performed by the college music club and the lamp-lighting ceremony, followed by special messages from the Principal, Vice Principal, and Dean of Students.

Hon'ble Father Principal, Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Turkey SJ, delivered a message to the students, welcoming them and setting the tone for the upcoming academic year. He cited examples of his college life and his experience as a college student. Father Principal concluded by reminding students that their college experience is more than just academics. He encouraged students to get involved in extracurricular activities, clubs, and volunteering opportunities, and reminded them that these experiences can be just as valuable as their academic pursuits.





The Vice Principal (Administration), Fr. Bijay K. Kindo SJ, began by expressing his excitement at seeing new faces among the students and encouraged them to embrace the new semester as an opportunity for growth and learning. He highlighted the importance of setting goals and working towards them throughout the semester.

The Dean of Students, Mrs. Nitya Rai, walked the students through the rules and regulations of the college and urged them to uphold the Xaverian ethos, both inside and outside the classroom. She also emphasised on the importance of community and inclusivity. She encouraged the students to be respectful and supportive of each other, regardless of their backgrounds, and reminded them that diversity is one of the great strengths of the college.



The orientation program progressed with the introduction of the faculty members of each department, who form the backbone of the college. Students were reminded that the college's faculty and staff are available to support them every step of the way.

The annual college magazine, *Xpressions*, was released on that day with Mr. Rajarshi Bagchi, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English (NBSXC), as the new Chief Editor of the magazine.

The students were the most elated during the prize distribution ceremony of XGT, Quiz,



and Flip-flop events held in the month of August. Vice Principal Fr. Bijay K. Kindo SJ distributed the awards and accolades among the winners, accompanied with deafening applause from the audience.

The senior students welcomed the freshers through various song and dance performances. Lastly, a special message by a senior student, which offered best wishes to the freshmen as they start this new chapter in their lives, marked the end of the orientation program.

The new students carried the message, "Make the most of your time here, learn from your experiences, and always remember that you are capable of great things", as delivered by their senior.

Finally, the event came to a conclusion with a 'vote of thanks' delivered by the Teachers' Council Secretary, Dr. Tamal Mazumder, thanking all the students for choosing North Bengal St. Xavier's College and bestowing their trust on the institution. He concluded by encouraging the students to set goals, embrace diversity, take ownership of their lives, and get involved in the college community.

- Soumili Sarkar
6th semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

NBSXC International Mother Language Day

“Language is the armory of the human mind, and at once contains the trophies of its past and the weapons of its future conquest.”

The celebration was exclusively organised by the faculty members of the college, where they could be seen reciting poems, narrating speeches,



If language is the way to reach people's minds, mother tongue is the way to people's hearts. The love for one's mother tongue should be equivalent to one's love and respect for their mother. Mother tongue has always been a vessel that holds people together, and brings feelings of oneness and genuine love for each other. Throughout history, people in different parts of the world have brought about revolutions and movements to protect and safeguard their mother tongue whenever a need arose.

Understanding the significance of mother language, in 1999 the UNESCO declared the 21st of February as 'International Mother Language Day'. The day is meant to celebrate the uniqueness and love for one's mother language.

Keeping this practice alive, North Bengal St. Xavier's College celebrated an event in the campus with much enthusiasm and vigour. Upholding the spirit of "Unity in Diversity", the college offered a kaleidoscopic range of programmes for honouring the mother language of various ethnic groups and communities in its Xaverian family.

enacting plays, carolling the songs and swaying their feet to the rhyme and reason of their respective mother language.

The event helped in promoting linguistic and cultural diversity as well as celebrating togetherness. The event in the truest sense exhibited the appreciation and love we have for our mother language and in particular how in a diverse society we respect and embrace each other.

The celebration of international mother language day is significant, as with the world becoming a smaller place with passing time, our respective languages are losing its importance and are being overshadowed. This initiative to celebrate one's rich cultural heritage in and through the mother language paved the way for the young students to embrace their mother language and always be proud of it wherever they are in the world.

-Ms. Rosemary Subba

Asst. Professor, Dept. of Geography, NBSXC





X-travaganza 2023

North Bengal St. Xavier's College organised its annual cultural fest, Xtravaganza, on the 14th of March, 2023, in its Rajganj (Jalpaiguri) campus. The grand cultural programme was graced by Dr. Abhijit Shevale, IAS (CEO, SJDA, W.B.), who was the Guest of Honour for the event.

The proceedings of the day began with the 'lighting of the lamp' ceremony, followed by inaugural cultural performances. The performances procured exuberant cheers and deafening applause from the audience, which comprised staff and students from both the Siliguri and Rajganj campuses of the college.



In his speech, the respected Principal, Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, welcomed the dignitaries and highlighted the college's achievements in its long, sixteen years' journey towards excellence. In the address by the Guest of Honour, Dr. Shevale shared some interesting stories which had moral, psychological, and practical lessons embedded in them. He also shared his success story as an IAS officer in order to inspire the students in the audience.

A flurry of events commenced thereafter with performances by students from different streams and semesters. They performed and competed with each other in various categories. The performances began with a Classical Solo Dance, followed by different categories such as,



as, Indian Solo/ Duet/ Group Songs and Dance, Western Solo/ Duet Dance and Songs, Recitation, Indian Folk Group Dance, Regional Song, a skit ('The Refund'), and many other exciting events. The



programme drew to a close with declaration of results by the esteemed judges, and was rounded off by the 'Vote of Thanks' from Dr. Aparna Chatterjee (Vice-Principal, Academics, NBSXC).

Keeping up with its tradition, Xtravaganza 2023 proved to be a great success, where everyone revelled in the soaring spirits of the exuberant Xaverian family at NBSXC.

- Mr. Rajarshi Bagchi
Asst. Professor, Dept. of English
NBSXC

X-CELLENCE DAY 2023, NBSXC

On the 30th of May, 2023, NBSXC celebrated its “X-celence Day” – a much anticipated programme, organised by the Cultural Committee of the college. As the sweet melody of the College



Prayer Song filled the air, the Xaverian family at NBSXC united in gratitude for the blessings that guided us to this momentous event. With utmost reverence, the proceedings began with the dignified ushering of our esteemed Chief Guest, Prof. (Dr) Sanchari Roy Mukherjee (Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NBU), and the Guest of Honour, Prof. (Dr) Zinia Mitra (HoD, Dept. of English, NBU, and GB member of NBSXC), whose presence added a touch of prestige and significance to this grand celebration.

As the curtains rose, a mesmerizing opening dance captivated the audience. It was



followed by the delivery of the Annual Report by our respected Principal, Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Turkey SJ, and thereafter by a song, followed by speeches by both the guests. Soon after, a couple of esteemed faculty members of NBSXC – Dr. Persis Mukhia (HoD, Dept. of Sociology) and Dr. Saikat Roy (HoD, Dept. of Pol. Sc.) were felicitated for having been awarded with PhD degrees in the current academic session. Besides these, the



students who had topped the University at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels were also awarded.

During the event, a multitude of awards were distributed to the deserving toppers from each department, highlighting their outstanding performances and academic excellence. The stage came alive with captivating cultural programmes, where enchanting songs and enthralling dances alternated throughout the course of the event. As each award recipient took the stage to receive their well-deserved recognition, the audience erupted in applause, appreciating their remarkable achievements.

Some special events that deserve to be highlighted were – the conferring of awards to the students and alumni who have been recognised for their social outreach initiatives, the official release of the College Magazine, students' awards for hundred percent attendance and most frequent visit to the College Library, Prof. Asim Kumar Chakravarty Memorial Award of Excellence in Zoology, the appreciation award for the most active student from each department as well as the conferring of the much awaited, ‘Student of the Year Award’ for both academic excellence and co-curricular activities.

The event came to a close with the delivery of the



‘Vote of Thanks’ by Dr. Tamal Mazumdar (Asst. Prof., Dept. of Zoology, NBSXC), followed by the singing of the College Anthem. Thus, it can rightly be concluded that it was a truly unforgettable commemoration, wherein the celebration of academic prowess intertwined seamlessly with the splendor of artistic expressions, making it an event to be cherished by all in attendance.

- Spandana Sadhu

4th semester, Dept. of English,
NBSXC.

FAREWELL DAY 2023

On the 31st of May, 2023, NBSXC officially bid farewell with a heavy heart to its senior-most batch of students. The day overflowed with emotions of togetherness, nostalgia, and all the memories to be cherished forever. The mixture of casual and ethnic outfits added to the charm and beauty of the day.

It all started with the seniors assembling on



the college lawn at 9:30 am for Departmental group photographs with the respected Fathers, the Head of Departments, and the Faculty Members. Later, everyone assembled in the college auditorium for the farewell programme.

The main event started with the college prayer. Thereafter, respected Father Principal, Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, Father Bijoy Kirti Kindo SJ (Vice Principal, Administration), Dr. Aparna Chatterjee (Vice Principal, Academics), Dr. Bipranch K. Tiwari (IQAC Co-ordinator), Ms. Nitya Rai (Dean of Students), and Ms. Soumili Sarkar (President, Students' Council, NBSXC) were cordially invited for the lighting of the lamp. The programme was flagged off with a dance performance by Sneha Das. After that, Hon'ble Father Principal was asked to deliver a farewell message to the graduating batch, wherein he wished them well for their upcoming University exams as well as for their future prospects in life. Thereafter, the audience was regaled with the

opening song by Akashlina Ghosh, followed by the farewell message from Dr. Aparna Chatterjee (VP, Academics). All enjoyed the lively dance performance of Utsha Deb which followed Dr. Chatterjee's speech, and it was followed by a charming song by Pratap Adhikary.

A message, on behalf of all the juniors, was provide to the graduating batch by Shreya Das, followed by an energetic dance performance by Srishty and her group. The Western Group Dancers from the Siliguri Campus stole the show. It was followed by a song sung by Bishal Sarkar and a Duet dance by Sneha Das and Aparajita Jha. Then the students of the Microbiology department performed an excellent dance to mesmerise the audience.

There was a special performance by our 6th semester seniors as they too wished to perform their 'last but not the least' show before bidding us a

final goodbye. The programme drew to a close with the 'Vote of Thanks' by Dr. Asim Mitra. The 2023 farewell day, with its mixed box of sweet and sad memories, proved to be a day which will be remembered by all present.



- Harsh Chakraborty
2nd Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC.

Report on X-HILARATE 3.0

North Bengal St. Xavier's College hosted its biggest and most-awaited music festival, X-hilarate 3.0, in March 2023. It was organised by the Students' Council with the strengthening support of the college authority.

After three months of intense planning and preparation, the event was held on the 15th and 16th of March, 2023 on the college ground of the Rajganj campus. Students of our college along with 15 other different institutes from Siliguri and Jalpaiguri were part of this exhilaration.

On March 15th, the event started with a special address by our honourable Principal, Fr. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey SJ, followed by a traditional performance by the members of AICUF. Up next were performances by our College students, as well as by student-members of the Music Club and College Band of NBSXC.

The audience had a gala time grooving with the music along with savouring delicacies from the various food stalls that were set up.

Due to inclement weather, the fashion show event was shifted to the indoor auditorium of the college. Nevertheless, the 'Greek Mythology'-themed Fashion Show by our students was received with huge rounds of applause and appreciation.

With the generous support of the college authority and the Teachers' Council, the remaining events of the day were arranged to be staged the next day.

On the 16th of March, the event started with a South Indian dance performance by our students. The event proceeded with the most awaited, electrifying 'DJ Socials' by our guests - DJ Ayaan and DJ Vasim. The performance of the guest band, 'Mo2', forced the audience out of their seats to sway to the numbers, adding a tremendous vibe and vigour to the event.

The event concluded with the 'Vote of Thanks' by the Students' Council President, Soumili Sarkar, who thanked everyone for their immense support and hard work in making the event a grand success.

- Soumili Sarkar

6th Semester (English Dept.)
President, Students' Council, NBSXC



'Book Review' Session organised by The Literary Association, NBSXC

A writer only begins a book. A reader finishes it.
- Samuel Johnson

The habit of reading always plays an important role in our personal growth and development. According to the French thinker, Roland Barthes, "The birth of the reader must be at the cost of the death of the Author". It is the reader, after all who gives meaning to a text. So in order to inculcate the habit of reading among students and to develop their



critical faculty, THE LITERARY ASSOCIATION of NBSXC organised a "Book Review Session" on the 26th of August, 2022, in the Conference Hall of its Rajganj campus from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm. This session was held under the guidance of the honourable professors of the English department - Dr Pavanbir Kaur, Mr Rajarshi Bagchi, and Mr Subham Mandal. It was attended by both the

second year and the third year students. There were in total seven participants and each one of them came up

with wonderful book-reviews, making great efforts to critically analyse the pros and cons of the books in discussion. The session witnessed a panorama of genres starting from Romance to autobiography to thrillers, to psychological thrillers, and a lot more. Books like, *My Little Epiphanies*, *A Tea for Two and a Piece of Cake*, *2 States*, *Into the Magic Shop*, and *In the Name of*

God were critically praised. On the other hand, the much-hyped up contemporary romance, *The Love Hypothesis*, was severely criticised. Apart from these, the chilling psychological thriller, *The Silent Patient*, was duly appreciated and critiqued at the same time.

All in all, the entire session was a very successful and insightful one. This event signified that The Literary



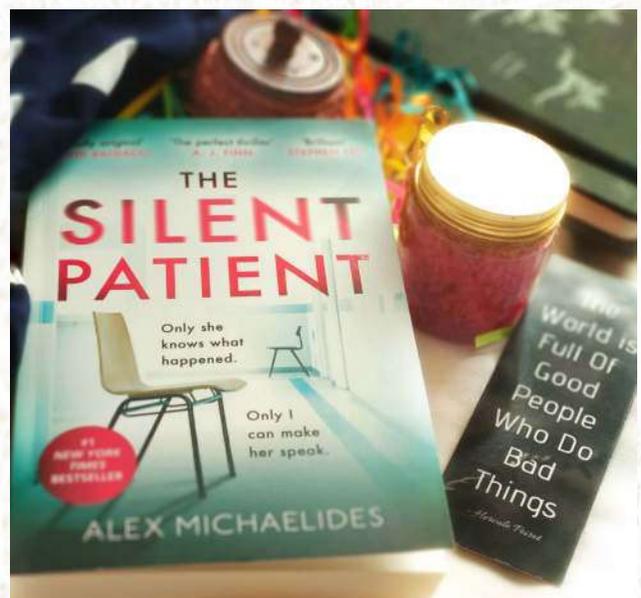
Association is evolving into an intellectually stimulating, shared space for knowledge and understanding.

- Hritrisha Chowdhury,
5th Semester,
English Department, NBSXC.

Book review: *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides

I happened to read *The Silent Patient* as it was all over the bookstagram. Being a psychological thriller fan, I absolutely couldn't resist the temptation of grabbing this one. Surprisingly, it is the debut novel of its author Alex Michaelides, which nonetheless brought him the much-coveted 'Mystery Thriller Award' for Goodreads in 2019.

The premise of this book is a very intriguing one - Alicia Berenson, a London-based painter



is leading a life next to perfect. She is married to an in-demand fashion photographer Gabriel Berenson. Everything was fine until one evening, when Gabriel returns home late from a fashion shoot, and Alicia shoots him five times in the face, and then never speaks another word thereafter. And here in the book we follow the journey of a forensic psychotherapist, Theo Faber, who, after six years of the crime, is determined to make Alicia speak again. Obsessed with investigating her crime, his discoveries suggest Alicia's silence goes far deeper than he ever thought. Now the question is, "Will Alicia ever speak again? And if she does, would Theo want to hear the truth?"

The book is actually structured from two narratives - one, the diary of Alicia, and the other from the perspective of Theo, and the perspective shifts from one to the other throughout the novel. Interestingly, it's not a traditional "whodunit" murder mystery, rather it's a "whydunit". The novel is an intrinsic psychological study of both the characters - Alicia and Theo. There is something deeply tragic and almost mythic about Alicia. Michaelides skilfully draws parallels between Alicia's story and that of Euripides' very underrated tragedy, *Alcestis*. By contrast Theo, the psychotherapist is quite a layered character who

remains distant from the readers.

The Silent Patient does justice to its genre as it literally plays with the psyches of the characters as well as with those of the readers. Rather than investigating a crime, *The Silent Patient* investigates the mind of a criminal. The book is immersive and hypnotic, and it keeps you hooked till the last page. It has got a mind-boggling plot twist which, I am sure, you will never see coming, and the climax will literally leave you jaw-dropped.

Despite having certain flaws - a somewhat slow-paced writing, presence of too many characters, tedious details of psychotherapy, and so forth - it is the intensity and complexity of plotting that makes the novel so richly entertaining. *The Silent Patient* is the definition of a 'page turner' with its lucid writing, its modern retelling of the Greek tragedy of *Alcestis*, and ultimately its jaw-dropping plot twist which is just the cherry on the top. It is definitely a must read for all thriller lovers, and of course is a straight '4.5 star' read.

- **Hritrisha Chowdhury**
6th Semester, Dept. of English,
NBSXC

THE ESCAPE

A dark falling stone, I'm on the way,
The pressure of pain I feel never goes away.
Even when things are right, I still feel them burn.
It is stuck within me; perhaps I cannot run.
The voice in my head, like the waves of the sea,
It doesn't stop talking; growing darkness is all I see.
I'm like a stone at the edge of the mountain.
Overwhelming and isolated, I'm a hopeless dry fountain.
There is darkness over my mind, and none can save me from here.
Don't see a purpose in life; it's too much to bear.
It's hard to wake up, to keep going through life,
Red flows from my left hand; in my right there's a knife.
I'm taking my last breath. I'm closing my eyes.
I'm escaping this pain with never-ending nights.

- **Rachhel Hossain**
2nd Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

The Last Utterance

I sat beside the window,
 The Sun was shining bright,
 You took slow steps on the rugged path carved amidst the parched field,
 And then disappeared in daylight,
 I sat with the thought that you were moving to the next village to toil and earn,
 I sat with the thought that with the setting sun, you would return,
 But days passed by,
 And I saw my mother and my brothers try,
 Try to feed answers to my questions about your return,
 They said, "Baba will return soon. He has moved to the city to earn".
 Days treaded, months crawled, years became memories,
 I sat at that window to see the sky change colours and the seasons narrate stories,
 One day you knocked the door with your hands stuffed with jewellery and little toys,
 Maa rushed to let you in with her eyes drenched in tears and a heavy voice,
 "Where's my Pakhi?" you did spread your arms and hurried into my room,
 Only to see me lying pale and feeble and surrounded by fear and gloom,
 Dada pressed your shoulder with plenty of strength but you stood struck and weak,
 The toys fell on the ground when you looked at your jolly Pakhi succumbed to dreadness,
 helpless and bleak,
 I pressed my lips, closed my eyes and breathed a heavy breath
 as you passed your fingers through my hair,
 "Your Pakhi will now leave, Baba, to make her way through the air".

-Mehuli Mandal

2nd Semester, Dept. of English, NBSXC

The One Who Shines Brightly

As lonely as ever I run to the door quickly,
 To share my secrets with the one who listens
 eagerly.

I spot him in the sky as dark as dying,
 Standing brightly as ever and waiting.

"I am not fine" I tell him with a tear,
 "I know" he answers secretly in my ear.
 With a heavy heart and tears rolling down my
 cheeks,
 I ask him, "Could we stay together in those pretty
 skies please?"

He laughs and hides away in the clouds.
 I keep waiting until he shows.
 "Not funny!" I say angrily,
 He apologises, then smiles guiltily.

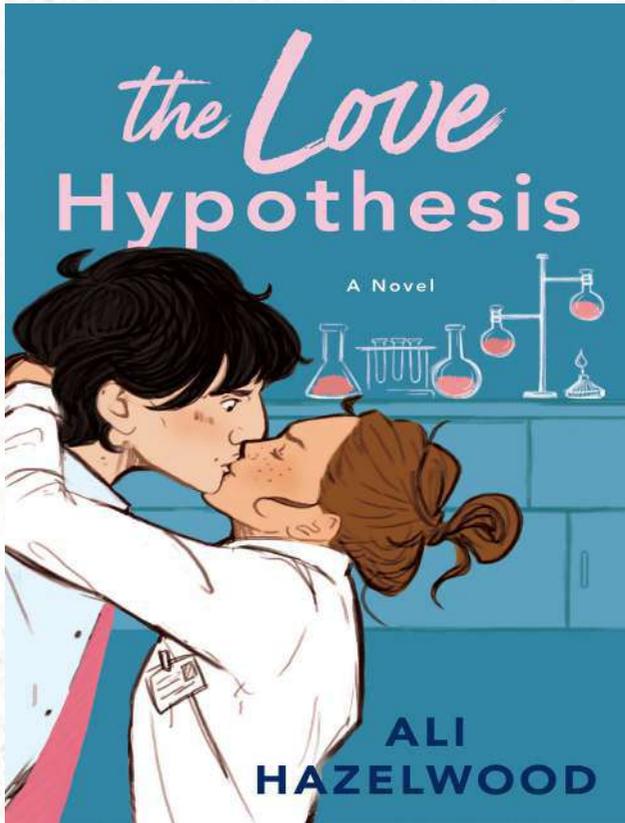
We lose track of time as we keep talking.
 I'm telling him the ineffable and he's listening.
 His silver rays touch my cheeks,
 Wiping away my sadness, making me feel at
 peace.

I look up at him in admiration,
 My best friend, the only one who would listen.
 "Thank you for everything" I tell him gratefully,
 He's standing with his head held high, smiling
 radiantly.

- Koyena Banerjee

2nd Semester, Dept. of English
 NBSXC.

Book review: *The Love Hypothesis* by Ali Hazelwood



The Love Hypothesis is one of the most popular books of 2022 in contemporary romance. The book has secured a position in every “top 10 romance books to read” list, and which is why I decided to take a break from my normal reading genres and pick this book. I chose this book to review for a variety of reasons but especially to throw light on some problematic, patriarchal nuances of this apparently light-hearted romcom.

The Love Hypothesis is an escapist read, the modern day fairytale romance where the knight will probably be in black suit and tie instead of an armour and will be super rich (oh ‘super rich’ for sure!). Written for the general taste, these novels have a simple, linear narrative structure and a lucid writing style. Mostly the novels are in the first person perspective of the female protagonist. These novels are written keeping the female readers in mind and thus are famously referred to as “chick-lit”, as fairytale romance/ strawberry worlds which are too “feminine”, “frivolous”, and “petty” for the serious, male reader.

These novels are also called ‘escapist novels’ because they are soaked in with the usual dose of chance and coincidence, and with multiple common tropes like, Grumpy meets Sunshine, Enemies to Lovers, love triangle, opposites attract, and all the Wattpad fan-fiction dramas one can think of. And of course, to top it off, some over-descriptive, steamy, intimate episodes sprinkled all over.

The Love Hypothesis by Ali Hazelwood is a story about a girl named Olive, struggling her way in the world of STEM academia. She gets herself in mayhem of a situation when she unknowingly kisses Adam Carlsen, a young professor in Stanford, in order to convince her best friend that she is dating somebody. Thus the story continues under the trope of ‘fake dating’.

In terms of narrative structure, this book comes off as loosely bound story with a slow-moving storyline. There’s not much that happens in this book from cover to cover. Nor does it have insights on the characters or the circumstances. More than 200 pages into the book and the same stuff keeps on repeating itself.

Although I would say that the writing style is average, the choice of words and the narrow range of vocabulary made it appear as if the author is in dire need of a thesaurus!

There is little to no character development of the two main protagonists.

Olive is a one-dimensional character with no edge in her personality. The writer wanted to portray her as witty and funny but most of the conversation that was supposed to be witty seemed forced and poorly written. She is given her end of the tragic backstory as well, which justifies her abandonment issues to some extent.

But the situational choices she makes throughout the book, makes her come off as an imbecile. Maybe it is because the reasons behind those actions were not convincing enough or not treated with the required gravity. All in all, the connection that one needs to feel with the protagonist was terribly lacking.

The only thing known of Adam Carlsen, the male protagonist, apart from his hugely built body, handsome face and black suits, is that he is a genius-grumpy-young professor, who is atrociously brutal in his remarks to his students.

There is an attempt to give an emotional backstory for him, but it made so little sense that even if that portion was cut out, the book would remain the same.

The readers are continuously reminded in every two to three pages of the book, how "Huge" Adam was, and how "Little" Olive was. The size-disparity was so over-emphasised that it lost all the elements of realism. Going by the description of the book, Olive is nearly 5'8" in height, which is in fact, above-average height for women. The fact that it is so ubiquitously mentioned that Adam "towers" over, "hides" or makes Olive "disappear" whenever he is around, is where it turns out to be problematic.

The dynamic between Olive and Adam is one of 'the damsel and her saviour'.

The author focused so much on bringing out this in the front that she completely missed out on building the chemistry between the two.

In 2022, we have come much far and can notice such subtleties as a product of the patriarchal narrative.

To conclude, I would like to say that Light Romcom as a genre is not problematic or garbage as it is portrayed by the big brain "bibliophiles" But, the books that represent the genre nowadays, are. This book does not deserve to be in the 'top 10 romance reads'.

It is needless to say, no matter how much we criticize the writing style and the content of these books, there is evidently a huge reader base

that literally roots for these tropes, no matter how many times these have been repeated. The readers obviously are not looking for any reality in these novels. Most of the times, these books come as a manifestation of their wildest fantasies. And that's what makes such literature so popular. But we should also remember the responsibility one should have with such a huge reader base.

Also, the term "chick-lit", which is assigned to this genre, is extremely inappropriate. It is not the meaning of the term which is problematic but the intended use of the word which is derogatory for female readers or writers. One cannot assign a particular genre to a particular gender, basically a result of structuralism. Although there's no denying of the fact that this genre has a heavy female fan-base, but producing novels to serve only that particular fan-base is in a way limiting the potential of the genre.

The way female dependency is glorified in these novels and the men are considered ideal with their unrealistic body image and financial dominance, it says a lot about the misconceptions a patriarchal society has for the needs of women.

To sum it up, I would give '2 stars' to *The Love Hypothesis* and a thesaurus to Ali Hazelwood for making me question the romantic in me.

- Soumili Sarkar,
6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

Coulter: The Artist who paints sounds and brings songs to life on blank canvas



In order to see sounds and hear pictures, art has to become limitless. To see how a melody looks like, when painted on a canvas, is an ethereal experience. An experience which Jack Coulter, my favourite artist, brings to life.

Jack Coulter, a Northern Irish artist, is one of the most popular and unusual artists emerging now. He is especially popular for creatively linking his art with music. He has a neurological condition called 'Synaesthesia', where people mix up sensory perceptions. Like feeling sounds or tasting shapes. He sees colours whenever he hears

STUDENTS' CORNER

sounds. Coulter's approach is vibrant, violent, and a burst of colours is always so unexpected. He mixes pigments with whatever he finds.

Most of his works were done in his garage in Belfast. He doesn't paint with brushes but pours paint on canvas and scrapes till he gets what he wants. Coulter has always been erudite and culturally obsessed. His mother instilled in him an interest for culture from an early age. His aunt Christine was an abstract printmaker and another huge inspiration for the young artist.

His pieces sell for £10000 upwards. The

Arts Council Collection of Northern Ireland bought his works when he was just 21, the youngest artist to have worked in the collection. More recently, Dazed Beauty commissioned him to depict brand scents from Chanel, Alexander McQueen and Bryedo.

There is something so naïve and authentic about Coulter's art, that it feels like a fresh breath of air.

- Nilanjana Sinha Roy

2nd Semester, Dept. of Political Science

NBSXC

Yeats in your Spotify playlist



The name 'W.B. Yeats' carries tons of weightage with it. To get a minimum grasp of Yeats's poetry, one has to delve deep into the various stages of his life along with the different phases of his writings, and eventually attempt to understand his symbolism and esoteric philosophy. Sounds like a lot of heavy research, doesn't it? But what if I told you, you might be listening to Yeats's poetry in your Spotify shuffle?

Last year around fall, when I was busy fathoming Yeats and his *gyres*, Hozier's latest release, "Swan upon Leda", intrigued me to do a little digging into his songwriting patterns and their relation to Yeats and his works.

A native of Ireland, Andrew "Hozier" Byrne has incorporated storytelling and social satire into his soulful, bluesy songs since his breakout 2014 hit, "Take Me to Church."

Hozier has repeatedly proven his artistic acumen through his various deep-rooted references to literary canons of Wilde, Yeats, Neruda, Beckett, and many more.

The self-professed 'Last Romantic', W.B. Yeats wrote the poem "Leda and the Swan" in 1923, possibly symbolizing the political 'rape' of Ireland by the British and the Irish Civil War in general, adding sprinkles of his esoteric philosophy regarding the 'cycles' of history.

About a century later, Hozier released his song 'Swan upon Leda', written in protest against the brutal injustices on the women of Iran. I am too insignificant a person to judge a song by its intricacies of melody or weigh its lyrical vigour. But with my little understanding and massive emotional outpouring, I feel this song "treats honesty as an issue without aesthetic rarefaction"- a quality essential for a piece of art to survive beyond its political, cultural, and spatial timeframe.

'Swan upon Leda' is not the only influence of Yeats on Hozier. The absolutely intoxicating, 'NFWMB' has a conspicuous reference to 'The Second Coming' by the Irish visionary himself. W.B. Yeats foreshadows the 'Second Coming' of

the Antichrist, an event which will usher utter destruction over the world. The 'rocking cradle' awakened the sleeping 'beast,' and it 'Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born again.'

The terror of the decadence of humanity by excess rationalism and materialism of the modern era is evoked by Yeats's poetry.

But Hozier writes about doomsday, which Yeats talked about, with the tonality of Love. He sets the first meeting of his and his love interest:

"When...

The end was soon

To Bethlehem, it slouched..."

His interest stood there, unfazed by the imminent violence and the nearing apocalypse.

The terrifying scenery of the end and the undaunted display of his muse create contradictory emotions, which evolve into affection. Death stares at his "babe", while they stand there unperturbed by the chaos and confusion. The dark beauty of terror. Peak Hozier. Pure Art.

These uncanny similarities between the works of both these Irish men, existing a century apart in the cycle of history, once again prove the greatness of Yeats as a visionary.

- Soumili Sarkar

6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

Do we really know Jane Austen?

When I think of Regency era, I immediately remember Jane Austen. Jane Austen is primarily known for her six major works. She was born in Steventon, Hampshire, and spent the greater part of her life there, also living for a considerable period at Bath. All these places have inspired her novels.

Her novels interpret and critique the life of the British gentry. The stories take place in manors and estates, boasting of balls and card parties and bonnets, lace and muslin. Time and again, we are drawn in by the characters who offer a breath of fresh air with their modern outlook. We love Elizabeth's confidence and vivacity in *Pride and Prejudice*. We sympathise over Anne Elliot's pain in *Persuasion* and laugh over Emma's follies in *Emma*. For readers who have tenderly caressed each page and revelled in the life her words have transported them into, these characters are old friends. We know them, their thoughts and views.

But do we really know Austen, the creator of these very characters we fell in love with? Do we know her thoughts and views? Most authors remain vocal about their opinions. But, it is not so in case of Jane Austen.

It is known that Austen led a quiet life. She has been described as a contented woman, who was kind and happy. Whatever we gather on Austen are from few, extant letters. The majority

of the letters were burnt or destroyed by her sister Cassandra. By doing this, she meant to safeguard her family's reputation. But she also removed any information on family illnesses and unhappiness.

What was Austen's sister hiding away by burning away the personal letters? Was Austen actually not all that complacent, or did not so often employ her skill of satire and sarcasm? Too sad, we will never know.



Social class was always focused on in her novels. Austen has clearly shown us the different worlds within a particular society. She has pictured well the mansions, the small counties and the working class. These class differences are finally conquered by the characters. Like Mr. Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*. But she doesn't really shed light on other social issues. She does not highlight on the political issues or economic problems, for instance.

Moreover, Austen's father's income had been really modest. George Austen was a rector at the Anglican Parishes in Steventon, and he earned livelihood by farming and teaching. It is clear that, while Austen lived in considerable comfort, she did not have luxuries. So, did Austen really

write from experience or are the stories based in a world she wanted to be a part of but could only watch from a distance?

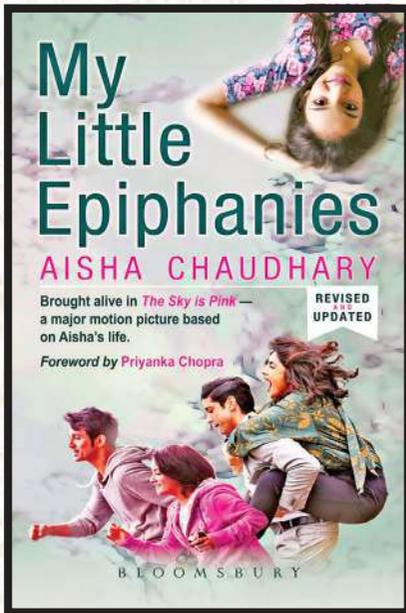
All in all, we see glimpses of her humour and wit in her works. Her works have withstood time and delighted every audience. As in 'The Eye of the Story' Eudora Welty wrote, Austen's work has withstood the test of time because, "they pertain not to the outside world but to the interior, to what goes on perpetually in the heart and mind".

- Nilanjana Sinha Roy

2nd Semester, Dept. of Political Science
NBSXC

Book Review: *My Little Epiphanies* by Aisha Chaudhary

To scribble about hope and light while being surrounded with dread and darkness is not ordinary. And ordinary she was indeed not!



Aisha Chaudhary, a name known to very few, was born with SCID (Severe Combined Immune Deficiency), got a bone-marrow transplant at the age of six, and developed pulmonary fibrosis with her

growing age.

With *My Little Epiphanies*, Aisha made a little effort to let us all know that, "we are not alone and regardless of what the problem is, we all feel the same, and we are all fighting our own battles". The book is a radiant collection of her doodles and the 'epiphanies' that found her while she was struggling to live.

In her book, Aisha has brought to the surface the intricacies and complexities of life and the inevitability of death in the simplest of ways possible! She questions us, "Are we living to die? Or are we dying to live?". She brings to light the hollowness of hate when she remarks, "We all definitely have one thing in common, and that is death".

Aisha battled with all that came between her and her life, and whispered to herself: "My heart is lit with a thousand fairy lights. I will never let them fuse". Holding forth her dreams

with unbelievable courage and grace, Aisha breathed her last at the tender age of eighteen. Yet, she continues to live in all of us, in all of us who believe in the spark of the stars, who believe in the magic of the little things, who believe in the tricks of the universe, who believe that hope "always has a way of being found".

All that Aisha Chaudhary's *My Little Epiphanies* brings to our hands is a gentle plea to not give up on life until life gives up on us, to tread merrily down the ways of life, to slow dance on the melodies of it, to paint all the colours of it with whichever paintbrush possible, to fill ourselves with the breath of it – for life is temporary and "time is fleeting". It is a plea to lay our hearts wide open, to accept all our scars, and "to live and love with no regrets".

- Aparajita Jha,

4th Semester, Dept. of English,
NBSXC.

I am Strong

I was thirteen when I came running to my balcony
from the playground,
I was screaming and sobbing and my mother
came running to all of that sound,

She looked at me, held my arms, made me sit and
wiped off my tears,
Then squeezed my palms and held my chin up
with a whisper-"You cannot be knocked down by
your fears".

I am twenty now and it has been quite long,
Everytime I face that face in the mirror,
I say, "You are strong".

Oh! That life is about battles and we should have
our arms ready to fight with strength,
But what happens when you keep cutting yourself
with blades of that strength for time, quite
stretched in length?

I remember how I have kept doing the same,
For the sake of being known as 'strong by name',

I have been running into darkness every now and
then,
I feel my fingers freezing, my voice choking and
ears trying to block out the deafening silence on
nights quite often,

But I wake up and stand even when my legs refuse
to carry the burden of my grief-stricken body,
And then I walk and stretch my lips and talk in a
language I have forgotten to understand,
And take myself, through known ways of an alien
land,

But I keep walking because 'I am strong',
And built up of strength that left me too weak to
be able to find an answer to - "Where do I belong?"

- Aparajita Jha

4th Semester, Department of English,
NBSXC

Chilly Winter Nights

Chilly winter nights create an urge in me,
A romantic longing in fact,
To lie in an open field with a bonfire next to me,
And hopelessly wondering at the moon,
Perhaps it warms my heart,
An eternal peace.

- Ankur Saha Choudhury

6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

One Day

I hope one day we will meet.
It will be the time when we are least expecting.
We would have grown a lot by then,
Grown stronger emotionally and mentally.
We would look back to our younger days,
And perhaps we would laugh or get a little
emotional, or perhaps we would just get lost in
nostalgia. We would wish to relive some moments
and perhaps try not to remember some.
Life is too short and I wait for that day and to get
lost in those beautiful memories....

- Ankur Saha Choudhury

6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

The 21st vote

A blank face, staring at another blank face
as a large carton box makes its way all up to the
classroom desk. The secret ballot voting system
begins in order to elect the 'Class Representative'
among the four candidates. Finally, two candidates
of the opposite gender won the 'mini elections' and
were tasked with the responsibility to serve as a
medium between the class and the department at
all times. If you have read all the way till here, then I
expect you to make an effort to read the entire thing
as it might provide a solution to your general query.
The guy who has typed this 'reality' that you're
reading now, is the same guy who had won the CR
elections just by one vote.

If I'm suffering a bad time, then is it actually made to happen by that heavenly power we call 'God'? What does the bad time indicate? Various thoughts race across your mind as you come to the following two conclusions: 'You need to change yourself', OR, 'You have done something wrong'. Although it's temporary, let us accept our fate that it was destined to happen, but I'm such a guy who is already 'changed' and is now attempting to bring a 'change'. Your bad time may be the result of your daily activity but my bad time is the indication that bringing a 'change' is definitely not anyone's cup of tea, as corruption and politics exist everywhere. 'Small steps often lead to big changes', and you learn to speak up for yourself if no one does so.

I do not know the tactics of combat but I do have the courage to fight, both verbally and physically. The world is of the wrong notion that quiet people are generally dumb. Let me tell you that those silent ones are usually the wrathful ones, and that's our category. Everyone has some sort of fear as it is of different kinds and it is a natural response of a Homo sapiens in times of crisis. The fear that I face gives me courage to show guts and stand up for the correct thing by speaking the truth and bringing out the reality. Being the CR, I've decided to remain truthful and honest at all times, in whichever task I perform. 'Neither commit injustice nor tolerate injustice', and whenever you choose such a path, it automatically makes you hostile to the corrupt communities. You become prone to risks and threats. But even if the entire world stands against you for the wrong thing, feel proud of yourself that you stood up for what you thought was right. One who can keep calm and find solutions to problems during stressful situations, stays in self-control and does not let his/her emotions gain control over them.

Besides courage, one also requires the skill to argue, debate, and roast the opponent if they're wrong in their mindset and thinking. My greatest motivators in this regard are Mr. Shashi Tharoor and our Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Dr. S Jaishankar. But what about combat skills? If you're self-trained then it's enough to be the 'one man army', and in that case you won't need any security or protection. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister has the SPG surrounding him all the time, but I believe, if he were young like the Ukrainian President, Volodymyr

Zelenskyy, he would have been self-sufficient to handle personal threats and risks all by himself. As already said, everyone has a fear of one thing or the other. Be it an SPG commando protecting our PM, or a terrorist crossing the border and entering our country. Both have their personal fears and courage held in a delicate balance. The only difference is, one stands for the national security of the country and the other one endangers the lives of the citizens of our country. And when they come face to face, it leads to a fight in which truth comes out victorious accompanied by audacity.

That is what drives me ahead, and keeps me as firm and strong as the 'Ashok Stambh'. "Satyamev Jayate". "Truth Alone Triumphs". Always be ready to stand alone, face the consequences and oppression as it can occur anytime but agree to it or not, you always feel safer if you have someone to support you. A single companion or supporter is enough to boost you up and assure you of your safety. 'With great power, comes great responsibility'. Whichever post you hold, be it a CR or an honest government employee or the Prime Minister. Anything!

Always remember that be good to others and show kindness by being polite and respectful, as it won't cost you anything. Be an altruistic individual by helping others without any expectation of personal gain. Always help others even if you know that they can't, and yes, definitely act sensibly, take correct decisions carefully, listen to everybody and do wrong to nobody. If you have these qualities, you're a unique leader who is not only the guide but also the light of hope for others. I had won 21 votes and I take pride in my CR badge and the official college uniform as I know that I perform my duties with utmost sincerity and dedication. You don't have to prove anything to anyone. If you work honestly, it'll automatically be noticed.

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step". Get geared up and bring out the best in you by being an example. Put your best and let others watch the rest.

Loads of love and thanks to the reader who has patiently read all the way till here. I hope it has answered your general doubts, if any.

Thank you!

- Harsh Chakraborty

2nd Semester, Department of English, NBSXC

Hopeless Romantic

Yes, I am a hopeless Romantic
And I will never even try to deny it
Because I'm so hopefully yours
That even if I lie, nobody would buy it

I believe in romance
The old-fashioned one

The kind where you go to my window
In the middle of the night
With a radio on your shoulder
To call me, just to hear my voice
Before you close your eyes at night

Where you write sappy slow songs
Using our love as inspiration
And letters, simply saying 'I love you'
But will mean the world to me

Where the notes kept between us
And the diaries we exchange
Are found by our kids
So many years later

Where you erase everyone
With your mesmerizing charms
So I can only remember your face
While holding you in my arms

Intimate glances, full of love
Tight hugs, when I cry
Forehead kisses, when I'm down

We laugh at our own jokes
While everybody else just seek glances

Yes, I am a hopeless Romantic
And I will never even try to deny it
Because ever since I met you,
Cupid's been never quiet!

- **Sukriti Rai**
2nd Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC.

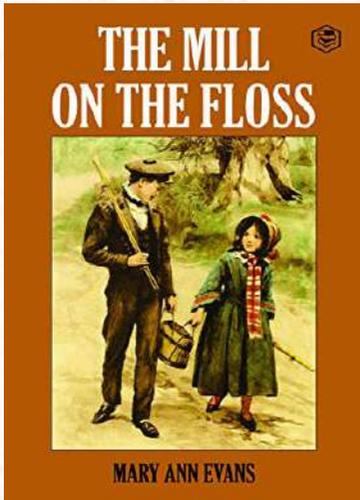
Love

The strands of my hair,
Moving away from my ear,
The wind whispered "Hello",
I smiled, feeling mellow!
Outside the window when I looked,
Nature got me hooked.
The lure of the leaves, the azure of the sky,
I wonder who chose these shades and why?
The book in my hand complained,
"I got carried away", I explained.
'I Love You!', the hero confessed.
Gleefully she reciprocated.
I smirked at their stupidity,
Thought how it will only turn into misery.
How they will regret their every decision,
When the only companion they have around is
Dejection.
"But you said you loved me!", She'll complain.
"I found someone else", he'll explain.
The people who once "loved" each other,
Will turn into perfect stranger.
Her heart will beat faster, whenever his name
comes up,
Her mind will argue, and tell her to grow up.
It is only a few week's matter,
Before she starts despising the word "Love" for
everything that came after.
All these thoughts made me wonder,
Why is love so hard and bitter?
If it makes a person so pessimistic,
Why do people then still look for it?
But all these thoughts had to disappear,
When I caught a glimpse of my wallpaper.
My parents hand in hand, smiling, still going
strong.
Maybe love is not all bad, maybe love is not all
wrong.

- **Koyena Banerjee**
2nd Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

Mill on the Floss by Mary Ann Evans: A sad, beautiful, and tragic tale of life

Mill on the Floss is a beautiful novel by Mary Ann Evans, who wrote under the famous pen-name 'George Eliot'. She was one of the



leading Victorian era writers. It is a heart-wrenching tale which follows Maggie Tulliver, daughter of Mr. Tulliver, the owner of the mill situated by the river Floss.

We get a deep look into a child's psychology and how it can affect them if they

feel neglected. Maggie is a lovable character, one whom readers can relate to and with whom they can feel an empathetic connection. Maggie is keen to learn and is rather intelligent. But she is treated as the proverbial 'black sheep' by everyone, since she does not like the usual womanly tasks which her mother wants her to perform following the prevailing customs in society.

Maggie yearns for love as she grows up. Soon, however, the family faces various trials and tribulations. It is so heart-warming to see the love and support all the family members try to provide in their own way.

It is said that *Mill on the Floss* is a slightly autobiographical novel. Mary Ann Evans did face similar situations as she was somewhat similar to Maggie, differentiated because of her high intelligence. The character of Tom, Maggie's brother, is based on Mary's brother, Isaac, and she had similar relationship with her father as shown in the novel.

It is an absorbing tale, running deep with melancholy and love, and boasting of precious, gem-like characters. Each of the characters is realistic and well-rounded, with their share of human flaws and merits. I feel, every lover of English literature should read this wonderful novel at least once.

- Nilanjana Sinha Roy
2nd Semester, Dept. of Political Science
NBSXC

The Driver Uncle

It all started when I got a transfer from the hospital of Kolkata to a village hospital. The name of the village was Kumurkundi and it was in North Bengal.

So, on the 13th of February, 2022, my seniors told me that there is an urgent need for a doctor in the village hospital at Kumurkundi, and that they have chosen me, Dr. Sagnik Basu, to be the new doctor at Kumurkundi hospital. As per the instructions, I booked my train the next day, for travelling from Sealdah to Malbazar. When I reached the station at Malbazar, it was 9 pm at night, and the way to the village was a three hours' way. At around midnight I reached the village of Kumurkundi and there was a quarter arranged for me where I was to stay. When I reached my quarter, the cook arranged for my dinner. I had

my dinner and went to sleep.

At around 2:30 am, in the dead of the night, my phone suddenly rang up. I picked up the call and it was the nurse from the village hospital. She informed that there is an urgent case to handle and so I must come immediately. I told her that I haven't joined the hospital yet, I am scheduled to join tomorrow morning, so she could please inform the doctor who is still there. The nurse answered that the previous doctor had left today afternoon, giving her my number to contact in case of any urgency. I asked her how I could possibly come now, to which she replied that the cook in my quarter has a scooter. "He will drive you here, please come fast", she urged. I saw the scooter standing but I could not find my cook anywhere. Now what to do?! I forgot to mention,

I am physically challenged and I use crutches for walking, so I cannot drive the scooter myself, even if the key is there. So this was a real problem.

At that very crucial moment, I suddenly remembered Bhuvan Lama. We all used to call him 'driver uncle'. Driver Uncle and I used to study in the same college. Later, he became the ambulance driver and I became a doctor. But after I received my doctor's degree and licence, Driver Uncle unfortunately lost his leg in an accident. I had replaced his broken leg with an artificial, prosthetic leg.

I called him now, as I had his number. Luckily. He came in no time and drove me to the hospital on the scooter. When I reached the hospital, I saw a boy had broken his head and was really very badly injured. I did his treatment, put stitches, and bandaged the wound so that the blood stops flowing. The rest of the night I spent in the hospital itself.

In the morning when I saw the nurse, I asked her about the boy. I wanted to go and check, so I told her to get my crutch. The nurse looked very surprised and asked, "Sir, you use crutches?". I affirmed and asked her about Driver Uncle. What the nurse related thereafter, however, came like a great shock. She told me that I drove the scooter myself, did the treatment, and all along I was not carrying any crutch! In utter disbelief, I looked at my leg - it looked all fine! My head was swimming, I felt dizzy. I called again on Driver Uncle's number and instead of him, the police picked up the call. They told me that driver Bhuvan Lama had died three days ago when his car fell into a ditch. I could not understand anything: if driver uncle is dead three days before, then who came last night?! Horrified, confused, agitated beyond all measure - I lost consciousness. When I regained consciousness, I found myself in the doctor's chamber and the nurse was splashing water on my face.

- **Sagnik Basu**
4th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

"Open Mic" Event by Literary Association, NBSXC



In a first of its kind, The Literary Association of North Bengal St. Xavier's College organised and hosted an "Open Mic" event on the 12th of May, 2023, from 12 noon in the Smart Class Room of the Loyola Block (Rajganj campus).

The event had the captivating theme of "Love, Life and Literature", and it provided the students with a stage to mould their imagination and experience into shapes of poetry, micro-tales, short stories and open letters - all in sync with the provided theme.

The event allowed a magnificent scope to the students to explore the dimensions of something as unfathomable as love, to ponder upon the intricacies of life, and to rediscover how 'literature' has been a reflection of the inevitable interdependent existence of 'love' and 'life'.

The event drew participants from all the departments, who were warmly encouraged to share their narratives of (missed) opportunities, poignant poetry, and unheard stories with the audience. The organisers and participants were provided with massive support and encouragement from the respected teaching faculty members of the Dept. of English (NBSXC).

The "Open Mic" event proved to be a success and a cherishable experience. It undoubtedly paved a way for more of such fascinating, indulging, and creatively challenging out-of-the-box events in the near future!

- **Aparajita Jha**
4th Semester, Dept. of English,
NBSXC.

Oh moon, up in the deep sky

Oh moon, up in the deep sky,
Your light does see distant places,
You travel round the wide world,
You look into people's houses
O, moon, stay for a moment
Tell me, O, tell me where is my love!
O, moon, stay for a moment,
Tell me, O, tell me where is my love!
Tell her please, silver moon in the sky,
That I embrace her,
That she should at least for a while,
Remember her dreams!
Light up her distant place,
Tell her, O, tell her who waits here!
Light up her distant place,
Tell her, O, tell her who waits here!
If she dreams of me,
May this memory waken her!
O moon, don't disappear,
Please don't go!
Little dreams of her, little dreams of mine,
Let's fill them up in our eyes.
Let's ride on clouds and roam in the sky,
Let eyes talk tonight...
Till the sunrise without any boundaries...

- **Soham Dey Chowdhury**
6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

MY BONOLOTA SEN

Who says Bonolata Sen
Exsited in those dead tresses?
She is immortal
She is beautiful
She is love !
As Jibananando tells us about her
We can only see a girl whom
we see our future with
I know she is there! She is there!
I see her everyday ...
In those pink tinted sky
Sleeping on the dandellion clouds
Look down at me with nothing
But love in her eyes
She is there, she is there ...
I found her, I found her,
Not in those letters of Jibananando Das
But in those beautiful and reflective eyes of her
I look into her eyes only to see
nothing but the feeling of
She is my Bonolota Sen . . .
She is my Bonolota Sen . . .

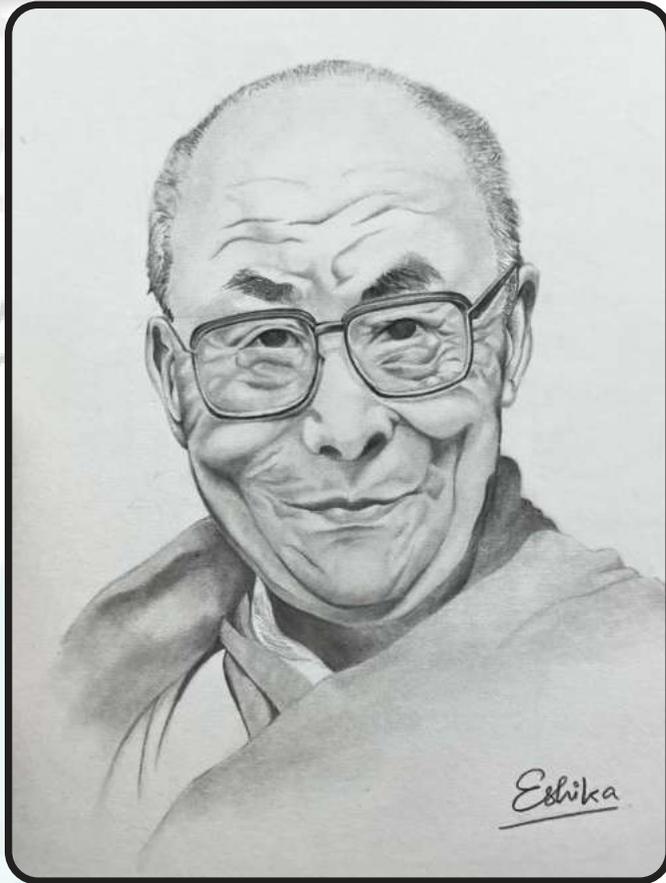
- **Debogyan Nag**
6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

Sea Lover

I know the moon is beautiful
But today I want to collate you to the sea. . .
Blue or colourless?
Nobody knows. . .
Always running away to somewhere
Yet grounded,
You don't wait for time
Yet flow with it just like a boon companion
Calm and sophisticated
Yet enlivened and electrified
I don't really understand what are you?
Yet I would spend all my time gazing at you. . .

- **Smriti Subba**
2nd Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC

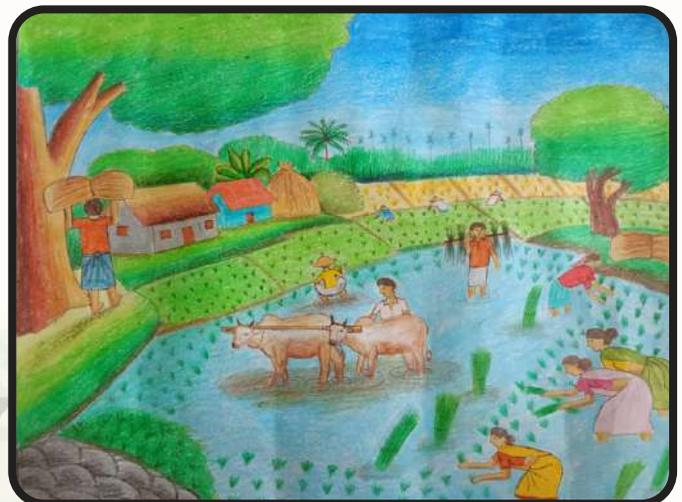
VIVIDLY SKETCHY!



- Eshika Gurung
6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC



- Rewang Dukpa
2nd Semester, Dept. of Microbiology,
NBSXC.



- Nandini Chhetri
4th Semester, Dept. of English, NBSXC

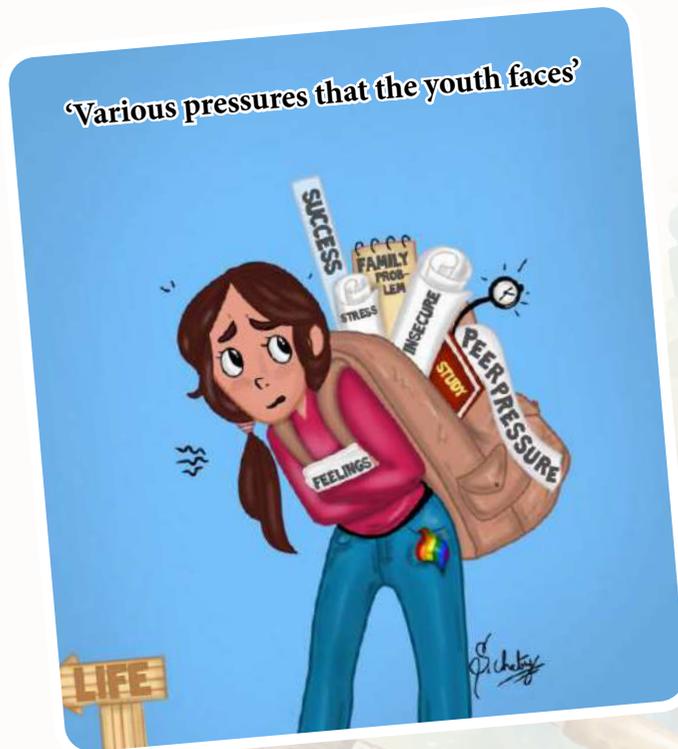
VIVIDLY SKETCHY!



- Srinchan Roy
2nd Semester, BBA(H), NBSXC

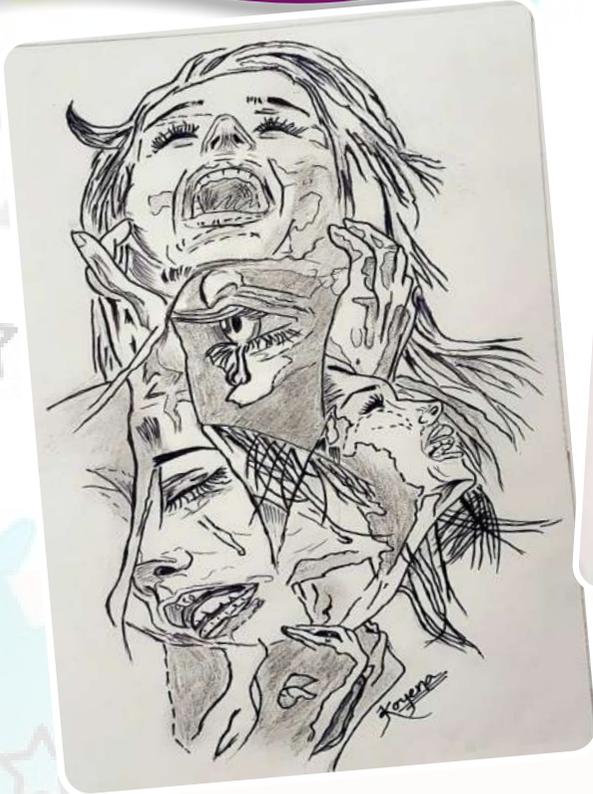


- Nilanjana Sinha Roy
2nd Semester, Dept. of Pol. Science, NBSXC



- Siddharth Chhetry
2nd Semester, Dept. of English, NBSXC

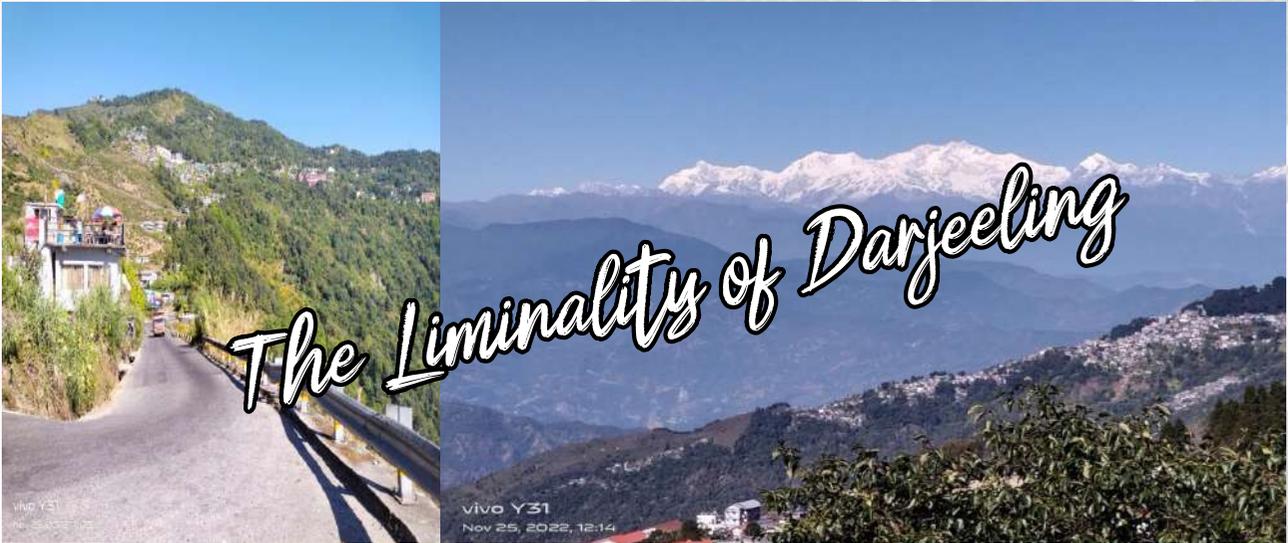
VIVIDLY SKETCHY!



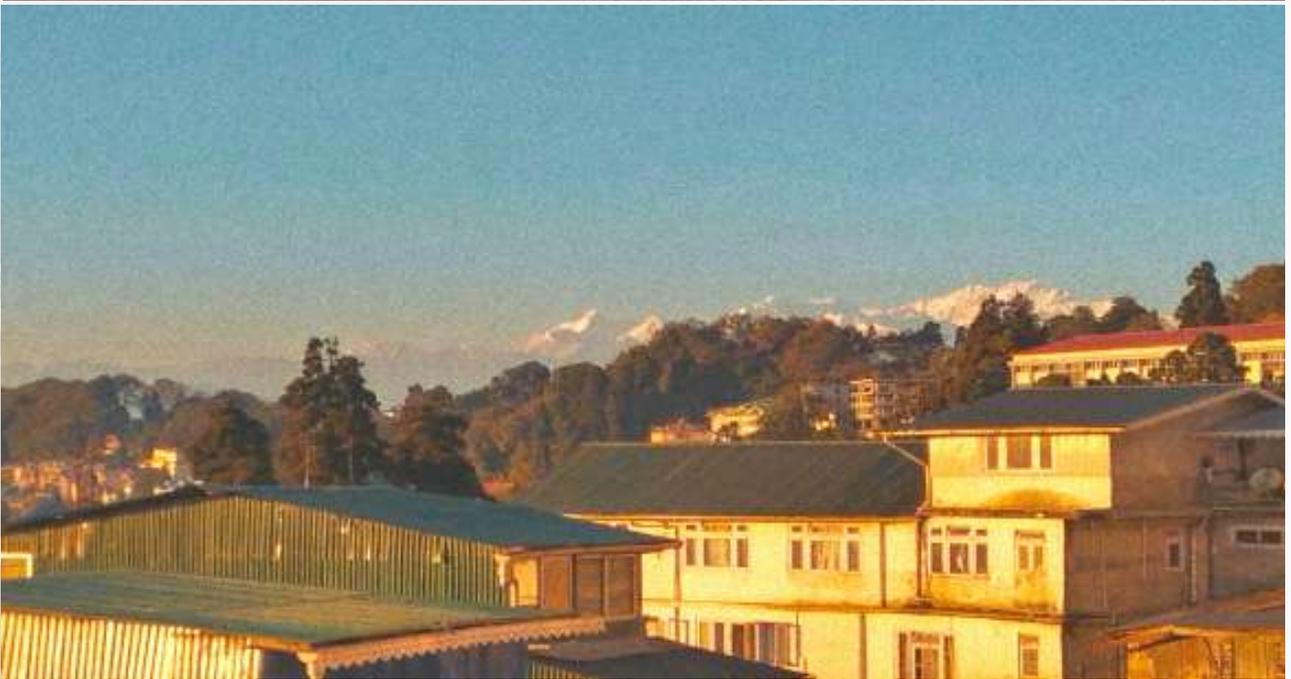
- Koyena Banerjee
2nd Semester, Dept. of English, NBSXC



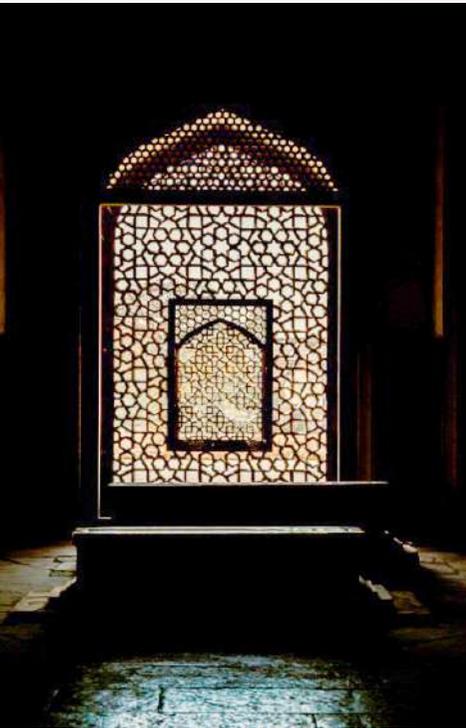
- Nilanjana Sinha Roy
2nd Semester,
Dept. of Pol. Science, NBSXC



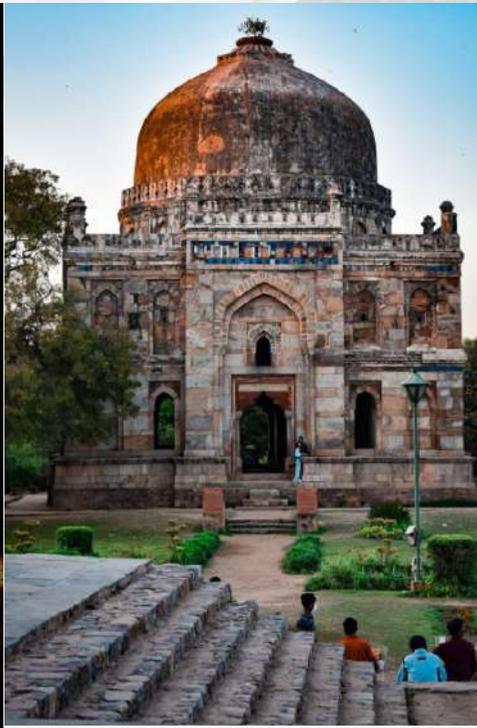
Worth a Thousand Words ...



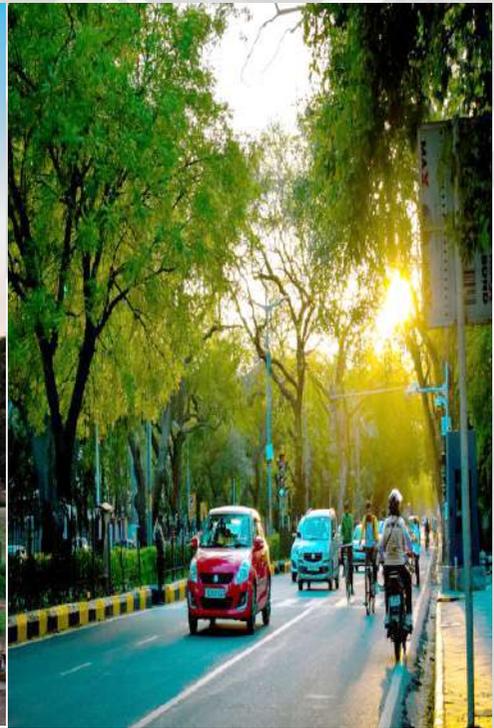
- Debogyan Nag,
6th Semester, Dept. of English,
NBSXC.



Humayun's Tomb



Lodhi Garden



Cityscape

- Ayantika Bose
6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC



- Sneha Jha
4th semester, B.Com (H), NBSXC



-Aparajita Jha
4th Semester,
Department of English, NBSXC



- Ayantika Bose
6th Semester, Dept. of English
NBSXC



Anshu Mandal,
4th Semester, Dept. of English,
NBSXC.

Kashmir Diaries



Dal lake, Srinagar



Aru Valley



Dal lake, Srinagar



GULMARG



Houseboats Dal lake Srinagar



SONMARG



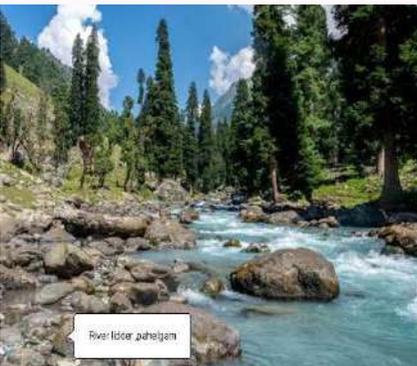
SONMARG, ZOJILA PASS



Gulmarg



Betab Valley



River Idder, pahalgam



pahalgam



Aru Valley

- Monami Dhar
2nd Semester, Dept. of English

Worth a Thousand Words ...



MOVIE MASTERCLASS: A special lecture on "Indian Cinema in the context of Ray Centenary"...

Dr. Pramim Moktan, an ex-student member of MARG, went on to make a presentation on child abuse...

नर्थ बेङ्गल सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेजमा एकदिवसीय जीवन कौशल प्रशिक्षण कार्यशाला



सिलिगुरी, ९ सेप्टेम्बर (निर्वा): नर्थ बेङ्गल सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेज (राजगञ्ज) -मा जीवन प्रशिक्षण एण्ड नेल्सोन मन्डेल विद्यार्थीहरूका विभिन्न ९ सेप्टेम्बर २०२२ मा विद्यार्थीहरूका लागि एकदिवसीय जीवन कौशल प्रशिक्षण कार्यशाला आयोजना गरियो।

यस कार्यशालामा भारतमा आश्रम तथा कल्याण केन्द्रका संस्थापक डा. गणेश्वर मारी, दिल्लीबाट सौत ब्राकि भएर आएका थिए। डा. प्रिमसिंग राम्रो प्यमसंका अनुभव छ र उहाँ सेलिमियन महाविद्यालयका स्नातकोत्तर मनोविज्ञानमा एक सहवर्गी प्राध्यापक हुन्। वर्ल्ड हेल्थ अर्गनाइजेशन (डब्ल्यूएचओ) -ले दिएको १० वटा जीवन कौशलको ज्ञान विद्यार्थीहरूले यस कार्यशालाबाट प्राप्त गर्नु सफल भएको छ।

College women's cell marks Women's Day in tea estate



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE SILIGURI, 4 MARCH

The Women's Cell and AICUF of the North Bengal St Xavier's College (NBSXC) jointly organized an event to pre-celebrate International Women's Day at Shikarpur tea estate today that day that is also observed as 'National Safety Day'.

'Human Trafficking' by the General Secretary of MARG (NGO) Darjeeling, Nirman John Chettri. Students of the Women's cell and AICUF performed skit and street play respectively to give messages on Women, Empowerment and Human Trafficking to the audience.

College-NGO MoU seeks to work against human trafficking

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE SILIGURI, 21 AUGUST

The Women's Cell of the North Bengal St Xavier's College (NBSXC) Rajganj, near Siliguri, organised a 'revival programme' on 'Youth Against Trafficking Club' (YATC) today. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the college and a non-profit organization, MARG (Mankind in Action for Rural Growth), the college said.

trafficking, while Nirman John Chettri, the General Secretary of MARG, Darjeeling, spoke on the menace of human trafficking and highlighted how awareness in this regard, coupled with timely action, could yield effective results. 'Pranim Moktan, an ex-student member of MARG, went on to make a presentation on child abuse. Students performed song and dance acts on human trafficking. The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Dr Deepika Mazumdar, the Convener of the Women's cell, NBSXC, a college official said.

हिमालय दर्पण

नर्थ बेंगल सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेजद्वारा दुई दिवसीय एका स्वास्थ्य शिविर



सिलिगुरी, ११ कार्तिक (निर्वा): नर्थ बेंगल सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेजद्वारा १० र ११ कार्तिक २०२२ मा सिलिगुरी जिल्लाको राजगञ्ज क्षेत्रमा एकदिवसीय स्वास्थ्य शिविर आयोजना गरियो।

सिलिगुरी, ११ कार्तिक (निर्वा): नर्थ बेंगल सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेजद्वारा १० र ११ कार्तिक २०२२ मा सिलिगुरी जिल्लाको राजगञ्ज क्षेत्रमा एकदिवसीय स्वास्थ्य शिविर आयोजना गरियो।

सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेजमा पुनरुद्धार कार्यक्रम



सिलिगुरी, २४ अगस्त (निर्वा): उत्तर बंगाल सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेज, राजगञ्जको महिला प्रकोष्ठले २४ अगस्त, २०२२ मा युवा अगेन्ट ट्राफिकिङ क्लबको पुनरुद्धान कार्यक्रम आयोजना गरियो।

महासचिव, (मार्ग), दार्जिलिङले मानव तस्करीबारेमा विभिन्न जानकारी गराए। सचिवालयमा सचिवालयका कार्याकारी कसरी ल्याउने यसबारेमा प्रभावकारी परिणाम प्राप्त गर्ने सकिन्छ। एमएअरजीका एकजना पूर्व विद्यार्थी प्रथम मोकानले बाल पुनरुद्धारबारे आफ्नो प्रस्तुति दिए। विद्यार्थीहरूले मानव तस्करी विरुद्ध गीत तथा नृत्य प्रस्तुत गरे। कार्यक्रमको अन्तमा समापन एनबीएसएक्ससी-की महिला प्रकोष्ठका संयोजक डा. दीपिका मजुमदारले धन्यवाद ज्ञापन गर्दै कार्यक्रमको समापन गरिन्।



हिमालय दर्पण

सेण्ट जेभियर्स महाविद्यालयमा बिरुवारोपण कार्यक्रम



सिलिगुरी, २८ जुन: बुधवार राजगञ्जस्थित नर्थ बेङ्गल सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेजका कर्मचारी अनि विद्यार्थीहरूले सशश सीमा सुरक्षा बल अनि गैर सरकारी सहायन समिति दुवै राणासङ्घमाका शाखा हुन्। आजको बिरुवारोपण कार्यक्रममा लगभग दुई सय विद्यार्थीहरूको भागलेको थियो। महाविद्यालयका प्रचार्य भादुर ललित चौ। लिलीको स्वागत

भाग्यपति कार्यक्रमका मुख्य अतिथि तथा सहस्रक सुरक्षा बलका महाविद्यालयक सुधीरले वक्तव्य राखे। महाविद्यालयक सुधीरले शैक्षिक संस्थान अनि सशश सुरक्षा बलको संयुक्त पहल साथै पृथ्वीलाई सहायन वृक्ष रोपणको आवश्यकतामाथि अनि प्रेरणात्मक वक्तव्य प्रस्तुत गरे। प्राथमिक कार्यक्रमको समाप्तिपछि उपस्थित सबै अधिपरीहारीहरूले महाविद्यालयका कर्मचारी अनि विद्यार्थीहरूले महाविद्यालय परिसरमा बिरुवारोपण कार्य गरे।

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North Bengal St Xavier's College ho



नर्थ बेंगल सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेजले डिजिटल हर्बेरियममा प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजना गर्यो



सिलिगुरी, १४ कार्तिक (निर्वा): वनस्पति विज्ञान विभाग नर्थ बेंगल सेण्ट जेभियर्स कलेज, राजगञ्जको आन्तरिक गुणस्तर आराम सेतले १ कार्तिक २०२२ मा डिजिटल हर्बेरियम एक दिवसीय हस्त-अन दैनिक 'प्रोग्राम' आयोजना गर्यो। कार्यक्रममा बोटी अर्से र माइक्रोबायोसो समावेश विद्यार्थीहरूले भाग लिए। कार्यक्रममा वनस्पति विज्ञान विभागका प्रमुख प्रो. मोरोजन चौधरी विशेष व्यक्ति र्णमा उपस्थित थिए। एनबीसीको ट्याब्लेटीको जफ-सिस्टमसम्म एण्ड बायोसिस्टमेटिक्स न्याबोटीका डा. सुखि मण्डल र श्री आरतिक पाल पनि उपस्थित भए। आफ्नो जीवन र जनकौशलमूलक भाषणमा डा. चौधरीले हर्बेरियमको विकासको रूपमा शिक्षिका केही मुद्दा तस्वीरहरू देखाए हर्बेरियम

प्रशिक्षिका आधुनिक सुधारहरूको साथै विद्यार्थीहरूलाई आधुनिक हर्बेरियमको महत्त्व र वैज्ञानिकहरूका लागि विस्तृत जानकारी दिए। कार्यक्रमको अन्तमा डा. सुखि मण्डलले हर्बेरियमको विकासको रूपमा शिक्षिका केही मुद्दा तस्वीरहरू देखाए हर्बेरियम



Sitting:

Segar Sharma, Partho Sarathi Dutta, Dr. Baidurya Biswas, Dr. Saikat Roy, Dr. Bipransh K. Tiwary, Shreya Majumdar, Dr. Soumya Mitra, Dr. Pavanbir Kaur, Prasun Banerjee, Fr. Bijoy K. Kindo S.J, Fr. (Dr.) Lalit P. Tirkey S.J, Dr. Aparna Chatterjee, Dr. Persis Mukhia, Sarjukt Mitra, Dr. Chandrani Choudhuri, Sumita Roy Choudhury, Priyanka Chakraborty, Payel Dey, Dr. Payel Paul, and Payel Saha.

Standing:

Rejib Lakra, Sekh Raunak Mondal, Dr. Jackson Gurung, Rejarshi Bagchi, Khiraj Chhetri, Saurav Moktan, Rajib Das Bhagat, Dr. Tanmay Mukhopadhyay, Dr. Asim Mitra, Dr. Sourish Dasgupta, Dr. Tamal Mazumder, Rahul Sharma, Soumyadip Ghosh, Kamal K. Prasad, Tushar Das, Ambika Chhetri, Thinlay C. Bhutia, Anuja Tamang, Swamali Dutta, Ananya Das, Dr. Deepika Mazumdar, and Barsha Dey.

College Prayer Song

I am carrying you on my eagle's wings
I am leading you to eternal springs (refrain)
Lord, my life is filled with peace and love divine;
By your countless blessings, every day does shine;
Cradled like child, I'm safe within your arms;
Guarded I'm and fearless, from life's every harm.
I am carrying you on my eagle's wings,
I am leading you to external springs (refrain)
Failures and successes cross my life's long way;
From all devious turnings, keep me straight I pray;
Like a wayward child, I'm fickle, proud and vain;
From you when I stray, bring me back again.
I am carrying you on my eagle's wings,
I am leading you to eternal springs (refrain)
Months and years of College, they keep passing by;
Helping to achieve the goals before me lie;
Wisdom sure and clear, to light up darkest ways;
Values steer safe life's bark, midst all stormy days
I am carrying you on my eagle's wings
I am leading you to eternal springs (refrain)...

Text & Music by:
Fr. Arthur Rasquinha, S.J



North Bengal St. Xavier's College

A Jesuit Institution

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A CO-EDUCATIONAL CATHOLIC MINORITY COLLEGE
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