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Xaverian Buzz

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HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY

Xavier University Patna
&

St. Xavier's College of Management & Technology

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From the Editor's Desk

Harnessing the Infinite Potential



2026

Your Moment, Your Milestone: Reboot and Rise

Dear Readers,

As the calendar turns to 2026, we are reminded that a new year is not just a change in date, but a quiet invitation to pause, reflect, and move forward with intention. For students, the new year arrives carrying both familiar pressures and fresh possibilities — deadlines and dreams walking side by side. 2025 taught us resilience. Between academic expectations, rapid technological changes, social challenges, and the constant race to “keep up,” many of us learned lessons no textbook could offer. We learned how to adapt, how to fail and try again, and how to support one another in ways that truly matter. These lessons must not be left behind as we step into 2026. This year, we stand at a crossroads. Artificial intelligence, digital learning, and global connectivity are no longer future concepts; they are part of our everyday student lives. The challenge before us is not to fear these changes, but to use them responsibly — to enhance creativity, encourage critical thinking, and uphold academic integrity. Technology should be our tool,

not our crutch. At the same time, 2026 calls us to look beyond grades and resumes. College life is also about empathy, leadership, and social responsibility. It is about speaking up against injustice, caring for mental health, respecting diversity, and creating spaces where every student feels seen and heard. Progress is not measured only by success, but by how inclusive that success is. As students, we have more power than we often realize. Our ideas can start conversations. Our actions can inspire change. Our voices can shape the culture of our campus. Let this new year be one where we choose curiosity over complacency, courage over comfort, and collaboration over competition. Let us be the generation that proves inclusion is achieved not by mandate, but by mutual understanding. The future of our campus community depends on it. 2026 is not just another year — it is a chapter waiting to be written. And the pen, very firmly, is in our hands.

Happy reading!

Abhishek Anand
Chief Editor

THE SHEPHERDS

Patrons

Fr. Joseph Sebastian SJ (Rector)
Fr (Dr) Martin Poras SJ (Principal)
Fr (Dr) Sherry George SJ (Vice Principal)

Editor-in-Chief & Designer

Abhishek Anand
(Asst. Professor, Dept. of English)

Extract from Reader's Choice Kolkata



WITHIN WITHOUT


There are occasions
When – tantalizing –
I outcrop myself
From the bondage
Of space and time

And flutter upon
The remaining branches
Of a cut-down tree,

Whistling my words
towards the moon
I circumvent,

To nestle my thoughts
There –
Within, without

Tapeshwar Prasad has authored a blend of six surrealistic and realistic poetry books, and has been featured in Cordite Poetry Review (Australia), The Spillwords (USA), Setumag (USA), the galway review (Ireland), inklinks (India), Scaling Heights (India), The Significant Anthology (India), Mad Swirl (USA), Muse India (India), kabitalive.com (India), The Fictional Café (USA), got Certificate of Recognition for participation in Shantiniketan Literature Festival Bolepur Kolkata and got the “Golden Book Award” for his book “Embers of my Dream” in the year 2023. His eighth book of poems "Needle of the Night" was published in the year 2024.



Patron's Day celebration in honour of St. Francis Xavier at Xavier University Patna

Xavier University, Patna celebrated the Patron's Day with profound reverence and vibrant enthusiasm in honour of its patron saint, St. Francis Xavier. The observance commenced with a solemn lamp-lighting ceremony, floral tributes, and a symbolic procession reflecting the core values of faith, compassion, and service. A special drama, "The Light That Transforms," vividly portrayed the inspiring life and mission of St. Francis Xavier. The gathering was further enriched by an enlightening address from the Chief Guest, Mr. Glen Gaulston,

Director of St. Dominic Savio School, and the Special Guest, Ms. Margaret Gwada, Chief of Field Office, Bihar (UNICEF). The programme also included a video presentation on the life of St. Francis Xavier, a melodious feast song, and an uplifting praise dance, culminating with the National Anthem — fostering a spirit of unity, reflection, and inspiration among all present. The celebration reaffirmed the University's steadfast commitment to academic excellence, moral integrity, and selfless service to humanity.



Songs of Joy: Xavier University celebrates Christmas with music and harmony

Xavier University organized the “Songs of Joy – Christmas Carol Singing Competition,” a vibrant celebration of music, faith, and the true spirit of Christmas. The event brought together participants from schools, parishes, churches, colleges, and senior teachers, creating an atmosphere filled with harmony and festive cheer. The programme began with an inspiring address by the Vice-Chancellor of Xavier University, who highlighted the deeper meaning of Christmas carols as messages of hope, peace, love, and the joy of the Nativity. He stated that carol singing transcends religious boundaries and serves as a powerful medium for spreading goodwill and togetherness. The occasion was further enriched by the presence of Rev. Fr. Joseph Pulickal SJ, as the Chief Guest. In his address, Fr. Pulickal described Christmas carols as true “Songs of Joy” that express faith, gratitude, and renewal, and emphasized the unifying power of music in society. Other dignitaries present included Rev. Joseph Sebastian SJ, Rector of Xavier University; Fr. Robert Athickal SJ, Founder of Taru Mitra; Fr. Sebastian Kannekattil SJ, Founder of Ravi Bharti; and Fr. Dr. Premlal Lucas SJ. The competition

featured 20 melodious performances by participants from various institutions, including Notre Dame Academy, Don Bosco Academy, St. Dominic Savio’s High School, and several others. Each presentation reflected devotion, musical harmony, and cultural richness.

The performances were judged by a distinguished panel comprising Pastor Anand Prasad, serving the Baptist Church in Lodhipur, Patna, and a Music Visharad from Prachin Kala Kendra, Chandigarh; Dr. Pallavi Biswas, a renowned performing artist, academician, cultural curator, graded AIR artist, and multilingual playback singer; and Mr. Frank Krishner, the visionary behind Songs of Joy, who has nurtured the event for over 23 years at Ravi Bharti and for the past four years at Xavier University. Mr. Krishner is currently a media consultant and Visiting Professor of Films and Television Production at Patna Women’s College. The event beautifully reflected Xavier University’s commitment to promoting cultural expression, interfaith harmony, and community engagement, making Songs of Joy a memorable celebration of music and the true spirit of Christmas.





DISHA 3.0 — Students' Research and Counseling Symposium empowers career aspirants

The Placement Cell, BBA Department, and Shiksha Mantra Group jointly organized DISHA 3.0, a Student Research and Counseling Symposium, at St. Xavier's College of Management & Technology, providing students with meaningful guidance for their academic and career paths. The programme was graced by Mr. Abhayanand, retired IPS officer, renowned educationist, and co-founder of Super 30, as the Chief Guest. The inaugural session began with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony, followed by the felicitation of the dignitaries by Principal Dr. Fr. Martin Poras SJ, and Mr. Piyush Ranjan Sahay, HoD, Department of Business Administration. In

his address, the Chief Guest highlighted the transformative power of education and the need for focused and strategic career planning. After the inauguration, students from BBA, BBA-IB, B.Com, BCA, and BAJMC visited various university stalls, where they received personalized counseling and information on diverse academic and professional opportunities. Overall, DISHA 3.0 served as an engaging and informative platform, equipping students with clarity, confidence, and direction toward their future aspirations, and marking another successful initiative in career guidance at the institution.



Students' Development Programme empowers Part III students for corporate readiness

The Placement Cell of St. Xavier's College of Management and Technology, Patna, organized a Student Development Programme (SDP) for Part III students on 2 December 2025 at Kalam Hall, with the objective of strengthening students' professional skills and preparing them for the competitive corporate world. The programme commenced with a warm welcome by Fr. Dr. Sherry George SJ, Vice Principal, who greeted the resource persons and highlighted the importance of continuous learning and skill development in shaping successful future professionals. The session was conducted by Dr. Deepika Joshi and Dr. Komal D'Souza from St. Joseph's Institute of Management, Bengaluru. In an engaging and interactive manner, they discussed crucial aspects of leadership development, career planning, and key corporate competencies. They also introduced students to their institution's academic philosophy

and training practices, emphasizing the role of a structured, value-based approach in building corporate readiness. The speakers underscored the importance of resilience, effective communication, adaptability, and a proactive mindset, describing these as essential traits for professional success. They shared practical tips to enhance managerial confidence, improve decision-making skills, and strengthen overall career preparedness. The programme was organized by the Placement Cell under the leadership of Dr. Piyush R. Sahay, Head of the Placement Cell, with the support of dedicated team members, whose coordinated efforts ensured the smooth conduct of the event. Overall, the session was widely appreciated as insightful and motivating, encouraging students to pursue their career aspirations with greater clarity, confidence, and determination.

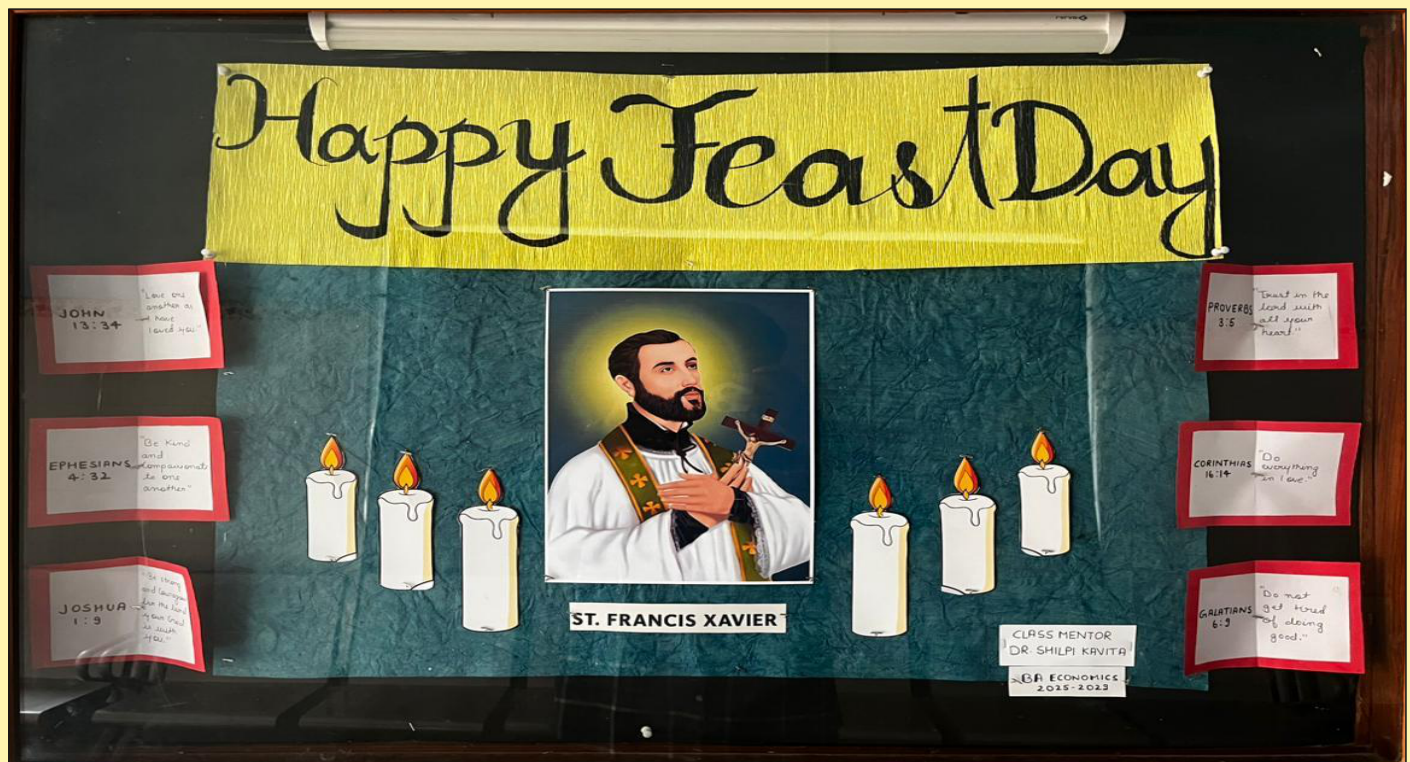


Prayer Notice Board Decoration

Compassion, Dignity, and the Spirit of Giving

The Prayer Notice Board for December 2025 was decorated on the themes of the Feast Day of St. Francis Xavier, Human Rights Day, and Christmas Day Celebration. The decorations highlighted the values of service, equality, love, and peace. The Feast Day of St. Francis Xavier emphasised

dedication and selfless service, while Human Rights Day reminded students of dignity, justice, and respect for all. The Christmas theme reflected joy, hope, and the spirit of giving, creating a warm and inclusive atmosphere through meaningful visuals and messages



Algorithmic Gatekeeping and the Transformation of Public Discourse in Digital Media

The contemporary media landscape is increasingly shaped by algorithmic systems that curate, prioritize, and distribute information across digital platforms. Social media, search engines, and streaming services rely on algorithmic gatekeeping to manage vast volumes of content, replacing traditional editorial judgment with data-driven decision-making. This shift has significant implications for public discourse, democratic participation, and media ethics.

Algorithmic gatekeeping operates through complex computational models that analyze user behavior, preferences, and engagement patterns to personalize content feeds. While such personalization enhances user experience and platform efficiency, it also raises concerns regarding informational diversity and exposure to dissenting viewpoints. The prioritization of engagement-oriented content often amplifies sensationalism, emotional narratives, and polarizing material, thereby reshaping the tone and quality of public debate.

From a theoretical perspective, algorithmic gatekeeping can be examined through the lenses of Gatekeeping Theory and the Spiral of Silence. Unlike traditional gatekeepers—editors or journalists—algorithms function opaquely, limiting public accountability. Users may remain unaware of how their information environment is curated, leading to the reinforcement of echo chambers and filter bubbles. This selective exposure can marginalize minority perspectives and discourage open deliberation, weakening the democratic

function of the media.

Moreover, algorithmic systems have profound implications for journalistic practice. News organizations increasingly optimize content to align with platform algorithms, often privileging speed and virality over depth and verification. This trend challenges normative ideals of journalism such as objectivity, public interest, and editorial independence. At the same time, algorithmic analytics offer opportunities for audience insight and targeted storytelling, indicating a complex interplay between technological affordances and professional values.

In the Indian context, algorithmic mediation intersects with linguistic diversity, political polarization, and uneven digital literacy. The rapid spread of misinformation through algorithmically amplified networks underscores the urgency of regulatory frameworks, platform transparency, and media literacy initiatives.

In conclusion, algorithmic gatekeeping represents a fundamental transformation in media power structures. As digital platforms continue to influence public communication, critical scholarly engagement is essential to ensure that algorithmic systems support pluralism, accountability, and informed citizenship rather than undermine the democratic role of media.

Ms Priyanka Singh

Assistant Professor,
Dept. of Mass Communication



Industrial Visit

Department of BBA

The Department of Business Administration, St. Xavier's College of Management & Technology, Patna, in association with PCU, Pune and Shiksha Mantra, New Delhi, successfully conducted a three-day Student Development Programme (SDP) along with an Industrial Visit to Pune from 25 to 27 December 2025. A group of 38 selected students from BBA Part II took part in the programme, under the guidance of Dr. Piyush R. Sahay, Dean – School of Management, and Dr. Ritu Rani, Assistant Professor, Department of Business Administration. The SDP sessions were held at

PCU, Pune, followed by industrial visits to Lumax and Mask Polymer. The programme provided students with first-hand exposure to industrial practices, manufacturing operations, organizational culture, and practical business environments, thereby strengthening the link between theoretical knowledge and real-world application. Overall, the initiative significantly contributed to enhancing students' industry orientation, professional competencies, and career preparedness, underscoring the institution's strong emphasis on experiential and industry-integrated learning.



Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, St. Xavier's College of Management & Technology, Patna, successfully conducted an industrial visit for BAJMC Part III students to Kolkata as per the scheduled academic plan. The visit formed an integral part of the curriculum and was organized with the objective of providing students with meaningful exposure to professional media environments and industry practices. As part of the visit, students visited Taaza TV, Kolkata, where they were introduced to the functioning of a television news organization. The visit offered firsthand insight into newsroom operations, editorial workflows, studio management, news production processes, and broadcast technologies. Students observed how news content is conceptualized, produced, edited, and transmitted in a time-bound and professional setting, enhancing their understanding of television journalism beyond classroom learning. The students also visited a Film Editing Studio in Kolkata, where they were familiarized with film production techniques, studio setup, and live production

processes. The interaction helped students understand the technical and creative aspects of production and editing, thereby strengthening their practical knowledge of media. Additionally, the visit to Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata, provided students with exposure to professional film and television production environments. They gained insights into institutional training models, production infrastructure, and industry-oriented practices related to film and television content creation. Throughout the visit, students actively interacted with professionals, observed workplace culture, and gained clarity on professional discipline, ethical standards, and career pathways in the media industry. Faculty members accompanied the students and ensured smooth coordination and adherence to institutional guidelines. Overall, the industrial visit proved to be an enriching academic experience that effectively bridged theory and practice, enhanced technical awareness, and strengthened students' career readiness in the field of journalism and mass communication.



Industrial Visit to Dehradun & Mussoorie: Bridging Theory with Practice

The Department of Economics organized a three-day Industrial Visit and Educational Tour to Dehradun and Mussoorie from 26th to 28th December 2025, offering students an enriching exposure beyond the classroom. The visit was thoughtfully designed to integrate academic learning, industrial insight, skill development, and socio-economic exploration. The academic segment of the visit was hosted at DBS Global University, Dehradun, where students participated in interactive leadership sessions and gained insights into contemporary management practices. A major highlight of the programme was the Skill Development Programme (SDP), which included hands-on SAP Simulation workshops conducted in advanced laboratory settings. These sessions enabled students to understand enterprise resource planning systems and their relevance in today's data-driven economic environment. The industrial exposure at the Dexon Washing Machine Plant, Selaqui (SIDCUL Industrial Area) proved to be a valuable learning experience. Students observed real-time manufacturing processes, production line management, logistics, and quality control mechanisms. The visit offered a practical understanding of how economic theories related to production, efficiency, and supply chains operate within large-scale industries. The tour concluded with an educational excursion to Mussoorie, where

students explored key locations such as Mall Road and Gun Hill. This segment provided insights into the tourism-driven service economy, regional development, and sustainability challenges faced by hill stations. Overall, the industrial visit successfully fostered analytical thinking, teamwork, and professional awareness, inspiring students to connect economic concepts with real-world applications and future career pathways.



Down the Memory Lane

- Priya Manish Kumar

Ex HoD, Journalism & Mass Communication

My journey with the Jesuits began in 2000 after my marriage, when I came to Kolkata and started my teaching career at St. Xavier's College. Later, when my family expected me to join Patna Women's College, I chose St. Xavier's College of Management & Technology instead, as the Xavierian culture, values, and work ethic felt like home to me.

My interview with Fr. Dr. T. Nishant SJ reflected the Jesuit commitment to empowering students, especially through English proficiency and life skills. Soon, I found myself once again part of the 'Xavier Pariwar', reconnecting with old friends and building new bonds.

A deeply meaningful relationship in my journey has been with Fr. Sebastian Kannekattil SJ, who became not only the guide of my department but also my

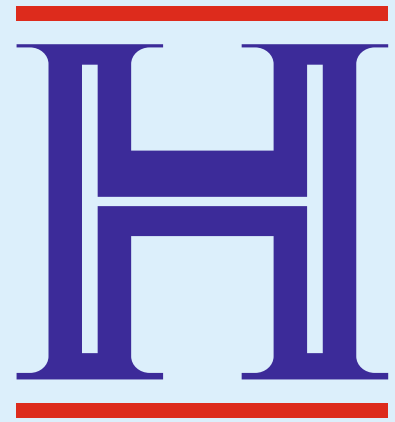
mentor in life—truly a friend, philosopher, and guide. His compassion and daily encouragement made college feel like a place of joy, not just work.

I was also inspired by leaders like Fr. Dr. Sushil Bilung SJ, Fr. Dr. Martin Poras SJ, and Fr. Dr. Sherry George SJ—each different in personality, yet united in discipline, care, and commitment to holistic education and *cura personalis*.

What makes Xavier's special is this shared belief in shaping not just careers but human beings. We who serve here do so because we believe in these values, working for the growth of our students and society, finding purpose beyond a paycheck. I hope Xavier University continues to attract such committed educators and remains a true beacon of knowledge and development.



THIS MONTH In HISTORY



- January 1, 1999 - Eleven European nations began using a new single European currency, the Euro
- January 7, 1714 - A patent was issued for the first typewriter designed by British inventor Henry Mill
- January 10, 1863 - The world's first underground railway service opened in London
- January 20, 1945 - Franklin Delano Roosevelt was inaugurated to an unprecedented fourth term as president of the United States
- January 22, 1901 - Queen Victoria of England died after reigning for 64 years, the longest reign in British history
- January 22, 1973 - Abortion became legal in the U.S. as the Supreme Court announced its decision in the case of Roe vs. Wade
- January 28, 1935 - Iceland became the first country to legalize abortion
- January 30, 1948 - Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated in New Delhi



THE WORLD THIS MONTH

- CJI Surya Kant inaugurates India's first fully paperless District Court in Kerala
- USA withdraws from 66 international bodies including India-led ISA
- Bengaluru has been ranked as the best city for women in India
- Renowned ecologist and conservationist Madhav Gadgil passed away
- India becomes the world's first country to commercially produce Bio-Bitumen





Madhav Gadgil

24 May 1942 – 7 January 2026

**Xavier University Patna
&
St. Xavier's College of Management & Technology**